THE 29TH HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES
AWARD WINNERS FOR
BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE AND BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

**MURINA AND ASCENSION “登楼叹”**

Short Film Winners Include *Egúngún (Masquerade)* and *In Flow of Words*

*East Hampton, NY (October 11, 2021) –* The 29th Hamptons International Film Festival, presented by HamptonsFilm, today announced their award winners at a ceremony in East Hampton. This year HIFF screened 61 films from 34 countries, with five (5) World premieres, two (2) North American premieres, and two (5) U.S. premieres. We are very proud to report that 53% of this year’s films were directed by women, and 36% were directed by filmmakers of color.

**MURINA**, directed by Antoneta Alamat Kusijanović, won the Award for Best Narrative Feature. **ASCENSION “登楼叹”**, directed by Jessica Kingdon, received the Award for Best Documentary Feature. **EGÚNGÚN (MASQUERADE)**, directed by Olive Nwosu, received the Award for Best Narrative Short Film, and **IN FLOW OF WORDS**, directed by Eliane Esther Bots, won for Best Documentary Short Film. Both Short Films will qualify for Academy® awards consideration.

In addition, Franz Rogowski received a Special Jury Prize for Exceptional Performance for his work in **GREAT FREEDOM “GROSSE FREIHEIT.”**

**BAD OMEN**, directed by Salar Pashtoonyar, was awarded the 2021 The Peter Macgregor-Scott Memorial Award. The award, which is accompanied by a $10,000 cash prize, aims to continue the celebrated producer’s mentorship for a new generation of passionate filmmakers. Sponsored by Susan Macgregor-Scott, this award is specifically designed to recognize narrative short filmmakers and reward creative approaches to solving practical production challenges in the service of storytelling.

**PAPER & GLUE, A JR Project**, was awarded the 2021 Brizzolara Family Foundation Award to Films of Conflict and Resolution, which is accompanied by a $5,000 cash prize.

**PAPER & GLUE** was also presented with the Victor Rabinowitz & Joanne Grant Award for Social Justice. The annual award is handed to a film that exemplifies the values of peace, equality, global justice and civil liberties, and is named after iconic civil rights lawyer Victor Rabinowitz and his wife Joanne Grant, an author, filmmaker and journalist. The award, which is accompanied by a cash prize of $2,000, is named in honor of two people who spent their entire lives fighting for those values.

**GOOD GRIEF**, directed by Nastasya Popov, was awarded the Suffolk County Next Exposure Grant. This program supports the completion of high quality, original, director-driven, low-budget independent films from both emerging and established filmmakers who have completed 50% of principal photography within Suffolk County. The film was awarded a $3,000 grant.

**COW**, directed by Andrea Arnold, 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. The film was awarded $2,500.
QUEEN OF GLORY, directed by Nana Mensah and INTRODUCING, SELMA BLAIR, directed by Rachel Fleit were awarded the New York Women in Film & Television Awards. These two awards honor outstanding female narrative and documentary filmmakers who have demonstrated exceptional artistic vision and dedication to their craft. Each award is accompanied by a $1,000 cash prize.

The festival also announced the recipients of the University Short Film Awards, highlighting the extraordinary talent and achievements of five exceptional students. Each will receive a $500 cash prize. Awardees include BAD OMEN, directed by Salar Pashtoonyar (York University), BUZZKILL, directed by Kathy E. Mitrani (Columbia University), NEURIM, directed by Shaylee Atary (Steve Tisch School of Film & Television, Tel Aviv University), UN DIABLE DANS LA POCHE, directed by Antoine Bonnet and Mathilde Loubes (GOBELINS, l’école de l’Image), and WAVELENGTHS, directed by Jessie Zinn (Stanford University).

This year’s narrative competition jury was comprised of producer Sam Bisbee, whose work includes the Emmy Award-winning documentary THE SENTENCE, as well as THE TRUFFLE HUNTERS, HEARTS BEAT LOUD, and FAREWELL AMOR, among others; screenwriter Bill Collage, best known for his work on ASSASSIN’S CREED and THE DIVERGENT SERIES: ALLEGIANT; and Entertainment Weekly’s Critic at Large Leah Greenblatt.

The documentary competition jury included co-founder of Chicken & Egg Pictures Wendy Ettlinger, whose production company has awarded $8 million in grants and thousands of hours of creative mentorship to over 340 female nonfiction filmmakers; Senior Curator for Staff Picks at Vimeo Ina Pira; and filmmaker Jane Schoenbrun, whose most recent project WE’RE ALL GOING TO THE WORLD’S FAIR debuted in the NEXT section at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival.

This year the Festival was honored to partner with the New York Film Critics Circle for the thirteenth year.

“Being able to once again experience the power of cinema on a big screen with audiences was incredible and something that was dearly missed within our community,” said David Nugent, HamptonsFilm Artistic Director. “We are so thankful to all of the filmmakers and artists who allowed us to showcase their films.”

