

LETTERS FROM OUR DEAR GUESTS

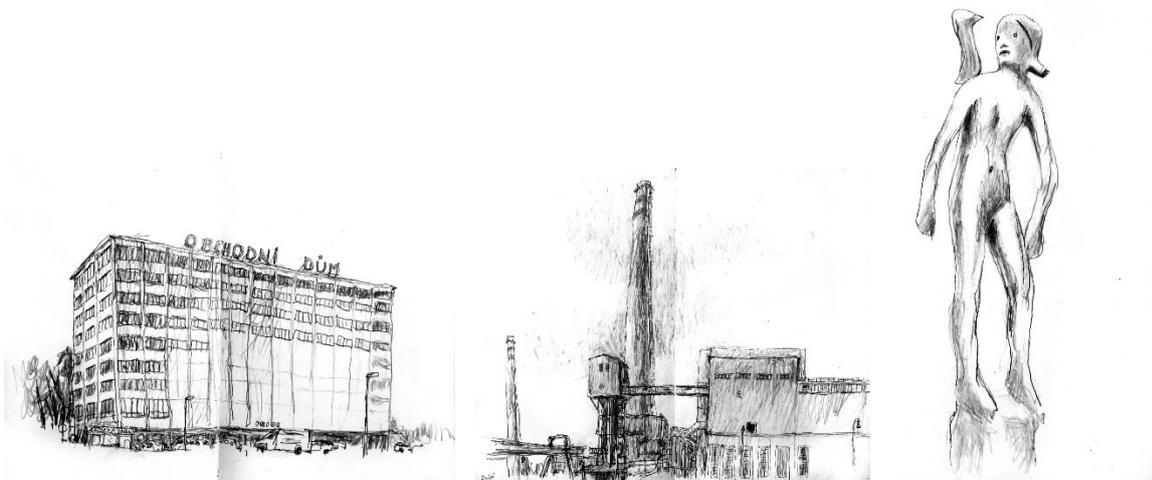
Dear Festival,

it has been an amazing and wonderful festival and it is not so easy to come back to a normal life after such a good time! For sure I was busy (to be in a jury) but I met so many interesting people, and we felt so welcoming that it was not a "work" at all! Many thanks for inviting me to Zlín Film Festival! And of course many thanks also to all the super team of the festival! Hopefully I will have a future film to present in Zlín at the upcoming editions... I wish you all the best.

PIERRE-LUC GRANJON



French animator, director and illustrator (A Little Adventure, The White Wolf, The Big Beast, The Four Season). Member of the Jury for Student Films at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.



Illustrated by Pierre-Luc Granjon

Dear Festival,

thank you and all the best team of Zlin festival organizers. I'm still living in nicest memories of the festival. I can say that it was really the best organised and welcoming event for last what I had! Thank you very, very much. Being in the jury was exceptionally great experience for me. And being together with so professional colleagues - just pleasure! With the best regards.

DACE RIDUZE



Latvian animator and director (Cats, Firefly, Smile, My Friend, Acorn Boy, Little Ruddy). Member of the Joint International Jury for Short Animated Films at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016

Dear Festival,

thank you for the outstanding job you did in making us feel on top of our obligations, comfortable in our surroundings, and at ease at all times. Can't speak for my jury members, but I know I already have a very warm memory of our experience. I'll certainly get something to share with the Festival social media team, it is my joy to do so. It was an honor, privilege, and very special treat to serve this season. Thanks go to Zlin!

ANN VIKSTROM



Program director of the Chicago International Children's Film Festival. Member of the Expert Jury for Feature Films for Youth at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016

Dear Festival,

back to England safe and sound, and still feeling great about a wonderful week in Zlín. Thank you for all your kindness, help and support. It was truly a great experience working with Dace and Jiri and I very much enjoyed giving my talk and attending the festival events. Wonderful friendliness and hospitality, as well as high quality films and discussion. Very much looking forward to coming again on another occasion. Thanks again. Love and best wishes

PAUL WELLS



Director of the Academy of Animation at Loughborough University. Member of the Joint International Jury for Short Animated Films at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016

Dear Festival,

I had a wonderful time at your festival! The program, the jury, your colleagues, the surrounding, everything was inspiring :-))) Thank you very much and I would love to come back some day! Kind regards and take care.

