

GOLDEN BEGGAR NEWS

16TH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LOCAL TELEVISIONS IN KOŠICE

Vol. 2010 No. 2

Nearly 100 films to be screened at festival *Entries from 23 countries in Europe, Asia, America*

Nearly 100 films from 23 countries have been submitted for the 16th annual International Festival of Local Televisions, to be held here from June 9 – 12.

The festival, which includes a programmes competition called the “Golden Beggar” and theatrical projections called “Europe on Screen,” has drawn entries from China, Japan, Lebanon and the United States, as well as from 19 European countries.

Event Has Expanded

What began in the 1990’s as a gathering of local television stations has gradually expanded into a broader event, including the works of production companies and young authors, whose work is frequently first seen on local and regional television.

In addition, the festival is working with the Košice 2013 committee which is overseeing Košice’s activities as European Capital of Culture in 2013. The result of this cooperation are activities in festival sessions and in activities grouped together under the theme “Essence of Košice.”

This Year in Kulturpark

This year for the first time, the Festival will be held in Kulturpark, a former military complex that has been converted to cultural use in connection with Košice’s status a European Capital of Culture in 2013.

It will be the first large international event for the new culture space, which will be used extensively during the 2013 capital of culture year.



Maroš Šefčovič, vice president of the European Commission, is the patron of the 2010 International Festival of Local Televisions.

Vice president of EU commission is patron of the 2010 festival

Maroš Šefčovič, vice president of the European commission, is the festival’s patron this year. He was confirmed as a member of the European Commission in February, after what an American newspaper, The New York Times, called a “fluent” performance at his confirmation hearings.

He is a career Slovak diplomat, having served in Canada, in Africa and in Israel, where he was ambas-

sador from 1999-2002. Before being named to his current position, he was Slovakia’s permanent representative to the European Union.

He spoke at a screening of festival films in Brussels in 2007.

Mr. Šefčovič as vice president has responsibility for inter-institutional relations and administration.

As commissioner, his portfolio is education, training, culture and youth.

DATES OF THIS YEAR’S FESTIVAL

June 9 - 12

More information on the website:

www.festival.sk

Where they come from: origins of the films of the 16th festival

Of the approximately 100 films submitted to the 16th annual International Festival of Local Television, the largest single number come from Serbia – some 13 different films.

Since the very beginning of the festival, which took place during the Yugoslav War, there has been a steady stream of festival films from Serbia, which was a republic within Yugoslavia before that country broke up.

Over the years, films from Serbia have reflected the war and its aftermath to be sure, but have also concerned themselves with other subjects, from pollution to the role Einstein's Serb wife played in his scientific work.

The second-largest number of films comes from Belarus, a country in which a struggle continues for a free and open press. Over the years Belarusian films entered into the festival have dealt with the political situation in the country. A trend among Belarusian filmmakers, as seen in the festival, is to examine life as it is actually lived in the country.

Spain is the third-largest contributor of films to the festival this year, with seven.

Filmmakers in China and the United States each contributed five films to the 2010 festival.

In all, 23 countries contributed films this year. They range from documentaries, to short fiction films, to fantasies.

Some are part of the Golden Beggar competition. Others will be seen in the "Europe on Screens" program of the festival and will be projected in theatres in Košice and other Slovak cities.



A scene from the Spanish film "The Hands of Abel."

In festival films, documentaries, fiction and this year even fantasy

Among the films to be screened at the 16th Annual Festival of Local Television are some riveting documentaries, animation, several short fiction films and one that is a pure fantasy. They come from all over Europe, from Japan, from China and the United States.

"The variety is broad," said Ed Baumeister, the chairman of the jury, after screening all the submitted films, "but it is also deep."

"Within, say, fiction films, you have several entries that use that genre in different ways."

The same is true of documentaries, he added.

Several entries come from an organization in the suburbs of Paris which encourages citizens to make their own films, permitting anyone, using video, to provide "his reading of the facts."

Each of this organization's films is announced as "democratic," and "it could have been made by you."

The Local Media Centre of Seine-Saint-Denis is located in a department of France which has seen much unrest among a largely im-

migrant population, and it is this population making many of the centre's films.

Many of the films explore crises in family relations.

By coincidence, an Italian entry and a Belarusian entry examine the tensions between father and daughter.

While no theme is organized for the submissions, Baumeister said, some themes always emerge in what is truly a random sample of what filmmakers are doing.

In 2003, for example, the year before the European Union was significantly enlarged to the east, many filmmakers examined borders.

This year, many filmmakers have visited rural parts of their regions to examine how traditional life is being lived in modern times.

Some of the nearly 100 films submitted will be part of the festival's programme competition for Golden Beggar awards.

Others will be projected at full-screen cinemas, initially in Košice, and later in other cinemas in Slovakia.

