

VIENNA SHORTS – 18TH EDITION OPENS TOMORROW

Kick-off at 20:30 at Karmelitermarkt with host Hosea Ratschiller and four films – In the presence of City Councillor for Culture Kaup-Hasler, director Sophie Bösker and artist Paul Wenninger – Start of online edition at 21:00

Tomorrow, Thursday, the international short film festival VIENNA SHORTS opens its 18th edition—with four films that symbolize a new beginning after lockdown as well as an imaginative escape from one's own four walls. Two Austrian works will be premiering: the short documentary **Jesus, Aliens! I Think** by Sophie Bösker and the animated film **O** by Paul Wenninger. Other films to be screened include the Argentinean film **Clementina** by Constanza Feldman & Agustín Mendilaharsu and the US production **I Like Tomorrow** by Jennifer Reeder & Nancy Andrews.

The kick-off at Karmelitermarkt in the second district will be hosted by comedian **Hosea Ratschiller** starting at 8:30 p.m., and the festival will then be officially opened by Vienna's City Councillor for Culture **Veronica Kaup-Hasler**. Director **Sophie Bösker** and artist **Paul Wenninger**, to whom a portrait will be dedicated at the Filmmuseum on Saturday, will briefly talk about their films. The two **festival directors Doris Bauer and Daniel Ebner** will address a few words to the audience as a welcome. The event has been booked out for days; whether the weather will cooperate with the open-air opening at the Karmelitermarkt will become clear in the course of the day. In case of bad weather, the event will be cancelled.

Regardless of weather and external influences, the **online part of the 18th edition will start on the Vienna Shorts Film Portal**, half an hour delayed from the physical opening. At 21:00, a video shot especially for the opening will be broadcast, followed by the opening film program. Immediately **after the end of the film program, a large part of the festival program will be released and made accessible via the film portal**. Only the competitions will be broadcast live at certain times—half an hour after their presentation in the Stadtkino im Künstlerhaus. Afterwards, the films of each competition are available on demand for 48 hours.

A total of **310** films from over 60 countries are represented at VIENNA SHORTS this year, 120 of which will also be shown on the big screen. While the online festival **only requires a pass for the entire offering** and, for the first time, German-language subtitles have been created specifically for about a third of the films, participation in real **screenings in the cinema** and open air is subject to the **Covid-19 measures**: Screenings at Stadtkino im Künstlerhaus, Filmmuseum, Porgy & Bess, Filmhaus am Spittelberg and Karmelitermarkt require FFP2 masks and proof of a negative test, vaccination or recovery from a COVID illness.

Tickets for the 18th edition of the festival are best **reserved/purchased online**, as this also handles the necessary registration at the same time. The online pass for the festival can be purchased directly at viennashorts.com, while tickets for cinema screenings are **only available through the respective venues**. For the Film Museum only reservations can be made online, for the open-air events admission is free but registration is required. All info on tickets is available at viennashorts.com/festival/tickets.

For detailed press material as well as pictures please click [HERE](#).

For further questions please contact Sarah Gruber at presse@viennashorts.com or +43 660 4012087.

