



Karlovy Vary International Film Festival

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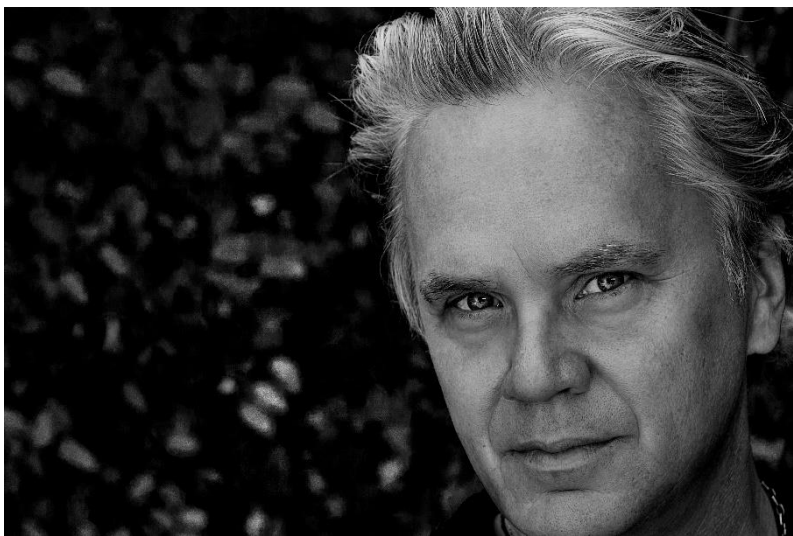


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KARLOVY VARY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL TO AWARD OSCAR-WINNING ACTOR AND DIRECTOR TIM ROBBINS

This year's 53rd KVIFF will present a Crystal Globe for Outstanding Contribution to World Cinema to actor, director, screenwriter, producer and musician Tim Robbins, who won an Oscar for best supporting actor for his performance in *Mystic River* (2003) and who was nominated for a best director Oscar for *Dead Man Walking* (1995).

Thanks to his family background, Tim Robbins had contact with the world of art from an early age. He began his acting career at theatres in New York, and after completing his education he worked as an actor and director with the experimental theatre ensemble The Actor's Gang, which under his guidance earned widespread audience acclaim and more than a hundred critics' awards.



After appearing in several smaller film and television roles, Robbins gained more widespread attention thanks to his part in director Ron Shelton's sports film *Bull Durham* (1988). Proof that Robbins was an actor of great promise came with his performance in the drama *Jacob's Ladder* (1990). A decisive moment in his acting career was his

collaboration with the outstanding director Robert Altman – Robbins' appearance in the main role in Altman's *The Player* (1992) earned him a Golden Globe and the best actor award at the Cannes Film Festival.

That same year, Robbins showed that he was a multifaceted auteur by filming his directorial debut *Bob Roberts* (1992) according to his own screenplay. Besides appearing in the title role, he also wrote (in collaboration with his brother David) the music for the film and even sang many of the songs himself.

Soon thereafter, Robbins again joined with Robert Altman to shoot *Short Cuts* (1993). The ensemble cast won a Special Golden Globe and also took home the Volpi Cup from the Venice Film Festival.



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There followed appearances in the Coen brothers' *The Hudsucker Proxy* (1994), another outing with Robert Altman (the comedy from the world of fashion *Prêt-à-Porter*, 1994), and his work with Frank Darabont on *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994), which was nominated for seven Oscars.

Also around this time, Robbins successfully continued with his work as director and screenwriter. *Dead Man Walking* (1996) earned him an Oscar nomination for best director, while Susan Sarandon won an Oscar for best actress. His next auteur outing, *Cradle Will Rock* (1999), which premiered at Cannes, explored the relationship between the individual artist and society during a tumultuous time in the U.S. though this time in another era. As with *Dead Man Walking*, Robbins produced, and the music was written by his brother David.

