

59th International Festival of Locarno

OFFICIAL AWARDS OF THE 59th LOCARNO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

There is an Embargo until 9.00 p.m
Saturday August 12th

ALL LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIAL
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INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The Official Jury of the 59th Locarno International Film Festival:

Ann Hui – Director – China (President)

Edo Bertoglio – Photographer – Switzerland

Antonio Capuano – Director – Italy

Peter Rommel – Producer – Germany

Nobuhiro Suwa – Director – Japan

The jury has awarded the:

GOLDEN LEOPARD, Grand Prize of the City and Region of Locarno (90,000 CHF to be shared equally between the director and the producer) for the best film to:

DAS FRÄULEIN by Andrea Staka (Switzerland/Germany)

The jury also awarded the following prizes:

SPECIAL JURY PRIZE, Prize of the Cities of Ascona and of Losone (30,000 CHF to be shared equally between the director and the producer) for a film that best conveys the spirit of communication between people and culture:

HALF NELSON by Ryan Fleck (USA)

PRIZE FOR BEST DIRECTING, Prize of the City and of the Region of Locarno (30,000 CHF to be shared equally between the director and producer) for the second best film to:

LAURENT ACHARD

for the film:

LE DERNIER DES FOUS (France/Belgium)

LEOPARD FOR BEST ACTRESS:

AMBER TAMBLYN

in the film:

STEPHANIE DALEY by Hilary Brougher (USA)

LEOPARD FOR BEST ACTOR:

BURGHART KLAUSSNER

for the film:

DER MANN VON DER BOTSCHAFT by Dito Tsintsadze (Germany)

Special Mention to :

BODY RICE by Hugo Vieira da Silva (Portugal)

“For its challenging new cinematic expression and courageous creativity.”

FILMMAKERS OF THE PRESENT COMPETITION

The jury of the Filmmakers of the Present Competition, composed of:

Emmanuelle Antille – Director and Video Artist – Switzerland

Tania Blanich – Director of the Program for Media Artists of the Rockefeller Foundation
– USA

Hernan Musaluppi – Producer – Argentina

Rafi Pitts – Director – Iran/France

Heidrun Schleef – Screenwriter – Germany/Italy

has awarded the **Golden Leopard Filmmakers of the Present C.P.COMPANY** (worth 30'000 CHF) offered by the Italian fashion house C.P. Company, to:

VERFOLGT by **ANGELINA MACCARONE**, Germany

For the great subtlety, sensitivity and intelligence with which she explores the complexity of human relationships.

The jury also awards the **Special Jury Prize CINECINEMA AUTEUR Filmmakers of the Present Competition** (the winning film will be purchased and broadcast on channel CINECINEMA AUTEUR) to:

CHAND KILO KHORMA BARAYE MARASSEM-E TADFIN by **SAMAN SALOUR**, Iran

For bringing a profound contemporary language into Iranian cinema, blended with a strong vision of the past.

SPECIAL JURY MENTION TO:
TARACHIME by **NAOMI KAWESE**

“For allowing us to dive into the deep and universal world of emotions”.

LEOPARD FOR BEST FIRST FILM

The Official Jury of the Leopard for best first film:

Lisandro Alonso – Director - Argentina
Christian Baute – Producer – Germany/France
João Pedro Rodrigues – Director – Portugal

Has awarded the **Leopard for the best first film**, prize of the city and Region of Locarno (30,000 CHF to be shared equally between the director and producer) for the best first film screened at the two competitions to:

L'ANNEE SUIVANTE, by Isabelle Czajka, France

“Ms Czajka was able to stage with force and simplicity the individual destiny of an adolescent girl.”

The Jury also awards a special mention to the film:

SO LANGE DU HIER BIST, by Stefan Westerwelle, Germany

“In a world of youth, Mr. Westerwelle builds a closed eight on a gesture of love and intimacy between two universes that surprised us for its emotional impact and its sense of plot.”

