

A portrait of actor Jonas Dassler, looking slightly to the right with a neutral expression. He has dark, wavy hair and is wearing a black jacket over a white t-shirt and a silver chain necklace.

# GFAQ

GERMAN FILMS QUARTERLY

ISSUE 1-2020

## THE BERLINALE ISSUE

NEW GERMAN FILMS AT THE BERLINALE  
SHOOTING STAR **JONAS DASSLER**

---

DIRECTORS **ANCA MIRUNA LAZARESCU & PATRICK VOLLRATH**  
PRODUCER **VERENA GRÄFE-HÖFT** of **JUNAFILM**

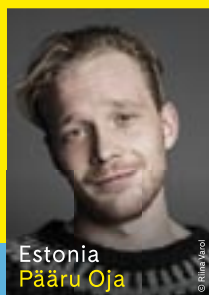
german  
●●● films

# °efp european shooting stars 2020

presented by °efp  
european film promotion

at the berlin international  
film festival

European Shooting Stars are  
Europe's top up-and-coming actors  
and actresses, selected annually  
by an international jury.



Estonia  
Pääru Oja

© Rina Muroi



France  
Zita Hanrot

© Marcel Hartmann/NetPics



The Netherlands  
Bilal Wahib

© Frank Reiter



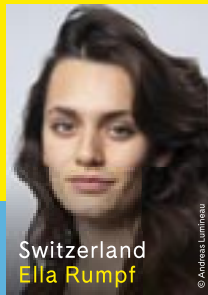
Poland  
Bartosz  
Bielenia

© Sopiła Orewicz/Zakrzewka



Germany  
Jonas  
Dassler

© Stefan Klüger



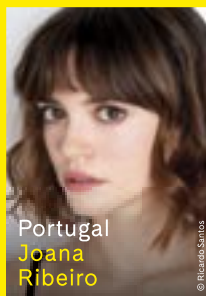
Switzerland  
Ella Rumpf

© Andreas Lumineau



Denmark  
Victoria  
Carmen Sonne

© Martin Dam Kristiansen



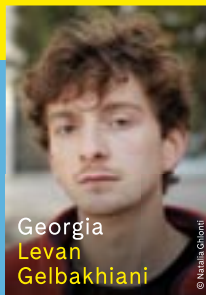
Portugal  
Joana  
Ribeiro

© Ricardo Santos



Bulgaria  
Martina  
Apostolova

© Konstantina Gatzova



Georgia  
Levan  
Gelbakhiani

© Natalia Chantini

films. talent. spirit.  
europe!

## participating national film institutes

Bulgarian National Film Center,  
Danish Film Institute, Estonian Film  
Institute, Georgian National Film  
Center, German Films, Polish Film  
Institute, Instituto do Cinema e do  
Audiovisual I.P./ICA (Portugal),  
SEE NL (The Netherlands), Swiss  
Films, Unifrance.

www.efp-  
online.com

°efp is supported by



European Shooting Stars is additionally supported by  
main partner



event partners



special thanks



# IN THIS ISSUE

## BERLINALE 2020

<b>BERLIN ALEXANDERPLATZ</b> Burhan Qurbani .....	4
<b>UNDINE</b> Christian Petzold .....	5
<b>DIE LETZTE STADT</b> Heinz Emigholz .....	6
<b>NACKTE TIERE</b> Melanie Waelde .....	7
<b>ORPHEA</b> Alexander Kluge, Khavn .....	8
<b>A DEMONSTRATION</b> Sasha Litvintseva, Beny Wagner .....	9
<b>INFLORESCENCE</b> Nicolaas Schmidt .....	10
<b>CURVEBALL</b> Johannes Naber .....	11
<b>EXIL</b> Visar Morina .....	12
<b>ONE OF THESE DAYS</b> Bastian Günther .....	13
<b>SCHLINGENSIEF – IN DAS SCHWEIGEN HINEINSCHREIEN</b> Bettina Böhler .....	14
<b>DIE ADERN DER WELT</b> Byambasuren Davaa .....	15
<b>EIN FISCH, DER AUF DEM RÜCKEN SCHWIMMT</b> Eliza Petkova .....	16
<b>GARAGENVOLK</b> Natalija Yefimkina .....	17
<b>IM FEUER</b> Daphne Charizani .....	18
<b>KIDS RUN</b> Barbara Ott .....	19
<b>SCHLAF</b> Michael Venus .....	20
<b>WALCHENSEE FOREVER</b> Janna Ji Wonders .....	21

## PORTRAITS

<b>REFERENCE TO REALITY</b> A portrait of actor Jonas Dassler .....	22
<b>YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT STORYTELLING!</b> A portrait of director Anca Miruna Lazarescu .....	24
<b>AS REALISTIC AS POSSIBLE</b> A portrait of director Patrick Vollrath .....	26
<b>INTERNATIONAL APPROACH</b> A portrait of production company Junafilm .....	28

## NEW FEATURES

<b>BIS DIE WELT EINEN RAND BEKOMMT</b> Daniel Bertram .....	30
<b>COUP</b> Sven O. Hill .....	31
<b>DEUTSCHSTUNDE</b> Christian Schwochow .....	32
<b>EFFIGIE – DAS GIFT UND DIE STADT</b> Udo Flohr .....	33
<b>FLESH CITY</b> Thorsten Fleisch .....	34
<b>GIPSY QUEEN</b> Hüseyin Tabak .....	35
<b>LASSIE – EINE ABENTEUERLICHE REISE</b> Hanno Olderdissen .....	36
<b>MADISON</b> Kim Strobl .....	37
<b>NARZISS UND GOLDMUND</b> Stefan Ruzowitzky .....	38
<b>NIGHTLIFE</b> Simon Verhoeven .....	39
<b>SOMMER REBELLEN</b> Martina Sakova .....	40
<b>TOPRAK</b> Sevgi Hirschhäuser .....	41

## NEW DOCUMENTARIES

<b>ALPGEISTER</b> Walter Steffen .....	42
<b>DAS GEHEIME LEBEN DER BÄUME</b> Jörg Adolph .....	43
<b>GLITZER &amp; STAUB</b> Anna Koch, Julia Lemke .....	44
<b>HALB TRAUM</b> Dandan Liu .....	45
<b>INSELN VON DUNKELHEIT, INSELN VON LICHT</b> DER DICHTER PAULUS BÖHMER Gunter Deller .....	46
<b>DIE JUNGEN KADYAS</b> Yvonne Andrä, Eyal Davidovitch, Wolfgang Andrä .....	47
<b>LIFE COULD BE SO BEAUTIFUL</b> Angelika Herta .....	48
<b>LIONHEARTED – AUS DER DECKUNG</b> Antje Drinnenberg .....	49
<b>MEINEN FREUNDEN ZUM ABSCHIED</b> Heiko Arendt .....	50
<b>SCHOTTLANDS WILDER NORDEN</b> Joachim Haupt .....	51
<b>SOLANGE SIE NOCH ARME HABEN</b> Luisa Både .....	52
<b>SWINGER</b> Stefan Zimmermann .....	53

## NEW SHORTS

<b>BLACK &amp; WHITE</b> Eluned Zoë Aiano, Anna Benner .....	54
<b>EADEM CUTIS: THE SAME SKIN</b> Nina Hopf .....	55
<b>MAMMA DORME</b> Daniela Lucato .....	56
<b>PINK ME BLUE</b> Natalie MacMahon .....	57
<b>WIR SPRECHEN HEUTE NOCH DEUTSCH</b> Clara Winter, Miguel Ferráez .....	58

## UPCOMING FILMS

<b>ANMASSUNG</b> Chris Wright, Stefan Kolbe .....	60
<b>A BLACK JESUS</b> Luca Lucchesi .....	60
<b>BORGA</b> York-Fabian Raabe .....	61
<b>GEBORGTES WEISS</b> Sebastian Ko .....	61
<b>INTO THE BEAT</b> Stefan Westerwelle .....	62
<b>LIEBER THOMAS</b> Andreas Kleinert .....	62
<b>MEIN SOHN</b> Lena Stahl .....	63
<b>NAHSCHUSS</b> Franziska Stünkel .....	63
<b>OLIVGRÜN</b> Tonio David Hecker .....	64
<b>DIE PFEFFERKÖRNER UND DER SCHATZ DER TIEFSEE</b> Christian Theede .....	64
<b>ROCCOS REISE</b> Frederick Lau, Kida Khodr Ramadan .....	65
<b>SCHACHNOVELLE</b> Philipp Stölzl .....	65
<b>EIN SOMMER</b> Dustin Loose .....	66
<b>WILD REPUBLIC</b> Markus Goller, Lennart Ruff .....	66
Shareholders & Supporters .....	69
Film Exporters .....	70
Imprint .....	71



© Stephanie Kulbach

## BERLIN ALEXANDERPLATZ

When Francis, 30, the only survivor of an illegal crossing from Africa, awakes at a beach in Southern Europe, he swears an oath to God: From now on he wants to be a new, a better, a decent man. Soon after, Francis finds himself in Berlin, where he realizes how hard it is to be righteous when you are an illegal refugee in Germany – without papers, without a nation and without a work permit. When he receives an enticing offer from the charismatic German Reinhold, 31, to earn easy money, Francis initially resists the temptation, maintains his oath and stays away from Reinhold's shady dealings. But eventually he is sucked into Berlin's underworld and his life spirals out of control.

**GENRE** Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Burhan Qurbani **SCREENPLAY** Burhan Qurbani, Martin Behnke **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Yoshi Heimrath **CAST** Welket Bungué, Albrecht Schuch, Jella Haase, Joachim Król **PRODUCERS** Leif Alexis, Jochen Laube, Fabian Maubach **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Sommerhaus Filmproduktion, in co-production with ZDF, in collaboration with ARTE, Lemming Film **RUNTIME** 183 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Beta Cinema • [beta@betacinema.com](mailto:beta@betacinema.com) • [www.betacinema.com](http://www.betacinema.com)



© Christian Schulz/Schramm Film

# UNDINE

Undine works in Berlin as a historian and guide to the city's development. She has a small apartment at Alexanderplatz, a Master's degree in history, and a freelance contract. But underneath the appearance of her modern city life lurks an old myth: if the man Undine loves betrays her, she has to kill him and return to the water she once came from. So when her lover Johannes leaves her for another woman, Undine thinks she has no choice – until in the moment of betrayal, she meets Christoph, an industrial diver, and unexpectedly falls for him. This is a new, happy and innocent love filled with curiosity and trust. But when Christoph starts to feel that Undine is running away from something, she has to face her curse once and for all. She doesn't want to lose this love.

**GENRE** Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Christian Petzold **SCREENPLAY** Christian Petzold **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Hans Fromm **CAST** Paula Beer, Franz Rogowski, Maryam Zaree, Jacob Matschenz **PRODUCERS** Florian Koerner von Gustorf, Michael Weber **CO-PRODUCER** Margaret Menegoz **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Schramm Film Koerner & Weber, in co-production with Les Films du Losange **RUNTIME** 90 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** The Match Factory • info@matchfactory.de • www.the-match-factory.com



© Filmgalerie 451

# DIE LETZTE STADT

## THE LAST CITY

An archaeologist and a weapons designer, who knew each other in a previous life as a filmmaker and a psychoanalyst, meet at an excavation site in the Negev desert and begin a conversation about love and war, which they continue in the Israeli city of Be'er Sheva. Then the film begins a round dance with changing actors in changing roles, leading through the cities of Athens, Berlin, Hong Kong and São Paulo. There appear: an old artist who meets his younger self, a mother who lives with her two grown sons – a priest and a policeman, a Chinese woman and a Japanese woman, a curator and a cosmologist. The protagonists' dialogues deal with social taboos which have become obsolete, generational conflicts, war guilt and cosmologies. The architectures of the five cities serve as a third partner in the protagonists' dialogues and complete their philosophical and metaphysical journeys.

**GENRE** Art, Experimental, Melodrama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Heinz Emigholz **SCREENPLAY** Heinz Emigholz **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Heinz Emigholz, Till Beckmann **CAST** John Erdman, Jonathan Perel, Young San Han, Dorothy Ko, Susanne Sachsse, Laurean Wagner **PRODUCERS** Frieder Schlaich, Irene von Alberti **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Filmgalerie 451 **RUNTIME** 100 min **LANGUAGE** English **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Filmgalerie 451 • kino@filmgalerie451.de • www.filmgalerie451.de





© Czar Film

# NACKTE TIERE

## NAKED ANIMALS

Five young friends try to cope with their everyday lives and to hold on to their self-created little family, but nothing is forever.

Five youngsters who grow up in one of these places in the middle of nowhere, where freedom is having a driving license and a car. Five youngsters, who have to decide whether to leave or stay. One last winter together until they finish school. Katja, Sascha, Benni, Laila and Schöller – they seek each other, they run away from each other. They kiss, they brawl. They love each other. They circle around each other in an interplay of differentiation, violence, love and loneliness. Intimacy and pain go hand in hand.

**GENRE** Coming-of-Age Story, Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Melanie Waelde **SCREENPLAY** Melanie Waelde **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Fion Mutert **CAST** Marie Tragousti, Sammy Scheuritzel, Michelangelo Fortuzzi, Luna Schaller, Paul Michael Stiehler **PRODUCER** Anja Wedell **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Czar Film **RUNTIME** 83 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Media Luna New Films • idamartins@medialuna.biz • www.medialuna.biz



© Kairos Film/Rapid Eye Movies

## ORPHEA

The ancient myth of the musician Orpheus, who wants to bring back his beloved from the underworld and defeat the hellhound with the power of music, is more than 2,000 years old. When Khavn, Kluge and the whole team sat together after the premiere of their film HAPPY LAMENTO in Venice, the idea of filming this material came up. At the same time it was sad that Orpheus could not really bring his Eurydice to the light in all the repetitions of this myth, and it was incomprehensible to everyone that the natural gesture of looking back at the beloved should be eternally punished with her death. One must risk a change of sex. Maybe an ORPHEA can "actually bring her beloved back from hell". Music is an art from the rib of Eve.

Nothing in ORPHEA is secure, everything here is rhythm. Orphea has left behind the ancient tragedy with its iron standards: Believing in the mammoths of the imagination, in the power of music and the capacity for love that underlies all cinema.

**GENRE** Music **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTORS** Alexander Kluge, Khavn  
**SCREENPLAY** Alexander Kluge, Khavn, Douglas Candano **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Thomas Wilke, Albert Banzon, Gym Lumbera **CAST** Lilith Stangenberg, Ian Madrigal **PRODUCERS** Alexander Kluge, Stephan Holl, Antoinette Köster **PRODUCTION COMPANIES** Kairos Film, Rapid Eye Movies **RUNTIME** 99 min  
**LANGUAGE** German, English, Tagalog **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Rapid Eye Movies • [stephan@rapideyemovies.de](mailto:stephan@rapideyemovies.de) • [www.rapideyemovies.de](http://www.rapideyemovies.de)





© Sasha Litvintseva, Beny Wagner

# A DEMONSTRATION

A DEMONSTRATION is a monster film with no monsters. Inspired by the existence of taxonomies of monsters at the heart of early modern European science, the film explores and reinterprets a way of seeing the natural world that is almost impossible to imagine from today's vantage point. Early Modern naturalists were guided by a logic in which truths were discovered through visual analogy. The word 'monster' comes from the Latin 'monstrare', meaning to show, to reveal, to demonstrate.

A DEMONSTRATION picks up on these themes in a poetic exploration of the boundaries of sight and the metamorphosis of form.

