

Dear Fan of Fantastic Cinema,

Welcome to the 19th edition of the European Fantastic Film Festivals Federation Newsletter, September 11th 2007. Espoo Ciné unveiled the tenth and last Méliès d'Argent for the 2007 cycle, and the program for the 11th Méliès d'Or is now complete.

Two affiliated members take off during September, first out is FantaFestival, Italy, followed by Lund Intl. Fantastic Film Festival, Sweden. The latter will be hosting the 11th Méliès d'Or Award Ceremony on September 16th – an event not to be missed.

Which European film will take home the 2007 Méliès d'Or, and be named Best European Fantastic Film 2007?

Stay tuned,

/Christian Hallman
EFFFF Web Producer

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FantaFestival, Italy

The XXVII edition of FantaFestival, directed by Adriano Pintaldi & Alberto Ravaglioli and sponsored by the Italian Ministry of Culture, the Province and the Municipality of Latina, will take place from September 10th to September 13th in Latina and Sabaudia.

A special event will take place in the prestigious Theatre of Latina with a guest of Honour: the American star Robert Englund together with the Italian director Lamberto Bava, the composer Claudio Simonetti and the actress Elisabetta Rocchetti,

FantaFestival will present various sections:

A retrospective with homage to Robert Englund (Nightmare series), Lamberto Bava, Ingmar Bergman, the complete series of "Twilight zone" and a European selection of new films including the Italian premiere of "28 weeks later", the newest Bava "Ghost son", "Dark resurrection", "Il bosco fuori", "Asylum".

Visit FantaFestival here (www.fanta-festival.it)

Tenth Méliès d'Argent winner

Espo Ciné Intl. Film Festival came to a close on August 26th, and awarded the tenth Méliès d'Argent to the following film:

HVORDAN VI SLIPPER AF MED DE ANDRE a.k.a. HOW TO GET RID OF THE OTHERS
(Anders Rønnow Klarlund, Denmark, 2007)

The Short Film Nomination for a Méliès d'Or went to;

THE BLAXORCIST
(Edward King, Ireland, 2007)

2007 Méliès d'Argents

PRINCESS (Denmark/Germany)

Princess is an acknowledged film with an anti-porn message. The brother of a deceased porn actress set out on a mission of revenge against those who dragged his sister down in the dirty porn industry.

Director: Anders Morgenthaler. Winner of the Méliès d'Argent award at Sitges Festival Internacional de Cinema de Catalunya.

ILS/THEM (France)

Its challenges the stereotypic American horror genre with a new visual pictorial language on the theme intruder and saving yourself from "the others". A young couple in a deserted house on the countryside is in the centre of the story.

Director: David Moreau / Xavier Palud. Winner of the Méliès d'Argent award at the Amsterdam Fantastic Film Festival.

GRIMM LOVE/ROTHENBURG (Germany/USA)

Grimm Love is based on the true-life story of the German cannibal **Oliver Hagen** who found his willing victim on the Internet. The film portrays a young student who investigates the story and becomes more and more obsessed with the case.

Director: Martin Weisz. Winner of the Méliès d'Argent award at the Cinéyngma Luxembourg International Film Festival.

ISOLATION (UK/Ireland)

Isolation takes place in a remote located Irish farm where a seemingly successful research project gradually shows to have gone wrong, very wrong...

Director: Billy O'Brien. Winner of the Méliès d'Argent award at Fanomenon - Leeds International Film Festival.

RENAISSAINCE (France/UK/Luxembourg)

In Paris the year 2054 the company Avalon controls everything that goes on in the city. One of the company's young researchers gets kidnapped and in the attempts to find her inconvenient truths reaches the surface.

Director: Christian Volckman. Winner of the Méliès d'Argent award at Fantasporto - Oporto International Film Festival.

DEAD IN THREE DAYS/IN 3 TAGEN BIST DU TOT (Austria)

A murderous sms to everyone in a gang of friends is first taken for a joke. But when they one by one get brutally murdered it becomes a fight against time to find the murderer before the three days have come to an end.

Director: Andreas Prochaska. Winner of Méliès d'Argent award at Brussels International Festival of Fantastic Film.

A QUIET LOVE/DIE BLAUE GRENZE (Denmark/Germany)

A Quiet Love takes place in Northern Germany where a man is forced to cross the border into Denmark to deliver the news of his father's death to his grandfather. Along the way he gets involved in complicated lies as well as with the love of his life.

