

‘Mal de Madre’, by Irene Baqué, wins the Ullastre Award for Best Short Documentary at the 8th Menorca Doc Fest

- **‘L’últim vaquer de Hollywood’, by Jordi Nadal Perelló, takes the Award for Best Balearic Short Documentary**
- **‘No als poalets’, by Laura García Andreu, and ‘Cara de bicicleta’, by Amaia Nerekan Umaran and Itziar Zorita Agirre, receive the Aula Doc Award**
- **‘Dreams for a better past’, by Albert Kuhn, is the short film nominated qualifiable for the 2027 Fugaz Awards**
- **Jury’s Special Mention goes to ‘Wainitai’, by Pablo García-Vizcarra**
- **The audience attending the screenings had the final say with its own Audience Award.**

The awards of the 8th **Menorca Doc Fest**, the documentary film and photography festival of Menorca, have been decided by the jury, made up of **Joan Carles Martorell, Anna Petrus and Xavi Herrero**. The **Ullastre Award for Best Short Documentary** goes to **‘Mal de Madre’, by Irene Baqué** (2025, 22 min): “For its poetic exploration of fears and transgenerational trauma; its delicate portrayal of the tension between local traditions and new ways of living; and for making visible, with sensitivity and subtlety, how violence against women has been naturalised and justified through folklore and ancestral traditions.” This is how the jury recognised it. This Ullastre Award is sponsored by the Fundació Guillem Cifre de Colonya.

The film portrays Lita, a 16-year-old girl who has been afraid of lizards since she was little. Every summer she returns to Lagartera, a village where family traditions run deep, and it is during the Corpus Christi celebrations, as her grandmother dresses her, that she discovers the roots of this fear.

The jury also awarded the **Award for Best Balearic Short Documentary to ‘L’últim vaquer de Hollywood’, by Jordi Nadal Perelló**, “for recovering the surprising saga of the Mallorcan Joan Ribot, who emigrated to the United States in the 1960s and ended up becoming part of the Hollywood world; and for doing so with a gaze attentive to both the man and the myth, through an exceptional edit that builds a deeply moving journey.”. This Balearic Award is supported by the Consell Insular de Menorca Language Advisory Service.

In addition, the jury chose **‘Dreams for a better past’, by Albert Kuhn, as the nominee for the Fugaz Awards**, “for its lucid exploration of memory inherited—and also hidden—within

collective history. A brilliant audiovisual essay featuring an elegant use of family archives that confronts us with what we would like to erase from our past, yet cannot." Starting from a photograph, it delves into a silent legacy of power and ideological battles that resonate across generations". Starting from a single photograph, delves into a silent legacy of power and ideological battles that echo across several generations.

The **Aula Doc Award** has been given to **'No als poalets', by Laura García Andreu, and 'Cara de bicicleta', by Amaia Nerekan Umaran and Itziar Zorita Agirre**. The first one, "for his incisive and funny - and at the same time tragic - analysis of social polarization. Turning some recycling shovels into a symbol of division and the absurd in the life of a town. A fresh and witty documentary that transforms a local conflict into a universal mirror of contemporary politics.". The former portrays a town divided over "harmless" recycling buckets as the countdown to local elections begins. The latter is an audiovisual essay on the relationship between women and bicycles, a song to freedom and the feminist struggle that starts from a historical fact from the late 19th century. In the jury's words, "it is an exceptional cinematic essay that prompts an exercise in historical memory and promotes gender equality."

The jury has chosen to award an **Jury's Special Mention** to **'Wainitai', by Pablo García-Vizcarra** (2025, 20 min.), "for turning an intimate portrait, free of exoticism, of a young Indigenous woman's journey into maturity into a universal mirror on the search for identity."

The sixteen short films selected for the 8th Doc Fest were screened on 9 and 10 October at the Sala Multifuncional des Mercadal. On Saturday 10 October, at the closing ceremony at 20.15, the verdict was announced and the awards were presented. The audience attending the screenings had the final say with its own **Audience Award**.

The festival's selected short films

The **international section** has brought together twelve shorts shot in Spain, Peru, Chile, Kosovo and Asturias, among other places. From the Peruvian Amazon comes **'Wainitai', by Pablo García-Vizcarra**. **'El Congelador', by Raúl De La Fuente and Amaia Remírez**, follows a girl who escapes a child prostitution ring and sets out to seek justice; **'Pedro Tomás explica el mundo', by Kornelijus Stučkus**, is a portrait of a man who interprets in his own way the jungle, the gods or the strange black desert left by a volcano on La Palma; and **'Two Lives in Tight Socks', by Rilindje Sadiku and Besim Ugzmajli**, follows a pregnancy lived in Kosovo amid hardship and a dream of emigrating to Canada. The section also includes **'Mal de Madre', by Irene Baqué**; **'Eject: el último rebobinado', by Martín Desoto and Senin Porto**, which starts from the closing of the last video rental shops and the arrival of streaming platforms and AI; **'Princesa, 20', by Marina Freixa Roca**, which turns a home camera into an involuntary archive of a decade of change in the centre of Barcelona; **'Cara de bicicleta', by Amaia Nerekan Umaran and Itziar Zorita Agirre**; and **'No als poalets', by Laura García Andreu**. Albert Kuhn rummages through family photographs and silences in **'Dreams for a better past'**; **'Una mujer que conocí llamada Yudita', by Rodrigo Agüeria**, is pure rural mystery; and in **'Baisanos', by Andrés Khamis**

Giacoman and Francisca Khamis Giacoman, identity and return are in dialogue between Chile and Palestine through a football club.

In the **Balearic selection**, 'Souvenir', by Macià Florit Campins, turns a Menorcan stone confiscated at the airport into the protagonist of an odyssey that is, in fact, a critique of mass tourism on the islands. Carles Bover returns to his shoot in Gaza with 'El ressò de la mirada'—recently awarded Best Short Documentary at the Fugaz Awards—and asks about the weight of filming pain and the responsibility of those who show it. In 'Diciembre', Diego Poncelet takes the skateboarding and life philosophy of a young man from Medellín to Mallorca; and, of course, there is 'L'últim vaquer de Hollywood', by Jordi Nadal Perelló.

About the jury

Joan Carles Martorell holds a degree in Audiovisual Communication and has a career spanning film production, university teaching, and the management and programming of IB3; **Anna Petrus** is a filmmaker, programmer and researcher from Menorca based in Barcelona, programming adviser at Sheffield Doc Fest and lecturer at UPF and ESCAC; and **Xavi Herrero**, documentary filmmaker, street photographer, and founder and director of the IbizaCineFest and Street Photography Barcelona festivals.

Menorca Doc Fest is an initiative of FAR Cultural, sponsored by the FFTM and supported by the Fundació Guillem Cifre de Colonya, the Consell Insular de Menorca, and the Institut d'Estudis Baleàrics. The Ullastre Award is sponsored by the Fundació Guillem Cifre de Colonya, while the Balearic Award is supported by the Consell Insular de Menorca Language Advisory Service.

Follow us!

[Menorca Doc Fest](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

Press contact:

Anaïs Faner Anglada

comunicacio@menorcadocfest.com

+34 681 269 251