



Arbeitsgemeinschaft
Dokumentarfilm
German Documentary
Association

Dearest readers and users of this catalogue,

there's life in the old dog yet!

This is especially true of the "german documentaries" catalogue, which after more than ten editions had become a tradition. When we announced one year ago that beginning in 2009 it would no longer appear in printed form but only online at www.german-documentaries.de, we had not reckoned with the ongoing fascination of the printed word and image. You, the users of this brochure, convinced us that the printed era has not yet come to an end. Amidst the hustle and bustle of a market, the printed catalogue still proves irreplaceable for quickly looking up a film title, gaining an overview of a favourite subject matter, or in a pinch, even tearing out a page or two to read later.

So here it is in its old familiar form with its customary classifications, only somewhat more comprehensive. "german documentaries 2009" is bursting with 160 new German documentaries, some even brand new. Like its predecessors, this year's edition includes films finished during the past year and right up to this year's Berlinale. As you can see, that's quite a few.

Once again, our editor Ingrid Molnar has made finding the films you are looking for easy. The brochure features a detailed index with all the important keywords from the international documentary film world. The wealth of subject matter is proof of the breadth of German documentaries, whose reputation abroad has been growing from year to year. Our colleagues have filmed in locations ranging from outer space to the ocean depths on subjects spanning the past to the future. Our documentary filmmakers shy away from nothing human, especially not the inexhaustible

field of interpersonal relationships. And this year, as is to be expected in Germany, numerous films deal with the darkest reaches of our country's Nazi past.

Many of the films listed here premiered at major international festivals, and some of them have won prizes at home and abroad. This, too, might be an incentive for you to request some of the films in the catalogue, to view them, to use them and maybe even to buy them. Our brochure "german documentaries" is intended as a guide to help navigate you through the German documentary film landscape. We, the independent writers, directors, and producers who have joined together in the German Documentary Association, are continually lobbying for the documentary film genre at home and abroad. Thanks to the financial assistance of "german films," the national information and advisory centre for the promotion of German films worldwide, we have been able to help guide not only our films, but also their filmmakers and producers on their way into the international marketplace and networks.

This catalogue is one stone in the mosaic which reflects all our efforts. The website www.german-documentaries.de, mentioned above, will go into full operation this year, is another. Take a look from time to time – at this catalogue and at the new website, and of course at the German documentaries themselves. Your time will be graciously rewarded!

With kind regards,
Thomas Frickel
Chairman & Managing Director of AG DOK
German Documentary Association

24h BERLIN A Day in the Life

by Volker Heise

BERLIN | DAILY LIFE | CITIES | PORTRAIT



Berlin has an unstable history, was the Reich's capital, became a landscape of rubble, a border town, a divided and finally a reunited city. Today, Berlin is still a city of contradictions, always in search of its identity.

"24h Berlin" portrays a day in the life of one of the most loved European metropolises, 20 years after the Wall came down. One whole day in the life of a city and its inhabitants experienced and shot, by professionals and amateurs, planned and spontaneous. One year later broadcast on TV – again for 24 hours, without interruption, in conjunction with a website, events and a digital archive for the future: on September 5th, 2009 the world watches Berlin going about its daily life.

"24h Berlin" is a 24 hour-long documentary tale rethinking the possibilities of television.

German title: **24h BERLIN – Ein Tag im Leben**
24hrs | 16:9 | HD | German with English subtitles

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24 HOURS SCHLESISCHES TOR BERLIN

by Eva Lia Reinegger and Anna de Paoli

WORK | BERLIN | CITIES | SOCIAL | DAILY LIFE

"Schlesisches Tor" in Kreuzberg is one of the most lively places in Berlin. A small film team stays in the area for 24 hours, – from Friday 6am to Saturday 6am – to talk to people passing by. The result is a filmic document about love and friendship, work and children, loneliness and history in the year 2007.



German title: **24 STUNDEN SCHLESISCHES TOR**
55min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German/English version with German and English subtitles available

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ABOUT PAUL

by Susanne A. Homann

FILM | PORTRAIT | ADVENTURE | NATURE | CULTURE | CONFLICTS



A portrait of the turbulent life of the now 80-year-old director, cinematographer and film pioneer N. Paul Kenworthy Jr. Among his many accomplishments, Paul Kenworthy conceived and filmed the OSCAR award-winning classic Disney film *The Living Desert* in 1953.

In 1977, he was recognized by the Academy in Los Angeles for the unprecedented development and implementation of the Snorkel Camera – an innovation still in use today, 50 years later.

The film gives Paul a chance to have his say and keenly narrate his life story: from his first steps career-wise to conflicts, dreams, failures and rising up again, right down to the retrospective balance – a life between a Hollywood career and modesty, between glamour and a passion for nature, between achieved and unachieved goals.

Festivals: Camerimage
57min | DigiBeta | DVD |
original version with German voice over and German subtitles, English version with English voice over available

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A LIFE BEGINS ... Understanding and nurturing baby's development

by Heike Mundzeck and Holger Braack

SOCIAL | HUMAN INTEREST | FAMILY

This documentary film begins with the creation of the bond between parents and baby that is so important throughout our lives, and then shows how a child's independence develops and can be fostered as he or she grows. Using concrete examples, we are told what babies need and how parents can recognise and understand their signals; the ways in which even tiny babies learn, and all the things a child can manage without help, once the right time has come. Of course, none of this happens without some stress and conflicts. The film therefore tackles problems with crying, sleeping and feeding, expert answers are provided to questions about toys and non-parental supervision, and it is explained to parents and carers that they must accept and satisfy their own needs for quiet and occasional recreation. First and foremost, however, the film encourages new and expectant parents to embark on the adventure of family life with all its joys and crises, being assured that it is one of the finest and most exciting of human experiences to have children and to see them growing towards maturity.



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German title: **EIN LEBEN BEGINNT ... Babys Entwicklung verstehen und foedern**
92min + 54min interviews of parents | DVD | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German version, others on request.

ANOTHER GLORIOUS DAY based on "The Brig", performed by The Living Theatre

by Karin Kaper & Dirk Szuszi

THEATRE | WAR&PEACE | POLITICS

"The Brig" is an act of rebellion. The founders of The Living Theatre, Judith Malina and Julian Beck, were among the initiators New York's first General Strike for Peace in May 1963. It follows that they were the ones to take up ex-marine Kenneth Brown's manuscript and bring it to the stage in 1964. The viewer becomes a part of a claustrophobic world where there is no escape from the intrinsic violence. The Living Theatre, with their moving attack against a sacred institution like the Marines, became public enemies for American Officialdom. In Europe they found a second home especially in the Berlin Akademie der Kuenste in the 1960s. In 2007, the Living Theatre decided to revisit The Brig to protest against any form of violent governance, a sad fact that has not changed in the intervening decades. The new production struck a nerve in the present day and won at the New York Obie Awards for group and direction. The European premiere on 30. April 2008, was the opportunity to capture the present strength of the piece and to document its historical meaning. The film directors are able to show the inner life of the group. These views are built into the filmed representation of the piece at interval in order to give the viewer other modes of observation. The original music and sound designs from Patrick Grant expand the sensory impact in a way that goes far beyond simple documentary.

90min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | DVD | original English version with German subtitles available



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AT SECOND GLANCE – SOCIAL CLUB BUENA VISTA

by Carsten Moeller

CULTURE | SOCIAL | MUSIC CUBA

The million-dollar success of Cuban music has turned the resonant name into a popular term used across the globe. But did the Social Club Buena Vista really exist? In the Oscar nominated music film from Wim Wenders, Compay Segundo searched for the club's building in front of the camera. To not avail. Was this place simply an urban myth? Two students started out on their own journey in search for the real club. But the passers-by in the Havana-center warn of the small afro-Cuban quarter in the offside of the metropolis.



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German title: **DER ZWEITE BLICK – SOCIAL CLUB BUENA VISTA**
Festivals: Leipzig, Santiago de Chile, Montréal, Leeds, Valdivia, Lisbon, Madrid a.o.
81min | HDCAM | English, Spanish, French, German versions

AUGUST BIER

The Surgeon Who Planted Trees and Invented the Steel Helmet

by Alma Barkey

HISTORY | SCIENE | ECOLOGY

At the center of our historical documentary stands the many-faceted personality of August Bier (1861-1949) director of the University Clinic for Surgery in Berlin, who was connected with important historical events during his long life. Bier was a man of many talents: an innovative surgeon, he discovered spinal anaesthesia in a self-experiment; he invented the steel helmet that protected innumerable soldiers from injury and death during World War I. He also pioneered in forestry, conducting "ecologically" sustainable experiments on his estate, where he transformed the local sand-and-pine steppe into a healthy mixed forest. Bier operated on prominent patients, such as Wilhelm II and President Ebert, who unfortunately died on his operating table. In our documentary we emphasize the contradictory personality of August Bier, who, despite his arch-conservative weltanschauung was able to assert innovative ideas in many areas.

German title: AUGUST BIER – DER CHIRURG, DER BAEUME PFLANZTE
58min | DigiBeta | color & b/w | original German version with English textlist available



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THE BALLAD OF JENNY G.

by Petra Weisenburger

PORTRAIT | WOMEN | DEFA-FILM | GERMAN-REUNIFICATION

Jenny Groellmann (1947-2006), often called the "Romy Schneider of the East", was one of the great character actors of the GDR, who, under other circumstances, would have entered into the annals of world cinema. But then came the Fall of the Wall and a reunified Germany trying to come to terms with an uncomfortable past, often craving scapegoats. Jenny soon found herself caught in the maelstrom of a ruthless media campaign that sought to denounce her as a Stasi informer. A witch-hunt began with the promotion of the film "The Lives of Others", starring her former husband Ulrich Muehe.* And. Jenny had cancer, and it was spreading. Jenny thus had two battles to wage. In the end she won one and lost the other. The Life and Death of a Star in the turning tides of two Germanies is also a film about Germany once a "land of poets and thinkers" but until this day strife-torn.

* Right before the release of "The Lives of Others" Ulrich Muehe, the star of the film, announced in an interview, without any evidence, that his former wife, Jenny Groellmann had collaborated with the Stasi, and he promised more "details" in the book on the film. On her deathbed, Jenny Groellmann fought against the subsequent media campaign and won all the ensuing court cases. The evidence concerning her past that I had come up with proved to be decisive. Nevertheless, more than two years after Jenny Groellmann's death a German magazine is preparing to take the case to the Supreme Court.

German title: **ICH WILL DA SEIN – JENNY GROELLMANN**
Festivals: Max Ophuels Preis, Sofia, Berlin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Ludwigshafen
96min | DVCAM onto 35mm | DigiBeta | DVD | color and b/w | original German version with English subtitles



Fotos by Michael Weidt

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BASTION OF SIN

by Thomas Lauterbach

WOMEN | RELIGION | MIGRATION

Aysel is a devout Muslim, who for many years has lived the well-protected life of a homemaker an mother in the Swabian province. When she learns that the Stuttgart state theatre is looking for Turkish amateur actresses for a performance of Euripides' MEDEA, she sees this as an opportunity to escape her monotonous day-to-day existence. What starts out as a change of scenery for Aysel increasingly challenges her view of the world. Family traditions, religion, the relationship between sexes are issues which she was able to evade successfully in her former life but which now become increasingly dominant and confusing. Of course, Aysel has no intention of allowing herself to be brainwashed and sees her part as that of an ambassador for good traditions and against monolithic stereotypes of the suppressed Turkish women, too. Being the only headscarf-wearing women in the chorus of the Turkish women, she must and will defend her values and lifestyle against others with more modern ideas, even against parts of the production. The work on the stage might be called a utopian situation: It's where extreme attitudes in all questions of existence, in the politics of thinking and feeling, including loving and hating, meet in order to coexist - in the ideal case, which is the goal, not the starting point. No one will emerge from this without injuries - catharsis is not a wellness without treatment.

German title: **HOCHBURG DER SUENDEN**
Festivals/Awards: DOK Leipzig/Golden Dove, Kassel, Mainz
78min | DigiBeta | PAL | original German/Turkish version with English subtitles available



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BEAUTY WITHIN US The Photographer Jock Sturges

by Christian Klinger and Thomas Tielsch

PORTRAIT | PHOTOGRAPHY

The American Jock Sturges is internationally considered one of the most important photographers working in portraiture. His enduring theme is girls from childhood and puberty up to early adulthood. The state of nudity that Jock Sturges photographs is not the nudity of being unclothed. His models are not disrobed; Sturges shows nakedness as a natural state. This is why he predominantly takes photographs where nudity might be called a natural condition: on the nudist beaches of Europe. Jock Sturges spends his summers here, has known many of his models and their families for years, and his photos are born of this intimacy. But although Jock Sturges pursues a classical aesthetic of beauty in his pictures, his work is nonetheless controversial since it touches upon a taboo subject: the erotic aura that children and teenagers sometimes exude. For this reason, Sturges has been charged in the USA as a child-pornographer, though not convicted, and in Europe, too, there have been problems when his pictures have been exhibited. A film about the beauty and the moral values we have within us. Featuring Jock Sturges, Carla van de Puttelaar and Jean-Christophe Ammann.

German titles: **DIE SCHOENHEIT IN UNS – Der Fotograf Jock Sturges**
52min | DigiBeta | HD | English, German version



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BERLIN PLAYGROUND

by Claudia Lehmann

GERMAN REUNIFICATION | MUSIC | BERLIN | PORTRAIT

It's been twenty years since the fall of the Berlin Wall and Hans Narva, or Torsten Mueller-Fornah according to his passport, is now 40 years of age. A musician and nostalgic anti-capitalist, he is every inch a Berlin institution. He has spent his entire life in East Berlin: the first half under socialism and the second half under capitalism. Although the centre of his world has not changed significantly since birth, he nonetheless now finds himself living in a completely different environment. At the age of 14 Hans was imprisoned for "seditious incitement to mutiny". Now, at forty, after two suspended sentences for driving without a licence, he finds himself once again before a court of law. In an attempt to get to the bottom of his evident problems in dealing with authority, he sets out with the filmmakers on a journey into his past – one that characterised by a complicated family background, the fall of the Wall, and Berlin's music scene. The music on the soundtrack of Hans' cinematic biography is partly of his own making and aptly reflects each phase of his life. Music is his refuge; it also provides a record of an era. The song "We're living in a Baksheesh Republic" which was penned by his own band, Herbst in Peking, was to become the anthem of the collapse of Communism. For a while his involvement with the Inchtobokatables helped saved his life, and his long-standing collaboration with Jens Friebe still endures today. The Crack-Up Collective was well known in Berlin's music scene in spite of the fact that the band has never signed a record deal. Hans spent most of last year with the band Hands-Up Excitement, who helped him kick off his 40th birthday party. This film provides an insight into the life of a real individualist. It follows Hans through Berlin as he retraces his steps in the East and the West in search of ideals, of a home, and the peaks in between the troughs that make up one's day-to-day existence in the big city.

German title: **HANS IM GLÜCK**
Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE
60min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available



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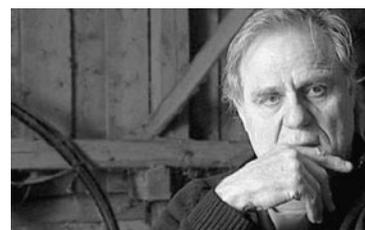
BIERBICHLER

by Regina Schilling

ARTS | CULTURE | FILM | PORTRAIT | THEATRE

For two years, Schilling accompanied this exceptional actor and interviewed some of his temporary companions such as Werner Herzog, Herbert Achternbusch and his lover Luisa Francia. Bierbichler openly talks about his love-hate relationship with the theatre, the origins and his longing for art, his inner conflict with being an actor and his search for new ways including singing Mahler and Eisler songs and writing a book. With diary-like video recordings, the film creates especially moving moments in which Bierbichler would never have accepted a camera team. Schilling succeeds in creating a complex portrait of a gentle berserk who filled the German stages and films with his uncanny, corporeal presence. A headstrong person who radically exposes himself and anarchically rages against the world.

Festivals: Hof
90min | 16:9 | DVCam | German version



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BERLIN – ECKE BUNDESPLATZ **Documenting more than twenty years**

by Detlef Gumm and Hans-Georg Ullrich

LONGTERM 1986-2008 | BERLIN | DAILY LIFE | SOCIAL | SOCIETY | SERIES

Detlef Gumm and Hans-Georg Ullrich began working on their long-term observational documentary BERLIN – ECKE BUNDESPLATZ twenty-four years ago. Their plan was to make a series of short and longer films documenting the fortunes of several inhabitants of an ordinary Berlin neighbourhood as they moved towards the year 2000. The protagonists were a typical cross-section of people living in an old quarter of West-Berlin, and so, in their film, widows, a high-flying lawyer, drop-outs, owners of small businesses and a single mother became chroniclers of their Wilmersdorf world.

These films are, like their authors and the people portrayed in the films, a part of this area of Berlin. BERLIN – ECKE BUNDESPLATZ is a declaration of love to generations of people who have never stopped struggling and dreaming.

Festivals: Berlinale / SPECIAL
5x90min | DigiBeta | 1:1,37 | color | German version with English subtitles available

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Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS

Marina Storbeck wanted to do everything differently than her mother. When she was 18 she fled from her stepfather and her broken home to lead her own life. She became a nurse and worked in this profession for five years. In 1983 her first child is born, Jasmin, a daughter. Then Sabrina in 1987 and Lukas in 1995. Three children from three different men. The unemployed nurse with her three children and a pack of dogs, who quite clearly is not coping and who lacks the energy to change her life. A unique documentary showing a recurring cycle within four generations of mothers and daughters.

German title. Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz: **MÜTTER UND TÖCHTER**



Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz THE DROPOUTS

Relates what has happened to the dreams and plans of the gay couple Reimer Lenz and Hans Ingebrand. One is a writer and master in the art of living, like Don Quixote always itching to provoke the powerful men in this world, but at the same time never losing sight of the spiritual sense of his own life; the other, a former policeman, who became an artist, a painter and who always supported his friend and partner in good and bad times. Till death doth do part them.

German title. Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz: **DIE AUSSTEIGER**



Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz IT IS BEAUTIFUL TO BE YOUNG

The widow Mrs. Tomaschefski who is over 90 and who still shovels the snow by hand in front of her house door because „one does that like that, from way back.“ During the last years of her life she was often supported by the male nurse Dirk Danker, who founded a company – he and his employees look after lonely, old and sick people and resided – by coincidence – in Mrs. Tomaschefski's former vegetable store.

German title. Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz: **SCHÖN IST DIE JUGEND**



Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz THE KOEPCKE GANG

Family Köpke, whose members almost have artistic jobs, who year after year created the ideal picture of themselves when they celebrated Christmas by making music under the Christmas tree – and who have to experience that even the strongest family ties are loosened when one of the children emigrates to Sweden, the promised land of the Köpkes, for the sake of a career.

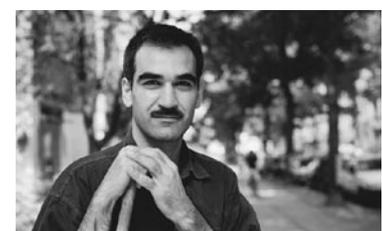
German title. Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz: **DIE KÖPCKE BANDE**



Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz THE YILMAZ-CLAN

Tells the story of an upwardly mobile family of immigrants. The parents of Erol and Erdogan Yilmaz were born in tents, since their grandparents had lived as Kurdish nomads in the Turkish mountains. Today 25 members of the Yilmaz clan live in Berlin. The parents are now retired, can afford an apartment in Berlin and one in Malatya – and commute between both worlds.

German title. Berlin – Ecke Bundesplatz: **DER YILMAZ-CLAN**



BIKINI ATOLL – PARADISE RESTRICTED

by Klaus and Annette Scheurich

NATURE | ENVIRONMENT

The islands of Bikini rose from the sea many million years ago, and in the course of time survived countless natural catastrophes. But what does it look like today, 50 years after the destruction wrought by nuclear testing? The images are unforgettable. From 1946 up to 1958 the Bikini Islands were hit by over 20 huge nuclear explosions. American military chose this remote location to test the first nuclear weapons after Hiroshima. A catastrophe of apocalyptic proportions. Today, 60 years have passed, peace has returned to the atoll. Was nature on the island and underwater able to recover? What do the ships look like that had been sunk during the testing? A very little known paradise has evolved. Still the traces of the nuclear past can be found everywhere. Bikini has turned into a unique place. There is nothing on earth quite like it.

German title: **BIKINI – Trauminseln im Sperrgebiet**
Awards: Green Vision Festival, St. Petersburg / Best Film About Water



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BOM DIA, JANA!

by Sabine Michel

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE | PORTRAIT | WOMEN | YOUTH | SOCIETY

Monchique, Portugal: A small village located at a mountainside on the northern edge of the Algarve. Jana walks among the narrow alleyways. She is the daughter of an emigrated German family. During her whole childhood she twinkle-toedly follows her big brothers and dreams about living their lives. However the family splits up surprisingly. Her parents separate and her brothers move to Lissabon. Jana and her mother are left in the little village in which they still are outsiders. Soon rumours about Jana are spread and resonate extremely loud in a small city like Monchique. They impute pregnancy and abortion, which was forbidden in Portugal until 2007. Jana locks herself up at home and drops out of school. To hide her hurt and insecurity she builds a big wall of silence around herself. The teenager, today 17 years old, managed to reintegrate and started an apprenticeship. But just arriving in the simplicity of adolescence Jana has to bear a new challenge.

