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Reisender Krieger

Still Frames and Interviews on Christian Schocher's Movie

Edited by Frank Heer

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- Translates the legendary 1981 Swiss movie *Reisender Krieger* (*The Traveling Warrior*) into an attractive photo book
- Around 180 carefully scanned still frames make the volume a treat for cinephiles, architecture lovers, and anyone who remembers 1970s Switzerland
- A humorous document of a Switzerland in a time of transition

In the search for the one true Swiss road movie, Christian Schocher's *Reisender Krieger* (*The Traveling Warrior*) of 1981 is the only choice. Everything about it was visionary: the direction, the camera work, the use of amateur actors, and the screenplay based on Homer's *Odyssey*. A sales representative named Krieger, working for a cosmetics brand, sets off in his Citroën CX car on an odyssey across 1970s Switzerland – a country in a state of upheaval and decline. The camera revels in parking lots, construction cranes and vast concrete structures, farms, hair salons, discotheques, motorway service plazas, cheap hotel rooms, and dim bars.

This book transfers *Reisender Krieger*, shot in 16 mm-format, into a photo book featuring some 180 carefully scanned still frames. A conversation with director Christian Schocher and cameraman Clemens Klopfenstein, as well as an essay by Swiss writer Zora del Buono, round off this volume, making it a unique document of a Switzerland long gone that still captivates us today, very much in the spirit of Swiss-born Robert Frank's famous *The Americans*.

Text in English and German.

Frank Heer is a Zurich-based freelance author and editor for music and film with Swiss Sunday newspaper *NZZ am Sonntag*. He is a musician and has released numerous albums with various ensembles.

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