



Press Release

***Panorama Special* Opening Films, Christine Vachon to Receive Special Teddy Award and Films from Germany, Austria and Switzerland**

With 30 films confirmed to date, of which 24 are fictional and six will run in *Panorama Dokumente*, two-thirds of this year's *Panorama* has now been announced. An extra seventeen works will screen in the Teddy30 anniversary programme (see press release from [17.12.2015](#)). The entire programme will be finalised in the coming days.

The *Panorama Special* will open on Friday, February 12, at the Zoo Palast with Daniel Burman's *El rey del Once (The Tenth Man)* and the previously announced *War on Everyone* by John Michael McDonagh.

When Daniel Burman presented his debut film in 1998, it immediately became clear that a new generation of Argentinian directors was emerging: *Un crisantemo estalla en cinco esquinas (A Chrysanthemum Bursts in Cinco Esquinas)* opened the main programme of that year's *Panorama*. After presenting further works in *Panorama* and *Competition* (in 2004 *El abrazo partido | Lost Embrace* won two Silver Bears), Burman is now returning with a sensitive tale that bursts with vitality, a loving portrait of multi-layered life in *Once*, the Jewish quarter of Buenos Aires. Another Argentinian film in the *Panorama* is Maximiliano Schonfeld's *La helada negra (The Black Frost)*. In his second film, Schonfeld uses elegiac images to explore a world disconnected from time, where ancestors of European immigrants cultivate their land and traditions. And yet when a mysterious woman appears, they all pin their hopes on her.

The Sensitive Male - More Films

Indignation, the directing debut of James Schamus, one of the USA's most important independent producers and Jury President of the Berlinale International Jury in 2014, is based on Philip Roth's novel of the same name. In his productions, Schamus has recurrently demonstrated a special sense for so-called outsiders who try to defy societal structures. In *Indignation*, a young student (Logan Lerman) champions his moral and political ideals in fierce debates with the dean of his college at a time when the Korean War has started to undermine the still youthful and brash confidence of US citizens.

How well-suited initiation rites are for breaking a young man's spirit can be seen in Andrew Neel's *Goat*. No details have been left out in depicting the traumatic experiences of college years in this work based on a script by David Gordon Green. Set in the present, it gives - along with the above-mentioned film *Indignation* - a picture of decades of systematic dehumanization such as found at US educational institutions and shows how these have worked towards maintaining the white status quo. The film has been produced by Christine Vachon and James Franco.

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Press Release

Little Men by Ira Sachs portrays one of life's first hard-hitting experiences of finiteness: the end of a childhood friendship - that had existed outside time and space. In present-day Brooklyn the laws of gentrification not only divide social classes but also damage young people's capacity to bond. After successfully showing *Keep the Lights On* (Teddy Award 2012) and *Love Is Strange* (2014) in the *Panorama*, Ira Sachs will present his latest work in Cross-Section with Berlinale's *Generation* section.

Following the success of his first film, *Harmony Lessons* (Berlinale *Competition* 2013), Emir Baigazin reveals in *Ranenny Angel (The Wounded Angel)* the states of mind of teenagers growing up in Kazakhstan in an era of extreme upheaval. The second part of a visually stunning trilogy about young people and their complex relationship to a world without consistent morals.

Grand master Wayne Wang, who last contributed two films - *Smoke* and *Blue in the Face* - to the *Competition* in 1995, elegantly depicts a Japanese author on holiday, whose ability to write comes and goes with the somnambular kisses of his muse, a rather dangerous lady. Takeshi Kitano plays (under his artist name Beat Takeshi) in *While the Women Are Sleeping*, which has been adapted from a short story by Javier Marias.

Lantouri is the name of a gang that robs people in the streets of Tehran and breaks into homes in the city's rich northern districts. In Reza Dormishian's earlier work, *I'm Not Angry (Panorama 2014)*, the sense of rage felt by this generation had informed the rhythm of the editing; and their restlessness and lust for life, the visuals. In *Lantouri*, his most recent film, Dormishian once again takes a radical look at social and societal injustices.

Two German Fictional Films Confirmed to Date

Doris Dörrie, who also wrote the script for *Grüße aus Fukushima (Fukushima, mon Amour)*, has returned to Japan after *Kirschblüten - Hanami (Cherry Blossoms - Hanami; Competition 2008)*. A young German woman who wants to escape her own problems makes friends with an elderly geisha in the restricted zone of Fukushima. In this universal drama the two women have to learn to free themselves from the prisons of their own minds.

In *Jonathan*, Piotr J. Lewandowski's debut film, the duties of a young farmer weigh heavily upon him. Besides working the farm, he diligently cares for his father who is seriously ill. This leaves little room for love. When his father's boyhood friend suddenly shows up, long repressed and suppressed family secrets come to the surface and broaden Jonathan's view of the world.

Men in Crisis in Austria and Switzerland



Press Release

In *Aloys* by Swiss director Tobias Nölle, Georg Friedrich plays a son who is a chip off the old block: laid out before him is his father's corpse - it will be lonely in their detective agency that was so clearly conceived for just the two of them. Routine surveillances suddenly turn out to be traps and text messages are sent from the coffin - Aloys's sense of security begins to unravel...

Last not least comes a highly sensitive study from Austria about trust and what happens when the very foundations of our relationships start to crack: in *Kater (Tomcat)* by Händl Klaus, Stefan stumbles from crisis to crisis, while Andreas has to work out feelings of estrangement. He seems to succeed, for what binds the two is an enduring love - can this be? It would merely be a reactionary cliché if it were not so...

