



## CIRCULAR 4/2017

# fIPRES CI

**Yerevan** (Armenia, July 9-16, 2017). The annual "Golden Apricot Yerevan International Film Festival" (GAIFF) was established in 2004 with the motto "Crossroads of Cultures and Civilizations" (a theme in keeping with the country's history and culture). The festival, which is presided over by Atom Egoyan 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. The jury is already under construction, so please apply ASAP (requests maybe considered until May 12), via your national section. Website: [www.gaiff.am](http://www.gaiff.am)

**Prishtina** (Kosovo, July 13-20, 2017). The festival had originally been scheduled for late April, 2017. It has been postponed for three months, since better venues will be available during the summer. The Prishtina International Film Festival (PRIFEST), now in its 9th 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: as soon as possible (requests maybe considered until May 12). Website: <http://www.prifest.org>

**Jerusalem** (Israel, July 13-23, 2017). This will be our fourth 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, on which our jury will focus. Our jury will consist of three members, most likely from European countries. Airfare (from 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). The jury is already

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under construction; interested colleagues can however try (via their national sections) to join the jury (requests maybe considered until May 12). Attention: urgent.

Website: [www.jff.org.il](http://www.jff.org.il)

**Odessa** (Ukraine, July 14-22, 2017). One of the attractions of the Odessa International Film Festival (now in its eighth 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 FIPRES CI Prize will give an additional weight to this program and will facilitate the development of the Ukrainian film production." Our fourth Odessa 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 quick as possible – attention, the jury is already under construction, requests maybe considered until May 12). Website: [www.oiff.com.ua](http://www.oiff.com.ua) (Should you be redirected to a link concerning browser-problems, please paste the URL in manually).

**Almaty** (Kazakhstan, July 22-28). The Eurasia International Film Festival takes place in the city of Almaty, but will this year take place in Astana, Kazakhstan's capital. Now in its 13th edition, it has become the main cinema event in the region. It is continuing to act as a platform for showcasing excellence in Central Asian cinema and simultaneously contributing to the development and growth of the regional industry and talent. Headed by Kazakh director Rashid Nougmanov, the program of the Festival includes an International Competition of full-length fiction films from Europe and Asia; a Central Asian Panorama and a selection of Kazakh cinema. We hope to be back with our jury. It will most likely focus on films from Central Asia (more information upon request). Air-tickets and hotel accommodation will be pro-

vided. National sections (Europe and Asia preferably) should make their candidates known by May 12, 2017. Language: English. Website: [www.eurasiaiff.kz](http://www.eurasiaiff.kz)

**Motovun** (Croatia, July 25-29, 2017). 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: May 26, 2017. 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](http://www.motovunfilmfestival.com)

**Locarno** (Switzerland, August 2-12, 2017). 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. 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 2, 2017. Website: [www.pardo.ch](http://www.pardo.ch)

**Wroclaw** (Poland, August 3-13, 2017). The 17th "New Horizons International Film Festival", established in 2001, is held every year in Wroclaw in south-western Poland. Accredited by FIAPF, it is the largest film festival in Poland, visited annually by an increasing number of cinephiles. Its stated main objective is to present uncompromising, innovative and original cinema from all over the world. The winners of the Grand Prix, the Audience Award and the FIPRESCI Award are guaranteed distribution in Poland. Competitive sections of the festival include New Horizons (international competition), Films on Art (international competition), New Polish Films (national competition), as well as competitions for European and Polish Shorts. An important part of the program are retrospectives of the works of master directors (e.g. Theo Angelopoulos, Gabor Body, Terence Davies, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Hal Hartley, Derek Jarman, Sergei Parajanov, Pier Paolo Pasolini, Agnes Varda, Vincent Ward, Andrzej Zulawski), a reminiscences series and cinema lessons, as well as open air screenings at the Wroclaw Market Square for almost two thousand spectators. The city is easy to reach by plane, train or car. Our jury will be established for the sixth time and will have three members. Air tickets (from European

countries) and hotel accommodation will be provided. Language: English. Requests (via national sections) by June 2, 2017. Website: [www.nowehoryzonty.pl](http://www.nowehoryzonty.pl)

**Haugesund** (Norway, August 19-25, 2017). The Norwegian International Film Festival, already in its 45th 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 Programme Director Tonje Hardersen in the official press release last year, when our jury was first established. Colleagues interested in participating should contact us (via their national section). Air ticket and accommodation will be provided. Deadline: June 2, 2017.

