

# Awards for Toronto's Female Eye Film Festival 2023

By **Valerie Milano** - August 1, 2023

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Los Angeles, CA (*The Hollywood Times*) 8/1/23 – The Female Eye Film Festival is an annual event showcasing the diverse talents and perspectives of women filmmakers worldwide. Established in 2001, it has grown to become one of the most respected and influential film festivals dedicated to promoting and supporting women in the industry.



The festival offers emerging and established female filmmakers a platform to showcase their work and connect with industry professionals, fostering collaboration and mentorship opportunities. By providing a space exclusively for women's voices and stories, the Female Eye Film Festival aims to challenge the underrepresentation of women in the film industry and inspire future generations of female filmmakers.

This year The Hollywood Times was in attendance and had the chance to experience a diverse selection of films directed by women, covering various genres, themes, and styles. From thought-provoking documentaries to captivating narratives, these films offered a unique perspective on the world through the lens of talented female filmmakers.

Here is the list of award winners for Best Films, Best Screenplays, and Honorable Mentions:

## **BEST FILM**

*My Love Affair with Marriage*, directed by Signe Baumane. This movie will open in Los Angeles on Oct 13.

## BEST FOREIGN SHORT ANIMATION

*Dancing Amid the Fire, Rising Above the Ruins*, directed by Essmat Sophie



## BEST NORTH AMERICAN ANIMATION

*Ouroboros*, directed by Jennifer Linton



## BEST EXPERIMENTAL FILM

*Behind the Loom*, directed by Heejoo Kim

## BEST SHORT FILMS 2023

*EXCAVATING THE TRUTH*

## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROGRAM:

## BEST FOREIGN SHORT

*The Silent Canary*, directed by Vera Graziadei

## BEST NORTH AMERICAN SHORT

*Esmerelda*, directed Jennifer Greco





LOVE SEX & IDENTITY PROGRAM:

BEST NORTH AMERICAN SHORT

*Honey & Milk*, directed by Lisa "dash" Donato

INTERGENERATIONAL FAMILIAL RESPONSE

Honourable Mention

*The Sun is Up Forever*, directed by Charlene Jones

INTERGENERATIONAL FAMILIAL RESPONSE

BEST FOREIGN SHORT 2023

*Cycle*, directed by Çaybaşı

INTERGENERATIONAL RESPONSE

BEST NORTH AMERICAN SHORT

*Seventeen*, directed by Geqi li

BEST FOREIGN SHORT

*My Old Gals*, directed by Natasza Parzymies

THE PERSONAL IS POLITICAL:

*I Was Born In 1988* directed by Yasamna Baghban

BEST SHORT FILM IN A GALA PROGRAM:

*Juniors Giant*, directed by Paula Brancati

## BEST DOCUMENTARIES 2023

### BEST SHORT DOCUMENTARY

The Big Idea: Indigenous Robotics, directed by Sarah Klein and Tom Mason



### BEST FOREIGN FEATURE DOCUMENTARY

*Beyond the light Barrier*, directed by Uga Carlini

### BEST CANADIAN FEATURE DOCUMENTARY

*Category: Woman*, Directed by Phyllis Ellis

### SPECIAL JURY PRIZE

### Most Impactful Film 2023

*The Nature of Healing*, directed by Faith Howe

### BEST FEATURE FILMS 2023

### BEST DEBUT CANADIAN FEATURE

*Montréal Girls*, directed by Patricia Chica

[Read our review: Montréal Girls \(2023\): A Poetic Odyssey Of Personal Growth | The Hollywood Times](#)

### BEST DEBUT FOREIGN FEATURE



*Grey Matter*, directed by Arabella Burfitt-Dons

Patricia Chica (Photo: Byron A. Martin)

## BEST NORTH AMERICAN FEATURE

*My Home Unknown*, directed by Yaz Canli

## BEST OF SHOW

*Stella*, directed by Jessica Fox



## BEST LATE-NIGHT THRILLS & CHILLS SHORT

*Kickstart my Heart*, directed by Kelsey Bollig

## Special Jury Prize

## Late Night Thrills & Chills Feature

*Spoonful of Sugar*, directed by Mercedes Bryce Morgan

## BEST SCREENPLAYS 2023

Best Series: *The Test* written by Alyssah Richards

Best Feature: *Invisible* written by Shira Levin

Best Fresh Voice: *Afghan Smoke* written by Brishkay Ahmed

## HONOURABLE MENTIONS 2023

### Honourable Mention – Experimental

*In Somnie*, directed by Caro Bruchmann

### Honourable Mention – Short Documentary

*The Irreverent Feminists*, directed by Maria del Carmen, De Lara Rangel and Tabatta Salinas Caballero

### Honourable Mention – Feature Documentary

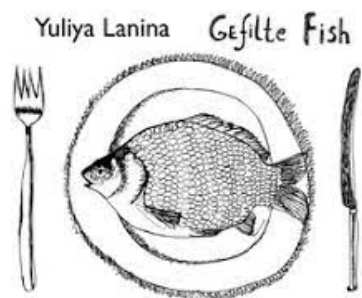
*Koromouso: Big Sister*, directed by Habibata Quarme and Jim Donovan

Read our review of *Koromouso: Big Sister*.

[Co-directors Habibata Ouarme and Jim Donovan talk about their new film “Koromouso- Big Sister” | The Hollywood Times](#)



Jim and Habi at the awards 7/30/23 in Toronto (Photo: THT)



### Honourable Mention – Excavating Truths, Violence Against Women

*Gefilte Fish*, directed by Yuliya Lanina

### Honourable Mention – Intergenerational Familial Response

*The Sun is Up Forever*, directed by Charlene Jones



### Honourable Mention – Late Night Thrills & Chills Short

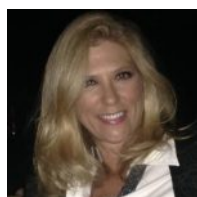
*First Blood*, directed by Olivia Loccisano

### Honourable Mention – Late Night Thrills & Chills Short

*Nian*, directed by Michelle Krusiak



STALLONE  
FIRST BLOOD  
A FILM BY JOHN DAHLBOM  
CASTING BY JUDY GIBSON  
COSTUME DESIGNER JUDY GIBSON  
HAIR BY JUDY GIBSON  
MAKEUP BY JUDY GIBSON  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER JUDY GIBSON  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JUDY GIBSON  
PRODUCED BY JUDY GIBSON  
WRITTEN BY JUDY GIBSON  
DIRECTED BY JUDY GIBSON



**Valerie Milano**

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Valerie Milano is the well-connected Senior Editor and TV Critic at TheHollywoodTimes.Today, a showbiz/promotions aggregate mainly for insiders. She has written for Communications Daily, Hollywood Today, Television International, and Video Age International plus freelanced for others. Valerie donates and works closely with Outfest, NCLR, LAMBDA Legal, The Center of Palm Springs and DAP Health. She is a member of the Los Angeles Press Club and Film Independent. Milano loves meeting people and does so in her fave getaway Palm Springs as a member of the Palm Springs Museum of Art and the Old Las Palmas area community member. Valerie was a veteran & 17-year member of TCA. She was a Board member and one of the "chief organizers" of the prestigious and long running, TCA: Television Critics Association's press tour. TCA press tours are "a must" for hundreds of TV critics twice a year.