



Crossing Europe Film Festival Linz

Press Release #2/24, 7 March 2024

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- First Look: Working Worlds
- Cinema Next Europe Club: Apply until 15 March!
- Golden Bag Window Display Contest

In just under eight weeks from now, Crossing Europe Film Festival Linz (30 April – 5 May) will present young, courageous and unconventional auteur cinema from across Europe. In this press release, we are presenting this year's **festival trailer**, for which we were able to recruit the Linz-born filmmaker **Lorenz Tröbinger**. We are also announcing the first two films from the **Working Worlds** program section that in 2024 centers on people in the tension between job and activism. Also, young filmmakers from Austria have until 15 March to grab the opportunity to apply for the 5th **Cinema Next Europe Club**, held in the context of Crossing Europe, and shops in Linz have until 10 April to register once more for the **GOLDEN BAG** window display contest.

Festival Trailer 2024: RAUSCHFARBEN – online from today

directed by: Lorenz Tröbinger • AT 2024 • 1 min

With Alexandra Thompson Sound: Nikolaus Gehrer Light: Michael Winiecki







An exploration of sound. "Rauschfarben", or "Colors of Noise", describes the acoustic composition of noise, the relationship between different frequencies within – the difference between wind, waterfall, and highway. Here, the acoustic space responds to movements and can be tested and manipulated. Gradually revealing its secrets yet never fully resolving its mysteries.

The Crossing Europe **festival trailer 2024** was created by director/screenwriter **Lorenz Tröbinger** (*1992). Born in Linz, the filmmaker studied at the Academy of Fine Arts, was selected for the 2020 BMKOES Start Grant for Film and is currently a student at the Vienna Film Academy. His films fall within the genre of fantastic film and explore encounters with the unknown and the other; he is currently working on his first feature-length film. In recent years, Tröbinger took part in Crossing Europe not only with the short films **SEEING PAN** (AT 2020; CE21) and **WATTMARCK** (AT 2016; CE17) and the music video **DEVASTATING – WOODPIGEON** (AT/CA 2017; CE18) but also as a **jury member** for the **Competition Local Artists** in 2022.

The festival trailer will be used for promoting the festival on the web and in Austrian arthouse cinemas.

Working Worlds - Vocation: Change!

It is the 21st time that the Crossing Europe program section **Working Worlds** focuses on real-life working conditions in present-day Europe. This year's topical focus, titled **Vocation: Change!**, unites four documentary films that center on people whose professional activities fluently merge with activist action – sometimes more and sometimes less by choice or intention. In 2024, the film series offers a glimpse into the work of journalists in crisis areas who are confronted with patriarchal structures, dictatorial regimes, and terror organizations, or observes the relationship between a drag performer and an LGBTIQA+ rights lawyer who, faced with the queer-hostile mainstream society in Armenia, simply wish to live a normal life.

Announcement of the first films from the Working Worlds section:

WAS BLEIBT – JOURNALISTINNEN IN KRISENREGIONEN (DE 2023) directed by: Lotta Pommerien, 79 min., documentary / Austrian premiere

The amount of news from crisis areas is vast, and every day there is something new to report – the people behind the news usually remain in obscurity. This film accompanies three journalists in Afghanistan, Belarus, and the Congo, among other countries, whose work for newspapers and television involves far more than neutral reporting. Confrontation with patriarchal structures, dictatorial regimes or terrorist organizations blurs the borders between professionalism on the job and one's own moral-political beliefs and respites are very hard to come by.





BEAUTY AND THE LAWYER (AM/FR 2023)

directed by: Hovhannes Ishkhanyan, 105 min., documentary / Austrian premiere

Wagework in the classical sense is hardly an option for Garik. Faced with multiple discrimination, hostility and threats as a queer person in Armenia, Garik's alter ego "Carabina" works as a performance artist and sex worker. Their wife, Hasmik, is a lawyer fighting for LGBTIQA+ rights and mother of their child. In order to gain more financial independence, Garik begins to build a house for their small family where the three are to have a home, amidst the hate-filled value concepts of the country's conservative majority and their own notions of middle class, freedom, and love.

The other two films in the Working Worlds section will be announced during the program press conference on 18 April and can be found online on <u>crossingeurope.at</u> from 19 April. The program section was curated by Lina Dinkla (<u>DOK Leipzig</u>) and Katharina Franck. With the kind support of <u>AK Oberösterreich/Kultur</u>.

Cinema Next Europe Club 2024: Apply Until 15 March!

The Austrian emerging talent initiative <u>Cinema Next</u> invites seven young <u>creative film minds from Austria</u> to the 5th <u>Cinema Next Europe Club</u>, which takes place from 30 April to 3 May, in the course of Crossing Europe. The practice-oriented offer is directed at young filmmakers who are currently working on their first feature-length film project and can therefore benefit from the festival content and the exchange with other young filmmakers. In addition, the participants will also include three filmmakers from other European countries. Discussion and presentation rounds will be held in English. The Cinema Next Europe Club is supported by <u>VdFS – Verwertungsgesellschaft der Filmschaffenden</u>.

Cinema Next Europe Club and application details can be found on the Cinema Next <u>website</u>, the application deadline is 15 March 2024.

GOLDEN BAG Display Window Contest 2024

The GOLDEN BAG Display Window Contest and its 2024 motto "EUROPE – Bright and Colorful" once again invite shops and companies from Linz to provide festival flair to the city center with creatively decorated display windows. The Design Award (Jury) and the Shop Award, determined by drawing, each including prizes (600 tote bags in a design of choice, a craft beer brewing course, and ticket vouchers, among other things), will be given out among participating shops who decorate their display windows with Crossing Europe promotional materials in the period from 15 April to 5 May. Every actively participating shop will also receive an invitation to the Golden Bag Evening during the festival on 2 May, including a film screening, Shop Award drawing, and drinks. With kind support from EUROPACK, OÖNachrichten, Linzer City Ring, Weinkellerei Lenz Moser and Trumer Privatbrauerei.





Details and conditions of participation can be found on the <u>website</u>, the registration deadline is **10 April 2024**. Registrations via <u>goldenbag@crossingeurope.at</u>.

Festival dates: 30 April to 5 May 2024

Program press conference: Thu., 18 April 2024, 10:00 a.m., Moviemento Linz + live stream

Program online: Fr., 19 April 2024 Advance ticket sales start: 22 April 2024

Accreditation period: start of March - 3 April 2024