

VIS 2019 AWARD WINNERS

VIENNA SHORTS AWARDS 2019

Vienna Short Film Award International Competition Fiction & Documentary – Best Film

Film title: Một Khu Đất Tốt (Blessed Land)

Director: Phạm Ngọc Lân

Qualifies for the Academy Awards – Live Action Short Film

“The award goes to an original and wildly imaginative film that the jury found to be playful yet profound. It explores complex themes of history, place and memory in ways that are continually surprising, portraying characters who are rooted in a specific world yet somehow escape the usual rules of time and space. The award goes to the Vietnamese film MỘT KHU ĐẤT TỐT (BLESSED LAND) by Pham Ngoc Lân.”

Donated by the City of Vienna: € 4.000

ASIFA Austria Award International Competition Animation Avantgarde – Best Film

Film title: Egg

Director: Martina Scarpelli

Qualifies for the Academy Awards – Animated Short Film

Qualifies for the European Film Awards

“It is rare that a film manages to capture the state of mind of a highly personal quandary. Imaginative symbolism married with the uncompromising portrayal of the protagonist generates a lingering, visceral urgency. This film finds an original voice, naming the unnamable and thereby revealing the untold. The ASIFA Austria Award 2019 goes to EGG by Martina Scarpelli.”

Donated by ASIFA Austria: € 2.000

Austrian Short Film Award Austrian Competition – Best Film

Film title: Eigentlich Vergangen (Far from past)

Director: Nicole Foelsterl

Qualifies for the Academy Awards – Documentary Short Subject

Qualifying for the Austrian Film Awards

“The selection in the Austrian Competition was so diverse, we anticipated difficulties in judging fiction against documentary against experimental approaches. But this film, which we immediately and unanimously agreed on as the winner, combines elements of all three in delivering a deceptively simple multi-format memory trip that is also a funny, poignant, provocative portrait of a woman who literally refuses to rest easy in the frame. We are delighted to award the Austrian Short Film Award for the Best Austrian Film to Nicole Foelsterl for EIGENTLICH VERGANGEN (Far from Past).“

Donated by VdFS, viennaFX & Blautöne: € 3.000 + € 2.000 postproduction voucher

Austrian Music Video Award Best Music Video

Film title: Italy & (This is) Water – Soap&Skin
Director: Anja Plaschg, Ioan Gavriel

Qualifying for the Austrian Film Awards

“Sublime cinematography coupled with subtle details that create a feeling of an audiovisual cocoon for the viewer. Fragile & gentle, pleasing beyond and beneath surfaces, at a distance but in a flow, we are trapped in moments. Courageous with its handling of time & timings. Using symbols to create a nostalgic hideout yet encouraging us to jump off a cliff. What follows is the award for the courageous ITALY & (THIS IS) WATER for SOAP&SKIN by Anja Plaschg and Ioan Gavriel.“

Donated by FAMA: € 1.000

Special Mention International Competition – Fiction & Documentary

Film title: Retour au Pays des Merveilles (Back to Wonderland)
Director: Alice Fargier

“The jury would like to give a Special Mention to a very unconventional and personal film that we found to be remarkable for its humor and honesty. We are very happy to acknowledge BACK TO WONDERLAND by Alice Fargier.”

Special Mention International Competition – Animation Avantgarde

Film title: Slug Life
Director: Sophie Koko Gate

“This captivating film of powerful, alternative characters seduces us into a juicy and audacious world. A mouthwateringly confident treat from a filmmaker with a bright future. We award a Special Mention to SLUG LIFE by Sophie Koko Gate.”

Special Mention
Austrian Competition

Film title: Hörmanns (Hoermanns)
Director: Siegmund Skalar

“This captivating film of powerful, alternative characters seduces us into a juicy and audacious world. A mouthwateringly confident treat from a filmmaker with a bright future. We award a Special Mention to SLUG LIFE by Sophie Koko Gate.”

Special Mention
Austrian Music Video Award

Film title: Wannabe – Leyya
Director: Rupert Höller

“Sublime cinematography coupled with subtle details that create a feeling of an audiovisual cocoon for the viewer. Fragile & gentle, pleasing beyond and beneath surfaces, at a distance but in a flow, we are trapped in moments. Courageous with its handling of time & timings. Using symbols to create a nostalgic hideout yet encouraging us to jump off a cliff. What follows is the award for the courageous ITALY & (THIS IS) WATER for SOAP&SKIN by Anja Plaschg and Ioan Gavriel.”

