

Rosa von Praunheim
Susan Seidelman
Paul Cox
Jos Setling
Ken Russell

Ziegler Film

presents

erotic tales


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Eda Pafelsson
Jaakko Pakkanen
Eira Toorin
Detlev Zund
Georgi Shupakaya
Blind Heibel

Pat Hasley
Juika Kaurismäki

Melvin van Peebles

Antonis Kokkinos

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THE IDEA BEHIND EROTIC TALES

"The idea came to me one evening over dinner with a friend. We were wondering who were the Bunuels or Billy Wilders of today? At which international film festival could you see a film like BELLE DE JOUR or SOME LIKE IT HOT? Why not make an erotic tales series of feature film for the 1990s? And some contemporary directors' names began to surface: Nagisa Oshima, Louis Malle, Ken Russell, who would be given carte blanche to create a film drawing on their vision of what is erotic in their culture. These films would constitute a unique international collection to be shown theatrically and on television.

The first three American directors contacted readily accepted the challenge: Bob Rafelson, Susan Seidelman and Melvin van Peebles. Soon thereafter Ken Russell, Paul Cox and Mani Kaul proposed to join the club. Each came from different backgrounds, cultures, life styles on which they drew. Each had something different to say.

The "erotic" is one of those terms that defies definition. Everyone has a personal notion of what erotic is, or is not, erotic. For most it's a question of fantasy, of imagination, of the stuff dreams are made of."

Regina Ziegler, Producer of Erotic Tales

In the meantime there are 30 episodes of the Erotic Tales with about 30 minutes running time each, from Directors like Cinzia Torrini (Italy), Janusz Majewski (Poland), Mika Kaurismäki (Finland/Brazil), Detlev Buck (Germany), Georgi Shengelaya (Georgia), Markus Fischer (Switzerland), Bernd Heiber (Germany), Amos Kollek (USA), Jos Stelling (Holland), Petr Zelenka (Czech Republic) and many more.

With over 1500 screenings at nearly 400 Festivals in 51 countries and 10 Awards, this series of short stories is extremely successful all over the world.

THE DUTCH MASTER Susan Seidelman (USA)

Synopsis

Teresa, a young dental hygienist from Brooklyn in her twenties, is about to marry Joey, a traffic cop. A few weeks ago before her wedding, while eating lunch on the steps of the Metropolitan Museum of Art with her two girlfriends, Teresa decides on impulse to go inside - and is fascinated by a young man in *The Trinker*, a Dutch painting by Pieter De Hooch.

Suddenly the painting comes to life! A tipsy young woman in the picture has fallen off her chair, gets picked up by the handsome young man, and is carried giggling out of the room. On her next visit to the Met, she is pleasantly surprised when the young man in the painting winks and invites her to step into the picture. She does so - and finds herself in a strange world. To the embarrassment of her family and friends, Teresa doesn't turn up at the church on her wedding day.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 104 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France Festival International du Film (1994)
- Los Angeles USA (1994, 1995, 1999)
- Munich Germany (1994)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1994)
- Aspen USA: Shortfest (1994)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1994)
- San Juan Puerto Rico: Cinemafest (1994)
- São Paulo Brazil: International Film Festival (1994), Short Film Festival (2001)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (1995)
- Minneapolis USA: Rivertown Film Festival (1995)
- Montreux Switzerland: Rose d'Or (1995, 1997), Prix de Presse
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1995)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1995)
- New York USA: Avignon Film Festival (1996), Anthology Film Archives (1999)
- Utrecht Netherlands: Nederlands Film Festival: Golden Calf Award (1996)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festivals (2000)
- Prague Czech Republic FEBIO (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Art (2001)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)

Furthermore, this short story was honoured with an Academy Award Nomination in 1995.

Additional Information

Mira Sorvino, the dentist assistant enchanted by a painting hanging in a museum, doesn't speak a word in *The Dutch Master*. She was later chosen by Woody Allen to play the chatty young porno actress who steals the show in *Mighty Aphrodite*, for which she received the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress.

WET Bob Rafelson (USA)

Synopsis

A plush bath showroom. Brass fixtures align the walls, sinks and showers, enameled toilets, jacuzzi tubs, steam showers, all polished and gleaming. The sales people are energetic, but hardly anyone can afford the prices. They haven't made a sale this week. Bruce, the 35-year-old manager, oversees the bustle: he's charming, athletic, supercilious - and desperate to boost business.

Davida, in her late twenties, enters just before closing time. Bruce senses she is a buyer. Well dressed and confident, she is not the average family woman on a tight budget. He moves in... Davida needs a tub, and she needs it fast. But she wants to fill one of the tubs with water "to try it out" before making a decision. Bruce is reluctant: health department forbids, insurance forbids, all that's allowed is the demonstration of the jets in a working tub.

They talk. Davida isn't sure. She needs a tub for two. If she can't try it out, she will search elsewhere. Bruce relents. It's after hours - so for this beauty he will make an exception. But is the tub big enough for two? Bruce agrees to a demonstration ... after dark. A deal is made.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 92 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France Festival International du Film (1994)
- Los Angeles USA (1994, 1995)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1994)
- Aspen USA: Shortfest (1994)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1994)
- São Paulo Brazil: International Film Festival (1994), Short Film Festival (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: Rivertown Film Festival (1995)
- Montreux Switzerland: Rose d'Or (1995)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1995)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1995)
- New York USA: Avignon Film Festival (1996), Anthology Film Archives (1999)
- Utrecht Netherlands: Nederlands Film Festival: Golden Calf Award (1996)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Art (2001)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)
- Rafael USA: FINC Film Institute of Northern California

Additional Information

Bob Rafelson, a compulsive drifter, has just returned home to LA from a six-week tramp across Turkey when Regina Ziegler phoned to ask if he would be interested in making an Erotic Tale. Why not? was his quick response. Back in 1969, his BBS Productions (one of the "B's" stood for Bob) had backed Dennis Hopper's Easy Riders, a sensation at the Cannes festival. Bob also directed one of the hottest scenes ever seen on the Riviera: Faye Dunaway and Jack Nicholson scorching a kitchen table in *The Postman Always Rings Twice* (1986). "So how about if I shoot this one in a bathtub?" Six weeks later, Wet was finished.

