ALL ABOUT ME

based on a true story Box Office Hit Nr.1 in Germany

A Film by
Academy Award® Winner
CAROLINE LINK
PROJECT SUMMARY

Genre: Comedy, Biopic, Drama
Running time: 100 min
Release year: 2018/2019
Directed by: Caroline Link
Original title: Der Junge muss an die frische Luft
Nationality: Germany

ALL ABOUT ME

Based on HAPE KERKELING's bestseller
HIGHLIGHTS

• **By Academy Award Winning Director Caroline Link:** "Nowhere in Africa" - Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, "Beyond Silence" – Nominated for Best Foreign Language Film
• **Germany's Box Office No.1,** with more than 3.5 million admissions - 30 million Euros Box Office.
• Nominated in 5 categories at the German Academy Awards (Lola): "Best Feature Film", "Best Director “ for Caroline Link, "Best Screenplay" for Ruth Toma, "Best Supporting Actress” for Luis Heyer and “Best Cinematography” for Judith Kaufmann. And awarded as the most visited movie at the Lola.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Ruhr Valley, Germany, 1972. Hans-Peter is a pudgy nine year-old growing up in the security of his family and fun-loving relatives. At first sight he might not be the most popular guy, but he has a talent for making others laugh, which he refines on a daily basis in his grandmother’s corner shop. However, dark shadows soon loom over the boy’s everyday life as his once cheerful mum becomes more and more depressed after an operation. Hans-Peter’s sad and hardworking father leaves him mostly in the care of his two grandmas, both of whom have big hearts and strong personalities. Their love and care make it possible for Hans-Peter to survive the ensuing emotional turmoil and use his comedic talents to heal his own wounds while also making people laugh along with him.
ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Caroline Link's career as a director began with immediate success both at the national and international level when her first feature film JENSEITS DER STILLE (BEYOND SILENCE, 1996) was nominated for an Academy Award® as Best Foreign Language Film in 1997. After completing her second feature film, PUNKTCHEN UND ANTON (1999), a children's movie based on the Erich Kästner novel of the same name, Caroline Link directed NIRGENDWO IN AFRIKA (NOWHERE IN AFRICA, 2001), which won the Academy Award® for Best Foreign Language Film in 2003. In 2013, she directed EXIT MARRAKECH, which premiered as a Special Presentation at the Toronto IFF and won the Gryphon Award for Best Film at the Giffoni IFF. ALL ABOUT ME! (DER JUNGE MUSS AN DIE FRISCHE LUFT, 2018) is Caroline Link’s latest feature film as a director.
**ACTORS**

**JULIUS WECKAUF**
Julius was only nine years old when filming began. He comes from a small town on the Lower Rhine. Julius had no prior on-camera experience. He sent in a video of himself and won out over thousands of candidates thanks to his ready wit and charm. He enjoyed his on-set experience with the film crew so much that he’s already eager to take on more roles.

**LUISE HEYER**
Luise Heyer was born in 1985 in Berlin. She studied at the Academy of Music and Theater in Rostock and received her degree in 2010. Since then, she has appeared at the Schauspielhaus Dortmund, for example in Ibsen’s Ghosts and also in Macbeth, Blood Wedding, Miss Sara Sampson and Three Penny Opera. She was named Best Actress there in the 2012 season.

Her film roles include Flucht, Das schönste Paar, Einmal bitte alles, Die Reste meines Lebens, Fado, Rosa von Praunheim’s Härte, Auf einmal, Jack (in competition at the Berlinale 2014), Ein Geschenk der Götter (German Acting Award for Best Ensemble), Willkommen bei Habib and Westwind.

Her TV roles include roles in the Netflix series Dark, Atempause, Gift, Detour, Die Glasbläserin, the US series Homeland, Der Fall Barschel, Helmut Schmidt – Lebensfragen and Frauen, die Geschichte machten (as Queen Luise of Prussia).
SÖNKE MÖHRING

Sönke Möhring (b. 1972) gained praise and recognition on the small and big screens for many roles, including his recurring cooperation with director Mark Schlichter: Cowgirl, Rottmann schlägt zurück, Freundschaften und andere Neurosen, Blindes Vertrauen, Heiratsschwindlerin mit Liebeskummer.

His film roles include Montrak, Plötzlich Türke, The Impossible, Kokowääh, Zweiohrküken, Inglourious Basterds, This Is Love, Phantomschmerz, Video Kings and Goldene Zeiten. His latest film is the international production The Blue Mauritius starring Gérard Depardieu.

