

Five Juries, Fifteen Jurors

Bratislava, October 28, 2015

As always, the 17th edition of Bratislava International Film Festival will welcome a number of domestic and foreign filmmakers and film experts, including those who will in little less than three weeks put their heads together and choose the best motion pictures in competitive categories and decide on other awards. Each of the three competitions (i.e. fiction, documentary and short films) features works by fledgling filmmakers that have caught the programming team's eye by their specific view of the world, originality, maturity or shrewdness. In reflecting recent world developments, accentuating the current social climate and coming up with their own specific means of expression, members of the youngest generation of filmmakers continue to make cinema original and attractive.

The films in the *Fiction Competition* will be assessed by a three-member international jury that comprises **Judit Bárdos**, one of the most talented members of the rising generation of Slovak actors, British film journalist **Christopher Goodwin** and Croatian filmmaker **Zrinko Ogresta**. This trio will decide on the following awards: *Prize for the Best Fiction Film*, *Prize for the Best Director*, *Prize for the Best Actress* and *Prize for the Best Actor*.

Young actress **Judit Bárdos** brought herself to public notice with her very debut performance; for rendering the main character Eva in *The House (Dom, 2011)*, she won prestigious Igric and Sun in a Net awards as well as the Blue Angel award at the Art Film Fest. Soon afterwards, she was nominated for the Czech Lion award for her role of track & field athlete Anna in *Fair Play (2014)*. In the same year, she made good use of her earlier studies of piano playing and delivered the role of Jewish pianist Edith Kraus in *In Silence (V tichu, 2014)* to another critical acclaim. Keeping company to the Slovak actress will be two charming men. One of them is English journalist **Christopher Goodwin** who worked as editor for leading film trade periodicals such as *Screen International*, *Moving Pictures International*, or *The Hollywood Reporter*, but his name has also appeared in *The Sunday Times*, *The Times*, *GQ*, *Esquire* and many others. He has tried the role of a feature film jury panellist at the Zagreb Film Festival in 2012 and at the Pula Film Festival and the Film Festival in Batumi, Georgia, in 2015. The triplet of feature panellists completes **Zrinko Ogresta**, Croatian director, screenwriter and professor of film directing at the Academy of Dramatic Arts in Zagreb. His films have been screened and awarded at renowned international festivals such as Venice, London or Karlovy Vary. His most notable prizes include a nomination for the European Film Award in the category of best young director for the film *Fragments (Krhotine, 1991)*, Prix Italia for the film *Washed Out (Isprani, 1995)* and Special Jury Prize at the Karlovy Vary Film Festival for the film *Here (Tu, 2003)*. Ogresta's films are praised for a specific visual style, well-articulated mise-en-scène and innovative storytelling in unmasking the hypocrisy and complexes of the bourgeois society.

The winner of the *Documentary Competition* will be decided by a three-member international jury consisting of **Selina Crammond**, **Stavroula Geronimaki** and **Hermes Paralluelo**.

Selina Crammond is a member of teams that organise the DOXA Documentary Film Festival, the Vancouver International Film Festival and several other events that support local cultural and social life. **Stavroula Geronimaki** has worked as sales and promotion executive for the Greek Film Centre since 2003 and represented it in European Film Promotion. In 2013 she became responsible for promoting Greek short films, coordinating cultural events and festivals and presenting Greek cinema abroad. The final member of the documentary jury is Spanish director **Hermes Paralluelo** who is not a complete newcomer in Bratislava. His feature-length debut, *Yatasto (2011)*, was awarded at numerous



17th
BRATISLAVA
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

film festivals such as FidMarseille, Viennale, Ficunam and was also screened at the Bratislava festival. His second feature film, *Not All Is Vigil (No todo es vigilia, 2014)*, premiered at the San Sebastián Film Festival and was later awarded at film festivals in Palm Springs, Mar del Plata, Uruguay, Cosquín but also in Bratislava. Last year, Paralluelo took home the *Prize for the Best Documentary Film* from Bratislava and this year he is back as a member of the documentary jury panel.

The entries in the *Short Film Competition* will be evaluated by an international panel of three ladies – **Doris Bauer, Eva Križková** and **Harriet Warman**.

