



Press release

Nyon, 11th April

Under embargo until 20:45

Clarisa Navas' *The Prince of Nanawa* and Bani Khoshnoudi's *The Vanishing Point* win the two main prizes in the international competitions of Visions du Réel 2025

Argentinian director Clarisa Navas took home the Grand Prize in the International Feature Film Competition with *The Prince of Nanawa*, an expansive film that follows the transformations of Ángel over 10 years, from childhood to adulthood, on the border between Argentina and Paraguay. Meanwhile, the jury of the Burning Lights Competition honored *The Vanishing Point* by Bani Khoshnoudi, which breaks the family silence surrounding a missing cousin who was executed during the 1988 purges in the political prisons of the Iranian regime. The jury of the National Competition awarded *Les Vies d'Andrès* by Fribourg native Baptiste Janon and Belgian filmmaker Rémi Pons, which sheds light on the daily lives of four truck drivers caught in a spiral of performance expectations and logistical constraints, interwoven with a novel about a cart driver from the early 20th century. All of these films held their world premieres at Visions du Réel. The Audience Award went to *Cutting Through Rocks* by Sara Khaki and Mohammadreza Eyni. Visions du Réel continues until Sunday evening, with encores of a selection of award-winning films. The online program remains accessible until Sunday, 20 April.

Films as a bulwark against the standardization of cinema and ideas

For Visions du Réel's artistic director **Émilie Bujès**, "The 154 films presented at the 2025 Festival offer a myriad prisms through which to explore contemporary documentary cinema and to discover bold, personal, and singular cinematic voices. I'm delighted to see that this year's awards reflect this ambition, notably including films created over extended periods of time. This confirms our deep commitment to offering powerful and original cinematic experiences — a true bulwark against the standardization of both cinema and ideas."

Award-winning films

The Prince of Nanawa of **Clarisa Navas** wins the 2025 Grand Prix. The jury justified their decision with the following statement: a film where process and document are inextricable from one another. With confidence and humility, it straddles autofiction, fiction and non-fiction resisting the master's narrative. The camera becomes a communal, familial instrument that passionately records the microcosm of youth as it negotiates borders and boundaries. The filmmakers' gaze is solvent, hospitable and tender— without ever sentimentalizing or othering their subject. The Jury's Special Prize awarded *To Use a Mountain* of **Casey Carter**, while the Special Mention was given to **Marie Voignier's** *Anamocot*. **Bani Khoshnoudi's** *The Vanishing Point* wins the Burning Lights Competition Prize. The jury stated: "The filmmaker opens her family history to unlock a kaleidoscope of materials both personal and political, past and present, that culminates in a manifesto of resistance against the regime. Guiding the viewer through archival material, history is illuminated while addressing an inaccessible present - a bold and radical exploration of shared pain and collective resistance." Two further films were awarded, including **David Bim's** *To the West, in Zapata* which earned itself the Jury's Special Prize, alongside the International Critics' Prize - Prix FIPRESCI on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. A special mention went to *Fierté nationale : de Jéricho vers Gaza* by **Sven Augustijnen**.

The National Competition jury honoured *Les Vies d'Andrès* by the filmmaking duo **Baptiste Janon** and **Rémi Pons**. The jury argued that "The film offers a poetic meditation on labour, dignity, and the quiet erosion of humanity within capitalist machinery. With striking cinematic language and emotional depth, the film reveals how men, like Andres, become silent cogs in systems that extract not only their time but also their souls—systems that, in their own hunger, ultimately consume themselves. For its profound exploration of endurance, identity, and the weight of invisible labour, we are proud to honour the film with this award." In the same competition, *Sediments* by **Laura Coppens** won the Jury's Special Prize. Finally, the special mention in the National Competition went to *Toute ma vie* by **Matias Carlier**. The Audience Award went to *Cutting Through Rocks* by **Sara Khaki** and **Mohammadreza Eyni**.

Prize list of Visions du Réel 2025

International Feature Film Competition

Jury:

Hama Haruka, festival director (Japan)
Eliza Hittman, filmmaker (United-States)
Athina-Rachél Tsangári, filmmaker (United-States)

Grand Jury Prize presented by la Mobilière.

20 000 CHF

The Prince of Nanawa by **Clarisa Navas**

Special Jury Award presented by the Région de Nyon

10 000 CHF

To Use a Mountain of **Casey Carter**

Special mention

Anamocot of **Marie Voignier**

Burning Lights Competition

Jury:

Scott Cummings, Filmmaker (United-States)
Thomas Hakim, Producer (France)
Elene Naveriani, Filmmaker (Georgia/Switzerland)

Jury Prize in the Burning Lights Competition presented by the Canton of Vaud.

