

DIE FLÜSTERER / THE WHISPERERS / LA VOIX DES AUTRES

A Journey through the World of the Interpreter

Press Comments

***Der Spiegel* ("The Mirror"), Issue 35/2005; TV Preview**

"Spray nozzles"; "high fog" – even to a native speaker, it sounds like gobbledygook. But what is it like for the interpreter who has to translate such verbal fog into another language? David Bernet and Christian Beetz present the art and the artists of simultaneous translation and convey that for the interpreter, just like for an actor, it all depends on the ability of putting oneself in someone else's shoes. In any case, stress is what this job is all about.

Deutscher Depeschendienst DDP* ("German News Dispatch Services"), 30 August 2005 - *Voices in the Shadows

"The Babylonian confusion of languages on the parquet of international politics would remain incomprehensible were it not for interpreters; nonetheless this profession leads a shadow existence. Now, for the first time, a documentary film puts the mouthpieces of the mighty into the spotlights."

Nina Jerzy

Rheinischer Merkur* ("Rhine Mercury"), 01 September 2005 - *The Profession of the Interpreter

Whether in Djibouti or Berlin, Strasburg or Geneva: without the interpreter, around the world it would be nothing but "*rien ne va plus*" ("nothing doing"). This is a more than original film about an interesting subject. (...) Bernet and Beetz are assisted by Jan Tilman Schade, whose lively music lends the "whisperers" their rhythm. As a result, one happily follows the female and male interpreters on their often humorous journeys and behind the scenes of their invisible appearance.

Hans-Joachim Neubauer

die tageszeitung* ("The Daily Newspaper"), 02 September 2005 - *At the Ear of Powers

...A talent in real time. Almost like a saxophone solo of Coltrane – but nonetheless also a business with clearly drawn borders between right and wrong. (...) They are actors, say many of the interpreters interviewed, alienated beings that speak in strange tongues. (...)

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GEBRÜEDER BEETZ FILMPRODUKTION

The pleasantly reserved film "The Whisperers" listens to those who normally talk a lot and nevertheless are not allowed to say anything about themselves.

CLEM

***Osnabrücker Zeitung* ("Osnabrück Newspaper"), 02 September 2005 - The Big Appearance of the Nondescript**

..."The two authors have made an excellent film with wonderful protagonists."

Joachim Schmitz

***Neues Deutschland* ("New Germany"), 02 September 2005 - The Glue of the Languages**

"The Whisperers," by David Bernet and Christian Beetz, is an impressive film about the "language intermediaries" of politicians. (...) The film shows both the interior and exterior of the worlds of whisperers, changes perspectives, and goes beyond an average well-sorted and descriptive flow of images. In parts, whether intended or not, it develops into a declaration of love, becoming a small hymn of praise to the profession. And at such moments, they appear to be the composers amongst the interpreters – in some way the glue between the languages which begins to oscillate and plays a highly differentiated but very steady melody.

Robert Meyer

***Kölner Stadtanzeiger* ("Cologne City Magazine"), 03 September 2005 - Respectful**

The documentary by David Bernet and Christian Beetz performs awareness training about a job that is surrounded by a certain glamour but is also extremely underestimated.

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