EUROPEAN WORK IN PROGRESS COLOGNE

09.-11.10.2018

PROGRAMME

Film und Medien Stiftung NRW

Film Festival Cologne

Film- und Medienstiftung NRW Kaistrasse 14, 40221 Düsseldorf www.filmstiftung.de info@filmstiftung.de

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When AG Verleih approached us with the idea of a new kind of film market for Germany, we immediately realised that the Film- and Medienstiftung NRW could help to get a great project off the ground: European Work in Progress.

How would that look like in practical terms? Film projects at a stage, where the financing and production have largely been completed, are being submitted. Producers and directors present first footage material, distributors, sales agents and co-financiers evaluate the presented projects according to their distribution and theatrical potential. When project partners find each other, a newly matched creative team collaborates on developing tailor-made marketing and distribution concepts that aim to significantly improve the films' competitiveness and lead to a swifter, more successful distribution of the projects.

EWIP is a market platform that wants to open up opportunities for distribution of arthouse films and thus contribute to sustainable filmmaking. In light of the current situation in the cinemas, an idea that we'd like to contribute to becoming reality. We are looking forward to the first edition!

Our thanks to AG Verleih, its managing director Leopold Grün and Torsten Frehse, the international jury for its commitment, the awards' sponsors MMC, K13 and eclair as well as the German Creative Europe Desks and EAVE for organising the accompanying events.



A warm welcome on behalf of AG Verleih to the first edition of European Work in Progress taking place during the Film Festival Cologne and supported by the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW!

In the rapidly changing world of film distribution a "work in progress" is an increasingly important platform not only for our colleagues from the acquisition's department but also for international sales agents, co-producers, film festivals and editors to assess the market potential more realistically. European Work in Progress Cologne is presenting film projects from all over Europe without a regional focus. We have gathered representatives from trusted partners and are especially glad to welcome many new & future collaborators! Among them are the producers from the 22 projects that were carefully selected from more than 100 that were submitted to this 1. EWIP!

We are grateful for the expertise of our highly respected jury and look forward to the insights by our experts as well as the valuable input of every one participating. Please feel encouraged to give us your feedback as we want to creatively develop EWIP and continuously adjust it to the requirements of our industry's needs.

Last, but not least we'd like to thank our organizing team around Leopold Grün and Hen-Suk Jung, Petra Müller and her team from the Film-und Medienstiftung NRW for making EWIP possible, our sponsors MMC, K13 and eclair as well as the Film Festival Cologne for the strong partnership. Wishing you and us inspiring and successful 3 days ...

Torsten Frehse, member of the board AG Verleih

JURY



Pernille Munk Skydsgaard

founded the production and distribution company 41Shadows in 2012. Prior she worked for many years as Head of Marketing and Festival Manager for the Danish Film Institute and was a consultant at MEDIA Desk Denmark.



Jonas Dornbach

since 2010 an established member and producer of Komplizen Film ("Toni Erdmann", "Western"). Prior he was CEO of his own company Kinoherz in Berlin. He works with directors such as Maren Ade, Benjamin Heisenberg, Sonja Heiss, Vanessa Jopp, Valeska Grisebach, Miguel Gomes, Barbara Albert, Jasmila Zbanic and Hans Weingartner.



Olimpia Pont Cháfer

is an esteemed international film consultant born in Spain. She has worked for different film festivals such as FICCO in Mexico City, Sarajevo Film Festival or Seville European Film Festival. Between 2008 and 2016 she was head of the sales department at the Coproduction Office. Since 2017 she is project manager of the European Art Cinema Day.



Aistė Račaitytė

since 2017 head of Sales & Acquisitions at Kino Pavasaris Distribution, a Vilnius based distribution company which acquires auteur films for Baltic countries. She also works as programmer at Vilnius International Film Festival, the largest and most important cinema event in Lithuania. Over more than 20 years, the festival has become a highly-attended cultural phenomenon which also distributes around 20 art house films every year.



"If you ever get the chance to shoot here, do it." Helen Mirren



AWARDS

Our International jury will award four of the most outstanding projects with in-kind prizes worth € 49,000.

Wednesday, Oct. 10th at 08:00 pm, Kunsthaus Rhenania.



European Work in Progress MMC-Studio Awards

endowed with 20,000 € and € 15,000 for post-production services



European Work in Progress K13-Studio Award

endowed with € 10,000 for 10 days of sound mixing of an original movie



European Work in Progress Eclair Award

endowed with 2 x € 2,000 for the subtitling of a movie in two languages

www. K13. net

CASE STUDIES

The release strategies of European cinema productions are often completely different for the same film in different countries. Classic approaches and new ideas in digital marketing are normally combined with different local campaigns. Our experts will present best practice experiences from the European films FOXTROT (2018) and LOVING VINCENT (2017) and discuss them with the participants.

Our guests are:

FOXTROT: Michael Weber, The Match Factory (Germany), Michael Zana, Sophie Dulac Distribution (France)

and

LOVING VINCENT: Hugh Welchman, Director and Producer (England), Katharina Günther, Weltkino (Germany)

Wednesday, October 10th - 10:30 am



EAVE-EXCHANGE

The right and most effective exploitation strategy is becoming increasingly important for European cinema productions. At what point do I address world-sales as a producer? When and how do I place the films at the appropriate festivals? And how do I help the film to take off as best possible?

In conversation:

Tanja Meissner, Memento Films International, Bero Beyer, International Filmfestival Rotterdam, Jan Naszewski, New Europe Film Sales, Jonas Weydemann, Weydemann Bros.

Wednesday, October 10th - 05:15 pm



AGENDA

Tuesday Oct. 09th

from 10:00 am	arrival and accreditation
01:00 pm	Welcome / Official Opening
01:30 pm	Two session rounds (5 & 6 pitches with a short break)
04:30 pm	One-to-one meetings
06:00 pm	Closing day 1
07:00 pm	Departure to MMC-Studio (bus shuttle)
07:30 pm	Location tour MMC-Studio
08:00 pm	Dinner on invitation of the MMC-Studio
10:00 pm	Departure bus shuttle to Get-Together at "Eitel Sonnenschein" (bar)

Wednesday Oct. 10th

10:30 am	Case studies: "Best practice – Distribution and marketing strategies for European arthouse cinema" illustrated by the examples of "Loving Vincent" and "Foxtrot"; guests: Hugh Welchman (director & producer) and Katharina Günther, Weltkino ("Loving Vincent") as well as Michael Weber, The Match Factory and Michael Zana, Sophie Dulac Distribution ("Foxtrot")
12:00 pm	Two session rounds (5 & 6 pitches with a short break)
03:00 pm	Snacks & drinks
04:00 pm	One-to-one meetings

EAVE Exchange: Effective exploitation strategies for European arthouse cinema productions
Guests: Tanja Meissner, Memento Films
International, Bero Beyer, International Film
Festival Rotterdam, Jan Naszewski, New Europe
Film Sales and Jonas Weydemann, Weydemann
Bros.

06:45 pm Closing day 2

08:00 pm Award Ceremony at the Kunsthaus Rhenania

09:00 pm followed by the Producer's Party NRW on

invitation of the Film Festival Cologne

Thursday Oct. 11th

11:00 am Round table on the opportunities of the new

MEDIA distribution schemes

(MEDIA guest speakers requested)

12:30 pm Closing of the event / light lunch

01:30 pm End of EWIP 2018









PLACES

MAKK - Museum für angewandte Kunst Köln

An der Rechtschule, 50667 Köln 0221. 22 12 38 60 50° 56' 23.15" N, 6° 57' 17.43" O

The Midtown Hotel

Kaiser-Wilhelm-Ring 48, 50672 Köln 0221. 13 98 50 50° 94' 49,54" N, 6° 94' 32,01" O

Hopper Hotel St. Antonius

Dagobertstraße 32, 50668 Köln 0221. 166 00 50° 94' 82.97" N, 6° 95' 98.22" O

Opera Hotel

Perlenpfuhl 8, 50667 Köln 0221. 42 07 58 00 50° 93' 72,65" N, 6° 95' 43,01" O

Kunsthaus Rhenania

Bayernstraße 28, 50678 Köln 0221. 16 89 84 79 50° 55' 41,32" N, 6° 57' 48,77" O

Classic Hotel Harmonie

Ursulaplatz 13, 50668 Köln 0221. 165 70 50° 94' 52,85" N, 6° 95' 45,57" O

Hotel Monte Christo

Große Sandkaul 24, 50667 Köln 0221. 492 23 47 50° 93' 66,04" N, 6° 95' 70,78" O



INNOVATIVE LÖSUNGEN

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AG Verleih

Verband unabhängiger Filmverleiher e.V.

our members:



































































weltkino





PROJECTS

More than 100 feature film projects with participation of 24 EU-countries and 49 countries overall have been submitted to European Work in Progress Cologne.

