

Examples Of Composition

Le Doulos

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rwclark@cyberanalysis.com <http://www.cyberanalysis.com/>



Le Doulos (1962)

directed by Jean-Pierre Melville

photographed by Nicolas Hayer

This page is an example of cinematic rhyme. By that term, it is the images that repeat instead of dialog or text. The two pairs of frames captured above are not the same character simply duplicated. Instead, they are images of both the protagonist, and the supposed antagonist – Faugel and Silien by name. Notable in these second frames of the two pairs is that the door frame both breaks up their identity into panes, while also obliterating their face. This is significant to the plot, as there is an assassin waiting inside to kill the antagonist, but it is the protagonist that enters first to a fusillade of bullets. When the antagonist enters minutes later, he discovers the protagonist on the floor, who in his last moments warns the antagonist of the hidden assassin – however, in the trade of gunfire, the antagonist is also mortally wounded thus completing the literal and figurative rhyme.