German Films at Cannes 2009
GERMAN FILMS AND CO-PRODUCTIONS in the official program of the Cannes Film Festival 2009

ANTICHRIST
by Lars von Trier
German Co-Producer: Zentropa International/Cologne
World Sales: TrustNordisk/Hvidovre

INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
by Quentin Tarantino
German Co-Producer: Studio Babelsberg/Potsdam
World Sales: Universal Pictures International/Los Angeles

THE WHITE RIBBON
by Michael Haneke
German Producer: X Filme Creative Pool/Berlin
World Sales: Les Films du Losange/Paris

EYES WIDE OPEN
by Haim Tabakman
German Co-Producer: Riva Film/Hamburg
World Sales: Films Distribution/Paris

FATHER OF MY CHILDREN
by Mia Hansen-Løve
German Co-Producer: 27 Films Production/Berlin
World Sales: Les Films du Losange/Paris

INDEPENDENCE
by Raya Martin
German Co-Producer: Razor Film/Berlin
World Sales: Memento Films International/Paris

THE WIND JOURNEYS
by Ciro Guerra
German Co-Producer: Razor Film/Berlin
World Sales: Elle Driver/Paris
JAFFA
by Keren Yedaya
German Co-Producer: Rohfilm/Berlin & Leipzig
World Sales: Rezo Films International/Paris

AJAMI
by Scandar Copti & Yaron Shani
German Co-Producer: TwentyTwenty Vision/Berlin
World Sales: The Match Factory/Cologne

ALTIPLANO
by Peter Brosens & Jessica Woodworth
German Co-Producer: Ma.Ja.De Fiction/Leipzig
World Sales: Meridiana Films/London

HUACHO
by Alejandro Fernandez Almendras
German Co-Producer: Pandora Film/Cologne
World Sales: Films Distribution/Paris

LOST PERSONS AREA
by Caroline Strubbe
German Co-Producer: Network Movie/Cologne
World Sales: UMEDIA/Paris

TOGETHER
by Eicke Bettinga
Producer/World Sales: Piggott-Bettinga Filmproduktion/Aurich
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In Competition

Screening:

Sunday, 17 May, 10:00 h, Palais K (Market: Buyers by Invitation Only)

Wednesday, 20 May, 18:00 h, Lerins 2 (Market: Buyers by Invitation Only)

Thursday, 21 May, 12:00 h, Lumière (Public Industry)

Thursday, 21 May, 22:00 h, Lumière (Official Screening)

Friday, 22 May, 14:15 h, 60ème (Repeat)

Das weisse Band – Eine deutsche Kindergeschichte

THE WHITE RIBBON

A village in Protestant North Germany. 1913/1914. On the eve of the First World War. The story of a school and church choir led by the local village teacher. His young singers and their families: squire, preacher, estate manager, midwife, doctor, farmer – a slice of society. Strange accidents happen and become more and more like ritual punishment. Who is behind it all?


Genre Drama Category Feature Film Cinema Year of Production 2009 Director Michael Haneke Screenplay Michael Haneke Director of Photography Christian Berger Editor Monika Willi Production Design Christoph Kanter Producers Stefan Arndt, Margaret Menegoz, Veit Heiduschka, Andrea Occhipinti Executive Producer Michael Katz Production Companies X Filme Creative Pool/Berlin, Les Films du Losange/Paris, Wega Film/Vienna, Lucky Red/Rome, in co-production with ARD Degeto Film/Frankfurt, BR/Munich, ORF/Vienna, France 3 Cinema/Paris, Canal+/Paris, TPS STAR/Paris Principal Cast Christian Friedel, Leonie Benesch, Burghart Klaussner, Steffi Kuehnert, Ulrich Tukur, Ursina Lardi, Josef Bierbichler, Gabriela Maria Schmeide, Rainer Bock, Susanne Lothar Casting Simone Baer, Markus Schleinzer Length 145 min Format 35 mm, b&w, 1:1.85 Original Version German Subtitled Versions English, French Sound Technology Dolby SRD, DTS Festival Screenings Cannes 2009 (In Competition) With backing from Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Mitteldeutsche Medienfoerderung, German Federal Film Board (FFA), Minitraité, German Federal Film Fund (DFFF), Oesterreichisches Filminstitut, Filmfonds Wien, Ministere de la Culture et de la Communication (CNC), Eurimages German Distributor X Verleih/Berlin

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Rob is driving back home. It’s been a year since his brother’s death. Upon Rob’s arrival it is clear that the family is still learning how to cope with their loss.

The relationship between Rob and his father is awkward. Rob decides that in order to get through to his father he’ll have to “force” his affection onto him.

Eicke Bettinga was born in Germany where he made his first short film at the age of fourteen. After working as an assistant director he studied Film Directing under Stephen Frears at the National Film & Television School (NFTS) in Great Britain. His film Shearing was selected for the Cinéfondation at the 2002 Cannes Film Festival and won a Gold Plaque at the 2002 Chicago International Film Festival. In 2006 he directed the television feature TRUST.Welfare – a science fiction drama set in the year 2020, which premiered at the Montréal World Film Festival and won the Future Award at Luenen Kinofest. His other films include the shorts Exam (1999), Piano Moments (2001), Double Happiness (2001), Jurek’s Cinema (2006), and Family (2007).
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NEW GERMAN FILMS

FRIDAY, 15 MAY
RIVIERA 2

09:30 h
Connie Walther
SCHATTENWELT
LONG SHADOWS
92 min

11:30 h
Maren Ade
ALLE ANDEREN
EVERYONE ELSE
119 min

13:30 h
Christian Schwochow
NOVEMBERKIND
NOVEMBER CHILD
95 min

15:30 h
Sebastian Schipper
MITTE ENDE AUGUST
SOMETIMES IN AUGUST
92 min

17:30 h
Lars Buechel
LIPPELS TRAUM
LIPPEL'S DREAM
100 min

19:30 h
Florian Gallenberger
JOHN RABE
134 min

SATURDAY, 16 MAY
PALAIS 1

10:00 h
Hans-Christian Schmid
DIE WUNDERSAME WELT
DER WASCHKRAFT
THE WONDROUS WORLD OF LAUNDRY
97 min

12:00 h
Lars Jessen
DORFPUNKS
93 min

14:00 h
German Kral
DER LETZTE APPLAUS
THE LAST APPLAUSE
88 min

16:00 h
Michael Ballhaus, Ciro Cappellari
IN BERLIN
96 min

18:00 h
Marie Miyayama
DER ROTE PUNKT
THE RED SPOT
82 min

20:00 h
Kai Wessel
HILDE
137 min

SUNDAY, 17 MAY
RIVIERA 4

09:30 h
Marie Jaoul de Poncheville
TENGRI
100 min

11:30 h
Lars Buechel
LIPPELS TRAUM
LIPPEL'S DREAM
100 min

13:30 h
Connie Walther
SCHATTENWELT
LONG SHADOWS
92 min

15:30 h
Ansgar Niebuhr, Alan Simpson
PRINZESSIN LILLIFEE
PRINCESS LILLIFEE
73 min

17:30 h
Hermine Huntgeburth
EFFI BRIEST
118 min

19:30 h
Heinrich Breloer
BUDDENBROOKS
BUDDENBROOKS
– THE DECLINE OF A FAMILY
152 min

NEXT GENERATION 2009
Sunday, 17 May, 20:00 h
Star 1, rue d'Antibes 98
A Selection of Shorts by Students of German Film Schools
Total running time: 95 min

The films are presented in their original version (with English subtitles). Screening schedule subject to change.
MONDAY, 18 MAY

PALAIS

10:00 h
Rudolf Thome
PINK
82 min

12:00 h
Helma Sanders-Brahms
GELIEBTE CLARA
CLARA
109 min

14:00 h
Maren Ade
ALLE ANDEREN
EVERYONE ELSE
119 min

16:00 h
Stefan Ruzowitzky
HEXE LILLI – DER DRACHE UND DAS MAGISCHE BUCH
LILLY THE WITCH – THE DRAGON AND THE MAGIC BOOK
88 min

18:00 h
Esther Gronenborn
HINTER KAIFECK
KAIFECK MURDER
86 min

20:00 h
Kai Wessel
HILDE
137 min

TUESDAY, 19 MAY

RIVIERA 4

09:30 h
Esther Gronenborn
HINTER KAIFECK
KAIFECK MURDER
86 min

11:30 h
Jan Fehse
IN JEDER SEKUNDE
AT ANY SECOND
99 min

13:30 h
Oskar Roehler
LULU & JIMI
95 min

15:30 h
Andreas Struck
SCHLAEFT EIN LIEDEIN ALLEN DINGEN
SLEEPING SONGS
86 min

17:30 h
Florian Gallenberger
JOHN RABE
134 min

20:00 h
Sebastian Niemann
MORD IST MEIN GESCHAEFT, LIEBLING
KILLING IS MY BUSINESS, HONEY
109 min

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY

RIVIERA 2

09:30 h
German Kral
DER LETZTE APPLAUS
THE LAST APPLAUSE
88 min

11:30 h
Marcus Mittermeier,
Jan Henrik Stahlberg
SHORT CUT TO HOLLYWOOD
95 min

13:30 h
Sebastian Niemann
MORD IST MEIN GESCHAEFT, LIEBLING
KILLING IS MY BUSINESS, HONEY
109 min

15:30 h
Christian Schwochow
NOVEMBERKIND
NOVEMBER CHILD
95 min

17:30 h
Sebastian Schipper
MITTE ENDE AUGUST
SOMETIME IN AUGUST
92 min

19:30 h
13 different directors
DEUTSCHLAND 09
GERMANY 09
151 min
Alle Anderen
EVERYONE ELSE

