

Memorable stories and thrills in the Supernova and No Limit sections (TIFF 2013)

For the 12th edition of Transilvania International Film Festival (May 31 - June 9, Cluj-Napoca, Romania), Supernova and No Limit, two of the most popular sections of the festival, have prepared a great selection of award-winning movies, most of them Romanian premieres.

The Supernova section is focused on internationally acclaimed movies in major festivals like Cannes, Berlin, Venice, Busan, Toronto and Sundance. Beside the titles already announced for this year (***Après mai*** - Olivier Assayas, ***Laurence Anyways*** - Xavier Dolan, ***Like Someone in Love*** - Abbas Kiarostami and ***Foxfire*** - Laurent Cantet), there will be a lot of other "must see" movies.

A dear friend of TIFF, Sebastián Lelio, returns to Cluj with ***Gloria***, the movie which brought to its protagonist, Paulina Garcia, the Silver Bear for Best Actress at the Berlin International Film Festival. Lelio won the Transylvania Trophy in 2007 for ***La Sagrada Familia***. He also won the FIPRESCI Prize in 2010 for ***Navidad. Gloria***, the portrait of a 58-year-old divorcee hoping to meet someone new, was also distinguished with the *Ecumenical* Jury Prize at Berlin.

Hadas Yaron, awarded for Best Actress at the Venice Film Festival, plays Shira, an 18-year-old set to enter into an arranged marriage and who must decide whether to marry her brother-in-law after her sister dies in childbirth. ***Fill the Void*** is set in the Ultra-Orthodox Hasidic world in Tel Aviv and represented Israel in the Foreign Language race of the Oscars.

Winner of the Golden Lion at the 2012 Venice Film Festival, ***Pietà*** by Kim Ki-duk is a brutal psychological drama about the combative relationship between a nefarious debt collector and a mysterious woman who claims to be his biological mother. The film was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language. ***New World/Sinsegye***, directed by Park Hoon-jung, is a noir movie who was a box office hit in South Korea and which is already set for a Hollywood remake. From Asia comes ***Thy Womb*** by the renowned filmmaker Brillante Mendoza. It is an emotional drama of a couple who use a surrogate mother; the film was selected in 20 festivals, including Venice - where it won three independent juries awards.

Betrayal/ Izmena, by Kirill Serebrennikov, was highly praised for Franziska Petri's acting and for its directing style. The Venice-selected ***Betrayal*** is a story about a man and woman who discover that their partners are cheating on them. ***In the Name Of / Wimię...***, by Małgorzata Szumowska, is an extremely intense drama about a Catholic priest who falls for a young from his parish. The Polish movie was selected in the 2013 Berlin competition. ***Vic et Flo ont vu un ours***, directed by Denis Côté, involves a relationship between two former prison mates, and it won the *Alfred Bauer Prize* at Berlin International Film Festival in 2013.

Another must see movie is ***Much Ado About Nothin***, a surprisingly modern adaptation of Shakespeare's play. Directed by Joss Whedon (he also directed the Hollywood blockbuster *The Avengers*), the low budget movie enjoyed a lot of positive critical reviews. ***The Deep/ Djúpið***, by Baltasar Kormákur, was on the short list for Best Foreign Language Film at the Oscars and won multiple awards in Iceland. It is a real-life story about a shipwreck and one man's battle to stay alive. ***Circles/ Krugovi***, directed by Srđan Golubovic, is a story about five people connected by a tragic event. Three parallel stories take place and follow characters who face their past twenty years later. It won a jury special mention in the international fiction film selection of Sundance Film Festival and the *Ecumenical Jury Prize* at Berlin (Forum Section).

As every year, the **No Limit section** offers a lot of thrills, bizarre encounters and memorable images. Besides the long awaited marathon ***Paradise***, directed by Ulrich Seidl, TIFF audiences will enjoy movies like ***Simon Killer***, directed by Antonio Campos starring Brady Corbet (*Funny Games* and *Melancholia*), a story about an American man who goes to Paris and falls in love with a young prostitute, thus setting of on a fateful journey. Also, TIFF audiences will see ***The Act of Killing***, Joshua Oppenheimer's excellent documentary, a stunning and surreal film that explores a taboo chapter from Indonesia's history by inviting a group of former "communist-killers" to re-enact their infamous acts for the camera, in the style of the films that allegedly inspired or catalyzed them.

What lies behind the apparent calm and civilized houses from rich countries? The answer is offered by the Norwegian director Eva Sørhaug in the memorable thriller ***90 minutes***. It is centered on three different stories about extreme domestic violence. ***Fatal/ Kashi-ggot***, directed by Lee Don-ku, which

was screened at the recent Berlin film festival in the anorama section, is a story about a young man who meets a young woman in a Christian community - in the past he was in a group who raped her.

The Last Time I Saw Macao/ A Última Vez Que Vi Macau, directed by João Pedro Rodrigues and João Rui Guerra da Mata, is a noir movie about the architecture of a hypnotic quasi-imaginary and mysterious city. It received a Special Mention at Locarno International Film Festival.

Transilvania International Film Festival is organized by Romanian Film Promotion (APFR).