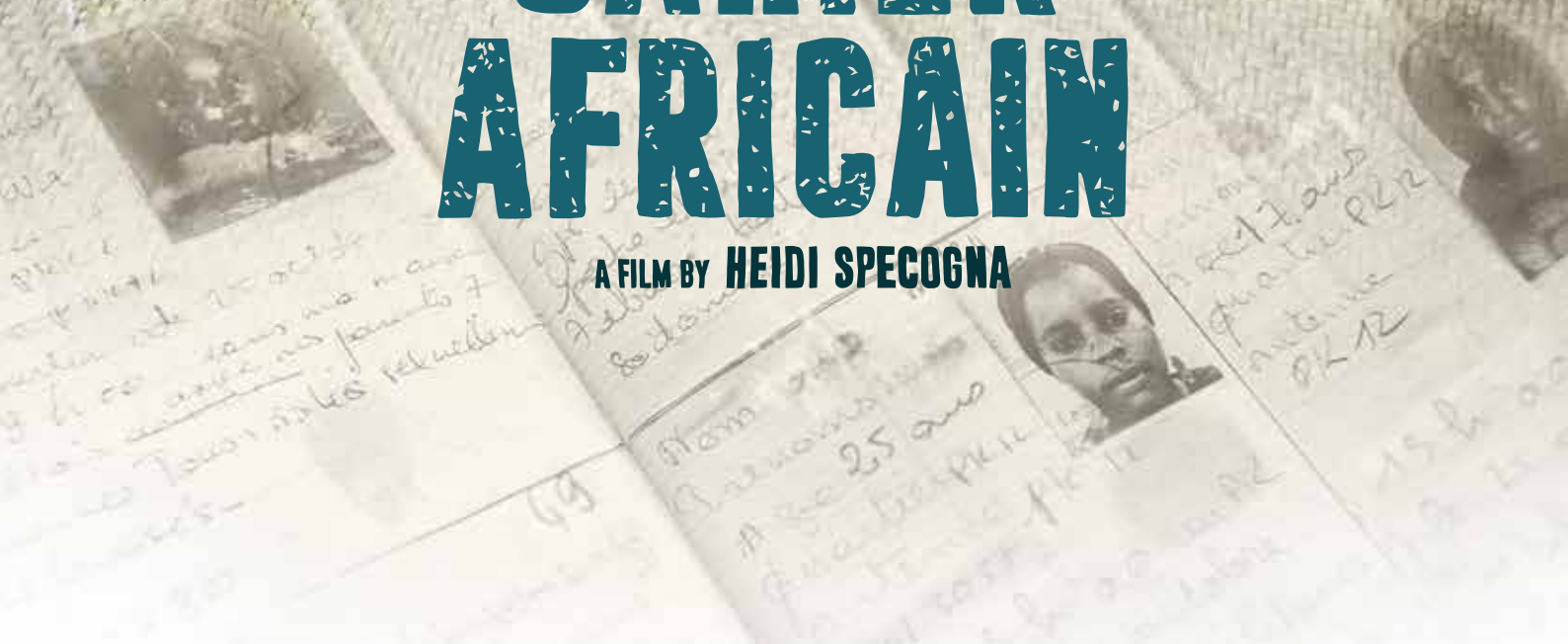


**SEMAINE
DE LA
CRITIQUE** FESTIVAL
DEL
FILM
LOCARNO



CAHIER AFRICAIN

A FILM BY HEIDI SPECOGNA





Synopsis

It all started with a small school exercise book. But instead of being full of vocabulary, the pages were checkered with the courageous testimonies of 300 Central African women, girls and men.

They reveal what Congolese mercenaries did to them between October 2002 and March 2003 in the wake of armed conflict. On their own initiative, they gathered together their testimonies in this book to record the crimes committed against them.

As a result of rape, **Amzine**, a young Muslim woman, gave birth to a child. Looking at her now 12-year-old daughter **Fane** is a daily reminder of the suffering she entrusted to this book.

