

Juryrapport Roze Filmdagen 2017, Documentaries:

Jury members:

Alex Bakker

Willem Timmers

Annegriet Wietsma

Six documentaries were nominated. All six dealt with interesting and relevant subjects.

The jury took in consideration the following qualities:

1. cinematographic quality
2. relevance of the topic
3. not only interesting for an LGBTQ audience, but also for a wider audience
4. unique access to the subject and perseverance of the director in creating a glimpse into a world where the average audience would never intrude by themselves
5. innovative in form and/or content
6. maintaining the tension of the narrative
7. emotionally evoking
8. visibility of the author (own "signature")

The jury had a long and thorough discussion.

Two documentaries jumped out in our opinion. The choice between these two was really difficult. Ultimately, the result is:

THE JURY AWARD 2017 GOES TO:

LA SOCIOLOGUE ET L'OURSON

Film about the violent French debate concerning 'Marriage pour tous', or opening up of marriage

The jury was impressed by:

- The dedication and drive to make this film
- Technical and artistic quality is very high

- Originality
- Joie de vivre: lots of humour despite the serious and relatively 'formal' subject of legislation
- Attention on the importance of "allies" in the fight for LGBT rights
- The risky visual style, with puppets that at first look kind of childish, continues to fascinate for the full 70 minutes of the film
- Gutsy yet fine and precise camera work
- The filmmaker dares to expose himself, especially in the scene where his mother indicates that she'd better take over directing the film
- Even though it dealt with same-sex marriage in France, it was quite interesting for a non-French audience

A SPECIAL MENTION for:

CHECK IT.

Doc depicts Washington D.C. gay and transgender youths who started their own gang for self-protection as a handful of fed-up 9th graders a decade ago.

- Compliments to the makers for creating access to a lively and intriguing but difficult street scene
- The makers have spent a long time with the protagonists, so their development can be shown
- Strong theme: a group that itself is threatened, retaliates by turning into aggression and violence themselves. Is it morally defensible?
- Fly on the wall approach works well: the protagonists are shown in all their complexity. The result transcends simplistic images of victims or heroes
- A multi-layered film with a variety of characters instead of one or two persons

Congratulations on behalf of the Professional Jury of de Roze Filmdagen 2017:

Alex Bakker, Willem Timmers, Annegriet Wietsma

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