German Films

is the national information and advisory center for the promotion of German films worldwide. In association and cooperation with its shareholders, German Films works to promote feature, documentary, television and short films. The work of German Films concentrates on information services, as well as PR and marketing measures to increase the awareness and visibility of German films abroad. German Films also has foreign representatives in Eastern Europe, China and the USA.

Shareholders are the Association of German Film Producers, the German Producers Alliance, the Association of German Film Exporters, the German Federal Film Board (FFA), the Deutsche Kinemathek, the German Documentary Association, FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, and the German Short Film Association.

Range of activities

• Close cooperation with major international film festivals, including Berlin, Cannes, Venice, San Sebastian, Locarno, Rome, Karlovy Vary, Montreal, Toronto, New York and Shanghai as well as with the documentary film festivals in Amsterdam, Sheffield, Toronto and Nyon

• Organization of umbrella stands for German sales companies and producers at international television and film markets (Berlin, Cannes, AFM Los Angeles, Shanghai, Toronto)

• Staging of Festivals of German Films and German Premieres in selected international territories

• Providing advice and information for representatives of the international press and buyers from the fields of cinema, video, and television

• Providing advice and information for German filmmakers and press on international festivals, conditions of participation, and German films being shown

• Organization of the annual Next Generation Short Tiger short film program, which presents a selection of shorts and is internationally premiered at Cannes

• A website (www.german-films.de) and publications offering information about new German films, a film archive, information and links to German and international film festivals and institutions, international market analyses

• Organization of the selection procedure for the German entry for the Oscar® for Best Foreign Language Film

• Collaboration with Deutsche Welle’s DW-TV KINO program which features the latest German film releases and international productions in Germany

• Organization of German Films Previews geared toward arthouse distributors and buyers of German films

• Selective financial Distribution Support for the foreign releases of German films

• Organization with Unifrance of the annual German-French film meeting
A colleague recently called me to enthusiastically report on the pre-selections for the German Film Prize ‘Lola’, which he had just been a part of. He called 2013/14 a very strong year for documentaries, and said the majority of the German films he saw were world-class in terms of both content and artistic expression. With ‘german documentaries 2014’, we are pleased to introduce you to these films along with some 250 titles from the latest production year that offer a fascinating overview of the high quality and wide variety of German documentaries, which have long since established themselves as an international powerhouse.

Surely it will come as no surprise to find us Germans praising our own films in this catalogue. But judge for yourselves: one look at the programs of the top international film festivals is testimony to how German productions are increasingly taking center stage. Some of these productions are so international that you may not even notice they are German productions. Gone are the days when these films focused primarily on the problems in our own country. Now they have become cosmopolitan in the best sense of the word, and focus on the burning social and political issues of our globalized world. Thanks to the excellent, broad based film training programs in Germany, we have a reservoir of superb documentary film directors. And well-known filmmakers from abroad are increasingly eager to collaborate with German producers as well.

Germany is no El Dorado, however. Like everywhere else, the documentary genre here is struggling for survival. But the multifaceted television sector and broad based public funding system still support the production of some 60-70 feature-length, cinematic documentaries each year – considerably more than in many of our neighbouring countries. It is a well-known secret that the majority of these productions are inadequately financed and are evidence of the unbroken idealism of German documentary writers, directors and producers. This also points out the increasing necessity to look beyond our national borders to fund large projects.

For this reason, our catalogue offers not only a glance at the amazing breadth of German documentaries, but also serves as a valuable guide to the highly-professional producers’ scene, which believes with heart and soul that the future lies in international co-productions, and not only for economic reasons.

We need not discuss in depth the wealth of topics covered by current German documentaries. A glance at this catalogue is enough to provide an impressive overview. One notable observation about this year’s productions, however, is the number of protagonists who are coming up with creative ideas for facing their daily problems. “Art War” about the art scene in revolutionary Egypt is one such example. Other films pay witness to how art even appears capable of soothing memories of the Holocaust among survivors. Sometimes filmmakers utilize special artistic or experimental forms to reflect the complexity of our reality. The use of animation is also on the rise – due perhaps in part to the increasing restrictions documentary filmmakers are facing while shooting their films.

Once again, all formats and lengths – from elaborate cinematic productions to television series – are represented. The financial crisis caused by greedy bankers is analyzed along with the results it is having on a Greek family. The topic of ‘war’ is also oppressively present in 2014 – not only because this year marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I, but also because humans are continuing to slaughter one another in Syria and in other regions around the world.

To this end, our “german documentaries” catalogue, like the documentary genre as a whole, can also be viewed as a long ‘to do’ list of tasks to be tackled on the road to making this world a better place for us all …

Thomas Frickel
Chair & General Manager
AG DOK/German Documentary Association
100 years after its outbreak, this series lets viewers experience WWI solely through the eyes of those who lived it. History tells us ‘what was’. It tells us when things happened. When kings and cultures lived and died, armies were raised and vanquished, and mighty empires rose and fell. History, as we know it from books, is often boring, for it fails to answer one very simple question: What was it like?

When war broke out in Europe in July 1914, people on all sides believed it would be over by Christmas. Little could they know just how wrong they were. A seemingly petty conflict in Bosnia soon snowballed into the first truly global conflict. This was a new kind of war, fought with means and techniques never seen before. By November 1918, ten million people had died, and the political map of the world had been re-drawn. People’s minds and attitudes had changed forever, and the Modern Age had begun.

Caught up in the middle of this chaos were millions of ordinary men, women and children. Their very lives changed in ways they could never have imagined. This is their story.

The centenary of the outbreak of World War I is fast approaching. This is not the time for yet another film about battles fought and governments toppled, but for a new approach to historical documentary. 14 – DIARIES OF THE GREAT WAR will retell the story of the greatest war mankind had ever seen in a unique way. It will let viewers experience World War One solely through the eyes of those who lived it.

Based on this concept, we have brought together an international team of authors ( Yury Winterberg, Jan Peter, Andrew Bampfield, Stephan Falk, Florian Huber, Maarten van der Duin ) and researchers. From over 1,000 very dramatic stories of the War, left behind in diaries, letters, postcards and telegrams around the world, we have chosen the 14 most vivid and most emotional. Hailing from different sections of the involved powers, and from all walks of life, they represent a cross-section of society itself.

14 – DIARIES OF THE GREAT WAR is based entirely on these personal documents woven into one compelling story arc.

What was it like, as a French child, to read in history class about the Hunnish invasion of Europe, and then step outside to see German battalions march through your home town? What was it like, as a British lady, to abandon a comfortable life and volunteer as a war nurse, to comfort dying soldiers far from home? What was it like to be a German soldier, covered in mud – and the blood of your comrades – cowering in a trench, before an enemy you had never seen?

We hear their words, their emotions, as written down 100 years ago. We live – and sometimes die – with our characters, in high-gloss dramatic reconstruction and stunning archive footage. The drama will focus on what archive and historical analysis cannot reveal – personal tragedy, love, happiness, pain, grief – and give a body and a face to our diarists. The emphasis in the drama scenes will be on authenticity, taking the viewer out of the stereotypes of WWI reconstructions. Far from feeling that they are watching black-and-white events that have no connection to their own lives, our audiences will find themselves saying: that could have been me.
A critically acclaimed film about the notorious double agent and nuclear spy Werner Stiller who duped the ‘Stasi’ (East Germany’s secret police) by betraying his secrets to the CIA and BND. Risking his life, he burgled the Stasi headquarters and fled to the West. The CIA changed his identity and the former mole became a millionaire stockbroker at Goldman Sachs. Contains interviews with people he helped, and with others who he double-crossed. Stiller’s life is a roller-coaster ride full of peril, sex and betrayal. So this isn’t just an inside view East Germany’s secretive foreign intelligence unit, but also of a man who has had ups and downs on an unimaginable scale.

“…retraces an extraordinary trajectory that took (Stiller) from a small village in Thuringia to the heart of the CIA.’ (Paris Match)

“Rudolph Herzog’s documentary offers deep insights into the world of East-West espionage with all its turmoils.” (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

German title: **DER AGENT**

52min | full HD | original German version with English voice-over or subtitles available

Contact: Lichtbild Wiesinger
Altes Feuerwehrhaus
Kirchstr. 8
79359 Riegel a.K. Germany
tel/fax: +49 (0) 7642-928267
info@telemach-wiesinger.de
www.lightcone.org

**35 COWS AND A KALASHNIKOV**

35 COWS AND A KALASHNIKOV is a film about African pride. Directed by Oswald von Richthofen and produced by Roland Emmerich, two old film school friends. It is not a classical documentary about Africa. No boy soldiers. No hunger. No safaris. Rather a poetic tribute to the eternal beauty and sublime strength of the continent. An homage to the Surma tribe of Southern Ethiopia, the dandy movement of Brazzaville and the voodoo wrestlers in Kinshasa.

Archaic roots, colonial influence and Western phenomena, all exist in today’s Africa. The filmmakers show three unusual facets of the continent. The result pushes the boundaries of cinematic aesthetics. Bold images and daring editing create a captivating way of storytelling.

35 COWS AND A KALASHNIKOV will illuminate your view of the Dark Continent.

German title: **35 COWS AND A KALASHNIKOV**

85min | DCP | Blu-ray | original French and different African languages/dialects with English subtitles available

Production:
BerghausWöbke Filmprod. GmbH
Thomas Wöbke
Beethovenplatz 2
80336 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-599477820
fax: +49 (0) 89-599477824
info@berghauswoebke-film.com

**THE AGENT**

Travelling Freiburg’s sister cities (Besançon, Innsbruck, Madison, Matsuyma, Isfahan, Lviv, Granada, Guildford, Padua) and back to the Black Forest.

Collected images are brought together to form an associative whole, where aesthetic similarities and differences – building fronts, road junctions, textures and surfaces, the familiar and the strange – unfold to an original musical composition by Cornelius Schwehr. A twin town odyssey across the world.

A Filmpoem with music by Cornelius Schwehr, Ensemble SurPlus.

German title: **“10”**

Festivals: Edinburgh, Cork, Freiburg
65min | 16mm | Blu-ray | b/w | no dialogues

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www.lightcone.org
Imagine an airspace into which a bomb has been dropped. The bomb has not reached the site of its detonation, but there is no way to stop its speedy approach. The time between the bomb’s release and its explosion is neither the future (for the ineluctable destruction has not yet happened) nor the past (which is unavoidably about to be extinguished). The flight time of the bomb thus describes absolute nothingness, the zero hour, consisting of all the possibilities that in just a moment will no longer exist.

Thus, this story will end before it has begun; here it is told in defiance: an architectural journey from Berlin through Arromanches, Rome, Wroclaw, Gorlitz, Paris, Bologna, Madrid, Buenos Aires, Atlantida, Montevideo, Mexico City, Brasilia, Tokyo, Saipan, Tinian, Tokyo, San Francisco, Dallas, Binz and Mexico City back to Berlin – into the abyss.

The film THE AIRSTRIP was shot from March 2011 to June 2012 in Germany, Italy, France, Spain, Argentina, Uruguay, Mexico, Brazil, the United States, the Northern Mariana Islands and Japan.

German title: THE AIRSTRIP Teil 21 der Serie Photographie und jenseits 21 | Aufbruch der Moderne – Teil III

Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM
108min | DCP | original German/English version with English subtitles available

Contact:
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Saarbrücker Str. 24
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www.pym.de

The 14-year old Akram is a fisherman from Gaza. He had to leave school with 12 years, because his father was sick and someone had to feed the family. He would have loved to continue school, but now he likes to be a fisherman. He belongs to a typical Palestinian family with 54 members, who all live in a big house in the centre of Gaza. His dream is to steer a big fisherboat. But like all other children in Gaza he also dreams of a life without war, bombs and destroyed houses.

German title: AKRAM AND THE WALL IN THE SEA für die Serie: Schau in meine Welt!
25min | HDCam | DCP | original Arabic version with German, English or French subtitles or overvoice available

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www.hu-film.de

We’re living in times of sweeping changes, crises and disorientation. The financial system, energy, climate change: All the problems in these areas have one thing in common, they were created by humans. Many were created by humans educated at the world’s best universities and institutions. Is this mess a side effect of their education, or the underlying attitudes and approach? Is the main problem the structure of our brains, and therefore the structure of our outdated thinking?

We will never find the courage and inspiration to solve tomorrow’s problems by applying yesterday’s solutions! Nowhere else is that fact so obvious as in our educational system, where the greatest opportunities and talents are eradicated by improper methods and forcing everyone into standardized molds. Rather than standardization and economic utility, creativity, diversity and sustainability must be the focus of new educational institutions! In the future, education must abandon yesterday’s systematic preaching from on high and instead foreground the realization of potential and enriching students through diversity and variety. And lastly: Who will start this process if we don’t?!

German title: ALPHABET

World Sales:
The Match Factory GmbH
Balthasarstr. 79-81
50670 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-53970919
fax: +49 (0) 221-53970910
info@matchfactory.de
www.the-match-factory.com

Distribution:
Germany: www.pandorafilm.com
Austria: www.filmladen.at
www.alphabet-derfilm.at

Awards/Festivals: Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’, IDFAAmsterdam, nominated for German Film Award LOLA
120min | HD | 16:9 | Dolby Digital | German, English, French, Spanish, Chinese versions
**AMMA & APPA**

by Franziska Schönenberger and Jayakrishnan Subramanian

Matchmaking on a global scale between India and Germany: the parents of German girl Franziska and the parents of Indian boy Jay have to deal with the fact that their children are in love and planning on getting married. This means their families will be connected for a lifetime. They will have to get to know each other. But will they get along?

Amma and Appa in Tamil means mother and father. This film tells the story of Franziska’s and Jay’s parents and their first meeting. They are about the same age and both couples have been married for over 30 years. However they are from two very different cultures – but through their children’s love, their lives are about to connect these two families in a rather astonishing way. Their children have not only fallen in love but also want to get married. After two years of living a long-distance relationship, Franziska and Jay have managed to have their mothers and fathers agree on meeting each other. While Jay’s parents’ marriage was arranged and held very traditionally in India, Franziska’s parents married out of love. Understandably having a son want to marry out of love was a huge shock for Jay’s parents. Especially to a white girl from Germany. Jay’s decision made them not only question their own traditions but also their beliefs. Against this background, the film unfolds its story.

German title: **AMMA & APPA**
Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE
89min | HDcam | Blu-ray | DCP | German version with English subtitles available

**ANDERSON**

by Annekatrin Hendel

ANDERSON maps the fascinating psychogram of a man who was an agent to the quick – and who in all things, his love life included, was steeped in lies. The Stasi stool-pigeons who denied everything were not only the moustachioed men in beige jackets seen in the Oscar winning LIVES OF OTHERS, but also included artistic types with the erotic auras of a Sascha Anderson.

The country he worked for, the GDR, exists no longer, but Anderson unabashedly defends his deeds twenty-five years on. A James Bond of the East?

The unique German-German situation, and the resulting release of GDR secret files, enabled Annekatrin Hendel – whose VATERLANDSVERRÄTER (Grimme Award 2013) caused a furore on its release – to now expose a disturbing anatomy of betrayal. What is truth? Does forgiveness exist? What is stronger than love and friendship? To what extent are the victims to blame for their suffering? All this, and where complete surveillance is taking us, is the stuff of ANDERSON.

German title: **ANDERSON**
Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE
90min | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

**AN APARTMENT IN BERLIN**

by Alice Agneskirchner

Young Israelis in Berlin are mostly attracted by its cosmopolitan and international atmosphere, the low cost of living and the good infrastructure, which make life fairly easy. Berlin was also the place from which the Nazis planned the systematic extermination of the Jews. Three generations after the Holocaust, does this fact matter to young Israelis? How does it affect their lives today? Three of them want to find out, what it would do to them to embark on a journey into the past by retracing the life and furnishing the original apartment of a Jewish family from Berlin once deported by the Nazis.

German title: **EIN APARTMENT IN BERLIN**
Festivals: Leipzig Screening
84min | HD | German version with English subtitles available
AREFI, THE SHEPHERD
by Daniel Asadi Faezi

AREFI, THE SHEPHERD is an uplifting look at the journey of an ordinary shepherd in the desert of central Iran. Mohammad Arefi is taking care of over 300 goats and sheeps since more than 45 years. But the tradition of an old shepherd family will come to an end in his generation. A fascinating portrait of a quiet but funny person.

German title: AREFI, DER HIRTE
Awards: Jury Special Mention – Mumbai IFF
Festivals: San Francisco Iranian FF, Kassel, Konstanzer, Blicke FF Ruhrgebiet
8min 39sec | DCP | DVD | original Farsi with German or English subtitles available

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ART’S HOME IS MY KASSEL
by Katrin Heinz

ART’S HOME IS MY KASSEL – shows how different people handle the sudden invasion of contemporary art and in the middle sized german town Kassel – called Documenta. From the preparations in the beginning of 2012, through the whole ‘Museum of 100 days’ and the wrap of dOCUMENTA (13) the film follows different protagonists and their partly very practical and comprehensive approach to the works and the art circus. The ways how people with or without an art expertise approach and appreciate the inspirations gives a very unique insight on the meanings of art and culture.

German title: ART’S HOME IS MY KASSEL
Festivals: Kassel
83min | HD | DSLR | DCP | DVD | original German/English/Chinese/Dutch version with German or English subtitles available

Production:
Gebrüder Beetz Filmprod.
Köln GmbH & Co. KG
Breite Str. 110
50667 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-28065913
koeln@gebrueder-beetz.de
www.arts-home-is-my-kassel.info

Distribution:
www.realfictionfilme.de

ART WAR
by Marco Wilms

Art is a weapon! This motto still holds true in Cairo. After 30 years of autocracy, President Mubarak was swept away by his people. Now the street belongs to them, the young rebels and artists. Graffiti sprayers and painters make the walls speak. They recount the days of fighting in blood-smeared portraits, the time of anarchy in wild collages, the attempts of liberation from a suppressed sexuality in obscene pictures. Walls become a chronicle of the rush of events; electro pop and rap supply a thrilling soundtrack. Euphoria is followed by overpainting and destruction. Snipers are at work, aiming at the protesters’ eyes. The revolution is no more romantic than this underground art, whose aim is to provoke and take risks, is accommodating.

In one episode, director Marco Wilms draws a line back to the historic murals of the age of the Pharaohs. In a country with a high illiteracy rate, such traditions become a tried and tested medium of revolt. In a wild tour de force through the past two years of permanent and radical upheavals, ART WAR shows the dangerous dance on the volcano as a trip driven forward by the colours and rhythms of the Egyptian painters and musicians. (DOKLeipzig, Cornelia Klauß)

German title: ART WAR
Awards/Festivals: DOKLeipzig / Honorary Mention;
52 or 90min | DCP | original Arabic/English/German version with English and German subtitles available

Production:
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www.heldenfilm.de

www.facebook.com/pages/ART-WAR/224618117681436
A documentary about right-wing movements worldwide – and their completely wrong interpretation of ‘aryanism’ – a phenomenon which began with French philosopher Arthur de Gobineau and went on with the Nazis. Filmmaker Mo Asumang sets out for a tour de force into the abyss of the political evil and finds out that the Aryans originally come from an area which belongs to Iran nowadays.

THE ARYANS is a personal journey into the madness of racism during which she meets German neo-Nazis, the US leading racist, notorious Tom Metzger and Ku Klux Klan members in the alarming twilight of the Midwest.

German title: DIE ARIER
92min | HD | DVD | German, English or French version

“People want to see us, because our faces reflect the good old days,” says a member of the Peace Hotel Jazz Band. Hailing from Shanghai, the band is the oldest of its kind in the world, and the band members – ranging in age from 65 to 93 – all have their own story. Now they’re being invited to perform at the North Sea Jazz Festival in the Netherlands. The gig will be the highlight of their careers, but they seem to take it in stride. They do enlist young female singer Jasmine for the occasion, and shamelessly flirt with her.

At a leisurely pace and without any voiceover interruption, we watch as they prepare for their trip to Europe and the performance. In between, the musicians talk about their lives in China during the Japanese occupation, the nationalists, the Americans and the Cultural Revolution. Their passion for music has protected them from the ravages of time, but it has also left its mark on them. And these old fellows aren’t the least bit interested in making the switch to today’s generation. They’re respectable gentlemen, professional musicians – the kind of guys you can’t help but hold dear to your heart.

German title: AS TIME GOES BY IN SHANGHAI
Festivals: Hof, Shanghai IFF, IDFA Amsterdam, HotDocs/Montreal, Margaret Mead FF New York
52 or 90min | DCP | HD | DVD | original Chinese version with German or English subtitles available

This film is about the criminal activities of multinational nuclear enterprises in Africa. It shows how uranium mining by French, German, British, Canadian and American companies causes the slow death of millions of people, it describes the dangers of gangs and terrorists illegally acquiring nuclear material, it proves how tons of European and American nuclear waste are dumped on African soil – and it shows how ruthlessly the nuclear industry lobbies African governments to invest in nuclear power.

German title: ATOMIC AFRICA
Awards: Best Green Report – Green Screen Eckernförde;
Festivals: Nature Vision Ludwigsburg; Uranium Film Festival Munich; Environmental Film Festival Washington
52 or 90min | HD | DVD | English or German version
**BABUSCHKA, WHERE ARE THE GUESTS?**

by Nicola Alice Hens

“\text{I know, for German standards, I’m a really bad beer drawer. But I give my best.}” Fatima passionately works in Berlin’s Café Zoo for 10 years now, and brings some Senegalese hospitality in this genuine German bar. The place has become her second home and her colleges – most of them immigrants as well - are the replacement for her family she left back in Africa. “Two or three days off, that’s too much for me!” she announces convincingly. Only on a quiet working day, she becomes impatient. A portrait of an energetic women, inspired by Alain Cavalier.

German title: **BABUSCHKA, WO SIND DIE GÄSTE?**
15min | S-16 | DCP | ProRes | Mpeg4 | DVD | original German version with English or French subtitles available

**BACK TO THE SOUTH**

by Steffen Weber

The political refugee Fiston Massamba has stranded on his escape route from Congo in Morocco. After five years he risks one last attempt to reach Europe. But instead of taking one of the infamous refugee boats, he follows a rumour that sends him thousands of kilometres back to the south. The documentary accompanies Fiston on his adventurous trip with a fake passport all the way down south to Senegal. Will his dream to reach Europe via this offbeat route finally become true?

German title: **ZURÜCK IN DEN SÜDEN**
65min 50sec | HD | original French/Lingala version with German or English subtitles available

**THE BALTIC COAST FROM ABOVE**

by Silke Schranz, Christian Wüstenberg

In the tradition of Yann-Arthus Bertrand’s Home, THE BALTIC COAST FROM ABOVE brings the Cineflex camera technology to Germany’s Baltic Sea shores: The audience is taken on a surprising discovery trip following the old Hanseatic trading routes, overviewing the tragic destinies of once great mansions as well as looking at summerly tourist invasions at white sandy beaches. All of nature, wildlife and human activity are presented in this perspective that makes us marvel at the world anew – all the more when discovering beauty a little less known as Werder Islands or the town of Lübeck, a masterpiece of brick architecture.

German title: **DIE OSTSEE VON OBEN**
84min | Full HD | DCP | German or English version

World Sales: Vidicom Media GmbH Schulterblatt 58 20357 Hamburg, Germany tel. +49 (0) 40-60088480 office@vidicom-tv.com www.die-ostsee-von-oben.de

Distribution: www.comfilm.de
Krista is Germany’s top model: She is Miss Germany. Discovered by a young farmer in East Frisia, she is about to be built the trademark of the European agri-food industry. But her down-to-earth nature keeps balking at its recovery operations. With loving care and empathy, the documentary explores the folly of Krista’s career – the story of a German high-yield cow.

German title: **DIE SCHÖNE KRISTA**

Awards: Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’; shortlisted Best Documentary – German Film Award LOLA

Festivals: Hof, Luebeck. 52 or 91min | HD | DCP | color | original German/English/Italian version with German or English subtitles available

**BEAUTIFUL KRISTA**
by Antje Schneider and Carsten Waldauer

**THE BEETHOVEN FILES**
by Hedwig Schmutte and Ralf Pleger

Ludwig van Beethoven’s work is legendary – and already was while he was still alive. He is famous around the world, and yet little is known about the conditions under which his music was composed. One thing is certain: he composed most of his masterpieces AFTER the onset of his deafness.

When he composed his famous 9th symphony, he wasn’t able to hear a thing! A deaf composer? How is that possible? 200 years after Beethoven’s death, THE BEETHOVEN FILES casts light of one of the biggest mysteries of music history.

German title: **DIE AKTE BEETHOVEN**

52min | HD | German version with English subtitles

**BECAUSE I WAS A PAINTER**
by Christophe Cognet

“I hardly dare say it, but for a painter, the beauty of it was incredible. It was absolutely necessary to reproduce, represent and show it, in order to preserve it for the future.”

(Zoran Music, survivor from Dachau)

The film conducts an unprecedented investigation of secretly created artworks in Nazi concentration and death camps. It converses with the rare handful of living artists who survived the camps and with those who curate their art: about the emotions the works conjure, their marginalization, their signatures or anonymity, their style, as well as the representation of horror and extermination.

But perhaps above all, it takes a long look at the drawings, wash drawings and paintings held in collections in France, Germany, Israel, Poland, Czech Republic, Belgium and Switzerland. While transiting among these fragments of clandestine images and the vestiges of the camps, the film offers a sensitive quest amid faces, bodies and landscapes to explore the notion of artwork and confront the idea of beauty head-on.

The stakes are disturbing, but perhaps we can thus better imagine what the camps were truly like, and experience the honor of an artist, no matter how small or fragile the gesture of drawing is.

**BECAUSE I WAS A PAINTER**

German title: **DIE AKTE BEETHOVEN**

Festivals: Rome. 104min | HD | Cinemascope | original French version with German or English subtitles available

**BECAUSE I WAS A PAINTER**

Production: Augenschein Filmprod. GmbH
Jonas Katzenstein & Maximilian Leo Neusser Str. 5-7 50670 Cologne, Germany
info@augenschein-filmproduktion.de &
La Huit – Stéphane Jourdain
www.lahuif.com

Photos © Tom Kretschmar

**BEAUTIFUL KRISTA**

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**THE BEETHOVEN FILES**

Production: Gebrüder Beetz Filmprod. Berlin
Heinrich-Roller-Str. 15 10405 Berlin, Germany
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info@gebrueder-beetz.de
**BEHIND THE SCREEN**

by Aung Nwai Htway

A son dissects the marriage of his parents, who were film icons in 1960s Myanmar (then known as Burma). It turns out the heartrending scenes they acted out on the silver screen are a pretty accurate reflection of their real lives. While the camera slides across the glamour photos from their heyday, the filmmaker looks on, entranced. He grapples with the incredible fame of his parents. Now that he is reconstructing their relationship, he sees the old film footage through different eyes – as if it might contain the answers he didn’t get as a child, when his parents separated. This merging of family history and film excerpts creates a magical mix of fact and fiction, or – as the son calls it – “the real and the celluloid wedding.” The son’s public revelation of how things went wrong is an emancipatory act, as divorce is still a big taboo in Myanmar. But the filmmaker doesn’t publicly jump onto the barricades. Rather, he keeps things personal, showing the pain caused by the divorce, both for him as a child and for his parents. He also shows how, 50 years ago, ambitions in Myanmar in the area of film were in line with Hollywood: the first film his parents appeared in together was called ‘Sweet Sixteen’.

