

## **Document Citation**

Title New German cinema: Alice in the cities

Author(s) Nigel Andrews

Source Pacific Film Archive Calendar

Date 197- Dec 11

Type program note

Language English

Pagination

No. of Pages 1

Subjects

Film Subjects Alice in den städten (Alice in the cities), Wenders, Wim, 1974

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

NEW GERMAN CINEMA

A Scries of Ten Features Presented in Association with the S.F. Goethe Center

ALICE IN THE CITIES, 7:30

"ALICE is an eccentric tragicomedy. Wender's alienated hero, returning from a photographic assignment in the U.S., finds himself tracking back and forth across Germany in the company of a little girl whose mother has deserted her and whose only surviving contact with her past is a grandmother who may or may not still be alive, and may or may not live in that gloomy, unidentified house depicted in the snapshot in her purse. The film is crammed with typical Wenders touches — fade-outs between inconclusive scenes, cinematic in-jokes, interiors crammed with such mechanised 20th century soporifies as juke-boxes and TVs and its success is in turning a potentially 'cute' and whimsical little tale into an absorbing, complexly funny parable of the problems of communication." —Nigel Andrews, Financial Times (1974 London Film Festival program note)

Directed by Wim Wenders. With Rudiger Vogeler, Yella Rottlander.

(1974, 110 mins, English titles)

PART TIME WORK OF A DOMESTIC SLAVE, 9:30

"Alexander Kluge follows up a witty, wise and revealing film he made on the female condition in 1966, YESTERDAY GIRL, with this fragmented but easygoing, didactic but never preachy tale of a married woman who attempts to integrate herself in society after being taken up by family work. The film uses commentary, sudden inserts of little drawings and tales alongside the trials of the woman to give this a pleasant and simple progression rather than bogging it down with pedantics. Director Kluge has discerning insights and is well served by his sister Alexandra in the title role. She is not a professional actress ... [but] has a strength, determination and charm that make her a most human and yet symbolical character ..."—Gene Moskowitz, Variety, May 29, 1974

Directed by Alexander Kluge. With Alexandra Kluge, Franz Bronski.

(1974, 88 mins, 35mm, English titles)