22 carefully selected projects with high-quality appeal and crossover market potential oriented to an European and international arthouse audience will be presented.

Cast: Andris Keiss,
Jeppe Beck Laursen, Trond Halbo,
Kristine Kruze, Julia Volkova
DoP: Martin J. Edelsteen
Producer: Madara Melberga,
Kristians Alhimionoks
Co-producer: N/A
Genre: Drama/Comedy
Language: Latvian, English, Russian
Budget: € 750,000



CONTACT

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www.fafilma.lv

- · Distributor, World sales
- Festivals
- · Post-production funding

24 HOURS SUNSHINE (SAULE SPĪD 24 STUNDAS)

90 min. Latvia

SYNOPSIS

Self-made businessman Martin seems to have reached his dream. He has everything to make him happy – social status and high comfort, but when his 40th Birthday comes up, he starts to question – is that really all? What's next? Frustrated he leaves his party and goes skiing with two of his friends in the nearby forest to look for "hidden treasure" – a half-empty bottle of scotch buried in the snow. Horsing around the men turn into little kids. Half-jokingly they make plans to ski to the North Pole. He decides to sell his business and "start to live" but when his girlfriend Sandra puts up an ultimatum, giving him one week to decide – either finally marry or split, he gets an instant idea – to try to start his life anew.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Juris Poskus moved to the US to study at the California Institute of Arts. In 1994 he graduated with MAFA in Film. He has made several full length documentaries (BUT THE HOUR IS NEAR turned out to be a cult film in Latvia) and shot several feature films like MONOTONY or KOLKA COOL (also a cult film). His work combines a "practical humour" with visuals to create an individual world of the film, although his films cannot be classified as avant guard or experimental.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Kristians Alhimionoks is a young producer with a strong background in international sales and distribution. In 2016 he produced a local comedy Swingers that made 110 000 admissions, which places it in the 3rd position of the Latvian box office overall results. Because of its success in Latvia Swingers was picked up for Estonian and Ukrainian markets where Kristians also acts as a producer. Kristians is an executive producer for an international film THE PAGAN KING which is based on an epic legend and stars Edvin Endre and James Bloor. It will be released in 2018



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Juris Poskus



PRODUCER
Kristians Alhimionoks

Cast: Rinal Muhametov, Anna Isaeva, Ekaterina Kukuy, Ilya Antonenko, Igor Mirkurbanov, Vitaliy Kovalenko, Anfisa Semina, Alla Eminceva, Artem Karpov DoP: Aleksandr Demyanenko Director: Anar Abbasov Producer: Alexey Uchitel Genre: Youth music-drama Language: Russian Budget: € 1.2 million



CONTACT

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- · International sales partners
- · Festival representatives

BATTLE (БИТВА)

90 min. Russia

SYNOPSIS

Anton is one of the best street dancers in Russia, young and ambitious, his sights set on winning the world championship. But a street fight puts an end to his dreams. Coming round in the hospital, he discovers that he can't hear his mother or even his own voice. He is diagnosed with total deafness. His life has lost all meaning since he can no longer dance. He is locked in a silent, lonely world. But Anton finds the inner strength to change his outlook on life. He rediscovers his love for life and decides to start everything over from scratch. He teaches deaf kids to dance and they decide to take on a real challenge and compete side-by-side with hearing children. Anton is inspired by their courage. His creative zeal and passion for dancing bring him back to the stage.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Azerbaijan-born Anar Abbasov (1975) studied first economy at the University of Economics (1997). At the age of 20 he became a professional hip-hop dancer and moved to Moscow in 2002. He graduated from VGIK in 2011. His credits include: AMUN (2017, Best cinematography at Dvijenie FF in Omsk) and the shorts GURBAN (2011, Grand Prix for Best Short Film at Artkino FF/ Grand Prix at The Unprecedented Cinema Intl. Short FF in Tallinn/ Russian Guild of Film Critics Award at Debuts FF/ Special prize at Saint Anna FF/ Special Jury Award at Clermont - Ferrand Int'l. Short FF) and BEETHOVEN (2009, Best director at International VGIK Festival).

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Graduate of VGIK (The All-Russia State Institute of Cinematography), Alexey Uchitel started his career at the Leningrad Documentary Film Studio. Now, he is a famous feature film director and the CEO of Rock Films Studio, a film production company established in 1991. Alexey Uchitel is the winner of a number of international and Russian film festivals. His credits include: MATHILDE, BREAK LOOSE, THE EDGE, HIS WIFE'S DIARY. Alexey Uchitel's Studio Rock Films has been known for its support for first-time directors. He produced films such as THE MAJOR, THE FOOL by Yuri Bykov, PAVLOV'S DOG by Katya Shagalova, RELATIONS by Dunya Smirnova, ENEMIES by Maria Mozhar, THE DRY VALLEY by Alexandra Strelyanaya.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Anar Abbasov



PRODUCER Alexey Uchitel

Budget: £ 350,000

Cast: Diarmaid Murtagh,
Woody Norman,
Scarlett Alice Johnson, Seun Shote
DoP: Jalaludin Trautmann
Producer: Katie Hodgkin
Co-producer: N/A
Genre: Drama
Language: English



CONTACT

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- International sales
- · Festival Premiere
- Distribution

BRUNO

95 min, UK

SYNOPSIS

Daniel is a man without a home. Following a tragedy, he left his wife and drifted into life on the street. His sole companion is a dog called Bruno. After Daniel is assaulted one night, Bruno goes missing. As Daniel searches for him, he finds Izzy, a boy who has run away from home. Izzy insists on joining the search party. Daniel doesn't want his help but has no choice. Over a single day and night, Daniel and Izzy search the streets of London for Bruno, forming an emotional bond in the face of danger. Each step of their journey takes them closer to home and offers the possibility of redemption.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Karl Golden is a Berlin-based Irish filmmaker. His debut feature film THE HONEYMOONERS premiered to critical acclaim at the London Film Festival and won multiple awards including the Audience Award at the Britspotting Festival in Berlin. He went on to direct BELONGING TO LAURA, PELICAN BLOOD and WEEKENDER starring Jack O'Connell. Karl is represented by Jodi Shields at Casarotto in London.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Katie is a London-based producer working across fiction and documentary. She is currently in post-production on BRUNO, by writer/director Karl Golden and starring Diarmaid Murtagh. Her previous films have been supported by the BFI, Creative England, Erasmus, Shorts TV and The Icelandic Film Centre. Prior to producing, she worked in development and production for several years on studio films including LES MISERABLES and MALEFICENT as well as indie hits such as SNOW IN PARADISE and NINA FOREVER.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Karl Golden



PRODUCER Katie Hodgkin

Cast: Roman Luknár, Ela Lehotská, Miroslav Krobot, Marián Mitaš DoP: Denisa Buranová Director: Teodor Kuhn Producer: Jakub Viktorin Co-producer: Pavla Janoušková Kubečková, Tomáš Hrubý Genre: Drama

Language: Slovak Budget: € 512,000



CONTACT

Nutprodukcia Lazaretská 13, 811 08 Bratislava, Slovakia T +42 194 80 501 89 E jakub.viktorin@gmail.com

- · World premiere
- Festivals
- · International sales and distribution

BY A SHARP KNIFE (OSTRÝM NOŽOM)

