



presents

SEBASTIAN JAKOB DOPPELBAUER, PAULINE WERNER,  
SUSANNE DOROTHEA SCHNEIDER, NIKOLAI GEMEL, ISABELLE VON STAUFFENBERG, VALENTIN  
RICHTER, JULIUS FORSTER, NILS ROVIRA-MUÑOZ, AMELLE SCHWERK AND PASCAL HOUDUS in

# ONE LAST EVENING

DIRECTED BY LUKAS NATHRATH

WINNER OF THE FIRST LOOK AWARD AT THE LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL 2022

YEAR OF PRODUCTION: 2023 - RUNNING TIME: 91 MINUTES - WRITTEN BY: LUKAS NATHRATH &  
SEBASTIAN JAKOB DOPPELBAUER - PRODUCED BY: LUKAS NATHRATH, LINUS GÜNTHER, SEBASTIAN  
JAKOB DOPPELBAUER - PRODUCTION COMPANY: KLINKERFILM – WORLD SALES: BETA CINEMA



## TIGER COMPETITION

INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL  
ROTTERDAM  
2023

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## **LOGLINE**

A young couple's farewell dinner spirals out of control, uncovering hidden fears, longings, and life lies.

## **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

In the standstill of the pandemic summer, a young couple wants a fresh start, moving from Hanover to Berlin. Lisa is an on-the-rise doctor bracing herself for a new position, Clemens is a talented but unsuccessful singer-songwriter crippled by self-doubts. To say goodbye, they host a dinner party in their now empty flat. But good friends cancel — and uninvited guests show up. As the attendees start eying each other's achievements, the evening slowly escalates, leading to an emotional crash that uncovers misunderstandings, rivalries, animosities and anxieties.

## **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

We shot this film in just one week, eager to come together creatively after months of pandemic isolation. This energy has rubbed off on our characters, who all crave for adventures and distractions after social distancing.

Although they don't suffer materially, they fear inadequacy in a success-based society. All of them are unhappy and lonely in their own way — yet they desperately want to appear cheerful and strong. For me, this divergence between facade and emotion provides a lot of tragicomic potential for conflicts and awkwardness. I am interested in portraying characters with hopes and self-delusions, who try to save face but eventually lose their composure.

In the films that inspired us, civilized behavior starts to crack and everyday situations escalate in often bourgeois settings: *EVERYONE ELSE* by Maren Ade, *OH BOY* by Jan-Ole Gerster, *WILD TALES* by Damián Szifron, *HUSBANDS AND WIVES* by Woody Allen, *THE CELEBRATION* by Thomas Vinterberg. Another influence were the plays by Anton Chekhov, in which people living in a backwater long for a new existence in Moscow but are destined to never arrive.

The roles were closely developed and explored in an inspiring collaboration with the actors, who were then let loose in improvisational rehearsals. In doing so, I wanted to encourage their creativity and playfulness within a precise narrative structure. The group dynamics of the characters created an exciting immediacy, and the shoot became an intense, fulfilling experience.

Lukas Nathrath

## **ABOUT THE PRODUCTION**

In 2018, director Lukas Nathrath made a short film with actor Sebastian Doppelbauer, which was selected by German Films for their Next Generation program at the Cannes Film Festival. Friends ever since, they decided to make a small, independent film during the Corona-related break from filming and theatre in the summer of 2020.

Subsequently, they co-wrote the script in a few weeks, with Sebastian also acting in the leading role. Most of the actors came from the Schauspielhaus Hanover, where Sebastian was a member of the permanent ensemble until 2022. The filming, which lasted seven days, was financed by local donations and klinkerfilm's own funds, when Linus Günther came onboard as third producer.

Editor Silke Olthoff had already collaborated with Lukas on two of his previous short films. In editing, the often-improvised abundance of material was structured. Due to the low budget, the post-production process was lengthy.

Subsequently, the film was selected for Locarno Pro's First Look section at the Locarno Film Festival 2022 and won the Cinegrell First Look Award. The award helped to finance final technical touches, e.g. the color grading. The industry screening in Locarno also created some early buzz for the film and Beta Cinema came aboard for world sales.

## **THE CREW**

### **Lukas Nathrath (Director / Screenwriter / Producer)**

With his short film debut A HAPPY DAY, Lukas was accepted into the Master Film Directing programme at the Hamburg Media School in 2016. His second semester film MIT IM BUND (MORALE) about a young female soldier was invited to the Next Generation Programme of German Films at the Cannes Film Festival in 2018. His graduation film KIPPA screened at over 50 international film festivals and received the Studio Hamburg Young Talent Award and the European CIVIS Media Prize. As an actor, Lukas has appeared in numerous film and television productions. In 2020 he was invited to the Filmmaker's Residency Basel. In 2021 he was a participant in the screenwriting lab Drehbuchwerkstatt Munich.

