

Closing of the The 20th ifva Awards Release of the Competition Results 20 Years of Independent Spirit Building Hong Kong Values

Organised by the Hong Kong Arts Centre and sponsored by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the **20th ifva Awards Presentation Ceremony** was successfully held tonight (21 March) at the agnès b. Cinema in Hong Kong Arts Centre. 15 awards has been given out tonight on 4 short film competition categories with attending guest-of-honours including **Yuni Hadi (Director of *Ilo Ilo*)**, **Mable Cheung (Renowned director-screenwriters in Hong Kong)**, **Nansun Shi (Esteemed and prolific producer)**, **Wong Sau-ping Adam (Director of *The Way We Dance*)**, **arumihifumi (Multi-talented artist)**, **New Youth Barber Shop (Local indie pop band)**, **Mable Ho (Head of Film Programmes of Leisure and Cultural Services Department)**, **Ronald Kan (Hong Kong Arts Centre Board of Governors Member)**, **Teresa Kwong (Hong Kong Arts Centre Assistant Programme Director)**, **Kattie Fan (ifva Director)** and distinguished representative sponsors. A total of 1,133 people joined the competition this year. List of winners' and their respective prizes can be seen in the appendix.

Open Category | **32 and 4 — Naked Truth Behind Daily Family Life**

The competition in the Open Category is undoubtedly as fierce as before and **32 and 4 by Chan Hau-chun** wins the Gold Award this year. The director spent her childhood living apart from her family and knew very little about its history. This changed when she graduated from university and decided to face her parents with her camera, in search of answers to questions about her past. As **jury member Vincent Chui** put it, "Pointing the camera at her own family, documenting their collective lives and peeling off layers after layers, then tension achieved is even stronger than that of a drama film."

Youth Category | **Someone Who Waits For Sunset - Sparks of Youth, Lights and Shadows**

Gold Award of the category, **Someone Who Waits For Sunset** takes an introverted youth who is passionate about photography as its starting point, turning a typical story of boy-meets-girl into a beautiful ballad of youth. **The directors, Tang Ka-huen, Kong Ming-sum, Leung Pui-man and Luo Zhi-ji**, hope to show the subtle relationships that exist between people, and how one person can change another and help him discover his true self. As **jury member Adam Wong** mentioned, "the writing, directing and acting are just right in this short film. The directors tell the story in a smooth and complete way, and successfully bring out the texture and atmosphere of school life."

Mr. Ronald Kan, Member, Board of Governors, Hong Kong Arts Centre also presented the **ifva** Enthusiastic Awards for schools with the greatest number of participating entries to HKICC Lee Shau Kee School of Creativity.

Animation Category | **Disposition — Story of Hunter and the Beast**

The Animation Category Gold Award winner **Disposition** tells the story of M the hunter, who pursues his pray at all costs. This gigantic creature has caused him dangers and eventually put him into a life-threatening situation, a dilemma which confronts his oven hunting actions. **Creator Mak Siu-fung** has confessed his love-hate relationship with computers, a machine which ruled out his chance of becoming a full-time comic artist, yet given him so much help to produce an animation all by himself. But despite the obstacles, he managed to succeed. **Jury member Yung Kwok-yin** said, "Both the protagonist and its creator are tenacious persistent. Otherwise they would not be able to overcome all these hurdles and accomplish such challenge."

Asian New Force Category | *The Baby* — Family and Society as chains on women

Iranian director **Ali Asgari** has created an unplanned women-focused work *The Baby*. Through a simple but intense story, he strives to demonstrate how various aspects of life such as authority, society and family imposed limitations on women. **Jury member Ying Liang** described the work as heartstring pulling, “With an intense time and space, documentary filming style and open-ended story, the work successfully develops a critical point of views as well as concerns towards women.”

Media Art Category – Double Silver Awards |

APHASIA — Story of 4 Women across 130 Years, The Fading Piece — Faces of Kwun Tong Now and Then

Accepting entries from outside of Hong Kong and in all Asian countries only for the first time, the Media Art Category has announced its list of winners in the *CINEMA 2.0: Media Art Exhibition: HARD CINEMA* Opening Ceremony on 10 February.

Local work *The Fading Piece* won both the Silver Award and Best Local Work Award. It took **artist Lau Ching-wa (Hong Kong)** half a year to finish, using pictures and brushstrokes to show the changes of Kwun Tong under the urban renewal programme. Another silver award winning title, **APHASIA** by **Huang Yin-tzu (Taiwan)** draws attention to Taiwan’s fragmented political identity and changing of language and culture, which leads to reflections of local situations by Hong Kong audiences.

