

CHILLY GONZALES  
IN

SHUT UP  
*and*  
PLAY THE PIANO

A FILM BY

PHILIPP JEDICKE

WITH CHILLY GONZALES

LESLIE FEIST

PEACHES

SIBYLLE BERG

**“THERE IS  
NO DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN GLENN  
GOULD AND A  
*chimpanzee*  
HITTING A SINGLE  
NOTE ON  
THE PIANO”**





# “MY LIFE’S AN EXPENSIVE MOVIE, I’M *back-lit*”

## SYNOPSIS

Chilly Gonzales is a Grammy-winning composer, virtuoso pianist and entertainer. Criss-crossing between rap, electro and solo piano music, he became the outrageous pop performer who invited himself to the ivory tower of classical music. The eccentric artist inspires and collaborates with the likes of Feist, Jarvis Cocker, Peaches, Daft Punk and Drake.

Change seems to be the only constant in Gonzales' journey. Every time his audience thinks it has finally figured him out, he makes a radical move and breaks with its expectations.

The cinematic documentary **Shut Up and Play the Piano** follows Gonzales from his native Canada to late 90's underground Berlin, and via Paris to the world's great philharmonic halls. It dives deep into the dichotomy of Gonzales' stage persona, where self-doubt and megalomania are just two sides of the same coin.

The playfulness of Gonzales' character is mirrored in the look of the film. Using Gonzales' extensive video archive in a rather unorthodox manner, **Shut Up And Play The Piano** explores his persona by interweaving newly shot interviews and concert scenes with fictional materials of totally different time periods. Reality and fiction blur together as we embark on a trip through Chilly Gonzales' world.



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

When I met Gonzo for the first time in 2014, I was fascinated by his self-awareness as an artist. In a fit of spontaneity, I asked if I could make a documentary about him. He simply said: "Yeah, go ahead." A few weeks later I stood in front of two boxes filled with video tapes. The question was: How do you portray an entertainer and musician with an enormous output like Chilly Gonzales in a 90-minute documentary?

Gonzo had given me one prerequisite: no private situations. What sounds like the nightmare of the documentarist actually became a frame that gave me orientation and eventually helped me find the key to telling his story. By watching the seemingly contradictory and overall eclectic output of his stage persona for hours on end, I was able to identify recurrent themes and find connections to his actual personality. It is all there, in his lyrics and in his stage jokes. Through his use of humor, ridiculousness

and the creation of cringe-worthy situations, Gonzo puts his own insecurities on display and tackles them.

In Gonzo's world, reality is always connected with fiction; it becomes its very own sort of heightened reality. While many stage performers struggle to be as authentic as possible, I found that Gonzo takes the opposite route and looks for truth in the artifice.

Our common goal and challenge as a team – from the filming to the editing and producing – was to discover and at the same time not to overanalyze, not to "lead" the audience too much and try to make the film as entertaining as possible. While reflecting Gonzo's irony, I also wanted to show the love that is involved in everything he creates. With the help of very committed people and a protagonist that was ready to play and experiment, I hope we have finally reached that goal.

## DIRECTOR'S BIO

Philipp Jedicke works as a freelance journalist, online editor, researcher and postproduction manager for public TV stations, film production companies, websites and magazines. The main focus of his work is music and culture. His work has appeared in

many leading European media including WDR, ARTE, Deutsche Welle, SWR and Süddeutsche Zeitung. He has lived in Canada and France and currently resides in Cologne, Germany. Shut Up and Play the Piano is his debut as a film director.



Chilly Gonzales & Leslie Feist

# CREDITS

## SHUT UP AND PLAY THE PIANO

Written & Directed by  
**PHILIPP JEDICKE**

Produced by  
**RAPID EYE MOVIES**

Co-produced by  
**GENTLE THREAT**

Producers  
**STEPHAN HOLL**  
**ANTOINETTE KÖSTER**

Co-producers  
**CHILLY GONZALES**  
**MELINDA CODY**

Featuring  
**CHILLY GONZALES**  
**KAISER QUARTETT**  
**JOE FLORY**  
**SIBYLLE BERG**  
**ADAM TRAYNOR**  
**PEACHES**  
**LESLIE FEIST**  
**PAUL PM AKA MR. MALOKE (PUPPETMASTAZ)**  
**RAIK HÖLZEL**  
**RAZ OHARA**  
**RENAUD LETANG**  
**KLEBER VALIM**  
**LENA BUHL**  
**CORNELIUS MEISTER**  
**JARVIS COCKER**