87 min, Slovakia/Czech Republic

SYNOPSIS

Ludovít has lost his son to a ruthless neo-Nazi attack. But, due to a failing in the Slovak legislation, the attackers are soon released and Ludovít is faced with an absurd instance of injustice. He struggles with the apathetic police force, the opportunistic judge, but also with the fact that he was never really close to his own son. The more he blames himself for his son's death, the more his relationship with his wife Zuzana and younger daughter Janka falls apart, and the more he tries to influence the investigation.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Teodor Kuhn studied Directing at the Film and Television Faculty at the Academy of Performing Arts. His short films as LOST CHILDREN (Terste FF: Official Selection 2012, Grand Prix Celtix Seeds 2 2012), MOMO (2012, Midpoint workshop 2011: Best Short Film Project, Rome IFF 2013: Best Student Short Film, Cinemaiubit ISFF Bucharest 2014: Special Jury Prize), VOX POPULI (2014, Festival du Jeune Paris 2015, Tuzla FF 2015), I AM SORRY (2015, High Mountain FF 2016, USA) gained international success. BY A SHARP KNIFE will be his debut feature film.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

While still in university, Jakub Viktorín founded Visegrad Film Forum, an international film platform. At the beginning of his career he produced the short films MOMO (2012, dir. Teodor Kuhn), CHECKPOINT (2014, dir. Adam Felix). As an executive producer he worked on films such as HOME CARE (dir. Slávek Horák, 50th Karlovy Vary IFF) and RED CAPTAIN (dir. Michal Kollár, Tallinn Black Nights FF 2016). In 2015 he co-tounded the production company Nutprodukcia. In 2017 he co-produced SPOOR (dir. Agnieszka Holland) and in 2018 the feature documentary CIRCUS RWANDA (dir. Michal Varga).



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Teodor Kuhn



WRITER
Jakub Medvecky



PRODUCER
Jakub Viktorin

Cast: Sophia Seidenfaden, Lenika Lukas, Pina Felizitas, Sönke Andersen, Stella Vivien Dhingra, Niclas Jüngermann DoP: Janis Mazuch Director: Tamer Jandali Producer: Lino Rettinger Genre: German Mumblecore Language: German Budget: € 651,635



CONTACT

LICHTBLICK Film- und Fernsehproduktion GmbH Apostelnstrasse 11, 50667 Köln, Germany T +49 221 92 57 52 26 E lino.rettinger@lichtblick-film.de www.lichtblick-film.de

- · World salest
- · Social Media Consultant

EASY LOVE (EASY LOVE)

87 min, Germany

SYNOPSIS

EASY LOVE is the experimental fiction debut of Tamer Jandali. His way of working shifted between documentary and fiction when he followed seven men and women from Cologne, on their search for a balance between emotional security and sensual fulfilment. In four months of shooting those protagonists acted as braver version of themselves. The camera opened the possibility to pursue their unlived dreams, fears and fantasies and ultimately experiencing them in reality. By shooting in a small team, always on the edge between documentary and fiction, Tamer Jandali created space for intimacy and a new form of cinematic authenticity. Four shared month in the heart of Cologne connect the protagonists of this ensemble-film. It was shot until the summer was over

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Born in Bonn, Tamer Jandali (1976) first worked as a chimney sweeper and took on the management of the insider club Stecken in Cologne. From 1998-2004 he was the artistic assistant of Prof. Marcel Odenbach and then studied Film at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne (KHM) from 2004-2011. He worked on commercials (e.g. Germanwings, Yellostrom, Neon, Netcologne) and music videos (e.g. Fleur Earth Experiment, Twit One, Onkel Zwieback). His credits as director include: NACHTS AM KÜCHENTISCH 8x15', BEGEHREN 10x3' (innovation format WDR), COMBATANTS FOR PEACE - ISRAEL 30', SCHWARZHERZ 30' (Les Petits Claps FF, Metz – viewers award, Unlimited KFF – choices award) and BLEIZEICHEN 17' (ComeTogether IKF – viewers award).

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Lino Rettinger studied Creative Producing at ifs-internationale filmschule köln (2010). He was selected for the VFF-scholarship and worked as assistant of Prof. Lisa Gotto. Amongst others, he worked as production assistant for RUSH (dir: Ron Howard) and as line producer for DRÜBER (dir: Markus Sehr). In 2014 he graduated with B.A. of Arts and from then on producer and proprietor of Lichtblick Film based in Cologne. His credits include: BOSTERI BENEATH THE WHEEL 24' (dir: Levin Hübner, Berlinale), POSSESSED BY DJINN 75' (dir: Dalia Al Kury, HotDocs, DokLeipzig, Venice IFF, nominated for Grimme-Award), MONSIEUR MAYONNAISE 8x5' (by Trevor Graham, web series for arte creative).



DIRECTOR Tamer Jandali



PRODUCER Lino Rettinger

Cast: Rasim Jafarov, Zulfiyye Gurbanova, Mövsüm Mirzazade DoP: Berta Valid Escofet, Driss Azhari Director: Elmar Imanov Producer: Eva Blondiau Co-producer: Azerbaijanfilm, AzhariFrey GbR, Berta Valin Escofet, Jonas Thoma, Sinatra Ibrahimova Genre: Drama Language: Azerbaijanian Budget: N/A



CONTACT

COLOR OF MAY, Imanov & Blondiau Filmproduktion GbR Neuenhöfer Allee 19a, 50937 Köln, Germany T +49 178 319 57 51 E blondiau@colorofmay.com www.colorofmay.com

- · Sales Agent, Distributor
- Festivals
- · Colour correction/VFX
- · Additional support for sounddesign/mixing

END OF SEASON (ENDE DER SAISON)

94 min, Germany/Azerbaijan

SYNOPSIS

END OF SEASON tells the story of a small Azerbaijani family, which is being shaken to the core by an incident. The family consists of father Samir, mother Fidan and their eighteen year old son Machmud. All three of them seem to be independent-minded family members. But independence of spirit and action sometimes brings along estrangement and lack of understanding and compassion. One day, mother Fidan disappears on a beach trip. The incident creates panic among father and son. They both think of the worst, assuming that Fidan has drowned. But Fidan appears back home in the middle of that same night, wrapped in a man's coat.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Azerbaijan-born Elmar Imanov (1985) is living since 1998 in Cologne, where he studied Directing at the internationale filmschule köln (ifs). His graduation film THE SWING OF THE COFFIN MAKER (2012) was presented at over 120 film festivals and won 42 awards worldwide including the Student Academy Award (Student Oscar®). His next short film TORN (2014) had its world premiere at the Directors' Fortnight in Cannes. Both films were produced by Eva Blondiau with whom he founded the production company Color Of May.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Eva Blondiau studied Creative Producing at the Internationale Filmschule Köln (ifs). She benefited of a two-year scholarship from the VFF. Eva founded Color Of May together with Elmar Imanov in 2013 and produced/ co-produced films in Germany, Ukraine, Russia, Georgia and Azerbaijan. She was nominated at the First Steps Award for Best Production for her graduation film THE SWING OF THE COFFIN MAKER and was on the list of the Cannes magazine by Screen International as "Future Leader" as top 40 young producers. Participant of the EAVE Producer Workshop 2016 with a project.



