

PRESS RELEASE and NEWSLETTER

Success for eQuinox Europe Workshop Participants at Festivals with numerous Prizes and Awards!

London, February 17, 2020: The year 2019 was an exceptionally successful year for participants of eQuinox Europe International Screenwriter Workshops! 6 Productions supported with script development from eQuinox Advisors were released theatrically. 6 Films were nominated for a total of 24 national film prizes. 11 national prizes were awarded in four different EU countries (Latvia, Germany, Finland and Austria.) With numerous new prizes and awards already in 2020, the success course continues:

- **Max Ophüls Film Festival 2020: "The Accidental Rebel"** Writer/Director Randa Chahoud (Germany), *Youth Jury Award* und *Prize for Best Young Actor* - **eQuinox Workshop 2014**
- **International Berlin Film Festival 2020: "Little Sister"** is invited to the official Competition section. Co-writers/Co-directors: Veronique Reymond und Stephanie Chuat. (Switzerland) - **eQuinox Workshop 2017**
- **"My Grandpa is an Alien"** written by Croatian screenwriter Irena Krcelic received two prizes at the Calcutta International Cult Film Festival 2020 for Science Fiction (*Golden Fox Award für Best Family Film & CIFF Best Family/Children's Film*). The film has received, to date, nine international awards. **eQuinox Workshop 2013**

„We are delighted about the prizes and awards of the eQuinox Europe Alumni projects. The continued success the past years reaffirms that a well-developed screenplay has a significantly better chance of reaching an audience“, Ellen Winn Wendl, Chairman of the organization and program director.

eQuinox Europe e.V. functions with its exhaustive selection of projects coupled with the weeklong intensive Workshop as a European Talent Filter. Eight projects from eight European screenwriters/directors which participated in eQuinox Europe Workshops 2005-2018 are currently in various phases of production in eight different countries globally.

IN PRODUCTION 2020:

QUO VADIS, AIDA? - Jasmila Zbanic (*Bosnia Herzegowina*)

ADIOS BUENOS AIRES - German Kral (*Argentina*)

CUTTERS - Rachel Carey (*Ireland*)

TOUCHED - Claudia Rorarius (*Germany*)

MONEY BOYS - Bo Yilin (*Austria*)

CLARA SOLA - Nathalie Alvarez (*Columbia*)

STURM: bis ich tot oder frei bin - Dave Tucker (Switzerland)

MEMORY OF WATER v- Ilja Rautsi (Finland)

In 2019 many films received prizes and awards. The writers and projects supported by the eQuinoxe Europe International Screenwriter Workshops:

OLEG, Screenwriter/Director: Juris Kursietis (Latvia),

eQuinoxe Workshop 2016, Production: Tasse Films

5 Nominations – Latvian Film Awards, 3 Latvian Film Awards (incl. Best Film), CinÉast Grand Prix-Luxembourg; Brussels Film Festival - *Grand Prix du Festival*; Valletta Film Festival-*Best Film*, Palic Film Festival –*Best Director*

STYX, Screenwriter/Director: Wolfgang Fischer (Austria), Co-

Writer: Ika Künzel, **eQuinoxe Workshop 2012**, Production: Schiwago Film

/Amour Fou

Deutscher Filmpreis: *Silberne LOLA für den Besten Film, Beste weibliche Hauptrolle, Beste Kamera und Beste Tongestaltung*. Ende Januar 2019 hat der Film drei Österreichische Filmpreise (*Bestes Drehbuch, Beste Regie, Bester Schnitt*) gewonnen. Boulder Intl. Film Festival-*Best Feature Film und Call to Action Award*; Luxembourg City Film Festival – *Youth Jury Award*.

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL COUPLE, Screenwriter/Director: Sven Taddicken

(Germany), **eQuinoxe Workshop 2014**, Production: One Two Films

German Film Prize 2019: *nominated for Best Female Actor*. Mons International Film Festival, Belgien: *Grand Prix und Prix d'interprétation*. Bolzano Film Festival: *Prize for Best Film*. Achtung Berlin Actor Award: Leonard Kunz. Love is a Folly Film Festival, Bulgaria: *Special Jury Award – Best Director; Best Actor Award*

STUPID YOUNG HEART, Screenwriter: Kirsikka Saari (Finland)

eQuinoxe Workshop 2013, Director: Selma Vilhunen, Production: Tuffi Films.

Berlinale 2019 - *Crystal Bear-Best Film*; Finnisch Film Prize-, *6 Nominations and Award – Best Script*.

THE SILENT REVOLUTION, Screenwriter/Director: Lars Kraume

(Germany) **eQuinoxe Workshop 2016**, Production: Akzente Filmproduktion.

Stony Brook Film Festival -*Audience Award*; Luxembourg City Film Festival – *School Jury Award*; Berkshire Intl. Film Festival – *Audience Award*.

THE BRA, Screenwriter/Director/Production: Veit Helmer

(Germany), **eQuinoxe Workshop 2015**

Avanca Film Festival – *Best Script, Best Actor, Special Mention -Feature Film Awards*; Cinequest Film Festival 2019, for Creativity and Innovation-*Prize for Best Narrative Film – Comedy*; Nomination German Film Prize - *Best Camera*

X-THE EXPLOITED, Screenwriter/Director: Karoly Ujj Meszaros (Hungary)

eQuinoxe Workshop 2016, Production: Fokus Fox Studio

Hungarian Film Festival of Los Angeles – *Best Film*; Festival Int. du Films Policier de Liège – *Audience Award*; Fantasporto Intl. Film Festival- *Directors Week Best Screenplay Award*.

MY GRANDPA IS AN ALIEN, Screenwriter: Irena Krcelic (Croatia)

eQuinoxe Workshop 2013, Production: Studio Dim

Flicks Film 2019 - *Best Feature Film, Best Young Actress, Best Kids Film*; Near Nazareth Film Festival - *Jury Award Best Family Film*;

3 DAYS IN QUIBERON, Screenwriter/Director: Emily Atef

(France), **eQuinoxe Workshop 2015**, Production: Rohfilm Factory.

Austrian Film Prize Nomination – *Best Supporting Actress*

eQuinoxe Europe e.V. would like to thank all the internationally renowned advisors, funders and partners for the creative and productive years which continue to produce strong films resonating in an international market: Austrian Film Institute; Bavarian Ministry for Digital Business; Creative Europe MEDIA Sub-programme of the European Union; Creative Skillset (UK); FFA; Finnish Film Foundation, FOCAL (CH); the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and Media; Manitoba Film & Music (CAN); On Screen Manitoba (CAN); MFG Film Fund Baden-Württemberg; Norwegian Film Institute; New Zealand Film Commission, Ontario Creates (CAN); Screen Australia, Screen Nova Scotia (CAN) and the Vestnorsk Film Centre (N) and Western Norway Film Commission.

The History: eQuinoxe Europe e.V. was founded in 2001 under the original name of éQuinoxe Germany by Ellen Winn Wendl, Susan Schulte and Susanne Schneider and following 12 years of international success holding workshops in different European countries with advisors from the whole globe, in 2013 the name was changed to eQuinoxe Europe e.V. Since 2015 Lord Puttnam CBE is the Honorary Chairman for eQuinoxe Europe. The goals of eQuinoxe Europe since inception are to foster a more thorough script development for film productions and to build networks between European and international filmmakers. To date, eQuinoxe Europe has supported over 220 writers and their producers from 23 countries winning numerous international prizes.

###

The 25. *International Screenwriters Workshop* will be held in autumn 2020.

###