Arlette, a Christian girl, has agonised for years due to a gunshot to the knee that did not want to heal. After a successful surgery in Berlin, she holds on to hope for a pain-free existence.

cahier africain is a long-term observation that begins accompanying its protagonists in the village of PK 12 in 2008. But while they try to master their difficult daily lives with confidence – and while, in The Hague, the legal prosecution of crimes committed during the last war is still in progress – the next war breaks out in the Central African Republic. Amzine, Fane and Arlette must once again face a maelstrom of violence, death and expulsion. At their side, the film bears witness to the collapse of order and civilization in a country torn apart by civil war and coup d'états.





Remarks by the director

cahier africain is a personal film. On a research trip and by chance, I came upon this book, which led me to seven years of filming. We visited and accompanied the people who described their suffering and shame in the book.

Today, the book – along with thousands of other pieces of evidence of war crimes – is locked in the vault at the International Criminal Court in The Hague. The fate of the women and their children begotten by force is a tragedy the world turns a blind eye on. It's estimated that, in the Central

African region in recent years alone, more than 100,000 women have been violated during armed conflict. By way of comparison, after the Rwandan genocide, approximately 20,000 children were brought to life with this background.

The film was originally dedicated to the difficult attempts of women to regain a foothold after experiencing violence. However, the renewed outbreak of war in the Central African Republic abruptly rewrote the script.





Heidi Specogna

Born in Switzerland. 1982-88 Film Studies at the Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie (dffb) in Berlin, Germany.

Since 2006 lecturer in Documentary Filmmaking at the Film Academy Baden-Württemberg in Ludwigsburg, Germany.

1991 TANIA LA GUERRILLERA (documentary)

1993 DECKNAME ROSA (documentary)

Bern Film Prize for Best Documentary

1995 Z-MAN'S KINDER (fiction)

1996 TUPAMAROS (documentary)

Coral Award at the Festival Internacional del Nuevo Cine Latinoamericana Havana

2002 KAPRUN (documentary)

2004 ZEIT DER ROTEN NELKEN (documentary)

2005 EINE FAMILIENANGELEGENHEIT
(documentary)

2006 THE SHORT LIFE OF JOSÉ ANTONIO
GUTIERREZ (documentary)

Swiss Film Prize for Best Documentary

2007, nominated for the German Film Prize

2007, Germany's Adolf Grimme TV Prize 2008

2010 THE GOALGETTER'S SHIP (documentary)

Public Award 2010 Duisburg and Youth
Award Leipzig 2011

2011 CARTE BLANCHE (documentary)

Best documentary 2011 in Duisburg.

Catholic media Prize 2013

2012 ESTHER AND THE SPIRITS (documentary)

German Human Rights Film Award 2012

2014 PEPE MUJICA, LESSONS FROM THE
FLOWERBED (documentary)

2016 CAHIER AFRICAIN (documentary)

Peter Spoerri

For over 45 years in the filmbusiness as production manager, Peter Spoerri founded PS Film GmbH in 1994 in Zürich.

PS Film produces feature and documentary films for cinema and television.

Selection of films produced

DAS KURZE LEBEN DES JOSE ANTONIO GUTIERREZ

by Heidi Specgona (Documentary for Cinema)
Best Swiss Documentary Film 2007

Adolf Grimme Prize, Best Documentary 2008
MEERDOLEN by Peter Guyer (Documentary)

Music Award 2006

ES LEBE DAS KABARETT! by Werner Zeindler
(Documentary)

HUNKELER MACHT SACHEN by Markus Fischer
(Fiction -TV-Movie)

ZU FUSS NACH SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
by Bruno Moll (Documentary for Cinema)



GEORGE GRUNTZ by Werner Zeindler
(Documentary for Cinema)

PIZZA BETHLEHEM by Bruno Moll
(Documentary for Cinema)

Best Documentary 2010 Zurich

Best Documentary 2010 Bern

YYSERÄINÄ – EINER VON UNS by Bruno Moll
(Documentary)

CARTE BLANCHE by Heidi Specgona
(Documentary for Cinema)

