



# TALKING MONEY

A FILM BY  
SEBASTIAN WINKELS

# CONTACT

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[www.solofilmproduktion.de/blog/talkingmoney](http://www.solofilmproduktion.de/blog/talkingmoney)  
[www.talkingmoney.de](http://www.talkingmoney.de)

# CREW

## **WRITER/DIRECTOR/CAMERA**

Sebastian Winkels

## **EDITOR**

Frederik Bösing

## **DRAMATURGY**

Simon Brückner

## **ASSISTANT DIRECTORS**

Chere Lott

Till Passow

Manuela Ruggeri

Zaza Rusadze

Nicole Schink

Ines Johnson-Spain

Carmen Té

Álvaro Olmos Torrico

## **SOUND RECORDISTS**

Frederik Bösing

Nelson Marca Esprella

Corneille Houssou

Till Passow

Markus CM Schmidt

Johannes Schneeweiß

Niko Tarielashvili

## **SOUND MIX**

Dominik Schleier

## **SOUND EDITORS**

Simeon Pabst

Sabrina Naumann

## **PRODUCTION ASSISTANCE**

Liza Cramer, solo:film

Katharina Grabow, solo:film

Rosa Grünberg, solo:film

Evelyn Meier, solo:film

Laurence Wegener, solo:film

Theresa Berres, Catpics

## **EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT**

Rolf Bergmann, rbb

Urs Augstburger, SRF

## **CO-PRODUCERS**

Sarah Born, Catpics

Alfi Sinniger, Catpics

Zaza Rusadze, Zazarfilm

## **PRODUCER**

Susann Schimk, solo:film

# TECHNICAL DETAILS

<b>ACQUISITION FORMAT</b>	5K RED Dragon
<b>RATIO</b>	1:2.4
<b>LENGTH</b>	81 min
<b>SCREENING FORMAT</b>	4K/2K/HD
<b>SOUND</b>	Stereo
<b>LANGUAGE</b>	Georgian, Spanish, Italian, French, German, Swiss- German, English, Urdu
<b>SUBTITLES</b>	English, German, French

A German-Swiss-Georgian co-production of solo:film GmbH with Catpics AG, Zazarfilm Ltd., Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg und Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen

Funded by Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, Georgian National Film Center, Succès Passage Antenne, German Films

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## SHORT SYNOPSIS

Who are we when we talk about money? From Bolivia to Pakistan, Benin to Switzerland, men and women sit down across from their neighborhood bankers to discuss the intimacies of their financial lives. Far from the glamour of distant Wall Street, this is the reality of personal banking, where one's life problems are a matter of business. A film about our complicated relation towards money and the strange things it makes us all do.

## SYNOPSIS

Intimate conversations in an impersonal place. Who are we when we talk about money?

From Bolivia to Pakistan, Benin to Switzerland, men and women sit down across from their neighborhood bankers to discuss the intimacies of their financial lives. Far from the glamour of distant Wall Street, this is the reality of personal banking, where one's life problems are a matter of business. But how to talk about financial troubles with a near stranger? The consultation table becomes a stage for confessions and masquerades, with both sides putting on performances to look solid and trustworthy. Filmed entirely from the bank's side of the table, *TALKING MONEY* immerses the audience in a bizarre power play. A film about our complicated relation towards money and the strange things it makes us all do.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

A few years ago, I had to go to the bank several times in a row. It became one of the strangest experiences in my life. Discussing personal financial matters with someone I hardly know felt weirdly wrong. I was expected to put my social and private being on the table and to translate my life into the language of finance and numbers. An awkward closeness overshadowed the conversation, held in a personal tone – yet all the while, there wasn't any trust at play. Our opposite agendas were just too obvious. The elusive language we both used, pretending to understand each other, was like one big blue elephant sitting right between us. Afterwards, back on the sidewalk, I felt so estranged from myself, as if I had been somebody else just a moment ago. It was a few days later that I decided to dedicate a film to this situation and the bizarre communication it entails. So I brought my camera into this impossible place to do a social recording of how we talk about money.