**GENRE** Art, Ecology, Experimental, History **CATEGORY** Short, Semi-Fictional Documentary **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTORS** Sasha Litvintseva, Beny Wagner **SCREENPLAY** Sasha Litvintseva, Beny Wagner **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Sasha Litvintseva, Beny Wagner **PRODUCERS** Guillaume Cailleau, Hans van Hezik, Daan Milius **PRODUCTION COMPANIES** CaSk Films, Video Power **RUNTIME** 24 min **LANGUAGE** English **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Video Power • info@videopower.eu • www.videopower.eu



© Nicolaas Schmidt

# INFLORESCENCE

---

Autumn again on planet earth. A couple of rosy rose petals in eternal solidarity enduring the great trouble of a heavy thunderstorm.

A Romantic Conceptualism Bedtime Fable of resistance and redundancy, or the awkward ambivalence of truth, dream, life and love. Let's unite to inflorescence.

**GENRE** Art, Ecology, Experimental, Drama, Love Story, Music **CATEGORY** Short **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Nicolaas Schmidt **SCREENPLAY** Nicolaas Schmidt **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Nicolaas Schmidt **PRODUCER** Nicolaas Schmidt, in co-production with ETTG – ETERNAL TREND TOWARDS GREY **RUNTIME** 8 min **LANGUAGE** no dialogue **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Nicolaas Schmidt • mail@nicolaasschmidt.de • www.nicolaasschmidt.de



© Sten Mende

# CURVEBALL

Bioweapons expert Wolf of the German Federal Intelligence Service BND is obsessed with the idea that, despite the UN inspections, anthrax is still being produced in Iraq. Back home in Germany, his superior Schatz assigns him as case officer for the Iraqi asylum seeker Rafid Alwan – because Alwan claims to have worked as an engineer for Saddam Hussein’s secret bioweapons program. It’s a rare triumph for a secret service not exactly spoiled by success: finally, they have a piece of intelligence that would put them one step ahead of the CIA. What they are missing, though, is proof. The search for which proves difficult, as ‘Curveball’ is well aware of his value to the agency. His claims, meanwhile, end up serving a number of decidedly different interests – the CIA, the German government, everyone is trying to use his incredible story for their own purposes. Thus, bit by bit, a construed story becomes reality and a lie becomes the truth. A truth, which sets in motion a chain of events that forever changes the global political landscape.

**GENRE** Political Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Johannes Naber  
**SCREENPLAY** Oliver Keidel **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Sten Mende **CAST** Sebastian Blomberg, Dar Salim, Virginia Kull, Thorsten Merten, Michael Wittenborn **PRODUCERS** Amir Hamz, Christian Springer, Fahri Yardim  
**PRODUCTION COMPANY** Bon Voyage Films, in co-production with ARRI Media Productions **RUNTIME** 108 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** ARRI Media International • [worldsales@arri.de](mailto:worldsales@arri.de) • [www.arri-media.de/international](http://www.arri-media.de/international)



© Komplizen Film

# EXIL

## EXILE

Xhafer, a 45-year-old, Kosovo-born pharmaceutical engineer living in Germany suddenly feels discriminated against and bullied at work because of his ethnic background. When Xhafer finds a dead rat hanging from the gate in front of his home, it is immediately clear to him that his racist colleagues could be behind it. Every occurrence, every word, every gesture is taken as evidence. Xhafer's uneasiness grows every day. His German wife Nora is tired of him playing the race card all the time. Do his colleagues simply dislike him? Or is there more to their hostility? Is this all in his mind or is it the actual reality?

**GENRE** Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Visar Morina **SCREENPLAY** Visar Morina **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Matteo Cocco **CAST** Mišel Matičević, Sandra Hüller, Rainer Bock, Thomas Mraz **PRODUCERS** Janine Jackowski, Jonas Dornbach, Maren Ade **CO-PRODUCERS** Jean-Yves Roubin, Cassandre Warnauts, Yll Uka, Valon Bajgora **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Komplizen Film, in co-production with Frakas Productions, Ikonë Studio, WDR, ARTE, VOO, BeTV **RUNTIME** 121 min **LANGUAGE** German, Albanian **FESTIVALS** Sundance 2020, Berlinale 2020

**SALES** The Match Factory • [info@matchfactory.de](mailto:info@matchfactory.de) • [www.the-match-factory.com](http://www.the-match-factory.com)



© Michael Kotschi

## ONE OF THESE DAYS

In a small southern town in the US, twenty down-on-their-luck folks compete to win a brand new pickup truck, a prize that might finally tip the scales of life in their favor. The annual 'Hands On' contest puts the vehicle literally within their reach – the winning contestant is the last one standing with their hands held firmly on the truck. Armed only with their dreams and determination, the participants forgo basic human needs to stand around the pickup truck for days to beat out their competitors. All for the benefit of an enthusiastic audience and the glare of the local media who turn up each year for the car dealership's popular publicity stunt. As the blisteringly hot days and long nights of struggle, exhaustion, mind games, hilarity, loss of control and insanity add up, only one winner can drive away with the truck. Each contestant has their own reasons for joining the contest, and as the hours tick by, their humanity is laid bare. Who will hold on and win – and at what cost?

**GENRE** Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Bastian Günther **SCREENPLAY** Bastian Günther **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Michael Kotschi **CAST** Carrie Preston, Joe Cole, Callie Hernandez, Bill Callahan, Jesse C. Boyd **PRODUCER** Martin Heisler **CO-PRODUCER** Peter Veverka **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Flare Film, in co-production with Green Elephant Films **RUNTIME** 120 min **LANGUAGE** English **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020, SXSW 2020

**SALES** The Match Factory • [info@matchfactory.de](mailto:info@matchfactory.de) • [www.the-match-factory.com](http://www.the-match-factory.com)



© Filmgalerie 451

## SCHLINGENSIEF - IN DAS SCHWEIGEN HINEINSCHREIEN SCHLINGENSIEF - A VOICE THAT SHOOK THE SILENCE

Director Christoph Schlingensiefel's "Heimat" films, performance art, installations and provocative theatrical, television, operatic and artistic productions shaped the cultural and political discourse in Germany for two decades before his death in 2010 at just 49 years of age. **SCHLINGENSIEF - A VOICE THAT SHOOK THE SILENCE** is the first film that attempts to exhaustively document the vast spectrum of this exceptional artist's oeuvre.

The film explores his untiring, and ultimately inexhaustible, love-hate relationship to Germany, to its high culture, and to its petite-bourgeoisie sentiments – which he attributed to himself more than anyone else – via scenes of East Germans being made into sausage (**THE GERMAN CHAINSAW MASSACRE**), shouts of "Kill Helmut Kohl!" (documenta X) and an attempt to rehabilitate Wagner (*Parsifal* in Bayreuth).

**GENRE** Art, Film Biography, Theater **CATEGORY** Documentary **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Bettina Böhler **PRODUCERS** Frieder Schlaich, Irene von Alberti **CO-PRODUCERS** Rolf Bergmann, Jutta Krug **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Filmgalerie 451, in co-production with RBB, WDR **RUNTIME** 122 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Filmgalerie 451 • kino@filmgalerie451.de • www.filmgalerie451.de





© BASIS BERLIN Filmproduktion

# DIE ADERN DER WELT

## VEINS OF THE WORLD

In a province in the middle of the Mongolian steppe, 11-year-old Amra lives a traditional nomad life with his mother Zaya, father Erdene and little sister Altaa. While Zaya takes care of the flock, Erdene works as a mechanic and sells Zaya's homemade cheese at the local market. Their peaceful routine is threatened by the encroachment of international mining companies, digging for gold and devastating the natural habitat. Erdene is the leader of the last nomads opposing them and tries to unite and convince his comrades not to accept the compensations the companies have offered. But after Amra's father dies in a tragic car accident, his mother wants to give up the nomad life and trade the steppe for the city. But Amra refuses and tries to carry on his father's David vs. Goliath fight with his cleverness and the tools of an 11-year-old boy.

**GENRE** Coming-of-Age Story, Drama, Music **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Byambasuren Davaa **SCREENPLAY** Byambasuren Davaa, Jiska Rickels **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Talal Khoury **CAST** Bat-Ireedui Batmunkh, Enerel Tumen, Algirchamin Baatarsuren, Purevdorj Uranchimeg **PRODUCERS** Eva Kemme, Ansgar Frerich, Tobias N. Siebert **CO-PRODUCERS** Nomin Chinbat, Bat-Erdene Gankhuyag **PRODUCTION COMPANY** BASIS BERLIN Filmproduktion, in co-production with Mongol TV **RUNTIME** 97 min **LANGUAGE** Mongolian **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Global Screen – a brand of Telepool • [info@globalscreen.de](mailto:info@globalscreen.de) • [www.globalscreen.de](http://www.globalscreen.de)



© DFFB

# EIN FISCH, DER AUF DEM RÜCKEN SCHWIMMT

## A FISH SWIMMING UPSIDE DOWN

Andrea, a woman without a past – playful, direct, ethereal, vivacious, honest, unpredictable. Philipp and Martin are father and son – and both love Andrea. Andrea's presence should fill the gap of Hanna, the recently deceased wife and mother. A summer of desire follows. But the inner emptiness inside each person begins to seek consolation, commitment and, not least, security. Its aim is to possess. Love is suppressed by fear, and the present disappears under the weight of tomorrow. Three people. One house. They live and behave outside of social norms and then fail because of their all too human needs. All that remains is emptiness and the question of guilt, which cannot be answered.

**GENRE** Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Eliza Petkova **SCREENPLAY** Eliza Petkova **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Constanze Schmitt **CAST** Nina Schwabe, Theo Trebs, Henning Kober, Anna Manolova, Márton Nagy, Leon Ullrich **PRODUCER** Konstantin Kann **CO-PRODUCERS** Eliza Petkova, Mathieu Miville, Nathan Nill, Edmond Yang **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie Berlin (DFFB), in co-production with Das Kind mit der goldenen Jacke Filmproduktion, Reka Pictures, Wild Grass Films **RUNTIME** 103 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Wide Management • [infos@widemanagement.com](mailto:infos@widemanagement.com) • [www.widemanagement.com](http://www.widemanagement.com)



© Tamtam Film/Axel Schnepapat

# GARAGENVOLK

## GARAGE PEOPLE

In post-Soviet Russia there is a phenomenon beyond ice fishing, matryoshkas and vodka: the garage settlement. Tin huts, inhospitable from the outside, provide a refuge for a large number of Russians – mainly men. According to their own taste and away from all rules, with ingenuity and tenacity, alternative habitats are created on just a few square meters. Scrap collector Ilya uses the garage as a production facility, Roman uses it for his quail breeding, Pavel carves skillful saint figures, and Viktor has added four underground floors to his space over the decades. Everything is here, and everything seems possible.

The garages are an expression of a retreat into the private sphere, an escape from everyday life. Behind the Arctic Circle, in a rough area where a mining company is the only employer, the garage remains the last chance for self-realization – and comes across as diverse as the dreams of its owners.

**GENRE** Human Interest, Society, Culture **CATEGORY** Documentary **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Natalija Yefimkina **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Axel Schnepapat **PRODUCERS** Andrea Schütte, Dirk Decker **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Tamtam Film, in co-production with MDR, ARTE **RUNTIME** 95 min **LANGUAGE** Russian **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020, CPH:DOX 2020

**SALES** Rise and Shine • [info@riseandshine-berlin.de](mailto:info@riseandshine-berlin.de) • [www.riseandshine-berlin.de](http://www.riseandshine-berlin.de)



© Pallas Film/Match Factory Productions/View Master Films

# IM FEUER

## SISTERS APART

Rojda, a German soldier and native Kurd, volunteers for a mission to train female Kurdish soldiers in Iraq to fight ISIS. No one must know that she is actually looking for her missing sister.

**GENRE** Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Daphne Charizani **SCREEN-PLAY** Daphne Charizani **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Falko Lachmund **CAST** Almila Bagriacik, Zübeyde Bulut, Maryam Boubani, Christoph Letkowski, Niels Bruno Schmidt, Yiannis Niarros, Lucas Prisor **PRODUCERS** Thanassis Karathanos, Martin Hampel, Michael Weber, Viola Fügen, Kostas Lambropoulos **PRODUCTION COMPANIES** Pallas Film, Match Factory Productions, View Master Films **RUNTIME** 93 min **LANGUAGE** German, English, Kurdish **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** The Match Factory • [info@matchfactory.de](mailto:info@matchfactory.de) • [www.the-match-factory.com](http://www.the-match-factory.com)



© Flare Film/Falko Lachmund

## KIDS RUN

Andi, an overstrained father of three children, lives as a day laborer in constant financial difficulties and simply can't control his aggressions, which push him from one predicament to the next. Actually, he really wants nothing more than to get his ex-girlfriend Sonja back again. But she has a new boyfriend and threatens to take their daughter away from him – if Andi doesn't manage to pay back the money he owes her and her boyfriend within a few weeks. When Andi realizes what is at stake, he decides to fight – for a few thousand that could solve all his problems, for the love of his children and, last but not least, for his simple right to remain their father.

**GENRE** Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Barbara Ott **SCREENPLAY** Barbara Ott **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Falko Lachmund **CAST** Jannis Niewöhner, Lena Tronina, Eline Doenst, Giuseppe Bonvisutto, Carol Schuler, Sascha Geršak **PRODUCERS** Gabriele Simon, Martin Heisler **CO-PRODUCERS** Stefanie Plattner, Ekrem Ergün, Isa Prahl, Niklas Hlawatsch **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Flare Film, in co-production with Storming Donkey Productions, The Beauty Aside **RUNTIME** 104 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020, Manchester 2020

**SALES** The Yellow Affair • [contact@yellowaffair.com](mailto:contact@yellowaffair.com) • [www.yellowaffair.com](http://www.yellowaffair.com)



© Junafilm

## SCHLAF

The small village of Stainbach is haunted by a mysterious demon. It turns out that the nightmares of Marlene are responsible for them. She is driving some of the inhabitants of the highland village insane during these nightmares. When she finds out that her dreams are about a real place, she visits the village to get to the bottom of the mystery. In the end, she suffers a nervous breakdown when she learns about the consequences of her nightmares and is then admitted to a psychiatric ward. Her daughter Mona comes to Stainbach to find out the reasons for the demonic nightmares. She comes into contact with the peculiar villagers and gets to know about dark forces from the Nazi era, which they have initially been pursuing in their dreams and are now also living in real-life.

