

DOC NYC ANNOUNCES JURY AWARDS FOR 2020, ALONG WITH SPECIAL 10-DAY ENCORE OF THE FESTIVAL, EXTENDING ONLINE SCREENINGS OF MORE THAN 70 FILMS THROUGH NOVEMBER 29 FOR AUDIENCES ACROSS THE U.S.

LANDFALL TAKES VIEWFINDERS GRAND JURY PRIZE,
FIVE YEARS NORTH RECEIVES METROPOLIS GRAND JURY PRIZE

TIME, WELCOME TO CHECHNYA, BOYS STATE, 76 DAYS HONORED WITH DIRECTING, PRODUCING, EDITING AND CINEMATOGRAPHY AWARDS IN FESTIVAL'S SHORT LIST: FEATURES SECTION

SING ME A LULLABY WINS SHORTS JURY AWARD, WITH A LOVE SONG FOR LATASHA TAKING SHORT LIST: SHORTS DIRECTING PRIZE

COLLECTIVE, WOJNAROWICZ, THROUGH THE NIGHT AND SHORTS DO NOT SPLIT AND THE SEEKER RECEIVE SPECIAL JURY RECOGNITION

NEW YORK, November 18, 2020 – DOC NYC, America's largest documentary festival, revealed the 2020 award winners for its juried Viewfinders, Metropolis, Shorts, Short List: Features, and Short List: Shorts sections.

The festival also announced that, for the first time ever, DOC NYC will extend its program for an additional ten-day DOC NYC Encore, running through Sunday, November 29. Available online to audiences throughout the United States, the Encore program will present more than 70 features from DOC NYC's 2020 edition, including select award winners, while also continuing to offer new DOC NYC Live filmmaker conversations, presented on Facebook Live, daily November 20-24. For a lineup of DOC NYC Live events and a list of Encore films, see www.docnyc.net. Ticket and pass information is below.

For DOC NYC's competitive sections, three juries selected films from the festival's Viewfinders, Metropolis, and Shorts lineups to recognize for their outstanding achievements in form and content. The Short List: Features program—a selection of nonfiction films that the festival's programming team considers to be among the year's strongest contenders for Oscars and other awards—vied for awards in four categories: Directing, Producing, Cinematography, and Editing, with a Directing prize also awarded in the Short List: Shorts section. The Short List awards were voted on by two juries of filmmaker peers.

Winners of the 2020 Grand Jury Prize in the Viewfinders, Metropolis, and Shorts competitions will receive a deliverables package provided by Technicolor PostWorks NY,

a comprehensive post facility offering data and film workflows, multi-format conform, color grading, sound mixing, and digital cinema.

Winners of the 2020 Grand Jury Prize in the Viewfinders and Metropolis competitions will also receive a camera loan package provided by Sony, a leading manufacturer of digital cinema cameras to fit all levels of documentary production.

Voting for the festival's Audience Award continues through November 19; the winner of the award will be announced shortly after voting closes.

<u>Viewfinders Competition</u>: The jury selected from among eleven films in this section, chosen by festival programmers for their distinct directorial visions.

Grand Jury Prize: *Landfall*, directed/produced by Cecilia Aldarondo and produced by Ines Hofmann Kanna

Jurors' statement: "For its piercing yet poetic observational gaze, rigorous control in illuminating complex issues and the logics of disaster capitalism, and collaborative production with local activists, *Landfall* is the Grand Jury Winner of the Viewfinders Competition. The ambitious scope of this film transcends humanitarian narratives in weaving together present, past, and future visions of solidarity and resistance."

Special Jury Recognition for Ethics of Care: *Through the Night*, directed/produced by Loira Limbal and produced by Jameka Autry

Jurors' statement: "For its exceptional attention to the lived experience of caregivers, intimate narrativization with dignity, and fully inclusive approach to concretely uplifting the stories of its protagonists, *Through the Night* receives the Special Jury Recognition for its exemplary Ethics of Care."

Jurors: Simon Kilmurry, Executive Director, International Documentary Association; Jolene Pinder, former Executive Director, Kartemquin Films; Abby Sun, Curator, The DocYard.

Films featured in the Viewfinders section: 40 Years a Prisoner, A La Calle, Enemies of the State, Jacinta, Landfall, The Meaning of Hitler, So Late So Soon, Stateless, Things We Dare Not Do, Through the Night, and The Viewing Booth.

<u>Metropolis Competition:</u> The jury selected from among ten films in this section, which is dedicated to stories about New Yorkers and New York City.

Grand Jury Prize: *Five Years North*, directed by Zach Ingrasci and Chris Temple and produced by Jenna Kelly

Jurors' statement: "For its use of a keen empathetic eye to capture individual stories and its ability to blend them to create a multi-dimensional, far-reaching portrait of a pressing issue, we recognize *Five Years North* with the Grand Jury Prize. The prolonged filming period not only shows the patience and dedication of its filmmakers, but reveals the nuance and complexities of the participants' lives and stories."

Special Jury Recognition for Best Use of Archival Material: *Wojnarowicz*, directed and produced by Chris McKim and produced by Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato

Jurors' statement: "For its meticulous use of archival elements to enliven a life and its work, we recognize *Wojnarowicz* with a special jury recognition. The craft of the film beautifully mirrors the melding of life, art, politics, and the culture of New York City that defined its subject."

Jurors: Clayton Davis, Film Awards Editor, *Variety*; Rachel Rosen, Selection Committee, New York Film Festival; Sky Sitney, Co-Creator/Co-Director, Double Exposure Film Festival/Director, Film and Media Studies Program at Georgetown University

Films featured in the Metropolis section: Blue Code of Silence, Calendar Girl, Can You Bring It: Bill T. Jones and D-Man in the Waters, A Cops and Robbers Story, Dope Is Death, Five Years North, Harlem Rising: A Community Changing the Odds, La Madrina: The Savage Life of Lorine Padilla, Moments Like This Never Last, and Wojnarowicz.

