

german documentaries 2010



||| german-documentaries.de

AG **DOK**

Arbeitsgemeinschaft
Dokumentarfilm
German Documentary
Association

german
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films



German Films

is the national information and advisory center for the promotion of German Films worldwide.

German Films' range of activities includes: Close cooperation with and presence at all major international film festivals and selected TV markets; hosting selection delegations from international festivals; PR and press work for all major national and international media representatives; information and advice for international buyers, German producers and exporters; publication of informational literature on current German Films and the film industry; organization of the annual "Next Generation" short film program; administration of the selection procedure for the German entry for the OSCAR for Best Foreign Language Film; staging of "Festivals of German Films" worldwide and "German Premieres" in selected cities; collaboration with Deutsche Welle's DW-TV KINO program; organization of the "German Films Previews"; selective financial support for the foreign releases of German films; organization with Unifrance of the annual German-French film meeting *Das Rendez-Vous*.

German Films has foreign representatives in Beijing, Buenos Aires, Moscow, Paris, Rome, Tokyo, Madrid, London, and New York.

German Films is funded by film export levies, the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, and the German Federal Film Board, as well as the regional film funders FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, FilmFoerderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, Filmstiftung NRW, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, MFG Baden-Wuerttemberg, Mitteldeutsche Medienfoerderung, and Nordmedia.

Shareholders are the Association of German Feature Film Producers, the German Producers Alliance, the Association of German Film Exporters, the German Federal Film Board (FFA), the Stiftung Deutsche Kinemathek, the German Documentary Association, the German Short Film Association, FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, and Filmstiftung NRW representing the seven main regional film funds.

Members of the advisory board are: Alfred Huermer (chairman), Peter Dinges, Antonio Exacoustos, Roman Paul, Ulrike Schauz, and Michael Schmid-Ospach.

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Dear Friends,

We're pleased that you've picked up a copy of the "german documentaries" catalogue.

Your interest shows we're on the right path. After all, this brochure is our showcase for presenting the wealth of subject matter and aesthetic styles of German documentaries to international audiences. Independently produced documentaries "made in Germany" are highly professional and widely recognized for their quality. Year in and year out, large numbers of German documentaries can be seen at the leading film festivals around the world. And the number of top-notch German television documentaries is also on the rise. Where better can this trend be observed than in this continually growing brochure. What began as a modest sixteen pages in the mid-1990s has now blossomed into a sizable eighty pages under the seasoned editing of Ingrid Molnar. This year's catalogue features 220 films – 60 more than last year's edition. The number of series, ranging from three to six episodes, is also on the rise, clearly illustrating how German producers have been quick to respond to the changing tastes and needs of the international marketplace.

Two examples of the wide spectrum of subject matter and film forms demonstrate what make this catalogue a treasure trove. With the help of our keyword index, you'll find several interesting titles under the heading "nature" – a perfect fit for this year's UN thematic focus on "bio-diversity." And with the football World Cup taking place in Africa this year, we are pleased to offer a number of remarkable films from this continent, some of which consciously go against the grain by focusing on Africa's cultural identity rather than simply football.

The topic "Africa" also shows how the "german documentaries" label is not restricted to the publication of this catalogue. "german documentaries" is a network which helps pave the way for German documentary filmmakers into the international marketplace. Through our participation in international festivals, markets, conferences, and co-production forums, we initiate and cultivate creative exchange with documentary filmmakers around the world. Our "German Documentaries in Africa" project, which was founded during the 2008 "Ecran Noir" festival in Yaunde, Cameroon, will enter into its third year in 2010. And thanks to the "german documentaries" offerings, it will once again be possible to meet representatives of the German documentary film scene at festivals and markets in

Warsaw, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Toronto, Sheffield, Amsterdam, Nyon, Leipzig, La Rochelle and Cannes. We hope that browsing through this catalogue will peak your interest in doing so.

Our presence at international events is made possible by "German Films" – the service and marketing agency which over the past several years has generously supported documentaries as a vital part of the German film industry. Their support is not restricted to projects abroad, however. It is also helping us to expand and intensify our Internet offerings. The website www.german-documentaries.de features not only downloadable online versions of the complete "german documentaries" catalogues since 2006, but also the latest news from the German documentary filmmaking scene, such as where German documentaries will be screening abroad, prizes they've won, which markets German delegations will be attending, etc. In American filmmaker Rick Minnich, a longtime resident of Berlin, we are happy to have found an ideal partner for editing and maintaining the site. He is happy to answer your questions about the German documentary film industry, and to assist wherever possible. Rick can be reached at info@rickfilms.de.

Jörg Langer will continue to coordinate all German Documentaries activities. He can be reached at langer@langermediaconsulting.de, and is also happy to be of assistance. Both Jörg and Rick are familiar with the organisational structures of the German Documentary Association AG DOK, which with more than 860 writers, directors and producers is one of the largest filmmaking associations in Germany and an ideal conduit into the German documentary film industry.

We, the documentary filmmakers in Germany, hope that we can help you with our offerings. We would be pleased to hear your responses, opinions and pointers. And above all, we would be delighted if this catalogue helps German documentary films find their way onto screens and television sets around the world.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Frickel
Chairman and CEO AG DOK
German Documentary Association

2 HALF LIVES

by Servet Ahmet Golbol

RELIGION | MIGRATION | YOUTH | CULTURE



18-year-old Özer lives in Antakya and remembers that he has already worked as an electrician. Today, he would be 39 and would have a family... if a wall had not caved in on him. Cansu is 11 years old. She is not allowed to see her children from her life as Lulu, because her mother-in-law from that past life forbids any contact with them. She can't get that into her mind. Reincarnation is the subject of "2 half lives" by German-Turkish director Servet Ahmet Golbol. The author and director is also from Antakya. With great sensitivity, he portrays four children and adolescents who say that they have lived before. As a son of Turkish migrant workers who moved to Germany in the 1970s, Golbol also poses questions about his own history. He, too, has to combine two different lives, two cultures. Seeking advice, he turns to the town's religious leaders. He talks with the patriarch of the Orthodox Church,

the imam of the Habib Neccar Mosque, the Jewish community council, and one of the most respected Alevi sheikhs. Thus the town of Antakya itself plays a supporting role as a peaceful, magical place, which seems closely connected to the destinies of the four children through its tolerance and diverse religions. The touching melodies of Quadro Nuevo help to alleviate the children's highly emotional stories.

German title: **2 HALBE LEBEN SIND KEIN GANZES**

Awards: Seal of Approval "highly recommended"

101min | HD | original Arabic/German/Turkish version with German, English or Turkish subtitles available



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THE 4th REVOLUTION – Energy Autonomy

by Carl-A. Fechner

CONFLICTS | CONTROVERSY | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | ENVIRONMENT | HUMAN RIGHTS | SCIENCE

"The 4th Revolution – Energy Autonomy", with fascinating images from countries all over the world, describes the development of the most crucial revolution in the history of humanity. A revolution that involves the rapid conversion of our energy supply to 100 percent renewable energies. The way for it is being paved by eight protagonists from different cultural backgrounds. Their projects include energy production, mobility, energy efficiency, solar architecture, energy storage, supplying the Third World with electric power, and fighting poverty... They all made up their minds long ago, seeing themselves as pioneers in the instigation of global change. ENERGY AUTONOMY. The fascinating concept of a solar world society – and it can be very rapidly realized.



German title: **DIE 4. REVOLUTION – Energy Autonomy**

83min | 35mm | 2K | HD | DVD | 1:1,85 academy | 16:9 | original version with German or English subtitles

World Sales:

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www.energyautonomy.org

7 OR WHY I EXIST

by Antje Starost and Hans Helmut Grotjahn

YOUTH | PORTRAIT | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | ENVIRONMENT

7 or Why I exist. What a question! And who could possibly provide the answer? This film chooses an unusual path and invites 7 children from all over the world to take us by the hand and lead us into their world. They show us what is important to them, what they love and what they hold dear, what makes them laugh and what makes them cry. What does it mean to be a child today? How does it feel to focus your gaze on the world and on the future. What do children see before they forget how to ask questions that no-one can answer? This is a film about childhood and the world of children; it is authentic, told with sincerity and the power of imagination, with subtlety and humour. Stories from children, for children - and, of course, for grown-ups. It is a film about a world that often remains closed to adults. A perspective on the world which can be like a mirror or like a trip back into our own childhood: watching children think.



Production:

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German titles: **7 ODER WARUM ICH AUF DER WELT BIN**

84min | 35mm | HDCam | 16:9 | DigiBeta | BetaSP | German version with English, French or Spanish subtitles

A DAY AND AN ETERNITY

by Anna Hepp

SOCIAL | HUMAN-INTEREST | WOMEN

At the age of 93, Dorothea says she has lived a full life. She welcomes the approach of death and prays to be delivered from decrepitude. Memories of the past are her only constant companions in the present. Her lifestyle spartan, Dorothea plans every minute carefully: morning gymnastics in bed, breakfast, checking the mail, afternoon nap. Her tiny, frail voice is full of girlish energy and delight, often betraying her cynical humour. Through black-and-white imagery and a specific rhythm, this documentary follows three rules: focus, reduction and accentuation. The camera remains close to Dorothea, who is always in the centre, with nothing to distract. However, a respectful distance is maintained. A DAY AND AN ETERNITY is a film about the love of life, about people letting go and saying goodbye, and the dignified transcendence of the finite, found in the embrace of death.

Festivals/Awards: Landshut, Lodz, Outstanding Award, Beijing
25min | S16 | DigiBeta | BetaSP | PAL | German or English version



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ALL FOR NOTHING!

by Jan Peters

ADVENTURE | CITIES | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE | ECONOMY



When Jan Peters' girlfriend accidentally takes his wallet on a trip to foreign climes, she leaves the filmmaker standing in Frankfurt Airport without a penny to his name. The only capital he possesses is a group ticket for the public transport system.

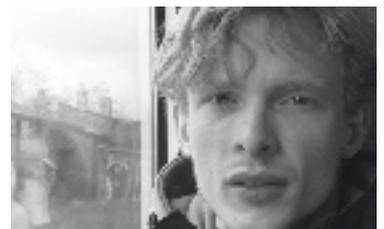
After hearing about people who supplement their inadequate incomes by "escorting" groups of tourists across the city, Mr. Peters decides to apply the same method to his own situation. The filmmaker starts a business as an "independent travel escort" and enters an obscure world of supplementary jobs and adventurous business models. During his trips he encounters troubled, laden, indifferent and optimistic souls, as well as those trying to cast off their abject yoke with courage, solidarity and creativity. The audience is confronted with the demise of familiar employment structures and is introduced to concepts designed for a future without full employment..

German title: **ALLES UMSONST!**
89min | 35mm | HD | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

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ALL MY FATHERS

by Jan Raiber



A film about truth, courage and responsibility.
Setting out on a quest for his biological father, a young man reveals a well kept family secret.

German title: **ALLE MEINE VAETER**
Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE
89min | HD | DigiBeta | BetaSP | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available

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ALL MY TUMBLER GIRLS – Or All About Women Who Dare To ...

by Lothar Lambert

PORTRAIT | BERLIN | WOMEN | SOCIAL |

In his new film, Lothar Lambert has chosen to portray eleven women over forty in Berlin, interweaving accounts of their experiences, their current lives and their expectations for the future. The line-up includes a number of well-known Berliners such as Irene Schweitzer, who runs the shop "Kaufhaus Schrill" in Bleibtreustrasse, photographer Erika Rabau and painter Evelyn Sommerhoff.

The women talk about their chaotic family backgrounds, dramatic twists and turns, courageous decisions, failed relationships, breakdowns and new beginnings, as well as the art of gritting your teeth in spite of all of life's blows. In no uncertain terms the women tell the filmmaker how they came to be the people they are; they also chat unabashedly about their sexual antics and reflect en passant on the social climate in Germany. Although only one or two of the protagonists are known to each other, they all share their acquaintance with Lothar Lambert, whom they know either socially or from having worked with him. They also have something else in common: they've all been through a hell of a lot – and they're all ballsy.

German title: **ALLE MEINE STEHAUFMAEDCHEN – Von Frauen, die sich was trauen**
Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
82min | DV | German version with English subtitles available



Production:
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ANDREAS DRESEN out of the series MY LIFE / MA VIE

by Cordula Kablitz-Post

PORTRAIT | FILM | ARTS | MUSIC

With his unique documentary style, multiple award-winning director Andreas Dresen is considered an anomaly among contemporary film directors. Through interviews with Dresen and some of his important collaborators such as Axel Prahl, Inka Friedrich and Thorsten Merten, this portrait traces the course of the director's career. Dresen delves into the archives of the Deutsches Theater in Berlin, and discovers previously unseen photos from productions of his father Adolf Dresen from the 1960s and 70s. As a child, Dresen often observed his father at work in the theatre. Scenes of Andreas Dresen directing and editing his most recent film "Whisky and Vodka" and directing "Kasimir and Karoline" on stage illuminate why he, like his father before him, is a director who drives his actors to top performances. But music is Dresen's secret passion. As the singer and guitarist at a tribute concert for the late singer/songwriter Gundermann in Berlin, he reveals his youthful dream: if things hadn't worked out in film, he would have loved to have become a musician.

German title: **ANDREAS DRESEN – MEIN LEBEN / MA VIE**
Festivals: Filmkunstfest Schwerin
43min | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available



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AVENIDA ARGENTINA

by Lucia-Milena Bonse

CULTURE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SOCIAL | CITIES



A night in Buenos Aires. Young people between sunset and sunrise, in search of trash, love, justice, a future. Four life lines that will cross but won't touch each other.

Nico sprays, under the cover of darkness, political graffiti against his anger at the corrupt government. His trademark is the spider, climbing over house walls and thus into Estér's nightlife. Together with her mother and her little son, she uses the hours before garbage removal trying to turn other people's waste into their living. Natalia is coming home from her webcam-stripping-job. She is dreaming of a man who loves her and of finally becoming the woman on the outside that she feels she already is. But right now she wants to go out, dance in a club and forget all about everything. The AMERIKA is also the place Ani, Hilde and Mechi are heading for. Drunk with cock-

tails, styling and the thought of boys, the three girlfriends take off into the night. Avenida Argentina explores four opposite worlds along the social striplines of today's Argentina, between poor and rich, unschooled and studied, indigenous and European descent. An irritating snapshot of a society in crisis.

84min | 35mm | color | 1:1.85 | stereo | original Spanish version with English or German subtitles available
Festival/Award: IDFF Munich, nominated for FIRST STEPS AWARD



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BABELSBERG FROM EAST TO WEST

by Bernard Louargant

ARTS | CULTURE | FILM | GERMAN-REUNIFICATION | GDR

Once the production site of German Expressionist film classics such as "Metropolis" and "The Blue Angel" and ever in the vanguard of technical innovation, Babelsberg Studios suffered under the Nazis: Talented directors fled the country and it was used for propaganda films and insipid comedies. Then, over four decades of post-war Communism, directors at the hallmark East German DEFA studios were supposed to give socialism a human face in "anti-fascist" films. Some brave filmmakers repeatedly sought to avoid Party censorship with their own subjects. Now – more than twenty years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, still haunted by the ghosts of Marlene Dietrich and Fritz Lang and approaching its first century of operation – big international films and commercial TV are made in Babelsberg.

German title: **BABELSBERG VON OST NACH WEST**
55min 42sec | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German, English or French version



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BALLADA

by Andreas Maus

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SOCIAL | CULTURE

A Russian poet once said: Cars are not for a people who've given themselves over to vodka and melancholy. But in Russia, not only the poet is more than just a poet. In Russia, a car too is more than just a car... it's a creature, a living entity endowed with a soul – like LADA and in Russian that means: The Loved One. Even 40 years after the „lunchbox on wheels“ was born into Soviet reality at the banks of the Volga river most of the Russians chauffeur in this vintage vehicle – a direct descendent of the Italian FIAT 124, car of the year 1966. A living being, grumpy like the people spending their lives with and in their LADA.

There is Murad, the homesick Caucasian taxi-driver living in Moscow. The police officers Oleg and Vladimir in the back province dreaming of catching a terrorist finally. Then Kolja, Edek and Sascha, spending half their lives in underground garages – their last hideaway while no one needs them anymore in the twisted reality. 4000 kilometers away in one of the most remote regions live Maxim and Tatjana, who were given a LADA for their wedding many years ago. Then Vladimir the war veteran who is spending his whole life with LADA on a military cemetery where all his friends found their eternal peace. And finally Michail the lonesome wrinkly who lives with his dog and his better half LADA in the Taiga.

Washed away by the society changes in the last years all of them are survivors – like LADA, driving us around in the world of her strange heroes, telling us their stories and taking us on a subjective and poetical expedition into contemporary Russia. A modern fairy tale and always a roadmovie if only the engine of Michail's damn crate will finally start.

93min | HD | DVD | original Russian version with German or English subtitles available
Festivals: Munich/Germany, Cambridge/UK, Barcelona/Spain, Festival of German Film in Russia, Guangzhou/China



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BALLROOM

by Ulrich Schwedes

EXPERIMENTAL | ARCHITECTURE

At the end of the 19. century the most buildings on the north side of the island Veddel (Hamburg) are shops, small trade and restaurants in Wilhelminian style. They are lost by making railway-tracks, highway, port-security and flood prevention. Only the ballroom at the "Elbdeich 23" exist and was used to 2002 as laboratory for rock-bands, and storage for a cleaning-company. The film, produced in 35mm B/W, shows in a strictly synchronous multiple projection the forgotten room.



German title: **BALLSAAL**
Festivals: KUBASTA
10 min | DVD | 4:3 | original German version with English subtitles available

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BARTOK'S REQUIEM

by Jan N. Lorenzen

HISTORY | MUSIC | ARTS | CULTURE | PORTRAIT

Béla Bartók is one of the most distinguished composers of the 20th century. And yet, already in his lifetime, the celebrated pianist turned his back on European concert halls. Year over year, he travelled to the most remote villages of Transylvania, in order to search for age-old melodies. In doing so, he collected thousands of folk songs, preserving them on wax cylinders and music paper. But could this music survive the upheavals of the last century? In his film, Jan Lorenzen sets out on a journey to trace the tracks of Béla Bartók accompanied by camera and microphone. He creates a moving documentary about people, who still live in a bygone time, and about a period in a man's life, who accomplished preserving their musical soul on the cylinders of a phonograph.

German title: **BARTOKS REQUIEM**

Festivals: Hungarian Film Week, Budapest, Unerhört! Filmfestival, Hamburg, Crossroad of Europe Film Festival, Lublin, Duisburger Filmwoche

87min | HD | DigiBeta | color | 16:9 | English, Hungarian or German version available



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BEING KOHL

by Jean Boué

PORTRAIT | POLITICS | SOCIETY | SOCIAL

Helmut Kohl is a great man. Helmut Kohl has achieved a lot for the Federal Republic. Helmut Kohl brought unification upon Germany. Yet what did the unification bring for Helmut Kohl? In Germany live several men bearing this name. For instance at Wolfen: Helmut Kohl has lost everything from back then, but it could have been worse even. The GDR pensioner says farewell to his old homeland. Or take Crimmitschau: For Helmut Kohl it's not been a bad time since the 1989 turnover, yet before things used to be better altogether. Though the innkeeper has changed the system, his attitude did not change. Helmut Kohl in Lorscheid says, it's all good in Germany, but actually it could be better still. The hard-working Westerner feels cheated of the fruits of his labor. Unlike Helmut Kohl from Duisburg: His life he managed in every regard, only in the other Germany something finally went awry. The architect, upright, noble, a good soul, loses his face in the East. And then on to Heidelberg: Still Helmut Kohl feels fine with it all, but all too soon Germany will be in dire straits. The German of Polish descent sees youth and foreigners ruin his beloved fatherland.

German title: **KENNZEICHEN KOHL**

Festival: DOKLeipzig

87min 30sec | DigiBeta | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available



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BELOW THE LINE

by Jens Pfeifer

ECONOMIC | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

A documentary about brown-furred polar bears, yellow elephants, and likable demeanour.

A yellow elephant on the street – would that convince you to put an advertisement in the yellow pages? Would you be willing to say "Would you like a wristband?" all day long? Does walking the streets dressed as a bear mean selling your soul? Is it less satisfying to promote a tanning salon than a brand of sneakers?

Amelie, Caro, and Ralf are working in the universe of promotion, trade shows, and merchandising. The filmteam has followed them for a year: How does it feel to bring products home to other people? An industry that aims to win over consumers through personal experiences within "brand philosophies". A world that turns young people into marketing tools. Easy money for selling yourself. Whether as a brown-furred polar bear, a yellow elephant, or just with a friendly smile. Three young people, three inside views, three strategies.

45min | DV | DigiBeta | PAL | 16:9 | stereo 2.0 | original German version with English subtitles available



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BETWEEN HIP-HOP AND KALASHNIKOV

by Stefanie Landgraf and Johannes Gulde

LONGTERM | WAR&PEACE | HUMAN RIGHTS | YOUTH | MUSIC | CULTURE



During the 1980s the film directors Stefanie Landgraf and Johannes Gulde shot several documentaries in the Middle East about the Palestinians living in refugee camps. Today, almost 30 years later, Yasmin, the daughter of Johannes Gulde, and Enz, a Hip-Hop artist, take a trip to Lebanon and the West Bank – with clips from the old films in their laptop. What do the participating people from the past think today about the PLO, Fatah, Hamas and Israel? And what are the hopes and expectations of the young generation? On their extraordinary journey Yasmin and Enz witness a mirror of contemporary life, focusing on different views of the Palestinian youth.

Yes, the struggle continues! But instead of with guns, it's with microphones, theatrical performances, dance and rap as an answer to exile and occupation.

German title: **ZWISCHEN HIPHOP UND KALASCHNIKOV**

Festivals: Mumbai Film Festival

100min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | DVD | original Arabic/English/German version with English or German subtitles available

Production:

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BETWEEN WORLDS

by Marc Haenecke and Harald Rumpf

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | HUMAN INTEREST

"Between Worlds" accompanies two patients from the coma state in the Clinic Augsburg via a gradual awakening until the return to everyday reality. What does it mean to gradually awake in a world that seems to have changed in whole? How much energy is needed to take the long way back? How much to relearn to speak, walk or even perceive the own body again? The film also shows the relatives and the employees of the clinic: their carefulness and concentration when dealing with the patient. How do they contact the persons in other states of consciousness?

"Between Worlds" provides a deeper understanding of existential human interactions. The documentary film offers incentives for more conscious and more sensitive dealing with the challenge of a coma to promote the chances of healing.

German title: **ZWISCHEN WELTEN**

90min | HD | German version with English textlist



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THE BLACK FOREST AND THE VOGES

by Annette Scheurich

NATURE | ENVIRONMENT



The Black Forest and the Vosges Mountains are like twins; separated by the Rhine Valley millions of years ago. Today, they form two different habitats: in the Vosges Mountains bright deciduous woodlands prevail. Rare animals like the Lynx roam the forests and storks fly in flocks around the valleys and nest in the towns.

The Black Forest with its coniferous woods and secret animals seems darker, except when thick snow in the winter lights up the mountains with brilliant covers. An emotional portray about land an nature, including also customs and traditions still being performed today.

Work in progress, completion date June 2010.

German title: **SCHWARZWALD – VOGESEN**

2x45min | HDCam | DVD | German or French version



Production:

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A BLOND PROVINCE – Poland and Nazi Racial Obsession

by Jacek Kubiak and Klaus Salge

Only days after the German invasion of Poland in September 1939 there began a phase of the Nazi occupation – the creation of a field laboratory for German racist policies in Poland. The Nazis planned in Western Poland – they called the district "Warthegau" – a "blond province". A laboratory for the breeding of the "German master race". Immediately after the German invasion tens of thousands of Poles – Christians and Jews – were turned out of their homes, deported, murdered by the German Army, the SA and the SS. They had to "make room" for the many Volksdeutschen who had been lured "home". Three men, in 1939 they were still children: Zwi Steinitz from Tel Aviv, who returns after 70 years to the country of his birth, where his family was exterminated; Henryk Jaszcz, who in 1939 lost track of his parents in Poznan; and Dieter Bielenstein, who came to Poznan as an 8 year-old with his parents from Latvia. It is the beginning of the Holocaust.

German title: **EINE BLONDE PROVINZ – Polen und der deutsche Rassenwahn**
52min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available



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THE BLUE HAND

by Peter Sempel

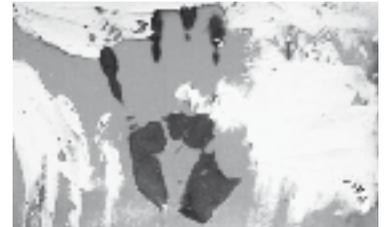
ARTS



Daniel Richter, German artist from Hamburg, painting new pictures for exhibition kunsthaus-hamburg, summer 2009, in his studio, Berlin, Auguststr., with his friend Jonathan Meese, and 2 giraffes and a lion.

The film shows, without commentary, 30mins of 5 hours-painting, their lightheartedness and cruelty, destructivity and creativity, swiftness of their hands and minds, musicality and humour.

German title: **DIE BLAUE HAND**
30min or 15min | DVD | 16:9
German version with English subtitles available

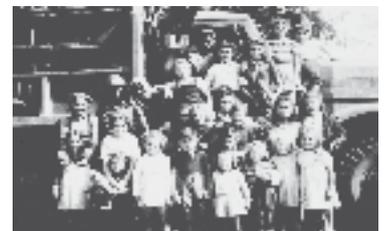


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BLUES MARCH – SOLDIER JON HENDRICKS

by Malte Rauch

MUSIC | ORAL-HISTORY | PORTRAIT | WAR&PEACE



Jon Hendricks, world famous jazz singer and "vocalizer" of Lambert, Hendricks & Ross, singing with Miles Davis, Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong, still sings at 85 in Clubs in New York, London and Paris. He now went back to Europe, where he was fighting against Hitler's racist regime.

But when the purely white and racist US.Military Police shot at Hendricks and his fellow "Negro Soldiers", he deserted and declared his own war on the segregated US Army. "We were treated like slaves on the plantation", Hendricks remembers. Jon Hendricks created his own phantom US Supply Unit in the town of Besancon in France and organized their survival on the black market. It all finally ended in chains and a US prison work camp in Marseille and Wuerzburg.

60 years later, commemorating the American landings on the beaches of Normandy, the French gave Hendricks the "Légion d'Honneur". Was it for his Music or for his very special war against racism?

German title: **BLUES MARCH – DER SOLDAT JON HENDRICKS**
Festivals : Montréal, Gouangzhou,China, Harlem, NYC & best of in Brooklyn, NYC
78min | 16:9 | HD | DigiBeta | DVD | original English with German voiceover or French subtitles available

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bob, fish and dog

by Stepan Altrichter

CITIES | MUSIC | PORTRAIT

Between all the hectic rush of Beijing city there is one man who has his own rhythm. Although he never went outside of Beijing he opened a reggae bar here in the middle of the slums, at the feet of the great Babylon, the skyscrapers. Who knows Jamaica only from the documentaries. But he knows it by heart.

Festivals: DOK Leipzig
9min | 1:1,78 | original version with English subtitles available



Festivals & Distribution
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BOUNDS

by Gerd Kroske

GERMAN-REUNIFIKATION | HISTORY | WAR&PEACE | POLITICS | CONFLICTS



In the 80's, new border barrier systems were used in the former GDR. The escape attempts with cars towards West Germany increased. Metal workers and Stasi (Ministry for State Security) are working hand in hand for the defence against "terrorism" in order to prevent escape attempts. In conspiratorial work they created new barriers after their actual working hours. Crash tests for the defence against terrorism, collisions for the case of emergency. Cars crashing into the new barricades, leaving a total loss. From the mid-80s those barriers were installed at all border crossing points.

