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## ***Engel Aus Eisen (Angels Of Iron)***

**Federal Republic of Germany 1980**

**Director** Thomas Brasch

**Producers** Joachim von Vietinghoff and Heiner Angermeyer

**Screenplay** Thomas Brasch

**Cinematography** Walter Lasally

**Editors** Stefan Arnsten, Tanja Schmidbauer

**Sound** Lothar Mankewitz

**Music** Christian Kunert

**Principal Cast** Hilmar Thate, Katharina Thalbach, Ullrich Wesselmann, Karin Ball, Ilse Page, Peter Brombacher, Klaus Pohl, Hans Zischler, Horst Laure, Jurgen Flimm, Kurt Raab

105 minutes

Cannes Film Festival, 1981

Thomas Brasch was expelled from Leipzig University in East Germany for "defamation of leading personalities of the German Democratic Republic." Shortly afterwards, he was jailed for "agitating against the state." Now living in West Germany, he has published short stories, plays, novels and poetry. *Angels Of Iron* is his first film: "I'm very interested in criminality, because it is linked to real fantasy and to subversion. I haven't tried to reconstitute a historical happening, rather to create a sort of legend from a real life situation."

Too busy with their own power games (the division of Berlin, the Berlin airlift), the authorities in 1948 allow a bit of room for the Gladow gang to operate (robbing in one sector and moving to another) – particularly Völpel, a former executioner who wants revenge, Gladow, a seventeen year old with Al Capone ambitions, and Lisa, a woman in her twenties who wants to be a singer. The film is about criminals (and not just the Gladow gang), is an almost surrealist (and often very funny) fantasy, and is more than subversive in its contemplation of freedom, power and survival.

**Sunday 13 Sept. 7:00 p.m. Festival**

**Friday 18 Sept. 7:00 p.m. Revue**