



Welcome to the 10th annual Portland German Film Festival, presented by Zeitgeist Northwest. Join us October 4 – 8 at Cinema 21 for a fantastic line-up of contemporary and classic German language films from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, presented in German with English subtitles. The festival began in 2010 with only one film and developed into what is now the Portland German Film Festival. This year, we are celebrating its 10th anniversary with 5 days and 15 films!

We begin with the International Premiere of TRAUMFABRIK, a romantic comedy set at the DEFA studios in Babelsberg. We have several other premieres like HOW ABOUT ADOLF! and THE RE-FORMER. ZWINGLI - A LIFE'S PORTRAIT. Celebrating the 30th anniversary of the MAUERFALL, we screen BALLOON, based on the incredible true story of the Strelzyk and Wetzel families crossing from the GDR into West Germany in a hot-air balloon. This year's diverse selection includes documentaries THE CASTLE (Wiener Burgtheater), VIENNA'S CINEMAS and a doc about ethical business with FAIR TRADERS, as well as a compelling portrait of German movie icon Mario Adorf.

Painter, media artist, filmmaker and producer Lutz Dammbeck will be attending the festival's retro screening of his acclaimed movie THE NET, followed by the West Coast premiere of his brand new movie BRUNO & BETTINA.

A special Dankeschön to the members of Zeitgeist Northwest and all of our generous sponsors, without their contribution this festival would not be possible! Wir sehen uns im Kino!

Yvonne P. Behrens. Director, Portland German Film Festival The Board of Zeitgeist Northwest

www.portlandgermanfilmfestival.com

## **THANK YOU!**

Karen & Cliff Deveney, Jeanne & Stephen Schapp, Gabriel Mendoza, Renate Zylla, Petra Brambrink, Tom Ranieri & the staff of Cinema 21 and the German Language Departments of Lewis & Clark, Pacific University, Portland State University and Reed College as well as our fabulous festival volunteers.

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## **SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE**

ALL SCREENINGS AT CINEMA 21, 616 NW 21ST AVENUE

Friday, October 4	3:00	The Net - Director Lutz Dammbeck in Attendance. Free
	7:00	Traumfabrik
Saturday, October 5	1:00	It Could Have Been Worse - Mario Adorf
	3:00	Alfons Jitterbag - Countdown to Chaos
	5:00	Next Generation Short Tiger 2018
	7:00	Balloon
	9:30	Bruno & Bettina - Director Lutz Dammbeck in Attendance
Sunday, October 6	11:00am	Brecht
	3:00	Rocca Changes the World
	5:00	Fair Traders
	7:00	How About Adolf?
Monday, October 7	5:00	The Castle
	7:00	The Tobacconist
Tuesday, October 9	5:00	Vienna's Cinema
	7:00	The Reformer: Zwingli – A Life's Portrait

## TICKETS AND PASSES

Opening Night Film and Party - \$25 Opening Night Film Only - \$15 General Admission - \$11 Seniors (62+) and Students with ID - \$8.50 Children under 12 - \$7.50

Parking at Cinema 21 Paid parking at Legacy Good Samaritan in Parking Structure 1, located on NW 22nd and Kearney. A second lot at the Northeast corner of 22nd and Kearney is available, Free parking is available evenings/weekends at the Legacy surface lot at 1919 NW Lovejoy (NW 20th and Lovejoy, entrance on Lovejoy). Free on weekdays after 5:30 pm and all day Sat-Sun. **No overnight parking**. Details and rates: www.cinema21.com/parking



Painter, media artist, filmmaker and producer Lutz Dammbeck was born in Leipzig in 1948. He is a graduate of the Leipzig Academy of Visual Arts. He is a writer, producer and director and has realised a number of exhibitions. His animation "The Moon" attracted international attention in 1975/76. In the following years, he became the subject of reprisals by the GDR government, before he moved to Hamburg in 1986. He founded his own production company in 1990 and was a guest lecturer at the Hamburg University of Applied Arts in 1992/93. In 1998, he became a professor at the Dresden Academy of Fine Arts and has been head of its New Media project course since 2000. Beside other awards, his film "Master Game" was awarded the DOK Leipzig Silver Dove in 1998.

Dammbeck will appear at the Portland German Film Festival on Friday October 4 at 3:00 pm for a free screening of *The Net* and on Saturday, October 5 at 9:30pm for a screening of *Bruno & Bettina*.

