



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

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Media Information – Linz, 17 April 2011

CROSSING EUROPE 2011: Cooperations, Film Weather and Record Number of Visitors

Media information for the resume discussion in the OK Mediendeck on 17 April, 12 noon.

For nearly a week, the weather in Linz was perfect for the cinema, leading to a veritable storm of visitors in the festival locations and galvanizing the atmosphere in the cinema foyers and at the Nightline parties. Once again, the entire city was under the spell of European film experience, and Festival Director Christine Dollhofer had much positive news to report.

On the last day of CROSSING EUROPE 2011 Festival Director Christine Dollhofer was able to draw a **resume of success** again. From the opening of the eighth edition of the festival on Tuesday, 12 April by Barbara Prammer, President of the National Assembly, to the Awards Presentation on Saturday evening with Governor Josef Pühringer present, roughly **19,000 festival guests, film and music lovers** visited film screenings, exhibitions, discussion events and the Festival Nightline. This means that the eighth edition of the festival has drawn a record number of visitors, even surpassing the festival edition in the Capital of Culture year, which was one day longer than this year. The numbers in comparison: 2009: 18,000 visitors; 2010: 17,000 visitors.

This proves the attractiveness of the festival program again, which as usual reflects the diversity of European filmmaking, as well as the high quality of the festival organization. In total, the program comprised **160 hand-picked feature films, documentaries and short films** (largely Austrian premieres and numerous world premieres) from **35 different countries**; about 140 directors and film guests were present to personally present their films to the festival audience. With **680 accredited international and national professional guests**, the interest of the film industry and media in CROSSING EUROPE was greater than ever before.

COOPERATIONS

The 2011 festival was characterized most of all by networking and cooperation – at both an international and a local level: there was a program collaboration again with the **Int. Film Festival Rotterdam** (2009: Young Turkish Cinema). CROSSING EUROPE presented a selection of Soviet and Eastern European western productions in the film history series RED WESTERNS. The **SAM SPIEGEL FILM & TV SCHOOL** (Jerusalem) and the **Animateka Animation Film Festival** (Ljubljana) presented themselves with film highlights.

Numerous local event and cooperation partners enabled an “expansion” of the established “festival district” around the festival center **OK “Offenes Kulturhaus” Upper Austria**, the festival cinemas **Movimiento** and **City Kino** and the **Kapu**; these included **bb15 Space for Contemporary Art** (Special Stuart Croft), the **Atelierhaus Salzamt Linz** (flip-book exhibition), the **Galerie Maerz** (exhibition of Lotte Schreiber / Michael Goldgruber), **Lentos Art Museum** (Expedition Lumiere with Siegfried A. Fruhauf), **Hosi Linz** (screening YES, WE ARE) and **ANN AND PAT**

CROSSING EUROPE thanks the main sponsor Silhouette and the co-sponsors A1 Telekom Austria, Hypo OÖ and LG Electronics Austria.

Jugendkulturbox (screening NEUKÖLLN UNLIMITED), as well as the **AFO Architecture Forum Upper Austria** (program cooperation CITY-MIGRATION-IDENTITY) and the **Culture Department of the Student Union of the Johannes Kepler University Linz** (screening CZECH PEACE), a cooperation partner since 2010, but also the **Upper Austrian Chamber of Labor** (program cooperation WORKING WORLDS) – a partner from the beginning.

A guest at Crossing Europe for the first time was the **EUXXL FORUM** with an international professional conference. The cooperation between CROSSING EUROPE and the EUXXL FORUM, achieved for the first time in 2011, was a success. The international guests of the EUXXL FORUM discussed such important issues as co-productions, copyright and the sometimes difficult working conditions for filmmakers. Encounters between European politicians and decision-makers and the CROSSING EUROPE film guests and their work enhanced understanding on both sides and showed promising ideas for solutions. A detailed report will be available the end of April 2011 at www.eu-xxl.at. The **CROSSING EUROPE FestivalTV** – also a premiere in 2011 – was produced in the form of a workshop by Kino5 (Nisi Masa), the Art University Linz in cooperation with DORF TV. All the features produced during the festival week can be viewed on the [festival website](#).

