



## Press release

26 th May 2021

### **More than 4000 films from 120 countries submitted for the short film festival**

**Detmold/Germany.** The receipt of applications for the [17th International Short Film Festival](#) (ISFF) in Detmold has exceeded the wildest expectations. For the film event, which will take place in the Detmold town hall from October 22nd to 24th, more than 4000 films from 120 countries have been submitted to the **Kultur and Art Initiative** from Detmold as the organizer. The largest number of contributions comes from Iran. After the USA and India, Germany follows in fourth place. The non-commercial short films with a maximum length of ten minutes can come from all categories, from documentaries to animation and feature films to experimental and fictional films. The film event is complemented by a competition for young artists especially from the Detmold region. The ISFF team is now busy sifting through and evaluating the multitude of submissions that have arrived via the Filmfreeway platform as well as by email, post or other means and thus making the final selection. This will be fixed at the end of June so that the festival program can be drawn up at the beginning of August.

This year, too, the main idea of the festival, "Films for Everyone", will be promoted further. With the so-called accessibility the heartfelt concern of Levent Arslan as founder and director of the ISFF Detmold is to be realized that "every person has the right to participate in cultural life". To this end, as many short films as possible are provided with subtitles for the deaf and audio descriptions for the visually impaired. The hybrid film festival aspect will also be expanded after the premiere last year. The films and the complete supporting program are broadcast online from the Detmold town hall in real time, including a 360 degree stream. Using improved technology for even more real festival feeling.

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The International Short Film Festival Detmold brings filmmakers and film fans from all over the world together once a year in the heart of Detmold. It is primarily supported by the work and help of many volunteers. In addition, there are cooperations with the Lebenshilfe Detmold e.V., the theater workshop Bethel Volkakademie for inclusive culture, the Ostwestfalen-Lippe University and other international film festivals.

**Notes to editors:**

- The program will be published on August 1st on the Website [www.fest-der-filme.de](http://www.fest-der-filme.de)
- The festival team is available for interviews. We also arrange discussions with the directors of the festival films.