

II SYNOPSIS

Jost roams through the streets of Berlin.

He opposes the world enraged, aggressively and furiously in a self-destructive way. He continuously provokes situations proving him that everybody hates him. He is convinced he does not need anybody and does not let anyone get close to him.

Anna is walled in her fear and unable to leave her apartment. She manages to keep this situation from all the others in a system of lies.

Her reserves draw to a close. She heads for the catastrophe.

One day Jost shows up at her door.

II DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

CLOSE tells the story of two approaching big-city persons both insulated from the world to the extreme. It is the story of their concealment and at the same time of their hidden yearning for being finally discovered.

CLOSE is an intimately narrated love story of inner isolation and incapacity of intimacy.

II CAST

Christoph Bach

Jule Böwe

Julia Richter

Julia Jäger

Joachim Paul Assböck

Torsten Michaelis

Hermann Beyer

Falk Rockstroh

II CREDITS

director	Marcus Lenz
screenplay	Dagmar Gabler Marcus Lenz
director of photography	Reinhold Vorschneider
editing	Bettina Böhler
production designer	Reinhild Blaschke
make up	Monika Münnich
costume designer	Heike Schultz-Fademrecht
sounddesign	Sascha Starke
score	Tarwater
line producer dffb	Martina Knapheide
line producer	Karsten Aurich
co-producer dffb	Reinhard Hauff
editor ZDF Das kleine Fernsehspiel	Jörg Schneider
producer	Martin Cichy Karsten Aurich

II BIOGRAPHY/ FILMOGRAPHY OF THE DIRECTOR

Marcus Lenz was born in the Ruhr Basin in 1969. After completing his studies in Essen, he worked as a communications designer before discovering his love for storytelling.

In 1995 he started to study at the German Film and Television Academy Berlin and founded irrlicht-film in 2001.

Marcus Lenz also works as an animal film director and director of photography. Among other things he shot *Das Wunder von Kaufbeuren* (by Gerald Maas and Tine Kugler) as well as the Portuguese features *Esquece tudo o que te disse* and *Respirar / Atmen (unter Wasser)* (by Antonio Ferreira) and won the award for best cinematography at the Festival Ibérico de Cine in Badajoz, Spain in 2001.

immer und immer, short, 1997

alles ist nie, short, 15 min, 1998

Der gelbe Fluss - Leben und Sterben in Hongkong, documentary, 30 min, 2000

Deutsche Angst, feature, 58 min, 2001

Close, feature, 89 min, 2004

II FESTIVALS & AWARDS

June 2004 Premiere Filmfest München 2004
Nomination „The Young German Cinema Award“
Category Best New Director

August 2004 Nomination First Steps Award 2004
Der deutsche Nachwuchspreis

February 2005 Göteborg Film Festival

April 2005 film festival achtung berlin - new berlin film award
Best Feature Film

For its brilliant and conscious use of cinematic language with which the film-maker shows us the complicated relationship between two modern Berliners, lost within the city and within themselves. In one word, CLOSE means Achtung Berlin!

*Statement of the International Jury new berlin film award
Best Feature*

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II TECHNICAL DETAILS

title	CLOSE
running time	89 minutes
reels	5
	colour
format	35mm
ratio	1:1.85
speed	25 frames per second
sound format	Dolby SR
	original German version with English subtitles
production	sabotage films GmbH Kastanienallee 56 10119 Berlin Germany phone +49.30.440 30 890 fax +49.30.440 30 899 mail@sabotage-films.de www.sabotage-films.de
producer	Martin Cichy Karsten Aurich
co-production	German Film and Television Academy Berlin (dfffb) ZDF Das kleine Fernsehspiel