



Akademie des
Österreichischen Films

EUROPEAN COOPERATION PROJECTS 2016

Looking beyond our own national nose seems particularly vital for us precisely in times like these.

“The background of this initiative is film-political; i.e. it is about raising awareness for European filmmaking, a cultural and economic strategy in order to offer something in reply to the dominant position of US mainstream films. Expressed pointedly, this is joint defence action against Hollywood! The EU cultural programmes push into the same direction, MEDIA supports the development, distribution, and promotion of European films in order to grow together culturally as a continent. It is important to mention that the work of the Academies is always about the overall perspective, never about purely national interests.

Josef Aichholzer

Chairman of the Austrian Film Academy

With this in mind, the Austrian Film Academy carried out several European cooperation projects in May and June 2016, and we are happy to inform you about them in this manner.

Marlene Ropac

Managing Director of the Austrian Film Academy



Barbara Lindner, Marlene Ropac

TREASURES OF EUROPEAN CULTURE



Wiener Riesenrad



On 9 June, the VIENNA GIANT FERRIS WHEEL was festively put on the list of the “Treasures of European Film Culture” by **Ursula Strauss** and **Stefan Ruzowitzky**, the Presidents of the Austrian Film Academy, together with Marion Döring, the Director of the European Film Academy. The ceremony took place in the frame of the Austrian Film Academy’s summer party and was attended by a large number of members, friends, and supporters of the Austrian Film Academy, and media representatives. **Mercedes Echerer** charmingly guided the audience through the programme and **Trio Bagage** provided live music. **Marion Döring**, Director of the EFA, stated reasons for this distinction: *“The Giant Ferris Wheel has become a landmark in a twofold respect; it is an architectural masterpiece and one-of-a-kind and distinctive for the history of Austrian film. An emblem was uncovered on the Giant Ferris Wheel that points to the new title with immediate effect.*

Stefan Ruzowitzky welcomed the party guests stating that *“the Giant Ferris Wheel is permanently in motion but still makes no headway, and yet has certain grandeur. Thus it is a wonderful symbol of the Austrian as such and ideal as our contribution to the “Treasures of European Culture“.* Ursula Strauss added *“it is contemporary history and also film history”.*

The Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel has been put as the sixth place on the list **“TREASURES OF EUROPEAN FILM CULTURE”**, which has been initiated by the European Film Academy (EFA). Through classics like THE THIRD MAN, the Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel has secured itself a firm position in film history.

The owners of the Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel, **Dorothea Lamac** und **Peter Petritsch**, attended the event and expressed their gratitude in unison.

“For us, this evening has been of special importance because, on the one hand, the Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel has been selected as a Treasure of European Culture, and on the other, the last one of the historical cabins has been removed. With the new cabins, built according to the original plans from 1897, we are making the Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel fit for the future. Because one thing is still valid: Who has never been on the Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel and has never enjoyed the breathtaking view over the city, has never been really in Vienna...”

The Berlin-based European Film Academy distinguishes places with symbolical value for European cinema, historical places, which have to be preserved and protected also for future generations as “TREASURES OF EUROPEAN FILM CULTURE”. The Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel is the sixth place that receives this distinction. Since the initiative started in early 2015, the Eisenstein Centre in Moscow, the Institut Lumière in Lyon, the Bergmancenter in Fårö, the World of Tonino Guerra in Pennabilli, and the Potemkin Stairs in Odessa have been put on the EFA film culture list. This EFA film culture list is supposed to grow over the years and draw attention to film locations that are accessible to the public - just like the Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel, a landmark of the Austrian capital that can be seen from afar.

<http://www.wienerriesenrad.com/de/service/pressebilder/>



Peter Petritsch, Marion Döring, Ursula Strauss, Stefan Ruzowitzky, Dorothea Lamac
Foto: Wolfgang Woessner

LES NUITS EN OR / THE GOLDEN NIGHTS

The world's best 33 short films, all currently holding awards from national film academies, were shown in the Stadtkino im Künstlerhaus (FREIES KINO) on two evenings (6 and 7 June 2016) in cooperation with the **Académie des César**. Admission was free. At the start, there was a round-table talk featuring **Kurt Brazda** (FREIES KINO), **Gerhard Ertl**, **Karl Markovics**, **Florian Pochlatko** (Austrian Film Award 2014, Best Short Film), **Marlene Ropac** (Austrian Film Academy) et al.

For a couple of years, the **Académie des César** has organised an ambitious project titled "Panorama" in Paris on three days in June. It shows the world's best 33 short films, all winning short film awards from the different national film academies in the preceding year. Since 2015, this short film panorama has also travelled to Lisbon, Luxemburg, Stockholm, Madrid, Athens, Rome, Brussels and Geneva.

