

**come  
and  
pitch  
it!**

**Connecting  
Cottbus**

**12.-13.11.2009**

East West Co-production Market  
at the FilmFestival Cottbus

**programme**

# East meets West in Cottbus

The number of projects submitted couldn't have been higher, nor the range of ideas any broader. This is now the eleventh time that producers, commissioning editors and financiers from all over Europe are meeting at the East-West Co-production Market Connecting Cottbus to present projects and find partners. A warm welcome to you all!

14 promising feature film projects from 12 countries will be looking over the next two days for partners to accompany them on the further development of their projects with advice, practical support and money. This year's pitching session will be opened by the winner of the CoCo Special Pitch Award 2008, Alexey Uchitel's LILLIPUTIANS, which will be presented by his production company Rock Films.

During the pitching session you will have the opportunity to get a first impression of the project and its makers. In the One2Ones you can then build on this impression on an individual basis. And we would also like to invite you this year to not hold back with any spontaneous feedback and comments during the public pitching. They create the special atmosphere of Connecting Cottbus and are very valuable for the people presenting their projects. And remember: you are all the jury members for the CoCo Best Pitch Award.

20 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Connecting Cottbus would like to remember what has changed in the last two decades – and what would be more appropriate than to do this in the area of cross-border co-productions. Therefore, the panel “Co-production in the Course of Time” will not only look to the past, but also intends to indicate the future prospects for possible developments in the area of minority co-productions. A second panel entitled “Lost in Translation” will be dedicated in quite a practical way to the possibilities of co-productions with Russia. Although this will be primarily illustrated by way of the example of German-Russian relations, it should nevertheless become clear what will be possible in future for all those interested in cooperation. Thus, experiences, case studies and looking for future prospects and potential are in the focus of this year's event.

New impulses, creative ideas and the development of networks, that's what Connecting Cottbus is all about again this year. We look forward to seeing you once more.

## Tuesday, 10th November 2009

Pitching Preparation (*with invitation only*)

## Wednesday, 11th November 2009

Pitching Preparation (*with invitation only*)

08.00 pm **Get-together**

hosted by the MEDIA Antenna Berlin-Brandenburg

## Thursday, 12th November 2009

09.00 am Accreditation

10.00 am Welcome

10.15 am **Co production in the course of time**

Review, state of affairs, perspectives and the local value of minority co-productions

Moderation: Martin Blaney

Guests:

Alexander Donev (NFC Bulgaria)

Karlo Funk – *inquired (Estonian Film Foundation)*

Tamás Joó – *inquired (Filmunio Hungary)*

Kirsten Niehuus (Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg)

Agnieszka Odorowicz – *inquired (Polish Film Institute)*

Roberto Olla (Eurimages)

Sanja Ravlic (HAVC-Croatian Audiovisual Centre)

Manfred Schmidt (MDM)

Miroljub Vuckovic (Film Centre Serbia)

12.00 am **Presentation of the Robert Bosch**

**Co-Production Prize**

Guests: Frank Albers and Enrico Battaglia (*Robert Bosch Stiftung*)

12.15 pm **Lunch break** hosted by the Robert Bosch Stiftung

01.30 pm **Come and pitch it!** Part I

02.45 pm Coffee Break

03.15 pm **Come and pitch it!** Part II



04.30 pm **Coffee Break** – hosted by the Nipkow Programme

05.00 pm **Come and pitch it!** Part III

06.00 pm **Voting for the CoCo Best Pitch Award 2009**

**Make your dates for the One2Ones!**

08.00 pm **Time to talk!**

Networking Reception – hosted by the Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg and the Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung

Announcement of the CoCo Best Pitch Award 2009

## Friday, 13th November 2009

09.00 am **One2Ones** Part I

11.00 am **Co-production: a blessing and a curse?**

Moderation: Martin Blaney

Guests:

Lydia Antonova (*Passenger*)

Ruben Dishdishyan – *inquired (Central Partnership)*

Dmitri Efremov (*Passenger*)

Dr. Matthias Esche (*Bavaria International*)

Alexander Mindadze (*Director*)

Kirsten Niehuus (*Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg*)

Alexey Sokhnev (*Ministry of Culture of Russian Federation, Department Cinematography*)

