

Press Release



56. Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
9. – 19.02.2006

Press Office

Potsdamer Straße 5
10785 Berlin

Tel. +49 30 259 20 707
Fax +49 30 259 20 799

press@berlinale.de
www.berlinale.de

World Cinema Fund presents new projects for funding

“The *World Cinema Fund* is undeniably turning the Berlinale into a place where things take off, not just a place to go” remarked Argentinian director Ariel Rotter about this new film funding institution. Set up in autumn 2004, its establishment has drawn a large and positive response internationally. Following a successful first round, over 100 entries were submitted for the second round of selection. At the jury meeting on 21 June 2005, five recommendations were announced for funding the production of projects and one for funding its distribution. The jury members include independent distributor Isabelle Dubar (France), curator Keith Shiri (Zimbabwe/England), Swiss Television programme coordinator Alberto Chollet (Switzerland) and Berlinale director Dieter Kosslick.

The following projects have been recommended:

Production funding:

Las Vidas Posibles, directed by Sandra Gugliotta (Argentina), Fieber Film
60,000 €

Feature film / One day Luciano departs as usual on a business trip to the south – and disappears. Distressed by his absence, his wife sets out in search of him. She finds a man who looks like Luciano, but he seems not to recognize her. A poetic story about dreams, hopes and pain, and the ambivalence of reality.

El Custodio (The Minder), directed by Rodrigo Moreno (Argentina), Pandora Film
40,000 €

Feature film / It's Ruben's job to guard an important minister: he must shadow and protect him in his public and private life. He lives with this politician as if

Ein Geschäftsbereich der
Kulturveranstaltungen des
Bundes in Berlin (KBB) GmbH

Management:

Dieter Kosslick
(Intendant Internationale
Filmfestspiele Berlin),
Dr. Thomas Köstlin
(Kaufmännischer Geschäftsführer),
Dr. Hans-Georg Knopp,
Dr. Joachim Sartorius

Vorsitzende des Aufsichtsrats:
Dr. Christina Weiss

Handelsregister: Amtsgericht
Charlottenburg Nr. 96 HRB 29357
USt ID DE 136 78 27 46



Press Release

he were a member of the family, but has neither the privileges nor intimacy. The film depicts a conflict between two worlds, and the distance which prevails despite all proximity.

Hamaca Paraguaya, directed by Paz Encina (Paraguay), CMW Film
30,000 €

Feature film / In a remote place in rural Paraguay, Candida and Ramon wait for their son to return – even though they suspect that he is probably no longer alive. They are part of the nature surrounding them, as was their son who once belonged to this landscape and life. Their waiting has gradually become a state outside time and reality – an extremely human and poignant story.

Atos dos Homens, directed by Kiko Goifman (Brazil),
MilColoresMedia/Cachoeira Films
25,000 €

Documentary film / Kiko Goifman consistently examines the topic of violence in his film. *Atos dos Homens* focuses on five victims who survived massacres in the favelas which were for the most part instigated by the police.

Zion and His Brother, directed by Eran Merav (Israel), Norma Productions
40,000 €

Feature film / Twelve-year-old Zion and his seventeen-year-old brother Meir live alone with their mother Ilana, who dreams of a better life. Zion is a passionate soccer player in a youth team, but after his new shoes are stolen, he is banned from the field. When he discovers that Salomon, the son of Ethiopian immigrants has his shoes, he goes to his big brother for help. The dispute escalates and leads to a tragic accident...

Distribution funding:

Bombón, directed by: Carlos Sorin (Argentina), Alamode Film
7,500 €

Feature film / Juan is unemployed and has to live with his daughter, even though he is not actually welcome there. He keeps his head above water as best he can by selling knives which he makes himself. He has lost all hope that his life will ever get any better. But then suddenly, when he becomes the owner of a valuable dog – a Dogo Argentino – , everything seems to change...

The *World Cinema Fund* supports film projects from countries whose film industry is hardly developed or whose existence is endangered by political or economic crises.



Press Release

The WCF focuses on funding the production and distribution of films from Latin America, the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa. The objective is to promote film production as well as film distribution from these regions in Germany.

The *World Cinema Fund* brings together German producers and foreign partners in the regions designated for support: recipients are German producers who collaborate with foreign directors and producers on their projects.

The next deadline for submissions of entries is August 5, 2005. For more information, go to www.berlinale.de

The *World Cinema Fund* is initiated by the **German Federal Cultural Foundation** (Kulturstiftung des Bundes) and the **Berlin International Film Festival** in cooperation with the **Goethe Institut**.



Press Office
June 29, 2005