



DATE AND PLACE

The 28th FilmFestival Cottbus, a Festival of East European Cinema held annually since its establishment in 1993, will take place on November 6th–11th, 2018 in Cottbus.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME SECTIONS

Feature Film Competition

The Feature Film Competition is intended exclusively for East European feature-length films finalised as of January 1st, 2017 (including documentary and experimental works of a feature film nature) with a running time of no less than 50 minutes. The works preferred are expected to be the (co-)director's first to fifth feature length film. Participation at feature film competition require German premiere.

Short Feature Competition

The criteria of the Short Film Competition are essentially the same, the one difference being that the featured works should have a running time of no more than 30 minutes. German premiere is required.

U18 German-Polish-Czech Youth Film Competition

This Competition is open to current productions from Germany, Poland and Czech Republic, as well as co-productions between those three countries, which engage with youth-specific issues and are first and foremost aimed at young audiences. Alongside feature-length films this programme section is also open to medium-length works with a running time of between 30 and 50 minutes. German contribution to the U18 competition should not yet have enjoyed a domestic screening, whilst Polish and Czech works for whose a screening at Cottbus would be a German premiere are given preferential treatment.

Further sections

Further programme sections, of a more specific nature, are entitled Specials, Spectrum, National Hits, Russkij Den', Polskie Horyzonty, Focus, Heimat|Domownja and Children's Film.

Graduate films and video works are also open to consideration on an individual basis.

DEFINITION OF EASTERN EUROPE

The FilmFestival Cottbus' rules and regulations consider a film to be East European when its producer or one of its co-producers and/or director resides in one of Europe's post-socialist countries (including all successor states of the Soviet Union).

FILM-ENTRY

The deadline for film registration is August 1st, 2018.

Competition submissions should be available to the FilmFestival Cottbus in DCP format. In this respect the following DCI standards are to be met: File format Motion jpeg2000, minimum projector resolution of 2048x1080 pixels, XYZ colour space and linear PCM24 audio. Provided preliminary agreement is in the place the following formats are permitted in the FilmFestival Cottbus' further programme sections: HDCAM, Blu-Ray, Beta, 35mm.

The following entry materials must be submitted by all entries:

- a properly completed registration form including the director's brief biography, portrait photo and filmography (to include documentary works, shorts and student films) as well as a synopsis of the work in question.
- Screener: DVD or Link (e.g. vimeo or youtube, at all possible with German or English subtitles)
- A complete dialogue/text list (in German or English)
- Still photographs and a film trailer.

When making a submission the applicant acknowledges that he/she is either the owner of the rights of the work submitted or has obtained consent to submit the work.

FILM SELECTION AND NOMINATION

The FilmFestival Cottbus reserves the right to decide which films will be admitted to the individual programme sections and, in individual cases, make decisions which run contrary to the festival's rules and regulations. Nominations for the programme competitions are decided upon by the festival programme direction in cooperation with consultants or a team of curators, whose vote is then passed on to the respective applicant. Should a film be nominated for participation at the FilmFestival Cottbus and the producer/holder of rights consent therewith, this consent may no longer be withdrawn.

TRANSPORT AND INSURANCE

The shipping of parcels from non-EU countries is to be agreed upon in advance with the FilmFestival Cottbus' head of programme coordination. The shipping costs to the festival are to be borne by the sender; in turn the festival bears responsibility for the costs of return postage. All shipments from non-EU countries are to bear the imprint »No commercial value – for cultural purposes only«. Screening film prints are to reach the FilmFestival Cottbus at the undermentioned address by no later than October 19th, 2018. All films and materials submitted will be insured whilst in Cottbus, the insurance coverage limited to the costs of making a new copy of the relevant materials. The return consignment of films and materials, submitted without the agreement of the FilmFestival Cottbus, is the sole responsibility of the addressor.

AWARDS AND PRIZE MONEY (modifications reserved)

Feature Film Competition

A five-member international festival jury decides upon the allocation of the following awards:

– Best Film Award (divided equally between the director and producer)	25.000 €
– Special Award for Best Direction	7.500 €
– Outstanding Actress Award	5.000 €
– Outstanding Actor Award	5.000 €

Short Film Competition

A three-member international festival jury decides upon the allocation of the following awards:

– Main Award	2.500 €
– Special Award	1.500 €

U18 German-Polish-Czech Youth Film Competition:

– Best Youth Film Award	3.000 €
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The following awards are also on offer during the festival:

– »Cottbus ins Kino« – Award for the Promotion of a Festival Film	10.000 €
– GWFF Promotional Award	4.500 €
– Cottbus Discovery Script Doctoring Award	2.500 €
– DIALOG Award for the promotion of intercultural understanding	3.000 €
– Best Début Film Award	3.000 €
– Audience Award	3.000 €
– Fédération Internationale de la Presse Cinématographique (FIPRESCI) Award	
– Ecumenical Jury Award	

FINAL PROVISION

Submission of a film registration will be taken as acknowledgement of the above rules and regulations of the FilmFestival Cottbus.