

PRESSKIT

Ludwig
TREPTE

Saskia
ROSENDAHL

Jella
HAASE

Amelie
KIEFER

Ben
MÜNCHOW

Dennis
MOJEN

Frederik
GÖTZ



Nowhere

A film by MATTHIAS STARTE



PICTURE TREE INTERNATIONAL
www.picturetree-international.de

A FILM VON MATTHIAS STARTE. PRODUZENTEN: PICTURE TREE INTERNATIONAL / FRANK PRODUCTIONS. WIRTSCHAFTSPARTNER: SKY DEUTSCHLAND / WIT FILMPRODUKTION / CINE CANNOTA / VIDEO BEWERTUNG SERVICE. VERLEIH: GUTENFILM UND FFA. "NOWHERE" MIT LUDWIG TREPTE / SASKIA ROSENDAHL / JELLA HAASE / AMELIE KIEFER / BEN MÜNCHOW / DENNIS MOJEN / FREDERIK GÖTZ. MUSIK VON CLEMENS GRÜNDL. DANK AN ANDRÁS HINTSCHNEIDER, GURSTEN LAGER, RENÉ LOOS / ELENA SCHMIDT. DANK AN PETER KANTZER UND AN FRANKICA ENGLHART. DANK AN DEN WELFA SCAPITOLA PRODUCTIONS UND AN MARCEL VON REYDENBERG. ALLES CANNOTA WIPOLICE. DANK AN HANNAH / THOMAS SCHILLER, ANJA SCHNEIDER, DANIELA FRIEDER, KATHARINE HUBER, WERNER TIGEL. CO-PRODUZENTEN: MARCO ANTONI / MARKUS FINKER / JANICK BÖCK / URS SCHNEIDER / SASKIA FRIEDLAND. HAUPTROLLE: MARINA FRIEDL. PRODUZENTEN: JANA GALLUSCH / TOBIAS NEHMANN UND MATTHIAS STARTE / TOBIAS NEHMANN / ANJA GALLUSCH / JULIAN WIT. WITZELN: LUDWIG TREPTE. VERLEIH: MATTHIAS STARTE.



Nowhere

directed by
Matthias Starte

Fact Sheet
Filmography / Biography: Director Matthias Starte
Director's Statement
Producer's Statement

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FACT SHEET

SHORT SYNOPSIS

A stranger in his own life, 25 year old Danny reluctantly returns to his childhood home after his father's sudden passing. To his surprise, he slowly rediscovers his hometown in the middle of nowhere as a summery paradise and falls back in love with his former sweetheart Susu. But in order to find his purpose in life, Danny has to finally face the part of his past that made him leave home so many years ago.

Director and screenwriter Matthias Starte takes audiences into the souls of his characters by means of atmospherically dense, picturesque images and an outstanding ensemble of actors, which includes Ludwig Trepte (GENERATION WAR), Saskia Rosendahl (LORE), Amelie Kiefer (THE WAVE), Dennis Mojen (MORGEN HÖR ICH AUF), Ben Münchow (BOY 7), Frederik Götz (HUNDERTMAL FRÜHLING) and Jella Haase (FACK JU GÖTHE). Starte brings us a story from the much-analysed "Generation Y" – an age group for whom 26 is the new 16. This is a generation that merely goes with the flow and asks itself time and again: When is that 'future' everyone talks about actually going to get here? Starte approaches the issue in his own unique way and finds an answer that most likely applies to all generations: The best time is always now!

ORIGINAL TITLE	Nirgendwo
GENRE	Drama (Coming of Age)
LENGTH	105 min
NATIONALITY	Germany
LANGUAGE	German
PRODUCTION COMPANY	Pictures in a Frame GmbH
CO-PRODUCERS	Sky Television Germany, CineChromatix KG, MK Film, Kato Film, ServusTV
FILM FUNDING	FilmFernsehFonds Bayern (Bavaria, Germany)
GERMAN DISTRIBUTION	polyband Medien GmbH

