



PRETZELS, POLKA AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

by Hanni Welter



SYNOPSIS

“At the very beginning it was almost 100 % German, aber jetzt ham wir schon viel Ausländer [english: but meanwhile we have a lot of foreigners here],” tells Diane Moltz from New Braunfels, TX. The small town was founded 150 years ago by German immigrants, just like many other cities in central Texas. The documentary “Pretzels, Polka and The Pursuit Of Happiness” takes a German journey through Texas. The film presents modern Americans of German descent. Four pairs of protagonists introduce us to an environment that seems stunningly German. In the Lone Star State, tacos, chips, and barbecue exist alongside sweet pretzels and stollen. People sing German songs, celebrate Oktoberfests, and wear Dirndls and Lederhosn. Cowboys with German surnames use wild game to make traditional German sausage. Some represent a generation of Texans who spoke German as a first language and proudly maintain the language and traditions, even as they remain staunch American patriots. The film...

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Hanni Welter · PRODUCER Alex Weimer · DOP Hanni Welter, Matthias Gehret

Germany 2008

83 min

FORMAL CATEGORIES

Migration

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

German, English

PREMIERE

Germany (2008)

PRODUCTION COMPANY

[MovieBrats Films & Animation](#)

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FILM LOCATION

USA