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Vielen Dank!

Thank you for making the 18th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival such a success. See you all in 2015!

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 Program Guide (PDF, 7 MB)

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18th Berlin & Beyond wraps, Audience Award winners announced

Live from Twitter

@BerlinBeyond

BerlinBeyond: WEST by Christian Schwöchow: Winner of 2014 Audience Award - Dramatic Feature Premiere at 18th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival, San Francisco!

BerlinBeyond: TWO LIVES by Georg Maas: Winner of 2014 Audience Award - Dramatic Feature Gala at 18th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival, San Francisco!

BerlinBeyond: MILES & WAR by Anne Thoma: Winner of 2014 Audience Award - Documentary Feature at 18th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival, San Francisco!



Celebrated Berlin-based film director Christian Schwochow at the US Premiere of his latest film "West" at the 18th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival on January 18, 2014 at the Castro Theatre.

January 27, 2014

San Francisco's Berlin & Beyond Film Festival is pleased to announce the Audience Award-winning films of its 18th successful festival, which wrapped last Tuesday at Goethe-Institut San Francisco with the West Coast premiere of Lars-Gunnar Lotz's **SHIFTING THE BLAME** and bowed on Sunday at the Castro Theatre with the North American Premiere of Nana Neul's **SILENT SUMMER** with approximately 10,000 filmgoers in attendance. This year marked the festival's return to its original January time slot as well as the inauguration of the new Youth 4 German Cinema educational program and was highlighted by exciting appearances by award-winning German directors (Georg Maas, Xavier Koller, Marc Rothemund) and hot up-and-coming acting talents (Aylin Tezel, Max Mauff). Packed houses included the sold-out screenings of Switzerland's Oscar Entry **MORE THAN HONEY** by Markus Imhoof and Berlin independent picture **FREE FALL** by Stefan Lacant at the Goethe-Institut, and near-capacity crowds at the 1,400-seat Castro Theatre for opener **TWO LIVES**, Germany's 2014 Oscar entry by Georg Maas, and surprise hit Centerpiece film **LUDWIG II** by 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Peter Sehr (posthumous) and co-director Marie Noëlle.

Berlin & Beyond is excited to announce the 2014 Audience Award winners:

Best Dramatic Feature - Premiere

West (Westen)

Dir. Christian Schwochow (Germany, 2013)

Best Dramatic Feature - Gala

Two Lives (Zwei Leben)

Dir. Georg Maas (Germany, Norway, 2012)

Best Documentary Feature

Miles & War

Dir. Anne Thoma (Switzerland, Germany, 2012)

Best Short Film

A Good Story (Eine gute Geschichte)

Dir. Martin Christopher Bode (Germany, 2013)



Documentary filmmaker Anne Thoma in person at the 18th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival in San Francisco with "Miles & War" on January 18, 2014 at the Castro Theatre.





Georg Maas, director of Germany's 2014 Oscar entry "Two Lives" speaking at the Opening Night of San Francisco's 18th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival on January 15, 2014 at the Castro Theatre.

18th BERLIN & BEYOND FILM FESTIVAL

Since 1996, the Berlin & Beyond Film Festival has been the leading festival of contemporary German cinema in the Americas, and has presented over 500 motion pictures, along with the presence of celebrated European film figures, including Mario Adorf, Fatih Akin, Moritz Bleibtreu, Daniel Brühl, Hannelore Elsner, Florian David Fitz, Bruno Ganz, Barbara Sukowa and Wim Wenders. The festival is presented in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut San Francisco, a national cultural institution of the Federal Republic of Germany. The main 18th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival took place January 15th- 19th at the Castro Theatre movie palace and January 20-21 at the Goethe-Institut San Francisco auditorium. For the 18th festival, the festival proudly presented the educational program Youth 4 German Cinema and the new "preview series" Berlin & Beyond Honolulu from December 16-20, 2013 at the Doris Duke Theatre, at the Honolulu Museum of Art in Hawai'i.

The festival celebrates the generous support of many partners and sponsors, including: Presenting Sponsors – Lufthansa and MetaDesign; Premier Sponsors – Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in San Francisco, the Consulate General of Switzerland in San Francisco, Unitrans International Logistics, Inc., and the San Francisco Grants for the Arts; the Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany; Grand Sponsors – German Films and Montage Services, Inc; Media Partners – Bay Guardian and German World Magazine; Official Venue – The Castro Theatre.

For festival information, go to:

▶ www.berlinbeyond.com

GOETHE-INSTITUT

The Goethe-Institut is Germany's official cultural center comprised of 136 institutes in 92 countries. The Institut exists to promote art and films from Germany, the study of the German language, and encourage the international cultural exchange with Germany. The San Francisco branch has been promoting German culture and language since 1967. Its year-round cultural activities include up to five art exhibitions, weekly film screenings, annual events with local cultural institutions and periodic social gatherings.

Official website:

▶ www.goethe.de/sanfrancisco

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