

XVII Blue Sea Film Festival 20th-22nd August 2010, Rauma, Finland

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Baltic Herring Short Film Competition 2010 - Awarded films

In 2010 Baltic Herring Short Film Competition, a total of 49 films competed in three different categories – student, open (amateur) and professional.

The Jury especially praised the high level of the films in student category.

The main prize of the student category was won by the film *Keskiyön paahtava helle / Blazing Heat of Midnight* directed by **Kai Tuomola**. The Jury characterized the film as poetic and beautiful and the story itself, about a grandfather suffering from Alzheimer disease and his relationship with his grandson, as very touching.

The second prize in the student category was awarded to two films: *Jau puiku, tik dar siek tiek / It would be splendid, yet...* directed by **Lina Luzyte** and *Muurahainen/An Ant* directed by **Kimmo Alakunnas**. The jury described Luzyte's film as an excellent self-ironic comedy – light yet at the same time rather serious film about self-doubt and insecurity involved in the struggle of meeting up with the standards of Western living. The jury praised Alakunnas' film as innovative and modern in style using contemporary dance to narrate a surrealistic story of two men facing their hopes and fears in everyday realities.

The amateur category was won by the film *Silence* by the director **Ava Lanche** from Germany. In this category, only the first prize was given out. The jury appreciated the film's special style to deliver a heavy political message while going to the bathroom.

The main prize of the professional category was awarded to *Lidingöligan / The Gang of Lidingö*, directed by **Maja Lindström**, Sweden. The Jury described the film as an innovative 3D animation film with extremely interesting themes, eg. how easily children adapt to new (political) environments, how they need to (or are expected to) defend their parents' (political) views and last but not least, how evil children sometimes can be.

The second prize of the professional category was won by Polish documentary *Za wydma / Behind the Dune* by **Jerzy Kowynia**. The Jury said of the film: ““The best documentary film of the competition with pondering, neutral, peaceful images and soundscapes that give the audience a beautiful glimpse on life in a small fisher community on the Polish coast of the Baltic Sea.”

The third prize in the professional category was awarded to **Hannaleena Hauru's** film *Catching*. The jury described the film as interesting and amusing and the main character of the film irresistibly charming and witty.

The Special Prize, the Golden Baltic Herring, was awarded to the film *Keskiyön paahtava helle / Blazing Heat of Midnight*. The Golden Baltic Herring, a sculpture

made by the artist **Seija Palonen**, was thus taken from Rauma to its new home to Lapland.

The Baltic Herring Short Film Competition has been supported by the Arts Council of Satakunta, the City of Rauma, Länsi-Suomen Osuuspankki Bank and Jouko Nummela. The Competition is arranged annually in August during the Blue Sea Film Festival , Rauma, Finland.

The Results

Student Category

- I Kai Tuomola (FI): Keskiyön paahtava helle/Blazing Heat of Midnight, 300€
- II Lina Luzyte (LT): Jau puiku, tik dar siek tiek/It would be splendid, yet..., 150 €
Kimmo Alakunnas: Muurahainen/An Ant (FI), 150 €

Open (amateur) Category

- I Ava Lanche (DE): Silence, 300€

Professional Category

- I Maja Lindström(SE): Lidingöligan/The Gang of Lidingö, 300€
- II Jerzy Kowynia (PL): Za wydma/Behind the Dune, 150 €
- III Hannaleena Hauru (FI): Catching, 100 €

Golden Baltic Herring –Special Prize

Keskiyön paahtava helle/Blazing Heat of Midnight, Golden Baltic Herring –sculpture and 100 €

The Jury

Tarmo Hotanen, Chairman, Master of Film Studies, Rauman Elokuvaajat ry
Kanerva Kuisma, secretary, Master of Philosophy (Media Studies)Rauman Elokuvaajat ry
Iti Kasser, Artist, Student of Film Studies, Estonia
Ayumi Matsuzaka, Artist, Japan/Germany
Ville Rinne, high school student, amateur film maker, Rauman, Finland
Senja Valo, Art teacher, Rauman elokuvaajat ry