

September 21, 2018

News embargo 8.00 am CET

**EFP showcases European films and talent at Busan International Film Festival 2018**

**EUROPE! GOES BUSAN Kicking Off a Fresh Start with a Strong European Presence and New Programmes**



First row: *Float Like a Butterfly* by Carmel Winters, *Gordon & Paddy* by Linda Hambäck.  
Second row: *Little Comrade* by Moonika Siimets, *Cutterhead* by Rasmus Kloster Bro (world sales: LevelK)

**EFP (European Film Promotion)** is delighted to announce that, in its 21<sup>st</sup> edition, **EUROPE! GOES BUSAN** will be taking on a new quality. Due to the significant increase in the number of European films being screened at the festival (74, compared to 55 titles in 2017), **EFP's** artistic delegation will now have 32 participants (compared to 15 in 2017) presenting their films at this important gateway to the Asian market and to the enthusiastic South Korean audience. In cooperation with the festival, the professional networking between Asian and European filmmakers will be intensified through various discussions, industry events and filmmaker talks. The extended programme is complemented by EFP's presence at the Asian Film Market through the very well attended **EUROPE! UMBRELLA** (32 world sales companies) and **FILM SALES SUPPORT** which is granted to European world sales companies for the promotion of their films at this market. **EUROPE! GOES BUSAN** is financially supported by the **Creative Europe – MEDIA** Programme of the European Union and the participating **EFP** member organisations.

# press release

“We are truly thrilled that the Busan Film Festival will be showcasing a record number of European films this year, many of them world, international or Asian premieres. This clearly demonstrates the high standing the festival enjoys with the European film industry. The strong ties between BIFF and EFP are also reflected by the launch of a new set of accompanying events, focusing on artistic questions as well as on business aspects of filmmaking. This joint initiative will draw even more attention to our fruitful cooperation,” comments EFP President Martin Schweighofer, who has been a strong supporter from the start.

The extended networking and industry programme will consist of the following events: an exclusive **Filmmakers’ Talk** with **Lewis Kim**, Korean producer of Kim Ji-woon’s film *Illang: The Wolf Brigade* for the European delegation, a **Master Class** by Swiss producer **Fabrice Aragno** (*The Image Book*) for Asian directors and participants of Platform Busan, and an open discussion between Asian and European filmmakers on how to address taboos in the various cultures. A new cooperation between the **Asian Project Market**, **EAVE** and **EFP** will bring European producers together with their Asian colleagues for an **Industry and Networking Day** at the Asian Film Market. Eight producers from Europe are set to attend. In this context, **EFP** is being supported for the first time by the **European Union Policy & Outreach Partnership** (EU POP) and collaborating with the Delegation of the European Union to South Korea to promote South Korean - European cultural cooperation in the film sector.

## EUROPE! GOES BUSAN

30 European filmmakers and two actors will meet with industry and press and enjoy the very lively discussions with the South Korean audiences. This year’s selection by the festival shows an exceptional number of films – 12 of 20 (tbc) – featuring kids or teenagers at the centre of their stories: such as six-year-old Leelo in the Estonian drama *The Little Comrade* set during the Stalinist tyranny or the world premiere of *Swimming*, the feature film debut of German writer-director **Luzie Loose**, about two young girls whose innocent friendship turns into dangerous dependency. Director **Igor Voloshin** presents the Slovak-Russian-Czech co-production *The Cellar* starring Jean-Marc Barr, that deals with the disappearance of 16-year-old Lenka caused by conflicts in the family. The producers of *Once* and *Singstreet* present the Irish drama *Float Like a Butterfly* by writer-director **Carmel Winters** who tells the story of a young girl determined to become a boxing champion. Also struggling to survive is little Ayoub, whose parents have to rush him to a hospital in Casablanca where emergency brain surgery has to be performed in the Swiss-Moroccan family drama *Urgent* by writer-director **Mohcine Besri**.

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Three European animation films will celebrate their Asian premiere in the Wide Angle section of the festival: The adaptation of the Swedish children's book **Gordon & Paddy**, featuring a mouse who becomes a police superintendent, which will be presented by the director **Linda Hambäck**. A more serious approach is taken by the Serbian director **Rasko Miljkovic** in **The Witch Hunters** about a handicapped boy who dreams of being a crime fighting superhero, while Norwegian writer-director **Mads Grorud**'s animated drama **The Tower** centres on eleven-year-old Palestinian girl Wardi living in a refugee camp.