Festivals: Wathann FF, IDFAmsterdam a.o.
35min | DCP | DVD | b/w | original Burmese version with English subtitles available

**BELTRACCHI – THE ART OF FORGERY**

by Arne Birkenstock

A mesmerizing, thought-provoking yet surprisingly amusing documentary on the life and times of Wolfgang Beltracchi, who tricked the international art world for nearly 40 years by forging and selling paintings of early 20th-century masters. A larger-than-life personality who was responsible for the biggest art forgery scandal of the postwar era.

German title: BELTRACCHI – DIE KUNST DER FÄLSCHUNG

Awards: nominated for German Film Award LOFA
93min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

**BEYOND METABOLISM**

by Stefanie Gaus and Volker Sattel

First triangles, then hexagons – the hexagon as the geometric DNA of an erratic architectural structure with an eery lack of scale. Slowly, in the succession of hallways, apertures, views, and spaces, an enormous construction is disclosed. Already in its first images, Beyond Metabolism conveys a fascination for a utopia of architecture that imagines life in future societies in flexible, large structures, expandable at will. We find ourselves in the interior of the International Conference Center in Kyoto, which was built in 1966 by the Japanese architect Sachio Otani – a student of the famous Kenzo Tange. Fragments of documentary archive material recall what may be the most significant event of all time at this place, the 1997 World Climate Change Conference. The heart of the film, however, are interviews conducted in situ and observations on the preparations and operations of such conferences. For instance, a simultaneous interpreter with a peaceful voice remembers the difficulties of that huge environmental conference with participants and observers from over 158 countries. She had accompanied the course of the meeting in small booths hidden in the walls, equipped with hexagonal windows. The conference ended with the decision on the first and to date only treaty under international law on climate protection, the so-called Kyoto Protocol.

German title: BEYOND METABOLISM

Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM EXPANDED CINEMA
40min | HD | 16:1 | DCP | Dolby 5.1 | original English/Japanese/German version with English subtitle

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**BEYOND METABOLISM**

by Stefanie Gaus and Volker Sattel

ARCHITECTURE | ENVIRONMENT | POLITICS | ARTS | CULTURE | JAPAN

First triangles, then hexagons – the hexagon as the geometric DNA of an erratic architectural structure with an eery lack of scale. Slowly, in the succession of hallways, apertures, views, and spaces, an enormous construction is disclosed. Already in its first images, Beyond Metabolism conveys a fascination for a utopia of architecture that imagines life in future societies in flexible, large structures, expandable at will. We find ourselves in the interior of the International Conference Center in Kyoto, which was built in 1966 by the Japanese architect Sachio Otani – a student of the famous Kenzo Tange. Fragments of documentary archive material recall what may be the most significant event of all time at this place, the 1997 World Climate Change Conference. The heart of the film, however, are interviews conducted in situ and observations on the preparations and operations of such conferences. For instance, a simultaneous interpreter with a peaceful voice remembers the difficulties of that huge environmental conference with participants and observers from over 158 countries. She had accompanied the course of the meeting in small booths hidden in the walls, equipped with hexagonal windows. The conference ended with the decision on the first and to date only treaty under international law on climate protection, the so-called Kyoto Protocol.

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**BHAVINI – I JUST WANNA DANCE**

by André Hörmann

Bintou is an intimate portrait of a young woman from Burkina Faso.
She loves to lead a modern lifestyle and dreams of becoming a famous dressmaker. Suddenly her life is turned upside-down when she has to take responsibility of her own daughter again, a child that she gave birth to after a violation…

German title: **BINTOU**

64min | DCP | HD | Dolby 5.1 | Blu-ray | German, English or French version

**BIRDS**

by Ulu Braun

There it stands, the vulture. Majestically spreading its wings. Holding its position, it scours the open area. The other birds scrutinise their territory as well. Quo vadis, bird? Ulu Braun participated at Berlinale Shorts in 2013 with FORST. His latest film BIRDS looks at the life of birds in urban habitats. They apply their instinctive behaviour to the developed environment. What role do humans play therein? Bags and umbrellas become bushes, buildings become monoliths and people become organisms. The birds are forced to come to terms with a world that they are not responsible for.

German title: **BIRDS**

Festivals: Berlinale / SHORTS

15min | HD | 16:9 | Dolby 5.1 | no dialogues
BLENDER
by Susann S. Reck

Blender is an autobiographically inspired documentary.
The title stands for a 1100 meter high mountain at the foothills of the Alps, where my parents
founded an open home for the mentally ill and gave it the name of the mountain, BLENDER.
The film documents the period of a year. Why did four of the six protagonists have to leave the home
during shooting? This question is also connected to my childhood, where patients were coming and
going all the time. Of course the reasons for it are understandable: Disappearing from the Blender is
often associated with alcohol, violence, death and schizophrenia.
The film is an ensemble film and the episodes revolve around the comings and goings of the patients.
The episodes are introduced in a light, almost serene way and condense as the film progresses to grief
and drama. The protagonists themselves are appealingly direct and natural. They are aware of their
situations and act out of their own inner logic. BLENDER is not primarily about craziness or being
different. Against an impressive natural backdrop the film follows diverse forms of human existence
following their lonely paths through life.

German title: BLENDER
105min | DigiBeta | German or English version

BLOODSISTERS
by Ulrike Westermann

No, there is nothing normal about menstruation! It spoils dough and sausages, it is never
shown on tv and you – do you talk about it? Three directors from three continents explore female
normality. They search for the unfamiliar in their own culture and discover the familiar in the others.
The interviews with young and old, with straight and lesbian women, with Germans, Cameroonian
and New Zealanders – Maori woman included, reveal amazing parallels and amusing details regarding
menstruation.

German title: BLUTSCHWESTERN
23min 30sec | DVD | DCP | 16:9 | original German/English/French version with German or English or French subtitles

THE BOEHME CASE – THE WONDROUS LIFE OF A LEFT-HANDED MAN
by Heinz Brinkmann

All three of them are sporty types: the twins Matthias and Wolfgang Boehme as well as their older
brother Hans-Werner. But only one takes the successful step from the 1960s GDR into the inter-
national world of high performing sports: Wolfgang, a handball talent of highest order. Left-handed.
He attends boarding school at the age 13, followed by a sports school and the merchant navy –
always away from his mother and father. When sport was misused in the years of the Cold War it was
difficult for him to find his place in life. He is the captain of the national team. Then something incon-
ceivable happens: he is exemted just before the 1980 Olympics in Moscow and is compelled to
detrain.

German title: FALLWURF BÖHME – Die Wundersamen Wege eines Linkshänders
90min | b/w & color | PAL | HD | stereo | original German version
**BONNE NUIT PAPA**

*by Marina Kem*

The feature length documentary BONNE NUIT PAPA tells the life story of the Cambodian Dr. Ottara Kem through the eyes of his daughter, Marina Kem. Tracing the footsteps of his life she immerses herself deeper and deeper into the history of Cambodia’s ideological wars and towards her Cambodian family and identity.

**German title:** BONNE NUIT PAPA

52 or 100min | HD | DCP | b/w & color | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

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**BOSTERI UNTERM RAD**

*by Levin Hübner*

Bosteri is a village in the middle of the Kyrgyz steppe, neighbored by meadows with wild horses, snowy peaks of the Tian Shan and one of the world’s largest mountain lakes. Between the empty huts at the beach a Ferris wheel rises up into the sky, that only runs for two months of the year.

An encounter with the people that summer has left behind.

**German title:** BOSTERI BENEATH THE WHEEL

24min | DCP | Blu-ray | HD | DigiBeta | DVD | original Kyrgyz/Russian version with German or English subtitles

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**BOUCHBENNERSCH OTTO**

*by Janina Jung*

Bouchbennersch Otto was born as Otto Mueller in Emmerichenhain, Germany in 1907. He witnessed two World Wars, was trained as a bookbinder and later became a police-servant for the community.

He announced news in Emmerichenhain and the surrounding villages with a bell. Otto was known all over town. And he was different. Unlike all the others.

**German title:** BOUCHBENNERSCH OTTO vom Umgang mit der Andersartigkeit

29min | HDcam | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

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A young man takes a deep breath in and out again, then he swallows air to fill his lungs. Meditation and therapy, exercises for breath through breath control, artificial lungs and the voluntary transition boundary to the edge of unconsciousness.

From the first to the last breath, from the martial artist to the boys’ choir: as simple and self-evident breathing seems at first glance, so complex and effective it is when we look closer.

The film BREATH lives from the recent discovery of an everyday action that every person exercises every day a thousand times.

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German title: ATEMWEGE – Abseits des Selbstverständlichen
Festivals: Hof, Stranger Than Fiction NRW Germany 2014
74min | HD (mov, mp4, ProRes 422) | original German version with English subtitles available

BRUNDIBÁR
by Douglas Wolfsperger
BERLIN | ORAL-HISTORY | YOUTH | THEATRE | NS-POLITICS | MIGRATION | SOCIETY

Holocaust? Again? That’s the first reaction of the members of the youth theatre company at Berliner Schaubühne when they hear about their newest project. They shall play the children’s opera ‘Brundibár’, famous for its being performed at the concentration camp in Terezín/Theresienstadt.

This is not a highly theoretical history lesson at school, and so they are thrown into the maelstrom of history when they travel to Terezín to learn about the terrors of the Third Reich and the place where Brundibár played such a crucial role. The group is accompanied by Greta Klingberg, a charismatic old lady from Israel and one of the few survivors of the original cast of ‘Brundibár’. She takes the youngsters on a trip back in time and slowly, they start questioning their attitude towards German history.

83min | HD | DCP | b/w & color | original German version with English subtitles

BRUGARACH
by Ventura Durall, Salvador Sunyer, Sergi Cameron
CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | HUMAN INTEREST | NATURE | RELIGION

Bugarach is a tiny village in southern France where everyone lives a quiet life, isolated from the world; until the day that the international media spreads the news that Bugarach is the only place that will allegedly survive doomsday. Five characters face the alleged end of the world in Bugarach: Slide, the magician boy who sees the event as a great opportunity to become famous; Uranie, a millennial who has a plan for his salvation; Mirko, a boy obsessed with weapons who wants to protect the village; and Monsieur Pouce, a scholar who seems to know everything about the region and who claims to have located the body of Christ underneath the mountain.

D-day is approaching and fear, hope, faith, fame or greed are emerging. A fable in the shape of an existentialist comedy about the spiritual crisis of the West.

German title: BUGARACH – Chronik eines Weltuntergangs
91min | DCP | original French version with German or English subtitles available

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CAFE TA’AMON, KING-GEORGE-STREET, JERUSALEM
by Michael Teutsch

Cafe Ta’amon, King-George-Street, Jerusalem Golda Meir drank coffee here and so did Shimon Peres. The Ta’amon is one of the oldest cafes in Jerusalem and it is world famous. It has been a meeting place for radical Leftist-political-activists, artists, politicians and the literati. Israel and its political development have been fervidly debated here – in the past as well as today. The cafe is history in a microcosm. Established in 1936, a Jewish family took it over again in the 60s. Together with Hamis, a Muslim, they cater for their guests day after day. The director precisely documents their everyday life. He shows the bistro, its owners and customers. He moves away from them to investigate stories and comes back again – to Ta’amon. A record of contemporary history.

German title: Cafe Ta’amon: King-George-Street, Jerusalem
Awards/Festival: Audience Award/Duisburg, DOKfest Munich, IFF Montreal, IFF Jerusalem
87min | HDcam | DVD | Blu-ray | 16:9 | original version with English or German subtitles available

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CARAVAN IN A ROOM
by Hazem Alhamwi

How can you keep your humanity in a dictatorship where you’re educated to erase in yourself any singularity? In his early years, the Syrian painter and filmmaker Hazem Alhamwi found his own way to live and to feel free, drawing obsessively in his own room. But in 2011, finally, the Revolution started. The Syrian people went out in the streets, facing Al-Assad’s army. Hazem Alhamwi found himself unable to face his terror immediately. How could he stay paralyzed in such an important moment in his destiny? Going back to his remote memories, from his childhood to nowadays, Hazem Alhamwi tells a culture of fear and the will of freedom of a whole country.

German title: CARAVAN IN A ROOM
69min | HDcam | original Arabic/English/German/French version with English or German subtitles available

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CAROUSEL OF LIFE – THE TRADITIONAL ORCHARD
by Klaus Scheurich

The carousel of life – constantly turning. Just as the seasons follow one another inevitably, life too takes its course. Every creature must struggle on its own for survival. Hunter and hunted, plant and tree. And yet, all living things are dependent on each other. Each needs the other. And this interplay of species is demonstrated strikingly in the orchard. Because even man has a place here: he intervenes, creates and takes – and has a vital impact on the diversity of life. There is no beginning and no end. The carousel of life continues to turn.

German title: KARUSSELL DES LEBENS – DIE STREUOBSTWIESE
52min | HD | English (52min) or German (44min) version

World Sales:
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The city of Ordos, in the middle of China, was build for a million people yet remains completely empty. Ordos is not so much a place but a symbol of babylonische hype. But nothing will change – as long as people believe.

Kangbashi was built to house 2 million people and is still almost entirely vacant – a monument of the dizzying discrepancy between sense and value which the global financial crisis has provided with additional momentum, rather than leading it to collapse. From incredulous establishers and travelling shots of the gloomy ghost town, a haunting cello soundtrack by Hilda Gudnadottir and a narrative text by Michael Ende, Konrad Kästner composes a veritable eye (and ear) opener. (Kasseler Dokfest)

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German title:
KATHEDRALEN
Awards/Festivals: Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’; Karlovy Vary, Braunschweig, Kassel, Amiens, interfilm Berlin, 15min | DCP | DVD | Blu-ray | HCam | ProRes | English version with narrator Simon Newby or German version with narrator Herrmann Beyer (+ English subtitles) available

CATHEDRALS OF CULTURE
A 3D film project about the soul of buildings
by Wim Wenders, Michael Glawogger, Michael Madsen, Robert Redford, Margreth Olin, Karim Ainouz

“If buildings could talk, what would they say about us?”

CATHEDRALS OF CULTURE offers six startling responses. This 3D film project about the soul of buildings allows six iconic and very different buildings to speak for themselves, examining human life from the unblinking perspective of a manmade structure. Six acclaimed filmmakers bring their own visual style and artistic approach to the project. Buildings, they show us, are material manifestations of human thought and action.

CATHEDRALS OF CULTURE explores how each of these landmarks – a concert hall, a library, a research institute, a prison, a cultural center and an opera house – reflects our culture and guards our collective memory.

German titles:
KATHEDRALEN DER KULTUR – ein 3D Filmprojekt über die Seele von Bauwerken
Wim Wenders: Berliner Philharmonie – Berlin, Deutschland
Michael Glawogger: Russische Nationalbibliothek – Sankt Petersburg, Russland
Michael Madsen: Haftanstalt Halden – Halden, Norwegen
Robert Redford: Salk Institute – La Jolla, Kalifornien, USA
Margreth Olin: Opernhaus – Oslo, Norwegen
Karim Ainouz: Centre Pompidou – Paris, Frankreich

Festivals: Berlinale / SPECIAL 6x26min | 156min | 3D DCP | English or German version
**CHAJA & MIMI**
by Eric Esser

Chaja Florentin and Mimi Frons have been best friends for 83 years. Born and raised in Berlin, they had to escape to Palestine with their families in 1934. They talk about their complicated relationship with Berlin in a Tel Aviv café where they meet everyday. A film about friendship, homeland and identity.

German title: **CHAJA & MIMI**

Awards/Festivals: Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’; The Second of ‘Walter Benjamin Short Film Competition’ in Portbou; The Third of ‘Lange Nacht des politischen Kurzfilms Mainz’; Bucharest Jewish Film Festival, Festival de Cinema de Girona, exground FF Wiesbaden, dokumentART...

10min 35sec | DigiBeta | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | HD (ProRes) | 16:9

original German/Hebrew version with English, German, Hebrew, Spanish, French, Italian or Romanian subtitles

**CHALK ON CONCRETE**
by Helene Vogel and Julia Vogel

Since 2004, russian law allows young men to choose: Instead of military service, they can apply for ‘Alternative Civilian Service’. Applicants to the alternative service face a host of bureaucratic obstacles, as well as widespread prejudice and misinformation in russian society. This is what drives Elena, a human rights activist of the ‘Soldiers Mothers St. Petersburg’. Tirelessly she struggles with authorities, demonstrates in front of conscription offices, educates about the alternative service. Konstantin and Ivars are both fighting lengthy court battles in order to stay true to their pacifist beliefs. Anton was in the army. Like many, he thought it ‘would make a man’ of him. After six months of mistreatment by comrades and superiors, he decided to desert.

German titles: **KREIDE AUF BETON**

85min | DCP | DVD | original Russian version with German or English subtitles available

**CHAMPIONS OF THE DRUM AND BELL – Pigeon Breeders of Old Beijing**
by Martin Gronemeyer and Michaela Kirst

From the days of celestial emperors to a booming state capitalism, Beijing’s skyline was reshaped completely. But the people still love pigeons. Everyday the flocks circle above. Following three pigeon breeders in one of the last historic quarters, we see a country’s dramatic change, reflected in a traditional pastime. 52 year old Bao Jianhua has been raising show pigeons since he was a boy. Behind the loft above his small courtyard home loom the imperial Bell Tower. Bao’s greatest joy are pigeon whistles, tiny flutes light enough for a bird to carry. When the pigeons fly, music fills the air. But times are a-changing. Nobody makes the whistles anymore. And many of his friends abandon the beautiful old breeds to raise plain grey homing pigeons, fit for racing. Like shrewd Hou Yuzhi, who hopes to win money and fame in the competitions. And young Song Chen, the wunderkind of Beijings pigeon races, who must work hard to defend his champion-status.

German title: **HIMMEL ÜBER PEKING – Die Taubenzüchter der Altstadt**

43min | XDCAM | HD | original Chinese version with English subtitles available
‘Tears of Sound’ is how legendary double bass player Charles Mingus described saxophonist Charlie Mariano’s music. Born in Boston to Italian immigrants, Mariano played with jazz greats Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie before moving to Europe in the 1970s. Here he could make a living as a jazz musician for the first time, and inspired a whole generation of European musicians.

In 2008-2009, we visit Charlie in Cologne, where he had been living for the past twenty years. We film with him at home and during concerts, and meet other musicians who had been playing with Charlie for years. At 85, Charlie is still playing his saxophone for a living. In 2008, his health takes a turn for the worse. But Charlie is not about to give up. He mobilizes all his strength to continue playing because that is what he loves most.

In March 2009, Charlie plays his last great concert. Musician friends from his past forty years gather on stage to celebrate his 85th birthday. Three months later, Charlie Mariano dies.

German title: CHARLIE MARIANO – LAST VISITS
99min | HD | English or German version

Winter casts a very special, magical spell. It’s a time for traditions and customs: snowmen come to life, Santas wander through brightly-lit Christmas markets, much to the delight of the children. But indigenous animal life pays no heed to this human idyll. For them, winter is a time of austerity. Squirrels, boars and lynx all have their own strategy for surviving the winter. But despite an amazing ability to adapt, the fight for survival is hard.

The film takes us on a journey through a wintry landscape underscored by a childlike enthusiasm for the cold season. Snow-covered fairy-tale landscapes, unusual wildlife stories and touching tales about animals create a special heart-warming winter atmosphere that not even adults can escape.

German title: WINTERWELTEN
52min English version | 44min German version | HD

For thousands of years, people were able to live in sync with their ‘body clocks’. In our modern world, however, this is scarcely possible. Work, school or studies – for many people the day starts with the sound of an alarm clock. Still tired and sleepy, we try to get up to start the day. So why don’t we simply go to bed earlier the night before, despite having firmly decided to do so? Late risers have a difficult time of it and also have a bad reputation. Young people, in particular, are seen as lazy and apathetic, because they won’t get out of bed in the morning. But that is simply untrue. For most people, our society is up too early. This does not fit with our ‘body clocks’, which is supposed to stipulate when we sleep and when we rise.

In the modern world, however, this is scarcely possible. Many live a life that is not in harmony with their own natural rhythm and consequently suffer from lack of sleep with fatal consequences for their health. Sleep disruptions, depression, diabetes and even dementia are all linked to a disruption of the ‘body clocks’. But when we understand how we tick, we can live better and healthier lives – and we can treat illnesses much more effectively.

German title: CHRONOBIOLOGIE – Wie tickt der Mensch?
52min | HD | German or French version
Who does really decide how our cities develop? Travelling to London, Madrid and Hamburg, the film tries to find an answer to that question. We discover the concept of the city of London as a profit-oriented business in a global competition with other metropolises. In Hamburg, we follow the reconfiguration of a troubled city district within the framework of the 2013 IBA. But we also experience how citizens develop an original artist’s district on their own. Just 20 km from the centre of Madrid, an illegally-constructed urban district has appeared, managed by the citizens. Authorities tolerated this situation for decades. But in the past few years, the area has gained in economic value due to the growth of the city. The result: houses are demolished; families are thrown out onto the street.

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**German title:**
STADT DER ZUKUNFT – ZUKUNFT DER STADT
45min | HD | DVD | original version with German or English subtitles available

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**CLINICAL ROMANCE**

by Elke Margarete Lehrenkrauss

Can you rekindle a love that seems impossible? CLINICAL ROMANCE is a film about the choice between love and self-determination. An intimate chamber piece full of tragicomic verbal duels.

**German titles:**
Romaneze o.T.

**Awards/Festivals:**
Best Documentary of Students Competition – ASTRA FF Sibiu; Blicke – Ruhrgebiet’s FF; DOKLeipzig
59min | HD (Apple Prores 422) | DCP | original German version with English or French subtitles available

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**German titles:**
Romanze o.T.

**Awards/Festivals:**
Best Documentary of Students Competition – ASTRA FF Sibiu; Blicke – Ruhrgebiet’s FF, DOKLeipzig
59min | HD (Apple Prores 422) | DCP | original German version with English or French subtitles available

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**CODENAME PIRAT**

by Eric Asch

Can you rekindle a love that seems impossible? CLINICAL ROMANCE is a film about the choice between love and self-determination. An intimate chamber piece full of tragicomic verbal duels.

**German title:**
DECKNAME PIRAT

**Awards/Festivals:**
Max-Ophüls-Preis, Saarbrücken;
59min | HD (Apple Prores 422) | DCP | original German version with English or French subtitles available

**Contact:**
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**German title:**
DECKNAME PIRAT

**Awards/Festivals:**
Max-Ophüls-Preis, Saarbrücken; 81371 Munich, Germany
59min | HD (Apple Prores 422) | DCP | original German version with English or French subtitles available
A concierge is a man for every occasion and question. No part of human nature is alien to him. He fulfils all wishes and is always of the utmost discretion. However, we are granted the privilege to have a look behind the scenes. The film CONCIERGES introduces three concierges at grand hotels to the viewer, and takes a closer look at their daily life. Berlin, Moscow, Paris – these cities have always formed a thrilling triangle and the guests of the grand hotels are a representation of this. We ask three concierges for their advice, their assessment and their experiences.

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German title: HOTEL CONCIERGES Berlin Moscow Paris
90min | Xdcam | DVD | German, French or English version

Rents have been exploding in Berlin, but it’s not as bad as London or Paris yet. Students, families and pensioners can still live in the centre of Berlin. But affordable homes are getting scarce. International investors have also discovered the flat-trade in Berlin. The losers of that boom are the tenants.

The filmmakers house was bought by investors of a ‘dynamic’ estate company, who want to convert the rental flats into freehold flats. But sales don’t override contracts, and tenants in Berlin-Mitte have 7 years security of tenure.

Katrin Rothe and her neighbours start to fight for their rights and against the gentrification. It’s a new world director is confronted with. It consists of accusations, pretence surveyor’s appointments and provocations. Her lawyer says, she’s to ignore it all. But it’s hard. When the potential buyers attend her flat, the documentary continues with drawn and animated characters. The estate agent is getting more and more impatient while viewings. But also Katrin is getting more and more silent and anxious.

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German title: BETONGOLD
Awards: 3sat Documentary Prize / Duisburger Filmwoche, Grimme Award
52min | HD | DVD | Blu-ray | VoD | original German version with English subtitles available

Completion in 2012 – Up until today, Ferdinand Magellan and Sir Francis Drake are two of the most fascinating discoverer figures in world history. They were the first to circumnavigate the globe with their ships. Their missions would not have been possible without the uncontrollable willpower that inspired them. But in addition to their personal ambition, they were forced by the political interests of the world powers Spain and England. This documentary project sets out to reveal the true motives behind their journeys. Both navigators were not only adventurers – they were sailing on a confidential command from their rulers: Magellan had to find the shortest way to the Spice Islands, Drake the North-West Passage. Scientists have discovered where and how the files were manipulated to cover the real aim of the expeditions: nothing less than world domination. It’s a story about fame, power and influence. The visual style of the two films will be an eye-opener in the field of docu-dramas: Instead of focusing on reenactments, we transform the past into a CGI universe. Real actors melt into an animated world to create a unique, cutting-edge look. Keeping the strong emotions of real characters combined with the endless possibilities of digital worlds allows for a completely new, innovative approach to this historical subject.

German title: DIE EROBERUNG DER WELT – Ferdinand Magellans und Sir Francis Drakes geheime Missionen
2 x 52min | HD | original German version dubbed English or French available

World Sales:
Global Screen GmbH
Sonneneinstr. 21
80331 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-244129550
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info@globalscreen.de
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www.fernsehbuero.de
Country music does not enjoy a good reputation – at least not in Europe. Country is barely within the boundaries of good taste. Country? that’s botoxed women and flabby men with guitars? mediocre pop-music with bad lyrics that consult varying quantities of mother, homemade pie, cold beer, and USA – and throw them together in good measure to define the concept of ‘home’.

But Country? That’s also Johnny Cash, Townes van Zandt and Steve Earle. It stands for an America that many only know from hearsay. A value-conservative America, that considers its fellow human beings with empathy. The epigones, or Outlaws as they were also called, were songwriters, despairing of themselves and their country while at the same time being full of hope, full of faith. They exist again in today’s America: They’re the children of the legends: Steve Earle’s son Justin, Johnny Cash’s son John, and Songwriter Liz Rose daughter Caitlin.

German title: **COUNTRY ROADS – DER HERZSCHLAG AMERIKAS**
89min | HDcam | original English version with German overvoice, narrator and subtitles available

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**CREATURES OF THE VESUVIUS**
by Martin Prinoth

The Camorra clan has been dominating the city of Naples for centuries. By now it is part of people’s everyday life and it’s tolerated like an unavoidable and naturally given reality by most part of the population. The film’s essayistic way of storytelling enters the hermetic space and makes the city’s archaic structures of power perceptible.

German title: **DIE KINDER DES VESUV**
Awards/Festivals: Best Short Documentary – Napoli Film Festival; 41 Parallelo Screenings NYC, Duisburg, Hamburg 28min | HD XDCAM | 16:9 | DCP | Blu-ray | original version with German, English or Italian subtitles available

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**CRUISING IN HIGH HEELS**
by Simon Jaikiriuma Paetau

CRUISING IN HIGH HEELS is a film about two apocalyptic sissies between Bogota, Berlin and Cartagena. One is a dancer, the other a filmmaker.

