



# Simmering pot is a meal for one

**SARAH McNEILL**

In Germany, Charlotte Roche is a well-known television presenter.

Her doe-eyed gaze and slow gentle smile captured the heart of writer and director Michael Hofmann for his foodie film, *Eden*, where she has to do little but eat ecstatically.

A tough job, but someone's got to do it.

Gregor, sensitively played by Josef Ostendorf is a lonely, overweight chef whose passion and entire life is experimenting and cooking erotic food for his exclusive restaurant of just three tables.



■ **Gregor (Josef Ostendorf), Eden (Charlotte Roche) and daughter Leonie (Leonie Stepp) are bound together by food.**

Eden (Roche) is a bored waitress in the family hotel business who falls in love with his food.

Though she professes to care about Gregor, her slow-burning smile as she indulges in his food on a weekly basis is an empty

promise.

There are some sensual moments of fabulous food - it's certainly not a film to see on an empty stomach - and sweet moments in the developing relationship between Gregor and

Eden's Downes Syndrome daughter, Leonie.

But Eden and Gregor's platonic relationship becomes rather macabre, devoted to cooking and eating and feeding each other with little smiles.

But unlike Gregor's exquisite and imaginative cooking, the film's onion layers peel away to reveal a predictably angry and jealous husband, an inevitable confrontation, a brief moment of despair and a reunion when the two exchange smiles...

*Eden* screens at UWA's Somerville cinema from February 11 to 17, as part of the Perth film festival.