German Films Service + Marketing GmbH

is the national information and advisory center for the promotion of German films worldwide. In association and cooperation with its shareholders, German Films works to promote feature, documentary, television and short films. The work of German Films concentrates on information services, as well as PR and marketing measures to increase the awareness and visibility of German films abroad.

Shareholders are the German Producers Guild, the German Producers Alliance, the Association of German Film Exporters, the German Federal Film Board (FFA), the Deutsche Kinemathek, the German Documentary Association (AG DOK), FilmFernsehFonds Bayern, Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, and the German Short Film Association.

Range of activities
- Close cooperation with major international film festivals
- Organization of umbrella stands for German sales companies and producers at international television and film markets
- Staging of Festivals of German Films worldwide
- Providing advice and information for representatives of the international press and buyers from the fields of cinema, television and VoD
- Providing advice and information for German filmmakers and press on international festivals, conditions of participation, and German films being shown
- Organization of the annual Next Generation Short Tiger short film program, which presents a selection of shorts and is premiered at Cannes every year
- Publications offering information about new German films (e.g. German Films Quaterly), a film archive, information and links to German and international film festivals and institutions, international market analyses, available through the website www.german-films.de
- Organization of the selection procedure for the German entry for the Oscar® for Best International Feature Film
- Organization of the German Films Previews geared toward arthouse distributors and buyers of German films
- Selective financial Distribution Support for the foreign releases of German films
- Organization of the annual German-French film meeting, together with Unifrance
It’s not every day that German industry giant Constantin releases a documentary, let alone in 275 cinemas. But that’s exactly what it did in January 2020, luring 92,000 viewers into theatres over the opening weekend for THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES – the film adaptation of the eponymous bestseller by Germany’s most famous forest ranger Peter Wohlleben – proving once again that documentaries can keep pace with features at the box office. Of course, we all know from the Grimms’ fairy tales that Germans have a special relationship to their forests. But is the rest of the world interested as well?

You bet! Fridays for Future has helped make protecting the forests a global issue, even a question of survival. But environmental protection, climate change, globalisation, and worldwide economic and ecological interconnections have been at the top of the list of subjects German documentary filmmakers have been covering for years, even decades. As early as the 1970s, our filmmakers accompanied the enormous (and unfortunately sometimes violent) citizen protests against environmentally destructive mega-projects, providing insights, analyses and prognoses which have remained frighteningly relevant to the present day.

The struggle to save our natural resources, but also the inertia of the power elite – laid out in the film THE FORUM with unprecedented behind the scenes footage of the annual World Economic Forum in Davos – are a clear focus of this year’s German documentary offerings. On the following 80 pages, we offer you the entire thematic breadth of our documentary film production – from gripping music films and the ever topical subject of ‘football’, to moving films about children in war, such as SUMMERWARM by Moritz Schulz, which earned a special mention at the 2019 IDFA. german documentaries 2020 presents not only feature-length theatrical documentaries, but also a wide variety of shorter films suitable for television. So let us inspire you!

As usual, the keyword index at the end of this catalogue serves as a guide to the wealth of film offerings within. If you would like to know more about the German documentary film scene, visit us at www.german-documentaries.de or contact us directly. With more than 900 members, the German Documentary Association – AG DOK is the largest professional association of independent filmmakers in Germany, and the largest network in the German documentary film scene. It’s also your gateway to the astonishing breadth of German documentary films.

We look forward to receiving your questions, suggestions, and contact requests.

Thomas Frickel
Chairman and CEO
German Documentary Association AG DOK
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Videothek
Weapons
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Carmen Losmann.
1979 – Big Bang of the Present

by Dirk van den Berg, Pascal Verroust

HISTORY | CURRENT AFFAIRS | POLITICS | WAR & PEACE | ECONOMY

Our world is defined by the failure of communism, the rise of market economics, and by the power of politicised religion.

1979 was the dramatic year when all these forces came together and gave birth to the world as we know it today. A dynamic, investigative documentary that looks back at the past to explain the present.

66 Metres – Rising Sea Levels

by Alexander Lahl, Max Moench

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENVIRONMENT | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | SCIENCE | POLITICS | CLIMATE CHANGE

Rising seas will be one of the biggest challenges we face in the next few centuries. Island states will disappear, coastlines will shift. On the basis of scientists’ predictions, billions of dollars are being invested in coastal protection measures. But not everything can be protected.

800 Times Lonely

One Day with German Filmmaker Edgar Reitz

by Anna Hepp

PORTRAIT | ARTS | FILM | CULTURE | CINEMA | POV

In an exchange between generations, the co-signatory of the famous Oberhausen Manifesto and pioneer of the New German Film (Neuer Deutscher Film) meets a young director.

The film takes up questions about personal biographies up to the death of the cinema and becomes a declaration of love to filmmaking itself. A dedication to cinema, to German film art, to failure and love. And to Edgar Reitz.
Acasa, My Home
by Radu Ciorniciuc
HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | FAMILY | PORTRAIT | GENTRIFICATION | LONGTERM | SOCIAL

For the last two decades, the Enache family lived in the Bucharest’s Delta, an immense green space in which wildlife has become a rare urban ecosystem. Following the rhythm of the seasons, they live a simple life isolated from society. But their peace is soon to be over: no longer able to escape social services and pressured by the municipality, they are forced to move to the city and learn to conform to the rules of society.

Adelheid, Kornelius & The Deaths
by Kirstin Schmitt
HUMAN INTEREST | PORTRAIT | HEALTH | AGING

After 53 years of marriage Adelheid has to prepare herself of losing her beloved Kornelius to a bad little cancer. In humorous ways the documentary depicts their attempts to maintain normality and happiness, chronicling the farewell to their joint life.

Aftermath
by Christoph Hübner, Gabriele Voss
HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | SPORT | SOCIAL | PORTRAIT | LONGTERM

AFTERMATH tells the story of three former youth talents of the German football club Borussia Dortmund. The film encompasses a trilogy shot across 20 years, portraying the end of their career and asks the questions: what was, what is, what comes next?

Christoph Hübner and Gabriele Voss meet Florian Kringe, Heiko Hesse and Mohammed Abdulai again whom they have followed since 1998 as part of a long term observation of football talents. AFTERMATH forms a trilogy with THE CHAMPIONS (2003) and HalfTime (2010).
Noch einmal
39min  |  HD | Dolby 5.1  | color & b/w
OV German, Kurdish, English, Spanish
English ST
awards: nominated PRIX EUROPA, special mention DOCedGE, New Zealand
blackboardfilms | Mario Pfeifer
c. +49 176 78305426
info@blackboardfilms.info
www.blackboardfilms.net
vimeo.com/280332052

Again
by Mario Pfeifer
HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | CURRENT AFFAIRS | CONFLICTS | MIGRATION
His name was Schabas Saleh Al-Aziz and he came from Iraq. He was 21 years old, suffered from epilepsy and mental disorders and was found frozen to death in a forest in the former GDR. Some time before his death he had been the subject of heated debates. During a violent incident in a supermarket, Al-Aziz was tied to a tree by four men.
These four men appeared to some as heroes, to others as self-styled, racist-driven vigilantes. The film recreates this event in detail in the studio and is based on the codes of television talk shows, action films and staged court hearings.

Against the Tide
by Sobo Swobodnik
HUMAN INTEREST | HUMANT RIGHTS | CULTURE | POLITICS | SOCIETY | MUSIC | POV
AGAINST THE TIDE is a film about a country in upheaval, about the catastrophic situation in Venezuela, about a suspected ‘left-wing terrorist’, who has lived in hiding for over 25 years. About been on the lam from German investigators and about a transatlantic music project dealing with left-wing dreams, both those that have burst and those that still persist.
A project that highlights resistance, political engagement and the power of belief in a music’s ability to affect societal change.

 Ahead of me the South
by Pepe Danquart
SOCIETY | SOCIAL | CULTURE | TRAVEL | MIGRATION | CINEMA
3,700 km of coastline, a Fiat 1100, and an old travel diary, those are the ingredients for Pepe Danquart’s documentary. Following the footsteps of the great Italian thinker Pier Paolo Pasolini, the filmmaker gains a deep insight into the social reality of present-day Italy.
The country is massively affected by globalization, migration and the phenomenon of mass tourism, which, more than ever, is characterised by the same hedonistic conformity that Pasolini lamented more than fifty years ago. AHEAD OF ME THE SOUTH is a poetic contemporary document, a kaleidoscopic picture of the Italy of today.
Albrecht Schnider – Was bleibt
77min | QT ProresHQ | DCP | mp4 | OV
Swiss-German, German | German, English ST
festivals: Solothurner Filmtage
point de vue | Reinhard Manz
rmanz@pointdevue.ch
www.pointdevue.ch
Rita Ziegler
rizie@gmx.de | www.ritaziegler.de
MindJazz pictures
office@mindjazz-pictures.de
www.mindjazz-pictures.de

Albrecht Schnider – Beyond the Vanished
by Rita Ziegler
PORTRAIT | ARTS | PAINTINGS
Failure and repetition are part of the artistic work of Albrecht Schnider. Even after 30 years of international recognition, the Swiss artist shows himself with unusual openness in his struggle for the uniqueness of a visual moment that withstands his critical eye. The viewer is with increasing tension and expectation on the difficult path to the one valid picture involved. In some ways, the corresponding film sequences are reminiscent of the documentary ‘Le mystère Picasso’ (1956) by Henry-Georges Clouzot. But when here the drawing virtuosity of a genius is celebrated, 60 years later the equally credible film Portrait of Albrecht Schnider shows the difficult path to a valid image in a time of flood of images.

ALKOHOL – Der globale Rausch
89 or 52min | HD | DCP | 2K | DVD | VoD
OV English, German, Italian
English narration & ST | German VO
Magnetfilm GmbH | Georg Gruber
Torstr. 154, 10115 Berlin, Germany
info@magnetfilm.de
www.alkohol-derfilm.com
EIKON
www.eikon-film.de
vimeo.com/379035438

ALCOHOL – The Magic Potion
by Andreas Pichler
HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | ECONOMY | CONFLICTS | SOCIAL
Alcohol: No substance seems so familiar to us and is so incredibly diverse in its effect. It’s available everywhere and this particular molecule has the power to affect all 200 billion neurons of our brain in completely different ways. But hardly anyone calls it a drug despite its psychoactive and cell-destroying effect. Why do we tolerate the death of 3 million people every year? What role does the alcohol industry play with an annual turnover of 1.2 trillion EUR in this on-going concealment? The film has no intention to point a moral finger but will change the drinking habits of the viewer.

Landretter
83min | 16:9 | HD | DCP
OV German, English | English, German ST
festivals: DOK Leipzig
CORSO Film - and Television Production
Erik Winker, Martin Roelly
t. +49 221 20533700
corso@corsofilm.de
www.corsofilm.de
vienna@amourfoufilm.com
www.amourfoufilm.com

All for the Countryside
by Gesa Hollerbach
ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | SOCIETY | POLITICS | RURAL AREAS | LONGTERM
The last school has shut its doors, every other house is empty, there are only rapeseed fields as far as the eye can see. ALL FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE traces a variety of societal phenomena that are caused by changing dynamics in rural areas. Over the course of several years the film follows four individuals, who give unexpected impulses to life in the countryside – a mayor, a farmer, an astronomer and a local restaurant owner. While the four of them have completely different backgrounds, they are united in their strong belief in the power of the individual and the courage to use their actions to enter uncharted territory.
ALL IS ONE. EXCEPT 0.
by Klaus Maeck, Tanja Schwerdorf
PORTRAIT | SCIENCE | ECONOMY | HUMAN RIGHTS | ETHICS | SOCIETY

In 1981, Wau Holland and other hackers established the Hamburg based Chaos Computer Club (CCC). The idiosyncratic freethinkers were inspired by Californian technology visionaries and committed themselves to hacker ethics. All information must be free. Use public data, protect private data. But not everyone followed the rules. Computer technology was still in its infancy and the emerging Internet became a projection screen for social utopias. What has become of them? The story of the German hackers, told by the protagonists themselves in a montage of found video and audio material.

The Angel of History
by Eric Esser
HISTORY | ARTS | CULTURE | SOCIETY | EXPERIMENTAL | REFUGEE

A border in Europe.
A painting by Paul Klee.
A poem by Walter Benjamin.
A film about yesterday and today, and how difficult it is to recognize one behind the other.

Angels of Sinjar. Yazidis – 21st Century Genocide
by Hanna Polak
CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS | GENDER | WAR & PEACE | RELIGION | MIGRATION

After ISIS attempted to wipe out the Yazidi people in the most atrocious way, Hanifa and her two sisters, borne unfathomable cost of this 21st century genocide. As they’re trying to free their three sisters, remaining in ISIS captivity, Angels of Sinjar follows them, focusing on their strength and courage to rise from victimhood, clawing their way back to life and demanding justice and a lasting peace for the Yazidi population.
Another Reality
by Noël Dernesch, Olli Waldhauer

HUMAN INTEREST | MIGRATION | SOCIETY | MUSIC | FAMILY | CULTURE | ECONOMY

In Germany’s big cities, members of families involved in crime live in a parallel world. Young men with well-kempt beards, bulging muscles and big cars let us into their homes and share their dreams. Gangsta rap and a different kind of integration. Better than any fiction.

Art comes from the beak the way it has grown
by Sabine Herpich

HUMAN INTEREST | ARTS | SOCIAL | CULTURE | INCLUSION

At the art workshop for people with disabilities in Berlin Spandau, 16 artists work from Monday to Friday – and their work is defined as gainful employment. The art workshop is part of a whole range of workshops, where contract work for the industry is completed. Here, art is produced on the same terms.

Observing the artists at work, one can clearly see how persistently they are fighting for the desired expression. It reveals something substantial about the aim of art: Giving shape to the world, trying to understand it and adding something to it, that reflects this insight.

Ascona
by Julius Dommer

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | HISTORY | SPORTS

ASCONA shows a place that seems to have fallen out of time, that has not changed since the 1950s but still exists. A miniature golf course becomes a social analysis analogy. ASCONA shows protagonists who with dry humour describe the beginnings and difficulties of the course and the sport – between leisure and professional sport. Reflecting the conversatism of the 1950s ASCONA features a cross-section of society.
As long as you still have arms
by Luisa Bäde

HUMAN RIGHTS | PORTRAIT | ARTS | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | POLITICS | HISTORY | GDR | THEATRE

A studio room. Puppets. Frank Karbstein. Reminiscent, reflective, playful, narrating. The 1980s of the GDR – the group around the puppeteer Frank is arrested for distributing pacifistic leaflets. After being sentenced to imprisonment, the defendants are offered the opportunity to go to the West through a secret buy out of political prisoners. Frank stays. But the question remains: Who betrayed them? Different truths and memories stand side by side. In the centre of this is a person who never tries to act from the mindset of a victim and who shows his very own personal way of dealing with the GDR dictatorship.

At the Bottom of the Sea
by Karsten Krause

NATURE | HISTORY | LANDSCAPE | ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT

Spaces expand or disappear. Oceans become deserts. Rock erodes to sand and dust and human kind is passing by all this. Since the beginning of our existence, we are constantly moving from one place to another, fleeing hunger, war or the forces of nature, but also driven by a sense of longing for change. AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA traces forms of migration, interweaving them with geological and archaeological cartographies. In magical tableaux, the film draws a cinegraphic melancholy where a border fence is not even useful for a comma on earth’s timeline.

At the Edge – Beekeepers in Mecklenburg
by Anne Andersen

ENVIRONMENT | FOOD | ECONOMY | RURAL AREAS | THEATRE | ARTS | POLITICS | GDR | POV

An essayistic approach to the rural beekeepers’ fight for survival and the endurance of a lively culture that has largely disappeared from view. The filmmaker, who has kept bees herself since childhood, follows the daily working life of beekeepers in the countryside of West Mecklenburg. What is often overlooked, ignored, forgotten, comes into play in Heiner Müller’s comedy ‘The Resettled Woman’, rehearsed by stage director Armin Petras with actors, farmers, beekeepers in Ludwigslust. The play, which was initially banned in East Germany due to its criticism of agricultural reforms, shows parallels with the problems of today. The film is a polyphonic essay on the creativity of the area’s remaining inhabitants, and the rural living experiences.
**Autobahn**
by Daniel Abma

HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | POLITICS | SOCIAL | LONGTERM

A huge construction project will change Germany’s most notorious bottleneck forever – a long-term observation over eight years of people living in Spa town Bad Oeynhausen. A film about Germany, small town society and a huge motorway.

**Automotive**
by Jonas Heldt

HUMAN INTEREST | PORTRAIT | SOCIETY | WORK | ECONOMY

Seda (20) sorts car components all night long at Audi as a temp worker. She dreams about a permanent contract. Then she could emancipate herself from her conservative parents and buy her own Mercedes-Benz.

