



A series by Werner Herzog

DEATH ROW

Listening to those
who no longer have a voice

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Current Affairs + Social Issues

4 x 50' HD

- Facts for your success:**
- »» From acclaimed filmmaker Werner Herzog (Fitzcarraldo, Grizzly Man)
 - »» Focus not on the crimes, but on the inner life of the inmates
 - »» Profoundly moving and thought-provoking documentary series

Death Row

What is it like to know that you will spend the rest of your life behind bars? Or to know the date of your execution? Or to be unable to stir enough interest in a public defender so as to obtain a fair trial with all the evidence on the table and all witnesses questioned? Internationally renowned director and documentary filmmaker Werner Herzog asked himself these questions – and went to Texas to find some answers.

Filmed contemporaneously with his acclaimed capital-punishment documentary “Into the Abyss – A Tale of Death, a Tale of Life,” Herzog’s “Death Row” opens a window onto the lives of four men and one woman sentenced to life in jail or to execution. Approaching his subjects with forensic thoroughness, he embarks on a dialogue with the inmates. As he looks deep into these individuals, their stories, and their crimes, his penetrating journey into the human soul also becomes a plea for humanity and understanding.

Hank Skinner was sentenced to death for the fatal stabbing of his girlfriend and her two mentally retarded sons. He had his execution scheduled three times; the second time he got a reprieve only 23 minutes before his scheduled execution. His account of his last few hours before execution is chilling and profound.

James Barnes broke into the apartment of a young woman and watched her taking a shower. First he tried to strangle her, then he used a hammer to kill her. Barnes also confesses to two further murders on camera... Joseph Garcia and George Rivas were both – perhaps unjustly – given extremely high prison sentences for their crimes; but they got the death penalty after taking part in the famous prison break of the Texas Seven. George Rivas was executed on February 29, 2012. As one of ten women on Death Row in Texas, Linda Carty was convicted for abducting a new-born baby boy; the infant’s mother was found asphyxiated. Carty’s public defender presented no witnesses of his own, and met her only minutes before her indictment...

What these inmates reveal to Werner Herzog will provoke reflection and leave no one unmoved.



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