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, Tallinn 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 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 the 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
Dear Readers of This Catalogue,

Anniversary! For the past twenty years, the German Documentary Association AG DOK, in cooperation with German Films, has been publishing this catalogue featuring the fascinating variety of German documentary films.

Yes, we checked and it’s true: Since 1997, the German Documentary Association AG DOK has been supplying visitors to markets, festivals and industry events around the world with the ‘german documentaries’ catalogue. Each new addition supplements the previous, forming an impressive encyclopaedia of German documentary films from the past two decades. Many of them have found their way to international audiences. If you’re looking for films from previous years, please take a look at our website www.german-documentaries.de. Here you will find not only all film descriptions from previous years, but also the latest and most interesting information about the German documentary film scene such as prizes, festivals and noteworthy new productions.

Our ‘anniversary catalogue’, most likely the last to appear in the unchanged layout of the past twenty years, contains information about nearly 250 short and long documentaries as well as series – more than any previous edition. Among them are German documentaries which could be seen at international film festivals during the past few months, along with Andres Veiel’s current Berlinale film about the internationally acclaimed conceptual artist Joseph Beuys. And it contains the films competing for the 2017 German Film Prize, along with television productions and independent films.

It’s remarkable to see how the films from the past twenty years have reflected the social movements and events of their time, like this year’s films with their emphasis on international migration and the challenges of integration. Another focus is on the variety of artist portraits and music films, as well as a series of films about youth culture and coming of age.

As you can see, this year’s catalogue is a treasure trove for all those searching for exciting and well-made documentaries. We wish you many happy discoveries.

Sincerely Yours,
Thomas Frickel, Chair & General Manager
AG DOK / German Documentary Association
16 WOMEN

by Bahar Ebrahim

16 Women at the age of 20-80 years are talking about their past and future, dreams and wishes... 16 women, 16 stories, 16 fates in Teheran. Women aged between 20 and 80. 16 women finding their self conception. Snapshots. What are their thoughts, feelings, actions? What is it they expect from their lives? This film by Bahar Ebrahim is an appraisal of 16 women in everyday situations, their ideas, visions and perceptions. 16 Iranian women and their views on the past, loneliness, men, fashion, love, freedom and self determination. Two of them remain silent, convincing the others to immerse in music and dance. Art in shape of a warming coat for the soul.

“Life is a prison, my eyes an ocean of tears. Oh Life, sweet life, I have had enough of you, let me go.”


Contact:
Cornelsen Films GmbH
Friedrichstr. 95
10119 Berlin, Germany
cell: +49 (0) 160 8457781
christopher@cornelsen-films.de
www.facebook.com/16women
youtu.be/V1ZTiJDZW74

Original title:
16 ZAN

German title:
16 FRAUEN

89min | 16:9 | 1:1,78 | Original Farsi version with English or German subtitles available

1917 – THE REAL OCTOBER. ARTISTS IN TIMES OF REVOLUTION

by Katrin Rothe

A cut-out animation on artists in times of revolution. Petersburg, 1917: Russian artists in the year of two revolutions. The tsar abdicates and suddenly everything seems possible. Eight months after the February Bourgeois Democratic Revolution, the Bolsheviks seize power in October. But what exactly happened in this period? With the help of numerous detailed recordings and documents, we recount the events from the perspective of artists such as Maxim Gorky, Kazimir Malevich and Zinaida Gippius. The questions they then faced are still relevant today: What role do artists and art play in times of social upheaval? Where and how did they push forward events themselves? A filmically experimental perspective of these events, inspired by the avant-garde aesthetics of this time.

German title: 1917 – DER WAHRE OKTOBER

90, 52 or 45min | 4K | HD | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | German or English version
ABHISHEK AND THE MARRIAGE
by Kordula Hildebrandt

After TANGO PASIÓN and SPIRIT BERLIN is ABHISHEK AND THE MARRIAGE Kordula Hildebrandts third movie. The film deals with the European largely unknown young Indian rebellion against the ritualized marriage plans of their families. The protagonist Abhishek (37) is designed an alternative existence between tradition and Western modernity and builds in Goa for Indian and Western tourists a holiday resort on. If he succeeds there an independent life or will his Russian girlfriend Miera (31) marriage, especially the pressure of his family bearing down on him. In India, the family is the most important and marriages the norm. The protagonist Abhishek (37), however, has his own plans, he penetrated even against the will of his father and mother. The documentation observed in the first part of the family life in Abhishek’s hometown Kota, Rajasthan and provides the second part an insight into the extraordinary life of the protagonist as a holiday resort manager in Arambol, Goa. The documentary takes the European audience in a completely different world. He communicates a realistic insight into a family living conditions and traditional views of the bourgeois middle class and provides access to the idiosyncratic, unusual freethinker Abhishek who makes representative of the young generation of male rebellion against the traditional family image known.

Production:
HILDEBRANDT FILM
Wiener Str. 51
10999 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 30139184
produktion@hildebrandt-film.de
www.hildebrandt-film.de

World Sales:
Paul Thiltges Distributions
info@ptd.lu

Distribution:
Kinostar Filmverleih GmbH
verleih@kinostar.com

German title: ABHISHEK AND THE MARRIAGE
43, 52 or 90min | 16:9 | DCP | 2K | stereo | original Hindi/English version with German, English or French subtitles

Ai-un: Hugo Makibi Enomiya-Lassalle
Bridge Builder between Zen and Christianity
by Christof Wolf

Now that inter-religious dialogue has become a great buzz-term, it is more important than ever that we do not content ourselves with the term alone. The encounter between Christianity and Buddhism illustrates how religions can learn from one another. A key figure in this success story, the Jesuit and Zen instructor Hugo Makibi Enomiya-Lassalle (1898–1990), first went to Japan as a missionary. He left us an unparalleled example of how dialogue comes to life in the encounter between people who are both firmly rooted in their own tradition and yet willing to become part of another culture.

German title: Ai-un: Hugo Makibi Enomiya-Lassalle. Brückenbauer zwischen Zen und Christentum
110min | DCP | DVD | VoD | original SwissGerman version with German, English, Italien, French or Spanish subtitles

Contact:
Loyola Prod. Munich GmbH
Christof Wolf
Kaulbachstr. 22a
80539 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89 23862418
info@lp-muc.com
www.lp-muc.com
www.youtube.com/lpmuc

The Aligre Market
by Arne Körner

Paris: the 12th arrondissement, the Aligre market. A road with more than forty fruit and vegetable stands. Pure Vitamin C! Day by day tons of goods are moving. The total condensing: buyers and sellers of all stripes dealing and strolling. The Aligre is a place of cultures, a symphony of things: oranges, apples, mangos they are all the stars of the moment in a dense crowd of shouting, hunger, trade and enjoyment. A unique piece of Paris!

French title: Le Marché d’Aligre
8min | 16mm | 1,37:1 | Dolby 7.1 | VoD | French or English version

World Sales:
Against Reality Pictures
tel.: +49 (0) 40 69088141
www.againstrealitypictures.com
www.FB.com/AgainstRealityPictures
vimeo.com/koerner
The film tells the story of Chancellor Merkel’s unexpected rise to power – from an East German physicist to the most powerful woman in the world. We look at her biography from when she entered the political stage in 1989 to the present. A second focus is put on the refugee crisis and establishes the connection between Merkel’s actions and her biography. Political and personal companions who have witnessed the chancellor throughout the years comment on her childhood in East Germany, her first political steps, her rise to the top, her eventful chancellorship, and the current political situation. Angela Merkel herself reflects in an exclusive interview on her life, her unexpected and unprecedented career, the refugee crisis, and finally on herself as a politician, a motivator, or a listener.

German title: **ANGELA MERKEL – DIE UNERWARTETE**
90 or 52min | HDTV 16:9 | German, English or French version

**Contact:**
3B-Produktion GmbH
Torstr. 177
10115 Berlin, Germany
info@3b-produktion.de,
tel.: +49 (0) 30 30875515
www.3b-produktion.de
vimeo.com/184683005
vimeo.com/184672347
vimeo.com/184670077

The documentary series tells the stories behind the most significant developments in art history that very often result from the fierce competition of genial masters of a single generation. We introduce the great antagonists in art and the artistic hotspots that developed through their rivalries. By showing the duels between the two artists we offer the audience a unique understanding of the master craftsmen and an entirely new perspective on their work. Dramaturgically, the narrative of the duel not only opens opportunities for comparisons, but also means to stage a showdown. The duel becomes a window to the stories behind them through which the social development can be more closely examined.

German title: **DIE GROSSEN KÜNSTLERDUELLE**
Michelangelo vs Leonardo | Van Gogh vs Gauguin | Nolde vs Liebermann
3x52min | HD | German, French or English version

**Contact:**
3B-Produktion GmbH
Torstr. 177
10115 Berlin, Germany
info@3b-produktion.de,
tel.: +49 (0) 30 30875515
www.3b-produktion.de
vimeo.com/184683005
vimeo.com/184672347
vimeo.com/184670077
**AUSTERLITZ**
by Sergei Loznitsa

Sergei Loznitsa positioned his camera among the stream of tourists who visit the Dachau and Sachsenhausen concentration camps. His static, black-and-white shots closely observe the behavior of the visitors: the couples in summer outfits taking selfies in front of the entrance gate bearing the legend ARBEIT MACHT FREI; the woman posing gracefully in front of one of the ovens; the man calmly snacking on nuts as he enters the most abominable section of the death camp. Others are wearing T-shirts bearing slogans such as ‘Cool Story, Bro’ or ‘Jurassic Park.’ An officious guide orders her group around, and they follow her docilely like sheep. None of them will have noticed Loznitsa with his camera, among all the others taking photographs and looking around glassy-eyed.

Unaccompanied by any commentary, the images raise a question: now that all experiences of the camps are collective, is it even possible to commemorate the Holocaust in an appropriate way?

Has the concentration camp become a spectacle?

The title AUSTERLITZ is a reference to W.G. Sebald’s eponymous novel about a Jewish man who as a child refugee was robbed of his name and history. (IDFA)

**BARCA OU BASSA**
by Peter Heller

BARCA OU BASSA takes inside views to reasons of migration from a tiny ‘paradise island’ at the Atlantic coast of Westafrica to Spain. African experts, activists and scientists research and explain under the aspects of economy, ecology, history and geopolitics the background to the individual story of the two migrating brothers (LIFE SAARABA ILLEGAL) in times the ‘Fortress Europe’ is sealing of.

German title: **BARCELONA ODER TOD – Fluchtsursachen Made in Europe?**

35min | HD | 1080 | 50i | ProRes | HQ | 16:9 | German version others on request

**BALKAN EXPRESS – Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Serbia**
by Mirjana Momirović & Caroline Haertel

The deepest ravine of Europe, the last primeval forests of the continent, significant cultural sites and an unique biodiversity. There is an area with spectacular natural phenomena full of undiscovered beauty. Pristine nature, hidden landscapes, enchanting wilderness — all in the middle of Europe: the Balkans. Welcome to the Balkan Express, a journey of discovery through five young nations in South-eastern Europe. The stages are Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Macedonia and Serbia. A visually stunning journey through mysterious landscapes, untouched wilderness and ancient traditions in the middle of Europe.

German title: **DER BALKAN EXPRESS – Slowenien, Kroatien, Montenegro, Mazedonien, Serbien**

5x43min | HD | original version with German or English voice over available

**WORLD SALES:**
Autentic Distribution GmbH
Ludwigstr.11
50667 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 20352729
sales@autentic-distribution.com

**PRODUCTION:**
micafilm – Haertel & Momirovic GbR
Augsburger Str. 15
14612 Falkensee, Germany
cell: +49 (0) 151 19670085
www.micafilm.de

**GOLDEN DOVE – DOK Leipzig; Venice, IDFA Amsterdam, shortlisted German Film Award, LOLA@berlinale**

94min | DCP | b/w | original English/German/Spanish version with English subtitles
BAZON – SERIOUS JOKES
by Peter Sempel

A psychodocumentary music film about Bazon Brock, a fascinating philosopher and art and social critic, provocateur. Harald Falckenberg has called him a universal genius. In his Berlin gallery ‘Denkerei’ [Thinkery] with the ‘Amt für Arbeit an unlösbaren Problemen und Maßnahmen der hohen Hand’ [Office for Work on Unsolvable Problems and High-Handed Measures], his house in Wuppertal, in his garden, at appearances in museums, galleries, universities, the ZKM arts centre in Karlsruhe, Cabaret Voltaire and Vienna, the camera meanders through Brock’s world of ideas, which move from Wagner and Nietzsche to Sloterdijk, Neo Rauch, Parcifal, Uli Hoenen and housewives. Watched by animals, including many birds. Bazon: everything is ‘contrafact’, ‘tickling autonomy’ and music, from punk to opera.


German title: BAZON – ERNSTE SCHERZE
festivals: Filmfest Hamburg
108min | DCP | original version with English subtitles available

Contact: sempel@t-online.de
www.sempel.com
youtu.be/TirtTHfnpl0

BAZON – SERIOUS JOKES

BERLIN REBEL HIGH SCHOOL
by Alexander Kleider

You hated school when you were young? Your kids refuse to get up in the morning, because they feel the same?
Maybe this documentary shows a solution…
Hidden in one of Berlin’s backyards is Germany’s most ambitious high school. No headmaster, no hierarchy and no pressure. This school is entirely organized by its students without any outside funding. The pupils pay their own teachers and decide what they want to learn. The film tells the moving stories of Alex, Lena, Mimy and Hanil. They all coming from state schools all over Germany and have one things in common: they failed.
Now they experience a completely new way of learning – and want to give it a try again. They have two years to prepare for the final official test, held by the government.

German title: BERLIN REBEL HIGH SCHOOL
awards/festivals: Audience Award Austin Filmfestival, shortlisted for German film award, LOLA@Berlinerale
92min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

Contact: DOK-WERK filmkooperative
Brunnenstr. 181
10119 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 20849782
a.kleider@dok-werk.de
www.dok-werk.com
Distribution:
www.neuevisionen.de

BERLIN REBEL HIGH SCHOOL

BETTE DAVIS – LARGER THAN LIFE
by Sabine Carbon

“No guts, no glory” was her life motto. This intimate portrait of Hollywood’s most disconcerting film-star, Bette Davis, traces her life and roles at their original locations. Never the flawless beauty, Bette Davis believed that the key to success was to fight for it. She was absolutely fearless in her approach to unlikeable characters, yet the audience always adored her. The film looks beneath the controversial Hollywood myth and makes Bette Davis come to life, featuring intimate interviews with people who knew the star later in life – including the director of her last film, Larry Cohen, fellow actress Gena Rowlands and, among others, the writer who offered Bette Davis to stay at her house during a hotel strike in New York – just for a night or two… – but Bette Davis loved to surprise everybody.

German title: BETTE DAVIS – GRÖSSER ALS DAS LEBEN
52min | HD | English or German version

Contact: MEDEA FILM FACTORY UG
Irene Höfer
Lützowplatz 9
10785 Berlin, Germany
medea@snafu.de
tel.: +49 (0) 30 25295331
www.medeaﬁlm.de

BETTE DAVIS – LARGER THAN LIFE

Contact: mecklenburger-filmwerkstatt
www.mf-film.de
www.mecklenburger-filmwerkstatt.de

1156 | german documentaries 2017
Beuys, the man with a hat, some felt, and the Fettecke. Thirty years after his death he still seems to be a visionary, way ahead of his time. Back then he was trying to patentably explain how “money shouldn’t be a commodity.” He knew that money trade would undermine democracy. But there’s more. Beuys boxes, parleys, lectures, and explains pictures to a dead hare. He asks with a grin: “Do You Want a Revolution Without Laughter?” His expanded concept of art leads him smack in the middle of socially relevant discourse, even today.

A congenial montage of countless, previously untapped visual and audio sources, director Andres Veiel and his team created a one-of-a-kind chronicle: BEUYS is not a portrait in the common sense but an intimate look at a human being, his art, and his world of ideas.

German title: BEUYS
festivals: Berlinales/COMPETITION
107min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles

BEUYS
by Andres Veiel

BEYULS
by André Schäfer & Jascha Hannover

“There are three golden rules to filmmaking: thou shalt not bore, thou shalt not bore, and thou shalt not bore!”

Billy Wilder was one of the greatest writers and directors in Hollywood. The man who filmed Marilyn Monroe with her dress blowing up, wrote screenplays with Raymond Chandler and created film history with classics like ‘Sunset Boulevard’, ‘Some Like It Hot’ or ‘One, Two, Three’.

Billy Wilder was a legend in his lifetime and embodies a period of contemporary history. He was successful beyond measure, and became very rich as a result – but he never sold out.

Our film rediscovers this cultural figurehead. Via trailers and film extracts from his greatest works, it documents and analyses Wilder’s filmmaking. In exclusive, newly-filmed interviews companions and contemporaries of Billy Wilder, such as Volker Schlöndorff, Marthe Keller und Paul Diamond document a century of contemporary history and portray a person who above all was never boring.

German title: DU SOLLST NICHT LANGWEILEN: BILLY WILDER
90 or 52min | HD | 16:9 | Blu-ray | DVD | original version with German or French overvoice or English subtitles

BILLY WILDER – NEVER BE BORING
by André Schäfer & Jascha Hannover

After the dramatic advances in genomics, 21st century biology is heading for a revolution: synthetic biology. The consequences are huge, but the potential applications are promising. From the production of energy to new bio-materials through the environment and medicine, synthetic biology could usher in an era of greater efficiency, cheaper costs and lower pollution. Biology 2.0 discovers what nature would never have made and what man is in the process of creating.

German title: SYNTHETISCHE BIOLOGIE 2.0
3x53min | HD | English or French version

BIOLOGY 2.0: WHEN BIOLOGY BECOMES SYNTHETIC
by Charles-Antoine de Rouvre & Jerôme Scemla

Photos © Ute Klophaus
zero one film/bpk, Ernst von Siemens Kunststiftung
Stiftung Museum Schloss Moyland

World Sales:
SND FILMS – Sydney Neter
P.O. BOX 15703
1001 NE Amsterdam, The Netherlands
tel.: +31 20 404 07 07
fax: +31 20 404 07 08
info@sndfilms.com
www.florianfilm.de

German title: SYNTHETISCHE BIOLOGIE 2.0
3x53min | HD | English or French version

Production:
fact+film, Michael Wolff
Hastedter Osterdeich 222
28207 Bremen, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 421 3399492
info@fact-film.de

World Sales:
PBS International
10 Guest Street, Boston,
MA 02135 USA
jtkoch@pbs.org

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World Sales:
Beta Film GmbH
Grunwalder Weg 28d
82041 Oberhaching/Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89 67346980
fax: +49 (0) 89 67346988
beta@betafilm.com
www.betafilm.com

Production:
zero one film GmbH
Lehrter Str. 57
10557 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 3906630
fax: +49 (0) 30 3945834
www.zerone.de

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Grunwalder Weg 28d
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fax: +31 20 404 07 08
info@sndfilms.com
www.florianfilm.de

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Hastedter Osterdeich 222
28207 Bremen, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 421 3399492
info@fact-film.de

World Sales:
PBS International
10 Guest Street, Boston,
MA 02135 USA
jtkoch@pbs.org

German title: SYNTHETISCHE BIOLOGIE 2.0
3x53min | HD | English or French version

After the dramatic advances in genomics, 21st century biology is heading for a revolution: synthetic biology. The consequences are huge, but the potential applications are promising. From the production of energy to new bio-materials through the environment and medicine, synthetic biology could usher in an era of greater efficiency, cheaper costs and lower pollution. Biology 2.0 discovers what nature would never have made and what man is in the process of creating.

German title: SYNTHETISCHE BIOLOGIE 2.0
3x53min | HD | English or French version

BIOLOGY 2.0: WHEN BIOLOGY BECOMES SYNTHETIC
by Charles-Antoine de Rouvre & Jerôme Scemla
**BLACK MARKET’S MASQUERADE**

by Peter Heller  
CULTURE | ECONOMY | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS

BLACK MARKET’S MASQUERADE is a journey of discovery to the museums next door, to the most beautiful crafts and cult objects, to the mysterious fetishes and masks – the art of our neighbouring continent. We encounter the seemingly ‘primitive’ art objects from Africa in fancy vitrines of the galleries, in crammed private apartments of passionate collectors and on dusty storage racks of ethnological museums. The collectors have always been tempted by the unusual oneness of the cult objects. In addition the foreign and spiritual aspect of the works enriches the Europeans, serving as a source of inspiration. The art market converts eccentric collectors into speculating rich men. The market for traditional African art is flourishing across the globe. In the past months single objects have been auctioned off for millions. Though ancient African art as an investment is a new development. The film follows the tracks from the poorest carvers in West Africa to the posh trade fair for gallery owners in Brussels and to Paris, where the prices for the art market are made. Nowadays history conscious Africans accuse museum directors of ‘art robbery’.

German title: MARKT DER MASKEN  
festivals: Lagos  
52min | DCP | French, German or English version

**THE BODY AS ARCHIVE**

by Michael Maurissens  
ARTS | CULTURE | MUSIC | DANCE | SCIENCE

The Body as Archive is a documentary film based on research that considers ways in which the dancer’s body can be regarded as archive. A few hypotheses are intended as a frame of its research; is the body of a dancer only a repository of forms of usage? Dancers create, accumulate and carry knowledge – where is it stored and what do they explore through their practice? Is it possible to locate kinetic knowledge and understand its connection between subjective vision and objective realisation? How do cultural and social contexts reflect in the body of a dancer? The Body as Archive explores the role of dancer in the preservation of collective knowledge, it’s transmission and it’s accessibility.

German title: THE BODY AS ARCHIVE  
festivals: Darf ich bitten? – Dance in Documentaries Cologne, CoFestival Ljubljana  
47min 10sec | 4K | 16:9 | original English version with German subtitles

**BORDERLAND BLUES**

by Gudrun Gruber  
CURRENT AFFAIRS | CONFLICTS | POLITICS

The US-Mexican border area, Arizona. The Frontier or La Frontera has always been seen as a symbol of freedom on the horizon of the American West and has always been subject to burgeoning territorial battles. The hilly landscape of the Sonora Desert has not come to rest even today. Every year, the remains of hundreds of migrants are salvaged between the cactus forests and steppes. The advancement of new technology in border security has its effects far inland, and the people live between surveillance systems, fear of terrorism, and the already over 1,100 kilometer long border fence – and the construction continues. The tense situation in the border area has long divided the inhabitants into two camps: the one demands more border security, the other more humanitarian help. But what is the right direction? And does more security technology actually bring more security – or more deaths? This documentary film portrays life on the geographic edge of the United States, from the perspective of the desert dwellers. It accompanies locals, NGOs and paramilitaries on their ways through the border area and offers insight into the world’s largest trade fair for border security technology and industry, the Border Security Expo in Phoenix, Arizona. (HOF)

German title: BORDERLAND BLUES  
festivals: Zurich, Hof, Kassel  
73min | DCP | Dolby 5.1 | original English/Spanish version with German subtitles available
**BOTTICELLI INFERNO**

A film about the Russian opposition politician Boris Nemtsov. Focusing on his life and career and examining investigations into his shocking murder in February 2015, we take a look at Putin’s Russia today.

**German title:** BOTTICELLI INFERNO

**French title:** BOTTICELLI INFERNO – UN VISIONNAIRE ASSASSINE

90, 52 or 45min | HD | English, German or French version

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**BROTHER JAKOB**

Jakob is my dear brother. He used to love to party, make music and let himself drift through life in Berlin. Then six years ago, he suddenly became a Muslim. He broke off contact with his old friends and his old ways. Now as a Salafist, every question has an answer in the rules of a fundamental Islam. By filming him, I go in search of our lost bond of brotherly love and suddenly find myself on a journey with him, that goes beyond a religious exploration.

**German title:** BRUDER JAKOB

festival: DOK Leipzig, Duisburger Filmwoche

92min | HD | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

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**BORIS NEMTsov – SHOT IN THE SHADOW OF THE KREMLIN**

A film about the Russian opposition politician Boris Nemtsov. Focusing on his life and career and examining investigations into his shocking murder in February 2015, we take a look at Putin’s Russia today.

**German title:** BORIS NEMZOW – TOD AN DER KREMLMAUER

**French title:** BORIS NEMTSOV – UN VISIONNAIRE ASSASSINE

90, 52 or 45min | HD | English, German or French version

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**BOTTICELLI INFERNO**

“ABANDON ALL HOPE, YE WHO ENTER HERE”

Discover the mysteries in the map of Dante’s Inferno and the secrets of the most restless artist of the Renaissance.

In October 2016 ‘Inferno’, the third installment of Dan Brown’s blockbuster trilogy (after ‘The Da Vinci Code’ and ‘Angels and Demons’) starring Tom Hanks and directed by Ron Howard will be released worldwide. The story revolves around a mystery hidden in Botticelli’s drawings of Dante’s Divina Commedia. But what’s the real story behind these illustrations, and in particular, the map to Dante Alighieri’s Inferno? Why was his work left unfinished and got lost, and how was it rediscovered?

**German title:** BOTTICELLI INFERNO

90 or 52min | DCP | 2D-4K | VOD | German, Italian, French or English version available, others on request
The imagination to eat insects feels disgusting to many of us. Josh Evans is leading a project on the gastronomic potential of insects at the Nordic Food Lab, an open-source research and development space founded by NOMA, one of the leading restaurants in the world. With the help of renowned chefs he embarks on a food roadtrip through five continents to investigate, find and taste edible insects as delicacies. On the menu of the five episodes are journeys to Australia, Eastern Africa, Mexico and Peru, Japan, and finally to Europe. This five-part series was produced for ARTE’s early evening adventure slot and is based on the feature documentary BUGS by Andreas Johnsen that was shown at prestigious film festivals all over the world.

C-SECTION CONTROVERSY
by Antje Christ

Within just twenty years, the number of caesarean sections performed in industrial nations has more than doubled. Caesareans undoubtedly save lives. But in some countries, more children are born by c-section than vaginal delivery – a development that can have consequences. Caesarean sections have always posed a high risk for mothers. But recent research now reveals they can also be the cause of various illnesses in the child, such as type 1 diabetes, asthma and allergies. At the same time, the theory that exposure to different germs during a natural birth can help prevent diseases is becoming more widely accepted. Nevertheless, in Brazil, for example, more children are born surgically than by vaginal delivery, many by so-called caesarean delivery by maternal request. In China too, many women choose to have a c-section – although for a different reason. Here, superstition is still widespread, so parents choose what they hope will be a favourable date for the birth of their child. This film takes a look at reasons behind the different c-section rates in the neighbouring countries of Germany and France as much as in China and Brazil.

CABBAGE, POTATOES AND OTHER DEMONS
by Serban Georgescu

In the Romanian village of Lunguletu, 1,000 farmers on their tractors sit on 100,000 tons of cabbage in the local market, waiting for customers. At the end of the day they either sell for nothing or destroy their crops. Intrigued of getting 1 ton of cabbage for just EUR 20 townie Serban decides to spend one year in the village and work the land, to see why these people got into a deadlock and if there is any way out. The Mayor and some villagers have ideas and possible solutions. But can they overcome the farmers mistrusting each other, their fear of a ‘collective farm’ and the powerful urge to compete? A satire of current realities in agriculture Europe narrated by the director himself, the film will tell from the inside and in a self-ironical tone the story of a village that got stuck in between past and present.

original title: VARZA, CARTOFI SI ALTI DEMONI
festivals: DOK Leipzig
62min | DCP | original Romanian version with English subtitles available
**CAFE NAGLER**

by Mor Kaplansky & Yariv Barel

During the 1920s, CAFÉ NAGLER was the hottest place in Berlin. Film director Mor embarks on a journey to find out what is left of her family’s legendary café. Her grandmother follows the filming with great anticipation. When Mor discovers the true story behind the café, she is unable to break her grandmother’s heart and looks for a creative solution. CAFÉ NAGLER is a film about memory, about our need for family myths and our longing for a different past. “A tender, beautiful and loving film, which subtly recalls the crucial part the German Jews once had within Berlin culture.” Berliner Morgenpost.

German title: CAFE NAGLER

festivals: 66th Berlinale/CULINARY CINEMA, DOK.fest Munich, Filmor Istanbul, Detroit JFF, Philadelphia JFF, Minsk IFF, Calgary JFF, Molodist IFF, La Costa JFF, All Lights India IFF, AICE IFF, 59min | DCP | original Hebrew/English/German with English subtitles available

**World Sales:**

Go2Films
info@go2films.com
www.go2films.com

**Distribution:**

www.salzgeber.de

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**CAHIER AFRICAINE**

by Heidi Specogna

It all started with a small school exercise book. But instead of being full of vocabulary, the pages were checkered with the courageous testimonies of 300 Central African women, girls and men. They reveal what Congolese mercenaries did to them between October 2002 and March 2003 in the wake of armed conflict. On their own initiative, they gathered together their testimonies in this book to record the crimes committed against them.

As a result of rape, Amzine, a young Muslim woman, gave birth to a child. Looking at her now 12-year-old daughter Fane is a daily reminder of the suffering she entrusted to this book. Arlette, a Christian girl, has agonised for years due to a gunshot to the knee that did not want to heal.

After a successful surgery in Berlin, she holds on to hope for a pain-free existence.

CAHIER AFRICAINE is a long-term observation that begins accompanying its protagonists in the village of PK 12 in 2008. But while they try to master their difficult lives with confidence – and while, in The Hague, the legal prosecution of crimes committed during the last war is still in progress – the next war breaks out in the Central African Republic. Amzine, Fane and Arlette must once again face a maelstrom of violence, death and expulsion. At their side, the film bears witness to the collapse of order and civilization in a country torn apart by civil war and coup d’états.

German title: CAHIER AFRICAINE

awards/festivals: Locarno, DOK Leipzig awarded with Silver Dove, Human Rights Award and Interreligious Jury Award, shortlisted for German Film Award – LOLA@Berlinale.

119min | DCP | original Arabic/English version with English, German or French subtitles; German audiodeskription

**World Sales:**

RUSHLAKE MEDIA GmbH
Karolingererring 31
50678 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 58832180
info@rushlake-media.com
www.filmpunkt.com

**Distribution:**

german documentaries 2016

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**CAIRO JAZZMAN**

by Atef Ben Bouzid

CAIRO JAZZMAN, a political music documentary set in the heart of the Arab world, tells the engaging story of the critically acclaimed Cairo Jazz Festival and its founder Amr Salah.

Dedicated to the Egyptian people, the film captures rarely seen facets of civil society and everyday life in Cairo. It provides a rare inside look and captures the struggles and obstacles Egyptians, especially the young, are facing. Operating on a non-profit-basis and with limited funding sources, the Cairo Jazz Festival has grown into a unique platform bringing together local and international musicians who are united in their love for jazz and their desire to share, cultivate, and pass it to the next generation. Amr Salah is Cairo Jazzman.

German title: CAIRO JAZZMAN

festivals: Rotterdam

82min | DCP | 1,85:1 | 2K | Dolby 5.1 | English version

**Contact:**

info@cairojazzman.com
www.cairojazzman.com
www.sebastianleitner.com
www.facebook.com/IckeKreuzberg
youtu.be/0by_A-X8v8
youtu.be/jEuhNuZGl8

**ARLETTE – COURAGE IS A MUSCLE**

**german documentaries 2016**
As a young man the great Spanish director Carlos Saura did not quite know what he would like to become: motorcycle racer, flamenco dancer or photographer? 60 years, 40 films and numerous film awards later, his passion for photography runs like a thread through his life. Saura's workroom in Madrid resembles a camera museum, packed with curiosities, cameras constructed by himself and a cabinet full of Leicas. The publishers Gerhard Steidl and Hans Meinke set out to publish the largely unknown photo oeuvre of Carlos Saura in book form. In doing so, they discover an early work phase which reveals Spain of the Fifties in a new light: impressive black-and-white images show landscapes, villages and the people of the time beyond the Franco propaganda. Together with Carlos Saura who insists on being a photo amateur, they create an artistic book, meet up again and again at the Steidl publishing house in Göttingen, arrange, write, print and discard.

A documentary which shows how a photo book evolves and simply follows 'real characters' at work. At the end the question remains who of the three – Saura, Meinke or Steidl – was the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in this two-year-long working process.

