

### PRESS RELEASE

## exground filmfest 27: closing of a successful festival edition

### Closing of a successful festival edition

On Sunday, November 23, exground filmfest 27 closed a successful festival edition with the award ceremony followed by a party at Caligari FilmBühne. In the past ten days the festival presented highlights of international independent film Wiesbaden. Numerous guests from all over the world came to the Hessian state capital to present their works at the festival to the audience in packed cinemas. Following the second screening the winners of all exground filmfest's competitions were announced.

#### **German Shortfilm Award**

The German Shortfilm Award is the festival's centerpiece. The audience voted this year's winners and chose on Sunday, November 23 at the sold out Caligari FilmBühne 3 EXPERTEN DREHEN AUF by Volker Heymann as winner of the first price, which is endowed with €3,000, donated once more by the state capital of Wiesbaden. Peter Baumann, director of BORDER PATROL came in second and could take €2,000 home, sponsored by the Wiesbaden tv production company Magenta TV. Veronika Hafner made the third place with her film GRÜNERES GRAS. The check for €1,000 was also handed over by the head of department of culture Rose-Lore Scholz. On top of that Pille film equipment rental gave a non-cash prize worth €2,000 to PHALLOMETER by Tor Iben.

## **International Shortfilm Competition**

The French production 37°4 S by Adriano Valerio won the International Shortfilm Competition and the cash prize of €1,500 – sponsored by the circle of exground friends. In this year's International Shortfilm Competition 19 films from 15 countries competed for the jury's favour. The three person expert jury were Insa Wiese, festival director of the International Shortfilm Week Regensburg, successful shortfilm director Simon Ellis and Axel Behrens, co-founder of the Hamburg shortfilm agency. A special mention went to RABBITLAND by Serbian directors Ana Nedeljković and Nicola Majdak.



#### exground youth days

The youth jury for the International Youthfilm Competition awarded the prize for best feature length film to the Australian film 52 TUESDAYS by Sophie Hyde. The jurors motivated their decision as follows: "A challenging and moving film. It thrills the audience with brilliant acting performances and an in depth story about sexual self-discovery and self-determination." The €2,500 prize money were donated by the state capital of Wiesbaden. For the second time the audience could also award a prize, endowed with € 1,000, – also sponsored by the state capital. The audience voted in favour of the Canadian drama MOMMY by Xavier Dolan. As best supporting film the five person youth jury nominated SWIMMER by Dani de la Orden, a film about a near death experience with open end.

On Saturday, November 15 the audience established DO SOMETHING by Leon Kaczmarczyk winner of the Wiesbaden Youthfilm Competition. The first place is endowed with €450. Second came in DAS AMULETT by Anthony Jole and Finn Jensen, endowed with a non-cash prize of €150.

#### Wiesbaden-Special – Shortfilm Competition

The past Sunday already the audience decided the winner of this competition, in which local fresh blood competed. MITE by Walter Volbers won the €500 prize money, sponsored by our media partner Wiesbadener Kurier and can also use the technical equipment and know-how of the Wiesbaden sound lab klangBezirk for two days for the final sound mix of the next film (worth €2,000). As the second place was determined by only one vote difference, the sound lab spontaneously declared their willingness to also give Sebastian Jansen, director of DAS MÄDCHEN VON KASSE 2 the same opportunity.

#### **exground Gong Show**

Perseverance pays off: Uwe Otto and Arne T. Schware have been devoted participants from the start and this year for the second time could take home the exground gherkin and €50 prize money for their film LET'S CALL IT A DAY.

## exground filmfest 28

The date for the next edition of exground filmfest has been set:

13. - 22. November 2015



In the meantime the festival presents two films each month. On Wednesday, December 17 at 8 pm THE HOMESMAN by Tommy Lee Jones will screen as "exground: Film of the Month" and on Saturday, December 20 at 5.30 pm LAND DER WUNDER by Alice Rohrwacher screens as "exground: Youthfilm of the Month".

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exground filmfest 27 gets supported by the following institutions and companies:

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- Office for culture of the state capital of Wiesbaden
- Hessian Film Fund
- Hessian Ministry for Science and Arts
- Media Center Wiesbaden e. V
- Hessian State Centre for Civic Education

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