THE CLOUD DOOR Mani Kaul (India)

Synopsis

Long ago, in an ancient castle in Rajasthan, the King overhears the parrot Hermani in its cage whispering erotic descriptions to his young daughter, the Princess Kurangi. He is enraged - and pulls out a knife to attack the cage. The Princess defends the bird by arguing that its speech has all been learnt. The parrot doesn't really know what it is saying.

Young women descend into the waters of a pool. The Princess clutches the green parrot with its long tail against her bosom. Her clothes fall on the steps as she enters the waters with the parrot. The bird suddenly spreads its wings - and flies off over the distant mountains to a far place. The parrot is captured by a bird catcher. When Ratnasan passes by its cage, he is startled to hear Hermani speak his love's name: "Princess Kurangi" ...

If Ratnasan would free the parrot from his sleepy master, Hermani would be willing to show him the way to the palace and lead him through the secret passages to Princess Kurangi's chamber. When the pair reach the palace, the parrot flies off to tell the Princess of her lover's approach. Ratnasan scales the tower to finally reach her chamber in the clouds ... and spend a night of love.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 75 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France Festival International du Film (1994)
- Los Angeles USA (1994, 1995)
- New York USA: Robert Flaherty Seminar (1994)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1994)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1994)
- São Paulo Brazil: International Film Festival (1994), Short Film Festival (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: Rivertown Film Festival (1995)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1995)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1995)
- New York USA: Avignon Film Festival (1996), Anthology Film Archives (1999)
- Morscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Art (2001)
- New Delhi India: Cinefan
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society

Additional Information

The International Film Festival of India, held in January 1995 in Bombay (India's "Bollywood"), was in an uproar. For the first time, despite a treasury of native erotic art and literature, an Indian erotic film had been made by Mani Kaul, the aesthete among Indian filmmakers, and could be seen at the festival. IFFI director Malti Sahai scheduled an extra press screening for "The Cloud Door". After the press screening, Indian Television interviewed co-producer Lalitha Krishna and actress Anu Arya Aggarwal, who had placed her career on the line by exposing a breast in the production. A taboo had been broken. Or had it?

TOUCH ME Paul Cox (Australia)

Synopsis

Two women, the elder in her early forties and the younger in her tender twenties, are good friends. In fact, the beautiful Christine is always willing to serve as model in Sarah's art classes, peopled by some of wackiest art students you can imagine. The two also share their love secrets. Christine confesses she is tiring of her boyfriend Roderick, a possessive lover who doesn't understand her emotional needs. And Sarah is worn out by the quickies with Stewart, her married lover who can only offer carefree and abandoned passion on the spot.

Sarah persuades Christine to spend a weekend with her in her country house in the hills outside Melbourne. For the first time, Christine smiles. She is delighted to find a trampoline in the middle of a lush meadow bedecked with yellow flowers. And she screams with childish joy as she chases horses across an open field.

That evening, Sarah and Christine relax over a glass of wine before the fireplace. Christine relaxes even more when Sarah messages her back. A new feeling of freedom and sensuality envelopes the pair ... although tomorrow means a return to reality.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 74 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France Festival International du Film (1994)
- Los Angeles USA (1994, 1995)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1994)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (1994)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1994)
- São Paulo Brazil: International Film Festival (1994), Short Film Festival (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: Rivertown Film Festival (1995)
- New York USA: Avignon Film Festival (1996), Anthology Film Archives (1999)
- Morscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Art (2001)
- New Delhi India: Cinefan (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society (2001)

Additional Information

Cox's Illumination Films survives on the principle that the best way to compete against Hollywood is to form your own company and "make low-budget films against the grain." *Man Of Flowers* (1983) and *My First Wife* (1984) dealt with sex, fantasy, and the outsider as few independent filmmakers would dare, "because they're honest films about myself, about my own emotions, but I guess they say something to other people as well."

For the teasing opening scene in *Touch Me*, Paul Cox assembled all his friends to paint a "Naked Maya" in an art-studio. Then his "Maya" went off to spend a tender weekend in the country with the art teacher...to commune with nature...over wine and Mozart.

THE INSATIABLE MRS. KIRSCH Ken Russell (UK)

Synopsis

Mrs. Kirsch, a woman in her thirties, stands gazing out to sea. A young man, a rather studious writer, lounges on the grass and finds the woman fascinating. So he follows her back to their comfortable Dorset hotel. In the hotel dining room the writer is distracted even further from his writer's retreat when he sees Mrs. Kirsch nibbling with satisfaction at a cob of corn dripping with butter. At breakfast the next day, he watches her toying with the sausage on her plate. When the admirer follows her to her room, he hears the distinct sound of a buzzing vibrator behind the door...

The writer can't stop following Mrs. Kirsch - he's always close behind, pretending to be doing something else. He watches her devour cream-cakes, go to the cinema to see *Sex, Lies and Videotape*, and visit an ancient phallic monument on the Dorset seacoast. He even changes his room to be just a wall away from that buzzing vibrator sound.

One evening, the writer gathers enough courage to make contact. He has the waiter bring champagne to her table, and receives in return an invitation to visit her in her room. Once there, the rendezvous is interrupted by the woman's visit to the bathroom - and that buzzing sound once again! Overcome by his fantasy, the writer lunges at Mrs. Kirsch and blurbs out his obsession on the bed...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 72 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France Festival International du Film (1994)
- Los Angeles USA (1994, 1995)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1994)
- Aspen USA: Shortfest (1994)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1994)
- São Paulo Brazil: International Film Festival (1994), Short Film Festival (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: Rivertown Film Festival (1995)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1995)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1995)
- New York USA: Avignon Film Festival (1996), Anthology Film Archives (1999)
- Moscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Art (2001)
- New Delhi India: Cinefan (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society

Additional Information

The Insatiable Mrs. Kirsch is an erotic tale cut from real life. Conceived by Hetty Baynes, Ken Russell's actress wife, "it's about sounds - rather what people think things sound like." Take a breast pump for drawing milk, for instance - it sounds just like a vibrator! Now put the stray notion of a vibrator - running all the time behind a closed door in a hotel room - into the imagination of a fascinated pulp-fiction writer, and you have a male's fantasy on the run: Just what kind of woman is this?!

