



EUROPA DISTRIBUTION - PRESS RELEASE

August 5 2014

**DISTRIBUTION WORKSHOP**  
**Festival del Film di Locarno**  
**August 9-12 2014**

Europa Distribution, for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row, is hosting a distribution workshop in the scope of the Festival del Film di Locarno. About 40 independent distributors' members of the network will participate in this workshop, **"About the role of television in the career of independent films"**.

Its topic, the TV acquisitions, has raised a lot of interest among independent distributors. It has indeed become a serious concern for the sector: everywhere in Europe, more and more distributors have to deal with the lack of acquisitions by both free-TV and pay-TV, which consequently threatens the market of European independent films.

Europa Distribution has therefore created this workshop as a chance for professionals both from the TV and the distribution fields to explore the reasons for such an evolution and to find ideas to facilitate the circulation and exposure of movies on what is still the most common support for audiences.

The workshop will take place on Saturday August 9, from 9:30 to 12:30am. Panelists include Valérie Lardinois (RTBF, Belgium), Karen Byot (Arte, France). Susan Wendt (Trust Nordisk, Denmark & president of Europa International), Fernando Riera (A Contracorriente, Spain) and Silke Wilfinger (Koch Media & The Independents, Germany). The panel will be moderated by Wendy Mitchell, chief editor of Screen International (United Kingdom) and followed by round tables.

Attending distributors will also participate in the festival activities such as the Industry Days (screenings and meetings), Step In.CH (devoted to the new situation Switzerland is facing in regards to the EU and the Creative Europe/MEDIA programme) and Step In (interprofessional round tables on topics such as audience development, the role of curators and community builders on releases, VOD and Day & Date) with which Europa Distribution has developed a partnership.

*Created in 2006, Europa Distribution is the network of independent distributors. With more than 140 members representing 28 countries in Europe and beyond, the network has reinforced the integration and collaboration process between its members, acts as a think tank and serves as the voice of the sector.*

CONTACT: For information about the Locarno workshop, contact: [communication@europa-distribution.org](mailto:communication@europa-distribution.org)



Festival del film  
Locarno



*With the support of the MEDIA  
program of the European  
Commission*