MA FOLIE

A film by **Andrina Mračnikar**

Presskit

PR contact:

Susanne Auzinger PR

E-Mail: susanne@auzinger-pr.com
Mobile: +43 664 263 9228

Distribution Austria, Marketing:

Filmladen Vienna Maxie Klein m.klein@filmladen.at

Phone: +43 1 523 43 62 44

Production:

Extrafilm Vienna Lukas Stepanik

lukas.stepanik@chello.at Mobile: +43 676 706 90 62

In cooperation with
Witcraft Szenario
Ursula Wolschlager& Robert Buchschwenter
office@witcraft.at

Website:

http://www.mafolie-film.com

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CAST

Hanna Alice Dwyer
Yann Sabin Tambrea
Marie Gerti Drassl
Goran Oliver Rosskopf
Sarema Rayana Sidieva
Doris Gisela Salcher
Eva Anna Rot

Chief-Inspector Kiennast
Sarema's teacher
Sarema's mother

Robert Reinagl
Ursula Strauss
Ayna Sidieva

Joachim Peter Strauss

CREW

Screenplay & Director Andrina Mračnikar

Cinematography Gerald Kerkletz
Art direction Alexandra Maringer

Editor Karina Ressler
Casting Jürgen Karasek
Costume designer Elisabeth Nagl
Make-up artist Verena Eichtinger
Original Sound Klaus Kellermann
Sound mixing Bernhard Maisch
Sound design Stefan Rosensprung

Peter Kutin

Original score Scott McCloud/Paramount Styles

Production management David Bohun

Producers Lukas Stepanik

in co-operation with

Ursula Wolschlager, Robert Buchschwenter

This film was produced with the support of Austrian Film Institute (ÖFI), Filmfonds Vienna (FFW), Filmstandort Austria (FISA), ORF/Austrian Television Broadcasting, Cine Art Styria, a.o.





















99 minutes, dcp, color

SUMMARY

HANNA loves YANN and the 'lettres filmées' that he sends her - short, poetic films recorded with an iPhone. Yann loves Hanna, but mistrusts her. He leaves her, but does not leave her alone. His video-letters become a threat and Hanna does not know whom to trust or whether she can still trust herself.

MA FOLIE starts as a romantic love-story, a passionate 'amour fou', but gradually turns out to be a complex psychological thriller, blurring the lines between internal and external perception, trust and mistrust, reality and delusion, truth and deception.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I consider MA FOLIE to be a genre movie: The film suddenly changes from a romantic drama to a thriller, and the 'lettres filmées' contain traces that are reminiscent of horror films. A change of genre is often seen as problematic, yet in MA FOLIE this change is rooted in the theme: Just like the characters transform, turn and ultimately differ from the expected, so does the film. When the world one lives in and the truths one believes in start to crumble, when everything is traversed by distrust, jealousy and possible paranoia thus fear - and therewith the thriller - inevitably starts to arise.

I would say it's a film about the different ways of perception, about trust and mistrust... The film also provokes a reflection in the spectator about what one saw and whether the images were "real" or not... So in the best case it provokes also a reflection about images, media, film...

BIOGRAPHIES

ALICE DWYER as Hanna

Alice Dwyer was born in Berlin in 1988. At the young age of 9 she applied at an actor's agency. Two years later she took the leading role in *Anna Wunder*. Aged 13 she played a 15-year old who seduces a friend of her father's in *Baby*. After that she appeared in Hans-Christian Schmid's *Lichter* as the young cigarette smuggler Katharina. The film received the *Deutscher Filmpreis* in silver in 2003. 2008 Alice was honored for two roles in *Die Tränen meiner Mutter* and *Höhere Gewalt* as best supporting actress at the Filmfestival Max-Ophüls-Award in Saarbrücken/Germany.

