

## The films in DOK Leipzig's Audience Award competitions: Varied emotions, masterpieces of art and athletic training

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**1 October 2020**

For the first time, a panel of audience members will award a Golden and a Silver Dove



DOK Leipzig 2020 | Areum Married (director: Areum Parkkang)

For the first time at DOK Leipzig, a Golden Dove in combination with €3,000 and a Silver Dove in combination with €1,500 will be awarded in the newly established competitions for the Audience Award for long and short films. Twenty documentaries and animated films from 12 countries will be screened in "The Golden Section" competitions, in cinemas and online. These include five world premieres, five international premieres, one European premiere and nine German premieres.

"We are happy that a panel of cinema enthusiasts representing the DOK Leipzig audience will be voting on films in competition this year," says festival director Christoph Terhechte. "The title of the competitions, 'The Golden Section', evokes harmonious proportions and thus a well-rounded, multifaceted film programme. Here you'll find films that stir emotions, that take a subjective look at global issues as well as at one's personal surroundings, and that can be surprising, warm and humorous."

Waiting to be discovered are films by established filmmakers, such as Todd Chandler from the United States and Nicola Graef, who has been a guest at DOK Leipzig on several occasions. The selection also includes films by numerous up-and-coming directors, such as Rocco Di Mento and Areum Parkkang from South Korea. Representing central Germany are animated filmmaker Falk Schuster, director Alina Cyranek and 3-D artist Franz Impler. Luca Lucchesi is included with a film produced by Wim Wenders.

The competition entries include cinematic narratives about loneliness in the big city of Berlin as well as reflections on fake news and gun violence in US schools. One of the films selected deals explicitly with the time of the lockdown amid the coronavirus pandemic. Other works follow a musi-

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Festival for Documentary and  
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cal couple and their passion for Balkan music, take a close look at Diego Velázquez's masterpiece "Las Meninas" and reveal the humorous side to animated film. There is also a portrait of a fervent football coach who is prone to excess. An autobiographical work is dedicated to the tragic and comic sides of the life of a filmmaker and young mother caught between travelling to festivals, feeling homesick and changing nappies.

The Golden Dove for a Long Documentary or Animated Film and the Silver Dove for a Short Documentary or Animated Film in the "Golden Section" competitions will be awarded by seven film enthusiasts from around Leipzig who have applied to DOK Leipzig to be on the panel: Johanna Bender, Maurane Cugny, Hermann Klinghammer, Ahmad Masoud, Rico Mosig, Sabine Seliger and Anita Weiss. This year's award-winning films will be announced on the Sunday of the festival (1 November 2020).

The Silver Dove in the "Golden Section" competition for the Audience Award for Short Documentary and Animated Film in combination with €1,500 in prize money is donated by the Leipziger Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Filmkunst e. V., the Friends of DOK Leipzig.

The attachment contains an overview of all films in the Audience Award competitions.

Images of DOK Leipzig and logos can be found [here](#).

The 63rd edition of DOK Leipzig will be held as a hybrid festival this year. In addition to cinema screenings for the Leipzig audience, a large part of the programme will be shown online throughout Germany. Film talks, podcasts and the industry events of DOK Industry will be available online. Accredited guests are able to view festival films online worldwide.

Would you like to be accredited for DOK Leipzig 2020? Please, register with a new account on [myDOK](#) by 18 October and use [this form](#) to apply for your online accreditation.

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# Wir danken für die Unterstützung

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## “Golden Section” – Competition for the Audience Award Long Documentary and Animated Film



### Areum Married

(Original title: Parkkangareum gyeolhonhada)

Areum Parkkang

South Korea 2019 | German premiere

Areum decides to go to France to study and finally make the kind of films that are not possible in Korea. Her husband, however, has nothing to do in France and is sliding into depression. A joint project is to help against homesickness.



### A Black Jesus

Luca Lucchesi

Germany 2020 | World premiere

In Siculiana, a small Sicilian town, people worship a black figure of Jesus Christ worshipped. However, some people cannot get used to their dark-skinned neighbours in the refugee camp. The paths of the locals and the stranded people often lead to the church, but not necessarily together.

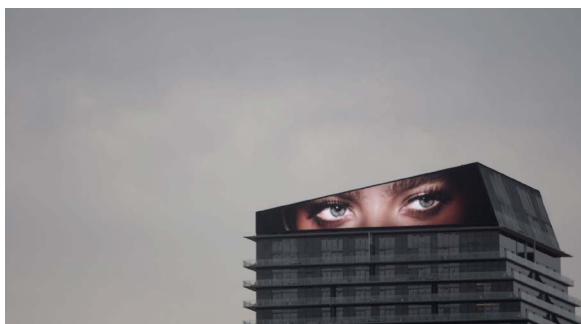


### The Blunder of Love

Rocco Di Mento

Germany 2020 | World premiere

During his genealogical research, Di Mento unearths old 8mm home movies, an unpublished novel, love letters and long-suppressed feelings. Suddenly the issue is no longer only the search for the love of one's life but also the questions of what holds people together above and beyond their relationship status.



