

## **Therese Annabelle Engels – CV**

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

- Place of birth: Salzburg, Austria
- Residence: Vienna, Austria
- Daughter: Eleni Pléiade, born 2008
- Languages: German (native), English, French
- LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/in/engelsfilm](http://www.linkedin.com/in/engelsfilm)
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### **EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND**

- Secondary school diploma (AHS): Khevenhüllerschule Linz, Austria
  - Degree in Social Work and Social Pedagogy, Linz (AT) and Berlin (DE), 1991–1994 (DSA)
  - Since 1997: Freelance filmdirector in Berlin and Vienna
  - Further training in screenwriting and dramaturgy; collaboration with international film festivals (e.g. Jackson Wild)
  - Memberships: Austrian Directors Association (ADA), German Journalists' Association (DJV)
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## FILMOGRAPHY (SELECTION)

2025

- “Royal Gardens – Schönbrunn” (ORF/3sat) – Script, Director, 52’, (GS film)
- “Kenya – Giraffes as Ambassadors of Peace” (ARTE 360° Report, NDR)– Script, Director – *Nominated, INFF 2025, 52 min/45min/33min*, MedienKontor (MK)
- ORF UNIVERSUM “Saalbach-Hinterglemm – Where Nature Comes Out On Top”– Script, Director – Winner Intermedia Silver, World Media Festival 2025; Winner Gold, US International Awards 2025, Nominated for sustainability award @ Wildscreen Bristol 2025, 52 min/43 min, InterspotGmbH

2023–2010

- “Sardinia’s Precious Shell Silk” (ARTE 360° Report) – Script, Director, (MK)
- “Women’s Ski Jumping Takes Off” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
- “Tirol – Land of Mountains and Meadows” (SWR/ARTE) – Script, (Bilderfest)
- “Slovenia’s Young Beekeepers” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
- “Scotland, On The Tweed Trail” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
- “Vietnam – Salvage For The Pangolin” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director – *Winner “Best Foreign,” WCFF New York 2018*, (MK)
- “Vietnam – Rescuing The Last Asiatic Black Bears” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director – *Nominated “Green Report”, Green Screen Festival; INFF Shortlist*, (MK)
- “Malaysia – Bikers, Female-Style” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
- “The Secret of Mountain Herbs / 2 episodes: Tea in Kunming / Yao bath (ServusTV) – Script, Director, (BerlinProducers)
- “Gut Aiderbichl” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
- “The Koala Hospital” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
- “Fine Cocoa from Esmeraldas” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)

- “Under False Name – The Panama Hat” (ORF/3sat) – Script, Director (GS film)
  - “Ice from the Throne of God” (ORF/3sat) – Script, Director, (GS film)
  - “Palawan’s Pearl Empire” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
  - “Vietnam’s Mined Paradise” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
  - “Snakehunt in Cambodia” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
  - “Monks of the Golden Triangle” (GEO ARTE 360°) – Script, Director, (MK)
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## **BIOGRAPHY**

Therese Annabelle Engels is an Austrian documentary filmmaker based in Vienna. Her work captures the fragile ties between humans and wildlife and gives voice to cultural heritage on the verge of disappearing. Since 2004, her films for ARTE, ORF, 3sat, and Servus TV have taken her across continents, earning recognition for their depth and authenticity.

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## **ABOUT MY WORK**

I am particularly drawn to complex and demanding topics that require depth, precision, and sensitivity. I value teamwork and enjoy when everyone contributes their unique strengths. My core interests lie in the fragile relationship between humans and nature in vulnerable ecosystems, in the deep bonds that can exist between animals and humans, wildlife crime, and the mindful examination of cultural heritage — topics that continue to inspire my work. My signature style is characterized by revealing invisible power structures and capturing moments of resistance, dignity, and self-assertion. My films are recognized for making complex issues accessible through strong dramaturgy and stories that move people on an emotional level.

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