

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF *MICHAEL*  
(2011 CANNES OFFICIAL COMPETITION)

MAKITA SAMBA

ALBA ROHRWACHER

LARISA FABER

# ANGELO

A FILM BY MARKUS SCHLEINZER



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2018

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Austria-Luxembourg / 111 min / 1.33

INTERNATIONAL SALES

**PLAYTIME**

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## Synopsis

Based on true events ANGELO tells the story of the African born Angelo Soliman, who was taken by force from his homeland at a very young age in the beginning of the early 18th century.

After surviving the long involuntary journey across the Atlantic, an African boy is sold to a European countess who turns him into the object of an educational experiment. For his next owner, a noble duke, Angelo changes into a costumed story-telling valet, reciting stories about mysterious Africa to entertain an enlightened high-society, until he attracts the attention of the emperor.

On the height of his prestige, he falls in love with a young maidservant but inevitably suffers the rejection from the court that has to draw a strict line between racial differences.

## Short Version

In early 18th century an African slave boy is chosen by a European Comtesse to be baptized and educated. Reaching adulthood, Angelo achieves prominence and soon becomes the Viennese court mascot until he decides to secretly marry a white woman. Based on true events.



## Director's Statement

At the beginning of the 18th century a young boy is being taken away from his African home, brought to Europe and put up there on sale as a slave.

Still he is comparatively well off, as he is purchased by nobles as their blackamoor.

But for the rest of his life not ever again will he meet anyone who either talks his mother tongue or is able to keep alive the memories of his origins – his source.

But as man, as I see it, cannot exist without his very

own place in life, be it big or small, assimilated or autonomous, our boy smartly and proudly begins to do everything to please and to conquer and fill in the place allegedly offered to him.

Strangely enough, this seems to work best in passiveness and silence.

For often it is the vague that offers greater possibility to mirror the counterpart.

So ANGELO for me turns out to be a story about limitation and the desire of “the other” for

embourgeoisement and dissolution into mass and standard. A tale about getting tired of being different. A discourse about acceptance and tolerance.

As for me the story of the black skin is a mere vehicle.

Because being different is in all of us.

That is what I want to tell a story about.

That is where I find myself.





## Markus Schleinzer

Markus Schleinzer was born in Vienna/Austria in 1971. From 1994 to 2010 he worked as a casting director and was engaged in the production of about seventy feature films, including several films of Jessica Hausner, Ulrich Seidl and Michael Haneke.

In 2008, working as a casting director on Haneke's *The White Ribbon*, he was given the chance to train the child-actors, to prepare the scenes with them and to work with them on set in front of the camera. Out of this experience he decided to try his own luck as a filmmaker.

*Michael*, his provocative feature film debut as director and scriptwriter premiered in the Official Competition at the Cannes Film Festival in 2011 and has been sold to numerous territories and received plenty of nominations and awards at festivals around the globe.

Schleinzer is also working as an actor himself, theatre and film. His performances in *The Robber* by Benjamin Heisenberg and *One of Us* by Stephan Richter were praised by the critics.

## Filmography

- 2018 ANGELO – writer & director
- 2014 CASANOVA VARIATIONS - writer
- 2011 MICHAEL – writer & director

### Casting Director

- 2010 THE ROBBER by Benjamin Heisenberg
- 2009 LOURDES by Jessica Hausner  
PEPPERMINTA by Pipilotti Rist  
WOMEN WITHOUT MEN by Shirin Neshat
- 2007 THE COUNTERFEITERS by Stefan Ruzowitzky
- 2005 CACHÉ by Michael Haneke  
SLEEPER by Benjamin Heisenberg
- 2004 HOTEL by Jessica Hausner
- 2003 LE TEMPS DU LOUP by Michael Haneke
- 2001 DOG DAYS by Ulrich Seidl  
LA PIANISTE by Michael Haneke  
LOVELY RITA by Jessica Hausner



## ■ Makita Samba

### Selected Filmography

- 2018 ANGELO by Markus Schleiner
- 2017 GOLDEN YEARS (Nos années folles) by André Téchiné  
HAPPY END by Michael Haneke
- 2014 MY FRIEND VICTORIA (Mon amie Victoria) by Jean-Paul Civeyrac
- 2012 COMING HOME (A moi seule) by Frédéric Videau
- 2009 LES REVES D'AWA by Karim Bensalah
- 2007 UP RISING by Nikki Petersen
- 2006 HELLPHONE by James Huth

