



Film

EN | DA

THE TENTH MUSE

Torben Skjødt Jensen, Denmark, 2003 

96 min. | DK/Feature





The film takes place in 1964, in Asta Nielsen's apartment on Frederiksberg, where she meets the young filmmaker Lars Schmidt. Their meeting is set to discuss the making of a film portraying her life. Asta Nielsen receives the young filmmaker in her home, and she seems surprisingly willing to talk and to participate in the filmmaker's project. But he ends up being too close - too close to the truth. Asta Nielsen's private life behind the stage has always remained a mystery to the public. Lars Schmidt is thrilled: It is going to be a great story. However, he gets more and more inquisitive and begins to question Asta Nielsen's description of the relationship with her daughter, Jesta. Asta Nielsen feels threatened and fires the filmmaker. Nevertheless, she is determined to take over the production and make her own portrait film. Jesta becomes so appalled with the behaviour of her mother, that she, for the first time, tells openly about her life in the shadow of 'Die Asta': A cruel story about being "ugly" and "a failure" in order to let the mother's star shine. Jesta finally relieves the burdens of her heart and tells everything - but it is more than she can bear - and she commits suicide. The filmmaker comes to realize that revealing other peoples' secret lives, is not without severe consequences.

Basic information	
Credits	
Music	
Materials	
Original title	Afgrunden
Danish title	Afgrunden
Other titles	Et melodrama om stumfilmens Asta Nielsen
Keywords	Nielsen, Asta
Director	Torben Skjødt Jensen
Screenplay	Peter Asmussen, Torben Skjødt Jensen
Producer	Michael Bille Frandsen, Ole Reim
Director of Photography	Harald Gunnar Paalgard
Editor	Ghita Beckendorff
Composer	Anders Koppel
Production designer	Søren Breum
Appearance	Vera Gebuhr, Vivian Nielsen, Ole Lemmeke, Lene Tiemroth

Production country	Denmark
Domestic distribution	Filmcompagniet - SF Film, Warner og Twentieth Century Fox
Technical info	Dolby stereo
Danish festival release	17.08.2003, Dagmar, vist i konkurrence ved CIFF, Copenhagen International Film Festival 2003
Danish theatrical release	19.03.2004
Cinemas	Grand filmen blev efterfølgende vist i Café Biografen, Odense (26.3-1.4); Øst for Paradis, Århus (2/4-12/4); Biffen, Aalborg (13/4-18/4); Gentofte Kino (19/4-25/4). Filmen blev udelukkende forevist digitalt (i HD-formatet)
Danish rating	Allowed for children over the age of 15

 **DOWNLOAD PDF**

 **PRINT**

WATCH THE FILM

Filmcentralen →

DFI streaming service

Filmstriben →

The Danish libraries streaming service

Videoteket →

At Gothersgade 55. 1st floor. 1123 Copenhagen K.