

# OH BOY

## - Press Pack -

Director:  
**Jan Ole Gerster**

Screenplay:  
**Jan Ole Gerster**

Produced by:  
**Schiwago Film GmbH**

Co-Produced by:  
**Chromosom Filmproduktion**  
**hr – Hessischer Rundfunk**

In cooperation with:  
**arte**

With Support from:  
**Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg**

Distributed in Germany by:  
**X Verleih AG**

# CONTENTS

<b>Synopsis and Press Release</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Full Cast and Crew</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Key Cast</b>	
Tom Schilling (Niko Fischer).....	5
Friederike Kempfer (Julika Hoffmann) .....	6
Marc Hosemann (Matze).....	7
Justus von Dohnányi (Karl Speckenbach).....	7
Frederick Lau (Ronny).....	7
Michael Gwisdek (Friedrich) .....	8
Ulrich Noethen (Walter Fischer) .....	8
<b>Key Filmmakers</b>	
Jan Ole Gerster, Director and Screenplay.....	9
Schiwago Film GmbH.....	10
Marcos Kantis, Producer .....	11
Chromosom Filmproduktion .....	12
Alexander Wadouh, Co-Producer.....	13

## Technical Information:

Germany 2012  
Length: 88 Minutes  
Screen Aspect Ratio: 1,85:1  
Audio: Dolby SRD

## Contact:

Schiwago Film GmbH  
Gneisenaustrasse 66  
10961 Berlin  
Germany  
Phone: +49 30 69 53 98 0  
FAX: +49 30 69 53 98 50  
info@schiwagofilm.de

## **SYNOPSIS**

Niko is in his late 20's and recently dropped out of college. He lives for the moment, drifting through the streets of his city, observing the people around him with curiosity as they manage their daily lives, oblivious to his own growing status as an outsider.

One day everything changes, and Niko is forced to confront the consequences of his inaction. His girlfriend ends their relationship, his father cuts off his allowance and a psychiatrist confirms his 'emotional imbalance'. Meanwhile, his new neighbour tries to get to know him and a peculiar beauty from his past confronts him with the emotional wounds he inflicted. And all Niko wants is a decent cup of coffee.

"Do you know the feeling when people around you seem to behave in a strange way?" Niko wonders. "And the longer you think about it, the more it dawns on you that it's not other people who are strange, but yourself?" But no sooner has Niko articulated this epiphany than the day takes a tragic turn.

## **PRESS RELEASE**

OH BOY is a self-deprecating portrait of a young man and his city that addresses the desire to participate in life and the difficulty in finding one's place.

OH BOY is the debut feature film from Jan Ole Gerster, who also wrote the film's screenplay. In addition to the great Tom Schilling, OH BOY boasts an outstanding cast, including Friederike Kempfer, Marc Hosemann, Ulrich Noethen, Justus von Dohnányi, Michael Gwisdek and more.

OH BOY was produced by Schiwago Film GmbH and Chromosom Filmproduktion, and is a co-production with hr – Hessischer Rundfunk, in cooperation with arte and with the support of Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg.

## THE CAST

Niko Fischer  
Julika Hoffmann  
Matze  
Elli  
Karl Speckenbach  
Psychologe  
Phillip Rauch  
Jörg  
Ronny  
Walter Fischer  
Friedrich

Tom Schilling  
Friederike Kempster  
Marc Hosemann  
Katharina Schüttler  
Justus von Dohnányi  
Andreas Schröders  
Arnd Klawitter  
Martin Brambach  
Frederick Lau  
Ulrich Noethen  
Michael Gwisdek

## THE CREW

Director  
Screenplay  
Producers  
Commissioning Editors

Camera  
Sound  
Editor  
Production Design  
Costumes  
Make-Up and Styling  
Music

Jan Ole Gerster  
Jan Ole Gerster  
Marcos Kantis, Alexander Wadouh  
Jörg Himstedt (HR – Hessischer Rundfunk)  
Birgit Kämper (ARTE)  
Philipp Kirsamer  
Magnus Pflüger  
Anja Siemens  
Juliane Friedrich  
Juliane Maier, Ildiko Okolicsanyi  
Dana Bieler  
The Major Minors, Cherilyn MacNeil

## ACTORS

### TOM SCHILLING

*as Niko Fischer*

Tom Schilling's acting career began at the tender age of twelve when he was hired by the Berliner Ensemble for the play 'In the Shadow of the Moon'. This was followed by four years of stage work alongside his education.

