

F I L M

Rebels With No Cause



ANGST ANEW: A refreshing view of depressed Germans pondering life

AN UPPER-CLASS GERMAN family arrives home from vacation to find life not quite as they left it: their furniture has been piled up in the middle of one room, their porcelain soldier collection has been dumped in the bidet and the stereo is tucked neatly on the shelf — of the refrigerator. A note left by the intruders, who have stolen nothing, reads, “Your Days of Plenty are Numbered.” So begins German director Hans Weingarten’s new film, “The Edukators,” a tale of three disillusioned twenty-something Berliners who rebel against those evils of modern society — capitalism, globalization and yuppies. Through the personalities of Peter, his girlfriend Jule, and

Jan, Weingarten captures the dissatisfaction of a generation of Europeans who feel they are living in a post-idealist world. They want something to believe in, to fight for — they’re just not sure what that is, and their struggle leaves them feeling lost.

At times action-packed, at others humorous, the film follows the trio to a climax at a secluded mountainside retreat, where they have ended up with a hostage — businessman Herr Hardenberg — after a botched break-in at his house. The three begin to connect with their captive, and in turn, learn about themselves. A former idealist who once hoped to change the world himself, Hardenberg gives them a preview of their future. “You hardly notice,” he explains, “then one day, to your surprise, at the polls you vote conservative.” Thanks to Weingarten’s crisp editing, the sharp textured cinematography and his development of the principal characters, you’ll leave “The Edukators” feeling much like the youths do when they leave the mountain — as if you’ve never contemplated the bitter truth of reality before.

GINANNE BROWNELL

Newsweek

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- 1p 39 Which of the following is true of the beginning of the film *The Edukators*?
- A It illustrates the irony of young activists targeting the rich while living in luxury themselves.
 - B It prepares the audience for the violent scenes further on in the film.
 - C It sets the scene for the three Berliners' feeling of unease with the society they live in.
- 1p 40 What effect does the film have on the viewers, according to Ginanne Brownell?
- A They gain a fresh understanding of the evils of modern life.
 - B They identify with the new insights gained by the three Berliners.
 - C They leave the cinema with their belief in a conservative society confirmed.
- 1p 41 Leg uit wat wordt bedoeld met "the bitter truth of reality" (laatste zin).
NB: Een letterlijke vertaling levert geen scorepunt op.

Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift, dat na afloop van het examen wordt gepubliceerd.