The tragicomedy LETZTER ABEND (ONE LAST EVENING), for which he received Locarno Film Festival's First Look Award and the Max Ophüls Award as Best Director, is his feature film directorial debut. Lukas has been selected as one of the seven talents of German Film's "Face to Face" showcase, presented at the 2023 Berlinale. He is currently in development of several feature film projects, among them the next collaboration with Sebastian Jakob Doppelbauer and Letzter Abend's team, a mixture of dark comedy and psychological thriller.

### **Sebastian Jakob Doppelbauer (Screenwriter / Producer / Actor)**

Sebastian stars as the main character CLEMENS. He studied acting at the Hamburg University of Music and Theatre from 2014 to 2018. While still a student, he appeared on stage in numerous productions at the Thalia Theater, Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg, including the Shakespeare adaptation Rome, Tennessee Williams' The Glass Menagerie and Edouard Louis' In the Heart of Violence, for which he was longlisted for Young Actor of the Year (Theater Heute) and received an invitation to the Young Actor Award of the German Academy of Performing Arts. From 2019 to 2022, he was a permanent

ensemble member at the Schauspiel Hannover, where he has performed in plays such as Molière's *The Imaginary Invalid*, Büchner's *Woyzeck*, Goethe's *Iphigenia* and in the title role in Schiller's *Don Karlos*. He was recently seen in a leading role in the Netflix series *BIOHACKERS* (2020-2021) and will next star in Lars Jessen's series *THE LEGEND OF WACKEN* (2023). He is currently also preparing the next film collaboration with Lukas Nathrath.

### **Linus Günther (Producer)**

Since 2016 Linus has been a producer at klinkerfilm, a production company founded in the same year by Titus Kreyenberg (*HELL, I AM NOT A WITCH*), where he is responsible for films by up-and-coming filmmakers and international co-productions. He co-produced the German-Palestinian co-production *WAJIB*, which screened in competition at Locarno and Toronto in 2017; the German-Turkish co-production *NOAH LAND*, which premiered in competition at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York in 2019; and *A PLACE CALLED DIGNITY*, which world premiered in the main competition of the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival in 2021. In 2020 he produced *AM ENDE DER WORTE*, which premiered at the Hofer Filmtage 2021. One of Linus' next projects will be another film project with Lukas and Sebastian.

### **Silke Olthoff (Editor)**

For Marvin Kren's *SCHAUTAG*, Silke Olthoff received the German Camera Award for Best Editing in 2009. She also edited Kren's feature film debut *RAMMBOCK*, which won the Audience Award at the 2010 Max Ophüls Film Festival and screened at the Locarno Film Festival. She edited numerous documentaries for journalist Stephan Lamby, including 2018's *The Nervous Republic*, which won the German Television Award for best documentary. She also worked on the feature film *GOLIATH96*, which screened at the 2018 Hofer Filmtage and the 2019 Max Ophüls Film Festival, and Lukas Nathrath's short film *KIPPA* (2019), which won the European Civis Media Prize. Olthoff then edited the feature film *SLEEP* by Michael Venus, which premiered in the Perspektive Deutsches Kino at the Berlinale 2020 and was selected for the Chicago International Film Festival.

### **Lucie Bates (Costume Designer)**

Lucie Bates won the 2005 German Film Award for Best Costume Design for Dany Levy's *GO FOR ZUCKER!*. She has designed the costumes for numerous feature films, including Joe Wright's thriller *HANNA* (2011) starring Cate Blanchett and Saoirse Ronan, for Maria Schrader's *LOVE LIFE* (2007), Rainer Kaufmann's *RUNAWAY HORSE* (2007), Hermine Huntgeburth's *EFFIE BRIEST* and Kai Wessel's *HILDE* (2009); for the latter two, she was again nominated for the German Film Award.

### **Philip Jestädt (Director of Photography)**

Philip studied cinematography at the Hamburg Media School, where he was the DOP for Lukas Nathrath's short film *MIT IM BUND (MORALE)*. He worked as a camera assistant on cinema projects such as Anton Corbijn's *A MOST WANTED MAN*. At the Schauspielhaus Hamburg he supervised the productions *Stadt der Blinden* (director: Kay Voges). He is the cinematographer for Amazon Prime's new German comedy hit series *DIE DISCOUNTER* (2022).

## THE ENSEMBLE CAST

**Pauline Werner (LISA)** appeared in various theatre productions at the Münchner Kammerspiele while studying acting at the Otto Falckenberg School in Munich. Subsequently, she was an ensemble member at the Theater Konstanz. In front of the camera, she played a leading role in a TATORT episode and was awarded Best Supporting Actress at the Five Continents International Short Film Festival in 2019 for the short film I CAN DO IT.

**Susanne Dorothea Schneider (KATHARINA)** studied acting at the Max Reinhardt Seminar in Vienna. After a scholarship at the Conservatoire National in Paris from 1995 to 1996 (productions with Jean Paul Dénizon, Tapa Sudana, Mario Gonzales, among others), engagements at numerous international theatres followed, including the Schauspielhaus Zurich, Residenztheater Munich, Landesbühne Esslingen and Landestheater Kiel. She has acted on stage in Canada and France and worked closely with actors from Peter Brook's theatre company.