**GENRE** Thriller **CATEGORY** Feature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Michael Venus **SCREENPLAY** Thomas Friedrich, Michael Venus **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Marius von Felbert **CAST** Gro Swantje Kohlhof, Sandra Hüller, August Schmölzer, Marion Kracht, Max Hubacher **PRODUCER** Verena Gräfe-Höft **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Junafilm, in co-production with ZDF Das kleine Fernsehspiel **RUNTIME** 100 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Global Screen – a brand of Telepool • [info@globalscreen.de](mailto:info@globalscreen.de) • [www.globalscreen.de](http://www.globalscreen.de)





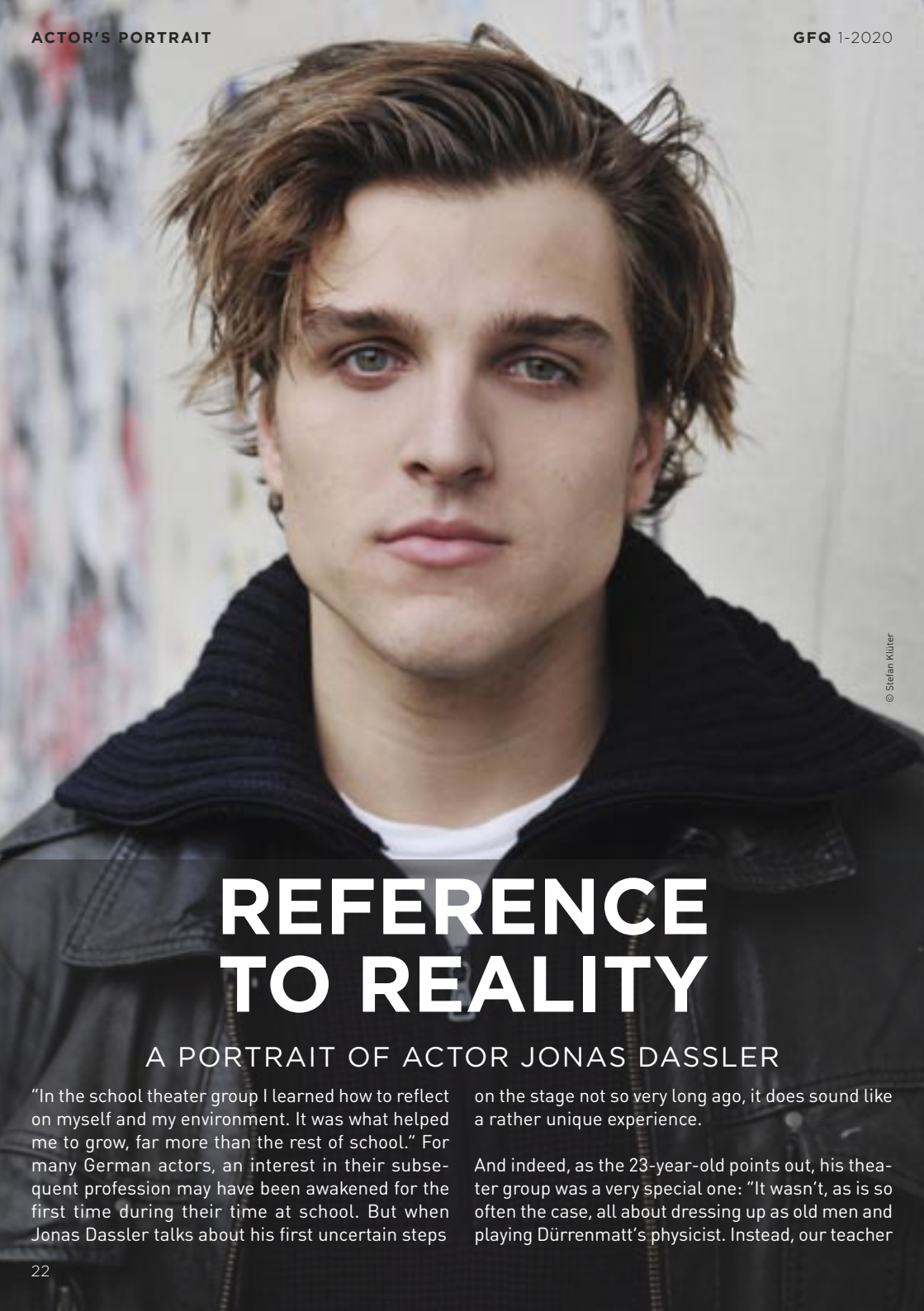
© Flare Film

## WALCHENSEE FOREVER

In her documentary family saga WALCHENSEE FOREVER, director Janna Ji Wonders embarks on a voyage of discovery spanning a century: she takes us from the family café at the Bavarian Walchensee to San Francisco to the infamous "Summer of Love". She discovers the secrets of her family to track down their role in the generation chain. It is a timeless family story about the search for identity, self-realization, love, pain, dependence, loss, psychosis, birth, death... It is a film about the cycle of life.

**GENRE** Women, Biopic, History **CATEGORY** Documentary **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Janna Ji Wonders **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Janna Ji Wonders, Sven Zellner, Anna Werner **PRODUCERS** Martin Heisler, Katharina Bergfeld, Nadja Smith **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Flare Film **RUNTIME** 110 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Berlinale 2020

**SALES** Deckert Distribution • [info@deckert-distribution.com](mailto:info@deckert-distribution.com) • [www.deckert-distribution.com](http://www.deckert-distribution.com)



© Stefan Klüter

# REFERENCE TO REALITY

A PORTRAIT OF ACTOR JONAS DASSLER

"In the school theater group I learned how to reflect on myself and my environment. It was what helped me to grow, far more than the rest of school." For many German actors, an interest in their subsequent profession may have been awakened for the first time during their time at school. But when Jonas Dassler talks about his first uncertain steps

on the stage not so very long ago, it does sound like a rather unique experience.

And indeed, as the 23-year-old points out, his theater group was a very special one: "It wasn't, as is so often the case, all about dressing up as old men and playing Dürrenmatt's physicist. Instead, our teacher

developed her own plays with us, and they arose from our own personal experiences and had relevance for our lives.”

This reference to one’s own life, to reality, is something which is still high on Dassler’s agenda today. After studying at the long-established Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts, he decided – inspired by his acquaintance with his colleague Dimitrij Schaad, who was working there at the time – to join the ensemble of Berlin’s Maxim Gorki Theater. “I’m grateful for the very traditional German acting technique I learned at Ernst Busch, but I was actually interested in a complete contrast to all those strict rules and role expectations,” he says to explain his decision, which was also linked to the fact that Gorki is one of the few places in the German theater landscape not being run by a white man.

“At Gorki, for the first time I experienced actors being perceived as thinking people, not just as someone intended to fulfill the director’s dreams. Moreover, in all their diversity, the actors who come together there represent the world in which we live. To make theater with and out of this simply makes sense for me at the moment.”

Dassler also sets high standards regarding the films he makes, so they are characterized by great authenticity and humanity. His debut on screen alongside Franz Rogowski in *UNS GEHT ES GUT* was quite the opposite of a conventional teenager film in terms of surrealism and style, and you won’t find his name in the credits of the usual mainstream comedies.

Instead, he played the leading role – even before his debut at Gorki – in Julia Langhof’s *LOMO – THE LANGUAGE OF MANY OTHERS*, which won him the Bavarian Film Prize and the First Steps Award, among other accolades. This was followed by Lars Kraume’s *THE SILENT REVOLUTION*.

Born in Remscheid, he is very aware that he is extremely lucky to be able to hand-pick his film roles. “I started out in an incredibly privileged position, not least because I fit a certain classic image of the German actor,” he says with reference to his skin color and a comfortable middle-class background. “I am so fortunate that I can decide consciously to work with interesting directors and not have to

shoot something just to make money. There are colleagues who have a different cultural background, a different skin color. They are not approached for the same things as me. They will never have the opportunity to pursue the same career as me. I am highly conscious of this privilege, and I do try to respond in a responsible way.”

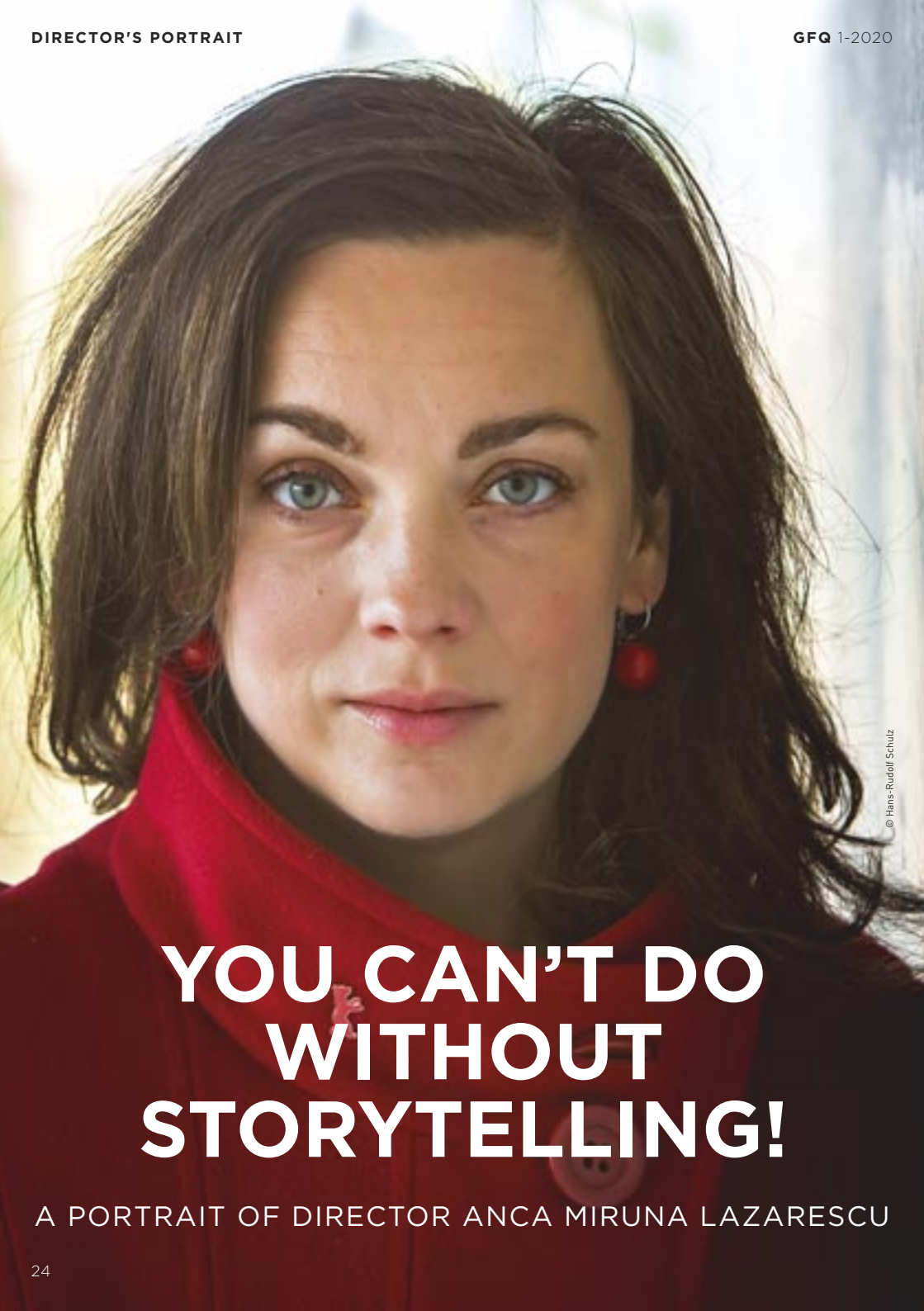
Dassler’s response to the aspect of fame is also reflective and thoughtful – and indeed, his fame has grown considerably since he played the leading role in Fatih Akin’s controversially acclaimed film adaptation *THE GOLDEN GLOVE* last year. He was nominated for the German Film Award for the first time for his role as the brutal serial killer, Fritz Honka. He’s not interested in hanging out at glamorous fashion parties like other colleagues, or in cavorting on Instagram.

Interview situations or appearances on the red carpet are not really his thing, either. This is not the only reason why the world premiere of Akin’s film at the Berlinale 2019 was an absolute exception. “I’ve never done anything so crazy in my life,” recalls Dassler, who was on stage at Gorki that same evening in Kafka’s *Report to an Academy* and was driven from there directly to the Berlinale Palast. “But it worked quite well because the Berlinale is way up there, anyway. It’s not normal. You just continue acting, only in a different role.”

This year, Dassler, who recently finished shooting the film *MEIN SOHN* with Anke Engelke, will have to play this role for a little longer, since he has been chosen as one of the European Shooting Stars. It is an honor that “touches and delights” him, but which he doesn’t wish to think about too much in advance. “But certainly, I am looking forward very much to the international exchange. Getting to know colleagues and hearing their stories. A dialogue across borders, because crossing and opening borders is always the best thing you can do.”

Incidentally, this also applies to the proverbial borders of German cinema, as he makes unmistakably clear: “We should finally start developing material that breaks down cultural prejudices and role models, and doesn’t just reproduce them without reflection.”

*Patrick Heidmann*



© Hans-Rudolf Schulz

# YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT STORYTELLING!

A PORTRAIT OF DIRECTOR ANCA MIRUNA LAZARESCU

It is rather difficult to meet Anca Miruna Lazarescu in November 2019. WE ARE THE WAVE had started earlier in the month on Netflix. Recently, she got an international agency to present her new projects in London. In mid-November she was jury president of the Munich Film School Festival – in the city where she studied, and where her first feature film premiered. Then there are her plans to shoot a documentary in Romania and continuing negotiations about a new streaming series. And the mother of two wants to see something of her family as well. In short, she has a lot on her plate.

But when the meeting worked out, she is completely in her element. She sees herself as a narrator, and so a short lunch becomes a vivid afternoon full of stories about lost dreams and hopes between East and West, the society we are living in, but also about healthy skepticism regarding the film industry.

“A director once said to me that up until his third feature film, he was still scared no one would ever ring him up again.” And where does she stand right now? “I’m getting the calls now.” She is able to say this with a quiet smile, following her short film SILENT RIVER (2011), which won over 80 international prizes. And after the two acclaimed full-length features, THAT TRIP WE TOOK WITH DAD (2016) and HAPPINESS SUCKS (2018), which was nominated for the German Film Award. Not to mention receiving the Grimme Prize for the HBO-series HACKERVILLE (2018) and a publicity-effective controversy over the Netflix-series WE ARE THE WAVE (2019).

In between, she had even thought she might quit the business. That was in 2017, when she had been working on her debut for seven years and money was tight. But at the latest when teaching students in acting and directing in Passau, the certainty returned – “I can’t breathe without telling stories. And without working as a director.”

Few other talents from Germany have been better at seizing the opportunities of the new streaming era. Of course, the new players are short on production money, and especially on time. An average of 5 to 6 minutes per shooting day had to be produced for WE ARE THE WAVE. “You just sleep less,” she comments laconically.

In return, she experienced great freedom, however. “I want to put my vision into pictures,” she says. This was possible during the production based on the scripts by Jan Berger. The very beginning of the series demonstrates this: Lazarescu filmed the election campaign of a right-wing radical party called the NFD realistically close to AFD election campaign posters, exaggerating them at the same time through the number of extras into a sinister celebration reminiscent of the Nazis’ racist mass mania. Something that is also rooted in Lazarescu’s own biography. After all, in the 1980s she herself experienced the importance of free societies in communist Romania.

A struggle for personal freedom features in all her projects. And WE ARE THE WAVE has become powerful agit-prop. As opposed to the original book, the series does not deal with young people’s seducibility by fascism: on the contrary, it examines the Eros of activism and rebellion. “Things don’t begin at a desk. Getting down on your knees, losing hold of things, wanting too much,” says the director. And the story of the young people who call themselves The Wave as activists is inspiring young people all over the world; there have been numerous responses in social networks from Brazil, Algeria or Turkey, for example.

She really likes the principle of series: “Ever since I can remember, I’ve lost points because I have always tested the limits of short or feature films, falling too much in love with side characters and side plots. The luxury of really digging into a story’s depth is only possible in the format of a series!”

The next step is her entry into international serial production. And now some top-class offers from this field are dropping into Lazarescu’s in-box – stories just asking to be told!

*Christoph Gröner*



A close-up portrait of a man with short, dark, slightly messy hair and black-rimmed glasses. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. He is wearing a dark-colored collared shirt. The background is a plain, dark grey.

