



Passion of Joan Arc, The

(Passion der Jungfrau von Orléans, Die)

France 1928

Drama

THE PASSION OF JOAN OF ARC shows the uncompromising style of Carl Theodor Dreyer. The trial, the condemnation and execution of Jeanne d'Arc – all this is reflected in facial expressions on camera. The whole work is a succession of expressions and glances. The faces of the intriguing judges are caught from below in a dialectical movement, whereas Jeanne's face is shown in fixed angles and in most cases from above. Dreyer changes the perspective erratically with fast cuts, which create contrast with the lack of outward action in the plot. In this more or less cubistic montage, Jeanne's inner fight is visible on Maria Falconetti's unpainted face: from the distraction of her almost crazy wide-opened eyes, over doubts and hope to triumph. With Falconetti, Dreyer found his ideal cast. Her incomparable performance is considered an example of brilliant dramatic art to this day.

THE PASSION OF JOAN OF ARC reconstructs the occurrences around the trial of the University of Paris against the Maid of Orleans on the basis of historical records. The Saint – accused of heresy – is finally burned at the stake after agonizing examinations, torture and a revoked confession. The script and the intertitles are mainly based on the records of the case, which results in a psychologically intimate play of great intensity.



Director: Dreyer, Carl Theodor
Music: Einhorn, Richard (1994); Schmidt, Ole (1982); Booren, Jo van den (1985)
Cast: Maria Falconetti, Eugène Silvain, Michel Simon, Maurice Schutz, André Berley u.a.

Compositions:

Jo van den Booren 1985 **new score**

small orchestra

stafflist

1+1/pic.1+1/ca.1+bcl.1+1/ cbsn – 2.2.1+1/btrbn.1 – 2perc – org – hp – strings

Duration

82

sync fps

20

Richard Einhorn 1994 **new score**

small orchestra

stafflist

2.2.0.0 – 0.0.0.0 – strings – SATB choir + 4 SATB vocalists – digital sampler

Duration

84

sync fps

24

Ole Schmidt 1982 **new score**

large orchestra

stafflist

1/pic.1/ca.1/bcl.1 – 1.1.1.0 – timp.3perc – strings – gr – solo: soprano

Duration

82

sync fps

20