Headhunter Eva (33) is a specialist for recruiting experts in logistics automation which will eventually make Seda’s job obsolete. A minimum of 10% of all jobs at Audi in Ingolstadt will be substituted through digitalization and automation in the next years. Currently these sought-after professionals are paid top Euros. In a few years Eva wants to stop working and move to the Caribbean with her girlfriend.

AUTOMOTIVE tells a story of a generation for which work as a basis of existence is neither safe nor identity shaping. Seda and Eva might seem very different at first, but they share the same goal: personal independence and dignity through their work in the digital age.

**BACKYARD**
by Khaled Abdulwahed with Amel Alzakout

CURRENT AFFAIRS | EXPERIMENTAL | WAR & PEACE

The experimental short film deconstructs and reconstructs a photograph taken in 1998 of a Syrian cactus field, a plant known for its resilience. War and its havoc have been there. 20 years later there only remains this photograph projected on a wall in a flat in a Berlin backyard.
Bastard in Mind
by Sobo Swobodnik

HUMAN INTEREST | ESSAY | HEALTH | POV

The diagnosis: an aneurysm in the brain. Then follow two nightmarish months during which we accompany the filmmaker. An essayistic audio-visual collage, in which Sobo Swobodnik shows us what it means to live with a potentially fatal condition.

B.B. und die Schule am Fluss
by Detlev F. Neufert

HUMAN INTEREST | PORTRAIT | COMING OF AGE | SOCIAL | EDUCATION | ANTHROPOLOGY

B.B. is a courageous boy from the Naga tribe, former headhunters. They live in the inaccessible part of Burma near the Himalayas. At the age of seven he starts with alcohol and claws. At 13 he is close to death. A Christian priest saves him. He sends him to a boarding school in the temple city of Bagan. Here the young Naga meets hard-to-raise children from many different ethnic groups, who often still fight each other. But the children are fed up with fighting. They want to overcome old tribal feuds.

But can that really work? In a country that is mostly ruled by the military? A new generation?

Becoming Black
by Ines Johnson-Spain

POV | MIGRATION | HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIAL | SOCIETY | FAMILY | AFRICA

Imagine that your parents are white but your skin colour is dark and they tell you that ‘s pure coincidence. This is what happened to a girl in East Berlin in the 1960s. Years before, a group of African men came to study in a village nearby. Here the East German woman Sigrid falls in love with Lucien from Togo and gets pregnant. But she is already married to Armin.

The child is filmmaker Ines Johnson-Spain. Meeting her stepfather Armin and others from her childhood years, she tracks the astonishing strategies of denial her parents and the surroundings had developed. In an intimate portrayal but also critical exploration she brings together painful and confusing childhood memories with matter-of-fact accounts that testify a culture of rejection and tight-lipped denial. Yet, the movingly warm encounters with her Togolese family develop Becoming Black also into a reflection on themes such as identity, social norms and family ties, seen from a very personal perspective.
BEKAR EVI – The Bachelor House

by Dirk Schäfer

CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | SOCIAL | WORK | MIGRATION

Seven Kurdish workers, who share a flat in Istanbul, are driven by the desire to improve their lives. One is Ikram, who has spent 11 years in prison for political reasons. He wants to leave Turkey for Europe. Miro, another, faces a forced marriage back home. But he has fallen in love with Suzan, a woman in Istanbul. One day, Miro is handed a precious cat from his home province. The breed is famous for its snow-white coat and two different eye colors. By giving the cat to Suzan, Miro hopes to win her heart.

The film follows Ikram, Miro, and the other men’s struggle through current Istanbul and portrays a traditional way of brotherhood called ‘Bekar Evi’ – Bachelor House.

Bella Ciao – An Odyssey

by Daniel Burkholz

ORAL HISTORY | WAR & PEACE | HUMAN RIGHTS | NS-POLITICS | SOCIETY

“That’s how my 12 year odyssey began...” – In 1933, when Hitler and the Nazi Party took over, the German Jew Kurt Julius Goldstein and many other men and women had to leave the country to survive. In the following years, many antifascists from all over Europe shared this fate. Together, they took part in the fight against the Nazi-Wehrmacht. They had not much hope to succeed in defeating the Nazis, until in May 1945 all of Europe was liberated from Fascism – none of these men and women would have expected that 75 years later, Fascism is on the rise again...

Bernauer Strasse – A Street Divided

by Daniel Ast, Jürgen Ast

HISTORY | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | BERLIN | GDR

Bernauer Strasse in Berlin is symbolic of the division of Germany. The border line ran along the walls of the houses that stood on the eastern side. Both sides of the street changed radically when the Wall went up. Thirty years after the fall of the Wall, we investigate into a vanished place that brings into focus the history of the Berlin Wall like nowhere else.
Bittersweet Kiss
by Robert H. Schumann, Natascha E. Tagwerk

**HUMAN INTEREST | MIGRATION | CULTURE | MUSIC | SOCIETY**

BITTERSWEET KISS grapples with the theme of migration in Germany, calling into question common typical stereotypes. It focuses on three migrants from Thailand and a German protagonist married to a Thai woman.

In this world Karaoke has a distinctive resonance set against the background of the Thai culture of decency, in which one’s own emotions are kept in check. Karaoke is an entertaining and community-creating medium that offers the opportunity to process and show emotions without losing face. Karaoke is recreational activity, business foundation, therapy, art, culture and everyday life.

Blue Eyes and Colorful My Dress
by Polina Gumiela

**HUMAN INTEREST | YOUTH | CHILDHOOD | SOCIAL**

For three-year-old Zhana, each walk through the neighborhood contains a discovery. Summer in a Bulgarian town. On the lookout for friends to play, three-year-old Zhana goes through the streets of the neighborhood, connecting to any kid, cat or neighbor she meets. Her character unfolds spontaneously before the viewer’s eyes as she hops from one encounter into another.

The BND File – Shipping Companies and the Arms Business
by Rainer Kahrs

**CURRENT AFFAIRS | ECONOMY | POLITICS | TRADE | CONFLICTS | WAR & PEACE | LONGTERM**

Bypassing international embargoes, German shipping companies transport weapons and tanks via a secret port in the Ukraine to war and crisis zones around the world. But they are not acting on their own account but in consultation with and sometimes even at the suggestion of the German intelligence agency BND. An investigative inquiry.
Body of Truth
by Evelyn Schels

ARTS | PORTRAIT | GENDER | WOMEN | WAR & PEACE | CONFLICTS | POLITICS

The artists Marina Abramović, Sigalit Landau, Katharina Sieverding, and Shirin Neshat use their bodies to create provocative and radical works. Impacted by the political conflicts experienced in their respective countries of origin, these artists transform their wounds into art that raises issues of political and societal relevance. Their individual perceptions of current conflicts – for example, the war in Syria, the refugee crisis, the Middle East conflict and the right-wing populism – offer us new perspectives in times of political powerlessness.

Boy of War
by Cyprien Clement-Delmas, Igor Kosenko

CURRENT AFFAIRS | COMING OF AGE | CONFLICTS | WAR & PEACE | YOUTH

Artiom is 18 years old and has just one wish: to go to war and fight for his homeland, Ukraine. Everything else comes second. He dresses in camouflage, watches war videos online, and in his free time practices battle scenes with his friends. Or at least they think they are battle scenes. As a child, he only sees the surface of the war. And he has the bad luck that the fighting rages so tantalizingly close. This observational documentary studies the cult of war in a post-Soviet setting where those who succumb to the allure of battle are the least suitable and least predisposed to fighting – a fact perfectly illustrated by Artiom’s final struggle with the reality of war.

BREAD
by Harald Friedl

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | CRAFT | FOOD | SUSTAINABILITY

The simple staple bread has become a branded product with a countless number of varieties and providers. But do we actually know what we eat every day? The film BREAD gives an authentic and unique insight in today’s world of bread. We meet small craft bakers who stand up for their quality with sustainable ingredients but we also meet corporate CEOs who professionally work on the daily bread as an industrial mass product which becomes increasingly artificial. How can traditional bakery skills survive? And how will the future of bread look like?
**Butenland**

by Marc Pierschel

SOCIETY | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | ANIMALS | SUSTAINABILITY | ENVIRONMENT

On the Butenland farm, many former farm animals live at eye level with human beings – without having to fulfill any requirements. A peaceful coexistence that seems almost utopian.

With their project, Jan Gerdes and Karin Mück are designing a radical counter-model to livestock husbandry, in which the needs of the animals are the main focus, far away from any economic interests.

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**Campus Galli – The Medieval Building Site**

by Reinhard Kungel

HISTORY | CULTURE | LONGTERM | ETHNOLOGY | ARCHAEOLOGY | ARCHITECTURE | CRAFT

For centuries, the legendary Plan of Saint Gall has inspired and inspired architects, historians and archaeologists all over the world, as it is considered the oldest architectural drawing in the Occident. However, this significant plan was never realized – at least until June 2013, when some 40 craftsmen, archaeologists and historians in Meßkirch on Lake Constance began working on the plan, using only the means and methods of the early Middle Ages. In addition to dwellings and craftsmen’s huts, a hospital and three(!) breweries, the plan also includes a huge abbey church measuring around 70 metres in height. The construction time will be more than 50 years. Besides the first documentary about the beginnings, this is the second (cinema) film about the years 2016-2018, produced in high quality 4K/50p.

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**Carlo Gesualdo – Murder, Madness and Madrigals**

by Andreas Morell

PORTRAIT | ARTS | MUSIC | CULTURE | CRIME

Carlo Gesualdo – beastly murderer and divine composer – is one of the most striking figures in the history of music. Based on his dramatic honor killing, the film tells the story of multi-faceted, revolutionary music and the search for forgiveness.

Through the power of music, the film explores the thin line between fascination and disgust. How is it possible to commit a capital crime, yet write divine music? Are crime and genius interwoven? And can salvation through music be achieved?
The Cars We Drove Into Capitalism
by Boris Missirko, Georgi Bogdanov

HISTORY | ECONOMY | SOCIETY | CULTURE | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | GDR

For many decades, every year, half of Europe was facing the complicated task of selecting a new car, among hundreds of new models arriving in to the market. The other half was free to choose from among 10 to 15 makes and models available to them from their States. Almost as Henry Ford put it about the Model T ‘Any customer can have a car painted any color that he wants, as long as it is black.’ These products of the Socialist automotive industry – such as Moskvich, Trabi or Dacia – were usually out of fashion, slow, clumsy, a pain to drive and repair. But still they were status symbols.

The Case of Johanna Langefeld
by Władek Jurkow, Gerburg Rohde-Dahl

HISTORY | NS-POLITICS | PORTRAIT | SOCIETY | WOMEN

The story of Johanna Langefeld is the only known case of an SS guard being saved from a death sentence after the war by her own victims. In 1946, she escaped from a Cracow prison where she was awaiting trial. Her former prisoners not only helped her escape but also hid her from the Polish authorities for ten years.

What were their motives?

The Cave
by Feras Fayyad

CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS | HUMAN INTEREST | GENDER | WAR & PEACE | WOMEN

Oscar nominee Feras Fayyad (LAST MEN IN ALEPPO) delivers an unflinching story of the Syrian war with his powerful new documentary. For besieged civilians, hope and safety lie underground inside the subterranean hospital known as the cave, where pediatrician and managing physician Dr. Amani Ballour and her colleagues Samaher and Dr. Alaa have claimed their right to work as equals alongside their male counterparts, doing their jobs in a way that would be unthinkable in the oppressively patriarchal culture that exists above. Following the women as they contend with daily bombardments, chronic supply shortages and the ever-present threat of chemical attacks, THE CAVE paint a stirring portrait of courage, resilience and female solidarity.
**CHADDR – A River between us**

by Minsu Park

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENVIRONMENT | ANTHROPOLOGY | SUSTAINABILITY | COMING OF AGE

CHADDR is a feature documentary about a 17-year-old girl Stanzin. Her home town in the heart of Himalaya in Kashmir is facing big changes: Global warming and technological progress change the lives of people rapidly. Until recently children had to follow dangerous mountain pass every year to get from their home village to school. It takes Stanzin 4 days to get to school. The times are changing and the dangerous mountain pass will be turned into an autoroute. The director Minsu Park follows Stanzin on her last way to school, before she graduates and leaves her hometown forever.

**Chichinette – The Accidental Spy**

by Nicola Alice Hens

HISTORY | WAR & PEACE | NS-POLITICS | GENDER | WOMEN | MIGRATION

The untold story of Marthe Cohn, a feisty young woman who joined the French resistance during WWII. After keeping silent for almost 60 years, Marthe now shares the extraordinary story of how she managed to beat the odds and fight the Nazis as a spy.

At the age of 99, she still tours the world, showing off her medals and promoting her message to people of all generations. Her harrowing journey is told with reverence, while her joie de vivre shines through, filling the film with hope for the future.

**Children of Utopia**

by Hubertus Siegert

HUMAN INTEREST | COMING OF AGE | SOCIAL | INCLUSION | SOCIETY | EDUCATION

CHILDREN OF UTOPIA takes us into the Berlin lives of six young people on the cusp of adulthood, as they look back at their time at an inclusive school – a radical concept back then. Some would be described as disabled, but they reject that label. As they discover the new lives they’ve made in the 12 years that have passed, their focus is on the ups and downs of life: love, careers, doubt and determination. This sweet and entertaining coming-of-age movie shows how the respect fostered in Class 5D has only grown over the years, and the poignant moments of honesty and compassion catch you by surprise throughout.
Chinafrika. mobile – Mobiltelefone auf dem Weg durch drei Kontinente
75min | HD | English VO | German ST

Daniel Kötter
dankaet@gmail.com
www.danielkoetter.de
vimeo.com/235635971

CHINAFLIKE.mobil
by Daniel Kötter, Jochen Becker a.o.
CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | GLOBALISATION | WORK

The camera follows the life cycle of a mobile phone, from its ‘birth’ in the mines in the Congo to its production in Chinese factories, its use and ‘death’ in the markets and recycling dumps in Nigeria. Filmed by miners, factory workers, dealers and scrap collectors at original locations, the film shows the work being done on the equipment that shapes our everyday lives so much.

Coal Country Song. Gundermann
by Grit Lemke
PORTRAIT | MUSIC | ECONOMY | GDR | CULTURE | RURAL AREAS | GERMAN REUNIFICATION

In her first feature-length documentary as a director, author and curator Grit Lemke turns her attention to the life of the cult rock poet and coal excavator Gerhard Gundermann who was initially called ‘the Bob Dylan of the opencast mine’ before becoming the ‘voice of the East Germans’. The film biography is told against the background of a region where global issues of our time are focused as if in a concave mirror. They permeate the artist’s oeuvre: home and devastation, the end of industry and work, utopia and individual responsibility.

Observations and conversations, images of a post-mining landscape, and a first-person narrator from the coal region enter into a dialogue with Gundermann through his songs, texts and largely unknown archive footage.

Deutschland im Kalten Krieg
3x43min or 2x52min | HD | OV German, English, Russian | English, French ST&VO

LOOKS International GmbH
distribution@looks.film
www.looks.film

THE COLD WAR STORY
by Kai Christiansen, Matthias Schmidt
HISTORY | CONFLICTS | POLITICS | WAR & PEACE | ECONOMY

Who were the players in the ‘poker game’ between East and West? What were the stakes? This documentary focuses on the diplomatic twists and personal stories behind key moments in the struggle between hostile ideologies and superpowers. While unfolding THE COLD WAR STORY in the fields of politics and diplomacy, the military, economy and everyday life, the films deliberately contrast the enemy camps and perspectives: East vs. West; US vs. USSR; West Germany vs. East Germany. An intriguing journey through the rhetoric and aesthetics of the time, with archive footage being part of the story.
Countdown to 1989: The Fall of the Berlin Wall

by Henrike Sandner

HISTORY | POLITICS | WAR & PEACE | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | GDR

The opening of the Berlin Wall on the evening of November 9, 1989 came as a complete surprise to East and West Germans alike, as it probably did to the whole world. How did this historic moment come about? The film identifies ten milestones, key political and societal events from 1988 to 1989 which, like a countdown, ultimately led to the opening and fall of the Berlin Wall.

Archive, explanatory graphics and international expert interviews combine with personal stories from diaries and letters of contemporary witnesses revealing their thoughts, fears and hopes as events unfolded.

The Culture of the Kalash

by Sabiha Sumar

HUMAN INTEREST | ETHNOLOGY | ANTROPOLOGY | RURAL AREAS | CULTURE | RELIGION

Only around 4,000 Kalash people still live at the foot of the Himalayas in Pakistan’s Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. They practise a polytheistic faith and a highly traditional way of life, a far away from the modernity of the big cities. But how long can this seclusion and the preservation of their culture be maintained?

