

Bertelsmann and UFA present

UFA FILM NIGHTS

August 24 to 26, 2022



Presented by

BERTELSMANN

UFA
A Freemove Company

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Introduction

It's an even dozen: Welcome to the 12th edition of the **UFA Film Nights!** The exclusive venue is once again Berlin's Museum Island. From August 24 to 26, 2022, Bertelsmann and UFA will present cinematic masterpieces of Weimar cinema on three evenings in the open air, against a spectacular backdrop and accompanied by live music.

This year, the UFA Film Nights open with Arnold Fanck's **DER BERG DES SCHICKSALS (MOUNTAIN OF DESTINY)** from 1924. It was the first full-length feature film in the mountain film genre pioneered by Fanck, and marked lead actor Luis Trenker's on-screen debut. The film was shot on original locations in Trenker's homeland, the Dolomites, and premiered in 1924 at the UFA Pavilion on Nollendorfplatz in Berlin. UFA Film Nights is screening the world premiere of the movie as restored by the Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau Foundation, with a new composition by **Florian C. Reithner**. The **Metropolis Orchestra Berlin** will perform under the direction of **Burkhard Götze**, with composer Reithner himself playing the organ.

The second evening will feature Fritz Lang's **DR. MABUSE, DER SPIELER I (DR. MABUSE, THE GAMBLER I)**. The first film of his mammoth two-part work is subtitled **The Great Gambler. A Picture of the Times**, and presented the world of cinema with one of its first supervillains exactly 100 years ago. Lang placed his film on a socially critical plateau that held a mirror up to what he saw as the degenerate post-war society of the young Weimar Republic. In a world premiere, DJ legend **Jeff Mills** from Detroit will provide the score for **DR. MABUSE, DER SPIELER** live at the mixer, with music he created especially for the film.

The third evening is devoted to Lilian Harvey and Willy Fritsch, the dream couple of the emerging talkie era, who first appeared together – still in silent mode – under director Richard Eichberg in **DIE KEUSCHE SUSANNE (CHASTE SUSANNE)**. The screening also marks the premiere of the restored Version (restoration by Deutsches Filminstitut & Filmmuseum (DFF) Frankfurt/M.) Under the direction of pianist, composer and arranger **Ekkehard Wölk**, the **Silent Light Ensemble** presents – in another premiere – a composition inspired by Jean Gilbert's popular operetta of the same name by, but also inspired by the dance music of the 1920s and incorporating modern jazz elements.

Before each screening, presenters provide some (cinematic)-historical and societal background to put the films into context.

All films start at 9 p.m. and will be simultaneously streamed on **www.ufa-filmnaechte.de** and Bertelsmann and UFA's social media channels. Following the live stream, the films will remain available on demand for another 24 hours.

Schedule

8/24 **Wednesday, August 24, 2022, film starts at 9:00 p.m.**

DER BERG DES SCHICKSALS – MOUNTAIN OF DESTINY (1924)

Director: Arnold Fanck

Starring Luis Trenker, Erna Morena, Hannes Schneider, Frida Richard Hertha von Walther, Gustav Oberg, Arnold Fanck jun.

Production: Arnold Fanck

Length: 92 min.

Music: New composition by Florian C. Reithner, played by Metropolis Orchester Berlin

8/25 **Thursday, August 25, 2022, film starts at 9:00 p.m.**

DR. MABUSE, DER SPIELER I: Der Große Spieler. Ein Bild der Zeit
DR. MABUSE, THE GAMBLER I: The Great Player. A Picture of the Times (1921/22)

Director: Fritz Lang

Starring Rudolf Klein-Rogge, Aud Egede Nissen, Gertrude Welcker, Alfred Abel, Bernhard Goetzke, Paul Richter, Hans Adalbert von Schlettow

Production: Uco-Film Berlin, Producer: Erich Pommer

Length: 155 min.

Music: New composition by Jeff Mills

8/26 **Friday, August 26, 2022, film starts at 9:00 p.m.**

DIE KEUSCHE SUSANNE – CHASTE SUSANNE (1926)

Director: Richard Eichberg

Starring Ruth Weyher, Lilian Harvey, Willy Fritsch, Werner Fuetterer, Wilhelm Bendow, Sascha Bragowa, Jean Gilbert, Ernst Hofmann, Hans Junkermann

Production: Richard Eichberg-Film GmbH

Length: 121 min.