**Nikolai Gemel (MARCEL)** has appeared in numerous film and television productions, including Karl Markovic's feature film SUPERWELT (2015), which premiered at the Berlinale, and the ARD miniseries PREGAU (2016), which was screened at Filmfest München. He also acted in the second season of the BBC series VIENNA BLOOD (2022). He studied at the Hamburg University of Music and Theatre. Since 2019, he has been an ensemble member at Schauspiel Hannover, where he played the title role of Dorian Gray, among others.

**Isabelle von Stauffenberg (VALERIE)** is studying acting at the Zurich University of the Arts. In 2019, she appeared on stage at Theater Lindenhof in a double role in the production Rise and Fall of a Company directed by Philipp Becker, funded by the German Federal Cultural Foundation. LETZTER ABEND (ONE LAST EVENING) is her feature film debut.

**Valentin Richter (AARON)** studied at the Hamburg University of Music and Theatre. He appeared in productions at the Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg and the Thalia Theater. At the 2017 national competition of German-speaking drama schools, he won the ensemble prize with his fellow actors. He has been an ensemble member at Schauspiel Stuttgart since 2018. He has worked with directors such as Luk Perceval, Oliver Frlić, Nuran David Calis, Achim Freyer, Niels-Peter Rudolph and Thomas Birkmeir. LETZTER ABEND (ONE LAST EVENING) is his feature film debut.

**Julius Forster (JAN)** studied acting at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Stuttgart. He performed at the National Theatre Mannheim, the Staatstheater Stuttgart and currently at Schauspiel Leipzig. He has appeared on stage in Woyzeck, Die Räuber, Hamlet and Leonce und Lena. He also appears regularly on television, including a continuous role in the popular series DER LEHRER (RTL / Sony Pictures).

**Nils Rovira-Muñoz (JESÚS – delivery boy)** has appeared in various film and television productions, including the international series DIGNITY (2019, Joyn and HBO Nordic) and the feature film GOLIATH96. He graduated from the Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts in Berlin in 2015. A permanent engagement at the Volkstheater Vienna followed. He has been an ensemble member at the Staatstheater Hannover since 2019.

**Amelle Schwerk (NADJA)** has acted in films such as Nora Fingscheidt's SYSTEM CRASHER (Berlinale Competition 2019, German Film Award 2020) and Felix Herrmann's GOD IS A BEETLE

(Munich Film Festival 2022). She studied acting at the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media until 2019. She was a guest at the Staatstheater Dresden, Nationaltheater Mannheim and joined the ensemble of the Schauspiel Hannover in 2019.

**Pascal Houdus (BO)** has appeared in various film and television productions, including TATORT (2019), the Netflix series LES COMBATTANTES (2021) and THIRTY by Simona Kostova, which was screened in Perspektive Deutsches Kino at the Berlinale 2019 and the Rotterdam Film Festival. He completed his acting training in 2013 at the Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts in Berlin. He performed at the Deutsches Theater Berlin and has been in the ensemble of the Thalia Theater in Hamburg since 2012, where he has worked with Christopher Rüping, Jan Bosse, Jette Steckel, Stefan Bachmann, Luk Perceval, Hakan Savas Mican and Leander Haußmann.

## CAST // CREW // TECHNICAL DETAILS

### CAST

|                      |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Clemens              | Sebastian Jakob Doppelbauer |
| Lisa                 | Pauline Werner              |
| Katharina            | Susanne Dorothea Schneider  |
| Marcel               | Nikolai Gemel               |
| Valerie              | Isabelle von Stauffenberg   |
| Aaron                | Valentin Richter            |
| Jan                  | Julius Forster              |
| Jesús (delivery boy) | Nils Rovira-Muñoz           |
| Nadja                | Amelle Schwerk              |
| Bo                   | Pascal Houdus               |

### CREW

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Directed by             | Lukas Nathrath   |
| Written by              | Lukas Nathrath & Sebastian Jakob Doppelbauer               |
| Produced by             | Lukas Nathrath, Linus Günther, Sebastian Jakob Doppelbauer |
| Production Company      | klinkerfilm  |
| Director of Photography | Philip Jestädt   |
| Editor                  | Silke Olthoff  |
| Costume Design          | Lucie Bates  |
| Production Design       | Saskia Stoltze   |
| Songs by                | Sebastian Jakob Doppelbauer                                |
| Music by                | Constantin Wittgenstein, Chris Köbke, Slade Templeton      |
| Sound Designer          | Martin Skalsky   |
| Direct Sound            | Evgenij Ussach, Swantje Alter, Tom Beckemeier              |

Original title                      Letzter Abend  
Germany 2023 // German // Shot in Hanover, Germany in summer 2020  
1:1,66 // Sound Format 5.1

### WORLD SALES

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