

Blue Sea Film Festival 23.-25.8.2013, Rauma
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Estonian animation *Domestic Fitless* wins the main prize of the International Baltic Herring Short Film Competition

The winner of the 2013 International Baltic Herring Short Film Competition is Estonian director Hardi Volmer for his animated film *Domestic Fitless*. The film *Awakening*, directed by Jani Ilomäki, was the jury's favorite of the student films. Director Jani Ilomäki who studies at Tampere University of Applied Sciences also wins the Golden Baltic Herring for submitting three very competitive films. The jury applauds his craft and poeticism.

Lars Persson wins the first prize in the open category with his film *Looking for Joy*.

The level of animated films was very good this year.

In the Baltic Herring Short Film Competition 2013, in Rauma, Finland, a total of 51 films from six Baltic Sea countries competed in three different categories: Student, Open (amateur), and Professional. The winner of the Golden Baltic Herring (also known as the Herring Oscar) was awarded with a herring sculpture designed by Kaarina Selin. Also this year, the international jury was happy to see so much water on the screen - observance of the "water theme" is preferred in the Baltic Herring Short Film Competition.

Results 2013

Golden Baltic Herring, 300 €

Director, film student **Jani Ilomäki**, Tampere University of Applied Sciences

Professional category

I prize, 350 €

Hardi Volmer: *Domestic Fitless* (Olmehaidutus, Estonia 2011)
Satirical story of modern obsession with body image and fitness.

II prize, 200 €

Julia Aronova: *My Mum is an Aeroplane* (Moya mama - samolet, Russia 2012)
The jury was impressed by the style and music of this charming and happy animation film.

III prize, 100 €, awarded for two films

Ramune Rakauskaitė: *Living Among Grasses* (Zalumose, Lithuania 2012)
The best documentary in the competition. The jury applauded the beautiful photography and good rhythm.

Katrin Maimik, Jan Erik Nogisto: Photo (Foto, Estonia 2013)

The best fiction film in the professional category. Delicately executed, interesting story, and splendid acting.

Student category

I prize, 350 €

Jani Ilomäki: Awakening (Tampere University of Applied Sciences, Finland 2012)

The story-telling was poetic, entertaining and concise. The story poetically illustrated one of the more profound and personal moments in the development of a child.

II prize, 200 €

Jenni Rahkonen: When One Stops (Hänen tilanne, Turku Arts Academy, Finland 2012)

This minimal animation tells the story of a big loss with thoughtful allegories and excellent animation and style.

III prize, 100 € awarded for two films

Doris Tääker: Spring á la Carte (Kevad á la carte, Baltic Film and Media School, Estonia 2013)

A sophisticated and ambitious musical about a struggling writer stifled by a bad job and an unappreciative boss. Directed by a young director (under 25).

Kaur Kokk: Last Call (Baltic Film and Media School, Estonia 2012)

Well-made film about cultural literacy.

Open category

I prize, 200 €

Lars Persson: Looking for Joy (Bondlurken och Thailändskan, Sweden 2013)

A warm and wise story of how love can bloom from unexpected and sometimes awkward situations.

Honorable mention

Best actress: Maiken Schmidt

Schmidt's acting and singing as Aliide in *Spring á la Carte* is splendid and charming.