

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
December 1993

RECENT FILMS FROM GERMANY

December 17, 1993 - January 4, 1994

The fifteenth survey of recent feature films from the Federal Republic of Germany is on view at The Museum of Modern Art from December 17, 1993, through January 4, 1994. **RECENT FILMS FROM GERMANY** traces developments in German cinema through twelve films, eight of which are feature-film debuts, and eight of which are American premieres.

The films in the series represent a new generation of filmmakers working in the narrative tradition. They address the problems of Germany's recent history and introduce new ways of both understanding the past and commenting on the present.

The Movie Teller (1993, Bernhard Sinkel) concerns a man working as a commentator for silent films in a village cinema; his world falls apart with the introduction of sound films and the arrival of the Nazis in his community. *Execution of Justice* (1993, Hans Geissendorfer), the German entry for the Academy Award category of Best Film in a Foreign Language, stars Maximilian Schell as a lawyer who accepts an impossible murder case. *Just a Matter of Duty* (1993, Thomas Mitscherlich) is a chronicle about informer Helene Schwärzel, the first national to be tried in a German court after the Second World War for a crime against humanity. *The Olympic Summer* (1992, Gordian Maugg), photographed with a 1927 movie camera, uses archival footage to tell

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the story of a country boy who travels to Berlin for the 1936 Olympics. *Age of the Gods: The Sculptor Arno Breker* (1992, Lutz Dammbeck), documents the life of Breker, who was named the official sculptor of the Third Reich by Hitler.

RECENT FILMS FROM GERMANY also includes films that focus on contemporary life, including *Silent Country* (1992, Andreas Dresen), a social drama about a provincial staging of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* in East Germany during the fall of the Communist government; *Making Up* (1993, Katja von Garnier), a comedy about female friendship; *Shadow Boxing* (1992, Lars Becker), a thriller about an ex-convict and a drug deal gone awry; and *Passages* (1992, Yilmaz Arslan), an acted, nonfiction account of physically challenged young people which was shown earlier this year in **NEW DIRECTORS/NEW FILMS**.

After the New York showing, the exhibition travels to the American Cinematheque, Los Angeles, on January 13, 1994 and the American Film Institute, Washington, D.C., on January 20, 1994.

RECENT FILMS FROM GERMANY was organized by Laurence Kardish, curator, Department of Film and Video.

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Exhibition Schedule

All films in German with English subtitles, unless otherwise noted.

Friday, December 17

- 3:00 p.m. *The Movie Teller (Der Kinoerzähler)*. 1993. Bernhard Sinkel.
With Armin Mueller-Stahl and Martin Banrath. 99 min.
6:00 p.m. *The Olympic Summer (Der Olympische Sommer)*. 1993. Gordian Maugg.
With Jost Gerstein and Verena Plangger. 84 min.
7:45 p.m. *Making Up (Abgeschminkt!)*. 1993. Katja von Garnier. With Katja
Riemann and Nina Kronjäger. 55 min.

Saturday, December 18

- 2:30 p.m. *Just a Matter of Duty (Die Denunziantin)*. 1993. Thomas
Mitscherlich. With Katharina Thalbach and Dieter Schaad.
95 min.
5:00 p.m. *Passages (Langer Gang)*. 1992. Yilmaz Arslan. With Nina
Kunzendorf and Dieter Resch. 90 min.

Sunday, December 19

- 2:30 p.m. *The Olympic Summer*. See December 17, at 6:00.
5:00 p.m. *The Movie Teller*. See December 17, at 3:00.

Monday, December 20

- 2:30 p.m. *Passages*. See December 18, at 5:00.
6:00 p.m. *Just a Matter of Duty*. See December 18, at 2:30.

Sunday, December 26

- 3:00 p.m. *Making Up*. See December 17, at 7:45.
5:00 p.m. *Lost Landscape (Verlorene Landschaft)*. 1992. Andreas Kleinert.
With Friederike Kammer and Sylvester Goth. 106 min.

Monday, December 27

- 3:00 p.m. *Lost Landscape*. See above.
6:00 p.m. *Shadow Boxing (Schattenboxer)*. 1992. Lars Becker. With Diego
Wallraff and Christian Redl. 80 min.

Friday, December 31

- 3:00 p.m. *Shadow Boxing*. See above.
6:30 p.m. *Gorilla Bathes at Noon*. 1993. Dusan Makavejev. With Svetozar
Cvetkovic and Anita Mancic. In German and Russian with English
subtitles. 83 min.

Saturday, January 1

- 1:00 p.m. *Silent Country (Stilles Land)*. 1992. Andreas Dresen. With
Thorsten Merten and Jeannette Arndt. 98 min.

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- 3:00 p.m. *Gorilla Bathes at Noon*. See above.
5:00 p.m. *Execution of Justice (Justiz)*. 1993. Hans W. Geissendörfer.
With Maximilian Schell and Thomas Heinze. 106 min.

Sunday, January 2

- 2:30 p.m. *Age of the Gods: The Sculptor Arno Breker (Zeit der Götter: Der Bildhauer Arno Breker)*. 1992. Lutz Dammbeck. 92 min.
5:00 p.m. *The Parrot (Der Papagei)*. 1992. Ralf Huettner. With Harald Juhnke and Dominic Radcke. 90 min.

Monday, January 3

- 3:00 p.m. *Execution of Justice*. See January 1, at 5:00.
6:00 p.m. *Age of the Gods: The Sculptor Arno Breker*. See above.

Tuesday, January 4

- 3:00 p.m. *The Parrot*. See January 2, at 5:00.
6:00 p.m. *Silent Country*. See January 1, at 1:00.

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