Music: New composition by the Silent Light Ensemble

Tickets are available for €20 each at:

www.ufa-filmnaechte.de

and at all advance ticket offices in Berlin and Brandenburg

About the Films

8/24

DER BERG DES SCHICKSALS – MOUNTAIN OF DESTINY

1924



Director	Arnold Fanck
Production	Arnold Fanck
Camera	Sepp Allgeier, Arnold Fanck, Eugen Hamm, Hans Schneeberger
Cast	Luis Trenker, Erna Morena, Hannes Schneider, Frida Richard, Hertha von Walther, Gustav Oberg, Arnold Fanck jun.
Length	92 min.

No one has ever succeeded in climbing majestic Guglia del Diavolo – its steep summit section is considered impregnable. The father (Hannes Schneider) tried time and again – and died trying. The son (Luis Trenker), the best climber in Tyrol, is determined to fulfill his father's dream – and regularly risks his life in the process. Because his mother (Frida Richard) lives in constant fear of losing her only son after her husband, he promises her not to make any more attempts to climb the Devil's Peak. But the Guglia del Diavolo doesn't give a young woman a moment's peace either: Hella (Erna Morena), the mountaineer's childhood friend and student, spends hours gazing at the mountain's rocky masses, trying to discern a safe route to the summit. When she thinks she has found what she is looking for, she tries to persuade her teacher to climb the mountain with her. But he keeps the promise he made to his mother. Disappointed, Hella sets off on her own. Then a storm comes up and young Hella runs into difficulties. In mortal fear for his daughter, Hella's father appeals to the climber for help. Now he has no choice: he must break his promise to save Hella's life...

Arnold Fanck (1889-1974) is regarded as the inventor of the mountain film, a genre that rapidly gained international popularity in the 1920s with impressive documentary footage of the High Alps, which Fanck used as a backdrop and essentially elevated to the leading role in his movies. The main acting role was played by Luis Trenker, who made his acting debut in DER BERG DES SCHICKSALS.

Music

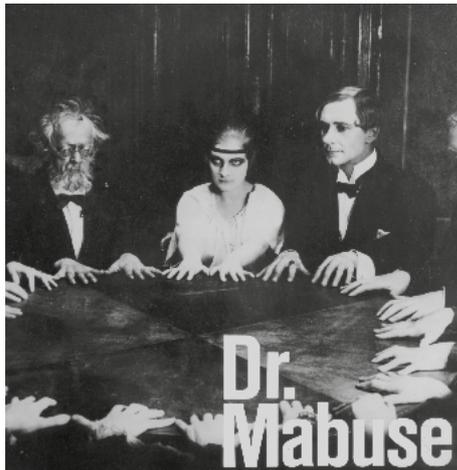
UFA Film Nights is screening the world premiere of the movie as restored by the F. W. Murnau Foundation, with a new composition by Florian C. Reithner. The Metropolis Orchestra Berlin will perform under the direction of Burkhard Götze, accompanied on the organ by Florian C. Reithner.

About the Films

8/25

**DR. MABUSE, DER SPIELER I: Der Große Spieler. Ein Bild der Zeit –
DR. MABUSE, THE GAMBLER I: The Great Player. A picture of the times**

1925



Director	Fritz Lang
Production	UCO-Film Berlin, Erich Pommer
Screenplay	Thea von Harbou and Fritz Lang
Cast	Rudolf Klein-Rogge, Aud Egede-Nissen, Gertrude Welcker, Alfred Abel, Bernhard Goetzke, Paul Richter, Hans Adalbert von Schlettow
Length	155 min.

Dr. Mabuse (Rudolf Klein-Rogge) is a man with many different faces and identities. He has secret papers stolen and manipulates the course of the stock market. He masquerades as a reputable scientist and sets his mistress, the dancer Cara Carozza (Aud Egede-Nissen), on the young millionaire Hull (Paul Richter), hypnotizing him and taking a fortune from him at cards. Through Hull, prosecutor von Wenk (Bernhard Goetzke) gets on Mabuse's trail. Mabuse tries to hypnotize von Wenk at the gambling table as well, but the prosecutor manages to resist the enigmatic doctor's magical powers. Soon afterwards, he narrowly escapes an assassination attempt by Mabuse. A large-scale police operation against Mabuse fails to capture him. The public authorities seem to be powerless against the criminal mastermind who, hiding behind the mask of a dignified citizen, places himself above law and order.

