

FIFDH 7TH EDITION

16'000 FESTIVAL-GOERS

FOURTEEN ISSUES

FIFTY PANNELIST

AWARDS

**FIFDH AWARD, OFFERED BY THE
STATE OF GENEVA (value 10'000
CHF)**

SPECIAL MENTION OF THE JURY

**FOUNDATION BARBARA HENDRICKS PRIZE
IN HONOR OF SERGIO VIEIRA DE MELLO
(VALUE 5'000 CHF)**

**WORLD ORGANIZATION AGAINST
TORTURE AWARD, (VALUE 5'000 CHF)**

SPECIAL MENTION OF OMCT

YOUTH JURY PRIZE

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Once again, the International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights has played a role as agent provocateur, opening minds to fresh ideas. By the time this year's edition ends, more than 16,000 spectators will have watched the festival's films and participated in the accompanying debates.

The festival was organized around fourteen themes of which "Another world is possible", "Women as change agents", "Humanitarian interventionism", "Algeria gagged" and "Freedom of expression" provoked enormous excitement and interest.

Among the festival's fifty guests, Micheline Calmy-Rey, Leila Chahid, Elie Barnavi, Stéphane Hessel, Rony Brauman, Abderrahmane Sissako, Charles Berling, Patrice Leconte and, of course, Nobel economics prize-winner Joseph Stiglitz, were the high-profile personalities who attracted large crowds of festival-goers keen to debate crucial civil society issues with them – precisely the kind of exchange needed if people are to mobilize in support of human rights victims and further the cause of human rights.

The 2009 Jury, comprising Jury President Louise Arbour, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Florence Aubenas, journalist and Algerian author and playwright Slimane Benaïssa, awarded prizes to:

« The choir » by Michael Davie

"For a creative documentary that pays tribute to all those who, in prison, discover their own inner freedom, and for a powerful story and music show us the miracle of collective solidarity without pretending that there is anything glorious about life in prison."

«To make an example » by Necati Sonmez

"For the artistic value of this creative documentary, and for a major battle – against the death penalty."

« Kassim the dream » by Kief Davidson

"For a creative documentary that pays a special tribute to Sergio Vieira de Mello, because Kassim's struggles and his unique destiny are as unforgettable as Sergio's."

« En terre étrangère » by Christian Zerbib

"For a masterly reportage, an authentic plea for the regularization of illegal aliens, that reveals the reality of "hidden people", deprived of any political or social status, whose fate deserves far better than the general indifference that is their usual lot."

« Gaza-Sderot, chroniques d'avant guerre » by Serge Gordey, Robby Elmaliyah and Khali al Muzayyen

« Barcelone ou la mort » by Idrissa Guiro

"For a creative documentary that handles the issue of illegal immigration with uncompromising subtlety."