



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

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Review and First Program Preview

Autumn was promising and tremendously productive for Christine Dollhofer and her team. On 15 November then, Christine Dollhofer received **Grand State Award for Foresighted Cultural Work** with prize money amounting to € 7.500,- from the hands of Governor Josef Pühringer, which was awarded to the festival for ten years of successful and substantially accentuated cultural work. Not only this unexpected contribution to the festival budget, but also but assurances from long-term sponsors and partners allow the CROSSING EUROPE team a positive view of the coming months. The eleventh edition of the festival has a solid financial basis, so that CROSSING EUROPE 2014 can take place in the expected quality.

The starting signal for the intensive preparation of the coming **eleventh festival edition**, which takes place from **25 to 30 April 2014**, has already been given, and the programming is already running at full speed. Several hundred film entries have already reached the festival office, ringing in the intensive viewing phase. In 2014 the CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz remains true to its principles, relying on the appeal of European auteur cinema. Plans include the presentation of **around 150 outstanding hand-picked feature films, documentaries and short films from all over Europe** – largely Austrian premieres.

It has become a tradition that the secret of the **TRIBUTE Guest** is disclosed shortly before Christmas – this year the festival devotes the Tribute section to the exceptional British director and auteur filmmaker **Joanna Hogg**, who has already been a guest at CROSSING EUROPE with her first two cinema films and will personally present her current feature film **EXHIBITION** (GB 2013) in Linz next April, along with earlier cinema and television works.

The **cooperation** with the **CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria** continues in 2014 and will even be expanded with a further festival award for music video makers from Upper Austria: in addition to the **CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AWARD** (€ 1.500,-), with the **CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AWARD – RESIDENCY** (€ 6.000,-) a two-month residency with the British production company **COLONEL BLIMP** will also be awarded next spring as well.

The opportunity to enter films – for the European sections as well as for the **LOCAL ARTISTS** program (keyword **MUSIC VIDEOS!**) – is still open until 6 January 2014.

Tribute 2014: Joanna Hogg (GB)

The British director Joanna Hogg can be considered a regular guest at CROSSING EUROPE, as her cinema films have been shown at intervals of three years as Austrian premieres: in 2008 her award-winning feature film debut **UNRELATED** (GB 2007) was shown, then in 2011 **ARCHIPELAGO** (GB 2010) and now in 2014, her film **EXHIBITION**

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(GB 2013), which premiered in the competition at the renowned film festival in Locarno in the summer of 2013, forms the conclusion of this **trilogy**.

Joanna Hogg is regarded as a representative of a revitalized British cinema, one of the **outstanding “female voices”** of the last decade, who has made a name for herself nationally and internationally as a multi-talented director. Asked about her role models, she names Eric Rohmer, Robert Bresson and, in her early years, also Derek Jarman, with whom she became acquainted by chance when she was nineteen years old. She began her artistic career as a **photographer**, which still seems to influence the perfectly composed images in her films, and then started experimenting with **Super-8 films** in the early 1980s, initially with a camera she borrowed from Derek Jarman. She then studied at the National Film and Television School Beaconsfield, where she completed her **final film CAPRICE** (GB 1986) with a very young, high spirited Tilda Swinton in her first film role – still listed in the credits as Matilda Swinton – who unexpectedly finds herself in a glossy fashion magazine and has to find her way out right through a colorful eighties setting. David Tattersall, who was responsible for the camera, has meanwhile arrived in Hollywood. The attribute **“multi-talented”** is probably the hallmark of Hogg’s career, at the beginning of which she made **music videos** as well as numerous **television films and TV series**. Then she decided to turn to cinema, and with **UNRELATED** she won the hearts of film critics in 2007. The film revolves around a woman in her forties, who comes without partner or children to join a friend’s family on holiday near Siena. As she feels she belongs neither to the “grown-ups” nor really to the “young generation”, the holiday becomes an endurance test. Hogg’s second feature film, **ARCHIPELAGO** (GB 2010), deals again with the conflicts of an “upper middle class” family on holiday. Her current film, **EXHIBITION** (GB 2013; world premiere Locarno 2013), carries the audience into the life of an established artist couple that wants to sell their house – a modernist architectural jewel by the British star architect James Melvin. Joanna Hogg’s great coup in this case was that she was able to cast Viv Albertine – member of the well known punk band The Slits – and the artist Liam Gillick, nominated for the Turner Prize, in the leading roles. The use of professional and amateur actors is one of the characteristics of her films, as are long takes and minimal camera movements; another constant is the British star actor Tom Hiddleston.