## OPENING NIGHT

#### **TRAUMFABRIK** - International Premiere

October 4 at 7:30 p.m. • Germany Directed by Martin Schreier • 120 minutes Cast: Dennis Mojen, Emilia Schüle, Heiner Lauterbach, Ken Duken, Nikolai Kinski, Michael Gwisdek

Summer 1961: Emil is working as an extra at the DEFA studios in Babelsberg, East Germany when he falls head over heels in love with a French dancer named Milou. The two young lovebirds are obviously meant for each other, but the building of the Berlin Wall soon tears them apart. It looks like they will never see each other again, that is, until Emil has a crazy idea: He's going to produce a movie and bring Milou back to Babelsberg!

The Opening Night party will be held directly after the screening in the lower lobby.

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#### THE NET

October 4 • 3:00 p.m *FREE ADMISSION* Directed by Lutz Dammbeck Germany • 121 minutes

#### DIRECTOR LUTZ DAMMBECK WILL IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A after the film.

Ultimately stunning in its revelations, Lutz Dammbeck's The Net explores the incredibly complex backstory of Ted Kaczynski, the infamous Unabomber. This exquisitely crafted inquiry into the rationale of this mythic figure situates him within a late 20th century web of technology - a system that he grew to oppose. A marvelously subversive approach to the history of the Internet, this insightful documentary combines speculative travelogue and investigative journalism to trace contrasting countercultural responses to the cybernetic revolution.

"DIRECTOR AND MEDIA ARTIST LUTZ DAMMBECK IN PORTLAND" has been organized by the DEFA Film Library at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and has been supported by the DEFA Film Library, DEFA-Stiftung in Berlin, and Wunderbar Together, an initiative of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany and the Goethe-Institut, with the support of the Federation of German Industries (BDI). Special thanks to Hiltrud Schulz (DEFA Film Library).



#### IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE – MARIO ADORF (Es hätte schlimmer kommen können - Mario Adorf) October 5 • 1:00 p.m • Germany Directed by Dominik Wessely • 98 min. When Mario Adorf enters a room, one senses his presence, his vitality, his charisma and his elegance. The grand

master of cinema, born in 1930, is

still one of the most popular actors in

Germany. It Could Have Been Worse portrays the film star Mario Adorf and his passion for acting, the stage, the cinema, singing and writing. Together with the director Dominik Wessely, the film comes closer to Mario Adorf as a person and highlights important stations of his private life and his international career. When Mario Adorf begins to talk about his life, over 60 years of theatre and film history come to life. A dialogue with him is not only a retrospective, but also an intensive exchange of ideas about film and theatre and his view of the world, love and aging.



#### ALFONS JITTERBAG – COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS October 5 • 3:00 p.m • Germany Directed by Mark Schlichter • 54 min.

What would Alfons Zitterbacke give to be a great athlete, a super student and an astronaut. just like Alexander Gerst. But that isn't what his world looks like. The 11-year-old stumbles from one mishap to the next. Everyone seems to gang up on him. Unfair teachers, vicious classmates and a very strict father generally make life miserable for him - when out of the blue an aircraft competition offers the opportunity to participate in an astronaut camp and Alfons sees his chance: At last he can show the world what a brilliant inventor he is - particularly Emilia, the new girl in class. The only trouble is that Alfons' rival, Nico, also decides to take part in the competition and challenges him to a duel. In his dilemma, Alfons drags his best friend Benni, into the affair, and now there's no way out: They have to win the competition. But how?

*Alfons Jitterbag* is an action-packed comedy about friendship, outer space, fathers and sons and the best plans for building rockets.





NEXT GENERATION SHORT TIGER 2018 October 5 • 5:00 p.m • Germany Directed by Various • 101 min.

The short film program *Next Generation* was created by German Films in 1998 to introduce young talents from Germany to international audiences. Selected from film school submissions by an independent jury, the program premieres in the Cannes Film Festival and is then presented worldwide at festivals. Since 2011, German Films has cooperated with the German Federal Film Board (FFA) to present the nominees of their annual Short Tiger Award as part of the program, now called *Next Generation*. Film include:

MOSCERINO, L' by Lukas von Berg FACE by Valentin Riedl, Frédéric Schuld COMMENTS by Jannis Alexander Kiefer EGO by Lukas Baier HIM & HER by Nathalie Lamb SLAND by Max Mörtl, Robert Löbel MEGATRICK/MEGA TRICK by Anne Isensee MIT IM BUND/MORALE by Lukas Nathrath RIEN NE VA PLUS by Sophie Linnenbaum

A special thank you to German Films!





