

PRESS RELEASE

WHAT: 4th German Film Week Manila

WHEN: November 06 to 12, 2019

WHERE: SM City Manila and SM Megamall Cinemas

"4TH GERMAN FILM WEEK OPENS ON NOVEMBER 6 AT SM MANILA, CELEBRATES FALL OF BERLIN WALL"

MANILA, PHILIPPINES - The Goethe-Institut Philippinen is pleased to announce the opening of the fourth installment of German Film Week in Manila with an exciting and diverse line-up of 12 feature-length German films for the Filipino movie audience.

The festival will screen the following award-winning and notable films: 25km/h (Markus Goller), 100 Things (Florian David Fitz), A Regular Woman (Sherry Hormann), All about Me (Caroline Link), Balloon (Michael Bully Herbig), Barbara (Christian Petzold), Berlin Blues (Oskar Roehler), Cold Feet (Wolfgang Groos), Good Bye, Lenin! (Wolfgang Becker), Gundermann (Andreas Dresen), The Keeper (David Kross), and The Lives of Others (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck).

"This year's German Film Week is a meaningful one as it commemorates the 30th anniversary of the Fall of Berlin Wall," said Dr. Ulrich Nowak, director and head of Cultural Programs for Goethe-Institut Manila.

To commemorate the said historical event, half of the films featured at the German Film Week will offer insight into life between East and West Germany during the divide from different perspectives.

The festival aims to promote German language and culture as it offers a wide selection of movies that cater to different taste and interest of the moviegoers, may it be action, comedy, romance, or politics.

The German Film Week kicks off at **SM Manila Cinema 6 on Nov 6** with the opening movie **Balloon** directed by **Michael Bully Herbig**. The screenings of other films will run from **November 7 to November 11 at SM City Manila Cinema 6 and SM Megamall Cinema 2**.

Amazing surprises await the moviegoers as there will be an extra special **Watch 'n Win contest**, in which everyone can participate. The quiz and the full mechanics can be found on the homepage of the German Film week: Goethe.de/GermanFilmWeekPH. The select individual will be rewarded with an all-expense paid trip to Germany.

Tickets to the 2019 GERMAN FILM WEEK are priced at **100 Php** for all films and at a discounted price of **50 Php** for all students. The premiere night on November 6 is free and open to all on a first-come-first-served basis while tickets for the rest of the Manila screenings may be purchased at the cinema counters of participating **SM Malls**, via smcinema.com or the **SM Cinema App**.

The German Film Week is made possible through the partnership with SM Lifestyle Malls and SM Cinemas and the support of the Film Development Council of the Philippines. For more information, visit Goethe.de/Manila

ABOUT THE GOETHE-INSTITUT PHILIPPINEN – The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's cultural institute, promoting the study of the German language abroad, and encouraging international cultural exchange.

[Click here for DOWNLOADABLES \(film stills, pub mats\) and other related links.](#)



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Film Line-up:

BALLOON (Ballon), Opening Film

Germany | 2018 | Thriller, Drama | 125 mins. | English Subtitles | 30 Years Fall of Berlin Wall, New German Cinema

Coming out only last year, this movie will be presented to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Fall of Berlin Wall. Balloon, as well as the other 5 (five) films focusing on the 30 Years of the Fall of Berlin Wall, offer insights into life Based on actual events, this feature film tells the story of a spectacular escape from the GDR. In summer 1979, after two years of preparations and planning, the Strelzyk and Wetzel families want to escape from the GDR in a self-built hot-air balloon. The Strelzyk family goes first, but has to make an emergency landing before they get to cross the border. The damaged balloon gets carried away by the wind. While the family can make it back home safely, both, the Strelzyks as well as the Wetzels know it won't be long before the Stasi are onto them. Feverishly, they start building a new, more stable balloon to undertake another attempt to escape.

25 KM/H

Germany | 2018 | Comedy, Adventure | 116 mins. | English Subtitles | New German Cinema

Lars Eidinger and Bjarne Mädel play two completely disparate brothers who decide at their father's funeral to follow a crazy whim and, at long last, fulfill their long-held dream of traveling through Germany on their mopeds. While they make some strange new acquaintances and experience all kinds of crazy situations during their marathon journey, the brothers gradually come to realize that, in the end, blood is thicker than water.

ALL ABOUT ME (Der Junge muss an die frische Luft)

Germany | 2018 | Drama | 100 mins. | English Subtitles | New German Cinema

Film adaptation of the autobiography of German entertainer Hape Kerkeling.

