



 **69th** Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
Perspektive Deutsches Kino

THE INNER LIGHT

WITH MANFRED VOLZ AND OTHERS

AUTHOR, CINEMATOGRAPHER, DIRECTOR STEFAN SICK
ORIGINAL SOUND MARC EBERHARDT EDITOR STEFAN SICK & MORITZ LENZ
COMPOSER PETER SCHERER SOUNDDESIGN MARKUS REBHOLZ,
MARCO SCHNEBEL, VOLKER ARMBRUSTER RE-RECORDING MIXER
MARKUS SCHÄFFLER, TILO EHMANN COLOR GRADING HEIKO DOLL
TITLES & ARTWORK ROLAND MATUSEK DRAMATURGICAL ADVICE
ANA ROCHA FERNANDES COMMISSIONING EDITOR MARCUS VETTER
PRODUCERS ULLA LEHMANN & ANDREA ROGGON
A CO-PRODUCTION BY AMA FILM AND SWR IN COOPERATION WITH
MFG FILMFÖRDERUNG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

AMA FILM

 SWR
FERNSEHEN



MFG
BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

WWW.THEINNERLIGHT-FILM.COM

THE INNER LIGHT
A DOCUMENTARY BY STEFAN SICK

A co-production by AMA FILM and Südwestrundfunk in cooperation
with MFG Filmförderung Baden-Württemberg

SCREENINGS

Press-Screening	Sunday, Feb. 10, 2019	2.00 pm	CinemaxX 5
Berlinale Premiere	Sunday, Feb.10, 2019	7.00 pm	CinemaxX 3
Screening 2	Monday, Feb. 11, 2019	12.00 pm	Colosseum
Screening 3	Monday, Feb.11, 2019	8.00 pm	CinemaxX 1

FORMAT HD

SCREENING FORMAT DCP

LENGTH 95 min.

LOGLINE

In an observational form THE INNER LIGHT explores the everyday life of people with dementia in a nursing home and offers a poetic interpretation of this special state of being.



SYNOPSIS

Dementia, a diagnosis that changes everything for those who are affected and for their relatives. Accepting the disease can seem just as difficult as finding an appropriate approach. But perhaps it is much more about compassion than about understanding? In an observational way, THE INNER LIGHT explores the everyday lives of people with dementia and focuses mainly on positive situations and encounters.

Free of past and future, there is a possibility to live in the moment. The film dedicates itself to these kinds of moments. Alongside its protagonists, we discover the slowness, the struggle and the beauty of the rituals of their everyday lives. Without commenting, the film shows pure emotions of sadness, cheerfulness and thoughtfulness.

THE INNER LIGHT builds up strong emotional ties with the protagonists and attempts to make their view on the world tangible, but does not avoid conflicts and the seriousness of the illness. The film offers a poetic interpretation of this special state of being and aims at reducing fears in dealing with people with dementia and at accepting each person's humanity.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

For outsiders, it can be difficult to understand why people with dementia behave the way they do. Each encounter was a challenge to engage with other person and to acknowledge and accept their reality of life.

When I entered the care facility for the very first time, a world opened up before me that I could not escape. One resident took me by the hand immediately, and dragged me through the corridors. I didn't understand what he wanted to tell me. I only saw two possibilities: Either to stay and let myself explore this wondrous world or to leave this place as soon as possible. I decided to stay.

To me, it feels as if people with dementia lose the protective layer, that each of us developed during our lives, and so their personality emerges unfiltered. For me as a counterpart this was often very challenging. But if I manage to let down my protective shield too, a real encounter, free of future and past can emerge, in which only the moment counts. This experience is a great enrichment for my own everyday life and for the contact with my fellow human beings.

One of my main fascinations with the residents of the nursing home was the fact that I felt I could look into their souls a little bit and feel their "inner light".

Stefan Sick



DIRECTOR STEFAN SICK

Stefan Sick was born in Buxtehude, Germany, in 1981. He studied Cinematography at the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg. His diploma film CLOSING TIME, directed by Nicole Vögele, premiered at the Locarno Festival 2018 and won the Premio speciale della giuria Ciné+ in the section Cineasti del presente. During his studies, Stefan was mainly responsible for the Cinematography of creative documentary films and was represented with his works at prestigious film festivals all over the world. In 2014, he was awarded with the prize for the best Cinematography for NEBEL (Premiere: Berlinale), at Sehsüchte Student Film Festival in Germany.

