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PRESS RELEASE

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Film- und Medienstiftung NRW: 2016 in review

- „Toni Erdmann“ - exceptional film supported by Filmstiftung outshines everything in the cinema during 2016
- Shower of accolades for first-class arthouse - „Mustang“, „The People vs. Fritz Bauer“, „Wild“, and others.
- 160 films at over 100 festivals - Sundance, Cannes, Locarno, Venice, Busan, Toronto, and others.
- Success with family entertainment in the cinemas and mini-series with top ratings on TV
- Strong presence - Drama Series Days, MIPTV and MIPCOM, International Emmys
- „Year of Women“ with Maren Ade, Deniz Gamze Ergüven, Nicolette Krebitz, and others.
- New film events - Film Festival Cologne, NRW Film Prize, NRW DocuDay, NRW@Brussels, and others.
- NRW digital - gamescom, dmexco, Clash of Realities, NRW Creators LAB, and new Mediennetzwerk.NRW
- Diversity and wide range of funding - 30.1 m Euros for 405 projects, of which 66 are feature films , 9 TV projects, development of 18 series formats, 21 games projects, 52 festivals and location projects, etc..
- In total, over 45 m Euros for the film and media industry in NRW
- Outlook: over 25 NRW-backed films at the 2017 Berlinale

„2016 was the year of anniversaries in NRW. The Filmstiftung turned 25, and there was seldom so many nominations, awards and festival invitations for Filmstiftung-backed productions and filmmakers. ‚Toni Erdmann‘ outshone the whole year of cinema. The Film- und Medienstiftung can be proud of the fact that it came on board the project as the main funder from the very beginning. In general, it's pleasing to see that several of the year's artistically convincing and sensational arthouse productions were funded in NRW and made here - and that many of these films this year came from women directors!“, says **Petra Müller, CEO of the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW**. „There have also been some new things happening in the film and media hub: the launching of the NRW Film Prize and the Film Festival Cologne mean that we now have a central film festival in Cologne. The innovative funding programmes and scholarships have further strengthened the young film and media scene, and NRW will now see the establishment of a new media network, the Mediennetzwerk.NRW. Following this successful anniversary year, the Film- und Medienstiftung will gain new momentum and continue to be a reliable partner for the industry and a motor for the region's development in NRW. But, for the time being, we're saying 'Fingers crossed' for tomorrow's Oscar nomination. The chances are not that bad.“

NRW funding in 2016 in numbers

2016 was an exceptional year for the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW - an anniversary year, major national and international success as a funder and a location agency for NRW as a film and media region. The Filmstiftung spent 30.1 m Euros on backing a total of 405 projects for the development, production and distribution of film, TV, games and online content. In addition, the Film- und Medienstiftung supported initiatives and activities throughout the film and media region: 1.22 m Euros for a total of 52 festivals, film presentations and location projects. About 1.4 m Euros funding came to NRW for nine projects via the **Creative Europe** programme. Around 14 m Euros were also awarded in the federal state's **CreateMedia.NRW** competition. NRW was therefore able to provide around 45.5 m Euros in 2016 for the funding and support of the film and media sectors. The Film- und Medienstiftung helped to encourage greater networking through extensive publicity, events and conferences for the whole media industry and presented the hub at home and abroad.

Increased NRW effect with concentrated funding profile

110 film and TV projects were supported in the production funding programme with 23.64 m Euros. Around 19 m Euros went to 66 feature films, of which 6.52 m Euros was allocated to 28 international co-productions like „**55 Steps**“ or „**#Flora63**“ and 5.26 m Euros to nine films for children and young people like „**Benjamin Blümchen**“ or „Lilly The Witch 3“. 2.23 m Euros in funding was awarded to 33 documentaries, and the top amount of 5.62 m Euros went to newcomer projects and debuts. 3.68 m Euros flowed into nine extraordinary TV projects like „**Brecht - Eine Vorstellung**“ and another 436,000 Euros into the development of 18 platform-independent series formats. The production funding alone generated around 800 shooting days and expenditure of some 56.85 m Euros, resulting in an increased NRW effect of 256%.

Successful with arthouse and family entertainment

„**Toni Erdmann**“ was the year's high-flier. The German Oscar candidate also made an impact at the box office with 803,000 admissions. Other commercially successful films were „**Help, I Shrunk My Teacher**“ (1.1 m since release), „**Pettersson und Findus: Das schönste Weihnachten überhaupt**“ (625,000), „**Emerald Green**“ (538,000) and „**Vampire Sisters 3 - Journey To Transylvania**“ (310,000). „**The People vs. Fritz Bauer**“ was also successful in the German arthouse charts with more than 270,000 admissions and was sold in 2016 to 18 territories around the globe. The end of the year saw the artist biopic „**Paula**“ enter the arthouse charts at No. 1 (admissions to date: around 200,000). NRW-backed arthouse films, in particular, were also successful abroad and shown worldwide.

High-rating TV events and sensational series projects

The Filmstiftung was successful in its TV funding programme with the event mini-series „**Winnetou**“ and „**Gotthard**“, the Dominik Graf thriller „**Zielfahnder**“, the Adidas and Puma story „**Adidas vs. Puma**“, which each reached around 5 m TV viewers. Another NRW-backed series „**Weinberg**“ received a Grimme Prize. Moreover, 2017 will see the lavish TV series „**Babylon Berlin**“ coming onto the screens. In addition, the Filmstiftung was a partner of the **Drama Series Days** at the Berlinale, a partner of Cologne's **Series Summit**, was present at **Series Mania** in Paris, and presented NRW as a TV hub at **MIPCOM** and **MIPTV** as well as the **International Emmys**.

Oscar shortlist, German and European Film Awards, Student Oscars: shower of accolades for Filmstiftung-backed films

The tragicomedy „**Toni Erdmann**“ by Maren Ade really swept the board during the year. Feted at the film festival in Cannes as the first German film in competition for eight years, there are almost too many awards to count, including three FIPRESCI Awards and five European Film Awards. „**The People vs. Fritz Bauer**“ was the clear winner at the 2016 German Film Awards with six prizes. 2016 began with the nomination for the Best Foreign Language Feature Film for „**Mustang**“, the Student Oscar for the Best Foreign Animation Film went to the Filmstiftung-backed KHM graduation film „**Ayny - My Second Eye**“ by Ahmad Saleh.

International presence

2016 was an outstanding festival year for NRW-backed films: **164** supported films screened at **117** festivals and received **115** prizes. The Filmstiftung was a partner at the CineMart in **Rotterdam** and had five films in the festival programme. „**Wild**“ and „**Sonita**“ had their world premieres at the **Sundance** Film Festival. There were 26 funded films at the **Berlinale**, six NRW films and co-productions had their premieres in **Locarno**, including „**Marija**“, „**Paula**“ and „**Peter Handke - In The Woods, Might Be Late...**“, and the TV two-parter „**Gotthard**“ was shown as a preview. NRW filmmakers and partners met for industry get-togethers on the occasion of the 2th anniversary at international festivals in **Cannes**, **Venice** and **Toronto**, North America's most important film market.

