

# 56th Karlovy Vary International Film Festival July 1–9 2022



**Press Release**  
**June 21 2022**

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Karlovy Vary International Film Festival

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**Organizers of the 56<sup>th</sup> Karlovy Vary IFF thank to all partners which help to organize the festival.**

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**The crystal globe for outstanding artistic contribution to world cinema  
will be presented to Geoffrey Rush**



*Credit: Jeff Vespa, Getty Images*

**At the closing ceremony of the 56th Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, the Crystal Globe for Outstanding Artistic Contribution to World Cinema will be presented to Australian Oscar-winning actor Geoffrey Rush.**

One best actor Oscar and three Oscar nominations, two Golden Globes and four more nominations, an Emmy and a Tony Award – this is but a short selection of the dozens of awards that film and theater actor Geoffrey Rush has earned over the course of his career. His career in theater began at the Queensland Theatre Company and continued via studies in London and Paris, his own productions, and the post of director at and head of the Belvoir Street Theatre Company, where he helped to discover numerous acting talents. He also appeared on stage at many leading Australian and foreign theaters.

An important turning point in his cinematic career came in 1996, when he excelled in the role of composer and pianist David Helfgott, a man caught between genius and madness in Scott Hicks's *Shine*. His unique performance rightfully earned him an Oscar, a Golden



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Globe, and a BAFTA. Two years later, he was again nominated for an Oscar, this time for his role in the historical romance *Shakespeare in Love* (1998), which also earned him a BAFTA and a nomination for the Golden Globe Awards. In 1998, he appeared in two period films, *Elizabeth* and *Les Misérables*, the latter of which director Bille August shot partially in Prague and elsewhere in the Czech Republic.

Another historical role – his depiction of the eccentric Marquis de Sade in Philip Kaufman's *Quills* (2000) – brought another Oscar and Golden Globe nomination. In 2003, he appeared in the first installation of the Hollywood blockbuster series *Pirates of the Caribbean*, eventually portraying Captain Barbossa in five parts, from *The Curse of the Black Pearl* (2003) all the way to *Dead Men Tell No Tales* (2017).

In 2004, Rush played the legendary comic actor Peter Sellers in the HBO miniseries *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers*, a performance that earned him an Emmy and a Golden Globe.

Despite his work in cinema, Geoffrey Rush never left stage acting behind. In 2009, he won a Tony Award for playing the lead in Ionesco's *Exit the King*.

Geoffrey Rush reconfirmed his exceptional acting talents when he appeared as King George's speech therapist Lionel Logue in the drama *The King's Speech* (2010) – a role that earned him nominations for an Oscar and a Golden Globe, plus a win at the BAFTA Awards and numerous other commendations.

Rush has played historical figures throughout his career, and in 2017 he continued this tradition by portraying Albert Einstein in the miniseries *Genius* and the painter and sculptor Alberto Giacometti in *Final Portrait*.

In 2011, Geoffrey Rush became the founding president of the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts, and in 2012 he was named Australian of the Year for his contribution to the arts in his home country. Geoffrey Rush is represented by CAA.

