



The Prize Winners of the 70th IFFMH

Seite 1 von 5

›Il Buco‹ wins the €30,000 International Newcomer Award +++ Rainer Werner Fassbinder Award for Best Screenplay goes to ›Zero Fucks Given‹ +++ ›The First Fallen‹ receives the Award of the Student Jury +++



›Il Buco‹ © Coproduction Office

Heidelberg, 18.11.2021

Multifaceted and diverse winners of a special anniversary: the award winners of the 70th edition of the International Film Festival Mannheim-Heidelberg (IFFMH) were announced this evening in the Luxor Filmpalast Heidelberg. The richly endowed main prize went to 'Il Buco', a screen event that goes deep below the surface. A total of five prizes were awarded by four juries to films in the international competition ON THE RISE. Until late tonight, the audience still has the possibility of voting for the Audience Award, endowed with €5,000. The result will be announced on Friday, 19 November 2021. The selection comprised 16 fictional feature films by outstanding first, second and third-time directors.

Festival director Sascha Keilholz warmly congratulates the award winners. "Our thanks go to them, as well as to the jurors for



their passion, their commitment and their appreciation of the very different formal and thematic approaches of a very special IFFMH year."

Seite 2 von 5

Frédéric Jaeger, Head of Program Organization, adds: "It is only through the different perspectives and the exchanges taking place within a common framework that our program becomes a festival. For this, you couldn't ask for a better audience than these juries, whose decisions reflect the curiosity and open-mindedness of the people of Mannheim and Heidelberg."

The full jury statements can be found at <https://iffmh.de/presse/>.

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INTERNATIONAL JURY

Jury members: Michelle Carey, Kathleen McInnis, Nicolas Wackerbarth

International Newcomer Award – Best Director (€30.000)

>Il Buco<

Director: Michelangelo Frammartino (Italy, France, Germany)

Excerpt from the jury statement: "This film struck us through its uniqueness of voice, the sensations and contours of exploration, and its seductive cinematic meditateness - a visual exploration, a thriller of sensations that are physical and emotional. The film goes deep beneath the surface to illuminate the darkness surrounding the passage of time."

The International Newcomer Award, main prize of the IFFMH, is sponsored by the Manfred Lautenschläger Foundation.

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Rainer Werner Fassbinder Award - Best Script (€10,000)

Seite 3 von 5

›Zero Fucks Given‹ (Original title: Rien à foutre)

Script and direction: Julie Lecoustre, Emmanuel Marre (France, Belgium)

Excerpt from the jury statement: ›Zero Fucks Given‹ paints a vivid and authentic portrait of a young woman trying to live the seductive, instagrammable life while camouflaging the existential angst underneath. We were struck by the in-situ script development; the playful way the writers deal with global precarity; the punitive response to revealing human emotions [...]"

The Rainer Werner Fassbinder Award* is organized in cooperation with the Rainer Werner Fassbinder Foundation.

Honorable Mention

›Haruhara-san's Recorder‹ (Original title: Haruharasan no uta)

Script and direction: Kyoshi Sugita (Japan)

Excerpt from the jury's statement: "This film succeeds in exploring the absence of the written word. Like the dorayaki consumed in the film, this cinematic tanka sustains and fulfills us. We celebrate the blank pages of the script."

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FIPRESCI JURY

Jury members: Yun-hua Chen, Nirmal Dhar, Pélagie Ng'onana, Valentina Giraldo Sánchez

FIPRESCI Award

›The Sleeping Negro‹

Director: Skinner Myers (USA)

Excerpt from the jury statement: "Skinner Myers' debut feature ›The Sleeping Negro‹ interweaves a young African American man's rage against the system and his troubled psyche with a political analysis. It juxtaposes archival images of the past and moments of surrealism in the present, all while unflinchingly



problematizing the issues of eurocentrism, colonialism, racism, and identity politics. With a unique film language, it is forthright, elegant, and deeply humane at the same time."

Seite 4 von 5

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ECUMENICAL JURY

Jury members: Michael Kranzusch, Uta Losem, Lothar Strüber

Ecumenical Award (€2.500)

›My Night‹ (Original title: Ma nuit)

Direction: Antoinette Boulat (France, Belgium)

Excerpt from the jury's statement: "The affirmation of one's own life begins with saying no to the most diverse offers of an externally determined life [...] Antoinette Boulat has succeeded in creating a magical cinematic moment with ›My Night‹, magnificently performed by an outstanding Lou Lampros."

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YOUNG JURY

Jury members: Omar Alsawadi, Steve Bache, Clara Schmid

Award of the Student Jury (€5.000)

›The First Fallen‹ (Original title: Os Primeiros Soldados)

Director: Rodrigo de Oliveira (Brazil)

Excerpt from the jury's statement: "›The First Fallen‹ not only fascinates us with its unconventional structure and departure from classic dramaturgy, but also holds fast to the audience's attention with its poignant and sensitive portrayal of the characters at every moment. The film illuminates a significant part of LGBTQ history from a perspective rarely seen before [...]."

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