#### DOK Co-Pro Market 2022 selects 34 projects

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Documentary series included for the first time | Projects focus on current hot topics



DOK Co-Pro Market 2021 | photo: Victoria Conzelmann

At this year's 18th DOK Co-Pro Market 34 documentary projects from 32 countries will have the opportunity to find international financing and coproduction partners (see below for complete list). For the first time, a series is part of the selection. "The Sharp End of a Knife" by Godisamang Khunou (Mogale Pictures) features inmates of a women's prison in Johannesburg who are serving life sentences after defending themselves from their violent husbands.

A total of 262 projects were submitted. Notable among them were a number of strong entries from Georgia, three of which were ultimately selected. The French-Georgian production "Kartli" by Tamar Kalandadze and Julien Pebrel is co-produced by Habilis Productions and Sakdoc Film, the production company behind the successful films of Salomé Jashi. Dea Tcholokava will present "The Mud Princess" (17/07), and Gvantsa Meparishvili is looking for partners for her film "Boxes From Georgia" (Millimeter Film). In the latter film, the director accompanies volunteers at a humanitarian aid collection centre in Tbilisi that sends vital goods to Ukrainians affected by the Russian war of aggression.

The Ukrainian production "A Bit of a Stranger" (Albatros Communicos) also looks at the impact of the war on the people there. Director Svitlana Lishchynska films her Russian-speaking family for over a year during Russia's attacks on their homeland: Mariupol and Ukraine. Her daughter and granddaughter eventually flee to London, leaving Svitlana's mother alone back in Kiev.

Other projects also reflect current, globally discussed topics. In "The Culprits" (Boogaloo Films), Marta Duran films young women discussing their decision to have an abortion as teenagers. Tuffi Films presents "In a Box" by Liinu Grönlund and Okku Nuutilainen, a film about the commitment of researchers and private citizens to save endangered frogs, reptiles and fish species from extinction. "Ojos de Agua, Free the Waters of Chile" (Dryades Films) follows two indigenous Chileans in their struggle

65th International Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film

17 October to 23 Octoberr

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to de-privatise water and enshrine its status as a common good in the constitution.

In terms of artistic approaches, the selected film projects are all unique and promising. A number of the titles are distinguished by their creative use of archival material. For "Becoming Omer Khairy" (Black Balance Artistic Production), Alyaa Musa uses personal and public archive to trace the mystical story of a Sudanese artists and his second identity as a young White Briton. In "Colosal" (Tavab, Movimiento Cine), Nayibe Tavares-Abel uses newspaper articles, VHS tapes, 16mm films, and objects to try to clarify whether her grandfather was actually involved in electoral fraud during the 1990 presidential elections in the Dominican Republic, while also dealing with a new fraud during the 2020 municipal elections. Sára Timár also embarks on a research trip within her own family sphere with "Under the Dance Floor" (Little Bus Production, Alter Ego Production). She explores the history of her family's house, which served the communist regime of the Hungarian People's Republic as a secret prison and place for violent interrogations in the 1950s.

Some of the producers or directors invited to the DOK Co-Pro Market have already shown films at the festival in the past. In "Superposition" (CORSO Film), Gesa Hollerbach ("All For The Countryside," 2019) explores the ambitious work of renowned scientists on Germany's first commercially viable quantum computer — a technological milestone that promises solutions to global problems, but may still fail to deliver. Bálint Révész ("Granny Project," 2017) is also back at the festival and will present his new project "Voice/Over" (Roughhouse Project). Filmmaker Jasmila Žbanić ("One Day in Sarajevo," 2015), known among others for the award-winning feature film "Quo vadis, Aida?," is participating in the Co-Pro Market with her project "Blum" (Deblokada, Produkcija Živa). Susanne Kim (director of "Imagine Swimming," 2016 and "Cabinets of Wonder," 2021) is represented with her new project "Becoming Kim" (Neufilm).

Part of the selection are also four promising projects that the DOK Industry Team scouted at regionally focused partner training initiatives and film markets. The four projects were awarded the DOK Leipzig Accelerator Prize: "Baltic UXO" (East Doc Platform), "A Hole in the Wall" (Doc Lab Poland Docs to Start), "Kange" (Durban FilmMart) and "In the Light of Darkness" (Docs by the Sea). A fifth project will be selected at the BDC Discoveries Workshop in late September.

The DOK Industry team was supported in the selection process by Anna Berthollet (CEO & Sales Agent at Lightdox), producer Derren Lawford (founder and CEO of DARE Pictures) and producer Heejung Oh (founder of Seesaw Pictures).

