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**The docudrama You Resemble Me wins the main award at the 29th Prague International Film Festival – Febiofest as well as Amnesty International Febiofest Award 2022**

The main program of **year 29 of International Film Festival Prague – Febiofest** culminated on **May 4th** with a festive award ceremony. The victor in the **main competition** was Dina Amer’s feature-length debut **You Resemble Me**, an exploration of the roots of radicalization through a modern growing-up story. The jury decided to grant a **Special Mention** to **Other Cannibals**, a film about the deep abyss of the human psyche, wherein moments of unhinged comedy flow freely into a western and an existential drama. The winner of the **Comedy Competition** was **It’s Just a Phase, Honey**. **Amnesty International Febiofest Award 2022** likewise went out to Amer’s **You Resemble Me**. The finishing touch for this gala evening at Cinema City Slovanský dům was the French film **From Africa with Love**, a parodic take on spy thrillers.

“*After two years of waiting, the theaters could once again welcome not only audiences, which of course pleased us very much, but also our festival guests. Our invitations were accepted by over 50 filmmakers, lead actors, and film professionals. The audience responded the most strongly to our Ukraine – Center of Europe section. This year’s Comedy section was very successful too, and it brought lots of viewers into the cinemas. The festival offered room for films you wouldn’t see elsewhere, for meetings with friends you don’t have time for the rest of the year, and for sharing experiences with the creators – who are glad they can once again present their films live and get direct audience feedback,*” said IFF Prague – Febiofest’s artistic director **Marta Švecová Lamperová** of the event.

**The Main Competition**

A jury comprising three experienced professionals – director and screenwriter Isabella Eklöf, director and editor Emer Reynolds, and director Olmo Omerzu – chose from among seven striking debuts and second films from talented filmmakers. The winning movie **You Resemble Me** brings viewers a character study of Hasna Aït Boulahcen, a young lady connected with the November 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris, who was long erroneously considered the first suicide bomber in Europe. This debut by director, screenwriter, and producer Dina Amer premiered in Venice.

“*This year’s festival presented extraordinarily courageous films with a clear and emphatic message – especially the ones with strong and detailed women heroines. One of these films is the grand-prize winner, and this is a movie that also strengthens our awareness of an oppressed group and our understanding of today’s society. Here unprecedented performances by actors of all ages and the difficult challenge of associative editing are handled masterfully and with emotional impressiveness*,” said Olmo Omerzu when delivering the jury’s evaluation.

A **Special Mention** went out to the creators of **Other Cannibals**. Its director Francesco Sossai took inspiration from his observation of an emotional conversation between two middle-aged men, and its protagonists are trying to breach humanity’s oldest taboo – cannibalism. **Other Cannibals** already has one award behind it – the Best Debut award at Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. “*This special mention is going to a film with forceful, anarchistic, and meanwhile realistic characters, both male and female, that expands our horizons regarding human nature,*” stated Olmo Omerzu for the Main Competition’s jury.

**The Comedy Competition**

Seven films competed in the vote by the Audience Jury, headed by honorable chairman Michal Suchánek, and the winner was a comedy filled with situations we all know from real life, **It’s Just a Phase, Honey**. “*The jury was the most interested by this loving, funny, and deep comedy with a great cast about two aging personalities’ search for their place in life. True love can make it through anything. Even a midlife crisis. Before the film started, its director Florian Gallenberger assured viewers that he didn’t want to make a movie that laughed at its characters, but one that laughs with them. And he definitely succeeded at that*,” noted Suchánek.

**Amnesty International Febiofest Award**

For the seventh time, selected films from throughout all the festival sections competed for the Amnesty International Febiofest Award – films about freedom, human rights, free expression, and the fight for a dignified life. This section’s ambassador was journalist and anchorwoman Nora Fridrichová. The jury also included director Veronika Lišková and Amnesty CR member Evgenia Bernstein. Amnesty International Febiofest Award 2022 went out to the winner of the Main Competition: **You Resemble Me.**

“*The jury decided to recognize a debut that, against the backdrop of a true story, raises a pressing question: whether and how much social isolation, discrimination, violence, and poverty bear the blame for an individual’s radicalization. This exceptionally organically filmed picture enables an intense physical connection with the heroine, who is more a victim of her fate than a perpetrator. This film exposes just how complicated and ambiguous are the causes of terrorism and of the radicalization of people from marginalized groups. We wish to acknowledge the director’s bravery in her choice of topic and her honesty while working with it based on true events*,” summarized section ambassador Nora Fridrichová.

**Regional Echoes**

As the main portion of this year’s IFF Prague – Febiofest was ending, **the festival’s regional Echoes** took off in full in **Děčíň** (May 9th through 11th), **Otrokovice** (May 9th through 11th), **Valašské Meziříčí** (May 12th and 13th), and **Ostrava** (May 9th through 14th). The opening evening of **Febiofest Ostrava** on May 10that the Science and Technology Centerwithin Děčín’s Dolní Vítkovice cultural center will sport the honor of presenting the first two episodes of the new three-part miniseries **Iveta** in the presence of its creators.

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