

BIOGRAPHY



Johannes Praus is a cinematographer for documentary and fiction films, a freelance photographer and a member of the German Society of Cinematographers BVK. He was born in may 1983 in Dresden, the former GDR. Today he lives and works in Dresden and Berlin. Johannes is Anuuk's dad.

[...] In search for the traces of life, the everlasting surge, that mark us, we stride over huge mountains and through deep valleys. Only to make that visible justifies my existence. [...]

During his studies of cinematography at the Film University Babelsberg 'Konrad Wolf', Johannes Praus was nominated for the Golden Tadpole at the CamerImage Filmfestival with 'SUBMERGED' ('OPFER') and won the Kodak Filmschool Cinematography Award. 'B-DAY' was his second short film at the CamerImage Filmfestival.

2013 graduation with his theoretical thesis 'NO RELATIONSHIP IS IMPOSSIBLE' ('KEINE BEZIEHUNG IST UNMÖGLICH') with distinction. His graduating film 'BEYOND WRIEZEN' ('NACH WRIEZEN') won the german 51st Grimme-Prize in 2015. From 2013 to 2015 he studied as a part of the postgraduate "Meisterschüler" program with Prof. Peter Badel at the Film University Babelsberg.

His feature fiction debut 'ANYWHERE ELSE' ('ANDERSWO') won the Dialogue en Perspective prize at the 64th Berlinale and the Independent Camera Award at the Int'l Film Festival Karlovy Vary. Further, his documentary work has received numerous accolades, not least 'TRANSIT HAVANA' was nominated to the competition at the DOK.fest Munich and the Int'l Filmfestival Karlovy Vary and 'YOU WERE MY LIFE' ('DU WARST MEIN LEBEN') won the Grimme-Prize in 2018 and was nominated for IMAGO – Int'l Award for Cinematography in 2019.

In 2020 he was nominated for the German Camera Award (Deutscher Kamerapreis) with his work on 'DRUCK' a second time in a row he was nominated for the German Camera Award (Deutscher Kamerapreis) in 2021 this time with his work on 'HÜTER DER ERDE - HIRTEN IN KIRGISTANS HIMMELSGEBIRGE'.

Johannes Praus has been nominated for the 35th German Camera Award (Deutscher Kamerapreis) for his work on 'A FAMILY APPROACH ('IM PRINZIP FAMILIE') (world premiere: Dok Leipzig 2024).

Beside his cinematic work, Johannes Praus is a freelance Photographer, presenting at a number of solo and group exhibits. In 2018 he published his first photo book 'SHOULDERED INSTANTS OF A REALITY' ('MITGEBRACHTE AUGENBLICKE EINER WIRKLICHKEIT'), followed in 2023 by the second photo book 'BEINGSFORGOTTEN' ('AMVERGESSENE')

Since 2019 he has also been a freelance lecturer.

FILMOGRAPHY (SELECTION)

Cinema – Documentary Film	The family approach (2024, Director: Daniel Abma) Herders – Guardians of the earth (2023, Director: Mark Michel) Wo Worte nicht hinreichen (2016, Director: Josefine Links) Transit Havana (2016, Director: Daniel Abma) Beyond Wriezen (2012, Director: Daniel Abma) AG Geige – Ein Amateurfilm (2012, Director: Carsten Gebhard) Roadcrew (2010, Director: Olaf Held) Listen to the world (Production, Director: Yelizaveta Smit)
Cinema –Feature Fiction	Anywhere Else (2014, Director: Ester Amrami)
TV – Feature Fiction	WIR, Season 1, Episodes 9-12 (2021, Director: Chris Miera) Druck, Season 7, Episodes 67-70 (2021, Director: Chris Miera) Druck, Season 3, Episodes 28-30 (2019, Director: Chris Miera)
TV – Documentary Film	The recycling myth (2022, Director: Tom Costello, Benedikt Wermter) The corner (2022, Director: Christa Pfafferott) Guardians of the earth, Episoden 3-5 (2021, Director: Mark Michel) You where my life (2017, Director: Rosa Hannah Ziegler) Geschichte Mitteldeutschlands, Folge 94-97 (2017, Director: severel) Der last remix (2015, Director: Olaf Held)

