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Wrap Up: 73rd Venice International Film Festival Continues to Mesmerize

Description

I attended my first Venice International Film Festival at the Cinema del Palazzo complex in Lido this year from the Pre-Opening Night event August 30th through Closing Night September 10th, 2016 as an accredited media entity.

The Venice Film Festival is the oldest film festival in the world with a history dating to 1932. This year was the 73rd edition showing little signs of its age. Steeped in glamor and tradition, the festival remains a testament to the cinematic arts with its viewing venues and its programming.

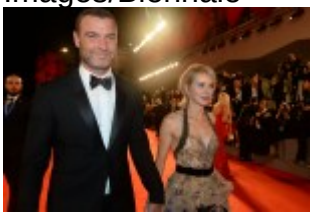




a Bellucci takes a
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esy of ASAC
Images/Biennale Cinema)

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Amy Adams walks the Red Carpet in a shoulder baring black dress at the 73rd Venice International Film Festival. (Photo courtesy of ASAC Images/Biennale



Set in Lido with a plethora of screens each only a score or two steps away, these hallowed cinema grounds created a magical setting adorned with cafes, raised walkways, and abundance of shade trees.

Liev Schreiber and Naomi Watts walk hand-in-hand on the





Cinema patrons makeing their way between venues during the 73rd Venice International Film

Festival. (Photo credit: Larry Gleeson/HollywoodGlee)



Last night and final view of the 73rd Venice International Film Festival. (Photo credit: Larry Gleeson/

The real magic, however, took place inside the cinema!

Leading the way were the spell-binding performances of Lily-Rose Depp and Natalie Portman in *Planetarium* from Director Rebecca Zlotowski.



Planetarium Director, Rebecca Zlotowski. (Photo courtesy of ASAC Images/Biennale Cinema)

Award-winning, Tom Fordâ??s *Nocturnal Animals*, took home the Silver Lion Grand Jury Prize for Best Film. *Nocturnal Animals* captured my eye and imagination with itâ??s captivating story lines, exceptionally rich, mise-en-scene and wildly, powerful acting. Damien Chazelle and crew mesmerized audiences with their dazzling *La La Land.* The lovely Emma Stone received the Best Actress Silver Lion Volpi Cup for her heartful, soul-revealing performance as Mia.





Ms. Emma Stone at the La La Land Press Conference on

Augsut 31st, 2016, at the 73rd Venice International Film Festival. (Photo courtesy of ASAC Images/Biennale Cinema))



Director Lav Diaz, left, with *Ang Babaeng Humayo* film delegation at the 73rd Venice International Fi

This yearâ??s Golden Lion for Best Film went to Lav Diaz for his painstaking drama, *Ang Babaeng Humayo* (The Woman Who Left), an epic story with a runtime of 226 minutes. The film follows one woman rediscovering her homeland after a 30 year stay in a correctional facility.

For a complete list of winners click here.

Other noteworthy films, not already mentioned, included: *Paradise*, a Russian Federation film, set amidst the Nazi WWII reign of terror (Director Andrei Konchalovsky garnered Silver Lion for Best Director for his *Paradise* efforts); Terrence Malickâ??s *Voyage of Time: Lifeâ??s Journey*, winner of the 5th Green Drop Award awarded by Green Cross Italy to films that bring attention to the values of

ecology and sustainable development; *Jackie*, Pablo Larrainâ??s portrait of the iconic First Lady, Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy (Noah Oppenheim won Best Screenplay for *Jackie);* and Orecchie, a Biennale College â?? Cinema Production, directed by Alessandro Aronadio and produced by Costanza Coldagelli.

A special note of thanks to this yearâ??s ushers for their efforts in ensuring my safety and well-being at the 73rd Venice International Film Festival. Until next year, Ciaoâ??!



Ushers at the 73rd Venice International Film Festival. (Photo credit: Larry Gleeson/HollywoodGlee)

*Featured photo courtesy of Larry Gleeson/HollywoodGlee

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Date Created
September 11, 2016
Author
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