

Alive Mind CINEMA

PRESENTS

Over Your Cities Grass Will Grow

A film by
Sophie Fiennes

*2010 / France, U.K. and Netherlands / 105 min. / 2.35:1 / Dolby-Surround-DTS /
Not Rated*

In German with English subtitles

An Alive Mind Cinema Release
from Kino Lorber, Inc.
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About Kasander Film:

KEES KASANDER set up Kasander Film for the purpose of structural European crossover productions. He is mostly known for his work with Peter Greenaway; THE COOK, THE THIEF, HIS WIFE AND HER LOVER (1989), PROSPERO'S BOOKS (1992) and THE PILLOW BOOK (1995). His newest feature film FISH TANK written and directed by Andrea Arnold premiered at the Cannes Film Festival 2009 and received the Jury Prize. On top of that FISH TANK was rewarded with a BAFTA award for Best Outstanding British Film in February 2010.

About Sciapode:

SCIAPODE was founded in 2003 to produce European films by strong and ambitious filmmakers. These artists – Sophie Fiennes, Wim Vandekeybus, Andrew Köttling, Wayn Traub, Jan Lauwers, Michael Roskam, Frédérique Devillez, Florent de la Tullaye, David Dusa, Renaud Barret, Philipp Mayrhofer, Anne Teresa de Keersmaeker... – experienced film making but also, for some of them visual arts, choreography, theatre, opera, possibly mixing different media for a richer work and new narrative style.

About Emile Blezat:

Producer Emile Blezat graduated from the High Business School of Paris (ESCP) and obtained a Master (MBA) in Entrepreneurship, Project Development and Negotiation at Olin Graduate School of Business (Boston). She also had a degree in Art History (Ecole du Louvre of Paris) and Philosophy. She trained at MK2 (international sales), Agat Films (production) and Samsa Film (production manager), before working in Strategy Consulting and Fund raising for 'Start-ups' in New Technologies.

At the end of 2002, she was mandated by Joel Farges and Marc Bonny to initiate the production company Les Petites Lumières specialised in films for children. In the meantime she developed her own projects, and created Sciapode in 2003. Emilie Blézat is part of the ACE network (Ateliers du Cinéma Européen, ACE 15). She is also member of the European Film Academy since July 2007 and Power to the Pixel (2010).

Alive Mind C I N E M A

CREDITS

DIRECTED BY - Sophie Fiennes
PRODUCED BY - Sophie Fiennes, Kees Kasander, Emilie BIŻzat
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY - Remko Schnorr
CAMERA - Sophie Fiennes, Remko Schnorr
SOUND - Bram Boers
ASSISTANTS TO ANSELM KIEFER - Alain Moittiř, Lior Gal, Antonio Fernandes,
Boualem Moudjaoui, Vincent Adriaens, Philippe Ville
INTERVIEWER - Klaus Dermutz
FILM EDITOR - Ethel Shepherd
SOUND DESIGN - Ranko Paukovic
POST PRODUCTION FACILITIES, UK - Stroods Productions
POST PRODUCTION FACILITIES, FRANCE - Digimage Cinema
FILM STOCK - Fujifilm, Motion Picture Film
FILM PROCESSING, FRANCE - Eclair Laboratoires, Paris
POST PRODUCTION, ROTTERDAM - Neon Media
LINE PRODUCER - Natascha Teunissen
FOR RIBOTTE, PARIS - Waltraud Forelli, Sylvie Pages, Eva Křnig
PRODUCTION OFFICE, SCIAPODE - Fanny Yvonnet, Raphaelle Maes
IN ASSOCIATION WITH Arte France, Unite, Culture Et Spectacles
ARTE FRANCE HEAD OF PROGRAMMING - Emelie De Jong
POST PRODUCTION MANAGER - Coralie Petit
MUSIC/SCORE - Freie Stucke Fur
Ensemble Number X by Jorg Widmann
"2002, Schott Music, Mainz.

(Full music credits available upon request).

