



SXSW FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2017 JURY AND SPECIAL AWARDS

Austin, Texas, March 14, 2017 – The South by Southwest® (SXSW®) Conference and Festivals announced the 2017 Jury and Special Award winners of the SXSW Film Awards Presented by FilmStruck at the historic Paramount Theatre. The awards were hosted by *Saturday Night Live* cast member Sasheer Zamata. Feature Films receiving Jury Awards were selected from the Narrative Feature and Documentary Feature Competition categories. Films in Competition categories, as well as all feature categories (with the exception of Special Events) and the Title Design Competition entrants, are also eligible for the 2017 SXSW Film Festival Audience Awards. All Audience Awards will be announced separately on Saturday, March 18, along with the VR/AR Virtual Cinema award winners.

SXSW also announced the Jury Award winners in Shorts Filmmaking and winners of the SXSW Film Design Awards, as well as Special Awards including the Louis Black “Lone Star” Award and Karen Schmeer Film Editing Fellowship, plus new categories with the SXSW Adam Yauch Hörnblowér Award alongside the SXSW LUNA® Gamechanger Award - Narrative and SXSW LUNA® Chicken & Egg Award - Documentary, which include a \$15,000 artist award and mentoring to help support female filmmakers hone their craft in the fiction and documentary categories, seek new and exciting opportunities, and navigate the changing media landscape.

SXSW continues showing films through Saturday, March 18. Details can be found at sxsw.com/film.

The 2017 SXSW Film Festival Juries consisted of:

Narrative Feature Competition: Seth Lyon Abramovitch, Scott Mantz, Dana Stevens

Documentary Feature Competition: Eugene Hernandez, Ann Hornaday, Eric Hynes

Narrative Shorts Program: Camille Bertrand, David Ninh, Valentina Valentini

Documentary Shorts: Opal H. Bennett, Sam Morrill, Meg Smaker

Animated Shorts: Don Hertzfeldt, Kirsten Lepore, Wiley Wiggins

Midnight Shorts: Kristen Bell, Peter Kuplowsky, Landon Zakheim

Music Videos: V. Marc Fort, Daniel Kwan, PJ Raval

Texas Shorts: Lindsey Ashley, Andrew Lee, Lars Nilsen

Texas High School Shorts: Emily Hagins, Bob Ray, Bart Weiss

Virtual Reality: Gary Hustwit, Alex Schwartz, Kim Voynar

Louis Black “Lone Star”: Meredith Borders, Justin Chang, Victor Diaz

Excellence in Title Design: Dan Brown, Kimberley Cooper, Marc Ferrino

Excellence in Poster Design: Becky Cloonan, Tim League, Kevin Tong

Over the course of nine days, the 2017 SXSW Film Festival will screen 130 features, consisting of 84 World Premieres, 14 North American Premieres, and 5 US Premieres, with 54 first-time filmmakers. 128 shorts will screen as part of 12 curated shorts programs. The 256 films were selected from 7,651 overall submissions, consisting of approximately 2,432 features and 4,975 shorts.

The 2017 SXSW Film Festival Awards:

Feature Film Grand Jury Awards

NARRATIVE FEATURE COMPETITION

Winner: *Most Beautiful Island*

Director: Ana Asensio

Special Jury Recognition for Breakthrough Performance: *The Strange Ones*

Actor: James Freedson-Jackson

Special Jury Recognition for Best Ensemble: *A Bad Idea Gone Wrong*

Cast: Matt Jones, Eleanore Pienta, Will Rogers, Jonny Mars, Sam Eidson, Jennymarie Jemison

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE COMPETITION

Winner: *The Work*

Directors: Jairus McLeary and Gethin Aldous

Special Jury Recognition for Excellence in Observational Cinema: *Maineland*

Director: Miao Wang

Special Jury Recognition for Excellence in Documentary Storytelling: *I Am Another You*

Director: Nanfu Wang

Short Film Grand Jury Awards

Presented by OneFifty, early investors in original content from Time Warner Inc., home to HBO, Turner and Warner Bros.

