

Press Release



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ETOILES ET TOILES DU CINEMA EUROPEEN - AWARDS

Strasbourg, 10/11/2016 – The 17th edition of Etoiles et Toiles du Cinéma Européen organised by the Odyssee, took place last night at the Odyssee cinema with a jury composed of twelve ambassadors to the Council of Europe, the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Executive Director of Eurimages. The President of the jury, Miroslav Papa, Permanent Representative of Croatia to the Council of Europe, awarded the following prizes:

The Odyssee-Council of Europe Prize for Human Rights to

Soleil de Plomb (Zvidan) by **Dalibor Matanic**, a co-production between Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia. *Zvidan* encapsulates three summer stories set in the same rural border area in Croatia, each time featuring the same two leads in different roles and encompassing the beginning, end and aftermath of the Yugoslavian war. Dalibor Matanić captures a beautiful village setting that both hides and reveals the tension, scars and possible atonement for a divisive conflict;

ex-aequo with the film **Abluka – suspicions** by **Emin Alper**, a co-production between Turkey and France. Istanbul is in the grip of political violence. Hamza, a high-ranking police officer, offers Kadir a conditional release from prison. To be released, he has to accept to work in the new intelligence unit of garbage collectors. Kadir accepts and starts collecting trash from the shanty towns, checking to see whether it contains material related to bomb-making.

The Odyssee-Council of Europe Prize for Artistic Creation to

Les Innocentes by **Anne Fontaine**, a co-production between France and Poland with Lou de Laâge, Vincent Macaigne and Agata Buzek. Poland, December 1945. Mathilde, a young French doctor with the Red Cross, is on a mission to help World War II survivors. When a nun seeks her help, she is brought to a convent where several pregnant sisters are concealed further to barbarities committed by Soviet soldiers. Unable to reconcile their faith with their pregnancy, the nuns turn to Mathilde who becomes their only hope.

This 17th edition of Etoiles et Toiles du Cinéma Européen which started on 5 October 2016 with the screening of *Youth – La giovinezza* by Paolo Sorrentino (IT, FR, UK, CH) has given the public of Strasbourg the opportunity to watch or re-watch a selection of 11 co-productions supported by the Eurimages Fund of the Council of Europe over a five-week period. It ended on 9 November 2016 with the screening of the film *Les Innocentes* by Anne Fontaine.

EURIMAGES is a support fund for cinema co-production, theatrical distribution and exhibition established by the Council of Europe in 1988 (Eurimages@coe.int – <http://www.coe.int/Eurimages>).

Since it was set up in 1988, EURIMAGES has supported 1797 European co-productions for a total amount of approximately €536 million.