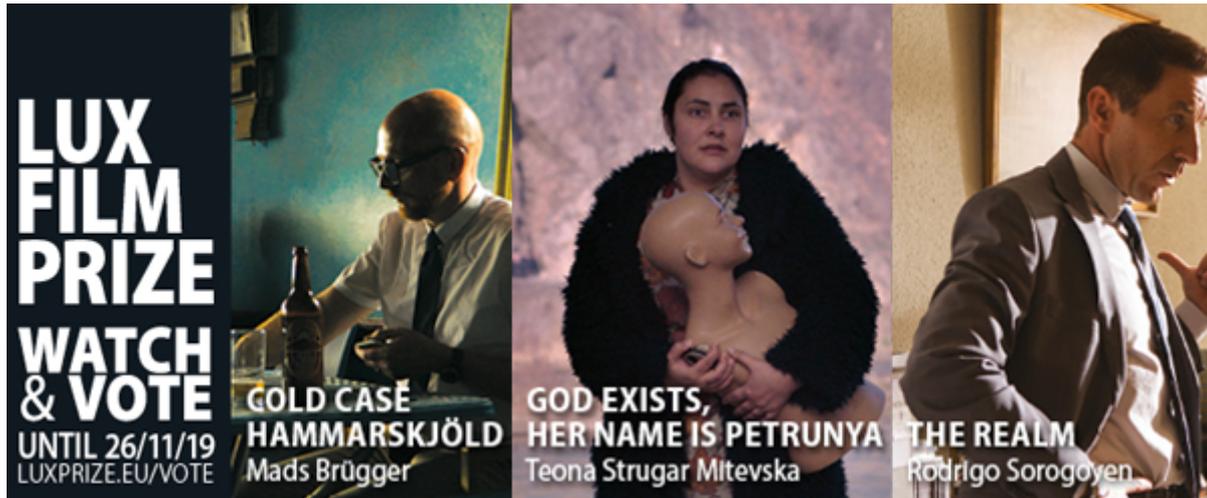


It's almost time for the LUX Prize Award Ceremony

25-11-2019



The 2019 LUX Film Prize Award Ceremony will take place this Wednesday, 27 November, during the Plenary Session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg. Until Tuesday evening, MEPs can still vote for their favourite film among this year's extraordinary selection, which includes the feminist tale *God Exists, Her Name is Petrunya* by **Teona Strugar Mitevska** (Macedonia, Belgium, Slovenia, Croatia, France), the provocative documentary *Cold Case Hammarskjöld* by **Mads Brügger** (Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Belgium) and the thriller *The Realm* by **Rodrigo Sorogoyen** (Spain). It's just a matter of hours until we find out which one will emerge as 2019 LUX Prize winner.

The ceremony will be held from 13h00 to 13h30 CET in the Plenary Chamber, where the President of the European Parliament **David Maria Sassoli** will announce the winner and present the prize to the director of the awarded film. Both the ceremony and the interview with the winner will be live streamed on the EP official website, as well as on the LUX Prize social media. As usual, the ceremony will be followed by a press conference in the presence of the film crews.

In addition to the award ceremony, the European Parliament has prepared a very special programme for this year. On Tuesday 26, Ukrainian film director **Oleg Sentsov** will address the European Parliament. Last year Sentsov was awarded with the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought, but was unable to receive it due to his imprisonment. After a long campaign for his release, which involved the support of the European film industry, Sentsov was eventually set free on 7 September 2019 in a prisoner swap. This year the director will be in Strasbourg to receive his Prize and deliver a speech in front of the Chamber.

Later on, Sentsov will also take part in a **media roundtable and seminar** for journalists about freedom of expression (Louise Weiss building, 15h00 CET). The event will be introduced by

Vice-Presidents of the European Parliament **Klára Dobrev** and **Heidi Hautala**, and moderated by **Pauline Durand Vialle**, CEO at the Federation of European Film Directors (FERA). The film crews of the three LUX finalists are also set to participate in the round table, including director Mads Brügger, director Teona Mitevka and producer **Gerardo Herrero** (*The Realm*).

Apart from the activities at the Parliament, the competing films will also be screened in different theatres in Strasbourg. The Cinéma Odysée will host *Cold Case Hammarskjöld* on Monday 25 at 20h00 CET, and the screening of *God Exists, Her Name is Petrunya* on Tuesday 26, at the same time. The day of the ceremony, Wednesday 27, *The Realm* will be screened at Cinema Saint-Exupéry. All the screenings are free prior registration (epstrasbourg@europarl.europa.eu ^[1]) and will be followed by Q&As with MEPs and representatives of the films.

Stay tuned to find out all about the 2019 LUX Prize!

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[1] <mailto:epstrasbourg@europarl.europa.eu>

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