



WIM WENDERS / BIOGRAPHY

Wim Wenders (born 1945) came to international prominence as one of the pioneers of the World Cinema during the 1970's and is considered to be one of the most important figures in contemporary German film. In addition to his many prize-winning feature films, his work as a scriptwriter, director, producer, photographer and screenwriter also encompasses an abundance of innovative documentary films, internationally presented photo exhibitions as well as numerous monographs, film books and prose collections. He lives and works in Berlin, together with his wife Donata Wenders.

Wim Wenders studied medicine and philosophy before moving to Paris in 1966 to study painting. Though ostensibly pursuing an apprenticeship in the studio of the graphic designer and engraver Johnny Friedlaender, he spent his afternoons and evenings in the Cinémathèque Française. This "crash course in the history of film" would become the most important stage in his education, as Wenders soon began to think of film as an "extension of painting by other means".

His career as a filmmaker began in 1967 when Wenders enrolled at the newly founded University of Television and Film Munich (HFF Munich). Parallel to his studies at the HFF, he also worked as a film critic from 1967 to 1970. At this point in time he had already directed various short films. Upon graduating from the academy in 1971, he founded, together with fifteen other directors and authors, the Filmverlag der Autoren, a film distribution company for German auteur films, which organized the production, rights administration and distribution of their own independent films.

After completing his debut feature out of film school *THE GOALIE'S ANXIETY AT THE PENALTY KICK* (1971) Wenders turned to shooting his road movie trilogy, *ALICE IN THE CITIES* (1973), *WRONG MOVE* (1974) and *KINGS OF THE ROAD* (1975), in which the protagonists try to come to terms with their rootlessness in post-war Germany among other things. His international breakthrough came with *THE AMERICAN FRIEND* (1977). Since then Wenders has continued to work both in Europe and the USA as well as in Latin America and Asia and has been honored with countless awards at festivals around the world, including: the Golden Palm at the Cannes Festival and the BAFTA Film Award for *PARIS, TEXAS* (1984); the Director's Prize in Cannes for *WINGS OF DESIRE* (1987); the Golden Lion at the international Film Festival in Venice for *THE STATE OF THINGS* (1982); and the Silver Bear for *THE MILLION DOLLAR HOTEL* (2000) at the Berlin International Film Festival. His documentary films *BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB* (1999), *PINA* (2011), and *THE SALT OF THE EARTH* (2014) have all been nominated for an Oscar.



During the 2015 edition of the Berlin International Film Festival, Wenders was presented with the Honorary Golden Bear for his lifetime achievement. *EVERY THING WILL BE FINE* was part of the official program of the Berlinale. In 2017 he released his 3D adaptation of Peter Handke's play *THE BEAUTIFUL DAYS OF ARANJUEZ*. 2018 saw the premiere of three (of his) films: The restored *WINGS OF DESIRE*, the love story *SUBMERGENCE*, based on Jonathan M. Ledgard's bestseller, with Academy Award®-winner Alicia Vikander and James McAvoy in the leading roles, and the documentary *POPE FRANCIS – A MAN OF HIS WORD*, a personal journey with Pope Francis.

The medium of photography has accompanied and extended Wenders' artistic work from the very beginning. The starting point for the pursuit of an independent body of photographic work was the photo series *WRITTEN IN THE WEST*, which came into being during the preparations for his film *PARIS, TEXAS* (1984), on Wenders' journeys crisscrossing the American West. His second large photo exhibition *PICTURES FROM THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH* led Wenders to countries such as Australia, Cuba, Israel, Armenia, and Japan – always in search of images that seek to capture the essence of a place.

