



# REPORT ON THE SLOVAK AUDIOVISUAL SITUATION IN 2006

**MEDIA**

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**→ LEGISLATION**

- The Ministry of Culture stepped into 2006 with a number of legislative tasks, which were to be implemented before the parliamentary elections planned to be held in September. The decision to hold early elections, however, suspended the process of adopting draft laws on several different levels.
- From amongst the prepared drafts laws, the most important was the one amending and supplementing Act No. 618/2003 Coll. on Copyright and Rights related to Copyrights (Copyrights Act) and on the amendment and supplementation of certain acts, because with this act, Slovakia was supposed to transpose the Directive 2004/48/EC on the Enforcement of intellectual property rights. The deadline for the transposition was April 29, 2006. The inter-department review was completed in March 2006, however, because of the shortened election term, further processing of the draft was suspended.
- The legislative process of the draft law on the rights and responsibilities of persons related to obtaining, processing and/or publishing information and its public distribution by communication media and on the amendment and supplementation of certain acts (Press Act) was suspended for the same reason. When the government's Legislative Board recommended it as it was worded after including the suggestions raised during the review process, on February 22, František Tóth, Minister of Culture, withdrew the draft for discussion by the Slovak government. The objective of the submitted draft was to regulate the rules and relationship between newspapers (source of information), distributors (publishers of communication media) and the receivers of information (respondents) in a manner reflecting the development of an information society.
- The draft law on the conditions for the registration, public distribution and storage of audiovisual works, multimedia works and sound recordings of artistic performances and on the amendment and supplementation of certain acts (Audiovisual Act), the purpose of which was to implement the European Convention on the Protection of the Audiovisual Heritage and the Protocol on the Protection of Television Production, as well as the sanitation of the audiovisual environment in consideration of the conditions of an information society, was approved by the Legislative Board of the government, and, consequently by the Slovak Government, and on February 23, it was submitted to Parliament. Again, due to the shortened election term, Parliament has not yet discussed this document.
- Also as a result of the shortened election term, the Ministry has only opened for public discussion the Basic Principles of the draft law on the digitalization of broadcasting, because the review process of the draft law would not have been completed by the elections. Discussions were shut down on May 31, and the Ministry submitted its outcomes to a work group consisting of the representatives of the Slovak Ministry of Transport, Post and Telecommunication and the Slovak Telecommunication Bureau, also including invited experts. In May/June 2006, the Ministry of Culture participated in working on the Strategic Transition from Analogue Broadcasting to Digital Broadcasting developed by the Ministry of Transport, Post and Telecommunication and consequently adopted by the Slovak government.
- On May 17, 2006, the Government adopted the Project of Systemic Protection and Renewal of the Audiovisual Cultural Heritage aimed at preserving the main funds of cinematography and audiovisual works and archive materials and, to make the renewed works gradually available to

the public. The Project introduced the basic principles and responsibilities of the state regarding the protecting of our audiovisual heritage for the next 15 years.

- The early parliamentary elections in Slovakia were held on June 17. Marek Mad'arič became the new Minister of Culture.

- The first proposal submitted by the new Ministry after elections was the draft of the Act on the Digital Broadcasting of Program Services and conditions for the provision of other content services by means of digital transfer and on amendments and supplementation to certain other acts (Digital Broadcasting Act). This draft was submitted for inter-department review on September 21, and was adopted by the government on November 22. This draft law was a necessary step in the transition to digital broadcasting, which shall be accomplished all across Europe by the end of 2012.

- The Parliament adopted the Act on March 29, 2007, including the proposals for changes, stemming from the agreement between Slovak Television and private broadcasters, which, at the last moment, changed some of the legislative principles of the draft as originally written by the Ministry of Culture. One of the most significant changes, in comparison to the original draft, was the entrenchment of a public multiplex, which should be established at the latest in 2012, and occupy one frequency layer for nation-wide coverage (minimally 80 percent of the population), and should primarily include programs from Slovak Television, and consequently also those of Slovak Radio. In addition to that, STV should have control over the flow of data. The way in which to utilize the multiplex, including the compression of data flow and coding of the signal, should be decided by the public broadcaster. STV, at the same time, was granted protection of its current analogue frequencies through the end of 2011, even though the obligation to broadcast on these frequencies up to this date might be a problem for STV. The changes in the draft also entrenched a so-called transitional multiplex which should ensure, in the transition period, a space for all current supra-regional televisions, and also create space for the largest private broadcasters to launch thematic channels and to protect their current coverage.

- The draft law, which amends and supplements Act No. 618/2003 Coll. on Copyright and Rights related to Copyright (Copyright Act) and on the amendment and supplementation of certain other acts, was re-submitted by the Ministry for inter-department review on October 16. The Government adopted the draft on December 13, and agreed with the shortened legislative proceeding as a result of the violation proceeding called for by the European Commission (the Parliament adopted the Act on February 6, 2007, and the EC suspended the proceeding against SR. The Act was published in the Collection of Laws under number 84/2007). By adopting and publishing the Act, the transposition of the European Parliament and Council Directive 2004/48/EC from April 29, 2004 on the Enforcement of intellectual property rights was accomplished. The enforcement was ensured by the amendment of 12 legal regulations, including the Commercial Code, Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure. Through the Copyright Act, the law also regulated the status of an audiovisual work in the sense, that it does not exclude the possibility that an audiovisual work can, under certain conditions, also be a common work.

- On December 7, the Ministry also re-submitted for inter-department review the draft law on the conditions of registration, public distribution and storage of audiovisual works, multimedia works and the sound recordings of artistic performances and on the amendment and supplementation of certain other acts (Audiovisual Act). Along with it, the Ministry also submitted a Proposal for the Ratification of the European Convention for the Protection of the Audiovisual Heritage and Protocol on the Protection of Television Production (Council of Europe) opened for signature in Strasbo-

urg on November 8, 2001. The draft law was primarily based upon the requirement to provide for the protection of the Slovak Republic's audiovisual heritage in connection to the signing of the European Convention on the protection of audiovisual heritage and its Protocol on the protection of television production, as well as upon the regular membership of the Slovak Republic in FIAF (International Federation of Film Archives) –an association bringing together the most significant national filmothèques and film archives of the world. At the same time, it has also taken into consideration (primarily in the terminology) the technical progress of the information society including its international aspect, as well as the public requirement for increasing the protection of minors against the inadequate contents of audiovisual works, sound recordings of verbal or musical works and multimedia works, with special emphasis on computer games. The draft constitutes the comprehensive regulation of the obligations of both, natural and legal persons, in the production, distribution and registration of audiovisual works, sound recordings of artistic performances and multimedia works, as well as the status of an independent producer. The draft law further introduces a Unified system of labeling aimed at the protection of minors, the conditions aimed at the protection and renewal of the Slovak Republic's audiovisual heritage, and, in this regard, also focusing on the mission, status and activities of the Slovak Film Institute as a public contributory organization connected to the public budget through the budgetary chapter of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic. The draft law and the Proposal for Ratification were ultimately adopted by the Government on March 7, 2007.

## → FILM EDUCATION

■ Although today there are several art schools in Slovakia (e.g. **Academy of Art (AKU)** in Banská Bystrica, **University of St. Cyril and Method (UCM)** in Trnava, Faculty of Mass Media Communication, Department of Artistic Creation), they only marginally focus on audiovisual art. Most recently, however, increased attention has been paid also to exploring the creative potential of the youngest generation at two schools in Bratislava: **Ludovít Rajter's Elementary School of Art**, and the **Private Secondary School of Animation**. During the 1<sup>st</sup> IFF Cinematik in the Piešťany town library, the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the **Film School** project was organized, aimed primarily at fans of cinematography, regardless of age, who have not yet been professionally engaged in film. The participants had a chance to take a look behind the scenes through film meetings, discussions, screenings, talks and lectures by filmmakers.

■ Nevertheless, the **Film and Television Faculty at the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (FTF)** in Bratislava has continued to play a crucial role in the preparation of future filmmakers and producers. FTF is a member of CILET – the International Association of Film and Television Schools of the world, and its European section GEECT. Its dean was prof. Stanislav Párnický, ArtD, however, on May 31, 2006, the Academic Senate elected doc. Leo Štefankovič, ArtD. the dean of FTF VŠMU for the next four years. In the future, the new dean would like to review the contents of all curricula and accredited study programs not only with regard to “art” film, but also in consideration of new formats and technologies changing the face of audiovision.

■ At present, there are 9 study programs running: 1. Script Edition and Script Writing – Head of Studio prof. Dušan Dušek; 2. Film and Television Directing – Head of Studio prof. Stanislav Párnický; 3. Documentaries – Head of Studio doc. Vladimír Balco; 4. Animation – Head of Studio prof. Ing. arch. František Jurišič, ArtD.; 5. Cinematography and Photography – Head of Studio prof. Ján

Đuriš, ArtD; 6. Editing – Head of Studio Doc. Darina Smržová, ArtD.; 7. Sound – Head of Studio Doc. Igor Vrabc; 8. Production and Distribution of Film Art and Multi Media – Head of Studio Doc. PhDr. Martin Šmatlák; 9. Sciences of Film Art – Head of Studio prof. Václav Macek, CsC.

■ The FTF acquires the funds necessary for the financing of its activities primarily from grants offered by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Culture (in 2006, the FTF VŠMU was allocated EUR 98,728 under AudioVision 2006 program, which is in EUR 33,330 more than in 2005), but it also generates funds through cooperation with a number of private companies. There are also a number of films which were made thanks to unspecified financial and in-kind contributions from the students themselves. There are plans to launch its own commercial activities in the future in order to be able to fully utilize the entire space in the new building and to improve the condition for the creative work of the students.

■ In October 2005, the film club FK 35mm began operation, where, in addition to its own screenings, there were also presentations of festivals and reviews such as One World/Jeden svet, Febiofest, Projekt 100 and other. There were also a series of international events held on the premises of the school, including for example the **School's Best Kept Secrets III, Our Heritage** GEECT annual conference (May 29 – June 1), and the workshop **Ex Oriente Film – Cestou koprodukcie** (April 24 – 30). On October 6 – 7, on the premises of the Bratislava VŠMU, there was a workshop and the closing night of the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the screenwriters' competition for the **Tibor Vichta Award** designated for young authors up to 35 years of age, which was also participated in by the British screenwriter Jan Fleischer.

■ In the last couple of years, works created by FTF students have constituted the most representative part of Slovak filmmaking. This has been proven by a broad range of national and international prizes awarded to student films. The most awarded films included the feature film by Tomáš Jančo **Sideways** (Bokovka), which received the Best Feature Film Award (6<sup>th</sup> IFF of Student Films Písek 2006), the Second place in the category of feature films (14<sup>th</sup> UFVA Traveling Festival of International Student Films & Video NextFrame 2006, USA) and the Best Theme and Screenplay (3<sup>rd</sup> IFF Arouca 2006, Portugal).

