

People on Sunday 2010: Joint Summer School of ifs Cologne and UCLA

The International Filmschool Cologne (ifs) invites its alumni directors and producers as well as alumni cinematographers of the Dortmund University of Applied Sciences and Arts to take part in a unique Summer School jointly held in Cologne with the Department of Film, Television and Digital Media of the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television.

Participants:

We are looking for two alumni directors, two alumni cinematographers and one alumni producer who will work in mixed teams with five UCLA Master students.

Objective:

The Summer School will be centered around practical work: Instructed and supervised by professors of both film schools, NRW alumni and UCLA Master students will team up to produce four short documentary or semi-documentary portrayals of everyday life in Cologne.

While the focus lies on artistic instruction and practical film work, the summer school will include strong academic elements as well.

Theme:

The summer school takes its cue from one of the most innovative films of the late Weimar Republic, created by five influential German-American filmmakers: *Menschen am Sonntag / People on Sunday* (1930). For the very first time, this (semi-) documentary portrayed everyday life in a modern metropolis.

Only three years after Billy Wilder, Robert and Curt Siodmak, Fred Zinnemann and Edgar Ulmer finished the movie that made their name, they all had to flee Berlin from the Nazis. However, they soon became famous again in Hollywood. For these biographical as well as for aesthetic reasons *People on Sunday* was, as several critics have stated, pivotal; not only in the development of German cinema, but also of Hollywood.

During the first week of the Summer School, lectures and workshops will explore the history and the continuing influence of the German film exile in the US. The emphasis is on the work, career and personal fate of the makers of *People on Sunday*. Their historic experience of exile, culture shock, alienation and adaptation will provide an intercultural perspective central for a successful collaboration within the German-American film teams as well as for the development of creative documentary concepts within the theme of this Summer School.

Time:

The Summer School will be held from Monday, June 21, to Friday, July 30 in Cologne, Germany.

Conditions and How to Apply:

The language of the Summer School is English. Participation is free of charge. Admission is limited to 5 NRW participants.

Please send your application to the Summer School Program Committee before April 1, 2010. Please describe your documentary experience and projects, as well as why you are interested in the theme of the Summer School and indicate the relevance of the theme to your work as a filmmaker. Please also submit a short concept paper for a project (2 pages).

Applicants will be informed of acceptance by April 15, 2010.