

Czech Film and Television Academy

A press release, 20th November 2014

The Czech Film and Television Academy Awards will be announced on 21st February 2015 in Rudolfinum

The 22nd Czech Lions, the annual awards of the Czech Film and Television Academy (CFTA), will be presented again in a ceremonial way. The glass statuettes made by Jakub Berdych will be awarded in Dvořák's Hall of Rudolfinum in Prague on Saturday 21st February 2015 during a gala evening that will be broadcast live by Czech Television. This year the filmmakers of 50 feature films or documentary features, which have been released in 2014, have a chance to win the Czech Lions. The list of the nominees in individual categories will be published on 14th January 2015 during a press conference of CFTA, which will be broadcast live on CT 24.

Just as it was last year this year the academics will also have the opportunity to vote for the winners by electronic vote and apart from the projections in selected cinemas they can also watch the films thanks to on-line streaming. *"The aim of these changes is to make the voting easier and to make the films easily accessible for the academics. These two novelties proved to be successful last year and therefore we will continue this way in the future. Another piece of news will be the name of the host of the ceremonial evening. After Marek Eben the academy this time agreed on a woman and we cannot reveal her identity yet, however, she is a great professional. We are also planning to improve the gala evening by a programme surprise and the whole evening should be a celebration of Czech film"*, says Tereza Rychnovská, the executive director of CFTA, about the forthcoming ceremony.

The general partner of the CFTA annual awards in 2015 will be again the mineral water Magnesia of the company Carlsbad Mineral Water. The main partner will be the company RWE for the first time. The traditional main media partner is the Czech television.

"The support of Czech culture and Czech film is our long-term goal and therefore we are pleased that Magnesia is the general partner of Czech Lions for the twelfth time. We are looking forward to the ceremonial presentation of the CFTA awards and to the fifth winner of the Magnesia Award for the best student film," explains Alessandro Pasquale, the general director of the company Carlsbad Mineral Water.

"Our project called RWE – Energy of Czech film will celebrate ten years of its existence in 2015. We have participated in more than 40 co-productions of Czech film. Being the main partner of the Czech Lion awards is a great opportunity for us to be with films at all stages of their lives. From the screenplay and production to the release in cinemas or on television and awarding the best films," mentioned Martin Chalupský, the director of communication in RWE in CR.

“Czech cinematography is growing. We are able to produce films as well as documentary features that appeal to a variety of audiences and at the same time they can win recognition of the juries of numerous festivals abroad, “says the general director of Czech Television Petr Dvořák and he adds: “Czech television, as the most important co-producer in this country, is therefore interested in developing this trend and trying to prepare the best conditions possible for the filmmakers of all professions and their work. The Czech Lion award should be a celebration of their efforts to produce great Czech films as well as a way to say “thank you” for their enthusiasm and drive.”

About the Czech Film and Television Academy:

The Czech Film and Television Academy was founded in 1999 and in 2013 it was transformed into a registered association. Its main aim is to support and promote Czech cinematographic art in the Czech Republic as well as abroad and create conditions for the development of Czech film. Since 1993 it has been awarding the most prestigious Czech film award – the Czech Lion and nominates Czech films or documentary features for foreign film awards. The CFTA consists of 242 members at the moment.

PR and press:

Nikola Lörinczová, e-mail: nikola.lorinczova@piaristi.cz, phone: +420 605 560 277

Eliška Míkovcová, e-mail: eliska.mikovcova@piaristi.cz, phone: +420 606 774 435