

A TRICK OF THE LIGHT



Wim Wenders made this film together with graduates of the University of Television and Film Munich. It shows the beginnings of cinema in Berlin where the brothers Skladanowsky built a projector, the bioscope, at the same time as the Lumière brothers in France and Edison in America.

Together they invented “moving images” their very own, poetic, lovable and rather un-German way. The film begins a hundred years ago and ends in the year 1996, with Max Skladanowsky’s daughter Lucie who still remembers her father and the early days of cinema very well.

The film was mainly shot on an old hand-crank camera from the 1920s. A silent movie in original slapstick style.

A TRICK OF THE LIGHT

Germany 1996

FORMAT

Length:
79 min, 2201 m

Format:
16mm blow up to 35mm, black and white and color;
1:1,33; Sound

Original Language: German

4K Restoration 2023, 4K DCP
supported by funding from the German Film Heritage
Funding Program (FFE)

CREDITS

Production:
Wim Wenders Produktion (Berlin), University of
Television and Film Munich, Veit Helmer
Filmproduktion (Berlin)

Screenplay and direction:
Wim Wenders with students of the HFF, Munich:
Carlos Alvarez, Sebastian Andrae, Sorin Dragoi, Peter
Fuchs, Carsten Funke, Florian Gallenberger, Markus
Hansen, Henrik Heckmann, Veit Helmer, Germán
Kral, Björn Kurt, Bodo Lang, Matthias Lehmann, Eva
Munz, Stephan Puchner, Barbara Rohm, Britta Sauer,
Marcus Schmidt, Alina Teodorescu

Producer:
Wim Wenders, Wolfgang Längsfeld, Veit Helmer

Director of Photography:
Jürgen Jürges, Andreas Giesecke

Editor:
Peter Przygodda

Sound:
Heino Herrenbrück

Cast:
Udo Kier, Nadine Büttner, Christoph Merg, Otto
Kuhnle, Bodo Lang, Rüdiger Vogler, Alfred Szczot,
Hans Moser, Thomas Rosié und Lucie Hürtgen-
Skladanowsky

Music:

Laurent Petitgand

Script:
Eva Munz, Alina Teodorescu, Barbara Rohm

Assistant Camera:
Peter Steuger

Light:
Klaus Bielig, Frank Küppers, Jost Engelmayer

Still Photographer:
Carlos Alvarez, Britta Sauer

Dolly Grip:
Michael Müller

Set Builder:
Michael Willadt

Set Design:
Heidi Lüdi

Set Design:
Andreas H. Schroll, Michael Willadt

Set Design Assistant:
Bodo Lang, Peter Fuchs

Props:
Marco Minierski, Susanne Grossart, Kai Miniersky,
Mauro Podini, Birgit Dunkel

Set Design:
Axel Garbrecht, Kaspar Falkenroth, Klaudia Gössel

Make-Up:
Tatjana Luckdorf, Nicola Hermann, Julia Schlotke, Jens
Bartram, Sigrid Goppler, Hilde Hads

Wardrobe:
Katrin Kath, Inez Raatzke

Video editing:
Lucian Segura, Christine Boock

Mixing:
Hartmut Eichgrün

Music Recording:
Marco Birkner

Music performance:
Michael Anders (Violoncello), Ulrich Bartel (Violine),
Daniel Favre (Percussions)

Line Producer:

Nikolaus Prediger

Production Manager:

Gabriele Scheiger, Veit Helmer, Ralph Remstedt

Location Manager:

Oliver Luer, Katrin Rohm, Benedikte Neumann,
Florian Gallenberger

Production Assistant:

Anke Steinbacher, Sigrid Hoerner, Bernadette
Werrelmann

Production Coordinator:

Jolanda Darbyshire, Tanja Rohmann

Editorial Office:

Jochen Kölsch

In cooperation with:

Bayerischer Rundfunk (Munich), Arte G.E.I.E.
(Strasbourg)

First Release (DE):

06.05.1999