

Werner Herzog

Interesting documentary in *The Burden of Dreams*, we see a man with a dream and a vision that seemed almost impossible to make. To reconstruct a huge boat and navigate it through the rivers of Peru in South America, in the tropical rainforest full of insects, animals, the heat, and other obstacles that may get in the way of shooting. Instead of using a studio where he can easily just use a computer software for special effects, he decided to manually move the boat instead to live the experience of the actual film. Herzog's way of making films is living the actual experience to make the film as most realistic as possible. This man is the type to actually stay in jail for a month just to gain the knowledge of what it is to be a prisoner. He has no limits, takes chances if the circumstances require to do so. He pushes himself to make the quality films and almost the impossible to give the audience something unseen before. "Always take the initiative" and "Learn to live with your mistakes" were quotes he always referred to when making films. He always recommends expanding your knowledge of culture as much as possible, the more information a human acquires, the more power to them. When he ate the shoe he ate it for a good reason, although it seemed crazy and an idea that was definitely out of the mind but that was his point. When the film was finished he promised to eat the shoe, he took the statement literally after the film was completed to show the commitment he had towards his cause. His style of filmmaking relates to guerrilla filmmaking in the manner of the mindset of no rules, do whatever it takes to get the shot even if it means shooting with no permits due to lack of budget and taking a risk. The risk would be receiving a fine by police, being kicked out of the area, paying all those actors for the day when they only spent less than an hour on set, and the worst part is not getting the scene done. His style of filmmaking differs from other filmmakers in regards that he goes above and beyond to create his films, guerrilla filmmaking is not a problem for him, in fact he recommends that style of filming. Werner shows us a passion that goes farther than the impossible at times, many would call him crazy for the way he makes film but only a few are willing to do as much as him. This unique aspect will always separate him from the rest, and many filmmakers like myself will always use him as an influence and his philosophies.

