

Hollywood in Stuttgart – The award winners of the Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film have been selected

Stuttgart – With the 20th edition the Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film has strengthened its status as a highly important cultural event. Concerning the number of visitors the record of 80.000 people in the previous year has been achieved once more. The 20th edition again surprised with numerous improvements. "Since the long existing events in the local cinemas and at the Schlossplatz in the city centre of Stuttgart have won the heart of the visitors, we expanded the space of our activities in 2013", said Dittmar Lumpp, Managing Director of Organisation and Finance of the ITFS' organizer, the Film- und Medien-Festival gGmbH. In the first days of the festival more people visited the Open Air than ever before. Many of the film screenings in the cinemas were sold out. "The crowded cinemas show that the mixture of artistic short films, art house animated films and mainstream animated films has been well received", as the Managing Director of the Programme, Ulrich Wegenast, declared gladly.

For the first time the children's film festival **Tricks for Kids** took place in the **Mercedes-Benz Museum**. "The location was well received despite its exterior position", said Dittmar Lumpp. The new venue, the **zoo Wilhelma in Stuttgart**, also proved successful. The newly developed Gamezone could give the main points. Wegenast: "I am especially glad that the game scene was well represented at the ITFS and has combined with the world of animation. The composition of the jury members worked out successfully – with a mixture of well-known animators such as David Silverman or sophisticated producers and directors such as Reinhard Klooss, and also young colleagues from all over the world, such as Atsushi Wada from Japan and Solomon Maramba from Zimbabwe.

The Animated Com Award in the Mercedes-Benz Museum has further developed in 2013. "With both the event and the films we achieved a new level", Lumpp explained. Professionals of the industry intensely exchanged experiences in the field of animation at the business platform FMX 2013 and the Animation Production Day (APD).

"And the winner is..." On Sunday evening, April 28, 2013, at 8 pm in the Stuttgart cinema Gloria the 20th Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film presented the winners of the competitions. Celebrities from politics, commerce and culture, such as the CEO of the MFG Film Funding in Baden-Wuerttemberg, Gabriele Röthemeyer, the founder of the Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film, Prof. Albrecht Ade, the state secretary Jürgen Walter, the Stuttgart mayoress of culture, education and sports, Dr. Susanne Eisenmann, the Simpsons animator and director David Silverman and also the German actor, comedian and voice actor Rick Kavanian were present as the awards (Trickstars), worth over 65.000 Euro, were handed out.

The jury has judged approx. 1000 high-quality animated films in the competition categories, among them numerous German premieres for feature films such as the César-winning French film "Ernest & Célestine" by Benjamin Renner, Stephane Aubier and Vincent Patar and Michel Ocelot's "Kirikou et les homes et les femmes". Timothy Reckart's Oscar-awarded US-American stop motion animated film "Head over heels" and productions of the Film Academy located in the Stuttgart region, such as "Kellerkind" by Julia Ocker and "Oh Sheep!" by Gottfried Mentor, were also included in the competition categories. Ladislav Starewitch's production "Fétiche 33-12" celebrated its world premiere in the 35 mm edition at the ITFS

Awardees of the 20th Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film

International Competition

Grand Prix

15.000 Euro, sponsored by the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg and the City of Stuttgart "OH WILLY..." Belgium, France, The Netherlands 2011 Regie: Emma de Swaef, Marc James Roels

Lotte Reiniger Promotion Award for Animated Film

10.000 Euro, sponsored by MFG Film Funding Baden-Wuerttemberg "KARA NO TAMAGO" (A Wind Egg) Japan 2012 Regie: Ryo Okawara

SWR Audience Award

6.000 Euro "JUNKYARD" The Netherlands 2012 Regie: Hisko Hulsing

Young Animation Award for the best student film

2.500 Euro, sponsored by Landesanstalt für Kommunikation Baden-Wuerttemberg (LfK) and MFG Film Funding Baden-Wuerttemberg "EINE MURUL" (Breakfast on the Grass) Estonia 2011 Regie: Erik Alunurm, Mari Pakkas, Mari Liis Rebane, Mihkel Reha

AniMovie

Award for the best animated feature film

2.500 Euro, sponsored by RTL DISNEY Fernsehen GmbH & Co. KG, SUPER RTL "ERNEST & CÉLESTINE" France, Belgium, Luxembourg 2012 Regie: Benjamin Renner, Stéphane Aubier, Vincent Patar

