



PRESS RELEASE

May 26, 2022

THE 62ND ZLÍN FILM FESTIVAL HAS STARTED IN ZLÍN. THE GOLDEN SLIPPER WILL BE AWARDED TODAY TO PAVEL ZEDNÍČEK

Zlín – Films from all over the world, a rich program for the whole family and school groups, entertainment, and many important personalities who are coming to Zlín starting today. The city is coming alive again for seven days with the world's largest and oldest film festival for children and youth. The Golden Slipper will be awarded this evening to a Czech actor and Zlín native Pavel Zedníček. The 62nd Zlín Film Festival has begun and will last until Wednesday, June 1, 2022.

After two years of holding the "live" part of the Zlín Film Festival in September, it's returning to its traditional spring term in the festival calendar. *"We are glad that we can finally again offer the festival to audiences during the accustomed period, and that during its course we will again celebrate Children's Day,"* says the president of the Zlín Film Festival Čestmír Vančura, adding that with the return to the traditional date, the interest in visits from schools and foreign festival guests has increased significantly.

"We were pleasantly surprised that even the morning programs for schools are again enjoying such interest this year, just like before the Covid period – perhaps even greater. At the moment we have completely filled cinema halls for school screenings, as well as the morning workshops," Čestmír Vančura evaluated the situation and added: *"The number of non-Zlín schools that are preparing for a school trip to the festival has also increased significantly. Compared to 2019, we have seen an increase of almost 50% in this area."*

After two years, a number of jurors and film delegations from all over the world are also heading to Zlín to accompany their films. *"The capacity of all the city's accommodation facilities and those of the surrounding area are completely packed at the moment,"* confirmed the executive director of the festival Jarmila Záhorová.

The theme of the festival this year is the festival itself. *"We want to strongly emphasize face to face communication with a particular focus on the younger population and invite people to turn off their monitors, limit e-communication on their social networking sites, and go to the cinema, to a concert, or experience some other activity,"* explains Executive Director Jarmila Záhorová.

In its film program, the 62nd Zlín Film Festival is offering a total of **276 films** from **49 countries around the world**. The morning opening film of the festival will be the feature-length animated 3D film **Journey to Yourland**, which was created in Czech-Slovak-Belgian co-production. In Zlín, it will be presented to moviegoers in its world premiere and distribution preview on Thursday, May 26 at 10 am.

As part of the evening opening, audiences can look forward to the German film **The Path** at 7 pm. It captures the exciting story of a little boy wandering through the mountains from France to Spain to get to America to escape the war. The first awards will also be presented during the evening. The **Golden Slipper** for outstanding contribution to cinema for children and youth will be received by actor, comedian, and presenter **Pavel Zedníček**. *"I was very pleased. Not only because the Golden Slipper is Zlín-based, but also because I graduated from the Secondary Industrial Leather School, so shoemaking is not foreign to me. And I'm supposed to accept a slipper. And golden to boot,"* commented Pavel Zedníček, who will also present the premiere of the new Czech miniseries *Morning Glow*.

The first festival evening will also be the occasion to present the **Technology Agency of the Czech Republic award "For the popularization of science among youth"**. This year, the expert jury focused on digital artists who have popularized science through websites and social networks and presented various pieces of knowledge to the young generation in an entertaining way. This year's festival awards includes the brand new **Patron of Children Audience Award for the portrayal of a strong children's story**. *"During the festival week, visitors will have the opportunity to vote for 11 selected films from the festival film program directly in the cinemas,"* explains Markéta Pášmová, the festival's artistic director, adding that the most successful of them will be announced at the end of the festival during the gala evening.

The festival's organizers are also reflecting the current geopolitical situation and have decided to include a special series of animated films in Ukrainian for children from Ukraine in the film program. *"We are not indifferent to the situation in Ukraine and we have therefore decided to please the children who now live in Zlín at least a little bit. On Saturday, May 28, at 11:30 am, we will present a selection of 12 episodes of the animated series called My Country Ukraine,"* said Markéta Pášmová. The screening will be attended by the Head of the Mission of the consulate of the Ukrainian Embassy Mrs. Anna Proshko. Admission to the performance is free for Ukrainian families.

The film and supporting programs will again offer a number of opportunities to families to spend some free time together. At traditional locations, visitors will be able to experience films, theater, exhibitions, concerts, film (and other) workshops, and creative workshops. This year, the organizers are preparing a new special zone for the young; teenagers can look forward to films intended for them, about youtubers, virtual reality, an evening party in the courtyard of the chateau, an arena for e-sports in front of the



chateau, and many other activities. *"We want to offer teenagers the opportunity to actively spend their free time in a 'chill' atmosphere, as they say. The TOP TEEN TEN collection or '10 films that you should not miss if you are... a teen',"* says Markéta Pášmová, inviting all to the Zlín Chateau, and adds another festival event: *"On Saturday, May 28, we will present a digitally restored version of The Incredibly Sad Princess, which will be preceded by the popular Red Carpet and autograph session with the main protagonist Václav Neckář."*

Of course, there will also be traditional events in this year's festival program, such as the annual Clapperboard Salon auction, the MONET+ Zlín Festival Half Marathon, and Painting on the Pavement. However, it is also worth checking out the Friday concert of the band Čechomor and the Saturday theatre performance of the ART Bez Zabradi theater, starring Karel Heřmánek, who will receive a Golden Slipper on June 1 during the gala evening.

