

Press Release

52. Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin • 6. -17. Februar 2002

International Jury presents the PREMIERE First Movie Award -
Renowned film professionals decide on who is to be awarded prize for best
debut film

The jury for the selection of the PREMIERE First Movie Award has been
fixed. Five renowned film professionals decide on who is to be awarded the
prize for the best debut film, which will be presented to one of the about 30
film submissions on February 17 in Berlin.

Babak Payami (Iran), director, already was a guest of the Berlinale. For his
feature film *Secret Ballot* he received numerous international awards, amongst
them the Silver Lion at the Venice Film Festival 2001.

Kanako Hayashi (Japan) is head of the Tokyo FilmeX Festival and was for
several years advisor to the Berlinale and the Venice Film Festival for their
Asian film selections. Before that she held the position of co-ordinator at the
Kawakita Memorial Film Institute for more than 10 years.

Andrei Plakhov (Russia) was head of the arbitration commission during the
Glasnost era and lifted the ban on more than 300 films which were formerly
prohibited in the Soviet Union. Furthermore he published 33 books world-
wide. Nowadays the former head of programme of the Moscow International
Film Festival is in charge of the film selection for the Sochi International Film
Festival.

Sigrid Hoerner (Germany) founded the Berlin film production company
Money Penny together with the director Martin Walz and Anne Leppin.
Among their feature films are *Unknown Friend* and *Friends*, the latter of
which was awarded the Producer Prize at the Cologne Conference 2001.

Renée Soutendijk (Netherlands) became internationally known as an actress
with her films directed by Paul Verhoeven and Krystof Zanussi. With the
thriller *Out of Order* she achieved one of her early successes in 1984, next
to her co-stars Götz George and Hannes Jaenicke.

The PREMIERE First Movie Award will be presented for the first time at the
52nd Berlin International Film Festival. The award presentation takes place
on February 17, during the official closing ceremony of the Berlinale. In the
competition for the talent award are submissions from the sections
Competition, Forum, Panorama, German Cinema Perspective and Children's
Film.

PREMIERE WORLD will show a live broadcast of the award ceremony



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Eine Veranstaltung der
Berliner Festspiele GmbH

without encoding at 18:30 hrs on the channels PREMIERE MOVIE 2 and
PREMIERE ANALOG (21:50 hrs).

28 January 2002