After Stephen Frears's romantic comedy *High Fidelity* (2000) and Michel Gondry's bizarre *Human Nature* (2001) – the latter of which was based on a script by Charlie Kaufman – Robbins appeared in one of his most successful roles in Clint Eastwood's crime drama *Mystic River* (2004), for which both Robbins and lead actor Sean Penn won an Oscar and a Golden Globe. Recently Robbins has been seen in *Marjorie Prime* (2017) and HBOs *The Brink* (2016) and *Here And Now* (2018).

At the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, Tim Robbins will present his two auteur films *Bob Roberts* and *Cradle Will Rock*. In addition, he will appear on stage for a special concert performance by Tim Robbins and The Rogues Gallery Band.



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TERRY GILLIAM TO PRESENT THE MAN WHO KILLED DON QUIXOTE IN KARLOVY VARY

Director Terry Gilliam will personally appear at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival to present his new film *The Man Who Killed Don Quixote*, which had its premiere at this year's festival in Cannes.

The Man Who Killed Don Quixote faced many trials and tribulations and was many years in the making. Eighteen years ago, the original shoot starring Johnny Depp and Jean Rochefort was halted after just six days.

The series of catastrophes that halted the project, which Gilliam had spent ten years preparing, was later the subject of Keith Fulton and Louis Pepe's documentary *Lost in La Mancha* (2002), which was shown at the 37th KVIFF. But the legendary director did not give up on his dream and now, eighteen years later, he can present his film to the public.

Cynical advertising director Toby comes across his nearly forgotten student film and sets out for the place where he had filmed his adaptation of Cervantes's famous novel. He discovers that his film project has forever changed the hopes and dreams of a small village. He meets a confused shoemaker who is convinced that he is Don Quixote and that



Toby is his Sancho Panza. Soon, Toby finds himself prisoner of the old man's bizarre fantasies, and it becomes more and more difficult to discern fact from fiction. Over the course of his comical and surreal adventures, Toby is forced to face up to the tragic consequences of his film.

Gilliam's film stars **Adam Driver**, **Jonathan Pryce**, **Olga Kurylenko**, **Stellan Skarsgård** and **Joana Ribeiro**.



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Terry Gilliam, one of the most distinctive contemporary directors in the world today, gained fame as a member of the famous comedy troupe Monty Python's Flying Circus, and along with Terry Jones he co-directed several of the Pythons' feature film projects. His best known solo outings as director include *The Fischer King* (1991, nominated for a Golden Globe for director), *Twelve Monkeys* (1995), *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* (1998) and *The Brothers Grimm* (2005).

In 2006, Terry Gilliam visited the KVIFF to personally present his film *Tideland* (2005).



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OSCAR-WINNING ACTOR ANNA PAQUIN AND ACTOR/DIRECTOR STEPHEN MOYER TO BE GUESTS AT THE KARLOVY VARY FESTIVAL

Among the guests coming to the festival, the 53rd Karlovy Vary IFF will welcome actor Anna Paquin and director Stephen Moyer, who will present *The Parting Glass* along with screenwriter, and co star Denis O'Hare, and producer Cerise Hallam Larkin.

Moyer currently stars in FOX/MARVEL'S "The Gifted". "The Parting Glass" is Moyer's feature film directorial debut.

Paquin will next be seen in Martin Scorsese's *The Irishman*, a crime drama for Netflix, and is starring in and Executive Producing *Flack*, directed by Peter Cattaneo.

O'Hare was most recently nominated for an Emmy Award for his performance on the acclaimed series *This Is Us* and will next be seen in the feature films *Late Night*, *The Goldfinch* and *Swallow*.





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ACTOR RORY COCHRANE WILL PRESENT FILM HOSTILES

The film *Hostiles* will be presented at KVIFF by American actor **Rory Cochrane**, known to audience primarily for the television series *CSI: Miami*.

