



CIRCULAR 2/2019

fIPRESCI

Deadlines. "As soon as possible" means that there is a certain urgency to finalize the jury. Such juries will be closed as soon as enough appropriate candidates have applied.

National Sections are kindly requested to appoint the national jury members (requested for a majority of our juries) by respecting the deadlines concerned.

Nur-Sultan (Kazakhstan, expected to commence July 7, 2019). Kazakhstan's capital, which was until March 2019 known as *Astana*, will most likely play host to the Eurasia International Film Festival, as it did last years. Due to a lack of concrete information at this point (and before the presidential elections in the country), we ask interested colleagues to contact us ASAP via their national sections (Europe and Asia preferably). We will inform them about any developments as soon as they become known to us and also put updates on our website. In the past, the festival showcased excellence in Central Asian cinema and simultaneously contributed to the development and growth of the regional industry and talent. The program, under the new festival president Ermek Tursunov, will most likely include an International Competition of full-length fiction films from Europe and Asia; a Central Asian Panorama and a selection of Kazakh cinema. Air-tickets and hotel accommodation should be provided. Language: English.

Website: <http://eurasiaiff.com>

Yerevan (Armenia, July 7-14, 2019). The annual "Golden Apricot Yerevan International Film Festival" (GAIFF) was established in 2004 with the motto "Crossroads of Cultures and Civilizations". The festival, which is presided over by Harutyun Khachatryan and programmed by our colleague Susanna Harutyunyan, has quickly become a premier destination for filmmakers from the region and an important international showcase as well. It includes two main sections: an international competition (for fiction films both long and short, as well as documentaries) and the "Armenian Panorama", a national competition for short, fiction, documentary and animation films made by filmmakers from Armenia or of Armenian descent. Our jury will have three members: two colleagues coming from Europe and Asia, one from Armenia. Their focus will be on regional films, selected from the main sections. The invitation includes airfare. Language: fluent English. Deadline: ASAP (requests may be considered until May 24), via your national section. Website: www.gaiff.am

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Next Juries July, August, September 2019

Odessa (Ukraine, July 12-20, 2019). One of the attractions of the Odessa International Film Festival (now in its 10th edition) is a screening at the legendary Potemkin stairs leading from the old city to the port – Eisenstein's "Battleship Potemkin" was shown at the first edition, the restored version of Fritz Lang's "Metropolis" at the second. The competition program includes "features of high artistic quality aimed for mass audiences", or "art-mainstream", as the festival organizers have originally called it. Some of the films will probably be known from the festival circuit. The public will select the best film, while we will focus on the selection of Ukrainian films. Our colleague Alik Shpilyuk, the fest's program advisor, writes: "We are broadening our 'Ukrainian Laboratory' program: we'll include the best local productions (features, shorts and documentaries), and invite the international jury to give the Prize to the best Ukrainian film. We believe that the FIPRESCI Prize will give an additional weight to this program and will facilitate the development of the Ukrainian film production." Our jury will have three members. Air tickets will be provided within Europe, as well as hotel accommodation for the festival's entire duration. Language: English. Colleagues with a special interest in eastern European cinema are kindly requested to make themselves known (via their national sections) as soon as possible – and until May 24 latest. Website: www.oiff.com.ua

Prishtina (Kosovo, July 16-22, 2019). The Prishtina International Film Festival (PRIFEST), now in its 11th edition, has dedicated itself to "raising awareness about all marginalized groups in the society including women, youth, LGBT community [and] ethnic minorities", as well as "protecting and improving the environment". Over the years it has brought many international festival and award winners to Prishtina, as well as celebrities such as director Stephen Frears and actress Vanessa Redgrave, who is the president of the festival's honorary board. A special competition is dedicated to films from the region, the "Balkan Competition" (on which our jury will focus). It's therefore a good opportunity for colleagues outside of the Balkans to deepen their knowledge of the Balkan cinemas. The jury will have three members (preferably from Europe and the US East coast) and will be provided with hotel accommodation and travel. Deadline: June 7, 2019. Website: www.prifest.org

