

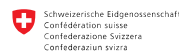
PRESSKIT

THERAPY FOR A VAMPIRE

a film by David Ruehm

A production of Novotny & Novotny Filmproduktion GmbH
and Hugofilm Productions GmbH.

With financial support of



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Picture Tree International GmbH
Zur Börse 12
10247 Berlin
Germany
Tel: +49 30 4208 248 0
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TECH SPECS

Feature | Comedy | Austria & Switzerland | 2014

Original title: Der Vampir auf der Couch
Running time: 87 Min
Screening format: DCP, 1:1,85, colour, 5.1 surround sound
Language: German with English subtitles

Distribution Austria: Thimfilm GmbH
Leitermayergasse 43/4
1180 Vienna, Austria
+43.1.236 21 90
www.thimfilm.at

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Vienna, the early 1930s: One night Sigmund Freud has a new patient on his couch – a mysterious count who can no longer bear the “eternally long” relationship with his wife. The vain countess incessantly complains about not being able to look at herself in a mirror, the professor hears from the count. Unaware of the fact that the count and his wife are vampires, Freud introduces his mysterious patient to a young painter, Viktor, who paints portraits which express more than a mirror ever could. While visiting the painter, the count takes an instant shine to Viktor's girlfriend Lucy – more so than Viktor and the countess would like.

LONG SYNOPSIS

Vienna, 1930: DR SIGMUND FREUD has a new patient, COUNT GEZA VON KÖZSNÖM. The Count is a man in his prime who has come to Vienna with his wife ELSA to be treated by the famous professor. He has had enough of his life, of the everlasting darkness, and of his wife. Unlike her husband, Elsa is full of lust for life and blood. But she, too, has a problem: After centuries of never having seen her own reflection, she finally wants to see herself.

Freud is unaware that his patient is a vampire. As chance would have it, a painting in his office attracts the Count's attention. It is a portrait of LUCY, the young painter VIKTOR's girlfriend. Viktor works for the professor, painting his patients' dreams. The Count is convinced that with Lucy he has found the reincarnation of his great love, Nadila. Nadila was also a vampire, and before being executed centuries ago she predicted her own resurrection in the body of another woman – a woman who would freely allow the Count to transform her on the night of a full moon.

In order to get some time alone with Lucy, the Count takes his wife to the special painter, who should finally be able to portray her features. Luckily for the Count, Lucy and Viktor have broken up again. Although they love each other very much, they fight quite often. Lucy is a confident young woman and can't abide the fact that Viktor is always trying to mould her into his ideal image, even expressing his fantasies by painting "improved" portraits of Lucy.

And so Viktor uses the Countess and Lucy the Count to try and prove that they don't need each other. However, things turn out to be more complicated than expected. Firstly, Viktor just cannot manage to capture the Countess' portrait on canvas, and secondly, the Count is having a hard time luring Lucy into letting him transform her. In an attempt to soothe the increasingly menacing Countess, Viktor completes her portrait – but with Lucy's face.

Unaware of her own appearance, the Countess is delighted by the portrait. She takes it to the Count to show him and catches him in the act of seducing a woman who looks exactly like her supposed portrait. The Countess realises that she has been betrayed, and in her rage she bites Lucy and leaves.

Through her transformation into a vampire, Lucy increasingly becomes the mysterious, erotic sort of woman that Viktor had always wanted. But Viktor is now deeply traumatised by his encounter with the vampire Countess and wants Lucy to be "normal" again. The Count, too, is desperate. Now that Lucy has been bitten against her will, how can he transform her into Nadila? His only chance is with a blood transfusion, but he hasn't got much time. And to top it all, Lucy starts to take a liking to her new life as a vampire. In their despair, both Viktor and the Count seek help from Freud. But, through it all, Freud flatly refuses to see the obvious and acknowledge that he is surrounded by rivalling vampires.

CAST

Count Geza von Közsnöm:	Tobias Moretti
Countess Elsa von Közsnöm:	Jeanette Hain
Lucy:	Cornelia Ivancan
Viktor:	Dominic Oley
Radul:	David Bennent
Dr. Sigmund Freud:	Karl Fischer
Mademoiselle Sedlacek:	Erni Mangold
Oscar:	Lars Rudolph
and as guest:	Anatole Taubman

TEAM

Writer & Director:	David Ruehm
DoP:	Martin Gschlacht
Production Design:	Andreas Sobotka
Editor:	Claudio Cea
Composers:	Adrian Vonwiller, Stefan Jungmair, Bernd Jungmair
Sound Design:	Jürg von Allmen
Re-recording Mix:	Jürg von Allmen, Ralf Krause
Visual Effects:	Marcus Salzmann (Digital Light Factory)
Special Effects:	Joe Joachim (SFX.at)
Costume Design:	Monika Buttinger
Make up Artist:	Sam Dopona
Production Sound Mix:	Patrick Storck, Thomas Schmidt-Gentner
Casting:	Rita Wasilowicz
Production Manager:	Gottlieb Pallendorf
Line Producer:	Johanna Scherz
Producers:	Franz Novotny, Alexander Glehr (Novotny & Novotny Filmproduktion) Christof Neracher, Christian Davi, Thomas Thümena (Hugo Film Productions)

DIRECTOR

David Ruehm, is director for features and commercials, screenwriter and photographer. Born in Vienna in 1962.

