

EX ORIENTE FILM WORKSHOP 2016



**Submission Deadline:
MAY 4th, 2016**

The Ex Oriente Film training programme focuses on the development and production of creative documentary films from Central and Eastern Europe. Through intensive tutoring by leading documentary film experts, directors, producers, script editors, sales agents, and commissioning editors our aim is to increase the potential for international co-production and success at the international level while inspiring and challenging documentary filmmakers from Central and Eastern Europe to produce innovative and insightful work. In the thirteen years of its existence, more than 150 documentary projects from Eastern and Central Europe went through the Ex Oriente Film workshop, including award-winning films from the key international festivals, such as *Brothers*, *The Domino Effect*, *Blind Loves*, *At the Edge of Russia*, *Rabbit a la Berlin*, *Bakhmaro*.

During the workshop sessions we focus on:

- Developing the subject, narrative and the visual style of the projects
- Creating a production, financing, distribution plan
- Exploring alternative platforms and funding strategies
- Designing audience development schemes
- Promoting the films through pitching and networking
- Finding international partners

General Information

WHO IS IT FOR?

Directors and producers from Central and Eastern Europe and/ or feature length creative documentary projects dealing with stories from Central and Eastern Europe that are in development or early production stage. We are looking for filmmakers who are interested in increasing the impact and outreach of their documentary films on an international level.

ELIGIBILITY

Director/Producer teams apply with their own creative documentary project, 12 projects will be selected to participate. Both director and producer must be able to attend all three workshop sessions. Must be efficient in English.

WHERE & WHEN

Workshop 1 - Find Your Originality

June 27 - July 2, 2016

*In Split/ Croatia, in cooperation with
Hulahop Art and Film Production*

Workshop 2 - Production & Story

Development

October 24 - 29, 2016

In Jihlava/ Czech Rep., within Jihlava IDFF

Workshop 3 & East European Forum (pitching) - Market Opens

March 6 - 12, 2017

*In Prague/ Czech Rep., within East Doc Platform,
in association with One World IHRDFF*

PARTICIPATION FEE

The participation fee is €1,800 per selected project. This includes tuition, accommodation, lunch, and coffee breaks during all three workshop sessions for 2 people.

SCHOLARSHIP

Successful participants whose project is selected may apply for a scholarship to cover part of the **participation fee** and **travel costs** associated with the workshop. Applicants must prove that there is no access to scholarships in their own country.

Objectives

The Ex Oriente Film Programme aims to create an environment of cooperation while keeping and developing the artist integrity of each project. More than 70% of films developed at the Ex Oriente Film workshops are produced after the workshop and have gone on to travel and win awards at prestigious festivals such as Cannes, Locarno, Hot Docs, Karlovy Vary and DOK Leipzig.

- Support Eastern and Central European filmmakers develop the international potential of their documentary projects while preserving the unique creative approach of their projects
- Provide the producers and directors with contacts to the European and U.S. documentary market and strengthen their international networks in the documentary sector
- Respond to market changes and digital shift in the field of development, production, and distribution
- Foster a new generation of independent producers whose production companies would be sustainable
- Help Eastern and Central European producers to build efficient funding and production strategies

Tutors and Experts

The workshop lead tutors for Ex Oriente Film 2016 will be: renowned dramaturge, director and producer **likka Vehkalahti** (Finland), Head of Studies of the European Documentary Network **Mikael Opstrup** (Denmark), director and producer **Filip Remunda** and director and dramaturge **Ivana Pauerová Milošević** (CZ). Alongside them during the three workshop sessions will be more than 30 internationally leading directors, producers, dramaturges, editors, cameramen, festival representatives, experts in marketing and distribution, and international co-productions.

Ex Oriente Film Sessions

1st Workshop Session: "Find Your Originality"

June 27 - July 2, 2016 (Split, in cooperation with Hulahop Art and Film Production)

The first session of the workshop deals with inspiration, focusing on the development of the documentary project, primarily its story potential, as well as researching the potential for documentary co-production and laying the groundwork for project production. The programme is divided between various master classes held by visiting experts and practical intensive work on the projects. The first session aims to integrate the participants into a functioning group, establishing positive atmosphere for creative networking as well as defining the position of each project within the context of the international documentary market.

2nd Workshop Session: "Production Development"

October 24 - 29, 2016 (within Jihlava IDFF)

The second workshop session focuses on budgeting, legal aspects of co-productions, strategies for selecting commissioning editors and other partners, as well as a deeper creative development of the projects, audience engagement strategy, the rough material as well as the documentary script. The second session is specific in that it has partly separate programme for directors and producers - the directors are working on the script, dramaturgy and trailer, while the producers are preparing the financial and distributional plans and consulting the budget in detail.

3rd Session: "The Market Opens" & East European Forum

March 6 – 12, 2017 (within East Doc Platform, organized in association with One World IHRDFF)

The third meeting of the workshop focuses mainly on developing a plan for the distribution and sales of the film, fine-tuning the final vision of the trailer, after-pitching negotiation techniques as well as practicing of the communication strategy aimed at getting support for the project from international partners. The theoretical parts of the workshop deal with, using mainly case studies, the issues of international co-production, impact campaigns and distribution models and strategies. The workshop culminates in the public presentation / pitching itself, followed by the personal meetings with international commissioning editors, TV, fund and festival representatives, independent (co-) producers, and distributors, whom the participants can meet at the round tables as well as within the pre-arranged individual meetings.

Three residential sessions are complemented by **online consultations** in between the sessions.

Ex Oriente Film projects annually compete for 7 awards:

East Doc Platform Development Award (7 500 €), Czech TV Postproduction Award (7 400 € in postproduction services), HBO Europe Co-Production Award, The Golden Funnel Award (1 000 € for the further development of the project), IDFA Forum Award, DocsBarcelona Award, DOK Leipzig Award.

Follow- Up Programme

Ex Oriente Film Follow-up programme is a yearlong chain of follow-up support and additional activities for projects that have completed, or are currently completing, the Ex Oriente Film workshop. The aim of the Follow-up programme is to bring participants to key European festivals, markets, coproduction forums and partner events, as well enable participants to further promote their projects, expand their network of contacts, and use the knowledge gained during the workshop. The Follow-up programme includes a variety of scholarships and awards in the form of direct financial support as well as access to selected pitching forums, markets and VOD platforms.

You can submit your documentary projects via the online [APPLICATION FORM](#) (applying is free of charge and is only available in English). More information about the workshop available at: <http://www.dokweb.net/activities/ex-oriente-film/2016/about>

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