

La Fayette (France/Italy, 1962)

The Movie's Preview, its World Premiere and more ...

Written, compiled and translated by Gerhard Witte, Berlin, Germany, in March/April 2020



The Movie's Preview (Avant-Première) in Super Technirama 70 on the Passenger Vessel (paquebot) "SS France" on 1st February 1962



An article from "Transat Actualités" dated February 1962 (No. 1).

Presentation of the film **La Fayette** on 1st February

On 1st February 1962, the film **La Fayette** (France/Italy, 1962) was screened for the first time on board of the liner "France" in the presence of the actors Pascale Audret and Michel Le Royer, and a large number of personalities from the world of cinema ... among them the director Jean Dréville and Claude Renoir (author's note: Renoir was cinematographer of the film), actor Jack Hawkins. This film, one of the last great achievements of French cinema, is already shaping up to be a success. It was then continuously screened during the maiden voyage of the "France" [author's note: from 03.02. to 08.02.1962 from Le Havre via Southampton (04.02.) to New York], and on 8th February at the Opera in Paris (author's note: the movie's World Premiere). In the picture can be seen Pascale Audret (in the film *Adrienne de La Fayette*) and right Michel Le Royer (in the film *Marquis de La Fayette*).

**For the movie's special preview a program for a trip by train
from Paris to Le Havre and return had been designed:**

The program of the day (01.02.1962): 11:30 a.m. departure Paris (Gare Saint-Lazare) by autorail R.G.P. 1st class – an UFA- COMACICO special train / during the journey a lunch including: Saumon à la parisienne, Cœur de Charolais rôti, Pommes bonne femme, Haricots verts à l'Anglaise, Fromages, Bombe Aida, Gavottes, Apéritifs, Vins, Café, Alcools et Liqueurs / 01:50 p.m. arrival Le Havre (Gare Maritime) / 02:00 p.m. visit of the liner "France" / 03:00 p.m. screening, preview reserved for professionals (spécialement réservée à la profession), of the film **La Fayette** – projection duration: 2 h 38 / champagne of honor in the large salon of the liner "France" / 08:42 p.m. departure Le Havre (Gare Maritime) / during the trip, dinner including: Consommé Céléstine, Poulet à la gelée d'estragon, Salade monégasque, Fromages, Fruit rafraîchis au Marasquin, Vins / 11:00 p.m. arrival Paris (Gare Saint-Lazare).

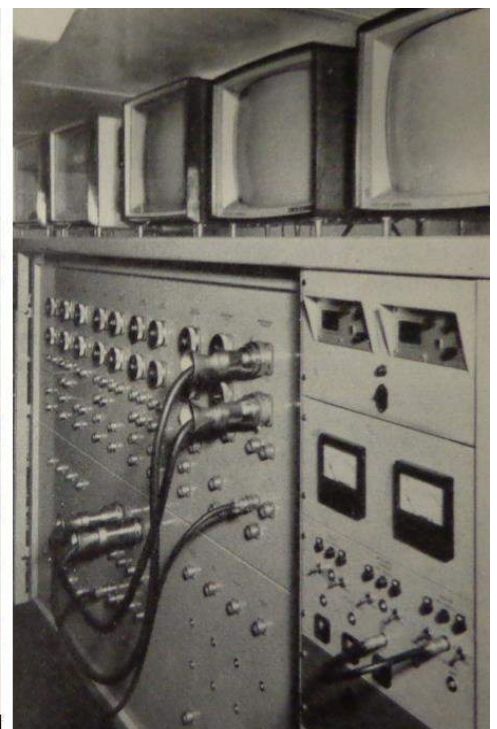
A Todd-AO Cinema in the Passenger Vessel "SS France"

**Information and pictures are taken from the
trade magazine "Kino-Technik" dated January 1963 (No. 2).**

On 3rd February 1962, the luxurious passenger ship "France" left Le Havre and sailed via Southampton to New York in six days. At the time, it had been considered as a masterpiece of shipbuilding. With a length of 316 metres, it had been the longest ship in the world. It was equipped for 2044 passengers.

The ship on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iL1UzWItQKc>
... and Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_France_\(1960\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_France_(1960))

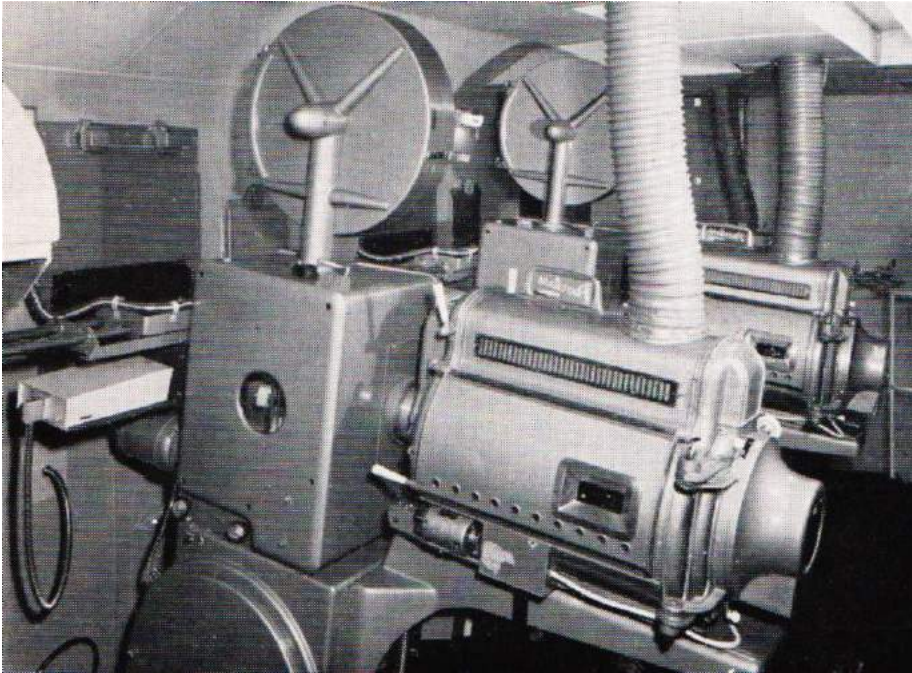
Passengers were entertained by own television programs, film screenings (even with Todd-AO films) and concerts. Philips had been involved in the installation of these systems – the "*Compagnie Générale Transatlantique*" gave the French Philips organization the order to install the entire television, electroacoustic and cinema systems. The sound and video systems were monitored from a central control room.



Images above: Left the control room. Here you can see a part of the control table and the control equipment - in the background radio receivers, and television control devices. Image right: The control panel, and the television control devices for the on-board television system.

