

Press Release



Culinary Cinema 2012: "Trust in Taste"

"Trust in Taste" is the motto of the 6th *Culinary Cinema* of the 62nd Berlinale that will be held from February 12 to 17, 2012. Fifteen films about food and the environment will be presented in the Martin-Gropius-Bau. Following the screenings, at 7:30 pm, renowned chef Sonja Frühsammer and star chefs Michael Kempf, Christian Lohse, Marco Müller from Berlin as well as Andoni Luis Aduriz from the Basque Country will each serve a meal inspired by the films in the "Gropius Mirror" restaurant, an elegant tent lined with mirrors.

"Food is a matter of trust," Dieter Kosslick says about this year's motto. "Consumers should not only focus on organic tags and finely printed labels, but also trust their sense of taste. Experienced cooks can taste if food has been industrially mass produced, and if binders, flavour enhancers or other additives have been used. Taste is a matter of experience and that's what you can also gain at the Berlinale's *Culinary Cinema*."

"Before serving culinary delicacies, we'll be showing recent cinematic treats in which food and taste are looked at from many different angles," curator Thomas Struck comments about the programme. *Comme un chef (The Chef)* by Daniel Cohen, a French comedy, will kick off the series. The film is as light and tasty as the brioches that chef Lagarde (Jean Reno) bakes for his daughter to keep peace in the family as well as rescue French haute cuisine from molecular cooking. Sonja Frühsammer will serve a meal following the film.

This year's *Culinary Cuisine* includes a remarkable number of premieres. Over the past five years the programme has established itself.

In Felipe Ugarte's and Juanxo Sardon's *Mugaritz B.S.O.*, musician Felipe Ugarte translates delicious and visually pleasing culinary dishes made by Basque star chef Andoni Luis Aduriz from San Sebastián into music. The musician and the cook show how ingredients for a dish and music develop worldwide out of a region's landscape and tradition. Andoni Luis Aduriz is coming extra to Berlin to prepare a meal for his film.

Entre les Bras (Step Up to the Plate) by Paul Lacoste documents the stirring change of generations at the French three-star restaurant Bras in Laguiole. Father Michel Bras is convinced that getting to the top is easier than staying there. After this documentary, Michael Kempf will have the delicate task of creating a meal inspired by the French cuisine.

In the documentary *Last Call at the Oasis* by Oscar-winner Jessica Yu, experts and tireless activists, such as the real Erin Brockovich, fight the

62. Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
09. – 19.02.2012

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local and global misuse of water. Filmmakers and experts discuss surprising ways to solve the shortage of water. One proposal involves recycling wastewater. Christian Lohse will cook a meal for the occasion.

In TSAO Jui-Yuan's fictional film *Joyful Reunion*, a top vegetarian chef is forced to close his restaurant because he has lost his memory. When he eats a dish from his childhood, his memory comes back and he recognizes his first love again. Named Cook of the Year by *Der Feinschmecker* magazine, Marco Müller will prepare a meal that captures this melodrama.

The late screenings at 10 p.m. will focus on social and ecological topics. In *Das Rohe und das Gekochte (The Raw and the Cooked)* Monika Treut documents the emergent green movement in Taiwan. On a powerful visual journey around the world, *Canned Dreams* depicts the plight of all the workers who contribute to producing a can of ravioli. *Lupe el de la Vaca (Lupe of the Cow)* presents several small-scale Mexican farmers who master their harsh lives with humour and music. In the Korean gangster film *Hindsight*, the boss of a gang falls in love with a fellow student during a course in cooking. In *Oma & Bella*, Alexa Karolinski portrays how her grandmother and her grandmother's girlfriend cultivate Jewish traditions in Charlottenburg.

A number of shorts films will supplement the programme: *Should The Wife Confess?* (Bernardo Camisão), *Asparragos* (Laura Zuallaert), *Lepokoa* (Safy Nebbou) and *Pokot Ash Yoghurt* (Francesco Amato, Stefano Scarafia).

"Youth Food Cinema" will address the importance of traditions in the family at 9:30 a.m. on February 17. The Mexican film *Canela (Cinnamon)* by Jordi Mariscal tells the story of a girl, her grandmother and their love of cooking. Afterwards, the chef of the Mexican embassy, Armando Hernández, will prepare a Mexican meal with students. As Grandmother Tere says in the film: "Cooking well is not a question of age but of talent."

"TeaTime" will host readings, discussions and tastings in the "Gropius Mirror" tent at 5 p.m. On February 14, Michael Hoffmann will present his new cookbook for the blind and sighted: "Trust in Taste". Following the presentation, guests will be served finger foods based on recipes from the book (in German, admission 10 euros).

On Feb. 15, there will be a discussion entitled "The Real Erin Brockovich" with the environmental activist Erin Brockovich. She will talk about her latest experiences in the battle for a clean environment (in English, participation upon registration only: at kulinarisches.kino@berlinale.de). 25 million people have seen Steven Soderbergh's film *Erin Brockovich* starring Julia Roberts.



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Advance ticket sales for *Culinary Cinema* begin at 10 a.m. on February 6, 2012 at the central ticket counters in the Arkaden am Potsdamer Platz, Kino International and the Haus der Berliner Festspiele, as well as online at www.berlinale.de and theatre ticket offices linked with the Eventim network.

The programme is sponsored by WMF, the official partner of *Culinary Cinema*, and highly professional supplier of modern cook- and tableware.

Films in *Culinary Cinema* 2012

Canela (Cinnamon) Mexico

By Jordi Mariscal

With Ana Martín, Isabel Yudice, Norma Angélica, Mónica Dionne, Carlos Cobos

World premiere

Canned Dreams Finland

Documentary by Katja Gauriloff

International premiere

Comme un chef (The Chef) France

By Daniel Cohen

With Jean Reno, Michaël Youn, Raphaëlle Agogué, Julien Boisselier, Salomé Stevenin, Serge Larivière, Issa Doumbia, Bun Hay Mean

International premiere

Entre les Bras (Step Up to the Plate) France

Documentary by Paul Lacoste

World premiere

Hindsight Republic of Korea

By Lee Hyeon-seung

With Song Gang-ho, Shin Se-kyung, Chun Jeong-myung

European premiere

Joyful Reunion Taiwan/China

By Tsao Jui-Yuan

With Gua Ahleh, Huo Siyan, Lan Zheng-Long (Blue), Kenneth Tsang

World premiere

Last Call at the Oasis USA

Documentary by Jessica Yu

International premiere



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Lupe el de la Vaca (Lupe of the Cow) Mexico
Documentary by Blanca X. Aguerre
International premiere

Mugaritz B.S.O. Spain
Documentary by Felipe Ugarte, Juantxo Sardon
German premiere

Oma & Bella Germany/USA
Documentary by Alexa Karolinski
World premiere

Das Rohe und das Gekochte (The Raw and the Cooked) Germany/Taiwan
Documentary by Monika Treut
World premiere

Short films

Asparragos Belgium/Peru
Documentary by Laura Zuallaert
German premiere

Lepokoa (The Scarf) Spain/France 2003
By Safy Nebbou
With Pilar Rodríguez, Joseba Apaolaza, Olatz Beobide, Manu Gaigne

Pokot Ash Yoghurt (Living Food Communities) Italy
Documentary by Francesco Amato, Stefano Scarafia
World premiere

Should The Wife Confess? Belgium/Portugal
By Bernardo Camisão
With Sofia Caessa, Hilbren Buys
German premiere

Press Office
January 23, 2012