



Berlinale
66[■] Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
Perspektive Deutsches Kino

LIEB MANN

A FILM BY JULES HERRMANN



LIEBMAN

A Film by Jules Herrmann

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Germany 2016

HD DCP / 16:9 / 5.1 / 82 min

Supported by the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW

World Premiere: 66th International Film Festival Berlin / Perspektive Deutsches Kino

WORLD SALES

Patra Spanou Film Marketing & Consulting

Yorckstraße 22 | 40476 Düsseldorf

Tel.: +49 (0)152 01 98 72 94

E-Mail: patra.spanou@yahoo.com

www.patraspanou.com

PRESSE

mm filmpresse

Schliemannstraße 5 | 10437 Berlin

Tel.: +49 (0)30 41 71 57 22

Fax: +49 (0)30 41 71 57 25

E-Mail: info@mm-filmpresse.de

Press material: www.mm-filmpresse.de







CAST

Antek Liebmann

Geneviève

Sébastien

Ines

Antoine

Giselle

Morgaine

Godehard Giese

Adeline Moreau

Fabien Ara

Bettina Grahs

Alain Denizart

Denise Lecocq

Morgane Delamotte

CREW

Director

Screenplay

Producer

Co-Producers

Cinematographer

Editor

Production design

Sound

Sounddesign

Music

Jules Herrmann

Jules Herrmann

Jules Herrmann

Roswitha Ester

Torsten Reglin

Sebastian Egert

Jules Herrmann

Nicola Minssen

Tobias Rütter

Michał Krajczok

Christian Halten

SUMMARY

Eager to leave behind his life in Germany, teacher Antek Liebmann (Godehard Giese) rents a house in the French countryside. But before he can start a new life, he has to face the ghosts of his past.

SYNOPSIS

Teacher Antek Liebmann (Godehard Giese) leaves his life in Germany behind and rents a place in summery northern France. He learns from his landlord (Alain Denizart) that a murderer is striking terror in the surrounding woods. Following a dark premonition, Antek is drawn into the undergrowth on one of his walks, where he makes a dangerous discovery. He befriends his attractive neighbour Geneviève (Adeline Moreau) and the cheery Sébastien (Fabien Ara). No one realises that Antek has left behind a terrible secret in his own country. Only the discovery of a mysterious property, to which Geneviève takes him, and the possibility of a new romantic relationship, present Antek with a way out of the darkness. But before he can begin a new life, he must confront

the ghosts of his past, conjure them up and exorcise them.

The storytelling resembles the feathers of a peacock, oscillating between unobtrusive glimmering and striking iridescence. And so, gentle summer days slide into night-time terrors or vanish in short flights of fancy into parallel worlds.

PRESS NOTES

What happens if a traumatic experience causes us to lose confidence in ourselves and in our view of the world? What if we become petrified and cannot regain our momentum? Teacher Antek Liebmann (Godehard Giese) was involved in a terrible incident that has completely thrown him off balance. He must find a way to overcome this trauma on his own.

The film reflects on how things can be different to what they seem at various levels: The suspense over whether Antek Liebmann is perpetrator or victim carries on throughout the film, his love story develops unexpectedly and a visit from Germany leads to a historical episode. Grief and joy lie side by side, creating a strong image of the protagonist's fragmented emotions, who eventually turns to art to find a way out of the darkness.

The idea for the film was developed by Jules Herrmann in six days and was shot in 15 days with German and French actors in St. Erme, France. The project was supported by two French art initiatives and co-produced with Ester.Reglin.Film from Cologne.

LIEBMANN is Jules Herrmann's debut feature film as director. Previously, she produced and edited THE STORY OF THE ASTRONAUT, the directorial debut of renowned film and television actor Godehard Giese.

Godehard Giese plays the title role in LIEBMANN in his fourth collaboration with Jules Herrmann. His acting credits also include SUMMERS DOWNSTAIRS directed by Tom Sommerlatte (shown at Berlinale 2015) and DEUTSCHLAND 83 directed by Edward Berger and Samira Radsai.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

There is a magical place in Picardy, where the peacock calls and wonderful things are created almost spontaneously. I wanted to make a film there as both an experiment and creative adventure while working as intuitively as possible.

