



A TIN
EIN FILM VON **BIRD'S**
KONSTANTIN VON SICHART **SONG**

MEKU FILM / TANNENBAUM FILMS

contact: konstanfilm@gmail.com

A person wearing a cowboy hat stands on the crest of a grassy hill, looking out over a vast landscape. The sky is filled with numerous hot air balloons of various colors, some of which are illuminated by the low sun, creating a warm, golden glow. In the distance, a small building is visible on the right side of the hill.

LOGLINE

Klaus is in his late fifties and leads the lonely life of a welfare recipient. He believes every person has a big dream waiting to be fulfilled. His is to travel and explore the cowboy way of life in the wilderness of America. Konstantin, a friend and filmmaker, will help him make his adventurous road trip come finally true, thus inevitably forcing him to face the surrounding wilderness and the one we hold within.



SYNOPSIS

Klaus (57) dreams of freedom in a distant country where he can escape from his daily hardships and the constant feeling of not-belonging.

Driven by the archetype of the lonely cowboy, he longs for the romantic American west of his imaginary. His friend and filmmaker Konstantin Sichart (28) suggests they make a film together, an attempt to understand what this long trip could mean. Both dive into a process of mental training in order to explore the possibilities of phantasy within their realities.

Roaming through unconventional German landscapes, the characters, which sometimes play themselves and at other times their cowboy alter-egos, are confronted with one-another's expectations and consequently, frustrations. Not everything follows the script in this make-believe game. This road movie turns into a journey of filmmaking and self discovery, through loneliness and friendship.





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I have known Klaus for six years now and during this time our friendship has grown into a very special one. Even though we live in two diametrically opposed worlds, there is a special connection between us. We both accept each other for who we are. Our age gap loses significance and becomes just a coordinate in our ID cards. Each time we are together it's like being back in school-times, playing, making pranks and jokes. This atmosphere can however quickly change into one of thoughtfulness and reflection about our lives and pasts. There is something about our presence which triggers our creativity, allowing us to explore each other's fantasies, games and desires. In our games

everything is possible, fiction can become the most truthful reality. The original idea of the present film was to make a documentary about Klaus and include in it his dream of traveling as a lonely cowboy in the wilderness of the American West. In the end we decided to portray his life story as a road-movie and make a documentary about his dream. This would offer the protagonist the opportunity to experience, through the film process, some of the things he had been so long dreaming of. Together we wrote a screenplay in which Klaus finally makes his journey to reach America. The latter represents the ultimate dream of freedom and self achievement.



One day before the shooting started, Klaus confessed in a very serious conversation, that he was seriously considering to travel to America and build a small wooden hut somewhere in the Rocky Mountains. Consequently I came to realize that being on the road for the shooting, became for Klaus a rehearsal of his dream-journey to America. Our fiction had already begun to mould in the plans of an imminent reality.

A Tin Bird's song has not, however, been conceived to fulfil Klaus' dream.

The film is a tool aimed at actually giving him the chance to try his dream out. During the shooting I reserved the possibility to make changes to the script, leaving it open to influences and changes able to help us find the right path to our story. There are many ways to shoot a movie, we could



have shot it in a more straightforward and faithful adaptation of the script. This would have however been in contradiction with a film about freedom. Being part of such a complex project, represented also a considerable challenge for me, in quality of both, the filmmaker in the film, as well as the filmmaker in real life. Therefore a process of introspection became of a twofold nature, both, for Klaus and myself. He had to be confronted with the fictional realization of his wished for reality, and I had to constantly interact with the "fake" and the "real" filmmaker of the story. We wanted ultimately our shooting to be an adventure, we wanted reality to penetrate in our fiction, in our real and fictional selves. I like the surprises and the changes that our project has undertaken, it's a kind of confirmation that we're working in the right way.

BIO

Konstantin von Sichart is a filmmaker and producer based in Berlin. He graduated in Fine Arts from the University of the Arts Berlin as a student from Hito Steyerl and Ming Wong. From 2014 til 2018 he produced his first feature Film „A Tin Bird’s Song“. Since 2014 he works as a Producer for Meku Film GmbH and in 2017 founded his own Production Company, Tannenbaum Films. Besides his own projects, he is collaborating with filmmakers and artists such as Helen Simon, Theo Altenberg, Ming Wong, Paul Mccarthy and Gernot Wieland.



TEAM



STARING

Klaus Weber | Konstantin von Sichert | Theo Altenberg | Davetingale Oliver
Smith Vincent Nobre dos Santos | Carla Muresan | Philip Kaufmann | Tim Heide
Phillip D. Lüttjohann | Wenke Luise Nickel | David Schmierer

DIRECTED AND PRODUCED by Konstantin von Sichert

WRITTEN by Konstantin von Sichert | Irene Pozzi

ASSISTANCE DIRECTION Irene Pozzi | Nils Fischer | Phillip Lüttjohann

PRODUCTION Konstantin von Sichert | Matthis Heinzmann

PRODUCTION SUPPORT Wenke Luise Nickel

DOP Carla Muresan

SOUND Philip Kaufmann | Andrea Parolin | Insa Langhorst

GAFFER Tim Heide | Phillip Lüttjohann

DRONE OPERATOR Phillip Lüttjohann

EDITING Nils Fischer | Alice Dalgarrondo | Konstantin von Sichert

MAKE UP Wenke Luise Nickel

MUSIC Joseph Varschen | Konstantin von Sichert

SOUND DESIGN Christian Obermaier | Andrea Parolin | Konstantin von Sichert

MIX Jochen Jezzusek

GRADING Bela Pesics



A TIN BIRD'S SONG

Color | 95 min | 1:85:1 | 5.1 | DCP

Germany 2018

contact: konstanfilm@gmail.com