

Press Release

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New goEast Festival Director Takes The Floor

Nadja Rademacher, the new director of goEast film festival, has an opportunity to introduce herself to the film branch and cinema-goers during the *"Remembrance and Future" Documentary Award on tour* series of screenings. Her guests will also include the makers of the films presented.

The new festival director presents the documentary *GDANSKI RAILWAY STATION / DWORZEC GDAŃSKI* (Poland, 2007) at the Polish Institute, Dusseldorf on 27 November, followed by *THE FLOWER BRIDGE / PODUL DE FLORI* (Romania, 2008), winner of the 2008 Documentary Award, at Arsenal – Institute for Film and Video Art (Berlin) on 1 December. In Berlin, a post-screening discussion on the theme of migration is scheduled with contributions from a panel of experts.

Nadja Rademacher takes over as festival director from Christine Kopf, who over the past five years successfully established goEast, the festival staged by the Deutsches Filminstitut – DIF, as an unique forum for East-West dialogue and cinematic culture. Having previously worked as an assistant producer, festival fundraiser, publicist in Berlin and Central and Eastern Europe, Nadja Rademacher was most recently arts consultant of the charitable organisation djo-German Youth in Europe.

After the introduction of the "Remembrance and Future" documentary award of the foundation "Remembrance, Responsibility and Future" at this year's goEast, *"Remembrance and Future" Documentary Award on tour* acts as a showcase for a selection of the competing films. "Even in the period between the festivals, goEast continues to put interesting films on the screen, to encourage interest in our neighbours in Eastern Europe by demonstrating their diverse cultures," says Nadja Rademacher. The series was launched earlier this autumn with screenings in Darmstadt and at the Kyiv Film Festival.

goEast also stages monthly screenings in the cinema of the Deutsches Filmmuseum, Frankfurt am Main, and in Caligari FilmBühne, Wiesbaden.

Entries are currently being invited for the feature and documentary film competition at the ninth edition of goEast in Wiesbaden (22 to 28 April 2008). Submissions will be accepted up to 31 December 2008.

The series of screenings is supported by the Foundation "Remembrance, Responsibility and Future", the Kyiv International Film Festival „Molodist“, the German-Polish Institute Darmstadt, the cinema Rex Darmstadt, the Romanian Cultural Institute, the Polish Institute Düsseldorf, Arsenal - Institute For Film And Video Art and Škoda Auto Deutschland.

Scheduled Screenings:

THU, 27 November 2008 / 19:30 h
Polish Institute Dusseldorf
GDANSKI RAILWAY STATION / DWORZEC GDAŃSKI
Poland 2007, 55 Min, OV w. Engl. subt.
D: Maria Zmarz-Koczanowicz
Free entrance

Maria Zmarz-Koczanowicz's documentary depicts the fate of several Polish-Jewish, who emigrated from Poland to Israel in 1968 because of anti-Semitic prejudice. It deals with the shock they felt at seeing public opinion so brazenly manipulated, with their decision to leave Poland, and with the pain, still raw for many, of leaving. And it shows a moving reunion of former companions almost forty years after the events.

Followed by a discussion with director Maria Zmarz-Koczanowicz and Teresa Toranska, writer

MON, 01 Dezember 2008 / 19:30 h
Arsenal - Institute For Film And Video Art
THE FLOWERBRIDGE / PODUL DE FLORI
Romania 2008, 87 Min, OV w. Engl. subt.
D: Thomas Ciulei
Entrance fee: 6,50 Euro

Costica Ahir lives with his daughters Maria and Alexandra and his son Alexie in the small village of Aciu in the Republic of Moldova. The children's mother is working in Italy to earn the living that their father's small farm cannot provide. The plan was for her to spend two years abroad – enough to pay off the family's debts, send the children to better schools, and decorate the house. Thomas Ciulei unobtrusively yet intimately documents the Moldavian family's day-to-day life. An impressive insight into a world on the fringes of Europe.

Followed by a discussion with Thomas Ciulei, director, Bukarest / Dr. Barbara Dietz, scientist of migration, Osteuropa-Institut, Regensburg / Bernd Buder, film critic, head of SEEDOX.org, Berlin. **Presenter:** Tina Mendelsohn, 3sat Kulturzeit

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