DIRECTOR Fimar Imanov



PRODUCER Eva Blondiau

Cast: Thomas Niehaus,
Sarah Hostettler, Aenne Schwarz,
Godehard Giese, Lina Wendel,
Walter Kreye, Ines Westernströer
DoP: Eva Katharina Bühler
Director: Lena Knauss
Producer: Andrea Schütte
Co-producer: SWR/ARTE
Genre: Drama, Romance
Language: German
Budget: € 1.7 million



CONTACT

Tamtam Film GmbH
Behringstraße 16a, 22765 Hamburg, Germany
T +49 40 32 52 23 30
E mail@tamtamfilm.com
www.tamtamfilm.com

- · World sales representation
- Financial partners (post-production)
- · Create additional awareness of the film

EQUINOXE (WT) (TAGUNDNACHTGLEICHE)

110 min, Germany

SYNOPSIS

Alexander never believed in true love till he met Paula, a performer. He sees her on stage and is lost in her world of illusions, falling head over heels for her. But her sudden death tears him apart. When he meets her estranged sister Marlene at the cemetery, a misunderstanding sees him welcomed into the grieving family – as Paula's boyfriend. It's a mistake Alexander fails to clear up, he is too curious to learn more about the woman he never got to know. However, Marlene remains skeptical: The version of Paula, Alexander is talking about is not consistent with the image she has. At the same time, she is attracted to this strange man who claims to have known her enigmatic sister so well. Through their shared grief, the two slowly grow closer.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Lena Knauss (1984) began her studies of scenic directing at the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg in 2005 after various positions in theatre and film. In 2008 she received the Baden-Württemberg scholarship for participating in the UCLA Hollywood Masterclass. For her medium-length graduation film FROM THE SPIRITS THAT I CALLED, she was awarded the Studio Hamburg Newcomer Award in the category Best Director in 2013. Since graduating, she has worked as a freelance writer and director. EQUINOXE is her feature film debut

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Andrea Schütte enrolled in a postgraduate program at the Hamburg Media School after receiving her M.A. in English, German, Political Science and Media Studies. During that time, she was in charge of several film productions (shorts, documentaries and animation films) and staged several plays for small theaters. From 2008-2015 she worked as a producer and development executive and later as an executive producer for X Filme Creative Pool in Berlin. In 2012 she founded Tamtam Film together with Dirk Decker in Hamburg. She also helped to establish the Berlinale Reception for Film Academies in 2008 and the initiative "Hamburg lebt Kino" (2013).



DIRECTOR Lena Knauss



PRODUCER Andrea Schütte

Cast: Yelizar Nazarenko,
Udo Samel, Maria Bruni
DoP: Frank Amann
Director: Marcus Lenz
Writer: Lars Hubrich, Marcus Lenz
Producer: Gunter Hanfgarn, Andrea
Ufer (HANFGARN & UFER)
Co-producer:

Patrick Waldmann (Wildfilms) Marina Orekhova (Belka Strelka) **Genre:** Drama

Language: Ukrainian, German

Budget: € 620,000



CONTACT

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E marcus@wildfilms.de www.wildfilms.de

- · Post-production funds
- Distribution (theatrical and sales)
- Festivals

INDIAN BURN (1000 AMEISEN)

100 min, Germany/Ukraine

SYNOPSIS

When his grandmother dies nobody is there to care for 10 year old Roman. His mother Oksana works illegally in Germany caring for an old lady. He travels after her, surmounting the border controls, but his mother Oksana is not alone. Meanwhile she lives with the lady's widower, Schwarz. His apartment becomes Roman's new home. A dramatic triangle starts, driven by dependencies, jealousy and love. From the perspective of a child and its own logic, we observe an unequal struggle, a child torn between the wish to kill the rival and the cautious approach to a strange adult.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

German-born Marcus Lenz studied Communication Design at the Folkwang University of Arts in Essen and at the University of Art and Design Helsinki (UIAH). Afterwards he studied Directing and Cinematography at the German Film & Television Academy Berlin (dffb) under lecturers such as Bela Tarr, Wolfgang Becker, Slavomir Idziak, Michael Ballhaus and Mike Leigh. Marcus Lenz directed and/or shoot both documentaries and feature films. His experiences have enriched one another and lead to a particular working style that combines the advantages of both feature and documentary filmmaking. His films TAHITI ROSE and INDIAN BURN started with encounters of real people out of which the screenplays' imaginary characters grew. He is co-founder of Wildfilms.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Gunter Hanfgarn and Andrea Ufer founded the Berlinbased production company Hanfgarn & Ufer in 1991, producing award-winning films, including numerous intl. co-productions and debuts. Grimme award winner Hanfgarn is a member of the German & European Film Academies. German producer Patrick Waldmann studied Film & TV Camera at the University of Applied Sciences in Dortmund. In 2016 he co-founded the production company Wildfilms. Marina Orekhova is an executive director of the Kiev-based production company Belka-Strelka. For the last 10 years she worked in development and production of award-winning documentaries and cooperated with leading TV Networks. Her latest production was THE RUSSIAN WOODPECKER (Grand Prize at Sundance FF 2015).



DIRECTOR/CO-WRITER Marcus Lenz



PRODUCERGunter Hanfgarn



PRODUCER Marina Orekhova

Cast: Bruno Bitenieks,
Aleksis Tauriņš, Endijs Žuks,
Elizabete Zviedre, Jānis Gorškovs,
Alise Dombrovska
DoP: Aigars Sērmūkšs
Director: Jānis Ābele
Producer: Antra Cilinska
Genre: Drama
Language: Latvian
Budget: € 750,000



CONTACT

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- · Support for post-production
- · Sales agent/distributor

JELGAVA '94

90 min. Latvia

SYNOPSIS

A coming of age film and a portrait of the cultural chaos of the former communist states during the 1990s. It is based on J. Jonev's novel (winner of the European Union Prize for Literature 2014). The film takes us deep inside the world of teenagers, combining the intimate diary of a grown up writer remembering himself as a teenager Janis, with a skilful, detailed and almost documentary-like depiction of the time. Janis (14) lives in a small town of Jelgava. He behaves well at school and studies well. But two things happening one day, which change his life completely: One – a new girl, Kristine (15), comes to his class. And second – Kurt Cobain commits suicide. This is a touching story about us as youngsters, when everybody is against the whole world and tries not to become "one of them".

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

JELGAVA '94 is a debut film. Director Jānis Ābele has managed to prove himself as a promising film director, winning internationally recognition already with his graduation film. He received prizes at local Latvian Film Festival, in Scanorama (Lithuania) and Grand Prix in Aix-en-Provence (France).

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Antra Cilinska has got a long experience in film business. She has produced and directed a lot of documentaries (international and local) and since 2010 Antra has turned to feature film producing – short and full length films, also working on co-productions like TWO WOMEN with Russia and France.



DIRECTOR Jānis Ābele



PRODUCER Antra Cilinska



SCRIPTWRITER Matīss Gricmanis

Cast: Mark Waschke,
Anne Ratte-Polle,
Kasimir Brause, Finnlay Berger
DoP: Friede Clausz
Director: Carlos A. Morelli
Producer: Yvonne Wellie,
Jonas Weydemann
Co-producer: ZDF
Genre: Drama
Language: German
Budget: € 1,052,000



CONTACT

Weydemann Bros. GmbH Körnerstr. 45, 50823 Köln, Germany T +49 22 16 30 60 52 90 E info@weydemannbros.com www.weydemannbros.com

WANTED

International Sales

MANY HAPPY RETURNS (DER GEBURTSTAG)

80 min, Germany

SYNOPSIS

MANY HAPPY RETURNS tells the story of a separated couple (Anna and Matthias) who, despite of the not yet healed wounds, organize the birthday party for Lukas, their seven year old son, together. When in the end of the party one of the children guests, Julius (6), doesn't get picked up by his parents a rapid chain of events starts. At first Matthias simply wants to get rid of Julius but then the helpless boy arouses his protective instincts and he opens his eyes to his own son's needs: by acting as protector of Julius, Matthias learns that he also has to give more attention towards his own son.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Carlos Morelli studied film in Uruguay & Spain. In 2009 he received a fellowship from the Berlin artists-in-residence program of the DAAD. He made 10 short films which were screened and awarded internationally incl. festivals such as Rotterdam, Tampere, Oberhausen & Clermont Ferrand. He lectures scriptwriting in Latin America, Europe and China. In 2017 his debut feature film MI MUNDIAL premiered in the competition of Busan IFF and started a still ongoing international festival tour. Now the film is sold to Spain, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, USA and HBO (home entertainment) & became the 2nd biggest box office grossing national film in Uruguayan cinema history.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Weydemann Bros. produces films and series for the national and international market. We have a vision of cinema and TV that is both entertaining and political. For us film is always a critical look at the world and the times we live in. With our productions we do not only hope to get people laughing and crying, but to inform them and inspire them to contemplate. Our films have been selected for leading international film festivals as official entry to the Oscars Best Foreign Language Film and won numerous awards. We are members of the German Producer's Association (VDFP), the Film and Media Association NRW, the German Film Academy and the European Film Academy.



