

## Press Release



### Berlinale *World Cinema Fund*: Latest Jury decisions and *WCF*-Spotlight in South Africa

At the 12th session of the *World Cinema Fund (WCF)* jury on July 4, three new film projects were selected for production funding.

Since its establishment in October 2004, the *WCF* has awarded production and distribution funding to a total of 73 projects chosen from 1275 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 and are proof of the international success of the initiative - as well as the Palme d'or for *Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives* by Apichatpong Weerasethakul, and the award by the the Spanish "Festival de Cine de Huesca" for the *WCF*'s commitment to cultural diversity, understanding and the support of film production in many regions around the world.

### 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 110 submissions from a total of 42 countries. They awarded funds totalling 130,000 euros to:

#### Production funding:

*Death for Sale*, director: Faouzi Ben Saidi (Morocco), producer: Agora Film, Morocco. Feature film. Funding: 30,000 €

*The Prize*, director: Paula Markovitch (Argentina), producer: Kung Works, Mexico. Feature film. Funding: 50,000 €

*I'm Going To Change My Name*, director: Maria Saakyan (Armenia), producer: Anniko Films, Armenia. Feature film. Funding: 50,000 €

Submission deadline for the next round of funding: August 5, 2010  
For further information, go to [www.berlinale.de](http://www.berlinale.de)

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### **WCF-Spotlight in July on the Film Festival in Durban, South Africa**

In 2007, the event series *World Cinema Fund-Spotlight* was created in cooperation with the Goethe Institute. Since the series's inception, selected *WCF*-funded films have been presented at *WCF*-Spotlights in Israel, the Palestinian territories, Peru, Chile, Indonesia, Mexico, Colombia, Armenia, Syria and the Philippines.

The next *WCF*-Spotlight will take place at the 31st Durban International Film Festival (July 22 - August 1, 2010). Films scheduled to be shown include the winner of the 2009 Berlinale Golden Bear, *La teta asustada* (*The Milk of Sorrow*) by Claudia Llosa and *Gigante* by Adrián Biniez. In addition to the film programme, there will be a *WCF*-Spotlight Case Study on *Shirley Adams*, the multiple award-winning film by South African director Oliver Hermanus. The panel "Africa in Focus: Accessing the Funds" will provide the *WCF* and other international funding institutions an opportunity to introduce themselves to African filmmakers and producers in Durban.

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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