

Screen
Society

presents

A Special Event

Terror's Advocate



NC PREMIERE !

Directed by Barbet Schroeder

2007, 135 min, France, French, German, English, & Khmer, with subtitles, Color, 35mm

Comments + Q&A w/visiting Duke Law Professor Michael Tigar!

Michael Tigar has represented many American radicals including Angela Davis, H. Rap Brown, the Chicago Eight, the Seattle Eight, Kiko Martinez and Lynne Stewart, as well as other controversial figures ranging from accused Oklahoma bomber Terry Nichols and Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison. He has lectured and written on the work of Jacques Vergès at universities in the U.S. and France.

"It works brilliantly as a documentary"...Vergès is "one of the most fascinating characters on screen... a figure out of Joseph Conrad, a man whose life and personality become lenses through which a shadowy, paradoxical stretch of the recent past is refracted."

--A.O. Scott, *The New York Times*

Communist, anti-colonialist, right-wing extremist? What convictions guide the moral mind of Jacques Vergès? Barbet Schroeder takes us down history's darkest paths in his attempt to illuminate the mystery behind this enigmatic figure. As a young lawyer during the Algerian war, Vergès espoused the anti-colonialist cause and defended Djamilia Bouhired, who bore her country's hopes for freedom on her shoulders and was sentenced to death for planting bombs in cafes. He obtained her release, married her and they had two children. Then suddenly Vergès disappeared for eight years. He re-emerged from his mysterious absence, taking on the defense of terrorists of all kinds, from Magdalena Kopp and Anis Naccache to Carlos the Jackal. He represented historical monsters such as Nazi lieutenant Klaus Barbie. Barbet Schroeder follows the winding trail left by this 'devil's advocate,' as he forges his unique path in law and politics. Schroeder explores and questions the history of 'blind terrorism' through his penetrating investigation of this compelling man and leads us towards shocking revelations that expose long-hidden links in history.

Monday, February 18th

*** 7:00PM ***

Griffith Film Theater, Bryan Center, West Campus
Free and Open to the Public

Sponsored by the Film/Video/Digital Program, the Kenan Institute for Ethics, the Center for International Studies, the Center for French and Francophone Studies, the Department of Romance Studies, and the Department of Political Science.

<http://fvd.aas.duke.edu/screensociety/schedule.php>