

SYNOPSIS



Passion and Power - Queen Victoria's Secrets

Königin Viktoria - Geheimnisse einer Jahrhundert-Queen

Victoria - the iconic Queen of England turns 200!

Photos show her as the stolid mother of the nation, a cliché of the Victorian Age. But is this the whole truth? Was she the person propaganda has painted? Or was her private side as extraordinary as new discoveries show? Her name sums up a century of bourgeois economic progress and imperialism - the zeitgeist of the Industrial Revolution. But was she a queen for the people? Did she alleviate the hunger and misery of the working classes? New documents show that this queen had a darker side. While millions of her subjects died or emigrated during the famines of the 1840s, it took five murders to open her mind; she then donated 15 percent of the annual royal allowance to the poor. The film looks behind the clichés and court propaganda to reveal who Victoria really was: a strong-willed and passionate woman, an intrepid monarch who fought for Britain's supremacy against the emerging political forces of the 19th Century. With new access to her diaries and letters we discover a complex personality: a queen who struggled with her political role and her private power - a fun-loving hedonist who appreciated sensual love as well as the presence of attractive men. This is a Victoria full of contradictions. A woman who seeks her own role while breaking the codes of the court and the conventions of her time. The secrets of a sovereign who is still revered as a 'National Treasure' of the once largest empire on earth.

Year: 2019

Run-Time: 1 x 52 min.

Directed by Andrea Oster

Written by Andrea Oster

A co-production by ORF, ZDF/ARTE, Metafilm and IFAGE Wiesbaden in association with ORF-Enterprise funded by Austrian Television Fund

Available worldwide except for Germany and France

Languages: German (ORIGINAL) , English (VOICE-OVER)

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Format: 16:9

HD

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