



Agrofilm educated, entertained and awarded

The 33rd international film festival Agrofilm 2017 offers this week **325 screenings** in Nitra, Bratislava, Zvolen, Košice and Brezno. In addition to the 113 films submitted to the festival this year, the festival also invites its visitors to taste good honest food, engage in sharp discussion, visit lectures by experts, enjoy inspirational experiences and even view art.

Agrofilm awarded.

The international Festival Jury awarded 14 films and video programmes.

Grand Agrofilm Prize was awarded to a Czech film produced by SKYFILM Prostějov **Geoderma – The Living Skin of Planet Earth**, which shows soil as the skin of Mother Earth. Its protection, renewal and proper utilization is more than important for both humans and animals – our existence depends on it. Narrator of the document is soil biologist Ladislav Miko.

This topic was the theme of other awarded films as well. Dutch director Joris van der Kamp introduced in the film **Soil Farmers**, awarded the Prize of the President of Agrofilm, the methods of five farmers to monitor and improve the soil and in this way grow healthy foodstuffs without damage to the land.

The Iranian film **Green Land** brings not only the information on reviving the soil after the Iran-Iraq War, but also a powerful message about peace. Film was awarded the Prize of the President of Nitra Self-Governing Region.

Soil, and the evermore more difficult access to land, appears also in the awarded British coproduction film **The Land for Our Food**, which received the Prize of the Rector of the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra.

The jury awarded this year also interesting films from Hungarian producers. Film **Pastorale** directed by József Sáfrány is a beautiful introduction to the herding life and its impact on the environment and nature. Stories of the herders in Pannonian Basin are poetically entwined with songs in Hungarian, Romanian, Serbian, Rusyn and Slovak. This film was awarded the Prize of the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra.

The Prize of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic was awarded this year to the Hungarian film **Bee Pastures**, which highlighted the sources of pollen and nectar for an insect as valuable and important as the bee. To save it, a constructive dialogue must open between farmers, foresters, environmentalists and conservationists and people as a whole.

This year for the first time, the jury considered also videos, media campaigns and stream channels focused on agriculture – in the new category New Media. Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information in cooperation with Radio and Television of Slovakia created a video series **Healthy and Tasty Milk, Food Industry, Soil, Ecosystems, and Environmental Loads**, in which they try to persuade young people, with the help of rap singer VEC, that science is cool... This series received the Prize of the Association of Agricultural Cooperatives and Trade Companies of the Slovak Republic.

List of all awarded films is available on the festival website: www.agrofilm.sk.

If you were unable to attend the screenings during the week, you still have a chance to gorge on it on Saturday 7th October 2017 at the shopping mall Galéria MLYNY Nitra. An accompanying event of the festival is a farmer's market filled to the brim with wonderful flavours.

We are already looking forward to the 34th international film festival Agrofilm. We hope to bring new topics, inspiration and experiences to new places.

Nitra, 6th October 2017