

Award winner 28th JFBB

Press release

Potsdam/ Berlin, 17 May 2022



SPERRFRIST 7.30 p.m.: CINEMA SABAYA and SUMMER NIGHTS win the main prizes of the 28th JFBB

Until June 19, the Jewish Film Festival Berlin | Brandenburg in Potsdam and Berlin will show the most important films and series from the Jewish world.

The winning films of the 28th JFBB were honored today at the official awards ceremony at the Representation of the State of Brandenburg to the Federal Government.

The JFBB Feature Film Jury, consisting of actress and director Esther Amrami, director and screenwriter Peter Kahane, and film critic and Palm Springs International Film Festival curator Alissa Simon, awarded the Gershon Klein Feature Film Prize to CINEMA SABAYA (Israel, Belgium 2021). Orit Fouk's Rotem's chamber play about a film workshop for Arab and Jewish Israeli women, staged in the form of a video diary, deftly explores female realities of life and cultural breaking points.

Honorable mention goes to EVOLUTION (Hungary, Germany 2021) by Kornél Mundruczó, a moving drama about the intergenerational trauma of the Shoa - three generations in three settings.

This year's Gershon Klein Documentary Award goes to SUMMER NIGHTS (Israel 2021), the tender portrait of a father-son relationship by Ohad Milstein, awarded by the JFBB Documentary Jury, consisting of film scholar and curator Nugit Altschuler (Haifa Cinematheque), author and publicist Max Czollek, and filmmaker Yael Reuveny.

BLUE BOX by Michal Weits is commended.

The prize for intercultural dialogue goes to EINE FRAU, the new film by Jeanine Meerapfel. The film asks big questions about the voids of the 20th century in a unique poetic and cinematic language.

The prize for the promotion of young filmmakers is won by Israeli filmmaker Salomon Chekol, whose film WHAT HAS CHANGED will be screened in the JFBB's short film program.

"I am delighted that the awards reflect the full range of the JFBB - trenchant and poetic, empathetic, analytical and emotional. On the closing weekend, we have a few more highlights in the program through Sunday evening, from the seduction of the documentary film award winner SUMMER NIGHTS on Saturday at the Filmmuseum to a double feature with works by Jeanine Meerapfel and Aysun Bademsoy on the Jewish Theater Ship MS "Goldberg" to the live setting of the silent film classic BROKEN BARRIERS (USA 1919) by musicians Daniel Kahn and Yeva Lapsker open air on Saturday in Potsdam's Kutschstallhof and on Sunday morning in Studio 14, the roof lounge of RBB. Sunday we are also looking forward to our cooperation event at the Jewish Museum Berlin, where we will show a double feature the Dutch documentaries HOUSEWITZ and CAPTURED."
(Bernd Buder, Program Director)

Overview of the award winners of the 28th Jewish Film Festival Berlin | Brandenburg

Best Film in the feature film competition

Gershon Klein Feature Film Award

Endowed with a prize money of 3.000 EUR

Donated by the Klein family

CINEMA SABAYA Orit Fouks Rotem (IL/BE 2021)

Jury statement:

The main prize goes to a film that plays in a small space but opens many doors; that is full of life, love and authenticity without being didactic; and that faces the responsibility of filmmaking and the development of filmmaking, to the Israeli-Belgian production CINEMA SABAYA, directed by Orit Fouks Rotem.

An honorable mention was dedicated by the jury to

EVOLUTION Kornél Mundruczó (HU/DE 2021)

Jury statement: An honorable mention for an intense, important and moving drama about the intergenerational trauma of the Holocaust: the German-Hungarian co-production EVOLUTION, directed by Kornél Mundruczó.

Best Film in the competition documentary

Gershon Klein Documentary Film Award

Endowed with a prize money of 3.000 EUR

Donated by the Klein family

SUMMER NIGHTS Ohad Milstein (IL 2021).

Jury Statement:

For his sharp filmmaker's eye, his delicate butterfly-catching hand and his big, sensitive heart. For showing us that great cinema can be found in the smallest, most mundane moments of life. That in a world that screams, one can also whisper. The Gershon Klein Award for Best Documentary goes to Summer Nights and the master of all arts - Ohad Milstein.

The jury dedicated an honorable mention to BLUE BOX Michal Weits (IL/CA/BE 2021).

Jury statement: Our special mention goes to a film that illuminates one of the most important mechanisms of the Zionist project, drawing a complex portrait of a family and a state. Congratulations to Michal Weits for the courageous Blue Box.

Furthermore, the JFBB documentary jury awards the prize for the intercultural dialogue, endowed with a prize money of 2.000 EUR, donated by Stephan Goericke, to: ONE WOMAN Jeanine Meerapfel (DE/AR 2021).

Jury statement: The Prize for International Dialogue goes to a film that takes place between many places - on the map and in our hearts. This film asks the big questions and masters them in a unique poetic and cinematic language. A film that fully convinced the jury. The prize for International Dialogue goes to: A Woman by Jeanine Meerapfel!

Stephan Goericke endowed the Prize for the Promotion of Young Filmmaker with a prize money of 1,000 EUR. The prize for the promotion of young filmmakers is awarded by the JFBB program collective to: WHAT CHANGED Salomon Chekol (IL 2021).

More information on the programme will follow, and you can keep up to date by clicking on our website.

If you have any press enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact our press department.