DIRECTOR
Carlos A Morelli



PRODUCER Yvonne Wellie



PRODUCER
Jonas Weydemann

Cast: Luca Marinelli, Jessica Cressy,
Carlo Cecchi, Denise Sardisco
DoP: Francesco Di Giacomo
Director: Pietro Marcello
Writers: Pietro Marcello,
Maurizio Braucci
Producer: Avventurosa
Co-producer: Match Factory
Productions, Shellac Sud
Genre: Drama
Language: Italian
Budget: € 3.8 million



CONTACT

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T +39 06 87 65 59 57
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www.avventurosa.net

- · Finishing fund
- distribution

MARTIN EDEN

120 min, Italy/Germany/France

SYNOPSIS

In the 80's, Martin Eden, a young sailor with a passion for reading falls in love with the bourgeois girl Elena Orsini. To pursue his ambition for cultural elevation and a career as a writer, Martin shuts himself away in the library. But studying is expensive and Martin has to set sail. There now begins a period of hard, tiring work, fuelled by the hope of a future publication that seems unattainable. When he meets Brissenden, an old intellectual, Martin starts frequenting socialist circles which causes the break-up with Elena. When his writings are finally published with great success, Martin has by then fallen sick, and the dichotomy between the lure of the bourgeois ideals that sicken him and the cries of the proletariat who he feels he has betrayed, forces him to ruin

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Italian director and producer Pietro Marcello attended the Academy of Fine Arts before he worked as teacher in a Naples prison making radio shows and directing documentaries: IL CANTIERE, LA BARACCA, GRAND BASSAN and IL PASSAGGIO DELLA LINEA. In 2009 his Essay film LA BOCCA DEL LUPO won Best Film and the FIPRESCI Prize at the Turin Film Festival (also Caligari Award, Berlinale Teddy Award). In 2015 BELLA EPRDUTA was presented at Locarno Film Festival, Göteborg Film Festival (Bergman Award) and the Intl. Film Festival of La Roche- Sur-Yon, among others. MARTIN EDEN will be his first feature.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Viola Fügen (Germany) started working for Pandora Filmproduktion in 2006, after receiving her Filmand TV economy diploma. She was a Line Producer on THE CONGRESS and Associate Producer on ONLY LOVERS LEFT ALIVE. In 2013 she founded Match Factory Productions together with Michael Weber. After 10 years in the world sales division of the Bavaria Film Group, Michael Weber (Germany) set up is own sales company, The Match Factory, in 2006. Since 2012 respectively 2013 he is also partner in two production companies, Pola Pandora and Match Factory Productions.



DIRECTOR/PRODUCER
Pietro Marcello



PRODUCER Viola Fuegen



PRODUCER Michael Weber

Cast: Emilie Neumeister,
Ludwig Simon, Andreas Döhler,
Lisa Hagmeister, Shenja Lacher,
Uwe Preuss, Judith Engel,
Michelangelo Fortuzzi
DoP: Armin Dierolf
Director: Florian Aigner
Producer: Maxim Juretzka
Co-producer: Ufuk Genc,
Andreas Eicher
Genre: Drama
Language: German
Budget: € 1.0 million



CONTACT

Flare Film Gmbh Allerstrasse 18, 12049 Berlin, Germany T +49 30 76 23 97 37 07 E info@flare-film.com www.flare-film.com BuntFilm, Juretzka & Hering GbR
Zionskirchstrasse 30, 10119 Berlin, Germany
T +49 174 293 23 69
E info@bunt-film.de
www.bunt-film.de

- · World sales
- · Festivals, Festival press agent
- Post-production support
- Support for music- and archive-material-licensing

NO MAN'S LAND (IM NIEMANDSLAND)

95 min, Germany

SYNOPSIS

It's the summer of 1990, two teenagers in Germany fall in love – an innocent first love, shortly before the German reunification. Katja (16) is from West-Berlin, Thorben (17) from GDR. Their families are fighting over a house in Kleinmachnow (a suburb of East-Berlin), where Thorben's family has been living since the 1970s, but where Katja's father grew up. The family had to emigrate to West-Berlin in 1961, just before the Berlin Wall was built. Later, the house was dispossessed under GDR-rule. Now, Katja's father demands restitution. The conflict grows more bitter and threatens to tear apart both families. It is about old wounds and new prejudices. While being in the middle of Germany's swiftly progressing process of reunification, Katja and Thorben have to fight for their love...

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Florian Aigner was born in Berlin. He studied German literature and sociology, before working as producer at Wüste Filmproduktion and as script editor at Warner Bros. He graduated the Deutsche Film und Fernsehakademie Berlin (dffb) in 2007 with his thesis film SCHWEIGEN IST SILBER. Since then he has been working as a freelance filmmaker, primarily on TV documentaries for public broadcasters WDR and ZDF, and writing feature films. NO MAN'S LAND is his directorial feature debut.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Flare Film (formerly Lichtblick Media GmbH until 2017) was established in Berlin in 2008 with Martin Heisler as Managing Director. Flare Film's recent productions are feature films LOMO – THE LANGUAGE OF MANY OTHERS, MORRIS FROM AMERICA, HOUSTON and documentaries FAMILY SHOTS, THE AUDITION and DAVID WANTS TO FLY.

BuntFilm was formed in 2009 by established independent producer Jost Hering and Maxim Juretzka and since then has produced feature films like MILLIONS and LAMENTO as well as middle length features like PHILLIP



WRITER/DIRECTOR
Florian Aigner



PRODUCER

Maxim Juretzka

Cast: Vincent van der Valk,
Reinout Scholten van Aschat,
Simone van Bennekom,
Tom Dewispelaere, Bart Slegers
DoP: Emo Weemhoff
Director: Viktor van der Valk
Producer: Erik Glijnis
Co-producer: Lemming Film (NL),
A Private View (BE)
Genre: Film Noir
Language: Dutch
Budget: € 305.000
(€ 275.000 in place)

CONTACT

Lemming Film
Valschermkade 36 F, 1059 CD Amsterdam, Netherlands
T +31 206 61 04 24
E erik@lemmingfilm.com
wwww.lemmingfilm.com

- Place to premiere the film beginning of 2019
- · Partners for worldwide distribution

NOCTURNE

78 min, The Netherlands/Belgium

SYNOPSIS

Two producers, one night, an investor, a deadline, a woman, a gun and a hopelessly romantic boy. While wandering through the night, director Alex searches for the essence of his film. He seems to have lost his inspiration, on top of that he finds his girlfriend walking out on him. What happened? Where did it all go wrong? The more he wanders Alex gets convinced that the essence of his film concerns a struggle between love and ambition. But he has difficulties balancing the disappointing reality and his imagination. Meanwhile, the dividing line between fiction and reality becomes increasingly turbid. Is Alex entangled in his own film? A lyrical film noir about two producers, one night, an investor, a deadline, a woman, a gun and a hopelessly romantic boy.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Writer-director Viktor Bjarni van der Valk received his cinematic training at the Utrecht School for the Arts, the Netherlands Film Academy, and through his debut film VEGLEYSA (2011) in his native Iceland. The short films STEEN (2013) and ONNO THE OBLIVIOUS (2014) he directed while at the Netherlands Film Academy, allowed him to explore his thoughts and feelings through film resulting in international film festival selections and awards. Viktor is currently finishing his debut feature, the avant-gardist film noir NOCTURNE and develops his second feature film within TorinoFilmLab.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Since 2016 Erik Glijnis is a producer at Lemming Film, the Netherlands. He graduated as bachelor of economics in Haarlem, before studying production at the Netherlands Film Academy where he graduated with ONNO THE OBLIVIOUS by Viktor van der Valk and AMONG US by Guido Hendrikx. Erik produced the documentary STRANGER IN PARADISE, which opened IDFA ,16 and was nominated as Best Documentary at the EFA 2017. Recently he finished the feature film MY GIRAFFE (Berlinale – Generation, 2018) and is in post-production on the film NOCTURNE. In 2018 he was listed as feature leader by Screendaily.



