CROSSING EUROPE Filmfestival Linz / April 24 - 27 2007 / www.crossingEurope.at

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CROSSING EUROPE Filmfestival 2007 award ceremony: German director PIA MARAIS wins the European Competition with *Die Unerzogenen/The Unpolished*. LIBERTAD HACKL (*Bleiben will ich, wo ich nie gewesen bin*) respectively LUKAS MARXT and MICHAEL PETRI (*Nach der Eishöhle*) receive the Award Local Artist. The ray Audience Award goes to GÉRALD HUSTACHE-MATHIEU for *Avril/April in Love*.

The CROSSING EUROPE Award 2007 European Competition powered by Linz 2009 European Capital of Culture, endowed with 10,000 euro, goes to *Die Unerzogenen/The Unpolished* (Germany 2007) by the German director Pia Marais. The film about a coming of age in a hippie family convinced the jury (Bernd Buder/Germany, Mira Staleva/Bulgaria, Ognjen Svilicic/Croatia, Marie Vermillard/France, Neil Young/Great Britain) with its high energy level, the performances, the director's careful distance in showing some very serious scenes and the commitment to her personal vision. *Die Unerzogenen/The Unpolished* will be shown again at a special screening on Sunday, 30 April at 9:00 p.m. at the cinema City-Kino, Graben 30.

Avril/April in Love (France 2006) by **Gérald Hustache-Mathieu** won the hearts of the audience. The film about a young nuns breakup into a new life received the highest votes and was awarded the **ray Audience Award** powered by ray film magazine, endowed with 5,000 euro. Avril/April in Love will be shown again on Sunday, 30 April at 3:00 p.m. at the cinema City-Kino, Graben 30.

The **CROSSING EUROPE Award Local Artist** which was founded by the Federal Province of Upper Austria, Claus Muhr TV.Film Produktion and Synchro Film- und Videobearbeitung and is endowed with 6,000 euro, was split by the jury – Gisela Hesser, Raimund Liebert and Genoveva Rückert – for the first time. The prize money founded by the Federal Province of Upper Austria and the voucher provided by Synchro Film- und Videobearbeitung go to **Libertad Hackl** for *Bleiben will ich, wo ich nie gewesen bin* (Austria 2007). **Lukas Marxt** and **Michael Petri** receive the voucher provided by Claus Muhr TV.Film Produktion and Synchro Film- und Videobearbeitung for their short film *Nach der Eishöhle* (Austria 2007). A special mention goes to **Oliver Stangl** and **Christian Tod** for *Fatsy* (Austria 2007).

OK Artist in Residence **Sejla Kameric** received the OK friends art prize endowed with 5,000 Euro. The prize designed to support young and especially promising artists was awarded for the first time.

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