

BERGAMO FILM MEETING

International Film Festival
37th edition, March 9 - 17, 2019

37th EDITION: THE WINNERS

El motoarreatador (The Snatch Thief) by Agustín Toscano is the winner of the main competition **Mostra Concorso** of the 37th edition of Bergamo Film Meeting. The film, that was chosen by the audience, will receive the Bergamo Film Meeting – UBI Banca Award, worth 5,000 €. The international jury, led by Italian film director Paolo Franchi, with Prune Engler (Co-director of the Festival International du Film de La Rochelle - France) and Bernd Brehmer (Co-director of the Festival Underdox, Munich - Germany), decided to award the **Best Direction Prize**, worth 2,000 € to *Un om la locul lui (A Decent Man)* by Hadrian Marcu.

The audience has also awarded the **CGIL Prize** for the **Close Up - La Sortie de l'Usine** section to the documentary *Mamacita* (2,000 €), while the **Prize of the CGIL jury**, decided by the union delegates of CGIL Bergamo (1,000 €), goes to *Mudar la piel (The Spy Within)*. A special mention goes to *Insulaire (Islander)* by Stéphane Goël.

COMPETITION EXHIBITION

FIRST PRIZE BERGAMO FILM MEETING – UBI BANCA

El motoarreatador/The Snatch Thief

by Agustín Toscano, Argentina, Uruguay, France 2018, 93'

In the Argentinian city of Tucumán, Miguel makes a living as a motochorro, a thief who snatches people's belongings from his motorbike. Stealing her bag from Elena, an old woman, he ends up hurting her badly. After the brutal incident, Miguel is plagued by guilt and can't get his victim out of his mind. In an attempt to do the right thing, he conceals his true identity from Elena and starts looking after the injured and unsuspecting old woman. The closer he gets to her, the more he becomes entangled in his own lies. Afraid of telling Elena the truth, and still haunted by the past, Miguel is unable to find true redemption.

SECOND PRIZE BERGAMO FILM MEETING

Granice, kiše/Borders, Raindrops

by Nikola Mijovic, Vlastimir Sudar, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Sweden, UK 2018, 93'
Borders, Raindrops is a film about longing and belonging, set high up in the mountains above the Adriatic Sea. A city girl, Jagoda, visits her extended family in the Balkan countryside during the summer, awakening hope, love, and the sense of mystery. The story unfolds in a recently fragmented space, on the borders of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Croatia, and is mirrored in the narrative structure of the film, which is broken in two halves and an epilogue. The ghostly presence of the young woman creates a connection between the two families, divided by the newly formed borders, with no passports or umbrellas needed.

THIRD PRIZE BERGAMO FILM MEETING

Obey

by Jamie Jones, UK 2018, 92'

Oppressed at home by his alcoholic mother and abusive stepfather, hunted on the streets by local gangs...

nineteen year Leon's existence is suffocating. When he meets Twiggy, a beautiful blond girl living in a local squat something stirs inside of him. He is in love for the first time, though naïve to the affluent world supporting Twiggy's hedonistic lifestyle. When Twiggy no longer wants him around he withdraws, allowing his raw and unhampered emotions to feed in to the violent 2011 London riots, which cleaved the country in two.

BEST DIRECTOR

Un om la locul lui/A Decent Man

by Hadrian Marcu, Romania 2018, 93'

Petru is a conflicted man. On one hand he is about to get married to his pregnant girlfriend Laura, on the other he is involved with the wife of one of his colleague, Sonia. Petru is looking for an impossible balance between the two women.

"First of all, the jury really appreciated all the films selected for the competition. After very pleasant reflections, we decided to reward the maturity, the precision in the style and the sensitivity of the storytelling of Un om la locul lui (A Decent Man) by Hadrian Marcu. With a very confident touch and a personal style, the film is able to describe the restlessness and the subtle sentimental helplessness of contemporary men".

CLOSE UP

BEST DOCUMENTARY CGIL BERGAMO

Mamacita

by José Pablo Estrada Torrescano, Mexico, Germany, Luxembourg, 2018, 75'

Mamacita is an extravagant Mexican beauty queen living in her own kingdom in company of her loyal Servants. The director conquers her empire like a Trojan horse, discovering the haunted spirits of his own past and the lack of love that his entire clan has suffered from for generations.

