

Communiqué de presse, Berlinale, February 2015

Culture seems to be the first victim! & Cine-Regio members supports 6 films in the main competition

In the corridors of EU, US-lobbyists put pressure on our national and local officials in an attempt to remove the cultural exemption from the EU-US free trade negotiations (TTIP).

The cultural exemption is our anchor to the history we are built on and rooted in our regional diversity and identity. The cultural exception has never been challenged in EU policy making before. Will this tradition change in 2015?

The members of Cine-Regio right now celebrate that 25 feature films (6 in main competition) and 6 shorts are part of this year's official Berlinale 2015 programme.

But at the same time the members of Cine-Regio are worried about the future due to the on-going TTIP negotiation where the American delegation has expressed a strong desire to flush Europe with the US mainstream culture - covering everything from film culture to food culture. In order to succeed, the US lobbyists are therefore working hard for an annulment of the exemption that protect our regional diversity and identity in Europe.

The members of Cine-Regio are well aware that some politicians may have a tendency to bend for quick fixes and the US-lobbyists therefore have an easy job when they promise to buy more cars and wind-mills from Europe.

Therefore, the members of Cine-Regio decided - at their meeting in Berlin today - to now strengthen their efforts to raise awareness of the danger of Europe losing its identity.

Charlotte Appelgren, General Secretary of Cine-Regio: *"The political level at European level has to keep its promise that cultural and audio-visual services (incl. online) are excluded from the EU TTIP negotiation mandate. We must be able to support and regulate our audio-visual industries including the ability to adapt to the emerging technologies of tomorrow. It makes no sense to put the interests of US-based globalised multinationals before those of a culturally diverse Europe and of European citizens. The message is clear: without the cultural exception there will be no European film sector."*

Cine-Regio is a non-profit association of regional film funds in Europe. The network counts 43 regional film funds from 14 European countries - and together the members represent a total funding capital of €168 million.

Main Competition

- *As we were dreaming* // Andreas Dresen. Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung (D)
- *Diary of a Chambermaid* // by Benoit Jacquot. Ile-de-France Film Fund (FR)
- *Ixcanul* // Jayro Bustamante. Ile-de-France Film Fund (FR)
- *Nobody wants the night* // Isabel Coixet. Institut Català de les Empreses Culturals/ICEC (ES)
- *Sworn Virgin* // Laura Bispuri. BLS Südtirol- Alto Adige (IT), Cinéforum (CH)
- *The pearl Button* // Patricio Guzmán. Institut Català de les Empreses " Culturals/ICEC (ES)

Out of Competition

- *13 Minutes // Oliver Hirschbiegel*. Filmförderung Baden-Württemberg (D), BLS Südtirol- Alto Adige (IT)
- *Everything will be fine // Wim Wenders*. Film i Väst (SE), Film Fund FUZZ (NO)

Berlinale Shorts Competition

- *Daewit // David Jansen*. Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)
- *Dissonance // Till Nowak*. Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)
- *Snapshot Mon Amour // Christian Bau*. Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)

Panorama Special

- *Dora or the Sexual Neuroses of our Parents // Stina Werenfels*. Zürcher Filmstiftung (CH)

Panorama Dokumente

- *A German Youth // Jean-Gabriel Périot*. Cinéforum (CH)
- *B-Movie: Lust & Sound in Westberlin // Jörg A. Hoppe, Klaus Maeck, Heiko Lange*. Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)
- *Iraqi Odyssey // Samir*. Zürcher Filmstiftung (CH)
- *Sume – The Sound of a revolution // Inuk Silis Høegh*. NordNorsk Filmsenter (SE)
- *The Resistors "their spirit prevails..." // Katrin Seybold (†) and Ula Stöckl*. Filmförderung Baden-Württemberg (D), Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)

Forum

- *Exotica, Erotica, Etc. // Evangelia Kranioti*. Ile-de-France Film Fund (FR)
- *Hedi Schneider is Stuck // Sonja Heiss*. FilmCamp (NO)
- *Superworld // Karl Markovics*. FilmFonds-Wien (AT)
- *Zurich // Sacha Polak*. Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung (D)

Generation Kplus

- *Antboy2: Revenge of the Red Fury // Ask Hasselbalch*. Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)
- *My skinny sister // Sanna Lenken*. Film i Väst (SE), Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)

Generation Kplus Short Films

- *Air-Mail // Isabelle Favez*. Zürcher Filmstiftung (CH), Cinéforum (CH)
- *Kacey Mottet Klein, Birth of an Actor // Ursula Meier*. Cinéforum (CH)
- *The tie // An Vrombaut*. Flanders Audiovisual Fund (BE)

Generation 14plus

- *Flocking // Beata Gårdeler*. Film i Väst (SE), Filmpool Nord (SE)

Perspektive Deutsches Kino

- *Hakie – Haki. Living as a Man // Anabela Angelovska*. Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)
- *Tell me Mnemosyne // Lisa Sperling*. Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)
- *The Spiderwebhouse // Mara Eibl-Eibesfeldt*. Filmförderung Baden-Württemberg (D)

Berlinale Special

- *Life // Anton Corbijn*. Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein (D)



For further information please contact:
Charlotte Appelgren, General Secretary
 M: +45 40 40 35 45
www.cine-regio.org