Genre Drama  Category Feature Film  Cinema Year of Production 2009  Director Maren Ade
Screenplay Maren Ade  Director of Photography Bernhard Keller  Editor Heike Parplies
Production Design Silke Fischer  Producers Janine Jackowski, Dirk Engelhardt, Maren Ade
Production Company Komplizen Film/Munich, in co-production with SWR/Baden-Baden, WDR/Cologne, in cooperation with ARTE/Strasbourg
Principal Cast Birgit Minichmayr, Lars Eidinger, Nicole Marischka, Hans-Jochen Wagner
Length 119 min  Format 35 mm, color, 1:1.85

Original Version German  Subtitled Version English
Sound Technology Dolby Digital 5.1  Festival Screenings Berlin 2009 (In Competition), BAFICI Buenos Aires 2009 (In Competition)
Awards 2 Silver Bears (Jury Award & Best Actress) Berlin 2009
With backing from BKM, German Federal Film Board (FFA), FilmFernseFonds Bayern, Kuratorium junger deutscher Film, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, German Federal Film Fund (DFF)
German Distributor Prokino Filmverleih/Munich

Maren Ade studied at the University of Television & Film in Munich. Her films include: the shorts Ebene 9 (2000), Vegas (2001), her first feature The Forest for the Trees (Der Wald vor lauter Baeumen, 2003) and Everyone Else (Alle Anderen, 2009).

On the surface, Chris and Gitti are lost in perfect amorous bliss during their getaway in their Sardinian vacation home. But amidst their playful romps, secret rituals and silly habits belies an underlying tension. Full of verve, the idiosyncratic Gitti is fearless in expressing her love and devotion for Chris, while Chris is more reserved in his outlook on life and sports, varying personal and professional degrees of insecurity.

When they casually run into another, obviously happier and more successful, couple that on top of it all appears to be modern gender role proof, their relationship destabilizes. In a silly attempt at lifestyle bootlegging, Chris begins to show his wilful girlfriend who is boss, with the result that Gitti’s faith in her partner takes a hard knock. She attempts to conform to his new ideal, but what begins as a playful experiment soon turns into a quiet struggle with her own personality. While Chris flourishes in his role as the stronger one of the two, Gitti begins to loosen up in a completely new way. With their newly developed personas, Chris and Gitti get a second chance to discover themselves – and each other – and to be as happy as everyone else …

New German Films

Screening:
Friday, 15 May, 11:30 h, Riviera 2
Monday, 18 May, 14:00 h, Palais I

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Buddenbrooks – The Decline of a Family is the gripping cinematic adaptation of Thomas Mann’s Nobel Prize-winning novel of 1900, starring Academy Award®-nominee Armin Mueller-Stahl in the lead role. In loving, compassionate detail and cinematic scope, Emmy® Award-winner Heinrich Breloer portrays the rise and decline of a merchant family in the bourgeois aristocracy in Luebeck in their fight and sacrifice for the economic survival of the family and their pursuit of happiness and impossible love.

While Thomas is willing to fill the void of their father, Consul Jean, and to steer the firm through the times of modernization and rising competition, his brother Christian is trying to break away from any responsibility. We find him in dubious company, marrying a woman from a vaudeville show, rebelling against everything their father stood for. It is left to their sister, Tony, who sacrifices her true love for the sake of the family’s fortune, to hold the family ties together. But when their competitor Hagenstroem proves to have the better instinct for the changing needs of the market, even her influence seems to vanish …
Deutschland 09
GERMANY 09


Free to choose the format and content, each of the participating directors presents his or her personal interpretation and filmic portrayal of how they perceive Germany today. The sequences, abstract or concrete, range from short film to documentary, from essayistic to experimental. The filmmakers are (in alphabetical order) Fatih Akin, Wolfgang Becker, Sylke Enders, Dominik Graf, Christoph Hochhaeusler, Romuald Karmakar, Nicolette Krebitz, Dani Levy, Angela Schanelec, Hans Steinbichler, Isabelle Stever, Tom Tykwer and Hans Weingartner.

More than 60 years after the end of World War II, 40 years after the student uprisings of 1968, 30 years after the “German Autumn” in 1977, 20 years after the fall of the inner German border in 1989, and right in the middle of the social upheaval brought about by the “Agenda 2010” on the path to the globalized world of the 21st century, a group of German film directors come together to create a film panorama depicting the social and political situation in present-day Germany, based on each of their personal perspectives.

Director and co-initiator Tom Tykwer says about the project: “The film Germany 09 combines around a dozen individual film sequences that depict how we experience our country today and how we position ourselves, what binds us, and where we are lead astray in this nation.”
New German Films

It’s the summer of 1984 in Schmalenstedt, right in the middle of Holsteinische Schweiz, the “little Switzerland” of Holstein on the coast of the Baltic Sea. 17-year-old Malte Ahrens, who goes by the name of “Roddy Dangerblood”, lives with his leftwing parents in a farmhouse, is in the middle of his ceramics apprenticeship and has just discovered “punk”, which has finally made its way, with some delay, to Schmalenstedt. Through friendship, love and alcohol, Roddy is in search of the perfect music.

Dorfpunks

**Genre**: Drama  
**Category**: Feature Film Cinema  
**Year of Production**: 2009  
**Director**: Lars Jessen  
**Screenplay**: Norbert Eberlein  
**Director of Photography**: Michael Toetter  
**Editor**: Sebastian Schultz  
**Music by**: Jakob Ilja  
**Production Design**: Dorle Bahlburg  
**Producers**: Florian Koerner von Gustorf, Michael Weber  
**Production Company**: Schramm Film Koerner + Weber/Berlin, in co-production with NDR/Hamburg  
**Principal Cast**: Cecil von Renner, Ole Fischer, Pit Bukowski, Daniel Michel, Samuel Auer, Laszlo Horwitz, Axel Prahl  
**Casting**: Gitta Uhlig  
**Length**: 93 min  
**Format**: 35 mm, color, 1:1.85  
**Original Version**: German  
**Subtitled Version**: English  
**Sound Technology**: Dolby Digital 5.1  
**Festival Screenings**: Berlin 2009 (Perspectives German Cinema)  
**With backing from**: German Federal Film Board (FFA), German Federal Film Fund (DFFF), Filmfoerderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, BKM  
**German Distributor**: Piffl Medien/Berlin  

**Lars Jessen** was born in 1969 in Kiel and studied History, Politics and Philosophy in Cologne, followed by Film and Television at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne. A selection of his films includes: **Dunkles Land am Meeresstrand** (short, 1989), **Not an Inch** (documentary, 1992), **Flughafen Wahn** (documentary, 1995), **Luebke – In Search of the President of the Federal Republic Heinrich Luebke** (TV, 1997), numerous episodes of the series **Die Wache** (1998-1999), **Titanic TV** (1999), **Grossstädter, Aus gutem Haus**, and **Soko Wismar** (2000-2003), **The Day Bobby Ewing Died (Am Tag als Bobby Ewing starb)**, **Sheep and Chips (Die Schimmelreiter)**, (2008), and **Dorfpunks** (2009).

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At her parents’ urging, Effi Briest, a free-spirited 17-year-old girl, marries Baron von Innstetten, nearly 20 years her senior – and a former admirer of Effi’s mother. The arranged marriage spells the beginning of a monotonous existence for Effi far away from her hometown: Innstetten is entirely pre-occupied with his political career and the sleepy artist town of Kessin on the Baltic Sea shore offers little excitement. That is until Major Crampas arrives – one of Innstetten’s military comrades and a charming womanizer. Effi starts a passionate affair with him and finally discovers what love is. But it comes at a steep price: The affair proves fatal for Crampas. Effi, on the other hand (unlike in Fontane’s novel) deals with the consequences of her decisions and embarks on a new chapter in her life …

Hermine Huntgeburth was born in Paderborn as one of nine siblings in a family of doctors. She began studying Film at the Hamburger Hochschule fuer Bildende Kuenste in 1977. With a scholarship from the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst in 1983, she continued her film studies in Sydney. After working on a few short films and documentary films, she was awarded the German Film Award in Gold for Best New Director in 1991 for her directorial feature film debut Im Kreis der Lieben. Television films such as Ein falscher Schritt (1994), Gefaehrliche Freundin (1996), Und alles wegen Mama (1998), Der Hahn ist Tot (1999) and Die Stunde des Wolfs (1999) followed. Her TV movie Romeo earned the prestigious Adolf Grimme Award. Among more recent television projects are Eva Blond und der Zwerg im Schliessfach (2003) and Der Boxer und die Friseuse (2004), which won the 2005 German Television Award for Best Director. Her two-part TV series Teufelsbraten, based on Ulla Hahn’s novel, was awarded the VFF TV Movie Award at the 2007 Munich Film Festival and the Bavarian TV Award for Best Director. Her most recent TV project was Koras Hochzeit. Among her feature film credits are popular hits such as Trio (1998), Bibi Blockbsberg (2002), and most recently, The White Masai (2005).
In 1850, Robert, his wife Clara and their five children settle down in Duesseldorf where he has accepted a position as musical director. For the resourceful musician, considered more as one of the world’s greatest composers than a conductor, it turns out to be a bad decision. Nor is it a happy period for Clara, who is reduced to the role of a housewife instead of an acclaimed concert pianist performing throughout Europe to sold-out halls. That is, until she meets the young, brilliant Johannes Brahms. Clara and Johannes fall for one another. Robert, who is sick and suffering from severe depression, attempts to drown himself in the Rhine River. His life is saved and he commits himself to a sanatorium. The relationship between Brahms and Clara grows even more intense. When Robert dies two years later, all the obstacles seem to have disappeared for them. Clara, however, refuses to marry again. Robert’s shadow still weighs too heavy on her. But she will go on playing his and Johannes’ music in the world’s concert halls, expressing her feelings for him and for the moments of darkness they both experienced with Robert.
It’s all about how everything began. Lilly is a completely normal 10-year-old girl, until suddenly one day a magic book accompanied by its guardian Hector, a small and clumsy dragon, appear in her room. Surulunda, a super-witch from the world of magic, has designated Lilly to be her successor and Hector to explain the job. But first Lilly must prove within 99 hours that she is worthy of this burden. The magic book holds the promise of many exciting adventures but also of grave danger through the evil magician Hieronymus and his wish to rule the world. Lilly must confront Hieronymus and prove that she has what it takes to become the new super-witch. And as if all of this is not enough, Lilly is forced to rush to the aid of her little brother Leon, who recklessly places himself directly in harm’s way …

Lilly the Witch is based on one of the most successful children’s book series worldwide with approximately 17 million copies sold and translated into 35 languages.
Broadway star, songstress, screen diva, international icon and bestselling author – Hildegard Knef was many things. But more than anything else, she was a fighter who often fell, but never stayed down.