### Bulletproof

Todd Chandler

USA 2020 | German premiere

Surveillance cameras, arms depots and bulletproof shelters in high schools: A huge industry reacts to the threat of school shootings in the US. Bulletproof hoodies are developed, teachers armed and surveillance devices installed – prevention or a self-fulfilling prophecy?



### Eine einsame Stadt

(International title: A Lonely City)

Nicola Graef

Germany 2019 | World premiere

Loneliness has many faces in Berlin. Young and old are afflicted by it, men, women, single and married people. It's normal. Nicola Graef lets the lonely inhabitants of the capital city speak. The result is varied and surprising.



## “Golden Section” – Competition for the Audience Award Long Documentary and Animated Film



### Faith and Branko

Catherine Harte

Serbia, UK 2020 | International premiere

Faith, a charismatic accordion player from Great Britain, travels to Serbia to learn about Roma folk music. She meets the violinist Branko, who is instantly smitten. They quickly marry and form a band. But alas, the first cracks in their romantic bliss soon appear. A captivating and intimate portrait of this contradictory couple.



### Forgotten Lands

(Original title: Les Blanches Terres)

Amélie Cabocel

France 2019 | International premiere

Michelle, 86 years old, is an obstinate, touching widow and the filmmaker's grandmother. She carefully guards photo albums in which her memories are preserved. When her granddaughter wants to produce a film based on this material, the old lady catches the bug.



### A New Shift

(Original title: Nová šichta)

Jindřich Andrš

Czech Republic 2020 | International premiere

Tomáš worked as a miner for 21 years, until the mine closed down. Full of hope, he retrain as a coder. But the way out of the crisis is harder than expected. A film about a tug-of-war with fate and the employment market.



### The Painting

(Original title: El cuadro)

Andrés Sanz Vicente

Spain 2019 | German premiere

Are we looking at a painting or is it looking back at us? The larger-than-life painting “Las Meninas” by the baroque artist Velázquez sparks captivating digressions about the intricate structure of this painting’s composition, about curiosity and penetrating gazes.



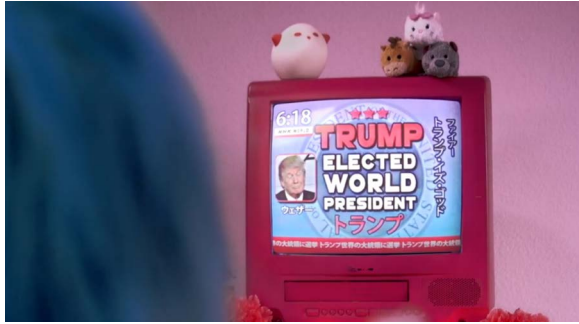
### Robin's Hood

Jasmin Baumgartner

Austria 2020 | International premiere

Fluctuation at the Vienna football club RSV is high. Coach Robin, who once hosted parties at the Prater sauna, sees his club as a political project, too: Players from various birth nations come together in his “dirty rotten bunch”. Athletic highlights are quite often followed by relegation.

## “Golden Section” – Competition for the Audience Award Short Documentary and Animated Film



### “Hello,” We Lied

Laura Gamse

USA 2020 | International premiere

Journalism in the U.S. is in crisis. Jestin Coler, also known as the “fake news king”, most likely contributed to this when headlines from his satirical web page were picked up and believed by the mainstream. Laura Gamse scrolls through news and memes and thereby comments on the state of Western societies.



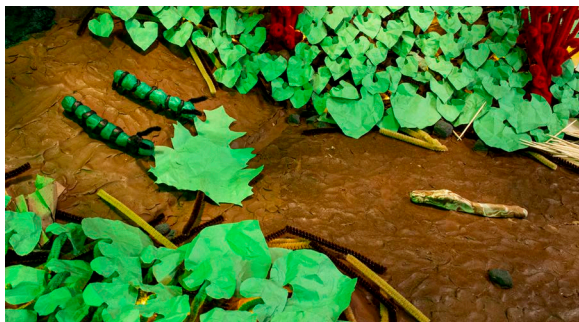
### Bless You!

(Original title: Zdrastvuyte!)

Tatyana Chistova

Poland 2020 | World premiere

Against the backdrop of Saint Petersburg during the Corona lockdown, Recordings of the almost empty city merge with calls to a municipal hotline tasked with offering help and advice. Elderly people in particular are affected by poverty, hunger and loneliness.



