



## Berlin Int'l Film Festival News: Competition, Encounters, Berlinale Special Come Out

### Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

The conclusion of the 2020 Berlinale marked the beginning of a long pause caused by the pandemic. Since then, people working in an organizational capacity, have repeatedly had to adjust to new conditions: from adapted workplaces and procedures to “new” ways of digital communication.

The 2022 Berlin International Film Festival (The 72nd Berlinale) is offering filmmakers and audiences the opportunity to once again meet and exchange ideas in person, to immerse themselves in the world of cinema, talk about the films and become inspired and motivated. This year, The Berlinale is welcoming the filmmakers for seven days in total, after which audiences will have the opportunity to watch repeat screenings of the films in Berlin cinemas up to February 20.

The Competition, Encounters, and Berlinale Special Programs are out and each features a plethora of excellent films.

### ***Competition 2022***



Charlotte Gainsbourg in *Les passagers de la nuit* [The Passengers of the Night] by Mikhaël Hers

In Competition 18 films are in the race for the Golden and Silver Bears. Productions from 15 countries are represented. 17 films are world premieres. Seven films were directed by women. Human and emotional bonds are a common thread. Almost all films set their tales out of the city center, in the periphery, in the countryside or they follow the characters in their journeys away from towns.

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Eleven filmmakers have been at the festival before, eight in *Competition*, and five of them already hold a "bear" in their hands. One film is a non-fiction and animated one, set in an unspecified time.



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Artistic Director Carlo Chatrian.

“We are happy to have back artists we cherish and whose work is important to us. We are also happy to welcome for the first time in the *Competition* filmmakers whose films have thrilled us. More than half of the films selected take place in the present day, but only two deal with the current pandemic times. Human and emotional bonds are a common thread – with half of the selection choosing the family as a context for their tales. Almost all films set their tales out of the city center, in the periphery, in the countryside or they follow the characters in their journeys away from towns”, says Artistic Director Carlo Chatrian.

### **Competition Films**

#### ***A E I O U – Das schnelle Alphabet der Liebe* (A E I O U – A Quick Alphabet of Love)**

Germany / France

by Nicolette Krebitz

with Sophie Rois, Udo Kier, Milan Herms, Nicolas Bridet

World premiere

#### ***Alcarràs***

Spain / Italy

by Carla Simón

with Jordi Pujol Dolcet, Anna Otin, Xènia Roset, Albert Bosch, Ainet Jounou, Josep Abad

World premiere

#### ***Avec amour et acharnement* (Both Sides of the Blade)**

France

by Claire Denis

with Juliette Binoche, Vincent Lindon, Grégoire Colin, Bulle Ogier

World premiere

#### ***Call Jane***

USA

by Phyllis Nagy

with Elizabeth Banks, Sigourney Weaver, Kate Mara

International premiere

#### ***Drii Winter* (A Piece of Sky)**

Switzerland / Germany  
by Michael Koch  
with Michèle Brand, Simon Wisler  
World premiere

***Everything Will Be Ok***

France / Cambodia  
by Rithy Panh  
World premiere / documentary form

***La ligne (The Line)***

Switzerland / France / Belgium  
by Ursula Meier  
with Stéphanie Blanchoud, Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, Elli Spagnolo  
World premiere

***Leonora addio***

Italy  
by Paolo Taviani  
with Fabrizio Ferracane, Matteo Pittiruti, Dania Marino, Dora Becker  
World premiere

***Les passagers de la nuit (The Passengers of the Night)***

France  
by Mikhaël Hers  
with Charlotte Gainsbourg, Quito Rayon-Richter, Noée Abita, Megan Northam, Thibault Vinçon, Emmanuelle Béart  
World premiere

***Nana (Before, Now & Then)***

Indonesia  
by Kamila Andini  
with Happy Salma, Laura Basuki, Arswendy Bening Swara, Ibnu Jamil  
World premiere

***Peter von Kant***

France

by François Ozon  
with Denis Ménochet, Isabelle Adjani, Hanna Schygulla  
World premiere / opening film

***Rabiye Kurnaz gegen George W. Bush*** (*Rabiye Kurnaz vs. George W. Bush*)  
Germany / France  
by Andreas Dresen  
with Meltem Kaptan, Alexander Scheer  
World premiere

***Rimini***  
Austria / France / Germany  
by Ulrich Seidl  
with Michael Thomas, Hans-Michael Rehberg, Tessa Göttlicher, Inge Maux, Claudia Martini, Georg Friedrich  
World premiere

***Robe of Gems***  
Mexico / Argentina / USA  
by Natalia López Gallardo  
with Nailea Norvind, Antonia Olivares, Aida Roa  
World premiere / debut film