A „year of women“

2016 proved to be a particularly successful year for women filmmakers, and the Filmstiftung was involved in many of their films as the main funder. This was the case for **Maren Ade's** „**Toni Erdmann**“ as well as for **Nicolette Krebitz's** „**Wild**“, **Deniz Gamze Ergüven's** „**Mustang**“, **Corinna Belz's** „**Peter Handke...**“, **Iciar Bollain's** „**El Olivo**“ and for **Asli Özge's** „**All Of A Sudden**“. In recognition of this development, the Filmstiftung and HDF Kino awarded the 20,000 Euros Herbert Strate Prize to **Maren Ade** and **Maria Schrader** and sent out an important signal. **Margarethe von Trotta**, one of the leading German women filmmakers, will be presented with the Helmut Käutner Prize in Düsseldorf this May.

Newcomer funding

The Mediengründerzentrum NRW turned 10 and has already been able to support around 130 media start-ups with advice, coaching and a start-up grant from the federal state. Many of today's successful young NRW producers come from here. In 2016, the Film- und Medienstiftung supported the next generation from NRW with 5.62 m Euros, backing 39 debuts, newcomer and graduation films. Other graduation films scored major successes apart from the Student Oscar for „**Ayny**“: Martin Hawies' „**Toro**“ was invited to the Berlinale, and Philipp Fussenegger's „**Henry**“ picked up the First Steps Award. In addition, the Filmstiftung supports young film and media professionals in the development of their projects through bursaries and innovative funding programmes. This is the case for cinema (**Gerd Ruge Grant, Wim Wenders Scholarship, Baumi Script Development Award**) as well as for new media content (**innovative audiovisual content, webvideo grants**).

Games, internet and online content

The funding programme for the development of **innovative audiovisual content** supported a total of 21 projects with 832,000 Euros, including „**Daughter**“, the new project by the makers of „Typoman“, Brainseed Factory, from Bonn. The second round of the regional competition **CreateMedia.NRW** awarded funding of 14 m Euros to 18 projects from the media and creative industries. The professionalisation of young moving image producers from NRW is supported by the NRW Creators LAB which was initiated by the Filmstiftung NRW. The four best entries were awarded a web video grant to the value of 24,000 Euros. At the end of 2016, the Filmstiftung subsidiary Mediencluster received the contract to operate the **Mediennetzwerk.NRW**, which is being provided annually with 1.4 m Euros of NRW state funding. The world's largest games trade fair **gamescom** (345,000 visitors, almost 900 exhibitors) and the digital trade fair **dmexco** (50,700 visitors, over 1,000 exhibitors), where the media region of NRW had a presence with well attended stands, were again in 2016 with significant increases in the numbers of visitors and exhibitors. The **VideoDays** in Cologne again attracted more than 12,000 YouTubers, and the **6th German Web Video Award** was presented in Düsseldorf.

Shooting in NRW

There were a total of 800 shooting days in NRW during 2016. NRW was able to prove the diversity of locations and see full use of the studios and service-producers with such major productions as „**Babylon Berlin**“, „**Lombock**“ by Christian Zübert with Moritz Bleibtreu, „**55 Steps**“ by Bille August with Hilary Swank and Helena Bonham Carter, „**Monster**“ by Kerstin Polte with Corinna Harfouch, „**Eine sachliche Romanze**“ by Laura Lackmann with Laura Tonke, „**Magical Mystery**“ by Arne Feldhusen with Charly Hübner, „**Wendy**“ by Dagmar Seume or „**#Flora63**“ with Pierre Richard.

Cinema funding

The Filmstiftung made a total of 818,800 Euros available last year for cinema modernisation, film presentations and the NRW Cinema Programming Prize. 68 NRW cinemas from 42 towns were presented with 430,000 Euros at the Cinema Programming Prize ceremony in November. The new construction and re-opening of the **Weltspiegel** in Mettmann **received** 100,000 Euros in support, with the cinema opening its doors again in December. In addition, funding was allocated to the **Rex** in Cologne (re-opening planned for 2017), the **Cineplex Filmpalast**, Cologne (performances resumed in December 2016, opening planned for spring 2017) or the **Lichtspiele Kalk**, Cologne (opening planned for autumn 2017).

Media Summer, Film Autumn, Film Prize and Cinema Programming Prize

The Media Summer kicked off at the **NRW Media Forum NRW** with discussions under the banner of „What's next?“ about current developments in television, journalism, entertainment and radio. The conference and events such as the **RTL Reception**, the anniversary edition of the Film- und Medienstiftung's industry get-together and the **German Web Video Award** were all part of a strong media week around **ANGA COM**. The foundation has been laid for an impressive film festival with the newly positioned **Film Festival Cologne** and the NRW Film Prize which was initiated by the federal state of NRW, the City of Cologne and the Filmstiftung. Over 20 festivals and professional events, which delighted cineastes and the film industry, followed throughout the region under the „Film Autumn NRW“ label: including the **40th Duisburg Film Week**, the **Kinofest Lünen**, **CineCologne**, the **Filmplus Festival**, the **Cologne Short Film Festival** or **blicke - Film Festival of the Ruhr Region**. The **NRW Cinema Programming Prize** was presented for the 26th time in Cologne.

Outlook for 2017: Starting into a promising year for film and media

2017 has already started in a promising way: NRW is at the Max Ophüls Prize Film Prize Film Festival in Saarbrücken with 14 films and in various sections of the Berlinale with over 25 films. „**A Happy Family**“ by Nana & Simon is in competition n Sundance, four NRW-backed productions are screening at the International Film Festival Rotterdam. „**Kundschafter des Friedens**“ by Robert Thalheim, „**The Beautiful Days of Aranjuez**“ by Wim Wenders and „**Marija**“ by Michael Koch are currently on general release.

Company and shareholdings

The Film- und Medienstiftung has been operating as an integrated funding institution since 2011 and ia a central port of call for all film and media professionals in NRW. During this period new funding instruments were developed for innovative and interactive content and new offers for networking and communication have been created in close cooperation with the associated companies.

On 31 December 2016, the Landesanstalt für Medien left the circle of shareholders of the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW. The shareholding (5%) was taken over the federal state of NRW as from 1.1.2017. The shareholders of the Film- und Medienstiftung are WDR (40%), the federal state of NRW (from 2017: 40%), ZDF (10%) and RTL (10%).

