

CinÉast 2017 – programme presentation

I. GENERAL PRESENTATION

Since 2008, the CinEast festival (the Central and Eastern European Film Festival in Luxembourg) has contributed significantly to cultural diversity in Luxembourg by presenting some of the best films and art that central and eastern European countries have to offer.

Since its first edition, the festival has grown considerably in its scope and diversity of programmes and has attracted a broader audience each year. In 2016, the festival screenings and other events attracted a total of around 10 400 people.

The festival programme is complemented by a variety of special events, bringing together different forms of art (music, photography, literature, etc.), thus promoting cultural exchange and friendship through meetings, debates, food and music. It also presents a rare occasion for audiences in Luxembourg to learn about and experience the cultures of the countries represented in a broader sense.

The festival is supported by several partners, including the City of Luxembourg, the Ministry of Culture, the Polish Film Institute, Film Fund Luxembourg, as well as the embassies and cultural and film institutes of the countries represented.

II. KEY FEATURES IN 2017

The 10th edition of the CinEast festival will take place from 5 to 22 October 2017 and will feature around **one hundred screenings** (more than 60 feature-length films and 40 shorts), as well as several accompanying events.

Besides the **main festival venues** in the City of Luxembourg – the Cinémathèque, Neimënster and Ciné Utopia – screenings will also take place at the Ancien Cinéma in Vianden, and other cinemas around the country (Esch sur Alzette, Rumelange, Mondorf-les-Bains, etc.). Two special screenings will also be held at the Kino Achteinhalb cinema in Saarbrücken. Furthermore, there will be several **school screenings** at the European Schools in Kirchberg and Mamer, the International School of Luxembourg and Lycée Technique in Luxembourg.

Currently, the festival covers films from all the former Communist countries that have become EU Members – Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia – as well as all the other countries of the former Yugoslavia, including Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro and Kosovo. Moldova and Ukraine are also represented at the festival. For the first time, the festival will present also films from **Albania**.

A **number of special events** will accompany the screenings, including a major photography exhibition at Neimënster entitled '*Making A Difference*', concerts and musical events at Melusina, Rotondes, Ancien Cinéma (Vianden) and Café Rocas, as well as a ciné-concert (live soundtrack) at the Cinémathèque.

The festival will also host around 30 **guests** (directors, actors, producers, etc.) who will attend screenings and engage in discussions with the audiences.

For the sixth time, the festival will organise a **co-production forum for film professionals** entitled 'CinEast Pro', which will once again take place at Filmland in Kehlen. In partnership with Film Fund Luxembourg, professional associations and film institutes, the aim of this forum is to develop our festival as a platform for professionals from Luxembourg and central and eastern European countries to meet and exchange ideas.

III. FILM PROGRAMMING

The festival focuses on recent productions that may have won awards at big festivals, but film fans will also be able to watch some classics as well as films related to the *'Making A Difference'* thematic cycle. In terms of genres, the vast majority of the films screened are feature-length fiction films, but a significant amount of screen time is also dedicated to documentaries and short films (fiction, animation and documentaries). With a few exceptions, the films will be screened as a Luxembourg premiere and several will have their Benelux and occasionally even international or world premiere.

É Official competition and jury

The **official competition** will consist of 7-8 selected films. The 2017 CinEast **Grand Prix** and the **Special Jury Prize** will be awarded by an **international jury**. A **Critics' Award** will also be presented by an independent jury composed of film journalists (in cooperation with Association luxembourgeoise de la presse cinématographique). Audiences will have the chance to vote for the **Audience Award** for the best feature films, as well as three more audience awards to reward the best short documentary, fiction and animated films.

É Cinécycle

Several recent films and a number of older films will form part of the *'Making A Difference'* thematic cycle. This will comprise films devoted to people who stand out and proclaim their difference in terms of identity, values, work, artistic expression or lifestyle, but who also are bringing and fostering change in their environment. These concepts will also be at the heart of an extensive photography exhibition in the Caves voûtées of Neimënster (CCRN).

É Cinésections

The festival programme comprises the following sections:

'**Official Competition**': (see above);

'**Cinéscope**': the most outstanding recent fiction films;

'**FunnyEast**': a selection of the best comedies from central and eastern European countries;

'**East Goes West**': a selection of films born somewhere in between the "East" and the "West";

'**Cinédocs**': a selection of the best documentaries from central and eastern European countries;

'**Cinéshorts**': a selection of short fiction, animated and documentary films (see below);

'**Cinéspecials**': special screenings

É CinéfOCUS

The festival will present a more detailed look at the work of certain directors, actors and producers: the presentation of the work of the Polish actor, director and musician **Arkadiusz Jakubik**, the Romanian actor **Adrian Titieni**, known from many of the films of the so-called Romanian New Wave, the talented Sarajevo-born Swedish director **Goran Kapetanović** and the Croatian actress **Ksenija Marinković**. CinEast 2017 will also provide a closer look at Estonian cinema (**Focus on Estonia**).

É Cinéshorts : short film marathons

Four **short film marathons** are planned at the Neimënster (7 & 19 October) and the Cinémathèque (11 & 14 October). Two will be dedicated to fiction shorts, one to animations and one to documentaries. Each of the marathons (110-150 min each) will be broken up by an interval during which drinks and snacks will be served.

É Special evening events

The programme will be complemented by several themed evening events. The **Adrian Titieni evening** will be dedicated to this renowned Romanian actor and will include a talk about the Romanian New Wave. The **Jakubik night** will present the Polish artist Arkadiusz Jakubik as an actor as well as a film director. The **Being Different** evening will feature two documentaries about people who are special in one way or another. The **Overcome** evening groups two films with stories involving characters overcoming critical life situations.

