



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.



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

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 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 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)

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2. Berlin International Film Festival
3. Carlo Chatrian

Tags

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2. Competition
3. Encounters

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