CGIL JURY PRIZE - "LA SORTIE DE L'USINE"

Mudar la piel/The Spy Within

by Ana Schulz, Cristóbal Fernández, Spain 2018, 89'

Juan is a mediator that struggled for peace between the ETA and the Spanish government. Roberto is the agent of the secret service who infiltrated his life for years. *Mudar la piel (The Spy Within)* follows the story of the director's father Juan and the man, Roberto, who spied on him — their friendship remained despite the betrayal. It also chronicles the filmmakers' relationship with Roberto and their struggle to understand who he really is.

"Documentaries give the opportunity to recognise ourselves. Mudar la piel (The Spy Within) by Ana Schulz and Cristóbal Fernández is a difficult and sometimes painful journey from our truth to the other's truth, in a sequence of quiet but also intense negotiations, of reflections on our ethics and on the need to reach a common conclusion. We, the CGIL trade union jury, representing all our workers and delegates, recognised ourselves in this moving and honest film. So honest to the point of revealing its double nature of documentary and, at the same time, intrinsic fiction, making it explicit and therefore real again".

"We would also like to mention Insulaire (Islander) by Stéphane Goël for the astonishing ability to represent, in a microcosm, all the themes and contradictions which are universal".

Insulaire/Islander

by Stéphane Goël, Switzerland 2018, 90'

Robinson Crusoe is a small island hundreds of kilometres away from the Chilean coast. In 1877 the island becomes the property of a young Swiss aristocrat, Alfred von Rodt, a confirmed optimist, a tireless explorer and an indisputable rebel who instigated multiple projects in hopes of developing the resources of his piece of rock. Its inhabitants are not Chilean, nor Swiss, but they are strongly attached to their identity and reject everything coming from the "outside" - animals, plants and people.

The 37th edition of Bergamo Film Meeting (March 9 to 17, 2019) has opened on Friday March 8 at Ex-Chiesa di Sant'Agostino, with the memorable project of the Usa dj Jeff Mills: a new soundtrack for *Metropolis*, the silent masterpiece by Fritz Lang (1926). The Festival programme has included 7 feature films, national Italian première, in the Competition-Exhibition; 15 documentaries in the Close up competitive section; the retrospective dedicated to Jean-Pierre Léaud, the most famous actor of French Nouvelle vague; the Italian preview of retrospective dedicated to Karpo Godina, one of the most representative figure of the Yugoslav and Slovenian cinema; the section EUROPE, NOW!, featuring the complete works of two contemporary European filmmakers: Bent Hamer (Norway) and Alberto Rodríguez (Spain); the tribute to Peter Mullan; the photo exhibition *Pasolini and the Arabian Nights* with photographs of Roberto Villa on the set of *Il fiore delle Mille e una notte (Arabian Nights, 1974)*; the section dedicated to the contaminations between cinema and contemporary art that offer a close-up look on the work of Nathalie Djurberg and Hans Berg; a focus on animation cinema featuring Polish director Mariusz Wilczyński; the launching event of Bergamo Jazz; the cult movies of GAMeC Cinema, the classics, the previews, the Fantamaratona, the Kino Club, for the younger audience, and the Daily Strip, the Festival event dedicated to comics that this year has hosted four of the best Italian illustrators: Alessandro Baronciani, Loputyn, Squaz and SerT.

The 37th edition of Bergamo Film Meeting was made possible by the patronage and the contribution of Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali - Direzione Generale per il Cinema, European Union Creative Europe – MEDIA, Municipality of Bergamo, Camera di Commercio e Industria di Bergamo; with the patronage of Provincia di Bergamo; with the contribution of UBI Banca, Fondazione della Comunità Bergamasca Onlus, Fondazione ASM Gruppo a2a, CGIL Bergamo; and with the support of UniAcque Sacbo S.p.A, B-Consult, AdBlue by Azotal, Azotal, and Birrificio Indipendente ELAV.

The 38th edition on Bergamo Film Meeting will take place from March 7 to 15 2019.

DOWNLOAD PRESS KIT AND IMAGES

Reserved area: bergamofilmmeeting.it/Texts/press_area

Username: bfm2019 | Password: press_bfm2019

Bergamo Film Meeting Onlus Press Office

Ada Tullo | +39 349 2674900

press@bergamofilmmeeting.it | adatullo33@gmail.com

Domestic Press Office

Lorena Borghi | Studio Sottocorno | +39 348 5834403

press@bergamofilmmeeting.it | adatullo33@gmail.com

Foreign Press Office

Gloria Zerbinati | +39 338 1200517 | gloria.zerbinati@libero.it