His TV roles include Dominik Graf’s Hanne, Volltreffer, Einstein, Sturköpfe, Klare Sicht, Heimat ist kein Ort, Große Fische, kleine Fische, the lead role of Koslowski in the series Koslowski & Haferkamp, Heiter bis tödlich – Akte Ex, The Missionary, Helmut Schmidt – Lebensfragen, Ich bin Boes, Bissige Hunde, Alles Klara, Die letzte Fahrt, Hindenburg, Pretty Mama, the series Maddin in Love, Allein unter Bauern, Adel verpflichtet, Sturmflut and Müde Krieger.
LONG SYNOPSIS

Ruhr Valley, Germany, 1970s. Young Hans-Peter is living with his parents, Margret and Heinz, and his brother, Matthes, in the countryside home of his grandparents, Bertha and Hermann. He is a curious boy who loves to watch the customers at his Grandma Änne’s grocery store and enjoys his extended family’s frequent gatherings and celebrations. Hans-Peter is slightly chubby and thus teased by his classmates at school. This prompts him to start using his appearance for comical effect at an early age: he begins entertaining his aunts and uncles with spot-on parodies of customers, pop singers and TV personalities. He manages to make everyone laugh and soon dreams of emulating his TV idols.

After moving into the home of his other grandparents, Änne and Willi, in the town of Recklinghausen, Hans-Peter continues his happy childhood in a more urban milieu. His mother playfully chases him through the backyard, he learns to ride a horse, and he becomes friends with his classmate Sabine. During Carnival season, Hans-Peter insists on dressing up as a princess; his Aunt Gertrud is obliged to create a tailor-made costume for the occasion, seeing as it is impossible to find a pre-made costume in his size. At the subsequent family gathering, Aunt Annemarie does an impressive version of a song by Zarah Leander, which leaves a lasting impression on the boy.

Hans-Peter’s father works as a carpenter and is often absent, leaving his mother, a loving yet nervous women named Margret, to take care of the home with her two sons. Due to chronic sinusitis, Hans-Peter’s mother soon has to undergo surgery. The operation has consequences: she loses her sense of smell and taste, which then combine with everyday stress to drive her increasingly into depression.
When Hans-Peter’s mother gets mad at him for causing one problem or another, he flees into the arms of his good-natured grandparents. And, just before she dies, Grandma Änne even prophesizes a great future for him, stating that he is going to become famous. When his mother’s condition worsens, Hans-Peter’s relatives start getting more involved in his life. His father Heinz soon becomes distraught when his wife categorically refuses any psychological help. Hans-Peter occasionally succeeds in lightening his mother’s mood with comical interludes and schmaltzy pop songs.

After a two-week vacation with Grandpa Willi near Salzburg, Hans-Peter returns and notices that his mother is still not doing well. One night, she lets him stay up late and watch TV alone, while she goes to bed early. Later that night, Hans-Peter lies down next to his sleeping mother and is irritated and alarmed throughout the night by her unusual breathing noises. In the early morning, when his father comes home from work, it becomes clear that Hans-Peter’s mother has attempted suicide by ingesting sleeping pills. She is taken to the hospital and does not return.

For Hans-Peter, his mother’s funeral becomes an unbearable emotional test. Grandma Bertha and Grandpa Hermann agree to move into Heinz’s home in Recklinghausen to take care of his two young boys.

Although surrounded by loving relatives, Hans-Peter is too sad to perform in the school play – even though the lead role would be perfect for him. His spirit reawakens only when he hears that the youth welfare office will be coming by to determine whether his elderly grandparents aren’t too frail to take care of him. The “family show” cleverly staged by Hans-Peter manages
to completely convince the lady from the youth office that he is in very good, even robust hands. Soon thereafter, Grandma Bertha intervenes when Aunt Gertrud attempts to set Heinz up with the eager Ms. Kolossa while he’s still in his year of mourning.

