



## **TOURA D'OR 1998 Special Award**

### **Tatort Manila**

**(Colonia Media Filmproduktion and Westdeutscher Rundfunk, German, 90 minutes)**

The crucial issue of child prostitution was brought home to millions of viewers by the film *Manila* from the popular thriller series *Tatort*. The film shows the background and interrelated aspects of this major problem.

The focus of the film is on the abuse of cross-border tourism for inhuman practices of child prostitution. A fictional mystery story is told and staged with a great deal of suspense. The story and characters in the film are imaginary. However, the basic plot of the film is based on a nightmarish reality, that has transpired between Germany and the Philippines.

With his screenplay and stage direction, Niki Stein has made an felicitous attempt to deal in an entertaining way with a very sensitive topic that concerns everyone of us. The actors of the superintendents Max Ballauf alias Klaus J. Berendt and Freddy Schenk alias Dietmar Bär have succeeded in performing the nail-biting and demanding plot in an authentic and enthralling manner.

In recognition of the convincing treatment of the issue of child prostitution in connection with sex tourism – that could stand as perfect example for the realisation of the TOURA D'OR objectives – the film *Manila* is awarded with the TOURA D'OR Special Price beyond the contest criteria.