

25 years of
The New York
Times Archive



TimesSelect

Only on NYTimes.com

HOME PAGE

MY TIMES

TODAY'S PAPER

VIDEO

MOST POPULAR

The New York Times

Movies

WORLD

U.S.

N.Y. / REGION

BUSINESS

TECHNOLOGY

SCIENCE

HEALTH

SPORTS

OPINION

ARTS

AUTOS

ART & DESIGN

BOOKS

DANCE

MOVIES

[Current Releases](#)

[Coming Soon](#)

[Reviews](#)

[Box Office](#)

Asking the Great Questions While Lounging About Venice in 'The Garden of Earthly Delights'

["The Garden of Earthly Delights"](#) takes its name, and its promiscuity of form, from the Bosch triptych, a riotous orgy of biblical motifs and proto-Surrealist iconography. Claudine (Claudine Spiteri) is a British art scholar who has come to Venice to lecture on the painting, which is her obsession, and to wander the canals with her lover, a nautical engineer named Chris (Chris Nightingale).

By NATHAN LEE
Published: June 22, 2006

The movie is made up of the images Chris gleans with his video camera and follows the pair as they hang out, bum around, make love, go swimming, rent an apartment, look at art, recreate vignettes from the Bosch and discuss life, art, philosophy, history — since Claudine is dying of throat cancer and has chosen to spend her final days luxuriating in a free-form meditation on mortality.

Affected but elegant, this digital video riff on ["Death in Venice"](#) was orchestrated by Lech Majewski, the Polish writer, painter and director of films, plays and operas; his musicality is evident in the fresh and lively flow of images.

The Garden of Earthly Delights

Opens today in Manhattan.

READERS' REVIEWS

Average Reader Rating ★★★★★ (5 stars)