AFI FEST 2024 PRESENTED BY CANVA ANNOUNCES GRAND JURY AWARD WINNERS

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

AFI FEST 2024 PRESENTED BY CANVA ANNOUNCES

GRAND JURY AWARD WINNERS

Winners for Live Action Short, Documentary Short and Animated Short

Qualify for Academy AwardÂ® Consideration

Festival Confirms Record High Attendance with

Over 30% Increase in Ticket and Pass Sales

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE â?? Los Angeles, CA, October 28, 2024 â?? The American Film Institute (AFI) announced today the Grand Jury Award winners and Special Mentions for AFI FEST 2024 presented by Canva. The Grand Jury Award winners for Live Action Short, Documentary Short and Animated Short will be eligible for the 2024 Best Live Action Short, Best Documentary Short and Best Animated Short Academy AwardsÂ®. This yearâ??s jury was comprised of Academy AwardÂ®-nominated filmmaker Sophia Nahli Allison, film programmer Nora Bernard and comedian, actor, filmmaker, podcaster and author Paul Scheer.

Grand Jury Prize â?? Live Action Short

TWO PEOPLE EXCHANGING SALIVA (DEUX PERSONNES Ã?CHANGEANT DE LA SALIVE) (DIR Natalie Musteata and Alexandre Singh)

Jury Statement: â??At a commendable 36 minutes, this film illustrates how desire and yearning can clash in a capitalistic society while showcasing queerness as commonplace.â?•

Grand Jury Prize â?? Documentary Short

LAND OF LOST TOYS (DIR Nicholas Stachurski)

Jury Statement: â??This revealing documentary challenges our conceptions and explores the humanity of a group of people in Detroit who fight not only for their survival but also for companions who canâ??t on their own.â?•

Grand Jury Prize â?? Animated Short

HUMANTIS (DIR Paris Baillie)

Jury Statement: â??HUMANTIS is a stunning work of art that delves into the complexities and challenges of change and the unexpected beauty that emerges from self-transformation and acceptance. The stop motion breathes new life into an otherworldly visual narrative, showcasing the depths of a vibrant imagination and skillful craftsmanship.â?•

Special Jury Mentions

Special Jury Mention for Freedom and Expression â?? Live Action Short

A SHORT FILM ABOUT KIDS (DIR Ibrahim Handal)

Jury Statement: â??Through a breezy style and cinematic language, we were drawn into a world where, with a little ingenuity, burdened youth can experience joy and self-determination.â?•

Special Jury Mention for New Voice â?? Documentary Short

YOUâ??RE TOO SENSITIVE (DIR Dan Chen)

Jury Statement: â??YOUâ??RE TOO SENSITIVE receives a special mention for its unique approach to reimagining home movies, not only as documentation of what we wish to be seen and remembered but also reveals the private moments that speak to the complexities of family dynamics. â??

Special Jury Mention for Craft â?? Animated Short

SILENT PANORAMA (DIR Nicolas Piret)

Jury Statement: â??The jury would like to acknowledge SILENT PANORAMA with a special mention for artistic craftsmanship as this subtle and immersive story comes to life beautifully and meticulously on a single sheet of paper.â?•

This yearâ??s festival welcomed a record number of attendees with ticket and pass sales reaching 30% higher than the previous year.

The festival lineup included 6 Red Carpet Premieres, 13 Special Screenings, 13 Luminaries selections, 15 Discovery films, 12 World Cinema selections, 14 Documentaries, 4 After Dark titles, 54 films in the Short Film Competition, and 28 films from the AFI Conservatory Showcase presented by AMC Networks. Of the official selections 48% were directed by women and non-binary filmmakers and 26% were directed by BIPOC filmmakers. There were 4 World Premieres, 6 North American Premieres and 7 U.S. Premieres. The program represented 44 countries and included 9 Best International Feature Oscar$^{Â®}$ submissions, including DAHOMEY (Senegal), GRAND TOUR (Portugal), Iâ??M STILL HERE (Brazil), SANTOSH (UK), THE SEED OF THE SACRED FIG (Germany), SUJO (Mexico), UNDER THE VOLCANO (Poland), UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE (Canada) and VERMIGLIO (Italy). The festival also presented two special events: Directors Spotlight: Robert Zemeckis in Conversation with Tom Hanks and Pitch Perfect: Crafting Impactful Visual Decks from a Storytellerâ??s Perspective

AFI Conservatory Alumni with films at AFI FEST included Andrea Arnold, Carolina Costa, Amanda Freedman, Affonso GonÃ§alves, Heidi Levitt, Charlie McDowell, Rachel Morrison, Samir Oliveros and Paul Schrader.

Returning filmmakers included Andrea Arnold, Maura Delpero, Mati Diop, Jeanne Drouet, Miguel Gomes, Alain Guiraudie, Damian Kocur, Philippe Lesage, Rungano Nyoni, Jeanne Paturle, Alex Ross Perry, Mohammad Rasoulof, Cecile Rousset, Hong Sang-soo, Paul Schrader, Chris Smith, Faye Tsakas and Jia Zhang-Ke.

