

DOKUMENTARFILM
ÜBER KONFLIKT-
SCHWANGERSCHAFTEN

LASS UNS REDEN

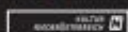
EIN FILM VON TAMÁS KISS

AB 8. MAI
IM KINO

mit POETRY SLAMMERIN ADINA WILCKE mit DANIELA KARALL, IBICU, VERENA SCHINDLER, RITA DULLINGER, VALERIE DE AGOSTINI mit TAMÁS KISS mit DAVID HORSWELL
mit DENISE NECKAM mit CHRIS & SONJA HORSWELL mit VIKTORIA SCHINDLER mit DENIZ LINDENBERG AAC, FLORIAN LINDENBERG AAC mit CHRISTIAN HESCHL



Eine Performance Picture Entertainment
Produktion hergestellt mit Unterstützung von:



WWW.LASSUNSREDEN.FILM

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PRESS FOLDER

LASS UNS REDEN (LET US TALK)

A Documentary Film from Tamás Kiss
about Conflict Pregnancies

Austria 2022, 90 Minutes

CINEMA START:

8th MAY 2022

PRESSE FOLDER

www.lassundreden.film

Film Production Company:

Performance Picture Entertainment

Anschützgasse 26, Top 2,

1150 Wien, Österreich

PRESS MATERIAL:

Available from www.lassunsreden.film/en/press-area/

PRODUCTION:

Performance Picture Entertainment

www.ppe.live

INITIATOR

Sonja Horswell – SaveOne Europe

www.saveoneeurope.org



CREDITS

Direction: Tamás Kiss

Music Composer: Christian Heschl

Producers: Sonja Horswell & Chris Horswell

Production Manager: David Horswell

CREW

Production Manager: Denise Neckam

Recording Supervisor: Andreas Reischl, BA

Set Design: Viktoria Schindler

'A' Camera: Deniz Lindenberg, BA, AAC

'B' Camera: Florian Lindenberg, BA AAC

Best Boy: Daniel Steiner

Sound, Light and Stage: Florian Tomsic

Dolly Operator: Daniel Steiner & Florian Klein

Grips: Alexander Boboschewski , AAC & Theresa Ferstl

Make-up Artist: Judith Grübl

Catering: Mag. Sonja Smutny, Ayda Radfar, BA & Ursula Rameder

Visual Design: Marco Rohr, VMA.TV

Graphic Designer: Ing. Michaela Maria Wartbichler

Web Design & Webpage Services: Phoenix Digital Arts & idlab media GmbH

POSTPRODUCTION

Editor: David Horswell

Assistant Editor: Alexander Heissenberger

Data Wrangler: Andreas Reischl, BA

Audio Mixing and Mastering: Tjandra Warsosumarto, BA

Colorist: Daniel Hollerweger

DCP Production: Andreas Draxler

Transcript: Tabea Schindler, BA

Voiceover for Timothy: Marc Vogel

Postproduction Video Services: Performance Picture Entertainment,
Tjandra Warsosumarto

Produced with the support of Lower Austrian Provincial Government, Department of Art and Culture

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PRESS STATEMENT

The film “LASS UNS REDEN” (LET US TALK) offers an innovative approach to the controversial topic of conflict pregnancies and their possible outcomes and is intended to reach the younger generation in particular.

The topic of unplanned pregnancy and its various outcomes is often closer to us and more topical than we assume even without any direct, personal experience. Even when young people come closer to confronting it as their own sexuality awakens during puberty, it still seems far away and barely tangible - but there are often relevant, concrete experiences and above all, opinions within their immediate family or in their circle of friends.

Unfortunately, there is real stigma attached to it and so abortions are often kept secret and seen as a taboo matter. To the contrary this topic deserves to be discussed openly in Austria, the stigmatization reduced, and the possible psychological and psychosomatic consequences and effects of an abortion clearly determined.

SYNOPSIS

Six women and two men who speak about their motives, their fears, and their hopes. Four experts who contribute their experiences from different perspectives. A Poetry Slammer who expresses the thoughts and feelings of many of those affected in the staccato of her words. A film that neither indoctrinates nor judges. A documentary that breaks the silence.

