

# COMPANY PROFILE





## HOFERICHTER & JACOBS – COMPANY PROFILE

Since 1996, **Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH** continuously produces documentaries and feature films. Our main focus lies with contemporary topics



realized in long formats. We are interested in exceptional, intriguing and fascinating stories bearing the potential to be told in a highly qualified manner, both to a German and an international audience. We aim to find an adequate realisation for unique stories strengthened by a convincing authorial stance and a gripping narrative approach. During the past years, our dedication to all kinds of movie formats has brought us from docu soaps, docu dramas and a variety of hybrid forms all the way to the exciting threshold between reality and fiction.

Presently, our main focal point is on further developing individual filmic approaches and visual styles. Constantly working together with different authors and directors creates the core of this intention – the mutual knowledge of individual

strengths and weaknesses builds the opportunity of shared success. At the same time, Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH increasingly produces on an international scale: Since a couple of years, more than two thirds of our productions have been realized as an international co-production. In pursuing this further, we can produce films for



which a national market would have been proven too small. Numerous awards, festival invitations as well as an abundance of international sales hold this stance up.

The Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH team consists of ten permanent employees. The CEO Olaf Jacobs, together with the producers Karin Leske and Anne Stephan, account for the film productions. Peter Effenberg and Marco Voss supervise the production process and all technical services.



# HOFERICHTER & JACOBS-PRODUCTIONS »HISTORY«



## GDR AHoy! THE HISTORY OF EAST GERMAN SHIPPING

*A country with the worst possible requirements wants to capture the sea to find its prosperity. A huge merchant fleet is built that more and more mirrors the problems of the small country.*

Grimme Award 2011  
3 x 45 minutes  
co-produced with MDR and NDR  
DVD: PentAlpha gGmbH  
Book: Mitteldeutscher Verlag



## THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE. EUROPE'S GREAT UNIVERSITIES

*Armin Mueller-Stahl leads through the greatest universities in Europe: Jan Hus in Prague- Sigmund Freud in Vienna - Tolkien in Oxford - Marie Curie in Paris - Robert Koch in Berlin - Kopernikus in Krakow*

6 x 52 minutes  
co-produced with MDR  
DVD: Komplett Medien  
world sales: Global Screen GmbH



## GESUNDHEIT DDR

*The two part documentary series report the history of the GDR health care system, regarding its characteristics and problems.*

2 x 45 minutes  
co-produced with MDR and NDR  
DVD: PentAlpha gGmbH



## THE HISTORY OF PORNOGRAPHY

*It attracted collectors and philosophers, irritated priests and educators, absorbed visual artists and the wheels of justice; it was feared, outlawed and burned: pornography - an immanent part of the history of fleshly lust; both subculture and gigantic branch of the economy.*

3 x 30 minutes, HD  
DVD: Epix AG



## TIME TRAVEL GDR. PIECES OF GDR HISTORY

*Parts of different areas of life in the GDR. Produced for Nordmagazin of NDR and educational purposes.*

22 x 6 minutes  
co-produced with NDR-Landesfunkhaus Mecklenburg Vorpommern and Bundesstiftung zur Aufarbeitung der SED-Diktatur



## PLACES OF JUSTICE. EUROPE'S GREAT COURTHOUSES

*A documentary series about the history of the great European courthouses.*

3 x 52 minutes  
co-produced with the European Commission  
DVD: UAP-Video  
world sales: Global Screen GmbH

More productions: [www.hoferichterjacobs.de](http://www.hoferichterjacobs.de)



### THE SECRET OF THE GIGANTIC ELEPHANTS<sup>(AT)</sup>

*Almost 120.000 years old is the treasure, which was found by archeologists during their excavation at the former brown coal mine Neumark-Nord in the south of Halle: The most significant fossils are disarticulated bones of 70 gigantic forest elephants. The film tries to disclose the secret of the giants with the help of scientist, who had participated during the excavation.*

45 / 52 minutes, HD

script and direction: Jan N. Lorenzen

co-produced with MDR/ARTE

world sales: Global Screen GmbH



### THE DINOSAUR-CODE

*In an open pit, a young scientist has discovered dinosaur footprints that are considerably older than any others that had been found before. In the film, these footprints are the point of departure for a journey of discovery that will finally reveal the first dinosaur's appearance and show that this part of history of these gigantic animals has to be rewritten.*

