

Document Citation

Title	Absolut
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Rotterdam Film Festival</i>
Date	2005 Jan 31
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Absolut, Wyder, Romed, 2004

Daily Tiger IFFR 2005

Absolut

**EUROPEAN
PREMIERE**

'Those who fight against the capitalist system and its supporters often use its own methods to achieve their objectives,' explains Swiss director Romed Wyder. 'A particular act may be considered terrorism, or a necessary form of defence. Hence the definition of what terrorism is can simply be a question of point of view.'

In Wyder's political thriller *ABSOLUT*, the day Alex tries to put a virus in the computer system of a bank is also the day a car accident causes him lose his short-term memory. When he wakes up in hospital, Alex discovers that he has been in a coma for two days. Without knowing what has happened, he undergoes therapy in order to recover his memory from the day of the accident. For Alex, visions and reality are thrown together in a confusing maze as he tries to escape from his muddle.

'Installing a computer virus that interferes with financial transactions is, in the

Western world, a terrorist act,' explains Wyder. 'My film tells the story from the point of view of Alex, an activist who installs such a virus. The viewer identifies with him and finds themselves on the side of the "terrorist", but it is unlikely that he would ever think of calling him by such a name.'

'To make the viewer an active spectator, the narrative of *ABSOLUT* is anchored in a non-linear structure that functions rather like a jigsaw: the viewer is obliged to put it together, piece by piece, which gives the film a playful dimension. But the story told in *ABSOLUT* is absolutely serious, because it is based on real events.'

STERN UND DRANG

Absolut

Romed Wyder

Mon 31/1 22.30 CI1; Wed 2/2 12.45 Pa5;
Fri 4/2 17.45 LUX; Sat 5/2 20.15 CI5