

!damba



Eine Transparent Film-Produktion

In Zusammenarbeit mit ZDF - Das Kleine Fernsehspiel & Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg

Regie, Kamera & Montage Lukas Reiter Dramaturgische & produktions-beraterin Hannes Stöhr Redaktion ZDF - Das Kleine Fernsehspiel Varinka Link
Herstellungsleitung Maite Bengsch Postproduktions-Koordinator & Feinschnitt Christoph Hans Statement Aktivistin Winter Lukas Clobes
Zweite Kamera Michael Goergens Zusatz-Material Kfir Moshe Mualem Farbkorrektur Verena Mühling
Sounddesign Julian Berg Mischung Fabian Klein



FILMAKADEMIE
BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

Das Kleine
Fernsehspiel

HAMBI

Documentary by Lukas Reiter



The documentary tells the story of the unfaltering environmental activists living in treehouses, who want to save the last remaining part of the Hambacher Forest (nickname: HAMBI), threatened to be destroyed by the RWE Power AG for brown coal mining purposes. The demolition of the demonstration camp by RWE and the police in autumn of 2018 is documented in Direct Cinema style. The movie follows the events with spectacular pictures and delivers poetical, unpretentious inside views of this worldwide recognised beacon of the combat against climate change.

**TRANSPARENT FILM
IN COOPERATION WITH
ZDF - DAS KLEINE FERNSEHSPIEL
FILMAKADEMIE BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG**

DIRECTOR & CAMERA Lukas Reiter

**DRAMATURGICAL AND
PRODUCTION ADVICE** Hannes Stöhr

ZDF EDITORIAL STAFF Vari Link (ZDF – Das kleine Fernsehspiel)

GENRE Documentary, 83 min, color

TRAILER <https://vimeo.com/359522609/849bbb2627>

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WRITER - DIRECTOR'S NOTE

by Lukas Reiter



In late summer 2018 energy company RWE Power AG orders the eviction of the treehouses in Hambach Forest by police forces. Just a small group of climate activists had built barricades and treehouses to protect the ancient trees from being cut down for brown coal mining. In the beginning of the eviction there are just about 200 other people coming to the forest to demonstrate and show their solidarity. Five weeks later, when the last of 80 treehouses gets evicted and destroyed, there are over 50.000 demonstrators in the area. Hambach Forest got to be a symbol for the stop of brown coal mining and the fight against climate change. How does a protest with years of just regional attention can get a climate movement with international press? It is all about images – in the film the painter couple Helge & Saxana are trying to propagate that. „[...] RWE and politics need an image that legitimizes a rigorous police operation here [...]“. Images of violence – masked activists, weapons allegedly found, injured police officers – are made to discourage people from coming to the forest to demonstrate and get their own view. But nevertheless – also achieved by the work of press – a peaceful image pushes through that shows a small number of people living in treehouses who stand against 3500 police officers. David versus Goliath – everyone knows this image. „What is legit?“ wins over „What is legal?“. With clear attitude also this documentary film tries to create an image that legitimizes the protest in Hambach Forest. Did economy, politics and police ignore independent courts to carry through one of the biggest police operations in the history of Nordrhein-Westfalen? The film does not want to explain that question. It just lets the people have a word, who face each other in the forest. On one side people are acting together because of a common idea and on the other side people in uniform working there because of an employment contract.

Lukas Reiter, May 2019



DRAMATURGICAL AND PRODUCTION ADVICE

by Hannes Stöhr



Lukas Reiter delivers spectacular pictures and supplies a poetic unpretentious inside view of this worldwide recognised beacon of the combat against climate change.

I believe his distant as well ironic view to be special. In the whole world the pictures of the idealists living in treehouses, who oppose the powerful energy company to stop the deforestation of the Hambacher Forest („Hambi“) could be seen. David against Goliath, everybody understands the issue.

The film assumes a pre-knowledge of the viewer through the media in regards to the situation of the Hambacher Forest. The death of the film student Steffen Meyn also dominated the headlines. This tragic accident is not treated frivolously. It is respectfully described and carefully narrated.

Explanatory interviews are avoided. The views of the protagonists open themselves up during the course of the movie through the observant camera of Lukas Reiter using the genre of Direct Cinema.

HAMBI also narrates the relationship of state and citizens as well as the failure of government institutions..