Wenders' photographs have been exhibited in museums and galleries around the entire world since 1986, in among other places: Centre Pompidou, Paris (1986); Hamburger Bahnhof, Nationalgalerie der Gegenwart in Berlin (2001); the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao (2002); the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (2003); the Shanghai Museum of Art (2004); the Scuderie del Quirinale in Rome (2006); the Museu de Arte de São Paulo (2010); the Deichtorhallen, Hamburg (2012); Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow (2012); the Fundació Sorigué, Lleida (2013); the Villa Pignatelli, Naples (2013); GL Strand, Copenhagen (2014); and Villa Panza, Varese (2015). A comprehensive retrospective of his photographs has been exhibited at the Museum Kunstpalast in Düsseldorf (2015). In October 2017, the Photographers' Gallery in London hosted the first exhibition of Wim Wenders' Polaroid series, which was later shown at the C/O Foundation Berlin (July-September 2018). In 2019 Wenders presented a monumental cinematographic installation based on his film work titled *(E)MOTION. WIM WENDERS*, projected onto the interior structure of the Nave of the Grand Palais in Paris. *TWO OR THREE THINGS I KNOW ABOUT EDWARD HOPPER*, a 3D film installation by Wim Wenders premiered in the beginning of 2020 as part of the exhibition *Edward Hopper* in the Fondation Beyeler.





In 2022, Wenders was awarded the Praemium Imperiale, also known as the “Nobel Prize for the Arts”, by the Japan Arts Association.

Among other honorary titles and positions, he has been a member of the Akademie der Künste and the European Film Academy in Berlin of which he was the President from 1996 to 2020, and holds honorary doctorates from the Sorbonne in Paris (1989), the Faculty of Theology at the University of Fribourg (1995), the University of Louvain (2005), the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Catania (2010) and the University of Oxford (2022). He taught as a professor at the University of Fine Arts in Hamburg until 2017. Wim Wenders is a member of the order Pour le Mérite.

In the fall of 2012, together with his wife Donata, Wim Wenders established the Wim Wenders Foundation in Düsseldorf. The foundation developed a framework that brings together the cinematic, photographic, artistic and literary life work of Wim Wenders in his native country, making it permanently accessible to the general public worldwide through presentations, community engagement, digital restoration and preservation. At the same time, the non-profit foundation supports young talents in the field of innovative narrative cinema, especially through the Wim Wenders’ scholarship of the Film-und Medienstiftung NRW.



FILMOGRAPHY

FEATURE AND DOCUMENTARY FILMS

2023	ANSELM
2023	PERFECT DAYS
2018	Pope Francis – A MAN OF HIS WORD
2017	SUBMERGENCE
2016	LES BEAUX JOURS D'ARANJUEZ (3D)
2015	EVERY THING WILL BE FINE (3D)
2014	THE SALT OF THE EARTH
	CATHEDRALS OF CULTURE, EPISODE "THE BERLIN PHILHARMONIC" (3D)
2011	PINA (3D)
2008	PALERMO SHOOTING
2005	DON'T COME KNOCKING
2004	LAND OF PLENTY
2003	THE BLUES SERIES: THE SOUL OF A MAN
2002	ODE TO COLOGNE: A ROCK 'N' ROLL FILM
2000	THE MILLION DOLLAR HOTEL
1999	BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB
1997	THE END OF VIOLENCE
1996	A TRICK OF THE LIGHT (WITH STUDENTS OF THE HFF MUNICH)
1995	BEYOND THE CLOUDS (WITH MICHELANGELO ANTONIONI)
1994	LISBON STORY
1993	FAR AWAY, SO CLOSE!
1991	UNTIL THE END OF THE WORLD
1989	NOTEBOOK ON CITIES AND CLOTHES
1987	WINGS OF DESIRE
1985	TOKYO-GA
1984	PARIS, TEXAS
1982	THE STATE OF THINGS
	HAMMETT
1980	NICK'S FILM – LIGHTNING OVER WATER
1977	THE AMERICAN FRIEND
1976	KINGS OF THE ROAD
1975	WRONG MOVE
1973	ALICE IN THE CITIES
1972	THE SCARLET LETTER
1971	THE GOALIE'S ANXIETY AT THE PENALTY KICK
1970	SUMMER IN THE CITY



