

Press Release | Jury Statements | 13 November 2022

Awards of the International Competition

Jury of the International Competition

Jose Cabrera (ES), Director Tenerife Shorts, management and selection committee Seminci-Film
Katrin Mundt (DE), Curator, author, and co-director of the European Media Art Festival (EMAF)
Martina Scarpelli (DK), Director and producer (Martina Scarpelli Studio)
Maryam Tafakory (IR), Artist and filmmaker
Wim Vanacker (BE), Selection committee of the short film competition, Festival de Cannes

Grand Prize of the International Competition

«Neighbour Abdi» (Netherlands 2022) by Douwe Dijkstra
CHF 12 000.-, donated by SRG SSR

By fictionalizing reality and revisiting personal traumas, this film turns the world of documentary upside down to create a pertinent and playful portrait of a man with a loaded history and a captivating personality. We get close, very close, as if visiting a friend. The film's immediacy is disarming, and the scars that are revealed go straight to the heart.

Promotional Award of the International Competition

«Bleu silico» (France 2022) by Eloïse Le Gallo and Julia Borderie
CHF 10 000.-, donated by the City of Winterthur

A beautifully edited film that brings together the personal, the artistic, and the scientific. We are taken from the very big to the very small and from the distant past to the present. The work translates research into a poetic journey through vibrant imagery and intimate moments of sharing.

Prix George for the Best Documentary Form in the International Competition

«45th Parallel» (United Kingdom 2022) by Lawrence Abu Hamdan
CHF 10 000.-, donated by the Volkart Foundation

We would like to award this prize to a film that is as elegantly constructed as it is politically urgent. A film set in a space that both exhibits and punctures the borders between states and jurisdictions, between knowledge shared and knowledge concealed, between public and private encounters. Restaging a crime that implies many other crimes, with the firing of one bullet that recalls countless other bullets, it exposes the vulnerability of both borders and bodies.

Candidacy for the European Film Awards (EFA)

«Hardly Working» (Austria 2022) by Total Refusal

A film that proposes a new political vision for a singular universe. A fascinating observation and analysis that raises many questions and evokes analogies.

Awards of the Swiss Competition

Jury of the Swiss Competition

Bard Ydén (NO), Senior programmer and editor, Norwegian Short Film Festival
Elie Grappe (CH), Author and director
María Vera (AR), Festival distributor and sales agent

Award for the Best Swiss Film

«Flores del otro patio» (Switzerland 2022) by Jorge Cadena
CHF 10 000.–, donated by SUISSIMAGE and SSA

«Wake up, neighbors». This call to action opens the film we've decided to give the award to. Martin Luther King said: «There comes a time when silence is betrayal». We know this time is now, and the film invites us to be part of it. Inventive, filled with love, and with a very clear political statement, the film surprises viewers repeatedly. The performances are impressive, with the characters portrayed through fragmentary and significant details. With the help of simple elements, and without miserabilism, the film lends a strong beauty to the fight it depicts.

Special Mention I, Swiss Competition

«Les Grands Prés» (France/Switzerland 2022) by Sophia Remer and Michael Karrer
A film that takes the time to delicately immerse us in a contemplation of nature, its textures and sounds, inviting us on a fragile and sensitive journey through the wind.

Special Mention II, Swiss Competition

«Stones Don't Fly» (Switzerland 2022) by Nikita Merlini
Another special mention goes to a film that tells the story of an awakening. Facing our ongoing ecological destruction in an everyday context, a child performs an act of dignity. It is a film of echoes between bodies and space, between life and death, crafted with great inspiration and produced by a collective of filmmakers.

ZKB Audience Award

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«Haulout» (United Kingdom 2022) by Maxim Arbugaev and Evgenia Arbugaeva
CHF 10 000.–, donated by Zürcher Kantonalbank

Swiss Film School Day

The jury of the Swiss Competition gives feedback to the students and awards the prize for the Best Swiss School Film.

Award for the Best Swiss School Film

«The Deceased» (Switzerland 2022) by Philipp Veiga Amaro, HSLU
CHF 5000.–, donated by SRG SSR

A beautifully crafted story, deeply personal in its urgency to be told, without leaving the viewer feeling like an intruder. As layers of family history are peeled back and secrets are revealed, the process of healing and reconstruction can begin.

Special Mention I, Swiss Film School Day

«Pipes» (Switzerland 2022) by Jessica Meier, Kilian Feusi, and Sujanth Ravichandran, HSLU
One special mention goes to a film that we could watch and re-watch again and again. A sassy and irresistible film, in which desire is a playful question.

Special Mention II, Swiss Film School Day

«In Between» (Switzerland 2022) by Anaïs Bourgogne, HSLU
We would like to give a special mention to a film that portrays the experiences and concerns of

three girls facing adolescence in a very honest and sensitive way. The film invites us to reflect about their intimate universes, their fears, and beliefs.

Awards for the Best Films in the Programmes Sparks I & II

Jury Sparks I / Sparks II

Sandro Manuel Isenegger (CH)

Gwendolyn Jane Reigber (CH)

Raja Künzle (CH)

Award for the Best Film in the Programme Sparks I

«Datsun» (New Zealand 2021) by Mark Albiston

CHF 1000.-, donated by Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur

When I think of our award-winning film, I think of young, even very young, actors who were definitely on top of their job. I think of a touching story. And I think of poetic images and tragicomical storytelling, of a refreshing and enchantingly incongruous mix of music and action in the scenes, and of camera work and editing that are anything but ordinary. I think of a little boy in his mother's high heels and of an old car.

Award for the Best Film in the Programme Sparks II

«Ours» (Switzerland 2022) by Morgane Frund

CHF 1000.-, donated by Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur

This incredible documentary is about much more than just the beauty of nature.

Unsere Wahl für Sparks II ist

Ein Film mit einem gewissen Plottwist

Brilliante Voiceovers und Metaphern gaben viel mehr zu sehen

Als nur Abbildungen von Wäldern und Seen

Der ästhetische Effekt der alten Filmkamera

Statt nur Be- die Verarbeitung des Filmmaterials

Wenn man statt den eigenen Traumfilm, Kontroversen dreht

Und bei Blumen und Bären Frauenfüsse nicht umgeht

Diese unglaubliche Doku handelt nicht nur

Von der Schönheit der Natur

... and the winner-film is: «Ours»

Postproduction-Award

Jury of the Postproduction-Award

Robert Büchel, Jingle Jungle

Christof Hächler, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur

Eva Schweizer, SRF

Postproduction-Award

«There Is No End to This Story» (AT) by Cosima Frei (Filmgerberei Zürich)

CHF 10 000.-, in-kind prize, donated by Jingle Jungle

Before her departure, Mena visits her beloved neighbourhood stores one last time. In this hybrid film, the fictional character encounters real-life salesclerks who engage in conversation with her, giving her confidence for her journey into the unknown. Curiosity and playfulness make the

project compelling. With gentle and succinct situational humour, the film tells the universal story of failed love – of falling and getting back up, of closures and new beginnings – in an entertaining way. The hybrid form combining improvised fiction and documentary creates a sensitive homage to the neighbourhood characters and to life.

Pitching Session Competition

Jury

Enrico Vannucci (IT), Talents and Short Film Market
Stine Wangler (DE), Kurzfilm Agentur Hamburg
Sven Wälti (CH), SRG SSR

Invited to participate in the European Short Pitch 2022/2023

«Les écailles lui sont tombées des yeux» by Coline Confort

We believe that this project is a strong personal story that tackles a universal topic, shot in a very unique visual style and framed by an equally unique setting.