



## Press Release

### *World Cinema Fund* with Three Films in Cannes

Three films funded by the Berlinale's *World Cinema Fund (WCF)* have been invited to the Festival de Cannes:

*Loong Boonmee Raleuk Chaat (Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives)* by Thai director Apichatpong Weerasethakul will be screening in the Competition. In October 2008, the *WCF*-Jury recommended funding this film project. Its German partner is Match Factory.

Another *WCF*-funded film, *The Light Thief* by Aktan Abdykalikov from Kyrgyzstan (German partner: Pallas Films), will be screening in the Directors' Fortnight section in Cannes.

Last but not least, *Bi, Don't Be Afraid* by Vietnamese director Phan Dang Di (German partner: TR9 Film) will celebrate its world premiere in the Critics' Week sidebar.

Since its establishment in 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.

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.

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