PRESS RELEASE

Kinofest Screens 12 German Films in Eight Countries in Southeast Asia





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Goethe-Institut

Goethe-Institut is launching a new festival called **Kinofest** that will screen twelve recent German films online from 18 February to 31 March 2022. Mostly from 2020 and 2021, they will be available exclusively for audiences in eight countries in Southeast Asia, including Indonesia.

Kinofest is a joint production of eight Goethe-Instituts in Southeast Asia and will show films of various genres—adventure, drama, thriller, romance, and documentary. They are available to watch on-demand and free of charge by registering via this link: kinofest22.goethe-on-demand.de. Once registered, audiences can select a film that will be available to watch on the platform for 48 hours. All films provide subtitles, if required, in Indonesian, Thai, Burmese, Vietnamese and English.

The film selection focuses on the city as a cinematic subject and particularly on virtuoso literary adaptations. The film *Fabian: Going to the Dogs* (2021) by German director Dominik Graf, for example, is a drama set in Berlin during the 1930s and based on the iconic novel of the same name by influential author Erich Kästner.

Burhan Qurbani's *Berlin Alexanderplatz* (2020) is a visually stunning cinematic update of Alfred Döblin's classic novel about a refugee who arrives in Berlin with high hopes, promising that he will be a decent person. But he finds the city and circumstances against him.

"We are particularly pleased to be able to present these two award-winning current films for the first time in Southeast Asia as part of Kinofest. Reflecting on life in the metropolis is likely to have a very special relevance in the countries of Southeast Asia, which are characterized by urban sprawl. But thanks to online availability of the festival in rural regions, the films will also reach an interested audience able to appreciate the critical reflection from a safe distance," says Dr. Ingo Schöningh, Regional Head of Cultural Programs at Goethe-Institut Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

Die Vermessung der Welt (2012), directed by Detlev Buck, portrays the life of the mathematician Carl Friedrich Gauß and the naturalist Alexander von Humboldt based on a literary novel by Daniel Kehlmann (2005). And in the film adaptation of Stefan Zweig's *Schachnovelle* directed by Phillip Stölzl, viewers will be treated to actor Albrecht Schuch tormenting the notary Joseph Bartok, who is in solitary confinement and played by Oliver Masucci.

Kinofest also has included three outstanding documentaries in the program that illustrate the entire range of narrative possibilities of the genre: *The Cleaners* (2017) by Hans Block and Moritz Riesewieck, *Dear Future Children* (2021) by Franz Böhm, and

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Herr Bachmann und seine Klasse (2021) by Maria Speth, winner of the Jury Award at the 71st Berlinale 2021.

Below is the Kinofest film screening schedule.

Available on the platform from 18 February to 10 March 2022:

- Undine (2020)
- The Cleaners (2017)
- Curveball (2020)
- Schachnovelle (2021)
- Freies Land (2020)
- Die Vermessung der Welt (2012)

Available on the platform 11-31 March 2022:

- Enfant Terrible (2020)
- Berlin Alexanderplatz (2020)
- Whisky und Wodka (2009)
- Fabian: Going to the Dogs (2021)
- Dear Future Children (2021)
- Herr Bachmann und seine Klasse (2021)

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About Goethe-Institut

The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's cultural institute, active worldwide. We promote the study of German abroad and encourage international cultural exchange. We also provide a comprehensive image of Germany through information on German political, social and cultural life. Our various cultural and educational programs support intercultural dialogue and enable cultural participation. These various programs strengthen the structures of civil society and support global mobility.

Media representatives who would like to watch the films, kindly register through the following link: kinofest22.goethe-on-demand.de.

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