The Ship's Movie Theatre

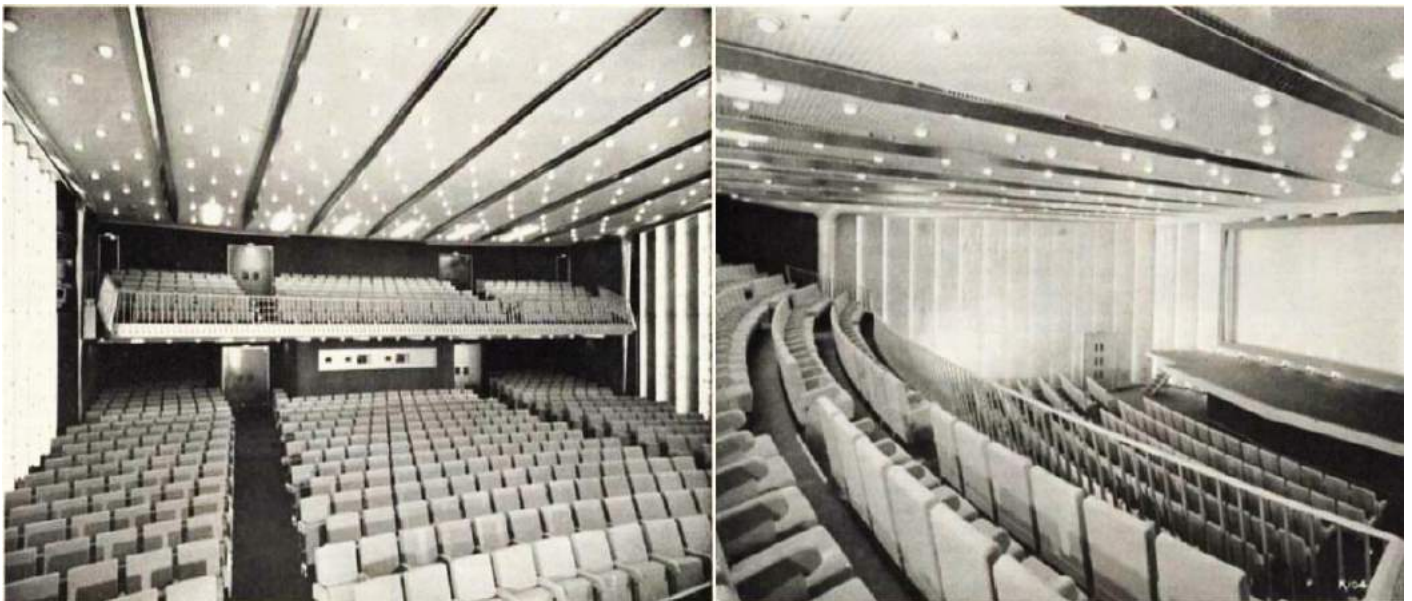
In the movie theatre, French films were shown on the trip from France to America, which were brought to New York for American premieres, while certain American films were shown on return trip for later premieres in France.



The projection room of the on-board film theatre with Philips universal projectors for 35mm and 70mm wide films, and a device for TV scanning of 35mm films.

The projection room of the film theatre was equipped with two universal projectors of the type "Philips DP70/35" (author's note: Serial No. 1741 + 1744) for the screening of normal and wide films, with a 16mm projector and two television cameras.

With regard to wide films, the amplifier system was designed with six channels. For Todd-AO films the sound reproduction took place with five stereophonic groups of speakers behind the screen, and another 14 speakers distributed in the theatre for the sixth channel.



Un autre aspect de la salle, vue de la scène.

La luxueuse salle de spectacles de « France », vue de mesation.

The huge auditorium of the passenger vessel "France" designed by the famous French cinema architect Georges Peynet. Images from "Le Film Français Cinémond" (Édition Spéciale) dated 01.02.1962.



Image left from the trade magazine "Kino-Technik" dated Jan. 1963 (No. 2).

The auditorium was equipped with 664 seats, of which 185 were reserved on the balcony for the first class. The screen had a width of 10 metres [author's note: another source (see link below) gives a size of 9,50 by 4 metres]. Films were shown daily from morning to midnight. A stage with a size of 32m² was available for concerts and other events. If necessary, a concert piano (stored below the stage) could automatically be lifted onto the stage. The two Philips film projectors were coupled to two

Philips Vidicon television cameras, so that 35mm films could be scanned, and played on television receivers in the ship's passenger cabins. / **More interesting information** on the preview event, the film and the ship is available here – a fantastic collection by Gérard Gumuchian (only in French):

<http://www.paquebots.net/2015/02/paquebot-france-transatlantique-inaugurale-aller-du-3-au-8-fevrier-1962.html>

THE SHOT HEARD ROUND THE WORLD THUNDERS ACROSS THE SCREEN!

The Firebrand who helped forge a nation... with his courage... and his sword!

LAFAYETTE
IN SUPER TECHNIRAMA AND GLORIOUS COLOR

starring
JACK HAWKINS • ORSON WELLES • HOWARD ST. JOHN
VITTORIO DE SICA • EDMUND PURDOM
 and introducing
PASCALE AUDRÉT • MICHEL LE ROYER AS LAFAYETTE

Produced by Maurice Jacquin • Directed by Jean Dreville • Screen play by Jean-Bernard Luc - Suzanne Arduini • A Copernic-Cosmos Production • Distributed by Maco Film Corp.

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LA FAYETTE (France/Italy, 1962) presented in Super Technirama 70.



Since 13th February 1961, Copernic Films (Paris) and Cosmos Films (Rome) are producing the first French film in Technirama 70 - Technicolor. With the greatest international star cast – **LA FAYETTE**. Directed by Jean Dréville. Distributor: UFA-COMACICO. Advert from "Le Film Français" dated 03.03.1961.

Author's note: Around this time, there had been produced another film in the Technirama process in France. A ballet film with the title: **1-2-3-4 ou Les Collants noirs** (Black Tights) – a French-Portuguese co-production by Terence Young.

Below an article from "La Cinématographie Française" dated 15.07.1961.



LA FAYETTE on an official visit to Ambassador James Gavin.

On the occasion of the American National Day – the 'Independence Day' (author's note: on 04th of July), His Excellency the Ambassador of the USA in Paris officially received Michel Le Royer and Pascale Audret – respectively Mr. and Mrs. La Fayette in the movie **LA FAYETTE**. It is being filmed in Technirama 70, Technicolor, and will now completed by the director Jean Dréville in Yugoslavia. With this meeting, Mr. Gavin would like to point out the important role that the entire American

people also play in the film, which is produced for the glory of the heroes of Liberty. This production, the most important ever made by French cinema, is distributed by UFA-COMACICO. In the photo (from left to right), Madame James Gavin, Michel Le Royer, Pascale

Audret, Mr. James Gavin who has just received a luxurious souvenir brochure about the movie **La Fayette**, and rightmost the three charming little girls of the Ambassador.



A large advert from "La Cinématographie Française" dated 01.04.1961.

The Movie's World Premiere at the Paris Opera on 08.02.1962



Left an article from "Le Film Français" dated 19.01.1962.

Press conference at the Paris Opera for **La Fayette**

For its annual gala, the *Syndicat de la Parisienne Presse* has chosen to present this year the greatest French film, which has ever been produced to the glory of the hero of Liberty – **La Fayette**. The World Premiere of Jean Dréville's film will take place at the Opera (author's note: also named *Palais Garnier*) on 8th February – and it is at the Opera that the organizers of the annual gala have invited the press to an information meeting with cocktails on Tuesday, 16th January 1962.

