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ShortFest celebrates talented women





Bruce Fessier stops to chat with ShortFest executi...: Bruce Fessier stops to chat with ShortFest executive director



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Bruce Fessier The Desert Sun

PALM SPRINGS — Films featuring two of Europe's greatest actresses won the top prizes Sunday at the closing night ceremonies of the Palm Springs International ShortFest.

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"Delicate Gravity," featuring French actress Anne Parillaud, won the Best of Festival jury award and "Walking the Dogs," featuring British star Emma Thompson, captured the Audience Favorite Live Action Short prize. Both films screened in the "When Strangers Meet" program Sunday morning and both will repeat today as part of the Best of the Festival program at the Camelot Theatres wrapping the seven-day festival.



The scene and winners from the closing night awards at the 2013 Palm Springs International ShortFest at the Camelot Theatres in Palm Springs, Sunday, June 23, 2013.



Parillaud is best known as the star of the 1990 French film, "La Femme Nikita." After appearing mostly in French roles for 20 years, she makes a charismatic return in the North American premiere of "Delicate Gravity."

The 30-minute film by French director
Philippe Andre earned a \$2,000 cash prize
plus merchandise worth more than \$10,000
from Radiant Images and Apple Computer.
Festival executive director Darryl Macdonald
called Parillaud and the film personal
favorites.

PHOTOS: 2013 ShortFest closing night awards

"She's kind of semi-disappeared and here she is back on the screen 20 years later, every bit as gorgeous as she was then, every bit as compelling as an actress," said Macdonald. "It's a magnificent film."



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