



**Press kit**



Ente Kross Film UG  
Frank Christian Marx und Udo Lutz  
Dunckerstrasse 67, 10437 Berlin  
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www.entekrossfilm.com

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## Ente Kross Film – The Company

**Ente Kross Film** is the catchy name of the Berlin based film production company which was jointly founded by Frank Christian Marx and Udo Lutz in 2010. As one of the few German companies in the field of gay and lesbian film genre, Ente Kross takes up the cause of „queer thinking” and locates its cinematic content apart from usual coming-out stories.

In its humorous film debut „Men to Kiss”, which appears in early 2012, Ente Kross presents its very first 83-minute film. In an amusing manner, the comedy shows the typical clichés and gridlocked stereotypes. Although gay and lesbian characters don’t have to bear an exotic status in movies anymore – they are already an integral part of German movies and TV series –, gay leading roles apart from coming-out stories are still an exception. The aim of Ente Kross Film is to change this condition and to considerably expand the limits of tolerance of the German film in a humorous way.

The career of the two experienced actors **Frank Christian Marx** and **Udo Lutz** reaches from dance, drama and theater productions to roles in well-known TV series and feature films with international range. After years of experience in the film business in front of a camera, they decided to found the film production company Ente Kross.

## The Founders: Frank Christian Marx and Udo Lutz



**Frank Christian Marx** is an actor, producer and founder of Ente Kross Film. After his studies at Akademie für Schauspielkunst in Stuttgart, and after numerous theater productions in Stuttgart and Berlin (“Aufs Äußerste” at Saalbau Neukölln Berlin) he played in movies („Die Order“, „Geister all inclusive“, „Frau Böhm sagt nein“) and well known German TV series („Alarm für Cobra 11“). In 2008, he had his first leading role in the independent production „Somebody got murdered” by Tor Iben. It was awarded as the best movie at the film festival CinegialesAST in Gijon. In 2010, he was on camera with Bollywood star Shahrukh Khan for “Don2”. In “Men to Kiss” (2012) Frank Christian Marx played the lead role Ernst.



**Udo Lutz** is an actor, radio announcer, speech therapist, producer and founder of Ente Kross Film. In 1996, he was the co-founder of x.x.y Tanztheater under the direction of Geraldo Si Loureiro, a former Pina Bausch dancer. He acquired his first experiences in film business as a stand-in and voice-over artist for German television productions of the WDR. Apart from many theater productions Lutz played at Theaterforum Kreuzberg in the role of Christian in Thomas Vinterbergs “Festen”. He had his first leading role in 2010 in the movie “Alex und der Löwe”. Since 2011, he is a radio announcer for Deutschlandradio Kultur. In the movie “Men to kiss” (2012) he played the role of Tobias.



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## **Men to kiss**

### **Short description**

Colourful balloon dresses, long party nights in Berlin's trendy clubs and erotic evenings on the dining table – this is the chaotic relationship of the unequal couple of Ernst and Tobias. Though opposites attract, respectable banker Ernst is often unsure, whether bubbly and always cheerful Tobias takes their relationship as seriously as he does. Soon they rise to a challenge of every relationship: everyday living together and mutual trust. The sudden appearance of Uta, Ernst's eccentric school friend, fundamentally changes their relationship. Uta forges out a scheming plan, which Ernst completely falls for. Together with his friends, Tobias spares no efforts to checkmate the unwelcome guest as soon as possible – and sets events in motion that increasingly get out of control.

To date, the German gay movie was mostly limited to coming out stories of young men. "Men to kiss" charmingly proves that homosexuality can play another role in gay movie and replaces common clichés with authentic everyday stories. "Men to kiss": an entertaining comedy about love, friendship and Berlin, full of vivid dialogues and emotional moments, that captivates the viewer with its taking characters from the first minutes on.



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## **Men to kiss**

### **Extended description**

Influenced by everyday ups and downs of a chaotic relationship, the romantic comedy “Men to Kiss” of, both producers and actors, Frank Christian Marx and Udo Lutz is a wild Berlin film. It engages the most beautiful settings in Germany’s capital around the humorous story of an unequal couple. The dedication of the team, their hard work and sweat and blood went into this film to give it a certain wit and fine finishing. Marx and Lutz use the film to tell a modern big city fairy tale the encompasses the trials and tribulations of the 30-somethings generation and a dysfunctional relationship.

