

Youth, Vision and Talent Define Sundance Shorts Winners

Women Filmmakers Dominate the Winner's Circle

Cincinnati World Cinema proudly presents the 2015 Sundance Film Festival Award-Winning Short Films. August 27 – 30, Showboat Majestic, Cincinnati Public Landing. Tickets & Info: cincyworldcinema.org.

The Sundance Film Festival programmers faced a daunting task as **8,061** short films were submitted this year. The field was narrowed to **60 official selections**, culminating in **six award-winning shorts, four of which were made by women.**

All these amazing Sundance winners are under the age of 40. At age 28, Paulina Skibińska (Poland) and Frances Shaw (USA) are the youngsters of the bunch, followed by Kitty Green (Australia) and Paul Cabon (France) at 29, then Atsuko Hirayanagi (Japan) at 38. At 39, Don Hertzfeldt (USA) is the elder and best-known member of this accomplished group.

Short Film Grand Jury Prize

World of Tomorrow, Don Hertzfeldt, USA



Oscar-nominated animated filmmaker, Cannes Palme d'Or nominee and two-time Sundance Grand Jury Prize winner Don Hertzfeldt has won over 200 film festival awards.

Short Film Jury Award: Non-fiction

The Face of Ukraine: Casting Oksana Baiul, Kitty Green, Australia/Ukraine



Kitty Green graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts in Australia with a major in Film and Television. In 2012, Kitty spent over a year in her mother's native Ukraine shooting the feature documentary *Ukraine is not a Brothel*, where her abduction

by the KGB made headlines across the globe.

Short Film Jury Award: U.S. Fiction

SMILF, Rachel Frances "Frankie" Shaw, USA



The semi-autobiographical *SMILF* is Frankie's first film, which she wrote, directed and starred in. An actress, writer and comedian, she is working with Showtime on a *SMILF*-based TV show. From Boston, she graduated from Barnard College and now lives in L.A.

Short Film Special Jury Award for Visual Poetry

Object, Paulina Skibińska, Poland



Paulina Skibińska has an MA in Screenwriting from Łódź Film School and has worked on numerous international films. The mysterious and ethereal *Object* is her first effort as a director.

Short Film Jury Award: International Fiction

Oh Lucy!, Atsuko Hirayanagi, Japan/Singapore



Oh Lucy! premiered at Cannes. Raised in Chiba, Japan, Atsuko received her MFA in Film Production from NYU Tisch School of the Arts. Her first film *Mō Ikkai* won the Gran Prix at the prestigious Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival.

Short Film Jury Award: Animation

Storm hits jacket, Paul Cabon, France



Born in Brest, Paul Cabon has worked as an illustrator, animator and character designer. His student thesis film, *Sauvage*, was a winner at the Annecy Festival in 2010.