

Press release 20.10.2023

PRIX EUROPA is back in Berlin

The trimedial media competition opens on Sunday

"Public service media – excellence and impact in all genres" is the motto of this year's European media festival for which media professionals from all over Europe gather in Berlin. 181 productions will compete in a total of 9 categories for the awards as Best European Audio, Digital Media and TV/Video Production of the Year. For one week, the Haus des Rundfunks of Berlin's public broadcaster rbb transforms into a European think tank and discussion hub for producers, writers, directors and editors from over 240 media organisations.

Following the unanimous decision by the 22 members of the PRIX EUROPA Alliance, this year's competition is exclusively aimed at public service broadcasters. In times when democratic values are increasingly coming under attack in Europe, freedom of the press is all the more important to strengthen and preserve democracy. This is also the view of the festival host, Director General of Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg (RBB) Ulrike Demmer: "Without independent reporting, there are no informed citizens; without informed citizens, there is no democracy."

In his welcoming address, the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Kai Wegner, emphasises the importance of PRIX EUROPA as a clear signal in support of excellence and impact in a media world that is currently going through trying times of great change. "More than ever, profit expectations stand in competition with the ideals of journalistic and artistic integrity and quality", said Wegner.

This special situation is also reflected in the festival programme: for example a workshop is asking the question: "How to be ready to compete with the streaming giants?" And at the PRIX EUROPA Brunch "Truth, lies and AI" at the end of the week, Marianna Spring, BBC correspondent for disinformation and Social Media, AI expert Lars Bastholm and others will talk about how to deal with fake news and conspiracy theories or about the question of how artificial intelligence can be used by the media – and whether it should.

On Friday evening, the 16 PRIX EUROPA trophies will be handed over at the Berlin City Hall Rotes Rathaus in front of an international media audience together with the European Journalist of the Year Award and two prizes for young talent. The Governing Mayor of Berlin, Kai Wegner, will open the festive gala. Among the international laudatory speakers are the Directors General of the Swedish public service broadcaster Sveriges Radio, the Belgian RTBF, the German Bayerischer Rundfunk (BR) and Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg (RBB). The event can be followed via a livestream on the PRIX EUROPA website.

PRIX EUROPA 2023 – History

PRIX EUROPA was founded in 1987 by the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and the European Cultural Foundation. It is now organised by a strong alliance of currently 22 European public broadcasters. Previous venues include Amsterdam, Strasbourg, Barcelona, Porto, Reykjavik and Marseille. In 2023, PRIX EUROPA returns to Berlin after three years in Potsdam, hosted by Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg (RBB) and supported by the federal state of Berlin. The festival director is Susanne Hoffmann, the office of PRIX EUROPA President is currently held by the Director General of Bayerischer Rundfunk (BR) Dr. Katja Wildermuth.

PRIX EUROPA 2023 - Numbers

- 611 submissions from 31 European countries
- 181 media programmes from over 240 European media organisations from 27 countries
- 9 competition categories plus 1 young talent competition
- 561 participating media professionals, including 227 jury members
- 18 Jury Coordinators
- 16 PRIX EUROPA Awards for the Best European Audio, Digital Media and TV/Video Productions of the Year
- 1 European Journalist of the Year Award
- 2 PRIX EUROPA Rising Stars Young Talent Awards

PRIX EUROPA 2023 - Key data

- Founded in 1987, PRIX EUROPA 2023 is the 37th edition of the festival
- Venue 2023: RBB Haus des Rundfunks
- Opening on Sunday, 22 October
- Competition from 23 to 26 October
- PRIX EUROPA 2023 Awards Ceremony 27 October, 8 to 10 pm, Rotes Rathaus

PRIX EUROPA 2023 - Special events

- Tuesday, 24 October, 10 to 11:30 am, Workshop "How to be ready to compete with the streaming giants". More information on www.prixeuropa.eu.
- Friday, 27 October, 10 am - 1 pm, PRIX EUROPA Brunch "Truth, Lies and AI" with Marianna Spring, Lars Bastholm, Roger Mahony and others. More information on www.prixeuropa.eu.

PRIX EUROPA 2023 – from home

- PRIX EUROPA Rising Stars online voting from 22 to 27 October on www.prixeuropa.eu.
- Livestream of the PRIX EUROPA 2023 Awards Ceremony: Friday, 27 October, 8 to 10 pm, available afterwards as video-on-demand on www.rbb-online.de.
- Excerpts of all award-winning productions from Saturday, 28 October on www.prixeuropa.eu.

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The PRIX EUROPA 2023 Festival Catalogue is available online:
<https://www.prixeuropa.eu/festival-catalogue-2023>