



THE VIENNALE 2020 WILL TAKE PLACE: A FIRST PREVIEW

The 58th edition of Austria's largest film festival will be presented in a more concentrated format, featuring additional cinemas, more screenings and a stronger Austrian focus.

We're pleased to announce the current planning status for the Viennale 2020. The conditions and requirements for organizing a film festival of our size this fall were initially unclear for a long time and then changed almost weekly, due to announcements of a gradual relaxation of the Covid-19 measures. In the same way as probably all other organizers, we had to reconsider our plans several times and adapt them to ever-new circumstances.

We're preparing for several scenarios this fall and will remain as flexible as possible for as long as possible. It's important to us to organize a festival during which our audiences, guests, and partners feel safe and secure.

What we're happy to present to you today is the current state of planning – with a certain amount of reservation, of course, due to the given circumstances. But our great hope is and remains to organize the 58th Viennale in October as outlined below.



Viennale 2020

Even if there were other technical possibilities, the **experience of watching films together in the cinema** is essential for the Viennale. It's equally important to **emphasize the social and political value of cinema as a cultural practice**. This requires respect for the art form, its production modes and reproduction techniques.

With this in mind, we're working on realizing **our idea of a festival with films and guests** as well as some innovations and changes that take into account the changed dynamics in public spaces. And we're looking forward to seeing you in

Vienna in October in the course of the 58th edition of the Viennale.

The festival will take place **from October 22 to November 1, 2020**; it will end on the Sunday, which makes it three days shorter this year – and yet it will be more intense, because the Viennale will offer more screenings than ever before.

Cinema Circuit

In this extraordinary year, the festival can be experienced at **new locations in the city**. The Viennale is increasing the number of its venues and collaborating with **several art-house cinemas** (including Admiralkino, Filmcasino, Studio Molière, and Votivkino). Additional screenings and more reruns will ensure that there will be sufficient opportunities to watch individual films, even if the number of visitors per screening and cinema hall is reduced.

The exact details of the Viennale 2020 cinema circuit will be finalized in the coming weeks and presented at the summer press conference in late August.

Austrian Cinema Days

In order to celebrate cinema and the film industry, the Viennale will also expand its **activities around Austrian films** this year. As part of the Austrian Cinema Days initiative, expert meetings will take place to examine the country's current film production from an international perspective as well. Last but not least, joyful, informative and inspiring get-togethers will finally be possible again after months of isolation. In addition, the Viennale is collaborating with **Diagonale**, presenting a series of Austrian films that were supposed to premiere at the Diagonale Festival of Austrian Film in Graz in March.

Details of the program and film selection of the Austrian Cinema Days will also be announced at the summer press conference.



New Website

Furthermore, we're pleased to announce that the Viennale has a new website as of today, which is more attractive, clearly structured and up-to-date. And it will also continuously present valuable archive material of the Viennale with **new content and formats**.

See for yourself: www.viennale.at

Summer Press Conference

As in previous years, we'll provide further information on this year's festival, the first details on the program and the Viennale 2020 poster subjects at the traditional summer press conference. It will take place on **Thursday, August 20, 2020, at 5pm**.

We hope that we've been able to offer you interesting information about this year's festival. We're looking forward to seeing you again in October.

If you have further questions, please contact the Viennale press department.
Kindest regards,

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