

CIRCULAR 5/2019



Palm Springs (USA, January 2-13). The jury has already been announced in circular 4/2019 and has been finalized. **Dhaka** (Bangladesh, January 11-19, 2020). The jury has already been announced in circular 4/2019 and has been finalized.

Tromso (Norway, January 13 - 19, 2020). This jury has already been announced in circular 4/2019 and is currently under construction.

Rotterdam (The Netherlands, January 22 – February 2, 2020). One of the outstanding festivals for independent world cinema and a place for discoveries, taking place in the Dutch port city of Rotterdam. (Please be prepared for the cold weather.) This will be festival director Bero Beyer's last year at the helm of the festival. This year, the festival institutes the Robby Müller award to honor an "'image maker' (cinematographer, filmmaker or visual artist) who, in the spirit of Robby Müller, has created an authentic, credible and emotionally striking visual language throughout her/his oeuvre." This year's award goes to Mexican cinematographer Diego García. The program will be grouped in four sections: Bright Future ("Films by makers who enrich the film landscape with highly individual, innovative work"), Voices ("Films distinguished by mature quality and powerful, relevant content"), Deep Focus ("an in-depth look at the work of [film]makers who have an extensive oeuvre" and Perspectives (the festival examining "itself and the conventions of film in terms of content, criticism, geography, portal or form, seen from different perspectives".) Our jury will focus on the "Bright Future" section (world premieres of first and second films). The invitation to three European colleagues and one juror coming from another continent (plus a Dutch juror) includes an air ticket and b&b accommodation. Language: fluent English. National sections are asked to inform us of their interest by December 6, 2019. Website: https://iffr.com/

Göteborg (Sweden, January 24 – February 3, 2020). This festival offers a showcase of young international world cinema (sharing titles and guests with Rotterdam, which it overlaps) and has become *the* center of cinema produced in the Nordic countries. Films will be presented in the "Nordic Competition" and at the "Nordic Film Market" (taking place on four days and offering a marketplace for new Nordic films from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland and Iceland, all with English subtitles). Participation in our jury (three members, preferably

Klaus Eder

FIPRESCI – International Federation of Film Critics Schleissheimer Str. 83, D 80797 Munich, Germany T +49 (89) 18 23 03 F +49 (89) 18 47 66 Cell +49 (172) 850 53 02 (WhatsApp, Viber) Skype klaus.eder

keder@fipresci.org, info@fipresci.org, www.fipresci.org
Alternative Email klauseder01@gmail.com
Facebook https://www.facebook.com/Fipresci

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from Europe and representing dailies or trade papers) should be attractive for colleagues with a special interest in (and knowledge of) Nordic films. The jury will focus on a film in the "Nordic Competition" (eight titles). As in previous years, the invitation includes an air ticket and b&b accommodation. The most likely jury dates are January 27 (arrival) to January 31 (departure), with at least one juror staying until February 2, to hand out the award the previous evening. Language: fluent English. Please make your candidates known by

December 6, 2019. Website: https://goteborgfilmfestival.se

Bangalore (India, February 20 – 27, 2020). The Bangalore Film Festival, now in its 12th edition (and also known as the Bengaluru International Film Festival – BIFFES) agrees to host our jury for the second time. It's a jury of three of our colleagues, one from Europe, one from Asia and one from India. The festival writes: "Bengaluru, the capital of Karnataka State in India, is an important center of international film culture... The Kannada Film Industry has made signal contribution to the quality and range of cinematic expression and grown to produce over 200 films every year." At our suggestion, our jury will hand out one award to a new Indian arthouse film, with 12-13 titles being pre-selected by our Indian colleagues at FIPRESCI India, from the 60+ normally submitted for this section. Travel and accommodation will be provided. Deadline: December 13, 2019. A knowledge of, and familiarity with Indian cinema would be preferred. Website: http://biffes.in/

Berlin (Germany, Berlinal, February 20 – March 1, 2020). We are curious to see the first Berlinale of the new team, Carlo Chatrian and Mariette Rissenbeek. Our jury at this major event has the difficult task of presenting three (or eventually four) awards: for a film in the international competition, for a film in the Panorama section, for a film in the International Forum of New Cinema, and, maybe, for a film in the new competition of "Encounters" (in discussion with the festival), which aims "to foster aesthetically and structurally daring works from independent, innovative filmmakers". Our jury will therefore be divided into three (or even four) 'sub-juries':

A — experienced colleagues should focus on the international competition. No invitations are available for this sub-jury. Colleagues having already been invited by the festival are kindly asked to make themselves known; their hotel invitations may be extended to the whole period.

