



# LIKAY STAR - FROM THE JUNGLE TO THE THAI OPERA

by Marco Wilms



## SYNOPSIS

Jungle child Manop is nine years old and dreams of becoming a star in Thailand's most popular folk opera LIKAY. He lives among the elephants in the middle of the jungle near the remote border to Burma, and performs in the LIKAY children's group in his village school. Manop is a Burmese refugee. He does not have a Thai passport, is not allowed to leave his village and will not receive a school report despite his diligence. Manop's mother cleans the school for free so her son may attend. The family live in the school's converted chicken coop. Because he wants nothing more than to perform LIKAY, Manop writes a letter to Thailand's LIKAY superstar Chaiya Mitchai, asking him if he may perform once in his show. When Chaiya Mitchai actually invites him, Manop is allowed to leave the border region for the first time and embark upon a great adventure. He meets Chaiya in a luxurious hotel in Pattaya, is allowed to rehearse with him, and wins over the hearts of the Mitchai LIKAY...

## CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Marco Wilms · SCREENPLAY Marlen Burghardt ·  
EDITOR Christian R. Timmann · DOP Max Preiss, Marco Wilms

Germany 2013

74 min

### FORMAL CATEGORIES

Arts/Culture, Migration, Music

### ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

German, English, French

### PREMIERE

Germany (2013)

### COPRODUCTION COMPANY

[HELDENFILM](#)

Berlin

Germany

[office@heldenfilm.de](mailto:office@heldenfilm.de)

<http://www.heldenfilm.de>