

82. Nations Film Competition



Thomas Schauer, born in Graz in 1975. My story begins in Graz, between orange wallpaper and green curtains – in the middle of the 70s.

There I spent a wonderful childhood and my student years, studying Business at the Karl-Franzens-University of Graz. From time to time I am drawn to foreign countries, a student exchange year in Marketing took me to the U.S.

After that, I soon started my professional career in Business Intelligence Consulting (that's an IT-related job) which took me to Vienna and then Wiesbaden, Germany. I got the chance to start new branches, lead companies, establish new business and try out lots of new stuff, which encouraged me to stay in this field until today. By the way, my current business cards say "Director" – however, the job is not related to filmmaking!

My filmmaking began with the hard steps of Notre Dame, which would break my photo camera in 1991. And with my French teacher who would hand me over her video camera so I could continue to document our trip. Believe me, that sounds more romantic than it actually was – no Hollywood clichés in this story.

Anyway, being a busy non-commercial filmmaker, I am starting to focus on documenting anything that comes my way. I turn my impressions into stories and start to enjoy the versatility of filmmaking. After taking a few small steps in fiction films, due to a lack of time, I turned to consuming and analysing films and all their aspects, often in non-commercial filmmaking festivals all across Austria, in national and international competitions. In my job and in life, I consider myself an analytical, but also creative, imaginative and curious person, always eager to explore new fields and ideas. And above all, I have this passion for stories and storytelling!