In my work I like to single out one aspect of communication and to treat it within a certain cinematic space and perspective. For me, the physical screening room can be part of a film's story as well. *7 BROTHERS* and *MY BEAUTIFUL LIFE* were exploring this idea. With *TALKING MONEY* I want to turn the actual space of the cinema into a bank consultation room with all its hauntingly false intimacy. With this series of strange encounters, I want to give room to the individual involvement and personal participation of the audience. To me, the most magical thing about documentary film is that each viewer develops a special relationship with the person on screen. As if you were engaging in a real conversation with people you just met: you are listening and watching, guessing their intentions - and getting ready for your reply.

# VITA SEBASTIAN WINKELS

Sebastian Winkels, (\*1968 in Kleve/Germany) graduated in cinematography from “Konrad Wolf” Film University (Potsdam-Babelsberg). He lives in Berlin and has worked as a freelance director and editing coach. His documentaries and short films received numerous awards and have been screened at major festivals such as Venice, Rotterdam, San Francisco, Nyon, Melbourne, Leipzig and Berlin. Besides filmmaking, Sebastian Winkels teaches at film schools and universities (i.e. HFF München) and develops creative documentary training programs. He has been working as a workshop tutor in various countries since 2005.

## FILMOGRAPHY (DOC)

2017 **TALKING MONEY**, 81 min

2015 **MY BEAUTIFUL LIFE (DON'T SWALLOW EVERYTHING)**, 86 min

2006 **3 ISLAND DIARIES**, 30 min

2003 **7 BROTHERS**, 86 min

2002 **INSIDE-OUTSIDE-MONGOLIA**, 21 min

2000 **HASE & IGEL**, 6 min

1998 **VOLLES ROHR**, 29 min

# SOLO:FILM

## FILMOGRAPHY

solo:film GmbH was founded in 2016 by Susann Schimk. After 15 years of experience as a producer for credo:film GmbH it was time to create a new company, a platform for even more charming - challenging German and European films, television programs and online formats.

Susann Schimk is a member of the German Film Academy, the European Film Academy and since 2016 a member of the Commission for Fiction at the Zurich Film Foundation.

**MERKEL MUST GO (MONTAGS IN DRESDEN)**, documentary, 83min, HD  
author, director: Sabine Michel, cinematographer: Martin Langner  
a coproduction with MDR, rbb, funded by MDM and Kulturstiftung Sachsen

**TALKING MONEY**, documentary, 81min, 4K/2K/HD  
director, cinematographer: Sebastian Winkels  
a coproduction with Catpics AG, Zazarfilm Ltd., rbb, SRF  
world sales: NEW DOCS

**DIE VOLKSBÜHNE AM ROSA-LUXEMBURG-PLATZ**, documentary series, 45min, HD  
author, director: Lutz Pehnert, cinematographer: Wolfgang Gaube  
a coproduction with rbb

**DIE VILLA MASSIMO**, documentary, 86min, Cinemascope iPhone,  
film by Iain Dilthey  
supported by filmic pro, moondog labs, beastgrip

**DEUTSCHLAND, DEINE KÜNSTLER – KATRIN SASS**, documentary series, 45min, HD  
director: Lutz Pehnert, cinematographer: Wolfgang Gaube  
TV service production (ARD, MDR)

**HAVING A CIGARETTE WITH ÁLVARO SIZA**, documentary, 52min, HD  
director: Iain Dilthey, cinematographer: Isabelle Casez  
in cooperation with Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, Deutsche Welle,  
world sales: Magnetfilm GmbH

## IN PRODUCTION

**PARTISAN**, documentary, 85min, HD  
author, director: Adama Ulrich, Matthias Ehlert, Lutz Pehnert  
cinematographer: Wolfgang Gaube  
a coproduction with rbb

**HOPPEGARTEN**, documentary series, 45min, HD  
author, director: Lutz Pehnert, cinematographer: Wolfgang Gaube  
TV service production (rbb)



**AUSLANDSKADER**, documentary, 45min, HD  
author, director: Sabine Michel  
Bundesstiftung zur Aufarbeitung der SED-Diktatur, rbb

**IN DEVELOPMENT**

**BECOMING BLACK**, documentary, 45min, HD  
author, director: Ines Johnson Spain, cinematographer: Sebastian Winkels  
Gerd Ruge Stipendium 2017

**LASVEGAS**, fiction, 90min, HD, color  
author, director: Kolja Malik, cinematographer: Jieun Yi  
a coproduction with simon.sayspictures GmbH  
Kuratorium junger deutscher Film