Cunningham

by Alla Kogan

PORTRAIT | ARTS | DANCE | HISTORY | LONGTERM

2019 marks the centenary of legendary American choreographer Merce Cunningham. This poetic film traces Merce’s artistic evolution over three decades of risk and discovery (1944–1972), from his early years as a struggling dancer in postwar New York to his emergence as one of the most visionary and influential choreographers worldwide. The 3D technology weaves together Merce’s philosophies and stories, creating a visceral journey into the choreographer’s world.

‘CUNNINGHAM succeeds in a way that most dance documentaries do not: as an art object in and of itself.’ – The New Yorker
The Daughter of...
by Joakim Demmer, Verena Kuri

HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | GENDER | COMING OF AGE | WOMEN

As Mica was 3 years old, her mother was kidnapped and disappeared into the abyss of forced prostitution in Argentina. When the police ignored the case, Mica’s grandmother began a relentless fight against human trafficking and corrupt authorities. Growing up, Mica did not only have to deal with the trauma of losing her mother but was also forced into the role as a public person. In Argentina, Mica was seen as the daughter of ‘the kidnapped’ or the granddaughter of ‘the legend’ Susana Trimarco. Now 20, Mica is trying to over overcome the burden of the past and define her identity herself.

Daughters of the Karakorum
by André Hörmann

HUMAN INTEREST | GENDER | ANTHROPOLOGY | RURAL AREAS | COMING OF AGE

Shimshal is a village in Pakistan, in the middle of the Karakorum, one of the world’s highest mountain ranges. For a number of years, local women have been training for the first time as mountain guides at the Mountaineering School.

We accompany a group of young women on their way up the 5300-metre-high Mount Shifkteen Sar and into a new life.

Days of Summer
by Annette Scheurich

NATURE | ANIMALS | ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT | CLIMATE CHANGE

Long days, plenty of food, idleness and la Dolce Vita – for us, this is what summer is all about. But nature can’t afford to take a holiday. On the contrary, the long hours of sunshine demand peak performance all round. Animals and plants must use these warm and heady days to grow and reproduce.

In opulent images, the film reveals how the plant and animal worlds deal with the challenges of summer. An abundance of warmth, light and food should ideally make for a carefree time. But the unbridled energy of summer also manifests itself in extreme heat and violent thunderstorms.
Tödliches Spiel um die Macht. Edward II. von England
52min or 45min | HD | OV German, English
German, English, French VO&ST
NEW DOCS | Elina Kewitz
sales@newdocs.de
www.newdocs.de
FLORIANFILM GmbH
post@florianfilm.de
www.florianfilm.de

Deadly Power Games – Edward II King of England
by André Schäfer
HISTORY | PORTRAIT | POLITICS
Edward II, who ruled England in the early 14th century, was surrounded by opponents: the Scots in the north, the French on the continent, and the barons in his own country. He was eventually brought down by his own wife, who invaded England and forced him to resign. The story of an unprecedented royal downfall.

< 40 min.

Dead Sea Dying
by Katharina Rabl, Rebecca Zehr
CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENVIRONMENT | NATURE | CLIMATE CHANGE
On the banks of the Dead Sea, there where God is said to have destroyed the sinful cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, the earth is once again opening up; the sea level is dropping by one meter per year, and there on the banks of the salt lake, date trees and massage parlors are being consumed by sinkholes. While the name of the lake itself seems to be transforming into a self-fulfilling prophecy, tremendous industrial facilities twinkle at night at the site where Sodom once existed. Tourists feel their way around in the waters in search of cures, and behind the beaches, excavators are digging up the land in preparation for the next luxury hotel.
A kaleidoscopic look at a dystopian place where people perpetually revolve around themselves.

> 70 min.

Bruderliebe
106min | DCP | OV German | English ST
festivals: Hot Docs Toronto, DOK fest Munich, FF Cologne, Kunstfest Lünen, Gimme Some Truth Documentary Festival Winnipeg, DokKa Karlsruhe a.o.
CORSO Film - and Television Production
Erik Winker, Martin Roelly
t. +49 221 20533700
coro@corsofilm.de
www.corsofilm.de
www.hornfilm.de
vimeo.com/330954883

Dear Brother
by Julia Horn
HUMAN INTEREST | FAMILY | SOCIAL | INCLUSION | LONGTERM | HEALTH
Markus Becker is hit by a car and falls into a coma. The doctors don’t believe the 45-year-old will survive the next five to ten days and his father begins making funeral arrangements. Markus’ brother Michael refuses to accept this fate. With an unwavering perseverance, creative ideas and humour, Michael manages to get his brother out of the vegetative state. For ten years filmmaker Julia Horn accompanied the two brothers with sensitivity and persistence and was also there do document the moment, when Michael almost loses his own life due to exhaustion. Dear Brother is a love story, a film about what we are willing to do for love and a film about our idea of what it means to be human.
Defender of the Faith
by Christoph Röhl

RELIGION | PORTRAIT | SOCIETY

DEFENDER OF THE FAITH tells the story of a man who has dedicated his life to preserving the Church but instead led it into its greatest crisis: Joseph Ratzinger, the German Pope Benedict XVI. The documentary analyses the ideological, cultural and organizational failings of an institution that claims to proclaim the absolute truth as it struggles to come to terms with modern democratic society that has accepted diversity and pluralism as fundamental rights.

A Demonstration
by Sasha Litvintseva, Beny Wagner

HUMAN INTEREST | SCIENCE | SOCIETY | NATURE | ENVIRONMENT | EXPERIMENTAL

A DEMONSTRATION is a monster film with no monsters. Inspired by the existence of taxonomies of monsters at the heart of early modern European science, the film explores and reinterprets a way of seeing the natural world that is almost impossible to imagine from today’s vantage point. Early Modern naturalists were guided by a logic in which truths were discovered through visual analogy. The word ‘monster’ comes from the Latin ‘monstrare’, meaning to show, to reveal, to demonstrate. A DEMONSTRATION picks up on these themes in a poetic exploration of the boundaries of sight and the metamorphosis of form.

Desert View
by Daniel Kötter, Constanze Fischbeck

CURRENT AFFAIRS | SOCIETY | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | ARCHITECTURE

Desert View initiated by the theatre and filmmakers Constanze Fischbeck and Daniel Kötter explores residential formats in Madinaty, a new town in the desert, 30km outside of Cairo. The film is the result of a four week long ‘residency’ experiment, where both the filmmakers and the three-generation family Barakat from Cairo’s informal settlement Bashitl, became temporary residents of Madinaty. Equipped with their own cameras, professional ones and low-fi mobile phones, both “teams” analyzed from their own perspectives architecture, space, time and everyday life style, representing Egypt’s middle and upper class Desert Dreams. A collaborative film on the use of space.
Dieter Meier – A Coincidence
by Peter Sempel

PORTRAIT | ARTS | MUSIC | CULTURE | LONGTERM

From Zurich to the Ganges: A associative portrait of Dieter Meier, best known as the singer and lyricist of the Swiss duo YELLO. Dieter Meier – gambler, poet, writer, film-maker, photographer, bon vivant and of course the voice of Yello, founded at the end of the 1970s in Zurich and still today a music project full of expressivity and pleasure in experimentation.

For more than 30 years, Peter Sempel and his camera accompanied the Swiss artist and his extreme energy and versatility. Be it in Hamburg, New York, Los Angeles, Marrakesh or the Himalayas, much of the film was unplanned and thus corresponds to Meier’s Babylonian way of working, which is also often led by chance. (FFHH)
**Verkaufte Götter**

100min | HD
OV German, French, Bamoun | German ST

Filmkraft | Peter Heller
Dantestrasse 27
80637 Munich, Germany
filmkraft@t-online.de
www.filmkraft.de
vimeo.com/user14882080

**Dumped Gods**

by Peter Heller

**ARTS | ECONOMY | CULTURE | ETHNOLOGY | COLONIALISM | AFRICA**

Today it’s called simply ‘looted art’! And just a few years ago it was still called ‘Art of the Primitive’ or ‘Tribal Art’. Our museums are full of Ancient art from Africa. But Africa itself has almost no masks left, the acquisition and provenance of collections in the north of the world are controversial, and young African intellectuals invoke with these fetishes of lost past the history of the continent and their own identity.

But who does this treasure really belong to? Experts from Africa ask for restitution – But was it all just robbery? Are we facing a freshly disguised colonialism? Or at the beginning of new forms of cultural exchange from South to North at eye level?

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**Dazwischen Elsa**

30min | DCP | ProRes
OV German | English ST

festivals: dax! | Duisburg

**Elsa In-Between**

by Katharina Pethke

**HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | COMING OF AGE | YOUTH**

Elsa is 20 and graduated from high school last summer. She spends her days sleeping. Reading. Thinking. Everyone else has made up their minds: Voluntary social year, world trip, studies. Elsa simply can’t do it.

Anything but being confronted with the fact that the future is a wide field – undescribed and directionless. Between ‘luxury’ and a real problem, her attitude to her own situation changes. Completely free and unbound, easy and carefree and infinitely burdened by the serious decision: Who do I want to be? Who will I be?

A film about this moment of not-yet-being and the pressure to make a decision.

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**Etüde über die Zeit**

13min 40sec | DCP | mp4 | HD | DVD Blu-ray | OV German | English ST

Werner Biedermann (Filmhaus Essen)
Karolinenstr. 12
45130 Essen, Germany
+49 201 7220663
Werner.Biedermann1@t-online.de
www.wernerbiedermann.de

**Étatude on Time**

by Werner Biedermann

**PORTRAIT | SCIENCE | ARTS | PHILOSOPHY**

In his talk with Werner Biedermann, mathematician, computer scientist and artist Frieder Nake explains the Concept of Time. Other aspects, like the linear Time-Flow and the influence of digitalisation on our sensation of time, are touched upon. The question of meaningful time also encompasses the meaning of life itself. Associative film images accompany the talk.
Exodus
by Oliver Stiller
HUMAN RIGHTS | MIGRATION | CURRENT AFFAIRS | ECONOMY

In October 2018, 7000 people from Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador fled the rampant gang-crime and the precarious economic situation in their home countries. They joined together in a massive trek with one goal: to cross Mexico and enter the USA. Exodus introduces the people of the first caravan of Central Americans who left everything behind but their faith in God to start a dangerous and thousands-of-kilometers-long journey into the unknown.

Eye Candy
by Katharina Kraft
PORTRAIT | GENDER | COMING OF AGE | SPORTS | LGBT

Since she was five years old, Yasmin Lander only had one dream: she wanted to become a professional wrestler. As her character Penelope – a posh upper-class girl from Cambridge – she struggles to get attention. After she reinvents herself as the fearless tomboy Charlie Morgan, she starts to win more and more matches. But then she gets injured during a show and has to rest for several months, just to come back stronger and more determined than ever before.

EYE CANDY is a 60-minutes documentary about a strong woman in a once male-dominated sports, who fights to get respected as entertainer, athlete and homosexual woman.

Faxen
by Lisa Domin
HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | SOCIAL | PRISON

The video follows a special form of communication: faxen. The prison in Gelsenkirchen (Germany) has an unusual architecture: men and women sections lay vis-à-vis – only divided from a sports field. Conversations by „faxen“ can be hold with letters written with light or hand in the air. Mostly to foreign dialog partners who never see each other face to face. The contact to the inmate Vanessa made it possible to „stage“ the communication form in order not to record the private conversations. Stays in prisons are sometimes only a quick stopover, but some come again and again and some stay for years. The chance to exchange with other people becomes essential – just to kill time or even to dream of a common future.
The Female Voice of Iran
by Andreas Rochholl

Dealing with cultural censorship in Iran, women singers started using also digital media more. Invited by Negar, a magical entity, female voices from all over this vast country come out of isolation, gather in a garden in the very middle of Iran to make their dream come true. Nobody has tried this before, so Negar seeks the help of two travellers to connect. Along the way they meet surprisingly strong female personalities of diverse cultural backgrounds and come closer to understanding the orient...

The Fever
by Katharina Weingartner

Malaria has killed more people than all other diseases and wars on Earth combined. In Subsahara Africa one child still dies every sixty seconds. Nobody, including Big Pharma, the Gates Foundation or the WHO, seems to believe that Africans have their own solutions. THE FEVER portrays the fight against malaria in East Africa as a case study in greed and courage.

Fidel – with the saxophone on the garbage dump
by Carmen Butta

When music rises above the smoking garbage dump at sunset, the thoughts of 12 year old Fidel Otieno float into the distance. He merges with his saxophone and no longer sees the huts of the slum in front of him, but dreams of an audience that is enthusiastic about his music.

For two years, Fidel has played as a saxophonist in Ghetto Classics, a classic youth orchestra that miraculously emerged in the most dangerous slum in the Kenyan metropolis of Nairobi. It started with 14 children playing the flute. Today the 80 musicians from Ghetto Classics give concerts all over Nairobi. Fidel is proud of that.

An emotional, poetic film about the power of music.
Finding the Beauty
by Lennart Brede

ARTS | MUSIC | HISTORY | LONGTERM

FINDING THE BEAUTY is a portrait of time and a few individuals who made their way into it. We become witness to what happened in the world of music and art from the early nineties untill today. The film is shot in Berlin and New York across 10 years. It directs us through the artists life into the world of success and struggle, of wishes and needs. It is about the artist journey of finding the beauty in their work.

Football-Mad
by Manuele Deho

HUMAN INTEREST | SPORTS | FOOTBALL | HUMAN RIGHTS | INCLUSION | LONGTERM

The goalkeeper: schizophrenic, the forward: psychotic, the defender: depressive. Stefan’s football team is in crisis. Some Saturdays only Denis makes it to the training. Which means none of the other fourteen players has overcome the paralysing effect of his medication or illness. Bad timing. Stefan has just invited fifteen teams from all over Europe to Munich: to the 20th International Tournament of Psychiatric Football. For one year we are following the weekly struggle between forward Alex and his psychologist. We are present when defender Peyman has to relearn how to fold socks while badly wanting to participate in the tournament. And we listen to Manfred and Denis discussing what to tell or not to tell their psychiatrist. Football Mad – an insight into a strange world that sometimes seems strangely familiar.

The Forum
by Marcus Vetter

CURRENT AFFAIRS | POLITICS | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | GLOBALIZATION | SUSTAINABILITY

In times of rampant populism and growing mistrust of the elite, director Marcus Vetter accompanies the 81-year-old founder of the controversial World Economic Forum over a period of two years, as he works to achieve his mission: improve the state of the world. When Klaus Schwab writes a letter to climate activist Greta Thunberg after her appearance at the WEF 2019, a dialogue begins between the generations that gives hope. Can Klaus Schwab’s vision bear fruit and can the WEF contribute to solving global problems? Or is it just another part of the problem and does it ultimately serve the interests of the global elite alone?
Fredrick II – Holy Roman Emperor
by Markus Augé
PORTRAIT | HISTORY | RELIGION | POLITICS

He was a patron of science, a reformer, and might even be called the first modern ruler. And yet he was also brutal and power-hungry. Frederick II of Hohenstaufen (1194–1250) was an exceptional figure on the Roman-German imperial throne.

Fred Stein: Out of Exile
by Dawn Freer, Peter Stein
PORTRAIT | HISTORY | CULTURE | ARTS | POV | PHOTOGRAPHY

Many people know the photos of Fred Stein but few know his name. His street scenes of Paris in the 1930s and New York in the 1940s and his portraits of famous personalities are well-known. This film seeks out this forgotten photographer. Who was this man who fled the Nazis, first to Paris and then to New York, and who, despite such upheaval, had a positive, often humorous view of the world? His son Peter traces his father’s footsteps in a very personal film. Fred Stein died before photography was recognized as an art form, and his work lay forgotten in a closet. His son Peter Stein has brought his father’s work to the public, and it is being rediscovered through exhibits in museums around the world.

Frenemies – Putin and Trump
by Claire Walding
CURRENT AFFAIRS | PORTRAIT | POLITICS | HISTORY

When Donald Trump got elected US president in 2016, members of the Russian Duma applauded. But only weeks later the new relationship experienced deep ruptures. Putin & Trump – two rivals, each on a mission to make his country ‘great again’. To understand the political maneuvers, we look at specific points in the recent history of conflict between both states. Russian experts have a say, commented by US insiders.
Fritsch’s Flub
by Lisa Wagner
PORTRAIT | ARTS | THEATRE | CULTURE

At the peak of his success, director Herbert Fritsch again has to figure out what modern theater means to him. Fritsch’s Pfusch is a documentary about the unconventional work of outstanding theatre director Fritsch, his illustrious ensemble and his last play Pfusch at the Volksbühne Berlin. With: Herbert Fritsch, Florian Anderer, Wolfram Koch, Annika Meier, Carol Schuler a.o.