12.40 pm **One2Ones** Part II

02.00 pm **Networking Lunch**

03.30 pm **Focus CoCo**

Presentation of projects initiated by Connecting Cottbus TILT, TILVA ROSH and others

04.30 pm **One2Ones** Part III

06.00 pm **The End**

## CoCo Best Pitch Award

It has become a good tradition: on the evening of the first conference day, the CoCo Best Pitch Award is presented at the Medienboard MDM reception held on the occasion of the East-West Co-production Market. This prize donated by EastWest Filmdistribution aims each year to recognise the best presentation of a new project. 14 selected film ideas from 12 countries will be competing on 12th November for the audience's favour. The project garnering the most votes will be awarded a voucher for script doctoring to the value of Euros 3,000. The script doctor will be chosen after consultation with EastWest Filmdistribution.

## EastWest Filmdistribution

is a feature film sales company, which specialises in the promotion and sales of quality European and independent feature films. EastWest was founded in November 2004 by Sasha Wieser and Steve Walsh, who each have more than thirty years of experience across all aspects of international film production and distribution. With a strong global network of experienced film professionals, EastWest has a passion for world cinema and a firm belief that the films they represent deserve and will find a worldwide audience. The company is based in Vienna (Austria) with a second office in London (UK).

**EastWest Filmdistribution GmbH**

Schottenfeldgasse 14 | A-1070 Vienna

[www.eastwest-distribution.com](http://www.eastwest-distribution.com)



## CoCo Special Pitch Award

The annual CoCo Special Pitch Award underscores, above all, continuity and synergies between the festival and co-production market. Last year, Alexey Uchitel (director) won the Main Prize of the FilmFestival Cottbus with his feature film CAPTIVE and, thus simultaneously, the CoCo Special Pitch Award which gives him the chance to present a brand new film idea at Connecting Cottbus. And so Alexey Uchitel and Kira Saksaganskaya (producer) will be presenting their lyrical comedy LILLIPUTIANS at the beginning of this year's pitching session.

## 19th FilmFestival Cottbus – Festival of East European Cinema

When the Altstadt in Cottbus starts glowing in blue, you'll know it's that time of the year again: one week long, the film world turns its attention to the Festival of East European Cinema. Cineastes lap up the international flair and look forward to meeting stars and newcomers – this year for the 19th time.

The Festival of East European Cinema is regarded internationally as the leading film festival of its kind and has also developed into the most important cultural event in the region. As an intersection between East and West, it offers a comprehensive overview of current filmmaking in Eastern Europe and also serves as a trendsetter for the theatrical releases in the coming year with the numerous international and German premieres.

The centre of the festival's attention is traditionally on the competitions for feature film and short feature. The regional Focus is directed this year on the Black Sea region, symbolised by the pomegranate as the festival motif. Other regional focuses can be found in the "Russian Day", "Polish Horizons" and "Salem, Kazakhstan!" Film historical pearls will be presented by the retrospective which is dedicated this year to the "1989 – Times of Change" and will be screening seldomly shown amateur and artist films from the last years of the GDR.

Film talks, exhibitions parties and live concerts invite festival guests to take strolls through the cultures of Eastern Europe away from the cinema screen.



## Selected films in the Festival Programme

You will find a selection of films which have been produced or directed by participants of Connecting Cottbus in this programme: Arsen Azatyan, Nana Djordjadze and Vano Burduli are among the participants at Connecting Cottbus who have works programmed for the 19th Cottbus Film Festival. Additional information can be found on the festival website: [www.filmfestivalcottbus.de](http://www.filmfestivalcottbus.de)

