



Nina Franoszek and Charlotte Siebenrock

The Party: Nature Morte

1991, Germany, Black & White

1992 International Berlinale Film Festival / Forum

Synopsis:

In this free-form experimental, black-and-white film, a group of intellectuals and would-be intellectuals accept the invitation of a feuding couple to come to a party, and a great many verbal conversations and some carnal conversations take place. Occasionally one of them sings a song. Aside from its attempt to out-Warhol Warhol, the only other thing this film is notable for, according to one reviewer, is that it features an appearance by a Derek Jarman regular, actress Tilda Swinton. ~ Clarke Fountain, All Movie Guide

From Time Out Film Guide

Beatt's first feature centres on a staggering performance from Swinton: part Diva, part Harpy, part woman struggling to cope and make sense of it all. She plays Queenie, married to a German and living in Germany; the marriage has reached one of its periodic crises, and Queenie's way out of the impasse is to throw a big all-night party. During it, she humiliates her husband by flirting with a handsome French stranger (Atkine). She succeeds in making a drama out of a crisis. Shot in steely monochrome, this is a small triumph for high-concept film-making. It's structured as a flow of vignettes, with an ever-changing cast of party guests in the background; dozens of people get their minute or two of prominence, but everything turns around the central triangle of wife, husband and potential lover. The only real weakness is the dialogue, far too much of which is quoted from literature and poetry. But the grasp of mood and rhythm is spot on.

Genre: feature film**Format:** 35 mm b/w**Runtime:** 92 minutes**Release Year:** 1992**Cast:**

Tilda Swinton (Queenie)

Féodor Atkine (Black)

Lutz Weidlich (Burrs)

Nina Franoszek (Renée)

Simon Turner

Geno Lechner

Ralph Herforth

Charlotte Siebenrock

Isabella Mamatis

Leland Wheeler

Wolfram Teufel

Director: Cynthea Beatt**Writer:** Cynthea Beatt**Cinematographer:** Elfie Mikesch**Sound:** Peter Schmidt**Art Director:** Raimund Kummer**Production:** alert film GmbH**Producer:** Alfred Hurmer