

MOVING BAL TIC SEA FESTIVAL

JULY 4 - 7 ROSTOCK

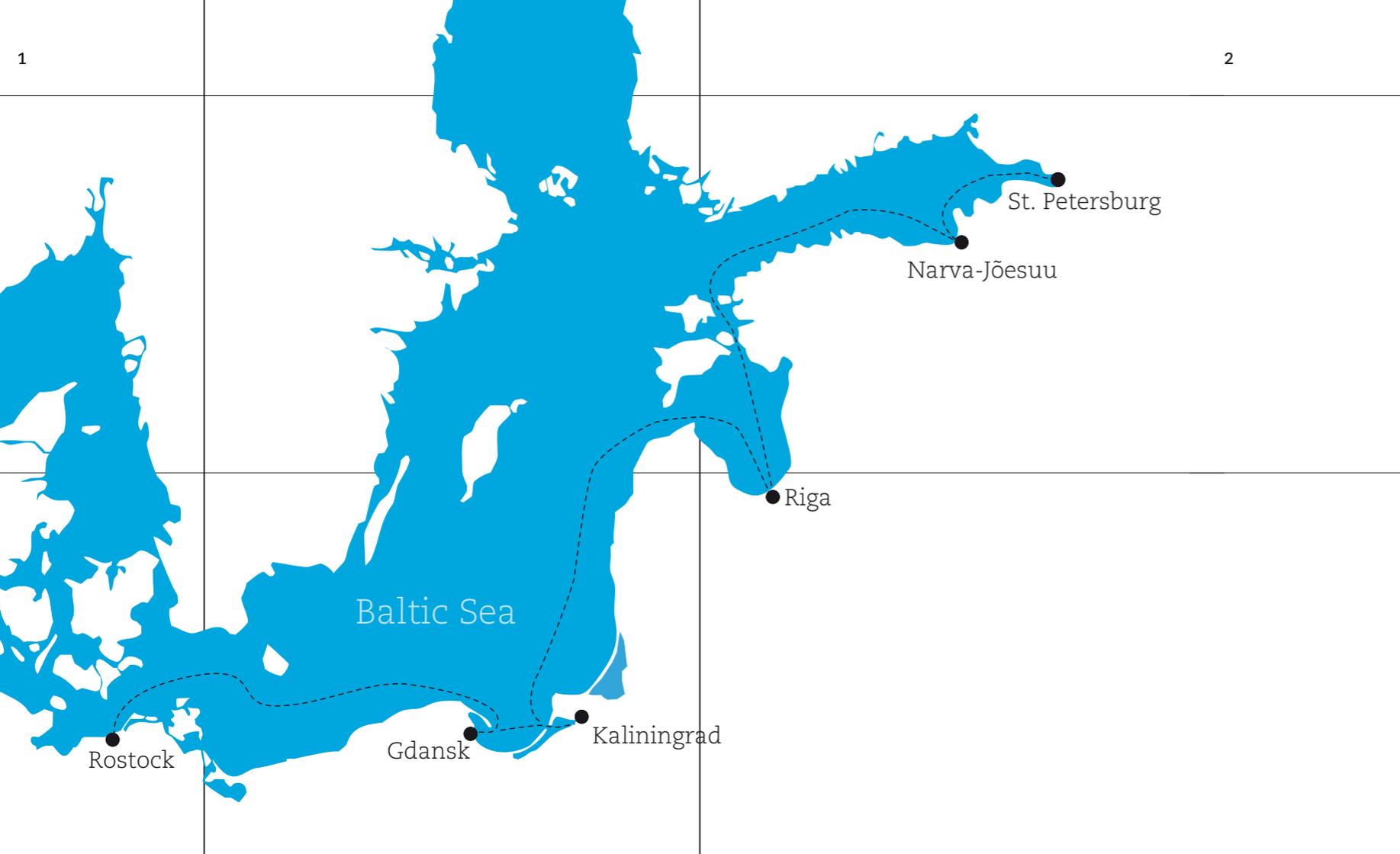
JULY 11-14 GDANSK

JULY 19-22 KALININGRAD

JULY 31 - AUGUST 3 RIGA

AUGUST 9 - 12 NARVA-JÖESUU

AUGUST 21 - 24 ST. PETERSBURG



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3	<h2>SETTING SAIL</h2>	<p>ecological challenges such as the damage of the marine ecosystem really being addressed? How can we establish a feeling of common responsibility without neglecting cultural and social differences? And last but not least, how can we make use of diverse forms of cultural expression to raise awareness for these issues?</p>	4	<p>next stop, we shared our impressions and experiences thus far in the form of exhibitions, documentaries and presentations.</p>
	<p>Our sailing film and environmental festival in five Baltic Sea countries has come to an end. Its outcomes and our memories, however, reach into the present: Watching short films open-air next to an old research vessel. Jumping out of our berths at three o'clock in the morning when all hands on deck were needed to take down the sails on a stormy night. Discussing why culture has the potential to raise environmental awareness with politicians and artists. Taking water samples of the Baltic Sea to analyse the nitrogen content. And jumping into those same waters from the ship's railing to take a swim between the Russian and the EU coast line.</p>	<p>The vision gradually took on shape and resulted in a festival that in summer 2008 sailed on the ship Lovis from Rostock to Gdansk, Kaliningrad, Riga, Narva-Jõesuu and St. Petersburg. At each stop, four-day festivals with short film programmes, discussions and workshops took place in public spaces, open-air and free of charge. During all events people were invited to let environmental issues inspire them to creatively express themselves. As each local environmental and cultural organisation chose different forms of addressing the public and of implementing the festival, each stop had its own unique atmosphere. While the Polish organisations arranged events in the main pedestrian zone, the Latvian partners decided on newly emerging alternative artist locations as venues. While the Moving Baltic Sea crew received a lot of media attention and was invited to a TV debate show in Russia, the Estonians decided to let pupils produce their own Moving Baltic Sea TV news. After busy and inspiring festival days, activists and artists from one country joined the crew on board of the Lovis to sail to the next country, to work and live together for a few days. Once we arrived at the</p>		<p>In the course of two years of joint project preparation and an enriching festival experience, we not only made crucial Baltic Sea issues move, but also learned a lot from each other - 60 organisers, 120 sailors, 350 volunteers, artists and experts and a total of 15000 festival visitors. The result is an enduring network of artists, filmmakers, environmental activists and organisers from various cultural and environmental institutions. Moving Baltic Sea made an essential contribution to the exchange of ideas and people from which we will all profit in the future.</p>
