

# German Films

*in Rome 2009*

german  
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Photo Back Cover: James McAvoy, Kerry Condon, Helen Mirren, Christopher Plummer, Paul Giamatti in "The Last Station" (photo © Egoli Tossell Film Halle/The Little Film Company/Photos: Stephan Rabold, Artwork: Design House, L.A.)

# German Days at the 4th International Rome Film Festival

German Films proudly presents the “German Days” at the Business Street of the International Rome Film Festival. In the course of the last four years, the screenings have been successfully established as a meeting point for new German cinema in Rome. However, they are not the only German element in this year’s festival edition.

Senta Berger, who has worked in many Italian productions over the years, is a member of the International Jury.

Two films in the festival’s official competition were produced in Germany: **VISION** by Margarethe von Trotta and **THE LAST STATION** by Michael Hofmann.

**PIN2011** is an exciting new film which can be seen in the section Extra.

Traditionally, the New Cinema Network offers new talent the opportunity to meet with international producers. This year, Brigitte Maria Bertele will present her project **RESURFACED** and her debut film **A HERO’S WELCOME** will be screened.

We wish the filmmakers a successful presentation in Rome and, of course, good business!

Christian Dorsch  
General Manager



The Viennese-born **Senta Berger** had a solid education as a classical dancer and an actress at the Academy of Art in Vienna, in particular at the famous Max-Reinhardt-Seminar and began, very early, her stage work at the Theater in der Josefstadt in Vienna. From there she went to Berlin to work primarily in film, where she very soon became a well-known actress through her work in a series of popular films.

After two American productions in which she was casted in significant parts (1960: **Secret Ways** with and by Richard Widmark; 1962: **The Victors** by Carl Foreman), Berger became a regular in Hollywood, where she lived and worked from 1963 to 1969. Her most well-known films from this time include: **Mayor Dundee** by Sam Peckinpah, with Charlton Heston; **The Glory Guys** written by Sam Peckinpah, directed by Arnold Laven; **Cast a Giant Shadow** with Kirk Douglas and Yul Brunner; **The Quiller Memorandum** written by Harold Pinter, with Max von Sydow and Alec Guinness.

But even throughout her Hollywood years, she still maintained close contact to Europe and European films. In 1966 she played the lead in **Operazione San Gennaro** directed by Dino Risi, with Toto and Nino Manfredi; in 1967 she was the leading lady to Alain Delon in the film **Diaboliquement Votre**, directed by Julien Duvivier.

In 1966, Senta Berger married Michael Verhoeven, himself then an already well-known actor and director and the son of a famous theater dynasty. Together, they formed their own production company, Sentana Film Production, based in Munich. Their most acclaimed films together include: **The White Rose** (1982), **Fast Gerdi** (TV series, 1989), **The Nasty Girl** (1990) which was nominated for the Golden Globe and the Academy Award® and won numerous prizes including the New York Critics' Award for Best Foreign Film and the Silver Bear at the Berlinale; and the award-winning **My Mother's Courage** (1996), among others. Most recently, Senta Berger and Michael Verhoeven have been concentrating on topics which are more accurately revealed within the documentary genre.

From 1969 until 1979, Senta Berger lived and worked mostly in Italy, years she describes as inspiring and most valuable, in every sense. She worked with a great range of Italian directors, such as Luigi Comencini, Dino Risi, Pasquale Festa Campanile, Carlo Lizzani, Luigi Zampa, Mario Monicelli and Franco Giraldi. Her leading men included Marcello Mastroianni, Nino Manfredi, Vittorio Gassman, Ugo Tognazzi, Enrico Maria Salerno.

From the mid-70s through the mid-80s, she also worked at various theaters in Germany and Austria and established herself as a recital-performer on stage and won new popularity with further television roles.

In 2003, Senta Berger was elected president of the newly-founded German Film Academy. Her 2006 autobiography, *I Have Always Known That I Could Fly*, quickly became a bestseller. Today, she lives with her family near Munich and in Berlin.



