



30" EDITION 24-27 JUNE 2019 La Rochelle - France

PRESS RELEASE





Sunny Side of the Doc 2019 to host Focus on Germany

Sunny Side of the Doc 2019 wishes to shine the spotlight on a country that's hugely important when it comes to co-productions and distribution and is one of the most active on a European and international scale. This special line-up will be centred on conferences, workshops and networking events with major players from the German documentary market.

La Rochelle, 9 May 2019 – For the 30th edition of the international marketplace for documentary and narrative experiences, Sunny Side of the Doc has chosen Germany as this year's Country in Focus. What's more, to celebrate this anniversary year, we're showcasing the notion of "Documentary needs Europe". This 4-day long marketplace taking place on 24 to 27 June in La Rochelle is packed with many events and will be attended by the most important regional and national producers and distributors.

A diverse and enlarged pavilion

Sunny Side of the Doc will welcome a large delegation of producers, buyers and distributors from Germany (114 in attendance in 2018). With support from **German Films**, the national information and advisory centre for the promotion of German films worldwide, members of the **AG DOK** professional association of independent producers will be gathered together at a pavilion alongside more than 12 well-known and up-and-coming production companies including: Vidicom Media GmbH, a&o buero filmproduktion, fechnerMEDIA GmbH, NEW DOCS, Längengrad Filmproduktion GmbH, Karbe Film GmbH, COIN FILM GmbH, G-Film, Vision Airways GmbH and 4ED1.

Simone Baumann, Managing Director of German Films: "Germany has one of the largest theatrical and TV markets in the world and it has a very strong tradition in producing and coproducing documentaries. Sunny Side of the Doc is one of the most important international coproduction platforms – German producers are coming here for years to present and to promote their own projects and also to join the projects of their foreign colleagues. German Films together with AG DOK celebrate the 30th edition of Sunny Side of the Doc and we are looking for interesting new projects and cooperations."

The German pavilion will be bringing heaps of diversity to the exhibition space, and numerous exhibitors already confirmed include: Albatross World Sales, Taglicht Media, Marco Polo Film, Spiegel TV, Berlin Producers, Autentic, footage berlin – rbb media and Looks International.

Simone Baumann

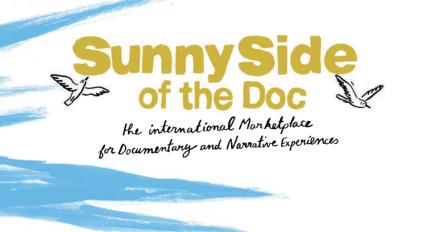




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Germany: standout partner for co-productions

In its active approach to promoting new encounters and co-productions on a European and worldwide scale, Sunny Side of the Doc has also designed a series of special events around this year's country of honour, Germany.

Round tables will be held every day in the **German Lounge** to enable you to get a better insight into the market, meet key decision-makers and create new partnership opportunities. With *"How to Work with NRW"*, we'll discover the latest documentary productions with international potential, supported by Cologne's regional film fund, one of the main centres for audiovisual production in the country.

In the same vein, the *"Meet the Private German Broadcasters"* session co-organised by **DokFest Munich** will put the emphasis on private broadcasters and their co-production and acquisition strategies, and representatives from Spiegel TV, Planet and National Geographic Germany will be in attendance.

A case study sponsored by **Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg** (the body responsible for film funding and development in the audiovisual sector in the states of Berlin and Brandenburg) will be looking into the topic of international co-production of Justin Webster's documentary series "Nisman, the Prosecutor, the President and the Spy", produced by JWProductions, Fasten Films, Gebrueder beetz filmproduktion with Movistar+ and ZDFinfo.

In the quest for innovation, **Creative Europe Germany** is organising a workshop called *"World of Wonders - Encounters with the Blockchain"*, attempting to answer questions linked to the use of blockchains in film funding and distribution. Eugen Nussbaum, Senior Producer & Corporate Development at Welt der Wunder will share his knowledge on the subject.

From science in a bathtub and lots more...

What's the best way to communicate about science? This will be the starting point for one exchange that's sure to be fruitful, between British science communicator, **Matthew Shribman**, and the world renowned expert in science communication, **Dietram Scheufele**. They will be in La Rochelle to present some surprising facts - and new ways of convincing the doubters.

This special Focus features other memorable offerings, such as: matchmaking sessions sponsored by the **FFA** – **Filmförderungsanstalt** to help new German talent access the international documentary market and build new partnerships; a presentation of **ZDFE**'s strategies; a lunch dedicated to international new media producers on the initiative of **FFF Bayern**; and an opening cocktail evening on Monday 24 June at the invitation of **Film-und Medienstiftung NRW**.







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