

Bertelsmann and UFA presents

UFA FILM NIGHTS

August 21 to 23, 2019
Kolonnadenhof on Museum Island

Presented by

BERTELSMANN

UFA

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Introduction

Pure movie magic on Berlin's Museum Island: Bertelsmann and UFA present the ninth UFA Film Nights from **August 21 to 23, 2019**. On three evenings, early masterpieces of cinema history will be screened in the open air, against a spectacular backdrop and accompanied by live music.

The UFA Film Nights have become a cinematic-musical highlight of Berlin's cultural summer, with a dedicated stage orchestra and big screen erected for the occasion in the Kolonnadenhof on Museum Island, a World Cultural Heritage site. Each evening, close to 1,000 guests will get to enjoy select cinematic art from the Weimar period, with live musical accompaniment and in a unique, historic architectural setting.

Following a reception at Bertelsmann Unter den Linden 1, Berlin, the silent film festival begins on Wednesday, August 21, with Richard Oswald's **A CRAZY NIGHT** (German: Eine tolle Nacht). The movie from 1926/27, long believed lost and re-discovered in the Gosfilmofond Russian state film archive, was digitally restored this year. It will now be screened for the first time in its revised version. Another premiere at the UFA Film Nights 2019 will be the new score by Frido ter Beek and the internationally renowned Dutch pianist Maud Nelissen, commissioned by ZDF/ARTE. It will be performed by the film orchestra The Sprockets, which already thrilled audiences with their music for **THE APACHES OF PARIS** at the UFA Film Nights 2018. ARTE will broadcast the restored silent movie with the new score on August 26. The actor and film patron Uwe Ochsenknecht will introduce the silent movie comedy and its historical background.

Fritz Lang's epochal and technically prescient masterpiece, and one of UFA's best-known movies, **WOMAN IN THE MOON** (Frau im Mond), follows on Thursday. DJ legend Jeff Mills, who has revised his score for the film for the occasion, will perform the soundtrack. Mills also performed his soundtrack for **METROPOLIS** at the UFA Film Nights 2017. The movie will be introduced by the curator of the UFA Film Nights and film historian Friedemann Beyer.

On Friday evening – 100 years to the month after its premiere as the Berlin Zoo Palast's opening movie – Ernst Lubitsch's revolutionary epic **MADAME DUBARRY** (retitled **PASSION** in the United States) is on the program. A new score composed by Ekkehard Wölk will be performed by the Ensemble Ancien Régime. Friedemann Beyer will introduce this movie as well.

Program

8/21 **Wednesday, August 21, 2019**, Doors open: 8:30 p.m., Screening starts: 9:00 p.m.

EINE TOLLE NACHT – A CRAZY NIGHT, (1926/27), Director: Richard Oswald
 With Ossi Oswalda, Harry Liedtke, Henry Bender, Paul Graetz, Kurt Gerron
 Production: Richard Oswald-Produktion, Length: 83 min.
 Music: New composition by Frido ter Beek and Maud Nelissen, commissioned by ZDF/ARTE. The film orchestra The Sprockets will perform the musical accompaniment.
 Introduction: Actor Uwe Ochsenknecht

8/22 **Thursday, August 22, 2019**, Doors open: 8:30 p.m., Screening starts: 9:00 p.m.

FRAU IM MOND – WOMAN IN THE MOON, (1929), Director: Fritz Lang
 With Gerda Maurus, Willy Fritsch, Klaus Pohl, Gustav von Wangenheim, Fritz Rasp
 Production: Fritz Lang Film for Ufa, Length: 156 min.
 Music: Jeff Mills performs a new musical interpretation

8/23 **Friday, August 23, 2019**, Doors open: 8:30 p.m. – Screening starts: 9:00 p.m.

MADAME DUBARRY (1919), Director: Ernst Lubitsch
 With Pola Negri, Emil Jannings, Reinhold Schünzel, Harry Liedtke, Eduard von Winterstein
 Production: Paul Davidson Produktions-AG "Union" (PAGU) for Ufa, Length: 114 min.
 Music: New composition by Ekkehard Wölk. Performed by: Ekkehard Wölk and the Ensemble Ancien Régime.

