

PRESS RELEASE

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Bence Fliegauß wins the FACE prize at the Istanbul Film Festival for "Just the Wind" - Special Mentions go to Anca Damian for "Crulic" and Emanuele Crialesi for "Terraferma"

Istanbul, 15.04.2012 – Bence Fliegauß today received the 6th Film Award of the Council of Europe (FACE) during the closing ceremony of the 31th international film festival in Istanbul. "Just the Wind" breaks the stereotypes surrounding Roma people by its subtle portrayal of the life of a family and the discrimination and violence they face.

The decision of the Human Rights Jury was announced by its President Juanita Wilson, winner of FACE in 2011. The award was presented to the winner by Ambassador Rauf Engin Soysal, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the Council of Europe.

The Jury members gave a Special Mention to "Crulic" by Anca Damian for her personal and highly creative response to a tragic miscarriage of justice. A second Special Mention was given to "Terraferma" by Emanuele Crialesi whose powerful and accessible film addresses the crucial issue of migration to Europe today.

The 10 films in this year's selection highlight how abusive detention practices ruin the lives of innocent individuals and their families and the devastating consequences of discrimination and violence against minorities, migrants, women and children.

In this regard the Jury acknowledges "Simurgh" by Ruhi Karadag for documenting a tragic protest in Turkey and the Iranian film "Goodbye" by Mohammad Rasoulof for highlighting the lack of freedom in an oppressive political regime.

The prize awarded to "Just the Wind" consists of a bronze sculpture and a cash prize of 10 000 euros, partly financed by Eurimages, the Council of Europe's fund for the co-production, distribution and exhibition of European cinematographic works.

The decision to create the FACE award reflects the Council of Europe's commitment to both cinema and cultural diversity, and is recognition of the contribution that the world of cinema can make in developing human rights worldwide.

The FACE award is an annual collaboration between the Council of Europe and the International Istanbul Film Festival.

(*) Further information is available at www.coe.int or www.iksv.org/film

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