

# SYNOPSIS



## Can Belief Heal?

### Kann Glaube heilen?

The documentary was made in China, Togo, France and Austria. In China the camera team visited old-established faith healers, who had managed to persist in their practices despite years of reprisals by the Communist regime. In Togo a spectacular healing ritual was filmed.

Science offers a number of possible interpretations, but can phenomena like these be explained by spontaneous self healing, suggestion or a placebo effect? Almost all of the healers, regardless of the cultures they come from, attribute their energy to God, dead spirits or cosmic energy. Shamanism enjoys a very old tradition in China. After years of being prohibited, faith healers have been active again recently, although officially their work may not have anything to do with supernatural elements. Susanne Brandstätter and her team were able to bring back sensational film material from Togo. During certain religious ceremonies, gods come into contact with shamans.

**Year:** 1995

**Run-Time:** 1 x 42 min.

**Written by** Susanne Brandstätter

**ORF**

**Languages:** German (ORIGINAL)

**Format:** 4:3 , 4:3

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