

Press Release



Berlinale 2015: *Homage* and Honorary Golden Bear for Wim Wenders

On February 12, 2015, *Wings of Desire* will light up the screen at the Berlinale Palast in honour of Wim Wenders. The 65th Berlin International Film Festival will dedicate an *Homage* to Wim Wenders and present him with an Honorary Golden Bear for his lifetime achievement.

“In dedicating the *Homage* to Wim Wenders, we honour one of the most noted contemporary auteurs. His cross-genre and multifaceted work as a filmmaker, photographer and author has shaped our living memory of cinema, and continues to inspire other filmmakers,” said Dieter Kosslick, Director of the Berlinale.

In the 1970s Wim Wenders was part of a young generation of filmmakers who heavily influenced “New German Cinema”. Working against the backdrop of the economic and artistic crisis in commercial film of that time, they developed new aesthetic forms and ventured into independent production and distribution. To this day, Wim Wenders is one of cinema’s great innovators.

Since his feature film debut *Summer in the City* (1970) Wenders has made roughly 50 films. Following his international breakthrough with the early road movies *Alice in the Cities* (1973) and *Kings of the Road* (1976) he worked in Europe, the US, Latin America and Asia, and has received numerous awards at festivals around the globe including the Palme d’Or for *Paris, Texas* (1984) and the Award for Best Director for *Wings of Desire* (1987) in Cannes, the Golden Lion for *The State of Things* (1982) in Venice and the Silver Bear for *The Million Dollar Hotel* (2000) in Berlin. Wenders presented his extraordinary 3-D project *PINA* at the Berlinale in 2011, garnering rave reviews from audiences and critics alike, as well as an Academy Award nomination, among other distinctions.

“What’s impressive about Wim Wenders is the diversity of his artistic affinities - his work not only as a filmmaker, but also as an author and a photographer. He has honoured artists he admires in numerous cinematic essays, such as Yasujiro Ozu in *Tokyo-Ga* (1985) or most recently, the photographer Sebastião Salgado in *The Salt of the Earth* (2014),” said Rainer Rother, Director of *Retrospective/Homage* and Artistic Director of the Deutsche Kinemathek.

**65. Internationale
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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

Vorsitzende des Aufsichtsrates:
Staatsministerin
Prof. Monika Grütters MdB

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



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Ten films from Wim Wenders's comprehensive feature and documentary film repertoire will be shown as part of the *Homage*. More information on the *Homage* and the programme will be publicised in autumn 2014.

Press Office
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