

Paris, je t'aime (2006)

Twenty-two directors from all around the world collaborated on this innovative film, including Gurinder Chadha, Sylvain Chomet, Joel and Ethan Coen, Wes Craven, Alfonso Cuarón, Gérard Depardieu, Vincenzo Natali, Walter Salles, Nobuhiro Suwa, Gus Van Sant.



Similarly, the international cast brought together Natalie Portman, Elijah Wood, Fanny Ardant, Juliette Binoche, Steve Buscemi, Sergio Castellitto, Willem Dafoe, Gérard Depardieu, Ben Gazzara, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Bob Hoskins, Catalina Sandino Moreno, Nick Nolte, Gena Rowlands, Rufus Sewell, Gaspard Ulliel, and many others.

In the spring of 2006, *Paris, je t'aime* premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in France, before making its North American debut at the Toronto Film Festival. This anthology film provides a glimpse into 18 different love stories, from new romance to a divorced couple; from loving parents to voracious vampires! Through the various stories, the film also reveals many unusual facets of Paris, the well-known “City of lights, City of romance.” The effect is powerful, often leaving the viewer wanting to know more, to understand the characters better, with whom we only get to spend a few minutes. The viewer is ultimately left with the impression of having got to know various *quartiers* of Paris, while the end of each story is left to the imagination.

“This collection of 18 short films, all set in a different Paris neighborhood, has a strange and lingering impact. Most of the shorts have the feeling of fragments, of half stories, or of beginnings without ends, or ends without beginnings. Their conclusions leave something hanging in the air, or at least something unsaid. The result is that after two hours one gets the sense of having seen a panorama of human experience, of having witnessed a moment of time in all its true fullness.” Mick LaSalle, from the San Francisco Chronicle

“Bittersweet, funny, sad, and invariably romantic, the anthology film *Paris, je t'aime* strings together 18 five-minute vignettes to create a pulsating mosaic of the neighborhoods of the City of Light.” Jack Mathews, from the New York Daily News.

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