



11th EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL

Lecce, 13th – 18th April 2010

Press Release

THE 11th EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL AWARDS

GOLDEN OLIVE TREE to *Desperados on the block* by Tomasz Emil Rudzik

(Germany, 2009), also winner of the **FIPRESCI AWARD** and **CINEUROPA AWARD**

Mario Verdone AWARD to Susanna Nicchiarelli

The 11th edition of the European Film Festival that has taken place in Lecce from 13th to 18th April, directed by Alberto La Monica and Cristina Soldano, has successfully come to an end.

The Awarding Ceremony on Sunday April 18th has been attended by the Mayor of Lecce Paolo Perrone, the Vice-President and Cultural Commission Officer of the Province of Lecce Simona Manca, together with the guests of the Festival.

This year the event has also been attended, among the others, by Carlo Verdone, his brother Luca and his sister Silvia, Christian De Sica, Anna and Sauro Falchi, Cristiana Capotondi, Michele Riondino, Federico Zampaglione, Laura Chiatti, Susanna Nicchiarelli, as well as by the interpreters and directors of the films in Competition.

The **International Jury**, composed by Andrea Crisanti, Julia Taylor-Stanley, Yvon Thiec and Bruno Torri, has thus expressed its preferences:

BEST FILM – GOLDEN OLIVE TREE, awarded by majority, to *Desperados on the block* by Tomasz Emil Rudzik (Germany, 2009) for the *originality and freshness with which a multi-ethnic environment is portrayed, emphasising young people feeling of uneasiness.*

A début film telling stories of foreign students meeting in the lift of a “Block” in Munich. A great collection of different stories, often touching, of loneliness and alienation. Stories that the author has discovered outside his room while he was living there. Stories that were there, to be told by those who watch and listen carefully.

SPECIAL JURY AWARD given **ex aequo** to the film **9:06** by Igor Sterk (Slovenia – Germany, 2009) for the *stylistic rigour used to tell about an extreme human story*, and to the film **Yo, también** by Alvaro Pastor and Antonio Naharro (Spain, 2009) for the *delicacy with which a very important theme, that of diversity, is dealt with, emphasising the positive evolution of the main character.*

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY AWARD to **Simon Tasek** for the film **9:06** by Igor Sterk (Slovenia – Germany, 2009).

BEST SCREENPLAY AWARD to **Guy Hibbert** for the film *Five minutes of heaven* by Oliver Hirschbiegel (Ireland - United Kingdom, 2009).

The **Italian Film Journalists National Syndicate**, chaired by Laura Delli Colli, has given the **BEST EUROPEAN ACTOR AWARD** to **Michel Piccoli** *artful protagonist of L'insurgée (France, 2009) by Laurent Perreau, a story of delicate emotions, in which his role of an old partisan settles without rhetoric the conflict, not only generational, between the anguish of memory and a future freed by the phantoms of the past.*

The **FIPRESCI Jury**, composed by the critics Cüneyt Cebenoyan, Klaus Eder, Umberto Rossi, has awarded the film **Desperados on the Block** by Tomasz Emil Rudzik (Germany, 2009) *for its excellent construction and link of different episodes, and its rich development of a variety of characters, foreigners living together in a Munich student block.*

Also the **Cineuropa Award**, assigned by the Principal of the National School of Cinema, Andrea Crisanti, has been given to the film **Desperados on the Block** by T. E. Rudzik *for its attention to the issues of integration and intercultural relations in Third Millennium Europe of which the film is a focusing, partaken metaphor.*

The **Officine Lab Award to the Best Supporting Actor**, has been given to **Anamaria Marinca** for her interpretation in the film **Five Minutes of Heaven** by Oliver Hirschbiegel *dealing with the Irish issue in an original, modern key. The actress succeeds in playing a potentially marginal, and thus 'risky' role, with strong sensibility and depth.*

The **Jury of Puglia Show**, Competition of Short Films by young Apulian directors, composed by Giuseppe Gariazzo, Simone Salvemini and Silvana Silvestri, has awarded the **Special Mention for the freshness of the story** to **Se dobbiamo andare andiamoci** by Vito Palmieri (Italy, 2009). The Jury unanimously mentions *the surprising discovery of an author with a unique style, able to evoke dancing bodies between the earth and the sky and turning the tradition into legend* giving the two awards of the Competition, **CNC AWARD** and **CineWebCosta Award**, to Chiara Idrusa Scrimieri for **Danze di palloni e coltelli** (Italy, 2009).

The **Rotary Club Gallipoli Award (5.000 euros)** has been given to the film **Yo, también** by Alvaro Pastor and Antonio Naharro (Spain, 2009) which best matches the principles of Rotary International.

The **Special Audience Award** has been assigned to the film **Yo, también** (Spain, 2009).

The **Mario Verdone Award**, to its first edition, has been given to **Susanna Nicchiarelli**, for **Cosmonauta** (Italy, 2009) *for the delicate touch with which, even if very young, has realised the film, permeated with sublime poetry, proving to be a very talented director. A talent showing an interesting development of her artistic vein. An important début to be encouraged.*

The Mario Verdone Award, that his family promotes from this year with the European Film Festival, has been created to award a young Italian author, who has particularly stood out for his talent in the last film season for the realisation of his début or second film.

Promoters of this initiative with the Verdone family and the Lecce Festival, that from now on will host the event, are also the Experimental Centre of Cinematography and the Italian Film Journalists National Syndicate of which Mario has been an 'historic' member.

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