It is the first time that the press gala will take place at the Opera. To ensure a perfect projection of this Super Film **La Fayette** (produced in Super Technirama 70 and Technicolor) the Opera's booth will be specially equipped with projectors in order to project the film in 70mm format onto a screen with a size of 120m² (author's note: 16 by 7,5 metres) – the sound will be total stereophonic using 6 tracks.

Another article about the movie's World Premiere event from "Le Film Français" dated 16.02.1962.

Great World Premiere of **La Fayette** at the Opera

As we already announced, the great film **La Fayette** in Super Technirama and Technicolor by Jean Dréville, produced by Maurice Jacquin, had its World Premiere at the Opera on Thursday, 8th February.

‘Whole Paris’ attended this magnificent Gala Premiere, which was organized by the press for the benefit of social works. With personalities like MM. Michel Fourré Cormeray (chief executive of the National Center of *‘La Cinématographie Française’*), Louis Jacquinot, A.-M. Julien, Christian de la Malène, André Maurois, Pierre Messmer and James Gavin. We also noted the presence of

Claudia Cardinale, Dany Saval, Marina Vlady, Gilbert Bécaud, Robert Hossein and Anthony Perkins. The main actors of **La Fayette** were, of course, also present – e.g., the film's director Jean Dréville, Michel Le Royer (the performer of the role of the Marquis de La Fayette) as well as his partners, Pascale Audret and Wolfgang Preiss.

The film was as well received as it had already been eight days earlier (author's note: on 01.02.1962) during the exceptional corporate presentation of **La Fayette** aboard the liner "France". This is a good sign that this monumental and exciting production will be successful. In Paris, it will be released in the cinemas "Rex", "Normandie", Moulin-Rouge" and "Rotonde" on Friday, 16th February.

**Grande première mondiale de
"LA FAYETTE" à l'Opéra**

● Ainsi que nous l'avions déjà annoncé, le grand film en Super-Technirama et en Technicolor de Jean Dréville, produit par Maurice Jacquin, LA FAYETTE, a été présenté en première mondiale, jeudi 8 février, à l'Opéra.

● Le « Tout-Paris » assistait à ce magnifique gala, organisé au profit des œuvres sociales de la presse. Auprès de personnalités comme MM. Michel Fourré-Cormeray, directeur général du Centre National de la Cinématographie Française, Louis Jacquinot, A.-M. Julien, Christian de la Malène, André Maurois, Pierre Messmer et James Gavin, on notait ainsi la présence de Claudia Cardinale, Dany Saval, Marina Vlady, Gilbert Bécaud, Robert Hossein et Anthony Perkins. Bien entendu, les principaux animateurs de LA FAYETTE étaient également là ; autour du metteur en scène Jean Dréville, Michel Le Royer, interprète du Marquis de La Fayette, ainsi que ses partenaires, Pascale Audret et Wolfgang Preiss.

● Comme au Havre, huit jours auparavant, lors de la présentation corporative exceptionnelle de LA FAYETTE à bord du paquebot « France », le film a obtenu un très vif succès. Celui-ci augurait bien de la carrière de cette monumentale et exaltante production dont l'exclusivité parisienne a débuté, rappelons-le, vendredi 16 février, dans le groupe « Rex » - « Normandie » - « Moulin Rouge » - « Rotonde ».



From the movie's opening credits – the spectacular is available on a French Blu-ray.

Below a short article from "La Cinématographie Française" dated 10.02.1962.

« LA FAYETTE » à l'Opéra

Après sa présentation sur « France », dont nous avons rendu compte dans notre dernier numéro, *La Fayette*, qui s'annonce vraiment comme l'événement spectaculaire de l'année, a connu les fastes de l'Opéra, lors de sa présentation au gala de la Presse. Après la projection fort bien accueillie, Pascale Audret, Josette Amiel et Jacqueline Rayet tirèrent sur scène la tombola. Un souper suivit dans le grand Foyer de l'Opéra, pendant lequel l'orchestre de la Garde Républicaine jouait sous la direction de Julien Brun.



M. Jacquin et Michel Le Royer, interprète de LA FAYETTE, félicités par Son Excellence James Gavin, et Madame, ambassadeur des Etats-Unis d'Amérique.

The text in the article above left: *La Fayette* at the Opera

After its presentation on the "France" (we reported on it in our last issue), *La Fayette*, which really promises to be the spectacular event of the year, experienced the splendor of the Opera during its presentation during a press gala. After the very well received screening, a raffle was drawn by Pascale Audret, Josette Amiel and Jacqueline Rayet on the stage. Then followed a supper in the Opera's grand foyer, during which the Republican Guard Orchestra played under the direction of Julien Brun. *The small image on the right:* Mr. Maurice Jacquin (the film's producer, middle right) and Michel Le Royer (performer of *La Fayette*, right) are congratulated by His Excellency James Gavin (ambassador of the United States of America in Paris) and his wife.



The Firebrand who helped forge a nation ... with his courage ... and his sword!

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| La Fayette | Michel LE ROYER |
| Adrienne de La Fayette | Pascale AUDRET |
| Le duc d'Ayen | Jacques CASTELOT |
| Le général Cornwallis | Jack HAWKINS |
| Marie-Antoinette | Liselotte PULVER |
| La duchesse d'Ayen | Renée SAINT-CYR |
| Louis XVI | Albert REMY |
| Benjamin Franklin | Orson WELLES |
| Georges Washington | Howard SAINT-JOHN |
| Bancroft | Vittorio de SICA |
| La comtesse de Simiane | Rosanna SCHIAFFINO |
| Vergennes | Georges RIVIERE |
| Sileas Deane | Edmund PURDOM |
| Le capitaine Le Boursier | Folco LULLI |
| Aglæ | Sylvie COSTE |
| Maurepas | Jean-Roger CAUSSIMON |
| Monsieur, frère de Louis XVI | Henri TISOT |
| Le baron Kalb | Wolfgang PREISS |
| Mauroy | Roland RODIER |
| Lauzun | René ROZAN |
| Un abbé de Cour | Claude NAUDES |

Left a section of a poster: A Firebrand who helped forge a nation ... with his courage ... and his sword!

... the movie's Italian title: **LA FAYETTE – una spada per due bandiere.**



Advertising taken from the trade magazine "Le Film Français" dated June 1961, and right dated March 1962. **La Fayette** at the 4 Paris cinemas:

Rex,
Normandie,
Moulin-Rouge
and Rotonde.

NOTRE COUVERTURE

20 vedettes
200 acteurs
30.000 figurants
5.000 cavaliers

ont participé à la réalisation du plus grand film jamais réalisé en France

LA FAYETTE

Technirama 70 - Technicolor

Co-production : Les films Copernic (Paris)
Cosmos Films (Rome)

Distribution :



UFA-COMACICO

Ventes Mondiales :

A. Rubin - Europex, 68, rue Pierre-Charron
Bal. 73-29 - Câble Eupexfilm Paris



UFA-COMACICO
s'adresse...

