

CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2020

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Spotlight Mark Jenkin, Program section Architecture and Society, YAAAS!
Competition films & school screenings

Festival kick-off in three months

In three months the CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival in Linz will kick off its **17th edition**. From **April 21 to 26 2020**, CROSSING EUROPE dedicates itself for six days (plus the “bonus day” on April 27) entirely to European film and invites over **150 filmmakers** from all over Europe to come to Linz, and give the festival audiences the possibility of entering into a direct exchange with the creatives. As a European cultural event, the festival intends to give a **differentiated insight into the here and now in Europe** through around **150 fiction and documentary films**, and **celebrate cinema culture** over the course of the week.

An important pillar for the success of the past years of the festival was the long-term connection with various local, national, and international partners. From the very start onward, it was important to CROSSING EUROPE to enter into **partnerships with topical connecting points**. In regards to this, the following **co-operations in 2020** should be mentioned: **VALIE EXPORT Center Linz** (Tribute 2020: VALIE EXPORT), the school **HBLA für künstlerische Gestaltung Linz** (YAAAS! Youth Program), our well established location partner, the **Upper Austrian Culture Quarter** (festival center), the **Austrian Film Museum** (Spotlight 2020: Mark Jenkin), as well as in regards to sponsoring, our long standing bank sponsor the **Bank Austria**. - Over the course of the next months, this list will be continually expanded.

At the moment the festival office is concerned entirely with the final selection of films, after months of watching around 900 European films – among which were 150 films by local filmmakers from Upper Austria – the programmatic direction is being set. So much can already be said, this year’s festival edition will take the festival audiences on an enthusiastic virtual trip through Europe with contemporary cinematographic works that could be best described as being **“lively, creative, open to world, multi-lingual, critical and diverse”**.

In this context, we are proud to announce further **programmatic highlights** of the 17th edition of CROSSING EUROPE (in December we already revealed the [Tribute 2020](#) to VALIE EXPORT): This year’s **Spotlight** will be dedicated to the British director **Mark Jenkin**, the program section **Architecture and Society** will deal with the topic “Mobility Defines Space”, and our YAAAS! Young Programmers have already made their selection for the competition section **YAAAS! Competition** – three of the six feature films will additionally be shown in special school screenings. And now a more detailed look at these program highlights:

Spotlight 2020: Mark Jenkin (GB)

Following the award winning, Turkish director Yeşim Ustaoglu, the Romanian producer Ada Solomon, and the Albanian filmmaker and film conservator Iris Elezi, CROSSING EUROPE will shine a light on the works of the **independent British filmmaker, screenwriter, cinematographer, and cutter Mark Jenkin** in the program section SPOTLIGHT. Mark Jenkin has previously been a guest in Linz when he presented his much-talked-about feature film debut [BAIT](#) (GB 2019) in Linz. Additionally he will be part of the jury "Competition Fiction" at CROSSING EUROPE 2020.

Mark Jenkin (*1976) is originally from **Cornwall** in the south-west of England, where he also lives and works today. Since 1997, he has produced more than **fifty short and medium length films**, next to his work as an independent filmmaker, he also teaches at the Falmouth University in Cornwall. In 2012 he wrote the "Silent Landscape Dancing Grain 13 Film Manifesto", in which he outlines the **essence of his filmmaking** through thirteen rules.

He achieved his international breakthrough in 2019 with his **debut feature film BAIT (2019)** that had its world premiere at the Berlinale and was shown in Austria for the first time in the competition section at CROSSING EUROPE. In BAIT he draws from previous short films, **both on a thematic, as well as on a formal level**, such as the location of the story on the coast of Cornwall, and the change in relation to traditional ways of life and work, or the highly noteworthy visual aesthetics in a grainy black-and-white. BAIT was filmed on 16mm film, and the sound was separately added later on – something that is typical for Jenkin's works – thereby creating a special intensity in its imagery and sound. Critics were highly enthusiastic about the artful way in which the film managed to discuss such a cumbersome topic as gentrification (without losing a sense of humor), the quality newspaper The Guardian hails the film "one of the most decisive British film of the decade". It is therefore no wonder that the film was nominated in two categories for the prestigious British film prize BAFTA.

The Spotlight consists of a **selection of short films**, as well as the feature film debut BAIT (GB 2019). This year's Spotlight guest Mark Jenkin will also be personally attending the screenings in Linz, as well as in the Austrian Film Museum in Vienna (April 26). Additionally there will be a Spotlight talk at CROSSING EUROPE.

| Film selection – Spotlight Mark Jenkin |

- ❖ Bronco's House (GB 2015; 44 min.) – Austrian premiere
- ❖ Dear Marianne (GB 2016; 6 min.) – Austrian premiere
- ❖ The Road to Zennor (GB 2016; 2 min.) – Austrian premiere
- ❖ David Bowie Is Dead (GB 2018; 17 min.) – Austrian premiere
- ❖ Hard, Cracked the Wind (GB 2019; 17 min.) – Austrian premiere

