

P I C T U R E S and D R E A M S

THE MOST AWARDED SLOVAK MOVIES



Photo: „Boxer and Death“

As the vision of Aki Kaurismäki „Pictures and Dreams“ the Slovak Film Festival in Helsinki 20.-22.3.2012 and in Tampere 26.3-4.4.2012 presents the internationally most successful Slovak titles which, in the past as well as today, represent the Slovak film at prestigious international festival.

Free entrance. English subtitles.

The classic cinema will be represented by Peter Solan's *The Boxer and Death* and until 1989 banned Dušan Hanák's film *I Love, You Love*. The two internationally most awarded Slovak documents of recent years - *Blind Loves* by Juraj Lehotský and *Cooking History* by Peter Kerekes will highlight the achievements of Slovak documentarians. From the contemporary full-length production, the selection will feature the films that are currently representing Slovakia at international festivals. These movies are *House* by a director and screenwriter Zuzana Liová and the Martin Šulík's film *Gypsy*. In addition to full-length production, the program will be enriched by a representative selection of animated shorts. The Student Oscar-nominated film *In the Cube* by Michal Struss, animated film *Four* by Ivana Šebestová and a puppet opera *Stones*, directed by Katarína Kerekešová.

The show will open with the screening of *Four* and *House* in the presence of the directors Ivana Šebestová and Zuzana Liová, as well as the actress Judit Bárdos.

More information on the movies and a festival catalogue in Finnish:

www.arkadin.wordpress.com

www.elokuvakeskus.com

The Event is held under the auspices of:

Aki Kaurismäki, Film Director

Juraj Podhorský, H. E. Ambassador of Slovak Republic in Finland

Organizers & Partners: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Arkadin ry, Sputnik Oy, Embassy of the Slovak Republic, Vlna, Slovak Film Institute, Slovak Academy of Sciences – Theatre and Film Department, Andorra, Pirkanmaa Film Centre, Artileria.

Thanks: to the owners of movie rights, Rosebud, Like

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Juraj Lehotský: Blind Loves (2008, 77min.)

Andorra (Eerikinkatu 11, Helsinki), Tue 20.3 at 16:30

Niagara (Kehräsaari B-talo, Tampere), Mo 02.04. at 16.30

Documentary film about love between blind people. Love can be soft, love can be silly, love can be blind at times... To find one's place in this world is not an easy thing to do for people with good sight, but how much more difficult it can get for somebody who is blind? The „view“ of blind people is often pure and essential, and very often witty. It uncovers new dimensions of meaning of happiness.

Awards

CICAE Art Cinema Award - 40. Directors' Fortnight in Cannes 2008, National nomination for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film 2008, Nomination for the Most Valuable Documentary Film of the Year Cinema for Peace Awards - Berlinale 2009, Golden Taiga - 7th Spirit of Fire Film Festival Khanty-Mansijsk 2009, Golden Eye for the Best Documentary film - 4th Zurich Film Festival 2008, FIPRESCI Prize - 10th Motovun Film Festival 2008, „Discovery of the Year“ - Special Mention of the Jury at 5th Reykjavik IFF 2008, Grand Prix Cinesonne - 10th Festival of European Films in Essonne 2008, Special Mention for the Documentary Film - 6th FICCO Mexico City International Contemporary Film Festival, Prize for originality and innovative direction - 3rd Emotion Pictures Festival in Athens 2009, Honorary Jury Special Mention - 5th International Documentary Film Festival

Play-Doc Tui, Audience Award for the Best Documentary film - 20th Trieste Film Festival 2009, Best documentary film - 9th Songes d'une nuit in Paris 2008, Best Romantic Documentary - The Fringe Report Awards 2009

Ivana Šebestová: Four (2007, 15min.)

Andorra (Eerikinkatu 11, Helsinki), Tue 20.3 at 18:00

Niagara (Kehräsaari B-talo, Tampere), Wed 04.04. at 16.30

The story of *Four* takes place on a spring day in 1937. The afternoon is filled with nostalgia, the island inhabitants are walking along the shore, waiting for a concert of popular singer. This is when the stories of Hana, a pilot, Eva, a letter carrier, Lilith, a shop-assistant and Ariel, a singer, intertwine. All four are involved in a tragedy.

Awards

Award of the Slovak film and Television Academy for the best Slovak animated film of the years 2006-2007, Best European Short Film – Arcipelago 2008, International Festival of Short Films and New Images, Rome, Italy

Zuzana Liová: The House (2011, 100min.)

Andorra (Eerikinkatu 11, Helsinki), Tue 20.3 at 18:00

Niagara (Kehräsaari B-talo, Tampere), Wed 28.03. at 16.30

On a plain in some Slovak small town, there are side by side two houses in the middle of reconstruction. The first one lies fallow with no construction under way. The father wanted to give it to the elder daughter, whose husband he endorses and even refuses to communicate with her, even though the family has nowhere to live. He builds the second house intensively together with the younger daughter, hoping that the construction will be completed before her graduation. However, Eva is not interested in the house and secretly plans to leave for England and try her luck as an au-pair.