**BALLOON (Ballon)** October 5 • 7:00 p.m • Germany Directed by Michael Herbig • 125 min.

Known for Germany's all-time biggest grossing movies Manitou's Shoe (2001) and Dreamship Surprise (2004), comedy personality Michael "Bully" Herbig now makes his directing foray into thrillers, recreating a gripping historical event. 1979, East Germany at the height of the Cold War. Günter Wetzel (David Kross, The Reader), a bricklayer, and his friend Peter Strelzyk (Friedrich Mücke), an electrician, can no longer bear the oppressive regime. The two men and their wives undertake a mission to secretly build a hot air balloon from scratch that will carry them and their families over the border fence to freedom. Over the course of the next 18 months they sew 1,000 square metres of cloth and gather countless weather reports from West German radio with the Stasi (State Police) hot on their heels. A nerve-racking battle against the clock begins...

This movie is proudly sponsored by the Consulate General of Germany in San Francisco



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**LUTZ DAMMBECK: BRUNO** & BETTINA West Coast Premiere October 5 • 9:30 p.m • Germany Directed by Lutz Dammbeck • 105 min.

#### DIRECTOR LUTZ DAMMBECK WILL IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A after the film.

Legendary author and filmmaker Masao Adachi was a member of the Japanese New Left who shifted roles from political filmmaker to guerilla fighter. Adachi went underground with a new identity and a fake passport and, for the next 23 years, lived at the center of an international network of radical, leftwing revolutionary groups. In 1997, he was arrested tried, convicted, and sentenced to prison time. Following his release, he resumed working on films after a 30-year hiatus.

Dammbeck met Adachi in Tokyo in 2018, and the two engaged in a wideranging discussion that encompassed topics including art, revolution, the influence of western avant-garde culture and of the American underground, the Japanese Red Army, collaboration with secret services, the role of the Left after 1968, and the reasons for the failure of leftist ideas and strategies. Dammbeck filmed their conversation, and the result is this new documentary, which represents an extraordinary meeting of minds.

## CENTERPIECE

#### BRECHT

October 6 at 11:00 a.m. • Germany/Austria Directed by Heinrich Breloer • 187 minutes Cast: Burghart Klaußner, Tom Schilling, Adele Neuhauser, Lou Strenger, Mala Emde, Karolina Horster, Trine Dyrholm, Franz Hartwig, Ernst Stötzner, Friederike Becht, Leonie Benesch, Maria Dragus, Laura de Boer

Heinrich Breloer's biographical film of writer Bertolt Brecht, is a hybrid of fiction and documentary. Brecht's art reflects his inner conflict and is closely linked to the political upheavals of the time. Following Brecht's life from the beginning of World War I to his death, Breloer concentrates on Brecht's relationships with women and colleagues at the Berliner Ensemble. Excerpts from interviews with Brecht's first love Paula Banholzer, directors Egon Monk and Manfred Wekwerth, actor Regine Lutz and many others contribute to this portrait of the icon of political theatre as a combative, loving and conflicted contemporary.



**ROCCA CHANGES THE WORLD** (ROCCA – VERÄNDERT DIE WELT) October 6 • 3:00 p.m • Germany Directed by Katja Benrath • 100 min.

With never-ending optimism Rocca proves together with her friends, that even a child has the power to change the world.

Brave, funny, and one of a kind: that's Rocca. Rocca is eleven years old and lives a rather unique life. While her dad is watching over her as an astronaut from outer space, Rocca lives alone with her squirrel and is attending a normal school for the first time in her life. At school her carefree and nonconformist way of life instantly stands out. She fearlessly confronts the class bullies, because first and foremost Rocca stands up for justice. That's why she makes friends with the homeless Caspar and tries to help him. All the while she is also attempting to win over her grandmother's heart.





FAIR TRADERS - TRUE STORIES OF ETHICAL BUSINESS

October 6 • 5:00 p.m • Switzerland Directed by Nino Jacusso • 89 min.

Three players in the free-market economy assume responsibility for society and subsequent generations: they practice sustainability. The film examines various stages in the careers of successful entrepreneurs who operate on a local, national and international level and deliver on their promise of a sustainable future.