“LASS UNS REDEN” (LET US TALK) is an innovative film project by Performance Picture Entertainment OG in cooperation with SaveOne Europe in Vienna. Director Tamás Kiss, together with the composer Christian Heschl, the poetry slammer Adina Wilcke and a team of artists, dared to tackle a taboo subject and to give it impressive expression with those affected.

The documentary film for the German-speaking area with eight personal accounts of women and men. With the different outcomes, experiences, possible effects (for example, after an abortion) and their processing. How were the reactions from outside and how do those affected deal with bringing a child into the world who is not wanted by the environment? Four experts analyze the problem.

- What does it mean to talk about something as conflicted and controversial as abortion?
- How can we raise questions that are so often suppressed and at the same time give hope?
- The poetry slammer Adina Wilcke slips into the role of a young pregnant woman who is faced with the decision - should I keep the child or not?

The film aims neither to teach nor to judge. It invites you to get involved in a discourse, to break with taboo topics in our society and to come to your own conclusions. It takes a lot of courage to talk about the real questions in life, because there are an estimated 35,000 abortions per year in Austria. And there is a need for good advice and sufficient time for reflection to be able to make such weighty, even existential decisions. Ultimately, it's about the women, the children affected, our families, our society.

ARTISTIC APPROACH

By including Poetry Slammer Adina Wilcke in the project, Director Tamás Kiss went new ways to captivate the audience. With the play of her words, Adina Wilcke manages to present a monologue in a poetic but also neutral way. Good poetry inspires the viewers and allows them to feel the topic up close.

One thing becomes clear to Adina as the film progresses: this is not just about her own life, but also that of a child. This is also the essential basic message of the film. Regardless of whether someone decides for or against an abortion, personal responsibility for human life is a fact. An abortion often has psychological and psychosomatic consequences, which is clearly communicated in the life stories. This expansion of consciousness is the emotional curve in our main character while she is on this journey with her thoughts. Ideally, viewers will feel as informed and enlightened as our speaker.

We would like to particularly connect with the younger generation and invite them to engage in this inner debate. This requires a fresh, authentic approach, and we are convinced that the artistic approach has its finger on the pulse of the times.

DRAMATIC APPROACH

After the **topic** has been introduced and the **questions** are clear, the film is divided into the following **five chapters**:

Pregnant

This chapter deals with the circumstances and needs of women and couples that can lead to pregnancies being terminated. 8 carefully selected affected people talk about their past and share with us the reasons that prompted them to terminate the pregnancy.

Abortion

The second chapter deals with the experience of the abortion itself. Asks what were the circumstances, support and approaches in the abortion clinics like? The experience reports are different, since they also took place in different decades. However, there are amazing overlaps.

Why did no one inform us?

Here it becomes clear that none of the people who terminated their pregnancy were really informed by the doctors and nurses about possible psychological and psychosomatic consequences. The explanations were primarily about the side effects of the anesthesia or the physical, minimal after-effects. Here, too, the experiences of the people are very similar.

Life afterwards

The penultimate chapter describes the consequences of an abortion (e.g. PTSD), which are not widely discussed. Unfortunately, this is still a taboo subject in our society. The invited people talk about their life after the abortion and what changes it has triggered in them. Most of them would have wished for well-founded explanations. This could possibly have spared them decades of suffering. However, there is hope after an abortion.

But how can I cope if I keep the child?

The last chapter uses their stories to show that there are people whose fate can hardly be more serious. For example, when despite all the circumstances, they decided to keep and carry their child. These moving stories are intended to show that there is no such thing as "can't be done" and to point out one's own responsibility for making decisions. In life there are often many emergencies, but each new life only once.

Adina's monologue is influenced by each chapter, and this makes her ask herself further questions and thus moving us on to the following chapters. The character that Adina embodies is seen as determined and enlightened at the end of this documentary. You can tell that she knows more clearly now and is no longer groping in the dark.