	<p>It's been a long journey from the very beginning to the day the Moving Baltic Sea project set sail as a travelling film and environment festival. When we first came up with the idea for Moving Baltic Sea, we had a rather hazy vision of working together with people from countries adjoining the Baltic Sea in order to find new, inspiring ways to tackle ecological challenges and to spark cultural exchange. Several thoughts and questions have been guiding us ever since. It seems that in light of the political changes within the last two decades, a common understanding of the problems and chances that affect us all ought to have grown. But is the Baltic Sea really on the move? Are common</p>	<p>the public and of implementing the festival, each stop had its own unique atmosphere. While the Polish organisations arranged events in the main pedestrian zone, the Latvian partners decided on newly emerging alternative artist locations as venues. While the Moving Baltic Sea crew received a lot of media attention and was invited to a TV debate show in Russia, the Estonians decided to let pupils produce their own Moving Baltic Sea TV news. After busy and inspiring festival days, activists and artists from one country joined the crew on board of the Lovis to sail to the next country, to work and live together for a few days. Once we arrived at the</p>		

PIECES OF THE PUZZLE

Moving Baltic Sea hosted events and workshops that took place at all the festival stops, and others that were unique to the individual location. The following were the pieces of the puzzle that fitted in at all of the festival stops:

“Stories from the Seaside and “Colours of Green“: Film Screenings

With mild, starry Baltic Sea night as a perfect setting, two main film programmes were shown throughout the Moving Baltic Sea festival.

Whether with the backdrop of historic harbour cranes in Rostock, in the middle of Gdansk’s old town square, in a former factory courtyard in Riga, or projected directly onto the ship’s sails in idyllic Narva Jõesuu– the screenings of the two main film programmes shown throughout the Moving Baltic Sea festival took place in spectacular open-air locations.

The competition programme “Stories from the Seaside” was selected by an international jury. It represents a fantastic diversity of works that bear witness to the wealth of film culture in the Baltic Sea region.

The short film screening “Colours of Green”, curated by the Moving Baltic Sea team, features surprise shorts

on environmental themes and about the Baltic Sea. A mix of music video, fiction, animation, documentary, it includes jewels such as a historic silent film about fishermen’s life on the Baltic. The programme offers a broad interpretation of environmental subject matter and inspiring cinematic examples of how the theme can make for amazing films.

“Stories from the Seaside” - Short Film Programme:

Fish’n Ships

D: Axel Brötje, Germany 2007, Animation

(Desi’re:) The Goldstein Reels

D: Unknown/Romeo Grünfelder, Germany 2005, Experimental Documentary

The end of Summer

D: Karolina Bielawska, Poland 2007, Fiction

Lost in snow

D: Vladimir Leschiov, Latvia 2007, Animation

Dear World

D: Kei Ishikawa, Poland 2008, Fiction

Leap

D: Magne Pettersen, Norway 2005, Fiction

The Tiny Fish

D: Sergei Ryabov, Russia 2007, Animation

Red Spot

D: Uģis Olte, Latvia 2008, Fiction

The perfect place

D: Elena Solodkova, Russia 2006, Documentary

Dea Marina

D: Asa Sjöström, Sweden 1996, Animation

“Colours of Green” - Short Film Programme:

