



German Films Screenings Beijing

Film: Hilde

Director: Kai Wessel

Time: Mar 18, 2010, 7:30pm

Venue: German Embassy School Beijing, Auditorium
Jia 49, Liangmaqiao Road, Chaoyang District

Duration: 136 mins

Plot

Broadway star, songstress, screen diva, international icon and bestselling author-Hildegard Knef was many things. But more than anything else, she was a fighter who often fell, but never stayed down.

Berlin, 1943: The collapse of Nazi Germany looms, but young Hilde marches through the rubble of Berlin with only one thought in her head: she wants to become a star. With luck, looks, the right men and overwhelming self-confidence, she makes her way in the film world, both during and after the war, swapping her Nazi lover for a young Jewish husband. Hollywood beckons, but Hilde is no Marlene. Underemployed and frustrated, she longs for Germany. The divided country welcomes her back, but a short nude scene in *The Sinner* (1950) provokes a national scandal, making her an outcast in her own country. Internationally, she becomes what she's always wanted to be: a star, on the big screen, on Broadway, in America and Europe. The years go by in a whirl of successes and failures, of ups and downs. Yet even as her film career wanes, she picks herself up and embarks on a new journey...

Kai Wessel

Kai Wessel was born in Hamburg in 1961. After completing his studies, he began working as an assistant director. He made his breakthrough with *Martha Jelineck*, which was nominated for the German Film Award in 1988. Among his most noted television productions are the filming of the diaries of the Jewish literature professor Victor Klemperer, *KLEMPERER-EIN LEBEN IN DEUTSCHLAND* (1999), as well as *HAT ER ARBEIT?* (2000), *GOEBBELS UND GEDULDIG* (2001) and *DAS LEBEN WARE SCHON* (2003), which won the *Adolf Grimme Award* in 2004. His epic miniseries *DIE FLUCHT* (2007) was one of the top-rated fiction productions of 2007.