Filmography (selection):

2014 GLÜCKSKIND (d. Michael Verhoeven)

2013 HEUTE BIN ICH BLOND (d: Marc Rothemund)

2013 IM ALLEINGANG ELEMENTE DES ZWEIFELS (d. Jan Ruzicka)

2012 3 ZIMMER/KÜCHE/BAD (d: Dietrich Brüggemann)

2012 HERBSTKIND (d: Petra K. Wagner)

2011 DIE VERLORENE ZEIT (d: Anna Justice)

Awards and Nominations:

2008	Filmfestival Max-Ophüls Award , Best Young actress' for
	Die Tränen meiner Mutter and Höhere Gewalt
2006	Nomination for the "Förderpreis Deutscher Film" at the Film

Festival Munich for *Was ich von ihr weiß* (Best young actress)

SABIN TAMBREA as Yann

Sabin Tambrea was born in Romania in 1984. From 2005 to 2009 he studied at the *Hochschule für Schauspielkunst Ernst Busch* in Berlin. Since 2009 he is a member of the *Berliner Ensemble* and participated in various theatre productions, also by Claus Peymann and Robert Wilson. 2012 Sabin Tambrea appeared as leading role in LUDWIG II. by Marie Noelle and Peter Sehr, for which he won several awards.

Filmography (selection):

2013 TATORT *MACHTLOS* (d: Klaus Krämer)

2012 DAS GROSSE HEFT (d: János Szász)

2012 LUDWIG II. (d: Marie Noelle/Peter Sehr)

2012 FLIEHKRAFT, short (d: Benjamin Teske)

2010 Die Unsichtbare (d. Christian Schwochow)

Awards and Nominations:

2013 Nomination *Deutscher Filmpreis* for LUDWIG II. (Best leading role)

2013 new faces award film as Best young actor for LUDWIG II.

2013 Bayerischer Filmpreis as Best young actor for LUDWIG II.

GERTI DRASSL as Marie

Gerti Drassl was born in Bolzano, Italy/South Tyrol, in 1978. She studied history of art in Vienna. 1998 she entered the prestigious *Max-Reinhardt-Seminar*. 2002 she completed the theatrical education and since then she belongs to the ensemble of the *Theater in der Josefstadt* in Vienna. Furthermore she regularly appears at several other stages for German-language productions as well as in various cinema and TV productions. 2013 Gerti Drassl won the German Actors Award in the category "Best Actress in a Supporting Role" for *Das Wunder von Kärnten* and *Spuren des Bösen*.

Filmography (selection):

2013 ZWEISITZRAKETE (d: Hans Hofer)

2011 DAS WUNDER VON KÄRNTEN (d: Andreas Prochaska)

2010 KOTTAN ERMITTELT: RIEN NE VA PLUS (d: Peter Patzak)

2009 GELIEBTER JOHANN GELIEBTE ANNA (d: Julian Pölsler)

2009 SCHOTTENTOR (d: Caspar Pfaundler)

Awards and Nominations (selection):

2013 German Actors Award in the category "Best Actress in a Supporting Role" for *Das Wunder von Kärnten* and *Spuren des Bösen*

2011 ORF Hörspielpreis in the category "Actor/Actress of the Year"

2006 Golden Romy in the category "Most popular female shootingstar"

OLIVER ROSSKOPF as Goran

Oliver Rosskopf was born in Prottes, Lower Austria, in 1981 and completed his education as an actor at the *Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst* in Graz. He is member of the *Landestheater Niederösterreich* ensemble. So far he worked at the *Schauspielhaus Graz*, the *Stadttheater Klagenfurt*, "die theater" in Vienna and at the *Sommerspiele Rosenburg*. Furthermore he regularly appears at several other stages for German-language productions as well as in various cinema and TV productions.