■ Also successful at international festivals were the feature films **Monstrance** (Monštrancia, d. Mariana Čengel-Solčanská), **Night in a Hotel** (Noc v hoteli, d. Matúš Libovič) and **The Song About a Little Rooster** (Kohútik jarabý, d. Marián Tutoky); a documentary **PornoRomance** (Pornoromantik, d. Peter Begányi) and animations **Fat Fatal** (d. Michaela Čopíková), **Cheers!** (Nazdravíčko!, d. Ivana Zajacová, Jozef Mital'), **One Pig's Destiny** (Osud prasiatka, d. Šimon Matrk), **Monster** (Príšera, d. Michaela Ošťádalová) and **Woolf** (d. Juraj Kubinec). You will find the prizes awarded to these films in the chapter Acknowledgement of Slovak Films and Filmmakers Abroad.

■ After a one year break, in March 2006, the 10<sup>th</sup> **ÁČKO** festival was held, which has become a standard international student festival. The prize of the Club of Film Journalists SSN for the Best Slovak Film at the Festival was awarded ex aequo to **The Whore** (Kurva, d. Samuel Jaško) and **PornoRomance** (Pornoromantik, d. P. Begányi). Works by FTF VŠMU students were also abundantly represented at the 8<sup>th</sup> IFF Bratislava, where, in addition to others, 4 mid-length feature films – **Abel's Black Dog** (Ábelov čierny pes, d. Mariana Čengel-Solčanská), **Following Act** (Ďalšie dejstvo – Következő felvonás, d. Máttyás Prikler), **Housedwellers** (Obyvatelia domu, d. Kristína Herczegová), and **Closer** (V tesnej blízkosti, d. Marta Ferencová) – were presented.



## → FILM PRODUCTION

■ While in 2005, six Slovak full-length films were produced (half of them were minority co-productions), not one, majority Slovak, full-length feature film holds a 2006 copyright. This last happened in 1947, i.e. almost 60 years ago. What's most surprising, that this has occurred when a record amount of almost EUR 4,861 million was distributed under the granting scheme of the Ministry of Culture AudioVizia 2006 (EUR 2,361 millions in 2005), allowing 3 films to be shot and wrapped by November 2005, and yet, those films were not released in theaters in 2006.

■ Only one feature film made in 2006, **I Served the King of England** (Obsluhoval jsem anglického krále, d. Jiří Menzel, CZ/SK) – an adaptation of Bohumil Hrabal's novel of the same title, was made as Slovak minority co-production.

■ Two full-length documentaries were released in 2006:

**Tepuy** (d. Pavol Barabáš) – a film on the expedition of speleologists to the inaccessible massive plate Chimanta in Venezuela;

**Other Worlds** (Iné svety, d. Marko Škop, SK/CZ) – a film studying different ways in which communities are losing their unique character and traditional diversity, but also searching for beauty in an authentic, interesting and original individual. The film was granted the Jury's Special Mention at the 41<sup>st</sup> IFF Karlovy Vary in the competition of documentaries, and as the first documentary in the history of the festival, also the Prize of the Audience.

■ After a long hiatus, Slovak Public Television (STV) also got more intensively involved in production. The television film **The Magicians' Winter** (Zima kúzelníkov) was Dušan Trančík's comeback to directing a feature film after 16 years. STV is also the co-producer of 6 projects presented within the Presentation of the prepared feature films, documentaries and animated films at the IFF Bratislava – feature films **The Penis of Truth** (Penis pravdy, d. Pavel Göbl, Jiří Fedurco), **Flowers of Sakura** (Kvety sakury, d. Ivan Vojnár), **Apricot Island** (Marhuľový ostrov, d. Enikő Eszényi), **Heaven, Hell, ...Earth** (Nebo, peklo, ... zem, d. Laura Siváková), **Disintegration** (Počas rozpadu, d. Vlado Fischer) and the feature documentary **Time of Grimaces** (Čas grimás, d. Peter Dimitrov). The presentation included 38 purely Slovak as well as co-production projects (out of that 22 were full-length feature films), which should have a première at the movies by the end of 2008. They also include the most expensive Central European project **Bathory** (d. Juraj Jakubisko, SK/CZ/UK/HU) with a budget of EUR 10 million.

■ Four mid-length feature films were produced at the Academy of Music & Dramatic Arts (VŠMU): **Abel's Black Dog** (Ábelov čierny pes, d. Mariana Čengel-Solčanská), **A Following Act** (Ďalšie dejstvo – Következő felvonás, d. Mátyás Prikler), **Housedwellers** (Obyvatelia domu, d. Kristína Herczegová), **Closer** (V tesnej blízkosti, d. Marta Ferencová) and Martin Repka's the German-Slovak co-production of the short feature film **Thirst** (Smäd)

■ In the field of documentary production, Slovak Television, which produced 34 titles in 2006, continues to be the biggest producer, along with the FTF VŠMU.

## → STATE SUPPORT

■ The Ministry of Culture SR designated from its budget **EUR 4,166 million** for the AudioVision 2006 program (in 2005, the available financial resources of the Ministry of Culture totaled **EUR 2.361 million**). During the year, the Minister of Culture decided to increase the funds by an addi-

tional EUR 750,000, thus, after modifications to the budget, a total amount of EUR 4,856 million was distributed under the AudioVision 2006 program.

■ Taking into consideration that during the year several entities that received subsidies, announced that the supported projects were not going to be implemented (i.e. they either gave up the granted subsidy, or returned it), the sum of actually provided funds aimed at supporting audiovisual projects, as of 31. 12. 2006, amounted to EUR 4,61 million.

■ A 9-member committee working in a revamped format, conducted four sessions in which they reviewed projects submitted in two rounds (13. 12. 2005 and 4. 4. 2006). Since this is the third year that the program has operated according to similar principles, the MC SR insisted strictly observing the requirements for submitting proposals, and thus, 73 projects were excluded due to their incompleteness. For the first time, the projects were registered electronically. Under the AudioVision 2006 program, a total of 270 projects were submitted (202 in 2005) in eight subprograms, out of which **120 were supported** (81 in 2005):

- Production and development of audiovisual works – 61 projects (out of that 23 successful);
- Production of audiovisual works – 78 projects (32);
- Production of full-length films for movie theaters – 30 projects (12);
- Post-production and/or distribution of audiovisual works – 33 projects (17);
- Minority co-production of full-length films for movie theaters – 16 projects (6);
- Distribution of foreign audiovisual works – 7 projects (5);
- Events, educational activities and/or presentation of audiovisual works – 39 projects (23); and
- Publishing activities in the field of audiovision – 6 projects (2).

■ As the result of an extraordinary decision by the minister, financial resources were also granted to the following projects:

**Bathory** (d. Juraj Jakubisko) – EUR 555,000

**IFF Bratislava** (8<sup>th</sup> year) – EUR 222,000

**Sinko v sieti 2006 – festive presentation of national film awards** – EUR 22, 100 and

**Třinec Film Summer 2006** – EUR 1,280 .

■ Although projects **The Tall, the Wide and the Sharp-Eyed** in subprogram 3.3, **Paper Heads** (Papierové hlavy) in subprogram 3.4, **Loving Hell** (Anna) in subprogram 3.5 were granted financial resources, the applicants gave up the granted support. The support granted to project **Granny** (Babička) in subprogram 3.2 was returned.

■ **DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES IN SUBPROGRAMS OF THE AUDIOVISION 2006 PROGRAM (AS OF 31.12.2006)**

1. Production and development of audiovisual works – EUR 228,000 / 4.96%
2. Production of audiovisual works – EUR 708,000 / 15.37%
3. Production of full-length films for movie theaters – EUR 2,290,000 / 49.65%
4. Post-production and/or distribution of audiovisual works – EUR 333,600 / 7.23%
5. Minority co-production of full-length films for movie theaters – EUR 361,000 / 7.83%
6. Distribution of foreign audiovisual works – EUR 26,100 / 0.57 %
7. Events, educational activities and/or presentation of audiovisual works – EUR 644,000 / 13.96%
8. Publishing activities in the field of audiovision – EUR 19,720 / 0.43%



The highest financial support was granted to the following projects:

Amount (in EUR)	Project Title	Entity	Sub-programme
<b>611,000</b>	Bathory	Jakubisko Film Slovakia, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>389,000</b>	International Film Festival Bratislava 2006 (8th edition)	Ars Nova	Sub-programme 07
<b>361,000</b>	Return of the Storks Návrat bocianov	SEN Film, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>222,000</b>	Disintegration Polčas rozpadu	JMB Film & TV Production Bratislava, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>194,000</b>	Flowers of Sakura / Kvety sakury	ARINA, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>194,000</b>	Small Celebrations Malé oslavy	ALEF Film a Media Group, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>194,000</b>	Apricot Island Marhuľový ostrov	D.N.A., s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>138,000</b>	Keep Smiling	Fáma Productions, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>138,000</b>	Jazzus	TaO Productions, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>136,000</b>	Back to Life / Návrat do života	RATA, spol. s r.o.	Sub-programme 02
<b>125,000</b>	Little Foxes / Líštičky	MIRAS, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 05
<b>83,300</b>	Broken Promise Nedodržaný sľub	GENTA Film, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>83,300</b>	DVD edition - The Best Slovak Films of the 80's	Petit Press, a.s.	Sub-programme 04
<b>69,400</b>	15:29	ARTREAL, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 03
<b>69,400</b>	Music / Muzika	ALEF Film a Media Group, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 04
<b>69,400</b>	Time of Grimaces / Čas grimás	ARINA, s.r.o.	Sub-programme 02

### ■ **Literary Fund**

■ The mission of the Literary Fund is to support artistic, scientific and technical literature, journalism and creativity development within theatre, film, radio and television sector. In 2006, the Creativity Section for TV, Film and Video production supported the production of new scripts for feature and documentary films within the ALFA Programme. The Section Committee has also evaluated the 2005 film and TV production, and has awarded successful film makers with an Igric Award and Kamera 2006 Award. You can find more on the Igric Award in the chapter „National Festivals, Screenings and Awards“. Some allowances were paid for business trips abroad, and as rewards at anniversaries, not forgetting the performing artists who have retired. The Creativity Section for TV, Film and Video production supported producers and artists, providing **EUR 95,790** to them. One third of this amount (EUR 33,583) was provided for 53 film makers in a form of scholarships.

## → **MEDIA**

■ The Slovak Republic has been a member of the MEDIA Programme since 1 January 2003 and since 1 April 2003 MEDIA Desk Slovakia, the Programme's information and consultation office, has been operating as well. Hence, 2006 was the fourth year in which Slovak companies could apply for support within various schemes of the MEDIA Programme and it was an successful year again.

■ The overall direct support totalled EUR 253,780 – of which the biggest share was held by support provided within the MEDIA Distribution scheme (EUR 198,780 ) and a smaller one within the MEDIA Promotion scheme – Festivals (EUR 55,000). With regard to these figures, it is necessary to understand that one of the basic objectives of the MEDIA Programme is to improve the circulation of European audiovisual works, to increase their share in the distribution network, either the traditional one (cinemas) or video distribution. The percentage of European films is growing effectively in Slovak distribution (the share of European films in the total number of films distributed in 2003 reached 39.60%, in 2004 it was 42.4% , in 2005 it was already 44% and in 2006 it was 44,2%); it is evident that this growth has been boosted especially by the positive effects of the MEDIA Programme, regardless of whether we take into account the possibilities within the distribution schemes or the indirect support within the Europa Cinemas network (which is all in all supported by the MEDIA Programme).

