

«Exhumator» – A short film by Christof Schürpf (Synopsis)

For 40 years Heinz Wicki has been excavating the remains of buried people, burying them again or leading them to incineration. Traditionally, the Catholic Church allows only the burial, after 20 years the official burial ends and the remains are removed from the grave. Whenever graves are eliminated, if there are problems with decomposition or if a cemetery is renovated, Heinz is there. Even with all his experience, Heinz still does not know what to expect when opening a grave, whether after opening the coffin it is bare bones or a corpse that looks like freshly buried. In the remains, Heinz still sees the people they once were, and he works with care and respect. Calming, he whispers in his mind with the remains of the dead. With his colleague Martin, Heinz travels from cemetery to cemetery throughout Switzerland.