

## THOMAS IMBACH



As one of Switzerland's most innovative and internationally renowned filmmakers, Thomas Imbach moves with virtuoso mastery between documentary and fiction. He has acquired a reputation for courageous experimentation both formally and as a storyteller. His early successes include *WELL DONE* (94) and *GHETTO* (97). The feature films *HAPPINESS IS A WARM GUN* (01), *LENZ* (06) and *I WAS A SWISS BANKER* (07) as well as the autofiction *DAY IS DONE* (11) premiered at the Berlinale. His english-language period drama *MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS* (2013) was selected for Toronto. His latest feature film *MY BROTHER MY LOVE* (2018) premiered at Locarno in Competition.

2020 **NEMESIS**, Feature documentary, 132 min.  
Coproducted by Okofilm Productions and Bachim Films  
- Visions du Réel 2020, Nyon, Competition

2020 as producer: **MARE** by Andrea Štaka, Fiction feature film, 84 min.  
Coproducted by Okofilm Productions, Zurich und Dinaridi Film, Zagreb  
- Berlinale 2020, Panorama

2018 **GLAUBENBERG**, Fiction feature film, 114 min.  
Coproducted by Okofilm Productions, Swiss Radio and Television, SRG SSR  
- Locarno 2018, competition

2014 as producer: **CURE – The Life of Another** by Andrea Štaka, Fiction feature film, 83 min.  
Produced by Okofilm Productions, Coproduced by Produkcija Ziva, Deblokada Films  
- Locarno 2014 (Competition), Sarajevo 2014 (Competition)

2015 **WELL DONE**, Film installation, Kunsthau Zurich: EUROPA, 06/2015 – 09/2015

2013 **MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS**, Fiction feature film, 35mm (DCP), 119 min.  
Coproducted by Okofilm Productions, Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen, SRG SSR, ARTE, Sciapode Productions  
- Locarno 2013, competition  
- Toronto Film Festival 2013, "Special Presentations"

2011 **DAY IS DONE** an autobiographical fiction, 35mm (DCP), 111 min.  
Coproducted by Okofilm Productions, SRF Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen and ARTE  
- World Premiere Berlinale 2011, Forum  
- Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival, Competition

2007 **I WAS A SWISS BANKER**, Drama, 35mm, 75 min.  
Underwater fairy tale of the Swiss Banker Roger Caviezel.  
- Premiered at the 57th Berlinale  
- Swiss Film Awards 2008, Nomination Best Actor  
- Zurich Film Awards 2008, Special Jury award

2006 **LENZ AM BERG**, 35mm; Film Installation, 3-Channel-Projection Kunsthau Zurich: In the Alps

2006 **LENZ**, Drama 35mm, 96 min.  
Contemporary adaptation of Georg Büchner's „Lenz“  
- Premiered at the 56th Berlinale

2002 **happy too**, Digi-Beta, 60 min. “happy too” parallels the Kelly-Bastian relationship with the struggles of the actors in “Happiness is a Warm Gun”  
- Premiered at the International Film Festival Locarno 2002, Cinéastes du Présent

2001 **HAPPINESS IS A WARM GUN**, Drama, 35mm, 92 min.  
Drama on the mystic death of the lovers Petra Kelly und Gert Bastian.  
- Nominated for the Golden Leopard 2001, International Film Festival Locarno  
- Official Selection Berlinale 2002  
- Zurich Film Prize, 2001, Nominated for “Best Swiss Feature Film”, Quality Award (OFC)

2000 **Portrait Film** on Thomas Imbach “Die Kamera als Sonde”, Beta-SP, 60 min.  
by Christoph Hübner for WDR/3Sat

1998 **NANO-BABIES**, 35mm (Cinemascope), 45 min.  
Science-Fiction essay on babies of high-tech researchers for Swiss Television/3SAT  
- Commissioned by Swiss Television and 3Sat

1997 **GHETTO**, Feature documentary, 35mm, 122 Min.  
Docudrama with teenagers on the sunny side of Zurich's Gold Coast  
- Best Documentary, International Film Festival Mannheim  
- Premio Giampaolo Paoli, International Film Festival Florence  
- Quality Award (Swiss Ministry of Culture), Zurich Film Prize

1994 **WELL DONE**, Feature documentary, 35mm, 75 Min.  
Documentary on employees of a Swiss high-tech bank corporation.  
- FIPRESCI-Prize in Leipzig  
- Quality Award (OFC), Zurich Film Priz, Art award of the city Lucerne

1991 **RESTLESSNESS**, 16mm, 58 min.  
Rail-movie with three homeless people in the IC-triangle ZH-BE-BS  
- Nominated for the Max-Ophüls-Prize, 1991  
- Quality Award (Swiss Ministry of Culture)

1988 **SCHLACHTZEICHEN**, 16mm, 56 min.  
Doku-comedy about the Swiss Army  
- Opening film at the Solothurn Film Festival  
- Quality Award (Swiss Ministry of Culture)

#### Book publications by / on Thomas Imbach:

- Kino CH / CINÉMA CH, Reception, Aesthetic, History  
EINE ÄSTHETIK DER WIDERSPRÜCHE. VARIATIONEN ÜBER THOMAS IMBACH  
(Monographie) by Marcy Goldberg, Schüren Verlag 2008
- CINEMA 50, „Variations on a True Story“, a conversation with Thomas Imbach by Veronika Grob and Nathalie Böhler, Schüren Verlag 2005
- CINEMA 46, „Den Schleier der Wahrnehmung zerreißen“ by Marcy Goldberg  
(on WELL DONE), Chronos Verlag 2001
- Dokumentarisch Arbeiten, a studio conversation with Thomas Imbach by Christoph Hübner and Gabriele Voss, Schüren Verlag 1999
- „My Filmschool“: Werner Nekes Retrospektive, Katalog 1986/87, by Thomas Imbach and Christoph Settele, Zyklop Verlag 1986

#### Other Activities:

- From 2018: Chairman of the Board of Neugass Kino AG (Riffraff, Houdini, Bourbaki)
- Jury member, Dusiburger Filmwoche, 2015
- Jury member at the Zurich Film Festival, Intl. Comp. 2013
- Jury Sarajevo Film Festival, Competition, 2012
- Jury Max-Ophüls-Preis, Saarbrücken 2010
- Jury member at the Hessen Film Foundation, Frankfurt, 2008
- Directing-Workshops at the international film schools in Berlin (dffb), Munich (HFF) and Cape Town 1999 – 2008
- Guest speaker at the Swiss film schools Zurich, Lausanne, Geneva, Lucerne 1994 – 2016
- Workshops at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH) 1991 – 2007