



Press release, Nordic Council Film Prize September 3, 2013

FIVE OUTSTANDING FILMS COMPETE FOR THE NORDIC COUNCIL FILM PRIZE 2013

Five of the most popular Nordic films and directors are nominated for Nordic Council Film Prize 2013.

Some of the most popular and award winning Nordic films and film directors during the past year are also among the candidates for the coveted NORDIC COUNCIL FILM PRIZE 2013, which will be announced at a major prize gala on 30 October in the Oslo Opera House.

Among the nominated directors are Thomas Vinterberg, Simo Halinen, Baltasar Kormákur, Dag Johan Haugerud and Gabriela Pichler. They are all in a tough competition with outstanding films, one from each of the Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

The five nominees 2013 are:

THE HUNT – Denmark: Director: Thomas Vinterberg – Writers: Tobias Lindholm, Thomas Vinterberg – Producers: Sisse Graum Jørgensen, Morten Kaufmann.

OPEN UP TO ME - Finland: Director: Simo Halinen – Writer: Simo Halinen – Producer: Liisa Penttilä.

THE DEEP – Iceland: Director: Baltasar Kormákur – Writers: Jón Atli Jónasson, Baltasar Kormákur – Producers: Agnes Johansen, Baltasar Kormákur.

I BELONG – Norway: Director: Dag Johan Haugerud – Writer: Dag Johan Haugerud – Producer: Yngve Sæther.

EAT SLEEP DIE – Sweden: Director: Gabriela Pichler – Writer: Gabriela Pichler – Producer: China Åhlander (producer).

About the Nordic Council Film Prize 2013

To be nominated for the prize, worth DKK 350.000, the films must be embedded to a significant degree in Nordic culture, must be of high quality, stand out in terms of artistic originality, and combine and refine the many elements of film in a convincing and integrated manner.

"On behalf of the Nordic Council and the Nordic Film & TV Fund, it is an honour to publish this year's five nominees. 'The human face', the individual facing the group/society, and respect and dignity are common themes that run like a thread through all the films. A Nordic reality sets the framework within which daily life and its dilemmas are portrayed by eminent actors with empathy, humour and credibility. The nominated films are of high international quality, have a personal voice and something genuine at heart.



It is easy to understand why Nordic films (and TV series) in recent years have won major international awards and become a popular cultural export worldwide. Right now, the Nordic Region has a unique opportunity to exert much more influence, but it requires continued courage, co-operation, development of talent - and not least funding," says Hanne Palmquist, CEO of the Nordic Film & TV Fund.

Previous winners of the film prize are Ruben Østlund, Pernilla August, Thomas Vinterberg, Lars von Trier, Roy Andersson, Peter Schønau Fog, Josef Fares, Per Fly and Aki Kaurismäki.

The winner of the Nordic Council Film Prize 2013 will be announced on 30 October. In addition to the film prize, the Nordic Council awards annually a literature prize, a music prize, and a nature and environment prize. The objective of all of these prizes is to increase interest in the literature, language, music and film of Nordic neighbouring countries.

For more info on: Motivations, production notes, pictures and general information on The Nordic Council Film Prize:

www.nordiccouncilfilmprize.com

www.nordiskfilmogtvfond.com

www.norden.org

<https://www.facebook.com/nordiccouncilfilmprize>

To the editors:

Trailers from the five nominated films can be downloaded from:

<http://post.nordiskfilmogtvfond.com:8000/Login> / <http://nfcpnordiskfilmogtvfond.com:800> (user: NCFP_2013 / password: Press2013)

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The Nordic Council awards five prizes every year: the Literature Prize, the Film Prize, the Music Prize, the Nature and Environment Prize and the Children and Young People's Literature Prize.

The awarding of the Nordic Council's prizes takes place every year during the Nordic Council's annual summit meeting, the Session. As something completely new, the names of the prize winners will only be announced during the actual award ceremony. All the nominees for the Nordic Council prizes will be invited to attend.

The winners of the Nordic Council prizes will receive a prize statuette, which will be the same of all five prizes. The new statuette will be awarded for the first time at the new prize ceremony on 30 October 2013 in Oslo. Norway's national television channel, NRK, will broadcast the festive award ceremony along with the other Nordic television channels.

