Rules and Regulations 2017

The following is a full listing of all current rules and regulations governing the submission of a film (hereafter called »the film«) to the 31th Braunschweig International Film Festival organized by the non-profit association Internationales filmfest Braunschweig e.V. (hereafter called »the festival«).

The person submitting the film (hereafter called the »applicant«) acknowledges that he or she has obtained consent from any and all owners, creators, writers, producers and/or other authorized representatives of the film and understands that by submitting the film to the festival he or she confirms that he or she has read and agreed to all rules and regulations set forth below:

I. General Rules and Regulations

Founded in 1986, the festival is one of the oldest festivals in Lower Saxony, Germany. Each year in early November the festival screens 300 feature and short films of all genres. The festival programme focuses on current European productions, music and concerts as well as young European and German cinema.

§ 1 Runtime and genre

For short films a runtime of **less than 15 minutes** and for all feature films or documentaries a running time of **at least 70 minutes** is required. Submission is open to all film genres and no limitations are set on content.

§ 2 General requirements

The film must not have been theatrically released, broadcasted on television in Germany or be available to purchase as DVD, BluRay or stream and must be completed **no earlier than January 1, 2016.** German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

§ 3 Submission

To finalize the film‘s submission the applicant must ensure that the festival has received **both a completely filled-in online entry form as well as a working screener with Geramn or English subtitles if the film‘s language is not German.** It is the applicant’s sole responsibility that all the required information is included. Both an incomplete submission as well as a non-working screener may lead to the disqualification of the submitted film. Submitters are highly encouraged to use the submission service supplied by the festival‘s homepage. Other platforms will be available as well.

§ 4 Additional required information:

- **synopsis/summary** (500 characters) which may be used in the official catalogue plus any **production notes and other festival screenings** (if any)
- Director‘s **filmography**
- a **digital head shot of the director**
- at least **three film stills**, which are suitable for printing (data with 310 dpi with a size of at least 8 x 10 cm. Data from or for the Internet is not suitable.

§ 5 Screener

The applicant provides **at least one screener** - either online or as DVD (then 3 DVDs) - to the festival. The festival may hand the screeners to a third party for organizational or programming reasons. By submitting the film the applicant permits the festival to do so.

§ 6 Language, subtitling

The film is required to have preferably German subtitles if the original language is not German. English subtitles will also be accepted.The festival may produce German subtitles for projection copies at the festival‘s expense, especially in the case of films selected for the competition. In order to produce the subtitle copy for the festival screening the festival has the permission to copy the film file and to add subtitles. The applicant is not entitled to receive the copy. However, both parties may negotiate the hand over. If neither the applicant nor any of the distrubition right‘s owners voice an interest in obtaining the copy until two weeks after the festival the copy will be destroyed.

§ 7 Exhibition format

The festival accepts digital video (DCP, DVD, ProRes, BluRay disc) and 35 mm. However, DCP is preferred.

§ 8 Projection copy

The film's projection copy must arrive in Braunschweig **by September 20, 2017** and will remain in Braunschweig until the end of the festival (October 22, 2017). The transport cost for the projection copy is assumed by the applicant. The cost for returning the projection copy is assumed by the festival. The projection copy's transport to Braunschweig occurs at the applicant's own risk. The projection copy is insured at the copy's value while in Braunschweig as well as for the return transport after the festival. Damage claims must be submitted no later than 14 days after return. In case of damage the material costs for the copy will be refunded after presentation of the bill and at the value in the land of origin. A refund based on non-material value is excluded.

§ 9 Additional material

The applicant will provide the festival with sufficient PR material (pictures, posters, press kits etc.). The transport cost for advertising and press material is assumed by the contributor.

§ 10 Participation notification

If you do not receive a response by September 20, 2017 your film has **not been selected** for this year's festival. Due to the high number of annual submissions we do not have the resources to inform every applicant.

§ 11 Return of DVDs

Preview material can only be returned if a sufficiently prepaid envelope valid for German postage with a return address is enclosed.

§ 12 Submission Fee

Due to rising numbers in submissions the festival raises submission fees to cover administrative costs as follows

April 4, 2017	**Kick Off**	no submission fees
April 5 till May 05, 2017	**Early Bird deadline:**	short films 10€, feature films 25€
till June 18, 2017	**Regular deadline:**	short films 15€, feature films 30€
till June 30, 2017	**Late deadline:**	short films 25€, feature films 40€

The festival grants no refunds. Prices only apply for the festival's own submission service. Submission prices via other platforms may differ.

