



# WHO IS ODA JAUNE

?

a documentary  
by Kamilla Pfeffer

GER 2016/ 75 min/ DCP – 25fps/16:9/ 5.1 sound/  
German & French dialogues with German & English subtitles

Kunsthochschule  
für Medien Köln  
Academy of  
Media Arts Cologne

gebueder**beetz**  
FILMPRODUKTION

Film und Medien  
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The German-Bulgarian painter Oda Jaune is not a woman of many words. But the way she says things sounds quite lovely and special. She speaks softly, but is loud in her paintings. To approach this process of finding words and images, Kamilla Pfeffer, student at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne (KHM), gives us a very intimate portrait of the artist in her graduation film *Wer ist Oda Jaune?* (*Who is Oda Jaune?*; prod: Gebrüder Beetz Filmproduktion, co-prod: KHM, Cologne).

**Quote:**

Press Release PERSPEKTIVE DEUTSCHES KINO, 66TH BERLINALE, Dec 21, 2015



## SYNOPSIS

She paints bodies that are mutilated and disfigured, naked and sexless, faceless. Disturbing paintings, painful paintings. And she paints faces radiating happiness, people in paradise, people who can fly. Tender, touching paintings. Born in Bulgaria in 1979, Oda Jaune studies at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, becomes a master scholar of Jörg Immendorff. And she becomes his wife.

After Immendorff's death in 2007, she leaves Germany to start over somewhere else. She moves to Paris, finds a studio in the city – and she finds a gallerist: Daniel Templon, who already exhibited Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein. And now: Oda Jaune.

The filmmaker Kamilla Pfeffer, fascinated by Jaune's paintings, wants to meet the artist, make her the center of her first feature documentary. But already getting in touch with Oda Jaune proves to be a challenge. Almost two years and several meetings pass before she agrees to being in the film. Finally, they settle on a seemingly simple plan: over the course of several weeks the director and her cinematographer will join Oda Jaune in the studio and capture the process of creating new paintings for an upcoming exhibition. But it soon becomes apparent that the nature of what is supposed to be captured makes it almost impossible not to destroy that very thing in the process...

The filmmaker's quest to find out who Oda Jaune is takes a turn, the new strategy involving inspiration from Marcel Proust's famous questionnaire as well as encounters with others reflecting on Jaune's paintings, including actor Lars Eidinger, director Thomas Ostermeier and fellow artist Jonathan Meese.

'Who is Oda Jaune?' is a film about an artist and her creations. And a personal, increasingly intimate portrait of a young woman who had to leave her past behind in order to find her future.

## BIOGRAPHY (DIRECTOR)

**KAMILLA PFEFFER** was born in Wiesbaden (Germany) in 1982. She studied political science and Romance philology in Mainz and Strasbourg before beginning her studies in documentary filmmaking and photography at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne in 2009. 'Who is Oda Jaune?' is her graduation film.

Since 2009 she has also been working as a freelance journalist (publishing in Süddeutsche Zeitung and Chrismon, among others) and as a script consultant for documentary films.

## FILMOGRAPHY

**‚WHO IS ODA JAUNE?’** (2016, documentary film, 75 min), director + sound  
**‚MENSCHEN, KEINE NUMMERN MEHR’** (2012, report, WDR, 45 min), Co-director, with Felix Kuballa  
**‚DAS ARCHIV – WIE KÖLN SEIN GEDÄCHTNIS WIEDERFINDET’** (2010, documentary, WDR, 45 min), co-director, with Werner Kubny

## CREW

director	Kamilla Pfeffer
camera	Magdalena Hutter
editing	Rune Schweitzer, Stefanie Kosik
dramatic adviser	Felix Kuballa
music	Markus Aust
sound mixing	Ralf Schipke
colour grading	Ewald Hentze
supervisors	Prof. Dietrich Leder Prof. Dr. Sabine Rollberg M.A. Andreas Altenhoff
executive producer	Christian Beetz
production	gebrueder beetz filmproduktion, Academy of Media Arts Cologne & Kamilla Pfeffer
funded by	Film- und Medienstiftung NRW

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