**THE DESIRE**, fiction, 90min, HD  
author, director: Iain Dilthey, cinematographer: Hans Fromm

**WELTEMPFÄNGER**, documentary, 52min, HD  
author, director: Sandra Prechtel; cinematographer: Susanne Schüle

# CATPICS

## FILMOGRAPHY

### IN EXPLOITATION

2017 **TALKING MONEY** Documentary, 81'.  
Director/cinematographer: Sebastian Winkels.  
In co-production with solo:film GmbH, Germany & Zazarfilm Ltd., Georgia.  
Premiere: Nyon - Vision du Reel 2017.

2017 **DOUBLE PEINE / DOUBLE SENTENCE** Documentary, 100'.  
Author/director: Léa Pool.  
In co-production with Cinémaginaire, Canada.  
distribution: Filmcoopi.

### FICTION (SELECTION)

2013 **DINU – DR SCHWÄRCHRAFT ENTGÄGE** Fiction.  
Author/ director: Simon Aeby.  
In co-production with Turnus Film AG, Switzerland.

2012 **EINE WEN IIG, DR DÄLLEBACH KARI (SOMEONE LIKE ME)** Fiction.  
Author/ director: Xavier Koller

2012 **TATORT „SKALPELL“** Fiction.  
Director: Tobias Ineichen. Author: Urs Bühler.  
In co-production with SRF and ARD.

2006 **DIE HERBSTZEITLOSEN (LATE BLOOMERS)** Fiction, 86'.  
Director: Bettina Oberli.  
Most successful Swiss film 2006 with 595'886 admissions in Switzerland and  
around 1'000'000 admissions in the German-speaking world.  
Swiss candidate for the Academy Awards 2007/08

2004 **IM NORDWIND (NORTH WIND)** Fiction, 93'.  
Author/ director: Bettina Oberli.

1998/2000 **GRIPSHOLM** Fiction, 100'.  
Director: Xavier Koller.  
With: Heike Makatsch, Jasmin Tabatabaei and Ulrich Noethen  
In co-production with Thomas Wilkening Film, Germany and DOR Film,  
Austria.

1998/1999 **EMPORTE-MOI (SET ME FREE)** Fiction, 90'.  
Director: Léa Pool.  
With: Miki Manojlovic and Pascale Bussières.  
In co-production with Cité-Amérique, Canada and Haut et Court, France.  
In Competition at Berlinale 2000.

1996/1997 **HOMERE** Fiction, 100'.  
Director: Fabio Carpi.  
With: Claude Rich.  
In co-production with Tiziana Soudani, Amka Film, Switzerland.

1996/1997 **C'EST LA TANGENTE QUE JE PRÉFÈRE** Fiction, 90'.  
Director: Charlotte Silvera.  
With: George Corraface (Columbus), Marie-Christine Barrault, Marie Lafôrêt.  
In co-production with Louise Film, France.

1994 **MOUVEMENTS DU DÉsir** Fiction, 94'.  
Director: Léa Pool  
With: Valérie Kaprisky.  
World sales: Alliance Toronto.  
In co-production with Cinémaginaire, Canada.  
Sundance Festival 1995.

1991 **REISE DER HOFFNUNG (JOURNEY OF HOPE)** Fiction, 96'.  
Director: Xavier Koller.  
With: Nur Surer and Necmettin Cobagnolu.  
In co-production with DEWE Helltähler, Germany and Antea, Italy.  
OSCAR© 1991 "Best Foreign Language Film".

1986 **DER SCHWARZE TANNER (THE BLACK TANNER)** Fiction, 104'.  
Director: Xavier Koller.  
With: Otto Mächtlinger.  
Swiss candidate for the Academy Awards 1986/1987.  
149'026 admissions.

## DOCUMENTARIES (SELECTION)

2016 **TO MAKE A COMEDY IS NO FUN - JIRI MENZEL** Documentary, 53/80'.  
Author/ director: Robert Kolinsky.  
Distribution: Trigon. World sales: Deckert Distribution.

2009 **THE COLOR OF YOUR SOCKS – ONE YEAR WITH PIPILOTTI RIST** Documentary, 52'.  
Director: Michael Hegglin.  
Several TV broadcasts on SF, TSR, RSI and 3Sat.  
In co-production with Amour Fou, Austria.

