

PICTURE TREE INTERNATIONAL
PRESENTS

DRUGS

SIDE EFFECTS



Original title: Risks and Side effects

Director: Michael Kreihsl

Cast: Inka Friedrich – Kathrin

Samuel Finzi – Arnold

Pia Hierzegger – Diana

Thomas Mraz – Götz

Tijan Marei – Eva

Thomas Schubert – Freund Thomas

Michaela Kis – Putzfrau

August Zirner – Dr. Adler

Hary Prinz – Klaus

Genre: Comedy

Length: 92 min

Country of Origin: Austria

Language: Germany

Production Company: epo-film produktionsges.m.b.h.

World Sales: Picture Tree International GmbH



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SYNOPSIS

A routine check-up reveals that the Pilates trainer Kathrin is suffering from kidney disease and needs a transplant. Her husband Arnold is a successful architect in the middle of a large project and is afraid of donating one of his kidneys. Götz, a friend of the couple's, would undergo the operation immediately if it means saving Kathrin's life - even though this causes problems with his partner Diana. Confronted by issues of life and death, the fragility of the relationships within and between the couples is laid bare. Eventually, the question can no longer be avoided: what is true love?



MICHAEL KREIHSL

When I read the material for the first time, I was impressed by the successful mixture of existential seriousness and the resulting comic level of this work. Stefan Vögel condensed the material into a play, but it was obvious to me that the cinema movie, with its possibilities, can add a further, exciting and audience-effective dimension to these conflicts dealt with in the play.

A reflection on the individuals, giving them their own space and time, all of this can be achieved with the medium of film. The many small pauses, the inconspicuous, almost unnoticed moments, the light and dark, including the gray areas between the characters, are cinematic means for me. The depiction of the existential needs of the depicted people, their lies and the resulting conflict can have a big impact on a cinema screen.

My job is precisely portraying these people, including their grotesque fidgeting movements while trying to prove themselves.

Sometimes I laugh with them, sometimes about the fact that there is nothing to laugh about. I accompany these people through the film, but they don't get stuck in their misery, the viewers will also recognize their wit and self-irony.

I was interested in letting the impact and impact of

what was said linger between the lines and in the pauses.

Every film is a crossover between art and life. Sometimes you can easily look over this border in clear weather, sometimes fog seeps in and you can only see fuzzy contours of the landscape behind this border. In the course of production, art borrows material from life; and even in the finished film the traces of life shine through.

BIO

Michael Kreihsl studied Art History and Archeology before joining the directing class at the Austrian Film Academy and a postgrad directing class at the NYU Department of Film and Television. Since his feature debut CHARMS INCIDENTS (1996) and his second feature HUNTERS IN THE SNOW (2000) - both premiered at the Berlin Film Festival - Michael is often focussing on tragic-comical characters. After his two previous features LOVE MAYBE (2016) and THE MIRACLE METHOD (2018), RISKS AND SIDE EFFECTS is Michael's latest feature film as director.





JAKOB AND DIETER **POCHLATKO**

We have worked with Michael Kreihsl several times. We appreciate him because of his directorial work, both in the serious subject and above all in comedy. In combination with the great stage template DIE NIERE by Stefan Vögel and the great cast, we are convinced that we have the ingredients to take the audience away from everyday life for a few hours and to offer great cinema entertainment. Just right in these times.

PRODUCTION COMPANY

epo-film, founded in 1954, is a privately owned top-tier Austrian production company providing international high-profile content for cinema and TV. Epo-film produces features, TV movies, TV series, nature and documentary films with a focus on international co-productions. Recent productions include highly acclaimed works such as The Tobacconist, Pagan Peak or Breathing



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INKA **FRIEDRICH**

AS **KATHRIN**

Inka Friedrich started her acting career at the theatre in the permanent ensembles of the 'Theatre Basel' and the 'Deutsches Schauspielhaus in Hamburg with further engagement at the 'Schauspielhaus Zurich' and the 'Burgtheater Vienna'. After various roles in Television Productions, she made her cinema debut under the direction of Andreas Dresen, 'Willenbrock' (2005) which premiered at the Berlin Film Festival 2005 and 'Summer in Berlin' (Sommer vorm Balkon - 2005), which premiered in Toronto and San Sebastian.



SAMUEL **FINZI**

AS **ARNOLD**

Samuel Finzi is the son of the Bulgarian actor Itzhak Finzi and the pianist Gina Tabakova. He moved to Berlin in December 1989 at the request of theatre director Ivan Stanev. After engagements at the most prestigious theaters in Germany he joined the permanent ensemble at the 'Volksbühne Berlin'. His career as a screen actor already started in 1989 in Bulgaria and up today includes credits in 'Honey in the Head' (2014), 'Marie Curie'(2016) and 'The Captain', which premiered at the Venice Film Festival in 2017.



THE KEY CAST





DIRECTOR Michael Kreihsl

SCREENPLAY Julia Oberndorfinger, Hannes Salat

PRODUCERS Dieter Pochlatko, Jakob Pochlatko

DOP Wolfgang Thaler AAC, Carsten Thiele

EDITOR Thomas Pötz/Cosmix Studios

CASTING DIRECTORS Eva Roth

PRODUCTION DESIGNER Julia Oberndorfinger, Hannes Salat

SOUND DESIGN Manuel Grandpierre

COSTUME DESIGNER Monika Buttinger

World Sales

Picture Tree International (PTI) is an energetic and fast-growing world sales company with its headquarters in Berlin. The core business is worldwide licensing across all platforms, with the company maintaining a presence at all the major film and television markets.

Alongside licensing, PTI is also able to act as your German co-producer and local distributor via a fully integrated business model that offers producers individual sales and financing strategies in a results-driven and transparent partnership, something essential in today's ever changing audiovisual-industry landscape.

PTI's line-up of up to 15 films a year is designed to ensure the right mix of arthouse and crossover productions to fully maximise the revenue potential of each film.

Picture Tree International was founded in December 2012 by Andreas Rothbauer and has been run jointly by his partner and Co-Managing Director Yuan Rothbauer since 2017.



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MIT SAMUEL FINZI INKA FRIEDRICH THOMAS MRAZ PIA HIERZEGGER TIJAN MAREI THOMAS SCHUBERT SUSANNE WIEGAND HARY PRINZ MICHAELA KIS AUGUST ZIRNER U.V.A.
EINE PRODUKTION DER EPO-FILM WIEN | DREHBUCH UND REGIE MICHAEL KREIHL
BILDGESTALTUNG WOLFGANG THALER AAC, CARSTEN THIELE | SZENENBILD JULIA OBERNDORFINGER, HANNES SALAT | CASTING EVA RÖTH | KOSTÜMBILD MONIKA BUTTINGER | MASKENBILD TÜNDE KISS-BENKE, DENISE STOCKER
MONTAGE ANDREA WAGNER | TON HEINZ EBNER, MANUEL GRANDPIERRE, THOMAS PÖTZ | PRODUKTIONSLEITUNG GERHARD HANNAK
PRODUZENTEN DIETER POCHLATKO, JAKOB POCHLATKO

