



## Press Release

### Jury for the Best First Feature

The Berlinale has been even more committed to supporting the next generation of film makers since 2006, when it introduced the Best First Feature Award. The award is endowed with 50,000 Euros, donated by the GWFF (Gesellschaft zur Wahrnehmung von Film- und Fernsehrecht), a society dedicated to safeguarding film and television rights. The prize money is to be split between the producer and the director of the winning film. Additionally, the director will be awarded with a high-quality viewfinder as both a useful instrument and memorable trophy.

Debut feature films from the sections *Competition*, *Panorama*, *Forum*, *Generation* and for the first time also debut films from the *Perspektive Deutsches Kino* will compete for the award in 2011. The winners will be announced at the official award ceremony in the Berlinale Palast on February 19.

A three-person jury will decide on the Best First Feature:

#### Bettina Brokemper (Germany)

The producer learnt her profession at the University of Television and Film, Munich. In 2003 she founded the production company Heimatfilm with which she has celebrated national and international successes, most recently *Bal* (*Honey*, Golden Bear 2010). In 2001 she became established as managing director of Zentropa Entertainment in Cologne, co-producing films such as Lars von Trier's *Dogville* and *Antichrist*.

#### Assaf Gavron (Israel)

The bestselling Israeli author has published four novels, including the internationally acclaimed "Almost Dead". Gavron is singer and songwriter in the Israeli cult pop band "The Mouth and Foot" and was the chief writer of the award-winning computer game "Peacemaker". He was awarded a DAAD artists-in-Berlin fellowship in 2010 and last December was honoured with Israel's Prime Minister's Award for Authors.

#### Michèle Ohayon (Morocco/Israel)

The director rose to fame in 1997 with the Oscar-nominated film *Colors Straight Up*. She has since celebrated repeated successes with her feature documentary works. She presented her film *Steal A Pencil For Me* at the 2008 Berlinale Special, followed in 2010 by *S.O.S./State Of Security*, a documentary about National Security challenges as viewed by the former US head of counter-terrorism Richard A. Clarke.

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## Press Release

The following films have qualified for the Best First Feature Award:

### **Competition** (4)

**Coriolanus** by Ralph Fiennes, Great Britain

**El Premio** by Paula Markovitch, Mexico/France/Poland/Germany

**Margin Call** by J.C. Chandor, USA

**Yelling To The Sky** by Victoria Mahoney, USA

### **Panorama** (8)

**Dernier étage gauche gauche** (*Top Floor Left Wing*) by Angelo Cianci, France/Luxemburg

**Die Vaterlosen** by Marie Kreutzer, Austria

**Fjellet** by Ole Gjaever, Norway

**Medianeras** by Gustavo Taretto, Argentina/Germany/Spain

**Romeos** by Sabine Bernardi, Germany

**Rundskop** by Michaël R. Roskam, Belgium/Netherlands

**Über uns das All** by Jan Schomburg, Germany

**The Guard** \*\* by John Michael McDonagh Ireland/Great Britain/Argentina

### **Forum** (10)

**Amnistia** (*Amnesty*) by Bujar Alimani, Albania/Greece/France

**Folge mir** (*Follow Me*) by Johannes Hammel, Austria

**Halaw** (*Ways of the Sea*) by Sheron Dayoc, Philippines

**Karen llora en bus** (*Karen Cries on the Bus*) by Gabriel Rojas Vera, Colombia

**Kazoku X** (*Household X*) by Yoshida Koki, Japan

**Les Mains libres** (*Free Hands*) by Brigitte Sy, France

**Osmdesát dopisů** (*Eighty Letters*) by Václav Kadrnka, Czech Republic

**Patang** (*The Kite*) by Prashant Bhargava, India/USA

**Utopians** by Zbigniew Bzymek, USA

**Viva Riva!** by Djo Tunda Wa Munga, Democratic Republic of the Congo/France /Belgium

### **Generation** (10)

**Den kæmpestore bjørn** by Esben Toft Jacobsen, Denmark

**Griff The Invisible** by Leon Ford, Australia

**Jess + Moss** by Clay Jeter, USA

**Keeper'n til Liverpool** by Arild Andersen, Norway

**Knerten gifter seg** by Martin Lund, Norway



## Press Release

***Las Malas Intenciones*** by Rosario García-Montero, Peru/Germany/Argentina

***On the Ice*** \*\* by Andrew Okpeaha MacLean, USA

***Skyskraber*** by Rune Schjøtt, Denmark

***Stadt Land Fluss*** by Benjamin Cantu, Germany

***The Dynamiter*** by Matthew T. Gordon, USA

### ***Perspektive Deutsches Kino*** (2)

***Die Ausbildung*** (*The Education*) by Dirk Lütter, Germany

***Lollipop Monster*** by Ziska Riemann, Germany

\*\* The films denoted with \*\* are no longer qualified for candidacy if they win an award at the Sundance Film Festival.

Press Office

January 27, 2011