

## AFDA film wins two international awards

Issued by AFDA 16 Aug 2018

Graduate student film packs a golden punch at the El Dorado Film Festival



AFDA Cape Town third-year 2017 graduate film *O-Puncha*, directed by Adam Hansen, won two prestigious awards at the fifth annual Eldorado Film Festival in the United States, stepping in the award ring with Best Student Made Short and graduate Alexander La Cock, winning the Best Editing award.



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"The (fake) blood, sweat and tears have paid off - it's exciting enough to be included in the official selections of the El Dorado film festival, but to walk away with awards for Best Student Film and Best Editing is indescribably spectacular. It fills me with immense joy to have the achievements of our crew recognised," says director Adam Hansen.

In 2014, the El Dorado Film Festival was founded as part of the South Arkansas Arts Center's 50th Anniversary Celebration. In 2015, El Dorado Festivals & Events Inc partnered with the South Arkansas Arts Center to put on the second El Dorado Film Festival. Filmmakers and patrons alike raved about the experience.

Filmmaker Kim Swink said: "In the past 18 months, I've been to more film festivals, large and small, than I can recall without looking back at my datebook; and they have, almost without exception, been amazing and rewarding; but I can honestly say, regardless of size or location, that the El Dorado Film Festival was special... magical."

<sup>\*</sup> Afda graduation film Anguish shortlisted for Sony Future Filmmaker Awards 2024 29 Apr 2024

<sup>\*</sup> Afda alumni in key roles on film which inspired Beyoncé's new album Cowboy Carter 5 Apr 2024

<sup>&</sup>quot;Teaching students to ethically co-create with AI in arts education 23 Feb 2024

<sup>&</sup>quot;11 Afda films selected to screen at Joburg Film Festival 20 Feb 2024

<sup>&</sup>quot; Afda students and alumni top Loeries Official Rankings 2023 12 Feb 2024

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