



play loud! productions | gubener strasse 23 | 10243 berlin, germany
ph: +49 30 2977 9315 | fax: +49 30 2977 9316 | info@playloud.org | www.playloud.org

For Immediate Release

October 3, 2008

Contact: Chris Arnold at culturalanimal@yahoo.com

U.S. THEATRICAL RUN!
From directors Dietmar Post & Lucía Palacios
the German film festival favorite and award winner:
MONKS – THE TRANSATLANTIC FEEDBACK
OCTOBER 31 – DECEMBER

Genre-bending doc about 5 GIs in cold war Germany who billed themselves as the anti-Beatles
Music heavy on feedback, nihilism and electrical banjo
The Monks are thought to have basically invented industrial, punk and techno

MONKS – THE TRANSATLANTIC FEEDBACK, a documentary on legendary underground band The Monks - five American GIs in cold-war Germany who billed themselves as the anti-Beatles - comes to the U.S. for a limited theatrical engagement. Premiering on Halloween at New York's home of the avant-garde, Anthology Film Archives, the film will travel to independent theaters across the U.S. through the end of the year. Heavy on feedback, nihilism and electric banjo, the Monks modeled themselves after Franciscan monks, dressed in black, mocked the military and rocked harder than any of their mid-sixties counterparts while managing to basically invent industrial, heavy metal, punk and techno music.

This documentary not only situates the Monks phenomenon in the social, historical and political context of post-War German pop music, but also reveals the band's significance as the first marriage of pop art and popular music, beating Andy Warhol and the Velvet Underground to the punch. The five protagonists of the film came to Germany in 1961 as soldiers and left the country in 1967 as avant-garde heroes. For more than thirty years, they were not able to talk about their strange experience – until filmmakers Dietmar Post & Lucia Palacios dared to tell their amazing story.

“It takes more than just documenting a great band to make a great movie: the band has to be unique in spirit and story and fit into a larger picture of the rock canon, and the filmmakers have to find the cinematic language to bring that essence to the screen. Never have these rarities all come together more beautifully than in MONKS.” –Allison Anders

“Post and Palacios interview a series of art and music luminaries to parse what your ears tell you right away – that the Monks sounded like nothing else, that their unity behind beats (off-kilter but severe) and riffs (like the Hulk playing James Brown) anticipated a spectrum of crazed modern music, from heavy metal to dancehall.” –Peter S. Scholtes, STAR TRIBUNE

(THE MONKS: THE TRANSATLANTIC FEEDBACK, 2006, 100 minutes, video. In English and German with English subtitles.)



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Fall '08 Tour Schedule:

Oct 31 – Nov 6	Anthology Film Archives, NYC
Nov 1	Bryant-Lake Bowl Theater, Minneapolis
Nov 3, 11, 16	Alamo Drafthouse, Austin
Nov 7 – 13	Northwest Film Forum, Seattle
Nov 7 – 13	The Hollywood Theatre, Portland
Nov 8	Charleston County Library, Charleston
Nov 14 – 17	Red Vic Movie House, San Francisco
Nov 14 – 18	Sante Fe Film Center, Sante Fe
Dec 5	University of Southern Maine

For more info, see these websites:

About the film, includes trailer, pictures, press kit and more:

<http://www.playloud.org/themonks.html>

About the band: <http://www.the-monks.com/>

ADDITIONAL PRESS QUOTES

“A loving and penetrating documentary film”. (**Hollywood Reporter**)

“An overdue history lesson”. (**Rolling Stone**)

“A fascinating film”. (**Spiegel Magazine**)

“A magnificent film”. (**Die Zeit**)

“The filmmakers do a vivid job etching the creatively fervid times, with an editing style whose dynamism echoes that of Monk music”. (**Variety**)

“This absorbing documentary tells the monks’ story with precision and flair. It is the witty unsentimental interviews with the five band members that reveal their idiosyncratic brilliance”. (**Chicago Reader**)



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IMAGES AVAILABLE

***Lead singer/guitarist, Gary Burger of the Monks and the directors are
AVAILABLE FOR PHONE INTERVIEWS;
PLEASE INQUIRE***

DVD SCREENERS AVAILABLE

DATA ABOUT THE FILM & THE FILMMAKERS

Dietmar Post was born in Germany in 1962. As a director and producer he is responsible for short and documentary films like "Bowl of Oatmeal" (1996), "Cloven Hoofed" (1998) and "Reverend Billy" (2002). **Lucía Palacios** was born in 1972 in Spain. In 1997, Post & Palacios co-founded **play loud! productions** in New York. Their first collaboration was the acclaimed short film "Cloven Hoofed" followed by the direct cinema film "Reverend Billy" on which Dietmar and Lucía worked for the first time together as a team of directors/producers. Their second feature-length documentary "Monks — The Transatlantic Feedback" (2006), on which they worked for eight years, has won many awards around the world. "Franco's Settlers" (2008/9), their next project, will concern the fascistic Spanish Musterdörfer of the 1940s. In the meanwhile they have completed post production for their next music film titled "Klangbad: Avant-garde in the Meadows" (2008).

Genre: Music, Art, Culture, History

Category: Documentary Cinema

Year of Production: 2006

Country: Germany, USA, Spain

Directors & Producers: Dietmar Post, Lucia Palacios

Editors: Dieter Jaufmann, Karl-W. Huelsenbeck

Music: The Monks

Principal Cast: The Five Original Monks, Charles Wilp, Jochen Irmner, Jon Spencer, Genesis P-Orridge, Peter Zarella, Byron Coley, Jimmy Bowien, Gerd Henjes, Wolfgang Gluszczycki

Soundtrack: "silver monk time – a tribute to the monks" featuring The Fall, Faust, Jon Spencer, Alan Vega, Psychic TV, Silver Apples, Mouse on Mars, Alec Empire, Int. Noise Conspiracy, The Gossip, the original Monks and many others



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Movie Poster: Daniel Richter

Length: 100 min.

Subtitled Version: English

Production Companies: play loud! productions, in cooperation with ZDF/3sat, Hessischer Rundfunk, Filmförderung Hessen hr, Filmbüro NW, Filmstiftung NRW, Faust Studio/Scheer, German Films, Chicago Underground Film Fund/Chicago, Cine Impuls/Berlin, Other Music Music Store/New York, Anthology Film Archives/New York, Natress Productions/Ottawa, Reel Life Video Store/Brooklyn

International Festival Screenings: Los Angeles 2006, Munich 2006, Chicago 2006, Minneapolis 2006, Frankfurt 2006, Kassel 2006, Oslo 2006, Gijon 2006, Göteborg 2007, Copenhagen 2007 **Awards:** German TV-Oscar "Adolf-Grimme-Award-2008", "Best Editing" Milan Doc Festival 2007, "Best Documentary Film" Würzburg 2007, "Audience Award Berlin & Beyond" San Francisco 2007, "Audience Pick" Leeds 2006

World Sales play loud! productions Gubener Strasse 23 10234 Berlin/Germany phone: +49 30 29779315 fax: +49 30 29779316 info@playloud.org www.playloud.org