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Film- und Medienstiftung NRW

The anniversary year 2016 in review

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Film- und Medienstiftung NRW
Düsseldorf, 2017

1. Funding

In 2016, the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW backed a total of 405 projects with 30.05 m Euros. 110 film and TV projects were supported in the film funding programme with 23.29 m Euros. The production funding generated a NRW effect of 56.85 m Euros (256.16 %). The development of innovative content, series formats and location projects were supported with around 1.7 m Euros.

Funding categories	Number of projects	Euros
Development	31	778.352
Screenplay funding	17	300.000
Project development	4	105.000
Preproduction	10	373.352
Production	110	23.636.258
Feature films (incl. low budget)	66	19.147.658
TV productions (incl. low budget)	9	3.675.000
Experimental and short films	18	317.600
Graduation films	13	234.000
Model projects	2	220.000
Postproduction projects	2	42.000
Distribution/Sales	66	2.329.000
Cinema	102	818.800
Festivals and Events	16	460.250
Grants	9	200.000
Gerd Ruge Grant	5	100.000
Wim Wenders Grant	4	100.000
Funding programmes	48	1.715.475
Innovative audiovisual content (games, etc.)	21	831.975
Series formats (platform-independent)	14	411.500
Innovative location projects	13	472.000
Radio drama	23	110.000
TOTAL	405	30.048.135

1.1 Film Funding

* Film: 19.15 m Euros went to 66 theatrical productions. The largest amounts of support were allocated to „**High Life**“ by Claire Denis (Pandora Filmproduktion, 1.2 m), with a cast including Patricia Arquette, Robert Pattinson and Mia Goth, „**Schatz, nimm du sie!**“ by Sven Unterwaldt (Conradfilm, 1 m), featuring Carolin Kebekus and Maxim Mehmet, „**Lommbock**“ by Christian Zübert (Little Shark Entertainment, around 980,000 Euros) with Moritz Bleibtreu and Lucas Gregorowicz, „**Sommerfest**“ by Sönke Wortmann (Little Shark Entertainment, 900,000 Euros), and „**Pettson and Findus 3**“ by Ali Samadi Ahadi (Tradewind Pictures, 900,000 Euros). The new Oskar Roehler film „**Subs**“ (Molina Film), with Katja Riemann, Oliver Masucci and Samuel Finzi in the lead roles, and „**Wendy**“ (Bantry Bay Productions) by Dagmar Seume each received 800,000 Euros in funding.

* Around 40% (28 productions with 6.52 m Euros) of the supported feature film projects were **international co-productions**. Family entertainment, films for children and young people address important target groups and are among the most popular film genres. Thus, nine projects were supported with a total of 5.26 m Euros, including „**Benjamin Blümchen**“, „**Lilly The Witch 3**“ and „**Liliane Susewind – Mit Elefanten spricht man nicht**“. 2.23 m Euros in funding were awarded to 33 documentaries, and 5.62 m Euros went to 39 projects in the funding programmes for newcomers, debuts and graduation films.

Genres	Number of projects	Euros
International co-productions	28	6.520.885
Young cinema and newcomers	39	5.618.453
Films for children and young people/family entertainment	9	5.258.798
Documentaries	33	2.228.000

- **Television:** 3.68 m Euros went to nine exceptional TV projects, including „**Brecht - Eine Vorstellung**“ (Bavaria Filmproduktion, 1 m Euros) by Heinrich Breloer with Burghart Klaußner as Bertolt Brecht, the drama „**Gladbeck**“ (Ziegler Film, 975,000 Euros) by Kilian Riedhof, „**Wir sind doch Schwestern**“ (UFA Fiction, 600,000 Euros) by Til Endemann and the second season of the high-end series project „**Babylon Berlin**“ (X Filme, 500,000 Euros) by Tom Tykwer, Achim von Borries and Henk Handloegten.

1.2 Funding programmes

* The Filmstiftung awarded a total of 831,975 Euros for 21 projects in 2016 within the framework of the funding programme for the development of **innovative audiovisual content**. The projects included the virtual reality game „**Squishies**“ (**Vibrant Core**) and „**Daughter**“, the new project by the makers of „**Typoman**“, **Brainseed Factory**.

* The second round of the regional competition **CreateMedia.NRW**, which is explicitly targeted at games companies, selected 18 projects from the media and creative industries out of a total of 41 project submissions for funding of 14 m Euros. The competition is endowed with 40 m Euros for six years until 2020.

* Development for a total of 14 projects in the entertainment and comedy genres was supported with 411,500 Euros within the framework of the funding programme for **innovative series formats**. The supported projects included „**Krumme Jass**“ (producer: **btf**, Cologne), an eight-part series about the story of a long-established family in Cologne's red light district at the beginning of the 1970s, or „**Flete – the TV series**“ (producer: **Ahoiii Entertainment**, Cologne). The twelve-part children's series will now bring the globetrotter familiar from apps and books to television.

* The committee of the **French-German funding programme** for the co-development of TV fiction series recommended a new project after the second call: „**Ein paar Tage Licht**“ (Paix à leurs armes“) by **Abdel Raouf Dafri** (prod cos: Eikon West, Cologne and Watch Next Media, Paris), which was backed with 50,000 Euros. The goal of the fund launched last year is the development of TV fiction series which will be made as German-French co-productions. The partners on the German side are **FilmFernsehFonds Bayern**, **Film- und Medienstiftung NRW**, **Medienboard Berlin Brandenburg** and **MFG Medien- und Filmgesellschaft Baden-**

Württemberg. The **Centre National du cinéma et de l'image animée (CNC)** supports the fund on the French side. It has a annual budget of 200,000 Euros, and the maximum level of funding per project is set at 50,000 Euros.

1.3. Cinema funding

* The Filmstiftung made a total of 818,800 Euros available last year for cinema modernisation, film presentations and the NRW Cinema Programming Prize. 68 NRW cinemas from 42 towns were presented with 430,000 Euros at the Cinema Programming Prize ceremony in November.

* The new construction and re-opening of the **Weltspiegel** in Mettmann was supported with 100,000 Euros, with the cinema opening its doors again in December. In addition, funding was allocated to the **Rex** in Cologne (re-opening planned for 2017), the **Cineplex Filmpalast**, Cologne (performances resumed in December 2016, opening planned for spring 2017) or the **Lichtspiele Kalk**, Cologne (opening planned for autumn 2017). The number of cinema screens in NRW (854 in 2015, corresponds to 18.2% of the total) remains constant and leads the field nationwide.

1.4 Grants: Gerd Ruge, Wim Wenders, Baumi and the YouTube creative artists

* Five projects were allocated a total of 100,000 Euros in August at the 15th awards ceremony of the **Gerd Ruge Grant** for documentary filmmakers. An independent jury under the chairmanship of Gerd Ruge selected the projects receiving a development grant out of 38 submissions. Since its launch in 2002, 76 grants have been awarded and 39 projects of these have since been realised.