Garage People
by Natalija Yefimkina
HUMAN INTEREST | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SOCIAL | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | HOBBY

In Russia there is a phenomenon beyond ice fishing, matryoshkas and vodka: the garage settlement. Seemingly inhospitable sheds which offer refuge to a large number of Russians – mainly men. Within these few square metres, they create alternative living spaces, with ingenuity and tenacity, according to their own taste and beyond any rules. The garages are an expression of a retreat into privacy, an escape from everyday life. Behind the Arctic Circle, in an area dominated by the local mining company, the garage is a chance for self-fulfillment – and appears as diverse as the dreams of its owners.

get me some HAIR!
by Lars Barthel
HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | MIGRATION | GENDER | WOMEN | POV

Lars Barthel asks his Jamaican wife Antoinette why she often wears hair extensions. This personal curiosity leads Lars and his film to some complex and politically-charged questions. What is the relationship between hair and racism? And where do the hair extensions actually come from?
Ghost of the Alps
by Walter Steffen

NATURE | HISTORY | ETHNOLOGY | CULTURE | ENVIRONMENT | RURAL AREAS

GHOSTS OF THE ALPS tells archaic mysteries and legends of the Bavarian Alps. It’s focus is on the authentic narrations of native and initiated people, shamans and taletellers who are living with their ancient heritage since many generations. Thrilling stories, great cinematic views and stunning reenactment scenes carry the audience into another world. Hence this film shows clearly how deep the former people once where connected with ensouled Mother Nature and her living spirits.

“Breathtaking cinematographic views of the Bavarian Alps and thrilling traditional tales!”

Bavarian Broadcasting Company

Girls and Boys for Future
by Antonia Lerch

HUMAN INTEREST | CURRENT AFFAIRS | SOCIETY | COMING OF AGE | YOUTH | CLIMATE CHANGE

Mia and Sylvia, Helene and Jakob, Eva and Johannes, Mona and Lou, Ines and Vincent. And Sarah singing a rap song. Fridays for Future is a movement fighting against global climate change. Activity instead of resignation. But what shall we do and how should we act?

GIRLS AND BOYS FOR FUTURE shows ten protagonists reporting on their activities in local groups, demonstrations and in plenum. Five conversations about the fatal triangle of humans, nature and climate. 42 degrees body heat means the death of the body.

Girls of Paadhai
by Natalia Preston

HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | SOCIAL | GENDER | COMING OF AGE | WOMEN | YOUTH

If love is a pill, and marriage an injection with big side effects, then what is the right prescription for girls’ self-determination in India today? Set against the city of Chennai in India the film intimately observes the options and perspectives of young women at ‘Paadhai’, a home for disadvantaged girls offering shelter, learning and self-empowerment. Highlighting their insights into their situations, marked by real-life pressures and societal norms, the film’s narrative unfolds through a series of storylines as we watch the characters share their personal stories, exploring tough challenges, hope, pain, love and marriage.
Glitter und Staub
92min | DCP | color & s/w | OV English, Diné | German, English ST

festivals: 41 IFF Max Ophüls Preis

FLARE FILM GmbH
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www.flare-film.com

Glitter and Dust
by Anna Koch, Julia Lemke

SOCIAL | SOCIETY | GENDER | RURAL AREAS | WOMEN | COMING OF AGE | YOUTH

Four young cowgirls with different cultural roots, living in rural US. They have one big passion in common: The dusty, savage, traditionally male world of the rodeo. GLITTER AND DUST is a modern documentary tale of being a misfit and following your heart.

Gods of Molenbeek
by Reetta Huhtanen

HUMAN INTEREST | RELIGION | YOUTH | CHILDREN | MIGRATION | SOCIETY

The Molenbeek district of Brussels. In media seen as Jihadi capital but home sweet home to the 6 year-old boys Aatos and Amine. Together they search for answers to the big questions. Aaatos envies Amine’s Muslim faith and looks for his own gods, although his classmate Flo questions him; she is strongly convinced that anyone who believes in God is completely nuts. The threat of the adults world suddenly interrupts the children’s play as terrorist bombs explode in a metro station nearby. The streets are filled with tanks, armed soldiers and policemen. Bedtime stories now evoke images of violence and even friendship is put on trial until an expected twist reshapes their lives for good.

Golda
by Shani Rozanes, Sagi Bornstein, Udi Nir

PORTRAIT | HISTORY | POLITICS | GENDER | WOMEN

Forty years after her death, Golda Meir’s image is still clouded with controversy. While perceived as a feminist icon in many places in the world, in the country she led as a prime minister for five years she’s seen by many as a total failure, a symbol of disgrace. ‘Madam Prime Minister’ invites the viewers to walk in her iconic shoes and reexamine her ground breaking and dramatic years as the first and only female prime minister of Israel.

The Guardians of the Colour
by Janina Möbius

**ENVIRONMENT | ECONOMY | ANTHROPOLOGY | CULTURE | GENDER | CLIMATE CHANGE | CRAFT**

In the South of Mexico, the dye indigo has been obtained from the indigo plant in the traditional, very labor-intensive way for centuries. The indigenous women in the mountain village of Hueyâpan use this pigment to dye their traditional clothing: the dark blue skirt and their colorfully embroidered capes. Their clothing is an expression of their cultural identity. But now the blue gold is in crisis, because climate change, lack of rain and poor harvests threaten further cultivation – and with it the traditional knowledge and traditions of the dyers in the Sierra Norte de Puebla. But the women in Hueyâpan don’t give up...

Helmut Newton – The Bad and the Beautiful
by Gero von Boehm

**PORTRAIT | ARTS | HISTORY | GENDER | FASHION | SOCIETY | WOMEN | PHOTOGRAPHY**

He was one of the Great Masters of photography. Elegant, playful, inventive, provocative, inspirational – and himself inspired by sharp observation and the deep roots of his childhood in Berlin of the 1920s. Berlin was him, and he was Berlin. But he was a cosmopolitan too. THE BAD AND THE BEAUTIFUL tells the extraordinary, and at times dramatic life of the Jewish photographer and takes a closer and very special look at his oeuvre which was not without controversy. The film lets – besides Helmut Newton, the great women’s portraitist himself – exclusively women have their say: Marianne Faithful, Claudia Schiffer, Charlotte Rampling, Grace Jones, Nadja Auermann, Isabella Rossellini, Anna Wintour, his wife June Newton, and with a detached point of view Susan Sontag and Hanna Schygulla.

Hirten

**ENVIRONMENT | ANTHROPOLOGY | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | RURAL AREAS | ANIMALS**

HERDERS follows five herders and their families in Uganda, Tibet, Germany, Chile and India throughout the seasons. For months they trek through changing landscapes with their herds, living only from what nature provides. It is a life far from the romantic picture we have, a life under harsh conditions, in direct contact with nature and its extreme elements – birth, death, storm and sun, rain and drought are fundamental parts of their lives. HERDERS tells the story of their struggles for survival. Their animals are partners, even friends – as Elizabeth Katushabe puts it: “Since we love our animals very much, they in turn love us…”. 

Herders

series in five episodes by Mark Michel

**ENVIRONMENT | ANTHROPOLOGY | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | RURAL AREAS | ANIMALS**

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Herders
Das geheime Leben der Bäume
by Jörg Adolph
NATURE | ANIMALS | SUSTAINABILITY | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | ENVIRONMENT

The whole world is talking about the environment, but frequently fails to listen to nature itself. Peter Wohlleben has changed all that: in THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES he opens our eyes to the hidden world of the woods.

Her Name Was Europa
by Anja Dornieden, Juan David González Monroy
ENVIRONMENT | NATURE | ANIMALS | HISTORY | SUSTAINABILITY

Aurochs is the name given to the wild ancestor of modern cattle. The aurochs has the distinction of being the first documented case of extinction. The last known wild aurochs died in the Jagtorów Forest in Poland in 1627. Both, hunting and the introduction of domesticated cattle led to its decline and disappearance. Its value, however, derived not just from being a source of sustenance. Traits that were attributed to the animal, such as speed, strength and courage, imbued it with great symbolic power. Some of its body parts were ascribed with supernatural powers. The skin of the forehead and a cross-shaped bone inside the heart were prized for their magical properties. Those who carried them became possessors of the animal’s traits. In the 20th century, efforts to bring back the aurochs from extinction began to materialize.

Das geheime Leben der Bäume
96min | DCP | 2K | DVD
OV German, English | English, German ST
festivals/awards: LOLA@Berlinale – shortlisted for German Film Award
GLOBAL SCREEN — a brand of TELEPOOL
info@globalscreen.de | www.globalscreen.de
Constantin Film Verleih GmbH
www.constantin-film.de
youtu.be/HlXmw3Lxy-E

88min | DCP | HD
OV English, Chinese, German | English ST
festivals/awards: 34 DOK.fest Munich, Best Long Metrage – Filmkunsttage Sachsen Anhalt, 25 Filmfest Baden-Württemberg
MAGNETFILM | Georg Gruber
t. +49 30 24628156
info@magnetfilm.de
www.magnetfilm.de
www.highflyers-film.com
vimeo.com/328682083

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The Hidden Life of Trees
by Jörg Adolph
NATURE | ANIMALS | SUSTAINABILITY | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | ENVIRONMENT

The whole world is talking about the environment, but frequently fails to listen to nature itself. Peter Wohlleben has changed all that: in THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES he opens our eyes to the hidden world of the woods.

Highflyers
by Lena Leonhardt
PORTRAIT | SOCIETY | ANIMALS | ECONOMY | CURRENT AFFAIRS

Andreas Drapa used to be a regular paver in a small town, breeding pigeons in his free time. Now he’s a millionaire – and the wealthiest high-class racing pigeon breeder in Germany. As such he has become the preferred business partner of multi-millionaires in China and Dubai. Because especially in the Middle Kingdom betting on pigeon races has become a million dollar business behind closed doors. But Drapa’s still aiming for more: He wants to belong to the powerful super rich, too. HIGHFLYERS adopts an unusual perspective on the story of winners and losers in a game ruled by the new powers of global economy.
Ice of Chernobyl
by Maryna Dymshyts

SUSTAINABILITY | HUMAN INTEREST | CONFLICTS | NATURE | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | ADVENTURE

Ice of Chernobyl is the treatise on the thrill of the forbidden: entering the restricted zone of a damaged nuclear power plant. 33 years after the disaster. 5 days and nights illegally in the restricted area, in Pripyat and on the Duga-1 antenna. The restricted area from a completely different point of view. No cellphone connection, no help from outside. Together with STALKER we move illegally into the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone. We walk at night, stay in abandoned villages until we reach Pripyat. A journey that becomes more than just the illegal entry into the death zone!

INFLORESCENCE
by Nicolaas Schmidt

ENVIRONMENT | EXPERIMENTAL

Autumn again on planet earth. A couple of rosy rose petals in eternal solidarity enduring great trouble of a heavy thunderstorm. A Romantic Conceptualism Bedtime Fable of resistance&redundance, or the awkward ambivalence of truth, dream, life and love. Let's unite to inflorescence.

IN MEINER HAUT
by Anna-Sophia Richard

HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | GENDER | WOMEN

Why do women stay in violent relationships even when they have been abused for a long time? We experience the daily lives of three women with different backgrounds as the camera takes on their point of view. We hear their thoughts and suffer with them as they struggle to become more independent and break free. Based on true events, all voice-over texts were taken from interviews with the portrayed women.
Inside Prora
by Nico Weber

HISTORY | NS-POLITICS | ARCHITECTURE | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | POLITICS | GDR | ARTS

Between hate and fascination: Prora, the longest building in the world on the German Baltic coast on Rugen stretches over 4.5 kilometers: planned Strength-by-joy seaside resort of the Nazi regime, military barracks of the GDR dictatorship, future Baltic seaside resort.

INSIDE PRORA tells on the one hand German-German history. On the other hand, however, it narrates in the international context. Using special artistic means, it explores some complex phenomena of history in the 20th and 21st centuries, thus penetrating the tacit assumptions from which architecture draws its strength.

With: Ulrich Busch – The First Prora Developer; Wim Cox – Photographer and Archivist; Marco D’Eramo – Publicist and Social Philosopher; Rainer Eppelmann, ‘Minister for Disarmament and Defense’ in the last GDR-Government and former Bausoldat; Peter Eisenman – Architect; Romy Guruz – Architect and Head of Building Authority, Vice Mayor of Binz, Rugen; Justinian Jampol – Historian, Director and Founder of The Wende Museum a.o.

40-70min. | SERIES

In the Footsteps of the Cistercians
• France • Italy • Germany

series in three episodes by Elke Werry, Alessandro Melazzini, Inga Wolfram

HISTORY | RELIGION | ARTS | CULTURE

We travel to France, Germany and Italy to find out about the fascinating world of the medieval Cistercian Order. The old traditions of their monasteries are still preserved and maintained to this day. What was the secret behind their incredible achievements and skills that helped them make such an important contribution to the cultural development of the western world?

40-70min. | > 70min.

Fatima – Ein kurzes Leben
78 or 52min | HD
OV Arabic | German, English ST

HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | GENDER | COMING OF AGE | WOMEN

A 14-year old Moroccan girl, Fatima Osadan, is tortured to death by the family she was working for as a housemaid. We enter the background of a cruel murder and give an insight into Moroccan society from two opposing perspectives: The archaic, penurious world from which the young servants come and the world of the urban social climbers
ISIS, Tomorrow – The Lost Souls of Mosul
by Francesca Mannocchi, Alessio Romenzi

CURRENT AFFAIRS | WAR & PEACE | HUMAN RIGHTS | POLITICS | RELIGION | COMING OF AGE

After the end of a war, the defeated bury the weapons. The weapons left behind by the Islamic State are hundreds of thousands of children who have experienced nothing but violence. In them, the IS planted the idea of a future caliphate, in which the world is divided into jihadists and 'infidels' which should be destroyed. ISIS, TOMORROW – THE LOST SOULS OF MOSUL traces the months of the war over the Islamic State in Iraq – especially with the voices of children. Children of militiamen trained to become suicide bombers. And also children of the victims. A unique document about a lost generation. (Human Rights FF Berlin)

> 70 min.

ISLANDS ITALIENS
• Die Liparischen Inseln
• Die Tremiti Inseln
• Sizilien
3x52min or 3x45min | HD
OV Italian, German, English
German, French VO | English ST

NEW DOCS | Elina Kewitz
sales@newdocs.de
www.newdocs.de
Kinescope Film GmbH
info@kinescope.de

40-70 min. | SERIES

Islands of Italy
• The Tremiti Islands • The Aeolian Islands • Sicily
series in three episodes by Christian Gramstadt, Thomas von Bötticher, Mechtild Lehning

TRAVEL | DISCOVERY | RURAL AREAS

Italy is one of Europe’s most attractive and popular travel destinations. And yet some regions are still largely undiscovered – especially away from the mainland. Flora and fauna make each of the country’s 200+ islands quite unique.

We explore some of the most beautiful: the Tremiti Islands, Sicily and the Aeolian Islands.

> 70 min.

Die Stille schreit
74min | DCP | DVD | Blu-ray | PAL | NTSC
OV English | German, English ST

Kreativ Media - Medienproduktion
Wilhelm-Busch-Weg 7
86368 Gersthofen, Germany
film@diestilleschreit.de
www.diestilleschreit.de
www.itwasalllegal.com

It Was All Legal
by Josef Pröll

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ORAL HISTORY | SOCIETY | NS-POLITICS | ECONOMY

This film tells the story of two Augsburg families. Before 1933, they were highly respected business people, whose reputations extended well beyond Augsburg and Swabia. After the Nazis ‘Aryanized’ Jewish property, they were forced to sell their businesses and valuable real estate holdings. The film shows, objectively and without lecturing, how perfidiously the system worked; which government agencies were ensnarled in the enforcement of its policies; and how unscrupulously people used the plight of the Jews to enrich themselves.

Their names are interchangeable. Thousands shared a similar fate. The repercussions of this gripping and emotionally wrenching story are still being felt today. And in today’s political climate, the film raises questions that have, sadly, gained new resonance.

> 70 min.
I Want Justice!
by Nuray Sahin, Ira Tondowski
HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | COMING OF AGE | YOUTH | MIGRATION | WOMEN

At the age of 14, Ekhlas was captured by the IS. Today, the 19-year-old Yazidi is a survivor who campaigns internationally for recognition of the Yazidi genocide. We accompany her on a journey to Iraq, where she is reunited with her sister who also managed to escape IS captivity five years later.

Katzenjammer Kauderwelsch – A Comic-Pionier-Story
by Martina Fluck
ARTS | PORTRAIT | HISTORY | MIGRATION | LITERATURE | GRAPHIC NOVEL

Two brothers from North-Germany emigrated as children to the USA. At the end of the 19th century the young men went to New York to try their luck as cartoonists. Comic strips were extremely popular in the New York Sunday newspapers at that time to reach the poorer citizens – mostly immigrants. The anarchic cartoon ‘The Katzenjammer Kids,’ which lampoons the German immigrant milieu, made Rudolph Dirks famous. Rudolph’s younger brother Gus Dirks is considered a pioneer of animal comics.

