

Press Release

**! BLOCKING PERIOD UNTIL 9 PM !
! Tuesday, 12th April 2011!**

Wiesbaden, April 2011

goEast announces the winners of 2011 – The main award goes to the Russian film A STOKER

During the official award ceremony on Tuesday evening in Wiesbaden, the valuable awards at goEast – Festival of Central and Eastern European Film were bestowed on the winners. The awards in the main categories went to films from Russia, Poland, Romania and Georgia.

On the evening of Tuesday 12th April, the eleventh edition of **goEast**, hosted by the Deutsches Filminstitut, ended with the official award ceremony. German TV presenter Gabi Bauer hosted the award ceremony in the crowded Caligari FilmBühne. In her closing speech, Festival Director Gaby Babić emphasised the fact that the new direction of the programme was met with positive reactions throughout. Ten feature films and six documentaries were screened during the last week in the **Competition** for the four main awards. The independent jury chaired by the Serbian director Želimir Žilnik announced their final decision: the ŠKODA-Award “The Golden Lily” for Best Film endowed with 10,000 Euro, donated by ŠKODA Auto Deutschland, went to A STOKER (Russia 2010) by Alexey Balabanov. The director created stylistically coherent and consistent film using the gangster film genre to show an uncompromising portrait of modern Russia and its history, the jury explained.

Winner of the Documentary Award “Remembrance and Future”, also endowed with 10,000 Euro, is Piotr Stasik with his film THE LAST DAY OF SUMMER (Poland 2010). This documentary questions and articulates issues related to identity, patriotism, past and future, issues that the young generation of a post communist world has to cope with, the jury stated. With this Award, the Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future” honours exceptional documentaries which explore the past of their country of origin and show new perspectives and directions for the future.

The Award for Best Director donated by the City of Wiesbaden, State Capital of Hessen (7,500 Euro), went to director Marian Crişan for his entry MORGEN (Romania, France, Hungary 2010). The jury gives the award to this director for depicting the lyricism of simple human relationships, for the respect and love for his characters and for finding comedy in everyday and often dramatic life.

GORELOVKA (Georgien 2010) by Alexander Kviria won the Award of the Federal Foreign Office for “artistic originality which creates cultural diversity” (2,000 Euro). The jury stated: For masterfully depicting a community with unique history and rich culture on the verge of disappearing, for creating a touching and important document of the drama of migration and for portraying the struggle of preserving their cultural identity in a foreign land.

Each year a jury set up by FIPRESCI, the International Association of Film Critics, bestows the International Film Critics Award at the festival. In this year, the award also went to A STOKER (Russia 2010) by Alexey Balabanov.

This year for the fifth time, the Robert Bosch Stiftung donated the Co-Production Prize for young filmmakers from Germany and Eastern European countries in the categories Animation, Documentary and Short Feature Film at goEast. In 2011, the Co-Production Prize for Animation went to the German-Russian-Kosovan project BREAKING NEWS by the producers Aleksandra Szymanska (Germany) and Visar Krusha (Kosovo) and the director Alexandra Lukina (Russia) for their excellent collaboration and for trying to unmask the manipulative impact of mass media. The winners in the category Documentary are the director Gabór Hörcher (Hungary) and the producer Marieke Bittner (Germany) with their project ROMA RALLY. In an adventurous and humourous way, the director wants to tell us a universal story of people who want to win – and need to. The prize in the Short Feature Film category went to producer Alexander Wadouh (Germany) and director Peter Kerek (Romania) for PEPSI, because the jury is convinced that if we don't know our past, we can't properly build a future. Endowed with up to 210,000 Euro the Co-Production Prize is one of the most valuable awards for projects by young filmmakers.

The winners of the Audience Award in the **Students' Competition** who had already been announced on Saturday received their awards officially on Tuesday night. The BHF-BANK Foundation-Award for Best Short Film from a non-German film school, endowed with 1,500 Euro, went to THROUGH GLASS (Poland 2009) by Igor Chojna, a student at PWSFTViT Academy in Łódź. The decision of the jury of the **Students' Competition** was based on the director's refined sensibility for the absurdity of everyday life and the film's enthusiastic, succinct and precise visual style in combination with a refreshing use of sound and music.

The last week at the festival has shown that **goEast** sets topics: the new curatorial concept and the novel festival section **Beyond Belonging** were very well received by the audience and the guests to the festival.

Besides the more dramatic productions, the tragic, sinister and bizarre comedies in this year's programme were a particular audience favourite.

The **goEast-Symposium "Marching Into the Picture – the New Right in Eastern European Film"**, curated by Dr. Grit Lemke, provided an open forum for discussion: in productive and moving debates the panelists and the audience talked about the way films approach this unsettling social development. During the traditional Film Conversations at the new Festival Centre in the building of Wiesbadener Casino-Gesellschaft, the artists in the Competition engaged in lively discussions about their films with the audience.

