



CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz // 23 – 28 April 2015 // www.crossingEurope.at

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Media Information – Linz, 24 February 2015

CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2015

Announcement of the first three of a total of five opening films: The Austrian premiere of THE VISIT as well as two world premieres – EVDEKI SES – 22m² Österreich and AUF DER SUCHE NACH ISOLDE / SEARCHING FOR ISOLDE, the new festival trailer CINÉMA VARIÉTÉ and the Upper Austrian premiere of the music documentary film HUBERT VON GOISERN – BRENNA TUAT'S SCHON LANG

The Festival is Rapidly Approaching

The twelfth CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz takes place this year from Thursday, 23 April, to Tuesday, 28 April. For the first time the festival will already start in the afternoon of the **Opening Day (23 April)**: films from all program sections will be screened, then the opening of CROSSING EUROPE will be celebrated in the evening with five outstanding premieres representing the broad spectrum of the festival program. Three of those films are announced today by Festival Director Christine Dollhofer: the Austrian premiere of **THE VISIT** (DK, AT, IE, FI, NO 2015) by the established Danish director Michael Madsen, who already won the CROSSING EUROPE Award European Documentary in 2011 for INTO ETERNITY (DK 2009). From the section LOCAL ARTISTS, the opening evening features two world premieres at once of documentary films by young Upper Austrian filmmakers: **EVDEKI SES - 22m² Österreich** (AT 2015) by Ufuk Serbest, about Turkish migrant women of the first generation, and **AUF DER SUCHE NACH ISOLDE / SEARCHING FOR ISOLDE** (AT, DE, SI, AR 2015) by Barbara Windtner, a dance-road-movie following the traces of Isolde Kletmann, a pioneer in dance from Linz during the inter-war period. Starting today, the **new festival trailer** is also online: CINÉMA VARIÉTÉ was created by the young media artist Katharina Gruzei. A further highlight of the coming festival – especially for the audience – will certainly be the Upper Austrian premiere (24 April) of the long-awaited music documentary film by Marcus H. Rosenmüller: **HUBERT VON GOISERN – BRENNA TUAT'S SCHON LANG** (AT, DE 2015), which will celebrate its premiere with Hubert von Goisern and the director present. And now the updates in detail:

The First Three Opening Films (23 April)

THE VISIT (DK, AT, IE, FI, NO 2015) – Austrian Premiere

D: Michael Madsen, 90 min, Program Section: European Panorama, World Sales: Outlook Filmsales

Michael Madsen's current documentary film, which premiered in Sundance in January, sketches an image of the potential encounter between humanity and intelligent life from outer space. There are no little green men to be found here, though. Instead, the viewers – as observers – take the perspective of the extraterrestrial "visitors" and are thus compelled to see the earth with the eyes of the "aliens". In this way, THE VISIT becomes a self-reflexive medium for our society, our way of living, and for being human itself. Both fascinating and entertaining is the way Madsen

skillfully stages a multitude of theoretical ideas, hypothetical assumptions, and unwittingly comical lab experiments revolving around the fictive encounter between humans and aliens. The fact that many experts heard in the film were interviewed in the UNO-City in Vienna and that many scenes were shot in Austria, lessens the possible fear of a threat “from above” at least for the local audience.

// Michael Madsen (Director) and representatives from NFG – Nikolaus Geyrhalter Film Production (Production Austria) are present. //

EVDEKI SES - 22m² Österreich (AT 2015) – World Premiere
Director: Ufuk Serbest, 62 min, Program Section: Local Artists

Director Ufuk Serbest gives a voice to Turkish migrant women of the first generation. When the first so-called guest workers came to Austria from Turkey over forty years ago, their wives and families gradually followed. Three women, representative for many, speak out in this film, talking quite bluntly about the ups and downs of their arrival in Upper Austria and the following – often extremely hard – years that followed. They talk about arranged marriages, partnership, and family life marked by inadequate language abilities, isolation, and working life. They all wanted to stay only a few years in Austria, to use this time to save money for a better life in Turkey. Yet in the end they stayed here, in the often still strange, new homeland – usually for the sake of the children, who grew up between the cultures. A “sensitive” film, which on the basis of individual lives intensely captures both the positive and the negative impacts of the phenomenon of migration in Europe.