Born in 1982, he made his television debut in 1999 as Tucky in Ben Verbong's crime show 'Kinder der Gewalt', before he made his big screen debut in Friedemann Fromm's thriller SCHLARAFFENLAND. A year later, he played a supporting role in the comedy DER HIMMEL KANN WARTEN (Exit To Heaven), filmed in the United States. His big break came with Hans-Christian Schmid's successful literary adaptation, CRAZY, for which, alongside Robert Stadlober, he was awarded Best Newcomer at the Bavarian Film Prize 2000. In 2002, Tom Schilling played the lead role in Michael Gutmann's coming-of-age film HEART IN THE HEAD. In 2003 he played in Benjamin Quabeck's homage to the beginnings of the German New Wave, IN YOUR YOUTH, and, a year later, he landed a starring role in Dennis Gansel's NAPOLA.

Tom Schilling can also be found in Oskar Roehler's two films, AGNES AND HIS BROTHERS (2004) and ELEMENTARY (2006), and he joined the cast of the anarchic Berlin-based BLACK SHEEP (2007), his third collaboration with Robert Stadlober. He also made TV appearances in the highly acclaimed ZDF series 'KDD' as a gay friend of Jürgen Vogel, as well as Lars Kraume's 'Tatort - Früher Abschied'. The same year, Uli Edel directed him in THE BAADER MEINHOF COMPLEX. In 2011 he appeared alongside Götz George in MEIN KAMPF (Mein Kampf: The Story Of Adolf Hitler).

In OH BOY, which opens in German cinemas in October 2012, he plays the role of college dropout Niko.

### FILMOGRAPHY (SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS)

	<i>Director</i>
2012 OH BOY	Jan Ole Gerster
2011 MEIN KAMPF (Mein Kampf: The Story Of Adolf Hitler)	Urs Odermatt
2010 'Eisfieber' (TV)	Peter Keglevic
2007 DER BAADER MEINHOF KOMPLEX (The Baader Meinhof Complex)	Uli Edel
SCHWARZE SCHAFE (Black Sheep)	Oliver Rihs
2006 ELEMENTARTEILCHEN (The Elementary Particles)	Oskar Roehler
2004 AGNES UND SEINE BRÜDER (Agnes And His Brothers)	Oskar Roehler
NAPOLA (Before The Fall)	Dennis Gansel
2003 VERSCHWENDE DEINE JUGEND (Play It Loud!)	Benjamin Quabeck
2002 HERZ IM KOPF (Fools Rush In)	Michael Gutmann
'Weil ich gut bin!' (TV)	Miguel Alexandre
2001 'Tatort - Tot bist du' (TV)	Diethard Küster
2000 CRAZY	Hans-Christian Schmid
DER HIMMEL KANN WARTEN (Exit To Heaven)	Brigitte Müller
1999 SCHLARAFFENLAND	Friedemann Fromm
'Tatort - Kinder der Gewalt' (TV)	Ben Verbong

## FRIEDERIKE KEMPTER

*as Julika Hoffmann*

The multi-talented Friederike Kempter completed her acting training at the Fritz Kirchhoff School Der Kreis in Berlin. In 2000 she appeared for the first time alongside Marielle Millowitsch in 'Zwei Vom Blitz Getroffen', which was followed by numerous TV engagements. Friederike Kempter is best known for her role as Nadezhda Krusenstern in 'Tatort Aus Munster' and the sketch-comedy show 'Ladykracher'. The latter was awarded the German Television Award 2011 for Best Comedy and the German Comedy Award 2011 for Best Sketch Show.

