TIME OF MOULTING

Directed by **Sabrina Mertens**

Written by **Sabrina Mertens**

Starring **Miriam Schieweck, Freya Kreutzkam, Zelda Espenschied**

Producers **Sabrina Mertens, Vera Paulmann**

Production Company **Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg**

Germany 2020

Original Title: Fellwechselzeit | 81’ | LANGUAGE OV German | Shot on Arri Alexa, 2K | Aspect Ratio: 1,85:1

HIGHLIGHTS

The critically praised feature debut of Sabrina Mertens premiered in competition at the 2020 Max Ophüls Preis Festival and the International Film Festival Rotterdam.

SHORT SYNOPSIS (2 lines)

Germany in the 1970s. Stephanie is an intelligent and lively child, leading an isolated life with her mentally unstable mother and her mistrusting father. The passing years only bring aging, but no future. Unspoken thoughts lurk underneath the surface of everyday life. So Stephanie retreats into a dark world of barbaric fantasies, nourished by the traces of the past. One day, however, Stephanie‘s secret invades the family‘s reality...

DIRECTOR’S BIOGRAPHY (2 lines)  
 **Sabrina Mertens** works in documentary, experimental and fictional films as well as video art. She studies Directing at the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg since 2015. *Time of Moulting* is her first feature film.

CAST BIOGRAPHY

**Freya Kreutzkam**Up until now, Freya has been working mainly in short films and for television. *Time of Moulting* is her big screen debut.

**Zelda Espenschied**  
For Zelda, still at a young age, this was her first acting experience.

**Miriam Schieweck**  
Despite her role being a very demanding one, Miriam Schieweck mustered the courage to play adult Stephanie with an intensity that belies her non-professional background.

DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT (4 lines max):  
*Atmospheres of oppression and the banality of the horrible. Diffuse feelings of how the past shapes the future, traumas that are believed to have been repressed influence the life of the next generation. The standstill lies like a leaden blanket on the soul and the human psyche takes an escape route into inner abyss. To be devoured and disappeared - who would wish that? Three people trapped together and within themselves and the question of what chance a child has, whose parents are incapable of being parents, in a society where family origin determines one‘s fate in life?*

GENRE

Drama