30min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | color & b/w | original Portuguese/German version with German or English subtitles



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BROTHERS

by Isabel Gruenwald

DAILY LIFE | SOCIAL | CONFLICTS | PORTRAIT

The unusual symbiosis of two old brothers in a world where time has stand still. Since childhood Fritz and Heiner Zuber live together in their farming house in the North of Bavaria. Neither one of them ever had a family or went away for leading an individual life. They are as different as day and night. Fritz, a retired police officer, lovingly takes care of the household. Heiner, farmer and heir to the farm, prefers to be passive and reflect on the past. Ever since they live in constant silence.

But it used to be different once...

German title: **BRUEDER**
Festivals: Nyon, Istanbul, Amsterdam, Hof, Lodz, Eger
Award: Eugenia Movie Movement - Monselice: Special Mention in best documentary section
50min | HD | 16:9 | German, Englisch Italian version



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BY COMPARISON

by Harun Farocki

EXPERIMENTAL | ECONOMY | SOCIAL

"I would like to propose a film that contributes to the concept of work. That compares the work of a traditional society, like in Africa, in an early industrial society such as India, and in a highly developed industrial society, in Europe or Japan. The object of comparison is to be the work in building houses. Houses to live in." This was written in Harun Farocki's exposé from 2003 for a documentary project. "After initial research – I had the idea of using the brick, its manufacture and its processing as the object of comparison. We were looking for a great variety of uses for bricks and we were looking for manufacturing processes that would possibly do away with bricks." In India there was a brickworks whose threading machine was from the 1930s when Gandhi was organizing the anti-colonialist protest. The installation in northern France was operated by Moroccans who housed in barracks like POWs or forced labourers. In Mumbai apartment houses were built much like they are in Europe. No hand touched the products that came out of the highly mechanized factories in Germany. In Burkina Faso Farocki followed the communal work on a hospital ward and a school building with his camera: "I've never in my life been able to observe such a strange process so closely." The film does without commentary; there are only indications of the places and a few explanations offered in subtitles.

German title: **ZUM VERGLEICH**

Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM

62min | 16mm | 1:1,37 | DigiBeta | color | German or English version



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CATAPULT

by Peter Doerfler

SOCIAL | GERMAN-REUNIFICATION | PORTRAIT

Norbert Witte had a dream: he wanted to turn the Spreepark – a leisure park famous in the former GDR under the name "Plänterwald", into the biggest amusement park of the just re-united Germany. Instead the king of rollercoasters drove the park into bankruptcy and fled with his family and the majority of the fairground rides to Peru in 2002. All he left behind in Berlin was an incredible amount of debt and a huge mess. In Peru, the breakthrough they had hoped for was never realized. Witte returned to Berlin, after having gotten dangerously involved with the Peruvian drug mafia. The planned smuggling of drugs was uncovered by the police in Peru and they subsequently arrested his son Marcel. Witte, himself, was arrested in Berlin, where he is now serving work release sentence that allows him to leave the prison during the day. Marcel was sent to one of the toughest prisons of the world for 20 years and has little hope of ever leaving the place alive.

CATAPULT is taking us on a rollercoaster ride along the extreme ups and downs of events in Norbert Witte's life. He presents himself as a charismatic showman with inveterate optimism, who would never give up his family and who is full of plans for the future. But how does he cope with having put his son's life on the line? Is Norbert Witte a selfish dreamer or is he really a visionary businessman, who just keeps failing due to unfortunate circumstances?

German title: **ACHTERBAHN**

Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE

88min | HD | 35mm | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available



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CATEGORY C

by Franziska Tenner

FOOTBALL | YOUTH | SOCIAL | CONFLICTS

The rivalry between the supporters of football clubs FC Sachsen and Lok Leipzig has traditionally been the strongest in Germany, with hatred and violence reaching unheard-of dimensions. Franziska Tenner, who investigated the inner workings of the neo-Nazi scene in Frankfurt/Oder in her last film, now studies 'Category C' supporters – the term used by the police for football hooligans who look for violence and fight frequently, even mostly, outside the football stadium. She chooses an almost ethnographic approach to her subject, regarding it as an archaic male ritual and documenting her observations in a kind of personal report. Her protagonists train for the fight, queue up at the employment office, talk over a beer, go into battle, create 'choreographies', get into brutal fights and are arrested just as brutally by the police. The warlike images, some of them from amateur videos, are in apparent contradiction to the statements in which they themselves present the whole thing as a kind of honest sports rivalry with a code of honour and fixed rules: "First we clobber each other, and then we go and have a beer." The film also juxtaposes those statements with questions of what this 'game' costs society and what sanctions are necessary. Provocative and important, not just for Leipzig.

German title: **KATEGORIE C**

Festivals: DOK Leipzig

83min | DigiBeta | PAL | German version with English subtitles available



Production:

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CHAMAMÉ – MUSIC, PEOPLE, POETRY

by Cosima Lange

PORTRAIT | MUSIC



CHAMAMÉ – MUSIC, PEOPLE, POETRY introduces a popular Argentinean style of world music and four artists whose lives revolve around it. You will meet Gicela Méndez Ribeiro, a rising young singer; Alberto Bofill, self-declared ambassador of the Chamamé tradition; bandleader Monchito Merlo, who represents a widely popular style; as well as the international award-winning accordionist Chango Spasiuk. While they couldn't be more different, Chamamé to each one is much more than just music. It represents their way of life, and they gladly invite the audience to share their passion, sorrows and joys.

Festivals: Vancouver, Hamburg, Ghent, Sao Paulo

104 min | 35mm | HD | original Spanish version with English or German subtitles available

World Sales:

Capella International, Inc.
c/o CP Medien AG
Groenerstr. 33
71636 Ludwigsburg
tel.: +49 (0) 7141- 2420 194
info@capellafilms.com

CHARLOTTE ROCHE – RESEARCHING WETLANDS

by Hilka Sinning

CULTURE | LITERATURE | SEX | SOCIETY

„Feuchtgebiete“ was on the top of Spiegel bestseller list for about six months. It seems to be a phenomenon, a revolution of the women's treat of sexuality. Why decide so different people to read it? The novel polarizes the audience.

This documentary figures out the intention of writer Charlotte Roche, accompanies her readings in Germany and the publication of „Wetlands“ in France. German and French readers speak about their motivation to read the novel and their impressions. The film analyzes if there starts a new female revolution or if „Wetlands“ only describes sexual items in a vulgar language. Charlotte Roche, social scientists, gynecologists, publisher as well as well-known people like Harald Schmidt, Denis Scheck or Frédéric Beigbeder talk about their impressions about the novel. Filmmaker Hilka Sinning uses an aesthetic, adequate film language.

German title: **FEUCHTGEBIETE ERFORSCHEN**

52min | DigiBeta | PAL | 16:9 | German version or French Version



Production:

MEDEA FILM – Irene Hoefler
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www.medeafilm.de

CHILDREN OF CIRQUE BOUFFON

by Susanna Duellmann

THEATRE | YOUTH | ART



An glimpse behind the scenes and in the life and hearts of circus artists. World-class performers are struggling against all odds and with stage fright. Frédéric Zipperlin, known as “Boul” builds up his Artistic Theatre “Cirque Bouffon” with top-artists from France, Russia, Germany and Switzerland.

He tells his fascinating Cirque-Nouveau live-story and we see how his dream of a theatre/variété/circus comes true. Exciting new acts in this wonderful project with Hieronymus-Bosch-like elements. Available as a 30min behind-the-scenes-version with short extracts of the show or as 70min version including 40min of the outstanding performance. German-English-French original with German or English subtitles. DV, dolby/mono. Other subtitles, dubbed versions or blow-up for cinema possible.



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German title: **DIE KINDER DES CIRQUE BOUFFON**

30min or 70min | DVD | DV | original German/English/French version with German or English subtitles available

CHILDREN OF THE WAR

series of four parts

by Martin Hübner (part 1&2) and Gabriele Trost (part 3&4)

YOUTH | ORAL-HISTORY



They were far too young for what they witnessed, too young for what they suffered and for what they had to do. No one had prepared them for nights spent in air raid shelters, days in trenches, for the terror of deportation, forced labour, evacuation, starvation and - death. They lied, stole, begged and killed.

'Children of the War' reconstructs the trauma of an entire generation, told exclusively from the children's viewpoint. This four-part documentary gives a first-hand account of the horrors suffered by children in Germany, Poland, France, Great Britain and the Soviet Union during WW II. Their terrifying experiences and unbelievable survival strategies have changed these children forever - formative experiences which 70 years later need to be told and preserved in the memory of mankind.

German title: **KRIEGSKINDER**

4x45min or 2x52min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German version



World Sales:

Telepool GmbH
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telepool@telepool.de
www.telepool.de

THE COLOUR BLOND

by Albert Knechtel

SOCIETY | CULTURE

What do King Kong, Hitchcock and Hitler have in common? They all had a crush on blondes! Since ancient times no other hair colour has stimulated our fantasies like this one: symbol for the pure, the innocent, the angel - but also for the seducer, the vamp, the star. 'The Colour Blond' takes us on a tongue-in-cheek journey throughout the history of mankind to explore the global myth of fair hair. From Sleeping Beauty to Barbie, from Marilyn Monroe to Madonna, in fashion and fascism, in movies and art, blond has always been more than a mere colour. Speaking to natural and dyed blondes, to scientists and hair stylists, to movie stars and designers, this film tells more than the story of a hair colour. It is the story of an eternal fascination and fabrication: the myth of the colour blond.

German title: **DIE FARBE BLOND**

90min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German, English French version



Production:

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COMEBACK

by Maximilian Plettau

SPORTS | PORTRAIT

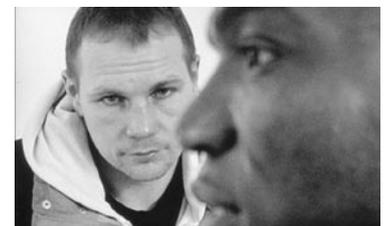
In a bleak attic in Munich, we find Juergen "The Rock" Hartenstein living and training. The ageing German ex-professional boxer eschews women and alcohol, and any creature comforts, earning his meagre living as a pub bouncer. He is entirely on his own, with no manager standing behind him, forced to train in city parks and in the dark, seedy attic with his African trainer Markus Kone, while their own gym is built. From a call shop, every week for months, he has been phoning matchmakers in the U.S.A.

Because this former German middleweight champion has a dream: he wants to make a comeback. He needs a win against a US boxer to get him back in the game. So it's off to the US boxing capital Philadelphia, to fight despite the odds, knowing that this is the underdog's only chance.

Festivals: Hof, Munich, Leipzig, Jihlava, TIDF/Taiwan, Vision Du Réel, Planet Doc u.a

Awards: German Camera and Seal of Approval, "highly recommended" (Praedikament besonders wertvoll)

79min | DigiBeta | BetaSP | HDCam | 35mm | original German/ English version with English subtitles available



Production:

NOMINAL FILM
Documentary & Feature Film Prod.
Infanteriestr. 19, Haus 1b
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www.nominalfilm.com
www.comeback-film.com
www.comeback-im-kino.de

THE COMPETITORS Russia's Wonder Children II

by Irene Langemann

MUSIC | PORTRAIT | ARTS | CULTURE

The film "The Competitors – Russia's Wonder Children II" tells a universal tale of success and failure in the world of classical music. Approaching the four protagonists very closely and combined with moving flashbacks from the film "Russia's Wonder Children", it will become a poetical study with a deeply human touch of four young people growing up under the severe pressure of a just about inhumane competitive strife.

The film RUSSIAS WONDER CHILDREN was broadcasted 12 times in Germany, numerous times by ARTE, YLE, NPS, CBC, DR, SVT and RTE. "The Competitors – Russia's Wonder Children II" is one of the most expected sequels in music documentaries.

German title: **DIE KONKURRENTEN – Russlands Wunderkinder II**
90min | HD | 16:9 | German or English version



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COMRADE COUTURE

by Marco Wilms

HISTORY | CULTURE | ARTS | SOCIETY | GERMAN-REUNIFICATION

Although the official colour of communism is red, real existing socialism in East Germany presented itself in shades of grey. The entire country was forced to dress in clothes that were twenty years behind western standards. How can a political system survive such a deficiency in taste? Well... history shows it didn't survive. Filmmaker and former GDR model Marco Wilms sets out on a journey into the heart of the GDR's Kafkaesque fashion scene and reveals what really made the Berlin Wall tumble down: The Socialist Party's lack of good taste.

German title: **COMRADE COUTURE – Ein Traum in Erdbeerfolie**
52min or 90min | HDCam | 1080p | German, English French



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CONEY ISLAND – A LAST SUMMER

by Thomas Halaczinsky and Sebastian Lemke

CITIES | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SOCIAL | CULTURE



„If Paris is France, then Coney Island is the entire world from June to September“, is how George C. Tilyou – the builder of the legendary Steeplechase Park – described Coney Island. A sparkling amusement institution in New York's West End, colourful and fantastic. That's how it used to be. Coney Island's entertainment district is supposed to be sold to a major investor, who plans to erect a Las Vegas-style artificial world. With the destruction of these old amusement sites, New York does not only lose part of its history, but also living spaces and workplaces for hundreds of people. For them it is the basis of their very existence. The film accompanies the Coney Islanders through the last weeks of their probably final season.

German title: **CONEY ISLAND – EIN LETZTER SOMMER**
52min | HDCam | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German or English version available

World Sales:
Lombardo Films
Siegesstr. 1
80802 Munich, Germany
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fax: +49 (0) 89-21667637
office@lombardofilms.com

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tel.: +49 (0) 221-2005280
fax: +49 (0) 221-2005282
www.florianfilm.de

THE CONQUEST OF INNER FREEDOM

by Aleksandra Kumorek and Silvia Kaiser

BERLIN | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | PRISON | EDUCATION



Tegel prison in Berlin, Germany, permitted a unique experiment in 2000 which saw serious criminals engaging in philosophy. For a whole year we accompany hardened convicts who use Socratic dialogues to question themselves and their own value systems. This is a serious undertaking, for the conquest of inner freedom takes place in the violent atmosphere of a prison where both internal and external resistance must be overcome.

German title: **DIE EROBERUNG DER INNEREN FREIHEIT**

80min | 35mm | DigiBeta | BetaSP | PAL | original German version with English subtitles available

World Sales:

Deckert Distribution

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04103 Leipzig, Germany

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fax: +49 (0) 341-2156639

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COSMIC STATION

by Bettina Timm

SCIENCE | ADVENTURE

Solaris in Armenia. At an altitude of 3.500 metres, half-ruined concrete shelters project from Aragaz mountain among snow-covered summits. A pyramid, some strange devices, pipes. Rusty wire rise to the sky – this place is in direct contact with outer space. Once built by the Soviet Union as one of the most ambitious projects of modern space research, there was neither money nor interest in the study of cosmic rays after the country fell apart. A staff of six are holding the fort at the "High Altitude Scientific Station": forgotten, isolated, untried, tackling the universe with screw-drivers. In a setting that seems to date from the age of the steam machine, they direct their eyes to the future of mankind. Pulling endless cables (where? what for?), calling commands into a cracking field telephone, helping the women hang up the laundry, staring silently into their evening vodka. Carefully constructed, the film keeps a constant balance between an elegy of forlornness, captured by cinematographer Alexander Riedel's long travelling shots, and the humour of an omnipresent absurdity. An ode to persistence – even if no one can be absolutely sure that the rest of the world hasn't perished long ago.

Festivals: Nyon, Oberhausen, Karlovy Vary, Marseille, Golden Apricot/Armenien, DOK Leipzig, Vancouver
30min | 35mm | Armenian/English version with German subtitles available



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COSMONAUT POLYAKOV

by Dana Ranga

Russian cosmonaut Valery Polyakov is nr. 66 in the line of Soviet, later Russian space travelers – he holds the record of the longest trip into space, 1 year and 2 month without disruption. He is a solitary figure in the cosmonauts' club, both a daredevil and a fragile man, a doctor and an object of experimentation. He tested the limits of body and mind, of bones and soul, of belief and dream.

After going through the hardship of an orphan's life after

World War II, he became a physician and donated his blood and marrow for experiments on interplanetary flights. As a scientist and cosmonaut he has not only improved life on a space station, but proved that man could fly to Mars ...

In this film he speaks for the very first time – about the KGB, the psychological hardship on Earth waiting for his flight, about being an exile on Earth after his return. Polyakov reveals the immense struggle a space traveler has to go through: accurate, strategic planning of the spaceflight system meets the hopeful human being. Only in space are dreams becoming true, where the cosmonaut is alone with his self. In the weightlessness the mind meets infinity and the body learns about a new dimension.



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www.cosmonaut-polyakov.com

110min | original Russian version with English subtitles available

CROSSING THE SKIES From East-Berlin Around the World

by Undine Siepker

WORK | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | PORTRAIT

Welcome aboard Interflug, the only airline of the former German Democratic Republic! Fasten your seatbelts during a turbulent flight through the romanticized past and dynamic present of an East German flight crew. Four stewardesses and one pilot take off once more and look back at a time when crossing borders between east and west was the privilege of only a few. Numerous adventures in Cuba, Africa or Singapore formed a different perspective on their lives back home in the GDR and on the fall of the Berlin wall. In 1991, Interflug was shut down and they built new identities in a new society. Nowadays, some are still going off in the job of their dreams, others got their feet back on the ground and keep faithfully their airborne heart.



German title: **FREIFLIEGEN**

Festivals: Kassel

72min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | PAL | German version with English textlist

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15827 Blankenfelde, Germany
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THE CULINARY ADVENTURES OF SARAH WIENER IN ITALY

by Mechthild Gassner, Marion Glaser and Malika Rabahallah CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | FOOD | PORTRAIT | AGRICULTURE



The famous chef Sarah Wiener is on the road again – this time she'll make her way through the Italian landscape and cuisine. With her interpreter Michele Marotta Sarah is taking a peek into the regional cooking pots to discover Italy's culinary secrets. Ten Italian regions are waiting to be discovered and by the end of each episodes, Sarah has to show what she's learned - surprising her newly found friends with a recipe inspired by the local cuisine and the people she's met.

German title: **DIE KULINARISCHEN ABENTEUER DER SARAH WIENER IN ITALIEN**

10x43min | 16:9 | DigiBeta | German and Italian with German voice-over

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THE DAY

by Uli M. Schueppel

EXPERIMENTAL | CITY | DAILY LIFE | DEATH

"The Day / Der Tag" tells the story about the every day occurrence of death. The essay-film sketches the last day of about ten people who died in Berlin. As voice-overs, the "passers-by", or the different people close to the deceased, tell their story of that particular day from when they woke up, until the moment of death – somewhere in the city. Sometimes this moment is totally surprising, and sometimes it seems somehow forceful...

Spaces become something like an intermediate world in this formally very strict and consequent film. Sonically, "daily life" is staged as a musical, dramaturgical sound collage by FM Einheit (Einstuerzende Neubauten).cinematic meditation on the immediate near to death.

Original sound composition FM Einheit

In memoriam: Eszter Szabo, Anna Friedrich, Maria Pia Heinitz, Andreas Freese, Roland Krueger, Constanze Hoffmann, Gerhard Weber, Clemens Berger, Gunnar Ortlepp, Jeanette Kohlmann, Heinz Schneider and Luca Zehnle.

Tellers: Eva Baumann, Jakob Friedrich, Ruth Sieveking, Tino Czerwinski, Anne Steckner, Christian Blöss, Monika Gaugel-Weber, Herr Gruender, Sandy Wienberg, Andreas Kohlmann, Esther Schneider & and Tina Zehnle.

German title: **DER TAG**

Festivals: DOK Leipzig

84min | HD | color | original German version with English with English voice over or French subtitles available



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DEFAMATION

by Yoav Shamir

CONFLICTS | WAR&PEACE | HISTORY | CURRENT AFFAIRS

This film will attempt to tackle contemporary anti-Semitism in different places around the world. It will put a face on the phenomenon, and show how it is expressed in its most banal, recurring form. Statistics show a rise in anti-Semitism. By back-tracking the day-to-day incidents with the participation of both victims and perpetrators – the desecration of synagogues and cemeteries, and physical and verbal attacks on Jews – the film will try to capture the tension between how Jews perceive themselves and how they are perceived by non-Jews.

Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM

93min | 35mm | 1:1,85 | DigiBeta | HD | DVD | original German/Hewrit/English version with English subtitles



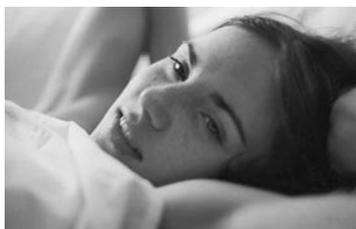
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THE DISAPPEARANCE OF TIME

by Ina Borrmann

GERMAN REUNIFICATION | YOUTH WOMEN | ESSAY



"Recollection is the only paradise from which we cannot be turned out." Jean Paul

When I was 16 and the holidays were just beginning, something without comparison happened to me. MY FIRST LOVE. This love was so great, for I had never experienced anything comparable before. It was unique and existed just for its own sake. I went back to the places of my memory. I called him. His voices sounded so young on the phone.

