



Press Release

Berlinale *World Cinema Fund*: Latest Funding Decisions

At the 18th jury session of the *World Cinema Fund (WCF)*, four new film projects were selected for production funding as well as one for distribution funding.

Since its establishment in October 2004, the *WCF* has granted production or distribution backing to a total of 111 projects, selected from 2,011 submissions from Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Central and Southeast Asia, and the Caucasus. All of the *WCF* films completed to date have screened at cinemas and/or in the programmes of noted international film festivals, demonstrating the initiative's worldwide success.

At the Berlinale 2013, *WCF*-funded films were also a great success. José Luis Valle's *Workers* had its world premiere in the *Panorama* programme, and Kazakh director Emir Baigazin was celebrated worldwide as one of the discoveries of the *Competition*. His feature film debut *Harmony Lessons* took home one of the Silver Bears.

"*WCF* has established itself as a funding programme for innovative and artistically ambitious filmmaking. We are happy to be able to continue with this successful project," says Berlinale Director Dieter Kosslick.

Latest Funding Decisions

The *WCF* jury made their selection out of 130 submissions from a total of 48 countries and awarded production funds totalling 154,300 €. The jury members are film scholar and curator Viola Shafik (Germany/Egypt), documentary film producer Marta Andreu (Spain), distributor and producer Jan De Clercq (Belgium), and *WCF* project managers Sonja Heinen and Vincenzo Bugno.

Production funding:

Sin Título, director: Lisandro Alonso (Argentina). Production: 4L, Argentina. Feature film. Funding: 50,000 €

Big Father, Small Father and Other Stories, director: Di Phan Dang (Vietnam). Production: VBlock Media, Vietnam. Feature film. Funding: 40,000 €

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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:

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

Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats:
Bernd Neumann

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



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Pelo Malo, director: Mariana Rondón (Venezuela). Production: Sudaca Films, Venezuela. Feature film. Funding: 30,000 €

The Valley, director: Ghassan Salhab (Lebanon). Production: unafilms, Germany. Feature film. Funding: 30,000 €

Distribution funding:

Fidai, director: Damien Ounouri (Algeria). Distributor: mec film
Release in Germany: May 13, 2013. Funding: 4,300 €

The *World Cinema Fund* is an initiative of the **German Federal Cultural Foundation** and the **Berlin International Film Festival**, funded by the **Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media**, in cooperation with the **Goethe Institut**, with the support of the **Federal Foreign Office**.



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