SHORT FILMS

- 2012 NOTES FROM A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN ARCHITECT
(PETER ZUMTHOR AT WORK)
- 2010 IF BUILDINGS COULD TALK
- 2008 "8": PERSON TO PERSON
- 2007 WAR IN PEACE
LOS INVISIBLES: INVISIBLE CRIMES
- 2002 TEN MINUTES OLDER: TWELVE MILES TO TRONA
- 1998 WILLIE NELSON AT THE TEATRO
- 1992 ARISHA, THE BEAR AND THE STONE RING
- 1982 REVERSE ANGLE
ROOM 666
- 1974 FROM THE FAMILY OF REPTILES / THE ISLAND
- 1969 ALABAMA (2000 LIGHT YEARS)
3 AMERICAN LP'S
- 1968 SILVER CITY REVISITED
"POLICE FILM"
- 1967 SCHAUPLÄTZE
SAME PLAYER SHOOTS AGAIN

INSTALLATIONS

- 2020 TWO OR THREE THINGS I KNOW ABOUT EDWARD HOPPER, A 3D INSTALLATION
- 2022 PRÉSENCE – THE ART OF CLAUDINE DRAI, A 3D INSTALLATION

SELECTED PHOTO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Wim Wenders, FilmBilder, Johanna Breede Photokunst, Berlin
TWO OR THREE THINGS I KNOW ABOUT EDWARD HOPPER,
Galerie Bastian, Berlin
- 2022 WIM WENDERS IN NEW YORK 9/11 – WAR IN TIMES OF PEACE, an exhibition
By Yadegar Asisi, Group exhibition, Leipzig, Germany
- 2021 Wim Wenders: Photographing Ground Zero: Imperial War Museum, London
Wim Wenders: @ Gallery Capitain Petzel. Wim Wenders shows his video sound
installation "SAME PLAYER SHOOTS AGAIN" as part of the exhibition:
INFINITE GAMES.
Wim Wenders, Guest Curator Exhibition Henri Cartier-Bresson: LE GRAND JEU,
at Bibliotheque Nationale de France, Paris



- 2020 TWO OR THREE THINGS I KNOW ABOUT EDWARD HOPPER,
Foundation Beyeler, Basel
Wim Wenders – IN TIMES OF SOLITUDE, Online Exhibition Gallery Bastian,
London
Wim Wenders at louvre Abu Dhabi, WE ARE NOT ALONE, A futuristic Audio and
Visual Experience by Soundwalk Collective
- 2019 Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition, with works by Wim Wenders, Anselm
Kiefer, James Tyrrell, Tracy Emin and others, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England
PREHISTORIC TIMES. A MODERN ENIGMA, Group Show with Wim Wenders, Pablo Pi-
casso, Joan Miró, Paul Cézanne, Joseph Beuys, Louise Bourgeois amongst others, Centre
Pompidou, Paris, France
(E)motion. WIM WENDERS, Grand Palais, Paris, France
A WALKING SHADOW. Group Show with Wim Wenders, Bill Viola, Amy Siegel, Mark
Lewis und Owen Kydd, Blain|Southern, Berlin, Germany
WIM WENDERS. EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS 1960s to 1980s, METRO Kinokulturhaus, Fil-
marchiv Austria, Vienna, Austria
- 2018 WIM WENDERS. WATER WORKS, Atrium des Medienzentrum, Publishing house Passau,
Germany
THE TIMES THEY ARE a-CHANGIN, Group Show with Joseph Beuys, Dan Flavin, Anselm
Kiefer and Andy Warhol. Galerie Bastian, Berlin, Germany
INSTANT STORIES: WIM WENDERS' POLAROIDS, CJO Berlin, Germany
WIM WENDERS. EARLY WORKS: 1964 – 1984, Blain|Southern, London, England
DERAIN, BALTHUS, GIACOMETTI. AN ARTISTIC FRIENDSHIP, Fundación Mapfre, Ma-
drid, Spain
- 2017 INSTANT STORIES: WIM WENDERS' POLAROIDS, The Photographers' Gallery, London,
England
LAND OF PLENTY, Galerie Bastian, Berlin, Germany
DERAIN, BALTHUS, GIACOMETTI. AN ARTISTIC FRIENDSHIP, Musée d'Art Moderne de
la Ville de Paris, Paris, France
- 2015 THE SPACE BETWEEN THE CHARACTERS CAN CARRY THE LOAD, Collection Ivo
Wessel, Museum Weserburg, Bremen, Germany
PLACES OF THE MIND. WIM & DONATA WENDERS, Polka Galerie, Paris, France
IN BROAD DAYLIGHT EVEN THE SOUNDS SHINE. WIM WENDERS
SCOUTING IN PORTUGAL, Reservatório da Mae d'Água das Amoreiras, Lisbon, Portugal
TIME CAPSULES BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD, Blain|Southern, Berlin, Germany
4 REAL & TRUE 2. WIM WENDERS. LANDSCAPES. PHOTOGRAPHS, Museum Kunstpa-
last, Düsseldorf, Germany
WIM WENDERS. AMERICA, Villa e Collezione Panza, Varese, Italy
- 2014 WIM WENDERS: PLACES STRANGE AND QUIET, GL Strand, Copenhagen, Denmark
WIM WENDERS: URBAN SOLITUDE, Palazzo Incontro, Rome, Italy
- 2013 WIM WENDERS PHOTOGRAPHS, Fundació Sorigué, Lleida, Spain
- 2010-13 PLACES STRANGE AND QUIET
Villa Pignatelli, Naples, Italy; Galerie OstLicht, Vienna, Austria; Deichtorhallen
Sammlung Falckenberg, Hamburg, Germany; Haunch of Venison, London, England;
MASP, São Paulo, Brazil