# AS REALISTIC AS POSSIBLE

A PORTRAIT OF DIRECTOR PATRICK VOLLRATH



There was no cinema at all in the small community of Eisdorf am Harz, where Patrick Vollrath (34) grew up. At the age of 12, however, he did manage to see TITANIC on the big screen. "After that, I thought I wanted to become an actor," he recalls today. Almost the very next day, he joined his school's theater company, and when his drama teacher changed schools, Patrick and a few co-conspirators took the school stage into their own hands. "So then I was acting in a leading role and directing, and later I made some small films for the framework plot that we had built around the play," Vollrath says. It's this hands-on mentality that still distinguishes him today – an attitude that has taken him a long way in the meantime.

Using the money from his first holiday job, he bought his first film camera at the age of 16 – from Aldi. Soon, he discovered editing. After graduating from high school he knew for certain that he wanted to do "something with film", but his applications to film schools in Munich and Ludwigsburg were rejected. Undismayed, Vollrath started training as an editor at ARRI in Munich. Then he made a "final attempt" at applying for a course in direction at the Film Academy in Vienna. Totally unexpectedly (for him), he was accepted, and from then on he studied with Michael Haneke, who has since become a professional friend.

Vollrath's short films made during this period received a number of international awards; his half-hour graduation film EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY (2015) about a father who kidnaps his own daughter was ultimately nominated for an Oscar® in the category Best Live Action Short Film after winning numerous international prizes.

It is storytelling, Vollrath explains, that fascinates him most about filmmaking. "The cinema is a place where you can have a good cry if you want to, a place where you can be emotional and feel things." To achieve this, films must be told credibly, he says: "I want to make honest films with honest feelings." Vollrath has collaborated repeatedly with screenwriter Senad Halilbasic, most recently for his first feature-length film 7500, which celebrated its world premiere on the Piazza Grande of the Locarno Film Festival in August 2019.

7500, in aviation the emergency code for a plane hijacking, describes the dramatic scenes during a scheduled evening flight from Berlin to Paris that is hijacked by terrorists. Shot in a discarded cockpit in a Cologne studio, the film never leaves this narrow setting, but nevertheless – or perhaps for this very reason – captures the vast spectrum of human emotions. Former Lufthansa pilot Carlo Kitzlinger and US actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt are the pilot duo, Omid Memar and Murathan Muslu play two of the terrorists.

When shooting, there was barely enough space in the cockpit for the actors and Vollrath's equally brilliant partner, cameraman Sebastian Thaler, who had a renewed opportunity to demonstrate his great skill. "I wanted to extend the intensity that can develop in a single space to fill an entire film," explains Vollrath. "To enclose the viewers just as the characters are enclosed. This creates a number of blind spots that can be very useful for the imagination."

As the action takes place almost in real time, Vollrath also allowed long sequences to play through without editing. This is indicative of his aim to be as realistic as possible – and presents a huge challenge for the actors. "The dialogues in our scripts are there for orientation," says Vollrath. "But I do ask the actors to find their own words, their own authentic approach." This creates freedom. "I see that the actors can get emotionally involved in situations over a long period of time," says Vollrath. "But I'm aware that it's very exhausting, both physically and mentally."

Vollrath is remarkably precise in the technical and formal realization of his films. "But I never try to over-explain the content," he says. "My concern is to discover emotional truths." Concerning "the future of film" he is optimistic: "Even if the media that show films change, people's need for well-told stories will continue unabated.

So he and Halilbasic are already busy writing for their next project, about which he is still keeping mum: "Something historical" – that much can be elicited from him. And: "In the direction of thriller-drama again." That's something he obviously feels comfortable with.

# INTERNATIONAL APPROACH

A PORTRAIT OF THE PRODUCTION COMPANY JUNAFILM

"The inspiration for setting up my own company in 2009 and going independent came after working as an intern at Nimbus Film in Copenhagen," recalls producer Verena Gräfe-Höft who graduated from the Hamburg Media School (HMS) in 2008. This particular connection to Scandinavia was further developed in the following years when

Junafilm served as the German co-producer on Nimbus Film's children films ANTBOY – THE REVENGE OF THE RED FURY and ANTBOY 3 as well as Icelandic filmmaker Asa Hjörnefisdottir's drama THE SWAN, and Katja Adomeit and Shahr Sadat's hybrid film NOT AT HOME.

However, the young company's first project to go into production was the feature debut by a fellow HMS graduate, Katrin Gebbe, with *NOTHING BAD CAN HAPPEN* which had its world premiere in the *Un Certain Regard* sidebar in Cannes in 2013. The film was subsequently shown at festivals around the world like *Karlovy Vary*, *Busan*, *Tallinn*, *Kyiv Molodist* and *Zurich*, receiving the *Auteurs Award* at the *AFI Fest* in Los Angeles and the *Screenplay Award* at *Filmfest Hamburg*, among others.

Six years later, Gräfe-Höft and Gebbe came together for a second feature project, *PELICAN BLOOD*, which was the opening film of the *Orizzonti* sidebar at the 2019 Venice Film Festival. "We have known each other now for such a long time that we like bouncing ideas off one another," Gräfe-Höft says about their working relationship. "With *PELICAN BLOOD*, each of us had come upon this subject from different directions and it was then fun to work on the development together."

"I tend to prefer those story ideas that stick in one's mind, ones where you can spend some time reflecting on what you have seen up on the screen," she explains. "And my journalist's instinct for an interesting story [Gräfe-Höft studied Journalism, Anthropology and American Literature before going to the HMS] was aroused by the taboo subjects Katrin addressed in both films."

But Katrin Gebbe isn't the only person Gräfe-Höft has kept a close connection with since her days at the HMS. "It was something very close to my heart to establish a creative film family where one can exchange ideas and experiences and find support from one another," she suggests. For example, last Spring saw her working with fellow ex-HMS graduates filmmaker Michael Venus and cinematographer Marius von Felbert on Venus' feature debut, *SLEEP*, and another fellow student, cinematographer Moritz Schultheiss, stood behind the camera on both *NOTHING BAD CAN HAPPEN* and *PELICAN BLOOD*.

Moreover, another two of the filmmakers in Junafilm's stable – Eibe Maleen Krebs and Carly Borgstrom – know each other from their studies at Hamburg's University of Fine Arts (HFBK). Krebs made her debut in 2018 with the drama *THE WORLD BEYOND MY MIND* which was named Best

Youth Film at the Max Ophüls Prize Festival in Saarbrücken, while Canadian-born actress-director Borgstrom is preparing her feature debut, the thriller *DESIRE OF THE PREY*, which will be Junafilm's first English-language production.

And the concept of the creative family also extends to in front of the camera: actress Gro Swantje Kohlhof was only 17 when she was cast as Sunny in *NOTHING BAD CAN HAPPEN* and has now played the daughter to Sandra Hüller's mother in Venus' *SLEEP*, while Hüller had previously worked with Venus on his short films *RIVER* and *ROENTGEN*.

From the outset, Gräfe-Höft took a decidedly international approach to the positioning of Junafilm – either as a majority producer on German feature films aimed at the international market or serving as the minority partner on international co-productions. This is currently reflected in her development slate which also includes the German-Icelandic children's series *FIASOL* as well as a German series with horror elements in an apocalyptic world, *ELEMENT LOST*, co-created by Samuel Schultschich and to be co-produced with Warner Bros..

Moreover, she has extended her network of international contacts over the years by participating in the *EAVE Producers Workshop* in 2014, and the *European TV Drama Lab* in 2015, as well as being selected for the *Producers on the Move* initiative in Cannes in 2017 where she met Mila Voinikova of *Miramar Film*, who became the Bulgarian co-producer of *PELICAN BLOOD*.

Most recently, she took part in *Inside Pictures*, an intensive film business training and leadership skills development program presented by the UK's National Film & Television School. "The knowledge I have gathered there will definitely flow into the preparations for the next planned international co-production, *DESIRE OF THE PREY*," Gräfe-Höft explains. "We already have the sales agent *Protagonist Pictures* onboard and are now looking for a Canadian co-producer to be able to shoot the film in Canada this coming summer."

*Martin Blaney*



© Daniel Bertram/Knut Adass

## BIS DIE WELT EINEN RAND BEKOMMT UNTIL THE EDGE OF THE WORLD

Florence cannot understand what is happening with her father. Neither her touch nor words seem to be able to reach him. In her opinion, he left them. Flo's mother, Julia, tries to explain... "He is with us but also far away at the same time". Flo's never-ending questions drive Julia to create a story about her father's whereabouts. There is this picture on the wall, "Our Moon"... Flo likes the idea of it. It fits into her five-year-old child spirit – her father is on the moon. From now on, Flo starts to create her own world.

**GENRE** Drama, Science Fiction **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Daniel Bertram **SCREENPLAY** Daniel Bertram **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Knut Adass **CAST** Lisa Hagmeister, Alicia Valencia Pollex, Günther Harder, Beatrice Frey, Hendrik Massute, Tanja Kübler, Johanna Linden, Anne Rohde, Rebecca Klingenberg **PRODUCER** Daniel Bertram **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Fachhochschule Hannover **RUNTIME** 84 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Oldenburg 2019

**SALES** Media Luna New Films • idamartins@medialuna.biz • www.medialuna.biz



© Salto Film

## COUP

Sommer 1988: a 22-year-old bank employee, family man and rocker discovers a security gap at his employer's bank — a prestigious, time-honored bank. He embezzles millions and clears off with the money to Australia. His life as a millionaire can now begin. But the love of his life is not prepared to follow him with their son. "I stole the money for you! For us! What shall I do now?"

In a mixture of feature film, documentary and animated film, the film tells the true and unbelievable story of an unusual bank employee based on original interviews.

**GENRE** Fiction combined with Documentary and Animation **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Sven O. Hill **SCREENPLAY** Sven O. Hill **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Sven O. Hill **CAST** Daniel Michel, Tomasz Robak, Paula Kalenberg, Rocko Schamoni, Leonard Kunz, Fabienne Hollwege, Laurens Walter **PRODUCERS** Stephanie Rieß, Sven O. Hill **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Salto Film **RUNTIME** 82 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Hof 2019, Biberach 2019, Nordic Film Days Lübeck 2019 **AWARDS** German Cinema New Talent Award Hof 2019, Prize of the Student Jury Biberach 2019

**SALES** Salto Film • shill@gmx.de • www.coup-film.com





© Network Movie/Wild Bunch Germany/Georges Pauly

# DEUTSCHSTUNDE

## THE GERMAN LESSON

Germany, just after the Second World War. Siggie Jepsen, a young man in juvenile detention, has to write an essay on "The Joys of Duty". He can't get started, the paper stays blank. When he has to repeat the exercise the next day, this time in a cell as punishment, he writes his memories like a man possessed. Memories of his father Jens Ole Jepsen, a police officer who was one of the authorities in a small, north German village and dedicated himself totally to the duties of office. During the war he had to issue a ban on painting to his childhood friend, the Expressionist artist Max Ludwig Nansen, imposed on him by the National Socialists. He oversees it meticulously and Siggie, 11-years-old at the time, is told to help him. But Nansen resists – and likewise builds on Siggie's help, who is like a son for him. The two men's conflict continually escalates – and Siggie stands between them. Fitting in or resistance? This becomes the decisive question for Siggie...

**GENRE** Drama, Literature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Christian Schwochow **SCREENPLAY** Heide Schwochow **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Frank Lamm **CAST** Ulrich Noethen, Tobias Moretti, Johanna Wokalek, Sonja Richter, Maria Dragus, Tom Gronau, Louis Hofmann, Levi Eisenblätter **PRODUCERS** Jutta Lieck-Klenke, Dietrich Kluge, Ulf Israel **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Network Movie, in co-production with Senator Film Produktion, ZDF **RUNTIME** 125 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Hamburg 2019, Zurich 2019, Black Nights Tallinn 2019

**SALES** ARRI Media International • [worldsales@arri.de](mailto:worldsales@arri.de) • [www.arri.de/international](http://www.arri.de/international)





© GeekFrog Media

# EFFIGIE – DAS GIFT UND DIE STADT

## EFFIGY – POISON AND THE CITY

1828 in the German port city of Bremen: Two very different women collide in an age that has no place for either of them. One strives for a career in law, at a time when women aren't even admitted to universities. The other has lived life outside the law and may now have to pay the price. One of them needs to get her head together – while the other would do anything not to lose hers.

EFFIGY – POISON AND THE CITY is based on the true story of female serial killer Gesche Gottfried, who was found guilty of killing her parents, her three children, her twin brother, three husbands, as well as friends and neighbors. Another 20 victims were lucky enough to survive. In 1831, Gottfried was executed at the age of 46.

**GENRE** History, Thriller **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Udo Flohr **SCREENPLAY** Peer Meter, Udo Flohr, Antonia Roeller **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Thomas Kist **CAST** Suzan Anbeh, Elisa Thiemann, Christoph Gottschalch, Roland Jankowsky, Uwe Bohm, Marc Ottiker, Marita Marschall **PRODUCERS** Udo Flohr, Patricia Ryan **PRODUCTION COMPANY** GeekFrog Media **RUNTIME** 85 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Filmfest Bremen 2019, Cyprus IFF 2019, Flathead Lake 2020, San Francisco IndieFest 2020 **AWARDS** Golden Aphrodite Best Feature Cyprus IFF, Best Foreign Film Flathead Lake 2020

**SALES** Circus Road Films • glen@circusroadfilms.com • www.circusroadfilms.com



© Thorsten Fleisch

## FLESH CITY

FLESH CITY is a hostile place but it has great clubs... where not only beats are pulsating. In one of these dance temples, located at an abandoned industrial site, Vyren hooks up with Loquette. They explore the underbelly of the venue and fall into the trap of Prof. Yagov, the resident mad scientist who preys on lost and drugged-out fashion victims. As he introduces them to mutation and mayhem, the whole city gets infected. Soon everybody in FLESH CITY will be connected... via flesh link.

"FLESH CITY is a Trojan horse of a film. It starts as a genre movie but slowly derails into messing with the audience's mind. You come to realize that you yourself are the real victim of the film's mysterious mad scientist character. After the visually intense finale, one can only wonder as to what extent your brain has been altered and for what purpose. It's hard to shake off the feeling of having been brainwashed."

**GENRE** Horror, Experimental, Science Fiction **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Thorsten Fleisch **SCREENPLAY** Thorsten Fleisch **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Thorsten Fleisch **CAST** Christian Serritiello, Eva Ferox, Maria Hengge, Marilena Netzker, Helena Prince, Shaun Lawton, Denis Lyons, Anthony Straeger, Arthur Patching, Thorsten Fleisch, Veronica Jonsson, Louise Hamelmann, Timo Fleisch, Frank Biesendorfer, David Lang, Daniel Scheimberg **PRODUCER** Thorsten Fleisch **CO-PRODUCERS** Christian Serritiello, Arthur Patching **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Fleischfilm, in co-production with Tropical Grey Pictures **RUNTIME** 85 min **LANGUAGE** English

**SALES** Fleischfilm • [snuff@fleischfilm.com](mailto:snuff@fleischfilm.com) • [www.fleischfilm.com](http://www.fleischfilm.com)



© DDR FILM/Fabio Eppensteiner

## GIpsy QUEEN

GIpsy QUEEN is a powerful and inspiring boxing story of the Roma single mother Ali (30), who uses everything she's got trying to keep the heads of her two children above water and enable them to get a good start in life in their new home in a foreign country.

