

Zürich, 03.06.2018

# Winners – International Competition

## Statement Jury

The Jury Members of the International Competition: **Diana Vidrascu** (Artist & Fotograf, lives and works in Paris), **Caspar Stracke** (Artist and Curator, lives and works in New York and Berlin) and **Greg de Cuir Jr.** (Curator, researcher and author, member of the European Network for Cinema and Media Studies, investigates moving-image works on African diasporic cultures with his project "Avant-Noir")

have selected the following winner of the Videoex International Competition 2018:

*Mountain Plain Mountain*, **Daniel Jacoby & Yu Araki**, ES/JP/NL 2018, DCP, 21:00 min

**Daniel Jacoby and Yu Araki's** film is a brave and unique exploration of the interaction between cinematic and verbal languages and their semantic potentials.

Japanese social codes, cultural idiosyncrasies and lyricism become the base for the overall construction of the film.

One could also call it a carefully assembled engine whose propulsion is enabled by the rhythmic actions of its protagonists.

This is also echoed in the overall contemplation of two mountains and the space between them.

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### TWO JURY SPECIAL MENTIONS:

*Confluence*, **Benjamin Ramírez Pérez & Stefan Ramírez Pérez**, DE/NL/RS 2018, DCP, 20:45 min

*Confluence* is a fascinating biographical study on fame, media representation and the way it is imbricated in the cultural fabric of Serbia.

The surgical cleanliness of the imagery is employed to craft the fully artificial world of the Serbian child star Doris Bizetić-Nygrin, whose career transitioned from Post-Socialist Serbia into the Capitalist era. Benjamin and Stefan Ramírez-Pérez chose a highly mediated, reflexive style, documenting Doris' speech rehearsals and photo shoots that not only expose the mechanisms of media falsification but targeting them towards their own production process. As a result, the viewer can sense a complicity between the filmmakers and the protagonist who have jointly manufactured a public personality.

It is a persona that had been instrumentalized by geo-political forces with ethical implications on a mass scale, at the same time representing a rupture in Serbia, hinged on the story of the giant city skyscraper and its renewal.

Doris herself becomes the Confluence between a reborn country rewriting its own history.

*Hiatus*, **Vivian Ostrovsky**, US/BR 2018, DCP, 05:30 min

With *Hiatus*, **Vivian Ostrovsky** reincarnates the spirit of the Ukrainian-Brazilian writer Clarice Lispector, by creating a short cine-portrait. A beautiful free-form collage accompanies the words of Lispector, in which Ostrovsky also draws parallels to her own personal trajectory as an artist. With the shortness and intensity of this essay, Ostrovsky utilizes a quote from Lispector's last interview as a guiding principle - Being asked what is the role of a contemporary [Brazilian] writer today she replied "To speak as little as possible!"