DIRECTOR Viktor van der Valk



PRODUCER Erik Glijnis



WRITER
Jeroen Scholten van Aschat

Cast: Viktoria Isakova, Maksim Sukhanov, Vladimir Yaglych DoP: Ilya Ovsenev Director: Elena Hazanov Producer: Olga Danova Genre: Drama Language: Russian Budget: € 1.67 million



CONTACT

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T +7 49 57 85 09 59
E danova1@mail.ru
www.omfilm.ru

- · Financing for the post-production
- Color correction
- · Sound design

ONE BREATH (ОДИН ВДОХ)

100 min. Russia

SYNOPSIS

Following her divorce, Marina Gordeeva (40) thinks she'll never meet love again. Little does she know that one day, she'll find the love of her life in freediving, one of the most extreme sports in existence, built on diving as deep as possible on a single breath. Marina demonstrates her amazing talents, yet it's her weak points that hold her back from winning the competition. Marina can't leave behind her life-baggage. As she plunges to the ocean depths, her subconscious fears resurface as harrowing visions. In a sport where everything depends on mind control, one bad thought is enough to lose it all. In the vast, mysterious realm of the sea, Marina not only regains her sense of peace and well being, but also redefines her existence.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Elena Hazanov was born in Moscow. She lives in Switzerland since 1989. After few experience of acting in Russia, she acts in a theater group in Switzerland. After getting the baccalaureate, she leaves for USA and follows Screenwriting courses, Acting and Directing courses at the Film and Television Workshop in Rockport. Back from the USA, Elena Hazanov works as second, then first AD and starts to direct short movies. Later, she joins the master class of Screenwriting by Robert McKee. Elena Hazanov has directed 7 short movies, 8 features, 4 documentaries and 2 seasons of a TV series.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Olga Danova was born in Saratov (Russia). She graduated from the Saratov State University, Faculty of Mechanics and Mathematics and holds a PhD in Sociological Sciences. Olga Danova also was the producer and founder of the branch of the radio station Nostalgia (France) and the CEO and creator of the socio-political magazine Public Opinion (Saratov). Since 2001 she lives in Moscow. She is Founder and producer of the film production company Public Opinion LTD. Producer of many TV series, more than 50 documentaries, two of which won the main Russian TV award TEFI as Best Documentary in 2008 and 2009.



DIRECTOR Flena Hazanov



WRITER
Alena Alova



PRODUCER Olga Danova

Cast: Nadezhda Gorelova,
Vladimir Mishukov
DoP: Andrey Naydenov
Director: Natalya Nazarova
Producer: Anna von Dziembowska
Ass. producer:
Anastasia Lukovnikova

Genre: Drama Language: Russia Budget: € 600,000



CONTACT

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20 Shirokaya str., Moscow, 127224
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E info@victoria-films.com
www.victoria-films.com

Salt Studio
14 Obraztsova str., Moscow, 127055
T +7 92 69 18 58 78
E info@saltstudio.ru
www.saltstudio.ru

- Festivals
- Distributors
- TV, VOD

THE PENCIL (ПРОСТОЙ КАРАНДАШ)

93 min. Russia

SYNOPSIS

After her husband is arrested, Antonina leaves her comfortable life in Saint Petersburg to follow him to the northern province of Russia. She finds a job as an art teacher at a local school and is determined to lift the spirits of the downtrodden children in her class. However, she quickly discovers that the power in the school belongs to a 12-year-old boy Misha, whose brother is a feared local gang leader. Despite the warnings, Antonina stands up to the boy who bullies and tortures his classmates and the teachers.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Natalya Nazarova screenwriting credits include MER-MAID (World Cinema Dramatic Directing Award at Sundance Film Festival) and BETRAYAL (Competition at Venice IFF). Her directing debut THE DAUGHTER won the FIPRESCI awards at Tallinn and Warsaw IFF. Her second feature film THE PENCIL is currently in post-production and was presented at Hong Kong Asia Film Financing Forum where it won the 'HAF Goes to Cannes' Award.

PRODUCTION COMPANIES PROFILES

Victoria Films (presented by Anna von Dziembowska and Anastasia Lukovnikova) has a diverse slate of feature films in pre-production and development: e.g. FAR FRONTIERS will go into production with the support of Russian Ministry of Culture in 2018, FLIGHT OF THE WASP tells the story of the invention of the Vespa and is being developed within the EAVE workshop. Salt Studio is known for its successful partnership with Russian independent directors. The collaboration with director Kirill Serebrennikov, Betrayal, celebrated its premiere in the Competition at Venice IFF. Other credits include SALVATION, 72 HOURS and ALBATROS.



WRITER/DIRECTOR
Natalva Nazarova



PRODUCER Anna von Dziembowska



ASSOCIATE PRODUCER Anastasia Lukovnikova

Cast: Mehdi Meskar, Emily Cox,
Jonas Nay, Amira Ghazalla,
Husam Chadat
Director: Randa Chahoud
Producer: Johannes Jancke,
Clementina Hegewisch
Co-producer: Ufuk Genc,
Janosch Benz (Lightburst Pictures),
Sawsan Asfari, Maya Sanbar
(Cactus World Films)
Genre: Drama
Language: Arabic, English, German
Budget: € 2.1 million



CONTACT

Neue Impuls Film Produktionsgesellschaft mbH Friedensallee 14-16, 22765 Hamburg, Germany T +49 17 93 26 75 29 E hamburg@neueimpuls.de www.neueimpuls.de

- · World Sales
- Festivals

THE REBEL (DER REBELL)

100 min, Germany/UK

SYNOPSIS

Syrian-born student Karim lives a carefree life in Germany with his pregnant girlfriend Lilly. When he learns that his beloved older brother Yassir has become involved in the resistance movement back home, he is deeply worried. He travels to Syria because he hopes to safe Yassir – and immediately gets sucked into the conflict. He becomes a fighter, is captured and tortured, and ultimately discovers that his brother was shot long ago. Meanwhile, Karim's parents are able to flee Syria, and they show up on Lilly's doorstep. Overwhelmed with concern for Karim, for his newly arrived parents, and her pregnancy, she delivers prematurely. Months later, Karim returns traumatized and broken. He and Lilly try to rebuild their lives. But then Karim learns that the murderer of his brother is now in Germany...

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Randa Chahoud, born into a Syrian-German family, studied directing at the Film and Television Academy Berlin (dffb). She had internships with photographers, stage designers and participated in courses by Michael Ballhaus at Martin Scorsese's shooting of GANGS OF NEW YORK. As director and writer of the ZDF Sci-Fi Series IJON TICHY RAUMPILOT Chahoud was nominated twice for the Grimme Award (2008/2012) and won the German Television Award 2007 (Newcomer). In 2017 she directed the ZDFNeo Drama Series BRU-DER-SCHWARZE MACHT. Additionally, she was a Berlinale Jury Member for the Peace Award.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Clementina Hegewisch started working in film business after her diploma in Psychology. In 2000 she partnered with Producer Laurens Straub for NextFilm Filmproduktion and since then produced over 15 films. 2015 she took over the Hamburg based production company Neue Impuls Film.

