

RARE CINEMA EUROPE @ The Cinema Museum

A Chance to See a Selection of Rarely Screened Fine European Films

Programmes Start 7.30pm – Admission £8.00

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October

**Regain (Harvest)** (France 1937 – 137mins)

Director – Marcel Pagnol

Starring: Fernandel, Gargriel Gabrio, Orane Demazis, Marguerite Moreno, Robert Le Vigan.

Great story, wonderful faces, superb locations. The narrative revolves around a farming village where only three inhabitants remain, but they are told that if only one of them, Panturle, manages to find a wife, the village will be able to prosper again. The film is based on the 1930 novel *Second Harvest* by Jean Giono. In a serio/comic role, Fernandel plays a travelling tinker who has designs on Arsule, a young girl he persuades to work for him, but finds himself up against Panturle, the local hunter and trapper. The film is nothing less than a love poem to what Pagnol believed was the most beautiful region of France, shot entirely on location at the time of year when Provence is at its most enchanting. *Harvest* was Marcel Pagnol's first film after he'd directed *Cesar*, the third film in his famous "Marius" trilogy. He would go on to direct further noted films such as *La Femme du boulanger* (1938), *The Well-Digger's Daughter* (1940) and *Manon des Sources* (1952), the last two later re-made: *Manon des Sources* in 1986 and *The Well-Digger's Daughter* in 2011.

*"Harvest is one of Marcel Pagnol's best films. It has the effect of being both humble and larger than life. It taps into primeval emotions about the nobility of bread, soil, labour and community. When the Russians tried this, it felt like propaganda, but from Pagnol it feels like poetry."* (Marty Mapes – Movie Habit)