# The Last Station

“Writer-director Michael Hoffman adapts Jay Parini’s novel into a thrilling comic-dramatic account of Leo Tolstoy’s final months. This Tolstoy, played with quiet authority by Christopher Plummer, has renounced writing fiction, built a school to educate peasants, and leads a movement whose guiding principles are abolishing private property, pacifism, and sexual chastity. His new secretary (the charming James McAvoy) becomes the comic man-in-the-middle between two formidable opponents scheming for control of his manuscripts and money. Chertkov (Paul Giamatti), a rigid true believer, wants to spread Tolstoyan doctrines around the world, a would-be Paul to the Master’s Jesus. And Sofya (Helen Mirren), Tolstoy’s wife of 48 years and the mother of his 13 children, proved her dedication by copying *War and Peace* six times ... by hand! Mirren’s hairpin turns between comedy and tragic humiliation make their marital squabbles into riveting cinema.” (Larry Gross, Telluride)

**Genre** Romantic Drama **Category** Feature Film Cinema **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Michael Hoffman **Screenplay** Michael Hoffman, based on the novel *The Last Station* by Jay Parini **Director of Photography** Sebastian Edschmid **Producers** Jens Meurer, Chris Curling, Bonnie Arnold **Executive Producers** Phil Robertson, Andrei Konchalovsky, Judy Tossell, Robbie Little **Co-Producers** Ewa Karlstroem, Andreas Ulmke-Smeaton **Production Company** Egoli Tossell Film GmbH/Halle, in co-production with SamFilm/Munich, in cooperation with The Production Center of Andrei Konchalovsky/Moscow **Principal Cast** Helen Mirren, Christopher Plummer, Anne-Marie Duff, Paul Giamatti, Kerry Condon, John Sessions, Patrick Kennedy, and James McAvoy **Length** 112 min **Format** 35 mm, color, cs **Original Version** English **Sound Technology** Dolby SR **Festival Screenings** Telluride 2009, Rome 2009, AFI Fest 2009 **World Sales** The Little Film Company, Robbie Little, 12930 Ventura Boulevard #822, Studio City, CA 91604/USA, phone +1-818-762 6999, fax +1-818-301 2186, email: info@thelittlefilmcompany.com, www.thelittlefilmcompany.com

**Michael Hoffman** grew up in Idaho/USA. In 1979, he went to study at Oxford University, where he discovered the young Hugh Grant and shot his debut film with him, **Privileged** (1982). Hoffman then attracted great attention in the US with **Promised Land** (1987). In 1991, he shot the big-budget comedy **Soapdish**. In 1995 he returned to British material with **Restoration**. A selection of his other films includes: **Restless Native** (1985), **Some Girls** (1988), **One Fine Day** (1996), **A Midsummer Night’s Dream** (1999), **The Emperor’s Club** (2002), **The Great New Wonderful** (2005), **Twelve and Holding** (2005), **Out of the Blue: A Film About Life and Football** (2007), and **The Last Station** (2009).

**Screening: Sunday, 18 October, 22:00 h, Auditorium, Sala Sinopoli**  
**Monday, 19 October, 20:00 h, Salacinema Lotto**  
**Tuesday, 20 October, 22:30 h, Metropolitan 1**







## Vision – Aus dem Leben der Hildegard von Bingen VISION

Hildegard of Bingen – a woman ahead of her time. A true forerunner. Deserved of a sainthood that has never been granted, yet her popularity and teachings have spanned the ages. Hildegard of Bingen's musical, literary and philosophical works are still loved today and her influence in holistic medicine is growing. The first composer whose life we know about, she was also the first woman to write about female sexuality. Centuries later, masters such as Dante and Leonardo da Vinci were inspired by her works. Hildegard of Bingen was one of the most important inspirational female leaders from medieval times, responsible for bringing Europe out of the darkness and into the modern era of science and enlightenment.

**Genre** Biopic, Drama **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Margarethe von Trotta **Screenplay** Margarethe von Trotta **Director of Photography** Axel Block **Producer** Markus Zimmer **Co-Producer** Hengameh Panahi **Production Company** Clasart Film- und Fernsehproduktions-gesellschaft/Munich, in co-production with ARD-Degeto/Frankfurt, Tele Muenchen/Munich, Celluloid Dreams/Paris **Principal Cast** Barbara Sukowa, Hannah Herzsprung, Heino Ferch, Alexander Held **Length** 111 min **Format** 35 mm, color, cs **Original Version** German **Subtitled Version** English **Sound Technology** Dolby SR-D **Festival Screenings** Telluride 2009, Toronto 2009, Rome 2009 **World Sales** Celluloid Dreams, 2 rue Turgot, 75009 Paris/France, phone +33-1-49 70 03 70, fax +33-1 49 70 03 71, email: info@celluloid-dreams.com, www.celluloid-dreams.com

