Gigantic clouds rose out of a heavy sea roiled by sand and incessantly stirred in its bed. As formerly [...] I had venerated the goddess Earth, I had here a feeling for the first time of a Neptune more chaotic than our own, of an infinite world of waters.


Atlantic architecture film festival.

A galerna is a sudden, violent storm with strong gusts of westerly or north-westerly winds that crashes against the Atlantic coast. They appear on pleasant, warm days when the arrival of a cold front is accompanied by a sudden change in the direction and strength of the wind. The sky darkens and the temperature drops sharply. The sea changes from calm to rough in minutes, and the waves can be accompanied by rain.

In French it’s called galerne, in Breton gwlarn, géile in Irish Gaelic and the Celts called the wind gal.

A common root for a phenomenon that occurs in a specific region that also shares other features: wind, rain, waves, tides, cloudy skies, vegetation, landscape, some traditions, music, tunes, food, drink and certainly other things.

Galerna sets out to be a meeting place for reflection about what the Atlantic represents in terms of architecture, territory and landscape. It aims to find out what architecture students think about this topic in order to start off a cycle of sharing tools and strategies in our region when it comes to approaching projects on whatever scale.

Atlantic architecture film festival.

The first edition of the Atlantic architecture film festival is to be held from 23rd to 26th November 2021 in Donostia-San Sebastián as part of the Basque Country International Architecture Biennial, MUGAK.

This is an initiative by the UPV/EHU School of Architecture in collaboration with the Elias Querejeta Zine Eskola.

Its aim is to establish a dialogue between architecture and film on the basis of shorts made by European architecture students. The theme of their work will be “Lo Atlántico” and they can be documentaries, fiction or any other genre that offers an architectural view of the Atlantic arc.
The shorts selected will be screened as part of a programme of activities that will include talks by specialists in film architecture, a selection of influential films and an exhibition on the history of film in the city of Donostia-San Sebastián. The aim of the series is to establish a dialogue between film and architecture to propose alternatives for future architectural and urban development projects.

The selection committee will be made up of students at the EQZE Film School and the UPV/EHU School of Architecture, and the jury awarding the prizes will be made up of film and architecture professionals responsible for the following categories: Galerna Prize for Best Short Film and the “Mirada Galerna” (Galerna View) prize for the most architectural piece. The audience at the screenings will vote on the Audience Galerna prize.

Rules

1- Object

The aim of the Galerna Festival is to support and encourage young talents at all the schools of architecture in Europe.

The theme of the short films must be connected with “Lo Atlántico”. This concept includes the landscape, territory, towns, architecture, art, traditions and culture of the Atlantic arc.

2- Participants

Students at schools of architecture in any European country can enter, providing the shorts submitted are about the topic proposed. They must prove that they are architecture students by sending a copy of their enrolment, a certificate from their university or some other documentary evidence.

Each student can enter up to 3 (three) unreleased pieces of work made in the 12 months prior to the competition, produced in any format and with any device or camera. Only one piece per student will be selected. These pieces may not be over 20 minutes in length, and are to be submitted in their original language. In the case of films in languages other than Basque, Spanish or English, copies must be subtitled.
3- Phases of the competition.

Entries online from 1st September to 15th October 2021.

Shorts are to be entered by sending the entry form, containing a private Vimeo or YouTube link, to galernak.ets.arquitectura@ehu.eus for viewing by the selection committee. Both the web link and the password to access it must be specified. Only links with restricted access will be accepted (preferably Vimeo).

The selection committee can choose up to 12 (twelve) films, and will inform the authors by email from 22nd October 2021 onwards.

The films selected will be screened between 23rd and 25th November 2021.

The jury will meet once the films selected have been screened and will announce its decision and award the prizes on 26th November 2021.

4- Selection criteria

In selecting the films, the committee will take into account the originality of the approach, the content of the short and the relationship between film and architecture shown in the piece, and it is essential that the entry has a link or makes reference to the topic of the competition.

5- Prize money

The Galerna prize for best short film is worth 2,500 euros.
The Mirada Galerna prize is worth 1,000 euros.
The audience Galerna prize is worth 500 euros.

Financial support for mobility is envisaged for students at schools outside the city of Donostia-San Sebastián. Each of the students selected will have an invitation that includes accommodation for a maximum of 2 people, plus expenses for the days of the competition. The presence of one representative of the short selected is essential.

All prize money will be subject to the withholdings and taxes stipulated by current legislation, which will be deducted from the prize money in each case.
6- Dissemination of the short films selected

Apart from being screened during the event, the pieces selected for this year's edition of the Galernak short film competition will be published on the website of the Basque Country International Architecture Biennial, MUGAK.

7- Queries

Any doubts that might arise over the interpretation of these rules will be settled by the people involved in coordinating and organising the competition before 30th September 2021, for any inquiry send an email to galernak.ets.arquitectura@ehu.eus.

8- Acceptance of the rules

Responding to this call for entries implies acceptance of its rules and its decision, which will be final, as well as waiving the option of any kind of complaint.

9- Updated information

Further information about the competition will be provided via social networks.

Instagram: galernak_zinemaldia

Donostia-San Sebastián 30th April 2021