É Cinéyouth: special programming for teenage, young and very young audiences

The 2017 programme includes several screenings aimed at children and teenagers. The '*CinEast meets Cinema Paradiso*' programme organised in collaboration with the Cinémathèque on the three festival Sundays will bring films and cartoons to young audiences. A screening for the tiniest cinema-lovers – the by now traditional '*Kids show*' with cartoons without dialogue for children from the age of 2 – will take place at Neimënster. An entire programme of special school screenings (reserved for pupils) will be organised in collaboration with the two European Schools, the International School and the Lycée Technique.

IV. SPECIAL EVENTS

É Cinémusic (concerts)

As in previous years, the organisers have programmed a number of concerts accompanying the film programme:

- **Besh o droM & Balkan Party** – live concert of the renowned Hungarian world music band mixing Transylvanian, Balkan, Jewish and Middle Eastern music, followed by a Balkan music-inspired clubbing party with **DJ Robert Soko** (DE), the man behind the legendary BalkanBeats parties, at *Melusina* (07/10);
- '**Era of Dance**' party with **Riga Disco Blitz DJs** at *Café Rocas* (13/10);
- **Dr. Misio** live – alternative Polish rock band whose frontman is the famous actor Arkadiusz Jakubik, at *Ancien Cinema* (13/10)
- **CinEast 10th Anniversary Party** – celebration of the festival's 10th edition with quiz, films, food and a concert of the Estonian-Ukrainian group **Svjata Vatra** (Cossack Baltic rock) and a DJ set by local **DJ Dr. gonZo**, at *Rotondes* (14/10);
- **Apero Jazz by the Sergei Wowkotrub Gypsy Swing Quartet** (Poland/Ukraine) – live jazz concert at *Neimënster* (15/10)
- **Ciné-concert by Semi-Invented Trio** – live soundtrack to the Hungarian silent film *The Undesirable* (1914, by Michael Curtiz) by the Polish ensemble Semi-Invented Trio at the *Cinémathèque* (18/10);
- **Closing Event** with a live concert of the Balkan-inspired Belgian group **The Antwerp Gipsy-Ska Orchestra**, followed by a set by the local DJ Don Simon, with traditional food and drinks available throughout the event at *Melusina* (21/10).

É Cinéart (exhibitions)

Extensive photography exhibition at Neimënster following the festival's main thematic cycle – "*Making A Difference*". At the Caves voûtées, around 100 photographs by Slovenian, Polish, Ukrainian, Macedonian and Czech artists. The exhibition presents a number of original and creative projects and initiatives taking place in the CEE countries that diverge markedly from the mainstream. Their authors or participants stand out and proclaim their difference in terms of identity, values, work artistic expression or lifestyle. In their complex diversity, they challenge, provoke but also enrich society. Making a difference and bringing the change.

É Cinédebates

Several debates with special guests will accompany our screenings. The debate entitled "*(In)tolerance in Central and Eastern Europe*" will focus on the complex relation with foreigners and the foreign in general in the CEE countries. The special "*Women's event*" will feature a debate on female sexuality and women rights, and another debate will be dedicated to the current perception of autism and autistic children ("*Debate on Autism*").

É Cinégastronomy

As in previous years, the festival will also provide many occasions to taste the food of the countries represented:

- **A gastronomic evening** at *Brasserie Wenzel* (Neimënster) with a buffet comprising food from the countries represented (10/10);
- **CinEast 10th anniversary party** at *Rotondes* (14/10) (films / concert & dj party / quiz / food);
- **Opening and closing parties** offering traditional Eastern European dishes;
- **A welcome drink and snacks** following some screenings;
- **Traditional refreshments** offered during the short film sessions;
- **Minibar** with traditional snacks & drinks during the whole festival at the *Cinémathèque*.

É Charity project

For the ninth year in a row, the festival will support a project of the **Wings of Hope** foundation in Bosnia helping children and youth from disadvantaged families and with learning difficulties.

V. FILMS (selection)

During the 2017 edition, audiences will be able to see over 60 feature-length and 40 short films, many of which have received awards at major festivals.

On Body And Soul by Ildikó Enyedi (Golden Bear at the Berlinale 2017)

Ana, mon amour by Calin Peter Netzer (Silver Bear at the Berlinale 2017)

Spoor by Agnieszka Holland (Silver Bear, Alfred Bauer Prize at the Berlinale 2017)

The Line by Peter Bebjak (Best Director at the Karlovy Vary IFF 2017)

3 / 4 by Ilian Metev (Golden Leopard at Locarno FF 2017)

Jupiter's Moon by Kornél Mundruczó (Cannes Official Selection 2017)

A Prominent Patient by Julius Ševčík (14 Czech Lion Awards 2017, Berlinale 2017)

Directions by Stephan Komandarev (Cannes Un Certain Regard 2017, Special Mention at Sarajevo FF 2017)

Little Harbour by Iveta Grófová (Crystal Bear for Best Film, Generation Kplus, Berlinale 2017)

The Constitution by Radko Grlić (Best Film at the Montreal World FF)

Requiem For Mrs. J by Bojan Vuletić (Best Film at GoEast 2017)

Birds Are Singing in Kigali by Joanna Kos-Krauze, Krzysztof Krauze (Best Actress at Karlovy Vary IFF 2017)

More information: www.cineast.lu

The 2017 CinEast festival is organised by CinEast asbl in collaboration with the Cinémathèque, Neimënster, Kinopolis, Caramba Cinemas, the Ancien Cinéma and others. Main partners and sponsors: City of Luxembourg, Ministry of Culture of Luxembourg, Film Fund Luxembourg, Kulczyk Investments, and others.

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