



PRESS RELEASE

## Congratulations!

### The prize winners of the 65<sup>th</sup> Nordic Film Days Lübeck

Lübeck, September 4, 2023. The film awards for the 65th Nordic **Film Days Lübeck** were handed out this evening at the gala Prize Night at Theater Lübeck. MC **Loretta Stern** hosted the ceremony during which prizes worth 65,000 euros were awarded. The first of the awards – an historical brick from Lübeck – was the honorary award handed to Swedish director and screenwriter Roy Andersson during the opening night ceremonies on November 1, 2023.

Four prizes were handed out to narrative features in Competition. The NDR Film Prize, at 12,500 euros, the award with the highest endowment went to the Finnish-Swedish Christmas drama “Family Time” (“Mummola”) by Tia Kouvo, who also was in Lübeck last year with a short film.

The jury of the INTERFILM Church Prize, endowed with 5,000 euros, went to the Swedish-Danish-Finnish film “Paradise is Burning” (“Paradiset Brinner”), directed by Mika Gustafson. The Baltic Film Prize for a Nordic film, also endowed with 5,000 euros, went to Malene Choi for her autobiographic Danish production “The Quiet Migration” (“Stille Liv”) and Ole Gæver garnered the Lübecker Nachrichten prize (5,000) for “Let the River Flow” (“Ellos eatnu – La elva leve”).

The films in the Documentary section were in the running for the trade unions’ prize, endowed by the DGB District North with 5,000 euros. It was won by Jella Bethmann’s ‘portrait of a generous woman’ (as the jury said), “Mrs Hansen & the Bad Companions (Inger & det dårlige selskab) from Denmark. Bethman thanked Inger Hansen and the people in need living in her house in her acceptance speech.

The CineStar Award, endowed with 5,000 euro goes to the best short film in the section Filmforum. This year, it went to “\*(In)visible Night”, made by Hamburg’s Iwidobo Kollektiv, made up of filmmakers **Naomi Kelechi Odhiambo**, **Maximilian Mundt**, and **Jasmin Luu**. The jury gave an honourable mention to “Of Kisses and Capes” (“Was wir wollen”) by Elena Weiss.



Two prizes were awarded in the Young Audience section. The Children's and Youth Film prize, endowed with 5,000 euros by the Geimeinnützige Sparkassenstiftung (regional savings bank foundation) went to Manish Sharma, one of the actors in Kaveh Tehranis' turbulent Norwegian film comedy about gender, class, and identity "Listen Up!" ("Hør her'a!"). The Nordic Film Days children's jury were fans of Aurora Gossé's Norwegian comedy about the by-no-means easy path of a 12-year-old girl as she becomes a "Dancing Queen". **The children's jury** prize also carries 5,000 in prize money, endowed by Finnlines Deutschland.

The Nordic Shorts and Young Audience sections also award 5,000 euros for the best Baltic or Nordic short film, endowed by Teschke & Collegen Versicherungsmakler. The jury chose the Swedish short "Gösta Petter-land" ("George-Peterland), directed by Christer Wahlberg and Sebastian Rudolph Jensen. The Icelandic short "Fár" by Gunnur Martinsdóttir Schlüter, who studied stage directing in Hamburg, was singled out for an honourable mention.

Finally, two awards were given outside of specific festival sections. The honorary president of the festival, Liv Ullmann, awarded the Prize for Best Narrative Debut, endowed by the Friends of the Nordic Film Days with 7,500 euros, went to director Laurens Perol and lead actor Kornelia Melsæter for their musical road trip "Practice" ("Å Øve"). Laurens Perol, like his on-screen protagonist, hitchhiked to Oslo for an audition.

The Swedish-Danish-Finnish film "Paradise is Burning" ("Paradiset Brinner") by Mika Gustafson took home the Youth jury prize. This prize is endowed with 5000 euros by the city of **Lübeck** and is awarded by a jury made up of local young people between the ages of 16 and 19.

More than **180** films will have been shown in almost **250** public screenings at Lübeck venues during the Nordic Film Days, which wrap up tomorrow. And more than 50 percent of that line-up will be available for streaming by audiences all over Germany.