While last year, the DOK Co-Pro Market was held as a hybrid event, this year's events will take place primarily on-site (17-18 October). In the runup to the event, DOK Industry will once again offer an online meeting of the project representatives to prepare for the market and strengthen the sense of community. PRESS RELEASE 13 September 2022

page 2 of 4

Overview of all 34 projects:

• **"Baltic UXO"** | Directors: Alexander Belinski, Agne Dovydaityte | Just a moment | Lithuania

• "Becoming Kim" | Director: Susanne Kim | Neufilm | Germany

• **"Becoming Omer Khairy**" | Director: Alyaa Musa | Black Balance Artistic Production | Sudan

• **"A Bit Of A Stranger"** | Director: Svitlana Lishchynska | Albatros Communicos | Ukraine

• "Blum" | Director: Jasmila Žbanić | Deblokada, Produkcija Živa | Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia

• **"Boxes From Georgia"** | Director: Gvantsa Meparishvili | Millimeter Film | Georgia

• **"Colosal"** | Director: Nayibe Tavares-Abel | Tavab, Movimiento Cine | Dominican Republic

 "The Culprits" | Director: Marta Duran Lozano | Boogaloo Films | Spain
"Erratics" | Director: Thomas Woodroffe | Bloques Erráticos, La Belle Affaire Productions | Chile, France

• **"Field Marshal"** | Director: Abid Sarkar Sohag | Bloopers Studios | Bangladesh

• "The Hazing" | Director: Elyor Nematov | Einbahnstraße Productions | Uzbekistan, Germany

• **"Hell Has No Fire Escape"** | Director: Georgina Savage | Try Hard Films | UK, South Africa

• **"A Hole in the Wall"** | Director: Arjun Talwar | UNI-SOLO Studio | Poland • **"How to Talk to Lydia?"** | Director: Rusudan Gaprindashvili | Black Market Film Production | Germany

• "In a Box" | Directors: Liinu Grönlund, Okku Nuutilainen | Tuffi Films | Finland

• "In the Light of Darkness" | Independent

• "Kange" | Director: Arnold Aganze | Stone Age Pictures | DR Congo

• **"Kartli"** | Directors: Tamar Kalandadze, Julien Pebrel | Habilis Productions, Sakdoc Film | France, Georgia

• **"Love and Capitalism"** | Director: Bára Tyson Jichová | Cinepoint | Czech Republic

• "The Mud Princess" | Director: Dea Tcholokava | 17/07 | Georgia

• **"MUOSters"** | Director: Francesca Scalisi | DOK MOBILE, Articolture | Switzerland, Italy

• "North South Man Woman" | Directors: Morten Traavik, Sun Kim | Storm Films | Norway, South Korea, Latvia

• "Ojos de Agua, Free the Waters of Chile" | Directors: Marion Esnault, Marcelo Lara | Dryades Films | France

• "On the Edge of My Shadow" | Director: Ziad Kalthoum | Kaske Film, IDA. IDA Films, Odeh Films | Germany, France, Palestinian Territories

• "Qashqai Tribe: Once Upon a Time in Shiraz" | Director: Hamed Zolfaghari | Crazy Woodpecker Film Studio | Iran

• **"River Dreams"** | Director: Kristina Mikhailova | 24 FPS Film Production Company | Kazakhstan

• "Runaway" | Director: Marika Pecháčková | Hypermarket Film | Czech Republic

• "The Sharp End of a Knife" | Director: Godisamang Khunou | Mogale Pictures | South Africa

• **"Sunset**" | Director: Milos Jacimovic | Film House Bas Celik, Meander Film, Propeler Film | Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia

• "Superposition" | Director: Gesa Hollerbach | CORSO Film | Germany

• "Those Who Watch Over" | Director: Karima Saïdi | Dérives | Belgium

• "Under the Dance Floor" | Director: Sára Timár | Little Bus Production, Alter Ego Production | Hungary, France PRESS RELEASE 13 September 2022

• "Undisclosed Project" | India

• "Voice/Over" | Director: Bálint Révész | Roughhouse Project | Hungary

PRESS RELEASE 13 September 2022

page 4 of 4

Impressions of the DOK Co-Pro Market and logos can be found here: <u>Press Download</u>

The 65th edition of DOK Leipzig will take place on site from 17 to 23 October, 2022. Accredited participants worldwide can also view the majority of the film programme online. After the festival, a selection of films will be available online throughout Germany in the DOK Stream from 24 to 31 October. This year, the DOK Industry programme will again be primarily held on site, but will offer various online access to the events.

Press accreditation for DOK Leipzig 2022: via DOK Leipzig Press Area

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