

Docs by Ivan Ostrochovský, Marek Najbrt or Radim Špaček supported for production

For the first time this year, the Council of the Czech Film Fund decided about production support for documentary films. Among 9 projects supported altogether with EUR 480 000 (CZK 12 000 000) prevail documentary portraits and social issue topics.

The highest amount in this call (EUR 76 000) received writer, director and producer Petr Slavík for the production of *František Skála*. A portrait of Czech visual artist and performer is one of four docs supported in this call focusing on notable artists from the Czech Republic and former Czechoslovakia.

In production of Tomáš Michálek of Cinématif Films (granted EUR 68 000), celebrated auteur Ivan Ostrochovský (*Servants*) prepares a portrait of a prominent Slovak cinematographer Igor Luther. **Self-portrait** (*Autoportrét*) captures the last two years of a man who was not only part of the famous Czechoslovak New Wave but also involved the distinctive visual atmosphere of a difficult period of Czechoslovak history.

Producer Petr Koza of KOZA Film received funding for two projects focused on Czech music industry. While *Tatabojs.doc*, directed by Marek Najbrt (*Protektor, Polski Film*) and granted EUR 48 000 in this call, is a portrait of one of the most successful Czech alternative bands of the last 20 years, **Turn on the Light So We Can See** focus on Czech avant-garde and punk-rock band Už jsme doma. Radim Špaček (*Walking Too Fast, Golden Sting*) and Václav Kučera will direct the film also with support EUR 20 000 from the Czech Film Fund.

Two documentaries dealing with the past and the present of emigrant families have also been supported in this call and both also have been recently supported by the CFF for development as well. **Volver a Volver** tells a story of a family whose grandparents left Czechoslovak totalitarian regime for Venezuela and now the family dust off their Czech blood hoping to be repatriated to the land of their ancestors. The project is directed by FAMU graduates Jorge Sánchez Calderón and Valerio Mendoza and produced by Kateřina Černá from Negativ, which received EUR 64 000 for the production of the film.

The story of Sudeten family Schicht, who had in interwar Czechoslovakia the same reputation as concerns Škoda or Baťa, will tell Taťána Marková in production of Jarmila Poláková of Film&Sociologie (granted EUR 62 000). **Kingdom of Soap Bubbles** deals with fate of successful family of businessmen and philanthropists whose empire after post-war displacement of Germans burst as a bubble.

Three documentaries supported in this call focus on current social topics, mainly from the family perspective. While Josefina Lubojacki in her debut **The Four of Us**, which is produced by Wanda Kaprálová & Klára Mamojková of CLAW AV (supported with EUR 52 000), describes the complicated relationship with her brother and cousins who are drug addicts living on the street, FAMU student Marie Magdalena Kochová deals with the topic of autism in the story of **The Second One** (*Ta druhá*), produced by Aleš Hudský of m3 Films. The film, supported by the CFF with EUR 48 000, tells a story of a child who faces the decision – how much to be involved in the care of your autistic sibling.

Last but not least, the Council of the CFF also supported project **Happylock** by Jan Foukal. The film depicting the impacts of Covid-19 pandemic through the eyes of selected Czech artists is produced by FILM KOLEKTIV and received the amount of EUR 42 000.

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