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Quality rules over quantity MANNHEIMMEETINGS/International Coproduction focus on efficient match making

IFMH, Mannheim-Heidelberg, October 6, 2005 --- 84 Million Dollars are at stake at the upcoming MANNHEIMMEETINGS/International Coproduction from 21 to 25 November 2005. 55 Arthouse film projects are to be negotiated among the attending co-producers. Despite the increased number of project submissions the number of selected projects has been reduced in favour of an intensified match making scheme at the meetings.

„We want to encourage the development of project-related and long-term perspectives among the partners from all over the world by providing additional information on production conditions in the different regions. Also, it is important to us to offer even more opportunities for creative exchanges of experiences“, says Gudula Meinzolt, Coordinator MANNHEIM MEETINGS/International Coproduction.

150 producers, world sales representatives, TV channels and funds come together during the Meetings to arrange co-financing for the selected projects during the International Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg. The Meetings cover the regions Africa, Northern, Western, Southern and Eastern Europe and Latin America which are represented by already established companies as well as by start-up production companies.

Among this year's projects are: „Larsopia“, a cooperation between Zentropa („Breaking the Waves“, „The Celebration“), True West Films and Three Blondes. „Escorted Leave“ by Erik Clausen, the legendary Danish filmmaker. The winner of this year's „German Art of Film Award“, Robert Thalheim, will present „Am Ende kommen Touristen“. Nana Djordjadze tells the story of a breathtaking journey through the century in „Angels of my Childhood“ and narrates the love story between two nuns and an officer. „The Light-House“ is a Canadian entry, a gothic thriller by the producer of „Accused“. With Hernan Masaluppi and Hugo Castro Fau, producers with directors like Martin Rejtman and Pablo Trapero, two of the most successful representatives of new Argentinian cinema come to Mannheim and present „Bienestar“ and „La Parte Ausente“. The young filmmakers from „Pateofilms“ bring „Perro Come Perro“ and will explain the perspectives that come along with the new film promotion scheme in Columbia. In his documentary „Ne Restent dans l'Oued que ses Galets“ Algerian director Jean-Pierre Lledo remembers the coexistence of different cultures and religions before the Algerian independence war. Khalo Matabane in „When We Were Black“ tells a typical coming-of-age story during the riots in South African city of Soweto in 1976.

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