

BERGAMO FILM MEETING

International Film Festival

39th edition, April 24 – May 2, 2021

39th EDITION – THE WINNERS

Une vie démente/Madly in Life/Follemente in vita by Raphaël Balboni and Ann Sirot (Belgium 2020) is the winner of the main competition **Mostra Concorso** of the **39th edition of Bergamo Film Meeting**. Chosen by the audience, the film will receive the Bergamo Film Meeting Prize, worth 5,000 €. The international jury, led by Martha Otte (senior coordinator of the Tromsø International Film Festival programme) with Dominique Cabrera (French director) and Luciano Barisone (journalist and film critic), decided to award the **Best Direction Prize**, worth 2,000 € to *Raftis/Tailor* by Sonia Liza Kenterman (Greece, Germany, Belgium 2020). A **special mention** goes to *Une vie démente*.

The audience has also awarded the **CGIL Prize** for the **Close Up - La Sortie de l'Usine** (2,000 €) section to the documentary *Lobster Soup*, by Pepe Andreu and Rafa Molés (Spain, Iceland, Lithuania 2020). The **Prize of the CGIL jury**, decided by the union delegates of CGIL Bergamo (1,000 €), goes to *Alt det jeg er/All that I am* by Tone Grøttjord-Glenne (Norway 2020). A **special mention** was awarded to *Piece Of The Earth* by Maka Gogaladze (Georgia 2019).

In addition to that, the winners of the competitions will also receive a two-people voucher to discover the wonders of Bergamo and its territory, courtesy of VisitBergamo (Bureau for the tourism development and promotion of the Bergamo province).

Bergamo Film Meeting wraps up this edition with a theatrical screening of four iconic **Cult Movies**, at the Auditorium in Piazza della Libertà from Sunday, May 2 to Tuesday, May 4. [The online programming will remain available until Sunday, May 2 \(bergamofilmmeeting.it/le-sale-bfm39/\)](http://bergamofilmmeeting.it/le-sale-bfm39/)

The first of the four cult movies to be screened on **Sunday at 5:30 pm** is Alfred Hitchcock's *The Man Who Knew Too Much* (USA, 1956), a solid remake of the 1934 thriller of the same name, also directed by Hitchcock himself. The following movies in the selection are three classic comedies directed by as many Hollywood masters: *Pillow Talk* (1959) by Michael Gordon, on **Monday, May 3 at 5:30 pm**; Billy Wilder's *The Seven Year Itch* (1955) is scheduled for **7:45 pm** of the same day; finally, Norman Jewison's *Send Me No Flowers* (1964) will be screened on **Tuesday, May 4, at 5:30 pm**.

Furthermore, from Tuesday to Thursday at 8:00 pm, Bergamo Film Meeting Onlus, in collaboration with Lab 80, will offer a preview of *Nuovo cinema paralitico*, the new documentary feature by Davide Ferrario: a journey into contemporary Italy with poet Franco Arminio. On Wednesday, the director will be attending the screening at the venue and be available for a Q&A session with the audience along with the poet, who will join the conversation from home.

COMPETITION EXHIBITION

FIRST PRIZE BERGAMO FILM MEETING

Une vie démente/Madly in Life

by Raphaël Balboni and Ann Sirot, Belgium, 2020, 87'

Alex and Noémie, both in their thirties, want a child. But their plans are upset when Alex's mother, Suzanne, starts acting rather bizarrely, due to a "semantic dementia". What if sudden changes reverse children and parents upside down?

SECOND PRIZE BERGAMO FILM MEETING

Raftis/Tailor

by Sonia Liza Kenterman, Greece, Germany, Belgium, 2020, 100'

Nikos is an eccentric tailor who lives in the attic of the family's tailor shop. When the bank threatens to repossess the shop, and his father falls ill, Nikos takes action: with a wondrously strange tailor shop on wheels, he reinvents himself while bringing style and confidence to the women of Athens.

THIRD PRIZE BERGAMO FILM MEETING

Pun mjesec/Full Moon

by Nermin Hamzagić, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2019, 85'

A Full Moon night. Hamza, a police inspector, takes his wife to the maternity ward. Her water broke, and the doctor orders an urgent delivery. Hamza is worried, but he has to leave her - he couldn't manage to get the night off. At the police station, he has to deal with his corrupt colleagues as usual.

