

PRESS KIT



INTRODUCTION

In 2016, the national information and advisory centre for the promotion of German films worldwide - **German Film Service + Marketing** - launched a unique campaign promoting German cinema achievements to international audiences and showcasing exceptional German talent worldwide.

The initiative – **FACE TO FACE WITH GERMAN FILMS** – shines a spotlight on the most influential individuals currently working in the German film industry and who represent just some of the many dynamic ‘faces’ of German filmmaking today.

The 2016 launch of the **FACE TO FACE WITH GERMAN FILMS** campaign presented six actresses; PAULA BEER, LIV LISA FRIES, SANDRA HÜLLER, JULIA JENTSCH, SASKIA ROSENDAHL and LILITH STANGENBERG to the international film community, across a series of press events, a photographic advertising campaign and through the international launches of their diverse film and television projects.

2017 sees the continuation of this campaign, celebrating recent German film successes - this time, with the support of six of Germany’s most eclectic actors; some of whom are already internationally established and others who represent Germany’s next generation of talent. These new ‘faces’ are:

- ❖ VOLKER BRUCH
- ❖ ALEXANDER FEHLING
- ❖ LOUIS HOFMANN
- ❖ JANNIS NIEWÖHNER
- ❖ TOM SCHILLING
- ❖ RONALD ZEHRFELD

2016 was a stand-out year for German film, with an impressive number of important international film festivals giving German productions a prominent platform and German cinema finding a notable international audience at the box office, too.

It was undoubtedly the year of **TONI ERDMANN**, by Maren Ade. It started to conquer hearts at the Festival de Cannes. Decorated with five European Film Awards, a Danish Film Award BODIL for Best International Film, Oscar®, BAFTA, Golden Globes® and César nominations, **TONI ERDMANN** received numerous international festival invitations, followed by multiple festival prizes and sales all over the globe.

TONI ERDMANN also delivered stunningly with its admission figures and was seen by some 340,000 cinema-goers in France, 100,000 in Denmark and enjoyed a box office of over \$1.4 million (and climbing!) in the US; **VICTORIA** by Sebastian Schipper reached a box office total of GBP 145,000 after just five days in UK cinemas – posting GBP 509,000 overall in the UK. **LOOK WHO'S BACK (ER IST WIEDER DA)** by David F. Wnendt was hugely successful in Japan, with a box office of more than two million euros. Animation from Germany was also very popular, including **OOOPS! NOAH IS**

GONE (OOOPS! DIE ARCHE IST WEG...) by Toby Genkel with revenues of over 40 million euros worldwide.

France in particular has embraced German cinema in the last year: COLONIA by Florian Gallenberger was seen by around 130,000 French cinema-goers. STEFAN ZWEIG - FAREWELL TO EUROPE (VOR DER MORGENRÖTE) by Maria Schrader enjoyed over 110,000 admissions and family favourite HEIDI by Alain Gsponer was seen by 700,000 enthusiastic French fans.

Alongside the huge investment in German-language television drama by major streaming giants Amazon and Netflix, DEUTSCHLAND 83 enjoyed significant success in the UK in particular – becoming the highest rated foreign language drama on television in this territory.

The **FACE TO FACE WITH GERMAN FILMS** initiative works to celebrate trends in German filmmaking, the current international appetite for German storytelling and the filmmakers and creative talents at the heart of the industry's recent national and international success.

This year's 'faces' will be presented at the Festival de Cannes in May 2017 and will represent their industry through a series of events in the months ahead.

VOLKER BRUCH



Born in Munich in 1980, Volker Bruch graduated from the Max Reinhardt Seminar (School of Drama) in Vienna and first started gaining attention in 2007, when he landed a part in the award-winning film *ROSE* by Alain Gsponer, and as a young murderer in the TV drama *NICHTS IST VERGESSEN* (2007), for which he was nominated for the German TV Prize.

In the same year, he starred on the big screen as the son of Katja Riemann and Ulrich Noethen in *LIFE ACTUALLY (DAS WAHRE LEBEN)*, which earned him a nomination for the Grimme Prize, as well as in Marcus H. Rosenmüller's coming-of-age comedy *BEST TIMES (BESTE ZEIT)*. Following this, he was part of the international drama *THE RED BARON (DER ROTE BARON)* alongside Matthias Schweighöfer, Til Schweiger and Joseph Fiennes. Bruch was then cast in the film based on the international bestseller by Bernhard Schlink, *THE READER (DER VORLESER)* starring Kate Winslet, Ralph Fiennes and David Kross.

Further film work includes: *THE BAADER MEINHOF COMPLEX (DER BAADER MEINHOF KOMPLEX)* directed by Uli Edel, *THE MURDER FARM (TANNÖD)* directed by Bettina Oberli and starring 2016 *Face to Face with German Films* ambassador, Julia Jentsch, *NANGA PARBAT* (2010) by Joseph Vilmaier and romantic drama *YOUNG GOETHE IN LOVE (GOETHE!)* directed by Philipp Stölzl, alongside Miriam Stein and fellow *Face to Face with German Films* actor, Alexander Fehling.

For his outstanding depiction of the military officer Wilhelm in the television drama *GENERATION WAR (UNSERE MÜTTER, UNSERE VÄTER)*, Bruch captured the hearts of millions. He was awarded for his performance, along with the other lead actors (including Tom Schilling), with the German Television Academy Award, the Special Prize at the Bavarian Television Awards and the International Emmy Award.

Bruch plays the lead opposite Liv Lisa Fries (a *Face to Face with German Films* ambassador for 2016) in the extensively internationally broadcast German-produced drama series, *BABYLON BERLIN* for a trio of German directors: Tom Tykwer, Henk Handloegten and Achim von Borries. Prior to this, Bruch shot Cédric Jimenez's *THE MAN WITH THE IRON HEART*, opposite Rosamund Pike and Mia Wasikowska.