Tricks for Kids

Award for the best children's animated film

4.000 Euro, supported by Studio 100 Media GmbH "SCHRECKEN OHNE ENDE" (Nearest and Dearest) Germany 2012 Regie: Michael Sieber, Max Stöhr **Award for the best animated series for children** "ROY: FOOT FAT FIT" Ireland 2012 Regie: Alan Shannon

Cartoons for Teens

Award for the best animated series, animes and cut scenes from computer games for youths 2.500 Euro, sponsored by Nippon Art GmbH and AV Visionen GmbH. "DER NOTFALL" (Déjà-moo) Germany 2012 Regie: Stefan Müller

German Screenplay Award

2.500 Euro, sponsored by Telepool GmbH "MOLLY MONSTER – DER FILM" by John Chambers

Animated Fashion Award

2.000 Euro, sponsored by E. Breuninger GmbH "FREITAG X-MAS MOVIES" Switzerland 2012 Claudia Röthlin, Yves Gutjahr

German Voice Actor Award

2.500 Euro RICK KAVANIAN, "Knight Rusty – Yesterday's Hero Recycled" (Knight Rusty) Universum Film GmbH, Germany 2012

Animated Com Award

Awards for the best applied animation in the fields of advertising, technology and spatial communication

Sponsored by Mackevision Medien Design GmbH, Animation Media Cluster Region Stuttgart, Daimler AG, U.I. Lapp GmbH

Main prize "THE REAL BEARS" USA 2012 Regie: Lucas Zanotto

Category Advertising

2.500 Euro, sponsored by Mackevision Medien Design GmbH "MTV EMA 2012 OPENER" Germany 2012

Regie: Mate Steinforth, Commissioner: VIMN MTV World Design Studios

Category Technology

2.500 Euro, sponsored by Animation Media Cluster Region Stuttgart "MASS EFFECT 3 – TAKE EARTH BACK"

Hungary 2012 Regie: Istvan Zorkoczy, Commissioner: Electronic Arts/Bioware

Category Spatial Communication

"SWISS PAVILION EXPO YEOUSU: THE SOURCE - IT'S IN YOUR HANDS"

Switzerland 2012

Regie: Marc Tamschick, Commissioner: Präsenz Schweiz

Category Special Prize Mercedes-Benz Classic: Silver Arrows

2.500 Euro, sponsored by Daimler AG "A RACERS SCETCHBOOK" Germany 2013

Regie: Falk Schuster

Category Special Prize Lapp Connected Award

2.500 Euro, sponsored by U.I. Lapp GmbH "PINBALL" Croatia 2012 Darko Vidackovic

48h Animation Jam – Crazy Horse Session

"TRIXI'S CURIOSITY" Antonio Jesús Busto Algarin, Martin Martínez Garcia (Spain) In co-operation with M.A.R.K. 13, Landesanstalt für Kommunikation (LFK) and MFG Film Funding Baden-Wuerttemberg

Projekt-Wettbewerb

Animation Co-Production Forum **Arab World (the countries of the Arab League) and the Caucasus region** 2013 in cooperation with the Robert Bosch Stiftung nominated for the **Film Prize of the Robert Bosch Stiftung for International Cooperation** "WANDERLAND" Libanon/Germany Sarah Kaskas and Michael Schwertel

"LI.LE" Georgia Natia Nikolashvili

Photos and stills related to the films included in this year's programme are available for downloading from the ITFS website <u>www.itfs.de</u> under "Press". Moving images are available on request.

Press contact:

Nora Hieronymus Film- und Medienfestival gGmbH, Stephanstraße 33, 70173 Stuttgart, Germany <u>hieronymus@festival-gmbh.de</u>, Phone: +49-{0}711-925 46-102, Fax: +49-{0}711-925 46-150 www.itfs.de, www.festival-gmbh.de

The Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film (ITFS), April 23 – 28, 2013, was founded in 1982 and is the largest and one of the most important festivals for animated film worldwide. Prize money of 65,000 Euros is awarded in nine competition categories. The Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film works in close co-operation with the FMX, Europe's biggest Conference on Animation, Effects, Games and Interactive Media, attracting industry professionals. Together with the FMX the ITFS holds the business platform Animation Production Day.