



CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz // 23 – 28 April 2015 // [www.crossingEurope.at](http://www.crossingEurope.at)

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// Not to be released before: 12:00 noon //

## RESUME – CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2015

### Outstanding program, international festival flair, and record number of visitors

*Today the twelfth CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz comes to a highly successful conclusion. Festival Director Christine Dollhofer is pleased to announce a new audience record this year. Almost 22.000 festival visitors (estimating the last festival day with 28 film programs) **stormed** the venues and transformed the Upper Austrian Culture Quarter into the vibrant hub of the provincial capital city.*

From the beginning, CROSSING EUROPE has been dedicated to the idea of accessibly presenting **sophisticated European filmmaking** here in Linz, and to offer international and local networking along with the possibility of direct exchange with the filmmakers present from all over Europe. In 2015 the festival audience again took over the festival locations for six days – turning the OK Platz into the vibrant hot spot of the city at the same time.

A total of **160** selected feature films, documentaries and short films from **45** different countries (109 of them premieres) were presented in the mostly sold-out cinemas, around 700 professionals from Austria and abroad – including roughly 160 film guests – were counted. Almost **22.000 festival guests and film and music enthusiasts** attended the film screenings, exhibitions, talks and the nightline of the festival. This means that CROSSING EUROPE this year has broken last year's record (20.000).

The rise in the number of visitors was already evident on the first day of the festival, and there was no break in the enthusiasm of the festival audience in Linz for contemporary auteur cinema from Europe. The festival opening on 23 April was already wholly in line with the programmatic orientation of the festival – to arouse enthusiasm for **artistic auteur cinema from Europe** among the audience, to take the visitors along on a – sometimes uncomfortable – journey right through Europe of today, while focusing attention at the same time on social-political inequalities and the social wounds of our continent. There was room in the program for burning **topics such as “Fortress Europe”, migration and economic crisis**, as well as works on **music & youth culture** and the program focal point **CINEMA NEXT EUROPE** focusing on the “next generation” of European filmmakers. The **cinophile highlight** was undoubtedly this year's Tribute, which was devoted to the acclaimed and award-winning director **Sergei Loznitsa**, who presented a total of 18 films – largely Austrian premieres – in person during CROSSING EUROPE and held a masterclass for a full house. The **presence of many international film guests** was altogether conspicuous this year, and like the local filmmakers they engaged with the audience in film discussions.

### Perspectives

For the future as well, Christine Dollhofer and her team intend to bring together the demands of a professional audience and a local cinema audience, and with CROSSING EUROPE to enable a vibrant event for the presentation

and discussion of contemporary, sometimes uncomfortable or artistically eccentric, social-critical auteur cinema from Europe. The first principle is – and will be in the future – to spotlight the diverse nuances of the (film) continent of Europe. This covers a broad thematic range (political upheavals, economic crises or the conscious withdrawal from society) and is marked by very different artistic approaches and signatures. CROSSING EUROPE continues to see itself as an outstanding film event with a highly diverse film program and as an invitation to engage directly with European life worlds.

After this year's highly positive and successful festival, the festival director is confident that the patrons, sponsors and funding partners (around 70 this year) will continue to financially and ideally support CROSSING EUROPE adequately to the same extent as before.

*// Next Festival: 21 bis 26 April 2016 //*

*// Ticket reservations from 10:00 am to 11:00 pm via the Info-Hotline 0680 506 1 506 //*

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## AWARDS PRESENTATION – CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz 2015

*The Awards Presentation for the twelfth CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival Linz took place yesterday in the Ursulinensaal of the Upper Austrian Culture Quarter. Markus Zett moderated the evening, the musician and sound-tinkerer FUMP provided an energizing sound experience. The CROSSING EUROPE AWARDS were presented with numerous international film guests present, as well as industry representatives and press along with representatives of patrons, sponsors and from politics – including Vice-Mayer and Speaker for Culture Bernhard Baier and as a Representative of the City of Linz Stefan Giegler – and Festival Director Christine Dollhofer presented the first, highly positive results of the festival.*

### CROSSING EUROPE Award - Best Fiction Film

*// € 10.000,- powered by Linz Kultur & Land Oberösterreich / Kultur*

Ex aequo decision, i.e. € 5.000,- each go to

Ana Lungu for **AUTOPORETUL UNEI FETE CUMINTI / SELF-PORTRAIT OF A DUTIFUL DAUGHTER** (RO 2015)

*// film link [HERE](#) //*

and

Ivan Ikić for **VARVARI / BARBARIANS** (RS, ME, SI 2014)

*// film link [HERE](#) // The film will be shown on Tuesday, April 28 at 9:00 pm, Movie 1 //*

The *JURY COMPETITION – Fiction* (Andrea Štaka, Michael Stütz, Syllas Tzoumerkas) explained their unanimous decision with the statement: "The jury decided to award two portraits of youth in two different social milieus, struggling with feelings of safety or the lack of it."