■ If we add the real support for Slovak cinemas within the Europa Cinemas network (EUR 48,706) and the total scholarships granted by MEDIA Desk Slovakia to Slovak participants in trainings (EUR 13,890 ) to the aforementioned amount, the total direct or indirect support totals EUR 316 376.

■ Thus, over all four years (2003–2006) Slovak companies were granted a total of EUR 1,322,573 in support.

■ The given figures clearly demonstrate the importance and significance of the MEDIA Programme for the audiovisual industry of such a small country with a low audiovisual capacity as Slovakia undoubtedly is. However, even more important than financial flows are all the activities leading to the integration of the Slovak audiovisual sector into the European audiovisual industry, regardless of whether this concerns the arithmetically growing number of Slovak participants in international trainings or contacts acquired by Slovak professionals at various seminars, workshops and mar-

kets. For this reason, in the course of 2006, MEDIA Desk Slovakia organised or co-organised several professional seminars.

- In April, MEDIA Desk Slovakia has co-organized **School's Best Kept Secrets III – GEECT** conference of the representatives of European film schools. The main topic was to explore the rich heritage of European film schools and to try to re-evaluate well-established teaching methods and curricula of more experienced film schools in the recent world, facing globalisation and uniforming of the film school concepts.

- In September it was an international seminar on **Media Literacy**, a new item in the MEDIA 2007 working programme. Aim of the seminar was to define the need of media literacy in rapidly changing world ruled by visual information, media literacy as pre-requisite for understanding and analysing audiovisual media and basis for improving the creativity of young people. 14 international and national media literacy experts presented the situation in their domestic countries, and different approaches to education in media literacy.

- In December a **XXL** conference on digitalisation in the production, distribution and exhibition of audiovisual works took place in Bratislava. Aim of the conference was to bring detailed information of the process of digitalisation, especially in cinema exhibitions, to present different models of technical digital systems, financing and programming.

- In the same month, an **Arista Genre** seminar took place within the IFF Bratislava. The seminar has brought detailed and deep information on genres, genre writing, structure of different types of plots, subject, protagonists, antagonists, elements of genres, etc. The seminar was extraordinary successful, with more than 60 participants from 5 countries.

## → EURIMAGES

- Eurimages is the only cinematographic fund from the Council of Europe supporting transnational co-productions of full-length films. It has been in existence since 1988 and Slovakia has been a member since April 15, 1996. In 2006, it consisted of 32 member states. Since its establishment through to the end of 2006, the film board of Eurimages has supported 1,119 European co-productions with the total amount exceeding EUR 326 million. Since 2004, modified directives for the Eurimages fund have been in effect. The main change has been the cancellation of the two schemes where films were originally divided into two categories: those with strong commercial and distribution potential, and those with a generally lower budget and artistic orientation reflecting the cinematographic and cultural diversity of European countries.

- In 2006, several Slovak projects applied for funding under Eurimages, out of which one was administratively excluded before the session of the board, since the Irish co-producer had not received the national grant, **Jazzus** (d. Tomáš Krnác, SK/IE), and one project was disqualified directly by the board, **Autumn Again** (Opäť jeseň, d. Mehmet Eryilmazd, TU/SK/PL) with a minority 20% from Slovakia (SPI International Slovakia – Ivan Hronec). The Slovak participation as co-producer in this project has, surprisingly, resided only in the financial participation of the future distributor. Neither the Polish nor the Slovak party (10 %) could accept a similar project and justify it as being a national co-production.

- Project **Little Foxes** (Líštičky, d. Mira Fornayová, CZ/IE/SK), in which Slovakia, despite a majority of Slovak credits, officially has only a 16 % minority participation (MIRAS – Emil Fornay), was granted **EUR 140,000**. **Little Foxes** is the screenwriter as well as director debut of Mira Fornayová.

vá, a young Slovak director. The story takes place (and is shot) in Dublin and in Slovakia in Humenné. The protagonists, who are Slovak au pairs, will be played by Slovak actresses. The Irish Film Fund supported this project with more money than it has ever supported a film with: EUR 400,000. Project **Eye** (Oko, d. Miloš J. Kohout, CZ/SK), the minority 20% producer of which is ALEF FILM & MEDIA GROUP – Marián Urban, was granted **EUR 180,000**. Project **Cinka panna** (Cigánska panna, SK/HU d. Dušan Rapoš ), the majority 70% producer of which is Attack – Katarína Vanžurová, was granted **EUR 220,000**.

- Support was not granted to **Flowers of Sakura** (Kvety sakury, d. Ivan Vojnár, SK/CZ) with a majority 65.5% (ARINA – Silvia Panáková), neither our 20% minority participation (Magic Box – Ľuba Féglová) on the Czech-Slovak film **I Served the King of England** (Obsluhoval jsem anglického krále, d. Jiří Menzel).

- Slovak contributions to the fund in 2006 amounted to EUR 79,620.34 , which was increased by a voluntary contribution of EUR 20,379.66 to **EUR 100,000**, with regard to the amount of funds obtained in the previous year (**EUR 1,060,000**). In 2006, Slovak co-production projects were granted a total of **EUR 540,000**.

- Since April 2005, Slovakia has been represented in Eurimages by Zuzana Gindl-Tatárová

## → FILM DISTRIBUTION

- In 2006, **179** film titles were released in Slovakia – out of that 153 in the broad distribution, 24 in film clubs and two 2D and 3D films in Orange IMAX Bratislava, which is 5 films more than in 2005. It is gratifying that this was not the only increase we experienced last year in the Slovak film distribution. Comparing the results from 2005 and 2006, Slovakia with its attendance increased in **55.51%** became the second most successful country in Europe (after Lithuania, 98 %). Nine films exceeded the limit of 100,000 viewers. In consideration of the global decrease in the number of viewers in 2005 (in Slovakia 24.14 %), this figure is more than gratifying. Especially considering that the average increase in the number of viewers in EU 25 in 2006 was below 2 percent.

- In 2006, a total of 542 films were screened in Slovak classic movie theatres (of which 232 were shown in film clubs), including 177 premières from 21 countries (of which 5 were renewed). The films were released by 12 distribution companies (compared to 2005, they included also Palace Pictures and Anna Kováčová): Continental film (39 films – 30 in 2005), Tatrafilm (36 – 37 in 2005), Association of Slovak Film Clubs (24 – 28 in 2005), Magic Box Slovakia (18 – 16 in 2005), SPI International (17 – 21 in 2005), ITAFILM (16 – 9 in 2005), Saturn Entertainment (12 – 24 in 2005), Palace Pictures (7 – 0 in 2005), Intersonic (4 – 4 in 2005), WN Danubius Film (1 – 6 in 2005) Anna Kováčová (1 – 0 in 2005) and Metropolis Plus (two 2D and 3D films – 3 in 2005).

- According to the attendance (33.62%) and box office revenues (32.70%), the top position is unambiguously held, this year again, by Tatrafilm Distribution Company. The second rank is held by Saturn Entertainment (20.56 / 21.23), and the third rank is occupied by Itafilm (13.19 / 15.68). The most successful non-member of the Union of Slovak Film Distributors was the Association of Slovak Film Clubs (ASFC) ranked seventh with a 2.66% share in attendance (in 2005 it was 4.10%), and 1.47 % share in box office revenues (2.37% in 2005). The most of the released films came from the USA (102 – of which 3 were shown in film clubs and 2 in Orange IMAX Bratislava). The second place was held by the Czech Republic (19 – of which 5 were in ASFC) and the third place by France (16 – of which 6 were in ASFC).

■ In 2006, Slovak movie theatres and film clubs were attended by the highest number of viewers in the last 8 years. The attendance of **3,395,670** in 2006 means an increase in 55.51 percent, compared to 2,183,518 in 2005. The box office revenues were the highest in the history of the Slovak Republic (since 1993). In 2006, audiences spent EUR 8 million on admission fees, which is in 47.31 percent more than EUR 5,5 million achieved in 2005. However, the average admission fee decreased to EUR 2.4 (in 2005 it was EUR 2.52). The average number of viewers at one screening, however, increased from 39.91 (2005) to 41.40 (2006), since the results included also 145,000 viewers attending the screening of **The Pink Panther** (d. Shawn Levy) shown within a free promotion campaign, as well as the results of free screenings of **One Hand Can't Clap** (Jedna ruka netleská, d. David Ondříček, CZ), **The City of the Sun** (Snečný štát, d. Martin Šulík, SK/CZ) and **Skřítek** (Skřítek, d. Tomáš Vorel, CZ) within Cinema on Wheels. Cultural vouchers of the Ministry of Culture also influenced the overall attendance and the average admission fee. Students and teachers of elementary and secondary schools received, under Voucher System Supporting the Access of Students and Teachers of Elementary and Secondary Schools to Cultural Values, one million vouchers (EUR 5,6 each) to pay the admission fees in movie theatres, theatres, galleries, museums and libraries.

■ In 2006, two Slovak films, **Pururambo** and **Other Worlds** (Iné svety) and three minority co-productions, **Friday or Another Day** (Piatok alebo iný deň), **Lunacy** (Šílení), **Bye Bye Harry** (Zbohom, Harry!) were released and seen by 10,498 viewers. You will find specific data in the chart. Altogether, 13,578 viewers saw releases of all 17 majority Slovak films in 2006, which is only 0.40 % of the total number of viewers in Slovak movie theatres. The most successful Slovak film was **The City of the Sun** (Snečný štát) which was seen by 7,141 viewers this figure, however, includes also 6,950 non-paying viewers under Pheasant Cinematographer.

■ A record number of 5 Slovak films were released in the Czech Republic in 2006: **Other Worlds** (Iné svety) – 2,291 viewers, **Two Syllables Behind** (O dve slabiky pozadu) – 1,725, **Amazonia Vertical** – 468, **Pururambo** – 356, **OMO – The Journey to the Primeval Age** (OMO – Cesta do praveku – 207), and one minority co-production **I Served the King of England** (Obsluhoval jsem anglického krále) – 8,281 viewers.

■ It is gratifying that in 2006, the broad Slovak distribution also included a short animation **Pik and Nik** (Pik a Nik, 2006, d. Martin Snopek), screened together with **Something Like Happiness** (Šťěstí, d. Bohdan Sláma, CZ/DE). The latter became the most successful club film with the attendance of 13,174 viewers.

■ The two multiplex cinemas in Bratislava – Palace Cinemas (12 screens) and Istropolis Cinema Center (8 screens) contribute greatly to the total cinema attendance. Even though their aggregated 20 screens constitute only 8.16% of all cinema screens in Slovakia (8.16% in 2005), 32.82% of all viewers visited them in 2006 (44.59% in 2005) and their share in the total box office revenues was 48.72% (59.68% in 2005).

