



P.O. Box 685289 | Austin, Texas | 78768

T: 512.467.7979 | F: 512.451.0754

sxsw.com

SXSW FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2016 AUDIENCE AWARD WINNERS

Austin, Texas – March 19, 2016 – The South by Southwest (SXSW) Film Conference and Festival announced the Audience Award winners today from the Narrative Feature Competition, Documentary Feature Competition, Headliners, Narrative Spotlight, Documentary Spotlight, Visions, Midnighters, Episodic, 24 Beats Per Second, SXGlobal, Festival Favorites and Design Award categories. Audience Award results for all categories were certified by the accounting firm of Maxwell Locke & Ritter. The SXSW Film Awards are presented by Panasonic.

The Audience Awards follow the previously announced 2016 Jury Awards, which included Grand Jury Winners *The Arbalest* for Narrative Feature, and *TOWER* for Documentary Feature. For the complete list of 2016 Award Winners, visit sxsw.com/film.

Over the course of nine days, the 2016 SXSW Film Festival screened 143 features, consisting of 89 World Premieres, 12 North American Premieres and 8 U.S. Premieres, with 52 first-time filmmakers. 114 shorts screened as part of ten curated shorts programs. The 253 films were selected from 7,240 overall submissions, consisting of approximately 2,456 features and 4,784 shorts. Meanwhile the SXSW Film Conference presented 200+ Film Sessions (Panels, Workshops, Keynotes, Conversations, Networking Meetups and Mentors) plus an additional 450+ Convergence sessions open to more than one badge, including Future of Entertainment and VR/AR Tracks.

2016 SXSW Film Festival Audience Award Winners:

NARRATIVE FEATURE COMPETITION

Audience Award Winner: *Transpecos*

Director: Greg Kwedar

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE COMPETITION

Audience Award Winner: *TOWER*

Director: Keith Maitland

HEADLINERS

Audience Award Winner: *Demolition*

Director: Jean-Marc Vallée

NARRATIVE SPOTLIGHT

Audience Award Winner: *From Nowhere*

Director: Matthew Newton

DOCUMENTARY SPOTLIGHT

Audience Award Winner: *Mr. Gaga*

Director: Tomer Heymann

VISIONS

Audience Award Winner: *Jules and Dolores*

Director: Caito Ortiz

MIDNIGHTERS

Audience Award Winner: *I Am a Hero*

Director: Shinsuke Sato

EPISODIC

Audience Award Winner: *Vice Principals*

Directors: Jody Hill, David Gordon Green, Danny McBride

24 BEATS PER SECOND

Audience Award Winner: *Honky Tonk Heaven: Legend of the Broken Spoke*

Directors: Brenda Greene Mitchell, Sam Wainwright Douglas

SXGLOBAL

Audience Award Winner: *Ghostland*

Director: Simon Stadler

FESTIVAL FAVORITES

Audience Award Winner: *Gleason*

Director: Clay Tweel

SXSW Film Design Awards

EXCELLENCE IN TITLE DESIGN

Audience Award Winner: *We Are X*

Designer: Allison Brownmoore of Blue Spill

As today is the final day of SXSW Film, additional screenings have been scheduled for this evening for all Audience Award winners except Episodic and Headliners:

Audience Award: 24 Beats Per Second

Honky Tonk Heaven: Legend of the Broken Spoke
3/19/2016, Alamo Ritz 1, 7:00 PM

Audience Award: Documentary Feature Competition

TOWER
3/19/2016, Alamo Lamar C, 7:00 PM

Audience Award: Documentary Spotlight

Mr. Gaga
3/19/2016, Stateside, 9:30 PM

Audience Award: Festival Favorites

Gleason
3/19/2016, Topfer Theatre at ZACH, 9:30 PM

Audience Award: Midnighters

I Am a Hero
3/19/2016, Alamo Lamar C, 10:45 PM

Audience Award: Narrative Feature Competition

Transpecos
3/19/2016, Alamo Lamar D, 8:45 PM

Audience Award: Narrative Spotlight

From Nowhere
3/19/2016, Topfer Theatre at ZACH, 7:00 PM

Audience Award: SXGlobal

Ghostland
3/19/2016, Alamo Lamar B, 8:15 PM

Audience Award: Visions

Jules and Dolores
3/19/2016, Alamo Ritz 1, 9:45 PM

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

About SXSW Film

Now in its 23rd year, SXSW Film brings together creatives of all stripes over nine days to experience a diverse film line up and access to more than 550+ Conference sessions with visionaries from all corners of the entertainment and media industries. SXSW 2016 takes place March 11-20 in Austin, TX.

The South by Southwest® (SXSW®) Conferences & Festivals offer the unique industry convergence of music, film, and Interactive technologies. Fostering creative and professional growth, SXSW is the premier destination for discovery. The event is a launch pad for innovative content with new media presentations, music showcases and film screenings providing exposure for creators and compelling entertainment for attendees. For more information, please visit sxsw.com.

[SXSW](#) March 11-20 | [Interactive](#) March 11-15 | [Film](#) March 11-19 | [Music](#) March 15-20

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 2016 is sponsored by Esurance, Mazda, Monster Energy, Capital One, Bud Light, McDonalds and *The Austin Chronicle*.

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Contact:

Jody Arlington

filmpress@sxsw.com

(512) 467-7979 x 241