VROOOM! Melvin van Peebles (USA)

Synopsis

Once upon a time, a teenager named Leroy, a loner with pimples on his face, helped to save the life of an absent-minded old lady. When the absent-minded old lady turns out to be a witch and grants him two wishes, Leroy promises never to tell anyone about his good fortune. That night, Leroy does as instructed - and behind an old oak tree he finds a motorcycle! But when he searches around for his second wish, he can't find it. Leroy switches on his new motorcycle: Vroom Vroom vrooommmm! Leroy soon finds out this is no ordinary bike, but one that can make a dream come true...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 70 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France Festival International du Film (1994)
- Los Angeles USA (1994, 1995)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1994)
- Aspen USA: Shortfest (1994)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1994)
- São Paulo Brazil: International Film Festival (1994), Short Film Festival (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: Rivertown Film Festival (1995)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1995)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1995)
- New York USA: Avignon Film Festival (1996), Anthology Film Archives (1999)
- Morscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Art (2001)
- Prague Czech Republic: FEBIO (2001)
- New Delhi India: Cinefan (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINC Film Institute of Northern California (2001)

Additional Information

As the story was told by Melvin van Peebles one June evening at the 1994 AFI/Los Angeles International Film Festival: "I was riding a bus at the Cairo festival when a fellow member of the International Jury asked me if I might be interested in making an Erotic Tale for Regina Ziegler. We had this guy on a motorcycle 'vroooming' us through the street crowds, so the next morning at breakfast, I came up with an idea about a shy teenager with pimples, a good fairy with only one wish to give, and a dream-bike that went VRRROOOoommmMMMM... When my horny tale became the standing festival joke, particularly with the young crowd in the bus, I figured: "Okay, let's make a movie out of it!"

THE WAITING ROOM Jos Stelling (Netherlands)

Synopsis

The waiting room of a train station, familiar to any traveler to a big city. A crowd of passengers sit around, some curious about their company, others waiting out the stay with stone faces still others concerned with the problems of the day. In walks a self-made man with suitcases under his arms and a confident look on his face. While his wife is away fetching coffee, he cases the room for available females - and begins his favorite game of "undressing" them with stares, smiles, and other subtleties. Along comes a beautiful lady in blue, who returns his enticing glances by challenging him with an invitation of her own - before the vigilant eyes of all in the waiting room...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 93 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France: Film Market (1996)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1996)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1996)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1996)
- Utrecht Netherlands: Netherlands Film Festival: Golden Calf Award (1996)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1996)
- Los Angeles USA (1996)
- IFFI Trivandrum India (1997)
- Rotterdam Netherlands: International Film Festival (1997)
- Isprà Italy: Euro Research Centre (1997)
- Montreux Switzerland: Rose d'Or: Prix de Presse (1997)
- St. Petersburg Russia : Public's Prize & Golden Gryphon (1997)
- Chicago USA: European Film Festival (1999)
- Prague Czech Republic European Film Festival (1999)
- Leuven Belgium: International Short Film Festival (2002)

Additional Information

The First Riga International Film Forum "Arsenals" got off to a fast start in 1988 by honoring Dutch filmmaker Jos Stelling with a retrospective tribute. Most cineastes were familiar with his debut feature film, Mariken Van Nieuweghen, an inventive modern version of the medieval morality play that was selected for the official competition at the 1975 Cannes festival. Stelling's next films - experimental, autobiographical, historical tales of suppressed passions, themes of deception and illusion, fantasies spiced with wit and humor - won him a cult following at international festivals.

ELEPHANTS NEVER FORGET Detlev Buck (Germany)

Synopsis

A travelling circus winds its way on a wintery day through the Brandenburg countryside. Ramon, the dwarf-trainer who looks after the elephant Edgar, watches apprehensively as a car overtakes the troupe - and then crashes on the slippery surface. Ramon, with the help of Edgar, rescues Countess Lilly von Teltow just in time from the burning car - for which he is invited to the family castle to collect a reward. But when Ramon brings get-well flowers to the countess, he is disturbed to find her lecherous husband chasing Irene, Lilly's beautiful nurse, around the house - so for his reward he asks for a night with the countess ...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 64 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France: Film Market (1996)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1996)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1996)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1996)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1996)
- Los Angeles USA (1996)
- San Juan Puerto Rico: International Film Festival (1996)
- IFFI Trivandrum India (1997)
- Istanbul Turkey : International Film Festival (1997)
- Montreux Switzerland: Rose d'Or: Prix de Presse (1997)
- Moscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festival (2000)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society (2001)

Additional Information

Detlev Buck is a natural for an Erotic Tale. His "teaser" exercise at the Berlin Film Academy, *One Reel In a Shower* (1988), toyed with the fantasies of a shy young man in a public shower, whose reveries are suddenly interrupted by the unexpected visit of a plumb young lady. His comedy at the 1993 Berlinale, *No More Mr. Nice Guy*, described by a critic as "Vladimir and Estragon in a roadmovie," had the audience in stitches and made a screen star out of natural-born-comedian Joachim Król.

So when Regina Ziegler Filmproduktion approached Buck about making an Erotic Tale, the mischievous glint in the corner of his eye got the better of him. Detlev was just wrapping a new feature film when he sat down with Regina in an Italian restaurant to bat around a couple ideas that had been pestering his sleep. "There's this dwarf...in a circus...with a countess..."

SAMBÓLICO Mika Kaurismäki (Finland / Brazil)

Synopsis

The day after his successful concert performance in Rio de Janeiro, Eric, a Finnish conductor, spends a relaxing afternoon on the Copacabana with a refreshing drink and surrounded by a bevy of girls in bikinis. The appearance of a beautiful young girl, whom he had met in the elevator, lightens the moment - until she runs away in fear of Rudi, a tough accompanied by a pair of threatening companions. Later, Eric meets the girl again at the samba festival, where she dances seductively for his approval. When Rudi appears on the scene, they run off into the night ... down dark streets and alleys ... into gay nightclubs ... and out onto a moonlit beach - where their act of love is interrupted once again ...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 61 Festivals or Events like:

- Berlin Germany: Berlinale (EFM) (1996)
- Cannes France: Film Market (1996)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1996)
- Malminkatu Finland: Midnight Sun (1996)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1996)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1996)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1996)
- Los Angeles USA (1996)
- San Juan Puerto Rico: International Film Festival (1996)
- IFFI Trivandrum India (1997)
- Istanbul Turkey : International Film Festival (1997)
- Moscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festival (2000)
- Prague Czech Republic: FEBIO (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society (2001)

Additional Information

In July of 1995, when Mika Kaurismäki was honored with a retrospective tribute at Karlovy Vary, Regina Ziegler Filmproduktion approached him about making an Erotic Tale. "Can I shoot it in Rio?" was the only question. It's where Mika hangs out when not in Helsinki - and Marcel Camus's ORFEU NEGRO (Golden Palm, Cannes 1959) just happens to be one of his favorite films. A few weeks later, while competing at the Moscow film festival with the thriller Condition Red (starring that talented rocksinger-actress Cynda Williams, the female lead in Bob Rafelson's Wet), Mika presented an exposé of his own erotic version of the Orpheus legend: SAMBOLICO, set in Brazil's wild, sexy, head-spinning Samba season.

