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BURDEN OF DREAMS

chronicles German film director Werner Herzog's making of **FITZCARRALDO** in the Peruvian Amazon. Set at the turn of the century, **FITZCARRALDO** tells of a penniless, opera-mad dreamer (Klaus Kinski) who persuades hundreds of Indians to pull a real, 320-ton steamship over a mountain so he can reach otherwise inaccessible rubber trees and make enough money to open a grand opera house in the jungle riverport town of Iquitos. Disaster after disaster befalls Herzog—Blank's film grows into a fascinating (and highly controversial) record of an obsessed genius filmmaker and his desperate battle to finish his picture in the face of plane crashes, torrential rains, attacks by armed, hostile Indians, the loss of several sets of leading actors, and a full-fledged border war breaking out all around him.

With accusations weighing on him from international press and peers that he is exploiting native peoples and destroying the environment in his insistence on doing things 'real', Herzog wonders if his pursuit of "new images" is worth such a heavy toll.

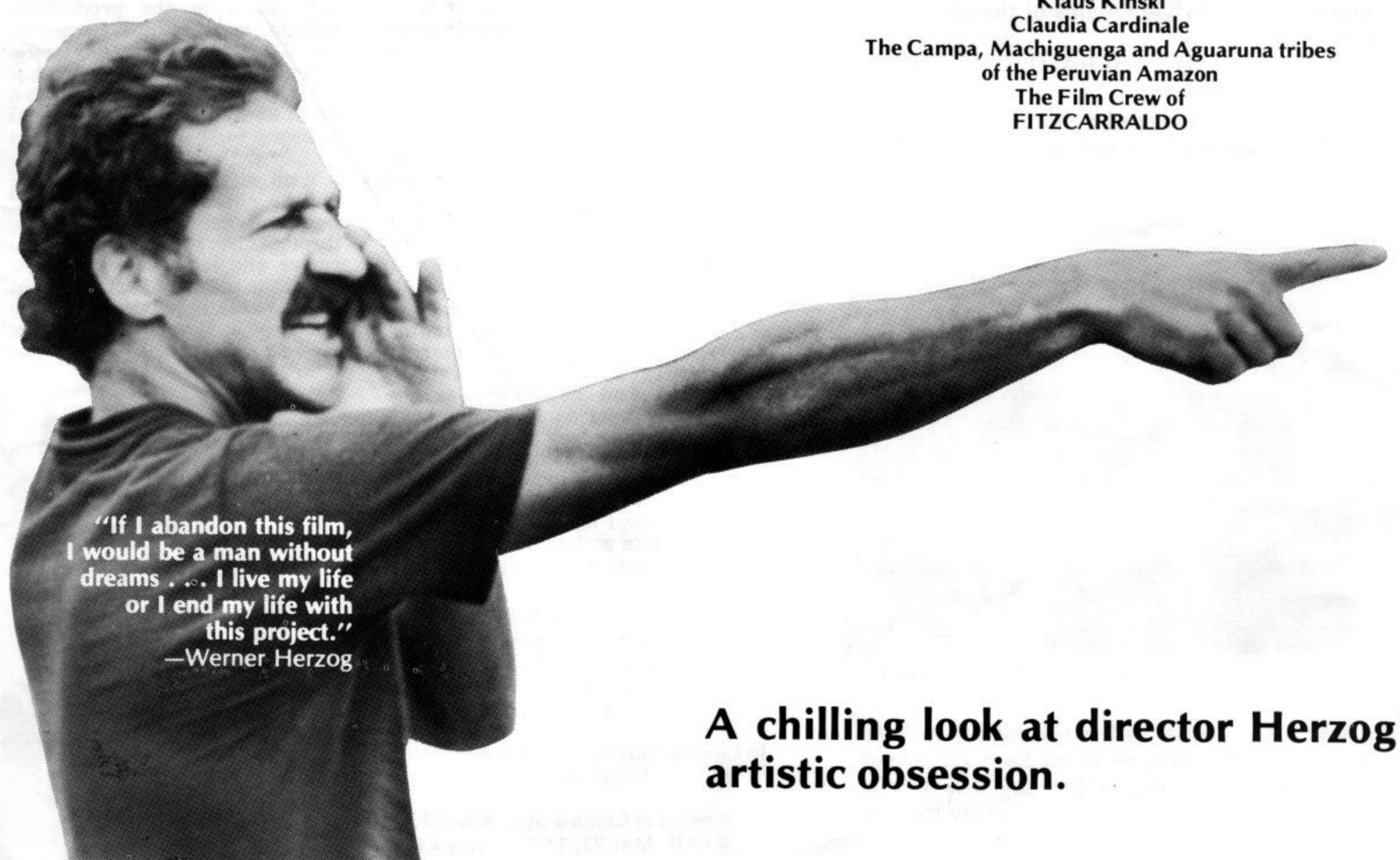
"We have to articulate ourselves. Otherwise, we would be cows in a field." —Werner Herzog

U.S.A. 1982. 94 min. 16mm. Color.
English, Spanish, German and Portuguese
with English subtitles.



STARRING:

Werner Herzog
Klaus Kinski
Claudia Cardinale
The Campa, Machiguenga and Aguaruna tribes
of the Peruvian Amazon
The Film Crew of
FITZCARRALDO



**"If I abandon this film,
I would be a man without
dreams . . . I live my life
or I end my life with
this project."**
—Werner Herzog

**A chilling look at director Herzog's
artistic obsession.**