

German Films

Aguirre, der Zorn Gottes - Aguirre, the Wrath of God

001484 VH

A 94 min 1973 Facets Multimedia

This is German filmmaker Werner Herzog's interpretation of a story of a small party detached from a larger Spanish expedition looking for the mythical city of El Dorado to explore a tributary of the Amazon and never returned. It is a frightening tale of greed and madness.

Central & South America; German Films; Foreign Language: German; Feature films

***The Baader Meinhof Complex**

014238 DV

JSA 149 min 2008 Amazon.com

Documentary feature film about the Baader Meinhof gang, a group of students with an anti-fascist agenda who became terrorists in 1960s and '70s Germany. The radicalised children of the Nazi generation led by Andreas Baader, Ulrike Meinhof and Gudrun Ensslin are fighting a violent war against what they perceive as the new face of fascism: American imperialism supported by the German establishment, many of whom have a Nazi past. Their aim is to create a more human society but by employing inhuman means they not only spread terror and bloodshed, they also lose their own humanity. The man who understands them is also their hunter: the head of the German police force Horst Herold. And while he succeeds in his relentless pursuit of the young terrorists, he knows he's only dealing with the tip of the iceberg.

Germany; Foreign Language: German; Terrorism; Feature films—West Germany; German Films

***Das Boot - The Boat**

014107 DV

SA 209 min CA 1997 purchased by Waltraud

It is 1942 and the German submarine fleet is heavily engaged in the so called Battle of the Atlantic to destroy English shipping. With better escorts of the Destroyer Class, however, German U-Boats have begun to take heavy losses. This film is the story of one such U-Boat crew and how these submariners maintained their professionalism as soldiers, attempted to accomplish impossible missions, while all the time attempting to understand and obey the ideology of the government under which they served. Nominated for six Academy Awards. (791.43)

German Films; World War, 1939-1945—Naval operations, German—Drama; Submarines (Ships)—Germany—Drama; World War, 1939-1945—Naval operations—Submarine—Drama; Foreign Language: German; Feature films; Feature films—West Germany; Submarine warfare—Drama

Das Leben der Anderen - The Lives of Others

012685 DV

SA 138 min 2006 Amazon.com

Seductive political thriller taking place in 1984, five years before the collapse of the Berlin Wall. The population in communist East Germany was closely monitored by the State Secret Police or "Stasi." Only a few citizens above suspicion, like renowned pro-Socialist playwright Georg Dreyman, were permitted to lead private lives. But when a corrupt government official falls for Georg's stunning actress-girlfriend, Christa, an ambitious Stasi policeman is ordered to bug the writer's apartment to gain incriminating evidence against the rival. What the officer discovers is about to dramatically change their lives - as well as his.

Feature films; Germany; German Films

***Geliebte Clara - Beloved Clara (PAL - Zone 2)**

013795 DV

JS 104 min 2009 Purchased in Germany

Feature film about the life of Clara Schumann, wife of the composer Robert Schumann. Clara, a gifted composer and pianist herself, was not only admired by her husband but also by the composer Johannes Brahms.

Classical Music; German Films; Feature films; Music & Musicians; Foreign Language: German; Composers & Performers

***A Woman in Berlin**

014122 DV

SA 127 min 2008 Amazon.com

Based on a true story which became an international best-selling book, this film takes place in 1945 during the Red Army invasion of Berlin. Women were victims of rape and devastation. One of them, Anonyma, is a former journalist and photographer who decides to look for an officer to protect her. She meets a Russian officer with whom she enters a friendly yet complex relationship that forces them to remain enemies until the bitter end.

World war, 1939-1944—Drama; World War, 1939-1945; Feature films—West Germany; German Films; World War, 1939-1945—Drama; World War II: 1939-1945—World War II: 1939-1945; Feature films; World War, 1939-1945—Personal narratives