What starts as a documentary about a dancer, melts slowly into a performativ film. It shows, how they both transform what they live together, into movement. The performances they create play with the in-between, male female, and the appropriation of spaces and expectations projected onto them.

Jair says “I didn’t came here to talk about if I am latin, gay or not gay. In reality I came here just to be and to be here breathing.”

German title: **CRUISING IN HIGH HEELS**
43min | HDcam | DVD | Blu-ray | 16:9 | ProRes | original Spanish version with English subtitles available
On the 27th of January 2010 I visited Christa Wolf in Pankow and we discussed a film I wanted to make called THE CURSE OF MEDEA based on her novel MEDEA-STIMMEN. Over tea and under the constant sound of aircraft landing in Berlin we discussed Medea the immigrant, treated with suspicion in her host country Korinth and how Christa came to tell the story. We were joined by the voices: Medea, Jason, Agameda, Glaucke and the spirit of the end of the GDR era.

German title: FLUCH DER MEDEA
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM EXPANDED CINEMA
45min | HD | original German version with English subtitles available

DEFUNCT by Michael Richter tells the story of traumatized soldiers coming home from their mission unable to lead a normal life anymore. Their emotional disturbances are so serious that they are in need for psychiatric therapy. The disorders result from a war which we have emotionally avoided so far. The feature length documentary portrays also an armored regiment being trained for their operation in Afghanistan.

German title: AUSGEDIENT
80min | HD | original German version with English subtitles available

DMD KIU LIDT is an anti-music film which follows the Austrian pop-rock band Ja, Panik and their social circle of fellow musicians in Berlin and Vienna. It is a chronicle of a group that centers on the conditions of music-making in a state of prolonged sadness dominated by the shadow of a permanent crisis (of capitalism). The actors – all musicians – play themselves, acting out a consciously absurd drama about art, depression and love.

JA, PANIK created quite a stir in the German-language music scene with their three consecutively released albums: The Taste and the Money (2006), The Angst and the Money (2009) and DMD KIU LIDT (2011). Unanimously celebrated, they have been named one of the most important bands working in the German-speaking music world today. The group’s cheerful use of a specific kind of bricolage, which pieces together a broad spectrum of literary and theoretical allusions: from Walter Benjamin, over John Cage to Bertolt Brecht, forms their sound and lyrics. Along with fellow musicians Christiane Rösinger (former Lassie Singers), Hans Unstern, Jens Friebe, Maurice Summen and Chris Imler, they represent a singular force in contemporary German music. The anti-music film DMD KIU LIDT aims not only to be a chronicle of this very talented group of musicians, but also to create a filmic equivalent to the German term diskurspop (discourse pop). The term loosely describes a music that desires to be a serious and accessible expression of (post-)pop, while it is conscious of being a result of theoretical, literary and social discourse.

German title: DMD KIU LIDT
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM
55min | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available
**DOUBLE MURDER**
by Korinna Krauss

“And then?” – “Then I killed him. Stabbed him to death.”

Korinna Krauss is talking to Recep Soylou, a man who was imprisoned in Germany for 14 years for a double murder and then deported to Turkey where he has since run a bakery together with his parents. The film’s dispassionate response to its protagonists and their naïve openness makes it all the more oppressive. The monstrousness of what is being discussed is fragmented and thrown into contrast by small absurd everyday stories of the father and son in their bakery.

A man and his deed. A thriller.

**German title:** DOPPELMORD

**Festivals:** DOK.fest Munich, Int. Festival der Filmhochschulen Munich, Sehsüchte Berlin,

**Awards:** nominated for Starter Filmpize

35min | DigiBeta | DVD | original German/Turkish version with German or English subtitles available

**Production:**
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**EMPTILANDS**
by Ben Brix, Felix M. Ott, Steffen Martin

Emptylands stages picturesque memories between oral history and surreal reenactment. It’s an embodied journey through associations that is linking personal myths to cultural ones. A striving protagonist enters those immaterial archives and scenic landscapes to find individual spaces. If any escape there is, it arises from legitimation of his own struggles and hopes.

Shot in Kassel, Berlin, Salzburg, Amiens, and Dhaka over a period of almost two years while working and touring with a theatre piece ODYSSEY COMPLEX, which was profoundly interwoven with Emptylands footage, the final movie interrogates this journey beyond geographical and political borders. Personal freedom in times of cross-cultural deficit is an issue to be discussed in a stoic sense through using individual thoughts to activate a collective change. Emptylands subjects this idea and embraces the risks of an introspective, a hunt, and a continuous quest.

**German title:** EMPTILANDS

**Award:** Golden Hercules – Kasseler Dokfest

13min 10sec | HD | 1080p | Japanese spoken words, not translated

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**ENGELBECKEN**
by Gamma Bak and Steffen Reck

Essayist film about a time when the directors Gamma Bak (West Berlin) and Steffen Reck (East Berlin) were a couple for a few years trying to live a relationship in spite of the Berlin Wall. 25 years after the Fall of the Wall this film is a striking historic document taking us back in time.

A personal story remembering a defection from East to West using an unexpected exit visa to leave East Berlin in 1988. Collaging personal documents, archival material in Super-8, film and theatre clips and Secret Police Files (STASI) the film also reflects the dilemma of guilt and betrayal over feeling forced into exile. Steffen Reck was a member of the legendary East Berlin avant-garde theatre group ZINNOBER whose work is shown in ENGELBECKEN.

**German title:** ENGELBECKEN

**Award:** Golden Hercules – Kasseler Dokfest

13min 10sec | HD | 1080p | Japanese spoken words, not translated

**World Sales:**
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www.engelbecken.net
ENVOYS OF THEIR KIND
by Patrick Richter and Jessy Asmus

The documentary ENVOYS OF THEIR KIND follows a scientific taxidermist. Marco Fischer tells about the lack of interest by our society in the quiet disappearance of the species. In his workshop he prepares each animal, as an envoy, that can hopefully bring back the spirit of nature to the visitors of the long forgotten museums of natural history.

German title: GESANDTE IHRER ART
Festivals: Bandits Mages Bourges, Kasseler Dokfest
11min 20sec | HD | 16:9 | PAL | 25fps | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
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EUROPE’S NEW BEGINNING – Johannes Hoffmann and Saarland
by Boris Penth

The film approaches the journalist and politician Johannes Hoffmann, his time as the first prime minister of Saarland and the referendum in 1955. These years that have greatly polarized the population of Saarland, were groundbreaking for the beginnings of political Europe after the Second World War. Especially in the anniversary year of the Elysée Treaty, it is important to remember that the beginning of the Franco-German reconciliation and efforts to achieve a political Europe have also taken here in Saarland their way. The failure of Saarlands independence in the 50s was still the beginning of a major European political unification.

German title: EUROPAS NEUBEGINN – Johannes Hoffmann und das Saarland
60min | HD | DVD | Blu-ray | original German version with English or French subtitles available

Production:
carpe diem Film & TV Prod. GmbH
Barbara Wackernagel-Jacobs
Kettenstr. 2
66119 Saarbruecken, Germany
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www.carpediem-filmproduktion.de

EVERYTHING THAT RISES MUST CONVERGE
by Omer Fast

Everything that rises must converge follows four real-life adult film performers as they start their day at home, get in their cars and drive to work in a nondescript residential house in the San Fernando Valley in Southern California. At the same time a woman records the narrative of an illegal border crossing in a sound studio. A director sits behind the studio window. His name: Omer Fast. An adult film producer recalls his entry into the business in an interview. Another woman sits in her car and watches two workmen exhume a large dinosaur egg on the front lawn of a house in suburbia. A hybrid between documentary and fiction, Omer Fast’s film merges different levels of reality. Documentary scenes are injected with several fictional characters whose stories revolve around the same residential house where the adult film performers work. Shown as a grid of four simultaneous images, the film weaves together scenes of everyday life with moments of beauty, as well as the strange and absurd moments of apparent convergence.

German title: EVERYTHING THAT RISES MUST CONVERGE
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM EXPANDED CINEMA
56min | Digital | DCP (2K 2D 24 f/sec) | 16:9 | Dolby 5.1 | English or German version

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THE EXPLORERS CLUB  series in five parts
by Andrew Davies, Benjamin Leers, Sebastian Lemke, Michael Schomers, André Schäfer

Amidst the urban jungle, hidden between deep concrete canyons, one can find one of the world’s most exclusive clubs. The Explorers Club in New York is the epicentre of the last heroes – it is the meeting place for the planet’s most distinguished explorers. 105 years ago, at the time when the club was first formed, travelling was arduous. Vast parts of the world were not yet mapped, and the world was full of adventure. The world has become a smaller place, hardly a patch is left that has not yet been mapped and travelled to. The greatest amazements appear to have been harvested. Today, adventure is to be found in the details. The ‘how’ is more important than the ‘where’.

The series THE EXPLORERS CLUB accompanies and features five modern explorers on their travels all over the world. Over the course of five episodes we explore the world, and let ourselves drift to all corners of the earth and open our eyes to the great unknown amongst the seemingly ordinary.

Via exotic landscapes, sparse deserts and bleak and threatening ice, we follow these women and men on their journey, faraway from classic nature documentaries.

German title: DER CLUB DER ABENTEURER eine fünfteilige Serie
5x45min | DVD | XDCam | German or English version

FALLING APART
by Despina Grammatikopulu

My friends in Greece are my access to another, maybe a foreign world. Although I grew up and live in Germany they always gave me the feeling to be part of their world, to be home in Greece. But all the change in their lives through the economic crisis let our worlds move apart. I think I don’t quite understand them any longer. But if I don’t understand my friends, then I fear loosing connection to Greece.

I met my friends last summer and talked with them about their lives in the crisis Greece is experiencing the last years. They explain and show a country that is falling apart. Emotionally and very intimate they draw a picture of a generation without any future left.

(Despina Grammatikopulu)

German title: IM FREIEN FALL
70min | HD | original Greek version with English or German subtitles available

THE FAMILY
by Stefan Weinert

Families of people murdered along the border of East and West Berlin tell their stories.

“A two-year suspended sentence for firing the fatal shot. Imagine that.” A compelling introduction in today’s Berlin to protagonist Irmgard B. mother of a son shot dead in 1986. In an oppressive, authoritarian state, the bereaved are also the victims. Even now, more than a quarter of a century on, they still suffer the trauma of their loss. One woman protagonist doesn’t know what happened to her son’s corpse; another still doesn’t know how and why her husband drowned at the former border; a third discovers photographs in a Stasi case file and is confronted for the first time with images of the dead body of his father. The film’s climax arrives in the form of a meeting between a marksman and the son of his victim.

German title: DIE FAMILIE

Festivals: Montreal, Zurich, São Paulo
Awards: Seal of Approval, Documentary of the Month (FBW), Most Valuable Documentary Award 2014 - Cinema for Peace
96min | HDcam | DigiBeta | b/w & color
original German version with English or French subtitles and Portuguese textlist available

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THE FAMILY FROM UP THERE – Alternation of Generations in the Alps
by Rita Ziegler
AGRICULTURE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | ETHNOLOGY | RURAL AREAS | ECONOMY | LONGTERM

2003 - 2005 The Gislers, an alpine farming family of Switzerland, live amongst themselves on an isolated spot and relocate four times a year together with their cattle. From early on, their children learn to collaborate and bear responsibility.

2012 The four children of the Gisler family are young grown-ups. The parents are divorced. The oldest son want to take over the farm. But it may not be economically viable. The documentary is an appreciation of an idyllic childhood and a disenchanted growing-up and it shows how important solidarity can be for a farming family in difficult times.

German title: WIR VON DA OBEN – Generationenwechsel auf der Alp
90min | HD | original version with German or English subtitles available

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THE FARMER AND HIS PRINCE
by Bertram Verhaag
AGRICULTURE | ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT | FOOD | RURAL AREAS

The film depicts a Prince, who has the vision to feed the world with organic agriculture and heal damaged nature. Alongside his charismatic farm manager David Wilson, he has been pursuing this goal for 30 years. This unique collaboration portrays how organic agriculture works, and the benefits emanating from it.

The Prince of Wales had always felt strongly about the concept of sustainable farming and realised that other farmers could only be swayed to cultivate their land without poisons and in harmony with nature, if they were presented with a practical example. This example turned into an exceptional success and now, farmers from all over the UK travel to the Duchy Home Farm, to gather the courage and knowledge they need, to convert to organic themselves.

German title: DER BAUER UND SEIN PRINZ
52min | HD | 16:9 | DVD | original English version with German voiceover available

Production:
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Bertram Verhaag
Herzogstr. 97
80796 Munich, Germany
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fax: +49 (0) 89-5234742
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FEEDING CITIES – A CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE
by Irja Martens
AGRICULTURE | CONTROVERSY | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | ENVIRONMENT | FOOD | SUSTAINABILITY

The documentary shows the global struggle for future food markets. Where will we grow our food in future? In the countryside, on the flat roofs of industrial buildings, in communal city gardens or in gigantic industrial zones just outside the city? And what consequences will this have for rural areas and for the slums of cities?

The film takes place in Berlin, Amsterdam, Basel and in Indian megacities. As we follow the trace of tomorrow’s food supply, we encounter idealists, visionaries, controversial figures and coolheaded businessmen. The film centres on the confrontation between fundamentally different philosophies: should food production follow the masses into the cities? Or should we change the way we eat and strengthen rural economic circuits? Is it already much too late for that?

German title: WIE WIRD DIE STADT SATT? Der Kampf um die Nahrungsmärkte der Zukunft
Festivals 2014: Festival du Film Vert, Switzerland; Ecozine Film Festival, Spain
53min | HD | DVD | original Version with German or English subtitles available

Production:
fechnerMEDIA GmbH
Gabriele di Stefano
Schwarzwaldstr. 45
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shop.fechnermedia.de [DVD]
When ERKINGUL and her friends meet for tea they talk about toxic cyanide, about bride kidnapping and where to buy the fattest sheep. The women of the NGO KAREK are mothers and wives but first and foremost they are activists, who challenge after a toxic spill in their village not only the nearby goldmine but also the Kyrgyz government. What begins in 2005 as a protest against the mine gradually expands for the women into political resistance. On April 7, 2010 revolution breaks out in Kyrgyzstan. ERKINGUL, the boss of the group, makes a leap into the Kyrgyz parliament and continues her struggle against the gold mine now as a politician. Her friends stay back in the village. SAKISH slogs through in the goat wool trade, TAMARA is now responsible for the management of the NGO and ASEL leaves for Siberia in order to earn money. Based on the story of ERKINGUL and her fellow activists, the film shows how these women take a stand for themselves and their way of life.

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German title: BLUMEN DER FREIHEIT
Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE
96min | DCP | HDcam | Blue-ray | 16:9 | original Kyrgyz version with German or English subtitles available
FOOTPRINTS OF WAR
by Maximilian M. Mönch
WAR & PEACE | ENVIRONMENT | HISTORY | ECOLOGY | SOCIAL

FOOTPRINTS OF WAR explores two antagonistic logics: one of strength and conflict versus the logic of life and balance. Beyond the physical scars let on a landscape, our planet is confronted by serious side effects of modern warfare that are more than just expensive to clean up. What does a war mean to our ecosystem and how is the global eco-balance affected? Can a modern war be eco-friendly? What does it mean when a military machinery is put into motion, what resources are needed and how much are used? A search around the globe and through history: the battlefields of World War I as the birthplaces of modern ecocide.

German title: NATUR UNTER BESCHUSS
44min | HDCam SR | English or German version

World Sales:
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info@firsthandfilms.com
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THE FOREST IS LIKE THE MOUNTAINS
by Christiane Schmidt and Didier Guillain
DAILY LIFE | PORTRAIT | HUMAN INTEREST | PoV

On the main road you walk on sand. From the hilltop you hear the whole village. In the summertime you can cool down in the river. Anamaria is looking for her love. To Aronela her faith is important. During the period of Ceauşescu Elena used to work in the tractor factory. Aron is the local representative of the Partida Romilor. He feels responsible for his family and the village. Beniamin and Simon take us along to the forest. “The forest looks like the mountains, do you see that?” says Iosif. In the summer of 2004, Elena and Aron Lingurar asked us if we wanted to become the godparents of their daughter Anamaria. Since then we have seen each other almost every year and at some point we suggested making this movie portrait with them. Christiane Schmidt (Berlin) & Didier Guillain (Brussels)

German title: DER WALD IST WIE DIE BERGE
Original title: PADUREA E CA MUNTELE, VEZI?
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM
97min | DCP | original Romanian version with German, English or French subtitles available

Production:
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FOG
by Nicole Vögele
EXPERIMENTAL | ESSAY

A station in thick fog, tracks that disappear into the white mists and a figure, waiting. In between patches of mist a fox appears, looking for a scent in the wind. And then: bluster, shimmer, silence. And more fog. Views of nature merge with brief encounters. People living in their own worlds: an astronomer who, looking to the sky, would welcome the idea that we might not be alone in the universe. A musician hoping to meet the right woman one day. And a stableman for whom the world has always turned a little too fast. All are driven by their quiet longing to make contact, to not feel alone, to gaze into openness. Far from providing explanations, the film tries instead to help us perceive our inner hum, reaching out for an emptiness that cannot be grasped. In the end a clear view. The fox runs off, and we remain alone.

German title: nebel
Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE
60min | 1:1.85 | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available

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THE FOREST IS LIKE THE MOUNTAIN
by Nicole Vögele
EXPERIMENTAL | ESSAY

On the main road you walk on sand. From the hilltop you hear the whole village. In the summertime you can cool down in the river. Anamaria is looking for her love. To Aronela her faith is important. During the period of Ceauşescu Elena used to work in the tractor factory. Aron is the local representative of the Partida Romilor. He feels responsible for his family and the village. Beniamin and Simon take us along to the forest. “The forest looks like the mountains, do you see that?” says Iosif. In the summer of 2004, Elena and Aron Lingurar asked us if we wanted to become the Godparents of their daughter Anamaria. Since then we have seen each other almost every year and at some point we suggested making this movie portrait with them. Christiane Schmidt (Berlin) & Didier Guillain (Brussels)

German title: DER WALD IST WIE DIE BERGE
Original title: PADUREA E CA MUNTELE, VEZI?
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM
97min | DCP | original Romanian version with German, English or French subtitles available

Production:
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FOOTPRINTS OF WAR
by Maximilian M. Mönch
WAR & PEACE | ENVIRONMENT | HISTORY | ECOLOGY | SOCIAL

FOOTPRINTS OF WAR explores two antagonistic logics: one of strength and conflict versus the logic of life and balance. Beyond the physical scars let on a landscape, our planet is confronted by serious side effects of modern warfare that are more than just expensive to clean up. What does a war mean to our ecosystem and how is the global eco-balance affected? Can a modern war be eco-friendly? What does it mean when a military machinery is put into motion, what resources are needed and how much are used? A search around the globe and through history: the battlefields of World War I as the birthplaces of modern ecocide.

German title: NATUR UNTER BESCHUSS
44min | HDCam SR | English or German version

World Sales:
First Hand Films – Esther van Messel
Neunbrunnenstr. 50
8050 Zurich, Switzerland
tel.: +41 44-3122060
info@firsthandfilms.com
www.inselfilm.info

THE FOREST IS LIKE THE MOUNTAINS
by Christiane Schmidt and Didier Guillain
DAILY LIFE | PORTRAIT | HUMAN INTEREST | PoV

On the main road you walk on sand. From the hilltop you hear the whole village. In the summertime you can cool down in the river. Anamaria is looking for her love. To Aronela her faith is important. During the period of Ceauşescu Elena used to work in the tractor factory. Aron is the local representative of the Partida Romilor. He feels responsible for his family and the village. Beniamin and Simon take us along to the forest. “The forest looks like the mountains, do you see that?”, says Iosif. In the summer of 2004, Elena and Aron Lingurar asked us if we wanted to become the Godparents of their daughter Anamaria. Since then we have seen each other almost every year and at some point we suggested making this movie portrait with them. Christiane Schmidt (Berlin) & Didier Guillain (Brussels)

German title: DER WALD IST WIE DIE BERGE
Original title: PADUREA E CA MUNTELE, VEZI?
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM
97min | DCP | original Romanian version with German, English or French subtitles available

Production:
HFF MUNICH
University of Television and Film
Bernd-Eichinger-Platz 1
80333 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-689574030
fax: +49 (0) 89-689579940
f.reising@hff-muc.de
www.hff-muc.de
www.padurea-film.com
The greatest love, the deepest disappointment – and most of all the courage to be oneself! Five protagonists with five amazing life stories to tell – about being different, searching for meaning, identity or a place to belong to.

A community based on veganism, feminism, pacifism and free love. Soon it attracted most of Europe’s cultural radicals. Through their eyes we unfold the uncanny similarities between our time and what they revolted against in the early 20th century.

German title: MONTE VERITA – DER TRAUM VOM ALTERNATIVEN LEBEN

80 or 58min | DCP | Prores | XDCAM | b/w & color

original English/German version with English, German or French narration, voice over and/or subtitles available

FREAK OUT! – THE ALTERNATIVE MOVEMENT BEGINS

by Carl Javér

CULTURE | GENDER IDENTITY | ORAL-HISTORY | HUMAN INTEREST | SEX | SOCIAL BITOPO

Long-haired barefoot people. Free love! Veganism! Experiments with drugs... The sixties, right? Not quite. Over a hundred years ago just outside the little village Ascona, in southern Switzerland, the alternative movement was born. This is their forgotten story.

FREAK OUT! – THE ALTERNATIVE MOVEMENT BEGINS tells the untold story of a group of middle-class kids who in 1900 revolted against their time and started the original alternative community.

A community based on veganism, feminism, pacifism and free love. Soon it attracted most of Europe’s cultural radicals. Through their eyes we unfold the uncanny similarities between our time and what they revolted against in the early 20th century.

German title: MONTE VERITA – DER TRAUM VOM ALTERNATIVEN LEBEN

58 or 85min | DCP | Prores | XDCAM | b/w & color

original English/German version with English, German or French narration, voice over and/or subtitles available

GARDENIA – Before the Last Curtain Falls

by Thomas Wallner

ARTS | CULTURE | GENDER IDENTITY | HUMAN INTEREST | MUSIC | AGING

The greatest love, the deepest disappointment – and most of all the courage to be oneself! Five protagonists with five amazing life stories to tell – about being different, searching for meaning, identity or a place to belong to.

The documentary gives insight into the astonishing and moving experience of a group of people, who in their old days had the courage to try something new.

In 2010 seven ageing travesty artists were asked by Belgian star choreographer Alain Platel to return into the spotlight once more for a glamorous show called ‘Gardenia’ – in their old days it became the highlight of their lives! It was a tough decision – all of them knew that time has left its physical traces. Still, they accepted the offer that should transform their lives fundamentally.

In June 2012, after two years of touring, they will perform their last show on stage. What does life look like ‘after Gardenia’?

German title: GARDENIA – Bevor der letzte Vorhang fällt

90min | HD | German version with English subtitles

GANGSTER OF LOVE

by Nebojša Slijepčević

SOCIETY | MIGRATION | PORTRAIT

25 years ago, Nedjeljko Babic left his job as a carpenter to start his God-given career: matching lonely men and women. He became famous very quickly – thanks to his skills, but also to his nickname ‘Gangster’ which he got solely for his image:

He always wears sunglasses. Lately his job has become more difficult than ever – women do not want to live in the villages any more. In recent years, Gangster’s clients have mostly been uneducated middle-aged men, seemingly desperate to find a life partner. When Maya, a young and pretty Bulgarian woman, comes to Gangster looking for a new husband, it seems that it will be an easy case for him. But the fact that she is a single mother and a foreigner seems to make it a mission impossible.

World Sales:
Rise And Shine World Sales UG
Schlesische Str. 29/30
10997 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-47372980
info@riseandshine-berlin.de
www.riseandshine-berlin.com
www.facebook.com/GangsterTeVoli
vimeo.com/68117530

Original title: GANGSTER TE VOLI

Festivals: Zagreb Dox, Hot Docs, Karlovy Vary, Raindance, Zurich IFF, Hot Springs IFF
80 or 58min | HD | DCP | DVD | Blu-ray | English, German or Croatian version

Production:
Gebrüder Beetz Filmprod.
Heinrich-Roller-Str.15
10405 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30-69466910
fax: +49 (0) 30-69566915
info@gebrueder-beetz.de
www.beetz-brothers.de

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

German title: MONTE VERITA – DER TRAUM VOM ALTERNATIVEN LEBEN

58 or 85min | DCP | Prores | XDCAM | b/w & color

original English/German version with English, German or French narration, voice over and/or subtitles available

GANGSTER TE VOLI

by Nebojša Slijepčević

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German title: MONTE VERITA – DER TRAUM VOM ALTERNATIVEN LEBEN

58 or 85min | DCP | Prores | XDCAM | b/w & color

original English/German version with English, German or French narration, voice over and/or subtitles available
**GEGO, Gertrud Louise Goldschmidt**

by Nathalie David

GEGO, Gertrud Louise Goldschmidt (b. 1912 in Hamburg, d. 1994 in Caracas) was one of the leading artists of her generation in Latin America, known above all for her large-scale spatial installations. She regarded her works not as sculptures but as structures or drawings in space. Gego studied Architecture under Paul Bonatz at the Faculty of Architecture of the Technical College in Stuttgart from 1932 to 1938. Gego’s training and practice as an architect had a major influence on her art, in that the forming of space remained a central concern of her artistic practice. Gego was of Jewish origin and had to emigrate to Venezuela in 1939, at the age of 27. In 1987, Gego was sent some questions by the Senate in Hamburg as part of a study entitled ‘The Exile and Emigration of Hamburg Jews’, led by Professor Trapp. Gego filled out the questionnaire, but never returned it to Trapp. After her death, the Fundación Gego found her written answers and some reflections and notes about her works. N. David combines present-day footage from Caracas and archive footage of Gego’s work and life with Gego’s texts and statements from curators, art historians and family members.

**German title:** GEGO, Gertrud Louise Goldschmidt
Festivals: FIFA Montreal 2014
54min | HD ProRes | Spanish/German/English version with German or English subtitles available

**GERMANY’S REUNIFICATION – A DOUBLE EDGED SWORD**

by Roland Blum

Even when everything seems to be cast in stone, it is possible to change a seemingly unchangeable world in a peaceful way. Even before the 3rd of October 1990 shared fundamental ideals were already uniting people with environmental concerns from both East and West, causing them to join forces immediately after the Fall of the Wall. But along with the GDR’s areas of natural beauty – the ‘family silver’ – came huge problems of environmental damage.

And the speed with which the wall came down meant that the East Germans had to give up a great deal that was worth keeping. This film tells the success story of this time of transformation, accompanies people on the ups and downs of the changes, up to the present time. Moving between three time frames it provides an intense picture of the development of former East Germany.

