

tilda swinton thomas jay ryan peter coyote  
AND steve kurtz

A NEW FILM BY LYNN HERSHMAN LEESON

# STRANGE culture



**“Alternatively teasing and terrifying  
*Strange Culture* is a near-perfect  
alignment of subject and form.”**

— *The New York Times*

## The story of an innocent man who became a suspected bioterrorist

In this unique film, director Lynn Hershman Leeson tells the terrifying story of how one man's personal tragedy turned into government persecution.

Art professor Steve Kurtz's nightmare began on May 11, 2004, when he awoke to find his wife Hope dead of a heart attack. Suspicious of petri dishes and scientific paraphenalia in his house, paramedics responding to his 911 call contacted the FBI. Suddenly Kurtz was a murder suspect, an accused bioterrorist, and a pariah to all but his closest friends.

Told through a blend of interviews, documentary footage, and reconstructed scenes starring Tilda Swinton, Thomas Jay Ryan, and Peter Coyote, Hershman's critically acclaimed film gives a searing look at how the traumatic events of 9/11 altered American society and undermined its long-held values.

- Limited theatrical release in 15 top markets (2007).
- A documentary standout at Sundance 2007, a Berlin International Film Festival official selection.
- Featuring actors Tilda Swinton (*Michael Clayton*), Peter Coyote (*Erin Brockovich*) and Thomas Jay Ryan (*Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*) among others.
- Original score by the avant-garde music and visual arts group *The Residents*.

DVD

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