**Margarethe von Trotta** ranks among the most important female directors in German cinema since the 1970s, during which time she also made a name for herself as an actress. Today primarily active as a screenwriter and director, her most well-known films include: **The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum** (**Die verlorene Ehre der Katharina Blum**, 1975, in co-direction with Volker Schlöndorff), **The Second Awakening of Christa Klages** (**Das zweite Erwachen der Christa Klages**, 1977), **Sisters or the Balance of Happiness** (**Schwestern oder Die Balance des Gluecks**, 1979), **Marianne and Juliane** (**Die Bleierne Zeit**, 1981), **Sheer Madness** (**Heller Wahn**, 1983), **Rosa Luxemburg** (1985), **The African Woman** (**Die Rueckkehr**, 1990), **The Long Silence** (**Il Lungo Silenzio**, 1993), **The Promise** (**Das Versprechen**, 1994), **Rosenstrasse** (2003), and **I Am the Other Woman** (**Ich bin die Andere**, 2006), among others.

**Screening: Wednesday, 21 October, 22:00 h, Auditorium, Sala Sinopoli**  
**Thursday, 22 October, 22:30 h, Salacinema Lotto**  
**Friday, 23 October, 22:00 h, Metropolitan 2**



# Nacht vor Augen A HERO'S WELCOME

David, a young German soldier, returns home to the Black Forest after a mission in Afghanistan. Welcomed home by his girlfriend Kirsten, his friends and family, David, like the rest of his surroundings, doesn't really want to think about whether or not the mission was nothing more than a successfully completed adventure. But the things he experienced and his own brutal actions have changed David. The distraction that he is trying to suppress turns his relationship to his younger brother Benni into one oscillating between a mere game and violence. David spends a lot of time with Benni and teaches him to deal with his fears using methods he learned during his mission. As David becomes less and less capable of dealing with his own traumatic experiences, his relationship to Benni escalates.

**Genre** Drama **Year of Production** 2008 **Director** Brigitte Maria Bertele **Screenplay** Johanna Stuttmann **Director of Photography** Mathias Prause **Producers** Didi Danquart, Boris Michalski **Production Company** noirfilm/Karlsruhe, in co-production with SWR/Baden-Baden **Principal Cast** Hanno Koffler, Petra Schmidt-Schaller, Jona Ruggaber **Length** 90 min **Format** 35 mm, color, 1:1.85 **Original Version** German **Subtitled Version** English **Festival Screenings** Berlin 2008, Viareggio 2008, Ghent 2008, Molodist Kiev 2008, Rome 2009 **World Sales** EastWest FilmDistribution, Schottenfeldgasse 14, 1070 Vienna/Austria, phone +43-1-5 24 93 10, fax +49-1-5 24 93 10 20, email: office@eastwest-distribution.com, www.eastwest-distribution.com

**Brigitte Maria Bertele** studied Acting at the Academy of Performing Arts in Ulm, followed by Master Classes in New York, Moscow and Berlin. After engagements at theaters across Germany, she studied Directing at the Baden-Wuerttemberg Film Academy in Ludwigsburg, during which time she participated in exchange programs in Albania and Argentina. Her films include: **Horizon Zone** (documentary, 2004), **A Glimpse Sqiptare** (short, 2005), **Roaming Around** (documentary, 2007), **A Hero's Welcome** (2008), and **24 h Berlin – A Day in the Life** (documentary, 2009). She is currently working on her next projects, **Der Brand** and **Resurfaced**, which was chosen to participate in the New Cinema Network at the Rome International Film Festival.

**Screening: Sunday, 18 October, 12:00 h, Casa del Cinema**



# PiN2011 – Erinnerung an die Strasse

## PIN2011 – RECOLLECTION OF THE STREET

The streetArtist PiN2011 takes us to the streets of Berlin and shows us his illegal artworks of the last five years. Thereby, his sculptures come alive, the border between art and reality disappears – we experience public space in a different way.

He dreams of making a living with his artwork. But he realizes that if he steps out of his anonymity as a streetArtist, he will lose his freedom as an artist. He stands at the crossroads.

