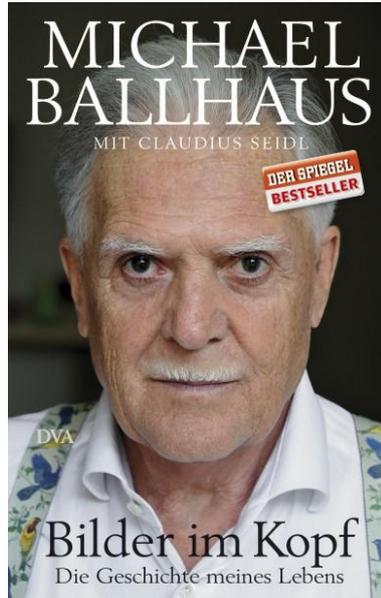


The cameraman of Martin Scorsese and Rainer Werner Fassbinder – a fascinating glimpse behind the scenes



Michael Ballhaus, Claudius Seidl

Images in the Head

[Bilder im Kopf]

The story of my life

Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt
320 pages
30 b/w illustrations
Format 13,5 x 21,5 cm
March 2014

Michael Ballhaus was born in 1935 and has spent forty years working behind the camera making eighty movie films. He has put the visions of Martin Scorsese, Mike Nichols, Francis Ford Coppola and Robert Redford into film images. Stars such as Michelle Pfeiffer, Harrison Ford, Sigourney Weaver and Melanie Griffith have been in front of his camera.

Claudius Seidl has been writing film reviews since 1983. Since 2001, he has been the chief editor of the cultural affairs section of the weekly *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*.

Michael Ballhaus is one of the internationally most important directors of photography. In his *Images in the Head*, he tells for the first time the story of his life – of fleeing from the bomb attacks on Berlin, of his childhood in Wetzhausen castle, where his parents, both of them actors, were in charge of the "Fränkisches Theater", a commune of artists that brought forth a whole dynasty of creative minds. When as a young man he was working as an assistant to director Max Ophüls on his film *Lola Montez*, Michael Ballhaus decided to become a cameraman. This was the beginning of a great career that was to take him into close contact with the really big names in the film business.

After working with Rainer Werner Fassbinder for many years, Ballhaus went to Hollywood in the 1980ies. There he became one of the most demanded cameramen and made films with Francis Ford Coppola, Martin Scorsese, Robert Redford and Wolfgang Petersen. He was behind the camera of movies like *Die Ehe der Maria Braun* (1979), *The Colour of Money* (1986), *The Last Temptation of Christ* (1988), *The Fabulous Baker Boy* (1989), *Goodfellas* (1990), *Dracula* (1992), *Air Force One* (1997), *Gangs of New York* (2002) and *The Departed* (2006)

Press

"Ballhaus tells of the tragedy of slowly going blind, (...) of his career (...) – all with a healthy distance from the glamorous

business. Entertaining!"