



## Prague IFF – Febiofest 2021 to Start This Friday – Presenting Over a 100 Films from All Around the World and Welcoming Prominent Figures of Contemporary Cinema

The 28<sup>th</sup> edition of Prague International Film Festival – Febiofest, taking place from September 17 to September 24, offers 8 days packed with exceptionally intense experiences with high-quality world cinema. Tickets to screenings and OFF program are on sale at <https://www.febiofest.cz/en/tickets>, and there is certainly plenty to choose from. Some of the films will be presented by their creators.

Stephen Daldry, the acclaimed director of film hits such as *The Hours*, *Billy Elliot* or *The Reader* will present his new TV film *Together*. Projections are scheduled for Saturday September 18 at 2 PM and Monday September 20 at 7:45 PM at Cinema City Slovanský dům. **Sturla Brandth Grøvlen**, prominent Norwegian cinematographer has his own section – **Profile: Sturla Brandth Grøvlen** – on this year's Prague IFF – Febiofest. He will present his film *Shirley*, starring Elisabeth Moss, acclaimed film *Heartstone*, Academy Award picture *Another Time*, very well-known to Czech audience, and a new release *Last and First Man*. One of the films selected for Main Competition, *The Bright Side*, will be presented by its director **Ruth Meehan**. Another guest of the festival is director **Lauri Randla**, whose picture *Goodbye Soviet Union* is one of the six contenders for the Comedy Competition award. The documentary *Castro's Spies* will be presented on the DOCS section by one of its directors, **Gary Lennon**.

The main venue of Prague IFF – Febiofest is **Cinema City Slovanský dům** in the centre of Prague. Films are to be screened at the stylish **Edison FilmHub** and **Kino Pilotů**. The **DOX Centre for Contemporary Art** will host our new **VR Cinema** section, with virtual reality films in three thematic slots: **Anima**, **Art** and **Docu**. The festival will kick off on September 17 with **Rifkins Festival**, the latest Woody Allen movie, and it will close with the screening of Academy Award winning movie *The Father*, starring Anthony Hopkins. This year's **Kristián Awards** for contribution to cinema will go to famous Czech actor **Jiří Lábus**, Slovakian actress **Božidara Turzonovová** and producer **Mike Downey**.

And it will be **Mike Downey**, who will be the host of the first masterclass (September 18 at Cinema City Slovanský dům). In the second masterclass, we will welcome the Iranian director and women's rights activist **Mahnaz Mohammadi** (September 21, Edison FilmHub), and in the third, cinematographer **Sturla Brandth Grøvlen** will talk about his work (September 21, Edison FilmHub). All masterclasses are free to attend – just pick up your ticket at the box office.

This year's **Main Competition** will present talented filmmakers' debuts and second movies. **Comedy Competition** will bring exceptional comedies from around the world. **Amnesty International Febiofest Award**, bestowed in cooperation with the Czech branch of Amnesty International, will recognize pictures with human rights themes. Amateur filmmakers are competing in the **You're the Filmmaker!** section – this year's theme is My Hometown.

Out-of-competition programme sections are as follows: **Eastern Delights**, which covers cinema of Central European and East European countries, the Balkans, former Soviet Union countries and Middle East. Popular section **Queer Now** presents the very best of contemporary queer cinematography. This year's **Planet Dark** is dedicated to horrors, claustrophobic thrillers,



**28TH PRAGUE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**  
**PRAGUE September 17 – 24, 2021**

gloomy dramas and styled gory films shot by new voices of genre cinema, and it includes **Repulse**, a new Czech film. **Generation** has a program for the entire family. For the first time, **Panorama** is divided into two sub-sections: **Icons** will present films made by renowned directors, while **New Currents** will give space to young creators whose movies resonated at various world festivals. The **Docs** section, dedicated purely to documentaries, is about to be adorned by the world premiere of **Nasima – the Most Fearless**. The **Girls in Film** section, co-presented with the platform of the same name, will introduce new movies made by the incoming generation of talented female filmmakers. Other sections, such as **TV Now**, **Profiles** and **Special Screening: Jury**, will present themselves the way they are known and loved, too.

**Culinary Cinema**, a special, popular section that connects contemporary cinematography with an extraordinary culinary experience, will serve up a document called **Funke** about Evan Funke, American chef who mastered the art of homemade pasta. After the screening, a special four-course menu created by the renowned Italian restaurant La Finestra in Cucina – Orlando Bloom's favourite restaurant – will be served at the Municipal House Restaurant.

**Kryštof**, a new film of Czech and Slovak co-production, directed by Zdeněk Jiráský, is getting a special **Gala Opening**.

Prague IFF – Febiofest comes with a rich OFF PROGRAM. Apart from aforementioned projections in the **VR Cinema** and **Culinary Cinema** sections, popular group Tři tygři (Three Tigers) will stage an event called **Tygří Night** (September 19 at 6 PM at Cinema City Slovanský dům) to introduce three short films from their production, which will be followed by a debate with the viewers. If you want a place to rest, look no further than to the garden of Slovanský dům, where you can find a special **CHILL ZONE** with movie drinks, coffee, and various music programme. The Passage of Czech Design and the adjacent café Art-n-Coffee will hold a presentation of the Art for Amnesty project and a photography exhibition in celebration of **Amnesty International**, which celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and 30 years of its activity in the Czech Republic. The festival will end with a final soiree at the Červený jelen restaurant hosting a dynamic band **Circus Brothers**, and a subsequent party.

### Contacts

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