



Media Information

Austrian Film Academy: The Nominees of the Austrian Film Award 2018 and #metoo Trusted Persons

A prominent panel of politicians and filmmakers announced the nominees of the Austrian Film Award 2018 at the traditional press conference of the Austrian Film Academy in Vienna's Ringturm office tower.

The nominees:

www.oesterreichische-filmakademie.at/2018/nominierungen2018.html



Gerlinde Seitner and the panel
(c) Robert Newald



Stefan Ruzowitzky, Hilde Dalik,
Mirjam Unger (c) Robert Newald



Johanna Mikl-Leitner
(c) Robert Newald

The Austrian Film Award will be awarded in 16 categories in Grafenegg on 31 January 2018. *True to the motto "into the future", director Mirjam Unger will stage the gala in a spaced-out manner.* Hilde Dalik and Christoph Grissemann will guide you through the evening.

Academy President Stefan Ruzowitzky presented the trust centre for victims of sexual harassment in the film industry, which he initiated on the occasion of the #metoo debate. Three distinguished personalities with many years of experience in the film business, the costume designer Birgit Hutter, the President of the Academy and actress Ursula Strauss, as well as the director and actor Karl Markovics are now available to colleagues as confidential contacts.

Federal Minister Harald Mahrer stressed in his statement that *"never before have moving images been in such demand as they are today, and digitization is creating exciting opportunities for the industry. Our artists and cultural workers will continue to play an important role in the future. In addition to their entertainment value, they also make a major contribution to democracy. Film has also become an important economic factor meanwhile."*

With the FISA budget of 7.5 million euros alone, we are triggering a leverage of 1:5 for value creation. In this way, we support the domestic film industry and strengthen the business location.”

The Director of the Austrian Film Institute, Roland Teichmann, also pointed out that Austrian films are not only celebrated nationally. *“The successes of Austrian film are also impressive internationally. There were 3 million visitors to Austrian films abroad last year alone. The Austrian film is in good shape. But there is also a lot to do. It takes a good concept for the new generation.”*

“Austria sees itself as a nation of art and culture, often referring to the fields of theatre and music. The great achievements of the film industry are just as much a part of it, as film is one of the most important media of the 20th and 21st century”, says Federal Minister Thomas Drozda.

Johanna Mikl-Leitner, Governor of Lower Austria, explains her commitment as follows: *“Why the federal state of Lower Austria supports the film is obvious. Firstly, it is an essential factor in the cultural scene; secondly, it is a tourist factor and thus an essential economic factor; and thirdly, the Lower Austrian Film Commission is a pioneer in Austria, which is particularly important to me.”*

Around the gala, the ORF also accompanies the 8th Award Ceremony comprehensively and shows again a number of domestic films at primetime. On 1 February 2018, the whole long evening is dedicated to Austrian film. On 31 January 2018, the ORF III programme “Kultur Heute Spezial” will contribute partial live coverage of the gala again. If you want to be there live, you can also view the Facebook Live Stream from ORFkultur this year, when the guests arrive, during the award ceremony and at the afterparty.

The Academy is proud to have many years of reliable supporters and partners and is pleased to announce the new partner IMMOUNITED. Due to this commitment, e.g. the informal Night of the Nominees can take place again in the Vienna City Hall this year. David Rühm will orchestrate the evening events, while Mirjam Unger and Hilde Dalik host the talks with our nominees. DJ Tanja Petrovsky is going to look after the musical entertainment.

Thanks to THE GRAND POST's great commitment, we will once again be able to show film clips and feeds at this year's gala.

Panel participants:

Josef Aichholzer, Chairman of the Austrian Film Academy

Stefan Ruzowitzky, President of the Austrian Film Academy

Johanna Mikl-Leitner, Governor of Lower Austria

Harald Mahrer, Austrian Federal Minister of Science, Research and Economy

Thomas Drozda, Austrian Federal Minister of Arts and Culture, Constitution and Media

Roland Teichmann, Director of the Austrian Film Institute

Jörg Neumayer, Member of the municipal council (deputising for the City Councillor of Culture, Andreas Mailath-Pokorny)

Gerlinde Seitner, Managing Director of Filmfonds Wien (Film Fund Vienna)

Kathrin Zechner, ORF Programme Director

Teresa Indjein, Ambassador, Head of the Art Department of the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs

Peter Schöber, Managing Director of ORF III

Maria Smodics-Neumann, WKO Vienna Chairwoman Trade and Crafts Division (deputising for WKO Vienna President Walter Ruck)

Veit Heiduschka, Managing Director of VAM

Gernot Schödl, Managing Director of VdFS

Veronika Hlawatsch, Member of the Board of the Austrian Film Academy

Barbara Lindner, Austrian Film Award Project Manager
Marlene Ropac, Managing Director of the Austrian Film Academy

Moderation: **Hilde Dalik**, Member of the Austrian Film Academy

We would like to point out that all statements and/or the entire press conference can be viewed later in the [video footage of the Facebook Live Stream](#). All texts of these and other sponsors can also be found in the [press folder](#).

The Austrian Film Academy was founded in 2009 to provide a platform for film professionals to exchange ideas internally and a showcase for Austrian cinema to the outside world. In addition to the annual awarding of the Austrian Film Award, there are numerous European projects in which the Academy is involved and which it has brought to Austria, such as the EFA Young Audience Award. At the moment, the Academy has 494 members. The Award Sculpture was created by VALIE EXPORT.

The Austrian Film Academy is supported by the **Austrian Film Institute**, the **Department of Culture of the Government of Lower Austria**, the **Art Department of the Federal Chancellery**, **Film Location Austria / Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy / AWS**, **Filmfonds Wien** (Film Fund Vienna), the **City of Vienna/MA7 - Municipal Department for Cultural Affairs**, **Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs**, **F&MA** (Film and Music Austria), **WKO Vienna**, **VDFS**, **VAM**, **AKM**, **Erste Bank**, **Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein**, **Vienna Film Commission**, **Satel Film**, **VdFS**, **Flimmit**, **IMMOUnited**, **LISTO**, **THE GRAND POST**, **Aichholzer Filmproduktion**, **epo-film**, **Novotny & Novotny Filmproduktion**, **Superfilm**, **Gebhardt Productions**, **Lotus-Film**, **absolutprint**, **Grafenegg**, **Mörwald**, **Wendy&Jim**, **ART for ART**, **Vöslauer**, **Radatz**, **Ströck**, **Ottakringer**, **Dürnberg**,... as well as many product sponsors, cooperation partners (ray, FAQ u.v.a.) and members.

Media Partners: **ORF / ORF III**

Cooperation partner VOD Platform: www.flimmit.at

Special thanks go to the host of the press conference in the Ringturm, Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein.

The moderator's dress had been provided by Wendy&Jim.

Links

[Website of the Austrian Film Academy](#)

[Partners of the Austrian Film Academy](#)

[The Nominees of the Austrian Film Award 2018](#)

[Press Folder of the Nominees of the Austrian Film Award 2018](#)

[Video Facebook Live Stream Press Conference](#)

[Photos Press Conference – Announcement of the Nominees of the Austrian Film Award 2018](#)

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