

FIPRESCI-INDIA NEWSLETTER

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Website: <https://fipresci-india.org/>



Adoor Gopalakrishnan released the book *CRITICS ON INDIAN CINEMA* on 21 Mar 2022 during the 26th International Film Festival of Kerala (18-25 Mar 2022). The book edited by VK Joseph and MK Raghavendra was published by FIPRESCI-India in collaboration with the Kerala Region of the Federation of Film Societies of India (FFSI-Keralam) and Best Books Kolkata. The book release program was followed by FIPRESCI-India Seminar in the FFSI Open Forum on the topic 'Film Policies of the Governments in India'.



RK. The Jury composed of Viera Langerová (Slovakia), Jihane Bougrine (Morocco), and Ashok Rane (India).

FIPRESCI AWARD IN BENGALURU

Aditya Kriplani's 'Not Today' (India, 2021, 92M) won the FIPRESCI Award at the 13th Bengaluru International Film Festival (3-10 Mar 2022). The award is dedicated to the Asian films in the main competition. Jury composed of Safaa Haggag (Egypt), Paola Dei (Italy), and Lalit Rao (India) said it "A seemingly simple film that touches on a universal theme...."

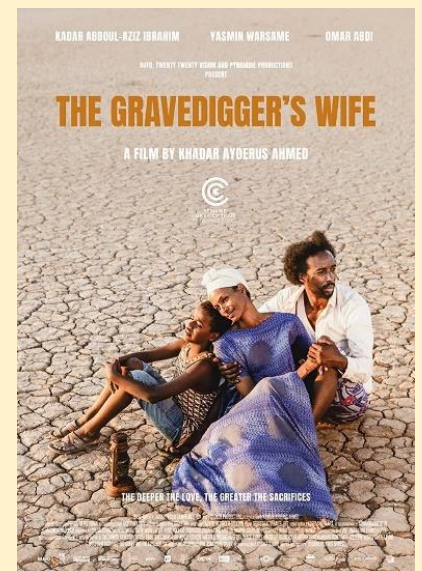
FIPRESCI AWARDS AT KERALA

26th International Film Festival of Kerala (18-25 Mar 2022) organized by Kerala State Chalachitra Academy presented two FIPRESCI Awards. In the International Competition the award was given to the film 'You Resemble Me' (US, France, Egypt, 2021, 91M) by Dina Amer, and in the Malayalam Cinema Competition it was given to the film 'The Arbit Documentation of an Amphibian Hunt' (India, 2021, 115M) by Krishand



LUXOR AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL

At the 11th Luxor African Film Festival (4-10 Mar 2022) the FIPRESCI Award was given to the film 'The Gravedigger's Wife' (France, Somalia, Germany, Finland, 2021, 82M) by Khadar Ayderus Ahmed. The Jury, consisting of Rita Di Santo (UK), Veronika Zakonjšek (Slovenia) and Fayza Hindawy (Egypt), said in their citation that "It is a beautifully fresh breath of pure cinema - a convincing and tightly constructed movie quietly assesses the problems of modernity in a world where people are struggling to survive; an exploration of class struggle recalling classics like Bicycle Thieves. At its most essential, the story cries of with humanity, telling a universal story with dignity, tenderness and compassion. Poignant and heart-breaking, this is a wonderful gem of pure cinema."



SOFIA INTL. FILM FESTIVAL

At the 26th Sofia International Film Festival (10-20 Mar 2022) the FIPRESCI Award was given to the film 'The Windseeker' (Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, 2021, 110M) by Mihai Sofronea. Jury composed of Mike Naafs (The Netherlands), Nicola Falcinella (Italy) and Ingeborg Bratoeva (Bulgaria) following the films in International Competition showing first and second films said in their citation that the award was given to the film "for the artistic and skillful reflection on human existence and for the delicate use of the language of cinema in revealing the beauty of nature and everyday life."

THESSALONIKI INTL. FILM FESTIVAL

The FIPRESCI Award for Best Documentary in the International Competition at the 24th Thessaloniki International Film Festival (10-20 Mar 2022) was given to the film 'A House Made of Splinters' (Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Ukraine, 2022, 87M) by Simon Lereng Wilmont for "A delicate look at children who are facing the hardships of life from a very young age." The film also won the Golden Alexander Award for Best Documentary with a cash amount of €12,000. The FIPRESCI Jury composed of Zane Balčus (Latvia), Héctor Llanos (Spain), and Nikos Aletras (Greece) also awarded the Greek film 'Arm Wrestler' (Greece) by Yorgos Goussis (Greece, 2020, 22M) for "the captivating observation of a young man's struggle to balance his professional and personal life in rural and urban environment." The Greek Association of Film Critics' Award was given to 'Last Voyage' (Greece, 2022, 58M) by Aris Chatzistefanou.



ISMAILIA INTL. FILM FESTIVAL

At 23rd Ismailia International Film Festival (17-23 Mar 2022) the FIPRESCI Award was given to the film 'Summer Pack' (Morocco, 2021, 63M) by Salem Ballal for "the aesthetic manner of presenting the contact between an ancestral civilization and the modern times through image". FIPRESCI Jury composed of Dinu-Ioan Nicula (Romania), Mohammed Chouika (Morocco) and Yakout El Deeb (Egypt) evaluated the feature length documentaries in the competition section.