The film is about the motivation of all who were involved, from tragic ending escapes and gives insight into the German engineering ingenuity and the military spirit. Pure GDR archeology

Original dialogue:

Question: „Why did they use cars from West Germany for their tests?“

Answer: „In a Trabant automobile, it would have been a futile attempt already thwarted by the wire mesh“

German title: **SCHRANKEN**

Festival: Duisburg

95min | Full-HD | HD-Cam | DigiBeta | DVD | 16:9 | stereo original German version with English subtitles available

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www.schranken-film.de

THE BREEDING OF A SUPER RACE Secret Experiments in Soviet Laboratories

by Boris Rabin

HISTORY | POLITICS

In the early period of the Soviet Union breathtaking experiments have taken place: Crossbreeding between man and ape; blood refreshment by transfer; fixing conditional reflexes to the genes; artificially inseminating women by sperms of genius men.

Everything seemed to be possible in this short time period, ending 1936 with mass murdering of so called opponents. The film lightens this period by archive footage, authentic places and with the words of specialists. After the victory of Bolshevik revolution breeding of "a new man" (in a broad sense - new mankind) became one of the main goals of a grandiose experiment, that was to be carried out at "one sixth part of the earth". The struggle for "a new man" had not only ideological reasons. Strange, as it may appear at the first sight, but its active development was stimulated by disease and death of Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin. Lenin's death became an alarming signal for his comrades. The communist elite rushed to doctors' rooms requiring to prolong their lives due to the newest medical discoveries. Different scientists were involved in the solution of this problem. An old Lenin's comrade and later his ideological opponent Alexander Bogdanov, physician, philosopher and science fiction writer was among them. In 1924 Bogdanov began to experiment with blood transfusions on real humans. He often experimented on himself, and he kept track in his records of the improvements of his general condition, production capacities and appearance.

German title: **MENSCHENLABOR SOWJETUNION**

45min or 52min | original German version; English or French versions available

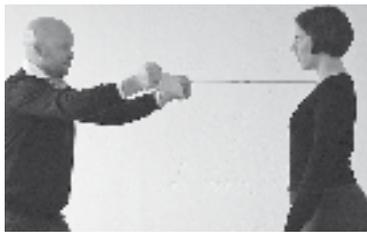


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BURNING WITHIN

by Katharina Pethke

WORK | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



Ever frequently, irritations, anxiety disorders, burn-out, depressions, and other psychological illnesses have become a reason for employees to obtain a sick certificate. How are 24/7 availability, multitasking, or the abolition of regular working hours linked to this phenomenon? In her graduation film for Cologne Academy of Media Arts, Katharina Pethke portrays the blurring of boundaries at work and the insecurities provoked by this. »Burning within« shows people looking for help: seminars and coaching sessions where the coaches guide people towards self-guidance.

German titles: **IN DIR MUSS BRENNEN**

Festivals: DOKLeipzig

64min | HDCam | DigiBeta | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:

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Harry Floeter/Joerg Siepmann

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CAMPINO

by Cordula Kablitz-Post

PORTRAIT | MUSIC



Campino - the charismatic singer, songwriter and front man of the German punk band "Die Toten Hosen" – has been one of the most popular and influential stars in the German music scene since the 1980s. The film shows previously unseen private footage from the band's wild days, and accompanies "Die Toten Hosen" on their current tour – in the tour bus, at concerts and backstage in Germany and Argentina.

Wim Wenders and Klaus-Maria Brandauer discuss their collaborations with Campino, whose incessant drive for artistic development has also led him to acting.

These days the party aspect is no longer in the foreground, and every performance is meticulously rehearsed. In extensive interviews, the 47-year-old singer/songwriter discusses with rare openness how he is coping with the challenges of growing old without losing his credibility as a punk rocker.

43min | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available

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CANTO Y DANZA

by Hannah Leonie Prinzler

DANCE | MUSIC | PORTRAIT | WOMEN | HISTORY | MIGRATION

The singer Tatiana and the dancer Ligia belong to the generation of young Nicaraguans, who are sent to study in Eastern Europe after the Sandinist Revolution in 1979. Dreaming that they will contribute to the cultural development their country one day, they set out for Berlin and Kiev. But when they return in the early 90s, after a decade of civil war and a failed revolution, their future in Nicaragua is more than uncertain. Canto y Danza is an intimate portrait of two strong and extraordinary women, giving insights into their past and present on both sides of the Atlantic. With the singing and the dancing of the protagonists, with close observations and archive footage the film tells a story about lost dreams, the life abroad and the nostalgia for a country, that never existed.

75min | HDV | DigiBeta | DVD | 16:9 | Spanish with English or German subtitles available



Production:

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CAPE TALK

by Jean Christophe Blavier

AFRICA | SOCCER | YOUTH | CULTURE | MUSIC | SOCIAL | SOCIETY

South Africa, ahead of the Soccer World Cup 2010, is more than just a paradise for European tourists! Our journey took us to discover the diversity and richness of the people and culture from the Cape of Good Hope.

An exclusiv interview with Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize Winner / a visit to Brett Murray, Artist / Pamela Mtati, Teacher at the Linge Secondary School & founder of the Likhwezi Dance project / Sport & Art Exchange, Soccer Academy, where ballet training is part of the daily workout of future professional soccer players / Soli Philander, moderator at the Capetalk 567 Radiostation, takes us on air to every corner of the Western Cape Back from our trip we show these outstanding meetings which stimulate lust to know more about South Africa. By illustrating brilliant people with open hearts telling about their social involvement, we present a closer look on the Spirit and culture in South Africa, ahead of this African 1st Global Sport Event.

28min | HDV | 16:9 | HDCAM | DigiBeta
original English version with German voice over, French, Italian, Spanish, Portugese (textlist)



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CARAVAN OF THE BOOKS – Kenya's Camel Library

by Herbert Ostwald

AFRICA | ENVIRONMENT | CULTURE | YOUTH



A library on four legs – the worlds only existing Camel Library is located in Northern Kenya. As they pass antelopes and giraffes, the heavily loaded caravan of camels are routinely carrying books through the rough savannah. In the villages with their houses of mud and dung these tenacious desert ships are wishfully awaited by the people of the nomadic Muslim tribes. Under the shade of acacia trees, especially the children are excitedly turning pages of school books, novels and comics.

However, 400 kilometers outside of the capital city of Nairobi the local librarians are still struggling with illiteracy, old traditions, insufficient funds, blistering sun and – stubborn camels...

This is the story about the Camel Library, about inquisitive children, about the origins of a book and about a camel and an exceptional librarian in the heart of Africa within the UNESCO-world decade of alphabetization.

German titles: **KARAWANE DER BUECHER – Kenias Kamel-Bibliothek**
43min | HDCam | DVD | German or French version

Production:
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CARL DJERASSI out of the series MY LIFE / MA VIE

by Joachim Haupt

PORTRAIT | SCIENCE | ARTS | SOCIETY

Carl Djerassi is a scientific genius, one of the great chemists of the last century. He was only 26 years old when he made his most important discovery. A discovery that would change the world.

In Mexico the young chemist Carl Djerassi discovered the first oral contraceptive – the PILL. Few pharmazeutical products had such an impact on modern civilization. But Carl Djerassi always led more than one life. He made a brilliant scientific career, he has written many novels and theatre plays and he is an art collector. His private Paul Klee collection is the biggest worldwide and he has founded one of the greatest artist's colonies in the United States. He permanently travels around the world and nothing – it seems – can stop his energy. Even with 85 years. In this very personal portrait he looks back on his life.

German title: **CARL DJERASSI – MEIN LEBEN / MA VIE**
43mins or 52mins | HD | German or English version



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CHANDANI – THE DAUGHTER OF THE ELEPHANT WHISPERER

by Arne Birkenstock

YOUTH | WOMEN | NATURE | SOCIAL

Chandani wants to follow in her father's footsteps and become a mahout. Her father does not have a son to which he could pass on the family knowledge from many generations. Against the other mahouts' will, he decides to give his daughter a chance. He gives her responsibility for the young elephant calf Kandula. Chandani must demonstrate that she is serious about her wish. Because she is the first girl in a male profession, everyone doubts her abilities and the ranger Mohammed becomes her only supporter. He takes her into the jungle, shows her the world of elephants in the wilderness. On one of these trips, Mohammed and her save a little elephant baby from its certain death. Strengthened by this experience and her mentor's support, she makes tremendous progress in the work with her little elephant Kandula, and develops a real emotional attachment to this animal. But when Kandula is taken away from her, also Chandani's path changes...



German title: **CHANDANI – Die Tochter des Elefantenfluesterers**
43min, 52min or 86min | 35mm | HDCAM | DigiBeta | stereo | Dolby 5.1 | original Singhalese version with English subtitles and English off-commentary or German dub version or German voice over version available

World Sales:
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THE CHILDREN OF THE COMMUNE

by Juliane Grossheim

SOCIAL BIOTOPE | ARTS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | YOUTH



In the commune of Viennese action-artist Otto Muehl, children should remain "unspoiled from the nuclear family" and be brought up to become completely new human beings. Common sexuality, common property and the abolition of parents-children relationships were the basic elements of a social experiment which turned into a totalitarian system. Through the eyes of former children of the commune and combined with extraordinary exclusive footage from its archives the film takes us into a world of utopia and abuse.

German title: **DIE KINDER VOM FRIEDRICHSHOF**
Festivals/Awards: DOKLeipzig, Special Mention/Kassel
77min | HD | DigiBeta | German or English version

World Sales:
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CHINA'S PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE

by Sylvia Nagel

CONFLICTS | EXILE | HISTORY | HUMAN RIGHTS | POLITICS | PORTRAIT | WOMEN | WAR&PEACE



This film tells the moving story of Rebiya Kadeer and her fight for the freedom of her people: the Uyghurs. Suppressed by China, the Muslim Uyghurs are not allowed to speak their language nor exercise their religion. Particularly since 9/11 they are pursued and killed by the Chinese. Rebiya Kadeer grew up in poverty. Through hard work she became a businesswoman and the first Uyghur to get a seat in the National People's Congress. But in 1999, after protesting against human rights abuses, Rebiya Kadeer is tortured and sentenced to eight years in prison. Today she lives in exile in the US. This film is the intimate portrait of an extraordinary woman, who risks everything to fight for the freedom of her people. And it's a tribute to Uyghur culture, which is about to disappear, unnoticed by the world's media.

German title: **CHINAS STAATSFEMINDIN NUMMER EINS**
Festivals: MIFF/Melbourne; CPH Docs; EBS Film Festival Korea; Keosung Film Festival, Taiwan; DMZ Docs, Korea; Human Rights Film Festival / Warsaw; Gda?sk DocFilm Festival
52min | DigiBeta | English, German or French synchron version available



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CHOLITA LIBRE: If you don't fight, you've already lost

by Jana Richter and Rike Holtz

WOMEN | SPORTS | CONFLICTS | CITIES | THEATRE | SOCIAL



What THEY want, THEY get. THEY can lose but that just means, that they will continue fighting. With their colourful, glittering skirts THEY are like flowers on the tarmac. And of course, THEY are stronger than all the men in the world. THEY are Cholitas and they are wrestlers. THEY fight on stage to show us that this world can change. Their style of fighting, the Lucha Libre (Latin-American Wrestling) is a mix of sport, theatre, athletics and choreography. Cholitas are the offspring of the Quechua or Aymara natives of Bolivia. We get to know Rosita the Heartbreaker, Carmen Rosa the Champion, Yolanda the Passionate and Claudina the Condemned. These four Cholitas do not spare themselves; they support, improve and correct each other. They do not train "against each other", but "with each other". What they want, they get. If not in reality, then on stage – because the wrestle is just like real life – if you do not fight to stay in it, you have already lost.

German title: **CHOLITA LIBRE: Wer nicht kaempft, hat schon verloren**
70min | HDV | DigiBeta | PAL | English, Spanish or German versions available

Production:
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CHRISTMAS? CHRISTMAS!

by Stefan Hayn and Anja-Christin Remmert

BERLIN | WORK | SOCIAL | POLITICS

Socio-political overview, starting from a Christmas fair in Berlin's low-income district of Neukoelln. The booths are maintained by "social service providers". We show their work. And we show their unemployed, drug-addicted, mentally ill, or educationally handicapped "clients". It's also the questions concerning immigration that matter a lot in the film. Like in Pieter Bruegel's paintings we wanted to develop a puzzling picture showing the German situation during the financial crises in fall 2008.



The Christmas topic helps to get the discussion beyond single everyday-life experience, to make the spiritual and socio-political background of today's situation perceptible – not in the form of another pessimistic picture of a metropolitan low-income neighbourhood, more like a polyphonic oratorio, giving evidence of the upright human cooperation in times of socio-political tightenings.

German title: **WEIHNACHTEN? WEIHNACHTEN!**
82min | HDCAM | 16:9 | color | stereo | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
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CRIMINAL CODE

by Alexander Gentelev

SOCIAL BIOTOPE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

For the first time ever, the *vori v zakone*, ("thieves by law"), former heads of Russia's criminal underworld, share their story with the world. The thugs who transformed into reputable businessmen reveal in the most intimate detail how they came to influence Russia's economy, and how they used their vast wealth to build up a political base in a land that once treated them as common criminals. Now with a strong base at home, they are eager to embark on a new crusade to spread their influence over the rest of the world.



Criminal Code probes their chilling history, and penetrates the mechanisms of their powerful organizations. It shows how powerful men have crawled out from the underworld to create a shadow state that rivals the modern Russian Federation in its wealth and power.

German title: **DIE EHRE DER PATEN – Russlands Mafia**
90min | DigiBeta | Russian/French/English version

World Sales:
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DANCING DREAMS Teenagers Perform KONTAKTHOF by Pina Bausch

by Anne Linsel and Rainer Hoffmann

The dance performance "Kontakthof" bears the unmistakable signature of Pina Bausch: it deals with forms of human contact, the encounters between the sexes, and the search for love and tenderness with all the attendant anxieties, yearnings and doubts. It is about feelings, which pose a big challenge, particularly for young people.

For almost a year teenagers from over eleven schools in Wuppertal went on an emotional journey. Every Saturday, 40 students, aged between 14 to 18 years, rehearsed under the direction of the Bausch-dancers Jo-Ann Endicott and Bénédicte Billiet and under the intense super-vision of Pina Bausch herself.

The film "Dancing Dreams" by Anne Linsel and Rainer Hoffmann accompanies the rehearsal process culminating in the opening night. We watch the teenagers making their first, still clumsy attempts to transform the subjects of the dance performance into motion and choreography and to develop an own, individual body expression. They discover themselves in a process, which leads great personal growth. Gentle and shy but also aggressive contacts condensate to individual experiences that many of the teenagers encounter for the first time on stage.

Pina Bausch has always encouraged the young dancers "to be themselves." It is behind their own movements, fears, feelings and desires that their personal "Dancing Dreams" become visible. At the end each of them has not only grown up, but above all has become more self-confident, independent and more sceptical facing prejudices. Employing an unusual adjacency, the film introduces the young protagonists in sensitive ways, it culminates in drawing a portrait of an entire generation.

Pina Bausch died on June 30th, 2009. "Dancing Dreams – Teenagers Perform „Kontakthof“ by Pina Bausch" shows the last motion pictures and the last interview with the world-famous dancer and choreographer.

German title: **TANZTRÄUME – Jugendliche tanzen „Kontakthof“ von Pina Bausch**

Festivals: Berlinale / SPECIAL

89min | HDCam | 35mm | Dolby SR | original German version with English subtitles available



Produktion:
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DAUNER FOREVER!

by Jean Christophe Blavier

MUSIC | PORTRAIT

One of the last dinosaur of the German jazz landscape is seen with his family in his house in Stuttgart. The film shows, with the eyes of Wolfgang Dauner, a retrospective of his life. From a small prodigy at the piano to an idol and mentor of the German and international jazz scene.

Exclusive concerts to mark the 75th birthday of Wolfgang Dauner are shown in the film:

German Jazz Masters, Wolfgang Dauner, Klaus Doldinger, Manfred Schoof. Solo concerts, with the newly founded Stuttgart Jazz Orchester

Open Air Concert in the natural idyll at the Blautopf: Dauner around Dauner, a duo concert by father and son Florian Dauner. Dennis Russell Davies conducts at the Berlin Konzerthaus the Bundes Jazz Orchester who plays a.o. a commissioned work by Dauner (with 150 musicians). MPS Villingen on a Bösendorfer Imperial Piano at the legendary MPS studios Dauner gives a farewell concert.

In the meantime, he is sitting in his homely conservatory with his wife Randi Bubatz in the midst of herbal essences, talking, laughing and drinking a little red sometimes.

52min or 45min | HDV | 16:9 | HDCAM | DigiBeta | original German version with English voice over available



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DAVID

by Stepan Altrichter

BERLIN | SOCIAL | SOCIETY | YOUTH

Who is... David?

David, 27, has set out to look for himself, for what he really is. What has become of his mother's plan to build a better future for him? What about those judicial letters piling up in front of his door? And what is going to happen to his new idea of constructing a skateboard pedal?



17min | DigiBeta | 4:3 | mono | original German version with English subtitles available

Festivals & Distribution
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DAVID CHIPPERFIELD out of the series MY LIFE / MA VIE

by Sabine Carbon

PORTRAIT | ARCHITECTURE

With his unique state-of-the-art interpretation of traditional values, David Chipperfield is one of the most successful and impressive architects working today. The former disciple of Sir Norman Foster and Richard Rogers operates offices in London, Milan, Shanghai and Berlin. His radical concept of integrating modern architecture and traces of wartime destruction into the restoration of the flamboyant 19th century 'Neues Museum' on Berlin's famed Museum Island garnered both praise and fierce criticism alike. Chipperfield's aim is to unite architecture and life. To this end, the English architect spends his summer holidays in his self-built summer home in Spain, where everything caters to the well-being of his family and their large circle of friends.

German title: **DAVID CHIPPERFIELD – MEIN LEBEN / MA VIE**
43min | DigiBeta | English or German version



Production:
avanti media
Film- & Fernsehproduktion oHG
Gneisenaustr. 44/45
10961 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-2646134
fax: +49 (0) 30-2646136
avanti@avantimedia.com
www.avantimedia.com

DAVID WANTS TO FLY

by David Sieveking

PORTRAIT | FILM | PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW

The young filmmaker David Sieveking follows the path of his professional idol, David Lynch, into the world of Transcendental Meditation (TM). It is a journey that leads him to the movement's founder, Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, the one-time guru of the Beatles. By the time he died 2008, Maharishi had expanded TM into a global conglomerate and offering courses that promised world peace and yogic flying.

How does this chime with the somber films of David Lynch?

Inspired by his idol, the young director Sieveking starts to meditate, too, submerging himself ever deeper in the strange world of TM. In doing so he gets a look into more than just his own abyss.

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
97min | HD | 16:9 | 35mm | 1:1,85 | DolbyDigital | original German/English/Hindi version with English subtitles



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Gaetano Bongiorno
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www.lichtblick-film.com

German distributor:
info@neuevisionen.de

THE DAY OF THE SPARROW

by Philip Scheffner

CONFLICTS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | EXPERIMENTAL | FILM | NATURE | POLITICS | WAR & PEACE



DAY OF THE SPARROW is a political wildlife documentary. It tells the story of a country where the border between war and peace is disappearing. On November 14th, 2005 a sparrow is shot dead in Leeuwarden, and in Kabul a German soldier dies. These competing headlines are the starting point for director Philip Scheffner, to trace the war using the methods of an ornithologist.

On his journey through Germany, the camera circuits a reality of the war – by capturing images of apparent peace. Dialogue fragments are wafting through deserted landscapes. Birds remain in the focus, becoming our guides to hidden places where the war is produced. And then, a sudden change of perspective: An arrest takes place on a Brandenburg country lane. The birdwatchers themselves become the targets of observation.

German title: **DER TAG DES SPATZEN**
Festivals: Berlinle/FORUM
100min | 35mm | HDCam | German or English version

Productions:
pong
Kroeger & Scheffner GbR
Skalitzer Str. 62
10997 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-61076098
info@pong-berlin.de

Blinker Filmproduktion GmbH
cc 4711 - 30.03.07.
Venloer Str. 241-245
50823 Cologne, Germany
tel +49 (0) 221-5397460
mm@blinkerfilm.de

DAYS OF RAIN

by Andreas Hartmann

PORTRAIT | CULTURE | SOCIETY | ENVIRONMENT | YOUTH



The thirteen-year-old Quynh lives with his parents and two siblings in a simple hut in a village by a river in central Vietnam. It's rainy season, the time when their village is repeatedly flooded. But this year, life changes for the poor family. A governmental program relocates their village to a new area. A lottery decides who gets the best spots on a safe hill. The family have drawn their luck. Still, building the new house will be a challenge for the entire family. The village's most reputable fortune-teller advises them to wait until "the day of the cat" to have their groundbreaking. Yet the rain gets worse, and time is short. They have a long road ahead, and only their courage, their optimism, and their belief keep them going.

German title: **TAGE DES REGENS**

Festivals: Cinéma Du Réel, Paris

72min | HD | HDCam | DigiBeta | DVD | 1:1,78 | original Vietnam version with German, English or French subtitles

Festival & Distribution

HFF "Konrad Wolf"
University of Film and Television
Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11
14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 331-6202564
fax: +49 (0) 331-6202568
distribution@hff-potsdam.de
www.hff-potsdam.de

Contact:

info@andreas-hartmann.com

DESERT MEMORIES

by Daniela Schulz

ADVENTURE | NATURE



Come on an adventure through the incredible Damaraland in Namibia: See wild-life expert and animal filmer Franky G. and his crew facing new problems every minute. Find the world's greatest seal colony just around the corner of one of the driest zones on earth, watch zebras, elephants and lions just on the other side of the road – and be surprised how far is the moon...

German title: **WUESTE GESCHICHTEN**

72min | DV | original German version with English subtitles available



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DOC SCHOKO: OKTOPUS IM PENTAGRAMM

by Dietmar Post and Lucia Palacios

MUSIC | ARTS | AVANT-GARDE

"Doc Schoko: Oktopus im Pentagramm" is the title of the second film within the "play loud! (live) music series". It features the Berlin-based rock 'n' roll band Doc Schoko. The band performs "Oktopus im Pentagramm" at Volksbühne Berlin in 2007. Filmmakers Dietmar Post and Lucia Palacios captured the group in the style of Direct Cinema.

About Doc Schoko: First songs at the age of 11. First DIY releases on MC in Germany's most industrialized and populated state of North-Rhine Westphalia (Ruhr Area). A working class punk rocker who uses the German language; just like his German idols, such as, S.Y.P.H., Fehlfarben, Kolossale Jugend, Die Regierung, Ton Steine Scherben, Mutter, Neu! and Blumfeld. No hipster bohemian attitude but down to earth Germaness and a deep understanding of stark and primitive NEU!KRAUT ROCK. Mark E. Smith (The Fall) invited Doc Schoko to be his supporting act.

8min | DVCAM | German or English version



Production:

play loud! productions (film&music)
Gubener Str. 23
10243 Berlin, Germany
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info@playloud.org

DOLPO TULKU – RETURN TO THE HIMALAYAS

by Martin Hoffmann

ENVIRONMENT | ETHNOLOGY | EXILE | NATURE | PORTRAIT | RELIGION

Sherap Sangpo leaves Dolpo and joins a Buddhist monastery in Kathmandu at the age of 10. From then on his life changes dramatically. He is recognized as a reincarnation of a high ranking Tulku and is sent for the next seventeen years to an exile monastery in South India. There he lives a student's life with mobile and laptop. But it's time to return as Dolpo Tulku. Return to his remote Himalayan region, to a place that he has grown distant to.



Dolpo is one of the most isolated regions in the world, located in the north-west of Nepal bordering Tibet. Surrounded by the Himalayan mountains, only accessible by foot through 17.000 ft high passages. The region has been able to conserve its archaic Buddhist culture. But he has to take charge of several monasteries as well as be the leading figure for those deeply religious people in Dolpo. Has he got a chance to decide, to fulfill the duties as reincarnation, to develop an area in the Himalayas, which has been forgotten for the last five-hundred years, and which had therefore had the chance to preserve its original Buddhist culture.

A Buddhist road movie – without roads!

German title: **DOLPO TULKU – HEIMKEHR IN DEN HIMALAYA**

Awards: Winner of Audience Award Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival

104min | HD | 16:9 | Tibetan/Hindi version with English or German subtitles available, French subtitles on request

World Sales:

mc media production GmbH

Uhlandstr. 79a

10717 Berlin, Germany

tel.: +49 (0) 30-86420 745

info@mcm-tv.de

www.mcm-tv.de

www.dolpotulku.de

DRILLING FOR ART

by Christian Schidlowski

ARTS | CULTURE



If your country has no cultural history, can you simply buy one?

The ruling family of Dubai certainly thinks so – and has ordered everything under the sun to make the desert bloom. With exclusive access, Drilling For Art goes behind the scenes of the Dubai Culture and Arts Authority which has launched an ambitious plan to create the entire culture of the state from scratch. It investigates Dubai's brand-new museums and art galleries, and talks to the consultants who are responsible for the flourishing of culture in the wealthiest 4,114 km² of sand in the world. Is this drive for culture purely a drive to become a major financial player in the fast growing global commodity that is art? And will the ripples of the economic downturn reach as far as this oil-rich Emirate?

German title: **DUBAI – DIE WUESTE LEBT!**

52min | HD | German or English version

World Sales:

TCF International

375 City Road

London EC1V 1NB, United Kingdom

tel.: +44 (0) 20-78373000

fax +44 (0) 20-72788833

tvfinternational.com

int@tvf.co.uk

Contact:

cs@christian-schidlowski.de

ECKART WITZIGMANN out of the series MY LIVE / MA VIE

by Michael Hofmann

PORTRAIT | FOOD

Eckart Witzigmann has left his mark on German and Austrian haute cuisine like no one before him. Every top German chef has learned under his tutelage, and the rich and famous have all dined at his legendary restaurant "Aubergine." The film follows him to Munich, Salzburg and Alsace and retraces the most significant moments in his life and his extraordinary career. With the help of his family, friends and students, Witzigmann tells how he revolutionized German cuisine and became one of the best chefs in the world. He also speaks with unprecedented candour about his cocaine addiction, which nearly cost him his career.

In 1993 he was arrested for possession of cocaine and sentenced to two years on probation. He also lost his restaurant license. After many trying years, he has now been publicly rehabilitated, and is considered "the chef" among German chefs. He consults gourmet restaurants, is a best-selling author of cookbooks, a university lecturer and president of the German Culinary Academy.

German title: **ECKART WITZIGMANN – MEIN LEBEN / MA VIE**

43min | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available



Production:

avanti media

Film- und Fernsehproduktion oHG

Gneisenaustr. 44/45

10961 Berlin, Germany

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avanti@avantimedia.com

EDNA'S DAY

by Bernd Sahling

MIGRATION | SOCIAL | YOUTH



Having come to Germany only recently, Edna is new in the class. And she stills needs to learn the foreign language. Seated at an extra desk in the last row, the Bosnian girl is sometimes forgotten by the class. And Edna sometimes forgets the class, too. But she draws more and more attention to herself.

German title: **EDNAS TAG**

Festivals: idfa Kids&Docs, Duisburger Filmwoche: doxs!

19min 40sec | HD | original version with English subtitles available

Production:

Blinker Filmproduktion GmbH

cc 4711 - 30.03.07.

