

## THE “DEGREES OF FREEDOM” AWARD FOR BEST ITALIAN VR WORK

The “Degrees of Freedom” Award for Best Italian VR work is promoted by the AN-ICON research group of the University of Milan and the Filmmaker Association, in collaboration with the Veneto Film Commission. The initiative aims to promote Italian VR works which stand out for their artistic value, experiential and technological innovation. Particular attention will be paid to works capable of reflecting on the remediation of cinematic language and its adaptation, expansion, and encroachment into the new territories of the virtual.

**AN-ICON - An-Iconology: History, Theory, and Practices of Environmental Images** is a five-year research project funded by the European Research Council (ERC Advanced Grant) under the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (agreement number 834033). Led by the philosopher Prof. Andrea Pinotti, it investigates from a theoretical, historical, and operational point of view the identity of the environmental images that characterize extended reality media (virtual, augmented, and mixed). The project is hosted by the Department of Philosophy “Piero Martinetti” of the University of Milan.

**FILMMAKER** is a Milan-based association which has been promoting independent and experimental cinema since 1980, with a special focus on documentaries, experimental films and young Italian cinema through the Filmmaker Festival and its participation in MFN Milano Film Network.

**VENETO FILM COMMISSION** is the reference body for the audiovisual industry in the Veneto Region. It supports productions with services and funds and promotes the Veneto region on a national and international level. The Veneto Region provides the only Italian production fund specifically aimed at XR works. The Veneto Film Commission is also behind the project “Immersive Arts”, a higher education school dedicated to immersive arts and technologies. The school will open in 2023 in Venice as a Veneto branch of the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia (CSC)

## **1. REGULATIONS**

The present call is issued for the selection of the most innovative Italian virtual reality works produced between 2019 and 2022, competing for the “Degrees of Freedom” Award for Best Italian VR work. The prize, worth 2,000 euros, also includes an invitation to exhibit and present the work as a part of the next edition of Filmmaker Festival (Milan, November 18-27, 2022) and in a dedicated seminar hosted by the University of Milan.

### **1.1 Eligibility**

Works are eligible if they are unpublished or have been presented to the public from January 2019 on. Works must be made by Italian authors (Italian nationality, or residence or domicile), and/or produced in Italy or in co-production with Italy. Works of any length and genre are eligible, without any format restriction. However, works-in-progress and prototypes are not allowed.

### **1.2 Entry procedure**

To register for this call, you must complete the form on the Filmmaker website by 11:59 p.m. on October 28, 2022:

<https://www.filmmakerfest.com/Home/Form/85>

### **1.3 Technological Requirements**

The technical devices that will be used in the evaluation and selection process are the Oculus Quest 2, Oculus Rift and HTC Vive. The file is requested in high resolution. Copies submitted for selection should be sent via downloadable link, along with a data sheet.

### **1.4 Language and subtitles.**

For the selection stage, if the works are not in Italian or English, subtitles in either language must also be provided.

## **2. SELECTION**

### **2.1 Selection Committee**

The Selection Committee is composed of Barbara Grespi, Giancarlo Grossi, Luca Mosso, Valeria Polidoro, Sara Tirelli.

### **2.2 Communication of outcome and invitation**

When the author or producer accepts the invitation to the official selection, he/she undertakes not to withdraw the work from the event and to provide the organizers with a file of the work in its final version, already subtitled in Italian or in English if is spoken in a different language.

The organizers may request accompanying materials for the promotion of the event. The arrangements for the installation of the works, as well as the date, time, and place of the public event, will be determined by the organizers and promptly communicated to the selected authors.

## **3. WINNER**

The winner agrees to display the award logos in subsequent public screenings of the work.

## **4. GENERAL RULES**

By entering this competition, you agree to the use and storage of the basic information about your work in the Filmmaker Association and AN\_ICON database even if the submitted work is not selected. Filmmaker and AN-ICON agree to use the information in the entry forms according to the informative note provided pursuant to Articles 13-14 of GDPR 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation). Files sent in the entry will be kept exclusively for study and research purposes by the Filmmaker Association and AN-ICON.

The organizers decline any responsibility in the event of incorrect or incomplete reception of registration documents. In the eventuality of extreme necessity, they reserve the right to

interrupt, cancel, postpone the event, or amend these regulations at any time, according to the needs of the event.

Registration and participation in the event imply unconditional acceptance of these regulations. In the event of unspecified cases and situations all final decisions rest exclusively with the organizers.

**AN-ICON – An-Iconology: History, Theory, and Practices of Environmental Images**  
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