Stars and filmmakers at the ITFS 2019
Stuttgart, April 24 2019

Numerous renowned filmmakers and artists will visit the 26th Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film and present their current projects and work.

Lino DiSalvo, director „Playmobil – The Movie“ (Making-of: Thursday, May 2, 4 pm, Cinema Metropol 2)
The US-American director Lino DiSalvo visits the Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film in order to present the Making-of of the “Playmobil – The Movie” in the studio presentation of ON Animation Studios. The New Yorker worked 16 years as animator for the Disney Animation Studios in “102 Dalmations” and “Frozen” amongst others. „Playmobil – The Movie“ is his first work as director.
Lino DiSalvo will give interviews after the presentation at the Presse-Lounge in the Design Offices (Lautenschlagerstr. 23a, Stuttgart), at 6 pm

Shadi Adib, director „Trickfilm für Europa“
The Iranian filmmaker Shadi Adib, was already part of the ITFS’ International Competition with “Fuse”. Now, the graduate of the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg will present her brand new film “Ode”, winner of the competition “Trickfilm für Europa” that was launched by the Film- und Medienfestival gGmbH in 2018 and supported by the Ministry of Justice and European Affairs Baden Württemberg. Shadi Adib’s contribution towards a common Europe celebrates its world premiere as part of the ITFS opening ceremony on Tuesday, April 30th, at 8 pm at the Gloria cinema.

Otto Waalkes, actor, voice actor
Otto Waalkes, also known as Otto, is nominated for the German Voice Actor Award of the Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film 2019 for giving his voice to the grinch in the animated Christmas film “The Grinch” (2018). The Award ceremony will take place on May 3 at 8 pm at the Renitenztheater Stuttgart. The comedian, cartoonist, musician, actor and director knew already very early how to use his voice in sketches and in 1993 he synchronised his own “Ottifanten”. In the following he also worked as voice actor in the Disney film “Mulan” and the “Ice Age” films.

Nellie Thalbach, actor, voice actor
Nominee of the German Voice Actor Award for her role in “Raven the Little Rascal – Hunt for the Lost Treasure”.

Michel Ocelot, filmmaker
The newest feature film of the French filmmaker is “Dilili in Paris” which is set in Paris at the time of the “Belle Époque” and celebrates its German premiere at the ITFS on May 1st at 5 pm at the cinema Metropol 1. In 1982, Ocelot received his first César, that was followed by numerous nominations and awards on international festivals. Amongst others Ocelot produced a music video for Björk.

Der Plan, musicians and artists, concerts on May 3 and May 4, Kunstgebäude Stuttgart
DER PLAN are performing in Stuttgart for the first time in almost 30 years. Established in 1979 and appearing in the DER PLAN 4.0 version from 2004 to 2006, the electro-pop band started up as a virtual band in 2007 and currently
performs with Frank Fenstermacher, Kurt Dahlke alias Pyrolator, and Moritz Reichelt alias Moritz R@. The label ATA TAK founded by Pyrolator, Reichelt and Fenstermacher was one of the first European indie labels and published albums by DAF, Andreas Dorau, Holger Hiller, and Element of Crime. Reichelt designed covers for Depeche Mode and was crucial in the initiation of the tiki/lounge revival. Fenstermacher played on the “Monarchie & Alltag” by Fehlfarben and released several solo albums. Kurt Dahlke works as a producer and programmer, most recently for Edgar Froese.

Aylin Tezel, actor and voice actor
Nominee of the German Voice Actor Award of the Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film 2019 for giving her voice to the Yeti girl Mechee in “Smallfoot”.

Emely Christians, producer „Bayala – A magical adventure“ (World premiere, AniMovie Out of Competition)
Emely Christians is producer and managing director of Ulysses Filmproduktion, one of the most active European production companies of high-quality and successful animation films. Just in production is “Ooops! The Adventure Continues”, her eleventh theatrical feature film, before she completed “Bayala – A Magical Adventure”. Among others, she produced the worldwide success “Niko & The Way to the Stars”, as well as “Niko 2 – Little Brother, Big Trouble” and “Luis and the Aliens”. In 2015, she and her team released another international co-production: “Ooops! Noah is Gone…”. Sold to more than 160 countries, with huge success in many territories such as UK, France and South America, the film won the “Goldener Spatz” in 2015, Germany’s most important prize dedicated to children’s films. Awarded with the European Producer of the Year Award in 2016 by the Cartoon Media association, she was awarded with the Bavarian Film Award 2018 for “Richard the Stork” for “Best Children’s Film”.

