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No end of films – 157 Films from 30 countries in the *sehsüchte* Festival Programme

The official festival programme of the 38th International Student Film Festival, sehsüchte, is all ready to go. Out of the 157 works from new generation filmmakers, 59 films are competing in the International Competition for the sought-after prizes.

The selection committee's viewing marathon over several weeks is all done. 157 films from 30 countries were selected from over 1,200 submitted, and they'll find their way onto the screens of the Thalia cinema in Potsdam.

In all, 59 films from 19 countries are competing for the sought-after prizes in the International Competition. In the feature film category, the jury led by Matthias Glasner has nominated 12 films. To support the 5,000 Euro prize for the best feature film, the festival organisers secured the production firm, Cinecentrum Berlin Film- und Fernsehproduktion GmbH, which is supporting sehsüchte for the first time this year. Eleven more short features are competing for the prize for the best feature under 25 minutes. In the documentary category, two winners will be chosen from nine fulllength and seven short documentary films.

Among the nominations for the International Competition, the share of the new generation films from Germany is the biggest. The large number of films from Israel, Finland and Poland making it into the final selection is gratifying. Two candidates in competition from Mexico and South Korea have made the longest journeys to Potsdam. "La canción de los niños muertos" by David Pablos and "Bean Sprout Project" by Park Chul Soon are in the hunt for prizes in the feature category.

"An emotional rollercoaster is what's waiting for the audience at the Student Film Festival", according to Andreas Meissner from the selection committee. Regardless of whether it's specific in content or genre, the new international generation of filmmakers is pushing the envelope again. The colourful mix of topics and creative possibilities will surprise even veteran film connoisseurs. The effects of social and political crises in today's world find a forum in this year's festival programme. In personal stories, the new generation filmmakers show how political (mis)judgements affect people's everyday life all over the world.

Once again in this year, students at the **Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen "Konrad Wolf" / The Film & Television Academy "Konrad Wolf"** in Potsdam-Babelsberg have total control of the festival's concept and organisation.

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38. International Student Film Festival

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