

Press Release



Berlinale Co-Production Market: “Books at Berlinale” - Film Rights for Ten International Book Titles

Ten book titles have been selected for presentation on February 12 during the *Berlinale Co-Production Market*. Producers interested in the film rights can discuss matters on location with right holders.

Organised by the Berlinale in cooperation with the Frankfurt Book Fair for the third time, the event “Breakfast & Books” enables representatives from publishing houses, literary agents and producers to meet for a pitching session, followed by breakfast together.

These ten titles, which have been picked on the strength of their potential for the screen, will be presented by renowned publishers, such as Diogenes, Grasset & Fasquelle, HarperCollins, Random House and Suhrkamp. A number of the titles are brand new and will be published in the course of the year - this includes “Das Wochenende” (“The Weekend”), a new novel by Bernhard Schlink, whose book “Der Vorleser” (“The Reader”) was a worldwide success and is now being filmed in Germany with an international cast of stars.

The “Books at Berlinale” selection covers a wide range of themes and genres: from terrorism thriller to fantasy novel, from coming-of-age parable to period drama - there will be something for every producer and every budget.

Two of the literary works to be presented this year have been selected in conjunction with the “Kuratorium junger deutscher Film”, which reads the latest books for children and young adults each year, and evaluates their suitability for the screen.

Since autumn 2005, the Berlinale and the Frankfurt Book Fair, two of Germany’s largest cultural and economic affairs, have collaborated on creating a forum for film producers and publishers at both these huge events, and in doing so to promote contacts and long-term synergies between the worlds of literature and film.

The event “Breakfast & Books” has been organized within the scope of the *Berlinale Co-Production Market*, whose main partners are MDM - Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung and the MEDIA programme of the European Commission. The *Berlinale Co-Production Market* is part of the *EFM*.

**58. Internationale
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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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The following “Books at Berlinale” projects will be presented in 2008 (listed alphabetically by publisher or literary agency introducing the material):

The Girl with the Nine Fingers by Laia Fàbregas, Ambo| Anthos publishers, Netherlands

Baptism by Max Kinnings, Blake Friedmann Literary Agency, Great Britain

The Weekend (Das Wochenende) by Bernhard Schlink, Diogenes Verlag, Switzerland

My Traitor by Sorj Chalandon, Editions Grasset & Fasquelle, France

The Court of the Air by Stephen Hunt, HarperCollins Publishers, Great Britain

The Lady from Buenos Aires by John Lantigua, Literarische Agentur Mertin, Germany

Catalina by Markus Orths, Scripts for Sale, Germany

Zephyr by Albert Ostermeier, Suhrkamp Verlag, Germany

Titles to be introduced in cooperation with the “Kuratorium deutscher Film”:

Through Thick and Thin by Shirley Corlett, Agentur Graf & Graf, Germany

The Messenger by Markus Zusak, Random House, Germany

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