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NORDIC COUNCIL FILM PRIZE NOMINEES 2020 TO BE ANNOUNCED IN HAUGESUND The five nominated films will be disclosed on August 18, 2020.

For the fourth consecutive year the announcement of the prestigious Nordic film award will be co-organised by Nordisk Film & TV Fond-administrator of the Nordic Council Film Prize on behalf of the Nordic Council- and the Norwegian Film Festival in Haugesund.

The nominees will be announced at the opening ceremony of the festival's industry event New Nordic Films (August 18-21), to be held exceptionally both live and online, to accommodate accredited professionals unable to travel to Haugesund due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The festival's 48th edition will run as planned from August 14-21, 2020, as a physical event, with the highest hygiene measures and within the distancing and crowd limitations of the moment.

Liselott Forsman, CEO at Nordisk Film & TV Fond said: "The Nordic Council Film Prize has since 2002 celebrated original voicing and film quality, a golden combination the global markets looks for today. The Prize also symbolises the tradition of Nordic collaboration that keeps us culturally strong. I want to thank our great partners at the Norwegian International Film Festival, for this renewed collaboration and for their valuable work in tough times."

Tonje Hardersen, director of the Norwegian International Film Festival said: "It is truly an honour to host the announcement of the Nordic Council Film Prize nominations for the fourth time, in what will be a special year for the Norwegian International Film Festival."

Gyda Velvin Myklebust, New Nordic Films' managing director said: "The announcement of the Nordic Council Film Prize nominees 2020 is a perfect kick-start of the opening ceremony of New Nordic Films as the award celebrates and highlights the talents of the Nordic countries. It also underlines the spirit of collaboration between the five Nordic countries and unites them as one film region".

The Nordic Council Film Prize is the most prestigious film award in the Nordic region celebrating a unique filmmaking vision, deeply rooted in Nordic culture. The prize is endowed with a sum of DKK 350,000 shared between the winning film's screenwriter, director and producer.

To be eligible, films must be Nordic-produced with distribution in place, and must have premiered between July 1st, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

This year's national jurors responsible for selecting each nominated film are:

- Denmark: Per Juul Carlsen, Jakob Wendt Jensen, Eva Novrup Redvall
- Finland: Jaana Puskala, Harri Römpötti, Mikaela Westerlund
- Iceland: Hilmar Oddsson, Börkur Gunnarsson, Helga Þórey Jónsdóttir
- Norway: Inger Merete Hobbelstad, Kalle Løchen, Britt Sørensen
- Sweden: Kristina Börjeson, Emma Gray-Munthe, Gunnar Bergdahl

The Nordic Council Film Prize 2020 - along with the other Nordic prizes for literature, music and the environment -will be awarded on October 27 at an awards ceremony in Reykjavik in conjunction with the Session of the Nordic Council.

For further information check: <u>www.nordiccouncilfilmprize.com</u> or see our Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/nordiskfilmogtvfond/</u>

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