# WDR

# High Definition Production at WDR

Walter Demonte Camera and Sound Dept.

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## Aspects for HD-production

- The picture quality of the HD-format is exceeding the quality of high-end SDformats like Digital Betacam. As well the classical domains of filmproduction can be managed with HD as a high quality format.
- Therefore HD is brilliant for any kind of high end TV-production and international distribution.
- Programs with high value in filmstock and usability for future programming should be produced in HD right from today.
- Shooting progressive in combination with high resolution is the best platform to convert video to film.
- The HD-formats are becoming more and more a common program-exchangeformat for international distribution.
- The possibility of downconverting HD to SD is making HD format also best for SD production.

# Programformats

- Under the explained general conditions HD-technology is the best productionplatform for the following programformats:
- Drama Production, Primetime Program, Weekly Soap, Comedy



- Trailerproduction, including extensive postproduction and complex compositing.
- Documentation and Reenactment



## Acquisition equipment

### 4 Camcorder HDW 750



- Operation, functionality and dimensions of HD-camcorder is very similar to IMX tape-Camcorder, type MSW-900P or XDCAM-Camcorder, type PDW-530P.
- Capturing is done in 1080 x 1920, 25p or 50i. This is depending on the way of distribution (TV or cinema).
- To use the HD-camcorder in combination with standard-definition-equipment, the unit is equipped with SDI-outputboard. (steadicam, craneoperation)
- High-Definition Zoomlenses:
  - Fujinon HA 18
  - Fujinon HA 13

# Acquisition equipment

#### • ZEISS Digi Primes

To reach the picturequality and benefits of prime lenses WDR is using a set of ZEISS Digi Prime lenses. The major field of application is drama-production.



• For field-monitoring and quality check lightweight LCD-displays an full 1080x1920 displays are used in production environment.



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### HDV-Equipment



- WDR is using 6 additional HVR-Z1 Camcorder
- This unit is used as a backup-camera for HDCAM environment, crashcamera or journalist-type camcorder.
- Under critical production condition the HDV-equipment is a good choice to shoot in HD with a lightweight and small equipment. In some cases WDR is producing 45 minute documentaries just with HDV equipment.
- For some musicproductions WDR decided to produce with up to three HDVcamcorders in a multicamera environment.
- Postproduction was done in SD and in HD on final cut pro.
- Integration of HDV to NLE-editing systems is realized with Miranda HDV/i-link to HD-SDI bridge.
- Usually HDV-tape is directly transferred to HDCAM for postproduction.

# Qualifications

- In general operation of HD-camcorder and basic knowledge of shooting video is nearly the same than with SD-equipment.
- Precision of focussing must be much more accurate than with SDequipment.
- Camcorder-setup is delivering a wide range of adjustments for improvement of picture-style and -quality.
- Therefor WDR set up a special training on HD-cameratechniques and operation for cameramen, assistants and technicians.

## Downgrade Workflow SD-Postproduction

#### **HD** Cameramaterial

SDI



WDR

• Downgrade while ingesting HD 16:9 to SD 16:9

#### **Avid Symphony / Mediacomposer**





## Downgrade Workflow **SD-Postproduction**

**Avid Symphony / Mediacomposer** 

#### **HD Rohmaterial**



Downgrade while ingesting  $\bullet$ from HD 16:9 to:

SDI

- SD 16:9
- SD 4:3  $\bullet$

WDR

- Digitising in proxy-quality  $\bullet$ Editing in proxy-quality Online-batching in SD-high resolution
- Colorcorrection in SD-quality at Pandorra Pogle



