

Transilvania IFF partners with San Sebastián for its 20th edition

Spanish cinema will be celebrated at the 20th edition of the **Transilvania International Film Festival** running from **July 23-August 1 in Cluj-Napoca** (Romania) in its 'Spain Focus', a wide-ranging programme of special screenings, talks and masterclasses, industry initiatives and exhibitions. Within the programme is *Carte blanche: San Sebastián*, a strong selection of 10 recent Spanish films recently curated by the San Sebastián Festival selection committee. Included in the selection is *Sentimental (The People Upstairs, Cesc Gay, 2020)*, Transilvania IFF's opening night film, to show on the large open-air screen in Cluj-Napoca's Unirii Square on July 23.

"The San Sebastian Festival wishes to express its satisfaction at the start of this collaboration with Romania's most important film festival. The Transilvania Festival will be an exceptional showcase for current Spanish cinema through an interesting selection of films, some of which have recently been screened in different sections of our festival. This selection is a reflection of the diversity of Spanish cinema, and pays special attention to young filmmakers who will play a significant role in the future," says the Director of the San Sebastián Festival, **Jose Luis Rebordinos**.

"San Sebastián is not only one of my favourites (an alluring seaside town with an enviable cuisine, an enthusiastic team, and top-notch film curation), but is also a renewable resource for our own selection of Spanish and Latin American titles at Transilvania International Film Festival. I am grateful to the organisers for this partnership, and I invite our audience to taste the variety of dishes carefully selected from the San Sebastián film menu. I assure you that the sparkling and provoking *Sentimental (The People Upstairs)*, which opens our anniversary edition, will be a big treat for your taste buds," adds the Transilvania IFF **Artistic Director, Mihai Chirilov**.

In tune with its attention to emerging talent, the majority of the works come from San Sebastián's New Directors section. Viewers will therefore enjoy *Ane (Ane Is Missing, David Pérez Sañudo, 2020)*, *La última primavera (Last Days of Spring, Isabel Lamberti, 2020)*, *Hil kanpaiak (Death Knell, Imanol Rayo 2020)*, *Viaje al cuarto de una madre (Journey to a Mother's Room, Celia Rico Clavellino, 2018)* and *Apuntes para una película de atracos (Notes for a Heist Film, León Siminiani, 2018)*.

Carte blanche: San Sebastián will also include the feature film *La hija de un ladrón (A Thief's Daughter, Belén Funes, 2019)* and the series *Antidisturbios (Riot Police, Rodrigo Sorogoyen, 2020)*, as well as two titles from the RTVE Screenings: *Explota explota (My Heart Goes Boom!, Nacho Álvarez,*

2020) and *Sentimental (The People Upstairs, Cesc Gay, 2020)*. Asier Altuna's *Arzak since 1897* will delight foodies in a special event in the Film Food section at the Transilvania IFF.

The event is organized with the support of the Spanish Institute of Cinematography and Audiovisual Arts (ICAA).

The partners of this collaboration between the Transilvania IFF and San Sebastián and of the entire Focus Spain are the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), Acción Cultural Española, the Etxepare Basque Institute | Etxepare Euskal Institutua, the Spanish Embassy in Romania, the Cervantes Institute in Bucharest and the Association of Spanish Companies in Romania (ASEMER).

About Transilvania International Film Festival

Founded in 2002, Transilvania International Film Festival is Romania's most important film-related event and is a member, like San Sebastián, of the International Federation of Film Producers' Associations (FIAPF). Its goal is to promote cinematic art by presenting the most innovative and spectacular films of the moment, and its Official Competition, dedicated to first and second time directors, focuses on discovering new voices.

The Festival runs a wide variety of industry activities largely pivoting around emerging talents, develops educational programmes and presents an annual Lifetime Achievement Award received, among others, by international figures including Nicolas Cage, Alain Delon, Sophia Loren, Fanny Ardant, Wim Wenders, Catherine Deneuve and Vanessa Redgrave.

Transilvania IFF is organized by the Romanian Film Promotion Association and the Transilvania Film Festival Association. The 20th edition of the festival will take place between July 23-August 1 in full compliance with the necessary public health safety measures.