

EDEN



CAST

Gregor
JOSEF OSTENDORF
 Eden
CHARLOTTE ROCHE
 Xaver
DEVID STRIESOW
 Ludwig
MAX RÜDLINGER
 Leonie
LEONIE STEPP
 Frank
ROELAND WIESNEKKER

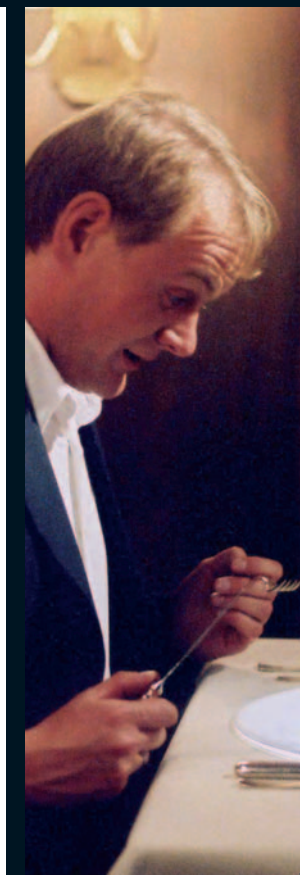
TECHNICAL DATA
FORMAT
 35 mm,
 1:1,85,
 Color,
 Dolby Digital
LENGTH
 98 mins

MICHAEL HOFMANN WRITER AND DIRECTOR

Michael Hofmann was born in 1961. After his A-levels and extensive travels to Italy, Great Britain and the Senegal he became a guest student at the French Film Academy FEMIS from 1985 to 1987 and received a scholarship at the DrehbuchWerkstatt München in 1994. //////////////////////////////////////
SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY /// 2005 EDEN /// 2002 SOPHIIIIE! /// 1997/98 DER STRAND VON TROUVILLE (Trouville Beach) /// 1993 BIG EYES /// 1993 SEX & DRUGS /// 1988 KLEINE FISCHE /// 1988 AN GANZ NORMALEN TAGEN GESCHEHEN DINGE WIE DIESE /// 1982 DIE HÄNGENDEN GÄRTEN //////////////////////////////////////

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT /// Eden is a film about the power of love. It is set in a small resort town in the Black Forest that has seen better days. The woman's hair and clothes are far from fashionable, even frumpy; her marriage has grown dull. The man is fat and asexual, but he is a genius in the kitchen. The woman's name is Eden, and fittingly, her smile is a touch of heaven. The chef falls in love with this smile and is inspired to culinary creations that are equally heavenly. Transformed by the experience, Eden and her marriage blossom. She and Gregor meet regularly; they eat together, sit in comfortable silence, talk a little, and eat some more. One time Eden lets Gregor hold her hand, but that's as far as the physical relationship goes. However, though nothing beyond that ever happens between them, it is enough to destroy the lives of everyone involved – and even literally costs one of them his life. Eden is a film about the power of love. //////////////////////////////////////

AWARDS /// International Film Festival Rotterdam 2006 Tscali Audience Award and Lions Award //////////////////////////////////////



Eden, a married woman, falls under the spell of the Cucina Erotica of eccentric master chef Gregor. Their platonic gourmet meetings jolt both Eden and Gregor out of their humdrum everyday lives; Eden's marriage blossoms as a result. But they live in a small town in which nothing remains secret for long, and after Eden's husband Xaver experiences the "erotic cuisine" for himself, he is forced to take action or else lose his wife.

SYNOPSIS EDEN BY MICHAEL HOFMANN

Overweight, eccentric master chef Gregor (45) runs a small restaurant on the outskirts of a health resort in southern Germany, where he celebrates his brand of "erotic cuisine" with a highly select group of fellow gourmets. He spends much of the little free time he has in a café where he gets to know one of the waitresses, Eden Drebb (30). Eden had moved to the small Black Forest town after marrying Xaver (32); she and her husband have a five-year-old daughter with Down Syndrome named Leonie. Gregor meets Leonie when she tumbles into a fountain in the park and he pulls her out. He is touched by the little girl. He decides to bake a cake for her fifth birthday and decorates it with chocolates he has made himself. The taste of the chocolates sends Leonie into rapture. Puzzled by her daughter's reaction, Eden tastes one of the chocolates herself and is stunned. She shows up unannounced at Gregor's house one evening, and in a veritable frenzy devours all the food he has prepared and then runs off without saying goodbye. But thanks to Leonie, the awkwardness is forgotten before long, and Eden and Gregor soon savor their frequent evening meetings in Gregor's kitchen. //////////////////////////////////////
 Thanks to this newfound platonic sensuality, Eden – and her marriage – blossom as never before, and Gregor, too, is soon cooking better than ever. However, Eden's transformation makes Xaver's friends suspicious; they spy on her and tell Xaver about his wife's clandestine meetings with Gregor. Xaver manages to wangle a table in Gregor's fully booked restaurant, and is also enthralled by Gregor's Cucina Erotica. In an attempt to get Eden's mind off Gregor, Xaver jumps at the chance to take her and Leonie to Paris for an extended weekend. Deprived of his muse, Gregor realizes that without the inspiration Eden provides him, he is but a mediocre chef. //////////////////////////////////////
 When Eden discovers she is finally pregnant again – something she has long hoped for in vain – Xaver's friends are convinced that Gregor is the father and start making jokes at Xaver's expense. In order to defend his honor, Xaver gets into a brawl that he can't possibly win. Soon afterwards, Gregor discovers that someone has broken into his wine cellar and completely trashed it. Since his stores of wine represented most of his assets, the bank cancels Gregor's loan and he is forced to close his restaurant. Now that he has lost everything, Gregor finally admits to himself that he is in love with Eden. //////////////////////////////////////
 Gregor doesn't want to leave town without saying goodbye to Eden. When he drives to her house, Xaver opens the door. Gregor sees Eden standing behind him. Their eyes meet and they gaze at each other, unleashing a storm after which nothing will be the same again ... //////////////////////////////////////

CREW

SCREENPLAY & DIRECTOR
Michael Hofmann
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Jutta Pohlmann
SET DESIGN
Jörg Prinz
COSTUME DESIGNER
Carol Luchetta
MAKE-UP
Kathi Zimmermann
ORIGINAL SOUND
Rudi Guyer
EDITOR
Bernhard Wießner, Isabel Meier
SOUND DESIGN & MIXING
Ansgar Frerich, Florian Beck
MUSIC
Christoph Kaiser, Julian Maas
CASTING
Sigrid Emmerich
PRODUCER
Michael Jungfleisch, GAMBIT Film und Fernsehproduktion GmbH and for Gambit, Robert Geisler
CO-PRODUCERS GERMANY
SWR: Ulrich Herrmann
BR: Claudia Simionescu
Cine plus: Frank Evers, Volker Uri, Christian Colmorgen
CO-PRODUCERS SWITZERLAND
C-Films AG Zürich: Andi Huber, Peter Reichenbach
SF DRS: Lilian Räber
Teleclub Switzerland
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FFA German Federal Film Board, Germany
Swiss Federal Office for Culture (EDI), Switzerland

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EDEN

**BY
MICHAEL
HOFMANN**

THE MATCH FACTORY