LEOPARDS OF TOMORROW

The Official Jury of the Leopards of Tomorrow:

Jacqueline Ada – Section Head of Coopération à la Direction des Affaires Européennes et Internationales du Centre National de la Cinématographie (CNC) - France
Jan Cvitkovic – Director – Slovenia
José Dubey – Film Marketing & Distribution – Switzerland
Thanassis Karathanos – Producer – Greece/Germany
Clara Khouri – Actress – Israel

LEOPARDS OF TOMORROW- NEW SWISS TALENT:

The Golden Leopard, SRG SSR idée suisse, awarded to a Swiss film (to the value of 6,000 CHF), has been awarded to:

NACHTFLATTERN by Carmen Stadler

“For the portrayal of a couple’s relationship in moments of doubt and tenderness”.

The Silver Leopard, Kodak Prize for a Swiss Film to the value of 6'000 Frs is awarded to:

ASCHENBRÜDER de Markus Heiniger, Steve Walker

For an enjoyable and intelligent comedy, directed and acted with talent.

THE ACTION LIGHT PRIZE FOR BEST SWISS NEWCOMER, which provides equipment worth 33,000 CHF offered by Action Light, Avant-première, Cinétec, Film Demnächst, Fujifilm (Switzerland), Lee Filters, Schwarz Film, Sound Design Studio, Swiss Effects and Titra Film, has been awarded to:

LA VÉRITÉ VRAIE de Tania Zambrano-Ovalle

“ For the talent of writing a story of a child who discovers the lies of adults. “

A SPECIAL MENTION TO:

NOUVEL ORDRE by Gregory Bindschedler, Jean-Daniel Schneider, Ausonio Tavares de Sousa

LEOPARDS OF TOMORROW- «EAST OF THE MEDITERRANEAN»:

Pardino d’Oro, SRG SSR idée suisse (to the value of 6,000 CHF) has been awarded to:

BUBACHKI (Bugs) de Igor Ivanov, Macedonia

“For his sensitive, cinematic portrait of the solitude of an infant detached from it’s family”.

Pardino d’Argento, KODAK PRIZE, presented in the form of film stock offered by “Eastman Kodak” (to the value of 6,000 CHF) has been awarded to:

WEST BANK STORY by Ari Sandel, USA

For the original treatment of the subject and its message of love and peace.

The **Film and Video Prize Subtitling Prize**, sponsored by the subtitling company **Film und Video Untertitelung Gerhard LEHMANN AG**, provides the subtitling in three central European languages to the film:

BIR DAMLA SU by Deniz Gamze Ergüven, France

“For its vision of a woman who fights the constraints of tradition and for the pursuit of freedom”

A Special Mention has been awarded to:

DEFTERI FISI de Vardis Marinakis, Greece

« A courageous film about joy and fear and man’s position in the universe »

LEOPARDS OF TOMORROW: PRIZE AWARDED BY THE «CINEMA E GIOVENTÙ» JURY

The «Cinema e Gioventù» Jury awarded the following Prizes offered by the Department for Education, Culture and Sport TI (worth 3,000 CHF), to be shared by a Swiss film and «East of the Mediterranean» to:

ASCHENBRÜDER by Steve Walker, Markus Heiniger

A Special Mention to:

YASMINE TUGHANI (La chanson de Yasmine) de Najwa Najjar, Palestine

For the choice in representing the violence and accusations faced by the Palestinian population.

**LEOPARDS OF TOMORROW – EAST OF THE MEDITERRANEAN:
RAM ZA SLIKU MOJE DOMOVINE by Elmir Jukic,
Bosnia/Herzegovinia/Slovenia**

THE JUNIOR JURY

The **Junior Jury** have decided to award the following films in the official international competition:

1st PRIZE offered by the Department for Education, Culture and Sport TI (6,000 CHF):

Das Fraulein by **Andreas Staka, Swiss/Germany**

2nd PRIZE offered by Department for Education, Culture and Sport TI (4,000 CHF):
CHAHAR SHABEN SOURI (Fireworks Wednesday) by Asghar Farhadi

3rd PRIZE offered by the Department for Education, Culture and Sport TI (2,000 CHF):

SUZANNE by **Vivianne Candas, France**

The **Junior Jury** also awarded the following prizes:

SPECIAL PRIZE of 3,000 CHF, offered by the Cantonal Department for territory, to the film with the best interpretation of the concept «Environment is quality of life» to:

AGUA by Veronica Chen, Argentina/France

Special Mention to:

HALF NELSON by Ryan Fleck, USA

And to:

MNGOTOCHIE by Andrei A Eshpai, Russia

NETPAC AWARD

(for the promotion of Asian cinema)

The Netpac Jury composed of:

Shozo Ichiyama – Japan

Min Byung Lock – South Korea

Indu Shrikent – India

Has awarded its Prize to the film:

DON'T LOOK BACK (NAE-CHUNGCHUM-AEGUE-GOHAM) by Kim Young-Nam

For the portrayal of the life of the Korean youth in a subtle and subdued way.

