

A black and white film still showing a man and a woman in a close, intimate pose. The man, on the right, is wearing a dark suit and a white shirt with a bow tie. He is looking down at the woman. The woman, on the left, has dark, curly hair and is looking up at the man. The background is dark and out of focus.

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EROTIKON

FILM BY GUSTAV MACHATÝ

BACK ON SCREENS
WITH NEW ORCHESTRAL ACCOMPANIMENT

Perhaps no Czech silent film is as renowned as Gustav Machatý's *Erotikon* of 1929. It has kept its place in the history of world cinema to this day, and not just because of its daring love scenes. Machatý's film is set against the background of romantic disappointment, but it also touches on important topics of its time – the changing roles of men and women, emancipation, tradition and modernity. Machatý transformed a simple story by the poet Vítězslav Nezval into a modernist film of compositional sophistication. Striking contrasts of light, evocative visual symbols, and dynamic editing attest to the director's and cinematographer's mastery. Featuring an international cast led by the Slovenian star Ita Rina, the film was sold abroad even before its completion. Machatý later followed it with the sound film *Extase* (1932). The digitally restored film was presented in 2026 with a new orchestral score by Jana Vöröšová.

Czechoslovakia 1929 • 91 min. • drama, psychological • DCP, MP4 • accessible

Director	Gustav Machatý
Screenplay	Gustav Machatý
Photography	Václav Vích
Set designer	Julius von Borsody
Editing	Gustav Machatý
Cast	Ita Rina, Olaf Fjord, Karel Schleichert, Theodor Pištěk, Charlotte Susa, Luigi Serventi a další

With new music by Jana Vöröšová recorded by the Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra.
The digital restoration of this film was funded by Milada Kučerová and Eduard Kučera.

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