ESCAPE TO BORKUM

by Jörg Steineck







SYNOPSIS

Escape to Borkum tells the story of my father, Ingomar Steineck, whose privileged German childhood in Stryków, Poland, abruptly comes to an end with the final phase of the Second World War.

Together with his mother and sister, he is forced to flee, spending nearly two years as a refugee while travelling through a collapsing post-war Europe. The family finally reaches Borkum, a remote island in the North Sea, where they are housed in a refugee accommodation in a former naval barracks.

For the boy, still marked by the experiences of the previous two years, nature, school, friendships and the freedom to explore the remnants of the recent past offer a radically different childhood from the one he had known before, gradually creating a sense of normality in a world still profoundly shaped by war.

The film follows the story beyond the flight itself, tracing the family's years on Borkum and my father's gradual transition into a new life. Decades later, he reflects on his childhood, his...

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Jörg Steineck

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

With Escape to Borkum, I wanted to explore the experience of displacement not through the distant lens of historical documentation, but through the immediate and sensory perspective of a child.

This deeply personal film is based on the eyewitness account of my father, Ingomar Steineck, whose childhood was abruptly disrupted by the end of the Second World War and the nearly two-year flight that followed.

As a filmmaker drawn to deceleration and immersion, I wanted to give these memories time and space to unfold. The challenge was to reconstruct the world my father experienced - a world he

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82 min

FORMAL CATEGORIES
Coming of Age, History, Migration, POV, War/Peace

CONTENT CATEGORIES
Author's film, Educational film, Essay, Hybrid

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES
German

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COPRODUCTION COMPANY
I'm Filming Productions