

Press Release



Berlinale Launches First Endowed Documentary Award in 2017

Thanks to the support of Glashütte Original watch manufacturer from Saxony, the Berlin International Film Festival is launching a new award, the Glashütte Original Documentary Award.

This prize for the best documentary film will be endowed with € 50,000, funded by Glashütte Original. A total of about 18 documentary entries from the current programmes of the *Competition*, *Panorama*, *Forum*, *Generation*, *Berlinale Special* and *Perspektive Deutsches Kino* sections as well as the *Culinary Cinema* special series will be nominated for the Glashütte Original Documentary Award. A three-member jury will pick the winner - the prize money will be split between the film's director and producer. The prize will be presented during the official Award Ceremony in the Berlinale Palast.

For many years now, the Berlin International Film Festival has been committed to documentary film and diverse documentary forms. This was evident not only in the programmes of the different sections, initiatives and special series but also in the *European Film Market (EFM)*. In 2016 a total of 77 documentary films and documentary forms were screened. In addition, the discourse has increasingly included the diverse aspects of documentary film - at workshops, on panels and in presentations.

"We are extremely delighted that together with our long-standing partner we will be able to intensify our commitment to documentary film at the Berlinale with the Glashütte Original Documentary Award. The award is an important signal for the field of documentary film, and at the same time a sign of respect and appreciation for the filmmakers who often have to realize their projects at great personal risk," says Festival Director Dieter Kosslick.

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Presse

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Rich in tradition, the German watch manufacturer will become a Principal Partner of the festival as of 2017. In addition to the prize money, Glashütte Original will also provide the trophy, which will be finely crafted in the company's manufactory in Saxony.

"Our long-standing relationship with the Berlinale is marked in particular by the nearness of content between our manufactory and the Festival. There are a number of intersections between the art of watchmaking and the art of filmmaking. We are therefore extraordinarily pleased that we will not only be supporting the Berlinale as a Principal Partner in 2017, but also promoting a very special form of film with the Glashütte Original Documentary Award," states Yann Gamard, CEO of Glashütte Original.

Press Office
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