



The **TEDDY AWARD** is being presented for the 20th time on 17 February 2006 at the Berlin International Film Festival.

Over the past 19 years of its existence it has become an important and respected emancipation award.

One of the world's exemplary events is celebrating its 20th anniversary at the Berlin International Film Festival: the **TEDDY – QUEER FILM AWARD**. Once again the international gay-lesbian film scene will meet for a great get-together. And with the political impulses provided here in Berlin, cultural activities are encouraged around the world, not least in societies where even today homosexuals are denied the right to live their lives.

The Berlinale is celebrating the TEDDY's twentieth birthday with a programme of 36 films from the past years: the **TEDDY TWENTY TRIBUTE**. And from this year's Berlinale sections another 36 films are competing for the 20th TEDDY AWARDS.

The winners will be picked by the independent **TEDDY jury**. Co-director of the renowned Toronto International Film Festival **Noah Cowan** will preside over the jury. In addition to having worked as producer, curator and programme planner, he was active in the Global Film Initiative, which promotes films from the Third World. The jury has eight more members, all of whom are organizers and representatives of gay-lesbian film festivals from different parts of the world: former landmark festival director Klaus Waigand from Germany; Polish festival organizer Jennifer Ramme; founder and director of the successful Outsiders Liverpool Lesbian & Gay Film Festival Matthew Fox; Katrin Kremmler from Budapest; Out in Africa and Encounters' director Nodi Murphy from Cape Town; founder of Q! Film Festival John Badalu from Indonesia; and Gary Mak, co-organizer of the Hong Kong Lesbian & Gay Film Festival; as well as Kim Yutani from Outfest in Los Angeles.

TEDDY Twenty – Award Ceremony

This year's TEDDY Awards will be presented not far from the Potsdamer Platz, in one of the most exciting venues in Berlin, the legendary E-Werk.

Hosts of the **TEDDY Twenty – Award Ceremony** are Panorama's conceptual team: Margaret von Schiller and Wieland Speck.

Aside from focusing on the nominees and winners in the categories Short Film, Feature Film and Documentary/Essay Film, special attention will go to the current situation of queers in Poland as well as to AIDS in South Africa. Guests and presenters, including Oscar-winners, will be among those speaking. Surprises are certain!

The event will be accompanied by music performed by the delightful Sicilian Etta Scollo and her ensemble, New York's loveliest opera queen Shequida, and the explosive lady power of Germany's Venusbrass marching band. German-American virtuoso violinist David Garrett will also provide brilliant

56. Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin
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TEDDY 2006 in Kooperation mit den
56. Internationalen Filmfestspielen Berlin

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Die TEDDY Awards sind eine Produktion
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TEDDY e.V.



classical interludes at the **TEDDY Twenty**.

Further guests include: Peggy Rajski, Rosa von Praunheim, Oliver Ducastel and Jacques Martineau, Jochen Hick, Nathalie Percillier, Constantine Giannaris, Giovanni Minerba, Suzy Capó, Matthias Freihof, James Mackay, among others.

TEDDY Party

In the mood for more? In the atmosphere of the E-Werk's industrial architecture, there'll be a party after the award ceremony: the **TEDDY Twenty PARTY**, guaranteed to be amusing and very cutting-edge. On two dance floors, six DJ masters will provide a continuous stream: Divinity, Superzandy, Zoe, ChrissT, Kenny Dee and Monique. And as if this were not enough: to the beats of the music, a VJ team will project moving images on the walls, images from the twenty-year history of the **TEDDY** – a true thrill for the senses. Let's celebrate!

Good morning... QUEER ACADEMY!

The three-day "talk & brunch" series at the Homebase will be opened by Ido Abram, director of the Binger Film Institute in Amsterdam, under the title "Queer Cinema in the 21st Century". This will be followed on the next day by a talk by Björn Koll from Edition Salzgeber on the chances of "digital production & digital distribution". The series will close by kicking off another **TEDDY** idea: the **QUEER ACADEMY**. Based on over 570 **TEDDY** films since 1987, their contents and political themes, as well as contributions by and about the filmmakers, the **QUEER ACADEMY** will establish a collective digital memory for queer cinema.

You are cordially invited to join us: from Tuesday, February 14 through Thursday, February 16, beginning each day at 11 a.m. at the Homebase Independent Lounge, Köthener Str. 44.

TEDDY on TV

RBB, February 18, from 11:30 p.m. to 0:30 a.m.
ARTE, February 19, from 5 to 6 p.m.

Cash Prizes and Partners

With the support of the following sponsors, it has once again been possible for **TEDDY e.V.** to endow each of this year's prizes with 3,000 euros:

- **TEDDY for Best Short Film** – donated by Berliner Pilsner
- **TEDDY for Best Documentary/Essay Film** – donated by the gay-lesbian organization elledorado e.V., Berlin
- **TEDDY for Best Feature Film** – with contributions from a number of donators affiliated with **TEDDY e. V.**

Press and Accreditation

For the Award Ceremony special personal accreditation is required. The application form is available under "Press" at www.teddyaward.org



For further details please contact Björn Pätz, presse@teddyaward.org, tel.: +49 (0)179 75 86 637.

More information on the queer films screening in the different Berlinale sections can also be found at www.teddyaward.org and at www.teddyaward.tv. Further details can be obtained from the individual *Competition*, *Panorama*, *Forum*, *Kinderfilmfest/ 14 plus* and *Perspektive Deutsches Kino* contacts for the press.

We are looking forward to your comprehensive reports!