

EVENTS EVENTS

ROMANIAN NEW WAVE

International Spotlight - Romania at LAFF 2007

LAFF - Los Angeles Film Festival took place between June 21st and July 1st

In three short years, since Cristi Puiu's *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* (multiple wins including *Un Certain Regard* in Cannes, Silver Hugo in Chicago, and several critics awards in 2005) managed to get on scores of 10-best lists,

Director of *Trafic*, Catalin Mitulescu won Palme d'Or for Best Short in Cannes in 2004, then went on to direct his first feature, *The Way I Spent The End Of The World* which won Best European Project at Sundance, and Best Actress award at *Un Certain Regard* program in Cannes 2006 for its star, Dorotea Petre. She in turn had previously given an equally memorable performance in Ruxandra Zenide's heart-breaking *Ryna*, which together with *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* is one of the founding pillars of the Romanian New Wave.

Recent Romanian cinema has been the talk of many film festivals, from Sarajevo to Tribeca to Cannes. One of its most talented authors, writer Razvan Radulescu, penned some of the best: *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* and *The Paper Will Be Blue*, and the film that

probably started it all back in 2001, *Stuff and Dough*, directed by Cristi Puiu. Most recently Radulescu co-wrote *The Beheaded Rooster*, a Romanian-Austrian-German-Hungarian co-production, which has just started touring the international festival circuit.

Then there's Cornelius Porumboiu's '06 Camera d'Or-winning *12:08 East of Bucharest*, followed by Cristian Mungiu's 4 months, 3 weeks and 2 days which won Palme d'Or in Cannes this year and was almost immediately picked up for U.S. theatrical distribution.

The audiences at this year's Los Angeles Film Festival (June 21-July 1) will be able to enjoy some of the Romanian virtuoso filmmaking. The International Spotlight - Romania features a mini-masterpiece, *Marilena* from P7, by the director who was only 27 when he was tragically killed in a car accident

last August, Cristian Nemescu. *Marilena* is an 'electrifying film about love, lust and bad ideas that mark adolescence', a must-see film. Nemescu made only one more film after that, *California Dreamin'*, which posthumously won him the *Un Certain Regard* prize in Cannes this year.

Also on the program are award-winning short *The Tube with a Hat*, directed by Radu Jude (who worked as assistant director on *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu*), and *The Paper Will Be Blue*, directed by Radu Muntean and written by Razvan Radulescu. Winner of Antalya, Cottbus and Namur film festivals, the film focuses on the chaotic events of the night between December 22-23, 1989, in the immediate aftermath of Ceausescu's fall. In the ensuing power vacuum the police, soldiers and protesters are caught in absurdly comical situations.



Filmed documentary-style on the streets of Bucharest, *The Paper Will Be Blue* makes the confusion and absurdity palpable, and puts the viewer in the shoes of ordinary people who are trying to figure out what's going on. Is a revolution taking place (not really), and who's fighting whom (never clear in civil unrests)? Smartly

playing their cards and mixing absurdity, humor and ambiguous melancholy of '89 regime change is what these 30-something Romanians are darn good at doing.

To find out more about International Spotlight-Romania, please visit LAFilmFest.com

The South East European Film Festival 2007 at Goethe Institute, Los Angeles

SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE INTERNATIONAL SPOTLIGHT - ROMANIA AT THE 2007 LOS ANGELES FILM FESTIVAL
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The South East European Film Festival 2007 showcases the work of filmmakers from Southern and Eastern Europe, and films made by expatriates who live California. The box office Bulgarian hit "L's Rebellion," opens the festival, with Romanian Oscar entry "The Way I Spent the End of the World."

Rade Serbedzija, celebrated actor from the former Yugoslavia & well known character actor in the USA (Battle in Seattle, Shooter, and recurring in 24) is the official celebrity opening the festival.

Hettie Lynne Hurtes, KPCC radio personality, is celebrity MC, Honorable Ivo Mouskourov, Consul General Republic of Bulgaria, Honorable Catalin Ghenea, Consul General of Romania, Honorable Dr. Christian Stocks, Consul General of Germany and representing The European Union, George Markov, President of Bulgarian Cultural Center of Southern California, Daniela Istrate, National President Union and League of Romanian Societies, Inc. Gail Kligman, Director of Center for European and Eurasian Studies, UCLA, Vera Mijolic, Founder and Festival Director, South East European Film Festival.

Today arrivals starts at 6:15 PM and films screenings starts at 7:30 PM. Festival continues Friday, May 4, 6:30pm, Saturday, May 5, 3:30pm. Sunday, May 6, 3:30pm, and Closing Night Monday, May 7, 7:30pm at the Fine Arts Theatre, Beverly Hills.

