

Press Release



Perspektive Deutsches Kino: Documentary Pool Of Princesses from Bettina Blümner wins "Dialogue en perspective"

The young French-German jury of TV5MONDE and the French-German Youth Office (FGYO) presents the independent jury prize for the fourth time running

As part of the award ceremony of the independent jury prizes of the Berlinale, a young French-German jury today presented the "Dialogue en perspective" to the film ***Pool Of Princesses*** from Bettina Blümner. In 2004, the jury was initiated by the French television station TV5MONDE, together with the international film festival, and is now awarding the prize for the fourth time round in cooperation with the FGYO to a film from the section "Perspektive Deutsches Kino".

The seven German and French jury members between the ages of 18 and 29 and head of the jury Mathilde Bonnefoy, who won the 1999 Deutscher Filmpreis (German Film Prize) as editor of the cult film ***Run Lola Run***, watched all entries of the Berlinale section ***Perspektive Deutsches Kino*** from a young and intercultural viewpoint. The jury's favourite film was ultimately ***Pool Of Princesses***, and this was due to the following: "The price goes to a documentary which shows the poetry of everyday-life. The film touches the intimacy and the nature of its protagonists in a way that bears down the distance of the strange reality."

A Special Mention goes to a film that ties documentation to fiction: ***Hotel Very Welcome*** by Sonja Heiss shows with an impressive lightness how five characters' personal questions for the meaning of life are reflected in their encounters with a strange country. The two chosen films convince us by their innovative use of narrative means of the documentary and the fictional.

This year, too, when awarding the independent jury prize "Dialogue en perspective" in the section ***Perspektive Deutsches Kino***, TV5MONDE and the FGYO once again focused on the cineastic dialogue between young Germans and French. "This is a wonderful opportunity for TV5MONDE, with a young jury at a world-famous film festival, to stimulate French-German dialogue as well as the intercultural exchange on German film. Such a commitment, which also completely focuses on youth, is very important for us as an international television station. The closeness to the general public and to our viewers is one of the priorities as part of our station's profile, and gives TV5MONDE the opportunity to secure itself a permanent position in the German media landscape. This plan corresponds to both our annual partnership with the Berlinale, as well as our programme schedule throughout the year in which we aim to introduce German viewers to French film by means of targeted subtitling. This commitment is reflected by our young jury, which in turn takes a partly very French look at German cinema", explains Fabrice Grandhomme, Managing Director TV5MONDE.

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The General Secretaries of the FGYO, Dr Eva Sabine Kuntz and Max Claudet: "This year too, there was a very intensive exchange between the German and the French members of the jury: on film techniques, contents, scripts, direction and actors. Heated disputes and passionate discussions showed that German film offers a great deal of food for thought, and opens up new perspectives for the dialogue of the young cineastes from Germany and France".

The decision was also exciting and very interesting for Alfred Holighaus, head of *Perspektive Deutsches Kino*: "For the second time now, this young award, presented by a young jury, goes to a documentary film. The film centers around young people who show the astonished audience how to turn a troubled urban area into a loveable place worth living in. This opens boundaries – not only within Berlin."

The award-winning film will be shown in autumn 2007 at the German Film Festival in Paris.

Synopsis Pool Of Princesses:

A film about three teenagers - Klara, Mina and Tanutscha - from the Berlin district of Kreuzberg. The trio have known each other since Kindergarten and have plenty in common. The three 15-year-olds are the best of friends; they are spending the summer at Prinzenbad, a large open-air swimming pool at the heart of the district where they live. They're feeling pretty grown up and are convinced they've now left their childhood behind.

Yet when it comes to their personal development and family backgrounds, the lives of these three young girls couldn't be more different. *Prinzessinnenbad* is a film about their search for love and for something to hold on to. It is also about how these girls use their friendships to make up for everything that is so painfully absent from their lives at home.

Their mixture of unadulterated charm and gruff, precocious manner somehow help Klara, Mina and Tanutscha to win respect as they find a way to cut their own path through life.

Synopsis Hotel Very Welcome:

Hotel Very Welcome is a feature film with documentary elements. In four episodes we experience the stories of young travellers in Asia, who have one thing in common: They want to escape their everyday life but do not know what to do with their new freedom and loneliness. A personal and humorous film about a restless generation.



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