**Jan Palach Named Best Film by Czech Film Critics**   
*Press Release, 2 February 2019*

**Robert Sedláček’s drama *Jan Palach* about *t*he uncompromising young student who set himself on fire in 1969 to protest against the Soviet invasion to Czechoslovakia, has won bestfilm of 2018. The** Czech Film Critics’ Awards 2018 **winner was announced at a ceremony held today at the Archa Theatre in Prague.**

**Best director** is Olmo Omerzu with road-movie ***Winter Flies***, best screenplay was written by Tomáš Pavlíček and Lucie Bokšteflová who created the bittersweet family comedy ***Bear with Us*.** Best documentary ***When the War Comes*** about a populist politician rising from the Slovak paramilitary organisation was shot by Jan Gebert.

Altogether eight films were awarded in nine categories. Two awards shined a light on ***Talks with T. G. Masaryk*:** the critics voted for Martin Huba for best actor and first time director Jakub Červenka was declared newcomer of the year. **Jenovéfa Boková** delivered the best female performance in Beata Parkanová’s picture ***Moments.***Interestingly, both acting awards went to actors in debut films.

Famous Czech director, artist, and animator Jan Švankmajer and his son Václav were celebrated for the production design of Švankmajer‘s latest feature ***Insect*** inthe Audiovisual Achievement category. Olympic Channel‘s ***The*** ***Nagano Tapes***, a documentary about Czech ice-hockey players‘ win at the first Olympics featuring professionals from the NHL,was victorious in the Offscreen category which celebrates TV, on-line, and other projects from non-theatrical distribution.

The victors were decided by a poll of 52 Czech film critics and announced at a ceremony held today at the Archa Theatre and broadcast live on Czech Television. The event was hosted by actors Jana Plodková and Jiří Havelka.

The Czech Film Critics’ Awards are organised by the Association of Czech Film Critics, with the generous support of its principal partners innogy, Czech Television, and the Czech Ministry of Culture, with additional partners Archa Theatre, Champagneria, and Mowshe. The results are available in full at [www.filmovakritika.cz](http://www.filmovakritika.cz)

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**Complete Results of the Czech Film Critics’ Awards 2018**

**BEST FILM:**Jan Palach – Viktor Schwarcz, Jan Schwarcz, Silvia Panáková, Erik Panák, Jan Maxa (producers)

**BEST DOCUMENTARY:**When the War Comes (Až přijde válka) – Jan Gebert

**BEST DIRECTOR:**

Winter Flies (Všechno bude) – Olmo Omerzu  
 **BEST SCREENPLAY:**  
Bear with Us (Chata na prodej) – Tomáš Pavlíček, Lucie Bokšteflová

**AUDIOVISUAL ACHIEVEMENT:**   
Insect (Hmyz), production design – Jan Švankmajer, Václav Švankmajer  
  
**BEST ACTOR:**   
Talks with T. G. M. (Hovory s TGM) – Martin Huba  
  
**BEST ACTRESS:**Moments (Chvilky) – Jenovéfa Boková

**INNOGY PRIZE FOR NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR:**Jakub Červenka – Talks with T. G. M. (Hovory s TGM)

**OFFSSCREEN AWARD:**

The Nagano Tapes – Ondřej Hudeček, Jon Weinbach

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