

KAROLINE HERFURTH

SEBASTIAN URZENDOWSKY

AXEL PRAHL

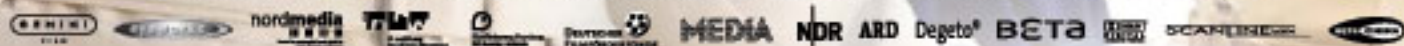
THE TRUE STORY
OF A VICTRESS

Berlin

36

A Film by Kaspar Heidelbach

BETA CINEMA PRESENTS A GEMINI FILM EYEWORKS PRODUCTION IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH NDR DEGETO FILM AND BETA FILM
 SUPPORTED BY NORDMEDIA FONDS FILMSTIFTUNG NRW FILMFÖRDERUNG HAMBURG SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN DFFF MEDIA
 KAROLINE HERFURTH SEBASTIAN URZENDOWSKY AXEL PRAHL ROBERT GALLINOWSKY THOMAS THIEME JOHANN VON BÜLOW AUGUST ZIRNER
 CASTING ANJA DIHRBERG LINE PRODUCER KLAUS RETTIG SOUND SILVAIN RÉMY COSTUME DESIGNER LUCIA FAUST MAKE UP DELIA MÜNDELEIN HORST ALLERT PRODUCER TIM ROSTOCK
 MUSIC COMPOSED BY ARNO STEFFEN EDITING HEDY ALTSCHILLER PRODUCTION DESIGNER BÖTZ WEIDNER DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ACHIM POULHEIM BASED ON THE IDEA OF ERIC FRIEDLER
 SCREENPLAY LÖTHAR KURZAWA CO-PRODUCERS DORIS J. HEINZE JÖRN KLAMPROTH PRODUCED BY GERHARD SCHMIDT DIRECTED BY KASPAR HEIDELBACH





Synopsis

1936. The United States threatens to boycott the Berlin Olympics if there are no Jews in the German team. Still aiming to mislead the world about their true ambitions, the Nazis are forced to admit some Jewish athletes. Among them the leading female high jumper of the time – Gretel Bergmann. Although Gretel, who has emigrated to England and become the current UK champion, has no desire to return, the Nazis force Gretel back by threatening her family, who is still residing in Germany. With seemingly no other German female high jumper around who could challenge Gretel, the unknown Marie Ketteler is suddenly introduced as a member of the team. Marginalized by the rest of the team, the two rivals forge a tenuous friendship, with Marie carrying a secret that puts their friendship and a hidden Nazi agenda to the test...

Based on a true story.



Karoline Herfurth

Born in Berlin in 1984, Karoline Herfurth studied at the renowned acting school "Ernst Busch" and is considered as one of the great young German talents of today. At 15, she starred in Hans-Christian Schmid's *Crazy* (2000). A year later she took on a lead role in Dennis Gansel's international hit *Girls on Top*. Another high point in her career was her role in Tom Tykwer's adaptation of *Perfume: The Story of a Murderer* (2006). For her role in Oscar-winner Caroline Link's *A Year ago in Winter* (2008), she won the Bavarian Film Award as Best Newcomer. In 2008 she also appeared in a supporting role next to Kate Winslet and Ralph Fiennes in Stephen Daldry's *The Reader*.





Director
Kaspar Heidelbach

Kaspar Heidelbach was born in 1954 in Tettwang close to Lake Constance. After studies in Art History and Theatre & Film Sciences, he has directed his first theatrical film *Polski Crash* in 1994.

Heidelbach is also known for his prestigious drama work *Das Wunder von Lengede* (Light in dark places, 2004) and *Der Untergang der Pamir* (2006). His films have been distributed worldwide and have been awarded with a Golden Camera, Bavarian Television Award and Adolf Grimme Award.

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