



61 Zlín Film Festival

61st International Film Festival
for Children and Youth

Díl první / Part One
28/5 — 1/6/2021

Díl druhý / Part Two
9/9 — 15/9/2021



PRESS RELEASE

September 15, 2021

THE 61ST ZLÍN FILM FESTIVAL HAS ANNOUNCED THE WINNING FILMS

Zlín – The 61st annual Zlín International Film Festival for Children and Youth is at its end. A total of 125 films were shown in the competition categories between September 9 and 15. Of these, the jury selected and awarded the best; the Golden Slippers were awarded to the Norwegian film *Sisters: The Summer We Found Our Superpowers*, the Iranian film *Sun Children*, the Brazilian film *Valentina*, and the animated film *Sounds Between the Crowns*. The special prize was awarded to the Czech animated film *Even Mice Belong in Heaven*. The main theme of this year's Zlín Festival was Literature in Film.

Seven days full of films and a supporting program, which brought Zlín to life in the second (autumn) part of the festival, is a thing of the past for this year. The Zlín Film Festival ended on Wednesday, September 15 with a gala evening in the presence of Czech Television cameras. The Golden Slippers were received by the creators of the award-winning films.

"I am very happy that despite all the pitfalls of fate, our festival is still alive and looking for new ways to reach its audiences. And I believe that just as films can adapt great literary stories, we can always adapt to new conditions, although it is not easy," highlighted the festival president Čestmír Vančura.

The Golden Slipper for best feature film for children and at the same time the Children's Jury Award for Best Feature Film for Children was awarded to the Norwegian film *Sisters: The Summer We Found Our Superpowers*, a Golden Slipper was also awarded the Iranian film *Sun Children* (best feature film for youth), the Brazilian film *Valentina* (best feature film for youth) and the Czech animated film *Sounds Between the Crowns* (best short animated film for children). Special jury recognition was also given to the Czech animated film *Even Mice Belong in Heaven*.

Czech actor **Ondřej Vetchý** received the Golden Slipper for his extraordinary contribution to Czech cinema. Hollywood producer **Bill Gerber** received the Festival President's Award as part of his visit. A number of other film personalities visited Zlín: directors Denisa Grimmová, Jan Bubeníček, and Barbara Kronenberg, producer Petr Oukropec, Sarah Doignon – cultural attaché and deputy director of the French Institute, actor Ivan Shvedoff, and this year's Young Stars Veronika Divišová and Oskar Hes.

Actresses Anna Geislerová and Klára Issová unveiled their stars on the walk of fame in the area in front of the Grand Cinema. A number of films were introduced by delegations of filmmakers, for example, for the films *Sami*, *Joe and I*, *The Crossing*, *The City*, *The Sleeping City*, *Francisca*, *Spaceboy*, *Dating Amber*, *Lame-os*, and *Little Ballerinas*.



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2 300 guests were accredited this year at the Festival. *"11 thousand people came to cinemas to see films, 70 thousand visitors both from Zlín and abroad attended the supporting program,"* says festival's executive director Jarmila Záhorová.

"We are pleased that people came to see films in person in theatres, we had students from 18 schools attending screenings. Unlike last year, all the workshops we organize for schools were also full." said Markéta Pášmová, artistic director of the Zlín Film Festival. *"In addition, schools from all over the Czech Republic have the opportunity to watch selected films online. Forty-three schools mostly from outside of Zlín participated. You can still watch movies online after the festival ends until September 17."*

A traditional part of the program was the auction of the Clapperboard Salon. This year's 24th edition managed a record result. For 125 artistic flaps, this year the bidders gave a total of CZK 2,752,000. From the proceeds, the FILMTALENT ZLÍN Endowment Fund will support 31 projects of young filmmakers.

The Zlín Film Festival also witnessed the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the founding of Barrandov Studio. Celebrations included a concert of Ondřej Soukup's Film Melody and an exhibition of unique costumes from films and fairy tales.

