

Contact: Melanie Cooper

mcooper@yorkcountyarts.org

April 2, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**That’s a Wrap!**

*Underexposed Film Festival yc Announces 2019 Award Winners*

ROCK HILL, SC – From March 27 - 30, the Underexposed Film Festival yc, presented by Morton & Gettys, welcomed filmmakers and movie lovers to Plowden Auditorium and Dina’s Place on the campus of Winthrop University in Old Town Rock Hill, SC. This year’s festival showcased the best in independent filmmaking from around the world, allowing audiences to take a trip around the world without leaving their seat!

The 2019 UFFyc included films that are eligible to be nominated for Academy Awards in 2019, and films that have been collecting accolades far and wide.  *Almost Everything* won the 2019 Student Academy Awards 2018 (Silver Student Oscar - Narrative - International Film Schools). *All These Creatures* won the Cannes Film Festival (Palme d'Or – Short Film) in 2018. Thus far, five films that screened at the 2019 UFFyc are Oscar-qualifying films, eligible to be nominated for Academy Awards in 2020: *All Inclusive, All These Creatures, Icebergs, Obon,* and *Souls of Totality*.

Thanks to the 2019 jurors for their time and consideration: Rob Adler (*iVote, You Too?*), Allan Arkush (*Rock ‘n Roll High School, A Series of Unfortunate Events, The Temptations*), Meghann Artes (*Sesame Street*), Coretta Bedsole, Katherine Dudley (Shorter University, *The Perfect Selfie, Scavenger Hunt, The Bet*), Laura Rinaldi Dufresne (Winthrop University), Dick Feury (*The Family, Satisfaction, Reckless, Ghost Whisperer*), John Gallen (*Daddy, Maverick, The Crazy Ones*), Carol Green [*Heathers* (TV), *American Horror Story, Franklin & Bash, The Tempations*], Cashell Horgan (*Ancient Lights, The Clockmaker’s Dream, Paddy*), Daniella Koffler (*Compartments*), John LeBlanc [*Madonna: Truth or Dare, Cocoon, The Parent Trap* (1998), *Dog Down!*], Michael Rivers, Terry Roueche, Karen Stock (Winthrop University), David White (*Single. Parents. Collection.*), John T. Williams (*Jilava, Black Train is Coming*).

Reflecting on the films screened at the 2019 festival, Karen Collins, Festival Director, notes that short film keeps the industry humming. Making short films gives new talent a chance to hone their skills and find their style. Short films also allow for experimentation and new and creative storytelling, which then feeds into mainstream filmmaking. Put bluntly, short film is the foundation of the Hollywood empire.

Ten awards were presented to Official Selections in 2019 - the Grand Jury Prize; the best of each category: animation, documentary, experimental, and narrative; Cinema Carolina - awarded to the best independent film made in North or South Carolina regardless of category, content, or subject; Woman to Watch (best female director); Best Student Film | Collegiate; Best Student Film | High School; and the Terry Roueche Audience Choice Award.

**Grand Jury Award**

**Prizes: $750, Final Draft Software courtesy of Final Draft, and Cinematiq DCP Transfer Software courtesy of Cinematiq**

***Novela Picaresca***

Narrative | 2017 | 24 min. 58 sec.

Official Selection

Suggested Rating | G

Country | Japan

Language | Japanese

Producer | Kenji Qurata, Ikami Hanako

Director | Kenji Qurata

Writer | Kenji Qurata

Sound | Mogi Yusuki

Cast | Hirosawa So, Yuki Takashi

[Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia | Asiana International Short Film Festival]

*Yoko wishes to become the “bad kid” but she is trapped in her little book store. One day, she falls in love with a phrase written by a novelist, and starts to plan a very innocent and mindless crime, which becomes an everyday prank towards a joyful life.*

**Best Animated Film**

**Prizes: $200 and Toon Boom Animation Software courtesy of Toon Boom**

***The Call***

Animation | 2018 | 10 min.