## TOP 10 FILMS IN SLOVAK CINEMAS BY ADMISSION (from 1 January to 31 December 2006)

Rank	Film Title	Distributor	Data of Release	Country	Number of screenings	Admission	Box office (EUR)
1.	<b>Ice Age 2: The Meltdown</b>	Tatrafilm	06/04/06	USA	2,690	283,933	691,837
2.	<b>The Da Vinci Code</b>	Itafilm	18/05/06	USA	1,911	213,338	607,927
3.	<b>Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest</b>	Saturn Entertainment	27/07/06	USA	1,772	190,946	533,630
4.	<b>Cars</b>	Saturn Entertainment	31/08/06	USA	1,600	169,336	388,888
5.	<b>The Pink Panther</b>	Tatrafilm	23/03/06	USA	772	150,770	20,899
6.	<b>The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</b>	Saturn Entertainment	05/01/06	USA	1,704	114,601	291,006
7.	<b>Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties</b>	Tatrafilm	10/08/06	USA	1,350	111,982	256,861
8.	<b>Hoodwinked</b>	SPI International	23/02/06	USA	1,501	105,321	223,538
9.	<b>Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire</b>	Continental film	01/12/05	UK/USA	1,187	* 101,335	220,524
10.	<b>Let's Dance</b>	SPI International	21/09/06	UK/USA	1,267	88,045	203,975

\* = cumulative admission since premiere is 220,849 viewers and cumulative box office is EUR 571,329.

■ In 2006, only 22 films reached the top rank. The top position is held by **Ice Age 2: The Meltdown** with seven primacies (similarly to **Mr. and Mrs. Smith** in 2005). However, the highest attendance in the first week of screening was achieved by **The Pink Panther** (145,713 viewers); in this regard we have to mention that no admission fees were collected during the promotion campaign. The second most successful film, by attendance per week, was **The Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest** with 61,091 viewers, and the third one was **Ice Age 2: The Meltdown** with 59,748. The most successful film by attendance in 2005 (**Madagascar**) with 140,521 viewers was only ranked fifth in 2006.



## DISTRIBUTION OF SLOVAK AND CO-PRODUCTION RELEASES IN SLOVAKIA IN 2006

Rank	Film Title	Director	Date of Release	Country	Number of prints	Number of screenings	Number of viewers	Distributor
124.	<b>Other World</b>	Marko Škop	16/02/06	SK/CZ	2	105	3,475	Continental film
126.	<b>Lunacy</b>	Jan Švankmajer	23/02/06	CZ/SK	2	124	3,351	ASFK
157.	<b>Pururambo</b>	Pavol Barabáš	26/01/06	SK	DVD	58	2,018	Continental film
188.	<b>Bye Bye Harry</b>	Robert Young	28/09/06	DE/UK BE/S	5	133	1,067	Continental film
218.	<b>Friday or Another Day</b>	Yvan Le Moine	22/06/06	FR/BE IT/SK	2	41	587	ASFK

*Source: Union of Slovak Film Distributors, Association of Slovak Film Clubs*

## → VIDEO DISTRIBUTION AND DVD

■ Following a significant decrease in movie theater attendance, combined with a relatively small number of domestic audiovisual works released on DVD, 2006 showed a considerable improvement. There were 27 DVDs published with Slovak audiovisual works, also including 12 full-length feature films.

■ Most of the titles were published as a part of two projects considered exceptional in Slovakia. The Slovak Film Institute (SFI) and Petit Press publishing house, with the financial support of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, prepared a collection titled **Slovak Film of the 80's**. From October 2 to December 4, 2006, it was possible to buy one of these 10 DVDs from the collection at newsstands for EUR 2,75.

■ The collection included the following films: **The Fountain for Suzanne** (Fontána pre Zuzanu, d. Dušan Rapoš, 1985), **A Path Across the Danube** (Chodník cez Dunaj, d. Miloslav Luther, 1989), **Only a Day** (Iba deň, d. Michal Ruttikay, Vladimír Štric, Kvetoslav Hečko, 1989), **Another Love** (Iná láska, d. Dušan Trančík, 1985), **I Love, You Love** (Ja milujem, ty miluješ, d. Dušan Hanák, 1980), **The Southern Mail** (Južná pošta, d. Stanislav Párnický, 1987), **Night Riders** (Noční jazdci, d. Martin Hollý, 1981), **She Kept Crying for the Moon** (Pásla kone na betóne, d. Štefan Uher, 1982), **The Assistant** (Pomocník, d. Zoro Záhon, 1981) and **Sweet Troubles** (Sladké starosti, d. Juraj Herz, 1984).

■ The collection aroused a great amount of interest amongst both, the professional and general public, and as of December 31, 2006, a total of 100,625 DVDs were sold. The best selling DVD was The Fountain for Suzanne (16,106 pcs), followed by She Kept Crying for the Moon (14,131 pcs), Sweet Troubles (9,496 pcs), I Love, You Love (9,491 pcs) and Night Riders (9,300 pcs).

■ In addition to the collection of Slovak Film of the 80's, the SFI also released 2 DVDs with the works of Elo Havetta, a Slovak director. The Elo Havetta Collection includes Havetta's full-length

features **Celebration in the Botanical Garden** (Slávnosť v botanickej záhrade, 1969) and **Wild Lilies** (Ľalie poľné, 1972), his 3 short student films **Saint Jane** (Svätá Jana, 1963), **34 Days of Absolute Peace** (34 dní absolutného klidu, 1965) and **Forecast: Zero** (Předpověď: nula, 1966) and a documentary film of Marek Škop and Juraj Johanides **Celebration of a Lonely Palm** (Slávnosť osamelej palmy).

■ The second DVD release by SFI was **Fero Fenič – The Best of Short Films**, including 8 short author films by Fero Fenič: **The Swan's Journey** (Labutia púť), **How Mr. Kráľovič Became King** (Ako sa pán Kráľovič stal Kráľom), **Diadem** (Diadém), **There and Back** (Tam a späť), **I've Crosses Big, Wide World** (Tak som prešla veľký svet), **Batromij's House** (Batromijov dom), **Train to Maturity** (Vlak do dospelosti), **From Here – To There** (Odsud – potiaľ').

■ On October 26, Plus Production in co-production with Slovak Television (STV) presented their joint projects of restoration and preservation of our audiovisual cultural heritage with the title Digital Videothèque of Slovakia (DVS). By the end of 2005, 16 titles were released in 4 collections (Slovak Film Classics; Slovak Television Classics; People, Personalities, Events and Let's Return the Tale to the Children), and, in the nearest future, these should be followed by more than 100 additional digitally restored audiovisual works, primarily from the archives of STV. By the end of 2006, 11 titles were released and a total of 34,358 films were sold. The most successful titles included: **Shepherds Grazed their Sheep** (Pásli ovce valasi, 6,269 pcs), **Bambulka's Adventures I** (Bambulkiné dobrodružstvá I., 5,594 pcs) and **L+S Soirée** (4,393 pcs). In the first two weeks, the titles were sold for EUR 5,53, after which the price increased to EUR 8,30 per piece.

■ The TV news channel TA3 in cooperation with the Ministry of Defense SR and PlusProduction issued the DVD **Unfinished Mission – Last Flight on January 19, 2006** (Nedokončená misia – Posledný let 19. 1. 2006) as a tribute to the soldiers who died in the tragic crash of flight AN-24 while returning home from a peace mission in Kosovo.

■ Pavol Barabáš, documentary director, has continued releasing his films on DVD. In 2006, his third 3-DVD collection of films **Grand Prix III** was released. The set is based on three documentaries, which have won the highest awards at festivals: **Amazonia Vertical**, **Pururambo** and **The Metamorphoses of the Tatra Mountains** (Premeny Tatier).

■ In 2006, **899 new titles** entered the market on DVD video (932 in 2005), and since 1998, when the DVD format appeared on the Slovak and Czech markets, the distributors have released a total of 4,784 titles. In 2006, there were 610,917 DVDs sold on the Slovak market. Out of that, 396,417 were sold in shops (an increase of 19 % compared to 2005), and the remaining 214,500 in newsstands. Since 2005, the DVD format has fully dominated the video market. While in 2003, the ratio between the number of DVDs and VHS cassettes sold was (in pieces) 39:61, in 2006 it was already 88:12 (73:27 in 2005). The sales of DVDs to video-rental stores have also increased. In 2006, video-rental stores purchased 85,569 pieces (67,156 pcs in 2005). The growing sales were also enhanced by a significant decrease in the prices of DVDs – DVD video **Bandits** (d. Barry Levinson) was sold together with TV Svet journal before Christmas 2006 for only EUR 0,42 – and also of DVD players (the cheapest ones under EUR 28) and home video systems. In the last months of the year, the share of VHS in sales represented 4 to 6 %, and therefore the majority of distribution companies have stopped the distribution of new titles on VHS.

■ The total revenues from DVD sales in shops reached EUR 4,294,518 while the revenues of distributors from sales in stands totaled EUR 268,126.

■ In the competition **DaViD** for the best DVD of 2005 announced by DVDGroup.Cz association and PC\_Space journal, the following were awarded in the respective categories: DVD video with a foreign feature film **Alexander**, Animated film **Madagascar**. Contemporary Czech film on DVD video **Snowboarders** (Snowbordáči), Classical Czech film on DVD (shot before 1989) **The Shop on the Main Street** (Obchod na korze), Classic foreign film on DVD (shot before 1980) **Papillon**, The most impressive menu and The most popular special edition (SE – 2 disks) **Pulp Fiction**, The most interesting bonuses **Gladiator** SE, Collector's editions (4 and more DVD in a set) – (9DVD **Alien Quadrilogy**), Slovak DVD **Shepherds Grazed Their Sheep** (Pásli ovce valasi).

## → CINEMAS

■ The decrease in the number of movie theatres in the Slovak Republic has continued. To draw a comparison, in 1990, there were 703 movie theatres in Slovakia, in 1993 and 2004 it was 456 and 256, respectively. In 2006, the number of movie theatres dropped to a historical minimum. There were **217 movie theatres** in operation with 247 screens (out of which 20 were open-air movie theatres and 2 video-movie theatres).

■ There was no new multiplex opened in Slovakia, only the two Bratislava multiplexes are in operation – Palace Cinemas with twelve screens (2,316 seats) and Istropolis Cinema Center with eight screens (1,619 seats). The only newly opened movie theatres were the miniplexes with four screens of MAX shopping centers in Trenčín (opened on February 16, 2006 with the overall capacity of 657 seats) and in Nitra (opened on December 2, 2006 with the overall capacity of 652 seats). In 2007, new miniplexes should be opened in Dunajská Streda, Skalica, Prešov and Žilina.

■ The situation of the classic single-screen cinemas is getting worse year after year. Out of 217 movie-theatres, only 14 (which is 6.4%) had DTS, Dolby SR, SRS, and one-third of movie theatres still has wooden seats. In addition to that, since January 1, 2005, 90% of all films for distribution have had a new type of analogue track (Cyan Dye Track). By the end of 2006, the most of movie theaters were equipped with adequate sensors.

### ■ The five most successful movie theatres according to attendance in 2006:

1. Palace Cinemas (Bratislava – 12 screens) 697,277 viewers
2. Istropolis Cinema Center (Bratislava – 8 screens) 417,070 viewers
3. SONYcineMAX (Trnava – 3 screens) 149,106 viewers
4. CINEMAX (Trenčín – 4 screens) 123,721 viewers
5. Capitol (Košice) 105,383 viewers

■ In 2006, a total of 1,114,347 viewers visited the Slovak multiplexes (981,606 in 2004), which is 32.82% of all viewers (37.01% in 2005), who paid a total of EUR 3,943,314 for tickets (3,321,438 in 2005). This amount represents 48.72% of the gross box office revenues in 2006 in all movie theatres (in 2005 and 2004 it was 60.46% and 57.72%, respectively).

