

RTS Student Television Awards 2020 - Citations

Animation

Undergraduate

You're Fit

The jury loved this brilliantly observed comedy. A great satire of the contemporary human condition and an uncomfortable touch of reality. It's surprising payoff sneaked up on us like an extra session on the treadmill, leaving us with a high energy buzz.

Ctrl+Alt+Z

This is a fitting film for our time of isolation, which resonates with our reliance on technology. *Ctrl+Alt+Z* builds tension with great timing and performance. Solid structure with a powerful structure which delivers the full range of emotions when we battle our computers.

Margin Of Terror

The jury were blown away by the strong acting and performance. The film's animation very much reflects these performances. As with the best ever animations there's an amazing attention to detail. Post Aardman with lots of in-jokes and strong rich touches. Delivered the criteria of the competition with impressive results.

Postgraduate

Heatwave

Very accomplished and hugely enjoyable. The touch of surrealism took us on a great journey with a clever use of cycles which drew us in and then surprised us. Very well paced and as a result it's a film that doesn't outstay it's welcome with it's beautiful observations. We knew what they were saying even though there were no words. Very playful and colourful, with brilliant production design. The ambitious crowd shot view blew us all away. A superbly funny trip to the beach which left us with sand between our toes.

Almost There

The jury were constantly surprised by this film. This surreal journey took us to a dreamlike destination. It was like all of the small annoying details you notice on a train journey amplified. The unique hybrid technique added to the story.

In Her Boots

Engaging. Humorous. Human. Honest, brave, mature. These were just a few words that the jury used to sum up what they love about this touching portrait of a mother and granddaughter. The film's amazing design and colour was mesmerising. We really believed in the relationship and the film's fresh approach that left us feeling positive.

Comedy & Entertainment

Undergraduate

Biggy

The jury unanimously loved this creative, funny, stand out work. Brilliantly shot, with impeccable detail throughout, and a first class edit. This had us all laughing out loud and the Jury was so impressed. The song is a hit and Biggy is a star.

FLIT

Imaginative, bold, and hugely ambitious; the Jury loved that the team had created a whole immersive world. The devil's in the impeccable detail, with a soundtrack that was funny and worked alongside it perfectly.

Holiday!

The Jury loved the strong identity that was established - here was a film that knew what it was from the get go. Charming cinematography, and thoughtful framing of the shots that wasn't lost on us; the composition of the sequences were very considered. A glorious piece of work.

Postgraduate

Go For Alanya

This felt like a Edgar Wright film, with quick, pacy shots. It was extremely well presented, felt professional in its execution, and the acting was top notch.

Lucy

The jury's attention was grabbed by the very unusual concept and full of admiration that the work wasn't afraid to be bold.

Drama

Undergraduate

A Dead Canary

The jury felt that this was a very cinematic and artistic short, which told a beautifully simple story with lots of visual flair. Great to see a story that feels so firmly and authentically about Welsh history..

Sealskin

Another beautiful film, which explored female relationships in a powerful and distinctive way.

Starry Night

Starry Night had a wonderful playfulness, strong performances, with a compelling non-linear narrative that really stood out.

Postgraduate

Azaar

Azaar is a visually ravishing and mesmerising film, with beautifully nuanced and compelling performances. The panel were captivated by the hauntingly tragic story, and by the restrained elegance of the storytelling. A powerful and deeply affecting piece of work.

Ufo

Ufo is a wonderfully original and offbeat film, unanimously praised for its unexpectedly moving and poignant story, told with real visual boldness and wit. The balance of surrealist animation, a deceptively emotional script, endearing characters and quietly truthful performances made this a real stand out for the panel.

November 1st

November 1st told a challenging and uncomfortable story with enormous confidence and verve. An ambitious and technically assured piece of film-making, with a strong sense of place, and compelling characterisation. The narrative was urgent and purposeful and drove relentlessly to its brutal and devastating climax.

Factual

Undergraduate

Building Bridges

Brave, the jury found this film very moving and honest, it was brave and the filmmaker had cleverly woven the storyline throughout the story. Felt like this could be transmittable.

The Curiosity of Edward Pratt

Very accomplished, felt involved in the story. Great title and super opening to the film. Emotionally engaging and he was a great character....

Women Uprooted

Very accomplished and original film, Powerful silences in the film, with taught and effective filmmaking. Sustained interest in the dancing scenes. Original film. Brave and took the most risks. Applaud its ambition.

Postgraduate

Carrying Myself

The judges said that this film was "the full package" - a determined and exceptional study of disability and loneliness with strong visual storytelling that didn't flinch from showing its subject as both vulnerable and powerfully human.

Green and Grey

The judges found this film to be surprising, subversive and very well-observed. The conviction of both its subjects to change the world was enlightening and empowering, while their stories succeeded in challenging all our assumptions about older age.

Separation

The judges were unanimous in praising this film as "perfectly told", plotting an emotional story tightly and subtly - with a lyrical power worthy of a feature film. This was a story with resonance at all levels - whether about family, society, class or gender. It left you caring deeply for the young girl at its heart.

News

Undergraduate

A Roof Over Our Heads

A neatly woven visual narrative with a classy start and fine use of sound effects which transported the viewer through the trials and tribulations of getting on the property ladder. A strong reporter presence made for a delightful piece.

