



## PRESS RELEASE

Berlin, October 9, 2018

**Like a Pearl Diving into Deep Waters: The Roma Film Festival AKE DIKHEA? will take place for the second time**

**From the 6th to the 10th of December, the second edition of the Roma Film Festival in Berlin will take place under the patronage of Senator for Culture and Europe, Klaus Lederer. The festival with the Romanes title AKE DIKHEA? – translated as CAN YOU SEE? – sets itself the task of shedding light on the diversity of the realities of life of Roma to the public and to make previously unknown, yet valuable film productions viewable.**

The festival team from the Berlin-based RomaTrial e.V. uses its Europe-wide network of Roma filmmakers, self-organizations and active individuals. It consciously builds on the founding of the International Romani Film Commission of 2012, which promotes networking and exchange between filmmakers with Romani background from across Europe.

The film festival has a unique philosophy: All Roma, Sinti, Kale, Kalderash, Lovara, Lalleri, Ursari, Beasch, Manouches, Ashkali, Aurari, Romanichals, Droma, Doma, Gypsies, Travellers and of course all the other Roma groups in Europe are invited to propose films that they feel they resonate and relate to. The call, which runs until October 15, was shared by important community channels such as the Traveler's Times in the UK, romea.cz in the Czech Republic, dROMa blog in Austria, and Radio Chiriklo in Ukraine. The festival team has now collected over 50 film proposals.

It will be all the more difficult for the international festival jury, which is mostly occupied by Roma film professionals, to choose from the proposal films for ten festival slots. The jury this year is composed of the following members: **Artur Conka**, British Roma filmmaker, cameraman and media producer with Slovak roots, **Katalin Gödrös**, Swiss-Hungarian filmmaker and initiator of the International Romani Film Commission, **Candis Nergaard**, British Roma actress, author and one of the artists of the First Roma Biennale, **Éva Kalla**, Hungarian Roma filmmaker and educator who has directed the Romani Film Festival in Budapest since 2009, and **Pablo Vega**, a Spanish Roma filmmaker, whose work ranges from award-winning commercials to flamenco music videos to documentary films.

**The selection jury will meet between October 18th and 21st in Berlin. The order of the artistic director of the festival, Hamze Bytyci, may seem a bit surprising: "No films about Sinti and Roma!"** As he explains: "In the media landscape, a self-determined and authentic imagery must finally prevail

with regard to the Roma. New narratives, which place special value on the individuality of the protagonists and their stories. Which by the way, is a language of film that is taken for granted by other groups.”

More information can be found on the official website at <http://roma-filmfestival.com/>.

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**SAVE THE DATE:**

**AKE DIKHEA? Festival of Romani Film**

6th – 10th December 2018

**Ceremonial Opening:**

6th December 2018, 18.00 o'clock

Movimiento Lounge

Kottbusser Damm 22

10967 Berlin-Kreuzberg

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