SWEETIES Cinzia Torrini (Italy)

Synopsis

Anna is not so very young any more, but still a voluptuous woman and full of desire. Unlike her husband, who prefers to watch television instead of making love to his wife. Diets and aerobics fail to revive his sexual interest, and Anna turns to a fortune-teller for help. Unfortunately, the love potions also have dissatisfying side-effects and surprising results. Finally, a proper solution is found in some magic sweets: each sweet will make Anna seven years younger. Which might be rather tricky for a compulsive eater...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 57 Festivals or Events like:

- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1995)
- Cannes France: Film Market (1996)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1996)
- Malminkatu Finland: Midnight Sun (1996)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1996)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1995; 1996)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1996)
- Los Angeles USA (1996)
- San Juan Puerto Rico: International Film Festival (1996)
- IFFI Trivandrum India (1996)
- Banff Canada: Golden Rockie Award (1996)
- Rotterdam Netherlands: European Program Market (1996)
- Istanbul Turkey : International Film Festival (1997)
- Montreux Switzerland: Rose d'Or: Prix de Presse (1997)
- St. Petersburg Russia : Public's Prize & Golden Gryphon (1997)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festival (2000)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)

Additional Information

When Serge Losique heard that the Erotic Tales II series might premiere at the Biennale in September of 1995, he made it a point to book it immediately for the World Film Festival, scheduled just a week before Venice. "We'll give you the Imperial Theatre, our flagship venue and Montreal's last remaining movie palace with state-of-the art projection, and a late-night weekend screening slot - the right place and the right time for Stefania Sandrelli (the sexiest leading lady of Italian cinema of the 1960s)!" Lines did form around the block on a Friday night at the Imperial, and an audience of 1,000 warmly welcomed Regina Ziegler in person. "One of my favorite erotic tales," she confirmed the next day in a cable interview. On Sunday afternoon, for the second screening, crowds had to be turned away.

HOTEL PARADISE Nicolas Roeg (UK)

Synopsis

A beautiful woman wakes up with a hangover in the bridal suite of a luxury hotel - only to find herself handcuffed to a naked man. Remembering this is her wedding day, it's a shock to discover the man next to her is a complete stranger - and the wedding guests are on their way ... Who is this guy, sprouting poetry and with a gun in his boot? What does he want from her, and how can she get ready in time for the wedding? In panic, the bride looks for her clothes and gets dressed. Everything is found - except for a missing shoe...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 53 Festivals or Events like:

- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1995)
- Cannes France: Film Market (1996)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1996)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1995; 1996)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1996)
- Los Angeles USA (1996; 1999)
- San Juan Puerto Rico: International Film Festival (1996)
- IFFI Trivandrum India (1996)
- Banff Canada: Golden Rockie Award (1996)
- Rotterdam Netherlands: European Program Market (1996)
- Istanbul Turkey : International Film Festival (1997)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festival (2000)
- São Paulo Brazil: Short Film Festival (2001)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)

Additional Information

The Erotic Tales returned to Filmfest München a second year in a row June when Nicholas Roeg's Hotel Paradise was invited as the icing on the cake for the festival's retrospective-workshop honoring one of cinema's preeminent cameramen-directors and his actress-wife Theresa Russell (Insignificance, as a fetchingly intellectual Marilyn Monroe). Nic signed on for an erotic tale after Regina Ziegler had paid a personal visit to his hideaway home in Laurel Canyon during a junket to Los Angeles. "I'll let you know when I can fit it in...and Theresa just might be interested."

DEVILISH EDUCATION Janusz Majewski (Poland)

Synopsis

Once upon a time, at the turn of the century, the milkmaid Gosia is caring for her cows on an idyllic countryside. The afternoon is hot, and she takes a bath in the river. The next day a stranger-in-black appears on the scene and show her a painting he has done of her in the nude. Embarrassed, but hardly offended, she makes his acquaintance and is introduced to the secret pleasures of life. The moral concerns of her mother, the puritanical ethics of the church, and a puzzling medical diagnosis of the country doctor seems to lead to only one conclusion: it must have been "something the devil told her"

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 52 Festivals or Events like:

- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1995)
- Cannes France: Film Market (1996)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (1996)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (1996)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (1995; 1996)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (1996)
- Los Angeles USA (1996)
- San Juan Puerto Rico: International Film Festival (1996)
- IFFI Trivandrum India (1996)
- Rotterdam Netherlands: European Program Market (1996)
- Istanbul Turkey : International Film Festival (1997)
- Montreux Switzerland: Rose d'Or: Prix de Presse (1997)
- St. Petersburg Russia : Public's Prize & Golden Gryphon (1997)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festival (2000)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)

Additional Information

Denver festival director Ron Henderson had been following the Erotic Tales closely ever since he heard about the planned series at the 1993 Telluride festival. So by the time his own festival had rolled around the following October, his Moviemakers Tribute honored Regina Ziegler and Wolf Gremm, with the Erotic Tales as a festival highlight. And upon viewing a cassette of Janusz Majewski's Devilish Education at RZF during the Berlinale last February, he booked "the Polish Tale" on the spot: "American audiences will really like it!"

CAN I BE YOUR BRATWURST, PLEASE?

Rosa von Praunheim (Germany/USA)

Synopsis

This sweet little cannibal comedy stars the legendary porno star Jeff Stryker in his first legitimate role. Jeff plays a stranger from the Midwest who arrives in Hollywood, rents a motel room, and becomes the major fantasy of the owner, his mother and all the other guests. Young and old, male and female, black and white: everybody finds him delectable.

