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International Film Festival for Children and Young Audiences SCHLINGEL launches 27th edition: These are the films of 2022

The 27th SCHLINGEL Festival for Children and Young Audiences is about to begin. From 8 to 15 October it's "film on!" again in a total of six venues in Chemnitz and Zwickau. This year, the festival once again offers numerous highlights from all corners of the world. A total of 159 films from 60 countries will be presented to the audience. 58 of them will be shown as feature-length films in the various competitions, 72 films have the chance to be awarded with a prize by the jury in the Short Film Competition. Young and old film fans can not only look forward to exciting films, but also to many national and international film guests, from actors to directors to producers, who will be in the cinema to answer questions.

All Information at one glance

- SCHLINGEL in Chemnitz:
 - Time period: October 8 to October 15 2022
 - Venues: CineStar at the Galerie Roter Turm, opera house Chemnitz, Carlowitz-Congresscenter Chemnitz, cinema Metropol & Clubkino Siegmars
- SCHLINGEL in Zwickau:
 - Time period: October 5 to October 7 2022
 - Venue: Filmpalast Astoria
- Focus: Slovenia
- Opening ceremony on October 8 at the opera house Chemnitz
- A total of 159 films from 60 countries in the festival program
- 58 long feature films and 72 short films in the competitions
- In total in the long and short film segment: 4 World Premieres, 8 International Premieres, 48 German Premieres, 1 International and 1 German cinema premiere
- More than 250 other films can be seen later in the year – e.g. at "SCHLINGEL on Wheels"
- The program and all current information are available [online at the SCHLINGEL website](#)

The programme for the 27th SCHLINGEL-year is set. Festival director Michael Harbauer presented the films and events today at the programme press conference. This year's festival for children and young audiences will finally be ceremoniously opened at the Chemnitz Opera House on 8 October. And the following festival week has a lot to offer again this year.

For 27 years now, the SCHLINGEL has been held in Chemnitz and since 2017 also in Zwickau. The mayor of Chemnitz, Sven Schulze, also says: "For many children in and around Chemnitz,

a visit to the festival is an integral part of the year. Because films are not just played here. The festival imparts cultural education in the cinema seat. At SCHLINGEL, connections and relationships are forged among young people who talk about what they have seen, discuss and debate with each other. I wish all visitors, young and old alike, inspiring film experiences, a lively exchange and good entertainment."

And viewers of all ages can look forward to many new films, which have been carefully selected by the SCHLINGEL screening committee in recent months from a pool of over 1,600 films. This year, the country focus is on productions from Slovenia – three children's and youth films will celebrate their German premiere at the festival in the context of the focus program. **In total, the 27th SCHLINGEL will show four World Premieres, eight International Premieres, 48 German Premieres as well as one International and one German Cinema Premieres.**

Following the festival week, further film screenings will take place as part of the project „SCHLINGEL on Wheels“. This way, films that would unfortunately miss out in the normal commercial routine not only get a big screen during the festival week, but also in the time afterwards. In this way, wonderful productions for children as well as for young people are not lost and offer a view beyond the horizon.

"As a festival, we are pleased to offer a constant for the Saxon audience in the festival and event landscape in the future European Capital of Culture 2025, even in turbulent times like the current one with the Ukraine war and the pandemic. Perhaps more than ever, building bridges across borders is of immense importance, as is communicating cultural diversity to the youngest members of our society," says festival director Michael Harbauer.

To fulfill this mission, this year the SCHLINGEL is showing European and intercontinental productions from 60 countries that not only immerse the audience into foreign worlds. Following the screening, the films will also be moderated, and discussed with attending film guests, as well as being prepared once again in an educationally valuable way in the context of schools. Films from countries such as Sweden and Ukraine stand side by side with productions from Colombia and Kazakhstan, for example.

The different languages are also linked with each other in a very special way directly in the cinema. As a rule, the festival films are shown in the original language with German or English subtitles. For the younger film guests, the films are also dubbed live in the cinema. The best films are often released in German cinemas or on television after the IFF SCHLINGEL, a process that can take several years. On the one hand, this is helped by the prizes awarded. On the other hand, many representatives of the film industry use the festival to search for rewarding productions.

