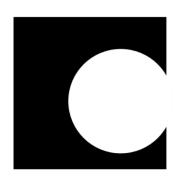


ONE WORLD FESTIVAL HAS OFFICIALLY BEGUN: ZUZANA ČAPUTOVÁ GAVE A SPEECH AT THE OPENING CEREMONY

On the evening of March 12th, 2025, the 27th Annual One World International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival officially kicked off at Prague Crossroads. The opening ceremony featured the presentation of the Homo Homini Human Rights Award, alongside *Together Alone*, a powerful dance performance by Ukrainian dancer and choreographer Yana Reut. The festival will run in Prague until March 20th, culminating in a presentation of this year's film awards. Beyond the capital, One World is set to run in a record-breaking 56 cities across the Czech Republic from March 12th to April 27th, 2025. In Prague, the festival will be followed by *Prague Echoes*. The full program and festival information can be found at www.oneworld.cz.

The evening began with a speech by **former Slovak President, Zuzana Čaputová**. In her address, she highlighted the courage of the awardees and the importance of freedom. "A heartfelt thank you to all who dedicate themselves to rescuing, helping, and protecting others. To those who bear witness to the suffering of the persecuted and ensure their stories are told. You have made a resolute choice between the fundamental contrasts of human nature—selfishness and selflessness."

Zuzana Čaputová proceeded to present the **Homo Homini Award** to Nigerian journalist **Philip Obaji**, who is noted for having uncovered more than 100 cases of serious human rights violations committed by the Wagner Group and other Russian paramilitary organizations in the Central African region. In his acceptance speech, Philip Obaji spoke about the impact of Russian activities on African communities and the vital role of journalism. "I am deeply honored by this award. To me, it is a reminder that God is with me. I have documented countless human rights violations—stories of children forced to witness the murder of their parents. We must come together, take out voices high and ensure that these atrocities do not continue anymore," Obaji declared.



The **special Homo Homini Award** was also given posthumously to Ukrainian journalist **Victoriia Roshchyna** with the editor-in-chief of *Ukrainska Pravda*, Sevgil Musaieva, accepting the honor on her behalf. Victoriia made world headlines when she was arrested while reporting in Russian-occupied territories. According to an official statement from the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she died in captivity in 2024. The award was presented to Musaieva by Ukrainian journalist and human rights activist Maksym Butkevych. In Musaieva's speech, she honored the memory of Victoriia Roshchyna and the 28 Ukrainian journalists currently imprisoned in Russia.

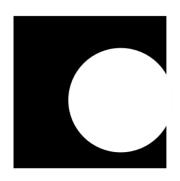
Following the Homo Homini Award ceremony, One World officially commenced with a screening of *My Memory Is Full of Ghosts*, a documentary capturing the resilience of the people of war-torn Homs, Syria.

Directed by Anas Zawahri, the film also served as the festival's public opening screening at Prague's Cinema Lucerna. After the screening, a discussion was held with humanitarian worker **Tomáš Kocián** from People in Need and Arabist and PhD candidate at the Department of Middle Eastern Studies at Charles University's Faculty of Arts, **Anna Filipi**.

One World Presents: What You Haven't Seen Before

Every year, One World showcases films making their debut in various regions and formats. This year's lineup includes 7 world premieres, 7 international premieres, 2 European premieres, 68 Czech premieres, and 3 films with theatrical distribution premieres.

Among the world premieres are <u>Revolution 3.0</u> and <u>Sex Robot Madness</u>. <u>Revolution 3.0</u> takes audiences inside Iran, a country shaken by anti-government protests. Director and editor Reza Bird was forced to flee Iran years ago but has continued to engage in the ongoing demonstrations remotely using technology. Combining autobiographical storytelling with footage of the protests, <u>Revolution</u>



3.0 is not only the story of a country but also that of the film's director. Reza Bird will be attending the world premiere in person.

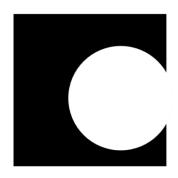
In the documentary <u>Sex Robot Madness</u>, director Jimmy Mehiel explores whether rapidly advancing artificial intelligence can also have an impact on intimate relationships. At a time of crisis in human intimacy, he examines the conditions under which sex robots are produced. The film reveals not only their therapeutic potential but also the risks of exploitation and human trafficking. Director Jimmy Mehiel will personally present the film at the festival.

The festival will also host the world premieres of <u>Urban Disobedience</u> Toolkit, Million Moments, Volver a Volver, Dreams, and Panic Button.

In the coming days, the film program will feature a total of 84 documentaries, 11 narrative films, 9 immersive films, and 6 short films for families. In addition to the four traditional competition sections (International Competition, Czech Competition, Right to Know, and Immersive Films Competition), One World will also offer seven noncompetition categories (The Slovak Journey, Family Webs, Female Gaze, Male Beings, Ecosystems, Searching for Freedom, and Community Boundaries). The festival, which will welcome over 100 special guests from around the world, also offers a diverse range of debates in various formats.

Practical Information

- ●Tickets are available for presale online via GoOut. Festivalgoers can also purchase tickets at the info stand in Lucerna starting March 12th, as well as at the info stand in the Municipal Library and cinema box offices during the festival. The price for general admission is 170 CZK.
- ◆ Holders of ZTP (Severe Disability) and ZTP/P (Severe Disability with a Need for Assistance) cards, and senior citizens over 65 years of age, are eligible for a 50% discount on all screenings.
- An assistant to a ZTP/P cardholder gets free entry.



- The press center, where journalist accreditations will be issued during the festival, is located on the 1st floor of the People in Need Center Langhans (Vodičkova 37, Prague). It will be open from March 12th to 20th, from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Throughout the festival, two information stands will be open—one in the Lucerna Passage and the other in the foyer of the Municipal Library in Prague. At these two info stands, visitors can find all the essential festival information and purchase festival merch, which will also be available for purchase in the One World e-shop at muj.jedensvet.cz/shop.
- This year, tickets can also be purchased directly from the two information stands. Here festivalgoers can buy tickets to any cinema and for any screening. They will receive printed tickets instead of e-tickets.
- This year, ticket bundles will also be available for purchase on GoOut. There are three types of bundles to choose from:
 - 3 tickets for 450 CZK,
 - 5 tickets for 700 CZK,
 - $_{\circ}$ 10 tickets + 2 films on the VOD platform One World Online for 1300 CZK.
- Information about the accessibility of cinemas and the festival program is available at www.oneworld.cz/accessibility. The festival website also enables you to filter your search by accessibility options in the Program section, allowing you to find the screening that best suits your needs.

For detailed festival information and downloadable materials, visit www.oneworld.cz.

Watch this year's festival trailer here.

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