Berlin, 1943. The collapse of Nazi Germany looms, but young Hilde marches through the rubble of Berlin with only one thought in her head: she wants to become a star. With luck, looks, the right men and overwhelming self-confidence, she makes her way in the film world, both during and after the war, swapping her Nazi lover for a young Jewish husband. Hollywood beckons, but Hilde is no Marlene. Underemployed and frustrated, she longs for Germany. The divided country welcomes her back, but a short nude scene in The Sinner (1950) provokes a national scandal, making her an outcast in her own country. Internationally, she becomes what she’s always wanted to be: a star, on the big screen, on Broadway, in America and Europe. The years go by in a whirl of successes and failures, of ups and downs. Yet even as her film career wanes, she picks herself up and embarks on a new journey …

Kai Wessel was born in Hamburg in 1961. After completing his studies, he began working as an assistant director. He made his breakthrough with Martha Jelineck, which was nominated for the German Film Award in 1988. Among his most noted television productions are the filming of the diaries of the Jewish literature professor Victor Klemperer, Klemperer – Ein Leben in Deutschland (1999), as well as Hat er Arbeit? (2000), Goebbels und Geduldig (2001) and Leben waere schoen (2003), which won the Adolf Grimme Award in 2004. His epic miniseries Die Flucht (2007) was one of the top-rated fiction productions of 2007.
**Hinter Kaifeck**

**KAIFECK MURDER**

**Genre** Mystery, Thriller  
**Category** Feature Film Cinema  
**Year of Production** 2008  
**Director** Esther Gronenborn  
**Screenplay** Christian Limmer, Soenke Lars Neuwoehner  
**Director of Photography** Chris Valentien  
**Editors** Moune Barius, Dirk Grau  
**Music by** Alexander Hacke  
**Production Design** Tom Hornig  
**Producers** Monika Raebel, Stefan Gaertner, Christian Balz, Nikolaus Lohmann, Tilo Seiffert  
**Production Company** 24 Frames Film/Gruenwald, in co-production with SevenPictures/Munich, Neue Kinowelt Filmproduktion/Berlin, Cinemendo/Munich  
**Principal Cast** Benno Fuermann, Alexandra Maria Lara, Michael Gwisdek, Erni Mangold, Henry Stange  
**Casting** Hanna Hansen  
**Length** 86 min  
**Format** 35 mm, color, cs  
**Original Version** German  
**Subtitle Version** English  
**Sound Technology** Dolby Digital  

With a name that’s spit out like a curse, it’s hardly surprising that Kaifeck should harbor a dark secret or two, as photographer Marc soon finds out. Having stumbled onto the remote town with his son, Marc is obsessed by the tale of a gruesome multiple murder on a nearby farm back in 1922. It’s a topic that everyone in the village seems to want to forget, and which even the talkative young innkeeper Juliana diligently avoids. At night, however, mysterious things begin to happen to Marc, an uncanny interweaving of visions and reality that draws him ever deeper into the secret of the murders. The more he pieces together, the more the townspeople close ranks against the stranger. Marc’s only ally is Juliana, who takes a great risk in helping the ‘intruder’. Not only Marc and Juliana are in danger, but also Marc’s son. The situation escalates on a pagan holiday in which the townspeople dress as devils and demand a human sacrifice.

A top cast and sensitive direction add emotional depth and a jolting edge to this gothic mystery based on the biggest unresolved murder case in Germany, the slaying of six people on a remote Bavarian farm in 1922. Starring Benno Fuermann (*North Face*) and Alexandra Maria Lara (*Downfall*), **Kaifeck Murder** is directed by Esther Gronenborn.
New German Films

Screening:
Saturday, 16 May, 16:00 h, Palais I

In Berlin

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


Michael Ballhaus was born in 1935 in Berlin and is one of the world’s most well-known cinematographers. He began his career in the 1970s with Rainer Werner Fassbinder and went on to become one of Hollywood’s most sought after directors of photography, having worked with the likes of Martin Scorsese, Francis Ford Coppola and Robert Redford on many of their films. A three-time Oscar® nominee, today he works and lives in Berlin.

Ciro Cappellari was born in Buenos Aires in 1959 where he trained to be a photographer and made his first short films. In 1985, he came to Berlin to study at the German Film & Television Academy (dffb) and has worked as a screenwriter, director and cameraman. He was DoP on films by Marcel Gisler, Didi and Pepe Danquart, including the Oscar®-winning Black Rider (Schwarzfahrer, 1993). He has directed Amor America (documentary, 1989), Hijo del Rio (1991) and Sin Querer (1997).

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In jeder Sekunde

AT ANY SECOND

Genre Drama Category Feature Film Cinema Year of Production 2008 Director Jan Fehse Screenplay Jan Fehse, Christian Lyra Director of Photography Philipp Kirsamer Editor Dirk Goehler Music by Andreas Helmle Production Design Annette Ingerl Producers Sven Burgemeister, Andreas Scheppe, Bernd Burgemeister Production Companies TV60 Film/Munich, Goldkind Film/Munich, in co-production with BR/Munich Principal Cast Sebastian Koch, Mina Tander, Wotan Wilke Moehring, Ronald Zehrfeld, Jenny Schily, Barbara Auer Casting Lore Bloessel Length 99 min Format 35 mm, color, 1:1.85 Original Version German Subtitled Version English Sound Technology Dolby Digital Festival Screenings Hof 2008. Slamdance 2009 Awards Bavarian Film Award 2008 (Best Upcoming Director) With backing from FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, Bayerische Staatsregierung, German Federal Film Fund (DFFF), German Federal Film Board (FFA) German Distributor X Verleih/Berlin

Jan Fehse was born in 1968 and is one of Germany’s most renowned DoPs. After working as a camera assistant, he was a DoP on feature and television productions as well as commercials and music videos with such directors as Ben Verbong (Es ist ein Elch entsprungen, Sams in Gefahr), Peter Thorwarth (Goldene Zeiten), Robert Schwentke (Tattoo), Esther Gronenborn (alaska.de) and Andreas Thiel (Kismet). At Any Second (In jeder Sekunde, 2008) marks his directorial debut.

“The angels who proclaim love will extinguish the fire, and you will be punished,” screams the mentally ill patient in Dr. Frick’s ward. Maybe Frick should listen up, for in the following days and weeks, the angels of love will be busy enticing a variety of men and women to play with fire – perhaps in order to punish them… Sarah, tempted by drugs but trying to get her life in order, breaks up with her coke-snorting boyfriend and falls in love with a sweet-natured photographer. Dr. Frick himself, married and the father of a terminally ill child, succumbs to the charms of a strong, self-assured woman. With her, Frick finds a welcome relief from his all-consuming role as the dedicated caretaker of his daughter, his patients, and his marriage. Each of them is on the verge of a major change, each of them ready to head off in a new direction and take the risk of burning themselves on love. What remains is a search for love and fulfillment that a stroke of fate can push into a surprising new direction at any second …

Director Jan Fehse brings his years-long experience as a sought-after cinematographer to bear on the poignant story of a handful of individuals caught in the grid of modern urban relationships. By the producers of Sophie Scholl – The Final Days, starring Sebastian Koch (The Lives of Others).
China was in flames when a German businessman became a reluctant hero. When the Imperial Japanese Army invaded China in 1937 and attacked the civilian population of Nanking with unprecedented inhumanity, John Rabe took action. Along with a few other members of the foreign community including doctors and missionaries who remained in the city, he created a safety zone in which a quarter of a million civilians survived what was later to go down in history as the “Nanking Massacre”.

John Rabe had become long forgotten by the time his diaries were rediscovered ten years ago. They now form the basis for Florian Gallenberger’s fascinating account of what John Rabe, then head of Siemens China Co., did in those turbulent times. To this day he is still revered in China, but he has never been commended, much less rewarded, for his courage and decency in his own country. Upon his return to Germany in 1938, he was arrested by the Gestapo for collaborating with the Chinese. He died in poverty soon after World War II. The New York Times recently referred to Rabe as “The Schindler of China”.