**German title:** MITGIFT
97 or 88min | DCP | 2K | original German version with English narration and subtitles available

**A GIRL’S DAY – Lower Saxony out of the series 16 x Germany**

by Rosa Hannah Ziegler

An emotional and strongly subjective movie about the question of what ‘happiness’ is. At 19, Yasmin is in search of her own happiness and trying to understand her life, as well as the difficult relationship with her mother, a former heroin addict. After spending many years in foster care and incessantly moving from one place to another, Yasmin now lives in her own small apartment in the provincial German town of Walsrode – the closest thing to her idea of home. The film takes us into Yasmin’s everyday life, shows her clubbing the night away, and traces the steps of her effort to build a life for herself. Yasmin keeps a diary which she calls her ‘book of thoughts.’ Yasmin’s answer to the monotony of this German backwater is her unquenchable thirst for life and her longing for a true home. Her observations and perspective on life are unique, touching and sometimes, magical. She draws strength from her arduous past (in youth homes and foster families) and shows how, despite the daily routine and painful memories, it is worthwhile to stand up and fight.

**German title:** 16 x Deutschland – Niedersachsen
15min | HD | Blu-ray | HD | original German version with English subtitles available
**THE GREEN PRINCE**
by Nadav Schirman

This real life thriller tells the story of one of Israel’s prized intelligence sources, the son of a top Hamas leader. Under the code name ‘The Green Prince’, he is recruited to spy on his own people for over a decade. Focusing on his complex relationship with his handler, this is a gripping account of terror, betrayal, impossible choices – and of a friendship that defies all boundaries.

Set against a backdrop of recent events in the Middle East, Nadav Schirman’s THE GREEN PRINCE is a multi layered psychological thriller that will challenge people’s preconceptions of the on-going conflict in the region. Combining exclusive first person testimony, dramatic action sequences and never-before-seen archive footage, this is a powerful cinematic experience – a spy thriller that will have audiences on the edge of their seats. The film was produced by Schirman along with two-time Oscar winner Simon Chinn (‘Man on Wire’ ‘Searching for Sugar Man’) and Oscar winner John Battsek (‘One Day in September’, ‘The Tillman Story’).

**German title:** THE GREEN PRINCE
**Festivals/Awards:** Sundance 2014 – Audience Award: World Cinema: Documentary
**99min | HD | original English/Hebrew version**

**Contact:**
Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen (HFF) "Konrad Wolf"
Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11
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tel.: +49 (0) 331-6202564
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**World Sales:**
Global Screen GmbH
Sonnenstr. 21
80331 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89-2441295500
fax: +49 (0) 89-244195520
info@globalscreen.de
www.globalscreen.de

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**GIRL’S WINGS**
by Hanna Salzer

During an international youth exchange for young dancers in Israel, the lives of two young women convene: Hiba (17), from Sheikh Dannoon, a Muslim village located in Israel, meets Laura (18), from Berlin. Girl’s Wings searches for moments of freedom and finds them: when the young girls float across the dance floor, when they stand together under a waterfall, or when the complexities of the world bring forth tears.

What exactly does ‘freedom’ mean to Laura and Hiba? The film raises this question and documents two ways of dealing with one’s own freedom. Girl’s Wings aspires to cast doubt upon the prevailing image that young people from religious Muslim families must be viewed per se as ‘unfree’ while young people growing up in the Western world are ‘free’.

**German title:** MÄDCHENFLÜGEL – Eine Begegnung zwischen Laura und Hiba
**80min | DCP | 16:9 | original version with German, English or Arabic subtitles available**

**Contact:**
Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen (HFF) "Konrad Wolf"
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14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 331-6202564
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**THE GREEN STAR**
by Aline Fischer

After he finished his high school, my boyfriend Michi made a trip to Latin America in order to meet the Natives. I was 19 years old and deeply in love with him. He went into the Peruvian jungle and was killed there. The film tries to depict the backgrounds of the incident.

**German title:** DER GRÜNE STERN
**Festivals:** Max-Ophüls-Preis
**90min | HD | German or English version**

**Contact:**
Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen (HFF) "Konrad Wolf"
Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11
14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg, Germany
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distribution@hff-potsdam.de

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**GUERILLA CHEFS**
*by Jonas Gernstl*

Max and Felix, in the mid-20s, have gone through the hard school of star gastronomy and are obsessed with cooking. Their vision: a high class restaurant. Their plan: an eight month trip through Asia – in search of inspiring kitchens and cooks. The two Berliners travel through eight countries and 25 cities, a thrilling journey from simple cookshops to international high class gastronomy. Guerilla Chefs is a serious, adventurous, humorous story of growing up, a tale of friendship, the pioneer spirit, of successes and setbacks, of fascinating encounters – and a farewell which is harder than expected.

German title: **GUERILLA CHEFS**
Festivals: DOK.fest Munich, 89min | HD | original German/English version with English/German subtitles available

**HAPPY SERIOUS SAD**
*by Franziska von Malsen*

This documentary film by Franziska von Malsen covers the joy and challenges a gay couple face as they navigate the process of adopting a child and welcome a five year-old boy with a story of his own into their family. They’ve been together for the past 13 years, they’re successful professionals and they’ve relocated together from Munich to New York and on to London – now Dario and Markus want to start a family. In Germany, gay couples are not allowed to adopt children. Not so in England. The two men grapple with endless bureaucracy; lifted by hope and plagued by anxiety about what lies ahead. Franziska von Malsen accompanies Dario and Markus through this time of anticipation. She portrays the lives of a couple about to become parents – not, in the end, of a baby, but of a five year-old boy with a story of his own. HAPPY SERIOUS SAD relates how Dario and Markus gradually, sensitively come to embrace their son and his past.

German title: **VATER VATER KIND**
Awards/Festivals: nominated for First Step Award; DOK.fest Munich 62min | HD | original German/English version with English/German subtitles available

**HARVEST HAND**
*by Moritz Siebert*

A tiny village in Bavaria seems rather strange through the eyes of Fr. Cyriac from India – there is no internet but a lot of snow. The road regulations are sacred and people are dancing on tables. Cyriac is one of almost 500 priests from India currently recruited to make up for the lack of catholic priests in Germany. Hardly able to speak German, he finds himself in a village in Bavaria. Apart from learning the language, he has to learn to write his homilies and how to keep together his pastoral sheep – a difficult task. The film focuses on his visits to the sick and elderly – encounters which are characterized by mutual speechlessness and strangeness. Cyriac’s growing unease with the old people’s loneliness, and his own marginal authority engulf him in a deep crisis.

HARVEST HAND tells the story of his struggle for recognition and his process of coming to terms with his role in a secular society. A partly joyful, partly melancholic journey into believe, doubt, carnival and a lot of snow.

German title: **ERNTEHELFER**
Festivals: DOK.fest Munich 70min | HD | original German/English/Malayalam version with English subtitles available

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www.facebook.com/ERNTEHELFER2013

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Förhringer Allee 17
85774 Unterföhring, Germany
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info@megaherz.org
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80333 Munich, Germany
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franziskavonmalsen@gmail.com
Lutz Schelhorn has always been a rebel. In the 70s he protested against the Swabian bourgeois, then he became a rocker, and later, a Hells Angel. For Lutz, riding motorcycles, brotherliness and the ‘search for freedom’ was what it was all about.

30 years later, the image of the Hells Angels has changed: the myth of the rebels has been replaced by a fatal public image. The media usually associates the Angels with guns, drugs, and human trafficking. Lutz, who earns his money as a photographer, wants to counteract this image. He starts working on a book of photography, one which is intended to give the people of the Hells Angels a new face.

The film accompanies Lutz on a photo journey and opens doors to the otherwise very secret world of this legendary motorcycle club. The film also ponders where this negative image came from and who is responsible for it.

German title: EIN HELLS ANGEL UNTER BRÜDERN

Festivals: Berlinale Talents Doc & Script Station 2010; Max-Ophüls-Preis 2014, Saarbrücken
90min | 2D DCP | 1:1,78 | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

Contact:

[Contact information provided]

German title: HERR SCHULTZ STICHT IN SEE

Awards:
Special Mention – Nordische Filmtage Lübeck; Price of the Major of Koblenz, Best Editing / La Guarimba Amantea; 3rd. Audience Award, Kunstgriffrolle, Heide.

21min30sec | HD | original German version with English, Spanish, Italian or Portuguese subtitles

Production:
doppelplusultra GbR – Frank Müller Repsoldstr. 45
20097 Hamburg, Germany
www.doppelplusultra.de
mail@doppelplusultra.de
facebook.com/herrschultzsettsail

During the final days of WWII a drama took place at the salt mine of Altaussee in Austria. Serving as a huge repository for priceless art stolen by the Nazis, eight bombs threatened to destroy the mine.

Who rescued the thousands of paintings?

While the Nazis were in power, they plundered cultural property from every territory they occupied. This was conducted in a systematic manner with organisations specifically created to determine which public and private collections were most valuable to the Nazi regime. As the Allied forces gained advantage in the war and bombed Germany’s cities and historic institutions, the Nazis began storing the stolen artworks in salt mines and caves for protection from Allied bombing raids. One of these salt mines was in Altaussee in Austria. At the end of the war the entire depot included over 22,000 art-works. In April 1945, as the Allied troops approached the salt mine, Gauleiter August Eigruber gave orders to blow it up. He had eight bombs each weighing 500 kg transported into the tunnels. The destruction was prevented at the last minute. Today, a number of people claim to have been the true saviours of the art treasure, amongst them the Americans. That’s what George Clooney tries to tell his audience in his feature film ‘The Monument Men’. But is his version of events really the truth?

German title: HITLERS MONA LISA

52min | HD | German or English version

World Sales:

NEW DOCs
Raderberger Str. 145
50968 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221-16819743
sales@newdocs.de
www.newdocs.de
www.florianfilm.de
The film uncovers the formidable capacities of four Auschwitz survivors who courageously walked through the horrors of their past. All now in their eighties, they speak out and campaign so that no one has to ever again experience what they did. In their lectures, readings, concerts, with their art and music, they express their resolve for conciliation. The survivors show that as well as the incalculable suffering of the Holocaust, something else exists: the triumph of humaneness over inhumanity.

German title: MUT ZUM LEBEN
43min49sec or 58min36sec | HD | original German version with English or Chinese subtitles available

How I Learned to Love the Numbers is a New York film and at the same time the study of a young man suffering from an obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). The Berlin filmmaker Oliver Sechting (37) and his co-director Max Taubert (23) travel to New York with the idea of documenting the art scene there. However, the project is quickly overshadowed by Oliver’s OCD, and the two directors fall prey to a conflict that becomes the central theme of their film. Encounters with such artists as film directors Tom Tykwer (Cloud Atlas), Ira Sachs (Keep The Lights On), and Jonathan Caouette (Tarnation) or the transmedia artist Phoebe Legere seem more and more to resemble therapy sessions. At last, Andy Warhol superstar Ultra Violet succeeds in opening a new door for Oliver.

German title: WIE ICH LERNTE, DIE ZAHLEN ZU LIEBEN
88min | digital | DCP | English or German version

The House of the White Fathers
A self-governed retirement home for missionaries in a small South German village. A quiet life built upon memories of the mission and the incertitude of their remaining legacy in Africa. Stories traced in letters and depicted by unpublished material archived from the 30’s to this day.

Twenty clerics lead a nearly monastic life at a former missionary school, the place at which their path began and will also end. Portraits of the hard-working, faithful but also fragile members of a nearly extinct German mission, drawn between their glorified nostalgia and the reality they live in.

German title: DAS HAUS DER WEISSEN VÄTER
48 or 58min | HD | original German version with English subtitles available
Guenter Rohrbach is a film producer in the German cinema and television world. Rohrbach has produced the internationally acclaimed ‘The Boat’, developed the crime format ‘Tatort’, produced films from the well known German satirist Loriot and audience favorites such as ‘Schtronk’ and brought the first films of Rainer Werner Fassbinder on their way.

“I have always meddled” admits Günter Rohrbach, and he has constantly been committed to high quality television. All the more critical he sees some developments in contemporary German television.


German title: ICH HABE MICH IMMER EINGEMISCHT – Der Filmproduzent Günter Rohrbach
30 or 60 min | HD | DVD | Blu-ray | original German version with French or English subtitles available

When their economic situation worsened, Carmen and George Badea decided to leave Romania. The question in which country a better life would be possible was not the most important and it was more by chance that they decided on Germany. Lacking both contacts and German language skills, they spend their first winter in an abandoned garden house in Berlin.

The film accompanies the family for nine months, during which they are no longer on the streets, but are also without stable income. The film also captures their interaction with the authorities.

German title: ZUWANDERN
81 min | DCP | Blu-ray | original German and Romanian version with German or English subtitles available

Can you describe yourself?  Odenwald-Gay... or Gollum... or Klaus!  60-years-old... gay... slave!?  
A documentary portrait about Klaus Johannes Wolf, who decided to live as a slave. Chained on his bed, he’s telling about his decision to be a slave, his parents and what it means to be naked.  
Finally he leaves everything behind to go to a slave camp, to improve his slave life and become the perfect servant.

German title: DER UNFERTIGE
Awards: CineMAXXI Award for best short/midlenght – 8th Rome Film Festival, nominated for Best Short Film German Critics Award
48 min | digital file | DCP | DVD | DigiBeta | original German version with English or Italian subtitles available

Contact:
Jan Soldat
Jan.Soldat@yahoo.de
**IN SARMATIA**
by Volker Koepp

There are two contrasting ways to describe Sarmatia: as a region on the edge of the known world – that’s how the old Greeks saw it –, or as the part of Europe where the once carefully measured geographical centre of the continent is. However, you will probably look in vain for Sarmatia in your school atlas, it doesn’t exist as an administrative unit, and Google Maps won’t help either. Yet Sarmatia is not a chimera. Volker Koepp travelled there for his new film, generously allowing us to share his impressions and encounters in a both unknown and nearby region between Lithuania and Belarus, the Ukraine and Poland, which borders on the Baltic in the North and the Black Sea in the South. This historic landscapes has long made frequent appearances in his work, at least since 1972, when he made ‘Grüße aus Sarmatien für den Dichter Johannes Bobrowski’ (Greetings from Sarmatia for the Poet Johannes Bobrowski). Like Bobrowski, Volker Koepp recognises it as “that dreamland where all nations and religious would find their place if history had not ploughed it all up over and over again”. The rifts left by all this, especially in the people who live there, and how these people still manage to shine from inside, is beautifully depicted here. (DOKLeipzig/Ralph Eue)

**German title:** IN SARMATIA

**Festivals:** DOKLeipzig, Viennale

120min | DCP | b/w & color | original German/Romanian/Russian/Ukrainian version with English or German subtitles

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**INSIDE NATURES MARVELS – The first five parts of the ongoing series**
by Corinna Hackenbroch, Elmar Bartlmae, Rasmus Elsner

There are places in the world you will never forget, places of incomparable beauty, colorful nature and impressive indigene cultures. The authors Corinna Hackenbroch, Elmar Bartlmae and Rasmus Elsner visited five of these nature marvels producing a versatile series about the Iguazu Falls in Argentina/Brazil, the protected monitor lizard in Komodo, the floating villages of Halong Bay, the longest underground river in the Philippines and the Amazon river in Brazil.

**IGUAZU – THE BIG WATER:** The Iguazu Falls which straddle the frontier between Brazil and Argentina are among the biggest and most dramatic waterfalls in the world. Together with photographer Marcos Labanca, jaguar expert Augustin Paviolo and animal welfare activist Mara Anfuso Elsegood we discover the sheer beauty of the nature and wildlife in one of the last rainforest refuges for endangered species and meet their first inhabitants, the indigenous people of the Guarani.

**KOMODO – LAND OF THE DRAGONS:** The marine life of the Komodo islands is particularly diverse. In Eastern Indonesia, strong currents between the Indian and Pacific Oceans bring nutrient-rich waters to the area. There are 253 different species of corals and it is also the spot to meet the majestic giants: manta rays. But Komodo is probably most famous for the largest lizards on earth: the komodo dragon. Their attacks can be deadly, but still, the locals respect the predators and try to live with them side by side.

**HALONG BAY – THE DRAGON BAY:** With nearly 2000 islands, the UNESCO World Natural Heritage Ha Long Bay in northern Vietnam is one of the most impressive sights in South East Asia. In midst of the cragged rock islands we visit the floating village Vung Vieng where Giang and her family make their living diving for mussels, breeding pearls and selling handcraft to the tourists. On Quan Lan at the verge of Ha Long Bay the routines of daily live are totally different, just paused by an old traditional dragon boat race.

**AMAZON – NATURE IN ABUNDANCE:** The Amazon is the largest river on Earth and at the heart of an extraordinary ecosystem, supporting an abundance of colourful wildlife. The rainforest is still one of the least populated areas in the world, but the greed for more farmland puts pressure on its natural habitat. Nevertheless, the diversity of species here remains unrivalled in the natural world, and includes animals like the Amazon pink dolphins or manatees.

**PHILIPPINES – THE UNDERGROUND RIVER:** Close to the equator a belt of thousands of caves spans around the globe. We explore the longest navigable underground river, one of the most impressive caves systems in the world. The 8.2 km long river is core to the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park, a World Heritage Site since 1999. It preserves intact old growth forest, a wild range of wildlife and pristine white sand beaches of unspoiled natural beauty.

**German title:** WUNDER DER NATUR:

**IGUAZU – Das große Wasser | KOMODO – Land der Drachen | HALONG – Die Drachenbucht | PHILIPPINEN – Der Höhlenfluss von Sabang | AMAZONAS – Natur im Überfluss**

5x43min German version | 5x52min English version | HD
What are the pros and cons for prenatal diagnosis today? This is a question that many to be moms and dads need to answer nowadays. How much do we want to know about that little unborn baby and do we have a right to ‘not know’? We meet various ways of tackling the question as mothers, fathers and doctors share their experiences with us. (Kasseler Dokfest)

German title: **AM ANFANG**  
Awards: Nominated for the Golden Key – Kasseler Dokfest
79min | HD | original German version with English subtitles

**THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT**  
by Marcus Vetter and Michele Gentile  
CURRENT-AFFAIRS | POLITICS | HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | PORTRAIT

Fifteen years ago, over 100 nations dared to undertake an experiment that had been previously unthinkable. In a conference held in Rome, they enacted the Rome Statute, which gave birth to the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague in 2002. Whoever is brought to justice there is responsible for some of the most appalling crimes committed around the world.

Told from the perspective of Chief Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo, the film unfolds like a legal thriller, relating how the first internationally legitimated criminal court investigates war crimes from its base in The Hague. The cases include the suppression of the Arab Spring in Libya, possible crimes in the Gaza War and the recruitment of children soldiers in the Congo. Actress Angelina Jolie and the former Chief Prosecutor of the Nuremberg Trials, Ben Ferencz, support the Court and travel to The Hague for their first case, which concerns a Congolese militia leader. They want to convince the judges – and thus the world at large – that the use of children as soldiers is a crime against humanity. How far may the Chief Prosecutor’s team go? And can an international court function at all if powerful nations such as the U.S., China and Russia do not recognize it and know they will never be put on trial?

90min | HD | DCP | 1:1.85 | color | English version

**INTENSIVE CARE**  
by Eva Wolf  
HUMAN INTEREST | SCIENCE | SOCIAL | WORK | CULTURE | RELIGION | SOCIETY

The film INTENSIVE CARE depicts the everyday work of doctors and nurses at a Berlin ICU. It allows an insight into the mental and emotional challenges the staff is facing on a daily basis, dealing with decisions that have far reaching consequences for their patients. Often it is the staff of the intensive care unit – the doctors and nurses – that are confronted with difficult ethical questions that their patients haven’t yet had to consider.

Questions with no easy answers. How do we want to die, and how do we want to live?

German title: **INTENSIVSTATION**  
Festivals: Duisburg  
86min | HDcam | DigiBeta | Blu-ray | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available

**IN THE BEGINNING**  
by Josephine Links  
HUMAN INTEREST | SCIENCE | SOCIAL | WOMEN

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What are the pros and cons for prenatal diagnosis today? This is a question that many to be moms and dads need to answer nowadays. How much do we want to know about that little unborn baby and do we have a right to ‘not know’? We meet various ways of tackling the question as mothers, fathers and doctors share their experiences with us. (Kasseler Dokfest)

German title: **AM ANFANG**  
Awards: Nominated for the Golden Key – Kasseler Dokfest
79min | HD | original German version with English subtitles

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Ricardo Gama lives imprisoned in his own home, the internet being his only access to the outside world. For several days the attorney does not leave his flat, which is located at the Copacabana. On his blog he writes and reports about politics, corruption and criminal activities in Rio de Janeiro. As a result he only barely survived an assassination attempt in 2011 in which he suffered two shots to the head. A year later, Ricardo is running for the City Council of Rio de Janeiro. He sees these elections not only as a way into politics, but a path to freedom, also. While Ricardo runs his campaign on the internet, rival politicians are fighting for every vote on the streets with music and dancers. Through this single destiny a dark side of Brazil is depicted, the world public has not known yet.

German title: IM SCHATTEN DER COPACABANA
60min | HD | 16:9 | original Portuguese version with English or German subtitles available

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A young woman sets out to let go. I set out to let go, let go of everyday struggles and shambles. A ramble into the innards of the mountains and of my thoughts. Encounters and occurrences disturb the flow. But disturbances are welcome. They make you forget that you are lost. To walk away against everything, to become one with the unevenness. But there is this paradox of walking away: in the end, it’s all about arriving. And a bit, just a bit perhaps, about learning to let go.

An experimental mountain essay film.

German title: IN DIE INNEREIN
Festivals: DokLeipzig, dokumentART Neubrandenburg, Filmschau Baden-Württemberg, Bamberger Kurzfilmtage 2014
20min 28sec | DCP | HDcam | DigiBeta | DVD | Blu-ray | German/Swiss German version with English subtitles

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INTO THE NIGHT... 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. New episodes – original English version – among others are with: Boris Becker and Jamie Cullum, Francesco Vezzoli and Rufus Wainwright, Sasha Grey and Mary Ocher, Chris Dercon and Matthias Lilienthal, Günter Wallraff and Daniel Domtscheit-Berg.

With Josef Bierbichler and Ulrich Seidl – original German version.

German title: DURCH DIE NACHT MIT...
French title: Au coeur de la nuit avec...
each part: 52min | HDcam | original versions with German or French subtitles available

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JAMAICA’S COOL RACES – PUSHCARTS AND THE ART OF LIVING
by Annette Scheurich and William Lampert

Jamaica is famous as the home of reggae, rasta, laid-back Caribbean feeling – and pushcarts. These unique and mostly home-made hand carts are the typical mode of transport seen at the island’s lively and colourful markets. And their capabilities as fruit and veg stall, mobile kitchen or miniature shoe shop are as varied as the life stories of their charismatic owners…

German title: JAMAICAS COOLE RENNER – PUSHCARTS ODER DIE KUNST DES LEBENS
52min English version | 44min German version | HD

World Sales:
Albatross World Sales GmbH
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JEWELS OF GRIEF
by Mohamed Nabil

In Morocco, for years more and more women give birth outside of marriage, known as single mothers. In the predominantly Muslim country, this is still considered as a violation of law and religion but also of morals and traditions.

The documentary JEWELS OF GRIEF explores this phenomenon with the biography of two single mothers in Morocco – Nadia and Nezha – who are ostracized by family, society and the state and suffer discrimination. Besides the two mothers in the film, also representatives of religion, humanitarian organizations, human rights groups and the Moroccan government state to speak.

They explain their view of things, and illustrate the complexity of the dimensions of this phenomenon.

German: JUWELEN DER TRAUER
Festivals: Festival Marocains du monde, Salle de la commune, Kenitra, Morocco; International Festival of Cinema and Religion, Religion Today, Trento, Italy; Filmfest Frauenwelten Terre de femmes, Tübingen, Germany
73min | DVD | original Arabic version with English subtitles available

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JOURNEY TO JAH
by Noël Dernesch and Moritz Springer

A tale of the seeking and finding of a spiritual home in a foreign culture, one that follows people who are connected by one thing: music. The directors spent seven years shadowing two unique reggae artists - Gentleman and Alborosie – on their search for authenticity away from their societies in the land of Rastafari and reggae: Jamaica.

German title: JOURNEY TO JAH
Festivals: ZurichFF, IDFA Amsterdam,
92 or 52min | DCP | HD | DVD | Blu-ray | German/English version with English/German subtitles available

World Sales:
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www.journeytojah-film.com
Distribution:
www.zorrozfilm.de
Emma and her friends Ronje and Benjamin live in Gjesvær, a small village on the arctic island Magerøya. Their parents work as fishermen in family businesses. Winters are long in Gjesvær, in May there can still occur heavy snow storms. There are no cinemas or clubs in the remote village next to the North Cape.

What is life like in such a place, when you are 14?

German title: hin & weg
Festivals: Nordische Filmtage Lübeck, doxs! Duisburg
26min | HD | Blu-ray | DVD | 16:9
original Norwegian version with English or German subtitles, French textlist

JOURNEY WITH SOME RETURN
by Bernd Sahling

KAPTAN JUNE
by Barbara Trottnow

June Haimoff lives since the mid-eighties in Dalyan (Turkey) and is involved there in the protection of endangered sea turtles. When on their nesting beach a hotel should be built, she launched a global campaign, successfully, the hotel was not built and the Iztuzu beach is now part of a Special Protected Area. On site they all call her ‘Kaptan June’.

Before the Englishwoman stayed in Dalyan, she sailed with her boat through the Mediterranean. In December 2012, she celebrated her 90th birthday, but full of energy she continues to fight for the protection of the environment. Three years ago she set up a foundation, which is committed to preserve the natural habitat of sea turtles and to protect them from the effects of tourism. Since every year more and more tourists come to the beach. Most of them are day-trippers, intent on seeing some supposedly untouched piece of nature. The number of boats that offer trips to the ‘Turtle Beach’ has grown constantly. Kaptan June’s Foundation now offers all captains to provide the propellers of their boats with a kind of protective cage so the turtles are not injured.

German title: KAPTAN JUNE
Festival: Turkish FF Frankfurt, 1001 Belgesel FF Istanbul,
40min | HD | 16:9 | English or German version with Turkish subtitles available

LABORAT
by Guillaume Cailleau

A mouse is put to sleep, operated on, scanned in MRI, vivisected. It dies. It is a standard procedure in a lab, a meticulous routine. Single gestures are repeated over and over again. It is impossible to tell them apart, as it is impossible to tell apart, or count, the mice subject to them. A small film crew documents the work of the lab crew. Both crews follow their own protocol, preoccupied by their tools, their repeated actions. A film is constructed which documents scientific experiments, but also experiments with its own complicity in the procedures: it dissects itself and makes it’s own structure apparent. Between the lines, the distance to the object is lifted. The object becomes the subject, the viewer an accomplice. The images are seductive, the discomfort overwhelming.

German title: LABORAT
Festivals: Berlinale / SHORT
21min | 16mm onto DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | original German version with English subtitles
L’CHAIM! – TO LIFE!
by Elkan Spiller

L’Chaim! is an intimate portrait of a man, Chaim Lubelski, who had a wild past from a hippie and dealer in Germany, Paris, London and Afghanistan before he became a successful businessman in New York and a professional chess player in St. Tropez. When his mother needs care, Chaim decides with sixty three to move in with her into the home for the elderly in Antwerp. He cares for her around-the-clock with remarkable love and vitality, giving up his own life. Shaped by his mother’s history as a Holocaust survivor, Chaim feels his mission is to ease her pain. The film documents how the legacy of trauma still affects the 2nd Generation. Despite all Chaim chooses to respond with humor, joy and humanity.