Director of Photography  
**MARCUS WINTERBAUER**  
**MARCEL KOLVENBACH**

Dramaturg & Editor  
**HENK DREES**

Editor  
**CARINA MERGENS**

Sound  
**RALF WEBER**

Additional Camera  
**FLORIAN BRÜCKNER**  
**CHRISTIAN EICHENAUER**  
**JÖRG MAAS**  
**KATHARINA MAAS**

Additional Sound  
**STEFAN BOHMEYER**  
**ARMIN SIEGWARTH**  
**MORITZ SPRINGER**  
**SEBASTIAN STAHL**  
**MICHAEL THÄLE**  
**PETER UTVARY**

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**ANDREAS HILDEBRANDT**

Music Mixer  
**HOWARD BECK**

Assistant Editor  
**MANH TUNG PHAM, BFS**

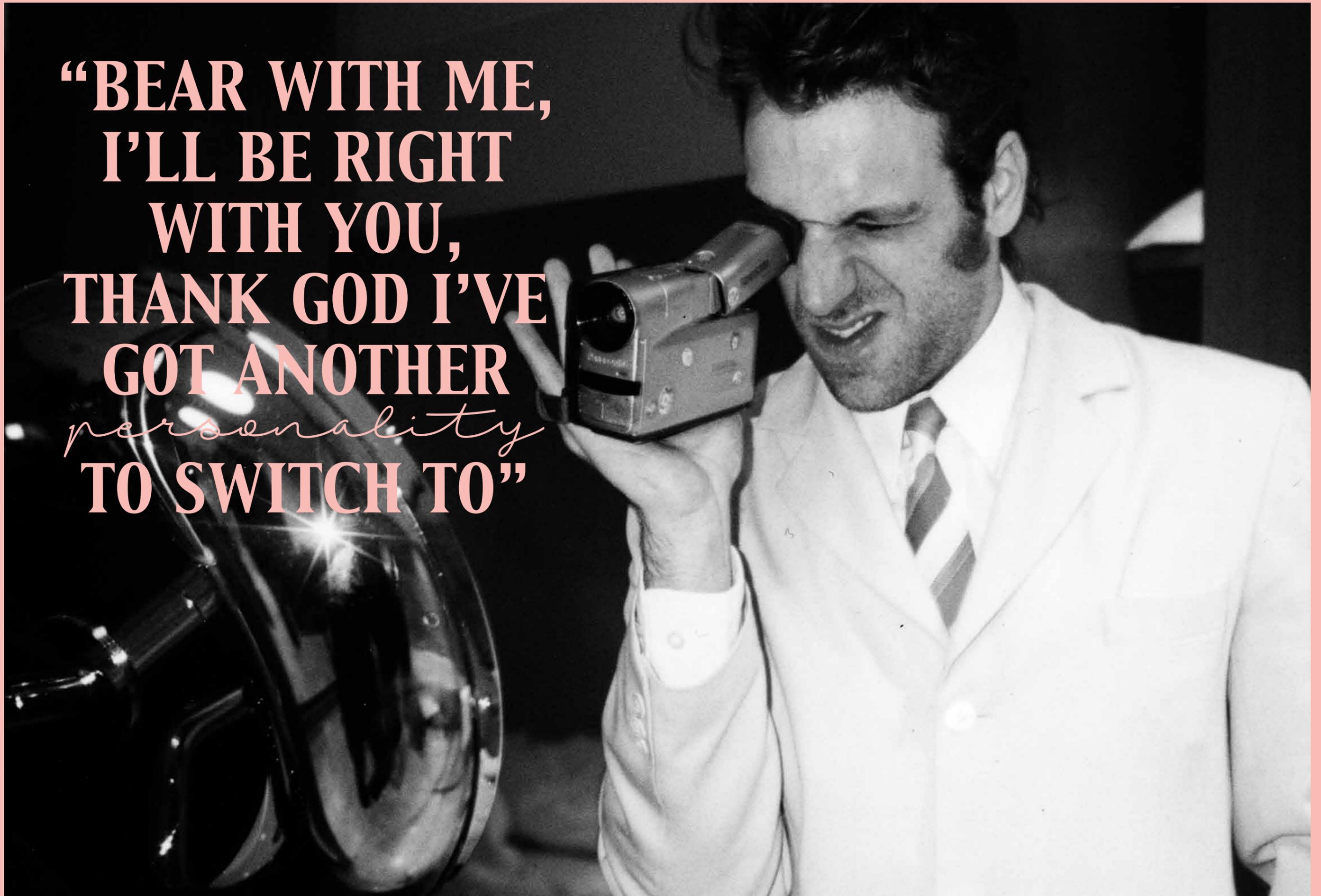
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**MINE ULUDAG**

