

## Document Citation

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## AMATOR

### Camera Buff

Poland 1979. Production: Zespoty Filmowe. Direction and Screenplay: Krzysztof Kieślowski. Photography: Jacek Petrycki. Music: Krzysztof Knittel. Cast: Jerzy Stuhr, Malgorzata Zabkowska, Ewa Pokas.

112 minutes, color

The central character, a young married factory worker, buys a movie camera, originally just to record his newly born child. On discovering this, his works manager orders him to film the achievements of the factory as part of its annual celebrations. Being both amateur and over-enthusiastic, he sets about recording everything that moves, from pigeons to the manager visiting the loo. When he and his film are "discovered" by a pretty film critic with an eye for men, not only do they both receive awards, but his technique is heralded as new cinéma-vérité. From then on there is no holding him or those around him. However, taken over by the system, he soon discovers, to his cost, that film making can also present the maker with serious moral and personal problems. Full of hilarious moments, plus a personal appearance of Zanussi, CAMERA BUFF shared the Moscow Film Festival Grand Prix. It is both a parody on the film industry and a sensitive portrayal of the predicament of a quiet and happily married man, who suddenly discovers that, maybe, he could reach other horizons.

Leslie Hardcastle

KRYSZTOF KIEŚLOWSKI, born 1941, studied at the Film Academy in Łódź (1969). Since then he has made numerous documentaries and feature films for the cinema and television, among them DIE NARBE (THE SCAR, 1978 in the Forum).