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B — colleagues wishing to focus on the Panorama section are asked to mention this in their application. One invitation (b&b accommodation) is probably available.

C — the Forum should be of special interest for young critics. For this sub-jury, one invitation (b&b accommodation) is also available.

D – All jury candidates are asked to inform if they are interested in, and available for an option: the new competitive section "Encounters" (it increases the possibility of a hotel invitation).

All participation requests should arrive via national sections. Please take into consideration that it is physically impossible to follow more than one complete section. The jurors are asked to cover in their publications the sections on which their sub-jury focuses. Air tickets will not be offered. Language: fluent English. Please note that it is essential to apply for one of the sub-juries (applications without this information cannot be processed). If your candidate has already received an invitation from the festival, please let us know. Deadline: December 13, 2019.

At the festival, we will again co-organize the "Talent Press" workshop for young critics, together with Berlinale Talents and Goethe-Institute.

Websites: <u>www.berlinale.de</u> (Competition, Panorama) and <u>www.arsenal-berlin.de/en/forum</u> (Forum).

Luxor (African Film Festival, Egypt, March 6-12, 2020). This festival, run by Azza Elhosseiny, offers the chance to see a selection of recent films from the African continent. According to the festival, it "aims to support and encourage African film productions and partnerships between the countries of the continent through strengthening the humanitarian and political ties between the peoples of Africa in general and African artists in particular." The competition presents around 12 new films. There is time to discover African films, but also to visit the city and the famous Pharaonic monuments (January is the perfect season, but March still okay). The festival offers air tickets from European and African destinations, and hotel accommodation. Deadline for applications: January 10, 2020. A special interest in and knowledge of African cinematographies can be advantageous.

Web: http://www.luxorafricanfilmfestival.com

Thessaloniki (Greece, Documentary Film Festival, March 6 – 15, 2020). Dimitri Eipides founded the Documentary Film Festival "Images of the 21st Century" in 1999. It's now headed by Orestis Andreadakis (artistic director). "The main program," writes the festival, "is focusing on documentaries that explore the social and cultural developments in the world, introducing at the same time a number of new side sections and events based on important works by new documentarists." Festival and jury should be of particular interest to colleagues writing about the documentary film genre (also in film magazines). The jurors are asked to attend for the whole period, and to select two winners, from the international competition and from the Greek Panorama. The festival offers air tickets and b&b accommodation, possibly restricted to colleagues coming from European countries. Documentary film specialists should apply, via their national sections, by January 10, 2020. They will receive further information. Language: English. Website: www.filmfestival.gr

Saguenay (Canada, "Saguenay International Short Film Festival – Regard 21e", March 11 - 15, 2020). The festival has invited our jury again (from Europe and the Americas). Saguenay was created in 2002, as "the result of the merger of four towns (Chicoutimi, Jonquière, La Baie and Laterrière) and three municipalities (Canton Tremblay, Lac-Kénogami and Shipshaw). As a result, Saguenay has become an important urban area." (Festival information). The Festival offers in a variety of sections an overview of international short films and understands itself as "a gateway of the Americas for the short film and an international launching pad for the Canadian cinema". Our jury will focus on the national competition (while a jury of Canadian colleagues will focus on the international competition). Interested colleagues (with a special interest in short films) are asked to make themselves known (via their national section). Latin American colleagues are especially encouraged to reply. Deadline: January 10, 2020. Festival: http://festivalregard.com/

Sofia (Bulgaria, March 12 – 22, 2020). The festival started in 1997 and has become a major event in Bulgaria and the Balkans. Its aim is "to promote significant and innovative works in contemporary world cinema for local audiences and regional (Bulgarian and the Balkans) cinema to international audiences." A good opportunity therefore to get acquainted with the recent Bulgarian and Balkan productions. Our prize is dedicated to young cinema (first and second features), with a special eye on films from the region. For the last three years, we have established a special award ("FIPRESCI 90 Platinum Award") which went to Béla Tarr, Goran Paskaljevic, Ildiko Enyédi, Bille August (who also held masterclasses moderated by Klaus Eder). We will continue with this tradition in 2020 and are currently discussing worthy candidates for the award. Our jury consists of three members. Air tickets are available within Europe; b&b accommodation is offered as well. As the festival takes ten days, a jury period of around one week will be introduced (four to five working days, to be announced later). Language: English. Colleagues with a special interest in films from the Balkans are kindly requested to apply (via their national sections). Deadline: Jan 10, 2020. Website: www.siff.bg