Official Selection

Suggested Rating | PG

Country | Romania

Language | Romanian, English

Producer | Anca Damian

Director | Anca Damian

Writer | Anca Damian

Cast | Vlad Ivanov, Jean Marc Barr

​[Annecy Animation Film Festival | World France | Toronto IFFF | Animator Festival - Second Prize ]

*A phone call, a bathroom and a woman are at the intersection of the worlds.*

**Best Documentary Film**

**Prizes: $200 and Samsung Gear 360 Camera courtesy of Samsung**

***All Inclusive***

Documentary | 2017 | 10 min.

Official Selection

Suggested Rating | G

Country | Switzerland

Language | Silent

Producer | Stella Händler

Director | Corina Schwingruber Ilić

Writer | Corina Schwingruber Ilić

​[Venice Film Festival]

*Under the spell of mass entertainment on the high seas.*

**Best Experimental Film**

**Prizes: $200 and Samsung Gear 360 Camera courtesy of Samsung**

***Coastland - Litoral***

Experimental | 2018 | 12 min. 14 sec.

Official Selection

Suggested Rating | PG

Country | Netherlands, Romania

Language | Romanian

Producer | Miruna Dunu

Director | Miruna Dunu

Writer | Miruna Dunu

Sound | Miruna Dunu

Cast | Ariana Radu, Silvia Zieger, Thomas Stratmann, Ștefania Stan, Marius Andrieș, Miruna Dunu

[Artififa 2019]

*"Coastland" presents a fictional narrative rooted into architectural research. The story of the Western Black Sea coast begins in a distant future and goes back to its roots, only to reveal cyclical destruction and rebirth. The film is created entirely out of the author’s collection of authentic postcards.*

**Best Narrative Film**

**Prizes: $200 and Samsung Gear 360 Camera courtesy of Samsung**

***All These Creatures***

Narrative | 2018 | 13 min.

Official Selection

Suggested Rating | PG

Country | Australia

Language | English

Producers | Charles Williams, Elise Trenorden

Director | Charles Williams

Writer | Charles Williams

Cast | Yared Scott, Mandela Mathia, Helen Hailu, Melody Demessie

[Cannes Film Festival (World Palme D'Or)]

*An adolescent boy attempts to untangle his memories of a mysterious infestation, the unravelling of his father, and the little creatures inside us all.*

**Woman to Watch (Best Female Director)**

**Prizes: $200 and Cinematiq DCP Transfer Software courtesy of Cinematiq**

**Corina Schwingruber Ilić**

Born in Werthenstein (LU/Switzerland) in 1981, Corina Schwingruber Ilić studied at the University of Design & Art in Basel, majoring in Fine Arts/New Media where she also took part in an exchange program with the fine art academy in Belgrade (Serbia).  From 2006 - 2009 she completed her studies at the Lucerne University of Art & Design, majoring in Video. She works as a filmmaker in directing, camera, editing, music videos and teaches filmmaking at colleges and universities. Her last short documentary *BAGGERN – Tons of Passion* was nominated for the national Swiss Movie Award and won several festival awards all around the world. Since 2012 she is a board member of the Association for Films in Central Switzerland and a member of the Swiss Film Academy.

***All Inclusive***

Documentary | 2017 | 10 min.

Official Selection

Suggested Rating | G

Country | Switzerland

Language | Silent

Producer | Stella Händler

Director | Corina Schwingruber Ilić

Writer | Corina Schwingruber Ilić

​[Venice Film Festival]

*Under the spell of mass entertainment on the high seas.*

**Cinema Carolina**

**Prizes: $200 and Lightworks Pro courtesy of Lightworks**

***Murder at the Redlight***

Experimental | 2018 | 5 min. 2 sec.

Official Selection

Suggested Rating | PG

Country | United States

Language | English

Director | Hamilton Young Ward

Cast | Anon

[FESTIVAL PREMIERE]

​*A recollection of murder in a small, southern town.*

**Best Student Film | Collegiate**

**Prizes: $100 and Cinematiq DCP Transfer Software**

***Sono Pippa***

Narrative | 2017 | 28 min.