I wanted to find out what remained and suddenly there he stood in front of me as a impersonator of Westernhagen. The old city pool, where he first kissed me, has been turned into a water park with slides and whirlpools. What used to be youth centers are now shopping centers, the green fields are now home to drug stores and gas stations. Is the past traceable at all?

German title: **DAS VERSCHWINDEN DER ZEIT**

Festivals: Hof, Leipzig

75min | Super16mm | DigiBeta 16:9 | color & b/w | original German version with English subtitles available

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THE DISH

by Mohammad Rasoulof

CONFLICTS | HUMAN-RIGHTS | CULTURE

Satellite television is prohibited in Iran. Because of its immoral content, the government argues, more likely because of the uncensored news from all over the world it broadcasts. Every now and again the police mount operations to dismantle satellite dishes. Still the industry is booming. The roofs of Tehran and its suburbs are full of dishes. Parabolic aerials are starting to appear even in the rural regions. A teacher is riding on his motorcycle through the mountains to set up a dish for a nomadic tribe and earn a little extra money. Satellite dishes are produced in a cooking pan factory hidden behind great gates. A woman is waiting for her husband to come home, in constant fear of his arrest, because he too installs and repairs the forbidden aerials. Some homes voluntarily block the stations that broadcast "explicit" films from the West. Others have the films delivered to their homes on pirated DVDs in packs of ten. They are dubbed or subtitled in illegal studios. An elderly man demands that the people who watch satellite television be punished and sent into exile. How many houses in Iran would still be inhabited then? AS

Original title: **BAAD-E-DABOOR**

Festivals: DOK Leipzig

42min | BetaSP | PAL | original version with German or English subtitles available



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Djahiz@yahoo.com

DO ENGINES HAVE A SOUL The first car race around the world 1908

by Wolfgang Ettllich

ORAL-HISTORY | TRAVEL | ADVENTURE

In 1908 the first car race around the world took place. All across the USA, Asia, Siberia and Europe. Hans Koeppen from Berlin was one of the six rivals that ventured the 20.000km long route.

The film takes us on an adventurous trip that turns into a journey through time. Always close to the German driver we experience the fascinating race. Following the original route the film brings to life his victories and failures. At the same time Koeppen's diary gives insight into the life and mentality in different cultures a hundred years ago. The dream of mobility developed very differently – on one side the United States, coined by mobility, on the other the poor and rural areas in Asia and Russia. The film focusses on the last century and tells the story of how technology, communication and ultimately even society have been changed by the automobile.

German title: **HAT DER MOTOR EINE SEELE? – 1908 im Auto um die Welt**
85min | DVD | 16:9 | German version with English subtitles available



World Sales:
Mediengruppe Schwabing
Georgenstr. 121
80797 Munich, Germany
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fax: +49 (0) 89-1236499
www.ettlich-film.de
info@wolfgang-ettlich.de

DOKUSOAP

by Alois Hawlik

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE | ECONOMY | YOUTH

This documentary is about people. Not in the zoo. Not on New Guinea. Not anywhere else in the world, but in Austria. Or in Europe.

We observe and tell a story. Stories about people who are going on the probably most exciting adventure of their lives – a new start. They are going back to the hopefully cosy surrounding which they have been ejected from because different reasons drove them into unemployment. Now they are coming back with a good education and the question is if they will stay on the track or if they are being derived again. They are helped by different insitutions and educational institutes specialized in companionship. We pick some characters who want this and can cope with it and accompany them throug all stations of the "Unternehmensgruendungsprogramm".

Exciting, intelligent entertainment and matter for discussion for all Austrian families. Not a grey social drama. Positive sight and exemplary – encouraging – building up self-confidence – reflexion for help by self-help... A great story – a great programme.

German title: **ICH SCHAFF' S!**
3x25min | DigiBeta | HD | DVD | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles and English voiceover



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cell: +43-(0) 664-523 43 05
knut.ogris.films@aon.at
www.knutogris.tv

DONKEY DOG CAT AND COCK ... AND OTHER MUSICANS

by Lilo Mangelsdorff

MUSIC | CULTURE



This is a film about making music: at all age levels and beyond established standards of quality. The title recalls the Fairy Tale about the Town Musicians of Bremen that set out to find a better life: Donkey, Dog, Cat, and Cock – standing for the most diverse ways to create and experience music together. The film shows amateur musicians who spend their free time with music – in choirs, band, ensembles, and in individual lessons. It shows the work, the practice in keeping the beat, in hitting the notes right, as well as wrong. The camera takes it's time and observes what music makes of human beings. "Behind music-making, this uselessness...there really is an utopia. Something that's not lived," a participant aptly states.

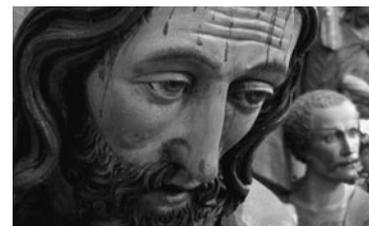
German title: **ESEL HUND KATZE HAHN ... UND ANDERE MUSIKANTEN**
84min | HD | DigiBeta | DVD | 16:9 | original German version with English or French subtitles available

Production:
Cinetix Medien & Interface GmbH
Gemuendenerstr. 27
60599 Frankfurt/Main, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 69-685105
fax: +49 (0) 69-68600409
lima@cinetix.de
www.cinetix.de/limafilm

DOWN TO THE BONE – THE RETURN OF THE MARTYRS

by Thomas Tielsch

RELIGION



Nobody had expected his return. Still, in the face of the world publicity, he steps out from the dark of his past on September 11th in 2001. Since then, he has been back: the martyr. His history reaches far back into the ancient world, but only in Christ, he gets a face. By now the martyr has become a figure of many faces and shows up wherever conflicts are smouldering. Human sacrifices, massacres, mass suicides, tortures; Nuns whose asceticism is flooded by erotic fantasies. The film shows history and background of the worshipping of martyrs in Judaism, Christianity and Islam and describes the forming of a new religion in the 20th century: Nationalism, which has been breeding new martyrs to this day. A dip into history that makes contemporary conflicts appear in a new light.

German title: **BIS AUF'S BLUT – Die Rückkehr der Märtyrer**
52min or 59min | HD | German or English version

World Sales
www.germanunited.com

Production:
filmtank gmbh
film + medienproduktion
Lippmannstr. 53
22769 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40-43 8610
fax: +49 (0) 40-43186111
filmtank@filmtank.de
www.filmtank.de

DYING ON EXHIBITION

by Marion Schmidt

ARTS | CONTEMPORARY | SOCIETY | CONTROVERSY

What dares art? This question is to be asked newly, the debate is relumed: German artist Gregor Schneider intents to show „the beauty of death“ in his upcoming work. But not in a painting, an image or in object art, but „live“. He wants to exhibit a dying man in a spezial purpose-made art-room. With this, he strikes a great taboo, because people normaly deal with death only in larger distances. The sheer announcement of this work provokes a lot of critics.

But there are also many other artists around the world, dealing with the subject of dying and death in their art work. Amongst others, you will meet Sue Fox in Manchester and Christian Boltansky in Paris. The film sets forth to the backgrounds of these artists, revealing their motivations and desire to concatenate death and art.

German title: **STERBEN IM MUSEUM**
52min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German, French



Production:
telekult
Film- und Medienproduktion GmbH
Kremmener Str. 6
10435 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-44673774
fax: +49 (0) 30-44673777
keller@telekult.de
www.telekult.de

EDELWEISS ENIGMA

by Ruth Berry

HISTORY | CULTURE | NATURE

The Edelweiss documentary is an investigation to find the fact behind the fiction. Edelweiss has been used as a symbol for a beer, a rock group and countless hotels and guest houses. At the same time it was being touted as the Fuhrer's favourite flower, it was being used as the symbol for anti Hitler Youth groups. It appears on coins and as insignias for mountaineering clubs. Young men fell to their deaths to pluck a sprig of it to prove their love. While the Edelweiss of the European alps was edging toward extinction, fields of them were flourishing throughout Asia. On the Steppes of Mongolia we discover another culture touched by the little white flower. To the nomadic Mongolians it is also the everlasting flower and it is still used to heal, in case of high blood pressure, inflammation and for moxibustion. Laboratory tests have shown Edelweiss improves memory.

Can the everlasting flower deliver what its name promises?

German title: **WAS SIE IMMER SCHON UEBER EDELWEISS WISSEN WOLLTEN**
52min or 43min or 65min | HDCam | 1080p | German, English, French version



World Sales:
Looks Distribution GmbH
Marienplatz 1
04103 Leipzig, Germany
tel/fax: +49 (0) 341-2617725
tel/fax: +49 (0) 341-2617729
wilhelm@looksfilm.tv
www.looksfilm.tv

ENRIQUE Y JUDITA

by Andrea Roggon

ARTS | MUSIC | CULTURE | DANCE

They love, they fight, they dance: Enrique and Judita are the most acclaimed and extraordinary tango-couple in Buenos Aires and count among the best dancers in the world. And they are from Germany. An intimate and ravishing film about a great love between a man and a woman – and a life dedicated to tango dancing.

Festivals: Nyon
75min or 52min | DigiBeta | BetaSP | DVD | German or English version



World Sales:
Rise and Shine
c/o Kloos&Co. Medien GmbH
Schlesische Str. 29/30
10997 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-47372980
fax: +49 (0) 30-473729820
info@kloosundco.de

ERNST HEINKEL – BOMBERS FOR THE LUFTWAFFE

by Joerg Herrmann

HISTORY | PORTRAIT | NS-POLITICS

The history of the aeroplane is barely 150 years old. The era of aviation pioneers was defined by brilliant inventors like Otto Lilienthal and the Wright Brothers, who gave their ideas wings. Less well known but no less critical, was German pioneer, Ernst Heinkel. From the jet engine to the ejection seat, from the retractable undercarriage to what was at the time the fastest aeroplane in the world – many of Heinkel's inventions have shaped and advanced air travel as we know it.

Heinkel's name is also associated however with the horror of the German Luftwaffe during the Second World War. Many forced labourers from the concentration camps died in his factories, and the bomber squadrons built there put fear and terror into the hearts of people across Europe. Engineer, inventor and tinkerer, National Socialist or hanger-on – the person of Ernst Heinkel is still disputed to this day. Reports from historians and eyewitnesses of the time are pieced together with rare archive material to build a picture of this pioneer of aviation. Who was Ernst Heinkel? Was he a visionary, who accepted everything just to see his dreams fulfilled? Why is his name hardly known outside the inner circles even though modern aviation would not be conceivable without his developments?

German title: **ERNST HEINKEL – DER TRAUM VOM FLIEGEN**
52min | HDCam | 1080p | German or English version



Worldsales:
united docs
Breite Str. 48-50
50667 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-92069-33
fax: +49 (0) 221-92069-69
sales@germanunited.com

Contact:
www.looksfilm.tv

EYE TO EYE – ALL ABOUT GERMAN FILM

by Michael Althen and Hans Helmut Prinzler

CULTUR | FILM | HISTORY



A film about the love for cinema, a voyage of discovery through one hundred years of German film, which shows us that all which seems so far away, is, in reality, so close. EYE TO EYE shows the great moments of German cinema history. Unforgettable images are passing before our eyes and make us feel like watching the classics again. Acclaimed German filmmakers such as Caroline Link, Doris Doerrie, Michael Ballhaus, Tom Tykwer, Wim Wenders, Dominik Graf, Christian Petzold, Andreas Dresen, Wolfgang Kohlhaase and Hanns Zischler, use film extracts to illustrate us the films that have been particularly important to them; they investigate the essence of German film. Layer by layer, the film uncovers what so often has obscured our view of German film history. EYE TO EYE – an homage to what we love about German cinema.

With: Caroline Link, Doris Doerrie, Michael Ballhaus, Tom Tykwer, Wim Wenders, Dominik Graf, Christian Petzold, Andreas Dresen, Wolfgang Kohlhaase, Hanns Zischler

German title: **AUGE IN AUGEN – EINE DEUTSCHE FILMGESCHICHTE**
Festivals: Berlinale, Viareggio, Cannes - Market, Seoul, Split, New York - MoMa, St. Petersburg, Nowosibirsk, Mannheim, Barcelona, Krakau
Awards: Directors Award, XIII. International TV Festival Bar Montenegro
106min | 35 mm | DigiBeta | color and b/w | original German version with English subtitles available

World Sales:
TRANSIT Film
Susanne Schumann
Dachauer Str. 35
80335 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-599 885 10
fax +49 (0) 89-599 885 20
susanne.schumann@transitfilm.de
www.transitfilm.de

FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL: PROTECTING THE WHALES

by Angela Graas

ADVENTURE | CONFLICTS | CONTROVERSY | ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT | NATURE



They're on their way to the Southern Ocean on a special mission. A self-sufficient group, determined to make our world a slightly better place to live in for man and animal. Almost 40 young people from all over the world. Welded together for three months on a 70-metre-long piece of steel civilization ... as Japan intends to kill another 1000 whales south of the 60th parallel.

52min | HD | 16:9 | English version

Contact:

NicLeykauf@aol.com

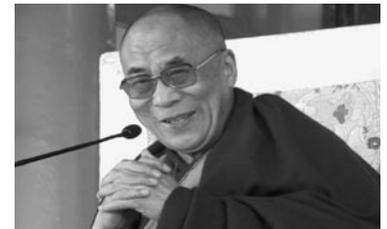
World Sales:

Telepool World Sales
Sonnenstr. 21
80331 Munich, Germany
Monika Lobkowicz
tel: +49 (0) 89-558760
Lobkowicz@telepool.de
www.telepool.de

FIRE UNDER THE SNOW

by Makoto Sasa

CONFLICTS | CONTROVERSE | CULTURE | RELIGION



A spirit unbroken by torture or 33years. A life devoted to the struggle for freedom. Tibetan Buddhist monk Palden Gyatso was incarcerated by the Chinese Army from 1959 until 1992. And his fight continues. Featuring extraordinary historical footage and interviews with the Dalai Lama and others, this is captivating and heart-breaking story of an exceptional man is a must-see!

Festivals: Tribeca, Mill Valley, Denver, Pusan, Dallas, Leeds, Amsterdam
75min or 52min | DigiBeta | BetaSP | DVD | English or German version

World Sales (except Germany)

Jim Browne
Argot Pictures
Brooklyn, NY 12
jim@argotpictures.com

Production

Kloos&Co. Medien GmbH
Schlesische Str. 29/30
10997 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0)30-47372980
fax: +49 (0) 30-473729820
info@kloosundco.de

FIT FOR LIFE

by Lilly Grote

SOCIAL | YOUTH | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CONFLICTS

Director Lilly Grotes tour around Europe discovers what it means to children to grow up in the current world.

We accompany them down a stretch of road close to them as possible. The film shows their encounters with family and their social environment and discovers a new world that will make them grow strong. Stirring observations from the everyday life of the children are linked to larger social issues. In institutions where children and adolescents spend their lives, we hear disturbing stories of loneliness and neglect – but we also experience the magical power of support and understanding.

Grotes impressions accompany the film and affect us directly. The documentary includes us into the destiny of the children. Camerawoman Elfi Mikesch stands for ambitious, sensitive visualization.

German title: **STARK FUERS LEBEN**

48min | 16:9 | DigiBeta | PAL | German version, French version



Production:

MEDEA FILM - Irene Hoefler
Erkelenzdamm 59-61
10999 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-25295330
fax: +49 (0) 30-25295332
medea@snaflu.de

FLIES AND ANGELS

by Kerstin Stutterheim and Niels Bolbrinker

ARTS | PORTRAIT



Ilya Kabakov was born in the Ukraine in 1933. Today he is considered one of the most important contemporary artists worldwide, and there is practically no significant museum of contemporary art around the world that doesn't show at least one of his installations. With his etchings, paintings and particularly with these installations he has for decades now created a phantastic world that serves as a counterpoint to the brutal reality and its many failed visions. These installations, executed with exquisite detail, are strange and enchanted spaces. They are like film sets telling life histories, touching emotions and memories held by people everywhere. But his stories are more than personal dramas: Kabakov is one of the last great

utopists, he looks disenchantedly at the debris of the 20th century but at the same time, with human warmth and a distinct imagination, he is able to envision other worlds.

German title: **FLIEGEN UND ENGEL**
93min | 35mm | 1:1,85 | DigiBeta | English, German version



Production:
filmtank gmbh
film + medienproduktion
Lippmannstr. 53
22769 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40-4318610
fax: +49 (0) 40-4318611
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www.filmtank.de

FORGETTING DAD

by Rick Minnich and Matt Sweetwood

PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW | FAMILY | HUMAN-INTEREST | IDENTITY



One week after a seemingly harmless car accident, a 45-year-old man wakes up with total amnesia. The doctors and family are baffled, as there is no evidence of brain damage or other physical causes. Sixteen years later, filmmaker Rick Minnich returns to his native California with a camera in search of answers to why his father's memory still hasn't returned. He talks with his family members, and reconstructs in detective-story fashion the period of time before and the years following the accident. Along the way, Rick not only discovers many deep-rooted emotions that had never been dealt with, but also uncovers startling facts that shed a very different light on his father's memory loss. Was he really struck by a horrible affliction, or was he perhaps trying to escape from a life he could no longer lead?

German title: **FORGETTING DAD – VATER OHNE VERGANGENHEIT**
Festivals: Max Ophuels Prize in Saarbruecken, Goteborg
Awards: IDFA-Joris Ivens Competition / Special Jury Award, Seal of Approval: "highly recommended"
84min or 58min | HDcam | DigiBeta | DVD | original English version with German subtitles available

World Sales:
Films Transit International, Inc.
Jan Rofekamp
252 Gouin Boulevard East
Montréal Quebec H3L 1A8
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tel.: 514-844-3358
fax: 514-844-7298
janrofekamp@filmstransit.com
www.filmstransit.com
www.forgettingdad.com

FOUR LIVES

by Cornelia Thau

HUMAN INTEREST | FAMILY | YOUTH | SOCIAL

Four families, four children born with the Down-Syndrome, four concepts how to meet such a challenge. Joerg, Carina, Anica and Finnian were born in 1969, 1985, 1994 and 2002. Cornelia Thau accompanied the families for more than 4 years. In **FOUR LIVES** the parents frankly talk about their wishes, hopes and successes, but also about the disappointments, doubts and difficult decisions they have to make.

Joerg, Carina, Anica und Finnian present themselves as self-assured personages with own interests, wishes and longings. They demonstrate social competence, artistic talent as well as ambition, persistency, humor and an impressive charm.

A film for all people who are interested in concepts of life under those special conditions.

German title: **VIER LEBEN**
68min | 16:9 | DVD | BetaSP | original German version with English subtitles available



World Sales:
Michael Busch Filmproduktion
Hoffhausstr. 38
60389 Frankfurt, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 69-4788 5010
info@vierleben-derfilm.de
www.vierleben.de

FRANK CASTORF out of the series MY LIFE / MA VIE

by Adama Ulrich

PORTRAIT | MUSIC | ARTS | THEATRE



From the *Enfant Terrible* of East-German theater to the leader of the Berlin Volksbuehne: Provocation, playing with realities and chasing the boundaries of art is the focus of Frank Castorf's work. The portrait documentary approaches to meet one of the most controversial and most successful renewers of German theater.

What is pushing him forward? What is his aim? How is he accomplishing the things he accomplishes?

German title: **FRANK CASTORF – MEIN LEBEN / MA VIE**
45min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German or French version

Production:
telekult
Film- und Medienproduktion GmbH
Kremmener Str. 6
10435 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0)30-44673774
fax: +49 (0)30-44673777
keller@telekult.de
www.telekult.de

FRITZ STERN out of the series MY LIFE / MA VIE

by Jean Boué

EXILE | ORAL-HISTORY | CULTURE | WAR&PEACE | PORTRAIT | NS-POLITICS



"For a long time I didn't speak a word of German. Everything important to me I said in English."

In 1938, at the age of twelve, Fritz Stern fled Nazi-Germany with his family. He came to New York not speaking a word of English and started from scratch. Today Fritz Stern is one of the most renowned American Experts on German history. In the film Fritz Stern looks back on his moving lifetime story and successful academic career. The crew followed Fritz Stern to Wroclaw, the city he was born, where he visits his former school and his Grandma's house. His is confronted with his own past, the Memories of a Jewish childhood in Nazi-Germany.

