

Press Release



World Premiere of *Django* to Open the Berlinale 2017

On February 9, 2017, the 67th Berlin International Film Festival will open with the world premiere of Etienne Comar's directorial debut: *Django*.

Django will participate in the official competition of the Berlinale. The French film revolves around Django Reinhardt, the famous guitarist and composer, and his flight from German-occupied Paris in 1943. Within moments, this superb guitarist was able to reach people's hearts with his instrument. Yet as Sinti, his family was harassed and hounded by the Nazis.

"Django Reinhardt was one of the most brilliant pioneers of European jazz and the father of Gypsy Swing. *Django* grippingly portrays one chapter in the musician's eventful life and is a poignant tale of survival. Constant danger, flight and the atrocities committed against his family could not make him stop playing," says Berlinale Director Dieter Kosslick.

Director Etienne Comar has already made a name for himself as a screenwriter and producer - *Of Gods and Men*, *Haute Cuisine*, *My King* - and co-producer - *The Women on the 6th Floor*, *Timbuktu*.

For *Django*, Comar's first work as a director, he cast actor Reda Kateb (*Far from Men*) in the title role. Starring alongside him are Cécile de France (*The Kid with a Bike*), as well as Alex Brendemühl and Ulrich Brandhoff.

The screenplay is written by Etienne Comar and Alexis Salatko. Django Reinhardt's music was re-recorded for the film by the famous Dutch jazz band Rosenberg Trio.

The film is produced by Fidélité, Arches Films and Pathé. Pathé International will be handling international sales.

Press Office
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Press

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