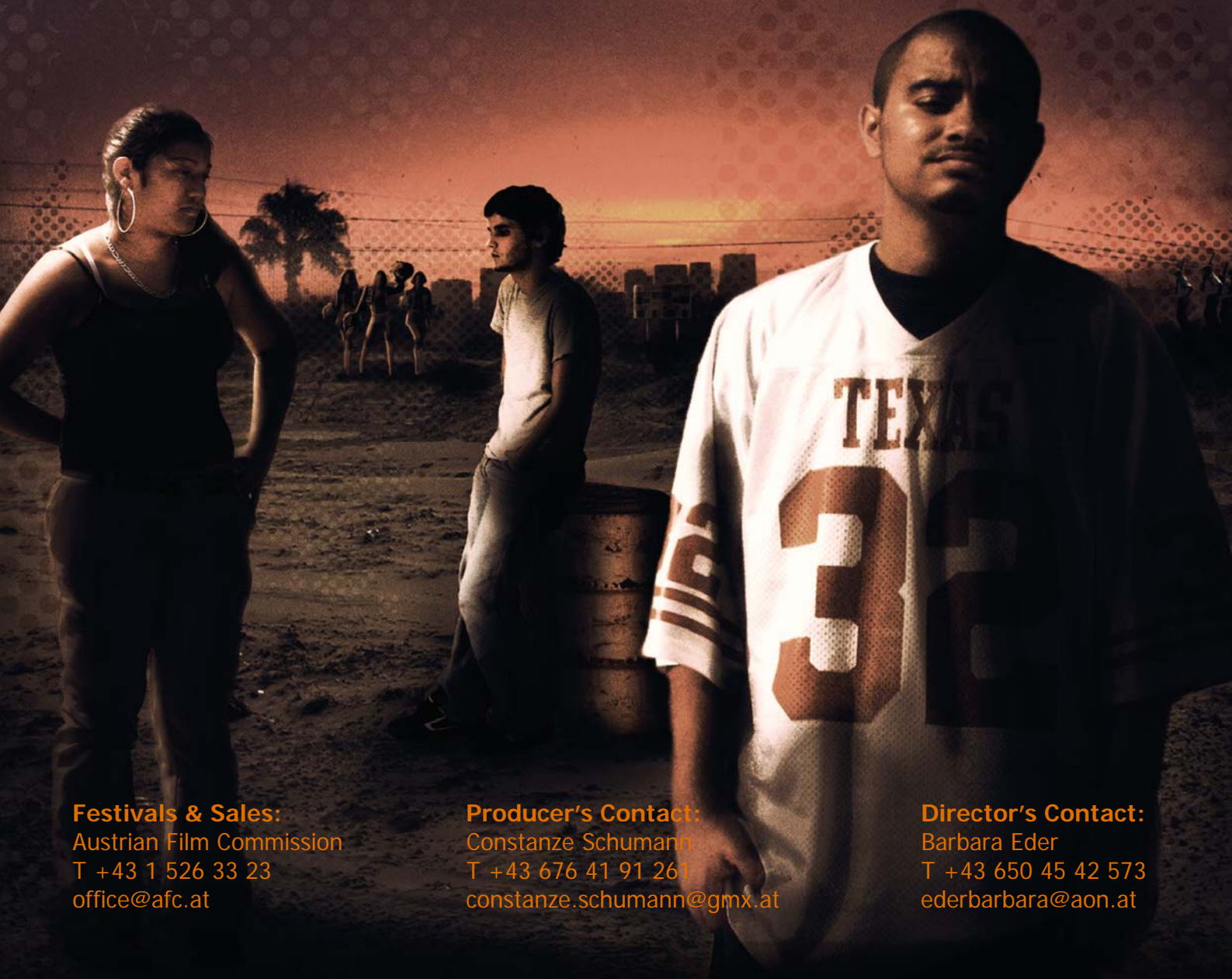


# INSIDE AMERICA

AUSTRIA ♦ 2010 ♦ Color ♦ 107 min.  
[www.insideamerica-themovie.com](http://www.insideamerica-themovie.com)



**Festivals & Sales:**  
Austrian Film Commission  
T +43 1 526 33 23  
[office@afc.at](mailto:office@afc.at)

**Producer's Contact:**  
Constanze Schumann  
T +43 676 41 91 261  
[constanze.schumann@gmx.at](mailto:constanze.schumann@gmx.at)

**Director's Contact:**  
Barbara Eder  
T +43 650 45 42 573  
[ederbarbara@aon.at](mailto:ederbarbara@aon.at)

# INSIDE AMERICA

A High School Film of a different kind - dirty and bizarre, but honest.