Official Selection

Suggested Rating | PG-13

Country | Switzerland

Language | Italian, Swiss German

Producers | Kaspar Winkler, Sabine Girsberger

Director | Yasmin Joerg

Writer | Yasmin Joerg

Sound | Kevin Sinic

Cast | Linda Cerabolini

[SRF Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen | Fünf Seen Filmfestival | Starnberg Seefeld Herrsching | River Film Festival | Leiden International Short Film Experience | International Studentenfilmtage SEHSÜCHTE | Film Festival Bozen Bolzano | Kurzfilmnacht 2018 - Lokalpremiere | Landshuter Kurzfilmfestival | Solothurner Filmtage | International Kurzfilmtage Winterthur - The Short Film Festival of Switzerland]

*Former telenovela star Pippa is in her forties and struggling to reestablish herself as an actress. Chasing after her dreams, she hurries from one audition to another, constantly being confronted with the role of the mother. After an unexpected meeting with her estranged daughter Luna, the role Pippa has been denying suddenly becomes her reality.*

**Best Student Film | High School**

**Prizes: $100**

***Rachel’s Pitch***

Narrative | 2018 | 12 min. 33 sec.

Official Selection

Suggested Rating | G

Country | United States

Language | English

Executive Producers | Make-A-Wish South Carolina

Producers | Jennifer Fischer, Ramon Hamilton

Director | Julia Fulmer

Writer | Julia Fulmer

Editor | Ramon Hamilton

Cast | Andrew Bowen, Jamie Grace, Nancy Lantis, Adam Simpson, Ramon Hamilton, Ovington Michael Owston

*In this satirical portrayal of the entertainment industry, join Rachel Jensen, a quirky but ambitious young filmmaker, as she attempts to pitch her ideas to Mr. McKnight, an intimidating big-time producer.*

**Terry Roueche Audience Choice Award**

**Prizes: $100**

***Uncle Gareth***

Narrative | 2018 | 14 min. 50 sec.

Language | English

Director | Chris London

[WORLD PREMIERE]

*After his mother's death, Gareth is caught between his fear of being alone and his fear of dealing with the outside world. The natural solution, hanging out with preserved bodies from his family's funeral home, works perfectly--until he suddenly has to take care of his niece while hiding the bodies from a neighborhood watchman.*

The Underexposed Film Festival yc is presented by Morton & Gettys, and is made possible by partnerships with Carolina Fresh Farms; Cinematiq; Karen Collins, Dr. Susan Collins; Concerts at the Courtroom; Final Draft; Founders Federal Credit Union; Hilton Garden Inn; Lightworks; Melton Insurance; Old Town Association; Teresa & David Rector; Samsung; Sharp Business Systems; Toon Boom; Winthrop University; Wells Fargo; The White Horse Restaurant; Winthrop University College of Visual and Performing Arts; WRHI AM/FM, Interstate 107, and 104.1 The Bridge.

Learn more about the 2019 Underexposed Film Festival yc at underexposedfilmfestivalyc.org.

Support for this project is provided by the SC Arts Commission, Arts Council of York County Small Grants Program, the John and Susan Bennett Memorial Arts Fund of the Coastal Community Foundation of SC, Rock Hill Accommodations Tax Grant Fund, York County Hospitality & Accommodations Tax & the ACYC Annual Campaign. For visitors information including lodging, contact the York County Visitors Center at 888-702-1320.

The 2019 Underexposed Film Festival yc is a part of the 2019 South Carolina Humanities Festival. Visit York County has partnered with South Carolina Humanities to host the 2019 SC Humanities Festival in York County for the first time.

The Arts Council is headquartered in downtown Rock Hill, a state-recognized cultural district. For more information on Arts Council events, contact the Arts Council of York County at 803-328-2787, by email at [arts@yorkcountyarts.org](mailto:arts@yorkcountyarts.org), or visit our webpage at http://www.yorkcountyarts.org.

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