

SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL TWENTYTEN

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2010 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES AWARDS

***Animal Kingdom, The Red Chapel, Restrepo, and Winter's Bone* Earn Grand Jury Prizes**

Audience Favorites Feature *Contracorriente, happythankyoumoreplease, WAITING FOR SUPERMAN, and Wasteland*

Peers Give *Homewrecker* Best of NEXT Award

Park City, UT—The Jury, Audience, NEXT, and other special award-winners of the 2010 Sundance Film Festival were announced tonight at the Festival's Awards Ceremony hosted by David Hyde Pierce (star of *The Perfect Host* which premiered in this year's Park City at Midnight section) in Park City, Utah. Highlights from the Awards Ceremony can be seen on the Festival website, www.sundance.org/festival.

Films receiving Jury Awards were selected from four categories: U.S. Dramatic Competition, U.S. Documentary Competition, World Cinema Dramatic Competition and World Cinema Documentary Competition. All films in competition were also eligible for Sundance Film Festival Audience Awards as selected by Festival audiences. The U.S. Audience Awards presented by Honda and World Cinema Audience Awards were announced by Louis C.K. Joseph Gordon Levitt announced the new Best of NEXT award, chosen by peers in the section and presented by YouTube™ in celebration of films made with little or no budget.

Jury Prizes in Shorts Filmmaking were awarded to American and international short-form films on Tuesday, January 26. Other awards recognized at the ceremony included the Sundance / NHK International Filmmakers Award, created to honor and support emerging filmmakers with their next screenplays, and the Alfred P. Sloan Prize, awarded to a film which excels in addressing compelling topics in science or technology.

"Great films make for a great festival," said John Cooper, Director of the Sundance Film Festival. "This year it was as if I could feel a shift in the DNA of the film community – the reaction to the films was inspiring."

"These awards celebrate the diversity of this year's program," said Trevor Groth, the Festival's Director of Programming. "Hopefully the attention these prizes bring will allow the films to connect with a wider audience hungry for choice."

The 2010 Sundance Film Festival Juries consisted of:

U.S. Documentary Competition: Greg Barker, Dayna Goldfine, Nancy Miller, Morgan Spurlock, Ondi Timoner; **U.S. Dramatic Competition:** Russell Banks, Jason Kliot, Karyn Kusama, Parker Posey, Robert Yeoman; **World Cinema Documentary Competition:** Jennifer Baichwal, Jeffrey Brown, Asako Fujioka; **World Cinema Dramatic Competition:** Alison Maclean, Lisa Schwarzbaum, Sigurjon "Joni" Sighvatsson; **Shorts Competition:** Sterlin Harjo, Brent Hoff, Christine Vachon; **Alfred P. Sloan Award:** Peter Galison, Darcy Kelley, Joe Palca, Paul Sereno, Marianna Palka.

For the 2010 Sundance Film Festival, 117 feature-length films were selected including 85 world premieres, 11 North American premieres, and 12 U.S. premieres representing 39 countries with 51 first-time filmmakers, including 27 in competition. These films were selected from 3,724 feature-length film submissions composed of 1,920 U.S. and 1,804 international feature-length films.

2010 Sundance Film Festival Award Winners:

The **Grand Jury Prize: Documentary** was presented to *Restrepo*, directed by Sebastian Junger and Tim Hetherington. Sebastian Junger and Tim Hetherington's year dug in with the Second Platoon in one of Afghanistan's most strategically crucial valleys reveals extraordinary insight into the surreal combination of back breaking labor, deadly firefights, and camaraderie as the soldiers painfully push back the Taliban.

The **Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic** was presented to *Winter's Bone*, directed by Debra Granik; written by Debra Granik and Anne Rosellini. An unflinching Ozark Mountain girl hacks through dangerous social terrain as she hunts down her missing father while trying to keep her family intact.

The **World Cinema Jury Prize: Documentary** was presented to *The Red Chapel (Det Røde Kapel)* directed by Mads Brügger. A journalist with no scruples, a self-proclaimed spastic, and a comedian travel to North Korea under the guise of a cultural exchange visit to challenge one of the world's most notorious regimes. *Denmark*

The **World Cinema Jury Prize: Dramatic** was presented to *Animal Kingdom*, written and directed by David Michôd. After the death of his mother, a seventeen year-old boy is thrust precariously between an explosive criminal family and a detective who thinks he can save him. *Australia*

The **Audience Awards** are presented to both a dramatic and documentary film in four Competitions as voted by Sundance Film Festival audiences. The 2010 Sundance Film Festival Audience Awards are presented by Honda.

