



PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

## BEST DOCUMENTARY FILMS OF THE YEAR AWARDED IN DOCPPOINT

*DocPoint - Helsinki Documentary Film Festival has awarded the best new documentary films. Susanna Helke's Ruthless Times - Songs of Care won the National Competition. Ruslan Fedotov's Where Are We Headed won the International Competition.*

Finland's biggest documentary film festival DocPoint awarded the best documentary films of the year and their makers in Helsinki on Saturday 5th of February.

The best national and international film were awarded in DocPoint's competitions with DocPoint-Yle-award, which is worth 5.000 euros. In addition, the international jury gave two special mentions. The audience voted for their favourite film in The Audience Ballot financed by The Documentary Guild.

The winner of DocPoint's National Competition was **Susanna Helke's** film RUTHLESS TIMES - SONGS OF CARE. The darkly humorous film explores the state of Finnish public care where the employees try to survive in conditions where efficiency and profits have become the most important values. The film was produced by Road Movies Oy.

The international jury appreciated the creativity of the film's direction and the way it dwelled deep into humanity. The challenges in public care are not topical issues in Finnish society only, but the challenges related to the aging population apply around the world.

"This is such a great honour that it makes my organs tremble! To think that such professional international jury has received the film like this is astonishing. I wondered beforehand, how this film appeals to those who are not from Finland. How do we take care of every member of the society, how do we carry the responsibility? I am extremely happy that these themes opened up to the international jury as well" commented director Susanna Helke.

Ruthless Times – Songs of Care also won the audience ballot. All the new Finnish feature films took part in the audience favourite competition.

Eight new Finnish feature films took part in the National Competition. **Inka Achte's** GOLDEN LAND received the special mention of the National Competition. The film was produced by Napafilms. The film tells the story of Finnish-Somalian Mustafa who returns to Somalia with his family to open a mine in his family's lands.

## **THE WINNER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION COMES FROM MOSCOW'S METRO**

**Ruslan Fedotov's** WHERE ARE WE HEADED won DocPoint's International Competition. Fedotov's film follows people in Moscow's metro offering a current cross-section of Russian society and people.

The jury was impressed by how Fedotov's film created a colourful portrait of the contemporary Russian society. The film forces us to wonder over and over again: "where are they headed?" – not just about the journey of individual travelers passing through Moscow's largest underground metro, but also as a political question, about Russia itself.

Eleven new international feature films took part in the International Competition. **Jessica Beshir's** FAYA DAYI received the special mention out of international film competitors. Ethiopian-Mexican Beshir's tranquil film is an enchanting audio-visual story about intoxicating khat-plant, the problems it brings and cultural significance it has in Ethiopia.

DocPoint is up and running. The festival will continue until Sunday 6th of February.

## **DocPoint Competitions**

### **NATIONAL COMPETITION**

[Fragments of Humanity](#)

[Golden Land](#) **SPECIAL MENTION**

[Hockey Dreams](#)

[It's Raining Women](#)

[Power of the People](#)

[Ruthless Times – Songs of Care](#) **MAIN AWARD**  
[Shepherds of the Earth](#)  
[Sorrow Tamers](#)

## **INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION**

[All About My Sisters](#)  
[Les Enfants Terribles](#)  
[Faya Dayi](#) **SPECIAL MENTION**  
[Life of Ivanna](#)  
[The Mushroom Speaks](#)  
[A Night of Knowing Nothing](#)  
[One Take Grace](#)  
[President](#)  
[Sabaya](#)  
[Trenches](#)  
[Where Are We Headed](#) **MAIN AWARD**

*Photos of awarded directors and films can be downloaded from [here](#).*

*Film screeners and photos are available from publicist Pyry Waltari ([press@docpoint.fi](mailto:press@docpoint.fi)).*

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