* In summer 2016, the Filmstiftung awarded the **Wim Wenders Grant** for innovative filmmaking for the third time in collaboration with the Wim Wenders Foundation at Düsseldorf's Film Workshop. Four projects by young filmmakers were selected from 26 submitted applications to receive a total of 100,000 Euros for the development of innovative film ideas. On the eve of the awards ceremony, the jury was able to see the first results of the work by the grant-holders from 2014 and 2015.

* The 20,000 Euros **Baumi Script Development Award** was presented for the first time during the Berlinale in 2016. The Egyptian Omar El Zohairy received the award for his project „Feathers of a Father“. The jury included the filmmaker Fatih Akin alongside the founders Martina Baumgartner (for the Baumgartner family), Reinhard Brundig (for Pandora Film) and Petra Müller (for the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW). The award is in memory of the late film producer and distributor Karl „Baumi“ Baumgartner and aims to support free and independent script development of outstanding international stories for cinema. The next Baumi Award will be presented at the 2017 edition of the Berlinale.

* Four projects were awarded **Web Video Grants** to the value of around 25,000 Euros from the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW at the first **NRW Creators LAB** which was initiated by the Filmstiftung NRW and held in the **Cologne Game Lab** at the beginning of December. 19 talented web video creators had participated in an intensive workshop for greater professionalisation in Cologne. The NRW Creators LAB is an initiative of the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW and the **UFA LAB** and will be held twice a year in Cologne from 2017. The ifa and the Cologne Game Lab are partners in the project.

2. Results in 2016

2.1. Successful with arthouse and family entertainment

	Title	Distributor	Admissions to 31.12.16*	Total admissions to date**	Release date
1.	Toni Erdmann	NFP	777.445	802.886	14.07.16
2.	Pettersson & Findus 3	Wild Bunch	603.565	624.878	03.11.16
3.	Emerald Green	Concorde	537.751	537.751	07.07.16
4.	Help, I Shrunk My Teacher	Sony	504.188	1.099.878	17.12.2015
5.	The Diary of Anne Frank	Universal	386.883	386.883	03.03.16
6.	Vampire Sisters 3 - Journey To Transylvania	Sony Pictures	242.058	311.249	08.12.16
7.	A Hologram For A King	X Verleih	209.731	209.731	28.04.16
8.	Mullewapp – A Pig's Tale	Studiocanal	174.624	174.624	14.07.16
9.	Robby & Toby's Fantastic Voyager	Studiocanal	126.104	146.519	01.12.16
10.	Mustang	Weltkino	121.248	121.248	18.08.16
11.	The Dark Side Of The Moon	Alamode	113.031	113.031	14.01.16
12.	Paula	Pandora	111.197	193.120	15.12.16

*Status as of 31.12.2016, 5,390,502 total admissions

** Status as of 16.01.2017

- **„Toni Erdmann“** by Maren Ade was last year's big success in the cinemas, and the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW was involved as the main funder from the outset. Over 800,000 cinema-goers in Germany alone have since seen the hit comedy with Sandra Hüller and Peter Simonischek. „Toni Erdmann“ is currently on release in 23 territories around the globe and was at the top of the arthouse cinema charts for 2016. Following its world premiere in Cannes, „Toni Erdmann“ was, among other things, the opening film of Filmfest München, screened at the Sarajevo Film Festival, as a Special Presentation at the Toronto International Film Festival as well as at the New York Film Festival. On 10 Dezember, the film received five European Film Awards in the categories of Best Film, Best Director, Best Screenwriter, Best Actress and Best Actor. At the beginning of January, it was also a nominee at the Golden Globes and has been nominated for a BAFTA Award. At the Film Festival Cologne in October, „Toni Erdmann“ was presented with the first NRW Film Prize as Best Feature Film and also received the 2016 LUX Film Prize. It was awarded the Guild Film Prize at the Filmkunstmesse in Leipzig. During the San Sebastian Film Festival, „Toni Erdmann“ was presented with the FIPRESCI Grand Prix 2016 after having already received the film critics' FIPRESCI Award at the festival in Cannes. „Toni Erdmann“ was nominated on 24 January as one of the five titles in the Best Foreign Language Feature Film category for the 89th Oscars. „Toni Erdmann“ is a production of **Komplizen Film** in co-production with **coop99Filmproduktion** and **Missing Link Films**. The comedy also has the chance of a prize in the category of Best International Film at the International Spirit Awards on the eve of the Oscar ceremony.
- **Cinema admissions: „Help, I Shrunk My Teacher“** by Sven Unterwaldt posted a total of 1.1 admissions (prod co: blue eyes fiction, in co-production with Karibufilm, Mini Film, Deutsche Columbia Pictures Filmproduktion and ARRI Productions). The last part of the jewel trilogy, the fantasy adventure, **„Emerald Green“**, by Felix Fuchsteiner and Katharina Schöde, was released in the cinemas during summer 2016. The film had its premiere at the Filmfest München (prod co: Tele München, mem-film, Lieblingsfilm and Cologne's gff). „Emerald Green“ attracted over half a million cinema-goers into the German cinemas since its release. The German „Shooting Star 2017“ Louis Hofmann plays the lead in Jakob M. Erwa's drama **„The Centre of the World“**. The film received, among others, the Youth Jury's Prize at the Filmkunstmesse in Leipzig (prod co: Neue Schönhauser Filmproduktion, Prisma Film- und Fernsehproduktion, Universum, mojo:pictures). In December, **„Pettersson & Findus 3“** successfully opened in seven territories and has so far attracted over 1 million cinema-goers throughout Europe. The end of the year saw the artist biopic **„Paula“** by Christian Schwochow entering the arthouse charts at No. 1 (prod co: Pandora). Around 200,000 cinema-goers have seen the film with Carla Juri in the lead so far.
- **High-rating TV films:** Filmstiftung-backed TV events each attracted around 5 m TV viewers, such as the two Christmas mini-series **„Gotthard“** by **Urs Egger** (ZDF) and RTL's event three-parter **„Winnetou“** by **Philipp Stölzl**. A 100 metre-long replica of part of the historic Gotthard tunnel was built near Cologne

for „Gotthard“. The two productions „**Zielfahnder – Flucht in die Karpaten**“ by **Dominik Graf** (ARD) and „**Adidas vs. Puma**“ by **Oliver Dommenges** (RTL) were also successful.

