



FOCAL INTERNATIONAL AWARDS 2018

The 2018 Student Jury Award Extended Statement

The Student Jury Award for Most Inspiring Use of Archive was awarded to ***Dawson City: Frozen Time***. Below is the Jury's full statement on why they chose the film:

Good evening everyone and thank you so much to the FOCAL Awards for having us here tonight and for allowing us to be the student jury for this important award. During the deliberation process we discovered that when faced with four films of such overwhelming impact, choosing just one to award for the most inspiring use of archive footage was a very difficult but invigorating experience.

Dawson City: Frozen Time does not exist without archive footage – it is a story told entirely through images and it is not just a curio - the footage emphasises the importance of discovery itself. It is a coincidence that this incredibly rich source of footage was found when nobody was even looking for it because people thought it had been destroyed.

It is an ambitious cinematic undertaking and an origin film. The birth of a city was minded by the Klondike Gold Rush; capitalism rises and falls – many people working in this industry went on to become significant pioneers too – and the film tells the story of cinema, charting its transformation as a medium of technological record to mass entertainment. Further to this, the archive footage holds a mirror to the world laid bare by the films of the Dawson City collection.

Inspiration is not easily defined, but any film that inspires new perspectives and change in audiences deserves great praise. We hope the film we have chosen impresses and moves you as much as it did us.

Francesco Carreri, Andrew Gutman, Taryn Joffe, Giada Liu, Eleonora Pesci, Steven Ryder, Samuel Thiery, Jade Turner. NFTS MA Students in Film Studies: Programming and Curation

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