**Press Release** 



Berlinale World Cinema Fund: Latest Jury decisions

At the 13th session of the *World Cinema Fund* (*WCF*) jury on November 15, four 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 80 projects chosen from 1411 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 Spanish "Festival de Cine de Huesca" for the *WCFs* commitment to cultural diversity, understanding and the support of film production in many regions around the world. Furthermore, two *WCF*-funded films participated successfully in this year's Venice Film Festival: *Post Mortem* by Pablo Larrain and *Jean Gentil* by Laura Amelia Guzmán and Israel Cárdenas.

## Latest Funding Decisions

The *WCF* jury made their selection from 115 submissions from a total of 46 countries. They awarded production funds totalling 150,000 euros as well as distribution funds totalling 27.000 euros. Jury members are film scholar and curator Viola Shafik (Germany/Egypt), dramaturge Alby James (England), *WCF* project managers Sonja Heinen and Vincenzo Bugno and - as a new member as of September 2010 - distributor and producer Jan De Clercq (Belgium). De Clercq is one of the co-founders of the Cinema Novo Film Festival in Bruges. From 1989 to 1996 he worked for Belgium's largest arthouse distribution company Cinéart/Cinélibre. In 1997 he started his own company Lumière Cinema in Bruges and in 2000 the production company Lumière Production. In 2003 he established Lumière Publishing that became an independent distributor in the Benelux.

Production funding:

By the fire - Sentados frente al fuego, director: Alejandro Fernández Almendras (Chile), producer: El Remanso Cine, Chile. German partner: Pandora Film Produktion. Feature film. Funding: 50.000 €

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Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats: Bernd Neumann

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



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*The Passion of Michelangelo*, director: Esteban Larraín (Chile), producer: Piranha Films, Chile. German partner: Oliver Röpke Filmproduktion. Feature film. Funding: 40.000 €

ARAF- Somewhere inbetween, director: Yesim Ustaoglu (Turkey), producer: Ustaoglu Film Production, Turkey. German partner: The Match Factory. Feature film. Funding: 30.000 €

Sur la planche, director: Leila Kilani (Morocco), producer: Socco Chicco Films, Morocco. Feature film. Funding: 30.000 €

Distribution funding:

*Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives*, director: Apichatpong Weerasethakul (Thailand), distributor: Movienet. Funding: 12.000 €. Release in Germany: September 30, 2010

*October*, directors: Daniel and Diego Vega (Peru), distributor: Neue Visionen. Funding: 7.000 €. Release in Germany: October 14, 2010

*Kick Off*, director: Shawkat Amin Korki (Iraq/Kurdistan), distributor: Mitosfilm. Funding: 8.000 €

Submission deadline for the next round of production funding: March 10, 2011 For further information, go to www.berlinale.de

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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