- **Top 10 arthouse cinema charts of NRW-funded films**

	Title	Distributor	Total admissions to date **	Release date
1.	Toni Erdmann	NFP	802.886	14.07.16
2.	The Diary of Anne Frank	Universal	386.883	03.03.16
3.	A Hologram For A King	X Verleih	209.731	28.04.16
4.	Mustang	Weltkino	121.248	18.08.16
5.	The Dark Side Of The Moon	Alamode	113.031	14.01.16
6.	Paula	Pandora	193.120	15.12.16
7.	El Olivo	Piffi	85.628	25.08.16
8.	Original Bliss	Wild Bunch	61.955	20.10.16
9.	Radio Heimat	Concorde	56.839	17.11.16
10.	Young Light	Weltkino	55.041	12.05.16

** Status as of 16.01.2017

- **Awards and distinctions:** 2016 was the year of top-notch arthouse productions, and many of the Filmstiftung-backed films being at head of the field. „**Mustang**“ by Deniz Gamze Ergüven was nominated at the beginning of the year for the Best Foreign Language Feature Film Oscar and is currently in the running for a BAFTA Award. The big winner at the 2016 German Film Awards was „**The People vs. Fritz Bauer**“ by Lars Kraume with six trophies. It received the Golden Lola for Best Film as well as Lolas for Best Direction, Best Screenplay, Best Supporting Actor, Best Costume Design and Best Production Design. The co-production by zero one film and Terz Film was also a major arthouse success with more than 270,000 admissions, and was shown in 18 territories around the globe in 2016. „**Wild**“ by Nicolette Krebitz celebrated its premiere in competition at the Sundance Film Festival and was presented with the German Camera Award, the Günter Rohrbach Film Prize and the Bavarian Film Award for Direction during the year.
- **Film festivals:** Filmstiftung-backed films premiered at all of the important film festivals in 2016 and received numerous awards and distinctions: 5 films screened in Rotterdam, 26 films in Berlin, 4 films in Cannes, 13 films in Munich, 1 film in Venice, 6 films in Locarno, 7 films in Busan, 9 films in Toronto, and 6 films in Hof. Cologne's augenschein is the co-producer of the Singaporean Oscar entry „**Apprentice**“ by Boo Junfeng, which had its premiere in the Un Certain Regard sidebar in Cannes. „**The Beautiful Days Of Aranjuez**“ by Wim Wenders had been invited to the Competition of the Venice Film Festival in September 2016. **In total, over 160 supported films could be seen at about 120 festivals around the globe.**

2.2. „The Year of Women“

- Last year saw numerous artistically successful films made by women, with many of them backed by the Film- und Medienstiftung. They included: „**Toni Erdmann**“ by **Maren Ade**, „**Mustang**“ by **Deniz Gamze Ergüven**, „**Wild**“ by **Nicolette Krebitz** as well as the documentaries by **Heidi Specogna** („**Cahier Africain**“), **Kamila Pfeffer** („**Who Is Oda Jaune**“), or **Corinna Belz** („**Peter Handke – Am In The Forest. Might Be Late**“). In addition, the Cologne Film Prize went to the director **Claire Denis** and the NRW Film Prize for the best documentary to **Christine Büchner** for „**Family Business**“.
- The 2016 **Herbert Strate Prize** was awarded under the heading of „The Year of Women“ to the directors **Maren Ade** („Toni Erdmann“) and **Maria Schrader** („Stefan Zweig - Farewell To Europe“). In doing so, the jury honoured two Oscar candidates as well as sending out an important signal. Following on from this, the **Bavarian Film Award** has just been given to five female directors: also to Maren Ade and Maria Schrader as well as Nicolette Krebitz, Franziska Meletzky and Marie Noëlle.
- There's also some movement in the **film funding**: of 229 projects (film and TV) which were submitted for production funding, 68 came from female producers (30%) and 68 from female directors (30%).

Of the 108 funded projects (film and TV), 32 came from female producers (30%) and 32 from female directors (30%). Of the 81 funded feature films, 30 came from female producers (37%) and 33 from female directors (41%).

2.3. Newcomers and young cinema from NRW

- In 2016, the Film- und Medienstiftung was able to support the next generation from NRW with over 5.62 m Euros (24% of the total production funding). It backed 39 debuts or newcomer projects, incl. graduation films within the framework of the **graduation film funding programme**. The Filmstiftung supported 13 graduation films at NRW film academies with 234,000 Euros.
- The KHM graduation film „**Ayny**“ by Ahmed Saleh was presented with the Student Oscar's Gold Medal in the newly created category of Best Foreign Animation. Winning the Student Oscar means that „Ayny“ is also now in the selection process for the regular animation Oscar category for 2017.
- Other successes for KHM graduation films included Martin Hawies' „**Toro**“ being invited to the Berlinale, the First Steps Award for Philipp Fussenegger's „**Henry**“, and the German Short Film Award in animation for „**Ein Aus Weg**“ to Caroline Kox (production).
- The **ifs internationale filmschule köln** celebrated its 15th anniversary in 2016 at its new premises in Cologne-Mühlheim's Schanzenstraße. The Winter Term saw the launch of the new Master's course in „Digital Narratives“ where the students develop their idea of a creative narrative form in digital media through a combination of theory and practice.
- The **Mediengründerzentrum NRW** celebrated its tenth anniversary this year. The federal state's much sought-after start-up grants have been awarded to up-and-coming film and media companies since summer 2006. To date, 133 companies from the areas of film and TV production, new media and games were accepted on the start-up programme. More than 90% of the companies are still active in the market.
- The young NRW producers have a presence at festivals and in the cinemas with their new projects. For instance, **augenschein** Filmproduktion was at the film festival in Cannes with „**Apprentice**“ and „**The Wounded Angel**“ screened at the 2016 Berlinale; this year has seen them invited to the Competition with „**Ana, mon Amour**“, and their production „**Volt**“ with Benno Fürmann is released in the cinemas on 2 February. Moreover, **Belle Epoque** caught attention with „**Fritz Lang**“, **Sutor Kolonko** with „**Oscuro Animal**“ and „**Modris**“, and **Weydemann Bros.** with „**Sex & Crime**“.

2.4 Documentary: artist portraits, flight and migration, film history

The documentary is one of the prestigious genres of North Rhine-Westphalian filmmaking: the main focus is on political and socially relevant issues, biographies and artist portraits, and much more. 33 projects with a wide range of subjects were supported with 2.23 m Euros.

* The funded documentaries „**Who Is Oda Jaune?**“ by Kamilla Pfeffer (prod co: gebrueder beetz, KHM), „**Havarie**“ by Philip Scheffner (prod co: Blinker Film) and „**Doomed Love – A Journey Through German Genre Films**“ (prod co: Augustin Film) had their world premieres at the Berlinale.

* Another two artist portraits were invited to 'A' festivals apart from „Who Is Oda Jaune?“ : „**Peter Handke – Am In The Forest. Might Be Late**“ by Corinna Belz (prod co: zero one film, world premiere in Locarno) and „**Mali Blues**“ by Lutz Gregor (prod co: gebrueder beetz, incl. screening in Toronto).

