

# Ermanno Olmi Award - 4<sup>th</sup> Edition

Bergamo, December 6, 2022

The short film *Flores del precipicio* by Andrea Gatopoulos (Spain, Italy, Brazil, 2022) wins the Ermanno Olmi Award.



*Flores del precipicio*

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The short film *Flores del precipicio* by Andrea Gatopoulos (Spain, Italy, Brazil, 2022) wins the fourth Edition of the Ermanno Olmi Award, an event aiming to promote short films by young directors.

Second place goes to *La Vera Storia della Partita di Nascondino Più Grande del Mondo* by Paolo Bonfadini, Irene Cotroneo, Davide Morando (Italy, 2021), and third place to *Garfield Coquillage* by Paul Marques Duarte (France, 2022).

The special mention for the most significant work concerning "The Religion of Small Things" - a recurring motif in Olmi's production and a testimony of his spiritual quest that expresses itself in human relationships, in the relationship with nature and in the ability to grasp the poetry of everyday life - goes to *Sonnenstube* by Davide Palella (Italy, 2022).

The first three classified films, out of more than 70 entries, receive a cash prize of €1,200, €500 and €300, respectively.

The jury - Filippo Ticozzi (director), Diana Cardani (head of Animated Film and Kino Club Bergamo Film Meeting sections), Donatella Palermo (film producer), Andrea Zambelli (director, screenwriter and director of photography) and Erika Ponti (film producer) - awarded *Flores del precipicio* «For the refined simplicity and sweetness with which a salvaged relationship in a barren world is portrayed. A little tale that speaks of loss, physical and emotional distance, but also of the need to reconnect with a past that's been silently waiting at the foot of a cliff. A father and daughter, the most difficult relationship in the world, and, around them, a boundless space: endless possibilities for a new beginning».

*La Vera Storia della Partita di Nascondino Più Grande del Mondo* wins second place «Because it manages to tell a story that combines a game of Hide-and-Seek with the commemoration of the partisan Resistance in the

village of Serravalle Langhe. The film is both light and engaging. The staging of some reconstructed sequences mixes well with the realism of the storytelling, creating a successful hybridisation between two cinematic styles. The use of graphics and music is engaging and effective in conveying the dynamics of the game; the archive footage is dosed well and facilitates the connection between the two polarities of the story without weighing down the narrative». **Garfield Coquillage** takes home the third prize: «Inspired by actual events as absurd as they are authentic, the film steers the ecological perspective towards a candid and innocent observation of children and their unique understanding of the world. A delicate tale of an age when every little thing becomes a treasure for the eyes and curiosity is a tool for understanding ourselves and the world through imagination, the film reflects on the carefree and visceral friendship typical of children».

The jury also awarded a special mention to **Sonnenstube** with the following motivation: «A secluded and obsessive character becomes the window through which we see the world under a new perspective, rooted in the profound analogical capacities of cinema. Things shimmer with a new substance through the audio-visual perspective, revealing the inherent ambiguity of everything. Such is the power of cinema and light, of the sun that here transcends into silver nitrate and pixels, taking us to a different place that's always and still our mysterious world».

The event featured a screening of the four finalist films and a tribute to Ermanno Olmi with a screening of **La cotta** (The Crush, Italy, 1967), an episode written and directed by the director for the television programme "Giovani", shot in striking black and white and set in Milan during the Italian economic boom.

The Ermanno Olmi Award is promoted by the **City of Bergamo** with the support of **Lab 80 film** and in collaboration with **Bergamo Film Meeting Onlus**.

*In accordance with the Minimum Environmental Criteria - parameters of environmental sustainability for cultural events - signed by the Municipality of Bergamo, the Prize takes part in the 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.*

## **Ermanno Olmi Award - 4<sup>th</sup> Edition**

### **1<sup>st</sup> PRIZE**

**Flores del precipicio** by Andrea Gatopoulos (Spain, Italy, Brazil, 2022) - **fiction** -

Lucia is back on the island where all the houses are white. Fifteen years have passed since the day she was taken away. Her father is waiting for her.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> PRIZE**

**La Vera Storia della Partita di Nascondino Più Grande del Mondo**

by Paolo Bonfadini, Irene Cotroneo, Davide Morando (Italy, 2021) - **documentary** -

In Serravalle Langhe, tradition has it that, every year for more than seventy years, the whole population comes together to play the world's biggest hide-and-seek game. Everyone hides to honour the memory of the partisans who, during the Resistance, were forced to go into hiding to save themselves and the whole country.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> PRIZE**

**Garfield Coquillage** by Paul Marques Duarte (France, 2022) - **fiction** -

When the tide recedes, Killian wanders onto the vast deserted beach with his friend Maxime. Among the seaweed and debris, the two boys are looking for a strange orange shell found on the shore for decades: Garfield's phone.

### **SPECIAL MENTION**

**Sonnenstube** by Davide Palella (Italy, 2022) - **experimental** -

Sergio Cortesi has dedicated his whole life to solar observation.

At the "Specola solare" in Locarno, between 1957 and 2021, he made over 15,000 sunspot drawings, driven by the faith of a monk to whom his own god never gave an answer.

### **Ermanno Olmi Award**

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