German title: **FRITZ STERN – MEIN LEBEN / MA VIE**
45min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original English / German version

Production:
JABFILM
Jean Boué
Boelzker Str. 10
16928 Pritzwalk, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 3395-309707
fax: +49 (0) 3395-309706
jab@jabfilm.de
www.jabfilm.de
www.jeanboue.com

FROM RAMSTEIN WITH LOVE

by Irene Langemann

WAR&PEACE | CURRENT AFFAIRS

Since the end of World War II, American armed forces have been stationed in Ramstein in the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate. The fascination for the "American way of life" has not only cast a spell over many Germans there, but it has also left visible traces in the area. On the Ramstein Air Base, the largest US air base found on foreign soil, one even has the impression of being in "Little America." Although the drama of the Iraq War has led some Germans to become disenchanted with the super-power, the people of the area cannot imagine a life without Americans. Particularly when it comes to German-American marriages. Although there is an occasional clash of cultures in the individual relationships, the German wives and husbands nonetheless usually share the patriotic attitude of their American partners. And since the service members are regularly deployed to Iraq, the German spouses are also closely involved with the events of the war. Their lives are full of worry and anxiety about their loved ones, who could possibly return home from the conflict area injured or even dead. The film presents highly personnel German-American family stories from "Little America," Germany, against the backdrop of the Iraq War and the current situation of the conflict.

German title: **LIEBESGRUESSE AUS RAMSTEIN**
90min | HD | 16:9 | German, English version



Production:
Lichtfilm GmbH
Vogteistr. 16
50670 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-9726517
fax: +49 (0) 221-9726518
info@lichtfilm.de

THE FUTURE OF DEEP SEA SCIENCE

by Annette Scheurich, Klaus Scheurich

NATURE | ENVIRONMENT | SCIENCE



This documentary reveals the latest developments in deep sea science, exploring the still, largely unknown abysses of the ocean and its essential impact on our environment and climate. By presenting exciting new projects worldwide, this film offers insight into recent deep sea research. It shows that there is still a lot to be discovered on planet earth: what kind of creatures can survive the enormous pressure and find food in total darkness? What are the chances and dangers of exploiting potentially enormous energy reserves on the sea floor? In what way is our climate influenced by the deep sea and how can we use such information for long term weather forecasts? In a world of dwindling resources and a changing climate, we need to know more about the depths of the element that makes this planet a blue one.

German title: **OPERATION TIEFSEE – Dunkle Welten im Licht der Forschung**
43min15sec | HDCam | 1080 | 50i | DigiBeta | PAL | German, English or French version

Contact:
MARCO POLO FILM AG
Annette Scheurich, Klaus Scheurich
Handschuhsheimer Landstr.73
69121 Heidelberg, Germany
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fax: +49 (0) 6221-400884
klaus@marco-polo-film.de
www.marco-polo-film.de

GAMEZONE In the wake of the cyberspace

by Heide Breitel

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CULTURE | YOUTH | EDUCATION

Playing in virtual cyberspaces has become ordinary for many families. Those are permanently available havens of any kinds of common problems, only one click away from reality. The cyberspace is clearly structured, excitingly designed and always new in another way. This documentary tries to find answers with the help of neuroscientist Prof. Dr. Gerland Huether and child and youth therapist Wolfgang Bergmann about the consequences of this development for mental, psychological and social evolution of children and what they are missing in the real world.



German title: **SPIELZONE – Im Sog virtueller Welten**
68min or 72 min others on request | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German or French version

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Arnold Film GmbH
Urspringerstr. 2
82064 Strasslach, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-203 441 77
fax: +49 (0) 3212-527 665 3
kontakt@arnoldfilm.biz
www.arnoldfilm.biz

GENERATION UNDECIDED

by Elmar Szücs

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | HUMAN INTEREST

GENERATION UNDECIDED is a portrait of today's thirties generation. When the director Elmar Szücs became a father, he suddenly realized that he hadn't really achieved anything in his life. Essentially the same applied to almost all his friends: Everyone was about 30 and still right in the middle of their studies - or they were just starting to major in another subject. Together with three of his closest school friends, the director embarks on a search for the unifying generational feeling of today's thirty-year-olds. How did they grow up? How were they raised? What were their parents' and teachers' attitudes? What did they themselves expect of life? And why has everything changed so much? During a trip to Amrum, the island of their youth, they try to answer that question. In doing so, they discover things about themselves, and a mutual generational feeling begins to develop. They belong to the "generation undecided" that tries to keep every chance alive and refuses to make any convictions, so as not to miss any alternatives. That's why they wait for the moment for real life to begin. And still, in the end, they begin to understand: They are right in the middle of it.

German title: **WIR SIND SCHON MITTENDRIN**
Festivals: Ludwigsburg, BERLINALE / Perspective
61min | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available



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Mathildenstr. 20
71638 Ludwigsburg, Germany
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elmar.szuecs@filmakademie.de

Producer:
Sofia Rosa Schwert
raketenfilm
Klenzestr. 75
80469 Munich, Germany
supersword@web.de

GERDA'S SILENCE

by Britta Wauer

ORAL-HISTORY | WOMEN



In the beginning was a broken taboo: the boy Knut asked his "aunt Gerda" from Amerika who was on a visit to the GDR what had become of her child that nobody ever dared to mention. Horrified silence around the coffee table. Knut felt confused and ashamed – he would never forget this Sunday afternoon. 30 years later, Knut Elstermann sees Gerda in New York and asks the same question again. She tells him about close family ties and friendships of the pre-war era, about Jewish friends' and acquaintances' survival, but also about deportation and death. It is the story of a search for truth in files, in testimonies of contemporary witnesses and her memory.

Filmmaker Britta Wauer followed up Gerda's story. Based on Gerda's encounter with Knut, his persistent questions which finally got an answer, she creates, with great respect and unmistakable affection for her protagonist,

the portrait of a woman who with a defiant courage to face life built a new life for herself after Auschwitz. The starting point of this new life was her silence about the end of the old one – a silence which Gerda never broke, even with her son Steven, until her conversations with Knut Elstermann ...

German title: **GERDAS SCHWEIGEN**
Festivals: DOK Leipzig
89min | 35mm | color & b/w



Contact:
Zeitsprung Entertainment GmbH
Alter Militaerring 8a
50933 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-9498020
info@zeitsprung.de
www.gerdas-schweigen.de

Distribution:
www.piffmedien.de

GITTI

by Anna Deutsch

SOCIAL | DAILY LIFE

Gitti is 70, single and knows exactly what she wants. With the help of a contact ad she's on the search for the perfect mate.

Festivals: Hof, Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE
35min | DigiBeta | 4:3 | German version with English subtitles



WorldSales / Distribution
HFF, "Konrad Wolf" (Mrs. Marx)
University of Film and Television
Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11
14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg, Germany
tel.: 49 (0) 331-6202 564
distributionhff-potsdam.de

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annadeutsch@gmx.net

THE GOOD AMERICAN

by Jochen Hick

SEX | GENDER IDENTITY | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

Jochen Hick's new film portrays Tom Weise, one of the initiators of HustlaBall an event originally created in order to encourage the acceptance of male prostitutes, but also to launch a rent boy website. After his parents split and, having lost all contact with them, this slightly-built former student of politics decides to go to New York at the beginning of the 1990s. Being virus-positive, he is obliged to live in the USA illegally. In fact, according to the law, he cannot even pay a visit to this country.

At first Tom has a hard time eking out a living as an escort. Unable to earn enough money, he winds up on the streets without a roof over his head. In the end, he succeeds in helping Jeffrey Davis set up an internet page, rentboy.com, which, ten years later, becomes the largest website for escorts. Increasingly beset by health issues, loneliness and drug abuse, in 2006 Tom eventually finds someone with whom he can share his life. He and his Afro-American partner Keith decide to go to Berlin. This marks Tom's first trip to Germany in 15 years. A few days after their arrival, the Hustla Ball takes place. The ostensibly self-confident businessman of the film's first few minutes gradually reveals himself to be a man with weaknesses, fears and dreams. Initially following Tom Weise as he organises the last of his parties in the US, the film then accompanies him as he returns to Berlin. Besides being a vibrant portrait, Hick's film is also a socio-cultural exploration of the New World and the old, as reflected in a marginalised group. His documentary also affords a fascinating insight into the universe and the minds of escorts and party-makers.

Locations: Las Vegas, New York, Fire Island, Berlin, Hannover

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
92min | DigiBeta | Dolby Stereo | 16:9 | original German/English version with English/German subtitles



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GRANDMA'S SALON

by Ursula Ambach

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | MIGRATION | ORAL-HISTORY | PORTRAIT | WOMEN

Edith Festö lives in a small Swabian village in the south of Hungary, where she has run a hairdressing salon for more than 55 years. Time seems to stand still and all the widows of the village still leave the salon with the same permanent wave. Recently Edit lost most of her eyesight. Despite this, her there's not a day that goes by without a crowd in her salon. This film is about the filmmaker's journey back to her roots, back to her grandmother. Through up-close observations and intimate conversations, viewers come to know another side of the almost timeless world of her grandmother. Sensitive insight is provided into the routine difficulties of coping with aging.



German title: **OMAS SALON**
Festivals: Budapest, Goettingen
34min | BetaSP/DVcam | original Hungarian version with English, German or Italian subtitles available

Contact:
ursul@mbach.de

Production:
Zelig-School for documentary,
television and new media Bolzano
via Brennero 20d
39100 Bolzano, Italy
tel.: +39-0471-302028
fax: +39-0471-977931
zeller@zeligfilm.it
www.zeligfilm.it

GROWING UP – BELFRUIT AND LOINCLOTH

by Christian Bau, Niels Gutschow, Axel Michaels

ETHNOLOGY | INDOLOGY | RELIGION | YOUTH



Hindu and Buddhist Initiation Rituals among Newar Children in the ancient City of Bhaktapur in the Kathmandu Valley (Nepal).

German title: **BELFRUCHT UND LENDENTUCH**
65min | BetaSP | DVD | 4:3 | English and German version

Production:
thede filmproduktion
Bluecherstr. 7
22767 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40-8991161
fax.: +49 (0) 40-8991135
info@diethede.de
www.diethede.de

HalfTime

by Christoph Huebner and Gabriele Voss

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | LONGTERM | SPORTS | YOUTH | MIGRATION

In Summer 1998 we started a film with young football talents from the famous German Club Borussia Dortmund. Almost all of them played in national youth teams in their countries and with their club they win the German youth championship five times in a row. They were "THE CHAMPIONS". Their common dream in these times was: a career as a professional footballer. In Summer 2006, in the year of the Soccer World Cup in Germany, we followed them again for one season. They are now 25, 26 years old. What happened to their dreams? What were their experiences in the meantime? Do they play still football? And where? And what if not?



„HalfTime“ is a reflection about talent and character, about success and failure and everything in between. The scenes of the film spread over the whole world - from the Ruhr, the home of Borussia Dortmund over the World Bank in Washington up to a small town, 3400m high in the Ecuadorian Andes. „HalfTime“ ist the second part of the longterm-projekt, TRILOGY OF TALENTS.

German title : **HalbZeit** Teil 2 der Langzeitbeobachtung TALENTE
101min | 35 mm | color & b/w | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
Christoph Huebner Filmproduktion
In der Lake 12
58456 Witten/Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 2302-25300
fax: +49 (0) 2302-55355
huebner-film@t-online.de

see part 1 of TRILOGY OF TALENTS
german documentaries 2005 page 255

HALF WAY TO HEAVEN

by Andrea Lammers and Ulrich Miller

WAR&PEACE

The sun rises fast here in Guatemala as the folks of „La Aurora – the Dawn of hope" prepare the first year anniversary of their community. Heavily armed soldiers enter the village, children come running. There had never seen such men in the refugee camps, where they grew up. Villagers gather, accuse the patrol of what the army did to their families a dozen of years before. And soon one of more than 600 massacres counted in this small country will take place, but also the beginning of something very new: The very first time survivors go to court, filing charges for „state crime". What they intend now are small steps on halfway to heaven.



German title: **AUF HALBEM WEG ZUM HIMMEL**
105min | DigiBeta | BetaSP | German or English version

Contact:
pop tutu film
Windmuehlenstr. 31b
04107Leipzig, Germany
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ulrich.miller@poptutufilm.de
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HALLOWED BONES

by Dominik Wessely

RELIGION



When the frail and staunchly catholic aunt Hedwig asks her nephew to accompany her to a decidedly mystical Catholic service, it turns out to be his initiation into a fantastical world of martyr worship. He meets relic collectors who are trying to preserve the dwindling world of Salvation in living rooms full of bones, and, whilst gathering information pertaining to relics he intends to purchase for his aunt on the internet, he stumbles upon one of the greatest forgeries of the Middle Ages. It is the legend of Saint Ursula and the eleven thousand accompanying maids who were slain, together with their mistress, in Cologne. Aunt Hedwig's nephew is not only confronted with the enchanting blossoms of popular piety, but also with a way of life that suddenly seems far less aberrant than initially expected. This is a jovial film about the gravity of life before death.

German title: **GEHEILIGTES GEBEIN**
73min or 57min | DigitBeta | German version with English subtitles available

Production:
filmtank gmbh
film + medienproduktion
Lippmannstr. 53
22769 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40-4318610
fax: +49 (0) 40-43186111
filmtank@filmtank.de
www.filmtank.de

HARLAN In the Shadow of The Jew Süss

by Felix Moeller

FILM | HISTORY | NS-POLITICS | ORAL-HISTORY | PORTRAIT



Veit Harlan was Nazi Germany's most successful film director. A hundred million spectators saw his films all over Europe, including the perfidious anti-Semitic Propaganda film "The Jew Süß". Equally obsessive as he was gifted, Harlan is without a doubt Nazi cinema's most equivocal figure, together with Leni Riefenstahl. A master of national kitsch, exultations of death and melodrama, he was an artist as blinded as he was talented. To this day, many remain fascinated by the driven, crafted aesthetics and darkly seductive power of Harlan's films.

After World War II Veit Harlan was the only Third Reich artist who was charged with crime against humanity, yet he was acquitted in two trials. The documentary presents the first biography of Veit Harlan with numerous film extracts and film material from the family archive. It shows how Veit

Harlan's family struggles until today with the dark myth of artistic immorality.

German title: **HARLAN – Im Schatten von Jud Süß**
Festivals: DOK Leipzig
100min | HD | 16:9 | DVD | PAL | color & s/w | German version with English subtitles available



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THE HEART FROM JENIN

by Marcus Vetter and Leon Geller

WAR&PEACE | HUMAN INTEREST

The Heart from Jenin is the story of Ahmed Chatib, a Palestinian boy shot by Israelis whose father decided, within twelve hours, to donate his son's organs to six Israeli children so as to save their lives.

One and a half years have passed since then. What has Ismail al-Chatib, of the Jenin refugee camp, achieved with his peace gesture? To find out how Ismail's deed changed the life of the recipients' families, it is necessary to travel throughout Israel, from its northern hills on the Lebanese border, past the con-tended Holy City of Jerusalem, up to the edge of the Negev Desert in the south of the land.

The film is a trip through occupied territory and hearts occupied by prejudice. It leads us to the people who have learnt to overcome their prejudices and to others who still speak of the misfortune of having to live with the organ of an Arab. It is the story of a humanitarian peace gesture that seemed, for a short instant, to prevail over the insoluble conflict between Israel and Palestine.

German title: **DAS HERZ VON JENIN**

Festivals: Warsaw, Toronto, Locarno, Jerusalem

Awards: Valladolid/1st Prize "Time of History", Hamptons, Leipzig/DEFA Promotion Prize, 89min | HD | original version with English subtitles available



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fax: +49 (0) 30-695 372 99
hourrier@eikon-film.de
www.eikon-film.de

WorldSales:

Telepool GmbH - Monika Lobkowicz
Sonnenstr. 21
80331 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-558760
telepool@telepool.de

HEIDELBERG

by Norman Richter

PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW | FAMILY

My grandmother, the house she is living in, the rooms of the house, things, a photo, the garden. Filmed in march 2007.



Festivals: Oberhausen

34min40sec | 35mm onto DigiBeta | BetaSP | DVD | 1:1,33 | stereo | partly without sound

World Sales:

HFF "Konrad Wolf"
University of Film and Television
Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11
14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 331-6202 564
distribution@hff-potsdam.de

Contact:

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normanrichter@web.de

HIDDEN CHILDREN – UNKNOWN HEROES

by Kirsten Esch

NS-POLITICS | HISTORY | PORTRAIT | POLITICS SOCIETY



The Jewish children survived the holocaust in hiding, in fear and loneliness without their parents. But they also felt love in the families who sheltered the children at risk of their own life. As if by miracle Eva found her rescuer again after 62 years. A nun hid the little child in a Polish convent from the Nazis and lovingly cared about her. But after the war Eva emigrated with her father to Canada without a chance to say goodbye. Today Sister Klara is 96 years old and awaits eagerly her little Eva.

After the liberation of Holland, Lore was sad because she had to leave her lovingly surrogate mother. When she was five years old her parents hid her with a farmer family and went into hiding themselves. Rosette from France talks about her life on the run – from hiding place to hiding place. She had to flee from Paris to the mountains near Grenoble. After the war she waited for her parents – but they were murdered in Auschwitz.

German title: **VERSTECKTE KINDER – UNBEKANNTE HELDEN**

52min | HD | 16:9 | German, English or French version

Production:

Bjoern Jensen
Ginger Foot Films
Tassiloweg 12
85737 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-890911401
cell: +49 (0) 175-9361543
info@gingerfoot.de

HIDDEN IN THE DESERT

by Klaus Gralow, Roger Pitann, Hans Thull

ARTS | ETHNOLOGY | INDIGENE PEOPLE | SCIENCE

In 1969, the archaeologist Dr W. E. Wendt discovered in the South of Namibia the oldest dated art of Africa: six palm-size fragmented plates from the cradle of humanity and human art. For a long time, art works like these had been known only in Europe. The groundbreaking discovery of Dr Wendt gave the African continent a cultural find of equal value and importance. On the way to the excavation place of this 28,000 year old "bushmen art" some more archaeological places of discovery are inspected, which reveal details about the history of this old art and its creators. The film re-explores the tracks of the 1969 expedition and shows a formadible collection of rock art sites and the impressive landscape of dunes and rocks.



German title: **VERBORGEN IN DER WUESTE**
46min | DigiBeta | DVD | 4:3 | German or English version

Production:
Roger Pitann
Film+Grafik GmbH
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18057 Rostock, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 381-2524999
fax: +49 (0) 381-2526312
info@pitann.de
www.pitann.de

HITLER & STALIN – PORTRAIT OF HOSTILITY

by Ullrich H. Kasten

HISTORY | POLITICS

They never met face to face. They were the representatives of an age-old animosity that soon threatened to tear the world apart. They ascended to the leadership of European dictatorships whose bloody deeds proved worse than any the world had ever known in terms of cruelty and the will to power. Hitler and Stalin. Demon twins, ranging amongst the worst exterminators of human beings ever to live. Opposite poles in terms of ideology – yet brothers with regard to the blood spilled on their account. How did Hitler and Stalin rise to power? What accounts for the similarities and the differences between the two systems and dictatorships? How did they size one another up, how did they deceive each other? This documentary essay ventures into the universe of terror built by Hitler and Stalin. A visual montage incorporating stock footage and film shot on location on the sites of the historical events, creates a tense and troubling dialog between the past and the present.



German title: **HITLER & STALIN – PORTRAIT EINER FEINDSCHAFT**
2x52min or 90min | HDCam | 1080p | German, English or French version

World Sales:
united docs
Breite Str.48-50
50667 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-920 69-33
fax: +49 (0) 221-920 6969
sales@germanunited.com
www.united-docs.com

Produzent:
Looks Filmproduktionen GmbH
www.looksfilm.tv

HITLER'S EASTPRUSSIA

by Florian Huber

HISTORY | EXILE

Hitler's Eastprussia – outline East Prussia as it was: the province along the southeastern Baltic Coast is known for its spectacular landscapes and its old nobility. Nowhere else are the estates as magnificent. The capital city Königsberg is still its spiritual centre. But the people are turning to a new prophet: Adolf Hitler. National Socialism takes East Prussia by storm. For the mostly impoverished farmers it promises help. But disillusionment with the Weimar Republic also leads most of the nobility to side with Hitler. With that the province is pulled into the maelstrom of terror and war. The film presents a portrait of the years 1932-1945 in East Prussia, the period which put a dramatic end to its almost 800 years of existence. Personal memories of contemporary witnesses presented in elaborate re-enactments together with rare archive material provide a sensitive and detailed picture of the social and political upheaval; an ideological flash-in-the-pan, which laid waste to this place like so many others in the world, and which was followed by the largest mass exodus in history. Of 2.5 million East Prussians, 2 million became refugees. As early as 1945, the downfall of old East Prussia was officially signed and sealed. A new era had begun, the state was divided and Königsberg, the former outpost of the German Reich in the east became Kaliningrad, the outpost of the Soviet Union in the West.



German title: **DAMALS IN OSTPREUSSEN**
2x52min or 2x43min or 90min | HDCam | 1080p | German or English version

World Sales:
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50667 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-920 69-33
fax: +49 (0) 221-920 6969
sales@germanunited.com
www.united-docs.com

Produzent:
Looks Filmproduktionen GmbH
www.looksfilm.tv

HOTEL SAHARA

by Bettina Haasen

DAILY LIFE | ETHNOLOGY | EXILE | MIGRATION | SOCIAL BIOTOPE

A dead-straight, endless road leading to nowhere. And at the end of the road: Nouadhibou, a town in the West African country Mauritania, bordered by the ocean on one side and the Sahara Desert on the other. A bleak and inhospitable departure point for the tens of thousands of people that pour in from neighboring countries, all with only one dream in mind: Europe.

