

## Press Release



### Tom Tykwer to Head Up the Jury for the 2018 Berlinale

German director, screenwriter, film composer, and producer Tom Tykwer will serve as jury president of the 68<sup>th</sup> Berlin International Film Festival.

“Tom Tykwer is one of the highest-profile German directors and has established himself on the international stage as a great filmmaker. His outstanding talent and innovative trademark have been on display in a variety of film genres. We have gained a superb jury president in Tom Tykwer,” says Festival Director Dieter Kosslick.

Since 1992, the prize-winning, internationally renowned filmmaker has presented six of his films at the Berlinale. The first was his short film *Epilog* in the 1992 *Panorama* section. The Berlin International Film Festival has twice opened with Tykwer films - *Heaven* (2002) and *The International* (2009). Also seen at the festival were his short *True* (2004), as well as the film projects *Germany 09: 13 Short Films About the State of the Nation* (2009) and *Rosakinder* (2013), both anthology films made with other German directors.

“The Berlinale has always been my favourite and my home film festival, and has supported me since I began working as a filmmaker. We have a fantastic and broad history with each other. Now I can look forward to two focused and fun weeks of films with the jury”, says Tom Tykwer with regard to his jury presidency.

Tom Tykwer originally studied philosophy in Berlin, and worked as a projectionist and manager of the Moviemiento cinema before making his first feature *Deadly Maria* in 1993. In 1994, he joined Stefan Arndt, Wolfgang Becker, and Dani Levy in founding the production company X Filme Creative Pool. He co-wrote the screenplay for Becker’s film *Life is All You Get* (Berlinale Competition 1996). In 1997, he directed *Winter Sleepers*, followed in 1998 by *Run Lola Run*, which marked his international breakthrough.

After *The Princess and the Warrior* (2000), which he shot in his hometown of Wuppertal, he made his first English-language film *Heaven*, based on the last screenplay written by Krzysztof Kieślowski. Cate Blanchett played the lead. Further international productions followed with *Perfume: The Story of a Murderer* (2006), based on Patrick Süskind’s novel, and *The International* (2009 Berlinale opening film).

*Three* (2010), for which Tykwer won the German Film Prize for best director, was followed in 2012 by *Cloud Atlas*. The film, based on the eponymous bestseller by David Mitchell, was the first time Tykwer

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worked as a director with the Wachowskis (the *Matrix* trilogy). Tykwer composed music for and directed several episodes of the siblings' Netflix series *Sense8* (2015 - 2017).

Tykwer's feature *A Hologram for the King*, with Tom Hanks in the lead, was released in 2016. The director adapted the screenplay himself from the novel by Dave Eggers.

For his most recent turn at the helm, Tykwer has ventured into episodic television. *Babylon Berlin* is based on a series of books by Volker Kutscher and is set in Berlin during the Weimar era. Tom Tykwer co-directed the first 16 episodes of *Babylon Berlin* with Achim von Borries and Henk Handloegten.

Since the beginning of his career, Tom Tykwer has always composed the music for his own films, and has recently been collaborating with Johnny Klimek. He received numerous awards for the *Cloud Atlas* soundtrack, as well as a Golden Globe nomination for best composer.

In addition to often functioning as writer, director, producer, and composer on his own films, Tom Tykwer has also been a producer on the films *Gigantic* (1999, dir: Sebastian Schipper), *Soundless* (2004, dir: Mennan Yapo), *A Friend of Mine* (2006, dir: Sebastian Schipper) and *The Heart is a Dark Forest* (2007, dir: Nicolette Krebitz).

Press Office  
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