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AI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL UNVEILS PIONEERING WINNERS, SHAPING THE FUTURE OF CINEMA

Hollywood, CA - The Al International Film Festival today announced the winners of its September 28 program, showcasing the vanguard of creative expression at the intersection of art and artificial intelligence. Chosen from 101 entries spanning 27 countries, the festival screened nine transformative, Al-related short films that redefine passionate storytelling for the 21st century.

An enthusiastic crowd gathered at the classic **Los Feliz Theatre** to celebrate the cutting-edge brilliance of tomorrow's filmmakers, followed by an exclusive After-Party networking event at Los Angeles' hippest diner, Fred62.

Twelve International Filmmakers engaged in lively discussions, both in-person and via Zoom, demonstrating a truly connected, global community.

The AI International Film Festival is uniquely positioned at the forefront of the industry, welcoming AI Films, Hybrid AI Films, Series/Pilot, Animated, Live-Action, or Documentary Films that either explore AI topics or are created using AI tools. Our mission is to educate the public and the entertainment industry about AI's evolving role in both art and society, diving deep into the future of creative expression—both its opportunities and its challenges.

The New Cinematic Vanguard: September Festival Award Winners

Here is the official list of groundbreaking films and their accolades. This roster highlights the new global centers of AI filmmaking excellence and the diverse, world-class talent driving the next era of cinema:

| Film Title | Logline | Directors | Min | Country | Premiere | Jury Award | Audience Award |
|----------------------|---|----------------|-----|---------|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Between Spaces | What connects childhood dreams and the bitter reality of war? | Bryan Ebzery | 9 | US | World Festival Premiere | Best Al Short Best Al Warfare | Best Film Best Use of Al Most Fun Most Surprising |
| Before My Silence | What can a 100-year old lady tell us? | Axel Schilling | 4 | Germany | World Festival Premiere | Best International Short Best Picture | Best Message |

| Zero | What happens to the human ego when it no longer holds the pen? | Dongha Oh | 6 | Korea | World Premiere | Best Hybrid Al Film Best Director Best Screenwriting Best Drama | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|----|---------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| The Wrong Visitor | What if the wrong visitor is sent to the gates of hell? | Harry Hyun | 12 | Korea | Not Premiere | Best Al Film | |
| Robin | What does history say about us? | Barney Miller | 5 | US | Not Premiere | Best Message Best Screenplay | |
| Close Enough | Does your relationship provide everything you need? | Alex Hunter | 10 | Germany | US Premiere | Best Experimental | |
| The Butterfly Dream | What does it matter what's illusion and what's reality? | Suhyeon Scholastica Jin, Aria Suhyun Kim, Hyunjoo Park | 4 | Korea | Not Premiere | Best Narrative Short | |
| Not Endings Not Beginnings | What is the battle between the dreamer and the realist like? | Edyta Jadowska | 2 | Poland | World Premiere | Best Story | |
| Rise Your Fury | What fury lies beneath these convicts? | Danilo Garcia | 4 | Chile | World Festival Premiere | Best Music Video | |
| Color of My Garden* | What's Frida Kahlo's life like? | Roy Oh | 25 | Korea | Not Shown | Best Documentary | |

^{*} Some selected films could not be screened due to time constraints; but have been judged to have earned substantial award.

Festival Highlights: Global Power Shifts and Record-Breaking Talent

"This month's lineup revealed a significant, and exciting, shift in the global creative landscape with **five Korean films** winning awards—a new record for submissions from a single country," explains **Bert Holland**, founder of the Al International Film Festival. "We are seeing the democratization of filmmaking play out in real-time, led by countries embracing these new tools."

Holland also called out the record-breaking success of two specific films:

- "We'd like to give special attention to the Korean film 'Zero' by Dongha Oh, who deftly combined the delicate expressiveness of well-directed human actors with the power of Al. This Hybrid Al Film exemplifies the future of collaborative human-machine creativity."
- "The American film 'Between Spaces' by Bryan Ebzery made history, earning Audience Choice awards in four categories—Best Film, Best Use of Al, Most Fun, and Most Surprising. This level of audience enthusiasm has never been achieved before, and it perfectly aligns with his win for the most-coveted jury award of Best Al Short."

Winners Now Streaming Worldwide

To reflect the global nature of our submissions (with two-thirds coming from outside the US), the festival has expanded access to its winning films. "We are committed to making this new era of cinema accessible to **anyone**, **anywhere**, **on any device**," said Holland. Curated blocks of each month's winning films are now streaming at <u>watch.eventive.org/aifilmfest</u>.

This month's program was made possible with the generous support of GenesisX, and with platform partners Eventive and FilmFreeway.

Press Contact

For media inquiries, including requests to contact filmmakers, obtain images, or learn more about the films, please contact:

Bert Holland, Executive Director

Al International Film Festival — a California **501(c)(3)** nonprofit <u>aifilmfest.org</u> | <u>filmfreeway.com/aiinternationalfilmfestival</u>

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About GenesisX

GenesisX brings immersive storytelling to life through AI, emerging tech, and bold innovation—creating meaningful experiences that connect people to the brands they love.

About Eventive

Eventive is an event and virtual cinema platform used by film festivals and arts organizations to manage ticketing, screenings, and streaming on-site and online.

About FilmFreeway

FilmFreeway is a submissions platform used by filmmakers to submit to festivals and competitions worldwide.