

THE FIRST NEWS OF THE 4th ODESSA FILM FESTIVAL: EMIR KUSTURICA & 'NO SMOKING ORCHESTRA' ON THE POTESKIN STAIRS; PRODUCER ALEXANDER RODNYANSKY (CLOUD ATLAS, SIN CITY: A DAME TO KILL FOR) WILL BECOME THE HEAD OF THE OIFF INTERNATIONAL JURY; NEW NOMINATION FOR THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL FILM AWARD

Ukrainian National Film Award of the OIFF, which will take place July 12-20 2013, will be now given out in two categories - Best Ukrainian Feature Film and Best Ukrainian Short Film.

Press-release

In July Serbian director Emir Kusturica and his NO SMOKING ORCHESTRA will visit Odessa with their music performance to be held at Potemkin Stairs, where a 'film poem' by Friedrich Murnau - 'Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans'(1927) will be also screened; The Ukrainian National Film Award of the OIFF will be given out in two categories; producer Alexander Rodnyansky ('Cloud Atlas', 'Sin City: A Dame to Kill for') will become the Head of the OIFF-2013 International Jury.

Kyiv, March 18, 2013

On Monday, March 18, the first press-conference of the 4th Odessa International Film Festival (July 12-20) was held in Kiev, where the organizers – festival president Victoria Tigipko, director Denis Ivanov and art director Alik Shpiluk - announced the first OIFF-2013 news. The Head of the Ukrainian State Film Agency Ekaterina Kopylova shared the plans of the OIFF-2013 professional sections and informed about the latest achievements in the Ukrainian film industry.

The films of the International Competition of the 4th OIFF will be evaluated by the International Jury and for the first time the Ukrainian - one of the most successful film producers of the former Soviet Union, the director of the Russian festival 'Kinotavr' and media-manager **Alexander Rodnyansky** - will become its Head.

'Alexander Rodnyansky is a man, who knows what cinematography is – as an art, as a business, as a cultural politics. He is probably the most successful producer from the former Soviet Union – he's equally good with both festival hits and blockbusters. As a man, who has found in his work the right place between art and mainstream cinema, Rodnyansky is the perfect candidate for the position of the Head of OIFF' International Competition Jury, where the films in the genre of art-mainstream are selected' – said the OIFF president Victoria Tigipko.

The Serbian film director **Emir Kusturica** will be the honoured guest of the OIFF-2013. During the Opening ceremony he will be awarded 'The Golden Duke' for his life-time achievement in the motion picture arts. As a present for OIFF audience and Odessa residents, Emir Kusturica and his punk-folk band No Smoking Orchestra will give a concert on the Festival's opening day, July 12, on the Potemkin stairs.

Besides, by OIFF tradition, a huge live film performance, accompanied by the symphony orchestra, will take place on the Potemkin stairs – screening of the grand film poem **'Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans'** (1927), directed in Hollywood by the influential German expressionist Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau. This film marked the 'sunrise' of the sound films era and won 3 Oscars at the first Academy Awards ceremony.

Since this year the **Ukrainian National Film Award**, which shortlist is made from all the films, created in Ukraine or in the co-production with Ukraine in the previous to the next festival's edition time period, will be given out in two categories - Best Ukrainian Feature Film and Best Ukrainian Short Film. Consequently, the Award's prize fund has increased: 'The Golden Duke' will be awarded for the Best Feature Film (monetary award of 50 000 UAH to the film director) as well as Prize for the Best Short Film (monetary award of 10 000 UAH to the film director).

At the OIFF press-conference the first nominees for the OIFF-2013 Ukrainian National Film Award were announced: psychological drama **'Delirium'**, directed by Ihor Podolchak, in the Feature film section; **'Nuclear Waste'** (directed by Myroslav Slaboshpitskiy, Silver Leopard at Locarno IFF (Switzerland), Grand-Prix at 'Kinoshok' IFF (Anapa, Russia), 'Spectrum Shorts' program of the IFFR (The Netherlands)), **'A Date'** (directed by Yevhen Matvienko, the contest of the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival (France)), **'The Way'**, directed by Maksim Ksenda and **'Lessons of Ukrainian'** (directed by Ruslan Batitsky, IX International Short Film Festival Dr.Mabuse (Spain)) in the Short film section. The Head of the International Jury of the Ukrainian National Film Award will be British documentary filmmaker, author and curator **Mark Cousins**.

It was also announced at the press-conference that the Dutch film director **Jos Stelling**, the Head of the International Jury of the first OIFF in 2010, will visit the festival again. The director will present his new film 'The Girl and Death', starring Renata Litvinova and Sergei Makovetsky. Jos Stelling as well as other honoured guests of OIFF 2013, American 'King of cult films' Roger Corman, 'Czech national treasure' Jiri Menzel and the director of the Munich Film Museum Stefan Drössler, will conduct workshops for the students of the OIFF Summer Film School.

OIFF continues to develop platforms for the professional communication and film industry support: Film Market, Film Critics School, Summer Film School, Work-in-Progress presentations and Pitching sessions. **'OIFF professional section**, which partner from the very first festival is the Ukrainian State Film Agency, will expand significantly – the Heads of the major European film funds are expected – from the UK, France, Germany, Poland, Hungary, Israel and other countries. Special program will be devoted to the development of the co-production in the former Soviet countries' - informed Ekaterina Kopilova at the press-conference.

Application forms for participation in the projects [Film Critics School](#), [Work-in-Progress](#) and [Pitching](#) are already opened on the OIFF website until May 15, 2013.

Odessa International Film Festival (OIFF) was founded in 2010 and is supported by the Ukrainian State Film Agency, Odessa Regional State Administration and Odessa Mayor's Office. The Festival is held under the patronage of the Odessa Region Governor Eduard Matviychuk.

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