- 2006-09 JOURNEY TO ONOMICHI
Céline and Heiner Bastian, Berlin, Germany; Omotesando Hills, Tokyo, Japan (with Donata Wenders)
- 2001-06 PICTURES FROM THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH
Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow, Russia; Scuderia del Quirinale, Rome, Italy; Aarhus Kunstmuseum, Aarhus, Denmark; James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA; Millennium Art Museum, Peking, China; Shanghai Museum of Art, Shanghai, China; Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China; Haunch of Venison, London, England; Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia; City Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand; Juerg Judin, Zürich, Switzerland; Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain; Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin, Germany
- 2000 BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB, Rose Gallery, Bergamot Station, Santa Monica, USA (with Donata Wenders)
- 1996 WIM WENDERS: LANDSCAPE AND MEMORY, Gallery of Contemporary Photography, Santa Monica, USA
WIM WENDERS: PHOTOS, Goethe Institute (world-wide)
- 1994-95 ONCE – Photographs by Wim Wenders
Villa Rufolo, Ravello, Italy; FNAC, Berlin, Germany; Parco, Tokyo, Japan; FNAC, Paris, France; Villa delle Rose, Bologna, Italy; Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, Italy
- 1989-94 WIM WENDERS: PHOTOGRAPHS
San Telmo Museum, San Sebastian, Spain; Sala Parpalló Palau Dels Scala, Valencia, Spain; Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek, Denmark; La Biennale die Venezia “Slittamenti”, Venice, Italy; “Robert Adams – Wim Wenders”, Amerika Haus, Berlin, Germany; Musée de l’Elysee, Lausanne, Switzerland; Kiyomizu Temple, Kyoto, Japan; Shibuya Seibu Dept. Store, Tokyo, Japan; Fahey/Klein Gallery, Los Angeles, USA; Hochschule für Fernsehen und Film, Munich, Germany; “Robert Adams – Wim Wenders”, Galerie Marie Louise Wirth, Zürich, Switzerland; PPS. Galerie F.C. Gundlach, Hamburg, Germany
- 1986-92 WRITTEN IN THE WEST
Städtische Galerie Schwarzes Kloster, Freiburg, Germany; Saint-Yrieix-La-Perche, France; Goethe Institute, Copenhagen, Denmark; Goethe Institute, Stockholm, Sweden; Film Society of Miami, Miami, USA; Palazzo della Triennale di Milano, Milan, Italy; Encontros de Fotografia, Coimbra, Portugal; Centre Pompidou, Paris, France

