

## Awards ceremony at Gibara International Film Festival

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The awards gala of Gibara International Film Festival (2023) took place on the night of Saturday, August 5th, at Jibá movie-theater, a ceremony that closed the event, in which actor and film director Jorge Perugorría was awarded the Honorary Lucia Award.

While the Jury Awards for documentaries and animation went to Virgilio desde el gabinete azul (Cuba, Dir. Raydel Araoz) in the feature film category and Best Short Film went to Todos los días son 8 de marzo (Cuba, Dir. Lizette Vila), while the Jury of the Cuban Film Press Association recognized “Foudre” (Switzerland, Dir. Carmen Jaquier) as the best fiction feature film; “Abecé” (Brazil, Dir. Cleo Rosa) as the best fiction short film and awarded a special mention to the feature film “La espera” (Cuba, Dir. Daniel Ross).

In a second award ceremony, Sergio Benvenuto Solás, director of FIC Gibara, remembered that night of 1993 when Humberto Solás hugged Tomás Gutiérrez Alea and told him “you have made the film I wanted to make”. That film was Strawberry and Chocolate, the film that would raise Jorge Perugorría as the first Cuban actor of universal scope, for which he was granted the Honorary Lucia Award, in addition to his work at the head of this festival, of which he is Honorary President.

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Perugorría thanked the people of Gibare for the lessons learned during the years he has worked in directing the festival. He also stressed the importance of this event, which is one of the most important spaces in the cultural and cinematographic panorama of Cuba, and thanked the ICAIC and the Government of Holguín for their efforts to continue with this event, which above all belongs to the governments.

Sergio Benvenuto Solás thanked the people of Gibara for their support during these intense days of the festival and left open the call for the eighteenth edition, which will take place next year. / Carlos Rodríguez Rubio - Radio Angulo.