



## PRESS RELEASE

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### CICAE Grows and Sets Course for the Future with Newly-Elected Board and General Delegate

The *International Confederation of Arthouse Cinemas* (CICAE) has elected a new Board of Directors and Executive Board (Bureau) during its annual general assembly on 17 May 2023 in Cannes. The Board's composition (see below) reflects the association's commitment to representing expanding membership and global scope by increasing diversity, youth, and gender balance among its leadership. Accordingly, the Executive Board comprises four women and four men. The elected portion of the Board of Directors consists of six women and five men.

Furthermore, the CICAE is proud to welcome several new members from across the world, including the Thessaloniki International Film Festival and the Polish Arthouse Cinema Network *Stowarzyszenie Kin Studyjnych*, whose more than 230 member cinemas make it the world's fourth-largest arthouse cinema association.

Christian Bräuer re-elected as President alongside a new Board of Directors

Mr Christian Bräuer, managing director of the Berlin-based Yorck Kinogruppe and Chairman of the German Arthouse Association, was re-elected as CICAE president.

While audiences worldwide are returning to their local arthouse cinemas, unprecedented uncertainties such as market shifts, social changes, and the climate crisis, as well as the aftermath of the pandemic, still mark the sector. Meanwhile, political actors and funding bodies have been slow to develop a comprehensive approach to face current challenges, says Christian Bräuer:

*“The return of Arthouse-audiences worldwide shows the continued crucial importance of independent screens. While we have proven resilient in times of crisis and remain determined to defend the diversity of film and provide safe spaces for audiences’ engagement with arthouse film, the situation remains fragile. Unprecedented economic, social, and political insecurities require policymakers across the world and on all levels to support arthouse cinemas with targeted funding and equitable regulations that will ensure their independence.”*

The Executive Board is joined for the first time by Marlena Gabryszewska (Poland) and Hannele Marjavaara (Finland). Reelected were Guillaume Bachy (France), Domenico Dinoia (Italy), Peggy Johnson (USA) Cyril Désiré (France) and Mira Staleva (Bulgaria).

To the Board of Directors were elected Domenico Dinoia (Italy), Michele Crotchiola (Italy), Marlena Gabryszewska (Poland), Javier Pachón (Spain), Marijana Bosnjak (Croatia), Mira Staleva (Bulgaria), Tanja Helm (Austria), Hannele Marjavaara (Finland), Peggy Johnson (USA), Tibor Bíró (Hungary) and Marcin Piénkowski (Poland). They join the founding members' appointed representatives Christian Bräuer (Germany), Petra Rockenfeller (Germany), Guillaume Bachy (France), Cyril Désiré (France) and Tobias Faust (Switzerland).

CICAE names new General Delegate

The CICAE is pleased to announce Sebastian Naumann's nomination as its new general delegate. He commenced his duties on 16 May 2023.

The CICAE Board emphasises diversity, sustainability, and solidarity and calls for collaboration beyond the national horizon

The newly elected Board highlights the importance of increased international cooperation within the arthouse movement to meet common challenges such as the climate crisis or global market concentration.

The Board calls for comprehensive political efforts to support the sector

For the CICAE, arthouse cinemas are vital to the health of the international film ecosystem. Respecting the principles of territoriality and equitable regulations (e.g., concerning film access and theatrical release windows) serves the entire industry. Moreover, a thriving Arthouse cinema sector allows audiences worldwide to benefit from a culturally diverse, locally relevant, and artistically valuable film landscape. Christian Bräuer:

*“Today, community-based, mission-driven Arthouse cinema is more important than ever. Cinemas are spaces of discourse and encounter. In times of seemingly limitless choice online, of social alienation and global division, independent cinemas provide a link between local communities and open a window to artistic landscapes from across the world. Where arthouse cinemas thrive, local communities flourish.”*

The Board affirms CICAE's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. It maintains its support of a vibrant, multilateral democratic society and calls for ensuring the freedom and safety of film- and cinema professionals

worldwide. In this spirit, the CICAE Board reaffirms its continued solidarity with Ukraine as it faces Russian aggression.



CICAE Board of Directors (from left to right)

First row: Domenico Dinoia (FICE, Italy), Marlena Gabryszewska (Stowarzyszenie Kin Studyjnych, Poland) Detlef Rossmann (Casablanca-Kino, Germany), Christian Bräuer (AG Kino – Gilde, Germany), Guillaume Bachy (AFCAE, France), Tibor Bíró (CineFest Miskolc, Hungary).

Second row: Marcin Pieńkowski (Stowarzyszenie Nowe Horyzonty, Poland), Hannele Marjavaara (Kino Tapiola, Finland), Peggy Johnson (Loft Film Fest, USA), Javier Pachón (PROMIO, Spain), Tobias Faust (SSV/ASCA, Switzerland), Cyril Désiré (AFCAE, France).

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The CICAE (Confédération Internationale des Cinémas d'Art et d'Essai) is a non-profit association of over 2400 arthouse cinemas with more than 4200 screens in 45 countries, aimed at strengthening the Arthouse sector and promoting cultural diversity in cinemas and festivals. It unites 14 national and regional arthouse cinema networks (Belgium, Canada-Québec, Chile, France, Germany, Italy, Hungary, the Netherlands, the Network of Arab Alternative Screens, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Venezuela) as well as individual cinemas, not yet represented by a national network, and festivals across the world.

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