Press Release



Culinary Cinema in Europe

The idea behind the Berlinale's *Culinary Cinema* event is spreading across Europe. Two international film festivals will officially cooperate with the Berlin International Film Festival and are adopting both the *Culinary Cinema's* philosophy and format.

Poland

From August 7-12, "Kino Kulinarne" will be held during the new "TRANSATLANTYK Poznan International Film & Music Festival" in Poland. Five films have been selected from the Berlinale's *Culinary Cinema*'s repertoire for screening (see: <u>http://www.transatlantyk.org/en</u>). Afterwards Woijech Modest Amaro will cook meals that fit not only the films but also the region and the season. Amaro has worked at the best restaurants in Europe, including El Bulli and Noma. Recently he has been inspired by his roots, and created a new and modern Polish cuisine.

Founder and director of the festival in Poznan is the Oscar-winning composer Jan Kaczmarek. A longstanding friend of the Berlinale and guest expert at the *Berlinale Talent Campus*, he explains why he has established "Kino Kulinarne": "I believe that bringing the program to Poland will reinforce the already growing support for the Slow Food philosophy, making our quality of life better. It will help increase awareness of the dangers of environmental damage, caused by industrial food production, and global food transportation. I want to thank the Berlinale for its generous cooperation."

Spain

The "59th International Film Festival of San Sebastian", the city with the most Michelin stars in the world, will hold the "Zinema Culinaria" for the first time from September 16-24, 2011. (See: http://www.sansebastianfestival.com/index2.html).

The series will open with the documentary *Mugaritz BSO* by Felipe Ugarte and Juantxo Sardon. Along with many friends of Basque oral traditions, musician Felipe Ugarte and Andoni Luis Aduriz, chef of the world famous restaurant Mugaritz, have attempted to fuse music and sensations of taste.

As Festival Director José Luis Rebordinos says: "When we decided to create our own section on cinema and gastronomy, we came to the conclusion that the best way to do so would be by working together with one of the biggest festivals worldwide, the Berlinale. Thus we would be able to draw on its experience and prestige in both worlds: cinema and cuisine." *62. Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin 09. – 19.02.2012*

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

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



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Curator of the Berlinale's *Culinary Cinema* Thomas Struck hopes "that some of the chefs and guests from our partner festivals will also attend the next Berlinale from February 9 -19, 2012."

Dieter Kosslick, Director of the Berlin International Film Festival, comments on the worldwide response to *Culinary Cinema*: "The event, which was first presented in 2007 to bring together the worlds of food, film, culture and ecology, is attracting ever more followers internationally. Many filmmakers are investigating this important topic. Like the *Berlinale Talent Campus*, which in the interim is held in five other countries, and the *World Cinema Fund*, which backs film productions in Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Central and South East Asia as well as the Caucasus, *Culinary Cinema* is now on its way to an international career."

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