### **Jens Meurer, Egoli Tossel Film AG (Producer)**

Tuesday, 10th November 2009, 7.00 pm

Staatstheater/Großes Haus

Tuesday, 10th November 2009, 8.00 pm

Weltspiegel

### **THE LAST STATION**

Germany, Russia 2009 | 112 min

### **Simone Baumann, LE Vision (Executive Producer)**

Wednesday, 11th November 2009, 12.00 am

Weltspiegel

### **PINK TAXI**

Germany 2009 | 80 min

**Marta Lamperova, SPI International (Sales agent)**

Wednesday, 11th November 2009, 7.30 pm

Stadthalle

Thursday, 12th November 2009, 12.00 am

Weltspiegel

**FOXES**

Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ireland 2009 | 83 min

**Ruben Dishidishyan, Central Partnership (Producer)**

**Dmitry Efremov (Producer)**

**Alexander Mindaze, Passenger (Director)**

Wednesday, 11th November 2009, 10.00 pm

Weltspiegel

**MINNESOTA**

Russia 2009 | 86 min

**Arsen Azatyan, Aysor-Plus Film Productions (Producer)**

**Nariné Mkrtchyan, Aysor-Plus Film Productions (Producer)**

Thursday, 12th November 2009, 12.00 am

Stadthalle

Saturday, 14th November, 10.00 am

Obenkino

**THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON**

Armenia 2008 | 88 min

**Zaza Rusadze, Zazarfilm (Director)**

Thursday, 12th November 2009, 12.30 am

Kammerbühne

Friday, 13th November 2009, 7.00 pm

Obenkino

**FOLDS & CRACKS**

Georgia 2009 | 8 min

**Ruben Dishidishyan, Central Partnership (Producer, Distributor)**

Thursday, 12th November 2009, 7.30 pm

Stadthalle

Friday, 13th November, 12.00 am

Weltspiegel

**BUBEN BARABAN**

Russia 2009 | 90 min

**Ruben Dishidishyan, Central Partnership (Producer, Distributor)**

Thursday, 12th November 2009, 7.30 pm

Obenkino

Friday, 13th November 2009, 4.30 pm

Weltspiegel

**HIPSTERS**

Russia 2008 | 120 min

**Vano Burduli, Producing Center Gemini (Director)**

Friday, 13th November 2009, 7.30 pm

Stadthalle

Saturday, 14th November 2009, 12.00 am

Weltspiegel

**CONFLICT ZONE**

Georgia 2009 | 82 min

**Mira Staleva, RFF International (Producer, Distributor)**

Saturday, 14th November 2009, 10.00 am

Kammerbühne

**WHICH WAY TODAY**

Bulgaria 2007 | 90 min

**Ieva Norviliene, UAB Tremora (Producer)**

Saturday, 14th November 2009, 5.00 pm

Weltspiegel

**LOWLIGHTS**

Lithuania, Germany 2009 | 92 min

**Nana Djordjadze, Studio 99 (Director)**

Saturday, 14th November 2009, 7.00 pm

Stadthalle

**THE RAINBOWMAKER**

Germany, Russia, Netherlands, Finland 2008 | 95 min

# Additional information

## Video Screening

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

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

## FestivalClubs

### **Official FestivalClub: AVC-FestivalClub Muggefug**

Each evening of the film festival will see the AVC FestivalClub Muggefug serving as a meeting place with live music for cineastes and night owls.

### **Official FestivalRestaurant: Jimmy's Diner**

The delights of real, good old American and Mexican cuisine have been on the menu at Jimmy's Diner since 1991. During the festival there are 15 kinds of vodka on the menu. Open daily from 5.00 pm.

### **Official FestivalCafé: Lehnertz**

Home-made cakes and scrumptious coffees are on offer daily from 3.00 pm. In the evenings, the cocktail menu convinces with many tasty combinations.

### **Official FestivalBar: edelweiss**

The cool, modern and completely white ambience makes edelweiss into a trendy meeting place for the in crowd. You can get cocktails here from 6.00 pm until the sound of the dawn chorus.

## Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg

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.

**Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg GmbH**

August-Bebel-Straße 26–53 | D-14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg

fon: + 49(331)743870 | fax: + 49(331)7438799

info@medienboard.de | www.medienboard.de

## MEDIA Programme

MEDIA 2007 is a programme of the European Union for the advancement of audio-visual industry in the 32 member states. Support is channelled through it for the areas of development, distribution, sales, promotion, festivals and training. The preparatory action MEDIA International is co-financing activities with countries outside the EU – in the field of promotion, training and cinema networks.

**MEDIA Programme/European Commission**

Avenue de Beaulieu 33 | B-1160 Brussels

fon: +32(2)298 50 17 | fax: +32(2)299 22 90

info-media@ec.europa.eu | www.ec.europa.eu



## Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung

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.

**Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung GmbH**

Hainstraße 17-19 | D-04109 Leipzig

fon: +49 341 269870 | fax: +49 341 2698765

info@mdm-online.de | www.mdm-online.de

## Robert Bosch Stiftung

### The Co-Production Prize for Young German and Eastern European Filmmakers

The Robert Bosch Stiftung issues three coproduction prizes for young German and Eastern European filmmakers. The prize, worth up to 70,000 euros for each selected project, is awarded in the categories animated film, documentary, and short film. Young filmmakers in the fields of production, directing, camera, and screenwriting are given an opportunity to explore the methods and creative styles of their partner country. Deadline for submission is 30th of November 2009.

**Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH**

Heidehofstraße 31 | D-70184 Stuttgart

Programme Manager: [frank.albers@bosch-stiftung.de](mailto:frank.albers@bosch-stiftung.de)

Coordination Co-Production Prize: [battaglia@coproductionprize.com](mailto:battaglia@coproductionprize.com)

[www.coproductionprize.com](http://www.coproductionprize.com)



## MEDIA Antenna Berlin-Brandenburg

MEDIA Antenna Berlin-Brandenburg is one of the information offices of the MEDIA programme in all member states. Responsible for Berlin-Brandenburg/Central Germany it is a significant contact point for professionals. Its networking events support the international co-operation between the MEDIA member states.

**MEDIA Antenna Berlin-Brandenburg**

August-Bebel-Straße 26-53 | D-14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg

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[mediaantenne@medienboard.de](mailto:mediaantenne@medienboard.de) | [www.mediadesk.de](http://www.mediadesk.de)





## EAVE

EAVE is a leading training, development and networking organization for producers primarily funded by MEDIA, MEDIA International and the Luxembourg Film Fund. In addition to the well-known European Producers Workshop, which has been running since 1988, EAVE is involved in a variety of programmes for audiovisual producers in Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East.

### EAVE

238C rue de Luxembourg | L-8077 BERTRANGE

fon: +352 44 52 10 1 | fax: +352 44 52 10 70

eave@eave.org | www.eave.org

## Moscow co-production forum 2010

The Moscow co-production forum is a business platform located in Russia, which provides new opportunities for cooperation and co-production between Russian and foreign producers. In 2010, the Forum's topic will be: "BRIC countries: co-production with Europe". The forum program will include a Round Table: "Europe – BRIC"; a case study: "Co-production projects between Brazil, Russia, India, China and European countries"; Country Tables: "Film production opportunities in BRIC countries" as well as a market for co-production projects from BRIC countries.

Olga Kolegaeva – Moscow Co-production forum coordinator

125009, Kalashnuy pereulok, 14, Russia, Moscow

Mobile: +7 (903) 666-7-444 | Fax: +7(495) 690-37-06

forummoscow@gmail.com | www.rfilms.org

## 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.

**Nipkow Programm e.V.**

Kurfürstendamm 225 | D-10719 Berlin

fon: + 49(30)6142838 | fax: + 49(30)6142826

nipkow-programm@t-online.de | www.nipkow.de

## CineLink

CineLink is the industry section of the Sarajevo Film Festival. Its activities are spread throughout the year and are designed to meet the current needs and expectations of the Southeast Europe's film industry in reshaping. Including a series of workshops concentrating on script development, financing and marketing that producers and authors of selected feature fiction projects attend before presenting their projects at the CineLink Co-Production Market, CineLink presents the most important year-round development platform for the regional film industry. Taking place during the last three days of the Sarajevo Film Festival, the CineLink Co-Production Market presents the best of feature fiction projects in preparation by both emerging and already acclaimed authors from the Southeast Europe.

**Co-Production Market CineLink**

Zelenih Beretki 12/1 | BIH-71000 Sarajevo

fon: +387-33-209411 | fax: +387-33-263381

cinelink@sff.ba | www.sff.ba



## pool production

pool production, an agency organising events, is organizer of the FilmFestival Cottbus and the East West Co-production Market 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.

**pool production GmbH**

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**Connecting Cottbus  
East West Co-production  
Market at the  
FilmFestival Cottbus**

**Organized by**  
pool production GmbH

**Funded by**  
Medienboard Berlin-  
Brandenburg GmbH  
MEDIA Programme  
Mitteldeutsche  
Medienförderung GmbH

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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its partners and supporters who have  
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East West Co-production Market.

funding partners

**medienboard**

Berlin-Brandenburg GmbH

**MEDIA** 

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Antenne Berlin-Brandenburg

 **CineLink**  
Sarajevo Film Festival

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European Media Union in cooperation

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