Les chiffres parlent

Semaine du 21 Février
au 1^{er} Mars, 47 salles
d'exclusivité sortant
22 films totalisent à Paris
301.570 entrées

dont

LA FAYETTE
REX - NORMANDIE
MOULIN-ROUGE - ROTONDE
49.141 entrées

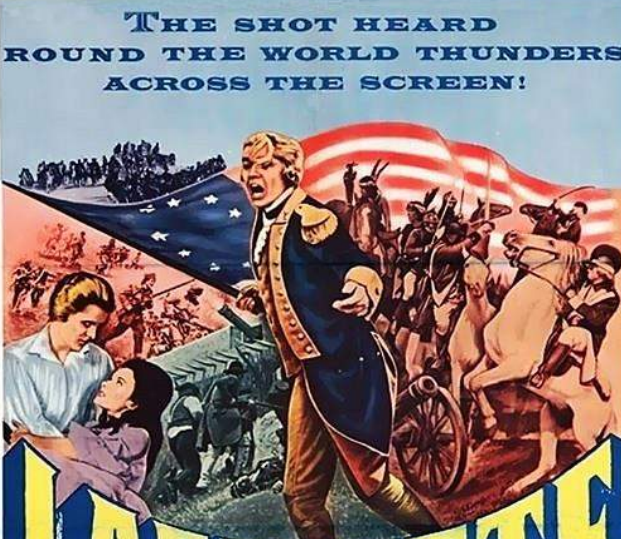
Sans commentaires !

...à ses amis exploitants

BRILLIANT, LAVISH SPECTACLE!
- JOURNAL AMERICAN

"It's hard to remember when wide screen photography and color have been used to such sterling advantage... magnificent, the action is pulse-quickening!"
- DAILY MIRROR

**THE SHOT HEARD
ROUND THE WORLD THUNDERS
ACROSS THE SCREEN!**



LA FAYETTE

IN SUPER TECHNIRAMA AND GLORIOUS COLOR

The Firebrand who helped forge a nation... with his courage... and his sword!

Starring JACK HAWKINS • ORSON WELLES • HOWARD ST. JOHN • VITTORIO DE SICA • EDMUND PURDOM • PASCALE AUDRET
MICHEL LE ROYER as LA FAYETTE

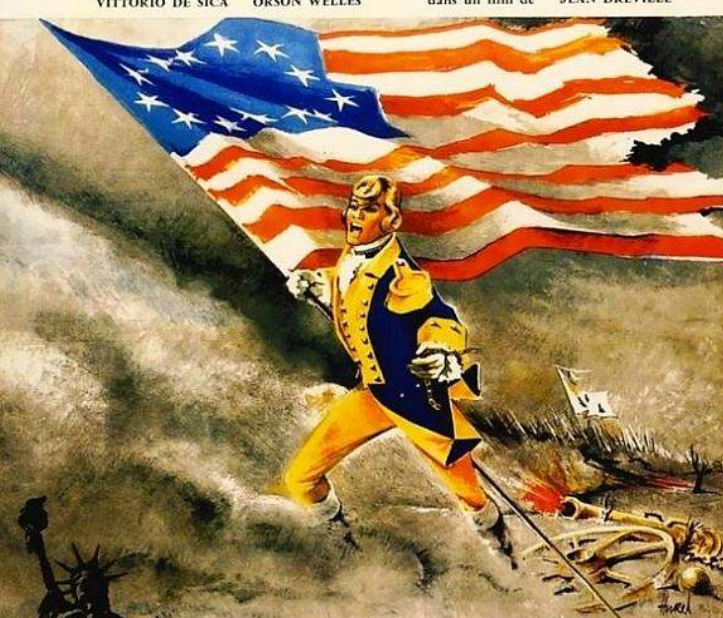
Produced by Maurice Jacquin • Directed by Jean Dreville • Screen play by Jean Bernard-Luc • Suzanne Arduini • Music by Steve Laurent • Pierre Duclos • Cinematography by Claude Roubis • A Copernic Cosmos Production • Distributed by Maza Film Corp.

MAURICE JACQUIN Présente

PASCALE AUDRET
MICHEL LE ROYER
WOLFGANG PREISS
EDMUND PURDOM
ROSANNA SCHIAFFINO
VITTORIO DE SICA

JACK HAWKINS
FOLCO LULLI
LISELOTTE PULVER
GEORGES RIVIERE
HOWARD ST JOHN
ORSON WELLES

dans un film de JEAN DREVILLE



LA FAYETTE

Scénario de SUZANNE ARDUINI
Adaptation de JEAN BERNARD-LUC SUZANNE ARDUINI
FRANÇOIS PONTHER JEAN DREVILLE
MAURICE JACQUIN

Dialogue de JEAN BERNARD-LUC

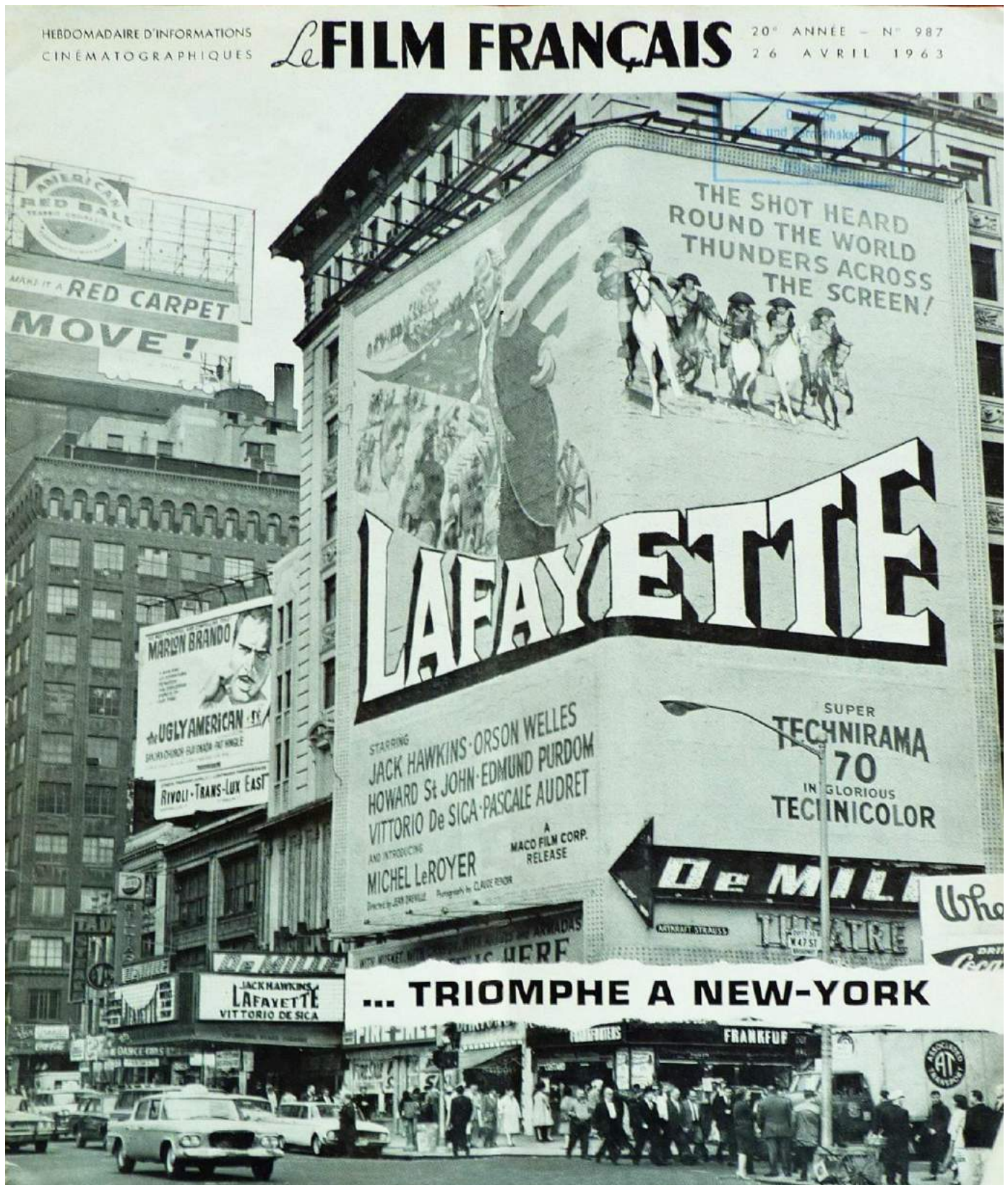
Montage de STEVE LAURENT et PIERRE LAURENT et PIERRE LAURENT et PIERRE LAURENT
Directeurs de la Photographie ROBERT HUBERT et CLAUDE RIBAUD
Producteur délégué JEAN DEVAIVRE
Architecte-décorateur MAURICE COLASINON

