



Press Release

Berlinale 2008: *Berlinale Shorts* Presents Programme and Jury 29 short films, including 11 *Competition* entries

The award ceremony for the *Berlinale Shorts* section will be held on February 12. By then the jury, with Romanian producer Ada Solomon, French actor-director Marc Barbé and Germany's talented young actress Laura Tonke, will have seen and evaluated 29 films. Eleven of the films in this programme will be competing for a Golden and a Silver Bear. All the films in the *Berlinale Shorts* section - except for one screening at a special presentation - qualify for the DAAD Short Film Award; European productions will also compete for the Prix UIP for Best European Short Film.

The films selected for the *Berlinale Shorts* couldn't vary more in form and content: experimental animations will screen alongside lyrical experimental films. Documentaries contain staged moments; and staged works, strong moments of undiluted reality. The range of themes is also broad: they deal with love and sex, with life's realities and longings.

"The films are captivating in their simplicity and strength. They give us an inkling of the kind of new filmmakers coming our way and how they aspire to tell stories in new dramatic compositions with imageries all their own," says programme curator Maike Mia Höhne.

One short film made in 1975 will screen out of competition at a special presentation. Serbian director Zelimir Zilnik, who won the Golden Bear in 1969 for *Rani Radovi (Early Works)*, will be presenting his film *Inventar (Inventory)*. The tenants of Metzstr.11 in Munich present themselves and their living circumstances - a highly political film about housing speculation, foreigners in Germany, and a vanished world.

Short Film Jury and Programme:

Marc Barbé (France)

Actor Marc Barbé has worked with France's most eminent directors, including Jaques Rivette, Philippe Grandrieux and Laetitia Masson. In 2007, he appeared in the Berlinale opening film *La mère - La Vie en Rose*. Barbé has also proved his versatility on the stage and in TV productions. As a director Marc Barbé has made a number of short and medium-length films.

**58. Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
07. - 17.02.2008**

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Ada Solomon (Romania)

Film producer Ada Solomon, who comes from Bucharest, has worked with directors such as Christian Mungiu, Christian Nemescu and Razvan Radulescu. In 2003 she founded her own company, HiFilm Productions, which has already produced a number of successful films. In memory of Cristian Nemescu and Andrei Toncu, Ada Solomon also initiated the NexT Cultural Society, which organizes the Bucharest NexT Film Festival.

Laura Tonke (Germany)

Every since her screen debut in Michael Klier's *Ostkreuz*, actress Laura Tonke has ranked as one of Germany's outstanding talents. She has worked with directors such as Tom Tykwer, Dominik Graf and Rudolf Thome. Laura Tonke was nominated for the German Film Award for her role as the terrorist Gudrun Ensslin in the film *Baader*.

Films (*in competition):

Programme 1 (80 min)

**RGB XYZ* by David O'Reilly, Ireland (12'30'')

**Haze* by Anthony Chen, Singapore (14'18'')

**Mompelaar* by Marc Roels and Wim Reygaert, Belgium (22')

Traces by Rachel Zisser, USA (19')

Frankie by Darren Thornton, Ireland (12')

Programme 2 (81 min)

Giganti (Giants) by Fabio Mollo, Italy (24')

Drežnica by Anna Azevedo, Brazil (14')

Three of Us by Umesh Kulkarni, India (14')

Bonne Mère by Maxime Desmons, Canada (3')

**Reise zum Wald (Journey To The Forest)* by Jörn Staeger, Germany (7')

**K* by Piers Thompson, UK (19')

Programme 3 (83 min)



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**Udedh Bun ((Un)ravel)* by Siddharth Sinha, India (21')
**White Horse* by Maryann De Leo and Christophe Bisson, USA (17'20'')
Nightstill by Elke Groen, Austria (9')
Black Cabinet by Christine Rebet, USA (3'04'')
Trip by Harry Wootliff, UK (15')
impermanent by Mario Rizzi, Italy (15')

Programme 4 (75 min)

Inventur-Metzstraße 11 (Inventory) by Zelimir Zilnik, Germany (9')
Kizi Mizi by Mariusz Wilczyński, Poland (20'45'')
**Tommy* by Tora Martens, Sweden (17'50'')
Shooting Geronimo by Kent Monkman, Canada (12')
Teat Beat of Sex: Episodes 8,9,10,11 by Signe Baumane, USA/Italy (7')
Târziu (Late) by Paul Negoescu, Romania (22')

Programme 5 (84 min)

Superficie (Surface) by Rui Xavier, Portugal (13'30'')
**Nadie (No one)* by Belen Blanco, Argentina (16')
**B teme (In the theme)* by Olga Popova, Russian Federation (14')
**O zi bună de plajă (A good day for a swim)* by Bogdan Mustață, Romania (10')
Szmolinsky by Julius Onah, USA (5')
Second Hand Sale by Temur Butikashvili, Georgia (25')

Press Office
January 15, 2008