

Deutschland 83

Deutschland 83 is an eight-episode German television series starring Jonas Nay as a 24-year-old native of East Germany who in 1983 is sent to the West as an undercover spy for the HVA, the foreign intelligence agency of the Stasi.

Production company = UFA Fiction

It is a co-production of AMC Networks' SundanceTV and RTL Television. It subsequently aired in Germany beginning in November 2015, and in the UK on Channel 4 beginning in January 2016.

Directed by Edward Berger and Samira Radsai

Starring-

Jonas Nay

Maria Schrader

Ulrich Noethen

Sylvester Groth

Sonja Gerhardt

Ludwig Trepte

Alexander Beyer

Lisa Tomaschewsky

Reception / success-

8.2/10 IMDb

100% Rotten Tomatoes

8.8/10 TV.com

Deutschland 83 was met with excellent reviews and received a 2015 Peabody Award. Rotten Tomatoes gives the show a 100% score with an average rating of 8.2/10, sampled from 22 reviews. The consensus states: "An engrossing drama with a fun '80s soundtrack, Deutschland 83 chronicles an intense spy story that brings viewers uncomfortably close to the Iron Curtain." On Metacritic, it holds a score of 79 out of 100, based on reviews from 11 critics, indicating "generally favourable reviews"

Budget =£35 million

MARTIN RAUCH / MORITZ STAMM (played by Jonas Nay)

Born in the East, he's sent to the West as a spy by the HVA. Martin/Moritz is handsome, smart, charismatic, but wet behind the ears. He was raised by his single mother, Ingrid, in a Communist Party family. There is a good life of relative privilege in the GDR, self-contained and protected. As the series opens, Moritz is in the last months of his NVA military service, working as a border guard at Friedrichstrasse. Then he is ejected from the world he knows and thrust into the life of a spy. Everything is new and nothing, and no one, is quite as they seem. Everyone is harbouring secrets, both political and personal.



LENORA RAUCH (played by Maria Schrader)

Moritz's aunt, and his boss. Officially the Cultural Attaché at the East German Embassy in Bonn, her real job is to run the GDR's covert assets in the West for the HVA (East German Secret Service). She is a Party believer who sacrificed her youth to the cause. She has never married and has no children. But with East German budgets running out, and a paranoid HVA, Lenora is feeling increasingly desperate. She loves her sister, so her loyalties are torn when it comes to her nephew Martin/Moritz, but she will stop at nothing to get the job done.



TOBIAS TISCHBIER (played by Alexander Beyer)

Moritz's mentor in the HVA, he's both his superior officer and a father figure. Working for DDR undercover in the West since the early 1960s, Tischbier's job is to stimulate the peace movement, the anti-nuclear movement and to stir up trouble from the Left. His cover job is a popular law professor at University of Bonn, where he is a hero to Alex Edel and other young idealists who attend peace rallies.



ANNETT SCHNEIDER (played by Sonja Gerhardt)

Martin/Moritz's fiancée and childhood sweetheart back home in Kleinmachnow. She loves Martin/Moritz and believes he is the "right" kind of man to create a life with in the GDR. But she is tempted by Thomas Posimski, the polar opposite of the "right" kind of man... She is canny, seductive and determined, the kind of person who would do well in any system.



ALEX EDEL (played by Ludwig Trepte)

General Edel's rebellious son. He is forced into a military career against his will and he often clashes with his father. At first, his interest in the peace movement seems like simple rebellion. But Alex becomes increasingly radicalised and determined to take action, both to shame his father and to prove himself.



YVONNE EDEL (played by Lisa Tomaschewsky)

General Edel's talented daughter is also rebelling against her controlling father. She has discovered the popular cult around Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, has moved into the commune and is performing as a singer in their nightclub. Martin/Moritz is immediately drawn to her, but she has competition with his commitment to Annett back home in his "real" life in East Germany.



GENERAL WOLFGANG EDEL (played by Ulrich Noethen)

Martin's boss in the Bundeswehr and another father figure, General Edel is a West German official involved in the top secret Pershing Commission, privy to NATO secrets and government plans. He is a family man of strong convictions, but he has a terrible temper and a tendency toward violence, behavior that has left a dark stain on his relationship with both of his children, who are spiralling out of control in different ways.



WALTER SCHWEPPENSTETTE (played by Sylvester Groth)

High up in the hierarchy at the HVA, Schweppenstette is Lenora's boss. They came up the ranks together and know each other well. Ambitious and ruthless, Schweppenstette shows himself to be willing to put everything on the line for his own career advancement

