

German Department Film Series

German 599

Fall 2013

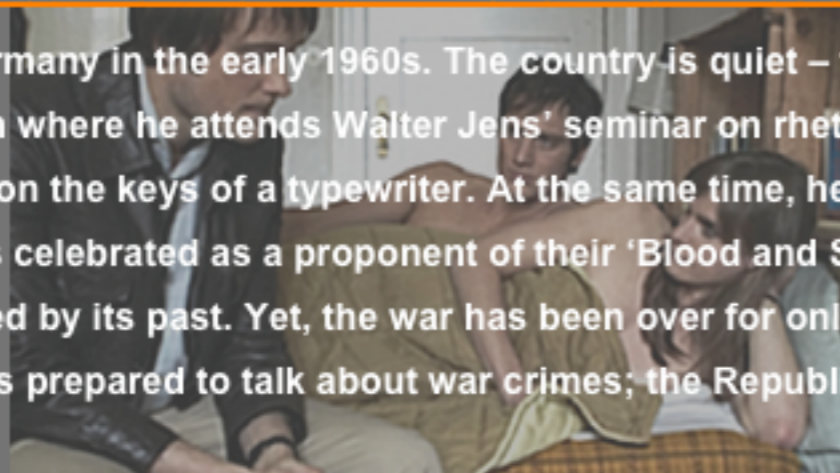
7:30, ILC 150

Admission is Free

ALL FILMS IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

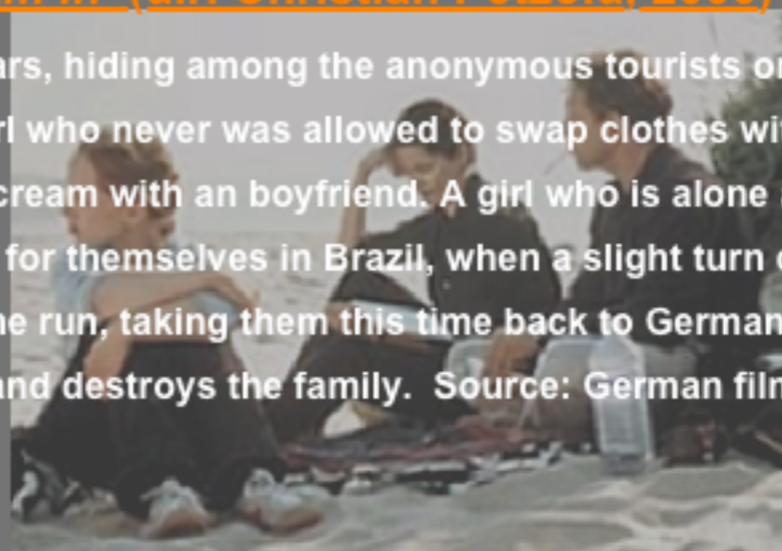
September 26: *Wer Wenn Nicht Wir / If Not Us, Who* (dir. Andreas Veiel, 2011)

West Germany in the early 1960s. The country is quiet – for the time being. Bernward Vesper takes up his studies in Tübingen where he attends Walter Jens' seminar on rhetoric. Bernward wants to be a writer and spends his nights banging on the keys of a typewriter. At the same time, he feels compelled to defend his father, the poet Will Vesper who the Nazis celebrated as a proponent of their 'Blood and Soil' ideology. The country, in which Bernward lives, is being suffocated by its past. Yet, the war has been over for only fifteen years, old Nazis are back in positions of power, and nobody is prepared to talk about war crimes; the Republic is standing to attention. 126 minutes.



October 10: *Die Innere Sicherheit/ The State I Am In* (dir. Christian Petzold, 2000)

The parents have been living underground for the past 15 years, hiding among the anonymous tourists on the beaches of Portugal. They broke a taboo and conceived a daughter. A girl who never was allowed to swap clothes with friends, skip school, camp out at lakes, get drunk and head out to get ice-cream with an boyfriend. A girl who is alone and isolated. Her parents are just about to establish some sort of legal identity for themselves in Brazil, when a slight turn causes everything to fall apart around them. And again they are on the run, taking them this time back to Germany. Meanwhile, their daughter has fallen in love. A love that ends in tragedy and destroys the family. Source: German films Service & Marketing GmbH. 106 minutes



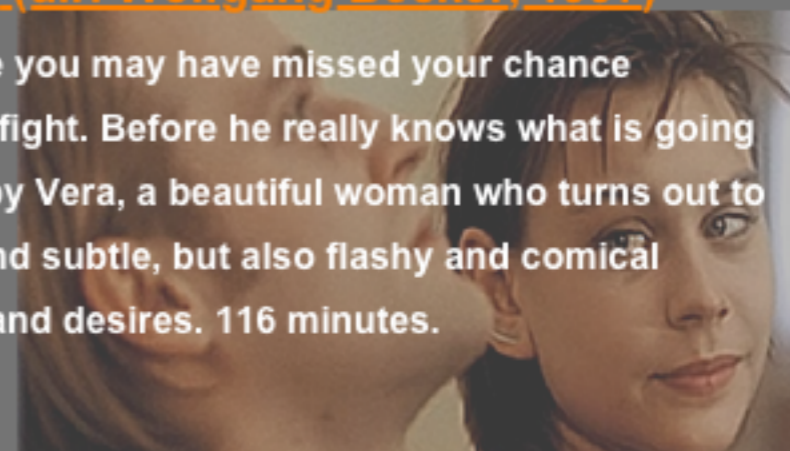
October 24: *Das Lied in mir / The Day I Was Not Born* (dir. Florian Cosse, 2010)

In Buenos Aires, 31-year-old Maria runs up against a long-kept family secret whose origins go back to the time of the Argentinean military dictatorship. During a stopover on her way to Chile, Maria recognizes a nursery rhyme in Buenos Aires. Even though Maria does not speak a word of Spanish, she begins to sing remembering the Spanish lyrics. Disturbed and thrown off course, she breaks off her journey and wanders through the unfamiliar city. 94 minutes



November 7: *Das Leben ist eine Baustelle / Life Is All You Get* (dir. Wolfgang Becker, 1997)

In a huge city like Berlin you literally have to bump into your "big love" - or else you may have missed your chance forever. On his way to work at the slaughterhouse, Jan Nebel gets into a street fight. Before he really knows what is going on, he beats up two plainclothes police investigators and finds himself joined by Vera, a beautiful woman who turns out to be his dream girl. But their fortune is fragile. *Life Is All You Get* is a sensitive and subtle, but also flashy and comical approach to people's lives in a changing city, focusing on their dreams, fears, and desires. 116 minutes.



November 21: *Almanya* (dir. Yasemin Samdereli, 2011)

On September 10, 1964, Germany welcomed its one-millionth "guest worker." Spanning a period of no less than forty-five years, this film tells the story of the one-million-and-one guest worker– a man named Hüseyin Yilmaz and his family. When his grandson asks, "Who or what am I – German or Turk?" when neither his Turkish nor his German schoolmates pick him for their respective football teams. In an attempt to comfort Genk, his 22-year-old cousin Canan tells him the story of their grandfather Hüseyin, who came to Germany at the end of the sixties as a "guest worker" and who later brought his wife and children to "Almanya." Source: 61. Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin (Catalogue) 95 minutes



For information, please contact the Department of German Studies 621-7385