Heavy Potter, Popcorn, Good Night, Ice, Scratch,

Boomerang, Spots for Nachhaltiger Filmblick
Collegium for the Management of Sustainable Development

Rocks

D: Chris Stenner, Heidi Wittlinger, Arvid Uibel, Germany 2001, Animation

The Market

D: Ana Hušman, Croatia 2006, Experimental Documentary

The German Baltic Sea

D: Hans Cürlis, Germany 1928, Silent film

Homework

D: Fabian Möhrke Germany 2003, Mockumentary

Oilgobblers

D: Jan Svěrák, Czech Republic 1988, Mockumentary

Tender Deer

D: Claudia Zoller, Germany 1991, Animation

Finow

D: Susanne Quester, Germany 2002, Mockumentary

The Def Song

Animation: Doctor L and Xavier Reyé, France 2004, Music Video



The Panel Discussions

... centered on Baltic Sea pollution

Did you know that the Baltic Sea is one of the most polluted bodies of water on planet Earth? The delicate maritime ecosystem is threatened by human activities such as overfishing, toxic pollution, the exploitation of offshore oil and gas resources, climate change and increased sea-based shipping and trade.

Pollution caused from activities on land and on water is one of the most pressing environmental issues affecting the Baltic Sea. Young environmental activists, representatives of environmental NGOs and grassroots initiatives, politicians, scientists, and media and culture representatives discussed these topics at each of the six festival stops.

...addressed common challenges on a local level

The discussions took into account both the need to act transnationally and the significance of specific local environmental problems. Depending on the nature of these problems, the focus varied – from the conservation of coastal regions and biodiversity to eutrophication, from pollution through oil shale mining to the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) Action Plan and the question of the role of art and culture in the debate on environmental issues. Participants had the



opportunity to discuss transnational environmental issues and to find out how to get involved in local activities.

... travelled the Baltic Sea and across borders

Panelists and audience in all cities had the opportunity to address questions or deliver messages for the next country on the Moving Baltic Sea route. These questions and a short summary of the previous discussions opened the panel discussion at the next festival stop.

Independently of the regional focus of the debates, the discussions clearly proved that the pollution of the Baltic Sea and its protection needs to be jointly addressed: an exchange of information, transparent politics and the compliance with international treaties are prerequisites for an effective maritime protection strategy. Furthermore, the importance of a creative approach to environmental issues as a means for public participation in political processes and for developing broad environmental awareness was strongly emphasized in the discussions.



Shoot & Run: The 48-Hour Film Contest

The Riga organizers chose an extraordinary approach – they locked their film teams in a room. The reason: The teams had to develop a script on the topic “Climate Change”, then shoot and edit the film. And all of this in just 48 hours.

This film contest was one of the most action-packed and challenging elements of the festival. Young filmmakers were assigned the task of proving how environmental topics can be creatively implemented in a film. After completing a short within 48 hours, their films were screened, with the audience choosing the winner.

The topics - from “eco-thriller” to “architecture of water” – were as diverse as was the implementation and outcome. In Narva-Jõesuu, the contestants were supported by professional filmmakers. Kaliningraders shot mute films that were accompanied by live sound during the screening.

Winners were awarded the editing software “Avid Media Composer Academic” or a sailing trip to the next festival stop.



Plotki - “Stories from the Seaside” Step by Step and Stop by Stop... creating a Baltic Magazine

Quite a challenge! The Plotki Magazine is used to multinational projects, working with authors, photographers and illustrators from all around the bloc. But a sailing festival was nevertheless something completely new for us. The task: to create a transnational magazine from and about the Baltic Sea Region, and to do it during the Moving Baltic Sea sailing and festival tour.

The approach: at every stop we offered various workshops for potential contributors. We created an open space for Baltic creativity by holding creative writing workshops during all Moving Baltic Sea festival stops and photography and poster workshops in Latvia and Estonia. At the same time we also sent out a call for contributions all around the Baltic Sea Region, creating a virtual network.

The result: Back from the tour we made a selection of all contributions for the brand new and beautiful issue “Stories from the Seaside”. If you are lucky you might already have it. If not, visit our website, order our Baltic Stories or enjoy it online: www.plotki.net



Workshops & Events

How can cultural and artistic stimulation raise awareness of environmental issues? The individual partner organizations of Moving Baltic Sea each responded to this challenge based on their own particular strengths and interests. As a result, every stop of the tour featured a number of unique workshops.

Some attracted professionals, for example the Polish photography competition “The Baltic in the photographic Lens”. Others attracted enthusiasts looking to learn new skills, such as shooting documentaries about biological and cultural issues relating to rivers in Estonia.

