



Landscape No.2 SYNOPSIS

The burglars Sergej and Polde steal a valuable painting **Landscape No.2**. By coincidence Sergej also steals a mysterious document dating back to the end of the World War II. Instructor is ordered to recover the stolen painting and the document, which triggers a diabolic mechanism of the past.



Filmography VINKO MÖDERNDORFER

Vinko Möderndorfer DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The film Landscape No.2 builds on the realisation that unresolved past, personal or national, leaves its mark and keeps coming back. However, its returning is a burden for the generations which have nothing to do with the past of their fathers and grandfathers and which even remain untouched by the issue.

The film is a story of the post-war executions of Nazi collaborators, who were even supported by the Catholic Church in their treason. Other nations also have to cope with similar stories. Yet perhaps it is not so very traumatic for them after all, the extrajudicial executions of the traitors in Slovenia are related to the long communist rule. The stories of massacred quislings keep returning into the European consciousness and we still have not undergone a catharsis, which would finally put the traumatic events into the archives of history. Today's united Europe is also shocked by mass grave sites, discovered after the terrible Balkans slaughter in the 1990s. Europe is full of concealed graves, which are often the cause of various, also political, manipulations.

The untold and unreflected past and the sins of our forefathers haunt us, especially now that the various histories of different nations are being brought together in a common European history.

The guilt of the fathers falls on their children.

That is what is tragic about our time.

We live in the times when the blind Oedipus still roves among us.

Landscape No.2 depicts a familiar reality of a post-communist society. It transcends the genre by offering insight into the hellish mechanism of history, which breaks down individuals mercilessly. History catches up with contemporary life, the easy lifestyle, which does not know or acknowledge any ideologies and which is without any values except for money and pleasure. The film focuses on the disintegrating system of values and on the increasing cynicism of the relations in the today's free, independent capitalist society. Cynicism as the prevailing attitude to the world keeps revealing more and more of its nihilistic, horrible truth. When the black weight of the past falls on the superficial interpersonal relationships, characteristic of our time, the false lightness of the contemporary way of life turns into tragedy.

Boris A. Novak

-2008 **Landscape No.2**

-2004 **Suburbs**

Festivals: Venice / days, Montreal, Cannes, Karlovy Vary, Montpellier
Awards: The Young People's Award for the best film (Montpellier); Best feature film according to the jury of the Slovenian film critics (FSF); Special jury award (Annonay); Best Actor Prize (ARIFF); Best director award (AFF); FIPRESCI special award (Palić); selection for "Variety Critics' Choice: Europe Now!"