■ The cinemas Mladost', Tatra and Charlie Center in Bratislava, Družba in Košice, Korzo and Urpín in Banská Bystrica, Strojár in Martin, Lipa and Orbis in Nitra, the film club in Prešov, Orbis in Rimavská Sobota, Kultúra in Ružomberok, Mier in Spišská Nová Ves, SONYCineMAX in Trnava, Mier in Zvolen and the film club in Žilina, belong to the European Cinema Network of European Cinemas.

## → FILM CLUBS

■ Film clubs play an irreplaceable role in the education of cinema-goers in Slovakia. Every year, film clubs introduce significant works of world cinematography that would otherwise not be accessible to general audiences. It is pleasing to see that in the last couple of years, club films have not only been screened in film clubs, but they have also appeared in the programs of “classical” cinemas and multiplexes.

■ As of December 31, 2006, there were 54 film clubs operating in Slovakia (53 in 2005) registered in Association of Slovak Film Clubs. The membership fee amounted to EUR 1.9 (in 2005 it was EUR 2.2). By 2005, the expiry date of the membership card was set to the beginning of the school year (i.e. September). In 2005 it was extended until the end of 2005, and in 2006 the membership cards expired by the end of the respective calendar year. The number of film club members has gradually decreased (in the 2001/2002 season it was 20,941; in the 2002/2003 season it was 19,621; in the 2003/2004 season it was 15,400; as of 31 December 2005, there were only 13,485 members registered, and as of December 31, 2006 this figure declined to 9,589).

■ In the period from January 1 to December 31, 2006, the total number of viewers who attended 2,969 film club screenings (in 2005 there were 3,248 screenings) reached 72,510 (in 2005 it was 72,826), averaging 22.42 viewers per screening (in 2004 and 2005 it was 29 and 22.42 viewers, respectively). The overall attendance of film clubs has increased to 90,483 viewers (in 2005 it was 90,174). The average attendance rate of a film club member also increased from 4.15 to 7.56 screenings per year. (For comparison: a citizen of Slovakia goes to the cinema 0.63 times a year). The average admission fee in film clubs amounted to SKK 47.54 (EUR 1.32) and SKK 47.35 (EUR 1.315) in the event of film club screenings in regular cinemas. The majority of film clubs are incorporated in classical cinemas.

■ The most significant events organized by the Association of Slovak Film Clubs in 2006 included the Slovak part of the 13<sup>th</sup> International Film, Television and Video Review Febiofest and the touring film review Project 100 2006 the latter included the films **Battleship Potemkin** (d. Sergej Ejzenštejn), **East of Eden** (d. Elia Kazan), **If...** (d. Lindsay Anderson), **Breathless** (d. Jean-Luc Godard), sci-fi **THX 1138** (d. George Lucas), **The Commitments** (d. Alan Parker), **The Motorcycle Diaries** (d. Walter Salles), **Manderlay** (d. Lars von Trier), **The Child** (d. Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne) and **The Double Life of Veronique** (d. Krzysztof Kieślowski).

**The most successful films in film clubs** (from 1 January to 31 December, 2006)

Rank	Title of the film	Director	Number of Screenings	Number of Spectators
1.	<b>Something Like Happiness</b>	B. Sláma	373	13,174
2.	<b>Lunacy</b>	J. Švankmajer	124	3,351
3.	<b>The Double Life of Veronique</b>	K. Kieslowski	62	2,737
4.	<b>Old Boy</b>	Park Chan-wook	143	2,669
5.	<b>Utopia – Nobody is Perfect in the Perfect Country</b>	H. P. Moland, I. Torgesen, T. Rangnes, M. Martens, S. Johnsen, A. Fröhlich, M. Asphaug, M. Tyldum, T. Robsahm	98	2,610
6.	<b>East of Eden</b>	E. Kazan	59	2,570
7.	<b>3 – Iron</b>	Kim Ki-duk	86	2,162
8.	<b>Head – On</b>	F. Akin	83	2,010
9.	<b>The Motorcycle Diaries</b>	W. Salles	51	1,873
10.	<b>Black Cat, White Cat</b>	E. Kusturica	54	1,572

■ A Czech film was the most attended club film for five years in a row. After two primacies of **Year of the Devil** (d. P. Zelenka, 2002) in 2002 and 2003, **Bored in Brno** (d. Vladimír Morávek, 2003) in 2004, and **Wrong Side Up** (d. Petr Zelenka), the leading position was taken by the Czech-German film by Bohdan Sláma, a total of 13,174 viewers has already seen this film (in 2005, 12,618 viewers saw **Wrong Side Up**, which is more than the number of cinema-goers who saw **Saw II, Brokenback Mountain** or **V for Vendetta**. The film occupies the 52nd place in the Top 100 films in Slovakia by admission in 2006.

■ In 2005, 1,400 spectators saw the 10th most attended club film, which is in 172 spectators less than the number who saw the film of the same ranking in 2006.

## → NATIONAL FESTIVALS, SCREENINGS AND AWARDS

■ Just as in previous years, Art Film Trenčianske Teplice/Trenčín and IFF Bratislava international film festivals represented the major events also in the year 2006.

■ 14<sup>th</sup> edition of **IFF Art Film Trenčianske Teplice/Trenčín** with *Blue Angel* – the main competition of feature films and feature documentary films accentuating the performance of actors in one of the leading roles, new film-making styles and visuality, and with *Artefacts* and *On the Road* – the competitive screenings, took place between June 23 and July 1. Almost 170 movies from 40 countries were presented at the Festival that was held for the first time also in 4 screen Cinemax miniplexe in Trenčín. Non-competitive screenings comprised e.g. Finnish *White Nights*, Indonesian Cinema, *Wild Strawberries*, *The Best of Project 100*. A new section called *Director's Space* was introduced, this time for Goran Paskaljević and his guest, actor Colm Meaney. In the *Artefacts* competitive section, Slovakia was represented by **Mednyánszky: Painter of a Vanished Time** (Mednyánszky, d. V. Štric), **Celebration of a Lonely Palm** (Slávnosť osamelej palmy, d. M. Škop and J. Johanides) and **Standard Bastard** (d. M. Balog). In the *On the Road* competitive section there were Slovak films like **Lionardo Mio** (d. Ivana Šebestová), **Monstrance** (Monštrancia, d. M. Čengel-Solčanská), **Cheers!** (Nazdravíčko!, d. I. Zajacová and J. Mital), **PornoRomance** (Pornoromantik, d. P. Begányi). Slovak feature films **Devil Never Sleeps** (Čert nespí, d. P. Solan) was screened in the *50 Years Ago* section, **The Years of Christ** (Kristove roky, d. J. Jakubisko), **Signum laudis** (d. M. Hollý), and **Taste of Water** (Chuť vody, d. P. Hledík) were screened at the Festival in the *Homage to Vlado Müller* Section. Documentaries **The Crying of Angels** (Anjeli plačú, d. Z. Piussi), **Following a Dream – Slovak Dream 2004–2006** (Cesta za snom – Slovenský sen 2004–2006, d. J. Vojtek), **Other Worlds** (Iné svety, d. M. Škop), **Flying Words Town** (Mesto lietajúcich slov, d. T. Diosi), **My First 75 Years... Egon Bondy** (Mojich prvých 75... Egon Bondy, d. M. Hanzlíček), **Here We Are** (My zdes, d. J. Vojtek), **Pik and Nik** (Pik a Nik, d. M. Snopek), **Pururambo** (d. P. Barabáš), **Conversations with Father** (Rozhovory s otcom, d. J. Šuda) and television feature film **Silence** (Ticho, d. Z. Liová) were shown in the Slovak Season screenings.

■ Golden Camera was awarded to Polish director Andrzej Wajda and Slovak director Dušan Hanák. Actor's Mission Awards were presented to British actress Jacqueline Bisset and Czech actor Lubomír Lipský.

■ 8<sup>th</sup> **IFF Bratislava** with the accent on the international competition of first and second feature films was held from December 1<sup>st</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> in the Palace Cinemas multiplex in the Aupark shopping mall in Bratislava. The programme offered 216 films (out of them 119 were feature films) from 54 countries around the globe. More than 23,000 visitors came to see them. Grand Prix went to 4:30, a Singaporean-Japanese film (d. R. Tan). Other non-competitive sections were – *Made In Europe*, *Off the Mainstream*, *National Hits*, *GMT*, *Focus: The Other Balkan* and the profile of British director Michael Winterbottom. In the Slovak Film 2006 section, films like **Abel's Black Dog** (Ábelov čierny pes, d. M. Čengel-Solčanská), **Following a Dream – Slovak Dream 2004–2006** (Cesta za snom – Slovenský sen 2004–2006, d. J. Vojtek), **A Following Act** (Ďalšie dejstvo – Következő felonás, d. M. Prikler), **Cheese** (d. M. Balog), **Other Worlds** (Iné svety), **People by the Railway Track** (Ludia na trati, d. A. Kojnok), **Soňa and her Family** (O Soni a jej rodine, d. D. Rusnoková), **Housedwellers** (Obyvatelia domu, d. K. Herczegová), **Thirst** (Smäd, d. M. Repka), **Tepuy** (d. P. Barabáš), **T-Shirt** (Tričko, d. M. H. Fazeli), **Closer** (V tesnej blízkosti, d. M. Ferencová) and **The Magicians' Winter** (Zima kúzelníkov, d. D. Trančík) were screened. In the *Santa Claus* section, **Seven by One Blow**



(Sedem jednou ranou, d. D. Trančík) was presented, in the Off the Mainstream Section **The Whore** (Kurva, d. S. Jaško), **PornoRomance** (PornoRomantik, d. P. Begányi) and 20 videoart works from VŠVU – Academy of Fine Arts in Bratislava – were screened as pre-films. In special screening, Slovak films represented the final round of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the International Internet Film Festival called Asylum.

■ For the second time, Special Award for Artistic Excellence was presented at IFF Bratislava to actor Jan Triska personally, before the screening of the **Lunacy** (Šílení, d. J. Švankmajer). For the second time, the New Slovak Films 2007-2008 presentation of the feature films, documentaries and animated films in progress was organized, where 24 projects were presented.

■ In the autumn, another international festival joined the previous two ones. On September 13 – 17, 1<sup>st</sup> **IFF Cinematik 2006** was held in Piešťany, in Fontána cinema, House of Art and Kursalon venues. The Czecho-Slovak film **The City of the Sun** (Slnečný štát, d. M. Šulík) was selected for its main competition called Meeting Point Europe: Európa. In the Up And Down The Stream non-competitive screening, Czecho-Slovak co-productions were presented, **Other Worlds** (Iné svety, d. Marko Škop) and **The Devil Knows Why** (Čert vie prečo, d. Roman Vávra). Other screenings were called Germany Magnified, Respect: Jacques Tati, Cult and Beyond Bollywood and Unknown and Known World Directors. 3,900 spectators saw 26 feature films and 52 short films.

