



22. Stuttgart International Festival of Animated Film (ITFS)

Programme Highlights (as at March 30, 2015)

The Stuttgart International Festival of Animated Film (ITFS) is one of the greatest and most important festivals of animated film worldwide. From **May 5-10, 2015**, about 1,000 of the best animated films from all over the world will be shown at the festival's 22nd edition and represent the genre's whole variety. The warm-up for ITFS already starts on April 13 with screenings and exhibitions.

Besides the competitions introducing the latest animated films worldwide the supporting programme offers highlights like studio presentations, showcases of outstanding animated film makers and exclusive workshops. The jury consists of animation experts, players and icons like **Ron Dyens** (Sacrebleu, Frankreich), **Viviane Vanfleteren** (Vivi Film, Belgien), **Gilles Ciment** (long-term director of the International Comic Center of Angoulême and animated film critic at *Positif*), 13-time Emmy awardee **Josh Selig** (Little Airplane Productions), **Mari-Liis Rebane** (Filmfestival Animated Dreams, Estland), the Syrian film maker **Yasmeen Fanari** and the award-winning Spanish film makers **Anna Solanas** and **Marc Riba**.

Highlights are e.g. **world premieres** like e.g. "**Raven, the Little Rascal – The Big Race**". For 20th anniversary of "**Toy Story**" (will be shown at the Open Air) Pixar is awaited. Jérôme Mouscadet (Studio Animation Paris), director of the series "**Heidi**" will be present, also Studio 100 Media Munich and M.A.R.K. 13 within the film "**Maya the Bee**". Further **production companies and animation studios** like Vivi Film (Belgium, "**The Triplets of Belleville**", "**The Secret of Kells**"), Laika (USA, multiple Oscar-nominated, "**The Boxtrolls**") and Sacre Bleu are expected.

Various Competition Programme

More than 50,000 Euros will be awarded within the numerous competition categories. Out of over 1,800 submitted films the best ones were chosen and will be shown e. g. in the International Competition or the students competition Young Animation, which represent the genre's whole range with, among others, the **Oscar-nominated British short movie "The Bigger Picture" by Daisy Jacobs** as well as further productions from Germany, USA, Mexico, Iran, France, Japan, Australia, India, China, Estonia, Russia, Syria, Norway, Canada, Armenia and many other countries. The Stuttgart region is also represented very well, e.g. with "**Nuggets**" by **Andreas Hykade** or "**Wrapped**" by **Roman Kälin, Falko Paeper and Florian Wittmann**.

The kid's festival **Tricks for Kids** presents the most beautifully and most recent movies and series for kids and families. Film makers will be attendant, talking about their movies and let the young visitors in their secrets. Additionally a lot of workshops (e.g. in Mercedes-Benz Museum and the Stuttgart Zoo Wilhelma) offer the opportunity for a creative do-it-yourself.

The **Animated Com Award** honours great work in the categories advertising, spatial communication and technology. Additionally Daimler AG awards the extra prize "**Future needs Derivation – Mobility in a Digital World**" and U. I. Lapp GmbH the "**Lapp Connected Award**". The award show takes place as a glamorous gala at **Mercedes-Benz Museum**.

Music and Animation Festival

In cooperation with Scala Ludwigsburg, Schlossfestspiele Ludwigsburg, the Institute of Animation, Visual Effects and Digital Postproduction at the Filmakademie Baden-Wuerttemberg and jazzopen Stuttgart **New Music & Animation** will outline a separate little festival within the Festival of Animated Film and will be presented exclusively in Ludwigsburg. The virtuoso interaction between music and animation will be shown by outstanding international and national artists from music and visual scene on May 9 at Scala Ludwigsburg.

Animation & Comics

In cooperation with Berthold Leibinger Stiftung the ITFS 2015 thematizes the interaction of **Comics and Animation** – curated by Andreas Platthaus (FAZ, Frankfurt) and Harri Röpötti (Helsingin Sanomat, Helsinki). Within the programme some events will take place, e.g. at Literaturhaus Stuttgart, where the Comic Book Award will take place on May 4.

Well-known actresses and actors will be part of the **German Voice Actor Award**, which takes place on May 7 at Renitenztheater Stuttgart. Names like **Elyas M'Barek** ("*Paddington*"), **Carolin Kebekus** ("*Der kleine Drache Kokosnuss*"), **Jan Delay** ("*Maya the Bee*") and **Matthias Schweighöfer** ("*The House of Magic*") are on the shortlist. Furthermore the Swabian comedian Dodokay synchronizes "*The Simpsons*" within the event – on stage with Simpsons-director **David Silverman**.

Animation Global

The international trends and developments in animated films will be shown in several ways at ITFS. For the 2015 **guest country Spain**, Juan Antonio Vigar, Head of Festival de Málaga, is going to present highlights of Spain's animated film production. Well-known producer **Manuel Cristóbal**, who won several prizes (e.g. Goya) with his production company Perro Verde Films and the film "*Arrugas*", will talk about his career and future projects. Also "*Memorias de un hombre en pijama*", project and directing debut of Paco Roca, the world-renowned cartoonist, will be shown. The **Arab Animation Forum** targets to connect young directors, animators and producers from Germany and the Arab World and is realized in cooperation with Robert Bosch Stiftung.