BARBARA BREDERO



Dutch film and TV director and producer (Morrison Gets a Baby Sister, Mister Twister: Class of Fun). Member of the Expert Jury for Feature Films for Children at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016

Dear Festival,

warm greetings to all! I would use this opportunity to give my thanks for a wonderful festival! It was an honor to be a part of Zlin jury this year. Your festival programme is great, the festival team amazingly joyful and welcoming. Best wishes, Parimate soovidega

MIKK GRANSTRÖM



Director and festival professional from Estonia, representative of the Black Nights Film Festival PÖFF in Tallinn. Member of the ECFA International Jury at the 56th Zlin Film Festival 2016

Dear Festival,

I hope everything went well in festival and now you're taking a good rest that you deserve. I just want to thank you for wonderful days I've had in Zlin. Was a great therapy for me being in this beautiful city. I especially enjoyed the people and your beautiful mind. Hope we'll get to meet again. I'd love to get contact list of « young stars » as I'd love to keep in contact.

TANFEEK BARHOM



Israeli Arab actor (Dancing Arabs, The Idol). Young Star of the 56th Zlin Film Festival 2016

Dear Festival,

thank you so much for organising everything and taking care of us during the festival! Our guide Anna was very nice, helpful and showed us great places in the city. We really enjoyed our stay in Zlín, the festival was very impressive, there was so many things to see! We would love to come back, thank you again! Best

REBECCA AKOUN



French animator and director (The Wolf Which Became a Shepherd, Yorinde and Yoringel). Delegation to THE WET HAIR, short animation in the competition of animated short films for children at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

thank you for your hospitality. Everything was wonderful - program, weather and organization. Just very sorry that I was not able to see as much films as I wanted to! Support programs for the guests were also very interesting. And I fell in love in your Bata shoe shop :-) Hope to come next year to buy me more Bata :-) Have a great summer! With kind regards

NATALIA MALYKHINA



Russian animator and director based in Norway. Delegation to THE LITTLE GRAY WOLFY. THE WINTER STORY, short animation in the competition of animated short films for children at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

thank you very much for the opportunity to attend Zlin Film festival, it was an amazing experience for us. All the events, night galas and the movies were exclusive and high quality and it was a privilege to be there and enjoy it. Thank you very much for your outstanding work to organize and being your guest during the film festival. Best regards

ÓRS & DÓRA BÁRCZY



Órs Bárczy is a Hungarian animator and director. Delegation to HEY, DEER!, short animation in the competition of animated short films for children at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

Claire and I really want to thank you and everybody at the Zlín Film Festival! We had such an amazing time and a warm welcoming and the weekend was such a bliss for us. Thank you so much. We were wondering if there is a way for us and our colleagues to thank the festival officially, as the AKOUO team? Good luck for the rest of the festival and thank you again. All the best from us back in France

CLAIRE SOUQUET & SOPHIE STANCOULESCU



French directors. Delegation to AKOUO short animation in the competition of animated short films for children at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

you have no idea how glad I was coming and meeting you all for 56th Zlin Festival. I was very honored by your invitation, and be sure I had an excellent time, I was amazed by the screenings. So many films!!! I was very happy meeting Your team. A also had a great pleasure meeting your guests and juries. I also was amazed by the Bata City I discovered (one day I'd love to come back with my microphones and make some recordings). The visit of the tour was so exciting, the pickup with antic cars was such a surprise, and all the nice ideas you had to give us so much pleasure! I just come back from Annecy Festival, and I never stopped talking about ZlinFest to my friends I met there!!!

... Wishing to seeing you soon. Take care. Love from Valence southen France.

LOÏC BURKHARDT



French sound designer, music composer, sound editor.

Delegation to PHANTOM BOY, feature animated film within Days of French Cinema at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

thank you for the lovely film selection, the good organisation and the many beautiful moments which I had in Zlin! I will be happy to visit your festival again. All the best

ELIZA PETKOVA



German screenwriter and director of Bulgarian origin.