**Genre** StreetArt Docu-Fiction **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Torsten Koenigs **Directors of Photography** Torsten Koenigs, PiN2011, Uli Wenzel, Norma Mudra, Erik W. **Producer** Bea Koenigs **Production Company** koenigsklub – Koenigs Kommunikation/Berlin **Principal Cast** PiN2011 **Length** 53 min **Format** Mini DV/DigiBeta, color, 4:3 **Original Version** German **Subtitled Version** English **Sound Technology** Stereo **Festival Screenings** Rome 2009 **World Sales** (please contact) koenigsklub – Koenigs Kommunikation, Bea Koenigs, Postfach 12 09 26, 10599 Berlin/Germany, phone +49-30-32 76 54 15, fax +49-30-32 76 54 14, email: im@koenigsklub.de; info@pin2011.de, www.koenigsklub.de; www.pin2011.de

**Torsten Koenigs** was born in 1968 in Cologne. In 1975 he moved to West Berlin and played the leading role in the children's series *Feuerrote Spielmobil, Loewe im Karton*. After finishing high-school in 1989 he started working in the film industry. In 1992 he made his first short film and graduated in 1993 as a camera-assistant and began working as a dolly grip and editing assistant. Since 1999, he has been working as a 1st AD for Dito Tsintsadze and Carsten Fiebeler. In 2005 he co-directed and edited the documentary **MIA – keine Zeit zu verlieren**. **PiN2011 – recollection of the street** (2009) marks his docu-fiction directorial debut.

**Screening: Wednesday, 21 October, 22:30 h, Auditorium, Teatro Studio**  
**Thursday, 22 October, 17:30 h, Auditorium, Teatro Studio**





# 13 Semester 13 SEMESTERS

Momo leaves his cozy small home town to start studying Business Mathematics, a subject he was always very good in at school. At first full of enthusiasm and confidence, he runs into a nerve-racking situation trying to find a place to live, until he finally decides to share an apartment with Bernd, a somewhat unfriendly student five years his senior. But out of their original “partnership of convenience” develops a “friendship for life”.

Over the course of the next 13 semesters, Momo experiences all the highs and lows that student life has to offer. At first he is very studious and goes to all his lectures, hangs out with like-minded fellow students, and spends two semesters abroad in Australia. But when he returns, he realizes that he has chosen the wrong major and calling it off now seems to be too late. Finally, in his seventh semester, his greatest desire is fulfilled: after falling in love with Kerstin, he forgets all about the whole purpose of his studies. Ultimately, he leads himself to financial ruin with a completely oversized business idea. His youthful enthusiasm is soon replaced by deep depression and existential questions like: What do I really want? What am I doing here? And for how much longer ...?

**Genre** Comedy, Coming-of-Age Story **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Frieder Wittich  
**Screenplay** Frieder Wittich **Director of Photography** Christian Rein **Producer** Jakob Claussen  
**Production Company** Claussen+Woebke+Putz Filmproduktion/Munich, in co-production with HR/  
 Frankfurt, ARTE/Strasbourg, Instinctive Film/Berlin **Principal Cast** Max Riemelt, Alexander Fehling,  
 Claudia Eisinger **Length** 102 min **Format** 35 mm, color, 1:1.85 **Original Version** German **Subtitled**  
**Version** English **Sound Technology** Dolby Digital **Festival Screenings** Zurich 2009 (In  
 Competition), Hof 2009 **World Sales** Aktis Film International GmbH, Hauptmannstrasse 10, 04109  
 Leipzig/Germany, phone +49-3 41-1 49 69 42, fax +49-3 45-2 17 51 11, email: info@aktisfilm.com,  
 www.aktisfilm.com

**Frieder Wittich** was born in 1974 in Stuttgart. From 1993-1995, he served as a camera assistant, followed by an internship from 1995-1996 with the scriptwriters Krystian Martinek and Neithard Riedel. From 1996-1998, he co-wrote four TV movies together with Krystian Martinek, followed by studies at the University of Television & Film in Munich. His films include: the shorts **Mosquito** (1999) and **Opus** (2002), numerous commercials, and his feature debut **13 Semesters** (2009).

**Screening: Saturday, 17 October, 13:00 h, Barberini 4**



# Maria, ihm schmeckt's nicht!

## WEDDING FEVER IN CAMPOBELLO

Jan wants to marry the German-Italian Sara. Nothing spectacular. Just a small civil marriage. But then Jan had not quite reckoned with his future father-in-law. Antonio, who had come to Germany in 1965 as a guest worker and is married to the German Ursula, insists on having the wedding in Southern Italy. Basta! Jan, Sara, and her parents set off to Campobello to organize the large wedding with the entire clan. Confronted with a southern temperament, foreign cuisine, soft beds and rigid bureaucracy, Jan is forced to ask himself one day whether Sara and her family are really the right thing for him ...

