

Press Release

Wiesbaden, 3 April 2007

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goEast Prizes Awarded to Three Young Talents and a Great Master

Main prizes for films from Russia, Serbia and Croatia / Hertie Foundation Documentary Award goes to noted director from Poland / Enthusiastic public at Matinee with Katharina Thalbach / Intensive discussions between East and West in numerous forums

Tuesday evening's Awards Ceremony in Wiesbaden brought to a close the seventh **goEast – Festival of Central and Eastern European Film**. During the seven days of the festival, some 150 full-length and short films were screened, accompanied by film talks, panel discussions, and an extensive programme of accompanying events. Ten feature films and six documentaries were competing in the main festival section. An international jury chaired by the masterly Romanian director Lucian Pintilie awarded four prizes worth 29,500 euros in total: the Škoda Award for Best Film – the "Golden Lily" – as well as the Hertie Documentary Award, the Best Director Award donated by the City of Wiesbaden, and – for the second time – the Award of the German Federal Foreign Office which explicitly honours "artistic originality which creates cultural diversity".

A **goEast** speciality is the extensive programme of accompanying events. Encompassing music, panel discussions and readings, the sidebar programme caught the imagination of industry visitors and general public during the seventh festival once more. One of the high points of the festival was the **goEast Symposium** under the traditional direction of Hans-Joachim Schlegel. With the title "The Yearning for Spirituality – Film and Religion in Eastern Europe", the innovative concept of this year's symposium brought forth exciting discussions; high-ranking film academics and theologians from Germany, Russia, Poland and Georgia met with representatives of the Evangelic, Catholic and Russian-Orthodox Churches to engage in a rare dialogue with one another. A further festival keynote came with the Sunday Matinee screening of Volker Schlöndorff's *DIE HELDIN VON DANZIG / STRIKE*, complete with a personal appearance by guest star Katharina Thalbach who won over the hearts of the public in the full Caligari Cinema. Viewers also flocked to the Students' Competition screenings, as well as to the reading by young German-Bosnian shooting star Saša Stanišić and the party that followed with London DJ Russ Jones at the turntables. The "Portrait" section gave German audiences a first opportunity to discover the work of Albanian director Fatmir Koçi, while the **goEast** Homage showcased the early work of the Oscar Award-winning director Miloš Forman.

The yearly increasing number of visitors shows that **goEast** is successful in arousing the interest of more and more people for the films and the culture of Central and Eastern Europe. In total, goEast 2007 recorded some 9,000 visitors to its film screenings and sidebar events. 180 international festival guests and industry visitors, as well as 80 journalists from Germany and abroad were welcomed to Wiesbaden. More than 280 pupils from schools in Hessen's state capital took up the invitation to attend the **goEast** School Film Days.

"The festival continues to grow. Yet, this one week together with festival guests from 28 countries was coined more than ever before by an atmosphere of trust. Whoever experienced this, for example at the workshop where creative talents from South Eastern Europe impartially discussed side by side about the documentary scene in their countries, or in the laughter at the film talks, or how at the symposium questions of faith through the diverse religions were debated with ease - is inclined to see the future of the dialogue between East and West with optimism", stated Festival Director, Christine Kopf.

The **Škoda Award for Best Film**, endowed with 10,000 euros, goes to EUFORIA / EUPHORIA (Russia 2006) by Ivan Vyrypaev. The film was chosen by the jury „for its concise visual richness in dealing with an emotionally enclosed drama of passion and adultery.”

The **Award for Best Director**, endowed with 7,500 euros and bestowed by the City of Wiesbaden, goes to KLOPKA / THE TRAP (Serbia, Germany, Hungary 2007) by Srđan Golubović. The jury praised „its skilful portrayal of a story of crime and punishment.”

The **Documentary Award of the Hertie Foundation**, worth 10,000 euros, goes to Marcel Łoziński for the film JAK TO SIĘ ROBI / HOW TO DO IT (Poland 2006). " A distinctive and ironic essay regarding the manufacturing and selling of our contemporary political masters, proclaimed the jury about the German Premiere at **goEast**. The Hertie Foundation has been a main supporter of **goEast** from the inception of the festival.

The **Award of the Federal Foreign Office**, worth 2.000 euros, in tribute to a competing feature film whose “artistic originality creates cultural diversity” goes to ARMIN / ARMIN (Croatia, Germany, Bosnia and Herzegovina 2007) by Ognjen Sviličić. The jury praised “it’s unique and creative directorial observation of hopes and illusions in relationships.”