SELECT FILM AND TELEVISION CREDITS

2017	BABYLON BERLIN (TV)	Tom Tykwer, Achim von Borries, Henk Handloegten
2015	THE MAN WITH THE IRON HEART	Cedric Jimenez
2015	FACK JU GÖHTE 2	Bora Dagtekin
2014	OUTSIDE THE BOX	Philip Koch
2014	BESTE CHANCE	Markus Rosenmüller
2013	TOUR DE FORCE (HIN UND WEG)	Christian Zübert
2013	THE PILGRIM (DIE PILGERIN) (TV)	Phillipp Kadelbach
2013	TATORT – DER ESKIMO (TV)	Achim von Borries
2011	GENERATION WAR (UNSERE MÜTTER, UNSERE VÄTER) (TV)	Phillipp Kadelbach
2011	CONFESSION OF A CHILD OF THE CENTURY	Sylvie Verheyde
2010	WESTWIND	Robert Thalheim

2009	YOUNG GOETHE IN LOVE (GOETHE!)	Philipp Stölzl
2009	NANGA PARBAT	Joseph Viltsmaier
2008	THE MURDER FARM (TANNÖD)	Bettina Oberli
2007	THE READER (DER VORLESER)	Stephen Daldry
2007	THE BAADER MEINHOF COMPLEX (DER BAADER MEINHOF KOMPLEX)	Uli Edel
2007	LES FEMMES DE L'OMBRE	Jean-Paul Salomé
2006	BEST TIMES (BESTE ZEIT)	Marcus H. Rosenmüller Niki Müllerschön
2006	THE RED BARON (DER ROTE BARON)	

NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

2013	WON: German Television Award, Best Ensemble for GENERATION WAR
2013	WON: Bavarian Television Award, Special Prize Best Ensemble for GENERATION WAR
2008	NOMINATED: Undine Award, Best Young Supporting Actor for THE BAADER MEINHOF COMPLEX

Q & A WITH VOLKER BRUCH

When did you begin acting and what attracted you to the entertainment industry?

Acting is playing, and playing is learning. That's something every child does. So it's probably rather something I decided not to stop.

What project do you consider to be your 'big break' and why?

There has never been just one 'big break', more like several small ones, and some fortunate film appearances that brought me into the public eye. They include ROSE, THE READER, GENERATION WAR. And then, of course, BABYLON BERLIN. I have never felt quite so protected, inspired and richly rewarded during a production, both artistically and personally (and I was dressed so smartly, as well).

Who are your German and international influences (filmmakers and/or films)?

Tom Tykwer, Fatih Akin, Jean-Luc Godard, Buster Keaton, Kathryn Bigelow, the Coen Brothers, Wes Anderson and the one and only gentlemen of Monty Python.

Which filmmakers in Germany (directors/producers/writers/actors, etc.) do you consider as particularly influential, currently? Who should we be watching out for?

Always Tom Tykwer, Achim von Borries, Henk Handloegten, and then Baran bo Odar - I am really looking forward to his series, DARK. Fatih Akin, Philipp Kadelbach, Christian Zübert, Florian Öller, Trystan Pütter, Miriam Stein and Dominic Oley (the most lyrical, lucid and amusing actor I know.)

What upcoming German projects are you working on?

BABYLON BERLIN will not let go of me, I carry it with me as a fulfilling memory and a breathtaking experience. After that particular ride, I am very grateful for my current break. At the moment, I am reading a lot and will only be filming again in the autumn - at the earliest.

Which role would you most like to play on screen and why?

The role I like to play best is always the one I'm playing at the moment. That's very practical. Oh, and Julius Caesar.

What does being part of the Face to Face campaign, which celebrates German film success internationally, mean to you?

I feel very honoured to be part of it, and I am looking forward to getting to know some interesting people and filmmakers, so that I can also just talk to them about the weather, perhaps, or maybe take a good joke or two away with me.

ALEXANDER FEHLING



Alexander Fehling was born in Berlin in 1981 and studied acting at the Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts from 2003 to 2007. He has been a part of various stage productions at the Maxim Gorki Theatre Berlin, the Berlin Ensemble, the Bat Berlin, the German Theatre Berlin, the Berlin Sophiensäle, and the Theatre Neumarkt in Zurich, Switzerland. In 2006, Fehling was honored with the O.E.Hasse Award for his role on stage as the Prince in Robert Walsers' SNOW WHITE.

Fehling then received the Promotion of German Cinema Award for his portrayal of Sven Lehnert in his cinematic debut, the 2007 film AND ALONG CAME TOURISTS (AM ENDE KOMMEN TOURISTEN), which premiered at the Festival de Cannes in 2007 in Un Certain Regard, as well as at the Toronto International Film Festival later that year.

In 2008, he followed this debut with two further film performances, in Hans-Christian Schmid's war crime drama STORM (STURM) and in Frieder Wittich's student comedy, 13 SEMESTERS (13 SEMESTER).

In addition to his part in HOMELAND in 2015, Fehling is perhaps best known to English-speaking audiences for his role as Sgt. Wilhelm in Quentin Tarantino's INGLORIOUS BASTARDS.

His leading performance in YOUNG GOETHE IN LOVE (GOETHE!) in 2009, directed by Philipp Stölzl, bagged Fehling the Metropolis Award and the Jupiter Award by German film magazine CINEMA for Best Actor and a nomination for the German Film Award (the Lolas). The same year saw him also being honored as a "Shooting Star" at the Berlin International Film Festival. Also shown in Competition at the festival that year, was Andres Veiel's IF NOT US, WHO? (WER WENN NICHT WIR) in which Fehling starred as the German terrorist, Andreas Baader.

In 2012, Fehling played the lead alongside Ronald Zehrfeld – a fellow *Face to Face with German Films* ambassador – and August Diehl in the GDR-drama, SHORES OF HOPE (WIR WOLLTEN AUFS MEER), followed by the comedy BUDDY, directed by Michael Bully Herbig in late 2013.

Also up that year was LABYRINTH OF LIES (IM LABYRINTH DES SCHWEIGENS); the internationally and nationally acclaimed post-war drama under the direction of Giulio Ricciarelli, with Fehling in the leading role. The film built a strong reputation in Germany as well as in international markets and was invited to many international film festivals through 2014, including TIFF, Palm Springs, Hong Kong, Zurich and Athens. It was seen by over 340,000 French cinema-goers and is thus one of the most successful German-language films of recent years. For his role, Alexander Fehling received the prestigious Bavarian Film Award for Best Actor 2015.

