

Vaglietti's Third Round

a film by Alfredo Knuchel, 1999

Digital Betacam/ 35 mm, 90 minutes, colour, 1:1.85, Optical Mono

Boxing is all about hard hitting and knowing how to take the punches. But it is not in the ring that Stefano Vaglietti, Swiss super heavyweight amateur champion 1989 and 1991, has taken his hardest blows. On the advice of so-called friends he began taking amphetamines to reduce excess weight, which led him into a vicious circle of dependency on hard drugs. After five years of decline, Vaglietti was on the canvas. But his passion for boxing proved stronger. He managed to overcome his addiction and trained like a man possessed to make a come-back.

Through often harrowing images, Alfredo Knuchel traces the struggle of his dedicated fighter to return to the top level in Switzerland. He gives us a fascinating insight into the life of a boxer, who despite his wild life-style emerges as a sensitive and eloquent man.

The eternal loser, who grew up in difficult circumstances in Berne, draws strength from adversity. Despite all the blows which fate has dealt him, he never loses sight of his objective: to become Swiss champion for the third time.

Credits:

Written, directed and produced by	Alfredo Knuchel
Camera :	Norbert Wiedmer, Peter Guyer
Direct Sound:	Balthasar Jucker, Pavol Jasowsky, Alain Roulet
Editing:	Kathrin Plüss
Music:	Bruno Spoerri
Title song:	Pol Brennan

Co-Production: German Swiss Television SF DRS

Supported by Federal Office of Culture, Canton Berne, Cities of Berne and Bienne, and private foundations.

World rights: Alfredo Knuchel Filmproduktion
Swiss theatrical distribution: Fama Films Zurich

Festivals

Official competition: Nyon, Leipzig, Karlovy Vary
Rotterdam(main programme), Amiens, Saarbrücken, Sevilla and others