Produit par MAURICE JACQUIN
COPERNIC COSMOS PRODUCTION
DISTRIBUÉ PAR MAZA FILM CORP.

tourné en SUPER-TECHNIRAMA 70 - TECHNICOLOR - SON STÉRÉOPHONIQUE

Left an American poster, and right a French poster of the movie.

The Movie's Premiere in New York



La Fayette at New York's "DeMille" Theatre. It premiered there on 10.04.1963.
The front page of the trade magazine "Le Film Français" dated 26.04.1963.

Read a review on the film (and another) written by Bosley Crowther
– from 'New York Times' dated 11.04.1963:

<https://www.nytimes.com/1963/04/11/archives/the-screen-french-lafayette-opensbig-historical-drama-at-the.html>

... and another review on the movie written by Kathleen Carroll – from "New York Daily News" dated 11.04.1963: **A Lively Lafayette On DeMille Screen.**

Heroes of history textbooks project themselves from study-worn pages with new life in the screen story of a young Frenchman, the self-effacing participant in the American Revolution, known as the Marquis de Lafayette. This study of the French officer's actions in our war for independence is amplified by its Super Technirama 70mm – Technicolor treatment at the DeMille Theatre.

On the informative level, the film is impressive. It should rightfully be recommended as a visual aid supplement for the young student. The production displays an astute respect for historical accuracy, especially in the choice of backdrops. Location color shots of the Palace of Versailles, numerous country chateaux and castles and the carefully detailed reproductions of the study of Louis XVI, and the salons of Marie Antoinette add authenticity not to mention, visual beauty.

Retracing the hero's determined course of action, the film reveals Lafayette as a high-spirited 19-year old whose years in fighting for our liberty were characterized by the unleashed bravado of youth and a remarkable selfless devotion to the cause of liberty.

French newcomer Michel Le Royer plays Lafayette, the human dynamo. Le Royer is perhaps no actor (author's note: Here I am not of the same opinion), but one forgets when he flashes his disarming smile.

Dynamism does not describe the rest of the cast, which, incidentally, reads like the star listing of the International Motion Picture Almanac.

Evidently, there is a feeling that George Washington, Louis XVI and Benjamin Franklin are dead wood, and the stellar actors play the roles accordingly, fitting into their respective niches as inconspicuously as possible. Orson Welles has obviously relished donning the makeup of Franklin. Howard St. John is uninspiring as the awe-inspiring Washington of Lafayette's letters to his wife.

The more emotionally-charged scenes on the expanded screen include the sprawling battle sequences along the Brandywine and the final din of the Battle of Yorktown. The surrender of the British under Cornwallis is striking. The soldiers are lined across the landscape in their stark red uniforms, a solitary soldier's eyes are wet as he lays down his arms, and Cornwallis, with a slight gesture, signals the lowering of the British flags. For these moments and others the film is a definite eye-pleaser, and one that both parents and teachers can advise children to attend. And they might not find it too painful a history review for themselves.



Left from the movie's end credits:
The interiors of the movie were shot at the **Château de Versailles**, at the **Studios de la Victorine** in Nice, and at the **Studios de Boulogne**.

The exteriors were shot in Yugoslavia with the Central Film Studio **Košutnjak** in Belgrade.

The Movie's Premiere in London



THE STORY OF THE FIREBRAND HERO OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WHO RISKED ALL TO HELP FORGE A NATION... WITH HIS COURAGE AND HIS SWORD

LA FAYETTE

JACK HAWKINS · ORSON WELLES · HOWARD ST. JOHN · VITTORIO DE SICA
EDMUND PURDOM · PASCALE AUDRET · ROSANNA SCHIAFFINO
MICHEL LE ROYER *AS LAFAYETTE* Produced by Maurice Jacquin · Directed by Jean Dreville
Screen play by Jean-Bernard Luc · Suzanne Arduini · Music by Steve Laurent · Pierre Duclos
Cinematography by Claude Renoir A Copernic-Cosmos Production

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WEEKDAYS: Two separate performances 2.30 & 8.00
SATURDAYS: Four separate performances 2.30 5.45 8.30 11.30
SUNDAYS: Two separate performances 5.00 & 8.00

Seats will not be sold for the current performance 15 minutes after the advertised starting time.
ADVANCE BOOKING OFFICE OPEN WEEKDAYS 10-8 p.m., SUNDAYS 3-7 p.m.

CINERAMA presents LA FAYETTE

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| JACK HAWKINS  as General Cornwallis... destroyed in a trap of his own making! | VITTORIO de SICA  as Mr. Bancroft. Completely loyal... provided the price was right! | ROSANNA SCHIAFFINO  Mistress to all men... loyal to none! |
| ORSON WELLES  as Benjamin Franklin, arch schemer of the American revolution. | EDMUND PURDOM  as Silas Deane. Loyal emissary or treacherous spy? | MICHEL le ROYER  as LA FAYETTE. Firebrand rebel who helped forge a nation... with his courage... and his sword! |

EVERY SEAT BOOKABLE
STALLS: 17/6 12/6 10/6
CIRCLE: 15/-
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POST YOUR "LA FAYETTE" RESERVATION NOW!
LONDON COLISEUM, ST. MARTIN'S LANE, W.C.2.

Enclosed is £ _____ s. _____ d. for _____ seats at _____ Circle Stalls
for the Perf.: TIME _____ on _____

IMPORTANT
A Stamped self-addressed envelope should be enclosed for return of tickets. Cheques payable to London Coliseum must have three days clearance. Please cross P.O.'s " & Co."

