

## Press Release



### **Berlinale 2007: Eat, Drink, See Movies- Celebrating Culinary Cinema**

With *Eat, Drink, See Movies – Celebrating Culinary Cinema*, the 57<sup>th</sup> Berlin International Film Festival will present a new series of movies and events revolving around the topic of film, food and enjoyment.

From February 11 to 15, 2007, feature, documentary and short films on culinary themes will be screened daily at 7:30 and 10 p.m. in the Martin Gropius Bau movie theatre. The programme will include a number of premieres. Following a first showing in the *Berlinale Special* series, Doris Dörrie's *How to Cook Your Life*, about Zen chef Edward Brown, will be presented during *Culinary Cinema*. "Cooks are there to transform ingredients into delicious dishes", says Berlinale director Dieter Kosslick, "and to enchant people with their art – not unlike directors and actors with their films."

These culinary cinema delights will continue at dinners as well as at discussions with the public. The Berlinale will also open a restaurant on the south side of the Martin Gropius Bau: the "Gropius Mirror" – in a 1920s tent lined with mirrors. During the day the restaurant will be accessible to *European Film Market* visitors and everyone else with accreditation to the Berlinale.

In the evenings, the "Gropius Mirror" will be the venue of *Eat, Drink, See Movies – Celebrating Culinary Cinema* events. Presented by Alfred Biölek, one of Germany's top cooking-show hosts, filmmakers, gastronomical experts and others interested in culture and the arts will explore the creative, hedonistic and political relationship of film and food. Otto Geisel, chairman of Slow Food Germany, who was recently ranked best restaurateur in the 2007 Gault Millau Guide for Germany, provided the gastronomical concept, according to which five celebrated Berlin chefs have created dishes to fit the themes of the films.

Michael Hoffmann (Margaux) will take inspiration from Yoji Yamada's *Bushi no ichibun (Love and Honour)* and cook Japanese. The latest work of renowned director Yamada will open the *Panorama* section as an international premiere, before it will be shown in the *Culinary Cinema* programme. Bobby Bräuer (Brandenburger Hof) will smoke turkey to fit Taggart Siegel's documentation *The Real Dirt on Farmer John*. Inspired by Doris Dörrie, Thomas Kammeier (Hugos) will make saffron barley, while Kolja Kleeberg (VAU) will cook *Andalusian Dog* in homage of the cinematic art of Antonio Saura and José Luis López-Linares, who will be screening a "work in progress". Last but not least, along the lines of *Sideways*, Stuart Pigott will present three "wild winegrowers" from Germany; to complete the picture, Tim Raue (Restaurant 44) will braise ox cheeks in Chardonnay.

Internationale  
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After last year's *Berlinale Talent Campus, Eat, Drink, See Movies – Celebrating Culinary Cinema* is again teaming up with Slow Food, a non-profit international organization founded in 1989 that stands for sustainable production, fair trade and, of course, tasty ingredients. Slow Food chairman Carlo Petrini will participate in a discussion about Slow Food's principles: "good, clean and fair". The Berlinale is also collaborating with the German Academy for Culinary Studies in Baden-Württemberg, which does scientific research on nutrition and culture.

The Berlinale's *Culinary Cinema* series will conclude on February 16 with the topic of school meals. Richard Linklater's film *Fast Food Nation* will be shown as a German premiere to Berlin pupils, who will be able to explore the topic of food in schools filmically and gastronomically.

As Thomas Struck, head of *Eat, Drink, See Movies – Celebrating Culinary Cinema*, explains: "We'll be presenting 'cinema for the palate', because both film and food stand for pleasure, tastiness and spirit. If you want to enjoy, you have to be able to taste and know how taste evolves; otherwise you could easily lose your appetite."

Advance ticket sales start on January 18, 2007 at all box offices affiliated with Ticketonline. For further information, please go to:  
[http://www.berlinale.de/en/das\\_festival/special\\_presentations/uebersicht\\_special\\_presentations/index.html](http://www.berlinale.de/en/das_festival/special_presentations/uebersicht_special_presentations/index.html)

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