A SHORT FILM BY KATE MCMULLEN
LITTLE BERLIN
NARRATED BY
CHRISTOPH WALTZ
'ALSO AND DUNK FILMS present "LITTLE BERLIN"
Narrated by Christoph WALTZ Written and directed by Kate MCMULLEN Script Editor Paul WAUTERS
Original score S.J.C. MCMULLEN Additional Score and arrangement Nicolas DECOCK Performed by BUDAPEST ARTS ORCHESTRA / Peter PEJTSIK
Post Production DLP PARIS Post Producers Anaelle DEROUET Cedric CHOPPIN Sound Design Mix Het GELUIDSHUIS Sound Engineer Patrick VOETS
Filmed on location in MODLAREUTH, GERMANY Herd supplied by LAXFIELD HEREFORDS OF TALOG, WALES.

SYNOPSIS

When Germany was split up in 1946, the sleepy farming village of Mödlareuth was torn apart. Soviets descended on the eastern half, Americans took over the west. A 12-foot wall was built through the middle, and the village soon picked up the nickname "Little Berlin".

The international press jumped on the story, but the tragedy unfolding in the local herd went unreported. While Peter, the only bull in the village, was stranded in the west, his cows were suddenly eating Soviet grass on the other side of the wall. Would Peter ever see his cows again ? A bovine tragedy waiting to be told - based on a true story, narrated by Christoph Waltz.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Kate McMullen grew up near Cambridge, on Pink Floyd's Grantchester Meadows. Graduated from Oxford, she moved to Paris and later to Shanghai, where she started exploring film.

Armed with a Canon 5D, a cheap electric scooter and a lunch-money budget, she created her first docu-fiction, Nail House. The film picked up awards on the international circuit - and that was all the convincing Kate needed to make more.

Kate finds subject matter where no one else is looking and weaves wit and colour into strong world views.

KATE MCMULLEN'S INTERVIEW

Where did the idea come from ?

I was reading a book about life in Cold War Germany. One sentence stopped me in my tracks. "There was also the important question of what to do about Peter, the village bull, a resident of West Germany, now unable to visit the cows in the East." It was just too absurd to ignore. I couldn't not make a film about it.

What is the message you want to convey with this film ?

The film is dedicated to all victims of separation. Today, despite the lessons of Berlin, there are more man made barriers in the world than at any other time in human history. Splashy political theatre has made a comeback, without a second thought for consequences on the ground. Little Berlin satirises the process of division. Seen from the cows' point of view, we witness the sheer absurdity of wall-building. Powerful forces decide which cows are communist and which aren't. Peter is put under surveillance. Even his testicles are viewed as a threat. It doesn't get more farcical than that. When the wall eventually falls, its futility stays with us.

How did you convince Christoph Waltz to do the voice over ?

We put together a teaser video, packed with pleading looks from the herd, which we sent to Christoph's agent. She replied the next day saying that Christoph found the project «utterly charming» and was ready to record. We met in big Berlin. The rest is bovine history.

FILMOGRAPHY

WELCOME TO MALTA (2018)
Documentaries Without Borders Film Festival - Winner, Outstanding Excellence Award
San Francisco International Festival of Short Films - Winner, Impact Award
Beirut International Women Film Festival - official selection
Brooklyn Women's Film Festival - official selection

COMME LES ROSES (2017)
Raindance Film Festival - official selection
Paris Short Film Festival - official selection
Rochester International Film Festival - Winner, Shoestring Award
Blow-up Arthouse Film Festival - official selection
Fargo Film Festival - official selection
Delhi Shorts Film Festival - special mention

NAIL HOUSE (2016)
Asian Film Festival of Dallas - Winner, Best Experimental Short
Spotlight Documentary Film Awards - Winner, Best Short Film
One Show One Screen Short Film Festival - Winner, Best Short Film
Hollywood Independent Documentary Awards - Winner, Best Director
Roma Cinema Documentary Awards - Special Mention, Director
Manchester Film Festival - official selection
Hong Kong Arthouse Film Festival - official selection

PRODUCTIONS

And Also is a creative collective based in Paris. They look for stories in urgent need of being told and get cracking, in film, audio, a book or an exhibition. Every project is guided by a love for words, images and music, but mostly by respect for the audience.

Founder Paul Wauters is a renowned international creative director and bestselling author of audio comedy.

Dunk means that you score by jumping high enough to throw the ball down through the goal. Go straight to the point, work up to allow our authors and directors to carry out their projects, that's our goal.
Receptive to the depth of scripts, our team focuses on films with strong emotional potential. Our attention and our sensitivity will always be focused on weaknesses and cracks of men and women.

We are convinced that public wants to live new, insolent and universal experiences. Our desire: find authors and talents who have so much to say about the complexity of our time without seeking ease.

Dunk films is member of Unifrance, La Maison du Film and SPI.