German title: L’CHAIM! – AUF DAS LEBEN!
90min | HD | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | VoD | original German/English version with English subtitles available

Production:
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LA DEUTSCHE VITA
by Alessandro Cassigoli and Tania Masi

What do you do when you’re an underachiever at home? You go to Berlin to become an underachiever there. At least that’s true for thousands of ‘creatives’ who flock to the German capital every year. They are mostly young Italians looking for success in times of crisis and, together with those who came as guest workers in the 1970s, they form the third-largest migrant community. One of them is Alessandro Cassigoli, who joins Tania Masi from Florence and cinematographer William Chicarelli Filho from Brazil on an Italian journey through Berlin to cope with his homesickness. That at least should be done with at the end. For what could you possibly long for here, when original Italian mozzarella cheese is actually produced in Berlin and the Italian owner of the pizzeria around the corner comes from Bosnia. The much more important question is how to endure those Germans who only eat to fill their stomachs, always want to discuss everything, and ride bicycles to boot.

In a wild ride through every Italian and German stereotype (it’s all true!) you don’t just feel that you’re in a Fellini film (on speed), you also find the familiar mirrored in the foreign. Big issues like migration, identity, crisis, and globalisation are taken up almost in passing. Italians abroad cope with them in their own way: “This is the room where Mama will live.” (DOKLeipzig, Grit Lemke)

German title: LA DEUTSCHE VITA
Festivals: DOKLeipzig
60 or 52min | HD | DCP | original German/Italian version with English subtitles available

LAMPEDUSA IN ST. PAULI
by Rasmus Gerlach

In the middle of June 2013, 300 African refugees were stranded in Hamburg. Originally from Libya, they suffered an at times very dangerous odyssey via Lampedusa to get to Hamburg. The Hamburg Senate would like to be rid of the men as soon as possible, but the two pastors of a little church in St. Pauli give 80 of the men sanctuary and the whole neighbourhood rallies round. Inhabitants of the militant autonomous Hafenstraße take on important roles in organizing aid, doormen from the sex bars on the Reeperbahn protect the refugees from attacks from right-wing thugs. And the local football club FC St. Pauli helps out with clothing. A film about good hosts and their refugee guests.

German title: LAMPEDUSA AUF ST. PAULI
Festivals: Hamburg, Luebeck
83min | HD | DCP | original version with German or English subtitles available

Production:
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**LAND IN SIGHT**  
by Judith Keil and Antje Kruska

Paradise does have its downsides. Unlike the biblical Christians who want to enlighten him, Brian, an asylum seeker from Cameroon, has hopes for this life – and that’s clearly situated in Germany. Unfortunately he has ended up in Bad Belzig in Brandenburg, where there’s little excitement except for an amateur belly dance group and a marching band. He has no ‘useful’ country of origin to show for – right now there’s no war in Cameroon, only a lack of opportunity. The Yemenite soldier Abdul, who would rather carry arms in civilian life and work in security, is in a similar situation.

Farid from Iran for his part can’t go back for political reasons and can’t bring his family over without residence status. Three open-ended fates which the two directors accompany with their usual thoroughness over the course of a year in their fourth film together as they attempt to understand the workings of the employment agency and the red tape jungle, and to find a German wife, if need be. Preferably one who doesn’t just guarantee a right of residence but also knows how to cook. Bad Belzig turns out to be a stroke of luck for the film, since the East German province shows a lot of comic potential in its touching attempts to help the foreigners. The intercultural misunderstandings in particular highlight our German ‘paradise’, which is founded solely on paper. (DOKLeipzig, C. Klauß)

German title: **LAND IN SIGHT**

Awards/Festivals: Goethe-Institut Documentary Film Prize – DOKLeipzig

93min | HD | DCP | original English/German version with English subtitles available

**THE LAST HIJACK**  
by Tommy Palotta, Femke Wolting

LAST HIJACK is a true tale of survival in Somalia told from the pirate’s perspective. Combining animation with documentary storytelling, the film takes an innovative hybrid approach to explore how one Somali pirate – Mohamed – came to live such a brutal and dangerous existence. Animated re-enactments exploring Mohamed’s memories, dreams and fears from his point of view are juxtaposed with raw footage from his everyday life in an original non-fiction narrative. Somalia is the worldwide capital of piracy, and Mohamed is one of Somalia’s most experienced pirates. But in his homeland, a failed state, Mohamed is just another middle-aged man trying to make ends meet. Far removed from the glamour and adventure of the pirates of books and movies, Somali pirates face increasing scrutiny and stigmatization both at home and abroad. Now Mohamed is engaged and both his parents and his in-laws pressure him to change his ways before the big wedding day. Mohamed senses that the golden age of piracy may be coming to an end, and with pressure mounting to provide for his loved ones, he must decide whether to risk everything for one last hijack.

German title: **LAST HIJACK**

World Sales: The Match Factory GmbH

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Co-Production: Razor Film Prod. GmbH

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90min | digital | DCP | original Somali version with English subtitles available

**THE LAST LIMOUSINE**  
by Daria Khlestkina

Faced with the relentless demise of the factory they work at, Mikhail, Andrey, Nina, Vladimir, Nadia and Luda - bosses, foremen, engineers and workers of the giant Moscow automobile plant ZIL - cling to established routines and professional pride to stay upright in a world which crumbles around them.

When an order comes in for the production of three of the factory’s legendary hand-made limousines, once the centerpiece of Soviet military parades on Moscow’s Red Square, Mikhail’s team of hand-picked specialists throws itself at the opportunity to show what they are worth.

German title: **THE LAST LIMOUSINE**

Awards: Best Feature Film - ArtDokFest Moscow; Lavr Award for Best Cinematic Film, Russia

52 or 75min | HDcam | Blu-ray | 16:9 | stereo | b/w & color | original Russian version with English subtitles available

Production:

INDI FILM

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World Sales:

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934 german documentaries 2014
**LATE SHIFT – Günter Grass working on etchings for ‘Dog Years’**
by Sigrun Matthiesen

Before becoming a famous writer, Nobel-Prize winner, and controversial public figure, Günter Grass has been a visual artist and a craftsman. This early passion for the concrete and haptic is a vital source of his creativity until today. The film LATE SHIFT explores this central yet unknown facet of Grass as an intimate observation. At the age of 83, he produces etchings illustrating ‘Dog Years’, a novel he has written half a century ago. Working in close collaboration with the fine arts printer Fritz Margull, their conversations convey their love for the craft, their expertise, and the mutual understanding of a longstanding companionship. The images they create have accompanied and haunted Grass all his life – telling of what words can’t describe.

German title: **SPÄTSCHICHTE – Günter Grass bei der Arbeit an Radierungen zu ‘Hundejahre’**
Festival: 15th Mumbai Film Festival
20min 53sec | HD | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles

**LEAVING GREECE**
by Anna Brass

Refugee has to apply for asylum in the country in which they first set foot on European soil. That is a well-established fact. Less well-established is the fact that for 90% of all refugees, the Aegean Sea is the gateway to Europe what does that mean for Greece? Capitulation: the Greek asylum system is completely swamped, both by sheer numbers and financially, and collapsed years ago. No one can stay in Greece, but no one can leave, either: the Greek authorities exercise extreme severity toward refugees who try to leave the country.

That’s what Europe wants and Europe is willing to accept dead bodies…

The film tells the very personal stories of three young Afghan refugees, Hossein, Reza and Kaka, who for the last three years have been trying to break the vicious circle. They met in a refugee camp on the island of Lesbos. Hossein, Reza and Kaka pursue the three paths available (or not) to refugees once they have conquered the outer borders of ‘Fortress Europe’: success, hope and resignation.

German title: **LEAVING GREECE**
Festivals: Zurich, Hof; Thessaloniki 2014
79min | DCP | HDcam | XDcam | Blu-ray | German or English version

**LE BEAU DANGER**
by René Frölke

Le beau danger is a cinematic arrangement between documentary portrait and literary text. Interwoven with the moving image and divided into one hundred and seventy black and white text screens we read the work of the Romanian author Norman Manea. It is the attempt to have image and text question eachother and respond to eachother.

Arisng from the observation of the present of the author, which is also our present, the inner conflict of our time becomes visible, a conflict in which information becomes the counterpart of experience and therefore also of the memory itself.

Original title: **LE BEAU DANGER**
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM
100min | HD | English or German version
In the USSR, the cult of Lenin had replaced the Orthodox religion that Communists wanted to eliminate. At the end of Soviet era, in the village Gorky, 20 kilometers from Moscow, the last and the most ambitious Museum of Lenin was built. In former days it had 3000 visitors per week, now it’s only 20. Today it looks like a temple of forgotten civilization, a place that has fallen out of time. But faithful to the ideas of Lenin the keepers of the museum remain. They wait for random visitors in the abandoned halls – and for the return of former times. The story of the museum is shown through the two main characters Evgenia and Natalya, the caretakers of the museum. Natalya is 52 years old, a history teacher at the local school, fond of the Communism ideology, she really loves and respects Lenin. She likes the place where she works. 56 years old Evgenia is a scientific researcher. She is also a hard-core new-age believer; she worships all sorts of gods, and considers Lenin one of the biggest among them. But after 10 years of dedicated work in the museum, she now wants to leave it and continue her spiritual journey in another place.

German title: LENTINLAND

Festivals: Human Rights FF STALKER Moscow
52min | Blu-ray | DigiBeta | PAL | 16:9 | stereo | 25fps | Russian with English subtitles

World Sales:
Deckert Distribution GmbH
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After years in the big city, Anna and Philip, a couple around 30, move to Husum – a small town at the coast of the North Sea. There they’ll be the new managers of a traditional, old-established funeral home. While he is a trained mortician, she has never seen a dead body before.

Filmmaker Martin Rieck accompanies their duties, hopes and struggles during the first year at sea. An insightful portrait of an extraordinary occupation; questioning cultural, societal and individual demands, but also the ambivalences in a solid relationship. Precise frames, intense interviews and remarkable sound. (Kasseler Dokfest)

German title: DAS LEBEN NACH DEM TOD AM MEER

Awards/Festivals: Nominated for the Golden Key – Kasseler Dokfest; MaxOphuelsPreis - Filmfestival Saarbruecken
94min | DCP | DVD | Blu-ray | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
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THE LIFE AFTER DEATH AT THE SEASIDE

by Martin Rieck

The story of the museum is shown through the two main characters Evgenia and Natalya, the caretakers of the museum. Natalya is 52 years old, a history teacher at the local school, fond of the Communism ideology, she really loves and respects Lenin. She likes the place where she works. 56 years old Evgenia is a scientific researcher. She is also a hard-core new-age believer; she worships all sorts of gods, and considers Lenin one of the biggest among them. But after 10 years of dedicated work in the museum, she now wants to leave it and continue her spiritual journey in another place.

LONTANO – PETER STEIN’S SCHAUBUEHNE

by Andreas Lewin

Lontano – is an appreciation of the multifaceted artistic work of West Germany’s first autonomous theatre group which, between 1970 and 1985, under the direction of Peter Stein, made theatre history. The film traces the formation of the Schaubühne as a theatre experiment in the spirit of ‘68, describes how grassroots democracy was practised within the group and addresses the premises, the errors and the mentality which swiftly elevated the Schaubühne to the position of the most important German theatre in the second half of the 20th Century. What mad self-governed theatre work possible? Historic venues are revisited in the company of former ensemble members, reconstructing aspects of the theatre work of the time.

Lontano provides a fragmentary, almost archaeological approximation of performance moments, spaces, costumes, designs, texts, plays, bodies. Which are the memories that remain? What is lost?

An intense retrospective view – ‘A reflective film’ (Peter Stein).

German title: LONTANO – DIE SCHAUBÜHNE VON PETER STEIN

Festivals: FIPA Biarritz 2014
90min | DCP | HDcam | 16:9 | original German version with English, French or Italian subtitles available

Production:
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**LOST HORIZON**
by Robert Bohrer and Emma Simon

“One day the sea died, from one coast to the other, folding up, shrinking, a coat that is taken away.” This lament intoned by the Chilean poet Gabriela Mistral in her poem ‘The Death of the Sea’, this poetized phantom pain, could just as well come from Bolivia. The country lost its access to the sea more than a hundred years ago – because of Chile. Unlike Mistral’s poem, however, they do not regard the sea as lost. It has survived as a lost horizon, a locus of national longing. One day Bolivia will return to the sea. This motto is repeated like a mantra, in schools, celebrating Ocean Day, in navy training. Yes, Bolivia allows itself the luxury of a navy in preparation of this glorious day, an ‘armada’, even if it’s navigating Lake Titicaca instead of the Pacific. The film delves deeply into the workings of this myth by following a group of conscripts through their naval training. Quite a few manoeuvres navigate the limits of absurdity, for example when the special divers’ unit leap into the lake with a bold “For Bolivia, goddam!”, or when the female soldiers wear fake high heels with their navy uniforms. Scenes that could have been captured by the wayside, between discipline and reverie, add to the panorama of a ‘maritime’ country in the Andes that sticks to old ideals while taking tiny steps towards modernisation.

(DOKLeipzig, Lars Meyer)

German title: **VERLORENER HORIZONT**
Festival: DOKLeipzig
69, 58 or 30min | DCP | original Spanish version with English subtitles available

**LOVE ALIEN**
by Wolfram Huke

Wolfram Huke’s 30th birthday is coming up and he has never had a kiss, let alone a girlfriend. In search for reasons he starts a radical self-examination. An audacious and impressive film from the cosmos of the long-term singleton.

“The evenings are actually the problem,” because it is then, when everyone else is together with their partner, that Wolfram Huke really senses his loneliness. His 30th birthday is coming up and he has never had a kiss, let alone a girlfriend. Now he wants to face up to this problem and seeks out a relationship consultant. He trains in the gym, gets a new look and sets up a dating profile on the internet. His journey takes him from Munich via Magdeburg and Zagreb to the road to Santiago. He travels through a world in which nothing seems to be more important than relationships – and sex. LOVE ALIEN is a radical self-examination: an audacious and impressive film from the cosmos of the long-term singleton. (DOKLeipzig, Andrea. Naica-Loebell)

German title: **LOVE ALIEN – Wie findet man mit 30 seine erste Freundin?**
Festivals: DOK.fest Munich, Hof, American Documentary Filmfestival
72min | DVD | German or English version

**LOVE AND ENGINEERING**
by Tonislav Hristov

Digital geeks looking for analogue love. One claims to have hacked love, can he help lonely engineers find real happiness? Atanas, a Bulgarian research scientist living in Finland, is trying to develop a scientific formula for mating and finding a perfect wife. He uses a group of geeky engineers as his guinea pigs; lectures them his ideas and sends them out to test them in practice.

Is it even possible or worthwhile to work your way through life ‘scientifically’? Are rules of attraction scientific and if they are, do we really want to know them?

German title: **LOVE AND ENGINEERING**
80min | DCP | English version with German or English subtitles available
**LOVE IS...**

by Chrys Hamer  

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIAL | PORTRAIT | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | LONGTERM

Nine people, men and women between 17 and 70 reflect upon their lives and open their hearts... They try to find their own very personal definition of the meaning of ‘love’.

The filmmaker Chrys Hamer has interviewed her protagonists in a timeframe of 5 years and presents the interview situations in unembellished form, in absence of additional scenic regalia.

The people that are being questioned are artists, writers, filmmakers, camera people, politicians. They talk about romantic and erotic love, of the pressures imposed by conformity, of self love, neurosis, fears and liberation. In this film, the act of listening becomes an adventure, an unrelenting journey into the internal worlds of its protagonists. In taking turns in front of the camera, thinking, reflecting and remembering, life stories of love develop.

The spectator follows how love has been experienced, perceived and lived, how it changes in the duration of life, and how love has changed the person. These are nine completely different narratives, while there is something that all these seem to have in common: while irrational, love seems to have a central meaning for each one – from birth till death and even in surpassing it.

German title: **LOVE IS...**

90min | digital | DVD | Blu-ray | 16:9 | stereo | original German version with English textlist

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**THE LOVE POLICE**

by Harold Lucian Baer and Charles Veitch

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ECONOMY | CONFLICTS | CONTROVERSY

We all wonder about politicians’ statements, managers’ salaries and social injustice. But there are people amongst us who can no longer wonder in silence. People who urge us, to question ourselves and the system we live in. Like Charlie Veitch and his Love Police.

Charles Veitch worked as a financial adviser in London’s City for seven years. In 2009 he was fired. Instead of finding a new job, he bought a megaphone. And with the help of his friend Danny Shine he set up a group called The Love Police. They went to public places to annoy people – officious police officers and security guards mostly. They hugged passers-by and held up signs saying ‘Everything is Okay’ and challenged people to question their attitudes to work, money and authority. They filmed these events and posted them on Youtube and they became popular. And the bigger Love Police grew, the more radical Veitch became. He was a witness to the death of Ian Tomlinson during the 2009 G20 summit, called for ‘chaos’ in London, took part in the Occupy movement, was arrested in Toronto, Edinburgh and London, and invited to festivals around the world. He was also a conspiracy theorist and 9/11 truther. But when he rather dramatically turned away from the 9/11 conspiracy movement, the threaten began. The music for the film was composed by the Stereo MCs, also based in London.

German title: **THE LOVE POLICE**

52 or 95min | HD | original English version with German subtitles and voice-over available

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**MAGIC HOURS**

by Henning Drechsler

PORTRAIT | WORK | FILM | CULTURE | AGING

MAGIC HOURS tells the story of those who go unnoticed in the glamorous world of film: the background actors and extras. The film casts a spotlight on those standing at the very back. Through the eyes of the 84-year-old extra Johanna Penski and her friends, MAGIC HOURS contemplates the fascination of film from a very different perspective.

When Johanna Penski retired, she could have done just that, in the classical sense of the word. But instead, she saw her new situation as an opportunity to do something different with her time and to fulfill a lifelong dream. Johanna’s dream began in 1944, at the age of 17 she was an extra in Veit Harlan’s film KOLBERG. Bedazzled and star-struck by it all, she dreamt of a career as an actress. But after the war, her dream came to a bitter end. In the meantime, the name Johanna Penski is on file instead, she saw her new situation as an opportunity to do something different with her time and to fulfill a lifelong dream.

MAGIC HOURS travels with Johanna Penski back to her past, accompanies her to film sets, and spends ‘normal days’ with her and her friends Gisela and Hannelore: normal days which really aren’t very ‘normal’ at all for three retired women. Open-minded, full of humor and zest for action, they defy the routine of aging. MAGIC HOURS turns the usual perspective of film and society around and shines a spotlight on those who are otherwise restricted to the background.

German title: **STERNSTUNDEN**

64min | digital | full HD | original German version with English subtitles available
**MAJUB’S JOURNEY**  
by Eva Knopf  
GERMAN TITLE: MAJUB’S JOURNEY  

It’s extremely unlikely that anyone remembers the name of Majub bin Adam Mohamed Hussein aka Mohamed Husen. Majub, born in Darussalamm and a German colonial soldier in the First World War, was a popular extra and bit player in 1930s German cinema. When the films of the Nazi era called for a black character, it was usually Majub who was cast alongside Hans Albers, Heinz Rümann or Zarah Leander. Meticulously researched facts, circumstantial evidence and the reflections they give rise to (recited by Jule Böwe) form the energetic centre of this amazing biography of the African Majub on the background of German film and colonial history. Majub, who died in Sachsenhausen in 1944, is part of German cinema’s sky-full of stars. You won’t see him from afar, because then you will only notice the light of the ‘A-list’ artists whose big names are usually enough. But if you come closer and the B- and C-category stars begin to twinkle, each of them shining forth as part of a constellation, the world will open up wide and art will be enriched. In that sense, director Eva Knopf’s idea to have her film begin in an observatory is heartbreakingly beautiful. (DOKLeipzig, Ralph Eue)  

German title: MAJUB'S REISE  

Awards/Festivals: nominated First Steps Award; Japan Media Arts Festival ‘Jury Selection’; DOKLeipzig, Kinofest Lünen  

50min | HD | DCP | b/w & color | original German version with English subtitles available

**MAKE LOVE**  
by Christian Beetz and Tristan Ferland Milewski  
GERMAN TITLE: MAKE LOVE  

Today people seem to be sexually educated and the Internet evokes an image of an open-minded society, but are people truly happy with their sexuality? Did they find a way to communicate about it? Not really, says Ann-Marlene Henning, couple therapist, sexologist and author of the novel MAKE LOVE – people know astonishing little about their own sexuality. There is a large desire to talk AND learn more about sex, love and relationship. Together with host Ann-Marlene Henning we create a spirited TV format that works trimedially and is augmented by web and radio material. Finding a language for the most natural thing on earth is our central goal. MAKE LOVE creates a unique, exciting and emotional experience to which many people can relate – high-quality, entertaining and close to people’s realities.  

Central idea of the format: You can learn how to make love.  

German title: MAKE LOVE  

5x45min | HD | German version, others on request

**MAKING OF HEIMAT**  
by Anja Pohl and Jörg Adolph  
GERMAN TITLE: MAKING OF HEIMAT  

In between celebrating his 80th birthday and the 50th anniversary of the Oberhausen Manifesto Edgar Reitz is shooting his latest film. With THE OTHER HEIMAT he aims to continue not only his world famous HEIMAT series but also his earliest works. A whole village in the Hunsrück region of Germany is taken back in time to 1840 by set designers, actors and actresses are cast in full costumes and according to their matching compatibility as a family ensemble. Our documentary observes all stages in the creation of this challenging film and takes on Edgar Reitz’ point of view on filmmaking. And in his case filmmaking means a nearly four hour long afterthought of the ‘Young German Cinema’ movement in digital cinemascope and black and white! We strictly followed Edgar’s dictum: “Don’t do an ordinary making-of but make a film that shows how films are made”.  

German title: MAKING OF HEIMAT  

119min | 16:9 | stereo | HD | DCP | original German version

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Awards/Festivals: nominated First Steps Award; Japan Media Arts Festival ‘Jury Selection’; DOKLeipzig, Kinofest Lünen  

50min | HD | DCP | b/w & color | original German version with English subtitles available

Photos © Nikolai Ebert

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Awards/Festivals: nominated First Steps Award; Japan Media Arts Festival ‘Jury Selection’; DOKLeipzig, Kinofest Lünen  

50min | HD | DCP | b/w & color | original German version with English subtitles available

Photos © Nikolai Ebert

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MARS VIEWS 3D
by Martin Hans Schmitt

MARS VIEWS 3D is a stereoscopic documentary film about the Red Planet. Viewers embark on a journey through an untouched, alien world. Their senses are captivated by the gently rolling dune-like landscapes, endless rocky deserts, fantastic towering cliffs, silver-blue icebergs and a glittering polar ice-cap as well as craters that are nine kilometres deep and mountain ranges that are over eight kilometres high. No commentary interrupts the journey. Only music accompanies the atmospheric pictures. MARS VIEWS 3D is a three-dimensional symphony to the breathtaking beauty of the planet Mars.

German title: MARS VIEWS 3D
Festivals: 3D FF Los Angeles, 3D Korea IIFF, 3D Image Festival Lodz
88min 23sec | 3D Full HD | digital | 24p | no dialogues

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German title: MARS VIEWS 3D
Festivals: Copenhagen, DOKLeipzig, IDFA, Florence, IFF Polpopi Florenz, Docpoint Helsinki, Human Rights, Paris
4x45min | xdcam | DVD | German version others on request

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by Martin Hans Schmitt

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Contact:
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MILES & WAR
by Anne Thoma

Today’s wars and conflicts are increasingly complex and incomprehensible. Often, they are caused by local civil conflicts with global repercussions in the power struggle over territories and resources. This is why politicians employ those who understand the language, have access to expert knowledge and know how to be discrete. They employ experts, who turned ‘making peace’ into a new, private business model. “If you want to put an end to war, you have to talk to the fighters!” An exclusive group of international consultants are dedicated to this idea - it is their business, and their mission.

In her film, director Anne Thoma portraits three private mediators and their work, which they conduct in hotel lobbies, during business class flights and in secret conference rooms. The film follows the protagonists on their mission to put an end to armed conflict in the world. We learn to understand their motivation, share hopes and disappointment, the loneliness and their short, rare moments of triumph. We also get a glimpse into the every day chores of the job alongside war theatres – surprising and emotional insights into the private peace industry.

With Dennis McNamara, David Gorman, Martin Griffiths

German title: MILES & WAR
Awards/Festivals: awarded with Prize Lúdia – Kinofest Lünen; DOK.fest Munich, Brooklyn Film Festival NYC,
52 or 78min | HD | DCP | original English/Arabic/German version with English or German subtitles available

MONEY IN MINUTES
by Monika Hielscher and Matthias Heeder

MONEY IN MINUTES tells of a lesser-acknowledged aspect of globalization: international work-related migration as the business foundation of financial service providers worldwide. According to World Bank estimates, around 420 billion US dollars will circle the globe in 2013, money that is earned in the affluent North by migrant workers and sent home to their families via companies that are specialized in money transfer, like Western Union and MoneyGram.

Their money transactions produce the raw materials that convert into profit. The film describes the incredible logistics and controversial strategies of an industry that shapes the financial infrastructure of migration, and uses it as an economic resource. The migrants will be shown as customers who, without any other alternative open to them, use a service provided.

German title: MONEY IN MINUTES
52 or 90min | DCP | HDcam | Blu-ray | original English/Spanish/Nepali/Arabic/Chinese/Italian with English or German subtitles or German voice-over available

THE MOSCOW TRIALS
by Milo Rau

In the summer of 2012, when the punk activists of Pussy Riot were sentenced to two years’ imprisonment in a penal colony for their performance in the Moscow Cathedral of Christ the Saviour, the world reacted with widespread protest rallies. Yet this was only the latest episode in a ten-year series of show trials of artists and dissidents, staged by Putin’s system to prevent any form of democratic change. Milo Rau thematises this issue by a threeday theatre show trial. A courtroom was set up, the people on stage were real-life actors: artists, politicians, church leaders, real lawyers and a real judge. A jury composed of seven Moscow citizens finally handed down their sentence – an acquittal for the artists. The film documents the project and its historical and political backgrounds.

German title: DIE MOSKAUER PROZESSE
86min | DCP | original Russian version with German or English subtitles available
MY DEAR MISS SCHILDT – An Ode to Primary School Education

by Nathalie David

MY DEAR MISS SCHILDT is the story of a primary school teacher and her pupils before everything changes for them – before she goes into retirement, and before the children move on to secondary school education. Their final class trip before the summer holidays takes them to a farm. Surrounded by nature, far away from the classroom, the children reveal their impressions from the past four years spent together. At the same time, their teacher reflects on her forty years of working in schools, while also taking us on a brief trip through the history of German education. The stories begin to merge, and are linked by the voice of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. The philosopher (embodied by a teddy bear) quotes from his book ‘Emile or Treatise on Education’ on education theory in Germany, England and several Scandinavian countries.