The organizers of the festival will offer current topics through workshops for schools and the public as part of the Children Without Borders conference block. Among other things, they will answer questions about how pre-school and younger schoolchildren perceive periods associated with rapid changes in the world, how easy it is to have "radical" opinions on innocent topics, how disinformation affects us, how to recognize them, how to defend them, and others.

The 62nd Zlín Film Festival will take place in Zlín from May 26 to June 1, 2022.

The complete film and supporting program is available at www.zlinfest.cz and in the Zlinfest festival application.

You can find out more at www.zlinfest.cz.

Media contact

Ing. Kateřina Martykánová

PR manager

tel.: +420 602 576 870

email: katerina.martykanova@zlinfest.cz



THE ZLÍN FILM FESTIVAL – International Film Festival for Children and Youth is the oldest and, currently, largest film festival of its kind in the world. Its prestige increases every year not only in the Czech Republic, but also abroad. This is evidenced by the number of invitations and the participation of ZFF representatives to sit in the juries of international festivals in Russia, Latvia, Germany, Poland, Greece, India, and other countries of the world, plus the enormous amount of interest in the festival's film dramaturgy.

The festival's mission is to present international film productions for children and teenagers, to make them accessible to the child audiences, and offer a high-quality alternative to commonly available audiovisual content. An important aspect of the festival is to educate young audiences through the medium of film, expand their awareness of the outside world, and develop their aesthetic, social, and moral feelings. The aim of the program is to systematically contribute to the development of Czech cinema for children and youth. The organizer of the festival is the company FILMFEST, s.r.o..

OPENING FILM – JOURNEY TO YOURLAND

The festival will open with the international premiere of the Slovak-Czech-Belgian 3D animated film *Journey to Yourland* by director Peter Budinský and producers Peter Badač and Barbara Budinská. This ambitious feature film with a budget of 94 million crowns went through film forums at festivals in Croatia, Switzerland, Germany, and France and was worked on by more than fifteen artists and animators from all over Europe, from Ireland to the Czech Republic. The film tells the story of 10-year-old Riki, his cheeky new friend Emma, and the monkey Tidling, who set out on an adventurous journey to Yourland to save their own lives and the entire fantasy world. Significant voices were lent to the main characters by Jan Cina, Jan Vondráček, Klára Issová, Martin Myšička, and Václav Neužil. *Journey to Yourland* stands out for its elaborate artistic style with detailed backgrounds evoking an epic video game feeling, which is quite appealing to young audiences looking for something more than “children's” animation.

Synopsis

Far beyond the boundaries of children's playgrounds, there is an amazing world of fantasy – Yourland. Monkeys and ravens speak the human language here and through golden deserts walk incredible machines that operate in perfect harmony with nature. Ten-year-old Riki escapes to Yourland from his home in the real world because he picks up a signal emitted by a mysterious glowing pebble. This stone source of great power that everyone wants to possess is hidden in Riki's heart. Who can Riki share this secret with? With his new cheeky friend Emma? With the monkey general Tidling? With Metalman, the mighty robot and the advisor to the President of Yourland, or the captain of the steamship? Riki's adventurous quest to save not only his own life, but the entire fantasy world can begin.



LIST OF DISTRIBUTION PREMIERS:

Journey to Yourland / world premiere
Slovakia, Czech Republic, Belgium, 2022

The Enchanted Cave / world premiere
Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, 2022

Where is Anne Frank? / distribution preview
Belgium, France, Israel, Luxembourg, Netherlands, 2021

Moonbound / distribution preview
Austria, Germany, 2021

Pil's Adventures / distribution preview
France, 2021

The Websters Movie / distribution preview
Czech Republic, Slovakia, 2022

Morning Glow / premiere of the 3rd episode of the miniseries
Czech Republic, 2022

The Incredibly Sad Princess / restored premiere
Czechoslovakia, 1968

GOLDEN SLIPPER AWARD

STARS ON THE WALK OF FAME

During the 62nd festival, two more stars will be unveiled in Zlín on the Walk of Fame. The history of this joint project of the Drop of Hope Endowment Fund and the Zlín Film Festival dates back to 2006. This year, the names of actors **Barbora Seidlová** and **Jan Šťastný** will appear on stone tiles in front of the Grand Cinema. *"Jan Šťastný, as a Zlín native, stood in front of the camera for the first time at the age of thirteen in Zlín,"* explains ZFF Executive Director Jarmila Záhorová, adding: *"For Barbora Seidlová, the role of Princess Zubejda in the fairytale film Lotrando and Zubejda by Karl Smyczek was fateful for her at the age of fifteen."*

YOUNG STARS

For several years now, the Zlín Film Festival has also focused on interesting young actors. This year's Young Stars coming to Zlín will be **Brigita Cmuntová** and **Jan Nedbal**. *"Both are talented actors and audiences may have seen them in several films or series. Our choice of Brigita was influenced, among other things, by her role in the co-production film City on the River by producer Julietta Sichel, which we will present this year at the festival,"* Markéta Pášmová says, adding that *"Jan Nedbal will present a co-production film at the festival by director Peter Bebjak, The Auschwitz Report, where he plays a prisoner in a concentration camp, and then also the latest film by Tomáš Hodan, The Last Race"*.