A new item of interest is that, as of this year, our charitable partner the Patron of Children. The Sirius Foundation charity project wants to draw the attention of Zlín Film Festival visitors to the stories of children from disadvantaged families.

The last part of the Zlín Film Festival will take place from September 24 to 26 in the form of Mikulov Echoes. The organizers also announced a date for the 62nd Zlín Film Festival; from May 26 to June 1, 2022.

You can find out more at www.zlifest.cz

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FILM PROGRAM

THE 61ST ZLÍN FILM FESTIVAL 2021 screened a total of 280 films from 45 countries around the world.

THE COMPETITIVE SECTION:

- International Competition of Feature Films for Children to the Age of 10
- International Competition of Feature Films for Children over the Age of 11
- International Competition of Feature Films for Youth over the Age of 15
- International Competition of Short Animated Films for Children to the Age of 12
- Competition of feature-length European documentaries for young audiences
- International Student Film Competition – Zlín Dog

LITERATURE IN FILM:

- The Club of Heroes
- Young Academy
- European Corner
- Comic Book Paradise
- Classics



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24TH CLAPPERBOARD SALON

AUCTION OF CLAPPERBOARDS YIELDED A RECORD CZK 2,752,000

The auction of artistically rendered clapperboards is an integral part of the Sunday program at the Zlín Film Festival. This year in the Zlín Congress Centre, the clapperboards were auctioned off for the 24th time. All 125 works of art found new owners and the total yield of the several-hour auction reached a record amount of CZK 2,752,000. The greatest interest was in Jaroslav Němeček's clapperboard "*The Niagara Humming*", which was sold for CZK 111,000. The proceeds support projects of young filmmakers through the FILMTALENT Zlín Endowment Fund.

Kristián Kodet, Iva Hüttnerová, Kateřina Miler, Boris Jirků, Jaroslav Němeček, and other well-known artists participated in the Clapperboard Salon project this year. There was unprecedented interest in the clapperboards at the auction, which took place as part of the supporting program of the Zlín Film Festival on Sunday, September 12. All 125 offered clapperboards were successfully auctioned. "*The total amount we received this year is the highest in the history of the Clapperboard Salon. We can thus support fledgling filmmakers with CZK 1.71 million. The rest of the proceeds will be transferred to next year's project,*" stressed Čestmír Vančura, President of the Zlín Film Festival.

The greatest acclaim among bidders was for Jaroslav Němeček's "*The Niagara Humming*" (CZK 111,000), Kristian Kodet's "*Courtship*" (CZK 87,000), Detelina Christova Kožucharova's "*Fly Away With Me*", and Dvytex's "*K. Zeman Rule*" (both for CZK 67,000 each).

The proceeds of the auction support film projects of film school students and other young filmmakers. Financial support is provided by the FILMTALENT Zlín Foundation for original live-acted films, animation, and those hovering on the edge of the documentary genre. Since 1998, it has supported more than 350 audiovisual and visual projects with an amount exceeding CZK 30 million from the proceeds of the clapperboard auction.

Many of these films won awards at domestic and foreign festivals. In 2021, it was, among other things, the success of the film *Red Shoes* by FAMU student Anna Podskalská, who was the only one to represent the Czech Republic in the competition at Cannes. This year, the FILMTALENT Zlín Endowment Fund selected from 85 projects by filmmakers from FAMU, Tomas Bata University in Zlín, MICHAEL – Secondary School and University of Advertising and Artistic Creation, FAMO, Silesian University in Opava, and other schools. Of these, 31 were supported.

During the entire history of the Clapperboard Salon, 2,749 artistically rendered clapperboards have been auctioned off and have brought in a total of CZK 40,989,000. The most successful for the entire period of the project's existence is still Libor Vojkůvka's clapperboard "*Desires Full, Clapperboard Open*", which a bidder bought in 2008 for 199 thousand crowns. The complete collection can be seen on the salonfilmovychklapek.cz website, which contains an overview of all the clapperboards from all 24 Salons, plus adds information about individual authors and other interesting tidbits.



