

KINOMAX

TICKETS

THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS (1981)

Directed by PAUL SCHRADER

WEDNESDAY June 17th 7PM

SATURDAY June 20th 2PM / 7PM



Among my favorite English words insinuation ranks as an all-timer.

Merging with traffic. Flowing on foot into a crowd of pedestrians. The opening gambit of an eavesdropper. A sideways accusation or a needle breaking the skin. Harold Pinter writing four characters talking around a thing. Christopher Walken squirming his way into your pants.

Each calculated dissonance in Badalamenti's waltzing dirge of a score; Spinotti's disembodied post-giallo SteadiCam; Everett, Richardson, Mirren and Walken performing with a degree of seriousness and discipline beyond the expectations of a thriller... all unified by Schrader's weird sleights of hand that prevent this film from being one.

print we present this week will hopefully heighten what Schrader's earlier audiences weren't primed to see: "Just like language can have a surface of politeness, I tried to create a beautiful surface, an apple that is so shiny and so delicious that you can't help but bite into it."

Maybe it's just me, but a chomp is not the right way to eat an apple. It always scrapes your gums. The introduction of a sharp knife is the best way, really, to open one up. Come, bask in the light of these summer shadows.

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