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**LUZ**

**Written and directed by: Tilman Singer**

**Produced by: Dario Méndez** **Acosta and Tilman Singer**

**Starring: Luana Velis and Jan Bluthardt.**

*OFFICIAL SELECTION: Fantasia Film Festival, Fantastic Fest (US Premiere), Berlin International Film Festival, Sitges Film Festival*

*and many more.*

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**LUZ- SYNOPSIS**

LUZ begins as a young female cabdriver (Luana Velis, in the title role) drags herself into a run-down police station. However, a demonic entity follows her there, determined to finally be close to the woman it loves.

Shooting entirely on 16mm, first time feature film director Tilman Singer pays homage to horror masters David Cronenberg, Dario Argento and Lucio Fulci, while infusing the genre with a fresh take of his own.

**LUZ- DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT**

*"LUZ is a story about identity, a lack of one, or maybe even denying one’s own. For the most part this is told by forces (archetypal characters, institutions, or personifications of moral arguments) influencing and manipulating our titular character Luz. I structured the narrative as a panic attack, of repressed memories and confusion. It is purposely open to interpretation by the viewer.*

*LUZ is a sensuous thriller that plays with the sensory perception of the audience. Initially, I wanted to write a simple story that could only be told audio-visually. How we ended up telling it cinematically, nested within diegetic flashbacks, got a little more complicated. For example, we use an additional layer of sound that adds a past reality to a present one. Given that we are observing a moment relived under hypnosis, the credibility of both realities is questioned at all times. The viewer who attempts to answer this question of credibility has to, with sharpened senses, fully engage in image and sound.*

*LUZ is my first feature film and at the same time the project for my diploma at the Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln/Academy of Media Arts Cologne. Dario Méndez Acosta (production design), Paul Faltz (DOP), Simon Waskow (original music) and Henning Hein (sound design, mixing) worked with me on LUZ and have been involved in each of my recent films."*

**FILMMAKER TILMAN SINGER**

**LUZ- FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHY**

**TILMAN SINGER- WRITER/ DIRECTOR**

Tilman Singer was born in Leipzig, Germany in 1988. He produced stop motion animation short films and commercials in the USA, France and Germany before he began his studies at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne in 2011. He has directed several short films, commercials, music videos. His debut feature film LUZ screened at the Berlinale, in addition to Fantastic Fest, Fantasia Film Festival and Sitges Film Festival, before an upcoming worldwide release.

**LUZ- CAST BIOGRAPHIES**

**LUANA VELIS- LUZ**

Luana Velis studied acting in Bochum, Germany. She won her first award from the Theater Festival of German Acting Students for her role in “Nothing New in the West.” Her work in theater includes regular roles for Schauspielhaus Bochum in 2016/17 and Schauspiel Frankfurt since 2017.

She has worked with directors Jan-Christoph Gockel, Hasko Weber, Roger Vontobel, Julia Hoelscher, Marius von Mayenburg and Viktor Bodo and is a regular voice actor for TV channels SWR, WDR and HR.

LUZ represents her first starring role in a feature film and screened at the Berlinale, in addition to Fantastic Fest, Fantasia Film Festival and Sitges Film Festival, before an upcoming worldwide release.

**JAN BLUTHARDT- DR. ROSSINI**

Jan Bluthardt was born 1978 in Temuco (Chile) and received his acting degree from the Westfälische Acting School in Bochum, Germany. He started in his career in theater, at Schauspielhaus Bochum and Schauspielhaus Leipzig while still enrolled in acting school. In 2006, he became one of Theater Basel´s company members and worked with directors such as Anna Viebrock, Werner Duggelin and Elias Perrig. He worked for Schauspielhaus Zürich in 2009 where he acted in productions by Barbara Frey, Clemens Sienknecht, Ruedi Häusermann, Stefan Pucher, Sebastian Baumgarten, René Pollesch, Sebastian Nübling and Herbert Fritsch.

His recent film and television work include the TV series “Tatort” and Tilman Singer’s LUZ, which screened at the Berlinale, in addition to Fantastic Fest, Fantasia Film Festival and Sitges Film Festival, before an upcoming worldwide release.

**JULIA RIEDLER- NORA**

Julia Riedler was born in Salzburg, Austria, in 1990 and studied acting at Hamburg’s Hochschule for Music and Theater. She worked as a performance curator for the MS Dockville Festival for Art, Music in Hamburg and has been a member of the artists’ network cobratheater.cobra since 2009. During her last year as an acting student, she worked for the prestigious Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg and received the Boy-Gobert award for outstanding performance by an actor in 2013.

From 2013 to 2015, she was a member of the acting company at Schauspiel Köln. She has contributed to numerous radio plays and appeared in various film and television productions in Germany and Austria. Riedler has been a member of the acting company of Münchner Kammerspiele since 2015. She was voted Best Young Actress and Munich’s Best Actress in 2016 and received the renowned Bavarian State Arts Award in 2017.

