



CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz // 23. – 28. April 2013 // www.crossingEurope.at

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Media Information – Linz, 28 April 2013

CROSSING EUROPE Anniversary Edition: EUROPEAN FILMMAKING TO THE POWER OF TEN

Media information for the final press conference, on 28 April 2013, 12:00 noon

*Today the **tenth edition** of the **CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz** comes to a **successful conclusion**. This anniversary festival provides reason to be happy, and Festival Director Christine Dollhofer's resume is a positive one. We can look to the future with optimism. Now in its tenth year, **CROSSING EUROPE** has definitely arrived as one of the **leading film culture events** in Austria. Roughly **20,000 visitors** were counted, who enthusiastically stormed the festival events.*

Following a **brilliant festival opening** on Tuesday, 23 April, with film screenings, the OK | Labor & OK | Artist in Residence programs and the Nightline, this trend continued – despite the unexpectedly warm weather – assuring the festival of **full cinemas and an incomparable atmosphere** in the festival district; the Upper Austrian Culture Quarter blossomed with vitality for six days, and the crowd of international visitors brought an open, cosmopolitan flair to the provincial capital.

Festival Director Christine Dollhofer looks back on an intensive festival week: about 20,000 **festival guests and film and music lovers** visited the film screenings, exhibitions, talks, and the Nightline of the festival. This means that **CROSSING EUROPE** comes close this year to the record number of visitors last year. The numbers in comparison: 2010: 17.000, 2011: 19.000, 2012: 21.000 visitors.

From the beginning, **CROSSING EUROPE** has been dedicated to the idea of arousing interest in sophisticated European filmmaking – **an uncompromising program selection**, international and local networks, and a direct engagement with the (international) filmmakers have proved their value again, as once again the festival audience completely took over the festival locations for six days – transforming the OK Square into the liveliest hot spot in the city along the way.

A total of **162** feature films, documentaries and short films from **40** different countries (96 of them Austrian premieres) flickered across the screens; **650** professional guests from Austria and abroad – including more than 130 film guests – were counted.

OUTLOOK

As far as the past ten years of the festival are concerned, one contradiction is particularly evident: the festival has achieved an outstanding position for itself in terms of content and gained an excellent international reputation over the past decade, as is shown both by the positive media reports and by the numbers of visitors. Yet the festival budget is still incommensurate with the actual demands of operating a modern, international festival. Festival Director Christine Dollhofer must therefore trust that the funders and sponsors will continue their engagement in the future

to the same extent as this year. Stability and continuity are absolutely necessary, in order to be able to work successfully at this level and develop new program ideas and formats to be integrated in the CROSSING EUROPE program ensemble.

AWARDS PRESENTATION - CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2013

The Awards Presentation of the anniversary edition of the CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz took place last evening in the Ursulinensaal in the Upper Austrian Culture Quarter. Catherine Ann Berger was the host for the evening, Richard Eigner aka Ritornell provided a spherical musical experience. With numerous international film guests, industry representatives, and trade press present, along with representatives of the funders, sponsors, and from politics – including State Parliament member Elisabeth Manhal, Vice-Governor Josef Ackerl, Vice-Mayor and Speaker for Culture Erich Watzl – the CROSSING EUROPE AWARDS were presented to the directors of the winning films.

CROSSING EUROPE AWARD European Competition

// € 10.000,- powered by Linz Kultur

Winner: Ektoras Lygizos for **TO AGORI TROI TO FAGITO TOU POULIOU / BOY EATING THE BIRD'S FOOD** (GR 2012)

Link to film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/index.php?id=6385&L=1&movie=5241>

The International Festival Jury (Dominique Choisy (FR), Sarlote Liduma (LV), Pia Marais (DE)) explained their unanimous decision, saying: "For its musical precision, for its portrayal of human existence as something delicate, for its mystery, for its taking us to places we wouldn't have thought of going. This film deals with the everyday battle for jobs and survival on an artistic level we have not seen before."