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Palic (Serbia, July 20–26, 2019). The European Film Festival Palic, headed by our colleague Nenad Dukic (also the programmer for the Bratislava International Film Festival), was first founded in 1992 in an effort to give audiences access to films made in the then-warring factions of former Yugoslavia. With its 10th edition in 2003, it became a truly European film festival, meaning that only films from Europe can apply. Even then, they will have to fit the mission statement, citing rather strongly that "art can contribute to reaffirmation of a more humane world". Split between Palic and neighboring Subotica, the festival combines outdoor screenings with indoor locations and has so far given out awards to Jean-Marc Barr, Emir Kusturica, Nikita Mikhalkov, Constantin Costa Gavras and Ken Loach, to name just a few. Our jury will consist of three members from Europe and will likely focus on the main competition, with travel and full accommodation being provided. Deadline: June 7, 2019.

Website: www.palicfilmfestival.com

Motovun (Croatia, July 23–27, 2019). The Croatian town of Motovun is situated in a fort 270 meters above sea level, on a hill dominating the Mirna river valley. The small and lovely festival organizes an overview on international cinema and includes films from the region in particular (in a program called "Country Partner"). "Despite global movements that wear out and eliminate the wealth of regional differences, we will try and save what's left of it on our small hill", inform the organizers. Colleagues, especially (but not exclusively) from the region interested in attending should contact the General Secretary (via their national sections). Deadline: June 7, 2019. This event should also be attractive to young critics. Air tickets will most likely be available again (within Europe). Language: fluent English. Website: www.motovunfilmfestival.com

Jerusalem (Israel, July 25 – August 4, 2019). This will be our sixth jury at the festival, which focuses on Israeli cinema, but also has a well-received Panorama section, a retrospective and the "New Directors" series of international films. Our jury will probably focus again on debuts both in the international and in the Israeli competition (two prizes, details are under discussion), and will consist of three members, most likely from European countries. Airfare (from not too far European airports) and hotel accommodation will be provided. Please note: previous journeys to Arab countries or Iran are not automatically a hindrance for entry into Israel, but will most likely lead to prolonged questioning by immigration officials (source: German Federal Foreign Office). A few details have not yet been confirmed by the festival and are being discussed. Interested colleagues are invited to request participation (via their national sections), they will receive further information. Deadline: June 7, 2019. Website: www.jff.org.il

Locarno (Switzerland, August 7–17, 2019). One of the major European events, known and renowned for its traditional interest in independent cinema and in particular in Third World cinematographies. "Locarno," writes the festival, "knows no borders, neither geographic, thematic nor stylistic, and via its dozen different sections welcomes all kinds of films and all kinds of formats." A visit should be of a special interest for colleagues reporting regularly on current developments in

world cinema. Its legendary outdoor screenings on the Piazza Grande are central to the festival: each night, one or more films are presented on a huge screen to an audience of some 8,000 spectators – with a conference center being held as an alternative location in case of rain. The festival presents only films which have not yet been shown in Europe. Our jurors are offered hotel accommodation only, no transportation costs, with the nearest airport being Lugano. Colleagues wishing to serve on the jury should make themselves known (via their national sections). Language: English or French, fluent. Requests should not arrive later than June 14, 2019.

Website: www.pardo.ch

Haugesund (Norway, August 17–23, 2019). The Norwegian International Film Festival, already in its 47th edition, concentrates mainly on feature films with a Norwegian theatrical release already secured, but also offers a children's section, side bars, and documentaries. It takes place in Haugesund, a picturesque municipality in the country's southwest. We will have a jury (three members), with one member coming from Norway. It will focus on Nordic films (which is the traditional domain and focus of the festival). "We are very pleased to have secured a FIPRESCI jury for this year's festival and are certain that this will help make Nordic films become even better known to the outside world," wrote Festival and Program Director Tonje Hardersen in the official press release, when our jury was first established. Colleagues interested in participating should contact us (via their national section). Air ticket (not too far away European countries) and accommodation will be provided. Deadline: June 14, 2019. Website: www.filmfestivalen.no