Based on the bestseller of the same name by Norbert Jacques (1880-1954), Fritz Lang's two-part movie paints a social panorama of the early 20th century, covering a wide range of themes that defined the zeitgeist of the time, such as acceleration, financial crises, parapsychology, white-collar crime, and the quest for world domination and other conspiracy theories. A film with unmistakable references to the present day of the 21st century. UFA Film Nights presents Part I of Fritz Lang's two-part mammoth work.

Music

Following his acclaimed performances at the 2017 and 2019 UFA Film Nights, DJ legend Jeff Mills has created a new score for DR. MABUSE, THE GAMBLER I, which will premiere at this year's UFA Film Nights.

About the Films

8/26

DIE KEUSCHE SUSANNE – CHASTE SUSANNE

1926



Director	Richard Eichberg
Production	Richard Eichberg-Film GmbH
Screenplay	Hans Sturm
Cast	Ruth Weyher, Willy Fritsch, Lilian Harvey, a.o.
Length	121 min.

Naughty Susanne (Ruth Weyher) leads an thrilling double life between her hometown and Paris: In her hometown in the provinces she is seen as the ever virtuous and down-to-earth girl next door, while in the metropolis, to which she regularly escapes, she is the queen of the night, fashionable and seductive, desired by many men. In Paris, she meets René (Willy Fritsch) and begins to court him, but she has an aristocratic rival: Jacqueline (Lilian Harvey). A lively love triangle ensues, complicated by the interventions of uncomprehending finger-wagging do-gooders. The story reaches its fitting finale at the Moulin Rouge.

Based on the popular operetta of the same name by Jean Gilbert, who appears in a cameo in the movie, this musical romcom mixes French *esprit*, the big-city tempo, and the dance-loving spirit of the 1920s with a healthy dash of frivolity. Here, Lilian Harvey and Willy Fritsch, the later dream couple of the UFA talkie era, appear in their first – albeit silent – film together. Film restoration by Deutsches Filminstitut & Filmmuseum (DFF) Frankfurt/M.

Music

The music for the film is presented by the Silent Light Ensemble under the direction of pianist, composer and arranger Ekkehard Wölk, with the addition of violinist Matthias Leupold. The ensemble will premiere a composition inspired by the successful operetta of the same name by Jean Gilbert, but influenced by the dance music of the 1920s and elements of modern jazz.

About the Musicians

8/24

FLORIAN C. REITHNER AND THE METROPOLIS ORCHESTRA BERLIN



© Rainer Keplinger

Born in 1984, Florian C. Reithner completed his musical education as a composer, music theorist, and organist at the Diözesankonservatorium St. Pölten and the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna. Concert tours as a conductor, pianist, organist, and composer have taken him to many countries in Europe, Asia and North America. For several years now, Reithner has also dedicated himself to the scoring of films, including for the Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau Foundation. He works as a silent film pianist, composer, and producer of film scores for Austria's Filmarchiv. Films he has scored include DER LETZTE MANN, DER KILOMETERFRESSER, DER ZINKER, DIE BIENE MAJA, and ANGST. On the occasion of the 2015 UFA Film Nights, Bertelsmann had commissioned Reithner to create a new score for F. W. Murnau's last film TABU, and premiered his composition with a specially assembled orchestra at the UFA Film Nights. Reithner will present his new composition of the music for DER BERG DES SCHICKSALS at this year's UFA Film Nights with the Metropolis Orchestra Berlin, accompanying the orchestra on the organ himself.

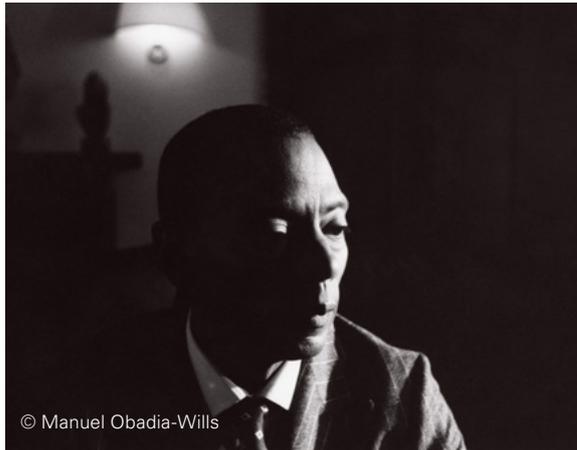


In 2017, the Metropolis Orchestra Berlin became the first professional cinema orchestra in Berlin's cinematic and musical landscape since the silent film era. Founded by conductor Burkhard Götze and Berlin musicians with a passion for silent films, the ensemble has become a hallmark of the capital's silent film scene, set standards in actively preserving and promoting silent film, and heralded the renaissance of a forgotten musical genre – historical cinema music. New compositions are also created exclusively for the orchestra.

