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pitching
roundtables
contact

come and pitch it!

Connecting Cottbus

16.–17.11.2006

market forum for the film industry
at the FilmFestival Cottbus
Festival of East European Cinema



WELCOME TO COTTBUS!

This year will again see industry representatives from around 15 countries from Eastern, Central and Western Europe discussing the latest film ideas and possibilities for European co-productions at Connecting Cottbus – market forum for the film industry at the FilmFestival Cottbus.

Following the film festival's thematic focus, the spotlight will also be on the countries of Bulgaria and Romania at Connecting Cottbus. Expert representatives from these countries will provide an overview of the most recent film productions and the situation of film financing.

As in past years, the call goes out again to »Come and pitch it!«. 13 new projects are waiting for feedback, support and possible co-producers.

Make use of the creative, open working atmosphere and discover those exciting film ideas you have always been looking for. Get to know new production partners with whom you can master the ups and downs of a joint European film production.

Your present ideas could then perhaps number in a few years among those successfully realised projects which first saw light in a public forum at Connecting Cottbus. This year, we want to present some completed projects as well as those where producers from various countries are currently collaborating on their realisation.

And participants of our forum are again represented in the film programme of the FilmFestival Cottbus with their latest productions. Thus, you will be able to see such films as *MONKEYS IN WINTER* (producer: Newena Andonowa) and *LOVE SICK* (director: Tudor Giurgiu), which were both successfully pitched at Connecting Cottbus in previous years.



Programme 2006

Thursday, 16th November 2006
Friday, 17th November 2006

Thursday, 16th November 2006

10:30 am **Welcome**

Roland Rust (FilmFestival Cottbus, Germany)
Gabriele Brunnenmeyer (Connecting Cottbus, Germany)

10:40 am **FOCUS Germany**

An introduction to the German film funding system and current possibilities for co-production with Germany
Katja Jochum (FFA, Germany)
Kirsten Niehuus (Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Germany)
Manfred Schmidt (Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, Germany)

11:30 am **FOCUS Bulgaria – The New Bulgarian Cinema**

An overview of developments in the Bulgarian cinema and film industry
Gergana Dakovska (National Film Center, Bulgaria)
Stefan Kitanov (Sofia Film Festival, Sofia Meetings, Bulgaria)

12:00 am **COME AND PITCH IT! Part I**

Moderation: **Gabriele Brunnenmeyer**,
Uta Ganschow

01:00 pm **Lunch** hosted by the **Robert Bosch Stiftung**

02:30 pm **FOCUS Romania – The New Romanian Cinema**

An overview of developments in the Romanian cinema and film industry
Tudor Giurgiu (TV Romania, Romania)
Mihai Gligor (Romanian Film Commission, Romania)

03.00 pm **COME AND PITCH IT! Part II**

04:15 pm **Coffee Break** hosted by the **Nipkow Programme**

04:30 pm **COME AND PITCH IT! Part III**

08:00 pm **Networking Reception** hosted by the **Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg** and **Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, MDM**

Friday, 17th November 2006

10:00 am **FOCUS Europe**

How to access support from Eurimages or MEDIA?
Short presentation and Q&A
Moderation: **Gabriele Brunnenmeyer**
Panelists:
Petra Kashmiry (Eurimages, Germany)
Susanne Schmitt (MEDIA Antenna Berlin-Brandenburg, Germany)
Stanislav Stanev (MEDIA Desk Bulgaria, Bulgaria)

11:00 am **FOCUS European TV Stations**

Does television need European co-productions?
An introduction to the programming slots and needs of selected stations
Moderation: **Dr. Martin Blaney**
Panelists:
Heinrich Ambrosch (ORF, Austria)
Tudor Giurgiu (TV Romania, Romania)
Martin Novosad (CT, Czech Republic)
Agata Pietkiewicz (TVP, Poland)
Meinolf Zurhorst (ZDF/Arte, Germany)

12:00 am **Coffee Break** hosted by **Moonstone International**

12:15 am **FOCUS World Sales**

What must a film have to be picked up by a world sales agent? An introduction to the needs of the international market
Moderation: **Dr. Martin Blaney**
Panelists:
Olaf Aichinger (Bavaria International, Germany)
Esther Bannenberg (Consultant)
Ellis Driessen (Fortissimo, Netherlands)
Marta Lamperova (MDC International, Germany)
Sascha Wieser (EastWest Distribution, Austria)

01:15 pm **FOCUS CoCo**

What ever happened to those projects pitched in the previous years?
Moderation: **Gabriele Brunnenmeyer**, **Uta Ganschow**

02:15 pm **Farewell Lunch** hosted by the **MEDIA Antenna Berlin-Brandenburg** and the **MEDIA Desk Bulgaria**



16TH FILMFESTIVAL COTTBUS – FESTIVAL OF EAST EUROPEAN CINEMA

Running from November 14–18, the 16th FilmFestival Cottbus has more than one hundred films from 23 countries offering a representative survey of feature film production from the whole of the Central and East European region. At the centre are the ten feature-length films and twelve short films that are competing for the »Lubina« and a total of € 56,500 prize-money.

The festival will again be directing its Focus onto the new countries to the European Union: with the choice of Bulgaria and Romania, it will be presenting two cinematographies which have attracted a lot of attention at international festivals in recent years. Two separate film programmes will present a unique panorama of works by a young generation of filmmakers who represent new beginnings at the southeastern edge of Europe. While the Bulgarian films are mainly dealing with the co-existence of various ethnic groups in this regions (»Us and Them«), the Romanian films are dedicated to »Europe's Other Youth«.

The 850th town anniversary of Cottbus is the reason for showcasing the filmmaking of the Slavic minority of Sorbs (Wends) living in Cottbus and the whole Lusatia region within a film programme. The retrospective stretches from the early silent cinema through to the most recent productions and incorporates all genres.

