

## Press release

Corfu, December 2, 2019

### Lights, camera, action!

Animation Festival ICONA 2019 in Corfu

November 29 – December 1, 2019, Department of Audiovisual Arts, Ionian University

The Ionian Contemporary Animation (ICONA 2019) Festival was successfully finished on Sunday, December 1, 2019. The Festival was organized from November 29 to December 1, 2019 in the city of Corfu by the Department of Audiovisual Arts, Ionian University within the framework of the CIAK (“Common Initiatives to Acknowledge and valorize tourism potential of the programme area through cinema”) Project. The festival program included both professional and student competitions. A total number of 135 films was screened (72 short-length and 63 student movies) originating from 48 countries all over the world.

The special artistic committee (Konstantinos Tiligadis - Ionian University, Vassilis Karamitsanis – Head of the ASIFA Hellas and Panagiotis Kyriakoulakos - University of the Aegean) evaluated the movies and awarded the following prizes:

#### Professional Competition

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Waka Huia / creator: Laurent Leprince (Belgium)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Drawing Life / creator: Luciano Lagares (Brazil)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Dalia’s still Here / creator: Nuria Menchaca (Mexico)

#### Student Competition

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Gunpowder / creators: R. Faure, N. Perron, L. Detrain, B. de Geyer d'Orth, P. Lin, A. Kubiak (France)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Daughter / creator: Daria Kashcheeva (Czech Republic)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: o28 / creators: O. Caussé, G. Collin, L. Gardel, A. Marchand, R. Merle, F. Meyran (France)

Additionally, during the film screening, the festival audience electronically voted and awarded the following prizes and distinctions:

#### Professional Competition (audience awards)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Drawing Life / creator: Luciano Lagares (Brazil)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Obsolescence / creator: Jesús Martínez Tormo (Spain)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: The Fox / creator: Sadegh Javadi Nikjeh (Iran)
- Distinction: Restless / creator: Mehdi Sedighi (Iran)
- Distinction: Mr. Angle / creator: Mattia Bioli (Italy)
- Distinction: 09:09 F / creator: Avinash Medhe (India)

#### Student Competition (audience awards)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Love Me, Fear Me / creator: Veronica Solomon (Germany)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: The Quiet / creator: Radheya Jegatheva (Australia)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Gunpowder / creators: R. Faure, N. Perron, L. Detrain, B. de Geyer d'Orth, P. Lin, A. Kubiak (France)
- Distinction: o28 / creators: O. Caussé, G. Collin, L. Gardel, A. Marchand, R. Merle, F. Meyran (France)
- Distinction: Adam & Eve Mk II / creator: Sebastian Kuder (United Kingdom)

Project partners



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Associated partner



Distinction: SIGH / creator: Vlad Bolgarin (Moldova)

Distinction: BUG / creator: Joaquín Ortiz (Argentina)

Distinction: Hungry / creators: G. Y. Infanzon, P. G. Diéguez, J. A. Conde Martín, I. T. Salvador (Spain)

The successful organization of the ICONA festival supports the future plans of the Department of Audiovisual Arts towards the annual hosting of the event, based on the academic activities (education and research) of the department within the creative field of animation.

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CIAK project, funded for around 900.000 euro by Interreg V-A Greece-Italy Programme 2014-2020, aims to promote the territory of the involved regions (Regions of Ionian Islands, Western Greece and Epirus in Greece and Puglia Region in Italy), through initiatives linked to the cinema and audiovisual sector. The valorization of the natural and cultural heritage through short movies, documentaries, fiction, animations about the common story of Italy and Greece will improve the touristic attractiveness of the area by supporting a cross-border community composed of the creative industry operators.

Apulia Film Commission Foundation is the lead beneficiary of this project in cooperation with four greek partners, the Region of Epirus, the Region of Ionian Islands, the Region of Western Greece and the Ionian University – Research Committee. Associated partner is Puglia Region Department for Economy of Culture, Tourism and Valorization of Territory.

Ionian University is a CIAK project partner, represented by the Department of Audiovisual Arts, that is responsible for the organization of the planned educational activities starting in 2019, as well as of theme-specific festivals.

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*Interreg V-A Greece-Italy Programme is an European Territorial Cooperation Programme that aims to help public institutions and local stakeholders to develop cross-border projects and pilot actions and to create new policy, products and services, with the final goal to improve the citizens' quality of life. Strategically, the programme will enhance innovation in a number of fields such as blue growth, tourism and culture, agro food and cultural and creative industries. Interreg V-A Greece-Italy Programme aims to get maximum return from EUR 123 million financed per 85% by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and per 15% by the 2 member states through a national co-financing.*

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