Director: Till Franzen. Winner of the Méliès d'Argent award at Lund International Fantastic Film Festival.

HELL'S FEVER (Italy)

A group of young students escape from Campus with a large stolen sum of money. But in their way lies what is known as "heartland of the beast".

Director: Alessandro Perrella. Winner of Méliès d'Argent award at Fantafestival, Sabaudia.

UGLY SWANS/GADKIE LEBEDI (Russia/France)

Ugly Swans is based on a book by the Strugatsky brothers. A father travels to a remote Siberian town to rescue his daughter from her boarding school, far from conventional rules. But the town has hidden dark mysteries.

Director: Konstantin Lopushansky. Winner of Méliès d'Argent award at Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival in Switzerland.

HOW TO GET RID OF THE OTHERS/HVORDAN VI SLIPPER AF MED DE ANDRE (Denmark)

Is the latest feature film by acknowledged Danish director Anders Rønnow Klarlund. The story in this comedy starts off with a decree from the Danish government: every citizen that burdens society more than he/she contributes is to be eliminated, unless otherwise can be proved.

Director: Anders Rønnow Klarlund. Winner of Méliès d'Argent award at Espoo Ciné International Film Festival.

11th Méliès d'Or – Lund Intl. Fantastic Film Festival

This year, Lund International Fantastic Film Festival is as usual packed with great - and of course fantastic – movies. 2007 is a very special year, since the Méliès d'Or award ceremony - for best European fantastic film - will be held and arranged in Sweden the first time. In this finale, the ten Méliès d'Argent winners from the other affiliated film festivals across Europe will compete for the prestigious award.

The festival will declare in their news section what guests and interesting arrangements you can look forward to during the ten days of fantastic film. The full programme is now public online at www.fff.se

The winner of the 2007 Méliès d'Or – Best European Fantastic Film, will be announced at the award ceremony on Sunday September 16th in Lund.

Lund Intl. Fantastic Film Festival is Sweden's representative in The European Fantastic Film Festival Federation, EFFFF, who annually arrange the Méliès d'Or competition, named after the famous French filmmaker, George Méliès.

The European Fantastic Film Festivals Federation aims to promote the originality and creativity of the European fantastic film industry. All the films that compete for the Méliès d'Or have each won a Méliès d'Argent at the end of an affiliated federation member's festival during the year.

Once all the affiliated members have awarded their own Méliès d'Argent, the festival that hosts the competition organizes the Méliès d'Or Competition and Ceremony. For that competition, an international jury of five members from the affiliated member countries is called upon, their task is to decide which of the ten Méliès d'Argent winners will be awarded the Méliès d'Or.

Visit melies.org for more information on the Méliès d'Or

EFFFF General Assembly

During the 13th Lund Intl. Fantastic Film Festival, and the 11th Méliès d'Or Award Ceremony, the European Fantastic Film Festivals Federation will hold **it's** general assembly board meeting. The meeting will take place on Monday, September 17th, the day after the Méliès d'Or Award Ceremony.

Fantastic Fest, Austin

2007 has been a great year for Fantastic Fest, one of the highlights being that they joined the European Fantastic Film Festivals Federation as a supporting member, thus becoming the third North American film festival with an aim to promote European fantastic cinema.

Tim League, director of Fantastic Fest :" The 2007 Edition of Fantastic Fest opens with the US premiere of Diary of the Dead with George Romero live in person. In addition to George Romero, we have over 50 visiting filmmakers and guests, a big increase over last year. We are also showcasing a vast array of European Fantastic Films: 12 of our 60 features and 18 of our 39 shorts are European, many of them Méliès selections. Of these, I am most excited about the world premiere of Nacho Vigalondo's Cronoscrimines. Nacho will be live in person to present the film."

Visit Fantastic Fest here. (www.fantasticfest.com)

On this note we conclude this, the nineteenth EFFFF Newsletter. Please feel free to forward the content of this newsletter as long as you announce the source of the material.

The European Fantastic Film Festivals Federation Newsletter is put together by the federation newsgroup, comprised of selected members from the federation's film festivals.

This newsletter is distributed by the European Fantastic Film Festivals Federation, the only federation for promoting European fantastic films to a world audience, as well as acknowledging the force of fantastic films from all over the world. Contact Phone: +32 2 201 1713, Contact Email: info@melies.org or christian@melies.org

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