The story begins in the Ruhr Valley of 1972: Hans-Peter is nine years old and a bit chubby, but full of self-confidence. The latter is not least due to his ability to make other people laugh, a talent that he trains on every occasion - be it in the grocer's shop of his grandmother Anne, with the customers as an audience, or at the various meetings with his party-prone relatives. But the idyllic family life takes a turn for the darker when Hape's mother loses her sense of smell and taste as the result of a chronic sinus infection and starts struggling with depression. The father is helpless and doesn't know how to deal with his wife's mental illness. But for Hape, the sadness of his mother is an even greater incentive to act out his comedic side. ge muss an die frische Luft

BERLIN BLUES (Herr Lehmann)

Germany | 2003 | Drama | 110 mins. | English Subtitles | 30 Years Fall of Berlin Wall

Using elusive measures Herr Lehmann has successfully ignored the demands of parents, landlord, neighbours and women for years. Now, in the year 1989, he lives pretty much trouble-free in Berlin, when he's not in the nearest bar. But then, out of the blue, one unexpected annoyance after the other disrupts the routine of his beloved daily grind...

GOOD BYE, LENIN!

Germany | 2003 | Comedy, Drama, Romantic | 121 mins. | English Subtitles | 30 Years Fall of Berlin Wall

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October 1989 was a bad time to fall into a coma if you lived in East Germany - and this is precisely what happens to Alex's proudly socialist mother. Alex has a big problem on his hands when she suddenly awakens eight months later. Her heart is so weak that any shock might kill her. And what could be more shocking than the fall of the Berlin Wall and the triumph of capitalism in her beloved East Germany? To save his mother, Alex transforms the family apartment into an island of the past, a kind of socialist-era museum where his mother is lovingly duped into believing that nothing has changed. What begins as a little white lie turns into a major scam as Alex's sister and selected neighbours are recruited to maintain the elaborate ruse - and keep her believing that Lenin really did win after all!

THE KEEPER (Trautmann)

Germany, UK, Ireland | 2018 | Biography, Drama | 120 mins. | English Subtitles | New German Cinema

While visiting a PoW camp near Manchester at the end of WWII, Margaret and her father, the manager of the local football team, notice a young German soldier Bert Trautmann. Margaret's father is so taken by Bert's prowess as a goal-keeper that he gets him out of the camp to play for his team. While Margaret's and Bert's love slowly blossoms despite local hostility, Bert's heroics in goal are noticed by Man City. Rather than going back to Germany, Bert marries Margaret and signs for Man City. His signing causes outrage to thousands of fans, many of them Jewish. But Bert and Margaret receive support from an unexpected direction: Rabbi Alexander Altmann, who fled the Nazis. Thus Bert's path to acceptance begins. At the 1956 FA Cup Final he achieves ultimate reconciliation, when he secures victory by playing on despite breaking his neck. Yet fate twists the knife for both Margaret and Bert and their loyalty to each other will be put to the test once more.

COLD FEET (Kalte Füße)

Germany, Austria | 2018 | Comedy | 97 mins. | English Subtitles | New German Cinema

Through a curious mix-up, the petty criminal Denis suddenly finds himself in the position of a caretaker for the stroke patient Raimund. All he really wanted to do was break into Raimund's house in order to finally pay off his debts to some disagreeable crooks. Instead, he now sits captive in the rich businessman's house, who, since his seizure has been confined to a wheelchair. When Raimund's granddaughter Charlotte shows up to check on him, it's finally too much for Denis. But escape is not an option as a mighty snowstorm is raging in the region. And so he must continue to play the role of the caretaker - very much to Raimund's dismay, who is doing everything he can to fend off the intruder. In contrast to Charlotte, Raimund has long since seen through Denis' facade. A game of cat-and-mouse begins, in which the handicapped senior and the clever young man put their resources to terrific use...

GUNDERMANN

Germany | 2018 | History, Drama | 127 mins. | English Subtitles | 30 Years Fall of Berlin Wall, New German Cinema

Biopic about East-German singer-songwriter Gerhard Gundermann (1955-1998). During the day, he worked as a digger operator in a coal mine. Yet after his shift, he successfully performed as a singer who reached the masses. In his songs, he pondered existential questions of life and death, but also didn't shy away from addressing current political and social issues. His very personal lyrics and authentic performances made him a cultural icon in the German Democratic Republic of the



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Eighties. At the same time, he frequently got into trouble with the authorities. After the fall of the wall, Gundermann's popularity not only remained, it even grew bigger. Even when it was revealed in 1995 that Gundermann used to be an informant for the notorious secret state police Stasi, the news didn't really tarnish his success – and though his musical career garnered him a good income, he continued to work as a digger operator. In 1998, Gerhard Gundermann passed away after suffering from a brain seizure.