Joanna Hogg can be considered an **auteur-filmmaker** par excellence, as she is also responsible for the screenplay for all of her feature films. For this reason, the program this year also includes a **workshop discussion** in cooperation with the Screenplay Forum Vienna (www.drehbuchforum.at) during Joanna Hogg’s stay in Linz.

The director will present the following films **in person in Linz** in a total of six programs: **CAPRICE** (GB 1986, short) & **other selected short films**, a selection of **episodes from the TV series** EASTENDERS, CASUALTY and LONDON BRIDGE, **UNRELATED** (GB 2007), **ARCHIPELAGO** (GB 2010) and **EXHIBITION** (GB 2013).

MUSIC VIDEOS from Upper Austria WANTED – The Cooperation with the CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria Continues

The cooperation with the CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria (www.creativeregion.org) last spring continues in 2014 and will even be expanded. The CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria pursues the goals of establishing the City of Linz and the Federal Province of Upper Austria as a creative location and promoting the creative branches. This led to the cooperation with CROSSING EUROPE, which is to benefit local talents in the fields of film/music/video, who have already produced a remarkable output of artistically high quality and fascinating works in recent years.

In addition to the existing award – **CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AWARD (€ 1.500,-)**, which will be decided directly by audience votes for the first time in 2014 – an expert jury of three will award the **CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO AWARD – RESIDENCY** with a value of **€ 6.000,-**; both awards powered by CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria.

This new festival award provides the winner with an opportunity to gain new experience in producing music videos during a two-month stay with a relevant company abroad. The **host institution** for the residency is the internationally renowned production company **COLONEL BLIMP** (www.colonelblimp.com) with headquarters in London. Since the company was founded, COLONEL BLIMP has been devoted to innovative music videos, which has led to numerous prizes. Their portfolio includes all kinds of visualizations of music – from animation to real video, fictional miniatures, and abstract solutions. Their **repertoire covers a broad range of music and styles**, and the line-up includes musicians/bands like Hot Chip, Metronomy, and Björk with videos by artists such as Andrew Thomas Huang, Trish Sie, and Kristofer Strom. A representative from COLONEL BLIMP will be in Linz to present a selection of works by the company in a **music video program** and to take part in a **discussion** on the topic.

All music videos shown in the CROSSING EUROPE program section **LOCAL ARTISTS 2014**, of which the directors live/work in Linz or Upper Austria, are eligible for both awards. **Deadline for entry** is 6 January 2014 (postmarked), details and rules at www.crossingEurope.at/filmeinreichung.

REMINDER – CALL FOR FILMS

Film and video-makers are invited once again to enter their current work for the coming edition of the CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz. Deadline for entry for all program sections (European feature films, documentaries, and Local Artists) is **6 January 2014** (postmarked) without exception.

Conditions for entry, rules, information about the festival awards, and the entry form can be found on the festival website: www.crossingEurope.at/filmeinreichung.

IMAGE MATERIAL & UPDATES

Image material, logo & festival motif are available for downloading from <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/pressefotos/> and <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/logos>. **Regular updates** and **current information** on CROSSING EUROPE 2014 are available, as ever, from our website <http://www.crossingEurope.at/EN> and through our social media channels [Facebook](#), [google+](#), [Flickr](#) and [Twitter](#).