SPEAKER

Adina Wilcke



Actress | Poetry Slammer | Organizer | Writer | Educator
| Moderator

We have commissioned a poetry slammer as the speaker for the film. Such artists have the gift of playing with their words in such a way that the monologue can be delivered in a poetic, yet natural way. A good poetry slam captivates the audience and lets them feel, sense, and grasp the topic. Adina Wilcke convinced us during the casting and takes on this role.

DIRECTOR

Tamás Kiss



Tamás Kiss is of Serbian origin and was born in Vienna into the Hungarian minority community.

As a convention-hating and chaotic person, he chose self-employment as a filmmaker immediately after completing his training. He has been working as director, cameraman, author, and producer since he was 21.

His specialties are advertising, documentary and film productions, in which he has several years of experience and has also been able to collect prizes such as the Cannes Dolphin.

Statement - “Essentially, Sonja Horswell asked me if I could imagine directing this project. She knew me and my work through the film producers (head of the film production company Performance Picture Entertainment). I was immediately attentive as I had experienced the matter of abortion both in my immediate family and myself. Nevertheless - at first, I wasn't so sure whether I should approach this topic through my work since it is very controversial and much debated. You can so easily step into unwanted faux pas. The gulf between the two camps is deep and yet there is little space to stand between them. Of course, there is also the fact that Sonja Horswell and her Christian organisation (SaveOne | Help after an abortion) will put a particular stamp on the whole project for many people.

All in all, it was a very difficult decision for me to go this way, especially since I would describe myself as a non-religious person through and through. Nevertheless, after careful consideration, it was precisely these warning signs and fears that became my main motivation for saying "yes". With this project, I wanted to make people feel a little safer just talking about this topic without being immediately attacked.

Because no matter what experiences or attitudes you have with the topic, it doesn't matter whether it's the topic of abortion or other current social issues! They all have one thing in common: they are no longer talked about. It's just shooting each other down. Opinions and views are hardly discussed anymore. They're just shouted out and the "truth" is sought to be claimed with loud shouts and demos. As always, the so-called truth lies somewhere in between. But there is hardly anyone having it these days. No wonder! If when you try to find this for yourself and stand between two camps in order to understand both and start a conversation, you will be worn down - from both sides. Because you are seen as either for or against something. This is how our world works at the moment.

With this project, I wanted to break out of that. Hence the name of the film "Let us talk". It's about letting people speak for themselves, simply to show that every interaction and every single story has its right to exist. Where a person chooses a certain direction, then we should respect this and not just tolerate it.

Incidentally, I think it is very important and courageous for Sonja Horswell, as a Christian believer, to take the first step into the liberal discourse and to break out of this "fixed thinking".

DIRECTOR FILMOGRAPHY

2012	<p>Good Evening Short Film Director, Author</p> <p>Schikaneder (ORF III) Documentary Director</p> <p>Penrose Short Film Director</p> <p>Protestant Work Ethics - Softer Waves Music Video Director, Author</p> <p>arrival Short Film Director, Author</p>	2015	<p>Schikaneder (ORF III) Documentary Director</p> <p>Sensylis - Colliding live Music Video Director</p>
2013	<p>Alex Short Film Director, Author</p> <p>Phrenia - Falling Down Music Video Director</p>	2016	<p>Phrenia - Perfect love Music Video Director</p> <p>Plain text On the Run Documentary Director, Camera</p>
2013	<p>Serenada Short Film Director, Author</p>	2017	<p>Phrenia — Vakfolt Music Video Director</p> <p>Simon Lewis - Live Session Music Video Director</p> <p>Land of Ice and Fire Travel Documentary Director</p>
2014	<p>MC Wenzel - The life of a G Music Video Director</p> <p>pressed hope Documentary Director, Author</p> <p>Phrenia - We are the Clowns Music Video Director</p>	2018	<p>Phrenia — Stronger Music Video Director</p> <p>Simon Lewis— Hideaways Music Video Director</p> <p>Block X (Preproduction) Feature Film Director, Author. Funded: ÖFI - material development, ÖFI - project development</p> <p>Art of Leading Exhibition Film Director</p> <p>Prize: Cannes Corporate & Media</p>
2015	<p>trail mix Medium Length Movie Director, Author</p>		

