



Rights News

Summer 2009



ICCL Human Rights
Film School

SPECIAL ISSUE



**Rebecca Miller
Opens ICCL's
Human Rights
Film Awards**



Irish Council for
Civil Liberties



L-R: Competition Jury and Panel Members Senator David Norris, James Morris of the Irish Film Board, Rebecca Miller, Kirsten Sheridan, John Kelleher of the Irish Film Classification Office and Jim Sheridan



L-R: Cecilia, Delphine and Jael of Lilliput Stores



Winning filmmaker Vittoria Colonna (left) congratulates third place runner up Aoibheann O'Sullivan



Catherine Almond and Dara Robinson of Garrett Sheehan & Partners



Shortlistee Daniel Bevan (centre) with friends



A family affair – Jury members Kirsten and Jim Sheridan. (Reflected: James Morris and Rebecca Miller)



L-R: Third place runner up Aoibheann O'Sullivan, Grand Prize winner Vittoria Colonna and runner up Barry O' Donoghue



Rowan McDonagh and lookalike



Daniel Meister with his guest



The ICCL's Walter Jayawardene chats to Senator David Norris



ICCL Executive Board members Mary McIvor and Aogán Mulcahy



L-R Novelist Paul Murray and his partner Miriam, with Alicia McGivern, Deirdre Quinlan and Baz Al-Rawi of the IFI's Education Team



Natalie McDonnell, Co-Chair of the ICCL and her friend



L-R: Ronan Horgan, Deirdre Duffy, ICCL Research and Policy Officer and Liam Herrick, Director of the Irish Penal Reform Trust



L-R: Ruth Delany, Kate Magennis and Lisa Crowley



Wale Mogaji of the Team Spirit team



Alessandro Molatore (left), director of Children of Manila arrives to the screening with friends



Fifi Smith and Gabhann Dunne with Tracey Obasohan and Jonathan Dalton



Olive Braiden, member of the Irish Human Rights Commission



Sarah O'Toole with Jeanne McDonagh, PR Manager with the General Council of the Bar and Film Competition volunteer organiser

Over 280 supporters joined the ICCL on 11 June 2009 in Dublin's Light House Cinema as we rolled out the red carpet for our inaugural Human Rights Film Awards

Competition Results

Human Rights and Film – An Inspiring Combination



Winning filmmaker Vittoria Colonna being presented her prize by Jury member Kirsten Sheridan

On 11 June 2009, the Irish Council for Civil Liberties held the Gala Awards Screening of its inaugural Human Rights Film Competition at Dublin's beautiful Light House Cinema. Following the screening, Jury member Kirsten Sheridan announced the winning film, *My Identity*, directed by Vittoria Colonna.

All films are available to view online at <http://www.vimeo.com/iccl/channels> or on the competition website www.humanrightsfilmschool.org

The ICCL fully intends to build on the success of this inaugural Human Rights Film Competition and make this an annual fixture on the Irish film world's calendar.

We would like to acknowledge our entrants, volunteers, panel, jury, partners and sponsors in helping to make this project such a success. Thank you! Please consider making a donation to support our work. Visit www.iccl.ie to make your contribution today.



L-R: Lee Stella, Vittoria Colonna, Jury member Jim Sheridan, Siobhan Stella and ICCL Director Mark Kelly

The Shortlist

MY IDENTITY (WINNING FILM) Vittoria Colonna (Director)

Prize: A week in Venice in September 2009 including accreditation to the Venice Film Festival, accommodation at the European Inter-University Institute, a per diem allowance and flights; a screening of *My Identity* along with training courses at the Raindance International Film Festival in London in October 2009.



My Identity documents the life of Lee and his daughter Siobhan. Lee's story is a tribute to the ongoing battle facing transgender people and their families for recognition of their basic human rights. Transgender people are fighting for equal rights on a growing list of important issues: change of legal sex designation; parenthood; child custody; adoption; foster parenting; child protection services; violence; abuse; marriage equality; employment; healthcare and security. As the list grows, so does the need to raise awareness. Lee and Siobhan's story is a poignant portrait of a loving family, and an insight into the discrimination experienced by transgendered persons and their loved ones.

PIROGUES (RUNNER-UP) Barry O'Donoghue (Producer)

Prize: A master-class with Kirsten Sheridan, along with free filmmaking classes in Filmbase



An innovative short directed and animated by Alice Bohl, *Pirogues* deals with how two couples' lives are affected by borders. The first couple, a young African man and a French girl, seems to be leading an idyllic life in Paris. Meanwhile, an older African man selling goods on the streets of Paris feels the pain of separation from his wife in Africa. Soon, however, the men's common status as *sans papiers* ('without papers') sees their lives intersect with painful and bittersweet results.

8 THINGS TO REMEMBER (THIRD PLACE) Aoibheann O'Sullivan (Director)



Prize: A master-class with Sé Merry Doyle at Loopline Films, along with a day's grading at Windmill Lane's Baselight film resolution grading suite.

Since early 2003 the Shannonwatch planespotters have been documenting US

troop carriers landing at Shannon. Countless are unmarked charter flights that have been leased, re-leased and leased again in attempts to disguise their military function. Many of these have been directly implicated in the practice of 'extraordinary rendition'. On the 6th anniversary of the US invasion of Iraq filmmaker Aoibheann O'Sullivan travelled to Shannon Airport to meet up with the Shannonwatch planespotters, who have been central to a coordinated effort to uncover the use of Shannon as a staging area for illegal acts of kidnap and torture. The result: *8 Things to Remember* if you want to be a top Shannonwatch planespotter!

A LIFE INSIDE THE FRAME Daniel Bevan (Co-writer, Co-director)



A Life Inside the Frame is a fictional documentation of the limitations placed on all human beings with regard to their freedom of expression, opinion and the right to receive and impart ideas. The film's protagonist represents the outsider in a society constricted by what is seen as the norm, a citizen whose hopes and

aspirations have been smothered by the limitations imposed on him by society. This stop-motion animated short offers a metaphor for the protagonist's wish for freedom of expression and opinion: colour, in an otherwise monochrome world.



TEAM SPIRIT Entrant: Siobhan Twomey (Writer, Director)

This charming short children's animation forms part of a series of films developed for FOMACS (the Forum on Migration and Communications). Sadiq, like so many refugees in Ireland, grapples with the

fact that he must wait two years for his family's visas to be processed, while his Grandmother has to remain in Darfur as she does not qualify under Irish law as a family member. All this while also being the star player in a football game against his team's brutal arch rivals, the Bashers!

CHILDREN OF MANILA (PUBLIC VOTE WINNER) Genny Carraro (Producer)



The Philippines are home to an estimated 1.5 million street children, many of whom survive by begging and street hawking. *Children of Manila*, directed by Alessandro Molatore, looks beyond the statistics to look at the stories of three such children, their families and the

challenges they face, depicting both the hardship of life on the streets and the simple hope that shelter and an education with the Children's Relief Fund (CRF) can provide.