In 2015, Fehling also played his first leading role in a television drama, DER FALL BARSCHEL for German public television, and could also be seen as Jonas Hollander in season 5 of the American hit TV show HOMELAND, alongside Claire Danes. He was also part of the cast of IN TIMES OF THE FADING LIGHT (IN ZEITEN DES ABNEHMENDEN LICHTS) by Matti Geschonneck which premiered at that year's Berlinale.

His latest film project THREE PEAKS (DREI ZINNEN) by Jan Zabeil, in which he leads alongside Bérénice Bejo, premiered at Locarno in 2017 and won the Variety Piazza Grande Award. It

was also screened at the Toronto International Film Festival in its prestigious Special Presentations Section. Alexander Fehling is also part of the cast of THE CAPTAIN by Robert Schwentke (world premiere at TIFF in Special Presentations, European premiere in Competition in San Sebastian).

SELECT FILM AND TELEVISION CREDITS

YEAR	TITLE	DIRECTOR
2017	THREE PEAKS (DREI ZINNEN)	Jan Zabeil
2016	IN TIMES OF THE FADING LIGHT (IN ZEITEN DES ABNEHMENDEN LICHTS)	Matti Geschonneck
2015	HOMELAND	Various
2013	LABYRINTH OF LIES (IM LABYRINTH DES SCHWEIGENS)	Giulio Ricciarelli
2013	BUDDY	Michael Bully Herbig
2012	SHORES OF HOPE (WIR WOLLTEN AUFS MEER)	Toke C. Hebbeln
2011	THE RIVER USED TO BE A MAN (DER FLUSS WAR EINST EIN MENSCH)	Jan Zabeil
2010	IF NOT US, WHO? (WER WENN NICHT WIR)	Andres Veiel
2009	YOUNG GOETHE IN LOVE (GOETHE!)	Philipp Stözl
2008	INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS	Quentin Tarantino
2008	STORM (STURM)	Hans-Christian Schmid
2008	13 SEMESTERS (13 SEMESTER)	Frieder Wittich
2008	BUDDENBROOKS: THE DECLINE OF A FAMILY	Heinrich Breloer
2007	AND ALONG COME TOURISTS (AM ENDE KOMMEN TOURISTEN)	Robert Thalheim

NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

2015	WON: Bavarian Film Award, Best Actor for LABYRINTH OF LIES
2011	Berlinale, Shooting Star
2011	WON: Jupiter Award, Best Actor for YOUNG GOETHE IN LOVE
2011	WON: Metropolis Award, Best Actor for YOUNG GOETHE IN LOVE
2011	NOMINATED: German Film Award, Best Actor in a Leading Role for YOUNG GOETHE IN LOVE
2007	WON: Promotion of German Cinema Award for AND ALONG CAME TOURISTS

Q & A WITH ALEXANDER FEHLING

When did you begin acting and what attracted you to the entertainment industry?

My first time on stage was in a little theater group in Berlin when I was 12 years old. We performed in kindergartens and at street parties. I remember feeling a certain kind of freedom and security being immersed in a story and this feeling basically never stopped. I never saw myself moving into films until I played the lead in a movie while I was still in drama school. Acting captures the sometimes impalpable contradictions of life in a unique way. To me this is the most serious game on earth.

What project do you consider to be your 'big break' and why?

Having been in HOMELAND and INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS was great, although German projects like LABYRINTH OF LIES and THE RIVER USED TO BE A MAN have been even more demanding. My big break is still to come.

Who are your German and international influences (filmmakers and/or films)?

I was lucky enough to work with some heavyweight actors at the very beginning of my career, for instance Klaus Maria Brandauer and Gert Voss. That has certainly been very influential. The earliest recollection of extraordinary filmmaking and acting was ONCE UPON A TIME IN AMERICA. Jeff Nichols, Xavier Dolan, Michael Haneke, David Lynch, Maren Ade, Lars von Trier, Jacques Audiard and P.T. Anderson are filmmakers whose work quenches my thirst for distinct and vital storytelling.

Which filmmakers in Germany (directors/producers/writers/actors, etc.) do you consider as particularly influential, currently? Who should we be watching out for?

Having worked with him twice now, Jan Zabeil is definitely the German filmmaker one should look out for in the next decade.

What upcoming German projects are you working on?

I just finished a supporting role in Robert Schwendke's THE CAPTAIN and my latest project is THREE PEAKS directed by Jan Zabeil. It also stars Bérénice Bejo and will come out later this year.

Which role would you most like to play on screen and why?

I would like to play a part I never dreamed or thought of. Something that just lands in my letterbox and would be a total surprise. But recently I thought I would definitely go for The Joker.

What does being part of the Face to Face campaign, which celebrates German film success internationally, mean to you?

I'm honored to be a part of it because this group of actors really is a bunch of interesting characters. I really like to work abroad, so everything that puts me in a place where I can connect and be in touch with filmmakers from all over the world is precious to me.

LOUIS HOFMANN



Louis Hofmann was born in Cologne in 1997. His first role, at the age of 11, was in the German TV movie DER VERLORENE VATER (2010) alongside an ensemble of well-known German actors. The director Hermine Huntgeburth went on to cast him in TOM SAWYER in 2011 (New Faces Award as Best Young Talent 2012) and its sequel, THE ADVENTURES OF HUCK FINN (DIE ABENTEUER DES HUCK FINN) in 2012.

For his immense performance in SANCTUARY (FREISTATT), Hofmann was awarded a Bavarian Film Award 2014, for Best Young Actor and his first international award, at the Festival International du Film de Waterloo in France, as Best Actor 2015.

His first international role was in the Oscar® nominated Danish-German co-production LAND OF MINE. For his performance, Hofmann received the award for Best Male Actor at the 2015 Tokyo International Film Festival and the Beijing International Film Festival, as well as the Danish Film Award (BODIL) for Best Supporting Actor 2016. The film was also recognized at BODIL for Best Leading Role (Roland Møller) and Best Film.

At the Berlinale in 2016, the international film adaptation of Hans Fallada's novel ALONE IN BERLIN (JEDER STIRBT FÜR SICH ALLEIN) received its world premiere. Hofmann opened the film by delivering a memorable and touching performance and developed a special bond with his on-screen mother, played by British star Emma Thompson.

Louis Hofmann recently played the leading role in CENTER OF MY WORLD (DIE MITTE DER WELT), directed by Jakob M. Erwa, which had its international premiere in competition at the Moscow International Film Festival. The film adaptation of Andreas Steinhöfel's successful novel tells the story of Phil (Hofmann), who develops a fascination with a new boy at school (Jannik Schümann) and must negotiate the difficulties of family and friendships.

