



20 – 22 MAY 2021

## JURY REPORT

**Jury: Karim Traïdia, Elaheh Nobakht and Hammadi Gueroum**

### **Justice and Peace Prize TO Khartoum offside by Marwa Zein (Soudan)**

Due to its treatment of a new and original topic and its adoption as an engine to reveal the status of Sudanese women within a traditional society

And his efforts to reveal the beauties of the female body with high art

### **Best director: TIME TO LEAVE by Orhan TEKOGU (TURKIA)**

Poetic rhythm and beautiful & photography. Some shots are breath-taking in beauty. Sometimes it seems like we are in the hereafter where the dimension of the human seems nil. And it matches with this father who is tormented by his conscience and is seeking redemption. The director has succeeded in capturing the silences (we could really listen to the silences), the power of the nature, the inner (V.O.) and outer voices of the main character, the rhythm of the narrative, the ingenious choice of the music, all these elements are amazing and unforgettable cinematic moments.

The artistic and dramatic choices of the director work perfectly. It looks like a trial from a distance and without any interference or judgment.

Sometimes it looks as if we are back in time...

Some scenes are amazing! The first 16/17 minutes of silence and listening to the amazing voice of the man, as if it is looking for what happened and avoiding emotion but you feel and see the hidden emotions.

The scene when the main character climbs down a hill dragging a tree trunk is a proof of the determination of the main character in his quest for redemption.

The scene with the cow is sweet and very touching, it shows the goodness and fragility of this man. And finally, the ending with the cow giving birth to a calf as if nature gives him a new chance. This powerful film has something very human and natural, something very peaceful in its images and its narrative. It is a beautiful film though it narrates a sad story.

### **Best Feature: MOTHER, I AM JOSEPH BY Mohamed Reza Fartousi (Iran –Iraq)**

-Based on true events, JOSEPH decides to hide in a hole for 21 years to avoid fighting in the Iraq/Iran war of the 80's. Shot in black and white to accentuate the difference of the life in the dark (hidden in a small whole with no daylight) and the live in the daylight, the film has succeeded in portraying the war without showing the war.

In the beginning, the hope that the mother and the wife/lover be re-united with Joseph, the son and husband/lover, is kept and shared with us because of the way with which the film is constructed. We all wished and believed Joseph is alive and will return. The director shows us the hope of many who lost their beloved ones and never gave up hoping for a return of their disappeared missing relatives. Beyond the facts, the film talks about the aftereffects of the war, the traumas, the loneliness, and the suffering.

The film asks the question: Is it worth living even if everyone believes you are dead, even if you have lost all aspects of social and personal life.

The comments while the statue of Saddam is being taken down by the crowds saying that the battle is now a battle of symbols and that the battle to take down the statue has last longer than the battle for Baghdad, is an amazing metaphor. The movie has an artistic and abstract character that leaves the audience somehow puzzled. The open end of the movie - Joseph appears escaping on a refugee boat – is an image familiar to today's world, where the refugee crisis is hitting hard. It allows to re-contextualize it in recent Middle Eastern conflicts.

### **Special Jury Mention: DIMA PUNK by Dominique Caubet (Fr-Mar)**

The jury has decided to award a Special Mention to the film DIMA PUNK by Dominique Caubet to reward the patience and sense of observation of the director but also to highlight the character of STOF, a young Moroccan, resembling a film character, fictional and a little provocative and frivolous, who fights, with only his identity as a weapon, to feel free and accepted. A Stof who at first feels invincible but who will end up being broken (8 years later) and who begins to realize that Freedom has a price. His touching "Live free or die" can be compared to a generation's cry of despair (or hope).

### **Best Feature Documentary Award When the snow melts down - Aleksei Golovkov (RUS)**

Due to his high skill to capture the hidden thread between two worlds that seem contradictory and to reveal the challenges facing modern man in more than one space and environment. When the snow falls is made in the treatment of the question of the relationship between origin and branches, the bet of travel and departure, or the connection with the roots in spite of the cruelty of nature and the struggle for it to fit and humanize. it. A film that draws inspiration from the spirit of poetic writing that rests on silence and contemplation.