

6th Press Release

April 19, 2008

**Just a few more days and Europe's biggest student film festival *sehsüchte* will begin for the thirty-seventh time. The anticipation in the team is palpable. Now, just the final adjustments have to be made. Many new things are awaiting every guest. Along with the Focus on Africa, the screenplay award also holds much potential in store. Anyone unfortunately unable to attend *sehsüchte.08* has the opportunity to go to our *sehsüchte* Sequel.**

The *sehsüchte* team is throwing itself into this year's festival full of enthusiasm and energy. Optimal general conditions have been established and the first laurels already reaped. The new *sehsüchte* team has given everything a lot of thought. Fantastic artists have been recruited for the supporting program. For the first time in its history, the festival also has its own *sehsüchte* song. With the **continent of Africa, the film festival's Focus section is also entering new terrain.**

The Focus has been an integral part of *sehsüchte* since 2005. It sets a regional emphasis and runs as a special program outside the international competition. The Focus has its own jury and thus its own competition. The **Focus Dialog Award** is donated by the **Federal Foreign Office** and comes with a purse of 1000 euros.

Now as before, the works of American and European filmmakers tend to shape our picture of Africa. Yet a domestic film scene has been established in several African countries for a number of years. **Nigeria**, for example, has become **one of the largest film nations in the world** and is called "Nollywood" in allusion to other major film industries.

This African country evidently deserves its reputation. It was by far the frontrunner in terms of the number of films submitted and the Focus program reflects this. Of the nine films from four countries, six come from Nigeria alone and one apiece from Egypt, Uganda and South Africa. Nevertheless, you can look forward to a colorful mix of genres and themes.

One day of the festival is dedicated to the Focus on Africa. Two film blocks with the selected African films will be screened on Friday April 25, 2008. In between, there will be a **panel discussion dealing with African cinema** and intended to provide the audience background information. The day's supporting program will also address African culture and traditions. The group Dazaa Dazaa will bring the audience closer to Africa's music and culture.

# sehsüchte

37. Internationales Studentenfilmfestival

*sehsüchte.08* was also successful on its search for words that spellbind, stories that enthrall, on its search for the basis of film, screenplays,.

**55 screenplays from Germany and Austria were submitted** and read with watchful eyes.

Our **four-member screenplay jury** has nominated five screenplays from this diverse pool of ideas. Naturally we don't want to withhold these impressively eloquent treasures from *sehsüchte's* public. The **Screenplay Lounge in Thalia 3** at 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 26 offers exclusive cinema for the mind's eye and the opportunity to experience these films in the rough. **Trained voice over artists** for the stars **will take every guest on a trip through space and time.**

Every interested film fans unable to attend *sehsüchte.08* will nevertheless have the opportunity to see great festival entries. Film lovers will get their money's worth at the *sehsüchte* **Sequel** at **Kino Babylon-Mitte in Berlin** on **April 28 and 29** and at **Obenkino in the Cottbuser Glad-House** on **May 24.**

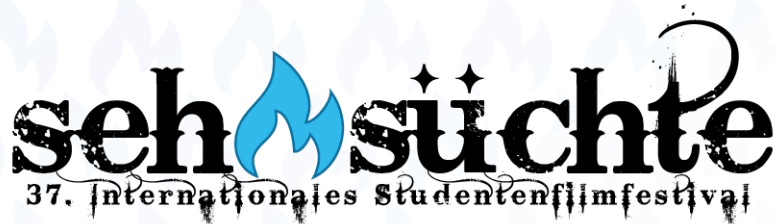
Now *sehsüchte.08* can come. Superb films, promising musical entertainment and a varied supporting program are awaiting every guest.

The *sehsüchte* team is looking forward to as great a reception as in past years. The general conditions for our festival couldn't be better.  
**We are thrilled that it's finally starting.**

Please contact us if you have any questions:

Donika Deneva (Print/Online Media and Public Relations)  
00.49.177.4667930  
donika.deneva@sehsuechte.de

Heino Neumann (TV/Radio Media and Public Relations)  
00.49.178.3129641  
heino.neumann@sehsuechte.de



# seh süchte

37. Internationales Studentenfilmfestival

**37th *seh süchte* International Student Film Festival**

April 23-27, 2008

Film and Television Academy Konrad Wolf

Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11

14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg

Germany

Tel.: 00.49.331.6202780

Fax: 00.49.331.6202781

[www.sehsuechte.de](http://www.sehsuechte.de)

**Festival Movie Theater:**

Thalia-Kinos

Rudolf-Breitscheid-Str. 50

14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg

Germany

[www.thalia-potsdam.de](http://www.thalia-potsdam.de)

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