



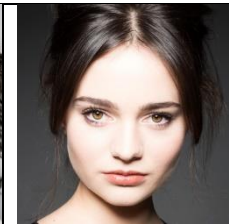
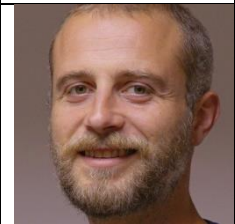
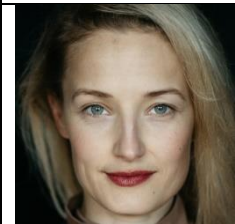
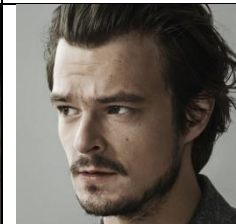

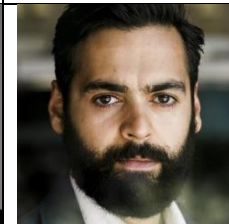


December 11, 2018

News Embargo – 8 am (CET)

The EFP EUROPEAN SHOOTING STARS 2019

EFP (European Film Promotion) proudly presents the ten best up-and-coming actors from Europe who will be honoured at the Berlin International Film Festival 2019.

				
Elliott Crosset Hove Denmark <i>(Winter Brothers)</i>	Rea Lest-Liik Estonia <i>(November)</i>	Emma Drogunova Germany <i>(The Tobacconist)</i>	Kristín Thora Haraldsdóttir Iceland <i>(And Breathe Normally)</i>	Aisling Franciosi Ireland <i>(The Nightingale)</i>
				
Blagoj Veselinov Macedonia <i>(Secret Ingredient)</i>	Ine Marie Wilmann Norway <i>(Sonja: The White Swan)</i>	Dawid Ogrodnik Poland <i>(Silent Night)</i>	Milan Marić Serbia <i>(Dovlatov)</i>	Ardalan Esmaili Sweden <i>(The Charmer)</i>

EUROPEAN SHOOTING STARS (ESS) – now in its 22nd year – will present ten of the best up-and-coming acting talents from Europe who are deemed ready to step out onto the international film scene by a jury of industry experts. The event taking place between 8th – 11th February 2019 during the 69th Berlin International Film Festival will introduce five actresses and five actors to the film industry, public and international press. In addition to the public exposure, the programme provides a special platform for the Stars to meet casting directors, producers and filmmakers in one-on-one meetings, offering a unique opportunity to create the personal contacts and networks needed to embark upon an international career. The busy weekend culminates in an awards ceremony at the Berlinale Palast on Monday 11th February, where each actor will be honoured with the **EUROPEAN SHOOTING STARS Award** donated by **Leysen1855**. EFP's prolific talent platform is financially supported by the **Creative Europe – MEDIA** Programme of the European Union and the respective EFP member organisations.

press release

Choosing the top ten actors out of a brilliant pool of European talent was not an easy task this year. **Elliott Crosset Hove** from Denmark swayed the jury with his “raw ability to shift from transparent vulnerability to intimidation” in *Winter Brothers*, for which he won the Best Actor Award at the Locarno and Vilnius Film Festivals, and a Robert, the Danish Academy Award. **Rea Lest-Liik** from Estonia impressed with her “fierceness, forcefulness and passion” depicted in *November*. The youngest up-and-coming star is **Emma Drogunova** from Germany. Now 23, she started filming at the age of 16 and her performance this year in *The Tobacconist* made her an “energetic, captivating, multifaceted and vibrant discovery” for the experts. **Kristín Thora Haraldsdóttir** from Iceland shows a deep understanding of her often very challenging characters, as most recently seen in *And Breathe Normally*, earning her the audience’s “utmost trust and attention”.

Aisling Franciosi from Ireland, whose credits include TV series *Games of Thrones* and *Legends*, stunned the jury with her “great acting range and superb instincts” in *The Nightingale*, while Macedonian actor **Blagoj Veselinov** convinced with his “deep and unexpected sensitivity” in the multi award-winning *Secret Ingredient*. **Dawid Ogrodnik** from Poland is “a young acting force to be reckoned with,” having won the jury over with his raw talent in *Silent Night*, and Norwegian actress **Ine Marie Wilmann** astounded everybody with “the physicality of her performance” in *Sonja: The White Swan*. Serbian actor **Milan Marić** thrilled with his “gloomily charismatic, brooding and affecting” work in *Dovlatov*, which screened this year in competition in Berlin. Rounding off the ten actors with his “tremendous honesty and leading-man qualities” in *The Charmer* is **Ardalan Esmaili** from Sweden.

EUROPEAN SHOOTING STARS is the oldest and most prestigious initiative to promote European talent for the international film market. Since its first edition in 1998, a total of 303 European Shooting Stars have been presented at this influential international film festival, proving for many an important stepping stone in their careers, including **Alicia Vikander, Matthias Schoenaerts, Domhnall Gleeson, Alexander Fehling, Ruth Negga, Pilou Asbæk, Carla Juri** and **Baltasar Kormákur** to name a few.

The members of the 2019 jury are: US casting director **Avy Kaufman**, film critic **Tara Karajica** from Serbia, Macedonian director **Teona Strugar Mitevska**, producer **Macdara Kelleher** from Ireland and Icelandic Shooting Star from 1999, **Ingvar Sigurdsson**.

For more information on the **EUROPEAN SHOOTING STARS 2019** and the full jury comments please go to [\(Link\)](#).

The European Shooting Stars 2019 are supported by the following EFP member organisations: Danish Film Institute, Estonian Film Institute, German Films, Icelandic Film Centre, Screen Ireland, Macedonian Film Agency, Norwegian Film Institute, Polish Film Institute, Film Center Serbia and Swedish Film Institute.

press release

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EFP will once again be supported in their international press campaign by the London-based PR agency, Organic.

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Photo credits:

Elliott Crosset Hove©HEIN Photography; Rea Lest©Virge Viertek; Emma Drogunova©Robin Kater; Kristín Thora Haraldsdóttir©Bjarni Eiriksson; Aisling Franciosi©Barry Mccall; Blagoj Veselinov©Petar Kociski; Dawid Ogrodnik©XXX; Milan Marić©Danilo Pavlović; Ardalan Esmaili©Mats Bäcker; Ine Marie Wilmann©Matthis Kleeb

About EFP:

***EFP (European Film Promotion)** is a unique network of 38 European promotion agencies from throughout Europe representing their national films and talent. Under the EFP flag, these member organisations come together to jointly promote the diversity and spirit of European cinema and talent at key international film festivals and markets, in particular outside of Europe. **EFP** is financially supported by the **Creative Europe – MEDIA** Programme of the European Union and by its member organisations.*

*EFP's programme **EUROPEAN SHOOTING STARS** is additionally backed by longstanding partners, main partner **Leysen1855** and the **Creative Europe – MEDIA** Programme of the European Union.*



Further event partners are Film- and Medienstiftung NRW, Medienboard Berlin Brandenburg, German Films and the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.

The EFP's 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.

