



# Alliance Française de Denver

## New acquisitions

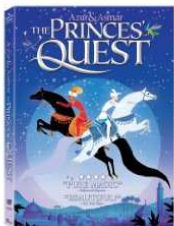
March 2010

### DVD



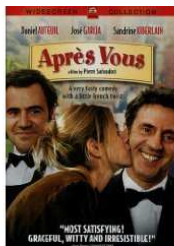
#### **A Christmas Tale / Un Conte de Noël (2008)**

Arnaud Desplechin directs this artfully unconventional tale (which received a nod for the Cannes Film Festival's Palme d'Or award) about members of a dysfunctional family who come together for a strained and animosity-filled Christmas reunion. The all-star ensemble cast includes Jean-Paul Roussillon, Catherine Deneuve, Mathieu Amalric, Hippolyte Girardot, Emmanuelle Devos and Deneuve's real-life daughter, Chiara Mastroianni.



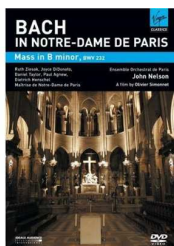
#### **Azur and Azmar (2006)**

Raised on tales of a Djinn fairy princess, Azur -- a young Frenchman -- goes to North Africa in search of the spirit, only to discover that his close childhood friend, Asmar -- an Arab youth whose mother raised both boys -- also seeks the genie. Now the former best friends become rivals as each tries to locate the fantastic Djinn firs, but only one can be successful in their quest. Michel Ocelot directs this family-friendly animated tale.



#### **Après vous (2003)**

A man's life changes forever with one selfless act in this romantic comedy. After stopping Louis (Jose Garcia) from committing suicide, well-meaning waiter Antoine (Daniel Auteuil) begins to feel responsible for the depressed man. Continuing to play Good Samaritan, Antoine decides to help Louis win back his ex-girlfriend, Blanche (Sandrine Kiberlain). But the do-gooder doesn't foresee the earth-shattering effect that Blanche will have on him.



#### **Bach in Notre-Dame de Paris (2006)**

This concert takes place in the Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris. The team is composed by Ruth Ziesak (Soprano), Joyce DiDonato (Mezzo-soprano), Daniel Taylor (Alto), Paul Agnew (Tenor), Dietrich Henschel (Baritone) and Nicole Corti (Choir master). This film is directed by Olivier Simonnet and the concert is conducted by John Nelson.



### **Claire's Knee / Le genou de Claire (1970)**

Part of Eric Rohmer's "Six Moral Tales" series, this French film tells the story of Jerome (Jean-Claude Brialy), a cultural attaché enjoying his last holiday before getting married, and his peculiar fetish with a teenage girl. Jerome grows obsessed with Claire but fights his urges by permitting himself the singular pleasure of touching her knee. Director Eric Rohmer likes his erotica spiced with talky foreplay, and Claire's Knee is no exception.



### **Coco before Chanel (2009)**

Audrey Tautou stars as legendary French designer Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel in this lively biopic that explores the fashion icon's storied ascension from orphan to seamstress and cabaret singer and ultimately, the queen of Parisian haute couture. Alessandro Nivola plays Arthur "Boy" Capel, Chanel's lover and influential business investor who makes a lifelong impact on the young woman. Anne Fontaine directs this Oscar nominee for Best Costume Design.



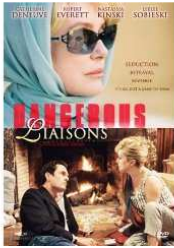
### **Girl on the Bridge / La Fille du pont (2000)**

A despondent girl named Adele (Vanessa Paradis) is about to take a swan dive off a bridge into the Seine River when she's rescued by Gabor (Daniel Auteuil), a knife thrower who needs a human target for his show. The luckless Adele agrees, and together the pair thrives, winning a fortune gambling when not performing their act. But fate conspires to separate the duo, who find they need each other to maintain their lucky streak.



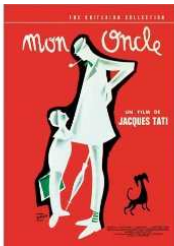
### **Jules et Jim (1962)**

Writers Jules (Oskar Werner) and Jim (Henri Serre) are close friends who fall in love with the same woman, the unpredictable Catherine (Jeanne Moreau), amid the turbulence of World War I Paris in one of director François Truffaut's best-loved films, adapted from the novel by Henri-Pierre Roché. What results is a decades-long love triangle that both tests and strengthens the bond between the two men.



### **Les Liaisons dangereuses / Dangerous Liaisons by Josée Dayan (2003)**

Beginning with early 20th century nuances, this French miniseries adaptation of the classic French novel of seduction, betrayal, and revenge quickly becomes modern. Attempting to exact revenge on a man who spurned her for a younger woman, scheming Madame de Merteuil ([Catherine Deneuve](#)) persuades her amoral friend Valmont ([Rupert Everett](#)) to seduce the young woman in question. This intricate and hypnotic plot is a favorite for film adaptations.



### **Mon Oncle (1958)**

Jacques Tati plays Monsieur Hulot, a self-absorbed chucklehead wrestling with neoteric gadgetry -- and losing -- in this satirical masterpiece that makes sport of mechanization, class distinctions and modernity. While visiting his sister's surreal, ultra-trendy home, Hulot finds himself incessantly at odds with newfangled contraptions that get the better of him. The tongue-in-cheek French comedy garnered a Best Foreign Language Film Oscar.



### **The Umbrellas of Cherbourg / Les Parapluies de Cherbourg (1964)**

Beautiful umbrella-store clerk Genevieve ([Catherine Deneuve](#)) and charming gas station attendant Guy ([Nino Castelnuovo](#)) fall in love in the rainy coastal town of Cherbourg, but their romance is cut short when Guy is drafted into the army in this singular cinematic classic. French director Jacques Demy's musical love story is an explosion of color and emotion, in which every word of dialogue is sung to melodies of beloved composer Michel Legrand.