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Press Release
Immediate Release

The 24th ifva Awards Presentation Ceremony Awards Results Announced Local and Overseas Talents Showcasing Their Works of Bravery

Organised by Hong Kong Arts Centre and supported by Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), the 24th **ifva** Awards Presentation Ceremony was held on 16 March 2019, at the Louis Koo Cinema, Hong Kong Arts Centre. A total of 15 awards for four shorts categories had been given out, with the presence of honourable guests including: Mable Ho (Head of Film Programmes, Leisure and Cultural Services Department), Yang Li-chou (Taiwan documentary director), Stanley Kwan (Hong Kong Film Awards-winning director), Ying Liang (Golden Horse Best Feature Short-winning director), Wong Chun (Hong Kong Film Award Best New Director), Candace Chong (Hong Kong Drama Awards Best Script Award scriptwriter), Peter Yuen (member of the Board of Governors and Chairman, Building Committee, Hong Kong Arts Centre), Connie Lam (Executive Director, Hong Kong Arts Centre) and representatives from sponsoring parties.

Please refer to Appendix for the full list of **ifva** Award results and prize details.

Gold / Silver Awards for all five categories as follows:

Open Category – *Family Family Day*

Open category works as usual depicts the different bonding among people and the cities. After an enthusiastic debate among jurors, **Lee Wai-shing's *Family Family Day*** was awarded the Gold Award. An honest depiction of the family matters among the director's family members and relatives, juror Ying Liang finds "the film's detailed revelations and representation of the discomfitures of Chinese families is both surprising and saddening."

Youth Category – *Alert*

No Gold Award is awarded, and the Silver Award goes to **Fong Ho-ching's *Alert***. The film depicts an artist who is forced by the cruel reality to escape from her road of creation, while eventually finds the way to seize the last chance to change herself. Juror Amos Why thinks, "the idea is original and the filmmaker makes use of visuals to tell the story. The theme is well presented while giving audiences room for imagination. This is the most well rounded piece out of all the entries this year."

Animation Category – *Kin's Hair*

Gold Award winning work ***Kin's Hair*** is the graduation project of **Chan Kwun-chung, Wong Tsz-yin and Chang See-wan** from the Open University of Hong Kong. By depicting the story of Kin and the process of him losing his hair to the last single one, the many major and minor incidents in Hong Kong over the past 20 years are also brought out. Juror Peter Ng praises that "the storyline is well thought-out and cinematic. Hair serves as the main element that unites the whole story as it smoothly transverses different time periods, which resonates with the audience".

Asian New Force Category – *Temporary*

The Gold Award winner for Asian New Force goes to ***Temporary*** by Taiwan director **Hsu Hui-ju**. The piece adapts unconventional documentary techniques by employing three real-life temporary workers to work temporarily in an abandoned factory, which becomes a stage for playing out an intangible and makeshift family drama. Juror Vincent

Chui thinks “this film makes use of real and fictional elements to transcend typical documentary practices to reveal the hopeless situation of those stuck at the bottom of the social ladder”.

Media Art Category – *That · This*

Results for Media Art Category was announced at the opening ceremony of “CINEMA 2.0: Acrylic Dreams” on 6 March. Taiwan artist **Hu Ching-chuan’s *That · This*** was awarded Gold Award. Daily conversations in Burmese between the artist’s mother and her aunt, who have not met for more than a decade, traverse different spaces in VR. The “that” and “this” are near to as much as they are far from each other. Juror Bryan Chung thinks that the piece is “one of the first few attempts in using VR in the **ifva** competition. Instead of rendering a realistic and spectacular scene, the artist created the abstract and surrealistic domestic space where the two elders communicate remotely on the everyday life mundane experience with this new technology in a language unknown to most of the local audience”.

Winners of this year’s **ifva** are supported by a lot of parties with sponsorship in terms of cash prizes, foreign film festival visit, solo exhibition and trophy sponsored by LCSD, Pure Art Foundation and Goethe Institut Hongkong.

On top of the awards presentation ceremony and the screenings of **ifva** works, “**Filmorphosis: Wong Fei-pang’s Creative Perseverance**” and “**Jockey Club ifva Everywhere Master Class and Artist Mentoring Scheme: Yang Li-chou – Father Screening and Director’s Post-screening Talk**”, “**CINEMA 2.0: Acrylic Dreams**” cum **The 24th ifva Awards – Media Art Category Finalist Exhibition** runs today to 20 March. As **ifva** Director Kattie Fan has mentioned, “Of all the people and things in the world, how many can one remain passionate about without reservation? If you encounter such a thing or person, no matter how difficult your path may seem, you are a fortunate person indeed”.

The 25th ifva will be open for application soon. Stay tuned!

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About **ifva**

ifva, formerly the Hong Kong Independent Short Film and Video Awards, was founded by the Hong Kong Arts Centre in 1995. Over the years, **ifva** has established itself as Asia’s pioneering force in short film, animation and media arts, by providing a unique and professional platform for Hong Kong and Asian creative talents to unite, exchange and promote their works.

With the aims to promote short film and media arts and defend independent creative spirit, every year, in addition to the professionally renowned **ifva** Awards and **ifva** Festival, **ifva** also organises a series of extended programmes including the followings: “CINEMA 2.0” media arts exhibition examines different subject matters at the intersection of arts, culture, technology and society; “All About Us” celebrates diversity and the creative voices of young people from the ethnic minority backgrounds; “Jockey Club **ifva** Everywhere” makes film and media arts accessible to people from all walks of life; and Community and School Tour encourages students to experience and appreciate different media art forms.

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