BEST DIRECTOR

Raftis/Tailor

by Sonia Liza Kenterman, Greece, Germany, Belgium, 2020, 100'

The Best Director Award of the Exhibition Competition goes to Sonia Liza Kenterman, for her film Raftis/Tailor: «For the quality of the script, the formal structure and the extraordinary performance of the main character, a sort of a modern Buster Keaton, a winner loser who creates with his performance a modern allegory of life».

The special mention goes to *Une vie démente/Madly in Life* by Raphaël Balboni and Ann Sirot (Belgium, 2020): for its original structure, inspired by an experience that really happened in the life of the two filmmakers and, once in a film, allows them to create a sort of hybrid structure between reality and imagination.

CLOSE UP

BEST DOCUMENTARY CGIL BERGAMO

Lobster Soup

by Pepe Andreu and Rafa Molés, Spain, Iceland, Lithuania, 2020, 97'

Every morning Krilli prepares the lobster soup from Bryggjan café, a tiny place in Iceland's most anodyne village. But now the mountain, the tourists and the lava field seem to be pushing the whole village into the sea.

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

Alt det jeg er/All that I am

by Tone Grøttjord-Glenne, Norway, 2020, 75'

Emilie was sexually abused by her stepfather from the age of six until she was twelve, when he was finally convicted and imprisoned. After five years in the foster system, eighteen-year-old Emilie returns to her family home to rebuild a fractured relationship with her mother and younger half-siblings.

The motivation of the jury is the following: "For the director's ability to tell the true and touching story of a girl, without invading too much her already fragile balance and, at the same time, effectively portraying all her strength and determination on screen, giving voice to the many stories of abuse and violence which still perpetrated in the world today. CGIL has always been at the forefront in defence of human rights and condemning violence against women. The importance of reporting abuse, even at home (especially after the

pandemic, this year, has caused a tremendous increase of domestic abuse - 119% more in Italy alone) can never be stressed enough.”

The same jury, “for the quality of cinematography and for the references to how, in the past 40 years, the labour market has been completely upturned following the historical-political situation of the country”, awards a special mention to ჩემი ნაწილი დედამიწაზე/*My Piece Of The Earth* by Maka Gogaladze (Georgia, 2019).

ჩემი ნაწილი დედამიწაზე/My Piece Of The Earth

by Maka Gogaladze, Georgia, 2019, 54'

Fast and radical changes, brought by the collapse of the Soviet Union in my city - Tbilisi, capital of Georgia - was followed by a fire in my home. I try to bring together the artefacts of my personal history and preserve my memory, which reflects the collective emotional memory of Georgia.

The 39th edition of the Bergamo Film Meeting has opened with the world premiere of Brucia. Ancora. Paolo Fresu, Elio Biffi, Paolo Spaccamonti, Gerardo Chimini play Il fuoco by Giovanni Pastrone, which will be broadcasted online on BFM social channels for free. The Festival programme included 7 feature films, all Italian premières, in the Competition-Exhibition; 16 documentaries in the Close up competitive section; the section EUROPE, NOW!, featuring the complete retrospective of two contemporary European filmmakers: Mia Hansen-Løve (France) and João Nicolau (Portugal), enriched by a selection of graduation films from European film schools that adhere to the CILECT programme; moreover the two professional days (26th and 27th of April) Europe, Now! Film Industry Meetings; the retrospective dedicated to Volker Schlöndorff, director, screenwriter, producer, actor and one of the most significant representatives of post-war German cinema; the homage to the innovative gaze of Hungarian director Márta Mészáros and Polish director Jerzy Skolimowsky, screenwriter and film actor, author of a free and innovative film style; the complete works of the talented Polish animator Izabela Plucińska; ENCOUNTERS: CINEMA AND CONTEMPORARY ART, the section dedicated to the contamination between cinema and contemporary art; the Kino Club, dedicated to the younger audience, and special events in collaboration with different cultural realities of the territory and beyond.

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