- ❖ Bait (GB 2019; 87 min.) – Austrian premiere at Crossing Europe 2019

| The Spotlight 2020 is presented in collaboration with the [Austrian Film Museum](#).|



ARCHITECTURE AND SOCIETY

Mobility Defines Space (in cooperation with the [afo architekturforum oberösterreich](#))

For the eleventh time, CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz will present the program section **Architecture and Society** in cooperation with the afo architekturforum oberösterreich. This year's selection ties in thematically with the exhibition by the afo that is planned for April concerning the topic of **mobility**. The program that was curated by Lotte Schreiber is a selection of four documentaries that examine the social and spacial implication of the increasing and changing mobility of today. In doing so, the films inspect the relationships of local, as well as translocal interests, and take a look at questions concerning power relations and individual responsibility.

In **AUTOBAHN**, the young, German director Daniel Abma takes us along on a documentary long-term observation of the concrete effects of the rise in transit, in relation to inclusion and exclusionary processes concerning social spaces. Over the course of eight years he accompanied the inhabitants of Bad Oeyenhausen and documented the tedious process of completing a stretch of highway and the consequences that this had for the people that live there. In the impressive documentary **THE MILKY WAY** by Luigi D'Alife the story is told of a mountain region at the Italian-French border – during the day it is a popular skiing resort, yet at night the mighty mountains become a death trap for many refugees attempting to enter France.

| **Announcement of the first two titles from the section ARCHITECTURE AND SOCIETY** |

- ❖ AUTOBAHN (DE 2019; director: Daniel Abma; 85 min.) – Austrian premiere
- ❖ THE MILKY WAY (IT 2020; director: Luigi D'Alife; 84min.) – Austrian premiere

Further titles will be announced in March 2020.

YAAAS! Competition films & school screenings

The YAAAS! Competition is one of the four competition sections, and one of the modules of the **YAAAS! Youth program** at CROSSING EUROPE that established a **holistic program for film mediation, the acquisition of media competency and DIY-video production**. YAAAS! is aimed at youths between the ages of 15 and 20, who get the chance to enter into an exchange with international media professionals, learn new skills, see and discuss films, as well as present their own works within the framework of a professional film festival. Apart from the screenings of the YAAAS! Competition films, a youth jury, and a video project spanning multiple days, the YAAAS! Youth program offer a series of **practical workshops** on Friday April 24 that is aimed at individuals, but is also suitable to class excursions.

In the YAAAS! Competition, the **YAAAS! Youth Jury** selects the winner of the **festival prize CROSSING EUROPE Award – Youth Jury** – endowed with 3000€. The YAAAS! Competition is a selection of current European feature films that were hand-picked by the **YAAAS! Young Programmers**. The **five youths**, Magdalena Chan, Jonas Mayrhofer, Kara Musch, Hanna Triefhaider, and Sabine Wimmer, who all visit our partner school, the HBLA für künstlerische Gestaltung in Linz, were asked to select **six feature films** for the YAAAS! Competition. After being given an introduction into the process of curating films for a festival, they have been sighting a great number of films since October last year.

In the end, six feature films were selected that all deal with the multitude of **living realities of youths and young adults** in various ways. In addition, the Young Programmers will be responsible for the Q&A sessions after the screenings of the YAAAS! Competition films, and will take care of the participants of the YAAAS! Workshop program.

The following **three YAAAS! Competition films** will also be shown in **special school screenings**, that are already open for registrations. Details, film descriptions, and links to trailers, as well as **school materials** for the preparation and follow-up of the festival attendance can be found [HERE](#). The other three films will be announced in the following press releases.

- ❖ **Tuesday, 21 April:** 10:15 am
[KOKON / COCOON](#) (DE 2020, director: Leonie Krippendorff, 94 min.) – feature-length fiction
- ❖ **Wednesday, 22. April:** 10:15 am
[PAPICHA](#) (FR/DZ/BE/QA 2019, director: Mounia Meddour, 105 min.) – feature-length fiction
| *Distribution in Austria: Polyfilm; release date: tba* |
- ❖ **Thursday, 23. April:** 10:15 am
[ALL FOR MY MOTHER / WSZYSTKO DLA MOJEJ MATKI](#) (PL 2019, director: Małgorzata Imielska, 103 min.) – feature-length fiction

| All details for the YAAAS! Youth Program can be found at [HERE](#). |

Dates and Deadlines

Program press conference: **8 April 2020 – Linz, 10 am, City-Kino**
Festival dates: **21 to 26 April 2020**
Screening award winning films ("Bonus day"): **27 April 2020, City-Kino**

Photos & Updates

Filmstills & Photo materials: <https://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/pressefotos.html>
Logo & Festivalsujet: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/logos>
Festival impressions: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/crossingeurope/collections/>
Regular **updates** and **current information** on CROSSING EUROPE 2020 can be found on our website at www.crossingeurope.at as well as on our social media channels on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).