

Festival of Lights screenings on 9 October to kick off Retrospective

Press Release
15 August 2023

DOK Leipzig presents its 2023 poster design | Film festival to start one day earlier



DOK Leipzig poster design 2023 | Stefan Ibrahim

On the occasion of the annual Leipzig Festival of Lights, which commemorates the climax of the Peaceful Revolution on 9 October 1989, DOK Leipzig will be screening three short films at Leipzig main station at the start of the week-long film festival. These films will also open this year's Retrospective, titled "Film and Protest – Popular Uprisings in the Cold War", which will focus on uprisings against the communist regimes in the Eastern Bloc and against Soviet hegemony. The Retrospective will cover the period from 17 June 1953 to the revolutionary upheavals around 1989/90 and will also look at the People's Republic of Poland, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Hungarian People's Republic, among others.

The public screening at the Festival of Lights will include three short films made between 1989 and 1991 that document the anxiety and hope felt during this time of upheaval: "Sitis" by Rainer Schade (GDR 1989), "The Wall" by Anatolijs Pjatkins (Latvia 1991) and "Exit" by Małgorzata Bieńkowska-Buehlmann (Poland 1990). The screening at the Leipzig main station (East Hall) on 9 October 2023 starts at 6 pm. Admission is free.

Because of this, the 66th edition of DOK Leipzig will begin one day earlier, on Sunday, 8 October, with the opening ceremony at CineStar. During the week leading up to 15 October, the festival will present about 200 documentaries and animated films in numerous venues across the city. Additionally, each day during the week of the festival, a different film will be available online throughout Germany for 24 hours in the DOK Stream.

Stefan Ibrahim, a graphic designer and illustrator from Leipzig, has created this year's poster design, which shows a pair of paper scissors. The original scissors that served as the model were found in the festival's film storeroom. At the festival and online, further types of scissors are waiting to be discovered.

"As in previous years, we have deliberately chosen an everyday object that can be associated with many things," festival director Christoph Terhechte

66th International Leipzig
Festival for Documentary and
Animated Film
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Publicist
Nina Kühne
Melanie Rohde
Tel. +49 (0)341 30864 1070
presse@dok-leipzig.de

Leipziger Dok- Filmwochen GmbH
Katharinenstraße 17
04109 Leipzig

Chairwoman of
the Supervisory Board
Dr. Skadi Jennicke

Managing and Artistic Director
Christoph Terhechte

Place of Performance
Leipzig

Handelsregister
Commercial Register, HRB 35 89

VAT Tax ID
DE141498242

explains. “Scissors are a tool for shaping and forming objects. Every day, they are used for many types of art, including animation. Scissors create new things and achieve clarity; they can also symbolise letting go and adopting a new perspective. The films we show also use artistic means to present snippets of the world and offer fresh perspectives.”

The complete schedule of films, including all the dates, will be online from 21 September, when ticket sales start.

Images, graphics and logos: [Press Download](#)

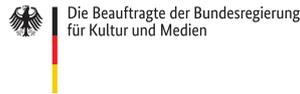
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