10 000 CHF

The Vanishing Point of **Bani Khoshnoudi**

Special Jury Award presented by la Société des Hôteliers de la Côte

5 000 CHF

To the West in Zapata of **David Bim**

Special mention

Fierté nationale: de Jéricho vers Gaza of **Sven Augustijnen**

National Competition

Jury:

Elie Grappe, Filmmaker and screenwriter (France/Switzerland)
Petar Mitric, Cinema teacher, international distributor (Serbia, Czech Republic)
Elaheh Nobakht, Producer (Iran/Switzerland)

Jury Prize in the National Competition offered by SRG SSR

15 000 CHF

Les Vies d'Andrès of **Baptiste Janon** and **Rémi Pons**

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**Special Jury Award in the National Competition offered by SSA/Suissimage
10 000 CHF**

Sediments of **Laura Coppens**

Special mention

Toute ma vie of **Matias Carlier**

International Medium Length and Short Film Competition

Jury:

Qila Gill, Programmer (United-Kingdom/ Germany)

Jenna Hasse, Filmmaker and actress (Portugal/Switzerland)

Valentin Noujaïm, Filmmaker (France/Lebanon)

Youth Jury:

Caroline Cariage

Gil Dalebroux

Lydia Kidane

Nina Messieux

Jule Theli

Jury Prize for the Best Medium Length Film offered by the Clinique de Genolier

6 000 CHF

Les Voyageurs of **David Bingong**

Jury Prize for the Best Short Film offered by Vector Gestion

5 000 CHF

Another Other of **Bex Oluwatoyin Thompson**

Special Youth Jury Award for a medium length film offered by the École Moser

4 000 CHF

Objects Don't Randomly Fall From the Sky of **Maria Estela Paiso**

Special Youth Jury Award for the Best Short Film

2 000 CHF

The Town That Drove Away of **Grzegorz Piekarski** and **Natalia Pietsch**

Special mentions from the Jury of the International Medium and Short Film Competition

Khmerica of **Thibaut Amri**, **Antoine Guide** & **Lucas Sénécaut**

Partir, c'est naître à nouveau by **Mladen Bundalo**

Wide Angle

Audience Award in the Wide Angle Competition offered by the Ville de Nyon

10 000 CHF

Cutting Through Rocks by **Sara Khaki** and **Mohammadreza Eyni**

International Critics' Award – FIPRESCI Award

First feature film presented in the International Feature Film Competition or the Burning Lights Competition.

Jury:

Sanjin Pejković, Film critic (Sweden)

Anne-Sophie Scholl, Culture journalist (Switzerland)

Štěpánka Zapata, Film critic (Czech Republik)

To the West, in Zapata by **David Bim**

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Interreligious Award

Feature film of the International Competition that highlights questions of meaning and human solidarity.

Jury:

Marc Weiler, Pastor (Switzerland, France)
Jean-Claude Boillat, Deacon and filmmaker (Switzerland)
Mohammad Rezaeian, Legal advisor (Switzerland, Iran)

Nuit obscure – "Ain't I a Child?" by **Sylvain George**

Perception Change Project Award

Prize awarded to a film that sheds light on the current issues that will define the world of tomorrow. Presented by the Director General of the Geneva UN with the support of the Diplomatic Club.

Jury :

Aziyadé Poltier-Mutal, Head of the UN Perception Change Project (Switzerland)
Niccolò Ventura, Programme Management Specialist, UN Perception Change Project (Switzerland)

The Family Approach by **Daniel Abma**

Zonta Award

The ZONTA Creation Support Award rewards a female filmmaker whose film, selected in the Burning Lights or National Competition sections, reveals mastery and talent and calls for support for future creations.

Jury :

Faye Corthésy, Film researcher (Switzerland)
Noé Maggetti, Film programmer (Switzerland)
Elisabeth Ruey-Ray, Zonta Club of Lausanne (Switzerland)

And the Fish Fly Above Our Heads... by **Dima El-Horr**

[Press page](#)

[Images](#)

Contact

Carl Ahnebrink
Press Office Manager
cahnebrink@visionsdureel.ch
+41 22 365 44 55

Gloria Zerbinati
International Press Officer
gloria.zerbinati@gmail.com
+33 7 86 80 02 82

Further informations: visionsdureel.ch
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