The patron of the festival is the Prime Minister of the Free State of Saxony, Michael Kretschmer. Co-organizer is the Saxon State Institute for Private Broadcasting and New Media SLM.

World premieres attract young and old

- Rhino:
Director: Arturo Castro Godoy | Argentina 2021 | October 11 & October 14
- The Mucklas...and How They Came to Pettson and Findus:
Director: Ali Samadi Ahadi, Markus Dietrich | Germany, Luxembourg 2022 | October 9 & October 11
- The Goose Princess:
Director: Frank Stoye | Germany 2022 | October 15
- Stok & Bok in Paris:
Director: Kaj Driessen | Netherlands, France 2022 | October 8 in the context of the short film programm „Me and you: That's true“

Opening ceremony on October 8 at the opera house Chemnitz

The SCHLINGEL will be opened on October 8 at 6 p.m. in the opera house Chemnitz. Together with interested Chemnitz residents, invited guests from politics, culture and the film industry as well as visitors of the city, the 27th SCHLINGEL will be celebrated in a appropriate manner. The audience can look forward to exclusive insights into this year's festival program, exciting film clips and greetings from all over the world. The evening will be hosted by **KiKA-moderator Ben**.

A whole week of movies for every age group

The SCHLINGEL Film Festival records 25,000 visitors in normal years, even in the 2021 Corona year there were 17,000. A large proportion of these are school classes, for whom special group events are held in the mornings. In many schools it has become a tradition to organize a whole "school cinema day" in the week before the Saxon autumn vacations, when all teachers and pupils visit the SCHLINGEL venues in Chemnitz. For the first time, the Zwickau SCHLINGEL will take place in the days before, from October 5 to October 7, before the Chemnitz edition.

Any of these students who return with their ticket from the morning and bring a companion will receive their ticket free of charge in the afternoon.

But all other film fans (or those who would like to become one) also have the chance to discover films from all over the world, because children's and youth films flicker across the big screen in public events in the afternoon, evening and on weekends, too.

The complete program is already [online at page of the SCHLINGEL](#). By the way: With your SCHLINGEL ticket you travel free of charge with the VMS to the cinema!

Offers for professional visitors

The SCHLINGEL's **Industry Forum** has meanwhile established itself as a meeting place for the international children's and youth film industry and is already in its sixth edition.

It is a continuation of the **Central European Children's Film Forum**. The Forum takes place in cooperation with the International Young Audience Film Festival Ale Kino! (Poland) and the Film Festival for Children and Youth in Zlín (Czech Republic). The focus is on the exchange of project ideas from Central Europe. The Forum will alternate between the above-mentioned festivals, so that the 2025 event will once again take place in Chemnitz, in time with the European Capital of Culture 2025.

Another component of the Industry Forum is the event **Window to the World**, at which international projects of the diverse development stages are presented, for example from countries such as Colombia and Argentina. In addition, the **ComingSoon** project workshop will take place, to which national and international filmmakers will be invited to give an insight into the working process of their children's films. A panel discussion on Tuesday afternoon will examine the current developments, challenges and goals of children's films in Europe. The presentations will also be made available digitally to the accredited professional audience.

In addition to the above, the Industry program will be enriched by a workshop by Thomas Kutschera (Pixomondo) on the topic of "VFX for Films" and a presentation of a new inclusive audio book method.

Prizes & Juries

During the SCHLINGEL week, numerous films will take part in various competitions, which will be judged by expert and children's juries. The award ceremony will take place on October 15, 2022. A special feature within the juries is the European Children's Jury. 16 children from different countries watch European productions and award the European Children's Film Prize of the Saxon Minister of Art, offered by the Saxon State Ministry of Science, Culture and Tourism.

The complete list of awards and juries can be found [online at the page of the SCHLINGEL](#).

A thank you to our partners

A big thank you goes to the numerous partners of the festival like the main sponsor, the Volksbank Chemnitz. Other partnerships, such as those with eins – energie in Sachsen or, for example, the Chamber of Crafts, not only make the events themselves possible, but also repeatedly offer visitors nice added value. In 2022, for example, there will be a competition for schoolchildren in which trades from the region will be presented. Sincere thanks are also due to the co-organizer, the Saxon State Institute for Private Broadcasting and New Media SLM, as well as the institutional sponsors.