Tickets for the **UFA Film Nights** are now available for **15 EUR including advance booking charge** for the first and third evening, and **20 EUR including advance booking charge** for the second evening:

Online

www.ufa-filmnaechte.de or www.ticketmaster.de

Or by calling

01806 999 0000 (0.20 €/call from German landlines /
 max. 0.60 €/call from German mobiles)

The Movies

8/21

EINE TOLLE NACHT – A CRAZY NIGHT

1926/27



Director	Richard Oswald
Production	Richard Oswald-Produktion
Screenplay	Richard Oswald
Cinematography	Otto Kanturek, Edgar Ziesemer
Cast	Ossi Oswalda, Harry Liedtke, Henry Bender, Paul Graetz, Kurt Gerron
Length	83 min

Based on a popular revue from the imperial era, Richard Oswald's movie tells the story of a provincial insecticide powder manufacturer who follows a vaudeville star he idolizes to Berlin, where he is sucked into a maelstrom of voluntary and involuntary adventures. He meets vaudeville girls, policemen, Indian rajahs, and wrestlers in settings ranging from glitzy restaurants and dance cafés to dives and police stations. Oswald's comedy is a flamboyant, near-anarchic foray through the Berlin of the "wild" 1920s and its notorious nightlife. Filmed at original locations, Oswald's movie is also a striking portrait of the city as it was then, with a population of four million – a hectic place full of construction sites and social contrasts.

Long considered lost, A CRAZY NIGHT was rediscovered at the Gosfilmofond Russian state film archive and digitally restored by Omnimago GmbH in 2019.

Music

Frido ter Beek and Maud Nelissen's new 1920s-style composition was commissioned by ZDF/ARTE for the UFA Film Nights 2019 and will be performed by The Sprockets film orchestra, which already wowed audiences with their musical accompaniment for THE APACHES OF PARIS at the UFA Film Nights 2018.

The Movies

8/22

FRAU IM MOND

1929



Director	Fritz Lang
Production	Fritz Lang Film for Ufa
Screenplay	Fritz Lang, Thea von Harbou
Cinematography	Curt Courant und Otto Kanturek
Cast	Gerda Maurus, Willy Fritsch, Klaus Pohl, Gustav von Wangenheim, Fritz Rasp
Length	156 min

Fifty years after the first moon landing in the summer of 1969, UFA Film Nights presents Fritz Lang's cinematic vision of the future from 1929 about an expedition to the moon. The team includes two engineers, a young woman, an eccentric professor, a business syndicate agent, and a young boy who has stolen on board as a stowaway. As odd as the mission's motive to find gold on the moon and the spaceship crew's composition may seem, at the time director and co-author Fritz Lang based the movie on state-of-the-art technical research. Lang's scientific advisor was the physicist Hermann Oberth (1894-1989), mentor of the later "father of the moon landing" Wernher von Braun. Fortified with Oberth's insights, Lang created a movie that exemplarily fits the term science fiction: a fictional plot based on real science. This is true not only for the principle of a multi-stage rocket launched with a countdown (a concept that Lang later claimed he originated); even the moon capsule also looks amazingly like the landing shuttles of NASA's later moon missions. So the movie, now 90 years old, is rightly acclaimed as truly visionary.

Music

DJ legend Jeff Mills has created a new musical interpretation of the movie for the UFA Film Nights 2019. Mills also performed at the UFA Film Nights 2017, and received standing ovations for his soundtrack for METROPOLIS.