3sat Award for Best Documentary 2011

EL ENCUENTRO by Norbert Wiedmer/Enrique
Ros (Documentary for Cinema)

INSIDE EL PORVENIR by Erika Harzer/Rainer
Hoffmann (Documentary for Cinema)

DIE RUHIGEN FRAUEN by Damaris Lüthi
(Documentary for TV)

ALPSEGEN by Bruno Moll (Documentary for
Cinema)

HOHLER, FRANZ by Tobias Wyss
(Documentary)

DÄLLEBACH KARI by Xavier Koller
(Fiction for Cinema)

ZUM SÄNTIS MIT FRANZ HOHLER by Tobias
Wyss (Documentary for Cinema)

DAHEIM IN NÄKKÄLA by Peter Ramseier
(Documentary for Cinema)

ARLETTE – MUT IST EIN MUSKEL by Florian
Hoffmann (Documentary)

DER GEIST RUFT AUS DER FERNE by Rainer
Hoffmann and Erika Harzer (Documentary)



Stefan Tolz

Based on a long experience in filmmaking Stefan Tolz and Thomas Riedelsheimer joined forces to produce documentaries for cinema and TV in 2002.

Their production company Filmpunkt GmbH operates out of Cologne and specializes on visual story telling and author-driven content.

Selection of films produced

CAHIER AFRICAIN by Heidi Specogna
CH/D 2016 - 117 min., HD
Prod. PS Film/Filmpunkt with ZDF/3sat

THE COLOR OF YEARNING
by Thomas Riedelsheimer
D 2016 - 89 min., HD
Prod. Filmpunkt with WDR/BR

FULL SPEED WESTWARD – GEORGIA IN
SEARCH FOR ITS FUTURE by Stefan Tolz
D 2013 – 90 min., HD
Prod. Filmpunkt with WDR/ARTE

BREATHING EARTH - SUSUMU SHINGU'S
DREAM by Thomas Riedelsheimer
D/UK 2012 - 90 min., HD
Prod. Filmpunkt/Skyline with WDR/ARTE



