M8320 MUI DU DU XANH (FRANCE, 1993)

(Other titles: Duft der grünen Papaya; Odeur de la papaye verte; Odore della papaya verde; Profumo della papaya verde; Scent of the green papaya; Smell of the green papaya; Sweet smell of green papaya)

Credits: director/writer, Tran Anh Hung.
Cast: Tran Nu Yen-Khe, Lu Man San, Truong Thi Loc, Nguyen Anh Hoa.
Summary: Melodrama set in 1950s Saigon. Opening in 1951 and continuing to 1961, this is a story of a young country girl who joins a family as their servant and develops an enduring but secret attachment to a friend of the eldest son who is a music student. She eventually becomes his servant and mistress. The only reference to the wars during the period is the sound of aircraft passing overhead.

Brennan, Judy. “Helping his country find a voice: Director Tran Anh Hung brings the unspoken side of Vietnam to the screen in this quiet film set in 1951 Saigon” Los Angeles times (Feb 2, 1994), Calendar, p. 1.
Brown, Georgia. “For the boys” Village voice 39 (Feb 1, 1994), p. 56. [Reprinted in Film review annual 1995]
Clark, Mike. “‘Green papaya’ savors luscious slice of life” USA today (Feb 23, 1994), p. 7D.
Cross, Alice. “Portraying the rhythm of the Vietnamese soul: An interview with Tran Anh Hung” Cineaste 20/3 (summer 1993), p. 35+ [3 p.]
Devine, Jeremy M. Vietnam at 24 frames a second [GB] (p. 360)
[Reprinted in Film review annual 1995]
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Muse, Eben J. The land of Nam : the Vietnam war in American film [GB] (p. 218)
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[Reprinted in his Short orders : film writing London : Serpent’s Tail, 1997. (p. 105-8)]
Ryan, Desmond. “In prewar Vietnam, finding solace in ritual and nature” Philadelphia inquirer (Feb 25, 1994), Weekend, p. 3.
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