Hotel Sahara is a film journey to the last invisible border from the West-African coast to Europe. This place is a metaphor, a point of arrival, of departure, of broken dreams — of waiting for that better life on the far side of the Atlantic. It is above all, a no-man's land, a place of endless waiting, and endless hoping. The film reveals how difficult it is to differentiate between "true" and "false" refugees. Is one "real" only when threatened life and limb? What if one simply desires to escape a deadening lack of perspective? With an observant and cautious eye, Hotel Sahara documents how closely the dream of a better life is linked to sudden stagnancy, and how much patience is required to wait for years to finally, perhaps, arrive somewhere.

Festivals: DOK Leipzig, Nyon, Warsaw, Jihlava, Copenhagen
52min or 85 min | 35mm | DigiBeta PAL | color & b/w original |
Hassaniya/French/English/Igbo version with English, French or German subtitles available



World Sales:
Deckert Distribution
Marienplatz 1
04103 Leipzig, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 341-2156638
fax: +49 (0) 341-2156639
info@deckert-distribution.com

Production:
www.gebrueder-beetz.de

HUNTING SEASON

by Angela Graas

ADVENTURE | CONFLICTS | CONTROVERSY | ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT | NATURE

They're on their way to the Southern Ocean on a special mission. A self-sufficient group, determined to make our world a slightly better place to live in for man and animal. Almost 40 young people from all over the world. Welded together for three months on a 70-metre-long piece of steel civilization ... as Japan intends to kill another 1000 whales south of the 60th parallel.

German title: **JAGDZEIT – DEN WALFAENGERN AUF DER SPUR**
88min | HD | 16:9 | HD | 16:9 | German, French or English version



World Sales:
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80331 Munich, Germany
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Nicleykauf@aol.com

IN BERLIN

by Michael Ballhaus and Ciro Cappellari

ARTS | THEATRE | MUSIC | CITIES | BERLIN



By accompanying 20 very different individuals in today's Berlin, cinematographer Michael Ballhaus and filmmaker Ciro Cappellari sketch a portrait of a modern, stimulating metropolis.

Cinematographer Michael Ballhaus, who transposed the visions of Fassbinder, Scorsese into unforgettable images, returned to Berlin from Hollywood - and didn't recognize his native city. Together with DoP colleague Ciro Cappellari, he rediscovers his hometown, 20 years after the fall of the Wall. The result is a lyrical film essay about the city and the people whose skills, talent and ambition make it such a unique place: less hectic and glamorous than Paris or London, but possibly more stimulating. Among the "Berliners" they portray are Alex Hacke, bass player of the Einstuerzende Neubauten, and his partner Danielle di Picciotto, a performance artist and co-founder of the Love Parade... actresses Angela Winkler and her daughter Nele, who has Down syndrome, yet pursues her career on various Berlin stages... author Peter Schneider, Berlin's mayor Klaus Wowereit, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, a Turkish shop owner, a DJ, fashion designers, a rapper, artists, architects... A colorful array of personalities who are realizing their dreams in Berlin and reinventing the city in the process.

Festivals: Berlinale / SPECIAL
HD blow-up to 35 mm | 1:1.66 | DolbyDigital | German version with English subtitles

World Sales
Bavaria Media GmbH
Thorsten Ritter
Bavariafilmplatz 7
82031 Geiseltal/Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-64992686
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international@bavaria-film.de
www.bavaria-film-international.com

Contact:
cirocappellari.com

Distributor
www.farbfilm-verleih.de

IN SEARCH OF AMERICA

by Petra Haffter

SOCIETY | POLITICS | TRAVEL | DAILY LIFE

Meeting today's Americans What are Americans like today? What do they expect after the Bush-Era? What is on their minds, and what is important to them? We travelled the United States on a hundred-day road trip, exploring the people and landscapes of America. From New England, we drive through the Midwest and on towards California, then back east through the Deep South, ending in Florida. We meet farmers, tour guides, architects, politicians and the homeless. We speak with prison inmates, marines and a death row candidate. We hear from civil rights activists, condom-grannies and Mexican Immigrants. They all have something in common – their strong optimism and belief in their own power, and the power of America.



World Sales:
Marathon
8bd. des Capucines
75009 Paris, France
tel.: +33-1-5310-9138
fax: +33-1-5310-9451
emmab@marathon.fr
www.marathon.fr

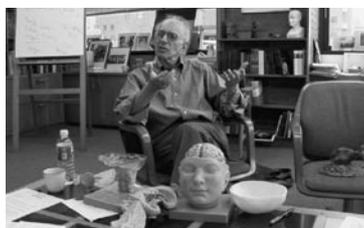
Produzent:
Looks Filmproduktionen GmbH
Fehrbelliner Str.93
10119 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-32306012
www.looksfilm.tv

German title: **UNTERWEGS IN AMERIKA**
5x43min oder 5x52min | HDCam | 1080p | German, English or French version

IN SEARCH OF MEMORY The Neuroscientist Eric Kandel

by Petra Seeger

SCIENCE | NS-POLITICS | PORTRAIT



A documentary biopic about Eric Kandel, winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, one of the most important neuroscientists of the 20th century. His autobiography "In Search of Memory" appeared in March 2006 to great critical acclaim.

Kandel is a Viennese Jew by birth. At the age of nine he was forced to emigrate to the USA. In New York he studied Austrian history and literature, but later qualified in medicine and became a psychoanalyst. For 50 years he has been a neuro-scientist. His research field, which is closely linked with his traumatic childhood experience during the Nazi era in Vienna and the Holocaust, is: the search for memory. This film interweaves Kandel's life-story with the latest advances in his neuro-science. Together with Eric Kandel, who has devoted his life to the search for memory, we set off on a very personal journey into his own memory, the memory of one of the most important neuro-scientists of the 20th century. The journey will take us to the external and internal locations of his childhood in Vienna, to the exciting everyday laboratory life of the scientist at his institute at Columbia University in New York, and right into the center of the brain, to where our memories are stored.

95min or 45min | 16:9 | stereo | original version with German, English or French voice over available

Production
FILMFORM KÖLN GmbH

Distributor / Germany:
W-film / Miriam Pflueger
Gotenring 16
50679 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-2221980
verleih@wfilm.com

IN SEARCH OF THE NIBELUNGEN TREASURE

by Juergen Stumpfhaus

HISTORY | CULTURE

The legend of Siegfried, the famed dragon killer of the Nibelungs, is the most fascinating myth of the Middle Ages. The dramatic story of love, faith and betrayal enthralled audiences worldwide to this day. The legend has long been regarded as the epitome of Germanness – exploited even by the Nazis. In reality, it is a quintessentially pan-European story. Siegfried is Dutch, Brunhild Icelandic; the Burgundian kings are from France, Attila from Hungary. Medieval records of the legend have been found in Sweden, Spain and on the Isle of Man. So what is the "real story" behind the famous saga? The kingdom of Burgundy and Attila, king of the Huns – they really existed. But who was Siegfried in reality? How much historic truth lies at the bottom of the myth and the tragic fate of its characters?

German title: **DER SCHATZ DER NIBELUNGEN**
2x45min or 2x52min | HD | German or French version



World Sales:
Telepool GmbH
Sonnenstr. 21
80331 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-55-876-0
telepool@telepool.de

IT NEVER HAPPENS AS EXPECTED Lived Past in the Black Forest

by Gaby Scheewe-Pfeil

SOCIAL | HISTORY



It seems to be a long time ago but the era, the 45-minutes long documentary immerses in, is more contemporary than thought. Although it is not a story about nostalgia or glorification of the "good old times", but a realistic image of the everyday life of four aged Black Forest protagonists and their extraordinary, endangered profession. This generation was affected by work and acquittal, but these exponents still understand working as a kind of quality of life, despite age-related physical reduction and the dying away fitness. Viewer will experience them at their authentic employment and also as narrators, which can look back on eventful lives.

German title: **ES KOMMT IM LEBEN NIE WIE MAN DENKT – Gelebte Vergangenheit im Schwarzwald**
45min or 52min | HD | 1920x1080 | original German version others on request

World Sales:
Lombardo Films GmbH
Siegestr. 23
80802 Munich, Germany
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fax: +49 (0) 89-216 676 37
office@lombardofilms.com
www.lombardofilms.com

JESUS FREAKS

by Anne Puetz

RELIGION | YOUTH

"Jesus Freaks" documents three young women who have one thing in common: They are Christians, so called Jesus Freaks being in a vivid and very intimate relationship with Jesus. Claire, Mireille and Helke live between God's world and our world. They are haunted by inner conflicts, temptations, sins and twists with Non-Christians. Nevertheless they try to cut their own path.

84min | HDV | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles



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World Sales:
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tel.: +49 (0) 30-25759152
fax: +49 (0) 30-25759264
wolff@dffb.de

JOHN LE CARRÉ – KING OF SPIES

by Werner Koehne and André Schaefer

PORTRAIT | LITERATURE | CULTURE | HISTORY



John le Carré is one of the most important yet underestimated writers of our time. He is radical, angry, analytic, and intelligent. For more than 50 years he has been a dedicated author and a pugnacious witness of contemporary events. His '63 debut bestseller "The Spy Who Came In From the Cold" is a highly ambitious literary work and much more than a novel. Instead it qualifies as a historical document about the Cold War. But the iron curtain has long fallen and le Carré has moved on to new grounds. His latest works have succeeded in critically debating modern day world issues such as globalisation and the resulting new scourge of terrorism. King of Spies presents the viewer with an account of le Carré's past and present, and offers a delightful insight into the mind of a brilliant

German title: **KOENIG DER SPIONE – John le Carré**
90min, 57min or 52 min | HDCam | Digi Beta | 16:9 | German or English version available

Contact:
FLORIANFILM GmbH
Probsteigasse 44-46
50670 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-2005280
fax: +49 (0) 221-2005282
www.florianfilm.de

JONAS BURGERT – PORTRAIT OF A GERMAN ARTIST

by Irene Hoefler

ARTS | CULTURE | PORTRAIT

Being an artist means much more than following dogmas of art or being part of a mainstream interest or impressing people with shocking expressions. Being an artist is passion and necessity of bringing the own on a white canvas.

Jonas Burgert is one of this artists who is driven to paint, he must create the atmosphere which he feels. He does it on a way which hasn't been used on this manner before. He connects the influence of old masters with the freethinking attitude of the renaissance. The documentary accompany his successful career around the world.

German title: **JONAS BURGERT – DIE WELT IST AUS DEN FUGEN**
26min | HD | 16:9 | PAL | German or French version



MEDEA FILM – Irene Hoefler
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JOURNEY TO THE FOREST

by Joern Staeger

EXPERIMENTAL | CULTURE | NATURE



A poetic exploration of a German myth – the forest. As if in trance, the camera's gaze glides over tunnel-like avenues of woodland monocultures, leading the viewer through green spaces created by humankind, ensnaring itself in the chaotic structures of primeval forests and eventually finding its way out via an artificial clearing.

German title: **REISE ZUM WALD**
Festivals/awards: BERLINALE/ nominated for "Golden Baeren - Shorts", Cork / Best Short Film, Regensburg / Max Bresele Memory Award, Toronto, Cermont Ferrand, Athens, Oberhausen, Alcaline Madrid a.m.o.
7min | 35mm | DolbySR | color

Distribution & World Sales:
KFA shortfilmagency Hamburg
Stefanie Reis
tel.: +49 (0) 40-391063-19
sales@shortfilm.com

Contact:
Joern Staeger
tel.: +49 (0) 175-20 13 177
StaegerJ@aol.com

THE JUNGLE RADIO

by Susanne Jaeger

CONFLICTS | GENDER IDENTITY | WOMEN | SOCIAL | HUMAN RIGHTS



This project tells the story of a civil radio station operating from a village in the middle of the jungle in Nicaragua. Its founder uses radio broadcasting to fight against discrimination and violence in a male dominated society to provide a message of hope to her listeners. The project captures the spirit of the people involved and the unconventional methods used to fight for justice and equality.

German title: **DAS DSCHUNGELRADIO**
90min | HD | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German, English, Spanish version

Contact:
Jägerfilme-Ariefilms GbR
Senefeldter Str. 19
10437 Berlin, Germany
cell.: +49 (0) 179-5990328
sj@susannejaeger.com

KALLAWAYA – Traditional Medicine in the Andes

by Christoph Corves and Delia Castiñeira HUMAN INTEREST | ECOLOGY | ETHNOLOGY | PORTRAIT | INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Kallawaya - Traditional Medicine in the Andes - is a 26-minute documentary about Walter Alvarez, a Kallawaya healer who combines the traditional medicine of his Andean ancestors with western medicine. Above all, Walter is an intriguing and optimistic character. As a member of the Bolivian Parliament he has fought for the recognition of traditional medicine. He is a multi-faceted character who moves without problems between his role as a traditional Kallawaya healer in remote highland villages and urban life in the busy capital of Bolivia. There he runs radio and television shows on traditional medicine. He strongly believes that traditional Kallawaya medicine with its focus on preventing illness through a healthy and balanced diet holds great potential for poor people to lead a better life.

German title: **KALLAWAYA – Traditionelle Medizin in den Anden**
26min | DV onto DigiBeta | PAL | 4:3 | English version (English narration, interviews subtitled) others on request



Production & World Sales:
DOKUFAKTUR Medienproduktion
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& Delia Castiñeira GbR
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24235 Lutterbek, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 4343-424737
fax: +49 (0) 4343-424738
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KANUN – THE LAW OF HONOUR

by Marc Wiese

RELIGION | VENDETTA | ALBANIA | WAR&PEACE | WOMEN

In northern Albania, people's lives are defined by the vendetta. Fearful of the avengers, thousands of people dare not leave their homes. Death awaits them the moment they cross the threshold of their door. A German nun is the only person resisting the bloodthirsty ritual of honor killings. Christian knows every crack and every bump on the wall in front of him. For twelve years, he has not left this room because his father murdered someone. His last hope is the German nun, Sister Christina Färber. She is a mediator and is trying to achieve the near impossible. She is hoping to get the two families, sworn enemies, to abandon their vendetta and seek reconciliation. Only a few times has she ever been successful.

This is a film about families immersed in the culture of the vendetta, living – and dying – by the laws of honor. Only Sister Christina is struggling to overcome this violent ritual and the KANUN.

German title: **KANUN – BLUT FUER DIE EHRE**
Festivals: FIPA Biarritz 2009
92min | DVCpro | HD | 16:9 | German/English version with English or French subtitles available



World Sales:
United Docs/German United Distributors
Breite Str. 48-50
50667 Cologne, Germany
www.germanunited.com

Production:
Engstfeld Film GmbH
Theodor-Heuss-Ring 26
50668 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 221-12 05 10
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info@engstfeldfilm.de

KISS THE MOON – Chan di Chummi

by Khalid Gill

GENDER IDENTITY | SOCIETY | CULTURE | DAILY LIFE | DANCE



...I wish I had a real lover... ...I wish I had a husband, a child and a family of my own... ...but this cruel world will never let that happen. These are the words one hears when it becomes intimate between you and "Khusras", a strongly in-grouped community in Pakistan. A country ruled by a mix of religious fanaticism, military and under-grown democratic elite. KISS THE MOON is a passionate attempt to create an intimate contact with the Khusra community, to comprehend how it feels to live in a world where life, in a very black and white way, is always either masculine or feminine. The ultimate goal of the film is to cross the boundaries of gender and talk about the issues of "being", and of the endless desire to be loved and to love.

Original title: **CHAN DI CHUMMI**
Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
80min | DigiBeta | HD | original Punjabi version with English or German subtitles available

Production:
Say Cheese Productions GmbH
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10435 Berlin, Germany
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www.saycheeseproductions.com

THE KOREAN WEDDING CHEST

by Ulrike Ottinger

ETHNOLOGIE | CITIES | WOMEN | SOCIETY



When I opened a Korean email in fall 2007 I didn't imagine that I would soon be opening a well-stocked miracle box, the inspiring contents of which would become a film: THE KOREAN WEDDING CHEST. Even though (or especially because) this carefully packed, filled, and tied-up wooden chest was assembled according to the rules of an honored tradition, it offers a remarkable insight into and overview of modern Korean society. I was inspired to look more closely at the old and new rituals to determine what is old in the new and new in the old. A modern fairytale about the amazing phenomenon of new mega cities emerging everywhere and their contradictory societies caught in the balancing act. Bon voyage into the present!

Commissioned by the International Women's Film Festival in Seoul.



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German title: **DIE KOREANISCHE HOCHZEITSTRUHE**

Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM

82min | 35mm | DolbySR | German/Korean or English/Korean with German or English subtitles available

THE LAST APPLAUSE

by German Kral

MUSIC | DANCE

El Último Aplauso tells the emotional story of a group of old forgotten tango singers from Buenos Aires, who for many years used to perform together in one of the city's most famous tango bars, the "Bar El Chino".

After the owner of the bar mysteriously died in 2001, it was taken over by his widow and her new partner. Just a couple of weeks later, this incredible place lay in ruins.

El Último Aplauso follows the lives of these forgotten tango singers from 1999 until today. It shows their struggle to earn a living after the closure of the bar during the country's biggest-ever economic crisis and their desperate dream to sing just one more time in front of an audience. After the old singers meet the young tango musicians of the "Orquesta Típica Imperial" they are able to realize their dream: to give one last concert and to bask in the warm audience applause, maybe for the last time in their lives...

German title: **DER LETZTE APPLAUS**

Festivals: Hof

88min | 35mm | HDCam SR | DigiBeta | original Spanish version with English or German subtitles available



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atrixfilms@gmx.net

LENINGRAD The Man Who Sings

by Peter Rippl

MUSIC | CULTURE | RUSSIA | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

The Story of a Boy-Band "Made in Russia".

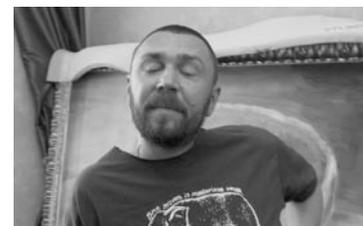
First feature documentary on Russian underground superstars. Packed with rollicking live footage "The Man who sings" is a feature film documentary on Russian Polkapunkband Leningrad. Playing a weird mix of Polka, Ska, Tango, Punk and traditional popular music these 15 conservatory educated "Punks" obtained cult status at the end of the nineties in Russia.

But the film is more than just the bands onstage magic. It gives you an insight into how people perceived the massive changes in Russia over the past years, the dynamics of a fast, colourful and difficult decade. You'll meet many people, in many different roles: Mastermind Shnurov as a rock star and a diligent worker, Leningrad fans and opponents, music business representatives, artists... with all but unanimous opinions on music, friendship, money, politics, language, and business.

German title: **LENIGRAD – Der Mann, der singt**

Festivals: MOFFOM Int. Festival for Music Films Prague (in Competition)

96min or 52 min | HDcam | BetaSP | HD quicktime movie | Russian with English or German subtitles available



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World Sales:
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LETTER TO ANNA The Story of Journalist Politkovskaya's Death

by Eric Bergkraut

POLITICS | CONFLICTS | WOMEN | HUMAN RIGHTS



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World Sales for the rest of the world
Accent films international
Carol Spycher
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On October 7th, 2006 Vladimir Putin's 54th birthday, the journalist Anna Politkovskaya is shot in the lift of her Moscow home. Anna's death is a personal tragedy: she has just learnt that she is to become a grandmother. But the murder is also a political act, for Politkovskaya was the President's fiercest critic with regard to the war in Chechnya. Why was she shot in cold blood, this elegant woman who was always on the side of the weak and those who had no rights?

LETTER TO ANNA – a personal quest featuring numerous previously unpublished recordings.

LETTER TO ANNA – a political film, which shows how the Russian government is putting the wheel of history in reverse and sheds a dramatic light on the current status of freedom of press and opinion in Putin's Russia.

German title: **EIN ARTIKEL ZU VIEL – Anna Politkowskaja und das System Putin**

Festivals/Awards: Silverdocs AFI/Discovery Channel, Prague / Vaclav Havel Award , Nomination Special Jury Prize and Toronto / Nomination Best International Feature Documentary, Nyon, Sofia a.o.

52min or 83min | 16:9 | HDCam | DigiBeta | DVD | Russian with English subtitles available

LINCOLN'S LAST NIGHT

by Wilfried Hauke

PORTRAIT | HISTORY | DOCU-DRAMA

Abraham Lincoln is the embodiment of the American Dream: his vision a free America united in peace and the abolishment of slavery made him an icon. Lincoln's ideas resulted in a many casualties during the Civil War and eventually put himself in the line of fire himself.

Our docu-drama tells the fascinating story of Abraham Lincoln and his assassin John Wilkes Booth, who planned the assassination like a Shakespeare plot.

LINCOLN'S LAST NIGHT was filmed at historic locations and feature film sets in the US. A cast of more than 80 actors brings these recreations to life and creates an authentic view into Lincoln's America.

