

## Produced by

Kunststoff – die Filmmacher and Marion Hütter

Written and directed by: Marion Hütter

Co-directors: Sebastian Metzger, Hannes Staudt

Camera: Hannes Staudt

Second camera: Joschka Lippelt

Supervising sound editor: Sebastian Metzger

Troubleshooter: Stefan Wellner

## Post-production

Senior producer: Marina Müller, Lavendelfilm

Title animation: Martin Radtke

Sound consultation: Patrick Kirsammer

Audio mixing and sound design: Bernd Popella,  
Popella Sound

Edited by: Sebastian Metzger

Original score composed by: Emanuel Grammenos

## Contact and press-agent

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## More info and EPK

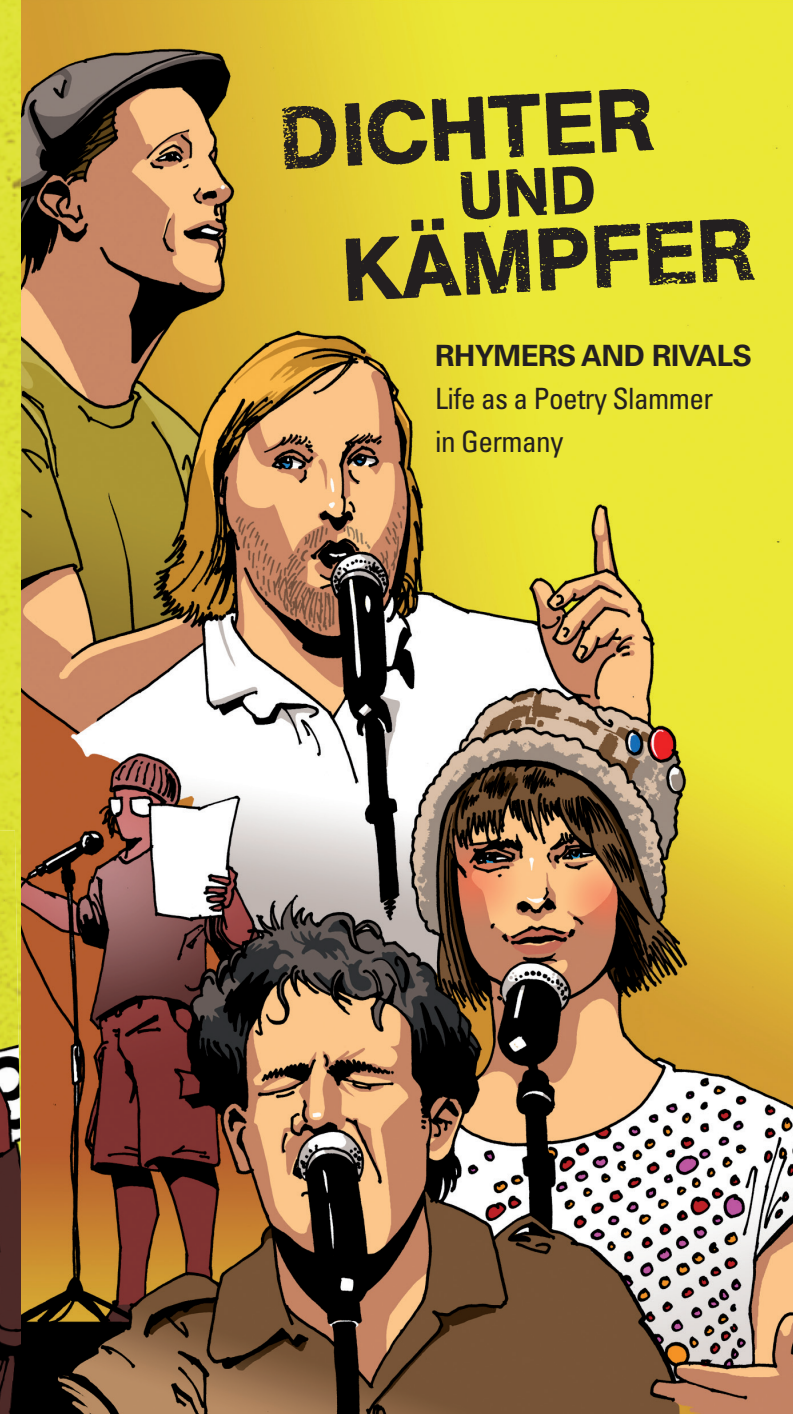
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Illustration:  
Markus Freise



 62 Internationale  
Filmfestspiele  
Berlin  
Perspektive Deutsches Kino

 kunststoff  
DIE FILMMACHER  
Lavendelfilm

 GREND  
KULTUR-ZENTRUM  
popella

 RUHR.2010  
International Europe  
german  
films



## Poetry Slam

... is a performance poetry competition – a spectacular event, live on stage, with the atmosphere of a rock concert. It's a battle of words for the favor of the audience, which chooses the evening's winner by the volume of their applause. With about 1000 Slam events every year, this literary performance art is on the brink of becoming mainstream in Germany.

The highpoint of the year is the annual German-language „National“ championship, the biggest literary stage performance in all of Europe.



## “Rhymers and Rivals”

... follows four poetry slammers from different parts of Germany over the course of a year, from one “National” to the next.



**Philipp „Scharri“ Scharrenberg**, the 2009 National Champion, tries to use his title to establish himself as a professional cabaret artist.

His predecessor, the 2008 National Champion, **Sebastian23**, lives for the Slam. As organizer and promoter of the 2010 championship, he tries to make the Slam even bigger and more popular.



**Julius Fischer**, the 2011 „team champion“, struggles between amateur art and professional performance, looking to find new ways to express himself creatively without „selling out“.

and **Theresa Hahl**, a shy young newcomer surprised by her sudden success, comes to terms with her own popularity.



## How our debut film evolved

There was a TV reporter who was a Poetry-Slam fan, who loved the poetry, the spectacle, the scene, and thought: Someone has to make a movie about this.

During long drives and even longer film shoots, she explained her idea to her distinguished colleague Hannes Staudt, and clarified her concept.

„Kunststoff – die Filmmacher“ and Marion Hütter decided to create the **“Rhymers and Rivals”** film as team. The decision was an easy one.

Since the next Poetry-Slam championship was just around the corner this meant that they had to free themselves up from paid work, chose the protagonists, organize shoots and simply GET STARTED.

The work on **„Rhymers and Rivals“** started out of a desire to make a film and love for the subject – without a commission or funding, as a no-budget project.

Throughout this time, the trio was struggling to find funding and support. But they kept getting the same answer: the broadcasting stations felt that this nationwide topic lacked regional relevance and that the filmmakers lacked experience.

The number of shooting days grew in proportion to the stack of friendly rejections.

The film-making team forged bravely on and was finally rewarded with a small grant from RUHR 2010 – Grend. Many thanks to Christina Kemnitz.

Twenty days of shooting are in the can. Terabytes of digital photos are proofed. **„Rhymers and Rivals“** – the creative development process begins. Our debut is at Berlinale 2012 – we are overjoyed.

Our special thanks to (among others):

Emanuel Grammenos, Marina Müller, Bernd Popella, Martin Radtke, UNTER ANDEREN JONAS & Joachim Lenhardt