Eccentric Tobias (Udo Lutz) and respectable banker Tobias (Frank Christian Marx) had a happy relationship for about half a year. Although both love each other, they quickly rise to the challenges of everyday life and those of every relationship: the daily life together, mutual trust and the fear of losing each other. The two characters could not be more different: Tobias embodies a lively, always good-tempered paradise bird, while the respectable banker Ernst preserves the peace.

But the appearance of Uta (Alexandra Starnitzky), Ernst’s childhood friend changes everything. The relationship is put to the test as Uta manipulates Ernst and forges a plan to ruin the relationship between Tobias and Ernst. Not only does she sneakily ambush Tobias during the night and threatens him with a nutcracker, in her arrogant way she also tries to drive a wedge between the couple. Uta forges out a scheming plan, which Ernst completely falls for. Together with his friends, Tobias spares no efforts to checkmate the unwelcome guest as soon as possible – and sets events in motion that increasingly get out of control. Together with his two best friends Stefanie (Sascia Haj) and Leopold (Marcel Schlutt) and Tobias mother Rutila (Mark Lachman), he wants to make sure the unwanted guest is once and for all put out of action.



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When not only the whizzy plan A fails, but also the bull dyke Grundel (Louise Schnittert) is not successful, this leads to the sorrowful separation of the couple. Ernst throws Tobias out and thus it seems that Uta would have won her deceitful game. When Ernst, however, gets to the bottom of the intriguing scenario of his supposed best friend, yet discovers spy photos, he is determined to win Tobias back.

The debut of Ente Kross Film, “Men to kiss” is an excellent example of a do-it-yourself production. The actors Frank Christian Marx and Udo Lutz play not only the two main roles, they co-wrote the screenplay and financed the film to a great extent from their own resources. They were supported by Vivasván Pictures as a co-producer.

In addition to the amusing story line, the film offers performances from captivating actors and a look into Berlin’s night life. Guest appearances and supporting characters are played by popular names from the Berlin show scene. Aside from the main rolls Frank Christian Marx (Don 2) and Udo Lutz (Alex und der Löwe) are Sascia Haj (Im Auge des Taifuns), Alexandra Star-nitzky (Die vierte Macht), Marcel Schlutt (Otto, Or Up With Dead People.) In some supporting and guest roles appear renowned celebrities from the Berlin scene, such as Ades Zabel, Nina Queer and Barbie Breakout.

“Men to kiss” was shot from July 2010 to May 2011 at many well-known locations in Berlin and can easily be described as a Berlin film. Ente Kross Film won no less a figure than Daniel Behrens, musical director of Berlin’s Friedrichstadtpalast, over to the orchestral film music. The German band Rosenstolz provides the end of the movie with their song “Blaue Flecken” a fitting musical finish.



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## Cast and crew

Ernst Knuddelmann	Frank Christian Marx
Tobias Rueckert	Udo Lutz
Uta Refsen	Alexandra Starnitzky
Stefanie	Sascia Haj
Leopold	Marcel Schlutt
Rutila Rueckert Mandelstam	Marcus Lachmann
Kurt	Dominik Djialeu
Grundel	Luise Schnittert
Alexander	André Schneider
Sales woman Edith	Ades Zabel
Sales man Hermann	Stefan Kuschner
Paul	Marc Bluhm
Ernst's Co-Worker	Carolin Boltz
Nina Queer	as herself
Barbie Breakout	as herself

## Crew

First Unit Director	Robert Hasfogel
Second Unit Director	Jürgen Hirsch
Screenplay	André Schneider and Frank Christian Marx
Production company	Ente Kross Film
Executive Producers	Frank Christian Marx and Udo Lutz
Co-Producers	Adelgunde Marx and Vivasván Pictures
Director of Photography	Till Caspar Juon
Editor	Florian Sachisthal
Co-Editor	Rocco Di Mento
Music	Daniel Behrens
Sound Re-Recording	Joerg Klaussner
Art Direction	Nine Olausen Nielebock
Make up Artist	Beatrice Mendelin





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## Press pictures

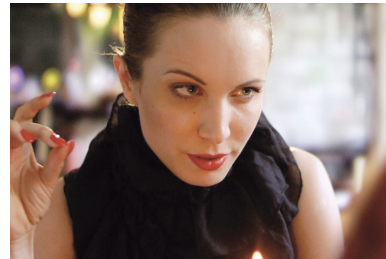
You can find and download all press pictures at [www.entekrossfilm.com/presse](http://www.entekrossfilm.com/presse) both in print and web resolution.

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## Public relations

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