Main Focus on Film Makers

The series **In Persona** honours international renowned and artistic outstanding animation film makers, e.g. the stop-motion film maker and paintress Allison Schulnik (USA), the media artist Yves Netzhammer (Switzerland) or animation filmmaker Pia Maria Martin, who lives in Stuttgart and teaches in Nizza.

GameZone – Computer Games and Transmedia

In the **GameZone** 2015 numerous workshops and presentations in the areas of games, transmedia and digital content are going to take place under the slogan "Games for Everybody". Especially the topic edutainment – education and games – will get a bigger platform including technical lectures and games. Rocket Beans TV from Hamburg – known from MTV GameOne and NBC GIGA GAMES – will be live on stage within a Let's Play Event on Friday and give daily reports about GameZone in their show. Besides a choice of nominated games of international Indie Game Festival A MAZE (Berlin) additionally guests are able to discover regional games like "*The Inner World*" or "*Cosmonautica*" as well as international games like "*80 Days*" or "*Cloud Chamber*" (with producer Christian Fonnesbech, Copenhagen).

The Festival for Industry Experts

Besides the Animated Com Award for applied animation another important industry prize is awarded at ITFS: **The German Animation Screenplay Award**, sponsored by Telepool GmbH, aims to promote outstanding German-language screenplays for animated film. The award show also features the **Tricks for Kids-Award for the Best Children's Animated Series** (sponsored by Reed Midem/MIPJunior) and takes place in the New Castle in Stuttgart. **Actress Anna Thalbach** hosts the event which will be the prelude to the business platform **Animation Production Day**.

The business platform for the international animation industry, **Animation Production Day** (APD, May 7/8, 2015), was further developed. Germany's only coproduction market specialized on animation projects invites production companies from all over the world to present their projects to potential financing partners in effective One-to-One-Meetings. Furthermore the new programme point "*Producers Meet Producers*" sets the focus on the producer's side of animation projects: For the first time service companies, who are willing to invest in projects as co-financiers, have the chance to negotiate cooperations. Thanks to the cooperation with **CARTOON – European Association of Animation Film** up to three of the here presented German series projects have the chance to qualify directly for participation in Cartoon Forum. Find further information and tickets here: www.animationproductionday.de

The Animation Production Day is hosted by ITFS and **FMX, Conference on Animation, Effects, Games and Transmedia**, which coincides with ITFS on May 5-8, 2015, www.fmx.de.

Animation History

The programme Animation History applies itself to the work of Spanish stop-motion and silent film pioneer Segundo de Chomón and the silhouette films by Edeltraud Engelhardt. Film critic Daniel Kothenschulte (among others Frankfurter Rundschau) presents a programme regarding "*Animation and Modernism*". Furthermore films including some long-term hidden surprises are shown within "*60 years of DEFA Animation studios*".

Animation Cult

Highlights within the topic anime are going to be specials like the rotoscope-made series "*Aku No Hana*" (adapted from Baudelaire's "*The Flowers of Evil*"), the fantasy movie "*Paterma Inverted*" and "*20 Years of Sailor Moon in Germany*" at the Open Air and a special screening. As part of the cult nights chosen music clips and animated horror films will be shown.

Facts 22. Stuttgart International Festival of Animated Film

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Homepage	http://www.itfs.de/en/
Year of Foundation	1982
Venues	Local cinemas: Gloria 1+2, Metropol 1-3 Festival Garden: Open Air, activity tent; Schlossplatz Stuttgart Further locations: Mercedes-Benz Museum, Wilhelma, Stuttgart's Municipal Library, Neues Schloss, Württembergischer Kunstverein, Jugendhaus Mitte (Stuttgart); Scala (Ludwigsburg)

Competitions

International Competition

For artistically outstanding short animated films, released within the last 12 months

Grand Prix

State of Baden-Württemberg and the City of Stuttgart
Grand Award for Animated Film

Lotte Reiniger Promotion Award for Animated Film

Award for the best graduation film, sponsored by MFG
Film Funding Baden-Württemberg

SWR Audience Award

Young Animation

The Young Animation competition screens the best films made by talented young film makers and students from international film and art schools. Sponsored by MFG Film Funding Baden-Wuerttemberg.

Tricks for Kids

The children's film festival Tricks for Kids presents the latest animated films and series for the younger audience – technically brilliant as well as entertaining.

Award for the Best Animated Film for Kids

Sponsored by Studio 100 Media GmbH, winner will be chosen by a jury of children.

Award for the Best Animated Series for Kids

Sponsored by Reed Midem/MIPJunior

AniMovie

The feature film competition AniMovie screens a selection of outstanding international animated feature films for kids and adults.

Animated Com Award

The Animated Com Award is the competition for applied animation in advertisement, spatial communication and technology with **special awards** by Daimler AG and U. I. Lapp GmbH.

German Voice Actor Award

Award for the best German-language voice actor in an animated feature film

German Screenplay Award

Award for the best screenplay written in German for animated feature films, sponsored by Telepool GmbH

Crazy Horse Session – 48h Animation Jam

Live animation competition

Leider Geil! Special Award

Competition and category spanning, sponsored by Tele 5