★ 2nd Choice _____
Name _____
Address _____

★ **IN YOUR OWN INTEREST** please give 2nd choice wherever possible

PARTY RATES: For parties of twenty-five and over for all Monday to Friday performances 17/6 Stalls for 12/6 15/- Circle for 10/6

La Fayette at London's "Coliseum Cinerama Theatre". It premiered there in 70mm CINERAMA on 10.01.1965. As far as I know, **La Fayette** was never promoted as a Cinerama movie except in the United Kingdom.

Here is some information kindly provided by David Coles, Sydney, Australia:

La Fayette had something of a splash Cinerama release in the UK using at least three prints with the following playdates:

London Coliseum Cinerama: 10/01/65 – 07/03/65 (8 weeks)

Birmingham ABC Cinerama: 17/01/65 – 13/02/65 (4 weeks)

Manchester Royal Cinerama: 31/01/65 – 06/03/65 (5 weeks)

Glasgow ABC Coliseum: 02/05/65 – 22/05/65 (3 weeks)

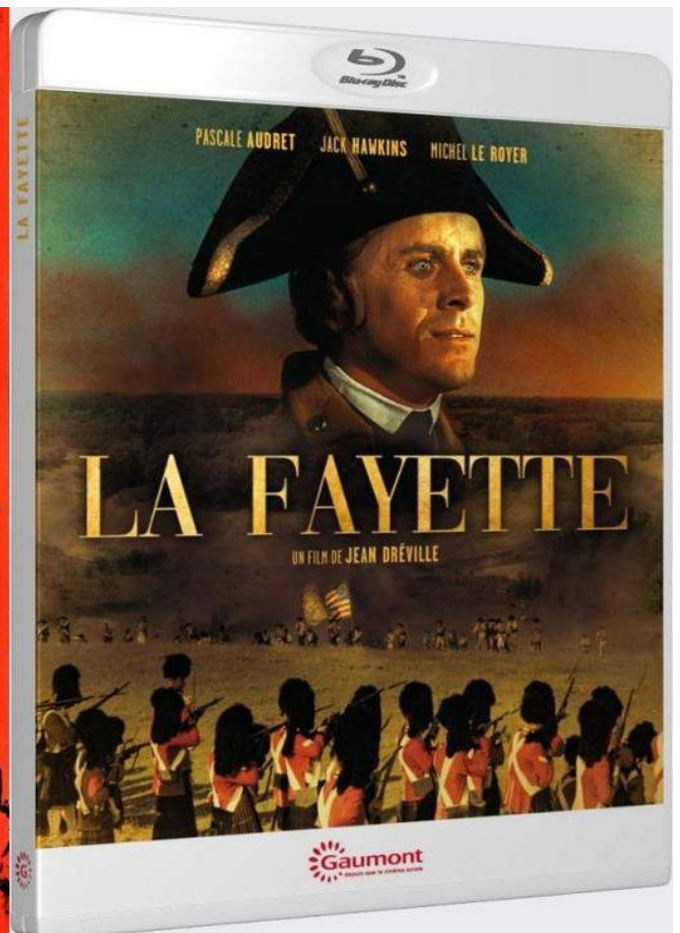
Liverpool Abbey Wavertree: 24/06/65 – 07/07/65 (2 weeks)

Most countries showed **La Fayette** in flat 70mm (AR 1:2.20) and 35mm Scope (AR 1:2.35) or – like in Australia – not at all.

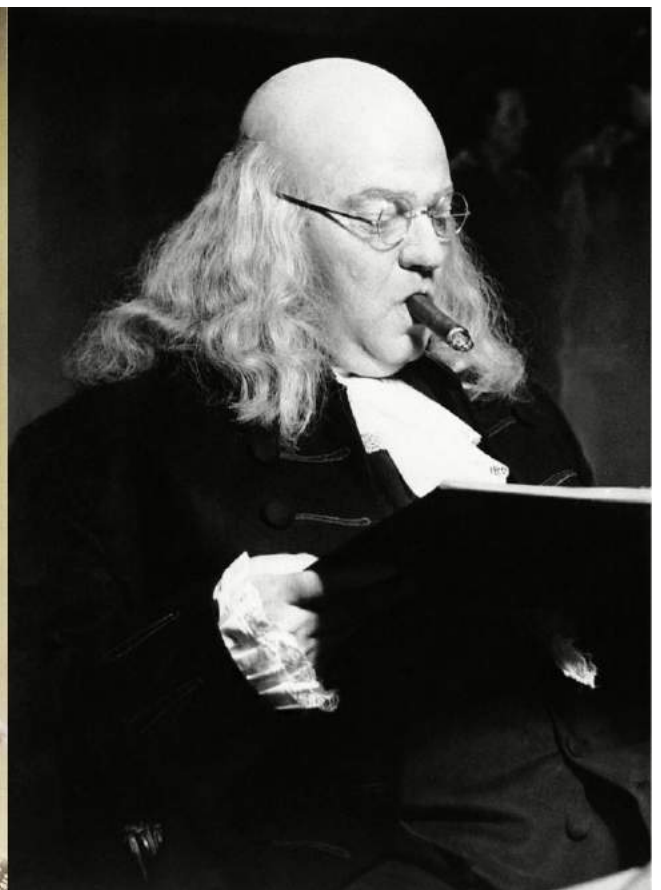
LA FAYETTE
DE JEAN DREVILLE



Two Italian posters: **La Fayette – A Sword for two Flags.**



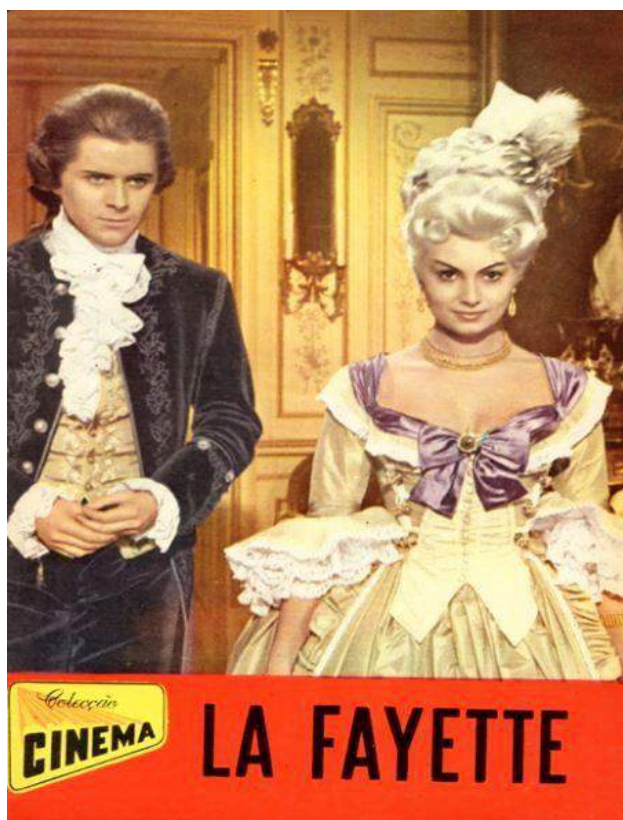
German poster: **Der junge General (The young General)**, and right the film's Blu-ray.