Filmography (selection):

2013 DIE ROSENHEIM-COPS (R: Gunter Krää)

2012 DIE WERKSTÜRMER (R: Andreas Schmied)

2011 STILLLEBEN (R: Sebastian Meise)

2010 KING KONGS TRÄNEN (R: Peter Kern)

2009 SCHOTTENTOR (R: Caspar Pfaundler)

ANDRINA MRAčNIKAR – screenplay & direction

Andrina Mračnikar was born in Hallein in 1981 and grew up in Carinthia and Slovenia. She studied history of art in Vienna and film directing at the AGRFT in Ljubljana. Since 2002 she studied "film directing" and "script writing" at the *Filmakademie Wien*. Her teachers were Michael Haneke and Walter Wippersberg. 2010 Andrina Mračnikar earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with distinction for both studies. After she received a number of awards for her documentaries, MA FOLIE is Andrina Mračnikar's first feature film.

Filmography and achievements:

- 2010 Master-Study in film directing at the Master Class of Michael Haneke, Filmacademy Vienna.
- 2010 Bachelor of Arts in film directing and scriptwriting.
- 2009 DIE WAND IST ABGERISSEN, short feature, 24min.
- 2008 Zürich Master Class with Constantin Costa-Gavras, Ken Loach, Andreas Dresen, a.o.
- 2007 KRANKHEIT DER JUGEND, feature (episode)
- 2006 directing and method-acting workshop with Susan Batson
- 2006 DER KÄRNTNER SPRICHT DEUTSCH, doc, 60min
- 2005 Carl Mayer Sript Award for MA FOLIE
- 2004 study of film directing and scriptwriting, Filmacademy Vienna.
- 2002 ANDRI 1924-1944, doc, 20min, 'Best Documentary', Diagonale Graz.

Awards and Nominations (selection):

- 2010 Start-Stipendium (special scholarship for young successful artists) by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture.
- 2007 Audience Award and Diagonale Youth jury award for "Best film by an up-and-coming director" for "Der Kärntner spricht Deutsch"
- 2005 Carl-Mayer-script award for the treatment of MA FOLIE.
- 2003 Award for the "Best documentary" (Golden Bobby) at the International Student Filmfestival of the Filmacademy Vienna for *Andri 1924-1944*.
- 2003 Award of the Diözese Graz/Seckau for the "Best documentary or short feature film" for *Andri 1924-1944*.
- 2002 Literature prize of Carinthia (*Villacher Literaturpreis*) for the text *Alen oder Nichts* (published in the anthology *Hysterisch funktionieren*, Aarachne Verlag, Vienna 2002).
- 1998 Golden Bear for the "Best youth film", Innovation Award and Audience Award at the International short film festival in Ebensee for Večernica/Gute-Nacht-Geschichte.
- 1997 Golden Bear for "Best youth film" for Bo bilo / Es wird gewesen sein.

LUKAS STEPANIK – producer

Lukas Stepanik was born in Vienna in 1950. He studied "directing", "script writing" und "production" at the *Filmakademie Wien*. In 1980 he co-founded the production company Extrafilm. Lukas Stepanik works as producer, script writer and director and has made several films for cinema and television. Furthermore he has been a professor for directing at the Filmakademie Wien for more than 25 years.

Filmography as director und producer (selection):

2012 SEE YOU SOON AGAIN (with Bernadette Wegenstein)

2003 GEBÜRTIG (with Robert Schindel)

1988 UNTER FREUNDEN (Among Friends)

1984 ...beschloss ich Politiker zu werden

1983 KIESELSTEINE (Pebbles)

1980 Auf der Strecke

1977 Schiessen

Filmography as producer (selection):

2008 MOZART IN CHINA

2006 THE END OF THE NEUBACHER PROJECT

2003 SUMMER WITH THE GHOSTS

2001 ATLANTIC DRIFT

1998 THE PORT OF LAST RESORT

1995 LISA AND THE SABRE-TOOTHED TIGER

1990 HOLIDAYS WITH SILVESTER

Awards and Nominations (selection):