#### **SD** Master

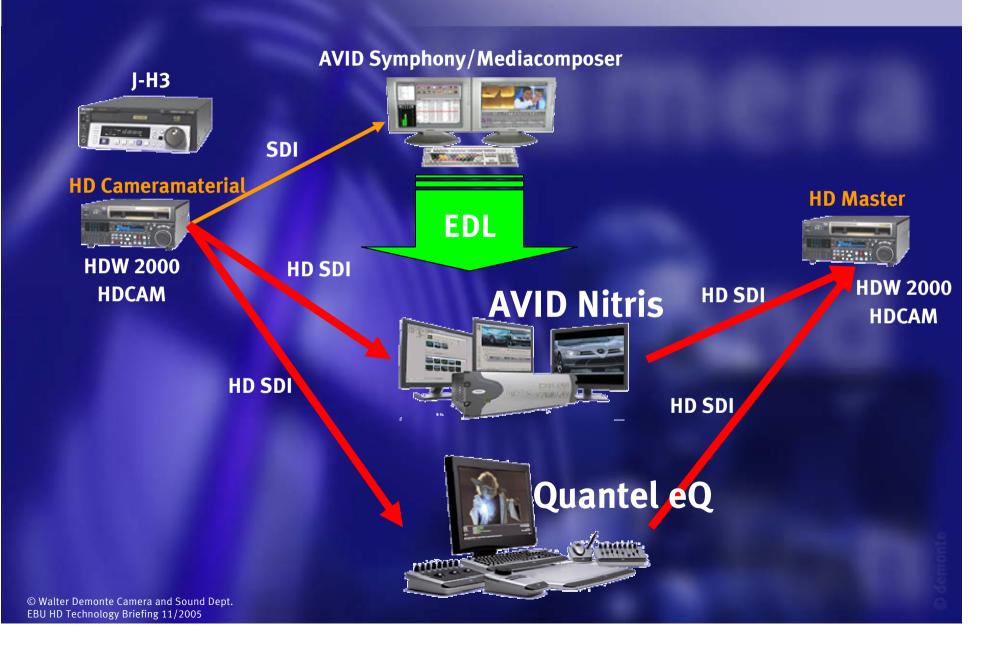
**SDI** 

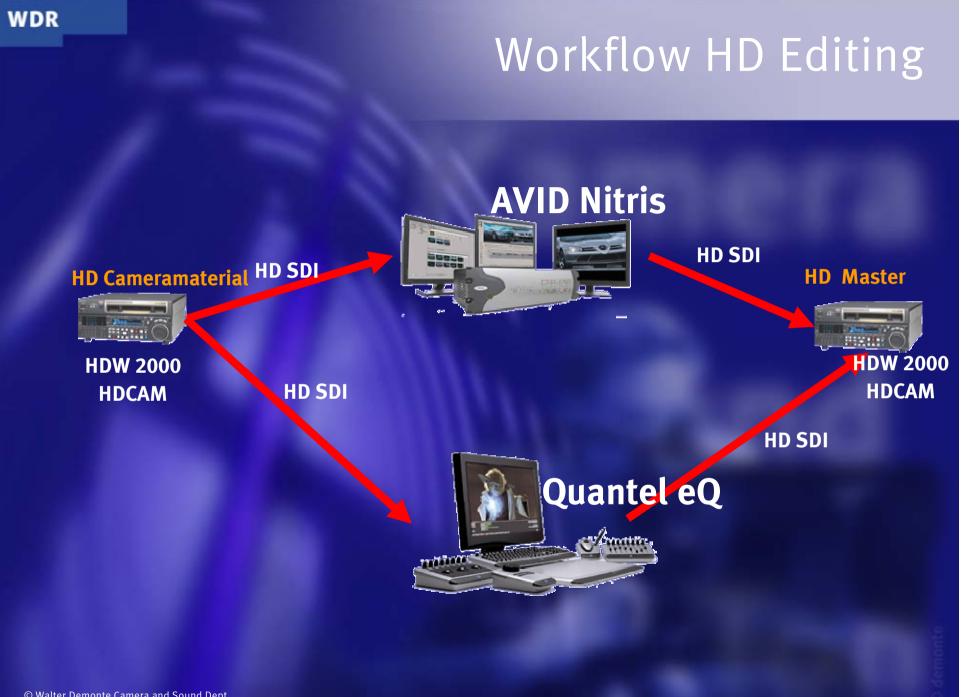
**MSW 2000** 

IMX

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### Workflow SD-Offline / HD Online





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### HD Program

- Flußlandschaften Oder educational program HDCAM 1080i/25
- Mansfeld Land der Legenden HDCAM 1080i/25
- Westart Meisterwerke 40 episodes, 5 minutes HDCAM 1080i/25
- Rendezvous mit dem Tod: Kennedy und Castro Documentary for ARD, 90Minuten in co-production with NHK HDCAM 1080p/25 and HDV 1080i/25
- Suche nach dem Glück
  4 episodes, 45 minutes
  HDCAM 1080i/25 and HDV 1080i/25



### Thank You for Your attention