Awards

Krzysztof Kieslowski TVP Award, 2007, ScripTeast - Cannes 2007 Student Jury Award - Film Festival Titanic Budapest 2011, Special Mention Award - International Film Festival Pasavaris Vilnius 2011, Anonimul Trophy (Main Prize) - International Film Festival Anonimul Romania 2011, Best Feature Film – Trieste Film Festival 2012, New Voices/New Visions Award – IFF Palm Springs 2012

Michal Struss: In the Cube (1999, 6min.)

Andorra (Eerikinkatu 11, Helsinki), Wed 21.3 at 18:00,

Niagara (Kehräsaari B-talo, Tampere), Thu 29.03. at 16.30

A short animated movie about space or a Sisyphian effort inside the cube. A figure enclosed in a small space comes across a sun ray. The incoming light indicates that there must be the way out.

Awards

Main Prize - Mediaschool Lodz 1999, Prix du Public - Premiers Plans d'Angeres 2000, Student Oscar Nomination 2000, Best Fiction - Balticum Film and TV Festival 2000, Main Prize - The World Animation Celebration Los Angeles 2000, Gold Fish - Gold Fish Festival Moscow 2000, Silver Dinosaur - Etiuda Krakow 2000, Best Script Award - Cilect Bologna 2000, Silver Bear ex equo – Ebensee 2001, UNESCO Grand prix „Topping the Bill Worldwide“ ex equo – Paris 2000

Peter Solan: The Boxer and Death (1962, 110min.)

Andorra (Eerikinkatu 11, Helsinki), Wed 21.3 at 18:00,

Niagara (Kehräsaari B-talo, Tampere), thrs 29.03. at 16.30

Set during WW2, the film takes place in a Nazi concentration camp run by Sturmbannführer Kraft, a former prize fighter who tries to keep his skills fresh by training in his private gym. While overseeing the execution of a group of prisoners for a failed escape attempt, he discovers that one of them, named Komínek (Štefan Kvietik), has some boxing background. Kraft invites him to the gym for a sparring session, and displeased with the lack of competition orders Komínek to bulk up and train in order to provide a better challenge.

Awards

Carl Foreman Award for the contribution to undersanding among the nations and award in music category - IFF San Francisco 1963, In Competittion – IFF Cork 1963, Trilobit for Štefan Kvietik – FITES 1963

Peter Kerekes: Cooking History (2009, 88min.)

Andorra (Eerikinkatu 11, Helsinki), Wed 21.3 at 20:00

Niagara (Kehräsaari B-talo, Tampere), Sat 31.03. at 13.00

In his full-length documentary Peter Kerekes attempts to construct a complex message. Considering that the film was intended for screening at movie theatres, director has chosen a globally comprehensible subject that could attract a wider audience in a European national context. The fundamental heterogeneous point, the pervading location, the subject of history explored through subjectively narrated stories, in this case it is the environment of military field kitchen.

Awards

Special Jury Award - International Feature Hot Docs Toronto 2009, Nomination for the European Film Academy Award - Best Documentary 2009, The Hugo Gold award - Chicago Film Festival 2009, FIPRESCI Jury Award - Leipzig DOKS 2009, Vienna Film Prize for Best Documentary - Viennale 2009, Memorimage Award for the Best Production 2009, Best Int'l Documentary - Sofia Film Festival 2010, Best Feature Documentary - Slow Motion Food Film Festival 2011

Katarína Kerekesová: Stones (2010, 26 min.)

Andorra (Eerikinkatu 11, Helsinki), Thu 22.3 at 18:00,

Niagara (Kehräsaari B-talo, Tampere), Mo 02.04. at 16.30

Ten men work every day in a quarry to the rhythm of mechanically chanted song lines. Unexpectedly, a woman appears in this heartless world of stones.

Awards

Silver Award – IFF Damascus 2010, Award for the Best Film by Estonian Academy of Arts' animation students “Brain-tap” – 15th Tallin Black Nights Film Festival 2011, First Prize – Fano International Film Festival 2011

Dušan Hanák: I Love, You Love (1980, 97min.)

Andorra (Eerikinkatu 11, Helsinki), Thu 22.3 at 18:00

Niagara (Kehräsaari B-talo, Tampere), Wed 04.04. at 16.30

This so far highest ever awarded Slovak film won the Silver Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival in 1989. Hanák's films are meant to be the apotheosis of man's victory over himself. They are illustration of how morality and emotionality can help through the difficult living conditions. His unusual heroes live in the bleak atmosphere of a train station, a hostel and a small Slovakian village but are portrayed with unusual humility, humanity and understanding of adversity.

Awards

Silver Bear – International Film Festival Berlin 1989, Grand Prix and FIPRESCI Award – International Film Festival Strasbourg 1989

Martin Šulík: Gypsy (2011, 107min.)

Andorra (Eerikinkatu 11, Helsinki), Thu 22.3 at 20:15

Niagara ((Kehräsaari B-talo, Tampere), Mo 26.03. at 16.30

The story focuses on a fatherless fourteen years old Roma boy Adam, a child of solid moral principles and a strong desire for love, whose future prospects are shattered by his stepfather, a petty thief and usurer Žigo. He tries to drag the boy into his shady business, which leads to tragic consequences.

Awards

Special Jury Prize, Special Mention for Actor Ján Mižigár, The Don Quijote Prize and the Europa Cinemas Label Award - Karlovy Vary 2011