Martina Fluck joins illustrator Tim Eckhorst in retracing the Dirks brothers’ footprints. Their journey leads them to New York and to the artists’ colony in Ogunquit, Maine, which Rudolph Dirks decisively influenced.
**Kids of Courage**

series in eight episodes by Matthias Zirzow

**HUMAN INTEREST | WAR & PEACE | HISTORY | YOUTH | SOCIAL | EDUCATION | NS-POLITICS**

What does it mean to be a war child? This sensitive documentary drama tells a young and family audience the stories of children who lived through a most difficult era in recent history – and who grew with its challenges. At the heart of this multi-national series are the experiences of eight young protagonists, how they responded to World War II – to air raids, hunger, loss, escape and persecution – and how these experiences shaped them. Combining gripping drama and great archive, the films are based on authentic diaries, letters and memories of children from the period from 1933 to 1945.

**< 40 min. | SERIES**

[youtu.be/KFVtP0_54II](https://youtu.be/KFVtP0_54II)

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**KiW**

by Frederik Arens Grandin

**PORTRAIT | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | SUSTAINABILITY | MIGRATION**

KiW tells the story of the young Lebanese Ali, who leaves Paris after a series of setbacks to try his luck in his hometown Dakar after all. He founds KiW, a small fish factory named after the moment in which fish make their catch and their luck. And Ali’s business grows – despite the international exploitation of the Senegalese waters, heavy rains, power outages and other adversities. It is, however, the investment of his cousin Hacem that leads to irreconcilable differences and casts Ali away to a new, old life – on Haiti...

**> 70min.**

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**La Espera**

by Danilo Do Carmo, Jakob Krese

**CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS | MIGRATION | SOCIAL | REFUGEE | RURAL AREAS**

A remote piece of no man’s land. A dusty, barren area in between the railway line and the highway. A few campfires flaring. Groups of people gathering here and there. Slowly the situation is becoming clear. They are part of the caravan heading towards the US border. Silent images and fragments of touching conversations calmly direct the viewer’s attention to the microcosm of individual destinies within the context of world affairs. What seems so abstract and far away, suddenly becomes close and alive.
Land of the far North

• Polar Night • Polar Day

series in two episodes by Steffen Sailer, Alexandra Sailer

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENVIRONMENT | ECOLOGY | NATURE | CLIMATE CHANGE | ECOLOGY

In Europe, there is no other place where contrasts and contradictions lie so close to one another as in the region north of the Polar Circle. Brilliant colours, abundant food and hectic activity in the animal world during the polar day form a stark contrast to the soft, muted colours, struggle for survival and icy cold of the polar night.

A race against time begins, as the long hours of the bright polar day are as interminable as those of the dark polar night. Both extremes are immensely challenging for both flora and fauna in this landscape – but nature has an answer for everything.

Las Hermanas de Rocinante

by Alexandra Kaufmann

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | ANIMALS | ECONOMY | YOUTH | WOMEN

With the explosion of the economic crisis, thousands of Spanish horses were abandoned by their owners. A group of girls has gathered around a horsewoman to give these unwanted animals a new lease of life. A cinematic novel about a childhood on the countryside and the first encounter with death.

Lebanon – A Country Held Hostage

by Michael Richter

CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS | POLITICS | CONFLICT | RELIGION

In Lebanon, Hezbollah controls broad areas of political and social life. Without it, nothing works in the cedar state. The men in black battle dress are gaining increasing influence beyond the country’s borders. How can they be confronted?
**Lionhearted – Out of Cover**

_by Antje Drinnenberg_

**HUMAN INTEREST | COMING OF AGE | SPORTS**

“Without Ali, I would not stand where I’m standing now”, says Raschad, one of the protégés of boxing trainer Ali Cukur. Week after week, young people like Raschad, Saskia and Burak meet in a small gymnasium of TSV 1860. Many of them have already gone through quite a lot in their lives. For them, Ali is a role model, a father, a lifesaver. He relocates his annual boxing camp to Ghana. Confronted with the tough circumstances under which the Ghanaian boxers are training in the slums of Accra, the youths start to view their life in Germany from a new angle.

> 70 min.

[vimeo.com/344064720](vimeo.com/344064720)

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**Kleine große Kämpfer**

_by Detlef Bothe_

**HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIAL | SPORTS | EDUCATION | YOUTH**

Why don’t we let it come back to life?

Hans-Herbert Wiegandt (74) tasks the headmaster of the Martino-Katharineum grammar school in Braunschweig this question. This refers to the work of the educationalist Konrad Koch, who introduced rugby sport in Germany to this school in 1871. Trainer Wiegandt, who has been playing rugby since 1970, is intensively looking after the youngsters. He succeeded in building a U16 rugby team from different nations and religions. Girls, boys, Germans, migrants, including some refugees, until they finally drive to the first game tournament in an old VW bus.

40-70 min.

[vimeo.com/380989204](vimeo.com/380989204)

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**London Calling: Cold War Letters**

_by Christian Hans Schulz_

**POLITICS | MEDIA | WAR & PEACE | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | HISTORY | CONFLICTS | GDR**

For over 25 years, the BBC gave voice to the silenced people of East Germany by inviting them to secretly write in to a radio programme called Letters without Signature. This documentary explores an unknown story of the Cold War. It looks at the impact of the Letters without Signature series on both the letter writers in East Germany – who faced jail if discovered – and the producers of the show in London, particularly its mysterious presenter, Austin Harrison. Using never-before-seen Stasi files and recordings, London Calling: Cold War Letters documents the tit-for-tat propaganda war between the Stasi and BBC. It reveals a fascinating world of spies, secret state subterfuge and individual acts of bravery.

[vimeo.com/372092060](vimeo.com/372092060)
Look Me Over – Liberace  
by Jeremy JP Fekete  

**PORTRAIT | MUSIC | CULTURE**

He was an icon, flamboyant pianist, egomaniac, showman par excellence: Liberace – the King of Bling – enjoyed an unparalleled career. The salon pianist turned megastar lived the American dream, but it was a life of unmatched paradox and eccentricity.

Lost in Face  
by Valentin Riedl  

**HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | SCIENCE | PORTRAIT | SOCIAL | ARTS | CULTURE**

Carlotta cannot see faces, not even her own. For her, human faces are no bastion of trust, but places of fear and confusion. With his film LOST IN FACE, neuroscientist Valentin Riedl travels through Carlotta’s universe, full of anthropomorphic animals, lucid dreams and bumpy false paths. Her never-ending search for answers leads her to art—and thus an avenue to her own face and back to humanity.

“As a neuroscientist and filmmaker, Valentin merges abstract science with the artistic form of film to open a new world to the spectator” Wim Wenders

Love Eats Up Life  
by Oliver Schwabe  

**HUMAN INTEREST | COMING OF AGE | CULTURE | MUSIC | ARTS | PORTRAIT**

The film retraces the work by Tobias Gruben, which 20 years after his death continues to be a nearly completely undiscovered diamond in the rough of German pop culture. The singer of CYAN REVUE and DIE ERDE inspires young bands like MESSER or ISOLATION BERLIN to perform cover versions of his songs. The film depicts not only an incomplete music career, but also describes the never-ending struggle of a son for recognition by his father. In interviews, music, some of which as yet unreleased, and letters, the film takes us straight to the heart and mind of a musician nearly completely forgotten, who shortly before his commercial breakthrough died of an overdose and whose lyrics and songs continue to touch listeners today.
**LOVEMOBIL**
by Elke Margarete Lehrenkrauss

**HUMAN RIGHTS | GENDER | SOCIETY | HUMAN INTEREST | MIGRATION | WOMEN**

When night falls in rural Germany, old VW-caravans decorated with flashy lights line the country roads which lead through potato fields and dark forests. Inside these buses, prostitutes from Eastern Europe and Africa await their clients who are passing by. The film portrays these women who came from far away in search for money and a better life. Until one day, in the ghostly atmosphere, a murder on one of the prostitutes happens and shakes up the whole scenery causing everybody to take action. A film about a microcosm that describes a society at the hardest end of a globalized capitalism.

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**liebe viele**
87min | DCP | OV German | English ST

Maverick Film
Bähre & Fehring & Maron GbR
home@maverickfilm.de
tristan.baehre@maverickfilm.de
www.maverickfilm.de
vimeo.com/342327294

**loves**
by Vera Drude

**HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | FAMILY**

‘loves’ tells personal love stories of people who live open forms of relationship and family. The film shows a seemingly utopian love that connects more than two people and the lovers’ experience daring their counter-concept to monogamy. Change is narrated as a defining constant in life and in relationships. As a result the protagonists are confronted with their own and their partners’ insecurities. The desire for openness must be measured against personal fears and expectations.

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**Medizinversuche in Auschwitz. Cauberg und die Frauen von Block 10**
73, 52 or 45min | HD | DCP

OV German, English, French, Dutch, Hebrew English ST | German VO

festivals: San Francisco Jewish FF, St. Louis IFF, Miami Jewish FF

Cinephil | Philippa Kowarsky
philippa@cinephil.com
www.cinephil.com

Saxonia Entertainment GmbH
www.saxonia-entertainment.de

www.FB.com/MedienkontorWinterbergundNagel

**Made in Auschwitz: The Untold Story of Block 10**
by Sylvia Nagel, Sonya Winterberg

**HISTORY | HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | GENDER | WAR & PEACE | NS-POLITICS | ECONOMY**

The untold story of the women of Block 10. Some 70 years ago, gynecologist Carl Clauberg conducted sterilization experiments in Auschwitz on women and girls. Were German companies involved in these crimes? Most of the few women that survived became sterile, only some could later still bear children. Clauberg’s cruel research on birth control and infertility is part of the medical canon to this day. Meet the last survivors of the infamous Block 10 who speak candidly about their experience and how they rebuilt their lives after Auschwitz.
Madonna of Miracles
by Uli Decker

**HUMAN INTEREST | GENDER | FAMILY | LGBT | SOCIETY**

Little Uli dreams of a life as a knight, pirate or pope. With her refusal of traditional role models, she turns into an outsider even within her own family. Years later after her father’s death, her mother hands her a box as a heirloom. The content: high heels, long fingernails, make-up and a wig – her father’s secret treasure. All of a sudden Uli sees her family, her father, herself and the society around her in a completely new light.

A true story about family secrets, gender identity and the confusions of love – told as a tragicomic rollercoaster ride through animated and filmed images.

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Magnitude
by Kai Welf Hoyme

**SOCIETY | CULTURE | PORTRAIT | POV | RURAL AREAS | WOMEN**

Magnitude gives a personal and poetic insight into the biography of my mother and combines it with portraits of people and landscapes of the Niederrhein area in Mid-West Germany.
Matera. Mother of Stone
by Alessandro Soetje

**HISTORY | ARTS | CULTURE | ARCHITECTURE**

Nine thousand years ago man chose to make his first home here. Matera. Perhaps the mother of all cities. Country of rocks, caves and human traces. Axis between East and West. The European Capital of Culture has experienced all that makes Europe different, from art to epoch making changes.

Matsalu Moose – Wild Giants of the Baltics
by Annette Scheurich, Joosep Matjus

**NATURE | ANIMALS | ENVIRONMENT | DIVERSITY | LONGTERM**

Matsalu National Park on the North-East Coast of the Baltic Sea is known for being one of Europe’s most important stopover places along the Great Eastern Flyway – a paradise for migrating birds. And it is also a safe haven for the wild giants of the Baltics, the mighty moose. For most of the year, these magnificent creatures roam the open marshes that are the heart of Matsalu National Park. This film follows their exceptional life throughout the year. Even though they are hardly threatened here, the challenges of the moose are manifold.

Merry Christmas, Yiwu
by Mladen Kovacevic

**CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | SOCIAL | WORK | POVERTY | MIGRATION | ECONOMY**

Communist ideals have long lost their value in Yiwu, a city with 600 Christmas factories, in which Christmas as we know it is produced for the entire world. With rising wages, the workers in Christmas factories can now afford newest iPhones, but they still live in crowded dormitories. All migrants in their own country, nostalgic for some place far away, some miss their families left in hometowns, other miss their friends and lovers from the factories when they go home for holidays. Young generation is already tired of long factory hours, chemical fumes and glitter particles, and they do not care for their parents’ wishes to get educated. Stuck in between Chinese tradition and the newly discovered Chinese dream, they want their own businesses, to be rich, to be independent, to be in love.
The Miracle of Nairobi
by Carmen Butta

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ARTS | MUSIC | SOCIETY | SOCIAL | CULTURE | AFRICA | YOUTH | COMING OF AGE

Miraculously, a classic youth orchestra has emerged in the middle of the most dangerous slum in Nairobi. Until then, hardly anyone in Korogocho had seen a violin or a cello. Today Bach sonatas blow over the smoking garbage dump, and the Ghetto Classics orchestra celebrates concerts all over the city of millions. But it is much more than music. For more and more young people, Ghetto Classics is also the way to a different life beyond violence, poverty, drugs and crime.

With classical music they break out of the oppressive world of Korogocho and look to their future with new self-confidence and confidence in their own abilities. They experience that they too, the children from the slum, can become anything if they do enough to do it.

Missed Embrace
by Faezeh Nikoozad

HISTORY | SOCIETY | CONFLICTS | POV | MIGRATION | FAMILY | IRAN

There is only one video in existence of the director with her deceased parents, short and full of abrupt cuts, matching her own incomplete memories of the time. The old video tape shows her mother, her father and another man. Who was this man? And why does the video show her to be closer to him than her own father? The loss of their parents and the past in general – how things used to be – is never spoken of amongst her siblings. After twenty years of silence and repression, the filmmaker attempts to face her past by pursuing unanswered questions and embarks on a journey to Teheran.

Mission Lifeline
by Markus Weinberg

CURRENT AFFAIRS | MIGRATION | REFUGEE | LONGTERM

Their purpose: to save refugees from drowning. For this, Axel Steier and his team from the Dresden sea-rescue NGO ‘Mission Lifeline’ have worked tirelessly for years to collect donations. Together with two Spanish NGO’s, they finally manage to buy their own ship and set off to the Mediterranean. In his hometown Dresden, Axel’s idea finds many friends but just as many enemies. And then, the truth at sea – oil leakage, refugee boats sinking before their eyes, even gunfire by Libyan militia. For two years, we accompanied Axel and his team with our camera – even onto the ship just off the Libyan coast, where the struggle to save people from certain death ultimately also turns into a fight for the European idea.
Mother of Tibetans
by Niklas Goslar

**HUMAN RIGHTS | PORTRAIT | REFUGEE | MIGRATION | YOUTH | AGING | SOCIAL | RELIGION | WOMEN**

A woman decides to have a meaningful life after entering pension age. For 30 years Irmtraut Wäger headed German Aid To Tibetans and helped the Dalai Lama and the Tibetans in exile. She collected about 30 million Euros in donations and took care of over 5,000 Tibetan godchildren. Furthermore she facilitated the construction of schools, hospitals, kindergardens and old people’s homes all over India. Today she is seen as a shining example of successful refugee relief.

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Moving Libraries – Where Books Mean the World
series in five episodes by Michael Bernstein, Anja Schürenberg

**HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | SOCIAL | EDUCATION | YOUTH | RURAL AREAS | CULTURE**

Discover the world with original mobile libraries and their no less unusual librarians. Mobile librarians take books to places where people live on the edge or offside and the next book is just too far away. They take us with them when they travel with their books – in India, Italy, the USA, the Caribbean or Colombia – they tell us about their motives, their infectious enthusiasm for reading and acquaint us with the world of their readers.

The five episodes are:
- Portland, USA with Laura Moulton and Ben Hodgson
- Caribbean with Micha Roggensinger
- Ferrandina, Italy with Antonio La Cava
- Bogotá, Columbia with José Alberto Gutiérrez
- Bhopal, India with Muskaan Ahirwar

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Mucha: The Story of an Artist Who Created a Style
by Roman Vávra

**PORTRAIT | ARTS | HISTORY | CULTURE | PAINTING**

The Czech artist Alphonse Mucha (1860-1939) ranked among the pioneers of the Art Nouveau. He became famous in Paris by way of his posters. Then Mucha left Paris to realise his lifetime project The Slav Epic. He worked on the monumental cycle of paintings for 18 years – only to be met by hefty disapproval on completion. The Hippie Culture rediscovered him and his posters attained cult status. Graphic Designer Stanley Mouse, Graffiti Artist Mear One and Illustrator Yoshitaka Amano talk about his influence on their works. Mucha is perhaps one of the most famous unknown artists in the world.
MURGHAB
by Martin Saxer, Daler Kaziev, Marlen Elders
HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | SOCIAL | SCIENCE | ANTHROPOLOGY | MOUNTAINS

A generation ago, Murghab was well taken care of. The highest town of the former Soviet Union and close to the sensitive borders with Afghanistan and China, it enjoyed ample provisions from Moscow. It had electricity, an airport, a movie theater, and a hospital with central heating. Since then, Murghab has weathered many storms. Yet, life goes on. The ruins of Socialism afford a plethora of new but precarious ways to make do. Murghab follows a group of men harvesting shrubs, a nurse, a history teacher and a welder building stoves from the scraps of Soviet modernity. A winter film of hardship, work and hope. (Locarno)

Nardjes A.
by Karim Ainouz
CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS | CONFLICTS | SOCIETY | CONFLICTS | WOMEN

Algeria, February 2019. A popular pacifist uprising erupts against the candidacy of president Bouteflika for a 5th term, steadily swelling into a revolution. Nardjes, a young Algerian woman, takes part in the movement to convey the hope of her people. Shot on the 8th of March 2019, International Women’s Day, the film draws a portrait of her as she joins thousands of protesters in the streets of Algiers, fighting to overthrow a regime that has silenced them for decades. We follow her, while her whole country could be marching towards a brighter future.