### Burp

Ethan Barrett

USA 2019 | German premiere

Eating dirt and burping with relish – an earthworm refuses to be satisfied with this embarrassing evolutionary outcome for his species and sets out to learn better things. Ethan Barrett demonstrates magnificently that clay is the pinnacle of the evolutionary pyramid of animation.



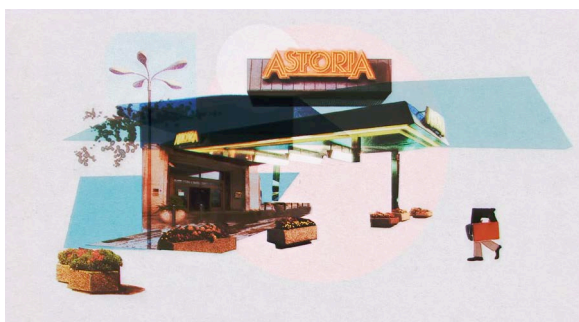
### Familie Zilla macht Picknick

(International title: The Zillas Have a Picnic)

Christian Franz Schmidt

Germany 2019 | German premiere

A cozy family picnic at the place they have been visiting since the Cretaceous period is what family Zilla wants. But first the big city that has annoyingly sprung up there must be flattened. Little Go Zilla fails: he destroys far too few houses.



### Hotel Astoria

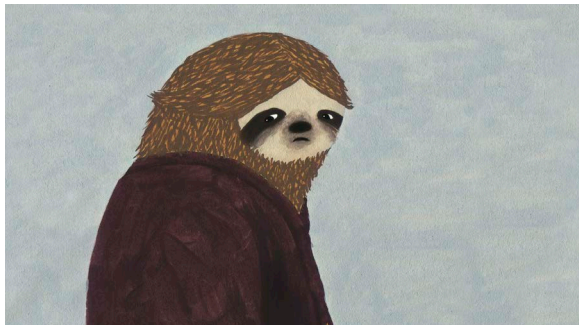
Falk Schuster, Alina Cyranek

Germany 2020 | World premiere

Everyone in Leipzig knows the Hotel Astoria, which once was the hotspot of the trade fair city and has stood vacant since 1996. Professionals, politicians and the Stasi were entertained with the greatest possible GDR pomp. The city's history is told with archive material, staff reports, and the animations by Falk Schuster.



## “Golden Section” – Competition for the Audience Award Short Documentary and Animated Film



### It's All the Salt's Fault

(Original title: Todo es culpa de la sal)

María Cristina Pérez

Columbia 2020 | German premiere

Picture by picture a daughter leafs through the family album: parents, siblings, celebrations, trips. But her commentary adds something profoundly salty, perhaps even poisoned, to the unfolded normalcy. Tiny insults accumulate into sadness.



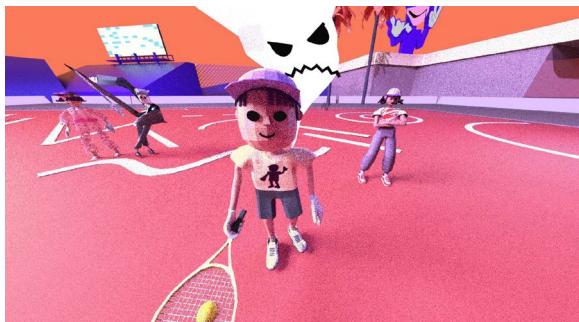
### Me

(Original title: Yo)

Begoña Arostegui

Spain 2020 | German premiere

As a happily married manager, everything in the protagonist's life is peaceful and orderly. As on his customary walk, he is suddenly confused by a sign marked with the word “park”, his everyday routine is thrown into chaos. Freely adapted from a story by Arthur Schnitzler.



### Out of Bounds

Franz Implert

Germany 2020 | German premiere

A video game takes some entertaining and philosophical wrong turns: the tennis player, pathetic a polygonal Roger Federer, slides from the centre court into a parallel world. A search for identity outside the rules of the game begins.



### Step Into the River

(Original title: Dans la rivière)

Weijia Ma

China, France 2020 | European premiere

Lu and Wei often play at the nearby river. China's one-child policy has led to some parents drowning their newborn daughters there. A touching animation in which Weijia Ma explores the consequences of this tragic chapter in the lives of many Chinese families.



### We Have One Heart

Katarzyna Warzecha

Poland 2020 | German premiere

The letters Halina receives from Farouk in the late 1970s are as haunting as they are hopeful. They have a long journey between them: from Iraq to Poland. But at some point the contact breaks off, and the reasons remain a secret. Their son Adam manages to build a bridge.