§ 13 Validity

The regulations are valid exclusively for the 31th Braunschweig International Film Festival. Legal recourse is precluded.
The festival may decide solely upon any case not included within the stated rules and regulations. Films participating in any competition have no legal claim to win.

Contact

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II. Film Sections and Competitions

A. Feature Films

§ 1 General Information
Films may be submitted to more than one section. The festival direction reserves the right to assign submitted films to other sections within the festival curation as well as to not select submitted films for the festival.

§ 2 Film sections and competitions

The festival hosts four competitions:
a. Competition for »DER HEINRICH« (see also C.)
b. Competition for the German-French Youth Award »KINEMA« (see also D.)
c. Competition for »DER SCHWARZE LÖWE« within the section »BEYOND« (siehe auch E.)
d. Competition for »DIE GOLDENEN VIER LINDEN« within the section »HOME MATCH« (siehe auch F.)

Feature film submissions may be submitted to the following sections directly:

(1) Competition for »DER HEINRICH« (see also C.)
Open to first and second feature films of European origin. The director must live and work in Europe **or** the film must be produced in Europe. The minimum runtime is 70 minutes. There are no limitations on content or genre. However, documentaries are excluded from participation. The film must not have been theatrically released, broadcasted on television in Germany or be available to purchase as DVD, BluRay or stream. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

(2) Competition for the German-French Youth Award »KINEMA« (see also D.)
Open to first and second feature films, which have been produced for theatrical distribution (no TV productions) in either French or German language, compete for the award.The minimum runtime is 70 minutes. There are no limitations on content or genre. However, documentaries are excluded from participation. The film must not have been theatrically released, broadcasted on television in Germany or be available to purchase as DVD, BluRay or stream. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

(3) »HOME MATCH« (see also F.)
Open to all feature films from Braunschweig and the region. The minimum runtime is 50 minutes. There are no limitations on content or genre. Open to documentaries. The film must not have been theatrically released, broadcasted on television in Germany or be available to purchase as DVD, BluRay or stream. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

(4) »General Feature Film submission«
Open to all films. The minimum runtime is 70 minutes. There are no limitations on content or genre. Open to documentaries. The film must not have been theatrically released, broadcasted on television in Germany or be available to purchase as DVD, BluRay or stream. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice. Depending on the origin, language and content the festival will assign submissions to the sections »BEYOND«, »New German Films«, »New International Cinema«, »Green Horizons« and/or »Music and Film« as well as to the annualy changing theme sections.

Condition feature film	DER HEINRICH	KINEMA	BEYOND	HOME MATCH	New German Films	New International Cinema	Music and Film	Green Horizons
Feature films (70 minutes min.)	x	x		min. 50	x	x	x	x
theatrical productions completed after January 1st, 2016	2017 preferred	2017 preferred	2017 preferred		x	x	x	x
theatrical release after 22 October, 2017	x	x			x	x	x	x
Premieres (e.g. German festival premiere or world premiere) preferred	x	x			x	x	x	x

Conditions feature film	DER HEINRICH	KINEMA	BEYOND	HOME MATCH	New German Films	New Interna-tional Cinema	Music and Film	Green Horizons
No theatrical release, TV broadcast or availability on the internet in Germany	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No DVD/BluRay release	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
First and second feature films	x	x						
director must live and work in Europe **or** European production	x			related to the region				
open to all film genres and no limitations are set on content	x	x		related to the region	x	x		
documentaries			x	x	x	x	x	x
German or English subtitles if the original language is not German	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Language		German or French						

B. Short Films

§ 1 General Information
Films may be submitted to more than one section. The festival direction reserves the right to assign submitted films to other sections within the festival curation as well as to not select submitted films for the festival.

§ 2 Film sections
Short film submissions may be submitted to the following sections:

(1) »General short film submissions«
Open to all short films. The maximum runtime is 15 minutes. Open to documentaries. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

(2) »HOME MATCH« (see also F.)
Open to all films from Braunschweig and the region. The maximum runtime is 49 minutes. There are no limitations on content or genre. Open to documentaries. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

Conditions short film	General short film submissions	HOME MATCH
Short films (15 minutes max.)	x	max. 49
completed after January 1st, 2016	x	x
Premieres (e.g. German festival premiere or world premiere) preferred	x	x
open to all film genres and no limitations are set on content	x	related to the region
documentaries	x	x
German or English subtitles if the original language is not German	x	x

C. Competition for »DER HEINRICH«

§ 1 The Competition
The festival organizes the competition and awards »DER HEINRICH«. A prize of EUR 10,000 is awarded as result of the audience vote. The prize is equally divided between the director and the German distributor (or production company on condition that the winning film at the time of the award has not been distributed in Germany and that the German distribution rights will not be sold in the foreseeable future). The distribution prize is bound to distribution measures on the German market.