In the end, they invite him for a Christmas dinner...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 102 Festivals or Events like:

- New York USA: Anthology Film Archives (1999)
- Moscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- Rotterdam Netherlands: International Film Festival (2000)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2000)
- Toronto Canada (2000)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festival (2000)
- Prague Czech Republic: FEBIO (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- São Paulo Brazil: Short Film Festival (2001)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)
- Tbilisi Georgia: International Film Festival (2002)

Additional Information

Rosa did one of those photogenic double-takes when he was told by Ziegler-Film that his Bratwurst had been booked by no less 80 international festivals and other film events over the past 18 months - an average of nearly once a week. "Don't be surprised if we reach 100 by the end of the year," mused Regina Ziegler. "Maybe we should register the film in the Guinness Book of Records!"

KIMONO Hal Hartley (USA)

Synopsis

A hot summer day on a country road. A young woman in her bridal dress gets kicked out of a car. Lost and frustrated, she wanders off across a sea of grass into dark woods – and discovers an abandoned house. Tired and worn out, she lies down on a bed. When she is awakened from her nap by a clap of thunder, she sees a cup of steaming hot tea and a package on the floor. She opens it – and finds a kimono. The bride knows she is no longer alone...but should she put on the kimono?

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 66 Festivals or Events like:

- Rotterdam Netherlands: International Film Festival (2000)
- Toronto Canada (2000)
- Montreux Switzerland: Rose d'Or Videokiosk (2000)
- Prague Czech Republic: FEBIO (2001)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- São Paulo Brazil: Short Film Festival (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINF Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society (2001)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2002)
- Belo Horizonte Brazil: Festival de Curtas (2002)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)
- Leuven Belgium: International Short Film Festival (2002)
- Gijon Spain: HH Retro International Film Festival (2003)

Additional Information

Hal Hartley was a natural to approach for a personal, signed Erotic Tale. A true "independent" filmmaker, he is credited (sometimes under pseudonyms) as writer, director, producer, composer, editor, occasional actor, and you-name-it in the making of his films from conception to release. Moreover, as he once confessed, he liked what he saw in the first ET series - films by directors from different lands and cultures and traditions free to explore dreams and fantasies and libidos to say something vital and virile and vivacious about the human experience. So when Ziegler-Film approached him to join the series, the director responded with a script for an Erotic Tale that blurs the borders of genres and toys with the imagination.

Indeed, Kimono stands alone among all the Erotic Tales as a cross-cultural viewing experience. On the surface are narrative ploys reminiscent of the French Avant-Garde and image fraction advanced by New American Cinema. Below the surface are references to the Japanese ghost story, to Freudian metaphors, to dream interpretations. In short, Kimono has something for every cineaste - as invitations to prestige festivals in Venice, Toronto and Rotterdam amply confirm.

THE NIGHT NURSE Bernd Heiber (Germany)

Synopsis

It all started with a toothache. Then the boss called to say he was needed. Extra duty – to guard a gangster for the night in a hospital emergency ward. Konzack was sorry he ever became a cop. The prisoner turned out to be a moody boxer-type, and the room at the hospital was like the middle of the Sahara Desert. Sweat was already dripping down his back when the night nurse stopped by for her rounds, A sway of the hips...that look in her eye...she was a real knockout. Konzack forgot his toothache...and the prisoner.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 52 Festivals or Events like:

- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2000)
- Prague Czech Republic: FEBIO (2001)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINF Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society (2001)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2002)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)
- Tbilisi Georgia: International Film Festival (2002)
- Gijon Spain: HH Retro International Film Festival (2003)

Additional Information

It was only a matter of time before Tanja Ziegler raised the question: why don't we ask young directors, graduates of the film academies, what they feel may be still missing in the series, what the young audience has to say about related issues of contemporary morality, what kind of tales might test the ethical and aesthetical boundaries even further. She suggested talking to Bernd Heiber at the HFF Potsdam-Babelsberg - and the result was *The Night Nurse*.

Despite just four student films in his portfolio, Bernd Heiber had already made a name for himself as an author and stage director. Further, he could boast of a promising record at key international festivals. His short feature *Scheissleben* (*Shit-Life*) (1996), a black comedy set in Berlin's demimonde, was seen at Saarbrücken. And his diploma film, *Klopfen* (*Knocking*) (1998), a psycho-thriller with touches of Edgar Allan Poe delirium, was invited to Cottbus. Paul Fassnach, who played the ex-con driven batty by a strange knocking in his apartment, is back in Heiber's *Erotic Tale* as the flustered policeman with a toothache - until he meets the night nurse.

GEORGIAN GRAPES Georgi Shengelaya (Georgia)

Synopsis

The days pass slowly for Lia amid the vineyards of a rural Georgian village. Still in the prime of life, her beauty is overlooked even by her husband Sandro, who runs the local car repair shop. Things change when Megi, the comely star of a film being shot nearby, happens upon the scene to get her car repaired. Lia knows a rival when she sees one - although she's also aware she doesn't stand a chance against a mini-skirt. Megi, however, has a few tricks up her sleeve too - she knows what a Cinderella needs to rid herself of the pumpkin.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 45 Festivals or Events like:

- New York USA: Anthology Film Archives (1999)
- Moscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- Tbilisi Georgia: International Film Festival (2000)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2000)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festival (2000)
- Prague Czech Republic: FEBIO (2001)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2001)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINF Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society (2001)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)
- Tbilisi Georgia: International Film Festival (2002)

Additional Information

An acclaimed actor-director in a prominent Georgian film dynasty, Georgi Shengelaya is the second son of renown filmmaker Nikolai Shengelaya, whose *Eliso* (1928) and *Twenty-Six Commissars* (1933) rank with the best silent films made in the former Soviet Union, and legendary stage-and-screen actress Nato Vachnadze.

As for *Georgian Grapes*, it follows in the director's line of popular folkloric that reflect the daily life, the give-and-take humor, the easy-going bucolic existence of his people. Contrast the urban with the rural, add tongue-in-cheek dialogue, spice it with a rhythmic musical motif and an autumnal pastoral setting - and you have an enchanting Georgian fairy tale.