**As an homage to Geoffrey Rush, Karlovy Vary festival will screen the films *The Kings Speech*, *Quills* and *Shine*.**



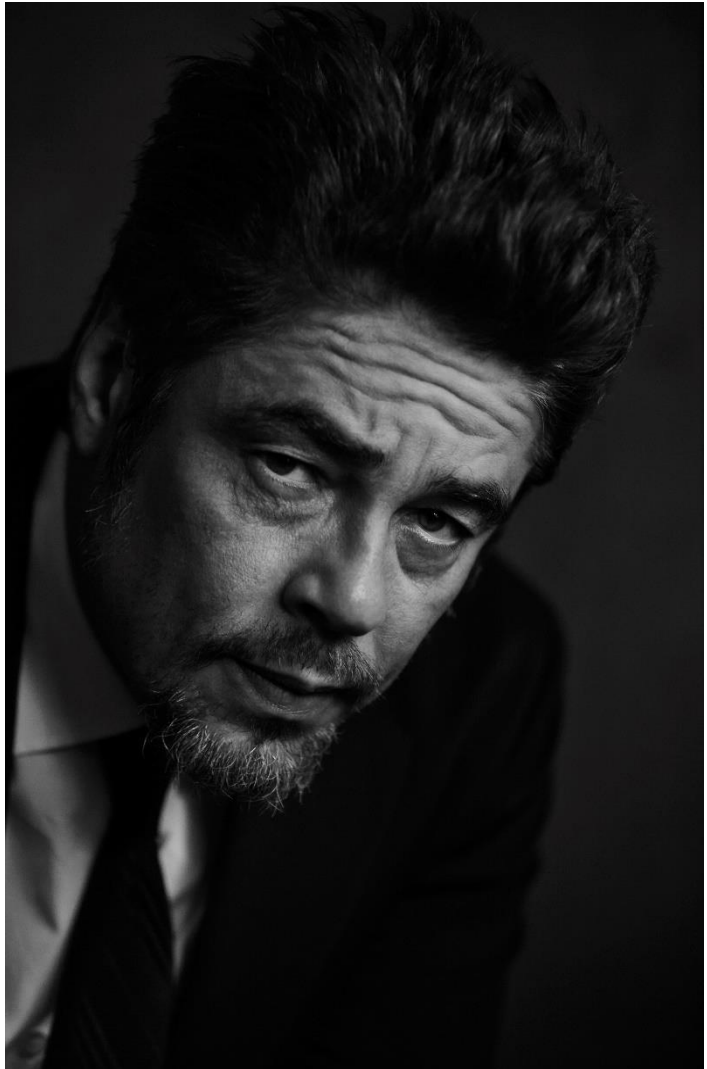
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### Karlovy Vary festival to honor actor Benicio Del Toro

**At the closing ceremony of the 56th Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, the KVIFF President's Award will be presented to Oscar-winning actor and producer Benicio Del Toro.**

Benicio Del Toro has been one of Hollywood's most frequently cast actors since the 1990s. After studying under the leading acting coach Stella Adler, he got his first big break with a role in the television series *Miami Vice*, followed soon thereafter by *Licence to Kill* (1989), in which he was the youngest actor ever to play a James Bond villain.

An important film in his career was Bryan Singer's *The Usual Suspects* (1995), for which he earned a Film Independent Spirit Award. The following year, he excelled in director Julian Schnabel's *Basquiat*, which was also shown in Karlovy Vary and which brought him his second Film Independent Spirit Award. His next important opportunity was Terry Gilliam's distinctive adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson's *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* (1998).



Credit: Maurice Haas





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Over the following years, he continued to work with progressive directors and won several acting awards. For instance, his portrayal of a corrupt cop in Steven Soderbergh's *Traffic* (2000) earned him an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor, a Golden Globe, a BAFTA, a Silver Bear at the Berlinale, and numerous other awards. He shot the gangster comedy *Snatch* (2000) with Guy Ritchie, the mystery thriller *The Pledge* (2001) with Sean Penn, and *21 Grams* (2003) with Alejandro González Iñárritu, earning his second Oscar nomination and an Audience Award at the Venice Film Festival.

He again worked with Steven Soderbergh by playing the title role in two films about the revolutionary Che Guevara, *Che: Part One, Part Two* (2008), for which he was named best actor at the 2008 festival in Cannes. He also contributed to these films as producer. He similarly both acted in and produced the horror drama *The Wolfman* (2010), which won an Oscar for Best Makeup. He later played a controversial real-life king of the underworld in *Escobar – Paradise Lost* (2014), followed by another film about the world of drug cartels, Dennis Villeneuve's uncompromising thriller *Sicario* (2015). He then reprised the role of the mysterious Alejandro in director Stefano Sollima's sequel *Sicario: Day of the Soldado* (2018).