**Genre** Drama, **History Category** Feature Film Cinema **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Florian Gallenberger **Screenplay** Florian Gallenberger **Director of Photography** Juergen Juerges **Editor** Hansjoerg Weissbrich **Music by** Laurent Petitgirard, Annette Focks **Production Design** Tu Ju Hua **Producers** Mischa Hofmann, Benjamin Herrmann, Jan Mojtto **Production Companies** Hofmann & Voges Entertainment/Munich, Majestic Filmproduktion/Berlin, EOS Entertainment/Oberhaching, in co-production with ZDF/Mainz, Pampa Productions/Paris, Huayi Brothers Media Corporation/Beijing **Principal Cast** Ulrich Tukur, Daniel Bruehl, Anne Consigny, Dagmar Manzel, Zhang Jingchu, Teruyuki Kagawa and Steve Buscemi **Casting** Cornelia von Braun, Ji Xue Fei, Kazua Shimizo **Length** 134 min **Format** 35 mm, color, cs **Original Version** German, English, Chinese, Japanese **Subtitled Versions** German, English, Chinese, Japanese **Sound Technology** Dolby Surround 5.1 **Festival Screenings** Berlin 2009 (Berlinale Special Gala) **Awards** Bavarian Film Prize 2009 (Producers’ Award & Best Actor), German Film Awards 2009 (Best Film, Best Leading Actor, Best Costume Design) **With backing from** FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, German Federal Film Fund (DFFF), German Federal Film Board (FFA), Bayerischer Bankenfonds, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, CNC **German Distributor** Majestic Filmverleih/Berlin

**Der letzte Applaus**

**THE LAST APPLAUSE**

**Genre** Art, Music  
**Category** Documentary Cinema  
**Year of Production** 2008  
**Director** German Kral  
**Screenplay** German Kral  
**Directors of Photography** Ricardo de Angelis, Sorin Dragoi  
**Editor** Ulrike Tortora  
**Music by** Luis Borda  
**Producers** Wolfgang Latteyer, German Kral, Hiroshi Kawai, Michio Suzuki, Akihiko Sato, Miwako Fujioka  
**Production Company** German Kral/Munich, in co-production with Happinet/Tokyo  
**Principal Cast** Cristina de los Ángeles, Inés Arce, Julio César Fernán, Abel Frías  
**Length** 88 min  
**Format** 35 mm, color, 1:1.85  
**Original Version** Spanish  
**Subtitled Versions** English, German  
**Sound Technology** Dolby Digital  
**Festival Screenings** Hof 2008  
**With backing from** German Federal Film Board (FFA), FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, INCAA  
**German Distributor** Arsenal Film/Tuebingen

**German Kral** was born in Buenos Aires in 1968 and studied at the University of Television & Film in Munich. His 1992 short **On the Edge** won the First Prize at the Bienal de Arte in Buenos Aires and the Sheraton Award at the Antalya Short Film Festival, while his **Tango Berlin**, co-directed with Florian Gallenberger, was the German entry to Venice’s Biennale in 1997. His other films include: **The Other One** (short, 1991), **Historia Tales of the Deserts** (short, 1996), **A Trick of the Light** (co-director/co-author, 1996), **Images of the Absence** (1999), **Bernd Eichinger, When Life Becomes a Film** (co-director/co-author, 2000), **That’s Life** (2002), **Música Cubana** (2004), and **The Last Applause** (2008).

**The Last Applause** tells the emotional story of a group of old forgotten tango singers from Buenos Aires, who for many years used to perform together in one of the city’s most famous tango bars, the “Bar El Chino”. After the owner of the bar mysteriously died in 2001, it was taken over by his widow and her new partner. Just a couple of weeks later, this incredible place lay in ruins.

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

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New German Films

Screening:
Friday, 15 May, 17:30 h, Riviera 2
Sunday, 17 May, 11:30 h, Riviera 4

Shy 11-year-old Philipp, whom everyone just calls Lippel, lives in a small town in Germany with his father, a famous gourmet chef. When his dad has to go away on business for a week, he leaves Lippel in the care of his new housekeeper, Mrs. Jakob. She seems very nice at first, but soon Lippel finds himself arguing with her over little household matters. It slowly turns into a domestic war, while Lippel seeks escape in his dreams at night, fleeing into an oriental fairy-tale world. There, his father is the lovable but weak king, whose children are at the mercy of his malevolent sister-in-law. The dreamworld double for Mrs. Jakob wants to do away with the children to take the throne herself. Soon Lippel finds himself living through incredible adventures in his dreams …

Lippel's Dream

LIPPEL’S DREAM

Genre Children and Youth, Family Category Feature Film Cinema Year of Production 2009 Director Lars Buechel Screenplay Paul Maar & Ulrich Limmer Director of Photography Jana Marsik Editor Sandy Saffeels Music by Konstantin Wecker Production Design Frank Polosek Producer Ulrich Limmer Co-Producers Tania Reichtert-Facilides, Benjamina Mirnik, Franz Kraus, Antonio Exacoustos, Bernd T. Hoefflin Production Company collina Filmproduktion/Munich, in co-production with Universum Film/Munich, B.A. Produktion/Munich, BR/Munich, NDR/Hamburg, element e filmproduktion/Hamburg Principal Cast Karl Alexander Seidel, Anke Engelke, Moritz Bleibtreu, Christiane Paul, Uwe Ochsenknecht, Edgar Selge, Eva Matteus Casting Stefan Pohlmann, Angela Altnoeder, Nicole Fischer Length 100 min Format 35 mm, color, cs Original Version German Subtitled Version English Sound Technology Dolby Digital SRD Festival Screenings Berlin 2009 With backing from FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, German Federal Film Board (FFA), Filmfoerderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, German Federal Film Fund (DFFF) German Distributor Universum Film/Munich

Lars Buechel was born in 1966 in Ostholstein. He studied Theater and Philosophy at the Free University in Berlin and at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne. Active in both writing and directing, his films include: Iglu der Kapitaen (1990), Triumph des Spiels (1991), Fritz & Erna (1992), Rosen luegen nicht (1993), Bilder fuer Deutschland (1993), 4 Geschichten ueber 5 Tote (1997), Now or Never (jetzt oder nie, 2000), Peas at 5:30 (Erbsen auf halb sechs, 2004), Nichts_weiter_als (short, 2005) and Lippel’s Dream (Lippels Traum, 2009).

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In Cannes

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Lulu & Jimi

**Genre**  Road Movie, Romantic Comedy  
**Category**  Feature Film Cinema  
**Year of Production**  2008  
**Director**  Oskar Roehler  
**Screenplay**  Oskar Roehler  
**Director of Photography**  Wedigo von Krajewski  
**Music by**  Martin Todsharow  
**Production Design**  Eduard Schultzendorff  
**Editor**  Bettina Boehler  
**Producers**  Gabriela Sperl, Uwe Schott  
**Production Company**  sper+schott film/Munich, in co-production with X Filme Creative Pool/Berlin, Marc Rothemund/Berlin, Elzevir Films/Paris, EMC Produktion/Remagen, in cooperation with NDR/Hamburg, WDR/Cologne, BR/Munich, ARTE/Strasbourg  
**Principal Cast**  Jennifer Decker, Ray Fearon, Katrin Sass, Udo Kier, Rolf Zacher, Bastian Pastewka, Ulrich Thomsen, Hans-Michael Rehberg  
**Casting**  Nina Haun, Juliette Menager  
**Length**  95 min  
**Format**  35 mm, color, cs  
**Original Version**  German/English  
**Subtitled Version**  English  
**Sound Technology**  Dolby SR, Dolby SRD  

**Festival Screenings**  Sundance 2009  
**With backing from**  Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Filmstiftung NRW, Mitteldeutsche Medienfoerderung, Filmfoerderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, German Federal Film Fund (DFFF), German Federal Film Board (FFA)  
**German Distributor**  X Verleih/Berlin  

**Oskar Roehler** was born in 1959, the son of writers Gisela Elsner and Klaus Roehler. He grew up in London, Rome and Nuremberg and made his first short film *She LA* in 1994. He had his feature debut in 1995 with *Gentleman*, which was shown at the Munich Filmfest the same year. He followed this two years later with *Silvester Countdown* which won the Hypo-Bank Young Director’s Award ex aequo with Martin Walz’s *Liebe Luegen* in Munich. Roehler has been a scriptwriter since 1990 with *Ex* (1995) and *Terror 2000* (1992), and he is also the author of the novel *Das Abschnappuniversum*. He has lived in Berlin since the early 1980s and also works as a freelance journalist and author. For *No Place To Go* (2000) he received the German Film Award in 2000. His other films include: *Greedy* (1998), *Suck My Dick* (2000), *Angst* (2003), *Agnes and His Brothers* (2004), *Elementary Particles* (2006), and *Lulu & Jimi* (2008).

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**In Cannes**  
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*Lulu & Jimi* is about sweeping love, rock & roll and getting rid of all that stale air of post-war Germany. You’ve got the good guys – that’s Lulu and Jimi – and the bad guys: Lulu’s mother Gertrud, her secret lover Schultz, the chauffeur, and a wicked old shrink, von Oppeln, crouching in his gloomy office like a spider waiting to pounce on his prey Lulu.

