

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
December 1996

Contact: Graham Leggat
212/708-9752

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."

#

No. 66.2

For more information, please contact Graham Leggat at 212/708-9752.