



## 73rd IFFMH: The Cutting Edge Talent Camp announces this year's winners and a new collaboration with IFFR Pro

*Press release – Mannheim, 11 November 2024*

With the aim of building bridges with the international film industry to promote new voices in German cinema, the International Film Festival Mannheim-Heidelberg's Cutting Edge Talent Camp is launching a new collaboration with the International Film Festival Rotterdam and its prestigious programme IFFR Pro.

This new cooperation grants accreditation to four talents from this year's IFFMH Cutting Edge Talent Camp for next year's International Film Festival Rotterdam, including activities at IFFR Pro – the co-production market CineMart, Pro Hub and Rotterdam Lab. Through this collaboration, the winners will be able to explore the market and the festival in January, gaining access to the international film industry following the talent programme in Mannheim.

Zsuzsi Bánkuti, head of the Cutting Edge Talent Camp, said: "It's crucial that our talents continue to gain experience in an international context after completing the CETC. Rotterdam is such an important location for the international film industry, and it offers optimal conditions for this through its high-level talent development platform IFFR Pro. I feel that through this collaboration, we provide a unique opportunity for our talents to further develop their emerging careers. It means a lot to us to have Rotterdam on our side."

In addition to this new collaboration, IFFMH's Cutting Edge Talent Camp renewed its valuable partnership with the San Sebastián International Film Festival to invite two talents to the KABIA programme in September 2025.

The award-winning talents were honoured at yesterday's festive closing of this year's Cutting Edge Talent Camp in Mannheim, Germany. They were chosen by Irati Crespo, representing San Sebastián, and Nikolas Montaldi, representing IFFR and IFFRPro, who attended the Cutting Edge Talent Camp in its entirety this year in order to meet the participants and get to know their projects and individual profiles.

The awarded talents are:

### **IFFR Pro Award:**

- **Berthold Wahjudi**, director – HFF Munich
- **Julian Rabus**, director & producer – Berlin University of the Arts (UdK Berlin)
- **Victoria Braunholz**, producer – Atelier Ludwigsburg-Paris
- **Aria Azizi**, producer – Kunsthochschule Kassel



Julian Rabus, Victoria Braunholz, Aria Azizi, Zsuzsi Bankuti (head of CETC), Nikolas Montaldi (IFFR),  
Berthold Wahjudu © Alexander Rozmann

### **San Sebastián KABIA Award**

- **Berthold Wahjudi**, director – HFF Munich
- **Maritza Grass**, producer – Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf



Zsuzsi Bankuti (head of CETC), Maritza Grass, Berthold Wahjudi, Irati Crespo (San Sebastián IFF)  
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Along with the winners, four other talents will be chosen to receive an accreditation to San Sebastián, where they will discover that festival and its programme in September 2025.

The 5th Cutting Edge Talent Camp came to a successful conclusion yesterday, 10 November, in Mannheim. From 28 October to 10 November, 13 up-and-coming talents from German film schools developed their projects while working with experts from international film festivals such as Venice, Rotterdam and San Sebastián, sales agents representing Films Boutique and Nine Film, and producers and distributors from all over Europe.

### **About the Cutting Edge Talent Camp**

The Cutting Edge Talent Camp is a ten-day hybrid event that gives young filmmakers the opportunity to meet key representatives of the international film industry and gain insight into pitching, festival, sales, co-production and marketing strategies. The programme includes master classes, film screenings and roundtable meetings that bring together the participants and players from the industry. Festival curators, international sales agents, distributors and producers from all over the world are among the experts who mentor the participants and offer them initial feedback on their projects. The programme is sponsored by MFG Baden-Württemberg, the Federal Commission of Culture and Media (BKM) and the Schwiete Foundation in collaboration with Mannheim Next and the Popakademie Baden-Württemberg.

### **About the IFFMH**

With “New Film Experience” as its credo, the IFFMH has been venturing new, interdisciplinary perspectives on and through the art of film since 1952. This makes it the longest-running film festival in Germany after the Berlinale, and it continues to be a major platform for cultural, social and political dialogue. With each subsequent edition, the IFFMH, as a festival for the public in cinemas, invites festivalgoers to discover the rising stars of the international film scene as well as to follow the careers of established filmmakers and to become more familiar with film in the context of other art forms. The 73rd IFFMH is being held from 7 to 17 November 2024.

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The festival would like to thank its sponsors and partners.

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