

Film

Part documentary, part eulogy, part re-enactment, **The Man Who Drove With Mandela** follows the story of Cecil Williams, a white high-society theater producer who became a Communist and anti-Fascist activist in South Africa during the early years of apartheid. Corin Redgrave is superb in the role of Williams, performing bits of monologue (based on Williams' own writings) that are woven into period footage and interviews with surviving acquaintances. The fact that Williams was as openly gay as one could safely be in South Africa at this time is important to the film, especially the way it influences sentiment toward homosexuality within the ANC. What makes this a particularly moving and intriguing film is its ability to render the political and the very personal simultaneously—it's not only about one man's discovery of his sexuality,



South Africa's Cecil Williams: queer, Commie, and proud of it.

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