The time between the decision to make the film and the actual shooting was exactly one month, the shooting took two and a half weeks in total. There were 27 small pieces of paper with scene ideas (which are, by the way, on the table by the window in the "Apple room" scene), three team members and seven actors.

One of the narrative excursions was planned in advance, while the others were added during the shooting of the film. I wanted to play with the film form as I find too few narrative films dare to do so. The content

led itself to this idea, which was sometimes concrete (letter boards) and sometimes vague (colours).

We filmed the plumage of the peacock because I somehow knew it would fit into the film's narrative. It was when the peacock died shortly after our departure that I had the idea to use its feathers as a metaphor and source of inspiration.

The power of creativity made our experiment succeed and showed our main protagonist the way out of his crisis. I wish for more films that break new ground as well as for an audience that wants to be part of this experience.





GODEHARD GIESE (ANTEK LIEBMANN)

Godehard Giese (born 1972) grew up in Hamburg. He studied acting at the Berlin University of the Arts as well as German and Italian Studies at the Humboldt University of Berlin. Giese is an acclaimed German theatre actor, who has performed at Thalia Theater Hamburg, Staatstheater Stuttgart, Schauspiel Cologne, Maxim Gorki Theater, HAU Hebbel am Ufer and Sophiensæle in Berlin. Giese is also regularly seen in films and on television. Most recently, he appeared in cinemas in the motion picture *SUMMER DOWNSTAIRS* by Tom Sommerlatte. On TV, he starred in *BLOCHIN* created by Matthias Glasner and *DEUTSCHLAND 83* by Ed Berger and Samira Radsì.

Last year, Giese made his directorial debut with *THE STORY OF THE ASTRONAUT*, which was released in cinemas and which he co-produced with Jules Herrmann.

FILMOGRAPHY (selected)

Feature films:

A CURE FOR WELLNESS, Dir.: Gore Verbinski

LIEBMANN, Dir.: Jules Herrmann

IM SOMMER WOHNT ER UNTEN,

Dir.: Tom Sommerlatte

STROMBERG – DER FILM, Dir.: Arne Feldhusen

BREAKING HORIZONS, Dir.: Pola Beck

Television:

HARTER BROCKEN, Dir.: Stephan Wagner

ZWEIMAL LEBENSLÄNGLICH,

Dir.: Johannes Fabrick

MORD IN EBERSWALDE, Dir.: Stephan Wagner

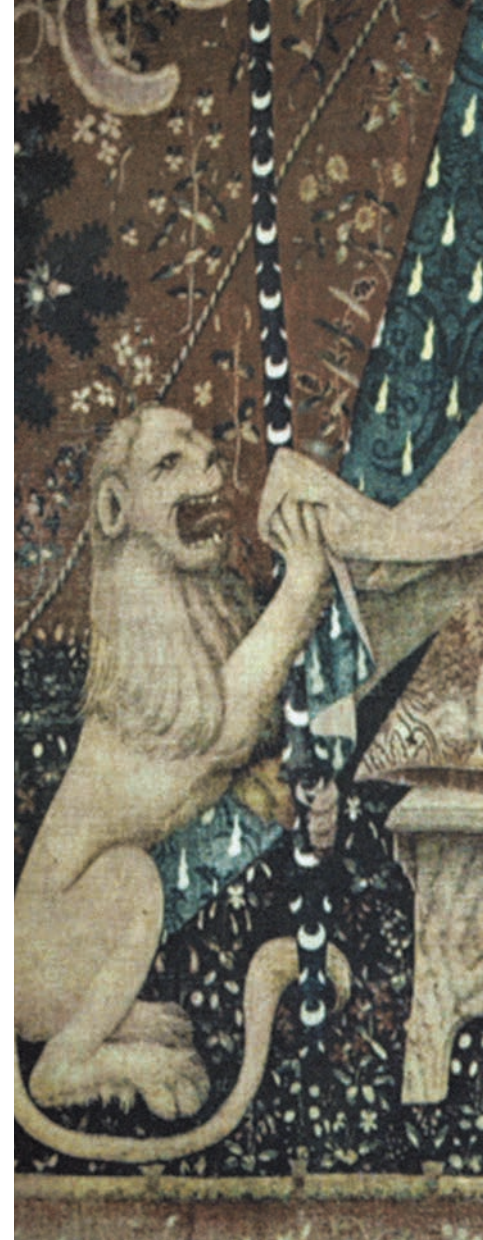
TV Series:

THE SAME SKY, Dir.: Oliver Hirschbiegel

DEUTSCHLAND 83,

Dir.: Edward Berger / Samira Radsì

BLOCHIN, Dir.: Matthias Glasner







Soutien aux réfugiés
SUPPORT

90

6 GULEX
4

BOUTIQUE
VERTE
ELECTRO
ET
DIVERS

DEFENSE
DE
L'AMBIENT

SONY

Carlo



FABIEN ARA (SÉBASTIEN)

Fabien Ara is a French actor, who made his television debut with the short film COLOC-SCOPIE by Sébastien Douaud, for the ARTE program „To be 20 years old in 2008“, before being discovered in 2011 for the TV show FUKUSHIMAN directed by Rémy Dish for Canal+.

After that, he appeared in various plays and films, amongst others the feature film DESIRE directed by Laurent Bouhnik, the feature film 100% CACHEMIRE by Valérie Lemerrier, the play “Equus” (Best Actor Award in a leading role at the Bougival Theater Festival), Benoit Danguin’s LE COMPLEXE DU HOMARD, SUPER Z by Julien de Volte and Arnaud Tabarly, the Philippian feature film 4.08 directed by Pedring Lopez and Jules Herrmann’s feature debut LIEBMANN.

In 2015, he received for his role of Julien in the Chinese short film FRENCH TOUCH by Xiaoxing Cheng the Best Actor Award at the 2015 Chelsea Film Festival in New York and the 2015 Paris Courts Devant Festival.

ADELINE MOREAU (GENEVIÈVE)

Adeline Moreau is a French actress and songwriter. Based in Paris, she studied acting in London and in New York at the Impulse Company. Currently, she's performing in the Canal+ TV series LE BUREAU DES LÉGENDES directed by Eric Rochant. She also worked with Michel Gondry and Pierre Salvadori. At theatre, she played in "La versión de Browning", directed by Didier Bezace, for which she won two Molières for best director and best adaptation.

FILMOGRAPHY (selected)

LIEBMANN, Dir.: Jules Herrmann

ZERO M2, Dir.: Matthieu Landour (short film)

DANS LA COUR, Dir.: Pierre Salvadori

L'ECUME DES JOURS, Dir.: Michel Gondry

QUAND JE SERAI PETIT, Dir.: Jean-Paul Rouve

BETTINA GRAHS (INES)

Bettina Grahs studied cultural studies, aesthetics and applied arts in Hildesheim, Utrecht and Dartington.

In 2000 she was a founding member of the theatre group mamouchi. 2005 she joined the performance collective She She Pop in Berlin for the production "Lagerfeuer" and performed in "RAF unplugged" directed by Barbara Weber, which won the award of the Performing Arts Fund.

From 2006 to 2010 she was a member at Theater Freiburg, where she performed in Felicia Zeller's play "Kaspar Häuser Meer" (directed by Marcus Lobbes), which won the audience award in 2008 at the Mülheim Theatre Days.

Since 2010 she has worked as a freelance actress, was a guest at Maxim Gorki Theater in Berlin and at Schauspiel Hannover. In 2013

she performed at Sophiensæle in Berlin in "Bedingungsloses Grundeinsingen" (Bernadette La Hengst) and in 2014 in "Algorithmen – eine biografische Formelsammlung" of the theatre collective Turbo Pascal.

DIRECTOR JULES HERRMANN

Jules Herrmann is a graduate of the director study programme at the “Konrad Wolf” Academy of Film and Television in Potsdam-Babelsberg. She had previously graduated in business administration.

Between the business and director’s studies, Herrmann worked as a production manager (Egoli Films / Discovery Channel), post-production manager (SOUZOU RIVER by Lou Ye) and as a DJ and video reporter.

Her diploma film TIME OUT (motion picture, 30 min.) was co-produced with RBB and shown at the Berlinale in 2006. It also competed in the film festival Max Ophüls Prize and won the Grand Prix of Oskariada in Warsaw.