	Prize: Director's Award at North Carolina Film Awards		
	Bo Taoshi (Red Bull International) Documentary Director, Author	2019	The Art of Leading Promotional Film Director Prize: Cannes Corporate & Media Awards 2019
2020	Phiora - Perfect Confusion Music Video Director	2021	Alvorada TVC Director, Camera RE/MAX Europe Online Commercial Director Winery Gisperg Online Commercial Director, Camera

COMPOSER

Christian Heschl

The award-winning film composer and musician was born in Lower Austria in 1996, where he now runs his music studio. His musical career began when he learned the trumpet as a musical instrument and then went on to study jazz. He then learned piano and cello and began his greatest passion – composing.



Christian's diverse repertoire ranges from recorded epic orchestral scores to pure production music for small intimate ensembles and hybrid scores using various electronic elements combined with solo instruments to create a unique sound and melody for each score.

For his work, Christian has won multiple awards for Best Original Score at the Los Angeles Film Awards, LA Short Awards, New York Film Awards and CineFest LA.

In addition, Christian writes music for several music libraries such as Chroma Music & Atom Music, for trailer and TV placements on Disney, Marvel, Universal, NBC, ABC, CBS and many more. Since 2019 Christian has also been producing music for the music library ORF - ORF Enterprise.

EXPERTS

A.Univ. Prof. Dr. Daniela Karall, IBCLC



Medical University Innsbruck

Innsbruck University Hospital, Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine

Deputy Director of the Clinic for Pediatrics

Pediatrician specializing in children and adolescent medicine, division for congenital metabolic disorders

President of the Austrian Society for Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine

Verena Schindler, BSc .



Psychotherapist in training under supervision - individual psychology

Many years of professional experience in psychosocial areas and socio-educational institutions.

Focus and experiences in dealing with mentally stressed children, adolescents and adults

Rita Dullinger



Counsellor for 45 years

Ordained Pastor

Led a Christian Addiction Rehabilitation Centre in Australia (2004-2018)

Teaches at Teen Challenge

Guides many women through the trauma of an abortion

Mag. Valerie De Agostini



Married, mother of 4 children

Psychological Counsellor

Life and Social Counsellor

A son with Trisomy 21

Consulting focus | miscarriages, stillbirths and terminations of pregnancy

PROTAGONISTS

Barbara Heissenberger



Christine Faiella



Julia Granitzer



Ann-Christin Holzinger



Petra Plonner



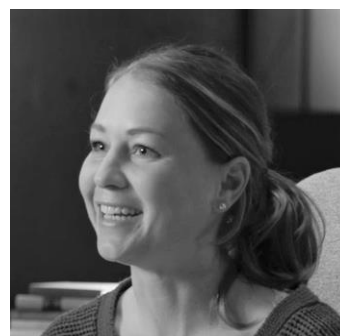
Peter Eilichman



Timothy Hall



Anna Artes



STATEMENTS

Poetry Slammer | Adina Wilcke | Actress, Teacher, Author

“Working on LASS UNS REDEN (LET US TALK) was a special and challenging task for me. In my preparation for the role and the text that I wrote myself for the person I embody in the film, it was very eye-opening for me how immediately present the topic is and that it is hardly talked about. As a woman, putting myself in the position of an affected person was particularly challenging for me, as I was not only allowed to participate in the many stories that I encountered on my writing journey, but also confronted myself with my childbearing capacity and the then-what-if question. It was not an easy journey, but it was a necessary one because I am convinced that many women and men long to be heard and for inclusivity.”

Protagonist | Petra Plonner | School Principal, Pastor

“After my abortion, I felt emotionally terrible. As I didn't know any other affected woman, I thought everyone was fine with it. Everyone but me. It was only much later that I found out that there can be long-term psychological effects after an abortion. Just then knowing that I'm not alone comforted me. That's why I want to talk today. For the many men and women who remain silent in their pain.”