Panorama Dokumente

Mantas Kvedaravicius left a strong impression with *Barzakh*, his cinematic essay on Russia's conflict in Chechnya in the *Panorama* 2011. Now he is back with *Mariupolis*: everyday life is defined by bomb threats in Mariupol, a city in the Ukraine, situated to the east of the Crimea and once populated by Greeks. It is a visually powerful homage to a city in crisis, dedicated to its poets and shoemakers.

Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures is the compelling attempt of directors Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato to approach this photographer who was chronicler and promoter, provocateur, augur and entertainer of the creative golden era in New York of the 1970s and 1980s. Mapplethorpe died from AIDS in 1989. Bailey and Barbato also presented *Inside Deep Throat* and *Party Monster* in the *Panorama*.

Uncle Howard by Aaron Brookner reflects the filmmaker's desire to preserve the legacy of his uncle who succumbed to AIDS at the age of 34, and leads to the discovery of an astounding archive that documents the cultural revolution of the 1970s and 1980s. It is also a reunion with a who's who of past *Panorama* programmes: with Andrew Horn, Jakob Burckhardt, John Waters, Madonna, as well as Spike Lee, Jim Jarmusch, Sara Driver, Tom DiCillo, Brad Gooch, Robert Wilson, William S Burroughs and Frederic Mitterand.

Der Ost-Komplex (The GDR Complex) by Jochen Hick portrays Mario Röllig, a former citizen of the GDR and victim of events who was arrested in Hungary in 1987 for "attempting to flee the Republic". Today he gives lectures about his experiences during his imprisonment. In confrontations with sympathisers of the former GDR, who accuse Röllig of being biased and distorting history, it becomes quite apparent that the struggle for who has the say in interpreting the history of the GDR is highly subjective, taboo-ridden and loaded with trauma.

Special Teddy Award for Producer Christine Vachon at Anniversary Edition



Press Release

With her company, Killer Films, Christine Vachon has been producing movies for over 20 years. Without these works both queer and US-independent cinema would be hard to imagine - a dozen of these films have been shown in Berlinale programmes. In the early 1980s, as a student at Brown University, she met Todd Haynes, whose debut film, *Poison* (Teddy Award 1991), became the first feature film she produced. Ever since they have been an effective team. Vachon also produced the Academy Award-winning films *Boys Don't Cry* (Best Actress, Hilary Swank 2000) and *Still Alice* (Best Actress, Julianne Moore 2015); and last year, once more for Todd Haynes, *Carol* with Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara. Christine Vachon will be honoured with the Special Teddy at this year's award ceremony. She will be a guest of the Queer Academy Summit and present, as part of the Teddy30 anniversary programme, the Killer Films production *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* by John Cameron Mitchell, which won the Teddy Award in 2001.

Panorama 2016

Aloys - Swiss / France

By Tobias Nölle

With Georg Friedrich, Tilde von Overbeck

World premiere

El rey del Once (The Tenth Man) - Argentina

By Daniel Burman

With Alan Sabbagh, Julieta Zylberberg, Usher Barilka, Elvira

Onetto

World premiere

Goat - USA

By Andrew Neel

With Ben Schnetzer, Nick Jonas, James Franco

International premiere

Grüße aus Fukushima (Fukushima, mon Amour) - Germany

By Doris Dörrie

With Rosalie Thomass, Kaori Momoi

World premiere

Indignation - USA

By James Schamus

With Logan Lerman, Sarah Gadon



Press Release

International premiere - debut

Jonathan - Germany

By Piotr J. Lewandowski

With Jannis Niewöhner, André Hennicke, Julia Koschitz,
Thomas Sarbacher, Barbara Auer

World premiere - debut

Kater (Tomcat) - Austria

By Händl Klaus

With Lukas Turtur, Philipp Hochmair

World premiere

La helada negra (The Black Frost) - Argentina

By Maximiliano Schonfeld

With Ailín Salas, Lucas Schell, Benigno Lell

World premiere

Lantouri - Iran

By Reza Dormishian

With Navid Mohammadzadeh, Maryam Palizban, Baran Kosari

International premiere

Little Men - USA

Cross-Section *Generation*

By Ira Sachs

With Jennifer Ehle, Greg Kinnear, Paulina García, Alfred Molina

International premiere

Ranenny Angel (The Wounded Angel) - Kazakhstan / France /
Germany

By Emir Baigazin

With Nurlybek Saktaganov, Madiar Aripbai, Madiar Nazarov,
Omar Adilov

World premiere

While the Women Are Sleeping - Japan

By Wayne Wang

With Beat Takeshi, Hidetoshi Nishijima, Shioli Kutsuna, Sayuri Oyamada,
Lily Franky

World premiere



Press Release

Panorama Dokumente

Der Ost-Komplex (The GDR Complex) - Germany

By Jochen Hick

World premiere

Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures - USA / Germany

By Fenton Bailey, Randy Barbato

With Edward Mapplethorpe, Debbie Harry, Patti Smith, Gloria von Thurn und Taxis

International premiere

Mariupolis - Lithuania / Germany / France / Ukraine

By Mantas Kvedaravicius

World premiere

Uncle Howard - United Kingdom / USA

By Aaron Brookner

With Jim Jarmusch, Sara Driver, Tom DiCillo, Brad Gooch, Robert Wilson, William S Burroughs, Frederic Mitterand

European premiere

Press Office

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