

The Jury of 68. Trento Film Festival – Carlos Casas (Spain), Salomé Jashi (Georgia), Gustav Hofer (Italy), Carmen Gray (New Zealand), Matteo Della Bordella (Italy) – assigns the following official awards:

“CITY OF TRENTO” GRAND PRIX
GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM

A Tunnel

by Nino Orjonikidze and Vano Arsenishvili (Georgia/Germany, 2019, 90')

CLUB ALPINO ITALIANO PRIZE
GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM ABOUT MOUNTAINEERING, MOUNTAIN PEOPLE AND LIFE IN
THE MOUNTAINS

The Wind. A Documentary Thriller

by Michal Bielawski (Poland, 2019, 75')

“CITY OF BOLZANO” PRIZE
GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM ON EXPLORATION AND ADVENTURE

Sidik and the Panther

by Reber Dosky (Netherlands, 2019, 83')

SILVER GENTIAN
TO THE BEST ARTISTIC-TECHNICAL CONTRIBUTION
Sicherheit 123
by Florian Kofler and Julia Gutweniger (Italy/Austria, 2019, 72')

SILVER GENTIAN
TO THE BEST SHORT MOVIE
Then Comes the Evening
di Maja Novaković (Serbia/Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2019, 28')

JURY PRIZE
Alpinist – Confession of a Cameraman
by Kim Minchul and Lim Iljin (South Korea, 2019, 90')

SPECIAL MENTION
Polyfonatura
by Jon Vatne (Norway, 2019, 20')

“CITY OF TRENTO” GRAND PRIX
GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM

A Tunnel by Nino Orjonikidze and Vano Arsenishvili (Georgia/Germany, 2019, 90')

REASON - Excellent access, a sense for visual atmosphere and a fine attunement to structural power imbalances underpin a film that says much about our current moment of geo-political tensions, contested identities, and a globalised world of work and capital. Dramatic but never overstated, it pinpoints events in a small village as a clash between past and future, haves and have-nots, in which we all have a stake.

SYNOPSIS - People are hard at work extending the railroad in a remote Georgian mountain village. When they're done, the new Silk Road Express will run through here. But before this high-speed connection between China and Europe can go anywhere, a tunnel has to be dug, a tunnel that goes right through a mountain where villagers have their fields and pastures. There are promises of prosperity and progress, but in the dreamy atmosphere of the fairy-tale village, the coming of the express train feels more like a nightmare. Language and communication problems between the Georgian and Chinese workers lead to fierce arguments, and ultimately a tense strike. The gorgeous, disengaged shots perfectly reflect the surrealist atmosphere of a changing world order.

CLUB ALPINO ITALIANO PRIZE

GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM ABOUT MOUNTAINEERING, MOUNTAIN PEOPLE AND LIFE IN THE MOUNTAINS

The Wind. A Documentary Thriller by Michal Bielawski (Poland, 2019, 75')

REASON - People living in the mountains can be exposed to extreme weather conditions and these can have effects on body and mind. With an intriguing and inventive approach, the filmmaker brings the audience into the life of the inhabitants of Zakopane and its area in Poland where a halny wind puts their life and mental wellbeing regularly at risk. Creating an atmosphere of eternal suspension and following the film's protagonists in an intimate way, this documentary reminds us of the delicate balance between nature and human mankind, through the clear cinematographic lens of the director.

SYNOPSIS - The halny wind is the most unpredictable element in the Polish mountains. It comes in cycles, in every spring and autumn. One never knows if or when it turns into a destructive gale. Halny particularly affects the inhabitants of Zakopane and its area, changing picturesque mountain trails into a set for an untamed performance of nature.

“CITY OF BOLZANO” PRIZE

GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM ON EXPLORATION AND ADVENTURE

Sidik and the Panther by Reber Dosky (Netherlands, 2019, 83')

REASON - For its deep sense and commitment to nature and its ecological and political interconnections, as well for the beautiful account of this ultimate exploration, its deep sense of belonging and rootness to traditions and nature as the ultimate homeland of all. This film documents and captures through beautifully crafted images the respect and passion to one own environment and history.