RED GARTER Markus Fischer (Switzerland)

Synopsis

Is it a love story? A tale of passion and betrayal? A game of illicit desires and longings? Or is it a tingling drama of raw emotions? Or how about a thriller to test the boundaries of the genre? Maybe even an erotic thriller to challenge the codes of screen propriety? Let's just say that Markus Fischer's THE RED GARTER, based on a short story by Juan Marsé, is all of these. The setting of this Swiss erotic tale is a single's apartment. An attractive young woman is accosted in the corridor by a young man with something rather sinister on his mind. A contest of give-and-take follows. One good turn deserves another...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 39 Festivals or Events like:

- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2000)
- Moscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- Tbilisi Georgia: International Film Festival (2000)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festival (2000)
- Prague Czech Republic: FEBIO (2001)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2001)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINF Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society (2001)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)

Additional Information

A prominent Swiss television director, Markus Fischer is best known for his Tatort (Scene of the Crime) series, several of which he has written himself and composed the original score for. But he has also produced and directed documentaries, has edited his own films on occasion, and is well known as a TV guest on talkshows. His approach to the erotic in The Red Garter challenges the viewer to change perspective as the story unfolds. In this psycho-thriller story - unfolding deftly as a dream-sequence or nightmare - the double-rape is experienced in reverse: first as the victim, then as the raped rapist.

DREAM A LITTLE DREAM OF ME

Antonis Kokkinos (Greece)

Synopsis

As his wedding day approaches, the architect Yannis keeps having a recurring dream that leaves him shaken when he wakes up. The girl in his reverie is stunningly beautiful, a blithe spirit who taunts him with her smile, her shapely figure, her sensual persona - all that a man would want as a companion for life. The real world, however, offers him someone entirely different. Anna is sweet, attentive, down to earth - all that a man could wish for in a normal marriage. The right decision, it appears, is made. And then it happens: Yannis's dream comes true - on his wedding day.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 30 Festivals or Events like:

- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2000)
- Moscow Russia: Faces of Love Festival (2000)
- Riga Latvia: Baltic Pearl Film Festival (2000)
- Prague Czech Republic: FEBIO (2001)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2001)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINF Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society (2001)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)

Additional Information

In 1993, the Greek Film Centre made a strong effort to recover its audience at home by funding low-budget films by young directors under a "New Perspectives" policy. The first modest production to score with young audiences at the box office was Antonis Kokkinos's *End of an Era* (1994), an autobiographical, nostalgic journey back to Athens of 1969 as experienced by a group of teenagers out of tune with the life-styles and aspirations of their parents. Kokkinos followed with *My Brother and I* (1998). Another modest commercial hit, it depicts a young man's disillusionment when he discovers his older brother is anything but what he seemed to be.

In both films it was the period music on the soundtrack - popular hits of the day - that set the tone for the theme and appended an atmospheric flair to the narrative. So what better "song-title" for an Erotic Tale than *Dream a Little Dream of Me* to explore the haunting visions that trouble a bridegroom on the eve of his wedding day?

THE GAS STATION Jos Stelling (Netherlands)

Synopsis

An acknowledged master of the short sans dialogue, Jos Stelling won a bundle of awards for THE WAITING ROOM at festivals in Holland, Russia, and Switzerland. And if you thought that richly inventive spoof of the leering macho in God's Little Acre, the crowded waiting room of your local railway station, was one of the funniest Erotic Tales ever made, then buckle your seat belt for a ride down Life's Great Battlefield: the expressway during rush hour! Take the boredom of the slow lane, add the spice of one-upmanship, top it off with a delightful girl-boy butting match, and what's missing? A layover at the next gas station.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 83 Festivals or Events like:

- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2001)
- Utrecht Netherlands: Nederlands Film Festival (2001)
- Cannes France: Film Market (2001)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2001)
- Banff Canada: Golden Rockie Nomination (2001)
- Trencianske Teplice Slovakia: Artfilm Festival (2001)
- São Paulo Brazil: Short Film Festival (2001)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2001)
- Victoria Canada: International Film Festival (2002)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2002)
- Belo Horizonte Brazil: Festival de Curtas (2002)
- Leuven Belgium : International Short Film Festival (2002)

Additional Information

Attending some international film festivals can be a painless chore for Dutch director Jos Stelling. When he goes to the Riga Arsenal festival (he's been there twice), he is greeted on the street by fans and admirers - after all, he had been honored with a retrospective tribute there as far back as 1988. The same goes for St. Petersburg: back in 1997, when his Waiting Room (1995) was awarded both the Golden Gryphon Award and the Public's Prize, that double-decker recognition had come close on the heels of the Golden Calf at Utrecht and the Prix de Presse at Montreux. Indeed, the world-wide honors showered on The Waiting Room prompted Regina Ziegler to offer Jos Stelling carte blanche for a second Erotic Tale - with an option to go for broke and round the series out to a feature-length trilogy.

POWERS Petr Zelenka (Czech Republic)

Synopsis

Peter has a dream job. He's a popular magician in a posh Prague nightclub, whose act draws more applause than the strippers. He's got an eye-catching assistant who is ready and willing to cuddle his frayed nerves whenever necessary. But he's also got Sylvia on his neck: a pert, scatterbrained sister who forgets that a toss in the hay may just be worth a wedding ring. Things take a turn for the better – or worse? – when he discovers he possesses extra - let's say, supernatural – powers that enable him to see into the future, hear music by rubbing his finger over a CD, and God knows what. The problem? Peter can't control anything any more like he used to – neither his magic act, nor his love life, nor his sister's latest erotic fantasy.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 52 Festivals or Events like:

- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2001)
- Trencianske Teplice Slovakia: Artfilm Festival (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINC Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Bratislava Slovakia: International Film Festival (2001)
- Victoria Canada: International Film Festival (2002)
- Tiburon USA: International Film Festival (2002)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2002)
- IFFI India New Delhi (2002)

Additional Information

When approached to direct an Erotic Tale, Petr's response was typical Zelenka: "Okay with me - but since you've got enough erotic ones, let's do something philosophic erotic ..."

The result was Powers - a neatly constructed, highly polished Erotic Tale about a magician at a nightclub who is suddenly endowed with "powers" he can't control at the dawn of the new millennium.