WORLD SALES

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KEY CAST

DANNY	Ludwig Trepte („Generation War“, „Germany '83“) <i>Emmy Award (2014), German Film Award – Best Ensemble (2014) for "Generation War"</i> <i>Adolf-Grimme-Preis for "Herr Grothe" (2008), and "Ihr könnt Euch niemals sicher Sein" (2009)</i> <i>Golden Camera Award – Best up-and-coming Actor</i>
SUSU	Saskia Rosendahl („Lore“) <i>Shooting Star Germany, European Film Promotion 2013</i> <i>Best Young Actress - Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts 2013</i>
MISCHA	Jella Haase („Fack Ju Goethe 1 & 2“, „Four Kings“) <i>Shooting Star Germany, European Film Promotion 2016</i> <i>Bavarian Film Award – Best Newcomer Actress 2012 („Kriegerin“)</i>
TOM	Ben Münchow („Boy 7“, „Rockabilly Requiem“) <i>Best Young Actor (Max Ophüls Preis) – "Rockabilly Requiem"</i>
ROB	Dennis Mojen („Tatort – Heaven is a place on earth“) <i>BUNTE New Faces Award 2015</i>
KIRSTEN	Amelie Kiefer („3 Room/Kitchen/Bath“) <i>Günther-Strack-Fernsehpreis 2009 – Best Young Actor</i>
FRESI	Frederik Götz („Spring with suitcase“)



MATTHIAS STARTE

Director

Matthias Starke studied film directing in Munich and directed numerous shorts, music videos and commercials - including his award-winning graduation short BEYOND THE LINE, which premiered at the Munich International Film Festival 2011 and was shown on many international Film Festivals. NOWHERE is Matthias' debut as a feature film director.

FILMOGRAPHY

NOWHERE

Feature | 2016 | 105 Min.

JENSEITS DER LINIE

Short | 2010 | 20 Min.

BEDROOM DANCING

Short | 2008 | 15 Min.

SOUVENIR

Short | 2007 | 10 Min.

LOS HERMANOS

Short | 2005 | 20 Min.

DIRECTORS NOTE

“If you only have this one life – what would you do with the rest of your time?”

This is not just a poetic way to open “NOWHERE” – it’s also a very significant question that more and more young people find themselves confronted with, often way too early in young life.

I was lucky. I was one of the few who found the answer to this question straight away and wanted to try and be a filmmaker right after graduating from secondary school. It was my family, my friends and other people I met along the way who inspired me to make my first feature film revolve around this question by telling me about their struggle to find their very own way.

“NOWHERE” is a generational portrayal in the times of meritocracy, in the achievement-oriented society that we have become. We are taught to be efficient. We are supposed to find our place in life, to find our happiness quickly – because no one knows how much time he has left. So go ahead; just decide *how* you want to be happy! Easy! Or is it?

Your entire life is a chain of impossible decisions. It starts right after school. Who do you want to be - and what happens if you decide wrong? Can you go back without casualties? Or will you be stuck for the rest of life? Or do we even need those *wrong decisions* to add up to the necessary experience you need to finally *conquer* a happy life? Is there even a chance to figure it all out without taking at least one wrong turn on the way to rest of your life?

And once you think you finally have grown up and are set in your new life - things will become complicated again. You will find yourself caught up in egoism, in your desire of freedom, in the expectations of others, in the compromise of having a relationship and working for your own personal goals. The truth is: your personal freedom and self-determination will always affect the lives of the others; your friends, family, loved ones... and their dreams as well.

“NOWHERE” is supposed to be a film that encourages people to make their own decisions, to be confident enough to live their own life. To be different from what everybody wants or expects them to be. Even if there is the possibility they might end up hurting the people they love and care about.

The world that my generation grew up in is much louder and faster than the world my parents grew up in. And I like to believe that our modern love of popular “retro trends” is a way of recreating the functionality and consistency of the well-trying things in the *good old days* – whether it is clothes, skateboards, music or even having your Instagram pictures filtered in a way that makes them appear like they were shot 30 years ago. The look & feel of “NOWHERE”, is supposed to underline this very conflicting wish to be modern and grown up, but to still have a feeling that reminds you of your sheltered childhood.