Guests at the festival included Pam Abdy, JJ Abrams, Amy Adams, Sophia Nahli Allison, Fred Armisen, Glen Ballard, Lance Bangs, Scott Beck, Alan Bergman, Nora Bernard, Paul Bettany, Leslie Bibb, Jacqueline Bisset, Laurent Bouzereau, Gerald Casale, Samantha Casiano, Ben Chaplin, Tommy Chong, Glenn Close, Toni Collette, Jennifer Connelly, Ryan Coogler, Merlin Crossingham, Maisie Crow, Ted Danson, Dr. Austin Dennard, Julie Delpy, Zoey Deutch, Michelle Dockery, Molly Duane, Gustavo Dudamel, Chloe East, Francesca Eastwood, Jean Picker Firstenberg, William Goldenberg, Hugh Grant, Tom Hanks, John Hillcoat, Nicholas Hoult, Thomas Hooten, Bryce Dallas Howard, Ron Howard, Jon Huertas, Marianne Jean-Baptiste, Barry Jenkins, Jharrel Jerome, Angelina Jolie, Caleb Landry Jones, Spike Jonze, Kathleen Kennedy, Kristie Macosko Krieger, Ed Lachman, Jennifer Lawrence, Pablo LarraÃn, Philippe Lesage, Jennifer Lopez, Leonard Maltin, Cheech Marin, Frank Marshall, Charlie McDowell, Malcolm McDowell, Selton Mello, Logan Miller, Rachel Morrison, Mark Mothersbaugh, Robert Mothersbaugh, Oscar NunÌ?ez, Elizabeth Olsen, Nick Park, Noah Parker, Dylan Penn, Abbie Perault, Andrea Riseborough, Anthony Robles, Judy Robles, Sam Rockwell, RaMell Ross, Eric Roth, Tom Rothman, Santigold, Peter Sarsgaard, Paul Scheer, Paul Schrader, Alan Silvestri, Lawrence Sher, Stacey Sher, Jurnee Smollett, Steven Spielberg, Mary Steenburgen, George Stevens, Jr., Sharon Stone, Sophie Thatcher, Fernanda Torres, John Turturro, Milo Ventimiglia, Lulu Wang, Diane Warren, Matthew Weiner, Nat Wolff, Bryan Woods, Robin Wright, Cedric Yarbrough, Robert Zemeckis, Amy Ziering, Amanda Zurawski, and Wallace & Gromit.

Canva was the exclusive Presenting Sponsor of AFI FEST. FIJI Water was the festivalâ??s Official Water Sponsor. Corporate Partners for AFI FEST 2024 included Premium Sponsor Apple Original Films, AMC Networks, First Entertainment Credit Union, Amazon MGM Studios and Netflix. The Envelope by The Los Angeles Times was the festivalâ??s Primary Media Partner. Official Media

Partners are The Wall Street Journal, Variety, The Hollywood Reporter and ABC7 On the Red Carpet. Affiliate Media Partners include TheWrap, IndieWire, Screen International and KCRW.

To learn more about AFI FEST, visit FEST.AFI.com

AFI is a nonprofit, donor-powered organization. Join AFIâ??s Premiere Circle to support the American Film Institute and enjoy access to exclusive one-of-a-kind opportunities at AFI events. To learn more, email Advancement@AFI.com.

About the American Film Institute (AFI)

The American Film Institute (AFI) is a nonprofit organization with a mandate to champion the moving image as an art form. Established in 1967, AFI launched the first comprehensive history of American film and sparked the movement for film preservation in the United States. In 1969, AFI opened the doors of the AFI Conservatory, a graduate-level program to train narrative filmmakers. The Conservatory, which counts Deniese Davis, Affonso GonÃ§alves, Susannah Grant, Matthew Libatique, David Lynch, Melina Matsoukas and Rachel Morrison as Alumni, is ranked as one of the top film schools in America. AFIâ??s enduring traditions include the AFI Life Achievement Award, which honors the masters for work that has stood the test of time; AFI AWARDS, which celebrates the creative ensembles of the most outstanding screen stories of the year; and scholarly efforts such as the AFI Catalog of Feature Films and the AFI Archive that preserve film history for future generations. AFI exhibition programs include AFI FEST presented by Canva and year-round exhibition at the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in Maryland. AFI Movie Club is a destination for movie lovers from around the world to celebrate and engage with the art form every day. Other pioneering programs include workshops aimed at increasing diversity in the storytelling community, including AFI DWW+ and the AFI Cinematography Intensive for Women. Read about all of these programs and more at AFI.com and follow us on social media at Facebook.com/AmericanFilmInstitute, YouTube.com/AFI, X.com/AmericanFilm, TikTok.com/@americanfilminstitute and Instagram.com/AmericanFilmInstitute.

About AFI FEST presented by Canva

Now in its 38th year, AFI FEST presented by Canva is a world-class event, showcasing the best films from across the globe. This yearâ??s edition takes place in Los Angeles from October 23-27, 2024. With an innovative slate of programming, the five-day festival presents screenings, panels and conversations, featuring both master filmmakers and new cinematic voices. AFI FEST presented by Canva includes high-profile films with Q&As featuring the filmsâ?? cast and crew and a robust lineup of fiction and nonfiction features and shorts, providing a one-of-a-kind experience for movie fans. Additional information is available at FEST.AFI.com. Connect with AFIâ??s film festival at Facebook.com/AFIFEST, Twitter.com/AFIFEST, Instagram/AmericanFilmInstitute, TikTok/@AmericanFilmInstitute and YouTube.com/AFI.

About Canva

Launched in 2013, Canva is a free online visual communications and collaboration platform with a mission to empower everyone in the world to design. Featuring a simple drag-and-drop user interface

and a vast range of templates ranging from presentations, documents, websites, social media graphics, posters, apparel to videos, plus a huge library of fonts, stock photography, illustrations, video footage, and audio clips, anyone can take an idea and create something beautiful. Entertainment professionals can access resources to help them express their ideas, pitch film and TV projects, plan shoots and beyond at canva.com/entertainment.

Until next timeâ?¦.Iâ??ll see you at the movies!

HollywoodGlee celebrating the start of the 2019 AFI FEST. (Photo credit: Larry Gleeson)

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