



Press release
For Immediate release

image+nation XXII: a resounding success that confirms queer cinema's growing popularity!

Montreal, Monday, November 2, 2009 – **image+nation**, Canada's oldest and largest LGBT film festival, went off with a bang on Saturday night at the Cinéma Impérial with the screening of its closing film, **DROOL**, with American director Nancy Kissam in attendance. image+nation XXII's jury, comprised of **Joe Balass** (Director, *Baghdad Twist*), **Étienne Desrosiers** (Director, *Miroirs d'Été*) and **Meg Hewings** (Film critic, *Hour*), also presented the following prizes:

GRAND JURY PRIZE – BEST FEATURE FILM

SOUNDLESS WIND CHIME (Hung Wing Kit, China/Switzerland)

"For its complex and sensual treatment of human relations, delivered with finesse in a self-reflexive narrative."

JURY PRIZE – BEST DOCUMENTARY

BEYOND GAY: THE POLITICS OF PRIDE (Bob Christie, Canada)

JURY PRIZE – BEST SHORT FILM

JAMES (Connor Clemments, Northern Ireland)

Special Jury Mention – **COWBOY** (Til Kleinert, Germany)

20+20 VISIONARY AWARD : the present and the future

This programmers' award, created in 2007 to honour image+nation's milestone 20th anniversary, is presented to a filmmaker who puts forth an innovative, creative and singular vision:

FEATURE FILM: **DONNE-MOI LA MAIN** (Pascal-Alex Vincent, France)

"For its ability to both grasp and share with an audience the unspoken relationship between two symbiotic beings."

Special Mention – **MAGGOTS AND MEN** (Cary Crowenwell, U.S.A.)

SHORT FILM: **CECI N'EST PAS UNE DRAG QUEEN** (Olivier Lessard, Canada)

AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD – FEATURE FILM

DROOL (Nancy Kissan, U.S.A.), tied with **HANNAH FREE** (Wendy-Jo Carlton, U.S.A.)

AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD – DOCUMENTARY

FERRON: GIRL ON A ROAD (Gerry Rogers, Canada)

AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD – SHORT FILM

FALLING FOR CAROLINE (Christine Chew, Canada)

This edition of the festival also saw the launch of **QUEERMENT QUEBEC**, a web-based initiative that allows Quebecers of all ages and location the opportunity to have access to the homegrown shorts presented during the festival, to those who live outside of Montreal. This evolving project is a reflection of the myriad perspectives and viewpoints of those who live as members of the LGBT community in a contemporary Quebec society.

image+nation XXII offered up 11 days of wall-to-wall inventive queer cinema at the Cinéma Impérial, the Goethe Institute and the JA de Sève Theatre. Once more, image+nation confirmed its relevance on the local and international festival circuit as an important cultural event.

image+nation invites you to visit its website over the coming weeks, when the dates for its 23rd edition will be revealed. For further information about the festival, please visit www.image-nation.org

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