

Romantic conflicts, family relationships, environmental issues and Giuseppe Fiorello are among the nominees of the XXI edition of MIFF Awards

Family Drama and love that crosses space and time play out in this year's Awards Festival; while the "doc" section mainly revolves around current issues surrounding sustainability and justice. Among the candidates is the renowned Giuseppe Fiorello, playing a young muslim girl's P.E. teacher.

The XXI edition of *Cavallo di Leonardo* nominees hail from all over the world with this year's pics once again spotlighting excellence in storytelling around the human experience as the *Leonardo da Vinci Film Society* presents their official selections with candidates - mostly european - talking about love and family. For the second time behind a camera is Dutch stage director Theu Boermans, presenting *SEA OF TIME*, the most awaited movie of the 2021 edition with its 10 nominations (covering every category!). Boermans tells the true story of a love that is dramatically interrupted only to find a possible second chance 35 years later. Next with 7 nominations comes *MEDUSA*, french director Sophie Lévy's debut silently intertwines her camera with the relationship between two sisters who live together: the eldest has been taking care of the youngest since a car crash left her unable to speak and walk, but now her new boyfriend threatens to drive a wedge between them. Family relationships are also at stake between Sayo and Asumi, co-protagonists of the japanese *RUINED* that tells the story of rising tension between two sisters as the past of one's groom comes to the surface. The past is also the focus in *HIDDEN IN THE SPOTLIGHT* another Dutch film nominee that is the directorial debut of previous *Cavallo di Leonardo Best Film* recipient Jelle Nesna for his work as a producer in *ACCUSED* (2016). Among the candidates is also Giuseppe Fiorello who stars in Mario Vitale's first feature, *L'AFIDE E LA FORMICA*. The renowned italian actor plays a former marathoner turned P.E. teacher to a young muslim girl as he trains her to win the most important race: life.

Movies of a great humane depth have been chosen for this edition, as the tradition of the *Leonardo Da Vinci Film Society* dictates, that unlike previous years, only hosts overseas movies in the documentary section including stand out *MAKING AN EXONEREE* on wrongful convictions, a relevant unsolved issue. Other shocking documentaries come from Brazil and Italy. The first, *THE HOSTS*, tells about the economic interests and negative impact of a country poised to host the FIFA World Cup, while the second, *ONE EARTH - EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED*, investigates the connection between our food industry, climatic change and the global pandemic, proving how everything is intertwined.

This respected hybrid awards program gives a great chance to the hundreds of submitters and handful of nominees, but only the winners in each category get to premiere in front of voting audiences that will decide the Best Film winner. The winners' premieres are programmed in prestigious theatres such as Notorious Cinemas at Centro Sarca di Sesto San Giovanni (Milan). The dates will be announced on December 8th on www.miffawards.it

Covid-19 restrictions from each country of origin of the winning titles will be in force so individual premieres and/or the awards ceremony could be postponed or streamed virtually.

Tutte le candidature sono consultabili sul sito www.miffawards.com

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MIFF AWARDS 2021 NOMINATIONS BY CATEGORY

• BEST FILM 1

This category is decided from among the winners of any category and chosen solely by the audience votes during the festival screenings of the category-winning films (previously voted by LDVFS), and it's shared by Fictions and Documentary Feature Films. (see following page).

• BEST DIRECTING

Bovary

Jaco Van Dormael

Medusa

Sophie Levy

Ruined

Taro Miyaoka

Sea of Time

Theu Boermans

The Last Bath

David Bonneville

4 • BEST ACTING PERFORM. MALE

Bovary

Koen De Sutter

Nightline

Karel Roden

L'afide e la formica

Giuseppe Fiorello

Sea of Time

Gijs Scholten van Aschat

Vladivostok

Andrey Gryzlov

6 • BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

Bovary

Juliette Van Dormael

Medusa

Nicolas Desaintquentin

Nightline

Jan Suster

Sea of Time

Myrthe Mosterman

The Last Bath

Vasco Viana

8 • BEST MUSIC&SOUND DESIGN (DOCs inc.)

