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Paris Was a Woman—The documentary director Greta Schiller's examination of Paris modernism in the twenties and thirties is a confection of American expatriates, French and American lesbians, and avant-garde art and thought. Making impeccable use of old photographs, film footage, and recordings, Schiller gives this world of literary salons and unconventional bookshops a surprising amount of verve. Giants like Picasso, Joyce, Janet Flanner, Djuna Barnes, and Gertrude Stein (who, looking like a cook on a pirate ship, dominates the proceedings) come across as positively fun-loving, and Paris blooms like a rose.—B.D. (Quad Cinema.)