Stefan is working as a freelance cinematographer and filmmaker. THE INNER LIGHT is his debut as a director.



FILMOGRAPHY (selection)

AS DIRECTOR

2018

THE INNER LIGHT (DAS INNERE LEUCHTEN)

95min

World premiere: 69th Int. Filmfestival Berlin 2019

AS CINEMATOGRAPHER

2018

CLOSING TIME

116min / director: Nicole Vögele

(Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg)

Awards: Locarno Festival (Premio speciale della giuria Ciné+ Cineasti del presente)

Festivals: Int. Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), Rencontre Int. du Documentaire de Montréal (RIDM), Porto/post/doc

2017

MYANMARKET

75min / director: Eva Knopf

(AMA FILM/German broadcast SWR)

Festivals (selection): Kasseler Dokfest, Ethnocineca Wien, Ciudad Del Este Independent Film Festival Paraguay, Great Message Int. Film Festival India, Salto Independent Film Festival Uruguay

2014

FOG (NEBEL)

60min / director: Nicole Vögele

(Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg)

Awards: Honorable Mention of the Dialogue en perspective Jury", 64th Int. Filmfestival Berlin 2014 (DE), "Best Documentary Film lang" & "Best Camera" 43rd Sehsüchte Int. Student Film Festival 2014 (DE), "Diploma for a philosophical poetic experimental approach" 21st Minsk Int. Film Festival Listapad 2014 (BY), „upcoming artist" Award 1st Porto/Post/Doc Film & Media Festival 2014 (PT), Nomination „Förderpreis für Filmkunst" (German Film Academy)

Festivals (selection): 4th Olhar de Cinema - Curitiba Int. Film Festival, 50th Solothurner Filmtage, 1st Porto Post Doc Film & Media Festival, 55th Festival dei Popoli Firenze, doc Buenos Aires 14th Muestra Int. de Cine, 9th Taiwan Int. Documentary Festival Taipei, 67th Festival del film Locarno, 43rd Sehsüchte Int. Student Film Festival Potsdam-Babelsberg, 20th Visions du Réel Festival international de cinéma Nyon, 64th Int. Filmfestival Berlin/13th Perspektive Deutsches Kino Berlinale

CREW

AUTHOR/CINEMATOGRAPHER/DIRECTOR Stefan Sick

EDITOR Stefan Sick & Moritz Lenz

COMPOSER Peter Scherer

ORIGINAL SOUND Marc Eberhardt

SOUND SUPERVISOR Markus Rebholz

ORIGINAL SOUND EDIT Marco Schnebel

SOUND DESIGN Volker Armbruster

RE-RECORDNG MIXER Markus Schäffler, Tilo Ehmann

TITLES & ARTWORK Roland Matusek

ASSISTANT EDITORS Dario Bernhard, Daniela Schramm Moura

MASTERING Willibald Wonneberger

PRODUCTION MANAGERS Ulla Lehmann & Andrea Roggon

POST PRODUCTION COORDINATOR Josephine Weyreuther

PRODUCERS Ulla Lehmann & Andrea Roggon

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONING EDITOR (SWR) Astrid Kuck

COMMISSIONING EDITOR (SWR) Marcus Vetter



CONTACT

PRODUCTION

AMA FILM GmbH
Innerer Nordbahnhof 1c
70191 Stuttgart
Germany

Phone +49 (0) 711 12155323
Mobile +49 (0) 173 6461594
mail@amafilm.de
www.amafilm.de

AMA FILM GmbH (Berlin office)
Müllenhoffstraße 18
10967 Berlin
Germany

Phone +49 (0) 30 33985558

PRESSE

ZOOM MEDIENFABRIK GmbH
Suarezstraße 62
14057 Berlin
Germany

Phone +49 (0)30 3150 6868
Fax +49 (0)30 3150 6858
office@zoommedienfabrik.de
www.zoommedienfabrik.de
Please contact Felix Neunzerling

More information: www.theinnerlight-film.com