In May 2016, Hofmann received the highly renowned German Actors Prize for Newcomer 2016 (for SANCTUARY), as well as the German Film Award "Jaeger-LeCoultre Hommage to German Film" which is dedicated to outstanding performances by German actors in international feature films - for LAND OF MINE.

At the Berlinale in 2017, Hofmann returned as one of Europe's 10 best young acting talent and was awarded with a EUROPEAN SHOOTING STAR.

Hofmann can be seen in the first German television series for Amazon, YOU ARE WANTED, produced and directed by Matthias Schweighöfer, as well as the sequel to LAMMBOCK, titled LOMMBOCK (by Christian Zübert). He also stars in a lead role in the highly praised first German-language Netflix series, DARK directed by Baran bo Odar, in LYSIS by Rick Ostermann alongside Oliver Masucci, and in Isa Prah's DIFFERENT KINDS OF RAIN (prize for Best Debut in Tallinn).

SELECT FILM AND TELEVISION CREDITS

YEAR	TITLE	DIRECTOR
2017	DIFFERENT KINDS OF RAIN (1.000 ARTEN DEN REGEN ZU BESCHREIBEN)	Isabel Prah

2017	DARK	Baran bo Odar
2017	LYSIS	Rick Ostermann
2016	LOMMBOCK	Christian Zübert
2016	YOU ARE WANTED	Matthias Schweighöfer
2015	DAS WEISSE KANINCHEN (TV)	Florian Schwarz
2015	CENTER OF MY WORLD (DIE MITTE DER WELT)	Jakob M. Erwa
2015	ALONE IN BERLIN (JEDER STIRBT FÜR SICH ALLEIN)	Vincent Perez
2014	LAND OF MINE	Martin P. Zandvliet
2014	DAS ZEUGENHAUS (TV)	Matti Geschonneck
2013	SANCTUARY (FREISTATT)	Marc Brummund
2011	THE ADVENTURES OF HUCK FINN	Hermine Huntgeburth
2012	DER FAST PERFEKTE MANN	Vanessa Jopp
2010	TOM SAWYER	Hermine Huntgeburth
2009	DER VERLORENE VATER (TV)	Hermine Huntgeburth

NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

- 2017 Berlinale, European Shooting Star
- 2016 WON: Danish Film Award BODIL, Best supporting actor for LAND OF MINE
- 2016 WON: German Film Award Special Prize, Jaeger-LeCoultre Hommage to German Film for LAND OF MINE
- 2016 WON: Beijing International Film Festival, Best Actor for LAND OF MINE
- 2016 WON: German Actors Award, Best Young actor for SANCTUARY
- 2015 WON: Tokyo International Film Festival, Best Male Acting for LAND OF MINE
- 2015 WON: Festival International du Film de Waterloo, Best Actor for SANCTUARY
- 2014 WON: Bavarian Film Award, Best Young Actor for SANCTUARY
- 2012 WON: BUNTE New Faces Award, Best Young Talent for TOM SAWYER

Q & A WITH LOUIS HOFMANN

When did you begin acting and what attracted you to the entertainment industry?

I began acting at the age of eleven, after I had spoken to an actress who told me about her job. I was fascinated by the thought of having your own space for creativity and individuality. I then quickly realized that acting is something that really fulfills me.

What project do you consider to be your 'big break' and why?

When I was 15 I went to a high school in Australia for six months. When I came back I was really unsure if acting was still going to be a part of my life, since I hadn't shot a movie for a year. Then the movie SANCTUARY came along and I experienced an intense time, in my first role where I was not a child anymore and I was given space for complex emotions. From that point on, I not only *wanted* to do this as a real job, but also thought I might be *able* to do so. I've always been very ambitious but this movie gave me the confidence and push I needed. I'm still very grateful for that.

Who are your German and international influences (filmmakers and/or films)?

The films BASKETBALL DIARIES, LORE, DIE JAGD, CRAZY, NAPOLA, and the actors Eddie Redmayne, Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Schilling.

Which filmmakers in Germany (directors/producers/writers/actors, etc.) do you consider as particularly influential, currently?

Sebastian Schipper, Baran bo Odar, Jantje Friese, Jakob Lass, Maren Ade, Philipp Kadelbach, Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, Tom Tykwer, Nicolette Krebitz.

Who should we be watching out for?

The actors Ivo Pietzcker, Ella Rumpf, David Schütter, Paula Beer, Jonas Dassler, Saskia Rosendahl, Joel Basman, Leonard Scheicher.

What upcoming German projects are you working on?

Last summer I shot Rick Ostermann's new film LYSIS. A drama about a father and his son who go on a trip together - improvised and filmed with action cameras which we were handling ourselves. This April, I finished the first German original Netflix series called DARK and in June I start filming a debut film about a young piano student that loses control over his life due to the growing pressure he is facing.

Which role would you most like to play on screen and why?

The role of Leonardo DiCaprio in BASKETBALL DIARIES.

What does being part of the Face to Face campaign, which celebrates German film success internationally, mean to you?

It is a huge honour for me to be alongside these amazing actors I look up to. Besides that, I think we are in a period of German filmmaking right now which is able to cross more and more borders, both creatively and geographically.

JANNIS NIEWÖHNER



Jannis Niewöhner was born in 1992 in Krefeld. At the age of 10, he took his first role in front of the camera in the very popular German TV crime show TATORT. Further roles quickly followed in both film and television, including the children's films THE TREASURE OF THE WHITE FALCONS (DER SCHATZ DER WEISSEN FALKEN) and TKKG AND THE MYSTERIOUS MIND MACHINE (TKKG UND DIE RÄTSELHAFTE MIND-MACHINE) in 2006, directed by Tomy Wiegand, which drew him a lot of attention, particularly with young audiences.

For his performance in the 2008 teen flick SUMMER (SOMMER), Niewöhner was nominated for the prestigious Austrian Undine Award. His strong screen presence and ability to transform can also be seen in the diverse roles he plays in the films PARENTS (ELTERN) in 2013, BESSER ALS NIX in 2014 as well as in the comedy PLAYING DOCTOR (DOKTORSPIELE), directed by Marco Petry in 2014.