45 / 52 minutes, HD

script and direction: Jan N. Lorenzen

co-produced with MDR/ARTE /Planet TV

world sales: Global Screen GmbH



### AMONG ELEPHANTS

*During one year the film follows the work of David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Kenya. The documentary tells the story of this unique, world-known and amazing organization and the close relationships between the elephants and their saviors.*

1. Elephanter orphanage

2. Return of the elephants

2 x 45 / 52 minutes, HD

script and direction: Peter Dreckmann

co-produced with MDR/ARTE/ARD

world sales: Global Screen GmbH



### SECRETS IN SIBERIAN ICE

*Together with high-profile scientists, this elaborate documentary takes a close look at the realm of permafrost; from a 3.6 million years old crater lake in eastern Siberia to European high and low lands.*

45 / 52 Minuten, HD

documentary by: Jörg Poppendieck and Olaf Jacobs

camera: Guido Kilbert

co-produced with MDR/ARTE and Telepool GmbH

world sales : Telepool GmbH



### WHEN THE POLES MELT. EXPEDITION ANTARCTICA

*The documentary follows a team of German scientists. The team searches for the key to understanding the world climate – in a place where no one has been before.*

45 / 52 minutes, HD

script and direction: Kai Voigtländer

co-produced with RBB,/ARTE and Telepool

world sales : Telepool GmbH



### WILDERNESS BETWEEN TRAIN TRACKS

*Train tracks are unique lifelines in our landscapes. By following the tracks the film sets out on an expedition of the specifics and the history of this natural habitats.*

30 minutes, HD

script and direction: Martina Treusch

co-produced with NDR Landesfunkhaus Mecklenburg Vorpommern, with support of Kulturelle Filmförderung Mecklenburg Vorpommern.



## HOFERICHTER & JACOBS-PRODUCTIONS »DOCU-SERIES«



### LEGENDARY PADDLE STEAMERS

The series "Legendary Paddle Steamers" accompanies five of the oldest paddle steamers on their routes.

1. Across Lake Lucerne on the Unterwalden
2. Across Lake Mjøsa on the Skibladner
3. Along the River Elbe on the Diesbar
4. Along the Ohio River on the Belle of Louisville
5. Along the Scottish West Coast on the Waverley

5 x 45 / 52 minutes, HD

Idea: Kerstin Holl

script and direction: Kerstin Holl, Anne Mesecke, Matthias Hoferichter

Co-produced with MDR/ARTE

world sales: Autentic GmbH



### RETURNING WILD OASES

A set of high class documentaries about the wild oases in places where you would least expect them: In the midst of a densely populated, highly industrialized Europe:

1. In the Shadow of the Diggers
2. In the Shadow of the Tanks
3. In the Shadow of the Planes
4. From the Death Stripe to the Vein of Life
5. Exotic Homeland

5 x 45 / 52 minutes, HD

documentaries by: Heribert Schöller, Anne Mesecke.

co-produced with HR/MDR/ARTE

world sales: Global Screen GmbH

DVD: Epix AG / Series »Wundersame Wildnis«



### EUROPE'S CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

The history of modern agriculture and their pioneers in some of Europe's most impressive regions.

1. The Spreewald
2. The Cevennes
3. Mecklenburg an the House of Maltzan.
4. The Archduke and the Discovery of Majorca

4 x 52 minutes, HD, to be continued

documentaries by Jan N. Lorenzen, Rebekka Bahr, Martina Treusch, Susann Reichenbach, Olaf Jacobs

The films are co-financed by the European Commission, Agriculture and Rural Development

DVD: PentAlpha gGmbH



### THREE COLOURS GREEN<sup>(AT)</sup>

Unique three part documentary about three completely different sides of Ireland.

1. The extreme Ireland<sup>(AT)</sup>
2. The fruitful Ireland<sup>(AT)</sup>
3. The gentle Ireland<sup>(AT)</sup>

3 x 45 / 52 minutes, HD

script and direction: Jan Tenhaven in participation with Martina Treusch

co-produced with MDR/ARTE

world sales: Autentic GmbH



### CIVILISED WILDERNESS

"Civilised Wilderness" reveals the story of the most striking floodplains of our continent. The twopartseries leads into the Elbe biosphere reserve in Germany and into the Croatian nature reserve of the Sava floodplains.

