

2018 UK International Radio Drama Festival Announce the **WINNERS!**

This year's Festival was entitled FORMS OF THINGS UNKNOWN and once again the theme was "from stage to air" – radio dramas with some connection to the live stage. After a fantastic week in Herne Bay, in which our international jury of 12 (under the Chair of Tomas Soldan of Czech Radio and Brian Shelley representing the audience) listened to nearly 50 Entries from 17 Countries in 15 languages, we were delighted to announce the winners at a champagne and fish and chips reception in the shop front premises of the Herne Bay Historical Records Society. All will be awarded the distinctive pig and radio trophy.

They are as follows.

FULL LENGTH RADIO DRAMA:

ALMANAK – Wederik de Backer – Belgium

A play set in De Mebloem (The Mayflower) at the Brugse Poort, a working class neighbourhood in the city of Ghent. An exquisite exploration of the meaning of community over time, in which the painstaking research Wederik undertook in order to create his world became the basis of a wonderfully engaging drama.

Prize £2000

SHORT FORM

OPHELIA'S HARP – Sverr Gudjonsson – Iceland

Based on the drowning of Ophelia, Sverr interweaves his voice 'sculptures' alongside Ophelia's songs performed by the Actress, Arnbjorg Hlif to transform the familiar into some strange and new and utterly beguiling.

Prize - £750

Awards in the full length category were also made to RTE (Ireland) - for From Eden (second prize) and RTE (Ireland) - for Surviving Ireland and SWR (Germany) for Eine Woche Voller Samstage (equal third)

No other short form awards were made.

There is STILL time to vote for your favourite in the Audience Award (worth £750) – log onto www.radiodramafestival.org.uk

VOTING ENDS MIDNIGHT ON 8th April 2018

The Organisers of the 4th UK International Radio Drama Festival want to thank the support of the WGGB, ALCS, Arts Council, England, Awards for All and the Government of Flanders as well as the community of Herne Bay. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Note to editors

The UK international Radio Drama Festival has just celebrated its fourth edition. It is the UK's only outward facing radio drama festival. It is based in Herne Bay, offering anyone and everyone an opportunity to celebrate radio drama through open access to the live listening sessions in person and online. Organised by International Arts Partnership, a theatre producing company, the theme has been focused on radio drama with some connection to the live stage.

The festival aims to bring diverse work from across the world, introducing a UK audience to the European tradition of radio drama often anchored in soundscape whilst celebrating our own more text based tradition. The festival provides a UK audience with the rare pleasure of listening to radio drama in other languages, supported by English language translations of the script. The festival also brings together work from national broadcasters with that of emerging independent producers and is proud that the major prizes have largely been awarded to this exciting but lesser known work.

Awards are made by a jury – membership of which is open to anyone who commits to listening to all the work across the week – and which always includes international producers who have travelled to Herne Bay with their work. An audience award – decided by popular vote and open to anyone anywhere in the world to vote – complements the jury award and usually goes to work which has not achieved a jury award.

Alongside the professional festival, an outreach programme takes the opportunity to make radio drama into local schools and community groups, culminating in a community showcase on the last Saturday of the festival.

This year, we are looking forward to extending the festival through the UK's first children and young peoples' radio drama festival which will take place in Herne Bay in June.

For further information, please contact

Melanie Nock, Producer (07903168891) mel@international-arts.eu

Jonathan Banatvala, Artistic Director (07968034713) jonathan@international-arts.eu

Nicholas McInerny, Project manager