In the film adaptation of the bestselling novel, RUBY RED (RUBINROT), Niewöhner was ideally cast for the role of Gideon de Villiers, and became adored by the hundreds and thousands of fans of the fantasy books by Kerstin Gier. He went on to star in the second sequel, SAPHIRE BLUE (SAPHIRBLAU), and then the last film in the trilogy, EMERALD GREEN (SMARAGDGRÜN), which was released in 2016.

In 2014 Niewöhner shot the international productions, A GIRL KING, directed by Mika Kaurismäki in Finland, as well as ALL IS LOVE (ALLES IST LIEBE), the television series DENGLER - THE LAST FLIGHT (DENGLER DIE LETZTE FLUCHT), alongside fellow *Face to Face with German Films* ambassador Ronald Zehrfeld, and a major role in WINDSTORM 2 (OSTWIND 2).

He starred as a 17 year old, violent psychiatric patient in 4 KINGS (4 KÖNIGE), alongside young German stars Paula Beer and Jella Haase, which won the main prize in the Alice nella città sidebar at the Rome Film Festival 2015 and went on to win the German Film Award (Bronze) for Outstanding Feature Film. In 2015 he was also selected for the EUROPEAN SHOOTING STARS programme, honouring Europe's best young acting talent at the 65th Berlin International Film Festival.

Niewöhner starred in the movie JONATHAN (directed by Piotr J. Lewandowski) which was shown in the Berlinale's Panorama section to critical acclaim the following February. He plays a high school graduate who wants to continue his studies, but must care for his sick father.

In spring 2016, Niewöhner played the leading role in YOUTH WITHOUT GOD - A FILM ABOUT LOVE (JUGEND OHNE GOTT - EIN FILM ÜBER DIE LIEBE) by Alain Gsponer. The film is adapted from the novel by Ödön von Horváth. His latest projects also include the second directorial work of Anika Decker, HIGH SOCIETY together with Emilia Schüle, Iris Berben, Katja Riemann and Jannik Schümann and Detlev Buck's GORILLAS.

In 2017, Niewöhner won the Bavarian Film Award for Best Young Actor (for JONATHAN and YOUTH WITHOUT GOD) as well as the Jupiter Award by German film magazine CINEMA for Best Actor in EMERALD GREEN.

SELECT FILM AND TELEVISION CREDITS

YEAR	TITLE	DIRECTOR
2017	BERLIN STATION (Season 2)	
2017	GORILLAS	Detlev Buck
2016	YOUTH WITHOUT GOD (JUGEND OHNE GOTT)	Alain Gsponer
2016	OSTWIND 3 - AUFBRUCH NACH ORA	Katja von Garnier
2016	HIGH SOCIETY	Anika Decker
2015	JONATHAN	Piotr Lewandowski
2015	EMERALD GREEN (SMARAGDGRÜN)	Felix Fuchssteiner
2014	4 KINGS (4 KÖNIGE)	Theresa von Eltz
2014	ALL IS LOVE (ALLES IST LIEBE)	Markus Goller
2014	THE GIRL KING	Mika Kaurismäki
2014	WINDSTORM 2 (OSTWIND 2)	Katja von Garnier
2013	SAPHIRE BLUE (SAPHIRBLAU)	Felix Fuchssteiner
2012	RUBY RED (RUBINROT)	Felix Fuchssteiner
2012	BESSER ALS NIX	Ute Wieland
2012	PLAYING DOCTOR (DOKTORSPIELE)	Marco Petry
2010	EINER WIE BRUNO	Anja Jacobs
2010	EIN TICK ANDERS	Andi Rogenhagen
2009	CHEEKY GIRLS 2 (FRECHE MÄDCHEN 2)	Ute Wieland
2008	GANGS	Rainer Matsutani
2007	SUMMER (SOMMER)	Mike Marzuk
2006	WILD CHICKS IN LOVE (DIE WILDEN HÜHNER UND DIE LIEBE)	Vivian Naefe
2005	TKKG AND THE MYSTERIOUS MIND MACHINE (TKKG UND DIE RÄTSELHAFTE MIND-MACHINE)	Tomy Wigand
2001	THE TREASURE OF THE WHITE FALCONS (DER SCHATZ DER WEISSEN FALKEN)	Christian Zübert

NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

2017	WON: Jupiter Award, Best Actor for EMERALD GREEN
2017	WON: Bavarian Film Award, Best Young Actor for JONATHAN and YOUTH WITHOUT GOD
2015	Berlinale, European Shooting Star

Q & A WITH JANNIS NIEWÖHNER

When did you begin acting and what attracted you to the entertainment industry?

My parents began to show me good quality films when I was 6 years old. As well as that, my father works in theatre, which meant that I was introduced to that kind of storytelling at a very early age. When I acted in my first film at the age of 11, it was all a great adventure, simply such a lot of fun. It wasn't until I was 15 that I started to understand the profession and everything about it more and more.

What project do you consider to be your 'big break' and why?

Almost certainly the RUBY RED Trilogy, that is, the film versions of three successful fantasy novels, which brought me a lot more attention as an actor! But in my opinion, 4 KINGS was the project in which I got a chance to show a fresh side of myself by comparison to most of the films I had done previously.

Who are your German and international influences (filmmakers and/or films)?

LOVE IN THOUGHTS by Achim von Borries is a wonderful German film with many superb actors, who were just beginning to act in films themselves at the time. Matthias Schweighöfer in POLLY BLUE EYES. That spurred me on, like many American or French films and actors, of course. I love the joy in acting that you see in Sam Rockwell and Brad Pitt, for example, the physicality of Tom Hardy and Kevin Spacey, and I love films that have simply astonishing energy, like LA HAINE. Someone like Shia LaBeouf also motivates and impresses me because you get the feeling that for him, acting is always a matter of life and death.

Which filmmakers in Germany (directors/producers/writers/actors, etc.) do you consider as particularly influential, currently? Who should we be watching out for?

YOUTH WITHOUT GOD is a film I made last year with director Alain Gsponer. I believe he has succeeded in dealing with a politically relevant theme in an entertaining way, and so creating outstanding cinema.

What upcoming German projects are you working on?

