

Press Release



Matthijs Wouter Knol to Be New Head of *European Film Market*

On June 1, 2014, Matthijs Wouter Knol from the Netherlands will become the new head of the Berlinale's *European Film Market (EFM)*. Since 2008, Knol has been the programme manager of *Berlinale Talents* (formerly known as the *Berlinale Talent Campus*), and is well acquainted with both the Festival and the *EFM*.

Long-standing *EFM* head Beki Probst will become president of the *EFM*. In her new function, she will draw on her extensive experience and use her international network to establish Knol as new *EFM* head. She will also provide him with support and advice.

“Matthijs Wouter Knol will inspire new areas of business and the development of the *European Film Market*. With Knol, a professional is joining us who knows the festival well. He will strategically strengthen the synergies that have developed between the festival and the *EFM*,” says Berlinale Director Dieter Kosslick.

Knol was born in the Netherlands in 1977 and studied contemporary history at Leiden University and at the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome. He worked as a freelance journalist until 2001 before joining Pieter van Huystee Film, a renowned and internationally award-winning production company in Amsterdam. After becoming head of development in 2004, he focused on developing, financing and internationally co-producing documentary film projects. As the associate producer of various documentary films, he worked with acclaimed filmmakers, such as Heddy Honigmann and Mani Kaul. With Arte he also co-produced the DVD edition of Johan van der Keuken's digitally re-mastered works, which was awarded the Prix “Cahiers du Cinéma” in 2006.

In 2007, Knol started working for the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), spreading his activity between the co-production and sales markets, and the IDFAcademy training programme. As head of the latter, he initiated the IDFAcademy Summer School. In 2008, he became head of *Berlinale Talents* (formerly known as the *Berlinale Talents Campus*).

Press Office
May 28, 2014

**65. Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin**
05. – 15.02.2015

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HGR Nr. 96 · HRB 29357
USt ID DE 136 78 27 46