



CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz // 12. – 17. April 2011 // www.crossingEurope.at

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Media Information – Linz, February 2011

CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2011

Information about the program section CITY-MIGRATION-IDENTITY, as well as this year's OK Artist in Residence HUND&HORN and the OK exhibition MOVING STORIES. In addition, SILHOUETTE INTERNATIONAL SCHMIED AG is announced as a main sponsor for the first time, and Christine Dollhofer is named program delegate for the San Sebastián International Film Festival.

In 2011 the second largest international film festival in Austria undertakes again to turn Linz into a multifaceted festival hot spot for just under a week. CROSSING EUROPE remains true to its program, presenting from **Tuesday, 12 April, to Sunday, 17 April 2011, contemporary, willful, socio-political auteur cinema from Europe**. Once again, a record number of European and regional film productions have been entered, over 800 films were viewed in the past month; roughly **140 film programs** will be shown in the festival – most of them Austrian premieres. Here is a small preview of the eighth edition of the CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz:

PROGRAM SECTION City-Migration-Identity (in cooperation with afo)

For the second time, **in cooperation with the Architecture Forum Upper Austria (afo)**, CROSSING EUROPE presents a program section on the theme of "Architecture and Film". All four of the film programs curated by the Austrian artist and filmmaker Lotte Schreiber deal with the theme of **CITY-MIGRATION-IDENTITY** at different levels: **four films – four European cities – four stories**, all dealing with the spatial proximity of different cultures, religions and political framework conditions. Migration is one of the defining factors of reality in the modern European city and is part of the self-image of an urban feeling. On the other hand, it is clearly evident that the marginal social positions of migrants is closely linked to their spatial situation within the fabric of a city. **NEUKÖLLN UNLIMITED** (DE 2010, D: Agostino Imondi & Dietmar Ratsch), one of the selected documentaries, tells of the never-ending struggle for the right of residence of three Lebanese siblings in the Berlin migrant district of Neukölln. The film programs will be supplemented by a **panel discussion on Saturday, 16 April at 1:30 pm**.

OK Artist in Residence & OK Exhibition

Following Siegfried A. Fruhauf in 2004 and Rainer Gamsjäger last year, this year CROSSING EUROPE again welcomes young Austrian media artists from the crossover area of film/visual arts with **Harald Hund (*1967) and Paul Horn (*1966)** as **OK Artist in Residence**. They are currently working on their new film installation **APNOE** ("respiratory arrest"; AT 2010/2011), which will be presented to the public for the first time during CROSSING EUROPE and forms the third part of their "**Gravity Trilogy**". In the first two parts, **TOMATENKÖPFE/TOMATO HEADS** (AT 2002) and **DROPPING FURNITURE** (AT 2008; CROSSING EUROPE Award Local Artist 2009), **Hund&Horn have already ironically taken spatial conditions and the notion of normality to the point of absurdity**. People are placed here

in a seemingly ordinary initial situation, but under special gravitational conditions. Such is also the case in APNOE, where a family lives under water and thus under difficult conditions – they have trouble getting air, both metaphorically and literally. In addition to the presentation of APNOE, a short film program of Hund&Horn will also be shown in the cinema during the festival week.

With **MOVING STORIES** the OK "Offenes Kulturhaus" Upper Austria presents an outstanding media art exhibition from 12 to 17 April 2011, which includes new work by Candice Breitz (MOVING STORIES, 2010) and Nicolas Provost (UNTITLED, 2010). **The touring exhibition MOVING STORIES is a project that explores narrative strategies in media art.** Along with the OK, five European partner organizations from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Poland act as laboratories for innovation in the field of exhibition and presentation. **Six artists** were invited to explore **innovative strategies in dealing with moving images in their artistic practice.** The contribution from the OK by last year's OK Artist in Residence Rainer Gamsjäger, CLUSTER (AT 2010), was already presented at CROSSING EUROPE 2010. Further information is available from www.moving-stories.eu.

New Festival Trailer STRADELLA Online From Today

As previously announced, CROSSING EUROPE has again been able to win an established Linz filmmaker for the festival trailer: STRADELLA (AT 2010) by Edith Stauber (*1968). – Her sound collage composed of ever new sequences of words and melodies, breaks and interferences, is able to take the audience along on **an imaginary journey right across Europe.** The analog frequency display of the transistor radio "Stradella" indicates different locations – from Budapest to Luxembourg, from Linz to London – and a search for channels scans over the horizontal frequency scales. Seemingly disruptive sequences of interference conjoin with clear tones and announcements from radio broadcasts to form the sound of multilingual Europe. – Both an affectionate reference to the era of analog radio and a beautiful analogy for the festival title CROSSING EUROPE. STRADELLA can be viewed starting now **on the CROSSING EUROPE web site:** <http://www.crossingeurope.at/index.php?id=63&L=0>

NEWS From Behind the Scenes

Since early February 2011 Festival Director **Christine Dollhofer is an official program delegate at the San Sebastián International Film Festival** (www.sansebastianfestival.com), which takes place every year in September and has been under the direction from the start of the team of José Luis Rebordinos (Festival Director) and Lucía Olaciregui (Deputy Director). This means that in future Christine Dollhofer will share responsibility for the program selection from the countries of Austria, Germany and Switzerland at the acclaimed A-Festival in San Sebastián (ES).

FESTIVAL FINANCES & (new) SPONSORS

Confirmation of funding from the remainder funding pool from Linz 2009 European Capital of Culture in the amount of € 20.000,- for 2011 and the consistent support from the City of Linz, the Province of Upper Austria, the Austrian federal government and the European Union (MEDIA) are a promising development. On the other hand, some sponsors have had to reduce their funding after many years due to crisis and budget policies. Nevertheless, the festival can count on loyal sponsors again such as A1, Hypo OÖ, Trumer Privatbrauerei, and others, whose sponsorship has made up a substantial portion of the overall budget over the years. In addition, CROSSING EUROPE is especially pleased to have gained a renowned, internationally operating enterprise as a new sponsoring partner. With **Silhouette International Schmied AG** the festival has found a **main sponsor** for the first time; along with this, there is a new festival award this year: NEW VISION AWARD powered by Silhouette.

FESTIVAL AWARDS 2011

At the CROSSING EUROPE Award Presentation this year, on 16 April 2011 at 9 pm, awards will be presented with a value of € 24.000,- as well as non-cash prizes.

NEW AWARD STARTING 2011:

NEW VISION AWARD powered by Silhouette // € 5.000,-

The international jury of the NEW VISION AWARD will decide on one of the ten feature films in the program category PANORAMA EUROPA Fiction, which are all distinguished by outstanding achievement in the visual field. The award goes to the director of the winning film.

Additional information on all festival awards at: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/festival/preise-preistraeger.html>

PROGRAM PRESS CONFERENCES 2011

Linz – 31 March 2011: 10 am, OK "Offenes Kulturhaus" Upper Austria/Mediendeck

Vienna – 31 March 2011: 4 pm, Austrian Film Museum

PROGRAM STARTING 1 APRIL 2011

Festival newspaper and web site www.crossingeurope.at with the complete festival program //

Start of ticket pre-sales through the A1 Freeline 0800 664 060

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