

PRESS RELEASE – AWARDS – 17 MARCH 2007

The 5th edition of the **International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights** (FIFDH) confirmed the Festival's political and cultural vocation. For ten days, refusing political compromises, 16,000 festival participants have mobilized off the Council on human rights. They watched the films and participated in the debates. Human rights activists, politicians, artists, expressed their views and denounced the abuses to human dignity committed by certain states, corporations or armed groups. Beside the concept of the Festival, *A film, a subject, a debate*, a competition of quality documentary films gave the opportunity for a real dialogue between the public and specialists.

AWARDS

The members of the Jury of the 5th Film Festival and Forum International on Human Rights were **Sapho**, singer and writer, **Miguel Angel Estrella**, pianist and permanent delegate ambassador of Argentina to UNESCO, **Marwan Hamed**, film director of *Yacoubian Building*. They awarded the following prizes:

The GRAND AWARD of the State of Geneva to JESUS CAMP by Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady

“This shock film highlights an acute, interesting problem currently invisible to the eyes of the world. By showing how Christian warriors are made, it helps distinguish between fundamentalism and religious identity and assesses the danger of intertwining political and religious matters.”

The SPECIAL PRIZE OF THE JURY to ITCHKERI KENTI by Florent Marcie

« An outstanding documentary film telling the precious history of the Chechnian people, a history threatened to be wiped out. This is an important trace! The young film director devoted 11 years of his life to it and through daily footage thrusts us in the cruel reality of war with surprising yet necessary long sequences.”

The SPECIAL MENTION OF THE JURY to LA MALEDICTION DE NAÎTRE FILLE by Manon Loizeau

“The reality of our world is that half of humanity – women – is violently oppressed in certain countries. In a sensitive, controlled and powerful way, this film tells out what is usually left unspoken: that women are forced to kill their girl children by merciless traditions and with the complicity of cynical governments.”

An EXTRA MENTION to TOTAL DENIAL by Milena Kaneva

“In the poorest countries, multinational corporations make profits and tend to disregard the unbearable living conditions of local populations who are displaced and often enslaved. They see their environment being destroyed and with it their livelihood. Thus they become the accomplices of authoritarian and corrupted governments. This film is an alert!”

The OMCT AWARD goes to SWISS SANS PAPIERS by Andreas Hoessli

“In the face of the unprecedented retrenchment caused last 24 September by the Swiss people who adopted one of Europe's most restrictive laws on aliens, we strongly believe that this film will help counter xenophobic slogans, unfounded fears, rejection and ignorance of other people which all sustained the securitarian drift that won over our country.”

The JUNIOR JURY AWARD goes to DELTA, OIL'S DIRTY BUSINESS by Yorgos Avgeropoulos

“For its aestheticism and its clarity in dealing with topical issues that touch and implicitly affect us. The film director managed to share his global view of governments just as compromised as multinational corporations.”

The SPECIAL MENTION OF THE JUNIOR JURY is awarded to JESUS CAMP by Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady

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Supported by the City of Geneva, the State of Geneva and the Loterie romande