Venloer Str. 241-245

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ELECTRIC PARADISE

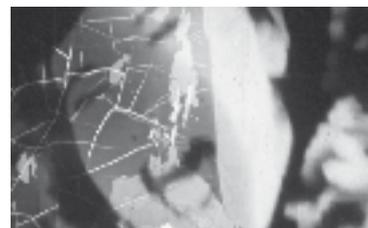
by Michael Busch

FILM | PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW | EXPERIMENTAL

The Electric Paradise is an aleatoric film in six parts. It's an extensive film cosmos on the topic of limited space, in which hallucinated and remembered urban landscapes appear, thought plays, traumata, textual landscapes whiz by, self-encounters in dreams, wormholes leading to other times and realities; in which the first-person narrator is leading a ghostlike existence in his hideaway, the idea of a hollow earth, evil water, strange matter, Peter Hein recounting Plato's cave analogy, a cinematic self-portrait, all of the above in palimpsest-like repainted images, oscillating between concrete and abstract vision.

"Around 1986 I started shooting on Super 8 and VHS. Since then, a constantly growing archive of documentary footage has developed, a visual notebook, from which I can distill stories, or just impressions or memories. It's not about filmmaking, basically, but rather about working in an archive of time. The "film of life" is about a constant struggle against the static, the relentless unchangeability of a filmprint. A classic "work-in-progress" attitude, now and then producing a film, while the actual, daily work remains invisible, because it subjects the material to constant changes, in an attempt to keep the FILM alive." Michael Busch

210min | Super8, 16mm, 35mm, Video, VHS, Hi8, DV & HD onto HDV Tapes | color & b/w



Contact:

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EXPANSIVE GROUNDS

by Gerburg Rohde-Dahl

BERLIN | NS-POLITICS | CONFLICTS | ARCHITECTURE | ARTS



A documentary about the filmmaker's process of self and social understandings occasioned by the construction of the Berlin Memorial to the Murdered Jews in Europe. From the installing of the first slabs in the center of Berlin in September 2003 through the autumn of 2007, two years after its opening to the public, the filmmaker documented the Monument. She interviewed many visitors to the Memorial, its initiator, Lea Rosh, its architect, Peter Eisenman, and her own sister, 12 years elder.

Expansive Grounds reflects upon the impact of the Holocaust on German and personal life.

The core of the film is the inner process initiated by this Memorial.

A German story of everyday life.

German title: **EIN WEITES FELD**

Festivals: IFF Thailand, IFF Washougal/USA, Global Peace FF Orlando/USA, Nonfiktionale/Deutschland, Annual St.

John's International Women's Film Festival, IFF Foyle/Northern Ireland, FIFA Festival International du Film du L' Art

Awards: SpiritAward / chashama Filmfestival New York

66min | DigiBeta | DVD | original German/English version with English subtitles available

Contact:

Rohde-Dahl Filmproduktion

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tel.: +49 (0) 30-1634093266

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rohdedahl@aol.com

www.rohdedahl.de

www.ein-weites-feld.de

THE EXTRAORDINARY STRUGGLES AT THE COAST

by Frank D. Mueller

SOCIAL | CULTURE | NATURE | SPORTS



The organizers of the 'Mud Flats Olympics' regard the mud flats at the German North Sea as a creative playground. At the first sight it is all about the sensual desire for mud, athletic competitions when the tide is out and the unconventional thoughts of "mud flats psychology". With the artist Jens Rusch as the main character, it additionally confronts a never-give-up attitude and the matters of cancer and donations for counselling centres. With an approach to life influenced by ebb and flow, the organizers and the athletes create a spectacle that seems to be out of this world despite its serious background.

German title: **meerkampf. watt?**

Festivals: Hof, Luebeck

87min | HD | 1:1,85 | original German version with English subtitles available

Contact:

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www.meerkampf-watt.de
Frank D. Mueller
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FACE THE WALL

by Stefan Weinert

ORAL-HISTORY | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | POLITICS | SOCIETY

The five life stories told by former East German citizens incarcerated for attempting to flee the Republic in the GDR who are representing a group of around 72,000 ex-convicts are shocking to the core. The subjects speak with extraordinary openness of their struggles with the regime, of horrific prison conditions and interrogation methods. This sensitive documentary maintains a close proximity to its protagonists throughout, examining open wounds and bringing psychological damage to light that have made it impossible for them to live a normal fear-free lives ever since.



A remarkable cinematic contribution that shows five unique facets of a daily life consisting of torture, abominations and violations of human dignity without attempting to judge, provoke or explain. Rather, the film documents and makes an important chapter in German history more palpable in the best possible sense.

„Takes up the story where the Oscar winning film 'The Lives of Others' leaves off." DIE ZEIT

German title: **GESICHT ZUR WAND**

Festivals/Awards: Doc Review, European Cinema Florence, FBW "Of special merit" + "Documentary of the Month"
85min | HDV | DVD | 16:9 | stereo original German version with English, French or Spanish subtitles available

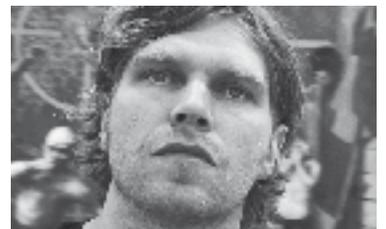
Distribution:

Salzgeber & Co. Medien GmbH
Mehringdamm 33
10961 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-28529090
fax: +49 (0)30-28529099
info@salzgeber.de
www.salzgeber.de

FANTASTIC LIES – The Paintings of Jonas Burgert

by Irene Hoefler

ARTS | CULTURE | PORTRAIT



Being an artist means much more than following dogmas of art, 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 those artists who is driven to paint, he must create the atmosphere he feels. He does it in a way that hasn't been used in this manner before. He connects the influence of old masters with the freethinking attitude of the renaissance.

The documentary accompanies his successful career around the world.

German title: **PHANTASTISCHE LUEGEN – DIE MALEREI DES JONAS BURGERT**

26min | HD | German version with English textlist

Production:

MEDEA FILM – Irene Hoefler
Erkelendamm 59-61
10999 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-25295330
fax: +49 (0) 30-25295332
cell: +49 (0) 173-6090559
info@medeafilm.de
www.medeafilm.de

FANTASTIC SEA CREATURES

An ongoing series

by Annette Scheurich, Klaus Scheurich, Tim Foerderer, and others

NATURE | ENVIRONMENT | ANIMALS | SERIES



Feared, admired, loved or unrecognized: our planet hosts an unbelievable variety of strange and unique creatures. An ongoing series for the German and international market is portraying these unique creatures, 5 minutes each.

Spectacular shots are illustrating incredible stories of dangerous, bizarre but also wonderful creatures.

á 5mins | DVD | HDCam | ongoing series

Production:

MARCO POLO FILM AG
Annette Scheurich, Klaus Scheurich
Handschuhsheimer Landstr. 73
69121 Heidelberg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 6221-400780
fax: +49 (0) 6221-400884
klaus@marco-polo-film.de

World Sales:

Off The Fence b.v.

THE FASHION ICON RYKIEL – REBEL AND VISIONARY

by Irene Hoefler and Gabriela Hermer

PORTRAIT | CULTURE



Disregarding her age of 80 – she is still a visionary character under the permanent strain to create; a highly sensitive person who is still among the most creative and successful designers of the world. The film portrays the unique universe at SONIA RYKIEL's headquarters on the eve of the winter show 2010. Sonia, her daughter Nathalie and the French writer Régine Deforges have their say.

German title: **DIE MODE-IKONE SONIA RYKIEL – REBELLISCH UND VISIONÄR**

44min | HD | 16:9 | German version with English textlist

World sales:

TVF International
375 City Road
London EC1V 1NB
United Kingdom
tel.: +44 (0) 20-7837 3000
fax: +44 (0) 20-7278 8833
ontactus@tvf.co.uk
www.tvfinternational.com

Production:

MEDEA FILM – Irene Hoefler
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fax: +49 (0) 30-25295332
cell: +49 (0) 173-6090559
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FAUST: LIVE AT KLANGBAD

by Dietmar Post and Lucia Palacios

MUSIC | ARTS | AVANT-GARDE



Faust, together with Kraftwerk, Amon Düül, Neu!, Can and Popol Vuh, is among the most important German avant-garde pop bands of all times. Formed in 1970 in Hamburg the band has been acclaimed internationally as the inventors of industrial rock. Between 1975 and 1990 the band almost didn't exist. But in the early 90s some of the old band members reunited and since then the band performs and records again. Their sound hasn't lost any of the early excitement and experimentation. Filmmakers Dietmar Post and Lucia Palacios in the style of Direct Cinema captured one of Faust's rare live performances at the Klangbad Music Festival. The documentary film about the entire festival "Klangbad: Avant-garde in the Meadows" will be released on DVD in 2010 together with the Faust live performance.

70min | DVCAM | BetaSP | German or English version

Productions:

play loud! productions (film & music)
Gubener Str. 23
10243 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-2977 9315
fax: +49 (0) 30-2977 9316
cell: +49 (0) 178-542 9772
info@playloud.org
www.playloud.org

FIVE WAYS TO DARIO

by Dario Aguirre

HUMAN RIGHTS | MIGRATION | PORTRAIT | TRAVEL



Since more than 10 years the director Darío Aguirre lives between two totally different worlds, Germany and Ecuador. He decides to make an extraordinary journey, visiting five unknown men called Darío Aguirre as well: One in Mexico and four in Argentina. To meet each other develops into a reconciliation with their own past lives and permits a briefly glance into the protagonists present time. For two months Darío shares five different lives, adapting himself to situations and activities he has never done before. He tries to lose his fear of the extension of his visa with the Mexican psychologist, Darío Aguirre. He learns to drive a car with the cabby, Darío Aguirre, in Buenos Aires; he experiences the life of a soldier with the Sergeant Major Darío Aguirre; he philosophizes with the security guard, Darío Aguirre, at the gate over the question "Who am I?"; and he observes the influence the upcoming birth is having on future father, Darío Aguirre.

80min | HDcam | DigiBeta | original Spanish version with English or German subtitles available

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www.buechnerfilm.de

THE FLAG BEARER

by Philip Vogt

WAR&PEACE | CONFLICTS | MIGRATION | SOCIAL | CULTURE

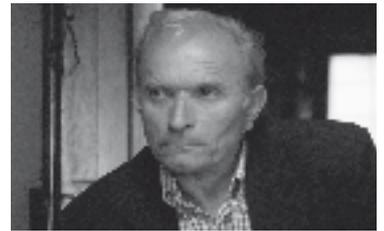
Zef Sokoli is the Bajraktar of the Dukagjin – "he who holds the flag", who calls his men together with a rifle shot and leads them to war when someone threatens his mountain villages in Northern Albania.

He still receives members of various tribes in the house of his ancestors, mediating between them when there are arguments – or another blood feud. But his kingdom is falling apart. More and more mountain people feel the call of the valleys. Even the Bajraktar's heirs, his three sons, are down in the city looking for work and a future. But one of them must inherit his father's legacy – it's tradition.

Documentary about a once powerful clan-leader and reconciler in blood-feuds in the Dukagjin, northern Albania, and his family, and their search for a future between migration and tradition.

German title: **DER BERGFUERST**

82min | 1:1,85 | Albanian with German or English subtitles available



Production:

polyeides medienkontor
muenchen berlin
Matthias Zuber
Lausitzer Platz 11
10997 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-26553620
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cell: +49(0) 171-4198100
mail@polyeides.de
www.deutsche-seelen.de

Fm Einheit + Irmiler: Live at Berghain

by Dietmar Post and Lucia Palacios

MUSIC | ARTS | AVANT-GARDE

"Fm Einheit + Irmiler: Live at Berghain" is the title of the third film within the "play loud! (live) music series". It features two giants of German avant-garde pop music. Hans Joachim Irmiler is the founding member of the krautrock legend Faust, inventors of industrial rock. FM Einheit is a former member of Einstürzende Neubauten and a recognized industrial percussionist. The historical encounter was captured by filmmakers Dietmar Post and Lucia Palacios in the style of Direct Cinema at the famous Berlin club Berghain.

60min | HD | German or English version



Productions:

play loud! productions (film & music)
Gubener Str. 23
10243 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-2977 9315
fax: +49 (0) 30-2977 9316
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FOR THE CHILDREN

by Eckart Lottmann

SOCIAL | WOMEN | YOUTH

Every day some 30 poor little children in Cusco (Peru) get a warm meal for free. This "comedor" is mainly financed by Renate Ratzel, a retired woman and former teacher from Stuttgart, Germany. Renate Ratzel is blind. As an officially "disabled" person, she could claim public support for herself. But she prefers to help - even if it exceeds her financial means. Therefore the film is also about the possibilities and limitations of private help. Mrs. Ratzel also supports some 12 to 15 year old pupils. Her god-child Evelin, a ten year old girl, was raped by two men - now she is living with Renate's help in a Peruvian family. Certainly it's the Christian belief in God - she is catholic - that gives Mrs. Ratzel the strength and motivation to help. But she knows that she must become active herself.



German title: **ES GEHT UM DIE KINDER**
Spanish title: **SE TRATA DE LOS NIÑOS**
26min | HD | DVD | German, English or Spanish version available

World Sales Western Europe:
Eckart Lottmann
Irisring 4 D
13089 Berlin, Germany
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E.Lottmann@gmx.de

FRITZ BAUER – DEATH BY INSTALMENTS

by Ilona Ziok

ORAL-HISTORY | PORTRAIT |



"We emigrants were guilty of well-meaning misjudgement. The fact that Germany lies in ruins has also a good side, we thought. The debris is cleared and we build the cities of the future. Broad, bright and welcoming." These words, spoken by Fritz Bauer in 1967 to the writer Gerhard Zweren, describe the enthusiasm with which the Swabian lawyer wanted to ensure the passage for post-war Germany from the clutches of the Nazi dictatorship to a democratic and human political system. Not only the political but also the legal sphere was to contribute to this process. Bauer had no idea that he would be rolling a Sisyphean boulder, that the path would be strewn with obstacles and hostilities and that it would finally end in an untimely death, the exact circumstances of which remain puzzling even today.



Ilona Ziok's film "Death by installments" tells of Bauer's courageous fight for justice. The director has carried out meticulous research in the archives and obtained startling testimonies from the General State Attorney in Hesse. Around this she has built, in the form of a mosaic, extraordinary film archives, selected works of classical and contemporary music as well as the eye witness accounts of Bauer's contemporaries: friends, relatives and those who fought with him for justice. This film not only provides the exciting biographical depiction of a unique life, it also paints an impressive portrait of one of the most important lawyers of the 20th century. Fritz Bauer's name is linked with Eichmann's extradition to Israel, the rehabilitation of the freedom fighters of the 20th of July 1944 and the legendary Frankfurt Auschwitz trials.

German title: **FRITZ BAUER – TOD AUF RATEN**
Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
110min | DigiBeta | original German/English version with English subtitles available

Contact:
CV Films Berlin
tel.: +49 (0) 30-23627167
fax: +49 (0) 30-2135977
cvfilmsberlin@aol.com

FUGU – A Taste to Die For

by John Wate

SCIENCE | FOOD | CULTURE

It's the most dangerous delicacy in the world. Despite incidents of poisoning year after year, the popularity of this exotic dish in Japan remains unbroken. The Japanese blowfish fugu contains one of the deadliest poisons known to man, 1250 times more potent than cyanide. If the cook isn't skilled in the use of a filet knife, the gourmet meal could become a death sentence for the restaurant guest. In a noble Tokyo restaurant, we will accompany an apprentice during the extremely challenging training to become a fugu cook. The chef and his apprentice will familiarize us with the cult of this delicacy, which is both feared and revered.



German title: **FUGU – zum Sterben koestlich**
52min or 43min | HDCAM | English, French or German version

World Sales:
Telepool GmbH
Sonnenstr, 21
80331 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-55876-0
telepool@telepool.de
langer@langermediaconsulting.de

GAUCHOS: If you don't get on, you won't fall off

by Jana Richter

SOCIAL BIOTOPE | LIFESTYLE

Gauchos: If you don't get on, you won't fall off is a film about people who live life through risk. Men who always get back on, no matter how often they will fall off. For them, freedom means to ride off not knowing what they will eat, where they will sleep or when they will come back.

To be a gaucho is a passion. It is passed on from father to son, or daughter. You have to learn to be a gaucho but there are no schools which teach it. Here in the Argentinean mountains, the horse is the teacher and shows the human being the most important things in life. It demands of its rider patience, endurance, stamina, perseverance, intelligence and the talent of improvisation. And in return it offers faith, trust, obedience, strength and energy. To ride and to be a good rider means to hold your body in balance. If the body is in balance, your soul is in balance too. That is the moment where you can reach whatever you want. You just have to get on and not be afraid to fall off.

German title: **GAUCHOS: Wer nicht aufsteigt, kann auch nicht runterfallen**

Festivals/Awards: Utrecht, Kassel, ASTRA FF + Ro-IFF, Romania, Best Documentary Award, Kathmandu/Nepal, Chennai/Indien, CRONOGRAP - Chisinau/Moldawien a.o.
85min | HDV | DigiBeta | PAL | English, Spanish or German version



Production:
RICHTER Production
Jana Richter
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GERMAN SOULS – LIFE AFTER COLONIA DIGNIDAD

by Martin Farkas and Matthias Zuber

SOCIAL-BIOTOPE | CONFLICTS | PORTRAIT | YOUTH | HUMAN-INTEREST



Ruediger was a child, Aki two months old and Kurt the deputy of the pedophile leader of the sect. In 1961 they came to Chile together with 500 other German sect members and for over 40 years they lived secluded from the rest of the world. The film tells about the attempt to survive as a collective after decades of crimes such as torture and murder. This film depicts the effort to survive as a community after an extreme human tragedy – showing different ways in which the individual copes with the history of the community. These are German stories of displacement, desire, romantic enthusiasm and despair. It is a film about guilt, victimisation and coming to terms with them.

German title: **DEUTSCHE SEELEN – LEBEN NACH DER COLONIA DIGNIDAD**

Festivals: São Paulo, Max-Ophuels-Festival/Saarbruecken, Achtung Berlin, IDFF Munich, Kassel, London, Dublin
Awards: Seal of Approval "highly recommended"
92min | HD | 1:1,85 | stereo original German/Spanish version with English or German subtitles available

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mail@polyeides.de
www.deutsche-seelen.de

GERMANY'S COASTS

by Christian Schidlowski and Wilfried Hauke

NATURE | SERIES | ENVIRONMENT

Inspired by Yann-Arthus Bertrand's film project "Home", VIDICOM uses the same camera technology to create surprising aerial perspectives for "Germany's Coasts", a 10x52mins documentary series for a primetime spot in 2010.

The Cineflex system enables unjittered HD telezoom shots of the German coast. We will take the audience on a discovery trip starting in Emden at the western end of the German coast all the way up to the eastern end. The series combines sensational helicopter shots with top protagonists and their very own adventures along the German Coast.

German titles: **DEUTSCHLANDS KUESTEN**

10x52min | Cineflex | HD | German, English or French version



WorldSales:
VIDICOM GmbH & Co. KG.
Geffckenstr. 15
20249 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40-60088480
fax: +49 (0) 40-600884898
info@vidicom-tv.com,
www.vidicom-tv.com

GLEB'S FILM

by Christian Hornung

SOCIAL BIOTOPE | FILM | WORK



Gleb runs a small hair salon in Hamburg-Altona. It's the only shop in the street, and for many of his elderly clients the visit of the salon is the highlight of the day. The solitude of these people preoccupies Gleb, but simultaneously it stimulates his vivid imagination. While giving perms and darkening eyelashes, he tells his customers about his idea of a film which involves an unhappy man, a lonely woman, and a hairdresser for whom, of course, a very special part is reserved. Thanks to the great interest of Gleb's listeners, the story often takes surprising turns. At the same time it provides the frame for a cinematic portrait of a passionate storyteller.

German title: **GLEBS FILM**

Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE

28min | HD | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

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GOD BLESS ICELAND

by Helgi Felixson

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | ECONOMY | POLITICS



The financial crisis has hit the core existence of no other country as hard as the small nation of Iceland: A country, that in the last years has been one of the most prosperous nations in the world, suddenly becomes a metaphor for the global crisis and a proof for the uncontrollability of raging turbo-capitalism. In the last months the world is shown a series of dramatic pictures: Outraged demonstrators in the centre of Reykjavik, finally the resignation of leaders in banks and government as well as the election in May 2009. GOD BLESS ICELAND tells the story of the financial crisis in Iceland, diving into the very real and daily confrontations of the calamity, which undermined not only the economy of Iceland but the very identity of the small island nation as well.

German title: **AUFSTAND IN ISLAND. EINE INSEL KÄMPFT GEGEN DEN STAATSBANKROTT** (70min)

58min, 70min or 100min | 35mm | 1:1,85 | DigiBeta | DVD | 16:9

58min or 100min Icelandic with English subtitles

70min Icelandic with German narrator, German voice-over and German subtitles

World Sales:

Deckert Distribution
Marienplatz 1
04103 Leipzig, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 341-215 66 38
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info@deckert-distribution.com
www.deckert-distribution.com

HACKER

by Alexander Biedermann

CULTURE | CURRENT AFFAIR | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | YOUTH

In his debut, Alexander Biedermann encounters five hackers and questions both their very existence and the impetus for their actions. The film portrays hackers, who constantly re-define borders of computer systems. They all associate their experience with a particular feeling of power: Only a few command lines enabled them to manipulate crucial features of modern society. Though regarding themselves as keepers and guardians, the legal grey area and the conflicting individual goals and social necessities become the touchstone of their biographies. HACKER is a portrait which follows human traces in the data network, uncovering personal stories hidden beneath its surface.



Festivals: DOKLeipzig

79min | HD | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:

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Alte Schoenhauser Str. 9
10119 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-30874560
info@hoferichterjacobs.de

HANBAO – THE CASTLE OF THE CHINESE

by Christian Schidlowski

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CULTURE | DAILY LIFE | SOCIAL | SOCIETY

The documentary tells the story of four Chinese social climbers in Hamburg, which are trained for a global mission. There is no other European city that is as highly regarded by these well-trained Chinese. But while other waves of emigration around the turn of the century formed whole districts, the Chinese influence on the European society apparently passed by unnoticeably. The film explores the main question of the daily challenges of our protagonists.

What does it mean for them to live and work 8000 kilometers away from the own, mostly young families. Are they separated only for a period of time or for eternity?

German title: **HANBAO: DIE BURG DER CHINESEN**
60min | 16:9 | HD | English or German version available



Production:
Gebrueder Beetz Filmproduktion
Hamburg GmbH +Co KG
Eppendorfer Weg 93a
20259 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40-76973070
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www.beetz-brothers.de
www.gebrueder-beetz.de

HAPPY JOURNEY

by Hans Andreas Guttner

ADVENTURE | CULTURE | DAILY LIFE | NATURE | SOCIAL | TRAVEL

Turkey is a country of unexpected variety and contrasts. To learn more about Turkey than touristic clichés has to go by bus which as do the ordinary people. In Turkey, busses are the cheapest, most popular and countrywide the most important public means of transport. What is the airplane in the USA, the train in Europe, is in Turkey the overland bus. Travelling by bus permits a close look on Turkish reality, as we rarely get to see it in this form. In order to get a true impression of this country, its people, animals and landscapes, go and take a 28-hour bus ride over 2,200 kilometers from Istanbul to Van. An intensive course in Turkish reality!

German title: **GLUECKLICHE REISE**
45min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available



Production:
Sisyphos Film
Wagmuellerstr. 21
80538 Munich, Germany
tel/fax: +49 (0) 89-501464
guttner@t-online.de
www.guttner.de

HEAD COLD

by Gamma Bak

LONGTERM | HUMAN-INTERES | SOCIAL | WOMEN | PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW



HEAD COLD is a personal long-term observational documentary about psychosis, still a tabooed topic. It follows my attempt to return to a "normal" life – since the mid-90s I had several psychotic breakdowns, which were treated in mental hospitals. The film was shot over 5 years and also uses my archives since 1992.

What happened to me is not just relevant on an individual level. It reveals at which points the emancipation from the stigma caused by this illness can occur. My own story is both the point of departure and the example, though at first I found it hard to out myself. Using filmic means, it recounts the struggle of being confronted by a psychic illness right up to the stage when one has reached normalcy once again and the loneliness of being solely responsible for one's condition. GB

German title: **SCHNUPFEN IM KOPF**
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM
92min | Digi-Beta | original German/English/ Hungarian version with German, English, French, Hungarian subtitles

Word Sales:
Gamma Bak Filmproduktion
Luckauer Str. 3
10969 Berlin, Germany
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gammabak@t-online.de
www.headcoldfilm.net

HERBSTGOLD

by Jan Tenhaven

PORTRAIT | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SPORTS

The film tells the life-affirming stories of five senior athletes across the world who all have one goal – to take part in the track and field World Masters Championships in Finland. The biggest challenge is their age as all athletes are between 77 and 100 years old - a race against time and personal degeneration as they jump, run and throw the discus. In their long lives, they have fought many personal crises and losses, they have survived wars and other tragedies, some of them have won the battle against terminal diseases. Now they are united in one common goal: to take part in the Championships. No matter what it takes. If they only do not die before. Life will end soon – so what? As everybody is quite aware of that biological fact, there is plenty of space for a good portion of humour.

German title: **HERBSTGOLD**

90min or 52 min | XDCAM | HD | 35mm | 1:1.85 | DolbyDigital
original English/German/Czech/Italian version with English or German subtitles



Production:

Gebrueder Beetz Filmproduktion
Köln GmbH + Co KG
Heinrich-Roller Str. 15
www.beetz-brothers.de
info@gebrueder-beetz.de
www.navigatorfilm.com

HOME FROM HOME

by Sung-Hyung Cho

CULTURE | EXILE | HISTORY | MIGRATION | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | WORK | WOMEN



Three women return to South Korea after spending over thirty years in Germany. Together with their German husbands they live in the "German Village", a quirky tourist attraction replete with red tiled roofs, Bockwurst and Pumpernickel. Korean director – Hyung Cho plumbs the depths of this balancing act between two cultures with humour and sensitivity.

German title: **ENDSTATION DER SEHNSUECHTE**

Festivals: BERLINALE, IFF Pusan, IFF Hawaii, Sheffield Doc/Fest, Guangzhou/China
95mins | 35mm | 1:1.85 | original German/Korean version with English subtitles available

Contact:

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THE HOUSEMAID

by Anna Hoffmann

PORTRAIT | WORK | SOCIAL | HUMAN-RIGHTS

"I don't want to stay here any more!" says Martina to her mother via webcam in an internet café near Lake Constance. Meanwhile, her mother in Slovakia tries to calm down her daughter. After all, they need the money. Martina is working as a home help and carer to an elderly couple. Lore, the mistress of the house, is in a wheelchair.

She has difficulty getting around. Otherwise, she's full of energy and keeps a tight rein on the household. Her husband, Max, can no longer speak but observes everything that goes on around his bed. Theirs is a tiny world, over which Lore holds sway. The fact that their idyll has now been penetrated by a young Slovakian woman who is going to spend the Summer looking after Max and Lore is a bitter pill for Lore to swallow. The German language alone poses countless problems. Lore insists on giving Martina step-by-step instructions on how to make Swabian noodles, but Martina isn't used to being observed while she works. Lore wants to live, with the aid of this young woman. But she has to do everything the way Lore wants her to. Lore doesn't miss a trick but it frustrates her when the girl's lack of German hampers the communication, and so Lore decides to give Martina vocabulary to learn. But when Martina complains to the agency that she doesn't get enough to eat and flatly refuses to wait another four weeks before she can go back home for a visit, Lore decides to fire her home help. "May I know what you think?" Martina asks her mother, hoping for her support. But there is no answer. And so Martina must go her own way.