Hans-Peter gradually takes to heart Grandpa Willi’s wisdom that “life must go on.” His courage and confidence soon return. And, although all the major roles in the school play have been taken, Hans-Peter takes on a small supporting role and transforms it into a very well-received performance. After that, he writes a letter to the legendary German comedian Loriot and tries out for the role of Dicki Hoppenstedt in the sketch “Christmas with the Hoppenstedts.” Even though he gets a rejection letter for that role... Hans-Peter has nevertheless set the course for what will be an incredible career in entertainment.
BEHIND THE CAMERA

PRODUCER NICO HOFMANN

Nico Hofmann (b. 1959 in Heidelberg) is one of Germany’s most successful film and TV producers. His work is highly regarded for its craftsmanship and expert storytelling.

Hofmann’s graduating film at the HFF Munich (Land der Väter, Land der Söhne, 1987/1988) received a Bavarian Film Award and a FIPRESCI Award. He left directing in 1998 to co-found teamWorx, a production company that quickly established itself as a major player in the German film industry and a European leader in “event TV” (The Tunnel, March of Millions, Stauffenberg, Mogadishu). His €14 million, three-part series Generation War (2013) was a massive hit across Europe. It subsequently sold to 148 countries and received countless national and international awards. Hofmann’s film on the fall of the Berlin Wall, Bornholmer Straße, reached more than 7 million viewers in Germany and received a Bambi for “TV Event of the Year” and a Grimme Prize for fiction. The two-part TV and Web Event Dina Foxx 2 received the International Digital Emmy Award in the transmedia category of Digital Program: Fiction.

Hofmann’s recent film productions include the TV film Grzimek (2015) and the new adaptation of Bruno Apitz’ novel Naked Among Wolves (2015). The eight-part event series Deutschland 83 (2015) premiered at the 65th Berlinale and became the first German-language series bought and shown by a US TV channel (Sundance). Deutschland 83 received a Golden Camera Award for Best Mini-Series. He followed up the three-part family drama Ku’damm 56 (2016) with Ku’damm 59 (2018). Other productions include Letzte Ausfahrt Gera (2016), Im Zweifel (2015), Die Akte General (2016), the six-part series Charité (2017), the three-part The Same Sky (2017) and Death of a Cadet (2017).
Hofmann has received multiple awards for his work as a producer and director, including the 2006 Hans Abich Prize, two Bavarian Film Awards, five German TV Awards, two Bambis and a Golden Camera. He has also received the Schiller Prize, the Romy Prize for Best Producer, the Baden-Württemberg Medal of Merit and the Video Champion Producer Prize with Wolf Bauer for The Physician.

Hofmann works tirelessly to foster young talent, for example, in his role as professor at the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg since 1995. In 1999, together with Bernd Eichinger, he created the First Steps Young Talent Award, today the most important prize for young filmmakers in Germany.

Hofmann has been board chairman at UFA FICTION since 2013, which unites the fiction work done by UFA TV, Phoenix Film and teamWorx. As a producer and managing director at UFA Cinema, Hofmann was responsible for the film adaptations of Hanni & Nanni 1+2+3, Jungle Child (2011), Teufelskicker (2010), Die Relativitätstheorie der Liebe (2011) and Wir wollten aufs Meer (2012) by Oscar Award-winner Toke C. Hebbeln. Hofmann’s most recent feature film productions at UFA Cinema are Hanni & Nanni 3 + 4, Jesus liebt mich (2012), Das Wochenende (2013), Der fast perfekte Mann (2014) The Physician (2013) and the film adaptation of Hape Kerkeling’s bestseller I’m off then.

Hofmann was co-CEO of UFA with Wolf Bauer starting in 2015. In 2017, he took over sole responsibility for the company.
PRODUCER SEBASTIAN WERNINGER

Sebastian Werninger is an executive producer and Head of Production at UFA FICTION. He has worked in various positions at UFA for over 18 years.

He is also active as a producer for UFA Cinema. He served as Executive Producer on the lavish film production The Physician (2013), which enjoyed over 3.5 million viewers in Germany and was one of the most successful German feature films in the past several years. He followed that up in 2015 with the filming of Hape Kerkeling’s bestselling book I’m off then.

Other Werninger projects include historical TV films, such as Dresden, Laconia, Der Tunnel, Hindenburg, the prize-winning series Generation War (over 25 national and international awards), the feature films Dschungelkind, Wir wollten aufs Meer, Die vierte Macht and Hanni & Nanni Parts 1-4, one of the most successful children’s film franchises, as well as So viel Zeit based on the novel by Frank Goosen.