Rory Cochrane recently starred in the critically acclaimed film *Black Mass* opposite Johnny Depp, and portrayed the real-life character 'Stephen Flemmi'. Before this, Rory was honored as a member of the ensemble cast of the 2012 Oscar-winning Best Picture *Argo*, directed by and starring Ben Affleck. Cochrane shared in several accolades, including a Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Motion Picture Ensemble, for his role as one of six American Embassy staffers trapped in Iran after the 1979 embassy takeover. His more recent film credits include another true-life drama *Parkland*, and the horror thriller *Oculus*, which premiered at the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival. Upcoming, he stars in the independent war drama *Soy Negro* and *The Most Hated Woman in America*, Netflix's drama feature starring Melissa Leo and produced by Elizabeth Banks (*Pitch Perfect*).



Born in New York, Cochrane spent much of his childhood in England, eventually returning to Manhattan to study at the La Guardia High School of Performing Arts. His first notable role was as Jeff Goldblum's character's son in the drama *Fathers and Sons*. His early film roles also include Slater, the young stoner in Richard Linklater's *Dazed and Confused*, Billy Mack Black, the crazed tattooed killer in *Love and A 45* and Lucas in *Empire Records*.

His subsequent film credits include *The Low Life* and *Dogtown* for director George Hickenlooper; Joel Schumacher's *Flawless*, with Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Robert De Niro; *The Prime Gig* with Vince Vaughn and Ed Harris; *Hart's War*, opposite Colin Farrell and Bruce Willis; *A Scanner Darkly* which reunited him with Richard Linklater; Michael Mann's *Public Enemies*, with Johnny Depp and Christian Bale; *Passion Play*, with Bill Murray and Mickey Rourke; and *Bringing Up Bobby*, with Milla Jovovich.



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ACTRESS THOMASIN HARCOURT MCKENZIE TO PERSONALLY PRESENT THE FILM LEAVE NO TRACE

Young New Zealand actress **Thomasin Harcourt McKenzie**, considered one of the greatest up-and-coming acting talents today, will be at this year's festival in Karlovy Vary to present *Leave No Trace* (2018) by director Debra Granik, whose *Winter's Bone* (2010) was nominated for 4 Oscars, including Best Actress. "There was something about the way she approached the character that told me she had a very rich understanding of this role. I think with some actors who get exposed early to working in the television and film world, it's very hard for them to recover their innocence. There was something non-urban and unjaded about Thomasin." says the director.

Thomasin Harcourt McKenzie played Astrid in *The Hobbit - Battle of the Five Armies* (2014) and was the co-lead in the short film *The Boyfriend Game* (2015) by Australian Filmmaker Alice Englert. This short was selected for the Generation K section of the 2015 Berlin Film Festival. Thomasin is an award-winner in two categories of the 2017 New Zealand Web-Fest as Best Actress in comedy *Lucy Lewis Can't Lose* (2017) and as an ensemble member in The Candle-Wasters' *Bright Summer Night* (2017), an adaptation of *Midsummer Night's Dream*. At 13 Thomasin played rape victim Louise Nicholas to great acclaim in the award-winning TV drama *Consent* (2014). She also played central character Pixie Hannah in long-running New Zealand TV soap *Shortland Street* in which her battle with cancer won the heart of the nation.



(Photo credit © David Shields)

Thomasin is currently filming a main role in Taika Waititi's *Jojo Rabbit* in Prague.



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**WORLD PREMIERE OF IN-COMPETITION “TO THE NIGHT” TO BE PRESENTED
BY ACTOR CALEB LANDRY JONES**

Actor **Caleb Landry Jones**, whom audiences will recognize from the series *Twin Peaks* and *Breaking Bad* or from the film *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*, will be at the festival to present the in-competition film *To the Night*.

Caleb Landry Jones started out with small film roles, after which he got the chance to appear in several episodes of *Breaking Bad* (2009–10) and *Twin Peaks* (2017). In 2011, he appeared as one of the mutants in *X-Men: First Class*, which was followed by appearances alongside Tom Cruise in the thriller *American Made* (2017), in the horror movie *Get Out* (2017), which won an Oscar for Best Screenplay, and in the widely acclaimed *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* (2017).



