

## **REGULATIONS FOR THE EUROPEAN FILM AWARDS 2009**

### **1. THE AWARDS**

- 1.1. The aims of the European Film Awards are:
  - to celebrate the excellence and diversity of European cinema
  - to attract new audiences to European film
  - to draw attention to new European talent.
- 1.2. Legal body of the European Film Awards is the European Film Academy e.V. (EFA). The executive body is the EFA Board. The Board consists of the Chairman, two deputy Chairmen and up to 15 further EFA members.
- 1.3. The European Film Awards will be presented – together with EFA Productions gGmbH - for the twenty-second time in 2009.
- 1.4. The European Film Academy and EFA Productions gGmbH present awards in the following categories:
  - EUROPEAN FILM 2009 (award goes to the director and the producer jointly)
  - EUROPEAN DIRECTOR 2009
  - EUROPEAN ACTRESS 2009
  - EUROPEAN ACTOR 2009
  - EUROPEAN SCREENWRITER 2009
  - CARLO DI PALMA EUROPEAN CINEMATOGRAPHER AWARD 2009
  - EUROPEAN COMPOSER 2009
  - EUROPEAN DISCOVERY 2009
  - EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY PRIX D'EXCELLENCE 2009
  - EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY ANIMATED FEATURE FILM 2009
  - EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
  - EUROPEAN ACHIEVEMENT IN WORLD CINEMA 2009
  - EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY CRITICS AWARD 2009 - Prix FIPRESCI
  - EUROPEAN CO-PRODUCTION AWARD – Prix EURIMAGES
  - EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY DOCUMENTARY 2009 –Prix ARTE
  - EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY SHORT FILM 2009
  - PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD 2009 for Best European Film
- 1.5. Each nominee receives a certificate.
- 1.6. Each award winner receives a certificate and a statuette.

### **2. FEATURE FILMS: Eligibility**

- 2.1. European\* feature-length fiction films intended for normal theatrical release are eligible for the European Film Awards 2009.
- 2.2. The films must have had their first official screening (be it at a festival or at a regular cinema) after 1 July 2008. The EFA Board has the right in exceptional cases to refrain from this rule.
- 2.3. The films must have a director who was born in Europe or has a European passport. The criteria whereby a film qualifies as European\* are based upon the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production, Appendix II, issued by the Council of Europe. According to the Convention, a film qualifies as European if

it achieves 15 points out of a possible maximum of 19 from a schedule of European elements.

To give the most flexible definition, the European Film Academy uses a lower percentage of 12 points as follows:

<u>European elements</u>	<u>weighting points</u>
<i>Creative group</i>	
Director	3
Scriptwriter	3
Composer	1
<i>Performing group</i>	
First role	3
Second role	2
Third role	1
<i>Technical craft group</i>	
Cameraman	1
Sound recordist	1
Editor	1
Art director	1
Studio or shooting location	1
Post production location	1

The EFA Board has, however, the right to look at any exception in cases of lower points, provided the film has a European director.

- 2.4. Eligible candidates for the individual categories must be born in Europe or bearer of a European passport\*.
- 2.5. Films that have been released theatrically prior to the European Film Awards 2009 ceremony as well as films presented at national or international festivals are eligible.
- 2.6. Films accepted for the 2008 European Film Awards are not eligible.
- 2.7. Films can be submitted as candidates for the European Film Awards 2009 by European film institutions, festivals, trade magazines, media partners, members of the European Film Academy and producers of European films.
- 2.8. Co-produced films involving two or more co-producers may be selected. The version submitted should be the original language version.

**Deadline for the submission of proposals is 15 June 2009.**

### **3. FEATURE FILMS: Selection**

- 3.1. The selection of app 40 films proposed to the EFA members to be considered for a nomination is made as follows:
  - in the 20 (twenty) European countries with the highest number of EFA members (as of 15 March 2009) these members vote directly for one film from among the national feature films released in their country or screened at festivals after 1 July 2008. The film having received the highest number of votes in each of these countries will automatically be included in the selection of films, provided it corresponds to §§ 2.1. – 2.8. above.

- the selection of the app 20 remaining films is made by a committee composed of members of the EFA Board and a group of experts appointed by the Board. These remaining films are selected from proposals submitted as detailed under § 2.7.
- 3.2. As a result, the committee recommends to the EFA members
- around 40 (forty) films, half of them elected directly by EFA members, the others selected from all proposals received as per § 2.7 above.
- 3.3. More than one film from the same country can be selected.
- 3.4. The list of recommended films will be announced immediately after conclusion of the selection procedure.
- 3.5. The list of the recommended films is submitted in alphabetical order to the EFA members.
- 3.6. The EFA Secretariat places DVDs of the recommended films at the disposal of the EFA members to give all films an equal chance.
- 3.7. The list of the films recommended by the committee is not exclusive. Producers of European films which are not among the recommended films may place DVDs of their films, at their own expense, at the disposal of the EFA members. These films must fulfil the criteria of the European Film Awards regulations, §§ 2.1. – 2.8. above, and be approved by the EFA Secretariat. The shipment of the DVDs must be organised in co-operation with the EFA Secretariat.