1. Life between the Elbe Dikes
2. Life at the Sava Floodplains

2 x 52, 45, 28 minutes, HD

films by Anne Mesecke, Heribert Schöller and Guido Kilbert

world sales: Gloal Screen GmbH

DVD: Epix AG / Series »Wundersame Wildnis«

## HOFERICHTER & JACOBS-PRODUCTIONS »REPORTAGEN«



### URBAN FUTURE

*A journey of discovery through the megacities of the new millenium. The series delivers insight into how people take the initiative in order to improve their living conditions and how they creatively shape their surroundings with unique projects: Mumbai – City of Islands, Sao Paulo – city Disrupted, Istanbul – City in-between the continents*

1. Istanbul
2. Sao Paulo
3. Mumbai
4. Mexico City
5. Cape Town

a series by Olaf Jacobs

5 x 30 minutes, HD

world sales: Gloal Screen GmbH



### THE UNDERTAKER OF LUEBECK

*Stefan Dabringhaus wanted to be an undertaker since he was a child. Today, his funeral company is one of the biggest in Luebeck. What does a man think about life, who is confronted with death every day? Which thoughts does he take home to his wife and children? The film draws a sensitive portrait of an undertaker in Luebeck.*

reportage, 30 minutes

author: Lutz Hofmann

produced on behalf of NDR



### COSTAL RUPTURES AT RÜGEN

*Since 2002 more than a dozen costal ruptures appeared on the famous chalk coast line of Rügens national park Jasmund. A famous place which attracts millions of visitors every year. Are they now in danger of life? What do visitors need to pay attention to? How shall they react in case of emergency?*

reportage, 30 minutes

author: Lutz Hofmann

produced on behalf of MDR



### GERMANY - A WINTER'S FAIRY-TALE

*After 1990 the reunificated Germany continued the success story of the winter sports athletes of the former GDR. The film "Germany A Winter's Fairy Tale" sets out for the formular of success of the winter sports athletes.*

reportage, 30 Minuten

Author: Matthias Hoferichter

produced on behalf of MDR



### MISSION AT HARBOR

*Freighters, ferries and cruisers enter the Rostock Harbor on a daily basis. The port doctor usually is the first passenger to go aboard – a passenger who has not been invited. He rummages through the store cupboard, rifles the first-aid kit and scans the sailors for pathogenic bacteria. It is his mission to save Germany from perils.*

reportage, 30 minutes

author: Susann Reichenbach

produced on behalf of NDR



### ARMIN MUELLER-STAHL

*Acting, painting, writing, making music – due to his many talents, Armin Mueller-Stahl is widely respected as a universal artist. The film is a sensitive portrait about a man who always seems to be concentrated, a movie also including interviews with many of his companions.*

52 minutes

script and direction: M. Hoferichter

co-produced with MDR

world sales: First Hand Films

DVD: UAP-Video

More productions: [www.hoferichterjacobs.de](http://www.hoferichterjacobs.de)

## HOFERICHTER & JACOBS-PRODUCTIONS »DOCUMENTS«



### AMONG MEN – GAY IN EAST GERMANY

*Not allowed, yet tolerated: the lives of six gay men in the GDR. From this perspective, Socialism looks quite different!*

91 minutes, DCP, HD

Directors: Markus Stein, Ringo Rösener

Script: Ringo Rösener

supported by Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, Kulturstiftung des Freistaates Sachsen, Kulturelle Filmförderung Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and DFFF

co-produced with MDR and Salzgeber & Co. Medien GmbH

distribution: Edition Salzgeber

festivals: 62. Intern. Film Festival Berlin, Panorama, FBW Prädikat »besonders wertvoll«



### BEERLAND

*The American Matt Sweetwood travels through "Beerland Germany" and collects cheerful folk-tales, illustrated by animated graphics for the audience's amusement.*

