

**ULRICH SEIDL
TO RECEIVE MÁRGENES FILM FESTIVAL
HONORARY AWARD 2023**

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- 13º Madrid International Film Festival will pay tribute to the Austrian filmmaker for his career.
- Ulrich Seidl will attend the festival to receive the award and accompany the film series that the festival will host in his name.



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Madrid, 25th of October, 2023. The Austrian filmmaker Ulrich Seidl will receive the Margenes Honorary Award at the 13th edition of Margenes - Madrid International Film Festival, to be held from the 24th of November to the 3rd of December.

The award was launched in 2015 to recognize the innovative spirit and contribution to the art of film of moviemakers, actors, actress and also organizations and institutions that stood out for its defense of independent creation. In past editions, this prize has been awarded to filmmakers such as Basilio Martín Patino, Gonzalo Suárez, Lluís Escartín, Luis Ospina, Isa Campo, Isaki Lacuesta, Lisandro Alonso, Oliver Laxe, Miguel Gómez or Alain Guiraudie; actress Emma Suárez; and the Mexican film festival Ambulante.

In 2023, the festival pays tribute to the Austrian filmmaker Ulrich Seidl, one of the most relevant names in author cinema. An opportunity to celebrate his career, highlight the importance of his work and its contribution to contemporary cinema, rediscovering his first films to the audience of Madrid.

FOCO ULRICH SEIDL MÁRGENES



ANIMAL LOVE
ULRICH SEIDL · AUSTRIA · 1996

MADRID

To complete the tribute, **the festival will dedicate a film series focused on Ulrich Seidl's documentary films** from 1980 to 1998. Films in program are:

- ***Animal Love*** (*Tierische Liebe*, Austria, 1996, 120')
- ***Fun Without Limits*** (*Spaß ohne Grenzen*, Austria, 1998, 45')
- ***The bosom friend*** (*Der Busenfreund*, Austria, 1997, 60')
- ***Pictures at an exhibition*** (*Bilder einer Ausstellung*, Austria, 1996, 45')
- ***The last men*** (*Die letzten Männer*, Austria, 1994, 60')
- ***The Prom*** (*Der Ball*, Austria, 1982, 50')
- ***One Forty*** (*Einsvierzig*, 1980, 16')

Ulrich Seidl will be in Madrid to receive the award and accompany the series. In addition, he will give a **masterclass** on his work, with special focus on the correlation in his films between reality and fiction.

Festival's directors, Annamaria Scaramella and Pela del Álamo state: «Seidl is one of the fathers of contemporary cinema, not only for his way of approaching the limits between fiction and reality but its ability for generating empathy and therefore redeeming hideous characters, letting the spectators feel and connect with them and their background».

ULRICH SEIDL

Born in Vienna, 1952, his first steps on cinema were with the documentary films **Good News: Von Kolporteuren, toten Hunden und anderen Wienern** (Good News, 1990), **Tierische Liebe** (Animal Love, 1995) or **Models** (1998). His first motion picture, **Hundstage** (Dog Days, 2001), won the Special Jury Prize in Venice. **Import Export** (2007) was exhibited in Cannes and later on presented the trilogy **Paradies: Liebe** (Paradise: love, 2012) also in competition in Cannes; **Paradies: Glaube** (Paradise: faith, 2012), Special Jury Prize in Venice; and **Paradies: Hoffnung** (Paradise: hope, 2013), première in competition in Berlinale. With **Im Keller** (In the basement, 2014) and **Safari** (2016) went back to documentary cinema and in 2022 was again in competition in Berlinale with **Rimini**, first part of the diptych that ends with **Sparta** (2022).

His unmistakable style is defined by **a formal precision and an accuracy on the approach to extreme characters. The plasticity and front-framing along with the austerity of the camera movements -by the influence of painting-, his way of working, between reality and fiction,** to represent the margins of society without putting moral thoughts.

The Austrian filmmaker is characterized by digging deep on the hypocrisy and decadence of Western world by a scathing and ruthless gaze but also empathic, that renegades all humanist compassion and pushes the spectator to question his own morality.

Without any doubt, Seidl is one of the most influential filmmakers of the past 25 years and his work has been praised by directors as Werner Herzog or John Waters, stating he is the natural heir of Fassbinder.



MARGENES. MADRID INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Márgenes Film Festival celebrates films of special cinematic value and **new audio-visual trends** that focus on innovative forms of representation. The Festival brings together a wide range of films, highlighting the most unique contemporary cinema practices and combining **emerging talent** with **renowned filmmakers** who share **original proposals**, **personal vision** and **creative freedom**. Moreover, the Festival **pays special attention to new generations**, **contemporary trends** and **new technologies** through a multidisciplinary program that includes **Live A/V**, **talks**, **audio-visual literacy** and **industry activities**.

SUPPORTS

Margenes Festival is organised by the **Asociación Cultural Cine en Ruta** and has the support of the **ICAA**, through the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Program, the creation and mobility aids program; the **Madrid Council**; the **Community of Madrid**; and **Acción Cultural Española**, through the Programa para la Internacionalización de la Cultura Española (PICE). Besides, relies on the collaboration of the **Casa Encendida**, **Spanish Film Library**, **Cineteca Madrid**, and **Foro Cultural de Austria (Österreichisches Kulturforum)**.

CONTACT AND REQUESTS

Ulrich Seidl will be available for interviews. For requests and proposals please write at prensa@margenes.org

PRESS MATERIALS

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1HkzQI7ePZgfTy5tgifgnK-DTVfwfb-n?usp=drive link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1HkzQI7ePZgfTy5tgifgnK-DTVfwfb-n?usp=drive_link)