World Sales:
MAGNETFILM GmbH
Oranienburger Str. 50
10117 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 163 8010753
info@magnetfilm.de
www.gereonwetzel.de

German title: CARLOS SAURA – PHOTOGRAPHER
52min | HD | original Spanish/English/German version with English, German or Spanish subtitles available

CARLOS SAURA – PHOTOGRAPHER
by Jörg Adolph & Gereon Wetzel

World Sales:
MAGNETFILM GmbH
Oranienburger Str. 50
10117 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 163 8010753
info@magnetfilm.de
www.gereonwetzel.de

German title: CARLOS SAURA – FOTOGRAF
52min | HD | original Spanish/English/German version with English, German or Spanish subtitles available

CAPTURED AND THEN – ANDRE, RENE, LAURENT
On the Trail of French Prisoners of War – part 2
by Annelie Klother & Walter Kropp

Three Frenchmen are taken prisoner of war in 1940: RENE, in love with life, is sent to Austria on a motorway construction site; hardworking ANDRE has to work in a spring factory in Sauerland. Rebellious LAURENT is trying to escape again and again. Their descendants relate their history to us, the German neighbors. We follow their tracks. We find: a colleague of Laurent in the penal camp – a cemetery for 3500 Russians – a medical orderly in a camp in conflict with the GESTAPO – a farmer's family with vague memories of René – a contemporary witness who thinks he played as a child with André...

How do André, René, Laurent deal with their powerlessness in captivity? How do the Germans and Austrians handle their power over the prisoners? What stays in mind? What is forgotten?

German title: GEFANGEN UND DANN – André, René, Laurent
Auf den Spuren französischer Kriegsgefangener – Teil 2
Teil 1: WHO’S ENEMY / WESSEN FEIND? – MARIN
75min | HD | 16:9 | original German/French version with French/German or English subtitles available

Contact:
Kropp + Klother-Kropp GbR
annelie.klother@web.de
cell: +49 (0) 151 17576222
www.vimeo.com/ruhrcevennesdocfilm
part 1 with MARIN
german documentaries 2015
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Over 2,000 years ago, the Ifugao mountain people began building a unique natural landscape: the world-famous rice terraces in the Philippine Cordilleras. Through a sophisticated system of bamboo shoots, canals, dams and sluices, water is routed downwards through the terraces from field to field. This unique rice-growing concept was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1995. However, working high up in the fields is arduous and brings little financial reward. Many of the younger Ifugao no longer wish to pursue this backbreaking way of life and leave their villages for tourism jobs in neighbouring towns. People come from all over the world to see the very thing that the young Ifugao want to leave behind: the rice terraces and traditional Ifugao way of life. But if the fields are not cultivated constantly, they soon fall into disrepair. Will it be possible to maintain the terraces while also doing right by the young generation of Ifugao? Apart from the breathtaking landscapes of Hungduan or Batad, the film features scenes from the Imbayah Festival in Banaue and explores the various efforts being made to keep alive the unique cultural landscape and rich tradition of the Ifugao.

German title: **DEM HIMMEL NAH – Die Reisterrassen auf den Philippinen**

festivals: Terraced Landscapes Venice-Padua, IFF Ekotopfilm Bratislava, Natur Vision Ludwigsburg,
45min | HD | German or French version with English subtitles available
**CLOUD MAKING MACHINE**

by Susanne Dzeik

**MIGRATION | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | COMING OF AGE | ART | LONGTERM**

“I was on my way in a country which I didn’t know much about. All I know is that it is full of flowers, with beautiful people smiling at me.” (Firas)

The twenty-something Batoul, Firas and Jallow meet in an emergency host centre in the outskirts of Berlin, where home-containers line up next to smoky chimneys. On their way into this new and unknown homeland, they find the warmth of a family in a drama group and a voice on its stage. The three friends aspire to a good life and experience “Europe’s big dream and deceit”.

They look for friendship instead of pity and clothing donations, want to study Arts, dream of a rapper career or just a simple work permit. In video-letters, they confide their deepest feelings to their relatives in their homeland shaken up with war or poverty, to their best friend, worried mother and murdered parents. The film accompanies the three new Berliners over two years. Observations on their everyday life and the development of their theater play alternate with the raw and subjective voices of their video-letters, in which they reveal themselves with a vulnerable and radical presence.

German title: **CLOUD MAKING MACHINE**

75min | DCP | HD | 16:9 | stereo | original version with German/English/French subtitles

**Production:**

burning dox – Susanne Dzeik & Armin A. W. Eichhorn GbR

Armin A. W. Eichhorn

cell: +49 (0) 176 30795223

10999 Berlin, Germany

info@burningdox.com

www.cloudmakingmachine.de

vimeo.com/187316983

**CODE of SURVIVAL**

by Bertram Verhaag

**AGRICULTURE | ENVIRONMENT | HUMAN INTEREST | ECOLOGY | SUSTAINABILITY**

Worldwide, millions of tons of ‘Roundup’, with its active ingredient glyphosate, are applied to the land year after year. The alarming consequences: poisoned soils, resistant superweeds, contaminated crops and sick livestock. Nonetheless, especially the United States adhere to the destructive model of GM-agriculture. Three sustainable projects in India, Egypt and Germany prove that alternatives are achievable and successful. In an impressive montage we confront the effects of the poison-addicted industrial model, with the healing power of organic agriculture. Which method bears the CODE of SURVIVAL on our planet?

With: GMO Adviser Tucker Miller, Jane Goodall, Ibrahim Abuleish

German title: **CODE of SURVIVAL**

festivals/awards: Deauville Green Award d’Or; Golden Tree Finalist Certification; Festival del Terre – Selected Out of Competition; Docs Without Borders – official selection

95min | DCP | German or English version

**Production:**

DENKmal-Film Verhaag GmbH

Bertram Verhaag

Herzogstr. 97

80796 Munich, Germany

tel.: +49 (0) 89 526601

fax: +49 (0) 89 5234742

office@denkmal.film

www.denkmal.film

Distribution:

www.pandorafilm.com

www.code-of-survival.com

youtu.be/-6OUD2xNR4g

**THE COLOUR OF YEARNING**

by Thomas Riedelsheimer

**CULTURE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | TRAVEL**

THE COLOUR OF YEARNING is an impressive journey around the world in search of people, places and landscapes, that make a great human feeling come alive.

Qatar, Portugal, Mexico, Japan and Germany – those are the countries in which renowned German director and cameraman Thomas Riedelsheimer is looking for THE COLOUR OF YEARNING. With striking images, music, poems and eight touching stories about love, home, hope, nature and freedom this film talks about the tragedy but also the bliss to be human.

German title: **DIE FARBE DER SEHNSUCHT**

festival: Hofer Filmtage

92 or 52min | 1:2,35 scope | original version with German, English or Japanese subtitles available

**Production:**

Filmpunkt GmbH

Stefan Tolz

Worringer Str. 22

50668 Cologne, Germany

tel.: +49 (0) 221 80047130

fax: +49 (0) 221 80047125

stefan@filmpunkt.com

youtu.be/Okf8aqv3rPc
In March 2014, the Crimea became part of the Russian Federation once again. An internationally disputed referendum led to the reunification of the Crimea and Russia. For thousands of years, the Crimean peninsula has been home to numerous peoples who have all left their mark on the region. Various sites bear testimony to this past – the remains of Scythian and Greek settlements, an ancient Armenian monastery, the Tartar village of Bakhchysarai, the synagogues of Yevpatoria and Kerch, the magnificent palaces of the Russian nobility, Stalin’s hillside dacha, the port of Sevastopol, the famous pioneer camp of Artek near Yalta…

First annexed in 1783, the Crimea has not always been part of Russia. Nikita Krushchev handed the peninsula over to the Ukraine in 1954. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Crimea continued to belong to Ukraine. The Crimea became a thorn in Russia’s side and a phantom of patriotic sentiments.

The author meets Ukrainians, Russians and Tatars, who talk about their lives in the Crimea, but also British, Ukrainian, Russian, Tatar and German historians and international law experts who explain the current situation in the Crimea from a historical perspective.

German title: DIE GESCHICHTE DER KRIM
52min | HD | French or German version with English subtitles available

CRIME NOVELS AND THE THIRD REICH

They have written crime novels about an era that until now has rarely been the subject of crime fiction: the Third Reich, itself the cause of inconceivable crimes and atrocities. Dominique Manotti, Philip Kerr and Volker Kutscher have broken an unspoken German rule that the Third Reich should not be the subject of entertainment literature. The crime novel is now engaging numerous readers in a subject they would normally avoid. The film shows three writers at work in Berlin, New York, Paris and London, and takes viewers to historically charged locations: Dominique Manotti shows us the headquarters of the French Gestapo in Paris, Philip Kerr researches for his new book in Babelsberg and the Wannsee Conference venue, while Volker Kutscher reads from his new novel in a former concentration camp in Berlin, then guiding us through Cologne. His protagonist Rath has arrived in the Third Reich and in 1933 witnesses a very different carnival procession in his home town. All the novels’ protagonists find themselves in a hellish world that challenges them with existential questions: How do you survive in a world that has become so insane that the fate of one person can determine the destiny of humanity?

original title: KRIMIS UND DAS DRITTE REICH / LES ROMANS POLICIERS ET LE TROISIÈME REICH
52min | HD | German or French version with English subtitles available

COURAGE TO LIVE

Because he bought a drink for a girl, Christoph was beaten up and fell into a coma in 2007. When he woke up after months, he had to relearn everything. He struggles to find back into life, but stays to 80% seriously disabled. Instead of giving up he founds the initiative ‘First togetherness’. At schools and in prisons he tells his story. His message: Real coolness means to treat each other with tolerance, respect and care, and that the diversity of mankind should be seen as a benefit.

He meets dragqueen Olivie Jones, the paralympic swimmer Kirsten Bruhn and the top model Mario Galla. They talk about violence, discrimination, inclusion, courage and tolerance. A film about Christoph’s life and his initiative ‘first togetherness’.

German title: MUT ZUM LEBEN
52min | HD | DCP | original German version with English subtitles or German sign language or German subtitles

THE CRIMEA THROUGH THE AGES

In March 2014, the Crimea became part of the Russian Federation once again. An internationally disputed referendum led to the reunification of the Crimea and Russia. For thousands of years, the Crimean peninsula has been home to numerous peoples who have all left their mark on the region. Various sites bear testimony to this past – the remains of Scythian and Greek settlements, an ancient Armenian monastery, the Tartar village of Bakhchysarai, the synagogues of Yevpatoria and Kerch, the magnificent palaces of the Russian nobility, Stalin’s hillside dacha, the port of Sevastopol, the famous pioneer camp of Artek near Yalta…

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52min | HD | French or German version with English subtitles available

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original title: KRIMIS UND DAS DRITTE REICH / LES ROMANS POLICIERS ET LE TROISIÈME REICH
52min | HD | German or French version with English subtitles available
CUBANS AT THE EDGE OF THE BERLIN WALL – a journey into exile
by Ricardo Bacallao

When the Berlin Wall fell in November 1989 three young Cuban citizens living in the ex GDR find themselves catapulted into the West. Ricardo, Teresa and Jorge respectively a refugee musician, a visual artist and a translator who was persecuted by the STASI and the Cuban secret services, soon discover that the free market is not a free ride. Amir, an acclaimed Cuban writer, whose controversial analysis of prostitution was censored by the Cuban authorities, also finds haven in Germany yet permanently loses the right to return to his native Havana.

Today they are ready to look back at the most difficult time in their lives, the courage it took to break away and the personal and emotional costs of homelessness and separation for those who chose the journey of exile. This sensitive portrayal of a Cuban diaspora reveals that though there may never be peace without the pieces the future always lies ahead provided new chances in life are possible.

German title: CUBANS AT THE EDGE OF THE BERLIN WALL – a journey into exile.
festivals: Sheffield Doc Fest Market Player
54min | DCP | DVD | original Spanish/German/Yoruba version with English subtitles available

contact:
State of Change
Francesca Dziadek
Luitpoldstr. 23
10777 Berlin, Germany
cell: +49 (0) 162 9391373
Francesca.Dziadek@berlin.de
www.stateofchange.de

CUBANS AT THE EDGE OF THE BERLIN WALL – a journey into exile
by Michael Münch

The documentary CURTAINS FALLING shines a light on the history of german rap music. The most famous rap musicians of the german industry come together in a single documentary for the first time ever to tell their stories and memories. Artists like Samy Deluxe, Sido, Max Herre and Marteria are reminiscent of their beginnings and talk about possible future way this music genre can evolve.

Director Michael Münch has managed to create an unique and authentic look into the world of the biggest music business in Germany. Stunning pictures of DJ’s, Breakdancers, Rappers and iconic cities in the history of german rap and original beats composed for this film accompany this thrilling 79min long documentary.

German title: WENN DER VORHANG FÄLLT
festivals: DOK.fest Munich
79min | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles | www.facebook.com/wenndervorhangfaelltfilm

contact:
MünchFilms – Michael Münch
cell: +49 (0) 176 22254913
wdvf@muenschfilms.com
www.wdvf-film.com

THE CUBA LIBRE STORY – From Columbus to Che and Castro – series in 8 parts
by Emmanuel Amara, Kai Christiansen, Florian Dedio

Cuba – the island where dreams clash. It was the gateway to the New World, the port of call for the American underworld, a crossroads for drug smuggling. It has brought us cigars, sugar and rum. And a Socialist Revolution: Cuba stands for schools for everybody, and an eternal struggle for freedom. Cuba may seem synonymous with Fidel Castro and Che Guevara, but its history was shaped by adventurer Christopher Columbus, freedom fighter José Martí, Dictator Fulgenico Batista, Mafia Boss Meyer Lansky and many others. THE CUBA LIBRE STORY tells Cuba’s complete history – looking back at 500 years before the Castro Brothers, and ahead at what will come after them. For the first time ever, the Russian state film archives of Krasnogorsk, the Red Army and KGB’s film archives and the Cuban State Film Archive ICAIC have granted us access to their Cuban treasures. We tell Cuban history from a transnational perspective, waeve together over 50 exclusive interviews with the most important experts and eyewitnesses of Cuban history – broth from within and outside the island. We bring together both followers and opponents of Fidel Castro and his predecessor Fulgenico Batista...

The titles of the episodes are: Breaking Chains | War and Sugar | Ganster’s Paradise | A Ragtag Revolution | Making Heroes | Of Soviets and Saviors | Secrets and Sacrifices | Moments of Transition

German title: GEHEIMES KUBA – Von Columbus zu Che und Castro
Titel der 8 Teile: Sklaverei und Freiheitskampf | Zuckerboom und Dollarrausch | Mafiabosse und Putschisten | Diktatur und Revolution | Schweinebucht und neue Liebe | Rubel und Raketen | Militärmacht und Drogensumpf | Staatswillekur und ferne Hoffnung
8x45min or 8x52min | HD | DVD | Blu-ray | VOD | German, French or English version

Production:
LOOKS Film & TV Prod. GmbH
florian.dedio@looksfilm.tv

contact:
State of Change
Francesca Dziadek
Luitpoldstr. 23
10777 Berlin, Germany
cell: +49 (0) 162 9391373
Francesca.Dziadek@berlin.de
www.stateofchange.de

THE CUBA LIBRE STORY – From Columbus to Che and Castro – series in 8 parts
HISTORY | POLITICS | CURRENT AFFAIRS | SERIES
The German musician, composer Marc Sinan travels to Kazakhstan to find out what is left of a saga of Dede Korkut. In the end Marc put his experience in the steppe of Kazakhstan and the story of his grandmother, survived the Armenian genocide in 1915, on stage.

In Kazakhstan Marc Sinan discovers a music tradition, which is passed down for generations. Repressed by the Sowjets it is now coming up to life again. Conducted by the music Marc reveals also parts of his own family history. His grandmother survived the Armenian genocide in 1915 and had to deny her Christian identity afterwards. Driven by the the denial of guilt and the withdrawal of punishment the film reflects the buried history of a landscape and its music.

**German title:** ZYKLOP
**festival:** Hofer Filmtage
73min | HDV | original Kazakh/Turkish/German version with English subtitles available

**Contact:**
aysunbademsoy@web.de

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The fathers die on the Eastern front, in a prisoner of war camp, or are labelled as missing since the days of war. The lives of the daughters, born shortly before or during the war, are clearly marked by loss of their fathers. The relationship to the deceased father is a highly conflicted one. The daughters ask themselves what their fathers did in the war. Did he possibly get caught up in war crimes? On the other hand, many daughters speak even today about an unending longing for this man, that she never knew. This father figure obsesses them.

Nine daughters who have lost their fathers to war speak in this film about their experiences.

**German title:** TÖCHTER OHNE VÄTER
90min | HD | 16:9 | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available

**Contact:**
Stefan Hayn Filmprod.
cell.: +49 (0)152 27734312
stefan.hayn@berlin.de

**Distribution:**
Arsenal Distribution
cell.: +49 (0) 30 26955150
distribution@arsenal-berlin.de

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“What are your hopes for the future?” “Without War. That the war doesn’t come to Germany or to Berlin.”

“How is the quality of life in Berlin?”
“International. Multicultural. And... great country. Not very expensive cost of living”

“Does that mean that you’re living in the past?”
“No. There are a lot of positives even now.”

“What is the beauty in taking pictures?” “Focusing what is behind the surface, or let’s say looking through the surface. That’s the kind of thing I want.”

**German title:** DAHLIENFEUER
festivals: Dokumentarfilmwoche Hamburg, Duisburger Filmwoche
67min | 4:3 | DCP | Dolby 5.1 | original German version with English subtitles available

**Contact:**
Stefan Hayn Filmprod.
cell.: +49 (0)152 27734312
stefan.hayn@berlin.de

**Distribution:**
Arsenal Distribution
cell.: +49 (0) 30 26955150
distribution@arsenal-berlin.de
DEAR ME
by Luise Makarov

“Write yourself the letter which you always wished to receive.”
After spreading the word, director Luise Makarov received over a hundred letters.
In DEAR ME Luise Makarov is portraying people in various life situations, who wrote to themselves this letter. In their words she discovers aspirations, hopes and dreams, that are becoming visible in a reality that is often quite differently.

Anne is a young mother, who found herself in a struggle after giving birth to her daughter Gilda. Before she became a mother she was an independent woman just starting to establish herself as an artist. But since Gilda is born, she put her life on hold, traveling with her husbands job instead and feeling very stuck with her own life. Renate is an old lady, who has written herself a letter from her mother. Her mother is dead now, but Renate is still suffering to cope with a remark her mother made when she was still a teenager. Andre is a typical Berlin-artist: without money, living just for his art. Things are starting to turn for him, when he gets a big chance to be a curator. But despite money problems he is suffering as well from a missed chance to bond with the girl he loves. Detlef lives a withdrawn life. During the day he goes to church, but at night he is challenging himself by touring through different Karaoke Joints in Berlin. He is over 60 now, but wrote himself a letter from Anita, a girl who rejected him when he was just 17 years old.

German title: LIEBES ICH
festivals: Max-Ophüls-Preis Saarbrücken
102min | HD | DCP | 25fps | 16:9 | Dolby 5.1 | original German/English version with English/German subtitles

Contact:
dff – German Film and Television Academy Berlin
Josephine Settmacher
Potsdamer Str. 2
10785 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 331 6202564
distribution@filmuniversitaet.de
www.FB.com/sabine.ehrl.7

THE DEMON, THE FLOW AND ME
by Rocco Di Mento

THE DEMON, THE FLOW AND ME should be the title, exclaims TJ – a movie about identity. TJ is a man in his late 50s who lives in a Chrysler Cordoba parked in a drive-way next to a porn shop in Berlin, a survival artist who celebrates solitude. While the camera documents his life as a drop out from mainstream society, TJ develops his vision of a film. In an amazing act of self-staging, he creates an image of himself in front of the camera.

German title: THE DEMON, THE FLOW AND ME
awards: Best Documentary of middle&short length new berlin film award as well as Zitty Jury Award Best Documentary of middle&short length – achtung berlin Filmfestival
39min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

Contact:
Filmuniversität Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF
tel.: +49 (0) 331 6202564
distribution@filmuniversitaet.de
www.filmuniversitaet.de
vimeo.com/184378264
They come in the night, tear families from their sleep, give them just enough time to pack and put them on a plane: this is the role of the so-called ‘transportation commandos’ comprising police officers and immigration officials. In 2015, over 22,000 failed asylum seekers were deported from Germany.

The documentary DEPORTATION CLASS presents a comprehensive view of this state enforcement measure for the first time: from detailed planning in the office to night-time operations at asylum seeker accommodation blocks and the arrival of asylum seekers back in their respective homelands – and the question of what awaits them there.

German title: DEPORTATION CLASS
festivals: Lübeck, Kassel
85min | HD | DCP | DVD | original German/Albanian version with German or English subtitles

For the past two decades Didi Contractor has been passionately implementing her architectural visions in North West of India, at the foot hills of the Himalaya, combining rural traditions with modern requirements.

This documentary introduces us to her creations – houses built from clay, bamboo, slate and river stone, constructed in tribute to their natural surroundings.

At the age of 86, Didi Contractor pursues her vision working day and night – dreaming her designs then designing her dreams. She sketches roughly, then proportions with pinpoint accuracy – the blueprints for economically and ecologically sustainable, bright and well-ventilated buildings.

We meet people who live in the visions realized by Didi Contractor and share in their enthusiasm to carry forward her fascinating ideas. Students from all over the world come to learn traditional building practices and find out how architecture can become a part of the ecosystem.

German title: DIDI CONTRACTOR – MARRYING THE EARTH TO THE BUILDING
festivals: Dharamshala International Film Festival, India
81min | DCP | HD | DVD | Blu-ray | 5.1 | original German/English/Hindi version with German or English subtitles

At 26, a Kurdish-German woman is elected the youngest mayor in Turkey. In a record 81% landslide she is elected mayor of Cizre, a Kurdish capital city that lies in the war-torn region at Turkey’s border with Syria and Iraq. It is here that Leyla was born, but after her father was killed by the Turkish military, she was sent at the age of 5 to live in Germany.

After more than 20 years, she returns home. Her goal is to heal and beautify the civil-war-torn city, which is enjoying a break in the violence. But on the eve of Turkey’s parliamentary elections, everything changes, and old memories become more real than ever.

Locations: Cizre/Turkey and Bremen/Germany

German title: DIL LEYLA
festivals: IDFA Amsterdam, Max-Ophüls-Preis Saarbrücken
71min | HD | 16.9 | DCP | original Kurdish/German version with English or German subtitles available
A remote forest: a place where dogs become canine soldiers. The dogs born here, in the military dog training school of the German Army, are all supposed to be both companion and weapon for their human counterparts. The dogs are trained to act like a weapon, and the soldiers are trained to make use of it. The initial play gradually becomes drill and the artificial training setting gets closer and closer to the scenario of a real military mission. A reality that is only too well known to another protagonist: at the same time, in the same training camp, a traumatised Kosovo veteran is to be rehabilitated with the help of a therapy dog. DOG SOLDIERS is an essayistic look at what it means to be soldierly.

Contact: [OnScreen Media] Peter Kuczinski
Membergstr. 23
70734 Fellbach, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 711 3893870
fax: +49 (0) 711 3893872
peter.kuczinski@onscreen-media.de
www.hundesoldaten.de
vimeo.com/177418657

German title: HUNDESOLDATEN
festivals/awards: DOK Leipzig, Kassel; BlickPrize – Filmfestival – Blicke aus dem Ruhrgebiet
88min | DCP | b/w | original Dari/German/Fula/Pashtun/Tigrinya version with German or English subtitles available

DISTANT SONS shows the story of six adolescent refugees, who have begun a new life in Germany. Separated from their families and driven away from their countries by hardship and violence, they were housed as ‘orphans’ in youth centres after their arrival in Aachen, Germany. They are drifters between the worlds: on the one hand there is their childhood memories and their traumatic escape – on the other their dreams of a future life in Germany. The movie accompanies its protagonists through their every-day lives. With the help of their stories the audience gets a glimpse of the protagonists’ complex inner lives. The film unlocks its protagonists’ emotional scope, giving space for reflection of what has happened and enabling the audience to pre-figure the future lives of the six characters.

German title: FERNE SÖHNE
festivals/awards: DOK Leipzig, Kassel; BlickPrize – Filmfestival – Blicke aus dem Ruhrgebiet
88min | DCP | b/w | original German version with English subtitles available

After Carmen’s brand new mixer gives up the ghost, she finds an old one made during East German times. Even though it is over 40 years old, it works like a dream. Carmen wonders why there aren’t more household items like this and sets out on a journey of discovery to the world of our appliances. She meets people who work to construct and assemble such items. She interviews designers and economists, historians, theologians, and psychologists: How do we relate in this day and age to the appliances we use? How has this relationship changed in recent decades? Why do we throw away so many things after just a few years? Is it ethically justifiable to deny the products we create exactly what we hope for ourselves – a long life?

World Sales: GM Films
gmfilms@gmfilms.de
www.clip-film.de
Distribution:
www.barnsteiner-film.com
vimeo.com/180034250
youtu.be/6FLMK6f8eXE
**DONKEYOTE**

by Chico Pereira

Quixotesque quest of a Spanish man and his donkey in search of the American West. Looking for the freedom to roam in a world full of borders. Manolo leads a simple life in Southern Spain and has two loves in life: his donkey ‘Gorrion’ (Sparrow) and the freedom of wandering through nature. Already in his seventies, Manolo wants to live his biggest adventure yet. He wants to walk through USA, but he does not want to leave Gorrion behind. Manolo’s family, travel agencies, American Embassies, they all think that Manolo has lost the plot. But this man and his donkey will wander through nature, villages, and cities in order to make the trip to America together happen. Ultimately, this quixotesque quest goes beyond whim to become a reflection on the relationship between man and nature.

German title: **DONKEYOTE**

awards/festivals: nominated for Big Screen Award 2017 IFF Rotterdam

85min | HD | original Spanish or English version

Produktion:
Sutor Kolonko e. K.
Müllheimer Freiheit 126
51063 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 78944840
fax: +49 (0) 221 78944839
info@sutorkolonko.de
www.sutorkolonko.de
vimeo.com/70042517

**DREAM BOAT**

by Tristan Ferland Milewski

A cruise ship and 3,000 men. The film renders a contemporary and entertaining, yet critical, picture of the community between the fight for self-acceptance and the quest for love.

The DREAM BOAT is Europe’s only cruise ship for gay men and casts off for a Mediterranean tour. Sun, sea, bare skin, testosterone galore – the countdown is on for a chase after love, sex, freedom, happiness, and eternal youth. We tell the story of five men from France, Austria, India, Poland and Palestine. They are out on the DREAM BOAT to find their personal freedom beyond their religious and political boundaries of their own countries. Yet this superlative dream world has its downsides: the pressure to perform, an obsession with physicality and youth, a hedonism bordering on attachment disorder…

German title: **DREAM BOAT**

festivals: Berlinale/PANORAMA

90min | HD | German or English version

Produktion:
Gebrüder Beetz Filmprod.
Heinrich-Roller-Str.15
10405 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 78944840
fax: +49 (0) 221 78944839
info@gebrueder-beetz.de
www.gebrueder-beetz.de

**DRIES**

by Reiner Holzemer

For the first time the Belgian Designer Dries Van Noten allows a filmmaker to follow him throughout the creative process of a whole year. We witness how he designs four collections, rich fabrics, embroideries and colourful prints. We browse through his development as a fashion designer, his artistic shows that have become cult at the Parisian Fashion weeks and pass the doors of his private house and garden. This film gives an intimate insight in the life, mind and methods of a Master Fashion Designer who managed to remain independent in a world of fashion globalization.

German title: **DRIES**

89min | HD | 16:9 | original Flemish/English version, German or English version available


World Sales:
Dogwoof
info@dogwoof.com
mail@reinerholzemer.de
www.prokino.de

**DONKEYOTE**

by Chico Pereira

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German title: **DONKEYOTE**

awards/festivals: nominated for Big Screen Award 2017 IFF Rotterdam

85min | HD | original Spanish or English version

Produktion:
Sutor Kolonko e. K.
Müllheimer Freiheit 126
51063 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 78944840
fax: +49 (0) 221 78944839
info@sutorkolonko.de
www.sutorkolonko.de
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German title: **DREAM BOAT**

festivals: Berlinale/PANORAMA

90min | HD | German or English version

Produktion:
Gebrüder Beetz Filmprod.
Heinrich-Roller-Str.15
10405 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 78944840
fax: +49 (0) 221 78944839
info@gebrueder-beetz.de
www.gebrueder-beetz.de

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German title: **DRIES**

89min | HD | 16:9 | original Flemish/English version, German or English version available


World Sales:
Dogwoof
info@dogwoof.com
mail@reinerholzemer.de
www.prokino.de
ESCAPE FROM SYRIA
by Ahmad Alzoubi

ESCAPE FROM SYRIA is a first-person documentary about the reasons and the experience of emigration from the perspective of the filmmaker – a 20 Years old refugee from Syria. The first part of the film sheds light on life in his home country before the war – in a high civilization with a lot of places of historical interest. It tells about the escalation of the conflict and documents the harsh conditions which forced Syrians to flee outside their country: The killing of innocent people, air strikes on civilians and random arrests – all these done by Assad forces. The second part is focused on the experience of fleeing – on the death road to Germany starting in Syria. The refugees had to pass the territory of IS, from Turkey to Greece by rubber boats and then passing through many European countries until saving arrival in Germany.

German title: FLUCHT AUS SYRIEN
festivals: submitted to the Arabic Film Festival Berlin 2017
40min | VOD | original Arabic version with German or English subtitles available

Contact:
Ahmad Alzoubi
cell: +49 (0) 157 71506213
ahmmadzzw@gmail.com
Even in a hospice, life goes on. A mother-in-law may be annoying. A soft toy may offer consolation. The recollection of missed opportunities may create a sense of wistfulness. Danka, the institution's cleaning lady, experiences a lot in the course of her daily life, tidying these 15 rooms overlooking the roofs of Neukölln. She is always happy to schmooze with the residents, or just to keep them company. There's a lot of laughter and a lot of smoking, but also a lot of goodbyes to say. FIFTEEN ROOMS is a film about living in a place of dying.

German title: FÜNFZEHN ZIMMER
festivals/awards: DOK Leipzig, Duisburg; Nominee@HumanRightsFilm-Award Germany, Nuremberg, Germany
32min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

Contact:
Silke Schissler
c/o filmArche e. V.
Lahnstr. 25
12055 Berlin, Germany
cell: +49 (0) 160 2703629
silkeschissler.film@web.de
www.filmarche.de (CoProduction)
www.nils-strueven.de (Distribution)
vimeo.com/185963525
www.facebook.com/FuenfzehnZimmer

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They fight in cages. Because they want to, and because others want to see this. Andreas Kraniotakes, Khalid Taha and Lom-Ali Eskijev are professionals in Mixed Martial Arts (MMA). They fight in duels on stage using all means permitted. They work hard and live ascetically, often under precarious conditions. Their lives are marked by friendship, discipline and unconditional respect for each other and for their opponents. Kraniotakes, Taha and Eskijev share the dream of being recognized as athletes and of being successful on an international level. They have to pay a high price for this. In Germany, MMA fighters are rarely respected as athletes and can hardly live from fighting. They are under great pressure: as modern gladiators they may not age, may not get injured – and actually must not lose.

German title: FIGHTER
festivals: DOK Leipzig
101min | DCP | 5.1 | original German version with English subtitles available

Contact:
CORSO Film- und Fernsehprod.
Erik Winker
Antwerpener Str. 14
50672 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 20533700
fax: +49 (0) 221 2053370
ew@corsofilm.de
www.corsofilm.de
www.oktoberfilm.de

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Samy Amimour was a bus driver before he turned into a mass murderer shooting scores of people at the Bataclan concert venue in Paris in November 2015.

The documentary FINAL STOP BATACLAN follows the 148 bus line that Samy Amimour drove through the banlieues, the suburban outskirts of Paris that have become a place of refuge for all those who cannot afford life in the capital. A tour with the 148 offers no explanation as to why such inexplicable violence had to occur. It does, however, provide the opportunity to come into contact with the lost and aggrieved, those who have been left behind by society as well as with those who remain steadfast and defiant. An investigative road movie on the capital's local public transport passing the rubble and ruin of the French republic.

German title: ENDSTATION BATACLAN – Vom Busfahrer zum Attentäter
83min | HD | German, French or English version

Contact:
MEDEA FILM FACTORY UG
Irene Hölter
Lützowplatz 9
10785 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 25295331
medea@snafu.de
www.medeafilm.de
youtu.be/yDVnhbt3fj5I
Even though Florence Foster Jenkins is known as the worst singer of all times she has had a successful stage career in NYC in the 1920s, seemingly suspending all the rules. Taking on the challenge of portraying the flamboyant ‘queen of dissonance’ is opera superstar Joyce DiDonato. This casting enables the audience to experience two contrasting musical worlds: the melodious music Florence Foster Jenkins claimed to make, and the dissonant reality that her listeners were subjected to. Renowned experts in the field, contemporary witnesses, as well as original audio recordings and previously unpublished photos gradually expose the scandal and mystery that still surrounds Florence Foster Jenkins.