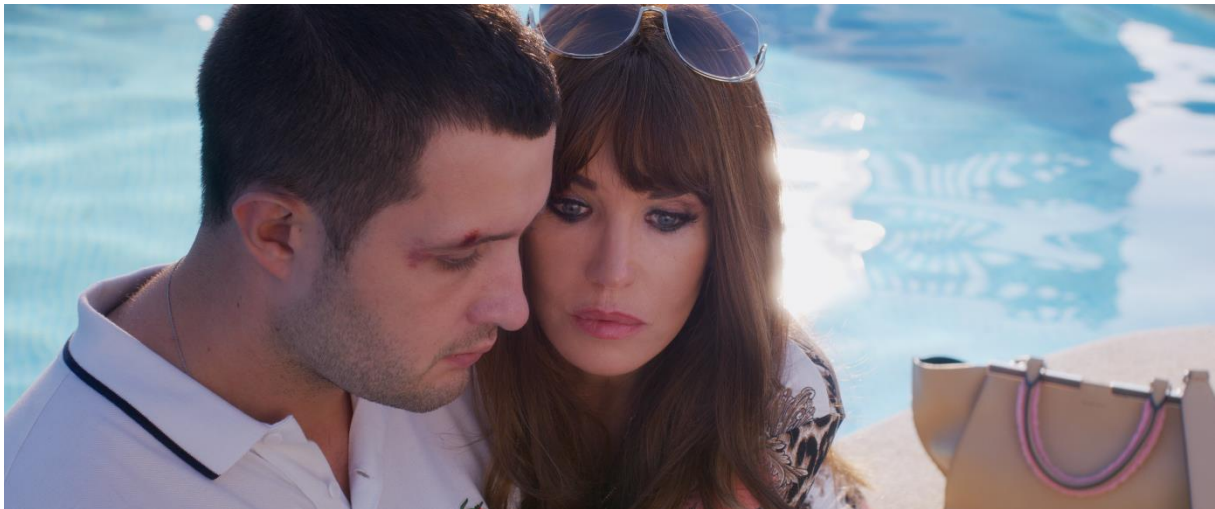


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DIRECTOR ROMAIN GAVRAS TO PRESENT HIS FILM “THE WORLD IS YOURS”

Romain Gavras has been making films since he was young, when he began directing shorts. He co-founded the cinematic group Kourtrajmé, which focused on recording Paris’s hip-hop scene. He has also shot numerous music videos that have been viewed by millions of people – for instance for M.I.A., Kanye West and Jay-Z – and for which he has been nominated for the Grammy Awards. His video for M.I.A.’s “Bad Girls” won two MTV awards in 2012 and was also nominated for a Grammy. Gavras is also a respected director of commercials.

In 2010, he made his feature-film debut with *Our Day Will Come* starring Vincent Cassel. The son of the famous director Costa-Gavras, Romain Gavras will appear at the 53rd KVIFF to present *The World Is Yours* (*Le Monde est à toi*, 2018), a gag-filled comedy that surprised audiences at this year’s festival in Cannes and that features such actors as Isabelle Adjani and Vincent Cassel.





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OSCAR-WINNING PRODUCER TO PRESENT “HOSTILES”

The Karlovy Vary International Film Festival is proud to welcome as one of its guests producer **John Leshner**, who won an Oscar for *Birdman* (2014) starring Michael Keaton.

With over 25 years of experience, John Leshner is an Academy Award-Winning Producer, having worked on Alejandro González Iñárritu’s “Birdman”. In addition to that, Leshner produced “Hostiles”, starring Christian Bale, “Black Mass”, starring Johnny Depp, “Fury”, starring Brad Pitt and “End of Watch” starring Jake Gyllenhaal. Leshner has “White Boy Rick” and “The Beach Bum” in post production both starring Matthew McConaughey. Prior to producing, Leshner founded Paramount Vantage in addition to being president of the film group at Paramount Pictures and before that Leshner was a partner at Endeavor and UTA.