#### **4. FEATURE FILMS: Nominations**

- 4.1. Based on the list of films submitted by the committee and/or the films sent separately by producers, the EFA members vote for the following nominations:
- EUROPEAN FILM
  - EUROPEAN DIRECTOR
  - EUROPEAN ACTRESS
  - EUROPEAN ACTOR
  - EUROPEAN SCREENWRITER
  - EUROPEAN CINEMATOGRAPHER
- 4.2. The committee has the right to add one nomination to a maximum of three of the above categories.
- 4.3. Based on a simple majority of votes received and the nominations added by the committee, the European Film Academy announces the following:
- EUROPEAN FILM: 6 nominations
  - EUROPEAN DIRECTOR: 6 nominations
  - EUROPEAN ACTRESS: 6 nominations
  - EUROPEAN ACTOR: 6 nominations
  - EUROPEAN SCREENWRITER: 4 nominations
  - EUROPEAN CINEMATOGRAPHER: 4 nominations

4.4. In addition to the above, the European Film Academy announces:

- EUROPEAN COMPOSER: 4 nominations

The award is presented to a European composer for an original soundtrack. A committee composed of European members of the World Soundtrack Academy and members of the EFA Board nominates up to four candidates. The nominations will be chosen from the selection of films submitted to the EFA members and/or from the films sent by the producers. In addition, the committee has the right to nominate a soundtrack of a film which is not part of the selection, provided the producer/distributor agrees to submit the film on DVD to the EFA membership.

- EUROPEAN DISCOVERY: 5 nominations

The award is presented to a young and upcoming director for his/her first full length European\* feature film. Eligible candidates must be born in Europe or have a European passport. Films taken into consideration must have had their first official screening (be it at a festival or at a regular cinema) after 1 July 2008. A committee of members of FIPRESCI and EFA nominates five films in this category. The nominations will be announced immediately after conclusion of the nomination procedure. The five nominated films will be presented by FIPRESCI and EFA at a number of European film festivals. These screenings will be organised and promoted by FIPRESCI. The five nominated films are submitted on DVD to the EFA members.

- EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY PRIX D'EXCELLENCE: 4 nominations

The award honours an outstanding technical achievement in European film and might be presented for any crafts achievement except photography and music. Eligible candidates must be born in Europe or have a European passport. The committee nominates 4 achievements chosen from the selection of films submitted to the EFA members.

4.5. The nominations – except of the European Discovery - will be announced four weeks prior to the awards ceremony.

4.6. If one or more of the nominations have been chosen by the committee from films which have not been selected nor separately submitted by the producers, the EFA Secretariat will send DVDs of these films to the EFA members.

4.7. All nominees in the above categories are invited to the awards ceremony. In the category EUROPEAN FILM, these will be the films' directors.

## **5. FEATURE FILMS: Election of the Winners**

5.1. The list of nominations is submitted to the EFA members who vote by correspondence or by any other method approved by the EFA Board for the winners in the above mentioned categories. The votes are kept by a notary or an auditor.

5.2. The winners are announced at the awards ceremony.

**6. EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY ANIMATED FEATURE FILM**

nomination procedure and election of the winner

- 6.1. The award is presented to the European\* director of an animated feature film. Eligible candidates must be born in Europe or have a European passport. A film is considered an animated feature film with a minimum of 50 % of the film being animated.
- 6.2. A committee composed of members of CARTOON, the European Association of Animation Film, and members of the EFA Board selects three nominations.
- 6.3. The three nominated films are submitted on DVD to the EFA members to vote for the winner.
- 6.4. The award is presented at the awards ceremony.
- 6.5. The winner is invited to the awards ceremony.

**7. EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY CRITICS AWARD - PRIX FIPRESCI**

selection procedure and election of the winner

- 7.1. The award goes to a European\* feature film. Films taken into consideration must have had their first official screening (be it at a festival or at a regular cinema) after 1 July 2008.
- 7.2. A jury composed of FIPRESCI members decides upon the winner in this category.
- 7.3. The award is presented at the awards ceremony.
- 7.4. The winner is invited to the ceremony.

