

BYE BYE DEUTSCHLAND! EINE LEBENSMELODIE

Germany, Brazil 20' 2017

Directed by Bárbara Wagner and Benjamin de Burca



Steffi Teumner and Markus Sparfeldt perform a duet of 'Ich will ich kann' (I can I will) by Udo Jürgens at the WDR TV Studio in Münster, Germany. 'Bye Bye Deutschland! Eine Lebensmelodie' (still), Bárbara Wagner & Benjamin de Burca, 2K video installation, colour, sound, 20 min. Work commissioned by Skulptur Projekte Münster, 2017. Courtesy the artists and Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Synopsis:

'Bye bye Deutschland! Eine Lebensmelodie' follows the life of a couple of singers from Münster who became known for covering the most prominent voices of distinct eras of Schlager music. While Markus got recognition through youtube tributes to Udo Jürgens (known for introducing French Chanson in 1970's Schlager) Steffi often performs the repertoire of Helene Fischer, a contemporary Schlager icon who opened the genre to a Global Pop standard. Combining the conventions of direct Cinema and

Musical, the film approaches the rebirth of an industry that, in the public image, is often associated to a collective day-dreaming of foreign lands, simple texts with nationalist imaginary or heavy duty sentimentalism. Schlager as a music genre is as hard to define as it is unproductive to simplify the contexts in which it has been produced over the last 50 years. Today it divides opinions and touches both those who love it and those who don't.



Steffi Teumner performs 'Mitten in Paradies' (In the middle of paradise) by Helene Fischer at the Botanical Gardens in Münster, Germany. 'Bye Bye Deutschland! Eine Lebensmelodie' (still), Bárbara Wagner & Benjamin de Burca, 2K video installation, colour, sound, 20 min. Work commissioned by Skulptur Projekte Münster, 2017. Courtesy the artists and Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

About the film:

'Bye Bye Deutschland, Eine Lebensmelodie' moves from daily routine to fantasy as it echoes the experience of Schlager music through the lives of Markus Sparfeldt, head of a monthly paper who had a late discovery of his singing voice while covering Udo Jürgens and Steffi Teumner, a classically trained singer who follows the example of Helene Fischer. Set in notable public locations of Münster such as the City Theatre, the Botanical Gardens, the St. Clement's Church, the

Preussen Stadium and the WDR TV studio, the film addresses the city a scenographic replica of its pre-war condition. In the installation, Markus and Steffi perform their story in two different ways: while one brings the viewer into their life through a more direct observation, the second recreates their dreams in a more constructed and cinematic musical form. Both treatments enhance the complex dynamics of self-representation while connecting old and new aesthetics of Schlager music industry.



Markus Sparfeldt performs 'Ich weiss was ich will' (I know what I want) by Udo Jürgens at the City Theatre in Münster, Germany. 'Bye Bye Deutschland! Eine Lebensmelodie' (still), Bárbara Wagner & Benjamin de Burca, 2K video installation, colour, sound, 20 min. Work commissioned by Skulptur Projekte Münster, 2017. Courtesy the artists and Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Crew and cast:

With Markus Sparfeldt & Steffi Teumner / Cinematographer: Pedro Sotero / Editor: Eric Ménard / Executive Producer: Michel Balagué / Sound: Gábor Rippl / Music Producer: Jochen Hohmann / Piano: Jürgen Bleibel

Directors' biography:

Bárbara Wagner (1980, Brasília, Brazil) and Benjamin de Burca (1975, Munich, Germany) are interested in the space documentary and art both share.

Working in collaboration since 2011, Wagner and de Burca participated in the 33rd Panorama de Arte Brasileira (São Paulo), 36th EVA International (Limerick) and 32nd São Paulo Biennial. They live and work in Recife, Brazil.

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