

## **Press Report N°2**

Frankfurt/Wiesbaden, March 2005

# **Discover the Variety of Eastern European Film**

**goEast – Festival of Central and Eastern European Film in Wiesbaden presents a wide-ranging film programme, international guests, two exhibitions, several lectures, discussion rounds on current topics and Eastern European music.**

An exciting week awaits the visitors of the 5th round of goEast - Festival of Central and Eastern European Film in Wiesbaden: From 6 to 12 April the festival will be presenting the variety of contemporary Eastern European film in seven film sections. Additional events such as podium discussions, two exhibitions, lectures and the goEast Matinee shall also give insight on the cultural and political situation in Central and Eastern Europe. Professionals as well as the general public shall be able to ask directors questions in the movie theaters and during daily film discussions- a once in a lifetime opportunity to inform oneself directly on production circumstances or capture new tendencies in film. goEast shows the current stand of film making of a wide spectrum of very different countries- from Albania to Estland, from the Czech Republic to Kasachstan. Furthermore, it traditionally offers the opportunity of (re)discovering the classics of Eastern European film on the large screen. As in previous years, festival movie theaters are located in the Caligari FilmBühne and the Bambi movie theater in Wiesbaden.

### **16 Film Entries for the Competition/ New Sections: Signature and Portait**

Ten fiction films and six documentary films are competing for the festival's prizes. goEast is looking forward to Škoda Auto Deutschland's participation this year; For the first time, they are donating 10,000 € for "The Golden Lily", the Škoda prize for the best film. For the fourth consecutive year the non-profit Hertie-Foundation is funding the prize for best documentary, the most impressive depiction of the on-going process of transformation in Central and Eastern Europe. This prize is also enowed with 10,000 €. Once again, the State Capital, Wiesbaden, is donating 7,500€ for the prize for best director. The prizes will be awarded by the jury, led by the renowned Polish director Robert Gliński. Further members of the jury: Slovenian actress Aleksandra Balmazović, CEO of Progress Film Distribution Jürgen Haase, Russian director Aleksej Popogrebskij and Usbekistanian director Jusup Razykov. In addition, the FIPRESCI- jury awards a prize for International Film Critique. The two new film sections: „Signature“ and „Portrait“ complement the competition; on the one hand with unusual entries and on the other hand with an oeuvre- presentation. The latter shall be in honour of the Slovenian director Martin Šulik.

### **Poland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania stand in the Limelight of the Symposium in 2005**

The second part of the Symposium „Identity in the Post- Communist Era“ is conceived for professional visitors as well as for the interested public. The presentations and discussions frame a programme of twelve films from those countries, which constitute the central focus of the symposium this year: Poland and the three Baltic countries Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

### **Highlights and Specials: Pre-Premiere of Emir Kusturicas's LIFE IS A MIRACLE**

This year, the goEast highlights come from Poland, Bulgaria, Albania and the Czech Republic. Among others, the Serbian-French co-production LIFE IS A MIRACLE by Emir Kusturica will be shown as a Pre-

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Premiere. In the category "Specials" a documentary about the renown Russian director Kira Muratova forms part of the programme. In 2001 goEast awarded Muratova with the festival price "The Golden Lily". In this years competition she presents her new film THE TUNER.

## **Hanna Schygulla as a Guest at the goEast Festival / Andrzej Wajda: Films and a Poster Exhibiton**

The international theater and film star Hanna Schygulla will be a guest at the goEast-Matinée on Sunday, April 10 (10am, Caligari Filmbühne). Hanna Schygulla became famous mainly by working with Rainer Werner Fassbinder; less known is that the actress, born in 1943 in Katowice, also worked together with the celebrated Polish director Andrzej Wajda. Hanna Schygulla will present her book „Du...Augen wie Sterne“ during the goEast Matinée, in which she also remembers working with Wajda. In addition, goEast presents five **films by Andrzej Wajda** and a film poster exhibition on his work.

Writer Marica Bodrožić, born in 1973 in Yugoslavia shall also offer literary insight on Eastern Europe with a reading. A few years ago, her collection of stories "Tito ist tot" (Tito is dead) evoked surprise and admiration. On April 11 at the Villa Clementine (8.30pm), Bodrožić will be reading from her first novel „Der Spieler der inneren Stunde“, which appeared just recently.

## **Film School Competition: Prizes Awarded by the Audience**

The Film School Competition is a favourite among audiences. It lasts three days and presents a wide-ranging short film competition with several German premieres. Moreover, there will be a dialogue forum "Meet the Filmschools", where film schools can present themselves. Three prizes, amounting to 750 € each (in the documentary and experimental film, short and animation film sectors) will be awarded by audiences.

## **Offer for Schools**

goEast offers schools in Wiesbaden the school film days, funded by the German Federal Agency for Civic Education. It is directed at elementary school children and junior high school students. This year, the films HITLERJUNGE SALOMON by Agnieszka Holland (Germany/France/Poland, 1989, 108 MIN, PG-13) as well as two films for audiences over 6 years of age, namely: an animated puppet film PRINCE BAJAJA (CSSR 1950, 81 MIN, Director: Jirí Tmka) and the Czech film KOLJA by Jan Svěrák from 1996 (105MIN). **To apply or for further information please call 069 – 96122031.**

## **In the Mood for Festival**

When the curtain rises for the 5th round of goEast on the evening of April 6, in one of the most beautiful movie theaters of Germany, the Caligari FilmBühne in Wiesbaden, it does not merely mark the beginning of a film week; it signifies a week of new encounters and get-togethers with old friends, a possibility to make new contacts and enhance the dialogue between the East and the West. Not only the film discussions offer an opportunity for this (daily, starting at 10pm at the Festival Center Villa Clementine), but also a "round table" on the subject of film culture in Serbia and Montenegro (April 10, Festival Center Villa Clementine) and a podium of experts on the West Balkans who will discuss Romano Prodis statement: "The future of the Balkans lies in the European Union". Similarly addressing a current theme of discussion the "Revolution in Orange" photo exhibit, which can be seen starting April 6 in the Bellevue- Saal (Wilhemstraße 32), retraces the revolution in the Ukraine, which just came to a peaceful end, through the work of five photographers. On April 8, goEast is inviting us to listen and dance: Wladimir Kaminer, who became well-known thanks to the so-called "Russian disco", will initially read from two currently unpublished works at the Schlachthof (Admission: 8pm, Begins: 8.30pm) and will then (at 10pm) takeover as a DJ.

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