Whereas some events were hands-on, such as workshops on poster illustration in Riga and Narva-Jõesuu, or making animated films and comics in Rostock, others were theoretical, such as the discussion with a Latvian journalist who shared her behind-the-scenes experience in environmental analytical journalism.

Audience participation was essential for some events, like building huge puppets representing threatened ocean species out of paper, wood and papier-mâché.



Other events, such as artists in Kaliningrad creating graffiti on the topic of pollution in the Baltic Sea or the screening of self-made films on environmental protection, allowed the audience to simply sit back and enjoy.

And at each stop of the tour there were countless activities for children. To name just a few: children from Rostock produced their own personal comics; in Gdansk, they drew different species after having observed them under microscopes; in Narva-Jõesuu they built a real Lodi boat. In St. Petersburg teenagers and adults held a seminar on voluntary eco-work.

The wide range of activities during each festival stop combined to raise awareness of environmental issues and give the festival tour, as a whole, its unique character. Shooting films, watching films, taking photographs, drawing comics, having discussions, writing, analysing, reporting, performing, listening, creating, travelling... moving Baltic Sea!



Festival Centre

The eye-catching, dome-shaped Festival Centre was a Moving Baltic Sea landmark on shore. It was here that visitors received information about the project and daily festival programme, met people or just relaxed in the deck chairs surrounding the tent. A growing exhibition creatively documenting previous tour stops, in the form of comics, photos, or short texts, was also on view in the festival centre, as were short eco-spots. At the festival center, spontaneous passers-by mingled with festival regulars, volunteers and organisers, making it into a central meeting place and networking hotspot.



Tour Documentation and Documentary Film

The Moving Baltic Sea film team set sail with not just one, but two film missions: a documentary film and a tour documentation. The latter is an important element of the festival itself, capturing images of sailing, impressions of the festival events, brief audience interviews, and statements by the festival makers. Edited on board, it was screened at each festival stop. The tour documentation tied the different stops of the Moving Baltic Sea festival together, growing longer as the tour progressed and ending with each festival audience's greetings to the next stop.

An ambitious second project, the documentary film was conceived and shot by the Moving Baltic Sea film team and slowly progressed apart from all bustling festival activity. The film, reflecting one of the main concerns of the festival itself, is about the identity of Baltic Sea inhabitants. In each country, people who have spent much time by the sea spoke about what the sea means to them, about borders and about their close personal connection to the Baltic. With protagonists ranging from a Russian ship's captain to a Latvian kite surfer to a Polish seaman's bar owner, the common denominator of all is the meaningfulness of the Baltic Sea. The documentary film will be edited and ready for screening in 2009.



THE TOUR AND FESTIVAL STOPS

On the High Seas - Travelling with the Lovis

The sailing trip aboard the Lovis connected the countries surrounding the Baltic Sea. The ship, which is over 100 years old, served not only as an environmentally friendly means of transport, but also as a symbol for international cooperation. It became a melting pot for new ideas and a place for creative work. On each leg, participants from as many as ten different countries travelled to the next destination to present the results and relate experiences from the previous tour stop. For several days, the 36.5m Lovis became a common home where the newly formed crew worked and lived together. A total of 120 people travelled onboard the ship. On the high seas we not only learnt how to steer the rudder and man the sails, we battled seasickness during rough weather, relaxed during calm weathers and organized spontaneous film screenings, workshops and project presentations, wrote entries for the tour blog, evaluated the last stop and prepared for the next one.

PARTNER ORGANISATION

Since 2000, the sailing ship Lovis, measuring 36.5m from stern to bow, has been travelling the Baltic Sea, offering projects such as Moving Baltic Sea a platform for artistic, ecological and political activities. The responsible NGO is BÖE e.V. in Greifswald, Germany. www.lovis.de



July 4 - 7

Rostock, Germany

The launch of Moving Baltic Sea

Moving Baltic Sea kicked off its two-month tour with an opening event in Rostock. The festival ship, the Lovis, moored in the spacious port of the old Hanseatic city, and the festival took place on the waterfront with a backdrop of two beautiful derelict cranes, old brick warehouses, and a gorgeous circus tent. For four days the magical setting was transformed by film screenings, larger-than-life puppet performances, and environmental and cultural workshops.

With the help of the various partner organisations a successful first tour stop was achieved, setting the whole tour off to a great start. The diverse influences contributed by the partner organisations also resulted in an interested and varied festival programme, which included a panel discussion on the problems of over-fishing and pollution caused by industrial livestock farming; a workshop where participants analysed water samples from the Baltic Sea using microscopes; and further workshops which allowed members of the public to team up with professionals to develop storyboards and create films and comics reflecting their favourite seaside experiences.

Parallel to the ongoing workshops, festival visitors

listened to radio plays such as “Twenty thousand Leagues Under the Sea” or local fairy tales. They relaxed in deck chairs, enjoyed delicious organic food, cooled their feet in a little pool and reflected on their impressions of the festival.