The **Austrian Film Academy** shows the Panorama 2016 (in cooperation with FREIES KINO) in the Stadtkino in the Künstlerhaus for the first time in Vienna.

Moreover, **Patrick Vollrath**, prize-winner of the Austrian Film Award 2016 in the category Best Short Film, participated in the 11-day tour of the Golden Nights upon invitation by the Académie des César. Here, the different national prize-winners met for a multifaceted cultural networking programme and travelled to several screening locations together.

At the close of the tour, the directors met members of the Académie des César and were awarded the **Les Nuits En Or prizes**.

<http://www.academie-cinema.org/en/events/golden-nights.html>



Kurt Brazda, Florian Pochlatko, Marlene Ropac, Karl Markovic, **Les Nuits En Or** Screening 6+7 June 2016, Vienna



Antonia Prochaska, Metrostation Paris



Patrick Vollrath, Marthe Keller, **Les Nuits En Or** Dinner, 13 June 2016 Paris

EFA YOUNG AUDIENCE AWARD



The YAA Jury Vienna, 8 May 2016, Blickle Kino, 21er Haus

This year, the Austrian Film Academy brought the EFA Young Audience Award to Vienna for the first time (Blickle Kino / 21er Haus, 8 May). Super-motivated children were sitting in the cinema all day, discussed things with film experts, voted for their favourite films, and most cheerfully watched the award ceremony via a live stream in the Academy office. They communicated the Austrian points by means of a webcam and live streaming, and thus directly participated in the award ceremony in Germany. The EFA YOUNG AUDIENCE AWARD presented three European films to a young audience of an age of 12 to 14 all over Europe. The nominated films were shown in the frame of a special event, the YOUNG AUDIENCE FILM DAY. Immediately after the screenings, the young audience selected the winners. In a European voting, the respective jury chairpersons communicated the national results to Erfurt, Germany, via a video conference, where the winners were announced in the frame of a live stream award ceremony.

<http://yaa.europeanfilmawards.eu/>

<https://www.facebook.com/YoungAudienceAward/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/oesterreichische-filmakademie/album>



Veronika Franz, Veronika Hlawatsch



YAA Jury Voting Process



Live Stream / Web Cam

TROPHIES FROM THE ACADEMIES OF THE WORLD

The Austrian Film Academy is happy to have participated in the international exhibition TROPHIES FROM THE ACADEMIES OF THE WORLD with its “local” film award statue created by VALIE EXPORT. The exhibition of the statues of the different national film awards around the world, which was so wonderfully conceived by the Portuguese Film Academy, took place in the Centro Cultural de Belém, Lisbon, from 5 to 13 May 2016, on the occasion of the gala of the Portuguese Film Award, SOPHIA.

<https://www.facebook.com/academiaportuguesadecinema>
<https://www.facebook.com/OesterreichischerFilmpreis/Lissabon>

The Austrian Film Academy says thank you to the EU project partners and project sponsors for the excellent collaboration:

Project “Treasures of European Film Culture”: **EFA European Film Academy, Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel**

Project “The Golden Nights”: **Académie des César, FREIES KINO** / Stadtkino im Künstlerhaus, VIS / Vienna Independent Shorts

The project “EFA Young Audience Award”: **EFA European Film Academy, Blickle Kino im 21er Haus, kino5** (platform for independent filmmakers), Radatz and Ströck as well as all material donations by Gartenbaukino, Burgkino, Filmmuseum; Vienna Film Commission, Diagonale

Project “Trophies from the Academies of the World”: **Academia Portuguesa de Cinema.**

Photo documentation of the projects can be found at

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/oesterreichische-filmakademie/albums>

Video documentaries can be found at

<http://www.oesterreichische-filmakademie.at/akademie.html>

Austrian Film Academy

Founded in 2009, the Austrian Film Academy has made it its task to promote and acknowledge the achievements of Austrian film makers, to share their concerns and communicate them to the general public. Its current Presidents are Ursula Strauss and Stefan Ruzowitzky, under the leadership of **12 board members**, it presently (June 2016) counts more than **434 members**.

The Austrian Film Award, which was created by the Academy and was awarded for the first time in January 2011, showcases the achievements of the local film industry in our own country too. In 2017, the gala will take place in the Vienna City Hall.

The Award Sculpture was created by the renowned Austrian artist VALIE EXPORT.

Link to the sculpture: <http://www.oesterreichische-filmakademie.at/preisskulptur.html>

Marlene Ropac

Management

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