



Jan Gunnar Røise and Thorbjørn Harr in *Sex*. @Motlys

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## WINNER OF NORDIC COUNCIL FILM PRIZE 2024

**The Norwegian film *SEX*, written and directed by Dag Johan Haugerud, produced by Yngve Sæther and Hege Hauff Hvattum is the winner of Nordic Council Film Prize 2024.**

The winner of Nordic Council Film Prize 2024 was announced Tuesday night in a TV show broadcast by the Icelandic public service company RÚV as part of the Nordic Council Awards. This year's winner of the film prize is the Norwegian film *Sex*, written and directed by Dag Johan Haugerud, produced by Yngve Sæther and Hege Hauff Hvattum for Motlys.

*Sex* follows two men in heterosexual marriages whose unexpected experiences challenge their perceptions of sexuality, gender, and identity. One has a sexual encounter with another man, without experiencing it either as an expression of homosexuality or infidelity. The other finds himself in nocturnal dreams where David Bowie sees him as a woman, stirring confusion and leading him to question how much his personality is shaped by the gaze of others.

*Sex* premiered at Berlin International Film Festival 2024, where it won three awards and received no fewer than four Norwegian Amanda Awards in August for Best Screenplay, Best Direction, Best Leading Role, and Best Supporting Role.

The film was chosen as one of six Nordic candidates by a jury and was accompanied by the following statement:

“Sex is never just sex. Nowhere is that more evident than in «Sex», director and writer Dag Johan Haugerud’s philosophically inclined comedy. In this story of two friends, who discover that their sexuality and gender can expand in surprising ways, the film makes the case that life is fluid and the world constantly being rearranged. It does so cleverly, compassionately, and hilariously. Sex is produced by Yngve Sæther and Hege Hauff Hvattum for Motlys.”

This is the second time Haugerud and Motlys have received the Nordic Council Film Prize. Dag Johan Haugerud and Yngve Sæther won the prize in 2020 for *Beware of Children (Barn)*. Previous acclaimed winners include directors such as Joachim Trier, Thomas Vinterberg, Ruben Östlund, and Pernilla August; screenwriters like Anna Neye, May el-Toukhy, and Eskil Vogt and producers like Louise Vest, Signe Byrge Sørensen, Erik Hemmendorff and Benedikt Erlingsson (for complete list: [click here](#)).

Nordic Council Film Prize comes with a sum of DKK 300,000, which is shared among the director, writer, and producers. This reflects the collaborative nature of filmmaking, highlighting that film, as an art form, is the result of a collaboration between these three key roles. The «Nordlys» statuette will be handed over to the winner at a special award ceremony during the Session of the Nordic Council in Reykjavik, Iceland, on October 29th.

The other films nominated this year were *The Son and the Moon (Min arv bor i dig)* from Denmark, *Fallen Leaves (Kuolleet lehdet)* from Finland, *Twice Colonized* from Greenland, *Touch (Snerting)* from Iceland and *Crossing (Passage)* from Sweden.

The tv special and announcement of the winner is available on:

<https://www.norden.org/en/information/who-will-win-nordic-council-prizes-2024>

Nordisk Film & TV Fond is responsible for the administration of the prize.

**FOR EDITORS:**

More information, jury motivation and images is available in the press kit ([click here](#)) or visit our FTP server ([click here](#)) (login: press2024 password: winner\_2024).

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