Zagreb (Croatia, March 15 – 22, 2020). The Zagreb International Documentary Festival (ZagrebDox) has been around since 2005 and has proven itself to be an excelled showcase for non-fiction films. Our fourth jury will be established this year, with three members from Europe (one from Croatia) being invited for the entire duration, to select a winner from the regional competition. Zagreb is the capital and also biggest city in Croatia, with beautiful architecture and many opportunities to delve into Croatian culture and filmmaking. It offers a unique focus on documentaries from all around the world and should be especially interesting for young critics. Colleagues being particularly attracted by documentary films should apply, via their national sections, by January 17, 2020. Website: http://zagrebdox.net

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Guadalajara (Mexico, March 20 – 27, 2020). This festival in the Mexican State of Jálisco (a one-hour-flight from Mexico City) started as a showcase for new Mexican films (Muestra de Cine Méxicano). It later added an overview of new films from other Latin American countries to its program, as well as from Spain and Portugal, and currently focuses as "Festival Internacional de Cine en Guadalajara" (Guadalajara International Film Festival) on a feature, short and documentary Ibero-American competition. Our jurors (three to five members) must have a special knowledge of and experience with Latin American cinematographies (in particular Mexican cinema). One prize will be presented: to a Mexican feature film in the "Mezcal Award" competition. Language: English, some knowledge of Spanish is necessary (not all films are expected to have English subtitles). Our Latin-American colleagues are particularly asked to apply. Air tickets will be available from Europe and from the Americas, as well as b&b accommodation. National sections are asked to make their candidates known, with some evidence of their knowledge of and special interest in Mexican and Ibero-American cinema. We will also co-organize, along with the Berlinale and the Goethe-Institute, a Talent Press workshop for young critics from northern Latin American countries. Deadline: January 10, 2020. Website: https://www.ficg.mx

Vilnius (Vilnius International Film Festival Kino Pavasaris, Lithuania, March 19 - April 2, 2020). Now in its 25th year, "Kino Pavasaris" is the largest cinematic event in the country, known and loved for its high quality film program and rich accompanying package of cinema-related events, workshops, and special events. Critics may catch many films they missed in major festivals. One can also make some discoveries among the films from the Baltic region – on which our jury will focus. There is also an opportunity to see some works in progress from the region and be informed about many new projects. The Baltic films which are eligible for our prize will be shown in different sections, and will be pre-selected by the festival. The jury will have three members who will probably be invited for the last six nights of the festival. The invitation will cover an air ticket within Europe and the hotel accommodation. Interested colleagues (from Europe, including the Nordic countries) should make themselves known (via their national sections) by January 17, 2020. They will receive further information, Language: English.

Festival: http://kinopavasaris.lt/en

Toulouse (France, "CinéLatino – Rencontres de Toulouse, March 20 – 29, 2020). A prestigious showcase of recent Latin American films, now in its 32st edition, screening long features that have not yet been released in France, as well as feature debuts and documentaries. The festival cooperates with San Sebastian to support the post-production of Latin-American films ("Cinéma en Construction"). Meetings and conferences are also planned. Our jury has three members (from Europe), language: French or fluent Spanish will be obligatory. Our jury will probably again focus on the "Coup de Coeur" section (first and second long feature films). Also, a jury period of around six days will be introduced. Young colleagues who are open to be introduced to the cinematographies of Latin America are especially requested to make

themselves known (via their national sections). The invitation covers an air ticket within Europe and b&b accommodation. Deadline: January 17, 2020. Website: www.cinelatino.com.fr

Hong Kong (March 24 – April 6, 2020). This major Asian film event, now in its 44th edition, has been detached from earlier governmental influence and has, after a period of transition, found an own and independent organizational structure: "The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society is a non-profit, non-government organization which develops, promotes and encourages creativity in the art and culture of film through the presentation of the annual Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF)" (Festival information). The festival offers a marvelous overview on recent world cinema and in particular one of the best selections of new Asian films - especially recent Hong Kong movies. Our longtime partner and colleague and programmer Li Cheuk-to left the festival administration recently. We hope that the new team will continue to host our jury. In this case, our jury will focus on the section "Young Asian Cinema". The jurors must have a special experience with and knowledge of Asian cinema. Priority will be given to colleagues who can produce some evidence of this special knowledge. The jury has three members (one Asian juror, one from any non-Asian country, one from Hong Kong) and will probably be invited with a contribution to the costs of an air ticket and with b&b accommodation for a jury period of around five working days (the exact period and conditions to be announced later). Language: fluent English. Deadline: January 17, 2020. Interested colleagues are invited to make themselves known via their national sections; they will receive further information. Website: www.hkiff.org.hk

