

# SPK COMPLEX

by Gerd Kroske



## SYNOPSIS

In 1970, Dr. Wolfgang Huber and a group of patients founded the anti-psychiatric (Sozialistische PatientenKollektiv - SPK) 'Socialist Patient's Collective' in Heidelberg. Controversial therapy methods, political demands, and a massive interest in the movement from patients deeply distrustful of conventional "custodial psychiatry," led to run-ins with the University of Heidelberg and local authorities. The conflict quickly escalated and resulted in the radicalization of the SPK. Their experiment in group therapy ultimately ended in arrests, prison, and the revocation of Huber's license to practice medicine.

From a historical perspective, the SPK court cases seem to anticipate the Stammheim trials, with the exclusion of defense attorneys, the total non-compliance of the defendants, and harsh penalties for both Huber and his wife. The severity of the sentences handed down appears hardly proportional to the actual deeds of the accused. The allegation of having supported the RAF,...

## FESTIVALS

68th Berlinale 48th FORUM

15th dokumentarfilmwoche hamburg 2018

33rd DOK.fest Munich

## CAST AND CREW

**DIRECTOR** Gerd Kroske · **SCORE** Klaus Janek · **SOUND** Johannes Schmelzer-Zieringer, Benedikt Gaussling, Malte Audick · **EDITOR** Olaf Voigtländer, Stephan Krumbiegel · **DOP** Susanne Schüle, Anne Misselwitz · **SOUND DESIGN** Volker Zeigermann (Zeigermann\_Audio GmbH)

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**ORIGINAL TITLE**  
SPK COMPLEX

**FORMAL CATEGORIES**  
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**ORIGINAL LANGUAGES**  
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Berlin, Germany (2018)

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Germany, Italy

**LINKS / REFERENCE**  
**PRODUKTION:**  
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