The jury gave two **Honorary Mentions**: IZOBRAŽAJA ŽERTVU / PLAYING THE VICTIM (Russia 2006) by Kirill Serebrennikov, „a provocative and innovative film about the young generation lost in the search for some meaning to life.“ A further honorary mention went to Emir Hadžihafisbegović, the actor playing the father in Ognjen Sviličić’s film ARMIN, “for his unique performance for creating courageous solutions in the presentation of his character“.

For the fifth time, **FIPRESCI** awarded the International Film Critic’s prize in Wiesbaden this year. The film KLOPKA / THE TRAP by Srđan Golubović (Serbia, Germany, Hungary 2007) was able to convince the jury of film critics.

The **Robert Bosch Stiftung’s Promotional Prize for Joint Film Productions by Young German and Eastern / South Eastern Filmmakers**, endowed with a sum of up to 210,000 euros, was awarded for the first time this year at **goEast**. The prize makes it possible for young filmmakers working in the areas of production, direction, camera and screenwriting to experience new ways of working and new styles in another country. Out of all the applications, 15 film teams were chosen, who then presented themselves to an independent jury last December. The Robert Bosch Stiftung awards the prizes for extraordinary film concepts in 2007 to teams from Germany and Bulgaria (Animation), Germany and Poland (Short Feature Film) as well as from Germany and Estonia (Documentary). The concepts will be realized this year in Germany and in the respective partner countries. In addition to **goEast**, other partners of the Stiftung are the Filmbüro Baden-Württemberg and the broadcasting channel, ARTE, which will show at least one of the finished productions in its programme.

For the second time, the **BHF-BANK Foundation** awards their promotional prize of 1.500 euros, this year to SUVINE DOKUMENTAAL / SUMMER DOCUMENTARY by Joosep Matjus, Estonia 2006 (The Baltic Film and Media School, Tallinn University). The Jury (Professor Egon Bunne, Mainz, Professor Andrzej Klamt, Wiesbaden, und Christine Kopf, Director of **goEast**) was convinced by the „polished composition and artistic form” of the film. „The refined dramaturgy combines both levels of image and sound to create a choreographed whole. The courtship of deer as a documentary show piece.“ An Honorary Mention was given by the jury for the short feature film MEISTER / CHAMPION by Kaupo Kruusiauk, Estonia 2005 (The Baltic Film and Media School, Tallinn University). The “barbed parable about the lack of prospects in an aging society impressed through its precise directorial guidance of the actors.”

The best short films screened in the international **Students’ Competition** were presented last Saturday with Audience Awards (worth 1,000 euros respectively) in three different categories. The prize-winner in the Documentary and Experimental Film category was DIE KUNST-KOFFER KOMMEN! / THE KUNST-KOFFER ARE ARRIVING! by Nadja Burdack, Carmen Pillich and Kerstin Kogler, Germany 2006 (University of Applied Sciences, Wiesbaden). In the Animation Film category, the prize went to EIN SPIEL UNTER FREUNDEN / A GAME BETWEEN FRIENDS by Andreas Pistner, Germany 2007 (also from the University of Applied Sciences in Wiesbaden). The prize for the Short-Feature category went to TULNUKAS EHK VALDISE PÄÄSEMINE 11

goEast →

**7th FESTIVAL OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN FILM
WIESBADEN, GERMANY 28.03. TO 03.04.2007**

OSAS / ALIEN – SAVING VALDIS IN 11 CHAPTERS by Rasmus Merivoo, Estonia 2006 (The Baltic Film and Media School, Tallinn University).

goEast 2007

THE JURY

Lucian Pintilie (Romania, Jury President)
Borislav Anđelić (Serbia)
Keith Griffiths (Wales, UK)
Ivona Juka (Croatia)
Franziska Petri (Germany)

THE FIPRESCI-JURY

France Hatron, France
Sergej Lavrentiev, Russia
Dinara Maglakelidze, Georgia

AWARDS

The Škoda Award for Best Film – the “Golden Lily”

EUFORIA / EUPHORIA
Russia 2006
Director: Ivan Vyrypaev

The Hertie Documentary Award

JAK TO SIĘ ROBI / HOW TO DO IT
Poland 2006
Director: Marcel Łoziński

Best Director

KLOPKA / THE TRAP
Serbia, Germany, Hungary 2007
Director: Srđan Golubović

Award of the Federal Foreign Office

ARMIN / ARMIN
Croatia, Germany, Bosnia and Herzegovina 2007
Director: Ognjen Sviličić

Honorary Mentions:

IZOBRAŽAJA ŽERTVU / PLAYING THE VICTIM
Russia 2006
Director: Kirill Serebrennikov