It's hard not to like young Ali. She has the heart of a lion, is proud, doesn't complain and works herself to the bone for her two children, Esmeralda and Mateo, as a cleaner in Hamburg's famous "Ritze" underground club. But deep in her heart Ali carries a wound: after she became an unmarried mother in Romania she was disowned by her father – for whom, until then, she was the Gipsy Queen, the queen of all Roma. When Ali discovers the boxing ring in the club's basement one day and gets to watch a fight, it brings back memories of boxing training with her father. Frustrated and disappointed by life, Ali vents all her fury on the punching bag. Tanne, ex-boxer and owner of the club sees her and recognizes her talent. She starts to box again and sees the chance of a better life.

**GENRE** Drama **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Hüseyin Tabak **SCREENPLAY** Hüseyin Tabak **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Lukas Gnaiger **CAST** Alina Serban, Tobias Moretti, Irina Kurbanova **PRODUCER** Danny Krausz **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Dor Film-West, in co-production with Dor Film **RUNTIME** 112 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Hamburg 2019, Tallinn Black Nights 2019, Santa Barbara 2020, Göteborg 2020 **AWARDS** Best Actress & Estonian Ecumenical Jury Prize Tallinn 2019

**SALES** ARRI Media International • [worldsales@arri.de](mailto:worldsales@arri.de) • [www.arri-media.de/international](http://www.arri-media.de/international)



© Tom Trabow/Warner Bros.

# LASSIE - EINE ABENTEUERLICHE REISE

## LASSIE COME HOME

Twelve-year-old Florian and his beloved Collie Lassie are inseparable and best friends. They live happily in an idyllic village in southern Germany. When Florian's father loses his job, the family has to move into a smaller flat – no dogs allowed. Florian is devastated and has to give Lassie away. Lassie is placed in the hands of Count von Sprengel, who travels to the North Sea with her and his exuberant granddaughter Priscilla (12). When the count's mean caretaker starts treating Lassie badly, she takes the opportunity to escape and begins an adventurous journey across Germany, always in search of Flo. But Lassie is not the only one who has set off on a journey. Flo also can't stand it any longer and starts looking for his dog. The two can't be beaten that easy!

**GENRE** Family Entertainment **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Hanno Olderdissen **SCREENPLAY** Jane Ainscough **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Martin Schlecht **CAST** Nico Marischka, Sebastian Bezzel, Anna Maria Mühe, Matthias Habich **PRODUCER** Henning Ferber **PRODUCTION COMPANY** LCH Film, in co-production with Warner Bros. Entertainment, Suedstern Film, Traumfabrik Babelsberg **RUNTIME** 96 min **LANGUAGE** German

**SALES** Global Screen – a brand of Telepool • [info@globalscreen.de](mailto:info@globalscreen.de) • [www.globalscreen.de](http://www.globalscreen.de)



© Dor Film

# MADISON

At the center of the family story is 13-year-old titular protagonist Madison, for whom cycle racing means just everything! She gives her all to emulate her cool and successful cycle-pro father. But when the talented and ambitious young racer has to unwillingly swap saddles for a mountain bike, things go haywire. However, with the help of her new friends she starts discovering new goals. Can she find her own way away from cycle racing, the path that was predetermined for her? It's the start of a big and exciting adventure ...

**GENRE** Children & Youth, Family Entertainment **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Kim Strobl  
**SCREENPLAY** Kim Strobl, Milan Dor **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Stefan Biebl **CAST** Felice Ahrens, Florian Lukas, Maxi Warwel, Valentin Schreyer, Emilia Warenski, Yanis Scheuerer, Leevi Schlemmer, Samuel Girardi **PRODUCER** Danny Krausz **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Dor Film-West, in co-production with Dor Film **RUNTIME** 86 min **LANGUAGE** German

**SALES** ARRI Media International • [worldsales@arri.de](mailto:worldsales@arri.de) • [www.arri.de/international](http://www.arri.de/international)





© Jürgen Ditzky/Sony Pictures Entertainment Deutschland

# NARZISS UND GOLDMUND

## NARCISSUS AND GOLDMUND

In the dark Middle Ages, young and unruly Goldmund is sent to a monastery by his father to atone for the sins of his mother, who abandoned them. It is there that he meets Narcissus, a brilliant, scholarly novice, who is introverted and aloof. A unique and deep life-long friendship is born. Narcissus chooses to remain detached from the world in prayer and meditation. Goldmund, who is passionate, sensual and impulsive, runs away from the monastery to live a picaresque wanderer's life, his amorous and artistic adventures leading him to discover the extremes of both ecstasy and pain. Several thrilling years pass, until one day these friends cross paths again...

NARCISSUS AND GOLDMUND is the film adaptation of literature Nobel Prize winner Hermann Hesse's bestseller. First released in 1930, the novel has been translated into more than 40 languages and has inspired generations ever since.

**GENRE** Drama, Literature **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Stefan Ruzowitzky **SCREENPLAY** Stefan Ruzowitzky, Robert Gold **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Benedict Neuenfels **CAST** Jannis Niewöhner, Sabin Tambrea, Sunnyi Melles, Kida Khodr Ramadan, Emilia Schüle **PRODUCERS** Helge Sasse, Christoph Müller, Peter Wirthensohn, Tommy Pridnig **PRODUCTION COMPANIES** Tempest Film, Mythos Film, Lotus-Film, in co-production with Deutsche Columbia Pictures Filmproduktion **RUNTIME** 120 min **LANGUAGE** German

**SALES** Beta Cinema • beta@betacinema.com • www.betacinema.com





© Warner Bros. Entertainment/Frédéric Baïter

## NIGHTLIFE

Bartender Milo meets the woman of his dreams Sunny in a fateful moment and arranges to go on a date. Everything seems to be running smoothly, but when Milo's chaotic friend Renzo turns up, the romantic evening escalates into an absolutely mad chase through Berlin's nightlife pursued by some underworld thugs. However, nothing will shake Milo and Sunny's love if they can survive this date...

**GENRE** Comedy **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Simon Verhoeven **SCREENPLAY** Simon Verhoeven **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Jo Heim **CAST** Elyas M'Barek, Frederick Lau, Palina Rojinski, Leon Ullrich, Milena Dreissig, Caro Cult, Grit Boettcher, Nicholas Ofczarek **PRODUCERS** Quirin Berg, Max Wiedemann **CO-PRODUCERS** Simon Verhoeven, Stefan Gärtner **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Wiedemann & Berg Film, in co-production with Sentana Filmproduktion, SevenPictures Film **RUNTIME** 110 min **LANGUAGE** German

**SALES** Picture Tree International

yuan@picturetree-international.com • www.picturetree-international.com



© Projector23/Jieun Yi

# SOMMER-REBELLEN

## SUMMER REBELS

Summer vacation. Fishing, riding in a truck, ploughing through whitewater: 11-year old Jonas expects lots of fun and action. But his family hasn't spoken to each other properly since his father died. So mother Beate has prescribed a healthy sea climate at Aunt Anne's instead of going to Slovakia with dad as they used to do. Jonas is stunned. Without further ado, he sets off alone to his cool grandpa Bernard in Slovakia. When he arrives at Bernard's, the old loner still has his grim humor but is more interested in his crossword puzzles than in his grandson from Germany. Without a wife or job, grandpa is not in the best of moods.

Jonas knows something must be done. In the process he gets to know Alex, who looks like a boy, but she nevertheless becomes his best friend. Together they develop a series of criminally good ideas. Bernard soon has a mysterious date breathing down his neck, the police are on his heels and the children have to deal with a failed business idea. There is a lot to straighten out before everyone can trust each other as friends again. In the end nothing will be the same as before – it will be much nicer.

**GENRE** Children & Youth, Coming-of-Age Story, Family Entertainment **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020  
**DIRECTOR** Martina Sakova **SCREENPLAY** Martina Sakova, Sülke Schulz **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Jieun Yi  
**CAST** Pavel Nový, Eliáš Vyskočil, Liana Pavlíková, Kaya Marie Möller, Szidi Tobias **PRODUCERS** Martin Kleinmichel, Katarína Krnáčová **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Projector23, in co-production with Silverart **RUN-TIME** 94 min **LANGUAGE** Czech, Slovak, German

**SALES** Silverart • katarina@silverartfilm.sk • www.summerrebels.com



© Chris Hirschhäuser

# TOPRAK

## TOPRAK - SOIL

Since the death of his parents, the teenage Burak lives with his uncle Cemil and grandmother in a remote Turkish village town. They try to make a living by selling pomegranates, but while the religious Cemil is satisfied to live his life in poverty, Burak struggles to find a way to leave for the city and go to university. When the grandmother gets sick, both have to make tough decisions that will change their lives.

**GENRE** Coming-of-Age Story, Drama **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Sevgi Hirschhäuser  
**SCREENPLAY** Sevgi Hirschhäuser **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Chris Hirschhäuser **CAST** Numan Cakir, Burak Aydin  
**PRODUCERS** Chris Hirschhäuser, Sevgi Hirschhäuser **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Deerhouse Film **RUNTIME**  
 105 min **LANGUAGE** Turkish

**SALES** Deerhouse Film • [mail@chris-hirschhaeuser.com](mailto:mail@chris-hirschhaeuser.com)



© Konzept+Dialog

# ALPGEISTER

## GHOSTS OF THE ALPS

---

GHOSTS OF THE ALPS tells archaic mysteries and legends of the Bavarian Alps. Its focus is on the authentic narrations of native and initiated people, shamans and tale-tellers who have been living with their ancient heritage for many generations. Thrilling stories, great cinematic views and stunning re-enactment scenes carry the audience into another world. The film shows clearly how deep people were once connected to our ensouled Mother Nature and her living spirits.

“Breathtaking cinematographic views of the Bavarian Alps and thrilling traditional tales!”

**GENRE** Adventure, Nature, Family Entertainment, Culture **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Walter Steffen **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Dixie Schmiedle **PRODUCER** Walter Steffen **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Konzept+Dialog.Medienproduktion **RUNTIME** 97 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Natur Vision 2019, Five Lakes 2019

**SALES** Konzept+Dialog.Medien • [ws@konzept-und-dialog.de](mailto:ws@konzept-und-dialog.de) • [www.konzept-und-dialog.de](http://www.konzept-und-dialog.de)



© Constantin Film Vertrieb/nautilusfilm

# DAS GEHEIME LEBEN DER BÄUME

## THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES

Are trees able to talk? Do they have a memory and a social life? The forester and bestselling author Peter Wohlleben gets to the bottom of these questions and opens our eyes to the hidden world of the woods.

When Peter Wohlleben published his book *The Hidden Life of Trees* in 2015, he stormed all the bestseller charts overnight: no-one had ever written about the German woods like the forester from the parish of Wershofen before. Wohlleben tells us in an entertaining and enlightening fashion about the solidarity and cohesion of the trees and strikes a chord with his ever-growing community of readers: he brings us closer to these astounding living entities in guided tours of the woods and readings. Wohlleben travels to Sweden to see the oldest tree in the world; he visits businesses in Vancouver that are looking for a new approach to how to treat the woods; he sides with the demonstrators in the Hambacher Forst. Because he knows that we humans can only survive if the woods are healthy – and that the eleventh hour is already upon us...

**GENRE** Environment/Ecology **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Jörg Adolph **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Daniel Schönauer **PRODUCER** Friederich Oetker **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Constantin Film Produktion  
**RUNTIME** 97 min **LANGUAGE** German

**SALES** Global Screen – a brand of Telepool • [info@globalscreen.de](mailto:info@globalscreen.de) • [www.globalscreen.de](http://www.globalscreen.de)





© Flare Film/Julia Lemke

# GLITTER & STAUB

## GLITTER & DUST

In the barren expanses of the USA live four girls who share a passion: The wild world of the rodeo. As different as their cultural backgrounds may be, they all want to follow in the footsteps of great cowboys. In a cosmos that once belonged only to their fathers and brothers, the girls take their lives into their own hands. Without batting an eyelid, they catch calves and sit on wildly thrashing bulls. Even though the path is often hard and lonely, they have the courage to enter an arena where there is actually no room for them. They want to prove that "you ride like a girl" is actually a compliment.

GLITTER & DUST tells the story of four cowgirls who follow their hearts and search for a tomorrow in their conservative homeland.

**GENRE** Children & Youth, Coming-of-Age Story, Women **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTORS** Anna Koch, Julia Lemke **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Julia Lemke **PRODUCERS** Katharina Bergfeld, Martin Heisler **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Flare Film **RUNTIME** 91 min **LANGUAGE** English, Navajo **FESTIVALS** Filmfestival Max Ophüls Preis Saarbrücken 2020

**SALES** Flare Film • [doku@flare-film.com](mailto:doku@flare-film.com) • [www.flare-film.com](http://www.flare-film.com)





© Dandan Liu

# HALB TRAUM

## HALF DREAM

HALF DREAM is a personal documentary film about three Chinese former art students and their dream of creating art. Ten years after their graduation from the Beijing Art Academy, the filmmaker goes to find three of her former classmates in order to confront them with their common past, their creative urges to make art, and their current lives. The film portrays the one-child policy generation of the 1980s and their attempt to make their way through life amidst a society shaken from economic and social upheaval. A film about dealing with social realities and the profound need for individual expression and creativity in a life from which art is slowly disappearing.

**GENRE** Art, Animation **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Dandan Liu **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Dandan Liu **PRODUCER** Dandan Liu **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln **RUNTIME** 86 min **LANGUAGE** Chinese **FESTIVALS** DOK Leipzig 2019

**SALES** Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln • [dilger@khm.de](mailto:dilger@khm.de) • [www.khm.de](http://www.khm.de)



© Gunter Deller

# INSELN VON DUNKELHEIT, INSELN VON LICHT - DER DICHTER PAULUS BÖHMER

## ISLANDS OF DARKNESS, ISLANDS OF LIGHT - THE POET PAULUS BÖHMER

In his ecstatic, evocative long poems, the poet Paulus Böhmer (1936-2018) undertook the lifelong attempt to grasp the world and reason of our existence. This experimental documentary is an approach to the life and work of this exceptional figure of literature through the sound of new jazz musician Alfred 23 Harth, the words of the author and of his wife, the Hebrew-translator Lydia Böhmer, and the poetic images of video artist Gunter Deller.

**GENRE** Experimental, Literature, Music **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Gunter Deller **CIN-EMATOGRAPHY** Gunter Deller **PRODUCER** Gunter Deller **RUNTIME** 102 min **LANGUAGE** German

**SALES** Gunter Deller • [looking-glass@alice-dsl.net](mailto:looking-glass@alice-dsl.net)



© 1meter60 Film

# DIE JUNGEN KADYAS

## THE YOUNG KADYAS

They want to sing about chirping crickets and falling stars – the Arab and Jewish girls from Israel in a project with girls from Germany and France – a carefree summer long. But the path there is exhausting! They are being taught in English, they have much to learn about history, language, music and singing, and the songs are in Yiddish, a completely foreign language for almost all of them. Two very different choir cultures have to merge and become one and controversies about religion, politics and history of their home countries force their way into their teenage lives. But the girls have their own will and so they make a miracle happen, with their voices, their dreams and their unbridled power to fight against all odds and at the same time they give hope to a new, a peaceful, a better world in which art unites what politics divides.

