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Wastelands

Two dystopian inquiries—one in culture, one in nature.

October 2 and 3

The Architecture of Doom

(Peter Cohen, 1991)

A masterpiece of scholarly imagination, Swedish director Peter Cohen's documentary takes an amazing look at the Third Reich from the point of view of aesthetics, particularly Hitler's. Utterly failing in his own pretensions to be an artist, Hitler switched careers and developed a depraved political philosophy in which war itself would function to cleanse the world of its impurities and hence render it as an object of beauty. Narrated by Bruno Ganz, the film includes rare archival footage.
(Film: 119 minutes)