

***For Immediate Release***

Thursday, September 21, 2017

**Winners of the FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival 2017 announced!**

(Halifax, NS) – After a successful 37<sup>th</sup> year, **FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival** announces its award winners for the event, September 14 - 21 in Halifax.

**Award winners include:**

**The Gordon Parsons Award for Best Atlantic Feature:**

Presented by FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival

Winner: *Black Cop* – Cory Bowles

**Best Atlantic Short:**

Sponsored by 902 Post

Winner: *Thug* – Daniel Boos

**Best Atlantic Documentary:**

Sponsored by DOC Atlantic

Winner: *In The Waves* – Jacquelyn Mills

**Best Atlantic Short Documentary:**

Sponsored by Pilot Light Productions

Winner: *Invading Giants* – Kevin A. Fraser

**Best Atlantic Animation**

Presented by FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival

Winner: *'Him'* – Lorna Kirk

**Best Atlantic Director:**

Sponsored by William F. White International

Winner: Cory Bowles – *Black Cop*

**The Michael Weir Award for Best Atlantic Screenwriting:**

Sponsored by Michael Weir Foundation for the Arts

Winner: Darcy Spidle – *The Crescent*

**Best Atlantic Cinematographer:**

Presented by FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival

Winner: Guy Godfree – *Suck It Up*

**Best Atlantic Editor:**

Presented by Canadian Cinema Editors

Winner: Jacquelyn Mills and Steve Wadden – *In The Waves*

**Best Atlantic Original Score or Song:**

Presented by FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival

Winner: Seth A. Smith – *The Crescent*

**Joan Orenstein Award for Outstanding Performance by an Actress:**

Sponsored by Sky Talent Group

Winner: *Danika Vandersteen – The Crescent*

**David Renton Award for Outstanding Performance by an Actor:**

Sponsored by Sky Talent Group

Winner: *Simon Paul Mutuyimana – Thug*

**Telefilm Canada Script Pitch:**

Sponsored by The Harold Greenberg Fund and Telefilm Canada

Winner: *Rebecca Babcock – Anew*

**The 37<sup>th</sup> Atlantic Film Festival Jury:**

**Aisling Chin-Yee** is producer, director, and owner of Fluent Films. She works closely with filmmakers with unapologetic visions in feature films, television series, and documentaries. Fluent Films current slate includes the screen and television adaptations of best-selling novels, 2014 Giller Prize winner *Us Conductors*, and 2016 Giller nominee *The Party Wall*. Aisling Chin-Yee's producing credits include acclaimed films *Rhymes for Young Ghouls*, *The Saver*, *Last Woman Standing*, *Inside these Walls*, *The Color of Beauty*, and the television series *Lost Generation*. She wrote and directed *Sound Asleep*, and *Synesthesia*. Her directorial feature film *The Day Between* and series *Sharing Sharon* are currently in development.

**Aram Collier** is a filmmaker, educator, and former film festival programmer. He has a background in documentary, editing the award-winning feature documentary *Refugee* and directing/editing the short doc *Who I Became*, both of which broadcast nationally on PBS in the United States. His subsequent dramatic and experimental films have played festivals in the United States, Canada, Japan, and China. Aram is a mixed race Asian Canadian/American and has a BFA and MFA in Film Production from UC Santa Cruz and York University respectively. Aram's first feature *Stand Up Man* is having its World Premiere at FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival.

**Jay Dahl** is a writer, director and producer of feature films and television. As a director, Jay's work has premiered at film festivals around the world, including the AFF, the BFI, and opening the Canadian Gala at TIFF. Jay's first feature *There Are Monsters* won four awards at the 2013 AFF, including Best Director. As producer (with partner Bill Niven) Jay produced Andrea Dorfman's *Heartbeat* (TIFF 2014), and Picnicface's *Rollertown* (Slamdance 2012, Cad Comedy Awards - Best Director, Screenplay, Feature Film). Jay is currently in post on a new feature, *Halloween Party*.

**About FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival**

FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival is an eight-day celebration of film, media and music from our region and around the world. It's a festival that turns Halifax into an international mecca for the arts, abuzz with film lovers and filmmakers alike. Our expertly curated program is your must-see movie list, well beyond the festival. We have something for everyone, and *all* of it is exceptional - we are Atlantic Canada's curator of epic and unforgettable stories.

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- 30 -

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