

LA DEUTSCHE VITA



SYNOPSIS – “LA DEUTSCHE VITA”

Alessandro left Italy for Berlin 6 years ago and still lives there today. An old saying professes that after 6 years in a foreign country, you finally realize what you really are: an immigrant. You suddenly feel disoriented and homesick, with a general sense of malaise and the desire to escape. That’s exactly where Alessandro is now. Struggling to know how he got there himself, Alessandro decides to hit the streets of Berlin, to find other Italians and see how *they* are coping.

This is the film’s journey: from Berlin – to the “little Italy” in Berlin. Along the way, we’ll loose our way, running into characters and coincidences, in a trip that is hilarious, tragic, and often seems like it’s taking the long way around.

Far from the usual social reportage with its solemn tones, in “La Deutsche Vita”, we get to peek into a very colorful Italian community, both hectic and heroic, that has survived years of cold, grey winters and watered down coffee.

In one sense, Berlin is a reliable *Mamma*, that can take them in and support their dreams. In another, it’s like a distant planet, full of contrasts and incongruities. This disconnect creates situations that range from twisted comedy to tragic drama.

The story of this small immigrant community is the same as others, from all corners of the world. The questions and uncertainties are the same for every individual who decides to make their life far from home. And after the big wave crashes, and the original wonder and discovery of a foreign country wash out to sea, we find Alessandro. He might be confused and still a bit lost, but he’s somehow ready to face his seventh year in Berlin.



BIOGRAPHY OF THE DIRECTORS

Alessandro Cassigoli (director)



Florence (Italy) 18/08/1976.

When he was 20, he moved to Rome where he attended film school "Professione Cinema" and started to work as assistant director for many Italian films and popular TV series.

After seven years of working on other people's sets, he felt ready to embark on his own projects. Together with the Italian-Israeli director Dalia Castel, he made his first two documentaries: "In the Bubble" and "Good Times" that won awards in 15 different International Film Festivals.

In 2005 he attended the Berlinale Talent Campus and then moved to Berlin (Germany) after winning the Nipkow Programm Fellowship, a scholarship for media professionals.

Since 2007 he has directed five documentaries for the program 360° GEO that airs on "ARTE" and is produced by Medienkontor GmbH.

Today he works on commissioned projects for television and creative documentaries as "La Deutsche Vita" and "Following Casey".

Tania Masi (director)



Florence (Italy) 04/03/1976

Studies Urban Sociology at the Humboldt University in Berlin and Film Production and Screenplay at the International School of Film at New York University. Graduates in 2004 from the University of Florence, Italy (Summa cum Laude) and works as editor for the magazine The Universe, at the Military Geographical Institute.

Since 2005 she is the author of travel guide books for the publishers De Agostini, Terre di Mezzo and Iter Edizioni. Since 2006 Tania has been a freelance journalist based in Berlin for RAI tv, newspapers and online magazines. At the same time she cultivates her passion for cinema, working as International Sales Assistant at festivals such as Cannes, Venice and Berlin for Studio City Pictures, Affinity International.

She is currently coordinator of the seminar "Multimedia and Online Journalism" at the International Institute of Journalism of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (GIZ).

Living in Berlin, since 1998, she is working since two years on the documentary feature film La Deutsche Vita.

FILMOGRAPHY ALESSANDRO CASSIGOLI

2013 "La Deutsche Vita" - documentary 62'

2013 "Radio Patagonia" - arte GEO360 documentary 52' produced by arte and Medienkontor

2012 "Marmor" - arte GEO360 documentary 52' produced by arte and Medienkontor

2011 "Florence football" - arte GEO360 documentary 52' produced by arte and Medienkontor

2009 "A treehouse in Costa Rica" - arte GEO360 documentary 52' produced by arte and

Medienkontor

2008 "Almost Paradise" – documentary 45' produced by gotandafilm with the support of Nipkow Berlin

2008 "New York, the Amato Opera" – arte GEO360 documentary 52' produced by arte and Medienkontor

2007 "The faces of Rome" – arte GEO360 documentary 52' produced by arte and Medienkontor

2006 "Relatively Free" – short documentary 8' produced by International Documentary Challenge and gotandafilm

2004 "Good Times" – documentary 32' produced by gotandafilm

2002 "In the Bubble" – documentary 45' produced by gotandafilm

AWARDS

"Relatively Free"

Grand Prize, International Documentary Challenge (2006)

Best Film, Crossroads Film Festival (USA 2007)

"Good Times"

Grand Jury Award, Full Frame Documentary Film Festival (USA 2005)

"Ver.di" award, Dok Leipzig (Germany 2004)

Best Short Documentary, Punto de Vista (Spain 2005)

1st prize, Cinema del Reale (Italy 2005)

1st prize, Danifilma (Bosnia & Hercegovina 2006)

1st prize, Artimage Graz (Austria 2006)

Audience Award, DocumentaMadrid (Spain 2005)

Human Rights Award, DocumentaMadrid (Spain 2005)

Human Rights Award, Carmona Film Festival (Spain 2005)

1st prize, Urban TV (Spain 2007)

"In the Bubble"

Grand Jury Award, MaremmaDocFest. (Italy 2002)

Grand Jury Award, RomaDocFest. (Italy 2003)

MAIN CAST AND CREDITS

title: La Deutsche Vita

Germany 2013, 60/52min.

HD

produced by: Alessandro Cassigoli & Tania Masi

directors: Alessandro Cassigoli & Tania Masi

camera: William Filho Chiccarelli

editing: Kathrin Dietzel

music: Deacon Dunlop (Wrong) and Kapaikos

sound: Markus Mielke

CAST

Massimiliano Balestri
Gino Puddu
Mauro Paglia
Giovanni Pane
Ruth Stirati
Emidio Ciabattoni
Daniela Benedetti
Marcello Dato



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