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Guido Hendrikx, The Netherlands, 2010, color, video, 30

Synopsis

Day Is Done*

While working a summer job as a domestic helper, the young filmmaker Guido Hendrikx becomes fascinated by Peter Oud, who hasn't been outside for two years. Peter always gives him the same shopping list: "Six packs of strong rolling tobacco, three six-packs of beer, one ham, one cheese." In his directorial debut, Hendrikx offers up an extremely personal, in-your-face portrait of Peter as his life slowly slips away. In Peter, Hendrikx saw a Sisyphus-like figure, such as the one Albert Camus describes in his essay "The Myth of Sisyphus." Camus concludes with the statement, "One must imagine Sisyphus happy," for "The struggle itself towards the heights is enough to fill a man's heart." Is the man who puts away enormous quantities of alcohol, always opens the door with the same greeting and always tells the same old jokes perhaps not as miserable as he seems? Peter agreed to be filmed in the most uncomfortable situations, which viewed in hindsight would be his last signs of life. At one point, he tells Hendrikx that "It would be nice to know people could see that there are people living a life like me." Peter Oud died in February of this year.



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Film Credits

Director

Guido Hendrikx

Photography

Guido Hendrikx

Editing

Guido Hendrikx

Ton van Zantvoort

Music

Jacko Oudesluis

Martijn van Geffen

Production

Ton van Zantvoort for NEWTON film

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