THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA

*Friday Film Fest Series*

**KeinOhrHasen**

(“Rabbit Without Ears ”)

By Till Schweiger

June 15th 2012 • 6:30 PM •
Film, Food & Discussion

Donations $15, Members $12

The German Society of PA
611 Spring Garden St.
215-627-2332
KeinOhrHasen

Director: Til Schweiger  
Drehbuch: Anika Decker, Til Schweiger  
Producers: Til Schweiger, Thomas Zickler, Stefan Gärtner  
Cinematography: Christof Wahl  
Music: Stefan Hansen, Dirk Reichardt, Mirko Schaffer  
Release Date: 20 December 2007  
Spieldauer: 116 minutes  
Cast: Til Schweiger (Ludo Dekker); Nora Tschirner (Anna Gutsloskwy); Matthias Schweighöfer (photographer Moritz); Alwara Höfels (Miriam); Jürgen Vogel (himself - famous movie star); Wladimir Klitschko (himself - Celebrity-Groom); Yvonne Catterfeld (herself - Celebrity-Bride); Emma Schweiger (Cheyenne-Blue)

Commentary by Sharan Knoell

Not a country widely known for its romantic comedies, Germany’s top movie in 2007 was KeinOhrHasen, which grossed over $74 million.¹ That year, it beat out installments of both the Harry Potter and Pirates of the Caribbean series and was only one of two German-language movies to be #1 since the turn of the century (the other being (T)Raumschiff Surprise - Periode 1, in which Til Schweiger also starred). By those standards, KeinOhrHasen - written by, directed by, produced by and starring Til Schweiger - is a remarkable film.

Der Mann für alles

Though his acting career began in 1989 with a role in the TV series Lindenstraße, Tilman Valentin Schweiger, a native of Freiburg, made his debut as producer / director / star in 1997 with Knockin’ On Heaven’s Door. He followed suit with Der Eisbär (1998). In 2005, he became producer / director / star / writer with Barfuss, for which he also won another one of his five Bambis (Bavarian Film Award). He is known for his roles in Der bewegte Mann (1994), Männerpension (1995), Was tun wenn’s brennt (2001), The Red Baron (2008), and Wo ist Fred? (2006). His seventh film as producer / director / star / writer was 2011’s Kokowääh, in which he starred alongside his youngest daughter Emma Schweiger.  

Aside from his German film career, he has also been quite successful in the United States in films such as Driven (2001), Lara Croft Tomb Raider: Cradle of Life (2003), Joe and Max (2002), and Inglourious Basterds (2009). He presently owns his own production company, Barefoot Films, based in Berlin.

The Plot

The plot centers around Schweiger’s character, Ludo Dekker, a yellow press journalist who unapologetically solicits both candid celebrity photos and one night stands. After a blundered assignment at a celebrity wedding, he is sentenced to 300 hours of community service in a day care center, where he has his meet-cute with Anna Gutsloskwy (Nora Tschirchner), who turns out to be the nerdy and uncoordinated girl with braces he tortured mercilessly as a child. They argue and fight like the children they’re supposed to be taking care of, which often ends in exasperation on both parts. The typical romantic comedy

Excerpts from KeinOhrHase

The Sequel

ZweiOhrKüken was the #6 top grossing movie in German in 2009, earning $34 million short of its predecessor. While the first film won the Ernst Lubitsch Prize, a Bambi, a Deutscher Comedypreis, a Jupiter Award, and a DIVA Award (all media and film awards in Germany), the sequel only yielded a Deutscher Comedypreis and much more tepid reviews. According to Wikipedia, a further sequel is planned.

Warning: This film contains explicit language, brief nudity, and talk about sex.

¹ Germany Box Office Index, http://boxofficemojo.com/intl/germany/