



Parléřova 17, 169 00 Prague 6 | info@eurofilmfest.cz | eurofilmfest.cz

Prague, 19 May 2021

THE 28TH ANNUAL EDITION OF DAYS OF EUROPEAN FILM STARTS IN A MONTH! THEY INVITE YOU ON A TRIP THROUGH EUROPE!

16. - 20. 6. 2021 | PRAHA | Lucerna, Světozor, Kino Pilotů and Přítomnost cinemas

17. - 20. 6. 2021 | OSTRAVA | Art and Minikino cinemas

18. - 20. 6. 2021 | BRNO | Scala and Art cinemas

19. - 23. 6. 2021 | Echoes in the regions:

Hradec Králové | Bio Central, Jablonec nad Nisou | Summer cinema, Boskovice | Panorama,
Hodonín | Kino Svět, Havířov | Centrum, Vrchlabí | Kino Střelnice,
Červený Kostelec | Kino Luník

This year's edition of Days of European Films will take place from June 16 to June 23 in Prague, Ostrava, Brno and other Czech cities. DEF is a film festival that has been showing exclusively European films for 28 years now. This year, we will present almost fifty films from different corners of Europe. *"In this year's programme, we have been focusing on exciting experiences, courageous formal works and on the celebration of the existence of cinema as such. That's where the force of the 28th edition of DEF lies! We offer a number of debuts and new films by renowned filmmakers like Radu Jude, Gianfranco Rosi or Laurent Tirard,"* says Šimon Šafránek, the DEF programmer. The festival will open with Passion Simple, screened last year in Cannes. Films illuminate reality, make it brighter, try to explain it sometimes and at the same time offer a way to overcome it or view it from a higher and broader perspective. That is what we need more than ever today. So let's set off for our trip through Europe! Up to the 28th edition of Days of European Film! In less than a month! You can find more information about the programme and ticketing, which will start next week, at www.dnyevropskehofilmu.cz.





PROGRAMME SECTIONS

The film menu of the 28th edition of DEF offers mixed genres, films awarded at various festivals and, last but not least, audacious first films. DEF traditionally presents European films based on different themes and genres. This year, we have prepared 6 programme sections covering a broad thematic scope. The main programme sections mirror those that proved successful last year. The audience can look forward to new films by renowned filmmakers, to the traditional section of music films or to series of VR films.

TO THE POINT: CONFINEMENT / Our lives have slowed down and changed because of the coronavirus. They have been stripped of in-person gatherings, replaced very often by separation and confinement. The section reflects the past year with covid in terms of looking for a chance in the confinement itself to establish stronger ties both with nature and the world beyond human civilization. *"I recommend the comical-historical road movie The Trouble With Nature, where a philosopher burdened with debt sets out to explore the Alps. I bet you haven't seen a costume film like this one before,"* remarks Šimon Šafránek to the new section established by DEF in cooperation with the European Commission Representation in the Czech Republic.

STARS / A traditional section featuring current films made by renowned filmmakers that feature European film personalities. You will find here the opening film Passion Simple, screened in Cannes last year. It is a liberating movie that depicts a burning passion through fresh and feminist eyes. In this section, DEF will also screen the portrait of the famous German filmmaker Rainer Werner Fassbinder, called Enfant Terrible, directed by Oskar Roehler. *"I was captured by the self-indulgent performance of Oliver Masucci (Er ist wieder da) and by the fact that the story takes place mainly in offstage areas of a theatre,"* says Šimon Šafránek and adds: *"We are also screening the newest documentary feature by the Italian master of silent observation Gianfranco Rosi Nocturne (Notturmo) as well as a number of films in preview showing like Le Discours (Aerofilms) and À l'abordage! (Artcam) or the German drama Undine (Film Europe)."*