Website: [www.filmfestivalen.no](http://www.filmfestivalen.no)

**Venice** (Italy, August 30 – Sep 9, 2017). 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, together with 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. 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 2, 2017. Language: fluent English or French.

Website: [www.labiennale.org](http://www.labiennale.org)

**Toronto** (Canada, September 7-17, 2017). Due to its interesting and varied programming and clever market politics, the Toronto International Film Festival, headed by Piers Handling and our colleague Cameron Bailey, 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 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 (among them 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 16, 2017. Language: very fluent English.

Website: [www.tiff.net/thefestival](http://www.tiff.net/thefestival)

**Miskolc (Hungary, September 8-17, 2017).** 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 "Cine-Classics". In addition, many other workshops, conferences and screenings about the great masters of cinema with origins in Central Europe are held. This is our only FIPRESCI-jury in Hungary. Our jury (for the fifth time at this festival) will focus on the feature-competition and consist of three jurors. Air ticket (within Europe) and accommodation will be provided. Deadline: June 16, 2017. Website: [www.cinefest.hu](http://www.cinefest.hu)

**Vladivostok (Russia, September 9-15, 2017).** This year will see our fourth jury at the Vladivostok International Film Festival of Asian-Pacific countries, which is now in its 15th 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, which is home to the Russian fleet in the Pacific. 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 May 26 latest. Because of time-consuming formalities (visa, long distance flight etc.), the festival organizers ask us to complete our jury asap. Website: [www.pacificmeridianfest.ru](http://www.pacificmeridianfest.ru)

**San Sebastian (Spain, September 22-30, 2017).** This festival, which celebrates its 65th 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 a next circular). Deadline: June 16, 2017. Languages: fluent English or French. Website: [www.sansebastianfestival.com](http://www.sansebastianfestival.com)

**Drama (Greece, September 18-23, 2017).** The International Short Film Festival in Drama, dedicated to fictional, documentary and animated short films, now in its 23rd edition, takes place simultaneously with the Greek Short Film Festival, which will celebrate its 40th 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, documen-

taries and animation, are asked to apply to their sections. Deadline: June 16, 2017. Website: [www.dramafilmfestival.gr](http://www.dramafilmfestival.gr)

**St. Petersburg (Russia, September 15–22, 2017).** The Message to Man International Film Festival, now in its 27th 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 16, 2017.

Website: [www.message2man.com/](http://www.message2man.com/)

**Istanbul (Turkey, Documentarist – Istanbul Documentary Days).** Due to "the political and economic obstacles", as the festival writes, the dates of the 2017 edition of this festival are still unknown. We will announce updated information on our site. Website: [www.documentarist.org](http://www.documentarist.org)

**Chemnitz (Germany, Sept 25 – Oct 1, 2017).** The "Schlingel International Film Festival for Children and Young Audiences", will celebrate its 22nd edition this year. Located in the former industrial city of Chemnitz 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 groups). 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 30, 2017.

Website: [www.ff-schlingel.de](http://www.ff-schlingel.de)

**Busan (Korea, October 12-21, 2017).** 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 Asian countries. 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 are advised to check various airline-connections or should be willing to cover the extra charge at their own expense. Attention: our jury (five members) is strictly reserved for specialists of Asian cinema (language: English). Only 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 June 30, 2017. Website: [www.biff.kr](http://www.biff.kr)

**Rio de Janeiro** (Brazil, October 5-15, 2017). At this major Latin American festival, situated in one of the world's most exciting cities, we'll 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 June 30, 2017. 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. Website: [www.festivaldoriorio.com.br/](http://www.festivaldoriorio.com.br/)

Texts edited by Karsten Kastelan

The juries of October, November and December, 2017, will be announced in a later circular.

For any changes, please visit regularly the member's area of our website [www.fipresci.org](http://www.fipresci.org).

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