Del Toro teamed up with Steven Soderbergh one more time for the retro crime story *No Sudden Move* (2021), and he worked with Wes Anderson on his critically acclaimed *The French Dispatch* (2021).

Although Benicio Del Toro is first and foremost an outstanding actor who brings his inimitable charisma to characters across multiple genres, his filmography also includes *7 Days in Havana* (2012), for which he directed one episode.

Benicio will next be seen starring in the crime thriller *Reptile*, starring opposite Justin Timberlake, for Netflix.

**As an homage to Benicio del Toro, the films *Traffic* and *The Usual Suspects* will be screened at the festival.**



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## **INTERNATIONAL JURIES**

### **Statutory Juries**

#### **CRYSTAL GLOBE JURY**

#### **Benjamin Domenech**

Argentinian film producer. He created Rei Pictures, a Latin American label that in the last decade has been a house for emerging and established talent working on films, TV series and interactive projects. Past credits include the features *The Intruder* (dir. Natália Meta, 2020, premiered at Berlin, main competition), *The Accused* (dir. Gonzalo Tobal, 2018, premiered at Venice, main competition), *The Queen of Fear* (dir. Valeria Bertuccelli, premiered at Sundance 2018 and screened at KVIFF that same year) and *Zama* (dir. Lucrecia Martel, premiered at Venice 2017 and screened at KVIFF the following year). He is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, EAVE, IFP and the National Film Academy in Argentina.

#### **Jan-Ole Gerster**

German filmmaker. He studied directing at the German Film and Television Academy Berlin (DFFB). After its world premiere at KVIFF in 2012, his debut film *Oh Boy* screened at over 60 film festivals around the world, winning a series of awards. The film was a huge success with critics and audiences alike, attracting almost 500,000 viewers in Germany. Gerster's second film *Lara* also launched its successful career in Karlovy Vary, this time in the main competition where, three years ago, it took home the Special Jury Prize, Best Actress, and the Ecumenical Jury Award. Upcoming projects include an adaptation of Christian Kracht's bestselling novel *Imperium*.



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### **Roman Gutek**

Polish distributor and festival organiser. He studied management at the University of Warsaw's Faculty of Management, and film anthropology at the Institute of Art within the Polish Academy of Sciences. He established the Warsaw International Film Festival in 1985, and in 1994 he initiated Gutek Film, today the leading Polish film distribution company specialising in auteur cinema. He is the founder and former director of the New Horizons International Film Festival (launched in Wrocław in 2001) and the American Film Festival (held since 2010 in the same city). This June he co-founded the Post Pxrn Film Festival in Warsaw.

### **Fiorella Moretti**

International sales agent and producer. Born in Lima, Peru, she now lives and works in Paris. She studied communications in Guadalajara, Mexico. As a production coordinator and distribution director for Mantarraya, one of the key Latin American independent production companies, she worked with directors such as Carlos Reygadas and Amat Escalante. In 2016 she teamed up with Hédi Zardi to launch Luxbox, an international sales and co-production company. She has represented the work of a series of world names, among them, Bruno Dumont, Béla Tarr, Claire Simon, Sharunas Bartas, Joaquim Lafosse and Jonas Carpignano.

### **Molly Malene Stensgaard**

Danish film editor and screenwriter. She studied at the National Film School of Denmark (1989-1993). The cult TV series *The Kingdom* (1994) launched her collaboration with Lars von Trier and, to date, she has edited eight of his films, beginning with *The Idiots* (1997), then *Dancer in the Dark* (2000), also *Dogville* (2003), *Melancholia* (2010), *Nymphomaniac* (2013) and *The House That Jack Built* (2018). From behind the editing table she has co-created not only feature films by other directors (Annette Olesen, Ole Bornedal or Martin Zandvliet), but also works by documentarists such as Jon Bang Carlsen and Simone Kern. From 2003 to 2014 she was a project and script development consultant for Binger Filmlab Holland.



