

PRAISE FOR CLAUDE MILLER'S "LA PETITE LILI"

"Ingeniously freewheeling...The characters in Mr. Miller's contemporary, bracingly optimistic adaptation have the power to reinvent themselves and to use art to forestall tragedy.... This is a film that has its cake and eats it, too, leaving no crumbs."

- *New York Times*

(3 ½ stars) Miller's quiet artistry is at its peak ... an intelligent, first-rate piece of cinema...acutely perceptive, universally empathetic and humane. – *Chicago Tribune*

"*The Seagull* (is) the basis for this dazzlingly free-associative improvisation by writer-director Claude Miller... the glowing images ease into one another like leaves turning in a summer breeze, while the performances are similarly effortless." – *L.A. Weekly*

"An adroit exploration of love and ambition, life and art." – *L.A. Times*

"Miller directs with assurance, and his actors all hit their marks with aplomb... 'La Petite Lili' is a work of whimsy, passion, visual lushness and no small degree of warmth for its characters, and that's saying something." – *Hollywood Reporter*

"Works as both an adaptation and a movie in its own right...A stunning coup de cinema!" – *Variety*

"Splendidly acted and directed!" – *Christian Science Monitor*

"Claude Miller, a French director of dry humor and great skill, has taken the Chekhov outline and updated it to present-day France." – *Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times*

"There's something to be said about an old story given a new ending -- and making it work."

– *Miami Herald*

"Miller refuses to let style overshadow dialogue and performances.... intense but not edgy, lightly constructed but never uncontrolled.... richer than the average talk-heavy, plot-light French fare." – *The Onion A.V. Club*

"Miller has smoothly transformed Chekov's masterpiece into a critique of his own art — cinema — while respectfully retaining the playwright's core themes." – *T.V. Guide*

"Miller has reshaped the story of playwright Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*, giving it a refreshing touch of joie de vivre while remaining faithful to the work's spirit."

– *FilmForward.com*

"The film explores the conflict between idealistic youth and pragmatic maturity, respecting each in turn, but succeeds best in underscoring the power of youthful sexuality. Sagnier's silky-haired Lili is irresistible!" – *Film Journal International*

"Its lush feel and affectionate tone are a movie-loving Francophile's dream come true."

– *E!Online*

"Warm and engaging... attests to the strength of Miller's storytelling throughout."

– *Boxoffice*

"A surprising, engaging yarn... considerable charm and pictorial elegance." – *Los Angeles City Beat*