

## EAST-WEST TALENT LAB 2017

### THE PRODUCTION OF 'THE TRIAL: THE STATE OF RUSSIA VS. OLEG SENTSOV'

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MASTER CLASS  
with Askold Kurov  
and Maxim Tuula  
29.04.2017  
11.00 Uhr –13.00 Uhr

Festivalzentrum  
Gebäude der Wiesbadener  
Casino-Gesellschaft  
Friedrichstraße 22  
65185 Wiesbaden

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Regisseur Askold Kurov und Produzent Maxim Tuula erläutern in dieser Master Class den Produktionsprozess des Dokumentarfilms THE TRIAL: THE STATE OF RUSSIA VS. OLEG SENTSOV.

#### THE TRIAL: THE STATE OF RUSSIA VS. OLEG SENTSOV

Oleg Sentsov has been in prison since 2014. The Ukrainian film director is accused of participating in the planning of acts of terrorism. The background of this charge is his political engagement at Euromaidan and his criticism of the Russian government. The extremely dubious sentence was handed down two years later in a courtroom in Rostov-on-Don: 20 years of incarceration in a Siberian prison camp. In his film, Askold Kurov documents Sentsov's trial, simultaneously exposing the absurdity of the spectacle. In addition, the documentary honours the efforts made by family, friends and lawyers and the solidarity with the imprisoned director expressed by famous filmmakers in the struggle to regain Sentsov's freedom. In light of the rigor of Russian state justice, the unwavering courage displayed by Sentsov and his comrades in the struggle makes for an incredibly moving film.

#### ASKOLD KUROV

Born in Uzbekistan in 1974, Askold Kurov has lived in Russia since 1991. After studying philology, theatre, and theology and working for eight years as a package designer, he earned a degree in documentary filmmaking at the Marina Razbezhkina Film School in Moscow. In 2012 he was one of the directors of the award-winning documentary WINTER, GO AWAY! His next films LENINLAND and CHILDREN 404 also won critical acclaim and screened at numerous festivals. His work focuses on human rights issues and social conflicts in contemporary Russia.

#### MAXIM TUULA

Born in 1980 in Vladivostok, Russia. The Estonian producer lives in Estonia and the US. He collaborated as a journalist with various film trade magazines and participated in productions of several short films that won prizes at festivals from Berlin to Abu Dhabi. In 2012 Maxim coproduced the experimental docudrama I DON'T LOVE YOU by Alexander Rastorguev and Pavel Kostomarov and continued to work with the filmmakers on their cross-media project THE TERM (2014). In 2016 the film MY FRIEND BORIS NEMTSOV was selected as Best Documentary at the Krakow Film Festival. At the 2017 Berlinale the documentary THE TRIAL: THE STATE OF RUSSIA VS OLEG SENTSOV was chosen for a Berlinale Special screening.

Tuula participated in 2014 in the Berlinale Talents and was selected as one of the Emerging Producers 2016 at the 2015 Jihlava IDFF.