ANGELA Amos Kollek (USA)

Synopsis

Manhattan- as it is every day of the week, year in, year out. Life is pretty routine for Bob, about to turn 70, yet aching for one last fling. Maybe his shrink is right: he should place an ad in the paper and just go out and look for someone. Someone like Angela. Because: This is New York.... Anything can happen... The sky's the limit...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 47 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France: Film Market (2001)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2001)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINC Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2001)
- Bratislava Slovakia: International Film Festival (2001)
- Victoria Canada: International Film Festival (2002)
- Tiburon USA: International Film Festival (2002)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2002)
- Toronto Canada: Short Film Festival (2002)
- Tbilisi Georige: International Film Festival (2002)

Additional Information

"My style has changed over the years," responded Amos Kollek to a query about his considerable talents. "What else can I say? You'll just have to see for yourself." Novelist, screenwriter, actor, documentary filmmaker, director, producer - a "directors' director," as one admirer put it - Kollek knows the twists and turns of filmmaking from the inside out, from concept to release. Indeed, he is one of a few writer-directors on the scene today who can sketch a character with a minimum of words and gestures. "Because I prefer to work with people I like," he says with disarming candor. Not a secret, nor a dogma, nor a rule of thumb - but a credo.

Kollek's main topic - life, love, longing in the Big Apple - is omnipresent in his film work. But rather than dealing with it in the dispiriting manner of Sue and Fiona, he changes gears in *Fast Food, Fast Women* to tell a modern-day, rags-to-riches Manhattan fairy-tale, one as vital and witty as the forerunners were tart and caustic. His *Angela*, starring Victor Argo as a 70-year-old senior-citizen aching for one last fling before cashing in his chips, introduces young discovery Valerie Geffner, a graduate of the Julliard School.

WHY DON'T WE DO IT IN THE ROAD?

Eoin Moore (Ireland/ Germany)

Synopsis

"Verkehrinsel" - as in "Traffic Island" - as in "Middle of the Road" - as in "*Why Don't We Do It in the Road?*". Anyway, you get the idea. Eoin Moore's third film - after his "plus minus null", an award-winning debut feature produced at the Berlin Film Academy, followed by the critically acclaimed "Conamara", shot on the west coast of Ireland - is set smack in the middle of the road on Potsdamer Platz, Berlin's heaviest tourist attraction and as close to Times Square as Germany will ever get.

How they manage to "do it" there is Zarah's idea, a postmodern creative artist, who likes doing it with Anton in the most quaint and daring of public places - right where and when the traffic is the heaviest. This time, to heighten the fun, Zarah hits upon a special object of desire...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 46 Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France: Film Market (2001)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2001)
- Trencianske Teplice Slovakia: Artfilm Festival (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINC Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2001)
- Bratislava Slovakia: International Film Festival (2001)
- Victoria Canada: International Film Festival (2002)
- Tiburon USA: International Film Festival (2002)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2002)
- Manchester UK: International Short Film Festival (2002)
- Leuven Belgium: International Short Film Festival (2002)

Additional Information

A jack-of-all-trades, Eoin Moore writes, directs, photographs, and edits his films - in short, he is a hands-on director who prefers to be in full control of production from start to finish.

Why Don't We Do It in the Road? - Eoin Moore's Erotic Tale - leans heavily of documentary realism to make its point. Shot on Potsdamer Platz, the busiest corner in New Berlin, this is where a young couple decide to exercise their sexual fantasies by "doing it" again on some public place just beyond the pale of voyeurs and eavesdroppers. Look closely, and you will note that this is also the site of the Filmhaus and DFFB's new location in the Sony Centre. Eoin's own backyard.

ON TOP DOWN UNDER Fridrik Thor Fridriksson (Iceland/ Australia)

Synopsis

ON TOP - Iceland, a lighthouse, a cold winter evening. Her thoughts drift back to that summer ... to bathing in the hot springs ... to when they first met ... and embraced. DOWN UNDER - Australia, the desert, a blistering heat wave. His pickup stops at an icehouse ... he lays the blocks neatly on the buckboard ... and drives off haunted by a aching memory. Without dialogue or comment, save for verses from a sonnet by John Keats, Fridrik Thor Fridriksson links the thoughts, the emotions, the sensual longing of young lovers at opposite ends of the world. A tone poem, a collage of sight and sound.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 44 Festivals or Events like:

- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2001)
- Prague Czech Republic: FEBIO (2001)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2001)
- New York USA: Museum of Modern Arts (2001)
- São Paulo Brazil: Short Film Festival (2001)
- Rafael USA: FINC Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2002)
- IFFI India New Delhi (2002)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2003)

Additional Information

Only one of the first twelve Erotic Tales was made without a word of dialogue: Jos Stelling's *The Waiting Room*. In contrast to three in the second dozen: Stelling's *The Gas Station*, Hal Hartley's *Kimono*, and Fridrik Thor Fridriksson's *On Top Down Under*. Fridriksson's Erotic Tale is all the more singular because it's set on different continents - indeed, on opposite corners of the world - yet linked by real time and parallel occurrences that almost impinge on each other. Thus, words would only disturb. Quite simply, the story has to be told by challenging the viewer to accept the logic of coincidence and suspending for a moment the natural laws of the universe.

THE SUMMER OF MY DEFLOWERING

Susan Streitfeld (USA)

Synopsis

Los Angeles, 2000. Megan David likes to keep track of her life with a camrecorder. It's her video-diary, her art project for the Biennale. It depicts who she is, where she's going, how she's going "to pop her cherry" – as she informs her girlfriend. And hip video artist that she is, Megan has even picked out the right partner through the Internet - a theology major named Luke - for the summer of her deflowering at the Garden of Eden. But when the love-birds arrive on the motel, the concierge hands them the key to their room on a condition - they are not to eat the apple...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on 27 Festivals or Events like:

- Rafael USA: FINC Film Institute of Northern California (2001)
- Minneapolis USA: University Film Society (2001)
- Frankfurt Germany: Filmmuseum (2002)
- Ottawa Canada: Canadian Film Institute (2002)
- Pittsburgh USA: Andy Warhol Museum (2002)
- Eugene USA: University of Oregon (2002)
- Victoria Canada: Independent Film & Video Festival (2002)
- Chicago USA: Facets Multimedia (2004)

Additional Information

Does the female have a different feeling for the erotic than the male? Question the wise men on university faculties, and you'll get a myriad of answers. But turn the query around and ask if women directors make more erotic films than their male counterparts, then the Erotic Tales are a sure measurement.