Panama (Festival Internacional de Cine Panamá, March 26 – April 1, 2020). This young festival (founded in 2012) shows a selection of recent international films to local residents. Thanks to its geographic location, it has also a special interest in Latin American movies. Its main program however is reserved for and dedicated to the films of Central America and the Caribbean. The idea and intention is to offer a showcase, a marketplace and a home to regional cinema. Diana Sánchez, the event's artistic director (she's also the Ibero-American film curator at the Toronto Festival), presents a rich selection of films from the region, probably one of the few chances, if not the only one, to be better acquainted with them. An industry event offers new possibilities for production, marketing and distribution of films as well. We are for the first time invited to present our prize to a Central American or Caribbean film. Our jury will have three members. They should primarily come from the Americas and will be invited with an air ticket and hotel accommodation (and need to stay for the whole duration). They will be asked to participate on a panel on film criticism. Language: fluent English; a knowledge of Spanish cannot hurt. Deadline: January 17, 2020. Website: http://iffpanama.org/en

Lecce (Italy, Festival del Cinema Europeo – Festival of European Cinema, March 30 – April 4, 2020). This festival in the South of Italy, in the province of Apulia (this year in its 21st edition), is dedicated to the presentation and discussion

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of European cinema, in particular with the point of view of a cultural exchange between different countries and cinematographies. The competition is composed of only eight films, most of them not necessarily known from the festival circuit. Homages to personalities of European cinema are also planned. Our jury will have three members (language: English). The invitation covers air tickets within Europe and hotel accommodation plus meals. Participation in our jury should be attractive to colleagues who have a special interest in European cinema and in the discussion of its aesthetic problems and qualities. Especially young colleagues are welcome.

Deadline: January 31, 2020.

Website: www.festivaldelcinemaeuropeo.com

Juries in April

Istanbul (Turkey, International Istanbul Film Festival, April 3 - 14, 2020). This major Turkish film festival, headed by Kerem Ayan, wishes "to encourage the development of cinema in Turkey and to promote films of quality in the Turkish market". The international competition presents current world cinema, with a focus on the relationship between cinema and art. Sidebars are dedicated to outstanding directors of world cinema. The "Turkish Panorama", which presents an overview of recent Turkish films, is always one of the most attractive parts of the festival, especially for foreigners, but also for the local public. The festival takes place in Beyoglu, the center of the city. It is known for its hospitality and its familiar atmosphere. We will have two juries, who will probably be expected to be in Istanbul for an official jury period (to be announced later). One jury will cover the international competition, giving an award to the best film in the section. The other jury will concentrate on the national competition and the short-film competition, giving out two awards. A special interest in and knowledge of Turkish cinema is useful. The invitation covers an air ticket, preferably within Europe, and hotel accommodation. National sections should make their candidates known by January 31, 2020. Please state whether your candidate prefers to focus on the international competition or on the Turkish Panorama. Language: fluent English. Website: http://film.iksv.org/en

Buenos Aires (Argentina, preliminary dare April 15–26, 2020). The "Buenos Aires International Festival of Independent Cinema" (BAFICI - Buenos Aires Festival Internacional de Cine Independiente), now in its 22st edition, is one of the major Latin American cinematic events. It is an influential platform of independent world cinema and an excellent place to get acquainted with the most recent Latin-American and in particular Argentinean films. An ideal opportunity therefore, even a must, for all who are familiar with Latin American cinematographies and who have an interest in independent cinema. Our jury (of three members) will probably focus on the Argentinean competition. Because of budget restrictions, flights will only be available from bordering countries or nearby countries, which offer cheap airfare to Buenos Aires (most likely Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil or Bolivia). Colleagues who have a special interest in independent world cinema and are particularly familiar with Argentinean cinematographies are kindly asked to make themselves known (via their national sections) by January 31, 2020 at the latest. Language: English, a basic knowledge of Spanish is useful. Website: http://festivales.buenosaires.gob.ar/en/bafici

In the next circular, we will announce other juries for festivals in April, such as Wiesbaden, Ismailia and Moscow.

Texts edited by Karsten Kastelan



Circular 5/2019 Published November 13, 2019