SOUL BIRDS by Thomas Riedelsheimer
D 2009 - 90 min., HD
Prod. Filmpunkt with WDR

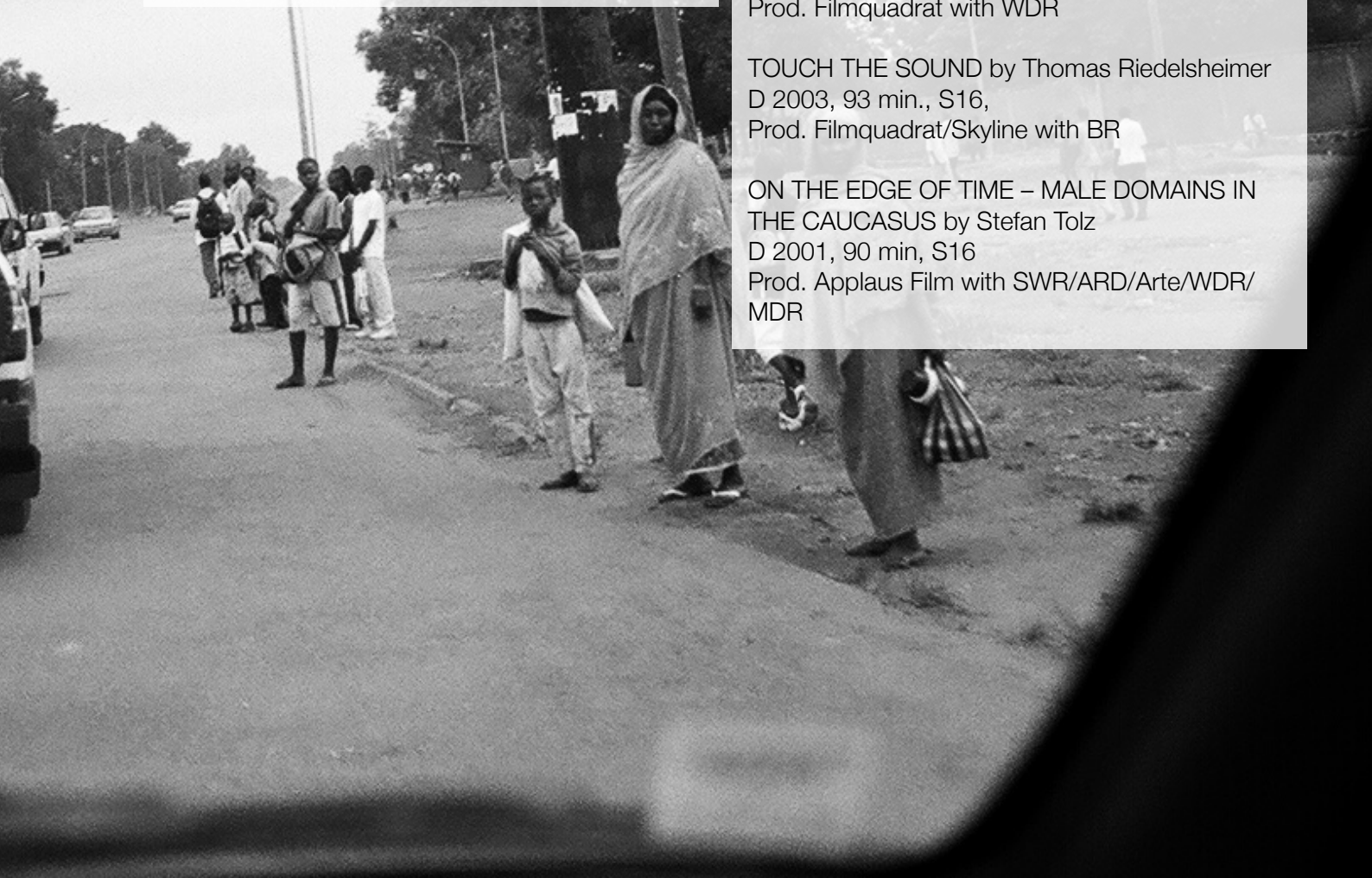
TRADERS' DREAMS – THE WORLD OF EBAY
by Marcus Vetter and Stefan Tolz
D 2006, 90 min, HD
Prod. Filmquadrat/Filmperspektive with
ZDF/NDR/Arte

THE SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS by Annette Dittert
D 2005, 4 x 53 min., HD
Prod. Filmquadrat with WDR

ARJEPLOG - LAPLAND BETWEEN ICE AND
HIGH TECH by Claudia Seifert
D 2004 - 43 min, DigiBeta
Prod. Filmquadrat with WDR

TOUCH THE SOUND by Thomas Riedelsheimer
D 2003, 93 min., S16,
Prod. Filmquadrat/Skyline with BR

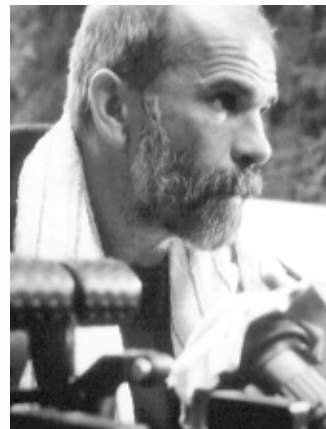
ON THE EDGE OF TIME – MALE DOMAINS IN
THE CAUCASUS by Stefan Tolz
D 2001, 90 min, S16
Prod. Applaus Film with SWR/ARD/Arte/WDR/
MDR



Johann Feindt

Documantries as DIRECTOR (Selection)