FEARS AND DREAMS / In this section, in which we highlight films that cross genres, DEF will present several formally inventive dramas. Šimon Šafránek describes some of the films in this section as follows: *"I was fascinated by the Latvian film paraphrase of the Snow White in the setting of a fitness studio In the Mirror, film in a sharp black and white image by Laila Pakalnina. The filmmaker is inspired by the incessant selfies and she lets her characters to look straight in the camera. The drama Uppercase Print is the next-to-last film by the renowned Romanian director Radu Jude, who won this year's edition of Berlinale with his film Bad Luck Banging or Loony Porn. In the Uppercase Print, Jude follows a young man who protested against Ceausescu's dictatorship in Romania with writings on street walls."*

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NO PARENTS / The focus of this section is the life of teenagers. The mosaic of relationships Lovecut reflects the contemporary obsession with social networks. “*The sci-fi crossover Fortuna set on the high roofs of a housing estate in Naples was a revelation for me. The hero of the film is a little girl, but I would rather recommend this film to audacious viewers,*” says Šimon Šafránek.

FILM AND MUSIC / In this section, DEF offers feature films, VR films and documentaries, in which rhythm, tunes and music in general play a substantial role. A daring combination of modern dance and techno in the documentary feature If It Were Love about the work of the avant-garde choreographer Gisèle Vienne will surely become one of the hits of this section.

MEDIA: BETWEEN THE LINES / DEF will screen a collection of older, but very thrilling and successful films (supported by the Creative Europe MEDIA programme) based on novels or short stories. You can catch up with movies like Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (Aerofilms) by Tomas Alfredson with Gary Oldman and Colin Firth or Julieta by Pedro Almodóvar (Bioscop) on the big screen.

DEF will be screened the three nominated titles of the 2021 LUX Audience Award: Another Round, Collective and Corpus Christi. Until 23 May, the European public can vote for their favourite films. As previously announced, the winning film is expected to be unveiled at the LUX Award Ceremony on 9 June. For more information: <https://luxaward.eu/en/news/lux-audience-week-ready-kick>

ACCOMPANYING PROGRAM

„*This year’s accompanying programme has undergone several changes. I am personally very much looking forward to the conversation of the leading Czech philosopher Anna Hogenová with Lukáš Rumlana about the salutary effects the confinement can have on mental health, which will take place after the screening of the Danish film The Trouble With Nature, itself full of beautiful mountain sceneries. The Estonian film The Last Ones will take us on a trip to Lappish tundra and this experience will be intensified by a Traveller’s talk and screening of [slides from a journey to Lapland](#). If you like open-air cinema like I do, don’t miss our exclusive screening of the Swedish musical comedy Run Uje Run in the courtyard of the Bethlehem Chapel. And if you can’t wait to see a concert again, be sure to note down the date June 18, when we will meet in Lucerna to see a live concert of Miro Žbirka after the screening of the film Meky. See you in the cinemas!*” says the director of DEF, Barbora Golatová.





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THE FESTIVAL TAKES PLACE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CZECH CULTURE MINISTER LUBOMÍR ZAORÁLEK, THE REPRESENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC, ZDENĚK HŘIB – THE LORD MAYOR OF THE CAPITAL CITY OF PRAGUE, MARKÉTA VAŇKOVÁ – THE LORD MAYOR OF THE STATUTORY CITY BRNO, TOMÁŠ MACURA – THE LORD MAYOR OF THE STATUTORY CITY OSTRAVA, AND PETR HEJMA – THE MAYOR OF THE CITY DISTRICT OF PRAGUE 1 / ORGANISED BY THE EMBASSIES AND CULTURAL INSTITUTES OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND BY THE REPRESENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC / WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE CZECH FILM FUND, THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC, THE CAPITAL CITY OF PRAGUE, THE STATUTORY CITY OF BRNO, THE STATUTORY CITY OF OSTRAVA AND THE CITY DISTRICT OF PRAGUE 1, THE CREATIVE EUROPE MEDIA DESK AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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