



The 72nd IFFMH selects 16 participants for this year's Cutting Edge Talent Camp

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This year, the Cutting Edge Talent Camp is being held for the fourth time as part of the International Film Festival Mannheim-Heidelberg. For this year's edition of the mentoring programme, 16 promising young filmmakers who are working on their first or second feature film have been selected. The Talent Camp is a hybrid event; this year it will begin online on November 10. From November 16 to 19, the participants, mentors and industry experts will then meet in person in Mannheim.

Zsuzsi Bánkuti, head of the Cutting Edge Talent Camp, said: "This year we received a far greater number of applications than in any previous year, and of high quality, too. The 16 participants whom we have selected to bring their projects to the Talent Camp mean we have quite a lot to offer the industry, and I'm certain that they will all have a promising start to their careers."

The 2023 talents: A new generation of filmmakers

Some of the talents invited this year can already boast some success. Nadine Schwitter's short ›und alles fällt‹ was screened at the Locarno Film Festival, Aliaksei Paluyan's documentary debut ›Courage‹ was shown at the Berlinale, Lotta Schmelzer produced shorts premiering at Tribeca and the Berlinale, and Franziska Gärtner produced ›Nocturnal Breath‹, which premiered at SXSW. Lukas Nathrath's first feature film, ›Last Evening‹, premiered at the International Film Festival Rotterdam this year.

Works in Progress:

- Lotte Ruf, Frithjof Stückemann – Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf
- Daniel Ruprech, Adriano Theill – German Film and Television Academy Berlin
- Florian Schmitz, Till Gombert – Academy of Media Arts Cologne
- Clara Stella Hüneke, Franziska Gärtner – Film Academy Baden-Württemberg, Atelier Ludwigsburg-Paris

Directors:

- Aliaksei Paluyan – Kunsthochschule Kassel
- Nadine Schwitter – Academy of Media Arts Cologne
- Lukas Nathrath – Hamburg Media School
- Salka Tiziana – Hamburg Academy of Fine Arts



Producers:

- Marisa Meier – Film Academy Baden-Württemberg
- Sebastian Herbst – Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf
- Vera Paulmann – Atelier Ludwigsburg-Paris
- Lotta Schmelzer – Film Academy Baden-Württemberg

Previous success stories

The Talent Camp is a unique and powerful springboard for talented young German directors and producers. Participants who have further developed their projects at previous editions of the Talent Camp have been able to achieve major success and recognition at international film festivals. Among last year's participants, Hannes Hirsch was selected for the Panorama section of the Berlinale for his feature film ›Drifter‹ and won the First Steps Award, while ›Mannequins (WT)‹, produced by Virginia Martin, was presented in the WIP Europa section at San Sebastián and won two awards after the film was shot in 2023. Benjamin Pfohl's ›Jupiter‹ premiered at the Zurich Film Festival. Among earlier groups of participants whose films also premiered this year, Sara Summa's ›Arthur & Diana‹ was screened at the Toronto International Film Festival, as was Anna Roller's ›Dead Girls Dancing‹ at the Tribeca Film Festival. Dieu Hao Do won the First Steps Award for his documentary ›Hao Are You?‹ .”

Read about the Talent Camp's success stories here:

https://www.iffmh.de/industry/cutting-edge-talent-camp/cutting-edge-talent-camp/index_eng.html

About the Cutting Edge Talent Camp

The Cutting Edge Talent Camp is a 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 will 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 VG Bild-Kunst 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 72nd IFFMH will be held from 16 to 26 November 2023. The complete festival schedule will be announced on 27 October. Advance ticket sales start on 6 November.

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The festival would like to thank its sponsors and partners.