This movie is proudly sponsored by the Consulate General of Switzerland in San Francisco





#### HOW ABOUT ADOLF? (Der Vorname) October 6 • 7:00 p.m • Germany Directed by Sönke Wortmann • 91 min.

"What's in a name?" Shakespeare's lofty question takes on new life in this savage comedy which raucously lampoons contemporary German attitudes, guilt and denials of the Nazi past. When Thomas (Florian David Fitz), the black sheep of a progressive middle-class academic family, surprises his siblings with the news that he intends to name his son Adolf, petty carnage ensues as personal, ideological and sexual histories are unmasked in this scintillating dark comedy. A breakout German box office hit (a noteworthy factoid deserving of its own cultural analysis), this send-up of social respectability and appearances shows as much of an awareness of Germany's current shifting political landscape and reactionary views as it does an understanding of the tense interpersonal dynamics between siblings and in-laws. With a marvelous screenplay that is biting, quick, frequently genuinely shocking and deserving of comparison to Yasmina Reza's best satiric plays, How About Adolf? is an enjoyable excursion into bourgeois infighting and mayhem. At this dinner table, sociability starts out as just a smile, and a smile is just teeth.



**THE CASTLE (Die Burg)** October 7 • 5:00 p.m • Austria Directed by Hans H. Guttner • 95 min.

The Castle is the filmic portrait of one of the most important theatres worldwide (Das Burgtheater), conceived as a cinematographic journey of exploration, rendering visible what is otherwise invisible: the processes that are necessary to perpetuate this kind of cultural apparatus. The film is about the interlocking of a multitude of working routines, of the manifold action which has to be taken from the selection of a play to its premiere. These multifaceted perspectives convey the fascination proceeding from the subject THEATRE in a particularly intense way. Central to the film are the rehearsals of the play "Disgraced" by Ayad Akhtar, starring Katharina Lorenz, Fabian Krüger and Nicholas Ofczarek who express their feelings about acting, talking about their anxieties and doubts. but also about the fun and the power and the beauty their profession may implicate.

A special THANK YOU to Hans A.Guttner , GUTTNER FILM, Wien





VIENNA'S CINEMAS (Kino Wien Film) October 8 • 5:00 p.m • Germany Directed by Paul Rosdy • 97 min.

VIENNA'S CINEMAS is a journey through Vienna's movie theaters from 1896 to today. Told through the stories of movie theater owners, projectionists and technicians, audience members, an historian, and countless documents in film, photo and text, the film is a history of Vienna's cinemas – from the first cinema on Kärntner Straße to the multiplex world of today. The film tells the story of Vienna...



#### THE TOBACCONIST (Der Trafikant)

October 7 • 7:00 p.m • Germany/Austria Directed by Nikolaus Leytner • 108 min.

Starring Bruno Ganz (*Downfall, Wings of Desire*) as Sigmund Freud

Based on the international bestseller by Robert Seethaler. The Tobacconist is a tender, heartbreaking story about one young man and his friendship with Sigmund Freud during the Nazi occupation of Vienna. Seventeenyear-old Franz journeys to Vienna to apprentice at a tobacco shop. There he meets Sigmund Freud (Bruno Ganz), a regular customer, and over time the two very different men form a singular friendship. When Franz falls desperately in love with the musichall dancer Anezka, he seeks advice from the renowned psychoanalyst, who admits that the female sex is as big a mystery to him as it is to Franz. As political and social conditions in Austria dramatically worsen with the Nazis' arrival in Vienna, Franz, Freud, and Anezka are swept into the maelstrom of events. Each has a big decision to make: to stay or to flee?

This movie is proudly sponsored by the Austrian Consulate General in Los Angeles.

> Austrian Consulate General Los Angeles

## LUTZ DAMEDIA ARTIST

#### Thurs., Oct 3 | 8:00 – 9:00 pm GSA Arts Night

Hilton Downtown, 921 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave **Three experimental short films** Intro by Seth Howes (Univ. of Missouri), Q&A with the director

#### Fri., Oct 4 | 3:00 – 5:30 pm 10th Portland German Film Festival

Cinema 21, 616 NW 21st Ave

The Net

(Germany, 2003, 121 min., EN ST) A film about 20<sup>th</sup>-century thoughts, increasing technologization and the Unabomber Intro by Yvonne P. Behrens (PGFF Director), Q&A with the director

#### Sat., Oct 5 | 9:00 – 11:00 pm 10th Portland German Film Festival *Cinema 21, 616 NW 21st Ave*

Bruno & Bettina West Coast Premiere!