“We are thrilled to have the opportunity to bring everyone safely back together this year. It so clearly remains that our community out East loves cinema and we are so glad to be able to share such an incredible slate of films with them,” said Anne Chaisson, HamptonsFilm Executive Director. “We are so thankful to all of the staff, volunteers, sponsors and most of all to the audiences for their continued support. Next up, our 30th anniversary!”


The festival has awarded prizes to filmmakers in cash and goods and services of over $130,000 each year, with over $5 million awarded in competition funds and services over the past 29 years.

HIFF thanks the supporters for this year’s festival, including corporate sponsors Audi, Netflix, Chantecaille, KORE Private Wealth, Silvercup Studios, Press Seltzer, and official media sponsors WNBC, Variety, The Punist Magazine, and The East Hampton Star. HamptonsFilm is grateful for the long-term support from New York State Council on the Arts and Suffolk County. For more information please visit www.hamptonsfilmfest.org.

HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL CONGRATULATES THE 2021 WINNERS:
The HIFF Award Winner for Best Narrative Feature  
MURINA, directed by Antoneta Alamat Kusijanović

HIFF Award Winner for Best Documentary Feature  
ASCENSION “登楼叹”, directed by Jessica Kingdon

The HIFF Award Winner for Best Narrative Short Film  
EGÚNGÚN (MASQUERADE), directed by Olive Nwosu

The HIFF Award Winner for Best Documentary Short Film  
IN FLOW OF WORDS, directed by Eliane Esther Bots

The Peter Macgregor-Scott Memorial Award  
BAD OMEN, directed by Salar Pashtoonyar

The 2021 Brizzolara Family Foundation Award to Films of Conflict and Resolution  
PAPER & GLUE, A JR Project

Suffolk County Next Exposure Grant  
GOOD GRIEF, directed by Nastasya Popov

The Zelda Penzel “Giving Voice to the Voiceless” Award  
COW, directed by Andrea Arnold

Victor Rabinowitz and Joanne Grant Award for Social Justice  
PAPER & GLUE, A JR Project

New York Women in Film & Television (NYWIFT) Awards  
QUEEN OF GLORY, directed by Nana Mensah (narrative)  
INTRODUCING, SELMA BLAIR, directed by Rachel Fleit (documentary)

University Short Film Awards  
BAD OMEN, directed by Salar Pashtoonyar  
BUZZKILL, directed by Kathy E. Mitrani  
NEURIM, directed by Shaylee Atary  
UN DIABLE DANS LA POCHE, directed by Antoine Bonnet, Mathilde Loubes  
WAVELENGTHS, directed by Jessie Zinn

HIFF Narrative Feature Jury  
Sam Bisbee, producer, whose work includes the Emmy Award-winning documentary THE SENTENCE, as well as THE TRUFFLE HUNTERS, HEARTS BEAT LOUD, and FAREWELL AMOR, among others;  
Bill Collage, screenwriter, best known for his work on ASSASSIN’S CREED and THE DIVERGENT SERIES: ALLEGIANT  
Leah Greenblatt, Entertainment Weekly’s Critic at Large

HIFF Documentary Feature Jury  
Wendy Ettinger, co-founder of Chicken & Egg Pictures  
Ina Pira, Senior Curator for Staff Picks at Vimeo  
Jane Schoebrun, filmmaker, whose most recent project WE’RE ALL GOING TO THE WORLD’S FAIR debuted in the NEXT section at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival.

ABOUT HAMPTONSFILM  
HamptonsFilm, home of the Hamptons International Film Festival (HIFF), based in the Hamptons on the Eastern End of Long Island, was founded in 1992 to celebrate the art of film and to introduce a unique
and varied spectrum of international films and filmmakers to our audiences. A non-profit organization with year-round screenings of global narrative and documentary films, an annual Screenwriters Lab, a summer documentary showcase, and extensive educational initiatives, HamptonsFilm offers programs that enlighten, educate, and provide invaluable exposure for filmmakers, while also providing the East End of Long Island with an educational and cultural experience that enriches the lives of its citizens and contributes to the local economy. HIFF, celebrating its 29th year, is an annual premiere film event in New York State, and an intimate showcase of some of the year's best offerings in contemporary cinema from around the world. Awarding prizes to filmmakers in cash and goods and services of over $130,000 each year, with close to $5 million awarded in competition funds and services over the past 29 years, our program continues to play an important role during awards season. 2020 marked the 11th time in a row that a film in the Festival has become the eventual Best Picture winner at the Oscars, making HIFF the only Festival in the world with such a distinction. For more information, please visit hamptonsfilmfest.org.

Press Contact
FRANK PR | 646.861.0843
Stephanie Davidson | Stephanie@frankpublicity.com
Mark Duffy | Mark@frankpublicity.com
Claire Cannon | Claire@frankpublicity.com