The Movies

8/23

MADAM DUBARRY

1919



Director	Ernst Lubitsch
Production	Paul Davidson Produktions-AG „Union“ (PAGU) for Ufa
Screenplay	Fred Orbing, Hans Kräly
Cinematography	Theodor Sparkuhl
Cast	Pola Negri, Emil Jannings, Reinhold Schünzel, Harry Liedtke, Eduard von Winterstein
Length	114 min

Filmed in and around Berlin during the post-revolutionary turmoil of 1918/19, MADAME DUBARRY is about the forerunners of the French Revolution of 1789. One of its pioneers because of her provocative behavior was the Countess du Barry, a mistress of King Louis XV. In a liberal interpretation of her real life, Ernst Lubitsch tells of the rise of the poor, pretty seamstress Jeanne to become the king's lover and most powerful woman in France until her downfall and death on the scaffold.

When the French press heard about Ernst Lubitsch's du Barry movie, it expressed puzzlement that a director from its erstwhile wartime enemy Germany was making a movie set in the "graceful and light era" of the Ancien Régime so soon after the end of the First World War. However, with his historical biopic Lubitsch proved that he had nothing in common with those "sauerkrauts, with small round eyes and heavy bellies" with which his countrymen were associated in France. His elegantly staged parable about the relationship between power and sex was met with praise and admiration not only in Madame du Barry's homeland, but also in Germany, its country of origin where the movie celebrated its world premiere at the opening of Berlin's Zoo Palast in September 1919.

Music

A new composition by the Berlin-based silent movie and jazz musician Ekkehard Wölk and his Ensemble Ancien Régime – a blend of classical music from the French Baroque and sublime contemporary jazz.

The Musicians

8/21

FRIDO TER BEEK AND MAUD NELISSEN WITH THE SPROCKETS FILM ORCHESTRA

Frido ter Beek and Maud Nelissen's new composition for *A CRAZY NIGHT* (German: *Eine tolle Nacht*) conjures up the music scene of 1920s Berlin and pays homage to the German/Austrian film and pop composer Fred Raymond (1900-1954). Raymond, a very popular songwriter in his day, wrote perennial favorites including "In einer kleinen Konditorei" and "Mein Bruder macht im Tonfilm die Geräusche," and together with Austin Egen (1987-1941) composed the piece „Eine tolle Nacht“.



Frido ter Beek and Maud Nelissen are passionate musicians with many years of stage and concert experience. This has been formative in the development of their music, which effortlessly segues between 1920s light music and contemporary swing and jazz.



Frido ter Beek is a Dutch saxophonist and composer who lives in Buenos Aires. He studied classical saxophone and jazz. In Buenos Aires he formed his own jazz quartet, plays in various groups, and teaches. He visits Europe regularly and among others works with his regular ensembles, the Koh-I-Noor Saxophone Quartet and The Sprockets film orchestra. Composition

is becoming increasingly important for his artistic work. Frido ter Beek has written several pieces for Koh-I-Noor and other ensembles – but also composes movie scores, such as for Murnau's last film *TABU*, or for *The Sprockets*.

Dutch musician Maud Nelissen was one of the first women to break into the male-dominated ranks of silent-film pianists. Today she is one of the internationally acclaimed greats of silent-film music and performs at all major film festivals in Europe, the U.S., and Asia. She trained as a classical concert pianist at the Utrecht Superior School of Music, graduating with honors. Another important experience for her was the collaboration with Charlie Chaplin's last arranger Eric James in Italy. In addition to solo performances, Nelissen composes and arranges silent film music for orchestras and various ensembles. Her best known works include the score for *THE PATSY* (U.S. 1925, King Vidor) and *THE MERRY WIDOW* (U.S. 1925, Erich von Stroheim).

She is the founder of The Sprockets film orchestra, which delighted audiences with their musical accompaniment for *THE APACHES OF PARIS* at the UFA Film Nights 2018, with Maud Nelissen on the grand piano.

The Musicians

8/22

JEFF MILLS



Photo: Jacob Khrist

In 1987, Jeff Mills began performing as a DJ called “The Wizard” on his weekly radio show at the Detroit station WJLB. From 1988 he produced industrially-inspired music together with Anthony Srock under the name “Final Cut.” A little later, he joined several others in founding the record label Underground Resistance, whose releases defined and decisively shaped Detroit techno. From 1989, Mills also began producing solo records. In 1991 Mills moved to New York and founded his own label, Axis Records. He also produced for the Berlin label Tresor Records and in the 1990s chose Berlin as his second home.

