

Press Release



The World in Miniature: Short Films in the *Competition* and *Panorama*

Unlike any other cinema genre, short films allow for the unexpected – they are often more willing to take risks and more eccentric than full-length feature films. This year's *Competition* with ten films offers a wide spectrum of themes and genres: political films are to be screened alongside personal works, classic dramatizations next to animations and documentaries.

The International Short Film Jury awards the main prizes for *Competition* short films: the Golden Bear for Best Short Film and the Jury Prize – Silver Bear. On the jury are three international personalities whose work involves the short film genre.

This same jury also awards prizes in the *Panorama* section. One of the 23 short films screening in this year's programme will be singled out for the Panorama Short Film Award. In 2006, for the first time, the International Short Film Jury will also select a *Panorama* film for the DAAD Short Film Award, which comes with a three-month scholarship for the director and project support funded by the "Artists-in-Berlin programme" of the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service).

Endowed with 2,000 euros, the International Short Film Jury also awards the Prix UIP to the best European short film in the *Competition* and *Panorama*. The winner is automatically nominated for the European Film Award.

These awards will be presented to the winners on February 14 at 8 p.m. in Babylon (Mitte), where all their films will be screened again.

The Short Film Jury 2006:

Jung-Wan Oh (producer, Republic of Korea)

Korean producer Jung-Wan Oh has collaborated on some of South Korea's most successful films. In 1999 she launched her own company, bom film productions, a year later she was honoured by the Korean Women's Film Festival as "most notable woman of the year". She has participated in the Berlinale with a number of productions, including *Tears* (*Panorama* 2001) and *A Tale Of Two Sisters* (*Forum* 2003).

Mariela Besuievsky (producer, Spain)

With *Only Human* (*Seres queridos*, 2004), Spanish film producer Mariela Besuievsky scored a huge international success. Since 1995 she has worked for

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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

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

Management:

Dieter Kosslick
(Intendant Internationale
Filmfestspiele Berlin),
Dr. Thomas Köstlin
(Kaufmännischer Geschäftsführer),
Dr. Bernd Scherer,
Dr. Joachim Sartorius

Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats:
Bernd Neumann

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



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Tornasol Films in Madrid. As producer, she collaborated on Manuel Gutiérrez Aragón's *La vida que te espera (Your Next Life)*, Ken Loach's *Ae Fond Kiss* as well as Eric Rohmer's *Triple Agent*.

Florian Gallenberger (director, Germany)

His graduation film for the Munich Academy for Television and Film took home the highest of awards: *Quiero Ser (I Want To Be...)* won an Oscar for Best Short Film in 2001. For his first full-length feature, *Schatten der Zeit (Shadows of Time, Berlinale Special 2005)*, Florian Gallenberger received the Bavarian Film Award.

Short Film Competition

- *Aldrig Som Första Gangen! (Never Like The First Time!)* by Jonas Odell, Sweden
- *Beyond Freedom* by Jacquie Trowell, South Africa
- *Cotopaxi* by Zachariah Copping, Great Britain
- *El Día Que Morí (The Day I Died)* by Maryam Keshavarz, Argentina/USA
- *Gratte-Papier (Penpusher)* by Guillaume Martinez, France
- *Head Shot* by Dennis Heaton, Canada
- *Hold Please* by Chris Cudlipp, Australia/USA
- *Kami Balatar (A Little Bit Higher)* by Mehdi Jafari, Iran
- *Our Man in Nirvana* by Jan Koester, Germany
- *Ūdens, (Water)* Laila Pakalnina, Latvia

The *Berlinale* is presenting 56 shorts films in all. The short film programmes of the different sections will be complemented this year by the short film reels of the Teddy Twenty Tribute.

On February 16, the Short Film Night will be held at CinemaxX 3. Films from the *Competition, Panorama, Kinderfilmfest/14plus* and *Forum* will be shown.

Press Office
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