

Invitation to Austin, Texas: DFFB alumna Ewa Wikiel presents her graduation film KRZYK - LOSING CONTROL at the 31st SXSW Film & TV Festival



**Berlin, January 19, 2024.** In March 2024, DFFB alumna Ewa Wikiel's graduation film KRZYK – LOSING CONTROL will celebrate its international premiere at the South by Southwest Festival in Austin, Texas.

As part of the 31st edition, the SXSW Film & TV Festival will present an excellent and diverse program of films, TVs, and XR projects from March 8 to 16, 2024. Among these entries is the DFFB graduation film KRZYK – LOSING CONTROL by Ewa Wikiel, a co-production with Big Kedi Pictures and rbb, funded by Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg. KRZYK – LOSING CONTROL will screen in the section GLOBAL, which shows a selection of international and innovative films, such as premieres and festival favorites.

The feature-length film tells the story of a bacteriologist who drives past a burning car and hears the scream of a dying woman. Deeply affected by this incident and by her recent miscarriage, she conceals both events from her boyfriend. Initially overwhelmed by thoughts of pain and escape, she eventually grapples with her loss.

The inspiration for the story was a scream that director Ewa Wikiel heard on a highway as she drove past the scene of an accident. This experience lodged itself in Wikiel's memory. She co-wrote the script with screenwriter Halina Rasinska. KRZYK – LOSING CONTROL is a moving film about a young woman's emotional journey and her unconventional search for healing. Ewa Wikiel and her team (cinematographer Konstantin Minnich, producer Ibrahim-Utku Erdogan, editor Natalia Jachec, and music by Hannah von Hübbenet) have created a world in which dreams and reality blur, allowing the viewer to confront their own fears, dreams, and longings.

"It was a special process to make my first feature film. I wanted to use cinematic means to delve into the darkness of the human soul: to show exactly where it hurts; to show exactly what you want to look away from. I was very moved by what I saw on the director's monitor when we were filming. I want to share this emotional journey with the audience. I believe in the power of cinema—so my crew and I knew from the very beginning that we wanted to bring this story to the big screen. I am very grateful for the festival invitations to Saarbrücken and Texas. These invitations give me the strength to continue making films, and I can't wait to finally see (and hear) on the big screen the scream (KRZYK) that so haunted me since I heard it on the highway." – Ewa Wikiel, Director

KRZYK – LOSING CONTROL will celebrate its world premiere at the 45th Max Ophüls Preis Film Festival in Saarbrücken in January 2024. During its development, the project was invited to work-in-progress sections at Les Arcs IFF 2021 and New Horizons IFF 2022. KRZYK – LOSING CONTROL is Ewa Wikiel's first feature-length film. She was born in Warsaw in 1989. Her short films have screened in international competitions, including in France, Italy, and Argentina. Ewa Wikiel was invited to attend the Talent Demo at the Camerimage Film Festival 2017 and to the Berlinale Script Station 2018.

## Material

You can download our press kit with information, logos, and images here.

## **Press Contact**

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