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# BERLINALE 2017 COMES TO A SPLENDID CLOSE

## Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

The 67th Berlin International Film Festival culminated with the presentation of the awards on Saturday, February 18. (See list of prize winner)

Over eleven days, the Berlinale drew movie fans and the international film industry to cinemas and a large variety of events. Its reputation as the worldâ??s biggest public festival was reconfirmed: a total of 334,471 tickets were sold. And with more than 7,000 visitors, the program of the Berlinale Open House in the Audi Berlinale Lounge â?? with its Berlinale Lounge Nights and a variety of other events â?? was a crowd-puller.

Not only the Berlinale but also the *European Film Market* (*EFM*) can look back at a successful edition. With 9,550 trade professionals from 108 countries at 192 stands, the *EFM* once again recorded a significant increase in participants this year. It was gratifying to observe the huge crowds at many different new *EFM* initiatives. The â??Berlinale Africa Hubâ?•, which debuted this year, achieved its goal of providing African film-making with an exceptionally attractive platform. Events within the framework of the â??*EFM* Horizon presented by Audiâ?• initiative, which focussed on the film industry of the future, were very popular as well.

In its third round, the expanded â??Drama Series Daysâ?• again registered a rise in attendance. And with Mexico, the very first â??Country in Focusâ?• at the *EFM* also proved a resounding success.

Once more, the Berlinaleâ??s activities for refugees were received with great enthusiasm: the Berlin International Film Festival had urged visitors to make donations for the traumatized children and adolescents at Zentrum Ã?BERLEBEN. With the 17,574 euro (on Feb 20, 2017) collected, the center will be able to provide its young patients with additional social and psychological support, as well as recreational activities.

About 1,400 people participated in a â??movie mentoringâ?• project in which volunteers from Berlinâ??s non-profit refugee aid organizations accompanied refugees to Berlinale screenings.

The 68th Berlin International Film Festival will be held from **February 15 to 25, 2018**.

(Source: Berlinale Press office)

**Category**

1. #Berlinale
2. #BIFF
3. Berlin Film Festival
4. European Film Market

**Tags**

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