Neighbors
by Pary El-Qalqili, Christine Schmidt
HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | MIGRATION | EXPERIMENTAL

It is deep winter. We are standing in a forest, in the snow. In front of us is the refugee shelter that had been set on fire. Some boys are playing in the snow. Their laughter echoes through the forest. Slowly, the camera begins rotating our perceptual field; we see the neighboring houses with their curtains drawn, the rotting fences, the overlapping branches. Nothing indicates an arson attack happened here. No traces on the walls. No plaque in memory of those who did not die, but who were victims of the crime. The neighbors know nothing of it.
The New Cold War

by Andreas Orth

CURRENT AFFAIRS | POLITICS | WAR & PEACE

The suspension of the INF Treaty between the US and Russia shows just how little the superpowers trust each other today. Thanks to this agreement, short and medium-range nuclear missiles were eliminated at the end of the 80s. Now the political situation has escalated again.

Are we facing a new Cold War?

Night Upon Kepler 452b

by Ben Voit

SOCIAL | POVERTY | HOMELESS | SOCIETY

Cold times, people are looking for a place to sleep. A van races through the night, to bring out of the dark, what could get lost in there. The film tries to grasp the perception of people who are constantly on the run, who can’t remember the last time they’ve slept in a real bed.

The things we witness are turning into inner landscapes. Fragments of conversations become collective thoughts and somewhere in the distance, Kepler 452b is orbiting a sun that is warmer than ours.

Nisman – The President, the Prosecutor and the Spy

series in six episodes by Justin Webster

HISTORY | PORTRAIT | CONFLICTS | POLITICS | TERROR

In 1994 a bomb detonates in a Jewish cultural centre in Buenos Aires. 85 people die, three times as many are injured. This act of terror remains unsolved until 2003, when special prosecutor Alberto Nisman starts an extensive investigation – but shortly before he can present his results to the public he is found dead in his apartment. Cause of death: a head shot.

Emmy winner Justin Webster’s six-part documentary series revisits both the terror attack and Nisman’s death in the form of a political thriller: gripping, complex and suspenseful.
Pas d’or pour Kalsaka
80min | OV, Mare, French | English ST

festivals: DOK.fest Munich, 26 FESPACE, Burkina Faso, 40 Durban IFF, IFF Jean Rouch, Carthage FF, Les rencontres documentaires de Koudougou, 14 Festival cinémas d’Afrique, Cabo Verde IFF, IDFA – Best of Fests

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No Gold for Kalsaka
by Michel K. Zongo

CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN RIGHTS | ECOLOGY | ECOMOMY | CONFLICTS | AFRICA

Since the dawn of time, the people of Kalsaka, a small village in the African country of Burkina Faso, have lived off their land. All of this ended with the arrival of a multinational mining corporation, which expropriated local landowners and exploited the natural resources, leaving the local people with nothing.

NO GOLD FOR KALSAKA follows the struggle of the local community to denounce this injustice and to claim back its dignity, as it battles the injustices inflicted upon it.

Now and then a bird flew by
by Gerburg Rohde-Dahl

HUMAN INTEREST | POV | SOCIETY | AGING | DEATH

The film tells about my experiences caring for my sister during her final six months of life, about my inner conflicts and my feelings of helplessness. However, despite all the tears I shed, I felt at the same time strengthened and sustained. The quantum physician Hans-Peter Dürr writes in his book Love, Source of Cosmos about the ‘Field of Liveliness’. Does a special field of strength exist in proximity of death?

OECOMONIA
by Carmen Losmann

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ECONOMY | POLITICS

Layer by layer, the episodic documentary OECOMONIA reveals how the rules of the contemporary capitalist game systematically precondition growth, deficits and concentrations of wealth. With particular shrewdness and rigor OECOMONIA articulates the more egregious aspects of capitalist economy rendered invisible by the prevalent media coverage.
On the Road with a Red Scarf
by Heide Breitel

**HUMAN INTEREST | MIGRATION | GENDER | SOCIAL | SOCIETY | CITIES | EDUCATION | BERLIN**

The Film recounts episodes from the lives of District Mothers who do their work in Berlin-City Center. The women support immigrant families, and they do it with passion and great success. Because they've all endured the trials of immigration, they know where their help is needed. Even during their training period, the women act as a bridge to German society for the needy families in their community.

The film documents these people in their environment: their training, its conclusion when they are officially certified, and their subsequent work in family centers as well as in refugee camps.

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Opera Glasses
by Mila Zhukentko

**SOCIETY | HUMAN INTEREST | CULTURE**

Opera glasses are necessary to watch the stage from the back rows of the auditorium. If you content yourself with the foyer, you only need alert eyes and instinct: not only for the larger-than-life gestures of musical theatre, but also for the small (self) performances in public space. Checking oneself in the mirror, overzealous re-adjustments of one's facial expression for a selfie, the inimitable coolness of aging cloakroom attendants – all this is part of the spectacle of visibility. (DOK Leipzig, Lukas Foerster)

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Out of Place
by Friederike Gussefeld

**CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN INTEREST | COMING OF AGE | YOUTH | PORTRAIT | EDUCATION**

Three young Germans sent to an educational project in the middle of Romania. This quietly observational film brings us closer to Kevin, Dominik and David – their loneliness, their desires and their turmoil – in this remote place. (70 Berlinale PERSPECTIVE)
Painting and the Sea
series in two episodes by Grit Lederer

HISTORY | ARTS | CULTURE | SCIENCE

The sea is a place of imagination and nostalgia, but also the scene of wars and battles. Hardly any other motif has been treated in so many different ways in painting.

Two ARTE documentaries are devoted to the subject and take the viewer on a ‘picturesque’ journey through landscapes and times. Famous paintings by Paul Cézanne, Gustave Courbet, Salvador Dalí, Caspar David Friedrich, Katsushika Hokusai, Jacopo Tintoretto, William Turner and Francisco de Zurbarán are presented in their original locations: from Andalusia to the Côte d’Azur and to Northern Europe. Prominent artists and historians deal with these painters and their works in a knowledgeable and passionate way and tell their stories.

Panyuan – a long hair girl in China
by Marita Neher

PORTRAIT | GENDER | YOUTH | ETHNOLOGY | ANTHROPOLOGY | CULTURE | RURAL AREAS

In the south of China, the world-famous rice terraces shape the landscape in the province of Guangxi. It is known for its frequent rains. Tourists have only recently discovered the province for themselves. The home village of 12 year old Panyuan is particularly popular with tourists. Because the women with the longest hair in the world live here. Panyuan also has to grow her hair up to her 18th birthday.
PARIS kein Tag ohne dich
104min | DCP | HD
OV German, French | English ST
Made in Germany Filmproduktion GmbH
info@madeingermany-film.de
www.madeingermany-film.de

PARIS forever
by Ulrike Schaz
HUMAN RIGHTS | HISTORY | SOCIETY | ARTS | THEATER | PORTRAIT | POLITICS | POV
Paris, 1975. When her French boyfriend decides to take her to a party, the documentary’s director falls into the clutches of the French intelligence apparatus. Why this happened she only learns later: At the same party, a man, later known as ‘Carlos the Jackal,’ shot three people, and she was associated with this crime. Her life abruptly changes. Ever since then, she has fought against false allegations, false reports, and false stored data. But, no matter what she does, the story keeps sticking to her.
Based on a cinematic inventory, ‘PARIS forever’ reveals an absurd story, which tells of the arbitrariness of counter-terrorism, of data storage and its consequences.

PARIS kein Tag ohne dich

PASSION PARANÁ – A RIVER LIKE THE SEA
by Sebastian Saam
TRAVEL | ENVIRONMENT | CLIMATE CHANGE | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY
The unique eco-system along the shores of the Parana River in South America is under threat. We travel to South America and meet people who are fighting for their future and the conservation of the Paraná region.

Passion plays
by Luka Lara Steffen
WAR & PEACE | CONFLICTS | SOCIETY | POLITICS | CURRENT AFFAIRS | HISTORY
Every year on February 13th, Dresden is reminding the public about the Allied bombing of 1945. While some reach out their hands in reconciliation, others march with torches through the city center. Since the 1990s, right groups have been mobilizing for demonstrations and marches. For many years, the march on February 13th was known as the largest in Europe. After a short success against those marches through blockades and preventions in 2010, they have since regained importance in recent years. As the world’s understanding of the political right shifts further into the general norm, right wing actions around February 13th have increased in popularity again. An annual battle of Dresden’s culture of commemoration and the question of authority to interpret history breaks out.
Perfect Black
by Tom Fröhlich

SOCIETY | CULTURE | ARTS

6 people, 6 concepts of life, 6 definitions of the perfect black.
An ode to diversity in space bathed in darkness.

A Perfect Run
by Lea Becker

COMING OF AGE | YOUTH | SPORTS

Winning medals for Germany – that’s the dream of Celia, Filip and Umito. The teenagers are competitive athletes living at a boarding home in a small mountain village in Germany. Far away from their friends and families they train daily to make it to the very top of the podium.

As members of the National Snowboardcross team they fight through long and hard winter seasons. Races, exams and injuries – they master it all, while going through puberty. How many sacrifices does it take to build a successful athlete’s career?

Pergamon in Plaster
by Grit Lederer

HISTORY | ARTS | SCULPTURE | BERLIN | MUSEUM | CULTURE | CRAFT

On the occasion of its 200th anniversary, a comprehensive anniversary exhibition in the newly opened James Simon Gallery on Berlin’s Museum Island will be dedicated to the Berlin’s Gipsformerei (Replica Workshop). Casting works of art or people, whether living or dead, in plaster was considered high art in the 19th century.

The Berlin’s Gipsformerei (Replica Workshop) has a worldwide unique inventory of over 7,000 molds. For the first time, a film documentation portrays this oldest institution in Berlin’s museums, which is an active manufactory and a valuable collection.
Perro
by Lin Sternal

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENVIRONMENT | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | COMING OF AGE | YOUTH

Through the planning of the mega-project ‘El Gran Canal’ to be built in Nicaragua, the homeland of the indigenous population is threatened. Among them is our protagonist Perro (12) who lives with his grandma in a small village in the jungle.

The film follows the boy, growing up in this currently changing world, as he faces many significant decisions. While his grandmother turns to God for help, Perro has to find his own way. Together with the house-pig Piggy, he sets off on a journey into an unknown world.
**Propaganda. The Art of Selling Lies**

by Larry Weinstein

From cave paintings and the Catholic Church to presidential tweets and deep fakes, propaganda’s rapid progression hasn’t compromised its potency. In this popular Hot Docs 2019 selection, award-winning director Larry Weinstein traces the sprawling roots and mechanics of indoctrination through the lens of artists like Kent Monkman, Shepard Fairey and Ai Weiwei, whose revolutionary works have co-opted the conventions of disinformation. In a ‘post-truth’ era where dangerous lies have never been better disguised, this cautionary investigation confronts us with the timely questions: If propaganda is all around us, how do we know what is true? And why are we so easily seduced? (DOCK Burgas)

**Property**

by Matthias Lintner

“What does it mean to inhabit a space?”, asks filmmaker and resident Matthias Lintner, that space being a housing estate almost untouched by time. Built during the German Empire, the ‘Kleine Bremer Höhe’ has served as a refuge to artists, punks and the elderly. To the occasional visitor, the quiet courtyard with its lindens is an enchanted garden tucked away off Berlin’s busy Torstrasse. Lintner’s answer lies in affectionate portraits of his neighbors as he watches and listens to those who have built a world of their own, and refuse to focus on the outside world. Ideas on vacantness and void appear as a subversive act against the utopia of the well-ordered spaces and echo the thoughts of writer Georges Perec, whose quotes add an essay-like layer.

**Purple Sea**

by Amel Alzakout, Khaled Abdulwahed

“I see everything,” she says, as if it was a curse. Brilliant sunshine, blue skies. The sea is calm, framed by a piece of railing. A peaceful moment if she could ignore that the sea is vertical, like a waterfall. A rush of images, twirling, jolting. People in the boat, in the water, life jackets, emergency whistles. There’s no horizon left, no sky, no up or down, nothing to hold on to. Even time comes to a halt, contracting into the brutal present. She is filming and speaking. To beat the fatigue, the cold, the fact that help isn’t coming. To defeat death, just for something to remain.
**Im Stillen Laut**
73min | HD | DCP | OV German | English ST
awards/festivals: Honorable Mention ver.di Prize for Solidarity, Humanity and Fairness, 62 DOK Leipzig, Duisburger Filmwoche

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**A Quiet Resistance**
by Therese Koppe

**ARTS | PORTRAIT | GENDER | GDR | GERMAN REUNIFICATION | WOMEN | LGBT | AGING**

“The main question is: Why do I want to be free? What needs to be different?”
Erika and Christine are a couple for more than 40 years. Today, at the age of 81, they look back on living through a turbulent time in history.
A QUIET RESISTANCE is a film about love and aging, autonomy, art and collectivity in freely created art spaces within the GDR. The film does not hang onto questions of the past, but rather looks with Erika and Christine into the future: What role can art play in politically demanding times? How can oneself stay true to themselves, their art and their ideals? What meaning can art create, for the whole and each individual?

**The Red Line – Resistance in Hambach Forest**
by Karin de Miguel Wessendorf

**CURRENT AFFAIRS | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | CONFLICTS | SUSTAINABILITY | POLITICS | LONGTERM**

When 31,000 policemen take action against 50 tree squatters and tear gas and truncheons are used, a 550-hectare ‘pedunculate oak-hornbeam-lily-of-the-valley-forest’ becomes a symbol of resistance. Since 2015, director Karin de Miguel Wessendorf has accompanied the protests against the clearing of the Hambach forest and against the destruction of the villages on the edge of the lignite opencast mining, the largest CO2 source in Europe.
First it was only a rebellion of individual groups with different goals, but in the autumn of 2018 the protest against the clearing finally becomes one broad supraregional movement.

**Reincarnation – Looking for a Sign**
by Clemens Kuby

**HUMAN INTEREST | PORTRAIT | RELIGION | LONGTERM | SOCIETY | POV**

While filming my award-winning documentary LIVING BUDDHA, an even more dramatic story about life, death, and rebirth began. On his way to identifying the rebirth of the Living Buddha, Jamgon Kongtrul Rinpoche suddenly got killed in a fatal car accident. Two years later we find his rebirth. Until he is almost 20 years old, I follow his life. His brother Topga can not believe that the boy found should be his brother. He is also looking for a sign.
The filming began in 1976. They intensified in 1992 at his death and then continued until 2016. It created 350 hours of film and video material.
Resonance
by Itay Marom
HUMAN INTEREST | MUSIC | ARTS | EDUCATION

The film Resonance follows private lessons conducted by three prominent voice and singing teachers in Germany, depicting their relationship with one of their students throughout a whole semester. While working on the physical aspect of the voice, a sensuous closeness is being created between the teacher and the student. Since music is an emotional enunciation, both teachers and students are being exposed during the lessons. The film utilizes this environment in order to inspect the voice and the way it functions in communication between humans, how it affords a means of expression, and creates a connection which is beyond words – physical and sensual.

RIAFN
by Hannes Lang
CULTURE | MUSIC | ETHNOLOGY | RURAL AREAS | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | ENVIRONMENT

RIAFN is a cinematic journey into the soundscape of the Alps. Idiom, song, as well as calls and commands of farmers and shepherds are condensed to create a motion picture driven by local character and rhythm. Between artistic ideal and documentarian realism, the musical portrays a utopian site detached from the compulsive speed and accessibility of communication technology saturating modern life.