## **The winners and honourable mentions at the 65th Nordische Filmtage Lübeck:**

### **NDR Film Prize**

Endowed by: Norddeutscher Rundfunk

Endowment: 12,500 euros

**Family Time | Mummola**, Finland, Sweden

Dir: Tia Kouvo

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### **Interfilm Church Prize**

Endowed by: Lübeck-Lauenburg Protestant-Lutheran church district

Endowment: 5,000 euros

**Paradise Is Burning | Paradiset Brinner**, Sweden, Denmark, Finland

Dir: Mika Gustafson

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### **Baltic Film Prize for a Nordic Film**

Endowed by: Baltic Films

Endowment: 5,000 euros

**The Quiet Migration | Stille Liv**, Denmark

Dir: Malene Choi

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### **LÜBECKER NACHRICHTEN AUDIENCE PRIZE**

Endowed by: Lübecker Nachrichten

Endowment: 5,000 euros

**Let the River Flow | Ellos eatnu – La elva leve**, Norway, Sweden, Finland

Dir: Ole Giæver

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#### **Documentary Film Prize of The North DGB District**

Endowed by: DGB North

Endowment: 5,000 euros

**Mrs Hansen & The Bad Companions | Inger & det dårlige selskab**, Denmark

Dir: Jella Bethmann

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#### **CineStar Prize**

Endowed by: CineStar Group

Endowment: 5,000 euros

**\*(in)visible Night**, Germany

Dir: Iwidobo Kollektiv: Naomi Kelechi Odhiambo, Maximilian Mundt, Jasmin Luu

#### **Honourable Mention:**

**Was wir wollen | Of Kisses and Capes**, Germany

Dir: Elena Weiss

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#### **Children's And Youth Film Award of the Gemeinnützige Sparkassenstiftung**

Endowed by: Gemeinnützige Sparkassenstiftung zu Lübeck

Endowment: 5,000 euros

**Listen Up!, |Hør her'a!**, Norway

Dir: Kaveh Tehrani

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#### **Children's Jury prize**

Endowed by: Finnlines Deutschland

Endowment: 5,000 euros

**Dancing Queen**, Norway

Dir: Aurora Gossé



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### **Prize for Best Nordic or Baltic Short Film**

Endowed by: Teschke & Collegen Versicherungsmakler GmbH

Endowment: 5,000 euros

**George-Peterland | Gösta Petter-land, Sweden**

Dir: Christer Wahlberg, Sebastian Rudolph Jensen

### **Honourable Mention:**

**Fár, Iceland**

Dir: Gunnur Martinsdóttir Schlüter

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### **Friends of the NFL Prize for Best First Feature**

Endowed by: Friends of the Nordic Film Days Lübeck

Endowment: 7,500 euros

**Practice | Å Øve, Norway, Germany**

Dir: Laurens Pérol

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### **Youth Jury Prize:**

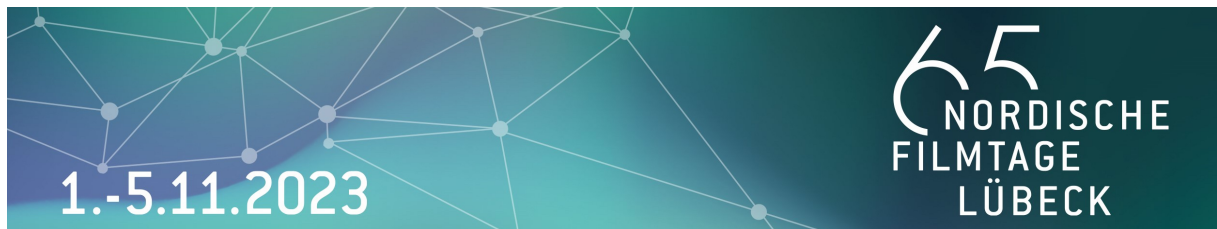
Endowed by: City of Lübeck

Endowment: 5,000 euros

**Paradise Is Burning | Paradiset Brinner, Sweden, Denmark, Finland**

Dir: Mika Gustafson

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**Press material**

**Jury statements will be available here after 10:30 pm:**

<https://nordische-filmtage.de/en/ueberuns/preise-and-jurys/jury-statements-2023>

**Film stills from the winning films can be downloaded here:**

<https://nordische-filmtage.de/en/presse/photos-and-downloads/film-stills>

Complete information about the 65th Nordische Filmtage Lübeck can be found at our website [www.nordische-filmtage.de](http://www.nordische-filmtage.de) and on Facebook, Instagram, Youtube.

We would like to thank our partners Finnlines, CineStar, STAWAG, the Lübeck Public Utilities authority, Teschke & Collegen, Moinsener, skanbo, Grundstücksgesellschaft TRAVE, Convotis, avt plus Mediaservice, SG Medientechnik, and the media partners NDR and the Lübecker Nachrichten newspaper their support.

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