

Press Release

51. Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin • 7.-18. Februar 2001



Berlinale Presents International Jury

The International Jury of the 51st Berlin International Film Festival comprises the Following Members:

President: William M. Mechanic (USA)

As head of 20th Century Fox Filmed Entertainment from 1993 to 2000, Bill Mechanic was responsible for the production of such film hits as *William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet* (Berlinale 1996), *The Thin Red Line* (Golden Bear, 1999) and the most successful motion picture of all time, James Cameron's *Titanic*. Bill Mecanic is also a film professor at USC.

Fatih Akin (Germany)

The Hamburg born director Fatih Akin attracted attention with his feature debut *Kurz und schmerzlos* ("Short Sharp Shock"). His second film, *Im Juli* ("In July"), repeated this success. Akin is also a highly demanded actor.

Dario Argento (Italy)

The grand master of European horror started his career in the 1960s as a film critic and screenplay author before taking to the director's chair with *L'Uccello dalle piume di cristallo* ("The Bird With Crystal Plumage", 1969). He has since established himself as an iconoclastic genre stylist.

Hector Babenco (Brazil)

The director had his international breakthrough with films such as *Pixote* (1981) or *Corazón Iluminado* ("Foolish Heart", 1998). *Kiss of the Spiderwoman* (1985), a fourtime Oscar nominee, paved his way to Hollywood.

Jacqueline Bisset (Great Britain)

Throughout her career Jacqueline Bisset has worked with such renowned directors as Truffaut, Lumet and Polanski. Claude Chabrol's *La cérémonie* ("Judgement in Stone") marks one of her recent European films.

Dominique Blanc (France)

As an actress she is committed to both film and theatre. She is a three time César winner for Best Supporting Actress, in Louis Malle's *Milou en mai* (1989), Régis Wargnier's *Indochine* (1992) and Patrice Chéreau's *Ceux qui m'aiment prendront le train* ("Those who love me can take the train", 1998).

Diego Galán (Spain)

The Moroccan-born writer has distinguished himself as a critic and author of several monographies on Spanish cinema. He headed the San Sebastián Film Festival from 1986 to 89 and from 1993 to 2000.

Page 1 of 2

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Eine Veranstaltung der
Berliner Festspiele GmbH



Kyoko Hirano (Japan)

As a film historian and curator she has been heading the Japan Society Film Center in New York since 1989; she is considered one of Japanese cinema's most forceful spokespeople and experts.

Xie Fei (China)

As a film director, he was discovered internationally in Berlin with *Ben ming nian* ("Black Snow") awarded with a Silver Bear in 1990 and with *Xian hun nu* ("Women from the Lake of Scented Souls"), awarded with a Golden Bear in 1993. He is also a teacher at the Beijing Film Academy.

Page 2 of 2

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