Rising of the Setting Sun
by Julie Hössle
CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENVIRONMENT | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | CLIMATE CHANGE | NATURE

The inhabitants of a small Portuguese island in the Atlantic Ocean struggle with the consequences of vanishing natural resources. The film recounts the emotions connected to the destruction of nature. Is there still hope, or are we trapped in our impotence?
Rotation
by Eric Esser

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | SOCIAL BIOTOPE | CITIES | GENTRIFICATION | BERLIN

One building. One day. 40 people swapping rooms. ‘Kinzig 9’, is the collective occupied housing project in former East Berlin. It has many different rooms: some big, some small, some bright, some dark. To be fair, the inhabitants swap apartments and they do it all in one day.
Unfortunately, the logistics do not go as smoothly as planned and the madness of the rotation puts their harmonious community aspirations to the test.

Roundabout Art
by Udo Vieth

ARTS | CULTURE

What do giant kiwis, suspended taps and luminous rolls of paper have in common? They’re pieces of art in the centre of traffic roundabouts that attract visitor numbers museums can only dream of. We take a closer look at this little-known art universe and study some of the weird and wonderful pieces on display in some of Europe’s traffic islands.

Rules of the Assembly Line, at High Speed
by Yulia Lokshina

SOCIAL | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | MIGRATION | WORK | HUMAN RIGHTS | THEATRE

A small town in Western Germany is the last stop for 26,000 pigs per day and a brief home for masses of Eastern European temporary workers.
The workers of the largest slaughterhouse in the country are fighting for survival, while German activists who stand up for their rights are fighting against the local authorities. At the same time, Munich high school students are working on the play ‘Saint Joan of the Stockyards’ and trying to grasp the old text and German capitalism of our days.
Interwoven with the young people’s examination of the text in the rehearsals, the film deals in various fragments with conditions and facets of temporary work and labour migration in Germany.
**Russlands Millenniumskinder**

*90min or 55min | HD |
OV Russian | English ST | German VO
festivals: DOK Leipzig, IFF Cologne

NEW DOCS | Elina Kewitz
sales@newdocs.de
www.newdocs.de

Lichtfilm GmbH | Wolfgang Bergmann
www.lichtfilm.de

**Russia’s Millennium Children**

*by Irene Langemann*

**HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | COMING OF AGE | YOUTH**

The Putin era in Russian politics began on 31 December 1999, after Yeltsin’s resignation and shortly before the millennium celebrations. The children born on that day have now come of age. They have only ever known ex-KGB man Vladimir Putin at the pinnacle of power. What do the Putin generation think and feel? How do they want to live in the future?

**San Remo**

*by Johanna Behre*

**PORTRAIT | MUSIC | ARTS | CULTURE | DOCUFICTION**

Ossi Viola and Lo Selbo have bet it all on one card: as ITACA they make Italo pop music for the 21st century. Their big dream: performing at the music festival in San Remo. An Italian tour could bring them to the next level. The days go by acrimoniously in rundown roadhouses; at night the duo plays dives along the Italian rustbelt. Not quite their image of bella Italia. Suddenly, this gamble seems completely insane. A 9 to 5 life would be so much easier. The crisis culminates when an unwelcome hitchhiker stumbles into their universe. As the dream threatens to shatter, the adventure begins.

**Saudade**

*by Denize Galiao*

**CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN INTEREST | MIGRATION | SOCIETY | FAMILY | POV**

An old Brazilian legend says that Saudade was created by the African gods that the enslaved people don’t forget their beloved ones and where they come from. Triggered by the disease of her father the Afro Brazilian director Denize Galiao explores her deepest feelings for her home and her roots which she does not want to lose after 20 years of living in Germany. The word Saudade which cannot be translated into any other language is the red line through the story of a family that lives between two different cultures.
Save our Forest – The Fight Against…

- Climate Change • Industry • Monoculture • Illegal Logging • Ignorance
series in five episodes by Vivien Pieper, Johannes Bünger

"The forest stands black and silent," wrote Matthias Claudius in 1779. 250 years ago forests were still healthy in most European countries. Unfortunately, this is not the case today. This habitat for countless animal and plant species is in grave danger. We need the forests, as they provide us with valuable raw minerals, stores water, and ensures a good climate. In recent years, drought and heat have been hurting the trees, pests have been multiplying, and illegal logging has been filling the pockets of criminal organizations. Even state-subsidized clear-cutting increases the profits of the deforestation industry. For these reasons, more and more people are fighting for their forests. In our series, we follow passionate individuals that are doing everything in their power to preserve their forests.

SCHLINGENSIEF

In das Schweigen hineinschreien
124min | DCP | 2K | 2D | 25 f/sec
OV German | English ST
festival: 70 Berlinale PANORAMA
documents
awards: nominated for German Film Award Best Documentary & Best Editing

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SCHLINGENSIEF – A Voice that Shook the Silence

by Bettina Böhler

PORTRAIT | ARTS | CULTURE | HUMAN RIGHTS

Director Christoph Schlingensief's ‘Heimat’ films, performance art, installations and provocative theatrical, television, operatic and artistic productions shaped the cultural and political discourse in Germany for two decades before his death in 2010 at just 49 years of age. SCHLINGENSIEF – A Voice that Shook the Silence by Bettina Böhler is the first film that attempts to exhaustively document the vast spectrum of this exceptional artist's oeuvre.

The Science of Avalanches

by Anna Pflüger, Jennifer Gesslein

SCIENCE | NATURE | ENVIRONMENT | MOUNTAINS | CLIMATE CHANGE

At the Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research (SLF) in Davos, scientists investigate the conditions that trigger avalanches and the impact climate change is having on the formation and nature of avalanches. We spend a winter season following scientists, snow profilers and researchers as they work in the Alps.
The Second Attack
by Mala Reinhardt
HUMAN RIGHTS | SOCIETY | CONFLICTS | MIGRATION | RACISM

As a child Ibrahim Arslan survived the arson attack on his parents’ home in Mölln in which three members of his family were killed. Today he says that his family suffered not just one, but two attacks. After the Molotov cocktails had burnt out, the Arslan family became a target of attacks again, this time coming from the media, politics and society. These attacks were worse than the incendiary devices because they could have been avoided, Arslan says.

In her film, Mala Reinhardt asks why even today many victims of radical right-wing violence are forced to live through the same experience of being treated with hostility and criminalised. The victims, who have formed a network, analyse with impressive clarity which conditions make racism still socially acceptable in our country. The essential thing now is to listen to them.

(DOK Leipzig, Luc-Carolin Ziemann)
Forty years ago, a revolution in Iran led by Ayatollah Khomeini overthrew the ruler Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and with this a monarchy that had lasted over 2,500 years. The story of the Shah begins with bright ideas and strong ideals, and ends in bloody turmoil. From the beginning of his reign and in his aspirations to modernise Iran, the Shah depended on the support of the clergy and the mullahs. Finally, it is they who bring him down. The struggle between the Shah and Ayatollah Khomeini lasts many decades. In the end, Islamic fundamentalism triumphs, heralding a new challenge for global politics.

Silvia is my Name
by Max Benyo

Silvia lives in South Kenya, she belongs to the tribe of the Maasai. Despite many heavy strokes of fate, she still fights for the rights of the Maasai-women in their region, not least she had to fear for her life and that of her children. Their fight for equal rights collides again and again with the traditions of her tribe.

Sing Me a Song
by Thomas Balmès

Young Peyangki lives and studies in a picturesque monastery deep in the mountains of Bhutan. A few years have passed since the king allowed TV and internet into the country, and now the structured daily rituals of candle lighting and recitation of prayers compete with the powerful lure of smart phones. Privately, Peyangki is passionate about love songs and falls in love on WeChat with a young singer from the city of Thimphu. Disinterested in study and often reprimanded by his masters, he sells medicinal mushrooms to make enough money to leave the monastery in search of ‘the one he dreams of night and day’. Peyangki trades in his robes for street clothes, but will he succumb to romance and the temptations of the city or return to his pious life in the monastery?
**Solidarność – How Solidarity changed Europe**

by Ania Szczepanska

HISTORY | SOCIETY | CONFLICTS | POLITICS | RELIGION | ECONOMY | WORK | HUMAN RIGHTS

After WWII, the Polish People’s Republic was initially a model pupil of the Soviet Union. With a growing shortage of food and other supplies, however, protests started. In the summer of 1980, emboldened by the visit of the first Polish pope, John Paul II, the workers of the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk called a strike and founded the first independent trade union behind the Iron Curtain: Solidarność (Solidarity) – it was to change Poland and Europe forever. The film’s perspective is very much that of the workers, who were supported by the Catholic church and oppositional intellectuals.

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**A Song for an Unknown Actress**

by Peter Göltgenboth, Florian Giefer

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | GENDER | CINEMA | WOMEN | WORK | ECONOMY

Being an actress in Los Angeles is a demanding job on many levels. We take a look at the ‘working class’ of actresses in L.A., the ones nobody ever sees because they are not (yet) famous. A portrait of five women who show us what it really means to ‘follow your dreams’ and demonstrate that happiness and success are not necessarily related.

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**Spirit of the Ball**

by Murad Abu Eisheh

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | SPORTS | FOOTBALL | SOCCER | TRAVEL

One ball, one world – one bus. Their destination is the football World Cup in Russia, their plan is to bring people from different countries closer together. Andrew, Benni, Sven and a small group from their initiative Spirit of Football set off in a minibus. From London they make their way all across 20 countries in Europe and the Middle East towards Moscow. Their luggage contains not much more than a football and the group’s overwhelming idealism. On their journey the team makes encounters happen between the most different people, nations and cultures. They cross crisis-shaken countries in Europe and the Middle East – Kosovo, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey and Jordan, amongst others...
Standing in Front of Many Houses

by Ekaterina Reinbold

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | PORTRAIT | MIGRATION | WOMEN | POV

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Natasha immigrates as a child with her family to Germany. Today, 20 years later, she returns to the place of her childhood, an area southwest of Lake Baikal. Natasha’s time in Port Baikal is mainly structured through her everyday encounters with the people who live there. Until today, their living conditions are still marked by the effects of the Perestroika. Natasha is accompanied by an ever-present recording camera. This always raises the question of who is the actual protagonist of this journey – the person behind or in front of the camera?

Starting With Fragments

by Robert Dobe, Omar Shalash

HUMAN INTEREST | WAR & PEACE | CONFLICTS | CURRENT AFFAIRS | POV

When Tamer Alawam was killed by a grenade in 2012, he left over 300 hours of film footage of the Syrian Revolution – images, which were meant to show Syria from inside. Overwhelmed by the flood of these images and driven by feelings of grief, responsibility and powerlessness, two young filmmakers and friends of Tamer in far away Germany start their own search for answers. While one of them meets with Tamer’s companions to find out more about the motivations of his friend, the other begins collecting reactions in German society towards the war in Syria. A documentary about humanity, responsibility and the difficulties of finding the right way of action.

Status and Terrain

by Ute Adamczewski

HISTORY | NS-POLITICS | SOCIETY

STATUS AND TERRAIN tells the story of an escalation. Its point of departure are the so-called early concentration camps. Set up immediately after the National Socialist seizure of power they aimed at the elimination of political opponents. Today these camps are largely forgotten. STATUS AND TERRAIN is about the way time has overwritten these sites, and about how different political cultures of remembrance have become inscribed in them. The film entangles three periods of German history. They form a loose narrative in which violence as a means of imposing power plays a pivotal role.
Strangers in the Heart of Europe
by Jan Paschen

SOCIETY | SOCIAL | CURRENT AFFAIRS | MIGRATION | EUROPE

Five people in Eastern Slovakia in search of their identity.
The tourist guide, the wood sculptor, the student, the artist and the last hammer smith.
All connected by the Carpathian German minority. A series of portraits about the change of time and identity, between self- and public-image.

The Strong Sex
Jonas Rothlaender

HUMAN INTEREST | GENDER | CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY | SOCIAL | SCIENCE

Director Jonas Rothlaender confronts various men with anonymous statements by other men about their sexual experiences and the associated gender roles. As a result, the protagonists begin to reflect on their own sexuality and to talk about their experiences.

THE STRONG SEX is an examination of male sexuality, its power structures and stereotypes of masculinity in present time.

Summerwar
by Moritz Schulz

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIAL | YOUTH | SOCIETY | WAR & PEACE

Jasmin and Jastrip are both 12 years old and live in Kiev. Jasmin is a girl from a loving family, who wants to excel at all cost. Jastrip is a boy, who is neglected and simply wants to find a place where he is loved.

They both visit the Azovez camp which aims to raise a new class of patriotic warriors for a Ukraine of tomorrow. There, the kids learn how to be real Ukrainians – to fight, to shoot, to yell, to get orders and to give orders. And over time this changes them.
Surviving on the Moon
by Gabriel Stoukalov, Felix Kohler

SCIENCE | SOCIETY

Spending less than a day there, Neil Armstrong was the first man to go to the moon in 1969. Three years later, in April 1972, Charlie Duke also got his chance to walk on the moon. He stayed three days. Fifty years after the first human foot touched this celestial body, researchers around the world are working flat out on the next mission to the moon. The ambitious goal is to build a habitable research station on the lunar surface. Unprotected by Earth’s atmosphere, moon travellers are exposed to a hundred times more radiation than on earth. This key problem must be solved before a habitable lunar station can be built. But how can a moon habitat – where researchers can live and work for months – be built at all? What requirements do space suits need to meet? And how could food cultivation work in a hostile environment?

The documentary SURVIVING ON THE MOON will go to research stations all over the world to find the latest answers to the most burning questions on moon research and sound out the state of play in research at international projects.

> 70 min.

SWINGER – Die wunderbare Welt des Partneraustauschs
by Stefan Zimmermann

SOCIETY | HUMAN INTEREST

A brutally honest documentary about the swinger / lifestyle scene in Germany, their behaviour, their way of live and their reasons to have sex with more than one partner aside their own partner. Intense, lovable, profound!

> 70 min.

taipeilove*
by Lucie Liu

HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | GENDER | SOCIETY | LGBT

taipeilove* is a documentary on the perception of homosexuality in Taiwanese society and its fight for same-sex marriage. The film deals with the questions: How free, safe and happy can gays and lesbians live in Taiwanese society? How do their families and friends react? What role do religion, societal and cultural expectations play? taipeilove* portrays three protagonists Sarah, Kevin and David as well as the island’s two-year struggle on its way to universal human rights. In May 2019 Taiwan became the first country in Asia to legalize same-sex marriage.
there may be uncertainty
by Paul Reinholz
CURRENT AFFAIRS | SOCIETY | POLITICS | ECONOMY

‘there may be uncertainty’ shows a world in which nobody knows what the next year, the next
day or the next hour will bring. The fear and anxiety about the future is ubiquitous in a
globalised world too complex to understand. States, companies and private persons attempt
to plan the unpredictable. They prepare for crises which are likely, unlikely or even unrealistic
to occur. The contemplative graduation film directed by Paul Reinholz at Academy of Media
Arts Cologne (KHM) draws a calm and unpretentious picture of uncertainty, the imagination of
disasters and the architecture of catastrophes. Funded by Film- und Medienstiftung NRW.

This is not a Movie
by Yung Chang
CURRENT AFFAIRS | MEDIA | HUMAN RIGHTS | WAR & PEACE

The documentary reevaluates the Middle East, investigating invasions and wars through the
prism of history and the unique and incendiary perspective of veteran journalist Robert Fisk,
who’s been reporting in the region for over 40 years. Where once this long-form, on the ground,
investigative journalism was valued for its truth-seeking, today, he is a dinosaur of a bygone era
supplanted by fake news, media conglomerates, citizen journalists and sound-bytes.
THIS IS NOT A MOVIE is an urgent inquiry into the meaning of truth and ethics in modern-day
journalism, the Middle East’s lack of social contract between governments and their people and
how we can reshape a world where politics and history sways with every misinterpretation and lie.

TINTORETTO und das neue Venedig
by Erminio Perocco
PORTRAIT | ARTS | HISTORY | PAINTING

500 years ago in Venice, a star was born. Jacopo Robusti Tintoretto began painting at a time
when radical social change marked the beginning of the European Reformation. With fast
brushstrokes and daring compositions, his paintings captured the complexities and challenges
of this new modern age. This documentary tells the story of the most radical and courageous
painter of the age. Tintoretto’s most important paintings give the film its narrative structure.
Cinematic reenactment in front of the golden landscape of Venice brings 16th century Italy to life.
to end
by Anna Verena Müller

HUMAN INTEREST | SOCIETY | ECONOMY | SOCIETY | CULTURE

What is the link between the end of a chemical reaction and the end of a career? And to what extent are there endings in the universe and in literature? A documentary film exploring the perspectives of eight protagonists and their understanding of endings.

Town of Glory
by Dmitry Bogolyubov, Anna Shishova-Bogolyubova

CURRENT AFFAIRS | SOCIETY | POLITICS | COMING OF AGE | YOUTH | LONGTERM | HISTORY

A heroic Soviet past and a destitute post-industrial present make the provincial town of Yelnya susceptible for the Kremlin’s aggressive anti-Western propaganda leading to the militarization of society from kindergarten to pension age.

