

# BERGAMO FILM MEETING

International Film Festival

40<sup>th</sup> edition, March 26 – April 3, 2022

## 40<sup>th</sup> EDITION – THE WINNERS

***Sentinelle Sud / South Sentinel*** by Mathieu G rault (France, 2021) is the winner of the main competition **Mostra Concorso** of the 40<sup>th</sup> 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 Volker Schl ndorff (director), Fr d ric Boyer (director at Les Arcs Film Festival and Tribeca Film Festival) and Nicoletta Romeo (co-director Trieste Film Festival and film producer) decided to award the **Best Direction Prize**, worth 2,000   to ***Craï nou / Blue Moon*** by Alina Grigore (Romania, 2021).

The audience has also awarded the **CGIL Prize** (2,000  ) section to the documentary ***Calendar Girls*** by Maria Loohufvud and Love Martinsen (Sweden, 2021). The **Prize - La Sortie de l'Usine** of the **CGIL jury**, decided by the union delegates of CGIL Bergamo (1,000  ), goes to ***Det er ikke slut endnu / It Is Not Over Yet*** by Louise Detlefsen, Denmark (2021). A **special mention** was awarded to ***Pasienio Pauk čiai / Before they Meet*** by Vytautas Puidokas (Belgium, Lithuania, Croatia, Norway, 2021) and to ***Shi Shi Shi / A Marble Travelogue*** by Sean Wang (Netherlands, China, France, Greece, 2021).

***The 41<sup>th</sup> edition on Bergamo Film Meeting will take place from March 11 to 19 2023.***

### COMPETITION EXHIBITION

#### FIRST PRIZE BERGAMO FILM MEETING

***Sentinelle Sud / South Sentinel*** by Mathieu G rault (France, 2021)

After an ambush that decimated his unit, the soldier Christian Lafayette is back in France from Afghanistan. While he trying to resume a normal life, he seems to choose the vicious circle of violence and crime.

#### SECOND PRIZE BERGAMO FILM MEETING

***N *** by Dietrich Br ggemann (Germany, 2021)

Dina and Michael are in their early thirties. He is a doctor, she is an actress. They are happy together until Michael thinks about breaking up. She says: «Nope» («N »). In thirteen episodes, we then accompany our two heroes while they maneuver through life over the years and try to not lose sight of their love.

#### THIRD PRIZE BERGAMO FILM MEETING

***El Radioaficionado / The Radio Amateur*** by Iker Elorrieta (Spain, 2021)

Following his mother's death, Nikolas, a young 30-year-old with autism, decides to return to his hometown. He wants to fulfill a mission and reach the high seas in two days, but it won't be easy.

## **BEST DIRECTOR AWARD**

**Crai nou / Blue Moon** by Alina Grigore (Romania, 2021)

Irina lives in a mountain village in Romania, but she dreams of University in Bucharest. The young woman struggles to achieve higher education and escape the violence of her extended dysfunctional family. Using solely her brain and her feminine instincts Irina drives all the aggressors in her life into the depth of a subdued psychological game.

The jury decided unanimously, without any doubt and with conviction, to award the prize for best direction of the 40th edition of the Bergamo Film Meeting, to Alina Grigore for her debut feature film *Blue Moon*, for her Chekhovian humanity, in a world of globalized confusion, and for her mature work of writing and *mise en scène*.

## **CLOSE UP**

### **CGIL PRIZE**

**Calendar Girls** by Maria Loohevud and Love Martinsen (Sweden, 2021)

Calendar Girls is an all-female dance team of seniors in Florida that performs over 100 public and private events each year, determined to prove that age is just a number.

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

**Det er ikke slut endnu / It Is Not Over Yet** by Louise Detlefsen (Denmark, 2021)

Dagmarsminde is a small nursing home for patients with severe dementia. As an alternative to the sterility and indifference that often comes with long-term eldercare, their treatment method is based on hugs, conversation, laughter, and community.

In a society where when you stop being productive you stop being human, the nurses of Dagmarsminde show us how the respect for persons and their self-determination is a fundamental and sometimes forgotten value. The loss of autonomy represents a traumatic moment in the life of all of us. The approach to care shown in "It is not over yet" is holistic, delicate, intelligent and informed. Candidly shot, the film is a window into a world of values that we should make our own.

### **First special mention**

**Pasienio Paukščiai / Before they Meet** by Vytautas Puidokas (Belgium, Lithuania, Croatia, Norway, 2021)

On each side of the border between Lithuania and the Russian exclave Kaliningrad, there is an ornithologic station, researching the migration of millions of birds crossing this border region. Both ornithologic stations make a first attempt to cross borders through a common bird research project.

A film of great impact in showing the dualism between the freedom of nature and the oppression of borders. A current theme that makes us think about the many hostilities present in the world and about the escalation of conflicts. Even though nature teaches us the opposite, too often walls and barricades are built up, that are heavy burdens on the shoulders of peoples, cultures and scientific knowledge.

### **Second special mention**

**Shi Shi Shi / A Marble Travelogue** by Sean Wang (Netherlands, China, France, Greece, 2021)

At the end of the 1960s, elementary school teacher Emilio Sidoti made some films with his pupils to develop their critical eye. "Cinema dei Ragazzi" (Children's Cinema) was Italy's first 'school with cinema' experience.

Sean Wang's documentary explores globalization through the epic journey of Greek marble extracted from quarries in the Peloponnese and shipped to China, the largest stone market in the world. In its various segments, the film tells a merciless story about today's world made up of ruthless market rules, wild consumerism, unsustainable production processes. If we don't normally stop to think about the real price of the things we consume, "Shi Shi Shi" forces us to think about the irrationality of global production processes.

The 40<sup>th</sup> edition of the Bergamo Film Meeting has opened with the **CIN'ACUSMONIUM**, an acousmatic projection of the restored 35mm copy of Andrej Tarkovskij's *Stalker* (1979), curated by the Audior collective. The nine days of programming of BFM will also include two competitive sections (**Competition-Exhibition**,

for feature films, and **Close-up**, for documentaries); the exploration of contemporary European cinema will focus on **Danis Tanović (Bosnia Herzegovina)** and **Patrice Toye (Belgium)**; enriched by a selection of graduation films from European film schools that adhere to the CILECT programme; moreover the two professional days Europe, Now! Film Industry Meetings; a tribute retrospective to filmmaker **Costa-Gavras**; the presence of German director **Volker Schlöndorff**; **1983 - The Year We Make Contact**, a cinematographic journey revisiting the 40-years-long history of BFM; the **animated cinema** section, featuring a complete retrospective of **Priit and Olga Pärn's** works; **KINO CLUB**, the festival section dedicated to the younger audience, with a live scoring performed by the students of the Conservatorio Gaetano Donizetti of Bergamo; collaborations with Monstra - Lisbon Animation Film Festival, and the European Film Factory and Cineteca di Milano platforms; the **Encounters: Cinema and Contemporary Art** section featuring **Ugo Nespolo**, curated in collaboration with The Blank collective; and also **previews, special screenings** and the **DAILY STRIP**, featuring some of the best illustrators from the Italian comic scene.

#### **PRESS KIT AND IMAGES**

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