



Elixir

Art. Love. Fear


65th Internationale
 Filmfestspiele
 Berlin
 Perspektive Deutsches Kino

TRUSTNORDISK PRESENTS

A GERMAN-AUSTRALIAN CO-PRODUCTION OF ELIXIR FILMS PTY. LTD & ELIXIR FILMS GMBH STARRING SWANN ARLAUD NATASHA PETROVIKJ SEBASTIAN PAWLAK AND STIPE ERCEG
 WRITTEN BY BRODIE HIGGS & ANYA WATROBA DIRECTED BY BRODIE HIGGS PRODUCED BY REZSO BODONYI BRODIE HIGGS SUSANNE MANN STUART SCOWCROFT PAUL ZISCHLER ASSOC ANYA WATROBA
 DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAL ENGLERT PRODUCTION DESIGN SEBASTIAN SOUKUP EDITOR SURESH AYYAR MUSIC BY DANIEL WOHL MUSIC SUPERVISOR ANDREW KOTATKO CASTING TANJA SCHUH
 MAKEUP ANNETT SCHULZE HAIR ANDREW KETTERIDGE COSTUMES JULIANE MAIER FASHION DESIGNERS TATA CHRISTIANE SADAK AND HENNING LINGE
 A BRODIE HIGGS FILM

SYNOPSIS

ELIXIR asks the question, what if the Surrealists were living today in Berlin, alongside punk's founder Malcolm (McLaren) and a Bosnian vagabond?

André (Breton) lives in The Glasshouse, an art residence where provocative artists and writers known as 'The Group' have lived for the past 15 years. Located in the heart of Berlin, the Glasshouse is in danger of being swallowed up by commercial development. As fear grows, the solidarity of The Group begins to unravel.

Andre, grieving over the death of his closest friend the novelist Jacques (Vache), he has lost his faith as a writer and in the people and place he usually holds so dear. Then one night he meets Lexia who appears to him first as a fallen angel and perhaps also as a saviour.

At the same time, Tristan (Tzara), who has been missing in action for 6 months, returns and gives the unravelling group a new goal: a spectacular attack on a fashion/art show by Malcolm (McLaren) during Berlin Art Week. He wants to bring the group back from the brink of obscurity but Lexia's presence ignites erotic desires and unresolved jealousies. Tristan's desperate need for redemption and Andre's fear and resentment are brought to a head.

Caught up in a world of loss and wild abandonment, can love friendship and art save these dreamers who yearn for a life free from fear? And will Lexia rise to be the true maverick of them all?

For clips, images and trailer:

www.elixirfilmand.co



TECHNICAL DATA

TITLE	Elixir
GENRE	Drama
LENGTH	1.51 hours
YEAR OF PRODUCTION	2015
COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION	Germany / Australia
SCREENING FORMAT	DCP 1.37:1 Anamorphic. 24Fps. Color
ADDITIONAL FORMATS	HD Prores 24fps. HD Prores 25fps. Bluray
ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	English, German
SUBTITLE OPTIONS	German, English

TEAM

DIRECTOR	Brodie Higgs
WRITER	Brodie Higgs / Anya Watroba
STARRING	Swann Arlaud Natasha Petrovikj Sebastian Pawlak Mateusz Kosciukiewicz Stipe Erceg Jérémie Lippmann
DOP	Michal Englert
EDITOR	Suresh Ayyar
ORIGINAL MUSIC	Daniel Wohl
PRODUCTION DESIGN	Sebastian Soukup
SOUND DESIGN	Robert MacKenzie
COSTUME	Juliane Maier
FASHION DESIGNERS	Tata Christiane Henning Linge Sadak
PRODUCER	Rezso Bodonyi Brodie Higgs Susanne Mann Stuart Scowcroft Paul Zischler
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER	Anya Watroba

WORLD SALES

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Berlin is arguably Europe's most artistic city. A large proportion of the creatively minded people in the world have their eyes (and hearts) fixed on it. *Elixir* is representative of an important time in Berlin (and the world's) 'cultural & economic' history.

By placing historical literary and artistic figures from the 20th Century in the here and now we can examine the question, could they survive and thrive in today's modern landscape? And it also serves to remind us that the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Apart from the artists in residence in The Glasshouse, this story also involves a complete outsider (Lexia) who facilitates the viewer's access to this world. It also involves the fashion industry (through Malcolm McLaren) which carries with it a commentary on commercial enterprise.

I envisage *Elixir* as a cross-over art-house film that incorporates:

1. Narrative drive and arc; character conflict; social relevance.
2. Aesthetic; overall feel and tone; fashion/looks/styles.
3. Nuanced ideas; intellect (the auteur's 'id'); leitmotifs.

It is my aim that these three levels are not mutually exclusive.

Not alienating the audience by aiming too intellectually high, but not disrespecting the audience by dumbing the film down. It is my hope that each level works for and with each other.

Hopefully the audience, while being entertained with the outrageousness of the Surrealist manifesto, is perhaps drawn into a dialogue to question cultural boundedness in a fast moving world where the arts are valued less and less.

In terms of character representation, I would like the audience to be immersed in an array of individuals where some will touch a chord more than others but no matter what the character's individual flaws, I would like the audience to appreciate every one of them. No scapegoats. No caricatures. No black and white - merely wonderful shades of poetic grey.

Elixir is an art film in creation as well as content. It incorporates the work of 22 contemporary Berlin based artists; 2 Saatchi and Saatchi artists; prominent Berlin production designer Sebastian Soukup, 3 Berlin based fashion designers; and the music of Patti Smith, Antony and The Johnsons and PJ Harvey to name a few.



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