



CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz // 25 – 30 April 2014 // www.crossingEurope.at

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Media Information – Linz, 30 April 2014

CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2014

Resume: overflowing cinemas and international festival flair

*Today the **eleventh** CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz comes to an **extremely successful conclusion**. For six days enthusiasm for European filmmaking turned Linz into the center of the international festival map. Once again, this enthusiasm mobilized over **20,000 visitors** (estimating the last day of the festival with 28 film programs and the networking event "Picture your SOUND your Picture"), who imbued the capital of Upper Austria with an inimitable festival flair.*

Daring to **orientate the contents of an entire festival to Europe**, but without losing sight of marginal zones, socio-political imbalances or social wounds, has again proved its worth – much to the delight of the Festival Director Christine Dollhofer and her team on the last day of the festival today.

This year the festival began with an impressive festival opening on Friday, 25 April – the opening event, the film screenings and the Nightline were already stormed by the audience. This trend happily continued, which is due, not least of all, to the presence of numerous renowned international film guests (including the outstanding directors Joanna Hogg and Claire Simon and the Italian old master of horror Dario Argento), who further enhanced the attractiveness of the festival. A total of **184** feature films, documentaries, and short films from **37** different countries (including 98 Austrian premieres and 28 world premieres) flickered across the screens, and roughly 700 industry guests from Austria and abroad – including over 150 film guests – were counted.

Festival Director Christine Dollhofer looks back on an inspiring week: over 20,000 **festival guests and film and music lovers** attended the film screenings, exhibitions, talks, lectures and the Nightline of the festival. Although the number of events in the framework program was somewhat reduced this year, due to a significant increase in the number of visitors in the cinemas at the screenings, last year's record of 20,000 visitors was just surpassed – this is a clear affirmation of the programmatic orientation of the festival.

From the beginning, CROSSING EUROPE has been devoted to the idea of arousing enthusiasm for sophisticated European filmmaking – the **uncompromising program selection**, international and local networking, and a direct engagement with the (international) filmmakers have thus again proved their worth. Keyword engagement: never before have so many festival guests attended the discussion and talk events, actively taking part in the film discourse. In addition, horror film fans were especially thrilled – Giallo director Dario Argento from Italy enhanced the festival with his charming presence.

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OUTLOOK

At the end of this festival week rich in encounters and relevant exchanges, CROSSING EUROPE sees itself affirmed in its European orientation and as a trend-setting film culture event. This makes Festival Director Christine Dollhofer feel optimistic that the festival will remain so well received by the audience in the future as well, and at the same time she hopes to be able to count on a strong commitment on the part of the main funders, further funding and event partners and sponsors. Then it will be possible to further stabilize CROSSING EUROPE and continue the festival at a high level.

CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2015

The twelfth festival will take place in late April 2015. The exact dates will be announced in May 2014, following an evaluation of this year's festival.

AWARDS PRESENTATION - CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2014

The presentation of awards in the eleventh CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz took place yesterday in the Ursulinensaal in the Upper Austrian Culture Quarter. The evening was moderated by Markus Zett, and Tanja Brüggemann-Stepien provided a fascinating sound experience. With numerous international film guests, representatives from the industry and the press present, as well as representatives of the funders and sponsors, and from politics – including members of the Provincial Government Elisabeth Manhal and Josef Ackerl, Vice-Mayor and Speaker for Culture Bernhard Baier, and Mayor Klaus Luger – the CROSSING EUROPE AWARDS were presented.

CROSSING EUROPE AWARD European Competition

// € 10.000,- powered by Linz Kultur & Land Oberösterreich / Kultur

Ex aequo decision, i.e. € 5.000,- each go to

Thierry de Peretti for **LES APACHES / APACHES** (FR 2013)

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5371>

// The film will be shown on Wednesday, 30 April, at 8:15 pm in Movie1. //

and to

Liliana Torres for **FAMILY TOUR** (ES 2013)

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5373>

// The film will be shown on Thursday, 1 May, at 3:00 pm in Movie1. //

As the international festival jury [José Luis Cienfuegos (ES), Petar Mitric (RS), Pascale Ramonda (FR)] stated their unanimous decision: "APACHES by Thierry de Peretti for its radical way in presenting the life of today's disoriented youth with a powerful directing. And FAMILY TOUR by Liliana Torres for its very respectful and brilliant exploration of the topic and as a strong representative of the rising young Spanish cinema.

CROSSING EUROPE AUDIENCE AWARD

// € 1.000,- powered by Crossing Europe

// TorinoFilmLab Meeting Event Package powered by ray film magazine & Creative Europe Desk Austria – MEDIA

// Hotel Voucher sponsored by Park Inn by Radisson Linz – First Hotel Partner of CROSSING EUROPE

Carlos Marques-Marcet for **LONG DISTANCE / 10.000 KM** (ES/US 2014)

Link zum Film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5375>

// The film will be shown on Wednesday, 30 April, at 10:45 pm in Movie1. //

CROSSING EUROPE SOCIAL AWARENESS AWARD for European Documentaries

// € 6.000,- powered by Land Oberösterreich / Soziales

Luca Bellino and Silvia Luzi for **DELL'ARTE DELLA GUERRA / ON THE ART OF WAR** (IT/US 2012)

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5392>

The FEDEORA jury [Blagoja Kunovski (MK), Vladan Petkovic (RS), Jörg Schiffauer (AT)] emphasized: “The author duo Silvia Luzi and Luca Bellino create a powerful atmosphere dealing with a current socio-political conflict in Italian society: with an extremely honest and human approach, with their consequence in observing the eternal class struggle between profit-oriented capitalist bosses and proletarian workers fighting for their rights, social survival and – above all – human dignity.”

