



Press release
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exground filmfest: The Teens Are Alright **13th edition of Wiesbaden's youth film festival "youth days"**

The countdown is on: less than one week remains until the opening of youth days, the international youth film festival running from November 12th to the 16th in Wiesbaden, Germany, within the framework of exground filmfest 29 (11–20.11). With the 22 short and feature-length films screening at youth days, exground filmfest is also opening its multi-faceted program to a young audience. While the International Youth Film Competition is set to present festival highlights from around the world, the Wiesbaden Youth Film Competition will feature for its part world premiere productions realised by budding local filmmaking talents between the ages of twelve and eighteen.



SLASH



MY REVOLUTION

Hidden Worlds, Reluctant Revolutionaries and First Love: Coming-of-Age Films from Around the World

The International Youth Film Competition features seven productions from the USA, France, Switzerland, Austria, Latvia, Chile and Iran this year, all of which provide glimpses into the otherwise closed-off worlds of adolescents. All of the films will be shown in their original German versions or with German subtitles.

To kick off the program, Clay Liford takes us on a trip into the weird world of fan fiction enthusiasts in the American comedy **SLASH**. Mehrdad Oskouei's **STARLESS DREAMS** gives insight into an unfamiliar universe of a completely different kind. With great sensitivity, the director, who will also be attending the festival in Wiesbaden, accompanies young women during their everyday routine in an Iranian "correctional and rehabilitation centre" north of Tehran.

Susanne Regina Meures shows us a totally different side of the country in **RAVING IRAN**, in which she documents the difficult path her protagonists Anoosh and Arash must take from the techno underground in Tehran to a huge dance festival in Switzerland. Ramzi Ben Sliman's **MY REVOLUTION** on the other hand tells the story of



a rather reluctant rebel: purely by accident, 15-year-old Marwann becomes the face of the young resistance movement against Arab dictatorships, though the unlikely hero himself is less interested in political revolution than he is in the personal revolution caused by his feelings for his classmate Sygrid.

Renārs Vimba's award winning **MELLOW MUD** and the Chilean film **PLANTS** from Roberto Doveris both focus on the complex lives of young female protagonists. While Raya from Latvia attempts to reconcile first love with her responsibility for her family, Florencia simultaneously takes care of her brother and satisfies her sexual curiosity through contact with handsome strangers. In Stephan Richter's **ONE OF US**, adolescents in a dreary Austrian suburb are headed straight for an inevitable tragedy. Both Stephan Richter and Renārs Vimba will be on hand at the festival in Wiesbaden.

Each of the seven productions will also be preceded by exciting short films from around the world. A youth jury as well as the audience will ultimately decide which of the moving stories featured in the International Youth Film Competition will be honoured with an award. Both cash prizes, with a total value of 3,500 euros, are made possible through the generous support of the State Capital of Wiesbaden.



ONE OF US



PLANTS

Local Filmmaking Talent in the Wiesbaden Youth Film Competition

Crime stories, thrillers, documentaries and spy film send-ups are only a few of the genres that up-and-coming filmmakers from Wiesbaden and the surrounding area have chosen to explore in the works of the Wiesbaden Youth Film Competition. All eight of the short films produced by the 12-to-18-year-old participants will be celebrating their world premieres in the framework of the youth days. The audience will choose the winner, who will receive a prize of 500 euros (funded by the Hessen State Centre for Political Education). The director of the runner-up film will receive a gift certificate to the Apple Store worth 150 euros.

You can find the complete program for youth days online at:

http://www.exground.com/2016_stylst/download/ex29_youth_flyer.pdf



For more information please contact:

(((NOISE)))

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