***So-seol-ga-ui Yeong-hwa*** (*The Novelist's Film*)  
South Korea  
by Hong Sangsoo  
with Lee Hyeyoung, Kim Minhee, Seo Younghwa  
World premiere

***Un año, una noche*** (*One Year, One Night*)  
Spain / France  
by Isaki Lacuesta  
with Nahuel Pérez Biscayart, Noémie Merlant, Quim Gutiérrez  
World premiere

***Un été comme ça*** (*That Kind of Summer*)  
Canada

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by Denis Côté  
with Larissa Corriveau, Aude Mathieu, Laure Giappiconi, Anne Ratte Polle, Samir Guesmi  
World premiere

***Yin Ru Chen Yan*** (*Return to Dust*)  
People's Republic of China  
by Li Ruijun  
with Wu Renlin, Hai Qing  
World premiere

### ***Encounters 2022***



Mediatrice Kayitesi and Aline Amike in *Father's Day* by Kivu Ruhorahoza

The competitive section Encounters 2022 comprises 15 films, all of which are world premieres. There is one first feature. This year's selection includes more films than usual from established filmmakers (Bertrand Bonello, Ruth Beckermann, Mitra Farahani, Sho Miyake, Arnaud des Pallières, Gastón Solnicki, Peter Strickland, Syllas Tsoumerkas), but also welcomes new voices. Many filmmakers have chosen dialogue as the most appropriate form to overcome fences, distances, and confinements.

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Each selected film aims to engage in a conversation, not only with the audience, but also with the other films. Some of the conversations the selected films offer are the dialogue between two old artists or the one between past and present times. A dialogue with sign language and the special connection between two people excluded from "normal life". The inner communication between twins and the metacommunication between a book and its readers a century after. The dialectic in place between

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owners and workers and the dichotomy between truth and lies.



Artistic Director Carlo Chatrian.

“We consider *Encounters* to be a vibrant competitive section and a safe haven for a community. Here, we tend to invite filmmakers that do not consider cinema as a predefined art form, with a standard that has to be reached, but rather as a field in an ongoing expansion – like the universe we inhabit. After a year and a half spent in not-so-splendid isolation, we are moved by seeing that many filmmakers have chosen dialogue as the most appropriate form to overcome fences, distances, and confinements, and they are keen to keep mapping the land we called cinema,” says Artistic Director Carlo Chatrian.

## ***Encounters Films***

### ***A Little Love Package***

Austria / Argentina

by Gastón Solnicki

with Angeliki Papoulia, Carmen Chaplin, Mario Bellatin

World premiere

### ***À vendredi, Robinson*** (*See You Friday, Robinson*)

France / Switzerland / Iran / Lebanon

by Mitra Farahani

with Jean-Luc Godard, Ebrahim Golestan

World premiere / documentary form

### ***Axiom***

Germany

by Jöns Jönsson

with Moritz von Treuenfels, Ricarda Seifried, Thomas Schubert

World premiere

***Brat vo vsyom*** (*Brother in Every Inch*)

Russian Federation

by Alexander Zolotukhin

with Sergey Zhuravlev, Nikolay Zhuravlev

World premiere

***Coma***

France

by Bertrand Bonello

with Julia Faure, Louise Labeque

World premiere

***Father's Day***

Rwanda

by Kivu Ruhorahoza

with Mediatrice Kayitesi, Aline Amike, Yves Kijyana

World premiere

***Flux Gourmet***

United Kingdom / USA / Hungary

by Peter Strickland

with Asa Butterfield, Gwendoline Christie, Ariane Labed, Fatma Mohamed, Makis Papadimitriou, Richard Bremmer

World premiere

***I Poli ke i Poli*** (*The City and the City*)

Greece

by Christos Passalis, Syllas Tzoumerkas

with Vassilis Kanakis, Alexandros Vardaxoglou, Angeliki Papoulia

World premiere

***Journal d'Amérique*** (*American Journal*)

France

by Arnaud des Pallières

World premiere / documentary form

***Keiko, me wo sumasete*** (*Small, Slow but Steady*)

Japan / France

by Shô Miyake

with Yukino Kishii, Tomokazu Miura, Masaki Miura

World premiere

**MUTZENBACHER**



Austria  
by Ruth Beckermann  
World premiere / documentary form

***Queens of the Qing Dynasty***

Canada  
by Ashley McKenzie  
with Sarah Walker, Ziyin Zheng  
World premiere

***Sonne***

Austria  
by Kurdwin Ayub  
with Melina Benli, Law Wallner, Maya Wopienka  
World premiere / Debut

***Unruhe (Unrest)***

Switzerland  
by Cyril Schäublin  
with Clara Gostynski, Alexei Evstratov  
World premiere

