



## AG DOK Mentoring Program



### Pitch at DOK Leipzig 28 October 2025

11-12.30 | Museum der Bildenden Künste, Katharinenstr.10

The AG DOK Mentoring Program brings together ten emerging documentary talents from across the filmmaking spectrum – directing, producing, editing, and cinematography – each paired with an experienced mentor for one year of professional guidance. This brochure presents their projects, offering a glimpse into the ideas and perspectives of documentary's future storytellers.

## The 2024/2025 participants

**Sophia Bösch, director (Choir of Sisters)**  
mentored by Marc Bauder

**Marc Sebastian Eils, director (Not a Statue)**  
mentored by Jens Schanze

**Natalia Grande, director (Lend Me Your Eyes)**  
mentored by Antonia Kilian

**Svetlana Greidina, journalist (no project for pitching)**  
mentored by Tatjana Mischke

**Yannick Hasse, DoP (Regular Guest)**  
mentored by Anne Misselwitz

**Amélie Janda, director (Mers Amères – Bitter Seas)**  
mentored by Julian Vogel

**Melanie Mellow Lueft, DoP (no project for pitching)**  
mentored by Börres Weiffenbach

**Julia Meyer-Pavlovic, producer (A Land That Time Forgot)**  
mentored by Britta Strampe

**Katharina Voß, editor (Dancing and Stumbling)**  
mentored by Sebastian Winkels

**Kayu Yeung, director (mooning around)**  
mentored by Carlotta Kittel

## Sophia Bösch director



### Choir of Sisters

**Director:** Sophia Bösch | **Production:** Ensemble Film (CH),  
BANDENFILM (DE)

**My Grandmother, her God, and her daughters. “Choir of Sisters” follows my mother and her nine sisters as they reflect on their childhood in the shadow of a strong, contradictory woman—exploring the complex, perhaps unbreakable bond between mothers, daughters, and sisters in a strictly Christian family. A polyphonic, intimate chorus on love, rebellion and female solidarity in a patriarchal world.**

**Stage:** Production

**Looking for:** Funding Partners, Broadcaster, Distributor, Sales Agents

**Contact:** [sophia.boesch@me.com](mailto:sophia.boesch@me.com)

## Marc Sebastian Eils director



### Not a Statue

**Directors:** Marc Sebastian Eils and Sylvie Vernyuy Njobati  
**Production:** red.green.films

**How did the sacred Ngonnso statue from Cameroon end up in Germany? And how should the colonial legacy be dealt with today? A Cameroonian activist sets out to find answers in museums, archives, and palaces.**

**Stage:** Production (funded by BKM and MBB), completion in 2026

**Looking for:** Broadcaster, Distributor, Sales, Funding, Festivals

**Contact:** [marc@redgreenfilms.com](mailto:marc@redgreenfilms.com)

## **Natalia Grande** director



## **Lend Me Your Eyes**

**Director: Natalia Grande | Production: Pink Shadow Films**

**My father, a blind photographer, taught me to see through a camera. I was his eyes and his guide. Today, I question his gaze and search for my own visual independence.**

**Stage: Development**

**Looking for: Broadcaster, Funding**

**Contact: nataliagrande2022@gmail.com**

## **Svetlana Greidina** journalist, author



**Svetlana is a journalist from Russia who has lived and worked in Berlin since 2022. Her path in journalism began in television and digital media, but exile turned it into a search for how the profession changes when you lose the ground beneath your feet. Today, she works at the intersection of personal experience and analysis: exploring press freedom, how journalists adapt in exile, the rise of anti-feminism, and transformations in Russian society. For her, journalism in exile is not only about finding new topics, but about finding a new language to tell the story of living between two worlds.**

**Looking for: Collaborations on international documentary and journalistic projects with media outlets and research initiatives**

**Contact: svetlana.greйдina@gmail.com**

## Yannick Hasse DoP



### Regular Guest

**Director:** Hoàng Quỳnh Nguyễn and Benjamin Hujawa  
**Production:** Inselfilm

In an 18-story guesthouse in Rostock-Evershagen, the daughter of a Vietnamese family accompanies her parents in pursuing their dream of finally owning a home after 35 years in Germany. And it is precisely in a former contract workers' residence, caught between tourist attractions, xenophobia, and a social hotspot. Their daughter Quỳnh reflects on both her own identity and that of her family, navigating between two cultural worlds.

