

MARCH 24-31, 2017

CINEMA HOUSE vul. Saksahanskoho, 6, Kyiv, Ukraine for correspondence: PO box 342, vul. Khreschatyk, 22, Kyiv 01001, Ukraine

PRESS RELEASE

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

#### 4 Degrees Celsius: Farewell, Human!

The XIVth Docudays UA International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival takes place in Kyiv, from 24 until 31 of March, at the Cinema House (Saksahanskoho str. 6), and at the movie theaters "Kyiv" (Velyka Vasylkivska str. 19) and "Kinopanorama (Shota Rustaveli str. 19).

Docudays UA-2017 is featuring **94 films from 47 countries. 170 participants, 76 of whom represent foreign countries,** are attending the festival.

**This year's main theme and film program, FOUR DEGREES,** tells about the first messengers of the global warming in the movie "ThuleTuwalu", dangerous consequences of cattle farming industry in "Cowspiracy", social strictures of Mongolian provinces in "Behemoth", about daring protest actions by The Yes Men laboratory, and about environmental that is always political, in "When the Two Worlds Collide".

Docudays UA opens with the movie about famous environmental activists' duo, <u>"The Yes Men Are</u> <u>Revolting"</u> (directors Laura Nix, Andy Bichlbaum, Mike Bonnano).

The films at Docudays UA will traditionally take part in competitions: <u>DOCU/LIFE</u>, <u>DOCU/RIGHTS</u> and <u>DOCU/SHORT</u>. For the second time, the festival also features the national competition <u>DOCU/UKRAINE</u>. Each competition program is <u>rated by a particular jury board</u>, comprising international and Ukrainian experts and documentalists. The student jury and the viewer audience will also choose their winners.

The non-competition section of this year's Docudays UA consists of 10 programs. As always, <u>DOCU/HITS</u> presents movies awarded at international film festivals, one of which is Oscar-nominated "I Am Not Your Negro" by Raoul Peck.

Besides, the special program <u>MASTERS</u> will present movies by prominent documentary filmmakers – Serhiy Bukovsky, Audris Stonys, Miroslaw Yanek, Pawel Lozinski, and Michael Glawogger.

Courage, freedom, and beauty – these are the main motives of the film program <u>THREE THINGS I DON'T</u> <u>KNOW ABOUT HER</u>. Women directors are drawing attention to phenomena that often remain unnoticed due to prevailing stereotypes and prejudices regarding women's role and place in the society.

Fresh view on science is offered by <u>HOMO SCIENCE</u> film program: Werner Herzog's popular science essay about the Internet, an eccentric slime mold research, and an example of anti-scientific movie followed by a discussion with scientists concerning the myths on genetically modified organisms.

**DOCU/ART** unites Swiss experimenter musicians who produce sounds for their art on dumpsites; Chinese Van Goghs, who are creating copies for many years without ever seeing the original; and a documentary on post-Apocalypse.

What does the space we inhabit mean for us? How is it formed, who controls it, and how can we change it? In all the movies featured at <u>CITY IMAGE</u> program, we see the space of protest – be it collective or individual, political struggle for one's rights, a community's demand to be heard, or the desire to stay at one's native place.



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Touching stories about growing up are traditionally included in <u>DOCU/YOUTH</u> program for family audience.

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This year's geographical focus is on Scandinavian countries! <u>ICE DOC</u> presents an epic picture about workers, a story of interaction with "forces of nature" in human life, and a tale about the way from imprisonment for adultery to freedom.

Program about consumption <u>GENERATION C</u> tells what humans will eat in 30 years, and what bugs taste like. How ordinary jeans threaten the humankind? How to find "a worm of communism" in the cabbage?

We also welcome our guests to the <u>LIVING LIBRARY</u>. Every year, it comprises unique experiences and important conversations about othering, politics, work and personal relations. This is the space where real people, whose perception in the society is prejudiced, embody books.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

This year, Docudays UA invites to a special screening of Askold Kurov's documentary <u>The Trial: The State</u> of Russia vs Oleg Sentsov.

Presentation of the DVD <u>"Chornobyl [In]Visible"</u>, in cooperation with Oleksandr Dovzhenko National Center, will be followed by a discussion with experts.

#### DOCU/PRO INDUSTRIAL PLATFORM

For the first time Docudays UA is launching industrial section <u>DOCU/PRO</u>. Its purposes are to connect young documentary filmmakers with the leading international players on the field of documentary film production, to share experiences of movie promotion on different stages of production, to teach them to present their film projects at pitching sessions, to help them find international partners and deepen their knowledge of film production process in general.

#### DOCU/CLASS

Docudays UA traditionally welcomes everyone to documentary movies workshop <u>DOCU/CLASS</u>. It will host various discussions and meetings with prominent directors, producers, photographers, dedicated to the role of documentary in formation and debunking of myths, to international experience of human rights festivals, to role of women in filmmaking industry. Among the guests of **DOCU/CLASS** are human rights activist, founder of One World Festival **Igor Blazhevich**, journalist and film promotion expert **Thessa Mooij**, photographer **James Whitlow Delano**, film editor **Monika Willy** (co-worked with Michael Haneke and Michael Glawogger), as well as film directors **Pawel Lozinski and Sergey Bukovsky**.

### DOC/SADOC

While parents are watching documentaries, Docudays UA offers to the youngest kids a real environmental Imaginarium in the space of <u>DOC/SADOC</u>. Its intense program of active and entertaining activities proves that taking care of the environment can be fun and exciting.

