

# VISIONS DU RÉEL

## CLOSING COMMUNIQUE

EMBARGO until Friday 27 April 20.30 hrs.

**Closing Ceremony of the 43rd International Film Festival of Nyon, the 18th Visions du Réel**

## **A Happy End and a Positive Result for Visions du Réel 2012**

As the festival comes to a close and after taking stock of the situation the organisers can safely say that Visions du Réel 2012 has been a success in terms of artistic content and attendance. The variety and quality of the programme for which Director Luciano Barisone had chosen 'transition' as the central theme, has been acknowledged by all the experts present. "Although the cinema du réel by definition is not associated with the romantic happy endings usually found in feature films, the festival this year has come to a happy end", said the President of the Festival Claude Rey at the closing ceremony on the evening of Friday 27 April.

For a week, Nyon was the capital of cinéma du réel. Filmmakers, producers, broadcasters, experts, and journalists from all over the world praised the quality and variety of the films in the programme of which 'transition' was the central theme this year. For this "100% Barisone" premiere, as the President Claude Ruyey said at the Festival opening, director Luciano Barisone produced an excellent programme. The different prizes awarded during the closing ceremony on Friday were a reflection of this (see list of prize-winners attached).

But Visions du Réel was not just a venue where films were screened. Taking place at the same time as the different film sections in the international competition (52 world premieres, 40 international premieres, and 20 Swiss and European premieres) and the different ATELIERS dedicated to filmmakers Samir, Kevin Jerome Everson, and Arnaud des Pallières, the PORT FRANC section, moderated this year by Laurent Roth and Marie José Mondzain and dedicated to *Défi de la Liberté* (The Challenge of Freedom), the sections HELVETIQUES, ETAT D'ESPRIT and PREMIERS PAS, as well as the international film market DOC OUTLOOK – INTERNATIONAL MARKET, provided essential complementary events within the festival.

This year by drawing 790 participants from 68 countries - an increase compared to 2011 - by giving professionals the possibility of screening close to 400 films (including 70 Swiss films) thanks to a unique *Media Library*, DOC OUTLOOK – INTERNATIONAL MARKET provided opportunities for rich and ample exchanges in different forums such as the Pitches and Seminars (Transmedia Panel – Interactive Storytelling), and for the first time provided a consultancy service with experts for producers and filmmakers. The festival and DOC OUTLOOK - INTERNATIONAL MARKET also organised a special event on the emerging cinema in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the FOCUS – BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA.

Nyon once again made it possible to organise meetings and conferences attended by representatives from institutions and film professionals. After the opening ceremony in the presence of the Federal Councillor Alain Berset, the Federal Film Commission was convened under the presidency of the Minister and Head of the Jura Canton, Elisabeth Baume Schneider, the Federal Film Agency held several meetings, Radiotélévision Suisse RTS organised meetings with the Fondation Romande pour le Cinéma – Cinéforum, the Fondation Vaudoise pour

le Cinéma and the Swiss Festival Conference also took advantage of the facilities offered by Visions du Réel to organise meetings.

Visions du Réel has strengthened its presence on the Web and the social networks, encouraging a strong attendance and engagement on the part of its community. There has also been a notable increase in the number of visitors to the site [www.visionsdureel.ch](http://www.visionsdureel.ch) (+ 50% during the festival and the week before) a total of 20,000 visits during this period. In addition, 10,000 Internet surfers visited and contributed to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/visionsdureelfestival>. In this way the Festival intends to develop its role as an international platform for promoting exchanges on cinéma du réel and topics relating to it.

As for the public, attendance fully met with the organisers' expectations. Budgeted increases in receipts from ticket sales for 2012 were met and even surpassed and the attendance of regional audiences was added to that of the usual festival-goers from Switzerland and abroad. With the audiences expected Saturday 28th April in the Salle Communale in Nyon at 2 p.m. for the screening of the prize-winning films the number of 25 000 admissions is expected to be reached.

For the first time the prize-winning films will be screened again Saturday 28th April in the Salle Communale from 2 p.m. (the titles of the films and the times at [www.visionsdureel.ch](http://www.visionsdureel.ch) )

- 2 p.m. Nos jours, absolument, doivent être illuminés by Jean-Gabriel Périot France  
Le Gosse de Louise Jaillette, France
- 4 p.m. Schildkrötenwut / The Turtles's Rage by Pary El-Qalqili
- 6 p.m. Hiver Nomade by Manuel von Stürler
- 8 p.m. De Regels von Matthijs / Matthew's Laws by Marc Schmidt, Netherlands

**The 44th International Film Festival of Nyon, and 19th Visions du Réel will be held  
From 19 to 26 April, 2013.**

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