Press Release

German Star Ensemble to Open *Generation Kplus* Competition

Many stars have announced they are coming to the opening of the *Generation Kplus* competition at 3:30 pm on Friday, February 6: actors Moritz Bleibtreu, Christiane Paul and Uwe Ochsenknecht, along with young leads Karl Alexander Seidel, Steve-Marvin Dwumah, Amrita Cheema, and director Lars Büchel, will all stroll up the red carpet at the Zoo Palast to celebrate the world premiere of *Lippels Traum* (*Lippel's Dream*). Paul Maar, who wrote the book on which the film is based, as well as Konstantin Wecker, who composed the film score, are both expected to come as well.

The *Generation 14plus* Opening will also take place on February, 6, in the Babylon cinema at 7:30 pm. *Unmade Beds*, the latest work of Alexis Dos Santos, will kick off the competition. The director and his leading actors Fernando Tielve, Déborah François, Michiel Huisman and Iddo Goldberg will attend the screening.

Over 120 directors and their leads are expected to come to the Festival for the premieres of their films in *Generation*. Up-and-coming star Rupert Grint, famous for his role as Ron Weasley in the screen adaptations of *Harry Potter*, will be coming to the Berlinale for the world premiere of the British film *Cherrybomb* (Glenn Leyburn, Lisa Barros D'Sa).

In *Generation*, the Children's Jury and the Youth Jury pick the winners of the Crystal Bears. In addition, the successful collaboration with the Deutsches Kinderhilfswerk (The German Children's Charity Organisation) will be continued. The DKHW sponsors the 10,000-euro Grand Prix for the best feature and short films in the *Kplus* competition. It is awarded by the section's International Jury, whose five members are: Greg Childs (Great Britain), Petr Koliha (Czech Republic), Stephan Lance (Australia), Dana Nechushtan (The Netherlands) and Roshanak Behest Nedjad (Germany).

A team of about 30 Young Journalists will provide daily coverage of the *Generation* films and guests. Their latest reviews, reports and interviews, in both German and English, will be posted online at: www.jungejournalisten.berlinale.de.

Press Office February 2, 2009

To download the complete *Generation Kplus* and *14plus* programme, go to: <u>http://www.berlinale.de/en/das_festival/festival-sektionen/generation/index.html</u>



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