



## Paris Was a Woman UK/USA/Germany

Set in the early part of this century, Paris Was A Woman is a documentary about the great creative community of women who gravitated to the Left Bank during that time. Director Greta Schiller has unearthed rare footage (including recently discovered home movies) from the period and combines this with contemporary interviews with people who were there at the time.

The characters encountered include the writers Collette, Gertrude Stein and Djuna Barnes, the painters Romaine Brooks and Marie Laurencin, and photographers Bernice Abbott and Gilsele Freund. Other figures who featured in this legendary period and appear in the film are the publishers and booksellers Sylvia Beach and Adrienne Monnier (who published James Joyce's banned Ulysses) and the journalist Janet Flanner.

The result presents a powerful reappraisal of the female modernists and suggests that the understanding of the important contribution their art and literature has made to cultural history is considerably misunderstood.

Director Greta Schiller has directed a number of documentaries and won several international awards, including an Emmy in 1987 for Before Stonewall. The film is a result of her continuing collaboration with producer/writer Andrea Weiss.

John Paul Chapple



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