With: Joyce DiDonato, Adam Benzwi and Jan Rekeszus

Contact:
info@3b-produktion.de
www.ralf-pleger.de
www.florence-foster-jenkins.com
www.salzgeber.de

German title: DIE FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS STORY
festivals: Raindance Film Festival, Filmfest Hamburg, Nordische Filmtage Lübeck
93 or 52min | HD | original English/German version with German/English subtitles available

THE FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS STORY
by Ralf Pleger

The film delves into the lives of women who have been subjected to horrific violence, yet managed to fight their way free. They talk about the violence that has been inflicted upon them, their struggle for survival, their hopes and their current attempts to build a new life. And the men? Many of them describe violence against women as a normal part of their everyday lives. If a woman has been hit, she deserved it. If she defends herself, he threatens to take away her children. Claudia Schmid spent intense moments with the protagonists. She captured images of their painful memories and dreams. It is only the strength of these women that allows them to break out of a multi-generational cycle of violence.

German title: UNTER ALLER AUGEN
90, 52 or 45min | HD | DCP | DVD | Bengali/Fon/Mashi/English/French version with English or German subtitles

Contact:
Bildersturm Filmprod. GmbH
Monika Mack
Bismarkstr. 34
50672 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 2585700
info@bildersturm-film.de
www.bildersturm-film.de
During Franco’s dictatorship and right up until the 1990s, babies were taken away from their unknowing parents after their birth, to be sold. Doctors, nuns, priests, social carers and nurses were involved. Enrique Vila Torres (51) is an attorney from Valencia. The fight for justice for the victims has become his life’s work. Alfonsa (43) gives birth to her first child aged 14. But the baby is stillborn. Over 27 years later, her daughter suddenly appears – alive. Alicia (42) is looking for her roots. When the adoptive father dies, paperwork suddenly emerge. It shows that her parents paid a lot of money to a nun for the adoptive daughter. How does a life change when someone’s own history and identity is forcibly taken away? Many thousands of Spaniards have found themselves in this scenario during the last recent years. They are called ‘Niños Robados’ – ‘Stolen Children’.

**German title:** FRANCOS ERBE – SPANIENS GERAUBTE KINDER

70min | HD | DVD | original Spanish/Catalan version with English or German subtitles available

**Production:** Soilfilms GmbH & Co.KG
Silvana Santamaria
Skalitzer Str. 76
10997 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 54733260
silvana@soilfilms.com

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**FROM A YEAR OF NON-EVENTS**

by René Frölke & Ann Carolin Renninger

A farmer in a film, but not a film about agriculture. FROM A YEAR OF NON-EVENTS is more the description of a very pragmatic stance toward life, in which obstructions exist to be overcome. While observing a year in the life of almost ninety year old Willi Detert a picture comes into being that confronts the persisting impressions of a life with the everyday commodities sourrounding an old farm in the very North of Germany.

**German title:** AUS EINEM JAHR DER NICHTEREIGNISSE

festivals: BerlinateFORUM
83min | Super8 & 16mm | DCP | color & s/w | original German version with English subtitles available

**Production:** Joon Film
Norweger Str. 3
10439 Berlin, Germany
info@joonfilm.de
www.joonfilm.de
vimeo.com/199544497

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**GAZA SURF CLUB**

by Philip Gnadt & Mickey Yamine

Gaza – a strip of land with a population of 1.7 million citizens, wedged between Israel and Egypt and isolated from the outside world. 26 miles of coastline with a harbor that no longer services ships. Hardly anything gets into Gaza and even less gets out. The young generation is growing up with very little perspective – occupied and jobless. But against this background there is a small movement. Our protagonists are part of the surf community of Gaza City. Round about 40 surfboards have been brought into the country over the past decades with great effort and despite strict sanctions. It is those boards that give them an opportunity to experience a small slice of freedom – between the coastal reminder of a depressing reality and the Israeli-controlled three mile marine border.

**German title:** GAZA SURF CLUB

festivals: tiff Toronto, IDFAAmsterdam, Hawai IFF, Calgary Underground FF, Honolulu Surf FF, Dubai IFF, Tromsø IFF, 2017: Max-Ophüls-Festival, DocPoint, Finland, Tempo IFF, Sweden, Santa Barbara FF
87min | HD | DCP | Blu-ray | original Arabic/English version with English or German subtitles available

**Contact:**
MAGNETFILM GmbH
Oranienburger Str. 50
10117 Berlin, Germany
cell: +49 (0) 163 8010753
info@magnetfilm.de
www.gazasurffilm.com
www.farbfilm-verleih.de
www.littlebridge-pictures.com
facebook.com/GazaSurfClubFilm
vimeo.com/185917266
vimeo.com/177086011

**Photos © Niclas Reed Middleton**
The life of German Turk Engin consists of contradictions: TV and fast cars determine his Berlin life juxtaposed with his Islamic faith. Diana, one of Engin’s German friends, wants to comprehend Engin’s quest of identity. When his mother asks for his help with an inheritance dispute, she travels with him to his Turkish hometown, he did not visit in 24 years. Upon arriving, he encounters the secrets of his conservative family. He discovers that his cousins were involved in crimes against the Kurds. A dark, yet humorous film about the fear of the unknown, prejudices and how to overcome them.

German title: DIE GEISTER, DIE MICH RIEFEN
festivals: Max-Ophüls-Preis Saarbrücken
90 or 52min | HD | DCP | original German/Turkish version with English subtitles available

Lilli and Martin, Aischa and Amina, Artur and Niklas. And Yansn singing a rap song. In the year of the election in Germany, they simply do not want to make a cross on a slip of paper “and throw it into the barrel”, says Martin. They want to interfere in politics, because they are outraged at bad conditions and empathic to other people also. They talk about their individual experiences with politics, sexism, nationalism and racism, about their hopes and dreams, “which could be done anyway”, says Niklas, “it does not mean, that we will be successful, but we should try.” They engage in political parties and non-government-organisations (NGOs). Or they interfere independent. Adequate to the motto: There is no democracy, if we don’t interfere. Each vote counts and each action. “I never would trust 100% to politics taking care of me”, says Lilli, “always I have to do something by myself.”

German title: MÄDELS UND JUNGS ÜBER POLITIK
30min | HD | German version, others on request

The second man in the Third Reich created his very own realm ‘for eternity’ not far from Berlin. Built in 1933 at public expense, Hermann Göring had the hunting lodge lavishly designed in the style of a Swedish log cabin, which he called Carinhall after his first wife. He turned the secluded and romantic location into the perfect stage for his large-scale presentations. Guests of state and diplomats shook hands at Carinhall: the Swedish king, the emperor of Siam, Mussolini… Göring was proud to show off his realm, with his lions, the extensive park, precious works of art and even two huge model railways. When war broke out, Göring moved more and more of his meetings to Carinhall. Aerial warfare was coordinated from here, as was the genocide in the East. At the Nuremberg Trials, he still enthused about the good times at Carinhall, feeding rumours about hidden treasures, and tried in vain to make a deal with them to save his neck.

The documentary takes a closer look at this mysterious place. For the first time ever, the story of Carinhall is told in a comprehensive documentary film with outstanding film footage, fascinating new material, accounts from contemporary witnesses and assessments from experts.

German title: GÖRING’S CARINHALL
45min | color & b/w | German or English version

World Sales:
NEW DOCS
Dasselstr. 75-77
50674 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 16819743
sales@newdocs.de
www.astfilm.de
GOLEM
by Torsten Striegnitz & Simone Dobmeier

GOLEM recalls the myth from its Jewish origins and the fascination that this rough, destructive creature has held over humans for centuries. It is the tale of a transformation which gets out of hand and leaves behind a trail of devastation. It is also the story of man’s quest to measure his strength against God’s by creating a creature of his own. GOLEMs have always been created to serve and protect. Robots have long since replaced the crude clay figure with elegant machines. Today’s GOLEMs are used not only for menial tasks; they are also being groomed to make autonomous decisions today and tomorrow. Will they also one day long for experiences and desires like humans? Will the GOLEM itself one day become human? Or will it create a newer, perhaps even superior human being?

Photos © Axel Schneppat

Contact:
MEDEA FILM FACTORY UG
Irene Höfer
Lützowplatz 9
10785 Berlin, Germany
medea@snafu.de
tel.: +49 (0) 30 25295331
www.medeafilm.de

German title: GOLEM – DIE LEGENDE VOM MENSCHEN
51min | HD | 16:9 | German version with English subtitles available

GOOD – BETTER – VEGAN?
by John A. Kantara

Modern veganism for those who want it all is the new lifestyle of the younger generation. Gourmet restaurants in Paris now serve vegan haute cuisine, vegan supermarkets are opening up in German cities, celebrities and bloggers are sharing new recipes for vegan cakes and biscuits on the Internet. In the US veganism has become a major trend. And a million dollar business. But as well as being a fashionable strain of vegetarianism, veganism is also a new, highly profitable area for research and business. Countless ways of replacing milk, cheese, eggs and meat with a vegan trompe l’oeil are entering the markets. Biotech start ups in California are setting out to create milk and meat in their labs. But are these substitutes from the laboratory really a healthier choice? How green and sustainable are these new products? Is being vegan morally superior? John Kantara, a meat eater and food lover, will explore the very idea of a vegan diet, the ethics and motivations of the movement behind it as well as possible hazards for our health and the role of the businesses – from established industry to start-ups in vegan market segments.

World Sales:
Albatross World Sales GmbH
Altenburger Str. 5-15
04275 Leipzig, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 341 35002560
fax: +49 (0) 341 3500772560
info@albatrossworldsales.com
www.celluloid-fabrik.de

German title: GUT – BESSER – VEGAN?
45 or 52min | HD | German or English version

GOOD ENEMIES – MY FATHER, THE RED ORCHESTRA AND I
by Christian Weisenborn

In LILI MARLEEN, Rainer Werner Fassbinder plays a resistance fighter battle against the Hitler regime. His name: Günther Weisenborn. Christian Weisenborn tells the dramatic life story of his father: As one of few members in his group the ‘Red Orchestra’ he barely escaped execution, but his life-long efforts to reinvigorate his friends sentenced to death by Hitler’s judges, had failed. For the entire Cold War and up until 2009, the group was treated as KGB agents and traitors to the country while former Nazis started working for the US intelligence. An intimate and unfettered quest by a son to understand the identity of his father; a look back at the Berlin of the 1930s and a special group of friends who loved life and, in the darkest hours of German history, ultimately chose good over evil.

German title: DIE GUTEN FEINDE – Mein Vater, die Rote Kapelle und ich
90 or 52min | 16:9 | color & b/w | German or English version

Production:
Kick Film GmbH
Mannhardtstr. 6
80538 Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89 7471030
kickfilm@kickfilm.de
www.kickfilm.com
THE GRAND LITERATOUR goes time-travelling with eight of the most enthralling authors in literary history. The series embarks on unique voyages intertwining both past and present: Heinrich Böll’s Ireland, Hans Christian Andersen’s Orient, the French Riviera with Erika and Klaus Mann, and Uwe Johnson’s New York – great authors on tour, grand literature tours. Travel literature is not just dusty descriptions of faraway places, it is intended for readers who are not only interested in visiting countries, but also experiencing the people, culture and mentality of the places. On no account do these travellers want to just be tourists.

THE GRAND LITERATOUR rediscovers the travel journals of famous authors and the countries they visited anew. The series reveals how these countries have changed, whether what the travel writers once saw has now vanished or been forgotten, or how the places have grown and evolved over time.

German title: DIE GROSSE LITERATOUR – Serie mit 4 Folgen: ERIKA UND KLAUS MANNS CôTE D’AZUR | UWE JOHNSONS NEW YORK | HEINRICH BÖLLS IRLAND | HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSENS ORIENT
4x52min | HD | Blu-ray | DVD | German or French (voiceover) version, English subtitles

GROUNDS RISING
by Doro Carl & Claudia Reiche
CULTURE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | GENTRIFICATION | CITIES | CONFLICTS

The film BODENERHEBUNGEN / GROUNDS RISING focuses on recent changes in the district of Altona, in Hamburg, Germany. On former railway-owned grounds the ‘New Heart of Altona’ is being built with a public park that is meant to integrate heritage protected relics. Only that past residents from crafts, art and music who had made use of the formerly neglected landmark buildings are definitely not meant to be integrated in the new rise of the area.

With: Ronnie Henseler, Tamara Juhan, Martin Kahl, Aljoscha Mir, Knarf Rellöm, Yvonne Rokita, Kai Schupp and textparts from Mario Bloem, Birgit Gebhardt, Frank John, Hermann Jonas, Prof. Dr. Ing Ursula Kirschner, Angela Rieke, Dipl. Ing Frank Schwieger, Prof. Jörn Walter u.a.

German title: BODENERHEBUNGEN
festivals: Filmfest Hamburg, Nordische Filmtage Lübeck, Shorts IFF Dehli, 2017: Indian World Film Festival Hyderabad, India
20min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

GUARDIANS OF THE EARTH
by Filip Antoni Malinowski
ENVIRONMENT | CONFLICTS | HUMAN RIGHTS | POLITICS | CURRENT AFFAIRS

After 23 years of continuous failure in UN climate change negotiations 195 nations meet in Paris for another attempt to save our planet. In a timeless manner the film portrays the struggle towards the agreement through the perspective of the head of the UN climate secretariat as well as leaders of the most vulnerable countries. Unique footage gives insight into the process behind closed doors and the opposition by the fossil fuel lobby. The struggle shows the conflict of a global society: the dilemma between solidarity versus national self-interest – a fight between economic growth and massive loss of lives. As sea levels keep rising, glaciers are melting, heat waves, droughts and Super-Typhoons become more frequent, millions of people are in serious danger – time is running out to act – Climate Change is here. Can a global agreement keep our world in balance, or is it already too late?

German title: MISSION: DIE ERDE RETTEN
85min | DCP | 5.1 | original English/French/German version with English or German subtitles or German voice over

World Sales:
NEW DOCS
Dasselstr. 75-77
50674 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 16819743
sales@newdocs.de
www.florianfilm.de

Production:
FLORIANFILM GmbH
Unter den Krahnenbäumen 4
50668 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 2005280
fax: +49 (0) 221 2005282
post@florianfilm.de
www.florianfilm.de

Contact:
Dorothea Carl
post@do-ca.de

CoProduction:
Soleil Film
Jürgen Karasek
cell.: +43 69912397478
j.karasek@soleilfilm.at
www.soleilfilm.at

Perfect Shot Films GmbH
10997 Berlin, Germany
www.perfectshotfilms.com
www.guardians-of-the-earth.com
**GULISTAN, LAND OF ROSES**
by Zaynê Akyol  
**WOMEN | CURRENT AFFAIRS | CONFLICTS | WAR & PEACE**

Female Kurdish guerrillas fighting the Islamic State have received a lot of media coverage – but you’ve never seen these revolutionary women portrayed like this. With painterly beauty, filmmaker Zaynê Akyol brings us into the lives of an all-female brigade. Each shot is carefully composed, a considerable feat given that most of the film takes place in the rough mountains and deserts of Kurdistan. The battlefield is one of the only places these women can escape constricting gender roles. Fierce and proud, they instill fear in their enemy, not only for their bravery and skill, but also because, for Daesh (also known as ISIS) soldiers, dying at the hands of a woman means they’ll never reach paradise. In turn, the women live in fear of being taken as spoils of war, believing that “every woman left to the mercy of man is condemned to slavery.” (hotdocs, Aisha Jamal)

**French title:** GULISTAN, TERRE DE ROSES  
**awards/festivals:** Doc Alliance Award, hotdocs Toronto, Vision du Reel Nyon, DOK Leipzig  
86min | DCP | original Kurdish/French/Turkish version with English subtitles available

**World Sales:**  
Elise Labbé  
National Film Board of Canada  
festivals@nfb.ca  
www.nfb.ca  
www.mitosfilm.com  
vimeo.com/159838150

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**GUNS**
by Arne Strackholder  
**CURRENT AFFAIRS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | WAR & PEACE | POLITICS | CULTURE**

Germany – a weapon-free zone. Most people here have never held a real gun in their hands. They try it out with models and simulation games. The film observes an Airsoft club in Bonn where the members copy, down to the last detail, the appearance of U.S. elite soldiers. Only the somewhat inept training sessions reveal that it’s not real soldiers who offer training here. The film accompanies the model builder Matthias Schmeier who assembles delicate dioramas of the Arabian Spring – driven by the desire for clarification of the political and social consequences of arms trade and war. And it shows the film director Dominik Graf staging a corpse. It is the attempt to overcome the impossibility of representing death in film. GUNS presents images of war and violence. But photos and videos of real conflicts are merely the template for the images which the protagonists produce themselves. Whatever their motives are, they have one thing in common: As hopeless as their search for knowledge is, so intensive is their concentration on details. The fictive exhibition of arms and violence becomes permeable for insights about ourselves. And raises the question of which experiences are made from mere games which are brutal reality elsewhere.

**German title:** WAFFEN  
**festivals:** Hof, Kassel  
67min | DCP | Dolby 5.1 | original German version with English subtitles available

**Contact:**  
Arne Strackholder  
Hackeläuerstr. 68  
51063 Cologne, Germany  
cell: +49 (0) 176 61316775  
arne.strackholder@gmx.de  
www.khm.de  
youtu.be/5MrCOZ7hY7k

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**HANS-PETER FELDMANN – ART, NOT ART**
by Corinna Belz  
**ARTS | CULTURE | PORTRAIT**

A conceptual artist at work. HANS-PETER FELDMANN – ART, NOT ART shows the artist’s view of reality, as perceived in everyday objects and depictions. Daily life is upturned and examined from all sides by means of little disruptions, seemingly nonsensical actions, fastidious collecting, acts of destruction and of organization. The film itself incorporates the element of chance: instead of telling a linear story a scene each was chosen from numerous stories and then edited together according to a random selection process.

**German title:** Hans-Peter Feldmann – ART, NOT ART  
**festivals:** Solothurner Filmtage 2017  
80min | HD | original German version with English subtitles available

**Contact:**  
coraswift@aol.com
HAPPY
by Carolin Genreiht

It’s probably every daughter’s worst nightmare: a postcard from Thailand that reads: “My darling, I’m doing great here, eating Pad Thai and drinking Chang Beer. And I met a woman who is your age. Love, Dad.”

My father Dieter has changed a lot in the past couple of years. After separating from my mother, he exchanged his hiking boots for flip-flops and travels to Thailand every year for a couple of weeks. Sometimes he travels alone, sometimes with friends – all of whom are divorced and over 60. My father says that he is having the time of his life in Thailand. I think to myself: Oh my God, is my father a sex tourist? What does he want from a Thai woman, 30 years younger than him? And what the hell does she want from him?

My father and I travel to Thailand together, where I meet my almost stepmother and her family. Slowly but surely I begin to realize that there are no definite answers to my various indignant questions.

HAPPY is an affectionate, ruthless, cheerful and very personal documentary about a father and his daughter, the search for happiness in the autumn years of life and the question of what love actually is when you are over 60 and afraid of growing old alone.

German title: HAPPY
festivals/awards: DOK Leipzig, Kassel, Audience Award – Duisburger Filmwoche; 2017: DOCPoint Helsinki, ‘Jetzt oder Nie’ Friedrichshafen, Berlin&Beyond San Francisco
83min | HD | DCP | 5.1 | original German/Thai version with German or English subtitles available

HAVING A CIGARETTE WITH ÁLVARO SIZA
by Iain Dilthey

What is architecture? What can architecture do?
What is your architectural position? What is your design method?
The answers to these questions gives Álvaro Siza Vieira – architect, socialist, passionate smoker.

German title: AUF EINE ZIGARETTE MIT ÁLVARO SIZA
festivals: Int. Architecture Film Festival Lund, Sweden; MiCue Milano Design Film Festival, Italy; Portugal: Do You Mean Architecture, Doclisboa, Porto/Post/Doc – Film & Media Festival
52min | HD | 16:9 | original Portuguese version with English or German subtitles available

HE SHE I
by Carlotta Kittel

Two people, two sets of perceptions and memories – did Angela and Christian love each other? Were they ever a proper couple? What did they expect of each other?
The only indisputable fact is that they met in 1986 in Berlin. Yet when Angela became pregnant and decided to keep the child, they broke off contact. 25 years later, their daughter interviews them separately. When she plays the respective recording back to them, a dynamic unfolds between the two parents, without them actually encountering each other. In this space, their history is recast in the context of the present. Felt truths appear in amongst true feelings.

HE SHE I is a film about the power to tell your own story, and the powerlessness to prevent a second version of it – a conversation that never happened.

German title: ER SIE ICH
festivals: Max-Ophüls-Preis Saarbrücken
88min | DCP | 1:1.85 | 1998 x 1080 (flat) | Dolby Digital 5.1 | original German version with English subtitles
In the Biblical Zoo of Jerusalem, Israelis and Palestinians encounter each other every day. They meet as visitors or work as animal attendants side-by-side and on the same team – an exception here, where violence and war is routine. A friendship develops between the elephant and rhinoceros attendants. Visitors and Muslim and orthodox Jewish children’s groups offer insight into the multifaceted realities of Jerusalem residents. Their point of views are often contrary and politically charged, but among the animals they manage to coexist as the ever-present tensions retreat into the background. Although the peaceful mood is fragile and issues of freedom and self-determination are raised.

HOLY ZOO discovers an extraordinary place at the heart of the Middle East conflict.

Production:
TM Film GmbH – Anna Martensen
Brombergstr. 17
79102 Freiburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 761 88148939
info@tmfilm.de
youtu.be/rUp2ITtui5I
mail@katharinawaisburd.de

World Sales:
JMTFilms, Michael Treves
9 Haavoda St.
Tel-Aviv 6382110, Israel
tel: +972 3 5254782
www.jmtfilms.com
info@tmfilm.de
mail@katharinawaisburd.de
youtu.be/rUp2ITtui5I

German title: IM BIBLISCHEN ZOO VON JERUSALEM
festivals: Delhi IFF, Jerusalem Jewish FF, Other Israel FF – New York, San Francisco Jewish FF
60min | 16:9 | HD | DCP | partly animated | original Hebrew/Arab/English version with English, Arab, Hebrew subtitles or German voice over available

HOLY ZOO
by Katharina Walsburd
CURRENT AFFAIRS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | POLITICS | WAR & PEACE

Every winter, ice roads are built across hundreds of miles in Canada’s far north, connecting frozen rivers and lakes, and stretching up to the very northern tip of the country by the Arctic Ocean. For the people living in the remote villages of this region these ‘ice highways’ are of vital importance. Until April, trucks are coming up here all the way from down south, bringing supply goods for the whole year to these locals, and life changes until the ice roads are melting again and disappear into the ocean.

German title: HIGHWAY ZUM POLARMEER
52min | 16:9 | German or English version

HIGHWAY TO THE ARCTIC
by Karl Teuschl
ENVIRONMENT | ETHNOLOGY | NATURE | TRAVEL

Seven young people tell the story of their arrival to Germany. They come from Syria, Afghanistan, Guinea and Armenia, and the reasons for leaving their countries range from war to lack of prospects. They talk about the circumstances of their journey or forced escape. And about their challenging search for new opportunities against the violation of their basic human rights. The young filmmakers merge their different stories of migration into a documentary which displays the challenges and difficulties of a new start in a foreign country with a lot of administrative obstructions. The teenagers are driven by their hopes and dreams and plans for the future.

German title: I AM HERE
awards: nominated for the Media & Migration Award NRW
62min | HD | original Arabic/Dari/German/English/French version with German or English subtitles available

I AM HERE
by Sandra Merseburger & Hannah Marquardt
MIGRATION | YOUTH | COMING OF AGE | REFUGEES | CULTURE

Production:
Kick Film GmbH
Mannhardtstr. 6
80538 Munich, Germany
kickfilm@kickfilm.de
www.kickfilm.com

Contact:
Sandra Merseburger
Merseburger Filme
cell: +49 (0) 172 9481403
www.sandramerseburger.com
me@sandramerseburger.com
For DJ Roman Flügel his work is everything and something that he would never compromise. Romuald Karmakar’s new documentary takes a look at five pioneers of electronic music for whom work is their raison d’etre. The film commences with a still life of electronic equipment in which we find ourselves looking for several minutes at a wide shot of cables, consoles, amplifiers, keyboards and ‘controllers’ as Ricardo Villalobos – who was the subject of Karmakar’s 2009 film – will later call the flashing switchboards in the background. In between eloquent thoughts from the musicians in interviews, quiet observations of them at work at their DJ home and images of sweating masses at raves, a selective image gradually and very quietly emerges of a music scene in transition. Ata describes the current music scene as a vast, densely woven carpet, the end of which is out of sight. It is a scene which, since the 1990s has differentiated and evolved into something far more complex and hard to grasp. Karmakar does not attempt to provide a seamless historical survey, rather he allows his images and his protagonists to speak for themselves (Berlinale/PANORAMA)

With: Ricardo Villalobos, Sonja Moonear, Ata, Roman Flügel, David Moufang/Move D

German title: DENK ICH AN DEUTSCHLAND IN DER NACHT
festivals: Berlinale/PANORAMA
105min | DCP | German or English version

“An adventurer can always return home; an exile cannot. So I decided that culture would be my home.” Jonas Mekas
“The film has hardly any images, and it is not a mistake if you see a black screen. The twentieth century has produced millions of refugees, exiled and stateless. Some of them eventually settle down and find new roots, others continue to travel, waiting and dreaming of returning home. Born in Lithuania, Jonas Mekas spent five years in a camp for displaced persons in Wiesbaden and Kassel at the end of World War II before immigrating to Brooklyn. There, he started shooting films, especially his ‘diaries’ where he recorded his daily life as a young immigrant, and eventually became known as the ‘godfather of American avant-garde’. The early years of this seminal filmmaker, having just escaped the century’s worst nightmare, capture the story of the emigrant unable to ever go back and whose loneliness in the New World is emblematic of what Freud called ‘the ordinary unhappiness’ in the great metropolis” Douglas Gordon.

German title: I HAD NOWHERE TO GO
festivals: tiff Toronto, Hof, Viennale, Locarno
97min | DCP | color & b/w | Dolby 5.1 | original English version

At high age, a group of tremendously brave and open-minded people face something entirely new: together they go on a journey to take swimming lessons. “Learn to Swim before you Die”, is the theme of this humorous film about facing fears, letting go, trust, and most of all, love of life.

German title: TROCKENSCHWIMMEN
festivals: DOK Leipzig, Kassel, Solothurner Filmtage
77min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
Arden Film GMBH
Goethe Str. 1
10623 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 30308893
info@ardenfilm.com
www.ardenfilm.com
www.romuald-karmakar.de

Production:
moneypenny filmprod. GmbH
Sigrid Hoerner
Kopischstr. 3
10965 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 28384077
fax: +49 (0) 30 240478577
moneypenny@moneypenny-film.de
www.moneypenny-film.de

Production:
NEUFILM GmbH – Holm Taddiken
Altenburger Str. 9
04275 Leipzig, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 341 35003580
htaddiken@neufilm.com
www.trockenschwimmen.de

Distribution:
[eksystent distribution] filmverleih
Pilgersheimer Str. 57
81543 Munich, Germany
mk@eksystent.com
Over the course of a year Pia Lenz followed the Syrian girl Ghofran, aged 11, and the Romani boy Djaner, aged 7, who came together with their families to Germany as refugees, in their search to find a place for themselves. The perspective of these children offers a clear and very moving view of this new cohabitation in Germany one year after the arrival of over a million refugees. The film asks the question: How can we give a homeland to those who most urgently need a future?

German title: **ALLES GUT**

festivals: Nordische Filmtage – Filmforum, Lübeck

95min | 16:9 | HD | DCP | DVD | original German/Arabic/Turkish version with German or English subtitles

**IN HIS ROOM**

by Dennis Couzin, E. M. Gugel, Skye Chan Couzin.

Contact:
Eva C. Heldmann
evaheldmann@gmx.de

German title: **IM GEHÄUS**

festivals: Berlinale FORUM expanded

25min | HD | original English version

Dennis and I live together. One year ago I started to explore his 30.8 square meters with my camera. Papers, books and tools cover the floor. On the one hand the order of things appears as mysterious chaos, on the other hand a self-willed world becomes visible: the world of a thinker and a handyman. Dennis spent a half year working on a small geometric surprise inside Dürer’s ‘Hieronymus im Gehäus’, and confessed: ‘Jerome’s room is my room’.

How does he see that? He collects, forgets, and finds things again. I don’t really trust his work methods – little gets done – but they drew me in.

At the same time, when I start filming, Dennis starts cleaning up the room.

With Dennis Couzin, E. M. Gugel, Skye Chan Couzin.

Contact:
Eva C. Heldmann
evaheldmann@gmx.de

After filming political footage, Myanmar filmmaker Tin Win Naing must flee his home. The nation’s brutal dictatorship has begun sweeping the country, arresting anyone suspected of critiquing the government, and Naing is certain to be targeted. Unsure whether he would ever be able to see his family again, he crosses the border illegally, entering Thailand.

His camera becomes the most important tool to survive and overcome the many days away from home. He begins to follow three Myanmar migrant workers toiling under conditions tantamount to slave labour. Through his sensitive camera work, Tin Win Naing transmits his curiosity, sorrow, or delight about what he is seeing, whilst subtly connecting it to the current political changes in his home country Myanmar.

German title: **IM EXIL**

festivals: tiff Toronto, Busan IFF, DOK Leipzig

72 or 55min | HD | original Burmese version with English or German subtitles available

**IN EXILE**

by Tin Win Naing

Contact:
Syndicado
Aleksandar Govedarica
aleksandar@syndicado.com
tel.: +42 1949635890
www.perenniallens.com
www.inexiledocumentary.com
youtu.be/bPoR_I5iN4A

Production:
PIER 53 Filmproduktion
Clemens-Schultz-Str. 50
20359 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40 85415712
info@pier53.de
www.alleosgutfilm.de
www.facebook.com/alleosgutfilm
vimeo.com/200003021

German title:

festivals: Berlinale FORUM expanded

25min | HD | original English version

Dennis and I live together. One year ago I started to explore his 30.8 square meters with my camera. Papers, books and tools cover the floor. On the one hand the order of things appears as mysterious chaos, on the other hand a self-willed world becomes visible: the world of a thinker and a handyman. Dennis spent a half year working on a small geometric surprise inside Dürer’s ‘Hieronymus im Gehäus’, and confessed: ‘Jerome’s room is my room’.

How does he see that? He collects, forgets, and finds things again. I don’t really trust his work methods – little gets done – but they drew me in.

At the same time, when I start filming, Dennis starts cleaning up the room.

With Dennis Couzin, E. M. Gugel, Skye Chan Couzin.

Contact:
Eva C. Heldmann
evaheldmann@gmx.de

**I’m okay**

by Pia Lenz

HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIAL ISSUE | POLITICS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | MIGRATION
**IN THE CENTER OF THE WORLD**

by Thomas Oswald

The documentary IN THE CENTER OF THE WORLD portrays four teenagers from rural Germany on their first steps towards an adult life. They have to decide whether to follow known paths or discover a new world. Noel from North Rhine-Westphalia has Indian roots and is still searching for his own path, his own interests, and goals. Lea from Thuringia fights in the conflict between friendship, freedom, and family for her wish to be treated as an adult. Leif from Schleswig-Holstein seems to be grown up, but on second view, one can see the cracks in his appearance. He is an insecure youth with a wish for self-determination. Johanna from Bavaria seems to be very clear about what her future should look like. However, she’s fighting against different expectations from others and herself. The protagonists are in a time of change. From the cosmos of childhood they are departing into the world of adults. For one year we take part in their lives and will get to know about their wishes, hopes, dreams as well as fears.

