

Pressemitteilung



Iranian Director Jafar Panahi Denied Permission to Leave Iran

Jafar Panahi, one of Iran's most important directors and honorary guest of this year's Berlinale, has been denied permission to leave Iran. With his film *The Circle*, Panahi won the Golden Lion in 2000; and with *Offside*, the Silver Bear in 2006.

At the 60th Berlinale, Panahi was to participate in the panel discussion on "Iranian Cinema: Present and Future. Expectations inside and outside of Iran" during the *World Cinema Fund Day*.

"We are surprised and deeply regret that a director who has won so many international prizes has been denied the possibility to take part in our anniversary Festival and to speak about his cinematic visions," Berlinale Director Dieter Kosslick remarked about the incident.

Press Office
February 16, 2010

*60. Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
11. – 21.02.2010*

Presse

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

Geschäftsführung:
Dieter Kosslick
(Intendant Internationale
Filmfestspiele Berlin),
Dr. Bernd M. Scherer,
Prof. Dr. Joachim Sartorius

Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats:
Bernd Neumann

Amtsgericht Charlottenburg
HGR Nr. 96 · HRB 29357
USt ID DE 136 78 27 46