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FILM DELEGATIONS OF THE 61ST ZLÍN FILM FESTIVAL 2021

International Competition of Feature Films in the Children's Category

Martin and the Magical Forest: Petr Oukropec (director), Josefína Krycnerová (actress), Sebastian Pöthe (actor), Rozálie Krycnerová (actress)

Trash: Luca Della Grotta (director), Francesco Dafano (director)

Even Mice Belong to Heaven: Denisa Grimmová (director), Jan Bubeníček (director), Václav Lhoták (producer)

Spaceboy: Olivier Pairoux (director), Eusebio Larrea (screenwriter)

International Competition of Feature Films in the Junior Category (over 11 years of age)

A Colourful Dream: Jan Balej (director), Michael Carrington (animator), Jan Štencel (animator)

Night Forest: Katrin Milhahn (director, screenwriter)

International Competition of Feature Films in the Youth Category (over 15 years of age)

The Crossing: Martin Vandas (producer), Zuzana Kajnarová (actress), Polina Kazak (animator), Jaroslav Fišer, Alžběta Macolová (distributor), Mária Moťovská, Eva Skurská, Josefína Nobilis, Jiří Klenka (zvukař)

A Brixton Tale: Bertrand Desrochers (director), Rupert Baynham (producer, screenwriter)

Sami, Joe and I: Karin Heberlein (director), Jana Sekulovska (actress), Astrit Alihajdaraj (actor)

International Competition of Short Animations for Children (up to 12 year of age)

Home: Béla Klingl (producer)

In the Woods: Iva Češková (director)

Competition of European Documentary Films for Young Audience

Cabinet of Wonder: Susanne Kim (director), Franziska Junge (animator)

My Favourite War: Guntis Trekteris (producer)

School Garden: Mark Verkerk (director)

International Competition of Student Films Zlín Dog

Donna Bella: Emma Virág Csuprot (director)

Lost in Transportation: Barbora Kočíčková (director), Adriana Henzlová (editor), Jana Čechová (production)

Red Shoes: Mária Môtovská (producer), Antonie Dědečková (production), Václav Kopelec (sound, composer)

Five Hour Conversation: Katarina Blažič (director)

Breaktime: Martin Bystriansky (director), Jakub Gallo (d.o.p)

The Opposite of Eternity: Joshua Jádi (director), Marius Mertens (sound designer)

Once upon a Time in Israel: Weronika Szyma (director)

Being Someone Else: Øyvind Aamli (director)

Fighter: Matúš Men (director)

The Glory of Terrible Eliz: Eliška Kovaříková (director), Adam Struhala (director), Karolína Paterová (actress), Bára Skoumalová (production), Barbara Fehérová-Horáková (costume designer)



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Panorama

Mission Ulja Funk: Barbara Kronenberg (director), Ivan Shvedoff (actor)

Lame-os: Marta Elīna Martinšone (director), Asnāte Sofija Rožkalne (actress), Guntis Trekeris (producer), Julietta Sichel (coproducer)

La Francisca, A Chilean Youth: Rodrigo Litorriaga (director, screenwriter)

Neighbours: Mano Khalil (director)

New Czech Films and TV Programmes

My Sunny Maad: Petr Oukropec (producer)

The City: Jiří Diviš (director), Veronika Divišová (actress, Young Star), Oskar Hes (actor, Young Star), Jarek Hylebrant (actor), Bára Fišerová (actress), Tomáš Dastlík (actor), Zdeněk Král (composer), Agáta Zenklová (costume designer), Petr Šámal, Jiří Klenka (sound), Lukáš Kaplan, Jakub Šimůnek (d.o.p.)