Protagonist | Christine Faiella | Restaurateur, Counsellor

“It was and is very important to me to tell my own story as an affected person in the film. The thought of aborting a child had never occurred to me. Since not *one* person gave me encouragement to have the baby, the irreparable decision was made. Life after that was with constant ups and downs, a desperate search for something I couldn't name. A deep sadness had become my companion, no matter what I distracted myself with. Despite two healthy children and a good life, I never found peace. What am I missing?

A long, often stony path over 46 years then brought me to SaveOne and with the processing of my abortion, healing, calm and peace came into my life, which I can enjoy to the full today.

I would like to encourage parents to decide for the baby. I hear many sad stories at the recovery classes I have taught for years, and many tears accompany the phone calls I have weekly about abortion. When one has a voice about the issue of abortion, then it is our responsibility to raise it.”

Protagonist | Ann-Christin Holzinger | Teacher

“Having a child or having an abortion is a difficult decision during a crisis pregnancy. In the moment of the decision, you are mostly on your own. However, an abortion is not "turning the clock back" but will often catch up with the woman, and with the man. It is therefore fair and important to learn what effects an abortion can have.

Protagonist | Barbara Heißenberger | Technician

"Having an unplanned pregnancy once isn't something I advertise, but when someone asks about it and I might even be able to help, I'm happy to be there. It is so important that women who are in this situation have someone they can talk to about the pros and cons. I know from experience that you expect criticism around every corner, that you are afraid in what is a difficult decision anyway - even before it is made – being condemned by people who lead different lives, have different stories, and feel different feelings. Especially as a reflective, spiritual/believing person, it's terrible when meet Christian anti-abortion groups that they put fear in you instead of offering loving, unbiased support in the decision-making. That I found people who stood and still stand behind me and my partner at the time, as well as having supported us after our decision, is a luxury for which I am very grateful. Maybe my story will contribute to reducing some other women's fears and to show how much objective advice centres are really needed.

There is no one right way. Every situation is individual, as are the decisions. "

Protagonist | Timothy Hall

"The aftermath of abortion is a global pandemic that has lurked in the hearts of injured victims for decades. If my story helps a person have the courage to break the silence and seek help, then my effort is worthwhile. Too often we adjust our lives to deal with pain."

Protagonist | Peter Eilichmann | Singer, Speaker, Author

"Whenever someone asks me why I was in the film LASS UNS REDEN (LET US TALK), I go back to my own personal experience and what, as a young person, losing my child to an abortion had done to me. I then speak about my depression at the time and my feelings of guilt and a powerlessness that I had never experienced before as a man.

I believe that a documentary of this kind, which depicts the taboo subject of abortion from varying perspectives and experiences of different people, helps to open-up the matter to the viewer and have them take a closer look. Every story is unique, moving and told entirely from personal experience. I firmly believe that the film has the power to open-up a topic that is often suppressed. A topic that is only too happily swept under the carpet by society.

I also think it's good that in the film men do have their say and show through their personal stories that they too can suffer from the consequences of abortion. An aspect that is unfortunately often neglected.

The film, which is very honest from my point of view, can stimulate a rethinking. That would also be my wish for the entire project regarding the protection of unborn life."

Protagonist | Julia Granitzer

"I was involved in this film because I want to help bring hope and confidence to women!

Despite all the challenges, there is always a way for life. There is always a way out, even if the path can be rocky. However, the joy of the gift of life can heal and change so much for the better. Here I also agree with the quote from Mother Theresa: 'Give every child the opportunity to love and be loved'."

Expert | Rita Dullinger | Counsellor, Pastor

"I decided to be a part of this film because I am a victim of conflict pregnancy myself. Due to a long-standing cancer, I had two abortions on medical advice. It was years before I could let go of the grief for these two children. Also, I have worked with many addicts who have had problems such as depression, anger, and the like, due to their history of abortions. The consequences of an abortion are often more serious than we think."

Expert | Mag. Valerie De Agostini | Life and Social Counsellor | Psychological Counsellor

"During my pregnancy with our third child, it was found out that he had trisomy 21. Although we were opposed to abortion in principle, we had to go through this difficult decision-making process before we together finally decided to have our son. This experience prompted me to train as a psychological counsellor to support parents in this difficult decision-making process and to accompany them before, during and after.

