

IDFF Jihlava introduces 2008 juries of competitions



Press Release, October 20, 2008

12th Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival introduces jurors of all competition categories. The **Czech Joy jury** will select the best Czech documentary. One-member jury of **Opus Bonum** will choose the best world documentary. **Between the Seas** jury will award the prize for the best Central and East European documentary film. And finally, in the newly established section **Fascinations**, the jury will search for the best experimental film. All festival awards will be given out at the closing ceremony of the IDFF Jihlava.

This press report includes:

- Jury of Czech Joy
 - One-member jury of Opus Bonum
 - Jury of Between the Seas
 - Jury of Fascinations
 - Opening and closing ceremonies
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Jury of Czech Joy

This year's jury features American film theorist, critic and postgraduate student at the prestige Yale university **Alice Lovejoy**. Other members of the jury are Czech poet, historian, essayist and big name in the literary and music underground **Ivan Martin Jirous** and director, film lecturer and publicist **Alice Růžicková**. Every year, the winner of the previous IDFF award for the best Czech documentary is invited to join the jury. This year, it is the film duo **Ondřej Provazník** and **Martin Dušek**, directors of the documentary *Poustevna, das ist Paradies*. And as traditionally, one inhabitant of Jihlava city joins the jury. This year, it is a singer, music composer and member of hip hop trio Pio Squad (formerly known as Jižní pionýři) **Filip Konvalinka**.

Jury of Opus Bonum

Each year, Opus Bonum prize for the best world documentary is awarded by a one-member jury. The only member of the jury is traditionally an outstanding personality of the world cinema, this year it will be the renowned Czech director **Karel Vachek**. He made his first films in 1960s, both of his films of that time – *Moravian Hellas* and *Elective Affinities* were formally close to the cinéma vérité style. In 1970s and 1980s, the political regime did not allow him to make films. After the velvet revolution, he started his work on a film project that evolved into his film *New Hyperion or Liberty, Equality and Brotherhood* which was the first of his film novels and also the first part of a five-part film cycle Little Capitalist. Vachek finished its last part - *Záviš, the Prince of Pornofolk Under the Influence of Griffith's Intolerance and Tati's Monsieur Hulot's Holiday or the Establishment and Doom of Czechoslovakia (1918 – 1992)* two years ago.

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Jury of Between the Seas

This year, the jury welcomes **P. Adams Sitney**, professor from Princeton University, critic and renowned historian of avant-garde film. Other members of the jury are Polish publicist, gallery owner and director of Photomonth in Cracow **Karol Hordziej** and Russian film critic and member of FIPRESCI **Viktoria Belopolsky**, Austrian director and former Ulrich Seidl's assistant **Anja Salomonowitz** (her film *It Happened Just Before* was awarded the Between the Seas prize last year) and a well-known Czech documentary film maker, free-lance dramaturge and university lecturer **Jan Gogola, junior**.

Jury of the Fascinations

The newly established section Fascination welcomes following members of its jury: publicist, theorist, professor of Prague FAMU and chief-in-editor of quarterly magazine *Film a doba* **Stanislav Ulver**, his wife, publicist and co-publisher of the *Film a doba* magazine **Radana Ulverová** and their son, photographer and web designer **Filip Ulver**. This family jury will select the best avant-garde film under 30 minutes.

Opening and closing ceremony

Theater group Vosto5 will be as traditionally in charge of the opening and closing ceremonies of this year's Jihlava IDFF. **Both the opening and closing nights** will also feature selected films that will be screened at the opening ceremony of the festival as well as after the prizes are awarded at the closing ceremony.

This year's film festival will be opened by the film **Ivetka and the Mountain** by Vít Janeček. This documentary follows the life story of a woman that had a vision of Virgin Mary when she was a little girl and now tries very hard to have a normal life. The film also competes in the Czech Joy section.

12th Jihlava IDFF will be closed by a Czech premiere screening of **Agnès Varda's** new film *The Beaches of Agnes*. This autobiographical essay of hers begins at the seashore and follows her memories of her young years and to finally let her own personal story transform into a complex story of French postwar culture.

SECTION FOR FILM PROFESSIONALS

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In addition to the public presentations of **24 East European documentary projects before a panel of international broadcasters** that are part of the East European Forum open programme, IDF provides attending filmmakers with other forms of support. Namely, EEF annually presents the Sunny Side of the Doc Award and the IDFA Forum Award that extend funding options for the projects following the co-production meeting in Jihlava.

Sunny Side of the Doc Award

This year, the Institute of Documentary Film will once again prepare a tailor-made support strategy for one of the Forum projects. A jury consisting of all workshop tutors will select a director/producer team who made the most persuasive project pitch within the workshop. The winners will be announced at the Jihlava IDFF Opening Ceremony, Friday October 24, 2008. Representing Europe's largest documentary market Sunny Side of the Doc, **Jean-Jacques Peretti** and **Josée Brossard** will give the winners free accreditation and a pass for one-on-one consultation at Sunny Side of the Doc in La Rochelle, France.

IDFA Forum Award

Just like in previous editions, a representative of Europe's largest co-production forum in Amsterdam will select a winning project at the East European Forum; the winners will receive a free participation at IDFA Forum and will be able to pitch their project before Europe's largest panel of commissioning editors, buyers, sales agents and distributors, hence increasing their chance to find sufficient funding. **Jean Morselt**, IDFA Forum Coordinator, will handpick the winner; the award will be announced and presented at the Jihlava IDFF Opening Ceremony, Friday October 24, 2008.

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WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME YOU AT THE 2008 JIHLAVA IDFF

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Na MFDF Jihlava 2008 Vás srdečně zvou

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