A children's and youth' programme, national hits as well as numerous specials complete the varied programme.

www.filmfestivalcottbus.de



Additional information

Video screenings
Hotspots for everyone
Festival club
Film Talks
Films in the festival programme 2006



VIDEO SCREENINGS

This year, Connecting Cottbus is once again offering all participants and guests the opportunity to use video screening facilities to show their current production to co-production partners and colleagues. For reservations, please contact a member of the Connecting Cottbus team.

HOTSPOTS FOR EVERYONE

All participants and guests of the FilmFestival Cottbus and Connecting Cottbus are offered free Wireless/LAN for their notebooks and PDAs at the guest centre. More information is available at the accreditation counter.

FESTIVAL CLUB

You will also be able to meet festival guests and Cottbus residents in the Coffeelatte at the town's Altmarkt each day between 7:30 am–7:30 pm. Later in the evening, Edelweiss, Lehnertz and the Zelig bars in the immediate vicinity of the festival centre at the Cottbus Stadthalle will be serving up lots of cocktails to relaxing East European music. Moreover, DJs from Bulgaria, Croatia and Germany together with various Cottbus DJs will be inviting festival guests to call by to the Edelweiss and Lehnertz for a Chill Out after a long day at the festival.

FILM TALKS

This year will see numerous discussions on fascination, film and focus. Here is a brief selection from the extensive programme of the 16th FilmFestival Cottbus.

Thursday, 16th November 2006, 9:00 pm

Radio Eins Special/Live in the Cafe Zelig
(Friedrich-Ebert-Straße 21)

9:00 pm–10:00 pm Presentation of the awards ceremony for the Cottbus FilmSchau.

10:00 pm–11:00 pm Uhr FilmTalk. Knut Elstermann in conversation with directors and guests of the competition films

Friday, 17th November 2006, 2:30 pm

FocusTalk/Kammerbühne (Wernerstraße 60)

Diversity on the edge of Europe – roundtable on the festival Focus of »New Cinema from Bulgaria and Romania«, with filmmakers from the two new EU countries.
(Moderation: Jörg Taszman)



SELECTED FILMS IN THE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

You will find a selection of films which have been produced or directed by participants of this year's Connecting Cottbus in this programme: Vladimir Andreev, Tudor Giurgiu and Rossitsa Valkanova are among the participants at Connecting Cottbus, who have works programmed for the 16th FilmFestival Cottbus. Additional information can be found on the festival website: www.filmfestivalcottbus.de

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME 2006

selected films which have been produced or directed by participants of this year's Connecting Cottbus

Newena Andonowa (producer)

Milena Andonowa (director)

Wednesday, 15th November, 7:00 pm

Stadthalle/Feature Film Competition

MONKEYS IN WINTER Bulgaria 2006 | 111 min
pitched at Connecting Cottbus 2001

Daniel Burlac (producer)

Wednesday, 15th November, 9:30 pm

Stadthalle/Feature Film Competition

12:08 EAST OF BUCHAREST Romania 2006 | 89 min

Ada Solomon (producer)

Thursday, 16th November, 10:00 pm

Weltspiegel/Short Feature Competition

THE TUBE WITH A HAT Romania 2006 | 23 min

Thursday, 16th November, 10:00 am

Kammerbühne/Focus

MARILENA FROM P7 Romania 2006 | 46 min

Tudor Giurgiu (director)

Saturday, 18th November, 10:00 am

Kammerbühne/Focus

LOVE SICK Romania 2006 | 85 min

pitched at Connecting Cottbus 2004

Vladimir Andreev (director, producer)

Saturday, 18th November, 12:00 am

Kammerbühne/Focus

ON THE ROAD TO EUROPE Bulgaria 1995 | 54 min



Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg GmbH

The Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg GmbH is the central address for everyone in the region's media industry. Under one roof, it unites film funding and the development of the media industry in the states of Berlin and Brandenburg.

Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung GmbH

The aim of the funding is the development, maintenance and strengthening of the film, television as well as media culture and economy in Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia. The funding intends to contribute to the strengthening of the audio-visual sector in Germany and Europe. With that it will improve and ensure the economic power in the region of these three states.

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MEDIA Antenna Berlin-Brandenburg

MEDIA Plus is a programme of the European Union for the advancement of audio-visual industry in the 29 member states. Support is channelled through it for the areas of development, distribution, sales, promotion, festivals and training. MEDIA Antenna Berlin-Brandenburg is the information office for the regions of Berlin-Brandenburg and Central Germany and is a significant contactpoint for professionals.

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Nipkow Programme

The Nipkow Programme launched in Berlin in 1992, is a fellowship programme, designed to assist film and television professionals from all over Europe to expand their contacts and working experience. By supporting a new up-and-coming generation of film and media talents, Nipkow aims at strengthening future European collaborations in the media and film sector.

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pool production GmbH

pool production, an agency organising events, is organizer of the Cottbus Film Festival and the market forum for the film industry Connecting Cottbus.

pool production provides classic advertising, as well as publicity and marketing for all kinds of commercial and cultural events.

pool production fuses its internal capabilities with external project-related know-how and offers a broad spectrum of services.

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Supporters

Robert Bosch Stiftung

Moonstone International

MEDIA Desk Bulgaria



CONNECTING COTTBUS 2006

market forum for the film industry at the FilmFestival Cottbus Festival of East European Cinema

Organized by
pool production GmbH

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This event was conceived in collaboration with the Nipkow Programm e.V., a grant programme in Berlin for European audio-visual media professionals.



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Berlin-Brandenburg GmbH

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MEDIA

Antenne Berlin-Brandenburg

MEDIA
Desk Bulgaria

Robert Bosch Stiftung



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