

Musician

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FOR KLAUS HERZOG (Musician)

Your name is Klaus Herzog. You are a once (kind of) famous musician, who is the lead singer of Zur Ümlaut. You are known throughout the world and have more charisma than anyone you have ever met.

You have grown tired of the musician's life and the demands of the road. You are embarking on a new film career, following the path of other former musical icons like Elvis, Frank Sinatra, and Meat Loaf. You have just finished shooting an NYU student film that you plan to use to launch your career. You were thinking of joining the union one of these days (or maybe next year). Frankly, you are so accomplished as a musician, you feel that joining an actor's union might be insulting.

You recently made the acquaintance of Kia Zorn, a relatively inexperienced but very talented filmmaker who has an investor backing her latest film. The movie is about a lawyer or a judge or something, who takes on City Hall. You actually did not read the script, but your agent told you to do it, and you are definitely interested.

You just want to be careful about how much time you will have to commit. ZU is making a bit of a comeback, thanks to some recent TikTok dance videos set to old ZU hits, and you need to put some energy into some tours – just to pay the mortgage(s), of course. And you do not like to be away from your West Hollywood home too long. The film is short, so you figure a couple of weeks ought to be enough. You certainly do not need to be there longer than necessary. It is important that you do not spend too much time on the set, which you heard is in Canada, or something like that.

The money is really the critical thing to you (in addition to the publicity, naturally). You are making about \$2K a week when the band is touring, and you should make something around that amount for any movie with no guarantee of anything – this is an independent film with no distribution deal (no one has bought the rights to show it in theaters or sell DVDs).

There is also no guarantee of publicity at all. But you do want to milk whatever you can out of this project, particularly if it goes big. For example, if the movie is accepted at any film festivals, they ought to fly you there and make sure you have tickets and lots of media exposure. And your name ought to appear in all marketing of the movie – and in the credits maybe even before the movie starts.

Regardless, you really want to land this role. Your agent has suggested hiring an attorney to put together the outline of the deal (and maybe do the final deal eventually). Right now, you just want the major promises locked in – salary, publicity, time commitment – stuff like that.

Before you meet with your attorney, carefully consider what you are looking for in this deal. You are investing your time and treasure in this attorney, and you might as well get your money's worth. Explain to your attorney that you do not need a full deal at this point. Feel free to share whatever information you feel is necessary (without showing anyone this page).

Bottom line is that you need this movie. You do not have any other film projects lined up, and you do not want to leave town without something in place. In fact, you leave for Tokyo later tonight so get whatever deal you can in place. The media will likely ask if you have anything coming up and you really want to be able to answer with something real.

Good luck.