

The Jury of 69. Trento Film Festival – composed by Cinzia Angelini (Italia), Maura Delpero (Italia), Anne Delseth (Svizzera), Emile Péronard (Danimarca), Nahuel Uria (Argentina) – assigns the following official awards:

“CITY OF TRENTO” GRAND PRIX
GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM
Anche stanotte le mucche danzeranno sul tetto
by Aldo Gugolz (Switzerland/2020/82')

CLUB ALPINO ITALIANO PRIZE
GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM ABOUT MOUNTAINEERING, MOUNTAIN PEOPLE AND LIFE IN
THE MOUNTAINS
Holy Bread
by Rahim Zabihi (Iran/2020/54')

“CITY OF BOLZANO” PRIZE
GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM ON EXPLORATION AND ADVENTURE
Here I Am, Again
by Polly Guentcheva (Bulgaria/2021/102')

SILVER GENTIAN
TO THE BEST ARTISTIC-TECHNICAL CONTRIBUTION
Die letzten Österreicher
by Lukas Pitscheider (Austria, Ukraine/2020/85')

SILVER GENTIAN
TO THE BEST SHORT MOVIE
One Day
by Jin Jiang (China/2020/24')

JURY PRIZE
Chaddr - A River Between Us
by Minsu Park (Germany/2020/88')

SPECIAL MENTION OF THE JURY
Icemeltland Park di Liliana Colombo (Italy, Great Britain/2020/40')
The Magic Mountain di Eitan Efrat e Daniel Mann (Belgium/2020/67')

"CITY OF TRENTO" GRAND PRIX
GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM

Anche stanotte le mucche danzeranno sul tetto by Aldo Gugolz (Switzerland/2020/82')

REASON - In that same nature where someone seeks resurrection, others find death. The director skillfully uses the frame of a crime story to transport the viewer with audiovisual expertise (photography and sound are valuable) into the high mountain environment and introduce him to Fabiano, a young man in search for a new self in the alleged idyllic peace of the mountain. Confused by existential doubts and feelings of guilt, it is in the new role of father that the protagonist tries to elaborate the relationship with his own, leading the film to reflect with awareness and depth on the thorny issue of family inheritance and the possible emancipation from it.

SYNOPSIS - Fabiano is haunted by nightmares. They are a reflection of his life as the heir of his father's small-scale agricultural business, located in an isolated valley of Southern Switzerland. He owns fifty goats and eight cows and is trying his best to produce the special alp cheese that first made his hippie parents back in the 1980s. But nothing is going the way it should... He is in debt, the alpine hut that he rents for the summer is dilapidated, and the goats cheese business is no longer profitable. His thoughts wander back to a fatal accident that occurred the previous year to a Macedonian illegal worker. His death is haunting him, because he feels that he is at least in part responsible for it. Fabiano is not exactly in a good place to start a family, but will be a father soon. His girlfriend Eva is expecting, and is hoping to fulfill her dreams of a simple life surrounded by nature and animals.

CLUB ALPINO ITALIANO PRIZE

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

Holy Bread by Rahim Zabihi (Iran/2020/54')

REASON - Life in mountain communities is not easy; in many cases reality reflects inequalities and minimal subsistence conditions. *Holy Bread* offers rough testimonies of how the Kulbars transport goods through mountain passes without the necessary technical equipment, facing dangers and extreme weather conditions, with the strong will to do whatever it takes to bring the holy bread to the family table.

SYNOPSIS - *Holy Bread* documents the highly dangerous work of Kurdish "kulbars", workers who try to support their families by transporting goods across the Iranian border. On foot, they carry their loads along mountain paths that are rocky, steep, and either slippery due to snow or blisteringly hot. Along the way, many of them suffer injuries, die in blizzards, or are shot by border police. The powerful scenes of the men's journeys are matched by their harrowing stories. No one chooses to become a "kulbar" - it's simply an unavoidable consequence of not having any other form of work. The film crew followed these workers for nine years to document the impact of living like a human pack mule. *Holy Bread* gives exposure to a group of mostly men, who, driven by poverty, hunger, and despair, operate in the margins of society.

"CITY OF BOLZANO" PRIZE

GOLDEN GENTIAN TO THE BEST FILM ON EXPLORATION AND ADVENTURE

Here I Am, Again by Polly Guentcheva (Bulgaria/2021/102')

REASON - Climbing and conquering mountains is every mountaineer's dream. Taking that last step that places you at the top is what drives every moment of a climber's life. Some may argue that it's that kind of determination one needs to succeed in life, to defeat obstacles, and fulfill one's dreams. But, can unconditional love for the mountain help us be better human beings — stronger, more determined and driven? In *Here I Am, Again*, we not only learn about Boyan Petrov's incredible achievements, both as a climber and a zoologist, Director Polly Guentcheva shows us that there is much more to Boyan's story than just a passion for climbing. He may be the very embodiment of courage, leading us to wonder whether a mountain can teach us to be fighters, and survivors, at any altitude.

