

Broken Mountain

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Il trentesimo anniversario della Semaine de la critique locarnese, e il Pardo alla carriera a Fredi M. Murer – due belle occasioni per rivedere e riflettere su **Der grüne Berg** (1990), documentario più attuale che mai del celebrato regista zurighese.

Dopo il successo di **Höhenfeuer** (1985), premiato anche dal Pardo d'oro, Murer tornava alla regia con questo lavoro dove ci si interroga sul futuro della sostenibilità in Svizzera, tra anticipi dell'ondata ecologica e grandi punti di domanda sulla futura interconnessione tra modernità e tradizione. Raccontando la pittoresca comunità del Wellenberg, e l'impatto causato dall'apertura di un deposito di scorie radioattive nella valle, Murer pone il dito sulla piaga di un conflitto di lì a venire, e ancora oggi combattuto, seppur attraverso altre armi e regole d'ingaggio. È quasi un ritorno formale, per Murer, a quel *Wir Bergler in den Bergen sind eigentlich nicht schuld, dass wir da sind* (1974) che lo impose all'attenzione della critica cinematografica internazionale. Quando sugli schermi di Locarno balenò *Grauzone* (1979 – che rivedremo grazie ad un restauro curato dalla Cinémathèque suisse) il giornalista dei *Cahiers du Cinéma* Louis Skorecki dichiarò che i due più grandi cineasti svizzeri erano Fredi M. Murer e Jean-Luc Godard.

Riascoltare oggi la brillante voce autoriale di Murer è un monito a ricordare come eravamo e cosa possiamo ancora diventare, se solo ne troveremo il tempo.



SEMAINE DE LA CRITIQUE

This is Thirty

NADINE VAFI

This year marks not only an exciting beginning for the Locarno Film Festival with its promising new Artistic Director, Lili Hinstin, but also the 30th anniversary of its loyal companion, the so-called cherry on top: the Semaine de la critique. An independent section of the Festival that was, in partnership with Locarno, founded in 1990 by the Swiss Association of Film Journalists and has, ever since, offered an enriching variety of documentaries. Each year, the Semaine de la critique skilfully curates an exquisite selection – with international and world premieres from well-established as well

as up-and-coming directors – confronting rather than soothing the audience's conscious, letting them dive into other worlds by showing films that come from countries such as Germany, Switzerland, France as well as Hungary and Iran. General Delegate Marco Zucchi explains, «We receive a great number of submissions which usually portray, within the context of contemporaneity, a diverse range of current realities – of intimate, political, ecological or social nature». Apart from the seven feature-length documentaries, one more film will be shown in honor of this edition as it was once prominently screened in the Semaine's first edition exactly 30 years ago. A movie that accords with the artistry of this year's Pardo alla carriera recipient, Fredi M. Murer: his film **Der grüne Berg** (1990) will be shown in a newly-restored version and thus complete this season of the Semaine de la critique. Besides special screening of Murer's work, this edition's appointed jury members stand for the history of the section: «Normally the jury members that we choose every year have different backgrounds, ranging from former politicians

to ambassadors to directors, as we like to keep the well-balanced formation thanks to its heterogenic character», elaborates Zucchi. «Yet for this year's anniversary, we asked three former delegates of the Semaine de la critique, Jean Perret, Mariano Morace and Stéphane Gobbo – the latter who was my predecessor. Thus all three of them embody in a way an homage to the Semaine». While celebrating an anniversary is often a sweet indulgence into the colourful past, it may also mark an outlook on a bright future. If Marco Zucchi is sure of one thing, it's that «The past 30 years of this section have proved that it works well and that the Semaine de la critique has found its audience in which I personally have a lot of faith. As far as the future is concerned, nothing has to be changed for now. I'm convinced that it will evolve organically». But for now, let's celebrate the Semaine de la critique by confiding yet again in this marvellous curation.