



## CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2019

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Tribute – Jaime Rosales, Local Artists Special – Edith Stauber & YAAAS! Competition

### Crossing Europe in Six Days

In not quite 3 months CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz will start its 16<sup>th</sup> edition. From April 25 to 30, CROSSING EUROPE puts the focus on European film for six days and will bring **around 150 filmmakers** from all over Europe to Linz and offer the festival audience the chance to enter into a direct exchange with the creatives.

In 2019 Europe is once again a highly discussed topic on every level – not only because 2019 marks the ten year anniversary of the highly successful cultural large-scale project “Linz 09 – European Capital Of Culture”, but also the European election that will take place in May 2019 has already begun to cast its shadow. This is why, for the festival director Christine Dollhofer and her team it is particularly important once again to present the (film-) continent Europe in all its facets and confront audiences with European living realities with **around 170 current feature and documentary films**.

CROSSING EUROPE has dedicated itself from the very beginning on to the “**European Idea**”. The festival sees itself as a **transnational project** and a connecting cinematic event with a European focus, that intends to contribute towards getting to know the continent Europe better in terms of its variety and multilingualism.

Currently everything in the festival office revolves around the final selection of films. After sighting the around 900 European productions – circa 150 by local filmmakers from Upper Austria – the programmatic direction is being made. In this context we are happy to present the very first **program highlights** of the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of CROSSING EUROPE to you: the **Tribute** will be dedicated to the established Spanish director **Jaime Rosales**, in our Local Artists section we collected the works of the artist and director Edith Stauber from Linz for a **Special**, and our program has expanded to include a fourth competition section – the **YAAAS! Competition** – that was curated by our YAAAS! Young Programmers.

Also in regard to financing we have some good news: this year we can count on increased support by some of our long-time **supporters** (the City of Linz, the Federal Province of Upper Austria, the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Art, Culture, and Media at the Federal Chancellery, the Austrian Film Institute, and CREATIVE EUROPE, a.o.), and our **event and sponsoring partners** (e.g. the OÖ Kulturquartier, Movimiento/City-Kino, the brewery Trumer Privatbrauerei, and the Linz AG) have also remained loyal to us. Additionally the Bank Austria has joined as our **banking sponsor**. This way CROSSING EUROPE has a fairly solid financial basis and can have a hopeful start into the festival season that promises to be a **strong year for film** that will enrich the festival as a European forum with sociopolitical and artistically eccentric filmmaking, and offer an exciting time for the people of Linz in the cinema.



## Tribute 2019: Jaime Rosales (Spain)

*I make films to discover myself. I do not consider myself to be a particularly good director. I am like Sisyphus. I try to reach the mountain peak, but always start anew. This way every film gives me the opportunity to explore cinematographic language ... Even though my films are very personal and deal with topics that I am interested in, they are made to be seen. The audience is not my friend, in a way it is my enemy that does not forgive me if I make something that it does not like, after all the people have sacrificed some of their time and spent money to see the film.*

Jaime Rosales, press conference Thessaloniki Int. Film Festival, November 2018

This year the CROSSING EUROPE Tribute section is dedicated to the **award winning director and screen writer** Jaime Rosales from Catalonia. During the festival we will show **all of his previous feature films** – six all together – which will all be attended by the director, who will also hold a Masterclass in Linz. His newest work, PETRA, which had its world premiere at Cannes, will be shown for the first time in Austria in Linz.

- ❖ **LAS HORAS DEL DÍA / THE HOURS OF THE DAY** (ES 2003, 103 min) – Austrian Premiere CROSSING EUROPE 2004
- ❖ **LA SOLEDAD / SOLITARY FRAGMENTS** (ES 2007, 130 min)
- ❖ **TIRO EN LA CABEZA / BULLET IN THE HEAD** (ES/FR 2008, 85 min)
- ❖ **SUEÑO Y SILENCIO / THE DREAM AND THE SILENCE** (ES/FR 2012, 120 min)
- ❖ **HERMOSA JUVENTUD / BEAUTIFUL YOUTH** (ES/FR 2014, 103 min) – Austrian Premiere CROSSING EUROPE 2019
- ❖ **PETRA** (ES/FR/DK 2018, 107 min) – Austrian Premiere CROSSING EUROPE 2019

Jaime Rosales was born in 1970 in **Barcelona** and studied at the prestigious San Antonio de los Baños International Film and Television School (EICTV) in Cuba. After that, he went to Australia, where he continued his studies at the Australian Film Television and Radio School Broadcasting Entertainment (AFTRSBE). He then returned to Europe and began to work for television as a screen writer and founded his **own production company** Fresdeval Films in 2001.

Already his first feature film (LAS HORAS DEL DÍA) was highly successful internationally and had its world premiere – as with four other of his films – at the international film festival in Cannes. He has become one of the **most important voices in Spanish contemporary cinema**, and seems to **re-invent himself in every one of his films**. No film is like the last, and yet every one of his six feature films bares his **artistic handwriting**. What is particularly impressive is his **joy of experimentation** as well as the **consistency** with which Rosales realizes his cinematographic vision every time. Sometimes he experiments with technical “gimmicks” (e.g. the use of split-screens in LA SOLEDAD, or what was still considered to be new media at the time, e.g. Skype in HERMOSA JUVENTUD), other times, the stringent camera work leaves a lasting impression. Think of the terror-drama TIRO EN LA CABEZA, where the camera is never close to the action, but rather watches everything from afar, much like in a nature documentary (Rosales himself made this comparison in an interview).