* The **Gerd Ruge Grant**, which has been awarded each year since 2002, helps exceptional documentaries with staying power having a chance to be developed. 81 project grants have been awarded since its launch. And NRW provides the corresponding presentation platforms with such festivals as the **Duisburg Film Week** and „**Stranger than Fiction**“.

* Together with the Filmbüro NW and other partners, the Filmstiftung marked 30 years of NRW documentaries with a jointly initiated **NRW Docu-Day** on 27 January.

* Producing Virtual Reality was the subject of this year's workshop which was held in November in Cologne within the framework of the renowned **Documentary Campus Masterschool**. Experienced producers explained

the challenges and production opportunities for documentary VR projects, discussed the pros and cons of the screen-free age and presented examples of best practice.

3. Films shooting during 2016

NRW was the location in 2016 for the filming of numerous feature film and TV productions. They not only brought stars and directors to NRW, but also ensured with around 800 shooting days that service-providers and studios were used to the full. This resulted in a total NRW effect of 256.16% and around 56.85 m Euros.

- „**55 Steps**“ is the true story of a special friendship between Eleanor Riese and Colette Hughes and their common struggle for justice. The drama by **Bille August**, including **Helena Bonham Carter**, **Hilary Swank**, Jeffrey Tambor and Cynthia Hoppenfeld in the leads, is a production of elسانی film, in co-production with Potemkino Port and MMC Movies Cologne.
- „**#Flora63**“ by director **Stéphane Robelin** was made in Cologne's MMC Studios, among other places. **Pierre Richard**, Yaniss Lespert, Fanny Valette and Anna Bederke headline the comedy produced by DETAILFILM and Ici et Là Productions (F) in co-production with MMC Movies Cologne. Neue Visionen will release the film theatrically.
- The two old potheads meet up again after years not seeing each other. Kai is now running an Asian takeaway with relatively little success, while Stefan is living in the Emirates and planning to marry. **Christian Zübert** made the long anticipated comedy „**Lommbock**“ with **Moritz Bleibtreu** and **Lucas Gregorowicz** and lots of old acquaintances (prod co: Little Shark Entertainment).
- „Anywhere else and you know yourself who you are – but here, the others do that. That's what home is all about“. Stefan – a more or less successful actor in the theatre – he could be one of the lads from „Little Sharks“ - has to travel to Bochum to sell his late father's house. **Sönke Wortmann** shot „**Sommerfest**“ entirely in NRW with **Lucas Gregorowicz**, Anna Bederke, Nicholas Bodeux, Peter Jordan, Sandra Borgmann and Jasni Fritzi Bauer (prod co: Little Shark Entertainment).
- **Eran Riklis'** spy thriller „**Refuge**“ has a Lebanese woman escape with the help of the Israeli secret service. She receives a new identity and a new face. Featuring **Golshifteh Farahani** and **Neta Riskin**, among others (prod co: Heimatfilm).
- The successful director **Wolfgang Groos** filmed „**Lily The Witch 3**“ for the big screen with a cast including Hedda Erlebach, **Jürgen Vogel** and **Anja Kling**. The production of blue eyes fiction and Trixter, which was also shooting at Cologne's MMC Studios, was made as a co-production with Dor Film, Potemkino, Be-Films, Universum Film and MMC Movies and in association with WDR.
- November saw the director **Sandra Nettelbeck** in Cologne shooting her supported tragicomedy „**What Doesn't Kill Us**“, a production by Sommerhaus Filmproduktion in co-production with cine plus and Ruhr Sound Studios digital postproduction and in association with ZDF and Arte. **August Zirner**, **Johanna ter Steege**, **Barbara Auer** and **Bjarne Mädel** headline the cast. The film is about mid-life identity crises and affairs of the heart, and that it is never too late to risk what's most important.
- **Hanno Olderdissen's** „**Rock My Heart**“ was shot entirely on location in Cologne, Bonn and Bergisches Land during the autumn (prod co: Neue Schönhauser Filmproduktion). Wild Bunch is set to release the youth drama with **Lena Klenke** and **Didi Hallervorden** theatrically in autumn 2017,
- Dagmar Seume spent 38 days shooting „**Wendy**“ with **Jule Hermann**, **Jasmin Gerat** and **Benjamin Sadler**, among others. Bantry Bay Productions produced the film in co-production with Deutsche Columbia Pictures Filmproduktion. Sony Pictures is distributing the film.
- **Kilian Riedhof's** two-part TV film „**Gladbeck**“ about the event from summer 1988 was produced in the Ruhr region in summer 2016. „Gladbeck“ is a production by Ziegler Film in co-production with ARD Degeto and Radio Bremen for Das Erste, with the lead actors including **Ulrich Noethen**, **Albrecht Schuch** and **Alexander Scheer**.
- The end of September saw the directorial trio of **Tykwera**, **Handloegten** and **von Boerries** starting principal photography at various locations in NRW of the first season of the two eight-part series for „**Babylon Berlin**“. They were filming until November in Cologne, Mülheim, Krefeld, Duisburg and Essen, among other places. Production of the joint series project by X Filme Creative Pool, ARD, Sky, and Beta Film have since wrapped after 180 days and the postproduction is now in full swing. The series takes the audience back to the turbulent Berlin of the Twenties.

4. Presentation, networking, location marketing

4.1. Film

The Film- und Medienstiftung NRW flew the flag at the most important industry events and film festivals during the anniversary year and provided platforms for exchange and project initiatives.

* The **NRW Reception** by the federal state of NRW and the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW was one of the largest industry events at the Berlinale in February and a kick-off event for the anniversary year. The filmmakers came together for a small-scale gathering at the Press Lunch when the „Baumi“ Award was presented for the first time.

* The Filmstiftung hosted an anniversary reception in May during the film festival in **Cannes** for the industry, including the team of the competition entry „Toni Erdmann“ whose incredible success story began here.

* The Filmstiftung also hosted events for filmmakers and representatives of the industry at the important festivals in **Venice** and **Locarno** – here in cooperation with German Films – and was able to welcome directors like Wim Wenders, Maria Schrader, Barbara Sukowa, Christian Schwochow, Corinna Belz or Angela Schanelec among the guests.

* In **Toronto**, North America's most important film market, the NRW Dinner with the successful Cologne-based sales company „The Match Factory“ was a meeting place for the most important international film buyers to mingle with representatives of the German film teams at the festival.

* Other networking opportunities included the CineMart in **Rotterdam** and the co-production meeting [Luxembourg@NRW](#) where producers from Luxembourg and NRW came together during the Film Autumn NRW to discuss financing and cooperation. In addition, the German-Swiss co-production meeting [CH@NRW](#) or the film funds reception marking the **50th Hof Film Days**.