The Swiss film icon Liselotte Pulver (Marie Antoinette), and on the right a picture showing Orson Welles (Benjamin Franklin) during a break from filming. In 1963, Liselotte Pulver had been awarded with the German media prize "Bambi" (actress national) for her overall performances in the three movies **La Fayette** (Der junge General, France/Italy, 1962), **Maléfices** (Das Haus der Sünde, France, 1962) and **Kohlhiesels Töchter** (Kohlhiesel's Daughters, West Germany, 1962).



Image above: The Battle at Yorktown – word is that it had been shot with five Technirama cameras simultaneously. Maurice Jacquin, the film's producer, reports in "Le Film Français Cinémonde" (Édition Spéciale) dated 01.02.1962: "... que ce serait la première production tournée en France en 70mm par cinq caméras simultanées."



The Portuguese film magazine "Coleção CINEMA" [La Fayette and Comtesse de Simiane (Michel Le Royer and Rosanna Schiaffino)], and on the right Jack Hawkins as General Cornwallis.

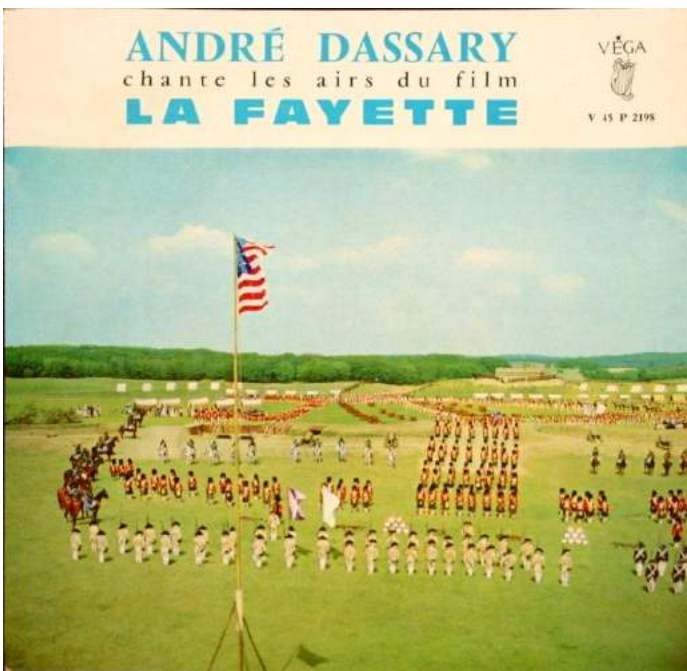


A scene of the film: Vergennes and La Fayette (Georges Rivière and Michel Le Royer).

The Movie's Musical Score



Bande Originale du Film (Banda Original del Film) **La Fayette**, and below André Dassary sings tunes of the film (all records are EPs).



Music by Steve Laurent and Pierre Duclos

Original musical score by the orchestra
LA SOCIÉTÉ DES CONCERTS DU CONSERVATOIRE

Under the direction of Paul Bonneau

On YouTube audible:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBX2OzM-X-M>

From the movie's end credits:

... la nature a fait les hommes libres et égaux. Tout homme naît avec des droits inaliénables, la liberté de ses opinions, la disposition de sa personne, la recherche du bien-être et la résistance à l'oppression.

Déclaration des Droits de l'Homme, 11 Juillet 1789 – La Fayette

... nature has made men free and equal. Every man is born with inalienable rights, the freedom of his opinions, the entire disposition of his person, the pursuit of well-being and the resistance to oppression.

Declaration of Human Rights, 11th July 1789 – La Fayette



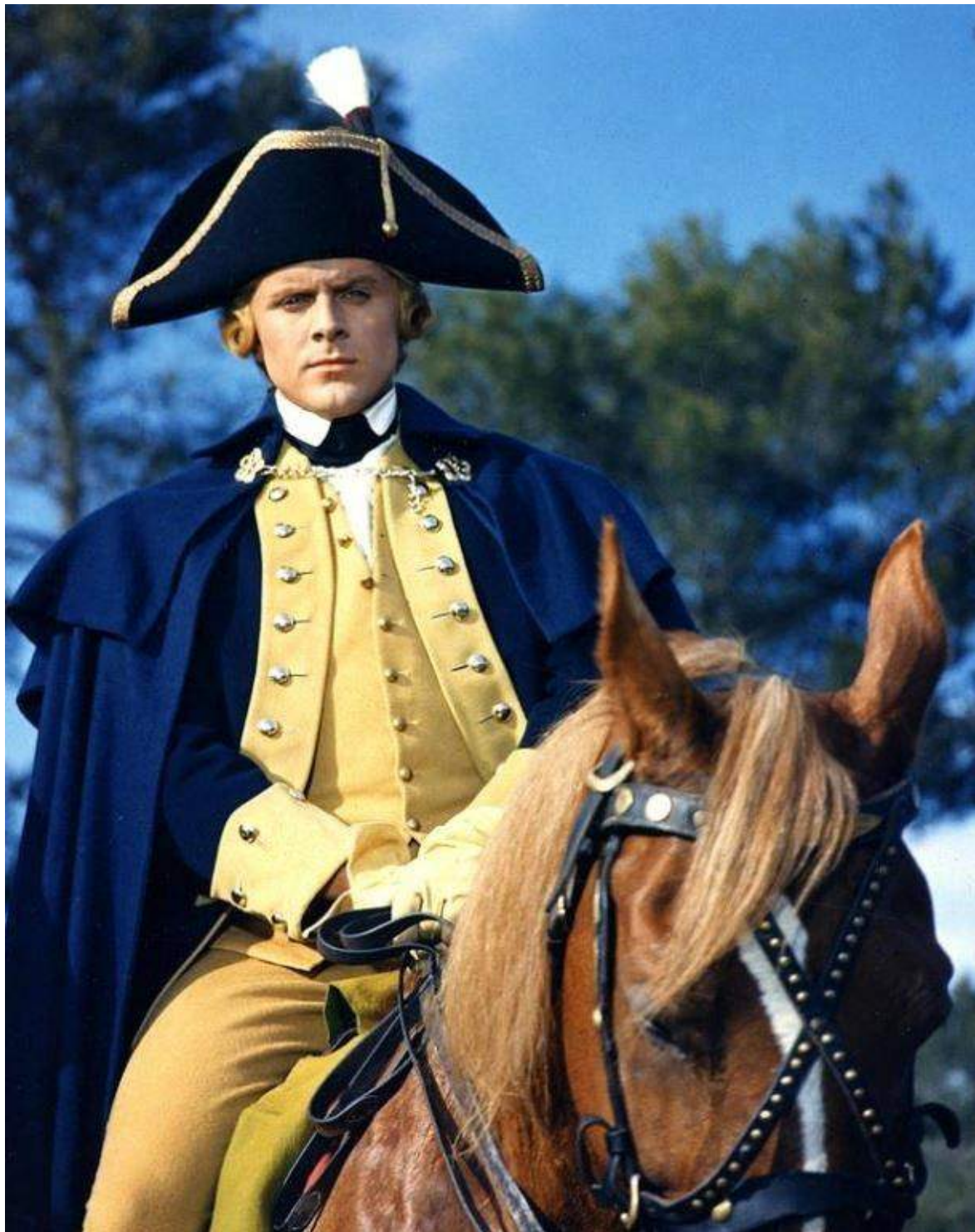
"A Great International Cast"
"A Brilliant and Lavish Spectacle"

LAFAYETTE

In Blazing Color and Super Technirama
A MACO FILM RELEASE

La Fayette (Michel Le Royer) in the final decisive battle during the American War of Independence at Yorktown in the year 1781.





