

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, September 25 2020 Le Forum des images is an institution supported by the city of Paris

The winners of Newlmages Festival's 3rd edition revealed!

Organized by the Forum des images, <u>NewImages Festival</u> will reveal the winners of its 3rd edition this Friday, **September 25!** Until Sunday, the event celebrates **the vitality of digital creation and virtual worlds** (VR, AR, mixed reality, mapping, binaural sound, in all their forms). During this ceremony, NewImages Festival has signed **the 50/50 collective's charter for equality and diversity** in the cultural industry, hence confirming its continuing engagement for parity.

NewImages Festival's awards are made up of **five prizes**, symbols of immersive creation's diversity. The award ceremony took place **in the presence of the members of the jury**: the author and composer **Jean-Michel Jarre**, its president, the filmmakers **Julie Bertuccelli**, **Jérémy Clapin**, **Alice Diop**, and actress **Vimala Pons**.

"I am particularly honored to be this jury's president because NewImages Festival celebrates a means of expression that society ought to better understand", emphasizes **Jean-Michel Jarre**.

"For me, the emergence of VR, in relation to performing arts, reminds me of the birth of cinema, which was first considered a magic trick, but condescendingly judged by the world of entertainment.

It became the major art we know, and not only did this not kill theatre, it made it stronger. As of today, VR is in the exact same situation. It is an artistic form in and of itself and the selection of NewImages Festival's is an exact confirmation of that."

THE 4 PRIZES OF THE XR COMPETITION

Amongst the 15 VR and AR experiences in competition, the jury awarded four prizes:

The Golden Mask for the best work in virtual reality (Grand Prize)
 6000 €



Bodyless
By Hsin-Chien Huang,
Virtual and Physical Media, Integration Association of Taiwan (Taiwan)
Taiwan, animation, 2019, 25min

Two joint special prizes for works in virtual reality
 3 000 €



Ferenj: Agraphic

Memoir in VR

By Ainslee Robson

US – Ethiopia, experimental,
2020,9'20min



Gravity VR

By Fabito Rychter, Amir Admoni

Delirium XR (Brazil / Peru)

Brazil-Peru, fiction, animation,

2020, 17min

The jury's special prize for a work in augmented reality
 3 000 €



MOA - My Own Assistant

By Charles Ayats, Franck Weber, Alain Damasio, Frédéric Deslias Red Corner, France Télévisions, Le Forum des Images, La Volte, le Clair Obscur, Small Studio, Chroniques (France)

France, experimental, 2020, 20min

XR FINANCING MARKET PRIZE

Launched in 2019, the NewImages Festival's **XR Financing Market** is a financing and coproduction scheme unique in Europe. Open to all XR experiences (VRM AR, MR), the selection committee chose <u>40 proposed projects</u> that are looking for funding.

A City of Foxes received the prize for best project under development. An experience mixing virtual reality and immersive theatre by Nihaarika Negi produced by Tamanoir Immersive Studio.



A City of Foxes

by Nihaarika Negi

Producer: Rémi Large and Samuel Lepoil - Tamanoir Immersive Studio

Genre: Fiction

France

This project will be included in the program of Kaleidoscope Slate Funding 2020.

VR CREATION RESIDENCY FRANCE-TAÏWAN

For the second consecutive year, Newlmages Festival partnered with **Kaohsiung Film Festival** and the **French Office in Taipei**, to offer a French creator the opportunity to work **for 3 months** at the VR creation residency at Taiwan **Kaohsiung** and to create an innovative VR experience. Their project will receive a financial support up to **30 000€** and the final work's world premiere will be presented at the Kaohsiung Film Festival, followed by Newlmages Festival's 4th edition.

The winner is **Hayoun Kwon** (director) for his project *The Guardians of Jade Mountain* produced by Baltazar Auxietre and Richard Turco – Innerspace VR (FR)

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