



## La Commune

**Peter Watkins**, 2000, 345' (5 hours 45 minutes)

**4 october kl 18 – 20 (part 1)**

**6 october kl 12 – 18 (part 2 and 3)**

**Index, Kungsbros strand 19**

Paris 1871: Adolphe Thiers, executive commander of the provisory national government, is alarmed by revolutionary activities from the Paris National Guard. The social situation in Paris is devastating, with a massive unemployment and peoples continuous suffering after the Prussian occupation of Paris. This leads to an increased socialism and militancy followed by the formation of a number of 'red clubs', supported by several of the National Guard battalions.

Thiers commits a mistake or a conscious provocation when he tries to win a cannon owned by the National Guard. He is hindered by a group of women from Montmartre that try to stop the plan. The women plea to the government soldiers not to shoot. Several of the soldiers abandon their guns in a gesture of solidarity. Within some hours Paris is in a state of revolt and the City hall as most parts of the city are in the hands of the rebellious National Guard.

Peter Watkins film La Commune was filmed 1999 during thirteen intense days together with more than 220 actors and amateurs. Everyone took part in the extensive research that had been made on the Paris commune spring 1871. That the actors were free to choose their part, their opinions and place in the recreation of the historic events meant also to take a position in issues from today. Extensive discussion with everyone involved both during and after the filming resulted in among other things the unusual length of 5 hours and 45 min. Since several of the actors claimed the right to have a fair part in the film, the right to speak for their cause, their history.

Peter Watkins sees a grate lack in how contemporary society fails to give space for non-hierarchical public discussions as part of a general democratic process. That is why he emphasizes the value of providing the possibility for a public discussion in conjunction with the screening of La commune on the issues, phenomena and processes that are brought up in the film.

With these thoughts in mind The Filmclub and Index want to invite you to continue the discussion with La commune as backdrop.

This is how we plan the screening:

**October 4th 18 – 20, screening of La Commune, part 1**

**October 6th 12 – 18, screening of La Commune, part 2 and 3, including break, food and discussion.**

On Saturday Index will invite you for some food. In order to plan the amount we need you to notify us at [index@algonet.se](mailto:index@algonet.se) before the 1st of October. Upon registration you will receive more material about the film.

Welcome!

Filmklubben and Index

**Filmklubben** is an informal meetingplace for discussions about the conditions and possibilities for film. We are specifically interested in discussing film/moving-images as a tool and method for critical enquiries. Every month we screen a film or invite an artist, filmmaker or theorician to reflect on the politics within films/moving-images and it's critical potential.

Suggestions on what we could screen and discuss are very welcome.

For more information about The Filmclub please contact:

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