



Nitra, 5.10.2018

### AGROFILM 2018 WAS A SUCCESS

Visitors to the festival saw, tasted, learned and this way celebrated with us the art of filmmaking and science

Rich offer of the 34<sup>th</sup> international film festival Agrofilm reaches its climax on October 5<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 10AM at the award ceremony of the festival held in a screening room of the Multiplex MLYNY Cinemas in Nitra. Among the honoured guests is also the Olympic winner Matej Tóth, ambassador of the festival.

During the festival week, filmgoers could see 263 screenings of films in Nitra, Bratislava, Zvolen, Brezno, Košice and Lužianky. They were able to attend practical discussions, tastings, visit the vernissage of a well-known artist Marta Horníková, and gather information on the current trends in the agriculture sector, which directly affect farmers, food producers, ecologists, foresters, entrepreneurs and all consumers.

The expert discussion on Wednesday October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018 on the topic of Farmer's food on the Slovak table highlighted the largest obstacles and problems of farmers, but also the opportunities to deliver fresh regional food to the table. We discovered it is possible, if the will is there.

### AWARDED FILMS

Of the 91 films submitted to the festival, 30 were selected to be considered by the international jury in the main contest. Additionally, a national jury evaluated 16 promotional films. Altogether **14 awards** were given.

The **Grand Agrofilm Award 2018** was awarded to the Czech film **“For a Healthier Countryside”** directed by Ivan Stříteský, who coincidentally won the highest award last year as well. The documentary took us to the places where farmers, biologists and ecologists have reached a consensus that puts at a disadvantage neither the production of crops nor the quality of the environment. To support them, AEKO – agro-environmental and climactic measures of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic – was established.

The Netherlands was represented by two submitted films, both of which received an award. The film awarded by the Rector of Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra – **“Well Fed”** – is a story about genetic modification used to improve the nutritional value of crops, decrease the use of chemicals in pest control, and increase yield for the people most in need. Thanks to the excellent explanation of the complicated topic, it is comprehensible to both the people familiar with GMO and those who have yet to hear about it.

The second Dutch documentary about invested and hardworking people **“Cor and Henk, wearfisher of the east Scheldt”** was made in the tidal waters of the largest Dutch national park Oosterschelde. 85-year-old Cor has been fishing for 70 years and during the 10-week anchovy season, he works 24 hours a day. The film received the **Award of the Mayor of the City of Nitra**.

Fungus *Phakopsora pachyrhizi* as a cause of soybean rust – an aggressive disease which can cause a significant decrease in yield – is the topic of an excellent animation in the German documentary **“Soybean Rust - The Life Cycle of *Phakopsora pachyrhizi*.”** The jury awarded the impressive depiction of the fungus life cycle as well as the fact that this documentary has become a part of the currently best received audio-visual textbook on plant diseases in the world. It was rightfully awarded the **Award of the President of the Nitra Self-governing Region**.

**Award of the Rector of the Technical University in Zvolen** belongs to **an episode of the Halali Programme under the name “Juniper”** produced by Anima Production s.r.o, directed by Ľubomír Kľúčik. Should we be concerned about a possible loss of original and natural taste of our most typical Slovak distillate? Juniper is disappearing from our meadows and pastures and this documentary offers solutions, for example through agro-forestry measures.

Filmgoers could taste 12 variants of **“Barbecue,”** which is the title of the Australian documentary full of beautiful filmography from 12 countries of the world. Meat grilling is a ritual that connects people all around the world. It brings people together to set fire, tell stories and enjoy good food. The same and still different is barbecue in Sweden, New Zealand, Uruguay, Armenia or the Syrian border. Although animals are source of food, the film series shows respect to them and their good handling. The film is awarded the **Award of the Association of Agricultural Cooperatives and Trade Companies of the Slovak Republic**.

## The list of Award –Winning Films Agrofilm 2018

Cat. No.	Title	Country	Award proposals
CZ 7	For a Healthier Country side	Czechia	Grand Agrofilm Award
NL 2	Well Fed	Netherlands	Award of the Rector of the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra
AT 1	Golden Genes	Austria	Award of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic
LV 1	Gardener	Latvia	Directing Award
SK 10	Bratislava, a city surrounded by nature	Slovakia	Award of the President of Agrofilm
CZ 5	The Magical Depths - Ponds and Reservoirs	Czechia	Agrofilm Jury Award
DE 2	Soybean Rust - The Life Cycle of <i>Phakopsora pachyrhizi</i>	Germany	Award of the President of the Nitra Self-governing Region
IT 2/ DE	Tears of the Olive	Italy/Germany	Award of the Rector of the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra
NL 1	Cor and Henk, wearfisher of the east Scheldt	Netherlands	Award of the Mayor of the City of Nitra
AU 1	Barbecue	Australia	Award of the Association of Agricultural Cooperatives and Trade Companies of the Slovak Republic
CZ 1	The land of stone tower	Czechia	Osiris FAO Award
SK 23	Farmers porkmeat	Slovakia	Award of the Slovak Agriculture and Food Chamber for the Slovak Film
SK 25	Premium quality milk	Slovakia	Award of the Slovak Agriculture and Food Chamber for the Slovak Film
SK 29	Halali Programme: Juniper	Slovakia	Award of the Rector of the Technical University in Zvolen

SK 33	Our Bryndza- sheep cheese produced in may	Slovakia	Award of the RTVS
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The lovers of interesting documentaries who missed the screenings during the week can still enjoy the films on Saturday in the Multiplex MLYNY Cinemas in Nitra. We look forward to seeing you at next year's festival.

Current information about the festival is available on the website [www.agrofilm.sk](http://www.agrofilm.sk).