German title: **IM MITTELPUNKT DER WELT**

awards: Seal of Approval ‘recommended’

92min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles

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**IRAN IN OUR HEARTS – series in 5 parts**

by Katrin Sandmann

Two Iranian women set off on a unique journey to their home country. Their mission: to show the world Iran through personal encounters, without the usual clichés and prejudices. Elnaz Sadoghi from Berlin and Sarah Doraghi from Paris spend five weeks travelling through the Islamic Republic with its magnificent palaces, mosques, and parks. They meet old friends and relatives, make new acquaintances, and they present a unique and very personal view of their country. In light of the historical nuclear deal and other changes that have occurred since Hassan Rohani’s election as president, a fresh new perspective is urgently needed. Under Ayatollah Khomeini, reviled by the USA as the ‘great Satan’, Iran was cut off from the international community for over thirty years. The USA considered it the ‘axis of evil’. As a result, the country’s breathtaking natural beauty, its unparalleled cultural heritage, and above all, the cosmopolitan outlook of its people have been largely forgotten. Sarah and Elnaz return home and travel to places they have missed the most. They immerse themselves in Iranian society. A fascinating portrait of a previously unfamiliar country.

Episodes: Returning Home | Faith | The Artists | Places of Nostalgia | Surprises

German title: **IRAN IM HERZEN**

5x30min | HD | French or German version with English subtitles available

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**IRONHEAD**

by Tian Dong

The documentary is about a special young football team that gains attention in China: the ‘Shaolin-Kungfu-Football Team’. Their playing style combines traditional football with the old Chinese art of fighting. During games they use techniques like the Shaolin-‘Ironhead’ or the Shaolin-‘Hurricane-Foot’, which are technically not against the FIFA-rules. The aim for including Kungfu elements into the training is to improve the strength, condition, and flexibility of the team.

Shi Yanlu is a Shaolin-Kungfu master and the inventor of the special Kungfu football. He believes that the new training system is future-oriented and will help young Chinese players to achieve international attention and appreciation again. With the financial support of a Chinese company, he plans to build a big Kungfu football school that allows 10,000 students to learn the new sport.

What are the hopes and dreams of these young students? Is Kungfu football really as promising as it seems? How will the students end up? Are they really going to become professional athletes?

German title: **EISENKOPF**

festivals: Berlinale/PERSPECTIVE

92min | DCP | 1:2.39 | Cinemascope | original Chinese version with German or English subtitles available
IRON JUNGLE – NATURE’S RETURN TO THE RUHR VALLEY
by Christian Baumeister

Europe’s biggest industrial area turns green!
For more than 150 years the Ruhr Area was not only the heart of Germany’s economy, but also Europe’s most extensive industrial zone. Mines, steelworks and chemical industries dominated the region. River systems collapsed and the skies were ash-grey.
But over the last decades the area has been transformed. Due to the crisis in coal and steel, many industries were shut down, and huge areas were abandoned. A whole variety of animals returned to fill the vacuum; invading factory ruins, and re-colonizing badlands, artificial hills and lakes. Now peregrines breed on old smokestacks, natterjack toads occupy temporary pools and blue-winged grasshoppers display on hot and stony wastelands.
This film not only tells the story of a unique comeback, it also reveals some stunning animal behavior. Above all it celebrates the power and adaptive capacity of life itself.

German title: WILDES RUHRGEBIET
52 or 43min | HD | German or English version

JEFF CARNEY – US AIRMAN TURNED STASI SPY
by Jürgen Ast

In April 1991, an East Berlin man was kidnapped by US secret service agents. After being interrogated, ‘Jens Karney’ was flown to the USA and sentenced to 38 years imprisonment...
Almost exactly 30 years before Edward Snowden turned his back on the NSA, fellow countryman, then Jeffrey Carney, did the same. From 1983, the NSA intelligence specialist passed on top NSA secrets to the East German Stasi, becoming one of the Eastern Bloc’s key agents. His code-name: ‘Kid’.
Shortly after his transfer to the USA, Carney fled to Mexico, was taken to Cuba and then to East Berlin. There he became known as East German Jens Karney, and he continued to work for the Stasi.
After the fall of the Berlin wall, the defector’s second secret service career came to an abrupt end, and he was eventually betrayed himself. Former Stasi officers sold their insider knowledge to the Americans, who had him arrested in Berlin.
This film describes the motifs, turning points and genesis of an unprecedented agent story. Jens Karney – as he still calls himself – relives his past and describes his escape to East Germany, his abduction and conviction. Why were the Americans so intent on taking their betrayers to court?
A special chapter in the history of the secret services.

German title: EIN STASI-MAULWURF BEI DER NSA
French title: UNE TAUPE DELA STASI A LA NSA
52min | HD | German, French or English version

JOHN BERGER OR THE ART OF LOOKING
by Cordelia Dvorák

Art, politics and motorcycles: on the occasion of his 90th birthday, JOHN BERGER OR THE ART OF LOOKING is an intimate portrait of the writer and art-critic whose groundbreaking insights on seeing have shaped us for already five decades. His four-part BBC series WAYS OF SEEING opened a whole generation’s eyes.
Working on an astonishing range of topics and art-forms, he never lost his belief and lifelong interest in dialogues which over decades created the most unusual artistic collaborations. Realized as a portrait in works and collaborations, this creative documentary takes a different approach to biography, where John Berger leads us in his favorite role as the story teller through his ways of seeing of today.

German title: JOHN BERGER OR THE ART OF LOOKING
festivals: Animation & Contemporary Art FF Olomouc, Czech Republic
55min | HD ProRes | DVD | original English/French/German version with English or German subtitles available

World Sales:
Deckert Distribution GmbH
Gottschedstr. 18
04109 Leipzig, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 341 2156638
info@deckert-distribution.com
www.albatrossworldsales.com
www.lighthandshadow.tv

World Sales:
NEW DOCS
Dasselstr. 75-77
50674 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 16819743
sales@newdocs.de

World Sales:
Albatross World Sales
Kontakt: Anne Olzmann
Altenburger Str. 5-15
04275 Leipzig, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 341 35002560
fax: +49 (0) 341 3500772560
info@albatrossworldsales.com
www.albatrossworldsales.com
www.lighthandshadow.tv

World Sales:
Deckert Distribution GmbH
Gottschedstr. 18
04109 Leipzig, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 341 2156638
info@deckert-distribution.com

German documentaries 2017 | 1185
Journey to JOYCE’S VILLAGE – Creating the Place of Hope

by Christoph Ph. Nick

Zambian grandmother Joyce Sikota has lost all but one of her children to Aids and was left alone and overwhelmed with seven grandchildren. Now, she is going through a healing process. With help of her only surviving daughter Annie and her visionary son-in-law Michael, she finds solace, hope and delight. Together, they turn Joyce’s backyard into a vibrant home for a joyful group of orphaned girls and elderly ladies: Her village Liyoyelo – the Place of Hope.

When the partnership with a German school develops into a visiting programme, Liyoyelo becomes the meeting place of two different worlds.

German title: Reise zu OMA SIKOTA – Der Weg zum Ort der Hoffnung

festivals: LIFMF Lusaka, Zambia; BSFF Ghana, NDIFF Uganda; TRAFF Cyprus

71min 30sec | HD | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | 16:9 | color | PCM Stereo

original German/English/Lozi with German or English subtitles available

Contact:
Christoph Ph. Nick,
tel.: +49 (0) 511 94020992
kontakt@oma-sikota.de,
www.c-studios.net
www.oma-sikota.de

KALEIDOSCOPE
by Telemach Wiesinger

By land, air and sea: an audio-visual travelogue in twenty-one chapters.

Tireless flaneur Telemach Wiesinger extends his repertoire of cinematic travelogues with another poetic collage of interconnected spaces and places gathered on numerous journeys across Europe and North America. Shot, as always, on 16mm, german artist Wiesinger’s images have a singular feel that emerges from a confident mastery of materials and a precise sense of timing.

The panoply of in-camera effects transforms he outside world into a wondrous and frequently other-worldly spectacle that hovers between realism and surrealism. Forms of travel and sites of passing trough are a constant feature, as are the steel structures and moving bridges that frequently appear in Wiesinger’s oeuvre and allow him to weave complex formal arrangements within the frame.

The filmmaker engages in a playful exchange with the spectator, creating anticipation and surprise in equal measure. This is brought about particularly through the musical soundscape, the result of a close collaboration with composer and audio engineer Alexander Grebtschenko.

A varied combination of contemporary pieces of music – from Adrian Belew, Hayden Chisholm, Laurent de Wilde / Otisto Z3, Andreas Gogol, Jojo Mayer, Tobias Schwab and Gregory Taylor – rises and falls with a kaleidoscopic choreography of images. (Dr. Kim Knowles, Edinburgh IFF)

German title: KALEIDOSCOPE

awards: Special Jury Award for Best Outstanding Arthouse Film – Chicago; Best Experimental Film – Hong Kong; Honorable Mention Experimental Film Forum.

82min | 16mm onto DCP | 16:9 | b/w | stereo 5.1 | no dialogues

Contact:
Lichtbild Wiesinger
info@telemach-wiesinger.de
www.telemach-wiesinger.de
www.lightcone.org
vimeo.com/127069018

KOKOLAMPY
by Hajo Schomerus

It begins quite harmlessly with the filmmaker’s memories of his great uncle Menko, who lived in Madagascar for many years and told enchanting stories of myths, magicians and crocodile spirits. The strangest thing, however, was the elephant bird’s egg he brought home which has disappeared.

It’s the occasion of an elaborate research around the globe, into the cellars and storehouses of auctioneers, archives and natural history collections. Hajo Schomerus is almost magically attracted to these unspectacular looking places. They are both memory and mystery, trigger reflections and speculations. The film walks the thin line between crime story and construction, sending out feelers into grey zones like biopiracy or diamond smuggling. The fact remains: Madagascar is a very special island with many plants and animals that are found only there.

How naive, negligent or calculated are the actions of the adventurer, businessman and amateur botanist really? Where is the borderline between ethnography and colonial conduct? And where does the egg of the legendary extinct elephant bird which was of impressive size but couldn’t fly come in? Questions upon questions, raised casually and intelligently by the film from one clue to the next, in an examination of the fundamental relationship between Europe and Africa in the past century. (DOK Leipzig, Cornelia Klaui)

German title: KOKOLAMPY

festivals: DOK Leipzig
82min | DCP | original English/German/Malagasy version with German and English subtitles

Production:
busse & halberschmidt Filmprod. oHG
Kurze Str. 3
40213 Düsseldorf, Germany
marcelo@bussehalberschmidt.de
www.bussehalberschmidt.de
www.FB.com/bussehalberschmidt
www.youtu.be/s_lBYpJzwgM
With his studio Atelier Konstantin Grcic Industrial Design, Konstantin Grcic is at the forefront of product and furniture design. He is considered one of the most innovative and profound contemporary designers and thinkers worldwide. Many of his designs are already in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art in New York, such as his legendary Chair One, or his lamp Mayday, a portable floor or suspended lamp made of plastic, reminiscent of the illumination devices found in an auto repair shop.

Grcic argues at a certain remove from such terms as aesthetics of form, or comfort, using such expressions as narration, context, surrounding space. His focus is on human beings and their environment; the things with which they surround themselves, and that surround them.

German title: KONSTANTIN GRCIC — DESIGN IS WORK
54min | HD | 16:9 | Dolby SR | original German/English/Italian version with English subtitles available

The life of Ilona Staller, commonly known as Cicciolina, is probably unique with regard to her art as well as her person. Emigrating from communist Hungary, she followed the call of the ‘dolce vita’ to Italy and found it a fertile environment for a life dedicated to scandal. When she started posing as a scantily dressed nymph in naughty photographs her career picked up speed and steadily propelled her into the realms of radio, TV, erotic films and pornography.

As the first porn star in the history of democracy, Ilona Staller managed to be elected Member of Parliament and her unexpected victory guaranteed her worldwide attention. Her turbulent relationship with Jeff Koons, whose wife and muse she became, finally secured her iconic status in contemporary pop culture.

Based on profoundly researched archive material and directed both with passion and a twinkle of irony, La Cicciolina. Godmother of Scandal captures the phenomenon Ilona Staller in its multiple facets and places it in the wider context of Italy’s political situation at the time.

German title: LA CICCIOLINA. GODMOTHER OF SCANDAL
54min | digitale file | DCP | English, Italian or German version

The Onis is one among the countless bars in Downtown Madrid. Open from dawn till after midnight, the bar is a meeting place for Madrilenians of all walks of life. They come for coffee in the morning, for lunch or dinner, or a drink at night.

After migrating to Madrid in the early 1970’s from a village in the North of Spain, the five brothers Tomás (67), Gregorio (61), Ismael (64), Nicolás (52), and Claudio (58) first opened the place in 1976. The possibility to make money brought them into the hospitality business in the big city. In the last forty years since the opening of the Onis they have worked together almost every single day.

original title: LAS LENTEJAS Y EL DESTINO
75min | HD | original Spanish version with German or English subtitles available
The White Helmets are struggling to keep it together. Aleppo is close to collapsing, the last months of the city’s life, as we know it. People are constantly put their life at risk. How do they deal with their fear of death? After 5 years of War in Syria the remaining 350,000 citizens of Aleppo are preparing themselves for a siege. Through the volunteers from The White Helmets we experience daily life, death and struggle in the streets of Aleppo. Khalid, Subhi and Mahmoud are founding members of The White Helmets and are the first to enter the destroyed buildings, scouring through the rubble in search of bodies and signs of life. They have chosen to stay in Aleppo in order to save their people during the never ending siege. A lot of lives including many small children and infants are lost during the bombings. But every day is also a dilemma and a conflict for the men – should they stay and risk death themselves or should they try and get out and save their own families like so many others? The film is collaboration with Aleppo Media Center which contains an extraordinary story of real heroes in a massive human tragedy played out right in front of a numb international society.

German title: LAST MEN IN ALEPPO
awards/festivals: Grand Jury Prize World Cinema Documentary – Sundance, Beldocs Belgrad
60 or 103min | DCP | original Arabic version with English subtitles available

In the middle of Germany, there’s a region which locals call – more or less affectionately – the Siberia of Hesse. The climate is rough, buses drive seldom, and the next big city feels a daytrip away and there’s not much to do for adolescents. This is where Joshua, Laura, Hannah, Philipp, Tobi and Leonie are growing up. They’ve just turned 16 and ride the emotional rollercoaster of adolescence. After the summer holidays they will leave school to try their luck at further education somewhere else. The Last Six Months deals with their experiences during the last months before graduation: what they fight for, which resolutions they make, how they fall in and out of love. They wonder what to expect from life; sometimes finding their own answers and sometimes remaining helpless.

The definitive of The Last Six Months is its narrative style. In a multilayered collage of memories and wishes, things told and things experienced, we dive into the protagonists’ perspectives in a kaleidoscope of the young first-person narrators.

German title: DAS LETZTE HALBE JAHR
festivals: Lucas – International Festival for Young Filmlovers
75min | HD | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles

The 88-years-old veteran Anatoly has taught everything he knows about being a soldier, to his 18-years-old foster-grandson Artiom. But one day before Artiom wants to go to war as a volunteer, Anatoly is no longer sure if he should let him go.

This film is part of a long term project, we want to continue in 2017 and now looking for partners for the feature film.

German title: THE LAST TAPE
20min | HD | 2K | DCP | original Ukrainian version with English, Spanish, French or German subtitles available
Conceived as a family saga, the documentary follows through ten years two brothers between Westafrica and Europe – the Younger on a tiny island in the Atlantic and the elder brother as a hopeless illegal on Spanish mainland. A film about Europe’s values seen through african eyes of poor migrants, about intercontinental trade routes and connected personal hopes. The saga highlights cultural and family background, by means of very subjective and direct longterm insights. Aspects of leaving but also returning are showing new angles on exile but also on migration of so far anonymous boat-people washed up at South-Europe’s borderline coasts. The film is a longterm cooperation since 2008 between filmmakers in Senegal, Germany and Spain.

German title: LIFE SAARABA ILLEGAL
90min | HD | 1080 | ProRes | HQ | 16:9 | German, English or French version

Contact:
filmkraft filmproduction – Peter Heller
Dantestr. 27
80637 Munich, Germany
tel: +49 (0) 89 174290
filmkraft@t-online.de
www.filmkraft.de
**LITTLE YELLOW BOOTS – A STORY FOR THE FUTURE**
by John Webster

How can one help one’s grandchild, or great-grandchild, fifty years from now? What do we pass on to those who come after us, for both good and for bad? And what difference can one person make in the world?

These are the universal questions that occupy director John Webster in this cinematic letter to his great-grandchild, a girl called Dorit who will be born in the 2060’s, and who’s little yellow boots will walk on a very different shoreline to the one we knew. Taking as its starting point a personal experience of loss that has been with John throughout his life, we are taken on an emotional and physical journey from Finland across Russia to the coal mines of Siberia, to the Marshall Islands in the Pacific, and across the USA to New York.

The story seamlessly weaves together past, present and future into a beautiful, moving and hopeful documentary film about the power of each of us to make a difference.

German title: **DIE WELT IST NOCH ZU RETTEN?! (AT)**
95min | HD | original English/Russian/Finnish version with German or English voiceover & subtitles available

**LOST CHILDREN – 30,000 MINORS MISSING**
by Chiara Sambuchi

Tens of thousands of children are on the move around Europe. They are hopeful that Europe will bring an end to their suffering and allow them to lead a better life. They are unaccompanied child refugees from Asia and Africa and are in desperate need of protection. On paper, Europe cares more about children’s rights than anywhere else. But 30,000 child refugees disappeared in 2014 and around 7,000 went missing in the first few months of 2015 alone.

What happened to them? Where are they? Who is abusing them? Why doesn’t anybody seem to care about their destiny? Our film takes an investigative look at the situation: we follow the trails revealed to us by our interview partners, try to track down the youngsters who went missing in 2014, and look for the routes children repeatedly take across Europe. We discover their meeting places, find out how they manage to survive and earn money in cities like Rome or Milan. The film provides us with an overall picture of the phenomenon.

German title: **AUF DER FLUCHT – KINDER SPURLOS VERSCHWUNDEN**
52min | HD | German, French or English version

**LOVE IN THE TIME OF RESISTANCE – FREYA**
by Antje Starost & Hans Helmut Grotjahn

“I saw him and my heart stood still.” 18-year-old Freya Deichmann meets Helmuth James von Moltke. He is the love of her life. It is a love which has to prove itself under the Third Reich. The story builds to a dramatic climax, wavering between hope and a final separation, when Helmuth is imprisoned. Every day could be their last. Their greatest happiness are their daily letters which are smuggled by the prison chaplain. It is a love in a time of resistance which does not even end with the execution of the loved one.

The letters bear unique witness to an era, heart-piercing glimpses into an extraordinary existential situation of life and death. The lovers' story is combined with previously undisclosed conversations with the then 90-year-old Freya in her house in Vermont (USA): “material of astonishing beauty, poetry and passion.”

German title: **GESCHICHTE EINER LIEBE – FREYA**
festivals: Hofer Filmtage, Filmfestspiele Biberach
87min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

Contact:
starostfilm Verleih & Vertrieb
Wielandstr. 42a
12159 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 8523262
starost@t-online.de
www.starostfilm.de
Once again, Beatrix Schwehm follows a German-Algerian family – this time as they make a fresh start in Algeria. An illuminating look at a different world.

Louise is the only daughter of an artistic, liberal German family. She marries Mohamed, a Muslim from Algeria. Louise converts to Islam and lives a life of serious commitment to the faith. She misbehaves and scandalises people. The two have now been married for 15 years and live with their three children in Germany. Their older daughter Sainab is eleven, their son is seven and the younger daughter is nine months old. In complete opposition to the current trend, in which millions of people are escaping the African continent, the family makes an unusual decision. They emigrate from Germany to Algeria.

The film follows them for two years as they bravely try to live between two fundamentally different cultures. The second part of an long-term documentary trilogy, whose first section LUISE – EINE DEUTSCHE MUSLIMA won 2007 an Adolf Grimme Prize.

German title: LUISE & MOHAMED – AUFBRUCH NACH ALGIER
festival: Nordische Filmtage Lübeck, Filmfest Hamburg
60min | XDcam | DCP | original German/Arabic version with German or English subtitles available

Director Rahul Jain presents an intimate, observantly portrayal of the rhythm of life and work in a gigantic textile factory in Gujarat, India. Moving through the corridors and bowels of the enormous and disorienting structure, the camera takes the viewer on a journey to a place of dehumanising physical labor and intense hardship, provoking cause for thought about persistent pre-industrial working conditions and the huge divide between first world and developing countries.

Since the 1960s the area of Sachin in western India has undergone unprecedented, unregulated industrialisation, exemplified in its numerous textile factories. MACHINES portrays only one of these factories, while at the same time representing the thousands of labourers working, living and suffering in an environment they can’t escape without unity.

With strong visual language, memorable images and carefully selected interviews of the workers themselves, Jain tells a story of inequality and oppression, humans and machines.

German title: MACHINES
festival/awards: IDFA Amsterdam; World Cinema Documentary Special Jury Award for Excellence in Cinematography – Sundance
71min | DCP | original Hindi version with English subtitles available

Robert Lachmann was a German-Jewish ethnomusicologist. In the 1930s, his radio show ‘Oriental Music’ explored the musical traditions of the Palestine region and included regular live performances by musicians from different ethnic and religious groups. Inspired by Lachmann’s musicological studies, Palestinian-Israeli artist Jumana Manna travels through Israel and the Palestinian territories of today with recordings from the programme.

What do these songs sound like now when performed by Samaritans, Bedouins, by Moroccan, Kurdish, or Yemenite Jews? When a true fascination for history meets the sounds of the ribab, the saz, the oud, the darbuka and tin cans, a cultural diversity emerges that subverts the distinction between ‘Arab’ and ‘Jewish’. There are no national borders here, only different kitchens where people make music together – with their guests, while cooking, while someone makes the coffee.

Until the music becomes so infectious that the neighbours come over and start dancing along.

(66thBerlinale/FORUM)

German title: A MAGICAL SUBSTANCE FLOWS INTO ME
awards/festivals: winner of Films on Art International – Wroclaw, 66th Berlinale/FORUM, MIFF Melbourne, Viennale, Singapore, MedfilmFestival Rom,
68min | DCP | original Arabic/English/Hebrew version with English subtitles available
THE MANY FACES OF EMMA THOMPSON
by Sabine Lidl

Who is the woman behind the famous actress and author? THE MANY FACES OF EMMA THOMPSON explores the incredible versatility of actress, comedian, screenwriter and author Emma Thompson. From her university days at Cambridge with comedy friends Hugh Laurie and Stephen Fry to first TV shows in the 1980s, from her film collaborations with first husband Kenneth Brannagh to winning Oscars for acting as well as screen writing, not to forget her political activism – the list of Emma Thompson's talents and projects seems endless. It is held together by a personality that very much sets her own rules. Interviews with close friends and colleagues like fellow actress Imelda Staunton and award-winning screenwriter James Schamus paint a very personal picture of the exceptional artist.

German title: DIE VIELEN GESICHTER DER EMMA THOMPSON
53min | HD | English or German version

THE MAPMAKERS FROM GOTHA
by Otto Schuurman & Joachim Jäger

THE MAPMAKERS FROM GOTHA tells the story of cartographic publisher Justus Perthes. ‘Justus Perthes’ in Gotha had been the world center of cartography until its cartographers were forced to draw a border in 1945 signaled the end of their business. While the Perthes family had to flee to the West in order to continue producing maps, the Perthes publishing house in the then-East German city of Gotha became the state-owned enterprise VEB Hermann Haack.

After the fall of the Wall in 1989, 7th generation mapmaker Stephan Perthes, passionately fights to reclaim the company headquarters in Gotha. He attempts together with a group of VEB Hermann Haack employees to return the publishing house to its former splendor...

The film follows the pursuit of this dream and reveals whether it ultimately succeeds.

German title: DIE KARTENMACHER AUS GOTHA
77min | HD | English or German version with Dutch subtitles available

MAKE LOVE – season 4
by Tristan Ferland Milewski

In our seemingly enlightened times, you get the impression that everyone knows everything about sexuality.

According to the Danish couples therapist and bestselling author Ann-Marlene Henning, that is why it is so surprising that many men and women today still have so many unanswered questions.

In the TV series ‘MAKE LOVE – You can learn to make love’, Ann-Marlene Henning therefore talks to couples, heterosexual and homosexual, about their relationships, or, more precisely: about sex in their relationships and she initiates a dialogue with students in grade 9 to find out which questions teenagers have. She talks about the topic with tact and a refreshing degree of naturalness and, with the help of high-quality 3D graphics she gives interesting and illuminating insights into everyday life.

German title: MAKE LOVE – 4. Staffel
4x45min | HD | German or English version

Contact:
MEDEA FILM FACTORY
Irene Höfer
Lützowplatz 9
10785 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 69566910
tel.: +49 (0) 30 69566915
info@gebrueder-beetz.de

Production:
Gebrüder Beetz Filmprod. Berlin
Heinrich-Roller-Str. 15
10405 Berlin, Germany

tel.: +49 (0) 30 69595331
fax: +49 (0) 30 69566915
info@gebrueder-beetz.de

Contact:
MEDEA FILM FACTORY UG
Irene Höfer
Lützowplatz 9
10785 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 25295331
medea@snafu.de
www.medeafilm.de
vimeo.com/191815629

Production:
MEDEA FILM FACTORY
Irene Höfer
Lützowplatz 9
10785 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 25295331
medea@snafu.de
www.medeafilm.de
vimeo.com/191815629

Contact:
MEDEA FILM FACTORY
Irene Höfer
Lützowplatz 9
10785 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 25295331
medea@snafu.de
www.medeafilm.de
A young man, driven by a childhood story, undertakes a journey to discover who his father was. Through this he learns of his father's strengths, weaknesses, and dreams. He confronts both unresolved issues and the death itself. Inspired by the tale, Leonard and his close friends embark on a roadtrip. Along the way they meet companions of his father and following the path of the narrative, their trip culminates at Stonehenge. During this journey of self-discovery Leonard realizes the effect his father's life and death has on him. MEIN VATER – A JOURNEY is an autobiographical documentary, which tells a powerful story from the narrators point of view. This coming of age film is presented in a calm, thoughtful and inspiring way. It's easy to identify with Leonard and to transfer the essential themes to your own life.

Contact:
Leonard Rottok
cell: + 49 (0) 178 6123971
mein_vater@yahoo.de

German title: MEIN VATER – EINE REISE
56min | HD | DVD | Blu-ray | VOD | original German version with English subtitles available

Mozambique gained independence from Portugal in 1975, following a bloody struggle that lasted more than a decade. In three acts (plus a poetic prologue and epilogue), some of those who lived through it tell their story about the struggle for independence. This striking mix of archive footage, shots of present day and the pervasive soundtrack give us the feeling that past and present are inextricably linked. The oral testimonies bear witness to a multifaceted colonial trauma, and the wounds are still fresh.

Contact:
weltfilm GmbH
Kristina Konrad
Fritz-Riedel-Str. 2
10407 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 42856409
fax: +49 (0) 30 42856411
konrad@weltfilm.com
www.weltfilm.com

German title: A MEMORY IN THREE ACTS
festivals: IDFA Amsterdam, 2017: GIFF Gothenburg
64min | HD | DVD | DCP | 16:9 | VOD | color & b/w | original Portuguese version with English subtitles available

“...Messina” is both a contemplative cinematographic voyage in, and critique of, one of Europe’s most significant sites. The sea between Scylla and Charybdis has presented many challenges – in reality, dreams, myths and policy-making – from ancient times to the present.

One of the focal points of the film is the book ‘Horcynus Orca’ by Stefano D’Arrigo: translated into a foreign language for the first time, forty years after its first edition in Italy. The German press defined this book as the last masterpiece of the twentieth century. The translation by Moshe Kahn was awarded the Italian-German Translation Prize in 2015. Translated publications will follow in the USA, France and Spain.

Another important focal point of the film is Messina’s contemporary policy-making sector. And thus the focus expands to the European Continent and the Mediterranean Sea: Messina was one of the places that most contributed to the birth of the European Union. Sixty years after the ‘Messina Conference’ the opportunity appears to reflect critically on the conditions in the periphery and the obvious contradictions of such complex systems.

Contact:
Benjamin Geissler Filmprod.
Grandweg 90 B
22529 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40 5516682
fax: +49 (0) 174 3149982
info@benjamingeissler.de
www.benjamingeissler.de

German title: “...Messina”
139min 15sec | HD | 16:9 | DVD | DCP | VOD
English version: subtitles & English Literature quotations; German version: subtitles & German Literature quotations; Italian version: subtitles and Italian Literature quotations – optional versions: French and Spanish
MIGRATING BIRDS – SCOUTS IN DISTANT WORLDS

by Petra Höfer & Freddie Röckenhaus

Billions of birds perish every year while migrating, dying of hunger, thirst, exhaustion and environmental poisons. Others fall victim to hunters, windmills and power lines. Predators attack them in the air and while they’re sleeping. Why do birds then go through the hardships of migration every year? How has bird migration changed over the generations? How do barnacle geese find their way from the River Ems in northern Germany to the Arctic Circle? How does a young stork know how to get to Africa, who was never there before?

A road movie about the journey of our migrating birds and about the latest research on every movement of their flight: from energy consumption to environmental changes. Breathtaking aerials from the inventors of the bird’s eye perspective, our scouts to distant worlds.

German title: ZUVÖGEL – KUNDSCHAFTER IN FERNEN WELTEN
90min | DCP | ProRes | Blu-ray | DVD | German, English or French version

Contact:
colourFIELD
Francesca D’Amicis
Gutenbergstr. 34
44139 Dortmund, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 231 9123550
francesca@colourfield.de
www.colourfield.de

MILK – FACTS, FIGURES AND BELIEFS

by Winfried Oelsner

MILK is something everyone grew up with ‘to grow big and strong’. Everyone knows this. No wonder, for milk’s healthy image is carefully nurtured by the milk industry. We all know adverts extolling milk’s virtues as natural product full of nutrients. Moreover, milk is supported by the state, recommending daily consumption of dairy products. But, is milk really healthy? Or does it sometimes have the opposite effect? Can it still be classed as a natural product? Milk’s long-standing clean image is starting to tarnish. Dairy products are now among the most controversial foodstuffs – and their detractors are growing louder. A heated, emotional debate has been seething between supporters and opponents for years. As a result, consumers are increasingly wary. In search of clarity, we visit scientists, doctors, dairy farmers and insiders from the milk industry across Europe. Who’s behind the opinions for and against milk? Whom should we believe? And where’s the proof? We set out on a journey searching for answers to these questions.

German title: MILCH – EIN GLAUBENSKRIEG
60 or 52 min | HD | German or English version

MISS HOLOCAUST

by Michalina Musielak

Israel, Haifa 2015. Old women prepare for an event. They are told how to walk, they wear numbers and try to succeed in the selection process. These women are Holocaust survivors. And the event is a beauty pageant. During the course of the preparations the ladies reveal their motivations to take part in the pageant. Some of them do it to forget, to live a normal life. Or to be in the spotlight at least for this short moment. Others – to remind young(er) people of Holocaust, because history repeats itself when people forget. The evening has come: the Contestants are nervous, the announcer too. The bizarre show takes its course. Madonna is coming off the player and the ladies do their ‘job’. But nobody seems to be interested. The food is too good. The jury is too busy texting messages. The dishes are rattling, the audience is chatting loudly. More than once, the host begs the spectators to listen to the women. With little success. Their messages to the world are said and fade away in the insignificance. At last a new Miss Holocaust is elected. The joy is brief. The ballroom is tied up quickly. Tomorrow is another day. The ladies can go home.

How can one sustain the remembrance of Holocaust, when the interest in the stories of the survivors is so little. Are we fed up? Have we seen too much of it? Is the Holocaust celebration only an end in itself? And reminding of: “that it will never happen again” is meaningless?

German title: MISS HOLOCAUST
festivals: Berlinale/SHORTS
23min | HD | 16:9 | DCP | original Hebrew version with English subtitles

World Sales:
Albatross World Sales GmbH
Altenburger Str. 5-15
04175 Leipzig, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 341 35002560
fax: +49 (0) 341 3500772560
info@albatrossworldsales.com
www.celluloid-fabrik.de

CoProduction:
juno film UG (haftungsbeschränkt)
tel.: +49 (0) 89 48058526
www.junofilm.de
www.furiafilm.pl

1194 | german documentaries 2017
Monsieur Mayonnaise is an artist’s epic adventure into his family’s secret past.

Australian artist and film maker, Philippe Mora, investigates his father’s clandestine role in the French Résistance in WW2 and his mother’s miraculous escape en route to Auschwitz. Philippe, a Hollywood cult-horror movie director packs his paints and easel, as he embarks on a journey to create an audacious comic book about his parents, their survival and the Holocaust.