Johannes Jancke studied at Film Academy Baden-Württemberg and received the VFF-scholarship. His diploma films WE ARE THE TIDE and 24 WEEKS are co-productions with TV channels and film funds. 24 WEEKS was in the 66th Berlinale Competition and shown at over 70 film festivals worldwide and won many awards. He now works for Riva Film and Neue Impuls Film



DIRECTOR
Randa Chahoud



PRODUCER
Clementina Hegewisch



PRODUCER
Johannes Jancke

Cast: Nadin Matthews,
Ibrahim Al-Khalil,
Konstantin-Philippe Benedikt,
Ali Khalil, Marcel Andrée,
Sabine Winterfeldt, Robert Mehl
DoP: Birgit Gudjonsdottir
Director: Connie Walther
Producer: Thomas Kufus, Kay
Niessen, Daniel Hetzer
Co-producer: hands-on producers

GmbH Genre: Drama Language: German Budget: € 2.0 million

CONTACT

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An der Hasenkaule 1-7, 50354 Hürth, Germany
T +49 2233 50 83 61
E susanne@hands-on-producers.com
www.hands-on-producers.com

- · German Distributor
- · World Sales Agency

DIE RÜDEN (DIE RÜDEN)

107 min, Germany

SYNOPSIS

In a specially secured room in a prison, four young inmates encounter three dangerous dogs. The prison therapists are hoping that the pressure-cooker situation will stabilize. The dogs' trainer is convinced that the never-ending cycle of violence and counter-violence can only be broken when anything goes. This puts all involved severely to the test. Inner freedom, too, has to be learned. Social doctrines and individual beliefs collide. »How can I really get to know someone if I am not prepared to feel their pain? In a dystopian universe that may seem familiar, we encounter aggression, guilt, sorrow and even hate – negative emotions and behaviors we like to avoid. But there is a way out: Lose the fear, let empathy and affection grow. DIE RÜDEN is a therapeutic love story.«

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Connie Walther graduated at German Film & Television Academy Berlin (dffb) and has since worked as a director and writer in television and cinema. She received awards for many of her films, e.g. FRAU BÖHM SAGT NEIN (2009, Grimme award) and ZAPPELPHILIPP (2012, FIPA d'Or, Best TV Film). Her credits include: TATORT - DER BLINDE (TV), DIE HOCHZEIT MEINER ELTERN (TV), HOLLAND and WAS MAN ZUM LEBEN BRAUCHT (cinema shorts), 12 HEISST ICH LIEBE DICH (TV), SCHATTENWELT (cinema).

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Thomas Kufus made his first feature length documentaries in 1987 (MY PRIVATE WAR, BLOCKADE) In 1990 he founded zero film which was transformed into zero one film in 2006, where he is managing director. Many of his latest productions have been successful: THE PEOPLE VS. FRITZ BAUER (2016), 24 WEEKS (2017) and BEUYS (2018) received the German Film Award. He was awarded Best Producer by the German TV Academy in 2014 for 24H JERUSALEM. Kay Niessen and Daniel Hetzer. executive producers of Hands on Producers, combine Hollywood know-how and European film making experience in producing feature films and drama series for global audiences. They co-produced RUSH (dir: Ron Howard), BOY 7 (dir: Özgür Yildirim) and COLLIDE (dir: Eran Creevy).



DIRECTOR/CONCEPT Connie Walther



PRODUCER Thomas Kufus



PRODUCER Kay Niessen

Cast: Karim Kassem, Eric Kabongo,
Jean-Luc Couchard, Mourade
Zeguendi, Nilton Martins
DoP: Nikos Welter
Director: Adolf El Assal
Producer: deal productions (Désirée
Nosbusch, Alexandra Hoesdorff),
Wady Films (Adolf El Assal)
Co-producer: Caviar (Robin
Kerremans, Dimitri Verbeeck),
Film Clinic (Mohamed Hefzy)
Genre: Comedy, Drama, Social
Language: English, Arabic, French,
Luxembourgish
Budget: € 3.8 million



CONTACT

deal productions
25-27 Zone Industrielle, L-8287 Kehlen, Luxembourg
T +352 661 663 303
E alexandra@dealproductions.com
www.dealproductions.com

Wady Films
39 Zone Industrielle, L-8287 Kehlen, Luxembourg
T +352 691 397 940
E ady@wady.lu
www.wadyfilms.com

- · Sales agent
- Distribution

SAWAH

100 min, Luxembourg/Belgium/Egypt

SYNOPSIS

Samir aka DJ Skaarab has just won the local DJ Championships in Egypt. He gets a once in a lifetime opportunity to participate at the "Drop Beats" event in Brussels. But Samir's flight is redirected to Luxembourg and he takes a replacement bus to his destination. While trying to call his girlfriend, Samir loses all of his belongings and gets caught in a case of mistaken identity: Local border police believes that Samir is an illegal immigrant. Stuck in this new territory, he is forced to be taken care of by Daniel, a charming hustler, who drags Samir into some crazy, over-the-top situations. In the meantime, hell breaks loose in his home country and Samir desperately tries find a way out of this country he's never heard before, feeling trapped in an endless loop of trials and tribulations.

DIRECTORS AND PRODUCERS BIOGRAPHY

Adolf El Assal is a film writer, director and producer from Luxembourg, born in Alexandria, Egypt. His first feature as a producer DIVIZIONZ was officially selected at the 2008 Berlinale and had over 100 festival selections. In 2011 he directed the short films LA FAMEUSE ROUTE... and MANO DE DIOS. Both films have had a very solid festival run, winning a dozen prizes. In 2014 he releases his debut feature LES GARS. The film was widely released in French-speaking countries. Ady is also a Berlinale Talent and EAVE alumni. SAWAH is his second feature film. The screenplay is co-written by renown Canadian writer Dennis Foon (INDIAN HORSE, LIFE, ABOVE ALL).

COMPANY PROFILE

Deal productions (Alexandra Hoesdorff) is a Luxembourg-based company, which is engaged in development, financing, packaging and production of independently produced feature films and TV programs worldwide. Deal's mandate is to deliver high-quality, broadly commercial products.

Wady Films (Adolf El Assal) is a Luxembourg-based full service film production and distribution company. Its aim is to produce director-driven, crossover and compelling films that deal with issues, such as identity, languages, integration, immigration as well as travelling.



DIRECTOR/ PRODUCER Adolf El Assal



WRITER
Dennis Foon



PRODUCER
Alexandra Hoesdorff

Cast: Natalia Belitski. Luisa-Céline Gaffron, Giuseppe Battiston, Martin Wuttke, Katharine Schüttler, Ole Lagerpusch, Tim Kalkhof, as Guests: Leslie Malton and Jürgen Vogel DoP: Francesco Di Giacomo Director: Elisa Mishto Screenplay: Elisa Mishto Producer: Martina Haubrich (CALA Filmproduktion) Co-producer: Andrea Stucovitz (PMI) Genre: Coming-of-Age Story, Tragicomedy Language: German Budget: € 1.8 million



CONTACT

CALA Filmproduktion GmbH Boxhagener Str. 106, 10245 Berlin, Germany T +49 30 29 77 29 44 E haubrich@calafilm.de www.calafilm.de

- · German and international broadcaster
- Gap financing
- · World sales, international distribution

STAY STILL (STILLSTEHEN)

95 min, Germany/Italy

SYNOPSIS

Julie is a young, rich and sarcastic patient in a mental clinic with a "doing nothing" manifesto: she doesn't study, she doesn't work, she doesn't have friends. Agnes is a naive nurse and young mother of a three years old with only one problem in life: she doesn't get the all thing about being a mother. When the two wild spirits meet in the mental clinic, they start a rebellion that will question and set (literally) on fire everything and everybody around them. STAY STILL is a poetic, witty and radical portrait of a generation with nothing to lose and nothing to gain. Yes it is dangerous, but yes, it is also very exciting.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Elisa Mishto: Born in Reggio Emilia, Italy. Resident in Berlin. MA with Distinction in Feature Film, Goldsmiths University, London, BA and MA cum laude in Communications at University of Bologna, studies in Semiotics at Humboldt University, Berlin, studies in Film at the International Film College, Maine, USA. Her film credits as director include the short films DEEP INTO THE WATER (2005), MICRO/MACRO (2012), EMMA AND THE FURY (2018) as well as the documentaries STATES OF MIND and FRAUEN IM RING. STAY STILL is her first feature film.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Established by producer and managing partner Martina Haubrich in 2016, CALA Filmproduktion Berlin produces fiction and documentary films for cinema and series for the international Market. Prior, Haubrich run the Berlin office of LOOKS, one of Germany's leading production houses for documentaries. She produced more than 20 documentaries/series, all shown on major public TV and successfully sold. Her feature films, e.g. MICHAEL PETRUCCIANI, MICHAEL KOHLHAAS, FROM CALIGARI TO HITLER and the documentary ISIS, TOMORROW premiered in Cannes or Venice. Her latest feature film MADEMOISELLE PARADIS by Barbra Albert in Toronto and San Sebastian. STAY STILL is currently in post-production.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Flisa Mishto