2006/07 **GERHARD MEIER** Documentary, 79'.  
Director: Friedrich Kappeler.

2001/2002 **MANI MATTER** Documentary, 85'.  
Director: Friedrich Kappeler.

1999/2000 **VARLIN** Documentary, 85'.  
Director: Friedrich Kappeler.  
Zürcher Filmpreis 2000.

1997 **ROLLING** Documentary, 90', 35mm.  
Director: Peter Entell.

1996/1997 **DIE SALZMÄNNER VON TIBET (THE SALTMEN OF TIBET)** Documentary, 110'.  
Director: Ulrike Koch.  
In co-production with Pegasos, Germany.

# ZAZARFILM

## FILMOGRAPHY

The film production company Zazarfilm was founded in 2007 by a director/producer Zaza Rusadze in Tbilisi, Georgia. Zazarfilm aims to develop, produce and co-produce author driven documentary and feature films.

In 2009 the company has completed its first production, a short film by Zaza Rusadze FOLDS AND CRACKS. The film received Discovery Award at 19th Festival of East European Cinema in Cottbus, Germany.

In 2013 Zazarfilm's first feature length production, the directorial debut by Zaza Rusadze A FOLD IN MY BLANKET, world-premiered at 63rd Berlin International Film Festival as opening film of the Panorama. A FOLD IN MY BLANKET received the Award for Best Feature Film at 17th Queer Lisboa International Film Festival and was subsequently released on DVD in Germany.

In 2013 European Film Promotion EFP has selected Zaza Rusadze and his company, as an emerging producer from across Europe, to participate in the networking platform PRODUCERS ON THE MOVE at the 66th Cannes International Film Festival.

In 2015 Zazarfilm's latest production, a feature length documentary by Salome Machaidze, Tamuna Karumidze and David Meskhi WHEN THE EARTH SEEMS TO BE LIGHT received the IDFA 2015 Award for Best First Appearance at International Documentary Film Festival in Amsterdam and Best Georgian Documentary at Tbilisi International Film Festival.

Zazarfilm currently develops its next international documentary and feature film projects.

**TALKING MONEY** - a documentary by Sebastian Winkels  
Germany/Georgia/Switzerland/81 min/4K/2K/HD/color/Stereo

**WHEN THE EARTH SEEMS TO BE LIGHT** (2015) - a documentary by  
Salome Machaidze, Tamuna Karumidze, David Meskhi  
Georgia/Germany/HD/16:9/color/76 min./Georgian  
International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam IDFA  
IDFA 2015 Award for Best First Appearance  
Best Georgian Documentary at Tbilisi International Film Festival  
Trailer: [https://youtu.be/pSQix\\_-g0fl](https://youtu.be/pSQix_-g0fl)

**A FOLD IN MY BLANKET** (2013) - a feature film by Zaza Rusadze  
Georgia/NL/75 min/35 mm/1.85:1/color/Dolby 5.1/Georgian Russian  
Opening Film Panorama, 63rd Berlin International Film Festival  
Best Feature Film at 17th Queer Lisboa International Film  
Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S1KrNUzBRjg>

**FOLDS AND CRACKS** (2009) - a short film by Zaza Rusadze  
Georgia/8 min/H-DV/color/16:9/stereo  
Festival of East European Cinema in Cottbus, Germany  
Discovery Award at 19th Festival of East European Cinema in Cottbus

## IN PRODUCTION

**4:3 (WT – TIME FORWARD)** - a documentary by Zaza Rusadze  
Georgia/90 min/HD/1.33:1 (4:3)/B/W & color/Stereo

## IN DEVELOPMENT

**A BEAR OVER OUR HEADS** - a documentary by Zaza Rusadze  
Script & Project Development supported by the Sundance Documentary Film Program

**NEGATIVE NUMBERS** - a feature film by TBA, Screenplay by Uta Beria  
Mini EAVE Georgia 2012 Participant at Script & Project Development Program  
Script & Project Development supported by the Georgian National Film Center

**DIE EISPRINZESSIN (DOLL ON A MUSIC BOX)** - a feature film by Zaza Rusadze  
Script & Project Development supported by FFA German Federal Film Board  
in collaboration with Credofilm Berlin GmbH