

Press release

Frankfurt am Main

29.07.2016

Conference and Innovation Lab on the subject „Film, Flight and Interculturality“ (Frankfurt am Main, 21st to 23rd September 2016) at LUCAS – International Festival for Young Film Lovers

LUCAS – International Festival for Young Film Lovers (18th to 25th September 2016) is reorganising itself completely for 2016. Part of the new concept is to make the festival, produced by the Deutsches Filminstitut, Germany's central platform for those involved in film literacy and film education. The Deutsches Filminstitut is now putting its excellent networking position to good use and, together with the Federal Agency for Civic Education (Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung, bpb) and in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut, has planned a Conference and Innovation Lab on the subject „Film, Flight and Interculturality“ (21st to 23rd September 2016).

The significant rise in the number of refugees in the last two years has led to many offers of assistance and integration all over the country. At short notice, the German film institutions, as well as numerous filmmakers and film educators, conceived many projects, established film clubs and packed film cases. Many films were made that dealt with subjects such as „escape“ or „homeland.“ It was demonstrated anew that film is a low-threshold visual medium well suited to bringing people together, whether during production or in the cinema auditorium. The demands of cultural and educational policy made on those active in local cultural institutions to cooperate in meeting the challenges of integration grew in parallel to the events themselves.

Film, Flight and Interculturality invites those active in film literacy in Germany to take stock and cast a self-critical gaze back. What were the challenges that the projects and those organising them had to overcome? What is the situation in terms of experience in working with traumatised people on the part of the film educators? How does film education work in the absence of a common language? And, very important: how does one keep in mind the imbalance of power between project leaders and refugees, or, better still, suspend it?

In the conviction that integration is not a single-track process, the conference takes its cue from the term „interculture“, coined by Mark Terkessidis (who delivers the opening lecture) and follows the claim that the intercultural society must be jointly created and lived. Academics, curators, authors and film educators, both with and without personal experience as refugees, present their positions and projects at the conference. Forums, lectures, film programmes and workshops with many guests from Germany and abroad illuminate the subject „Film, Flight and Interculturality“ from a variety of points of view. The exchange of experiences and critical stocktaking is followed by an Innovation Lab, establishing guidelines for practice and

In collaboration with

jointly developing thoughts regarding the future prospects for intercultural film education. For the Federal Agency for Civic Education, the engagement with the causes of the refugee situation and the inclusive work with refugees have a central significance in political artistic film work. Katrin Willmann, responsible for film in the bpb, is convinced that in this connection the Innovation Lab can provide a trailblazing impetus for film artists and media educators in Germany.

Christine Kopf, head of the Deutsches Filminstitut's department for film education and film literacy, is happy that, thanks to the cooperation with the bpb, the aim of establishing LUCAS as an annual meeting point for those active internationally in film education is coming closer to becoming a reality. Speakers include Martin Ganguly (Berlinale Generation), Michael Jahn (Vision Kino), Irit Neidhardt (expert on Arabic cinema) and the Kino Asyl group, a film festival organised and curated by refugees.

Conference fee is 50 euros / reduced 35 euros (this includes catering and accreditation to LUCAS). The conference languages are German and English. Advance registration for the conference at:
Zukunftswerkstatt@lucasfilmfestival.de

Further information regarding content and guests at:
lucas-filmfestival.de/innovation-lab/

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