

## Ermanno Olmi Award



**The finalists of the second edition have been announced. The award ceremony and a screening of Ermanno Olmi's *Torneranno i prati* (Greenery Will Bloom Again, 2014) will be held on Thursday, December the 10th.**

Over **100 entries** - spanning from **fiction, documentaries and animation** - from the US, Russia, China and Cambodia, along with several other European countries and a substantial Italian representative, were selected to compete in the second edition of the Ermanno Olmi Award, an event aiming to promote short films by young directors.

***Boys don't cry***, by Bobbie Faren Müller (Denmark, 2019), ***Daily breath*** by Anna Spacio (Switzerland, 2019), ***Eggshell*** by Ryan William Harris (Italy/Ireland, 2020) and ***Pull it, sharpen it*** by Marta Aitana Schmidt Yanez (China/Spain, 2019) are the four finalists among whom, on **Thursday, December the 10th**, the Jury composed by Claudio Santamaria (actor), Angelo Signorelli (artistic director of Bergamo Film Meeting), Barbara Rossi (film critic), Monica Corbani (teacher and translator) e Maria Grazia Recanati (art historian) will assign the Ermanno Olmi Award and the Special Mention to the most significant entry concerning the relationship between Humankind and Nature, with a particular focus on the valorisation of ancient crafts and traditions.

The audience will be able to follow the **award ceremony** and the free streaming of the four finalist entries on Bergamo Film Meeting's YouTube channel ([youtube.com/c/bergamofilmmeetingit](https://youtube.com/c/bergamofilmmeetingit)) starting from **6:30 PM**. Ermanno Olmi's ***Torneranno i prati*** (Greenery Will Bloom Again, 2014) will

also be available for streaming on **RaiPlay**, courtesy of Rai. Olmi's last feature film starring Claudio Santamaria, *Torneranno i prati* was made on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of World War I, and set among the trenches on the Asiago plateau, stage of many bloody battles and Olmi's place of residence ([raiplay.it/programmi/tornerannoiprati](http://raiplay.it/programmi/tornerannoiprati)).

The Ermanno Olmi Award is promoted by the **City of Bergamo** with the support of **FIC – Federazione Italiana Cineforum** and in collaboration with **Bergamo Film Meeting Onlus**. Aiming to promote young filmmakers under the age of 30, the award consists of 3 cash prizes (€1,200, €500, €300) and a special mention awarded to the most significant entry concerning the relationship between Humankind and Nature, with a particular focus on the valorisation of ancient crafts and traditions that have fallen into disuse.

*In accord with the Minimum Environmental Criteria - parameters of environmental sustainability for cultural events - signed by the Municipality of Bergamo, the Prize takes part to the experimental **European Green Fest project**: a commitment to both environment and culture, and a fitting tribute to Ermanno Olmi who, through his works, was always a keen supporter of environmental preservation.*

## **THE FINALISTS**

### **Boys don't cry**

by Bobbie Faren Müller, Denmark 2019, 10', experimental documentary

A girl helps four boys examine and understand why it's difficult for them to show their vulnerabilities and be open about their emotions in today's society.

### **Daily breath**

by Anna Spacio, Switzerland 2019, 15', fiction

Stuck in the loneliness of the mountains, a girl lives with her sick mother, taking care of her every day and struggling between what's right and what she desires.

### **Eggshell**

by Ryan William Harris, Italy, Ireland 2020, 13'40'', fiction

Joey's life is a constant switch between a child's vivid imagination and the harsh reality of the Irish suburbs. After building himself a Robot head to protect himself from both problems at home and outside in the real world, Joey is soon forced to face up to adulthood.

### **Pull it, sharpen it**

by Marta Aitana Schmidt Yanez, China, Spain 2019, 11', documentary

When Guo Chunxiang was a little boy, his family could not afford any toys. When his grandmother gave him seven silver dollars, he started his regular collection. Now he has his own antique shop, "The Great Shanghai 1933", with an enormous collection which goes from antique maps to abacuses.

## **HOMAGE TO ERMANNO OLMI**

### **Torneranno i prati**

by Ermanno Olmi, Italy 2014, 80'

North-Eastern front, after the last bloody battles of 1917 on the Plateau. Up on a mountain outpost, a group of soldiers are fighting a few meters away from the Austrian trench. All around them, only snow and silence. Everything that is told in this film has really happened. And, since the past belongs to memory, everyone can evoke it as they please.

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info@premioolmi.it | www.premioolmi.it  
www.facebook.com/premioolmi  
+39 348 1022828

**Press Office**

Ada Tullo  
[adatullo33@gmail.com](mailto:adatullo33@gmail.com) | +39 349 2674900