The jury and the festival awards

The International Jury for the 2010 festival will be chaired by **Ed Baumeister**. The jury itself is divided into three sections, as is the Golden Beggar competition itself.

Serving on the jury and judging local television entries will be **Marcel Dekanovsky** of the Czech Republic, **Carme Mayugo** of Spain and **Katarina Hudecová** of Slovakia.

Judging the entries of production companies will be **Otto Olejár** of Slovakia and **James Sutherland-Smith** of Britain.

And judging the competition among young authors will be **Jakub Kroner** of Slovakia and **Darko Kovič** of Serbia.

This year for the first time, the jury has been able to screen the entries before the festival, using a feature of the festival web site.

Previously, the jury did not see the films until they were projected during festival week.

Having them available on the web has permitted the jury to go back to see films or parts of films a second time.

Winners will be announced at a press conference on the afternoon of Saturday, June 12. The presentation of the awards will take place at a ceremony at Kulturpark on Saturday evening.

Three of the awards to be presented Saturday night

are named Golden Beggars. The sections of Golden Beggar Awards are:

GOLDEN BEGGAR for the best local television program

GOLDEN BEGGAR for the best production company film



GOLDEN BEGGAR for the best young author's film

These categories were established so that films from different professional origins would not be competing directly against each other. They were also established to recognize the role that production companies play in providing content to local and regional television and to call attention to the very good work young producers are doing.

There are other awards:

A **SPECIAL AWARD** from the 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion for the program that best calls attention to the problems of poverty and social exclusion. The award brings a cash prize of €1,500.

A **PRIZE** given by the Journalists' Association of Serbia „Zora“

A **PRIZE** of the Slovak Council for Broadcasting and Retransmission for the best Slovak film

A **PRIZE** of the TV Festival Press Vitez

A **PRIZE** from the Fogel-song Family Foundation of the United States for the film which focuses on inspirational values.

In addition, there will be three programs selected as **HONORABLE MENTIONS** by the jury members and announced as well on Saturday night.

Who Is the Golden Beggar?

In the lore of the city of Košice is the story of a beggar, who begged for years. But he used his beggings wisely -- saving them and building one of the grandest houses on the main street. The house still stands today, with a Golden Beggar statue on top. Copies of that statue are given to prize winners at the International Festival of Local Television.

16TH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LOCAL TELEVISION

„Europe on Screen“	June 9 – 11, 2010 City Cinemas
„Golden Beggar “	June 9 – 12, 2010 Kulturpark
„Essence of Košice“	June 8 – 12, 2010 Kulturpark and Mestský park (City Park) in Košice

TUESDAY June 8, 2010

- 12:00 - 18:00 Registration of participants in Kulturpark
- 18:00 - 20:00 Opening of the Exhibition “Manasija” of Serbian graphician Veljko Mihajlovič in Kulturpark
- 21:30 - 23:00 Essence of Košice – Mestský park (City Park)

WEDNESDAY June 9, 2010

- 08:00- 15:00 Registration of Participants in Kulturpark
- 09:00 - 12:00 Screening Competition in Kulturpark
- 09:00 - 16:00 Program Fair
- 13:30 - 15:00 Panel Discussion I. : “Reports on Fight Against Poverty and Social Exclusion “
- 16:00 - 22: 00 Europe on Screen in City Cinemas
- 18:00 - 18:30 Opening of the Festival in City Cinemas
- 20:00 - 23:00 Informal Discussions in City Cinemas
- 21:30 - 23:00 Essence of Košice – Mestský park (City Park)

THURSDAY June 10, 2010

- 09:00 - 12:00 Screening Competition - Kulturpark
- 09:00 – 12:00 Program Fair
- 13:30 – 15:00 Panel Discussion on “Energy and Global Warming“
- 15:15 - 16:45 Forum I. : V4 Forum
- 16:00 - 22:00 Europe on Screen in City Cinemas
- 17:30 - 23:00 Visit in Tokay region
- 21:30 - 23:00 Essence of Košice – Mestský park (City Park)

FRIDAY June 11, 2010

- 09:00 - 12:00 Screening Competition Kulturpark
- 09:00 - 12:00 Program Fair
- 13:30 - 16:30 Forum II. : European Forum
- 16:00 - 22:00 European Screen in City Cinemas
- 19:00 - 23:00 Meeting of the Board and Festival Co-ordinators
- 21:30 - 23:00 Essence of Košice

SATURDAY June 12, 2010

- 09:00 - 12:00 Screening Competition in Kulturpark
- 13:00 - 14:00 Meeting of the Jury – Kulturpark
- 14:00 – 15:00 Press Conference – Kulturpark
- 19:00 - 21:30 Award Ceremony in Kulturpark
- 21:30 - 24:00 Closing Reception in Kulturpark