

Simone Suko

The former Atrium Cinema, Stuttgart, Germany




IMAGE SOURCE: © Jasmin Pöcher. Main picture © Simone Suko & Annette Henning

My favourite cinema is the one that I remember when watching my first movies as a child. My parents took me with them to Stuttgart, to the Atrium Cinema, near the Koenig Street precinct. The first time I'd been there without them, that became my own 'Independence Day', so to speak.

The Atrium, which opened in 1952, was the cinema where noted director, Roland Emmerich, held many of his premieres, like *Moon 44*, and others in the 1980s and early '90s, as well as many of the longer-running roadshows, including *Doctor Zhivago*. Being only a small girl at the time, I didn't have the chance to attend them.

However, enjoying and remembering a film doesn't just depend upon the film itself, by which I mean that watching a film in a cinema is a completely different experience to watching it on TV – and even to this day, I can *still* remember the colours on the walls; the seats, also the smell of the Atrium. In the '70s, it was twinned and further screens were added.

The Atrium closed in early 1996, and so the movie première of *Independence Day*, released in the September, had had to be staged elsewhere. In its place, today, sits an office building and – it is hoped – the people now working there will at least be aware of the heritage of their workplace. 

Well-known for her appearances in many film and TV roles – among them: *Galileo: Alfred Hitchcock*, *Love Diary*, *K11* and *Herzflimmern* – as well as in several commercials for Siemens and BMW, Munich-based **Simone Suko** works both as a movie and stage actress.

www.simonesuko.com