***Zum Tod meiner Mutter (The Death of my Mother)***

Germany  
by Jessica Krummacher  
with Birte Schnöink, Elsie de Brauw, Johanna Orsini, Susanne Bredehöft, Gina Haller, Christian Löber  
World premiere

***Berlinale Special 2022***



Zoey Deutch and Mark Rylance in *The Outfit* by Graham Moore

The Berlinale Special program comprises 15 films from 12 countries – six documentaries and nine feature films, among them two short films. 12 films are world premieres. Most of the

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Berlinale Special Gala films work within genre – spanning from horror to musical, from fantasy to gangster movie. Berlinale Special will show mainly documentary forms. In its line-up, the Berlinale Special combines celebrity sparkle with the stories that matter.

*Berlinale Special* comprises 15 films from twelve countries, among them six documentary forms and nine feature films as well as two short films. Twelve are world premieres.



Artistic Director Carlo Chatrian.

“Despite the pandemic, we are happy to have the *Berlinale Special Gala* back. Films intended for the widest public will be presented in our biggest venue – the Friedrichstadt-Palast – and accompanied by filmmakers and cast. Most of them work within genre – spanning from horror to musical, from fantasy to gangster movie. Despite often dramatic stories, all of them manage to welcome a bit of lightness, having recourse to irony or comic elements.

*Berlinale Special* makes room mainly to documentaries that are the best way to explore our world and its legacy. From a recording studio during the pandemic to the little-known industry of synthetic diamonds, from a microcosm to be found in and around an old oak tree in France to a controversial political party in Germany, ending with a take on the power and ethics of photography.

Featuring stars including Nick Cave, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau or Emma Thompson alongside talented young actors like Louis Hoffmann, Alia Bhatt or Joe Cole – the *Berlinale Special* line-up combines celebrity sparkle with the stories that matter”, says Artistic Director Carlo Chatrian.

## ***Berlinale Special Gala* films**

### ***Against the Ice***

Iceland / Denmark

by Peter Flinth  
with Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, Joe Cole, Heida Reed, Charles Dance  
World premiere

***À propos de Joan*** (*About Joan*)

France / Germany / Ireland  
by Laurent Larivière  
with Isabelle Huppert, Lars Eidinger, Swann Arlaud  
World premiere

***Gangubai Kathiawadi***

India  
by Sanjay Leela Bhansali  
with Alia Bhatt, Ajay Devgn  
World premiere

***Good Luck to You, Leo Grande***

United Kingdom  
by Sophie Hyde  
with Daryl McCormack, Emma Thompson  
European premiere

***Incroyable mais vrai*** (*Incredible But True*)

France / Belgium  
by Quentin Dupieux  
with Alain Chabat, Léa Drucker, Benoît Magimel, Anaïs Demoustier  
World premiere

***Der Passfälscher*** (*The Forger*)

Germany / Luxembourg  
by Maggie Peren  
with Louis Hofmann, Jonathan Berlin, Luna Wedler  
World premiere

***Occhiali neri*** (*Dark Glasses*)

Italy / France  
by Dario Argento  
with Ilenia Pastorelli, Asia Argento, Andrea Zhang  
World premiere

***The Outfit***

USA  
by Graham Moore  
with Mark Rylance, Zoey Deutch, Dylan O'Brien  
World premiere / Debut

## ***Berlinale Special films***

### ***1341 Framim Mehamatzlema Shel Micha Bar-Am*** (*1341 Frames of Love and War*)

Israel / United Kingdom / USA

by Ran Tal

World premiere / documentary form

### ***Eine deutsche Partei*** (*A German Party*)

Germany

by Simon Brückner

World premiere / documentary form

### ***Le chêne*** (*Die Eiche – Mein Zuhause*)

France

by Laurent Charbonnier, Michel Seydoux

International premiere / documentary form

### ***Nest***

Denmark / Iceland

by Hlynur Pálmason

with Ída Mekkín Hlynisdóttir, Grímur Hlynsson, Þorgils Hlynsson

World premiere / short film

### ***Nothing Lasts Forever***

USA

by Jason Kohn

World premiere / documentary form

### ***Terminal norte*** (*North Terminal*)

Argentina

by Lucrecia Martel

International premiere / documentary form / short film

### ***This Much I Know To Be True***

United Kingdom

by Andrew Dominik

with Nick Cave, Warren Ellis

World premiere / documentary form

Until next time, I'll see you at the cinemas!



(Sourced from Berlinale Press Release)

**Category**

1. #Berlinale
2. Berlin International Film Festival
3. Carlo Chatrian

**Tags**

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2. Competition
3. Encounters

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