

a film by Jenny E. Kleine and Pia Mozet

MARA

PRESS KIT



MARA

LOGLINE

Amidst village idyll and childhood memories, a young woman tries to figure out if she wants to be a mother while being haunted by an overwhelming darkness.

SYNOPSIS

Mara is overwhelmed by her emotions when she discovers that she is pregnant. Arriving at her former home, Mara is reminded of an easier time and when she had to bear less responsibility. But even the familiar sound of her old CDs can't drown out the voice of doubt. Dark visions rob Mara of sleep and make it increasingly difficult for her to get up. In her conversations with her mother Heda, she realizes that her concerns are not without reason. Mara's fear of failing as a mother grows. As the days drag on, it gets dark around her. Mara knows she has to make a decision.



WRITER'S NOTE

Jenny E. Kleine

MARA is a story that tells about love. Not about romantic love, but about what is probably the oldest love in the world: maternal love. But how does one love when one can no longer feel happiness? How do you deal with it when you are not thrilled to be a mother?

In a pink baby world, Mara finds herself surrounded by overwhelming darkness that spreads through her thoughts. The otherwise loud, struggling woman turns into a silent, driveless copy of herself. Because there are things you know and maybe have seen but still don't understand. That's the way it is with depression. It's not a broken leg, and you don't wear a cast indicating the injury or start to turn green. Depression is invisible to the outside world, but an aching storm rages inside the afflicted. So how do you make something visible that may not show on the outside? To answer this question, I interviewed women in advance who are or have been affected by depression. Because how exactly depression feels can only be understood if you have experienced it yourself.

The image of an octopus combined several characteristics that the women described to me. The visualization helped me get a sense of the illness. I saw the octopus as a way to make the invisible visible.

MARA is an attempt to tell a story in which those affected can find themselves and with which outsiders can actively participate in the discourse in the future.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Jenny E. Kleine, Pia Mozet

Some things are so overwhelming that our vocabulary is simply not capable of expressing them. The depression of our protagonist is as indescribable and incomprehensible as it is to outsiders. Going far beyond words and giving visual expression to the complexity of the emotional world was our goal for this film.-

Both postpartum depression and depression that occur during pregnancy are specific and often sneak up on us unnoticed. Furthermore, usually particularly difficult to recognize because pregnancy literally turns every woman's inner experience upside down. Depression is individual but can affect anyone. Like every depression, this one also has a unique story. *Mara* represents the large number of people who suffer from similar symptoms. By depicting common physical and mental effects, we want to approach the topic in an all-encompassing way, giving a voice to those affected.

As directors, we are always looking for ways to visually portray this variety of emotions. With *MARA* we wanted to create a film that shows the complexity of thoughts and feelings, their extremities, and visual aesthetics in all their diversity.



BIOGRAPHY

Jenny Elisabeth Kleine & Pia Mozet

Jenny Elisabeth Kleine (*1994) and Pia Mozet (*1995) met during their bachelor studies in Halle, where they founded their collective *klemopictures* in 2017. With their own film productions, they were present at various festivals and won, among others, the Student Award 2018 at the Fulldome Film Festival Jena and were shortlisted for the GUFA Awards Hong Kong 2019 with {5 minutes of death}. Both are studying the Master of Media Arts and Design at the Bauhaus University Weimar. "Mara" is their graduation film.

FILMOGRAPHY | NOMINATIONS | AWARDS

selection*

films

2020

Why Me, Why Me

Transgenesis

2019

{5 Minuten Tod}_

2018

Dreamsymbiosis

awards

why me, why me

3. Platz Apoll Fashion Film Award 2020 | Best Creative Concept in a Fashion Film FFFRD 2021

{5 minutes of death}

Student Award Winner Fulldome Festival Jena 2019

nominations

why me, why me: Artfools - Eco Fashion FF 2020, | Short Shot Fest 2021 | Athens Fashion FF 2021 | Canadian IFF 2021 | Fashion Film Festival Kyiv | Finalist 2021 | Here Kyiv Short Fest 2021 | the chic and cool Fashion FF Venice 2021 | Chicago IFF 2021

{5 minutes of death}: Macon Film Festival 2020 | Anim!Arte 2020 | Dome Under Fulldome Festival Melbourne 2021 | GUFA Hong Kong (Shortlist) 2020 | Sehnsüchte ISEF 2020

* more at www.klemopictures.de

CAST | CREW | FACTS

CAST (FULL)

Mara	Pia Zessin
Heda	Anja Karmanski
Susanne	Laura Sophia Becker
Mutter	Camille Dombrowsky
Vater	Jonas Weber
Paulina	Mathilda Noster
Flora	Ella Scheller

CREW (HEAD OF DEPARTMENTS)

script:	Jenny E. Kleine
directors:	Jenny E. Kleine Pia Mozet
producer:	Frederike Merkel
DoP:	Leon Brandt
production design:	Emma Helmdach & Eliabeth Schories
costume:	Eve Exley-Carvajal & Emely Wensky
hair and make up:	Emma Neuchel
music:	André Buttler
light:	Christian Schirmer
sound design:	Timm Weber
editor:	Pia Mozet
VFX supervisor:	Valentin Bolte

FACTS

original title:	Unter Wasser Lila
genre:	drama
length:	34:00 min
aspect ratio:	1:1,85
framerate:	25 fps
original language:	German
sutitles:	Englisch
sound:	stereo

CONTACT

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