

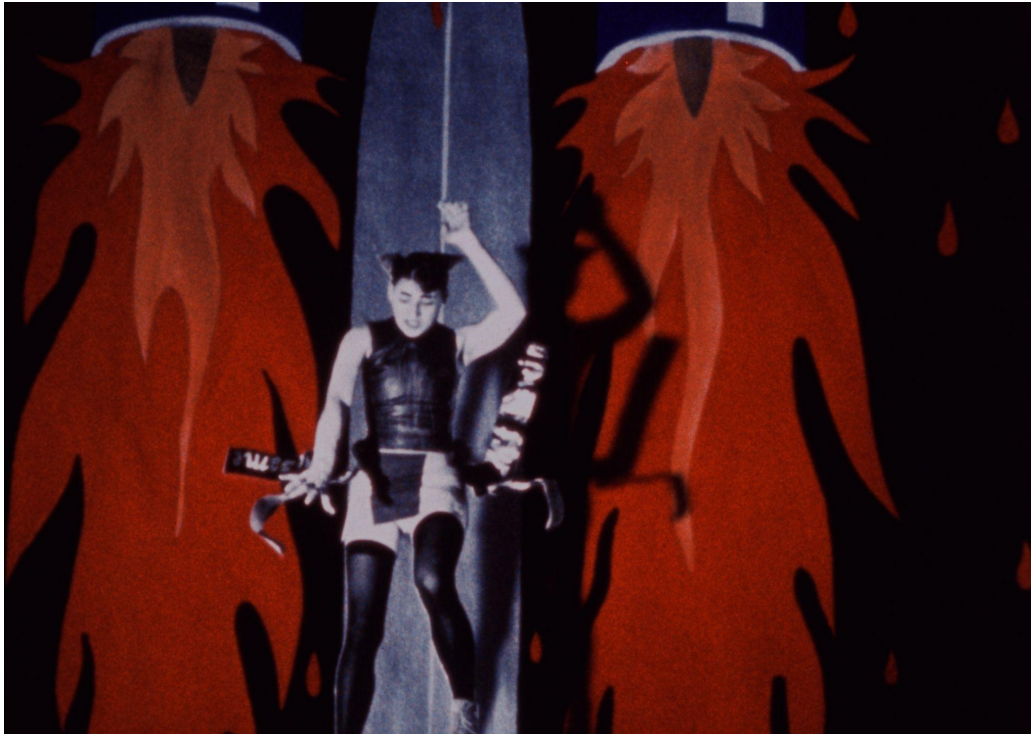
KINO LORBER

FLAMING EARS

(ROTE OHREN FETZEN DURCH ASCHE)

**From the Ingenious Minds of Filmmaking Trio
Ursula Pürner, A. Hans Scheirl, and Dietmar Schipek**

NEW 4K RESTORATION BY KINOTHEK ASTA NIELSEN E.V.



Austria | 1991 | 97 min | Color | 1.85:1 | In French and German with English subtitles

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Synopsis

Flaming Ears is a pop sci-fi lesbian extravaganza set in the year 2700 in the fictional burned-out city of Asche that follows the tangled lives of three women. Spy (Susana Helmayr) is a comic book artist whose printing presses are burned down by Volley (co-director Pürrer), a sexed-up pyromaniac. Seeking revenge, Spy goes to the lesbian club where Volley performs every night. Before she can enter, Spy gets into a fight and is left wounded in the streets. She is found by Nun (co-director Scheirl), an amoral alien in a red plastic suit with a predilection for reptiles... who also happens to be Volley's lover. Nun takes the injured Spy home and must hide her from Volley. This story of obsession and revenge is also an anti-romantic plea for love in all its many forms. A truly underground film shot on Super 8 and newly restored, *Flaming Ears* is original for its playful disruption of narrative conventions, its witty approach to film genre, and its punk visual splendor.

"Imagine the film that J.G. Ballard might have made if he'd been born an Austrian dyke, and don't say I didn't warn you."—B. Ruby Rich.

About the Filmmakers



Angela Hans Scheirl

Ursula Pürrer

Dietmar Schipek

Collaborations

Pürrer/Scheirl

S 8-Shorts (Auswahl/Selection) (1984/85)

Nacht-Plakat-U-Bahn (1984) 2:56 min

Bodybuilding (1984) 3:13 min

Das schwarze Herz tropft (Bastelanleitung zu R-innen) (1985) 13:43 min

Gezacktes Rinnsal schleicht sich schamlos schenkelnässend an (1985) 4:34 min

Kampf und Kuss (1984) 4:19 min

Ostern 84 (1984) 6:08 min

Piss in Rosa (1984) 1:37 min

Rote Schnitte und die Luft dazwischen (1985) 3:32 min

Sex and Crime (1984) 1:43min

Wald und Wiesenfilm (1985) 3:28min

Im Original farbig (U-Matic, 14 min, 1986),

Scheirl/Schipek

The Abbotess and the Flying Bone (16mm, 18min, 1989),

Scheirl/Schipek/Pürrer

Sloeking Walkmen (U-Matic, 2min.,1986),

Die Vampirin auf der Kraftwagenbedarfsstation (35mm, 35sec,1990),

Flaming Ears / Rote Ohren fetzen durch Asche (S8/16mm, 84min, 1991)

Filmmakers' Biographies

A. Hans Scheirl

Born in Salzburg in 1956. Studied Conservation and Technology at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna from 1975-80. In 2003 completed a master's degree in Fine Arts at Central Saint Martins College in London. Later in 2006 received the Austrian State Scholarship for Fine Arts. Since 2006 has been a professor of "Contextual Painting" at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. In 2012 won the Prize of the City of Vienna for Fine Arts. In 2017 participated in Documenta 14 in Kassel and Athens. Received the Austrian Art Prize in 2019. In 2022 Scheirl represented Austria at the Venice Biennale together with Jakob Lena Knebl.

