

# AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER FOREVER FESTIVAL

CLINTON ST. THEATER  
MARCH 6-9 2025



## AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER FOREVER

The Agnès Varda Forever project began during the Covid-19 stay-at-home order in the summer of 2020 after Jennifer “JJ” Jones and her son Nico watched a marathon of movies directed by Varda. As a result, they wanted more people to know about the Belgian-born French film director, screenwriter, photographer, and artist who is considered the mother of the French New Wave. In October 2020, JJ acted on this desire by painting “AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER” in eight-inch high letters on a utility pole at the end of her block on NE Ainsworth Street in Portland, Oregon.

Around that time, Laura Glazer drove past this bold message and was delighted by its spirit, not realizing that it was JJ’s handiwork. Later that night she sent JJ an email about it. (She knew JJ was a fan of Varda’s movies because a few years ago they saw each other at a Hollywood Theatre showing of Varda’s Oscar-nominated film, *Faces Places*.)

JJ replied to Laura’s email: “One night, when I couldn’t sleep, I went down to the corner of MY STREET and painted that pole! What is incredible is that YOU saw it! I thought about sending you a picture of it, but then thought that a better thing to do would be to someday go and paint it on something near your apartment, so you could accidentally stumble upon it! This is SO magical, that it worked out this way. My heart and my mind are blown!!!”

As part of a class assignment from artist Harrell Fletcher in the Art and Social Practice MFA Program at PSU in April 2021, Laura received \$100 to commission someone to do anything. She offered it to JJ and together they designed and printed a poster with the “AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER” message. Its distinguishing

feature were the removable tabs at the bottom that listed movies directed by Varda with short descriptions of each. Then JJ anonymously hung over 500 posters on poles in Portland and beyond. Her hope was that people would take a tab from the poster and use it as a reminder to find out more about Varda and watch films by her.

In the summer of 2021, the Clinton Street Theater invited Laura and JJ to collaborate on an Agnès Varda Forever Festival inspired by their project. In addition to screening Varda’s films, Laura and JJ were artists-in-residence at the theater, creating Varda-inspired artwork in response to the theater and neighborhood people and places. The Festival inspired other artists, too, including local singer-songwriter Brandi Haile who wrote and performed a song about the project and young filmmakers in Colombia downloaded the PDF of the poster and hung it around Bogotá.

Early in 2022, Gina Altamura from Holocene invited JJ and Laura to collaborate on Fin de Cinema, a recurring live film score series she’s curated since 2009. Together with Nora Colie of POW Film Fest, they commissioned Portland-based musicians, EMA (Erika M. Anderson) and Kathy Foster with Rachel Blumberg to write and perform a new soundtrack to Varda’s first film, *La Pointe Courte*, with Anderson composing for the first half of the film and Foster and Blumberg for the second.

JJ and Laura are thrilled to be invited back to the Clinton Street Theater for Agnès Varda Forever FOREVER Festival 2025, screening some of their favorite Agnès films, collaborating with the incredible theater team, and sharing the films of Agnès with new audiences and long-time fans.

## FESTIVAL 2025 AT THE CLINTON STREET THEATER



The great Agnès Varda’s film career began with this study of a marriage on the rocks, set against the backdrop of a small Mediterranean fishing village. Varda’s discursive, gorgeously filmed debut was radical enough to later be considered one of the progenitors of the French New Wave.



Varda captures Paris in the sixties with this real-time portrait of a singer set adrift in the city as she awaits test results of a biopsy. A chronicle of the minutes of one woman’s life, the film is a spirited mix of vivid vérité and melodrama.



Varda’s tender evocation of the childhood of her husband, Jacques Demy—a dream project that she realized for him when he became too ill to direct it himself—is a wonder-filled portrait of the artist as a young man and an enchanting ode to the magic of cinema.



In early 1960s in Paris, two young women become friends. Pomme lends Suzanne the money for an illegal abortion, but a tragedy soon separates them. Ten years later, they reunite as each of their lives is irrevocably changed by the women’s liberation movement.