The entire cast of 'Tatort Aus Munster' was nominated in January 2012 for the Adolf Grimme Award, Special Category. Friederike Kempter has also appeared on German movie screens in films including DAS WILDE LEBEN (Eight Miles High), FULL IDIOT (Complete Idiot), WHAT A MAN and KOKOWÄÄH.

### FILMOGRAPHY (SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS)

		<i>Director</i>
2012	OH BOY	Jan Ole Gerster
	MAN TUT WAS MAN KANN	Marc Rothemund
2011	WHAT A MAN	Matthias Schweighöfer
	KOKOWÄÄH	Til Schweiger
2010	VATER MORGANA	Till Endemann
2008 – 2010	'Ladykracher' (TV)	Tobias Baumann, Jan Markus Linho
2007	VOLLIDIOT (Complete Idiot)	Tobi Baumann
2006	DAS WILDE LEBEN (Eight Miles High)	Achim Bornhak

**MARC HOSEMANN**  
**as Matze**

Born in Hamburg in 1970, Marc Hosemann first worked as a postman after leaving school, before attending the Academy Of Music And Performing Arts in Hamburg and then completing his training at the École internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq in Paris. He secured his first small roles around this time, including Janek Rieke's short films DIE HIRNLOSE FRAU and NEULICH AM DEICH. He made his stage debut at Hamburg's Thalia Theatre in a production of Brecht's 'Mother Courage' and afterwards appeared in, amongst other things, Falk Richter's two person play 'Kult' at the Düsseldorf Schauspielhaus. From 1998 he began an extended run beside Bibiana Beglau in a production of Thomas Maier's play 'Disco Pigs', which ran in both Hamburg and Berlin. He began his screen career in 1996 with roles in TV shows like 'Alles außer Mord', 'Sperling' and 'SOKO 5113'. After a series of supporting roles in films like HÄRTETEST (Trial By Fire) and KURZ UND SCHMERZLOS (Short Sharp Shock), he earned his first leading role in Rainer Kaufmann's thriller LONG HELLO AND SHORT GOODBYE beside Nicolette Krebitz. A series of major and minor supporting roles in German and international film and television productions has followed. Marc Hosemann can currently be seen at the Schauspielhaus in Zurich in 'America', directed by Frank Castorf.

**JUSTUS VON DOHNÁNYI**  
**as Karl Speckenbach**

Justus von Dohnanyi was born in 1960 in Lübeck. After his acting studies in Hamburg, he began appearing on stage, including the prestigious Thalia Theatre in Hamburg, as well as in TV movies. His first film role was in the international co-production JAKÖB DER LÜGNER (Jakob The Liar) in 1999. Oliver Hirschbiegel hired him for DAS EXPERIMENT (The Experiment), for which he won the 2001 German Film Award for Best Supporting Actor. He also played in Costa-Gavras' DER STELLVERTRETER (Amen) in 2001, Dennis Gansel's NAPOLA (Before The Fall) (2004), Oliver Hirschbiegel's DER UNTERGANG (Downfall) (2004), Helmut Dietl's VOM SUCHEN UND FINDEN DER LIEBE (About The Looking For And The Finding Of Love) (2005), Heinrich Breloer BUDDENBROOKS (Buddenbrooks: The Decline Of A Family) (2008) and Simon Verhoeven's film MÄNNERHERZEN (Men In The City) (2009), for which he won another German Film Award for Best Supporting Actor in 2010. In 2012, he was once again directed by Simon Verhoeven in MÄNNERHERZEN UND DIE GANZ GROSSE LIEBE.