Filmed over the course of three years, this film introduces Western viewers to the small and prototypical provincial Russian town of Yelnya where people admire Vladimir Putin for making Russia great again. Yelnya has remained economically marginalized ever since the Soviet Union collapsed. But people have regained pride. They believe that president Putin is bringing back glory and power to the Russian nation. Not many object to the constant propaganda claims that fascism is threatening once again from the US and Europe, and that Russia must stand ready to defend itself. With few exceptions, Yelnyans raise their children to become good patriots. They don’t mind the eerie, all-encompassing militarization of society.

Spuren
by Aysun Bademsoy

CURRENT AFFAIRS | HUMAN INTEREST | HUMAN RIGHTS | MIGRATION | SOCIETY

The National Socialist Underground murders in the early 2000s left scars. Not only among the relatives of the victims, but also in the migrant communities and the entire German society. TRACES follows these scars and poses the question of whether such injuries can ever heal completely.
**Trans – I Got Life**
by Imogen Kimmel, Doris Metz

HUMAN RIGHTS | HUMAN INTEREST | GENDER | SOCIETY | LGBT

The documentary features seven transsexual protagonists and a world-class surgeon based in Munich. It tells a story of the journey between the sexes from multiple perspectives and is set in Munich, Moscow and San Francisco.

A film that isn’t always going easy on its viewers, for it includes the operating room as the crucial place of the trans voyage. It is where the ‘rebirth’ takes place and only afterwards transsexual people can say, “I got Life”.

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**Trees of Protest**
by Nick Schader

CURRENT AFFAIRS | CONFLICTS | SUSTAINABILITY | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | ENVIRONMENT

Trees of Protest accompanies the climate movement in the German lignite area Hambach for more than two years. It tells the story of the bitter struggle of environmental activists for climate justice and against the mining of lignite by the energy company RWE. Nick Schader documents how the initially regional climate movement grew and gained international attention.

The focus of the film are environmental activists who live in dizzying heights in Hambach Forest in tree houses. The clearance of the tree houses in autumn 2018 led to one of the largest police operations in the history of Germany.

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**Trial and Error**
by Marie Falke

PORTRAIT | HISTORY | AGING | ARTS | CULTURE | SOCIETY | FILM | POV

Gideon Bachmann instructs Marie Falke with the inventory of his belongings. An accumulation of dozens of boxes, well-filled with his articles, photographs, love letters and film reels. An enormous conglomeration of stories of a man who can be characterised as a witness of the 20th century. Trial and Error recounts the encounter between the aging cosmopolitan who struggles with death and a young film student who’s seeking stories. In this manner the documentary establishes a discourse about life and death and comments on the ambivalent relationship between director and protagonist.
A Tunnel
by Nino Orjionkidze, Vano Arsenishvili

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ECONOMY | ECOLOGY | RURAL AREAS | GLOBALIZATION

A scarcely populated mountainous gorge is a mysterious place. Protected by mountains and forest all around, it looks like being frozen in time: old railway platform, wooden houses, wild nature. Old local train rattles around twice a day – the only mean of communication for most of the villagers. But when echoes of explosions reach the village, it becomes obvious that things are going to change here for good. A big black hole appears in the mountain as a sign that newcomers have arrived. Hundreds of Chinese settle in a remote Georgian village to build a modernized railway that will link China and Europe. (IDFA)

Turkey Under the AKP
by Osman Okkan, Halil Gülbeяз

CURRENT AFFAIRS | POLITICS | ECONOMY | SOCIETY

Since the failed coup in 2016, Turkey has changed at an unprecedented pace. Under Erdogan’s leadership, the AKP has transformed the country more radically than any other party before. An investigative documentary about the rise of the AKP and Erdogan’s vision of a ‘new Turkey’.

Ulrich Tukur – Life of a Showman
by Eva Gerberding

PORTRAIT | ARTS | CULTURE | MUSIC | THEATRE | FILM

A sensitive portrait of an exceptional character closely connected to Hamburg. Ulrich Tukur is a true all-rounder. He sings, plays piano and accordion, writes and embodies baddies very persuasively. The 61-year old actor loves change, movement and restlessness. The film accompanies Tukur through Germany, France, Italy and Greece and takes a look at the person behind the showman. It comprehensively documents his origins, the stepping-stones of his career and his reflections on theatre.
Faszination Arktis
Tauchgang unter dünnem Eis
85min | HD | OV English, French | German, French dubbed | English ST
festivals: Alpine Camera in Gold beim Mountainfilm Festival Graz
Galafilm
info@galafilm.com
www.galafilm.com
info@gebrueder-beetz.de
www.gebrueder-beetz.de

Under Thin Ice
by Denis Blaquiere
CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENVIRONMENT | ECOLOGY | NATURE | ANIMALS | SCIENCE | CLIMATE CHANGE
Climate Change affects the Artic twice as fast as the rest of the world: What exactly does that mean for nature and animals in the Arctic right now?
In search of answers extreme divers Jill Heinerth and Mario Cyr venture a dangerous expedition into the Arctic Ocean. In captivating pictures, UNDER THIN ICE documents the progressing decline of one of the planet’s most precious ecosystems.

The Unknown Life of Antarctica – A Year Amid the Eternal Ice
by Lars Pfeiffer, Joanna Michna
CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENVIRONMENT | ECOLOGY | ECOLOGY | GLOBALISATION
We travel to King George Island, the gateway to Antarctica, where five different nations operate research stations located in the most extraordinary of environments.
The researchers’ work and visits have to be planned with the utmost care because mistakes can cost lives. And only together can they survive such hostile conditions.
If you look into Uta’s (70) face, around which the camera circles softly, you can divine her unusual life story. In these rugged, almost male features in her face one thing is written: confidence. Uta is almost blind. She and her partner live a modest life on the breadline. She is a street musician and a unique personality. Her songs tell stories of love and loss, of fast-moving time and a rampant fun society. Hearing of the hard times in her life, one is spellbound and surprised, because Uta has never surrendered to bitterness.

The film is a portrait of a Wolfgang and his small videothek, one the last surviving ones in all of Germany. Ever since he was a child video stores have been places of community and discovery. Today he is the owner of Silvias Videoladen, his very own store. Everything looks like it did when he began to work there, with old humming lights and labyrinthic paths. Even though the business of renting films has changed dramatically, his optimism seems unbroken. A bittersweet story of a man, who cannot imagine a world without video stores.

On a late-September day in 2014, students from the Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers’ College were brutally attacked by police forces and other masked assailants as they were travelling through the town of Iguala, Guerrero. Six people were killed and 43 students were abducted and never heard from again. Since then, the families of the students have lived in limbo with their unanswered questions – and the psychological and emotional toll of the endemic violence currently plaguing Mexican society. With meditative, breathtaking photography and intimate interviews, renowned artist and filmmaker Ai Weiwei details the void stories of the Ayotzinapa victims.
Vulkane in Neuseeland
2x3min | HD | OV English
German narration | German dubbed

Making Movies
info@makingmovies.co.nz
www.makingmovies.co.nz
Gebrüder Beetz
info@gebrueder-beetz.de
www.gebrueder-beetz.de

Volcanoes in New Zealand
by Mark Strickson, Alex Clark, Tuan Lam
ENVIRONMENT | NATURE | ANIMALS | TRAVEL

New Zealand is on the Pacific Ring of Fire. Volcanic eruptions have repeatedly devastated the country. The New Zealanders are looking for prevention – and discover a unique wildlife in addition to lava caves and volcanic islands…

Wagenknecht
by Sandra Kaudelka
CURRENT AFFAIRS | PORTRAIT | POLITICS | GENDER | LONGTERM | WOMEN

Interviews, emergency talks, press conferences and photo shoots; it’s all in a day’s work for left-wing politician Sahra Wagenknecht. Hers is a life full of applause and admiration, but also extreme pressure and open hostility.

Director Sandra Kaudelka filmed the politician and her team up close and personal for over two years. In the spring of 2017, The Left (Die Linke) stands a chance of becoming part of the German federal government; in early 2019 Wagenknecht succumbs to exhaustion and announces her withdrawal from political leadership.

Walchensee Forever
by Janna Ji Wonders
SOCIETY | HISTORY | POV | FAMILY | GENDER | CULTURE | WOMEN | MUSIC | LONGTERM

In her documentary family saga WALCHENSEE FOREVER, director Janna Ji Wonders embarks on a voyage of discovery spanning a century: she takes us from the family café at the Bavarian Walchensee to San Francisco to the infamous ‘Summer of Love’. She discovers the secrets of her family to track down their role in the generation chain.

It is a timeless family story about the search for identity, self-realization, love, pain, dependence, loss, psychosis, birth, death. It is a film about the cycle of life.
The War in Me
by Sebastian Heinzel

HUMAN INTEREST | WAR & PEACE | POV | FAMILY | WWII

New research from epigenetics indicates that enormous stress experiences change the genetic make-up. German filmmaker Sebastian Heinzel explores the effects of WWII on his family and follows his grandfather’s path from Germany to Belarus. He discovers unexpected connections to his own past and his war dreams, which have been haunting him for years.

We Almost Lost Bochum
by Julian Brimmers, Benjamin Westermann

PORTRAIT | ARTS | MUSIC | HISTORY | CULTURE

20 years after the release of their iconic debut ‘Unter Tage’, RAG take stock. With only two LPs, the MC Aphroe, Pahel and Galla as well as DJ and producer Mr. Wiz left their mark on the first German rap boom of the late 90s. Two decades later, the film follows the former band members from the deepest Ruhr Valley to Washington D.C. and New York, documents their first gigs after 15 years of stage abstinence, and discusses the tragic death of RAG member Galla. Companions like Jan Delay, Kool Savas, Marteria, Curse, Die Kassierer and many more have their say. The film title is a reference to the Gil Scott-Heron classic ‘We Almost Lost Detroit’.

Weapons
by Rocco Di Mento

HISTORY | SOCIETY | WAR & PEACE | ARTS | MUSEUM

Weapons are made to kill, although for Dr. Sven Lüken, art historian and collection manager of the militaria at the German Historical Museum, those are daily life objects. He spends his days in an archive with more than 30.000 pieces, objects that possibly killed or tortured other human beings. A short portrait about an ambiguous fascination.
Das Wunder von Taipeh
How one women's team changed the German football world
by John David Seidler

In 1981 establishing a women’s national team was of no interest to the German Football Association. Therefore an invitation to the Women’s World Cup in Taipei went to the reigning club champions from the small town of Bergisch Gladbach, Germany. In the film the former players talk about the absurd conditions in which they had to fight for their great dream of playing football. Accompanied by historical footage – testimonies of a men’s world that today seem all the more anachronistic – the film tells a story that is about much more than sporting success, namely equality and recognition.

Was bleibt I Šta ostaje I What remains / Re-visited
by Clarissa Thieme

‘Was bleibt I Šta ostaje I What remains / Re-visited’ is a re-encounter with the places and landscapes that already played the leading role in Thiemе’s ‘Was bleibt I Šta ostaje I What remains’ (Berlinale 2010): Sites of War Crimes in the 1990s in Bosnia Herzegovina. Ten years later, Thieme returns to them – with those past recordings in tow.

We Hold the Line
by Marc Wiese

In many countries of the world democracies are eroding from within. In some countries they are dying. It is a death by a thousand cuts. In the Philippines, journalist Maria Ressa and her team from the news platform Rappler fight against a violent president who executes tens of thousands of people with death squads and turns the country into a dictatorship. The documentary gives a rare behind the scenes access to Maria and her staff and accompanies them over a year during threats to their work and life. Victims of the war, critical politicians in hiding and members of the death squads give insight into the real ‘war on drugs’ of president Duterte.
Wohin mit all der Liebe

80min | DCP | DVD | OV Georgian | English, German ST

awards/festivals: German Camera Prize for Mitja Hagelüken | 62 DOK Leipzig

ACCENTUS Music GmbH | Günter Atteln
Dittrichring 14, 04109 Leipzig, Germany

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www.accentus.com
marita.stocker@gmx.de
vimeo.com/363496215

What to Do With All This Love

by Marita Stocker

HUMAN INTEREST | YOUTH | ARTS | MUSIC | CULTURE | SOCIETY | AGING | EDUCATION

Georgia: A multi-ethnic state in the Caucasus, hovering between the past and the future. Up upon a hill, the Paliashvili Music School for gifted children looks out over Tbilisi. The plaster is crumbling, hardly any instrument can be tuned, and many teachers are far beyond retirement age. While they still seek that spark of inspiration, the headmaster fights for a new building and the students pursue their calling in life.

WHAT TO DO WITH ALL THIS LOVE is a film about a place lost in time and threatening disappearance, about growing up and aging, about great dreams and the art of improvisation.

Where We Used to Swim

by Daniel Asadi Faezi

CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENVIRONMENT | ECOLOGY | ECONOMY | SOCIETY

The dried tears of Lake Urmia in Northern Iran are for sale – salt in plastic bags at the roadside. Once the biggest lake in the Middle East, only a fraction of it is left today. This is its elegy, presenting both its former splendour and its state today.

Wavering between factuality and melancholy, the film finally opts for a pessimistic view of society. The dying lake becomes a symbol. (DOK Leipzig, Carolin Weidner)

Why I Am Here

by Mieko Azuma, Susanne Mi-Son Quester

HUMAN RIGHTS | MIGRATION | YOUTH | AGING | SOCIETY | EDUCATION

Five people between the ages of 10 and 84 talk about why they had to leave their home and what it was like to arrive in Germany. What is different? What do they miss? Between scenes of daily life at the new school and on the football ground the lives that Ahmad, Frau Schiller, Leila, Lena and Cacau left behind and the stories of the flights they lived through come alive in animated sequences. (DOK Leipzig, Marie-Thérèse Antony)
With one’s own eyes
by Miguel Müller-Frank
CURRENT AFFAIRS | PORTRAIT | SOCIETY | MEDIA

WITH ONE’S OWN EYES observes the daily work of the editors of the renowned German political TV magazine MONITOR which is known for its investigative, opinionative and often polarizing journalism since its first airing 55 years ago. The documentary focuses on the creation of one MONITOR program and follows the editors on their investigative research on right-wing extremists in connection with the murder of politician Walter Lübcke.

Produced without television funds and solely funded by the Film- and Mediafund NRW, WITH ONE’S OWN EYES is the sixth full-length documentary by Miguel Müller-Frank.

The Wonder of Hearing
by Ralph Loop
HUMAN INTEREST | SCIENCE | SOCIETY | HEALTH | MEDICINE | INCLUSION

Even when we sleep, a part of us is wide awake: our hearing. 24 hours on reception to identify sources of danger, to communicate and to orientate ourselves. In addition, our hearing often suffers from sensory overload and stress.

According to the WHO, more than 400 million people worldwide are affected by hearing loss, and more than a billion young people are at risk. The film shows current scientific developments and illustrates how powerful – but also vulnerable – the ear is.

The young KADYAS
by Yvonne Andrä, Eyal Davidovitch
HUMAN INTEREST | MUSIC | CONFLICTS | GENDER | COMING OF AGE | YOUTH

They want to sing about chirping crickets and falling stars. In Yiddish. Arab and Jewish girls from Israel want to spend a carefree summer with girls from Germany. However, the lessons are exhausting. And the current politics and the complex history of their countries push themselves more and more into their summer life. But the girls will not be stopped. Their voices, their dreams and their unbridled power give hope for a new, a peaceful, a better world.
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The German Documentary Association / AG DOK …

… is the largest professional association of independent producers in Germany, numbering more than 850 members. It is first and foremost a film and media lobbyist for the documentary genre, but is open to representatives from all film genres.

a… fights to prevent documentaries from vanishing from television screens and movie theatres.

b… is developing new strategies to counter broadcasters’ demands for more rights from independent producers for dwindling licensing fees.

c… becomes involved wherever and whenever film politics are debated in Germany.

d… commissions studies and legal reports relating to independent film production in order to provide solid arguments in film political debates.

e… provides its members with legal consultation and, in some cases, assistance in lawsuits.

f… provides free legal consultation with established media lawyers for every contract.

g… is constructing a platform for efficient foreign sales of German documentaries through the initiative ‘german documentaries’ in cooperation with ‘german films.’

h… organizes presentations of German documentaries at foreign festivals, and meetings with colleagues from other countries in cooperation with ‘german films.’

i… furthers discussions about the documentary genre at meetings and conferences.

j… offers filmmakers and producers opportunities to exchange views and information on a local level.

k… offers its members copies of the film newsletter ‘black box,’ the association’s own newsletter, and other relevant information from the film industry.

l… offers its members discounted memberships to the European Documentary Network EDN.

m… represents the interests of documentary filmmakers in the governing boards of the Copyright Association of German Artists, Photographers and Filmmakers (VG Bild-Kunst) and the German Federal Film Board (FFA).

n… commissions studies of broadcast slots and license fees.