

The Slovak National Film Awards Sun in a Net (Slnko v sieti) 2024 Dominated by the Film "Waves", Winning Nine Awards

On Wednesday, April 16, the gala ceremony for the 2024 Sun in a Net film awards took place. The evening was dominated by the film *Waves*, which explores the Czechoslovak past. The second most successful film was *Hungarian Dressmaker*, which also reflects the nation's process of reckoning with history.

For the first time in the history of the national film awards, the live broadcast was conducted exclusively via online stream on the website www.slnkovsieti.sk.

"We thank all viewers for their support and believe that the online platform helped Sun in a Net reach new audiences who no longer consume content via television but instead seek it in cinemas or online. From a technical standpoint, this was a new challenge for our organizing team—one that I believe we'll make good use of in the future," said Katarína Krnáčová, president of the Slovak Film and Television Academy.

Slovak Celebrities in the Audience

The 14th edition of the Sun in a Net national film awards brought a record number of entries—49 film and television works in total. Organizers emphasize that Slovak production is attracting increasing interest from domestic audiences. In 2024, out of 5,435,556 cinema tickets sold, as many as 1,498,508 were for Slovak films. This was reflected in the strong participation in the Audience Choice Award vote, which saw more than double the number of voters compared to the previous year.

Numerous prominent figures attended the festive gala. Among the actors and actresses seen on stage and in the audience were Petra Polnišová, Tomáš Mašťalír, Nela Pocisková, Judit Pecháček, Zuzana Kronerová, Natália Germáni, Zuzana Mauréry, Milan Ondřík, Dominika Morávková, and Alexander Bárta, as well as public figures such as Zuzana Čaputová and Tamara Heribanová. The event was hosted, as in previous years, by Branislav Bruno Ciberej and was broadcast from the Grand Concert Studio of Slovak Radio.

Waves Wins Nine Awards

The film *Waves*, which resonated strongly in 2024, took home nine awards:

- Best Feature Film: **Monika Kristl, Vlasta Kristl, and Wanda Adamík Hrycová**
- Best Film Direction: **Jiří Mádl**
- Best Screenplay: **Jiří Mádl**
- Best Cinematography: **Martin Žiaran**
- Best Film Editing: **Filip Malásek**
- Best Sound: **Viktor Ekrt**
- Best Costume Design: **Katarína Štrbová Bielíková**
- Best Visual Effects: **Ivo Morávek and Miroslav Gál**
- Best Actor in a Leading Role: **Vojtěch Vodochodský**

The Hungarian Dressmaker Also Recognized

The film *The Hungarian Dressmaker*, which also represented Slovakia at the American Oscars®, caught the attention of the Slovak Film and Television Academy. It received awards in the following categories:

- Best Production Design: **Miriam Struhárová and Tomáš Svoboda**
- Best Make-up and Hair Design: **Andrea Štrbová, Ivo Strangmüller, Tomáš Richter, and Viktor Nagy**
- Best Actress in a Leading Role: **Alexandra Borbély**
- Best Supporting Actress: **Eva Bander**
- Best Supporting Actor: **Milan Ondřík**

Living Large

The animated film *Living Large*, directed by **Kristina Dufková** and produced by **Matěj Chlupáček, Agata Novinski, and Marc Faye**, received two awards:

- Best Animated Film: ***Living Large***
- Best Original Film Score: **Michal Novinski**

The Best Documentary Film of 2024 was ***The President***, directed by Marek Šulík and produced by Barbara Janišová Feglová.

TV Series for the Third Time

Television productions were recognized for the third time in the Sun in a Net awards. The prize for Best TV Film/Miniseries/Series went to ***Time of Hopes***, directed by Ján Sebechlebský and co-produced with STVR by Zuzana Balkóová and Erik Panák.

A new category was introduced this year: Best Short Fiction or Documentary Film. The award went to ***Confession*** by director Rebeka Bizubová, created as a student film at the Film and Television Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava.

Lifetime Achievement Award and Audience Award
The Lifetime Achievement Award for Exceptional Contribution to Slovak Audiovisual Culture was presented to **Miloslav Luther**.

The Audience Award went to **MIKI**, a film inspired by the story of Slovakia's most infamous mafia boss of the 1990s, directed by Jakub Kroner and produced by Zuzana Mistríková, Radovan Gerek, and David Blümel.

The national film awards *Sun in a net* are organized by the Slovak Film and Television Academy.

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