

## Document Citation

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A movie poster for the film 'Besieged'. The background is a close-up of a woman's face in profile, looking down. She is holding a large, vibrant pink carnation flower in the foreground. The lighting is warm and dramatic, with the flower and her face being the main focus. The title 'Besieged' is written in a large, stylized red font, and the director's name 'BERTOLUCCI' is in a smaller, gold-colored font above it. At the bottom, the names of the stars 'Thandie Newton' and 'David Thewlis' are listed, with 'Starring' in between them.

BERTOLUCCI

# Besieged

Starring

Thandie Newton

David Thewlis





# Besieged

**B**esieged is the latest film from Italian filmmaker Bernardo Bertolucci, the director of *The Conformist*, *Last Tango in Paris* and *The Last Emperor*.

Drawn from James Lasdun's story and co-written by the director with Clare Peploe, *Besieged* was shot in Rome and Kenya during the spring of 1998, and stars Thandie Newton (*Beloved*, *Interview with the Vampire*, *Flirting*) and David Thewlis (*Total Eclipse*, *Naked*, *Seven Years in Tibet*).

An old house in the centre of Rome - a refuge for two lonely people. He's a withdrawn and eccentric Englishman. She is a young African woman in her early 20's, burdened with worries about the past yet full of hope for the future.

Kinsky (David Thewlis) hides behind his piano, with music as his only companion: Bach, Mozart, Grieg. Shandurai (Thandie Newton) comes from far away, and finds refuge in Kinsky's house - which she cleans in exchange for a room while she studies to be a doctor. Their lives interlink in a game of attractions and refusals, of secrets and allusions, while on the spiral staircase Mozart collides with Papa Wemba.

An old house, a man, a woman, and a piano. And through the window, a glimpse of a stormy springtime at the end of the century.

*Director:* Bernardo Bertolucci  
*Screenplay:* Bernardo Bertolucci  
Clare Peploe

*Based on a story by* James Lasdun

*Director of Photography:* Fabio Cianchetti

*Editor:* Jacopo Quadri

*Original Music by:* Alessio Vlad

*Arranged and performed by:* Stefano Arnaldi

*Production Designer:* Gianni Silvestri

*Set Dresser:* Cinzia Sleiter

*Costume Designer:* Metka Košak

*Associate Producer:* Clare Peploe

*Producer:* Massimo Cortesi

*Production:* Fiction srl  
Navert Film





*Bernardo with Thandie and David on the set. Rome, March 1998*

*PRODUCTION*

FICTION S.r.l.  
Rome

NAVERT FILMS S.r.l.  
Rome

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RECORDED PICTURE COMPANY  
24 Hanway Street,  
London W1P 9DD

Tel: +44 171 636 2251  
Fax: +44 171 636 2261