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## **PROXIMA JURY**

### **Bianca Balbuena**

Filipino producer. CEO of Epicmedia Productions, which produced such films as *Clash* (dir. Pepe Diokno, Lion of the Future at Venice), *A Lullaby to the Sorrowful Mystery* (dir. Lav Diaz, Silver Bear at the Berlinale, KVIFF 2016) and *The Manila Lover* (dir. Johanna Pyykkö, Critics' Week at Cannes). She has coproduced films in Europe, Asia and Australia, she has mentored at Open Doors (Locarno), Talents Tokyo and Berlinale Talents, and she is the ambassador for European Audiovisual Entrepreneurs. She was honoured with the title Producer of the Year by the Asian Film Commissions Network and was hailed for her Outstanding Contribution to Cinema at the Asia Pacific Screen Awards.

### **Yrsa Roca Fannberg**

Icelandic documentarist. She has a BA in fine art from the Chelsea College of Arts in London and a master's in documentary filmmaking from Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona. She won Nordisk Panorama's Best Nordic Documentary award for her medium-length documentary debut *Salóme* (2014). Her first feature-length documentary *The Last Autumn* (2019) was premiered in the documentary competition at the Karlovy Vary IFF (the film later won a Special Jury Mention at Nordisk Panorama). She teaches documentary film history and documentary filmmaking at the University of Iceland, she organises film screenings in Reykjavik and she is currently shooting the documentary *The Ground Beneath Our Feet*.



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### **Pavel Klusák**

Music journalist, filmmaker and writer. He has been involved in independent and experimental music for over thirty years, he writes on the subject, presents it on the radio and is a curator of live events. He selected music films for the Karlovy Vary IFF in the years 2003-2012. He graduated from FAMU (screenwriting) and he directed the documentary film *Music by Zdeněk Liška*. He is the music programmer for the Ji.hlava International Documentary Film Festival. His critical monograph *Gott. A Czechoslovak Story* won the 2021 Magnesia Litera award as Book of the Year.

### **Michael Rosenberg**

American distributor. The owner and President of Film Movement, an independent NYC-based film distributor founded in 2002 which releases more than 20 new, primarily non-American titles each year. Its catalogue includes names such as Hirokazu Kore-eda, Maren Ade, Andrzej Wajda, Jessica Hausner and, more recently, Ryusuke Hamaguchi (*Wheel of Fortune and Fantasy*) and Sergei Loznitsa (*Donbass*). The re-issue label Film Movement Classics releases newly restored versions of films by such names as Eric Rohmer, Luchino Visconti, Takeshi Kitano, Tsai Ming-liang and Arturo Ripstein. Rosenberg spent over twenty-five years in music distribution (Koch Entertainment, Entertainment One US).

### **Myroslav Slaboshpytskiy**

Ukrainian film director. He studied direction at the Kiev State Institute of Theatre and Arts. His short films *Diagnosis* (2009) and *Deafness* (2010) competed at the Berlinale. His short *Nuclear Waste* (2012) took the Silver Leopard at Locarno and was nominated for an EFA award. His feature debut *The Tribe* (2014) was selected for Cannes' Critics' Week where, as the first film in the history of this section, it won three awards. The film went on to win another 43 awards, including the EFA's European Discovery, and was sold to forty countries. Its creator is currently working on a film adaptation of John Vaillant's book *The Tiger*, produced by Darren Aronofsky's company Protozoa.



