



Pressemitteilung

Berlinale *World Cinema Fund*:

Successful *WCF* Spotlight for its 5th anniversary and jury decision for seven new film projects

At the 11th session of the *World Cinema Fund (WCF)* jury on 7 November, three new film projects were selected for production funding, and four films for distribution funding.

Since its establishment in October 2004, the *WCF* has awarded production and distribution funding to a total of 70 projects chosen from 1165 submissions from Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Central and South East Asia, and the Caucasus. All of the *WCF* films completed so far have screened in cinemas and/or in the programmes of renowned international film festivals - proof of the international success of the initiative, most recently the winner of this year's Berlinale *The Milk of Sorrow (La teta asustada)*, released in German cinemas on 5 November.

Latest Funding Decisions

The *WCF* jury - film scholar and curator Viola Shafik (Germany/Egypt), programme coordinator of Swiss Television Alberto Chollet (Switzerland), dramaturge Alby James (England), as well as *WCF* project managers Sonja Heinen and Vincenzo Bugno - made their selection from 87 submissions from a total of 31 countries. They awarded funds totalling 185,500 euros to:

Production funding:

40 Days of Silence, director: Saodat Ismailova (Uzbekistan), producer: Rohfilm, Berlin. Feature film. Funding: 70,000 euros

The Slut, director: Hagar Ben Asher (Israel), producer: Transfax Film. German partner: Rohfilm, Berlin. Feature film. Funding: 50,000 euros

Out of Place (fuera de lugar), director: Diego Mondaca (Bolivia), producer: Pucara Films. Documentary. Funding: 30,000 euros

Distribution funding:

The Milk of Sorrow (La teta asustada), director: Claudia Llosa (Peru), producer: Vela Film, Peru, Wanda Film, Spain. German distributor: Neue Visionen. Feature film, release in German cinemas: 5 November 2009. Funding: 10,000 euros

60. Internationale
Filmfestspiele
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Presse

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Bernd Neumann

Amtsgericht Charlottenburg
HGR Nr. 96 · HRB 29357
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Autumn/Herbst, director: Özcan Alper (Turkey), producer: Kuzey Film Production, Turkey. German distributor: Filmfabrik. Feature film, release in German cinemas: January 2010. Funding: 7,500 euros

Pandora's Box, director: Yesim Ustaoglu (Turkey), producer: Ustaoglu Films, Turkey. German distributor: Kairos Film. Feature film, release in German cinemas: 26 November 2009. Funding: 8,000 euros

Ajami, directors: Yaron Shani (Israel) & Scandar Copti (Palestine), producer: Inosan Productions, Israel. German distributor: Neue Visionen. Feature film, release in German cinemas: February 2010. Funding: 10,000 euros

The *World Cinema Fund* not only stands for innovative cinema, visual power, and the diversity of cinematic art in the regions funded by the *WCF*, but also for an ideal relationship between filmmakers from these regions and the film industry in Germany. Within a short period, the *WCF* has established itself as a cultural-political instrument for awarding funds, as a seal of quality for the supported projects, and as an initiative for making international contacts within the business.

The *WCF-Spotlight*, a presentation of selected films to celebrate the *World Cinema Fund's* 5th anniversary from 4 to 7 November in Berlin, also draws a positive balance. Ten films, comprised under the title *Infectious Films*, were shown to give the audience an impression of the authentic stories and artistic excellence of *WCF* films.

Submission deadline for the next round of funding: 11 March 2010
For further information, go to: www.berlinale.de

The *World Cinema Fund* is an initiative of the German Federal Cultural Foundation and the Berlin International Film Festival in cooperation with the Goethe Institute.



Press Office
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