

## Press Release



### Berlinale Camera 2010: Honouring Yoji Yamada, Ulrich and Erika Gregor, and Berlin's Fine Art Foundry Noack

Since 1986, the Berlin International Film Festival has presented the Berlinale Camera to film personalities or institutions to which it feels particularly indebted and it wishes to express its thanks.

At the 60th Berlin International Film Festival, master director **Yoji Yamada**, *Forum* founders **Ulrich and Erika Gregor** as well as the **Fine Art Foundry Noack** will be awarded Berlinale Cameras.

The extraordinary oeuvre of Japanese master director **Yoji Yamada** includes over 80 films. His film career began at Shochiku, where he was a specialist for realistic comedies. This included a series he wrote and, for the most part, directed between 1969-95 (48 episodes). It is about a scoundrel named Tora-san and is one of the most successful series in film history. With his films, Yamada has been a guest at the Berlinale six times, e.g., with his samurai trilogy *Tasogare seibei* (2002), *Kakushi Ken - Oni no tsume* (2005) and *Bushi no ichibun* (2007). His latest work, *Otouto* will be screened as the closing film of this year's 60th Berlinale *Competition*. At the official ceremony on February 20, Yoji Yamada will receive his Berlinale Camera.

**Ulrich and Erika Gregor** founded the *International Forum of New Cinema* with the "Friends of Deutsche Kinemathek" (since 2008: "Arsenal - Institute for Film and Video Art") at the end of the 1960s, when political debate began to affect more and more areas of society. Initially conceived as a counter-event, the *Forum* first took place as a parallel festival integrated into the Berlinale in 1971. This brought a new dimension to the entire festival. The Berlinale Camera will be awarded to Ulrich und Erika Gregor at the Cinema Paris in the Institut Français at 9:45 pm on February 14. Following the ceremony, there will be a screening of Nagisa Ôshima's *Gishiki* (1971). Film historian Naum Klejman will deliver a speech in their honour.

Since the first Berlin International Film Festival in Berlin 1951 Berlin's **Fine Art Foundry Noack** has cast the Bears designed by sculptor Renée Sintenis. Hermann Noack I established the Fine Art Foundry Hermann Noack in 1897 with the support of sculptors August Gaul and Fritz Klimsch. The foundry has always worked closely with artists, who try out their ideas in its workshops and then realize them with its bronze casters. Especially the sculptors of the Secession commissioned their works from this foundry. On this landmark anniversary, the Berlinale wants to express its gratitude to the Fine Art Foundry Noack for cooperating with the festival for 60 years by awarding it a Berlinale Camera at Kino International, at 11 am on February 13. Film

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journalist Ralf Schenk will give the laudatory speech. Following the ceremony, there will be a screening of the documentary *Spur der Bären* by Hans-Christoph Blumenberg and Alfred Holighaus.

Since 2004, the Berlinale Camera has been sponsored and manufactured by the Düsseldorf-based goldsmith Georg Hornemann. The trophy was redesigned for the Berlinale in 2008. Modelled on a real camera, it now has 128 components. Crafted and assembled with great artistry, many of its silver and titanium parts, from swivel head to tripod, are movable.

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