VIS JURY PRIZE 2019

Jury Prize
International Competition – Fiction & Documentary

Film title: Black Bus Stop
Director: Kevin Jerome Everson, Claudrena N. Harold

“A powerfully expressive and dynamic statement of pride, vitality, unity, and resilience. The Jury Prize of the international competition Fiction & Documentary goes to BLACK BUS STOP by Kevin Jerome Everson and Claudrena N. Harold.”

Donated by Q21/MuseumsQuartier Wien: 1 Month Residency in Vienna

Jury Prize
International Competition – Animation Avantgarde

Film title: Splash
Director: Shen Jie

“The film quietly builds a complex narrative with brutal consequences. Subtle observations and temporal contradictions lead to an imposing cinematic experience, which confronts us constantly with our own expectations. The Jury Prize of the international competition Animation Avantgarde goes to SPLASH by Shen Jie.”

Donated by Q21/MuseumsQuartier Wien: 1 Month Residency in Vienna

**Jury Prize
Austrian Competition**

Film title: Nuit

Director: Grzegorz Kielawski, Alexander Bayer

“The film is local in setting but global in relevance. It comments mischievously on the collision of the past and the present and of filmmaking traditions old and new, while examining the somehow vampiric activity of tourism. We award the Jury Prize of the Austrian Competition to the always surprising, always beautiful NUIT by Grzegorz Kielawski and Alexander Bayer.”

Donated by VAM, viennaFX & Blautöne: € 2.000 + € 1.000 postproduction voucher

VIS SPECIAL AWARDS 2019

**Elfi Dassanowsky Award
Best Female Director**

Film title: Eigentlich Vergangen (Far from past)

Director: Nicole Foelsterl

“Memory as film and the documentary authority of a digital camera. Two strong women claiming a single past through different generations. A grandmother who fled to Austria at war's end and her granddaughter, who solidifies facts and locates points on a map. The grandmother insists her image be focused and her knowledge maintained in the granddaughter's lens. The granddaughter has been taught to watch not participate. Now she participates in watching. The film is deeply moving poetic realism set at the intersections of survival and nostalgia, of dream and document, as it suggests what history is and does. The Elfi Dassanowsky Prize for the Best Female Director of the festival goes to Nicole Foelsterl for her film EIGENTLICH VERGANGEN (FAR FROM PAST).”

Donated by the Elfi Dassanowsky Foundation: € 1.000

**Youth Jury Award
Austrian Competition – Best Film**

Film title: Guy proposes to his girlfriend on a mountain

Director: Bernhard Wenger

“This year's Youth Jury Award goes to a film that stages painful realities with convincing characters, thoroughly realistic dialog, and a great deal of humor. In the face of the protagonists' despair, the film's situational comedy often had us in stitches. Most convincing was the true-to-life yet unobtrusive cinematography presenting the narrative in one long take: Our prize goes to the makers of "A guy proposes to his girlfriend on a mountain"

Donated by viennaFX & Blautöne: € 1.000 postproduction voucher

**Vimeo Staff Pick Award
Best Film**

Film title: 4:3

Director: Ross Hogg

“Immersing oneself in a room lined with walls emitting the sounds of static, fizzes and pops may seem unpleasant, unless those sound blips morph into a moving symphony of shapes, colors and an increasingly catchy beat. For its charming, fun and mesmerizing approach to experimental animation (and the VR experience), we present the Vimeo Staff Pick Award at Vienna Shorts Festival 2019 to 4:3 by Ross Hogg.“

Donated by Vimeo: \$ 2.500 + promoted online release

VIS AUDIENCE AWARDS 2019

VIS Audience Award
Most Popular Film of the Festival

Film title: Egg

Director: Martina Scarpelli

Prix Très chic
Pour Le Film Le Plus Extraordinaire

Film title: Enough

Director: Anna Mantzaris

ORF.AT Audience Award
Most Popular Austrian Film (<10 min)

Film title: Apfelmus

Director: Alexander Gratzner

Donated by ORF Online: € 500