Make-up  
**ELKE HAHN**

World Sales  
**CHARADES**

Commissioning editor  
**DIETER SCHNEIDER**

**“BEAR WITH ME,  
I’LL BE RIGHT  
WITH YOU,  
THANK GOD I’VE  
GOT ANOTHER  
*personality*  
TO SWITCH TO”**



## Chilly GONZALES

Chilly Gonzales is a Grammy-winning Canadian pianist, producer and entertainer currently living in Cologne, Germany. He is known as much for the intimate piano touch of his albums **Solo Piano I** and **Solo Piano II** as for his showmanship and composition for award-winning musicians such as Jarvis Cocker, Feist and Drake.

He approaches the piano with classical and jazz training but with the attitude of a rapper. He holds the Guinness world record for the longest solo concert at over 27 hours. With **Never Stop**,

Chilly Gonzales composed a global hit for the inaugural Apple iPad 2 campaign. In 2014 he won a Grammy for his collaboration on Daft Punk's **Random Access Memories** and composed the best-selling book of easy piano pieces *Re-Introduction Etudes*.

With his album **Chambers**, Chilly Gonzales devoted himself to finding a modern take on chamber music. 2018 sees the return of Chilly Gonzales to his **Solo Piano** album cycle as well as to the stage. He will also fulfill the lifelong dream of his own music school, the **Gonzervatory** workshop.

## Leslie FEIST

In 2004 the Canadian singer Feist made her debut with the album **Let It Die**, which won two Juno Awards and garnered major critical acclaim. Her 2007 follow-up **The Reminder** debuted in the top 20 in the U.S. with **1234** boosting the album's sales to more than a million units internationally. Due to her personal lyrics and her unique voice, Feist quickly became one of the best-known singer/songwriters worldwide.

After a several-year hiatus – during which she co-created **Look at What the Light Did Now**, a documentary about the making of **The Reminder** and her subsequent tour – Feist returned with

**Metals** in 2011. **Metals** was her highest charting album and was named **Album of the Year** by the New York Times as well as winning the Polaris Prize and four more Juno Awards.

2017 marked the release of Feist's album "Pleasure" and a very successful world tour. To date, Feist's music has sold over 3 million units worldwide and amassed more than 500 million streams. She's also appeared on **Saturday Night Live**, sold out the Hollywood Bowl, and boasts the second-most-watched video in **Sesame Street** history. She has been a collaborator and close friend to Chilly Gonzales for many years.

## PEACHES

An iconic feminist musician, producer, director, and performance artist, Peaches has spent nearly two decades pushing boundaries and wielding influence over mainstream pop culture from outside of its confines. She's collaborated with everyone from Iggy Pop and Daft Punk to P!nk and Yoko Ono; had her music featured in cultural watermarks like **Lost in Translation**, **The Handmaid's Tale**, and **Broad City**; and seen her work studied at universities around the world.

Dubbed a "genuine heroine" by the **New York Times**, Peaches has released five critically acclaimed studio albums blending electronic music, hip-hop, and punk rock while tackling gender politics, sexual identity, ageism, and the patriarchy.