German title: **DIE HAUSHALTSHILFE**

Festivals/Awards: Berlinale PERSPECTIVE; nominated for FirstSteps Award, German Film Award for Short Films
59min | HDCAM | DigiBeta | DVD | original German/Slovakian version with English subtitles available



Contact:

Producer: Stephan Grobe
s.grobe@gmx.net

Baden-Wuerttemberg Film Academy
www.filmakademie.de

HUGHESOFFKA Letters from the Wild Field

by Viola Stephan

CITIES | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE | HISTORY | MIGRATION | RELIGION | SPORTS | WORK



In 1929 Dziga Vertov shot the impressive Donbass Symphony: It shows churches being destroyed, crosses and cupolas demolished, the old icons being burnt; a young sculptress is chiselling a bust of Lenin. The Donbass epitomizes the new reality: coal mines, steelmills, machines. It is the pride of the Soviet economy.

Who knows that for half a century Donetsk was a British settlement called Hughesoffka?

German title: **HUGHESOFFKA – Briefe aus dem Wilden Feld**

Festivals: Hof, Duisburg

84min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original Russian/English version with German or English subtitles available

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www.sredafilm.com

HUMAN-ELEPHANT WARFARE Can Chili Peppers Save the Elephants?

by Herbert Ostwald

Protection measures and 20 years of prohibition of the ivory trade are making an impact: Almost all countries in Africa are reporting a rise in elephant numbers. In the past two decades, the population of these grey giants doubled to over 30,000, alone in the Safari-Paradise of Kenya. At the same time the population of humans is growing. Man and elephant require space. Conflicts between both are unavoidable and the survival of the biggest land mammal is again endangered.



The battle between humans and elephants is getting more grisly and costlier. Some countries react with culling, a worldwide controversial method. The goal of most countries is not to kill but to discourage the elephants from raiding the fields. Guile and wile are asked for. Conservationists and gamekeepers of Africa are researching new methods to manage the jumbos: especially chilli peppers seem very promising as the elephants' long trunks are very sensitive to the hot spice.

But the question remains: Is there any chance for a permanent and peaceful coexistence of humans and elephants? How many elephants can the African continent handle?

43min | HDCam | DVD | German or French version

Production:

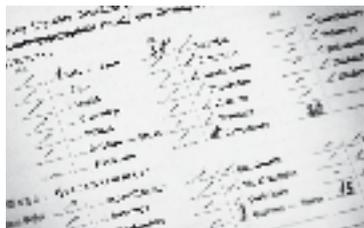
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69121 Heidelberg, Germany
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fax: +49 (0) 6221-400884
annette@marco-polo-film.de
www.marco-polo-film.de

HUMAN FAILURE

by Michael Verhoeven

ORAL HISTORY | NS-POLITICS

The expropriation of the German Jews benefitted virtually every other German citizen. It was not the Gestapo who invaded Jewish residences in order to confiscate all assets – from bank accounts to the last shirt – it was the German tax officials. A bizarre competition evolved between bureaucrats as to how one should organize the robbery of the Jews before they were expelled or sent to the gas chambers. Larger assets went to the tax offices, and the smaller assets and goods were sold to friends and neighbors in public auctions of "non-aryan" property. Many of the documents proving this expropriation were lost or destroyed; the ones that remained were hidden away. A search for traces...



German title: **MENSCHLICHES VERSAGEN**

Awards: Yad Vashem Chariman's Award / Jerusalem Film Festival; Top Prize for German Documentaries on Jewish Themes / Berlin Jewish Film Festival -

91min | HD | 16:9 | color | stereo | original German version with English subtitles available

World Sales:

National Centre for Jewish Film
Brandeis University
Lown 102, MS053
Waltham, MA 02454/USA
tel.: +1 (0) 781-8997044
fax: +1 (0) 781-7362070
www.menemshafilms.com
www.sentana.de

I BOUGHT A RAIN FOREST

by Jacob Andrén and Helena Nygren

ADVENTURE | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | ENVIRONMENT | NATURE | TRAVEL

Jacob Andrén, an ordinary young man, is thinking about his days in primary school. He is wondering about what happened to the rainforest that he and his classmates bought after having collected money at a flea market. They received a certificate of ownership, he recalls, but that was 20 years ago.

The Forest is a unique, amusing and vivid film, which accompanies Jacob on his journey to Central America, and mediates knowledge of the rain forest. It is a story about reflecting on the freedom of childhood and about using that inspiration to make a change.

Festivals: Gothenburg
52min or 58min | HDCAM | 16:9 | original version with Swedish or English subtitles, German voiceover available



Production:
Gebrueder Beetz Filmproduktion
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Heinrich-Roller Str. 15
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film@wgfilm.com
www.wgfilm.com

ILSE MIDDENDORF: BREATH – VOICE OF THE SOUL A Revelation on the Experience of Breath

by Gerd Conradt

BERLIN | WOMEN | PORTRAIT | SCIENCE | EDUCATION



Witness the work of the Experience of Breath. Prof. Ilse Middendorf (1910-2009) demonstrates movements initiated by breath, expounding upon the principles of breath that she discovered. In this inspirational documentary, the Grande Dame of Breath Therapy presents herself with her deep knowledge and clarity. These rare clips of this extraordinary Berlin personality were filmed at her Institute, the former city residence of the Princess Viktoria Luise. Ilse Middendorf participated in this project with great excitement and support.

German title: **ILSE MIDDENDORF, ATEM – STIMME DER SEELE**
85min | HD | DVD | original German version with English subtitles

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Mandala.Vision@gmx.de
www.gerdconradt.de

THE IMAGE INSIDE A Portrait of the Painter Gerda Lepke

by Wolfgang Scholz

PORTRAIT | ARTS | WOMEN | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | ORAL HISTORY | GDR



A film about the process of painting, the way a painter thinks and decides in a world of observation and being observed.

In this portrait, Gerda Lepke speaks for the first time about the story of her life, of the difficulties of becoming an accepted artist. We accompany her in her studio and her home in Gera and Dresden. A documentary about the "Kafkaesque" life enclosed in her studio space and her mother's small house and garden, with insight into the difficulties of a female painter who grew up in East Germany (GDR). "A meeting and friendship that began in the mid 80s, led me into the "garden of the painter". This gave me the closeness and made it possible for me to realize a portrait of a painter in her own words, as she speaks to herself. I received, in each phase of the film's production, surprise new encounters with the work and life of the artist Gerda Lepke." (Wolfgang Scholz)

German title: **DAS BILD IN MIR – Ein Portrait der Malerin Gerda Lepke**
Festivals: DOKLeipzig
53min | DigiBeta | HDCam | 16:9 | Dolby 5.1 | original German version with English subtitles available

World Sales:
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Wolfgang Scholz
Agnesstr. 57
80797 Munich, Germany
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www.sicfilm.de

IMMIGRANTS TO ICONS

by Ira Beetz, Achim Scheunert, Kai Christiansen, Christoph Weinert HISTORY | ECONOMY | MIGRATION | PORTRAIT | SERIES

The legendary Levis jeans, Heinz tomato ketchup, Boeing planes, precious Steinway pianos and the legendary Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York.

THE STORIES

Immigrants to Icons, is a fivepart limited series that dives deep into the stories of five German entrepreneurs who redefined the American economy and left a major imprint on American culture. Although their homeland is Germany, their stories are uniquely American. Each entrepreneur succeeded because their inventiveness, courage, perseverance and hard work enabled them to prove themselves in a strange new land, and allowed them to grow from immigrants to millionaires.

Immigrants to Icons, presents one of the most fascinating and exciting eras of German and American history. How and why did immigrants like Levis Strauss, Henry C. Steinway, John Jacob Astor and Henry Heinz succeed? And how did they become archetypical success stories that even now epitomize the success story that is America? The series visits the companies of Levi Strauss & Co., Steinway and Sons, Heinz Ketchup and Boeing. We'll see how each man took a novel and brilliant idea, established a company and gained fame, honor, and wealth. These five biographical hours are the definitive portraits of these entrepreneurial giants; businessmen who have their homeland in common and their place in history secured. They leave for various economic, social, political, and religious reasons – but all to find a better life in America. These are the stories of five immigrants who made it big in America.

STYLE & FORMAT

To further glimpse into the past, the series will be punctuated with dramatic reenactments that illustrate key moments in each story. The recreations show pivotal points in the life of each pioneer. Used stylistically and sparingly, they create a visual identifier to the series, orienting the viewer to a fascinating time and place in history. Ultimately, the combination of solid documentary filmmaking with vivid historical recreation result in a program that is historically accurate, visually appealing and conceptually inspiring. Both the public and personal lives of these complex men come together in a compelling and comprehensive portrait that illuminates the promise that is America.

All stories are told through the voices of each icon's living descendants. Family members narrate the story of their ancestor, creating a personal connection with these largerthanlife figures. They take us on trips through modernday America to sites that played major roles in each of our subjects' lives. The families and estates of all five entrepreneurs opened their doors to us and shared letters, photographs, diaries, and documents from the past that have never before been seen by the public. Guiding us through these intensely personal stories are authoritative historians, who provide context to the time period and business world that our protagonists moved through. We include primary sources, material from the most reputable archives and museums in Germany and the United States, as well as documents, photos, and letters from company and private archives.

German title: **VOM PIONIER ZUM MILLIONAER**

5x43min or 5x52min | HD | 16:9 | German, English or French version available

Productions:

Gebrueder Beetz Filmproduktion
Hamburg GmbH + Co KG
Eppendorfer Weg 93a
20259 Hamburg, Germany
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IMMIGRANTS TO ICONS William Edward Boeing – The Dream of Flying

One immediately associates the name Boeing with the dynamic world of aviation, enormous aircraft, global air traffic, as well as success and economic power. Yet hardly anyone realises that the mighty "global player" was once a family-owned business, and only very few people know that the family originally came from Germany. The film "William Edward Boeing – The Dream of Flying" visits original sites where you can still feel the Boeing story to this very day. It delves into the archives and finds surprising new information about the family history, and includes interviews with the son of the company founder William Boeing. Detailed re-enactments, filmed in the USA with the help of a German-American team, revisit the days long gone by days of the late 19th and early 20th century in touching scenes. The result is an exciting family portrait, the gripping story of an immigrant family and an astounding documentary about an entrepreneur – the history of the Boeings and the Böings whose family ties span the Atlantic.

German title: **WILLIAM EDWARD BOEING – DER TRAUM VOM FLIEGEN**



IMMIGRANTS TO ICONS **Henry Steinway – A Legend Is Born**



Pianists have always regarded the concert grands of Steinway & Sons as the best in the world, which is why these instruments stand in 98 per cent of all concert halls across the globe. They are still produced mainly by hand in Steinway's factories in New York and Hamburg and comprise more than 12,000 individual parts.

The scenic documentary "Henry Steinway – A legend is born" by Christoph Weinert tells the moving story of Heinrich Engelhardt Steinweg, who emigrated to America from the German town Seesen in the Harz in the mid-19th century and advanced in his new home town New York to become the most famous piano maker of all times.

German title: **HENRY STEINWAY – DIE GEBURT EINER LEGENDE**

IMMIGRANTS TO ICONS **John Jacob Astor – America's Richest Man**

"Oh, he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone was Ebenezer Scrooge. A squeezing, grasping, clutching, covetous old sinner." This is the man every child thinks of when it hears the name Ebenezer Scrooge, the main character in Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol". Far less well-known is the real-life person the character is based on: John Jacob Astor. The fact that he did not only make history for being a miser can be seen in the film "John Jacob Astor – America's richest man".

The film "John Jacob Astor – America's richest man" is a breathtaking trip to a world of danger and adventure, full of new ideas and opportunities. It is a film about one of the most famous names in the world, whose namegiver has almost been completely forgotten.

German title: **JOHN JACOB ASTOR – DER REICHSTE MANN AMERIKAS**



IMMIGRANTS TO ICONS **Henry John Heinz – A Passion for Ketchup**



From hobby gardener to millionaire: Henry John Heinz, the son of German immigrants, becomes not only one of the most successful food producers with his mother's recipes, but also one of the best salesmen in the world. With everyday products like gherkins, sauerkraut and his famous ketchup, he has changed the eating habits of America and the world.

"Henry John Heinz – A passion for ketchup" is the portrait of an unusual man of many talents, a man who goes through many trials and tribulations, and who founds a company that now counts as one of the big brands in the world.

German title: **HENRY JOHN HEINZ – EINE LEIDENSCHAFT FUER KETCHUP**

IMMIGRANTS TO ICONS **Levi Strauss – A Life for Jeans**

There is hardly a place in the world where someone is not wearing jeans. There are countless myths and legends that have developed around the invention of blue jeans. The film takes the audience on a trip back to the past. It explores the exciting and thrilling days of Lola Montez and Buffalo Bill, and reconstructs young Löb Strauss's arduous journey from Buttenheim via Bremerhaven and New York to San Francisco. With re-enacted scenes, archive material and interviews with historians and descendants of Levi Strauss, the film shows the fascinating story of the German-Jewish immigrant struggling to survive in the 19th century. It sheds light on the fast ascent of the haberdashery Levi Strauss, who, with the invention of blue jeans, became a millionaire and created a cult object of the "American way of life" with his Levi's.

Levi Strauss & Co. design for riveted pants soon becomes so popular that they can barely keep up with orders – and Levi's working pants, the 501 jeans, become an American legend. His once small company grows to one of the largest and most legendary fashion labels in the world.

German title: **LEVI STRAUSS – EIN LEBEN FUER DIE JEANS**



IMPRESSIONS: FinkenwerderArtAward2009DanielRichter

by Peter Sempel

ARTS



Daniel Richter, German artist from Hamburg, receives the FinkenwerderArtAward; impressions without commentary.

German title: **BEOBACHTUNGEN: FinkenwerderKunstpreis2009DanielRichter**
5min | DVD | 16:9 | no comments

Produktion:
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INTO THE NIGHT WITH ...

PORTRAIT | CULTURE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SERIES

"Into the night with..." is a regular documentary series that avanti media is producing for the French-German television channel ARTE. The program matches artists from different fields to spend an evening together in a city of their choice. The idea is to create a forum for artists to exchange ideas and also show them as "real people". There is no presenter and nobody directing the two protagonists - the viewer gets to witness them getting to know each other, going out, talking and visiting special places. The unusual and unique concept helped turning "Into the night with..." into an instant success. It is popular in both France and Germany, continuously getting rave reviews and being selected for various arts film festivals.

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More Information
about former episodes:
german documentaries 2005
page 274/275
german documentaries 2006
page 330

INTO THE NIGHT WITH Joseph E. Stiglitz and Bruce Greenwald

by Edda Baumann-von Broen

"Into The Night" is an award-winning format that matches two outstanding personalities to tackle one current topic of mutual interest while enjoying a night out in a city that suits the topic and the central characters.

In this episode Nobel prize winner Joseph Stiglitz and Wall Street guru Bruce Greenwald explore facets of the financial meltdown during a vivid Manhattan journey. Breezily cloaked as light entertainment, this is an ultimately chilling view of what Wall Street is really about.

German title: **DURCH DIE NACHT MIT Joseph E. Stiglitz und Bruce Greenwald**
French title: **AU CŒUR DE LA NUIT AVEC Joseph E. Stiglitz et Bruce Greenwald**
52min | DigiBeta | original English version with German or French subtitles available



INTO THE NIGHT WITH Liza Minnelli and Fritz Wepper

by Hasko Baumann

Oscar-, Emmy- and Tony-winner Liza Minnelli and famous German actor Fritz Wepper meet in New York. They have learnt to know each other while shooting "Cabaret" together in 1971 and have stayed in touch ever since. For the first time, they get together on Minnelli's grounds, where Liza shows Fritz around town. They dance, they sing, they talk in Minnelli's rehearsal room, in the Rainbow Room on top of Rockefeller Plaza and while having dinner – and they attract a massive crowd of spectators on Times Square, enough for the New York police to intervene. Special guest of this episode is arts collector Alberto Mugrabi, who invites the two to his place where he has Warhol's portrait of Minnelli's mother, Judy Garland. Funny, touching and "this year's TV highlight" (Der Stern).

German title: **DURCH DIE NACHT MIT Liza Minnelli and Fritz Wepper**
French title: **AU CŒUR DE LA NUIT AVEC Liza Minnelli et Fritz Wepper**
52min | DigiBeta | original English version with German or French subtitles available



INTO THE NIGHT WITH **Dave Arnold and Tim Raue**

by Outi Turunen

With two extraordinary figures of the international gourmet world "Into the Night" takes a look behind the scenes of the New York culinary scene. Tim Raue (34) has worked his way up from a poor immigrant neighbourhood in Berlin to being one of the best young chefs of the world. His cutting-edge style declining wheat products, rice and olive oil has brought him a reputation of "enfant terrible", one Michelin Star and the title Chef of the Year 2007 -- as the youngest laureate ever. Dave Arnold's passion is to combine hi-tech with cooking: the 38-year-old New Yorker teaches at the French Culinary Institute and advises star chefs on how to manipulate taste with synthetic hydrocolloids, vacuum and low-temperature cooking. Dave guides his German guest to New York's multicultural, innovative, and brutally competitive culinary scene.

German title: **DURCH DIE NACHT MIT Dave Arnold und Tim Raue**
French title: **AU CŒUR DE LA NUIT AVEC Dave Arnold et Tim Raue**
52min | DigiBeta | original English version with German or French subtitles available



INTO THE NIGHT WITH **Alejandro Jodorowsky and Daniel Pinchbeck**

by Hasko Baumann

In Paris, Alejandro Jodorowsky – director, writer, producer, composer, actor, mime, tarot expert, shaman and psychotherapist -- meets American writer Daniel Pinchbeck, guru of the spiritual "new edge" scene. "I want to show him my soul", Jodorowsky says about his American guest.

Together, the two men discuss the essential things in life on this and other worlds after meeting before the Notre Dame and sitting down beneath the oldest tree in Paris. In the hotel where Oscar Wilde spent his last days, Jodorowsky lays the tarot cards for Pinchbeck -- a session that gets almost too personal for the American. After visiting Europe's greatest Buddha statue, Jodorowsky invites Pinchbeck for a dinner at his apartment, leading to more in-depth conversation about their philosophies, their plans in life and LSD.

German title: **DURCH DIE NACHT MIT Alejandro Jodorowsky und Daniel Pinchbeck**
French title: **AU CŒUR DE LA NUIT AVEC Alejandro Jodorowsky et Daniel Pinchbeck**
52min | DigiBeta | original English version with German or French subtitles available



INTO THE NIGHT WITH **Tony Juniper and Bjoern Lomborg**

by Outi Turunen

Two unlike climate experts meet in Copenhagen a few weeks before the climate summit to tackle questions that are on everyone's lips: how to fight the global warming – and how to get people behind it. Tony Juniper is the most influential eco-warrior in the UK: leader of Friends of the Earth, Prince Charles' special adviser, author and green politician. Bjørn Lomborg, professor at the Copenhagen Business School, questions the effectiveness of international climate politics in his best-selling books "The Skeptical Environmentalist" and "Cool it!".

Together Juniper and Lomborg take a tour of green Copenhagen, visiting an offshore wind farm, test driving electric vehicles and exploring sustainable luxury fashion. Instead of a black-and-white debate, their discussions become a mosaic of inconvenient truths, with a little hope twinkling through.

German title: **DURCH DIE NACHT MIT Tony Juniper und Bjørn Lomborg**
French title: **AU CŒUR DE LA NUIT AVEC Tony Juniper et Bjørn Lomborg**
52min | DigiBeta | original English version with German or French subtitles available



INTO THE NIGHT WITH **Zoe Bell and Diablo Cody**

by Hasko Baumann

Zoe Bell from New Zealand is Hollywood's most famous stunt woman. Thanks to Quentin Tarantino's DEATH PROOF, she is now also known as an actress and stars in films such as GAMER and Drew Barrymore's WHIP IT. She meets ex-stripper and journalist Diablo Cody, who rose to fame with her Oscar-winning screenplay for the film JUNO. Cody also scripted JENNIFER'S BODY and is currently penning the Emmy-winning series UNITED STATES OF TARA. Together they spend an evening in the City of Angels – with everything a good girl needs: Shopping, chatting and loads of booze.

German title: **DURCH DIE NACHT MIT Zoe Bell und Diablo Cody**
French title: **AU CŒUR DE LA NUIT AVEC Zoe Bell et Diablo Cody**
52min | DigiBeta | original English version with German or French subtitles available



THE INVISIBLE FRAME

by Cynthia Beatt

BERLIN | NATURE | ENVIRONMENT | WOMEN | PORTRAIT



In 1988 the British director Cynthia Beatt, who is based in Berlin, embarked on a journey into little-known territory. She filmed Tilda Swinton as they followed the Berlin Wall, capturing the inward-looking West Berlin and the over-the-Wall views of East Berlin. Today "Cycling the Frame" is a rare historic document and Tilda Swinton, who was honoured with the Oscar last year, is one of the world's most admired performers. In June 2009, Cynthia Beatt and Tilda Swinton re-traced the line of the Wall that once isolated Berlin from East and West Germany. "The Invisible Frame" describes this journey, the print of a second foot, a Wall's fall and 21 years later, through varied landscapes, this time on both sides of the former Wall. The stagnation of organic growth that characterized the areas separated by the Wall, is now replaced by unchecked nature and building development.

The rhythmic interaction of fixed camera and tracking shots combine in a vibrant orbiting of Berlin, visually intertwining west and east. Tilda Swinton's personal reflections are integrated as inner monologues and complete the film's soundscape composed by Simon Fisher Turner, who collaborated with Derek Jarman and Tilda Swinton in the 80's.

German title: **THE INVISIBLE FRAME – Tilda Swinton auf den Spuren der Berliner Mauer**

60min | HD | DigiBeta | DVD | Dolby 2.0 or 5.1

original English version with German, Russian, Portuguese, Spanish, French or Arabic subtitles available

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in WHAT we TRUST – An Expedition into the Riddles of Money

by Claus Strigel

ECONOMY



Sex, potatoes, weapons the alchemical substance called money can transform anything into anything.

It's created from nothing, multiplies exponentially and generates value from its scarcity. Seemingly a medium of exchange, only 2% of its entirety is used for the exchange of goods and services. Humanity's most consequential invention is both brilliant and fatal.

German title: **DER SCHEIN TRUEGT – Eine Expedition in die Raetsel des Geldes**

98min | 16:9 | HD | DVD | PAL | NTSC | German or English version



Production:

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80798 Munich, Germany
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JEWISH TRANSIT BERLIN – From Hell to Hope

by Gabriel Heim

EXILE | NS-POLITICS | BERLIN | ORAL-HISTORY

The documentary film – Jewish Transit Berlin – From Hell to Hope uncovers the post-war fate of the Jewish women, men and children who survived the Shoah in the Soviet Union, Poland and Eastern Europe and sought refuge in the Displaced Persons camps in Berlin.

The film preserves the memory of the last remaining eyewitnesses and enriches their testimonials with never seen motion-picture footage showing Berlin 1945 and the life inside the large Jewish DP camps of Schlachtensee and Tempelhof. While most documentaries recall the Shoah – Jewish Transit Berlin – From Hell to Hope intends to shed new light on the "day after".

German title: **TRANSIT BERLIN – Heimatlose Juden in der Stunde Null**

52min | HDCam | German or English version



Production:

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info@dokfilm.de

JOHANNES CALVIN – REFORMER AND AGITATOR

by Werner Koehne and André Schaefer

CULTURE | HISTORY | PORTRAIT | RELIGION

No other person has had quite as much influence on modernity as John Calvin, one of Europe's greatest reformers of the 16th century. 500 years span between his lifetime and ours. Today he has been seemingly forgotten by many, while most of those who do remember him regard him as a character shrouded by clichés.

One paints him as a humourless spoilsport, while another one sets him up to be the inventor of sadomasochistic Christianity.

Beyond his ever-changing image in history one thing remains: this industrious ascetic has not only presented us with a fundamental component for the reformation, but also greatly influenced our modern way of life, as well as our perception of work ethics and individuality. Who was this John Calvin? And what drove him to develop the doctrine, that would later be called Calvinism and appeal to masses all over the world, even today?

German title: **JOHANNES CALVIN – REFORMATOR UND REIZFIGUR**

Festivals: Biarritz/France

58min HD | 16:9 | German or English version | Julian Mehne as Johannes Calvin



World Sales:

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www.telepool.de

Production:

www.florianfilm.de

JOURNEY TO LIFE On the trail of Celtic Saints

by Rainer Waelde

TRAVEL | HISTORY | RELIGION | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | PORTRAIT

Discover the historic secrets of Irish monks as Rainer Wälde goes on the trail of Celtic Saints. Journey back in time to the origins of Christianity in Ireland and Britain. Travel from Dublin to Lindisfarne. Find out about Saints Patrick, Columba, Bridget, Aidan and Cuthbert. Meet modern-day followers in Iona and Northumbria and learn out about the roots of Celtic Christianity. Be inspired by ancient prayers, songs and rituals. Discover how a daily routine with set times for solitude and Christian communion can benefit the soul. Explore how a spiritual life following nature and creation helps draw one nearer to God. Join Rainer Wälde on the trail of Celtic Saints – a personal "journey to life".

Shot in Ireland, Scotland, England and Germany..

German title: **MEINE REISE ZUM LEBEN – Auf den Spuren der irischen Mönche**

85min | HD | DVD | 16:9 | English / German / IT Version



Production:

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THE JOYSIDE OF EUROPE Touring central Europe with a Chinese punkrock band

by Lucian Busse

MUSIC | TRAVEL | CULTURE | PORTRAIT



Four Chinese punk rockers on a journey through a strange world – to a "Chinese" restaurant run by Thais, at the Bavarian emergency clinic, holding an early-morning dream interpretation session at an Autobahn rest area, and playing numerous wild concerts. Joyside from Beijing take you on the road – in their band bus, backstage, day and night, through Europe, for two months.

The four Chinese musicians, were following the footsteps of their rock'n'roll heroes! Off to London they went, to the cradle of 1970s punk rock. In Paris, they paid their homage to Jim Morrison at the Père Lachaise cemetery.

German title: **THE JOYSIDE OF EUROPE – Eine Chinesische Punkrockband auf Tour durch Europa**

Festivals: Krakow/Poland, Barry/UK, Docboat - Warsaw/Poland, MEIDMED - Barcelona/Spain

84min or 52min | DigiBeta | DVD | original version with English, German, Chinese subtitles available

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www.thejoysideofeurope.com

KEEP SURFING

by Bjoern Richie Lob

SPORTS | CITIES



A fascinating look at Munich's legendary river-surfing community, a group of six very different characters who all share a passion for going against the flow.

Awards: Munich Filmfest / Audience Award

92min | 2650m | 35mm | 1:1,85 | original German/English/French version with English subtitles available

World Sales:

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www.betacinema.com

KICK IN IRAN

by Fatima Geza Abdollahyan

SPORTS | WOMEN | RELIGION | CONFLICTS



She is the first who ever made it.

Sara Khoshjamal Fekri is the first female athlete from Iran who ever qualified for the Olympic Games. Her discipline is Taekwondo. KICK IN IRAN shows her arduous journey to Beijing. 2008 a persistent struggle for self-determination and recognition in a society based on strict religious laws.

