

55. Internationales Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg

PRESS INFORMATION

Upbeat with a world premiere: Michael Schorr's *Schroeders Wonderful World* opens the 55th International Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg

Mannheim-Heidelberg, IFMH, October 12, 2006 ---

The 55th International Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg officially opens on November 17, 2006 with *Schroeder's Wonderful World* by Michael Schorr. The film also opens this year's Competition Programme which presents 20 films from 16 countries. The competition programme is flanked by the „International Discoveries“ programme and several sidebars.

The story of *Schroeder's Wonderful World* takes place in the border region of Poland, Germany and the Czech Republic: Frank Schroeder comes back to his homeland to realise a massive investment project. With the help of his US boss (starring Juergen Prochnow) he plans on constructing a tropical paradise with a blue lagoon for the rich elderly in the middle of this deserted piece of land. But not even his own family understands his plans. Cooperation with neighbouring Poland and the Czech Republic turns out to be quite difficult, too. His idea of a big cooperation teeters on the brink of failure...

Director Michael Schorr from Landau had phenomenal success with his minimalist and highly acclaimed drama *Schultze gets the Blues* in 2003. „ Michael Schorr knows how to create wonderful atmospheric images despite the sadness of the landscape“, explains Dr. Michael Koetz, the festival's artistic and operating director for 15 years now.

The 55th International Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg takes place from 16 to 25 November 2006. In total, 42 feature films from 25 countries will be presented in the two main programmes „International Competition“ and „International Discoveries“.

For further information:

Marija Capek

press@mannheim-filmfestival.com, Tel: +49 (0)621 1560153