

Neue Serie

Helga Anders: Tell me, love: where are you?

This is the story of a charming woman who had more luck, success — and also money — in the 35 years of her life than most women in Germany can even dream of.

She was admired, often idolised, by millions of people in the cinema, on television and at the theatre. *She was spoiled, adored, loved by fascinating men — directors, writers, photographers, painters, show stars.* She could afford the most elegant clothes, the most expensive apartments, the most adventurous trips. . .

But this is also the story of a woman who got to know all the dark sides of life: men beat her up until she bled. One wanted to burn her alive. Once she wanted to cut her wrists with a kitchen knife in the bathtub. In total, she tried to commit suicide six times.

Written by ROBERT MENKE

Hashish was consumed and LSD with awful horror trips. There was a shocking abortion. There were lethal



• In the TV series "Forellenhof (Trout Farm)", Helga Anders played a sweet, good girl who experiences her first shy love (with Georg Fischer)

light blue to deep dark blue.

Helga Anders: At twelve, the sweetest and most famous girl in the nation, blonde, a little chubby...

I got a discarded dress from Christine Kaufmann because my mother and I were so poor. We drove out to the Bavaria studios in the south of Munich. In a hall full of scenery, I was introduced to Heinz Rühmann. He seemed friendly, but strict.

I was asked if I can play the piano. I had to say 'no' — but Heinz Rühmann suddenly said 'yes': I was the right person for him,



• Heinz Rühmann and Helga Anders as father and daughter in "Max, der Taschendieb (Max, the Pickpocket)" (1941). For the twelve-year-old, it was the beginning of a steep career

diseases because desperate love — and life-and-death surgeries.

Above all, there was alcohol: she hid bottles in the studios of all German TV stations. She even drank her perfume. Due to senseless addiction, she drank 30 bottles of champagne in two days. She broke out of a barred rehab facility, naked. Alcohol drove her to complete madness:

This is the story of Helga Anders, 1.56 metres tall, weighing 52 kilos (if healthy and feeling well), Bundesfilmpreis (Federal Film Award) winner from 1967, the sweet girl from "Forellenhof". Helga Anders, a fascinating main character of sensitive artistic films such as "Tattoo" by Johannes Schaaf, the acclaimed actress on Germany's most important stages.

The little girl and the big star

300 television roles, 20 movies, countless theatre performances: this is the outer "record" of this small, magically attractive person with blue eyes, who can so surprisingly turn her coat — from

I was supposed to play his daughter in "Max, der Taschendieb". "

Exemption from school lessons, her own film wardrobe, a 2000 Mark fee, a stage name — instead of "Scherz" now "Anders" — a great career had begun at that time.

Helga Anders: At 34, a mentally tortured woman who freaked out during filming in Rome. She believed she was living in the Nazi era, felt persecuted: sprinkled salt on diary sheets to see if anyone had read her intimate notes. She strung threads through her hotel room to see if anyone had entered the room secretly. Then she collapsed screaming: "I am the daughter of Hitler!"

Aborted filming for a long television series, millions in damage, admission to a psychiatric clinic in Munich.

Helga Anders: At 19, the gorgeous muse of young German art films. The ten-year-older director Roger Fritz

• The disasters in her life have left no trace — even today, at 35, Helga Anders still acts as a Lolita who has a hard time growing up.

made his first film "Mädchen, Mädchen (Girls, Girls)" with her. Helga Anders received the Bundesfilmpreis (Federal Film Award) as the best young German actress in Berlin — five months pregnant. She married Roger Fritz — in the 7th month of pregnancy — in a daring suit made of knitted black silk with white lace and a huge black hat.

At the wedding party by Lake Ammersee, champagne flowed freely, most people only wore bikinis and swimming trunks, and there were steamboats and fire brigades.

"Was I crazy, was I already dead?"

Helga Anders earlier this year: A 35-year-old woman in ruins. She says: "I became terribly afraid of life in my new apartment in the Arabella House in Munich, which was like a gigantic termite mound for me. *I swallowed a whole box of heavy sedatives, enough to kill three people.*

Because of cigarettes, which I dropped on fire, things started burning. I almost burned to death.

But then I called the emergency doctor with my last breath. I was saved — but how!

My whole body was shaking, I had diaphoresis, I had delusions all night. I couldn't breathe, I thought my heart would stop at any moment.

I was then given such heavy medication that I had tongue and jaw paralysis as a side effect and my whole face was terribly distorted.

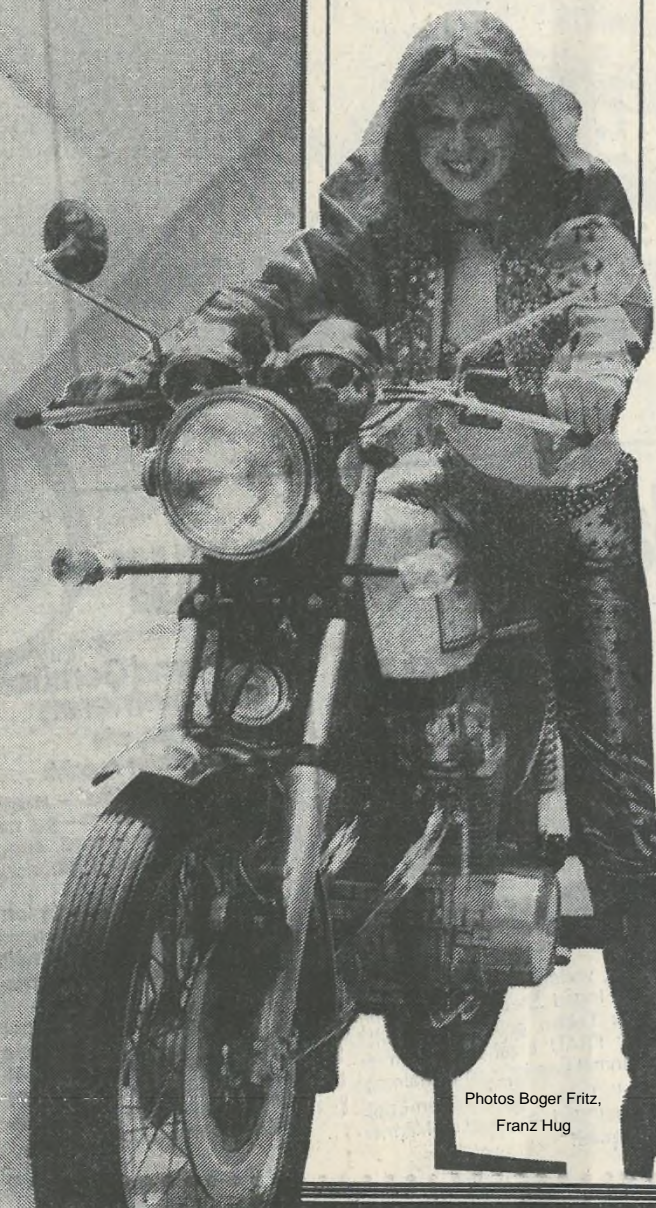
I didn't know who I was anymore. I didn't know any more if I had gone crazy — or if I was already dead." Helga Anders draws the balance. She doesn't slacken off.

Tomorrow you will read:

What Helga Anders experienced with Heinz Rühmann

Why she also looked for a father figure in every man (she lost her father when she was two)

• Helga Anders' versatility is amazing. In the TV production "Wolpertinger Wochenschau" (1976) she played a girl rocker, with a big Honda, an old woman and a twelve-year-old* girl.



Photos Boger Fritz, Franz Hug