

RUSSIAN CINEMA TODAY – DREAMS AND REALITY

Lecture by Andrej Plakhov

Russian films have won Ecumenical film prizes again and again. Directors like Aleksej Popogrebsky, Dmitrij Mamulija, Aleksej Misgirev, Vera Storoschewa, Michail Kalatoschwili, and others, have been awarded by Church festival juries in recent years. In Russia, national films achieve successes with domestic audiences as well. The Russian film market has grown considerably since Timur Bekmambetov's blockbuster "Night Watch" in 2004. In the very same year Andrej Swjagintsev's "The Return", winner of the Church Templeton Film Award, attracted high attention. Since then, however, both Russian film hits and award winners only infrequently are screened in European cinemas.



Andrej Plachov

In his lecture Andrej Plakhov will introduce the Russian film production of the last years so regrettably underestimated by audiences abroad. Plakhov is an internationally reputed film critic and film historian, Honorary President of FIPRESCI, the international film critics association, journalist and author. During Perestrojka he was a head of the Conflict Committee which released 200 films banned by Soviet censorship. In 1982 he defended his PH. D. thesis about Luchino Visconti.

By this event in Venice the Church film organisations pay tribute to festival director Marco Müller who has been honoured by the Russian Federation's Orden Drushby (Order of Friendship) in June 2010. The Order is the highest award that can be assigned to a foreign national, and acknowledges high achievements in promoting friendship between nations and between cultures.

The lecture by Andrej Plakhov continues Ecumenical events at the Venice film festival in previous years on Chinese and Iranian cinema. They are organized by the Church film organisations – INTERFILM, Fondazione Ente dello Spettacolo and Associazione Protestante del Cinema Roberto Sbaffi– in order to explore the socio-political as well as the intellectual and spiritual backgrounds of contemporary film art.

Tuesday, September 7, 2010, at 11h00
Venice Lido - Hotel Excelsior
Room Fondazione Ente dello spettacolo