85 minutes, DCP, HD

script and direction: Matt Sweetwood

winner of the Treatment Competition for documentary films of BR and Telepool GmbH

supported by: Medienboard Berlin Brandenburg and DFFF

co-produced with BR

distribution: Movienet Filmverleih

World sales: Global Screen GmbH



### FORGETTING DAD

*Three days after an apparently harmless car accident, a 44-years-old man loses his memory – for good. The film is a personal quest in the search of this man's (inner) self and an investigation of the events that followed.*

84 minutes, HD

script and direction: R. Minnich and M. Sweetwood

co-produced with ZDF »Das Kleine Fernsehspiel«

supported by: Kuratorium Junger Deutscher Film, Medienboard

distribution: W-Film / world sales: FilmsTransit

festivals (selection): IDFA, Max Ophüls Preis, Hot Docs Toronto and many more. FBW Prädikat »besonders wertvoll«



### HACKER

*Five unique and self-willed characters determine this filmic kaleidoscope by Alexander Biedermann. His documentary film sheds light on the modern myth of the hacker, always questioning what it really means to be one.*

Documentary film, 85 minutes, HD

script and direction: A. Biedermann

co-produced with ZDF/3sat

supported by: Kulturstiftung Sachsen, Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, FFA.

Festivals: 52. International Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film, et al.



### BARTÓK'S REQUIEM

*A trip into the most remote villages of Transylvania and a journey following the life and trails of the great composer Béla Bartók.*

Documentary film, D/HU, 87 minutes, HD

script and direction: Jan N. Lorenzen

supported by: Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, MEDIA

Festivals: Duisburger Filmwoche et al.



### BORDERLINE

*The first film focusing on the inner life of border guards in the GDR. A journey deep into the souls of the protagonists and back in time.*

79 minutes

script and direction: H. Jancke

supported by: BKM, Kulturelle Filmförderung Thüringen, Kulturellen Filmförderung Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

distribution: Edition Salzgeber

Festivals: 54. Intern. Film Festival Berlin, et al.



**THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW IS NOWHERE**

*The Serb Zoki and Bosnian-born Feti successfully run a quite unique business, smuggling dead people disguised as hopelessly drunken guest-workers back into their homeland...*

Comedy, D/AT/CR, 84 minutes, 35 mm  
direction: M. Stein, M. V. Puzić, script: M. V. Puzić, R. Pavkovic, camera: R. Raltchev  
co-produced with Lotus Film, Austria and Jadran Film, Croatia  
supported by: Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Filmfonds Wien, ORF, Österreichisches Filminstitut, Eurimages, MEDIA



**THREE GIRLS**

*A parable about lies and truth, friendship and betrayal, original and counterfeit. Shot against the backdrop of the impressive scenery of the capital of Azerbaijan, the film strangely interweaves the fates of three girls and that of an extraordinary painting, creating a magical and intriguingly complex relationship network.*

Comedy, D/RUS/AZ, 84 minutes, 35 mm  
direction: M. Ibragimbekov, script: M. Ibragimbekov, P.I Finn, camera: F. Mamadkazin, cut: O. Tkachenko

A production of Ibrus (RU) in co-production with Ulitka (RU), Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH (D) and Central Productions (RU)  
supported by: Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, MEDIA

Festivals: Moskow, Shanghai et al., nominated for Russian film award (NIKA)



**DREI STERN ROT**

*A satire, bitter comedy which tells the story of a former GDR border guard who has lost his great love, his hope and almost his mind.*

Comedy, D, 90 minutes, 35 mm  
direction: O. Kaiser, script: H. Jancke, camera: M. Tschiedel, cut: S. Brose  
co-produced with ZDF »Das Kleine Fernsehspiel«

supported by: Kulturelle Filmförderung Sachsen-Anhalt und Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung.