In 2000 he released the first electronic version of the soundtrack to Fritz Lang’s METROPOLIS. His passion for sci-fi and movie classics subsequently led to scores for Buster Keaton’s THE THREE AGES (1923), Fritz Lang’s WOMAN IN THE MOON, Walter Ruttmann’s BERLIN: SYMPHONY OF A GREAT CITY, and Georges Méliès’ A TRIP TO THE MOON.

As a DJ, Jeff Mills is known for his fast, spontaneous mixing style. He often changes records every minute and simply throws the played records behind him. “X-103 – Atlantis” was included in “The Wire’s” “100 Records That Set The World On Fire (While No One Was Listening).” Other milestones from the label’s archive will be re-released on Axis as part of his “Director’s Cut” series. Especially for the UFA Film Nights 2017, Jeff Mills set the completed, restored 2010 version of METROPOLIS to music for the first time. This year he will give a live performance of his new musical interpretation of another great classic of Weimar cinema: WOMAN IN THE MOON.



Photo: Thomas Ecke

The Musicians

8/23

EKKEHARD WÖLK AND THE ENSEMBLE ANCIEN RÉGIME



Photo: Andreas Weiser

Ekkehard Wölk is a pianist and composer who has worked in both classical and jazz idioms for a quarter of a century. His numerous live concerts have taken him to renowned festivals in Germany and abroad, such as the Bachfest Leipzig, MDR Musiksommer, the Bachtage and Mozartfest in Würzburg, and the Kurt Weill-Fest in Dessau. His piano trio has played at the International Jazz Festival in New Delhi and the Jazzkaar Festival in Tallinn, and has made several highly acclaimed concert appearances at the Mariinsky Theater and the

Glinka Philharmonic in St. Petersburg at the invitation of the Goethe-Institut. His concerts are broadcast by Deutschlandfunk Kultur, rbb, and Bayerischer Rundfunk. His albums include "Reflections on Mozart" (2006), "The Berlin Album" (2016), and "Another kind of Faith" (2017). For many years, Wölk has accompanied silent movies as a soloist or with an ensemble, for example at "Berlin-Babylon. Das Stummfilmfestival" (Berlin-Babylon. The Silent Film Festival), the UFA Film Nights in Brussels, and the Zeughaus cinema in Berlin.

The musicians have given themselves the name "Ensemble Ancien Régime" especially for their musical accompaniment of MADAME DUBARRY during the UFA Film Nights, as a reference to the historical theme of this Ufa silent movie classic. The Ensemble Ancien Régime musicians have been working together for well over ten years, mainly in various jazz ensembles as well as on joint classical music-inspired and cross-genre projects.

The Venue



Museum Island in the heart of Berlin attracts many visitors from all over the world. Here lies the cradle of today's Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, which display their outstanding collections spanning millennia of art and cultural history in Europe and the Mediterranean region, in this incomparable assembly of buildings. In 1999, UNESCO added Berlin's Museum Island to its list of World

Heritage Sites, calling it "a unique ensemble of museum buildings, which illustrates the evolution of modern museum design over more than a century."

The beginnings of Berlin's Museum Island were closely linked to the early 19th-century ideals of the Enlightenment and Humanism. Great architects such as Karl Friedrich Schinkel and Friedrich August Stüler played a key role in the architectural design of the Spreeinsel, which is also the historical starting point and the city center of Berlin. To this day, these masterpieces of Classicistic architecture give Museum Island its unmistakable appearance. With the opening of today's Altes Museum in 1830 under Friedrich Wilhelm IV, Museum Island Berlin began its development, into a "sanctuary for art and science." The Neues Museum was the next to be built (1843-1855), followed by the (Alte) Nationalgalerie (1867-1876), the Bode-Museum (known as Kaiser Friedrich Museum from 1897-1904), and the Pergamonmuseum (1910-1930).

