CV & Filmography - Jan Zabeil

Writer/Director, Cinematographer

Jan Zabeil was born 1981 in Berlin, Germany. He studied cinematography at the University of Film and Television in Potsdam-Babelsberg (HFF/B) from 2003 to 2009 and meanwhile started to direct. In 2007/08 his short films "L.H.O." and "Was weiss der Tropfen davon" screened at over 100 international film festivals and were awarded several prizes. His debut feature "The river used to be a man" premiered in Toronto in 2011. The film won several awards at international film festivals (among them: "Best new director – San Sebastian IFF 2011", "Best cinematography, German critics association 2013", "Audience Award" in Jeonju, Korea and "Best Sound" in Moscow). It screened at art institutions (MoMA – NYC, National cinemategue, Mexico, Deutsche Kinemathek) – and was distributed in cinemas in Germany, Spain and Mexico.

In 2016 he wrote and directed "Three Peaks"/ "Drei Zinnen", starring Alexander Fehling and Bérénice Bejo, which premiered 2017 in Locarno in front of 7000 people and received the Variety Piazza Grande Award before going to Toronto and several other filmfestivals around the world. The film is distributed by NFP (in Germany) and Greenwhich Entertainment (in the US) among other territories and screening platforms, world sales: The Match Factory. He lives and works in Berlin, Germany and Bolzano, Italy. At the Berlinale 2018 he was one of Variety's European to watch among 10 others and received the DEFA award for young German cinema for his past two films. The same year, he coproduced Veronika Kaserers Film "Überall wo wir sind", which won the Kompass-Perspektive award at the Berlinale.

FILMS AS DIRECTOR (selection; 05/2022):

IN DEVELOPMENT	ZEIT DES ORIONS (WT)	funded by BKM
IN DEVELOPMENT	DER SPION (WT)	funded by FFA
IN DEVELOPMENT	METANOIA (WT)	funded by BKM
2017	DREI ZINNEN (THREE PEAKS)	Feature Film, Rohfilm GmbH, SWR, NFP starring Alexander Fehling, Bérénice Bejo World Sales: The Match Factory
2015	WE WILL STAY IN TOUCH ABOUT IT (AT) (cinematography: Jan Zabeil)	Short, 8 min, Alexa XT, Rohfilm GmbH
2011	THE RIVER USED TO BE A MAN (DER FLUSS WAR EINST EIN MENSCH)	Feature Film, HD, 83 min, Rohfilm GmbH
	starring Alexander Fehling	SWR, FFA, cinema distribution GER, SP, MEX, several international festivals and awards
2010	HÖR ICH AUF GETREU ZU SEIN (WILL I STOP BEING TRUE) cinematography: Jan Zabeil, Jakub Bejnarowicz	Documentary, 52 min, HFF
2007	WAS WEISS DER TROPFEN DAVON (WHAT WOULD THE DROP KNOW ABOUT) cinematography: Jan Zabeil	Documentary, 12min, 35mm, HFF, Defa- Spektrum-Film Distribution, several awards at international film festivals - such as SILVER STERLING AWARD, USA
2007	L.H.O. cinematography: Jan Zabeil	Short Fiction, (Co-Directed by: Kristof Kannegiesser), 3min, 35mm, HFF/ ARTE several awards at international film festivals – among them, JURY AWARD, Montréal World Film Festival