

ARTHOUSE CINEMA AWARD

Jury: Chrissy Grundl, cinema manager Filmgalerie Regensburg; Madita Kondratjuk, head of programming Kino Schloßtheater, Münster; Eva Buchmann, programme curator Wolf Kino, Berlin

Watch this film! Give it a chance! Show it to your audience!

The award criteria reflect this: artistic, innovative, educational – the film we are honouring is exactly that.

It wins us over with its evocative visual language and remarkably sensitive characterisation. It combines a lyrical, mythical tone with a documentary grounding. It uses its setting not merely as an aesthetically pleasing backdrop, but as a plot-driving element of its dramaturgy.

In doing so, this film trusts its audience. It gives its characters time; it does not explain them away, but allows them space. The magnificent amateur actors and actresses lend their characters an immediate, at times almost fragile presence. The film's strength lies in the profound emotional closeness it builds, without ever becoming didactic or exploitative.

This, too, is where its political power lies. This film gives space to a young generation whose present is marked by deep uncertainty about their future. Volatile relationships and the search for one's own place are not formulated as theories, but can be experienced through bodies, glances and relationships.

And that is precisely why this award-winning film belongs in cinemas.

We present the **Arthouse Cinema Award** to a film that is artistically independent, formally bold and open to the world.

Congratulations to *La Gradiva* by Marine Atlan.