

PRESS RELEASE

Sarajevo, August 16, 2022

**DOCU TALENT AWARDS 2022 WENT TO DAD'S LULLABY AND BETWEEN REVOLUTIONS**

**EAST WEST INDEX 2022: THE REPRESENTATION OF EASTERN EUROPEAN FILMS IN WESTERN EUROPE  
REMAINS UNBALANCED**

**EMERGING PRODUCERS 2023 WERE ANNOUNCED, WITH QATAR AS GUEST COUNTRY**

Nine outstanding documentaries from Central and Eastern Europe, planned for theatrical release during the upcoming 12 months – the Docu Talents from the East – were presented yesterday as part of CineLink Industry Days at the Sarajevo Film Festival.

**Projects from Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine** made it to [the final selection of Docu Talents from the East 2022](#).

The **Docu Talent Award** was granted to the most promising project. The international jury selected a personal story from contemporary Ukraine ***Dad's Lullaby*** directed and produced by **Lesia Diak**. The award is accompanied with financial prize 5,000 USD, in cooperation with the festival's partner Current Time TV.

The 3,000 EUR in-kind **DAFilms.com Distribution Award** was awarded to an archive-constructed film about unofficial history told from the women's perspective ***Between Revolutions*** by **Romanian director Vlad Petri and produced by Monica Lăzurean-Gorgan**. The award covers international VOD release on DAFilms.com (including Americas, Europe, Asia) for two years.

**The jury gave the following statements:**

"A heartfelt depiction of a life under impossible circumstances. Such a personal story is a valuable way to understand the scars of the ongoing invasion of Ukraine." (***Dad's Lullaby***)

"A true international co-production, it uses a unique method of letter-reading to express a friendship that survives revolutions, regimes and time itself; and has relevance to a world that needs female solidarity as much as ever today." (***Between Revolutions***)

Since 2005, Docu Talents curated by the Ji.hlava International Documentary Film Festival, has been a launch pad for a number of documentaries by both renowned and emerging directors such as Laila Pakalniņa, Vladimir Manský, Bartek Konopka, Piotr Stasik, Peter Kerekes, Dmitrii Kalashnikov and Helena Třeštková. **Films presented at Docu Talents in the past had world and international premieres at major film festivals including in Cannes, Berlin, Locarno, Rotterdam and Sundance.**

"All of the selected films do not only explore the phenomena of our day-and-age, but also ask questions about how our choices shape our own future – whether as an individual, a particular social group or an entire society," says Marek Hovorka, director of the Ji.hlava IDFF.



**EAST WEST INDEX 2022: LESS THEN 15% OF EUROPEAN FILMS AT WESTERN FESTIVALS ARE FROM THE EAST**

Representatives of the Ji.hlava IDFF presented in Sarajevo also results of this year's EAST WEST INDEX – an exclusive survey among key European documentary film festivals, which focuses on figures representing individual regions.

The survey shows that most festivals have adopted a hybrid format in the past twelve months. The European documentary festivals are slowly returning to more titles being screened, so the 2020 slump - caused by the pandemic - is fortunately not a permanent state of affairs. On the other hand, **only three festivals screened more films in their most recent edition than in the pre-pandemic year of 2019.** However, the representation of Eastern European films in Western Europe and vice versa remains very unbalanced.

*“While Eastern European festivals screen almost half of the European films produced in Western Europe, the reverse is only 15% - less than one in six European films screened by Western European festivals is from the Eastern European region,”* comments Marek Hovorka, director of Ji.hlava IDFF which has been conducting the annual survey since 2019.

See the [survey in detail here](#).

**EMERGING PRODUCERS 2023 WERE ANNOUNCED**

During the event, the representatives of the Ji.hlava IDFF also revealed the [names of the Emerging Producers 2023](#). This unique programme aims at promoting talented European documentary film producers and provides them with a range of networking, educational and promotional support throughout the year. 17 European producers will be accompanied by a producer from **Qatar, which is the guest country of the 2023 Emerging Producers programme.** The Emerging Producers programme will consists of two workshops – taking place in Jihlava in October 2022 and during the Berlinale 2023.

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The logo for Ji.hlava is a stylized, handwritten-style wordmark in blue ink. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent loop in the 'i' and a large, sweeping curve for the 'h'. The overall appearance is artistic and personal, reflecting the festival's focus on documentary and independent film.