Mohammad Farokhmanesh, director „Little Germans“ (AniMovie Out of Competition)
The German director and producer has already realised over 20 documentaries, feature films and shorts. For his feature film debut “Reich des Bösen” (2008) he received several prizes and nominations. Together with his two partners, he owns a production company with headquarters in Hamburg, Germany. In 2018 he produced the animated documentary “Little Germans” in cooperation with Frank Geiger, which represents an appropriate contribution to the current political developments.

Jonathan Hodgson, director “Roughhouse” (International Competition) / In Persona
Jonathan Hodgson is an internationally renowned award winning animation director and independent animator based in London. He is also a senior lecturer and programme leader of BA Animation at Middlesex University. He studied animation at Liverpool Polytechnic and the Royal College of Art. Most of his work is in the area of 2D animation, but he also works with live action. His films are to be categorized somewhere between documentary and experimental animation and usually avoid conventional narrative, being largely based on observation and personal experience. His animated shorts have won many international awards, including a BAFTA for Best British Short Animation in 2000 for “The Man with the Beautiful Eyes” and in 2019 for “Roughhouse”.

Akihiko Yamashita, director “Invisible“ (International Competition)
As Japanese Studio Ghibli-cartoonist he is famed for “Howl’s Moving Castle” and “Giant Robo”. In 2018 he produced the animated film “Invisible”.

Wong Ping, Director, member of the jury “Young Animation”, Focus Hong Kong
In 2018, Wong Ping was the recipient of the inaugural Camden Arts Centre Emerging Arts Prize. In 2019, he was among the winners of the Anmodo Tiger Short Competition of the 48th International Film Festival Rotterdam. His animations have been commissioned by M+, Nowness as well as Prada and he is the winner of one of perspective’s 40 under 40 Awards. Works by Wong Ping are part of several permanent collections including M+.
Verena Fels, director “Rave the little rascal – Hunt for the lost treasure” (AniMovie Out of Competition, world premiere)

Verena Fels is graduate of the Hochschule der Medien in Stuttgart and the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg. Her film “Der Moment”, a trailer for the Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film gave birth to the festival mascot horse Trixi. One of her other animated shorts is “MOBILE”. She works as director and filmmaker of the kids serie “Ich kenne ein Tier” and directed the film „Raven the little rascal – Hunt for the lost treasure”.

Byrke Lou, physician and digital artist with focus on music, VR and AI (“AI for Music Creation” at the SXSW Austin 2019)

Born in Berlin the artist and musician experiments with corporeality of matter, sound and our theoretical models. In her talk the conceptual artist and physician looks at the impact and specifics VR, AR and XR technologies hold for musicians and, maybe, the music ecosystem. Lou studied physics, philosophy and digital art as well as design, computer science, electroacoustical composition, media theory and dance and was formed by the IFISC (Institut für interdisziplinäre Physik und komplexe Systeme) in Mallorca, Spain. She teaches at HfK Bremen and works at scientific institutions such as MARUM in Bremen.

Max Hattler, director, professor, member of the jury „Young Animation“, In Persona, VJ-Performance

Max Hattler is a German artist working primarily with abstract animation, video installation and audiovisual performance. His work explores relationships between abstraction and figuration, aesthetics and politics, sound and image, and precision and improvisation. He holds a BA in “Media and Communications” from Goldsmiths, an MA in Animation from the Royal College of Art, and a Doctorate in “Fine Art” from the University of East London. His films were presented worldwide, for instance at Ars Electronica Festival, Sónar Hong Kong, MoCA Taipei, Museum of Contemporary Art Zagreb and Zhou B Art Center Chicago. He was awarded by the Third Culture Film Festival and the Bradford Animation Festival and received several Visual Music Awards. He performed live at venues around the world including the Seoul Museum of Art, EXPO Milano, Clockenflap Hong Kong and the Punto y Raya Festival. Max Hattler is an Assistant Professor at the School of Creative Media at City University of Hong Kong.

Prof. Dr. Ingmar Riedel-Kruse, Bioengineering, Stanford University „Science, Games & Animation“

Dr. Ingmar H Riedel-Kruse is currently working as Assistant Professor for Department of Bio engineering at Stanford University. His lab combines basic research and engineering approaches by working on biophysics of development and biotic games. His research focuses on Biophysics of (zebrafish) development and Tissue Engineering and Designing of application of biotic games.

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