CINÉLATINO RENCONTRES DE TOULOUSE

FIPRESCI Award at the 34th Cinélatino Rencontres de Toulouse (25 Mar – 3 Apr 2022) was given to the film 'Sweet River / Rio Doce' (Brazil, 2021, 90M) by Felipe Fernandes. The Jury composed of Bojidar Manov (Bulgaria), Rita Boronyák (Hungary), and Françoise Ricard (France).



(France), Angelo Mitchievici (Romania), and Daniel Oliveira Silva (Brazil) evaluated the films presented in 'Masters' section.

VILINUS FILM FESTIVAL

FIPRESCI Award at the 26th Vilnius Film Festival – Kino Pavasaris (Lithuania, 24 Mar – 3 Apr 2022) was given to the film 'Evolution' (Germany, Hungary, 2021, 97M) by Kornél Mundruczó. The Jury composed of Bernard Besserglik

SAGUENAY INTL. SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

The Jury composed of Flavio Lira (Uruguay), Sebastiaan Khouw (The Netherlands), and Jason Gorber (Canada) in the 26th Saguenay International Short Film Festival (Canada, 23-27 March 2022) gave the FIPRESCI Award to the film 'Nuisance Bear' (Canada, 2021, 15M) by Gabriela Osio Vanden and Jack Weisman. The film had its world premiere at the 46th Toronto International Film Festival in Sept 2021, where it received a special jury mention in the Best Canadian Short Film category.



EVA ZAORALOVÁ PASSED AWAY

FIPRESCI member, the eminent film critic and festival programmer Eva Zaoralová passed away on 10 Mar 2022. She was 89. Since the early 1960s she lectured on film history in Prague. She worked for the film magazines 'Kino' and 'Film a doba' where she was also the editor-in-chief. She worked for the World Literature magazine and the Odeon Publishing House. She was the chairperson of the FIPRESCI Czech section. She became a legend as the artistic director of the famous Karlovy Vary International Film Festival and earned its international recognition.

MURAT ÖZER PASSED AWAY

Eminent Turkish film critic and former president of Turkish Film Critics' Association (SIYAD) Murat Özer passed away on 9 Mar 2022. He was 56. Özer was a leading personality in Turkish cinema, especially in the field of film criticism. He was very popular for his brilliant sense of humour. He started writing on cinema in 1990 and contributed to many esteemed publications as critic and editor including "Yeni Yüzyıl", "Cumhuriyet" and "Radikal" daily newspapers, "Sinema", "Antrakt", "Sinerama", "Empire Turkey" and "Milliyet Sanat" monthly journals. He also contributed to various websites regularly. Özer got married to the film actress Feride Cetin in 2019.



FFSI VIJAYA MULAY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO AMRIT GANGAR



FFSI Vijaya Mulay Lifetime Achievement Award installed by the Kerala Region of the Federation of Film Societies of India (FFSI-Keralam) was given to Amrit Gangar on 26 Mar 2022 during the Opening Ceremony of the 17th International Film Festival of Thrissur by MK Varghese, Mayor of Thrissur Municipal Corporation and K Rajan, MIC Govt. of Kerala. The Award was given to Shri Gangar for his extraordinary contributions to the propagation of film culture and promotion of better cinema.

PK NAIR MEMORIAL SEMINAR

Adoor Gopalakrishnan inaugurated the PK Nair Memorial Seminar titled 'Whose archive is it anyway?' on 23 Mar 2022 in Trivandrum during the 26th International Film Festival of Kerala. Speakers including

Premendra Mazumder, CS Venkiteswaran registered their deep concern on the merger of the film units like the National Film Archive of India (NFAI), Films Division of India (FD), Children's Film Society of India (CFSI), and the Directorate of Film Festivals (DFF) with the National Film Development Corporation of India (NFDC). Namrata Joshi moderated the seminar. The panelists objected against the government's move to merge these historical film units to a corporation without due consultation with the stake holders.



26TH IFFK CONCLUDED SUCCESSFULLY

26th International Film Festival of Kerala: IFFK (scheduled in Dec 2021) opened on 18 Mar 2022 by the Chief Minister of Kerala Pinarayi Vijayan (in Pic) in Trivandrum concluded on 25 Mar successfully. The festival opened with the film 'Rehana Maryam Noor' (Bangladesh, 2021, 107M) by Abdullah



Mohammad Saad showcased more than 100 feature films in different competitive and non-competitive sections. 'Suvarna Chakoram' for Best Film was given to 'Clara Sola' (Sweden, Costa Rica, Belgium, Germany, France, 2021, 106M) by Nathalie Alvarez Mesen. FFSI KR Mohanan Award for the Best Debut Indian Films given jointly to 'I'm Not the River Jhelum' (Hindi & Kashmiri, 2022, 95M) by Prabhash Chandra and 'Nishiddho' (Malayalam, 2021, 127M) by Tara Ramanujan. NETPAC Award for the Best Asian Film was given to the film 'Pebbles' (India, 2021, 75M) by Vinothraj and Best Malayalam film to 'The Arbit Documentation of an Amphibian Hunt' (India, 2021, 115M) by Krishand - which also got the FIPRESCI Award in IFFK (report at pg.1 above).