

## TV & WEBCASTS JURY REPORT

The entries for the competition in TV documentaries and web casts, came from 16 countries (UK, Russia, Germany, Turkey, Lebanon, China, Bangladesh, India, USA, Israel, Norway, Tunisia, Burma, France, South Africa, Dubai) in 15 languages and from four continents. The themes of the films ranged from aging women, women as pastoralists, nomads, practitioners of traditional art and as broadcasters, to LGBT issues, trafficking, and rape in conflict and war, and included mothers of missing children fighting state oppression, women fighting against religious orthodoxy or fighting for environmental rights, along with feminist history, women as forms, and women's journey as writers or literary figures.

### Winner, Television Documentary Award

**“The Poison Thorn” (Bishkanta) made by Farzana Bobby of Bangladesh.** The film made in 2014, narrates the experiences of three women who are still haunted by rape that they survived, some 40 years after the 1971 war that led to the formation of Bangladesh. The film traces the brutality of social stigma and loss of self-esteem relived by these women in various ways, set against the lyrical beauty of their surroundings. The intense narrative, set against the outward tranquility of their life, succeeds in communicating the depth of their experience to the viewer. The pace of the film gives the viewer an opportunity to reflect. The cinematography and the use of sound in the film are of outstanding quality. The jury unanimously recommends this film for the IAWRT International Documentary Award - 2015.

Farzana Bobby is a freelance videographer, the first woman in Bangladesh to enter the profession in mainstream commercial media. She has worked in varied roles of editor, scriptwriter and assistant director for full length feature films as well as documentaries in Bangladesh. Farzana is a poet and is a founder-member of Chobir Lorai, a non-profit organization of active film-makers.

### First honorable mention, television documentary

**Kristine Ramm of Norway for “Feminists of the 70s,”** made in 2013. The film retraces the history of the new feminist movement in Norway with the help of participants of the movement in the 60s and 70s, two of whom were founders. They reminisce about their experiences in the movement. The film uses documents, archival footage and visuals of the period, to reconnect to the present. The narrative is interesting and presents a crisp summary of the history of the movement and its concerns told from the point of view of

the participants. The film has insights that can have a universal appeal to the feminist movement across cultures. Kristine Ramm has been a documentary producer over the last 20 years in Norwegian broadcasting.

## Second honorable mention, television documentary

**Adele Tulli from the UK for her documentary “Rebel Menopause”.** The documentary made in 2014, deals with the popular perceptions of elderly women as socially and sexually irrelevant as individuals, through the life and work of an 85 year old activist who sets up a community, Baba Yaga, for senior women. The vision of the activist is to make the women in the community rediscover that life after menopause can still be an enriching one, an “age of complete freedom”. The film is narrated with a dash of irreverence and mischief, which makes it thought-provoking and entertaining to watch. Adele Tulli is a freelance documentary filmmaker. She graduated in South Asian Studies at Cambridge University and in Screen Documentary at Goldsmiths, Adele Tulli works as a documentary filmmaker, editor and film curator/programmer. Queer and gender issues have been a central part of her studies as well as of her activism. She has led workshops and seminars on gender and sexuality both in India and in Europe.

There were no awards made in the webcast section.

TV & webcast documentary Jury.

Padmaja Shaw, India

Pochi Tamba Nsoh, Cameroon;

Solveig Helvik, Norway