■ Other important festivals, screenings and workshops in Slovakia, in the chronological order (the complete list can be found on [www.aic.sk](http://www.aic.sk)):

→ 16 – 22 March – 8<sup>th</sup> **FIFBFA – International Festival of Francophonie Film** (Bratislava – Tatra cinema)

→ 23 – 25 March – 10<sup>th</sup> **ÁČKO – International Festival of Student Film** (Bratislava – Tatra cinema, A4 / Zero space venue, FTF VŠMU)

→ 27 March – 25 April – 13<sup>th</sup> **International Film, Video and TV Festival – Febiofest 2006** (Bratislava, Nitra, Banská Bystrica, Žilina, Martin, Poprad, Prešov, Košice)

→ 11 – 15 October – 14<sup>th</sup> **Poprad International Festival of Mountain Films** (Poprad – Tatra cinema)

→ 17 – 21 October – 8<sup>th</sup> **Bratislava Animation Biennial (BAB)** (Bratislava – Tatra cinema, 35mm film club, Hviezda cinema)

■ On December 8 2006, Slovak Film and Television Academy (SFTA) for the first time awarded **Slnko v sieti** National Film Awards. Although the award in fourteen categories were awarded for two years (2004-2005), only 7 feature films applied for the nomination, out of which four minority co-productions. **The City of the Sun** (Slnečný štát, d. M. Šulík) won the most SFTA nominations, 11 in total, **Lunacy** (Šílení, d. J. Švankmajer) received 9 and **Wrong Side Up** (Príbehy obyčajného šialenstva, d. P. Zelenka) won 7 nominations. **The City of the Sun** won 6 awards (Best Feature Film, Best Director, Best Script, Best Editor, Best Sound, Best Original Music), **Lunacy** received 4 awards (Best Camera, Best Visual and Fine Art Achievement, Best Actor, Best Actress). The films **Cheers!** (Nazdravíčko!, d. I. Zajacová, J. Mital' – Best Animated Film), **Amazonia Vertical** (d. P. Barabáš – Best Documentary) and **The Cuckoo** (Kukuška, d. A. Rogozhkin – Best Foreign Film) were awarded one award each. The Award for Extraordinary contributions to Slovak Cinematography were awarded to camera man **Stanislav Szomolányi** and film critic and historian **Pavel Brancko**.

- Annual **Igric** awards of Slovak Film Association, Union of Slovak TV authors and the Literature Fund of the SR – for the audiovisual production in 2005, were awarded.
  - Feature films for cinemas: Marek Leščák and Marek Šulík for the screenwriter's style depiction of current reality in **The City of the Sun**
  - Television drama: no award
  - Animated production: Ivana Zajacová and Jozef Mital' for sophisticated and sensitive puppet animation in **Cheers!**
  - Film and television documentary: Jaro Vojtek for his extraordinary film-making efforts in grasping the topical issue in **Here We Are** (My zdes).
  - Best Actor's/Actress's Performance in a film or television piece of work: Táňa Radeva for her well-performed and felt through Marta character featuring in **Silence**
  - Igric Award for life-long achievement – Ladislav Chudík
  - Igric Award includes awarding a financial bonus.
  
- 14<sup>th</sup> **Slovak Film Critics Award** for Audiovisual Production, Publications and Film Distribution in 2005 (awarded on the basis of voting in a survey of Club of Film Journalists at the Syndicate of Slovak Journalists (KFN SSN) members)
  - The Slovak Film Critics Award for a Slovak or co-production full-length feature film for cinemas – **The City of the Sun** (d. M. Šulík)
  - The Slovak Film Critics Award for other audiovisual production – ex aequo **Pururambo** (d. P. Barabáš) and **Here We Are** (d. J. Vojtek)
  - Film reviews and publications – **Štefan Vraštiak** – for his long-term continuous publication activities and 15 years of editing and publishing of the Informácie KFN SSN monthly.
  - The Slovak Film Critics Award for the best foreign film in Slovak cinemas in 2005 – ex aequo **The Sea Inside** (d. A. Amenábar) and **Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter...and Spring** (d. Kim Ki-duk)
  - The Slovak Film Journalists Award, to the distributor of the best foreign film in Slovak cinemas in 2005 – SPI International.
  
- In 2006, for the second time, the **ZENTIVA Award** (for a young creator of audiovisual piece of work under the age of 35 selected by Zentiva company in cooperation with the Slovak Film Institute and the Association of Slovak Film Clubs during the 13<sup>th</sup> International Film, Video and TV Festival – Febiofest 2006) was awarded, this time to documentary filmmaker Milan Balog.
- The **Tibor Vichta Award** also supports the development of Slovak audiovisual production. It is a scriptwriting competition for young authors under the age of 35. Its primary idea is to motivate young authors to write new scripts. In the third run of this competition, 35 script stories applied (just like in 2005). Jana Ondíková with her **A More** script won the Full-length Feature Film category, Marián Hudák with his script story of **Fractal** (Fraktál) won the Documentary category and Martin Snopek with the script story of **Mirroring** (Zrkadlenie) won the Animation category. A Special Jury Award in the category of Full-Length Feature Film was awarded to Patrik Pašš Jr. for the script of **The Tower's Heart** (Srdce veže).

## → ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SLOVAK FILMS AND FILMMAKERS ABROAD

■ Also in 2006, Slovak films received a number of prestigious awards. After the International Emmy Award in 2002, the American version of **The Power of Good – Nicholas Winton** (Nicholas Winton – Sila ľudskosti, d. Matej Mináč, SK/CZ) was nominated for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual News and Documentary Emmy Awards in the category of Outstanding Historical Programming – Long Form. In 2006, this film also received the Christopher Award in the category of Television & Cable.

■ **Other Worlds** (Iné svety, d. Marko Škop, SK/CZ) received a Special Mention by the Jury in the competition of documentaries at the 41<sup>st</sup> IFF Karlovy Vary, and, as the first documentary in the history of the festival, it also received the Audience Award of Daily Právo. Other awards received by this film include, for example, the Talent Taube Award at the 49<sup>th</sup> IF of Documentaries and Animations in Leipzig 2006 (Germany) and the Euro Media Award.

■ Documentary film director and producer Pavol Barabáš has been one of the most award winning Slovak filmmakers for several years. 2006 was no exception, when his works won almost twenty awards at significant festivals and screenings dedicated especially to mountain films. Among these are the Best Adventure Film Award at the Mountain Film Festival Flagstaff 2006 (USA), the Culture Prize at the Mountain Film Festival in Kendal 2006 (Great Britain), and the Adventure Prize – Man and Environment at the 5<sup>th</sup> IF of Adventure Films Montreal 2006 (Canada).

■ Among full-length feature films, the most awards were received by **The State of the Sun** (Slnecný štát, d. Martin Šulík, SK/CZ), including the FIPRESCI Award at the 6<sup>th</sup> goEast – Festival of Central and Eastern European Film Wiesbaden 2006 (Germany), Trilobit Beroun 2005, the Grand Prix for Best Film of the Festival at the IFF Batumi 2006 (Georgia), the Czech Lion Awards of the Czech Film and Television Academy in the categories of Best Music (Vladimír Godár), Best Editing (Jiří Brožek) and nominations in the category of Best Film and Best Director.

■ Other successful films at the 12<sup>th</sup> Czech Lion Awards of the Czech Film and Television Academy included also **Up Side Down** (Horem pádem, d. Petr Zelenka, CZ/SK/DE) – Czech Lion for Best Sound (Michal Holubec) and Best Supporting Actor (Miroslav Krobot) and nominations in the categories of Best Film, Best Director, Best Screenplay (Petr Zelenka), Best Music (Karel Holas), Best Actor (Ivan Trojan), Best Supporting Actress (Nina Divišková) and **Lunacy** (Šílení, d. Jan Švankmajer, CZ/SK) – the Czech Lion in Best Design Achievement category (Eva Švankmajerová, Veronika Hrubá) and Best Film Poster (Eva Švankmajerová) and a nomination for Best Actor (Jan Tříška).

■ **Up Side Down** also won the Honorary Mention for Best Foreign Film in Polish Movie Theatres e.a. with films directed by Mike Leigh and Kim Ki-duk, and **Lunacy** took the International Jury's Special Award for Full-length Films, the Students' Jury Award at the 19<sup>th</sup> Finále Plzeň 2006, and the Czech Film and Television Academy nominated the film for the American Film Academy Awards (Oscar) in Best Foreign Language Film section.

■ Three Slovak films were nominated for the 20<sup>th</sup> Prix Europa 2006 Berlin: **Silence** (Ticho, d. Zuzana Liová) in the TV Fiction category and for Prix Genève – Europe – Best Fiction Script, **Flying Words Town** (Mesto lietajúcich slov, d. Tina Diosi) in the TV documentary category and **Visions from the Inferno** (Vízie z inferna, d. P. Dimitrov, SK/DE) in the category of TV IRIS (Multicultural Programmes).

■ In 2006, TV film **Silence** also won the Prize of the Minister of Culture of the Czech Republic (46<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival for Children and Youth Zlín 2006, Czech Republic), Jury's Awards

– Golden Debut (14<sup>th</sup> Trinec Film Summer 2006) and Silver Grapes in the category of Full-length Films (36<sup>th</sup> Lubuskie Film Summer Lagow 2006, Poland).

■ The most award winning short films was **T-Shirt** (d. Hossein Martin Fazeli, SK/CZ), which won 12 awards including CAN 2006 Golden Monkey Award for Best Screenplay (Leicester International Short Film Festival), Golden Cat Award in the International Fiction Competition (International Izmir Short Film Festival), and the Special Mention (Euroshorts 2006, Warszawa).

■ The most successful documentaries were as follows: **Here We Are** (My zdes, d. Jaroslav Vojtek) – Grand Prix AFO 2006 (41<sup>st</sup> Academia Film Olomouc, 2006), Prize of the Minister of Culture of CR for Best Film (8<sup>th</sup> International Festival of Documentaries on Human Rights One World, Praha 2006), Best European Film (8<sup>th</sup> International Festival Astra Film Sibiu 2006, Romania); **Visions from the Inferno** (d. Peter Dimitrov) – Special Honorary Mention of the Jury (24<sup>th</sup> International Festival of Film on Art Montreal 2006, Canada) and **Celebration of a Lonely Palm** (Slávnosť osamelej palmy, d. M. Škop, J. Johanides) – Le Mura D'oro Award (5<sup>th</sup> International Art Film Festival in Bergamo 2006, Italy).