SYNOPSIS - Anyone else in his place would have given up, but not him. Just a month after narrowly surviving being hit by a car, high-altitude mountaineer and research-zoologist Boyan Petrov starts his recovery and long preparation to continue his dream: climbing all the fourteen 8.000-meter peaks, without supplementary oxygen. A three-times cancer survivor, he has climbed 10 of the 14 eight-thousanders, now it's time for the world's giant: Everest. For this purpose, Boyan starts his journey by "warming-up" with the lowest peak among them, the so-called "dwarf" Shisha Pangma, number 11 on his bucket list. But an unexpected twist of fate leads to his disappearance a few meters under the peak, which activates an unprecedented interstate rescue mission and helicopter searches between the countries of Nepal, China and Bulgaria.

SILVER GENTIAN TO THE BEST ARTISTIC-TECHNICAL CONTRIBUTION

Die letzten Österreicher by Lukas Pitscheider (Austria, Ukraine/2020/85')

REASON - How many people does it take to become a community, a homeland? What is it that creates the feeling of national identity: the perpetuating of traditions, the language, the shared nostalgia? By sending us to Austrian wooden chalets in the middle of the Ukrainian Carapates, Lukas Pitscheider's film *The Last Austrians* questions us about globalization, immigration, identity. Strong characters run through the narrative and it is through a precise and remarkable capture of their daily lives, the attention paid to tiny gestures and to the invisible that the director manages to ask an eminently human and contemporary question: leave or stay ?

SYNOPSIS - Königsfeld is an Austrian village in the middle of the Ukrainian Carpathians. As far as the eye can see, the small community is surrounded by thick forest. Lorries loaded with heavy logs race through the valley road, which is crisscrossed by deep potholes. On the side of the road, mostly older people watch the goings-on with a nostalgic look. The ancestors of the Austrian inhabitants were relocated from the west to the east of the then Habsburg monarchy in the 18th century. Today the German-speaking community has only a few dozen members. In a wave, the majority of the population emigrated to the west in the 1990s, and their houses were largely taken over by neighboring villagers. 'Emigrate or stay?' is still the most important question today. While migration appears to be the only way of survival for some community members, others draw new hope bringing tourism into the valley.

SILVER GENTIAN TO THE BEST SHORT MOVIE

One Day by Jin Jiang (China/2020/24')

REASON - In a sense, life can be boiled down to two existential questions: Where are you? And where are you going? The winning short film of Trento International Film Festival succeeds with the simplest of narratives to keep us glued to the screen, as a man in rural China walks towards his home. As daylight fades, and seasons change, we experience a slice of life in an unfiltered but highly cinematic form. As the man approaches his surprising destination, we're left wanting to know more. And what more can you ask of a short film?

SYNOPSIS - The camera follows the old man's back, leading the audience to walk through morning to night, the four seasons, and finally walking home and lying in bed.

JURY PRIZE

Chaddr - A River Between Us by Minsu Park (Germany/2020/88')

REASON - Even in a mountain-themed film festival, sometimes it's the most down-to-earth stories that capture our hearts. The winner of the Special Jury Prize portrays an everyday drama in the life of a family in the Himalayas, as 17-year-old Stanzin embarks on the difficult and dangerous 4-day journey from her boarding school and back to her home village. Although the events are dramatic, the film is told in a slow pace and with great attention to the relationship between Stanzin and her parents. It reminds us of the price we sometimes must pay for the sake of our family.

SYNOPSIS - *Chaddr* is a feature documentary about a 17-year-old girl, Stanzin. Her home town in the heart of Himalaya in Kashmir is facing big changes: Global warming and technological progress change the lives of people rapidly. Until recently children had to travel a dangerous mountain pass every year to get from their home village to school. It takes Stanzin 4 days to get to school. The times are changing and the dangerous mountain pass will be turned into an autoroute. The director Minsu Park follows Stanzin on her last way to school, before she graduates and leaves her hometown forever.

SPECIAL MENTION OF THE JURY

Icemeltland Park by Liliana Colombo (Italy, Great Britain/2020/40')

The Magic Mountain by Eitan Efrat e Daniel Mann (Belgium/2020/67')