Emir Hadžihafisbegović,

the actor playing the father in
ARMIN / ARMIN
Croatia, Germany, Bosnia and Herzegovina 2007
Director: Ognjen Sviličić

goEast →

**7. FESTIVAL DES MITTEL- UND OSTEUPÄISCHEN FILMS
WIESBADEN 28.03. BIS 03.04.2007**

International Film Critic's Award (FIPRESCI-Prize)

KLOPKA / THE TRAP

Serbia, Germany, Hungary 2007

Director: Srdan Golubović

The Robert Bosch Stiftung's Promotional Prize for Joint Film Productions by Young German and Eastern / South Eastern Filmmakers

Category Animation:

ANNA BLUME (German-Bulgarian Co-Production; award amount: 45,000 euros)

Director: Vessela Dantcheva, Production: Ebele Okoye

Category Short Feature Film:

PRZYJAŹN – FREUNDSCHAFT (German-Polish Co-Production; award amount: 60,000 euros)

Directors: Nicole Volpert, Production: Joanna Kollbek, Jamila Wenske

Category Documentary Film:

NORMAL – ESTNISCHE UND DEUTSCHE LEBENSWELTEN (German-Estonian Co-Production; award amount: 35.000 euros)

Directors: Volker Maria Engel, Ülo Pikkov, Sandra van Slooten, Heilika Võsu

Production: Sandra van Slooten, Heilika Võsu

The BHF-BANK Foundation Award

SUVINE DOKUMENTAAL / SUMMER DOCUMENTARY by Joosep Matjus, Estonia 2006

Filmschool: The Baltic Film and Media School, Tallinn University

(The Jury: Professor Egon Bunne, Mainz, Professor Andrzej Klamt, Wiesbaden, und Christine Kopf, Festival Director)

Honorary Mention:

MEISTER / CHAMPION by Kaupo Kruusiauk, Estonia 2005

Filmschool: Baltic Film and Media School, Tallinn University

The prize-winning films in the 2007 goEast Students' Competition:

In the section documentary and experimental film, the 1,000 euro prize is awarded to:

DIE KUNST-KOFFER KOMMEN! / THE KUNST-KOFFER ARE ARRIVING!

by Nadja Burdack, Carmen Pillich and Kerstin Kogler, Germany 2006

Filmschool: University of Applied Sciences, Wiesbaden

Second Prize:

NINANOKKIJA APELSIN / NOSE PICKERS ORANGE

by Birgit Demidova, Estonia 2005

Filmschool: Baltic Film and Media School, Tallinn University

Third Prize: (ex aequo)

HERR KAMERAMANN / MR. CAMERA MAN

by Paul Wiersbinski, Germany 2005

Filmschool: The Academy of Fine Arts, Städelschule, Frankfurt (Main)

OHNE TITEL / UNTITLED

by Anna Berger, Germany 2006

Filmschool: College for Design – hfg Offenbach

GESTERN UND DIE NEUE STADT 2 / YESTERDAY AND THE NEW CITY PT. 2
by Holger Priedemuth, Germany 2006
Filmschool: University of Applied Sciences, Mainz

In the section animation film, the 1,000 euro prize is awarded to:

EIN SPIEL UNTER FREUNDEN / A GAME BETWEEN FRIENDS
By Andreas Pistner, Germany 2007
Filmschool: University of Applied Sciences, Wiesbaden

Second Prize:
GEORG WÄCHST / GEORGE GROWS
By Martin Schmidt, Germany 2007
Filmschool: The Art College, Kassel

Third Prize: (ex aequo)
NO FISH
By Baoying Liu, Germany 2006
Filmschool: The Art College, Kassel

FINAL JOURNEY
By Lars Zimmermann, Germany 2006
Filmschool: University of Applied Sciences, Mainz

In the section short fiction film, the 1,000 euro prize is awarded to:

TULNUKAS EHK VALDISE PÄÄSEMINE 11 OSAS / ALIEN – SAVING VALDIS IN 11 CHAPTERS
By Rasmus Merivoo, Estonia 2006
Filmschool: Baltic Film and Media School, Tallinn University

Second Prize:
BIRNBAUM / PEAR TREE
By Ronald Scharf, Germany 2007
Filmschool: University of Applied Sciences, Mainz

Third Prize:
MEISTER / CHAMPION
By Kaupo Kruusiauk
Filmschool: The Baltic Film and Media School, Tallinn University

Photos of the prize-winners and further press material (director profiles or film stills in print-ready resolution) are available for download from the Press section at www.filmfestival-goEast.de

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