Light and darkness, bright garish colors, hot rock & roll and wild dance numbers mark this hilarious road movie about lovers fleeing from the evil powers of a deeply bigoted society.
Happy and in love, Thomas and Hanna, both in their late 30s, have just bought an old house in the country and plan to spend the summer restoring it. For Hanna, the most important thing is to be together with Thomas. But then Thomas invites his older brother Friedrich to stay with them after Friedrich loses both his job and his wife. Wary of letting an outsider encroach upon her summer solitude, Hanna watches as Friedrich’s melancholy presence transforms the already talkative and good-natured Thomas into a whirlwind of unfocused energy and wild abandon. Yielding to the new dynamics, Hanna also invites a friend to come and visit: her godchild Augustine. Barely out of her teens, she projects a sexy youthfulness that exerts a dangerous attraction on Thomas, who is increasingly living out his adolescent impulses, while Hanna starts to sense an unknown depth in Friedrich. The couple’s love and trust are put to a test, but it is up to them to find a new beginning …

This shifting, shimmering tapestry of loyalty and respect, of love and betrayal stamps young director Sebastian Schipper (Gigantic) as a profound connoisseur of the human heart. With his outstanding cast and the atmospheric score by poetic singer-songwriter Vic Chesnutt, Schipper conjures up a summery escapade in a timely adaptation of one of Goethe’s most important works, Elective Affinities.
Mord ist mein Geschaeft, Liebling

KILLING IS MY BUSINESS, HONEY

**Genre** Comedy  **Category** Feature Film  **Cinema**  **Year of Production** 2008  **Director** Sebastian Niemann  **Screenplay** Dirk Ahner, Sebastian Niemann  **Director of Photography** Gerhard Schirlo  **Editor** Moune Barius  **Music by** Egon Riedel  **Production Design** Matthias Muesse  **Producers** Christian Becker, Klaus Dohle  **Production Companies** Rat Pack Filmproduktion/Munich, Babelsberg Film/Potsdam, in co-production with Warner Bros. Entertainment/Hamburg, Studio Babelsberg Motion Pictures/Potsdam, Erfttal Film/Cologne, B.A. Produktion/Munich, Beta Film/Oberhaching  **Principal Cast** Rick Kavanian, Nora Tschirner, Christian Tramitz, Janek Rieke, Bud Spencer, Franco Nero, Ludger Pistor, Jasmin Schwiers, Guenther Kaufmann, Oscar Ortega-Sanchez, Hans-Michael Rehberg, Matthias Zelic, Wolfgang Voelz  **Length** 109 min  

**Format** 35 mm, color, cs  
**Original Version** German  
**Subtitle Version** English  
**Sound Technology** Dolby Digital 5.1  

Professional hitman Toni Ricardelli really loves his job (“good money, flexible hours, plenty of human interface”) but just can’t find the right woman. A promising blind date with a beautiful Blonde ends with her fleeing in horror. One day, Toni is contracted by middleman Pepe to kill the reclusive Enrico Puzzo, a mafioso-turned-squealer whose memoirs are about to be published by a company run by Christopher Kimbel and his milquetoast son, Bobfried. When Enrico fails to appear at his press conference, Bobfried sends editor Julia, a low-key ditz, to coax the drama queen from his Italian hideaway with a check for $500,000. Hot on Enrico’s trail is Toni, who shoots him only seconds before Julia arrives in the onetime mafioso’s hotel room. For Toni, it’s love (and business) at first sight: Pocketing the check, he agrees to save Julia’s job by impersonating Enrico. The only problem is that ornery Mafia boss Salvatore Marino sends a horde of other hitmen (and women) to finish the job Toni seems to have bungled up …
New German Films

Screening:
Friday, 15 May, 13:30 h, Riviera 2
Wednesday, 20 May, 15:30 h, Riviera 2

Malchow, GDR, 1980. 20-year-old Anne is hiding Juri, a deserter of the Red Army. The two fall in love with each other. But their love is threatened: there is an arrest warrant and possibly a death sentence waiting for Juri. The two leave the country and flee to the West, leaving Anne’s six-month-old daughter Inga behind.

Inga grows up with her grandparents, thinking that her mother died during a swimming accident. 25 years later she meets the literature professor Robert, who sends her on the trail of her past. He met Inga’s mother Anne during one of his seminars.

At first Inga is resistant, but then she asks for Robert’s help. Together they take off on a journey through Germany, in search of Inga’s mother Anne …

Novemberkind

NOVEMBER CHILD


Christian Schwochow was born in 1978 in Bergen on the island of Ruegen. As a child, he was involved in numerous radio plays and was the young publisher and editor-in-chief of the youth magazine SHOT!. After finishing school he worked as an author, speaker and reporter for various television and radio broadcasters, followed by studies from 2002-2008 in Film Directing at the Baden-Wuerttemberg Film Academy. His films include: Suelze (short, 2000), Schneewittchen ist tot (short, 2001), Strassenschlacht (short, 2002), Soapstar (documentary, 2003), Der grosse Franz (short, 2004), Tantalus (short, 2005), Marta und der fliegende Grossvater (2006), Jaeger verlorener Schaetze (documentary series, 2007), and November Child (Novemberkind, 2007).

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In Cannes
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new german films – market screenings
Pink

**Genre** Romantic Comedy, Tragicomedy  
**Category** Feature Film Cinema  
**Year of Production** 2008  
**Director** Rudolf Thome  
**Screenplay** Rudolf Thome  
**Director of Photography** Ute Freund  
**Editor** Doerte Völz-Mammarella  
**Music by** Katia Tchemberdji, Tatjana Jakob  
**Production Design** Gioia Raspé  
**Producer** Rudolf Thome  
**Production Company** Moana-Film/Berlin  
**Principal Cast** Hannah Herzsprung, Guntram Brattia, Florian Panzner, Cornelius Schwalm, Radhe Schiff  
**Length** 82 minutes  
**Format** 35 mm, color, 1:1.85  
**Original Version** German  
**Subtitled Version** English  
**Sound Technology** Dolby SR

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**In Cannes**  
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Pink is a successful, young female poet. She writes malicious love poems which she recites in live performances throughout Germany. She has the fans at her feet. And she apparently also has success with love. Three men have hopes of marrying her. Pink decides systematically, but wrongly. She makes her decisions using a calculator. Her relationships are managed via text message. And conflicts resolved – if need be – at gunpoint. Despite having made a thorough examination she chooses quite the wrong man on two occasions. It is only with the third one that she finally finds happiness. Three weddings. Three seasons. The modern fairytale of someone on a quest to learn about love.

In the enchanted kingdom of Pinkovia, the fairy Princess Lillifee rules with a magic hand, creating beauty and good will wherever she travels. Together with her pet pig Pupsi, she zooms throughout the countryside leaving behind a magical trail, clouds of pink butterflies, and sparkling stars. Still, she soon discovers that not all in her kingdom are content. With the passing ages, the Fairies of Pinkle have become worse in the misuse of their magical powers. It is the Farmer Pixies, the Fisher Elves and the Mermaids of the surrounding countryside that suffer so much from the Fairies’ mischief that they are actually considering leaving the enchanted realm forever. Being a caring Princess, this makes Lillifee very sad. But together with all of her friends, Princess Lillifee is determined to restore the gentle harmony of her wonderful kingdom and fill it again with the joy of its glittery splendor …
Der Rote Punkt
THE RED SPOT

Genre Drama Category Feature Film Cinema Year of Production 2008 Director Marie Miyayama Screenplay Marie Miyayama, Christoph Tomkewitsch Director of Photography Oliver Sachs Editor Marie Miyayama Music by Helmut Sinz Production Design Gabriele Mai, Shinji Shimizu Producers Martin Blankemeyer, Miyako Sonoki Production Company Muenchner Filmwerkstatt/Munich, in co-production with Chase Film International Co/Tokyo, FGV Schmidle/Munich, Hochschule fuer Fernsehen und Film Muenchen (HFF/M)/Munich Principal Cast Yuki Inomata, Hans Kremer, Orlando Klaus, Imke Buechel, Zora Thiessen, Shinya Owada, Mikiko Otonashi, Yuu Saitô, Tôru Minegishi, Toshihiro Yashiba, Nahoko Fort-Nishigami Casting Hanna Hansen, Kinya Yagi Length 82 min Format Super 16 mm Blow-up 35 mm, color, cs Original Version German/Japanese Subtitled Versions English, French, German, Japanese Sound Technology Dolby Digital 5.1 Festival Screenings Montreal 2008 (First Films World Competition), Goa 2008, Hof 2008, Cairo 2008, Goteborg 2009, Chennai 2009 Awards VGF Award 2009 With backing from FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, Manfred Durniok Foundation

Marie Miyayama was born in Tokyo in 1972 and studied Film Science and Creative Writing at Waseda University. In 1995 she moved to Germany, where, after studying Dramatology at Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich, she has been studying Film Directing at the Munich University of Television & Film. The Red Spot (Der Rote Punkt) is her graduation project and her debut feature. She has also directed a number of short films and documentaries, including: Maikas Wochenende (short, 2001), and between earth and sky (documentary, 2004).

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In Cannes mobile +49-1 72-8 45 60 26
New German Films

Screening:
Friday, 15 May, 09:30 h, Riviera 2
Sunday, 17 May, 13:30 h, Riviera 4

Schattenwelt
LONG SHADOWS

After two decades in prison, Widmer, a former German RAF-terrorist, is released. He meets Valerie, his next door neighbor. The young woman tries to get her life back on track after she lost custody of her little son. She shows some interest in Widmer, the two of them seem to have something in common. They discreetly enter into the secrets of their lives. Until the truth comes between them.