In 2009, Herrmann went to South Korea and made the essay film SEOUL LOST AND FOUND. Next, she completed several video installa-

tions and worked as an artistic consultant, among others for the feature film ART GIRLS by Robert Bramkamp in 2013.

Herrmann served as co-producer, artistic consultant and editor on the feature film THE STORY OF THE ASTRONAUT, which is the directorial debut of Godehard Giese. The film was shown in competition at the film festival Max Ophüls Prize and won several awards. It was released in German cinemas in December 2015.

Jules Herrmann lives in Berlin and LIEBMANN is her first full length feature film.

FILMOGRAPHY (as Director)

2016 LIEBMANN - Script, Director, Editor
Coproduction with Ester.Reglin.Film

Perspektive Deutsches Kino, Berlinale
2009 SEOUL LOST AND FOUND (essay film) -
Script, Director, Editor

Dokumenter Film Festival, Java
2006 AUSZEIT (short film) - Script, Director
Perspektive Deutsches Kino, Berlinale,
Competition Max-Ophüls-Prize

2002 SKYWALKER (short film) - Script,
Director
Thessaloniki International Film festival,
Golden Lion International Film Festival
Taipei

CINEMATOGRAPHER: SEBASTIAN EGERT

Sebastian Egert was born in 1976. From 2001, after four years as a freelance cinematographer and associate editor, he studied in the film class at HBK Braunschweig with Birgit Hein and Gerhard Büttenbender. He was granted a diploma with honors in 2006. Since then, Egert has been based in Hamburg and working as a director and DoP on feature films, music videos and in advertising.

FILMOGRAPHY (selected)

- 2016 LIEBMANN, Dir.: Jules Herrmann, Feature Film
- 2014 NEUE NATUR, Dir.: Robert Bramkamp, Television Film
- 2014 EX VIVO, Dir.: Tim Liebe, Short Film
- 2013 ART GIRLS, Dir.: Robert Bramkamp, Feature Film
- 2011 GABI ODER ZWEI FARBEN GELB, Dir.: Neubauer/Schön/Schmidt, Short Film
- 2011 MAGIC HOUR, Dir.: Florian Krautkrämer, Short Film
- 2011 CREATURES OF THE CITY, Dir. & DoP: Sebastian Egert, Short Film
- 2010 BEINE BRECHEN, Dir.: Florian Krautkrämer, Short Film
- Various Music Videos and Advertising

2011 nominated for Best Cinematography for BEINE BRECHEN at Short Cutz Berlin

CO-PRODUCTION COMPANY

Ester.Reglin.Film was founded in January 2008 by Roswitha Ester and Torsten Reglin. The Cologne-based production company is unafraid to push cinema and TV format boundaries to develop and produce series for the large and small screen. At the heart of their work is thorough material development, which is personally supervised. In addition, Ester.Reglin.Film has first-hand involvement in all further development of a project and in close cooperation with all relevant departments. The final product is a film with a special, personal touch.

FILMOGRAPHY (selected)

2016 LIEBMANN - Script & Dir.: Jules Herrmann, co-produced with Jules Herrmann

2015 WIR MONSTER (We Monsters) - Script: Marcus Seibert & Sebastian Ko, Dir.: Sebastian Ko

2015 KÄSTNER UND DER KLEINE DIENSTAG, TV - Script: Dorothee Schön, Dir.: Wolfgang Murnberger, co-produced with Dor Film Köln und Dor Film Wien (in post-production)

2014 ALLEINE WAR GESTERN (The Vintage Springtime Club), TV - Script: Beatrice Meier, Dir.: Dagmar Seume

2013 SCHÖNEFELD BOULEVARD - Script & Dir.: Sylke Enders, co-produced with credo:film Berlin

2012 ABSEITSFALLE (Offside Trap) - Script:

Beatrice Meier, Dir.: Stefan Hering

2011 SONNY BOY - Script & Dir.: Maria Peters, co-produced with Shooting Star Filmcompany Amsterdam

DANN KAM LUCY (Along Came Lucy), TV - Script: Michael Meisheit, Dir.: Christoph Schrewe

2010 EINES TAGES... (One Day...) - Script: Karin Kaci, Dir.: Iain Dilthey