With countless hard work and creativity put into their pieces, winners certainly walked home with more than blood, sweat and memories. Apart from cash prizes, exchange opportunities overseas and trophies sponsored by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Pure Art Foundation and Leisure, prizes also include items of great importance to the work of artists – production equipment and technical support. They include colour-grading services for Open Category finalists by Post Production Office Ltd. (PO), G-Technology professional external hard drive sponsored by HGST Asia Pte. Limited and photographic equipment and colour-grading software by Blackmagic Design (Asia Pacific).

The **ifva** Festival finally comes to an end after over one and a half months of celebration, with events including 12 sessions of “**Indie is...**” **Hong Kong Independent Short Films 1995 – 2014** free screenings, **CINEMA 2.0: Hard Cinema Media Art Exhibition cum 20th ifva Awards Media Arts Category Finalist Exhibition** sprawling across February and March. Looking back, **ifva** has served as an important incubator for filmmaking talents. Regardless of the changes of time, film practitioners should always stay true to their dreams they start out with. As **director of ifva Kattie Fan** said, “The independent spirit is one of the most important assets of artists”, **ifva** always believes that the competitions are not endings to artists, instead, staying true to oneself and continuing to create is the life long struggle. **The 21st ifva Awards will be open for entry in due course.**

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Organised by Hong Kong Arts Centre, **ifva** is an Incubator for Film and Visual media in Asia (formerly the Hong Kong Independent Short Film and Video Awards). Founded in 1995, **ifva** serves as a platform that actively promotes and encourages creative talents in Asia, making short films, videos, animation and media arts. With a cutting-edge vision and highlight independent spirit, **ifva** has evolved to promote different visual cultures while exploring the boundless potential of creative media. In addition to the annual competition and festival, **ifva** curates a host of programmes under two initiatives, “Cultivation” and “Engagement”. By connecting creative communities all over the world, **ifva** aims to engage everyone in the art of creation. **ifva** is also a core event of Entertainment Expo Hong Kong.

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Appendix: The 20th ifva Awards Results

Open Category

Award	Title	Winner(s)	Prizes
Gold Award	32 and 4	Chan Hau-chun	-HK\$50,000 Cash Prize -One Festival Visit -One G-SPEED Studio 24TB external hard drive -One Blackmagic Cinema Camera -One Trophy
Silver Award	The Woman Security Guards	Chan Ho-lun Freddie, Ma Chi-hang	-HK\$30,000 Cash Prize -One G-RAID Studio 12TB external hard drives -One Trophy
Special Mention	Hong Kong will be destroyed after 33 years	Ng Siu-lun	-One G-RAID Removable 12TB external hard drive -One Certificate

Youth Category

Gold Award	Someone Who Waits For Sunset	Tang Ka-huen, Kong Ming-sum, Leung Pui-man, Luo Zhi-ji	-HK\$20,000 Cash Prize -One Blackmagic Pocket Cinema Camera -One Trophy
Silver Award	Happy Birthday!	Chan Hin-kong	-HK\$10,000 Cash Prize -One Trophy
Special Mention	Aggot's Story	Ma Man-ching, Leung Kwok-pang, Chan Pak-long, Chung Ka-wai Whitney, Chan Chun-hong Billy, Cheung Yat-long Thomas, Yeung Kwan-on, Ng Kin-fung	-One Certificate
	News Chase	Tam Lai-ting, Kwok Ue-yau, Tsang Tsz-san, Fu Cheuk-hin	-One Certificate
	The Days Without Ballet	Chu Tsz-yui	-One Certificate

Animation Category

Gold Award	Disposition	Mak Siu-fung	-HK\$50,000 Cash Prize -One Festival Visit -One G-SPEED Studio 24TB external hard drive -One Blackmagic DaVinci Resolve software -One Trophy
Silver Award	Before Dying	Montagut Chuen	-HK\$30,000 Cash Prize -One G-RAID Studio 12TB external hard drive -One Trophy
Special Mention	Swamp	Man Chun-yip	-One G-RAID Removable 12TB external hard drive -One Certificate

Asian New Force Category

Gold Award	The Baby	Ali Asgari (Iran)	-HK\$30,000 Cash Prize -One Blackmagic Cinema Camera -One Trophy
Silver Award	Where The Sky Ends	Jacki Berman Gilad Cohen (Israel)	-HK\$20,000 Cash Prize -One Trophy
Special Mention	Endless Road	Jin Huaqing , Shi Xinjie (China)	-One Certificate

Media Art Category

Gold Award	Withheld		
Silver Award	APHASIA	Huang Yin-tzu (Taiwan)	-HK\$30,000 Cash Prize -One Blackmagic Pocket Cinema Camera -One Trophy
	The Fading Piece	Lau Ching-wa (Hong Kong)	-HK\$30,000 Cash Prize -One Trophy
Special Mention	Surveillance	Zhou Shan, Long Xinru (China)	-One Certificate
Best Local Work	The Fading Piece	Lau Ching-wa (Hong Kong)	-One Festival Visit -One Trophy