



You need to step away from the nearest Tesco

Four River Film Festival has always been known for pushing the boundaries and changing the rules. Be it interesting programme, almost impossible last minute changes, solutions and new venues. Yesterday, we had a chance to witness another step into that direction. The medieval fortress Novigrad, situated on the bank of Dobra, came to life with a yellow carpet event. We began our programme by introducing an amazingly talented director, a woman from Split with a Macedonian address- Ana Opačić. According to Boško Picula, Ana is one of the best film makers we have had the opportunity to host here in Karlovac. The award she won here at the Festival in 2008 was the first one she ever won. "Those who weren't there" is a result of a game inspired by Kafka who is a struggle to read for every 17 year old. We sent the film on the last day of the applications and we didn't even think we would make the cut, let alone win an award. It was like wind in our sails urging us to continue our film making." Ana graduated directing at the Film Academy in Split and she continued her career in Skopje. „I think it's important to move away from the nearest Tesco, stop doing circles between the things that are familiar and accept the challenges that come your way." She is the person behind the co operation between Four River Film Festival and Giffoni



Macedonia. This co operation enabled a lot of young people to exchange their experiences and strength the relations between the two countries.

Guests and visitors also had the opportunity to enjoy the film "Miss Impossible" by Emilie Deleuze, director. The film won numerous awards and one of them stands out, that of the Best European Film for Youth. Aurora, the protagonist, is your typical 13 year old girl whose life is suddenly turned upside down. Sara told us: "I liked the film. The way in which every day teenage problems have been shown here is very good, not only superficial like in Crazy Friday. Her relationship with her mother comes about in the end and that was a surprise for me. Definitely worth watching". (D. S.)

DEBATE:

Who is to blame for the corrupted society



Film is an excellent weapon to use in the fight against social injustice. Croatia has lived under the pressure of corruption for a many years. Partly due to various circumstances and historical heritage. This is a problem on a global level, but this combination has inspired us to award the Yellow flag to authors of the best anti corruption film.

We are trying to fight corruption not only through film but also through our traditional debate. The participants gave us their opinions on the question: "Are citizens and politics to be blamed equally for corruption?" The participants of the debate were the members of the little jury. Alex and Johan Erik from United States and Leon Ristov from Macedonia were the jurors. Boško Picula moderated the debate and we have to say that his sharp questions added some spice to the answers and the final decision. The affirmation group stated three things that cause the problem: "connections" whom do you know, money and responsibility for ones actions. According to them, individuals and circumstances in which people are raised and in which they live, are to be blamed for the corruption. They also said that people come in touch with it since the early age, especially in situations when the parents are the ones doing the bribing in order to get the children to do what they want them to with minimum fuss. They take this habits with them and are prepared to use any means possible to achieve their goal, even if that implies corruption. From it follows that the politicians are already corrupt when they come into power. They particularly emphasised that everybody makes its own decisions and that we all should think about the consequences our actions have towards other people. The negation group stated that politics and government are the ones to be blamed for corruption. Seeing as how the government is the highest authority in a country and



INTRODUCING THE LITTLE JURY

May the bikes be ever in your favour!

This year the little jury has 19 members and they have been chosen in co-operation with our long standing partners. The jurors come from Macedonia, Hungary, Denmark, England and many other countries. One of the members of the little jury is Domagoj Topić who won the Luka Ritz award this year. The little jury has seven awards to give - best actor, actress, script writer, editor and director of photography and of course - the Yellow Flag award for promoting non violence on film. They will decide on these awards together.

In order to reach the best decision possible, it is their task to watch all of the films of the programme and comment on them. Besides, they also attend workshops and, traditionally now, they attend and participate in the debate.

The topics of our debates are always tricky and this year it was no exception. We asked our young filmmakers: "Can we equally blame both the society and politics for corruption?" They found the topic interesting and since they are



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They are very good and listen to everything I say. They are giving me no trouble, on the contrary, our deals are in order.

They have a lot of questinos, they are interested in Karlovac and it's hhistory. I'm happy with them and their behaviour!

Elena Cvitković, mother to the little jury

already familiar with the term corruption they had no difficulties to debate on it.

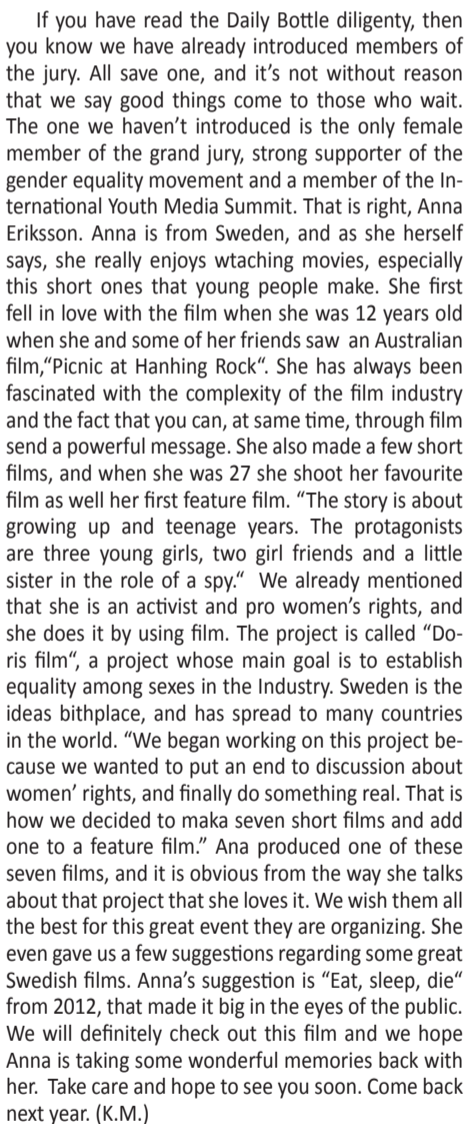
To many of them this is not only the first that they're participating in a Festival like this, but also the first time as jury members ever. "I'm seventeen years old and this is the first time I'm a member of any kind of jury", Eddie told us and added... "I can honestly say I like it here, the films are great and it will be really hard to chose just one.

