

# Sealed Lips

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## Synopsis

Antonia Berger, a young German and enthusiastic Communist, goes to the Soviet Union in the 1930s. Whilst there, she is accused of spying and sent to Vorkuta's labor camp. After being released from the gulag in 1952, she manages to return home to the new socialist East German state with her daughter Lydia. Antonia is forced by her party comrades to keep her terrible experiences secret for the common good. It is only after Stalin's death that she speaks out about her time in the Soviet Union. But her newly regained freedom is taken away from her again when her lover, a committed Communist, informs the authorities. Antonia has to make a choice - between truth or the present.

## Credits

**Director:** Bernd Böhlich / **Genre:** Drama, historical / **Original title:** Und der Zukunft zugewandt / **English title:** Sealed Lips / **Country of production:** Germany / **Year of production:** 2018 / **Length:** 104 min / **Color:** color / **Shooting format:** HD 4K / **Screening format:** DCP 2K (1:1,85; 5.1, un-encrypted) / **Original language:** German / **Subtitles:** English / **Cast:** Alexandra Maria Lara, Carlota von Falkenhayn, Robert Stadlober, Karoline Eichhorn, Barbara Schnitzler / **Scriptwriter:** Bernd Böhlich / **Director of photography:** Thomas Plenert / **Editor:** Gudrun Steinbrück / **Sound design:** Johannes Doberenz, Bernd Göbel / **Sound mixing:** Hans Kölling / **Music:** Sebastian Schmidt / **Producers:** Eva-Marie Martens, Alexander Martens / **Co-producers:** Cooky Ziesche, Frank Evers, Helge Neubronner, Hans Kölling / **Production company:** Mafilm / **Co-production company:** Rundfunk Berlin Brandenburg RBB, CINE+ & STL Leipzig / **Supported by:** Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, BKM - FFA and Deutscher Filmförderfonds

## Festivals / Awards

Goa IFF, India - *World Premiere*; Cleveland IFF, USA; Bari IFF, Italy; German FF, Australia; Filmfest Emden-Norderney, Germany - *Score Bernhard Wicki Prize*; TwoRiversides-Festival, Poland; Carl IFF, Sweden; Trevignano FilmFest, Italy

**More information online:** <http://www.plutofilm.de/films/sealed-lips/0036>

## Contact

Pluto Film Distribution Network GmbH  
Schliemannstr. 5, 10437 Berlin, Germany  
+49 (0) 30 21 91 82 20, [info@plutofilm.de](mailto:info@plutofilm.de), [www.plutofilm.de](http://www.plutofilm.de)  
Sales: Manola Novelli, Festivals: Daniela Cölle