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German premiere of "TÁR" with Cate Blanchett in March 2023 - Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra plays the film orchestra

"TÁR" will be released in German cinemas on 2 March 2023. Cate Blanchett plays the chief conductor of a major German orchestra. Large parts of the orchestra scenes were filmed with the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra in the Kulturpalast Dresden – a unique experience for the orchestra and individual musicians who also took on film roles.

In spring 2021, the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra was asked to take part in the film, and extensive filming took place in the concert hall of the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra as early as September 2021. In addition to scenes in which Cate Blanchett, in the title role of Lydia Tár, rehearses Mahler's Symphony No. 5 with the orchestra, scenes were also shot in the hall and backstage for other parts of the film. In addition, two musicians from the orchestra were cast in speaking roles.

Frauke Roth, artistic director of the Dresden Philharmonic:

"When we received the request, we were of course completely surprised - after all, being involved in a Hollywood film production is not our core business. But it was quickly clear to us: we want to do it! Even our principal conductor Marek Janowski said: once in a lifetime... There are certainly only very few orchestras that can ever take on such a prominent role in feature films. The whole project was an adventure and an enormous venture for all of us, but also an incredible experience: as a leading orchestra, we naturally have the highest musical demands. To be able to experience the demands of the film industry left a strong impression on us all. You had the feeling that the team around director Todd Field was on the set 24/7. And of course we hope to reach an audience that otherwise hardly comes into contact with classical music. The film addresses many topics that are red-hot."

Dorothea Plans Casal, cellist of the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra (principal cellist of the orchestra in the film):

"It was a mega-project for us, and the icing on the cake for me was, of course, that I got to play a small role myself. The scene where I talk to the conductor at rehearsal was more exciting than any audition! It was incredibly interesting to experience the enormous professionalism on set and especially the impressive personality of Cate Blanchett so closely. I was also grateful for the support of Nina Hoss, but actually everyone from the director to the camera operators and the professionals in the dubbing studio were incredibly nice and collegial. Now of course I'm totally excited to see how the film is received here!"

Fabian Dirr, solo clarinettist (orchestra board member in the film):

"As a musician, I'm used to giving maximum performance under stress. But this was completely different: I'm a complete acting layman, but of course I still wanted to be as good as possible. Especially in the orchestral scenes it was very unusual to be so much in the focus. In the scenes with Cate Blanchett alone it was almost more relaxed - I was particularly impressed by how unpretentious, pleasant and "natural" she is even during filming. I learned an incredible amount about how a top-class Hollywood film is made, what an incredibly high level the actors work at and how many cogs have to mesh to make it work. That extends to the dubbing, where every breath has to be right."



For detailed information on the production, plot, cast and reactions to the premieres at the Venice Biennale and in the USA, see <u>here</u>.

The film score, including recordings with the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, was released by <u>Deutsche</u> <u>Grammophon</u> in October 2022.

Trailer for the film: English (<u>TÁR | Official Website | In Theaters and On Demand Now (focusfeatures.com</u>), German <u>TÁR | Offizieller Teaser-Trailer deutsch/german</u> <u>HD - YouTube</u>)

German release: 2 March, in cinemas only

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