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**Nonstatotary juries:**

**FIPRESCI JURY**

Nada Azhari Gillon

Britt Sørensen

Adam Kruk

Gulnara Abikeyeva

Rasha Hosny

Marek Čermák

**ECUMENICAL JURY**

Annette Gjerde Hansen

Veronika Lišková

Théo Péporté

**EUROPA CINEMAS LABEL JURY**

Edit Csenki

Leena Närekangas

Kis Rauff



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## INDUSTRY EVENTS AT THE 56TH KVIFF

KVIFF Eastern Promises, the festival's industry section, returns in full force this year, with both project showcases and accompanying events happening in person during the festival in Karlovy Vary **from Sunday, July 3 to Wednesday, July 6.**



In line with its mission of helping promote new talents and new exciting projects to the international industry audience and enabling them to reach new territories, the Industry Office will showcase a curated selection of **35 projects** at different stages of production. The projects will be presented by their creative teams during pitching sessions in the Lázně III Cinema, with the aim of securing funding, co-production, sales, distribution or



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post-production partners, or festival premieres, depending on their production stage. The best projects, selected by international juries, will be awarded with prizes in a total value of 125,000 EUR that will help them to finish their films.

The **Works in Progress** showcase (Monday, July 4 at 2 pm) will present 10 documentary and feature films in late-production stage selected by KVIFF. The **First Cut+ Works in Progress** (Tuesday, July 5 at 2 pm) showcases 8 feature films that previously took part in a First Cut Lab workshop. The **Works in Development – Feature Launch** focuses on projects at the development stage; all nine screenplays that will be presented (Monday, July 4 at 11 am) have gone through development within the MIDPOINT Feature Launch programme and are now ready for co-production.

In addition to these now-traditional platforms, this year the KVIFF EP is also hosting the **Works in Progress Selection of the 13th Odesa International Film Festival**, which cannot take place there due to the Russian military assault on Ukraine. In full support of Ukrainian filmmakers, Karlovy Vary will welcome the creators of eight full-length film projects in the final stage of shooting or in post-production produced in Ukraine or in co-production with Ukraine selected by the OIFF selection committee (Tuesday, July 5 at 11 am).

The **Industry Days** accompanying programme once again brings a balanced mix of panels, showcases and lectures on the topics that are currently resonating within the film industry, be it **Producing with and for the Streamers** (an insightful panel with Deadline and ACE Producers, Sunday, July 3 at 5.30 pm in Carlsbad Plaza), the **Innovative Distribution Hub Showcase** of useful new digital tools for independent film distributors (Tuesday, July 5 at 9.30 am in KVIFF.TV Park), **PR Positioning for the International Market** (Tuesday, July 5 at 11.30 am in Cinema A), or sustainability in both the context of the environment (**Production Sustainability & Climate Content**, Monday, July 4 at 5pm in KVIFF.TV Park) and the human sense of the term (**Staying Safe and Sane in the Film Industry**, Tuesday, July 5 at 4 pm in Cinema C).

The full programme and more details on the events can be found on the [KVIFF website](#).





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## **KVIFF.TV PARK – A brand new center of festival events**

New at this year's Karlovy Vary festival is the multifunctional KVIFF.TV Park. Located right next to the Hotel Thermal, its design was inspired by the hotel building. KVIFF.TV Park will host audience contests and public forums with filmmakers and is also a place to relax and enjoy refreshments. The modular building, whose form is meant to bring to mind a colonnade, was designed by the renowned studio of Chybik+Kristof Architects & Urban Designers.





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*“The pavilion’s colors and raw design, meaning the exposed steel construction, plus the red furniture and distinctive lighting fixtures, are all references to the brutalist architecture of the neighboring Hotel Thermal. Our aim has been to create a temporary sibling for this icon of modern architecture,”* says Kristýna Blažičková of CHYBIK + KRISTOF.

### **KVIFF.TV Park – All-day program plus evening concerts**

KVIFF.TV Park will be open all day long, with a program that will pull audiences and visitors into the festival through interesting events designed to add to the festival atmosphere. The program at KVIFF.TV Park will be hosted by Linda Bartošová, whom people will recognize from Czech Television.