I have just finished shooting the film GORILLAS by Detlev Buck. The shoot was great fun, precisely because it was an experiment involving a lot of positive chaos. The projects YOUTH WITHOUT GOD, HIGH SOCIETY, SO AUF ERDEN and MAXIMILIAN differ a lot, and they will all be shown in cinemas this year.

Which role would you most like to play on screen and why?

I love a good action thriller with the right plot. I would really enjoy something like BOURNE IDENTITY!

What does being part of the Face to Face campaign, which celebrates German film success internationally, mean to you?

Naturally, it brought me up short when I saw the others that had been selected with me, because all of them are actors I admire. Otherwise, I am always delighted at all the things you encounter when you get an opportunity to look further than your own nose.

TOM SCHILLING



Tom Schilling was born in 1982 in Berlin and has been one of the most striking young actors in Germany for many years now.

Whilst he was at school, he was discovered for the theatre and he first showcased his talent on screen at 17, as part of an ensemble cast alongside Daniel Brühl, Ken Duken and Franka Potente in PARADISE MALL (SCHLARAFFENLAND) in 1999, directed by Friedemann Fromm. Schilling followed this with the role of Janosch in CRAZY (2000) alongside Robert Stadlober, for which he was honoured with the Bavarian Film Award.

His reputation was strengthened with leading roles in HEART OVER HEAD (HERZ IM KOPF) in 2001, PLAY IT LOUD! (VERSCHWENDE DEINE JUGEND) in 2003 and NAPOLA in 2004, for which he received not only one of the coveted Austrian Undine Awards, but also the Karl Spiels Scholarship, which allowed him to study at the Lee Strasberg Studio in New York for three months.

Tom Schilling was part of the ensemble of Oskar Roehler's feature films AGNES AND HIS BROTHERS (AGNES UND SEINE BRÜDER) (Venice Film Festival 2004) and ELEMENTARY PARTICLES (ELEMENTARTEILCHEN) (Berlinale Competition 2005).

In the autumn of 2007, Schilling starred in THE BAADER MEINHOF COMPLEX (DER BAADER MEINHOF KOMPLEX), under Uli Edel's direction. For Leander Haußmann, he played the main role in ROBERT ZIMMERMANN IS TANGLED UP IN LOVE (ROBERT ZIMMERMANN WUNDERT SICH ÜBER DIE LIEBE), based on a novel by Gernot Gricksch, playing a man who succumbs to the charms of an older woman.

Jan Ole Gersters' A COFFEE IN BERLIN (OH BOY) received a total of 6 coveted German Film Awards in 2012, including Best Actor for Tom Schilling, as well as Best Feature Film. The film screened at multiple international film festivals – including Karlovy Vary, Munich, Zurich, Marrakech, Istanbul, Sydney, Shanghai and Palm Springs – and won several German and international awards e.g. the Red Herring Award and the Audience Award at Tallinn. Tom Schilling won the Bavarian Film Award 2012 for Best Actor.

Schilling took a main role in Philipp Kadelbach's TV mini-series, GENERATION WAR (UNSERE MÜTTER, UNSERE VÄTER) in 2013. He plays Friedhelm, who is driven by doubts about the correctness of the war. The elaborate three-parter was an extraordinary success: It was sold to TV broadcasters all over the world and was also released in cinemas in the US. The show received 20 international awards – including an International Emmy and the Prix Italia and co-starred fellow *Face to Face with German Films* ambassador, Volker Bruch.

In 2014, Schilling starred as a young hacker in Baran bo Odar's WHO AM I – NO SYSTEM IS SAFE (WHO AM I - KEIN SYSTEM IST SICHER). The film premiered at the Toronto Film Festival to much critical acclaim and won a number of prizes, including three German Film Awards in 2015.

Saul Dibb's SUITE FRANCAIS was followed by Simon Curtis' WOMAN IN GOLD, which premiered at the Berlinale in 2015. Tom Schilling was part of an international cast including Helen Mirren, Ryan Reynolds, Max Irons and Daniel Brühl. He also was part of a top-class cast in the mini-series NSU — GERMAN HISTORY X (MITTEN IN DEUTSCHLAND: NSU) which stirred a lot of international interest when presented at MIPTV in 2016.

Schilling's latest work includes the television series, THE SAME SKY (DER GETEILTE HIMMEL) which premiered at the Berlinale in 2017. Next up, Schilling is the lead in German Oscar® winner Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck's new feature film, WERK OHNE AUTOR.

SELECT FILM AND TELEVISION CREDITS

YEAR	TITLE	DIRECTOR
2017	WERK OHNE AUTOR	Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck
2015	THE SAME SKY (DER GETEILTE HIMMEL) (TV)	Oliver Hirschbiegel
2015	NSU - GERMAN HISTORY X (MITTEN IN DEUTSCHLAND: NSU) (TV)	Christian Schwochow, Florian Cossen, Züli Aladag
2015	POINT BLANK(AUF KURZE DISTANZ) (TV)	Philipp Kadelbach
2014	WHO AM I – NO SYSTEM IS SAFE (WHO AM I - KEIN SYSTEM IST SICHER)	Baran Bo Odar
2014	WOMAN IN GOLD	Simon Curtis
2014	PUNK (TOD DEN HIPPIES!! ES LEBE DER PUNK)	Oskar Roehler
2013	SUITE FRANCAISE	Saul Dibb
2012	WOYZECK (TV)	David Nural Callis
2011	GENERATION WAR (UNSERE MÜTTER, UNSERE VÄTER) (TV)	Philipp Kadelbach
2010	A COFFEE IN BERLIN (OH BOY)	Jan Ole Gerster
2007	ROBERT ZIMMERMANN IS TANGLED UP IN LOVE (ROBERT ZIMMERMANN WUNDERT SICH ÜBER DIE LIEBE)	Leander Haußmann
2007	THE BAADER MEINHOF COMPLEX (DER BAADER MEINHOF KOMPLEX)	Uli Edel
2006	PORNORAMA	Marc Rothemund
2005	ELEMENTARY PARTICLES (ELEMENTARTEILCHEN)	Oskar Roehler
2003	AGNES AND HIS BROTHERS (AGNES UND SEINE BRÜDER)	Oskar Roehler
2003	NAPOLA	Dennis Gansel
2003	PLAY IT LOUD! (VERSCHWENDE DEINE JUGEND)	Benjamin Quabeck
2000	HEART OVER HEAD (HERZ IM KOPF)	Michael Gutmann
1999	CRAZY	Hans-Christian Schmid
	PARADISE MALL (SCHLARAFFENLAND)	Friedmann Fromm

NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

2011	WON: International Emmy as part of the ensemble in GENERATION WAR
2013	WON: Bavarian Film Award, Best Actor for A COFFEE IN BERLIN
2013	NOMINATED: European Film Award, European Actor for A COFFEE IN BERLIN
2013	WON: German Film Award, Best Actor in a Leading Role for A COFFEE IN BERLIN
2013	WON: German Television Academy Award, Best Leading Actor for GENERATION WAR
2014	NOMINATED: Austrian Film Award Romy, Best Actor for GENERATION WAR
2012	WON: Oldenburg Film Festival, Seymore Cassel German Independence Award for A COFFEE IN BERLIN
2008	WON: German TV Crime Award, Special Prize for outstanding individual performance in TATORT: DER FRÜHE ABSCHIED
2005	WON: Undine Award, Best Young Character Actor for NAPOLA
2000	WON: Bavarian Film Award, Best Young Actor for CRAZY

Q & A WITH TOM SCHILLING**When did you begin acting and what attracted you to the entertainment industry?**

I had my first contact with the film industry in the former GDR. I was six years old and got selected at kindergarten. Later, when I was twelve, I was discovered again in the school playground. I suppose there must have been something about me...

What project do you consider to be your 'big break' and why?

Hans-Christian Schmid's film CRAZY changed something in me. I was 18 and actually I wanted to become a painter. Although I had made a few films before that, many things were different here. Hans-Christian Schmid is a classical *auteur* filmmaker with incredible sensitivity. He is cautiously gentle and pays great attention to detail in his work with actors. That suited me really well. And then, when I had seen CRAZY on the Piazza in Locarno, together with an audience of what must have totaled 3000 people, I no longer wanted to be a painter.

Who are your German and international influences (filmmakers and/or films)?

I like the best of international arthouse cinema, the sort of thing that is shown in Cannes.

Which filmmakers in Germany (directors/producers/writers/actors, etc.) do you consider as particularly influential, currently? Who should we be watching out for?

Philipp Kadelbach and Jan Ole Gerster are my personal favourites.

What upcoming German projects are you working on?

I am working on my music. That is, at the moment I am releasing my debut album, and I will be going on tour with it. In the autumn I will be working together with Jan Ole Gerster again. Classical arthouse cinema.

Which role would you most like to play on screen and why?

Jan Ole Gerster and I would really love to make a film adaptation of Christian Kracht's novel *Imperium*. The story of the first dropout, August Engelhardt - nudist, vegan and sun-worshipper - who emigrated to German New Guinea at the start of the 20th century to find peace with himself, although he didn't quite manage that. Hopefully, we will succeed and we will be able to shoot in 2018 - that would be a major challenge for me.

What does being part of the Face to Face campaign, which celebrates German film success internationally, mean to you?

We will see.

RONALD ZEHRFELD



Ronald Zehrfeld studied at the prestigious Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts, where he was discovered by Peter Zadek for the German Theatre in Berlin.

In 2005, Dominik Graf chose Zehrfeld for his award-winning feature film, THE RED COCKATOO (DER ROTE KAKDU), he also was part of the cast of Graf's highly acclaimed series IN THE FACE OF CRIME (IM ANGESICHT DES VERBRECHENS, Berlinale 2010).

2009 saw Zehrfeld play the lead role of pirate Klaus Störtebeker in Sven Taddickens' adventure comedy, 12 PACES WITHOUT A HEAD (12 METER OHNE KOPF). In 2011, Zehrfeld took a supporting role in Christian Schwochow's film, CRACKS IN THE SHELL (DIE UNSICHTBARE) which was shown at various international film festivals.

In Christian Petzold's drama BARBARA, alongside Nina Hoss, Ronald played a pediatrician who is transferred to the GDR province. This role earned him his first nomination for the German Film Award as Best Leading Actor. The film also won the Silver Bear (for Best Direction) at the Berlinale in 2012, and a German Film Award 2012 (Best Film: Silver).

In 2014 Zehrfeld starred in INBETWEEN WORLDS (ZWISCHEN WELTEN) by Feo Aladag and in BELOVED SISTERS (GELIEBTE SCHWESTERN) by Dominik Graf – both of which premiered at the Berlinale, in competition in 2014 – as well as in Christian Petzold's PHOENIX, in 2015.

PHOENIX was hugely acclaimed, making over \$3 million at the North American box office and it was the most successful arthouse release of the year in the USA. The film was seen by over 170,000 cinema-goers in France and PHOENIX went on to win several international awards, including the Australian Film Critics Association (AFCA) Award for Best International Film (Foreign Language); the Fipresci Award at San Sebastian Film Festival and the Signis Award: Special Mention at the Hong Kong Film Festival.

In 2015, Zehrfeld received the German Film Award for Best Supporting Actor for his performance in THE PEOPLE VS FRITZ BAUER (DER STAAT GEGEN FRITZ BAUER), directed by Lars Kraume. The film won five other German Film Awards, including Best Film (Gold) and Best Director. The film also captured the hearts of 7,000 spectators during its world premiere on the Piazza Grande at the Locarno Film Festival in 2015 and was presented with the UBS Audience Award.

Zehrfeld's latest projects include the TV series 4 BLOCKS by Marvin Kren and the British drama series SS-GB (screened on the BBC in early 2017) alongside Sam Riley and directed by Germany's Philipp Kadelbach - both of which were premiered at the Berlinale in February 2017. He is part of the cast of Lars Kraume's feature film THE SILENT REVOLUTION, premiering at Berlinale Special Gala 2018.