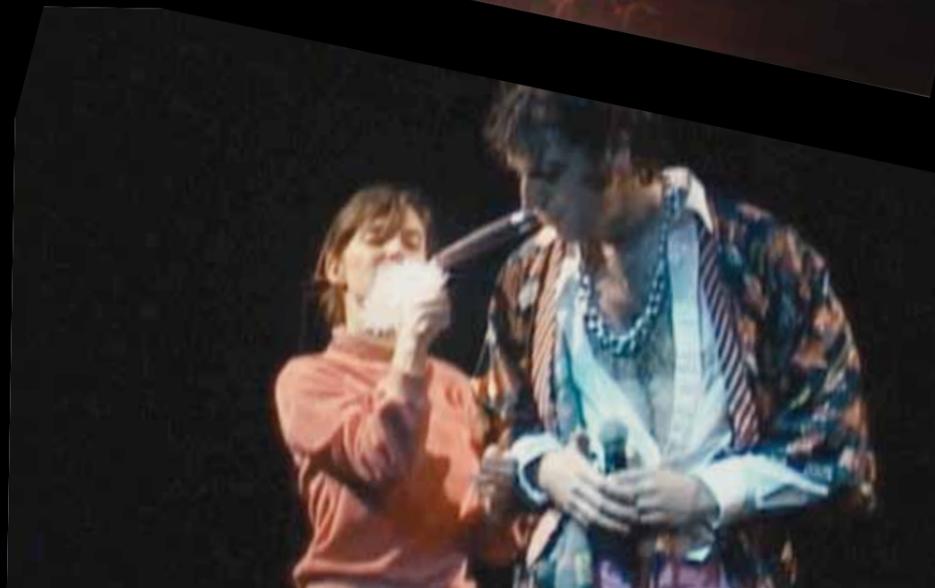
Peaches has directed over twenty of her own videos, designed one of the most raw and creative stage shows in popular music, and has appeared at modern art's most prestigious gatherings. She mounted a one-woman production of **Jesus Christ Superstar**—redubbed **Peaches Christ Superstar**, and composed and performed the electro-rock opera **Peaches Does Herself**, which was turned into a feature film that premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. Peaches also sang the title role in a production of Monteverdi's epic seventeenth-century opera **L'Orfeo** in Berlin.

With her latest album, **Rub**, she continues to tour relentlessly, spreading joy and empowerment as she mixes the profane and the political in the way that only Peaches can. Like Leslie Feist, Peaches has been a long-time friend and collaborator of Chilly Gonzales.

## Sibylle BERG

Sibylle Berg is a Swiss writer and playwright. Her plays, books and audio productions have been translated into many different

languages worldwide. Sibylle Berg lives in Zurich and Tel Aviv, and she speaks out against internet surveillance and fascism.



## COMPANY PROFILE RAPID EYE MOVIES

Rapid Eye Movies is a German film label producing and distributing Films and Music. Since 1996 the company has been releasing highly aesthetical and extraordinary cinematic gems and triggered the breakthrough of Asian directors like Takeshi Kitano, Takashi Miike, Park Chan-wook and others for Germany. Rapid Eye Movies also had a commercial breakthrough with releasing popular Indian cinema in Europe.

“2 x 2 = green”

According to this principal of Heinz v. Foerster, we bring together filmmakers and longtime companions from a diverse array of cultures and artistic spheres – from music to film and visual arts – such as Khavn de La Cruz, Ashim Ahluwalia, SABU, Christopher Doyle, Stereo Total, Mario Lombardo and Alexander Kluge among others, to create and produce movies that push boundaries and defy the conventional.

Filmography as producers (selection):

Mr.Long by SABU, Ruined Heart by Khavn, Shut up and play the Piano by Philipp Jedicke, a.o.

In development:

Voice of Ra (feat. Sun Ra) by Peter Dennett, Freakscene - The Story of Dinosaur Jr.  
by Philipp Virus, a.o.

## COMPANY PROFILE GENTLE THREAT

Gentle Threat Ltd is Chilly Gonzales' artist-owned Record Label,  
Booking Agency and Publishing Company.

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“AS AN  
ENTERTAINER, YOU  
BASICALLY ARE  
THE SUM OF  
YOUR AUDIENCE’S  
*thoughts*  
ABOUT YOU”



OH  
Oliver Hoffschir