

CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz / 20 – 26 April 2009 / www.crossingEurope.at

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CROSSING EUROPE 2009 in Capital of Culture Year

*A first preview of the cooperation with **Linz09**, the **Tribute to Ursula Meier and Lionel Baier**, **OK Artist in Residence Inger Lise Hansen** and an invitation to **enter films***

2009 – and thus the sixth edition of the CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz – is dominated by Linz 2009 European Capital of Culture. From **20 to 26 April 2009** CROSSING EUROPE presents roughly 150 programs of hand-picked and contemporary **feature and documentary films** – outstanding, willful, socio-political auteur cinema in the established locations of OK “Offenes Kulturhaus” Upper Austria (festival center), Movimiento, City Kino and in the Kapu.

The Cooperation with Linz09 – CROSSING EUROPE welcomes EXTRA EUROPE

The cooperation with Linz 2009 European Capital of Culture already started in 2007 and comprises for the coming festival edition a newly created festival trainer again (the 2009 trailer will be provided by Barbara Musil, winner of the LOCAL ARTIST Award last year) and the CROSSING EUROPE Award European Competition (10.000 Euro, powered by Linz09). The CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz is contributing a program section with **film contributions and festival presentations** from the countries of Norway, Switzerland & Turkey to the Linz09 project **EXTRA EUROPE**, which focuses on a Europe beyond the European Union with a symposium and a cultural festival with the three non-EU countries **Norway, Switzerland & Turkey**.

In addition to numerous films from the three EXTRA EUROPE countries, festival director Christine Dollhofer has invited presentations from three highly regarded and specialized festivals – **Tromsø International Film Festival (NO)**, **Fantoche – International Festival of Animated Films (CH)** and **Festival on Wheels (TR)** – to enrich CROSSING EUROPE 2009 with **selected film programs** reflecting the respective festival profiles. The festival websites can be found at www.tiff.no, www.fantoche.ch and www.festivalonwheels.org.

Tribute 2009: Ursula Meier (CH) and Lionel Baier (CH)

Wholly in keeping with the project cooperation EXTRA EUROPE, this year CROSSING EUROPE devotes the Tribute to two outstanding directors already acclaimed at international festivals from French-speaking Switzerland: **Ursula Meier** (*1971) and **Lionel Baier** (*1975). Both directors already have an extensive oeuvre with numerous feature-length and short films – documentary works as well as feature films – that will be presented in a total of ten programs at CROSSING EUROPE 2009.

With **HOME** (2008; world premiere Cannes 2008), a scurrilous family story revolving around life on/next to a motorway (with Isabelle Huppert and Olivier Gourmet in the leading roles), and a social satire about the rise of a local reporter to a purportedly celebrated film critic, **UN AUTRE HOMME** (2008; world premiere Locarno 2008), two current feature films will celebrate their Austrian premiere with Ursula Meier and Lionel Baier present.

OK Artist in Residence 2009: Inger Lise Hansen (NO)

As in past years, the OK again invites an artist from the crossover area of film/visual art to Linz. In 2009 this is the Norwegian artist **Inger Lise Hansen** (*1963), who will be a guest at CROSSING EUROPE as the **OK Artist in Residence**. In her **experimental film works**, mostly shot in 16mm and largely presented as video installations, the video artist deals with the phenomenon of "time" and the recording of the "passing of time", but without taking recourse to conventional patterns of narrative cinema.

Inger Lise Hansen has developed a **special filming technique**, which she will also use in Linz: an **upside-down camera** that is moved on tracks. Here the horizon provides the line of orientation, but earth and sky are switched, giving the viewer a feeling of disorientation and of floating. During her stay at the OK Inger Lise Hansen will use this filming technique to realize a **new work** in the city center of Linz.

Invitation to Enter Films

Entries will still be accepted for European films and works by local filmmakers from Upper Austria until **9 January 2009**. Details about entry regulations, program sections and registration forms can be found on the festival website www.crossingeurope.at under **Film Entry European Films** and **Film Entry Local Artists**.

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