



The 7th Hainan Island International Film Festival Concludes Successfully, With “Black Rabbit, White Rabbit” Receiving the Top Honor

Descrizione

COMUNICATO STAMPA - CONTENUTO PROMOZIONALE

SANYA, CHINA - Media OutReach Newswire - 12 December 2025 - The 7th Hainan Island International Film Festival (HIIFF) formally concluded its weeklong program with the announcement of the Golden Coconut Award recipients, recognizing distinguished filmmakers from around the world whose works defined this year's edition. Shahram Mokri's *Black Rabbit, White Rabbit* received the festival's top honor, Best Picture, marking a significant achievement in its international trajectory.

This year's Grand Jury Prize selected two films for their innovative storytelling and artistic excellence. The prize was shared by *Phantoms of July* by Julian Radlmaier, and *A Dance in Vain*, the latest work by Lee Hong-Chi.

The festival recognized emerging international talents with its Best Director award, presented to Joel Alfonso Vargas for *Mad Bills to Pay* (*Destiny, dile que no soy malo*). This film's three performers - Destiny Checo, Yohanna Florentino, and Nathaly Navarro - jointly received Best Actress. Th  odore Pellerin earned Best Actor for his performance in Pauline Loqu  s' film *Nino*.

Best Scriptwriter awards went to Sophy Romvari for *Blue Heron*, as well as Miguel de Zuvir  a and Tom  s Gui  az   for *Brought with the Storm*. Best Visual Effect went to Ben Rivers' *Mare  s Nest*, noted for its striking visual language. Among Chinese productions, Ye Zhenpeng's *Eternal Summer* received the honor for Best Chinese Contribution of the Year.

Besides Feature Film Competition, there are Feature Documentary Competition and Short Film Competition selecting the outstanding works in respective fields. Best Documentary Film was presented to *Hair, Paper, Water*!, directed by Nicolas Graux and Tr  ng Minh Qu   , while Special Mention

awarded to Wang Yu's I Sing, I Love, I Exist. The short film jury awarded Best Short Film to Lâmina (The Mine) by Randa Maroufi, and Special Mention to Āyā (Ayi) by Li Jiayi.

About Hainan Island International Film Festival

The Hainan Island International Film Festival (HIIFF) is a distinguished annual international film event held in Sanya, Hainan Province, China, initiated in 2018. At the important juncture marking the 130th anniversary of the birth of world cinema and the 120th of Chinese cinema, and during the critical period when Hainan Free Trade Port is about to launch the island-wide independent customs operation, the 7th Hainan Island International Film Festival was held in Sanya from December 3rd to 9th, 2025.

This year the Festival with the theme of "From Oceans, To The Infinite", aims to achieve internationalization, marketization, and development of Hainan Free Trade Port. Upholding the festival-running concept of "year-round screening, island-wide showing, mass film-watching, and full-industry-chain involvement", it builds a platform for international film-culture exchange and mutual appreciation of civilizations. The main activities include film screenings, the Golden Coconut Award competition, the Golden Coconut Forum, the "HIIFF Fresh Coconut Lab" venture capital investment, the Golden Coconut Master Class, and the Golden Coconut Award Ceremony.

For further information about Hainan Island International Film Festival (HIIFF), please visit the official website:

<https://www.hiiff.net/enhiiff/main.shtml>

Hashtags: #HainanIslandInternationalFilmFestival

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