John Leshner has produced numerous successful films, including the Brad Pitt wartime drama *Fury* (2014) and the biographical crime drama *Black Mass* (2015) with Johnny Depp.

At this year’s festival, Leshner will present the latest film by director Scott Cooper, *Hostiles*, starring Christian Bale and Rosamund Pike. Karlovy Vary audiences may remember Cooper thanks to his *Crazy Heart* (2009), which was shown at the 45th KVIFF.





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PRODUCER GREG SHAPIRO TO AGAIN VISIT KVIFF

Producer **Greg Shapiro**, who won a Best Picture for director Kathryn Bigelow's *The Hurt Locker*, will make his fourth appearance at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival.

Shapiro also collaborated with Bigelow on the critically-acclaimed *Zero Dark Thirty* (2012) and produced Daniel Espinosa's *Child 44* (2015), which was filmed in the Czech Republic.

He is currently completing several films, including *Serenity* with Anne Hathaway and Matthew McConaughey and *Richard Says Goodbye* with Johnny Depp.





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INTERNATIONAL JURIES

Statutory Juries:

Grand Jury

Mark Cousins

Mark Cousins, Irish-Scottish director and writer. His films – including *The First Movie*, *The Story of Film: An Odyssey*, *What Is This Film Called Love?*, *Life May Be*, *A Story of Children and Film*, *I Am Belfast*, *Atomic*, *Stockholm My Love* and *The Eyes of Orson Welles* – are about childhood, cities, recovery, walking, and cinema. They have won a Prix Italia, a Peabody, and a Stanley Kubrick Award and have screened around the world. His books include *Imagining Reality: The Faber Book of Documentary* and *The Story of Looking*. He writes for *Sight & Sound* and *Filmkrant* and has collaborated with Tilda Swinton on playful film events. His new project is a 15-hour documentary which rethinks cinema.

Zrinka Cvitešić

Zrinka Cvitešić, film, TV, and theater actor, was born in Croatia and began acting on stage at age 13 in a production of *Cinderella*. She graduated in acting from Zagreb's Academy of Dramatic Arts. In 2005 she joined the Croatian National Theater, starring in such plays as *Romeo and Juliet*, *Three Sisters*, *War and Peace*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Threepenny Opera*. Her acting career has been honored with numerous awards, with the pivotal role of Luna coming in Jasmila Žbanić's *On the Path* (2010); the part earned her a nomination from the European Film Academy and she was selected as a Berlinale Shooting Star for 2010 – one of Europe's ten best young actors. In 2014 she became the first Croat to win the Olivier Award for Best Actress in a musical (*Once*). She was recently seen in Woody Harrelson's *Lost in London*.

Marta Donzelli

Marta Donzelli, Italian producer, founded Vivo film with Gregorio Paonessa in 2004, and to date they have a catalogue of over 40 titles. Their productions include Michelangelo Frammartino's *Le Quattro Volte* – Directors' Fortnight at Cannes 2010, Emma Dante's *A Street in Palermo (Via Castellana Bandiera* – main competition at Venice 2013); Laura Bispuri's *Sworn Virgin (Vergine Giurata* – main competition at Berlin 2015) and *Daughter of Mine (Figlia mia* – main competition at Berlin 2018), Andrea De Sica's *Children of the Night (I Figli della Notte)*, and *Nico*, 1988 by Susanna Nicchiarelli, whose picture took Best Film from the Orizzonti section at last year's festival in Venice.



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Zdeněk Holý

Zdeněk Holý worked as an editor for *Cinepur* film magazine, serving as editor-in-chief in 2007–2010. In his 2005 study “Emptied Narration” he identified the rising tide of minimalist films. In 2008–2012 he was director of the academic press at Prague’s Academy of Performing Arts (AMU). He authored the story for *Daniel’s World* (Panorama section at Berlin 2015), which he also produced. In 2017 he was producer and script editor for a cycle of popular educational documentaries entitled “Man, That’s Science” and for the experimental film *Recovering Industry* (2016). In 2016 he was selected to become dean of Prague’s Film Academy (FAMU).