- 2003 Nomination for GEBÜRTIG as Austrian candidate for the foreign language Oscar©
- 1988 "Prix jeunes cinema Européen" Filmfestival Nice for UNTER FREUNDEN (Among Friends)
- 1987 Erich-Neuberg-Award for ... beschloss ich Politiker zu werden
- 1980 Prix Futura Berlin for Auf der Strecke
- 1976 Prix Henri Langlois at the Filmfestival Tours for 101 Stunden Der Trommler

SYNOPSIS

HANNA (29) falls in love with the charismatic YANN (30) in Paris. Back in Vienna, she is surprisingly picked up at the airport by her ex-boyfriend, GO-RAN, who is disappointed about hearing the news. They break up in a tense atmosphere. Yet they cannot avoid each other, since Goran works at the same children's shelter as Hanna – and continues to have active contact with Hanna's girlfriend and neighbor, MARIE. Meanwhile, Hanna receives lettres filmées, short, poetic-essayistic films recorded with an iPhone and posted on the Internet, from Yann. Hanna wishes for Yann to come to Vienna. Yann comes and, after a brief, beautiful time, decides to stay. The first tensions begin when Hanna goes for a drink after work with Goran and arrives late at home, where Yann is waiting for her with a surprise meal.

The next quarrel soon begins, and ends up in a mean row this time. Yann's jealousy towards Goran is expressed in an aggressive mistrust. Hanna finishes the argument by leaving the apartment. When she returns, Yann is gone and has taken all his belongings. He remains unreachable. Shortly afterwards he sends the second apartment key back to her. Hanna imagines that he has gone back to Paris – until she believes to have spotted him one evening at a Vienna club. She continues to receive lettres filmées from him: no more declarations of love, but rather the gloomy, eerie and threatening commentaries of a jilted lover. Hanna's disappointment turns into fear. She feels stalked and threatened by Yann – and deceived by Goran and Marie.

Hanna finally confronts Yann and demands to have a meeting with him. It indeed comes to a strange, sad reencounter in which Yann shows genuine remorse and Hanna appears coolly conciliatory. After Hanna says goodbye and walks along the Danube Channel towards home, Yann comes running after her. Following a short, tender moment, Yann begins to harass Hanna. She throws him off her and he falls into the cold waters of the Danube. Hanna sees Yann swimming towards a set of stairs and simply runs away, shocked and angry. On the next day Hanna sees a group of divers at the accident site. However, her search for a corresponding accident report in the media remains unsuccessful.

Since Yann no longer responds to her calls, her fear grows – and she turns to the police without telling them about her meeting with Yann. Her worries about Yann are not taken seriously by the police until he is reported as missing by his hotel. As it becomes apparent that Hanna has only told half the truth, and the police have found the lettres filmées on Yann's laptop, she becomes a suspect.

Yan remains missing. But Hanna feels stalked by him. Such as when Sarema, a tender, shy and very fragile Chechen girl who Hanna is especially trying to help in the children's shelter, comes in with a stuffed dog that she appears to have received from Yann. Or when Hanna believes to have heard a melody Yann composed for her on the street.

One evening Yann suddenly shows up at Hanna's apartment. Hanna's relief that he is still alive leads to a passionate act of reconciliation. They make love to each other.

When Hanna awakens, Yann has vanished again. Since Yann's jacket has meanwhile been fished out of the Danube, the police do not believe Hanna when she tells them that Yann has turned up at her apartment. Hanna eventually begins to doubt whom or what she should still believe. Her self-doubt is intensified by Marie, who has apparently been lying to her the whole time about Goran, and who seems to be keeping something secret from her.

When Hanna hears footsteps behind her while she is walking home one evening, she stops, terrified, and waits for the footsteps to come closer – however, it is a stranger who passes by Hanna.

Hanna is meanwhile being filmed with an iPhone: again one sees this stranger passing by and then Hanna alone walking along the empty street till she disappears from the scene, out of the iPhones sight.