**GENRE** Art, Coming-of-Age Story, Educational, History, Literature, Music **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019  
**DIRECTORS** Yvonne Andrä, Eyal Davidovitch, Wolfgang Andrä **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Marius Böttcher **PRODUCERS** Yvonne Andrä, Wolfgang Andrä **PRODUCTION COMPANY** 1meter60 Film **RUNTIME** 103 min  
**LANGUAGE** German, English **FESTIVALS** Biberacher Filmfestspiele 2019

**SALES** 1meter60 Film • yvonne@1meter60-film.de • www.1meter60-film.de



© Angelika Herta/Filip Jacobson

## LIFE COULD BE SO BEAUTIFUL

During the 1940s, Polish writer Andrzej Bobkowski headed from the south of France to occupied Paris, describing everything he saw in diaries in which his hundreds of kilometers of cycling were transformed into a deep reflection on wartime Europe. Decades later, Angelika Herta and Filip Jacobson retraced his route and filmed everything along the way. During the exploration of Bobkowski's path through the landscape and in culture, a conflict arises on the interpretation of the author's diaries, with the pair's creative debate leading to a reflection on their own relationship. In this documentary video diary and from the literary work, a reflection on modern life, work, and love arises.

**GENRE** Literature, Love Story, Road Movie **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Angelika Herta  
**CINEMATOGRAPHY** Angelika Herta, Filip Jacobson **PRODUCER** Angelika Herta **PRODUCTION COMPANY**  
 Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln **RUNTIME** 62 min **LANGUAGE** English, Polish, French **FESTIVALS**  
 Ji.hlava 2019 **AWARDS** Best Central & East European Documentary Student Film Ji.hlava 2019

**SALES** Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln • dilger@khm.de • www.khm.de



© FirstHand Production

# LIONHEARTED – AUS DER DECKUNG

## LIONHEARTED – OUT OF COVER

“Without Ali, I would not stand where I’m standing now!,” says Raschad, a 28-year-old German-Togolese and one of the protégés of boxing trainer Ali Cukur. Week after week, young people like Raschad meet in a small gymnasium of TSV 1860. Many of them have already gone through quite a lot in their lives. For them, Ali is a role model, a father, a lifesaver. In the ring he teaches them to tame their fury, to stay in control. Boxing as a training for real life. A chance to find genuine recognition and not go off the rails.

Ali relocates his annual boxing camp to Ghana. Confronted with the tough circumstances under which the Ghanaian boxers are training in the slums of Accra, the youths start to view their life in Germany from a new angle. Their journey to West Africa becomes a journey to themselves – to their fears and inner turmoil, but also to their power and self-esteem.

LIONHEARTED is a touching film about coming of age. A tribute to the power of affection. And an homage to co-existence in Germany and the variety of chances you get when you boldly face the challenges of life.

**GENRE** Coming-of-Age Story **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Antje Drinnenberg **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Janis Willbold **PRODUCER** Antje Drinnenberg **CO-PRODUCER** Marcus Uhl **PRODUCTION COMPANY** FirstHand Production, in co-production with Bilderfest **RUNTIME** 90 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** DOKfest Munich 2019 **AWARDS** Audience Award DOKfest Munich 2019, OneWorld Filmclubs Award 2019

**SALES** FirstHand Production • [info@antjedrinnenberg.de](mailto:info@antjedrinnenberg.de) • [www.lionhearted-der-film.de](http://www.lionhearted-der-film.de)





© Ruth Oswald/Basel

# MEINEN FREUNDEN ZUM ABSCHIED

## FAREWELL TO MY FRIENDS

Born in 1922, Ernst Ludwig "Lux" Oswald was the son of Ernst and Wilhelmine Oswald, proprietors of the publishing house Rütten & Loening, which also published *Struwwelpeter*. Although he came from a Jewish family in Frankfurt, he was baptized in the Protestant church. In spite of the fact they had been Protestants for two generations, according to the Nazi racial laws, the Oswalds were persecuted because of their Jewish origins. In accordance with the discrimination and exclusion of the Nazi racial laws, as one of the last pupils to do so, Ernst Ludwig Oswald had to leave the Musterschule school in Frankfurt's Nordend in 1938 and from 1940 had to do forced labor in various companies. After his own high school graduation from the Musterschule, his brother Heinrich, who was two years older, had already left the country in 1937 to study in Switzerland. On 11th June 1942, Ernst Ludwig Oswald was deported from Frankfurt towards the east when he was only 19 years of age. There is no knowledge of any survivors of this particular deportation.

**GENRE** History **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Heiko Arendt **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Karin Malwitz, Reiner Krausz, Heiko Arendt **PRODUCER** Heiko Arendt **RUNTIME** 80 min **LANGUAGE** German

**SALES** Heiko Arendt • [info@heikoarendt.de](mailto:info@heikoarendt.de) • [www.heikoarendt.de](http://www.heikoarendt.de)





© Sabine Pollmeier

# SCHOTTLANDS WILDER NORDEN

## SCOTLAND'S WILD NORTH

---

The far North of Scotland is a lonely world with more sheep than people. Characterized by dramatic landscapes and wild coasts. It is the world of the Highlanders. Life here can be tough but highlanders love their traditions and their way of life.

They are free-minded spirits who make their living as crofters, farming sheep or horse whisperers. Filmed in the unique Scottish landscape this documentary presents a fresh and new look at the Highlands beyond the clichés.

**GENRE** Adventure, Road Movie, Travel **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2020 **DIRECTOR** Joachim Haupt **CINEMATOGRAPHY** David McCay, Sabine Pollmeier **PRODUCER** Sabine Pollmeier **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Parnass Film **RUNTIME** 104 min **LANGUAGE** German, English

**SALES** Parnass Film • mail@parnassfilm.de • www.parnassfilm.de



© Jule Katinka Cramer/Hannah Platzer

# SOLANGE SIE NOCH ARME HABEN

## AS LONG AS YOU STILL HAVE ARMS

A studio room. Puppets. Frank Karbstein. Reminiscent, reflective, playful, narrating.

The 1980s of the GDR – the group around the puppeteer Frank is arrested for distributing pacifistic leaflets. After being sentenced to imprisonment, the defendants are offered the opportunity to go to the West through a secret buy out of political prisoners. Frank stays. But the question remains: Who betrayed them?

Different truths and memories stand side by side. In the center of this is a person who never tries to act from the mindset of a victim and who shows his very own personal way of dealing with the GDR dictatorship.

**GENRE** Art, Biopic, Drama, History **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Luisa Bäde **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Jule Katinka Cramer, Hannah Platzer **PRODUCER** Luisa Bäde **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln **RUNTIME** 93 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Hof 2019

**SALES** Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln • dilger@khm.de • www.khm.de



© White Mexicans

## SWINGER

---

A brutally honest documentary about the swinger lifestyle scene in Germany, their behaviour, their way of life and their reasons to have sex with more than one partner aside from their own partner. Instense, lovable, profound!

**GENRE** Love Story, Society **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Stefan Zimmermann **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Martin Geisler **PRODUCER** Stefan Zimmermann **CO-PRODUCER** David Fejzuli **PRODUCTION COMPANY** White Mexicans **RUNTIME** 75 min **LANGUAGE** German

**SALES** White Mexicans • stefan.zimmermann@whitemexicans.de • www.whitemexicans.de



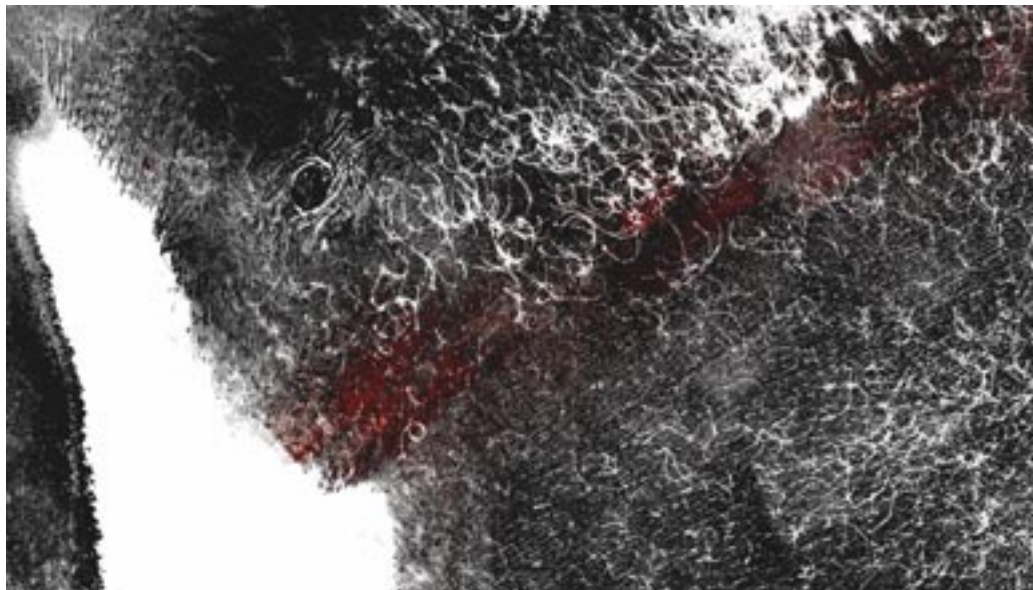
© ZLA Films

## BLACK & WHITE

In the early 2000s, the small Czech town of Třeboň found itself at the center of unexpected international attention when the worldwide press picked up on an obscure urban legend from World War II. The story concerns a nurse who was raped by a Nazi and contracted syphilis as a result. While tending to other wounded soldiers, she seized her opportunity for revenge and systematically seduced them to pass on the deadly disease. She was so successful that eventually the Gestapo had her executed. At least, this is the version told by the international press. The residents of the town have their own contradictory interpretations, however, including a local historian and even the man who decided to erect a plaque in her honor. **BLACK & WHITE** pieces this story together through a collage of interviews with a group of locals. The film explores how the story came about in the first place, and how it evolved after it ended up in the news. Their reflections are visualized through a combination of excerpts from the history of cinema, together with animation, problematizing the types of tropes and conventions used to depict the roles of women in history.

**GENRE** Animation, Experimental, History, Documentary **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTORS** Eluned Zoë Aiano, Anna Benner **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Klára Belicová **PRODUCER** Linda Dědková **CO-PRODUCER** Martin Hůlovec **PRODUCTION COMPANY** ZLA Films, in co-production with Punk Film **RUNTIME** 19 min **LANGUAGE** Czech **FESTIVALS** Warsaw 2019, Primanima 2019

**SALES** ZLA Films • info@zlafilms.com • www.zlafilms.com



© Nina Hopf

# EADEM CUTIS: DIESELBE HAUT

## EADEM CUTIS: THE SAME SKIN

“I just want to be seen as the one I am now!” - In this experimental documentary, John, the twin brother of the filmmaker, shares his thoughts on identity, body and gender. He offers the viewer a very intimate insight into his life – and an immediate proximity to his body.

**GENRE** Animation, Art, Experimental **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Nina Hopf **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Nina Hopf **PRODUCER** Nina Hopf **RUNTIME** 5 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Filmschoolfest Munich 2019, Backup & Beyond 2019, Factual Animation 2019, SHORTS to the Point 2019, Sundance 2020, Berlin Independent FF 2020 **AWARDS** Medienkunstpreis 2019, Special Mention Filmschoolfest Munich 2019, Special Mention Backup & Beyond 2019

**SALES** Nina Hopf • n.hopf@gmx.net • www.ninahopf.de





© Daniela Lucato

# MAMMA DORME

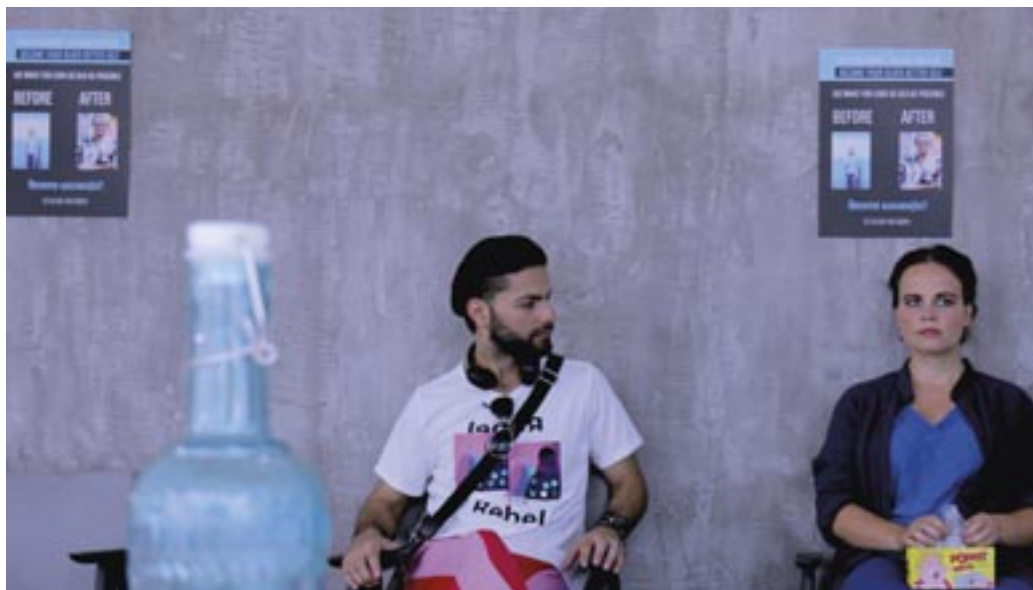
## MOMMY'S SLEEPING

---

Ada is charmed by the subtle limit that separates reality and memory and lets the nostalgic memories of her father mix with the simple sound of everyday events. Inspired by the poems in the collection *Memory in the Body* by Antonella Sica, the film explores the theme of death, its almost dreamlike presence in the world of the living, and the power of gestures and its symbolic value in evoking memories.

**GENRE** Biography, Drama **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Daniela Lucato **SCREENPLAY** Daniela Lucato **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Jacopo Pantaleoni **CAST** Maria Grazia Mandruzzato, Emanuele Piovene, Matilde Cremonese, Lucia Viola Zampieri **PRODUCER** Daniela Lucato **RUNTIME** 12 min **LANGUAGE** Italian

**SALES** Daniela Lucato • [danielalucato@hotmail.com](mailto:danielalucato@hotmail.com) • [www.the-dots.com/users/daniela-lucato-485137](http://www.the-dots.com/users/daniela-lucato-485137)



© Amber Palmer

## PINK ME BLUE

Imagine a world where everything you know is being questioned and old stereotypes are being broken. PINK ME BLUE is playing with what we think we know, but maybe things could be different if we open our minds to a new world.

PINK ME BLUE criticizes beauty standards and gender rules we have and quietly accept in our society in a humorous kind of way. Why do people buy pink clothes and toys straight away when a baby girl is born and why do they decide for blue without thinking further about it when it's a baby boy? How come everyone is constantly trying to look as young as possible? Who determines what's attractive or not? PINK ME BLUE shows a world, in which things are exactly the other way around: men wear pink, women wear blue and looking as old as possible is considered beautiful.

**GENRE** Animation, Love Story, Science Fiction **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTOR** Natalie MacMahon **SCREENPLAY** Natalie MacMahon **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Amber Palmer **CAST** Oussama Cherief, Loryn White, Marco Montes, Natalie MacMahon, Sean Lee **PRODUCER** Natalie MacMahon **PRODUCTION COMPANY** MacMahon Films **RUNTIME** 9 min **LANGUAGE** English **FESTIVALS** Beveren 2019, Miami Independent FF 2019, Canada Shorts 2019, Spotlight Short Film Awards 2019, First Friday Kansas City 2020 **AWARDS** Award of Commendation Canada Shorts 2019, Silver Award Spotlight Short Film Awards 2019

**SALES** MacMahon Films • nataliemacmahon@aol.com • www.pinkmeblue.com



© Valentín López

## WIR SPRECHEN HEUTE NOCH DEUTSCH AND WE STILL SPEAK GERMAN TODAY

Phrases from “Living in Germany” – a course migrants must take to integrate into German culture – are staged in front of German institutions and companies abroad. The language and phrasing meant to convey German values and customs seem to be at odds with German representatives which display a certain inconsistency in coming to terms with the past.

