



press release

September 2005

interfilm

21. International Short Film Festival Berlin

From November 1st to 6th, interfilm Berlin is hosting its 21st International Short Film Festival.

Over 3 600 films and videos from 93 countries were sent to Berlin. 500 productions from a variety of genres - drama, animation, documentary, children's films and music clips- will be chosen for competition and special programs. In this way, 'interfilm' Berlin presents a good overview of the latest developments in international short-films. Again this year, over 16 000 guests are awaited by Berlins second-largest film festival. The juries of the various competitions will award a total of 35 000€ in cash and prizes.

Along with the international and the German competitions, a special emphasis is being given to short-film productions from Poland and Sweden. Additional competitions are: 'Shorts for Kids', 'Immaginale', and 'Eject' the long night of unusual films.

International Competition

About 100 films compete for the interfilm Short Awards in the categories: best film, best animation, best camera, best documentary, and best film against violence and intolerance. The prizes are awarded by an international jury.

German Competition

For the third time, the German competition offers homegrown productions their own forum. From amongst the mostly independently produced entries, the jury will chose the winner of the 'interfilm Short Awards' in the category German short-film.

KuKi – children's and youths' short-film festival

In the competition KuKi (shorts for kids), a jury of kids will award the prize for best children's film. In addition, the kids program also focuses on Poland and Sweden; an assortment of films from the Youth Media Festival 2004 will be screened; Berndt Güntzel-Lingner from the federal film board will speak with kids about film content and techniques.

Over the holidays, a workshop was held in which kids shot their own films which will also be shown at the festival.

Country focus: Poland, Sweden and Spain

In this year of German-Polish friendship, interfilm Berlin presents an extensive program with films from Poland. Alongside three programs with current short-films, the public will be treated to a retrospective on polish animation films. The internationally respected directors Piotr Dumal and Zbigniew Rybczynski will be presented.

Short-film productions from Sweden will be shown in three double –mixed programs.

In two special programs, current shorts from Spain will be shown.

Eject

From amongst the most unusual entries this year, the public will again have the chance to vote for their favorite at Eject- the long night of weird and wonderful films- in the Volksbühne and party in the Roter Salon.

Immaginale

The Immaginale presents short-films from Italy and forms ist own competition. In the last four years the Immaginale has established itself as a permanent part of the interfilm Berlin short-film festival. The prize is supplied by the Associazione Culturale Lavori in Corso e.V.

Special Programs

ICONS

A special program is dedicated to the British filmmakers **Phil Mulloy** and **Vera Neubauer**. Amongst others, seven new episodes of Phil Mulloy's 'The Christies' will be premiered.

A retrospective dedicated to the heroes of Italian animation will include films from Roberto Catani and Bruno Bozzetto, whose most famous creation is **Signor Rossi**.

LOCAL HEROES

An **Otto Sander Special** shows short films from the years 1964-2005 in which this actor from Berlin has participated.

CREAM OF THE CROP

The **Waltzing St. Kilda** program shows a variety of Australian short films from the St. Kilda Short-Film Festival in Melbourne which give an insight to the issues with which filmmakers down under are dealing.

A selection of French animated films from the latest **Rencontres Audiovisuelles de Lille** will be shown in a special program.

Short films from all over Europe that have been given an Oscar will be shown in the **Oscars for Europe** program.

The highlights of the international short-film festival in the Berlin underground will be shown in **The Best of Going Underground**; with live music.

In **Short Matters 05**, two programs present the nominees for the European short film prize.

DIGITAL TRACKS

Collages with music, pictures and animation will be shown in the special program **Clipped Music and Animation**

The programs **a-side** and **b-side** show a selection of legendary music videos from directors Anton Corbin, Mark Romanek, Stephan Sednaoui, and Jonathan Glazer, who has released the Directors Label in four compilations.

interfilm+

Documentary films that are on the borderline of this genre, are presented in **Reality Bites**. Cliches, bizarre characters, and events represented in a documentary style, bring up the question of what a documentary film actually is.

Construction Sights looks at architecture in film.

Animation trends from Asia are the focus of **AsiAnima**.

In addition, an in-house experimental film program is planned to be shown in the Play_Gallery

Forum

The film program will be accompanied by podium discussions and lectures with international guests.

Representatives from film and media from Poland, Germany, Sweden, Great Britain, and Italy report on the current state of short film production in their countries. These discussions will be held in the Instituto Cervantes.

A further event will deal with perspectives in German-Polish cultural exchange.

After the success of the Siemens mobile MicroMovie Award 2004, interfilm Berlin and Siemens will join in the presentation of a new format this year. The festival magazine Blue News was exclusively designed for the coming festival. Festival guests can load the magazine for free, onto their mobile phone, over a Bluetooth sender.

Along with micromovies from past competitions, portraits and background information, there will be a daily micromovie session in which clips taken by filmmakers during the festival will be shown.

www.micromovie-award.com



Events

The opening of the 21st Short-film Festival is on November 1st at 19.30 (7pm) in the Haus der Kulturen der Welt.

The festival winds up on November 6th with the award presentations in the cinema Babylon, Berlin, Mitte.

KinoBerlino has organized a daily production laboratory in which films can be produced and then shown in the evening in 'Cabaret-Atmosphäre'.

Nisi Masa, the European young filmmakers' network, will choose the winner of the international screenplay competition 2005, the theme is 'silence'. The jury is composed of 32 youths from 16 countries. Their host is a Nisi Masa member: film school Filmarche e.V. with special guest Dani Levy.

Parties

In the "Roter Salon" in the Volksbühne, there will be a daily program showing clips with music, images, animation and multimedia; and lectures with film examples. After the presentations the Salon will open for a nightly party with DJs, dancing and open –end bar. The wrap-up party will be in the Volksbühne on Saturday November 5th 2005.

Distribution

The monthly short-film series , Shorts Attack!' has become established in the Berlin cultural agenda, and is pleased that the audience is growing. Under the title interfilm inside, with the new distribution program 'Ostfront-Westfront' a selection of films from the last festival and a DVD-release will be presented. interfilm Berlin offers guests in the film trade and journalists, access to a special film market in the small Festsaal in the Hackesche Höfe.

event venues

Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Kino Babylon Berlin:Mitte, Hackesche Höfe Filmtheater, Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, Roter Salon, Acud Kino, Instituto Cervantes, Play_Gallery.

www.interfilm.de

interfilm Berlin is sponsored by the Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg and the Media Program of the European Union.

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