The Sleeping City: Dan Svátek (director), Adam Svátek (actor), Kryštof Svátek (actor), Jarek Hylebrant (actor), Oskar Hes (actor), Michaela Sodomková, Martin Vopěnka

Like Summer Snow: Lubomír Hlavsa (director)

Mr. Kriss: Adolf Zika (director)

Božena: Hana Włodarczyková (screenwriter)

The Secret of the Old Pistol 2 – trailer: Kamila Janovičová (actress), Valentýna Bečková (actress), Václav Noid Bárta (actor), Ivo Macharáček (director), Evžen Gogela (screenwriter), Radovan Vašák (producer), Robert Plavec (producer), Jana Šafářová (distributor)

The Defender: Tomáš Feřtek (screenwriter)

Literature in Film

The Downfall of the Secluded Berhof: Vladimír Körner (writer, screenwriter)

Great Adventure of the Lucky Four: Jaroslav Němeček (writer, illustrator)

Special Mention

A Star Is Born: Bill Gerber (producer)



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JURIES

International Expert Jury for Feature Films in the Children's Category

Johanne Helgeland, Norway

Vít Karas, Czech Republic

Claudia Rudolph-Hartmann, Germany

International Expert Jury for Feature Films in the Junior and Youth Category

Niklas Teng, Denmark

Jindřiška Bláhová, Czech Republic

Tian Tsering, China / United Kingdom

International Expert Jury for Short Animations for Children

Barbora Příkladová, Czech Republic

Géza M. Tóth, Hungary

Eliza Plocieniak-Alvarez, Poland / Germany

International Expert Jury for Student Films Zlín Dog

Loreta Gandolfi, United Kingdom

Josef Lustig, Czech Republic

Karolína Zalabáková, Czech Republic

ECFA – International Jury for Documentary Films

Julia Jarl, Sweden

Michal Šašek, Czech Republic

Nicola Jones, Germany

International Ecumenical Jury

Dietmar Adler, Germany

Marta Sedláčková, Czech Republic

Andrej Chovanec, Czech Republic



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We would like to express our gratitude to the representatives of both public and cultural sectors for their patronage over the 61th ZFF.

Prime Minister of the Czech Republic Andrej Babiš
Governor of the Zlín Region Radim Holíš
Minister of Culture Lubomir Zaorálek
Minister of Education, Youth and Sports Robert Plaga
Minister of Foreign Affairs Jakub Kulhánek
Minister of Regional Development Klára Dostálová
Mayor of Zlín Jiří Korec



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The organizer of the Zlín Film Festival, FILMFEST, s.r.o., would also like to thank all of our partners and supporters, who were absolutely crucial for making it possible for the 61st festival to happen.

Co-organizer:

Statutory city of Zlín

General partner:

Kovárna VIVA a.s.

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Financial support

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Czech Film Fund

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DENÍK

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IS Produkce s.r.o.

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Patron of children, z. ú.



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ABOUT ZLÍN FILM FESTIVAL

International Film Festival for Children and Youth is the oldest and, currently, largest film festival of its kind in the world. Its prestige increases every year not only in the Czech Republic, but also abroad. This is evidenced by the number of invitations and the participation of ZFF representatives to sit in the juries of international festivals in Russia, Latvia, Germany, Poland, Greece, India, and other countries of the world, plus the enormous amount of interest in the festival's film dramaturgy.

The festival received an important award at the end of 2019 in Tokyo, Japan at the KINEKO International Children's Film Festival, where it won the KINEKO HONORARY AWARD for its contribution to cinematography for children and youth.

The festival's mission is to present international film productions for children and teenagers, to make them accessible to the child audiences, and offer a high-quality alternative to commonly available audiovisual content. An important aspect of the festival is to educate young audiences through the medium of film, expand their awareness of the outside world, and develop their aesthetic, social, and moral feelings. The aim of the program is to systematically contribute to the development of Czech cinema for children and youth. The organizer of the festival is the company FILMFEST, s.r.o.