**GENRE** Art, Educational, Experimental, History **YEAR OF PRODUCTION** 2019 **DIRECTORS** Clara Winter, Miguel Ferráez **SCREENPLAY** Clara Winter **CINEMATOGRAPHY** Valentín López **CAST** Miguel Ferráez **PRODUCERS** Clara Winter, Miguel Ferráez **RUNTIME** 17 min **LANGUAGE** German **FESTIVALS** Kassel Documentary Film and Video Festival 2019, Filmwinter Stuttgart 2019, Filmfestival Max Ophüls Preis Saarbrücken 2020, International Filmweek Regensburg 2020 **AWARDS** German Short Film Award 2019

**SALES** Clara Winter • mail@clarawinter.de • www.clarawinter.de

24.4  
-2.5.2020

# Visions du réel

## International Film Festival Nyon


Main Partner

la Mobilière

Media Partner

SRG SSR

Institutional Partner

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Office fédéral de la culture OFC

Direction du développement et de la coopération DDC



© Chris Wright/Stefan Kolbe

## ANMASSUNG

How would you meet a man who committed the greatest taboo? As anyone else, with a handshake? Are you interested in the person, their own life? Or do you dwell on the act? Is it, the image of it, always there?

In ANMASSUNG, the two filmmakers are torn: one experiences the murder, the other the man who committed it. That man is S., now being evaluated for possible release after 15 years in prison. Once again, the psychologists look at his history and personality for clues as to whether S. could kill again. But at a certain point there is only supposition. As the chief psychologist says: "There are no final answers. In a story like this, there are always gaps. And we can only imagine what happened in these gaps." This is a film about those gaps.

**GENRE** Experimental, Society **CATEGORY** Documentary **DIRECTORS** Chris Wright, Stefan Kolbe **PRODUCER** Heino Deckert **PRODUCTION COMPANY** ma.ja.de. Filmproduktion **LANGUAGE** German

### SALES

Deckert Distribution  
info@deckert-distribution.com  
www.deckert-distribution.com



© Road Movies

## A BLACK JESUS

A statue of a black Jesus has been venerated in a small Sicilian village for centuries. Edward, a 19-year-old Ghanian from the local refugee center, causes a stir within the community when he asks to be one of the bearers of the statue in the annual procession alongside the white locals. The community is divided. On a journey exploring the source of fear and prejudice about "the others", the villagers are called upon to question their own identity – starting with the very icon of their own belief: a black Jesus.

Luca Lucchesi's documentary marks his second collaboration with Hella Wenders after he served as DoP on her 2017 film SCHOOL, SCHOOL – THE TIME AFTER BERG FIDEL.

**GENRE** Comedy, Drama, Society **CATEGORY** Documentary **DIRECTOR** Luca Lucchesi **PRODUCER** Wim Wenders **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Neue Road Movies, in co-production with NDR **LANGUAGE** Italian, English, French, Wolof, Ashanti, Fante, Frafra

### CONTACT

Road Movies  
lea@neueroadmovies.com  
www.neueroadmovies.com





© Chromosom Film

## BORGA

DFFB graduate York-Fabian Raabe's feature debut centers on two brothers, Kojo and Yoofi, who are growing up on the electronic waste dump in Ghana's capital of Accra where they make a living by extracting valuable metals by burning and dismantling Western electronic devices. One day, Kojo meets a rich Ghanian from abroad, a Borga. His dream of going abroad is born. Ten years later, he leaves his family behind. Arriving in Germany after a four-year odyssey through the continents, he quickly realizes that he was chasing a myth. Germany does not welcome him with open arms. But going back home isn't an option. Kojo believes that his family will only accept him if he fulfills the image of a wealthy Borga from Germany...

**GENRE** Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **DIRECTOR** York-Fabian Raabe **SCREENPLAY** York-Fabian Raabe, Toks Körner **CAST** Eugene Boateng, Christiane Paul, Adjetey Anang, Lydia Forson, Joseph Otisman, Emmanuel Affadzi, Thelma Buabeng, Jerry Kwarteng, Ibrahima Sanogo, Helgi Schmid, Jude Kurankyi **PRODUCER** Alexander Wadouh **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Chromosom Film, in co-production with East End Film, Deal Real Productions, SWR, ARTE **LANGUAGE** Twi, German, Ga, Fante, Hausa, English

### CONTACT

Chromosom Film  
[info@chromosom-film.de](mailto:info@chromosom-film.de)  
[www.chromosom-film.de](http://www.chromosom-film.de)



© Martin Rottenkolber

## GEBORGTES WEISS

Marta and Roland live a modest and comfortable countryside life with their young son Nathan. But when the Albanian itinerant worker Valmir enters the family's life, their world tips out of balance. The cerebral Roland hires the unpolished, taciturn, Valmir to renovate the place, and it doesn't bother him at first that Marta feels drawn to the young man. At the same time as Valmir gets on with the job, he also pushes increasingly more into the family's everyday life. He seems to be tied particularly to the young Nathan in a special way. Soon Marta is forced to realize that she and Valmir are connected by a secret that brings not only her marriage but also their entire existence in danger.

**GENRE** Drama, Psycho Thriller **CATEGORY** Feature **DIRECTOR** Sebastian Ko **SCREENPLAY** Karin Kaçi **CAST** Susanne Wolff, Ulrich Matthes, Florist Bajgora, Elia Gezer, Heike Trinker, Bruno Cathomas, Laina Schwarz, Katharina Hintzen, Rainer Lau-pichler **PRODUCERS** Roswitha Ester, Torsten Reglin **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Ester.Reglin.Film, in co-production with WDR, ARTE **LANGUAGE** German

### CONTACT

Ester.Reglin.Film  
[post@ester-reglin-film.de](mailto:post@ester-reglin-film.de)  
[www.ester-reglin-film.de](http://www.ester-reglin-film.de)



© Lieblingsfilm/Wilid Bunch/Steffen Junghans

## INTO THE BEAT

Katya is a young, outstanding and upcoming ballet dancer. In just a few weeks she is due to have a major audition for the New York Ballet Academy and Katya has good chances of getting a scholarship. But when she meets a group of street-dancers the girl dives into a completely new world. Street-dance is so free and explosive. Katya's heart is gripped by this new dancing and the introverted Marlon, a gifted B-boy who recognizes her potential.

With Marlon, the ballerina experiences a previously unknown feeling for life and lightheartedness, community and spontaneity. Katya knows: She cannot go back to ballet. Together with Marlon she wants to audition for the Sonic Tigers, an internationally known streetdance-crew. Will she make the leap?

**GENRE** Coming-of-Age Story, Love Story, Music, Dance **CATEGORY** Feature **DIRECTOR** Stefan Westerwelle **SCREENPLAY** Stefan Westerwelle, Hannah Schweier **CAST** Alexandra Pfeifer, Yalany Marschner, Trystan Pütter, Helen Schneider, Katrin Pollitt, Julius Nitschkoff, Dennis Kyere, with the participation of Flying Steps Academy and Pepita Bauhardt, Jeff Jimenez **PRODUCER** Philipp Budweg **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Lieblingsfilm, in co-production with SK Productions, Senator Film, ZDF, KiKA **LANGUAGE** German

### CONTACT

Liebingsfilm  
office@liebingsfilm.biz  
www.liebingsfilm.biz



© Zeitsprung Pictures/Peter Hartwig

## LIEBER THOMAS

After directing films such as PATHS IN THE NIGHT, HEAD UNDER WATER and HEDDA, Andreas Kleinert has now turned his attention in his latest feature film to the life of the late German writer, poet, dramatist and filmmaker Thomas Brasch, whose texts about love, political revolt and death are in high esteem to this day.

LIEBER THOMAS shows the life and dreams of a man for whom every world was always too small, someone who overcame boundaries and caused damage in the process. Shot in b&w by Kleinert's regular collaborator Johann Feindt, the film lets the audience re-discover an artist who embodied the rift between the two Germanies like few before or after him.

**GENRE** Biopic **CATEGORY** Feature **DIRECTOR** Andreas Kleinert **SCREENPLAY** Thomas Wendrich **CAST** Albrecht Schuch, Peter Kremer, Jella Haase, Jörg Schüttauf, Anja Schneider, Joel Basman, Iona Jacob, Paula Hans **PRODUCERS** Michael Souvignier, Till Derenbach **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Zeitsprung Pictures, in association with NDR, BR, WDR, ARTE **LANGUAGE** German

### SALES

The Match Factory  
info@matchfactory.de  
www.the-match-factory.com



© Akzente Film &amp; Fernsehproduktion/Warner Bros. Ent.

## MEIN SOHN

Love and loss are in close proximity in Lena Stahl's feature debut about a teenager and his mother setting off on a journey together after they almost lost one another.

The tragicomic and emotionally gripping story features Jonas Dassler, star of Fatih Akin's THE GOLDEN GLOVE and Lars Kraume's THE SILENT REVOLUTION, as the title character opposite Anke Engelke (DEUTSCHLAND 86) as his mother who decides to take her son's fate into her own hands after he is seriously injured in a skateboard accident and bring him to a rehab clinic in Switzerland. However, long-forgotten conflicts and painful memories start coming to the surface during the journey through Germany as mother and son clash over his desire for a life with more freedom and independence...

**GENRE** Drama, Road Movie **CATEGORY** Feature **DIRECTOR** Lena Stahl **SCREENPLAY** Lena Stahl **CAST** Anke Engelke, Jonas Dassler, Hannah Herzprung, Karsten Antonio Mielke, Max Hopp **PRODUCER** Miriam Düssel **PRODUCTION COMPANIES** Akzente Film, Warner Bros. Film Productions Germany **LANGUAGE** German

### SALES

Beta Cinema  
beta@betacinema.com  
www.betacinema.com



© Franziska Stünkel

## NAHSCHUSS

This movie is inspired by the life of Dr. Werner Teske, who was sentenced to death 1981 in former East Germany. Teske was executed shortly after the trial with a bullet to the back of the neck. It was the last execution in the GDR.

NAHSCHUSS tells the story of Franz Walter, a recent PhD graduate in engineering, who is made an offer he cannot refuse by the State Security's overseas espionage service. Franz is charged with helping prepare for the upcoming Soccer World Cup. A fan of the so-called "Beautiful Game", he is lured by the authorities' carrot of a professorship. Totally enthused, Franz pledges himself to unqualified loyalty to the system, which quickly brings him into conflict, however, with his wife, his friends and family – and his own morality.

**GENRE** Drama **CATEGORY** Feature **DIRECTOR** Franziska Stünkel **SCREENPLAY** Franziska Stünkel **CAST** Lars Eidinger, Devid Striesow, Luise Heyer **PRODUCERS** Bettina Wente, Wolfgang Cimera, Georg Voskort, Frank W. Mähr, Frank Nitz, Oliver Hack **PRODUCTION COMPANIES** Network Movie, Franks Filmproduktion, C-Films (Deutschland), in co-production with ZDF, ARTE **LANGUAGE** German

### SALES

Global Screen – a brand of Telepool  
info@globalscreen.de  
www.globalscreen.de



© Alejandra Aguirre

## OLIVGRÜN

OLIVGRÜN (translation: "Olive Green") accompanies the guerrillas of the Colombian FARC-EP through the peace process and the transition from war to an uncertain civilian life. The FARC-EP (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia—Ejército del Pueblo/Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia—People's Army) was founded in 1964 and was, until it handed over its weapons, the oldest guerrilla movement in the Western hemisphere. The peace agreement might have ended a civil war that lasted fifty-two years, but the reasons for its outbreak remained unaddressed by it.

**CATEGORY** Documentary **DIRECTOR** Tonio David Hecker **PRODUCER** Patrick Schorn **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie Berlin (DFFB), in co-production with Friendship Films **LANGUAGE** Spanish

### CONTACT

DFFB  
p.palmer@dffb.de  
www.dffb.de



© Wild Bunch Germany

## DIE PFEFFERKÖRNER UND DER SCHATZ DER TIEFSEE

12-year-old Emily is holidaying with her friend Tarun in Northern Ireland when a simple summer turns into a big adventure! Tarun's mother Jaswinder, an oceanographer, is attacked by a thief: her top secret files are in danger and she doesn't seem to be telling the kids the whole truth. Back in Germany, there is a mysterious encounter at the Baltic Sea with a waste handler who seems to know more about her research than she realized. Events escalate when Jaswinder vanishes from the research ship one night. The kids realize fast that more than one person has good reason to kidnap her. Even the local fishermen have few good words to say about her. And then there are also Jaswinder's two research assistants, who have been behaving very strangely lately.

**GENRE** Children & Youth, Family Entertainment **CATEGORY** Feature **DIRECTOR** Christian Theede **SCREENPLAY** Dirk Ahner, Christian Theede **CAST** Emilia, Caspar, Leander, Charlotte, Meriam Abbas, Max Riemelt, Sonja Gerhardt, Heino Ferch, Linda Madita, David Bredin, Anna Böttcher, Jens Münchow, Inga Busch, Katja Danowski, Mounir Bahla **PRODUCERS** Michael Lehmann, Holger Ellermann **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Letterbox Filmproduktion, in co-production with Nordfilm, NDR, Wild Bunch Germany **LANGUAGE** German

### SALES

Global Screen – a brand of Telepool  
info@globalscreen.de  
www.globalscreen.de



© Puria Safary

## ROCCOS REISE

Actors Frederick Lau (VICTORIA) and Kida Khodr Ramadan (4 BLOCKS) joined forces to co-direct the Berlin noir drama ROCCOS REISE. Filmed entirely on an iPhone and also including cameo appearances by many well-known German actors, PANTALEON's first Original Movie also features Lau in the lead role of Rocco as he embarks on his last journey in this life. A never-ending chapter of hardship as well as a traumatic childhood force Rocco to part company with his possessions and achieve a sense of closure with certain points in his life.

At the end of the film, Rocco appears to find peace at his parents' grave, but has he in fact been dead the whole time?

**GENRE** Berlin Noir **CATEGORY** Feature **DIRECTORS** Frederick Lau, Kida Khodr Ramadan **SCREENPLAY** Nana Heymann **CAST** Frederick Lau, Palina Rojinski, Peri Baumeister, Annika Lau, Herbert Knaup, Samuel Finzi, Olli Schulz, Axel Milberg, Sabin Tambrea, Maximilian Mauff, Ludwig Trepte, Leonard Kunz, Burak Yigit, Kadir Amigo Memis, Momo Ramadan, Baz Lau **PRODUCERS** Kida Khodr Ramadan, Frederick Lau, Dan Maag **PRODUCTION COMPANY** PANTALEON Films **LANGUAGE** German

### CONTACT

PANTALEON Films  
info@pantaleonfilms.com  
www.pantaleonfilms.com



© STUDIOCANAL/Julia Terjung

## SCHACHNOVELLE

SCHACHNOVELLE sees director Philipp Stözl interpreting Stefan Zweig's timeless literature classic. The famous story of the man who survives captivity and mental torture with the help of a chess book becomes an intense game of deception in the new adaptation. Vienna, 1938: Austria is occupied by the Nazi regime. The lawyer Bartok is arrested and taken to the Hotel Metropol, the Gestapo's headquarters, shortly before he can flee with his wife to the USA. As an asset manager for the nobility, he should now provide the local Gestapo chief Böhm with access to the accounts. But Bartok is sent to solitary confinement since he refuses to cooperate. He remains steadfast for weeks and months but becomes increasingly desperate – until he chances upon a chess book.