**FREDERICK LAU**  
**as Ronny**

Born in 1989, Berliner Frederick Lau was already in front of the camera by the age of ten. Numerous roles followed: in TV movies (including 'Wer küsst schon einen Leguan?'), TV series (eg 'Polizeiruf 110', 'Tatort', 'SOKO Leipzig') and movies (DIE WELLE (The Wave), PICCO, TÜRKISCH FÜR ANFÄNGER (Turkish For Beginners)). Frederick Lau's breakthrough came with his role as the unassertive Tim in Dennis Gansel's adaptation of DIE WELLE (The Wave), for which he was awarded the German Film Prize for Best Supporting Actor. Last year he was honoured with the Bavarian Television Award for Best Leading Actor in 'Neue Vahr Süd'. The versatile young actor could recently be seen in 'Tatort – Der Wald Steht Schwarz Und Schweiget' as a troubled teenager.

**MICHAEL GWISDEK**  
*as Friedrich*

Before Michael Gwisdek graduated from his correspondence course in directing at the Theatre Institute in Leipzig, he worked as a decorator. From the age of 23 he studied at the Ernst Busch State Drama School in Berlin and then spent 6 years at the Municipal Theatre in Karl-Marx-Stadt. Michael Gwisdek soon established himself as a character actor in East Germany, and also had the privilege of appearing in West German movies. After the Wall came down, he continued his career with determination and worked in the meantime as a director. His great passion, however, was always acting. In February 2010, in a special moment for the actor, he presented the Berlin based movie BOXHAGENER PLATZ at the Berlinale together with director Matti Geschonneck. In 1999, he was the first German to win the Silver Bear for NACHTGESTALTEN (Night Shapes). To date, Michael Gwisdek has participated in some 140 films and TV series.

**ULRICH NOETHEN**  
*as Walter Fischer*

Born in Munich on November 18, 1959, Ulrich Noethen studied acting at the Academy of Performing Arts in Stuttgart. He gained his first stage experience between 1985 and 1987 as an ensemble member of the Municipal Theatre of Freiburg. During the early nineties, he left a lasting impression in productions such as 'Faust', 'Death and the Devil' and 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.

Following the closure of the State Theatres in Berlin, Ulrich Noethen moved first to TV, where he appeared in the series 'Die Partner' (1994/95), and films such as Dominik Graf's acclaimed 'Tatort – Frau Bu Lacht' (1996) and 'Der Skorpion' (1996). His feature film debut was in 1997 in a lead role in Joseph Vilsmaier's hit film COMEDIAN HARMONISTS (The Harmonists). His portrayal of musician Harry Frommermann, a victim of Nazi persecution, won Noethen the 1998 German Film Award and the Bavarian Film Prize. He earned a reputation over the years that followed as one of the most versatile actors in German cinema, with roles in such diverse works as the children's film DAS SAMS (for which he won the Bavarian Film Award 2001 for Best Actor), Dani Levy's relationship drama VÄTER (I'm The Father), and Oliver Hirschbiegel's DOWNFALL (as Heinrich Himmler). In Christian Schwochow's drama DIE UNSICHTBARE (Cracks In The Shell) (2011), Noethen played an extremely challenging theatre director who drives a young actress to their limits, a role for which he won the Best Supporting Actor category in the 2012 German Acting Awards.



## BEHIND THE CAMERA

### JAN OLE GERSTER

#### *Director*

Following his civil service, including training as a paramedic, Jan Ole Gerster completed an internship at X Filme Creative Pool GmbH, where he worked as Wolfgang Becker's personal assistant and took on the role of coordinator during the preparation, filming, editing and post-production of GOOD BYE, LENIN!

In 2003 Jan Ole Gerster began his studies in the fields of directing and screenwriting at the German Film and Television Academy in Berlin.

From 2003 to 2009, he completed several projects, including the documentary DER SCHMERZ GEHT, DER FILM BLEIBT - The Making Of Good Bye, Lenin!, and he wrote the script for SICK HOUSE, part of the short film series GERMANY 09-13 SHORT FILMS ON THE STATE OF THE NATION (which also featured directors Tom Tykwer, Wolfgang Becker, Fatih Akin and Dani Levy, amongst others).