German title: MEINE LIEBE FRAU SCHILDT – eine Ode an die Grundschule

Production:

PITCHOUN PRODUCTION
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22761 Hamburg, Germany
pitchou-production@gmx.de
www.meine-liebe-frau-schildt.de

MY BROTHER’S VOWS

by Stephanie Weimar

Gregor and Stephanie are siblings who couldn’t be more different. She jets across the world, living with women. It’s not even worth her while to rent a flat because she is so committed to being on the road and getting away from the narrow confines of home. Her top priority is self-fulfilment. Her brother Gregor, on the other hand, looks for contemplation, steadiness and a vocation in this world. A monastery, in a nutshell. To understand his choice, Stephanie Weimar takes up the camera and accompanies him from his first instructions to the day he makes his final vows with the Steyler Missionaries in the monastery of St. Augustin. How can a person voluntarily submit to obedience, poverty, and chastity – and do without sex his whole life? Her perplexity and anger at a church that condemns homosexuality in the name of God, bans condoms, and bears part of the blame for AIDS drive this film and determine its perspective. We share Gregor’s – whose decision is a radical one – doubts and reflections on this road to enlightenment. But it’s the director who learns what real tolerance means. Because the fact is that we are all seekers for meaning. (DOKLeipzig, Cornelia Klauß)

German title: DIE GELÜBDE MEINES BRUDERS

Production:

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www.facebook.com/MyBrothersVows
www.vimeo.com/76988802

MUNICH IN INDIA

by Walter Steffen

MUNICH IN INDIA tells the story of Hannes Fritz who quit his job as a banker in 1925 to become a painter, going by the name ‘Fritz-Munich’. As the Nazis were preparing to lead Europe into the terror of World War II, Fritz-Munich was traveling across India between 1932 and 1937, and became the German court painter of the Maharajas. For the film Konstantin Fritz, the painter’s grandson, searches for clues of Fritz-Munich’s former travels through India of today. The film tells the story about the rise and the fall of an unknown but extraordinary man, about German and Indian history in the first half of the 20th century – about the lavish life in the palaces of the Maharajas and the British colonial rulers, about the time after independence. Simultaneously it gets an extraordinary insight into contemporary India.

German title: MÜNCHEN IN INDIEN

Festivals: International Film Festival of India, International Cinema Documentaries – Finalist

Production:

Konzept+Dialog.Medienproduktion
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942 german documentaries 2014
December 1942. A snowfield behind the Russian lines in WW II. This where my mother gave birth to me. She was a nurse in the Red Army back then. 70 years later I go back to find out.

German title: **MEINE MUTTER, EIN KRIEG UND ICH**

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
78min | HDcam | German/Russian/Ukrainian version with English subtitles available

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**Festivals:** Berlinale / PANORAMA
78min | HDcam | German/Russian/Ukrainian version with English subtitles available

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**Jens Eisenkaemrer is passionate climber from the German countryside. The drop-out has left his daily grind behind. Within the emotional limits of personal freedom, family and society he is drifting through life today. Searching for his ultimate moment the impulsive rookie is facing his biggest challenges as a climber: The first ascent of a medieval tower, his hometown’s landmark and the foundation of a climbing hall. Two things he needs on his path to happiness: a vision and the courage to fail.**

**German title:** **MEINE INNERE STIMME**

Festivals: Graz, Tegernsee
72min | HD | 16:9 | PAL | DCP | Blu-ray | ProRes-Quick-Time | original German version with English subtitles

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**Festivals:** Graz, Tegernsee
72min | HD | 16:9 | PAL | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | original German version with English subtitles

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**MY LOVE AWAITS ME BY THE SEA**

**by Mais Darwazah**

MY LOVE AWAITS ME BY THE SEA is a poetic documentary narrating the story of director MAIS DARWAZAH, who takes a first time journey back to her homeland, Palestine. She leaves a secluded reality and follows a lover whom she has never met; Hasan, a Palestinian artist, who unveils a beautiful and utopian world to her. Fairytale and reality are woven together to question the elusiveness of place and the need to believe in dreams.

In a land fragmented and engulfed by years of struggle, she finds her tranquil love awaiting her in a ‘home’ protected and held together by today’s Palestinians. They defy their everyday reality - far removed from their needs - by holding onto their dreams.

This film pays tribute to Hasan Hourani, a Palestinian artist who, with his imagination, rises above the Occupation. Hourani completed ‘Hasan is Everywhere’, a children’s book of illustration and poetry, just before his tragic death by drowning in the forbidden sea of Jaffa in 2003. Throughout the film, both worlds of dream and reality provoke one another, to ask the questions of ‘How do you return to a place that only exists in your mind?’ ‘How do you keep fighting for life when you’re surrounded by so much death?’ ‘How can you continue believing in a dream when the outside world lives another reality?’ And ‘how can you own your version of the truth when history has taken it from you?’

Festivals: Toronto international film festival; CPH:DOC; Dubai; Planete Doc
79min | DCP | HDcam | Blu-ray | DVD | original Arabic version with English subtitles available

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**Festivals:** Toronto international film festival; CPH:DOC; Dubai; Planete Doc
79min | DCP | HDcam | Blu-ray | DVD | original Arabic version with English subtitles available

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**MY MOTHER, A WAR AND ME**

**by Tamara Trampe and Frido Feindt**

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**German title:** **MEINE MUTTER, EIN KRIEG UND ICH**

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
78min | HDcam | German/Russian/Ukrainian version with English subtitles available

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jo.feindt@web.de

**Festivals:** Berlinale / PANORAMA
78min | HDcam | German/Russian/Ukrainian version with English subtitles available

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**MY INNER VOICE**

**by Christoph Oliver Strunck**

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Festivals: Graz, Tegernsee
72min | HD | 16:9 | PAL | DCP | Blu-ray | ProRes-Quick-Time | original German version with English subtitles

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Festivals: Toronto international film festival; CPH:DOC; Dubai; Planete Doc
79min | DCP | HDcam | Blu-ray | DVD | original Arabic version with English subtitles available

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**MY INNER VOICE**

**by Christoph Oliver Strunck**

Jens Eisenkaemrer is passionate climber from the German countryside. The drop-out has left his daily grind behind. Within the emotional limits of personal freedom, family and society he is drifting through life today. Searching for his ultimate moment the impulsive rookie is facing his biggest challenges as a climber: The first ascent of a medieval tower, his hometown’s landmark and the foundation of a climbing hall. Two things he needs on his path to happiness: a vision and the courage to fail.

**German title:** **MEINE INNERE STIMME**

Festivals: Graz, Tegernsee
72min | HD | 16:9 | PAL | DCP | Blu-ray | ProRes-Quick-Time | original German version with English subtitles

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www.esperanto-ent.com

**Festivals:** Graz, Tegernsee
72min | HD | 16:9 | PAL | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | original German version with English subtitles

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**MY MOTHER, A WAR AND ME**

**by Tamara Trampe and Frido Feindt**

December 1942. A snowfield behind the Russian lines in WW II. This where my mother gave birth to me. She was a nurse in the Red Army back then. 70 years later I go back to find out.

**German title:** **MEINE MUTTER, EIN KRIEG UND ICH**

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA
78min | HDcam | German/Russian/Ukrainian version with English subtitles available

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jo.feindt@web.de

**Festivals:** Berlinale / PANORAMA
78min | HDcam | German/Russian/Ukrainian version with English subtitles available
Khalo Matabane asks global thinkers, Apartheid-victims and Mandela’s entourage to classify Nelson Mandela’s achievements, thereby providing a multi-faceted approach to his myth. Aged 94, the looming high possibility of Mandela’s death offers the opportunity to reflect upon his legacy beyond sainthood. Amongst others, Matabane interviews the Dalai Lama, Henry Kissinger, Colin Powell, Peter Hain, Albie Sachs and Ariel Dorfman. Critique may just as well be pronounced as approval and veneration. How do they interpret his message of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation in the world of today?

German title: NELSON MANDELA: THE MYTH & ME
Awards: Winner of the Special Jury Award at IDFA Amsterdam
90min | HD | German or English version

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At first glance, A NEW PRODUCT doesn’t seem especially compelling: in a bland corporate boardroom, executives and consultants talk about optimizing employees’ workspace in order to improve productivity. Boring? Think again. Harun Farocki, the master essayist and editor, transforms a mundane situation into theatre of the absurd, blessed with acerbic wit and a sharp critical sense. By filming what appears to be the dullest possible thing, he has created a subtle report from a world whose violent machinery shines through from under a veneer of decorum. Above all, the film lets us appropriate images of an implacable system. Black comedy at its finest.

German title: EIN NEUES PRODUKT
Awards/Festivals: Best International Medium-Length Film of Montreal International Documentary Festival; Viennale, 37min | HD | VoD | original German version with English subtitles available
VoD: http://www.realeyz.tv/de/ein-neues-produkt.html

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Three Generations silenced by a gruesome family secret and a society refusing to see reality behind closed doors. No Lullaby tells the story of the life and death fight that a mother and her daughter must lead to break the silence.

German title: NIRGENDLAND
72min | XDcam | HDcam | DCP | Blu-ray | DigiBeta | 16:9 | letterbox
original German version with English subtitles available

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Children in refugee camps are being abused by aid workers and peacekeepers. The victims, some as young as six, are suffering sexual exploitation in silence. We investigate why the widespread abuse in refugee camps still goes unreported.

German title: **NO PLACE TO HIDE – GEFÄHRLICHE HELFER**

**Production:**
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tristan@a-o-buero.de

Awards/Festivals: Medimed, Spain; Marco Luchetta International Press Award, Italy – finalist

52min | HD | DVD | German or English version

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**NOT WITHOUT MY DOGS**

by Ralf Breier and Claudia Kuhland

Dave and Kristen Olesen live in their own little universe with two teenage daughters and 37 Huskies. The ardent mushers favour an independent lifestyle in the middle of the wilderness in North Canada. Dog care, water hauling at 40 degrees minus and homeschooling are a deliberate routine. As 14 year old Annika starts training for her first race, the Junior Iditarod, the Olesens all join in and spend several month on preparation. But the 4000 Kilometer trip to Alaska is fraught with obstacles. Predominant competitors and confusing race conditions make the team from the wilderness feel out of the loop. When the dogs get into a terrible fight the whole endeavor risks to fail. But Annika, her family and the dogs meet the challenge with humor, courage and dignity. Beautifully shot in front of the vast backdrop of the great North, a moving story about passion and unconditional love.

German title: **DIE FAMILIE MIT DEN SCHLITTENHUNDEN**

93min | DCP | DVD | English or German version

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**N – THE MADNESS OF REASON**

by Peter Krüger

The visually and musically striking film plays on the confrontation between the Western mind and African spirituality. N is a story of an unusual obsession. It recounts the story of the Frenchman Raymond Borremans, who left Europe for Africa in the beginning of the 20th century. He devoted his life to the creation of the first encyclopaedia of this other world, dreaming of eternal recognition. He died, however, having only reached the letter N. With his encyclopaedia incomplete, his restless spirit drifts around West Africa, caught between life and death, past and present. An African woman who helps restless spirits find peace, tries to lead him towards his destiny. When confronted with civil war in Ivory Coast, he is shattered. His encyclopaedic mind – bent on drawing borders, on definitions and categorizations – finds the contingencies of reality less easy to cope with. The encyclopaedic thought loses its innocence when put into practice. Nevertheless he tries to complete his unfinished task from beyond death.

German title: **N – DER WAHN DER VERNUNFT**

**World Sales:**
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tel.: +33 1 53950464
fax: +33 1 53950465
www.nthefilm.com
www.blinkerfilm.de
### NUTAK – Memories of a Resettlement

by Sarah Sandring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORAL-HISTORY</th>
<th>INDIGENOUS PEOPLE</th>
<th>ENVIRONMENT</th>
<th>ETHNOLOGY</th>
<th>HUMAN RIGHTS</th>
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</table>

In a 1948 clandestine operation, 100 Mushuau Innu – an indigenous hunting people of Northern Labrador, Canada – were ordered into the cargo hold of a ship and transported far beyond their lands. To this day, the events remain shrouded in mystery.

– A ship, piercing winds, the death of a young man and insuperable mountains.

– All are recurring fragments, parts of a jigsaw puzzle with many missing pieces.

Though only a short two-year period, the move to Nutak was an omen for what was to follow. It marked the first attempt of the Canadian government to settle the nomadic Mushuau Innu. After decades of settlement and silence, Innu elders wanted to revisit Nutak and tell their memories.

This film follows their call.

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| 42min | HD | HDcam | 16:9 | Blu-Ray | b/w & color | original Innu Aimun/English version with English subtitles |

### OH CHRISTMAS TREE

by Viktor Apfelbacher and Andy Lehmann

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECOLOGY</th>
<th>ECONOMY</th>
<th>ENVIRONMENT</th>
<th>WORK</th>
<th>CURRENT AFFAIRS</th>
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</thead>
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Behind the scenes story of the product that is the Caucasian fir – our favourite Christmas tree. The Christmas tree is a piece of merchandise, which is in great demand. Across Europe approximately 70 million Christmas trees are sold every year. Many of them come from Denmark, where mainly Caucasian firs are cultivated. Their seeds grow in the area surrounding the small provincial town of Ambrolauri in Georgia. Even today, the cones of the Caucasian firs have to be collected in a very adventurous manner. Courageous workers climb to the top of the trees where the cones can be found. This job is both strenuous as well as highly dangerous, as the individual trees grow to heights of between 30 and 60 metres. Yet, hardly anyone uses a safety harness or a helmet, as they are too expensive. Even though terrible accidents are a regular occurrence, the people have no other choice as they are fully dependent on this work.

German title: **OH TANNENBAUM – DIE JAGD NACH DER NORDMANNTANNE**

| 30, 45 or 52min | HD | German or English version available |

### ODYAINA – FRAGMENTS OF LIVES

by Laza Razanajatovo

<table>
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<tr>
<th>HUMAN INTEREST</th>
<th>MUSIC</th>
<th>CULTURE</th>
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Healing people with music is an ancestral practice in Madagascar. This film shows the relationship between music and mental illness, through the work of some malagasy music therapist.

German title: **ODYAINA – LEBENSFRAGMENTE**

| 85min | HD | QuickTime | ProRes 422 | DVD | Blu-ray | original Malagasy version with English or French subtitles |

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A prison is constructed. Brick by brick a world materializes, in which time follows its own rules. Kenny Berger, Samuel Conley and Helmut Poschner have been subjected to such a parallel world for years. They are there to pay their debt. The price to pay for their transgressions is with time. From inside the prison walls they share a glimpse with us into their hopes and fears through conversations that construct an image of a reality taking place behind high prison walls – totally out of touch with time.

German title: VON DER BERAUBUNG DER ZEIT
79min | HD | DCP | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

Efficiency is the killer argument in our economic system. If you can’t keep up, make way. But why companies that are in the black are closed down cannot be explained by this logic. Pablo, Nico, and Els, who assemble cars at Opel’s Antwerp plant, and Rudi, their union representative for 28 years, have worked efficiently, too. But General Motors can make higher profits in Eastern Europe – so the Antwerp plant is demolished. Andy Michaels and Erik Wittbusch accompanied this process for over five years in the tradition of Klaus Wildenhahn and with the collaboration of Gisela Tuchtenhagen. They map its complexity, visiting other Opel plants in Portugal and Germany and talking to new Polish Opel workers. The latter especially dispels all romantic notions of the possibility of solidarity across national borders. The recurring conversations in Antwerp, too – first in the factory, then private –, are sobering. There are sadness and anxiety about the future, anger, too, but most of all there’s a fatalistic submission and a point when this end is seen as a new beginning. “That’s life.” What sticks in the mind are moments like the one when the union representative, asked about the workers’ options for action, breaks into maniacal laughter. (DOKLeipzig, Grit Lemke)

German title: OPEL EFFICIENCY
Awards: Healthy Workplaces Film Award / DOKLeipzig
75min | HD | original version with English subtitles available

Surrounded by a seemingly endless darkness, constellations of lights turn into machines which mine weightlessly in an undefined space. At daytime a conveyer belt sets itself in motion. Its deafening tremor and working are being observed and controlled by a woman. Her name is Bogna Dobrzaniecka, number 1-6. She moves around the conveyer belt, freeing its substructure from falling clods. Her Sisyphean task is being supervised from time to time. When the supervision comes she informs others about their arrival and inspects the conveyer belt. In this moment, revolving around and observing the machine, work in general becomes an end in itself. The falling piece of plastic or her surprised face over the stopping conveyer belt become events in this eventless space. Man as the keeper of machines. Astonishment replaces comprehension.

Original title: ORBITALNA
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM EXPANDED CINEMA
25min | DCP | 1:1.85 | English or German version
**The infamous El Raval quarter, with its narrow lanes full of dark figures, lies in the middle of Barcelona, in the Old Town, near the water. Where earlier, sailors shared the cheap little flats with working families, migrants from all over the world now characterise the area. In the small alleys their little barbershops lie side by side. Each nationality has its own. The businesses cater for parallel societies and have little contact with one another. Whoever enters apparently leaves Spain behind to plunge into a safe place of familiar rituals and memories of home. The barbers live from their regular customers and their almost pastoral ability to constantly talk about everything and nothing, or remain silent, whilst they softly touch and courageously beautify the heads and cheeks of the weary and burdened. The film tells of four hairdressers and their customers in El Raval, four small, strange time and space capsules, of people who left their home to find a better one, while the Spaniards are about to leave their own country themselves.**

German title: **EIN PAPAGEI IM EISCAFÉ**

80min | DCP | original Spanish version with German, English or Catalan subtitles available
THE PASOLINI FILES
by Andreas Pichler
ARTS | CULTURE | HISTORY | PORTRAIT | SOCIETY

In the night of November 2nd, 1975, the Italian film director and writer Pier Paolo Pasolini is brutally murdered on the outskirts of Rome. The 17-year-old gigolo Pino Pelosi is found guilty of the crime and sentenced to maximum penalty, despite countless contradictions in the evidence. Decades later, Pelosi withdraws his testimony and the case is re-opened, but up till now, the murder of one of Italy’s most famous intellectuals is far from being solved.

THE PASOLINI FILES investigates the circumstances of Pasolini’s murder from today’s perspective and draws a sinister picture of Italy in the 20th century. A film about the intellectual’s role in society and a tribute to the life and work of Pier Paolo Pasolini.
German title: DIE AKTE PASOLINI
52min | HD | German version others on request

THE PATENT WARS
by Hannah Leonie Prinzler
ECONOMY | HUMAN INTEREST | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | POLITICS

Did you know that 20% of your genes are patented and owned by private corporations? In a creative investigation director Hannah Leonie Prinzler uncovers who profits from patents, and who bears the social consequences. Along her journey she meets British inventor James Dyson and American business gurus in the Silicon Valley. She learns the shocking story of our body’s genes that we don’t own and finds out about the war strategies that patent attorneys apply. She travels to Geneva, the world’s headquarter of patents, and to India, the largest manufacturer of generic, meaning patent free, medicines. She shows what India has come up with to protect its genetic resources and meets Anil Gupta, the ‘Gandhi of Innovation’. At the end of her trip she has a look at the world’s first open-source car.
German title: KRIEG DER PATENTE
80min | HD | DVD | Blu-ray | original German/English/Hindi version with German or English subtitles available

persona non data
by Dorothea Carl
HUMAN RIGHTS | MIGRATION | WAR & PEACE | EXILE | EXPERIMENTAL

Fourteen people share their stories of fleeing from their native countries. By foot, on boats or with the help of escape agents, they were chased away by war, toxic gas, torture, fear and hunger. Some are still kids, strong only through the courage of despair, led by their hopes and wishes. Their personal stories of and experiences with their arrival in Hamburg, in the county of Pinneberg, in container camps, sleepless nights and the struggle with paperwork intertwine with a “banning space”, which subjects them to registration, restrictions and controls which are often a means to send them back either soon or sometimes even after decades. In the film, the individual struggles are narrated in interviews whereas the ‘banning space’ is visualized by the use of cinematic techniques..
German title: persona non data
Festival: dokumentarfilmwoche hamburg, Media Library Vision du Reel, Nyon
82min | DCP | 16:9 | original German/English/Dari/Arabic version with English or German subtitles available

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www.thepatentwars.org

photos © Rasmus Sievers

german documentaries 2014 949
Plastic floats, and millions of tonnes enter the ocean every year. Scientists see alarming results: synthetic hormones are released as plastic breaks down into tiny particles through wind, wave and sun exposure. Once in seawater, plastic absorbs toxic substances known as POPs in a density a million times higher than outside. Fish and sea birds mistake plastic for food, with evidence that these toxins are entering the food chain and winding up in our bodies. Worse still, the plastic doesn’t biodegrade and becomes trapped in massive maelstroms. Scientists have identified five of these gyres, some larger than Spain and Portugal combined. This is what we know so far, many questions remain. The amount of plastic in the gyres has been constant for the past twenty years, leaving millions of tons unaccounted for. Where has the plastic gone? We are on the verge of solving a mystery that might uncover one of the biggest ecological disasters of our time.

German title: DIE TRASSE
Awards: Prize for Best Direction and Prize of the Guild of Film Critics and Film Scholars ‘White Elephant’ - Open Russian FF Kinotavr Sochi; Best Documentary Film over 30mins - Karlovy Vary IFF; Excellent Eastern European Documentary Film by MDR DOK Leipzig Festivals: Odesa; Batumi Art-House FF, Georgia; St. Petersburg, Pirm, London, Bergen, Vlinius, London, IDFA, 2014: Alpe Adria Cinema FF Trieste, Gothenburg IFF, Docpoint IDF Helsinki
117min | HDCam | stereo | 25fps | 121min | DCP | Doby 5.1 | 24fps
original Russian/Ukrainian/Polish/Czech/German version with English, Russian, German or Czech subtitles available

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THE POLE, WHO WAS ALSO GERMAN: The Polish and the Germans share a kindred spirit and at the same time remain alienated. Sometimes these extremes are reflected in a single soul. As in the life of the legendary Polish Rilke translator, Witold Hulewicz.

A SHORT GLIMPSE INTO THE GARDEN OF EDEN: This film is an attempt to overcome the barrier of language between the German filmmaker and his Polish father-in-law: The first one is filming while the second one is talking about his experiment of ‘ecological-living’ in his overgrown garden.

ZADUSZKI – ALL-SOULS-DAY IN POLAND: A little boy, his mother from Poland and his father from Germany are coming to Warsaw to celebrate All-Souls-Day. The biggest cemetery in town is lightened mysteriously by candles. A metaphysical visit to the ancestors, seen with the eyes of a child.

German titles: POLNISCHE TRILOGIE
DER POLE, DER AUCH DEUTSCHER WAR // EIN KURZER BLICK IN DEN GARTEN EDEN // ZADUSZKI
Festivals: Grenzlandfilmtag Seib, Germany; Festival of Nations, Ebensee, Austria; TRANZYT Filmfestival Poznan, 38min / 41min / 21min | HDCam | DigiBeta | DVD | original Polish/German version with German or English subtitles

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German titles: POLNISCHE TRILOGIE
DER POLE, DER AUCH DEUTSCHER WAR // EIN KURZER BLICK IN DEN GARTEN EDEN // ZADUSZKI
Festivals: Grenzlandfilmtag Seib, Germany; Festival of Nations, Ebensee, Austria; TRANZYT Filmfestival Poznan, 38min / 41min / 21min | HDCam | DigiBeta | DVD | original Polish/German version with German or English subtitles

World Sales:
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POPPEA//POPPEA 3D
by Nikolai Vialkowitsch

POPPEA//POPPEA is inspired by Claudio Monteverdi’s last opera ‘L’incoronazione di Poppea’ which centres on the marriage of Emperor Nero and Poppaea Sabina. Even by today’s standards, the plot gives a stark depiction of the greed for power and the illusions of love at the court of the Roman emperor. To make way for Poppea, the empress Ottavia and her counsellor Seneca are murdered by Nero. In the end, everything succumbs to the violence of a completely amoral ‘love’. The first full-length piece produced by Gauthier Dance/Dance Company Theaterhaus Stuttgart earned Christian Spuck the German Theatre Prize THE FAUST as Best Choreographer. After its première on stage last summer, the production has a second life on screen, filmed by director Nikolai Vialkowitsch in almost physically tangible 3D.

German title: POPPEA//POPPEA 3D
Festivals: Filmschau Baden-Württemberg
78min 25p | 81min 24p | DCP 3D German version | HD 3D German or English version

POSTCODE 00187
by Alex Bolz

A snapshot of a Roman Quarter in the course of time - 2012 / 1982. The XVIII Quartiere is a part off the beaten tourists track. An ever so normal quarter where people live and work. With its bars, cafés, offices and shops. Everybody has got to pass through. Since 1982 a lot has changed, but much remained, too. There are social, political and economic reasons behind it, because this city is more than the tourist attraction as which it is often seen. Seven chapters give structure to the film. As we follow the boundaries we discover then past and present of a city, which is, with its ever - present display of liveliness all but a museum. The spectator is introduced to memories to these places back in the 1980es. Furthermore, we meet people, who live and work here. The interplay of calm and activity, typical for Rome, is also reflected in music, the visual presentation and the special use of color.

German title: POSTLEITZAHL 00187
Festivals: Filmschau Baden-Württemberg
78min 25p | 81min 24p | DCP 3D German version | HD 3D German version | HD 3D German or English version

PORTRET OF A LONE FARMER
by Jide Tom Akinleminu

In the first scene, the young filmmaker presents his Danish mother and Nigerian father to the idea of the film he wants to make. We do not get to know what the idea is, but his suggestion to travel to Nigeria to visit his family’s origins clearly unsettles them. His father has moved back, while Jide’s mother lives in Denmark. But the drama takes place in the mutual understanding between the three, and never takes up more space than the impressions that meet Jide’s camera when he arrives at his father’s poultry. A calm and observant film, made with a young photographer’s eye and feel for atmosphere. Outside the city lies a mysterious stone – if you can lift it, you will soon be married. There are many stories of this kind in PORTRAIT OF A LONE FARMER, which is ultimately a (self) portrait of Jide and his father - a likeable and taciturn man, who never really found a place in Denmark.

German title: PORTRAIT OF A LONE FARMER
Awards/Festivals: Cipputi Award – Torino Film Festival; CPH:DOX Copenhagen
76min | DCP | original version with English or German subtitles available

World Sales:
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www.euroarts.com
www.raumprojektion.de

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german documentaries 2014 951
Can a price be put on human life? The answer would seem to be "no": a human being is priceless, his worth cannot be determined in terms of money. The very idea appears to violate the principle of human dignity. "What am I worth?" The filmmaker asks it both of himself and of his protagonists throughout the world. He talks with healthcare economists and insurance brokers, politicians, scientists, organ donors and lawyers, discovering ethical minefields and an economic abyss...

The audience is led into a world where the monetary calculation of human worth has long since become business as usual. The insights provided are as shocking as they are revealing; cruelty meets and mixes with absurdity and even dissolves at times into high comedy.

A road movie through the fascinating and bizarre world of those who appraise human worth.

German title: **WAS BIN ICH WERT?**
95 or 52min | 16:9 | German or English version

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**PRIESTS**

by Stefan Kolbe and Chris Wright

What happens when two atheist film-makers are given free rein in a religious seminary? A seminary in Wittenberg, where Martin Luther once launched the Reformation, but the percentage of Christians is now the lowest in Europe? For a year, Chris Wright & Stefan Kolbe followed a group of young men and women through the final phase of training for the Protestant priesthood.