How is it possible that in such an unclear legal position as in September 2018 such a huge disproportionate police enforcement has been authorised in the Hambacher Forest? Friendly, open minded policemen and policewomen are also shown in this documentary film. Nothing is just black and white here.

Hannes Stöhr, May 2019.



INTERNATIONAL PRESS

Selection

NEW YORK TIMES

14 SEPTEMBER 2018

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/14/world/europe/germany-forest-coal.html>

„In recent weeks, environmentalists have drawn attention to the mine, which is operated by the energy company RWE in the Hambach Forest, east of the city of Aachen, in an effort to highlight the disparity between Germany’s pledges to reduce its carbon emissions and uphold its commitments to the Paris climate accord and the country’s heavy use of its only significant natural resource, soft coal, or lignite.“

THE GUARDIAN

6 OKTOBER 2018

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/oct/06/thousands-of-anti-coal-protesters-celebrate-german-forests-reprieve>

Court victory halts utility firm RWE’s plan to raze Hambach woodland and expand an opencast mine.

The ancient forest near Cologne has been occupied by activists for the past six years and has become a symbol of resistance against coal energy in Germany, a country that despite its green reputation remains heavily reliant on this dirty fossil fuel.

EL PAIS

5 OKTOBER 2018

https://elpais.com/sociedad/2018/10/05/actualidad/1538753800_181990.html

The script change, which was celebrated by activists as a triumph after years of occupation and weeks of clashes with the police, raises the hope of saving the last green area in the region on just 200 acres of the original 4,100.“ The controversial forest (...) has become a symbol of a fight that does not just affect a piece of land. Two visions of the world are facing each other. Capitalism against environmental protection.

COMPLETE PRESS REVIEW NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL:

<https://www.ende-gelaende.org/de/pressespiegel>

VITA LUKAS REITER

DIRECTOR AND CAMERA



Born 1993 in Mainz he spent a year in New Zealand after graduating from high school in 2013. In 2017 he completed his training as a media designer for image and sound in Frankfurt am Main and began to study at the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg in the same year. During the protests in Hambacher Forst 2018 he was involved in the „Hambacher Forst Presseteam“.

SELECTION FILMOGRAPHY

Wenn der Affe kommt		2019
Documentary / 30min	Camera	Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg
Wir sind friedlich, was seid ihr?		2018
Short Film	Script / Director,	Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg
Ohne Gurke, extra Zwiebel		2018
Short Film	Camera	Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg
Mit Dir Ohne Dich		2017
Experimentale Film	Camera	Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg
Interplast Peru		2016
Documentary / 10min	Script / Director Camera / Editor	GATE Broadcast Company



VITA HANNES STÖHR

CREATIVE PRODUCER



Born in 1970 in Stuttgart; A -level and civil service in Hechingen; 1991-93 law Degree emphasis European law (Spanisch & Englisch) at the Universität Passau (Bachelor); 1993-94 Erasmus-scholarship in Santiago de Compostela (Spanien); 1994-1999 degree script & director at the Deutschen Film- und Fernsehakademie Berlin (dffb).

Since 1999 script writer and director as well as occasional coproduction of cinema movies, series, TV movies, documentaries, plays, audibles, music and advertising clips. Lives in Berlin.

Since 2005 guest lecturer (script /director) at the Berliner Filmhochschule (dffb), the HFF Potsdam and the Goetheinstitut- since 2008 at the Filmakademie Ludwigsburg.

2006 Lion Feuchtwanger script scholarship at the Villa Aurora, Los Angeles (USA). Member of the German and European Filmakademie & the Villa Aurora foundation(Los Angeles-Berlin). 2011-2016 jury member of the script and production funding at the BKM (Bundeskulturministerium).

SELECTION FILMOGRAPHY

Schwäbische Türkei		2020
Theatre play	Script / Direction	Theater Lindenhof
Anna & Jason		2019
Anti-war movie	Script	
Global Player		2014 - 2018
Movie, Theater Adaptation	Script / Director / Co-Production	Stoehrfilm / Theater Lindenhof
Hopper vu par		2013
Serie	Script / Director / Co-Production	Arte France
Berlin calling		2008
Movie / 100min.	Script / Director / Co-Production	Cinema
One Day in Europe		2005
Movie / 100 min.	u.a. script &director	Berlinale Competition 2005
Berlin is in Germany		2001