OH BOY, a tragi-comedy, is Jan Ole Gerster's feature film debut.

#### FILMOGRAPHY (SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS)

2012	OH BOY (Director, Screenplay)
2009	DEUTSCHLAND 09 – 13 KURZE FILME ZUR LAGE DER NATION, Segment KRANKES HAUS (Screenplay) (Germany 09: 13 Short Films About the State of the Nation Sick House segment (Script)) Listen! (Music video for the band Get Well Soon, Director and Producer) Witches, Witches! (Music video for the band Get Well Soon, Director and Producer)
2006	Im Kino gewesen, geweint – Cinema advertisement for the Hessischer Film Prize 2006 (Director)
2005	An der Kinokasse – Cinema advertisement for the Hessischer Film Prize 2005 (Director)
2004	DER SCHMERZ GEHT, DER FILM BLEIBT – The Making Of GOOD BYE, LENIN! (Video Documentary, Director) J'ADORE LE CINEMA – YANN TIERSEN UND DIE FILMMUSIK (Documentary, Director and Cameraman)

## SCHIWAGO FILM GMBH

Schiwago Film GmbH is an independent production company specialising in the production of feature films and prime time TV fiction formats. Its shareholders are Michal Pokorny, Martin Lehwald and Marcos Kantis.

Since its founding in 1999, Schiwago has overseen several distinguished national and international movies and more than 25 successful television productions. These include MUXMÄUSCHENSTILL (Quiet As A Mouse), which won the German Film Award for Editing as well as the Max Ophüls Prize and three further prizes at the same festival.

In the last few years, Schiwago Film has increasingly concentrated on the development of international film co-productions, while maintaining its focus on the TV sector.

We aim to bring unusual, sometimes 'uncomfortable', stories to a wider, international public, explosively capturing the spirit of the times thanks to highly distinctive filmmakers.

We are particularly committed to the discovery of young cinematic talent with which we pursue innovative, unconventional ways of financing. In the future, further emphasis will be placed upon the development of commercial cinema projects, resulting in domestic and European co-productions.

### FILMOGRAPHY (SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS)

		<i>Director</i>
2012	OH BOY	Jan Ole Gerster
2011	DER PREIS (The Prize)	Elke Hauck
	HEADLOCK	Johan Carlsen
2010	TRANSFER	Damir Lukacevic
2009	MEIN KAMPF (Mein Kampf: The Story Of Adolf Hitler)	Urs Odermatt
2008	SHORT CUT TO HOLLYWOOD	Jan Henrik Stahlberg Marcus Mittermeier
2005	GROSSE LÜGEN	Jany Tempel
2005	BYE BYE BERLUSCONI!	Jan Henrik Stahlberg
2004	MUXMÄUSCHENSTILL (Quiet As A Mouse)	Jan Henrik Stahlberg

## MARCOS KANTIS

### *Producer*

Marcos Kantis – a shareholder and producer at Schiwago Film – completed his Economics studies in 1995 with a degree in Business Administration. Between 1993 and 1995, Marcos Kantis worked freelance in Production Funding at the Film und Medien Stiftung NRW.

In 1993 and 1994 he also completed internships working in International Media at BBDO Düsseldorf and in Film & Film Rights at Atlas Film in Duisburg. He then worked in Russia as a marketing manager for Petrodvorets Watch Factory, as well as in International Video Sales for Multi Media Entertainment in Los Angeles, USA.

From 2001 to 2006 Marcos Kantis was a line producer at X Filme Creative Pool (including work on GOOD BYE, LENIN!). A year later, Marcos Kantis joined the ranks of shareholders at Schiwago Film.

