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Werner Herzog Eats His Shoe

USA 1980. Directed and photographed by Les Blank; edited by Maureen Gosling. Prod: Flower Films, Les Blank. Cast: Werner Herzog, Tom Luddy, Michael Goodwin, Alice Waters. 20 mins.

Filmed at the Berkeley establishments of the UC Theater and the Chez Panisse Restaurant, this is a documentary record of Werner Herzog honouring a vow to American film-maker Erroll Morris that he would eat his shoe if Morris ever

made a film he had only been talking about for a long time. Morris completed *Gates of Heaven*, described as "a highly original film on pet cemeteries and distortion of feeling in late capitalism" and Herzog ate his shoe, liberally flavoured with garlic and washed down with German beer, before a large audience. Herzog adds comment on the value of cinema and the need for "a new grammar of images".