

Press Release

Berlinale *World Cinema Fund*: Latest Jury Decisions and Start of *WCF*-Factories

At the 14th session of the *World Cinema Fund* (*WCF*) jury on July 3, four new film projects were selected for production funding as well as four films for distribution funding.

Since its establishment in October 2004, the *WCF* has awarded production and distribution funding to a total of 88 projects chosen from 1,538 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.

Through the support of new cooperation partners - the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Deutsche Welle/DW AKADEMIE - the *WCF* will be able to launch a new programme in a number of African countries starting this August: *WCF*-Factories will be set up to promote the creative and structural autonomy of African cinema.

Latest Funding Decisions

The *WCF* jury made their selection from 135 submissions from a total of 41 countries. They awarded production funds totalling 140,000 euros as well as distribution funds totalling 22,500 euros. Jury members are film scholar and curator Viola Shafik (Germany/Egypt), dramaturge Alby James (Great Britain), distributor and producer Jan De Clercq (Belgium) and *WCF* project managers Sonja Heinen and Vincenzo Bugno.

Production funding:

In What City Does it Live?, director: Seng Tat Liew (Malaysia), Producer: Everything Films, Malaysia. Feature film. Funding: 50,000 €

Round Trip, director: Meyar Al Roumi (Syria), Producer: Maranto Films GmbH, Deutschland. Feature film. Funding: 30,000 €

Polvo (Dust), director: Julio Hernández Cordón (Guatemala), Producer: Melindrosa Films, Guatemala. Feature film. Funding: 30,000 €

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Press Office

Potsdamer Straße 5 10785 Berlin

Phone +49 · 30 · 259 20 · 707 Fax +49 · 30 · 259 20 · 799

press@berlinale.de www.berlinale.de

Ein Geschäftsbereich der Kulturveranstaltungen des Bundes in Berlin (KBB) GmbH

Management:

Dieter Kosslick (Intendant Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin), Charlotte Sieben (Kaufmännische Geschäftsführung), Dr. Bernd M. Scherer, Prof. Dr. Joachim Sartorius

Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats: Bernd Neumann

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Girimunho (Swirl), director: Clarissa Campolina & Helvecio Marins Jr. (Brasilien), Producer: Teia Filmes, Brazil. German Co-Producer: Autentika Films. Feature film. Funding: 30,000 €

Distribution funding:

Un homme qui crie, director: Haroun Mahamat-Saleh (Tschad), German distributor: Cine Global. Funding: 5,000 €. Release date: April 7, 2011

The Light Thief, director: Aktan Arym Kubat (Kyzgyztan), German distributor: Neue Visionen Filmverleih. Funding: 5,000 €. Release date: April 14, 2011

Nader and Simin, A Separation, director: Asghar Farhadi (Iran), German distributor: Alamode Films. Funding: 7,500 €. Release date: July 14, 2011

Huacho, director: Alejandro Fernández Almendras (Chile), German distributor: Kairos Filmverleih. Funding: 5,000 €. Release date: July 21, 2011

Submission deadline for the next round of production funding: August 4, 2011

For further information, go to www.berlinale.de

WCF-Factories Ready to Start

In August, the first *WCF*-Factory will be held in Burundi. Together with its local partner CoProDac, the *WCF* has selected the feature film *Plainte contre le Burundi* by Rolland Rugero. During its shoot, training will be provided for sound techniques. Most likely in October, the second *WCF*-Factory will be held in Burkina Faso. Imagine film institute in Ouagadougou is the *WCF's* local partner for the production that has been selected there: Appoline Traoré's *Moi, Zaphira*.

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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