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Success for BERLIN TODAY AWARD at 'achtung berlin' festival

"BerlinBeirut" by Myrna Maakaron wins 'new berlin film award' in the category 'Best Berlin Film' at 'achtung berlin' festival

This is the 8th award already for this successful short film by the young Lebanese filmmaker Myrna Maakaron, which was initially produced during the BERLIN TODAY AWARD project. The award – which was accepted by Myrna Maakaron personally at yesterday's award ceremony at the Hackesche Höfe in Berlin – is endowed with an equipment coupon by Arri Rental Deutschland.

The festival 'achtung berlin' and its 'Towards Berlin' section provide an ideal platform for the BERLIN TODAY AWARD films that travel the festivals of the world after their premiere at the Berlinale Talent Campus and can now be shown to the public in Berlin again. In addition to "BerlinBeirut", another BERLIN TODAY AWARD production – Anca Miruna Lazarescu's film "Bucuresti-Berlin" – was also shown at the festival.

Every year, the BERLIN TODAY AWARD invites teams from the Berlinale Talent Campus to realize three digital short films with a Berlin relation. The films are premiered at the following Campus and one of the three will be awarded the BERLIN TODAY AWARD. The production of the "Berlin Today" films is supported by Medienboard GmbH and the film industry in Berlin and Brandenburg.

Currently, the BERLIN TODAY AWARD is preparing the production of its third installment. April 15, 2005 was the deadline for this year's Campus participants. By that date their ideas and visions on "Berlin Today" had to be submitted to the organizer of the BERLIN TODAY AWARD, boxfish films. The three most promising Berlin projects will be selected by a renowned jury (jury members include Hannes Stöhr and Andres Veiel). They will be realized over the course of the year and finally premiered at next year's Berlinale Talent Campus.

For more information please visit www.berlintoday.de.

BERLIN TODAY AWARD 2004: "BerlinBeirut" by Myrna Maakaron
BERLIN TODAY AWARD 2005: "Alright Love" by Samuli Valkama & Roman Sorger

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The BERLIN TODAY AWARD is a joint award by the film industry in Berlin-Brandenburg – initiated and sponsored by Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg (coordination: Frank Stehling) and organized by boxfish films – Büro für Film + Kommunikation.