Grown-up thrills are provided by the Danish writer-director **Rasmus Kloster Bro** in **Cutterhead** which is set in Copenhagen's underground. Icelandic director Ari Magnusson sends Estonian **Mihkel** on a trip to the promised land – beautiful Iceland - which takes a deadly turn. Also celebrating its Asian premiere is **The Image Book**, Jean-Luc Godard's examination of the modern Arab world, which was produced by **Fabrice Aragno** and received the first "Special Palme d'Or" in the history of the Cannes Film Festival.

**Please find the full line-up of films and talent below.**

Detailed information about the **EUROPE! UMBRELLA** and **FSS** granted for the Asian Film Market will follow on September 25.

The following EFP members are supporting **EUROPE! GOES BUSAN**:

AFC – Austrian Films, Association of Filmmakers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, British Council, Danish Film Institute, Estonian Film Institute, Eye International (The Netherlands), Film Center Serbia, German Films, ICAA – Instituto de la Cinematografía y de las Artes Audiovisuales (Spain), Icelandic Film Centre, Istituto Luce Cinecittà (Italy), Lithuanian Film Centre, Norwegian Film Institute, Screen Ireland, Slovak Film Institute, Swedish Film Institute, Swiss Films and UniFrance.

## About EFP

**EFP (European Film Promotion)** is a unique network of 38 European member organisations who represent films and talent from their respective territories. Under the EFP flag, the members join forces on initiatives to promote the diversity and the spirit of European cinema and talent at key international film festivals and markets. **EFP** is financially supported by the **Creative Europe – MEDIA** Programme of the European Union and by its member organisations.

The Hamburg-based office is backed by the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, the Film Fund Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein and the Ministry of Culture of the City of Hamburg.

For more information, please visit [www.efp-online.de](http://www.efp-online.de)

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The following film artists will be presenting their films in Busan with the support of their respective EFP member organisations (sorted by country):

Film sorted by Country	Film Artist	EFP Member Organisation
<b>Good Day's Work*</b> (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, Turkey)	Martin Turk (director) and Jovan Marjanovic (producer)	Association of Filmmakers of Bosnia & Herzegovina
<b>Cutterhead</b> (Denmark)	Rasmus Kloster Bro (director)	Danish Film Institute
<b>The Little Comrade*</b> (Estonia)	Moonika Siimets (director) and Riina Sildos (producer)	Estonian Film Institute
<b>Swimming*</b> (Germany)	Luzie Loose (director), Lennart Lenzing (producer) and Philipp Raube (producer)	German Films
<b>Let Me Fall</b> (Iceland, Finland, Germany)	Baldvin Z. (director) and Julius Kemp (producer)	Icelandic Film Centre
<b>Mihkel</b> (Iceland, Norway, Estonia)	Ari Alexander Magnusson (director)	Icelandic Film Centre
<b>Float Like a Butterfly</b> (Ireland)	Carmel Winters (director)	Screen Ireland
<b>Breathing into Marble</b> (Lithuania, Latvia Croatia)	Giedrė Beinoriūtė (director) and Dagne Vildziunaite (producer)	Lithuanian Film Centre
<b>We</b> (The Netherlands)	Rene Eller (director)	Eye International (The Netherlands)
<b>The Tower</b> (Norway, Sweden, France)	Mats Grorud (director) and Frode Sobstad (producer)	Norwegian Film Institute
<b>The Witch Hunters</b> (Serbia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)	Rasko Miljkovic (director)	Film Center Serbia

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<b>The Cellar</b> (Slovakia, Czech Republic, Russia)	Igor Voloshin (director), Olga Simonova (actress) and Livia Filusova (producer)	Slovak Film Institute
<b>Distances*</b> (Spain)	Elena Trapé (director) and Miki Esparbé (actor)	Instituto de la Cinematografía y de las Artes Audiovisuales / ICAA (Spain)
<b>A Twelve-Year-Night</b> (Spain, Argentina, Uruguay)	Álvaro Brechner (director)	Instituto de la Cinematografía y de las Artes Audiovisuales / ICAA (Spain)
<b>Gordon &amp; Paddy</b> (Sweden)	Linda Hambäck (director)	Swedish Film Institute
<b>Jimmie</b> (Sweden)	Hedvig Lundgren (producer)	Swedish Film Institute
<b>The Image Book</b> (Switzerland, France)	Fabrice Aragno (producer)	SWISS FILMS
<b>Urgent*</b> (Switzerland, Morocco)	Mohcine Besri (director) and Lamia Chraïbi (producer)	SWISS FILMS
<b>The Devil Outside*</b> (United Kingdom)	Andrew Hulme (director)	British Council
<b>The Dig</b> (United Kingdom, Ireland)	Stuart Drennan (writer)	British Council

\* in Flash Forward Audience Award Competition

With the support of:	EFP is supported by:
	   