German title: **KICK IN IRAN**

Festivals: Sundance, Vison du réel, Nyon, Regards Neufs

82min | 16:9 | original version with German or English subtitles available

World Sales:

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KINSHASA SYMPHONY

by Claus Wischmann and Martin Baer

MUSIC | SOCIETY | WAR&PEACE | CITIES | AFRICA



"Kinshasa Symphony" shows how people living in one of the most chaotic cities and one of the poorest countries in the world have managed to forge one of the most complex systems of human cooperation ever invented: a symphony orchestra.

It is a film about the Congo, about the people of Kinshasa and about music. In the fifteen years of its existence, the Orchestre Symphonique Kimbanguiste has survived two violent coups d'état and an ongoing war that has claimed the lives of several million people. For the 200 musicians, interpreting the music of Beethoven and Handel partly on self-made instruments, is self-confirmation, artistic expression and a religious service all in one.

Festivals: Belinale / SPECIAL

95min | HD | 35mm | DVD | original Lingala/French version with German, English or French subtitles available

World Sales:

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LA ISLA – ARCHIVES OF A TRAGEDY

by Uli Stelzner

CONFLICTS | HISTORY | HUMAN RIGHTS | ORAL-HISTORY | POLITICS | WAR&PEACE

At the end of the 20th century, in Guatemala Army and Police kill and abduct hundreds and thousands of people. But the unprecedented Genocide in America's modern history goes unpunished. To this day, a system of terror and impunity relies on silence being kept and the lack of evidence. But in July 2005 a huge explosion in the Guatemalan capital leads to the discovery of the historic archive of Guatemala's National Police. On the grounds of today's Police Academy used to be located the island, the secret prison of notorious Policia Nacional squads. And here millions of documents appeared. Aided by an extraordinary visual and emotional interaction, the film traces the story of a tragedy and finds prove for inconceivable atrocities. It is also a movie about a young generation of archive workers willing to free their society from the stranglehold of its own history.

German title: **LA ISLA – ARCHIVE EINER TRAGOEDIE**

Festivals: Kassel, IDFA Amsterdam

85min | DigiBeta | BetaSP | DVD | 16:9 | PAL | NTSC | original Spanish version with German or English subtitles



Production:

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THE LAND LEFT BEHIND

by Juan Sarmiento G.

HUMAN RIGHTS | CITIES | SOCIAL

"The Land Left Behind" tells of the fate that befalls three people who have ended up in the Moloch that is the Colombian city of Bogotá. On a daily basis, Solangel, Ruben and Teodoro walk about through the chaos of dirt, noise and crowds. There's always a challenge: they have to find money, food and work for themselves and their families to survive. A few months back they had a small piece of land, work and family and friends around them. As a result of brutal violence and threats, they were forced to leave their home. The yearning for the countryside, and the desire to return there, is something that the three fundamentally have in common. Like daydreams, images of vast landscapes appear to them time and again in their daily lives: vast rivers, green forests, the endless sky and the sea. The peace and freedom of the countryside is in great contrast to life in the loud and oppressive city in which Solangel, Ruben and Teodoro must live at the moment.

German title: **AUF HARTEM BODEN**

Original title: **LA TIERRA SE QUEDÓ**

Festivals: Cartagena, Colombia

77min | HD CAM | original Spanish version with German or English subtitles available



World Sales & Distribution

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THE LAST GIANT Oceans in Danger

by Daniele Grieco

ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT | NATURE | ANIMAL

Until a few years ago, neither scientists nor the public were aware that the Strait of Gibraltar was such a unique natural paradise: in no other place on earth you can find as many whale species living in such a confined area. But the strait is also one of the chokepoints of global trade with a volume of shipping traffic unparalleled in the world. Where modern routes of transport and ancient migration routes meet, we witness a showdown of the ocean giants. Again and again, whales are run over, get caught in ship's propellers, are poisoned by waste water or strand disoriented by the underwater noise pollution. Ten years ago, Katharina Heyer from Switzerland, a former fashion designer, moved into the region to fight for the Last Giants.

German title: **THE LAST GIANTS – Wenn das Meer stirbt**

Festivals: Cine Eco / Portugal, USA: Artist Film Festival, Hollywood; Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital, Washington; IFF Tiburon

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



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THE LAWYERS – A GERMAN STORY

by Birgit Schulz

HISTORY | POLITICS | PORTRAIT

In the early 1970s, three left-wing lawyers fought against what they saw as the restrictive state apparatus of the Federal Republic of Germany. They defended individuals before the law who had been labeled enemies of the state. Today, one is Germany's former Minister of the Interior, another represents the leftist conscience of the Green Party, and the third is a right-wing extremist in jail for denying the Holocaust. The three lawyers are Otto Schily, Hans-Christian Ströbele und Horst Mahler. They speak with director Birgit Schulz about their experiences defending accused members of the Red Army Faction in the German courts, about their ideals, and about the aspirations for the future which they shared at that time and also about what became of them in the end. Each of the three believes that he has remained true to his convictions.

German title: **DIE ANWAELTE – EINE DEUTSCHE GESCHICHTE**
Festival: IFF Munich, Goteborg ...
92min | 35mm | HD | 1.1,85 | Dolby SR



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LETTERS FROM CHICAGO

by Sibylle Tiedemann

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



Letters from Chicago is a very personal film portrait of Lore Frank, née Hirsch (*1917), and Gustav Frank (1912-2004), who married and began a new life in Chicago after emigrating to the U.S. in 1939 – but never lost touch with their German roots. Gustav is a passionate amateur photographer. Even as a boy in Ulm, he used to imagine how something would look as a photograph and dream of having a camera of his own some day. His earliest portraits of members of his large extended Jewish family and cityscapes of the "old" Ulm, the city of Albert Einstein, date back to 1925 and were taken with a plate camera. When he returns to his native Ulm in 1945, it is as an American soldier seeking his parents. His heart almost stops at the sight of the bombed-out windows and ruins of the buildings he once knew so well.

He records the destruction in numerous poignant photographs. His quest for his parents, however, is in vain: His entire family has been murdered in the Holocaust.

The film shows photographs from Gustav's boyhood in South Germany and the first pictures taken in his new life in exile. Images resonant with loss – the loss of his family and the destruction of his native city after the war – and with the hope of a new beginning, in a new world that could hardly be any more different from that of his youth. The film testifies eloquently to the significance of memory in our lives, and gives us a vivid impression of what it means to grow old in a country far from that of one's birth – without ever losing your sense of humor. And in the end, when human memory fails, the memories of what once was are lost forever.

German titles: **BRIEFE AUS CHICAGO**
Festivals: Biberach
70min | DigiBeta | original German/English version with German or English subtitles available



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LIFE IN PLASTIC

by Bertram Verhaag

SOCIETY | ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT | CONFLICTS | CULTURE | DAILY LIFE

The fascination with and enthusiasm for plastic is just as great as the list of problems, risks and studies associated with its use is long. Most types of plastic that we use every day are nearly non-degradable – and as time goes by, they release many of their often hormonally efficacious additives into the environment. Then, spread by wind, water or illegal waste disposal in the ocean, they are found throughout our entire planet.

Currently, the only solution lies in recycling: the process which Professor Michael Braungart seeks to revolutionise. If he has his way about it, everything would have to be re-invented: every material used must be non-toxic, and the individual components of a product must be separable from each other. Only in this form can they be re-used as a top-quality raw material or returned to the disposal cycle as a degradable substance.

German title: **PLASTIK – BILLIGER STOFF HOHER PREIS**
36min | DigiBeta | DVD | 16:9 | original German version with English voice over available



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LIN WAIN-MIN & CLOUD GATE DANCE THEATRE

Interface Between Worlds

by Jean Christophe Blavier

MUSIC | DANCE | PORTRAIT | ASIA

A terrible fire destroyed the company's ballet centre in Tapei, all of the costumes, studios and archives are gone. Lin Hwai-min, the company's artistic director and choreographer, worldwide acclaimed, regards this terrible drama not as a nemesis but as himself and his very young, 35 year old company being tested by Buddha and thus a challenge to fight and start anew. According to the legend, Cloud Gate is in China the reference name for the oldest ritual dance with about 5000 years old. In

1973 Lin Hwai-min chose this name for the first contemporary dance company in Taiwan and in the whole of Asia, which is now classified as one of the most important dance company worldwide. The film shows the Company in Wuppertal during the preparations of "Wind Shadow" at the Pina Pausch's International Dance Festival. We visit Taipei, Taiwan during the company's 35th anniversary, where we plunge into a world that is strange and mysterious to West Europeans. In an interview with Lin Hwai-min, we learn more about his work and experience, outstanding pieces like "Wind Shadow", "Moon Water", "Cursive Trilogy" and "Whisper of Flower" will serve as excerpts to show the artistic development of the company within the last ten years.

German title: **LIN WAIN-MIN & CLOUD GATE DANCE THEATRE – Wanderer zwischen den Welten**
45 or 52min | HDV | 16:9 | HDCAM | DigiBeta | original English version with German voice over available



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LONELY PACK

by Justin Peach

PORTRAIT | YOUTH | SOCIAL | CITIES | DAILY LIFE | HUMAN-RIGHTS



The eleven year old Sonu lives on the streets of Kathmandu. He and his "pack" fight a daily routine to survive in the chaotic capital of Nepal: always on the prowl for food, drugs, charitable tourists and what they seek most – as small boys do anywhere – is fun and adventure. The life of Sonu and his pack is shaped by hunger and violence but is also filled with childlike moments of freedom on the streets! This film follows ideas of Direct Cinema: no narrator, no music, no staging. We wanted to understand the everyday life of a street child in Kathmandu. The story is told by the kids themselves.

German title: **KLEINE WOELFE**
Festivals/Awards: German Young Film Makers Award/Hannover; Best Film in Political Education/Koblenz; Audience Award, Mainz; Rencontres Internationales, Paris/Berlin/Madrid; Exground, Wiesbaden; Edit, Frankfurt; ...
48min | HD | original Nepali version with German, English or Spanish subtitles available

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LOOKING FOR WALTER

by Julia Tal

In 1933 Walter Christeller, cameraman at the UFA studios in Babelsberg, was forced to leave Berlin and start a new life in Palestine where he worked mainly for the Jewish National fund. 75 years later Walters granddaughter, student at Munich film-school, searches for the legacy of his life and work in Israel.

Walter Christeller was not just an emigrant and pioneer of the Jewish State. He also pursued and documented the regional change with his camera at close range which enables the filmmaker to display a good piece of Israeli history. "Looking for Walter" is a story about the life of a German immigrant in Palestine, but also a very personal review of life in the Middle East today.

German title: **DER KLEINE ZALAM**
64min | DigiBeta | PAL | 16:9 | Hebrew/German/English version with German or English subtitles available



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LOST GENERATION

by Silke Kaiser

AFRICA | AIDS | YOUTH



The northern hemisphere seems virtually oblivious to the AIDS epidemic raging in South Africa, where one out of every five people are HIV positive and three million children have been orphaned by AIDS. The film focuses on two child-headed households, i.e., families where the parents' death due to AIDS has forced older children to assume responsibility for their own and their younger siblings' physical and emotional welfare.

45min | HDcam | DigiBeta | 16:9 | 1:1,78 | color | Dolby SR
original English/Zulu version with English or German subtitles available

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LOST PICTURES ∞ LOST MEMORY?

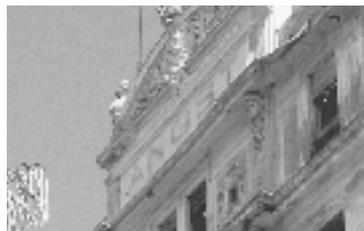
by Benjamin Geissler

ARTS | CONFLICTS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CONTROVERSY | CULTURE

The remains of the Grand Hotel "Angst" have been abandoned in an enchanting palm garden. Lost Pictures ∞ Lost Memory? brings the hotel back to life and transforms it into a timeless metaphor with hotel guests coming from various countries. By including intuitive time warps and applying a new and original cinematic approach, this fine art film introduces very diverse but wise individuals.

Their experiences, tales and philosophies unite in Hotel "Angst" as a mutual reflection on silence, fear and memory. Overlapping forces and the compulsion to repeat industrial mass destruction, the post-war era, the Mafia, politics, National Socialism, totalitarianism and bureaucracy continue to have a lasting effect today.

Festival: Hamburg
98min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | DolbyStereo | DVD | 16:9 | Dolby SR 5.1
original German/English/Italian/Hebrew version with German, English, Italian or French subtitles available



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LOST WATER / Part 1-4

by Peter Roloff

LONGTERM | GERMAN-REUNIFICATION | HISTORY | ETHNOLOGY | CULTURE | TRAVEL



Very near the geographic centre of former German Democratic Republic lies the source of an unassuming little stream, the Lost Water. The source of the Lost Water is the point of departures of a film essay, consisting of historical testimonies, fairytales, sound and music fragments, interviews, radio programs on current affairs, and idyllic camera outings through a seemingly forgotten landscape. Step by step the Lost Water develops from fact to fiction...

German title: **VERLORENWASSER 1-4**
166min | 16mm | 3:4 | DigiBeta | DVD | original German Version with English subtitles available
part 1: 1990/1991, 27min | part 2: 1992, 47min | part 3: 2000, 22min | part 4: 2009, 20min

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LULLABY

by Tamara Trampe and Johann Feindt

CULTURE | SOCIAL | BERLIN

The documentary „Lullabies“ recounts dreams and longings of the childhood years. And it deals with the remains of those yearnings, after years of facing the daily struggles of adult life. The first lullabies are sung in the intimacy of home, surrounded by loved ones, sheltered and warm. It is the memory of those moments that open the door to a journey into human destinies. The journey also leads through Berlin. We happen upon people at very different stages of their life. Sometimes it's a brief encounter, a glance in passing, a few sentences or a song. Another time it's the complete story of a life.

There is Chechen poet Apti Bisultanov, who says of himself: "I was once a pure and happy child."

Today he lives in exile in Berlin; once he had been Vice Premier of Chechnya. Detlef Jablonski, born in jail and raised in a foster family, has longed for his mother all his life. He has found comfort in music, writes his own songs and sings in the laymen choir „Different Voices of Berlin“. The choir is conducted by the American jazz musician Jocelyn B. Smith. As the son of deaf parents, Helmut Oehring learned to speak at the age of four. Today he is a renown German composer, awarded with the Arnold Schoenberg Price in 2008. Santos grew up in a foster family but was passed onto an orphanage. After doing time in jail he tried to inject his feelings into his music, into the lyrics of his songs. And he tries to develop a steady relationship with his son, to be the father he never had.

Tamara Trampe's and Johann Feindt's work is a cinematic declaration of love to people of all ages and cultures who live in the German capital. Regardless of money, age or whatsoever: they all travel back in time to their childhood and along the way they speak of love and loneliness. Of dreams that have come true... or not. Of longings that stay. Slow songs and the rough rhythm of the city – together they create a very special tone.

German title: **WIEGENLIEDER**

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA

98mn | 35mm | HDCAM | DigiBeta | original version with German or English subtitles available



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MADMAN'S DICTIONARY

by Benno Trautmann

ENVIRONMENT | NATURE | SCIENCE | EXPERIMENTAL



The topic: Destruction. The structure: Association of pictures, scenes, sounds and headwords of a fictitious MADMAN'S DICTIONARY, not conforming to standards of thought, speech and action. The main character: Homo sapiens, the pride of creation, master of disaster, exterminator and self-exterminator. The basic question: Why does homo sapiens destroy his living conditions? There is no answer to that question, but the question rotates in my brain, when I started making pictures and sounds without faces and voices of humans. Looking for traces of man-made destruction I found visible and invisible signs of violation, contamination, extermination and the omen of self-extermination: Homo sapiens going gaga.

63min | DigiBeta | 4:3 | English version (written words only – no dialogues)



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MARKUS LUEPERTZ out of the series MY LIFE / MA VIE

by Hasko Baumann

PORTRAIT | ARTS

"An artist is the most beautiful and greatest thing a society has to offer" – when famous painter and sculptor Markus Lüpertz said this, he was without a doubt referring to himself. Lüpertz, famous for his extravagancy, his opinions and most of all his ego, is one of Germany's most influential artists. The film portrayal "My Life" shows Markus Lüpertz in a phase of transitions. It shows him in Düsseldorf, where he just ended his work as head of the academy for arts; in Teltow near Berlin, where he works and lives; in Tuscany, where he finds peace and quiet in his house; in Czech town Liberec, where he was born and is now searching for the house he was raised in. Lüpertz, who normally does not talk about his past and his private life, presents himself as an extraordinary human being with traumas and cravings. People who have been close to him through the years comment on their friendships.

A sensitive documentary about an exceptional artists who is not easy on others – but not easy on himself, either.

German title: **MARKUS LÜPERTZ – MEIN LEBEN / MA VIE**

43min | DigiBeta | original German version with French subtitles available



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MASTER CLASS OPERA

by Olivia Hagemann

MUSIC | CULTURE | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | ARTS



Singing is their passion: Out of 500 young talents, seven singers from across the world were selected for the Opera Studio, a master class at the Bavarian State Opera under General Music Director Kent Nagano. One year of hard work and pressure, doubts and stage fright lies ahead of them. The singers, all in their mid-20s, go through the intense training of fabulous Maestro Laurent Pillot from France. Step by step the young talents are allowed to perform small roles in the productions at one of the world's best opera houses.

And while the seven singers are still fighting for a ticket to the opera world, ambitious Monsieur Pillot is already on a mission to find next year's talents at auditions in the UK, Italy, France, Lithuania, Poland and Turkey. Master Class Opera – what does it take to become tomorrow's opera star?

German title: **MEISTERKLASSE – Ein Jahr mit den Opernprofis von morgen**
3x58min or 95min | HD | original English/French/German version with English subtitles or German voice over

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MILLTOWN, MONTANA

by Rainer Komers

NATURE | SOCIAL | ENVIRONMENT

Time inscribes itself into Rainer Komers' meticulously composed images and impressive sound collages of MILLTOWN, MONTANA. Each picture tells a story of a place that once belonged to the largest mining area in the US and was contaminated by toxic substances and heavy metals. Without dialogue, the film sensitively portrays the landscape and the people living and working there: cowboys branding their calves, Indians founding an educational center, trappers and golfers, workers in a plant, old miners, and young scholars competing in a mining contest. MILLTOWN, MONTANA is visibly scarred by man and trapped in a postindustrial phase of standstill. By alluding to its former wealth but showing the area's actual lack of prospects, the film dramatically undermines the image of the American Dream.

Festivals: DOKLeipzig; Jihlava IDFF; Blicke Preis / Blicke Filmfestival des Ruhrgebiets; Visions Du Réel/Nyon
30min | HD | 35mm | DigiBeta | no dialogues



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MONSTERLAND

by Joerg Buttgerreit

FILM | CULTURE | PORTRAIT | ARTS



Nothing is more unsettling than the fear that just below the ordered surface of our world something lies slumbering which could suddenly awaken to unleash chaos on us. We humans have always created monsters for ourselves. From ancient myths to modern movies, we have been shadowed by man-beasts like King Kong, primordial beings like Godzilla, undead serial killers and aliens. Director

Jörg Buttgerreit assembles before the camera the great masters of the genre: Gremlins creator Joe Dante, analytical horror director John Carpenter, monster designers like H.R. Giger and painter Joe Coleman, special effects guru Gregory Nicotero, make up artist Rick Baker and Godzilla performer Kenpachiro Satsuma. They discuss their lives and their work with and for their monstrous creatures and relate to us the dark passion that they share.



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German title: **MONSTERLAND**
Festival: Calgary, Comic Con San Diego, Fantasporto/Portugal, Sci-Fi Film Festival /London, Camera Japan Festival
71min30sec | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original English/Japan/German version with English subtitles available

MONTARETTO, for example

by Farhad Payar and Yasmin Khalifa

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | CULTURE



Montaretto is a little village on the Italian Riviera. The inhabitants are proud to call themselves communists. The "Montarettarian communism" has nothing to do with the economic utopias and ideals of equality of the big social theorists. It also has very little common with the Italian Euro-communism of the 70's or 80's. They have developed their own form of communism.

Since the 16th century the Montarettinians have created a remarkable culture of sharing, generosity and helpfulness, which has repeatedly withstood economic and political crisis. This has gained them respect and admiration from their neighbouring communities. Their solidarity is shared with anyone who needs help; no matter if its street kids from Bucharest, children from the Sarawi Desert, the world wildlife fund or street theatre groups. The Montarettinians produce exemplary synergies with their artistic, social and political activities. They prove again and again, that it is possible to simultaneously achieve economic prosperity and fair cultural and human development. "Montaretto, for example", weaves conversation, with animated movies, music, interviews and archived material to a texture which reflects the anarchistic and poetic nature of the village and its inhabitants.

German title: **ZUM BEISPIEL MONTARETTO**

65min 20sec | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original Italian/German version with German or English subtitles available

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MONTREAL SYMPHONY

Kent Nagano and the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal

by Bettina Ehrhardt

MUSIC | CULTURE | PORTRAIT

Celebrate music with music! Bettina Ehrhardt's film follows conductor Kent Nagano and the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal in its 75th season with an exceptional display of music and concert tours: From the Inuit in Northern Quebec and a concert for throatsingers and orchestra to Paris with Gustav Mahler's Lied von der Erde, from the great symphonic tradition of Bruckner and Beethoven to one of the masterpieces of the 20th century, Olivier Messiaen's Opera Saint François d'Assise. Kent Nagano and his musicians share an artistic vision born out of the cultural diversity of Montreal, with its many cultures, languages and traditions. Kent Nagano's talent for detecting poetry and music in every day urban life leads to surprising concerts commissioned by OSM like the one featuring a radio host as soloist. 15.000 people attend a concert of the OSM in the most popular Hockey stadium Centre Bell of Montreal. Kent Nagano and his orchestra have captivated the city.

Festivals: World Premiere at FIFA Festival March 2010.
97min | HDCAM | Dolby 5.1 | original English version



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MOTHER OF EXILES

by Damian John Harper

MIGRATION | EXILE

The hot sticky air hangs like a layer of thick fog over the crowded Mott Street, china towns most popular market street. Delfino is struggling to attain his US-citizenship at any cost. John is fighting for a building permit which will allow him to build four new floors onto his apartment building. Vito has finally won the jackpot and is planning to enjoy his retirement in sunny Florida. Three men struggle to accomplish their American dreams. Here the streets are paved with gold and the opportunities are endless. Will they reach their goals or will their big plans go up in smoke like the fireworks on the 4th of July?



Festivals: Munich, Germany; Poitiers, France; Chishinau, Moldova; ...
55min | DigiBeta | BetaSP | 16:9 | color | original English/Spanish/Chinese version with English or German subtitles

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MS. SENIOR SWEETHEART

by Sabine Steyer

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | WOMEN | PORTRAIT | MUSIC

Once a year a group of elderly women meets in Fall River, a small village south of Boston, to answer the fairy tale yet still modern age old question: Who is the prettiest in the land? There are many beauty pageants, but just one Ms. Senior Sweetheart competition: this pageant is the only one in the world for women aged 58 and up. Since 1978 the pageant has invited women from all over America to spend 11 days in Fall River, starting with dress rehearsals, practicing their group performance and excursions around New England. The contest peaks with the "Ladies Ball" and the crowning of the new queen.

The film follows three of the contestants on their way to the pageant and tales of getting older, staying young, facing death and a lust for life.

Locations: US-Virgin Islands, Florida, Massachusetts

Festivals/Awards: Filmfest Hamburg, Seal of Approval „recommended“
79min | HDCam SR | DigiBeta | PAL | NTSC | 1:1,85 | original English version with German or English subtitles



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THE NAZI DOCTORS

by Hannes Karnick and Wolfgang Richter

PORTRAIT | ORAL-HISTORY | NS-POLITICTS | ETHICS | HUMAN-INTEREST

Robert Jay Lifton a prominent Jewish psychiatrist and author visited 80 Auschwitz survivors and 40 Holocaust perpetrators, mainly former Nazi physicians. He describes as a second generation eye witness how ordinary doctors change from healers to killers.

The film's aim is to bring to life things which were embedded deep in the psyche of people. The pictures and the shocking truth Lifton evokes in the minds of the audience turned out to be more moving and impressive than all the historical material which mostly discriminate against the victims.

The "Frankfurter Rundschau" wrote "this remarkable film succeed the work of Claude Lanzmann. It leads to the spiritual world of the killing doctors only by cautious, pensive views of the landscape behind Lifton's study and only by the power of words."

... "in spite of the cruelty of his research it is a pleasure to listen to his dramatic analysis of meeting perpetrators and victims."... (Peter Steinhart / Rheinische Post)

... "the long and precise close-up or medium shots make it possible to learn how Lifton's thoughts develop ".... (Wilhelm Roth / epd Film)

German title: **WENN AERZTE TOETEN – UEBER WAHN UND ETHIK IN DER MEDIZIN**
86min | DigiBeta | original English version with German subtitles available



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NEUKOELLN UNLIMITED

by Agostino Imondi and Dietmar Ratsch

BERLIN | HUMAN RIGHTS | MIGRATION | SOCIAL | MUSIC | DANCE | YOUTH

The siblings Hassan, Lial and Maradona are successful musicians and breakdancers who have lived in Berlin's notorious district Neukoelln since their earliest childhood. They grew up with HipHop and streetdance, that is their language and their passion. Their family of Lebanese origin lives in constant danger of being deported from Germany. In order to secure a residency permit for the entire family, Hassan and Lial plan to use their artistic talents to financially support the family. But the pressure has put a strain on the two teenagers and a rivalry arises about who should be the family's main breadwinner. In the meantime, Maradona gets himself into more and more trouble, and is suspended from school. He is at the crossroads between his siblings' ambitious lifestyle and the street life of his mates. However, a surprising qualification for a TV-casting show could prove to be his turning point. If he wins the 100,000 euro prize money, he might be the one who saves the family.

German title: **NEUKÖLLN UNLIMITED**
Festivals: Berlinale / GENERATION, nominated for Crystal Bear
96min | 35mm | HDCam | DigiBeta | DVD | German version with English subtitles available



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NEW YORK MEMORIES

by Rosa von Praunheim

CITIES | SEX | GENDER | CULTURE | ARTS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



20 years after his successful documentary "Survival in New York", Rosa von Praunheim returns to the city, in which he had the most exciting time of his life.

Remembering his own experiences in the wild seventies, when New York City was characterized by sexual liberation and eccentric individuals, and recollecting the big changes in the eighties when AIDS started to take its toll, Rosa meets his former protagonists and goes on a personal journey to discover what has become of "his" New York.

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA

89min | HD | 1:1.78 | original German/English version with English subtitles available

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NOBLE BREED

by Wolfgang Bergmann

NATURE | ECONOMY | ANIMALS | CULTURE

The film relates to the outstanding role of the German breeder Clemens Freiherr von Nagel, here [photo] together with his famed Anglo-Arab Ramzes.

This time Wolfgang Bergmann (producer, author and director) produces a film linked to the love of his youth: horse riding. In the 50th it was common to use heavy warmblood horses. Today Germany is the most successful nation in breeding high performance "noble" horses. The film tries to disclose this secret and reveals astonishing stories: Equestrians and breeders from National Socialist times built the background for those „revolutionary“ changes. Even „foreign and noble“ horses from Poland and Hungary, from Central Asia, Arabia and Great Britain were to leverage for the German rise in Horse Breeding.