# Alba Rohrwacher

## Selected Filmography

- 2018 ANGELO by Markus Schleiner  
HAPPY AS LAZZARO (Lazzaro felice) by Alice Rohrwacher  
LUCIA'S GRACE (Troppa grazia) by Gianni Zanasi  
DAUGHTER OF MINE (Figlia mia) by Laura Bispuri
- 2017 ISMAEL'S GHOSTS (Les fantômes d'Ismaël) by Arnaud Desplechin  
THE PLACE by Paolo Genovese
- 2016 PERFECT STRANGERS (Perfetti sconosciuti) by Paolo Genovese  
L'AMI by Renaud Fely
- 2015 TALE OF TALES (Il racconto dei racconti) by Matteo Garrone  
BLOOD OF MY BLOOD (Sangue del mio sangue) by Marco Bellocchio  
SWORN VIRGIN (Vergine giurata) by Laura Bispuri
- 2014 HUNGRY HEARTS by Saverio Costanzo  
THE WONDERS (Le meraviglie) by Alice Rohrwacher
- 2013 A STREET IN PALERMO (Via Castellana Bandiera) by Emma Dante
- 2010 THE SOLITUDE OF PRIME NUMBERS (La solitudine dei numeri primi) by Saverio Costanzo  
COME UNDONE (Cosa voglio di più) by Silvio Soldini
- 2009 I AM LOVE (Io sono l'amore) by Luca Guadagnino  
THE MAN WHO WILL COME (L'uomo che verrà) by Giorgio Diritti
- 2008 GIOVANNA'S FATHER (Il papà di Giovanna) by Pupi Avati
- 2007 DAYS AND CLOUDS (Giorni e nuvole) by Silvio Soldini





## Larisa Faber

### Selected Filmography

- 2018 ANGELO by Markus Schleiner  
THE BEAST IN THE JUNGLE by Clara van Gool
- 2017 DIE UNSICHTBAREN by Markus Dietrich  
JUSTICE.NET by Pol Cruchten  
SANDSTERN by Yilmaz Arslan  
TRACES by Cecilia Guichart
- 2016 BAD BANKS by Christian Schwochow  
WEIGHTLESS by Cathrine Dauphin
- 2015 CAMILLE by Julien Becker
- 2013 REINA by Facundo Scalerand

A production by Novotny & Novotny Filmproduktion, Amour Fou Luxembourg and Markus Schleinzer  
Produced with financial support of Film Fund Luxembourg, Austrian Film Institute, FISA – Film  
Industry Support Austria, Vienna Film Fund, Lower Austria  
In collaboration with ORF Film/Television-Agreement

## Credits

### Cast

Makita Samba	Angelo 4
Alba Rohrwacher	Countess
Larisa Faber	Angelo's wife
Kenny Nzogang	Angelo 2
Lukas Miko	Emperor
Gerti Drasl	Nursemaid
Michael Rotschopf	Prince
Jean-Baptiste Tiémélé	Angelo 5
Nancy Mensah-Offei	Angelo's daughter
Olivier Baume	Doctor
Martine Schambacher	Maid
Anne Klein	Young Maid
Jean-Michel Larré	Language Tutor
Pierre Bodry	Priest
Marisa Growaldt	High Lady
Christian Friedel	Curator

### Crew

Written by	Markus Schleinzer, Alexander Brom
Directed by	Markus Schleinzer
Producers	Alexander Glehr, Franz Novotny Bady Minck, Alexander Dumreicher-Ivanceanu Markus Schleinzer
Executive Producer	Johanna Scherz
Cinematographer	Gerald Kerkletz
Production Designer	Andreas Sobotka, Martin Reiter
Editor	Pia Dumont
Costume Designer	Tanja Hausner
Makeup Design	Anette Keiser
Sound Mixer	Philippe Kohn
Sound Design	Pia Dumont
Re-recording mixer	Loïc Collignon
Casting	Kris Portier De Bellair, Nilton Martins, Judith Charlier, Martina Poel
International Sales	Playtime