



programme

WEDNESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2023

09:30-12:30 ■ Stadthaus / Ratssaal
cocoLAB: Individual Pitch Prep and Tech Check
(by appointment)

12:30-14:00 ■ Restaurant Brau & Bistro
Networking Lunch (by invitation only)

14:00-16:00 ■ Stadthaus / Ratssaal
cocoLAB: Individual Project Feedback (by appointment)
with Daniela Cölle, Geoffroy Grison, Martin Hampel, Linda Kirmse,
Daria Moheb-Zandi, Valentina Neumann, Simon Perry, Saar Yogev

16:00-17:00 ■ Stadthaus / Foyer
Welcome Coffee & Pastry

17:00-18:30 ■ Stadthaus / Zielona Góra
**Panel: Keep Calm and Carry On?
Producers' Strategies in a Rapidly Changing Environment**
The international audiovisual market today is challenging in many ways. Dwindling cinema audiences, less deep pockets at the streamers, and, above all, conflicts and wars causing halted relationships, political and economical crises, and often a strain on cultural works. How do producers address the massive and multiple changes? Which strategies do they use to sustain their businesses? The panel welcomes an exchange with the audience.
with Natalia Libet (2Brave Productions, Ukraine), Evelin Pentilăă (Stellar Film, Estonia), Paul Thiltges (Paul Thiltges Distributions, Luxembourg), Olena Yershova (Tato Film, Turkey/Ukraine), Arben Zharku (Revolver Film, The Netherlands)
moderated by Simon Perry (ACE Producers)

18:30-19:30 ■ Stadthaus / Zielona Góra
Polish-German-Czech Producers Round Table (by invitation only)
connecting cottbus regularly brings leading professionals and funders from Poland and Germany together in a think-tank environment. Czech industry professionals are invited to join the conversation and explore the potential of regional partnerships, with a focus on possible challenges and benefits while sharing the experience of existing co-productions.
*in collaboration with the Polish-German Film Fund (DPFF),
New Horizons International Film Festival/Polish Days*

20:00-22:00 ■ Bellessa
coco Warm-Up (by invitation only)
hosted by Transilvania International Film Festival

connecting cottbus

THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2023

09:30-12:00 CET ■ Kammerbühne & coco online platform
cocoWIP Screening (by invitation only)
Presentation of work-in-progress projects at the cinema and online
(access code on your personal agenda).

09:30-10:00 ■ Stadthaus / Ratssaal
Pre-Networking Coffee
hosted by PITCH_IT

10:00-11:30 ■ Stadthaus / Ratssaal
connectingPOINT
An organised networking session between coco participants, filmmakers from FilmFestival Cottbus and representatives of Crew United (PL/DE).
in collaboration with Creative Europe Desk Berlin-Brandenburg

11:30-12:30 ■ from Stadthaus / Entrance
cocoWALK
Guided walking tour to explore the historical centre of Cottbus – join us for some fresh air and discover what makes this city special.

12:30-13:30 ■ Restaurant Roma
Networking Lunch (by invitation only)

14:00-16:30 ■ Stadthaus / Ratssaal
Official Welcome & cocoPITCH
Presentation of projects in development including coffee break.

16:30-17:15 ■ Stadthaus / Foyer
coco Happy Anniversary Cake!
hosted by Creative Europe Desk Berlin-Brandenburg

16:30-17:30 ■ Stadthaus / Foyer & coco online platform
**Request your one2one meetings /
Voting for cocoPITCH Audience Award**
Submit your meeting requests and vote for your favourite pitch.

17:15-18:30 ■ Stadthaus / Ratssaal
focusCOCO
Celebrating the market's 25th anniversary, focusCOCO features some special guests reflecting on past editions and sharing their experiences and ideas.
with Martin Blaney (Screen International), Gabriele Brunnenmeyer (Networking & Consultancy), Sergiu Cumatrenco Jr. (YOUBESC Creative Institute), Natalia Libet (2Brave Productions), Dana Messerschmidt (MDM - Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung), *moderated by Marjorie Bendeck (connecting cottbus)*

19:30-21:30 ■ Restaurant Zelig
Award Dinner (by invitation only)
*hosted by Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg &
MDM - Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung*

21:30-00:00 ■ Restaurant Zelig
cocoBEAT - 25th Anniversary Party (by invitation only)
*hosted by Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg,
MDM - Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung & Studio Beep*

FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2023

09:00-16:00 ■ Stadthaus / Ratssaal
one2one Meetings
Pre-scheduled on-site meetings.

10:30-11:30 ■ Stadthaus / Zielona Góra
**Presentation: Leadership and Resilience
Navigating Your Company and Project Success in Turbulent Times**
Sometimes, feeling insecure and hesitant is natural in a world filled with uncertainties and a fast-evolving audiovisual landscape. How can you ensure your team and company thrive amidst these challenges? What skills empower individuals to face difficulties with strength and resilience, emerging not weakened but fortified? And how do we guide teams to maintain a stress-resistant mindset during trying times?
Michael Comyn's session invites you to navigate change with an open mind, and gain actionable insights and strategies to steer your ventures toward a resilient future and sustainable success.
with Michael Comyn (The Time Signal Ltd.)
in collaboration with EAVE

10:30-12:30 ■ Stadthaus / Ratssaal
**cocoLAB: Notes on Marketing for cocoWIP
(only for cocoWIP project representatives)**
One2one feedback sessions regarding each project's marketing strategy.
with Laurin Dietrich (WOLF Consultants)

12:30-14:00 ■ Stadthaus / 1st floor
Light Lunch Buffet

14:00-15:00 ■ Stadthaus / Zielona Góra
Panel: The Ukrainian Film Industry between Creativity & Upheaval
The Ukrainian film industry has been severely affected by the war of aggression waged against their country. There is no government support for film productions, many men serve in the war, and there are deaths. Nevertheless, as the FFC's programme shows, Ukrainian cinema continues to prove that it is one of the most creative in Europe, reflecting war and civil society, hopes and traumas. An inventory and outlook.
with Darya Bassel (producer), Natalia Libet (producer), Simon Mozghovyi (director), Inga Pylypchuk (director), Anastasiia Solonevych (director), Olena Yershova (producer), Daryna Zacharova (producer)
*moderated by Bernd Buder (FilmFestival Cottbus) &
Marjorie Bendeck (connecting cottbus)
co-hosted by FilmFestival Cottbus*

15:30-17:00 ■ Stadthaus / 1st floor
Farewell Drinks & Pickles

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

09:30-16:00 CET ■ coco online platform
online one2one Meetings
Pre-scheduled online meetings.