German title: **EDLES HALBLUT – kann man erfolgreiche Pferde zuechten?**

89min | HD | DVD | German, Polish, Hungarian, French, English versions available



Production:

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NOBLE COMMITMENTS

by Julia von Heinz

WOMEN | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SOCIAL BIOTPE | PORTRAIT

„Noble Commitments“ portrays three aristocratic single women between traditional requirements and everyday life, between manor house and prefabricated high rise buildings. Unable to live up to their parents' expectations, they have to scale down their standards and reorientate. Within the nobility the male family line is valid. To belong to noble society they have to marry a man with a title or lead a solitary life. Countess Alexandra von Bredow lived a fast life of glittering feasts and balls. Currently she lives in a small apartment and earns her a livelihood on assembling gem stone necklaces. At the age of 48, having suffered several setbacks and severe depression, she finally meets the love of her lifetime. Baroness Alexandra von Beaulieu-Marconnay, oboist and teacher, established a very close relationship with her mother, after her father died. After moving to another town her noble connections benefit her while settling in. But she is incapable to step out of a mighty line of ancestors in order to lead her own life. Verena von Zerboni di Sposetti received an elitist education in a girls boarding school as well as during her following law studies. After working as a solicitor for more than two years she resigned her profession. The career change had devastating effects on her social life. She dropped from noble society. She is now forced to change and reorientate her life.

A Film depicting three outsiders in the bizarre and eccentric Mikrokosm of German nobility.

German title: **STANDESGEMAESS**

Awards: Bavarian Film Award

87min | HDCam | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles



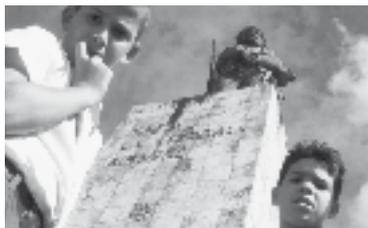
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NO ES FÁCIL – CHILDREN OF CHE

by Jakob Reinhart

CUBA | CULTURE | POLITICS | YOUTH | SOCIAL



Every single person builds their own truth, carries their own inheritance with which one goes through life. The film deals with today's life on Cuba as it happens in the shadow of its political father Che Guevara. We see graffiti with his mottos at walls, the image of his face in living rooms, written on T-shirts or even onto whole houses. School kids dedicate their greeting 'Let us be like Che' to the icon - and it becomes apparent that people growing up in Cuba cannot escape this heritage. Che, his inheritance, and its reception in every one of its variations are a solid and formative part of Cuban everyday life across all generations. As much as this is apparent no one knows how this heritage will find its continuation. The country is caught in standstill, its future locked in its own history. The legacy of Che threatens to perish in the generation conflict.

German title: **NO ES FÁCIL – KINDER VON CHE**

Festivals: Montevideo, Uruguay; Astra IFF Sibiu, Romania;

47min or 54min or 30min | HDV | original Spanish version with German or English subtitles available

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NORA IS STILL ALIVE

by Martin Jabs

FAMILY | HUMAN-INTEREST | SOCIAL | LONGTERM



Nora loves wasps and hates piano music. And Nora is going to die soon. This is what the doctors say, but Nora just seems to stay alive - despite her physical and mental disabilities, she now became 30, outliving her loving mother and grandmother. She has never realized their death - her brother, however, makes a film about the loss and turns out to be closer to his sister than he realizes himself. Spanning a time of five years, this 70 minute portrait traces the dramatic changes in this once lively family as Nora's cheerful character remains unaware of all and ever the happy same.

German title: **NORA IST IMMER NOCH AM LEBEN**

70min | HDCAM | German or English version

Production:

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NO STRAIGHT PATHS

by Kristina in der Schmitt

PORTRAIT | SOCIETY | PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW

"Life is what happens to you while you are busy making other plans." (John Lennon)

The five protagonists – and the director – in „No straight paths“ had several things in common: They went to the same school, graduated together and had many dreams and visions about what they wanted to do with their future. In the meantime, half of life is over and they have realized: Things never turn out the way you expect.

An anniversary – 20 years of graduating – gives reason to review how life has played.

German title: **GERADEAUS IST KEINER GELAUFEN**

88min | HDV | HD | DigiBeta | 35mm | German or English version available



Production:

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NO WAVE Underground 80: Berlin – New York

by Christoph Dreher

MUSIC | ARTS | BERLIN | CULTURE | PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW

New York and Western Berlin were economically run-down in the early 80ies. Against this backdrop, in both cities emerges an underground culture that radically breaks with the pop cultural tedium which the 70s had left behind. A wild and uncompromising scene of artists working in film, music, painting and theatre trigger off a unique exchange between the subcultures in NY and Berlin and create one of the most inspired and exciting artistic movements of the late 20th century.

As a member of the band DIE HAUT, filmmaker Christoph Dreher was at the centre of the No Wave scene. With the help of old friends and fellow artists like Jim Jarmusch, Blixa Bargeld, Alex Hacke, Lydia Lunch or Nick Cave he tells us of the motives, ideas and attitudes that shaped the scene from an insider's point of view.

52min | HD | English or German version



World Sales:

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NOWHERE IN EUROPE

by Kersting Nickig

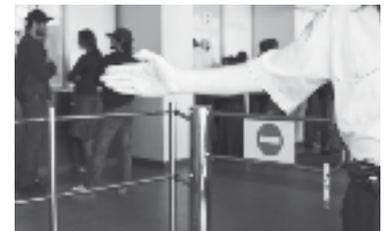
EXILE | WAR&PEACE | HUMAN-RIGHTS

A film on the effects European refugee policies have on four refugees of the conflict in Chechnya and their families: "As-Salamu Alaykum, Europe" is how the diary of the journalist, Ali (39), begins as he waits in Poland for a decision to be made on his asylum request. In his smoke-filled room at the refugee home he has more than enough time to record his observations and thoughts on both Europe and his own crisis of identity in exile. Wacha (50) has been granted asylum as a political activist in Austria, but his son is being persecuted in Russia. He tries everything in his power to get him to Europe. Tamara (55) lives with her husband and daughter in Vienna. Her handicapped daughter needs urgent medical attention, but the family is facing the threat of deportation. Ruslan (33) is stuck in the Ukraine. He has neither residence permit nor money. He hopes to be able to take his family to Western Europe soon. While keeping close contact to the protagonists, the author documents their attempts to find a new place to live in Europe over the course of year, and with that, their hopes, fears and longing for a return to normality.

German title: **KEIN ORT**

Festivals: DOKLeipzig, Visions du Reel 2010, Nyon

98min | HDCam | DigiBeta | BetaSP | DVD | German, English or Polish version available



Production:

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Karlsgartenstr. 21
12049 Berlin, Germany
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www.devid.net

THE OLDEST PROFESSION – SEX WORK PAST AND PRESENT

by Katja Esson

SEX | WOMEN | SOCIETY



Prostitutes work on the margins of society – even though their services are very much in demand. There has never been a shortage of punters. The film juxtaposes accounts of women in the trade both in the past and the present day. Throughout the ages, contempt and oppression have been a part of their daily reality. Neaira, a prostitute in ancient Greece, had to put up with it, and the same is still true for Sania, who works in Paris today.

Why is this so? Why is sex work still not considered a respectable trade, not even in the sexually liberated 21st century?

To find out, this film tells stories of prostitution strictly from the perspective of the women who practice the trade, and their lives. What are the conditions of their work, and how do they fend for themselves?



World Sales:

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ONE DAY TODAY WILL BE ONCE

by Anca Miruna Lazarescu

SOCIAL | CULTURE | MUSIC



In a small church in Halberstadt, in East Germany, a pipe organ plays avant-garde composer John Cage's „Organ2/ASLSP“ – and will do so day and night, without interruption, until the year 2640, resulting in a 639-year long concert. In a humorous but also thoughtful way the film shows different sides of this mind-boggling project: on the one hand the long and overly intellectual wrestles among the initiators, on the other the volunteering staff members' direct and practical way of dealing with all the work that surrounds such a project.

These perspectives make ONE DAY TODAY WILL BE ONCE a film bursting with moving as well as humorous moments – attuned to the question of humanity's perception of time.

German title: **ES WIRD EINMAL GEWESEN SEIN**

Festivals: DOKLeipzig, Jihlava IDFF, IFF Rotterdam, Visions Du Réel Nyon
28min | HD | 35mm | BetaDigital | English or German version

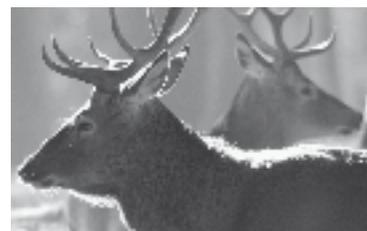
Production:

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ONE MINUTE FOR...

by Annette Scheurich, Armin Riegel a.o.

BIODIVERSITY | NATURE | ENVIRONMNT | ECOLOGY | SHORTS | SUSTAINABILITY



At the centre of the project are ongoing series of entertaining, short films – filmlets – featuring animals, plants and habitats - each presenting a snippet of information about the respective subject and/or species diversity, referred to as “One Minute Hot Spot Interstitials”. The individual filmlets will show high-quality images of the topic in question, with appealing background music, together with some brief, interesting facts. Variety is lent by the number and diverse nature of topics.

The title of these filmlets will be: “One Minute For...”...the ladybird, the wildcat, the stork, the elephant, the oak, the mushroom, the stag, the red deer, the forest in autumn, the spring meadow, the wolf, the pelican, the fire salamander, the lynx, the whale, the dolphin, the trout, the seahorse, the snail, etc. The intention is to highlight the concept and significance of biodiversity in the public domain by means of both a TV program and, interactively, in the internet and for mobile content and be a part of the activities in the International Year of Biodiversity 2010.

Production & World Sales:

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www.marco-polo-film.de



It is optional to extend the topic of these filmlets, to have not only spots about biodiversity but also about climate change and/or sustainability, with a focus on nature, wildlife and ecosystems.

The first batch of 50 filmlets is currently (December 2009) in production

German title: **EINE MINUTE FUER...**

1min for each day (363min per year) | HDCAM | DVD
German, English, French or Japan version available

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF LIFE

by Stefanie Brockhaus and Andy Wolff

YOUTH | CITIES | CONFLICTS | AFRICA | SOCIAL | SOCIETY



Lucky and Bongani pretend to be cool and in the know. To survive in a Cape Town township, they learned their lessons early: where to get drugs, where to get money, how to pick up girls and how to get rid of them.

Their mother does not pay much attention to her sons, but at least their grandmother is on their side. The two brothers share everything: the bed, the food and now even an accusation of murder. The first thing they get in prison is an unmistakable lesson about the rules there. No question, newcomers are always at the bottom of the hierarchy. They must learn quickly who may be attacked and who must be served. A matter of survival in jail. Out on bail, something special awaits them – an initiation of a different kind.

The brothers move through three cultures, each of which calls for its own gestures and rituals. The deep rift between the generations becomes painfully obvious. The old people still have the sense of honour of African tradition; their successors have only a tiny chance of escaping the squalid suburbs. What will be their package in life? Through a clever dramatic narrative structure, the film rises above a social environment study to become a far-ranging discourse about the future of an Africa ground to pieces between tradition and modernity.

German title: **DIE ANDERE SEITE DES LEBENS – Zwei Brüeder aus dem Township**
88min | HDCam | SR | Dolby 5.1 | Isixhosa/English version with English subtitles available



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OUT THE WINDOW – Dalian / Northeast-China

by Barbara Kasper and Lothar Schuster

SOCIAL BIOTOPE | DAILY LIFE | EXPERIMENTAL

We were living for three weeks in Dalian, a city in the North-East of China. We were waiting for shooting permission to film the harbour (we were working on a film about globalisation). We were based in the 6th located. In front of our window was a busy intersection. With our camera, camcorder and sound recorder we were shooting what we saw.

Our video shows the every day life of this part of Dalian.

German title: **FENSTERBLICKE – Dalian / Nordost-China**
35min | HDV | DigiBeta | without dialogue



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PERCY SCHMEISER – DAVID VERSUS MONSANTO

by Bertram Verhaag

AGRICULTURE | CONFLICTS | ENVIRONMENT | FOOD | POLITICS | SOCIETY | LONGTERM

Imagine that a storm blows across your garden – and that now, without your knowledge and without your consent, foreign and genetically-manipulated seeds are in your vegetable patch which you have nourished and maintained for many years.

A few days later, representatives of a multi-national corporate group pay you a visit at home, demand that you surrender your vegetables – and simultaneously file a criminal complaint against you, resulting in a fine of EUR 20.000,00 – for the illegal use of patented and genetically-manipulated seeds. What's more: The court finds for the corporate group!

Yet you fight back. ... This short story is no utopia – rather, around the world, the bitter truth. It is also the true experience of the family of Percy und Louise Schmeiser in Canada, fighting the chemicals and seeds manufacturer Monsanto since 1996. This film is reassuring. Reassuring to all who fear that as an individual, no one would have any power to confront policymakers, large corporations or the business world. "David vs. Monsanto" proves the opposite.

German title: **PERCY SCHMEISER – DAVID GEGEN MONSANTO**
Festivals: FIPA Biarritz, Guangzhou/China, Lueneburg, Wiesbaden
65min | DigiBeta | DVD | original English version with German voice over available



Production:
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www.denkmal-film.com

performance, media & memory south african artists in dialogue

by Thorolf Lipp and Tobias Wendl

PORTRAIT | ARTS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | EXPERIMENTAL

Documentary series on three South African media artists.

South Africa is today one of the most dynamic and vigorous spaces of artistic practice. This series portrays Minnette Vari, Tracey Rose and Johan Thom, three leading South African artists who work with their own body, documenting, altering and irrealizing their performances with video. Based on the same artistic tools, the results, however, are strikingly different.

3x43min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original English version

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Helping Things to Reappear – Conversations with Minnette Vári

Vári is deeply fascinated by objects and their (hi-)stories. Both have and will always be there but undergo constant metamorphoses. Her approach is platonic in that she sees herself as a tool for these objects and stories to reappear.

"Finding things to me is very important. I love serendipity, I love happening upon something. On the other hand, however, finding is more like retrieving. Everything already exists. I have the strange notion that even the art work that you are about to make is already existing in some other realm."



Terrorizing the Concept of Meaning – Conversations with Johan Thom

Thom, influenced by poststructuralist thinking, challenges with often extreme physical actions all concepts that dare to speak with authority about the world.

"For me as a white South African I'm continuously reminded of my own 'foreignness' and of being excluded to the whole idea of being 'African'. Yet – I claim that space. I claim that space because to some degree it allows for slippage and transgression in the very notion of what 'African' is."



It's about Beauty and Anger – Conversations with Tracey Rose

Rose is filled with anger about a world of racism, sexism, prejudice and ignorance. Her radical answers are painful, ironic – and full of beauty.

"Performance work is incredibly exhausting. You can not walk away from it. You cannot walk away from your body. It is one of the most anarchic art forms because it doesn't have sale ability in the same way that everything else does. But it's tiring. It's really exhausting. It's one of the most fantastic and liberating art forms. And it's also, I think, one of the loneliest."



PiN2011 – recollection of the street

by Torsten Koenigs

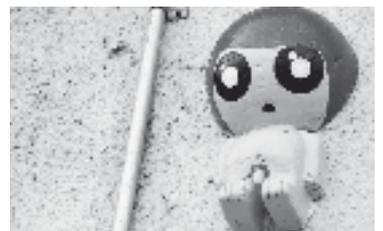
ARTS | BERLIN | CONFLICTS | CULTURE | YOUTH

PiN2011 is the tag - the term used for the pen name that graffiti artists use to sign their work – of an ingenious and misunderstood German artist, who is incessantly followed by the documentary but manages to conceal his face right to the bitter end. A sort of streetArt outlaw, able to dream up three-dimensional graffiti and paint it on city walls even as far as Portugal. A captivating, intense tailing that continually questions the sense of making art against a system that excludes and destroys: the diary of an isolated, clandestine creator menaced by a sense of threat and fatality. The unexpected tragic ending transforms his life into an alarming message.

German title: **PiN2011 – Erinnerung an die Strasse**

Festivals: L' Altro Cinema / Rome

53min | DV | DigiBeta | PAL | 4:3 | original German version with English subtitles available



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KÖNIGS • KOMMUNIKATION
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fax: + 49 (0) 30-327654-14
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www.pin2011.de

PINK TAXI

by Uli Gaulke

CITIES | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE | SOCIAL | SOCIETY | WORK | WOMEN



In their PINK TAXIS, Marina, Alla and Viktoria get their female passengers through the Moscow nights safely, always with a cheerfully indiscreet chat about career, cosmetics and men. These taxis are a microcosm of Russian society where varieties of life styles collide and are debated upon, laughed about or sometimes even cried for. Between commerce, financial straits and disappointment the three friends nurture their hopes for a piece of happiness.

Festivals: Hof, Sheffield
80min | 35mm | 1:1.85 | original Russian version with German or English subtitles available

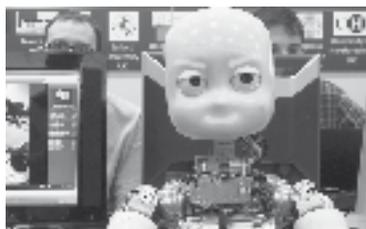
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Flying Moon Filmverleih GbR
fm-verleih@flyingmoon.com
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PLUG & PRAY – Of Computers and Other Human Beings

by Jens Schanze

SCIENCE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | RELIGION



Will man go beyond biology? It's an age-old dream to create intelligent machines that equal their human creators. Computer experts all around the world, like Raymond Kurzweil and Hiroshi Ishiguro, strive to fulfill their bold visions. Meanwhile, of all people one of the pioneers of the computer age, Joseph Weizenbaum, strives against the limitless faith in the redemptive powers of technology. A fascinating yet uncanny and sometimes grotesque journey into science reality.

German title: **PLUG & PRAY – Von Computern und anderen Menschen**
Festivals: Biarritz, Nyon
90min or 58min (on request) | 35 mm | HDCAM | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original version with English or French subtitles

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POMERANIAN ILLUSIONS

by Jacob Dammas and Helge Renner

SOCIETY | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE

"Pomeranian Illusions" is a multi-plot film that follows its protagonists during a decisive time of their life. The stories reflect the new times arriving to small-town Poland challenging the people and the place they share: Darlowo, at the Baltic Sea. 22-year-old local Micha is fascinated by the bigger world than his own; American ex-helicopter pilot Mark D. Buller is looking for a new life companion here; Ursula, great-grand-mother is one of the last Germans in the Pomerania region; Danish investor Michael Rylander Christensen from the island of Bornholm is dreaming of building a holiday-resort on the Baltic coast, and Jan "Lucjano" Konstantynow, the 82-year-old magician, faces that his old tricks may not fit the new times.

German title: **POMMERSCHE ILLUSIONEN**
52min or 82min | HD | 16:9 | color | PAL |
original version with English, German, Polish and Danish subtitles and voice over available



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PORGY & ME **In the World of The Gershwins' PORGY & BESS**

by Susanna Boehm

ART | FAMILY | MUSIC | CONFLICTS



In the (white) world of opera, George Gershwin's alternately celebrated and controversial opera Porgy and Bess is one of the very few works that takes people of color as its subject. Susanna Boehm's stirring documentary follows the cast of the New York Harlem Theatre on their European tour of The Gershwins' work. As the troupe travels from city to city, attracting stares from startled Austrians, the parallels between the opera and the real life experiences of individual singers are revealed in a series of deeply personal conversations. Growing up poor, with drugs and violence a common experience, the ambition to become an opera singer seemed an impossible dream for many cast members. A sentiment voiced by many is that black singers have to be twice as good as white singers. Terry Lee Cook has been performing Porgy for ten years. But in the black community, the common percepti-



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on is that Porgy and Bess is a graveyard for singers of color.

German title: **PORGY & ME | In der Welt von Gershwins PORGY & BESS**
Festivals: Vancouver, Cambridge, Hof, Sao Paulo, Kiev
86min | HD | 35mm | original English version

PORTRAITS OF GERMAN ALCOHOLICS

by Carolin Schmitz

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SOCIAL



The people that tell their story in this film are alcoholics. Beyond that they are lawyers bureaucrats, home makers, managers, colleagues and mothers. "Portraits of German Alcoholics" explores the life stories and the survival strategies of people who are trying to arrange their daily lives around an addiction. The personal stories contrast, cross and unite with model-like imagery of settings reflecting a supposedly intact society. Residential subdivisions, working environments in factories, etc. Leading beyond the personal histories, the interconnected voices in combination with the images convey a problem of society at large. The film opens a perspective on a reality lying behind assumed normalcy, a reality pervaded by unfulfillable yearnings.

German title: **PORTRAITS DEUTSCHER ALKOHOLIKER**
Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE
79min | 35mm | 1:1.78 | HD | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available

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POSTCARD TO DADDY

by Michael Stock

YOUTH | CONFLICTS | SOCIAL | HUMAN-INTEREST | SEX

As a child, Michael Stock was sexually abused – by his own father. 25 years later he is still looking for inner peace. In conversations with his family and friends and his own reflections, he paints an ever clearer, if contradictory picture of what happened and of the consequences for each of the family members. Old family films seem to show a happy family – excerpts from Michael's first feature film hint at his extreme adult life, overshadowed by his lifelong trauma.

Yet in spite of the intense drama, the film doesn't have an atmosphere of anger and hatred but rather a surprising air of hope and love of life. Michael's aim is not to accuse the "perpetrator" but to understand. In the end, he takes his video "Postcard" to his father. With the camera running, he confronts him with his past...

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
85min | HDCAM | original German version with English subtitles available



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PREYING ON PATIENTS

by Martin Gronemeyer and Robert Cibis

POLITICS | HUMAN-INTEREST | SOCIAL | ECONOMY | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

The German and French national health care systems range among the world's most costly. Year after year they become more expensive. And yet, medical care deteriorates. No private insurance? Be ready to wait in line for an appointment, expect hurried examinations and hefty co-payments. How did we get to this point? What is going on behind the scenes of health care system? Who is pulling the strings? „The Patient as Prey“ illuminates on many levels the web that doctors, pharmaceutical concerns, politicians and investors spin around the ill and sick. In a multi billion business, the patient becomes the pawn, the expense, the prey.

The documentary attempts to unravel some knots of the enormous health care web. Carefully researched case stories uncover long term strategies and motives of the health system's different players – and how they carry out their struggle at the cost of those who can not fight back: the patients.

German title: **PATIENT ALS BEUTE**

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



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PROFESSION LOBBYIST. Dealing with Power

by Oliver Goebel

POLITICS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | ECONOMY



A precise documentary in which lobbyists are let to explain themselves. A conflicting experience for every viewer since.

Political decisions are massively influenced by lobbyists. That's nothing new. But within the last years lobbyism has become a presentable profession. In this documentary leading German lobbyists are let to explain themselves how they actually work, how they succeed, how much power is really given to them, how they legitimize their work and where the limits of their power are or should be. Watching these lobbyists you will also experience the power of their rhetorics on your own.

German title: **BERUF LOBBYIST. Vom Umgang mit Macht**

45min | HDV | 16:9 | HD | Dolby Stereo | DigiBeta | HDCAM | German original with English subtitles

Production:

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Deutsche Film
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PSYCHOTROPIC KIDS

by Lilian Franck and Stefanie Schmidt

YOUTH | SCIENCE | CONFLICTS | POLITICS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

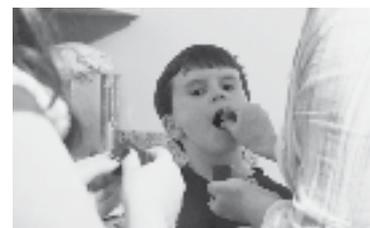
Robert from Boston, eight years old, is one of seventeen million children worldwide who take antipsychotic and psycho stimulant medications daily. He has been diagnosed "bipolar" by Dr Doyle from the Massachusetts General Hospital, at the age of three. Since then, he is under medication. "Psychotropic Kids" accompanies children on antipsychotic medication.

It shows in a very sensitive way, how the pills influence kids like Robert, or the five year old Marc-André from Berlin, who suffers from ADHD. The parents of these children are stuck between a rock and a hard place: the medication helps their kids to calm down but nobody knows how it really influences their brains. If the effects of these drugs aren't really tested yet, why are millions of children on it? And who really benefits from the fortune that worried parents spend on the pills that should calm down their children?

"Psychotropic Kids" tries to enlighten this dark field of medicine...

German title: **DAS GLUECK AUS DER DOSE – Kinder und Psychopharmaka**

43min | HDCam | 16:9 | English, French or German version



Production:

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QASSAM

by Ya'ir Magall

POLITICS | CONFLICTS | DAILY | LIFE | MIGRATION | ISRAEL

Qassam relates the tale of the Israeli township Sderot, situated in the Western section of the Negev North of the Gaza Strip. Since September 2000 until today more than 10,000 rockets have been fired on Sderot from the Gaza Strip. The town's inhabitants are a mixture of many cultures and political views, ranging from Moroccan immigrants to very liberal students.



No matter, however, how many differences there are among the inhabitants they've got one thing in common: the daily threat.

The inhabitants of the township as a society break down because of the constant fear, disintegrating from within. Everyone struggles to find his or her own way to cope with the situation.

Director Ya'ir G. Magall is interested in the psychological and still more in the human aspect of this process. Qassam registers the psychology of the town's inhabitants, focussing on details and persons and showing what goes on underneath the surface and in the heads of the people.

Qassam the film does not adopt a victim's position, but rather attempts to show the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians from a new and different angle.

20min 40sec | S16mm | HDCAM SR | HDCAM | DigiBeta | 16:9 | Hebrew version with German or English subtitles

Contact:

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RABBIT A LA BERLIN

by Bartek Konopka and Piotr Rosolowski

BERLIN | GERMAN-REUNIFICATION | HISTORY | NATURE | SOCIETY



The untold story of wild rabbits which lived between the Berlin Walls. For 28 years Death Zone was their safest home. Full of grass, no predators, guards protecting them from human disturbance. They were closed but happy. When their population grew up to thousands, guards started to remove them. But rabbits survived and stayed there. Unfortunately one day the wall fell down. Rabbits had to abandon comfortable system. They moved to West Berlin and have been living there in a few colonies since then. They are still learning how to live in the free world, same as we – the citizens of Eastern Europe.

German title: **MAUERHASE**

Awards: Nominated for OSCAR® in the category Documentary Short Subject, Best Mid-Length Doc/ Hot Docs Toronto; Magic Hour Award/Warsaw; Golden Hobby-Horse & Chromy Sculpture/Cracow; Jury Special Prize / Lodz; Golden Starfish Award/Hampton; Prix Europa/Berlin; Silver Eye Award/Jihlava; Golden Teeth Award
Festivals: Nyon, Dubrovnik, Vilnius, Cinéma Verité IDF Tehran, Moscow, DMZ Korean, DOK Leipzig, Belgrade, Mar del Plata, RIDM Montréal, Vienna, Zagreb, Trieste, Ambulante IDF a.o.

39min or 50min | DigiBeta | DVD | 16:9

German with German narrator and English subtitles or German with Polish narrator and Polish 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
www.deckert-distribution.com

RED AND ALIVE

by Witja Frank

HUMA-INTEREST | SOCIAL | DAILY LIFE | BERLIN



Clowns, they laugh when it hurts, they sing when the silence needs to be broken.

RED AND ALIVE is a documentary about humour as a resource and social intervention in Berlin's hospitals and retirement homes.

German title: **ROT LACHEN**

Festivals: Thunersee/Schweiz

30min | DV | DigiBeta | BetaSP | PAL | 16:9 | stereo original | German version with English subtitles available

Contact:

Witja Frank Filmproduktion
Franz-Mehring-Platz 1
10243 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 177-2411210
www.avdok.de
wf@avdok.de

REIGN OF ROSES

by Dirk Richard Heidinger

DANCE | SOCIAL | HUMAN-INTEREST | YOUTH

Mentally handicapped youths aged 14 – 19 learn to dance in a 15-week course at their school in Berlin. Professional dance teachers show them how to waltz, tango or to dance meringue, salsa and disco step.