Every day at 1:30 and 4pm, there will be a “Meet and Greet” session with members of various film delegations from the festival’s main competition. These sessions will be open to all festivalgoers. Also every day, there will be a live recording session of Čestmír Strakatý’s Space KVIFF X program featuring interesting foreign and domestic festival guests. At our regular movie quiz, visitors can compete for vouchers for a subscription to the festival’s screening platform KVIFF.TV and other attractive prizes. And the evening program is dedicated to music.

### **The sixth colonnade**

KVIFF.TV Park boasts a more than remarkable design. It consists of 41 vertical and 18 horizontal modules, each of which measures 6 × 3 × 2.5 meters and weighs between 900 and 4,000 kg depending on each container’s layout and function. The total size of the entire modular structure is nearly 30 meters long, 18 meters wide, and 6 meters high. It is designed to fit up to a thousand visitors.

“Our design for the [KVIFF.TV](#) pavilion grew out of the local context of the spa town. The modules from which the pavilion has been constructed are arranged vertically in order to create a raised colonnade space. With some exaggeration, one might say that during the film festival the city will have a new, sixth, colonnade,” says the design’s author, architect Ondřej Chybík.



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The production of the KVIFF.TV Park was arranged by the CUBESPACE company in cooperation with HSF System company and OSTRÁ GROUP company. CAMPARI LOUNGE will be located in the KVIFF.TV Park.

KVIFF.TV Park opens every day at 11am, with the events program starting at noon. The Nespresso Café opens at 8am.

For an up-to-date program of events for each day, see [www.kviff.com](http://www.kviff.com) or the [Vodafone KVIFF Guide](#) mobile app.

Live broadcasts or recorded videos of most of the program can be viewed on [KVIFF.TV](http://KVIFF.TV).

### **The festival's official online television, KVIFF.TV LIVE, brings the atmosphere of the Karlovy Vary festival to all corners of the world**

**KVIFF.TV offers an uninterrupted flow of video news about goings-on at the festival; special journalistic informational content about this year's program; interviews; popular live streams of the opening ceremony, film introductions, and stars' arrival on the red carpet; contests with prizes; and slow TV streams from the most frequently visited festival venues.**

Your guides to the festival will be our popular hosts Janek Rubeš, Čestmír Strakatý, and Saša Michailidis. Viewers can follow live streams in real time and thus literally be transported onto the red carpet or to any other important festival event. All festival content will also be available after the fact, as recorded videos freely available from KVIFF.TV.

KVIFF.TV's current form now includes a library of more than 500 films thanks to which viewers can warm up for the festival by enjoying popular movies from the festival's previous editions. Immediately after the festival, KVIFF.TV will also offer several films from this year's 56th KVIFF, thus launching its year-around activities and offering fans of the festival the chance to enjoy excellent cinematic experiences any time they want.



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## **The opening concert of the 56th KVIFF will be the unique SymfoMIG project**

**On 1 July at 10:45pm, this year's Karlovy Vary International Film Festival will kick off with the unique SymfoMIG concert project.**



The Czech band Mig 21 will perform alongside sixty members of the National Theatre Orchestra and twenty members of the National Theatre Choir under the direction of conductor Jaroslav Kyzlink. But this isn't even the complete list of artists. Dancing on stage with the band's frontman will be members of the National Theatre's ballet company.

The history of the SymfoMIG project begins with the television broadcast of the "Národ sobě – Kultura tobě" concert, organized at the National Theatre by the Metronome Prague festival in collaboration with Czech Television during the tightest part of the lockdown in

February 2021. The band's performance was one of the best at the time, and so it was only logical that preparations were soon begun on a unique concert filled with the band's typical humor.



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*“Performing the opening concert for the 56th KVIFF with the National Theatre Orchestra is one of the greatest possible honors and privileges for our dancing, singing, stripping band of guys from Prague 5-Smíchov. Along with the choir and the members of the ballet, we have put together the largest ever artistic fusion in our band’s history. We can’t rule out that some of the performers will fall from the stage during the production, but we firmly believe that it will be an extraordinary artistic experience, and we promise to appear without underwear,”* says MIG 21’s frontman Jiří Macháček.



