



Wiesbaden, November 25, 2013

PRESS RELEASE

exground filmfest 26 – festive ending with award ceremony

A festive closing ceremony in the almost sold-out Caligari FilmBühne on Sunday, November 24, ended the 26th edition of exground filmfest. All in all nine prizes were awarded, endowed with altogether EUR 16,000.

The audience voted VIRTUOS VIRTUELL by Thomas Stellmach and Maja Oschmann the winner of the prestigious German Short Film Competition. The prize is endowed with EUR 3,000. Second place, endowed with EUR 2,000 sponsored by the festival organizer Wiesbadener Kinofestival e. V. went to SONNTAG 3 (SUNDAY 3) by Jochen Kuhn. ICH SCHWEIFE AB (MY MIND WANDERS) by Erik Schmitt came in third, and took EUR 1,000 in prize money home. The first and third prizes are sponsored by the Cultural Office of the state capital Wiesbaden. On top of that Pille Filmgeräteverleih GmbH sponsored an additional non-cash prize of EUR 2,000 in video- and film equipment. A company jury elected ICH SCHWEIFE AB (MY MIND WANDERS) by Erik Schmitt winner of this award.

This year's International Short Film Competition had 15 films from 15 countries competing for the jury award, endowed with EUR 1,500. The first prize was given to the British short film STEW & PUNCH by Simon Ellis. The



prize money is sponsored by the exground-circle of friends. A special mention went to the New Zealand film NIGHT SHIFT by Zia Mandviwalla.

The youth jury of the 10th exground youth days gave the prize for best film in the International Youth Film Competition ex aequo to two films: AFTER LUCIA by Michel Franco and BLACKBIRD by Jason Buxton, who appeared in person to accept the award. The EUR 2,500 in prize money, donated by the state capital Wiesbaden, was split between the two laureates. As best supporting film of exground youth days the youth jury awarded LÄUFER (RUNNER) by Carolina Hellsgård. This award has no cash prize attached. For the first time exground filmfest also offered an audience award for best film in the International Youth Film Competition. The audience elected ICH FÜHL MICH DISCO (I FEEL LIKE DISCO) by Axel Ranisch, who received the diploma and the cash prize of EUR 1,000 personally, donated by the state capital Wiesbaden.

The audience award for the WIESBADEN-SPECIAL – SHORT FILM COMPETITION for best locally produced or shot by a Wiesbaden director short film went to WACKELKONTAKT (LOOSE CONTACT) by Carlos Zapf and Turan Firatli this year. The directors received a cash prize of EUR 500, sponsored by the newspaper Wiesbadener Kurier as well as the "Filmsound Special" award – two days of working at the Wiesbaden sound studio klangBezirk for the final sound mix of the next film, worth EUR 2,000.

The date for the next festival edition is set already: exground filmfest 27 will take place November 14–23, 2014.

Photos of the award ceremony are to find on our press server.

exground filmfest is an international film festival, organized and presented since 1990 on a honorary basis by the association Wiesbadener Kinofestival e. V. With 14,500 viewers attending in 2012, among them 250



professionals (press, guests, directors, producers, actors etc.), exground filmfest belongs to the film festivals with the highest attendance in Hesse.

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exground filmfest is supported by the following institutions and companies:

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- Hessische Filmförderung
- Hessisches Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Kunst
- US-Generalkonsulat Frankfurt am Main
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- F.W. Murnau Stiftung
- Kulturpalast
- Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden
- Amt für Soziale Arbeit – Abteilung Jugendarbeit „wi&you“

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