During the evenings crowds gathered in front of Moving Baltic Sea’s open-air stage to view the short film programmes and the results of the 48-hour film contest. A “green” poetry slam allowed authors to express themselves on social and environmental issues, while concerts and performances went on into the night.

After four eventful days, the Moving Baltic Sea crew set sail towards the East aboard the Lovis.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN GERMANY

The travelling short film festival *Moviemiento* promotes young European filmmakers and connects people, places and cultures by way of film and travel
www.moviemiento.com

Ökohaushaus e. V. is a working association operating in the educational sector with a focus on environmental education and sustainability
www.oekohaushaus-rostock.de



July 11 -14

Gdansk, Poland**Dragon Boats and the marine adventures of Bolek & Lolek**

On arriving in Gdansk, it became clear that each festival stop would be completely unique. The Lovis docked next to the former fish market in the centre of the old town and the festival venue itself was located right on the bustling main pedestrian street and surrounded by medieval houses.

Curious passers-by were welcomed into festival tents and could easily join the audience in front of the stage on Długa Street. Children were encouraged to spontaneously participate in various workshops: they could become acquainted with Baltic Sea inhabitants, such as shrimp and shellfish, observe various ocean species under microscopes and test their memory, or draw the creatures. Other workshops focused on making paper, drawing comics or juggling.

Further Moving Baltic Sea events were spread all over the city. The best contributions to the national photographic competition titled "The Baltic in the Photographic Lens" were exhibited in various cultural centres and parks. The city hall hosted a high-profile conference on the causes of declining biodiversity in the Baltic Sea.



The Moving Baltic Sea crew participated in a dragon boat race, a sailors' parade, and a sailboat regatta.

The illuminated façades of the old buildings created an atmospheric venue for all the night-time events: marine and water adventure episodes of the classic Polish cartoon Bolek and Lolek were accompanied by live music and sound effects, and the cult film Rejs attracted young and old spectators alike despite rain showers. The short film programmes, concerts with alternative local bands, a fire show, political street theatre, and a performance completed the cultural programme.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN POLAND

The Centre for Ecological Information and Education (CIEE) collects and gives access to information on sustainable development for children, youth, teachers, local authorities and NGOs
www.ciee-gda.pl

The Culture Collective of the University of Gdansk deals with political, social and ecological issues and encourages students to organise projects and events related to social issues
www.kk.ug.gda.pl

July 19 - 22

Kaliningrad, Russia**The festival amidst research vessels and a submarine**

The Lovis sailed into the port city of Kaliningrad, where the festival was staged on the Pregel River on the grounds of the Museum of the World Ocean (MWO).

Visitors dropped by to pick up information, to chat, and to write comments in the guest book. Many expressed their support for Kaliningrad being part of such a project. In workshops, participants learnt about recycling and practised making paper from office waste paper. Children presented the outcomes of their river monitoring projects in a public panel discussion. And in a live performance, artists created a graffiti mural addressing waste and over-fishing in the Baltic Sea. Waste, being one of the predominant ecological problems in Kaliningrad, was also chosen as the topic for the 48-hour film contest. The rule: silent films only - to be accompanied by a live musical performance.

The submarine and the two research vessels provided an impressive backdrop for Moving Baltic Sea's outdoor screenings and evening events. People gathered to enjoy experimental music, where electronic samples evoked ocean waves, and watched a presentation of the images created during the photography workshop, which

investigated Kaliningrad port as a symbolic border between the city and the sea.

Is this type of festival an appropriate way to raise awareness of environmental issues? This was the topic discussed by the Moving Baltic Sea team together with local politicians and scientists during the TV show "Positia" ("Position"), broadcast on the Kaliningrad local TV channel. The conclusion: a resounding yes, and furthermore, this type of festival has the added bonus of bringing together people from neighbouring countries.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN KALININGRAD, RUSSIA

The Museum of the World Ocean (MWO), the central maritime museum of Russia, presents exhibitions on the history of the exploration of the World Ocean and its nature, and develops educational and research concepts on historical ships preservation, maritime history and culture of the Baltic region
www.vitiaz.ru

The group Ecodefense! focuses on deep ecology and biocentrism and works to inform and involve citizens in environmental and social activities
www.ecodefense.ru

The Guide promotes environmental education and supports long-term public initiatives to conserve biodiversity
www.guideinfo.nm.ru



July 31 – August 3

Riga, Latvia

Taking over the whole town

In Riga the Moving Baltic Sea Festival was staged at different locations all over the city. The main venue was the arts location Spikeri, a charming complex of former warehouse buildings. The festivals' film programmes and a collection of experimental documentaries were screened in the industrial atmosphere of the courtyard, and an exciting musical programme presented local bands and DJs inside one of the warehouses and in a nearby pedestrian tunnel.

