

Communications Culture & Trends

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Audi Short Film Award for “Rise”

- **The International Short Film Jury makes award to director duo Bárbara Wagner and Benjamin de Burca at the 69th Berlinale**
- **Jason Lusty, Head of Marketing Germany at AUDI AG: “For us, short films represent the experimental and progressive. They show what is state of the art at the moment”**
- **Berlinale Open House networks the public with innovative thinkers and avant-gardists through a various program of talk and culture at the Audi Berlinale Lounge**

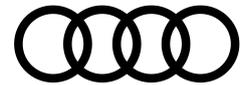
Berlin/Ingolstadt, 16 February 2019 – The winner of the Audi Short Film Award at the 69th Berlin International Film Festival, with prize money of €20,000, is “Rise” by Bárbara Wagner and Benjamin de Burca. The International Short Film Jury in the Berlinale Shorts section thus honors the signature style of a lively and experimental documentary that puts the spotlight on the texts, music and dance of a group of young People of Color as an act of self-empowerment. They occupy the public space of the subway in Toronto to perform their concept of edutainment.

Once again this year, the Berlinale Open House Program has aroused great interest among filmmakers, journalists and festival visitors. Nearly 18,000 guests visited the Audi Berlinale Lounge, situated right next to the Berlinale Palast. Great enthusiasm around the Red Carpet greeted the arrivals of stars and guests in the all-electric Audi e-tron (electricity consumption combined in kWh/100 km: 26.2-22.6* (WLTP), 24.6-23.7 (NEDC); CO₂ emissions combined in g/km: 0*).

The Brazilian-German-Irish duo of directors Bárbara Wagner and Benjamin de Burca, who live in Recife, won the Audi Short Film Award with their film “Rise”. Wagner and de Burca, who are also represented in the Brazilian pavilion at the Venice Biennale in 2019, delighted the International Short Film Jury with their virtuoso documentary, in which diverse voices come together in a cultural dialog, gaining an audience and visibility in this way.

At the Berlinale, the Audi Short Film Award is part of the Berlinale Shorts section. Alongside the Golden and the Silver Bear, this prize for shorts is one of the coveted awards at the 69th Berlin International Film Festival. With prize money amounting to €20,000, the award is among the most valuable worldwide for short films. “Short films represent the experimental and progressive. In their compactness and complexity, they outline what the state of the art now is

* Figures depending on the chosen equipment level



and inspire much further afield than the short film format,” said Jason Lusty, Head of Marketing Germany at AUDI AG. “The Berlinale Shorts competition brings together the film avant-garde and presents visions for tomorrow’s cinema.”

A total of 24 films from 17 countries, curated by Maïke Mia Höhne, Curator of Berlinale Shorts, was assessed by the International Short Film Jury, consisting of Jeffrey Bowers (USA), Vanja Kaludjeric (Croatia) and Koyo Kouoh (Senegal). “Wild, full of delight, and bold – that’s the Berlinale Shorts in 2019. Audi reflects openness to new ideas and is the ideal partner for us for the short form of cinema,” said Höhne.

Audi also made its contribution to the program at the Berlinale 2019: from 7 to 16 February, the Berlinale Open House cultural events, accessible to all and free of charge, were held in the Audi Berlinale Lounge right next to the Berlinale Palast, with many discussions, interviews, workshops and concerts. The Berlinale Lounge Nights were the perfect conclusion to long days at the film festival. Nearly 18,000 guests visited the pavilion next to the Red Carpet.

Many film makers from the official festival program and other pioneering thinkers from various disciplines were involved in the Berlinale Open House program, in collaboration with Audi change makers such as Matthias Brendel and Malte Schönfeld from the Audi Denkwerkstatt, Barbara Wege, project manager of the [beyond initiative](#), Torsten Schön, data scientist of the Audi Electronics Venture, and Dr. Stephan Gsell, sound designer of the Audi e-tron. They and many others met to discuss creative solutions for the future. The events focused on topics including artificial intelligence, virtual worlds, diversity in festival programming, mobility in the future, new sound worlds through electromobility, and future visions in the fields of film and mobility.

The all-electric arrivals of stars and guests in the Audi e-tron at the Red Carpet of the 69th Berlinale met with huge public interest. “Audi and the Berlinale have grown together closely in the past six years. Thanks to Audi’s involvement we have been able to make the festival even more attractive. The Berlinale Open House Program is the perfect platform for linking film makers from our current program and Audi experts who have important know-how on new technologies with experts from other fields,” said festival director Dieter Kosslick.

About Bárbara Wagner:

Born in Brasilia, Brazil in 1980, she graduated from the Dutch Art Institute in Arnhem in 2012. Her photographic work focuses on the ‘popular body’ and on how ordinary people present their bodies to a supposedly interested public. Her work has been exhibited around the world, is held in international collections and has been published in monographs. Since 2011 she has been collaborating with Benjamin de Burca. Their work has featured at festivals and in exhibitions including at VideoBrasil, the Panorama de Arte Brasileira and the Biennale, all in São Paulo, and at the 2017 Skulptur Projekte Münster.



Filmography (short films, co-director B. de Burca):

2013 Cinema Casino

2014 Desenho Canteiro (Plan Plat)

2015 Faz que vai (Set to go)

2017 Estás vendo coisas (You are seeing things); Berlinale Shorts: Bye Bye Deutschland! Eine Lebensmelodie (Bye Bye Germany! A Life Melody); Terremoto Santo (Holy Tremor)

2018 Berlinale Shorts: Rise

About Benjamin de Burca:

Born in Munich, Germany in 1975, he studied fine art at the Glasgow School of Art and the University of Ulster. Between 2000 and 2006 he worked as an artist with young people involved in gangs in Glasgow and Belfast. From 2006 to 2008 he was co-director of the Catalyst Arts centre in Belfast. His artistic practice encompasses painting, collage, photography, film, video and installation. Since 2011 he has collaborated with Bárbara Wagner and their work has been frequently exhibited internationally. Now both based in Recife, Brazil, their collaborative films *Estás vendo coisas* and *Terremoto Santo* screened in the 2017 and 2018 *Berlinale Shorts*.

Filmography (short films, co-director: B. Wagner):

2013 Cinema Casino

2014 Desenho Canteiro (Plan Plat)

2015 Faz que vai (Set to go)

2017 Estás vendo coisas (You are seeing things); Berlinale Shorts: Bye Bye Deutschland! Eine Lebensmelodie (Bye Bye Germany! A Life Melody); Terremoto Santo (Holy Tremor)

2018 Berlinale Shorts: Rise

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Note

Current photo material and further information on Audi's involvement in the 69th Berlinale can be found at <https://www.audi-mediacyber.com/en/presskits/berlinale-2019-11231>

Fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions figures given in ranges depend on the tires/wheels used and chosen equipment level. Further information on official fuel consumption figures and the official specific CO₂ emissions of new passenger cars can be found in the "Guide on the fuel economy, CO₂ emissions and power consumption of all new passenger car models," which is available free of charge at all sales dealerships and from DAT Deutsche Automobil Treuhand GmbH, Hellmuth-Hirth-Str. 1, 73760 Ostfildern-Scharnhausen, Germany (www.dat.de).