

PRESS RELEASE



Arthouse Cinema 2025: Uncovering Little Stories Tucked in History

Goethe-Institut Indonesien will once again organise the Arthouse Cinema film screening programme from March to November 2025. Each month, one German film released between 1929 and 2022 will be screened at GoetheHaus Jakarta. Through these carefully curated films, audiences will have the opportunity to explore often forgotten chapters of history.

Each screening at Arthouse Cinema this year will provide a personal lens through which we can re-examine our shared past. Dr. Ingo Schöningh, Head of Cultural Programmes at Goethe-Institut Indonesien, said, "These films remind us that history is not just about major events. It's also about the sometimes unnoticed moments, diminutive incidents that slowly shift and shape our world, leading us toward the larger events we know. These stories define who we are and how we relate to one another."

This year, Arthouse Cinema will kick off on Saturday, 22 March 2025 at 2.30 pm at GoetheHaus Jakarta with a screening of *Rabiye Kurnaz gegen George W. Bush* (2022) by director Andreas Dresen. The film tells the compelling story of a mother's fight to free her son from Guantanamo Bay. Against all odds, Rabiye Kurnaz emerges as an unlikely yet powerful figure, symbolizing the personal stakes of a highly political case.

In the following months, Arthouse Cinema will also screen the following film titles:

- ***Menschen am Sonntag* (1929, Robert Siodmak)** captures the fleeting moments of everyday life in pre-war Berlin on one Saturday afternoon (continued by a series of affairs and errands on the following Sunday), offering a snapshot of social dynamics and individual dreams on the brink of major historical upheaval. There is nothing major happening; the characters meet, make a trip, take walks, sleep. The city and the protagonists ultimately become interchangeable.
- ***o.k.* (1970, Michael Verhoeven)** is a 1970 anti-war film from West Germany. The story follows a four-man U.S. military team during the Vietnam War as they capture and brutally mistreat a young Vietnamese girl. Although the film is set in the war, it takes place in a Bavarian forest, and the actors speak with a distinct Bavarian accent—a deliberate choice by Verhoeven to create a "Brechtian distancing effect."
- ***Lieber Thomas* (2021, Andreas Kleinert)** tells the story of Thomas Brasch, an East German writer and filmmaker who grapples with the oppressive realities of life under the Stasi regime. As he challenges the system and pursues creative freedom, the film delves into the emotional toll of living in a divided society, where personal identity and political resistance collide.
- ***Wir sind jung, wir sind stark* (2014, Burhan Qurbani)** shifts to a different kind of societal tension in the wake of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Set in the early 1990s, it depicts the violent clashes between young neo-Nazis and immigrant communities in Rostock, exploring the rise of nationalism and xenophobia in post-reunification Germany.

Goethe-Institut

Jl. Sam Ratulangi 9-15
Jakarta 10350

Contact

Ryan Rinaldy
Public Relations Manager
Goethe-Institut Indonesien
Ryan.Rinaldy@goethe.de
M / WA +62 811 1911 1988
www.goethe.de/indonesia

www.goethe.de

**GOETHE
INSTITUT**

Sprache. Kultur. Deutschland.



- ***Die Brücke am Ibar* (2012, Michaela Kezele)**, set towards the end of the Yugoslav Wars, takes a more intimate approach to the theme of reconciliation. The film follows Danica, a Serbian single mother, and her children, trapped in their home amidst the violent conflict between Serbs, Albanians, and NATO forces. The bridge across the Ibar River becomes a poignant symbol of their struggle to survive and preserve their humanity in the face of war and division.
- ***Als Hitler das Rosa Kaninchen stahl* (2019, Caroline Link)** portrays the loss of innocence as the upper-class Jewish Kemper family is forced to flee Nazi Germany, navigating the emotional challenges of displacement and exile.
- ***Sputnik* (2020, Markus Dietrich)** explores a different kind of turmoil. Set in East Germany during the Cold War, an upcoming child scientist Rike and her gang try to make sense of the mysterious and unsettling consequences of leaving their village.

The Arthouse Cinema 2025 schedule can be viewed regularly on Goethe-Institut Indonesien's Instagram account [@goetheinstitut_indonesien](https://www.instagram.com/goetheinstitut_indonesien) and on its website www.goethe.de/indonesien.

###

About Goethe-Institut

The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's cultural institute, active worldwide. We promote the study of German abroad and encourage international cultural exchange. We also provide a comprehensive image of Germany through information on German political, social and cultural life. Our various cultural and educational programs support intercultural dialogue and enable cultural participation. These various programs strengthen the structures of civil society and support global mobility.

For press inquiries:

Ryan Rinaldy
Public Relations Manager
Goethe-Institut Jakarta
Ryan.Rinaldy@goethe.de
[M / WA +62 811 1911 1988](tel:+6281119111988)

www.goethe.de

**GOETHE
INSTITUT**

Sprache. Kultur. Deutschland.