Michel Le Royer in glorious Technicolor

Related Links

1) The Movie's Souvenir Brochure:

https://www.in70mm.com/library/process/technirama/film/la_fayette/index.htm

2) Michel Le Royer and the Film (only in French):

<http://television.blogs.sudouest.fr/archives/category/cinema/index-2.html/>

3) The Life of James Gavin:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James M. Gavin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_M._Gavin)

4) Gilbert du Motier / Marquis de Lafayette:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gilbert_du_Motier,_Marquis_de_Lafayette)

A Pre-Version of the Film



A very early **La Fayette** advertising from "Le Film Français" dated December 1960.
A production by Suzy Prim / Distributor: RANK

From the interview (see link above) with Michel Le Royer: Ce film a été fait grâce à une chanteuse, Suzy Prim. Elle a été avec son mari Mr Mont Blanc, sa première productrice. Ils avaient monté le projet d'un film, une sorte de bleurette historique et tout à coup cela a pris de l'ampleur et Suzy Prim a revendu son film à un autre producteur Mr Maurice Jacquin. Et c'est devenu un truc énorme et les Américains s'y sont intéressés et ont exigé que l'on gonfle toute l'histoire. Je crois savoir que cela n'a pas été une très bonne affaire commerciale pour le producteur français. Les américains ont acheté le film, ont réalisé leur propre montage que j'estime bien meilleur, beaucoup plus vif que le montage français.

Translated: This film was made thanks to a singer Suzy Prim [author's note: Suzy Prim, born as Suzanne Mariette Arduini (1896 – 1991), was also an actress, and an occasional film producer and screenwriter]. She had been, together with her husband Mr. Mont Blanc, the film's first producer. They had put together the project for a film, a sort of historic romance ('bleurette' historique), and suddenly the project got bigger and Suzy Prim sold the film to another producer – Mr. Maurice Jacquin. And it became a huge thing and the Americans got interested in it, and demanded that we should inflate the whole story. I understand that it was not a very good business deal for the French producer. The Americans bought the film, made their own montage (version) of it, which, I think, is much better – much more lively than the French montage (version).

From the Technirama film's (1962) opening credits



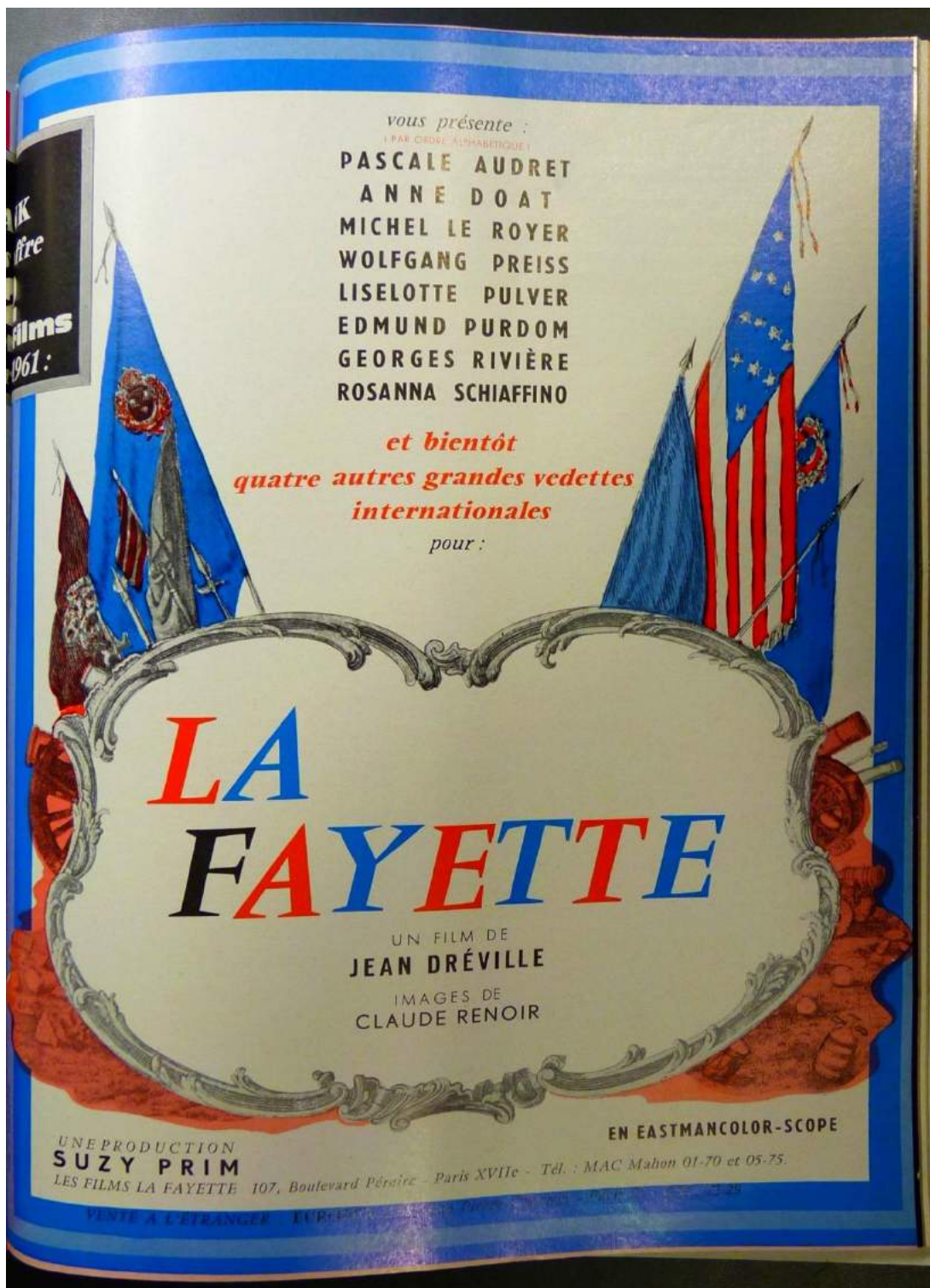
Screenplay by Suzanne Arduini (aka Suzy Prim).



Adaptation by ... also Suzanne Arduini (aka Suzy Prim).



... another early advert of the 'Suzy Prim' film taken from "Le Film Français".



... and soon
four other great
international
stars for **La
Fayette.**

Here still
Suzy Prim's
Eastmancolor-
Scope (not
Technicolor)
film production.

The large
announcement
advert is
taken from "La
Cinématographie
Française" dated
January 1961.

But as already mentioned:

The new decision – since 13th
February 1961 produced by
Maurice Jacquin and Copernic
Films (Paris) and Cosmos Films
(Rome) in **Technirama 70 –
Technicolor.**

Advert from "Le Film Français"
dated 03.03.1961.

