

Nominees and Jury announced for the 2019 Nordisk Film & TV Fond Prize

Six Nordic drama series have been announced as nominees for the NOK 200,000 (€20,000) Nordisk Film & TV Fond Prize 2019, presented at TV Drama Vision in Göteborg.

For the third consecutive year, the award for outstanding writing of a Nordic Drama series, funded by Nordisk Film & TV Fond, will be handed out at Göteborg Film Festival's TV Drama Vision. This year, six drama series –two from Norway and one each from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, and Sweden- are nominated for the award, which goes to the series' main writer(s). The first two episodes of the nominated series will be screened as part of the programme of the Göteborg Film Festival. The winner will be announced at the TV Drama Vision award ceremony on January 30, 2019.

This year's jury consists of Finnish actress **Laura Birn** (*The Innocents, A Walk Among the Tombstones*), Swedish actor **Alexander Karim** (*The Lawyer, Tyrant, Zero Dark Thirty*), Swedish/American journalist and TV and podcast producer **Christina Jeurling Birro** (Pop Culture Confidential) and British content consultant and producer **Justin Judd** (Hulu, Content Media Corporation, Nevision)

Petri Kempainen, CEO of Nordisk Film & TV Fond said: "The number of TV dramas commissioned in the Nordics is rising dramatically. The Nordisk Film & TV Fond Prize aims to highlight the unique concepts of TV commissioning and to promote the outstanding writing talents in the Nordics. This year's nominees illustrate the wide range of high quality dramas, many of which have already proven their ability to connect with local audiences, thanks to engaging stories, often deeply rooted in Nordic history and traditions."

Cia Edström, Head of TV Drama Vision at Göteborg Film Festival said: "Screenwriters and their stories are the main reasons Nordic drama series keep flourishing. We at Göteborg Film Festival are very proud to present this year's nominees, up for the Nordisk Film & TV Fond Prize, highlighting the wide range of stories and genres present in Scandinavian TV."

The 42nd Göteborg Film Festival runs January 25 to February 4, 2019.

Nordisk Film & TV Fond Prize nominees

THE NEW NURSES (Sygeplejeskolen)

Denmark, 2018, 6 x 40'

Nominated writers: Claudia Boderke, Lars Mering

Director: Roni Ezra

Producer: Senia Dremstrup

Produced by SF Studios

For TV2 Charlie / TV 2 Denmark

Nordic distributor: TV 2 Sales

International distributor: REInvent Studios

In 1952 matron Margrethe launches a controversial experiment at Fredenslund Hospital: To train men as nurses. The young soldier Erik persuades Margrethe to accept him as a part of the programme, and as he joins the first mixed-gender class the upper-class girl, Anna, catches his attention. The new students want to make a difference but they are up against rigid rules, prejudices and antiquated conventions.

ALL THE SINS (Kaikki synnit)

Finland, 2019, 6 x 45'

Nominated writers: Merja Aakko, Mika Ronkainen

Director: Mika Ronkainen

Producer: Ilkka Matila

Produced by MRP Matila Röhr Productions Oy

For Elisa Viihde

International distributor: Sky Vision

An addictively intriguing crime thriller about complex relationships and small town prejudices. After a ten-year absence, Detective Lauri Räihä is sent to investigate the murders of two men in the small northern town where he grew up. Lauri seeks answers to the case only to discover other truths about himself, his home town, and whether one has the power to forgive all sins.

THE FLATEY ENIGMA (Flateyjargátan)

Iceland, 2018, 4 x 52'

Nominated writer: Margrét Örnólfssdóttir

Directors: Björn B. Björnsson

Producers: Anna Vigdís Gísladóttir, Björn B. Björnsson, Þórhallur Gunnarsson
Produced by Sagafilm / Reykjavik Films
For RÚV

International distributor: Sky Vision

In the spring of 1971, Johanna, a professor of Nordic Studies is accused of murder. To prove her innocence Johanna has to solve the enigmatic riddle of The Book of Flatey, a medieval manuscript about the Kings of Norway. On her journey to solve the riddle, Johanna will have to delve deep into darkness and heartache.

KIELERSTREET (Kielergata)

Norway, 2018, 10 x 45'

Nominated writers: Stig Frode Henriksen, Jesper Sundnes, Patrik Syversen

Directors: Patrik Syversen, Cecilie A. Mosli

Producers: Anne Kolbjørnsen, Ole Marius Araldsen, Kornelia Lund

Produced by Anagram Norway

For TV2 Norway

International distributor: ITV International

Former criminal Jonas has assumed a new identity and lives in Scandinavia's least criminal town, but the facade starts falling apart when he realizes that several other inhabitants have hidden identities. And they're all willing to do anything it takes to protect their new lives.

STATE OF HAPPINESS (Lykkeland)

Norway, 2018, 8 x 45'

Nominated writer: Mette M. Bølstad

Based on a concept by Siv Rajendram Eliassen, after an idea by Synnøve Hørdsdal

Directors: Petter Næss & Pål Jackman

Producers: Synnøve Hørdsdal and Ales Ree

Produced by Maipo Film

For NRK

International distributor: DR Sales

It's the summer of 1969 in the small coastal town of Stavanger, Norway. International oil companies have been test drilling for years, but nothing has been found and they are in the process of leaving. Stavanger lives off fish, and the North Sea is emptying out. Something has to happen. The town is in crisis. The night before Christmas 1969, the gas flare at the Ocean Viking is lit. Phillips Petroleum has found the largest sub sea oil basin in history. And everything is about to change.

THE INNER CIRCLE (Den inre cirkeln)

Sweden, 2019, 8 x 45'

Nominated writer: Håkan Lindhé

Co-writers: Anna Platt & Maja Winkler

Directors: Anders Hazelius, Håkan Lindhé

Producer: Håkan Hammarén

Produced by Fundament Film

For Viaplay

International distributor: DRG

The Swedish political elite have all gathered at 'Almedalen week', the world famous political forum. The Prime Minister is expected to stand down. But who will be her successor? David Ehrling, Minister for Enterprise, sees the opportunity to fulfill his life long dream. But does he have what it takes? Is he willing to pay the price? And is it really worth it?

Last year's winner of the NORDISK FILM & TV FOND PRIZE was Adam Price, writer of the Danish TV drama *Ride Upon the Storm* (*Herrens veje*).

For more information:

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<http://www.nordiskfilmogtvfond.com/events/nordisk-film-and-tv-fond-prize/2019>

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