

Document Citation

Title	Hofkonzert
Author(s)	Wolfe Kaufman
Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	1937 Apr 07
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Das Hofkonzert, Sierck, Detlef, 1936

HOFKONZERT

(‘Court Concert’)
(MUSICAL)
(GERMAN MADE)

Ufa production and release. Stars Marta Eggerth. Directed by Detlef Sierck. Music Edmund Nick. At 86th Street Garden, N. Y., March 26, '37. Running time 90 mins.

Christine.....	Marta Eggerth
Walter.....	Johannes Heesters
Berenissimus.....	Otto Tressler
Minister of State.....	Herbert Huebner
Col. Flumms.....	Rudolf Klein-Rogge
Countess Haderdorf.....	F. von Platen
Zunder.....	Ernst Waldow
Velt.....	Hans Richter
Bahette.....	Ingeborg v. Kusserow
Knips.....	Alfred Abel
Tamara.....	Iwa Wania

(In German, with English Titles)

A couple of years ago, Marta Eggerth was the top femme draw on the continent; today she's just another German film star. Her voice is still as fine as ever, and she's still an eyeful, but stories and productions like the present one explain her decline. 'Hofkonzert' might have been a good musical in the ante-Hitler days, because then it would (probably) have had delicacy and a light touch. As is, it is handicapped mostly by heaviness and stodginess.

Miss Eggerth is spotted as a singer whose mission in life is not so much to sing as to find out where and who her pappy is. She is invited to the royal court to sing, and there discovers that the king himself, a sweet and kindly soul, is her father. Johannes Heesters, the Teutonic version of a handsome man, is the young officer in court who falls in love with her at first sight.

This is spun out in rather sheen fashion through 90 minutes, but with a constant overhanging cloud of elephantiasis. That goes for production and acting. Miss Eggerth is the best actress in the cast, and she's a better singer. Music is very pleasant, but none too original, with no song item of lasting memory.

Ufa evidently thought this one might have a chance to get out of the regular limited channels for German films in the U. S. so decorated it with English titles (too many of them). It won't help.

Kauf.