More produktions: [www.hoferichterjacobs.de](http://www.hoferichterjacobs.de)



## HOFERICHTER & JACOBS-PRODUCTONS»360 GRAD«



### DDR AHOI! KLEINES LAND AUF GROSSER FAHRT.

*Being a sailor was regarded a coveted profession in the GDR. The men who went so sea were special since they were able to see the big, wide world.*

*Rich in pictures, the book documents the GDR's development from an important seafaring nation to the day of the country's "shipwrecking".*

Authors: Andreas Biskupek, Olaf Jacobs  
© 2010 Mitteldeutscher Verlag  
co-produced with Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH



### ZEITREISE DDR. ELF BEITRÄGE ZUR DDR-GESCHICHTE.

*Eleven chapters of time travel resemble eleven parts of areas of life in the GDR. The texts and articles are supposed to provide information about the former East German country. Each chapter accompanies one of the stories which are arranged on the attached DVD.*

Author: Peter Effenberg  
© 2009 PentAlpha gGmbH co-produced with Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH  
supported by NDR, DRA and Bundesstiftung zur Aufarbeitung der SED-Diktatur



### ZEITREISE 2. DIE DDR IM UNTERRICHT

*Eleven new films and chapters of areas of life in the GDR. In the second volume of the production ZEITREISE texts and articles are supposed to provide new impressions and information about the former East German country. On the attached DVD each story comes along with its own chapter.*

Author: Peter Effenberg  
© 2010 PentAlpha gGmbH co-produced with Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH  
supported by NDR, DRA and Bundesstiftung zur Aufarbeitung der SED-Diktatur



### FINANZIERUNG VON FILM- UND FERNSEHPRODUKTIONEN

*The author and producer Olaf Jacobs introduces well proven strategies for financing film and tv productions.*

Author: Olaf Jacobs  
© 2010 Erich Schmidt Verlag

More productions: [www.hoferichterjacobs.de](http://www.hoferichterjacobs.de)



## FESTIVALS& AWARDS

### 2012

62. Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin – Panorama with „Among Men – Gay in East Germany“

### 2011

61st Berlin International Film Festival - LOLA @ Berlinale with „Forgetting Dad“

Grimme Award 2011 for “GDR ahoy!”

### 2010 (Auswahl)

27. Kasseler Dokumentarfilm – und Videofestival, Germany

Filmfest Wismar

DokumentART Neubrandenburg

Green Screen - International Nature Film Festival, Germany

TV Festival Shanghai „Forgetting Dad“, China

Ekotopfilm, Bratislava, Slovakia

Filmkunstfest Mecklenburg Vorpommern, Germany

The London International Documentary Film Festival, UK

Environmental Filmfestival, Washington, USA

### 2009 (Auswahl)

Guangzhou Internat. Doc. FF, China – The Grand Jury Prize for “Forgetting Dad”

Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, USA

Health Film Festival, Kos, Griechenland – 2. Publikumspreis für „Forgetting Dad“

IFI Stranger Than Fiction Documentary Film Festival, Irland

Docaviv, Israel

HotDocs Toronto, Canada

Crossroads of Europe Festival Lublin, Poland

International Documentary Film Festival Belfast, UK

Filmfestival Max Ophüls Preis, Germany

achtung berlin - new film ward – honorable mention for „Forgetting Dad“, Germany

William Dieterle Filmpreis der Stadt Ludwigshafen for „Forgetting Dad“, Germany

### 2008 (Auswahl)

IDFA – „Joris Ivens Competition Special Jury Prize“ for „Forgetting Dad“, Netherlands

Duisburger Filmwoche, Germany

Festival International du Film Ornithologique in Menigoute, France

Wildlife Vaasa Festival - Nomination in the category "Special Development Award by, Finland VASEK" for “Civilised Wilderness”

„Sächsischer Journalistenpreis“ for "Gewonnene Zeit - Lebenslänglich immer länger", Germany

### 2007 (Auswahl)

Baku East-West International Film Festival, Aserbaidschan

Green Screen - International Nature Film Festival, Germany

Ekotopfilm Bratislava, Slovakia - Prize of Mayor of Capital for “Return of Wild Oases - In the Shadow of the Planes”

Moscow International Film Festival, Russia

International Film Festival Listapad, Belorussia – Best Camera & Special prize of the Union of the Filmmaker Belorussia for "Three Girls"

Int. Festival of the Commonwealth and Baltic countries, Russia – Grand Prize, Best Female Actor, Best Music for "Three Girls"

Shanghai International Film Festival, China

Nominierung für den NIKA 2007 für „Three Girls

**More festivals & awards: [www.hoferichterjacobs.de](http://www.hoferichterjacobs.de)**

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