

ALEXANDRA'S PROJECT DISCUSSION GUIDE

ACTING

-The majority of Alexandra's screen time takes place while she's on video tape, how does Helen Buday interpret her character into a more three-dimensional, emotional figure?

- Director Rolf De Heer decided not to let Gary Sweet see the tapes of Alexandra until they shot those scenes, does this element of surprise transcribe into Sweet's performance, do you feel that this translates?

-The major performances in this film are performed solo (either in front of a camera or in front of the television), does this distract from our connection with the characters and their connection with each other, or does it make the emotions more intense? How so?

DIRECTING

-What effect does the opening sequence have on establishing the mood and tone of the film?

-Being that the film's primary location is Steve and Alexandra's townhouse, what techniques does the director use to make the confining set of a townhouse more intriguing and even scary?

-How does camera movement establish the mise-en-scene of the film?

STORY

-This film has been described as 'a psycho-sexual thriller about the sexual politics of marriage', how does de Heer explore the politics and emotions of this relationship?

-Do you think Alexandra's drastic actions are made out of revenge or desperation? Why?

-In what ways can this be seen as a feminist film, and what elements of the film contradict this notion?