Now comes Susan Streitfeld's *The Summer of My Deflowering* in the second cycle of Erotic Tales. The director of *Female Perversions* (1996), one of the most controversial feminist films ever made, Streitfeld is familiar with all the issues at hand. "It was difficult to find an actress to play the lead role of the calculating-woman careerist," she admits in an interview. "Until Tilda Swinton came along - and resolved the issue with a magnificent performance."

AN EROTIC TALE Dito Tsintsadze (Georgia)

Synopsis

Ernest Hemingway wrote his Parisian stories on the table of a sidewalk café. Niko prefers to pen his Berlin tales on the counter of a funky bar behind the shark tank. What better place for a writer to pick up a girl? Along comes Sonja, who wants to know how the horny tale he's now working on will end. So she invites Niko to finish his erotic tale over a drink at her apartment! There's only one catch: Martin, her ex-husband, still hasn't moved out of the place. So what, says Sonja - we'll just change the ending of the story ... to a ménage a trois.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on Festivals or Events like:

- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2002)
- Tbilisi Georgie: International Film Festival (2002)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2002)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2003)
- Sofia Bulgaria : International Film Festival (2004)

PORN.COM Bob Rafelson (USA/ Germany)

Synopsis

Veteran film director Matty Bonkers (Bob Rafelson), a Hollywood legend, arrives in Berlin for an honorary retrospective tribute. While introducing his film MOCKERY, he receives a phone call from his producer lying in intensive care at a hospital.

Blau (Trevor Griffiths) needs a favor for old times' sake. Could Matty finish a porn movie before his legs get broken by Tokyo Tony? Matty reluctantly agrees. On the set he meets movie star and ex-cello-player Inga (Fabienne Babe) - and the experience is bizarre spirited uplifting a comédie humaine. The sequel to Rafelson's Wet, a classic in the Erotic Tales series, PORN.com features Bob in his first major acting role.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on Festivals or Events like:

- Moscow Russia: International Film Festival (2002)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2002)
- Tbilisi Georgie: International Film Festival (2002)
- Belgrade Serbia: International Film Festival (2003)
- Istanbul Turkey: International Film Festival (2003)
- Sofia Bulgaria: International Film Festival (2004)

MUSIC Amos Kollek (USA)

Synopsis

Often cited for his quaint, ironic, humorous, close-to-the-skin story-telling talents - "the Woody Allen of the American Independents," said one critic - Amos Kollek is an actor-writer-screenwriter-director all rolled into one. He knows Manhattan like the back of his hand. His films are filled with a bevy of familiar Village characters: bar-hoppers and park-benchers, retirees and wanabees, the lonely and the beautiful. In ANGELA, his first Erotic Tale, Amos Kollek told a delightfully funny fairy tale about an ordinary guy aching for one last fling at the tender age of 70. In MUSIC he extends the metaphor to embrace a city that never sleeps - as though Manhattan at night is the very essence of the elusive, vulnerable woman. Spiced with surreal, Kafkaesque twists, MUSIC is about a man who loves music and is fascinated by the fair sex. But he is not quite sure why and how he has ended up in this strange hotel room...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France: Film Market (2003)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2003)
- Jerusalem Israel: International Film Festival (2003)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2003)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2003)
- Sofia Bulgaria: International Film Festival (2004)
- Woodstock USA: Film Festival (2004)

NR. 23 Bernd Heiber (Germany)

Synopsis

A rainy night, a car breaks down, an old house in the middle of nowhere with a light burning in the window. Soaking wet, Markus knocks on the door - and interrupts Renee in the middle of her pottery. She's suspicious of the young stranger, but interested. An Adonis is missing from her artistic collection of dildos. It's only a matter of warming to the occasion, and she's in the flush of life. So she reaches for Apollinaire on the book shelf... and a jar of honey...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on Festivals or Events like:

- Cannes France: Film Market (2003)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2003)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2003)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2003)
- Sofia Bulgaria: International Film Festival (2004)

THE GALLERY Jos Stelling (Netherlands)

Synopsis

After winning top awards in Montreux, Utrecht, and St. Petersburg for THE WAITING ROOM, followed by the Grand Prix at the Mediawave festival in Győr (Hungary) for THE GAS STATION, Jos Stelling completed his Erotic Tales trilogy with THE GALLERY. Stylistically they're all connected: each is narrated visually without dialogue, each makes merry fun of an embarrassing erotic fantasy in a public place, and each features the same likeable fall-guy - Belgian actor Gene Bervoets - as the hero always ready and willing to strut his manhood like a peacock in heat. In THE GALLERY Gene finds himself the sensual object of a beautiful woman's desire. So when, suddenly and unexpectedly, she begins to strip for his pleasure ... well, one good turn deserves another...

Festival Screenings

Screenings on Festivals or Events like:

- Rehoboth Beach USA: Independent Film Festival (2003)
- Cannes France: Film Market (2003)
- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2003)
- Montreal Canada: World Film Festival (2003)
- Utrecht Netherlands: Nederlands Film Festival (2003)
- Denver USA: International Film Festival (2003)
- Sofia Bulgaria: International Film Festival (2004)

DID YOU EVER... Justin Stauber (Germany)

Synopsis

The Californian desert, somewhere between Death Valley and Los Angeles. She - pert, forward, a ball of fire - has just thrown her mobile away after an angry tete-a-tete with her (ex-) boyfriend. He - rugged, handsome, the independent outdoor type - is hitching a ride back to LA and knows a good bet when he sees one. A road movie with ploys and fantasies, arm-wrestling and one-upmanship, Justin Stauber's "Did You Ever Have Sex Like This?" is a throwback to the Pat & Mike, Tracy & Hepburn screwball comedies.

Festival Screenings

Screenings on Festivals or Events like:

- Troia Setúbal Portugal: International Film Festival (2003)
- Manila Philippines: Cinemania (2003)
- Rehoboth Beach USA: Independent Film Festival (2003)
- Sofia Bulgaria: International Film Festival (2004)

Additional Information

Justin Leonard Stauber lives and works in Berlin and Los Angeles. With his first 35mm short "THE HAPPY ENDING" he created a thought satirical provoking shortfilm about human rights and the way people communicate nowadays. This award-winning film was shot with the strong support of the Hollywood film industry and Amnesty International. The success of "THE HAPPY ENDING" led to a pick up by Universal Studios. German TV recently broadcasted a ½ hour documentary about him and this work.