German title: **LINCOLNS LETZTER TAG**

2x52min | HDCam | 16:9 | color & b/w | German English or French version



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LIVERPOOL – BEAT CITY

by Irene Langemann

ARTS | CULTURE | CITIES



Liverpool, the 2008 European Capital of Culture, is celebrating its cultural heritage and its modern artistic diversity. The metropolis has indeed spawned numerous influential artists that have gone on to international fame in the spheres of literature, architecture, film and music. And, when it comes to Pop Music, the most famous sons of the city are perhaps also the most influential: The Beatles. The film partakes in a journey of discovery to the lively and refreshing city of Liverpool with the most popular Beatles cover band – The Mersey Beatles.

60min | HD | 16:9 | German or English version (voice over)

Production:

Lichtfilm GmbH
Vogteistr. 16
50670 Cologne, Germany
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LOVE IN INDIA

by Q

CULTURE | SOCIETY

India is the birthplace of love. There's nowhere else in the world where so much is dedicated to the idolizing and immortalizing of the concept of romance. India was one of the first civilizations to recognize the human need for love and give cultural expression to that, in poems, pictures and monuments. LOVE IN INDIA looks at how the concept of love has evolved and changed over the centuries. From the Kama Sutra to Shak Rukh Khan's Bollywood movies, the viewer is treated to a voyage of discovery looking into love's promises and deceptions right up to the modern day.

90min | DigiBeta | PAL | original Hindi version with English subtitles available



World Sales:

Deckert Distribution
Marienplatz 1
04103 Leipzig, Germany
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info@deckert-distribution.com

LOVE ON 8MM

by Friederike Schlumbom and Adama Ulrich

CULTURE | SOCIETY | PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW



8mm LIEBE investigates how love can be captured on film. Twelve amateur filmmakers from Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic and France open their private archives and tell us what they wanted to archive by recording their love on celluloid. When did they start to film the love of their life, when and why did they stop? Do their films reflect their relationships or do they seem in retrospect, like a glorified distortion of reality? The students Liza and Sebastian from Stuttgart filmed each other on 8mm in order to record and analyse the development of their love, whereas Carmen and Andreas from GDR celebrated their love on camera, hoping to change the world by it. To Johannes from Vienna, the film camera offered a new and alluring perspective on love and the act of love. The German-Moroccan couple from Berlin, Tina and Samo, however, found a unique way of keeping communications between Germany and Morocco alive by video camera and webcam. At the end of the documentary, the question remains: can the happiest moment of one's love life be captured on film?

German title: **8mm LIEBE**

Festivals: DOK Leipzig

43min or 72min | DigiBeta | German version with English subtitles available

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MADE IN DEUTSCHLAND

by Hans-Erich Viet

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CULTURE



What is going on in Germany? Is Germany really a pain in the neck? And if so, why? In this documentary road-movie shot between 2005 and 2008, director Hans-Erich Viet travels through Germany to find out just how the German soul ticks. The journey took place without any concrete planned destinations, but rather was determined through the events that took place and offers answers to all the moaning and groaning going on in Germany today.

German title: **DEUTSCHLAND NERVT**

103min | 35mm | HD | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:

COIN FILM GmbH
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MAMA, L'CHAIM! – Mama, To Life!

by Elkan Spiller

ORAL-HISTORY | NS-POLITICS | WOMEN

62-year-old Chaim lives with his 95-year-old mother, a concentration camp survivor. Knowing what his parents had endured, Chaim made it his mission in life to care for them as they got older and now attends to his mother 24 hours a day, living with his mother together in a Jewish residential home for the elderly. These lively and humorous characters share both the light-hearted antics of daily life and the tears and memories of the Holocaust. Like his name, Chaim stands for life. With faith and humor, he accepts his fate and never gives up hope. L'Chaim! (To Life!)



German title: **Mama, L'Chaim! – Auf das Leben, Mutti!**
Festivals: Berlinale/SHORTS, Miami Jewish Film Festival
awards: Los Angeles /Holcaust Museum 1st Price in a video competition
5min 15sec | DVD | DigiBeta | HDCam | SR original German/English version with English/German subtitles

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MARY POPPINS WANTED

by Christiane Mannini

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | WOMEN | YOUTH

Only pretty rich families are able to afford professional private education for their children. Well skilled and adequate domestic service staff such as a nanny for childcare at home is rare and expensive. The elite of nannies is trained and educated at time-honoured Norland College in South England. Employment at nobility, jet-set or celebrity is assured for the alumni of Norland, but apprenticeship for the „Childcare Nurses“ at the college is challenging and tautly organized. To live a life for the children of others is special and not always easy to go. But there are a lot of stories to tell. The film accompanies women that are becoming, living as, or formerly have been Nannies. With its observation, it provides insights in this very special and private sphere work.



German title: **MARY POPPINS GESUCHT – Profis im Kinderzimmer**
60min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German, French, English

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keller@telekult.de
www.telekult.de

MATERIAL

by Thomas Heise

PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW | CULTURE | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | HISTORY | SOCIETY

"Something always remains, a rest, that cannot be subsumed." (From EISENZIT 1991) The Film MATERIAL contains observations, scenes, fragments, stories and processes. Images from the late eighties in the GDR to the immediate present of the year 2008 in Germany. The montage of these images creates a picture of these times, where past, present and future mirror one another. It is my picture. In 1987 author Heiner Müller brought me a video camera back from West Berlin and I began using it to record images. Observations from the theatre and small scenes from the everyday reality of a disappearing state. Early 1990 this state was finished, all tapes were full and the camera was broken. Other cameras have sporadically taken its place. A Super 8, a 16mm and a 35mm camera, a DigiBetacam, and a DV-camera. The images from these cameras were produced to the left and to the right of the films I have made since then. Some of these excursions became part of these films, while others were never used. Ever since, those leftover images have besieged my head, constantly reassembling themselves into new shapes that are further and further removed from their original meaning and function. They remain in motion. They become history; they become a story. Now is the time to tell it. This film is not a polished end product; it is told from a very personal point of view. It shows what I saw, what caught my attention and what I held on to. It tells the story of a lot of people that start talking for the first time. And often only for that one time, after a long period of waiting and silence. A rare and often unexpected moment. Like a short awakening. I become aware that I am one of those people.



166min | HDCam | DigiBeta | BetaSP | PAL | color & b/w | original German version with English subtitles available
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM

World Sales:
Deckert Distribution
Marienplatz 1
04103 Leipzig, Germany
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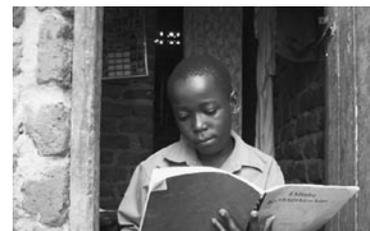
MEMORY BOOKS

by Christa Graf

YOUTH | LITERATURE | AFRICA | WOMEN

In Uganda, AIDS-infected mothers have begun writing what they call Memory Books for their children. In front of the small brick house Dennis and Chrissi brush their teeth every evening in the dim glow of the oil lamp. The 10-year-old watches his little sister conscientiously as they get ready for bed. Since their mother died of AIDS two years ago they are both orphans, two of more than two million of their kind in Uganda. There are few countries in Africa that have more households run by orphaned children and, despite extensive efforts by the government to raise awareness, experts on the subject predict that nearly 35% of Uganda's population is infected with HIV. When the parents die, the children are forced to look after themselves. A very special project has emerged in Uganda as a result: Memory Books, written by infected parents, mostly mothers, and their children. Aware of the illness, it is a way for the family to come to terms with the inevitable death that it faces. Openly, honestly and compassionately, the books give the children a chance to prepare themselves for life on their own. Values and traditions are passed on in the form of stories, fairytales and songs and the family's history is recorded with the children's favorite memories or their parent's wishes for the future. The books not only capture immeasurably valuable memories, but also allow members of the family to process some gruesome realities and prepare for the future. Hopelessness and desperation are confronted through the collaborative effort of remembering and recording, a process that inspires unexpected strength and even solace in the face of death. These books will likely be the most important guidelines that these orphans have to lead them through life.

Awards: URTI Grand Prix for Author's Documentary Monte Carlo, Prix Micheline Vaillancourt Montreal, Grand Prix des Jeunes Européens FIPA, Shortlist German Filmprize, Nomination Camera Prize 92min or 52min | HDCam | DCP Master | DigiBeta, Beta SP | 16:9 | stereo
German, English, French (dubbed versions), Spanish, Italian (original version with subtitles)



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Production:

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www.kickfilm.com

THE MIDWIFE

by Juli Lambert

HUMAN INTEREST | WOMEN | FAMILY | PORTRAIT

The observational documentary shows the work of the midwife Annette Hoeck. She cares for mother and newborn at home during the first period after birth: Just ten hours old Vroni is the shining heart in her family. She has already two siblings. Little Laura is the first child of her happy parents. And nothing can bring Lotte from the peace, whether her sister romps just very loud around her or not. The film follows in its dramaturgy this intense and exciting first phase of approaching a new life within families. For this to succeed Annette worries not only about health, but explores in conversation with the mother the mood and gently but purposefully draws attention to what is positive.

"At the same time I am constantly faced with a situation, which I will never know by experience: to have own children."

German title: **DIE HEBAMME**

43min30sec or 47min37sec (35mm) or 52min | DigiBeta | 4:3 | German version with English subtitles available



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MOSCONI – OR TO WHOM BELONGS THE WORLD

by Jeanine Meerapfel

SOCIAL | ECOLOGY | WORK | CONFLICTS

General Mosconi is a small town in the North of Argentina, rich with oil and gas. 1993 the state owned enterprise, YPF, that gave work, health care and education to the whole region, was privatised. The unemployment rate climbed to 70 percent, the whole infrastructure system collapsed. The town is an example for what is today understood as the loss of state and politics.

Today, the majority of people living there cannot even afford a bottle of gas (gas is the cheapest energy source in Argentina). Water is only available six hours a day and then it's mostly polluted. All public institutions are basically shut down and offer services only sporadically. The main characters of this film are members of the UTD, the union for unemployed workers in Mosconi. The press calls them „piqueteros“, they call themselves social workers. They have developed creative and unusual strategies of survival and ways of re-establishing the social network, that serve as a model for protest demonstrations throughout the country. This film is about their projects, their beliefs, their attitude towards life. It was shot during the course of a film-workshop organized by the Goethe Institute.

79min or 53min | DigiBeta | Betacam | original Spanish version with English or German subtitles



Production:

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MY CLASS – FROM RUSSIA WITH RELATIVITY

by Ekaterina Eremenko

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | EXILE | HISTORY | SCIENCE

“My Class” is a film about the brain drain, about tradition and globalisation, about materialism and idealism and not least about national identity.

In 1982, 26 young specially gifted pupils are accepted at the school for Natural Sciences in the Soviet Union. Graduating from this school guarantees a most promising future. But then Perestroika happens, the old order collapses. Today, those pupils are spread all over the world and hardly any of them are still employed within scientific research.

With her film, the director Ekaterina Eremenko undertakes a very personal journey into her past in order to meet her former classmates once again and to find out, what has become of them.

German title: **MY CLASS – WAS AUS UNS WURDE**

Awards: Message to Man International Film Festival 2008, nominated for the Russian National Documentary Award “LAVR” for best art film, awarded the special prize at the Open Film Festival “Frescoes of the North”, awarded Special prize at the “Kinoteatr.doc” Festival

90min | 16:9 | HD | DigiBeta | Russian with German and English subtitles



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MY FATHER. MY UNCLE.

by Christoph Heller

MIGRATION | FAMILY | IRAK | ISLAM | RELIGION

Sinan was born in 1979 in Mosul Iraq, the fourth child of an Iraqi couple. His parents decided upon his birth to give him to their brother Farouk, who had been unable to conceive with his German wife Brunhild. The two of them became Sinan's adoptive parents. In 1982 Brunhild decided to flee Iraq for Darmstadt in Germany. The adoptive father and birth parents remained in Iraq. In the spring of 2007, after years of searching Sinan's family found him through the internet and reconnected with him. A few months later Sinan finally met his Iraqi birthfamily in the United Arab Emirates. Up until the last moment Sinan displayed reservation about both his family and Arabic culture in general, however, upon meeting his father his attitude changed.



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German title: **MEIN VATER. MEIN ONKEL.**
80min | HDCam | original version with German or English subtitles available

MY FATHERS HOUSE

by Michael Majerski

ORAL-HISTORY | CONFLICTS | WAR&PEACE



The last remaining witnesses who could not leave the former German territories at the end of World War II talk about their first encounters with the new Polish resettlers who took over their homes and farms in 1945. What distinguishes My Father's House from other films about this subject matter is the direct confrontation between the former enemies. For the first time, Polish witnesses break their long silence to tell what they saw back then.

German title: **MEINES VATERS HAUS**
84min | DVD | BetaSP | original version with German and Polish subtitles available

Production:

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MY LIFE WITH CARLOS

by Germán Berger Hertz

ORAL HISTORY | HUMAN RIGHTS | PORTRAIT | EXILE | POLITICS | PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW

On October 19th 1973 Carlos Berger Guralnik was killed along with 70 other opponents in the Chilean Atacama desert by Pinochets 'caravana de la muerte' (Death Convoy). His body has never been found. Of Carlos only the remembering of his family is left. Thirty years later his only son, Germán Berger Hertz, traces the life and death of Carlos. The documentary is a personal search of a son for his father, in which the turbulent history of Chile is reflected until today.



Production:
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Heinrich-Roller-Str. 15
10405 Berlin | Germany
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fax: +49 (0) 30-69566915
info@gebrueder-beetz.de
www.beetz-brothers.eu

German title: **MEIN LEBEN MIT CARLOS**

90min | HD | 16:9 | color & b/w |
original Spanish/English version with English subtitles available

NATURE BEFORE US

by Niels Bolbrinker

ARTS | NATURE | CULTURE | PHOTOGRAPHY

In the summer of 1938, German painter and landscape photographer Alfred Ehrhardt and his wife Lotte travelled to Iceland. Ehrhardt, a former Bauhaus student and one of the most important of the New Objectivity photographers, was looking for artistic form in nature and the fundamental forms of art. The film follows Ehrhardt's expeditions to Iceland, the Mudflats and the Curonian Spit and uses his wonderful photographs to address the question posed by Cees Noteboom: "Something in nature, and not by design, radiates a great beauty. But whose beauty is it? That of nature or of the photographer's work?" NATURE BEFORE US is a rediscovery of Alfred Ehrhardt's long-forgotten work at a time of global environmental crisis when its message could not be more appropriate: "Creation is not a matter of a few days at the beginning of time. Creation is taking place constantly and everywhere. We exist in its midst and contribute to it constantly."

German title: **DIE NATUR VOR UNS**

80min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | color & b/w | English and German version
Festivals: Wiesbaden, Sao Paulo



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filmtank@filmtank.de

OFF WAYS

by Uli M. Schueppel

MUSIC | BERLIN | GERMAN -REUNIFICATION | CULTURE

At noon on December 21st, 1989 the members of EINSTUERZENDE NEUBAUTEN – a band then hailed as West-German cult export – hit the road in West Berlin for their very first concert in East Berlin, capital of the GDR.

And as yet, it is a long, unusual way from Berlin Kreuzberg to Berlin Lichtenberg, into the Wilhelm Pieck-Hall of the industrial plant VEB Elektrokohle. As yet there is the wall and as yet there are border controls...

Filmmaker Uli M Schueppel, a friend of the band, accompanied EINSTUERZENDE NEUBAUTEN throughout this 'extraordinary' day – extraordinary for the musicians who for the most part had grown up in West Berlin and who previously had never been granted an official permit to perform in the GDR. Extraordinary, because the concert in the evening had been pulled off through mediation of GDR playwright Heiner Mueller, who was friends with Blixa Bargeld at that time, and who also would introduce the concert with a short speech. The fact, that he appeared backstage with a delegation of French ministers (amongst them then Culture Minister Jack Lang) belongs to the bizarre side occurrences of this day...

But most notably, this concert is also an extraordinary event for the GDR audience, which associated much with the name and concept of EINSTUERZENDE NEUBAUTEN, and which was suddenly – facing the band and the West – confronted with their projections. What happened back then, on that particular day – 'in between'? This film now conflates these ways of West and East. 20 years later some of the concertgoers trace those paths that led them to the concert hall of the VEB Elektrokohle. Sometimes from around the neighbourhood, sometimes from Berlin's surroundings, or even from barracks 300km away – retrospectively they reflect this way, which on the one hand led them to this once-in-a-lifetime pop event, and at the same time to the German reunification.

Out of these various Western/Eastern ways to the concert emerges a temporal mosaic of Berlin on this 'extraordinary' day – a journey back to a German 'in between-time'.

German title: **VON WEGEN**

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
91min | HD-CAM SR | original German version with English subtitles available



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OF SHARKS AND MAN

by Dirk Steffens

NATURE | ENVIRONMENT | SERIES

OF SHARKS AND MEN shows for the first time in HD the complete story of humans and sharks, with all the fear, blood shed and reverence it embodies. We examine the relationship between sharks and men – what it is now, how it used to be, and why it came to be this way. We explain what sharks really mean to us – and what we really mean to them. From Shark Fin Soup to habitat destruction, we show what humans are doing to drive sharks into extinction. And we show the profound impact that their extinction would have on every last one of us. To showcase the relationship between sharks and men, we travel the world (South Africa, Florida, Bahamas) to find the most interesting, most bizarre and most intriguing stories of human-shark-interaction. We show cutting-edge shark science and talk to psychologists, we hear from the victims of shark attacks how their experiences have changed their lives, and explore the myths and misconceptions the media has spread about sharks.

German title: **VON HAIEN UND MENSCHEN**
4x52min | HDCam | 1080p | German, English, French version



World Sales:
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lea.laubacher@europeimages.com
www.europeimages.com

Producer:
Gunnar Dedio
dedio@looksfilm.tv

THE ONE MAN VILLAGE

by Simon El Habre

WAR&PEACE | PORTRAIT

Semaan is leading a quiet life on his farm in the small village Ain el-Halazoun in the Lebanese mountains. The hamlet was completely emptied and destroyed in combats during the civil war in Lebanon between 1975 and 1990. Today, many years after an official reconciliation, its inhabitants which are all from one family regularly go back to the village to cultivate their plots of land or visit their houses and always leave before sunset. In his comforting and humorous film Simon El Habre observes the life in his quasi ghost village and tries to reflect on the collective and individual memory in a country that seems to live in a collective amnesia and is vulnerable to a new civil war.

A film that goes under the skin. (Al-Mustaqbal, Reema Mismar)

Thrilling, painful, mature and very well done. It announces the birth of real cinematographer, who combines courage and talent. A film that has no place for hatred. (Al-Akhbar, Pierre Abi Saab)

Original title: **SEMAAN BIL DAY'IA**
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM
86 min | HDCAM | original Arabic version with English subtitles available



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ON SUFFERANCE

by Silvana Santamaria

MIGRATION | YOUTH | HUMAN INTEREST

On sufferance tells the story of a romanian family who has been living in Germany for 15 years with the residence permit status of being tolerated. Hajrije, the single parent mother, is 42 years old. She lives with her 3 kids Arduan (16 years old), Ramize (14 years old), Bobby (12 years old), her grandniece Melissa (7 years old) and Mee (Arduan's girlfriend) in the problem district Stuttgart Fasanenhof. Indeed, the life in Germany might offer a certain security for the romanian family concerning racist assaults; nevertheless, is not easy for the Husenis to manage their everyday life. Because of their residence permit status they can be deported to the Kosovo at every time. Efforts to get a stay permit seem to be hopeless after 15 years of trying. Especially the younger family members worry how the life of the family will go on and what could be done to get another chance to stay in Germany.

German title: **STATUS: GEDULDET**
Festivals/awards: DOK Leipzig, European Young CIVIS Media Prize, Seal of Approval "highly recommended"
61min | HDV onto DigiBeta | HD-CAM | 16: 9 | original German version with English subtitles available



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ON THE CUTTING EDGE

by Ephraim Broschkowski and Soeren Lauinger

CITY | ECONOMY | PORTRAIT | WORK | GLOBALIZATION



For more than 140 years medical devices have been built in Tuttlingen, a small town in rural Swabia. An extraordinary tradition of craftsmanship, ranging from small family enterprises to large companies with a leading position on the world market. The film portrays a region where much of what has been a defining feature for more than a century is bound to change withing a few years. In the context of global economy, Tuttlingen is closely linked to Sialkot, Pakistan – another centre of medical technology. Sialkot's production facilities are likley to soon be capable of competing for market leadership. The film collects impressions from both places, documenting similarities and differences in the context of globalization.