**8. EUROPEAN CO-PRODUCTION AWARD – Prix EURIMAGES**

selection procedure and election of the winner

- 8.1. The award goes to two distinguished European\* producers.
- 8.2. Eurimages selects the Award winners amongst personalities who have successfully co-produced together.
- 8.3. The award is presented at the awards ceremony.
- 8.4. The winners are invited to the ceremony.

**9. EUROPEAN ACHIEVEMENT IN WORLD CINEMA**

selection procedure and election of the winner

- 9.1. The award honours an outstanding achievement in world cinema. Candidates must be born in Europe or bearer of a European passport.
- 9.2. The committee establishes a list of candidates from all outstanding performances (director, actor, screenwriter, cinematographer, composer etc).
- 9.3. The committee decides on the recipient of the award.
- 9.4. The winner is announced before the awards ceremony.
- 9.5. The winner is invited to the awards ceremony.

**10. EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY DOCUMENTARY – PRIX ARTE**

nomination procedure and election of the winner

- 10.1. The award is presented to a European\* documentary film of particular merit. Films taken into consideration must have had their first official screening (be it at a festival, at a regular cinema or on television) after 1 July 2008.
- 10.2. A committee composed of documentary film festival directors, journalists and other experts appointed by EFA and Arte nominates app 8 candidates in this category.
- 10.3. The nominated films will be screened in closed sessions in October to a three-member jury appointed by EFA and Arte to decide on the recipient of the award.
- 10.4. The winner is announced by EFA and Arte in October.
- 10.5. The award will be presented to the winner at the European Film Awards ceremony.
- 10.6. The winner is invited to the awards ceremony.

**11. EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY SHORT FILM**

nomination procedure and election of the winner

- 11.1. The award goes to a European short film / video by a director born in Europe\* or with a European passport.
- 11.2. The film has to be produced in 2008 or 2009. The eligible genres are fiction, documentary, animation and experimental film. All film or video formats are eligible.
- 11.3. The European Film Academy Short Film 2009 is presented in co-operation with thirteen European short film festivals or major festivals having a short film section.

The thirteen festivals participating in the 2009 nomination procedure are:

- Flanders International Film Festival - Ghent/Belgium (October 2008)
- Corona Cork Film Festival/Ireland (October 2008)
- Valladolid International Film Festival/Spain (October 2008)
- Premiers Plans – Festival d'Angers/France (January 2009)
- Berlin International Film Festival/Germany (February 2009)
- Tampere International Film Festival/Finland (March 2009)
- Krakow Film Festival/Poland (May/June 2009)
- Norwegian Short Film Festival Grimstad/Norway (June 2009)
- Edinburgh International Film Festival/UK (June 2009)
- Curtas Vila do Conde - International Short Film Festival/Portugal (July 2009)
- Sarajevo Film Festival/Bosnia & Herzegovina (August 2009)
- Venice International Film Festival/Italy (September 2009)
- International Short Film Festival in Drama/Greece (September 2009)

- 11.4. At each of the above festivals, a jury appointed by the festival selects a single nomination for the European Film Academy Short Film 2009 (there shall be no ex-aequo decisions).
- 11.5. The thirteen nominated films are submitted to the EFA membership on DVD to vote for the winner.

- 11.6. The winner is announced at the awards ceremony.
- 11.7. The winner is invited to the awards ceremony.

## **12. EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

- 12.1. The award is given to honour an extraordinary lifetime achievement which has made a special contribution to European cinema.
- 12.2. The EFA Board establishes a list of candidates and decides upon the recipient of the award.
- 12.3. The winner is announced before the awards ceremony.
- 12.4. It is expected that the winner will attend the awards ceremony.

## **13. PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD for Best European Film**

- 13.1. The award goes to a European\* film released between July 2008 and July 2009.
- 13.2. The European Film Academy and EFA Productions gGmbH present the nominations in this category based on audience acclaim in- and outside of the country of a film's origin.
- 13.3. The winner is voted for by cinema audiences in a campaign lasting from 1 September to 31 October 2009.
- 13.4. The voting procedure is set up and managed by the European Film Academy.
- 13.5. The results are tabulated by an independent auditor.
- 13.6. The winner is announced at the awards ceremony.
- 13.7. The winner is invited to the awards ceremony.

## **14. AWARDS CEREMONY**

The Awards Ceremony of the European Film Awards 2009 takes place in Bochum/Germany on Saturday, 12 December 2009.

## **15. GENERAL RULES**

The entry of a film or a performance in a film for the European Film Awards implies the unconditional acceptance of the Regulations of the European Film Awards and the Regulations for Film Entries.

Producers and/or distributors of films having received a nomination or an award in any category agree to use the nomination or the award in all future promotion campaigns, for example, on poster campaigns, in magazine and newspaper advertising and in trailers etc.

\* European in the sense of the European Film Academy shall include Israeli and Palestinian