### **CROSSING EUROPE Audience Award - Best Fiction Film**

// € 1.000,- powered by *Crossing Europe*

// Hotel voucher sponsored by *Park Inn by Radisson Linz – First Hotel Partner of CROSSING EUROPE*

In addition to the cash prize of € 1.000,-, the director receives a hotel voucher (weekend for two) sponsored by Park Inn by Radisson Linz.

// The winning film will be presented again in June 2015 in *Movimento Linz* – in cooperation with *ray film magazine*.

Anatol Durbală for **CE LUME MINUNATĂ | WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD** (MD 2014)

// film link [HERE](#) // As in past years, the award was determined by votes from the audience. //

### **CROSSING EUROPE Social Awareness Award - Best Documentary**

// € 5.000,- powered by *Land Oberösterreich / Soziales*

Vladimir Tomic for **FLOTEL EUROPA** (DK, RS 2015)

// film link [HERE](#) // The film will be shown on Tuesday, 28 April, at 9:30 pm, *Movie 3* //

The *JURY COMPETITION – Documentary* (*Sebastian Brameshuber, Ina Rossow, Zaza Rusadze*) stated the reason for their decision with these words: "Subjectively recounted with private video recordings, and yet – or perhaps especially for that reason – a universal story of growing up, of first love and first good-byes against the background of war and fleeing."

### **CROSSING EUROPE Award - Local Artist**

// € 5.000,- powered by *Land Oberösterreich / Kultur*

O.N.L.S.D., Leo Calice, Gerhard Tremml for **EDEN'S EDGE - THREE SHORTS ON THE CALIFORNIAN DESERT** (AT 2014)

// film link [HERE](#) //

The *JURY COMPETITION – Local Artist* (*Magnus Hofmüller, Peter Schernhuber, Alexandra Schneider*) stated:

"Formally stringent and yet accessible, with "Eden's Edge" Gerhard Tremml and Leo Calice create a fascinating visual framework, in which three eccentric life stories are conjoined into a tale of human beings with their cracks and desires."

// € 2.000,- Voucher from the company *Synchro Film, Video & Audio Bearbeitungs GmbH, Vienna*

Felix Huber for **FARFALLA** (AT 2014)

// film link [HERE](#) //

The *JURY COMPETITION – Local Artist* (*Magnus Hofmüller, Peter Schernhuber, Alexandra Schneider*) stated: "Just as smartly, with cryptic humor, and just as cleverly, Huber combines documentary shots with television material, pseudo-advertising videos, hidden camera material, and time-lapse shots into a varied, entertaining, and never superficial documentary."

### **CROSSING EUROPE Social Awareness Award – Local Artist**

// € 4.000,- powered by *Land Oberösterreich / Soziales*

Eva Hausberger for **MONUMENTI** (AT 2014)

// film link [HERE](#) //

The *JURY COMPETITION – Local Artist* (*Magnus Hofmüller, Peter Schernhuber, Alexandra Schneider*) summarized their decision with the following statement: "The film skillfully avoids platitudes and refuses to attempt to explain the world. Eva Hausberger's inductive view of the representative colossus of the history of Albania becomes a delicate story of its inhabitants, their past and present."

Special Mention: Ufuk Serbest for **EVDEKI SES – 22m² ÖSTERREICH** (AT 2015)

// film link [HERE](#) //

The *JURY COMPETITION – Local Artist (Magnus Hofmüller, Peter Schernhuber, Alexandra Schneider)* summarized their decision with the following statement: "Ufuk Serbest impressively locates the universal theme of living between two cultures in his immediate proximity and family. Intensive conversations lead us to the realities of life of three women, who live near us, yet remain undiscovered for many."

### **CREATIVE REGION MUSIC VIDEO Audience Award**

*// € 1.500,- powered by CREATIVE REGION Linz & Upper Austria*

Lukas Jakob Löcker for **HEAVEN - FELIX SCHAGER, KONSTANTIN DIGGN** (AT 2014)

*// film link [HERE](#) // The prize has been awarded now for the third time, once again the winner was chosen by votes from the audience. //*

### **CROSSING EUROPE Award - Local Artist Atelier Award**

*// powered by Atelierhaus Salzamt der Stadt Linz*

Vildan Turalic for **UNTITLED 014** (AT 2014)

*// film link [HERE](#) //*

### **CROSSING EUROPE Award - Local Artist Film Location Tabakfabrik**

*// powered by Tabakfabrik Linz*

Klaus Pamminger for **NOTES ON MACKEY** (AT 2015)

*// film link [HERE](#) // The prize has been awarded this year for the first time.//*

*// Not to be released before: 12:00 noon //*

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### **PHOTO MATERIAL & UPDATES**

Photos & Film Stills: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/pressefotos/>

Festival Impressions: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/crossingeurope/collections/>

Logo & Festival Motif: <http://www.crossingeurope.at/xe-presse/logos>

Regular **updates** and **current information** on CROSSING EUROPE 2015 can be found as always on our website

[www.crossingEurope.at](http://www.crossingEurope.at) and our social media channels [Facebook](#), [google+](#), [Flickr](#), [Twitter](#) and now NEW [Instagram](#).