

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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**CINEQUEST FILM FESTIVALS WRAP & AWARDS**

SILICON VALLEY— Cinequest Film & Creativity Festival in San Jose, CA wrapped to pre-pandemic audience levels and critical acclaim. Cinequest’s Virtual Festival (on the Creatics platform) followed and wowed audiences with its unique and proprietary integration of live and streamed experiences. Cinequest showcased 238 films (110 World or U.S. Premieres) presented by 620 artists from 52 countries. Cinequest (domiciled in the Silicon Valley) lived up to its reputation of providing the technological integrations that create the “future of film” via a spectacular showcase of AI cinema. Cinequest opened with Paul Walter Hauser and Walton Goggins starring in the *The Luckiest Man in America* and closedwithNaomi Watts, Bill Murray, and Constance Wu starring in *The Friend*.

The following won Cinequest’s Maverick, Jury and Audience, and Screenwriting Awards:

**MAVERICK SPIRIT AWARD**

**GILLIAN ANDERSON**

**JURY FILM AWARDS**

**Best Narrative Feature: Drama**

***THE COURAGEOUS***

Director: Jasmin Gordon

Producers: Brigitte Hofer, Cornelia Seitler

**Best Narrative Feature: Comedy**

***BURT***

Director: Joe Burke

Producers: Joe Burke, Oliver Cooper

**Best Narrative Feature: Horror, Sci-Fi, Thriller**

***PUSH***

Directors: David Charbonier, Justin Powell

Producers: Ryan Scaringe, David Charbonier, Justin Powell

**Best Documentary Feature Film:**

***AMERICAN AGITATORS***

Directors: Raymond Telles

Producer: Kenn Rabin, David Telles, Olivia Heffernan

**New Visions Award:**

***NORA***

Director: Anna Campbell

Producers: Anna Campbell, Sascha Fix, AJ Gordon

**Global Vision Award:**

***NEWBORN***

Director: Alejandro Zuno

Producers: Mónica Lozano, Érika Ávila, Eamon O'Farrill

**Best Narrative Short Film: Drama**

***MALKA***

Director: Stacey Maltin

Producers: Jaclyn Amor

**Best Narrative Short Film: Comedy**

***BOOTIE’S***

Directors: Milana Vayntrub

Producer: Gracie Canaan, Milana Vayntrub

**Best Narrative Short Film: Horror, Sci-Fi, Thriller**

***THE UGLY CHICKENS***

Directors: Mark Raso

Producers: George R.R. Martin, Mauro Mueller, Philippe Woodtli

**Best Animated Short Film**

***TRASH***

Directors: Gregory Bouzid, Maxime Crançon, Robin Delaporte, Mattéo Durand, Romain Fleischer, Alexis Le Ral Margaux Lutz, Fanny Vecchie

Producer: Karim Khenissi

**Best Documentary Short Film**

***LOVE IN THE TIME OF MIGRATION***

Director: Erin Semine Kökdil, Chelsea Abbas

Producer: Erin Semine Kökdil, Chelsea Abbas, Priscilla Gonzalez Sainz

**Best Student Short Film**

***LITTLE BIRD***

Director: Oanh-Nhi Nguyen

Producer: Eva Zheng

**Best Television Pilot**

***FOLLOW***

Director: Louis Farge

Producers: Victoire d'Aboville

**Best Music Video**

***GUN***

Director: Lado Kvataniya

Producers: Pavel Karykhalin, Alexander Medvedko, Egor Solomatin, Nadin Usmanova, Lado Kvataniya

