



JI.HLAVA INDUSTRY 2026 – WINNERS

- **Ji.hlava New Visions Award for the most promising European project in cooperation with UPP and Soundsquare**

(post-production services in the value of 15,000 EUR and 5,000 EUR)

- **6TM**
 - **Director:** Karim Akalay
 - **Producer:** Walid Bekhti
 - **Country:** Belgium
 - **Jury statement:**

With its imaginative blend of magical realism, humour and social relevance, 6TM offers a fresh vision of European cinema. Rooted in lived experience and shaped through co-creation, 6TM challenges conventional representations and opens up new possibilities for who gets to tell stories, whose voices are heard, and who sees themselves reflected on screen. We believe this approach holds extraordinary promise for the next generation of both audiences and filmmakers, demonstrating how cinema can become more inclusive and participatory.

- **Ji.hlava New Visions Award for the most promising U.S. project in partnership with AmDocs**

- **Searching for SmarterChild (7,000 USD)**
 - **Directors:** Lindsey Sitz, Zan Gillies
 - **Producer:** Erin Williams-Weir
 - **Countries:** United States, Canada
 - **Jury statement:**

Searching for SmarterChild takes us back to the early days of the internet to confront one of the most pressing questions of our time: what does our relationship with artificial intelligence reveal about ourselves? By revisiting their interactions with one of the earliest chatbots of their childhoods, the filmmakers offer a perspective on today's fascination with AI, challenging us to reflect not only on the technologies we create, but also on how we treat them and each other. The jury wishes to recognise the project's promise to engage audiences through an original, entertaining and thought-provoking approach to a subject that will profoundly shape our collective future.

- **CANNES DOCS – MARCHÉ DU FILM AWARD**

- ***Iridescence***

- **Directors: Dominika Kováčová, Kilhan Wittock**
 - **Producers: Matej Sotník, Klára Tasovská**
 - **Countries: Slovakia, Belgium, Italy**

- **DAE AWARD**

- ***Monument of Revolution***

- **Director: Mladen Ivanović**
 - **Producer: Tamara Puizina**
 - **Countries: Montenegro, Croatia**

- **#DOCS CONNECT TASKOVSKI TRAINING AWARD**

- ***Planet A***

- **Director: Emelie Mahdavian**
 - **Producer: Charlotte Hailstone**
 - **Country: United Kingdom**

- **DOCS BY THE SEA AWARD**

- ***Daughters of the Pit***

- **Director: Anshul Chauhan**
 - **Producers: Mina Moteki, Anshul Chauhan**
 - **Country: Japan**

- **EURODOC AWARD**

- ***If Only the Pines Could Speak***

- **Director: Yelyzaveta Myshkalenko**
 - **Producer: Diana Nazaruk**
 - **Country: Ukraine**

- **JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER AWARD**

- ***Planet A***

- **Director: Emelie Mahdavian**
 - **Producer: Charlotte Hailstone**
 - **Country: United Kingdom**

- **LIGHTDOX AWARD**

- *Male Fantasies*
 - Director: Max Bowens
 - Producers: Ryan Krivoshey, Sam Hewison
 - Country: United States

- **MEDITALENTS RESIDENCY AWARD**

- *The 13th Fish*
 - Director: Sara Stijović
 - Producers: Sara Stijović, Marija Vlahović
 - Country: Montenegro

- **SHEFFIELD DOCFEST NETWORKING AWARD**

- *A Spectre is Haunting Europe*
 - Director: Robo Mihály
 - Producers: Anna Mach Rumanová, Alena Kapinajová
 - Country: Slovakia, Czech Republic

- **RAFF RESIDENCY AWARD**

- *Words We Never Say*
 - Director: Agnieszka Zwiefka
 - Producers: Agnieszka Zwiefka, Iza Igel
 - Countries: Poland, Germany, Bulgaria, Spain

- **BRATISLAVA INDUSTRY DAYS AWARD**

- *If Only the Pines Could Speak*
 - Director: Yelyzaveta Myshkalenko
 - Producer: Diana Nazaruk
 - Country: Ukraine