For eight years, **Doris Bauer** worked as the managing director of Filmgalerie 8½, an independent DVD rental store in Vienna. Between 2008 and 2014 she was the director of *espresso*film, an annual open air short film festival in Vienna. Currently she divides her time between duties of the spokeswoman for the Austrian Film Festival Forum and the head curator of the international Fiction & Documentary competition at Vienna Independent Shorts festival. The home cinema audience recognises **Eva Križková** mostly as editor-in-chief of cinema bi-monthly *Kinečko*. A film theoretician and journalist, she graduated from the Film and Television Faculty at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, majoring in film science. Currently she pursues her doctor's degree at the Institute of Theatre and Film Research of the Slovak Academy of Sciences where she studies distribution of contemporary art films in Slovakia. She is also practically involved in distributing films for discerning viewers as co-founder, PR and project manager of the Filmtopia distribution company. Another member of this panel to have studied film science is **Harriet Warman**, reporter whose writing has appeared in *Sight & Sound*, *Little White Lies*, *CineVue* or *Physical Impossibility*; currently she writes and edits for the *Cinematic Investigations* film portal. She has also worked as programme coordinator for AV Festival, Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival and Edinburgh International Film Festival; with the latter festival, she has been a short and feature film viewer since 2012 and programme advisor for the documentary programme in 2015.

The motion picture that will take home the FIPRESCI award will be chosen by an international panel of three journalists **Michael Pattison, Luca Pellegrini** and **Róbert Pospíš**.

Michael Pattison is an English film critic whose writing has appeared in *Sight & Sound*, *Indiewire*, *VICE*, *Ekran*, *KINO!*, *SIRP*, *MUBI* and other publications. Besides writing, he is also active in the domain of film festivals, tutoring workshops for young critics, for instance at Warsaw IFF, Dokufest in Prizren, ZubrOFFka Short Film Festival in Białystok or Black Nights Film Festival in Tallinn. Michael has also appeared on jury panels at film festivals in Cartagena de Indias, Ljubljana, Warsaw, Drama, Thessaloniki, Lisbon, Santiago de Compostela, Lecce, Lima and Bradford. Italian film journalist and critic **Luca Pellegrini** has written for *Il Corriere del Giorno* and *L'Osservatore Romano*; for more than a decade, he worked for *RAI – Radio 3*. An active member of the National Union of Italian Film Critics, Luca was a member of the selection committee of the International Critics' Week at the Venice IFF from 2013 through 2015. Currently he writes for the *Avvenire* daily newspaper, the *Rivista Del Cinematografo* monthly magazine, the *Cinematografo.it* website and is members of the *Vatican Radio* newscast. **Róbert Pospíš** is an editor with the *Pravda* daily and currently he also works as part-time editor for *Radio Devín* as well as for *In.Ba* and *Film.sk* monthlies. In the past, his by-lines appeared in the *Hospodárske noviny* daily.

The films vying for the Grand Prix at this year's edition of the Bratislava Film Festival will also be assessed by a student jury that will confer an independent prize. Sitting on the student panel will be **Gabriela Gažová, Verona Dubišová** and **Denis Kozerawski**.

As a student, **Gabriela Gažová** currently chases three rabbits, pursuing her MA degree at the Department Photography and New Media of the Academy of Visual Arts in Bratislava and simultaneously studying film directing at the Film and Television Faculty of the Academy of



**17th
BRATISLAVA
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL**

Performing Arts in Bratislava and at Sint-Lucas School of Arts in Bussels. Just like she juggles her studies, she likes to combine various media using multi-genre overlaps. She is the founder and chief editor of an independent art magazine, *Tvor*. **Verona Dubišová** is in the fourth year of her film studies at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. For three years she also studied editing and publishing at University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra. Currently she lectures pupils of the first stage of primary schools on animated films at the Film Cabinet for Children she founded with some of her fellow students. She has put her organisational skills to good use in pushing the project to build a new school cinema or to prepare a scientific conference under the aegis of her school. **Denis Kozerawski** currently pursues his MA degree at the Department of Intermedia and Multimedia of the Academy of Visual Arts in Bratislava. In 2012 he helped establish Apart, a group bent on integrating individuals and groups that develop and enrich social and cultural life into the context of world developments in the field of visual arts. In his works, Denis uses primarily photography and video. The most recent major project he took part in was a group exhibition in Kunsthalle Košice entitled "There's No Place Like Home".

All festival-goers are encouraged to vote on the best film on the programme of the 17th Bratislava Film Festival, which will be awarded the Viewer's Choice award.

For latest updates on the programme of International Film Festival Bratislava, please visit our official website at www.bratislavaiff.sk or our official Facebook account at www.facebook.com/bratislavaiff.

**17th BRATISLAVA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
November 12 – 17, 2015**

Kino Lumière, Kino Mladost', Kino Nostalgia, Gorila.sk Urban Space

Main organisers: **Partners Production, Ars Nova civic association**

The Festival is held under the auspices of Marek Maďarič, Minister of Culture of the Slovak Republic.

The Festival is held with the generous financial support of Slovak Audiovisual Fund and the Bratislava regional self-government.

Main Partners: **Slovenská elektrizačná prenosová sústava, Transpetrol**

Come and experience it!