(Germany, 2018, 105 min., EN ST) An intriguing interview with filmmaker and former Japanese Red Army member Masao Adachi, on postwar Japan, art, revolution, terrorism and the failure of far-left ideas after 1968 Intro by Seth Howes, Q&A with the director

#### The Lutz Dammbeck Collection Now available from the DEFA Film Library

- 18 films to rent
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- ART UNLEASHED: Experiments on Film by Lutz Dammbeck (DVD release)



#### For more information: umass.edu/defa

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## **CLOSING NIGHT**

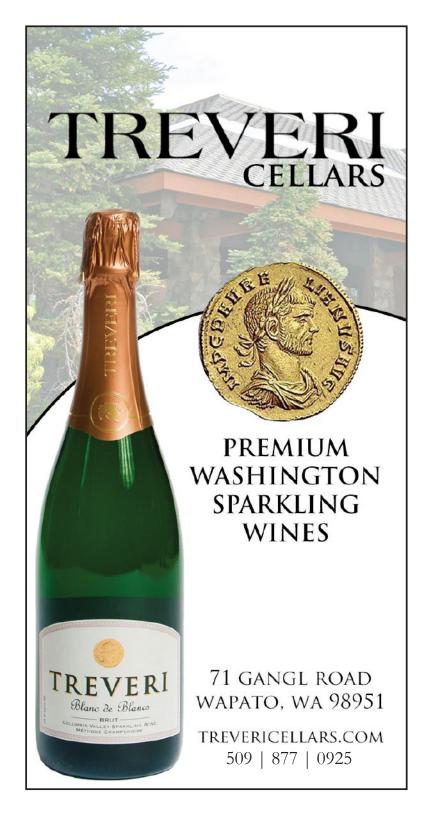
#### The Reformer. Zwingli: A Life's Portrait (Zwingli)

#### October 8 at 7:00 p.m. • Switzerland Directed by Stefan Haupt • 123 minutes

Zurich, 1519. Arriving with nothing but his impassioned eloquence and radical ideas (e.g. clerics should be free to marry who they choose—radical even today), a young priest sparks a revolution that would challenge the Catholic stronghold over the people, reforming a faith, a nation, and the world. Based on the extraordinary life of Ulrich Zwingli, this lush historical epic reveals how one man's powerful words and deeds took aim against the tyranny of the time and its suffocating religious strictures. Amid charges of blasphemy and heresy, Zwingli's denunciation of Biblical hypocrisy slowly begins to sway others to his side, including Anna, a devout widow with a passion for learning. As Zwingli's controversial positions advance the city toward civil war, his deep bond with Anna is at stake. Multiple award-winning director Stefan Haupt (The Circle) and lead actor Maximilian Simonischek (The Divine Order) craft an intensely vibrant reconstruction of a pivotal moment in Swiss history and an incendiary romance set amid a period of intense transition.

This movie is proudly sponsored by the Consulate General of Switzerland in San Francisco





## PORTLAND GERMAN Fimfestival PRESENTED BY Zeitgeist Northwest

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#### ALL ABOUT ME

Wednesday, October 9, 2019 (a) 7:00 PM

### THE AGE OF CANNIBALS

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 @ 7:00 PM





#### MAGICAL MYSTERY OR: THE RETURN OF KARL SCHMIDT

Wednesday, December 11, 2019 (a) 7:00 PM

### www.portlandgermanfilmfestival.com



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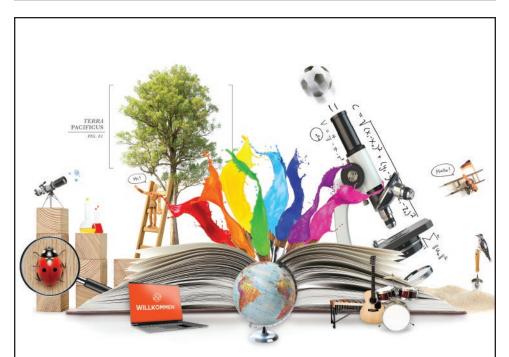


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