

HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

THE 23RD HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES HIFF AWARD WINNERS FOR BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE AND BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

RAMS AND MISSING PEOPLE

Honorable Mentions Awarded

**EMBRACE OF THE SERPENT (Narrative Feature), PATRIOT (Narrative Short Film),
CHUCK NORRIS VS. COMMUNISM (Documentary Feature)**

East Hampton, NY (October 12, 2015) – The Hamptons International Film Festival today announced their award winners at a ceremony in East Hampton.

RAMS, directed by Grimur Hákonarson won The HIFF Award for Best Narrative Feature presented by The Wall Street Journal. RAMS is Iceland's official selection for the Academy Awards. MISSING PEOPLE, directed by David Shapiro, received the HIFF Award for Best Documentary Feature sponsored by ID Films. OVER, directed by Jörn Threlfall, and LAST DAY OF FREEDOM, directed by Dee Hibbert-Jones, Nomi Talisman, received the HIFF Awards for Best Narrative Short Film and for Best Documentary Short Film, respectively.

EMBRACE OF THE SERPENT, directed by Ciro Guerra, received the Honorable Mention for Narrative Feature and PATRIOT, directed by Eva Riley, received Honorable Mention for Narrative Short Film. CHUCK NORRIS VS. COMMUNISM, directed by Ilinca Calugareanu, received the Honorable Mention for Documentary Feature.

This year's Variety's Creative Impact in Acting Award was given to Emily Blunt, most recently seen in SICARIO.

The Tangerine Entertainment Juice Fund Award was awarded to SUFFRAGETTE, directed by Sarah Gavron. This award honors an outstanding female narrative filmmaker.

The Suffolk County Film Commission Next Exposure Grant was awarded to When I Live My Life Over Again, directed by Robert Edwards.

Prior to the festival, THE UNCONDEMNED, directed by Michele Mitchell, Nick Louvel, was awarded the 2015 Brizzolara Family Foundation Award for a Film of Conflict and Resolution. THE UNCONDEMNED was also awarded The Victor Rabinowitz and Joanne Grant Award for social justice. This award is given to a film that most exhibits the values of peace, equality and global justice.

THE CHAMPIONS, directed by Darcy Dennett, was awarded the Zelda Penzel Giving Voice to the Voiceless Award. This award is presented to a film that raises public awareness about contemporary social issues, including the moral and ethical treatment and the rights of animals as well as environmental protection.

This year's narrative jury was comprised of Josh Charles, the Emmy and Golden Globe-nominated actor; Dan Guando, US head of Acquisitions, Production, and Development at The Weinstein Company; and Michael H. Weber, screenwriter and producer, known for adapting *THE FAULT IN OUR STARS* and *THE SPECTACULAR NOW*. The documentary feature jury includes Marshall Fine, current chair of the New York Film Critics Circle; Bobby Flay, renowned chef and TV personality; and Sarah Lash, consultant with Condé Nast Entertainment.

This year the Festival was honored to partner with *Variety* for the fourth time and the New York Film Critics Circle for the 7th year.

"Our aspiration for the festival has always been to highlight the importance of diversity in film and support emerging talent in the industry. We are incredibly proud of this year's lineup and having had achieved these goals once again," said Artistic Director, David Nugent.

"This year's line-up celebrated innovative and captivating films across a range of genres and formats," said Anne Chaisson, Executive Director. "I am incredibly proud of our programming team and the entire staff, who have worked so passionately to make this a wildly successful 23rd year. We look forward to next year."

HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL CONGRATULATES THE 2015 WINNERS:

HIFF Award Winner for Best Narrative Feature sponsored by The Wall Street Journal
Rams, directed by Grimur Hákonarson

Honorable Mention for Narrative Feature
Embrace of the Serpent, directed by Ciro Guerra

HIFF Award Winner for Best Documentary Feature sponsored by ID Films
Missing People, directed by David Shapiro

Honorable Mention for Documentary Feature
Chuck Norris Vs. Communism, directed by Ilinca Calugareanu

HIFF Award Winner for Best Narrative Short Film sponsored by The Wall Street Journal
Over, directed by Jörn Threlfall

Honorable Mention for Narrative Short Film
Patriot, directed by Eva Riley

HIFF Award Winner for Best Documentary Short Film sponsored by ID Films
Last Day of Freedom, directed by Dee Hibbert-Jones, Nomi Talisman

Victor Rabinowitz and Joanne Grant Award for Social Justice
The Uncondemned, directed by Michele Mitchell, Nick Louvel

Tangerine Entertainment Juice Fund Award
Suffragette, directed by Sarah Gavron

Suffolk County Film Commission Next Exposure Grant
When I Live My Life Over Again, directed by Robert Edwards

And as previously announced:

The 2015 Brizzolara Family Foundation Award for a Film of Conflict and Resolution

The Uncondemned, directed by Michele Mitchell, Nick Louvel

The Zelda Penzel “Giving Voice to the Voiceless” Award: Dedicated to Those Who Suffer in Silence

The Champions, directed by Darcy Dennett

HIFF Documentary Feature Jury

Marshall Fine, Chair of the New York Critics Circle

Bobby Flay, Chef

Sarah Lash, Consultant, Conde Nast Entertainment

HIF Narrative Feature Jury

Josh Charles, Actor

Dan Guando, US head of Acquisitions, Production, and Development at The Weinstein Company

Michael H. Heber, Screenwriter and Producer

2015 VARIETY 10 ACTORS TO WATCH

Christopher Abbott, James White

Emory Cohen, Brooklyn

Thomas Mann, The Preppie Connection

Bel Powley, A Royal Night Out

Rebecca Ferguson, Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation

Jason Mitchell, Straight Outta Compton

Maika Monroe, It Follows

Keith Stanfield, Straight Outta Compton

Tessa Thompson, Selma

Jessie T. Usher, Independence Day: Resurgence

ABOUT THE HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Hamptons International Film Festival (HIFF) is a year-round 501(c)3 non-profit organization with events, screenings, film workshops, comprehensive summer programs and an annual film festival each October. The Festival is the premiere film event on New York State's east end, and is an intimate showcase of some of the year's best offerings in contemporary cinema from around the world. With cash and in-kind prizes handed out totaling more than \$165,000, HIFF continues to attract some of the best films of the year. Selections from all of our programs continue to play an important role during awards season. 2014 marked the 6th time in the last 7 years that a film at the Festival has become the eventual Best Picture winner at the Oscars, making HIFF the only Festival on the East Coast with such a distinction.

The Hamptons International Film Festival headquarters are located at the beautiful c/o The Maidstone Hotel on Main Street in East Hampton.

The Hamptons International Film Festival greatly appreciates the support from their corporate sponsors, including Delta Air Lines, Altour International, The Wall Street Journal, and WNBC New York.

For more information about the 2015 Hamptons International Film Festival, go to www.hamptonsfilmfest.org.

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