



interfilm Berlin presents:

24th International Short Film Festival Berlin 4 – 9 November 2008

KUKI – 1st International Short Film Festival for Children and Youth Berlin 2 – 9 November 2008



22 September 2008

P R E S S R E L E A S E

From **4 – 9 November**, the **International Short Film Festival Berlin** will present a selection of contemporary international short film productions for the 24th time.

From more than 3,500 entries and over 90 countries, 500 short films will be shown at the festival in genres as diverse as live-action, documentary, children's film, animation, experimental, music clips and ads. In addition to eight competition sections and numerous special programmes, legendary festival events and enthralling industry talks, there are a lot of new highlights to discover at this year's interfilm Short Film Festival.

First of all, **KUKI – the 1st International Short Film Festival for Children and Youth Berlin** will kick-off early on **2 November** with a big opening party. A sure highlight at the opening event will be the premiere of the short film that was made by children, using the winning story from the "Kinder machen Kurzfilm" ("Kids Make Shorts") film project. The KUKI festival invites you to enjoy eight days of competition films, special programmes and extra foreign language programmes in English and Spanish!

At the **country focus programmes**, the 24th International Short Film Festival Berlin puts the spotlight on the impressive short film scenes of **Mexico** and the **Basque Region**, both of which are currently receiving lots of positive attention on the international film festival circuit.

Capture Motion! is the title of an extra festival focus which concentrates on dance, choreography and performance in four programmes. **Charlie Todd**, the New York artist and founder of "Improv Everywhere", will present his playfully provocative public-space missions, both on screen and live. The award winning work of **Miranda Pennell** will be honoured with a retrospective and we are pleased to announce that Pennell will also be introducing her films in person at the festival.

The first competition for short films for and from the internet will be launched this year: "**forward – international viral video award**". Both the audience and a specialist jury will be awarding prizes to the best films with a message from the internet.

LOCATIONS

Babylon Berlin:Mitte, Hackesche Höfe Filmtheater, Volksbühne at Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, Roter Salon in the Volksbühne, Movimiento in Kreuzberg, Neue Kant Kinos in Charlottenburg, Instituto Cervantes in Mitte, Club Scala in Friedrichstraße.

interfilm Berlin is supported by [Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg](#) and the [EU Media Programm](#).

The following pages contain an outline of the festival programme and dates of the most important events.

We're happy to send you preview material or more detailed programme information, just contact us. You'll find further information at www.interfilm.de.

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**COMPETITION PROGRAMMES****International Competition**

The festival centrepiece where approximately 80 films compete for Short Awards, given by an international jury in the categories of Best Film, Best Animation and Best Live-action.

German Competition

Take a diverse and revealing trip through German culture in pictures and words. The two Best German Short films will each be awarded a prize.

Short Film Competition for Children and Youth KUKI

Two separate juries consisting of children and youth each get to choose a Best Film from a terrific selection of animation and live-action films.

Short Documentary

Not only do documentaries open our eyes to other worlds, they also make us aware of the extraordinary in our everyday surroundings. A specialist jury will select the Best Documentary.

Confrontations

The causes and effects of war, terrorism and discrimination are generally themes that most people like to avoid, especially in the cinema. However, the films selected to run in this programme should not be ignored. The Best Film against Violence and Intolerance will be chosen by a jury of filmmakers, journalists and politicians.

Forward – International Viral Video Award

Never before seen at a film festival! Viral internet films with an advertising, political or simply original message, packed together and judged by both a specialist jury and the audience.

eject! Audience Competition

The Long Night of the Unexpected has become a cult event in its own right! For the eleventh time, the weirdest and most wonderful film festival entries compete for the audience's favour, on the night when the entire audience (ca. 800 people) is the jury. After the interactive live-show, die-hard eject fans can keep on partying in Roten Salon.

Focus On ...

The impressive short film productions of Mexico and the Basque Region will be highlighted in this year's country focus programmes. **Mexico** is not only home to the most diverse and interesting of South American film industries, Mexican films are also currently doing well at all of the big international film festivals. The 24th International Short Film Festival Berlin will present a mix of Mexican short films from both established greats and exciting newcomers.

Short films from the autonomous **Basque Region** are among the absolute highlights of Spanish cinema. Popular with international audiences for their distinction and virtuoso storytelling, it should come as no surprise to learn that films from the Spanish Basque Region have won numerous film awards and two Oscar-nominations to date.

SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

The four **Capture Motion!** programmes at the 24th International Short Film Festival Berlin, concentrate on short films that revolve around performance, dance and choreography. **Charlie Todd**, New York artist and founder of "Improv Everywhere", can be seen both on-screen and live, presenting the playfully provocative missions that he sets-up in public spaces. Indeed his success has proved so contagious that new like-minded groups have formed all over the world.

The dancer and filmmaker **Miranda Pennell** has been honoured with a retrospective and will also be present at the festival to introduce her award-winning 'camera-performances' in person.

This festival feature is rounded-off by "**Set In Motion**", a collection of international dance film highlights and "**Feel Good with Bollywood**", choreographed dance-clips from Bollywood productions.

Further special programmes: Reality Bites Wacky and would-be documentaries / **Cortitos** Shorts from Spain and Latin America / **Immaginale** Bella Sicilia / **Shocking Shorts** A real scream / **Music videos** German, international and contemporary / **Clip it!** Animation & Music/ **Prix UIP 2008** Award-winning shorts from Europe / And **Berlin Beats** is a collection of Berlin productions that feature Berlin in the starring role.

The **interfilm Academy** offers daily panels, lectures and workshops with professional filmmakers and media experts. Companies and film schools from Berlin and the surrounding area will present themselves at the **Industry Day** in Instituto Cervantes, and at the same address, filmmakers, students and those starting out in the media business can mingle and network in a relaxed atmosphere at the **Industry Brunch**.

PARTIES / EVENTS / DATES

KUKI OPENING MATINÉE

Official opening of the 1st International Short Film Festival for Children and Youth Berlin

Sunday 2 November / 3pm / Babylon Berlin:Mitte

INTERFILM FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT

Official start of the 24th International Short Film Festival Berlin

Tuesday 4 Nov. / 9pm / Volksbühne at Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz
from 12 midnight / Opening party in Roten Salon

FESTIVAL LOUNGE

Wednesday 5 Nov. – Friday 7 Nov. / from 11pm / Roter Salon in the Volksbühne

7:30pm + 9:30pm daily special programmes

EJECT – THE LONG NIGHT OF THE UNEXPECTED

Friday 7 Nov. / from 11pm / Volksbühne at Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz
followed by the EJECT party in Roten Salon

FESTIVAL PARTY

Saturday 8 Nov. / from 10:30pm / Club Scala, Friedrichstraße 112a, Berlin-Mitte

Live Act & DJs downstairs / Latin flavours in the Mexico-Lounge

INTERFILM ACADEMY

Wednesday 5 Nov. – Sunday 9 Nov. / daily panels, lectures and workshops with media experts and professional filmmakers.

Saturday 8 Nov. / from 10am / Industry Day & Brunch

Companies and schools present themselves; filmmakers, students and those starting out in the media business get to mingle and network.

AWARDS CEREMONY

Sunday 9 Nov. / 7:30pm / Babylon Berlin:Mitte

from 10pm: Wrapping-up and winding-down in Roten Salon

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PRESENTING OUTSTANDING FILMS. **SHORT.**