SELECT FILM AND TELEVISION CREDITS

YEAR	TITLE	DIRECTOR
2017	DAS SCHWEIGENDE KLASSENZIMMER	Lars Kraume
2016	4 BLOCKS (TV)	Marvin Kren
2016	DENGLER – THE PROTECTIVE HAND (DENGLER - DIE SCHÜTZENDE HAND)	Lars Kraume

2016	LANDGERICHT - GESCHICHTE EINER FAMILIE	Matthias Glasner
2015	DENGLER – ON THE TWELFTH DAY (DENGLER - AM ZWÖLFTEN TAG)	Lars Kraume
2015	SS-GB (TV)	Philipp Kadelbach
2015	ZIELFAHNDER - FLUCHT IN DIE KARPATEN (TV)	Dominik Graf
2014	DENGLER – THE LAST FLIGHT (DENGLER - DIE LETZTE FLUCHT) (TV)	Lars Kraume
2014	THE PEOPLE VS FRITZ BAUER (DER STAAT GEGEN FRITZ BAUER)	Lars Kraume
2014	RICO, OSKAR AND THE BROKEN HEARTED (RICO, OSKAR UND DAS HERZGEBRECHE)	Wolfgang Groos
2014	TANNBACH (TV)	Alexander Dierbach
2014	WEISSENSEE 3 (TV)	Friedemann Fromm
2013	PHOENIX	Christian Petzold
2013	THE PASTA DETECTIVES (RICO, OSKAR UND DIE TIEFERSCHATTEN)	Neele Vollmar
2013	INBETWEEN WORLDS (ZWISCHEN WELTEN)	Feo Aladag
2012	BELOVED SISTERS (DIE GELIEBTEN SCHWESTERN)	Dominik Graf
2012	CRACKS IN THE SHELL (DIE UNSICHTBARE)	Christian Schwochow
2012	FINSTERWORLD	Frauke Finserwalder
2012	LOSE MY SELF (VERGISS MEIN ICH)	Jan Schomburg
2012	THE KINGS SURRENDER (WIR WAREN KÖNIGE)	Philipp Leinemann
2011	BARBARA	Christian Petzold
2011	DAS UNSICHTBARE MÄDCHEN	Dominik Graf
2011	WEISSENSEE 2 (TV)	Friedemann Fromm
2010	DIE STUNDE DES WOLFES - AKA DER TEUFEL WEISS ES	Matthias Glasner
2010	SHORES OF HOPE (WIR WOLLTEN AUFS MEER)	Constantin Hebbeln
2008	12 PACES WITHOUT A HEAD (12 METER OHNE KOPF)	Sven Tadikken
2008	IN THE FACE OF CRIME (IM ANGESICHT DES VERBRECHENS) (TV)	Dominik Graf
2006	SCHIMANSKI - TOD IN DER SIEDLUNG	Thorsten C. Fischer
2006	TATORT - LIEBE AM NACHMITTAG	Manuel Flurin Hendry
2004	THE RED COCKATOO (DER ROTE KAKDU)	Dominik Graf

NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

2016	WON: German Film Award, Best Supporting Actor for THE PEOPLE VS FRITZ BAUER
2016	WON: German Actors Award, Best Supporting Actor for THE PEOPLE VS FRITZ BAUER
2014	WON: Grimme Award for MORD IN EBERSWALDE
2013	WON: Baden-Baden TV Film Festival, Best Actor in MORD IN EBERSWALDE
2010	WON: German TV Award, Best Ensemble for IN THE FACE OF CRIME

Q & A WITH RONALD ZEHRFELD**When did you begin acting and what attracted you to the entertainment industry?**

While I was still studying, I began acting on stage for Peter Zadek. At that time I regarded the theatre and stagework as a world of endless opportunity. I was still in the middle of my studies, but I was able to look over established colleagues' shoulders and take my own first tentative steps on the boards. Then I entered the film business with Dominik Graf's THE RED COCKATOO in 2005. I like to act because I love standing on stage and getting the chance to try out extremes. That is so rewarding, but also a great responsibility.

What project do you consider to be your 'big break' and why?

I would like to suggest two projects here: my first film THE RED COCKATOO by Dominik Graf, and BARBARA by Christian Petzold. On the one hand, it was special to work together with Dominik in THE RED COCKATOO and to face the cameras for the first time; on the other hand, getting to know Christian when working on BARBARA and playing alongside Nina Hoss was amazing. BARBARA is one of my favourite films, and that was hugely rewarding.

Who are your German and international influences (filmmakers and/or films)?

First of all, I would say Jim Jarmusch. Then there is the Coen Brothers, above all for THE BIG LEBOWSKI. In Germany, for me they include Dominik Graf, Christian Petzold, Marvin Kren, Philipp Leinemann, and Philipp Kadelbach. Some of them will go on influencing and impressing me all my life. Internationally, I don't know where to begin. I love the Oscar®-winning MOONLIGHT by Barry Jenkins. It's a film that moves me immensely, especially the last 20 minutes.

Which filmmakers in Germany (directors/producers/writers/actors, etc.) do you consider as particularly influential, currently? Who should we be watching out for?

Definitely Marvin Kren, Philipp Leinemann, Philipp Kadelbach and Tom Tykwer. But again, there are so many. And Dominik Graf is timeless; you always have to include him.

What upcoming German projects are you working on?

In that respect, I am superstitious. So much can happen in this business, so I like to wait until a film has really been shot to the end before I reveal any information about upcoming projects. Various projects are being prepared at the moment but I would prefer to let the film speak for itself later.

Which role would you most like to play on screen and why?

Richard, the part played by Al Pacino in LOOKING FOR RICHARD. That's a film I love. I would also like to make a new version of A CLOCKWORK ORANGE. Generally, in your choice of roles you have to think about what interests, moves and challenges people these days. What sort of film can focus on those themes, ask questions, and search for answers? The answers to that are very diverse, so it's difficult to say exactly what roles I would like to act one day. Meanwhile, it's great that I get a chance to collaborate with interesting people – then suddenly I seem to come face to face with the right themes.

What does being part of the Face to Face campaign, which celebrates German film success internationally, mean to you?

It is a real distinction and an honour to be able to present current German films internationally – in person, with my work, and together with some wonderful colleagues. German cinema is constantly developing and the international market is literally crying out for us to participate. We should, and we must do it!

FACE TO FACE WITH GERMAN FILMS- SPECIAL SHOOT

High resolution images from an exclusive photoshoot with all 6 actors are available upon request



Caption for use of any image:

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The pictures of the six actors which accompany the campaign were shot by renowned German photographer Jens Koch. German Films thanks the designers and outfitters who generously supported the creation of the FACE TO FACE WITH GERMAN FILMS 2017 campaign: HUGO BOSS, WINDSOR, ROOKS & ROCKS and CINQUE.



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