With Special Thanks To:

Geraldine Harmsworth, Marina Guinness, Renate Graf, Lorcan O'neill, Martin Rosenbaum, Leonie Gombrich, Katie Kitamura, Matthew Biro, Jacques Van Heijningen, Jeanine Hage, Bob Visser, Rob Charles, Michel Reilhac, Rosa Bosch, Deirdre Bates, Mireille Kassar, Michael Tummings, Edouard Chaulet, Brook Crowley. An Amoeba Film, Kasander, Sciapode Production (UK, the Netherlands, France).

– Amoeba Film Ltd,
Ribotte Paris 2010

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SYNOPSIS

In 1993 Kiefer left Buchen, Germany for La Ribaute, a derelict silk factory near Barjac. From 2000 he began constructing a series of elaborate installations there. Like a strange, sprawling village, La Ribaute extends over 350,000 square meters and is composed of old industrial buildings and working studios that link to a network of underground tunnels dug out by Kiefer, which run underneath pavilions built to house paintings and installations. An underground pool at the cul-de-sac of a tubular iron tunnel is embedded within a crypt which backs onto to a 20 m tiered concrete amphitheatre. There are caves and woods, an open landscape of concrete towers – assembled like so many card houses – and secluded, private spaces.

Traversing this landscape, the film immerses the audience in the total world and creative process of one of today's most significant and inventive artists. Shot in cinemascope, the film constructs visual set pieces alongside observational footage to capture both the dramatic resonance of Kiefer's art and the intimate process of creation. This polarity – in terms of scale, sensibility and time – animates the film, creating a multi-layered narrative through which to navigate the complex spaces of La Ribaute. Here creation and destruction are interdependent; the film enters into direct contact with the raw materials Kiefer employs to build his paintings and sculptures - lead, concrete, ash, acid, earth, glass and gold.

OVER YOUR CITIES GRASS WILL GROW gives privileged access to Kiefer's last days at La Ribotte prior to his move to Paris, where he now lives and works.

Director Sophie Fiennes:

Sophie Fiennes was born in Suffolk, England, in 1967. She attended art school briefly, worked with Peter Greenaway from 1987 to 1992 and managed choreographer Michael Clark from 1993 to 1995. She began making her films in 1998. She is widely acclaimed for her unique observational eye and strong sense of cinematic form.

Previous films include her infamous *THE PERVERT'S GUIDE TO CINEMA* (2006), a film collaboration with radical thinker Slavoj Zizek. She made *HOOVER STREET REVIVAL* (2002), a feature documentary about a Pentecostal church community in Los Angeles and the sermons of its resident preacher.

Kasander co-produced both films with Fiennes. Future projects include *GRACE JONES, THE MUSICAL OF MY LIFE*, a marathon digital-video feature project with singer and performer Grace Jones, and *THE PERVERT'S GUIDE TO IDEOLOGY*, her second collaboration with Slavoj Zizek. Fiennes was awarded a NESTA fellowship in 2000 and at Rotterdam's 2008 Cinemart she won the ARTE FRANCE CINEMA AWARD.

FILMOGRAPHY

VSPRS Show and Tell (documentary) – 2007
The Pervert's Guide to Cinema (film essay) – 2006
Hoover Street Revival (feature documentary) – 2003
Because I Sing (documentary) – 2001
The Late Michael Clark (documentary) – 2000
Lars from 1 – 10 (short) – 1998

Anselm Kiefer:

Anselm Kiefer's monumental body of work occupies a fascinating place in the canon of late 20th Century art. Born in 1945, a son of post-fascist Germany, he initially embarrassed his country through his excavations of the nation's recent past when he photographed himself performing Nazi salutes in the landscape. Kiefer came to prominence in 1980 when he represented his country in the Venice Biennale. His work is now held in museums and private collections internationally. Recent exhibitions include a retrospective at the Guggenheim Bilbao and Monumenta (2007) at the Grand Palais in Paris.

In 2008 the Louvre commissioned a painting for their permanent collection and Kiefer was awarded the Friedenspreis des Deutschen Buchhandels in Germany. His creation at La Ribaute represents his most ambitious work to date in the second half of his career.

Complete list of exhibitions can be found at:
www.whitecube.com/artists/kiefer/texts/43/