Flowers and Rain

Seeda

Dear Sirs

James Craft

Sea of Time

Fons Merkies

One Earth Everything is Connected

Sebastian Boehnke

Vladivostok

Yuri Poteyenko

10 • BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Medusa

Arnaud Valois

Ruined

Kenta Kiguchi

Sea of Time

Reinout Scholten van Aschat

The Last Bath

Martim Canavarró

Vladivostok

Ivan Shakhnazarov

3 • BEST SCREENWRITING

Hidden in the Spotlight

Karen van Holst Pellekaan

Medusa

Sophie Levy

Ruined

Kazuomi Makita

Sea of Time

Marieke van der Pol

Vladivostok

Aleksey Buzin, Karen Shakhnazarov

5 • BEST ACTING PERFORM. FEMALE

Bovary

Maaïke Neuville

Medusa

Roxane Mesquida

Nightline

Barbora Bockova

Sea of Time

Sallie Harmsen

The Last Bath

Anabela Moreira

7 • BEST EDITING (DOCs included)

Bovary

Günter Hoogstyn

Ruined

Taro Miyaoka

Sea of Time

Herman P. Koerts, Job ter Burg

One Earth Everything is Connected

Francesco de Augustinis

Dear Sirs

Mark Pedri

9 • BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Hidden in the Spotlight

Georgina Verbaan

Medusa

Anamaria Vartolomei

Ruined

Rumi Hiiragi

Sea of Time

Elsie de Brauw

Vladivostok

Anastasia Talyzina

11 • BEST DOCUMENTARY FILM

Dear Sirs

Mark Pedri, Carrie Pedri

One Earth Everything is Connected

Francesco de Augustinis

Directed By

Steve Race

Making an Exonerée

Rob Dorfmann, Cindy Dorfmann

The Hosts

Carla Dauden

MIFF AWARDS 2021 NOMINATION FILMS LIST

1 • BEST FILM

(FICTION)

- 1. Sea of Time** – 10 Nominations (**Netherlands**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Directing; Best Screenwriting; Best Acting Performance Male; Best Acting Performance Female; Best Music/Sound Design; Best Editing;
Best Cinematography; Best Supporting Actor; Best Supporting Actress.
- 2. Medusa** – 7 Nominations (**France**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Directing; Best Screenwriting; Best Acting Performance Female; Best Cinematography; Best Supporting Actor; Best Supporting Actress.
- 3. Bovary** – 6 Nominations (**Belgium**) - FF, it premiere
Best Film; Best Directing; Best Acting Performance Male; Best Acting Performance Female; Best Cinematography; Best Editing.
- 4. Vladivostok** – 6 Nomination (**Russia**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Screenwriting; Best Acting Performance Male; Best Music/Sound Design; Best Supporting Actress; Best Supporting Actor.
- 5. Ruined** – 6 Nomination (**Japan**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Directing; Best Screenwriting; Best Editing; Best Supporting Actor; Best Supporting Actress.
- 6. The Last Bath** – 5 Nominations (**Portugal**) - FF, it premiere
Best Film; Best Directing; Best Acting Performance Female; Best Cinematography; Best Supporting Actor.
- 7. Nightline** – 4 Nominations (**Czech Republic**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Acting Performance Male; Best Acting Performance Female; Best Cinematography.
- 8. Hidden in the Spotlight** – 3 Nominations (**Netherlands**) - FF,
Best Film; Best Screenwriting; Best Supporting Actress.
- 9. L'Affide e la formica** – 2 Nomination (**Italy**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Acting Performance Male.
- 10. Flowers and Rain** – 2 Nomination (**Japan**) - FF, it premiere
Best Film; Best Music&Sound Design.

(DOCUMENTARY)

- 1. Dear Sirs** – 4 Nominations (**USA**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Documentary; Best Editing; Best Music
- 2. One Earth Everything is Connected** – 4 Nominations (**Italy**) - FF, unreleased
Best Film; Best Documentary; Best Editing; Best Music
- 3. Directed By** – 2 Nominations (**USA**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Documentary.
- 4. Making an Exoneree** – 2 Nominations (**USA**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Documentary.
- 5. The Hosts** – 2 Nominations (**Brazil**) - FF, w premiere
Best Film; Best Documentary.

11 (INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM 0-15 MIN)

1. Absence (China) - 2. Coda (Spain) - 3. Cocoon Love (USA) - 4. Not a Minute (France) -
5. The Girl with an Orange Cat (China)

12 (INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM 15-30 MIN)

1. Ayo Nene (France) - 2. Live Whit It (USA) - 3. Seahorse (Germany) - 4. Young Hearth (France) -
5. On the Shore (Belgium)

13 (ITALIAN SHORT FILM)

1. Aut Aut (Italy) - 2. La signora dei piccioni (Italy) - 3. Movements (Italy) - 4. Non Lasciarmi (Italy) - 5. Taxiderman (Italy)