OTHER PERSONALITIES OF THE 62ND ZFF

Jitka Čvančarová

Eliška Balzerová

Veronika Freimanová

Jana Švandová

Pavel Nový

Václav Neužil

Simona Lewandovská

Vojtěch Vodochodský

Lukáš Hejlík

Kristýna Janáčková

Lenka Krobotová

Anna and Ester Geislerová

Oskar Hes

Josef Trojan

Jitka Schneiderová

Jiří Dvořák

Arnošt Goldflam

Vladimír Polívka

Bára Fišerová

Kristýna Podzimková

Pavla Gajdošíková

Jana Kolesárová

Petra Nesvačilová

Martin Dejdar

Jan Čenský

Dana Morávková

Roman Vojtek

Ljuba Krbová and Ondřej Neff



OVERVIEW OF EVENTS OF ZLÍN INDUSTRY DAYS 2022

Kids Kino Lab / International Screenwriting Workshop

May 28 - June 1, 2022

FRIDAY, May 27

FILMTALENT Pitching Forum

10 am - 3 pm / Congress Centre, Small Hall

FILMTALENT Talks

3:30 pm - 5 pm / Congress Centre, Small Hall

The Proud Princess in color – presentation of the upcoming project

6 pm - 7:30 pm / Congress Centre, small hall

SATURDAY, May 28

Contemporary Czech literature for children and youth as a source for film themes

10:30 am - 12 pm / Congress Centre, Small Hall

Central European Children's Film CoProduction Forum

2 pm - 6 pm / Congress Centre, Small Hall

SUNDAY, May 29

Cutting School for Cinema 2022 / International conference on film and audiovisual education

Topic: Legally and Easily - Film in School Education

9 am - 4 pm / Congress Centre, Small Hall

Festival Community – open meeting of representatives of film festivals from abroad and from the Czech Republic.

5 pm - 7 pm / Congress Centre, Small Hall

JURIES OF THE 62ND ZFF**International Jury for Feature Film for Children**

Jitka Čvančarová	CZ	actress
Tamara Bos	The Netherlands	screenwriter
Kenneth Kainz	Denmark	director

International Jury for Feature Film for Adolescents and Young Adults

Tereza Kopáčová	CZ	director and producer
Jonathan Murray	United Kingdom	film theorist, publicist and lecturer
Rodrigo Litorriaga	France	director and producer

International Jury for Short Animated Films for Children

Arba Hatashi	Kosovo	festival director
Filip Pošivač	CZ	director, animator and illustrator
Corinne Destombes	France	film distributor

ECFA International Jury for Feature Documentary Film for Young Audiences

Kateřina Hager	CZ	director
Teresa Lima	Portugal	festival dramaturge
Alicia McGivern	Ireland	film education expert

International Expert Jury for the Zlín Dog Student Film Competition

Martin Smatana	Slovakia	director, animator and artist
Adéla Komrží	CZ	director
Mano Khalil	Switzerland	director and producer

International Ecumenical Jury

Barbora Cihelkova	CZ	journalist
Adriana Răcășan	Romania	producer
Katrin Rudolph	Germany	pastor, theologian and historian



The organizer of the Zlín Film Festival, FILMFEST, s.r.o., would also like to thank all of our partners and supporters, who were absolutely crucial for making it possible for the 62nd festival to happen.

Co-organizer:

Statutory city of Zlín

General partner:

Kovárna VIVA a.s.

General Media Partner:

Czech Television

Financial support

Ministry of Culture

Zlín Region

Czech Film Fund

Creative Europe- MEDIA

Main partners

ŠKODA AUTO a.s.

Zlaté jablko, a.s.

GOLDEN APPLE CINEMA, a.s.

Main media partners

Czech Radio

Total Film

VLTAVA LABE MEDIA a.s. (Daily)

Charitable Partners

Patron dětí, z. ú.

Drop of Hope Endowment Fund

Significant partners

Tomas Bata University in Zlín | MONET+,a.s. | ABB s.r.o. | Barrandov Studio a.s. | SPUR a.s.

Paketo group s.r.o. | IS Produkce s.r.o. | KOMA MODULAR s.r.o. | Digital First Marketing Group s.r.o.

POZIMOS, a.s. | Pražská mincovna a.s. | DHL Express (Czech Republic) s.r.o.

Media partners

Sluníčko | Mateřídouška | Maminka | choice | Červený koberec | Náš REGION | Kinobox.cz

ČSFD.cz | MOBILBOARD s.r.o. | RAILREKLAM, spol. s r.o.