■ Students of the Film and Television Faculty at the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts in Bratislava have continued to spread the reputation of Slovak films abroad. Awarded were for instance the feature films **Sideways** (Bokovka, d. Tomáš Jančo) – Award for Best Feature Film (6<sup>th</sup> International Students' Film Festival Písek 2006), 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the feature film category (14<sup>th</sup> UFVA International Traveling Festival of Students' Film & Video NextFrame 2006, USA) and the Prize for Best Theme and Screenplay (3<sup>rd</sup> IFF Arouca 2006, Portugal); **Monstrance** (Monštrancia, d. Mariana Čengel-Solčanská) – Special Prize (47<sup>th</sup> International Competition Festival of Short Feature Films Brněnská šestnáctka Brno 2006, Czech Republic); Bronze Medal (68<sup>th</sup> World Festival and Congress of Amateur Film and Video UNICA 2006 Daegu & Kyeongju, Korea); **Night in a Hotel** (Noc v hoteli, d. Matúš Libovič) Diploma (34<sup>th</sup> Festival of the Nations Ebensee 2006, Austria); documentaries **The Song About the Little Rooster** (Kohútik jarabý, d. Marián Tutoky) – Diploma (34<sup>th</sup> Festival of Nations Ebensee 2006, Austria); **PornoRomance** (Pornoromantik, d. Peter Begányi) – Zlín Dog Prize for Best Student Film in the category of Documentaries (3<sup>rd</sup> International Students' Film Meeting Zlín Dog 2006, Czech Republic) and animations **Fat Fatal** (d. Michaela Čopíková) – Universal Production Partners Award (6<sup>th</sup> International Students' Film Festival Písek 2006, Czech Republic) and a Diploma (34<sup>th</sup> Festival of Nations Ebensee 2006, Austria); **One Pig's Destiny** (Osud prasiatka, d. Šimon Matrka) – Honorary Mention (4<sup>th</sup> Festival of Nations Ebensee 2006, Austria); **Monster** (Príšera, d. Michaela Ošťádalová) – 2<sup>nd</sup> place for animation (14<sup>th</sup> UFVA International Traveling Students' Film & Video Festival NextFrame 2006, USA); **Woolf** (d. Juraj Kubinec) – 2<sup>nd</sup> place (Lous de Prata Award), (3<sup>rd</sup> IFF Arouca 2006, Portugal) and many other.

■ General Director of the Slovak Film Institute, **Peter Dubecký** received the Award of Film Culture Club Zelená hora for long years of cooperation and his support to the Lubuskie Film Summer in Lagow, and **Dušan Hanák** took the Award to the Career at the 5<sup>th</sup> IF of Art Film in Bergamo 2006 (Italy).

## → SLOVAK FILM INSTITUTE

■ **The Slovak Film Institute** (SFI) is the only national, supporting, scientific-research and archiving institution focusing on cinematography in Slovakia. It is divided into two organizational components – Film Archive and the National Cinematographic Centre (NCC), and as of January 1, 2006, the MEDIA Desk office was transferred from the Ministry of Culture and became a specific component of the SFI (MEDIA Desk activities are described in a separate chapter).

■ The SFI collates, conserves and protects the national cinematographic heritage and makes it available to the public. It is the administrator of the archive of films of special importance, it archives unique documentation materials, photographs and posters, it executes the rights of the producer to distribute and use Slovak films made by organizations which are fully and exclusively managed by the state, and it enhances the value of these rights by carrying out business activities.

■ According to a resolution by the Ministry of Interior SR, **the Film Archive** has been deemed an archive of special significance. Since 2001, the SFI has been a member of the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF).

■ The **NCC** has comprised the Film Events Department, the Audiovisual Information Center (AIC) and Editions Department of the SFI. Its main role is to collate and provide comprehensive information and services relating to Slovak cinematography and to promote and present Slovak films both in Slovakia and abroad. At the same time it is in charge of publishing general and professional filmological publications and DVDs of Slovak films within the publishing activities of the SFI, as well as of presenting the results of publishing activities, organizing gala openings of publications and press conferences.

■ The **Audiovisual Information Center** collates, processes and distributes, among Slovak entities, information on audiovision which come to the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic or the SFI and which are intended for experts in Slovak cinematography and audiovision. All up-to-date and relevant information is freely accessible on the AIC website . Since 2006, the SFI has been a member of the international European Film Promotion organization. In 2006, key projects promoting the international presentation of Slovak cinematography included the Central European Cinema Stand at the European Film Market Berlin (i.e. a stand shared by five countries), the common pavilion of Slovakia, Czech Republic and Poland at the Marché du Film at IFF Cannes (both in cooperation with SAPA), presentation of the SFI and Slovak cinematography at IFF Karlove Vary, and the Panel of Slovak Film Projects New Slovak Films 2007-2008 at IFF Bratislava (in cooperation with IFF Bratislava and MEDIA Desk).

■ The SFI provides comprehensive information and documentation materials about Slovak film, organizes and co-organizes film events both in Slovakia and abroad, and screens Slovak archival and artistically demanding films in the „Filmotéka“ study cinema within the premises of the film club (in the premises of Charlie Center) in Bratislava. The only specialized film library in Slovakia and the videothèque are part of the SFI.

■ The SFI Editions Department issues the film monthly **Film.sk** and publications in four editions. Issuing Slovak films on DVDs has become a regular publishing activity of the SFI. Detailed information about the SFI can be found on the Institute's website.

■ Even in 2006, the basic role of the SFI was to take care, in a professional manner, of the cinematographic component of the national cultural heritage of the Slovak Republic. The contribution of the Ministry of Culture SR to the project of the Systematic Renewal of the Audiovisual Cultural

Heritage and its Accessibility amounted to EUR 1,607,638. The implementation of this project, in its current form, began in 2004, with the long-term objective of establishing a fund for the national cultural heritage published on new carriers while preserving its original quality and observing the effective standards of archiving. The SFI has a total of 3,562,589 meters worth of Slovak films in its archives.

■ The main role of the **SKCINEMA** information system project is the transition to complete computer processing of archival, documentation, library and information funds and the related faster rendering of services of higher quality to the professional and lay public. The SFI has, so far, made information on Slovak films accessible through the **1<sup>st</sup> Slovak Film Database**.

■ As for edition activities in 2006, the SFI issued a profile of the German director Wim Wenders by author Peter Gavalier under the title **Difficult Ways of Wim Wenders** (Spletitý cestý Wima Wendersa). One of the most significant activities of the SFI regarding editing was the issuance of 2 regular editions and 1 special edition of **Kino-Ikon** (journal of film science and moving pictures). The special edition was issued to mark the 10th anniversary of its establishment. The SFI publishes this journal in cooperation with ASFC. The collective volume of presentations given at the 9th Czech and Slovak Conference on Filmology with the title **Character, Actor and Star in Cinema** was also published in cooperation with ASFC. In the field of promotional materials, the most important were the preparation and production of materials for the Slovak part of Febiofest screening, and for IFF Berlin and IFF Cannes. The updated versions of the Slovak Film Guide 2006 and Slovak Films 1993–2006 were also published on this occasion.

■ In 2006, the SFI published twelve DVDs with Slovak films: **The Best of Shorts – Fero Fenič** (in cooperation with Febiofest, s.r.o.), 2 DVDs of **Elo Havetta Collection**, and, in cooperation with the Petit Press publishing house, 10 DVDs in the collection **Slovak Film of the 80's**. You will find more information in the chapter Video Distribution and DVD.

#### ■ **International Events participated in by Slovak Film**

■ In addition to organizing and co-organizing the majority of national events mentioned in the National Festival, Screenings and Awards section, the SFI also promoted Slovak cinematography at international film events. In 2006, the SFI focused its activities primarily within the territory of Europe, but it has also cooperated with continents outside Europe, in particular in Asia, where it has expanded its presentation. Cooperation with the USA and Canada has also continued.

■ The most significant international events of 2006 which saw participation by Slovak cinematography included the following: **Review of Forbidden Slovak Films from the Communist Period** (Montreal and Vancouver, Canada), **7 Days of Slovak Film** (České Budějovice, Czech Republic), **Review of Forbidden Films of V4 Countries** (Copenhagen, Denmark), **Slovak Week** (Brussels, Belgium), **International Festival of Slovak Music and Film Screening** (Moscow, Russia), and **Slovak Film Days** (Cairo, Egypt). Slovakia was also represented at a number of festivals designated for **EU member states** (Cairo, Alexandria, Malta, Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Thiruvananthapuram, Phnom Penh, Moscow, Republic of South Africa, Bangkok, Segovia, Chiang Mai, Ottawa), on the review of documentaries **Reality Check** (London, Great Britain), on the **36<sup>th</sup> Lubuskie Film Summer** (Lagow, Poland), **6<sup>th</sup> Conference on Art of Document** (Wrocław, Poland) and also at the **14<sup>th</sup> Film Seminar** in Budapest. Traditionally abundant was the representation of Slovak cinematography at festivals in the Czech Republic – **19<sup>th</sup> Festival of Czech Films Finále Plzeň**, **Movie Theatre at the Border** (Český Těšín), **5<sup>th</sup> International Festival of Animations ANIFEST** (Třeboň)



and a **Tribute to Emília Vašáryová** was part of the 13<sup>th</sup> **International Film, Television and Video Review Febiofest 2006**. Slovakia was significantly represented also at the 41<sup>st</sup> **IFF Karlovy Vary**, including a section **Tribute to Martin Hollý**, and, the **Other Worlds** (d. Marko Škop) received two awards. Slovakia was, as is tradition, also abundantly represented at the **Summer Film School in Uherské Hradiště**. All new films were featured during the **Slovak Day**, in which a large delegation of the authors and filmmakers also participated.

#### ■ Summary of events with a Slovak film abroad in 2006

- Number of events: 98
- Number of states: 27 (Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, France, Georgia Croatia, India, Japan, South Africa, Cambodia, Canada, Hungary, Malta, Germany, Poland, Austria, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Italy, Taiwan, Turkey, Ukraine, USA, Great Britain).
- Number of towns: 67 (Alexandria, Arras, Badalona, Bangkok, Batumi, Budapest, Berlin, Bucharest, Brussels, Brest, Bergamo, Cieszyn, České Budejovice, Český Těšín, Durban, Etroussat, Chennai, Chiang Mai, Írsko, Istanbul, Jihlava, Johannesburg, Kairo, Calcutta, Krakow, Kalinin-grad, Karlove Vary, Kiev, Copenhagen, Kyoto, Krnov, Cape Town, La Laguna, Lagow, London, Leipzig, Litoměřice, Madrid, Moscow, Montreal, New Delhi, Nort sur Erdre, Olomouc, Ottawa, Paris, Pécs, Phnom Penh, Plzeň, Prague, Pretoria, Rome, Salerno, Segovia, Strasburg, Stockholm, Thiruvananthapuram, Treboň, Třinec, Uherské Hradiště, Valetta, Vancouver, Vienna, Volokolamsk, Warsaw, Washington, Wrocław, Zagreb)
- Number of feature films: 223
- The most frequently featured titles: Other Worlds, The City of the Sun, Two Syllables Behind, Celebration of a Lonely Palm and Pik and Nik.

## → TELEVISION

■ The overall situation in 2006 was similar to that of the previous year. While in the Czech Republic, domestic broadcasters have dominated the market (Nova, Prima and four channels of the Czech Television) and – according to ATO – Mediaresearch people-meter – their aggregate market share was 93.4%, in Slovakia, the share of the three nation-wide broadcasters with a coverage of over 80% of the population – two channels of the Slovak Public Television (STV) and the two private television stations Markíza and JOJ, complemented by the news-casting television channel TA3 – is slightly over 75%, 10% of the whole-day and 9.1% of the prime time is covered by Czech televisions.

■ Altogether, in 2006, seven broadcasters of multi-regional monothematic program services and 100 license holders for regional and/or local broadcasting were registered in Slovakia.