## SYNOPSIS

### 1-Line

INSIDE AMERICA gives a blunt view into America's soul, found somewhere between plasma TVs and food stamps.

### 3-Line

Situated on the Mexican border, Hanna High School is a place of daily tragedies. Cocaine-addicted cheerleaders, patriotic ROTC-students, gang members and Mexican girls in search of a husband, collide in this story. At school, they swear on the American flag, dream of white picket fences and fancy cars, but when they leave reality strikes them like an incurable disease.

### 100 words

INSIDE AMERICA is the portrait of six teenagers during their senior year at Hanna High School in Brownsville, Texas. The American flag is proudly raised at school every morning and the dream of prosperity and freedom is invested in their mind, but the reality is tough; drugs, violence and security at the school gate are a part of the daily routine. The six teenagers fight for their future in between ROTC Class and Home Economics, somehow managing to retain their vitality and dreams.

A feature film based on a true story and closer to reality than any documentary.



# INSIDE AMERICA

## THE MAIN CHARACTERS

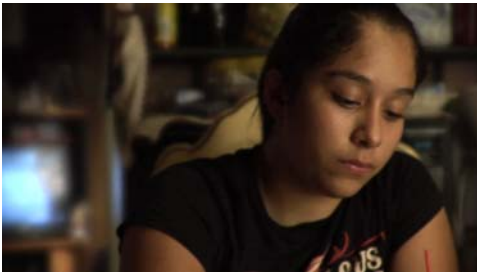
The six High School students, whose story is being told in INSIDE AMERICA, are:



Aimee, a wealthy drug-addicted cheerleader



Manni, a gang member fighting for "respect"



Patty, a Mexican girl desperately searching for a husband



Carlos, a patriotic ROTC student focused on freeing Brownsville of its illegal immigrant population



Ricky, an outsider who falls into a gang



Zuly, a foster kid fighting for a home

# INSIDE AMERICA

## PRODUCTION NOTES

INSIDE AMERICA is poised between a documentary and fiction feature film.

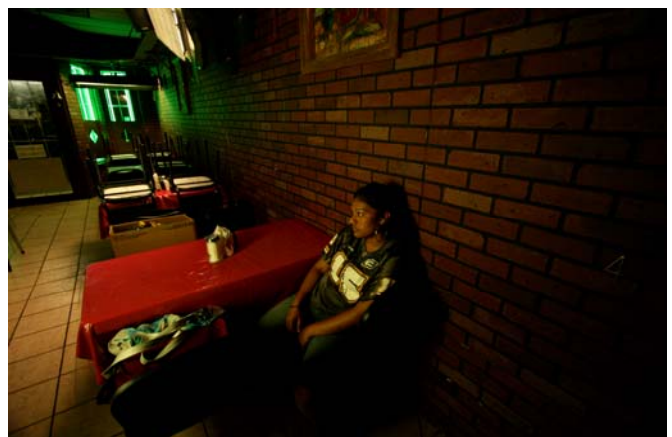
Despite the size and complexity of the film, it was shot with a team of only five people, a bold adventure indeed.

The amateur actors were students at Hanna High School, where the movie was shot, and play characters that share many similarities to their own lives.

Gaining access to shoot a film in an American High School is rare; it took many requests and a couple of years for the final permission. Thus, when the approval was granted, it was clear that it was a once in a lifetime chance to show events that usually remain hidden behind closed curtains.

Austrian director and writer Barbara Eder lived in Brownsville and attended Hanna High School when she was 17. Many of the teenagers she befriended at Hanna High are no longer alive; they became victims of violent crimes or drug abuse. Barbara knows what it means to live in Brownsville and is familiar with the people and their tragedies. Telling their stories became an essential mission for her. Like R.J. from Brownsville said: *“It’s about time somebody told our story.”*

With this film, based on true events, Barbara narrates the tragic stories she witnessed.



