**PRESS RELEASE / NEWSLETTER**

* **The *25th Intl. Screenwriters‘ Workshop* goes Online**
* **Two eQuinoxe Europe supported films are Oscar candidates for their country**
* **„*Caged Birds“* celebrates Premiere in Competition - Tallin Black Nights Festival 2020**
* **„Quo Vadis, Aida?“ wins at El Gouna and Antalya Film Festivals**

**LONDON, November 13, 2020:** due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, the *25th eQuinoxe Europe* *Intl. Screenwriters Workshop,* will be held this year for the first time as an online event

and will take place over a two week period from 16.-27 November 2020.

The Advisors for this jubiliee workshop hail from four continents:

***Claire Dobbin*** (Script Editor), Australia; ***Dev Benegal*** (Writer/Diirector), India; ***Ulf Breistrand*** (Writer/Director), Norway; ***Martin Sherman*** (Playwright, Screenwriter), USA*;*

***Neil Hunter*** ((Writer/Diirector)) England-GB; ***Michael West*** (Playwright, Screenwriter), Ireland; ***Ewan Morrison*** (Novelist/Screenwriter) Scotland-GB; ***Juliette Sales*** (Screenwriter/Producer), France; as well as ***Dr. Stefan Rüll*** (Media Lawyer), Germany.

The seven screenwriters are from the countries Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany and Switzerland. Tomi Streiff is attending with his project **„*Diplonapped“*** (Switzerland); Timo von Gunten ***„The Big Prince*“** (Switzerland); Gabriele Neudecker with ***„Puppeteers*“** (Austria); Anne Paulivicech with***„4 Days with Hitler & Mussolini****“* (Belgium)*;* Sherry Shoules with **„*If Looks Could******Kill“*** (Canada), and from Germany Elena von Saucken with **„*Laura Dekker“*** and Lena Stahl with ***„The Leap of the Foals“.***

**Master Class *Music and Meaning* with Lord Puttnam CBE:** As part of the actual workshop and as an anniversary special edition, a Master Class with Lord David Puttnam on ***Music and Meaning*** for all writers and their producers was held on November 2. The Master Class was dedicated to the film music of **Ennio Morricone** and **Alan Parker**, two friends and colleagues of Lord Puttnam, who both passed away in July 2020.

**Festival Premiere of an eQuinoxe Europe supported film: *„Caged Birds“*** will be screened in Competition at this year‘s Tallinn Black Nights Festival. Swiss screenwriter Dave Tucker wrote the script based on a true story. The film was produced by Ivan Madeo, Contrast Film (Switzerland).

**Oscar Candidates / Academy Submissions:** Two films, which were supported by the eQuinoxe Europe script development program, have been selected as their country’s candidate for the Academy of Motion Pictures for Best International Film 2021:

***„Quo Vadis, Aida?“*** from the Bosnian-Herzegovinian Writer and Director

Jasmila Zbanic. The film was recently awarded the El Gouna Film Festival Gold Star for `Best Narrative Film‘, as well as the Antalya Golden Orange Film Festival Award for `Best Film‘ as part of the Competition in both festivals.

***„Little Sister“*** from the Swiss co-writing and directing team Stephanie Chuat and Véronique Reymond. The film had its Premiere in Competition at the Berlin Film Festival 2020.

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Further Information about *eQuinoxe Europe Screenwriters‘ Workshops* at:

[**http://www.equinoxe-europe.org/**](http://www.equinoxe-europe.org/)

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eQuinoxe Europe e.V. is grateful and thankful to each and everyone of all the internationally renowned advisors and funders and partners for the creative and productive years which continue to produce strong films resonating in an international market:  Austrian Film Institute; Bavarian Ministry for Digital Business; Creative Europe MEDIA Sub-programme of the European Union; Creative Skillset (UK); FFA (Germany;; Finnish Film Foundation, FOCAL (CH);  the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and Media; HAVC Croatian Audiovisual Center; Manitoba Film & Music (CAN); On Screen Manitoba (CAN); MFG Film Fund Baden-Württemberg; New Zealand Film Commission; Ontario Creates (CAN); Screen Australia; ScreenWest (AUS); Screen New South Wales (AUS); Screen Queensland (AUS); Southern Australia Film Corporation; Film Victoria (AUS); Screen Nova Scotia (CAN); the Norwegian Film Institute; Vestnorsk Film Centre (N) and the Western Norway Film Commission.

eQuinoxe Europe sponsors include Anke Zindler PR Agent, Charles McDonald Public Relations, and Dr. Hauschka/WALA GmbH.

**The History:** eQuinoxe Europe e.V. was founded in 2001 under the original name of éQuinoxe Germany by Ellen Winn Wendl, Susan Schulte and Susanne Schneider and following 12 years of international success holding workshops in different European

countries with advisors from the whole globe, in 2013 the name was changed to eQuinoxe Europe e.V. Since 2015 Lord Puttnam CBE is the Honorary Chairman for eQuinoxe Europe. The goals of eQuinoxe Europe since inception are to foster a more thorough script development for film productions and to build networks between European and international filmmakers. To date, eQuinoxe Europe has supported over 230 writers and their producers from 23 countries winning numerous international prizes.

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