

Speer und Er - The Score

Heinrich Breloer and Horst Königstein's courageous attempt at a more differentiated portrayal of protagonists who embody the repulsive evil par excellence and who have mostly been portrayed one-dimensionally in film up to now, demanded a film score that also goes beyond just grey colors and just dull, harsh tones, beyond the sound repertoire of the ghost train.

It took some effort for me not only to follow the main characters from a safe distance and to characterize them sarcastically and affirmatively as villains, but also to get closer to them for a few moments and to grasp the emotional spectrum more broadly: the characters' own fateful combination of sentimental pathos, zealous zeal and relentless cruelty, to get closer to the soul tone of Hitler or Speer, in short: to take them seriously as human beings. But only this path of critical empathy seemed to me to make it possible to better understand how it could come about that Speer, like almost all Germans - including those of my parents' generation - fell for Hitler.

At first I couldn't imagine releasing this music, which I only wanted to hear in the dramaturgical context of the film, on record. All the more reason for me to thank my brother Ernst Ströer, who has woven the music, including original dialog from the film, into such an unusual audio piece with its very own dramaturgy, the like of which has never been heard on soundtrack albums before.

Hans P. Ströer