

## EUROPEAN SHOOTING STARS 2020 – JURY COMMENTS

### MARTINA APOSTOLOVA

From her performances speaks a deeply felt understanding of the foul and fair days of the human condition. An understanding that manifests in countless facets: from wry lightness over fierce despair to heart-wrenching tenderness. With her wisdom and maturity she injects an authenticity into her characters that makes them universally relatable. Martina Apostolova lends them an archetypal power that can connect with all audiences and all stories.

### BARTOSZ BIELENIA

The sinner and the saint. The devil and the angel. If you doubt that these opposites can meet in one man, think again. Because Bartosz Bielenia will make you believe. With this seemingly infinite faculties he walks the maddening paths of despair and redemption. With this mesmerizing presence he makes you want to join him on these walks. While at the same time he carries a whole movie on his shoulders. Shall we explain his talents? Impossible. Let's just call them magic.

### JONAS DASSLER

Actors are adventurers. They dive into the treacherous tides of mankind's affairs. Jonas Dassler knows how this feels. And what it takes. He has shown the human side of monsters and revealed the monstrosities of humans. In this he also exposed the dark humor of the absurd, which proves his astounding maturity. With his commanding physical presence, bravery and sophistication, he is set for even greater adventures. Fasten your seatbelts!

### LEVAN GELBAKHIANI

What is the secret of acting? Perhaps you need to carry music in yourself. For this theory, Levan Gelbakhiani is the best proof. At only 21 years old, he is already a master of physical elegance and psychological sensitivity. This way he is able to capture all the pains and pitfalls of growing up, while dazzling us with his technical prowess. He literally gives birth to the dancing star that Mr. Nietzsche once conceived.

## ZITA HANROT

Movies can wake us from our little lives rounded with sleep. They can open up gateways to half-forgotten energies and dreams. For this, they need actresses like Zita Hanrot. Why her? Because she embodies and radiates a pure and primal force. But she has also mastered this fierceness. She is able channel it in performances of touching nuance and subtlety. Which makes her a true shooting star. One that will not burn out.

## PÄÄRU OJA

Some say that children are the best actors. Because of their endearing enthusiasm, their boundless imagination, their untainted genuineness. In one moment they are crushed by sour adversity, in the next they explode with joy. And it is the soul of a boy that shines in Pääru Oja. No matter if he's the mischievous prankster, the naive optimist or simply devastated, you always can find this infectious vitality with him. So there's one thing in particular that we'd like to tell him: Go out and play.

## JOANA RIBEIRO

"The eyes are the windows of the soul, and by extension the soul itself" writes Shakespeare. Unlike the jury, he could not see Joana Ribeiro in her performances. If he had, he would have entered through the windows of her eyes. He would have discovered a spellbinding universe of enchantment and passion, anger and affection. A universe that invites you to explore its enigmas and richness in a true soul odyssey. Beings like Joana encompass such a cosmos. We mortals call them movie stars.

## ELLA RUMPF

She is the heroine of 1,000 faces. That speaks 1,000 tongues. — Almost. Whether in war-torn Bosnia or Freudian Vienna, among the cannibals of France or the outcasts of Berlin, Ella Rumpf always stands the test. The whole world is a stage for this chameleon-like performer that plays both her body and soul like instruments. Yet during all her journeys she displays one true, powerful identity. Like a mythical heroine.

## VICTORIA CARMEN SONNE

Beauty is a phenomenon of baffling complexity. It resonates with mystery. It combines the allure of seeming naivety with formidable strength and resilience. Beauty is fragile, endangered and prone to be taken advantage of. Yet it counters and transforms these challenges with grace, innocence and undaunted levity. This is what we witness in the acting of Victoria Carmen Sonne. With this she gives life to movies and movies give life to her.

## BILAL WAHIB

Bilal Wahib is the youngest of our Shooting Stars. And he possesses all the glory and the agony that are part of being young. When you see him in his films, you are touched by his childlike gentleness, riveted by his raw ferocity, shaken up by his genuine fears. In other words: You are enthralled by his authentic energy. You realize that with his energy he can avoid the slings and arrows of this outrageous business. He can push open the door to a future of glory. Without a trace of agony.