German titles: **AUF MESSERS SCHNEIDE – Innenansichten aus dem Medical Valley**
83min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

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www.fechnermedia.de

THE "OSSIS" OF NAMIBIA

by Klaus Gralow, Roger Pitann, Hans Thull

WAR&PEACE | EXILE | GERMAN-REUNIFICATION | MIGRATION

The film tells the personal story of the so-called "GDR-Kids", who could escape from Namibian liberation struggle to their refuge in East Germany. Touching archive material describes their arrival in 1978 and the life at the East German boarding school up to the day they had to step again onto the ground of their motherland in Africa. Politicians, educators, teachers and adoptive parents from the GDR and from Namibia comment the political background of this time. Today the former "GDR-children" try to find their own identity between Africa and Europe, the modern independent Namibia and the communist East Germany, that has already quit to exist 18 years ago. They speak about themselves, about eleven years of their life in East Germany, an education as future leaders, the time in Namibia, about their home country and their families.

German title: **DIE "OSSIS" VON NAMIBIA**
Festivals: Filmfest Schleswig-Holstein, Wismar
60min or 90min | DigiBeta | DVD | 16:9 | German version with English subtitles available



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PEACE BRIGADES Unarmed Bodyguards in Mexico and Colombia

by Rasmus Gerlach

CONFLICTS | HUMAN RIGHTS | WAR&PEACE | PORTRAIT

For twenty-five years peace-brigades have been active in countries, in which men and women are 'disappearing'. As unarmed bodyguards they accompany targets of political killers – sometimes around the clock.

PBI has been protecting people from the threat of death squadrons in Guatemala, Haiti, Timor, El Salvador, Indonesia, Columbia and Mexico. Now teams are also being set up in Nepal and Congo. Even in places like Mexico-City the work of the peace-brigades is still necessary – because there are still human-rights activists 'disappearing'. Rasmus Gerlach's new documentary follows PBI-activists not only through the Colombian jungle but also into prisons and bloody battles with the police in Bogota. A VJ-work done under dangerous circumstances...

79min | DigiBeta | PAL | 16:9 | DVD | original Spanish version with English soundtrack available



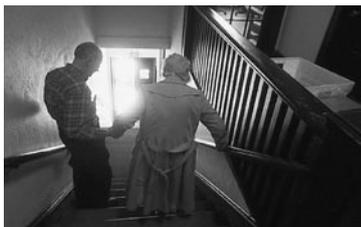
Production:
moonlightmovies
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PENSIONERS INC

by Bertram Verhaag

SOCIAL

The average age of the employees at the Vita Needle Company, a needle and tubing factory near Boston, is an amazing 74 years. The Boss Frederik Hartmann swears by his 35 working pensioners. In just five years they helped to increase companies sales by 100 percent! These employees "hired for life" like Mary, Marion, Paul, Tom, Ann and Rosa, all between 75 and 96 years of age found a new home, feel happy in their community and are needed. They are loyal, have a strong sense of responsibility and are highly motivated. Rivalries or power struggles have no place in their lives. The free choice of working times and working hours leaves them enough time for grandchildren, doctors appointments or gymnastic. In their interviews, in a touching and endearing way, the elderly workers at the needle factory reveal their newfound sense of self-confidence. Full of joy and vitality, they describe how happy they are working together, and also talk about the dream they all share: to be able to climb up the steps leading to the production hall for as long as possible! Hartmanns innovative approach seriously questions attitudes in our society, which treats even people as young as 50 as being virtually incompetent.



Production:
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German title: **RENTNER GMBH**

Festivals: Globian FF, GreenUnplugged FF

52min or 28min30sec | DigiBeta | original English version with German voice over available

pereSTROIKA – reCONSTRUCTION of a Flat

by Christiane Büchner

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIAL | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



The film „pereSTROIKA – reCONSTRUCTION of a flat“ shows the sale of a communal flat in St.Petersburg. In such a flat each room has another owner and accordingly the sale of such a complicated piece of real estate becomes nerve-racking for everybody involved. At the end even an inconspicuous ink-spot is able to decide on the fate of these people on their way into better living conditions.

German title: **pereSTROIKA – umbAU einer Wohnung**

Festivals: DOK Leipzig

84min | HD | 35mm | original Russian version with German or English subtitles available

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www.buechnerfilm.de/perestroika

PIANOMANIA

by Lilian Franck & Robert Cibis

CULTURE | MUSIC | PORTRAIT | WORK

Pianomania is a portrayal of Stefan Knuepfer, the virtuosic piano tuner from Steinway, Austria, and his many famous clients at work, including Lang Lang, Alfred Brendel, Andrej Grivilov, Mitsuko Uchida, Rudolf Buchbinder and Pierre-Laurent Aimard; the film offers an unusual and amusing look behind the heavy curtains at major concerts. This film is about the quest for the perfect tone. It shows each obstacle that is created by abandoning everyday routine and surrendering oneself to Art.



The fortitude that devotion engenders, the supreme love of perfection and of divine moments; and yet the refusal to bask in one's glory. Our protagonists are world-renowned pianists and their hero, piano tuner Stefan Knuepfer; and all are obsessed with the idea of the perfect sound.

Festivals: Max Ophuels Preis

95min or 52min | HD | 35mm | DVD | 16:9 original | German version with English subtitles available

Production:

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THE PIER OF APOLONOVKA

by Andrei Schwartz

YOUTH | DAILY | LIFE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



The people on the pier of Sevastopol Bay are a symbol of the inextricable dilemma in which the city finds itself: too impoverished for splendour and glory, and much too alive for the scrap-heap. People such as handsome 14-year-old Push, who finds mopeds much cooler than girl, or shy 13-year-old Nastja, still mourning her lost first love, spend their summer together on the pier. Even 80-year-old Galina still has a few tears to spare for the bass voice of her erstwhile lover, but not before she completes her morning swim at Apolonovka's run-down beach. And then again there's wiry, long-distance swimmer Sergej who, despite his 85 years, would certainly never consider neglecting the 'third point' of health - sex. Finally we meet Vova and Andrej on the pier: one a tattooed former prisoner the other a discharged police officer - now working together illegally as divers next to the ships of the Black Sea Fleet.

A summer on Sevastopol's pier, a place made fascinating by the encounter between parallel worlds.

German title: **AM PIER VON APOLONOVKA**

Festivals: Amsterdam, Leipzig

86min or 58min | HD | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original Ukrainian version with English or German subtitles available

Production:

Eikon Media GmbH
www.eikon-film.de

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THE POETRY OF SOUND

by Ingo Rudloff

ARTS | MUSIC | CONFLICTS



"Touch the sound of Baschet instruments during performance and manufacturing."

German title: **DIE POESIE DES GERAUESCHES**

21min | HD | 16:9 | without text

Production:

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PRETZELS, POLKA AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

by Hanni Welter

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CULTURE | ETHNOLOGY | MIGRATION

A cowboy, an attorney, a retired couple and two best friends. Four locations. Four lifestyles. And still one basic common ground: They are all Texans with German ancestry.

PRETZELS, POLKA AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS goes on a German journey in Texas. The film takes a present-day look at Americans of German descent and challenges self-images and the perception by others. Four pairs of protagonists introduce us to a world which appears to be stunningly

German. people sing German songs, celebrate Octoberfests and adhere to the German language and to old family traditions in a nostalgic kind of way. In doing so, pride, shame, cliché and a sense of tradition converge in a reality which reveals itself as supremely American. Eventually, the film addresses the issue of the true identity.

83min | HD | 1:1,78 | original English/German version with English subtitles available



Production:

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REBORN IN WESTPHALIA

by Melanie Liebheit

CULTUR | MIGRATION | RELIGION

In the middle of the German provinces the tireless priest Sri Paskaran built the biggest Tamil Hindu temple in Europe. In 2002, he inaugurated the temple amidst industrial plants in the Westphalian village Hamm-Uentrop. Since then, colourful and sonorous ceremonies honour the goddess in the land of the down-to-earth Westphalians. The film accompanies the priest in his busy daily routine and during his arrangements to the annual temple festival expecting 20.000 believers.

In the neighbourhood, the locals cultivate their own traditions during the fair featuring shooting matches. Irene sells fast-food sausages in the local snack-bar and farmer Externbrink meanwhile has got a holy cow in his barn. An encounter and coexistence of two worlds.

German title: **WIEDERGEBOREN IN WESTFALEN**

Festivals: DOK Leipzig

88min DigiBeta PAL 16:9; Ton: Dolby SR original German and Tamil version with German or English subtitles available



Production:

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RecordPlay

by Simon Assmann

MUSIC | YOUTH | WOMEN | CONFLICTS | HipHop

„What makes me happy? – My boyfriend and my music“. When Susanna a 21-year-old female Rapper is with the members from her HipHop crew she names herself confidently “MC Suza“. The lyrics of her songs are about her everyday life: Susanna grew up in a children’s home. She has little contact with her mother since she is in prison. “My mother was a very successful drug dealer“, she admits. Nevertheless, Susanna radiates lots of positive energy. She feels the need to integrate into society.

Regularly she works in a hotel kitchen. This continuous work provides her structure and some security. The owners of the hotel are like foster parents to her. But Susanna doesn’t live a normal life. The lack of trust and security since early childhood make her a disrupted person. 12 month later everything has changed. Her mother is released from prison. Susanna is fired from her work and she split up with her boyfriend. With great expectations she renews the relationship to her mother.

RecordPlay tells a unique story of a young woman’s life at the brink of Germany’s society. Susanna realizes that there will be no ‘happy end’ to the mother-daughter relationship. But she also realizes that she has to move on to lead an independent and authentic life.

60min | DigiBeta | German version with English subtitles available



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RED OIL

by Lucinda Broadbent

ECONOMY | POLITICS | SOCIAL | SOCIETY

The film takes a look at Hugo Chavez, the leader of the Socialist revolution in Venezuela and whose main pillar of support is formed by the state oil company PDVSA. Lucinda Broadbent heads for the South American nation to find out more. Who is Hugo Chavez? Is he really something of a soap opera hero, a champion for his socially-disadvantaged compatriots? Or is he simply a megalomaniac villain who uses his clout in the oil industry to buy votes and who will stop at nothing in order to retain his political power? Stay tuned to find out!

Festivals: Sheffield IDF 2008

58min | DigiBeta | PAL | original English/Spanish version with English subtitles available



World Sales:

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ERICH MARIA REMARQUE

by Hanno Bruehl

HISTORY | LITERATURE | DOCU-DRAMA

Eighty years ago, in late 1928, the Ullstein-Verlag publishing house released the original, German-language version of *All Quiet on the Western Front*. *Im Westen nichts Neues* first appeared as a serialized novel in the Berlin newspaper *Vossische Zeitung*. It caused a sensation among readers, and when it subsequently made its debut as a single volume, its success was phenomenal. Erich Maria Remarque's unsettling and moving anti-war tale went on to become one of the most widely read books in the world. Now translated into more than 50 different languages, the novel continues to shape our conception of the First World War. This film relates how the book came to be written.



German title: **REMARQUE – Sein Weg zum Ruhm**

Festivals: Osnabrueck, Emden-Norderney

90min | DigiBeta | color/b&w | 16:9 | original | German version with English subtitles available

World Sales

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Production:

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www.neue-mira-film.de

THE RESISTORS

Witnesses of the White Rose

by Katrin Seybold

ORAL HISTORY | NS-POLITICS



This is the first comprehensive documentary portrayal of DIE WEISSE ROSE: the movement led by Munich students and their spirit of resistance to the Nazi regime. Companions, girl-friends, brothers and sisters tell the story of how they supported the distribution of tracts, how they survived Gestapo interrogation and courtroom trials in the Nazis' Volksgerichtshof.

These people are writing pages of German history.

In impressive manner, with a delicate aesthetic sensitivity, the personal statements of the participants are combined with original documents. In large part previously unpublished photos from their youth, photos of where these acts were perpetrated, of the Gestapo officers, judges and executioners add to an authentic portrait of the Weisse Rose that takes us beyond the legend.

Photos with Traute Lafrenz as a filmstill and a portrait of her in 1942 and as well as Geschwister Scholl and Christoph Probst, Ostbahnhof.

German title: **DIE WIDERSTAENDIGEN – Zeugen der Weissen Rose**

Festivals/awards: Munich, Solothurn, Seal of Approval: "highly recommended"

92min 21sec | 35mm | 2.632m | DigiBeta | DVD | 16:9 | original German version with English textlist available

Production:

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THE REVOLUTION THAT WASN'T

by Aliona Polunina

CONFLICTS | CONTROVERSE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



World Sales:

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www.kloosundco.de

In Russia 2007, the opposition to Putin's regime is gathering forces for the next presidential elections. The film follows a father and his son in the National Bolshevik Party: a dream of crime and punishment played out backstage behind political slogans.

A disturbing study of the 'Other Russia' movement.

Festivals/Awards: Triest, DOK Leipzig/Special Mention, Jihvala/Special Prize

96min or 52min | DVD | DigiBeta | BetaSP | Englisch version

ROAMING AROUND

by Brigitte Maria Bertele

MIGRATION | YOUTH | CITY | DAILY LIFE

The donut seller has a round belly. "How did you get pregnant?" asks someone. The girl smiles shyly: "You don't get enough money selling donuts." A boy gets a child's plaster stuck on head at a Catholic hospital. The wound is the result of a vicious attack. Another boy, who has a bad rash, has to swallow his pills on the spot, to make sure he doesn't go and sell them.

ROAMING AROUND portrays migrated children struggling to survive in the Ghanaian capital. They have problems with their parents or lost one of them. The camera captures their impressive faces of innocence, desperation, suffering and beauty. Their choice for the street is an escape into a life without fear. But there is no easy way back.

This is a strong, sincere and emotionally charged film about childhood not to be missed.

German title: **ROAMING AROUND – Herumstromern**

Festivals: Amsterdam, Barcelona, Beirut, Cologne, Dresden, Frankfurt, Kampala, Kassel, Neubrandenburg/Szczecin, Osnabrueck, Toronto, Wiesbaden

Awards: German Short Film Award in Gold, Best Cinematography, Best Editing, One World Price, Doc-polis Award Barcelona, Nomination for the Human Rights Award Germany, Nomination for the Golden Key Kassel

53min | DigiBeta | PAL | 16:9 / 4:3 | letterbox | original Twi/ Ga/ Hausa/ English version with English, German or French subtitles; clean feed with Spanish text list available



World Sales:

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ROBINSONS OF MANTSINSAARI

by Victor Asliuk

DAILY LIFE | PORTRAIT | SOCIAL BIOTOPE

The film tells the story of two elderly men who are the last residents of a now-Russian-controlled island on Lake Ladoga. Although they are sole inhabitants on the islands, neither speaks to the other: one is of Belarusian origin, the other of Finnish origin. And between the two, there is a long history. Occasionally though, the younger of the two men climbs up on a hill during the evening to see whether light still burns at his neighbour's.



German title: **ROBINSONS VON MANTSINSAARI**

57min | DigiBeta | BetaSP | PAL | color original Russian version with English subtitles available

World Sales:

Deckert Distribution
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04103 Leipzig, Germany
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SENSE OF ARCHITECTURE Photography and Beyond – Part 11

by Heinz Emigholz

ARCHITECTURE | LONGTERM | PHOTOGRAPHY | EXPERIMENTAL

The film Sense of Architecture shows 42 contemporary architectural projects of Austrian origins. As an independent work, it emerged from the material for 57 short films that Heinz Emigholz produced for the traveling exhibition conceived in Graz, "Sense of Architecture".

Unlike the exhibition, which grouped the architecture thematically, the new film assembles the project into a social reality in which modern buildings were constructed for all areas of life.

The film begins with a bell tower in the Seetaler Alps and a construction site and then leads through the various stages of a fictive life: from a Kindergarten, a single-family home, a botanical garden, a track house, a pharmacy, a housing development, a museum for children, an apartment house with a workshop, a dialect institute, an art house, an office building, a school, a shoe shop, an apartment block, a town hall, a community center, a medical center, past a pedestrian bridge, in a room for studying, an airport tower, a church reconstruction, a community center, a regional exhibition, a residential area, a city council, a renovated castle, a villa, a restaurant, a hall, a building extension, a justice center, a prison, a cloister, an art house, a hospital, a vacation house, a castle, a museum, a stone house, a nursing home, a crematorium, and to a columbarium.

German title: **SENSE OF ARCHITECTURE – Photographie und jenseits** – Teil 11

Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM expanded

168min | HDV | 1:1,37



Contact:

www.artimage.at
www.pym.de

SEOUL LOST AND FOUND

by Jules Herrmann

PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW | EXPERIMENTAL | TRAVEL | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



A video diary from Seoul. It's experimental, it's personal, it's funny and very honest. You will not see any temples or traditional clothing and North Korea is not mentioned at all. Instead of these "obvious" topics, there are many different stages of getting in touch with the country, amongst them a Tao-psychoanalysis congress, a multicultural film set and Seoul's gay scene. The overall theme is "Westernisation".

The film is daringly personal, with a range of introspective thoughts, embarrassing but funny communication efforts, purely observational moments and touching interviews.

87min | HDV | HD | DigiBeta | German and English version

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SHARON

by Dror Moreh

PORTRAIT | POLITICS

In December 2003, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon publicly announced the Disengagement Plan. Against acrimonious resistance from his own ranks he had the inhabitant of 21 Jewish settlements evicted and their houses destroyed.

The father of the settler's movement, the general, who was responsible for the massacres of Sabra and Shatila turned into a strategic statesman, who committed himself to peace in the Middle East – and with eyes wide open, single-mindedly destroyed his life's work.

The film cannot answer all the questions that Sharon himself refused to answer. But the person behind the statesman becomes acutely visible and the audience gets a sense of the inner conflict, which forced Sharon to abandon his life's vision of a Greater Israel and adopt and implement new positions.



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Festivals: Berlinale/PANORAMA, FilmFest Warszawa
90min or 52min | 4:3 | Letterbox | Digibeta | English and Hebrew with English subtitles

THE SKY AND BEYOND On the Trail of Dorothea Buck

by Alexandra Pohlmeier

PORTRAITS | ARTS | ORAL-HISTORY | NS-POLITICS



„The Sky and Beyond“ reflects on the remarkable life of the 91 year old sculptor Dorothea Buck who cured herself from schizophrenia. Born in 1917 she got the diagnosis of schizophrenia at the age of nineteen. 1936 she was forcibly sterilized. A few years later she barely escaped “euthanasia”.

Contrary to all prognoses – incurable mental illness – Dorothea Buck tried to understand what drove her into psychosis and developed her own theory of her illness. That way she found the key to her own sanity.

Between 2001 and 2008, director Alexandra Pohlmeier was able to capture Dorothea Buck's breath-taking story during regular visits to her home and studio in Hamburg and by traveling with her. Buck's younger sister provides an outside view, reflecting on the dismay and helplessness most families experience when mental illness strikes in their midst. By accentuating the

narrative Dorothea Buck's sculptures unfold an impressive body of work. “The Sky and Beyond” is a film about the life and work of a courageous woman – an encouraging film.

German title: **HIMMEL UND MEHR – Dorothea Buck auf der Spur**
90min | Digi Beta | color & b/w | German version with English subtitles available



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SOAP AND WATER

by Susan Gluth

WORK | WOMEN | ECONOMY | DAILY LIFE



3 women are slaving away in a laundry in Hamburg which has seen better days. Their wages are low and the consequences of globalization make the viewer doubt whether things are likely to improve much in the immediate future. And yet they still cope with their arduous everyday existence with dignity: the silent heroines of hope who even manage to find a quantum of happiness from time to

German title: **WASSER UND SEIFE**

Festivals: Hamburg, Hof

85min | 35mm | 1:1,85 | HDSR | DigiBeta | 16:9 | Dolby SR | German, English or Spanish version

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STORIES OF FOOD AND EATING

by Hans-Dieter Grabe

WAR&PEACE | PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW

The first story shows hard-working women at a time when "5 Potatoes" - its title - could represent a great gift. "Red Beets" secretly obtained by a 10 year old girl for her two little brothers who are ill; she knows the severe punishment awaiting her if she gets caught. The documentary filmmaker was eight when his parents' house burnt to the ground but he still remembers his joy when he was given "Yeast Dumplings" a few hours later and how wonderful they tasted. "Bread", a little piece of bread - for years a prisoner can think of nothing else. "Feeling really full" is the dream of a man who has enough to eat but whose ruined body reacts to the slightest weight gain with unbearable pain.

The Nestor of German documentary film has opened his archive and interwoven scenes from past films with an autobiographical sketch: food as the basis of security in war and peace. (DOK Leipzig)

German title: **GESCHICHTEN VOM ESSEN**

Festivals: Leipzig

60min | DigiBeta | 4:3 | color & b/w | German synchron version or original German/Polish/English/Japan/Norwegian version with English subtitles available



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SANKT PAULI! RUN OUT WARM UP SCORE OFF

by Joachim Bornemann

SOCIAL | SPORTS | CITY | MUSIC | FOOTBALL



In summer 2006, the reports were coming thick and fast that, after 30 years of waiting, the stadium's new building would become reality. The cult club FC St. Pauli embarking on a new era will be documented by this feature-length film. The goal here is to make more than just a football film. Rather, we want to trace the unique atmosphere and feeling of Sankt Pauli. How does the interaction function between the club and its fans who live in the immediate neighbourhood? What is it that draws the people into the Millerntor stadium.