When I heard about the film project LASS UNS REDEN (LET US TALK), it was very important to me to offer my support in whatever form. Being an expert in the documentary was a particularly moving experience and I think the film is great, especially for the impartiality of the cast and the balance of pros and cons. The aim of inviting people to engage in dialogue in order to support those affected has definitely been achieved!"

Expert | Verena Schindler, BSc. | Psychotherapist, in training under supervision - Individual Psychology

"Due to my many years of professional experience in the psychosocial field and in socio-pedagogical institutions, my focus and experience lie in dealing with mentally stressed children, adolescents and adults. An abortion can have psychological consequences, but far too little is said about it. After an abortion, those affected often do not know where to get help."

Expert | A. Univ. Prof. Dr. Daniela Karall, IBCLC | Specialist in Pediatrics and Youth Medicine

"As a person, wife, friend, acquaintance, mother and being professionally involved in the care of people with congenital (inherited / genetic) diseases, I was already confronted with "conflict pregnancies" or the possibility of an abortion during my studies. When accompanying women and parents, it has become more and more important to me to accompany and advise them openly and honestly on questions about their unborn child. In over 30 years I have not seen an abortion "just like that" and without consequences.

Over the years, I have experienced how hard the fronts between the camps pro and contra abortion have become and that as a result those who are needing help but do not get it are overlooked because the matter is not discussed objectively but only very emotionally - or not at all.

I really welcomed the offer of an opportunity to be part of the film as it addresses a relevant issue that affects not just individuals but many people. I am delighted with the successful implementation! In the film, the subject is treated very sensitively in all aspects through the various life reports and is clearly an invitation to the dialogue: LET US TALK.

Initiator | Sonja Horswell, Director of SaveOne Europe | Help after an abortion

“My intention for the documentary film LASS UNS REDEN (LET US TALK) about conflict pregnancy is to bring this big topic to the wider public through real life stories from women and men. The film is intended to show where we currently stand on abortion in Austria and to promote specific contemporary, social and political improvements, especially for the younger generation.

The idea for this documentary came about during my many years of experience in pregnancy counselling and post-abortion recovery work, which moved my heart and which I felt to be an important “building block” for Austria. A great film team made this a reality. ”

Film Production Company | Editing | Performance Picture Entertainment

“Their motivation for making this film stems from their personal belief that one can and should talk about everything. With such an explosive topic, it is all the more important to have a balanced approach and to deal fairly with it, which is why it was a central requirement that we allow people’s opinions from every different perspective.

It was important to them that this film did not lecture, but instead stimulated discourse. The topic abortion affects everyone much faster and closer than we may think. Mainly because it is still such a taboo topic, that there are many more such personal experiences in our immediate environment than we are aware of.

They are happy when they can contribute to an open exchange, and perhaps not solely because the topic of the film is then discussed more widely, but that in society in general we are more open to approaching each other and, above all, to listen to one another.”

FILM SCREENINGS

Recommended viewing age 14+.

PREMIERE

Hollywood Megaplex Gasometer | WIEN

Sunday, 8th May 2022 at 16h
Wednesday, 11th May 2022 at 19.30h
Entrance | Free - donation requested!

Hollywood Megaplex SCN | WIEN

Sunday, 15th May 2022 at 16h
Wednesday, 18th May 2022 at 19.30h
Entrance | Free - donation requested!

Hollywood Megaplex | ST PÖLTEN

Sunday, 22nd May 2022 at 16h
Wednesday, 25th May 2022 at 19.30h
Entrance | Free - donation requested!

Hollywood Megaplex Pluscity | LINZ

Sunday, 12th June 2022 at 16h
Wednesday, 15th June 2022 at 19.30h
Entrance | Free - donation requested!

Metropol Kino 4DX | INNSBRUCK

Sunday, 19th June 2022 at 16h
Wednesday, 22nd June 2022 at 19.30h
Entrance | Free - donation requested!

Plus further Screenings



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