Delegation to the European First Film ZHALEIKA at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

how many times have I been to ZLÍN? 15 times? 20 times... since the first time in 1963! But always as if it was for the first time. The gentleness of each person involved in the organization. So professionally organized. The quality and the size of the programming (this year I specially appreciated the retrospective of ZLÍN filmmakers and the retrospective of French films) is stunning. The friendly parties of the end of the days. The meetings with friends and professionals from all over the world. And the KOLIBA, one of my favorite restaurant. Long life to the ZLÍN FILM FESTIVAL.

ROCK DEMERS



Film lover, as well as producer and ex-distributor. Delegation to Snowtime! And The Dog Who Stopped the War at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

thank you for such a warm welcome this year. It was my first time at Zlin but it was like I was meeting up again with old friends. Here in the UK, we don't make many films for children, so we don't have many colleagues who can offer good support and guidance. Zlin was like finding a whole new family, which was exciting and so useful as we start to make our next movie.

TIM CLAQUE



British screenwriter and director. Delegation to Who Killed Nelson Nutmeg? at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

Zlin Film Festival is very special to me. I feel each staff as my family. There is a big change after coming back from Zlin. Mr. Shinzo Kannno who visited Zlin with me becomes an executive producer of KINEKO International Children's Film Festival. Mr. Kannno will support the development of the festival. This very wonderful and remarkable news for us. Moreover, Ms. Keiko Toda tells her great experience she had in Zlin to many Japanese medias. I would like to inform all of you that everything works well toward the good future. KINEKO International Film Festival (Tokyo) is still a small festival, but the words given from the president Mr. Āestmír VanĀura "Be patient, concentrate on one thing creates good film festival" is such a wonderful advice for me and I'm very thankful for his words. At last, one of the most I like of Zlin Film Festival is its members and staffs. I will always support Zlin Film Festival from far east country, Japan.

MITSUO TAHIRA



Director of the
Japanese children's
film festival KINEKO

Dearest Festival,

this was my second Time I have had the opportunity to enjoy your festival and as always I was very happy attending it. Zlin has for me everything I am looking for a festival, good oficial section of films, great size but you can enjoy everything and don't lose anything at the same time,great opportunity to do networking with all the guess in all the events and parties that are organize for the festival and above all my heart was taking by all the wonderful team of organization that take care of all of us in anytime. That's why this will be my favorite place to come back when I finish my festival. Wish you long live.

DAMIÁN PEREA LEZZANO



Director and Producer motion
pictures,comercials and
ANIMAYO International Film
Festival in the Canary Islands,
Spain.

Dear Festival,

thank you so much for you invitation as a jury in your festival. Zlin city is great. Peaceful, friendly and a great history. Your team is wonderful, professionally and warmly welcome speaking. The journey has been very attractive. I met great people on all sides. I did a lot of festival in the last 5 years and you will be one of my favorite souvenir. The selection was very good. Movies were singular and original from all over the world. I wish all my best for the future. Sincerely

OLIVIER HORLAIT



French screenwriter and director. Member of the Expert Jury for Feature Films for Youth at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

thank you for an amazing week. It was a great treat to experience your passion for film on literally every street corner. The spirit and heart flows through every official, guest and audience member, who escaped the beautiful weather into the world of cinema. In my mind Zlin FILMFEST is exactly that, a fest for film, and the reason why festivals exists and are important not just for the local audience but for film as an art form. I'll be back. All the best!!

FREDERIK NØRGAARD



Danish actor, writer and director. Delegation to the competitive film for children VILLADS FROM VALBY at the 56th Zlín Film Festival.

Dear Festival,

thanks to you for an interesting and nice selection of movies, great hospitality and warm weather, which made the entire stay a pleasant holiday. I am glad that our jury was nice bunch of people and that Mirka cared nicely about us. You have been truly spectacular and the city nice and clean, spic and span.

JARJ BARTA



Czech animator and director (The Pied Piper, Toys in the Attic,...). Member of the Joint International Jury for Short Animated Films at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016

Dear Festival,

for me, it was a great honor and a great pleasure to be in the jury of the festival. You are a wonderful festival, with a wonderful team inspiring for all the others children's film festivals... We had a great time, and when we will have a new feature, hopefully, we will submit it for your consideration. It's my turn to say the deepest thank you.

