



Press Release

28th FILMFEST DRESDEN: Photo Animation Special

- *From the single image to the photo sequence: Animation films with photos*
- *In-depth symposium, retrospective and 4-day workshop*
- *Curators: Gusztáv Hámos, Katja Pratschke and Thomas Tode*

Dresden, 07.03.2016 – Photographs are non-moving documents of time, films moving single images or frames – what happens when you combine the static of photography with the movement of the film medium? A major special programme at this year's FILMFEST DRESDEN is focusing on and exploring this subject. Among the photo animation events at this year's 28th festival is a symposium on 14 April that examines this area in depth. The top-name speakers at the event include Janie Geiser (USA), Suzanne Buchan (UK), Paul de Nooijer (the Netherlands) or Satake Maki (Japan) – who will be discussing the photographic image in a cinematic context with a specific focus on photo animation. This theoretical event is being accompanied by three film programmes: Measurement & Notation, Assemblage and Japanese Photo Animation, as well as a 4-day workshop with the Japanese filmmaker and photo artist Satake Maki. The curators Gusztáv Hámos, Katja Pratschke and Thomas Tode, who have been involved with the phenomenon of photo film for many years now, are organising the symposium and have compiled the films being screened in the programmes.

From the Single Image to the Photo Sequence

During the symposium, artists and theorists will conduct an intensive discussion on this hybrid form of expression – photography and animation.

Four thematic areas are planned: Chrono photography, notation processes, assemblages, as well as stereo photography and 3D. Chrono photography can

be traced back to the beginnings of photography, which were preoccupied with the photographic documentation of movement or processes. Fast sequences which cannot be grasped by the eye were Chrono photographed, through which quick movement sequences could be shown in detail for instance. The notation process thematic area is concerned with animation and experimental films which consist of photographic sequences created in accordance with a previously defined programme. In the assemblage thematic area, photographs, drawings or graphics are removed from their original context and assembled into something new. In this way, filmic collages are created. The last thematic area reveals how, through the use of special editing technology, flowing movements in images are generated that seem to continue forever.

Measurement & Notation, Assemblage and Japanese Photo Animation

The films accompanying the symposium have been compiled into three screening programmes.

"Measurement and Notation": The films consist of photographic sequences created in accordance with a predefined scheme. The instructions or notations are processed in the films. The works being screened include Takashi Ito – Spacy (Jap. 1981), Paul de Nooijer – Transformation by Holding Time (NL 1976), as well as Katja Pratschke and Gusztáv Hámos – Cities (Ger. 2012).

"Assemblage": Filmic collages are being screened which have been newly assembled from already existing material, such as photos, graphics or drawings. The works being screened include Jürgen Böttcher –Venus after Giorgione (GDR 1981), Timo Schierhorn and Katharina Duvé – Grimace Goulash (Ger. 2011), as well as Janie Geiser – Arbor (USA 2012).

"Japanese Photo Animation": The source material for these short films are photographs from which new animated or experimental films have been created artistically. The works being screened include Satake Maki – A Blink (Jap 2003), Kotaro Tanaka – Kaizer (Jap 2006), or Shizuko Tabata – Point in Time (Jap 2013).

About FILMFEST DRESDEN – International Short Film Festival

FILMFEST DRESDEN (www.filmfest-dresden.de), which was founded in 1989, is counted among the most renowned and best endowed short film festivals in Europe. Each year over the six festival days in mid-April, it brings the latest short film productions from Germany, Europe and the world to the cinema screens in the capital of Saxony, and attracts 20,000 visitors, including more than 500 accredited media professionals. Prize money totalling €66,000 is awarded in the National and International Competitions for animated and fiction films, together with four special prizes. These include the DEFA Promotion Prize Animation, the ARTE Short Fiction Film Prize, the "Golden Horseman" Sound Design, as well as the Saxon State Ministry for Science and the Fine Arts Promotion Prize, which is endowed with €20,000.

Each year, more than 2,000 short films from 100 countries are submitted for selection in the National and International Competition sections.

In addition to the competitions, the festival also has an extensive range of special programmes which focus on specific themes and countries, as well as retrospectives and film programmes for children and adolescents. Since 2012, the festival's "etc. - events.trainings.connections" section has also organised panel discussions, talks, workshops, exhibitions and receptions for media professionals attending the festival as an addition to the film programmes.

FILMFEST DRESDEN is listed as an official reference festival by Germany's main film funding body, the FFA. It is a member of AG Kurzfilm, the federal German short film association, the European Film Academy and the Filmverband Sachsen e.V., the film association in Saxony, as well as being involved in the Netzwerk Kultur Dresden local culture network, the WOD initiative for a cosmopolitan Dresden and the Kulturloge Dresden, which brings culture to low income individuals.

The 28th FILMFEST DRESDEN is being held from 12 to 17 April 2016.

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