

Martina Gedeck



Biography

If self-confidence is the essence of the women Martina Gedeck has played on stage or in film, then it is a hesitant, a thoughtful, a very vulnerable self-confidence. There is always a sense that these characters are not 'finished', that they are struggling for themselves and their way, that they want to assert themselves, against all obstacles. They come close to the audience through their naturalness, they inspire confidence, they move in the everyday with bravery and defiance, with a passion that is touching and stirring. Martina Gedeck invites you to discover in her play, she portrays people in such a way that everything foreign melts away and you want to know more and more about their fates. She can do without preening, smooth beauty - in her expressive face live human stories of many kinds, sad ones, cheerful ones, ones full of confidence - and renunciation. These are stories that make a deep impression and cannot be forgotten. Openness and kindness, pain and deep absorption, but above all honesty. As little as Gedeck allows herself to be pinned down, she remains true to herself. She wants to be close to life, she wants to show with her characters what man is given up to and how he can exist in our world, be it on the screen, the theater stage or in selected music projects.

Born in Munich, living in Berlin, where she also trained at the Hochschule der Künste (Max Reinhardt Seminar), Martina Gedeck is one of the internationally successful, celebrated actresses of our time. She does equal justice to theater and film, even though the main focus of her work is cinematic. She has appeared in more than 80 cinema and TV productions to date, always with lasting success. In the Oscar-winning film "**Das Leben der Anderen**" (The Lives of Others), she gave one of her most convincing performances as the sensitive, inwardly torn actress Christa Maria Sieland, who is nevertheless unwavering in her creative will. In the film "**Die Wand**" (The Wall) she draws the disturbing portrait of a woman cut off from the world and struggling for her emotional survival. At the Deutsches Theater Berlin, she most recently played the title role in Lessing's Minna von Barnhelm. In January 2020, she can be seen again on the stage of the Staatsoper Berlin in Beat Furrer's opera "**Violetter Schnee**" as a 'white woman', a being who resides in the space between life and death.

A special place in her artistic work is occupied by performing together with musicians: Combining poetry with music as an experienced and expressive speaker is the essence of her work with renowned ensembles and soloists. According to Martina Gedeck, this intensive engagement with the musical has also had a lasting influence on her attitude to the spoken word over the years. The special strength of sound and music is the ability to convey, shape and reveal content and meaning beyond the purely literal sense.

Over the years, a diverse repertoire of the most varied musical and literary styles has emerged. Martina Gedeck's current projects include a collaboration with harpist Xavier de Maistre that brings together works by Debussy, Liszt, Tárregas, Albéniz and Renié with poems by Rilke, Lasker-Schüler, Wilde, Eichendorff and Leconte de Lisle. Together with the Schumann Quartet, she presents an evening about the triangular relationship between Robert Schumann, Clara Schumann and Johannes Brahms. A concert reading with Georg Nigl and Elena Bashkirova, questioning the meaning of songs from Schubert to Eisler and texts from Goethe to Brecht, will premiere in Brussels in November 2020. Following their successful Else Lasker-Schüler project, there will also be another collaboration with Avi Avital in 2021 around the theme of "Faith and Knowledge".

For more information about Martina Gedeck and her work please visit: martina-gedeck.com

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