

Jury results

Grand Prix: *The White Fang*: The production of *The White Fang* is a remarkable example of a balanced combination of traditional scenic means of contemporary puppet theatre with finding effective possibilities of new production forms. In it, the creators convincingly present the familiar story of the animal hero's journey to find his own identity and his bitter testimony to the true face of the "masters of creation". The character of the White Fang is ingeniously embodied through a combination of acting, narration and the use of the camera as an eloquently animated object representing the protagonist and as a technology enabling the projection of the hero's perceived stage situation onto the cinematic screen. The collage of scenic devices brilliantly highlights the contrast between the life experience of White Fang and the harshness of the human community environments in which he finds himself. The play's thoughtful combination of illusive and non-illusive concepts helps us to understand the story of the wolf also as a metaphor for our own human journey towards inner freedom. The brilliant conception of the production and its superb craftsmanship, combined with the irresistible humour and lively music, convey a very powerful and comprehensible audience experience.

The Shoreless: Jury Award to the authors of *The Shoreless* for creating a bold, radical, emotionally impressive and at the same time understandable theatrical experiment, for exploring the possibilities of theatrical metaphor and for authentic acting.

Forbidden Children - Korczak's story: The Jury Award to the authors of the production for its overall dramaturgical and directorial concept, which, through an original and sensitive combination of an apt adaptation of Janusz Korczak's original text, impressive narration, acting action and the projection of an animated film, urgently points to the still current horrific absurdity of human violence against innocent child victims and speaks to the conscience of the audience to keep looking for ways to prevent similar events in the future.

OkoloIO: The Jury Award to the authors for the exhaustive fulfilment of the author's intention of the production, for its vital energy, for its sensitivity to the child viewer, for the rich imaginativeness and range of forms used inspiring playfulness and desire to discover the wondrous properties and laws of our world. Overall, we appreciate the performance as a little festival of joy.

Finally, we would like to express the jury's special thanks to the creators of Figurenteater Leipzig for their long-standing and distinctive inspiration for the work of professional puppeteers, which we have repeatedly encountered at home and abroad and which we have also noticed in some of the productions at this year's festival.