OLIVIER RINGER



Belgian screenwriter, director and producer. Winner of the Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film for Children at the 55th Zlín Film Festival for a film Birds of Passage. Member of the Expert Jury for Feature Films for Children at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

thank you and your team once again for an amazing week! It was a great pleasure to be part of the jury. And I met so many wonderful and inspiring people, have seen many great movies and so on. I definitely want to come back in the future. Hope you can sit back and relax after this busy week.

STEVEN WOUTERLOOD



Dutch screenwriter and director (Anything Goes, King's Day). Member of the Jury for Student Films at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

Thank you so much for the invitation and great festival. Organization, your turn at the goal, enthusiasm and everything. For the Zlín Dog section I must say that the girls did a great job in selecting and designing the sets of short films. Mainly it is very obvious that they just have fun, which is what's most important. At the same time, I realized that although ironically it was the Czech film that won the main prize, here in the Czech Republic we have a large gap in terms of shorts. Which I use for a debate with the guys in the jury. We need to move the system the way they do so in other countries - the shorts and student films will not be made by themselves, but the same way as a feature movies. They will be properly financed, produced with experienced production etc. That is the way to go. At least after that experience I think so. And gradually I will start doing some steps on this subject. Will try to persuade others etc. Maybe next year there could be a film industry programme about this topic in Zlín - How to finance student films!

VOJTĚCH FRÍČ



Czech producer and editor (Icing, I, Olga Hepnarova, Crazy Kingdom). Member of the Jury for Student Films at the 56th Zlín Film Festival 2016.

Dear Festival,

Me and my actor Anthony were glad to be invited for the first time. Of course there is a lot of festivals but your organization was great, people were really nice and helpful. The city is small but you organizes a lot of activities which made our stay even better than it was already! About movies there is nothing to say, there was a lot to watch and a lot of filmmakers to meet everyday and everywhere around. All of this words to say: Thank You Zlín Film Festival! We are already looking forward for coming to the next edition!

VALENTIN PITTARD



Swiss director. Delegation to the student competitive film 1942 at the 56th Zlín Film Festival.

Dear Festival,

I still remember all the time in my flight from Paris to Vienna I was being impatient and apprehensive, as I was going to attend the International premiere of my debut film CHIDIYA in prestigious 56th Zlin International Film Festival under the international competition. In my country, to attend ZLÍN FILM FESTIVAL has always been more than a dream for every children-film maker. And my dream was about to come true, there I was, smelling the beautiful breeze of Zlín. After a very warm welcome we met a very vibrant and full of love lady Barbora, who made sure we get the best of the facilities. Next morning we had the international premiere, I went to the venue and got to know that there is going to be a question answer round with the audience. As a debutant director, I can say its a very scary moment. what if people don't like my film? What if they could not relate to the subject? These questions were like popping up in my mind. So, scared me was standing right infant of the audience in the theatre. My faith in God became stronger when I saw the audience reaction, they all were applauding. Was it really happening? But I could not ask anyone to pinch me as I was on stage. I was in the fantasy land for next 30 minutes through out the Q&A round. There I met Jaroslava (a stranger then, but now a friend) her warmth was too high that we became friends then and there. Jaroslava gave us company through out the festival from screening to party, from meeting to seminar. It was not just a festival, it was a week to gather memories for life time. Festival team took care of us so well, music shows were there, beautiful parties, dance shows and what not. We had a brief meeting with the artistic director of the festival Markéta, but in that small meeting her kindness left a great impression on us all. Seven days of our stay in Zlin passed by like seven moments and there we were coming back with thousands of beautiful memories. We had great time, made friends but Kamil Kyas you are very special. With you I was feeling like I am with some of my childhood friend. To all the children-film makers around the globe, here is my suggestion for you all that you should attend this beautiful, delightful and elegant film festival called "Zlin international film festival", you guys can thank me later. I am very thankful to the entire festival team for that great warmth. With lots of love

MEHRAN AMROHI



Director from India. Delegation to the competitive film for children CHIDIYA at the 56th Zlín Film Festival.