

## Press Release



## Exhibition

### *Between the Films: A Photo History of the Berlinale*

September 28, 2018 – May 5, 2019

Deutsche Kinemathek – Museum für Film und Fernsehen

The Museum für Film und Fernsehen is dedicating a comprehensive photo exhibition to the Berlin International Film Festival in its 69th year. The show, titled *Between the Films: A Photo History of the Berlinale*, is divided into ten sections and subject areas, which are (and were) characteristic of the film festival's events. Seven decades of photographs are presented in correlation to the exhibition's main themes: *Fans, Stars, Politics, Parties, Fashion, Couples, Cinemas, Bears, Press and City*. This thematic grouping allows visitors to make direct comparisons between the various decades as well as to form an impression of festival culture, which on one side of the coin adhered to established rituals, but on the flip side was, in fact, quite unique. The Berlin International Film Festival is a mirror of everyday culture in Berlin. Pictures by a wide variety of photographers are on view. Together they create a dazzling mosaic of various facets underlying this film festival – an event that was unusual from the get go.

The Berlin International Film Festival – aka the Berlinale for short – was, and still is, a barometer of political conditions in Germany, of cultural life in Berlin, of its economic situation as well as its zeitgeist. Thus, over time, representatives of the “New German Cinema” managed to exert their influence over the festival, leading to social upheavals and intense discussions at the Berlinale following the student revolts and ultimately to the founding of the “International Forum of New Cinema.” Traditional audiences, autograph chasers and film festival fans were joined by a new generation of younger critics, who sought out discussions with the directors in place of the usual hype and glorification of actors and actresses.

Press photographers have documented the Berlinale from its beginnings. The archives at the Deutsche Kinemathek house several estates of such chroniclers, whose lenses tended to focus mainly on film-related events: Mario Mach and Heinz Köster accompanied the film festival from its earliest manifestations; and Erika Rabau was an authorized Berlinale photographer from the 1970s to well into the start of the 21st century. The special appeal of these photo collections lie in the almost *en passant* nature of the captured moments teetering on the edge of the actual motifs – reflecting fashions, zeitgeist, everyday norms as well as officially-sanctioned representation culture and consumerism. Other film festival photographers, like Christian Schulz and Gerhard Kassner (an official celebrity portraitist), have indelibly shaped our view of the Berlinale.

The images of these photographers delve into and tell the long history of the city and its culture, of stars and their audiences, of poverty and wealth, Cold War and

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revolutions, of rituals and representation, alienation and closeness, scarcity and abundance, of the private and public, of seriousness vs. pleasure-seeking and of a change in values.

*A cooperation with the Berlin International Film Festival*

The bilingual (German–English) publication accompanying the exhibition is published by Verlag Kettler.

**Press conference: September 27, 2018, 11 am**

Location: Deutsche Kinemathek–Museum für Film und Fernsehen

Potsdamer Straße 2

10785 Berlin

Admission: 8 euros, day ticket

Open: Weds – Mon, 10–6, Thurs 10–8, closed Tuesdays

For information about the exhibition and the accompanying program:

[www.deutsche-kinemathek.de](http://www.deutsche-kinemathek.de)

Press photos accompanying this announcement are available [here](#).