Maybe, this whole film is an example of this wish. In my youth, me and my friends re-watched films like “Kids”, “The Breakfast Club” or “Dead Poets Society” over and over again. It was their depiction of life, their depiction of growing up, that made me feel like these films really speak my mind. That is what I tried to do with “NOWHERE”. To make a whole generation find comfort in the fact, that they are not the first ones to struggle through whatever they struggle through – we all did.

And again, I was lucky: our entire cast – consisting of some of the most talented up-and-coming actors in the country – felt the same way I did. Not a single one of them hesitated to make use of their very own personal experiences and the feelings deep down in their heart in order to bring their characters to *real* life.

“NOWHERE” is supposed to be a realistically poetic and a poetically realistic film – confronting you with romantic and nostalgic feelings that remind you of a naive and confusing time in your life that ultimately made you the human being you are today.

PRODUCER’S STATEMENT

By Producers Tobias Herrmann & Jan Gallasch

The journey to „NOWHERE“ began in the spring of 2011, when writer/director Matthias Starte and the two producers of Pictures in a Frame, Jan Gallasch and Tobias Herrmann, sat down in the cafeteria of their former filmschool and talked about making a coming of age film about their very own perspective on their generation – not knowing, that five years later, this idea would have become a passion project that would not only drive themselves, but an entire film crew.

THE CAST: A WHO IS WHO AMONG GERMAN UP-AND-COMING TALENTS

The powerful script and Matthias’ atmospherical and melancholic way of writing seemed to capture the contemporary zeitgeist and attracted some of the most popular, up-and-coming and award-winning German talents, allowing them to share the screen together for the first time: *Ludwig Trepte*, internationally acclaimed and widely known for the German drama series “Generation War” and “Deutschland ‘83”, has been cast in the lead role of “Danny” over two years before shooting finally started. *Jella Haase* (“Mischa”) is not only what one would call a bonafide film star in Germany (due to her starring role of *Chantal* in “Suck me Shakespeare Part 1&2”, two of highest grossing German films in history) and played one of the leads in “Vier Könige” which was awarded three German Film Awards in 2016 – she was also chosen as one of the European Film Promotion’s

Shooting Stars at the Berlin International Filmfestival 2016. Just like Saskia Rosendahl (“Susu”) was in 2012, when her lead performance in “Lore” made the film the official Australian contribution to the academy awards shortlist. Together with Amelie Kiefer, Dennis Mojen, Ben Münchow und Frederik Götz - all award-winning acting talents in their own right - “NOWHERE” features one of the best ensemble casts a German coming of age film could ever hope for.

UNUSUAL PRODUCTIONS CALL FOR UNUSUAL PARTNERS

“NOWHERE” is not only unique in regards to its creative talent, but also in regards to its’ highly unusual co-production and distribution partners: It is actually the first real theatrical co-production of pay TV distributor Sky Television Germany, the German affiliate of News Corps “Sky”. Although the creative collaboration and freedom afforded by sky was a dream come true for every filmmaker who up to this point had only worked with German public broadcasters – the usual order of how online distribution rights are divided up between free TV providers, pay TV providers and the theatrical distributor of a German film had to be rewritten. Therefore, “NOWHERE” may have been a “milestone” of Sky Germanys entrance into the production of fictional content and the German film market.

A LOW BUDGET PRODUCTION WITH HIGH QUALITY STANDARDS

Despite its all star cast and its strong co-production and distribution “NOWHERE” was still a feature debut and an arthouse film, and had to be made with an overall budget of about 540.000 €. But in comparison to many other typical German feature film debuts, we always considered this as a very *privileged* budget, allowing us to keep up with a certain international theatrical film production standard. But it is important to state that this film was only made possible because all members of the cast and crew members were so invested in the story they were telling, that everyone involved made sure to make “NOWHERE” the best possible version of itself. We as producers consider it an absolute privilege to work with such talented and loyal people and a very proud of what they were able to create with us.

PICTURE TREE INTERNATIONAL GMBH COMPANY PROFILE

Picture Tree International GmbH is a world sales & production company founded 2012 by Andreas Rothbauer with headquarters in Berlin. The core business of the company is the worldwide licensing of film rights across all genres and media as well as the coproduction of international feature films and domestic German distribution in an integrated business model.