

CASE STUDY N.1



Director - Oliver Rihs

Actors: Peter Weiss, Manuel Cortez

Producer: René Römert / Port-au-Prince Film
& Kultur Produktion

In co-production with Swiss Effects and Seven Pictures AG.

HD, 1:1,85, Dolby Digital

Comedy 90'

DE/CH 2011

Budget: 450.000 Euro

Synopsis (short)

The timid Lancelot (Peter Weiss) is searching for true love and good sex. His brash roommate (Manuel Cortez) takes charge and signs him up at an Internet Dating Site. Finally Lancelot is thrown into the mix and enters the female universe but with wicked consequences.

Director's Note

The archaic search for love and sex, in today's technocratic world, has mutated into a grotesque consumption-driven battle of the sexes. At the click of a mouse, the magic tool of the Internet allows us access to attractive dates in seconds, which millions of adventurous women and men take advantage of on a daily basis.

Frantically and under humongous pressure to succeed, we market our own personalities in hopes of wrangling our way to the top of the dating pool, but in so doing we often suppress our true personal needs and thereby suppress ourselves.

We are constantly fixated on the desirable, high-gloss, assembly-line version of ourselves, while in the end we're secretly yearning for authenticity. Naturally, this leads to catastrophic collisions whenever two such neurotic, colorful personalities dare to sleep around or even experience romantic love.

In my opinion, this enormously popular *Zeitgeist* holds an absurd kind of potential, which is finally what led me to make this comedy.

I hope and believe that we will all be able to see a little bit of ourselves in the love and suffering of our hero, Lancelot.

Process

2010 – Developing and shooting of Webisode

- 8 episodes by 15min.
- Budget 115.000 Euro (60.000 public funds & 55.000 by co-financing)
- shooting camera – Cannon 5d & Panasonic full HD

In 2010 we developed together with an internet portal, hosted by the German Telecom, a fictional comedy webisode which includes 8 episodes, each about 15min long, about internet dating. Beside our awareness that we didn't have the time and money to produce the webisode in a proper way like a cinema production, we hoped from the beginning that we will be able after finalized the webisode, to create a feature movie out of the material. After several tryouts for a new arrangement of the material and a half year later, we had a version for a feature length film which seems to work in a cinema. But it was obvious that we have to add some animations and spend more energy into the grading, sound design and new music. Luckily we found a Swiss co producer who was willed to spend some money into the feature film and to provide us with technical support threw his own postproduction house - Swiss Effects.

Half on the way to the final cinema version, another co-producer hooked on – the private German TV station ProSieben, which enabled us to cover all the feature production costs.

The movie had recently his world premiere at the Zürich Filmfest and a successful German premiere at the Filmfest in Hof which leads us to the conviction that we soon will find a German distributor.