Venice (Italy, August 28 – Sep 7, 2019). At this major event, headed by Alberto Barbera, we'll present two awards: to a film in the international competition and to a young or first film in the parallel sections. Colleagues interested in participating in the jury are asked to make known in their request (to be sent via their national sections), on which of the two "sub-juries" they would wish to focus their attention (applications without this information are at risk of not being processed). Well-known and experienced critics are invited to join the competition part, while young critics are welcome to serve on the parallel sections part. Lifetime achievement awards this year will go to director David Cronenberg and film-historian Kenneth Frampton. – Invitations will cover hotel accommodation for the whole period of the event, but no travel expenses. Colleagues who are regularly invited to Venice and wish to extend their Lido activities by serving on our jury are also asked to make themselves known. Deadline: June 14, 2019. Language: fluent English or French.

Website: www.labiennale.org

Toronto (Canada, September 5–15, 2019). Due to its interesting and varied programming and clever market politics, the Toronto International Film Festival, headed by our colleague Cameron Bailey and by Joana Vicente, is one of the major worldwide events in film. Over the last few years, our jury followed different concepts and focused on different sections and films. In discussions with the festival management, we found a pleasing solution: our jury will

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

present two awards: to a film in the "Discovery" section and to a film in the "Special Events" series – honoring both a new and a well-known filmmaker. The jury will have six members (including two Canadian colleagues from Toronto and Montreal, respectively). It is preferably open to critics who cover the event in a well-known publication (print media, daily or weekly newspapers or film magazines of a certain importance). The invitation will include an air ticket. National sections (worldwide) should make their candidates known by June 14, 2018. Language: very fluent English.

Website: www.tiff.net/thefestival

Vladivostok (Russia, September 13–19, 2019). This year will see our sixth jury at the Vladivostok International Film Festival of Asian-Pacific countries, which is now in its 17th edition. It is dedicated to "developing cultural exchange between Asia-Pacific countries and presenting Asia-Pacific cinematography to Russian people" and should be of interest for colleagues attracted to cinema from these countries. Vladivostok is located on the Pacific Ocean, not far from Russia's borders with China and North Korea. It has the country's largest port. – Airfare and hotel accommodation will be provided. Our jury will have three members. Colleagues interested in Asian-Pacific cinema are kindly asked to contact their national sections – please as soon as possible and by June 14 at the latest. Because of time-consuming formalities (visa, long distance flight), the festival organizers ask us to complete our jury asap.

Website: www.pacificmeridianfest.ru

Miskolc (Hungary, September 13–21, 2019). Set in the third biggest city in Hungary, the Jameson Cinefest has become an annual showcase for international cinema. Since the feature-competition centers on films that have already been shown at other festivals, this might be the perfect place for films you missed in Cannes, Venice or Berlin. With 40-50 life-action and animated short-films in the competition, Miskolc also presents a good opportunity for colleagues interested in this format. The festival features a day-long conference on "CineClassics". In addition, many other workshops, conferences and screenings about the great masters of cinema with origins in Central Europe are held. Please note: we are currently discussing to holding our **annual general assembly** in the framework of the festival. National sections will be informed about further developments separately. Our jury (for the sixth time at this festival, three jurors) will focus on the feature-competition. Air ticket (within Europe) and accommodation will be provided. Deadline: June 14, 2019.

Website: www.cinefest.hu

St. Petersburg (Russia, September 14–21, 2019). The "Message to Man" International Film Festival, now in its 29th edition, is dedicated to documentaries and experimental films. It hosts a national as well as a worldwide competition and should be of special interest for colleagues interested in documentaries, as well as short and experimental films. St. Petersburg is the second biggest city in Russia and by many considered one of the most beautiful, with its breathtaking architecture, museums and an artistic culture that Moscow never really managed to suppress, even during the reign of the

Soviet Union. Our jury will focus on full-length documentaries and has three members. Airfare (preferably from Europe) and hotel accommodation will most likely be provided. Interested colleagues are kindly asked to contact their national sections. The deadline is June 14, 2019.