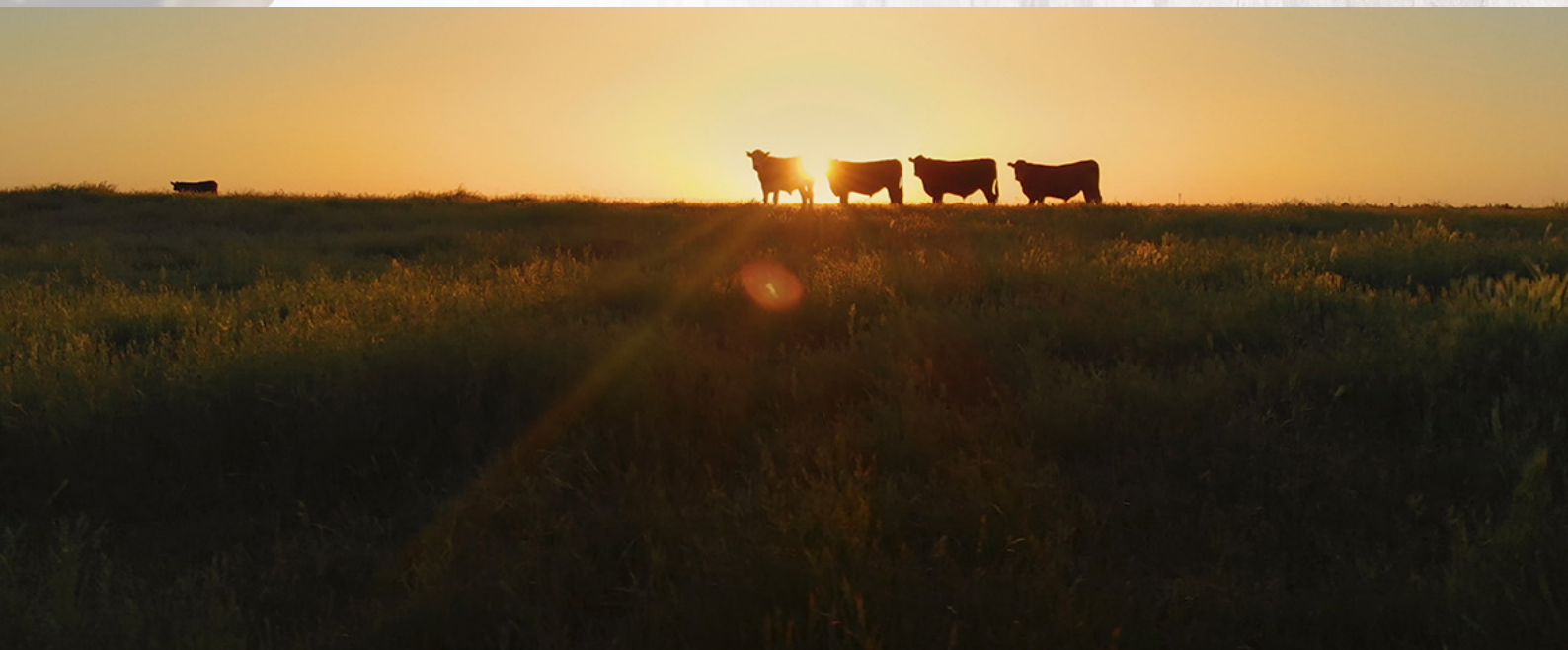
FESTIVALS & CAREER

INTERNATIONAL

- Brooklyn film festival – **Winner audience's award short documentary**
- Indy Shorts International film festival
- Flickers Rhode Island International Film Festival - **Winner best documentary short Grand Prix**
- SHORTS MÉXICO - Festival Internacional de Cortometrajes de México
- New York City Short Film Festival (NYC Shorts) - **Best Comedy Short**
- INTERFILM - INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FEstTIVAL BERLIN 2021
- KAOHSIUNG FILM FESTIVAL 2021
- DOC LA. Los Angeles Documentary Film Festival - **Public Award & Doc LA Master Award**
- Sapporo International Short Film Festival & Market - **Best Original Score Award**
- VIFF Vienna Independant Film Festival
- Slamdance Film Festival - Department of Anarchy program
- São Paulo Film Festival
- Flickerfest International Short Film Festival
- Brussels Independent Film Festival
- Cinequest Film & VR Festival
- Berlin Lif-Off Film Festival
- Festival Regard – Compétition Officielle
- Ennesimo Film Festival 2022 – Compétition Officielle
- Athens International Film and video festival – Compétition Officielle

NATIONAL

- Fenêtre sur Courts Dijon - **Grand Prix des étudiants**
- FESTIVAL DU FILM COURT DE VILLEURBANNE 2021 - **Prix du meilleur scénario**
- La Balade des Courts 2022
- Festival Tous Courts d'Aix en Provence
- FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU COURT MÉTRAGE DE TROYES 2021 - **Prix du rire Fernand Raynaud**
- Festival du cinéma d'Orry-la-Ville - **Grand Prix**
- Paris Courts Devant la Rencontre des Cinémas Emergents
- FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU COURT MÉTRAGE DE CLERMONT-FERRAND 2022
- FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM – MUSIC & CINEMA 2022 de Marseille
- Festival International du Film Court d'Angoulême
- Rencontres du cinéma du film européen de Vannes
- Festival Européen du Court-Métrage de Bordeaux – Hors Compétition



INFO SHEET

Category :	Docu-fiction
Director :	Kate McMULLEN
Producers :	Kate McMULLEN, Paul WAUTERS
Co-producers :	Nicolas d'AUTRYVE, Sophie MARTIN
Distribution :	Origine Films
Casting :	Christoph WALTZ
Screenplay :	Kate McMULLEN
Director of photography :	Kate McMULLEN
Editor :	Kate McMULLEN
Sound design :	Patrick VOETS
Soundtrack :	S.J.C. McMULLEN, Nicolas DE COCK
Production :	AND ALSO Productions
Co-Production :	Dunk Films
Post-Production :	DLP Paris
Completion :	January 2021
Language :	English
Subtitles :	French, English
Format :	DCP - 2K
Aspect ratio :	16:9
Sound :	5.1
ISAN :	0000-0006-0695-0000-V-0000-0000-I

TEASER LINK

TEASER : *https://vimeo.com/541318844*