PRODUCER

Martina Haubrich

Cast: Thang Long Do, Lena Nguyen,
Gia Khai Ton, Thi Thanh Minh Tran,
Aleksandra Domańska,
Bogusława Pawelec,
Wojciech Zieliński
DoP: Andrzej Wojciechowski
Director: Mariko Bobrik
Producers: Benny Drechsel,
Mariusz Wlodarski
Co-producer: Lava Films (Mariusz

Wlodarski) **Genre:** Drama

Language: Polish, Vietnamese

Budget: € 1.5 million



CONTACT

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www.lavafilms.pl

- · Distributor, Broadcaster
- · Post-production support

TASTE OF PHO (WT)

87 min, Germany/Poland

SYNOPSIS

An enchanting story about a Vietnamese single father and his semi-Polish young daughter who both live in Warsaw. They never talk about the early death of the mother, but Mia notices her father's absentmindedness and doesn't know why. Teo is chef in the Vietnamese restaurant of his friend Hien. When Hien decides to go back to Vietnam, Teo starts longing for his homeland too. While the restaurant becomes a popular Asian fusion restaurant. Teo feels more and more uncomfortable there. One day Mia discovers Kasia, a beautiful woman living next door who resembles of her mother. Mia believes that she is the reason for Teo's recent change and spies on her. When Kasia tells Teo about this, he harshly confronts Mia. This confrontation reveals unexpected honesty about their opposite needs and desires

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Mariko Bobrik (aka Saga) was born in Japan in 1983. In 2009 she graduated the directing course of the Polish National Film School in Lodz. She lives with her family in Berlin and Warsaw and is editing her first feature film TASTE OF PHO (WT). With this project Mariko Bobrik participated at Cinéfondation Résidence at the Cannes Film Festival as well as in the Script Station program of the Berlinale Talent Campus. It won the 2nd prize of Script Pro 2015, a Polish feature film script competition.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Benny Drechsel is the founder of the German independent film production company Rohfilm GmbH which develops and finances feature films and documentaries for international cinema audiences with focus on stories with strong cinematic conviction as well as finding and fostering filmmakers with distinctive talent. The latest projects are: TOUCH ME NOT (Golden Bear, Berlinale), THREE PEAKS, THE YOUNG KARL MARX, THE BURGLAR, DEADWEIGHT, I PROMISE YOU ANARCHY, 40 DAYS OF SILENCE, REIMON, ZURICH, LUNCHBOX, MY SWEET PEPPER LAND, LORE.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Mariko Bobrik



PRODUCER
Benny Drechsel

Cast: Ciarán Hinds,
Stephen Dillane, Maïwenn
DoP: Kanamé Onoyama
Producer: Daniel-Konrad Cooper
Exec. producer: Dominic Dromgoole
Genre: musical comedy
Language: minimal dialogue,
some French
Budget: € 850,000



CONTACT

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- · Post Production Finance
- International Sales

THE THIN MAN

90 min, United Kingdom

SYNOPSIS

THE THIN MAN (Ciarán Hinds) journeys through France in a Fiat 500 accompanied by a framed photograph of an unknown woman. He is pursued by five angry men in a Citroën Dyane. On his escape he hears stories of love and loss, listens to Shubert, Otis Redding and Canteloube, and encounters mysterious strangers including The Damp Man (Stephen Dillane), The Chef (Muna Otaru) and The Biker (Maïwenn). THE THIN MAN is a contemporary odyssey of music, storytelling and silent comedy traversing the wonderful landscapes of France.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Stephen Warbeck (Director, Writer) is an academy award winning English composer best known for his work on SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE, BILLY ELLIOT and CAPTAIN CORELLI'S MANDOLIN. His most recent film scores include Richard Eyre's THE CHILDREN'S ACT and Dominic Dromgoole's upcoming feature MAKING NOISE QUIETLY. THE THIN MAN will be his debut as both a writer and director.

John Paul Davidson (Director, Writer) has a rich and varied background as a director and producer. He has travelled the world extensively producing and directing travel documentary series with both Stephen Fry and Michael Palin.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Producer Daniel-Konrad Cooper has worked his way up through 35 Studio & Independent Feature films, managing shoots on a range of budgets from passion projects to Hollywood blockbusters like STARDUST, TOTAL RECALL and most recently as Production Supervisor on Christopher Nolan's DUNKIRK. His hitman comedy DEAD IN A WEEK: OR YOUR MONEY BACK is set for release this year.

Dominic Dromgoole (Executive Producer) has worked extensively in theatre worldwide and was artistic director of The Globe (2006-2016). In 2016 Dominic set up Open Palm Films with the ambition to create small budget chamber epics. Completed films include: MAKING NOISE QUIETLY, which he also directed, POND LIFE, UNDERCLIFFE, TIDES and BENJAMIN.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Stephen Warbeck



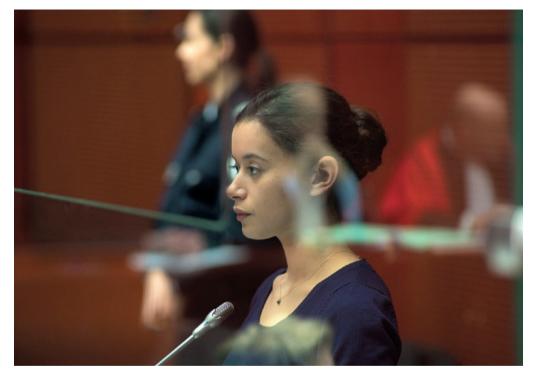
DIRECTOR/WRITER
John Paul Davidson



PRODUCERDaniel-Konrad Cooper

Cast: Roschdy Zem,
Chiara Mastroianni, Melissa Guers
DoP: Sylvain Verdet
Director: Stéphane Demoustier
Producer: Jean des Forêts
Co-producer: Jean-Yves Roubin
& Cassandre Warnauts (FraKas
productions)

Genre: Drama/Crime/Court Language: French Budget: € 3.3 million



CONTACT

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www.petit-film.com

- Money to cover composing, licensing, recording of the score music
- · German distributors and buyers

UNCONDITIONAL (LA FILLE AU BRACELET)

93 min, France/Belgium

SYNOPSIS

Life for the Bataille family is turned upside down when Lise, the 16-year-old elder daughter is accused of murdering her best friend Flora. Two years after the crime, as the trial looms, the family's life revolves around these few days during which Lise's fate will be sealed in a court. When the hearings start, and as everyone watches and listens to Lise, the truth becomes harder to discern.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

After several short films selected and awarded in international film festivals, Stéphane Demoustier (Lille, 1977) wrote and directed his debut feature 40-LOVE. The film premiered at Venice's Critic's Week 2014. He then wrote and directed CLEO & PAUL, a medium length film that premiered at Berlinale Generation and opened in theatres in France in 2018. Stéphane Demoustier is also a producer. In 2008 he founded the production company Année Zéro through which he produced more than 30 short films. UNCONDITIONAL, his new feature film, will open in 2019.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Through his Paris-based company Petit Film, Jean des Forêts (Paris, 1976) produces and co-produces auteur-driven films, French or foreign, at all times working in close cooperation with distributors and sales agents. Among his recent credits are DIANE HAS THE RIGHT SHAPE by Fabien Gorgeart, RAW by Julia Ducournau (Cannes Critic's Week 16: Fipresci prize), ALOYS by Tobias Nölle (Berlinale Panorama 16: Fipresci prize). UNCONDITIONAL is in post-production and will open in 2019. The current slate includes new films by Lucile Hadzihalilovic, David Moreau, Joyce Nashawati, Tobias Nölle.



DIRECTOR/WRITER Stéphane Demoustier



PRODUCER
Jean des Forêts

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