From LA to Berlin, Paris to Melbourne, Monsieur Mayonnaise is a richly layered, road movie starring artists, real life heroes, Nazi villains… and baguettes with lashings of tasty French mayonnaise! (IDFA)

German title: MONSIEUR MAYONESE
awards: AACTA Award for Best Original Music Score in a Documentary
festivals: MIFF Melbourne, JIFF Jerusalem, IDFA Amsterdam, Berlinale/CULINARY CINEMA a.o.
58 or 95min | HDcam | color & b/w | original French/English version with English subtitles available
www.facebook.com/monsieurmayonnaise

CoProduction:
Lichtblick Film GmbH
Apostelnstr. 11
50667 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 9257520
fax: +49 (0) 221 9257529
info@lichtblick-film.de
www.lichtblick-film.com
vimeo.com/187305152
youtu.be/InXRwCinkJc

Moschee DE
by Mina Salehpour & Michal Honnens

The opening of the first newly-built mosque in the new Federal Lands by the Ahmadiyya Muslim community in Berlin-Pankow had been preceded by protests, demonstrations and embittered disputes. Almost ten years later, after ISIS terror, ‘refugee crisis’, Pegida and right-wing election triumphs, the clash of cultures seems to have reached its climax – and the community are planning new buildings in Leipzig and Erfurt, which calls forth the inevitable citizens’ groups…

Based on minutes of conversations that took place in 2006, already adapted by Kolja Mensing and Robert Thalheim for their eponymous play which premiered in 2010, Michal Honnens and Mina Salehpour condense the conflict through editing. The authors have created fictitious personae based on the original texts, their characteristics and presentation clearly exaggerated and distorted almost to caricatures. The characters: the Imam flown in from Pakistan, the politically super-correct new Berlin resident from the south of Germany, the former GDR citizen and president of the citizens’ group, the protest-savvy priest, and a German convert. The film creates what has long seemed impossible in reality: a dialogue, ranging from personal motives and backgrounds to the headscarf issue and other principles. Categories of ‘the good ones’ and ‘the bad ones’ gradually dissolve in this construction and give way to a complexity we will have to bear. (DOK Leipzig, Grit Lemke)

German title: Moschee DE
festivals: DOK Leipzig
61min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

MOTHER’S JOY
by Chris Wright & Stefan Kolbe

Sarah and Daniel are having a baby.

Sarah is 19, Daniel 24. We made another film with Sarah, THE HOME, about her time in a children’s home. She was 12. Her mother died 11 years before. Later, we visited Sarah in the home again, when she was 15. Her sister Nancy was pregnant, at 19. Sarah thought that was stupid. Sarah now has a baby with Daniel and they call her Marie. Sarah, Marie and Daniel. Daniel also grew up without his parents.

A short film about the possibility of love in a world where love is seldom seen.

German title: MUTTERGLÜCK
festivals: Duisburger Filmwoche
40min | HD | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

World Sales:
Deckert Distribution GmbH
Gottschedstr. 18
04109 Leipzig, Germany
tel: +49 (0) 341 2156638
info@deckert-distribution.com
Until recently Myanmar was shut off from the rest of the world by a military dictatorship. Ever since a democratisation process started, the country opened up, not only politically but also economically. Investors and multinational companies view Myanmar today as the ‘last frontier’ of globalization: 53 million new customers may be waiting to avail themselves of their products! But how do the Burmese navigate between the new offers and opportunities and their traditional values?

Myanmaraccompanies people in a time of change: A team of consumer researchers maps Yangon, Myanmar’s biggest city, according to household income. A motivational trainer effortlessly combines American feasibility optimism with Buddhist doctrines. A mother is overwhelmed by the demands of family and society and is looking for a traditional escape from her everyday life. Her daughter is attracted by the shiny commodities and is looking for her true needs.

This three-part series follows three of the world’s best wildlife filmmakers into their home countries: Mark Shelley in California, Rita Banerji in India and Jan Haft in Germany. We take part in their adventurous travels, their awe in the face of nature and their struggle for the environment: protecting hatching turtles in India, caring for endangered sea otters in California, or joining in life-threatening experiences with hot air balloon crashes and tree climbing, while tracking sea eagles in Germany...

These are just some of their challenges. The biggest one for them is to find ways to contribute to the preservation of their beloved natural world...

Kyaw Kyaw, a 25-year-old Burmese punk, pursues the dream of seeing the punk scene take off in Myanmar. The former military dictatorship carried out a few democratic reforms, but he remains sceptical: In his opinion, the country hasn’t changed yet. Along with the members of his punk band, he tries to raise the awareness of his people about the persistent violation of human rights. By way of his music and the demonstrations in the streets, he criticizes the ongoing civil war and the persecutions of ethnic minorities. He travels across the country to promote his own philosophy among the young generations: A symbiosis of Buddhism and punk that rejects religious dictates and political doctrine.

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These are just some of their challenges. The biggest one for them is to find ways to contribute to the preservation of their beloved natural world...

German title: MYANMARKET
75min | HD | 16:9 | original Burmese version with English subtitles or German overvoice available

German title: MY BUDDHA IS PUNK
festivals: Festival dei Popoli Florence, Brussels, achtung berlin, Göttingen, Myanmar FF of Los Angeles, In-Edit Music Documentary Film Festival São Paulo, Ânúã-rú Æboro Festival international du cinéma des peuples New Calessdonia, Buddhist FF Europe Amsterdam, WOMEX Santiago de Compostela, Doc’n Roll Film Festival London, One with a Movie Camera Marburg, German FF Australia, Bangkok Underground Film Festival, Noise Pop Film Series San Francisco 2017
68min | HD | 16:9 | DCP | 5.1 | original Burmese version with English, German, French, Spanish, Italian, Brazilian Portuguese, Thai or closed captioning (CC) subtitles available

This three-part series follows three of the world’s best wildlife filmmakers into their home countries: Mark Shelley in California, Rita Banerji in India and Jan Haft in Germany. We take part in their adventurous travels, their awe in the face of nature and their struggle for the environment: protecting hatching turtles in India, caring for endangered sea otters in California, or joining in life-threatening experiences with hot air balloon crashes and tree climbing, while tracking sea eagles in Germany...

These are just some of their challenges. The biggest one for them is to find ways to contribute to the preservation of their beloved natural world...

German title: MY LIFE AS A WILDLIFE FILMMAKER – series in 3 parts
68min | HD | 16:9 | DCP | 5.1 | 3x44/45 min (One-Offs also possible) | Full HD | Blu-ray | DVD | 16:9 | English or German version

German title: BERUF TIERFILMER – DER AUF TIERE WARTET
3x44/45 min (One-Offs also possible) | Full HD | Blu-ray | DVD | 16:9 | English or German version

**German documentaries 2017**
Today’s hip image of Berlin is based on the city’s vibrant and subversive subcultures, which originally emerged within the grey walls surrounding West Berlin. The queer scene played a major role in creating that subculture, with its sexual diversity and its wild and unconstrained party culture, ranging from the notorious Berghain club to CSD. Many of the scene’s actors, such as the Gay Museum, the Teddy Award, AIDS help organizations, and the queer magazine Siegessäule originated before 1989. Yet gays in West Berlin suffered greatly under an incongruous provision in German law – the infamous ‘Paragraph 175’ – that made homosexual acts between men a crime up until its reform in 1969. Raids and arrests in bars were common, yet ultimately failed in suppressing gay life in West Berlin. Instead, the city turned into a gay capital. The late seventies in particular were a period of great sexual and political freedoms and more intense social intermingling between the gay-, hetero-, and transsexual worlds. Then AIDS struck, wrecking greater havoc in Berlin than in any other German city.

German title: **MEIN WUNDERBARES WEST-BERLIN**

festivals: Berlinale/PANORAMA

97min | 16:9 | DCP | 5.1 surround sound | color & b/w | original German version with English subtitles

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**NATIONAL BIRD**

by Sonia Kennbeck

**CURRENT AFFAIRS | POLITICS | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY**

NATIONAL BIRD follows the dramatic journey of three whistleblowers who are determined to break the silence around one of the most controversial current affairs issues of our time: the secret U.S. drone war. At the center of the film are three U.S. military veterans. Plagued by guilt over participating in the killing of faceless people in foreign countries, they decide to speak out publicly, despite the possible consequences. Their stories take dramatic turns, leading one of the protagonists to Afghanistan where she learns about a horrendous incident. But her journey also gives hope for peace and redemption.

German title: **NATIONAL BIRD**

awards: Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’

festivals: 66th Berlinale/SPECIAL, Tribeca NYC, IFF San Francisco, DokFest Sheffield, Sydney, IDFA Amsterdam

92min | DCP | original English version

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**THE NAZI GAMES – BERLIN 1936**

by Christoph Weber

**NS-POLITICS | CURRENT AFFAIRS | SPORTS | POLITICS | SOCIETY**

THE NAZI GAMES – BERLIN 1936 chronicles the story of how the Nazis and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) turned, to their mutual advantage, a relatively small, elitist, sports event into an epic global and mass media spectacle that, despite the IOC’s determined attempts to forget, continues to this day. The grand themes from the 1936 Games are repeated with every quadrennial reprise: architectural grandiosity, catastrophic budget overruns, corruption, bribery, collusion with unsavory characters – including dictators and autocrats – and the unrelenting myth of heroic physical achievement. Despite the modern Olympic Games being ‘revived’ in 1896 in Athens, the Games as we have come to know them were shaped by the collaboration of interests between the Nazis and the IOC in Berlin in 1936. The Olympic temple is not as virtuous as its acolytes insist, and in fact, it is merely a façade that hides earthly, and often insidious, actors who see collusion with the Nazis was a first step in a global deception.

German title: **OLYMPIA 1936 – DER VERRATENE TRAUM**

43 or 30min | HD | VOD | DVD | color & b/w | English or German version

www.pbs.org/program/nazi-games-berlin-1936
**NEO RAUCH – Comrades & Companions**
by Nicola Graef

The name Nero is still synonymous today with the character of the cruel and crazy dictator. The emperor who ruled over Rome from 54 to 68 AD is mentioned in the same breath as the most horrendous crimes in history. For a long time, he was considered a narcissistic maniac who persecuted and killed Christians and set fire to Rome to make way for his megalomaniacal architectural visions. In the middle ages, Nero then became the embodiment of evil, the apocalyptical antichrist. But was he really responsible for the greatest fire disaster in the history of Rome? And did he really have the apostle Peter executed, his grave reputedly being the site upon which St. Peter’s Basilica was built? Current research disproves most of the accusations made against him and presents Nero as a forward-looking statesman and a clever power-hungry politician who sought to introduce economic reforms and pursue intelligent peace policies. But also as someone with extreme tendencies, a fearful and emotionally torn individual. Featuring sophisticated and historically accurate re-enactments, the film embarks on a journey to ancient Rome and paints a differentiated picture of the controversial emperor.

**NERO: PLEA FOR A MONSTER**
by Martin Papirowski

The name Nero is still synonymous today with the character of the cruel and crazy dictator. The emperor who ruled over Rome from 54 to 68 AD is mentioned in the same breath as the most horrendous crimes in history. For a long time, he was considered a narcissistic maniac who persecuted and killed Christians and set fire to Rome to make way for his megalomaniacal architectural visions. In the middle ages, Nero then became the embodiment of evil, the apocalyptical antichrist. But was he really responsible for the greatest fire disaster in the history of Rome? And did he really have the apostle Peter executed, his grave reputedly being the site upon which St. Peter’s Basilica was built? Current research disproves most of the accusations made against him and presents Nero as a forward-looking statesman and a clever power-hungry politician who sought to introduce economic reforms and pursue intelligent peace policies. But also as someone with extreme tendencies, a fearful and emotionally torn individual. Featuring sophisticated and historically accurate re-enactments, the film embarks on a journey to ancient Rome and paints a differentiated picture of the controversial emperor.

**NEW CLOTHES – DARK HISTORY**
**Herero in Namibia**
by Dorothe Dörholt

At the beginning of the 20th century, the German colonial power attempted to wipe out the Namibian Herero tribe. Some of them survived and, as a mark of triumph, adopted the dress style of their enemies.

22-year-old designer McBride Kavari wants to modernise this costume, which has been worn with pride to this day, thereby incurring the wrath of the tribe elders.

**Contact:**
Christ Media GmbH
Bismarckstr. 34
50672 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 2585758
info@christmedia.de
www.christmedia.de

**Photos © Marcel Lepel**
Serra da Mocidade is an isolated mountain range in the centre of the Amazon with the greatest chances of containing many species of plants and animals that are new to science. New satellite technology maps have provided researchers with a very detailed view of the entire Amazonian territory. Together with a group of another 25 researchers and biologists, professor Mario Cohn-Haft leads an expedition to Serra da Mocidade. Our film crew has exclusive access to that expedition and follows these scientists step by step in their adventures and findings throughout the entire process, from the preparation for the expedition until the final DNA analysis.

German title: **AUF DEN SPUREN NEUER ARTEN**

2x43min or 90min | HD | German or English version

Cologne, New Year’s Eve 2015: The central place of Germany’s fourth-largest city becomes a legal vacuum, a place where the state loses control – and leaves its citizens behind. On this night hundreds of women are robbed and sexually assaulted. The state fails to recognize the scope of the problem, the police are helpless. It is a story that gripped the entire world. Issues as the safety in a constitutional state, correct dealing with foreigners, and the refugee crisis add fuel to the fire. Following nine months of intensive research, the film reveals never before seen and heard archive material that will help clear up the events. Victims and eye witnesses, police officials, prosecutors, politicians and journalist are given the chance to speak up.

German title: **DIE NACHT DER OHNMACHT**

45min | HDTV | 16:9 | German or English version

The dpa (german press-agency) is one of the biggest news agencies in the world, but hardly anyone knows anything about it. NOISE is the first documentary film to cast a glimpse at the making of the news in this institution. How does the world create news and how does news create the world? Looking at the underlying decision making processes, the methods and questions of making the news, the film reveals the inner workings of the dpa. NOISE observes the ‘news dealers’ of the dpa in different situations: at conferences, during training workshops, in the kitchen, smoking, editing texts. The film pieces together the picture of an agency which has to keep producing news for their clients, without break. The constant stream of news never ceases – no matter what happens. Each day the dpa dispatches 1000 announcements, 1900 images, numerous graphics, audio and video clips. Thus, it shapes what we see of the world, without being seen.

German title: **GRUNDRAUSCHEN**

festivals: DOK.fest Munich, Kassel
83min | DCP | 2k | 1.85:1 | 5.1 | original German version

Contact: Friedrich Rackwitz
Else-Lasker-Schüler-Str. 4
81925 Munich, Germany
friedrich.rackwitz@posteo.de
www.grundrauschen-film.de
youtu.be/4AGQ077cYVs
In the beginning there are human beings. Human beings living together in harmony. Little quarrels here and there of course, but they are ordinary and they don’t result from the abyss that is opened up by the separation into groups with different origin. The documentary NO LONGER OUR HOMELAND impressively demonstrates the absurd course that things can take when the so called national consciousness awakes and a constructed and at the same time uncontrollable hatred destroys the hitherto peaceful life of a community forever. The war declares human beings as enemies, who have always regarded themselves as neighbors and friends. Kristof Gerega discovered a for present times alarmingly exemplary (hi-)story, which ascends from his own roots and is not based on any underlying truth. When the grandmother of the filmmaker dies, questions come up. Questions that won’t let go of him.

Contact:
SCHULDENBERG FILMS
Kristof Gerega
Hobrechtstr. 79
12043 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 34089756
cell: +49 (0) 179 1997609
kristof@schuldenbergfilms.com
contact@schuldenbergfilms.com
www.schuldenbergfilms.com
vimeo.com/schuldenberg/nlohtrailer

German title: NICHT MEHR UNSERE HEIMAT
festivals: Sao Paulo IFF, Mostra, 52 or 92min | HD | DVD | DCP | Blu-ray | 16:9 | PAL | VoD
92min version: English voiceover & subtitles; German voiceover & subtitles
52min version: Polish voiceover & subtitles; German voiceover & subtitles or English voiceover & subtitles

NO LONGER OUR HOMELAND
by Kristof Gerega
ORAL HISTORY | MIGRATION | NS-POLITICS | POV | SOCIETY | WAR & PEACE | CONTROVERSY

Since Evelin’s amputation of both legs, friends abandoned her. She is stuck in her apartment for years now, moving only between the kitchen, computer, TV and bed. Discovered old videotapes show her previous life as a man 25 years ago: the GDR no longer exists, but not everyone manages to gain a foothold in the unified Germany.

German title: MICH VERMISST KEINER!
festivals: DOK Leipzig
26min | FullHD | 16:9 | DCP | original German version with English, French or Russian subtitles available

Production:
IDFABRIK
Erik Lemke
Bornsдорfer Str. 4
12053 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 52656082
contact@idfabrik.com
www.idfabrik.com
www.facebook.com/die-norm

The Olympics are the biggest sporting event in the world and every athlete’s dream. “Being part of it is everything.” Thousands of talented athletes worldwide determinedly train for this dream. Their lives are in many ways characterized by renunciation. A career in high-performance sports demands endurance, ambition, will power, and the ability to deal with pain. But what does sport offer these athletes back? THE NORM (The Olympic Standards) is a movie about elite athletes, but it isn’t a sports movie. Instead, it focuses on the people and their values. It seeks to find out about the drive behind their athletic excellence, how their Olympic dream was formed, and what role it plays in their daily lives. THE NORM is following German elite athletes behind the scenes – up close and in their immediate environments. THE NORM seeks to make the reality as well as the athletes’ personal drama of qualifying for the Olympics, which is undoubtedly one of the hardest selection processes in the world, emotionally tangible to the viewer. To that end, we are accompanying very different athletes, who come from different disciplines and are at very different stages of their lives. With under 23 World Rowing Champion Tim Ole Naske, beach volleyball national team Markus Böckermann & Lars Flüggen, three time European Long Jump Champion Sebastian Bayer and world class swimmer Jacob Heidtmann.

German title: DIE NORM – IST DABEI SEIN WIRKLICH ALLES?
festivals: Filmfest Hamburg
109min | DCP | HD | German or English version

Production:
Close Distance Productions
Silvia Wehermüller
Nebendahlstr. 3
22041 Hamburg, Germany
cell: +49 (0) 171 1470593
sw@die-norm.de
www.die-norm.de
www.facebook.com/die-norm2016

THE NORM – IS BEING PART OF IT REALLY EVERYTHING?
by Guido Wehermüller
SPORTS | PORTRAIT | CROSS-MEDIA | CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN INTEREST
German title: **DER TOD, DIE WAFFEN, DAS SCHWEIGEN – DAS OBERNDORF SYNDROM**

**awards:** Seel of Approval ‘highly recommended’, Goldener Spatz - Graz, Goldener Nils - Ludwigshafen/Rhein, Winner of Children’s Jury Prize – Chicago

**German title:** **NICHT OHNE UNS!**

**awards:** Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’, Goldener Spatz - Graz, Goldener Nils - Ludwigshafen/Rhein, Winner of Children’s Jury Prize – Chicago

**Filmmakers Sigrid Klausmann and Lina Luzyte accompanied children from all over the world to school, and invited them to talk about their lives on the way: for example, there is twelve-year-old To from Laos, who stays at school all week because of the long journey by boat across Mekong and often misses being at home with the family. Or the orphan girl Alphonsine from a village on the Ivory Coast, who does not go to school to learn but to earn money. There is also twelve-year-old Sai from India, who has moved with her mother to New York, where she attends a school for specially gifted children. By contrast, twelve-year-old Vincent is bound to home. He lives in the mountains of Austria, where his parents run a guest house. One day, Vincent hopes to take over the business. To get to school in the valley, in the winter he needs to make a breakneck downhill trip on skis every day. Meanwhile, Luniko, who lives in the South African township Khayelithsa, is HIV positive and can never go to school without feeling afraid.**

**Contact:**
Gemini Film & Library
Gerhard Schmidt
Rolandstr. 101
50677 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 27057970
fax: +49 (0) 221 27057977
info@gemini-film.de
www.gemini-library.de
www.199kleinehelden.org
www.nichtohneuns-film.de
www.facebook.com/199kleinehelden

**Distribution:**
www.farbfilm-verleih.de

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**OCEAN’S MONOPOLY – How Nations Use Science to Conquer the Sea**

**by Max Mönch & Alexander Lahl**

**awards:** Best Marine Film – Green Screen Festival, Best Film Human & Nature – Darss Nature Film Festival

**Filmmakers Sigrid Klausmann and Lina Luzyte accompanied children from all over the world to school, and invited them to talk about their lives on the way: for example, there is twelve-year-old To from Laos, who stays at school all week because of the long journey by boat across Mekong and often misses being at home with the family. Or the orphan girl Alphonsine from a village on the Ivory Coast, who does not go to school to learn but to earn money. There is also twelve-year-old Sai from India, who has moved with her mother to New York, where she attends a school for specially gifted children. By contrast, twelve-year-old Vincent is bound to home. He lives in the mountains of Austria, where his parents run a guest house. One day, Vincent hopes to take over the business. To get to school in the valley, in the winter he needs to make a breakneck downhill trip on skis every day. Meanwhile, Luniko, who lives in the South African township Khayelithsa, is HIV positive and can never go to school without feeling afraid.**

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Gerhard Schmidt
Rolandstr. 101
50677 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 27057970
fax: +49 (0) 221 27057977
info@gemini-film.de
www.gemini-library.de
www.199kleinehelden.org
www.nichtohneuns-film.de
www.facebook.com/199kleinehelden

**Distribution:**
www.farbfilm-verleih.de

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**NOT WITHOUT US!**

**by Sigrid Klausmann**

**awards:** Best Marine Film – Green Screen Festival, Best Film Human & Nature – Darss Nature Film Festival

**Filmmakers Sigrid Klausmann and Lina Luzyte accompanied children from all over the world to school, and invited them to talk about their lives on the way: for example, there is twelve-year-old To from Laos, who stays at school all week because of the long journey by boat across Mekong and often misses being at home with the family. Or the orphan girl Alphonsine from a village on the Ivory Coast, who does not go to school to learn but to earn money. There is also twelve-year-old Sai from India, who has moved with her mother to New York, where she attends a school for specially gifted children. By contrast, twelve-year-old Vincent is bound to home. He lives in the mountains of Austria, where his parents run a guest house. One day, Vincent hopes to take over the business. To get to school in the valley, in the winter he needs to make a breakneck downhill trip on skis every day. Meanwhile, Luniko, who lives in the South African township Khayelithsa, is HIV positive and can never go to school without feeling afraid.**

**Contact:**
Gemini Film & Library
Gerhard Schmidt
Rolandstr. 101
50677 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 27057970
fax: +49 (0) 221 27057977
info@gemini-film.de
www.gemini-library.de
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www.nichtohneuns-film.de
www.facebook.com/199kleinehelden

**Distribution:**
www.farbfilm-verleih.de

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**THE OBERNDORF SYNDROM**

**by Wolfgang Landgraeber**

**awards:** Best Film Human & Nature – Darss Nature Film Festival

**Filmmakers Sigrid Klausmann and Lina Luzyte accompanied children from all over the world to school, and invited them to talk about their lives on the way: for example, there is twelve-year-old To from Laos, who stays at school all week because of the long journey by boat across Mekong and often misses being at home with the family. Or the orphan girl Alphonsine from a village on the Ivory Coast, who does not go to school to learn but to earn money. There is also twelve-year-old Sai from India, who has moved with her mother to New York, where she attends a school for specially gifted children. By contrast, twelve-year-old Vincent is bound to home. He lives in the mountains of Austria, where his parents run a guest house. One day, Vincent hopes to take over the business. To get to school in the valley, in the winter he needs to make a breakneck downhill trip on skis every day. Meanwhile, Luniko, who lives in the South African township Khayelithsa, is HIV positive and can never go to school without feeling afraid.**

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Gerhard Schmidt
Rolandstr. 101
50677 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 27057970
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www.gemini-library.de
www.199kleinehelden.org
www.nichtohneuns-film.de
www.facebook.com/199kleinehelden

**Distribution:**
www.farbfilm-verleih.de

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**OCEAN’S MONOPOLY – How Nations Use Science to Conquer the Sea**

**by Max Mönch & Alexander Lahl**

**awards:** Best Marine Film – Green Screen Festival, Best Film Human & Nature – Darss Nature Film Festival

**Filmmakers Sigrid Klausmann and Lina Luzyte accompanied children from all over the world to school, and invited them to talk about their lives on the way: for example, there is twelve-year-old To from Laos, who stays at school all week because of the long journey by boat across Mekong and often misses being at home with the family. Or the orphan girl Alphonsine from a village on the Ivory Coast, who does not go to school to learn but to earn money. There is also twelve-year-old Sai from India, who has moved with her mother to New York, where she attends a school for specially gifted children. By contrast, twelve-year-old Vincent is bound to home. He lives in the mountains of Austria, where his parents run a guest house. One day, Vincent hopes to take over the business. To get to school in the valley, in the winter he needs to make a breakneck downhill trip on skis every day. Meanwhile, Luniko, who lives in the South African township Khayelithsa, is HIV positive and can never go to school without feeling afraid.**

**Contact:**
Gemini Film & Library
Gerhard Schmidt
Rolandstr. 101
50677 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 27057970
fax: +49 (0) 221 27057977
info@gemini-film.de
www.gemini-library.de
www.199kleinehelden.org
www.nichtohneuns-film.de
www.facebook.com/199kleinehelden

**Distribution:**
www.farbfilm-verleih.de
Boizenburg is a small town in Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, in the northeast of Germany. The small kiosk close to the local railway station runs from 5:00 am until 10:00 pm and hosts all sorts of guests: workers from the nearby slaughterhouse, the unemployed, the local taxi driver, retirees, a single mom. In late 2015 thousands of refugees arrive at the station on their way to the reception camp outside the city. The kiosk guests who normally just drink their beer and watch soccer begin to discuss politics, sharing reflections of their own situation, allowing us a look at their lives, their frustrations and hopes.

German title: **NEBEN DEN GLEISEN**

awards: Honorable Mention in German Competition for Long Documentary and Animated Film – DOK Leipzig

85min | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

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The sea nomads of Indonesia believe that with every newborn there is a twin brother in the form of an octopus. Rituals are carried out to appease the brother in the water and prevent misfortunes. When dishonor occurs, Jakarta is portrayed as the apocalyptic revenge of the brother octopus.

German title: **OH BROTHER OCTOPUS**

festivals: Berlinale/SHORTS

27min | HD | DCP | German or English version

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Johanna is my sister. A tumor is discovered in the center of her body. Surgery impossible due to incalculable affects on her stability and mobility. She receives chemo- and radiotherapy. As her older sister, I become her chronicler and for one year I document the inconceivable. In the hospital we meet Nadine, 28. Diagnosis: cancer. The two young women are united by their humor. I ask Nadine the questions I can’t ask my sister. With her worldly wisdom she carries us into her family. We meet her son Bendix and the Knights of Chemo. We accompany the two of them to a childrens carnival, watch how Nadine explains her illness to him. I capture the energy and laughter of those two young women, in the prime of their lives. A film about the confrontation with their own death, which leads them to take on a fight to survive – with unforeseeable side effects.

I discover, how big the distance to cancer used to be and how big it now has become to the ‘life before’. This film is my survival stratetegy. I am an actress, I change sides, I hold on to the camera and frame the inconceivable.

German title: **AUF EINER SKALA VON 1 BIS 10**

awards: Audience Award – Int. Lichter Filmfest Frankfurt

festivals: Filmkunsttage Sachsen-Anhalt, Nordische Filmtage Lübeck, Int. Filmfest Emden-Norderney

75min | HD | DCP | 16:9 | stereo | original German version with English subtitles available
This short film, created out of individual, single digital photos, does not tell a story.

The camera looks at the North German mud flats, a World Heritage site, as if through a window with always the exact same view. The real drama takes place where nothing seems to happen: time passes unalterably. Through one day, from morning to evening – through the year, from summer to fall and winter to summer – during one tide, from ebb to flow to ebb. Almost imperceptibly, during the course of one single day, a whole year has passed.

German title: **EIN TAG – EIN JAHR – EINE TIDE**

Contact: Alexandra Pohlmeier
pohlmeier@himmelundmehr.de

**ONE DAY ONE YEAR ONE TIDE – A Brief Film About Time**

*by Alexandra Pohlmeier*

This short film, created out of individual, single digital photos, does not tell a story.

The camera looks at the North German mud flats, a World Heritage site, as if through a window with always the exact same view. The real drama takes place where nothing seems to happen: time passes unalterably. Through one day, from morning to evening – through the year, from summer to fall and winter to summer – during one tide, from ebb to flow to ebb. Almost imperceptibly, during the course of one single day, a whole year has passed.

German title: **EIN TAG – EIN JAHR – EINE TIDE**

11min | .mov | DCP | DVD | no dialogues | www.facebook.com/One-Day-One-Year-One-Tide-242437722805715

**ONE**

*by Mumin Baris*

The Gezi protests in Turkey are a wave of demonstrations and civil unrest in Turkey, which began on May 28th 2013, initially to contest the urban development plan for Istanbul’s Taksim Gezi Park. Subsequently, supporting protests and strikes took place across Turkey protesting a wide range of concerns, at the core of which were issues of freedom of the press, of expression, assembly, and the government’s encroachment on Turkey’s secularism. 3.5 million of Turkey’s 80 million inhabitants are estimated to have taken an active part in almost 5,000 demonstrations across Turkey connected with the original Gezi Park protest. 11 people were killed and more than 8,000 were injured, many critically. The film aims to document the protests with interviews from the park.

German title: **BIR**

Contact: Layla Film
info@laylafilm.com
www.laylafilm.com
vimeo.com/99449822
At the beginning of 1939 over 450,000 Spaniards fled to France on the run from General Franco’s troops. Among them was Firmo Ferrer, aged seventeen at the time. On his way into exile he met his first love, Blanca, whom he was to call Snow White. And then he made new friends. But after the Germans’ victory he was sent to a camp (d’internement) for ‘undesirable foreigners’ (étrangers indésirables). He worked in the kitchens of a part of the camp where 1500 Jews were interned. His wanderings had just begun… When he was able to return to his own country, which was Spain still under Franco, he lost his fiancée, not through lack of love, but because he was the son of a Republican family. He had a ‘red stain’ on him which barred his future. Blanche, the addressee of his love letters, like a white leaf, the steam of a locomotive, the light reflected on the sea, became a memory, a symbol.

An idea that disappeared…

original title: IN FIRMOS EXIL
52min | HD | original French version with English or German subtitles available

OPEN WOUNDS – A JOURNEY THROUGH GERMAN GENRE FILMS
by Dominik Graf & Johannes F. Sievert

More than a third of all German feature films ever made are believed to have been lost without trace – and this is not referring to the silent movie era.

In OPEN WOUNDS – A JOURNEY THROUGH GERMAN GENRE FILMS, we embark on another archaeological journey through the quarries of German film history. And try to throw light onto some of the paths that could have been continued, but were cut short.

German film, constantly teetering back and forth between euphoria and an inferiority complex since the post-war period and always frantically trying to reach the ‘world-class league’, continues to have huge problems turning its hand to the commercial thriller genre, even after all the twists and turns depicted DOOMED LOVE. However, amongst all the weeds on this bumpy road, a number of flowers have taken blossom in the film and TV world and glimmers of hope have emerged for various genres over the past few years, even though this renaissance entails radical self-exploitation on the part of all involved.

German title: OFFENE WUNDE DEUTSCHER FILM
festivals: Berlinale/FORUM
120 or 90min | HD | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available

OPERA
by Toni Schmid

Best Opera House, Best Orchestra, Best Conductor, Best Opera Production, Best Young Singer… for decades the Bavarian State Opera has been showered in international awards.

OPERA is the first film about this unique establishment, a declaration of love for an art form that is so often unjustly characterized as elitist and for the people who so passionately practice that art.

The audience witnesses how three opera productions come to life:

Richard Wagner’s DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NÜRNBERG, Jean-Philippe Rameau’s LES INDES GALANTES and Giuseppe Verdi’s BALLO IN MASCHERA and is introduced to the Bavarian State Ballet during their work for Ludwig Minkus’ LA BAYADÈRE.


German title: GANZ GROSSE OPER
90 or 52min | Cinemascope | 1:2,35 | German or English version

Contact:
Eberhard Spreng
cell: +49 (0) 172 3914155
es@eberhard-spreng.com
www.eberhard-spreng.com

Contact:
Dominik Graf, Johannes F. Sievert

Production:
Augustin Film KG
Käthe Niederkirchner Str. 16
10401 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 40 39 39 88
sievert@augustinfilm.de
www.augustinfilm.de

Production:
Kick Film GmbH
Mannhardtstr. 6
80538 Munich, Germany
kickfilm@kickfilm.de
Sibling conflict, tantrums, divorce strain, shopping addiction, media consumption, or ADHS – children can offer ample cause for parents to reach the ends of their parenting tethers. For help, parents and their children can turn to the Gelsenkirchen Youth and Children’s Clinic – in a three-week intensive program supervised by ‘parenting license’ inventor and psychologist Dietmar Langer.