### FILMOGRAPHY (SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS)

		<i>Director</i>
2012	OH BOY	Jan Ole Gerster
2011	'The Last Journey' (TV)	Christoph Schrewe
	DER PREIS (The Prize)	Elke Hauck
2010	TRANSFER	Damir Lukacevic
2009	MEIN KAMPF (Mein Kampf: The Story Of Adolf Hitler)	Urs Odermatt
2008	SHORT CUT TO HOLLYWOOD	Jan Henrik Stahlberg Marcus Mittermeier
2007	GOOD NIGHT – DON ALFONSO (Short Film)	Martin Lehwald
2007	MEIN FÜHRER (The Truly Truest Truth About Adolf Hitler)	Dani Levy
	THE HEART IS A DARK FOREST	Nicolette Krebitz
2007	LIEBESLEBEN (Producer)	Maria Schrader
2006	DER ROTE KAKADU (The Red Cockatoo)	Dominik Graf
2004	AGNES UND SEINE BRÜDER (Agnes And His Brothers)	Oskar Roehler
2003	GOOD BYE, LENIN!	Wolfgang Becker

### ADDITIONAL PROJECTS (SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS)

2000/1999	'Alarm für Cobra 11' (Production Manager)	Michael Schneider, Michael Karen, Raoul Heimrich, Matthias Tiefenbacher
1998	'Der Clown' (Unit Production Manager)	Sigi Rothmund, Raoul Heimrich
	'Lieben und Sterben in Deutschland' (Production Manager)	Raoul Heimrich
1998/97	'Alarm für Cobra 11' (Unit Production & Production Manager)	Pete Ariel, Peter Vogel, Gabriele Häberling, Cornelia Dohrn, Drohr Zahavi, Arend Aghte etc.

## CHROMOSOM FILMPRODUKTION

Chromosom Filmproduktion was founded in Berlin in 2006 by producer Alexander Wadouh. Its goal is to develop and produce national and international films associated with politics and current events, reaching beyond the story itself to touch the audience on a deep and meaningful level.

### FILMOGRAPHY

2012	OH BOY CRASHKURS PEPSI	<i>Director</i> Jan Ole Gerster Anika Wangard Peter Kerek
2010	TANKEN	Cornelius Plache
2006	WE CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN	Toshi Fujiwara

### PROJECTS IN POST-PRODUCTION

WO IST MEIN ZEIT	<i>Director</i> Zubin Sethna
------------------	---------------------------------

### PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT

JOURNEY TO ITHACA	<i>Director</i> Pedro Loeb
4 BLOWS	Peter Kerek
ANIME TRASPARENTI	Luca Lucchesi

**ALEXANDER WADOUH**  
**Co-Producer**

Alexander Wadouh has worked in film since 1999, bringing works of all sizes to fruition and overseeing the various phases of production. He began his studies in Film Production at the prestigious Film and Television Academy in Berlin in 2003. From 2006 to 2009, he worked at Essential Film on several international feature films as well as in the French World Sales Coproduction Office and at Wild Bunch.

Alexander Wadouh founded Chromosom Filmproduktion, a film production company focussed on national and international films for a variety of markets and forms of exploitation, in 2006.

**FILMOGRAPHY**

		<i>Director</i>
2012	OH BOY	Jan Ole Gerster
	WHERE IS MY TENT (Producer)	Zubin Sethna
	CRASH COURSE (Producer)	Anika Wangard
	PEPSI (Producer)	Peter Kerek
2009	FRANKENSTEIN PROJECT (Pre-production)	Kornél Mundruczó
	ORLY, POEM 1-4 (Post-production Supervisor)	Angela Schanelec
	WOMEN WITHOUT MEN (Production Assistant , Post-production Supervisor)	Shirin Neshat
2007	YOU, THE LIVING (Production Assistant)	Roy Andersson
	IMPORT / EXPORT (Production Assistant)	Ulrich Seidl
2006	WE CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN (Co-producer)	Toshi Fujiwara