Films (selection) as writer / director: „The Escape“ (1992 – Cannes Filmfestival, Semaine de la critique), „El Chicko“ (1996), „Azzuro“ (1997).

From 1998 – 2013 commercial director for T-Mobile, Bwin, BMW and others.

Awards (selection): Venus, Top Spot, Shortlist at Cannes Lions Festival, Shortlist at Cannes Young Directors Award, London International Advertising Award.

Photography: from 2007 to 2013 different exhibitions in Austria (International cookbook Award)

Filmography (selection):

Feature Films

- 1997 “AZZURO” director/silent co-writer. Tv-movie. Thalia-film.
Cast: Dietrich Siegl, Georg Schuchter, Gerhard Swoboda, Alexandra Hilverth, Hubert Wolf, Peter Moucka
- 1996 “EL CHICKO” writer/director. Sk-Film (Buena Vista).
Cast: Fritz Karl, André Pohl, Eva Herzig, Bernhard Schir, Andrea Ferreol, Sonja Kirchberger, Tilo Prueckner, Allegra Curtis, Karim Allaoui
- 1992 “DIE FLUCHT” (“The Escape”) writer/director. Dor-Film.
Cast: Georges Kern, Giora Seeliger, Andrea Eckert, Johannes Silberschneider (Filmfestival Cannes 1992 - Semaine de la critique)

Awards: Premio quotidiano il tirreno, Montecatini, Thomas Pluch Screenplay Award

Commercials

- 2014 Bwin, T-Mobile, Chello, Ottakringer beer, Austrian Lotteries, Tele.ring, Erste Bank, Hitradio Oe3, Danone, Zipfer beer, Grazer Wechselseitige, Winterthur, Race Energy Drink, BMW, LGV

Awards: Clio, Venus, Top Spot, Shortlist at Cannes Lions Festival, Green Panther, Finalist at London Int. Advertising Awards, Finalist at Cresta Awards, Nomination “Oesterreichischer Staatspreis fuer Wirtschaftsfilm”

PRODUCTION COMPANIES

Filmography

Novotny & Novotny Filmproduktion (selection)



SUPEREGOS, Benjamin Heisenberg, DE/CH/AT, 2014, feature
TAKING IT BACK, Andreas Schmied, AT, 2013, feature
SICKFUCKPEOPLE, Juri Rechinsky, AT, 2013, documentary feature
THE STRANGE CASE OF WILHELM REICH, Antonin Svoboda, AT, 2012, feature
THE FATHERLESS, Marie Kreutzer, AT, 2011, feature
CHALET GIRL, Phil Traill, GB/DE/AT, 2011, feature
JEW SUESS - RISE AND FALL, Oskar Roehler, AT/DE, 2010, feature
KARAUOLA, Rajko Grlic, BiH/SLO/MK/SRB/GB/HU/FR/AT, 2006, feature
SUMMER IN THE GOLDEN VALLEY, Srdjan Vuletic, BiH/FR/GB/AT, 2003, feature
KELLER - TEENAGE WASTELAND, Eva Urthaler, AT/DE/IT, 2005, feature
GORI VATRA, Pjer Zalica, BiH/AT/TR/FR, 2003, feature
011 BEOGRAD, Michael Pfeiffenberg, AT/SRB 2003, feature
THE PUNISHMENT, Goran Rebic, AT, 2000, documentary feature

Filmography

Hugo Film Productions GmbH (selection)



TEMPO GIRL, Dominik Locher, CH, 2013, feature
LOVLEY LOUISE, Bettina Oberli, CH/DE, 2013, feature
RUHM, Isabel Kleefeld, CH/DE/AT, 2012, feature
HARRY DEAN STANTON - PARTLY FICTION, Sophie Huber, CH/US, 2012, documentary
TÖTE MICH, Emily Atef, CH/DE/FR, 2011, feature
SOMMERVÖGEL, Paul Riniker, CH, 2009, feature
TANNOED, Bettine Oberli, CH/DE, 2008, feature
PEPPERMINTA, Pipilotti Rist, CH/AT, 2008, feature
MEIN KAMPF, Urs Odermatt, CH/DE/AT, 2008, feature
VITUS, Fredi M. Murer, CH, 2007, feature
CITY WALLS, Afsar Sonia Shafie, CH, 2006, documentary feature
JOE SIFFERT, Men Lareida, CH, 2005, documentary feature
MA FAMILLE AFRICAINE, Thomas Thümena, CH, 2004, documentary feature