During these twenty-one days, parents get to know themselves and their children anew. The approach is a holistic one, i.e. the doctors and therapists deal not only with the child’s clinical symptoms, but with the entire web of relationships within the family.

The film accompanies several families through this difficult period of transition – from clinic admission to the day of aftercare. It is a film about the central issues of parenting and beneficial ways for parents to deal with their children in difficult times – and an image of society, as reflected within clinic walls.

German title: **Elternschule**

90min | 2K | 16:9 | Dolby digital | original German version with English subtitles available
THE PASTOR’S CHILDREN – Punks, Politicians and Philosophers
by Angela Zumpe

The pastor’s house should contribute to improve the state and society. That’s how the reformers had imagined it. The parishioner’s expectations of a pastor’s daughter in the 1960’s were simple: She ought to be less cheeky than her girlfriends, less funny and less selfish. Tensions were inevitable.

The filmmaker Angela Zumpe, who grew up in the rectory, composes a mosaic of film fragments, old photos, her father’s Super 8mm films, christian paintings, all guided by the search of her protagonists for answers on the question: Is there still a ‘Myth of the Parsonage’?

The film gives voice to pastor’s children. Featured are the former Minister of State in the Federal Chancellery Eckart von Klaeden, the GDR punk Mechthild Katzorke, the young pastor of 11 churches Valentin Kwaschik who never wanted to be a pastor like his father. The publicist Hans Hütt fondly remembers the eloquence of his father and how he reacted on his coming out as gay. Family Thimme exemplifies the modern parsonage today. In her search, Angela Zumpe encounters funny, sad, absurd stories and a recurrent fundamental need for meaning and security.

German title: PFARRERS KINDER – Punks, Politiker und Philosophen
84min | HD | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
PASTE UP PRODUCTION
Kyffhäuser Str. 23
10781 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 68836352
info@paste-up.de
www.paste-up.de
www.miriquidifilm.de

PATARA
by Axel Koenzen & Ali Gözkaya

Patara tells the story of the reconstruction of the world’s first federal parliament, built 50 BC in Anatolia, Turkey. At the beginning of this millennium the Turkish government decided to reconstruct the ancient assembly hall of Patara to set up a stage for a meeting between U.S. president Barack Obama and the Turkish prime minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. Apparently Obama never came. Therefore the film looks at both sides of the coin of what Obama once called a ‘model partnership’, a strategical cooperation between the U.S. and the Turkish administration, promising international appreciation and economical growth.

German title: PATARA
72min | HD | DCP | Dolby 5.1 | original Turkish/English/Kurdish version with English subtitles available

Production:
Jost Hering Filme
Postfach 301804
10746 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 21756856
fax: +49 (0) 21756858
info@josthering.de
www.josthering.de

PAVLENSKI – MAN AND MIGHT
by Irene Langemann

Petr Pavlensky is an exceptional artist, a man of pain. A man who risks everything: his freedom, his family. Who consistently uses his body. The vulnerability he displays is his most important tool.

When he sews his lips shut it’s a cry. When he wraps himself in barbed wire it’s a modern age crown of thorns. He protests against violence by using violence on himself.

His actions are based on a strong symbolism that everyone understands but that doesn’t express anything directly.

Director Irene Langemann confidently interweaves staged scenes, reconstructions, archive and documentary material, offering Pavlensky and his artistic interventions the space they need so that it’s not the spectacular element that is brought to the fore but their complexity.

German title: PAVLENSKI – DER MENSCH UND DIE MACHT
42, 58 or 99min | HD | DCP | color & b/w | original Russian version with English or German subtitles available

World Sales:
Deckert Distribution
Marienplatz 1
04103 Leipzig, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 341 2156638
info@deckert-distribution.com
www.lichtfilm.de
vimeo.com/161187754
www.facebook.com/lichtfilm.de
Sloth, Pomeranian, Shark, Yoyo and Shrek live in Chongqing, a Chinese city on the Yangtze River, with a population of around eight million. The five friends spend their lives in the shadow of skyscrapers and bridges, at streetside cafés and in the privacy of their own living rooms. Gradually we learn more about their friendship, their families, insecurities, finances and worries. Whether it’s a problem at university, a positive HIV test or a difficult relationship with divorced parents, they each see their own problem as the most serious. But who’s to say whose suffering is the worst?

The conversations go back and forth between heavyweight topics and lighthearted joking about internet dating and homosexuality. The dialogue is so animated that it sometimes feels like fiction. A pensive black-and-white film with extended scenes, interspersed with intimate conversations among friends who wish each other well but are also each other’s competitors. (IDFA)

Contact:
shuwassermannfilm
Shuchang Xie
wassermannbo@gmail.com
cell: +49 (0) 174 1829337
youtu.be/AH-J0vqlfnk
vimeo.com/158639079

German title: per song
festivals: Filmfest Hamburg, IDFAmsterdam, Nyon
73min | DCP | b/w | original Chinese version with English or French subtitles available

**PETER HANDKE – IN THE WOODS, MIGHT BE LATE**
by Corinna Belz

Filmmaker Corinna Belz explores the enigma that is Peter Handke: from the portrait of a young man of the Austrian countryside who wrote his way onto the literary center stage, to his current life at home in the Paris suburbs. For more than five decades, this timid yet often provocative man has devoted himself to writing: poems, essays, novels, plays, screenplays. The rhythm and precision of his language, the long, pulsating sentences, the invention and examination of reality – all elements behind this unmistakable voice in modern literature. At home, Peter Handke shares his passion for mushrooms, needlepoint and pensive walks in his wooded surroundings. Encounters include intense conversations, a huge cache of personal Polaroids from the 70s, and a cosmos of handwritten notebooks...

German title: PETER HANDKE – Bin im Wald. Kann sein, daß ich mich verspäte
awards/festivals: Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’, Locarno, Hof,
89min | DCP | DVD | Blu-ray | 1:1.85 | 5.1 | original German/French version with English or French subtitles

World Sales:
The Match Factory GmbH
tel.: +49 (0) 221 5397090
info@matchfactory.de
www.matchfactory.de
www.bin-im-wald.de
Distribution:
www.piffl-medien.de
youtu.be/Ozr0Ewptur8

**PINA SWINGS – WHAT LITTLE CHILDREN NEED**
by Heide Breitel

The documentary watches children in their day nursery and goes with them from age ten months until until two years. The film shows their learning ability, their pleasure of discovery and their excitement to design when they get on their way. Except for a few statements of nurseries, head of department and parents, the audience witness patient and intensive observation of the small children and see how they undergo joy, happiness or pain, often with a laugh, but sometimes also with tears. By watching them we share their experiences and development steps up to knowledge and ability.

Likewise, the film takes a closer look at the attitude and behaviour of the nurseries: the way they accompany the children, also challenge them, never spoon-feed, always turned to the children and be attentive. So the nurseries succeed in an impressive way to encourage them on their way and build a deep stable confidence at the same time.

German title: PINA SCHAUKELT – Was kleine Kinder brauchen
89min | DCP | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available
After touring in Ukraine with his band, Sieva moves to Kiev where he gets involved in Maidan Revolution. Fascinated mostly by young people ‘cause of their mix of old soviet values and new western culture, he decides to follow five youngsters coming from different cities and social backgrounds. The characters lead him into unexpected places: from the separatists camps in Lugansk and the Maidan Square protests in Kiev, to the oligarchs estates in Kharkiv and the pro-Russian suburbs in Donetsk. Sieva’s journey proceeds under the massive influence of the propaganda; from the beginning of the war in the eastern part of the country until the anniversary of the revolution featuring President Poroshenko’s speech. Documenting fragments of lives and historic events, POSTCARDS FROM UKRAINE sheds light on the country’s new generations – their values, their dreams, and the class tensions in a crisis being written by the elites.

German title: POSTCARDS FROM UKRAINE
43, 52 or 85min | DCP | 2K | Blu-ray | stereo | original Russian version with English subtitles available

Contact:
Paul Thiltges Distributions
info@ptd.lu
HILDEBRANDT FILM
tel.: +49 (0) 30 30139184
produktion@hildebrandt-film.de

Konrad ‘Conny’ Plank is undoubtedly one of the most innovative sound designers of his time. The recordings realized in his sound studio near Cologne between the 60s and 80s, revolutionized the music world. He was the pioneer of ‘Krautrock’ and paved the way for the revolutions of electronic and pop music respectively. Bands and artists who were fathered by the sound wizard (mostly before they became world famous) all agree that their careers would have been different without the talents of Conny Plank. Kraftwerk, Neu!, Can, Wendy mirror, Brian Eno, DAF, Gianna Nannini, Ultravox and the Eruithmics are just some to be named. Conny Plank died much too early aged 47. For his wife, the actress Christa Fast, and his 13 year old son Stephan, he left behind a sound studio known near and far. For 25 years his son embarks on a journey to find his father, his importance and his impact. Because all these musicians know Stephan from a young age from the studio, the film brings an unusually intimate and emotional insight to the artists, their work with Conny Plank and all that defines music production. The documentary THE POTENTIAL OF NOISE is the search for the person and producer Conny Plank, a journey through music history, a son getting to know his father and a soundtrack that has influenced millions of music fans over three decades.

German title: THE POTENTIAL OF NOISE – CONNY PLANK
90min | HD | original English/German version

Production:
Sugar Town Filmprod. GmbH & Co. KG
Milena Fessmann
Vorbergstr. 8
10823 Berlin, Germany
tel: +49 (0) 30 695179 61
mfessmann@cinesong.de
www.sugartownfilm.com

Over the past few decades, life for women across the globe has changed beyond all recognition. From the highest echelons of society, to the lowest rungs of the global ladder, a quiet revolution has been taking place right before our eyes. Convincing female role models talk about their experiences: the head of IMF Christine Lagarde, the Chilean president Michelle Bachelet, FEMEN activist Inna Shevchenko or Haifaa Al Mansour, the first woman to direct a film in Saudi Arabia. Slowly but surely, the traditional, restrictive female roles of wife, mother and homemaker are being blown wide open and, in many cases, entirely cast aside. Whether they aspire to be a businessperson, a soldier, an athlete – or simply gain a basic education and marry someone they love – women, the world over, now have opportunities denied to their foremothers for millennia.

German title: THE POWER OF WOMEN
90min | HD | English or German (voice over) versions available

World Sales:
BBC Worldwide Germany GmbH
Kaiser-Wilhelm-Ring 17-21
50672 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 790790
fax: +49 (0) 221 79079100
www.gebrueder-beetz.de
vimeo.com/149851754
The film tells the stories of 3 children and their children parliaments in India. Sri Priya (14) is home minister in her village and takes care of the garbage problems. As the cultural minister, Shaktivel (15), along with the other children of his village parliament, starts a campaign against alcohol, as many of the fathers have drinking problems. Swarna Lakshmi (15), blind from birth, holds the highest position as the prime minister of India's children parliaments. She acts on national and international level to ensure that child rights are implemented in India as well as the rest of the world. The film accompanies the children through their actions and gives insight into their family lives. Not only the individual lives of the children are changed by the children parliaments; the whole community experiences changes through the children's undertakings.

German title: POWER TO THE CHILDREN
88min | DCP | original Tamil version with English subtitles or German voice over available

Pre-Crime means to prevent crimes before they are committed, predicting through the analysis of metadata that result from patterns and indirect connections. We know the concept from The Minority Report, but the dystopia of fiction has arrived in reality. PRE-CRIME travels to cities in the USA, Germany, UK and France to investigate different sides of monitoring strategies and techniques that promise to make our lives safer. With unique access to leading inventors and users of algorithm based softwares, and victims who "have fallen prey" to them, the film shakes up our perception and gives us the chance to create our own image of the not always so beautiful transition from an analogue into a digital world. How much freedom are we willing to give up for the promise of security?

German title: PRE-CRIME
90 or 52min | HD | DCP | Blu-ray | English or German version

Pre-Crime
CURRENT AFFAIRS | SOCIETY | POLITICS

World Sales:
Rise And Shine World Sales
Schlesische Str. 29/30
10997 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 47372980
info@riseandshine-berlin.de
The promise of peace and increasing prosperity bonded Europeans from Finland to Cyprus for decades. But since the outbreak of the financial crisis in 2008 the European project is stuck in its biggest crisis since the Second World War. Neo-liberalism and corrupt elites as well as globally acting banks, concerns and military are increasingly dividing the continent; Labour laws and social standards are getting blurred; Ethnic hate and class struggle from above are escalating and driving people into the arms of right-wing populists.

To follow economic complexities and political causes of the crisis the filmmakers went on a journey through Europe: To the struggling countries of Portugal und Spain, to the European parliament in Brussels, to the banking metropolis of Frankfurt and to neutral Switzerland. The film asks important questions: How did it come to this economic, political and moral crisis of Europe – and how can we escape this extraordinarily dangerous situation? How can we win people over for a Europe that is fair and united in solidarity? How do we want to live together in Europe in the future?

German title: EUROPA – EIN KONTINENT ALS BEUTE
festivals: Kassel, exground Wiesbaden
78min | DCP | original English/Spanish/German version with English subtitles available

Ella Fitzgerald’s voice is a phenomenon and unrivalled to this day. She had absolute pitch and perfect intonation. Ella’s voice spanned three octaves, her phrasing seemed effortless, and the odd moments in her nearly sixty-year career when she sang off-key were few and far between. There is almost no style of music in which she did not excel, and her numerous – now legendary – recordings of the ‘Great American Songbook’ with pieces by US composers such as George and Ira Gershwin, Harold Arlen, Cole Porter or Duke Ellington remained a benchmark for the ‘right’ interpretation of those songs for generations of singers. Ira Gershwin is rumoured to have said: “I didn’t realise how good our songs were until Ella sang them.” We unravel the secret of Ella Fitzgerald’s voice with statements from singers Dianne Reeves and Dee Dee Bridgewater, jazz drummer and producer Terri Lyne Carrington, jazz violinist Regina Carter, author Tad Hershorn and the famous jazz critic Will Friedwald, among others. They describe the impact her voice had and continues to have on their lives. We want to learn more about Ella’s life and find out what made her sing the inimitable way she sang.

German title: ELLAS STIMME
52min | HD | English, German or French version

World Sales:
NEW DOCS
Dasselstr. 75-77
50674 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 301 5777
sales@newdocs.de
www.tagtraum.de
**RAVING IRAN**

by Susanne Regina Meures

HUMAN RIGHTS | CULTURE | CONFLICTS | RELIGION | MIGRATION | POLITICS | CURRENT AFFAIRS

Anoosh and Arash are at the centre of Tehran’s underground techno scene. Tired of hiding from the police and their stagnating career, they organize one last manic techno rave under dangerous circumstances in the desert. Back in Tehran they try their luck selling their illegally printed music album without permission. When Anoosh is arrested, there seems to be no hope left. But then they receive a phone call from the biggest techno festival in the world. Once landed in Switzerland, the haze of the instant euphoria evaporates quickly when the seriousness of the situation starts to dawn on them.

German title: **RAVING IRAN**

awards: First Step Awards; Prix du Jury SSA/Suissimage – Visions Du Réel, Nyon; Best Documentary – Guanajuato International Film Festival, Best Documentary Kitzbühel IFF, Zurich Film Award, Best Film & Audience Award – Solo Positivo Film Festival;

festivals: Porto, IDFA Amsterdam, Oulu, Montréal, Stockholm, Braunschweig, Santiago de Chile, Sao Paulo, Buenos Aires, Mexico DF, Ghent, Lugano, Reykjavik, Locarno, Opatija, Cape Town, Krakow, Belgrade, DOK.fest Munich, HotDocs Toronto, Berlinale/PERSPECTIVE a.o.

84min | DCP | original Persian/English/German version with German or English subtitles available

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**RASPUTIN – MURDER IN THE TSAR’S COURT**

by Eva Gerberding

HISTORY | ARTS | CULTURE

In the night of 30th December 1916, three shots are fired in the rear courtyard of Yusupov Palace in St. Petersburg. These hit and kill one of the most controversial figures in the Tsarist Empire: Grigori Rasputin. He was a simple farmer from Siberia, who, thanks to his charisma and healing arts, made it all the way up to the Tsar’s court. He not only penetrated the innermost circles of power, but even dared to warn the Tsar himself about the consequences of the Great War.

The story of the pious vagabond who became one of the most influential men in Russia has become a popular legend of the 20th century. The film is a fascinating search for clues, which explores the background behind the deed. Animations bring Rasputin back to life and illustrate key points in his life and the treacherous murder.

German title: **RASPUTIN – MORD AM ZARENHOF**

52min | HD | 16:9 | Blu-ray | DVD | German, French or English version

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**RAVI WOLFF – A GENTLEMAN BEFORE GOD**

by Britta Wauer

PORTRAIT | ORAL HISTORY | RELIGION | AGING | PORTRAIT | HUMAN INTEREST

William Wolff was born in Berlin, carries a British passport and lives in a bungalow near London. Now nearly 90, he still works as State Rabbi in north-eastern Germany. His regular midweek commute takes him from Heathrow to Hamburg, and on to his Jewish communities in Schwerin and Rostock. After Saturday services, it’s back home, unless he’s visiting relatives in Jerusalem, going on a fasting retreat or placing a bet at Royal Ascot. Willy Wolff says, “life has to be fun”.

**RAVI WOLFF** is not only entertaining, but also eye-opening and inspiring. With humour and charm, it gives an honest, intimate insight into the world of Judaism.

**GERMAN TITLE**: **RAVI WOLFF – EIN GENTLEMAN VOR DEM HERRN**

awards/festivals: Prize of the Ecumenical Jury – achtung berlin, Prize for Diversity – Filmkunstfest Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, UK Jewish Film Festival

90min | HD | DCP | DVD | original German/English/Russian/Hebrew/Dutch version with English subtitles available

Photos: © Uli Holz, Britzka Film

World Sales:

MAGNETFILM GmbH
Oranienburger Str. 50
10117 Berlin, Germany

tel.: +49 (0) 163 8010753
fax: +49 (0) 30 473729820

info@magnetfilm.de

www.rabbiwolff.com

vimeo.com/182662769

Distribution:

www.rabbiwolff.com

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**RASPUTIN – MURDER IN THE TSAR’S COURT**

by Eva Gerberding

HISTORY | ARTS | CULTURE

In the night of 30th December 1916, three shots are fired in the rear courtyard of Yusupov Palace in St. Petersburg. These hit and kill one of the most controversial figures in the Tsarist Empire: Grigori Rasputin. He was a simple farmer from Siberia, who, thanks to his charisma and healing arts, made it all the way up to the Tsar’s court. He not only penetrated the innermost circles of power, but even dared to warn the Tsar himself about the consequences of the Great War.

The story of the pious vagabond who became one of the most influential men in Russia has become a popular legend of the 20th century. The film is a fascinating search for clues, which explores the background behind the deed. Animations bring Rasputin back to life and illustrate key points in his life and the treacherous murder.

German title: **RASPUTIN – MORD AM ZARENHOF**

52min | HD | 16:9 | Blu-ray | DVD | German, French or English version

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**RAVI WOLFF – A GENTLEMAN BEFORE GOD**

by Britta Wauer

PORTRAIT | ORAL HISTORY | RELIGION | AGING | PORTRAIT | HUMAN INTEREST

William Wolff was born in Berlin, carries a British passport and lives in a bungalow near London. Now nearly 90, he still works as State Rabbi in north-eastern Germany. His regular midweek commute takes him from Heathrow to Hamburg, and on to his Jewish communities in Schwerin and Rostock. After Saturday services, it’s back home, unless he’s visiting relatives in Jerusalem, going on a fasting retreat or placing a bet at Royal Ascot. Willy Wolff says, “life has to be fun”.

**RAVI WOLFF** is not only entertaining, but also eye-opening and inspiring. With humour and charm, it gives an honest, intimate insight into the world of Judaism.

**GERMAN TITLE**: **RAVI WOLFF – EIN GENTLEMAN VOR DEM HERRN**

awards/festivals: Prize of the Ecumenical Jury – achtung berlin, Prize for Diversity – Filmkunstfest Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, UK Jewish Film Festival

90min | HD | DCP | DVD | original German/English/Russian/Hebrew/Dutch version with English subtitles available

Photos: © Uli Holz, Britzka Film

World Sales:

MAGNETFILM GmbH
Oranienburger Str. 50
10117 Berlin, Germany

tel.: +49 (0) 163 8010753
fax: +49 (0) 30 473729820

info@magnetfilm.de

www.rabbiwolff.com

vimeo.com/182662769

Distribution:

www.rabbiwolff.com

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**RASPUTIN – MURDER IN THE TSAR’S COURT**

by Eva Gerberding

HISTORY | ARTS | CULTURE

In the night of 30th December 1916, three shots are fired in the rear courtyard of Yusupov Palace in St. Petersburg. These hit and kill one of the most controversial figures in the Tsarist Empire: Grigori Rasputin. He was a simple farmer from Siberia, who, thanks to his charisma and healing arts, made it all the way up to the Tsar’s court. He not only penetrated the innermost circles of power, but even dared to warn the Tsar himself about the consequences of the Great War.

The story of the pious vagabond who became one of the most influential men in Russia has become a popular legend of the 20th century. The film is a fascinating search for clues, which explores the background behind the deed. Animations bring Rasputin back to life and illustrate key points in his life and the treacherous murder.

German title: **RASPUTIN – MORD AM ZARENHOF**

52min | HD | 16:9 | Blu-ray | DVD | German, French or English version

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**RAVING IRAN**

by Susanne Regina Meures

HUMAN RIGHTS | CULTURE | CONFLICTS | RELIGION | MIGRATION | POLITICS | CURRENT AFFAIRS

Anoosh and Arash are at the centre of Tehran’s underground techno scene. Tired of hiding from the police and their stagnating career, they organize one last manic techno rave under dangerous circumstances in the desert. Back in Tehran they try their luck selling their illegally printed music album without permission. When Anoosh is arrested, there seems to be no hope left. But then they receive a phone call from the biggest techno festival in the world. Once landed in Switzerland, the haze of the instant euphoria evaporates quickly when the seriousness of the situation starts to dawn on them.

German title: **RAVING IRAN**

awards: First Step Awards; Prix du Jury SSA/Suissimage – Visions Du Réel, Nyon; Best Documentary – Guanajuato International Film Festival, Best Documentary Kitzbühel IFF, Zurich Film Award, Best Film & Audience Award – Solo Positivo Film Festival;

festivals: Porto, IDFA Amsterdam, Oulu, Montréal, Stockholm, Braunschweig, Santiago de Chile, Sao Paulo, Buenos Aires, Mexico DF, Ghent, Lugano, Reykjavik, Locarno, Opatija, Cape Town, Krakow, Belgrade, DOK.fest Munich, HotDocs Toronto, Berlinale/PERSPECTIVE a.o.

84min | DCP | original Persian/English/German version with German or English subtitles available

Photos: © Uli Holz, Britzka Film

World Sales:

Rise And Shine World Sales
Schlesische Str. 29/30
10997 Berlin, Germany

tel.: +49 (0) 30 47372980
fax: +49 (0) 30 473729820

info@riseandshine-berlin.de

www.ravingiran-film.de

www.facebook.com/ravingiran

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After an absence of 12 years, a filmmaker is returning to Israel in search for answers. What starts as a personal journey, will turn into an intimate portrait of surprisingly different women in a war stricken land. Noga is a high school teenager who is eager to be accepted into the best unit of the Israeli army. Moran is a religious social worker who has chosen as a home town Sderot, which is under the threat of rockets. In this Israeli-Jewish town also lives Hanadi, a young Arab woman from the northern part of the country, fighting for her identity. From North to South, from past to present, the quest for answers creates an intimate portrait of women in a country at war.

Contact:
Film Base Berlin GmbH
tel.: +49 (0) 30 28879829
mail@filmbaseberlin.de
srkahn@mac.com
www.hakara-the-film.com

RECOGNITION – THE WAR INSIDE US
by Sharon Ryba-Kahn
POV | WOMEN | SOCIAL | WAR & PEACE | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

In the summer of 2013, Rüzgâr Buşki was on his way to Istanbul to make a documentary about his close friend Şevval, a trans-LGBTI activist. What he didn’t realise was that his visit coincided with the Gezi Park protests, one of the biggest demonstrations in Turkish history. Inevitably, the focus of the documentary shifted in light of these events and we, just like Şevval, participate in this turning point.

High spirited and whimsical, #resistayol shows us a magical moment in the lives of thousands of people and gives us a better sense of the contribution of the LGBTI community to the human rights movement in Turkey. (DOK Leipzig, Özge Calafato)

“Stop! Don’t enter my territory. Don’t enter my uterus. Stay away from my habitat.” (from the film)

#resistayol
by Rüzgâr Buşki
CURRENT AFFAIRS | POLITICS | GENDER IDENTITY | CONFLICT | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

Edgar Froese, band leader of Tangerine Dream and pioneer of electronic music, is on a lifelong mission to find the ultimate sound. His constant quest takes him and his fellow band members to worldwide success, all the way to the Hollywood studios in Los Angeles. At his death in January 2015, Edgar Froese leaves a legacy of 48 years of music history.

The film shows previously unreleased footage shot by the band leader himself: For the first time, we see the band backstage, on tour in Europe and the US, at photoshoots with Jim Rakete or on holiday at the seaside. Records and interviews with his wife Bianca Froese-Acquaye, with band members, close associates and fellow artists map the unique history of Tangerine Dream: a tribute to the musician Edgar Froese and the era of electronic music.

REVOLUTION OF SOUND. TANGERINE DREAM
by Margarete Kreuzer
CULTURE | MUSIC | PORTRAIT | FILM

German title: REVOLUTION OF SOUND. TANGERINE DREAM
festivals: Berlinale/PANORAMA
60 or 87min | HD | DCP | German, English or French version

Photo © Eastgate Music, Bianca Froese-Archiv
German title: REVOLUTION OF SOUND. TANGERINE DREAM
festivals: Berlinale/PANORAMA
60 or 87min | HD | DCP | German, English or French version

Photo © Eastgate Music, Bianca Froese-Archiv

Production:
TAG/TRAUM
Filmprod. GmbH & Co KG
Apostelnstr. 11
50667 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 650259011
info@tagtraum.de
www.edgarfroese.de
They’re small, cute and rather special – rock hyraxes, also known as dassies. Visitors of the South African coastline marvel at their heart-stopping capers among the rocks, cheerfully ignoring the plunging chasms below. They may look like groundhogs, but their closest taxonomic relatives are actually the elephant and the manatee. And that’s not the only odd thing about them. This film is about the nature of the coastline in South Africa. Its focus is the world of dassies. We gain insights into their life from birth to adulthood and by following a particularly bold young dassie, we find out more about his family, how they behave and what dangers they face in their daily lives.

German title: KLIPPSCHLIEFER
52min | HD | English version

Russian citizen and Soviet-born Ukrainian native Vitaly Mansky crisscrosses Ukraine to explore Ukrainian society after the Maidan revolution as mirrored within his own large Ukrainian family. They live scattered all across the country: in Lviv, Odessa, the separatist area in Donbass, and Sevastopol on Crimea. The film is looking for reasons of the conflict after which citizens of a single country found themselves on a different sides of barricades including director’s own family.

The main narrative takes place in the here and now, starting with the turning point of ex-president Victor Yanukovych’s flight to Russia. But below the main narrative there is a strong historical undercurrent, because the lives of protagonists of the film are marked by history on every step they take. This undercurrent will carry information about the Russian-Ukrainian conflict’s deep roots in centuries of close ties between the two countries.

German title: RODNYE – CLOSE RELATIONS
awards/festival: Special Mention – Batumi Art FF, Karlovy Vary IFF, Odessa IFF, Toronto IFF, Bergen IFF, BFI London IFF, Riga IFF, DOK Leipzig, Nordic Film Days Lübeck, IDFA Amsterdam
60, 90 or 112min | HD | DCP | original Russian/Ukrainian version with English subtitles available

Germany, summer 1936.
All eyes look towards Berlin where Nazi-Germany hosts one of the most political Olympic Games in history. Unnoticed by most, another political drama unfolds in Berlin which causes controversy up until today:

THE RUN tells the forgotten story of Sohn Kee-chung, the Korean athlete who won a gold medal in marathon at the 1936. Forced to run under the Japanese flag, his run became a symbol of oppression and rebellion.

With a focus on the fateful run in Berlin 1936, THE RUN links Sohn’s story to world history and sheds light on an important and mostly forgotten chapter of the turbulent centuries of the 20th century.

German title: DER LAUF – SIEG UNTER FALSCHER FLAGGE
52 or 43min | HD | German or English version
RUSSIA’S HORSES
by Thorolf Lipp & Anastasia Vinokurova

In RUSSIA’S HORSES we travel to both Russia’s heartland as well as to the more remote regions of this vast country. We meet fascinating horsemen and observe them in their daily lives in order to get an insight into an often centuries-old history linking them to their beloved animals. According to a Russian proverb, people are reflected in their horses. But what does this really mean? Russian horses are definitely not like their Western European counterparts. Despite their inconspicuous appearance, they are tough and hardy, docile and undemanding, not to mention incredibly motivated. Is this also true of the Russian peoples? What do we know about the Cossacks, the Yakuts of the taiga or the Tuvs of the Altai Mountains, for instance? Through our interest in their animals, we will meet a wide variety of protagonists. We will take a look at the latest developments in sport horse breeding, as well as the often centuries-old symbiosis of man and beast in Russia’s South and East.

German title: RUSSLANDS PFERDE
5x43min or 5x52min or 10x26min | XDCAM 1920x1080 | German or English version

Production: Arcadia Filmprod. – Thorolf Lipp
Sickingenstr. 4
10553 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 34381420
cell: +49 (0) 151 25228391
lipp@arcadia-film.de
www.arcadia-film.de

Distribution: Autentic Distribution
www.autentic.com

SALICELLE RAP
by Carmen Té

In Le Salicelle, a rundown Naples suburb, the only future for many youngsters is as a stooge for organized crime. Each day, Father Don Ciro risks his life in order to support the youngsters and keep them away from the false temptations of the Camorra. Luca and Toni (both 18) are sassy, politicizing rappers, struggling to improve their neighborhood. Their songs represent the voice of the local residents, who have been left to their poverty. Tina and Manuela are 13 years old. They don’t enjoy attending school. Like many Salicelle children, they dream of becoming dance teachers or singers. But they don’t like book learning. They want to hang out on the street all day with their friends. Giovanni (37) has already spent 18 years in jail. He wants to change his life. Don Ciro is his parole officer. It is difficult for kids in this neighborhood to commit themselves to a proper career. Facing poverty as an alternative, the temptation is very great.

German title: SALICELLE RAP
98min 30sec | 16:9 | full HD | original Italian/Neapolitan version with Italian, German or English subtitles available

Production: Parthenope Film
Carmen Té, Felix Raitz von Frentz
Gundelindenstr. 1
80805 Munich, Germany
cell Germany: +49 (0) 176 98756147
cell Italy: +39 320 940 4879
parthenopefilm@gmail.com

SCHOOL NUMBER 3
by Yelizaveta Smith & Georg Genoux

Thirteen adolescents from a rebuilt school in South Ukrainian Donbass relate their hopes and fears. In rigorously composed shots, the documentary film shows the protagonists in their everyday environment, while they tell of experiences that move them, of nascent new loves and personal loss alike. The war is often only immediately perceptible on the periphery, yet it makes its presence felt as an unavoidable frame of reference. The puristic way in which it is shot renders the overall impression made by Yelizaveta Smith and Georg Genoux’s film all the more haunting.

original title: SHKOLA NOMER 3
German title: SCHULE NUMMER 3
festival: Berlinale/GENERATION
116min | DCP | original Ukrainian version with English subtitles available

World Sales:
Marko Zschieck
Berlin, Germany
marco.zschieck@web.de
tabor.production@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/georg.genoux
SCHULE, SCHULE builds on Hella Wender’s debut BERG FIDEL (2012). We follow David, Jacob, Anita and Lucas on their way through the German school system, however, we don’t remain seated at their school desks – we learn what drives them and which doors are open to them.

