

# SO CLOSE AND YET SO FAR

by Helmut Schulzeck



## SYNOPSIS

The film SO CLOSE AND YET SO FAR (German title: Meine ferne Familie) is an autobiographical documentary about the director, Helmut Schulzeck and his relationship with Papa Wangechi, the director's Kenyan father-in-law and his family. It shows in particular their understandings of each other despite cultural backgrounds as distant and as different from each other as those of Germany and Kenya. And the film reveals the difficulties that arise from these differences relentlessly. Papa and his family have a number of things not only to wish for but even to claim from Helmut. And Helmut wants to be a fully-fledged member of his in-laws. The film is a documentary about mutual otherness which despite an honest appreciation and curiosity for each other seems to be only partially surmountable. Almost every year around Christmas Helmut and his wife Wagenchi spend a few weeks in Kenya to celebrate the festive season and to visit their children as well as the in-laws. Several years ago...

## CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Helmut Schulzeck · SCREENPLAY Helmut Schulzeck ·  
 SOUND Hans Albrecht Lusznat, Helmut Schulzeck · EDITOR  
 Ceasar Nyumba Lovejoy · DOP Hans Albrecht Lusznat

Kenya, Germany 2011

87 min

### FORMAL CATEGORIES

Migration, POV

### ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

German

### PREMIERE

Germany (2011)

### PRODUCTION COMPANY

[Helmut Schulzeck](#)

Filmproduktion

Herzog-Friedrich-Str. 79

24103 Kiel

Germany

[hschulzeck@freenet.de](mailto:hschulzeck@freenet.de)

<http://www.schulzeck.agdok.de>

### SUPPORTED BY

Filmförderung Hamburg

Schleswig Holstein GmbH

Friedensallee 14-16

22765 Hamburg

Germany

[webmaster@ffhsh.de](mailto:webmaster@ffhsh.de)

<http://www.ffhsh.de/>

### FILM LOCATION

Kenya