Special Mention: Iveta Grófová for **AŽ DO MESTA AŠ / MADE IN ASH** (SK/CZ 2012)

Link to film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/sections/film.html?L=1&movie=5235>

// The film will be shown on Sunday, 28 April, at 12:00 noon in Movie 1. //

CROSSING EUROPE AUDIENCE AWARD

// € 1.700,- (€ 1.000,- powered by Casino Linz + € 700,- collected through analog crowdfunding)

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

Winner: Marçal Forés for **ANIMALS** (ES 2012)

Link to film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/index.php?id=6385&L=1&movie=5233>

// The film will be shown on Sunday, 28 April, at 8:30 pm in Movie 1. //

FEDEORA AWARD for European Documentaries

of the critics' association Fedeora (Federation of Film Critics of Europe and the Mediterranean)

Winner: Peter Liechti for **VATERS GARTEN - DIE LIEBE MEINER ELTERN / FATHER'S GARDEN - THE LOVE OF MY PARENTS** (CH 2013)

Link to film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/sections/film.html?L=1&movie=5261>

// The film will be shown on Sunday, 28 April, at 9:00 pm in City2. //

The FEDEORA Jury (Ronald Bergan (GB/FR), Wiltrud Hackl (AT), Yehuda Stav (IL)) praised the film as a "A poignant, witty and frank portrayal of an elderly couple as seen through the eyes of their son, it deals profoundly, on a meta level, with the complex construct of a family, love, old age, gender and generational gaps, and even, being Swiss."

CROSSING EUROPE AWARD Local Artist

// € 4.000,- powered by the Federal Province of Upper Austria / Department of Culture

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

Winner: Rainer Kohlberger for **HUMMING, FAST AND SLOW** (AT/DE 2012)

Link to film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/index.php?id=6385&L=1&movie=5329>

The Local Artists Jury (Katharina Gruzei (AT), Remo Rauscher (AT), Dietmar Schwärzler (AT)) stated: "The film can be read in the tradition of 'visual music' or Op Art. What is especially notable about it, though, is that the work remains a film of the present in its language of forms and directly addresses our perception in the form of a visual attack. The

filmmaker specifically uses the frame rate (60 frames per second) as an aesthetic device. In the interplay of focus and blur, texture and sound, and the use of colors, cinema becomes a physically palpable space of experience.”

Special Mention: Florian Kofler for **PFITSCHER** (AT/IT 2013)

Link to film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/sections/film.html?L=1&movie=5305>

CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AWARD

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

Winner: Karin Fisslthaler for **GOODBYE – CHERRY SUNKIST** (AT 2013)

Link to film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/sections/film.html?L=1&movie=5325>

For the first time the Local Artists Jury (Katharina Gruzei (AT), Remo Rauscher (AT), Dietmar Schwärzler (AT)) awarded the CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AWARD, newly established by CROSSING EUROPE and CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria, stating “Using split-screen technique and alternating forward and reverse, the music video made of found footage creates a constantly flowing sequence of movement based on bodily touches and the resultant gestures. The most different states of emotion are elegantly related to one another in barely three minutes. The concomitant soundtrack is also the artist’s work.”

CROSSING EUROPE AWARD Local Artist Atelierpreis

// Studio space for one year powered by Atelierhaus Salzamt of the City of Linz

Winner: Miguel José Gonzalez-Gonzalez for **2x10m² Ostseeblick** (AT 2013)

Link to film: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/program/films-2013-a-z/film.html?L=1&movie=5313>

IMAGE MATERIAL & UPDATES

Photos from the Awards Presentation you will find on our website: www.crossingEurope.at

Image material, logo & festival motif are available for downloading from <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/fotos/> and <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/logos-artwork.html>. Regular **updates** and **current information** on CROSSING EUROPE 2013 can be found as ever on our website www.crossingEurope.at or via Web 2.0 on [Facebook](#), [google+](#), [Flickr](#) and [Twitter](#).

// Ticket reservations from 10:00 am to 11:00 pm via the Info-Hotline 0680 506 1 506 //

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