



OnlineFestival.ITFS.de

Launch of the first digital edition of ITFS on 5 May 2020:

The official opening of the OnlineFestival.ITFS.de in the free live stream:

Press Release, Stuttgart, May 6 2020

On 5 May the OnlineFestival.ITFS.de of the Stuttgart International Festival of Animated Film was launched. With around 19,000 views, the free live stream on OnlineFestival.ITFS.de, the ITFS Facebook page, United We Stream Stuttgart and the ITFS YouTube channel as well as numerous partner sites started extremely successfully. The opening from the ITFS studio, in the foyer of the inner-city cinema "Cinema" offered entertainment for viewers from all over the world with video messages by Simpsons director David Silverman and other filmmakers*, a varied short film programme and the comedian Dodokay.

"We are very happy that our live stream is so well received. But that was just the beginning, it is worthwhile to switch on the next days. The offer is exclusive and will thus only be available in the live stream from 5 to 10 May," says Ulrich Wegenast, Artistic Managing Director of the Film- und Medienfestival gGmbH. Dieter Krauß, Commercial Managing Director, adds: "The fact that we can now also offer the audience such a colourful programme during this special time is also thanks to our shareholders, sponsors and partners, as well as the fans who are also now at our side, but also our dedicated team, who have brought this online festival to the start with a lot of passion in a very short time".

Studiogast war ebenso **Dr. Walter Rogg**, Geschäftsführer der Wirtschaftsförderung Region Stuttgart GmbH (WRS), und Aufsichtsratsvorsitzender der Film- und Medienfestival gGmbH, die das OnlineFestival.ITFS.de entwickelt hat und nun ausrichtet. He says: *"In times of crisis, creative people are problem solvers, idea developers, drivers of innovation. They are used to reacting quickly and flexibly to new situations, challenges and trends. The online festival enables the ITFS to be experienced far beyond the Stuttgart region. It offers the chance to expand the circle of interested parties and to become even better known. Digital animation, games and VR already play a huge role as creative industries, not only in the Stuttgart Region. This will increase considerably in the coming months and years, and perhaps our aim should be to admit new things and thus make the best of the situation".*

Highlights in the live stream programme on Thursday, May 7, 2020 on OnlineFestival.ITFS

Focus France (8 pm bis 11 pm)

The evening is entirely dedicated to the **Grande Nation** of animated film. **Catherine Veber (Consul General of the French Republic)** is in conversation with Markus Brock. As is French director **Sarah van den Boom**, whose short film **"Dans les eaux profondes" ("In Deep Waters", France, 2015, 12 min)** will be shown. In addition to other French short films, programmes of the **ARTE format "Karambolage"** will also be shown, whose editor-in-chief **Jeanette Konrad (ARTE France)** will be joined live for an interview. An interview with **Christopher Buchholz** (Französische Filmtage Tübingen/ Stuttgart) and other

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animated French short films will enrich the programme. The highlight is the animated feature film "**A Monster in Paris**" (**Bibo Bergeron, 2011, German Version**), which will be shown free of charge in the live stream from 9.30 pm. A film about a strange creature that terrifies Paris of the year 1910. The culprits are Emile, a shy projectionist, and the crazy inventor Raoul. They created the creature by mistake. So the two friends go on a monster hunt to make up for their mistake. During their surprising adventure they make the acquaintance of the beautiful and warm-hearted singer Lucille.

Edutain Me 6.0 (3 pm to 6 pm)

More topical than ever is the programme item of the GameZone in cooperation with the **Landesanstalt für Kommunikation Baden-Württemberg (LFK)**. The following keynotes and presentations will be shown in the "**Edutain Me 6.0**" section of the programme: **Cobostories - an animation software and animation table for day-care centres and nursery schools by Dusyma**, a presentation by the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung, **Prof. Dr. Stefanie Nickel** will speak on **Sims & Minecraft in primary school lessons** and **Anja Marquardt** will present the use of **Super Mario & Pac Man in sports lessons** or a keynote by **Tinybop from New York**, who will introduce creative learning games.

The focus will be on the panel discussion on "The Classroom for the Digital Future" (4:30 pm). The panelists are: dabei Leandro Cerqueira Karst (Vorsitzender des Landesschülerrats), Gren Babinecz (Kolping Bildungswerk), Ralph Stock (Promotion Software), Daniel Blalecki (Scoyo), Reinhard Koslitz (Didacta Verband e.V. – Verband der Bildungswirtschaft).

Workshops & Masterclasses for Professionals (noon to 2 pm)

The English Master Class with Denis Walgenwitz (Paris) on "**Artistic Expectations versus Production Possibilities - Challenges for Animation Projects**" will take place on Thursday, May 7, noon. **Denis Walgenwitz, director, animation supervisor and lecturer at Animation Sans Frontières**, an initiative to promote young talent, will talk about how artistic visions shape production preparations, how financial constraints influence creative work and how the dialogue between director and production can be optimised. An event of the Creative Europe Desks from Munich and Strasbourg.

For people interested in film and culture (6 pm to 8 pm)

From 18 to 20 o'clock animated short films for adults alternate with talks. The programme includes an interview with **Christina Schindler** (Film University Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF, 6:00 pm), a talk with **Reanne Leunig** (Austrian Federal Economic Chamber) and Siegfried Weidlich (Honorary Austrian Consulate Stuttgart) on the situation of the creative industries in Austria in times of Corona (6:30 pm) **Animator Hannes Rall** (Nanyang Technological University Singapore, 7:00 pm) and **Mark Shapiro (Animation Curator & Consultant from Portland, in English, from 7:20 pm)** will also be interviewed.

For families and Kids (2 pm to 3 pm)

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For children, the workshop series of the Kinder-Trickfilmakademie of Initiative Kindermedienland Baden-Württemberg starts in the afternoon in the ITFS Kids Stream (14:00 to 15:00). In the 6-part workshop series, children learn how to develop and produce an animated film themselves. The second episode on Thursday deals with the construction of sets and puppets with Tine Kluth. Udo Schöbel, the inventor of the Kika rabbit song, performs a live song "Körperklaus is in ze house" and shows a short animation clip (14:15 hrs).

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