We see them learn the tools of religious practice. But gradually, the focus shifts; both protagonists and film-makers are confronted with the most fundamental human questions. The boundaries dissolve, between faith and scepticism, comfort and despair, truth and madness. What follows is an open, intimate dialogue on our longing for love, kinship and meaning.

German title: **PFARRER**
90min | DCP | HDcam | Blu-ray | 16:9 | 1:1.77 | stereo | Dolby 5.1 | original German version with English subtitles

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**PUTIN’S GAMES**

by Alexander Gentelev

The Russian city of Sochi on “Russia’s Riviera” is a traditional summer resort for Russia’s rich and beautiful. It was also chosen to host the 2014 Winter Olympics by the International Olympics Committee (the IOC). It was a bizarre choice. When the IOC made its decision, there was not one single venue fit for Olympic purposes of any kind in Sochi. Putin’s Games exposes the questionable nature of the entire Sochi nomination, while following the construction of a faux “winter” in a sub-tropical environment. As the Winter Olympics approach, the depths of controversy only become greater.

German title: **PUTINS SPIELE**
Festivals: IDFAAmsterdam, Jihlava, Art Doc Festival Moscow
90min | HD | DCP | original Russian version, German, French or English version available
How do normal young men turn into mass murderers? Why do respectable family men kill women, children and babies, day in and day out, for years? Why do so few of them refuse to follow orders, although they are given the option? Oscar® winner Stefan Ruzowitzky tells of the systematic shooting of Jewish civilians by German death squads in Eastern Europe and searches for the root of evil. We hear the thoughts of the perpetrators in letters, diaries and court reports, we look into young faces that are projection screens for our associations and insights. Supplemented by historical photographs, the statements of widely renowned researchers, such as Père Desbois, Christopher Browning or Robert Jay Lifton, and with the surprising results of psychological experiments, the film leads us to RADICAL EVIL, a blueprint for genocide.

“Monsters exist, but they are too few in numbers to be truly dangerous. More dangerous are the common men.” (Primo Levi)

“Oscar-winning director Stefan Ruzowitzky (The Counterfeiters) takes on a difficult and explosive topic – and brings it off with bravura! The result is a visual and narrative film essay with hidden depths – a terrifying horror film showing the gaping darkness beneath life’s surface. If there are must-see films in the cinema this year, then this radical masterpiece is one of them.” (programmkino.de)

German title: DAS RADIKAL BÖSE
Awards: Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’; shortlisted Best Documentary German Film Award LOLA
96min | digital | DCP | German or English version

Diana Groós’s poetic documentary REGINA tells the story of Regina Jonas (1902-1944), a woman who made history by becoming the first properly ordained woman rabbi in the world. The daughter of an Orthodox Jewish peddler, Jonas was ordained in 1935. During the Nazi era and the war, her sermons and her unparalleled dedication brought encouragement to the persecuted German Jews. Regina Jonas was murdered in Auschwitz in 1944. The only surviving photo of Jonas serves as a leitmotif for the film, showing a determined young woman gazing at the camera with self-confidence.

www.facebook.com/ReginaTheStoryOfTheWorldsFirstWomanRabbi

German title: REGINA
Awards: Lia Award for dealing with Jewish Heritage – Jerusalem FF;
Grand Prix – SztoknoIFF;
Festivals: Berlin Jewish FF, Krakow, Sarajevo, London, Budapest: Internatinal Human Rights FF & Jewish FF
96min | HDcam | DCP | b/w | DVD | English, Hungarian or German version available

RETURN TO HOMS
by Talal Derki

Filmed over three years in Homs, Syria, the film accompanies two outstanding young men from the time they are dreaming of freedom and defending pacifism, to the time when choices are forced to be different. Basset, the 19 years old national football team goalkeeper, turning into an iconic demonstration leader and singer, then, becoming a fighter and Ossama, a 24 years old renowned citizen-cameraman who is critical, pacifist, and ironic, as his views change till he is detained by the regime’s security forces. It is the story of a city, which the world heard of a lot, but never really got close to. Return to Homs is a modern times epic of youth in war, and of forced choices.

German title: RETURN TO HOMS
Festivals: IDFA, Sundance 2014
53 or 90min | DCP | HDcam | DigiBeta | VoD | original Arabic version with English, German or French subtitles

RADICAL EVIL
by Stefan Ruzowitzky

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Diana Groós’s poetic documentary REGINA tells the story of Regina Jonas (1902-1944), a woman who made history by becoming the first properly ordained woman rabbi in the world. The daughter of an Orthodox Jewish peddler, Jonas was ordained in 1935. During the Nazi era and the war, her sermons and her unparalleled dedication brought encouragement to the persecuted German Jews. Regina Jonas was murdered in Auschwitz in 1944. The only surviving photo of Jonas serves as a leitmotif for the film, showing a determined young woman gazing at the camera with self-confidence.

www.facebook.com/ReginaTheStoryOfTheWorldsFirstWomanRabbi

German title: REGINA
Awards: Lia Award for dealing with Jewish Heritage – Jerusalem FF;
Grand Prix – SztoknoIFF;
Festivals: Berlin Jewish FF, Krakow, Sarajevo, London, Budapest: Internatinal Human Rights FF & Jewish FF
96min | digital | DCP | German or English version available

ORAL-HISTORY | RELIGION | WOMEN | NS-POLITICS | SOCIAL | SOCIETY

REGINA
by Diana Groó
REVOLUTIONARY GREETINGS – Elisabeth Zilz, Nicaragua
by Viktor Apfelbacher

It is the end of a long journey. Nicaragua, 1984: Elisabeth Zilz originally from Germany decides to stay in Nicaragua to start a new life amidst the turmoil of the US-financed Contra War. The alphabetisation of the country, the dream of all Sandinistas, has become her personal goal. The retired librarian from Frankfurt on the Main turns an old East German Robur transporter into the rolling library she christens ‘Berthold Brecht’. She tirelessly travels through Nicaragua’s poorest regions, supported by Ernesto Cardenal, the minister of education at the time, and by a like-minded and solidly united group of East and West Germans. With an unbroken will, she tries to instil a love for books in remote village schoolhouses and prisons. Today she is a folk hero. Filmed shortly before Elisabeth Zilz’ death the documentary tells the story of an unusual friendship through the eyes of Reybil Curasema, her trusty driver since 1984. Reybil follows her path through the country of a thousand volcanoes and takes a remiscing look at the people they were on the road for for a quarter of a century. A documentary road movie far away from the tarred tracks of Nicaragua. A homage to a woman and her life’s work. At the age of 89 Elizabeth Zilz died in Frankfurt on the Main shortly after the shooting of this film.

German title: MIT REVOLUTIONÄREN GRÜSSEN – Elisabeth Zilz, Nicaragua
52min | HDcam | original version with German or English subtitles available

THE ROMANOVs – Glory and Fall of the Czars
by Eva Gerberding and André Schäfer

A look at the end of the last Czar and his family at the hand of the Bolsheviks, and the 4 centuries of grand, bloody and war-torn history that proceeded it - the might of the double-eagle throne fascinates us to this day. The killing lasted 20 minutes. Czar Nikolaus II. was the first to die – shot in the heart with a pistol at close range. Then the Bolsheviks shot his wife Alexandra Fyodorovna, his daughters Olga, Tatyana, Maria, Anastasia, the heir apparent Alexei, and four employees of the royal family. The death of the Romanovs marked the end of a dynasty reaching back to the crowning of Michail Romanov in July 1613. The Czars always ruled their huge empire with an iron fist – which in the end became their undoing. 400 years of Romanov rule – 4 centuries of grandiose and fateful European and Russian history.

This doc presents never-before-seen archive footage, shot in awe-inspiring and newly-restored locations in Moscow and Saint Petersburg, told in fast-paced yet dramatic style.

German title: DIE ROMANOVs – Glanz und Untergang des Zarenreichs
52 or 90min | Xdcam | DVD | original German version, French or English dubbed versions available

Romeo & Julia UNPLUGGED
by Yasmin Khalifa

Who believes in a good working multi-cultural society? Volksbühne Basel does. Housewives, stage actors, asylum seekers, students and musicians from 12 different countries have made it their mission to amalgamate Shakespeare’s language and humour with their cross-cultural observations of everyday life. Completely forthright interviews are combined with absurd rehearsal situations and the theatrical production. The protagonists win hearts and laurels with absolute authenticity and witty playfulness. They are updating Shakespeare’s drama “Romeo & Juliet” at once in a very personal and political way.

German title: Romeo & Julia UNPLUGGED
20min | HDcam | DVD | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

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**SCENARIO**

**by Philip Widmann and Karsten Krause**  
**CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | EXPERIMENTAL | SEX | ARCHITECTURE | WOMAN**

A male and a female voice speak in chorus: “A woman called Monika and a man called Hans. Hans documents in writing that Monika has threatened him – her boss, employer, and lover – with the withdrawal of her sexual favors if his wife doesn’t apologize to her.”

Monika and Hans have an affair. Hans’ protocol of the events are later found in a black leather briefcase: A statement of accounts on sexual activity lays a trail to one ostensibly ordered existence in the German Federal Republic in the autumn and winter of 1970.

SCENARIO follows the chronology of Hans’ accounts and traces its leads towards an exploration of the endless possibilities and finite probabilities of being a man and a woman.

German title: **SCENARIO**  
Festivals: Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE  
89min | DCP | Blu-ray | original German version with English subtitles available

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**SCENT OF REVOLUTION**

**by Viola Shafik**  
**CURRENT AFFAIRS | WAR & PEACE | CONFLICTS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | GENDER IDENTITY | WOMEN**

A Coptic political activist and an Upper Egyptian collector reconstruct the story of their hometown Luxor that was destroyed during the rule of Mubarak due to state corruption and neo-liberal economy; in Cairo a socialist writer compares the 1952 and the January 2011 revolution, reflects on his own political disillusionment by telling about one of his most beautiful novellas written in the beginning of the Mubarak era. His depression is juxtaposed to the enthusiasm of a young female Islamist cyberspace designer who is asked to design an avatar for a Salafist friend who at least wants to join the political protest online. Lingering between past and present these stories represent collective grief work about an incomplete revolution and a country in ruins. Its four protagonists are caught in different phases of grieving, such as anger, depression, or adaptation, and display therefore different strategies in dealing with their bereavement face to the country’s situation and its incomplete revolutions.

German title: **SCENT OF REVOLUTION**  
Festivals: Berlinale / FORUM  
98min | HD | original Arabic version with English subtitles available

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**RUINA**

**by Markus Lenz**  
**SOCIAL | POLITICS | CITIES | CONFLICTS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SOCIAL BIOTOPE**

What happens when a bank fails?  
For example it is gonna be squatted by 3000 people and transformed into a housing project.

Downtown Caracas a 200 meter skyscraper-ruin is rising up to the caribbean sky and is used as a shelter for 750 families. Ignored by the city’s administration and dreaded by the neighbourhood the inhabitants of Torre Confinanzas build up their own model of a socialist micro-society in their vertical city. Ruina tells about difficulties and achievements by building up a social community out of a mass of people.

German title: **RUINA**  
73min | HD | original Spanish/English version with English or German subtitles available

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The Secret Bank Bailout
by Arpad Bondy and Harald Schumann

Billions of euros were poured into European financial institutions to prevent them from failing. But where is this money really going? Who do the ailing banks owe? 50 billion euro to Greece, 70 billion to Ireland, 40 billion to Spain – one Euro state after another has found itself forced to prop up its banks by pumping in huge sums of money to cover the losses that the financial institutions themselves incurred from bad loans. But where are these billions of euro actually going? Who is benefiting? Award-winning business journalist Harald Schumann criss-crosses Europe asking this simple question and receives some intriguing answers. The rescued parties are not in the poorer Euro countries but predominantly in Germany and France. A large share of the money ends up with the creditors of the banks who want or have to be rescued. And although these investors have obviously invested very poorly, they are being protected against any losses at the expense of the general public. Why is this happening? Who is receiving the money?

Harald Schumann succeeds in making this complicated topic understandable for everyone, while putting forward his own – both knowledgeable and courageous – opinion. Maybe the most passionate film ever made on the banking crisis.
**SEVEN WATERS**
by Eberhard Spreng

The film depicts seven uses of water from drinking to baptising, from swimming to fishing, from irrigating to navigating. It portrays people who deal with water on a daily basis in their different professions and brings to light surprising philosophies of life. Shot at seven unusual locations in Scotland, France, Germany, Switzerland and Spain, the film also tells of seven local states of a Europe in the throes of global change. How does sea salt get into whisky? Why do tractors park on the beach? What holds back the soil on steep terraces during torrential downpours? Why does the woman from Paraguay hold her hand in the water? Why do you die in the water; how are you baptised? Between the tales of water told here by 19 Europeans are spun the threads of many surprising links across frontiers. From the cradle to the grave, water as the element of life unites us.

German title: **SEVEN WATERS**
102min | HDcam | German. English or French version

**SHARUKH – ON THE ROAD TO HAPPINESS**
by André Hörmann

Which 14-year-old boy does not dream of fast cars? For Sharukh, who lives in the Indian megacity of Mumbai, this has a bitter aftertaste: ever since his father left the family, he has been forced to work as a car mechanic to support his family – even though he would rather play or even go to school. But there is space for dreams in the dusty workshop: Sharukh wants to see his mother smile again and drive her through the city in a big limousine just once ... (DOKLeipzig, Grit Lemke)

German title: **SHARUKH SUCHT DAS GLÜCK** für die Serie: Schau in meine Welt!
Festival: DOKLeipzig
25min | DCP | original Hindi version with English subtitles available

**S H A T T E R E D  AFGHANISTAN – How Can I Imagine Peace?**
by Helga Reidemeister

S H A T T E R E D – Afghanistan How Can I Imagine Peace – is the third film of our trilogy on Afghanistan. It confronts us with the everyday lives of war invalids. It brings us close to them, who impress us with their resilience and will to survive. The Italian, Alberto Cairo, helps all injured people without discriminating. Children, women, and men coming from all parts of the country are provided prostheses and wheelchairs – and, in addition, job training, employment and life perspectives. Cairo’s orthopedic clinic in Kabul, established with the aid of the International Red Cross, has become an institution for the whole country that is noted world-wide. Joining together individual fragments, S H A T T E R E D – Afghanistan tells us about people who have not allowed the destruction of the war to break them.

German title: **S P L I T T E R  AFGHANISTAN – Wie kann ich Frieden denken**
Festivals: Hof, Laboratorio Immagine Donna, Firenze
74min | HD | DCP | DVD | PAL | 16:9 | original Pashto/German/English version with Pashto/German/English subtitles
The sheds of the port of Lübeck are historical buildings of considerable value and character. They fell into disuse decades ago. The ravages of time have left their mark upon the dim halls, giving them an intensely melancholic air. The location, surrounded by water at the foot of Lübeck, has become an attraction for speculators. Though the citizens of Lübeck more than once have thwarted the assaults of real estate speculators it is to be feared that the final outcome will see big money triumphant. This documentary depicts the port sheds in their present conditions: As a gem of particular quality!

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*German title: DIE LÜBECKER HAFENSCHUPPEN bevor sie abgerissen werden*  
24min20 sec | HDcam | 16:9 | stereo | b/w | without dialogues

**SHOOT IT! – The story of the legendary ‘Bang Bang Club’**

by Marc Wiese

The Bang Bang Club were four fearless young photographers who set out to expose the reality of Apartheid in South Africa – a battle that changed a nation but wound up almost destroying them. This is the story of an unheard-of success and of a tragedy. It is also the story of a great friendship in the fight for freedom in South Africa. In their early twenties, Ken Oosterbroek, Joao Silva, Kevin Carter and Greg Marinovich went to the black townships to record the violence there, something no other white photographer had ever dared to do. Their images went round the world and appeared on the front pages of the New York Times, the Washington Post and Time Magazine.

“...Their photographs certainly accelerated the changes in this country, the end of apartheid. The images showed the whole world what was happening here and increased pressure on the regime”, recounts Peter Sullivan, then editor in chief of The Star in Johannesburg. “I told them every day: No picture is important enough or worth getting shot for. But they would laugh at me. I couldn’t stop them. Every day they lived in danger. They were like wild horses”, says Sullivan. The four photographers were nicknamed Bang Bang Club by a magazine and became a legend. In 1991 Greg Marinovich won the Pulitzer Prize, the Oscar of photography, for his series of photos of a man getting burned. In 1994 Kevin Carter won the same prize for his controversial picture of a starving child and a vulture, which he shot during a journey to Sudan. Joao Silva stated “It was the photograph of Kevin’s lifetime, a photographer’s dream. Yet, at the same time it destroyed him.” In the end the friends paid a high price; only two of them survived.

“These men were more than eyewitnesses to apartheid, but also adrenaline junkies who put themselves in harm’s way; while bullets flew around them, they shot pictures that exploded like nuclear warheads across the world press.” (Variety)

52 or 43min | HD | original English version | 43min as French Dub version available

**SHOOT ME**

by Narges Kalhor and Benedikt Schwarzer

The Iranian filmmaker Narges Kalhor, daughter of a former advisor of Ahmadinejad’s, is living in exile in Germany for four years. When she hears about the fellow Iranian rapper Shahin Najafi, who is living himself in exile in Germany, faces death threats and has to hide because of one of his songs, she doesn’t hesitate and has to find him. On her search she encounters fear everywhere. Narges Kalhor herself has to face her inconvenient memories of suppression, hatred and anger of the past in Iran.

*German title: SHOOT ME*  
Festivals: Munich; DukaFest Banja Luka; IFF Camerimage Bydgoszcz; Human Screen Festival Tunis  
30min | HD | DCP | b/w & color | original German/Persian version with German, English, Farsi or Spanish subtitles

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**SIENIAWKA**
by Marcin Malaszczyk

SIENIAWKA is a journey into the irrational subconscious of humanity. Stefan attempts to make his way through a post-industrial no-man’s land. An encounter with a stranger forces the line between reality and imagination to become blurred. The future and the past become intertwined. Visions of another time emerge from Stefan’s mind. The cold-blooded surgeon used to work in the dissecting room. There was a cinema where everyone would go on the weekend. A state of complete delirium caused a young man’s heart to stop beating. In drifting through memory and the imaginary, Stefan witnesses death, mental illness and the margins of humanity in a passing world that resembles our own. All that remains are ruins – everything begins to dissolve. The concrete world no longer resembles the one that he was forced to leave. Internal chaos is mirrored by external chaos.

**German title:** SIENIAWKA  
Awards: Best First Film – FID Marseille; Arte Documentary Film Prize – Duisburg Film Woche;  
Honorable Mention – Forum Doc Belo Horizonte  
126min | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | Polish version with German or English subtitles

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**SILENCED – Georgi Markov and the Umbrella Murder**
by Klaus Dexel

One of the most mysterious assassinations of the Cold War happened on Waterloo Bridge in London on September 7th, 1978: Bulgarian writer and journalist Georgi Markov was poisoned by a stab in the leg presumably through the tip of an umbrella. Markov died four days later of heart failure. In February 2010 the TIME magazine listed the murder of Georgi Markov at number 5 of the “Top 10 Assassination Plots of the World”. The victim, Georgi Markov worked as a journalist for the BBC, Deutsche Welle and importantly, for Radio Free Europe where in weekly programs he sharply criticized the totalitarian system in his homeland. After many years of research, the film sheds for the first time light on the background and political connections of the murder and tracks down the Bulgarian Secret Service agent ‘Picadilly’ who is considered to be involved in the assassination. A thrilling investigative documentary, directed by history doc expert Klaus Dexel and shot on RED Epic.

**German title:** ZUM SCHWEIGEN GEBRACHT – Georgi Markov und der Regenschirm Mord  
Festival: Sofia IFF, DOKfest Munich, Montreal WFF  
52 or 92 min | HD | DCP | German/English version

**Production:**  
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**SINGERS ON THE HIGH SEAS**
by Ralf Pleger

The best newcomers to the opera scene from Australia, Canada, France, Poland, Russia, South Korea and the USA compete against each other in an extraordinary and exciting singing competition on a luxury cruise ship. This 4-part documentary captures the most exciting and high-class contest of the musical world. During the singing competition Stella Maris, the most renowned newcomers to the international opera scene meet up for a strong-voiced battle on the high seas: Who will ultimately win? Who will score with the renowned jury, and who will score with the audience? The winner of the competition receives an award of 15,000 Euro. Further prizes include guest engagements as well as an opportunity to record a CD with the Deutsche Grammophon. The Stella Maris takes place on the luxury cruise liner MS Europa. En route from Dubai to the Seychelles director Ralf Pleger accompanies eight up-and-coming talents from the world’s most renowned opera houses. In four rounds (opera, oratorio, song and ensemble) the participants compete for the favour of the jury and audience as well as for lucrative prizes. The focus of the Stella Maris is on the works of Verdi and Wagner, which will be individually interpreted with the help of professional singing coach Michael Schade.

**German title:** SÄNGERKRIEG AUF HOHER SEE  
4x26min | DVD | Blu-ray | German or English version

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**SONG FROM THE FOREST**

by Michael Obert

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE | MIGRATION | FAMILY | ENVIRONMENT | CITIES | TRAVEL | CULTURE

As a young man, American Louis Sarno heard a song on the radio that gripped his imagination. He followed the mysterious sounds all the way to the Central African rainforest and found their source with the Bayaka Pygmies, a tribe of hunters and gatherers. He never left. Today, twenty-five years later, Louis Sarno has recorded over 1,000 hours of unique Bayaka music. He is a fully accepted member of the Bayaka society and has a 13 year old son, Samedi.

Now the time has come to fulfill an old promise, and Louis takes Samedi from the African rainforest to another jungle, one of concrete, glass, and asphalt: New York City. Carried by the contrasts between rainforest and urban America, with a fascinating soundtrack and peaceful, loving imagery, their stories are interwoven to form a touching portrait of an extraordinary man, and his son.

German title: **SONG FROM THE FOREST**

Awards: VPRO Award for feature length Documentary – IDFA, Amsterdam

96min | digital | DVD | Blu-ray | DCP | German or English version available

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**SOUND IN THE SILENCE**

by Jens Huckeriede

NS-POLITICS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CULTURE | YOUTH | ORAL HISTORY | EDUCATION

From September 19-26 the intercultural memorial project SOUND IN THE SILENCE was hosted by the borough of Altona, Hamburg and cultural center MOTTE e.V. in cooperation with the Gymnasium Altona/Hohenzollernring, Polish students from the Gymnasium Zespól Szkól in Koszalin and the concentration camp memorial Neuengamme. The location and its history were the starting point for the students and participating artists to touch on in an openended creative process. They could express their ideas and feelings through text, music and dance without pressure to perform. For one week the 14-17 year old students developed a performance in the brick factory located in the Neuengamme concentration camp memorial. The teenagers were instructed by artists from various countries: Dan Wolf, Keith Pinto, Michael Hearst, Jens Huckeriede, Kijoka Junica and Indrani Delmaine.

62min | digital | DVD | Blu-ray | DCP | German or English version available

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**SOUVENIR**

by André Siegers

PORTRAIT | POLITICS | TRAVEL

The movie SOUVENIR centers around Alfred D. who refers to himself as an ‘Exporter of democracy’. On behalf of German foundations Alfred has been travelling the world for over 20 years in order to establish democratic awareness and constitutional structures. The passionate amateur filmmaker captured his missions on hundreds of videotapes and not least he filmed himself, enacting his life abroad in front of the camera or more recently documenting his campaign as a candidate in the European election. In SOUVENIR historical, political and personal filmic documents meet and interact to create an unusual portrait.

German title: **SOUVENIR**

Awards: VPRO Award for feature length Documentary – IDFA, Amsterdam

86min | DCP | HDcom | original German/English version with English subtitles available

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**SPACEMEN**  
by Georg Nonnenmacher  

Hand-luggage is packed in a cloth shopping bag, one last cigarette before there is a knock at the door – inmate Rene is being transported. For a court hearing, he is traveling in a prison bus to another institution in another city. SPACEMEN accompanies him and shows the tedious procedure of the transport from his point of view – an exhausting route full of controls, constant stop-and-go at locked doors and gates, and endless waiting.

When the bus is en route, the world passes by through the window in cinemascope format. The view of vastness, life and freedom is paraded before the prisoners’ eyes; a world in which they do not belong. With each stop, each station and each detention center the bus approaches, each change between prison and outside world, it becomes ever more perceptible that the revocation of freedom is simultaneously also the revocation of all means of autonomous action.

With insight into their emotions and thoughts, Rene and four other inmates illustrate how the procedure of this ‘trip’ penetrates their everyday prison routine and at the same time pushes that which has long been suppressed back into their consciousness: desires, emotions, and time.

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**German title:**  
RAUMFAHRER  

**Festivals:** Berlinale / PERSPECTIVE  
40min | DCP | HDcam | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

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**THE SPECIAL NEED**  
by Carlo Zoratti

29 year old Enea is looking for love – physical love that is. But as the autist he is, living in Italy, this is anything but easy. So him and his two best friends Carlo and Alex set out on a journey through Europe and eventually find a lot more than they were looking for...

**World Sales:**  
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**German title:**  
THE SPECIAL NEED  

**Awards/Festivals:** Golden Dove – DOKLeipzig; Locarno, Copenhagen CPH DOX, IDFAAmsterdam,  
55 or 84min | DCP | original Italian version with English or German subtitles available

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**STÄDTEBEWOHNER**  
by Thomas Heise

The beginning shows a dusty landscape somewhere on the outskirts of the city accompanied by a poem from 1921, written by Bertold Brecht and spoken by a young woman. It is about the disappearance of a man, how waiting for him fades and eventually the memory there of.

STÄDTEBEWOHNER tells the story of everyday life in the Comunidad San Fernando, a prison in Mexico City. About 200 prisoners are currently living here, offenders who were sentenced as juveniles for a maximum of 5 years to San Fernando in order to leave it as men not older than in the age of 23. In quiet observations the film portrays the life of the residents of San Fernando. It is December. We get to know 3 of those 200 better. There are Samuel and Ever, still children when they were judged guilty of murder. “It’s complicated but I didn’t do it” says Samuel. “Now I’m in here.” “I shot him in the head”, Ever says, and what does his glance say when adding “I was 14”. And there is Irving, who was a robber and fears the outside, his liberty, when spring will come. On the afternoon of Christmas Eve his father explains him where to aim accurately in order to best shoot someone dead. Life is selfexploratory. People act just as they are pleased to do. Encountering people around here is a constant jetting change between closeness and distance, as is the city where the prison is located. Encountering someone around here is a constant and edgy changing between closeness and distance. As is the city where the prison is at. Who is talking of stones?

**German title:**  
STÄDTEBEWOHNER  

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**83min | HDcam | Blu-ray | DVD**  
original Mexican Spanish version with Spanish or German narration and German or English subtitles available
**STELVIO. CROSSROADS OF PEACE**

*by* Alessandro Melazzini  
*NATURE | ENVIRONMENT | RURAL AREAS | WAR & PEACE | ORAL-HISTORY*

Stelvio. Crossroads of Peace is a documentary film that showcase an extraordinary place: The Stelvio Pass. Here in the middle of the Italian Alps, one finds an imposing natural treasure where the visitor discovers a breath-taking landscape. But people once battled here not just for sporting reasons: 100 years ago here was the highest and coldest battlefield of WWI. Objects from that cruel war are still found in the snow by people like Mario, who collects war remains in his spare time. Through Mario’s story and other characters Stelvio enables us to discover the unexpected power and magic of this alpine microcosm.

