



CIRCULAR 1/2020

fIPRESCI

The juries at the Istanbul Film Festival (April 10-21, 2020) and the "Buenos Aires International Festival of Independent Cinema" (April 15-26, 2020) have already been announced in our previous circular.

Ismailia (Ismailia International Film Festival for Documentaries and Shorts, Egypt, April 8–14, 2020). The oldest and most prestigious festival for documentaries and shorts in the Arab world was established by our colleague, the Egyptian critic and documentary filmmaker Hashem El Nahas and is now managed by our colleague Essam Zakarea. The festival, which celebrates its 22nd edition this year, is one of the most serious and criticism-focused event in the Middle East. Beside its four main competition (Feature Documentaries, Short Documentaries, Short Fictions and Animation), Ismailia has a tradition of organizing critics roundtables, publishing books and hosting visual culture related activities. It has old ties with our national section (Egyptian Film Critics Association, EFCA) which kept the tradition of select a jury of three Egyptian critics. In its 22nd edition, the festival will host a FIPRESCI jury for the second time. The jury will be composed of three members (including one Egyptian colleague) and will focus on films in the international feature documentary competition. The festival will take care of flights, accommodation and transportation from Cairo airport to Ismailia, which is about two hours-drive to the East of the country. The city is known for the headquarters of the Suez Canal Authority, which owns, operates and maintains the canal, which the festival hotel borders. (Information written by our colleague Ahmed Shawky). Deadline: March 6, 2020. Website: <http://ismailiafilmfest.com>

Teheran (Iran, Fajr International Film Festival, April 16-24, 2020). The festival, now in its 38th edition and run by its new director Mohammad Mehdi Asgarpour, is Iran's largest annual film festival and "celebrates cultural exchange, displays creative achievements of highly acclaimed cineastes and pays tribute to quality local and international films." Over the years, the FIFF has attracted a sizeable number of well-known jurors such as Volker Schlöndorff, Krzysztof Zanussi, Robert Chartoff, Semih Kaplanoglu, Bruce Beresford, Percy Adlon, Paul Cox, and Agnieszka Holland, awarding films by the Dardenne Borthers, Dennis Gansel and Florian Henckel Von Donnersmarck in more recent years. Our jury (three members, one from Iran) will focus on the section "Eastern

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Vista – Competition of Films from Asia and Islamic Countries", which will include around 15 films. The festival offers regular roundtrip tickets from a major Asian or European city to Tehran and back, accommodation, meals, airport transportation and a few guided tours, but flights will be limited to the festival's partner airlines, including Iran Air. Candidates should also check if they can get the Iranian visa in due time and be aware that subsequent visa to the US might be declined or difficult to get after visiting Iran, as initially happened to director Bruce Beresford as he tried to enter the US in 2017 after having been a jury member in Teheran. Deadline: March 6, 2020. Website: <https://www.fajriff.com/en/>

Moscow (Russia, 42th Moscow International Film Festival, April 22 –29, 2020). The festival, which has been moved up from the end of June, is one of the traditional eastern European film events. It should be particularly attractive for colleagues familiar with Russian and ex-Soviet cinematographies. It was founded back in 1935 with Sergei Eisenstein as chairman of the jury, but did not become a regular event until 1959. Over the past 20 years, the festival jury was headed by leading international film personalities like Richard Gere, Theo Angelopoulos, Margarethe von Trotta, Alan Parker, Gleb Panfilov, Fred Schepisi, Luc Besson, Geraldine Chaplin and Héctor Babenco. The festival showcases international premieres, especially in its international competitive section, and organizes numerous sidebars. Colleagues wishing to serve on our jury (which will present one prize to a film in competition) are kindly asked to contact the General Secretary by March 6, 2020 (via their national section). They will receive further information, in particular on the conditions of the invitation (hotel accommodation and air ticket, as in previous years, preferably but not exclusively from Europe). Language: fluent English. Website: www.moscowfilmfestival.ru

Nyon (Switzerland, April 24 – May 2, 2020, Visions du Réel International Film Festival Nyon). Visions du Réel, Switzerland's second most important film festival after the Locarno Film Festival, is one of the world's most renowned events for documentary cinema. Currently in its 51st edition, the festival hosts a national and an international competition, as well as the Burning Lights competition (dedicated to new vocabularies and expressions, to research and to narrative and formal experimentation in medium length and feature films), as well as a regular competition for short and medium length films. Situated on beautiful Lake Geneva, within spitting distance