**AUDIENCE FILM AWARDS**

**Audience Award: Best Narrative Feature, Comedy**

***SAY LESS***

Director: Michael Kellman

Producers: Michael Kellman, J. Zachary Thurman

**Audience Award: Best Narrative Feature, Drama (TIE)**

***BECOMING VERA***

Director: Sergio Vizuete

Producers: Jiarui Guo, Sergio Vizuete

**Audience Award: Best Narrative Feature, Drama (TIE)**

***BIRDSONG***

Director: Renso Amariz

Producers: Morgan Bentz, Margy Kennedy, Marnie Near, Renso Amariz

**Audience Award: Best Narrative Feature, Thriller, Horror, Or Sci-Fi**

***THE SNARE***

Director: Merlin Camozzi

Producers: Merlin Camozzi, Kristifor Cvijetic, Jenny Leigh Reed, Kareem Mortimer

**Audience Award: Best Documentary Feature**

***A LITTLE FELLOW: THE LEGACY OF A.P. GIANNINI***

Director: Davide Fiore

Producers: Anna Laclergue, Davide Fiore, Sacha Smith, Joe Mancini

**SCREENWRITING AWARDS**

**FEATURES**

1st Place: ***Coming in Second***; By: Don Cabreana / Genre: Comedy

2nd Place: ***Dancing on a Tightrope***; By: Jesse Kalfel / Genre: Historical

3rd Place: ***Haunted Objects Transportation***; By: Eric Miller /Genre: Horror/Action

**TELEPLAY 60-MINUTE**
1st Place: ***Unpredictable***; By: Lisa Hickey / Genre: Drama

2nd Place: ***The Comb Sisters***; By: Dralla Aierken / Genre: Drama

3rd Place: ***The Zookeeper’s Daughter***; By: Lisa Hickey / Genre: Drama

4th Place: ***Good, Bad Luck***; By: Russell Beneke / Genre: Drama

**TELEPLAY 30-MINUTE**

1st Place: ***Happy Medium***; By: Becca Blackmore / Genre: Comedy

2nd Place: ***The Temp***; By: Devi Snively / Genre: Sci-Fi

3rd Place: ***Lights! Camera! Cluster#^&@!;*** By: Ryan Dooley / Genre: Comedy

**SHORT-FILM**

1st Place: ***The Big Cheese***; By: Isabella Spadone / Genre: Comedy, Drama

2nd Place: ***Bobby vs Bobby vs Bobby***; By: Rodolfo Salas / Genre: Drama

3rd Place: ***Girl Texts***; By: Zoë Mills / Genre: Comedy

**Cinequest-Cinejoy Partners:**Jay Paul Company, Adobe Foundation (ADBE), City of San Jose, James Boyce Trust & Kris Otis, Applied Materials (NASDAQ: AMAT), The Wolff Family, Kaiser Permanente, Campbell Foundation, Brandenburg Family Foundation, Bank of America (BAC), Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority - VTA, California Arts Council, Urban Community, WestBank, Metro Silicon Valley, NBC Bay Area, Telemundo 48, Capital Group, Cast & Crew, Hayes Mansion Curio Collection by Hilton, The FAY, The Continental Bar Lounge & Patio, Casino M8trix, Agile Ticketing Solutions, iHeartMedia, San Francisco Chronicle | SFGATE, Backstage, El Observador, San Mateo Journal, Content Magazine, YELP, Marriott San Jose, Pete Be Center, 3Below Theaters & Café, The Morrison & Foerster Foundation, The Glasshouse, J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines, Drake's Brewing Company, San Jose Downtown Association, University Art, Drake’s Brewing Company, San Jose Mailing, and Redwood City Arts Commission. (This is a partial list.)

**About Cinequest:** Cinequest fuses innovation with the arts to empower great creations and to connect audiences, youth, artists, and innovators with these creations and with each other—forging community, joy, and our future. Set in Silicon Valley, Cinequest's uniqueness, impact, and legacy result from applying this powerful integration of creativity and technology to democratize opportunity and to transform lives. Cinequest does this through the Cinequest Film & Creativity Festival, Cinejoy Virtual Festival, and Picture The Possibilities global youth programs.

**About Creatics:**Creatics Enterprises is a Cinequest partner, providing the online platform for the Cinejoy Virtual Festival.

**Please watch**[**The Story of Cinequest**](https://cl.exct.net/?qs=e7548090eda0053876d22e4606ce778b84beabb2f2a942f0fb940f984dce21cd2de2d56e3c9af667fc5d9ac472da08e2).

**Please watch**[**Cinejoy Highlights**](https://cl.exct.net/?qs=e7548090eda00538411f7127633ead67113e3f4452c9bfdc75099248fc2deee18e1b9dae64f8132c9abd650c3f4a84e7).

www.cinequest.org

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