

A JAMIE
KASTNER
FILM

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MEDIA KIT

2025

THE SPOILS

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Amid the rise of the far-right in Germany, as the spoils of post-WW2 collections hit the world art market afresh, lawyers, curators, politicians, and Jewish groups the world round are duking it out, painting by painting, sketch by sketch, over questions of ownership, history, and morality.

A series of failed attempts by the city of Düsseldorf to honour German-Jewish art dealer Max Stern, who barely escaped the war, settled in Montreal and became Canada's most successful art dealer, cuts to the heart of the current crisis in Germany and the art world beyond around the restitution of Nazi-looted art.

Through a combination of exclusive interviews, actuality captured over a four-year period, and a gold-mine of rarely seen stock footage, *The Spoils* traces the betimes tragic, often irony-laced strokes in this ongoing battle.



THE SPOILS

LOGLINE

A richly ironic tale framed by Germany's botched recent attempts to honour Jewish art dealer Max Stern, exposes the still-raging battle over the restitution of Nazi-looted art.

KEY CREW

DIRECTOR/ WRITER/ PRODUCER
PRODUCER
EDITOR
CINEMATOGRAPHER
COMPOSER
SOUND
ARCHIVAL RESEARCH
GRAPHICS
POSTPRODUCTION VIDEO
POSTPRODUCTION SOUND

JAMIE KASTNER
LAURA BARON KASTNER
MICHAEL HANNAN
MARK CASWELL
TOM THIRD
JULE VARI
ERIN CHISHOLM
ILLWORKS STUDIOS
NOODLE FACTORY
BERKLEY STREET

SUBJECTS

DR. SUSANNE ANNA
FRANK CHALK
PHILIP DOMBOWSKY
CLARENCE EPSTEIN
THOMAS GEISEL
HENRIK HANSTEIN
JASMIN HARTMANN
DR. ODED HOROWITZ
WILLI KORTE
MIRIAM KOCH
HANS-GEORG LOHE
CATHERINE MACKENZIE
MARC MASUROVSKY
IRIS METJE
LUDWIG VON PUFENDORF
DIETER VORSTEHER

DIRECTOR, DÜSSELDORF CITY MUSEUM
GENOCIDE HISTORIAN
ARCHIVIST, NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA
MAX STERN ART RESTITUTION PROJECT
MAYOR OF DÜSSELDORF 2014-2020
OWNER, LEMPERTZ AUCTION HOUSE
PROVENANCE RESEARCHER CITY OF DÜSSELDORF
CHAIRMAN, JEWISH COMMUNITY OF DÜSSELDORF
MAX STERN ART RESTITUTION PROJECT
DÜSSELDORF CULTURAL DEPUTY
DÜSSELDORF CULTURAL DEPUTY (RET)
ART HISTORIAN
HOLOCAUST ART RESTITUTION PROJECT
HEAD OF PROVENANCE RESEARCH DÜSSELDORF
LAWYER
CURATOR, 2021 STERN EXHIBIT



