

Document Citation

Title	An ambiguous feeling
Author(s)	Jim Van Buskirk
Source	<i>San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film and Video Festival</i>
Date	1999 Jun 17
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Skrito chuvstvo (An ambiguous feeling), Doundakov, Ilko, 1997



An Ambiguous Feeling (Skrito Chuvstvo)

Tuesday June 22 6:00 pm

Roxie \$6.50 Mem/\$8 Gen (AMBIG22)

Ten years ago, Dobromir met Tanya in a disco. They got married and had a daughter. Then, while in the army, Dobromir met Alexander. At first they were just friends, but when Alexander told Dobromir he loved him, Dobromir realized his own strong feelings. Tanya wasn't pleased, but Dobromir decided to move to Kazanluk to be with Alexander anyway. Unfortunately, not all the stories in this heartfelt look at gay life in Bulgaria end as sweetly as this one.

Under communism, homosexuality was seen as a contagion of decadent Western (read capitalist) morals. Men tell of living in fear and shame, of hoping to be cured, of incarceration and interrogation. But today Dimiter, who owns Bulgaria's first mixed (read gay) club, and Marus, an actor who came out and recorded the campy music video "Love War," say the situation is slowly changing. An overview of Bulgaria's social and legal stance on homosexuality contextualizes their stories, while two bare-chested dancers offer a poetic pas-de-deux on the joys of male-male love.

The program begins with **Amerikanos** in which a Greek man comes to San Francisco and tries to find his way towards the American dream.

— *Jim Van Buskirk*

Amerikanos dir Christos Dimas 1999 USA/Greece
22 min 35mm

An Ambiguous Feeling dir Ilko Doundakov 1997
Bulgaria 56 min video

23rd SF 6: L IFF
June 17-27, 99