After establishing a regular series of orchestra-accompanied silent film at Berlin's Babylon Theater in 2017 and 2018, the Metropolis Orchestra Berlin can now be enjoyed at Berlin's Theater at the Delphi, Zeughauskino or Heimathafen Neukölln. In September 2019, the orchestra made its debut at the ZOO PALAST on the occasion of "100 Years of Cinematic History at the Zoo." The orchestra regularly receives invitations from renowned film festivals such as the Filmfest Braunschweig, the Film+Musikfest Bielefeld, the Filmkunstfest MV in Schwerin, and the International Silent Film Festival in Bonn.

About the Musicians

8/25

JEFF MILLS

Jeff Mills has never wallowed in his DJ status and kept on multiplying outstanding performances, at the intersection between music, contemporary art, pop culture, design and science fiction, while running his own record label, Axis Records, since 1992 onwards. After conquering Detroit's early Techno scene as The Wizard in the 80s, as a part of the Underground Resistance, he took up with his prime inspiration, Space and Science-Fiction. The 2000's marked a turning point, when he started to

merge his music with other artforms. He decided to create a new soundtrack for Fritz Lang's METROPOLIS, which brought him to many other cinemix performances and movies soundtracks. As a plastician, Jeff Mills has shown numerous of his performances and exhibitions in artistic institutions such as the CCCB of Barcelona, the South Bank Center, the Barbican Center, the Cinémathèque Française, Pompidou Center, the Art Fair Monte Carlo...

Jeff Mills is the first DJ to collaborate, perform with Classical orchestras which was captured on DVD. It all began in 2005 with "Blue Potential", followed in 2012 by a new version called "Light from the Outside World", still scheduled to perform all over the world. Started in Tokyo, 2015, Jeff Mills created Spiral Deluxe, his first band since Underground Resistance, displaying an Electronic Jazz Fusion, bringing out three records. This led him to have another project called The Paradox and collaborations with late Tony Allen which grew into Tomorrow Comes The Harvest project with various artists. Decorated in 2007 with the French Government award of Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters, Mills was upgraded in 2017 to be Officer, in recognition for his contribution to the Arts, such as the residency at the Louvre Museum.

That same year, he also set the complete, restored version of METROPOLIS from 2010 to music for the first time, especially for the 2017 UFA Film Nights. In 2019, he performed live on the stage of the UFA Film Nights with his revised musical interpretation to accompany another great classic of Weimar cinema: FRAU IM MOND (WOMAN IN THE MOON).

In 2020 during the pandemic, he started to curate the project called The Escape Velocity under which talents from all over the world release Sci-Fi/ Space Science themed music. Jeff Mills has now created a new score for DR. MABUSE, DER SPIELER I (DR. MABUSE, THE GAMBLER I), which he will premiere at the 2022 UFA Film Nights.

About the Musicians

8/26

SILENT LIGHT ENSEMBLE



Im Uhrzeigersinn: Andrea Marcelli, Kristoff Becker, Matthias Leupold, Ekkehard Wölk

The Silent Light Ensemble, a musical formation created especially for the 2021 UFA Film Nights from members of the ensemble Trioglyzerin and the Ekkehard Wölk Quartet, already proved its prowess at that silent film festival. For years Trioglyzerin has been a guest at the UFA Film Nights with acclaimed accompanying music. In 2012, for example, the ensemble created the music for Fritz Lang's *SPIONE (SPIES)*, in 2013 for *GEHEIMNISSE DES ORIENTS (SECRETS OF THE ORIENT)*, in 2015 and 2020 for *DIE ABENTEUER DES PRINZEN ACHMED (THE ADVENTURES OF PRINCE ACHMED)*, in 2016, together with the Deutsche Oper Berlin's

JazzCombo for *DIE BERGKATZE (THE WILDCAT)*, and in 2018 for *SUMURUN*.

Ekkehard Wölk's 2019 composition for *MADAME DUBARRY* was another success – a winning fusion of baroque and jazz. For its performance, Wölk teamed up with three other musicians to form the Ensemble Ancien Régime.

In their 2021 collaborative film score for *DIE LEUCHTE ASIENS (THE LIGHT OF ASIA)*, the Silent Light Ensemble has focused especially on evoking oriental sound worlds, with which they are intimately familiar. This year, the ensemble presents a new composition inspired on the one hand by Jean Gilbert's popular operetta *DIE KEUSCHE SUSANNE*, but also influenced by the vibrant dance music of the 1920s, and incorporating elements of modern jazz as well as freely improvised music.

