

Black Word - Kálo Iáv

Film von Robert Kirchhoff, 1999, 37 min
Camera: Martin Kollár
Originalversion mit englischen Untertiteln

Kontakt

Institute for Public Affairs
Brona Pinterova
Bastova 5
811 03 Bratislava, Slovakia
phone: +421 2 5443 4030 - 32
fax: +421 2 5443 4041
www.ivo.sk

Inhalt

Der bekannte slowakische Maler **Fero Guldán** erteilt Roma-Kindern in dem Dorf Hermanovce Kunstunterricht. Es ist sein solidarischer Beitrag, nachdem das Dorf von einer Flutwelle zerstört worden war. Dann zeigt der Film die nahe Hochhaussiedlung, in der viele der Roma unterkamen, aber nunmehr ohne Perspektive leben müssen. Ein Roma-Schriftsteller, der in der Mehrheitsgesellschaft reüssierte, reflektiert über die Ursachen der sozialen Ausgrenzung seines Volkes.

The film "Black word / Kálo Iáv" ventures into the unknown world of the Slovak Roma, an ethnic group that lives on the margins of the Slovak society. Artist **Fero Guldán** spends a couple of days at the Hermanovce Roma settlement in eastern Slovakia in an attempt to capture the fragments of Roma life on film. In their own environment, the Roma talk openly about their nation that is rejected by the majority population, and the problems that cause their dismal state of affairs. Individual Roma, including a painter, journalist, musician and an unemployed individual, have each demonstrated a will to become a full-fledged member of society. They talk of romipen - the essence of what it means to be Roma. While respecting the cultural norms of the majority population, the Roma nonetheless hold on to their vibrant traditions and existential paradigm. Their ideals are confronted with the realities of living in one of the most poverty-ridden settlements in this country. From the author's point of view, an exploration of his own country turns into a journey into the world of the Roma, and becomes an account of the Roma identity and their feelings of isolation

Biography

Robert Kirchhoff, born 1968, graduated from the Academy of Arts in Bratislava, with a degree in documentary films. He was first assistant director on the film Paper Heads (1996) by D. Hanák.