- 1979 IRRECONCILABLE MEMORIES
(together with K. Volkenborn and K. Siebig), ZDF
- 1981 HOPE DIES LAST – LIDICE, ARD
- 1983 THE ATTEMPT TO LIVE, ZDF
- 1987 / 88 NIGHTHAWK, ZDF
- 1993 / 94 GANGRENE (with Didi Danquart, DOP), ARTE
- 1997 / 98 MY FRIEND, THE MINISTER, WDR
- 1999 SPLINTERS OF WAR – KOSOVO
- 2000 PROTOCOL OF AN RESEARCH – SOLDIERS
(together with Tamara Trampe)
- 2002 SEBNITZ-DIE PERFEKTE STORY, ARTE
- 2003 M.I.A. – MISSING IN ACTION, ARTE
- 2002/05 WHITE RAVENS – NIGHTMARE CHECHNYA (together with T. Trampe)
- 2009 LULLABIES (together with T. Trampe)
- 2012/14 MY MOTHER, A WAR, AND ME (together with T. Trampe)
- 2016 SLASHER (work in progress, production: zero one film)



DOP on Documentaries (Selection)

- 1989 MY WAR (Director: Thomas Kufus)
- 1992 PROFESSION NEONAZI (Director: Winfried Bonengel)
- 1997 THE RED HAND OF ULSTER – NORTHERN IRELAND (Director: Hans Erich Viet)
- 1998 MATERNITY UNIT (Director: Thomas Kufus)
- 2000 THE CHANCLER (Director: Thomas Schadt)
- 2001 A CHILD FROM ABROAD (Director: Caroline Goldie)
- 2005/2006 SEPP BIERBICHLER - ein Portrait (Director: Regina Schilling)
- 2005/2007 PAINFULL PEACE (Director: Anne Thoma)
- 2009/10 GERHARD RICHTER – PAINTING (Director: Corinna Belz)
- 2010 CARTE BLANCHE (Director: Heidi Specogna)
- 2010 THE TRAITOR (Director: A.K.Hendel)
- 2011 MILES AND WAR (Director: Anne Thoma)
- 2013 TITOS BRILLE (Director: Regina Schilling)
- 2013/14 CAHIER AFRICAIN (Director: Heidi Specogna)
- 2014 WAR AND GAMES (Director: Karin Jurschick)
- 2016 SKIN by SKIN (Director: Mechthild Gassner, Production: Gassner Films)

DOP on Feature Films (CINEMA) (Selection)

- 1994 DIE VERGEBUNG (Prod. Ostfilm, Director Andreas Hönsch)
- 1998 VIEHJUD LEVI (Prod. zerofilm, Director: Didi Danquart)
- 2005 OFFSET (Prod.: noirfilm, Director: Didi Danquart)
- 2006 FREISCHWIMMER (Prod.: typhoon film, Director: Andreas Kleinert)
- 2009/10 BITTERE KIRSCHEN (Prod.: noir film, Director: Didi Danquart)
- 2012 DIE FRAU VON FRÜHER (Prod.: Peter Heilrath Filmprod., Director: Andreas Kleinert)
- 2014 DANCING FREDDY – Tatort Köln (Director: Andreas Kleinert, Production: Colonia Media)
- 2015 THE HEROES JOURNEY (Director: Andreas Kleinert, Production: Eikon Film)
- GOSTER (Director: Didi Danquardt, Prouction: HR)
- 2016 HEDDA (Director: Andreas Kleinert, Production: Broadview)

AWARDS

Emmy Award (Mein Vater), German Film Award (The Attempt to live), Nomination for the German Film Award (The Black Box), Nomination for German Camera Award (Kelly-Bastian), German TV-Grimme Award for best documentary (Missing in Action and White Ravens), Arte Award for best German documentary (White Ravens), Golden Dove International Docfilmfestival Leipzig (Irreconcilable Memories)



Kaya Inan

Kaya Inan, son of Turkish immigrants, was born in 1983 in Muri, Switzerland.

At the age of 19, after attending a street casting, he landed a part as an actor in one of the most successful Swiss comedies, *READY, STEADY, CHARLIE*. This experience launched his interest in filmmaking.

Immediately after high school he started to do internships on several film sets. In 2005, he became an editing assistant on feature length fiction and documentary films such as *DAS FRÄULEIN*, *DIE HERBSTZEITLOSEN* and *HIDDEN HEART*. He was accepted into the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg in Ludwigsburg, Germany in 2006 to study Film Editing.

