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DIE WELT ASS

PRESS KIT

# THE MAN WHO ATE THE WORLD

## SYNOPSIS

This man is a disaster: irresponsible, aggressive, greedy and narcissistic. He has left his wife and children and pays alimony only irregularly. He keeps his sick brother at a distance and uses his best friend at best as a punching ball and cheap lender.

To reach his goal, he destroys everything that once was important in his life. How and why he feels like that, he doesn't talk about: Is he depressed, is it a midlife crisis, maybe a burnout?

When his father, who is alone and developing dementia, needs help, and he lets him move in with him, a generational conflict breaks out, which shows how misunderstood and helpless this father-son relationship was and still is.

The son still wants to please his father, the father longs for nothing more than the success of his son. The rift between them is deep and the son's collapse cannot be stopped.

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Johannes Suhm's sensitive adaptation of the internationally successful play „The Man Who Ate the World“ by Nis Momme Stockmann is the portrait of a man representing a whole generation in their mid-life, their search of identity, their struggle with their own ego and a misguided masculinity. A generation of men who have lost their role models and whose own emotional wounds seem to be deeper than they themselves think possible.

A story about male hubris, repressed feelings, unconscious depression and the hard struggle for success in a capitalist world where fragility has no place.



SON



FATHER



ULF



LISA



PHILIPP



BOGENSEE

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

When am I a man?

Why does life suddenly feel numb in its middle? It's all there.  
There is no real poverty in Germany. On the contrary. Or is there?

What does a perfect life look like? Do I want too much, am I too greedy?  
Why can't I feel what I feel?

Why can't I speak in relation to what I feel? Where does this shame come from?  
What is shame and guilt?

Do I feel my own fear?

Who exactly is my father? Why are my thoughts so often with him, even when my mind says that he is not a good role model?

The power of the father in the psyche of men is of great importance and we are usually not aware of it. My generation and I were brought up by parents who experienced the hardships and traumas of the early 20th century and wanted to offer us a life of prosperity and happiness. The story of my childhood was one of peace and security. Was it really?

What happened? Why is this prosperity so numb and painful today?

Robert Bly writes in his mythical psychoanalytic book „Eisenhans“: The naive man who flies straight towards the sun cannot see his own shadow. It is far behind him. In the time of descent (catabasis) he catches up with him.

The man in Nis Momme Stockmann's play is not me. And yet he bears the disturbances and pain in an exemplary manner, even for my generation of the late 20th century. Pain that I myself could only recognize and alleviate for my own life through psychoanalysis.



## CAST

Son Johannes Suhm  
Father Hannes Hellmann  
Ulf Konrad Singer  
Lisa Maja Schöne  
Philipp Max Mauff  
Bogensee Michael Goldberg

## CREW

Directed by Johannes Suhm  
Written by Nis Momme Stockmann  
Cinematography Tobias Kaufmann  
Co-directed by Lena Lessing  
Editing Annika Mayer (BFS) / Sven Heussner (BFS) /  
Stefan Kobe (BFS)  
Costume design Paulina Czwojdzinska.  
Set decoration Solveigh Sprengel  
Music by DIS FIG / Christian Naujoks / Perel, DJ  
Sound Dennis Gross  
Sound design Adel Abbes Hafsi  
Mischung Christian Wilmes  
Art design and animation Jon Frickey  
Title design Moritz Koepp  
Press Dagny Kleber, NOISE FILM PR  
  
Production barrierifilm / cinebureau Berlin /  
schaefersphilippen  
In cooperation with ARRI Media Berlin  
Camelot Broadcast Services Berlin  
Cine Impuls Berlin

The Man Who Ate the World · 2020 · DCP · 1:2,35 Dolby 5.1 · 80 Minutes

**ARRI** Media

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**THE  
SOUND  
SHACK**

**(((NOISE)))**  
FILM PR