NARRATIVE SHORTS

Winner: *Forever Now*

Director: Kristian Håskjold

Special Jury Recognition for Acting: *DeKalb Elementary*

Actor: Tarra Riggs

Special Jury Recognition: *Laps*

Director: Charlotte Wells

DOCUMENTARY SHORTS

Winner: *Little Potato*

Director: Wes Hurley & Nathan M. Miller

MIDNIGHT SHORTS

Winner: *The Suplex Duplex Complex*

Director: Todd Rohal

ANIMATED SHORTS

Winner: *Wednesday with Goddard*

Directors: Nicolas Menard

Special Jury Recognition: *Pussy*

Director: Renata Gasiorowska

MUSIC VIDEOS

Winner: *Leon Bridges - 'RIVER'*

Director: Miles Jay

Special Jury Recognition: *Tame Impala - 'The Less I Know The Better'*

Director: CANADA

TEXAS SHORTS

Winner: *The Rabbit Hunt*

Director: Patrick Bresnan

TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL SHORTS

Winner: *Better Late Than Never*

Director: Atheena Frizzell

Special Jury Recognition: *Darcy's Quinceañera*

Director: Sam Cooper

SXSW Film Design Awards

EXCELLENCE IN POSTER DESIGN

Winner: *Fry Day*

Designer: Caspar Newbolt

Special Jury Recognition: *Like Me*

Designer: Jeremy Enecio

EXCELLENCE IN TITLE DESIGN

Winner: *Into The Current*

Directors: Chris R. Moberg and Jared Young

SXSW Special Awards

SXSW LUNA® Gamechanger Award - Narrative

SXSW LUNA® Chicken & Egg Award - Documentary

LUNA, creators of the first nutrition bar for women, has championed female filmmakers for more than 16 years. In collaboration with Gamechanger Films and Chicken & Egg Pictures, LUNA is honored to offer two \$15,000 artist awards and mentoring to help support female filmmakers hone their craft in the fiction and documentary categories, seek new and exciting opportunities, and navigate the changing media landscape. (Opt-in Award)

SXSW LUNA® Gamechanger Award - Narrative

Winner: *INFLAME*

Director: Ceylan Ozgun Ozcelik

SXSW LUNA® Chicken & Egg Award - Documentary

Winner: *I Am Another You*

Director: Nanfu Wang

SXSW Louis Black “Lone Star” Award

To honor SXSW co-founder/director Louis Black, a jury prize was created in 2011 called the Louis Black “Lone Star” Award, to be awarded to a Texas film in content, filmmaker residency, or primary shooting location. (Opt-in Award)

Louis Black “Lone Star” Award

Winner: *Mr. Roosevelt*

Director: Noël Wells

SXSW Adam Yauch Hörnblowér Award

In honor of a filmmaker whose work strives to be wholly its own, without regard for norms or desire to conform. The Adam Yauch Hörnblowér Award is presented to a filmmaker from our Visions screening category.

SXSW Adam Yauch Hörnblowér Award

Presented to: Assholes directed by Peter Vack

SXSW Karen Schmeer Film Editing Fellowship Presentation

The Karen Schmeer Film Editing Fellowship is a year-long experience that encourages and champions the talent of an emerging documentary editor. Awarded annually, the fellowship was created to honor the memory of gifted editor Karen Schmeer.

Karen Schmeer Film Editing Fellowship

Presented to: Leigh Johnson

The SXSW Film Awards are presented by FilmStruck. FilmStruck is a new streaming service for serious film fans, offering a comprehensive library including indie, contemporary and classic art house, foreign and cult films. It is the exclusive streaming home of The Criterion Collection.

Film Stills and Headshots can be found at: <http://fif.sxsw.com/media>

SXSW dedicates itself to helping creative people achieve their goals. Founded in 1987 in Austin, Texas, SXSW is best known for its conference and festivals that celebrate the convergence of the interactive, film and music industries. The event, an essential destination for global professionals, features sessions, showcases, screenings, exhibitions, and a variety of networking opportunities. SXSW proves that the most unexpected discoveries happen when diverse topics and people come together. SXSW 2017 will take place March 10-19, 2017.

SXSW is proud to be an official qualifying festival for the Academy Awards® Short Film Competition. The Best Narrative Short, Best Documentary Short and Best Animated Short winners become eligible for the Academy Awards.

SXSW 2017 is sponsored by Esurance, Mazda, Monster Energy, Bud Light, Capital One, McDonald's, and The Austin Chronicle.

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