

English Version:

Cottbus, November 13th, 2022

Press information

## **MIOB in Shorts Award goes to Amygdala**

*MIOB in Shorts Award 2022 was presented to Amygdala (2021) directed by Maria Hatzakou from Greece during the 32nd FilmFestival Cottbus. The MIOB in Shorts Award, first introduced by the network in 2021, aims to present a variety of selected short films to a wider European audience and encourage their active participation by allowing them to vote for their favorite film.*

The selection process for this award consists of two stages in close cooperation with the member festivals of MIOB. Firstly, each festival nominates two films from emerging European directors that were screened at their most recent editions, resulting in a total of 14 European shorts. These films represent a diverse range of thematic and artistic approaches, showcasing the unique programming strategies of the member festivals. Secondly, the nominated films are made available on the MIOB website at [miob.info](http://miob.info) for the European audience to watch and vote for their favorites. The film with the highest number of votes receives the Audience Award.

In 2022, a total of 14 short films from a variety of European countries, nominated by MIOB members, competed online for the MIOB in Shorts Audience Award, which carried a prize of 1,000 euros.

A dedicated "Watch & Vote" section was launched on the MIOB website, allowing viewers to watch the nominated films online for a month. The promotion of the activity primarily took place online. The promotion efforts included social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, as well as online press and newsletters.

In addition to the financial prize, the winners of the MIOB Shorts Award were invited to participate in the FilmFestival Cottbus in person. The director and producer were able to attend workshops, networking events, film screenings, and selected events of the co-production market that coincided with the FilmFestival Cottbus, which provided them with valuable insights into the European film industry. As a result, the award served to strengthen their professional networks and develop new strategies for their future involvement in the European film industry and other European film festivals.

The MIOB in Shorts project is transitioning from a year-long online presentation to an online festival format, with the aim of increasing its value and attracting the attention of viewers, media, and the film industry. This change also serves to promote the upcoming events of five out of the seven MIOB member festivals, namely Cottbus, Seville, Vilnius, Les Arcs, and Trieste.