The opening concert will take place on the stage by the Hotel Thermal. Admission is free. The final song on the playlist will be accompanied by the traditional festival fireworks.

**KAISER 56 pop-up club moves back to the center of Karlovy Vary!**  
**The main attractions for four nights of concerts are PSH, NobodyListen, Annet X, and Britain’s legendary DMX Krew**

Closer to the people and the city, right at the center of it all! That’s one possible slogan for this year’s popular pop-up club, KAISER 56. The brainchild of the multigenre Bigg Boss label, from 2 to 6 July KAISER will once again be an integral part of the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival. The site of four concerts and DJ sets, all of them free for all visitors, KAISER will move from the former Postal Court back to the festival’s epicenter right next to the iconic Hotel Thermal, under the aegis of the brand-new KVIFF.TV PARK.



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On Saturday 2 July, you can look forward to Prague's legendary rap'n'roll formation **PSH**. First, this trio of performing artists – **Orion**, **Vladimir 518**, and **Mike Trafik** – present the world premiere of the documentary film **PSH Neverending Story** (dir. Štěpánek Vodrážka) in the Hotel Thermal's Small Hall, then they round out the evening with a concert at the Mattoni Life Bar. The pace keeps going the next day, Sunday 3 July, when **Addict** presents its popular show along with special guests **NobodyListen**. Nor are we slowing down on Tuesday 5 July, when the festival stage is taken over by the rising stars of Czech R&B, **Annet X + Radimo**. And finally, the diverse program of

this year's Kaiser culminates in grand style with a concert by London producer Edward Upton alias **DMX Krew**, whose gripping DJ set on 6 July also features DJ St. Jacob.

**2 July 2022 / PSH (Mattoni Life Bar) / admission free / 22.00**

PSH - Já to říkal

Prague's legendary rap'n'roll formation combines solid tracks with an irresistibly idiotic wildness. First, the trio of Orion, Vladimir 518, and Mike Trafik will present the premiere of the documentary film *PSH Neverending Story* (dir. Štěpán FOK Vodrážka), then they take over the Mattoni Life Bar.

**3 July 2022 / Addict: NobodyListen + guests (Mattoni Life Bar) / admission free / 8:30pm**

NobodyListen – Euphoria

Addict is a phenomenon – a different game, different rules, a different addiction. Evidence of how a club DJ set can be transformed into a giant rave at abandoned warehouses and at the heart of a film festival. A sophisticated party, a symbol for the liberating combination of dance and audiovisual experience. Jakub – NobodyListen – Fear.



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**5 July 2022 / Annet X + Radimo (KVIFF.TV PARK) / admission free / 8pm**

Champion Sound – Napiš mi

A story of independence in both form and content, starring singer Aneta Charitonová and Radim Vychopeň alias Radimo, producer and multi-instrumentalist for the band Champion Sound. Their inventive debut album with the excellent title *Až budu velká, chci být Aneta Charitonová* (*When I Grow Up, I Want to Be Aneta Charitonová*, 2020) is full of emotional, humorously told stories and an international sound reflecting contemporary hip-hop and R&B. Their video for “Bylo nebylo” (“Once Upon a Time,” dir. Jaroslav Moravec) won a 2021 Anděl Award.

**6 July 2022 / DMX Krew (DJ set), St. Jacob (KVIFF.TV PARK) / admission free / midnight**

DMX Krew | Boiler Room x Present Perfect Festival

London Calling! British producer and DJ Edward Upton alias DMX Krew. Founder of two labels (Fresh Up Records and Breakin' Records), experimenter, creator of a unique electro-pop sound who has recorded nearly thirty albums and dozens of singles, including several with Vladimir 518. He released six records with Aphex Twin's Rephlex Records and among other things made a name for himself with an excellent electronic set at the Boiler Room.

