**The 22nd Ji.hlava Festival Has Begun!**

**The opening ceremony for this year’s Ji.hlava festival had love duets and anthems. Krzysztof Zanussi made jokes about dinosaurs and *Putin’s Horse in Adamov* won the Respekt Award. The second day of the festival will offer a showcase of Lebanese cinema and a Sokol band performance.**

The opening to this year’s Ji.hlava was both ceremonial and entertaining. The hosts of the evening were Slovak director Tereza Nvotová and Czech documentarian Jan Foukal. The renowned Polish director Krzysztof Zanussi, who will be a juror for the Opus Bonus section, joked about the theme of this year’s festival, which is memory, by saying that he is a ‘Jurassic Park representative’. He also reminisced about the Second World War, when ‘good people were forced to lie while the bad ones spoke the truth’.

Czech Television reporters Aneta Snopová and Vojtěch Srnka won the Respekt Award for best investigative report with their *Putin’s Horse in Adamov*. The jury, which was comprised of the editors of the Czech Respekt weekly, called it a ‘revelatory report that brings the first concrete evidence of client connections between the presidential office, business interests and Russian money, alongside other shady financial matters surrounding the office of the president’. The award was presented by Josef Pazderka, editor-in-chief of the news website Aktuálně.cz

Visitors to the film portal DAFilms.cz selected Charby Ibrahim’s *The Holiday Inn-Side* as the winner of the Short Joy section. The film uses simple animation to tell the story of a 16-year-old repeat offender. The award was presented by Hana Šilarová.

And because the centennial of the Czechoslovak Republic is coming up, the end of the night was in the spirit of the national anthem: Nvotová, who is a Slovak director, sang the Czech section in Slovak, while the Czech director Foukal sang the Slovak section in Czech.

Thursday also marked the first day of the Inspiration Forum. It was kicked off by a discussion with Ladislav Heryán, a Salesian monk. ‘I believe in God because that’s just in my nature, but I wouldn’t say I never have doubts. Oftentimes, it can depend on what sort of a mood you’re in at the moment,’ said Heryán during the discussion titled *Why I Believe in God and What I Have Experienced with Him*.

The second day of the festival will bring you a showcase of Lebanese cinema, the section Foreigner Looking for an Apartment will offer a selection of West German television footage recorded between 1968 and 1986 and director Pavel Jurda will present the film *Good Mr. Benda*, which will be accompanied music from a live Sokol band.

The Friday topic for the Inspiration Forum will be The Future of Journalism. It will include a discussion with the British historian, journalist and former BBC World director John Tusa.

**PARTNERS and SPONSORS of the 22nd Ji.hlava IDFF**

**Main Supporters**

Ministry of Culture Czech Republic

Czech Film Fund

City of Jihlava

Vysočina Region

Creative Europe MEDIA

**Supported by**

Embassy of the United States

Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia

European Commission Representation in the Czech Republic

Embassy of Canada

Czech Centres

Delegation of Flanders in the Czech Republic

Délégation Wallonie - Bruxelles

Heinrich Böll Stiftung

Romanian Cultural Institute

Embassy of Israel

Italian Cultural Institute

Instituto Camões

Austrian Cultural Forum

Balassi Institute

Slovak Institute

French Institute

UniFrance

Adam Mickiewicz Institute

National Film Board of Canada

German Films

Czech-German Fund for the Future

**General Media Partner**

Czech Television

**Exclusive Media Partner**

Czech Radio

**Main Media Partners**

Aktuálně.cz

Respekt

**Partners of Industry Section**

Audiovisual Producers‘ Association

Central European Initiative

International Visegrad Fund

**Co-organiser of the Industry Section**

Institute of Documentary Film

**Partner Project**

Doc Alliance Films

**Partners of Ji.hlava Film Fund**

UPP

Soundsquare

Center for Documentary Film

**Main Partners**

Current Time TV

UPP

**Partners of Inspiration Forum**

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Karel Janeček Foundation

Heinrich Böll Stiftung

Via Clarita

**Partners of Ji.hlava kids**

Robinson Park

Kavárna Paseka

Dětský lesní klub Hájenka

Baby Office

**Partner VR Zone**

Brainz

Go360

**Partner Game Zone**

Asus

Genesis

X-Gamer

X-play

**Official Festival Car**

FORD Autocentrum – Rozkoš Jihlava

**Official Shipping Partner**

TNT

**Regional Partners**

Ammeraal Beltech

Chesterton

Javab

Kronospan

Mitech

Sepos

**Official Suppliers**

Ackee mobile applications / APP4FEST

AZ Translations

Biofarm Sasov

BIOFILMS

Böhm

Dřevovýroba Podzimek

Eventival

Farmářka

Fine Coffee

Hrádecký Med

Hrdina & dcera

Kofila

KOMA MODULAR

Mlékárna Krasolesí

Seicha

Spokar

Studio VOKO

Tonera

TREBITSCH old town distillery

**Co-operation**

Aerofilms

Chateau Herálec

College of Polytechnics Jihlava

DKO Jihlava

Dedera’s Bikes

Horácké Theatre Jihlava

Nacokolo

Newton Media

Regional Gallery of the Vysočina region

Třešť City

**Media Partners**

25fps

A2

Alarm

Cinema

Cinepur

Dějiny a současnost

Film a doba

Iluminace

Radio 1

Revolver Revue

**Regional Media Partners**

City.cz

Jihlavská Drbna

Jihlavské listy

Hitrádio Vysočina

SNIP & CO

**Media Co-operation**

7.G

Artmap

ČSFD

Deník Referendum

Festival Guide

Flash Art

Full Moon

H\_aluze

His Voice

Host

Kapitál

kult.cz

Literární noviny

Magazín Soffa

Nový prostor

UNI

**Foreign Media Partners**

Variety

Cineuropa

Film New Europe

Kinečko

Kino Ikon

Kinema.sk

Modern Times Review

Variety

**Inspiration Forum Media Partners**

EDUin

Flowee.cz

Vesmír