A fan isn't just a fan, especially here where the fan scene is very complex and open at the same time accompanied the team of FC St. Pauli in the 2006/07 second season on their almost hopeless journey to the magnificent promotion into the 2nd Bundesliga. Harbour, Kiez, the Schanze and Karo quarters, the construction of the South Stand until 2008 and the team's progress provide the framework for our stories the club, its fans and neighbours.

German title: **SANKT PAULI! RAUSGEHEN WARMACHEN WEGHAUEN**

90min | HD | 35mm | HD Cam | DigiBeta | BetaSP | DVD | German version with English subtitles available

Production:

Brown Sugar Films
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SUPER ART MARKET

by Zoran Solomun

ARTS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | ECONOMY

There is a boom on the art market since a couple of years. The works of contemporary artists are being sold for astronomical prices. Some of them cost as much as an airplane. The main protagonists of this development are galerists, art dealers. Super Art Market is a film about gallery owners today. Leo Koenig from New York, Lorenz Helbling from Shanghai, Judy Lybke from Berlin, Laura Bartlett from London and Michai Pop from Cluj, Romania are showing and explaining how they run their business, making millions. This is also a film about art in a consumerist society.

87min | 35mm | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original English/German/Mandarin with German and English subtitles available



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www.deckert-distribution.com

SUPERHEROES

by Janek Romero

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CULTURE

Figures disguised as comic-book heroes rob delis and distribute their plunder to kindergartens; a student holding down three part-time jobs empties the rubbish bin from the bio-supermarket so as to be able to give her children a proper meal: this film, set in Hamburg, tells the story of these superheroes; it is the story of the precarious lives of middle-class youths, a story of conformity and resignation, and one of visions and spectacular deeds.

German title: **SUPERHELDEN**

65min | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available



Production:

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www.filmtank.de

TEARING DOWN THE IRON CURTAIN Five heroes, five countries, five films

Supervision by Chrisitan Schulz

ORAL-HISTORY | PORTRAIT | EUROPE | SERIES



Twenty years after the fall of the Soviet empire, this series brings together moving stories of individuals who made a difference in turbulent times. After a long cold war, ordinary men and women stepped into the spotlight and changed the course of history.

Poland HENRYKA'S SOLIDARITY by Malgorzata Bucka

A young tram conductor becomes a strike leader and radicalises Lech Walesa.

Soviet Russia PERESTROIKA'S PHOTOGRAPHER by Stephan Kühnrich

A young photographer and the battle for perestroika.

Hungary THE GUARD AT THE IRON CURTAIN by Jürgen Ast

A border guard enables a mass exodus through the Iron Curtain.

Romania CEAUSESCU'S PROSECUTOR by Sylvia Nagel

A rank and file party member prosecutes the dictator and his wife.

Lithuania THE GIRL AND THE TANKS by André Meier

A young woman gives her life for freedom in Lithuania.

German title: **ZERFALL OSTBLOCK**

5x45min or 5x52min | DigiBeta | German version with English subtitles or French version available

Production:

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THEY CALL US ALIENS FOREIGNERS IN TOKYO

by Veit Helmer

CITY | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CULTURE DAILY | LIFE SOCIAL

Three Ukrainian girls break into the model business, a South African bachelor prepares for his shinto wedding and a priest from Finland runs for election... Just a few protagonists of the new documentary film by German director Veit Helmer. Japan was closed for foreigners until 1853. Now people from all over the world move to Tokyo to explore Japanese culture. Japanese meet foreigners with curiosity and anxiety. The film observes how foreigners struggle to make a living in a totally different society.

54min or 87min | HD | DigiBeta | PAL | original English/Russian/Japanese/Polish with English subtitles available



World Sales:
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www.veithelmer.de

THE THIN GIRLS

by Maria Teresa Camoglio

YOUTH | WOMEN | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

Anorexia, refusing to eat until death by starvation is a deliberate selfdestruction in public and the most symptomatic of all diseases in our world of exuberance and abundance. "The Thin Girls" is not about models, fashion, celebrities or fame. It is about crying for help. It is about and with some girls next door, about their agony, their struggle, their life suffering from Anorexia. The film tries to give insight to their motives and the conditions of the soul, that lead to such a terrible self-destruction. The filmic encounter with the women starts in an hospital for eating disorders. Some of the women attend the clinic for short, some for a very long time, some will give up therapy, some will be dismissed, some will come again and again and again. For all of them the disease will be lifetime companion. The illness varies in cause, pattern, in degree and in progress. The affected women differ in family background, in strenght, in self consciousness, and in how they cope with the disease. In common they all have "a hungry soul in a starving body".



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German title: **DIE DUENNEN MAEDCHEN**

Festivals: Nyon, Munich, Asinara/Italy, Leipzig, Chemnitz, Tuebingen, Kassel
94min | 35mm | German version with English or Italian subtitles available

TOMB OF CHRIST

by Erik Borner

HISTORY | RELIGION



Dan Brown's novel, "The Da Vinci Code", now seems much closer to the truth than many had previously believed. While the character played by Tom Hanks searches for the sarcophagus, with its symbol of the Holy Grail, French researchers recently discovered precisely such an object in the south of France. Does this mean that we have finally found an explanation for the mysterious tale of the Pyrenean village, Rennes-le-Château? Did André Douzet, after 40 years of painstaking research, finally discover the tomb of Jesus Christ?

German title: **DAS GRAB DES CHRISTUS**

96min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | Englisch, French and German version available

Worldsales:
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80802 Munich, Germany
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TO THE THIRD POLE

by Andreas Nickel and Juergen Czwiernk

FILM | ADVENTURE | ORAL-HISTORY | FAMILY

Norman Dyhrenfurth, a sprightly ninety year old, tells for the first time the fascinating history of his parents' role in the race to "The Third Pole", the highest mountains on earth. Two expeditions during the 1930s which stand up to their Nazi rivals, 'state-sponsored' beats them in setting world climbing records.

In doing so, Guenter and Hettie Dyhrenfurth take the first moving pictures in high altitude during their Himalaya expeditions. Norman Dyhrenfurth himself put the first Americans on the top of Mount Everest in 1963 and led the first traverse of any 8000-metres mountain. He was participant or the leader of seven major Himalaya expeditions, many of which achieved Firsts, and he filmed every bit of it. The film features mountaineering legends Sir Chris Bonington and Reinhold Messner. In their engaging interviews they put the Dyhrenfurth family saga into contemporary context and convey an intense compassion for the heroic achievements and tragic failures of this family.

German title: **ZUM DRITTEN POL**

Festivals/awards: Torelló / Grand Prize/Golden Edelweiss, Silver Edelweiss, Best Script; Explorers Club NY / Best Exploration Film; Moscow / Special Jury Award; Banff / Finalist Best feature length Mountain Film; Graz / GoldenCamera, Best Documentary; Rhode Island / Grand Prize Best Cinematography
86min or 2x45min or 52min | HDCAM | 1080/25p | DigiBeta | DigiBeta | color & s/w | German or English version



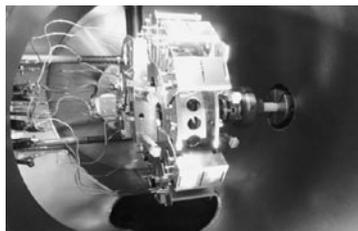
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THE TRACERS On a Scientific Method Of Unraveling Mysteries

by Hildegard Kriwet

SCIENCE | NATURE



THE TRACERS is a film on nameless corpses, on economic subsidy fraud and Peruvian mummies. Focus lies on two natural scientists from Munich with an outstanding knowledge of applying isotope analysis as a research method far beyond its properly scientific discipline, which is palaeontology. The sophisticated lab they have established differs from ordinary chemistry labs and is engaged by many different clients. The proportions of isotopes within chemical elements are determined by external impact such as climate, food and environmental conditions. The film highlights three research cases and is going on spot of each: forensic science in a murder case, tracing the origin of regional food, and archaeological excavations at Nasca in Peru.

German title: **DIE SPURENLESER**

43min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German or French version

Production:

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TRANSIT

by Angela Zumpe

GERMAN-REUNIFICATION | PORTRAIT | HISTORY

West Berlin, Lankwitz. In May 1969, my 19-year-old brother Reinhard announced to my father, my mother and myself that within a few days he would be moving over to the GDR and applying for East German citizenship. Contacts were broken off. The film is a search for traces for the possible stations of my brother in East Germany, who was disappointed that there was no revolution in the West.

In the course of my search I encounter Salomea G., who consciously chose the other system and Henriette S., who moved to the GDR with her mother as a teenager. A search for the history and the allure of the other part of Germany.

90min or 52 min | HDV | 16:9 | 35 mm planned | original German version with English subtitles available



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THE TUNNEL OF SARAJEVO

by Michael Moeller

HISTORY | WAR&PEACE | WORK | ARCHITECTURE

Sarajevo, May 1993: Surrounded by Serbian troops in the mountains, there is no escape the besieged city. No way in, no way out. The salvation: a secret underground passage beneath the airport, stretching for 800 meters, using muscle power only. Over the next few years the tunnel becomes lifeline of the city. A constant stream of people crawl back and forth through the passage, bringing food stuffs, petrol, oil, medicines and above all weapons into the city. The tunnel saved the besieged city.



Behind the restored facades, painful memories still smoulder. Held together by a fragile peace, the modern European metropolis of Sarajevo today still bears the omnipresent scars of the bloody civil war. The film relates the dramatic stories associated with the tunnel, before, during and after its construction.

German title: **DER TUNNEL VON SARAJEVO**

90min 30sec | DVCPRO | HD | 16:9 | German version with English or French subtitles

Production:

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UPSTREAM BATTLE

by Ben Kempas

ENVIRONMENT | INDIGENOUS CULTURES | HUMAN RIGHTS | GLOBALISATION

Native Americans in Northern California fight for their fish and the survival of their culture. An energy corporation is messing up their river with a series of hydro-power dams, contributing to one of the worst fish die-offs in U.S. history. To confront their opponents, tribal members first travel to Scotland, then to the second-richest man in the United States. The dam owners praise hydro-power as a low-cost, climate-friendly source of energy, a valuable resource they say they couldn't afford to lose.



Yet, the tribes at the Klamath River may trigger the largest dam removal project in history. A long-term documentary with incredible access to tribal members, utility managers, and farmers in the basin – all fighting for water.

German title: **UPSTREAM BATTLE – STROMAUFWAERTS**

Awards: Kosovo/Human Rights Award, Czech Republic: Water, Sea & the Oceans/Best Environmental Film, Alaska: Anchorage/Second Place, Best Documentary Feature,

Festivals: Munich, Toronto, Reykjavik, Woodstock, Hawaii, California: Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival, N.Y.C.: Stranger Than Fiction

97min or 59min or 52min | HD | DigiBeta | original English versions with narrator (52', 59', 97')

versions with German voice-over and German narrator (52', 59')
version with German subtitles and German narrator (97')

World Sales:

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WAGON LOVKA

A SHOP ON THE WAY TO SIBERIA

by Galina Breitzkreuz and Fayd Jungnickel

ADVENTURE | CULTURE | TRAVEL



In the vast infinity of Siberia, there are regions without the possibility to buy anything. Apart from few farmers selling potatoes and cucumber, the inhabitants of the Tundra rely on Wagon Lovka: This train provides the only incessant maintenance with its shop on board, selling anything one needs: Flour and sugar, medicine and sanitary articles, beer and vodka, screws, nails and tools. On its long tour, Wagon Lovka trails across Russian steppe to the far side of Ural and beyond. The film accompanies the sales woman Olga on this long journey and with her, we meet many interesting and quite different people and stories alongside the rail.

German title: **WAGON LOVKA – Mit einem Laden nach Sibirien**

45min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German, French, Russian versions

Production:

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WAR AND LOVE IN KABUL

by Helga Reidemeister

CONFLICTS | WAR&PEACE | LOVE STORY



Hossein and Shaima grew up as neighbours in Kabul. They fell in love with each other. Hossein became a soldier and went to fight in the war. Meanwhile Shaima's father forced her to marry an older man, who already had 3 wives. Hossein came back as an invalid. Shaima started to visit him again. Both of them speak openly about their love and the wish to live together. This is a documentary story about forbidden love, Romeo and Julia, Tristan and Isolde, Layla and Madjnun, today in Kabul.

German title: **MEIN HERZ SIEHT DIE WELT SCHWARZ – Eine Liebe in Kabul**

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA

86min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original Pashtu/Dari version with German or English subtitles available

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MARIANNE VON WEREFKIN A FEMALE ARTIST

by Stella Tinbergen

ART | HISTORY | DOCU-DRAMA

Marianne von Werefkin (1860 – 1938) came from Russian aristocracy. Her mother recognized her daughter's painting talent early and introduced her to Ilya Repin, the most important realistic painter of the time in Russia, who was to help Marianne find her own style. She went on to become known as "the Russian Rembrandt" but then suffered a hunting accident at the peak of her career, injuring her painting hand. At the age of 32, she met the painter Alexej Jawlensky and invested all of her efforts and fortune to make a great painter out of him. In Munich, she gathered politicians, high society, aristocrats and artists in her "pink salon". For ten years, she devoted herself to furthering Jawlensky's career and didn't paint at all, but she did keep a diary, the *Lettres a un Inconnue*, texts of enormous poetic power. After Jawlensky left her, she had a complete breakdown. Then her inner voice convinced her to return to painting. Her new style was a complete break with the past; beyond realism, clear and vibrant colors and provoking contrasts determined her wonderful compositions. She moved to Ascona and founded a new artists' colony and went on to become one of the founders of modern art and the artists' community *Der Blaue Reiter*.

German title: **MARIANNE VON WEREFKIN – Ein Leben fuer die Kunst**

90min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available



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www.transitfilm.de

WE WERE FIGHTERS

by Jan Zabeil

WAR&PEACE | TRAVEL | ORAL-HISTORY | GDR

50 years later: Tam, Duong and Cuci travel together with their classmates from Hanoi, Vietnam to Moritzburg, former German Democratic Republic.

In the name of Ho Chi Minh, they were educated in the GDR 50 years ago. Now they travel by Orient-Express and Transibirian-Railways halfway around the world, through their memories and back to their past.



German title: **WIR WAREN KAEMPFER**

60min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | anamorph | original German/Vietnamese version with English subtitles available

World Sales:
Hochschule fuer Film und Fernsehen
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WHAT REMAINS

by Gesa Knolle and Birthe Templin

NS-POLITICS | PORTRAIT | ORAL HISTORY | WOMEN

WHAT REMAINS captures almost 70 years of German history and introduces two families who couldn't be more different. When she was just 17, Erna chose to remain with her mother during the deportation even to Auschwitz. She promised her mother to tell the world of the horrors she experienced, something she is still doing. Dietlinde on the other hand finds out in her teens that the woman who has raised her is not her real mother, but her aunt. Whilst researching her family history in the 80's, she learns that her mother was a concentration camp guard and died in 1945. To this day she is trying to find out what sort of person her mother really was. Through the frank approach of the protagonists and an insightful montage, a dialogue is built both within and between the families.

German title: **WAS BLEIBT**

Festivals: Cologne, Emden

58min | HDV | BetaSP | DigiBeta | DVD | 1,85:1 | 16:9 | German version with English subtitles available



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WHEN I CRY, MY HEART BEATS

by Annett Schuetze

YOUTH | SOCIAL

Mustafa is eleven years old, and doesn't really have a childhood. As a street-kid in Bucharest, he leads a sad and dangerous life amid drugs, prostitution and violence. If it wasn't for the Parada Circus, he and twenty other street-children wouldn't have a home. It's here, during the daytime, they train to be circus performers, get a warm meal, a change of clothes and school lessons.

"I miss having a house," says Mustafa, "a bed, a table, and a knife and fork and a spoon and a cooking pot. I'm happy when I've got money for cigarettes and a bag of glue to sniff. When I take drugs, I dream and cry. I see pictures that move. I only sniff though, I don't inject in my veins. I've already lost my voice a lot from begging. Sometimes I sing, too. I want to stop this life, not be a scalywag anymore. I don't want to have dirty ears and dirty fingernails anymore."

Mustafa and five other street-children filmed with a mini-dv camera their own and very personal views of their lives. Using this remarkable material, together with her own observations, the director Annett Schuetze, and her film-team created a poignant and moving portrait about forgotten children who refuse to give up – "When I Cry My Heart Beats."

German title: **WENN ICH WEINE, SCHLAEGT MEIN HERZ**

Festivals/awards: Babelsberger Mediaprize, nominated for FIRST STEPS award

97min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | DolbySR | color & b/w | original Rumanian version with English or German subtitles



WorldSales / Distribution:
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WHISPERING GAME

by Angela Zumpe

ORAL-HISTORY | PORTRAIT | GENDER IDENTITY | WOMEN



What messages do mothers leave behind for their daughters?

In her video film, Angela Zumpe tries to come closer to what happened in her family. WHISPERING GAME is about a mother-daughter relationship, narrated through animated photography, found super-8 footage and 16-mm film material, based on notebooks compiled by the artist's mother about family events starting in post-War Germany.

German title: **FLUESTERSPIEL**

Festivals: Wiesbaden, Tallinn

20min | HD | 16:9 | DigiBeta | BetaSP | original German version with English subtitles available

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THE WOMEN OF GOD The last deaconesses of Mecklenburg

by Dieter Schumann

RELIGION | WOMEN | ORAL-HISTORY | SOCIAL

For several decades the Hospital of the Bethlehem monastery in Ludwigslust has enjoyed an exceptional reputation throughout Mecklenburg, thanks to the dedicated activity of the deaconesses who have served here since its foundation by Helene von Bülow 150 years ago. With entry into the monastery and their confirmation as deaconesses the women devote themselves to celibacy and a life without possessions in order to attend entirely to children and the sick and their big family in the deaconal community. Spread all over Mecklenburg, the sisters work in hospitals, mental institutions and homes for blind and old people. They have also operated prison hospital wards, and founded the first play-schools within the country.

The film grants insight into the life of the last remaining deaconesses, some of whom are now very old, and poses the question about the meaning of belief and human solidarity.

Film location: Stift Bethlehem / Ludwigslust, Germany

German title: **DIE FRAUEN GOTTES – Die letzten Diakonissen von Mecklenburg**

55min | DVCam DigiBeta | DVCam | DVD 4:3 | German version with English textlist (subtitled on request)



Production:

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THE WONDROUS WORLD OF LAUNDRY

by Hans-Christian Schmid

Behind the fluffy towels and crisp white sheets of Berlin's finest hotels belies a tale of brilliant entrepreneurship: A company takes the dirty laundry of the German hotels to Poland – and brings it back clean the very next day. Outside of Germany, labour is cheaper and regulations are less constricting. But far beyond this fascinating capital venture remains the harsh reality of everyday life of the hard-working Polish workers, through whose hands the white sheets pass. While Beata struggles to raise her three children on her meager salary, the more mature Monika reminisces about her unrealized childhood dreams of becoming a doctor, compelled to watch her teenage daughter Marta gradually follow in her footsteps.

German title: **DIE WUNDERSAME WELT DER WASCHKRAFT**

Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM

96min | S16mm onto 35mm | 1:1,85 | Dolby Digital | original Polish/German version with German or English subtitles



World Sales:

Bavaria Film International
Bavariafilmplatz 7 / 71
82031 Geiselgasteig, Germany
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www.bavaria-film-international.com

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WRITING AND KEEPING SILENT with the renowned Austrian poet Friederike Mayröcker

by Carmen Tartarotti

ART | LITERATURE | EXPERIMENTAL | WORK

"I thought it should be a film about keeping silent. Writing and keeping silent. But how do you make something like that? Maybe for other authors it is possible for them to produce other things from their minds when they speak, whereas I cannot produce anything. I don't want to speak! And this will be the basis for making our film. We'll do that!" (F. Mayröcker)

For several years, Carmen Tartarotti accompanied the renowned Austrian poet Friederike Mayröcker, mostly alone – but supported by the Swiss Cinematographer Pio Corradi – just equipped with a camera and a microphone, as was the protagonist's wish. The full consideration of the writer's life situation was the pre-condition for the creation of the film. The result is a sensitive portrait – unspectacular and thus all the more engaging.

German title: **DAS SCHREIBEN UND DAS SCHWEIGEN. Die Dichterin Friederike Mayröcker**

Festivals: Viennale 2008

90 min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German version, English version in progress



Production:

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YOU CANNOT WIN WITHOUT FIGHTING

by Jeanine Meerapfel

SOCIAL | ECOLOGY | WORK | CONFLICTS

This is a personal trip to General Mosconi, a small town in the North of Argentina, rich with oil and gas. 1993 the state owned enterprise, YPF, that gave work, health care and education to the whole region, was privatised. The unemployment rate climbed to 70 percent, the whole infrastructure system collapsed. I went there to make a film-workshop on documentaries with members of the UTD, the union for unemployed workers in Mosconi. The press calls them „piqueteros“, they call themselves social workers. They have developed creative and unusual strategies of survival and ways of re-establishing the social network, that serve as a model for protest demonstrations throughout the country. They film themselves and I film them: their projects, their beliefs, their attitude towards life.

53min | DigiBeta | Betacam | original Spanish version with French or German subtitles and voice over available



Production:

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