

## Document Citation

Title	<b>Signs of life</b>
Author(s)	
Source	<i>New Yorker Films</i>
Date	
Type	distributor materials
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Lebenszeichen (Signs of life), Herzog, Werner, 1968

# Signs of Life

**Directed by Werner Herzog**

Cast: Peter Brogle, Wolfgang Reichmann, Athina Zacharopoulou.

1968. Germany. In German with English subtitles.

90 minutes. Black and White. 16mm prints only.



Werner Herzog's first feature film, which marks a turning point in the renaissance of German cinema, is an original mixture of Quixote and case history. The central character is a wounded German soldier named Stroszek sent to sit out the war in an isolated Mediterranean garrison. Unhinged by the torpid circularity of island life, Stroszek is finally driven mad by an incredible vision of a valley—the place actually exists—filled with thousands of small whirring windmills. Taking up the “cause of man,” he stages a lyrical one-man revolt; his weapons are fireworks. This fascinating, hallucinatory tale is illuminated by Herzog's fascination for curiosa, odd jokes and offbeat lore, including a campaign against cockroaches, a Chopin recital in the middle of nowhere, a method for hypnotizing chickens, a tale about a caterpillar procession, and a gypsy king in search of his lost kingdom.

“A phenomenally deep and funny film.”—Joseph Morgenstern, *Newsweek*.