§ 2 Participation And Submissions
Open to first and second feature films of European origin. The director must live and work in Europe **or** the film must be produced in Europe. The minimum running time is 70 minutes. There are no limitations on content or genre. However, documentaries are excluded from participation. The film must not have been theatrically released, broadcasted on television in Germany or be available to purchase as DVD, BluRay or stream. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

§ 3 Film Selection
The festival will form a selection committee, which will nominate 10 films for the competition. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

§ 4 Presentation and Presence of Film Team
All films taking part in the competition will be shown trice. Further screenings out of competition are possible. The festival reserves the right to repeat the winning film. Every competition film has to be introduced by at least one member of the film team (director, producer, actor). The presence of the guests is also expected at the award ceremony. Travel and hotel costs will be assumed in the usual manner by the festival (all bookings will be effectuated by the festival).

§ 5 The Winning Film
The audience ballots determine the winner.

§ 6 Waiver of Film Rental
Rental costs will not be paid for any selected competition film. The festival, however, assumes all expenses related to the realization of the competition, including guest invitation and guest travelling and accommodation expenses.

§ 7 Language, subtitling
The film is required to have preferably German subtitles if the original language is not German. English subtitles will also be accepted.The festival may produce German subtitles for projection copies at the festival‘s expense. In order to produce the subtitle copy for the festival screening the festival has the permission to copy the film file and to add subtitles. The applicant is not entitled to receive the copy. However, both parties may negotiate the hand over. If neither the applicant nor any of the distrubition right‘s owners voice an interest in obtaining the copy until two weeks after the festival the copy will be destroyed.

D. Competition for the German-French Youth Award »KINEMA«

§ 1 Competition‘s aim
The festival organizes the Competition for the **German-French Youth Award »KINEMA«**. On the basis of a jury decision a prize is awarded for high artistic quality.

§ 2 The award‘s aim
• to enable a dialogue within the framework of a festival between young German and French people who are interested in films
• to promote the mutual interest in foreign film culture
• to support young directors and engage them in the dialogue between young German and French people
• to give effective publicity to the German-French exchange between Lower Saxony and Normandie

§ 3 The Award
The award consists of a new copy of the film with German and/or French subtitles for the use at festivals or in cinemas in the other country. In some cases the value of the copy may be disbursed. The prize is awarded to the director.

§ 4 Participation and Submission
6 first and second films, which have been produced as feature films for theatrical distribution (no TV productions) in either French or German, compete for the award. Films with a minimum duration of 70 minutes are taken into consideration. No limitations are set on genre or content. However, documentaries are excluded from participation. The film must not have been theatrically released, broadcasted on television in Germany or be available to purchase as DVD, BluRay or stream. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

§ 5 Film Selection
The festival appoints a selection committee which nominates 6 films for the competition.

§ 5 Presentation and Presence of Film Team
All films taking part in the competition will be shown twice. Further screenings out of competition are possible. The festival reserves the right to repeat the winning film. Every competition film has to be introduced by at least one member of the film team (director, producer, actor). The presence of the guests is also expected at the award ceremony. Travel and hotel costs will be assumed in the usual manner by the festival (all bookings will be effectuated by the festival).

§ 6 The Winning Film
The festival appoints a jury consisting of young adults aged 16 to 23 from Germany and France. The jury will begin their duty with a preliminary by a film scholar or film director, who will also head the jury without a voting right.

§ 7 Waiver of Film Rental
Rental costs will not be paid for any selected competition film. The festival, however, assumes all expenses related to the realization of the competition, including guest invitation and guest travelling and lodging expenses.

§ 8 Language, subtitling
The film is required to have either German subtitles if the original language is French or French subtitles if the original language is German.. English subtitles will also be accepted.The festival may produce German/French subtitles for projection copies at the festival‘s expense. In order to produce the subtitle copy for the festival screening the festival has the permission to copy the film file and to add subtitles. The applicant is not entitled to receive the copy. However, both parties may negotiate the hand over. If neither the applicant nor any of the distrubition right‘s owners voice an interest in obtaining the copy until two weeks after the festival the copy will be destroyed.