Once a week we take part in their pure spontaneity and desire to dance, sharing the little and big steps (forward) towards the final party, called the "Rosenball". Here, dressed up to the nines, they dance their way into the summer with family and friends ... dancing is like dreaming with your body.

German title: **HELENES ROSEBALL**

27min | DVD | 4:3 | original German version with English subtitles available



Contact:

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Heinrich-Roller-Str. 17
10405 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0)171-314 95 00
firehorse66@web.de

RICH BROTHER

by Insa Onken

HUMAN RIGHTS | MIGRATION | LONGTERM | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | SPORTS



Ben, a young Cameroonian, is sent to Germany by his family to get to know success. Torn between his wish to rise up to his family's expectations and the limited possibilities Germany offers him, he cleaves through Berlin's shady boxing business, dreaming of rejoining his family as a world champion one day. The thoughts about his family, their permanent presence in his mind won't let Ben find any rest. He relentlessly tries neither to lose his family's respect nor his own dignity, while being spurned in the real and dirty world of boxing.

Five years later, he finally gets the chance to return to Cameroon. Back there, his view on his life in Germany changes and he realizes that some notions have been altered forever.

Festivals/Awards: DOKLeipzig/Golden Dove, Thessaloniki, Montreal, Reykjavik, Novi Sad

98min | DigiBeta | DVD | original German/French/Yemba version with English or German subtitles available

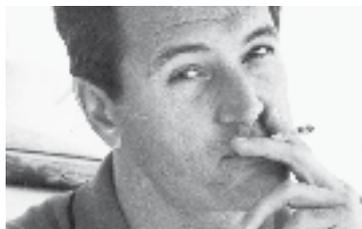
World Sales:

Twenty Twenty Vision Filmprod. GmbH
Schwedter Str. 13
10119 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0)30-61281750
www.twentytwentyvision.eu
office@twentytwentyvision.eu

ROCK HUDSON – DARK AND HANDSOME STRANGER

by Andrew Davies and André Schäfer

CULTURE | FILM | PORTRAIT | SOCIETY | HUMAN-INTEREST



Two reasons to revive interest in Rock Hudson in 2010: If he had not died of AIDS 25 years ago, it would have been his 85th birthday in November 2010. The film will be revealing a gay star doing a secret balancing act between the heterosexual world of an obviously very male looking star and the dark side of forbidden sexuality as a closeted gay. In fact someone who always needed to tell lies. Was he also lying to himself?

German title: **ROCK HUDSON – SCHOENER FREMDER MANN**

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA

90min or 52min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German or English version | Thanks for photos: PHOTOFEST (212) 633-6330

Contact:

FLORIANFILM GMBH
Probsteig. 44-46
50670 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-2005280
fax: +49 (0) 221-2005282
post@florianfilm.de

WorldSales:

SND Films, Sydney Neter
Leidsestraat 106
1017 PG Amsterdam, The Netherlands
cell: +31 6 549 55 266
info@sndfilms.com
www.sndfilms.com

ROOF WITHOUT HOUSE

by Judith Beuth

YOUTH | WORK | PORTRAIT | ECONOMY | HUMAN-RIGHTS



What does your life look like when you're 17 and far from home in a giant city, working and living on building sites for your family's survival? A film about Jamil, an Afghan boy in Tehran, his desires and everyday life.

German title: **DACH OHNE HAUS**

Festival: Visions du Réel Nyon

17min | HD | HDCAM | DigiBeta | 16:9 anamorph | 1:1,85 | HDTV 1080 lines (1920 x 1080) | Dolby Surround
original version with English or German subtitles available

Contact:

HFF "Konrad Wolf"
University of Film and Television
Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11
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fax: +49 (0) 331-6202568
distribution@hff-potsdam.de
judith.b@gmx.de

SCIENTISTS UNDER ATTACK Genetic engineering in the magnetic field of money

by Bertram Verhaag

POLITICS | SCIENCE | SOCIETY | CONTROVERCY | ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT



Árpád Pusztai and Ignacio Chapela have two things in common. They are distinguished scientists and their careers are in ruins. Both scientists choose to look at the phenomenon of genetic engineering. Both made important discoveries. Both of them are suffering the fate of those who criticise the powerful vested interests that now dominate big business and scientific research.

Statements made by scientists themselves prove that 95% of the research in the area of genetic engineering is paid by the industry. Only 5% of the research is independent. The big danger for freedom of science and our democracy is evident. Can the public we all still trust our scientists?

This is a documentary thriller about how Agro-Chemical multinational corporations victimise international scientists to prevent them from publishing their scary findings.

German title: **GEKAUFTE WAHRHEIT – Gentechnik im Magnetfeld des Geldes**

Festivals: FIPA Biarritz, IDFA Amsterdam, Columbus OHIO, Oekofilm tour.

88min | DigiBeta | HD | Dolby SR | DVD | 16:9 | 35mm | original English version with German voice over available

Production:

DENKmal-Film GmbH
Bertram Verhaag
Herzogstr. 97
80796 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-526601
fax: +49 (0) 89-5234742
mail@denkmal-film.com
www.denkmal-film.com

THE SEAMSTRESSES

by Biljana Garvanlieva

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE | ECONOMY | HISTORY | SOCIAL | WORK | WOMEN

Talented people like artists or writers who did not flee from Macedonia have one choice only: work as seamstresses. Eriela, Beti and Vesna are seamstresses in the small town of Stip.

If they wanted to afford one of their handmade blouses, it would cost them a months salary. While the women are fully employed, their men are less fortunate and find themselves unemployed after the collapse of communism. A situation with a lot of potential conflict for the couples. The men find it hard

to be dependent financially on their women, when they used to proudly provide for the family. The film tells the story of a textile industry and the parable of the children of Macedonia after communism collapsed. „The Seamstresses“ takes a look behind the curtains of globalization.

German title: **DIE STADT DER NAEHERINNEN**

30min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original Macedonian version with German or English subtitles available



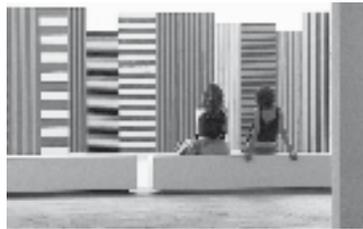
Productions:

Gebrueder Beetz Filmproduktion
Köln GmbH + Co KG
Heinrich-Roller Str. 15
10405 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0)30-69566910
fax: +49 (0)30-69566915
info@gebrueder-beetz.de
info@dream.com.mk

SEAN SCULLY: ART COMES FROM NEED

by Hans Andreas Guttner

ARTS | PORTRAIT



A portrait of the painter Sean Scully who is seen painting, teaching at the Kunstakademie Munich, opening an exhibition in Barcelona, telling stories about his life and art. With rare openness Scully tells about his traumata and backlashes as well as about the exciting creative process and the closeness of failure. Filmed from June 2007 to September 2009 in Barcelona, Munich and near the Starnberger See. The film ends with a celebration of private happiness which is seen in configuration with his painting and the music of his friend Bono.

92min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original English version with German subtitles available

Production:
Sisyphos Film
Wagmuellerstr. 21
80538 Munich, Germany
tel/fax: +49 (0) 89-501464
guttner@t-online.de
www.guttner.de

SEKEM – Born Of The Sun

by Bertram Verhaag

SOCIETY | ENVIRONMENT | AGRICULTURE | FOOD | POLITICS | SOCIAL | NATURE | ECONOMIC

In the year 2003 the Egyptian entrepreneur IBRAHIM ABOULEISH experienced a big breakthrough. In quick succession he received the highest awards offered by two global institutions that otherwise avoid each other like fire and water. In autumn he was awarded the ALTERNATIVE NOBEL PRIZE by the Right Livelihood Foundation for his „Economy of Love“ – his unique model of an innovative economy that impressively combines ecological, social and cultural developments with economic success. Only a few months earlier the Schwab Foundation, organizer of the annual WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM in Davos, Switzerland, and an engine of economic globalisation, presented Ibrahim Abouleish's corporate group SEKEM to the world as a model enterprise of sustainable economy.

How could a project evoke so much enthusiasm in such different institutions?

German title: **SEKEM – Mit der Kraft der Sonne**

Festivals: Atlantis Wiesbaden

30min | DigiBeta | DVD | original German version with English voice over available



Production:
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80796 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-526601
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www.denkmal-film.com

SERGEJ IN THE URN

by Boris Hars-Tschachotin

CULTURE | EXILE | HISTORY | PORTRAIT | SCIENCE

Charismatic, erratic, egocentric, almost forgotten...

Sergej Tschachotin was a scientist of international repute, friend to Pavlov and Einstein, revolutionary and pacifist. His private life was changeful too: five marriages, eight sons.

SERGEJ IN THE URN tells the story of Sergej Tschachotin's epic existence – from 1883 to 1973 – through the memories of four of his sons. Speaking openly for the first time, they tell of Tschachotin's role as a cancer researcher, his participation in anti-totalitarian propaganda movements, and his crusade against the arms race. But each son also exposes his conflicted relationship with a colossal fatherly shadow.

Filmmaker Boris Hars-Tschachotin, Sergej's great-grandson, weaves together an intimate, tortured family saga that mirrors the myriad contradictions and possibilities of the 20th century. Seeking resolution, he attempts to reunite his scattered family in a small Corsican village to bury the ashes contained in Sergej's urn. This story, however, like the painful period from Russian Revolution to the beginning of the 21st century it describes, could ultimately split apart.

German titles: **SERGEJ IN DER URNE**

104min | HD-Cam SR | Digi Beta | DVD | 16:9

original German/French/Russian version with German narrator and English or German subtitles



World Sales:
Deckert Distribution
Marienplatz 1
04103 Leipzig, Germany
tel: +49 (0) 341-215 66 38
fax: +49 (0) 341-215 66 39
info@deckert-distribution.com
www.deckert-distribution.com

SHORTCUT TO JUSTICE

by Daniel Burkholz and Sybille Fezer

HUMAN RIGHTS | WOMEN | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



Shortcut to Justice tells about the courageous "Women for Justice" from the sprawling city Vadodara in the northwest India, close to the Pakistan Border. The "Women for Justice" fight against injustice and violence, many women there are suffering from. Because police and justice hardly give any protection or aid, they founded a court themselves. Every week they gather under a tree, on a dusty place on the edge of the poor quarter Kalyan Nagar and dispense Justice.

With quick-wittedness and creativity they put beating husbands and quarrelsome mother-in-laws in their place. And – if necessary – they go in as a "heavy squad" to help a poor widow, who was thrown out of the house with her little daughter after the death of her husband, to regain her belongings.

Festivals: Guangzhou, Glasgow, Kiel, Dresden, Stuttgart, Vienna, Leipzig
41min | BetaSP | 16:9 | original Gujarati version with German or English subtitles available

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Roadside Dokumentarfilm
Daniel Burkholz
Alsen Str. 20a
44789 Bochum, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 234-3241503
fax: +49 (0) 234-5873167
burkholz@roadside-dokumentarfilm.de
www.roadside-dokumentarfilm.de

SILVER GIRLS

by Saara Aila Waaser

PORTRAIT | WORK | BERLIN



They are the old girls of the world's oldest profession:

SILVER GIRLS tells the story of three elderly women in Berlin who make their living as sex workers.

The documentary reveals their unusual biographies and sometimes surprisingly normal every day life.

German title: **FRAUENZIMMER**
Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE
75min | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
Royal Pony FilmGmbH & Co.KG
Holzstr. 30
80469 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-21269567
fax: +49 (0) 89-21269574
daube@royalponyfilm.com

SOUL BIRDS

by Thomas Riedelsheimer

PORTRAIT | SOCIAL | SOCIETY | YOUTH | DAILY LIFE | HUMAN INTEREST



For 15-year old Pauline, 10-year old Richard and 6-year old Lenni, life means something very special. They suffer from leukemia and they are facing death. Pauline writes poems, Richard knows everything about his disease and Lenni's charm fills any room. Three strong young people with all their plans, hopes, triumphs and defeats. An unusual cinematic approach to a situation that is not all about the disease but instead the search for life's energy and power.

German title: **SEELENVOEGEL**
Festivals/Awards: Munich, Kassel, Vancouver, Palm Springs, Golden Beaver /Biberach
90min | HD | 720/25p | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
Filmpunkt GmbH
Stefan Tolz, Thomas Riedelsheimer
Goltsteinstr. 28-30
50968 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-80047130
fax: +49 (0) 221-80047125
stefan@filmpunkt.com
thomas@filmpunkt.com
www.filmpunkt.com
www.seelenvoegel-der-film.de

SPACE SAILORS

by Marian Kiss

SOCIAL BIOTOPE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CONTROVERSY | PORTRAIT

They were heroes of a special kind. They came from the step-
pes, the sons of farmers, of factory floor women.
Salt-of-the-earth, strapping young men, model husbands, who
believed in communism with all their hearts. Bright futures lay
ahead of them. In the name of the Intercosmos Programme
they were about to conquer space.

One perfect specimen of manhood from every communist
nation. First the Czechoslovakian, followed by a Pole, an East-
German, a Bulgarian, a Hungarian, a Vietnamese, a Rumanian, a Cuban, a Mongolian, and an Afghan
cosmonaut. The second they touched down, they were treated like pop stars and worshipped as
heroes. And today? What do the heroes of socialism do without socialism?

German title: **DIE FLIEGERKOSMONAUTEN**

Festivals: DOKLeipzig

87min or 52min | DigiBeta | HD CAM | DVD | 16:9

87min original version with German, English, French or Hungarian subtitles and/or voice over available

52min English version with German textlist



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STATION BERLIN – Traveller Between Worlds

by Ina Pillat

BERLIN | YOUTH | MIGRATION | MUSIC | TRAVEL | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | LONGTERM



Berlin 2008. Kaya from Czech Republic wants to get an Expert for Eastern Europe. The dreams of her
carrier has she in common with her Italian boyfriend. Stephan from former East Germany spends a
lot of time in a very individual band project. But then Stephan is not able to come to rehearsals for 3
months because of his job as a sound technician...

Piotr is a phenom. Nobody knows the timetables between Warsaw and Berlin better than him.

Constantly he works for his future. His idol is his cousin in Warsaw, who "made it" already.

What happens, if a 20-years-old takes the plunge and moves to another town or even to another
country? What are the conditions for young people from the former Eastern Bloc? And how do they
manage to travel between yesterday and tomorrow?

German title: **STATION BERLIN – Wanderer zwischen den Welten**

88min | DV | Beta | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German/Polish/English/Czech version with German or English subtitles

Contact:

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ina.pillat@gmx.de

STRINGS ATTACHED

The creation of "Where is who I was and am"

by Michael Hermann

ARTS | CULTURE | THEATRE | LITERATURE



Short documentary on the art and philosophy of puppet playing. The film follows German director
Matthias Bundschuh while working on his extraordinary marionette film "Where is who I was and am"
based on a story by famous author Franz Werfel.

German title: **DIE FAEDEN MUESSEN BLEIBEN**

15min | DigiBeta | 4:3 | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:

Ginger Foot Films
Tassiloweg 12
85737 Munich-Ismaning, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-890911401
fax: +49-1803-551831683
jensen@gingerfoot.de
www.gingerfoot.de

SUENOS CUBANOS – CUBAN DREAMS

by Hans-Peter Weymar

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CULTURE



50 years of revolution in Cuba - reason enough for a documentary film journey "on the tracks of the revolution" in many ways. Between Havana and the Sierra Maestra on the east of the island, where the rebels began their guerrilla war against the army of the Batista dictatorship, we encounter many different types of people who give insights into their lives in Cuban socialism and substantiate their perspective on "la revolución". Whether dairy farmer, park keeper, pasta-factory worker, gardener, cook, musician, singer, artist, priest, Hip Hop artist, young female pioneer, student, teacher, doctor, female architect – from political delegate to veteran rebel – all let us witness their hopes, successes, dreams, problems, sorrows and happiness. During its journey through the socialist island the film spans the arch of 50 years to the present day – and, at times, on into the future.

German title: **SUENOS CUBANOS – KUBANISCHE TRAEUME**

95min | DigiBeta | DVD | original Spanish version with German, French or English subtitles available

Production:

Hans-Peter Weymar Filmproduction
Rosenhofstr. 1
20357 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40-4015376
fax: +49 (0) 40-28948267
peter@weymar.de
www.kubanischetraeume.de

A SUMMER EVENING WITH FLOATING DI MOREL

by Dietmar Post and Lucia Palacios

MUSIC | ART | AVANT-GARDE



A Summer Evening with Floating di Morel is the title of the first film within the "play loud! (live) music series". It features the Berlin-based rock 'n' roll band Floating di Morel. The band performs 7 songs at their home studio. Filmmakers Dietmar Post and Lucia Palacios follow the group through one "summer evening" in the style of Direct Cinema.

About Floating di Morel:

German critic Jens Willemer positively noted that it is impossible to categorize the sound of the band. As analogies he cites Suicide, Throbbing Gristle, Free Jazz and White Light Hysteria. At the end he asks: "Is it rock 'n' roll? Is it noise? Is it art?"

32min | HD | DVD | German or English version

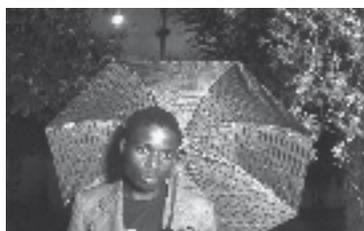
Production:

play loud! productions (film & music)
Gubener Str. 23
10243 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-2977 9315
fax: +49 (0) 30-2977 9316
cell: +49 (0) 178-542 9772
info@playloud.org
www.playloud.org

SUNNY LAND

by Aljoscha Weskott and Marietta Kesting

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | AFRICA



The film Sunny Land is an essayistic time travel through the entertainment paradise Sun City during apartheid and post-apartheid beyond the bright light of stars and glamour. Instead the focus lies also on the mundane details of this non-place: on pools, carpets and palm trees to show slightly out of place clichés and at the same time to search for ways of remembrance of the events, which took place here - seemingly in the shadow of history. Sunny Land is located on the axis of time between past and present, thereby additionally purveying insides into the life in the city of Johannesburg, which seems to modify the idea of a protected Sun City lifestyle.

Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM

98min | HDCam | original English/German/French version with English subtitles available

Contact:

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10997 Berlin, Germany
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www.b-books.de

SVEN REGENER out of the series MY LIFE / MA VIE

by Birgit Herdlitschke

PORTRAIT | LITERATURE

The film portrays musician and writer Sven Regener. Since the 1980s, he and his cult band "Element of Crime" have reigned at the top of the German music scene. And as a writer, Regener has made a name for himself as well. His bestselling novel "Mr. Lehmann" was filmed by Leander Haussmann, and went on to win numerous prizes. The film accompanies Regener at the Frankfurt Book Fair, where he resolutely refuses to autograph his books. He wants the spotlight to be focused on his work and not on him. Back in Berlin, where Regener lives with his family, the media-shy musician and writer reflects – alone or together with friends such as Leander Haussmann – upon his youth, the seductiveness of political ideologies, the formation and career of "Element of Crime," the Bohemian lifestyle in Berlin during the early-1980s, and his relationship to the characters in his novels.

German title: SVEN REGENER – MEIN LEBEN / MA VIE
43min | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available



Production:
avanti media
Film- & Fernsehproduktion oHG
Gneisenaustr. 44/45
10961 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-2646134
fax: +49 (0) 30-2646136
avanti@avantimedia.com
www.avantimedia.com

TALES OF LOVE

by Florian Aigner

SOCIAL | FAMILY



ERKLÄR MIR LIEBE (Tales of Love) is a film essay, that without taking sides tries to sensitively trace the forces that drive people apart. Four sets of parents tell about their great love, the battle of the sexes and about the difficulties to achieve a viable relation as parents after the break-up.

German title: **ERKLÄR MIR LIEBE**
70min | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available

Contact:
Bruemmer&Herzog
Filmproduktion GbR
Reichenberger Str. 55
10999 Berlin, Germany
tel +49(0) 30-68056020
office@bruemmer-herzog.de

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Willibald-Alexis-Str. 17
10965 Berlin, Germany
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florian.aigner@gmx.de
www.agentur-velvet.de

TANZFIEBER – Inside Berlin's Dance Community

by Marcus Behrens

ARTS | CULTURE | MUSIC | DANCE | BERLIN



This documentary circles around seven international dancers in their everyday life in Germany's capital city, Berlin. All of them are connected through the vibrant and constantly growing arts scene, this city has to offer.

This film focuses on the network between those dancers, regardless of nationality and style. The dance itself will remain in the centre of this work: Try-outs and rehearsals, fun and more serious aspects of being a dancer - improvisation and opening nights: no matter if it is Sasha Waltz or the State Ballet, no matter if we are talking Toulalimnaios or the "free" and "open" scene.

German title: **TANZFIEBER – Inside Berlin's Dance Community**
52min or 86min | HDCAM | English, French or German version

World Sales:
LANGER media consulting
Sodtkestr. 18
10409 Berlin
tel.: +49 (0) 30-28479331
fax: +49 (0) 30-28479332
langer@langermediaconsulting.de
www.langermediaconsulting.de

TEHERAN KITCHEN

by Pola Schirin Beck

IRAN | SOCIAL



What it's like in student's canteen in Teheran, anyway? Between 600 kebab a day and nagging students we find three cooks and a kitchen help in a small canteen working with wit and irony while doing their duties on the market and in the kitchen, philosophizing about cooking and about life in general.. In this rather unpretentious microcosmos you will get to know more about their private moments and interesting views and still there's a lot more that makes this place something special...

Awards: Seal of Approval "highly recommended", Film of the Month Oct. 2009 FBW
17min | HD CAM | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original Farsi/Turkish version with German subtitles available

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

by Razvan Georgescu

ARTS | CULTURE | SOCIETY | HUMAN-INTEREST | FILM



How does creativity change when death is near? What counts when you must go? Diagnosed with a brain tumour and given three more years to live, the Romanian filmmaker Razvan Georgescu decides to overcome the solemnity of the issue and to explore the realm between Life and Death in order to meet some of its prominent inhabitants: famous artists who have had a traumatic brush with mortality and survived or who only have three more years to live. Death and illness – motor for creativity? Is the creative spirit in everything we do the armour against oblivion?

TESTIMONY: a film about finding beauty in the face of death, about the healing qualities of art.

A roadmovie full of twists and turns. It's not about watching bodies surrender to disease.

It's a film about life before death. It will make you think and it will make you laugh.

German title: **LEBENS(W)ENDE**

Festivals: DOKLeipzig, Kassel, IFF Transylvanian, Zagreb, London,

Awards: Prix Europa/Best Documentary, Nomination for Best Documentary/BANFF, Audience&Special Award/Timisoara
90min or 52min | HD | DigiBeta | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
StarCrest Media GmbH
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THAT FUNNY OLD GAME

by Tanja Bubbel

SOCCER | SPORTS | WOMEN

Germany's women football players are the most successful ones in the world. But it has been a long way for them...

In THAT FUNNY OLD GAME, three generations of German female soccer players tell the curious history of female soccer in Germany accompanied with footage from 50 years of east- and west-German television.



German title: **DIE SCHOENSTE NEBENSACHE DER WELT**
56min | DV | German or English version

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THE ONE WHO SEES WITH HIS FINGERS

by Savas Ceviz

ARTS | SCIENCE | SOCIAL | PORTRAIT | HUMAN-INTEREST



Esref Armagan is a Turkish painter who has been blind since birth. Esref has never been able to see. But: His paintings are amazingly realistic, incorporating colour, and great detail. And the most fascinating ability: He uses perspectives! Even a lot of seeing people are not able to do. Prof. Kennedy from Toronto University, who works since 35 Years with blind people, cried as he saw this. Harvard neurologist Alvaro Pascual-Leone scanned Armagan's brain in an MRI. He saw a little sensation: "You can say Esref sees with his fingers". Filmmaker Savas Ceviz looked over the shoulder of the blind painter while he is working on his paintings in his studio. Esref shows his techniques and secrets of painting and drawing. He tells about how it came that a painting of him is in the MOMA, why he has got a thank you letter from the white house, from Bill Clinton and how he kidnapped his wife, who is blind, too.

Esref has had exhibits in many cities in Turkey, Italy, New York, China, etc.

German title: **DER MIT DEN FINGERN SIEHT**

90min or 30min | DigiBeta | BetaSP | 16:9

original Turkish/English/German version with English subtitles, German or Turkish voice over available



Production:
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THE TIME IT TAKES

by Karsten Krause

PORTRAIT | WORK | DAILY LIFE | ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT



Every year Edwin Steurer spends the summer months alone with his livestock, on the Wildmoos Alp, in Bregenz Forest, Austria. He is now seventy-four and still carries out this difficult, exhausting work with care and patience. Above all, Edwin works without rushing, taking the necessary time.

"Up here there is always enough time," says the farmer, putting off until tomorrow what he is unable to complete today. This clean, direct videographic recounting isolates the protagonist from his surroundings. The rough images and sounds recorded live testify to the tranquility and slow pace of the daily life of a man who has found happiness in his work. The question remains as to whether his has truly been a happy life.

German title: **DIE ZEIT, DIE ES BRAUCHT**

Festivals: Dokumentarfilmwoche Hamburg, Trento Film Festival, Pärnu International Documentary and Anthropology Film Festival, Lessinia Film Festival, Vilnius

40min | DV | 16:9 | anamorph | original German version with English subtitles

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TIME OFF

by Anja Unger

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | TRAVEL | RELIGION | PORTRAIT



On the Road to Santiago: What happens if you suddenly slow down to 4 kilometers per hour? How about advancing solely by your own physical capacities? Your body will ache with the unfamiliar effort, after a few days your mind will start to spin differently... a door inside of you opens, your inner quest may begin. In a way, a pilgrimage is a peaceful, slow and yet radical break from everyday life.

German title: **AUFRECHT GEHEN**

49min | 16:9 | DigiBeta | DVD | original German/French/English version with German, French and English subtitles

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TIME'S UP

by Jan Peters and Marie Catherine Theiler

BERLIN | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | DAILY LIFE

Being confronted with the finiteness of life in a car accident while carrying their unborn baby, the filmmakers Marie-Catherine Theiler and Jan Peters suddenly realize that their lives have become way too hectic. They spend too much precious time rushing from one appointment to the next, hunting deadline after deadline. They decide to change their lives and slow down. But how?

During a humorous odyssey from one time-expert to the next, Marie-Catherine and Jan ask the questions most of us would like to know the answers to... Within the timeframe of Marie-Catherine's pregnancy, the directors of TIME'S UP leave no stone unturned, examining with wit and irony how today's society – and above all they themselves – deal with the subject of 'time'.

Festivals: DOKLeipzig, IDFFJihlava, Visions Du Réel Nyon
15min | HD | 35mm | BetaDigital | German or English version



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TO FIGHT FOR – The Year of Decision

by Gerardo Milsztein

YOUTH | CRIME | CONFLICTS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



Five young men, prepared to resort to violence, transform their destructive energy into creativity, and their self-hate into self-confidence and responsibility for their own lives. They are faced by a harsh challenge. Either they are bound to end up in jail, or they have to break through all barriers to self-assurance. Having withdrawn wholly into themselves and having become extremely aggressive, they have to reach out again for contacts and intimacy, which is something they have not been able to do for years. Boxing is the narrative thread and also what triggers their personal development off. They begin to get in touch with themselves and to recognize their internal hurts in the emotional sense. This is the start of their way towards peace. The youngsters fight not only each other but also themselves, till they fall and thereby learn to get up again.

