

Den Norske Fredsfilmprisen

The Norwegian Peace Film Award

Jury's selection of a winner to the Norwegian Peace Film Award 2005: Substantiation.

In the course of this festival, the jury has considered 10 films and had its eyes directed towards many of the world's conflicts and the human suffering they often imply. First we would like to make a general but important remark about the program we have seen: None of the films were directed by a woman. We believe that we are all responsible for guaranteeing that women's way of seeing the world is also regarded. We want to encourage everyone here to take that responsibility seriously. Children are often war's most affected victims, we are happy for that more films show us this, but we are missing women's voices.

Before we hand out the price, two films deserve a commentary:

Honourable mention goes to

All Winter Without Fire

This is a sensational debut work. The film shows how human beings can meet each other in sorrow, across cultural and religious divisions, and together build the pillars upon which life can proceed. This film is a gentle cinematic product with a profound appreciation of human nature.

Midwinter Night's Dream

This is a powerful cinematic presentation of how war traumatises and breaks down individuals and societies. The history is presented through strong symbolic pictures and gives in this way depth in the understanding of today's remaining Yugoslavia.

The Winner

We have selected a film that calls attention to the structural and cultural forces surrounding diverse levels of violence within the social order – first and foremost those associated with the death penalty, but also those at the between of genders and those between men. In addition, the film effectively treats the tensions between the warrants for compassion and those for retaliation or revenge, exploring them within both secular and religious sectors. Finally, by focusing on persons within each arena, in families, in penal institutions and the Mosque who seek to attenuate the force of revenge, the film portrays some of the redemptive possibilities within a society that looks to many as implacably violent from the outside.

The Norwegian Peace Film Award goes to the Iranian director Asghar Faradi and his film *BEAUTIFUL CITY*.