BERLIN ALEXANDERPLATZ, FASSBINDER'S FIFTEEN-HOUR MASTERPIECE, TO SCREEN IN ITS ENTIRETY DURING RETROSPECTIVE

Legendary Work Screens in New York for the First Time Since 1983

Berlin Alexanderplatz
March 2–9, 1997
The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1

The crowning achievement in a career filled with remarkable works, Berlin Alexanderplatz (1979/80) is one of the most ambitious and successful works of art produced for television. Shot in 150 days from a 3,000-page screenplay at a cost of $6 million, the film brings to the screen the influential novel of the same name by Alfred Döblin. From March 2 to 9, the entire fifteen-hour film is presented as part of the complete retrospective of Fassbinder’s work at The Museum of Modern Art. The retrospective runs from January 23 to March 20, 1997.

“As I read Berlin Alexanderplatz,” Fassbinder said, “it became clearer and clearer to me with each page that . . . much of what I had considered to be me was nothing but what Döblin describes in the novel.”

“And then, at some point, because someone was writing a book about me, I saw all my films again on three consecutive days. Once more I discovered, to my amazement, that there were many more quotations in my work, usually unconscious ones, than I had ever dreamed. I then read the novel again and came to the realization that this book, a work of art, had been decisive in determining the course of my life.”

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No. 66.2
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