



Charity Chief Urges Neutrality in Politics

Description

The Berlin Film Festival started on Thursday with a focus on political issues, including the war in Gaza. Wim Wenders, the jury president, answered questions about the role of films in politics.

Wenders, a well-known German director, stated that "movies can change the world," but not directly in politics. He suggested that films help shape people's ideas about their lives, reflecting a gap between ordinary people's desires and government actions.

The jury, which includes directors and producers from various countries, was asked about the ongoing conflict in Gaza and Germany's support for Israel, given that the government funds much of the festival. Ewa Puszczyńska, a jury member, described the question as "a bit unfair." She explained that while the jury aims to provoke thought among viewers, they cannot control how individuals choose to support either side.

Wenders added that filmmakers should avoid direct political involvement. He believes their work should serve the public, rather than act like politicians.

Technical difficulties disrupted the livestream of the press conference during this discussion, leading to questions about whether it was intentional. However, the Berlinale later explained the issues and stated that a full recording would be available online soon.

The festival runs until February 22, beginning with the premiere of "No Good Men" by Shahrbanoo Sadat.

Vocabulary List:

1. **political** /pə'lit.ɪ.kəl/ (adjective): Relating to the government or public affairs of a country.
2. **reflecting** /rɪ'flek.tɪŋ/ (verb): Showing or expressing something; to think carefully or deeply about something.
3. **provoking** /prə'vʊʃ.kɪŋ/ (verb): Causing a reaction or feeling.
4. **disrupted** /dɪs'rʌptɪd/ (verb): Interrupted or disturbed in a way that prevents something from continuing normally.
5. **funds** /fʌndz/ (noun): Monetary resources available for spending or investment.
6. **intentional** /ɪn'ten.ʃən.əl/ (adjective): Done on purpose; deliberate.

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. What is the focus of the Berlin Film Festival highlighted in the text?
 - Option: Musical performances
 - Option: Culinary arts
 - Option: Political issues
 - Option: Fashion trends

2. Who is the jury president mentioned in the text?
 - Option: Steven Spielberg
 - Option: Wim Wenders
 - Option: Quentin Tarantino
 - Option: Greta Gerwig

3. According to Wim Wenders, how can movies change the world?
 - Option: By directly influencing politics
 - Option: By shaping people's ideas about their lives
 - Option: By generating revenue for governments
 - Option: By creating new fashion trends

4. What disrupted the livestream of the press conference according to the text?
 - Option: Weather conditions
 - Option: Technical difficulties
 - Option: Protests
 - Option: Power outage

5. What film is mentioned as having its premiere at the festival?
 - Option: The Quiet Place
 - Option: No Good Men
 - Option: The Great Escape
 - Option: Inception

6. Which jury member described a question about the conflict in Gaza as "a bit unfair"?
 - Option: Ewa Puszczyńska
 - Option: Steven Spielberg
 - Option: Quentin Tarantino
 - Option: Greta Gerwig



True-False

7. Wim Wenders believes filmmakers should get directly involved in politics.
8. The Berlin Film Festival started on a Friday.
9. The jury at the festival includes only German members.
10. The Berlinale encountered no technical difficulties during the press conference.
11. The festival lasts until the end of March.
12. Ewa Puszczyńska stated that the jury can directly control how individuals choose to support either side.

Gap-Fill

13. Wim Wenders believes movies can change the world by shaping people's ideas about their _____.
14. The Berlin Film Festival started on a _____ with a focus on political issues.
15. Ewa Puszczyńska described the question about Gaza as "a bit _____."
16. The festival runs until _____ 22.
17. "No Good Men" by Shahrbanoo Sadat had its premiere at the _____.
18. The Berlinale later explained the technical difficulties and stated that a full recording would be available _____.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Political issues 2. Wim Wenders 3. By shaping people's ideas about their lives 4. Technical difficulties 5. No Good Men 6. Ewa Puszczyńska

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. lives 14. Thursday 15. unfair 16. February 17. festival 18. online soon

CATEGORY



1. Entertainment - LEVEL3

POST TAG

1. B1
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. Level 3
5. We Have to Stay Out of Politics

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Date Created

2026/02/13

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