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 INSTANT STORIES. Thames & Hudson, London
- 2015 WIM WENDERS. UNA VOLTA, Contrasto srl, Rome
 WIM WENDERS: DIE PIXEL DES PAUL CÉZANNE, Verlag der Autoren, Frankfurt a. M.
 WRITTEN IN THE WEST– REVISITED, Schirmer/Mosel, Munich
 4REAL & TRUE2! WIM WENDERS. LANDSCAPES. PHOTOGRAPHS. Schirmer/Mosel, Munich
 WIM WENDERS. AMERICA, Silvana Editoriale, Milan
- 2013 INVENTING PEACE: A DIALOGUE OF PERCEPTION, I.B. Tauris, London
 PLACES, STRANGE AND QUIET, 2ND EDITION , Hatje Cantz, Ostfildern
- 2012 PINA. THE FILM AND THE DANCERS, Schirmer/Mosel, Munich
- 2011 PLACES, STRANGE AND QUIET, Hatje Cantz, Ostfildern
- 2009 JOURNEY TO ONOMICHI, Schirmer/Mosel, Munich
- 2007 WIM WENDERS, Editrice Il Castoro srl, Milan
- 2005 A SENSE OF PLACE, Verlag der Autoren, Frankfurt
- 2001 PICTURES FROM THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH, Schirmer/Mosel, Munich
 IMÁGENES DE LA SUPERFICIE DE LA TIERRA, Schirmer/Mosel, Munich
 ON FILM, A VOLUME THAT COMBINES EMOTION PICTURES, THE LOGIC OF IMAGES AND THE ACT OF SEEING, Faber & Faber, London
- 2000 THE HEART IS A SLEEPING BEAUTY - THE MILLION DOLLAR HOTEL, Schirmer/Mosel, Munich
- 1999 BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB, Schirmer/Mosel, Munich
- 1996 WIM WENDERS: PHOTOS, Edition Braus, Heidelberg
- 1995 DIE ZEIT MIT ANTONIONI, Verlag der Autoren, Frankfurt
- 1994 ONCE. PICTURES AND STORIES, Verlag der Autoren, Frankfurt
 UNE FOIS. IMAGES ET HISTOIRES, G3J editeur, Paris
 WIM WENDERS. FOTOGRAFÍAS. Edicions Alfons El Magnánim, Valencia.
- 1993 ELECTRONIC PAINTINGS, Rome: Edizioni Socrates, Rome
 EINSTELLUNGEN, Verlag der Autoren, Frankfurt
 UNA VOLTA, Edizioni Socrates, Rome
- 1992 THE ACT OF SEEING, Verlag der Autoren, Frankfurt
- 1988 DIE LOGIK DER BILDER, Verlag der Autoren, Frankfurt
- 1987 WRITTEN IN THE WEST, Schirmer/Mosel, Munich
- 1986 EMOTION PICTURES, Verlag der Autoren, Frankfurt
- 1985 TOKYO-GA, Verlag der Autoren, Frankfurt
- 1984 PARIS, TEXAS, Greno Verlag, Nördlingen



HONORARY TITLES AND OTHER POSITIONS

2018	Honorary Academician, Royal Academy of Arts, London, Great Britain
2015	Order of Merit of the State of Berlin, Germany
2010	Honorary Doctorate, Architectural Faculty of the University of Catania, Italy
2005	Honorary Doctorate, University of Louvain, Belgium
2005	Member of the Order Pour le Mérite, Germany
2001	Professor at the University of Fine Arts of Hamburg, Germany
1996	President of the European Film Academy
1995	Honorary Doctorate in divinity, Fribourg University, Switzerland
1993	Honorary Professor at the University of Film and Television, Munich, Germany
1989	Honorary Doctorate, Sorbonne, Paris, France
1984	Elected member of the Akademie der Künste, Berlin, Germany

