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Siggraph CAF 2006

AWARDS One Rat Short and 458NM win Siggraph awards

The jury of the Siggraph 2006 Computer Animation Festival has selected 97 films and two award winners to be shown at this year's Siggraph in Boston (30 July to 3 August). The Best of Show Award has been won by *One Rat Short*, directed by Alex Weil of New York-based animation studio Charlex. The film follows a New York City rat from his gritty world to the interior of a futuristic laboratory.

Terrence Masson from Digital Fauxtography Inc, the Chair of the Siggraph 2006 Computer Animation Festival, said:

"The film's emotional tone, cinematography and technical realisation all melded wonderfully into a simple yet touching short film. The audience can clearly empathise with the main characters."



Filmakademie Baden-Wuerttemberg's directing trio, Jan Bitzer, Ilija Brunck and Tom Weber, were awarded Special Jury Honors for their short film, *458NM*. It tells a romantic story of two mechanical snails that find each other under the moonlight.

The winners were chosen for their exemplary use of CG imagery and animation, and compelling storytelling.

There were over 720 submissions to this year's Computer Animation Festival, a 25 per cent increase from 2005. "With that increase, the competition amongst films is fierce," emphasised Masson. "The bar of excellence has risen even higher and this year's crop of accepted pieces is diverse, thought-provoking, and technically superb." www.siggraph.org/s2006/



● Rodent rewarded: *One Rat Short*, Alex Weil's Siggraph 2006 Best of Show winner



● The show's Special Jury Honors went to German student short *458NM*