German title:  **SCHULE, SCHULE – DIE ZEIT NACH BERG FIDEL**
festivals: Max-Ophüls-Preis Saarbrücken
90min | DCP | original German version with English textlist available

**THE SECRET POWER OF THE KURDS**

by Edgar Wolf

Since the Turks attacked PKK fighters in northern Iraq at the end of July, tension in the Turkish-Syrian-Iraqi border region has risen. The peace process launched by the Turkish government and PKK leaders three years ago has come to an abrupt halt. Suddenly, war is raging again. Erdogan is fuelling the conflict to discredit the pro-Kurdish HDP party at the forthcoming new elections. He wants to dominate Turkey’s political arena again as the presidential victor. But the risks of his course are unpredictable, because the Kurds work together beyond national boundaries and are now a strong military force – a fact that is not widely known. The camera documents the situation in the political hotspots. In interviews with PKK fighters, representatives of the autonomous region of Kurdistan in northern Iraq, political leaders of the Kurds in northern Syria and Kurdish representatives in south-eastern Turkey, who have been campaigning for autonomy in their regions since the Turkish attacks, the film introduces the different interests of the respective Kurdish groups. It looks at the strategies they have been pursuing since the end of the peace process and asks how cohesive these groups are.

German title:  **DIE HEIMLICHE MACHT DER KURDEN**
26min | HD | German, French or English version
THE SECRET REVOLUTION – WOMEN IN SAUDI ARABIA
by Carmen Butta & Gabriele Riedle

In deeply conservative Saudi Arabia, women are calling for change. A portrait of pioneers who want to reshape society: an editor-in-chief, a lawyer and a politician.

In Saudi Arabia, Wahhabism, the most austere form of Islam, permeates all areas of public life. In particular, it dominates the everyday life of women, who still need a male guardian even as adults. It is all the more astonishing that a number of women have recently achieved professional and even political success – becoming pioneers for an entire generation. The film presents sometimes intimate portraits of some of these pioneers who are changing their society for the future. They include women like Somayya Jabarti, the Kingdom’s first female editor-in-chief, Sofana Dahlan, a cultural entrepreneur and one of the first women to be recognised as a lawyer, and Rasha Hefzi, one of only 20 women in the country to be elected a member of the local parliament. But the film also introduces women like bakery owner Oum Saif, who not only works backstage but also sells her bread, fully veiled, behind the counter, something that would have been inconceivable just a few years ago.

German title: DIE HEIMLICHE REVOLUTION – Frauen in Saudi Arabien
French title: UNE REVOLUTION SILENCIEUSE – Les femmes en Arabie saoudite

30 or 45min | HD | German, English or French version

THE SECRET WORLD OF HERBS… – series in 5 parts
in Provence | in India | in Latin America | in the Alps | in the Balkans
by Ilka Franzmann, Rolf Lambert, Christian Stiefenhofer, Bärbel Jacks, Sebastian Lindemann

A journey of discovery through various herb-growing regions: Provence, the Alps, the Balkans, Latin America and India by Ilka Franzmann, Rolf Lambert, Christian Stiefenhofer, Bärbel Jacks, Sebastian Lindemann. Herbs fascinate people all over the world because they are so versatile: they smell good, taste good, and have healing properties. Since time immemorial, people throughout the world have used herbs: in kitchens, laboratories, in witches’ cauldrons! In Europe, the secrets of herbal medicine were guarded behind monastery walls for centuries. Only with the advent of printing did the ABC of herbs find its way into private households. In the early 20th century, modern medicine replaced the traditional knowledge of herbs that had been passed down from one generation to the next.

And today? Herbs are experiencing a renaissance: cosmetics manufacturers and pharmaceutical companies are experimenting with natural ingredients; natural therapies have reclaimed their place alongside conventional medicine. We embark on a journey of discovery through Provence, the Alps, the Balkans, Latin America and India. We meet herbal teachers, Ayurveda doctors, naturopaths, farmers, modern-day ‘herb fairies’, cooks – all authorities on herbs and compelling storytellers. Sophisticated aerial and fast-motion shots take viewers to far-flung herb-growing regions, and the film examines the complex processes of producing tinctures, oils, and natural remedies.

German title: KRÄUTERWELTEN – DER PROVENCE, – INDIENS, – SÜDAMERIKA, – DER ALPEN, – AUF DEM BALKAN
5x45min | HD | German, English or French version

THE SEVEN LIVES OF THE SEA CLOUD – series in 5 parts
The Floating Krupp Steel Palace | On a Mission to Russia | From Luxury Yacht to Warship | The Dictator’s Ship | The Return of a Legend
by Viktor Apfelbacher

It is one of the finest and oldest sailing ships in the world. Built by Krupp in the 1930s at the Germania shipyard in Kiel, the Sea Cloud still sails the world’s seas today after an adventurous and incredible career. Her greatest challenge: crossing the Atlantic with around 50 passengers. Even experienced sailors today consider this journey on a square rigger to be the supreme discipline and the fulfillment of a life-long dream. Sailing on the Sea Cloud is also a journey into the past of a floating legend. Ship pianist Tom Hook has worked aboard the Sea Cloud for over thirty years and knows her better than anyone. Celebrity guests, political entanglements, dangerous war adventures and dictatorial plans have all defined the seven lives of the Sea Cloud. In five parts, we accompany the ship on its long journey. From Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, towards Cap Verde, always ahead of the Passat winds on course to Barbados. Hoisting, lowering and mending sails – everything is done as it was 100 years ago. We take a look at the ship’s eventful past with all its surprising twists and turns, returning every so often to the present day.

German title: DIE SIEBEN LEBEN DER SEA CLOUD – Serie in 5 Folgen: Grazie aus Krupp-Stahl | Auf Mission in Russland | Von der Luxusyacht zum Kriegsschiff | Das Schiff des Diktators | Rückkehr einer Legende
5x26min | HD | German, French or English version
The film asks young actors how and by what means they are developing theater productions. The occasion was the annual meeting of seventeen state-run drama schools from the German-speaking world, whose students will be performing in a theater for a week. The students talk about their ‘first roles’, their plans and goals. They reflect the advantages and limitations of training methods and the difficult dissociation of person and role. In the course of the survey, coupled with the play scenes, it becomes increasingly clear that the drama school itself is an ‘island’, where for a limited time, as on Shakespeare’s island, the whole repertoire of expression and transformation is exhausted.

Production:
Dubini Filmproduktion
Lochnerstr. 17
50674 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 239006
dubinifilm@t-online.de

German title: SHAKESPEARES INSEL
87min | HD | DCP | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available

“Nothing can harm me, neither one way nor the other,” my father says to me, shortly after he told me he has cancer. He looks at life and death with a serenity that I envy greatly. My overwhelming fear and concern for him is contrasted by his extraordinary peace and assurance, an assurance that he draws from his faith. My father is a pastor, my mother is a pastor, and although the evangelical church was ever-present in my childhood and youth, religion has always remained closed off to me. I confront my father with my doubts and questions in front of the camera. Where does his steadfastness come from? Why didn’t he teach me to believe in something? Is it even possible to learn faith? The film tells the story of a father and daughter at the moment when they must say goodbye. A time full of enjoyment, of pictures, music and talk, full of happiness and closeness.

German title: „SOLLTE DA ICH UND NIEMAND SEIN“
56min | full HD | German or English version
SIBERIAN LOVE “Without a husband you are not a woman!”
by Olga Delane

SIBERIAN LOVE documents love and relationships in a Siberian village of 270 inhabitants. Although Olga Delane is not the protagonist, her presence is felt throughout the film. She is part of the action, stimulates the conversations with relatives and brings out their personal opinions in discussions. Olga is looking for answers to the question of the value of traditional relationships, love and fulfillment. Siberian Love starts with Olga’s arrival at the village. With her western lifestyle, Olga provokes her relatives in the small Siberian village and is confronted with their critical comments concerning her relationship status and her lifestyle in Berlin. Over a period of four years, Olga Delane has been a fixture in the everyday lives of her relatives in the Siberian village – lives characterised by dependence, dominance and concentration, as well as by commitment, cohesion, security and tradition.

The man is the master in the house, the task of the woman is to beget children and to take care of the household. “Why is there no feminism here?” Olga asks her aunt. “Feminism? What’s that?”, she replies. Olga’s film shows how family roles have consolidated over many generations. But also the division of the generations between traditional values and the dream of self-realisation. But the deeper Olga penetrates into Siberian village life, the more she finds cohesion and a humble love, which touches her and makes her feel that despite all the ugliness and heaviness, this life is also very beautiful. Is romantic love a Western luxury?

German title: SIBERIAN LOVE
festival: IDFAAmsterdam
80min | HD | original Russian version, German or English version available

Contact:
DOPPELPLUSULTRA
Film und TV Produktion GBR
Frank Müller, Kerstin Reich
Repsoldistr. 45
20097 Hamburg, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 40 23937461
fax: +49 (0) 40 43095935
cell: +49 (0) 172 7788135
mail@doppelplusultra.de
www.siberian-love.com

SILENT CELLS
by Mohamed Nabil

What happens with women in Moroccan prisons? Walls of concrete and silence are hiding a taboo, which is difficult to remove. The director Mohamed Nabil did everything to tell the story of Moroccan women’s prison. After many difficulties and two years of waiting for a filming permit, he and his team were finally able to enter this secret world.

In this inspiring and moving documentary, the protagonists are not only defined by their crimes, but tell the truth seen through their eyes. Interviews with former female prisoners unveil the unspeakable. The film raises provocative questions about the prison system and society in Morocco and offers remarkable pictures of inmates and prison staff.

German title: STILLE ZELLEN
65min | HD | DVD | Blu-ray | original Arabic version with English subtitles

Contact:
Mia Paradies Productions
Eva Leonardi
Berlin, Germany
miaparadies@yahoo.com
miaparadiesproductions.weebly.com

SILENT SAVIOURS
by Christian Frey

The moment of mortal terror comes unexpected, right in the middle of the seeming idyll of Haute-Savoie: “I was taking a walk on a path in the mountains” Georges-Arthur Goldschmidt recounts, 16 at the time, “and suddenly I was looking down German soldiers’ machine gun barrels. The patrol let me pass. But then they turned to watch me suspiciously. I ran, ran, and ran...”. Georges-Arthur’s original name is Jürgen and he is the son of a formerly respected court president in Hamburg. He is of Jewish origin. In France he survived the Holocaust thanks to the brave solidarity and the protection of many ordinary French citizens who risked their own lives to save him.

A large number of impressive individual and collective cases of courage and willingness to help exist. Whole villages harboured hundreds even thousands of Jews, hid them, and provided them with food, shelter, and forged papers. What is most impressive: nobody in these villages snitched, nobody sold out these refugees to the Vichy-police or even the Gestapo. Until today it remains unknown in Germany that and for which reasons 75 % of all Jews in France survived the German occupation. This film is at once homage to civil courage and benevolence.

German title: STILLE NETTER – ÜBERLEBEN IM BESETZTEN FRANKREICH
52min | HD | original German/French version with English subtitles available

Contact:
Autentic GmbH
Gruenwald Weg 28d
82041 Oberhaching/Munich, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 89 673469856
fax: +49 (0) 89 673469888
info@autentic.com
www.gebrueder-beetz.de
vimeo.com/187174693
On the 500th anniversary the Reformation Day, Luther’s spirit is alive in the vivid choir scene of Tanzania. An electrifying music film shot in the magnificent landscape of Tanzania, where choral music becomes pop, social cohesion and personal impulsion.

**German title:** LUTHERS ERBEN
90min | DCP | Dolby 5.1 | original English/Suaheli/German version with English subtitles available

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**SOLITARY**

by Kristi Jacobson HUMAN RIGHTS | POLITICS | SOCIAL ISSUES | CONTROVERSY | HUMAN INTEREST | INVESTIGATIVE

SOLITARY tells the story of men buried deep within the US prison system, banished to America’s supermax prisons and held in solitary confinement. With unprecedented access it goes inside one of these ‘clean versions of hell’ – a supermax prison located in the mountains and coalmines of western Virginia. Inside we meet the men whose stories will drive the film, uncovering the faces and experiences of those we have deemed ‘the worst of the worst.’ Intertwoven with their stories are the experiences of the guards, who are doing a different type of time, right alongside the prisoners. They are the sons and daughters of Virginia’s coalminers, escaping their parents’ fate by finding jobs at one of the country’s most notorious supermax prisons. Operating in a world that is invisible to most, and not without danger, their camaraderie is reminiscent of soldiers at war. SOLITARY is a groundbreaking, emotionally powerful exploration of an invisible corner of the American justice system: the use of long-term solitary confinement in the prisons. With unprecedented access inside a prison tackling the issue head-on, the film explores the experience of those on both sides behind bars.

**German title:** 8m² EINSAMKEIT – EINZELHAFT IN VIRGINIA
original title: SOLITARY (prev. title: OUT OF MIND)
festivals: Trebeca New York, Stockholm, IDFA Amsterdam o.a.
82min | DCP | original English version

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**SPREE HOTEL**

by Vivien Hartmann MIGRATION | CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIAL ISSUE

The Spree Hotel is a former four-star hotel in Bautzen, a town in Germany’s most right-wing region. It was restructured into housing for asylum seekers. The sign ‘Reception’ still hangs in the foyer and surveillance cameras behind it; the building is fenced in. A microcosmos in both its positive and negative characteristics which reminds us of a lively village and where the former hotel owner Peter Rausch, the social workers Steffen, Uwe and Firas and the refugees all live together.

The Ethiopian-Eritrean couple Ykram and Abhra have been living at the Spree Hotel for seven months. Rami from Syria has been there for ten months. Ahmed, the young Iraqi, has been there for over 11 months. Zarema from Ingushetia has been at the Spree Hotel with her five children for nine months, and Mustafa, a Palestinian from Syria, will soon receive his acceptance documents. The shimmering summer heat underscores a feeling of eternal waiting and mirrors the creeping, uneasy feeling of ‘the calm before the storm’. Today, one year after the shooting of SPREE HOTEL, this unease is confirmed in the right-wing attacks in the area and shows the continuing volatility of the topic.

**German title:** SPREE HOTEL
festivals: Hofer Filmtage
62min | DCP | Dolby 5.1 | original German/Arabic/Russian version with English subtitles available

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World Sales:
Patra Spanou
Film Marketing & Consulting
skype: spanoupa
patra.spanou@yahoo.com
www.patraspanou.com

World Sales:
Ro*co Films – Annie Roney
info@rocofilms.com
CoProduction:
Sutor Kolonko Filmprod.– Ingmar Trost
www.sutorkolonko.de
youtu.be/k1cncpA2t7Q

Contact:
Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg
tel.: +49 (0) 7141-969193
Sigrid.Gairing@filmakademie.de
www.facebook.com/spreehotel
marvin.roessler@filmakademie.de

Shot on three continents, this film provides an inside look at Christopher Kirkley’s project ‘Sahel Sounds’ – a blog, record label and platform to explore arts and music of the Sahel region through non-traditional ethnographic fieldwork. Not a strict portrait, nor a straight music documentary, but an attempt to bridge cultural and geographical distances, the film celebrates musical performances of current artists from Niger, while leaving room to reflect on today’s role of ethnomusicology.

German title: **A STORY OF SAHEL SOUNDS**


83min | DCP | Dolby SR | original German/French/Tamashek version with German, English or French subtitles

www.facebook.com/astoryofsahelsounds

photos © Markus Milcke, neopan kollektiv

World Sales
MAGNETFILM GmbH
cell: +49 (0)163 8010753
geroge.gruber@magnetfilm.de
www.sahelsounds.com
www.neopankollektiv.de
www.facebook.com/neopankollektiv
youtu.be/3t3lpM5EFI

Khaldeh. Gateway to Beirut, highway, coastal town rigged by illegal constructions, Lebanon’s only airport, and the sea.

I never imagined I would ever come back, to find Ibn Zanuba, nor that I would recollect past experiences or events, and remember how I, as a teenager, lived vicariously through the lives of those who inhabit Khaldeh. A place at the edge of the city. A flux of scenes and impressions. In this work, I recall the stories of those I knew and dive into the depths of my memory, and the place’s reality.

German title: **STREET OF DEATH**

festivals: Berlinale/SHORTS

23min | DCP | original Arabic version with English subtitles available

World Sales:
Friendly Fire Films
cell: +49 (0) 176 37768555
emilydische@gmail.com

The documentary ‘Straßensamurai’ (STREET SAMURAI) takes an intimate look at the lives of an unexpected kind of bouncer; one who follows a unique codex similar to that of the samurai in Japan in the Middle Ages. It portrays a group of people with a deep loyalty to employers and colleagues, and an almost sacred respect even for their opponents. This film is a window into their world, into the lives of friends that share a deeply moral approach to life, one that is rare and often surprising. The bouncers in this film don’t have a nine-to-five commitment, just the opposite in fact. They are a bunch of people working to realize dreams and striving for a life that is free from social norms and conventions. They have decided to go their own way, establishing their own principles and values: ones they practice through their work. But it is not all positive: STREET SAMURAI also explores the loneliness of the city at night, following bouncers home to their daily lives. Strained relationships, struggles balancing work and family, all tributes paid to their own definition of freedom.

German title: **STRASSENSAMURAI**

awards/festivals: achtung berlin – nominated for The Exberliner Film Award

71min | 16:9 | b/w | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available

Production:
atimos productions
Samer Halabi Cabezón
Freiligrathstr. 8
10967 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 61654835
fax: +49 (0) 3212 1412788
halabi@atimos.de
www.atimos.de
www.strassensamurai.com
www.FB.com/strassensamuraiberlin
There are streets, paths, highways, alleys, dirt tracks and promenades... And there are courses of lives, thirstlands, crossroads and dead ends.


STREETSCAPES [DIALOGUE] Photography und beyond – Part 26: John Erdman, Jonathan Perel and Natja Brunckhorst in buildings by Julio Vilamajó, Eladio Dieste and Arno Brandlhuber. Feature film written by Heinz Emigholz and Zohar Rubinstein. Filmed in Uruguay & Berlin. A dialogue becomes a film. “Streetscapes [Dialogue] is a film manifestation of a project held in Germany and mainly in Israel for three intensive long marathons of dialogues between the two of the film writers, Heinz Emigholz and I. We met to talk, attempting to remove an obstruction of silence of the former, muting his artistic journey and darkening his life (then) into a downfallen alley. We meet to work. Not in a therapeutic encounter though the latter is a psychologist and an expert in trauma, but as two persons willing to undergo a hard journey for the designated end.” Zohar Rubinstein


German title: THE STREETSCAPES SERIES
festivals: Berlinale/FORUM
407min | DCP | English version
88min 2+2=22 [The Alphabet] | 92min Bickels [Socialism] | 132min Streetscapes [Dialogue] | 95min Dieste [Uruguay]

SUN VILLAGE
by Zoey Lee

Sun Village is the name of a refuge for Chinese children whose parents are serving time in prison. With no one to look after or feed them, Sun Village is a home and place of refuge for the children until their parents are released. Ironically, the woman who launched the project, Zhang Shu Qin, was a Beijing Police Force officer and probably responsible for taking the parents away from their children in the first place. She eventually realized that most of these convicts were leaving behind children who had no relatives or other legal guardians to help. She decided to take things into her own hands and opened Sun Village in 1996, the start of a huge success story that would go on to change the lives of many children. Zhang travelled all over China to bring these children together, giving them what their parents couldn’t provide – a home, an education, food and clothes. This documentary follows the lives of these children during their summer holidays and features interviews with children who grew up in the village, and those who are still at home there. It also looks at Zhang’s incredible achievements in the past 20 years and her dedication to creating a better future for China.

German title: SUN VILLAGE
45min | HD | original Chinese version with English subtitles available
SUPERPLANTS – How to Make Money by Saving the Environment  
by Klaus Uhrig & Till Krause  
ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT | SUSTAINABILITY | SCIENCE | AGRICULTURE

Just imagine there were superplants. Plants that are quite normal in appearance but possess almost magical abilities. Little plants, which could help humanity get to grips with problems such as environmental pollution, shortages of raw materials, malnutrition, poverty and the destruction of the rain forest. These superplants exist! So-called hyperaccumulators store so many heavy metals in their leaves that you can use them to decontaminate soil. Others can even be used to gather the accumulated raw materials. Via the jungle of New Caledonia, the farming regions of Albania, the industrial wastelands of the Sauerland region and the laboratories of Nancy SUPERPLANTS discovers how endless the future possibilities of exercising phytomining really are. It would be a nice coincidence of nature, if the solution to a number of environmental problems were to have been waiting for centuries where nobody would have imagined it: in inconspicuous little plants.

German title: SUPERPLANTS – Die blühende Revolution  
festivals: Green Me Global Festival for Sustainability Berlin, Deutschland 2017  
52min | HD | 16:9 | Blu-ray | DVD | German, English or French version

World Sales:  
Global Screen GmbH  
Sonnenstr. 21  
80331 Munich, Germany  
tel.: +49 (0) 89 2441295500  
fax: +49 (0) 89 2441295520  
info@globalscreen.de  
www.florianfilm.de

SWIMMING POOL AT THE GOLAN  
by Esther Zimmering  
POV | MIGRATION | SOCIETY | ORAL HISTORY

A humorous investigation into a Jewish family’s big ideas. One half returned to East Germany to help build a Socialist society, the other half joined the Kibbuz movement in Israel. The granddaughter of this split family explores the remnants of these ideals.

German title: DER SWIMMINGPOOL AM GOLAN  
90min | HD | German or English version

Contact:  
kontakt@zischlermann.com  
www.zischlermann.com

TACKLING LIFE  
by Johannes List  
BERLIN | GENDER IDENTITY | SPORTS

Adam, Nico and Su are members of Germany’s first gay rugby team, the Berlin Bruisers. Tackling Life portrays their everyday lives and follows them into the world of this dangerous niche sport, showing their struggle for recognition – in competition with the hetero regional league teams – as well as their community involvement: gathering money at colorful fundraisers and visiting schools to give anti-bullying workshops. Looking beyond the spectacular surface of self-presentation and cliché, we focus on how our trio copes with the challenges of everyday life – from self-realization to their search for belongingness. By alternating impressions of excessive, vibrant athletics with the quiet observation of its protagonists, the film is fragile and profound, but also spectacular and loud.

German title: TACKLING LIFE  
90min | 4K | scope | original German/English version with English subtitles available

Productions:  
if... Productions  
Ingo Fliess e.K.  
Lindwurmstr. 108a  
80337 Munich, Germany  
tel.: +49 (0) 89 124722380  
fax: +49 (0) 89 124722388  
info@ifproductions.de  
www.ifproductions.de

german documentaries 2017
They sing about homesickness, love, war and forgiveness. The voices pertain to drug dealers, thefts or murderers jailed in one of the about thousand Russian prisons or penal camps. They all dream about becoming part of the song contest ‘Kalina Krasnaya’ (Red Elderberry). Each of the approximately 700,000 Russian prisoners has the opportunity to participate. For Natalia Abashkina, director of the show and soul of the programme, working with the prisoners is a vocation. Tirelessly she travels through the country looking for talents and caring about her fosterlings. Stefan Eberlein accompanied her. His film provides insights into a parallel world. The life stories of the protagonists not only reveal personal fates but also reflect the social reality of a state still characterized by arbitrariness and brutality.

A Tale of Singers and Murderers also demonstrates that even in the harsh reality of nowadays Russia it is possible to act deeply human and solidarly – and reveals the unique power music can unfold.

German title: VON SÄNGERN UND MÖRDERN
festival: ArtDocFest Moscow
52 or 90min | HD | original Russian version, English or German version available

In December 2014, internationally renowned artist Tania Bruguera announced her intention to provide an open, uncensored platform for citizens in Havana to freely express their views in public for one minute. Before the performance took place, she was arrested. After three consecutive detentions, Bruguera was held for treason and her passport was revoked. Her imprisonment lasted eight months. Within days of her release she returned to the United States and visited noted psychiatrist Dr. Frank Ochberg, founding father of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Stockholm Syndrome to acquire the skills necessary to process the invasive infringement wrought by the paranoid machinery of the people’s dictatorship, including the revocation of her right to practice her art. Their intimate and profound conversation shows how film can become a medium of empathy. It reveals the relationship of the artist to her family that mirrors the subversive surveillance culture that many Cubans encounter in their daily life. Perhaps as a result, within a few months Tania Bruguera created the Hannah Arendt Institute for Art and Activism in Havana, Cuba and declared her candidacy for President of Cuba in 2018.

With: Tania Bruguera, Frank Ochberg narrated by Tilda Swinton

German title: TANIA LIBRE
working title was: Tania Bruguera – A State of Vulnerability
festival: Berlinale/PANORAMA
73min | DCP | English version

TANIA LIBRE – a portrait of a family which not only runs a garage in the suburbs of cologne, but lives and breathes motorsports. Father and son, both former racing professionals now concentrate on tinkering with the cars they rent to drivers. However, the existence of the family business is threatened by the rising challenges in motorsports. Can a 16 year old and unexperienced boy named Kevin successfully drive for the Thierfelders?

The turbulent season gives an outlook to what it means for son Guido to be the sole heir of the family business. Can he emancipate himself from his father and lead the business in his own way? Will he live on the dream of his father and grandfather with a sense to his history?

German title: THIERFELDERS
festivals: Max-Ophüls-Filmfestival, Saarbrücken
78min | HD | DCP | Blue-ray | DVD | original German version with English subtitles available

THIERFELDERS
by Stephanie Englert

Contact:
Academy of Media Arts Cologne
Ute Dilger
Peter-Welter-Platz 2
50676 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 20189330
fax: +49 (0) 221 2018917
ute.dilger@khm.de
stephanie.englert@yahoo.de
www.stephanieenglert.de

In December 2014, internationally renown artist Tania Bruguera announced her intention to provide an open, uncensored platform for citizens in Havana to freely express their views in public for one minute. Before the performance took place, she was arrested. After three consecutive detentions, Bruguera was held for treason and her passport was revoked. Her imprisonment lasted eight months. Within days of her release she returned to the United States and visited noted psychiatrist Dr. Frank Ochberg, founding father of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Stockholm Syndrome to acquire the skills necessary to process the invasive infringement wrought by the paranoid machinery of the people’s dictatorship, including the revocation of her right to practice her art. Their intimate and profound conversation shows how film can become a medium of empathy. It reveals the relationship of the artist to her family that mirrors the subversive surveillance culture that many Cubans encounter in their daily life. Perhaps as a result, within a few months Tania Bruguera created the Hannah Arendt Institute for Art and Activism in Havana, Cuba and declared her candidacy for President of Cuba in 2018.

With: Tania Bruguera, Frank Ochberg narrated by Tilda Swinton

German title: TANIA LIBRE
working title was: Tania Bruguera – A State of Vulnerability
festival: Berlinale/PANORAMA
73min | DCP | English version

Contact:
Die Gesellschaft DSG
Michael Henrichs Filmprod.
Karlo Ring 31
50676 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 25960621
fax: +49 (0) 3212 2619388
www.diegessellschaft.net
m.henrichs@die-gessellschaft.net
www.tanialibre.com
www.lynnhershman.com
www.artivismo.org
vimeo.com/163330659
Each person spends about a third of his or her life asleep. Sleeping habits, however, differ, depending on age, life situation or nationality. Together with sleep expert Dr. Michael Feld, we examine how different cultures approach sleep and sleep disorders.

**THIS IS HOW THE WORLD SLEEPS** – series in 5 parts
Germany | Japan | USA | Spain | France
by Sibylle Smolka, Marion Schmidt, Gordian Arneth

Contact:
Kinoki GmbH
Rasmus.Hamburg@t-online.de
www.hanne-darboven.org
vimeo.com/146480040

**TIMEWINGS – Hanne Darboven’s Art**
by Rasmus Gerlach

Rasmus Gerlach presents a multi-faceted portrait of Hamburg’s world-renowned conceptual artist Hanne Darboven. Hanne Darboven’s work occupies a prominent position in contemporary art both in Germany and internationally. Her visionary conceptual art could be called art writing or minimalist musical compositions and it was created by a character who was as unusual as her art. Rasmus Gerlach met Hanne Darboven several times and filmed, among other things, the 2001 performance of her organ concerto on her 60th birthday in the Laeiszhalle. The documentary shows some of her most important exhibitions and takes us to Harburg to the studio of the artist, who died in 2009. The house is so chock full of memories and art that even the ceiling is covered in her fascinating number constructions. This worthy portrait is rounded out with interviews with Darboven’s artistic collaborators and other friends. (Nordische Filmtage)

“She was a female dandy and so eccentric that Spiegel magazine wrote that in comparison Joseph Beuys was a bourgeois...” (Hamburger Filmfest)

German title: **TIMEWINGS – Hanne Darbovens Kunst**

festivals: Filmfest Hamburg, Nordische Filmtage Lübeck
84min | DCP | German or English version
VOD: vimeo.com/ondemand/kinokimgmbh/149474242

Production:
telekult
Film- und Medienprod. GmbH
Kremmener Str. 6
10435 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 44673776
info@telekult.de

**TO BE A TEACHER**
by Jakob Schmidt

TO BE A TEACHER tells the emotional story of three young teachers and their first years in school, a period called ‘Referendariat’ in Germany. Here they come to realize that their studies did not prepare them at all for what it means to work in one of the most responsible and important jobs of society. A rare insight into fabricating the most essential resources of modern times: education. A coming of age story of three young people whose idealism clashes with a harsh reality.

German title: **ZWISCHEN DEN STÜHLEN**

festivals/awards: DOK Leipzig; DEFA Sponsorship Award, Healthy Workplace Film Award, VER.DI Award for Solidarity, Humanity and Fairness, Documentary Award of Goethe-Institut
104min | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | original German version with English subtitles

Contact:
Filmuniversität Babelsberg
KONRAD WOLF
Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11
14482 Potsdam, Germany
distribution@filmuniversitaet.de
www.filmuniversitaet.de
www.fb.com/ZwischenDenStuehelen
**TO BE WITH YOU – MY FAMILY IN MYANMAR**

by Seng Mai Kinraw

A young filmmaker takes a trip to Myanmar into her own past, revisiting the places of her childhood. A journey to look for her missing father, but also into the warmth and security of living memory embodied by her friends and family. Shot in still, poetic frames, the film discreetly captures the present day echoes of a country kept in isolation for decades. Caught between romanticized pictures of her childhood and the contemporary modernized mega city of Yangon, Seng Mai goes to see those who brought her up, who implanted the longing in her which pulled her halfway around the globe; a passionate journey that changes her life forever.

German title: **SEHNSUCHT NACH MYANMAR**

awards/festival: Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’, Hofer Filmtage

60min | HD | DCP | Dolby 5.1. | original Burmese versions with English or German subtitles available

Contact: Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg
Siird.Gairing@filmakademie.de
avindependents – Film & Television
tel.: +49 (0) 7141 14 77510
u.uludag@avcommunication.com
www.avindependents.com

**TODAY IS YESTERDAY AND TOMORROW**

by Mechthild Gaßner

A documentary about an old lady with the Alzheimer’s disease and her polish caregiver. The Film tells one day and one night in their common life. Grandma Ilse has lost her memory. She doesn’t know anymore about time – yesterday, today, tomorrow – for her it’s all the same. She is a person, you’ll like immediately. But to take care of her is a very hard job, an exhausting work. Bogumila, her caregiver, has a respectful, even tender relationship to the old lady. In fact, Bogumila gives more than professional care and Grandma Ilse is more than just an old Lady with Alzheimer’s disease – they are two human beings who became friends.

German title: **HEUTE IST GESTERN UND MORGEN**

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

World Sales:
NEW DOCS
Dasselstr. 75-77
50674 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 16819743
sales@newdocs.de
gassner-gassner@t-online.de

**TORE, THE SKY & THE SEA**

by Maria Mogren & Jens von Larcher

The Swedish artist Tore Kurlberg lived in a fishing village on the coast. He rarely exhibited and hardly sold any paintings, but everyday he went to his studio and painted the view from his window: the horizon, the roofs, the sky and the sea. His work became increasingly abstract until all that remained were lines and dashes on the canvas, in hundreds of variations. Now the house is to be sold and the place is being emptied. Books and furniture are thrown out the window and the paintings are given away to his extended family in a lottery.

TORE, THE SKY & THE SEA is a film about dedicating your life to one idea. It explores the remains of a life, the power of dreams and the nature of love.