**Genre** Comedy **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Neele Leana Vollmar **Screenplay** Daniel Speck, Jan Weiler, based on the novel of the same title by Jan Weiler **Director of Photography** Torsten Breuer **Producers** Jakob Claussen, Uli Putz, Cristiano Bortone **Co-Producers** Lothar Schubert, Martin Moszkowicz **Production Company** Claussen+Woebke+Putz Filmproduktion/Munich, in co-production with Schubert International Filmproduktion/Utting, Orisa Produzioni/Rome, ZDF/Mainz, Constantin Film Produktion/Munich **Principal Cast** Lino Banfi, Christian Ulmen, Mina Tander, Maren Kroymann, Gundi Ellert, Peter Prager, Sergio Rubini **Length** 98 min **Format** 35 mm, color, 1:1.85 **Original Version** German/Italian **Subtitled Version** English **World Sales** The Match Factory GmbH, Michael Weber, Balthasarstrasse 79-81, 50670 Cologne/Germany, phone +49-2 21-5 39 70 90, fax +49-2 21-5 39 70 910, email: info@matchfactory.de, www.the-match-factory.com

**Neele Leana Vollmar** was born in 1978 in Bremen and studied at the Baden-Wuerttemberg Film Academy from 2000-2005. In 2003 she also participated in the Berlinale Talent Campus and the Hollywood Masterclass. Her films include: the shorts **Wattenmeer** (1999), **Zu Zweit** (1999), **Eine Reise** (2000), **Sans une parole** (2001), **Weiss** (2001), **Tote Fische schwimmen oben** (2002), **My Parents (Meine Eltern)**, (2003), and the features **Vacation from Life (Urlaub vom Leben)**, (2004), **Peaceful Times (Friedliche Zeiten)**, (2008), and **Wedding Fever in Campobello (Maria, ihm schmeckt's nicht!)**, (2009).

**Screening: Saturday, 17 October, 11:15 h, Barberini 4**



# Phantomschmerz PHANTOM PAIN

Marc is a lucky beggar. He is good-looking, charming and an educated storyteller that women are fascinated by. If he is not doing any odd jobs to get by, he is on the road with his bike, with which he has travelled the world. Marc's other side is less flattering. He is always heart-breaker, an unreliable drunkard refusing to take responsibility for anything. But one can't really be mad with him. Not even his daughter Sarah, the offspring from a long failed relationship. Then comes the day that changes Marc's life, he loses his left leg in a hit-and-run accident. But barely out of the hospital, Marc rushes back into his old life, joking, flirting and behaving as if nothing had happened. He tries to repress his blow of fate, until he meets Nika and he falls in love.

**Genre** Drama **Year of Production** 2008 **Director** Matthias Emcke **Screenplay** Matthias Emcke  
**Director of Photography** Ngo The Chau **Producers** Sebastian Zuehr, Henning Ferber, Marcus Welke **Production Company** Film 1/Berlin, in co-production with Warner Bros. Entertainment/Hamburg, Barefoot Film/Berlin, Neue Bioskop Film/Munich **Principal Cast** Til Schweiger, Jana Pallaske, Stipe Erceg, Julia Brendler **Length** 92 min **Format** 35 mm, color, cs **Original Version** German **Subtitled Version** English **Sound Technology** Dolby SR **Festival Screenings** Toronto 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

**Matthias Emcke** is active as a producer and director. **Phantom Pain (Phantomschmerz, 2008)** marks his feature directorial debut.

**Screening: Friday, 16 October, 13:00 h, Barberini 4**





# Plastic Planet

Werner Boote presents an up-close and personal view of the controversial and fascinating material that has found its way into every facet of our daily lives: plastic. He takes us on a journey around the globe, following plastic through its 100 years of “glorious triumph” and showing us what an unexpected impact plastic has on our world.

