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## Werner Herzog Eats His Shoe

USA 1980

Thu 27 Nov 2.30 8.45

Director: Les Blank

Production Company: Flower Films

Screenplay/Photography (Colour): Les Blank

Editor/Sound: Maureen Gosling

Export Agent: Flower Films, 10341 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito, California 94530

Leading Player: Werner Herzog

Running Time: 20 mins

**Festivals: Berlin, Edinburgh**

Les Blank takes a detour off his American music film path to document German maverick film-maker Werner Herzog and fulfil a promise he made to young American film-maker, Erroll Morris, that he would eat his shoe if Morris made a film he had only been talking about for a long time. Morris created *Gates of Heaven*, a highly original film on pet cemeteries and 'distortion of feeling in "late capitalism"'. In what on the surface appears to be another Herzog stunt, Blank's film evolves as an encouragement to would-be film-makers to have the 'guts' to go out and make the film they want.—*Flower Films*.

Short: *Del Mero Corazón* (USA 1979/Dir Les Blank). An intricate collaboration among Les Blank, Maureen Gosling, Guillermo Hernández and Chris Strachwitz, *Del Mero Corazón* is a lyrical journey through the musings of the heart in the Nortena music tradition. Love songs are the poetry of daily life, a poetry not found in textbooks or in written literature: of passion and death, hurt and humour, and the pleasures and torn dreams of love. In the film, the songs pass from intimate family gatherings to community dance hall; they travel from the borderlands wherever the people work, live, settle; they are passed down unchanged, and new songs are sung. They are always sung from deep in the heart.—*Brazos Films*. 28 mins.

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