* Founded at the beginning of the anniversary year: the **NRW.filmclub** in Brussels where „The People vs. Fritz Bauer“ by Lars Kraume and „Young Light“ by Adolf Winkelmann were presented in cooperation with the NRW Permanent Representation.

4.2. Television

* The second edition of the „**Drama Series Days**“ at the European Film Market (EFM) presented a compact programme of project presentations, market screenings, pitches and case studies as well as industry debates. Moreover, the „Drama Series Days“ opened up to high-quality documentary series in 2016. The Filmstiftung is a co-founder and joint organiser.

- NRW was at the **International Emmys** in New York again with a delegation of media professionals (organiser: federal state of NRW, LfM and Filmstiftung). The members of the delegation included the actresses **Annette Frier** and **Christiane Paul**. Paul received an International Emmy as Best Actress („Under The Radar“). „**Deutschland 83**“ - a production of UFA Fiction for RTL, was the winner in the Drama Series category. Germany was in the running this time with five nominations, including three productions in four categories with participation by WDR and RTL. In addition, the iEmmy ambassador Leopold Hoesch organises the so-called **Emmy Semi-Final Judgings** in Cologne in the summer.
- 2016 also saw the **MIPTV** television market in Cannes highlighting the latest TV trends, presenting new productions and offering an extensive conference programme. Around 400 international guests came to the „German MIP Cocktail“ which is traditionally hosted by the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg and other partners on the first day of the market. This was followed in October in Cannes by **MIPCOM**, the world's most important market for entertainment content and the leading trade fair for audiovisual content. A „German MIP Cocktail“ was also held here, followed by the premiere of „Terror“ by Lars Kraume.
- The **Entertainment Master Class** (EMC) has set itself the objective of having up-and-coming talents from around the world being trained by masters of their craft. EMC came to Cologne at the end of June with international successful series show runners to discuss the subject of „Running Shows“.
- In April, the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW was a partner of the **Great Serial Summit** where discussion centred on funding opportunities for series, the exploitation of VoD rights and trends and tendencies in fictional storytelling.

4.3. Games

* In 2016, the world's largest games fair, **gamescom**, equalled the previous year's record (over 345,00 visitors, more than 800 exhibitors) and once again underscores NRW's position as one of Europe's most important games hubs. The Film- und Medienstiftung NRW joined forces with Mediencluster NRW and in cooperation with Creative Europe Desk Germany to host a get-together and international matchmaking for the industry at the **umbrella stand** in the Business Area. The trade fair also brought the industry together at parallel professional events such as the **gamescom congress**, the game developers conference **GDC Europe**, the digital art events **Evoke** and **Platine Festival** or the developers gathering **Respawn**. The **VideoDays**, Europe's largest YouTuber gathering, attracted over 12,000 spectators to the Lanxness Arena.

* In November, internationally renowned experts from the worlds of science, research, business and politics discussed topical questions about the aesthetic development, theoretical analysis and cultural promotion of digital games at **Clash of Realities**. The conference was held at the **Cologne Game Lab** of the **University of Applied Sciences in Cologne** and received funding from the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, among others.

* The Filmstiftung's subsidiary **Mediencluster NRW** organised the **Gametreff NRW** in February and October when more than 100 developers, programmers and publishers came together. In November, Düsseldorf was host for the first time for the **Next Level Festival for Games**, and December saw the sector then gathering in Cologne's Palladium for the Filmstiftung-backed **German Developers Prize**. The evening's winner was the publisher Daedalic Entertainment, also based in Düsseldorf, with prizes in eight categories. Prizes also went to the Cologne-based developer JCO and the publisher Headup Games (Düren).

* During the gamescom, the project „**Meister Cody – Talasia**“ from the Düsseldorf-based developer **Kaasa health**, whose development had been supported by the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW in 2012 with 30,000 Euros, paid back the funding. Ulrich Schulze Althoff, Kaasa health's managing director, presented the cheque to Petra Müller at the NRW Get-Together. Also attending: NRW Minister of Economy Garrelt Duin and NRW Media Secretary of State Dr. Marc Jan Eumann.

* The Mediencluster NRW, a subsidiary of the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, was charged with setting up the **Mediennetzwerk.NRW** (budget: 1.4 m Euros p.a.).

4.4 Web Video

NRW has developed into a leading hub for web video production as shown by the diverse YouTube creator scene and the establishing of many digital studios, renowned Multi Channel Networks (MCN) and marketers. The Film- und Medienstiftung NRW supports the web creators' projects in its innovative funding programmes.

- 12,000 people attended the **Videodays**, Europe's largest YouTuber gathering in the Lanxness Arena, at the end of the gamescom week. The highlights included stage shows with leading stars of the scene, autograph signings and the awards ceremony of the „Golden Play Button“. The Film- und Medienstiftung NRW was a host of the NRW Lounge in cooperation with the UFA LAB Cologne.
- The **6th Web Video Award Germany**, organised by the Düsseldorf-based European Web Video Academy, was attended by more than 2,000 guests and fans, with Rocket Beans as the moderator and the event also being broadcast as a live stream. Four of the awards from 12 categories went to outstanding web video makers from NRW: Melina Sophie, Julien Bam, T7pro and Meelah Adams.
- The beginning of December saw the first edition of the one-week web video training camp **NRW Creators LAB** being held in the Cologne Game Lab. Around 20 talented up-and-coming filmmakers and video artists took part in the intensive workshop to achieve a more professional web presence. The NRW Creators LAB is an initiative of the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW and **UFA LAB** and will be held in Cologne twice each year from 2017. The ifs and the Cologne Game Lab are partners in the project. The four best entries were each awarded **web video grants** by the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW totalling around 24,000 Euros. A **web video master class** will be held in NRW in 2017.
- The study entitled „**Who are the German creators on YouTube?**“ was undertaken on behalf of the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW. It interviewed 30,000 online video producers. The first findings were

presented at the Media Forum. The authors were Christian Zabel (TH Köln) and Sven Pagel (Hochschule Mainz).

4.5. Internet, founders and start-ups

- The **dmexco** is one of the world's most successful digital trade fairs. The **media region of NRW** was also represented in 2016 with a stand that was organised by the Mediencluster NRW together with the City of Cologne and in cooperation with the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW. Numerous companies, start-ups and networks from NRW had an opportunity to present themselves opposite the Start-up Village, and the companies and professional delegates used the stand for conversations and to receive advice. A get-together was held at the umbrella stand on the second day of dmexco.
- In 2016, numerous events were held for the founders and start-up scene in NRW such as the Start-Up Weekend in January and October. The Mediencluster NRW has also expanded its start-up activities such as a cooperation with the **Start Up Con** as well as the partnership with the **Pirate Summit**.
- The **Cologne Internet Week** in October saw companies and organisations addressing such pressing issues as how the digital cultural space, global communication and using the digital economy can be linked with acting locally under the heading of „Think global! Act local?“.
- The **eco Internet Award**, one of the most prestigious awards in the Internet industry, was presented for the 16th time in Cologne in June. In total, three companies from NRW were honoured with the award.
- **Web de Cologne e.V.** invited its members and other decision-makers from the digital economy to various networking meetings during 2016, including during the dmexco. Launched in 2009, the Web de Cologne initiative supports the networking of the industry players among themselves and with the world of politics.
- In September, the **Startplatz** in Düsseldorf celebrated its first birthday. Moreover, in October, the **Rheinland Pitch** had its premiere to a full house there. Together with other incubators like Cologne's **Startplatz**, **Clusterhaus**, Cologne-based **Solution Space** or **Engage NRW** in Mühlheim a.d.R, NRW has a strong network for young founders.