**German title:** STILFSERJOCH. KREUZWEG DES FRIEDENS  
**Festivals 2014:** Trento Film Festival, DOK. Festival Munich  
72 or 52min | HD | original Italian version with English, French or German subtitles available

**Production:**  
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**SURROUNDING**

*by* Arne Körner  
*EXPERIMENTAL | PORTRAIT | WORK | CULTURE | INDUSTRY*

Center of the story is a vinyl pressing plant. It is the biography of a thing, this machine. She told us with every movement and every sound her own story.

**German title:** SURROUNDING  
**Awards:** Best Experimental Sardinia Film Festival ; nominated for the German Independence Award – Best Short Film  
**Festivals:** Oldenburg, Kerry, Rio de Janeiro, Freshly Squeezed – Dublin, Festival Alto Vicentino, Sardinia Film Festival, Open Eyes Marburg, Lago, Palena, HELD FF London, Ahoi! Hamburg, Magma – Acireale, FIDE Brazil, Nacht des radikalen Films – Leipzig, ALTERNATIVE – Novi Beograd  
10min | 16mm | b&w | without dialogues

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**SURVIVING THE TSUNAMI – MY ATOMIC AUNT**

*by* Kyoko Miyake  
*ENVIRONMENT | CURRENT AFFAIRS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | FAMILY | HUMAN INTEREST | PoV*

My Automic Aunt tells an insightful and surprisingly funny story of a family adjusting to life after the tsunami. Kyoko Miyake revisits her Aunt Kuniko, who was forced to abandon her businesses and home following the disaster. She now lives aimlessly in temporary accommodation on the edge of the contaminated zone and is determined to return home as soon as possible. Miyake is puzzled as to why she and the family do not hold anger following the great upheaval. As the first year after the disaster unfolds, she uneasily the uncomfortable past that prevents things being so clear cut. Through the attempts of the warm and indefatigable Aunt Kuniko to adapt at her ripe age, this deeply personal film explores notions of homeland, nuclear power and family love.

**German title:** MEINE TANTE AUS FUKUSHIMA  
**Festivals:** Hamburg, DOK Leipzig, EIDF in Seoul | as BEYOND THE WAVE | 77min | HDcam | DCP | original Japanese version with English or German subtitles available

**World Sales:**  
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info@inselfilm.info  
www.vimeo.com/57050924
A SYMPHONY OF SUMMITS – THE ALPS FROM ABOVE
by Peter Bardehle and Sebastian Lindemann

The Alps are Europe’s most prominent mountain range – and one of the most accessible. Over thousands of years a unique landscape emerged, in which mankind and nature left a mark on each other. By using the Cineflex camera technology the film approaches this fascinating world from an unusual perspective, from a bird’s eye: from above.

German title: DIE ALPEN – UNSERE BERGE VON OBEN
94min | Full HD | DCP | English or German version

THE TEACHER’S COUNTRY
by Benjamin Leers

THE TEACHER’S COUNTRY is the story of a land 50 years after its independence. It is about Tanzania, a country, which was formed by the ideas of the famous first president ‘Mwalimu’ Julius Nyerere. The film follows his youngest son on his way to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro. On his climb, Madaraka Nyerere reminisces the struggle for independence which his father was deeply involved in. The film is also a story reflecting on the development of Tanzania over the past decades, told by people who seem ordinary at the first glance: One is single mother Bertha who lives in Dar es Salaam. She works all day to earn her living and hardly sees her daughter. Laurent Nestory is a teacher on Kome Island on Lake Victoria – an island without electricity or running water. The film also portrays Thomas Bilingi, a priest who is helping very pragmatically with the development of his area. By doing this, the film provides a genuine insight into the hopes and disappointments, the achievements, and problems of the protagonists in Tanzania on its 50th anniversary.

German title: THE TEACHER’S COUNTRY
70min | HD | DCP | Blu-ray | 16:9 | b/w & color | original English version with German subtitles available

TEMPLE OF EMOTIONS – The Maracanã Stadium in Rio de Janeiro
by Gerhard Schick

World Cup 2014: All eyes are on Brazil. And on the legendary Maracanã stadium – a sacred place, a celebration of everything that makes Brazil what it is: sport, music, religion, euphoria and sorrow. It was here that Pelé shot his thousandth goal, that Frank Sinatra, Tina Turner and Ivete Sangalo held their mega-concerts, and that Pope John Paul II gave the largest mass ever held in Latin America. The Maracanã presents its heroes to us, legends such as Ghiggia, Zagallo and Pelé or Brazil’s most popular singer Ivete Sangalo. And on the other hand: a whole favela where 700 families have lived for years and which is to disappear to make way for FIFA-prescribed parking. There is a wealth of stories to tell about the Maracanã and its neighbourhood: joyful, fearful and always a little crazy – just like Brazil itself.

German title: Das Maracanã Stadium in Rio de Janeiro – Tempel der Emotionen
52 or 90min | 16:9 | German or English version
**THIRTY-NINE**

*by Patrick Richter*

Thirty-nine is the story of a girl that doesn’t know how she looks. Her suffering is a burden to her family. The attempt to help her deteriorates her condition. The film is a personal portrait of the state between despair and hope.

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German title: **Neununddreißig**

Awards: Prize for the Best Contribution German Competition Oberhausen; A38-Production-Award – Kassel Festival: Flensburg; up and coming IFF Hannover

27min 15sec PAL 25fps | 28min23sec NTSC 24fps | HD | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

**THREE STONES FOR JEAN GENET**

*by Frieder Schlaich*

In April of 2013, American singer Patti Smith travels to the grave of French writer Jean Genet in Larache, Morocco. She brings him three stones, which she collected for him over 30 years ago. There are places of yearning. There are promises that accompany us our entire lives. And there are friends, who listen and ask questions. Frieder Schlaich and Patti Smith are linked by just such a friendship. Tangier is the place, and the promise is one that was made to Jean Genet. Patti Smith has been carrying the secret around with her for many years, inside a matchbox. When chance creates a situation that brings everything together, she is able to honour her promise. Frieder accompanies Patti through the city he feels so close to, and she speaks of that which is close to her. At the cemetery they encounter a young boy who carries the spell of the story further. Two rolls of black and white film, a Bolex and the few minutes before a live performance limit the shooting time. Having the necessary concentration and knowledge of one another is what sets the film apart. The view across the ocean lies in its limitation.

Festivals: Berlinale / SHORTS

7min 6sec | 16mm | Bolex | DCP | 1:1,37 | Dolby 5.1 | original English version with German subtitles available

**THEATRE WITHOUT AUDIENCE**

*by Pawel Kocambasi*

“Learning from Brecht how to think of oneself in the third person singular, I realized that displacement is not a curse but part of condition humaine.” ATW

From his point of his interest in theater, he was always fortunate to be in the right place at the right time: with Kantor and Grotowski in Poland, Bertolt Brecht and ‘Gruppe 47’ in Berlin, Gertrude Stein and Robert Wilson in New York. ATW taught drama and comparative literature at Harvard, Yale School of Drama, Oxford, Stanford and the CUNY.

In 1982 he returned to Europe, though persona non grata and still blacklisted in his native country, and established the legendary ‘Applied Theater Studies’ (Angewandte Theater-Wissenschaften) at the University of Giessen, Germany. Since then he has no inhibitions to call himself ATW, an anagram of Andrzej Tadeusz Wirth and of a discipline he invented.

German title: **THEATER OHNE PUBLIKUM**

77min | HD | original German/English/Polish/Ukraine version with English subtitles available

**Production:**

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www.theatre-without-audience.net
Girls who break dance are a rarity, but Jildou is one of them. She took part in her first battle at the age of 13, and now she is about to go to college. She knows that break dance is often associated with the ghetto. Maybe this is because a lot of its practitioners come from mixed backgrounds, as does she: her mother is German, her father Iraqi. Aside from her dancing, she dreams of the cliché happy life with two kids. This dynamic portrait switches from interviews and episodes from Jildou’s everyday life to footage of the battles she takes part in: exciting confrontations in which the dancers challenge and comment on one another. It’s all about who’s the best. They dance to hip hop music, cheer, catcall, applaud and gesticulate. Relaxing in a quiet dance studio, Jildou explains the meanings of the different gestures. Boys use one of them to show the length of their manhood, just one illustration of what a male-dominated world it is.

But Jildou has now formed her own crew ‘How I Met a B-Girl’ with girls from all over Germany. They are the only team of girls (and the only Germans) who are trying to compete in what for years has been the biggest tournament in the breakdance world: The Battle of the Year.

German title: To Be a B-Girl
Festivals: IDFS, Oberhausen, doxs! Duisburg
20min | HDcam | DigiBeta | Blu-ray | VoD | Stereo | original German version with English subtitles available

This movie is about the dreams and opportunities of three young Mongolian cross-country skiing athletes, about their struggles to overcome all obstacles on their way to a participation in the world-wide society of professional sports. Lacking the basic preconditions to even try and qualify for other international competitions, the ultimate goal is to take part in the Olympic Games. Training facilities are all but inexistent, as are competition tracks that are accredited by the FIS. There is a scarcity of everything but the athletes’ motivation and their will to fight. It is a movie of contrasts, about the determination to follow a dream, providing us with intense insights in a rapidly changing world that is still strange to us.

German title: STEPPENLAUF
Festivals: DOK.fest Munich 2014
82min 30sec | HD | original version with English or German subtitles, German voice over available

Thousands of Trans*Women live in the big cities of Turkey. Since 2009 there has been an increase in the murder of Trans*. If crimes against Trans*Women are even investigated by the police and brought to court, the perpetrators can usually rely on being exempted from prosecution. Ebru K., a Trans*Woman from Istanbul, fights against the displacement and murder of her companions. She has experienced exclusion from state, society and family in her own life. For 25 years she has been active for human rights and the rights of LGBTIQ. She wants to change Turkish society with humour, self-irony and political acumen. She meets Margarethe, an 85-year-old German retired nurse and mother of the film-maker, and establishes a retirement home for Trans*. Urban transformation of Istanbul and the protests around the Gezi Park resonate throughout the film. Trans X Istanbul is a personal documentary film and a multi-platform project.

German title: Trans X Istanbul
106 min | HD | DCP | DVD | 16:9 | original Turkish/German version with English subtitles available
**TRAVELLING FOR BEAUTY**

by René Schöttler

Perceived ‘too big’ in her home country and currently confronted with the relevance of ‘body’ and ‘beauty’, author Tine Wittler travels to Mauritania – a country in the Sahara desert where fully-figured women are considered especially beautiful and force-feeding of young girls is still practiced. But how can this be? How can anything like an ‘ideal’ emerge in the first place, and what is it influenced by? How can I deal with the conflict of wanting to be ‘beautiful’ and wanting to be ‘free’? How do Mauritanian women cope with the topic of beauty in a country that still makes them having to fight for their rights and that is more and more influenced by global images of ‘beauty’? – Tine’s trip turns out a big adventure. Amongst the people she meets are a human rights activist, a famous singer, a philosopher. And Wafa – a very special person with her own mind and her own wisdom…

A film about real beauty, the necessity of changing your perspective in order to learn, and friendship.

German title: **WER SCHÖN SEIN WIL, MUSS REISEN**

Awards/Festivals: Seal of Approval ‘recommended’, dokumentarfilmwoche hamburg

93min | digital | DCP | DVD

original German/English/French/Arab/Hassaniya version with German English or French subtitles

**THE TUGENDHAT HOUSE**

by Dieter Reifarth

The Tugendhat House (1928/30) in Brno, Czech Republic, is a solitaire of modern architecture. It represents the social utopian aspiration of the architect Mies van der Rohe and the open-minded upper-class life design of his clients Grete and Fritz Tugendhat.

The film tells the changeful story of the unique building and its inhabitants: of the spirit of optimism in the prosperous Western Moravia between the world wars, the occupation by Nazi Germany, the forced displacement and emigration of the Tugendhat family to Switzerland and Venezuela, of the first postwar years when the house was used as a rhythms and ballet school and of the decades afterwards. In the late forties the former magnate’s house became a therapy centre and then a school for children suffering from scoliosis. During the communist era the house was a social biotope, an island in midst a not very disabled-friendly world. After the ‘Velvet Revolution’ Václav Klaus and Vladimír Mečiar negotiated the secession of Czechoslovakia in the Tugendhat House and announced that there will be two separate states beginning with January 1993. Because of its universal importance as an architectonic masterpiece the house receives the status of UNESCO World Cultural Heritage in 2001.

Our film is about avant-gardists and marauders, philanthropists and bureaucrats, visionaries and apparatchiks, about injustice, indifference, misappropriation, demolition and conservation, about small victories and big defeats.

One learns of great expectations and disappointed hopes in a complicated process between restitution and renunciation, appropriation and dispossession, which says little about give-and-take but a lot about the grim history of the 20th century. We tell of the contradictions between artistic utopia and political disasters, the interconnection of public life and privacy, history of architecture and family history, the interplay of remembrance and oblivion, of powerlessness and time…

German title: **HAUS TUGENDHAT**

Awards/Festivals: shortlisted for German Film Award LOLA & German Film Critic Award, Rotterdam; Berlinale, Dublin…

116min | HD | DCP | German/Czech/English version with English, French, Spanish, Italian or Portuguese subtitles

**THE TRIANGLE**

by Uwe Mann

Love does not know time.

In 1966 Heiner Hinrichs was the youngest and most successful construction manager of Halle-Neustadt at the age of only 28. At his age he celebrates the autumn of his life with passion and humor and shares it with two women. But now he moves to a new apartment. And so the chubby pensioner has to chop-off his roots from a place that he influenced significantly.

His resistance and ongoing will for independence lead to grotesque situations. Heiner Hinrichs shows that love and passion are indeed consistent with being old.

German title: **IM DREIECK**

Festival: DOKLeipzig

88min | HD | original German version with English subtitles available

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Two young men smuggle refugees to European ground. While the Turkish border is still porous, Greece barricades its borders with European support. Thermographic cameras, fences, coastguard ships. The guys pack, they move, sometimes they make it, sometimes they don’t. The rent was due last week.

German title: **NACHT GRENZE MORGEN**

Awards/Festivals: Nominated for Best Student Documentary - IDFAmsterdam; Duisburger Filmwoche

30min | 16:9 | DCP | original Arabic/Farsi/Turkish version with English, German, French or Turkish subtitles available

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A tyre recycling workshop in South Okkalapa in Myanmar’s former capital of Yangon is a site of multiple uses and multiple deaths, for this is the place where defunct tyres are transformed from their original shape and use, and are reborn into new and completely different lives. Filmed almost entirely in black-and-white, this observational documentary gently explores a community of tyre cutters and recyclers, young and old, male and female, as they create with their super-sharp blades, careful eyes and skilful strokes, buckets, brushes and slippers from discarded rubber tyres. And, from time to time, in fleeting yet visceral moments in between their movements, snatched conversation and song, something lyrical, even philosophical emerges, and we are gently reminded of how every death gives way to a birth.

Festivals: Wathann FF Yangon Myanmar, IDFAmsterdam

30min | HD | b/w | original version with English subtitles available

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The documentary involves the representation and optimization of the female genital – anatomical myths, circumcision, censorship and intimate modifications.

With: Mithu Sanyal, Claudia Gehrke, Laura Méritt, Wilfried Schneider and many others.

German title: **VULVA 3.0**

Festivals: Berlinale / PANORAMA

79min | digital | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
MMM Film Zimmermann & Co GmbH
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In the Waiting Area, pregnant women can spend the last days before giving birth to make sure medical care is accessible if needed. Only few hospitals have them - but they could save thousands of lives of young mothers and children: An uplifting film following four young women through the ups and downs of childbirth in Ethiopia.

World Sales:
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Festivals: Hofer Filmtage, Achtung Berlin, German-Turkey Film Festival
70 or 52min | DCP | HD | DVD | English version

The completely ‘unheroic’ journal of a north Greenland expedition with Arved Fuchs, from the perspective of cameraman Martin Varga. He is a cameraman and a member of a North Greenland expedition with Arved Fuchs. After weeks of hiking trough the lonely Arctic ice desert, the journey seems to grow ever longer. Conversations become scarce. The landscape is empty. Mundane wishes arise: meeting friends, eating a curry-wurst. But walking is all there is; walking, walking, walking ...

The film realistically and entertainingly does away with wrong perceptions of ‘heroism’ in coping with the trials of the Arctic.

THE WAY IS NO AIM presents the simple life of Greenland hunters alongside the complex logistics behind a polar expedition, thus questioning the meaning, the point and the results of such an enterprise with subtle irony.

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www.berndsiering.de

German title: DER WEG IST KEIN ZIEL
47min | HD | original German version

THE WAY IS NO AIM
by Bernd Siering
ENVIRONMENT | TRAVEL | ADVENTURE | PORTRAIT
THE WEEK MANDELA DIED -- A RAINBOW NATION DRIFTING APART?
by Beatus Buchzik and Florian Heinhold
CONFLICTS | SOCIETY | ECONOMY | HUMAN INTEREST | POLITICS | EDUCATION

The day Nelson Mandela died, millions of South Africans took to the streets to celebrate his life. But now that their icon is gone, what will become of his legacy?
From a family struggling to survive in their crime-ridden township neighbourhood to the inspiring story of a former Robben Island inmate who started a new life after years of torture and imprisonment during the Apartheid regime: This documentary takes the viewer on a journey to a South Africa full of contrasts and seemingly unbridgeable divides, so close yet so far from the country’s famous beaches, safari parks and tourist attractions.

German title: DIE WOCHE ALS MANDELA STARB – SÜDAFRIKA TANZT UND BANGT
45, 52 or 65min | HD | 16:9 | original English version with German subtitles available

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WE WEREN'T GIVEN ANYTHING FOR FREE
by Eric Esser
WOMEN | PORTRAIT | ORAL-HISTORY | WAR & PEACE | CONFLICTS

Annita Malavasi was just 22 when the Germans occupied Italy, their former allies, in 1943. As a partisan in the Italian resistance named ‘Laila’, she moved throughout the Apennines with and between fighting units, delivering information, transporting weapons, and taking part in battles. She spent over a year in the Apennines, fighting against the German occupation. At the same time, she had to assert herself against the men of the male-dominated Italian society. By the end of the war, Laila had risen among the ranks to become one of the few female commanders in the Italian resistance.

This film chronicles the story of a lifelong struggle for emancipation that began with the battle for Italy’s liberation from fascism. Laila and her two comrades, Gina ‘Sonia’ Moncigoli and Pierina ‘Iva’ Boniauri talk about their time in the Resistenza and what it meant to them and many other women.

German title: GESCHENKT WURDE UNS NICHTS
Original title: NON CI È STATO REGALATO NIENTE
Awards: Main price of the press at Festival Mundial de Cine Extremo San Sebastián de Veracruz | Rising Star Award in Student Film Competition at Canada International Film Festival, Vancouver
58min | HD (ProRes) | DVD | NTSC | PAL | DCP | Blu-ray | original Italian version with English or German subtitles

WHERE THE COLD WIND BLOWS
by Janina Jung
CULTURE | SOCIAL | SOCIETY | RURAL AREAS | MIGRATION

“How cold the wind blows in our beautiful Westerwald”, the locals like to sing with tears in their eyes. But feeling at home in Germany can be a thorny issue, because this also is the song the Wehrmacht soldiers sang as they marched east. Perhaps that’s why it’s almost considered improper to make a film (apart from satires) about provincial Germany and its – usually considered backward – idea of home.
In this respect, Janina Jung shows courage when she returns to her home village – she won a Golden Dove for this once before – without letting her views be clouded by emotional closeness or intellectual distance. One senses a familiarity, though, for apart from impressions of the village over the course of a year, the film was shot exclusively at the kitchen table. You don’t invite strangers there, and you talk frankly. Jung interviewed various villagers – old and young, long-time residents and recent new arrivals, Germans and migrants – about the same themes: the village community and how it is changing, nature and landscape, money and job, love and marriage, language, tradition, and faith. An intelligent montage turns this into a polyphonic snapshot of the atmosphere in provincial Germany in 2013. Full of funny as well as bitter moments, which combine with the theme of strangeness that runs through the film to remind us how problematic it is: home. (DOKleipzig, Grit Lemke)

German title: WO DER WIND SO KALT WEHT
Festivals: DOKleipzig, Max-Ophüls-Preis FF Saarbrücken
80min | HD | DCP | DVD | Blu-ray | original German version with English subtitles available

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WHO IS THOMAS MÜLLER?
by Christian Heynen

The cross-media project WHO IS THOMAS MÜLLER? is a humorous quest: A search for the average German. ‘Thomas Müller’ is the personification of the ‘super-average’ – a construction created by German statisticians in order to deliver a role model for advertising, politics and economy. But who is the real face behind the – statistically proven – most common name in Germany? Who is the most average ‘Thomas Müller’ of Germany? Or could it be that our politics and our TV programmes are aimed at people who do not exist? Is our whole country designed for a statistical average which ultimately corresponds to no one? WHO IS THOMAS MÜLLER? follows a road-movie structure. Using state-of-the-art narrative forms – such as cartoon animation, graphics, etc. – the documentary starts where all statistics end: With real individuals who are named Thomas Müller but are not at all consistent with your average German. These encounters make the film fast, funny, serious, thoughtful and give it an edge. WHO IS THOMAS MÜLLER? is a cross-media project combining the worlds of cinema, television and the internet. While the movie is a search for this phantom, we bring it to life in the world wide web. By virtually creating a ‘Thomas Müller’, the German average person comes alive and is able to interact with his ‘fans’, ‘friends’ and ‘followers’. The combination of all these strategies creates a cross-media event which offers an ironic answer to Germany’s superstar mania and at the same time questions market research in its very essence.

German title: WER IST THOMAS MÜLLER

Festivals: Zurich, Max-Ophüls-Preis, Saarbrücken
90 or 57min | 2D | DCP | 1:2,39 | original German version with English subtitles available

WILLY BRANDT – REMEMBERING A POLITICIAN
by André Schäfer

Willy Brandt, who would have been 100 on the 18th December, was one of the greatest German and European political figures. He was a person who was crucial in shaping post second world war history, firstly as mayor of Berlin during the Cold War, then as foreign minister in a major coalition government, next as Federal Chancellor of the Bonn Republic and finally as a long-serving SPD leader with a major international reputation.

For this 100th anniversary, André Schäfer’s film tells the story of the important stations in Willy Brandt’s political life. The filmmaker allows this charismatic politician to speak for himself in rare and intimate footage from his years in exile, his time as Mayor of Berlin and his short but formative time as chancellor. Friends and close companions reminisce about him and together portray a very personal picture of Brandt. Among them are his son Peter Brandt, his fellow campaigner and close colleague Egon Bahr, the journalists Gerd Ruge, Gunter Hofmann, Werner Perger and Wibke Bruhns, Wolf-Dietrich Schilling, Klaus Harpprecht, Albrecht Müller and Harry Walter, the Bonn photographers Josef Darchinger and Konrad R. Müller, and last but not least 98 year old Elizabeth Fisher-Spanjer, a friend from his time in exile as a young man.

German title: WILLY BRANDT – ERINNERUNGEN AN EIN POLITIKERLEBEN

89min | DVD | Blu-ray | HDcam | Xdcam | Quicktime mov | original German version with English subtitles available

WOMEN FOR JUSTICE
by Daniel Burkholz and Sybille Fezer

Surrounded by a society totally dominated by men, the women in India have to face violence in nearly every area of their lives. But women in the Indian State of Gujarat are not willing to accept this any longer. They organize themselves and found women’s courts to dispense justice. And they succeed in fighting the violence, protecting the women and bettering the lives in their communities.

52min | 16:9 | DVCAM | English version with German subtitles available

World Sales:
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**YOGA – THE ART OF LIVING**
by Solveig Klaßen

A journey into the heart of yoga.
People of every cultural and religious background, age and ability practice yoga. Modern 'lifestyle yoga' which is very popular in the West is generally limited to the physical asanas, while the original yoga teachings, which are more than 4,000 years old, combine physical and spiritual exercises into one holistic concept. This is the focus of our documentary: the source of yoga, far removed from modern commercial excesses. We accompany a group of Western pilgrims who are undertaking a pilgrimage to Rishikesh to Uttarkarashi, an ashram deep in the Himalayas. In Southern India Sriram teaches Yoga in the tradition of Desikachar. With warm-hearted protagonists and colourful imagery, the film penetrates the very heart of yoga. In a visually appealing way, it shows that yoga not only brings us closer to the important values such as dedication, mindfulness and detachment from material things, but that it is also very much a practical way of life, full of joy and humour, in both the West and its country of origin, India.

German title: **YOGA – DIE KUNST DES LEBENS**
French title: **YOGA – L’ART DE VIVRE**
52min | HD | DVD | original Hindi/French/German/English/Spanish version with German, French or English subtitles

**YOU REMAIN THE FARMER**
by Benedikt Kuby

Located high in the mountains of Tyrol, the farm at Inzing has been home to the Wanner family for a good 400 years. With no descendents, 82-year-old Heinz is the last of his lineage. In order to ensure its continuation and his own livelihood, the grumpy old man scours the village for a successor. He chooses 20-year-old Johannes, who henceforth accompanies the old hand and learns as he carries out the day-to-day running of the farm using the traditional techniques that have been long since lost from the modern-day training curriculum. Although Heinz could have embarked upon enjoying the autumn of his life long ago, an existence without daily work is utterly inconceivable to him: Once a farmer, always a farmer. The film is a reflection on the change of generations; the story of a transition.

German title: **DER BAUER BLEIBST DU**
Festivals: Zurich
104min | HD | DCP | original Tyrol version with German or English narrator and subtitles available

**THE ZARAH LEANDER FILES**
by Torsten Striegnitz and Simone Dobmeier

Zarah Leander was the Third Reich’s greatest film star. Admired by the Nazis she became the best-paid film diva ever signed by the UFA. Until today Zarah Leander is intrinsically tied to our collective memory. At the peak of her career in early 1943, Zarah Leander suddenly leaves her mansion in Berlin and returns to her home country Sweden. Around the same time, rumours are starting to spread which will ultimately determine the myth of Zarah Leander: a Nazi diva, a non-political actress or a soviet spy. THE ZARAH LEANDER FILES immerses into the life of the Swedish film diva and asks who is really behind the mysterious look, the frivolous songs and pompous gestures? Who was Zarah Leander really?

German title: **DIE AKTE ZARAH LEANDER**
52min | HD | German version, others on request
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Published by the German Documentary Association AG DOK in cooperation with german-films.

IMPRINT ©2014
Arbeitsgemeinschaft Dokumentarfilm e.V.
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Cover Design Matti Bauer, Gerhard Wolf, a.o.
Cover Photo John Toft
Printing Office Dorn, Raunheim
Press Date January, 27th, 2014

Acknowledgment to HANFGARN & UFER Filmprod. for disposal of the film still by John Toft of documentary THE FLYING BOYS OF GAZA for using as cover photo.
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.