



PRESS RELEASE, Berlin, 23 August 2004

## BERLIN TODAY AWARD 2005 – three Berlin short films for 2005 Film Festival

**The nominees for the BERLIN TODAY AWARD will start shooting their digital short films in September. This international short film award is sponsored by Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg and the regional film industry.**

How do a Finn, a Canadian, a Pole, an Austrian and two Romanians see Berlin? What are their connections to this city? These questions will be answered by the six talents of the Berlinale Talent Campus nominated for this year's BERLIN TODAY AWARD – no later than at the Berlinale 2005. That is where and when the three short films produced for the BERLIN TODAY AWARD will have their premiere and where the winner will receive the BERLIN TODAY AWARD 2005.

In June, this year's jury for the BERLIN TODAY AWARD, consisting of the three mentors **Hans-Christian Schmid**, **Maria Köpf** and **Michael Verhoeven**, selected these three projects from 116 applications:

**"Alright Love"** by **Samuli Valkama** (Finland) and **Roman Sorger** (Austria)

**"Bucuresti – Berlin"** by **Anca Miruna Lazarescu** (Romania/Germany) and **Cristian Mungiu** (Romania)

**"Workers from Poland"** by **Tomasz Wolski** (Poland) and **Karina Griffith** (Canada)

"Alright Love" tells the story of a young woman and a young man who are led through the city by signs and billboards to find each other in the end. In "Bucuresti-Berlin" a young woman from Romania is on the search for her luck and her lost friend in one of the ten identically-named Gartenstraße streets in Berlin. "Workers from Poland" documents the first encounter of two Polish construction workers with the metropolis Berlin in the course of the most recent EU enlargement to the East.

To prepare their short films the nominees will be invited to a workshop in Berlin from 30 August to 3 September 2004. During this week they will be able to work on their scripts and develop them together with their mentors and the production company EIKON Media GmbH. The **shooting of the three short films** will already begin in **Mid-September**. The locations include Berlin and its neighboring countries Poland and Romania. The three short films shall be finished by the end of the year.

### Public Screening

In the course of the workshop **Hackesche Höfe cinema** am will show Hans-Christian Schmid's film LICHTER (Germany 2003, OmeU) on **31, August** (begin: 03.00 pm) and am **8. September** (Beginn: 15.00 Uhr) Michael Verhoeven's MUTTERS COURAGE (Germany 1995, OmeU) on **31, August** (begin: 03.00 pm). Following the shows the **directors** will have a **Q&A** with the audience.

Should you be interested in **accompanying** and/or **interviewing** the nominees **during the shooting** please contact us: phone 030 44044 751 or [info@boxfish-films.de](mailto:info@boxfish-films.de).

Updated information available at [www.berlintoday.de](http://www.berlintoday.de).

### Organization and press liaison office:

boxfish films – Büro für Film + Kommunikation

Senefelderstr. 22 10437 Berlin

Phone: 030 44044 751 / - 753 Fax: 030 44044 691

E-Mail: [info@boxfish-films.de](mailto:info@boxfish-films.de)