German title: **TOR, DER HIMMEL & DAS MEER**

original title: **TORE, HIMMEN & HAVET**

58min | DCP | original Swedish version with English subtitles available

Contact:
Ecke Film GbR
marialmo@gmx.de
eckefilm@gmail.com
vimeo.com/187462767
“I’m no different to anyone else!” says Torsten in his wheelchair. “I also long for tenderness, intimacy and sex.” The sexual needs of the disabled are generally not recognised; in fact, we do not expect disabled people to have such feelings. People like Nina, Edith and Ronald have a different approach. They call themselves sexual assistants. “Sexual companionship is a paid service”, says Nina de Vries, the pioneer of sexual assistance in Germany. So it is prostitution?! The film TOUCHING explores the longings and wishes of Christine and Torsten, but also shows the empathy and skills the sexual assistant need in order to engage with their clients. Their work is all about touching. Ever since Adam met Eve, touching has been the most basic form of reassurance that we are alive. That is why it is so important.

German title: BERÜHRUNGEN – Sexualassistenten bei der Arbeit
52min | HD | DVD | DCP | 16:9 | original German version with English subtitles available

TOUCH THE SKY
by Rosa Baches

Home apart from home. The director, Rosa Baches, a Catalan who has been living in Germany since 20 years, and her daughter belong to the group called Xiquets de l’Alster. „The boys from the Alster“ were founded in 2013 in Hamburg and are the first human-tower-group in Germany, in the tradition of the Catalan Castells. Making Human towers, Baches rediscovers her cultural identity, a feeling of being at home in a foreign country and a way to pass her roots on to her daughter, born in Hamburg. This is not possible without involvement in the current events of Catalonias independence movement, which has been having a great effect on the human-tower-group in Hamburg.

German title: DEN HIMMEL BERÜHREN
25min | DCP | original German/Katalan version with English subtitles available

TOUSCANÓICA – series in 5 parts
by Johan von Mirbach

In 2016, the world’s longest direct bus service was launched on the Transocéanica, from Rio de Janeiro to Lima. It is a journey of superlatives: 6,300 kilometres in 100 hours. And a journey full of contrasts. From Rio, the bus passes through savannah, the world’s largest marshland, the Amazon Jungle, up the Andes to the Pacific coast. This road movie allows us to delve deep into the South American soul. We experience the beauty of the countryside, the pride of its people and the economic upswing, but we also see the downsides: pollution, poverty and crime.

All these phenomena are to be found along the wayside – and come alive in the stories told by the passengers on the bus. We learn of their desires and hopes, and this five-part series offers us a kaleidoscopic view of a richly traditional, naturally beautiful continent, one that is undergoing profound change. Viewers immerse themselves in stories that present South America in all its ambivalence.

German title: TRANSOCÉANICA
5x45min | HD | German, English, Spanish or Portuguese version
In 2014 a theatre group was premiering ‘HEARTBEATS – THE SILENCE AFTER THE EXPLOSION’. Minutes before the end, just before an optimistic turn in the piece, a 16 year old suicide bomber blew himself up in the audience. In attendance were actors, painters, poets, musicians – plus diplomats and international aid workers. Some turned quiet after the attack or fled to Europe; others stayed in Kabul and became louder, taking bigger risks.

When a woman is brutally murdered by a mob in central Kabul, the actors join forces again on stage to re-enact the murder, unprotected in front of thousands: A cathartic comeback.

German title: TRUE WARRIORS
52 or 90min | HD | DCP | original English/Dari IT version with English, German or Dari subtitles available
52min version with German overvoice
www.vimeo.com/augustinpictures/silence

Contact:
Niklas Schenck
tel.: +49 (0) 163 2665927
schenck.niklas@gmail.com

German title: TRUE WARRIORS
52 or 90min | HD | DCP | original English/Dari IT version with English, German or Dari subtitles available
52min version with German overvoice
www.vimeo.com/augustinpictures/silence

Tsering (11) lives in the middle of the Himalayas. He loves the nature and wants to become a mountaineer. Many of the Sherpa people are mountain guides for tourists from all over the world, who want to climb Mount Everest. But the waste of the adventure-loving tourists pollute the environment.

This is a real threat for the nature and in order to this a danger for the business of the natives. Tsering and his friends wants to tackle that problem, because they know, the beauty of the nature is the reason for tourism.

German title: TSERING – NUR DER HIMMEL IST HÖHER
aus der Serie ‘stark!’; eine Sendereihe der EBU – European Broadcasting Union
15 or 25min | XDcam | HD | DCP | 50i | 16:9 | original Nepali version with German overvoice or English subtitles

Production:
telekult
Film- & Medienprod. GmbH
Kremmener Str. 6
10435 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 44673776
info@telekult.de

German title: TSERING – NUR DER HIMMEL IST HÖHER
aus der Serie ‘stark!’; eine Sendereihe der EBU – European Broadcasting Union
15 or 25min | XDcam | HD | DCP | 50i | 16:9 | original Nepali version with German overvoice or English subtitles

While Bang Gye Yong starts singing the song “Beloved Leader and his endless love of his people” at a socialist concert hall in Pjöngjang, 200 kilometres south, in a dingy basement in Seoul, a loud “Grrrrhhhh” is resounding simultaneously. Hu Sun-Gyung is screaming into the microphone: “Dad, it’s your fault that I have become slut!” One with the collar of her white blouse buttoned up, a badge with the face of the North Korean Leader Kim Jong II pinned onto it, her hair cut short and neatly, wearing a dark-coloured costume; the other wearing a red checkered shirt worn over a print T-shirt, tight, stripy trousers, with bleach blond hair. One with a nice soprano voice, accompanied by a classical orchestra, the other a wailing guitar and screaming punk band. In a double portrayal the film tells the story of two young students in divided Korea, whose differing life circumstances are hard to believe. Gye Yong lives in an oppressive, totalitarian society, seemingly in an outdated regime, Sun-Gyung lives in an intimidating, high-powered, male dominated society. But both women are trying to find happiness and to realise their own personal dreams, despite living in one of the collective environments, shaped by Korean culture, with very little room for individual development.

German title: ZWEI STIMMEN AUS KOREA
awards: nominated for Grimme Award
80min | HD | original Korean version with German voice over available

Contact:
Kunstskript Filmprod. GmbH
info@kunstskriptfilm.de
www.sung-hyung.de
www.kunstskriptfilm.de

German title: ZWEI STIMMEN AUS KOREA
awards: nominated for Grimme Award
80min | HD | original Korean version with German voice over available
“This film will give a view of the world that can only emerge by not pursuing any particular theme, by refraining from passing judgment, proceeding without aim. Drifting with no direction except one’s own curiosity and intuition.” Michael Glawogger said. More than two years after the sudden death of Michael Glawogger in April 2014, film editor Monika Willi realizes a film out of the film footage produced during 4 months and 19 days of shooting in the Balkans, Italy, Northwest and West Africa. A journey into the world to observe, listen and experience, the eye attentive, courageous and raw. Serendipity is the concept – in shooting as well as in editing the film.

German title: UNTITLED
festivals: Berlinale/PANORAMA
107min | digital | 16:9 | various spoken languages with English subtitles available

**#uploading_holocaust**

by Sagi Bornstein & Udi Nir

ORAL HISTORY | POLITICS | SOCIETY | CULTURE | CROSS MEDIA

Thousands of young Israelis join ‘The Journey to Poland’ each year to learn about the Holocaust. Looking into the journey through the videos they upload on YouTube reviles a moving and troubling image of the Israeli narrative and the way collective memory is formed in the web age. In the YouTube clips they create, students share private and moving moments of fear and despair – unmediated testimonies of themselves trying to make sense of the insane. Using these clips as raw material, we follow the journey to Poland from a variety of intimate points of view and explore how the personal becomes national, reality becomes cyber and history becomes myth.

German title: #uploading_holocaust – Wie geht erinnern heute?
festivals: nominated Young Eyes Award – DOK Leipzig
75min | DCP | original Hebrew version with English subtitles available

**URMILA my memory is my power**

by Susan Gluth

HUMAN RIGHTS | PORTRAIT | WOMEN | COMING OF AGE | ETHNOLOGY | CURRENT AFFAIRS

Urmila’s dream is to end child slavery in Nepal. The human rights activist was sold by her parents when she was 6 years old. 12 years later she became free. The film portrays her quest for justice and her personal fight against the inner demons of her own past. First she must break through the control of those around her to begin to make her own life choices.

German title: URMILA für die Freiheit
awards/festivals: Seal of Approval ‘highly recommended’, hotDOCS Toronto a.o.
87min | shorter versions on request | HD | CP | 1:1,85 | 5.1 digital
original Nepali/English version with English or German subtitles available

World Sales:
gluthfilm – Susan Gluth
cell: +49 (0) 177 7171014
post@susangluth.de
www.urnila-film.com

zero fiction film GmbH
Martin Hagemann
office@zerofiction.eu
www.zerofiction.eu
**THE VOICE OF THE DANUBE**

by Jürgen Eichinger

One of Europe’s longest rivers, the Danube originates in the Black Forest and flows through ten countries. In its headwaters, however, the river does not flow freely any longer; it is chopped up into a chain of reservoirs, used for transportation, cooling power plants and supplying energy – and with devastating consequences: in spring 2013, the high water resulted in cracked dams and destructive floods. Many have speculated about the reasons. By exploring how its current lives and functions, the film gives a voice to the river itself. In Germany, a 70-km stretch of the Danube has not been modified by man – yet. However, a fierce quarrel is ongoing: should it be turned into a waterway or preserved as the Bavarian ‘Amazonas’? As of yet, its future is undecided. Here, the river has preserved its seasonal changes in the water level, which have defined the landscapes and life in the valleys for thousands of years. Many plants and animals have come to depend on this repeated seasonal change. Only in a wetland one can find such a mosaic of various biotopes: water and land, wet meadows, forests and dry grassland build a complex network of habitats in a limited space, making it one of the most bio-diverse places in Central Europe.

German title: **DIE STIMME DER DONAU**

43min | HD | English or German version

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**THE VW FILES – ANATOMY OF A SCANDAL**

by Achim Scheunert

28th June 2015: Volkswagen sells 5.04 million vehicles in the first six months of the year. Company director Martin Winterkorn announced the success: Volkswagen becomes the world’s largest automaker. The number 1 Mission accomplished. 77 years after its founding. 18th September 2015, three months later: The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces that for years VW has manipulated emission test results by installing ‘defeat device’ software. A total of 11 million vehicles are affected. VW has to pay billions. Martin Winterkorn resigns. Two events in three months – rarely have rise and fall of a big company been so close to one another. And now we know: VW’s place on the winner’s podium was a result of cheating pollution emissions. How could this happen? And: Why did no one prevent it?

Based on the current scandal, the film retells the story of Volkswagen (VW). It recalls the founding of the car company by Adolf Hitler and its resurgence after the war, and reveals the interaction of politics, trade unions and management influence, coupled with the ‘Fuehrer’ principle, bribery scandals and misunderstandings, that led to its downfall.

German title: **DIE MACHT UND IHR PREIS – DIE AKTE VW**

90min | HD | original English/German version with German or French overvoice and subtitles available

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**WAR DIARY**

by Marc Wiese & Carsten Stormer

“I am an eye witness. A chronicler of a war. Everything you are about to see, I experienced myself.”

5 years, 15,000 segments, one film. German reporter Carsten Stormer has been documenting the war in Syria since 2012. WAR DIARY is his record of that time.

German title: **WAR DIARY**

102, 90 or 52min | DCP | color & b/w | original German/Kurdish/Arabian version, English or French dubbed

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Solmaz Vakilpour, born in 1980 in Khorramshahr, Iran, is an Iranian-German activist/artist who deals with the topics of women’s rights and war in her performance series WARLESS DAY. While she is preparing her new campaign, which is to be held on the women’s day in front of the Cologne Central Station in 2016, she is contacted by an acquaintance from Iran: the actress and director Moujan Mohammad Taher wants to do a demonstrative nude action in Iran, which is extremely dangerous. German title: WARLESS DAY
60min | DCP | Blu-ray | original English/French/German/Persian version with German or English subtitles available

Contact:
Academy of Media Arts Cologne
Ute Dilger
Peter-Welter-Platz 2
50676 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 201 89330
fax: +49 (0) 221 201 8917
ute.dilger@khm.de
hamemoha@gmail.com

Brazils is referred to as the ‘Saudi Arabia of water’. Together with the United States, it shares one fifth of the world’s freshwater resources. But the latest news is alarming: the country is suffering from its worst ever water crisis, with dramatic effects for its population, nature and industry. Approximately 100 million people are affected by the crisis, not only in the dry areas in the north east but also in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. The whole country is running dry, and some rivers are severely polluted, not least of all the Rio Doces. And all of this is happening just before the Olympic Games 2016. How can one of the world’s most water-rich nations run dry? Global climate change? Environmental destruction? Political mismanagement? Economic interests?
The film sets out in search of answers to these questions and takes us from São Paulo to the arid cerrtão via Brasilia to the destroyed ecosystems of the Cerrado and Amazonas. We meet journalists, environmentalists, activists, political officials and victims. A political, ecological and economic detective story, and a film about one of the most important global issues of our time.

German title: AUSGETROCKNET: BRASILIEN IN NOT
45 or 28min | HD | English or German version

World Sales:
NEW DOCS
Dasselstr. 75-77
50674 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 168 19743
sales@newdocs.de
www.kobalt.de
www.antoniocascais.de
www.kobalt.de/eine-himmlische-ruhe

A way out is a documentary film about three Chinese teenagers who have different family backgrounds, financial conditions and living environment striving to find their future under the same education system. The three subjects, one from Beijing, a metropolis; one from Xianning, a small town of Hubei Province in the middle of China; and one from Huining – a small village in the remote mountains in Gansu Province, the most poverty-stricken area of China, handled their crucial decisions of their life in their own way, which results in different fates.
The film traces their dreams, expectations, fears and hopes when they start their new journeys, and tries to explore the life of three young people looking to find their way, their worth and their world in traditional China’s newly emergent modern society where success is the only thing that counts.

German title: WAY OUT
awards/festivals: Écrane de Chine: Silver Screen Award; 2017: Zagreb Docs
90min | HD | DCP | original Chinese version with English subtitles available

CoProduction:
LICHTFILM GmbH
Wolfgang Bergmann
tel.: +49 (0) 221 972 6517
fax: +49 (0) 221 972 6518
www.lichtfilm.de
youtu.be/IV97X_e786c
WE ARE HERE. Young Gaza On Stage.
by Sabrina Dittus

In the aftermath of the first Israeli attacks on Gaza 2008/9, 33 teenagers from Gaza wrote down their experiences during the war. The project resulted in a theatre play, ‘The Gaza Mono-Logues’, which to date has been presented in 40 countries – but rarely by the writers themselves. They were not allowed to leave Gaza. In 2016, after two more wars in Gaza, they receive a new invitation: to a Youth-Festival in Ramallah, in the other part of their homeland which they have never been allowed to visit. It would be a dream come true. Our film accompanies 7 amazing young people while they are waiting for the Israeli authorities’ decision about their travel permits, not really daring to hope but still rehearsing their monologues, trying to tell the world: “We are still here. And so is our ordeal.”

German title: WIR SIND HIER. Vorhang auf für Gaza.
55min | HDcam | original Arabic/English version with German or English subtitles

WE ARE THE JEWS FROM BRESLAU
by Karin Kaper & Dirk Szuszies

They were young, looking forward to the future with great expectations; they felt at home in Breslau, the city with the third biggest Jewish community in Germany at that time. Then, Hitler came to power. From this time onwards these young people were connected by the common fate of being persecuted as Jews. Some of them took flight, others went into exile and remarkably some survived the Auschwitz concentration camp. Deprived of their homes they escaped to all sides for rescue and built new lives in their different host countries. More than a few made significant contributions to the founding and building of the State of Israel.

14 survivors are the protagonists of the documentary. They remember not only vividly their former Jewish environment in Breslau. Their later experiences impressively illustrate a multifaceted portrayal of their generation. Some of them even took the long journey to the city of their birth upon themselves. There, in the Polish city of Wrocław of today, they meet with a German-Polish group of young people. Especially in these times of growing anti-Semitism, the documentary builds an emotional bridge from the past to a future that is shaped by all of us.

German title: WIR SIND DIE JUDEN AUS BRESLAU
festival: IFF Cottbus, Germany
108min | DCP | original English/German/Polish version with English, German or Polish subtitles available

WE DISAPPEAR
by Irene Izquierdo

A group of Berliners gathers at the entrance of a cemetery one gray Sunday morning in June. They are about to start a 2 hour tour to watch some of the thirty-three species of birds that live there, without noticing, that they are also being watched...

German title: WIR VERSCHWINDEN
1min | HD digital | DCP | original German version with English subtitles available
A musical drama about a couple of boys from rural Germany who make it all the way to Los Angeles with their garage band – and fail in the most brutal way. Who grow up and ultimately face their demons in order to make music once again. And to remain friends. It all begins with a yellow note: ‘We swear we will be the best rock band of all time,’ on their demo tape under delusions of grandeur in the year 2000. They experience wonderful, blurred years filled with excess. Until they experience a rude awakening. Fifteen years later they form a new band: PICTURES. And they face a tough decision: should they once again venture into friendship? Reinvent themselves as musicians in their mid 30s? While the singer goes through months of drug-induced hell, the others begin a painful journey of self-discovery that will put each one of them through their paces. The situation escalates when the band is getting ready for its first tour. What are we left with when dreams grow up?

World Sales:
NEW DOCS
Dasselstr. 75-77
50674 Cologne, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 221 16819743
sales@newdocs.de
www.hoferichterjacobs.de
www.koenigederwelt.de

Distribution:
www.wfilm.de

WHEN GOD SLEEPS – A LOVE STORY IN THE AGE OF TERROR
by Till Schauder
CONFLICTS | MUSIC | MIGRATION | POLITICS | CURRENT AFFAIRS | EXILE | HUMAN RIGHTS | RELIGION

When Iranian singer Shahin Najafi releases a satirical rap song about a revered imam, outraged hardline clerics issue a fatwa calling for his death. Though temporarily sheltered by the same German journalist who once gave refuge to Salman Rushdie, Shahin refuses to spend a decade in hiding, “I’m a musician,” he says. “I have to perform.”
As the exiled voice of Iran’s youth, he gets caught in an impossible romance with Leili Bazargan, granddaughter of the first Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran appointed by Ayatollah Khomeini. With such family backgrounds, Shahin and Leili become a modern day Romeo & Juliet, caught in the storm of international terrorism, Europe’s refugee crisis and global anxiety about the increasingly violent clash between art and religion.
The film will be completed in April 2017.

Production:
PARTNER PICTURES
1713 8th Ave, #2-4
Brooklyn, NY 11215, U.S.A.
tel.: +1 347 6344315
sara@partnerpictures.com
www.partnerpictures.com
www.whelengodsleepsfilm.com

Distribution:
www.realfictionfilme.de

WHEN I DANCE
by Daniela Lucato
ART | CULTURE | MIGRATION | EDUCATIONAL | BERLIN

Four dancers from Israel, Spain and Italy decide to take part in a cultural project and investigate the stories of some refugees from Pakistan living in camps outside Berlin. A reflection about the possibility of the body to tell stories, deleting social and ethnic distinctions, and connecting people from different groups. The project focuses on the work of the dancers who decided to take part in the performance Connecting Fingers that had its premiere in Berlin at the English Theatre in June of 2015. The show shares stories from some refugees who live or have lived in camps outside Berlin. The refugees were interviewed about their personal lives, and they shared private anecdotes and political situations they experienced.

Contact:
Daniela Lucato
cell: +49 (0) 176 68410864
danielalucato@hotmail.com
vimeo.com/142400833
www.whelendidancefilm.com
www.facebook.com/whelendidancefilm
Paul is a migrant from Cameroon. He made his way up through the Sahara to reach forests close to the Moroccan coast where he waits for the right moment to cross the Mediterranean Sea. This is where he meets Jakob, a filmmaker from Berlin who is doing research along Europe’s borders. Soon afterwards, Paul manages to cross over to Spain on an inflatable dinghy. He survives – but half of his companions die on this tragic 50 hour odyssey. Once in Spain, instead of getting psychological help he is sent to an immigration detention centre. It’s only upon his release that Jakob and Paul meet again in Granada. Paul decides to continue on to Germany, the former colonising power in Cameroon and the country of his dreams. When Paul comes to his homeland, Jakob has to decide: will he become an active part of Paul’s pursuit of a better life or remain the detached filmmaker? In the end the film takes a twist that neither Paul nor Jakob could have expected when they first met in the forest. The film tells the story of an unusual friendship in an agitated political context.

German title: ALS PAUL ÜBER DAS MEER KAM – Tagebuch einer Begegnung
festivals: Max-Ophüls-Preis Saarbrücken
awards: Gerd Ruge Grant by the Film und Medien Stiftung Nordrhein-Westfalen 2011; Best Pitch, Netherlands Production Platform 2012; Haghefilm International Prize, Netherlands Production Platform Work-in-Progress 2013
96min | DCP | German, English or French version

WHO OWNS THE EAST? – series in 3 parts
by Ariane Riecker & Matthias Hoferichter

Thousands of businesses, hundreds of thousands of homes, millions of hectares of forest and farmland – all this was once declared public property by the GDR. After the fall of the Wall, the big question that arose was: Who actually owns what in East Germany? In 1990, an entire country was up for sale. Gold rush fever broke out and investors from all over the world smelled big business. Alongside West Germans, investors from abroad – the USA, Asia, but especially France – wanted their slice of the pie. But many investors misjudged the East, financially and psychologically. Anticipated profits failed to materialise, at least in the 1990s. The East Germans were particularly interested in the privatisation of land. Around two million hectares of woodland, thousands of stately homes, publicly owned property, and two million hectares of farmland were on offer after unification. The winners were often the successors of the former agricultural cooperatives, that today farm vast areas of land. Since the 2000s, foreign investors have become interested in East German cities again, because the East is on the rise. Since 2008, the bank crisis has made investment in urban dwellings increasingly attractive. But property prices outside the city centres have also doubled in the past 15 years. The gold rush era, the era of spectacular deals has had a strong impact. Only now are politicians and society as a whole grasping the full scale of the gigantic redistribution process. Private ownership has finally arrived in the former land of state-owned businesses.

German title: WEM GEHÖRT DER OSTEN?
French title: A QUI APPARTIENT L’EX-RDA?
1x52min or 3x45min | HD | German, French or English version

WHY IS MR W. LAUGHING?
by Jana Papenbroock

Mr W. is a man who loves to laugh. He is also a member of a community of subversively serene artists with different disabilities. Questioning the usual asymmetry of inclusion (meaning that often there is just a monologue about and not a dialogue with the persons concerned), WHY IS MR W. LAUGHING? politicizes boundary-practices in its form and content: Rather than making a film about inclusion, the film itself was made inclusively. In an open collaborative journey through the pictorial worlds of the artists, a focus was set on their aesthetic obsessions and perspectives through their own videography. Their spontaneous imagery isn’t organized by a boosted ego at its center but displays subjectivity as social experience in space. For these artists, art is not a breakaway dream from normality but the quintessence of bourgeois work that enables them a status as citizens. This is one of many realizations that occurred during the work on this film: that most ideas about disability and art brut are excluding misconceptions.

German title: WARUM LACHT HERR W.?
76min | full HD | DCP | 16:9 | 5.1 Dolby digital | original German version with English or German subtitles

Contact:
Jana Papenbroock
cell: +49 (0) 174 3336785
www.janapapenbroock.com
youtu.be/jaIoIych1d8
Urban gardeners in post-industrial Detroit. The American Indian activist Milo Yellow Hair and his agricultural project and the guerilla gardener Maurice Maggi who has been changing the face of Zurich. WILD PLANTS catches with sensitivity the gestures of those who are making ecological utopias real.

German title: WILD PLANTS

festivals: Nyon, DOK.fest Munich, Seen FF Starnberg, Amiens. 2017: Helsinki, Solothurn

108min | DCP | 16:9 | English, German or French version available

World Sales:
Syndicado Inc. – Greg Rubidge
greg@syndicado.com
nl@leykauf-film.de

Distribution:
www.realfictionfilme.de (Germany)
www.syndicado.com (North-America)

Janny, Lisa, Debby and Michelle are 12 years old when they leave home. The “Elite School of Sport” at Frankfurt/Oder, a boarding school in East German tradition is where they move to. They grow up in a strict corset of training schedules, weight classes and pressure to perform. Being wrestlers, they all dream of a championship title, though off the mat, each girl fights her own very own battle: Janny is searching for her standing within the group, Debby fights her own expectations, Lisa is homesick and Michelle quarrels with her weight. The documentary WIN BY FALL follows the wrestlers trying to find their place, as well as away from competitive rankings.

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German title: SCHULTERSIEG

awards/festivals: Hof – Granit Award for best documentary, IDFA. DokumentArt

82min | HD | DCP | Dolby 5.1 | Blu-ray | mp4 | mov | original German version with English subtitles available

Contact:
Anna Wendt Filmprod. GmbH
Meinekestr. 24
10719 Berlin, Germany
tel.: +49 (0) 30 254320
fax: +49 (0) 30 25432499
office@annawendtfilm.de
www.annawendtfilm.de
schultersieg@gmail.com
www.schultersieg-film.de
vimeo.com/184828652

Argentina, 2016: in an remote desert in the North, 700 Mennonites of German origin lead 18th-century lives without electricity, music, or any of the amenities modern life affords. Their only school textbook is the Bible. Eighteen years ago, these colonists travelled here from Mexico to escape the influences of the modern world. To them, life should not be easy. Instead they strive for a severe and devout life under God and hope that their children will choose to follow the same path. That’s why they do their best to shelter them from ‘The World’, their name for everything outside their own colony. But is it really conceivable to reject modernity altogether? WITHOUT THIS WORLD captures the portrait of a tranquil, contemplative society caught between tradition and change.

German title: OHNE DIESE WELT

awards: Best Documentary – Max-Ophüls-Preis-Festival, Saarbrücken

115min | DCP | original German/Spanish version with German or English subtitles available

Production:
Produktionsbüro Medienhaus
August Bebel Str. 26-53
14482 Potsdam Babelsberg
tel.: +49 (0) 331 7215310
fax: +49 (0) 331 7215311
PeterHartwig@t-online.de
WRONG ELEMENTS
by Jonathan Littell

Uganda, 1989. A young Acholi rebel guided by spirits, Joseph Kony, forms a new rebel movement against the government: the LRA, The Lord’s Resistance Army. An ‘army’ that grew by abducting teenagers – more than 60,000 over 25 years – of which less than half came out of the bush alive. Geoffrey, Nighty and Mike, a group of friends, as well as Lapisa, were among these youths, abducted at 12 or 13. Today, in their effort to rebuild their lives and go back to normal, they revisit the places that marked their stolen childhood. At the same time victims and murderers, witnesses and perpetrators of horrific acts that they did not fully understand, they are forever the WRONG ELEMENTS that society struggles to accept.

Meanwhile, in the immensity of the Central African jungle, the Ugandan army still continues to hunt the last scattered LRA rebels. But Joseph Kony is still out there, on the run…

German title: WRONG ELEMENTS
festivals: Cannes, IDFA Amsterdam,
133min | DCP | original English/Acholi version with English subtitles available

YOU’LL NEVER WALK ALONE
by André Schäfer & Hartmut Kasper

YOU’LL NEVER WALK ALONE tells the story of a song. A song that has become the epitome of a global folk song. Each and every weekend, hundreds of thousands of football fans sing it in stadiums all over the world. But who would know that the roots of the tune go back to Budapest in the year 1909 – to a young playwright and a stage play called ‘Lilliom’? We will re-experience the journey the song took from there and immerse ourselves into various different worlds: the sophisticated and artistic social circle of the Habsburg empire, the flamboyance of Berlin in the 1920s, the high-gloss of Hollywood of the 40s and 50s, working-class Liverpool in the 60s – and global football fan culture. Like many great works of art YOU’LL NEVER WALK ALONE is a collaboration – an Austro-Hungarian-German-US-American-British co-production, that reflects more then a century of cultural history. And the story of the song is still ongoing, as „You’ll never walk alone” is still regularly performed in various contexts all across the world.

German title: YOU’LL NEVER WALK ALONE
90 or 52min | 4k | Cinemascope or 16:9 | DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | original version with English or German subtitles

ZUD
by Marta Minorowicz

On the frozen steppe of Mongolia people’s lives are at the mercy of the seasons and unexpected events, while nature dictates the rules of their nomadic lifestyles.

After winter kills hoards of his parents’ livestock, 11-year old Sukhbat has to leave school, move back home and support the family. When given the responsibility by his father to tame a wild horse in a bid to win a regional race, he has to face a life ruled by unforgiving nature and tradition.

No one remains unscathed after being confronted by the power of the steppe.

German title: ZUD
festivals: 66th Berlinale/GENERATION Kplus, Cairo International Film Critics Week, Camerimage Festival Poland, Cinema du Réel Paris, Hong Kong IFF, Seattle IFF, Sheffield Doc/Fest and others
awards: Fathy Farag Prize 'best artistic contribution' – Cairo International Film Critics Week
85min | DCP | original version with German, English or Polish subtitles available

World Sales:
Slingshot Films
Salita di Gretta 7/1
34136 Trieste, Italy
www.slingshotfilms.it
www.zudthefilm.com
www.zeroone.de

World Sales:
Le Pacte
i.dragomirescu@le-pacte.com
www.le-pacte.com

World Sales:
MD Espresso Media International
9 York Villas, Brighton BN1 3TS, UK
tel.: +44 (0)1273 730929
info@espressomedia.co.uk
www.florianfilm.de
NOTES

IM MÄRKISCHEN SAND
by Katalin Ambrus, Nina Mair & Matthias Neumann

HISTORY | CROSS MEDIA

On 23rd of April 1945, 127 Italian forced labourers were shot dead in a sandpit. The massacre was forgotten. But then the memory returned. A cinematic excavation in Treuenbrietzen, Germany.

A cinematic excavation in Treuenbrietzen, Germany.

German title: SACRED GROUND

awards: Winner of Independent Spirit Idyllwild, Int’l Film and Video Festival Athens, Seattle Transmedia and IFF; 90min 50Sec | DVD | DV | 16:9 | original English version with German subtitles available

SACRED GROUND
by Tim Gruenewald & Ludwig Schmidt peter

SOCIETY | ECONOMY | HISTORY | HUMAN RIGHTS | INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Mount Rushmore and Wounded Knee are two sides of the same coin. Mount Rushmore is a global icon of American patriotism. Wounded Knee, a massacre site, is the symbol of one of America’s great original sins.

The presidents’ faces were chiseled into the nearby mountains of the Black Hills that were sacred to the Lakota victims of Wounded Knee. These rocks remain sacred to many Native Americans today. But Mount Rushmore is a bustling hub of tourism and commerce, while poverty in Wounded Knee, SD is beyond comprehension. They are two contrasting places that explain much about America today. Sacred Ground shows how incomplete memory helps perpetuate the injustices of the past.

German title: SACRED GROUND

awards: Golden Camera Digital Award

WATANI: MY HOMELAND
by Marcel Mettelsiefen

LONGTERM | WAR & PEACE | MIGRATION | CONFLICTS | POLITICS | YOUTH | FAMILY

Filmed over three years, WATANI: MY HOMELAND tells the epic story of one family’s escape from war-torn Syria, and their attempt to make a new life in Germany. Hammoudi, Helen, Farah and Sara are the young children of Free Syrian Army Commander Abu Ali. They live on the frontline of the civil war in Aleppo, the only family living in a derelict warzone that was once a busy residential neighbourhood. After Abu Ali is captured by ISIS, the family is forced to flee their homeland and to start a new life in a small, medieval town in Germany.

WATANI: MY HOMELAND was directed and filmed by Marcel Mettelsiefen in Syria and Germany. Mettelsiefen made more than 25 trips into Syria to make the film.

WATANI: MY HOMELAND is a British production. Mettelsiefen accompanied a Syrian family as they fled their homeland. Time after time, he films people in state of emergency. His earlier documentaries ALEPPO – DIE GETEILTE STADT (Aleppo – Divided City), DIE KINDER VON ALEPPO (The Children of Aleppo), DAS SCHICKSAL DER KINDER VON ALEPPO – NEUE HEIMAT DEUTSCHLAND (The Fate of the Children from Aleppo – New Home Germany) have won numerous awards.

German TV-Award for DAS SCHICKSAL DER KINDER VON ALEPPO – NEUE HEIMAT DEUTSCHLAND

WATANI: MY HOMELAND has been nominated for Academy Award in the Best Documentary Short Subject category

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Acknowledgment to IT WORKS! Medien GmbH for disposal of the film still by Annakatrin Hendel of documentary FIVE STARS with Ines Rastig for using as cover photo.
The German Documentary Association / AG DOK …

is the largest professional association of independent producers in Germany, numbering more than 800 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.