	Forward motion (2014, Director: Daniel Abma)
	Toten Hosen – Die Wohnzimmer-Jubiläumstour (2012, Director: Olaf Held)
Short, Music	LIN, Faravaz, Sookee, Hanie – Jin* Jiyan Azadi (2024, Director: Kerstin Polte)
Video, Installation	This long breath, concerning Beate's shop (2023, Director: Olaf Held)
	What do people do all day, Episode 1-4 (2020 - 2022, Director: Simon Dybbroe Møller)
	T. Bruschi – Ich Lass Dich Nie Los & Hier Kommt Euer Bester Freund (2018, Director: Lyod & Bruschi)
	As simple as that (2012, Director: Karl Hagen-Stötzer)
	B-Day (2012, Director: Olaf Held)
	Submerged (2011, Director: Johannes Leistner)
	Aus dem Meer (2009, Director: Felix Harmuth)
	Ein Toilettenwestern (2008, Director: Heiner Heinke, Johannes Praus)
	S (Postproduction, Director: Max Chrambach)
Commercial	Wella – Friseure bewegen II + III (2015, Director: Ole Wiedemann)
	Berliner Modosalon (2015, Director: Ole Wiedemann)

AWARDS & NOMINATIONS (SELECTION)

Cinematography	2025: German Camera Award – Docu Cinema (nominated) – A Family Approach
	2021: German Camera Award – Documentary (nominated) – Guardians of the Earth
	2020: German Camera Award – TV/Series (nominated) – Druck, Staffel 3, Episode 29
	2019: IMAGO Int'l Award for Cinematography – Doc. Germany (nominated - longlist) – Du warst mein Leben
	2014: Camerimage – European Panorama (selected) – Anderswo
	2012: Camerimage – Students Etudes Panorama (selected) – B-Day
	2011: Camerimage – Students Etudes Competition – Golden Tadpole (nominated) – Opfer
	2011: Kodak Film School Cinematography Competition – EAMER (won) – Opfer
	2010: Golden Eye – Int. Filmfestival of Cameramen (nominated) – Aus dem Meer, Ein Toilettenwestern
Filmawards	2022: Grimme-Prize (nominated) – WIR
	2020: German Television Award – Best Series (nominated) – Druck
	2018: Grimme-Prize (won) – Du warst mein Leben
	2016: Karlovy Vary International Film Festival – Doc. Competition (nominated) – Transit Havana
	2016: DOK.fest Munich – International Competition (nominated) - Transit Havana
	2015: Grimme-Prize (won) – nach Wriezen
	2014: Karlovy Vary Int'l Film Fest. – Independent Camera Award (won) – Anderswo
	2014: 64. Berlinale – Dialogue en Perspective (won) – Anderswo
	2013: Murnau-Shortfilmaward (won) – B-Day
	2012: Int'l Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam – Students Competition (nominated) – nach Wriezen
	2012: DOK Leipzig – National Competition – Goldene Taube (nominated) – nach Wriezen
Scholarships	2021: VG Bild-Kunst – Körpersprache im Bild
	2020: Kulturstiftung des Freistaates Sachsen – Helga & Helga
	2013: DAAD / Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst – Transit Havana

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITS (SELECTION)

Solo exhibits	2023: Amvergessene , Galerie Alte Feuerwache Loschwitz, Dresden
	2018: Mitgebrachte Augenblicke einer Wirklichkeit , Galerie Alte Feuerwache Loschwitz, Dresden
	2013: mining and smelting the or , Zimmertheater, Rottweil
	2011: Mensch-India , Ladencafé Aha, Dresden & Internationales Begegnungszentrum, Dresden
Group exhibitions	2024: Cadavre Exquis N°5 , Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin
	2012: Realität der Arbeit , Photokina, Köln
	2011: mining and smelting the or , int. zeitgenössische Kunstaussstellung, Nürnberg
	2010: Mariusz von der Achterbahn , int. zeitgenössische Kunstaussstellung, Krakau
	2008: Kulturerbe: Bewahren! Pflegen! , Dreikönigskirche, Dresden (mit Evelyn Richter)
	2008: Kulturerbe: Bewahren! Pflegen! , Weinbergkirche Pillnitz, Dresden (mit Evelyn Richter)

PUBLICATIONS

Photobook	2023: Amvergessene 1st. Edition 333 + 17 (Specialedition), Hardcover, Triplex 64 Seiten - 34 Black&White photos
	2018: Mitgebrachte Augenblicke einer Wirklichkeit 1st. Edition 275 + 25 (Specialedition), Hardcover, Duplex 90 pages - 54 Black&White photos

CONTACT