He also participated in an exchange program where he studied film for two semesters at the Ryerson University in Toronto, Canada. During his studies, he edited three feature films - *180°*, *BATTLE OF THE QUEENS*, and *TRANSPAPA*. Since graduation, he has been working as a freelance editor for fiction and documentary films.

A selection of films:

2007	Schichtende (10') Fiction; D: Matthias Günter
2008	Jetzt wir zwei (20') Fiction; D: Kolya Reichart; P: Filmakademie B-W
2009	180° (94') Fiction; D: Cihan Inan; P: C-films AG
2010	Battle of the Queens (70') Documentary; D: Nicolas Steiner, P: Filmakademie B-W
2011	Du + Ich (20') Fiction; D: Esen Isik; P: Maximage
2012	TRANSPAPA (90') Fiction; R: Sarah Judith Mettke; P: UFA Fiction
2012	The Cage Door Is Always Open (80') Documentary; R: Daniel Young; P: Hessegreutert Film
2012	Letzte Runde (20') Fiction; D: Kerstin Polte; P: Maximage
2014	Pepe Muijca - Lessons from the flowerbed (90') Documentary; D: Heidi Specogna; P: Ma.Ja.De Filmproduktion
2014	Above and Below (120') Documentary; D: Nicolas Steiner; P: Maximage & Flying Moon
2015	Wonderland (90') Fiction; D: several; P: Contrast Film
2016	Cahier Africain (117') Documentary; R: Heidi Specogna; P: Filmquadrat & PS Film

Swiss Film Award 2016:
Best Film Editing for "Above and Below"

A film by Heidi Specogna

Director of photography Johann Feindt,bvk

Editor: Kaya Inan

Music by Peter Scherer

Additional Music: Christian Halten

Narrated by Salena Godden, German Version by Eva Mattes

Producers: Peter Spoerri, Stefan Tolz

Lineproducer: Katharina Jakobs

Script consultants: Raimund Barthelmes, Bernd Lange

Commissioning editor: Katya Mader - 3sat

Location sound: Karsten Höfer, Thomas Lüdemann, Bernd von Bassewitz,
Jule Cramer, Florian Hoffmann, Andreas Turnwald

Additional Camera: Thomas Keller

Re-recording mixer: Matthias Lempert

Sound designer: Kai Tebbel

Colourist: Patrick Lindenmaier - Andromeda

Technical Details:

Germany/Switzerland 2016

Length: 119 minutes

Format: 1:1,78, 25fps

Sound: 5.1

Produced by PS Film GmbH and Filmpunkt GmbH
In co-production with ZDF / 3sat

supported by:

BAK Bundesamt für Kultur Schweiz

Zürcher Filmstiftung

Film und Medien Stiftung NRW

suissimage

SRG SSR

éducation 21

Migros Kulturprozent

Amnesty International

george foundation

UBS Kulturstiftung

Filme für eine Welt

FFA Filmförderungsanstalt

ISAN 0000-0004-17 0C-0000-E-0000-0000-W

PS FILM GmbH,
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„CAHIER AFRICAIN“ A FILM BY HEIDI SPECOGNA DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JOHANN FEINDT - BVK EDITOR KAYA INAN MUSIC BY PETER SCHERER NARRATED BY SALENA GODDEN GERMAN VERSION BY EVA MATTES PRODUCERS PETER SPOERRI STEFAN TOLZ
 LINEPRODUCER KATHARINA JAKOBS SCRIPT CONSULTANT RAIMUND BARTHELME BERND LANGE COMMISSIONING EDITOR KATYA MADER - 3SAT LOCATION SOUND THOMAS LÜDEMANN BERND VON BASSEWITZ JULE CRAMER FLORIAN HOFFMANN ANDREAS TURNWALD KARSTEN HÖFER
 ADDITIONAL CAMERA THOMAS KELLER RE-RECORDING MIXER MATTHIAS LEMPERT SOUND DESIGNER KAI TEBBEL COLOURIST PATRICK LINDENMAIER ANDROMEDA
 PRODUCED BY PS FILM GMBH AND FILMPUNKT GMBH IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH 3SAT



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