SYNOPSIS - The Persian leopard lives in the rugged mountain landscape of Kurdish northern Iraq. At least, Sidik is convinced it does. Equipped with binoculars and a walking stick, he roams the hills hunting for evidence of this feline species. He has been searching for 25 years in vain. If he were to spot a leopard

here, the entire area would be classified as a protected nature reserve. He hopes that this would also put an end to the bombing and murders that plague the region. Along the way he meets poachers, hunters and hikers with whom he shares memories. A conversation with a younger man who would like to leave for Europe reveals that not everyone is as attached to his roots as Sidik is. Atmospheric shots of the wilderness vividly capture Sidik's love of the region. A beautiful and inspiring visual ode to perseverance and peaceful patriotism.

SILVER GENTIAN

TO THE BEST ARTISTIC-TECHNICAL CONTRIBUTION

Sicherheit 123 by Florian Kofler and Julia Gutweniger (Italy/Austria, 2019, 72')

REASON - This film captures anticipation. A cataclysm could happen at any time, not just somewhere, but in the backyards. But for now, it's just a possibility, a risk. The filmmakers manage to film serenity even in unserene situations. The artistic treatment of the subject shapes the content. The esthetic approach of the camera and sound adds an emotional undercurrent to the facts. The film becomes a contemplation on the magnitude of nature and the men's efforts to control its threat.

SYNOPSIS - The human fight against nature takes center stage in *Sicherheit 123*. In its visual journey through the Alps, the documentary observes the work and research processes of scientists, technicians and disaster relief agencies. The resulting stream of measurements and simulations provides deep insight into a massive yet largely invisible security system.

SILVER GENTIAN

TO THE BEST SHORT MOVIE

Then Comes the Evening by Maja Novaković (Serbia/Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2019, 28')

REASON - For putting a very simple life into a magnificent still life, a moving still life, where every drop of light has a meaning and shapes the forms in a way abruptly noticed in childhood, or at a glimpse of revelation. For meticulous work put in by the filmmakers to create a work of art which enhances a film form.

SYNOPSIS - The bittersweet life of two grannies living isolated on the hills of Eastern Bosnia. Nature is the entity with which grannies speak, listen to and respect. The film reflects the simplicity and purity of their way of life, as well as their painstaking daily work. It emphasizes the intangible cultural heritage, through the presentation of chants and rituals for taming the adverse weather, hail, and storm.

JURY PRIZE

Alpinist - Confession of a Cameraman by Kim Minchul and Lim Iljin (South Korea, 2019, 90')

REASON - The film "Alpinist - confessions of a cameraman" brings a totally original, authentic and unconventional point of view about mountaineering. This documentary is a real and true journey across the life of cameraman and alpinist Lim Iljin, with deep insight about alpinism and about the different reasons that drive men towards mountains. It's a raw, sometimes sorrowful work, result of many years of experience on the toughest mountains of the planet, describing at best some of the most inconvenient sides of mountaineering. This film is a tribute to every passionate alpinist and cameraman.

SYNOPSIS - This is a story about unknown yet some of the most provocative mountaineers of Korea, their impossible challenges pushed by deceitful desires and the tragic results that a cameraman has not only recorded but also actively participated in creating during the four Himalayan expeditions from 2009 to

2013. The film was finally completed by the cameraman's own death in the Himalayas right after his first and last confession.

SPECIAL MENTION

Polyfonatura by Jon Vatne (Norway, 2019, 20')

REASON - To a film that has captivated our curiosity and that beautifully presents a creative process and its interconnections with nature.

SYNOPSIS - The eccentric sound artist Eirik Havnes is preparing his most ambitious project ever: a symphonic masterpiece with nature as his orchestra. He collects sounds from nature with his self-made microphones, altering and assembling them into an epic musical composition, before finally performing it for a live audience, with a scientific approach combined with childish enthusiasm. A sensorial concert between fjords and mountains, across time and space, that can alter the way people experience and listen to nature.