

57th International Film Festival Berlin
February 8-18, 2007



Prizes of the Ecumenical Jury

Since 1992, the international film organisations of the Protestant and Catholic Churches - INTERFILM and SIGNIS - have been represented by the Ecumenical Jury. It consists of six members and awards its main prize to a film entered in the *Competition*. It also awards two other prizes, both worth 2,500 Euros, one to a film from the *Panorama* and one to a film in the *Forum*. The prizes go to directors who have succeeded in portraying actions or human experiences that are in keeping with the Gospels, or in sensitising viewers to spiritual, human or social values

The Ecumenical Jury of the 57th Berlinale with the members Charles Martig, Switzerland (President), Angelika Obert, Germany, Prof. Em. Marjorie Suchocki, USA, Anita Uzulniece, Latvia, and Théo Péporté, Luxemburg

awards the following prizes:

International Competition:

TU YA DE HUN SHI (TUYA'S MARRIAGE) by Wang Quan'an, People's Republic of China 2006

Tuya a woman living with her handicapped husband and two children in the steppe of Mongolia struggles for their existence. Friends counsel her to divorce and remarry as a way to resolve the situation. Painful as this path is, Tuya and her husband decide upon it. Through closely recording scenes of this traditional culture, the director shows us the deep faithfulness, courage and love of the human relationships involved, and the sense of ambiguity attendant upon difficult human decisions.

International Forum of New Cinema:

CHRIGU by Jan Gassmann and Christian Ziörjen, Switzerland 2007

Chrigu, a young man suffering terminal cancer, documents the process of dying as a part of living, and living as a part of dying. His professional work had been technical support for his friends' Hiphop-band. Their music pulsates throughout the documentary, marking the rhythm of joy and pain, laughter and sadness, life and death. Throughout the process, Chrigu affirms life in his acceptance of the unavoidability of death.

Panorama:

LUO YE GUI GEN (GETTING HOME) by Zhang Yang, Hongkong, China / People's Republic of China 2006

Zhao decides to transport the body of his friend and colleague who had suddenly died back to his native town. He needs much help for this difficult task. With much humour, fantasy and love this unusual roadmovie tells how a seemingly impossible mission can nonetheless be accomplished through the help of many strangers encountered along the way. Even under extreme difficult social conditions human togetherness emerges.