THE SPOILS

JAMIE KASTNER

DIRECTOR

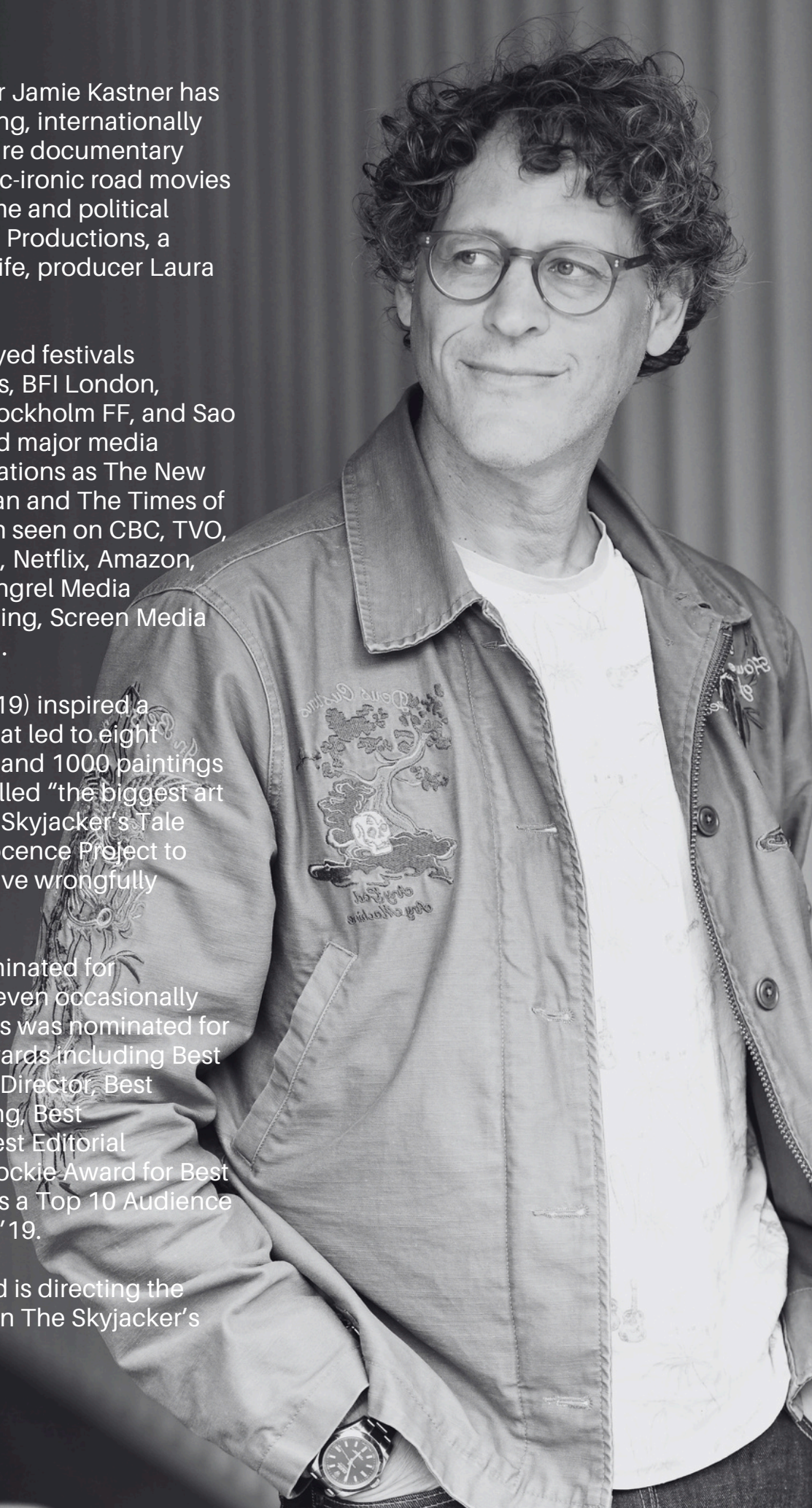
Writer-director-producer Jamie Kastner has created an award-winning, internationally acclaimed body of feature documentary work ranging from comic-ironic road movies to cultural essays to crime and political thrillers, through Cave 7 Productions, a company run with his wife, producer Laura Baron Kastner.

Kastner's films have played festivals including TIFF, Hot Docs, BFI London, Rotterdam, CPH Dox, Stockholm FF, and Sao Paulo's Mostra, garnered major media attention in such publications as The New York Times, The Guardian and The Times of London. They have been seen on CBC, TVO, BBC Storyville, ZDF-Arte, Netflix, Amazon, theatrically through Mongrel Media (Canada), Strand Releasing, Screen Media (US), Kudokawa (Japan).

There Are No Fakes (2019) inspired a criminal investigation that led to eight arrests, 40 charges laid, and 1000 paintings seized in what police called "the biggest art fraud in the world." The Skyjacker's Tale (2016) inspired the Innocence Project to investigate the case of five wrongfully convicted men.

His films have been nominated for numerous awards, and even occasionally won. There Are No Fakes was nominated for six Canadian Screen Awards including Best Arts Documentary, Best Director, Best Screenwriter, Best Editing, Best Cinematography and Best Editorial Research, and a Banff Rockie Award for Best Arts Documentary. It was a Top 10 Audience Choice film at Hot Docs '19.

Kastner has scripted and is directing the fiction feature adaptation The Skyjacker's Son.



JAMIE KASTNER FILMOGRAPHY

The Spoils, 2024 (104 min)

Nobody Wants to Talk About Jacob Appelbaum,
2024 (104 min)

Charlotte's Castle, 2023 (87 min)

There Are No Fakes, 2019 (114 min)

The Skyjacker's Tale, 2016 (76 min)

Secret Disco Revolution, 2012 (84 min)

Recessionize! For Fun and Profit, 2011 (60 min)

Kike Like Me, 2007 (82 min)

Djangomania, 2005 (56 min)

Free Trade Is Killing My Mother, 2004 (55 min)



THE
SPOILS