Screening location from May 3 to may 6 is at Goethe Institute 5750 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100 – Wilshire Court Building, Los Angeles, CA

APRECIEREA LEULUI

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Iata cateva declaratii legate de aprecierea leului:

Florin Pogonaru, președintele Asociației Oamenilor de Afaceri din România:

"Daca te uiti din punct de vedere al aprecierii leului, preturile bunurilor straine sunt in scadere, fapt care accentueaza fenomenul de dezinfatatie destul de pronuntat, pe de alta parte insa, acest fenomen de concurenta a bunurilor straine mai ieftine intrate pe piata romanesca, sub influenta unor bani speculativi care vin nativ in Romania, este menit sa distruga industria romaneasca. Din cate am calculat noi, acest impact al intaririi leului plus cresterile de salariu fac ca, pentru o intreprindere romaneasca, costurile sa fie cu circa 30% mai mari. Va dati seama ca in contextul asta o intreprindere romaneasca nu mai poate supravietui si concura cu firmele similare din Vest. O serie de bunuri manufacture din import fac ca preturile sa scada si chiar apeciabil. Asupra omului de rand, cresterea leului, in prima faza, ii va da impresia de bunastare, in sensul scaderii preturilor, dar pe termen lung, chestiunea asta nu este

sustenabila si se poate traduce intr-o criza de proportii. Deci, omul de rand va profita pe termen scurt, dar risca sa platesca cu varf si indesat pe termen mediu si lung".

Radu Ghetea, presedintele CEC:

"Un leu puternic depinde de cat timp se mentine la un anumit nivel. In momentul actual consider ca leul este atat de puternic datorita unor situatii conjuncturale, fondurile europene, oportunitatile de investitii in Romania, capitalul speculativ, a facut ca leul sa fie puternic. Nu inseamna ca leul va fi puternic la nesfarsit, in sensul ca o sa ajunga la paritatea de un leu la un euro, 2 lei la un euro, daca merge pe trendul asta de scadere. In acest context, sugestia mea este ca persoanele care doresc credite in valuta sa se gandesc si la o posibila situatie cand creditele luate in valuta la un nivel de 3,2 lei / euro, vor trebui rambursate cu 3,5 lei/euro sau chiar cu mai mult".

Mihai Ionescu, presedintele Asociatiei Nationale a Exportatorilor si Importatorilor din Romania:

"Din pacate, preturile la produsele energetice nu depend

de bursa internațională. Aprecierea monedei naționale cu un procent de pana la 20% nu a putut să acopere creșteri explozive de preturi de pana la 200%, si poate mai mult in anumite perioade, a prețului petrolului si a derivatelor.

Cresterea leului se regăseste in statistici si mai putin in buzunarele oamenilor. Omul plateste la piata aceeasi suma in lei ca si pana acum, desi ar trebui sa plateasca mai putin. Daca, pana in anul 2000, am asistat la un proces continuu de depreciere a monedei naționale si de crestere a preturilor, in ultimii ani, cand a inceput procesul de apreciere a monedei nationale, si mai brutal dupa 4 noiembrie 2004 cand Banca Centrala s-a retras de pe piata monetara, tendinta cursului s-a inversat, insa cea a preturilor, nu. De ce? Pentru ca importatorii isi protejeaza afacerile tinand preturile cat mai ridicate stiind ca e posibil sa se intoarca sensul cursului.

Din cauza aceasta la televizoare, frigidere, si alte produse din import, dupa un curs de 4,12 lei/euro la sfarsitul anului 2004, fata de 3,16 lei/euro astazi, ar fi trebuit sa asistam la o reducere simtoare a preturilor, lucru care nu s-a intamplat".

presedintele George W. Bush si despre criteriile privind incheierea unui astfel de conflict.

Snow a apreciat ca mentionarea in detentie pe termen nelimitat a unor suspecti de terorism fara a fi acuzati nu discrediteaza discursul presedintelui Bush privind propagarea democratiei.

In Romania, Guvernul va aloca peste 26 milioane lei pentru reabilitarea si achizitia de spatii pentru gradinite.

Guvernul va aloca 26 milioane lei pentru consolidarea, reabilitarea si achizitii de imobile pentru gradinitete din municipiul Bucuresti, iar premierul Tariceanu a cerut ministrului Educatiei sa gaseasca solutii, împreuna cu primariile, pentru rezolvarea problemelor create de lipsa acestor unitati.

"Am cerut ministrului Educatiei si Cercetarii ca personal, dincolo de sumele care au fost aprobatate si transferate, sa colaboreze cu primariile si sa contribuie la deblocarea situatiei existente la nivelul Capitalei", a spus Tariceanu. Potrivit unei informari prezentate de ministru Educatiei in sedinta Guvernului, la nivelul municipiului Bucuresti vor fi investite, in total, in unitatile de invatamant prescolar, peste 150 milioane lei, din care peste 63 milioane lei prin alocari de la bugetul central si peste 91 milioane lei de la bugetul local.

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