A second festival venue was the floating gallery Noass, a flexible project space moored off a peninsula stretching out into the Daugava. At Noass, the festival opened with a panel discussion on The Baltic Sea Action Plan, including recent assessments of the ecological situation in the region, and focussed on the problem of phosphates in laundry detergents.

Various theoretical and creative workshops invited the audience to participate: a well-known journalist held a workshop on analytical environmental journalism; "Live Green for Baltic Sea" promoted the use of environmentally friendly products; a photography workshop, including hands-on training, introduced participants to

the theory and practice of documentary photography, while an illustration workshop produced posters about culture and ecology in the Baltic Sea region.

A special event called Kino Komuna added a unique twist to the 48-hour film contest: all the film teams were locked in for the first 12 hours to create scripts and pitch them to each other and a jury of professionals. The creative brainstorming session was broadcast all night on the festival website. During the remaining 36 hours the teams shot and edited their films, which were then presented at the closing event.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN LATVIA

The main long-term project of the Virtual Studio Urga is 2ANNAS – an international short film festival promoting non-commercial cinema and featuring creative shorts produced by young independent filmmakers www.2annas.lv

The Foundation for Environmental Education Latvia (FEE Latvia) integrates principles of sustainability in environmental education and raises public awareness on environmental protection and sustainable development www.videsfonds.lv



August 9 - 12

Narva-Jõesuu, Estonia**A natural amphitheatre for Moving Baltic Sea**

After calling at several well-known cities, Moving Baltic Sea arrived in the tiny town of Narva-Jõesuu in Estonia, just a stone's throw away from Russia on the other side of the Narva River. The festival enjoyed an idyllic location at a pier in the Narva, between woods and a sandy white beach.

At this stop, the Lovis was more closely integrated into the festival than at any other location. During the four-day event the ship's sails served as a screen for the films. The colourful buses of Moviemiento and Kinobuss were parked right next to the ship, and just a few steps further stood the Festival Centre, next to big tents that hosted the workshops.

Moving Baltic Sea took part in the town's anniversary celebrations and the mayor of Narva-Jõesuu officially opened the Festival with a very welcoming speech. During the daytime enthusiastic children dedicated themselves to the reconstruction of the wooden Lodi boat, a historical Viking ship, using authentic hand-made tools. Visitors created posters, participated in the 48-hour film contest and made audiovisual festival journals in a mobile studio. Reminiscent of the early days of cinema, the audiovisual journals, reporting the



events of the day, were screened before the main film programme.

Representatives from all over Estonia joined the panel discussion to address the challenges of energy consumption in the region. By presenting all events in Estonian, Russian and English, the partner organisations did a great job of integrating locals and guests from abroad into the festival.

Approximately 50 students from different schools in the region celebrated the premiere of their environmental films on the topics of rivers and nature reserves. The screening of the films from the 48-hour film contest, and of a silent film from 1927 accompanied by live music, was met with much enthusiasm. People of all ages attended the festival. In the beginning many were shy, however, by the end of the event most asked whether it would be possible for the festival to return to their small town every year.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN ESTONIA

Kinobuss Estonia works year round against the extinction of travelling cinemas and the policy of monopolized film distribution by screening local films and world cinema in local cultural centres
www.kinobuss.ee

The main goals of the Center for Applied Ecology (CAE) are the dissemination of knowledge about environmental protection and environmental education
www.roek.ee



August 21 - 24

St. Petersburg, Russia The grand finale

The final stop of Moving Baltic Sea marked the culmination of all the ideas and strategies developed throughout the tour. The festival in St. Petersburg therefore played a significant role not only in presenting the results of the previous stops, but also in attempting to ensure the sustainable nature of the networks built between artists, filmmakers and environmental activists from all the countries visited during the tour.

Film screenings, graffiti contests, and other events took place in the Modern Art Center - a former cinema on Vasilevsky Island, turned into a contemporary art and concert venue. A stimulating and dynamic panel discussion on methods of promoting environmental issues through art and cultural events kicked off the festival programme. The discussion went on to consider environmental awareness in general and also explored ways of promoting 'green' topics in soap operas.

In the sunny courtyard of the Modern Art Center young artists exhibited work based on green topics, while DJs played outdoors, right next to the young graffiti artists creating green graffiti. Numerous other events took place, both indoors and outdoors, including workshops for environmental volunteers and workshops on how

to make art from rubbish and everyday objects. Throughout the festival, visitors could view a photo exhibition on trash and an art installation as well as a short film programme on the topic of water. In the evenings the huge hall of the former cinema filled with people enjoying the film programmes and concerts. The colourful multitude of fun, creative and educational events lit up the Modern Art Center and the surrounding area with the animated conversations of the visitors and their hope for a brighter, more environmentally conscious, future.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

The German-Russian Exchange works to facilitate the exchange of innovative ideas and experiences between activists, volunteers and non-profit organisations in Russia and Europe
www.obmen.org

Keep Saint Petersburg Tidy promotes sustainable development through environmental education and aims to raise the environmental awareness of young people by encouraging them to take part in decision-making processes
www.kspt-blueflag.ru



DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES ON MOVING BALTIC SEA

Excerpts from the Tour Blog

During the course of the Moving Baltic Sea festival, sailors and landlubbers, filmmakers and environmental activists wrote a daily tour diary. Read some excerpts about sailing adventures and festival experiences, and don't miss some of the best seaman's tales...Surf along with us through this short selection!

