



PHOENIX

Autumn
Season
2015

Release: 2014

Cert (UK): 12A

Language: German and English

Runtime: 98 mins

Director: Christian Petzold

Writer: Christian Petzold, Harun Farocki

Cinematographer: Hans Fromm

Cast: Nina Hoss, Ronald Zehrfeld, Nina Kunzendorf



This is a film about identity, both personal and for a country as whole.

Nelly is released from a concentration camp at the end of the Second World War needing a facial rebuild because of her injuries. She goes looking for her husband, Johnny, who does not recognize her, mainly because he is

convinced she is dead, and she does not tell him the truth. She is, however, alike enough for him to want to use her to claim the fortune (that is, of course, hers anyway).

There are many other sub-plots, twists and turns, that add up to a noir-like thriller, whilst also making us think about the need for identity and using Nelly and Johnny's game-playing to show the problems Germany faced after the war.

Nina Hoss is a regular actor for Christian Petzold (and is in 'Homeland' in the present series) She plays Nelly to great reviews – 'Hoss sells the need we all have for identity, for place, for home, with palpable intensity. And watch the way she slowly unfolds as Johnny transforms her.' – Brian Tallerico, RogerEbert.com

Christian Petzold has now made 7 films and has won many awards around Europe, including the Silver Bear at Berlin Film Festival for his last film, 'Barbara'. He was nominated for Best Film at the London Film Festival for 'Phoenix'.

