



**72<sup>nd</sup> Festival del film  
Locarno  
August 7-17, 2019  
Awards of the Ecumenical  
Jury**

[www.pardo.ch](http://www.pardo.ch) / [www.inter-film.org](http://www.inter-film.org) / [www.signis.net](http://www.signis.net)

The Ecumenical Jury of SIGNIS and INTERFILM awards its *Prize* of 20.000 CHF, donated by the Reformed churches and the Catholic Church in Switzerland, to the film

**Maternal**

directed by Maura Delpero, Italien / Argentinien 2019

Paola, a young nun, comes to Argentina to a nunnery home for single teenage mothers. Lu, one of them, leaves home and child. Through the experience of pregnancy Maura Delpero tells us an intense story of women connected to conditions of sexuality, love, care and raising children. The director gives a deep, loving look into a conflicting microcosm. The film is rich with multi layered aspects of truth, through several voices. With high aesthetic competence Delpero's film resonates socially, politically and spiritually, raising urgent universal moral questions.

The jury awards a *Commendation* to the film

**Vitalina Varela**

directed by Pedro Costa, Portugal 2019

Beyond its high aesthetic quality, Pedro Costa's feature film, »Vitalina Varela« has the ability to stimulate thorough theological discussions on the dialectic character of faith by innovative use of darkness and light. Through the spiritual journey of an abandoned woman and a priest with an empty church, the film raises the audience consciousness of the transcendent dimensions of life. It also expresses respect for human dignity, the need of reconciliation and solidarity with minorities at a more universal level.

*Members of the Jury:*

Tomas Axelson, Sweden  
Thomas Kroll, Germany (President of the Jury)  
Mariola Marczak, Poland  
Gabriella Rácsok, Hungary

**interfilm**  
international interchurch  
film organisation

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