5. Events in NRW

5.1. Media Summer NRW with NRW Media Forum and anniversary celebrations

- The industry spent three days discussing future issues under the heading of „What's Next?“ at the **28th NRW Media Forum** (organised by the Mediencluster under the auspices of the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW) and the **ANGA COM** in Cologne. Around 20,000 delegates from the broadband and media industries met during this media week at the trade fair, conference, evening events as well as other industry events in NRW, including at the **10th Medienfest NRW** on 4 June in Cologne and the presentation of the **Web Video Award Germany** on the same day in Düsseldorf. The conference events of the Media Forum and ANGA COM both posted a new record for visitor numbers with around 2,800 conference participants. The **Emmy Semi-Final Judgings** and the Entertainment Master Class were also held in Cologne.
- The Film- und Medienstiftung NRW celebrated its 25th anniversary during the 28th NRW Media Forum with more than 850 guests at the major **summer industry get-together** in Cologne's Wolkenburg. The guests included the shareholders, represented by the NRW Media Secretary of State **Dr. Marc Jan Eumann**, WDR's deputy director-general **Eva Maria Michel**, ZDF's deputy director of programmes, **Reinhard Elschot**, RTL's Head of Fiction, **Phillip Steffens**, the then director of NRW's media watchdog LfM, **Jürgen Brautmeier**, and the supervisory board chairman of the Filmstiftung NRW, **Werner Schwaderlapp**.
- Following the presentation of the **Grimme Online Award** and the **German Camera Award** at the end of June, the **Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum** in Bonn devoted itself to the subject of „Media, Freedom, Values“. In August, over 1,200 people came to the 10th edition of the **Cologne Film Trade Show**, one of the most important industry gatherings for the distribution and cinema sectors.
- During July and August , the 19th **FilmSchauPlätze** attracted around 10,000 visitors with 19 films at 19 unusual screening venues throughout North Rhine-Westphalia.

5.2. Film Autumn NRW

- The Film Autumn NRW had already set new, groundbreaking priorities from the outset with the new positioning of the **Film Festival Cologne**, formerly the **Cologne Conference**. The new NRW Film Prize, initiated by the **federal state of NRW**, the **City of Cologne** and the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, went to the hit film „**Toni Erdmann**“ by Maren Ade as Best Feature Film and to „**Family Business**“ by Christiane BÜchner as Best Documentary. The **Cologne Film Prize** went in 2016 to the French director **Claire Denis**. The „**Made in NRW**“ sidebar was staged in cooperation with the Filmstiftung for the second time during this festival.
- The **Film Autumn NRW** subsequently gathered all of the cinema and film scene at more than a dozen events throughout the state: from audience events such as **Kinofest Lünen**, **CineCologne**, **homochrom** and the **40th Duisburg Film Week** or **doxs!** to professional events such as **Filmplus** and **SoundTrack_Cologne**.
- The **6th NRW Film and Cinema Conference** had an exchange with the industry about future prospects for the cinema under the heading of „**Next Generation Arthouse**“. The subjects included the FFA study on the cinema audience, film as a public-service duty, big data for film and internet, and cinema in the Digital Single Market. This edition also saw discussion about the situation of German film criticism to tie-in with the Siegfried Kracauer Prize.
- The highlight of the Film Autumn was the 26th awards ceremony for the **NRW Cinema Programming Prize** with around 400 guests in Cologne's Gloria Theatre. **Ingo Schmoll** hosted the ceremony which also saw the **Herbert Strate Prize** going to **Maren Ade** („Toni Erdmann“) and **Maria Schrader** („Stefan Zweig – Farewell to Europe“). The **Siegfried Kracauer Prize** for Best Film Criticism and an annual grant were presented for the first time on the occasion of the NRW Cinema Programming Prize.

6. Berlinale 2017

The **Film- und Medienstiftung NRW** is being represented at the **67th Berlin International Film Festival** (9 - 19 February, 2017) with a total of 28 supported productions in all of the important festival sections – including three world premieres in the Competition. In addition, it is now a partner for the third year running of the substantially expanded „**Drama Series Days**“ within the framework of the **European Film Market** (EFM). The Filmstiftung will be representing the film region of NRW again at the „Focus Germany“ stand in the EFM, and it will host the traditional NRW Reception along with the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia on the first festival Sunday.

The Filmstiftung-backed titles at the Berlinale include the Competition films „Beuys“, a documentary by Andres Veiel, and „Ana mon Amour“ by director Calin Peter Netzer. „The Young Karl Marx“ by Raoul Peck is screening in Berlinale Special. „End Of The Season“ by Lars Henning and „Ironhead“ by Tian Dong can be seen in Perspektive Deutsches Kino. „Rabbit School – Guardians of the Golden Egg“ by Ute von Münchow-Pohl is in the Generation Kplus competition line-up, while Romuald Karmakar's „If I Think of Germany At Night“ is showing in the Panorama.

The company

The Film- und Medienstiftung is one of Germany's leading regional funds. Its mission is to strengthen film and media culture and the film and media industry in North Rhine-Westphalia.

Its shareholders are WDR (40%), the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia (40%), ZDF (10%) and RTL (10%). On 31 December 2016, the Landesanstalt für Medien left the circle of shareholders. Its shareholding (5%) was taken over the federal state of NRW as from 1.1.2017

The Film- und Medienstiftung NRW backs feature films and TV movies, the modernisation of cinemas, the development of radio plays, innovative TV formats or audiovisual content, and supports the next generation of film and media professionals in NRW. Its brief also includes location marketing and development as well as the

presentation of the media region both at home and abroad. As part of its responsibility for the film and media region, the funder has various shareholdings such as the ifs international filmschule köln (100%), the Mediencluster NRW GmbH (100%), the Mediengründerzentrum (50%) as well as German Films.

The main jury of NRW's film funding programme convened for the 158th time in 2016 to take decisions on the funding of film and television projects from North Rhine-Westphalia. More than 8,000 projects were funded with around 793 m Euros since 1991.

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