



## Press release

# The Special TEDDY AWARD 2017 goes to Monika Treut

**Berlin, January 16<sup>th</sup> 2017**

The 31st Teddy Award is presented within the framework of the Berlin International Film Festival (9 Feb. – 19 Feb. 2017) on February 17th, 2017 in the Haus der Berliner Festspiele.

The TEDDY AWARD honours films and filmmakers who contribute tolerance, acceptance and equality to society through queer topics and cinematographic commitment.

Films will be awarded in following three categories: best short, best documentary and best feature film.

For 31 years the TEDDY AWARD has been rewarding movies and filmmakers, who, by engaging with queer topics, contribute to more tolerance, equality, acceptance and diversity in the society. Prizes are awarded in the following categories: Best Feature Film, Best Documentary/Essay Film and Best Short Film. Furthermore, the special TEDDY Award will be awarded; it goes to a filmmaker who contributed extraordinary merits to the characterization of the queer filmmaking over the years. This year the special TEDDY Award goes to a German director, producer and writer Monika Treut. Last year the US producer Christine Vachon received this award.

Monika Treut has been engaging with not only the feminist and lesbian cinema since the 1980s, but also with the German-speaking independent film scene and as a pioneer has introduced the New Queer Cinema to the US American Indie film. Her courageousness and critical approach of the topics and aesthetics are closely related to the liberating energy of the Mao-Spontex movement in the 1970s. Her documentary *Gendernauts* won the TEDDY-Award in 1999 as Best Documentary/Essay Film and several other audience awards all over the world. Since her feature debut with Efi Mikesch, *Verführung: Die grausame Frau*, more than 12 of her movies have been screened at the Berlinale. On the occasion of her Special TEDDY AWARD, *Berlinale Panorama* screens her second feature film, the classic *die Jungfrauenmaschine* from 1989.

Tickets for the TEDDY AWARD Ceremony in the Haus der Berliner Festspiele on February 17th, 2017 are available at [www.teddyaward.tv](http://www.teddyaward.tv). Ticket reservations are possible via e-mail at [tickets@papagena.de](mailto:tickets@papagena.de), via **Ticket-Hotline 0(049)30-4799 7474**. Tickets without the pre-sale fee are also available at Prinz Eisenherz bookshop, Motzstraße 23, 10777 Berlin.

The ceremony on February 17th will take place at the Haus der Berliner Festspiele, Schaperstraße 24, 10719 Berlin, starting at 9 PM. From 11 PM onwards the hot After Show Lounge and the TEDDY AWARD BACKSTAGE PARTY will open their doors!

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