

## Film News: 'The President' is Top Film at the 2014 Chicago International Film Festival

Submitted by [NickHC](#) [1] on October 18, 2014 - 4:16am

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CHICAGO – The 50th Chicago International Film Festival announced its award winners in a ceremony at the city's Sofitel Chicago Water Tower on October 17th. The Gold Hugo for "Best Film" went to "The President," a dark satire from Georgia, France, UK, and Germany. This year's jury members for the international feature film competition included Oscar-nominated actress Kathleen Turner and renowned German director Margarethe von Trotta. This festival also marked the introduction of its "Roger Ebert Award," a celebration of rising new directors, which went to director Jorge Pérez Solano for his film "La Tirisia."

Honored films include Niels Arden Oplev's coming-of-age story "Speed Walking," Abderrahmane Sissako's luminous film "Timbuktu," William H. Macy's directorial debut "Rudderless," Chicagoan Marie Ullrich's "The Alley Cat," and more.



### International Feature Film Competition



'The President'

Photo Credit: © Chicago International Film Festival

**Gold Hugo for Best Film:** "The President" (Georgia, France, UK, Germany), directed by Mohsen Mahkmalbaf

**Silver Hugo – Special Jury Prize:** "Refugiado" (Argentina, Colombia, France, Poland, Germany), directed by Diego Lerman

**Silver Hugo – Best Director:** Abderrahmane Sissako of "Timbuktu" (France, Mauritania)

**Silver Hugo – Best Actor:** Anton Yelchin, "Rudderless" (USA)

**Silver Hugo – Best Actress:** Geraldine Chaplin, "Sand Dollars" (Dominican Republic, Mexico)

**Silver Hugo – Best Cinematography:** John Christian Rosenlund, "1001 Grams" (Norway)

**Silver Hugo - Best Screenplay:** Ronit Elkabetz and Shlomi Elkabetz, "Gett: The Trial of Viviane Amsalem" (Israel, France, Germany)

**Gold Plaque for Best Art Direction:** Mauro Radaelli, "Human Capital" (Italy)

**Gold Plaque for Best Costume:** Pia Myrdal and Anne-Dorthe Eskildsen, "Speed Walking" (Denmark)

**Gold Plaque Special Mention for Originality:** "The Owners" (Kazakhstan), Director: Adilkhan Yerzhanov

 **New Director's Competition**



'Underdog'

Photo Credit: © Chicago International Film Festival

**Gold Hugo:** Director Ronnie Sandahl of "Underdog" (Sweden)

**Silver Hugo** Director Asaf Korman of "Next to Her" (Israel)

**Roger Ebert Award** Director Jorge Pérez Solano of "La Tirisia" (Mexico)

 **Docufest Competition**



'Echo of the Mountain'

Photo Credit: © Chicago International Film Festival



**Gold Hugo:** "Echo of the Mountain" (Mexico), directed by Nicolás Echevarria

★ **Out-Look Program/Q Hugo Award**



'Xenia'

Photo Credit: © Chicago International Film Festival

**Gold Q Hugo:** "Xenia" (Greece), directed by Panos H. Koutras

**Silver Q Hugo:** "Something Must Break" (Sweden), directed by Ester Martin Bergsmark

★ **Short Film Competition: Live Action**



'Amazon'

Photo Credit: © Chicago International Film Festival

**Gold Hugo - Best Film:** "Amazon" (Norway), directed by Marianne O. Ulrichsen

**Silver Hugo - Live Action Short:** "In August" (USA), directed by Jenna Hasse



**Gold Plaque - Best Student Short** "Skunk" (USA), directed by Annie Silverstein

**Gold Plaque:** "Artun" (Iceland/Denmark), directed by Guðmundur Arnar Guðmundsson

**Silver Plaque:** "The Immaculates" (France), directed by Ronny Trocker

**Gold Plaque - Best Experimental Short:** "Prehistoric Cabaret" (France), directed by Bertrand Mandico

**Special Mention:** "Washingtonina" (Greece), directed by Konstantina Kotzamani



**Short Film Competition: Documentary**



'Love.Love.Love.'

Photo Credit: © Chicago International Film Festival

**Silver Hugo:** "Love. Love. Love." (Russia), directed by Sandhya Daisy Sundaram

**Gold Plaque - Special Jury Prize:** "Ghost Train" (Australia), directed by James Fleming and Kelly Hucker

**Special Mention:** "A Paradise" (Cuba), directed by Jayisha Patel



**Short Film Competition: Animation**



'Coda'

Photo Credit: © Chicago International Film Festival

**Silver Hugo - Best Animated Short Film:** "Coda" (Ireland), directed by Alan Holly

**Gold Plaque - Special Jury Prize:** "Symphony No. 42" (Hungary), directed by Réka Bucsi

**Silver Plaque:** "Drifting" (USA), directed by Joel Benjamin

**Special Mention:** "Man on the Chair" (South Korea), directed by Jeong Dahee



**Intercom Award**

The Intercom Awards honor a wide range of corporate-sponsored, educational, and branded films.

**Gold Hugo:** "The Art of the Pit Stop" (Germany) from Kemper Kommunikation GmbH



**The Chicago Award**

**Best Chicago/Illinois Based Film:** "The Alley Cat" (USA), directed by Marie Ullrich



**The Founder's Award**

This is a special recognition from the Founder of the Chicago International Film Festival, Michael Kutza

**Founder's Award:** Michael Keaton in "Birdman" (USA), directed by Alejandro González Iñárritu

Don't forget to check out our coverage of CIFF 2014, featuring numerous recommended titles that are still playing.

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*The 50th Chicago International Film Festival is October 9th-23rd, 2013. For more information and to purchase tickets, click on [ChicagoFilmFestival.com](http://ChicagoFilmFestival.com)* [20]

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