

T Ø R N !

A Jazz film



Martina Schiesser

as Andrea

based on the acting of

Leon Niemczyk and Jolanta Umecka

Catherine Dehaag

as The Hitchhiker

based on the acting of

Zygmunt Malanowicz

Leon Feldman

as Gabriel

based on the acting of

Jolanta Umecka and Leon Niemczyk

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Cologne / Hamburg / Prague / Budapest

present

Pure Self Entertainment Production

T Ø R N !

84 min., engl. original

Co-production - Whitehouse Studios, Cologne

"A film that no one needs"?

In his memoirs Roman Polanski quotes a Polish critic who once described the first feature film Polanski made in 1962, "Knife in the water", as "a film that no one needs." The critics in Venice in 1963 had quite a different opinion. By honouring Polanski's movie with the critics' award they fired the starting shot for his phenomenal career. Exactly 40 years later we decided to re-interpret this Oscar-nominated movie like a stage play. This is a completely new production - or rather a revised and modernised version of the same material, but now spoken in English and including several startling changes vis-à-vis the original.

T Ø R N ! is the return of "Knife in the water" in a new full-colour look, staged in a different era but performing exactly the same camera and acting sequences as in the original.

The Jazz music by "Krzysztof Komeda" was performed new by the **T Ø R N !** Jazz Quartet.

It is an homage and birthday present to Roman Polanski on his 70th birthday on 18 August 2003.



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STORY

"Bild-Zeitung"-news reporter, Andrea (39), and her Israeli husband, Gabriel (29), are in the throes of a marriage crisis. They are driving to the Baltic coast to spend election night on Andrea's yacht "Liebling". On their way to the harbour they pick up a young hitch-hiking American girl (19) who rides with them to the sea. Andrea invites her on board for a sailing turn because she is intrigued by a nascent rivalry between the three of them, but it's also a chance for her to give her husband, Gabriel, a demonstration of her superior power over the young girl. The girl behaves like a female James Dean, fragile, wild and poetic - while Andrea acts like a decadently career-driven woman. Gabriel tries to save his dignity in the face of his domineering wife. In the course of a dramatic altercation with Andrea, the young American girl somehow falls into the water from the deck of the yacht. Despairing after a short while that the young girl has not re-emerged from below water, Andrea and Gabriel swim away from the boat in search of her. But the girl is hiding behind a buoy. After another furious argument between the married couple, Gabriel leaves and resignedly swams back to the shore. The American girl now climbs unobserved back on board the boat. Andrea angrily reproaches the girl for being just the same as herself. The rivalry between the two women comes to a surprising and tender conclusion. Once back on shore the unexpected events of the boat trip cause the married couple to realise that their time together has come to an end.

T Ø R N ! presents a harmless boat trip as an exhilarating conflict between two women, offering the audience a subjective viewpoint of the events as they unfurl through Gabriel's eyes as a passive by-stander.

The actresses embody the antagonisms between two generations: Andrea is used to getting everything she wants and wishes to preserve her gains (including also her husband). The American hitch-hiker attempts to resist oppression by her "experienced" elders with all the means at her disposal.

T Ø R N ! is a psychological play-off, a twenty-four hour triangular drama that calls our whole view of relationships into question. It is a critical but nonetheless highly poetic movie which is staged almost entirely on the few square feet of a sailing boat out at sea.



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THE ACTORS

Martina Schiesser



Leon Feldman



Catherine Dehaag
and her voice Angie Reed



Movies by

Gabor Altorjay (screenplay, director and production) and
Tom Dokoupil (director of photography, editing, sound design)

Tscherwonez (1982), prod. by Werner Grassmann & ZDF

Pankow '95 (1983), prod. by Pandora Films & ZDF

Polsprung / City Life (1989), Rotterdam Films

Ben's Bridge (1992), Innovation Movie Company, Budapest & Message Makers, Michigan, USA

Punta Grande (1995), Astor Durando, Buenos Aires

Ein Tag aus dem Leben der Tochter von Mick Jagger und Michel Piccoli (1996), prod. by Intelligent Entertainment©1996, Hamburg

The Changeling (2000), co-prod. Tom Hammer, Jerusalem



T Ø R N !



T Ø R N !

T Ø R N ! was shot without any outside funding, public or private, It was financed entirely from our own pockets.

It is our personal birthday gift to one of the last, still active classic directors of the 20th Century.

Establishing personal contact to Paris for a handing-over ceremony is already underway.



T Ø R N !

Would you like to join us in congratulating Roman Polanski? You can share our present by becoming a sponsor or showing the movie at a festival or in any other form.



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Please contact us:

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