Rostock

from: "The Princess and the Schweinswal" by Kathleen Wächter

There are people here writing stories, creating paper animals, dressing up in aluminium foil for eco-comics. I listened to scientists and filmmakers talking about

the key issue – the Baltic Sea. I set sail with the Lovis to become acquainted with the endangered "Schweinswal", an existence of which I had never heard about before. And to make things perfect, I got turned into a princess in a comic workshop. I had a great time, insightful and with loads of fun.

Gdansk

From: "Witamym Gdansk!" by Nadina Wojcik

The Lovis finally parks right in the middle of the old town in Gdansk. We cannot believe how perfect our ship is situated for the next days, and from the first minute bunches of people look interested at the ship and the posters. What a nice welcome! What a perfect start!

Kaliningrad

From: "The City: Subjective Impressions" by Miriam Dagan

The rich, eventful and often tragic history of this city seems to be so deeply embedded in the consciousness of Kaliningraders, old and young, whom I have talked to. Friday night on promotion tour, some young Kaliningraders asked us: What are you doing here? Maybe it's just my feeling that many reacted with surprise to our visit here, with enthusiasm to our project but with wonder at why we should choose this city (...) The info centre is full of people, kids are drawing boats in the guest book and adults are chatting with our Russian volunteers. Come evening, the place is full of people for the film screening. Probably half of them were already here yesterday and came back today.

Riga

From: "There are Some Artists in the Town" by Marek Kraska

And from the first glance it became almost obvious that every festival stop is completely different than the others. Every country, town and partner organisation changes the image of MBS on its tour.

Narva-Jõesuu

From: "Festival in a Living Room" by Nadina Wojcik

We had them all, the capitals of the Baltic Sea: Rostock, Gdansk, Kaliningrad, Riga. And now? Narva-Jõesuu.



Narva-what? (...) Our festival is beautifully located right in the little harbour, everything is just around the corner – from the deck of the sailing ship we can look right into our info-tent onshore (...) Some little boys turn up, desperate to help us decorating the festival area. Bikers on old-school motorcycles appear, driving in a circle, once, twice and disappearing again, children build tiny wooden ships with sails out of newspaper and give them a whirl on the Narva river. Thank you Narva-Jõesuu for welcoming us so warmly and turning the festival into this familiar happening.

St. Petersburg

From: "Opening Party" by Alexej Gorin

Nature gave its highest blessing! Champagne mixed with rain water, everybody pressing close to each other and everybody laughing (...) It was not an end, but the last station of the festival Moving Baltic Sea.

On the sea

From: "Dogwatch" by Nils Möllmann

Later, silence falls all over the ship, even the folks of the nightshift are quieter. Darkness claims a particular attention and focus from everybody, sometimes like meditation (...) My watch is international: Polish-Russian-Dutch-German, sometimes communication is simple sometimes it is a Tower of Babel.

www.movingbalticsea.org/blog

Moving Baltic Sea Tour at a Glance

Project

Duration of project in weeks:	106
Organisers:	62
Number of partner organisations:	14
Actual festival days:	24
Number of individual events:	97
Approximate number of visitors:	15,000
Total number of participants at workshops:	3450

Festival Tour

Sea miles travelled by sail:	2342
Days at sea:	46
Number of sailors:	120
Storms:	13
Harbours:	35

Porpoise sightings:	0
Km travelled by accompanying tour bus:	4100

Public Relations

Website visitors:	18,236
Blog visitors:	6,559
Blog entries:	56
Hits on Google for "Moving Baltic Sea":	11,600
Booklets:	6000
Posters:	7500
Postcards:	12000
Press reports in print and online:	343
Sponsors:	123



Media Comments

Russia, Kaliningrad: www.bellona.ru

The festival arrived by sailing ship and brought a festive atmosphere (...) that revived childhood dreams and allowed the organizers to prove that environmental topics can inspire works of art and cultural events and thereby provide an invaluable means of increasing awareness of ecological issues.

Russia, St.Petersburg Channel 5

This festival shows that the green movement is becoming more and more creative. The festival focused around the sailing ship Lovis and guests could view the best water-themed films from around the Baltic Sea region, and could also (...) participate in many other funny and creative, yet green orientated, activities and events.