Tilman Singer’s LUZ is her most recent theatrical film role, which screened at the Berlinale in addition to Fantastic Fest, Fantasia Film Festival and Sitges Film Festival, before an upcoming worldwide release.

**LUZ- CAST & CREW LIST**

**CAST**

Nesche Fröhlich Bargast

Boris Maximov Bargast

Keshav Purushotham Barmann

Nadja Stübiger Bertillon

Jan Bluthardt Dr. Rossini

Kate Dervishi Fluzghafendurchsage

Uwe Michael Witzel Hausmeister

Luana Velis Luz

Lilli Lorenz Margarita

Julia Riedler Nora

Johannes Benecke Olarte

Reinhard Singer Polizist am Empfang

Levin Krasel Werbespot Darsteller

Adrian Witzel Werbespot Darsteller

Luisa Stricker Werbespot Darsteller

Fidel Bums Werbespot Darsteller

Thomas Lambertz Werbespot Darsteller

Omid Tabari Zentrale

**CREW**

**Tilman Singer Writer/ Director**

Adrian Witzel 1st AD

Stephanie Englert 1st camera assistant

Eva Hoffmann 1st camera assistant

Paul Reinholz 1st camera assistant

Felix Schon 1st camera assistant

Lisa Bülow 2nd camera assistant

Tobias Löhde 2nd camera assistant

Milan Lukas Fey Art Department Assistant

Alexander Pascal Forré Art Department Assistant

Semih Korhan Güner Art Department Assistant

Denis “Pony” Hoffmann Art Department Assistant

Paula Pedraza Art Department Assistant

Moritz Pflüger Art Department Assistant

Benjamin Ramírez Pérez Art Department Assistant

Hermes Villena Art Department Assistant

Nesche Fröhlich Art Department Assistant

Fidel Bums Art Department Assistant

Thomas Lambertz Art Department Graphics

Nicolas Künzer Boom Operator

David Wesemann Boom Operator

Fabiana Cardalda Colorist

Stanislava Milenkova Costumes

Analena Razborsek Costumes Assistant

Ewald Hentze DCP

Paul Faltz Director of Photography

Fabian Podeszwa Editor / Props

Mikishan Amalaratna Electrician

Ronny Balcazar Electrician

Oliver Freuwörth Electrician

André Hörmeyer Electrician

Filip Jacobsen Electrician

Basia Napora Electrician

Luca Oltenau Electrician

Ekbal Sadid Electrician

Arne Schramm Electrician

Luisa Stricker Executive Producer

Mario Von Grumbkow Executive Producer

Christoph Otto Floor Manager

Julian Pawelzik Floor Manager

Mehmet Büyükatalay Floor Manager / Sound Mixer

Christian Godau Gaffer

Yves Maurice Itzek Gaffer

Can Köprülü Gaffer

Alexander Pauckner Gaffer

Konrad Zimmermann Gaffer

Michel Dulisch Grip

Johanna Hübner Grip

Rudeina Konstantini Make-up

Jennifer Uhlig Make-up Assistant

Tilman Singer Producer / Writer / Director / Editor

Dario Méndez Acosta Producer Production Design

Marion Eisenmann Production Assistant

Michelle Blum (ex Heipel) Production Assistant

Luca Röser Production Assistant

Boris Maximov Production Assistant

Lena Sofia Varas Arévalo Production Design Assistent

Oliver Diez Rear Projection Operator

Hannah-Lisa Paul Script Supervisor

Kim Lêa Sakkal Script Supervisor

Waldemar Kempf Script Supervisor / Art Department Assistant

Albi Fouché Script Supervisor / Electrician

Lilian Villalba Script Supervisor / Foley Artist

Jonas Lux Sound Design

Steffen Pfauth Sound Design / Sound Editor / Foley Recording

Henning Hein Sound Design / Sound Mixing / Dialogue Editor

Alexandros Topalis Sound Edit

Simon Waskow Sound Mixer

Silvia Juliana Tovar Quintero Spanish Translation

Nathan Schönewolf Set Designer

Hanieh Bozorgnia Set Design Assistant

Edgar Arias Title Design

Patrick Buhr VFX

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

Belén Rurales Aguilar Cello

Marvin Horsch Drum Recording

Niklas Wandt Drums

Sophia Spies Lyrics / Vocals / Vocal Recording

Simon Waskow Music Composer

Jonathan Kastl Music Mixing / Recording

Daniel Westbrock Percussion

Noah Zeldin Saxophon

Sophie Rasmussen Viola

Isaac Andrés Espinoza Hidrobo Violin

Hanitra Wagner Violin

Thomas Meckel Vocals