■ The STV, TV Markíza and TV JOJ signals are transmitted terrestrially. In Slovakia, they are, together with TA3, also available on the basis of contracts with individual cable operators. In addition to that, their programs have also been broadcasted from ASTRA 3A 23, 5E satellite as part of the Sky Link program package. To follow the program, an average citizen needs a satellite aerial with a diameter of about 80 cm, a digital receiver and a Sky Link decoding card. Outside Slovakia, only TA3 can be received officially, as this program is not encrypted.

■ The coverage of Slovakia by signals of individual broadcasters is as follows: Jednotka – Channel 1 of Slovak Television 99 % of the population, TV Markíza 98 % and TV JOJ 83 % of the popula-

tion. Because of the assumed digitalization of television broadcasting (the Act on Digitalization of Broadcasting was adopted in March 2007), the Slovak legislation does not allow for the coordination of new frequencies. Digital terrestrial broadcasting in Slovakia should begin in 2012.

■ Following the change in ownership relations of the first Slovak national private television channel – Markíza, when the international corporation CME became the controlling shareholder, in February 2007, the Council for Broadcasting and Retransmission also approved the change of ownership of Television TA3 and JOJ. Both commercial televisions have had their television broadcasting licenses extended for another 12 years (TV JOJ since December 2005 and TV Markíza since March 2006).

■ As of February 1, 2006, there were significant changes in the structure of the company and in the management of TV Markíza. Their objective was to increase the flexibility and dynamics of the functioning of the television in general. The new Director General of TV Markíza, Václav Mika, has become the statutory representative of STS, s.r.o.. Since July 10, 2006, when Richard Rybníček resigned from his position, STV was without a Director General, up until December 11, 2006, when Radim Hreha was finally appointed to this position.

■ Also in 2006, the most watched programs were the reality shows. The most successful ones included the dancing show **Let's Dance** (59.9%), which also largely contributed, in the last three months, to a prime time viewer rating for TV Markíza of over 40%. Also successful were the **Bride for a Millionaire** (Nevesta pre milionára) (53.5%) and **Divorced with Commitments** (Rozvedení so záväzkami) (37.4%). After finishing the broadcasting of the original TV series **Among Us** (Medzi nami, in April 2006), in September, TV Markíza started broadcasting the first Slovak sitcom **Neighbors** (Susedia), which succeeded in attracting viewers (share 57.4%).

■ In 2006, TV Markíza broadcasted 1,174 films, of which 679 were American, 402 European, 23 Slovak and 70 of other origin. The most watched film in 2006 was **Three Hazelnuts for Cinderella** (CZ). The editors of publicist programs won several national awards, for example Pavol Fejér, Andrea Paulínyová and Ľubomír Lazový received a commendation for the journalist activities in television category, awarded by the Literary Fund of the Journalism and Journalist Photograph Section Council.

■ In 2006, TV JOJ broadcasted 1,216 films, of which 720 were American, 399 European, 3 Slovak and 94 of other origin. The most watched film was **Where's Marlowe?** (USA). An above-average viewer rating was achieved, in particular, by the **Stars on Ice** (Hviezdy na ľade) show. For the trailer of the reality show **Dance worth Million** (Miliónový tanec) TV JOJ received the Golden Neil 2006, an award from the Club of the Slovak Advertisement Agencies, and, as the only television channel in Slovakia, it was presented at the finals of the prestigious creativeness competition PROMAX for spring graphic TV JOJ 2006 in the category Best On-Air Ident (In-House).

■ In the last two years, six new film channels have appeared on the Czech and Slovak media scene. The youngest ones include Film Box, Nonstop Kino, Nostalgia and MGM Channel.

■ Only small amount of original television drama programs have been produced. In addition to the aforementioned sitcom, STV also produced the full-length film **The Magicians' Winter** (d. Dušan Trančík), and STV also confirmed its co-production participation in five film projects for movie theaters. In 2006, 35 short and mid-length documentaries were made at STV: **Budmerice – Secret Island of Writers** (Budmerice – tajomný ostrov spisovateľov, d. P. Krištúfek), **Following a Dream – Slovak Dream 2004-2006** (Cesta za snom – Slovenský sen 2004-2006, d. J. Vojtek), **Head, Arms, Legs** (Hlava Ruky Nohy, d. Silvester Lavrík), **The Same World** (Ten istý svet, d. Peter

Dimitrov), **Sisa and the Grey Pigeon** (Sisa a sivý holub, d. Ján Šuda), one full-length documentary – **The Will and Ideas of Mr. and Mrs. Andrásy** (Vôľa a predstava manželov Andrásyovcov, d. Alois Ditrich) and the series **The Slovak Beat** (Slovenský bigbít, d. Dušan Rapoš).

■ The most significant awards received by STV included nominations for Prix Europa 2006 for **The Silence** (Ticho), **Flying Words Town** (Mesto lietajúcich slov) and **Visions from the Inferno** (Vízie z Inferna) and a nomination for the documentary **Love Your Neighbor** (Miluj blízkeho svojho, d. Dušan Hudec) for the National Movie Award of the Slovak Film and Television Academy Slnko v sieti. **Silence** won several prizes at festivals in Zlín, Třinec and Łagow, and the artistic testimony of the holocaust **Visions from an Inferno** also received accolades in Montreal.

### The most watched films between January 1 and December 31, 2005 (Ind 12+)

	Name	Channel	Date	Day of week	Rating (%)
1.	Three Nuts for Cinderella (CZ, 1973)	Markíza	24.12.2006	Sunday	29,5
2.	Šhanghai Knights (US, 2003)	Markíza	11.3.2006	Saturday	22,9
3.	You Make the World Fun (CS, 1982)	Markíza	25.12.2006	Monday	21,6
4.	Pirates of the Caribbean I (US, 2003)	Jednotka	9.4.2006	Sunday	20,2
5.	Finding Nemo (US, 2003)	Markíza	24.12.2006	Sunday	19,9
6.	Maid in Manhattan (US, 2002)	Markíza	11.2.2006	Saturday	18,9
7.	The Princess from the Mill (CZ, 1994)	Markíza	25.12.2006	Monday	18,1
8.	Enough (US, 2002)	Markíza	25.2.2006	Saturday	17,6
9.	Blackbeard (US, 2006)	Markíza	27.12.2006	Wednesday	17,6
10.	My Sweet Little Village (CS, 1985)	Markíza	30.12.2006	Saturday	17,1
Source: PMT/TNS SK					

**The most watched Slovak full-length films between January 1 and December 12, 2006 (Ind 12+)**

	Name	Channel	Date	Day of week	Rating (%)
1.	Pacho, the Brigand of Hybe (1975)	Markíza	29.8.2006	Tuesday	8,9
2.	The King Blackbird (1984)	Markíza	1.5.2006	Monday	8,1
3.	Thomas the Falconer (2000)	Jednotka	14.4.2006	Friday	8
4.	Thomas the Falconer (2000)	Jednotka	24.12.2006	Sunday	8
5.	The Magicians' Winter (2006)	Jednotka	23.12.2006	Saturday	7,7
6.	She Kept Crying for The Moon (1982)	Jednotka	17.11.2006	Friday	7,7
7.	The Fountaine for Suzanne III.	Jednotka	16.4.2006	Sunday	7,1
8.	The Sebechleby Bagpipers (1975)	Markíza	16.4.2006	Sunday	6,9
9.	She Kept Crying for The Moon (1982)	Markíza	17.9.2006	Sunday	6,8
10.	Nebojsa (1989)	Markíza	1.11.2006	Wednesday	6,7

Source: PMT/TNS SK

**Development of average monthly share in the Slovak TV market (around the clock and prime time) - Ind 12+**

Time zones	Months	Share %									
		Jednotka STV1	Dvojka STV2	Markíza	TV JOJ	TA3	Czech TVs	Hungarian TVs	K Regional	CZ cable TVs	Other TVs
around the clock	1.1.2006 to 31.12.2006	18,5	6,2	33,7	15,7	1,6	10	7,2	0,7	4,8	1,8
	January 06	20,1	4,8	30,7	17,1	1,6	10,8	7,9	0,5	4,4	2
	February 06	19,8	10,6	29,4	15,4	1,3	9,7	7,2	0,5	4,2	2
	March 06	20,4	5,8	32,9	16	1,3	9,4	7,5	0,7	4,4	1,8
	April 06	19,5	5,9	32,8	15,8	1,4	10,5	7,3	0,7	4,6	1,6
	May 06	17	8,4	33,3	15,9	1,4	10,3	7	0,6	4,4	1,8
	June 06	16,6	9,4	34	14,7	2,1	10	6,2	0,7	4,6	1,7

**Development of average monthly share in the Slovak TV market  
(around the clock and prime time) – Ind 12+**

Time zones	Months	Share %									
		Jednotka STV1	Dvojka STV2	Markiza	TV JOJ	TA3	Czech TVs	Hungarian TVs	K Regional TV	CZ cable TVs	Other TVs
around the clock	July 06	17,8	6,1	33,1	14,3	2,2	10,4	6,9	0,7	6,3	2,1
	August 06	18	4,9	33,5	15,4	1,8	10,2	7,2	0,7	6,3	2
	September 06	17,5	5	35	15,7	1,8	10,2	6,8	0,9	5,2	2
	October 06	18,1	4,6	37	16	1,4	9,1	6,8	0,8	4,5	1,7
	November 06	17,8	4,5	37,7	15,5	1,5	9,1	7,1	0,7	4,5	1,7
	December 06	18,1	4,7	35,8	15,5	1,3	10	7,7	0,8	4,5	1,6
prime time 19:00 – 22:00	1.1.2006 to 31.12.2006	20	5,6	35,9	17	1	9,1	6,9	0,4	2,8	1,2
	January 06	21,2	3,5	33,6	18,1	0,9	10,9	7,6	0,3	2,7	1,3
	February 06	20,8	9,7	32,4	16,3	0,7	8,9	7,1	0,3	2,6	1,3
	March 06	22,1	4,9	33,8	17,7	0,8	8,9	7,6	0,5	2,7	1,1
	April 06	21,9	4,9	34	17,3	1	9,4	7,1	0,5	2,7	1,1
	May 06	18,5	9,5	33,4	16,8	0,9	9,4	7	0,4	2,7	1,1
	June 06	18,5	8,5	35,5	16,3	1,5	9,3	6	0,5	2,7	1,2
	July 06	20,2	6,1	33,5	17,3	1,7	8,7	6,4	0,5	4	1,5
	August 06	21	4,4	34,3	17,7	1,2	9,1	6,7	0,5	3,8	1,3
	September 06	19,3	5	36,7	17,5	1,3	9,1	6,5	0,6	2,8	1,3
	October 06	19,4	4	40,5	16,4	1	8,2	6,4	0,5	2,3	1,3
	November 06	18,2	3,6	42,2	16,2	0,9	8	6,7	0,5	2,5	1,2
December 06	18,6	3,5	40,5	16,4	0,8	9	7,1	0,5	2,5	1,1	

Source: PMT/TNS SK

→ **CONTACT POINTS – INSTITUTIONS, COMPANIES AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS OPERATING IN SLOVAK AUDIOVISUAL INDUSTRY**

All information, addresses and contacts may be found at [www.aic.sk/en/adresar.html](http://www.aic.sk/en/adresar.html).

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