German title: **FRIEDENSCHLAG – Das Jahr der Entscheidung**
Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
107min | HD | 35mm | original German version with English subtitles available

World Sales:
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TRACE OF THE BEARS – 60 YEARS BERLINALE

by Hans-Christoph Blumenberg and Alfred Holighaus

FILM | BERLIN | PORTRAIT

In February 2010 the Berlin International Film Festival celebrates its 60th anniversary. The story of the festival is strongly linked to the history of Berlin in the last six decades: from the bombed city during the war over the divided city to Germany's capitol today.

28 personalities of international and national cinema have been interviewed by Hans-Christoph Blumenberg and Alfred Holighaus for „Trace of the Bears“: Stars like Tilda Swinton, Claudia Cardinale and John Hurt, acclaimed directors like Andrzej Wajda and Agnes Varda or Costa-Gavras and Ang Lee and also Tom Tykwer and Michael Winterbottom. All of them contribute with their very own Berlinale memories.

With plenty of rare archive material the film reveals the story behind the curtains of the festival, from the early years of Berlin in ruins until today's mega-festival at Potsdamer Platz.

German title: **SPUR DER BAEREN – 60 Jahre Berlinale**
Festivals: Berlinale / SPECIAL
94min | DigiBeta | original German/English/French/Chinese/Polish version with German or English subtitles available



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TUNING MAN

by Stepan Altrichter and Seyed Sina Atacian (German part)

CONTEMPORARY-SOCIETY | WORK | IRAN | ECONOMY



How to be an achiever in Iran: a Teheran car tuner in his pursuit of success and the finest tuning for his car, his image, his life. He's a family man with big plans and truly amazing dance moves.

German title: **TUNING MAN**

21min13sec Iranian part or 40min Iranian & German parts
35mm | HD | HDCAM | DigiBeta | mpeg2 file | DVD | 1:1,78 | Dolby Stereo
original Farsi version with English or German subtitles available

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TWO BROTHERS – ONE SOUND The World of Bernard and François Baschet

by Ingo Rudloff

ARTS | MUSIC | FILM

Brothers Bernard and François Baschet (born in 1917 and 1920, respectively) have been two of the pre-eminent pioneers in building experimental musical instruments and creating sound sculptures. After working together in a symbiotic relationship for decades, they parted ways professionally in the mid-1970s to pursue their own individual artistic aspirations.

The film follows several years in the lives of the two brothers, documenting the musical and artistic marks they have left throughout the world.

German title: **EINKLANG – 2 BRUEDER: Die Welt von Bernard und Francois Baschet**
52min | HD | 16:9 | original version with German voice-over or English subtitles available



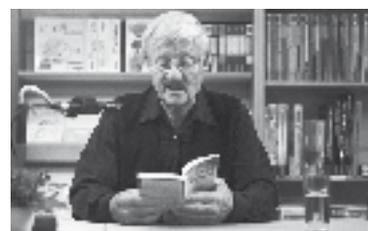
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THE UNWORTHY

by Renate Guenther-Greene

ORAL-HISTORY | HISTORY | NS-PLITICS | HISTORY



The Unworthy addresses a previously neglected aspect of the Nazi era. They categorised children on the basis of their value system. Worthy children were nurtured, unworthy children were culled and annihilated. Waltraud's mother is taken to a concentration camp, while Waltraud and her siblings are put into homes. Guenther is sent to a youth concentration camp for listening to swing music. Elfriede learns that children are being euthanised. Richard is wrested away from his mother and forced into slave labour at the age of four.

The film also explores the consequences which continue to affect those concerned to this day.

German title: **DIE UNWERTIGEN**
86min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German with English subtitles

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UNDER THE SPELL OF HORSES

ADVENTURE | CULTURE | SOCIETY | TRAVEL | ETHNOLOGY | NATURE

“Under the Spell of Horses” is a 4-part documentary series that sets out on a voyage of discovery through the world of horses. It leads us to peoples who cultivate a centuries-old horse-riding culture, and takes us through spectacular landscapes which would never have been inhabited if it weren't for the particular horse breeds. They introduce us to people who live close to nature and in contact with animals, and thus reflect our own dreams of freedom and adventure.

In Morocco, Argentina, India and Iceland we accompany native horse owners, farmers and herdsmen, as well as scientists and horse experts. Each film centres on a personal story and a cultural event that would be inconceivable without horses.

German title: **IM BANN DER PFERDE: Marokko, Argentinien, Indien, Island**

Festivals: NaturVision, Bergfilmfestival Tegernsee

43min or 52min | HDcam | DigiBeta | 16:9 original version with English or German commentary and voice over

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UNDER THE SPELL OF HORSES – MOROCCO

by Lisa Eder

Lachsen is proud because his son Mohammed is an enthusiastic horseman and wants to follow in his father's footsteps – riding in a Fantasia. In order to get the money for Mohammed's horse, Lachsen makes his way through the Middle Atlas to the outskirts of the desert...



UNDER THE SPELL OF HORSES – ARGENTINA

by Thomas Wartmann

The film introduces three very different worlds: the gauchos in the pampa, the exclusive polo scene and the daily fight for survival of the cartoneros, the rubbish collectors in Buenos Aires. Three personal stories from each of these worlds all end with a small dream coming true.



UNDER THE SPELL OF HORSES – INDIA

by Ilka Franzmann

The film takes us on a journey into the mystical world of Marwari horses in India. We meet young stable boy Sonaram who risks his whole future when his best friend, a holy foal, is about to be sold.



UNDER THE SPELL OF HORSES – ICELAND

by Lisa Eder

The film, full of spectacular images of life on the edge of the Arctic Circle, portrays the family Goroarsson and their work with horses as they make an expedition to the centre of the island.



UP TO THE SKY

by Sabine Pollmeier and Joachim Haupt

This is architecture for the 21st century. The series Up to the Sky presents three of the latest and outstanding skyscrapers. Three new towers in New York, Malmö and Barcelona that have set new standards in world architecture.

Never before have so many skyscrapers have been built like in the first decade of the 21st century. Thanks to computer technology, today calculations and constructions have been made possible that were unthinkable some years ago. World-famous European architects like Norman Foster, Jean Nouvel and Santiago Calatrava know how to handle these new technologies. With their new buildings, the look of skyscraper has changed forever. Their new towers have nothing in common with the rectangular high-rise building in Bauhaus design. Playful, sculptural and exciting – what used to be an abstract sculpture in a museum, today is rising up hundreds of meters into the sky.

German title: **FASZINATION WOLKENKRATZER**
3x26min or 78min | HDCam | 16:9 | Dolby SR | original English version | dubbed versions: German or French

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UP TO THE SKY – TORRE AGBAR



The Torre Agbar looks like a rocket that is about to take off into space. A simple geometric gesture – and a design by the French architect Jean Nouvel. A skyscraper which seems to come out of the future. Its silhouette has dominated the cityscape of Barcelona since 2005.

Jean Nouvel designed a tower which seems to shoot up expressively. At night the Torre Agbar becomes a luminous work of art, a glowing fixed point in the pulsating metropolis. 4500 light-emitting diodes bathe it in artificial blue and red, visible from afar.

The poetry of this nocturnal lighthouse dominates the whole city. The Torre Agbar has become an urban event which long since seems to be inseparably joined with Barcelona, by day and by night.

UP TO THE SKY – TURNING TORSO



The Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava is a man of many talents. Painter, sculptor, architect and engineer, he switches effortlessly between the forms of expression. All of his talents came together when he designed his first skyscraper. The Turning Torso has been standing on the edge of the southern Swedish city of Malmö since 2005. It turns 90 degrees around its own axis and, in doing so, screws itself up to a height of 190 meters. Everything is curved and oblique. The laws of gravity seem to be cancelled. From the beginning the Turning Torso was planned as a residential building. Anyone can move in here, for it contains perfectly normal rented flats. But inside the Turning Torso there is no such thing as a right angle. Sculpture, movement, statics, construction. Everything comes together in the Turning Torso. A skyscraper for the 21st century. And the new landmark of the city of Malmö.

UP TO THE SKY – HEARST TOWER



New York, the city of skyscrapers. In the midst of this skyline one new tower is creating a furore. It is the Hearst Tower, built by the British architect Norman Foster. Norman Foster's high-rise has been standing on the edge of Central Park since the end of 2006. The Hearst Tower rises 182 meters into the sky. A rather modest height. And soon this small-scale skyscraper may be overlooked on the dense New York skyline. If it were not for its facade! It looks like a polished diamond in the middle of the skyline. The Hearst Tower is New York's first green skyscraper. The facade's diagonal grid pattern, the so-called diagrid structure, consumes 20 per cent less steel than a comparable construction. The structure is efficient – and it is also extremely elegant.

"The most beautiful new skyscraper in Manhattan since 1967", praised him the "New Yorker".

URANIUM – IS IT A COUNTRY? Tracking the origins of nuclear power.

by Stephanie Auth, Isabel Huber, and Kerstin Schnatz

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE | ECONOMY | ENVIRONMENT | CONFLICTS

Uranium – is it a country? is a quest to reveal the origins of nuclear power taking us to the other side of the world. From a nuclear power plant in France, we hit the road, eventually ending up in the heart of the Australian Outback. Pictures shot from a plane reveal blueish-green lakes clustered on bright red sands. At 40°C outside temperature the lakes's sparkling beauty may be tempting for a swim. That would be a deadly mistake.

They are millions of tons of liquid waste from one of the largest uranium mines in the world, containing a deadly cocktail of radioactive and toxic byproducts. Back in Germany and France nuclear power is promoted as environmentally friendly.

Produced especially for a young audience, this documentary encourages to question the myth of environmentally friendly nuclear power.

German title: **URANIUM – IS IT A COUNTRY? Eine Spurensuche nach der Herkunft von Atomstrom.**

Festival: Kassel

53min | 4:3 | Letterbox | original English/German version with English, German, Spanish, Italian or French subtitles



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URBAN FUTURE

by Olaf Jacobs

CURRENT AFFAIRS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CITIES | SERIES



Everywhere on this planet, people move from the country to the city each week. Some follow a vision, for others this is simply the only way to survive. They hope to find work, education and better supplies. In short, they hope for a better life. But can this hope be fulfilled?

URBAN FUTURE is a journey of discovery through the megacities of the new millennium. The series gives insight into how people live in these cities, how they take the initiative in order to improve their living conditions and how they creatively shape their surroundings with unique projects.

Locations: Sao Paulo, Istanbul, Mumbai

German title: DIE ZUKUNFT DER STAEDTE

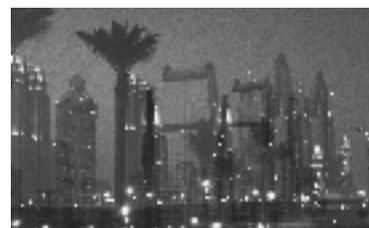
3x30min | HD | DigiBeta | 16:9 | German and English version available

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URVILLE

by Angela Christlieb

AGRICULTURE | ETHNOLOGY | EXPERIMENTAL | HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | TRAVEL



What is Urville? The most modern city in the world, where everyone is equal. Does Urville really exist? The experimental documentary by Angela Christlieb takes the audience via GPS on a journey through a previously unknown country: France!

Urville is a series of snapshots, banalities and oddities from everyday life of the real inhabitants of three Urvilles in the north of France. A portrait of the French lifestyle based on the principles of randomness, just like a game of chance.

82min | DigiBeta (anamorph) | original French version with German or English subtitles available

Festivals: Hof, MaxOphuelsAward Festival/Saarbruecken

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US TWO

by Aldo Gugolz

PORTRAIT | HUMAN-INTEREST



Eliane and Christof are lovers. They have both been disabled since birth. Eliane dreams of moving in with her boyfriend. But her wish meets with unexpected obstacles.

German title: **WIR ZWEI**

Festivals: Solothurn/Switzerland

56min | DigiBeta | original version with French, Italian, German or English subtitles available

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UWE OCHSENKNECHT

out of the series **MY LIFE / MA VIE**

by Sabine Carbon

PORTRAIT | FILM | MUSIC



From his poor origins in the German countryside, actor Uwe Ochsenknecht has attained everything he ever dreamed of. Among his countless roles, he has played the Pope, a crook, Otto von Bismarck, and a young revolutionary student. Doris Doerrie's 1985 film "Maenner" catapulted him into the international limelight and secured him a place among Germany's top-ranking actors. But Ochsenknecht has never forgotten his petty bourgeois roots with his strict father and authoritative schooling. He tried to raise his own children, who have already become stars themselves, in a completely different setting. For Ochsenknecht, spending a large portion of his time in his Spanish country house is like living a dream, just like making music from time to time. But the former child star of the local theatre in Mannheim still loves to move audiences directly from the stage whenever the opportunity arises.

German title: **UWE OCHSENKNECHT – MEIN LEBEN / MA VIE**

43min | DigiBeta | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:

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VILLAGE LOVE

by Pamela Meyer Arndt

GERMAN-REUNIFICATION | PORTRAIT | PHOTOGRAPHY | LONGTERM | SOCIAL BIOTOPE



Berka, a Thuringian village within the change of centuries. The photographers Ludwig Schirmer and Werner Mahler have documented the change of the Thuringian village Berka over the centuries – from 1949 until 2006. Their poetic photo series shows an idyllic and well functioning village community and is the starting point for the documentary. The documentary tells the dramatic and rousing story of Berka's inhabitants. How they tried to build their existence again and again after the war, beneath Socialism, the reunification and now as citizens of the Federal Republic Germany.

German title: **DORFLIEBE**

52min or 90min | HDCAM | 16:9 | German version others on request

Production:

Gebrueder Beetz Filmproduktion

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VOODOO – The Chosen One

Bettina Ehrhardt

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CULTURE | RELIGION | SOCIAL

The arrival of a new Daagbo Hounon is an important event in the life of Voodoo followers. His authority as spiritual chief of all Voodoo cults is recognized not only in Benin and West Africa, but also in the 'New World' – where ever Afro-Americans worship the religion of their ancestors.

The throne of Daagbo Hounon is in the ancient, slave-port of Ouidah in Benin, where today three religions live side by side: Voodoo, Islam and Christianity.

Filmmaker Bettina Ehrhardt follows the new 'chosen one' for eighteen months, right up until the day when the Goddess of the Sea takes possession of him during a public ritual. In a state of trance, the new Daagbo Hounon is recognized by his followers and can now take his righteous seat on the throne of his ancestors.

90min | HDCam | original version with English or French subtitles available



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WAGAH

by Supriyo Sen

SOCIETY | POLITICS | YOUTH

Each night the only border crossing between India and Pakistan on a 1000km stretch becomes the sight of an extraordinary event. Thousands of people gather to witness the ritual closing of the border, after which the masses get as close as possible to the gate to greet their former neighbors. This "festival" is therefore on the one hand a celebration of the partition, but on the other hand also the only connecting element. What do the terms separation, home and proximity mean to the people on both sides? Three kids who are selling DVDs at the parade bring us closer to the truth.

Quote Federal Foreign Minister Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier: "...a convincing manifesto against any wall that divides people."

Wagah is the final part of Supriyo Sen's trilogy about the separation of India and Pakistan.

13min | color | HDV | 1:1.85 | Dolby SR | original Hindi/Farsi/Urdu version with English or German subtitles
Awards: Berlin Today Award, Best Documentary/Karlovy Vary, Audience Award/Muenster, Black Pearl Award/Abu Dhabi, German Short Film Award, Grand Prize Bilbao, Audience Award Winterthur...



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WE BELONG HERE

by Elisa Iven and Erik Wittbusch

POLITICS | RELIGION



Thesettlers in Israel they are feared and admired. In the eyes of the world they are fundamental terrorists, the ultimate reason why peace can not come to the Middle East. Just true or far from it?

In Westjordan we met four graceful, witty people driven by the need to transcend every breath they take into a rendez-vous with Hashem. This God resides but in the sweet dreams of Israel as it can be visited in the Tora and not really anywhere else. Step by step, house by house, family by family this dream has to come true, has to become true flesh and stone...real home.

Their longing for peace is real, their actions may result in war.

Thesettlers, as cheerful or scary as they may seem, are the reflection of a tired people. Stubborn but without any sign of self-pity they tried to show us the absurdities of their lives.

German title: **WE BELONG HERE – Juedische Siedler in der Westbank**
46min | HD 1080 | 16:9 | original English version with German subtitles available

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WE CAME, WE STAYED, WE GOT DEPORTED

by Ralf Jesse and Natascha Breuers

YOUTH | EXILE | WAR&PEACE | LONGTERM



The United Nations estimate the number of children refugees at about 12-13 million worldwide. 3-4 % of these children have either lost their parents or have to live separated from them. The technical term for these children without parents or relatives is "separated children". About 100,000 of these children live in Europe, about five to ten thousand in Germany. *We Came, We Stayed, We Got Deported* tells some of their stories. For two years, the directors filmed their fate and fortune in Germany.

The stories of all these children are either fantastic or nightmarish. They all share the experience of being cast from their home into a world where everything is foreign: people, skin colors, language, manners, food, landscapes, weather, culture. And they all have to learn that it's not only the weather which is chilly in Germany. They are all children, however, and they all have no other option than to cope with their situation and to integrate into a society which does not exactly welcome them.

We Came, We Stayed, We Got Deported is about the children's efforts towards integration as well as

German title: **DIE GEDULDETEN**

Festivals: Kassel

98min | DigiBeta | PAL | DVD | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

World Sales:

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WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MADE – DORIS DAY SUPERSTAR

by Andrew Davies and André Schäfer

CULTURE | FILM | MUSIC | PORTRAIT



Doris Day, the most successful female box office star in the history of Hollywood, has written cinema history by simply playing Little Miss Average. She is still amongst us and celebrated her 85th birthday in 2009. Although she has not appeared in public for over thirty years, Doris Day is considered to be a cultural icon of the 20th and 21st century.

The documentary will reflect the turbulent and successful life of Doris Day with extracts and trailers from some of her many feature films and TV appearances, in order to reveal the foibles and characteristics of her real life against the background of her screen and music life. A playful and tongue-in-cheek study of the fairytale career of Doris Day.

Festivals: The Documentary NZ Trust, Exground Wiesbaden Germany, Qfest, Philadelphia
90min or 52min | DigiBeta | 16:9 | English or German version



World Sales:

SND Films, Sydney Neter
Leidsestraat 106
1017 PG Amsterdam, The Netherlands
cell: +31 6 549 55 266
info@sndfilms.com
www.dorisday-film.de
www.florianfilm.de

WHAT REMAINS

by Clarissa Thieme

ENVIRONMENT | WAR&PEACE | EXPERIMENTAL

"What remains" is about the empty spaces left behind in the wake of war and violence. The film is composed of long static wide shots of places and landscapes in present day Bosnia Herzegovina.

The ordinary banality and beauty of the places shown form a contrast to the fact that atrocities were committed during the Bosnian War from 1992 until 1995 at all of these places.

"What remains" is a filmic memorial beyond the ordinary limits of representation and understanding. The places in the film are present for their own sake. They do not explain themselves to us. They throw back the answers we ask of them.

German title: **WAS BLEIBT**

Festival: Berlinale / FORUM EXPANDED

30min | DCP | HDCAM | DVD | without dialogue



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&

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WHEN THE DRAGON SWALLOWED THE SUN

by Dirk Simon

HUMAN RIGHTS | WAR&PEACE | POLITICS



When The Dragon Swallowed The Sun reveals for the first time the struggle of a young Tibetan King who is expected to continue a 1400 year old lineage while the Tibetan freedom movement is on the verge of failure. It is a ground breaking documentary that takes a closer look at the internal conflicts and the contradictions within the Tibetan movement. It exposes the uncomfortable truth that the Chinese government is only part of the reason why Tibet has not regained its independence. The combination of award winning HD footage from India, China, Tibet and the US along with an original soundtrack by Philip Glass, Thom Yorke and Damien Rice make this the first film that presents the complexity of the struggle with such emotional impact.

German title: **ALS DER DRACHE DIE SONNE VERSCHLANG**

Awards: Maverick Movie Award for Best Chronicle, Best Cinematography and Best Original Score.

Festivals: Santa Barbara SBIFF, 2010

115min | HD 1080i | English version

WorldSales:

Free Motion Films
6976 S. Wadsworth Court
Littleton, CO 80128; USA
tel.: +3 303 359 8339
info@whenthe dragon.com

Contact:

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THE WHITE RAVEN – Max Mannheimer

by Carolin Otto

NS-POLITICS | ORAL HISTORY | PORTRAIT

The white raven is a documentary about the holocaust and concentration camp survivor Max Mannheimer, 89, born in Tchechoslovakia and now living in Munich. It's a very personal and intimate portrait of a charming, intelligent and funny fighter against antidemocratic tendencies. Still today, at the age of almost 90, he is going into schools to tell his life and witness the time of nazi regency. He is busy six days the week. I met him in 1988, when I lost my bank card and he found it. I was a film-student by that time and I made two films inspired by him. In 1991 we travelled to Auschwitz, it was his first visit there since he had left the camp in 43.

THE WHITE RAVEN is the third film. I accompanied Max Mannheimer throughout the year 2008, did most of the camerawork, and the film shows his daily life. Parts of the film are consisting of the old material 16mm in Auschwitz.

German title: **DER WEISSE RABE – Max Mannheimer**

Festivals: Munich International Filmfestival, Biberacher Filmfestspiele, 5-Seenfestival,

Awards: Seal of Approval "highly recommended"

82min | HD | DigiBeta | 35 mm | original German version with English subtitles available



Contact:

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Landwehrstr. 55
80336 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-59947657
www.derweisserabe.de

WHO IS HIGHLIFE?

by Wilma Kiener, Dieter Matzka, and Alpha Yahaya Suberu

CULTURE | MUSIC | AFRICA | MIGRATION | SOCIETY

Highlife Music is the rock-'n'-roll of Africa, and it all started in Ghana, West Africa. There is hardly a musical style which has not been fused with Highlife rhythms. This led to the genesis of Burger Highlife, a fusion of traditional music with disco and funk that was created in the recording studios of Duesseldorf and Berlin by Ghanaian musicians.

Accompanied by music and interviews, the film tells the story of how this specific brand of fusion music came about.

Top Burger Highlife stars, including George Darko, Lee Dodou, Pat Thomas, McGod, Bob Fiscian, Albert Jones, Nana Aboagye Da-Costa, Daddy Lumba, Nana Acheampong, Atongo Zimba and Nana Asamoah, John Collins and others, all present their hits.

Since there is always more to music than the music itself, the documentary has also turned into a film about Ghana.

German title: **WHO IS HIGHLIFE?**

Festivals: IFF Munich, Ethno. Filmdays Munich, UNERHOERT/Hamburg, KaraFilmFestival/Karachi

106min | 4:3 | DV | DigiBeta | PAL | letterbox possible | stereo | German, English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Indonesian or Arab version available



World Sales:

Matzka-Kiener-Filmproduktion
Franz Wolter Str. 2
81925 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-45247024
dietermatzka@hotmail.com

WHY WE BUY – SECRETS OF CONSUMER SEDUCTION

by Jan Tenhaven

CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | ECONOMY | FOOD



What does the perfect vacuum cleaner noise sound like? What has the smell of a hotel room to do with the Swiss mountains? And why are we suddenly buying white cars? Coincidence or magic? Especially in difficult economic times the companies are searching for ingenious methods, for how to seduce us to consume. Market researchers are focused on our unconscious behaviours. Corporations are investing millions in the sensual appeal of their products. But how should things smell and sound in order to improve sales? And who decides which colours will be on the market in the future? We accompany three sense experts that show the world their colours, their sounds, and their scents. Behind usually closed doors we discover how colourful our world will be in the future.

German title: **ANGRIFF AUF DIE SINNE – WIE WIR VERBRAUCHER VERFUEHRT WERDEN**
45min or 52min | HDCAM | 16:9 | German and English voice over

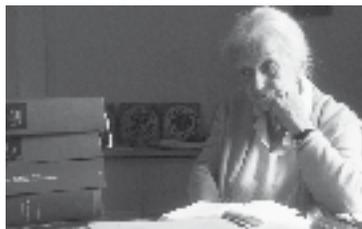
Production:
Gebrueder Beetz Filmproduktion
Köln GmbH + Co KG
Heinrich-Roller Str. 15
10405 Berlin, Germany
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THE WOMAN WITH THE FIVE ELEPHANTS

by Vadim Jendreyko

WOMEN | LITERATURE | PORTRAIT



Swetlana Geier is considered the greatest translator of Russian literature into German. She has just concluded her lifework for Zurich's Ammann publishing house – completing new translations of Dostoyevsky's five great novels – known as the five elephants. Her work is characterised by a great and sensual feeling for language and an uncompromising respect for the writers she translates. Her life has been overshadowed by Europe's varied history.

Together with the film director Vadim Jendreyko, the eighty-five-year old woman is making her first trip from her chosen home in Germany back to the places of her childhood in the Ukraine. The film interweaves the story of Swetlana Geier's life with her literary work and traces the secret of this inexhaustibly hard-working woman. It tells of great suffering, silent helpers and unhopd-for chances – and a love of language that outshines all else.

German title: **DIE FRAU MIT DEN 5 ELEFANTEN**
Festivals: Visions du Réel, Nyon, Locarno, Viennale, DOKLeipzig, Duisburg, Kassel
Awards: Prix SSR Idée Suisse, Prix Suisseimage, DEFA-Foerderpreis, nominated for European Film Award
93min | 35mm | HD | DigiBeta | 16:9 | DVD | original German/Russian version with English or German subtitles

Distribution Germany
RealFiction
Hansaring 98
50670 Cologne, Germany
tel +49 (0) 221-9522111
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www.realfictionfilme.de
www.5elefanten.ch

World Sales
Nour Films
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filmtank@filmtank.de
www.filmtank.de

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Rebiya Kadeer making a call out of
CHINA'S PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE
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Tilda Swinton cycling in Berlin out of
THE INVISIBLE FRAME
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Swetlana Geier out of
THE WOMEN WITH THE 5 ELEPHANTS
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Cover Photo out of MOROCCO out of the series UNDER THE SPELL OF HORSES Fantasia in Meknes, shot on location by Richard Ladkani ©2009 Filmquadrat.dok GmbH

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Arbeitsgemeinschaft
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The German Documentary Association / AG DOK ...

is the largest professional association of independent producers in Germany, numbering more than 860 members. It is first and foremost a film and media lobbyist for the documentary genre, but is open to representatives from all film genres.

a... fights to prevent documentaries from vanishing from television screens and movie theatres.

b... is developing new strategies to counter broadcasters' demands for more rights from independent producers for dwindling licensing fees.

c... becomes involved wherever and whenever film politics are debated in Germany.

d... commissions studies and legal reports relating to independent film production in order to provide solid arguments in film political debates.

e... provides its members with legal consultation and, in some cases, assistance in lawsuits.

f... provides free legal consultation with established media lawyers for every contract.

g... is constructing a platform for efficient foreign sales of German documentaries through the initiative „German Documentaries“ in cooperation with „German Films.“

h... organizes presentations of German documentaries at foreign festivals, and meetings with colleagues from other countries in cooperation with „German Films.“

i... furthers discussions about the documentary genre at meetings and conferences.

j... offers filmmakers and producers opportunities to exchange views and information on a local level.

k... offers its members copies of the film newsletter “black box,” the association’s own newsletter, and other relevant information from the film industry.

l... offers its members discounted memberships to the European Documentary Network EDN.

m... represents the interests of documentary filmmakers in the governing boards of the Copyright Association of German Artists, Photographers and Filmmakers (VG Bild-Kunst) and the German Federal Film Board (FFA).

n... commissions studies of broadcast slots and license fees.

... cordially welcomes each and every new member.

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