

Afda films selected for the Cilect Prize 2021

By [Jasmine Walters](#), issued by [AFDA](#)

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Congratulations to all cast and crew members!

Afda is proud to announce the selection of three 2020 graduation films to compete for the prestigious Cilect Prize 2021; the first-ever award bestowed to a student film based on the review from the whole community of Cilect Full Member Schools. This community includes 180 institutions from 65 countries, of which Afda is a member.

Cilect, The International Association of Film and Television Schools (Centre International de Liaison des Ecoles de Cinéma et de Télévision), was founded in Cannes, France, in 1954. Cilect wholly supports creativity, diversity, cross-cultural thinking and sustainable development and is strongly committed to maintaining the highest possible standards of audiovisual education in its member schools.

The Cilect Prize was founded at the proposal of the (then) Vice-President Conferences and Festivals Prof. Dr Stanislav Semerdjiev in 2005. This prize was established as a result of his long-term research on world student festival activities and once a thorough survey had been conducted amongst all Cilect Full Member Schools on the eventual importance of such a competition. Presently, each Cilect Member School is permitted to submit one film in each category; fiction, documentary and animation.

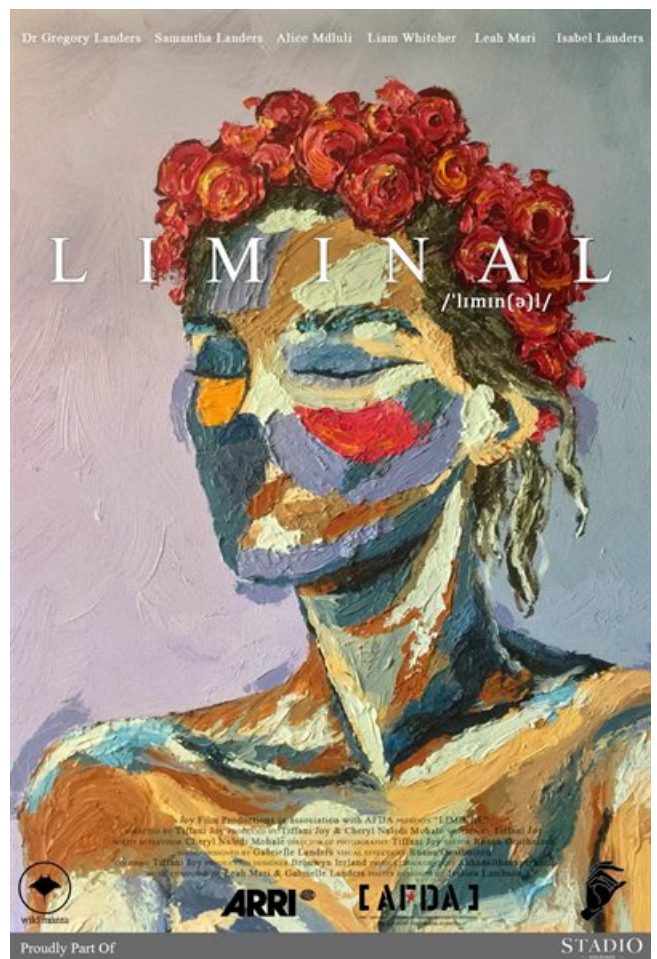
Afda's Johannesburg postgraduate film *Quiet on Set*, produced by Ore Ajewole and codirected by Natasha Luttjeboer and Jessica Teixeira, represents Afda in the fiction category. *Quiet on set* tackles issues concerning abuse of power and sexual harassment, specifically in the film industry. In this drama, a young female sound designer is faced with the dilemma of choosing between her career aspirations and her morals after witnessing the director harassing the female lead. The dichotomy of such a conflict is portrayed through a behind-the-scenes look into how set politics and power dynamics can play out in a male-dominated field where such power has often been used unjustly.

by use of hand-painted backdrops and digital animation. Brooklyn, the child protagonist in *Cavity*, is transported to a fanciful land after her tooth is lost down the sink drain upon meeting a mystical fairy. Once transported, Brooklyn encounters a manipulative witch with devious intentions and has to try and find a way to escape.

Spling describes the fluidity *Cavity* possesses that brings the sketch book characters to life: "Using water colour and hand-painted backdrops, every *Cavity* visual is original, spinning a tale speaking to the power of imagination. While limited by its budget, the animated short holds together with a consistent feel. A homegrown screenplay is invigorated by amateur voice actors who capture the tone of this bedtime story with verve."

The director and animator of such an inspired animation, Brittany Reis, expressed her appreciation: "That [their] film *Cavity* has been selected to represent Afda at the Cilect prize this year, I'm so grateful and honoured."

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