The Silent Light Ensemble under the direction of Ekkehard Wölk (piano/keyboard/arrangement/composition) consists of Kristoff Becker (cello/electronics), Andrea Marcelli (drums/clarinet), as well as violinist Matthias Leupold, who joined the formation especially for this film.

About UFA

UFA has created unforgettable images over the past 100 years. It serves as the umbrella company for all German production activities of the international media and entertainment company Fremantle, the worldwide production arm of Bertelsmann's RTL Group division.

In 2017, UFA celebrated its centennial, which makes it one of the oldest entertainment brands in the world. With more than 3,500 hours of programming aired per year, the present day UFA Group is a powerful creator of programs that has steadily expanded its market leadership as a film and TV producer in Germany in recent years. UFA programs inspire and captivate millions of viewers every day. Over the years, UFA has evolved from a program creator and TV producer into a content specialist offering solutions for digital and multimedia content exploitation – for all major broadcasters in Germany as well as for numerous other partners.

UFA is comprised of the production units UFA Fiction, UFA Serial Drama, UFA Show & Factual, and UFA Documentary. Its wideranging product portfolio offers a unique variety of complementary programs. UFA Fiction realizes high quality fictional productions such as TV movies, series, serials, and TV events. UFA Show & Factual creates top-notch shows across all genres, from talent and game shows to quiz, panel, and dating shows, to comedy and music shows, as well as high quality factual programs – emotional, journalistic and documentary. UFA Serial Drama is the leading provider of industrial series productions, while UFA Documentary focuses on documentaries, hybrid documentary, and serial features.

With currently more than 30 serial program brands, UFA has more long running formats on the market than any other producer. UFA sets and develops trends with its programs, while also remaining committed to proven ideas and traditions. Its impressive track record is made up of ratings successes in series, serials and shows like "SOKO Leipzig," "GZSZ," "Alles was zählt," "Unter Uns," "Ein starkes Team," "Wer weiß denn sowas?" "Deutschland sucht den Superstar" (Germany's Got Talent), "Take Me Out" and "Sag die Wahrheit." Outstanding highend drama series, event scale TV series, and made for TV movies such as "Unsere Mütter, unsere Väter" (Generation War), "Ku'damm 56/59/63," "Charité 1/2/3," "Deutschland 83/86/89," "Hackerville," "Altes Land," "8 Zeugen," and "Faking Hitler," and feature films such as "Der Junge muss an die frische Luft," "Ich war noch niemals in New York" and "Leander Hausmanns Stasikomödie" as well as successful factual entertainment such as "Bauer sucht Frau" (Farmer Wants A Wife), and social documentaries such as "Hartz und herzlich."

Nico Hofmann (CEO) and Joachim Kosack are the company's Managing Directors.

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About Bertelsmann

Bertelsmann is a media, services and education company that operates in about 50 countries around the world. It includes the entertainment group RTL Group, the trade book publisher Penguin Random House, the music company BMG, the service provider Arvato, the Bertelsmann Printing Group, the Bertelsmann Education Group and Bertelsmann Investments, an international network of funds. The company has 145,000 employees and generated revenues of €18.7 billion in the 2021 financial year. Bertelsmann stands for creativity and entrepreneurship. This combination promotes first-class media content and innovative service solutions that inspire customers around the world. Bertelsmann aspires to achieve climate neutrality by 2030.

As a creative content company with a history stretching back nearly 190 years, Bertelsmann is engaged in cultural efforts at various levels. Its “Culture@Bertelsmann” activities are focused on preserving important cultural assets and making them accessible to a broad public, e.g. through digitization or exhibitions and concerts. For many years, Bertelsmann has organized the popular UFA Film Nights, a silent film festival in Berlin, and has repeatedly acted as the main sponsor for the digital restoration of important silent films. The Group also owns the Archivio Storico Ricordi in Milan, which houses a wealth of unique testimonies to 200 years of Italian opera history. Bertelsmann is indexing the archive holdings according to the latest standards and makes thousands of documents, set and costume designs, libretti, and items of business correspondence publicly accessible online. With the Blaues Sofa (Blue Sofa) literature format, Bertelsmann and its partners ZDF, Deutschlandfunk Kultur, and 3sat have provided authors with a prominent stage for their latest works for over 20 years.

You can find more information about Bertelsmann at

www.bertelsmann.com

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The UFA Film Nights are hosted by
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