



## **International Short Film Festival of Cyprus – Closing Night**

This year's International Short Film Festival of Cyprus closed curtain on **October 20<sup>th</sup>** with the award ceremony, presented in a unique one off performance by actor Marios Ioannou.

The international jury awarded short films competing in both the national and international competition, emphasizing that selecting the awarded films has been a very challenging and difficult task.

### **1st Prize for Best National Film**

For its excellent approach to directing the sensitive subject of solitude and the defense of human dignity in contemporary multicultural Cypriot society, the 1st Prize for Best National Film accompanied by the sum of 5000 euros goes to the film **Anna**, by **Spiros Charalambous**.

### **2nd Prize for Best National Film**

For its cinematic form and its humorous approach of a subject that has scarred Cypriot society the 2nd Prize for Best National Film accompanied by the sum of 2500 euros goes to the film **No Parking**, by **Soteris Christou**.

### **Michael Cacoyannis Award**

For the personal and uniquely powerful direction of the agonizing effort of a young man having to push his human boundaries, the Michael Cacoyannis Award, sponsored by the Limassol Cooperative Savings Bank and accompanied by the sum of 3000 euros goes to **Dinos Gregoriou for the film Shadowboxing**.

### **NATIONAL SPECIAL MENTIONS**

1. Special Mention for Best Sound Design in a National film goes to Marco Lopez for the films **Shadowboxing** by Dinos Gregoriou and **God's Amnesia** by Christos Christodoulou.
2. Special Mention goes to George Tymvios for Stop Motion Animation for the Film **Pasty Child**
3. Special Mention for economy of storytelling and a minimalistic approach goes to the film **Hope**, by Stelana Kliris.

### **1st Prize for Best Short Film**

In front of the background of one of the most violent border areas in the so-called western hemisphere, this film tells the story of a dramatic incident with a fatal ending. From an excellent script that offers several unexpected twists, the director coaxes convincing performances from all of his cast and displays a compelling and powerful vision. The 1st Prize for Best Short Film accompanied by the sum of 5000 euros goes to the film **'Narcocorrido'**, by **Ryan Prows from the U.S.A.**

## **2nd Prize for Best Short Film**

Grounded by a compelling lead performance, the jury found this moving tale about the dark confusing chaos of adolescence to be horrific, humorous, and sweet. Combining gruesome and surreal elements of body horror with an assured narrative the 2nd Prize for Best Short Film, accompanied by the sum of 1500 euros goes to the film **Junior, by Julia Ducournau from France.**

## **Best Director Award**

For the clever use of changing mis-en-scene to help develop the narrative, the way the camera and actors work together, and the creation of a unique atmosphere and a surrealistic world in the context of an entertaining film, the Best Director Award, accompanied by the sum of 2500 euros, goes to **Cem Oztufekci for the film Nolya from Turkey.**

## **Documentary Award**

Visually confident, this documentary examines the nature of memory, and allows us to view a history of a very familiar event in a bold, new light. The award for Best Documentary, accompanied by the sum of 4000 euros goes to the film **After, by Lukasz Konopa, from Poland.**

## **INTERNATIONAL SPECIAL MENTIONS**

1. For its script carried out by excellent lead actors, which deals with the outburst of an outsider as a strong statement about the actual social struggles which Greek society faces, the special mention goes to the scriptwriters Pavlos Methenitis and Kostas Yerampinis for the film **Iceberg, by Kostas Yerampinis, from Greece.**

2. Based on the report of a rejected asylum application, the film reconstructs the protagonist's story with the means of artistic, visual language. For its imaginative and outstanding approach in documentary filmmaking the jury awards this special mention to the film **Lack of Evidence, by Hayoun Kwon from France.**

3. Special Mention goes to a film that impressed with a unique kind of storytelling. With a minimal budget, this film includes different kinds of narrative layers and is filled with humour and postmodern elements. The Special Mention goes to the film **25 Square Kilometres by Jana Minarikova from Slovakia.**

Students from the Cyprus University of Technology (Department of Multimedia and Graphic Arts) award the "**Student Prize Award**" to the following five shorts: 'Lost and Found Box of Human Sensations', 'Little King', 'The Foreigner', 'Dripped' και 'God's Amnesia'.

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