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# A night in May

**Eine Nacht im Mai** is a German music film directed by Georg Jacoby and starring his wife Marika Röck . At her side, Viktor Staal took on the male lead.

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## Storyline

One day, Inge Fleming loses her driver's license because of her rapid driving style. In order to get it back, she has to take part in a traffic education measure. Because she disrupts the lessons several times, she is expelled and her driver's license is finally revoked. However, she uses her car to get home and promptly has an accident. The injured party's name is Waldemar Becker. Because she fears that she will now be arrested for driving without a license, Inge hit and run. She borrows 50 Reichsmarks from her maid Johanna for a train ticket and wants to flee to Paris in a panic, but misses the train. In the crowd at the train station, she meets a certain Willy Prinz, who seems to be very interested in her and even then refuses to be brushed off when Inge rejects him. But now that she cannot escape abroad, she finally gets involved with the attractive and charming stranger, whom she believes is not only called a prince, but is actually a prince.

### Movie

original title	<u>A night in May</u>
production country	<u>Germany</u>
original language	<u>German</u>
Publishing year	<u>1938</u>
length	<u>83, 88 minutes</u>
age rating	<u>FSK 16</u>
	<u>Rod</u>
directing	<u>George Jacoby</u>
script	<u>Willy Clever</u>
production	<u>Eberhard Schmidt</u>
music	<u>Peter Kreuder</u> <u>Friedrich Schroeder</u>
camera	<u>Robert Baberske</u>
cut	<u>Walter Fredersdorf</u>
occupation	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Marika Röck</u> : Inge Fleming aka Eulalia Müller</li> <li>▪ <u>Viktor Staal</u> : Willy Prince</li> <li>▪ <u>Karl Schönböck</u> : Waldemar Becker</li> <li>▪ <u>Gisela Schlueter</u> : Alma Becker, his wife</li> <li>▪ <u>Oskar Sima</u> : Director Fleming junior, Inge's father</li> <li>▪ <u>Albert Florath</u> : director Fleming senior</li> <li>▪ <u>Ingeborg von Kusserow</u> : Friedl, Inge's friend</li> <li>▪ <u>Mady Rahl</u> : Mimi, Alma's friend</li> <li>▪ <u>Franz Arzdorf</u> : Berghoff, manager at the charity ball</li> <li>▪ <u>Ursula Herking</u> : Johanna, maid</li> <li>▪ <u>Ludwig Schmitz</u> : Schupo Emil</li> <li>▪ <u>Hermann Pfeiffer</u> : newspaper reader</li> </ul>

Together they both go on a bus trip that takes them to Wannsee , where it is on the eponymous *night in Maya* costume ball is held. The shock is quite great for Inge when she spots Waldemar Becker, who she has hit and who also wants to take part in the costume ball. To make matters worse, Willy and Waldemar are old friends. Married Waldemar came with a friend. In order to avoid imminent trouble, Inge and Willy go to the other side of the Wannsee. After a swim, Inge and Waldemar accidentally meet again. Further entanglements follow, as a result of which Inge and Willy are separated on the return journey by bus. Since Willy doesn't know Inge's last name, he can't find her again in Berlin. Days later, chance brings the two young people together again in a hotel run by Inge's father and grandfather. Because that's where Willy Prinz works, who, to Inge's temporary disappointment, isn't really a nobleman at all, only as a waiter. Inge overcomes her arrogance as she realizes that Willy is a fine guy and the two get together.

- Ernst Rotmund : Newspaper seller
- Harry Gondi : compere
- Eduard Borträger : Railway ticket clerk
- Erik Schubert : Porter
- Fred Goebel : traffic cop
- Willi Schur : bus conductor
- Otz Tollen : Policeman
- Eva Tinschmann : woman at the ticket office

and Else Reval , Eduard Wenck , Walter Steinweg , Gustav Püttjer , Alfred Karen , Gerhard Dammann , Otto Sauter-Sarto , Käthe Jöken-König , Carl Iban

## Production

*Eine Nacht im May* was written from mid-May to June 1938 and was submitted to the censors on September 13 and 26, 1938. Filming locations were Berlin and the Wannsee (exterior shots) as well as Babelsberg (studios in the UFA city). The premiere took place on September 14, 1938 in Wiesbaden. The Berlin premiere was on October 11, 1938. The film was first broadcast on German television on June 13, 1982 on DFF 2. The film was released on DVD in 2001.

*Eine Nacht im May* cost only about 765,000 RM <sup>[1]</sup> , was thanks to the title song intoned by Marika Rökk a considerable hit with the public and, after a private performance on the Obersalzberg , was also very popular with Adolf Hitler . <sup>[2]</sup>

Production group manager Eberhard Schmidt also took over production management. Max Mellin and Erich Grave created the film sets , Walter Rühland took care of the sound . The costumes were designed by Eleanor Techow, Gertrud Steckler and Annemarie Heise. Anthony Nellé organized the dances.

## Music

Several music titles were brought. The texts are by Hans Fritz Beckmann . Both composers Kreuder and Schröder also took on the musical arrangement:

- "An island born of dreams"
- "Im Café am Zoo" (sung by Peter Igelhoff )
- "One Night in May"
- "Land in Sight"
- "The world has never seen anything like it"

## Reviews

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The Lexikon des Internationales Films saw the film as a "conventional musical comedy of mistaken identity." <sup>[3]</sup>

Cinema said: "The film thrives on the temperament of the UFA diva Röck and the charming music of Peter Kreuder. Conclusion: dusty but not without momentum" <sup>[4]</sup>

## Itemizations

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1. Deutsche Tonfilme, 9th volume 1938. 077.38, p. 147, Berlin 1998
2. Boguslaw Drewniak: *The German Film 1938-1945* . A general overview. Düsseldorf 1987, p. 633 f.
3. *One Night in May*. (<https://www.filmdienst.de/film/details/21481>)In: *Lexicon of international film* . Filmdienst , retrieved June 9, 2019 .
4. *One Night in May*. (<https://www.cinema.de/91115>)In: *cinema* . Retrieved April 17, 2022 .

## Web Links

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- *One Night in May* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0030490/>) at the Movie Database
  - *One Night in May* (<https://www.filmportal.de/7de90f4e97064bf8ac9dc6b9367b023a>) at filmportal.de
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Abgerufen von „[https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Eine\\_Nacht\\_im\\_Mai&oldid=222156345](https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Eine_Nacht_im_Mai&oldid=222156345)“

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