Connie Walther studied Sociology and Spanish before switching over to Photography. After gathering experience as a lighting gaffer and production and directing assistant, she studied at the German Film & Television Academy (dffb) in Berlin and landed her first success with her graduation film Das erste Mal (1996), which was named Best Graduation Film from a German film academy in that year. Since then, she has demonstrated her talents with various genres and formats with films such as: Boersday Blues (short, 1992), Der Clown II (TV, 1997), Tic Tac Toe (TV documentary, 1998), Hauptsache Leben (1998), Offene Rechnung (TV, 1999), Never Mind the Wall (Wie Feuer und Flamme, 2001), Im falschen Leben (TV, 2001), Und Tschuess, ihr lieben (TV, 2002), Ei in Japan (documentary, 2005), Mord in aller Unschuld (TV, 2006), 12 Means: I Love You (TV, 2007), and Long Shadows (Schattenwelt, 2008).

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In Cannes
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**New German Films**

**Schlaeft ein Lied in allen Dingen**

**SLEEPING SONGS**

**Genre** Drama, Love Story, Music **Category** Feature Film Cinema **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Andreas Struck **Screenplay** Dagmar Gabler **Director of Photography** Andreas Doub **Editor** Karin Jacobs **Music** by Nils Petter Molvaer **Production Design** Jutta Freyer **Producers** Petra Hengge, Alexander Ris, Joerg Rothe **Production Company** Neue Mediopolis Filmproduktion/Cologne, in co-production with WDR/Cologne, ARTE/Strasbourg **Principal Cast** Stefan Rudolf, Chulpan Khamatova, Traute Hoess, Paula Kalenberg, Barnaby Metschurat **Casting** Anja Dihrberg **Length** 86 min **Format** 35 mm, color, 1:1.85 **Original Version** German **Subtitled Version** English **Sound Technology** Dolby Digital **Festival Screenings** Berlin 2009 (Panorama), Sofia 2009 **World Sales** ARRI Media Worldsales · Antonio Exacoustos Tuerkenstrasse 89 · 80799 Munich/Germany phone +49-89-38 09 12 88 · fax +49-89-38 09 16 19 email: aexacoustos@arri.de · www.arri-mediaworldsales.de

**Martin, a nu-jazz trumpet player with a unique style, is fighting against convention and mediocrity. He will not accept any compromise, neither in his music, nor in love. When he gets the feeling that Kristina, the love of his life, only loves him for his musical talents, he is deeply hurt. Disappointed, he bids farewell to both her and his previous life. On the edge of society, he meets an old woman who bequeaths him her pain in the form of poems. Martin is immediately fascinated. Can they guide him back to himself, to Kristina, or to his music?**

**Andreas Struck** was born in Cologne and studied Literature and Acting before directing Molière’s *Dom Juan* in 1987. He worked on Derek Jarman’s *Edward II* and *Wittgenstein* as well as other films, both as script supervisor and assistant director. His first feature film *Chill Out* (1999) played at festivals around the world, including Berlin, Edinburgh, Toronto, Palm Springs, São Paulo, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Hong Kong and Sydney. His other films include: *Sugar Orange* (2004) – winner of the German Independence Award, and *Sleeping Songs* (2009).
New German Films

Screening:
Sunday, 17 May, 12:00 h, Olympia 3
Wednesday, 20 May, 11:30 h, Riviera 2

Short Cut to Hollywood

What would you think if you saw a guy in his late 30s in a taxi badly singing a terrible song in English? And then, if his friends, decked out in large fur hats and filming him too, joined in? Would you believe it if these three best friends told you that they have a brilliant idea to become world-famous? Would you not tell them that the days of their boy band, especially with a crappy name like “The Berlin Brothers,” are over and they should just let go? Be reasonable? Calm down? Chill a little? Act their age? Yes, you would! But Johannes Selinger, Mattias Welblinger and Christian Hannawald won’t hear you anymore. They’re long gone on the plane to America and their dream of immortal fame. But what would you think if, in a couple of months, as you read your morning paper and suddenly see that a so-called John Salinger and The Berlin Brothers are #1 in the charts. Would you not shake your head in disbelief and think that it can’t be them, no way! Wouldn’t your mouth drop open as you sit, in front of your TV and see all three of them in Florida, chilling, each one with a blonde chick draped over his arm? Wouldn’t you be startled and spill your coffee if you saw the picture in the paper of John Salinger – that’s how the guy appears to be called now – standing in the prairie smiling but with only one arm left? Yes, you would. Everyone would. And you would want to know what kind of idea that was.

Genre Road Movie, Black Comedy Category Feature Film Cinema Year of Production 2009 Directors Marcus Mittermeier, Jan Henrik Stahlberg Screenplay Jan Henrik Stahlberg Director of Photography David Hofmann Editors Christian Lonk, Sarah Clara Weber Music by Rainer Oleak Production Design Peter Naguib Producers Marcos Kantis, Martin Lehwald, Matthias Esche, Philipp Kreuzer, Marcus Mittermeier, Jan Henrik Stahlberg Production Companies Schiwago Film/Berlin, Bavaria Pictures/Geiselgasteig, Bavaria Film/Geiselgasteig, Muxfilm/Pentling, in co-production with Artdeluxe/Vienna, Capture Film/Los Angeles Principal Cast Jan Henrik Stahlberg, Marcus Mittermeier, Christoph Kottenkamp Casting Astrid Rosenfeld Length 95 min Format 35 mm, color, 1:1.85 Original Version German Subtitled Version English Sound Technology Dolby Digital Festival Screenings Berlin 2009 With backing from Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, German Federal Film Board (FFA), BKM, German Federal Film Fund (DFFF), Kuratorium junger deutscher Film German Distributor Senator Film Verleih/Berlin

Marcus Mittermeier is an actor, director and producer. His films include: Quiet as a Mouse (Muxmaeuschenstill, 2004) and Short Cut to Hollywood (2009).

Jan Henrik Stahlberg is an actor and director. His films include: Bye Bye Berlusconi! (2005) and Short Cut to Hollywood (2009).

World Sales Bavaria Film International / Dept. of Bavaria Media GmbH · Thorsten Ritter Bavariafilmplatz 7 · 82031 Geiselgasteig/Germany phone +49-89-64 99 26 86 · fax +49-89-64 99 37 20 email: international@bavaria-film.de · www.bavaria-film-international.com

In Cannes Riviera H 9 phone +33-(0)4-92 99 32 40 email: cannes09@bfint.de
Tengri

**Genre** Love Story  
**Category** Feature Film Cinema  
**Year of Production** 2008  
**Director** Marie Jaoul de Poncheville  
**Screenplay** Azamat Kadyraliev, Marie Jaoul de Poncheville, Jean Francois Goyet  
**Directors of Photography** Asan Imanaliev, Sylvie Carcédo  
**Editor** Catherine Quesemand  
**Music by** Nikolai Mrousitch, Birgit Lokke  
**Production Design** Kassym Ismaiov  
**Producers** Talaibek Baponov, Emmanuel Schlumberger, Frank Mueller, Dieter Horres  
**Production Companies** Asia Karavan/Bishtek, L Films/Paris, Cine Dok/Berlin, in association with ARTE France Cinema/Paris  
**Length** 100 min  
**Format** 35 mm, color, cs  

**Original Version** Kyrgyz/Russian  
**Subtitled Versions** English, French, German  

**Sound Technology** Dolby SRD  

**Festival Screenings**  
**Awards** Best Film & Best Female Director WIFTS Los Angeles 2008, Best Actress Issyk-Kul 2008  

**With backing from** German Federal Film Board (FFA), MFG Baden-Wuerttemberg, German Federal Film Fund (DFFF), CNC, Eurimages

Temur, a 30-year-old Kazakh, returns full of hope to find his father in the Kyrgyz Mountains. He locates the nomad mountain village, but his father has passed away a long time ago. Temur decides to stay and meets Amira, a beautiful young woman. Temur supports Amira, realizing too late that he has fallen in love with the young married woman. Amira and Temur become lovers. When Amira's husband returns from war, the couple is forced to leave the village. Between East and West they invent a universe where life again becomes worth living.

**Marie Jaoul de Poncheville** began working as a journalist in 1975 and has been traveling to Central Asia for 20 years as a filmmaker and writer. She has published the books *Sept Femmes au Tibet* (1989) and *Le chaman et l'enfant* (1995), and directed several feature and documentary films, including *Lung Ta: The Wind Riders* (1990), *Molom, Conte de Mongolia* (1995), *Yoenden* (2002), and *Tengri* (2008).
Behind the fluffy towels and crisp white sheets of Berlin’s finest hotels is a tale of seemingly brilliant entrepreneurship: A company takes the dirty laundry of German hotels to Poland – and brings it back clean the very next day. Outside of Germany, labor is cheaper and regulations are less constricting. But over and beyond this fascinating capital venture there remains the harsh reality of the everyday life of the hardworking Polish laundrywomen, through whose hands the white sheets pass. While Beata struggles to raise her three children on her meager salary, Monika reminiscences about her unrealized childhood dreams of becoming a doctor, and is compelled to watch her teenage daughter Marta gradually follow in her footsteps.

In his first feature-length documentary since The Mechanism of the Miracle sixteen years ago, director Hans-Christian Schmid (Storm, Requiem, Distant Lights, 23) applies his delicate poetic sensibility to three women, their fears and dreams. The result is an intimate slice-of-life portrait of women from different generations forging a future amidst a spectral whiteness, among linens that cross borders more often in a week than these women will in a lifetime ...

Hans-Christian Schmid was born in Altoetting in 1965 and studied at the University of Television & Film in Munich. He made his directorial debut in 1989 with the documentary Sekt oder Selters followed by the short Das lachende Gewitter, the documentary The Mechanism of the Miracle and the TV film Himmel und Hoelle. His breakthrough came in 1995 with It’s A Jungle Out There. His other highly-acclaimed films include: 23 (1998), Crazy (2000), Distant Lights (2003), Requiem (2006), and Storm (2009).