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of the French side of the lake, Nyon is a beautiful place to experience new forms of documentary storytelling as well as some of the many masterclasses and debates with film directors. Our jury will most likely focus on debuts / first feature-length films in both international competitions and will be comprised of three members, with one juror coming from Switzerland and the other two from Europe. Transport and accommodations will be provided. Deadline: March 6, 2020. Website: www.visionsdureel.ch/en

Krakow (Poland, Off Camera – International Festival of Independent Cinema, April 24 – May 3, 2020). The festival – not to be confused with May's Krakow Film Festival, which is dedicated to shorts and documentaries – is focused on Polish and international independent cinema and supports filmmakers at the beginning of their careers. It presents around 100 films, showing not just recent works but also classics of underground cinema. As a tribute to small movie theatres and film discussion clubs, all screenings are held in intimate to medium-sized venues. Our jury will consist of three members from Europe (one from Poland) and will focus on the international competition, "Making Way", in which twelve independent directors from all over the world compete for the Krakow Film Award of \$100,000. The Festival also features a variety of lectures, meetings with artists, discussion panels and musical events. Travel (within Europe) and hotel accommodation will be included. The jury will be invited for about a week. Deadline: March 6, 2020. Language: English. Website: <http://www.offcamera.pl/>

Schwerin (Germany, Filmkunstfest, May 5 - 10, 2020). At this charming festival (which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year and focuses on German-language films), our jury will be established once again. With its four competitions (feature, documentary, kids and short films) of exclusively German-language films, it has become one of the main festivals for young filmmakers, even though the films shown here do not have to be debuts. The city itself is the capital and second-largest city of the northern German state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and located on an idyllic lake that bears its name. Our national sections in Austria, Germany and Switzerland are kindly asked to propose candidates; colleagues from other countries who speak fluent German are welcome as well. The festival offers airfare (within Europe) and accommodation. Deadline: March 13, 2020. Website: <https://www.filmland-mv.de/praesentation/das-filmfestival>

Wiesbaden (Germany, May 05 – 11, 2020). goEast – the Festival of Central and Eastern European Film in the German city of Wiesbaden, invites us once again to establish our jury. The event (currently in its 20th edition and headed by Heleen Gerritsen) is organized by the German Film Institute (Deutsches Filminstitut, DIF). It is a forum for dialogue between East and West. This year, the festival will welcome Bucharest-born director Radu Jude and also host a symposium entitled "Against the Looming Loss of Film Heritage – Surveying the Transitional Period". The competition will feature new fiction films (around 10) and documentaries (around 6) from Central and Eastern Europe and will be the focus of our jury (two awards, one for fiction and one for

documentaries). Our jury will be composed of three members from eastern and western Europe. Colleagues with a special interest in central and eastern European cinematographies who would like to serve on our jury are asked to make themselves known (via their national sections) by March 6, 2020 at the latest. Language: fluent English. Website: www.filmfestival-goeast.de

Ankara (Turkey, May 7 – 14, 2020). The "Flying Broom International Women's Film Festival" (Ucan Süpürge Uluslararası Kadın Filmleri Festivali) was founded two decades ago in Ankara, the capital of Turkey, and is now celebrating its 23rd anniversary. It is a competitive festival for films directed by women. Additionally, it offers recent Turkish films. Tributes and retrospectives are dedicated to female filmmakers. Our jury (three members, among them one national juror) is open to colleagues with a special interest in films by and about women and has in the past concentrated on a section called "Each Has a Different Color". The jury period will be 5 to 6 days, but it would probably be advisable that all our jurors stay for the entire time. Proposal: it would not be bad to create a jury composed of female colleagues (most of our juries are dominated by men), this is of course an idea, not a condition. Air tickets are available within Europe, and hotel accommodation will be offered. Language: fluent English. Deadline: March 13, 2020. Interested colleagues are asked to contact the General Secretary (via their sections). Website: <http://ucansupurge.org.tr/> (offline at the time of this posting)

Oberhausen (Germany, May 13–18, 2020). The prestigious Short Film Festival – one of the oldest and most renowned film festivals in the world – will celebrate its 66th birthday this year. Generations of directors have presented their first films in Oberhausen. "Short film", writes the festival "is still the prime source of innovation for the art of film." Our jury (three to five members) will give an award to one short film (presented on the big screen and in the international competition). Colleagues interested in serving on the jury are asked to contact the General Secretary by March 13, 2020, via their national sections. Young critics are welcome. The festival offers hotel accommodation and reasonable travel costs (colleagues who need a contribution to the travel costs, preferably within Europe or from the US, should mention this explicitly in their request). Language: fluent English. Website: www.kurzfilmstage.de