**Genre** Environmental Documentary **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Werner Boote  
**Screenplay** Werner Boote **Director of Photography** Thomas Kirschner **Producer** Thomas Bogner **Co-Producer** Daniel Zuta **Production Company** Neue Sentimental Film Entertainment/Vienna, in co-production with Daniel Zuta Filmproduktion/Frankfurt **Length** 95 min **Format** 35 mm, color, 16:9 **Original Version** English/German **Subtitled Version** English **Festival Screenings** Rio 2009, Warsaw 2009, Abu Dhabi 2009, Rome 2009, Hof 2009 **World Sales** Doc & Film International, Daniela Elstner, 13 rue Portefoin, 75003 Paris/France, phone +33-1-42 77 56 87, fax +33-1-42 77 36 56, email: d.elstner@docandfilm.com, www.docandfilm.com

**Werner Boote** was born in 1965 in Vienna. He studied Theater, Journalism and Sociology, followed by training at the Vienna Film Academy. A selection of his films includes the documentaries: **Parsifal** (2004), **And the Bus Rides On** (2004), **Dance on the Spot** (2004), **The Pope and Marktl** (2005), **Art in Daily Life** (2007-2009), **Mythos Ring** (2009), and **Plastic Planet**, among others.

**Screening: Thursday, 15 October, 15:30 h, Barberini 2**



# Schwerkraft GRAVITY

Things go out of control. Order is no more. Rules no longer matter.

Frederik Feinermann is an up-and-coming young bank employee who lives an ordinary life. When a bank customer, whom Frederik has denied a loan due to the bank crisis, shoots himself in front of Frederik, he snaps. Together with ex-con Vince Holland he begins to live out a new, dark side of himself. He robs his rich bank customers' homes and gives the money to the needy. The initial rush of crossing social boundaries soon develops into an addiction to ever greater thrills.

**Gravity** tells the story of a seemingly settled bank employee who breaks the shackles of his everyday life and becomes a wanderer between worlds.

**Genre** Drama **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Maximilian Erlenwein **Screenplay** Maximilian Erlenwein **Director of Photography** Ngo The Chau **Producers** Alexander Bickenbach, Manuel Bickenbach **Production Company** FRISBEEFILMS/Berlin, in co-production with ZDF Das kleine Fernsehspiel/Mainz, Deutsche Film- & Fernsehakademie Berlin (dffb), in cooperation with ARTE/Strasbourg **Principal Cast** Fabian Hinrichs, Juergen Vogel, Nora von Waldstaetten, Jule Boewe, Jereon Willems, Thorsten Merten, Eleonore Weisgerber, Fahri Oguen Yardim **Length** 95 min **Format** 35 mm, color, cs **Original Version** German **Subtitled Version** English **Festival Screenings** Montreal 2009 **Awards** First Steps Award 2009 **World Sales** TELEPOOL GmbH, Irina Ignatiew, Sonnenstrasse 21, 80331 Munich/Germany, phone +49-89-55 87 60, fax +49-89-55 87 62 29, email: cinepool@telepool.de, www.telepool.de

**Maximilian Erlenwein** was born in 1975 in Berlin. Before enrolling at the German Film and Television Academy (dffb) in 1999, he studied Sociology and Media Sciences and worked as a freelance camera assistant and cameraman. His acclaimed films include: **Fuck and Run** (short, 2000), **Elvis vs Bruce Lee** (short, 2000), **John Lee and Me** (short, 2002), **Blackout** (short, 2005), **Raw and Uncut** (concert film, 2006), **Killing the Distance** (documentary, 2007), and **Gravity (Schwerkraft, 2009)**.

**Screening: Friday, 16 October, 11:00 h, Barberini 4**



# Waffenstillstand CEASEFIRE

Iraq in the year 2004: The war has officially ended, but everyday life has been devastated. Fallujah has become a stronghold of Iraqi resistance. Food supplies are dwindling, and the only hospital no longer has even basic supplies. In an attempt to relieve the tension, American and Iraqi forces agree to a 24-hour ceasefire. Young German journalist Oliver sees this as an opportunity to get a good story. He wants to join a first aid convoy to the hospital in Fallujah. However, they have to be back in Baghdad the next day. Kim is the head of Medica mundi, an international relief organization. She has already seen the misery in Fallujah with her own eyes. Alain Laroche is the other partner. He is one of the few remaining medical doctors in the combat zone. The years of working under terrible conditions in the country have left him with a sharp insight into the troubles, but seem to have broken his will. Husam, their local chauffeur, has his own interests in driving to Fallujah. Crossing harsh war-torn territory with the threat of attacks ever present and caught between frontlines and their different ideals, their initiative is to help but suddenly they find themselves fighting for their lives.