And:

BLISS (FU SHENG) by Sheng Zhimin

For bravely showing the reality of the present condition of a Chinese family

FIPRESCI JURY

The Jury composed of:

Léna Adam – France

Alexander Fedorov – Russia

Peter Holdener – Switzerland

Violeta Kovacsics – Spain

Rüdiger Suchsland – Germany

has awarded its prize for a competition entry to:

**NAE-CHUNGCHUN-AEGAE-GOHAM (DON'T LOOK BACK) by Director
YOUNG-NAM KIM**

For a first film made with maturity and modern cinematic language. A sincere and true film with subject matter that could affect everyone.

ECUMENICAL JURY

The Ecumenical Jury composed of:

Nicolae Dascalu – Romania
Maggie Morgan – Egypt
Ruben Rossello – Switzerland
Brigitta Rotach Schmid – Switzerland
Carlo Tagliabue – Italy
Magali Van Reeth – France

The Ecumenical Jury in Locarno awards its **prize**, which includes 20.000 CHF given by the Catholic Church and the Reformed Church in Switzerland to assist distribution of the film in Switzerland, to:

AGUA by Veronica Chen, Argentina/France

For its artistic quality and for the universalism of its story. The rhythms of swimming and the omnipresence of water give the film a contemplative air, in the story of two men from different generations becoming reborn. Forsaking the pressure to conform to the contemporary world – in this case achieving victory at any cost – the film highlights the importance of self-giving in order to attain the courage to face everyday life.

The Ecumenical Jury awards a special commendation to:

LE DERNIER DE FOUS by Laurent Achard, France/Belgium

“For a film that is both vivid and visionary in its denouncement of a world where there is an absence of hope and love. “

The FICC/IFFS Jury ***(International Federation of Film Societies)***

The FICC Jury composed of:

Sabine Girsberger – Switzerland
Niall Foran – Ireland
Kari Skjerve Bjerkan – Norway

awards the **DON QUIJOTE Prize** to:

DAS FRAULEIN by Andrea Stahl, Swiss/Germany

This film explores the universal themes of loneliness and hope in the story of three women whose lives become interwoven with each other. It looks at the loneliness that can be felt by people placed in unfamiliar surroundings and how enjoying life can easily become secondary in this environment. Through the excellent character portrayal by

each of the actors, we are shown that people are essentially good and that change can come from unlikely sources to act as a catalyst when you dare to change your life.**PRIZE OF THE CICAÉ/ARTE**

The CICAÉ/ARTE PRIZE jury composed of

Dominique Bax – France

Tibor Biro – Hungary

Pinia Frey – Switzerland

The jury unanimously awards the CICAÉ Prize to:

JIMMY DELLA COLLINA by director Enrico Pau, Italy

The film subtly explores the social problems in Europe. Jimmy's character, details the problems associated with unemployment, imprisonment and the struggle to find a place in society. The director successfully captures his distress. The film reflects moments of intense truth and pain in a poetic style set against the backdrop of an industrial Sardinia. The prison acts as a stark contrast to the serenity of the hill. The excellent direction of the film and of the actors is both remarkable and passionate and will be appreciated by a cinema audience.

The jury was equally touched by two other films:

DAS FRAULEIN by Andrea Staka, Swiss/Germany

And

MNOTOCHIE by Andrei A Eshpai, Russia.

SRG SSR idée suisse/ CRITICS WEEK 2006

The jury of the Critic's week composed of:

Alberto Castellano – Italy

Julia Marx – Switzerland

Fawzi Soliman – Egypt

awards the **Critics Week Prize 2006** (8,000 CHF donated by the SRG SSR idée Suisse) to the film:

ZEIT DES ABSCHIEDS by Mehdi Sahebi, Switzerland

And a **Special Mention** to:

AZ ELET VENDEGE (A GUEST OF LIFE) by Tibor Szemzo, Hungary