**GENRE** Drama, History, Literature **CATEGORY** Feature **DIRECTOR** Philipp Stözl **SCREENPLAY** Eldar Grigorian **CAST** Oliver Masucci, Albrecht Schuch, Birgit Minichmayr, Rolf Lassgard, Samuel Finzii **PRODUCERS** Philipp Worm, Tobias Walker **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Walker+Worm Film, in co-production with Dor Film, STUDIOCANAL Film **LANGUAGE** German

### SALES

STUDIOCANAL  
yvonne.kretzschmar@studiocanal.de  
www.studiocanal.de



© Conny Klein/PROVOBIS

## EIN SOMMER

Ebba, a woman in the 'best years', abandons her well-ordered life and marriage to join a traveling circus along Poland's Baltic Sea coast, performing as a bear! The experience of this transformation as well as an affair with the ringmaster confront her with disturbing questions: Does she want her husband back? Does she want her life back? It takes literally slipping into a bear's skin for Ebba to recognize her own strength and the value that she gains from it.

**GENRE** Coming-of-Age Story **CATEGORY** TV Movie  
**DIRECTOR** Dustin Loose **SCREENPLAY** Beate Langmaack **CAST** Iris Berben, Peter Mygind, Rainer Bock, Leslie Malton, Martin Brambach **PRODUCER** Jens C. Susa **PRODUCTION COMPANIES** PROVOBIS Film, ARD Degeto **LANGUAGE** German

### CONTACT

PROVOBIS Film  
 susa@provobis.de  
 www.provobis.de



© Lailaps Pictures

## WILD REPUBLIC

Shooting is underway at locations in NRW, Bavaria and South Tyrol until July 2020 for the eight-part high-end adventure series, WILD REPUBLIC, which is being directed by the Student Oscar®-winner Lennart Ruff and Markus Goller.

Described as a "*Lord of the Flies* set in the mountains", the series centers on a group of young offenders taking part in a rehabilitation program trekking through the Alps as an alternative to being sent to prison. When one of the program's leaders is found murdered, the group is initially confronted with a dilemma since they have little faith in receiving fair treatment from the authorities and justice system – until they decide to press ahead up into the mountains. When they find seemingly abandoned caves, they establish their own independent wild republic.

**GENRE** Action, Adventure, Coming-of-Age Story, Drama, Thriller, Crime **CATEGORY** Series **DIRECTORS** Markus Goller, Lennart Ruff **SCREENPLAY** Jan Martin Scharf, Arne Nolting, Klaus Wolfertstetter **CAST** Emma Drogunova, Merlin Rose, Rouven Israel, Béla Gabor Lenz, Maria Dragus, Camille Dombrowsky, Aaron Altaras, Verena Alterberger, Ulrich Tukur **PRODUCER** Nils Dünker **PRODUCTION COMPANY** Lailaps Pictures, in co-production with X Filme Creative Pool, Handwritten Pictures **LANGUAGE** German

### SALES

Beta Film  
 beta@betafilm.com  
 www.betafilm.com



# GFAQ is also available online!



## [www.germanfilmsquarterly.de](http://www.germanfilmsquarterly.de)

Specially designed for desktop and mobile devices,  
to keep you informed on all the latest German films  
and filmmakers, and a whole lot more!

# GERMAN FILMS SERVICE + MARKETING



is the national information and advisory center for the promotion of German films worldwide. It was established in 1954 under the name Export-Union of German Cinema as the umbrella association for the Association of German Feature Film Producers, the Association of New German Feature Film Producers and the Association of German Film Exporters, and operates today in the legal form of a limited company. In 2004, the company was reorganized and now operates under the name: German Films Service + Marketing GmbH.

**SHAREHOLDERS** are the German Producers Guild, the German Producers Alliance, the Association of German Film Exporters, the German Federal Film Board (FFA), the Deutsche Kinemathek, the German Documentary Association, FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, and the German Short Film Association.

German Films' budget of presently €4.8 million comes from film export levies, the office of the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, and the FFA. The eight main regional film funds (FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, HessenFilm, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, MFG Baden-Württemberg, Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, and Nordmedia) make a financial contribution towards the work of German Films.

German Films is a founding member of the European Film Promotion, a network of European film organizations with similar responsibilities to those of German Films. The organization, with its headquarters in Hamburg, aims to develop and realize joint projects for the presentation of European films on an international level.

In association and cooperation with its shareholders, German Films works to promote feature, documentary, television and short films.

In addition, German Films has foreign representatives for Eastern Europe and China/Southeast Asia.

## SUPERVISORY BOARD

**Peter Herrmann** Chairman  
**Peter Dinges**  
**Antonio Exacoustos**  
**Manuela Kehlenbach**  
**Kirsten Niehuus**  
**Sabine Pollmeier**

## TEAM

**Simone Baumann** Managing Director  
**Johanna Buse** Regional Coordinator: Southern Europe & Latin America  
**Christine Harrasser** Press & PR, Television  
**Angela Hawkins** Communications & Marketing  
**Anne Heidebrecht** Distribution Support & German Films Previews  
**Nicole Kaufmann** Regional Coordinator: USA, UK & Northern Europe  
**Dennis Ruh** Festival Relations  
**Fides Schäffer** Regional Coordinator: Asia & Australia, Subtitling Support  
**Martin Scheuring** Project Coordinator & Short Film  
**Andrea Schiefer** Head of Administration, Strategic Development  
**Sabrina Schrödl** Assistant to the Managing Director  
**Bernhard Simek** Regional Coordinator: Eastern Europe, Documentary Film  
**Chen Zhang** Accounts

## RANGE OF ACTIVITIES

- Close cooperation with major international film festivals, including Berlin, Cannes, Venice, San Sebastian, Locarno, Sundance, Karlovy Vary, Toronto, New York, Shanghai, Warsaw, Moscow, and Busan
- Publication of informational literature about current German films and the German film industry, as well as international market analyses and special festival brochures
- Organization of umbrella stands for German sales companies and producers at international television and film markets
- A website ([www.german-films.de](http://www.german-films.de)) offering information about new German films, a film archive, information and links to German and international film festivals and institutions
- Staging of Festivals of German Films in selected international territories in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut
- Organization of the selection procedure for the German entry for the Oscar® for Best International Feature Film
- Staging of industry screenings in key international territories
- Organization of the German Films Previews geared toward arthouse distributors and buyers of German films
- Providing advice and information for representatives of the international press and buyers from the fields of cinema, home entertainment, and television
- Selective financial Distribution Support for the foreign releases of German films
- Providing advice and information for German filmmakers and press on international festivals, conditions of participation, and German films being shown
- Organization with UniFrance of the annual German-French film meeting
- Organization of the annual Next Generation Short Tiger short film program, which presents a selection of shorts and is internationally premiered in Cannes
- Presentation of the annual FACE TO FACE WITH GERMAN FILMS campaign which shines a spotlight on some of the most influential German talents currently working in the industry, who represent just some of the many dynamic 'faces' of German filmmaking today.


**Allianz Deutscher Produzenten – Film & Fernsehen e.V.**  
**German Producers Alliance**

Kronenstr. 3 | 10117 Berlin/Germany  
 phone +49-30-2 06 70 88 0 | fax +49-30-2 06 70 88 44 | info@produzentenallianz.de | www.produzentenallianz.de


**Arbeitsgemeinschaft Dokumentarfilm e.V.**  
**German Documentary Association**

Schweizer Str. 6 | 60594 Frankfurt am Main/Germany  
 phone +49-69-62 37 00 | fax +49-61 42-96 64 24 | agdok@agdok.de | www.agdok.de


**Arbeitsgemeinschaft Kurzfilm e.V.**  
**German Short Film Association**

Förstereistr. 36 | 01099 Dresden/Germany  
 phone +49-3 51-4 04 55 75 | fax +49-3 51-4 04 55 76 | info@ag-kurzfilm.de | www.ag-kurzfilm.de


**Deutsche Kinemathek**  
**Museum für Film und Fernsehen**

Potsdamer Str. 2 | 10785 Berlin/Germany  
 phone +49-30-30 09 03-0 | fax +49-30-30 09 03-13 | info@deutsche-kinemathek.de | www.deutsche-kinemathek.de


**FilmFernsehFonds Bayern GmbH**  
**Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Medien in Bayern**

Sonnenstr. 21 | 80331 Munich/Germany  
 phone +49-89-54 46 02-0 | fax +49-89-54 46 02 21 | filmfoerderung@fff-bayern.de | www.fff-bayern.de


**Filmförderungsanstalt**  
**German Federal Film Board**

Große Präsidentenstr. 9 | 10178 Berlin/Germany  
 phone +49-30-27 57 70 | fax +49-30-27 57 71 11 | info@ffa.de | www.ffa.de


**Film- und Medienstiftung NRW GmbH**

Kaistr. 14 | 40221 Düsseldorf/Germany  
 phone +49-2 11-93 05 00 | fax +49-2 11-93 05 05 | info@filmstiftung.de | www.filmstiftung.de


**Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg GmbH**

August-Bebel-Str. 26-53 | 14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg/Germany  
 phone +49-3 31-74 38 70 | fax +49-3 31-7 43 87 99 | info@medienboard.de | www.medienboard.de


**Produzentenverband e.V.**  
**German Producers Guild**

Häberstr. 5 | 80337 Munich/Germany | phone +49-89-22 84 50 45 | fax +49-89-12 19 76 03  
 mail@produzentenverband.de | www.produzentenverband.de


**Verband Deutscher Filmexporteure e.V. (VDFE)**  
**Association of German Film Exporters**

Robert-Koch-Str. 1 | 80538 Munich/Germany | Berlin office: Winterfeldtstr. 56 | 10781 Berlin/Germany  
 phone +49-173-577 08 38 | fax +49-89-57 08 77 60 | forster@forster-recht.de | www.vdfe.de


**Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien**  
**Federal Government Commissioner for Culture & the Media**

Potsdamer Platz 1 | 10785 Berlin/Germany | phone +49-30-18 68 10  
 K36@bkm.bund.de | www.kulturstaatsministerin.de



Filmförderung Hamburg  
 Schleswig-Holstein

**Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein GmbH**

Friedensallee 14–16 | 22765 Hamburg/Germany  
 phone +49-40-398 37-0 | fax +49-40-398 37-10 | info@ffhsh.de | www.ffhsh.de


**HessenFilm und Medien GmbH**

Am Steinernen Stock 1 | 60320 Frankfurt am Main/Germany  
 phone +49-69-15 32 404-0 | fax +49-69-15 32 404 99 | foerderung@hessenfilm.de | www.hessenfilm.de


**MFG Medien- und Filmgesellschaft Baden-Württemberg mbH**

Bereich Filmförderung | Breitscheidstr. 4 | 70174 Stuttgart/Germany  
 phone +49-7 11-90 71 54 00 | fax +49-7 11-90 71 54 50 | filmfoerderung@mfg.de | www.film.mfg.de



Mitteldeutsche  
 Medienförderung

**Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung GmbH**

Petersstr. 22-24 | 04109 Leipzig/Germany  
 phone +49-3 41-26 98 70 | fax +49-3 41-2 69 87 65 | info@mdm-online.de | www.mdm-online.de


**nordmedia – Film- und Mediengesellschaft Niedersachsen/Bremen mbH**

Expo Plaza 1 | 30539 Hannover/Germany  
 phone +49-5 11-1 23 45 60 | fax +49-5 11-12 34 56 29 | info@nordmedia.de | www.nordmedia.de

# ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN FILM EXPORTERS



## **Verband deutscher Filmexporteure e.V. (VD FE)**

Robert-Koch-Str. 1  
80538 Munich/Germany  
phone +49-173-577 08 38  
fax +49-89-570 877 60  
forster@forster-recht.de  
www.vdfe.de

Berlin office:  
Winterfeldtstr. 56  
10781 Berlin/Germany  
phone +49-30-8 61 23 93

## **ARRI Media International**

Türkenstr. 89  
80799 Munich/Germany  
phone +49-89-38 09 12 88  
fax +49-89-38 09 16 19  
worldsales@arri.de  
www.arrimedia.de/international

## **Global Screen - a brand of Telepool GmbH**

Sonnenstr. 21  
80331 Munich/Germany  
phone +49-89-24 41 29 55 00  
fax +49-89-55 87 61 91 06  
info@globalscreen.de  
www.globalscreen.de

## **Beta Cinema GmbH**

Grünwalder Weg 28d  
82041 Oberhaching/Germany  
phone +49-89-6 73 46 98 28  
beta@betacinema.com  
www.betacinema.com

## **Media Luna New Films UG**

Kaiser-Wilhelm-Ring 38, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
50672 Cologne/Germany  
phone +49-221-51 09 18 91  
fax +49-221-51 09 18 99  
info@medialuna.biz  
www.medialuna.biz

## **Constantin Film Verleih GmbH**

Feilitzschstr. 6  
80802 Munich/Germany  
phone +49-89-44 44 60 0  
fax +49-89-44 44 60 666  
zentrale@constantin.film  
www.constantin-film.de

## **Picture Tree International GmbH**

Husemannstr. 7  
10435 Berlin/Germany  
phone +49-30-420 824 80  
fax +49-30-420 824 812  
pti@picturetree-international.com  
www.picturetree-international.com

## **Films Boutique GmbH**

Köpenicker Str. 184  
10997 Berlin/Germany  
phone +49-30-69 53 78 50  
contact@filmsboutique.com  
www.filmsboutique.com

## **SOLA Media GmbH**

Rotebühlplatz 29  
70178 Stuttgart/Germany  
phone +49-7 11-96 89 44 40  
fax +49-7 11-96 89 44 51  
post@sola-media.com  
www.sola-media.com

**GERMAN FILMS QUARTERLY IS PUBLISHED BY****German Films Service + Marketing GmbH**

Herzog-Wilhelm-Str. 16

80331 Munich/Germany

phone +49-89-5 99 78 70

fax +49-89-59 97 87 30

info@german-films.de

www.german-films.de

ISSN 1614-6387

Credits are not contractual for any of the films mentioned in this publication.

© German Films Service + Marketing GmbH

All rights reserved. No reproduction, copy or transmission of this publication may be made without written permission.

**Editor**

Angela Hawkins

**Contributors**

Martin Blaney, Christoph Gröner, Patrick Heidmann, Simon Kingsley, Alexandra Zawia

**Translations**

Lucinda Rennison

**Cover**

Jonas Dassler (© Stefan Klüter)

**Design & Art Direction**Werner Schauer [www.triptychon.biz](http://www.triptychon.biz)**Printing Office**[www.esta-druck.de](http://www.esta-druck.de)**FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES****China**

Anke Redl

phone +86 13601355919

redl@german-films.de

**Eastern Europe**

Marcel Maïga

phone +49-176-38 84 56 72

maïga@german-films.de



German Films supports the use of paper from sustainable forestry. The pages of this magazine are made of PEFC certified cellulose. PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes) is the largest independent organization worldwide for securing and continuously improving a sustainable forest management and it guarantees ecological, social and economic standards. Currently there are 265 million hectares of PEFC certificated forest worldwide.

Scan here to visit our GFQ website



# OPENING THE DOORS TO GERMAN CINEMA



EUROPEAN  
FILM MARKET

eFM

20-27 FEB 2020

German Films at the European Film Market 2020 · Gropius Bau · Stand 17 · phone +49-30-780 956 415



german  
● ● ●  
films