**Genre** Drama **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Lancelot von Naso **Screenplay** Lancelot von Naso, Kai-Uwe Hasenheit, Collin McMahon **Director of Photography** Felix Cramer **Producers** Florian Deyle, Martin Richter, Dario Suter, Klaus Dohle **Co-Producers** Dirk Hamm, Oliver Koenig **Production Company** DRIFE Productions/Munich, in co-production with DCM Mitte Productions/Berlin, ErftalFilm/Cologne, Creado Film/Constance, Koenig Invest/Sylt, ZDF/Mainz, ARTE/Strasbourg **Principal Cast** Thekla Reuten, Matthias Habich, Hannes Jaenicke, Max von Pufendorf, Husam Chadat **Length** 95 min **Format** 35 mm, color, 1:1.85 **Original Version** German **Subtitled Version** English **Festival Screenings** Montreal 2009, Zurich 2009 **Awards** Ecumenical Prize Montreal 2009 **World Sales** Beta Cinema/Dept. of Beta Film GmbH, Andreas Rothbauer, Gruenwalder Weg 28 d, 82041 Oberhaching/Germany, phone +49-89-67 34 69 80, fax +49-89-6 73 46 98 88, email: ARothbauer@betacine.ma.com, www.betacinema.com

**Lancelot von Naso** was born in 1976 in Heidelberg. After studies in Political Science, Romanistic and Law in Heidelberg, he moved to Munich in 1999 to study Film at the University of Television & Film. His films include the shorts: **Fenstersturz** (2000), **Liquid Energy** (2000), **Cocktail Courage** (2001), **Der letzte Schnitt** (2003), **Transe** (2004), **Arm ab** (2004), **The Surprise (Die Ueber-raschung)**, (2004), **The Tourist (Der Tourist)**, (2005), and his feature debut **Ceasefire (Waffen-stillstand)**, (2009).

**Screening: Saturday, 17 October, 09:30 h, Barberini 4**





## Was Du nicht siehst WHAT YOU DON'T SEE

Late summer, Brittany. 17-year-old Anton goes to a holiday cottage on the craggy Atlantic coast with his mother, Luzia, and her lover, Paul. Luzia is hoping for a new start in her life with Paul, but is also looking for a way to get closer to Anton, from whom she has been estranged ever since his father's death. As the harmony between Luzia and Paul increases, Anton is pushed out onto the jagged coastal landscape. It is there that he meets the mysterious, David. David is wild, impetuous and afraid of nothing. He exposes Anton to a world without rules. Anton is fascinated by David, his strength and self-confidence.

Through David, Anton meets Katja and is immediately attracted to her. He senses that she is just as lost and neglected as he is. Katja and David, who live alone in the neighboring house, draw Anton into an increasing vortex of emotional confusion – where sexual enlightenment, subtle seduction and surprising violence all play a part. Meanwhile, Luzia and Paul fail in their efforts to close the gap between themselves and Anton.

Following a nightmarish odyssey through the abyss of his own soul, Anton finds himself in an appalling reality.

**Genre** Drama, Psycho Thriller **Year of Production** 2009 **Director** Wolfgang Fischer **Screenplay** Wolfgang Fischer **Director of Photography** Martin Gschlacht **Producer** Joachim Ortmanns **Co-Producer** Igor Orovac **Production Company** Lichtblick Film- & Fernsehproduktion/Cologne, in co-production with Stalkerfilm/Vienna **Principal Cast** Ludwig Trepte, Frederick Lau, Alice Dwyer, Bibiana Beglau, Andreas Patton **Length** 89 min **Format** 35 mm, color, cs **Original Version** German/French **Subtitled Version** English **Festival Screenings** Montreal 2009 **World Sales** (please contact) Lichtblick Film- & Fernsehproduktion GmbH, Apostelnstrasse 11, 50667 Cologne/Germany, phone +49-2 21-9 25 75 20, fax +49-2 21-9 25 75 29, email: info@lichtblick-film.de, www.lichtblick-film.de

**Wolfgang Fischer** was born in 1970 in Amstetten/Austria. From 1990-1995, he studied Psychology and Painting at the University of Vienna. He then studied Film and Video from 1994-1996 at the Art Academy in Duesseldorf, followed by studies in Film and Television at the Academy of Media Arts (KHM) in Cologne. His films include: **In Time** (experimental, 1994), **9h11** (1999), **Remake of the Remake** (documentary, 1999), **Disk – Dusk** (music video, 1999), **Schoen 2000** (2000), **Grau** (2001), and **What You Don't See** (**Was Du nicht siehst**, 2009).

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