



## Press Release

### The Public Celebrates the 60th Berlinale and the Special "Berlinale Goes Kiez" Series

The run on the 60th Berlinale continues: 270 000 cinema tickets were sold on the first eight days of the Festival. "Our audiences have given us the biggest birthday present of all. Again we are celebrating the Berlinale as the largest film festival for the public in the world", Festival Director Dieter Kosslick delightedly remarks about the enthusiasm for the Berlinale.

Kosslick has also expressed his contentment with the success of the series "Berlinale Goes Kiez", which has so far registered 4 000 viewers. "Berlinale Goes Kiez" was initiated to mark the 60th anniversary of the Berlin International Film Festival: film teams and cinema patrons showcase two films from the programme each evening at select neighbourhood movie theatres. Among these patrons are film personalities like Wim Wenders, Michael Verhoeven, Senta Berger, Andreas Dresen, Hans-Christian Schmid, Christian Petzold, Hans-Christoph Blumenberg and Tom Tykwer. To date, "Berlinale Goes Kiez" has had stations at seven neighbourhood cinemas. "Berliners are able to experience the film festival quasi first hand, right at their doorsteps," Kosslick comments. Cinema patron Wim Wenders was also thrilled: "Berlinale Goes Kiez is a fantastic initiative. With commitment an idea of cinema is being kept alive - to lose it would be a real loss."

In the next days, "Berlinale Goes Kiez" will visit the Movimiento cinema in Kreuzberg (Feb. 19), Eva Lichtspiele in Wilmersdorf (Feb. 20) as well as Union Filmtheater in Köpenick (Feb. 21). The patrons for these movie theatres are Claus Boje, Sebastian Schipper and Katrin Saß. For more details go to: [www.berlinale.de](http://www.berlinale.de).

Christina Kim's art installation "The Curtain" and the live transmission of *Metropolis* at the Brandenburg Gate also proved a great success with the public: over 2000 visitors experienced the festive opening of the symbolic cinema curtain and the premiere of the restored original version of the silent film classic *Metropolis* at the snowy setting - images that went around the world.

On February 21, 2010, the 60th Berlin International Film Festival will come to a close. The final highlights are the Award Ceremony for the Golden and Silver Bears at the Berlinale Palast on February 20, and Berlinale Kinotag (Cinema Day) on February 21.

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