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PRESS RELEASE

Successful start of exground filmfest 22 //
Several competitions in the upcoming festival week

Last Friday the opening ceremony for the 22nd exground filmfest took place in Wiesbaden. The head of cultural department of the city of Wiesbaden emphasized the festival's importance for the city. exground filmfest was a figurehead of Wiesbaden, said Rita Thies. In the sold out Caligari FilmBühne an international audience saw the opening film DESPERADOS ON THE BLOCK. Director Tomasz Emil Rudzik praised the festival cinema as one of the most beautiful ones in Germany and told, how he was in the elevator of his former dorm for a week and that way came across the stories for his debut film.

DESPERADOS ON THE BLOCK was shot in this very dorm in Munich.

After the opening ceremony round about 500 people joined the filmic city walk A WALL IS A SCREEN. The title is to be taken literally: at various points in the city center the Hamburg team projected short films onto facades, thematically fitting the date - Friday, 13th.

Afterwards the opening of the Germany's most important festival of independent film was celebrated until the early morning hours at Kulturpalast. Jörg Buttgerreit and DJ „One Ticket to Paris“ made the dancefloor boil. Jörg Buttgerreit is also present with his latest film at exground filmfest. He introduced his new film CAPTAIN BERLIN VERSUS HITLER the following day to the audience in the sold out cinema. More than sixty other directors, producers, actors and directors of photography will be the festival's guests and answer the audience's questions.

exground filmfest is basically marked by its various short film competitions, representing all genres and formats. The international ON-VIDEO-COMPETITION (November 19 - 21, at Kulturpalast) is open for all digital formats. The contrary for GERMAN SHORTFILM-COMPETITION – eligible are



only films shot on the best quality material – classic celluloid. This competition with strong films and a good audience will be shown for the first time on Tuesday, November 17th, and have a repeat screening for the award ceremony on Sunday, November 22nd. „Age and Work“ is the subject of the FILM START! 50-SHORTFILMNIIGHT (Wednesday, November 18th, 7 pm, Caligari FilmBühne). In cooperation with the federal program „Perspective 50plus“ this competition, for which more than 150 films were entered, takes place for the first time.

On Monday, November 16, all filmmakers have a unique chance to present their shorts to the international exground audience. For the sixth edition of the cult show GIMME THE TRASH! – exground-GONG-SHOW (Monday, November 16, 10 pm, Kulturpalast) each film up to 10 min. can be entered on DVD. Everything meeting these minimum requirements will be shown. But this competition is hotter and more mercilessly than all the others: If the jury doesn't like a film, the screening will be stopped immediately by banging the gong. The films being shown all the way through, get judged on a 1 - 10 scale. The winner takes the initial financing of 50 EUR for the next film and the „Golden exground-gherkin“. Films can only be entered on Monday 8 – 9 pm at Kulturpalast.

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exground filmfest is organized entirely in unpaid work, an event of Wiesbadener Kinofestival e.V. and is being supported by the following institutions and companies:

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