Website: www.message2man.com/

Drama (Greece, September 15–21, 2019). The International Short Film Festival in Drama, dedicated to fictional, documentary and animated short films, now in its 25th edition, takes place simultaneously with the Greek Short Film Festival, which will celebrate its 42th anniversary. Located in the district of Macedonia, Northern Greece, the aptly named city at the foot of mount Falakro has been an integral part of the Hellenic world since the classical era. – This is the second time we will be sending a FIPRESCI-jury with three members from European countries. Airfare and hotel-accommodation will be provided. Colleagues interested in short narrative, documentaries and animation, are kindly asked to apply to their national sections. Deadline: July 12, 2019.

Website: www.dramafilmfestival.gr

ElGouna (Egypt, September 19–27, 2019). After its launch in 2017, It didn't take very long for ElGouna to become one of the most interesting festivals in the Middle East. The only film festival in Egypt (and maybe in the entire Arabic world) not to be funded primarily by the state, but by private entities, which allows for a well-deserved respite from local politics. In its first and second edition, the festival enjoyed both celebrity packed guest-lists and a very good selection of international and regional films. The festival is run by our old friend Intishal El-Tamimi and the artistic director is Egyptian filmmaker Amir Ramsis. The ElGouna festival hosted a local critics jury from our national section (Egyptian Film Critics Association, EFCA), and in the third edition it's expanding the cooperation having an international FIPRESCI jury. Our jury will be made of three members (including an Egyptian colleague) and will focus on Arab feature films in the festival's competitions (both fiction and documentary). The festival will provide of flights and accommodation. Interested colleagues will be asked to apply via their national sections. Deadline July 12, 2019. (Text by Ahmed Shawky)

Website: <http://elgounafilmfestival.com>

San Sebastian (Spain, September 20–28, 2019). This festival, which celebrates its 67th anniversary this year, has become one of the highlights of the international festival circuit, mostly due to its well-selected program and its marvelous retrospectives. Our jury (five members) will focus on the international competition. The festival will not invite all our jurors, but will hopefully offer one or the other hotel invitation (b&b). Colleagues being interested to serve on the jury should contact their national sections, adding if they have already been invited by the festival or need an invitation. They will receive further information. At the opening ceremony, we hope to once again announce and present our "Grand Prix – Film of the Year" (the poll to be published in the next circular). Deadline: July 12, 2019. Languages: fluent English or French. Website: www.sansebastianfestival.com

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

First juries in October

Busan (Korea, October 3–12, 2019). This festival in the Korean city of Busan (formerly Pusan) has, in the 22 years of its existence, become a marvelous showcase for and center of Asian cinema, as well as one of the most important film events in Asia. It's a must for everybody with a particular interest in Asian films. The festival section "New Currents", which our jurors are going to follow, presents first-time filmmakers from a variety of countries (in Asia and internationally). The festival also offers a series of new Korean films, the "A Window of Asian Cinema"-Series, which spotlights "the most-talked-about films of the year by talented Asian filmmakers" and a world cinema program. The invitation includes an air ticket, with the stipulation that "the festival offers only economy class flight round-trip to/from Busan, and can cover up to 1,200 USD when travelling from Asia, and up to 1,800 USD each for those travelling from non-Asian countries." Colleagues should be willing to eventually cover the extra charge at their own expense. Colleagues who can produce some evidence of their special interest in and knowledge of Asian cinema are asked to contact us (via their national sections) by July 26, 2019. Website: www.biff.kr.

