

# GASP

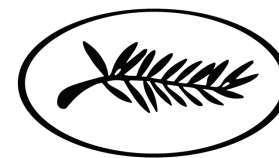
*a film by Eicke Bettinga*

FLABBERGASTED FILMS presents **GASP** Featuring **JAN AMAZIGH SID, GIANNI SCÜLFORT, JULIE TRAPPETT, PHILIPPE JACQ**

Editor **OLIVER SZYZA** Sound Designer **IRENEUSZ SZUMLANSKI** Co-Writer & Producer **SAMUEL HUANG**

Written, Photographed & Directed by **EICKE BETTINGA**

OPTIX Berlin



SHORT FILM

competition

FESTIVAL DE CANNES

G A S P

## SYNOPSIS

A seventeen-year-old boy. All he wants is to feel something. Anything. One day he pushes his longing to the limit...

## CREW

Written & Directed by:	EICKE BETTINGA
Co-Writer & Producer:	SAMUEL HUANG 黃盈傑
Editor:	OLIVER SZYZA
Sound Designer:	IRENEUSZ SZUMLANSKI
Cinematographer:	EICKE BETTINGA

## CAST

The Boy:	JAN AMAZIGH SID
Boy in Forest:	GIANNI SCÜLFORT
Mother:	JULIE TRAPPETT
Teacher:	PHILIPPE JACQ

Short Fiction | 2012  
15 min | HD | colour | cinemascope  
Dialogues: German & French  
Subtitles: French & English



## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Recently, I have been writing and thinking a lot about stories, what to say and more significantly: how to tell them. The more I thought about my next project, the more I wanted it to be as “pure” as possible; somewhat expressing basic emotions with the tools of cinema, rather than traditional storytelling. The need to be loved, the need to feel anything at all, became the initial starting point. I decided to make this my central hook to build characters, situations, images and sounds around it.

The rhythm of the film is very much based on music. Just like in a symphony of the late romantic era, I intended to create a mysterious beginning, which slowly builds up, and then leads into a series of scenes - almost like musical movements. Thus, the radical black gaps in the film which can be seen as *Generalpausen*.

Finding a particular cinematic language, consisting of ambiguity and doubt in order to sustain a level of suspense, was a key decision. While shooting the film over a period of several weeks, I was able to discover the most suitable images to portray the inner struggle of the protagonist. On a purely thematic level the film deals with a variety of issues, but rather than exposing them individually, I embedded them as pieces of a puzzle that is the protagonist's emotional journey.

- Eicke Bettinga  
May 2012

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

### **EICKE BETTINGA** (Writer / Director)

Eicke Bettinga studied film directing under Stephen Frears at the National Film & Television School (NFTS) in the UK. Eicke has written and directed a number of award winning short films, a documentary and a drama for German television. Three of his shorts have been selected at the Festival de Cannes: SHEARING (2002 in Cinéfondation) TOGETHER (2009 in Semaine de la Critique) and most recently GASP (2012 in Competition, nominated for the Palme d'or). Eicke is currently working on several feature film projects. Website: [www.eickebettinga.com](http://www.eickebettinga.com)

### **SAMUEL HUANG** 黃盈傑 (Co-Writer / Producer)

Samuel Huang was born in Taipei, Taiwan. After graduating in MA Marketing from London's Metropolitan University he pursued a career in the Arts, predominantly in the classical music fields. As a co-founder of Flabbergasted Films, Samuel is enthusiastic about cross-culture productions in general and European-Asian co-productions in particular. His previous films as a producer include the documentary JUREK'S CINEMA and more recently the short film GASP, which he also co-wrote.

**JAN AMAZIGH SID** (The Boy – lead actor)

Born 1989 in Wetzlar, Germany, Jan had his first acting experience in an acting class at school. After Abitur in 2010 he decided to pursue acting professionally and has since been studying at the STARTER Schauspielschule für Film und Fernsehen in Berlin. What fascinates Jan most about acting is that one can experience many different versions of oneself. Recent performances on stage include LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES (as Chevalier Danceny) by Kokotterie Theatre Company and A BRIDGE TO THE STARS at Nottingham Playhouse, UK.

**GIANNI SCÜLFORT** (Boy in Forest)

Gianni was born 1991 in Donaueschingen, Germany. After graduating from Reischach Realschule in Immendingen he studied acting at the Transform Schauspielschule in Berlin, whilst furthering his love for the performing arts by actively reading Stanislavski, Strasberg and Freud. Gianni has appeared in a variety of film and television productions in and around Berlin as well as in ROMEO AND JULIET (as Mercutio) at Theaterhaus Tuttlingen.

**JULIE TRAPPETT** (Mother)

Originally from Australia, Julie completed her professional acting training at Schauspielschule und Filmatelier Langhanke in Berlin, and has been involved in a wide variety of projects in Germany, UK, US and Australia. Equally fluent in German and English, she performs in both languages. Recent credits include the female leads in AN EXPERIMENT WITH AN AIR PUMP at the English Theatre in Berlin, and TWILIGHT BALLROOMS at Jermyn Street and Barons Court Theatres, London.

**PHILIPPE JACQ** (Teacher)

Born in sunny Provence, Philippe moved to even sunnier California, then to frosty East Germany to finally settle down in mild Wiesbaden and Paris. He trained in Paris and in New York with John Strasberg and has been working for many years throughout Europe and the USA both on the stage and in front of the camera.

## **CONTACTS**

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