#### PHOTO EXHIBITIONS AT DOCUDAYS UA-2017

From 25 to 31 of March on the third floor of Cinema House <u>two photo exhibitions</u> – **#EverydayClimateChange and #Ecooko**. EverydayClimateChange is a volunteer activist project, aimed on



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demonstration of the evidence of climate changes that occur every day on all the continents. This is an Instagram account shared by dozens of professional photographers from all over the world, who testify with their posts for Instagram photo competition #Ecooko that the problem of climate change is real. This project inspired the festival team to launch Instagram photo competition #Ecooko in order to find out what is going on with environment in Ukraine nowadays. The photo exhibitions will feature **select photographs of EverydayClimateChange projects, along with the best works from #Ecooko competition**. The winners selected among finalists will receive special awards from the festival team and partners. The awards will be presented at Docudays UA closing ceremony on 30<sup>th</sup> of March.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS AT DOCUDAYS UA-2017

**Compola.** For the whole period of Docudays UA festival, composter for organic waste from "Babylon" restaurant will be installed at the inner court of the Cinema House. After the festival closing, the composter will "relocate" to the "Kyiv-Mohyla collegium" gymnasium in Kyiv, which has applied for the installation of composter, but did not have enough funds to buy it.

**12 containers for waste sorting** into paper, package, glass, and other waste will be installed at the festival in cooperation with "Ukraine without Waste" initiative.

The Docudays UA catalogues and program booklets were printed on **FSC certified paper<sup>1</sup>**, and the festival guide was produced with **100% recycled paper**.

**Souvenir merchandise of the festival includes:** upcycling bags made of last year's banners; eco shopping bags from "Svoya Tara"; pencils and notebooks from recycled paper; and festival bags produced with upcycling method by ReSew sewing cooperative.

**The action "DO NOT THROW AWAY! UTILIZE!": free collection of used lightbulbs, batteries, thermometers etc** will be held on 26 of March, from 11 AM until 5 PM, on the first floor of Cinema House.

On the occasion of the Earth Day, on March 25, 12 AM, Docudays UA invites everyone to the **workshop on bicycling in the city** and lecture on cyclists' rights from the Kyiv Cyclists' Association. Besides, the festival has special offers for viewers who will arrive to the festival by bicycle.

Follow the festival news on our webpage docudays.org.ua and in social networks:

facebook.com/DocudaysUA

twitter.com/docudaysua

instagram.com/docudays\_ua/

youtubechannel: <u>Docudays UA IHRDFF</u>

For more detailed information concerning the festival and organization of interviews, please contact Daryna Nikolenko, the festival press secretary: <a href="mailto:press@docudays.org.ua">press@docudays.org.ua</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Certificate issued by the Forest Stewardship Council, guaranteeing the usage of sustainable wood.



#### Non-Political and Non-Profit Festival

Docudays UA is the only international human rights documentary film festival in Ukraine. It takes place every year in Kyiv during the last week of March. In 2016, the festival featured 96 movies from 43 countries. After the closing, Docudays UA traditionally screens the best films in the regions of Ukraine at the Traveling Festival. The screenings take place from October until December. The XIV Docudays UA takes place from 24 until 31 of March in Kyiv.



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#### RIGHTS NOW! (HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM) AT DOCUDAYS UA-2017

**Docudays UA** International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival aims not only to screen the best pieces of international and Ukrainian documentary cinema, but also to create a powerful platform for human rights protection and awareness events. This is why, for 14 years now, topical human rights events are conducted parallel to film screenings. The name of this year's program is <u>RIGHTS NOW!</u>, and its primary motive is the same as at the film screenings – climate change.

About 24 events will take place in the Cinema House from 25 to 30 March. Part of them is meant to initiate a dialogue inside the expert circles, while the purpose of another part is to stimulate local activists. The first section is represented by events from the ICO "Environment – Law – People" about the application of the European Convention on Human Rights for protection of environment and related rights, and about impact of war conflicts on environment and human. Special events that will initiate the dialogue among ecologists include also presentation "Coal Mining and Human Rights in the Donbas Region". The authors have visited mining cities and villages, documenting numerous violations of social, labor, and environmental rights of the local population.

Among the events that deal with the issue of global climate changes in Ukrainian context, are the discussion **"Consumer Society and Climate Changes"** (organized by Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung Ukraine) and the round table **"Agriculture: Environmental Challenge or the Hope of Mankind?"** (National Environmental Center of Ukraine). Other events discussing local problems: **"Sustainable Development and Green Modernization of Cities"** by 350.org, **"Grassroots Green Activism"** by **Docudays UA** and **"Reloading the City through Renovation of Post-Industrial Zones"** (discussion with Yuriy Fyliuk, founder of "Warm City" platform, Ivano-Frankivsk).

Activists will find interesting the events dedicated to climate activists, bicyclists' safety on the roads, and Instagram as an instrument for social changes.

In addition to intense "environmental program", human rights section cannot ignore the issues that have become traditional for the festival: **individual and community rights and war traumas.** "Thinking Maidain-2017" events will discuss the reasons of misunderstandings between people that represent different ethnic groups in Ukrainian society, and search for the ways of their reconciliation. This year's discussions are dedicated to Roma people. During the event **"Invisible Wounds: War and Mental Trauma"** (the Red Cross International Committee), journalist **Jean-Paul Mari,** who has witnessed deaths himself, will tell about dealing with posttraumatic syndrome disorder.

Please see the full schedule of human rights program events at the festival web page: <u>www.docudays.org.ua</u>.

For any additional information, please contact Kateryna Lutska, the PR manager of human rights program: +38 (068) 304 3145