# **INSIDE AMERICA**

## **DIRECTOR**



## **BIOGRAPHY:**

Barbara Eder was born in Eisenstadt, Austria in 1976. In 1994 she did a student exchange year in Brownsville, Texas, on which she based her film INSIDE AMERICA (2010).

Previous to that she studied film directing at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna and made numerous short films like SLEEPLESS (2002), TOD, TEUFEL & KOMMERZ (2004) and short documentaries including HIMMEL, HÖLLE, ROSENKRANZ (2005) and HARALD SERAFIN AUF HOHER SEE (2006).

INSIDE AMERICA is her first long feature film.

## **FILMOGRAPHY:**

2008 hianznordsüd (Short Documentary)

2006 Harald Serafin auf Hoher See (Short Documentary)

2005 Himmel, Hölle, Rosenkranz (Short Documentary)

2004 Tod, Teufel & Kommerz (Short Fiction)

2002 Sleepless (Short Fiction)

## **STATEMENT:**

Austrian director and writer Barbara Eder lived in Brownsville and attended Hanna High School when she was 17. Many of her teenage friends are not alive anymore. They have become victims of violent crimes or have died on overusing drugs. Barbara knows what it means to live in Brownsville. She knows the people and their tragedies. Telling their stories has become an indispensable mission for her. Or, like someone from Brownsville said: "It was about time somebody made a story on us." With this movie, based upon true stories, she tells a story, which she has witnessed herself.

# INSIDE AMERICA

## CREDITS & BASIC INFORMATION

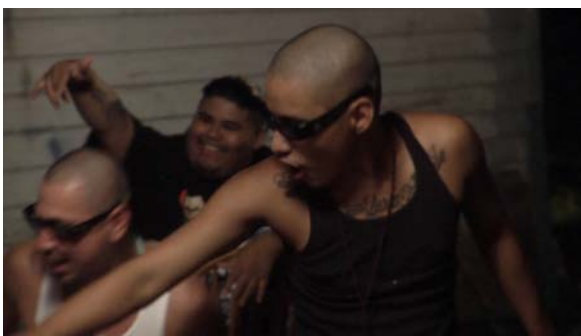
Director: Barbara Eder  
Producer: Constanze Schumann  
DoP: Christian Haake  
Editor: Claudia Linzer  
Sound: Atanas Tcholakov,  
Gailute Miksyte  
Original Score: Gerrit Wunder



Produced in cooperation with Filmakademie Wien  
Production Company: ARGE Schumann Eder

### Main Actors:

Manni Raul Juarez  
Aimee Aimeé Lizette Saldivar  
Zuly Zuleyma Jaime  
Ricky Luis De Los Santos  
Carlos Carlos Benavides  
Patty Patty Barrera



Genre: Drama  
Length: 107 min.  
Language: English/ Spanish  
with engl. ST  
Shooting Format: DVCPRO HD  
Screening Format: 35mm Print / 1:1,85 /  
Color  
Sound: Dolby Digital  
Shooting Location: Brownsville, Texas  
USA

[www.insideamerica-the-movie.com](http://www.insideamerica-the-movie.com)  
[www.facebook.com/InsideAmerica](http://www.facebook.com/InsideAmerica)

# **INSIDE AMERICA**

## **CONTACT**

### **CONTACT FESTIVALS:**

**Austrian Film Commission**

**Anne Laurent**

Stifgasse 6

1070 Vienna, Austria

T +43 1 526 33 23 ext. 203

F: +43 1 526 68 01

festivals@afc.at

### **CONTACT SALES:**

**Austrian Film Commission**

**Brigitte Weich**

Stifgasse 6

1070 Vienna, Austria

T +43 1 526 33 23 ext. 202

F: +43 1 526 68 01

salesdesk@afc.at

### **PRODUCER'S CONTACT:**

**Constanze Schumann**

Schmalzhofgasse 18/2/29

1060 Vienna, Austria

T +43 676 41 91 261

constanze.schumann@gmx.at

### **DIRECTOR'S CONTACT:**

**Barbara Eder**

Johnstrasse 26/4

1150 Vienna, Austria

T +43 650 45 42 573

ederbarbara@aon.at

[www.insideamerica-themovie.com](http://www.insideamerica-themovie.com)

[www.facebook.com/InsideAmerica](http://www.facebook.com/InsideAmerica)

