



**CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz // 20. – 25. April 2010 // [www.crossingEurope.at](http://www.crossingEurope.at)**

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Media Information – Linz, 25 April 2010

## **AGAIN A POSITIVE CONCLUSION FOR THE CROSSING EUROPE FILM FESTIVAL LINZ**

Media information for the resume discussion in the OK Mediendeck on 25 April 2010

*The beginning of the festival week seemed to briefly recall superstitions about the “seventh year”: there was – quite literally – a grey cloud hanging over CROSSING EUROPE. Due to the cloud of volcanic ash, several international guests had to cancel their attendance, and there was doubt about some of the film copies arriving on time. But now at the end of the delightful and especially inspiring festival week, not only is the sun shining in a cloudless sky over Linz, but Festival Director Christine Dollhofer also has much to report that is positive:*

On the final day of CROSSING EUROPE 2010, a **resume of success** can be drawn once again. Since the opening of the seventh edition of the Festival on Tuesday, 20 April, by Federal Minister Claudia Schmied, Councilor Josef Stockinger from the Province of Upper Austria, and the Speaker for Culture for the City of Linz, Vice-Mayor Erich Watzl, roughly **17,000 festival guests, film and music enthusiasts** (in comparison, the festival 2009 that was a day longer: 18,000 visitors) have attended film screenings, discussion events and presentations and the Nightline of the Festival. The numbers of visitors for the Festival cinemas are especially positive: despite the shorter Festival week, the audience for the film screenings was just as large as in 2009.

With **600 accredited international and national festival guests**, the interest on the part of the film industry and media in CROSSING EUROPE has never been greater. The increase in cooperation partners and venues was also successful – including AFO – Architecture Forum Upper Austria, the cultural department of the student union of the Johannes Kepler University, and NISI MASA – European Network of Young Cinema.

In the first year following Linz 2009 European Capital of Culture, CROSSING EUROPE presented a total of **117 films from 25 countries, which were shown in 133 programs plus 12 framework programs**; about **115 directors** and film guests were personally present to answer questions and discuss with the audience. The festival audience again especially appreciated the relaxed atmosphere in the “festival district” around the festival center in the OK “Offenes Kulturhaus” Upper Austria and in the cinemas.

Although this edition of the festival has been thoroughly positive, Christine Dollhofer still remains concerned about the future of CROSSING EUROPE. In order to be able to continue conducting the festival in the now accustomed high quality of program and organization, an increase in funding and/or the inclusion of further sponsors is highly desirable. There is culture-political agreement with this and the justified hope that CROSSING EUROPE will again be able to bring high quality, European filmmaking to Linz for a week in 2011.

**// Dates for 2011: 12 to 17 April 2011 //**

A1 and HYPO Upper Austria – Sponsors of CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz

## AWARDS AND AWARD-WINNERS

The CROSSING EUROPE Award European Competition 2010 with prize money of 10,000.- Euro goes to the two directors **Zvonimir Jurić and Goran Dević** for their film **CRNCI/THE BLACKS** (CR, 2009). The international festival jury – Matthieu Darras (FR), Nerina T. Kocjancic (SI) and Labina Mitevska (MK) – praised “the powerful visualization of an exceptional situation and the courageous approach to a controversial theme.”

*// CRNCI/THE BLACKS will be shown again on Sunday, 25 April, at 8:30 pm Movimiento 1. //*

**COEUR ANIMAL/ANIMAL HEART** (CH/FR, 2009) by **Séverine Cornamusaz** found the most favor among the audience and was distinguished with the ray Audience Award with promotional space with a value of 5,000.- Euro. Voting members of the audience are eligible for a drawing for a trip to Dok Leipzig – Int. Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film in October 2010.

**VIDEOCRACY** (SE 2009; D: Erik Gandini) has been awarded the **CROSSING EUROPE Award European Documentary** (powered by ORF), presented for the first time this year, which comprises the purchase of TV broadcasting rights by ORF.

*// VIDEOCRACY will be shown again on Sunday, 25 April, at City 1. //*

The **CROSSING EUROPE Award Local Artist with a total value of 6,000.- Euro**, donated by the Federal Province of Upper Austria/Culture (4,000.- Euro) and Synchro Film, Video und Audio Bearbeitungs GmbH, Vienna (voucher with a value of 2,000.- Euro) is divided this year.

For **SINISTER SISTERS SLAUGHTERHOUSE** (AT/SE 2009), which for the jury – Claudia Dworschak, Martin Music and Dominik Tschütscher – was the most outstanding film, “in its precise haptic realization, in which the filmmaker’s hand literally-pictorially intervenes in the events” – **Michaela Mandel** is awarded the money prize (4,000.- Euro). The material prize (2,000.- Euro) goes to the film **SLAM VIDEO MAPUTO (MZ/AT 2009)** by **Ella Raidel**, which according to the jury “eavesdrops in pictures on the rituals of media staging, positioning itself in between and thus demonstrating what documentation is capable of.”

The **CROSSING EUROPE Award Local Artist – Atelier Award** (powered by Atelierhaus Salzamt) is also awarded for the first time this year, specifically now to Gloria Gammer & Sigrid Nagele for **THE LAW OF THE TIME – RITORNELL**, who will be provided with atelier space in the Salzamt for twelve months.

*//All four award-winning Local Artists films will be shown on Sunday, 25 April, in Movimiento: SLAM VIDEO MAPUTO and THE LAW OF TIME - RITORNELL in the LOCAL ARTISTS PROGRAMM 3 at 3 pm. SINISTER SISTER SLAUGHTERHOUSE in the LOCAL ARTISTS PROGRAMM 4 at 5:30 pm. //*

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