RESUME & OUTLOOK

Following last year's financial interim low, through the commitment on the part of cultural policy decision-makers and with additional new sponsor partners, such as the new main sponsor Silhouette International Schmied AG and the co-sponsor LG Electronics Austria, the festival has again been able to work with a total budget as in 2009. This allows the festival team to look forward to the future with confidence and to the coming festival edition, which will take place from 24 to 29 April 2012.

AWARDS & AWARD-WINNERS 2011

The [CROSSING EUROPE Award European Competition 2011](#) with prize money of 10,000 Euro is divided equally between [CARACREMADA](#) (ES 2010) by Lluís Galter and [IM ALTER VON ELLEN/AT ELLEN'S AGE](#) (DE 2010) by Pia Marais. This means that Lluís Galter and Pia Marais each receive 5,000 Euro. The International Festival Jury – Paolo Bertolin (IT), Birgit Kohler (DE), Renen Schorr (IL) – praised the two winning films for their “equally daring and unconventional artistic stances to the questions their characters and topics raise.”

//IM ALTER VON ELLEN/AT ELLEN'S AGE will be shown again on Sunday, 17 April at 8:30 pm in City 1. //

The [NEW VISION AWARD powered by Silhouette](#) (5,000 Euro), awarded this year for the first time, goes to Oleg Novkovic for [BELI BELI SVET/WHITE WHITE WORLD](#) (RS/DE/SE 2010). The jury – Emilie Boucheteil (FR), Martin Gschlacht (AT), Silvia Schlagnitweit (AT) – emphasized “the special staging, coupled with a brilliant ensemble of actors, and an intensity reminiscent of a Greek tragedy of this drama of the present day.”

The film that found the most favor among the audience was [PÁL ADRIENN/ADRIENN PAL](#) (HU/NL/AT/FR; Austrian distributor: Pool Filmverleih) by Ágnes Kocsis, which was awarded the [AUDIENCE AWARD powered by LG](#), also for the first time this year, and brings the director prize money of 3,000 Euro. There was a drawing for festival passes for 2012 and a CROSSING MOVIE CARD among all the audience jurors.

The [CROSSING EUROPE Award European Documentary powered by ORF](#) goes to Michael Madsen for [INTO ETERNITY](#) (DK/FI 2009; Austrian distributor: Pool Filmverleih); this prize consists of the purchase of TV broadcasting rights by the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF).

The [CROSSING EUROPE Award Local Artist](#) with a total value of 6,000 Euro, donated by the Province of Upper Austria/Culture (4,000 Euro) and the company Synchro Film, Video und Audio Bearbeitungs GmbH, Vienna (voucher with a value of 2,000 Euro), is divided again this year.

The money prize (4,000 Euro) goes to Ella Raidel for [SUBVERSESES China in Mozambique](#) (AT/MZ 2011) – presented by Governor Josef Pühringer. For the jury – Holger Jagersberger (AT), Dariusz Kowalski (AT) and Michaela Mandel (AT) – the director succeeded in “conveying a larger political context in unexpected images.”

The material prize (with a value of 2,000 Euro) goes to the film [DASCHKA](#) (AT 2010) by Ludwig Löckinger, which according to the jury is convincing because of the “successful translation of the dream structure to the narrative perspective.”

// DASCHKA will be shown on Sunday, 17 April at 6:30 pm in Movie 2 in the Local Artists Program 1 – Fiction/Animation Shorts. //

The winner of the [CROSSING EUROPE Award Local Artist 2011 Atelierpreis powered by Atelierhaus Salzamt](#) is Remo Rauscher for [THE STREETS OF THE INVISIBLES](#) (AT 2010), who will be provided with studio space in the Salzamt for 12 months.

// THE STREETS OF THE INVISIBLES will be shown on Sunday, 17 April at 6:30 pm in Movie 2 in the Local Artists Program 1 – Fiction/Animation Shorts. //

CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2012:

The ninth edition of the festival takes place from 24 to 29 April 2012.

// For tickets call  Freeline 0800 664 060 // photos in print quality available at <http://www.crossingeurope.at/presse> //

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