

03.03.2009

Viewing the world – submissions record at *sehsüchte*: over 1,200 films from 67 countries

For the first time in the history of the biggest student film festival in Europe, the festival team has achieved over 1,200 submissions. With just on 60%, the share of international contributions has gone up significantly.

There's only eight weeks to go to the official opening of the 38th International Student Film Festival *sehsüchte* and the 6 members of our programme group has **1,200 films** to view - **33% more** than last year. Once again, all these submissions confirm how well-known *sehsüchte* is now around the world.

The selection committee is particularly pleased at the high proportion of international submissions. Feature, documentary and animated films **from 67 countries** will compete for the sought-after slots in the Student Film Festival's International Competition. Alongside the traditionally high number of submissions from the German film schools, it's very noticeable how many submissions come from **Israel** and the **USA**. Yet films from lesser-known filmmaking countries like **Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Lebanon, Iraq, Panama and Nepal** have also reached the organizers of the Student Film Festival.

Many of the submissions deal with past and present scenarios of warfare around the world. In this vein, Israeli films and submissions from the former Yugoslavia depict everyday life amidst war, which often reflects **in private fates**. Films from the new generation of German directors describe above all personal relations, which engage sensitively and delicately with **everyday problems**.

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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WE DID
START
THE FIRE!