Cannes (France, May 12 – 23, 2020). Our jury at the 73rd edition of this major event will have a difficult task. One prize has to be awarded to a film in (or out of) competition; another prize to a film in the "Un Certain Regard" section. Still another prize will be presented to a film in the parallel sections of "Directors Fortnight" and "Critics Week". To handle this, the jury (nine members) will be split up in three "sub-juries": A – competitive section; B – Certain Regard; and C – parallel sections (Directors Fortnight and Critics Week). Colleagues interested in serving on the jury are asked to include with their request which of the three options they prefer (applications without this information risk not being processed). This year, the press department will once again be headed by Aïda Belloulid as Head of the Press Office, while our esteemed

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colleague Christine Aimé will now be managing a new initiative: "Festival Memory". She will be tasked with creating and running the heritage, archive, and documentation departments of the Festival de Cannes, particularly in view of the planned 75th- anniversary celebrations in 2022. Well-known and experienced critics are expected to apply for the competition "sub-jury", while young critics are particularly welcome to serve on the "Directors Fortnight / Critics Week" jury. The festival does not offer accommodation or travel expenses. Our jury members will, however, profit from a special jury badge allowing priority access to (almost all) screenings. Language: fluent English or fluent French. Deadline: March 6, 2020. Website: www.festival-cannes.org

Seattle (USA, May 14 – June 7, 2020). The Seattle International Film Festival – one of the oldest festivals on the continent – celebrates its 46th edition this year. It is also one of the longest festivals: during 25 days, it presents a profound overview of recent world cinema in a variety of sections. It features several hundred films, shown primarily in downtown Seattle and its nearby neighborhoods and is considered more an audience festival than an industry festival, unlike Cannes with which it frequently overlaps. Our jury, which will probably again be invited for the festival's last five to seven working days (air ticket, hotel accommodation), will focus on the festival's "New American Cinema" series, which showcases American films without US distribution at the time of their selection. Colleagues who are interested in participating, preferably from Europe and the Americas, are asked to contact the General Secretary via their respective national sections. They will receive further details. Deadline: March 13, 2020. Language: fluent English. Website: <https://www.siff.net/festival>

Cluj (Cluj–Napoca, Romania, Transilvania International Film Festival, May 29 – June 7, 2020). This festival, now in its 19th edition, was founded in 2001 by two enthusiasts, filmmaker Tudor Giurgiu and film critic Mihai Chirilov. It established itself as the country's main international feature film festival and offers an overview of recent world cinema, with a focus on new European films, helping them to find national distribution. The section "Romanian Days" includes new Romanian films and represents a highly interesting overview on the national production, especially for foreigners. Worth experiencing are the open-air projections in the city's marketplace. For our three jurors, hotel accommodation will be provided, air tickets within Europe are available. A jury period of around one week will be introduced, the jurors are however invited to stay the entire time. Young colleagues in particular, are encouraged to make their interest known (via their national sections). Language: fluent English. Deadline: March 20, 2020. Website: www.tiff.ro

Kyiv (Ukraine, Molodist, May 30 – June 7, 2020). The international festival in the Ukrainian capital (also known as Kiev) is called Molodist. This means "young" and the event indeed focuses on young worldwide cinema, with a particularly good selection from Eastern European countries. Besides the competition of student films, first short films and first feature-length fiction films, a "Ukrainian Panorama" will be

organized. The festival is a good place for young critics to gain experience. It usually took place in October and has since permanently moved to the end of May. We suppose that the festival will once again extend an invitation to our jury (three members). Travel expenses and hotel accommodation (b&b) are included, air tickets will however be limited to airports in Europe used by Ukrainian International Airlines. Language: fluent English. Our jury will be asked to evaluate the festival's main competition (of first feature-length fiction films). Young colleagues wishing to attend are kindly asked to contact us via their national section. Please check if UIA serves your city. Deadline: March 20, 2020. Website: www.molodist.com

