

Press Release



Berlinale World Cinema Fund: WCF Day on March 5 With a Focus on "Decolonising Cinema"

Since 2004, the Berlinale World Cinema Fund (WCF) has successfully supported film production in underserved regions with its increasingly differentiated funding programme (WCF, WCF Europe, WCF Africa, WCF ACP) and embarked on cultural diversity in German cinemas. The cooperation between production companies from these regions or countries and German / European production companies has also been promoted.

“Most of the projects submitted for WCF funding derive from countries and regions that have to deal with colonialism and post-colonialism. But, what does that mean for the film production located there in terms of content and structure? To what extent are new decolonising efforts necessary? We have to question this in a differentiated way as we are very aware of these cultural and historical contexts,” says WCF head Vincenzo Bugno.

“Decolonising Cinema” is the central theme of the WCF Day on March 5, 2021 from 2 to 5.30 p.m. The WCF Day is offered online due to the pandemic and can be accessed free of charge at facebook.com/berlinale and youtube.com/berlinale.

As part of the event, directors of current funding projects and other guests will address this complex topic. In addition, the programme will include the event “Directors Talks” with directors of WCF films from the festival selection.

All events will be held in English.

“Decolonising Cinema”

The present is a mirror of history. The consequences of colonialism are reflected in the daily life of many countries, and the topic is coming through in more and more of the projects submitted to the WCF. The WCF Day wants to shine a light on impressive and original Latin American and African projects and initiatives focussed on or inspired by colonialism and its lasting impact.

To what extent has colonial history shaped certain countries and their film cultures? To what extent are colonialism and post-colonialism reflected in previous films and in current film production? Are filmmakers from the funding regions aware of this dramatic historical legacy?

71. Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin

Industry Event
01. – 05.03.2021

Summer Special
09. – 20.06.2021

Press Office

Potsdamer Platz 11
10785 Berlin

Phone +49 30 259 20 707
Fax +49 30 259 20 799

press@berlinale.de
www.berlinale.de

Ein Geschäftsbereich der
Kulturveranstaltungen des
Bundes in Berlin (KBB) GmbH

Management:

Mariette Rissenbeek
(Intendantin Internationale
Filmfestspiele Berlin),
Charlotte Sieben
(Kaufmännische Geschäftsführung),
Prof. Dr. Bernd M. Scherer,
Dr. Thomas Oberender

Vorsitzende des Aufsichtsrates:
Staatsministerin
Prof. Monika Grütters MdB

Amtsgericht Charlottenburg
HRG Nr. 96 · HRB 29357
USt ID DE 136 78 27 46
number for e-invoices 992-80111-11



Press Release

The experiences, heritage and results of the “Third Cinema” movement in the 1960s and 1970s and the “decolonising and decolonised” efforts of filmmakers from *WCF* regions and countries during the last decades are also reflected, particularly considering that funding institutions from Europe largely support their films.

“Cinema Spaces and Decolonising Cinema”

Cinema also means *cinema space* and the *WCF* passionately believes in the social space of cinema. Cinema space means also generating new realities, new sources of energy, new creative aggregations with the goal of setting up the conditions needed to strengthen independent cinema in the *WCF* regions. Cinema space means re-creating the tools needed for developing local contemporary art and local cinema for the *national* - and also international audience.

A conversation with the representatives of the African “Cinema Spaces Network” (CSN) will center on the support of existing and the creation of further cinema spaces in Africa.

See the Programme of [WCF Day 2021](#) (=Link)

WCF-Funded Films in the Festival Selection 2021

The *WCF* is pleased that four funding projects have been selected for the 71st Berlinale:

Vị (Taste) - Berlinale Section *Encounters*
Vietnam / Singapore / France / Thailand / Germany / Taiwan
by Lê Bảo
* World premiere / debut film

Souad - Berlinale Section *Panorama*
Egypt / Tunisia / Germany
by Ayten Amin
* World premiere

Garderie nocturne (Night Nursery) - Berlinale Section *Forum*
Burkina Faso / France / Germany
by Moumouni Sanou
* World premiere / debut film



Press Release

The First 54 Years - An Abbreviated Manual for Military Occupation

- Berlinale Section Forum

France / Finland / Israel

by Avi Mograbi

* World premiere

**World premiere is used to indicate that these films have not been shown to an audience yet. Since they will be available in online screenings to a professional audience (industry and press) only, they will keep their status World premiere until they will be presented publicly in cinemas or at festivals.*

The *World Cinema Fund* is an initiative of the German Federal Cultural Foundation and the Berlin International Film Festival, in cooperation with the German Federal Foreign Office, with further support by the Goethe-Institut.

The special *WCF Europe* programme was launched with the support of the European Union's Creative Europe MEDIA programme.

Thanks to additional funding from the German Federal Foreign Office, the special programme *WCF Africa* started in 2016.



In 2020 the *WCF* started the supplementary programme *WCF ACP* which applies to projects recommended by *WCF/WCF Africa* and is financed by the European Union with the support of the Organisation of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States through the ACP-EU Culture Programme.



Press Office
February 25, 2021