<u>Shorts Competition:</u> All new short films playing at the festival were eligible for the Shorts Grand Jury Prize, with the exception of DOC NYC U showcases and Short List: Shorts selections.

Shorts Grand Jury Prize: Sing Me a Lullaby, directed/produced by Tiffany Hsiung

Jurors' statement: "For its ability to evoke an emotional depth that takes you on an intimate journey that is both poignant and packs a punch, we give the Shorts Grand Jury Prize to *Sing Me a Lullaby*. In a brisk half hour, director Tiffany Hsiung navigates several complex lifetimes, honoring the relationships of mothers, daughters, and family."

Special Jury Recognition for Cinematography: *The Seeker*, directed by Lance Edmands and produced by Kyle Martin and Sarah Tihany

Jurors' statement: "For beautifully capturing its richly textured landscapes, transporting us to a seldom-seen experience, and propelling the storytelling in an impactful way, we present the Special Jury Recognition for Cinematography to The Seeker."

The 2020 winning Short film qualifies for consideration in the Documentary Short Subject category of the Annual Academy Awards® without the standard theatrical run (provided the film otherwise complies with the Academy rules).

Jurors: Jackie Glover, Head of Documentary, ABC News; Liliana Rodriguez, Artistic Director, Palm Springs International Film Society; Angela Tucker, filmmaker

Short List: Features: DOC NYC's Short List for Features puts the spotlight on 15 documentaries representing the best of the year.

Directing Award: *Time*, directed by Garrett Bradley

Jurors' statement: "The jurors were moved by this stunning, longitudinal portrait of a family through time. Bradley's direction and lens infuses this film with dignity, art, intimacy, memory, and meaning. Documentary filmmaking at its best!"

Producing Award: *Welcome to Chechnya*, produced by Alice Henty, Joy A. Tomchin, Askold Kurov, and David France

Jurors' statement: "The jury is proud to acknowledge the delicate touch, human care and creative gymnastics necessary to produce this powerful film. The filmmakers gained access to this dangerous world in which the film's subjects took great risks, and then used innovative technology to protect them, allowing these men and women to share their heartbreaking stories and inspirational acts of bravery with the world. Hats off."

Editing Award: Boys State, edited by Jeff Gilbert

Jurors' statement: "The jury recognizes Jeff Gilbert for delivering an expertly crafted story that is both infused with great momentum and intimacy. Jeff has masterfully shaped an engaging and well-paced film that sneaks up on the audience and reveals a metaphor for the world of American politics on the big stage."

Cinematography Award: 76 Days, cinematography by Weixi Chen and Anonymous

Jurors' statement: "The jurors wish to shine a light on Anonymous and Weixi Chen for risking their lives to make this film in the early days of the pandemic in Wuhan, China. In harrowing circumstances, these two brave and determined individuals achieve beautifully executed verite footage and moving compositions, bringing this hospital and its unforgettable staff into stark relief."

Special Jury Recognition for Truth to Power: *Collective*, directed/produced by Alexander Nanau and produced by Bianca Oana, Bernard Michaux, and Hanka Kastelicová

Jurors' statement: "Kudos to the vision and tenacity of the film team that was able to elegantly realize this powerful portrait of a newspaper as it exposes a corrupt healthcare system and the influence of politics on the lives of Romanians. We deeply admire the formidable structure, attention to detail, remarkable access, and the fearlessness and determination of the filmmakers and their protagonists toward speaking truth to rotten power."

Jurors: Heidi Ewing, filmmaker; Carla Gutierrez, film editor; Beth Levison, filmmaker

Short List: Shorts: DOC NYC's Short List for Shorts highlights 12 documentary shorts that the festival's programming team considers the year's leading awards contenders.

Directing Award: A Love Song for Latasha, directed by Sophia Nahli Allison

Jurors' statement: "Director Sophia Nahli Allison implements a remarkable marriage of distinct vision and personal narrative. The jury is deeply moved by the bold and imaginative employment of elements to make visible to the world what so many forces have connived to make disappear. The place of one young woman in her community, her family, her friends - to make a personal story emotionally rich, relatable, and resonant for all audiences. Sophia Nahli Allison showed a director's determination to use every element to bring her vision, her passion, and her community to the screen."

Special Jury Recognition for Courage under Fire: *Do Not Split*, directed/produced by Andres Hammer and produced by Charlotte Cook

Jurors' statement: "The jury could not ignore the tremendous tenacity and courage it took to turn such perilous events into a greater political narrative. We recognize the courage to capture the chaos as great events unfold in the individual and collective acts of resistance. We give this award for both the courage in production and the bravery of its final form and applaud the success of this endeavor."

Jurors: Carol Dysinger, filmmaker; Chiemi Karasawa, filmmaker; Bernardo Ruiz, filmmaker

Ticket and pass information:

An **Encore All Access Pass**, offering access to all films screening on the festival platform November 20-29, is available for \$99.

Individual tickets are \$12 each (\$9 for IFC Center members).

Five-Ticket Packs are \$45, offering film lovers access to five festival selections.

Ten-Ticket Packs are \$80, and provide access to ten festival films.

Tickets and passes can be purchased at www.docnyc.net

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Complete DOC NYC program information can be found at: www.docnyc.net

To inquire about sponsor or partnership opportunities for DOC NYC, please contact Raphaela Neihausen, Executive Director, at raphaela@docnyc.net.

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