Varda’s late-career renaissance began with this self-reflexive documentary exploring the world of modern-day gleaners: those living on the margins who survive by foraging for what society throws away. Embracing the intimacy and freedom of digital filmmaking, Varda posits herself as a kind of gleaner of images and ideas.



Closing our festival, this documentary follows renowned filmmaker Varda and photographer/muralist J.R.’s journey through rural France as they form an unlikely friendship, capturing the portraits of the people they meet along the way. Nominated for Best Documentary Feature at the 90th Academy Awards.



**Agnès Varda** (1928 – 2019) was a Belgian-born French film director, screenwriter, photographer, and artist. She received an Honorary Palme d’Or at the Cannes Film Festival, a Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival, an Academy Honorary Award, and was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature. She was the first female director to receive an honorary Oscar.

**Laura Glazer** is an artist whose work is socially-engaged and depends on the participation of other people, sometimes a close friend, and other times, complete strangers. She teaches at PSU and is the Program Manager for a contemporary art museum in Portland. [www.lauraglazer.com](http://www.lauraglazer.com) [@helloworldcity](mailto:@helloworldcity) [#agnesvardaforever](https://www.instagram.com/agnesvardaforever)

**Jennifer “JJ” Jones** is a mail artist, gardener, cinephile, and an art school dropout. Having decided in the 90s that the best art galleries are the street and the mailbox, she devoted her practice to engaging with strangers. She curates the Bikeshed Film Fest in conjunction with Mother Foucault’s Bookshop. Send mail to: PO Box 11442, Portland, OR 97211



Laura and JJ. Photo by Claudia Meza, courtesy of OPB.

# THE FOREVER SHOP



SCAN ME

**T-SHIRT**  
\$21.99



SCAN ME

**TOTE BAG**  
\$19.99



SCAN ME

**STAMP SHEET**  
\$10.00 (PROCEEDS BENEFIT POW GIRLS)

Send us  
Agnès Varda-  
themed mail art! (We  
might organize an  
exhibit of them.)

PO Box 11442  
Portland, OR 97211

(She was an avid  
postcard collector  
and writer!)

## AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER WORD SEEK

I	R	R	M	R	B	E	A	C	H	E	S	C	S
T	S	T	E	C	M	O	B	R	O	O	M	C	L
S	R	R	R	V	M	A	C	V	R	P	U	L	D
I	M	D	E	G	E	I	T	E	R	C	R	I	N
T	B	O	R	L	F	R	R	H	R	I	N	N	A
R	C	C	U	E	E	O	O	A	I	N	R	T	L
A	T	U	T	A	M	S	T	F	I	E	A	O	T
C	J	M	I	N	I	A	C	R	D	T	U	N	R
A	A	E	R	E	N	L	E	E	E	A	P	S	O
T	C	N	C	R	I	I	R	T	L	M	A	T	P
S	Q	T	E	S	S	E	I	S	P	A	R	R	T
E	U	A	N	E	T	R	D	O	R	R	I	E	H
S	O	R	I	O	F	E	I	P	U	I	S	E	S
R	T	Y	C	R	M	A	S	R	P	S	T	T	L

ARTIST  
BEACHES  
BROOM  
CATS  
CINECRITURE  
CINE TAMARIS  
CLINTON STREET  
DIRECTOR  
DOCUMENTARY  
FEMINIST  
FOREVER  
JACQUOT  
MATHIEU  
GLEANERS  
PARIS  
PORTLAND  
POSTER  
PURPLE  
ROSALIE



Pictures, links, and more on our website:  
[www.agnesvardaforever.com](http://www.agnesvardaforever.com)

You can even download the original  
poster to do this project in your city!

Follow the project on Instagram:  
@helloprettycity #agnesvardaforever

Where we stream films  
by Agnès Varda:

Kanopy via Multnomah County  
library account. Free!

Criterion Collection  
Not free!

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