Ursula Pürrer

Born in Vienna in 1962. From 1984 to 1989 studied Visual Media Design at the University of Applied Arts Vienna and Electroacoustics and Composition at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna.

Dietmar Schipek

Dietmar Schipek (1959, Austria) has over 25 years of experience in the fields of filmmaking and media production. He has an educational background in filmmaking and journalism and has worked as an independent media and film producer, director, sound designer, and writer. He is the managing director of the media agency Loop Media, Inc., in Vienna, Austria. He is also a lifelong electronic musician and maker.

In the educational field, he was the editor-in-chief and founder (2001-2022) of the media literacy platform, Mediamanual.at, engaged in research related to Training and School Development programs and was a longtime member of the media literacy steering committee of the Federal Minister for Education in Austria. He was also a member of the European Commission Media literacy expert group.

About the Restoration and Digitization

Restoration and digitalization of *Flaming Ears* were carried out in 2020 by Kinothek Asta Nielsen e.V. within the scope of a project by Remake. Frankfurt Women's Film Days in 2019.

Flaming Ears was shot on Super 8 in 1991. The film was distributed as a 16mm blow-up. The original image and sound material were lost. Restoration of the film was based on the 16mm internegative which had been edited in an A/B process using two 16mm distributor's prints as a reference. The negative showed evidence of vinegar syndrome and shrinkage of about 1%.

The magnetic sound from Hamburg Filmförderungs's 16mm specimen copy was used to reconstruct the sound; the copy was made available by the Kinemathek Hamburg e.V. A 5.1 multichannel mix was prepared based on the digitized mono-magnetic soundtrack. The goal of the restoration was to come as close as possible to the form the film took at the time of its premiere.

DIGITIZATION CREW

4k-film digitalisation

Lutz Garmsen

Grading and digital restoration

Lutz Garmsen

Ursula Pürrer

Color consulting

Barbara Flückiger

Giorgio Trumpy

Sound sampling and digitization

Jean-Pierre Verscheure, Laurent Verscheure, CINEvolution

Sound editing, restoration and mixing

Marius Kuchenbecker

Sound design and editing

Eckhard Kuchenbecker, Nikolaus Garmsen

Project management

Karola Gramann Kinothek Asta Nielsen e.V.

Funded by Hessen Film und Medien GmbH



CAST

Spy

Susanna Heilmayr

Volley

Ursula Pürrer

Nun

Angela Hans Scheirl

M

Margarete Neumann

Blood

Gabriele Szekatsch

Man with cactus

Anthony Escott

Girl

Luise Kubelka

Corpse washer

Dietmar Schipek

Tailor

Heiderose Hildebrand

Tolisa

Sabine Perthold

Explosives handlers

Norbert Gmeindl

Bella Gmeindl

Billa Gmeindl

Bouncers

Karin Melton

Monika Bernold

Vampire

Birge Krondorfer

Passer-by

Arleen Schloss

Clubgoers

Birgit Langenberger

Julia Kordina

Gabi Matter
Gerda Ambros
Ulli Sladek
Gabi Prosek
Brigitta Falkner
Brigitte Luise Roth
Karin Rick
Liselotte Brodil
Bea Sommersguter
Ingrid Kaindl
Uli Aigner
Gudrun Kampl
Andrea Witzmann

Lorry drivers

Manfred Neuwirth
Gustav Deutsch

Speaker

Julia Kordina

CREW

Director of Photography

Dietmar Schipek

Screenplay by

Angela Hans Scheirl

Music by

Dietmar Schipek

Edited by

Angela Hans Scheirl
Ursula Pürrer

Lighting and camera assistance

Magarete Neumann
Curd Duca
Hermann Lewetz
Manfred Neuwirth

Model assistance

Anthony Escott
Andrea Witzmann

Make-up in club

Elfi Müller

Catering

Inge Fritz

Music assistance

Curd Duca

Production management

Ulrike Zimmermann

Drivers

Magarete Neumann

Curd Duca

Manfred Schipek

Special thanks to

Caritas Wien

Grafikklasse Akademie der Bildenden Künste

Susanna Heilmayr

Martin Fritz

Hausverwaltung Ziegler

Bruno Klomfar

Norbert Gmeindl

Birgit Langenberger

Gerda Ambros

Jochen Traar

Gudrun Bielz

Medienwerkstatt Wien

Magarete Neumann

Siegrun Scheirl

Brian Backhouse

Die Thede

Christian Bau

Nina Rippel

Roland Schütz

Mario

Uli Ertl

Blow up München

Atlantik Filmkopierwerk

Manfred Schipek

Manfred Neuwirth

Dangl

Ferdinand Stahl

Kulturamt der Salzburger Landesregierung

Culture department of the government of Salzburg

Supported by the Hamburg Film Office
and the culture department of the government of Lower Austria

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