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CAMERA BUFF
(Cine-Amator)

(Poland, 1979)



To be presented at the
1980 Los Angeles International Film Exposition
on Monday, March 17
7:00pm

112 minutes
American Premiere

Press Screening: Saturday, February 23
7:30pm

In this hilarious comedy, an innocent hobby gets away from Filip, a young factory worker, after he buys a Super-8 movie camera to record the growth of his newborn daughter. His boss, finding out about Filip's new pastime, orders him to film the achievements of the factory as part of an annual celebration. The enthusiastic Filip shoots everything that moves (including the factory manager's trip to the men's room) and, when the film is completed, it is 'discovered' by a pretty young film promoter.

Filip is acclaimed as a new genius of cinema verité, but even as he enjoys the spotlight, he slowly realizes that the joys of his quiet former life are slipping away. He loses his wife and his factory friends. In addition, he is soon faced with the crisis of morals and values that comes with success, and encounters the commercial and political restrictions placed on successful artists. Filip becomes ensnared between reality and illusion.

The film is a gleeful parody on the film industry (not just Poland's -- any nation's), but, between its jokes, it carries the touching story of an honest and confused man ensnared in a distinctly modern-day trap. Leading Polish director Krzysztof Zanussi plays a cameo role in the film.

Krzysztof Kieślowski has had a prolific ten-year career in short and feature films and in television. Considered something of an enfant terrible among Polish directors, he nevertheless now joins Zanussi and Andrzej Wajda at the top of his field in Poland.

CREDITS

Director
Screenwriters
Cinematographer
Music

Krzysztof Kieślowski
Krzysztof Kieślowski, Jerzy Stuhr
Jacek Petrycki
Krzysztof Knittel

CAST

Jerzy Stuhr
Małgorzata Zabkowska
Ewa Pokas
Stefan Czyżewski
Jerzy Nowak
Tadeusz Bładecki