

Kodak Showcase Premieres at Clermont-Ferrand

For a select group of emerging filmmakers, the dream of screening their film at a festival was a reality at the 30th annual Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival in France in February. It was the event at which the Kodak Short Film Showcase for New Talent premiered, featuring award-winning short films by promising filmmakers who won regional and local

Kodak-sponsored competitions and festivals during the previous year. The films were chosen for their excellence in cinematography, directing talent, originality and script appeal. The filmmakers also had access to exhibitors, directories, catalogues, and screenings throughout the five-day program, which provided a plethora of networking opportunities.

Worldwide event

"Our goal is to encourage creativity by fostering ways for emerging filmmakers to meet peers and successful filmmakers who can help them achieve their career objectives," said Wendy Elms, worldwide manager of Kodak's Education segment.

In addition to the screening, the Kodak Showcase was also an official component of the Short Film Market, which enabled some 2,800 professional filmmakers attending the festival to view the films as well. "The Short Film Market is a very active part of the festival with a video library, exhibition hall, market screenings and other professional



services that facilitate networking opportunities," added Elisabete Wells, marketing communications manager for Kodak's Entertainment Imaging Division in Europe. "It gave the filmmakers a chance to wholly participate in a worldwide, industry event."

Dariela Ludlow from Mexico, who won the Kodak Filmschool Competition for the Latin American region for her film *TR3S (THREE)*, commented, "Clermont-Ferrand is one of the most important festivals of short film in the world. The experience of being there, watching films, and meeting people from all over the world was enriching."

The Showcase filmmakers began their stay with dinners and networking events and the opportunity to familiarize themselves with festival activities. Then, the Kodak Short Film Showcase for New Talent screened at a theater where the filmmakers were given the spotlight to introduce their films and answer questions from people in attendance.

"It was so exciting to collaborate with professional cinematographers and student filmmakers at

such a big festival," said Mikhail Shalyapin from Russia representing his film *Striptease*. "It was also the first time I saw my movie in a quality print — the way it should be. That was really great."

Overall, the festival boasts screenings of over 175 short films that vie for grand prizes in the National, International and Lab competitions, among other awards. Over 100 countries are represented by works in the festival. Attendees consist of directors, producers, buyers, and institution and festival delegates.

Signals filmmakers Anders Habenicht and Ola Magnestam from Sweden concluded, "We are very grateful for having been invited to be in the Showcase. Clermont-Ferrand was a good opportunity for us to promote our film, meet the worldwide film community, get to know the other filmmakers, and spend quality one-on-one time with representatives from Kodak."

For more information on the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, visit www.clermont-filmfest.com. For more information on Kodak's worldwide educational programs, go to www.kodak.com/go/education.

1 Kodak's Wendy Elms (front row, far left) and Elisabete Wells (back row, far right) flank the emerging filmmakers of the Kodak Short Film Showcase for New Talent, which premiered at the 30th annual Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival in France. (Back row, L-R): Ola Magnestam and Anders Habenicht from Sweden; Bryan Nest from the U.S.; Matt Henley from New Zealand; Elizabeth Marre from France; and Wells. (Front row, L-R): Elms; Mikhail Shalyapin and Natalia Belyaeva from Russia; Dariela Ludlow from Mexico; and Vania Tegamelli from Italy.

The 2008 Kodak Short Film Showcase for New Talent:

- *Thalassa* from Italy — director/director of photography Vania Tegamelli
- *Manslaughter* from New Zealand — director Jonathan Withey and director of photography Matt Henley
- *TR3S (THREE)* from Mexico — co-director/director of photography Dariela Ludlow and co-director Yoame Escamilla
- *Beyond The Horizon* from Poland — director Jakub Czekaj and director of photography Tomasz Woźniczka
- *Striptease* from Russia — director Natalia Belyaeva and director of photography Mikhail Shalyapin
- *Manon sur le Bitume* from France — directors Elizabeth Marre and Olivier Pont, and director of photography Pierrick Gantelmi d'Ille
- *Gaining Grounds* from Germany — director Marc Brummund and director of photography Bettina Herzner
- *The Vaudevillian* from the United States — director Bryan Nest and director of photography Yash Bhatt
- *Signals* from Sweden — by director Anders Habenicht and director of photography Ola Magnestam
- *Dragonflies* from Poland — director Justyna Nowak and director of photography Szymon Kluz