

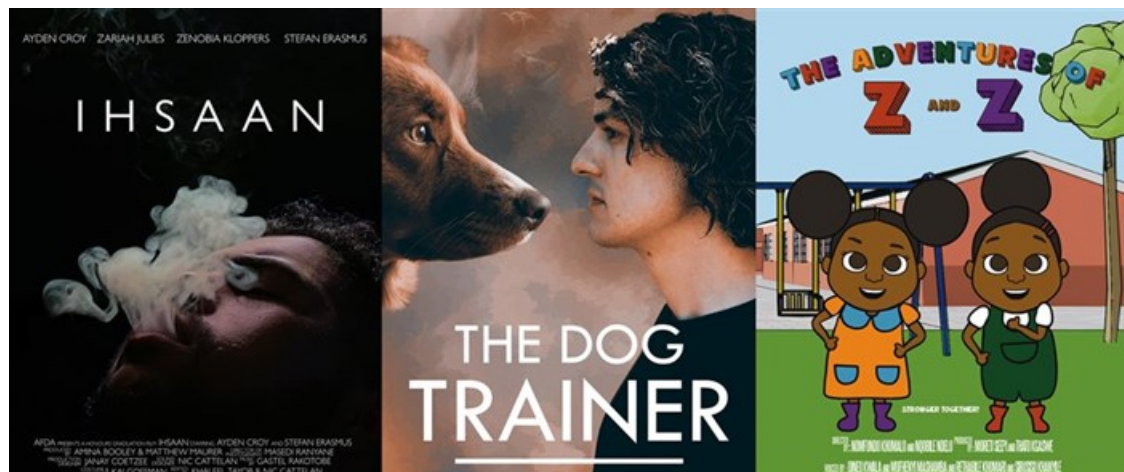
3 Afda 2021 graduation films selected for prestigious Cilect Prize 2022



By Earle Holmes, issued by AFDA

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The Cilect Prize is the first-ever award bestowed to a student film based on review from the whole community of Cilect Full Member Schools. This includes 180 institutions from 60 countries, of which Afda is a full member. Each Cilect Member School may submit one film in each genre category.



Afda has submitted films in three categories. Afda Cape Town postgraduate film, *Ihsaan*, directed by Taahir Sarguro represents Afda in the fiction film genre category. The animation genre category is represented by Afda Johannesburg honours film, *The Adventures of Z & Z*, directed by Nomfundo Khumalo and Nqobile Ndelu and the Afda Durban honours documentary film, *The Dog Trainer*, directed by Matthew Couperthwaite is selected to compete in the documentary genre category.

"It's an honour to be selected for the Cilect Prize 2022. *Ihsaan* is a South African, Capetonian and Muslim story through and through, and knowing it will be honoured and hopefully seen on another level is truly a blessing. Thank you to Afda for their tireless support and the entire cast and crew for bringing the film to life," says Taahir Sarguro, director of *Ihsaan*.

"It's incredibly exciting to be selected as one of the films that will represent Afda for the Cilect Prize 2022. A great deal of work was put in by the cast and crew and it's amazing to see how our animation film was so well received at the Afda Graduation Festival. We are proud to present South African narrative and scenery on this large international platform, and we are hopeful our film will be received well by everyone around the world," says Nomfundo Khumalo, director of *The Adventures of Z & Z*.

The Cilect Prize was founded in 2005 at the proposal of the (then) Vice-President Conferences and Festivals Prof. Dr Stanislav Semerdjiev, Rector of the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts (Natfa), Sofia, Bulgaria. It appeared as a result of his long-term research on world student festival activities and after a thorough survey between all Cilect Full Member Schools on the eventual importance of such a competition.

The formal ceremony of presenting the award is usually held at the annual Conferences of Cilect. The first such ceremony took place at Ecam, Madrid, Spain on 21 November 2006 and honoured the outstanding student film achievements of the 2004/2005 and 2005/2006 school years.

In the beginning The Cilect Prize Entry Rules did not make a distinction between fiction, documentary or animation and the award given was only one. The introduction of genre awards (fiction, documentary and animation) started in 2010.

Congratulations to all the cast and crew!

ABOUT EARLE HOLMES

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- Afda alumni in key roles on film which inspired Beyoncé's new album *Cowboy Carter* - 5 Apr 2024
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