SELECTED AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

2022	Degree of Doctor of letters Honoris Causa, University Oxford Praemium Imperiale, also known as Nobel Prize of Arts, will be presented at the 33 rd ceremony in Tokyo
2021	Honorary Heart of Sarajevo Award & Tribute to Program dedicated to Wim Wenders, Sarajevo Film Festival
2018	A Tribute to... Award, Filmfest Zürich Bronzo Dorato Lifetime Achievement Award, International Film Festival of Poetic Animation, Pergola Lifetime Achievement Award, DOC NYC Film Festival, New York
2017	Helena Vaz da Silva European Award for Raising Public Awareness on Cultural Heritage, Lisbon Douglas Sirk Award, Filmfest Hamburg
2016	Großer Kulturpreis of the Sparkassen Culture-Foundation Rhineland
2015	Tribute to Wim Wenders, Lisbon & Estoril Film Festival Golden Bear for lifetime achievement, Berlin International Film Festival THE SALT OF THE EARTH: nomination for the Oscar® in the category Best Documentary Feature THE SALT OF THE EARTH: César for Best Documentary Film
2014	THE SALT OF THE EARTH, Special Prize of the Jury Un Certain Regard, Festival de Cannes
2012	PINA: nomination for the Oscar® in the category Best Documentary Feature
2011	PINA: Best Documentary, German Film Prize; German Documentary Film Prize, Dokville (Ludwigsburg, Germany); European Film Academy Documentary Prize ARTE, European Film Awards, Best Documentary
2004	The Robert Bresson Award, Vatican Master of Cinema, International Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg LAND OF PLENTY: UNESCO Award, Venice Film Festival





- 2003 THE SOUL OF A MAN, Emmy Award; Audience Award for Best Documentary, São Paulo Film Festival
- 2000 THE MILLION DOLLAR HOTEL: Silver Bear, Jury Prize, Berlin International Film Festival
- 1999 BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB: Best Documentary Feature, Oscar® Nominee; European Film Academy Documentary Prize ARTE, European Film Award; Best Documentary, German Filmprize; Best Documentary, New York Film Critics; Best Documentary, National Society of Film Critics; Standard Life Audience Award, Edinburgh International Film Festival; Best Documentary, National Board of Review; Golden Space Needle Best Documentary, Seattle Film Festival
- 1997 THE END OF VIOLENCE: Best Director, German Film Prize
- 1993 FAR AWAY, SO CLOSE!: Grand Jury Prize, Festival de Cannes; Best Director, Bavarian Film Award
- 1992 UNTIL THE END OF THE WORLD: Best German Film, Guild Award in Gold
- 1987 WINGS OF DESIRE: Best Director, Festival de Cannes; Best Director, European Film Prize; Best Foreign Film & Photography, Los Angeles Film Critics Award; Best Photography, New York Film Critics Circle; Best Director, German Film Award; Best Director, Bavarian Film Award; Independent Spirit Award; Best German Film, Guild Award in Silver
- 1985 TOKYO-GA: Outstanding film of the year, London Film Festival
- 1984 PARIS, TEXAS: Golden Palm, Festival de Cannes; Best Director, British Academy Awards; Prize of the French Film Critics; Best Production German Film Prize
- 1982 THE STATE OF THINGS: Golden Lion Prize and Fipresci Prize, Venice Film Festival; Best Production, German Film Award
- 1981 NICK'S FILM – LIGHTNING OVER WATER: Best Production, German Film Award
- 1978 THE AMERICAN FRIEND: Best Director, Best Editing and Best Production, German Film Prize
- 1976 KINGS OF THE ROAD: Golden Hugo, Chicago; Festival de Cannes, Fipresci Award, Festival de Cannes
- 1975 WRONG MOVE: Best Director, Best Screenplay and Best Cinematography, German Film Prize
- 1972 THE GOALIE'S ANXIETY AT THE PENALTY KICK: Fipresci Award, Venice Film Festival