Nanouk Leopold

Nanouk Leopold, Dutch director, graduated from Rotterdam’s Academy of Fine Arts in 1992 and from the Dutch Film and Television Academy six years later. Her debut feature *Îles flottantes* screened in competition at the Rotterdam IFF in 2001. In 2005 *Guernsey* was selected for the Directors’ Fortnight at Cannes, while two other pictures, *Wolfsbergen* (2007) and *Brownian Movement* (2010), were invited to the festivals in Toronto and Berlin (Forum). *It’s All So Quiet* opened the Berlinale’s Panorama section in 2013. This year her sixth feature *Cobain* premiered in the Generation section at Berlin. Last year Leopold directed her first play *From the Life of the Marionettes* for Amsterdam’s TGA theater group.

East of the West Jury

Peter Badač

Peter Badač, Slovak producer, is a graduate of Bratislava’s Academy of Performing Arts (VŠMU) and Prague’s Film Academy (FAMU), and he currently teaches at both. In 2010 he studied at Film University Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF in Potsdam, Germany. He received a 2014 Fulbright scholarship and studied at Ohio University in Athens (USA). He founded BFILM, a production company based in Bratislava and Prague where he has produced the features *Filthy* and *Freedom* and the shorts *Pandas* and *Untravel*. A member of the Slovak Film and Television Academy and the European Film Academy, this year he represented Slovakia as a Producer on the Move at Cannes.

Iris Elezi

Iris Elezi, Albanian filmmaker, studied film criticism, anthropology and women’s studies before completing film production studies at NYU in 2001. Her feature debut *Bota* (2014) premiered in the East of the West competition at KVIFF, subsequently garnering



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eighteen international awards and representing Albania at the Academy Awards in 2016. Along with US archivist Regina Longo and cineaste Thomas Logoreci, Elezi co-founded the Albanian Cinema Project, an initiative to preserve Albania's film heritage. As of October 2017 she is the director of Albania's Central State Film Archive.

Myriam Sassine

Myriam Sassine, Lebanese producer, majored in audiovisual studies at the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts (ALBA) and received a master's in cinema research from the IESAV Institute at Beirut's Saint Joseph University. She worked in development for Lucky Monkey Pictures (USA) and About Productions (Lebanon). In 2013 she began producing both dramas and documentaries for About Productions. She is the COO of Schortcut Films, a firm dedicated to coproducing international features. Sassine cooperated on setting up the Maskoon Fantastic Film Festival, the first modern genre film festival in the Middle East, and serves as its executive director.

Dounia Sichov

Dounia Sichov, actor, editor, and producer, was born in Paris as a stateless refugee. She has appeared in the movies of Catherine Breillat, Mikhaël Hers, Denis Côté, and Abel Ferrara. She has edited the work of Andrew Steggall (*Departure*), Mantas Kvedaravičius (*Mariupolis*), and Sharunas Bartas (*Frost*). Her company The Addiction produced Abel Ferrara's *Alive in France* and Denis Côté's *A Skin So Soft* (this year at KVIFF). She is currently directing a documentary about the history of transgender identity and producing Jonathan Caouette's latest picture.

Andrei Tănăsescu

Andrei Tănăsescu, festival programmer and curator, is based in Toronto and Bucharest. After getting a degree in film studies from the University of Toronto, he co-founded the Romanian Film Festival Toronto. He completed a master's degree in literature at the University of St Andrews in Scotland with a thesis on Gilles Deleuze and Romanian cinema. Since 2010 he has been part of the programming team at the Toronto IFF, as well as a regular collaborator with the Berlinale, the Bucharest International Experimental FF, and Bucharest's American Independent FF.