The **Audience Award: Documentary** was presented to *WAITING FOR SUPERMAN*, directed by Davis Guggenheim, for his examination of the crisis of public education in the United States through multiple interlocking stories.

The **Audience Award: Dramatic** was presented to *happythankyoumoreplease*, written and directed by Josh Radnor, about six New Yorkers juggling love, friendship, and the keenly challenging specter of adulthood.

The **World Cinema Audience Award: Documentary** was presented to *Wasteland*, directed by Lucy Walker about international art star Vik Muniz, garbage pickers in the world's largest landfill in Rio de Janeiro and the transformative power of art. *United Kingdom / Brazil*

The **World Cinema Audience Award: Dramatic** was presented to *Contracorriente (Undertow)* written and directed by Javier Fuentes-León, an unusual ghost story set on the Peruvian seaside in which a married fisherman struggles to reconcile his devotion to his male lover within his town's rigid traditions. *Peru / Colombia / France / Germany*

New for 2010: **Best of NEXT**. Selected by ballots cast by the eight NEXT filmmakers, this award celebrates a film creating the greatest art on a low budget. The Best of NEXT award is presented by YouTube™.

The **Best of NEXT** award was presented to *Homewrecker*, directed by Todd Barnes and Brad Barnes and written by Todd Barnes, Brad Barnes, and Sophie Goodhart. The last romantic in New York City is an ex-con locksmith on work release.

Directing Awards recognize excellence in directing for dramatic and documentary features.

The **Directing Award: Documentary** was presented to *Smash His Camera*, directed by Leon Gast, about famous celebrity photographer and original paparazzo, Ron Galella.

The **Directing Award: Dramatic** was presented to *3 Backyards*, directed and written by Eric Mendelsohn. The film is about a trio of brief, life-altering adventures unfolding in a seemingly normal autumn day.

The **World Cinema Directing Award: Documentary** was presented to *Space Tourists*, directed by Christian Frei who explores the impact of space tourism in the heavens and on earth. *Switzerland*

The **World Cinema Directing Award: Dramatic** was presented to *Southern District*, directed and written by Juan Carlos Valdivia, about a bourgeois family in La Paz, Bolivia who watches as social change begins to penetrate their insulated world. *Bolivia*

The **Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award** was presented to *Winter's Bone*, directed by Debra Granik; written by Debra Granik and Anne Rosellini. An unflinching Ozark Mountain girl hacks through dangerous social terrain as she hunts down her missing father while trying to keep her family intact.

The **World Cinema Screenwriting Award** was presented to *Southern District*, written and directed by Juan Carlos Valdivia, about a bourgeois family in La Paz, Bolivia who watches as social change begins to penetrate their insulated world. *Bolivia*

The **Documentary Editing Award** was presented to *Joan Rivers—A Piece Of Work*, edited by Penelope Falk; directed by Ricki Stern and Annie Sundberg. An exposé chronicling the private dramas of irreverent, legendary comedian and pop icon Joan Rivers.

The **World Cinema Documentary Editing Award** was presented to *A Film Unfinished*, written and directed by Yael Hersonski. Edited by Joëlle Alexis. The film is a powerful documentary about Nazi-produced propaganda films. *Germany / Israel*.

The **Excellence in Cinematography Awards** honor exceptional cinematography in both dramatic and documentary categories:

The **Excellence in Cinematography Award: Documentary** was presented to *The Oath*, directed by Laura Poitras. Cinematographers: Kirsten Johnson and Laura Poitras. The interlocking drama of two brothers-in-law whose associations with al Qaeda in the 1990s propelled them on divergent courses.

The **Excellence in Cinematography Award: Dramatic** was presented to *Obselidia*, written and directed by Diane Bell. Cinematographer: Zak Mulligan. In his quest to document nearly extinct occupations, a man unexpectedly finds romance.