Krakov (Poland, Krakow Film Festival, May 31 – June 7, 2020). The traditional Polish Short Film Festival – not to be confused with April's "Off Camera" International Festival of Independent Cinema – is now in its 60th edition and is situated in the charming city of Krakow. A few years ago, the festival added documentaries to the classic short film genre, and it is docs of middle and feature length on which our jury will focus. To participate should be attractive for all colleagues with a special interest in the documentary genre. Apart from its four competitions, the festival offers several non-competing sections, including Polish Panorama, Somewhere in Europe and open-air screenings of music films, as well as a program for children and teenagers and a selection of student films. The invitation, as in previous years, will cover airfare (but probably only up to €250) and hotel accommodation (five nights). Colleagues with a special interest in documentaries and wishing to serve on this jury (also young colleagues) are asked to contact the General Secretary via their national section by March 20, 2020. They will be informed of concrete conditions. Language: fluent English. Website: <https://www.krakowfilmfestival.pl/>

Annecy (France, International Animation Film Festival, June 15–20, 2020). The International Animation Film Festival in France (Festival international du film d'animation) is one of the leading events for animated films and a must for all connoisseurs of the genre. The festival cannot offer travel costs, but invites our three jurors by covering hotel accommodation (for a jury period), tickets to special parties and venues and admission to its market for animated films (Mifa). As this is a highly specialized event, our jury members should have a special knowledge of and interest in the genre of animation. In addition to short and feature-length films, there will be a sizeable selection of animated films made for television, as well as advertisements and graduation films, with 20+ prizes being handed to the winners. Deadline for jury applications: March 27, 2020 (please contact your national section). Candidates will be informed of the details. Language: fluent English or French. Website: www.annecy.org

Istanbul (Turkey, Documentarist – Istanbul Documentary Days, middle of June, 2019). This festival has been created by our colleague Necati Sönmez. In its first editions, it was a non-competitive overview of recent international documentaries. The FIPRESCI Prize has been introduced as the only international prize, presented to a film from a selection of 15 feature-length documentaries from various countries. In most

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recent years, the festival had to overcome serious budget problems. Also this year, the festival will know its budget only before April, but will hopefully continue as usual – news on the situation will be published on our website. Colleagues from European countries or the Middle East (air tickets from these areas will be available) with a special interest in documentaries should make themselves known (via their national sections). Language: fluent English. Deadline: March 27, 2020. Website: www.documentarist.org

Munich (Germany, Filmfest München, June 25 – July 4, 2020). We will again have a jury at this vibrant festival in the "Bavarian capital". It offers an astonishing diversity of sections, among them the "Cinemasters Competition" for the best international film; the "Cinevision Competition" for the best international film by an emerging director; "International Independents"; plus of course homages, television-movies, children films and much more. One special feature is the overview of new German cinema; presented are only films shown in a world premiere. Add to that the usually lovely weather that Munich offers in the summer, as well as an abundance of beer gardens – and you can look forward to a wonderful time of films, hearty food and good brew. Our jury will have three members (possibly with two European colleagues and one from the Americas) and concentrate on the German films in the festival program. It offers therefore a nice opportunity to get acquainted with current trends in German cinema. Deadline: April 3, 2020.

Website: <https://www.filmfest-muenchen.de>

Karlovy Vary (Czech Republic, July 3-11,2020). The festival, taking place in the health resort of Karlovy Vary (formerly Karlsbad) in the midst of a lovely valley, will celebrate its 55th edition this year. It builds a remarkable bridge between East and West. Starting this year, the festival has decided to end the existence of a separate competition section for documentary film. Starting with the festival's 55th edition, feature-length documentaries will be accepted into the two existing competitions previously reserved for fiction films only: the non-specialized international competition, in which films from around the world vie for the Grand Prix and the East of the West Competition for debut and sophomore features by directors from Central and Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Greece, the Middle East, North Africa and the countries of the former Soviet Union. Karel Och, who has been the KVIFF's programmer since 2001, is running the fest again as artistic director, with our colleague Eva Zaoralova continuing as artistic consultant. Both colleagues manage to assemble a program worth seeing and create a lovely and hospitable atmosphere. Our jurors (three) are invited with hotel accommodation. If indispensable, a contribution to the travel costs can be provided (preferably within Europe). Interested national sections should make their candidates known by April 3, 2020, and should add the information if the candidate would have to rely on a contribution to the air ticket. Language: fluent English. Website: www.kviff.com

More juries in July 2020: Yerevan, Odessa, Prishtina, Palic, Motovun, (August) Locarno.

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