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Documentary Film Jury

Raúl Camargo

Raúl Camargo, Chilean festival programmer and professor, joined the programming team of the FICValdivia festival in 2007, becoming its artistic delegate three years later and its director in 2014. He has written articles for respected periodicals, including *La Fuga*, *Fuera de Campo*, *Otros Cines*, and *Hambre Cine*. He contributed to the work *El novísimo cine chileno* (2011) and is at present working on his first solo book, focusing on the affiliations and changes in perspective between Latin American films from the last century to the current one. He lectures in film history at a number of Chilean universities.

Mohamed Siam

Siam, film director, has received grants from Sundance, World Cinema Fund, CNC, and Doha Film Institute, among others. His pictures have been presented at IFFs in New York, Karlovy Vary, and Nyon, and he was awarded Best Cinematography at the Journées Cinématographiques de Carthage festival. His latest feature documentary *Amal*, included in the KVIFF program this year, was selected to compete at the 2017 IDFA and opened the festival to boot. Two years ago his movie *Whose Country?* screened in the documentary competition at KVIFF. Siam is an alumnus of many prestigious film institutions, such as Sundance Labs, IDFA Academy, La Fémis, and La Fabrique des Cinémas du Monde in Cannes.

Diana Tabakov

Diana Tabakov, head of acquisitions and film programming, works for Doc Alliance Films, an international VOD platform that brings together seven key European documentary film festivals (CPH:DOX, DOK Leipzig, FIDMarseille, Jihlava IDFF, Docs Against Gravity FF, Visions du Réel, Doclisboa). She studied philosophy and sociology at Charles University in Prague and documentary film at University of the Arts London. In the UK she worked at various film festivals, including Sheffield Doc/Fest where she was involved in film selection.



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Nonstatutory Juries:

FIPRESCI Jury

René Marx

Marita Nyrhinen

Alejandra Trelles

Ecumenical Jury

Michael Otřisal

Milja Radovic

David Sipoš

FEDEORA Jury

Stefan Dobroiu

Natascha Drubek

Nenad Dukić

Europa Cinemas Label Jury

Daira Āboliņa

Simon Blaas

Balázs Kalmanovits

Jan Makosch



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KARLOVY VARY FILM FESTIVAL TO CLOSE WITH THE FILM SINK OR SWIM

Downcast Bertrand is suffering a midlife crisis. When he answers an ad placed by a group looking for a new member for their male synchronised swimming team, he has no idea that he'll be treading water with a truly colourful bunch of lovable outcasts. The team – all sagging muscles and thinning hair and each with his own particular set of problems – is aiming for high-level competition. French director Gilles Lellouche made a splash at this year's Cannes festival with a hugely entertaining and moving comedy about dreams that can come true even if we don't dare believe in them.

FILM INDUSTRY AT THE 53RD KARLOVY VARY IFF

As part of the Film Industry program, accreditation has been given so far to over one thousand film professionals arriving to the festival every year – distributors, producers, sales agents or international film festival programmers who represent over seven hundred companies at the festival. In addition to the selection of premieres of competing films, these representatives will have the opportunity to select from among unfinished projects that are in various stages of production from the Central and Eastern European Region and now also the Middle East within the new **KVIFF Eastern Promises** platform. The festival has chosen a total of 38 films from almost three hundred submissions. These films will be presented by their creators and producers in four independent presentations in Cinema Čas. Also new to the program are Works in Development, which will be presented to potential producers. A total of three juries of the KVIFF Eastern Promises platform will hand out awards to the most hopeful projects at an overall value of 155,000 Euro (4 million CZK).

This year, the industry program itself will focus on how to boost interest in art-house film among the youngest generation and also on how to estimate the potential commercial and artistic success of a film while it is still in its script phase while taking into consideration the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and more. Together with Variety magazine, the festival will return to last year's successful launch of efforts to highlight various film professions that often linger behind the camera or "on site". The **Artisans in Focus** panel discussion will host Austrian cameraman Matthias Grunsky, Slovak editor Jana Vlčková, or Polish sound engineer Jonas Maksvytis.