The **World Cinema Cinematography Award: Documentary** was presented to *His & Hers*, directed by Ken Wardrop. Cinematographers: Kate McCullough and Michael Lavelle. A 90-year-old love story through the collective voice of 70 days at different stages of their lives. *Ireland*

The **World Cinema Cinematography Award: Dramatic** was presented to *The Man Next Door (El Hombre de al Lado)*. Directors and cinematographers Mariano Cohn and Gastón Duprat. A small incident over two neighbors' common wall sparks a conflict which affects the intimacy of the view over the chimney; the protagonist sparks a conflict and with paranoid obsession destroys everyday life. *Argentina*

A **World Cinema Special Jury Prize: Dramatic for Breakout Performance** was presented to Tatiana Maslany for her role as a starry-eyed teenager in *Grown Up Movie Star*. *Canada*

A World Cinema Special Jury Prize: Documentary was presented to *Enemies of the People*, directed by Rob Lemkin and Thet Sambath, for their watershed account of Cambodian history and a quest for closure on one of the world's darkest episodes. *Cambodia / United Kingdom*

A Special Jury Prize: Documentary was presented to *GASLAND*, directed by Josh Fox. With spirit, strength, and a sense of humor, Fox's personal documentary takes a look at how natural gas affects our air and drinking water.

A Special Jury Prize: Dramatic was presented to *Sympathy for Delicious*, directed by Mark Ruffalo; written by and starring Christopher Thornton about a recently paralyzed DJ who seeks out the dubious world of faith healing.

As announced on Tuesday, the **2010 Jury Prize in Short Filmmaking** was awarded to *Drunk History: Douglass & Lincoln* (Director: Jeremy Konner). The **2010 Jury Prize in International Short Filmmaking** was given to *The Six Dollar Fifty Man / New Zealand* (Directors and screenwriters: Mark Albiston and Louis Sutherland). In addition, the jury awarded **Honorable Mentions in Short Filmmaking** to: *Born Sweet / USA, Cambodia* (Director: Cynthia Wade); *Can We Talk? / United Kingdom* (Director and screenwriter: Jim Owen); *Dock Ellis & The LSD No-No / USA* (Director: James Blagden); *How I Met Your Father / Spain* (Director and screenwriter: Álex Montoya); *Quadrangle / USA* (Director: Amy Grappell); *Rob and Valentyna in Scotland / USA, United Kingdom* (Director: Eric Lynne; Screenwriters: Eric Lynne and Rob Chester Smith), and *Young Love / Australia* (Director and screenwriter: Ariel Kleiman).

Obselidia, written and directed by Diane Bell, is the recipient of this year's **Alfred P. Sloan Prize**. The Prize, which carries a \$20,000 cash award by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, is presented to an outstanding feature film focusing on science or technology as a theme, or depicting a scientist, engineer, or mathematician as a major character.

Sundance Institute and NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) on Thursday announced the winners of the **Sundance / NHK International Filmmakers Awards** honoring and supporting emerging filmmakers—one each from the United States, Japan, Europe, and Latin America. The winning filmmakers and projects are: Amat Escalante, *Heli* from Mexico; Andrey Zvyagintsev, *Elena* from Russia; Daisuke Yamaoka, *The Wonderful Lives at Asahigaoka* (written with Yugo Eto) from Japan; and Benh Zeitlin, *Beasts of the Southern Wild* (written with Lucy Alibar) from the United States.

2010 Sundance Film Festival Sponsors

The 2010 Sundance Film Festival sponsors to date include: Presenting Sponsors—*Entertainment Weekly*, HP, Honda and Sundance Channel; Leadership Sponsors—American Express, Bing™, DIRECTV, G-Technology by Hitachi, Southwest Airlines and YouTube™; Sustaining Sponsors—ABSOLUT® VODKA, Blockbuster Inc., FilterForGood®, a partnership between Brita® and Nalgene®, L'Oréal Paris, Sony Electronics Inc., Stella Artois®, Timberland and Utah Film Commission. Their support will defray costs associated with the 10-day Festival and the nonprofit Sundance Institute's year-round programs for independent film and theatre artists. In return, sponsorship of the preeminent Festival provides these organizations with global exposure, a platform for brand impressions and unique access to Festival attendees.

About Sundance Institute

Founded by Robert Redford in 1981, Sundance Institute is a not-for-profit organization that fosters the development of original storytelling in film and theatre. Internationally recognized for its artistic development programs for directors, screenwriters, producers, film composers, playwrights and theatre artists, Sundance Institute has nurtured such projects as *Angels in America*, *Spring Awakening*, *Boys Don't Cry* and *Born into Brothels*.

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