

# 55. Internationales Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg

## Fractures in childhood – *The Art of Crying* and *Sons* at the 55th International Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg

Mannheim-Heidelberg, 14 November 2006 --- The young directors of the International Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg have never shied away from delicate topics. This year, two films even deal with issues of child abuse, a topic always in the media but still a taboo one in society.

**The Art of Crying** is Peter Schonau Fog's debut film. Together with Bo hr. Hansen, the Danish filmmaker Fog wrote the script. His graduating short film „Lille mennesk“ (2000) won prizes at several festivals.

About the film:

Daddy cries every night and wants to commit suicide. Only when little Allan convinces his sister to go to daddy does he calm down. The innocence of childhood and the reality of child abuse as a consequently stylised melodrama.

Norwegian director Erik Richter Strand drew attention to himself at several festivals already – his short film *Vanished* received the Director's Award at the Cinequest San Jose Film Festival. **Sons** is Strand's first feature film.

About the film:

A pool attendant hunts down a seducer of teenagers in his town. But there lies a secret behind his terrible anger. A suspenseful psychological thriller that bravely deals with a taboo topic. Victim and perpetrator. Revenge or forgiveness. Paranoia or righteous wrath. Behind every anger there is a secret. Behind every sign of endearment a suspicion. In the end, solidarity among the sons, whose youth was taken, wins.

The 55 International Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg takes place from 16 to 25 November 2006.

### For further information:

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