

FILMOGRAPHY Gamma Bak

Born 1965 in Marburg a.d. Lahn, Germany

Comes from a Hungarian family, raised in Berlin and Vancouver. Living in Berlin since 1985.

Film school: Simon Fraser University, Center for the Arts (1983-1985)

Vancouver, Canada

Works as Director/Producer, [based in Berlin.](#)

Film

- 1983-1985 Experimental short films, Super 8 and 16 mm
- 1985 **TRÜMMERFRAUEN / RUBBLE WOMEN**
15 min., 16 mm, colour & B/W – 4th year film
Directed in collaboration with Ian Doncaster (camera/opticals) and Bryan Sutton (sound/opticals)
Festivals (selection): Montreal 1985, 1st Prize "Student Documentary"; Oberhausen 1986; National Film Week 1986; Int. Experimental Film Congress, Toronto 1989 (Young Canadian Work)
Distribution: Moving Images Distribution, LUX London
Synopsis: Feminist experimental documentary about the women working to clear away the rubble in Berlin at the end of WW2.
Optical printer work
- 1987 **TRAUMHAFT**
80 min. Video documentation
Experimental theatre piece by the East Berlin group "Zinnober".
- 1989 **SOMMER DES INNOVATIVEN FILMS 1989 I+II / SUMMER OF INNOVATIVE FILM 1989 I+II**
2 x 20 min., Betacam, documentary
Directed in collaboration with P. Buitenhuis
Commissioned by RIAS-TV, Berlin
Aired: Fall 1989
Synopsis: Documentary about experimental filmmakers from Berlin and New York (Part 1) as well as guests and speakers at the Experimental Film Congress in Toronto in 1989 (Part 2) – among others: Stan Brakhage, Birgit Hein, Pat O'Neil.
- 1992 **EAST... WEST... HOME'S BEST**
75 min., 16 mm, documentary
Director and producer
Aired: October 1994, Hungarian television (prime time)
Premiere: Int. Filmfestival Karlovy Vary 1992 (WP)
Festivals: Duisburger Filmwoche 1992, Hungarian Filmweek 1993, Costinesti 1994
Distribution: Moving Images Distribution, Vancouver
Synopsis: In 1990/91, my father, a history professor in Canada, moved back to Hungary after the Fall of the Wall. He had left there after the uprising in 1956. Is a return "home" possible after such long exile?
Distribution: Moving Images, Vancouver
- 1994 **EINE FRAU UND IHR KONTRABASS / A WOMAN AND HER DOUBLE-BASS (Fragment)**
Approx. 10 min., M II, short film / 2 hrs. uncut material
Director, line producer
Part of the compilation film **Liebessplitter / Love Splinters**
J.Brückner Filmproduktion in co-production mit ZDF/3 sat, LCB,

Filminstitut HdK.

Aired: December 1993, 3 sat

Synopsis: My double bass becomes my confidante, my analyst, my dancing partner in my Berlin loft as I tell the complicated ups and downs of my partnerships.

1997

ÜBER WALTER BENJAMIN I-III / ABOUT WALTER BENJAMIN I-III

3 x 12 min., Betacam SP, documentary

Director

Production: Schnittstelle Potsdamer Platz, K. Peters

Aired: June 1997, ARTE

Synopsis: 3 short biopics on the life and writing of philosopher Walter Benjamin, with special regard on his "Arcades Project". Walter Benjamin was working on this piece in exile in Paris.

2009

BORN UNFINISHED

28 min., DVD, autobiographical photo film / experimental documentary / media art / new feminism

Writer, director and producer

Synopsis: Unsent love/goodbye letters from my archives spanning a decade collaged to make one long letter today. The story about expectations and break-ups, ironic and futile, is told in photos.

2010

HEAD COLD

92 min., digital, essayist documentary

Writer, director and producer

Premiere: Berlinale 2010

Festivals: Ippokrates Festival Kos 2010, Cinepecs 2010, Harare Int.

Women's Film Fest 2013

German tour: 2011/2012 in 50 cities

Cinematheques: Tel-Aviv, Jerusalem, Vancouver

Distribution: Moving Images, GMFilms & Good!Movies

Synopsis: Long-term personal observation of my struggle with the diagnosis of psychotic illness and a return to a normal life. Uses my filmic artistic archives since 1992.

2014

ENGELBECKEN

80. min. digital, experimental documentary

Co-director and producer

Synopsis: Autobiographical experimental piece about Steffen Reck's defection from East Germany in 1988, when we were a couple. The film incorporates our artistic archives, secret police (STASI) files, and excerpts from his work in the theatre group "zinnober". Distribution: GMfilms, Berlin

Theatre

1995-96

IN DER VERMUTUNG DER INDIREKTEN AMPELFARBE GELB

Co-director

Directors: Reck, Bak, Hennrich

Premiere: Festspielhaus Hellerau 1996

1997-98

DER MILLENNIUM BUG / THE MILLENNIUM BUG

Multi-media performance with texts by A. Radomski

Co-director and artistic consultant

Writer / director: Aram Radomski

Premiere: Theater o.N. 1998