Press release Göteborg Film Festival/Nordisk Film & TV Fond December 15, 2023

The Nordisk Film & TV Fond Prize 2024 nominees are unveiled

Göteborg Film Festival and Nordisk Film & TV Fond announce five Nordic drama series for the NOK 200,000 (€20,000) Nordic drama series screenwriting award.

For the eighth consecutive year, the Nordisk Film & TV Fond funded award for outstanding writing of a Nordic drama series will be presented during TV Drama Vision, Göteborg Film Festival's conference event and series market. Five drama series from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden have been nominated for the prize, which will be awarded to the main writer(s).

The winner(s) will be announced at an award ceremony on the evening of January 30, 2024.

Liselott Forsman, CEO at Nordisk Film & TV Fond says:

"In the current, tough times for the drama series industry, we need to celebrate the excellence of writing more than ever. The five nominated series help us understand troubled families and our troubled societies through unique and renewing storytelling. On behalf of the Fund, I want to congratulate all the great talents, whom I look forward to seeing on stage in connection to the competition, which once again is arranged in such good collaboration with TV Drama Vision."

Cia Edström, Head of TV Drama Vision at Göteborg Film Festival says:

"The selection truly highlights the diverse excellence of Nordic drama and creative talent within the region and gives hope for the future of Nordic storytelling."

The 2023 Nordisk Film & TV Fond Prize winner was writer Kenneth Karlstad for the Norwegian drama Kids in Crime.

TV Drama Vision runs from January 30–31, 2024 at the new festival venue, Hotel Draken. Read more <u>here</u>. The 47th Göteborg Film Festival takes place from January 26 until February 4, 2024.

Nominated series are:

Estonia Finland, 8x45' Nominated writer: Miikko Oikkonen Co-writers: Sanna Reinumägi, Olli Suitiala, Tuomas Hakola Broadcasters: MTV, TV4 Produced by: Fisher King Producer: Tarja Ahava Executive Producers: Matti Halonen, Johannes Lassila, Miikko Oikkonen Directors: Måns Månsson, Juuso Syrjä International sales: Beta Film Premiere: October 12, 2023 Estonia tells the story of the tragic disaster of the car ferry MS Estonia in the autumn of 1994 and the subsequent investigation. The fictional series is based on real events and explores through the personal stories of the victims, survivors, loved ones, and investigators how it is possible that 852 people lost their lives and no one can be held accountable.

Descendants (Heima er best)

Iceland, óx45' Nominated writer: Tinna Hrafnsdóttir Co-writers: Ottó Geir Borg, Tyrfingur Tyrfingsson Broadcaster: Síminn Produced by: Freyja Filmwork, Polarama, Projects Co-producer: Lunanime Producers: Guðný Guðjónsdóttir, Tinna Hrafnsdóttir, Kidda Rokk Director: Tinna Hrafnsdóttir Nordic sales: Tengsl ehf. Benelux sales: Lumiere Sales rest of the world: Red Arrow International Premiere: November 2, 2023

After the banking crisis, tourism emerged as a profitable opportunity. Challenges arise when three siblings inherit a thriving whale-watching company and the summerhouse built by their parents. Navigating collective decisions regarding a shared legacy becomes intricate, and as they resort to manipulation in defining their entitlements, old wounds open, leading to dire consequences.

Painkiller

Sweden, 6x30' Nominated writers: Johan Lundborg and Gabriela Pichler Broadcaster: SVT Produced by: Garagefilm International AB Producer: Anna-Maria Kantarius Director: Gabriela Pichler Nordic & international sales: Reinvent Premiere: January 26, 2024 (SVT Play), January 29, 2024 (SVT)

Dijana is a proud Balkan mom and retired cleaner. Her daughter Andrea is officially a successful artist, but unofficially still living with her mom. The desire for self-realization has never touched a single cell in Dijana's body. She loves her daughter boundlessly but despises her "job." When healthcare fails to help Dijana with her chronic pain, Andrea decides to treat her mom herself – and Dijana becomes the involuntary protagonist in her daughter's new art project.

Power Play (Makta)

Norway, 6x55' **Nominated writers: Johan Fasting, Silje Storstein and Kristin Grue** Broadcaster: NRK Produced by: Motlys, Novemberfilm Producers: Camilla Brusdal, Vilje Kathrine Hagen Director: Yngvild Sve Flikke Nordic sales: NRK International sales: Reinvent Premiere: October 29, 2023

The year is 1974. The setting is 2023. Power Play is a never before seen drama about a crucial turning point in political history based on truth, lies and bad memory. When the Labour Party is torn apart by a disastrous feud between the Chairman and the Prime Minister, the young idealist Gro Harlem Brundtland is unwillingly pulled into the tactics and scheming of modern politics. As the government implodes around her, Gro learns to play her own games of power, climbing the ranks until she is left the last woman standing in the ruins of Labour's celebrated social democracy.

Prisoner (Huset)

Denmark, 6x59' Nominated writer: Kim Fupz Aakeson Broadcaster: DR Produced by: DR Drama Producer: Rikke Tørholm Kofoed Directors: Frederik Louis Hviid, Michael Noer Nordic & international sales: DR Sales Premiere: September 1, 2023

Prisoner depicts the life and work of four prison officers – Sammi, Henrik, Miriam, and Gert. The story starts when they are forced to thoroughly investigate to save their jobs. The prison will close unless they correct the bad press, hierarchy, and drug trade. The investigation turns into a battle for survival – not only for the prison but for everyone inside and outside the walls.

For more information:

Liselott Forsman, CEO Nordisk Film & TV Fond, liselott@nftvfond.com

Cia Edström, Head of TV Drama Vision, Göteborg Film Festival, <u>cia.edstrom@goteborgfilmfestival.se</u>

Andreas Degerhammar, Head of Communication, Göteborg Film Festival, <u>andreas.degerhammar@goteborgfilmfestival.se</u>





