



internationale kurzfilmtage winterthur  
international short film festival winterthur

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Winterthur, 28 March 2005

### **Recommendation for Andrew Blackwell, born 15 April 1975**

Andrew Blackwell, born 15 April 1975, was an executive member of the management of the International Short Film Festival Winterthur.

Since its inception in 1997, the International Short Film Festival Winterthur has developed into a widely known and well frequented event in a very short space of time. Being the largest short film festival in Switzerland, it has become an important platform for short films, both nationally and internationally. Every year, prizes are awarded with a total value of over € 20,500. Since 2003, the festival is a member of the European Coordination of Film Festivals.

Andrew Blackwell joined the festival at the beginning of 2003, and right from the start he became active in the festival's management board as well as being employed as one of its executive members (2003: 30% employment, 2004: 60% employment). The duties he was responsible for as executive manager of the festival included:

- Film Logistics: overseeing the submissions process, registering and circulating the submitted films (around 1500 a year). Maintenance of the submissions database. Print coordination of the selected films. Production of DVDs for previewing purposes.
- Maintenance of industry contacts: networking with schools, distributors and filmmakers. Initial direct contact with the invited filmmakers. Overseeing the guest coordination.
- Internal communication: development and implementation of the Intranet web-site. Maintenance of internal e-mail accounts and mailing groups.
- Finance: Budgeting, controlling and accounting of all the festival's financial transactions. Procuring insurance for the films and the event.

With his extraordinarily high organisational skills, Andrew Blackwell accompanied the festival through a challenging phase of growth and made a significant contribution to the development and the fortification of the festival's organisational structures. His profound knowledge of audio-visual media, his multi-lingual background as well as his broad knowledge in fields ranging as far as finance, film history and information technology were all put to optimal use in Andrew's work in the festival office. The festival team has got to know Andrew as a pleasant colleague with a good sense of humour, a broad range of interests and a strong commitment to the festival. He earned much respect, not only for his practical knowledge, but also for his open-minded and tolerant nature.

Andrew Blackwell is leaving us entirely of his own choice in order to seek new professional challenges. We regret his departure from the festival and would like to express our gratitude for his courageous and competent work. We wish him all the best for his professional future and his time in Copenhagen!

Daniel Fuchs  
Member of the Festival Coordination

Laurent Baumann  
Member of the Festival Coordination