Rio de Janeiro (Brazil, October 3–13, 2019 – preliminary date). This major Latin American festival has to face a politically and financially difficult situation – which Ilda Santiago, the event's motor and good soul, will hopefully master. The festival is situated in one of the world's most exciting cities. We hope to again establish our jury, which will select a new Latin American film, screened in one of the festival's sections – including the overview on new Brazilian films. Additionally, we will once again give a lifetime achievement award to a Latin American film personality (details to follow). Colleagues wishing to participate in this festival and jury are kindly asked to present themselves (via their national sections) by July 26, 2019. Colleagues from other Latin American countries are particularly welcome. Concerning Europe, the US and Canada, preference will be given to colleagues who have a special interest in (and knowledge of) Latin American cinema. The invitation covers air tickets and accommodation for a period of around one week in the festival's second half, the exact dates to be announced later. Language: fluent English, though a basic knowledge of Spanish (or Portuguese) might be a good addition. For the third time, we will co-organize a "Talent Press" workshop for young critics from Portuguese speaking countries (together with Berlinale Talents and Goethe Institute). Website: www.festivaldoriorio.com.br

Chemnitz (Germany, Oct 7–13, 2019). The "Schlingel International Film Festival for Children and Young Audiences" will celebrate its 24th edition this year. Located in the former industrial city of Chemnitz (under GDR-rule named Karl-Marx-City) in the northern foothills of the Ore Mountains, it has several competitions, coming in the sizes "S", "M" and "L" to accommodate films made for these respective "sizes" (age group, not level of obesity). The festival will also take the jurors on a daytrip to nearby Dresden for, amongst other things, a brewery tour. Our jury will have three members. Colleagues interested in films for younger audiences are kindly asked to make themselves known via

their national sections. Air ticket (within Europe) and accommodation will be provided. Deadline: June 29, 2018. Website: www.ff-schlingel.de

Montreal (Canada, October 9–20, 2019). 48th Festival du Nouveau Cinéma de Montréal. This festival has dedicated itself to "discover a daring and unparalleled cinema, to ensure the success of films from here and elsewhere." Quite a steep path to take, but festival director Nicolas Girard Deltruc has taken up the challenge. Our Montreal-based member-association (AQCC) writes: "The FNC (Festival du nouveau cinéma) is one of the most prestigious and serious festivals in Montreal, going on for 50 years. Opposed to many other cities, Montreal doesn't have a single huge festival but rather many different, smaller and complementary ones, like "Fantasia" for genre cinema, "RIDM" for documentaries and so forth. FNC tends to look for major works from important contemporary directors as well as for experimental cinema and new medias (hence the "nouveau" of the name), and of course for strong work from local filmmakers. We already have a jury of AQCC members there, and we are always delighted to work with them. AQCC's member Zoé Protat has been appointed head of programming this year." Interested colleagues are asked to contact us via their national sections. They will receive further information (also on the details of invitation, air ticket, hotel accommodation etc.). Deadline: July 26, 2019.

Festival: www.nouveaucinema.ca

Indianapolis (USA, Heartland Film Festival, October 10–20, 2019). Welcome to the Midwest, to the "Heartland". The festival of the same name began in 1992 and celebrates its 27th edition this October. It will welcome our jury for the second time. It provides the film community of Indiana's capital with a well-programmed overview of worldwide cinema. And it focuses on two particular challenges. Firstly, it presents films which compete for an Academy Award, with a special focus on documentary shorts and on films being submitted for the Best Foreign Language nomination to the Academy (a preference which fest head Craig Prater adopted from the Palm Springs Film Festival, which he directed). The other main focus and priority concerns American independent cinema, both fiction and documentary. The festival showcases independent films and offers well-accepted meetings with the filmmakers. Here it's possible to discover new and young and yet unknown independent American cinema. Our jury will focus on this program and will present our prize to an independent American film which will be presented at the festival as an American premiere. The jury will have three members. The invitation will cover air tickets and the hotel accommodation for the event's entire duration (the air tickets may however be limited to the Americas and Europe). Fluent English is indispensable. Colleagues with a special interest in and knowledge of independent cinema should contact us (via their national section). They will receive further information, in particular on the details of the invite. Deadline: July 26, 2019. Festival: <http://heartlandfilm.org/>

More juries in October:

Warsaw, Athens (Panorama), Vienna, Valladolid, Duhok, Leipzig. Details will be announced in the next circular.

Texts edited by Karsten Kastelan.