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NEXT GENERATION 2009

From rose pink to the colors of snow: it is images that make films. 2009 is a compelling year for German short films from our film academies. These films are wild, idiosyncratic and short… some even shorter. The films experiment with form and content, and sometimes with both together. Borders are opened up; passion has been lent wings. Although the filmmakers of tomorrow may be very different with respect to their selected themes and fields of interest, they share the formal qualities. The diverse field of animation dominates their aesthetic choices. The young filmmakers view cinema as a huge image machine, and so they create images themselves.

The works are oriented on singular moments in the lives of individuals; decisive moments that point onward, backwards, or in a completely new direction; moments that express the depth of longing and the desires felt by the filmmakers in a magical way.

Amoklove is a love story. The interval of a heartbeat provides the rhythm, over which the narrative lies: the poetry. Repetition is necessary. Over the course of only one animated minute, Rosarot tells the full drama of being in love and falling out of love. Spatzen is an homage to the plan sequence, showing the end of a love story. One night; a journey and permanent surprise. In the end, there is always the bird in the hand. Samsa – Hommage an Franz Kafka bows down to the great master, but at the same time it represents a visual journey into the creative production process familiar to every artist.

The cultivation of plants is a different creative process. In Sunrise Dacapo (12cm/stehend), a conceptually based documentary film, it is geraniums that visualize the limits of nature all too clearly. In the end, the ram couples with the ewe and savagery wins the day. In Clean Up the moment has passed: all that remains is to clean up the scene of the event. There is also description of the everyday in the film Keine Besonderen Vorkommnisse: two soldiers control a check point in the middle of somewhere. I Don’t Feel Like Dancing makes us into voyeurs, and the shock goes deeper still. In the words of Gilles Deleuze, the decisive aspect is that “the anomalies of movement become the essential point instead of being accidental or contingent.” They certainly do that in these films, which were made at the various film and art academies of Germany – and that is what makes them so special. Between gives us an intimation of this movement in the image and beyond it, to the other side. Schneezzeit allows us to sense time, and Lebensader brings us back to a childlike imagination.

Here’s to a great screening!

Maike Mia Hoehne, Curator Berlinale Shorts at the Berlin International Film Festival

Maike Mia Hoehne, Cathy de Haan and Heinz Badewitz were the members of the jury who selected the shorts for NEXT GENERATION 2009 from 52 submissions from 15 film schools and art academies.

We thank for their support:

Screening:
Sunday, 17 May, 20:00 h
Star 1, rue d’Antibes 98
Total running time: 95 min
Amoklove

Genre  Love Story  Year of Production  2009  
Director/Screenplay  Julia C. Kaiser  
Director of Photography  Dominik Berg  
Producer  Anja Goll  
Production Company  Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg/Ludwigsburg  
Principal Cast  Thomas Fraenzel, Anne von Keller  
Technical Details  9 min 20 sec, HDV to 35 mm, color, 1:1.85, German with English subtitles, Dolby SR  
World Sales  Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg, Eva Steegmayer, Mathildenstrasse 20, 71638 Ludwigsburg/Germany, phone +49-7141-969103, fax +49-7141-96955103, email: eva.steegmayer@filmakademie.de  

Julia C. Kaiser was born in 1983 in Munich. After internships at Bavaria Film and Munich’s Kammer-spiele Theater, she worked on various productions at the Munich University of Television & Film. Since 2006, she has been studying Screenwriting at the Baden-Württemberg Film Academy in Ludwigsburg. 

She has written the screenplays to several shorts and also directed the shorts Vigilia (2007) and Amoklove (2009). 

Amoklove is a declaration of love during a cardiac recess. 

Between

Genre  Animation, Art, Experimental  Year of Production  2008  
Director/Screenplay/Animation/Producer  Tim Bollinger  
Director of Photography  Daniel Meinl  
Technical Details  5 min, Digi Beta to 35 mm, color, 1:1.85, no dialogue, Dolby Digital  
World Sales  Via Grafik, Tim Bollinger, Adlerflychtstrasse 2, 60318 Frankfurt am Main/Germany, phone +49-177-7977270, email: timbo@vgrfk.com, www.vgrfk.com  

Tim Bollinger was born in 1976 in Wiesbaden. He co-founded the art collective and design bureau Via Grafik in 1998. Since 1999, he has been working as a freelance designer and filmmaker. From 1999-2008, he studied Media Design at the State Art University of Hesse in Offenbach. Between (2008) is his graduation film. 

Between is an experimental short film about the human psyche, its complex combinations and the resulting visions. Strolling in between different senses, caught in an endless loop of our inner life, the exit is the only entrance.
Clean Up


Sebastian Mez was born in 1982 in Essen. He was a trainee at a film production company and directed several social spots and short films. In 2007, he began studying Documentary Film at the Baden-Wuerttemberg Film Academy. His other films include: Pure Water (social spot, 2003), Reloop (2004), The Tears of Eros (2005), Do the Right Thing (2007), and Perceptio (2008).

It’s his job to clean this special room, an execution chamber at a state prison in the United States. Every time there is an execution, he has to restore this place as it was before. This experimental short film gives an abnormal view on the death penalty.

I Don’t Feel Like Dancing


Evi Goldbrunner and Joachim Dollhopf studied Screenwriting/Dramaturgy and Directing, respectively, at the University of Film & Television “Konrad Wolf”. Their other films together include: Gefangen (2002), Durst (2002), Neubuerger (2003), Majella (2005), Bei Anruf Matt (2007), and WAGS (2009).

Somewhere in a war zone. Three young soldiers try to distract themselves from their everyday wartime existence. One of them takes notice of a local girl. His comrades follow the girl one day…
Keine besonderen Vorkommnisse  NO SPECIAL INCIDENTS

**Category** Drama, War  **Year of Production** 2009

**Director/Screenplay** Lennart Ruff  **Director of Photography** Jana Laemmerer  **Producers**

Daniel Schmidt, Juliane Husemann  **Production Company** Hochschule fuer Fernsehen & Film Muenchen/Munich  **Principal Cast** Tristan Seith, Oliver Mallison, Rene Dumont, Anita Matija

**Technical Details** 12 min, 16 mm to 35 mm, b&w, 1:1.37, German/English/Albanian with English subtitles, Dolby SR  **World Sales** Hochschule fuer Fernsehen & Film Muenchen, Margot Freissinger, Frankenthaler Strasse 23, 81539 Munich/Germany, phone +49-89-68957333, fax +49-89-68957339, email: margot.freissinger@hff-muc.de, www.hff-muenchen.de

Lennart Ruff was born in 1986 in Mannheim. He worked as an intern for several commercial production companies, as a location manager and production assistant for German TV and theatrical films. Since 2007, he has been studying Directing at the University of Television & Film Munich. His other short films include: Grenzfälle (2007), Little Jerk (2008), and Kreislauf (2009).

Kosovo. It is the first German military deployment since WWII. Two German KFOR soldiers are trying to control a checkpoint in the middle of nowhere. In addition to communication problems with the locals, torrid heat, a boring everyday existence and the question of whether or not a mine field is a mine field, the two also have to deal with their own fear.

Lebensader

**Category** Animation, Art, Children & Youth, Family  **Year of Production** 2009  **Director/Screenplay/Animation** Angela Steffen  **Producers** Sinje Gebauer, Claudia Krueger  **Production Company** Filmakademie Baden-Wuerttemberg/Ludwigsburg  **Technical Details** 6 min, HD to 35 mm, color, 1:1.66, no dialogue, Dolby SR  **World Sales** Filmakademie Baden-Wuerttemberg, Eva Steegmayer, Mathildenstrasse 20, 71638 Ludwigsburg/Germany, phone +49-7141-969103, fax +49-7141-96955103, email: eva.steegmayer@filmakademie.de, www.filmakademie.de

Angela Steffen was born in Dannenberg in 1979. From 2001–2002 she studied Animation at the Animation School Hamburg, and then at the Institute of Animation at the Baden-Wuerttemberg Film Academy, graduating in 2009. During her studies she developed a personal and poetic style culminating in her diploma film Lebensader (2009). Her previous film Wie ich mich traf (2004) won numerous awards in Germany and abroad. Her other films include: Shadow Play (2002, co-director) and Loko Mare (2005).

A little girl finds the whole world inside a leaf.
**Rosarot**  
**ROSE-COLORED**

**Genre** Animation  **Year of Production** 2009  
**Directors/Screenplay/Animation/Directors of Photography/Producers** Ines Christine Geisser, Kirsten Carina Geisser  
**Production Company** School of Art and Design Kassel  
**Technical Details** 1 min, Digital to 35 mm, color, 1:1.37, no dialogue, Dolby SR  
**World Sales**  
Ines Christine Geisser, Weinbergstrasse 16, 34117 Kassel/Germany, phone +49-174-7799764, email: ines.geisser@gmx.de, www.trickfilmkassel.de

**Ines Christine Geisser** was born in 1982 in Naila. Since 2006, she has been studying Illustration and Animation at the Kassel School of Art and Design. Her other short films include: Das reicht bis naechstes Jahr (2006) and I Need To Buy Nailpolish-Remover Tomorrow (2008).

**Kirsten Carina Geisser** was born in 1986 in Naila. Since 2006, she has been a student at the Burg Giebichenstein University of Art and Design Halle and as a guest student at the Kassel School of Art and Design. **Rosarot** (2009) is her first film.

A short film about the aberrations and confusions of love.

