

# The Museum of Modern Art

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## RECENT FILMS FROM WEST GERMANY AT MoMA BEGINNING NOVEMBER 29

Thirteen new films from The Federal Republic of Germany will be screened in RECENT FILMS FROM WEST GERMANY to open at The Museum of Modern Art Thursday, November 29, 1979 and run through Friday, December 21. Each film in the series will be shown twice.

The exhibition, selected by Adrienne Mancina, Curator of Film, and Larry Kardish, Associate Curator of Film, is presented in association with Goethe House New York and Export-Union der Deutschen Filmindustrie e.V. (Munich).

Fassbinder, Herzog and Wenders are not in the series which instead presents a new group of filmmakers representing diverse styles and interests: HERBERT ACHTERNBUSCH, JOCHEN BAUER, HELLMUTH COSTARD, PETER LILIENTHAL, HANS NOEVER, ROSA VON PRAUNHEIM, JOSEF ROEDL, NIKLAUS SCHILLING, ULA STOECKL, MARGARETHE VON TROTTA, ADOLF WINKELMANN, AND CHRISTIAN ZIEWER.

"The emergence of a new cinema from the Federal Republic of Germany is one of the more noteworthy aspects of film in the '70s," writes Larry Kardish in the introduction to the series. "Beginning with the 1972 program DAS NEUE KINO, the Department of Film has charted the growth of an exciting and maverick movement and noted its astonishing development into a major influence in international filmmaking. Therefore, this program of thirteen new films is not only a broad survey of the styles and preoccupations of contemporary German filmmaking, but a fitting coda to the decade."

RECENT FILMS FROM WEST GERMANY opens on Thursday, November 29 with three films: at 2:30 PM, ERIKA'S PASSIONS, Ula Stoekl's intense chamber dialogue between two women (friends and lovers) who, after an absence, reunite; at 6 PM, Niklaus Schilling's RHEINGOLD, a 'train' film, a 'love' story, and a subversive perspective on Germany today -- aboard the crack express RHEINGOLD an erotic situation simmers, develops, and by the time the train has crossed Germany and arrived in Switzerland, explodes; at 8:30 PM, Josef Roedl's ALBERT -- WHY?, a student made film so accomplished and moving that it has been cited at several film festivals, Roedl's film is a revealing portrait of a slow-witted young man and the village's reaction to his activities.

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Among other films in the series are THE LITTLE GODARD by Hellmuth Costard featuring Jean-Luc Godard in a film about trying to raise money to make a film -- THE LITTLE GODARD was shot in Super-8mm and and blown up to 16mm; Peter Lilienthal's DAVID, a German look at the tortured lives of those caught in the Holocaust, tells about a teenage Jew who, driven further and further into isolation, discovers the instincts and unsuspected resourcefulness of a survivor; two films by Rosa von Praunheim, TALLY BROWN, N.Y., an engaging and affectionate profile of the underground performer "whose appearance is shocking but who wins one over with her artistry and vitality", and ARMY OF LOVERS or THE REVOLT OF THE PERVERTS, an encyclopedic survey of the gay movement in America; TOP SECRET, a documentary about the German resistance against Hitler compiled from footage only recently made available including a startling record of the trial ( a 'kangaroo' proceeding in the notorious People's court) of the unfortunate conspirators of July 20, 1944; ON THE MOVE, Adolf Winkelman's goodnatured, somewhat zany and not-a-little-dark comedy of three out-of-work young men who 'kind of' borrow a moving van and 'kind of' pick up a lady hitchhiker and 'kind of' set out to deliver both the lady and the furniture...; BYE BYE BAVARIA! in which the filmmaker, Herbert Achternbusch, stifled by Bavaria, deceived by his wife, and chased by reporters, escapes to Greenland; FROM A DISTANCE I SEE THIS COUNTRY by Christian Ziewer based on the writings of the Chilean exile Antonio Skarmeta, a poignant work using for the most part a non-professional cast to tell the story of a family's adjustment to a new and strange country; and SISTERS or THE BALANCE OF HAPPINESS by Margarethe von Trotta whose first film, THE AWAKENING OF CHRISTA KLAGES recently premiered in New York -- SISTERS tells of the relationship of three sisters and of the changes that occur following a suicide.

Films are free to the public with Museum admission or membership. The Museum's film program is made possible in part by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The daily film schedule is available by calling (212) 956-7078.

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The full schedule of public showings of RECENT FILMS FROM WEST GERMANY is enclosed. For additional information, program notes, etc., contact Earl Hatleberg, film press coordinator, The Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 -- (212) 956-7294