His most recent TV productions include the biopic Grzimek, the new adaptation of Bruno Apitz’s novel Naked Among Wolves, Deutschland 83 and its sequel Deutschland 86, Bornholmer Straße (a tragicomedy about the fall of the Berlin Wall), the series Binny and the Ghost, the six-part Charité, the three-part The Same Sky and the series Sankt Maik.
PRODUCER HERMANN FLORIN

Florin is founder and managing director of Florin Film and Gesellschaft für Feine Filme, with offices in Berlin and Cologne. He is also the founder of Benrae Florin Films Limited in Ireland. He has worked in the business for 20 years, producing critically acclaimed and financially successful national and international films and TV series.

With his companies Florin Film and Feine Filme, he produced Conor McDermottroe’s prize-winning feature film debut Swansong (Best Irish Drama Galway 2009, IFTA for lead actor 2011). He also co-produced with UFA Cinema the hit family entertainment films Hanni & Nanni Parts 1-4, based on the bestsellers of the same name by Enid Blyton. I’m off then was released at Christmas 2015 and marked the fourth co-production of Feine Filme with UFA Cinema.

Florin followed that up with the international cinema comedies Wanderers and Halal Daddy (with Warp Films, Film4, Studiocanal UK in London and the Irish Film Board). He is now working together with director Züli Aladag on the love story Katte (German Screenplay Prize 2009 for author Johannes Reben). He is also working on Philipp Kadelbach’s filming the novel So viel Zeit by Frank Goosen.

Florin taught at the Filmschule Berlin Hamburg and the dffb. He is a Decision Maker at EAVE and a member of the German and the European Film Academy. Before founding Feine Filme, he was active as a producer for a number of leading German film and TV production companies and worked as a freelance producer in Germany and abroad. Prior to devoting himself to the film industry, he majored in Theater Studies and worked at various theaters in Germany.
CAST

Hans-Peter ......................... JULIUS WECKAUF
Mutter Margret .................... LUISE HEYER
Vater Heinz ........................ SÖNKE MÖHRING
Oma Änne .......................... HEDI KRIEGESKOTTE
Opa Willi ........................... JOACHIM KRÖL
Oma Bertha ........................ URSULA WERNER
Opa Hermann ....................... RUDOLF KOWALSKI
Frau Höltermann ................... MAREN KROYMANN
Frau Kolossa ....................... DIANA AMFT
Tante Gertrud ...................... ELENA UHLIG
Matthes ............................ JAN LINDNER
Tante Lisbeth ....................... BIRGE SCHADE
Veronika ........................... KATHARINA HINTZEN
Tante Annemarie ................... EVA VERENA MÜLLER
Kurt ................................. NICHOLAS BODEUX
Hans-Peter (5 Jahre) .............. LEON WÖLLPER
Paul ................................. RENÉ SCHALLENBERG
Marion .............................. SHARLEN SCHAMKE
Lehrerin Frau Klöker .............. KATHRIN VON STEINBURG
Sabine .............................. FINJA JUNIETZ
Gabl ................................. LEONIE EHRLICH
Manuela ............................ FRANZI GRUND
Murat ............................... SELIM CEYLAN
Lothar Rottmann ................... WOLFGANG RÜTER
Frau Strecker ...................... HEIDE HOLTGREWE
Frau Rädeker ....................... MARTINA EITNER-ACHEAMPONG
Dr. Lessen ........................ THOMAS LOIBL
Umzugshelfer ...................... LARS ERIC-LIEBST
Bauleiter .......................... VOLKER WEIDLICH
Ralf ................................. RICHARD KOZIOLLEK
Hannes ............................. JONA MILLICEVIC
Directed by CAROLINE LINK

Screenplay RUTH TOMA

Producers SEBASTIAN WERNINGER, NICO HOFMANN

Producer HERMANN FLORIN

Creative Producer TOBIAS TIMME

Production Manager OLIVER LÜER

Music Supervisor DOMINIQUE KULLING, REGINA REIS

Music NIKI REISER

Edited by SIMON GSTÖTTERMAYR, bvs

Sound Design CHRISTOF EBHARDT

Sound Mix TSCHANGIS CHAHROKH

Original sound MAX-THOMAS MEINDL

Makeup artist SABINE SCHUMANN, WALDEMAR POKROMSKI

Production designer SUSANN BIELING

Costume designer BARBARA GRUPP

Director of Photography JUDITH KAUFMANN, bfk

Casting SABINE SCHWEDHELM, JACQUELINE RIETZ
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