**HUNGARIAN SHORTS IN COMPETITION 2019**

**The compilation of the 15th BuSho Festival posed quite a challenge for our 5-members strong Pre-Jury, which they also reiterated in their summaries, and highlighted that the number of quality shorts exceeded the limit available for the competition programme. Indeed, if we take a statistical approach: 70 creations were selected as competition programme out of the nearly 1000 submissions, thus making up only 7% of the films screened by our selectors – but, naturally the time constraint is the main factor to take into consideration.** **Without too much of self-aggrandizing: they made the best choices and distilled the essence for our audience – for which** [**we compiled a little appetizer**](https://youtu.be/e1x2kDiA4I4) **from Hungarian creators.**

****Where to start... ah, yes! Parallel to the boom of the full spectrum of Hungarian shorts, the animation genre grew to a respectable extent and bore beautiful fruits in doing so. [**Mr. Mare by Luca Tóth**](https://vimeo.com/310705719)made its world debut without speaking a single word at the 69th Berlinale, but at the same time told a story about condition-free, unilateral love, disillusionment, vanity and sexuality. The film of [**Anna Flóra Buda, titled Entropia**](https://vimeo.com/311009906)that she created for her graduation atMoholy-Nagy University of Art and Design was screened also at Berlinale, and received the Teddy price of the independent jury due to creations involving LGBTQ topics. In her animation [**“Prime Numbers”**](https://vimeo.com/350752735) – also a graduation film made at Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, **Anna Ottlik** observes the effects of childhood traumas on the adult person.

The mood of the Festival is always elevated by very short sketches. After his earlier creation “Memmod”, **Gergely Tápai** is here to prove this with **#GoodDeed –** telling a story involving a homeless person; or the excellent one-minute short of Ábel Regős’ **The Tenants** which explores a sensitive social topic. [**In “From Above”, Nándor Lőrincz and Bálint Nagy**](https://vimeo.com/321849477)highlight a similar topic, featuring camera angles known from reality TV thus making us a witness of the escalation of a single argument occurring at the annual curb side pick-up. Although we state each year that it is impossible to construct key topics from such a vast starting material, however, it is inevitable to sidestep our everyday topics, such as migration, as shown by [**Balázs Wizner’s “Strange sounds”**](https://vimeo.com/277240815)**.** **Attila Dávid’s film “Jakab”** was awarded the prize for the most promising young director at Friss Hús Budapest International Short Film Festival for showing the mysteries of human soul in a unique way; **Rozália** **Szeleczki** also received an award for [“**Mrs. Rozgonyi**”](https://vimeo.com/320812515) an adaptation of the ballad with the same title written by the great Hungarian poet [who also translated Shakespeare’s plays into Hungarian]. One of our great comebacks is thanks to **Márton Szirmai** who brings us joyful moments in the short [“**Out of character**”](https://vimeo.com/294018937) created with his long-standing crew (featuring et al Barnabás Tóth, György Pálos, Mihály Búzás).

Although it was its documentary [“**Ultra**”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b8Q9555TzOc) – on the ultra-marathon competition, which was also nominated for a European Film Award in 2017 – that brought the great break-through for **Balázs Simonyi** [Bart Simpson’s voice in Hungarian], we have to open a dedicated chapter to him in the BuSho-History Book. After browsing old catalogues let us remember a few of their gems in a taxative manner: we screened the Neon lights of Budapest in Kultiplex, and the Field study films co-created with Barna Tóth at the times when they were members of the Momentán ensemble; later we featured Original Lager, One vote, Tour, Finale (with a remarkable producer) and “Indian” his latest audience-favourite – which was censored by the comrades in Belarus – that is they banned it from the screening... The core concept of his newest film, [**Banality**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=2X2X9ik4318)was inspired by the terror attack at Boston Marathon – on which he also took part – which made him realize that violence has crept into our lives and is increasingly deemed as an integral part of it.

And last, but not least... let’s see the long-winded creations that usually deal with more serious topics, such as [“**The Mentor**” by **Szonja Szabó**](https://vimeo.com/291455081), which commemorates the victims of the so called “Blue Whale” internet phenomenon that made headlines a few years ago; or “**[Katapult”](https://vimeo.com/300243290)** [by](https://vimeo.com/300243290) **[Balázs](https://vimeo.com/300243290)****[Szövényi-Lux](https://vimeo.com/300243290)**, in which the protagonist, Gau builds a structure spanning over time and space to meet his love again. The film of [**Pici Pápai, Pigeonberry**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sUu7hhAHYnk)tells the story of a little boy who perceives the illness of his mother and his own anxiety as a magical threat. The crew of [**Miklós Borsos’ The Big Shot**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcWP6bRLFtI)tries to film the last scene of a film, in which a man drowns – without much success.

Last but not least, we have to mention the graduation film of Gyöngyi Fazekas (Metropolitan University) [“**The Orange Passport”**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BWrCe2Rkl24)depicting a country not so far-far away where the State interferes in the procreation of its citizens.

Naturally, we will miss our greatest ones, or rather who were left out of the competition – but this means that it is worth staying with us at the Hungarorama section held on Saturday – because not everyone can be featured in the competition programme for specific reasons. **Two lines, Dad’s heart, The Buzz, 147 marks or Village Fashion** will be screened, and the single most important thing we can do is to invite you to come and visit Hungarian shorts!

**The 15th BuSho International Short Film Festival will start on 27 August 2019 with parallel screenings in Puskin Cinema, Art+ Cinema, the Italian Culture Institute of Budapest, and in venues in the country side: at Búgócsiga in Sopron, in Modem in Debrecen and in Szeged Grand Café!** [**www.busho.hu**](http://www.busho.hu)