

AFI FEST

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AFI FEST 2005 PRESENTED BY AUDI FORGES, REINFORCES INTERNATIONAL PROFILE

New York Times TimesTalks Speaker Series Makes Debut at Festival

Alliance with American Film Market Ramps Up for Second Year

European Film Promotion's NEW FACES IN EUROPEAN CINEMA Also Back

August 31, 2005 (Los Angeles)—Prior to its annual announcement of red carpet galas, premieres and filmmaker tributes, AFI FEST 2005 presented by Audi: AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival announces today the debut of The New York Times TimesTalks Hollywood Issue speaker series in Los Angeles during the Festival. AFI FEST also announces its second year of continuing partnerships with the American Film Market (AFM) alliance and the European Film Promotion (EFP) NEW FACES IN EUROPEAN CINEMA program.

In addition to its location in the film capital of the world, as well as its positioning at the beginning of the awards season, these programs and partnerships all serve to position AFI FEST as one of the preeminent international film festivals in North America. AFI FEST 2005 presented by Audi runs November 3-13, 2005.

"The New York Times brings great energy and excitement to AFI FEST 2005. Programs like TimesTalks and NEW FACES IN EUROPEAN CINEMA, as well as our strategic alliance with the AFM, all serve to connect our audience and our filmmakers to the creative and commercial leaders of the international film community," said Christian Gaines, Director, AFI FEST.

TimesTalks is the acclaimed speaker series presented by The New York Times at which New York Times critics, reporters and editors moderate conversations and panel discussions with noted talents and thinkers of our time. As a celebration of The New York Times Magazine Hollywood Issue, AFI FEST 2005 will host the Los Angeles launch of The New York Times TimesTalks Hollywood Issue series, with three events currently slated to be held on site during the festival. Moderators and guests will be announced in the coming weeks.

In 2004, the American Film Market (AFM) moved to November and established a strategic alliance with AFI FEST, creating the only festival-market combination in North America. As the world's largest motion picture trade event, the AFM attracts more than 7,000 industry professionals from over 60 countries. Each year, more than \$500 million in production and distribution deals are closed. In just the first year of this historic collaboration, a remarkable 37 festival selections were represented at the AFM. This alliance has successfully resulted in a unique combination of commerce and culture. The AFM runs November 2-9, 2005. For more information on AFM, visit www.americanfilmmarket.com

The NEW FACES IN EUROPEAN CINEMA program is made possible through an alliance of European Film Promotion and EFP member organizations. Launched in 2004, NEW FACES IN EUROPEAN CINEMA is a tailored series of initiatives during AFI FEST designed to showcase Europe's emerging directing talent and up-and-coming new stars. NEW FACES IN EUROPEAN CINEMA is presented in cooperation with

European Film Promotion (EFP) with support from the MEDIA program of the European Union, and by a consortium of European consulates in Los Angeles.

About AFI FEST

AFI is a national institute providing leadership in screen education and the recognition and celebration of excellence in the art of film, television and digital media. Now in its 19th year, AFI FEST presented by Audi: AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival, is the longest-running film festival in Los Angeles and one of the most influential film festivals in North America. The festival spans 10 days each November, featuring international competitions of brand new films from emerging filmmakers, global showcases of the latest work from the great film masters and nightly red-carpet gala premieres. In 2004, with 136 films from 42 countries, AFI FEST was host to 522 guests from 35 countries. More than 55,000 attendees descended upon the AFI FEST Village, which included screenings at the state-of-the-art ArcLight Hollywood, a centralized Cinema Lounge where festival-goers can meet and mingle at dozens of receptions and special events. Additional information about AFI is available at www.AFI.com.

AFI FEST 2005 presented by Audi is supported in part by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, the Department of Cultural Affairs of the City of Los Angeles and the Hollywood Sign Trust. Special support is provided by the Academy Foundation of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. AFI FEST is proud to continue its collaborative partnership with the Skirball Cultural Center. Made in Germany is made possible through the cooperation and support of the German Film Services + Marketing GMBH. NEW FACES IN EUROPEAN CINEMA is made possible through the cooperation and support of the European Film Promotion.

AFI FEST 2005 presented by Audi is sponsored in part by American Airlines, ArcLight Hollywood, Absolut Vodka, Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Best Buy, Eastman Kodak Company, Midway Car Rental, Aquafina and Stella Artois. [The New York Times](#) is the Festival's Presenting Media Partner. Additional partners include Indie 103.1, [LA Weekly](#) and Univision.

About Audi of America

Audi of America is headquartered in Auburn Hills, Michigan, and markets performance-oriented European luxury vehicles: the sporty A4 sedan, A4 Avant and A4 Cabriolet models—the perfect union of power and control; the everyday sports car in the form of the S4 sedan, S4 Avant and the S4 Cabriolet; the birth of Audi's sports car tradition—the TT Coupe and Roadster; the broad range of bold A6 sedans—the beautiful A6 Avant and the versatile allroad Quattro; and the most progressive premium luxury car, the A8 in both extended and normal wheelbase versions. For more information about additional Audi-related events and corporate news, visit www.audiusa.com.

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