



Festival del film Locarno
Official selection

DIALOGUE
LIST

THE

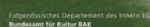
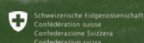
GREEN

SERPENT

of vodka, men and distilled dreams

Written, edited and directed by BENNY JABERG Cinematography JOONA PETTERSSON Sound recording and edit, re-recording mix XAVIER THIEULIN Music MARGEL VAID Additional cinematography, picture design, sound composition BENNY JABERG Producers TANYA PETRIK, GUILLAUME PROTSENKO, BENNY JABERG a MIRUMIR FILM STUDIO and BENNY JABERG production with the financial support of THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, ACCENT BANK, MIGROS KULTURPROZENT, SUCCES CINEMA

www.thegreenserpent.ch



01:27

Mstislav Biserov:

“It’s fucking torture to be sober.
All-night vigil in front of a monitor.
All that shit pisses you off,
it’s all so fucking pitiful.

You have nothing to laugh about,
you’re a nervous wreck.
Sure, you could write a great line,
but fuck! It doesn’t work.

Your fingers just stagger foolishly
across the crooked keys.
You’re as fucking stressed out
as an orphaned squirrel.

Various plans buzz
through the depths of your mind.
It’s so fucking hard to be sober,
just totally impossible.”

02:32

Aleksandr Bashirov:

I remember the first time I was drunk. It was in
6th or 7th grade. My friend and I drank
spirit from lemon peels. We were sitting by
the fence at the zoo, and we were happy and...
it was snowing. We were able to realize our
dream of being grown-up men. Really brave.

03:07

Mstislav Biserov:

When I drink vodka I first have various
thoughts. And that inspires me. When I have an
idea I start writing, and while I’m writing
the alcohol in me starts boiling. And then I start
typing, reading it to myself and even laughing
about it.

03:28

TV:

What a rascal! Wait, girls! Where are you going,
girls? Wait!

03:49

Aleksandr Bashirov:

Although I’m a public figure as an actor and
director, I’m quite a shy guy, and that’s why I
drink. I’m a... shy person. Drinking frees me in a
way from my vague anxieties about myself and
other people. It helps me. I want to change real-
ity or the person who is with me, so everything
becomes more honest. By drinking I deprive
myself of the right to exist. To me it’s a door
that leads to a magical world which can also be
horrible.

05:14

TV:

Yes, that’s her... Seleznyova...

05:27

Nikolai Budnev

The most important part of our research deals
with the special subject of astroparticle phys-
ics. At Lake Baikal we carry out experiments
whose purpose is to research strongly ex-
tra-terrestrial objects by measuring neutrinos.
It is true that the particular emotional condition
of someone who has been consuming vodka
can stimulate new thoughts and inspire visions.
At times the brain becomes deeply engrossed
in something, and vodka helps to calm the flow
of thoughts. Vodka stimulates the imagina-
tion. Every single glass of vodka is traversed
by large numbers of neutrinos, but there is no
interaction. Unfortunately.

07:30

Aleksandr Bashirov:

For many Russians drinking replaces their
search for identity. When they drink the most
important thing is to enter a magical state
and develop telepathic abilities. They don’t
even need to talk, because they understand
each other just by saying, “Hm, hm.” “Are you
my friend?” “Yes. Hm.” The next phase is even
more magical, because then they can teleport.
You drink at one location and end up at another

location. A unique experience worldwide. It's something absolutely every Russian can do.

08:53

Mstislav Biserov:

I watch all these... Soviet children's films while drinking vodka. And then I go to bed.

09:17

Aleksandr Bashirov:

I meant the degree of drunkenness when your thoughts go wild and you start rambling and lose control... I believe that realm is ruled by other laws, the laws of nightmare. It promotes creativity by eliminating all limits. The past and the future exist simultaneously. What you experience is a collage, a phantasmagoria of the world you are otherwise familiar with. Sure, when I wake up I have withdrawal symptoms. I become a masochist. I only allow myself to drink water. I suck straight from the tap. In that condition you feel like annihilating mankind. You feel sorry for every little puppy, every little bird that's freezing. You immediately want to run out and scatter berries for the birds. And at the same time you want to wipe everyone out with a flame thrower or drop a fucking atomic bomb on everyone. You wish there was an asteroid that would smash the earth to smithereens, yet you want to console every crying baby and put cream on its sore butt. Stuff like that. When you are steamrolled by this contradictory state that only comes with symptoms of withdrawal... That is the moment when I'm able to write my anti-folk tales.

11:51

Aleksandr Bashirov:

With vodka it's just like with sex or perfume. It depends on the mood, on the particular situation. You enter eternity.

12:36

Nikolai Budnev:

I entered another world and joined forces with

dark matter. The problem of dark matter is especially puzzling and difficult. It is unclear where it really is. The amazing part is that dark matter can theoretically exist everywhere, even inside us.

13:02

Aleksandr Bashirov:

What is consciousness? Is it those twinkling neurons or what? We should realize that the harmonizing of our own biomass with the four elements, earth, water, fire and air... is only possible thanks to the 5th element: quintessence. Quintessence is the Latin word for the fifth element. The divine.

14:11

Aleksandr Bashirov:

You can turn everything, even food, into an addiction and become a fucking pink elephant. You can turn everything into something that destroys your life. It is part of that multi-faceted poisonous crystal, as we call it. You do that... with other people. You interact with others when you drink and when you have sex. But in the course of time this connection weakens. Because if you don't... It's all quite egoistic. And since it's egoistic it is parasitic. In the end, everything is suicide. Or murder. It is destructive. It is destruction. Because if we aren't constructive there is no love and also no future.

16:43

Aleksandr Bashirov:

For some, sex lasts two minutes. It's the same with intoxication. Two minutes of boozing and you're already... a piece of shit, nothing more. That extreme... can be reached very quickly. But it isn't the goal. It's only a means to... escape responsibility. To think about nothing more. Yes, well... To forget yourself. As Shakespeare put it: "To be, or not to be... To die, to sleep..." or... And so on. The monologue is well-known.

17:56

Mstislav Biserov:

“The night will cover me with a white blanket.
The snowstorm will cover my tracks.
I will die quietly in the gutter,
humbly and inconspicuously.

The ice in my eyes will twinkle
in the purest shade of blue.
And my smile will be terribly charming
on my snow-covered face.
The wind will open my shirt and
reveal scars on my tortured arms.
The white scars of internal battles
on my sliced arms.

The enlightenment and naive appearance
of my pose are quite impressive.
I look carefree and beautiful.
I am hardly recognizable.

Everything will be right and clear.
The gate of wisdom will open...
That is exactly what a fool like me needs.
Cover my tracks, snowstorm!”