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**Samsa – Hommage an Franz Kafka**  
**SAMSA – HOMAGE TO FRANZ KAFKA**

**Genre** Animation, Experimental, Literature  **Year of Production** 2008  
**Director/Screenplay/Animation** René Lange  
**Producer** Nadine Sklodowski  
**Production Company** Hochschule fuer Film & Fernsehen “Konrad Wolf”/Potsdam-Babelsberg  
**Technical Details** 4 min, 35 mm, b&w, 1:1.85, no dialogue, Dolby Digital  
**World Sales** Hochschule fuer Film & Fernsehen “Konrad Wolf”, Cristina Marx, Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11, 14482 Potsdam/Germany, phone +49-331-6202564, fax +49-331-6202569, email: distribution@hff-potsdam.de, www.hff-potsdam.de

**René Lange** was born in 1977 in Saxony-Anhalt. From 1995-2000, he studied Graphic Design in Dessau. Since 2003, he has been studying Animation at the University of Film & Television “Konrad Wolf”. His other films include: Die Identitaetskrise (2002), Wie der Pfeffer auf die Sterne kam (2003), and Fuchs, du hast die Gans gestohlen (2004).

A brief, nightmarish sequence depicting Kafka in a process of writing, where lines between reality and fiction are beginning to blur.
**Schneezeit**  
*SNOWTIME*

**Genre**  
Art  

**Year of Production**  
2008

**Director/Photography/Producer**  
Hannes Burchert

**Screenplay**  
Jan Oldenburg, Hannes Burchert

**Production Company**  
Hochschule fuer bildende Kuenste/Hamburg

**Principal Cast**  
Andreas Thiele, Wilfried Thiele

**Technical Details**  
15 min, HDcam to 35 mm, color, cs, no dialogue, Dolby SR

**World Sales**  
Hannes Burchert, Baumschulenweg 1, 25355 Barmstedt/Germany, phone +49-163-9638097, fax +49-421-7946458, email: info@schneezeit.com, www.schneezeit.com


Snowtime is a filmic meditation about the essence of time. For decades, Oskar has been living in a lonely cottage in the middle of endless, snow-covered fields. The past and the future, memories and the present superimpose each other in this constantly frozen landscape until the borders between time become so thin that it appears one could transcend them.

**Spatzen**  
*SPARROWS*

**Genre**  
Drama, Musical, Experimental

**Year of Production**  
2009

**Director/Screenplay**  
Jan Speckenbach

**Director of Photography**  
Armin Dierolf

**Producers**  
Hartmut Bitomsky, Sol Bondy

**Production Company**  
dffb/Berlin

**Principal Cast**  
Johannes Kuehn, Filipina Henoch, Ninja Stangenberg, Michael Golab

**Technical Details**  
12 min, DigiBeta to 35 mm, color, 1:1.85, German with English subtitles, Dolby Digital

**World Sales**  
Deutsche Film- & Fernsehakademie Berlin GmbH (dffb), Jana Wolff, Potsdamer Strasse 2, 10785 Berlin/Germany, phone +49-30-25759152, fax +49-30-25759162, email: wolff@dffb.de, www.dffb.de


A man meets a woman in a bar. They walk through the night without any reason. At dawn they separate again. A long take.
Sunrise Dacapo (12cm/stehend) SUNRISE DACAPO (12CM/UPRIGHT)

Genre Experimental, Documentary Year of Production 2008 Director/Screenplay/ Director of Photography/Producer Nina Poppe Production Company Kunsthochschule fuer Medien Koeln/Cologne Length 5 min, 16 mm to 35 mm, color, 1:1.37, no dialogue, Dolby SR World Sales Kunsthochschule fuer Medien Koeln, Ute Dilger, Peter-Welter-Platz 2, 50676 Cologne/ Germany, phone +49-221-20189330, fax +49-221-2018917, email: dilger@khm.de, www.khm.de

Nina Poppe was born in 1979 in Muenster. From 1999-2003, she studied Photography at the Utrecht School of Arts. Since 2003, she has worked as a freelance photographer and curator in Cologne. Since 2005 she has been a student at the Academy of Media Art Cologne. Sunrise Dacapo (2008) is her intermediate diploma film.

Nature from the assembly line. An observation on the growing of geraniums in mass production and the coherence of noise and silence. The beauty of nature, apparently perfectly reproduced in artificial surroundings.

You Are My Hero

Genre Animation, Drama, History Year of Production 2009 Director/Screenplay/ Producer Tobias Bilgeri Animation Tobias Bilgeri, Raphael Wahl Production Company Kunsthochschule Kassel Voice of Sophia Baron Technical Details 8 min, 35 mm, color, 1:1.85, English, Dolby Digital World Sales Tobias Bilgeri, Frankfurterstrasse 76, 34121 Kassel/Germany, phone +49-175-9280880, email: info@bilgeri.eu, www.bilgeri.eu

Tobias Bilgeri was born in 1978 in Bayreuth. After completing his first animated short with an 8 mm camera in 2000, he never stopped making his own films and commercial works. Since 2003 he has been studying Animation at the Kassel School of Art and Design. His animated shorts Je veux rester (2006) and About Love, Hate and the Other One (2008) were shown at several festivals all over the world.

Time and time again the brave knight takes off into battle. Even though his sword actually smells like tomato juice upon each of his triumphant returns, his wife remains loyal to her hero. Not until he takes off for battle one day without his sword does she get suspicious and look further into the situation at hand.
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2000 Käte Caspar
Distant Dreams Filmproduktion GmbH
www.distantdreams.de

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Janine Jackowski studied Production and Media Studies at Munich’s University of Television & Film from 1998-2002, producing a number of shorts during her studies. In 2000, she founded Komplizen Film with director Maren Ade and produced The Forest for the Trees in 2003. Ade’s graduation film was nominated for the German Film Award’s Best Film category, won a Special Jury Award at Sundance and was successful at numerous festivals. Janine has also produced two films by Sonja Heiss: the Short Tiger-winner Christina Without and the feature Hotel Very Welcome which received a First Steps Award and prizes in Ludwigshafen and Brussels. In addition, she has served as a freelance producer for such companies as Rat Pack Filmproduktion (My Mad Turkish Wedding) and Constantin Film (Pornorama). Her most recent project was Maren Ade’s Everyone Else, which won two Silver Bears at this year’s Berlinale (Best Actress and Grand Jury Prize) and also the FIPRESCI Award and Best Director at the Buenos Aires International Film Festival.

Selected Films

Declaration of Renunciation (Die Verzichtserklärung) by Birte Meesmann (in development)
Sleeping Sickness (Die Schlafkrankheit, 2010) by Ulrich Koehler (in development)
Everyone Else (Alle Anderen, 2009) by Maren Ade
Hotel Very Welcome (2007) by Sonja Heiss
Pornorama (2006) by Marc Rothemund (supervising producer)
The Forest for the Trees (Der Wald vor lauter Bäumen, 2004) by Maren Ade
Christina Without (2003) by Sonja Heiss (short)

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German Films Service + Marketing is the national information and advisory center for the promotion of German films worldwide. It was established in 1954 under the name Export-Union of German Cinema as the umbrella association for the Association of German Feature Film Producers, the Association of New German Feature Film Producers and the Association of German Film Exporters, and operates today in the legal form of a limited liability company. In 2004, the company was reorganized and now operates under the name: German Films Service + Marketing GmbH.

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 Stiftung Deutsche Kinemathek, the German Documentary Association, FilmFernsehFonds Bayern and Filmstiftung NRW representing the seven main regional film funds, and the German Short Film Association.

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Christine Harrasser, managing director’s assistant/project coordinator
Angela Hawkins, publications & website editor
Barbie Heusinger, project coordinator/distribution support
Nicole Kaufmann, project coordinator
Michaela Kowal, accounts
Kim Liebeck, PR assistant/festival coordinator
Martin Scheuring, project coordinator/short film
Konstanze Welz, project coordinator/television

In addition, German Films has nine foreign representatives in eight countries.

German Films’ budget of presently €5.4 million comes from film export levies, the office of the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, and the FFA. The seven main regional film funds (FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, Filmfoerderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, Filmstiftung NRW, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, MFG Baden-Wuerttemberg, Mitteldeutsche Medienfoerderung, and Nordmedia) make a financial contribution – currently amounting to €324,000 – towards the work of German Films.

German Films is a founding member of the European Film Promotion, a network of European film organizations (including Unifrance, Swiss Films, Austrian Film Commission, Holland Film, among others) with similar responsibilities to those of German Films. The organization, with its headquarters in Hamburg, aims to develop and realize joint projects for the presentation of European films on an international level.

German Films’ range of activities includes:

- Close cooperation with major international film festivals, including Berlin, Cannes, Venice, Toronto, Locarno, San Sebastian, Montreal, Karlovy Vary, Moscow, Nyon, Shanghai, Rotterdam, San Francisco, Sydney, Gothenburg, Warsaw, Thessaloniki, Rome, and Turin, among others
- Organization of umbrella stands for German sales companies and producers at international television and film markets (Berlin, Cannes, AFM Los Angeles, Hong Kong, Shanghai)
- Staging of the “German Premieres“ industry screenings in New York and Rome
- 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 film program, which presents a selection of shorts by students of German film schools and is premiered every year at Cannes
- Publication of informational literature about current German films and the German film industry (German Films Quarterly), as well as international market analyses and special festival brochures
- An Internet website (www.german-films.de) offering information about new German films, a film archive, as well as information and links to German and international film festivals and institutions
- 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
- In association and cooperation with its shareholders, German Films works to promote feature, documentary, television and short films.
## Picture Credits

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In Cannes

German Short Films at the Short Film Corner
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