

**Press Release**

Wiesbaden, 26 February 2014

**With the East-West Talent Lab goEast creates a new forum for the festival's own promotion of young filmmakers**

- Workshops and networking possibilities for young filmmakers from Central and Eastern Europe and Germany
- With new Competition for Experimental Films and Video Art, including the Open Frame Award, eleven contributions were selected from over 150 applicants

Since its establishment in 2001 goEast – Festival of Central and Eastern European Films – has placed the promotion of young filmmakers high on its agenda. Considerable experience has been collected through the annually staged students' competition, the project market and in cooperation with the Robert Bosch Stiftung in the context of the foundation's own film prize. These now flow into the newly initiated East-West Talent Lab. Here goEast profits from its numerous excellent contacts to German and East European film academies and film institutions. The Lab commits once again to the networking of young filmmakers, artists and film students from Central and Eastern Europe and Germany (with an emphasis on the Rhine-Main Region). In addition to networking and advanced training, the search for and honoring of talents? are central elements of the East-West Talent Lab. This is then connected to the presentation of excellent artistic work. These goals are sustainably implemented through the following four program areas:

**Screen:** The Competition for Experimental Film and Video Art is at the center of the Lab with eleven groundbreaking contributions from young artists, which are then presented in the context of a short film program or as video installations. The best contribution is designated by a renowned jury on Tuesday, 15 April and granted the Open Frame Award in the amount of 5,000 euro.

**Meet:** The Lab participants receive plenty of opportunities for exchange and networking: among each other as well as with representatives from the field, they are able to present their project ideas to those interested within individual conversations or even find potential coproductions themselves. Particularly the establishment of contacts to the TV editors from the region (ZDF, arte, 3sat) offers opportunities.

**Learn:** Experts convey important skills from the field of film and video art in wide range of workshops and masterclass offers.

**Present:** The participants publically pitch their project ideas and receive direct feedback from a panel of experts. In the end the newly created goEast Development Award in the amount of 3,500 euros beckons for the best project idea. The presentation of the award takes place at the official award ceremony.

The East-West Talent Lab is implemented with generous support from the Kulturfonds Frankfurt RheinMain and the BHF-BANK Foundation, which initiated the Competition for Experimental Film and Video Art and tendered the 5,000 euro Open Frame Award.

The coordinator of the East-West Talent Labs, Andrea Wink, is convinced by its uniqueness: "It's wonderful that goEast was able to establish the festival's own promotion of young filmmakers. Young filmmakers and artists are instructed by experts and learn, for instance, to present their ideas coherently and expediently. In addition to the goEast Development Award, which is surely a great

incentive, for me the networking of participants among each other as well as with the big players from the film and art industries are at the forefront.“

Instead of the previous film academy competitions, for which only contributions could be submitted from invited film academies, goEast stages a newly conceived open competition for experimental film and video art. Curator Katrin Mundt explains the features of the competition's focus: “the competition shows an exciting mix of experimental approaches that move between narrative and documentary forms, animation and performance and in that way subvert conventional genre categorization. In terms of content, the contributions demonstrate a great interest in personal experience, their sources of friction with ‘greater’ history and the pressing current problems of a globalizing world.”

For the tenth and final time, the Film Prize of the Robert Bosch Stiftung for International Cooperation will be awarded this year to young talents from Germany and Eastern Europe. An independent panel of experts will select up to three ambitious projects in the categories of short film, documentary film and animation and endowed with up to 210,000 euros.

**Save the Date:** The goEast press conference takes place on Thursday, 3 April at 11 a.m. at the Caligari FilmBühne, Marktplatz 9, 65183 Wiesbaden.

### Current Information about the Festival

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/goEastFF>

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/goEastFF>

### Current photographic material under

[http://www.filmfestival-goeast.de/index.php?article\\_id=19&clang=0](http://www.filmfestival-goeast.de/index.php?article_id=19&clang=0)

*goEast – Festival of Central and Eastern European Film is organized by the Deutsche Film Institute in Wiesbaden and depicts the diversity of cinema in Central and Eastern Europe. It is supported by numerous partners: the main supporters are the Hessen State Ministry of Higher Education, Research and the Arts and the State Capital of Wiesbaden, the EVZ Foundation, the Robert Bosch Stiftung, ŠKODA AUTO Deutschland, the Deutsch-Polnische Wissenschaftsstiftung, Kulturfonds Frankfurt RheinMain and the BHF-BANK Foundation and the Adolf und Luisa Haeuser-Stiftung für Kunst und Kulturpflege.*

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