

Press Release

Berlinale 2013: Crystal Bears and the New Awards by the Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung in *Generation 14plus*

The members of the Youth Jury in Generation 14plus

Indira Geisel Maxim Mersini Jonas Mileta Zoë Noack Sarah Rheinfurth Carla Romagna Kalvin Schmidt-Rimpler Dinh

give the following awards:

Crystal Bear for the Best Film: *Baby Blues* by Kasia Rosłaniec, Poland 2012

In this film we were completely unprepared for the extreme way the story unfolds. Its bold editing style, colorful cinematography and innovative direction gave the film great dynamism. The film showed us strong and complex characters who often behaved in contradictory ways. These teenagers seem to be unable to acknowledge their mistakes and take responsibility for them. They are caught between the desire for freedom and the duties of being a young parent.

Special Mention: Pluto

by Shin Su-won, Republic of Korea 2012

Our special mention goes to a film that critiques the educational structures and more broadly society in an original way, reflecting its deep injustices. The characters in this film draw us into a universe of isolation and powerlessness in the face of brutal peer pressure to conform. We felt the cosmic dimensions of the story and the protagonist's sense that, although being alone in school is harsh, being alone in the universe is devastating.

Crystal Bear for the Best Short Film: Rabbitland

by Ana Nedeljković, Nikola Majdak, Serbia 2012

This year's winner conveyed a thought-provoking theme to us combined with ironic merit and dark humor. Simply and effectively, it critiques the political structures we live under and makes us feel slightly uncomfortable about our everyday lives. The film is of worldwide relevance and was presented to us in a highly skilled and original fashion.

63. Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin 07. – 17.02.2013

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Amtsgericht Charlottenburg HRG Nr. 96 • HRB 29357 USt ID DE 136 78 27 46



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Special Mention: *Treffit* by Jenni Toivoniemi, Finland 2012

Two young people cross paths in an unusual situation. Before you know it, a common procedure develops into an unconventional date. We were convinced by the film's ability to tell us far more than it showed. It presented us with a humorous interaction that didn't immediately reveal the complexity of its themes. The multi-layered meanings of the film stayed with us long after we left the cinema.

The members of the new International Jury Generation 14plus

Andrew Okpeaha MacLean Lucy Mulloy Xavier García Puerto

give the following awards:

The Grand Prix of the *Generation 14plus* International Jury for the best feature film, endowed with \notin 7,500 by the Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung (Federal Agency for Civic Education): *Shopping*

by Mark Albiston, Louis Sutherland, New Zealand 2013

An extremely compelling first film with a fantastic lead actor. We loved watching him on screen and felt a deep empathy with him. Sharp editing, strong visual choices and a complex, painful and loving portrayal of family. We appreciated the specificity of the world you brought us into. Your dedication to your vision is palpable.

Special Mention: *Baby Blues*

by Kasia Rosłaniec, Poland 2012

We celebrate a fantastic, strong cinematic voice that confronts harsh realities with unexpected humour and style. Your strong imagery, compelling characters and a hard-hitting narrative captivated us.

Special Prize of the *Generation 14plus* International Jury for the best short film, endowed with € 2,500 by the Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung (Federal Agency for Civic Education): *Första gången* by Anders Hazelius, Sweden 2013

For Best Short Film we would like to recognize a funny and surprising film that defies expectations. Insecurity and social pressure force two awkward people together to share a moment of beautiful and genuine honesty. This film displays a strong visual style and is the work of an insightful and relevant filmmaker.



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Special Mention: *Barefoot* by Danis Goulet, Canada 2012

In the short film category the jury would like to thank this filmmaker for taking us into a fascinating world seldom shown on screen. This is a sensitive portrayal of a girl going to extreme and painful lengths to fit in. Your storytelling is important and has strong emotional impact. We are very much looking forward to seeing your future work.

Award ceremony and screening of the winning film tonight at 7.30 pm at Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Cinema 1.

Press Office February 15, 2013