It also becomes apparent in his current production PETRA that the excessive use of pans with the steady cam was chosen explicitly as a stylistic device. Rosales works both with professional actors as well as with amateurs. Sometimes he does entirely without dialogue, sometimes language is an integral part in his work. His films are shaped by a **keen sense of observation** and an instinct for social disturbances, be it the murderer "next door" (LAS HORAS DEL DÍA), the missing perspectives of the younger generation in Spain (HERMOSA JUVENTUD), the social structures in a family as a multilayered micro cosmos (SUEÑO Y SILENCIO), the bombings in Madrid (LA SOLEDAD), or the ETA terror (TIRO EN LA CABEZA).

His works are also defined by an infallible **sense of atmosphere** that cleverly draws the audience into the stories, and makes people deal with topics that they would rather not think about. Being overt a stylist, Jaime Rosales is always interested in exploring boundaries when telling stories on the silver screen.

// The Tribute 2019 is carried out in collaboration with the [Institut Ramon Llull](#). //



## From the Day-to-Day to the Particular – Films by Edith Stauber

*Edith Stauber's films are dominated by a form of empathetic restraint that makes for a suitable symbiosis between distance and interest towards human beings and objects.*

Markus Vorauer, film scholar

This year, the CROSSING EUROPE festival will dedicate a **program special** within the Local Artists section to the filmmaker and artist Edith Stauber. Edith Stauber (\*1968) studied Visual Communication / Film and Video at the Art University in Linz and also completed an education as a carpenter and film projectionist. Ever since 2001 she has been working in the field of **documentary and animation film**, as well as in the area where film, drawing, and painting overlap. In 2008 she was awarded the Upper Austrian state government prize for art in the section film. Her films have received multiple awards.

Edith Stauber has been a regular guest at CROSSING EUROPE ever since the very beginning. Her documentary ÜBER EINE STRASSE (AT 2004) that she made together with Michaela Mair was selected as the opening film for the first edition of the festival in 2004.

This year's special is a collection of **all her animation shorts**, which includes the world premiere of her newest film LINZ / STADTPFARRKIRCHE, as well as the festival trailer she created for CROSSING EUROPE in 2011. Edith Stauber's **humorous take on living realities** and her infallible sense for snap shots and details that can be overlooked far too easily, make her films valuable **"everyday miniatures"**, whose "real" substance is made even more impressive on a subtle acoustic level.

- ❖ **EINTRITT ZUM PARADIES UM 3€20** (AT 2008, 12 min) – Honorary Mention CROSSING EUROPE 2008
- ❖ **STRADELLA** (AT 2011, 1 min) – CROSSING EUROPE Festival Trailer 2011
- ❖ **NACHBEHANDLUNG** (AT 2012, 11 min) – Local Artist Award CROSSING EUROPE 2012
- ❖ **LINZ / MARTINSKIRCHE** (AT 2014, 3 min)
- ❖ **3 MINIATUREN AUS DEM LEBEN MIT 47** (AT 2015, 2 min)
- ❖ **STUNDEN MINUTEN TAGE** (AT 2017, 9 min)
- ❖ **LINZ / STADTPFARRKIRCHE** (AT 2019, 15 min) – World premiere CROSSING EUROPE 2019



## YAAAS! Competition

The YAAAS! Competition is an element of the new YAAAS! Youth program at CROSSING EUROPE with which we seek to establish a **holistic program for film education, acquisition of media competence and DIY video production**. YAAAS! is intended for youths between 15 and 20 who will get the chance to engage with international media professionals, learn new skills, see and discuss films, and present their own works within the framework of a professional film festival. Next to the film screenings, a youth jury, and a video project that lasts for multiple days, the YAAAS! Youth program also offers a series of practical workshops on April 30 that is intended for interested individuals, but is also suitable for school excursions. Details for the workshop program can be found [HERE](#).

With the addition of the new YAAAS! Competition, CROSSING EUROPE now has a **fourth competition section**, the **festival prize CROSSING EUROPE Award – Youth Jury** – is endowed with a prize of € 2000,-. The YAAAS! Competition consists of current European productions that were selected by the **YAAAS! Young Programmers**. The **five youths** – Nora Einwaller, Anna Haderer, Sophie Rieger, Vanessa Wagenhammer, Milan Wegscheider – sighted a vast number of films over the past few weeks and decided upon **six feature films**, that deal with the **living realities of youths and young adults** in different ways. Additionally the Young Programmers will take over the introductions and the Q&A sessions during the YAAAS! film screenings and take care of the participants at the YAAAS! Workshops.

The following **three YAAAS! Competition films** will also be shown in special **school screenings**, for which the registration is already open. Details, synopsis, and links to the trailer, as well as **school material** (only available in German) for the introduction and follow-up of the films and the time at the festival can be found [HERE](#).

**Thursday, April 25:** 10:15 am

[VŠECHNO BUDE / WINTER FLIES](#) (CZ / SI / PL / SK 2018, R: Olmo Omerzu, 85 min) – feature film

**Friday, April 26:** 10:15 am

[POSLEDICE / CONSEQUENCES](#) (SI / AT 2018, R: Darko Štante, OmU, 95 min) – feature film

**Monday, April 29:** 10:15 am

[SCHWIMMEN / SWIMMING](#) (DE 2018, R: Luzie Loose, 102 min) – feature film

## Upcoming Dates

Program press conferences Linz & Vienna: **10 April 2019**

Festival dates 2018: **Thursday, 25 to Tuesday, 30 April 2019**

Best-of-Crossing Europe 2019 (award winning films & audience favorites): **1 May 2019**

## Picture material & Updates

Festival impressions: [www.flickr.com/photos/crossingeurope/collections/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/crossingeurope/collections/)

Film stills & picture material: [www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/pressefotos](http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/pressefotos)

Logo & Festival motif: [www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/logos](http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/logos)

Regular **updates** and **current information** on CROSSING EUROPE 2019 can be found as ever on our website [www.crossingeurope.at](http://www.crossingeurope.at) and through our social media channels [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).