100 THINGS (100 Things)

Germany | 2018 | Comedy | 115 mins. | English Subtitles | New German Cinema

Toni loves his espresso machine. Paul adores his smart phone. Toni can't do anything without his hair-growth pills. Paul can't function without Amazon. All hilarious hell breaks loose when a drunken argument at a party leads to an unthinkable wager between the two men: they vow to rid themselves of all possessions for 100 days. Only allowing themselves to retrieve one item out of storage per day, Paul and Toni are forced to confront what is really important in their lives, and what they can do without.

THE LIVES OF OTHERS (Das Leben der anderen)

Germany | 2006 | Thriller, Drama | 137 mins. | English Subtitles | 30 Years Fall of Berlin Wall

East Berlin, November 1984. Five years before its downfall, the former East-German government ensured its claim to power with a ruthless system of control and surveillance. Party-loyalist Captain Gerd Wiesler hopes to boost his career when given the job of collecting evidence against the playwright Georg Dreyman and his girlfriend, the celebrated theater actress Christa-Maria Sieland. After all, the "operation" is backed by the highest political circles. What he didn't anticipate, however, was that submerging oneself into the world of the target also changes the surveillance agent. The immersion in *The Lives of Others* – in love, literature, free thinking and speech – makes Wiesler acutely aware of the meagerness of his own existence and opens to him a completely new way of life which he has ever more trouble resisting. But the system, once started, cannot be stopped. A dangerous game has begun...

A REGULAR WOMAN (Nur Eine Frau)

Germany | 2019 | Drama | 90 mins. | English Subtitles | New German Cinema

The film traces the fate of the German Turk Hatun Aynur Sürücü, her struggle for a free, self-determined life against the resistance of the family. Her brothers don't accept her lifestyle and insult and threaten her more and more. Finally, the young woman files charges against her eldest brother and moves with her child to a friend as she doesn't feel safe at home anymore. Simultaneously, the family tries to find a wife for the future murderer, Hatun's eldest brother. In just a few weeks they manage to educate the young Turk Melek (Evin) to become a strict Muslim. She becomes part of the plan to take over and look after Hatun's little boy after her death. Then the murder happens.

BARBARA

Germany | 2012 | Drama | 105 mins. | English Subtitles | 30 Years Fall of Berlin Wall

Summer, 1980. Barbara, a doctor, has applied for an exit visa from the GDR (East Germany). Now, as punishment, she has been transferred from Berlin to a small



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hospital out in the country, far from everything. Jörg, her lover from the West, is already planning her escape. Barbara waits, keeping to herself. The new apartment, the neighbors, summertime, the countryside – none of that means anything to her. Working as a pediatric surgeon under her new boss Andre, she is attentive when it comes to the patients, but quite distanced toward her colleagues. Her future, she feels, will begin later. But Andre confuses her. His confidence in her professional abilities, his caring attitude, his smile. Why does he cover for her when she helps the young runaway Sarah? Does he have an assignment to keep track of her? Is he in love? But as the day of her planned escape quickly approaches, Barbara starts to lose control. Over herself, her plans, over love.

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Screening Schedule

Date	Time	SM City Manila Cinema 6	SM Megamall Cinema 2
Nov 6	7:00 PM	*Balloon <i>*Ballon</i> <small>*OPENING FILM FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION</small>	
Nov 7	7:00 PM	25 km/h	All About Me <i>Der Junge muss an die frische Luft</i>
	9:30 PM	Berlin Blues <i>Herr Lehmann</i>	Balloon <i>Ballon</i>
Nov 8	7:00 PM	Good Bye, Lenin!	A Regular Woman <i>Nur eine Frau</i>
	9:30 PM	The Keeper <i>Trautmann</i>	Barbara
Nov 9	7:00 PM	Cold Feet <i>Kalte Füße</i>	Berlin Blues <i>Herr Lehmann</i>
	9:30 PM	Gundermann	Good Bye, Lenin!
Nov 10	7:00 PM	100 Things <i>100 Dinge</i>	The Keeper <i>Trautmann</i>
	9:30 PM	The Lives of Others <i>Das Leben der anderen</i>	Cold Feet <i>Kalte Füße</i>
Nov 11	7:00 PM	All About Me <i>Der Junge muss an die frische Luft</i>	Gundermann
	9:30 PM	Balloon <i>Ballon</i>	100 Things <i>100 Dinge</i>
Nov 12	7:00 PM	A Regular Woman <i>Nur eine Frau</i>	The Lives of Others <i>Das Leben der anderen</i>
	9:30 PM	Barbara	Berlin Blues <i>Herr Lehmann</i>

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FOCUS		New German Cinema	30 Years Fall of Berlin Wall

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