E. Competition for »DER SCHWARZE LÖWE«

§ 1 The Competition
The festival organizes the competition and awards »DER SCHWARZE LÖWE« within the section »BEYOND«. A prize of EUR 2,500 is awarded as result of the jury decision. The prize is awarded to the best director of couragious, new cinema that demonstrates a readiness to assume risk as well as to experiment.

§ 2 Participation And Submissions
Open to all international feature films. The minimum running time is 70 minutes. There are no limitations on content or genre. The film must not have been theatrically released, broadcasted on television in Germany or be available to purchase as DVD, BluRay or stream. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

§ 3 Film Selection
The festival will form a selection committee, which will nominate 8 to10 films for the competition. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

§ 4 Presentation and Presence of Film Team
All films taking part in the competition will be shown twice. Further screenings out of competition are possible. The festival reserves the right to repeat the winning film. Every competition film has to be introduced by at least one member of the film team (director, producer, actor). The presence of the guests is also expected at the award ceremony. Travel and hotel costs will be assumed in the usual manner by the festival (all bookings will be effectuated by the festival).

§ 5 The Winning Film
The competition‘s jury will decide the winner. The festival appoints the jury.

§ 6 Waiver of Film Rental
Rental costs will not be paid for any selected competition film. The festival, however, assumes all expenses related to the realization of the competition, including guest invitation and guest travelling and lodging expenses.

§ 7 Language, subtitling
The film is required to have preferably German subtitles if the original language is not German. English subtitles will also be accepted.The festival may produce German subtitles for projection copies at the festival's expense. In order to produce the subtitle copy for the festival screening the festival has the permission to copy the film file and to add subtitles. The applicant is not entitled to receive the copy. However, both parties may negotiate the hand over. If neither the applicant nor any of the distrubition right's owners voice an interest in obtaining the copy until two weeks after the festival the copy will be destroyed.

E. Competition for »DIE GOLDENEN VIER LINDEN

§ 1 The Competition
The festival organizes the competition and awards »DIE GOLDENEN VIER LINDEN« within the section »HOME MATCH«. A prize of EUR 1,000 is awarded as result of the jury decision. The prize is awarded to the director of the best film from the region Braunschweig.

§ 2 Participation And Submissions
Open to all regional feature films. The minimum running time is 50 minutes.
Regional films are defined by either characteristics:
a. made by a filmmaker from the region Braunschweig
b. made by a alumnus/a from one of the regional academies
c. take place in the region Braunschweig
d. produced in the region Braunschweig
e. filmed in the region Braunschweig
f. refere to the region Braunschweig, its historic evnets, people or places.

There are no limitations on content or genre. The film must not have been theatrically released, broadcasted on television in Germany or be available to purchase as DVD, BluRay or stream. German premieres and films from the year 2017 will be first choice.

§ 3 Film Selection
Films selcted to run in the section »HOME MATCH« are not necessarily nominated for the award »DIE GOLDENEN VIER LINDEN«. The festival will form a selection committee, which will nominate 4 to10 films for the competition depending on the quality of submissions. The competition's film screen during the festival and may be repeated.

§ 4 Presentation and Presence of Film Team
All films taking part in the competition will be shown once. Further screenings out of competition are possible. The festival reserves the right to repeat the winning film. Every competition film has to be introduced by at least one member of the film team (director, producer, actor). The presence of the guests is also expected at the award ceremony. Travel and hotel costs will be assumed in the usual manner by the festival (all bookings will be effectuated by the festival).

§ 5 The Winning Film
The competition's jury will decide the winner. The festival appoints the jury.

§ 6 Waiver of Film Rental
Rental costs will not be paid for any selected competition film. The festival, however, assumes all expenses related to the realization of the competition, including guest invitation and guest travelling and lodging expenses.

§ 7 Language, subtitling
The film is required to have preferably German subtitles if the original language is not German. English subtitles will also be accepted.The festival may produce German subtitles for projection copies at the festival's expense. In order to produce the subtitle copy for the festival screening the festival has the permission to copy the film file and to add subtitles. The applicant is not entitled to receive the copy. However, both parties may negotiate the hand over. If neither the applicant nor any of the distrubition right's owners voice an interest in obtaining the copy until two weeks after the festival the copy will be destroyed.