Special Mention: Robert Kirchhoff for **KAUZA CERVANOVÁ / NORMALIZATION** (SK/CZ 2013)

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5396>

The FEDEORA jury [Blagoja Kunovski (MK), Vladan Petkovic (RS), Jörg Schiffauer (AT)] summarizes: “In its courage in taking up such a controversial subject, its precision in investigating the many different aspects of this case and with artistic mastery in conveying its subject matter KAUZA CERVANOVÁ / NORMALIZATION exemplifies brilliantly what documentary filmmaking is all about.”

FEDEORA AWARD for European Documentaries

of the Critics' Association Fededora (Federation of Film Critics of Europe and the Mediterranean)

Claire Simon for **GÉOGRAPHIE HUMAINE / HUMAN GEOGRAPHY** (FR 2013)

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5394>

// The film will be shown on Wednesday, 30 April, at 9:30 pm in Movie3. //

The FEDEORA jury [Blagoja Kunovski (MK), Vladan Petkovic (RS), Jörg Schiffauer (AT)] praised the film as follows: “For the inventive use of a microcosm as a background for the universal representation of crucial contemporary social issues, through a fundamentally cinematic framing and an exquisite editing rhythm, the Fededora Award for European Documentaries goes to GÉOGRAPHIE HUMAINE / HUMAN GEOGRAPHY by Claire Simon.”

CROSSING EUROPE AWARD Local Artist

// € 5.000,- powered by Land Oberösterreich / Kultur

// € 2.000,- Voucher from the company Synchro Film, Video & Audio Bearbeitungs GmbH, Vienna

Selma Doborac for **ES WAR EIN TAG WIE JEDER ANDERE IM FRÜHLING ODER SOMMER/IT WAS A DAY JUST LIKE ANY OTHER IN SPRING OR SUMMER** (AT/BA 2012)

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5445>

The Local Artists jury [Brigitta Burger-Utzer (AT), Sebastian Höglinger (AT), Sabine Retschitzegger (AT)] stated: "The Local Artist Award 2014 goes to a film that stands out in its formal consistency; a film that demands relentless concentration from the audience. Memories of a day in the Bosnian war are meanderingly woven into a verbal image. The text level is actually inscribed in the film picture, sometimes overwrites it, and its physical presence rejects any aestheticization of what is remembered. In keeping with this, the sound remains silent. Specifically this de-dramatization of the events, however, allows an inkling of the trauma that is never named as such."

Special Mention: Kornelia Kugler and Hanna Bergfors for **PERFORMANCE** (DE 2014)

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5429%20>

The Local Artists jury [Brigitta Burger-Utzer (AT), Sebastian Höglinger (AT), Sabine Retschitzegger (AT)] decided: "the performative is inscribed in the everyday life of the protagonists and continued in the film – a 'no budget' life: colorful, energetic, self-confident, and refreshingly original."

CROSSING EUROPE SOCIAL AWARENESS AWARD Local Artist

// € 5.000,- powered by Land Oberösterreich / Soziales

Alexandra Schneider for **PRIVATE REVOLUTIONS** (AT 2014)

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/index.php?id=6532&movie=5430&L=1>

// The film will be shown on Wednesday, 30 April, at 4:00 pm in Movie2. //

The Local Artists jury [Brigitta Burger-Utzer (AT), Sebastian Höglinger (AT), Sabine Retschitzegger (AT)] summarized: "The Social Awareness Award goes to a debut film, a powerful documentary film accompanying four women from Cairo over a period of two years. The wisely selected protagonists are distinguished by their tremendous political and social commitment. Yet the filmmaker also gently enters their everyday life and private sphere. The director pays tribute to the energy, courage, audacity and determination of her protagonists, who have to resist patriarchal structures as well as to stand their ground as women in the dangerous time of revolutionary upheavals in Egypt."

CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AWARD - RESIDENCY

// € 6.000,- powered by CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria

Jakob Kubizek for **SLEEP SLEEP - Gospel** (AT 2013) and **SELBE STADT ANDERER PLANET – Kreisky** (AT 2013)

Link to the videos: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/sections/film.html?L=1&movie=5490> and <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5488>

For the first time, the CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AWARD – RESIDENCY jury [Karin Fisslthaler (AT), Nathan James Tettey (GB), Timo Schierhorn (DE)] awarded the CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AWARD – RESIDENCY, newly announced by the CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria, with the statement: "Both films have very different kind of themes. One is a found-footage music video creating a dark atmosphere. It's a well designed piece of work with a strong edit and manages to use the original sound. The other film is in complete contrast. A staged unconventional performance video with a subtle humor filmed in one shot. Both videos elevate the music with strong ideas that hold your attention until the end."

CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AUDIENCE AWARD

// € 1.500,- powered by CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria

Andreea Săsăran and Katja Seifert for **MELTINGSPHERE – Richard Eigner & Abby Lee Tee** (AT 2014)

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/sections/film.html?L=1&movie=5484>

This prize is awarded now for the second time, decided this year for the first time by the audience.

CROSSING EUROPE AWARD Local Artist Atelierpreis

// Atelier space for one year, powered by Atelierhaus Salzamt der Stadt Linz

Award-winner: Markus Burgstaller for **UNTENDED OUTSKIRTS**

Link to the film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5471>

// **Ticket reservations** from 10:00 am to 11:00 pm via the info hotline 0680 506 1 506 //

IMAGE MATERIAL, TRAILER & UPDATES

Image material, film stills & film trailers: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/pressefotos/>

Logo & festival motif: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/logos>

Regular **updates** and **current information** on CROSSING EUROPE 2014 can be found as ever on our website www.crossingEurope.at and through our social media channels [Facebook](#), [google+](#), [Flickr](#) and [Twitter](#).
