



Press Release

***Berlinale Co-Production Market* Again Launches Search for Co-Production Partners. Deadline for Submissions: 29 October 2009**

With immediate effect, the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* is again seeking promising feature film projects that it would like to assist to find co-production and co-financing partners at the Berlinale 2010.

Until 29 October 2009, experienced producers may submit projects that have budgets between two and ten million euros; at least 30% of the funding has to be in place. The projects must also be suited to international co-production.

At the 7th *Berlinale Co-Production Market* (14 to 16 February 2010), the producers of the ca. 35 projects selected by then will meet with interested potential co-producers, financiers, sales agents, and international distributors. The *Berlinale Co-Production Market* team will put together a personalised schedule of meetings for each of the ca. 450 participants, a schedule that not only coordinates when each party is available, but above all makes sure the projects and partners found for each other are a good fit.

In this fashion, countless partners from different countries have been brought together, as can be seen in the many films from past *Markets* that premiered this year alone: *Soundless Wind Chime* (directed by Kit Hung), a co-production between Hong Kong and Switzerland, screened in the *Forum* of the Berlinale. *Lebanon* (directed by Samuel Maoz), produced by Israel, Germany, and France, just won the Golden Lion in Venice. In August, the Brazilian-French co-production *The Famous and the Dead* (directed by Esmir Filho) had its debut at the festival in Locarno; and the summer hit *Mikro Eglima (Small Crime)* by Christos Georgiou, a co-production between Cyprus and Germany, also evolved from the *Berlinale Co-Production Market*.

Among the most successful projects completed this year were *Lost Persons Area* (directed by Caroline Strubbe) and *Amreeka* (directed by Cherien Dabis); they respectively won the SACD Screenplay Award and the FIPRESCI Prize in Cannes.

Over 80 films have been realized since the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* was first launched in 2004 - in other words, 40% of the projects envisioned have already been completed. This includes films like Sergei Bodrov's *Mongol*, which was nominated for an Academy Award in 2008; Alexandr Sokurov's *The Sun*; as well as the crossover success *Lemon Tree* by Eran Riklis, which was shown in the Berlinale *Panorama* in 2008 and has since been screened in over 20 countries.

**60. Internationale
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Main partners of the Berlinale Co-Production Market have been the MDM - Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung (since 2004) and the MEDIA-Programme of the European Union (since 2005).

The project submission forms and selection criteria for 2010 are available at:

http://www.efm-berlinale.de/en/copromarket/participation/project_submission/project_submission.php

Press Office
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