Victoria

Germany | 2015 | Cert. 15 | 138 mins
Director: Sebastian Schipper

When new-to-Berlin Victoria meets Sonne and his friends on a night out clubbing, she is persuaded to stay out for one more drink. Victoria finds herself attracted to Sonne, and despite needing to leave for work she agrees to help when trouble unexpectedly arises. Suddenly in over her head, the consequences of Victoria's spur-of-the-moment decisions mount up. Shot in just a single take, this is a breathtaking thriller.

You will like this film if you liked
Run Lola Run (1998, 15)
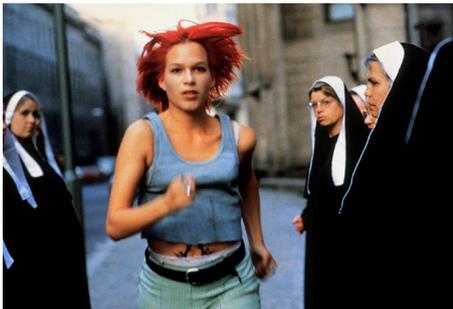
Watch next
A Bout de Souffle (Breathless) (1960, PG)

Talk about it
Can you think of any other films that feature a long take? What do filmmakers achieve by using this technique?

Discussion points
- What do you discover about Victoria's reasons for being in Berlin? How does this affect the decisions she makes throughout the course of the film?
- Why do you think the filmmaker chose to have characters speak in different languages? How does this shape the formation of their relationships?
- How does the music affect the mood of the film and reflect the action on-screen? What role does music play in the film?
- How do you think the tight timeline drives the structure of the plot? Do you think the film would be as effective without the use of the single take?

Write about it
Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs' website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it's similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.

Extension Activities
Victoria is shot in one take. Plot a situation that takes a dramatic turn and see if you can capture it on film in one long take. Check out the Looking at the Long Take resource on the into Film website for examples from other films and guidance on creating your own long take: https://www.intofilm.org/resources/15