Inked

A well-executed peek into the world of tattoo artistry and the people who go under the needle which combined strong videography and solid production values. The judges praised its technical accomplishment.

It Takes All Sorts

A convincing investigation with consumer journalism as its beating heart which was cleverly storyboarded and creatively filmed and edited. Fine on-screen presentation encouraged the viewer to pay full attention to what is inside that next cup of herbal tea.

Postgraduate

Host or Hostile?

A powerful story packed with suspense and drama that took viewers on a very touching personal journey. This poignant tale of one family's flight from the war in Syria to the supposed sanctuary of Europe, chronicled retrospectively through the lens of their young student journalist son, was a rollercoaster ride of raw emotions. A stand-out piece of first-person journalism.

Tarred By The Brush Of Modern Slavery

A difficult subject tackled with great gusto which negotiated a backstage pass to hear the views of those caught up in a little reported issue faced by one of Britain's ethnic communities. This was a fine attempt to redress prejudice.

The Decline of The Great British Bee

A well-researched nature ramble through the English country garden which delivered a fascinating insight into the threat facing an iconic British species. A beautifully-paced piece of television that would serve its video journalist creator as the complete professional calling card to enter the business.

Short Form

Undergraduate

Looking For

Strong idea, told it well. Wanted to see what will happen, nicely produced. Well shot. Nice film. Lot of potential, well acted with no dialogue.

Night Hopper

This film looked great with some beautiful shots. Pacey and well put together by an interesting filmmaker, this film felt visceral and inventive and was very accomplished.

Tia

A simple story told very well with a lovely range of emotion and heart.

Postgraduate

Hungry Mobsters

Shot well, short and sweet. Simple and well executed.

Rough Hands

The jury thought this film had a great story at its heart and a nice range in set ups. It looked great and all in all, very well executed.

Timing is Everything

Great subject matter, a very accomplished, imaginative and highly enjoyable short film.

Craft Skills

Undergraduate Camerawork

Starry Night

Nice lighting. Good camerawork and good story. Flowed well.

Looking For

Good framing for the shots. Great camerawork and good edit that complemented the narrative.

Biggy

Nice camerawork and lighting. Technically accomplished. Worked well with what they had. Overall design was very good. Set piece looked good. Camera movement was good. Well timed to the music and showed appreciation for the story editing wise. Impressive. The filmmakers have studied the craft.

Undergraduate Editing

The Curiosity Of Edward Pratt

Intriguing as a central character. Good location shooting. Told the story incredibly well in 12 minutes, well edited.

Women Uprooted

Good sound design in the film. Great edit. Well told piece. Strong storytelling.

Biggy

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Undergraduate Production Design

FLIT

Funny film, loved the setting of the film. Great production design and art department. Good colours and lighting. Great detail in the set. Great soundtrack that helped to tell the story.

Margin of Terror

Great vibrant and rich use of colour. Entertaining and enjoyable film. Looked amazing. Very clever techniques in the film.

A Dead Canary

Great use of shadows, nicely framed scenic shots. Good location shooting. Good soundtrack, well thought out and well written.

Undergraduate Sound

Building Bridges

Excellent piece of story-telling, who had studied their craft. Good camerawork. Emotion and poignant. Technically competent. Great matching of voiceover and shots. Great storytelling. Well-paced and edited.

Ctrl + Alt + Z

Very good animation, well told. Liked the look and feel of the film. Good use of foley, good soundtrack. Music and stylish, good foley mix.

Margin Of Terror

The choice of music & the way it was integrated contributed greatly to the animation.

Undergraduate Writing

Building Bridges

An honest story that was very well crafted around the subject matter.

Biggy

An entertaining story that worked well with the style & energy of the clip.

Starry Night

A well thought out script that allowed you to feel the story & not get lost in the use of time.

Postgraduate Camerawork

Azaar

Beautifully shot with great use of light to create a brilliant atmosphere. The locations were perfect and enhanced by great camera work. Simple framing, haunting score and shots allowed to play out. Simple but effective.

Heatwave

A fun, colourful, confident film, captured expertly.

November 1st

Very accomplished cinematography.

Postgraduate Editing

Heatwave

Energetic with excellent comic timing.

November 1st

So much material must have been shot which was edited tightly and dramatically.

Separation

Exceptional filmmaking. The way the narrative unfolds is captivating and thought provoking.

Postgraduate Production Design

Azaar

Loved the strong use of colour, the red elements in the costume, curtains, doors, blood which brought this together so cleverly. All of this complimented the locations and brought everything together.

Heatwave

Great use of colour and the animation was exceptional.

November 1st

The subdued colours and drab interiors to accentuate the desperation of the lead characters. Great attention to detail.

Postgraduate Sound

Almost There

A captivating sound design and excellent use of FM synthesis for the sound track.

Heatwave

An excellent sounding animation. Nicely panned vehicles across the stereo image. Loved the Bouzouki strum for toe testing the sea' temperature.

November 1st

Very accomplished sound recording and dub perfectly capturing a full range of dynamics from shouty arguments to quiet mumbling.

Postgraduate Writing

Azaar

A very thought-provoking script.

November 1st

Great dialogue. Powerful subject matter dealt with expertly. So powerful and dramatic brilliantly written.

Separation

A sublime bit of storytelling.