The many guests at this year's **Matinée** left the screening of Dani Levy's I WAS ON MARS (Germany 1991) with a smile. They had been enchanted by the charms of female lead Maria Schrader, who, thanks to the support of ŠKODA Auto Deutschland, presented the tragicomedy in person.

After the official goEast award ceremony, filmmakers, guests and the audience celebrated the success of the festival until the early hours at Kulturpalast to the driving music of the band DI GRINE KUZINE.



**11th FESTIVAL OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN FILM
WIESBADEN 06.04. TO 12.04.2011**

goEast – Festival of Central and Eastern European Film is supported by numerous partners:
The main sponsors are the Hessen State Ministry of Higher Education, Research and the Arts, the City of Wiesbaden state Capital of Hessen, ŠKODA Auto Deutschland, the Robert Bosch Stiftung, the Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future”, the BHF-BANK Foundation, the Sparkassen-Kulturstiftung Hessen-Thüringen, the Nassauische Sparkasse, the Saalbau GmbH and 3sat.

Further information is available online at www.filmfestival-goEast.de

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Winners at goEast – Festival of Central and Eastern European Film 2011

THE JURY

Želimir Žilnik (Serbia, Head of the jury)

Vitaly Manskiy (Russia)

Torsten Frehse (Germany)

Levan Koghuashvili (Georgia)

Anamaria Marinca (Romania)

The FIPRESCI Jury

Thomas Rothschild (Germany)

Dr. Mateusz Werner (Poland)

Prof. Alexander Yanakiev (Bulgaria)

Škoda-Award “The Golden Lily” for Best Film

KOCHEGAR / DER HEIZER / A STOKER

Russia 2010

Director: Alexey Balabanov

Documentary Award “Remembrance and Future” donated by the Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future”

KONIEC LATA / DAS ENDE DES SOMMERS / THE LAST DAY OF SUMMER

Poland 2010

Director: Piotr Stasik

Award for Best Director donated by the City of Wiesbaden, State Capital of Hessen

MORGEN / MORGEN / MORGEN

Romania, France, Hungary 2010

Director: Marian Crișan

Award of the Federal Foreign Office for “artistic originality which creates cultural diversity”

GORELOVKA / GORELOVKA / GORELOVKA

Georgia 2010

Director: Alexander Kviria

Honourable Mentions:

AURORA / AURORA / AURORA
Romania, France, Schweiz, Germany 2010
Director: Christi Puiu

KATKA / KATKA / KATKA
Czech Republic 2010
Director: Helena Třeštíková

International Film Critics Award (FIPRESCI Award)

KOCHEGAR / DER HEIZER / A STOKER
Russia 2010
Director: Alexey Balabanov

Co-Production Prize donated by Robert Bosch Stiftung

JURY

Doris Hepp (Editor arte/ZDF, Germany)
Stefan Kitanov (Festival Director Sofia International Filmfestival, Bulgaria)
Matthijs Wouter Knol (Programme Manager Berlinale Talent Campus)
Christine Kopf (Film expert, Germany)
Mait Laas (Filmmaker and artist, Latvia)
Mirsad Purivatra (Sarajevo Filmfestival, Bosnia and Herzegovina)
Ada Solomon (Producer, Romania)

Animation

BREAKING NEWS
Germany, Russia, Kosovo
Director: Alexandra Lukina
Production: Aleksandra Szymanska,
Music Produktion: Visar Krushna

Documentary

ROMA RALLY
Germany, Hungaria
Director: Gabór Hörcher
Production: Marieke Bittner

Short Feature Film

PEPSI

Germany, Romania

Director: Peter Kerek

Production: Alexander Wadouh

BHF-BANK Foundation Award for Best Short Film from a non-German film school

JURY

Rotraut Pape (Professor, HfG Offenbach)

Andreas Heidenreich (Filmfest Weiterstadt, Darmstadt)

Dirk Fellinghauer (Freelance journalist)

PRZEZ SZYBĘ / THROUGH GLASS

Poland 2009

Director: Igor Chojna

Film School: PWSFTViT Łódź

Honourable Mention

OTSNEBA LA SCALAZE / DREAMING OF LA SCALA

Georgia 2010

Director: Zura Demetreshvili

Film School: TAFU Tbilisi

Audience Awards of the goEast Students' Competition

Documentary

AGVISTO 2008 / AUGUST 2008

Georgia 2009

Director: Anna Cherkezishvili

Film School: TAFU Tbilisi

Animation and Experimental Film

B-1033

Poland 2009

Director: Paweł Kryszak

Film School: PWSFTViT Łódź



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Short Feature Film

PRZEZ SZYBĘ / THROUGH GLASS

Poland 2009

Director: Igor Chojna

Film School: PWSFTViT Łódź