Estonia, Põhjarannik

Kaide-Liis, a young filmmaker from Avinurme, said that she thinks that film is the most exciting medium, since moving images can influence others and this makes it possible for her to share and promote her ideas. "I'm also very impressed by Moving Baltic Sea's cool, international team," said the young filmmaker.

Germany, Mare

Luybov Matnynina's film won the film contest in Kaliningrad. She spoke out in praise of the organizers: "Over the last three days, you made us feel like beeing in Europe." It is hardly possible to better summarize the idea behind the festival.

Gdansk, Aktivist na falli

Moving Baltic Sea (...) is the floating, inspiring platform of intercultural exchange

Baltic Sea City Paper

(...) Through the exciting medium of film, Moving Baltic Sea appeals to youth who might otherwise be uninterested in environmental issues. It also

helps young environmentalists and culturally active individuals network and exchange ideas across national boundaries. Environmentally aware, artistically intriguing, and promoting multicultural interaction; time to mark on my calendar when Moving Baltic Sea sails to my city!

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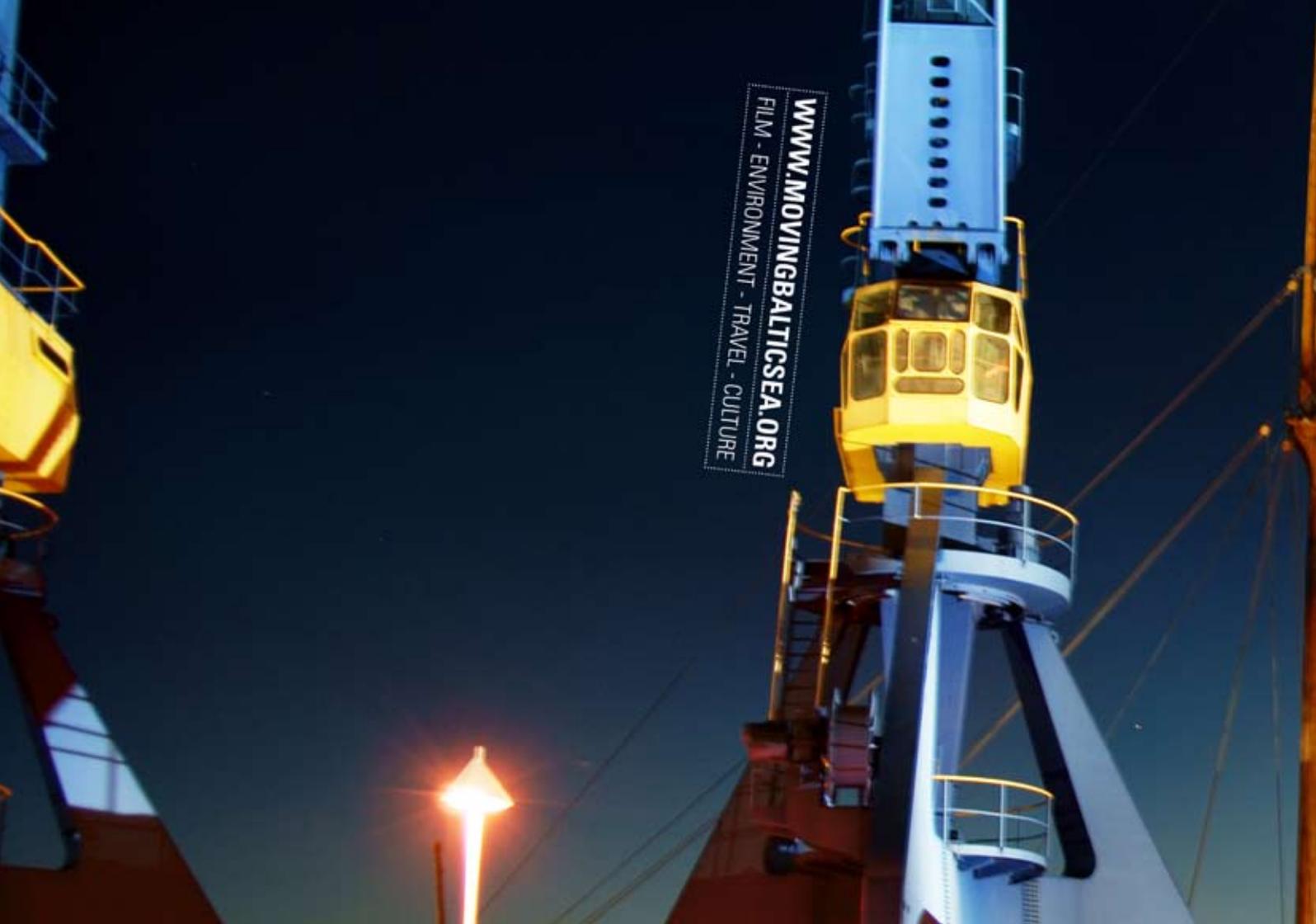


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