// Ufuk Serbest (Director), protagonists and members of the film team are present. //

AUF DER SUCHE NACH ISOLDE / SEARCHING FOR ISOLDE (AT, DE, SI, AR 2015) – World Premiere
Director: Barbara Windtner, 70 min, Program Section: Local Artists

Director Barbara Windtner sets out together with the dancer Ulrike Hager in search of the choreographer Isolde Klietmann, a dance pioneer in the inter-war period in Linz. From Maribor to Linz and Vienna and then all the way to Argentina, they follow the traces of the unusual artist and teacher, who had to flee Austria together with her Jewish husband when the Nazis came to power. In her new home country – first in Buenos Aires, then Mendoza near the Andes – she was able to continue her career, however. Isolde’s great-niece Monika Klietmann goes along on the journey, inspired by the idea to search for Isolde’s former pupils and bring her dance to life again on the basis of their memories. A dance-road-movie that playfully traces the path of the life of an artist, who was able to inspire her surroundings throughout her lifetime.

// Barbara Windtner (Director, Script, Production), Ulrike Hager (Script, Production) and members of the film team are present. //

Upper Austrian Premiere (24 April):
HUBERT VON GOISERN – BRENNATUAT’S SCHON LANG (AT, DE 2015)
Director: Marcus H. Rosenmüller, 95 Min., Program Section: Local Artists
Production & Distribution: Langbein & Partner Media, Constantin Filmverleih (Booking & Billing)

The successful director Marcus H. Rosenmüller undertakes the attempt of a review or overall view of the phenomenon of Hubert von Goisern, who has been on the small and large stages of Europe for twenty-five years now. Celebrated as a renewer of folk music and for storming the charts, famous as a world traveler and world musician – keyword Linz09 Danube tour – Hubert von Goisern is still not to be pigeonholed up to today. Rarely shown archive material and conversations with companions offer insights into the life of the musician, whose creativity has always centered around the music of his home country, even if not always free of friction. This documentary film provides

insights into his personal and artistic development between the high points of his career and investigates the reasons for ongoing success in Austria and the German-speaking region. Rosenmüller has succeeded in creating a differentiated artist-biography of a non-conformist, who has never been willing to sacrifice himself on the altar of success, but instead – always looking forward – regularly re-invents himself. At the same time, though, it is also simply a film about music and passion.

// The Upper Austrian premiere – also the festival premiere – takes place on Friday, 24 April, with Marcus H. Rosenmüller (Director), Hubert von Goisern and members of the film team present. //

// Dates press screenings: Linz (Movimiento), 9.4. at 10:00 am, Vienna (Village Cinema), 10.3. & 13.4. at 11:30 am //

New Festival Trailer CINÉMA VARIÉTÉ [online starting today](#)

CROSSING EUROPE pleased to announce that the **new Festival Trailer** (in cooperation with OK | Offenes Kulturhaus Upper Austria and the Energie AG Upper Austria) will be made by the young media artist [Katharina Gruzei](#) (*1983). Entitled “**cinéma variété**” (cinema of variety/diversity and/or in reference to Variété Theater), the trailer centers around a **clown as protagonist**. As a fragile figure, the clown embodies both cheerful and dark sides, bringing together a repertoire of stories and associations. In his historical role as a figure of entertainment and transition, which still permeates all forms of art up to the present, he represents the vanguard of all the festival contributions. Clownesque figures entered the cinema with the beginning of film and continued the connotation of the clown. In the filmic miniature of the new festival trailer, the **ambivalence of the figure** of the clown is evident, when the friendly, enchanting performer mutates in the flickering light into a eerily dark stage figure. This diversity inherent to the figure of the clown also represents the rich multifacetedness of the films shown in the festival. The Festival Trailer 2015 will be used for **festival promotion** and will be shown in Austrian program cinemas. In addition, installative works by the artist will be shown during the festival in the OK | Offenes Kulturhaus Upper Austria. **Starting today** the new festival trailer can be seen online at www.crossingeurope.at/trailer2015

Crossing Europe goes Instagram

Starting today CROSSING EUROPE is also represented on Instagram. Current photos and visual highlights of the festival preparations can now be found on <http://instagram.com/crossingeurope/>. Join us there!

Upcoming Dates

Deadline for accreditation: 30 March 2015

Program Press Conferences 2015

Linz – 8 April 2015: 10:00 am, Upper Austrian Press Club (Room A+B) in the Upper Austrian Culture Quarter, 1st floor

Vienna – 8 April 2015: 4:00 pm, Austrian Film Museum

Program & Ticket Pre-sales starting 9 April 2015

Festival newspaper and website www.crossingEurope.at with the complete festival program and screening times.

PHOTO MATERIAL & UPDATES

Photos & Film Stills: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/pressefotos/>

Festival Impressions: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/crossingeurope/collections/>

Logo & Festival Motif: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/logos>

Regular **updates** and **current information** on CROSSING EUROPE 2015 can be found as always on our website www.crossingEurope.at and our social media channels [Facebook](#), [google+](#), [Flickr](#), [Twitter](#) and now NEW [Instagram](#).