**Stage:** Pre-production

**Looking for:** Broadcaster, Funding

**Contact:** mail@yannickhasse.de

## Amélie Janda director



### Mers Amères – Bitter Seas

**Director:** Amélie Janda | **Production:** Julian Vogel, Patatino

“Mers Amères – Bitter Seas” follows those who care for dead migrants at Europe's maritime borders and their families—ordinary people defying Europe's indifference. From Senegal to Greece, Tunisia to the Canaries, they unite in a shared search for truth and justice at sea.

**Stage:** Concept and research phase nearly completed, now produced by Patatino with HessenFilm and ZDF funding (2025)

**Looking for:** International co-production partners (especially from France, Arabic-speaking countries, Senegal, Tunisia, Greece, Canary Islands), Co-Funding, Distributors and World Sales

**Development trailer:**

<https://patatino-film.de/en/films/mers-ameres-bitter-seas-at>

**Contact:** amelie-janda@posteo.de



## Melanie Mellow Lueft DoP



Mellow is based in Berlin and works as a Director of Photography with a focus on music and documentaries. In recent years, she has accompanied numerous artists at concerts and festivals such as Splash!, shot music videos for Sorah, Aisha Vibes, and Josi Miller, the short film "Karussell der Liebe" with Futurebae, and documentaries including the "UNFILTERED" portrait of Badmómzjay. She also contributed to the feature documentary "Bye, Bye Kummer" and the TV docuseries "HipHop – The Future Is Female".

**Looking for:** Documentary film projects with a focus on music and feminism, Directors, Production companies

**Contact:** [hello@itsmellow.de](mailto:hello@itsmellow.de)

## Julia Meyer-Pavlovic producer



## A Land That Time Forgot

**Director:** Denis Pavlovic | **Production:** Glass Frog Films (GER),  
**Co-Producer:** Calin Laur, Laur Cinema (MDA)

Rise and fall of tourism in Europe's least visited place: Transnistria, Moldova's breakaway region on the Ukrainian border. An exclusive glimpse into a territory overshadowed by Russia that has persisted since the fall of the Soviet Union. For one year, the film crew follows two tourist agencies in this media-locked place, telling a humorous yet thought-provoking story about their struggle to turn it into a holiday hotspot.

**Stage:** Pre-Production, LOI from Cat&Docs (France)

**Looking for:** Additional Co-Production, Broadcasters, Funding

**Contact:** [jule@glassfrogfilms.de](mailto:jule@glassfrogfilms.de)

## Katharina Voß editor



## Dancing and Stumbling

Director: Niklas Gerhards

After five decades of opioid addiction, Viola and Gerd, both around seventy years old, receive a therapy that works for them – for the first time in their lives. And Arianne, in her early forties, leaves the restlessness of street life and substance abuse behind, and builds a new, stable life for herself with the help of medical heroin. A glimpse into living with dependency, told through the eyes of people who have deeply looked into their needs and addictions, and are now exploring a new path.

Stage: Post-Production

Looking for: Funding, Postproduction support (grading, mixing), Distribution, Festivals

Contact: [kat@katharinavoss.com](mailto:kat@katharinavoss.com)

## Kayu Yeung director



## mooning around

Director: Kayu Yeung | Producer: Marvin Gräter

The director shadows a guard and a former guard — a stranger at Berlin's Neue Wache, her father in Hong Kong — reflecting solitude through a lens held at distance. In their often quiet company, she searches for hidden monologues, only to find the story drifting elsewhere: from guarding into an unsung anthem of migration, loss, and the humble act of redefining and re-living an ordinary life.

Stage: Development & Production

Looking for: Production company, funding and distributor

Contact: [parataxis.paristexas@gmail.com](mailto:parataxis.paristexas@gmail.com)

# About the program

The AG DOK Mentoring Program, initiated by futurDOK – AG DOK's emerging filmmakers group – offers one year of professional guidance for ten documentary talents. Each mentee – from the fields of directing, producing, editing, or cinematography – is paired with an experienced mentor for continuous 1:1 support. The aim is to accompany the transition into the professional world and to strengthen individual documentary voices.

The documentary field is undergoing rapid change: fewer cinema audiences, a broadcasting system in crisis, shrinking budgets, and constant technological innovation. These shifts not only reshape how documentaries are produced, they also make it increasingly difficult for newcomers to establish themselves. Supporting new talent has therefore become more crucial than ever.

The first edition of the program kicked off at DOK Leipzig in October 2024. Over the course of the following year, the ten mentees worked closely with their mentors – some developing concrete projects, others, such as cinematographers or editors, working more across projects and career strategies. Now, at the end of this first year, we look back on a diverse set of paths and achievements of future documentary storytellers.

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Raphael Schanz (futurDOK): [raphael@panther-reh.de](mailto:raphael@panther-reh.de)

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