



# MY WONDERFUL WEST BERLIN

by Jochen Hick



## SYNOPSIS

Today's hip image of Berlin is based on the city's vibrant and subversive subcultures, which originally emerged within the grey walls surrounding West Berlin. The queer scene played a major role in creating that subculture, with its sexual diversity and its wild and unconstrained party culture, ranging from the notorious Berghain club to CSD. Many of the scene's actors, such as the Gay Museum, the Teddy Award, AIDS help organizations, and the queer magazine Siegestsäule originated before 1989. Yet gays in West Berlin suffered greatly under an incongruous provision in German law – the infamous 'Paragraph 175' – that made homosexual acts between men a crime up until its reform in 1969.

Raids and arrests in bars were common, yet ultimately failed in suppressing gay life in West Berlin. Instead, the city turned into a gay capital. The late seventies in particular were a period of great sexual and political freedoms and more intense social intermingling between the gay-,...

## FESTIVALS

Berlinale, Pink Apple Zürich, DocAviv, InsideOut, Schwule Filmtage Freiburg, Mixmilano, Ciclo Rosa Bogotá, MIXCopenhagen, Oslo/Fusion, Mixbrasil, Rainbow Visions Edmonton, Firenze Queer FF, Twist FF Seattle, Fringe FF London, Mardi Gras FF Sidney, Roze Filmdagen Amsterdam, LGBT FF Valencia, Sunny Bunny FF Kiev, Mix Mexico u.v.a.

## CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Jochen Hick

2017

97 min

### FORMAL CATEGORIES

Biographie/Portrait, Gender, History, Conflicts, Human Rights, Politics, Social issues

### ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

German

### PREMIERE

Germany (2017)

### PRODUCTION COMPANY

**GALERIA ALASKA**

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