The Kolonnadenhof forms the central courtyard of Museum Island, surrounded by the buildings of the Neues Museum, the Pergamonmuseum, the Alte Nationalgalerie and the Kolonnadengänge (colonnade corridors). The original design of the landscaping dates from 1880. The layout and motifs of the historical design have been taken up in the current version and gently modernized.

This site, steeped in cultural history, has served as the perfect venue for the UFA Film Nights since 2014.

About UFA

UFA is one of the oldest entertainment brands in the world. Today's UFA is a powerful creator of entertainment content, and has steadily expanded its market leadership as a film and television producer in Germany over the years. Each day, UFA programs entertain and inspire millions of viewers. The company has evolved from a creator of programs and TV producer into a content specialist for every type of platform – for all major broadcasters in Germany as well as for many other partners. UFA is the umbrella for all German production activities of Fremantle, which operates the worldwide production business of Bertelsmann-owned RTL Group

The UFA FICTION, UFA SERIAL DRAMA and UFA SHOW & FACTUAL production units operate under the UFA umbrella. Their extensive product portfolio offers an unparalleled variety of complementary programs. High-quality fiction productions such as TV movies, series, series and TV events are realized by UFA FICTION. UFA SHOW & FACTUAL produces journalistic formats, reality programs, and shows, as well as a wide range of variety and game shows, quizzes, panel shows, and dating, comedy and music shows. UFA SERIAL DRAMA is a leading supplier of industrial serial productions. Long-running program brands are at the heart of the product strategy for the group's core business, the production of TV content. With currently more than 30 serial program brands, the UFA has more long-running formats in the market than any other producer. While UFA sets and develops trends with its programs, it is also committed to time-honored ideas and traditions. Its impressive track record is evident in stellar ratings for miniseries, shows and long-running series such as "SOKO München," "SOKO Leipzig," "GZSZ," "Alles was zählt," "Unter Uns," "Ein starkes Team," "Donna Leon," "Wer weiß denn sowas" and "Sag die Wahrheit." Outstanding high-end drama series, event-scale TV movies, and feature films such as "Generation War," "Ku'damm 56/59," "Charité," "Deutschland 83/86," "Hackerville," and "Der Turm"; and box-office movies like "Der Junge muss an die frische Luft" and "The Physician," as well as adaptations of internationally popular light entertainment and infotainment such as "Deutschland sucht den Superstar" (Germany's Got Talent) "Das Supertalent," and "Bauer sucht Frau" (Farmer Wants A Wife).

More information about UFA and its productions can be found at:

www.UFA.de

www.facebook.com/UFA

About Bertelsmann

Bertelsmann is a media, services and education company that operates in about 50 countries around the world. It includes the broadcaster RTL Group, the trade book publisher Penguin Random House, the magazine publisher Gruner + Jahr, 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 117,000 employees and generated revenues of €17.7 billion in the 2018 financial year. Bertelsmann stands for creativity and entrepreneurship. This combination enables first-class media content and innovative service solutions that inspire customers around the world.

As a creative content company and with strong references to its more than 180-year history, Bertelsmann's is culturally engaged on various levels as part of its Culture@Bertelsmann activities. For instance, the Group is strongly dedicated to the preservation of important cultural assets – with a focus on making the cultural heritage accessible, e.g. through its digitization, or through exhibitions and concerts. As a main sponsor of the digital restoration of important silent films, the company also supports many of their performances worldwide. For instance, Bertelsmann hosts the UFA Film Nights not only in Berlin, but also in Brussels, and supports the screening of silent films at festivals around the world. Bertelsmann also owns the Archivio Storico Ricordi in Milan, a music archive that contains a wealth of unique testimonies to Italian opera history. Bertelsmann is indexing the archival holdings to meet the latest standards and making the cultural treasures accessible for a wide audience.



More information about Bertelsmann is available at:
www.bertelsmann.de
www.facebook.com/Bertelsmann

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www.unter-den-linden-1.de

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The Ufa Film Nights are presented by UFA GmbH and Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA

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