Press release Göteborg Film Festival/Nordisk Film & TV Fond February 2, 2022

Blackport wins the 2022 Nordisk Film & TV Fond Prize!

Gísli Örn Gardarsson, Björn Hlynur Haraldsson and Mikael Torfason, writers of Blackport (Verbúðin), are the recipients of the 2022 Nordic TV Drama Screenplay Award. This was announced today during an award ceremony at TV Drama Vision.

For the sixth consecutive year, the award for outstanding writing of a Nordic Drama series, was handed out at the 2022 hybrid edition of Göteborg Film Festival's TV Drama Vision. The NOK 200 000 award, funded by Nordisk Film & TV Fond goes to the main writers of the series.

Synopsis

Russia has oil. Africa has gold. Iceland has fish.

Set in the 1980's in a small Icelandic fishing village, the story follows a married couple, Harpa and Grimur, as they build a small fishing empire along with their childhood friends. Due to the introduction of a new fishing quota system in the country, where the fishing grounds are privatized, the struggle for power results in a feud of jealousy, greed and betrayal. A collective venture, that mirrors true events as they played out and dramatically changed the political landscape in Iceland, creating the country's first billionaires.

Gísli Örn Gardarsson is one of the founders of Vesturport. He has acted in, directed, written and produced theatre productions all over the world, winning numerous awards including the European Theatre Award with Vesturport, a shooting star award at the Berlinale as an actor and best direction awards in Boston and Toronto. Recently, Gísli had one of the leading roles in season one and two in Netflix's *Ragnarok*.

Björn Hlynur Haraldsson is a director, writer, actor, producer and co-founder of Vesturport. He started out as an actor after graduating from The Drama Academy of Iceland in 2001. His debut feature film as writer/director *Blóðberg* (Homecoming), opened in 2015 and is currently being re-made in the UK. Björn Hlynur's most recent acting role is in Oscar shortlisted feature film *Lamb*, currently screening at Göteborg Film Festival.

Mikael Torfason has written eight novels, ten plays, a Netflix original and three feature films. He wrote and directed Made in Iceland, a feature film that travelled the world and was nominated to numerous prizes. Recently Torfason wrote Valhalla Murders for Netflix.

Read more about the award at Nordisk Film & TV Fond and at Göteborg Film Festival.

Jury statement:

"Dramatic, funny and unpredictable, without losing its original voice, the winner is a show that has strong emotional stakes and a lead character ahead of her time. She refuses to play by the rules, just like this series is not afraid to push narrative boundaries, balancing between existentialism and comedy."

This year's Nordisk Film & TV Fond Prize jury consisted of Finnish actor **Alma Pöysti**, Hungarian writer and creative producer **Gábor Krigler**, Norwegian screenwriter and director **Julie Andem** and Swedish journalist and television critic **Mattias Bergqvist**.

Blackport credits:

Iceland, 2021, 8x50' Nominated writers: Gísli Örn Gardarsson, Björn Hlynur Haraldsson, Mikael Torfason Broadcasters: RÚV, ARTE France Produced by: Vesturport Producers: Nana Alfredsdóttir, Gísli Örn Gardarsson, Björn Hlynur Haraldsson, Nina Dögg Filippusdóttir Directors: Gísli Örn Gardarsson, Björn Hlynur Haraldsson, María Reyndal Premiere: December 26, 2021 Sales: About Premium Content Aurora (Miia Tervo)

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