They can get information about new projects in the world. "This is my second time here and everything is so positive and fun, and the bike cannot go unsee." Vanja told us.

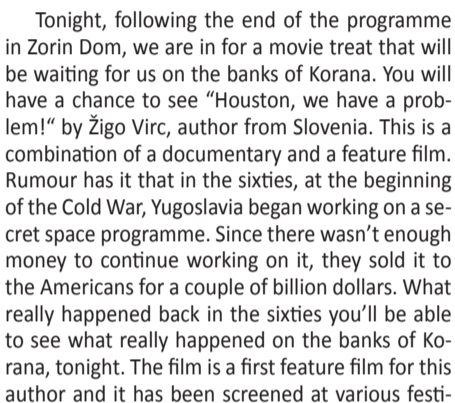
They particularly liked the topic of this years Festival, and they think that the Festival just keeps getting better year after year. We wish the little jury all the best. Kepp your head cool while making the final decision. Keep in mind though: "Never forget to have fun! And may the bikes be ever in your favour!" (M. P.)

has the ability to prevent citizens in participating in corruptive behaviour, if only it would apply the laws. From it follows that different countries deal with that problem in different ways. Those countries that have a longer tradition in democracy are more successful in applying and following the letter of the law and regulations. It was really hard to find fault with any of these arguments. In the end the jury decided that the affirmation group presented stronger arguments. We hope that the message these young people developed here today will help the ongoing battle to make the world a better place! (L.Š.)

“When talking about gender equality we finally wanted to take some action and not just talk about it”



Houston, what's our status tonight?



vals all over the world. The world premiere was in Tribeca Film Festival, New York. However, that wasn't the first international success for Žigo Virč. This young director graduated at the film Academy in Ljubljana and in 2010 his short film "Trieste is ours" was one of the five finalists for the student Oscar of the American Film Academy. A phenomenal and intriguing film, taking us on a path to unveil the myth behind this equally fantastic and crazy story. Don't miss out because we promise lots of fun and games. The weather is going to cooperate with us, the temperature will be mild and the yellow crew promises great fun. Let your film and your cycling role come together, sit on your bikes and peddle until we get to Korana. (M. P.)



**You'll have children
one day, then you
will understand.**

In human years, our Festival is now ten. In film years, our Festival is probably a person in his prime, but you know parents- children are children- and why should they move out before they reach their thirties. When it all began, the crew of the Festival was in average about 20 years old, we could be described as what they call- young parents. Luckily we had a yellow roof over our heads, an ever growing supply of bottled film, and our little guy could grow up surrounded with yellow happiness and its existence never came into question. That is why you can't hold it against us even if we did go a little awry in its education, no matter the assistance we got from our international film tribe. We did manage to teach it some real life values. For example, patience ("You stay put until all of the guests leave!"), order ("We'll talk about t when the guests leave!"), anticipation (" Just you wait until Marija comes to the film group!").

The first year was a real challenge for the young parents; September 7th 2007, the Festival (well the YFF, but we are all familiar with the fact that in our parts of the world daughters are often referred to as sons) met Karlovac and Karlovac met the crazy yellow crew. We survived the 42 films applied, three days of yellow madness and we made our first film steps. When we were two, we went to the kindergarten ups the fortress Dubovac, for the first time, and grandma Vera remarked on how our baby has grown. We started learning foreign languages, playing with our friends (the crew in the kindergarten is quite colourful), we learned we're both a boy and a girl at the same time (although the parents kept referring to him as son), he starts to express happiness and pride following the four days of the Festival. Then we turned three and started to do our films independently, run smoothly between different locations, and with 232 films applied we became a regular chatterbox. And the tantrums, oh yes, the tantrums came as unexpected rain, especially when we were having a field trip. Our fourth birthday and we started telling stories about a couple of beavers who were in love, the External Locations and Interventions Department. And then when we were five we built a house of cards, played hide and seek with our parents and composed our own music. We started going to school, having multiple film venues and locations, the school was a big place with a lot of new people and students. Numerous lightbulbs highlighted our way, we started experimenting, bowling during recess and having bananas for lunch. The teachers tell us our baby is cheerful, creative, social and packed with positive energy. Of course, they tell him he has crazy parents and that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Or in our case- a banana. Now, we are ten. Experts say that is the age when your creativity starts going up up up, and we have celebrated our birthday with a bang- we came riding into it and wearing no helmet. It was only yesterday that we sat on our parents' shoulders. Dear Festival, while under my roof...Well, while you're under our roof we will treat you kindly, love you, nurture you and cuddle you. There now, don't sit there, it's cold for your kidneys, come and eat something, it's 3:30am and all the world's asleep or kissing in the dark and you have stuffed peppers at home.

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