

‘Hustle & Heart’ Makes \$40,000 Touchdown On ‘Short Film Face Off’

🕒 July 29, 2017 📁 Canada, Canadian culture, CBC, Indie Film, Short Films 📌 Canadian short films, CBC, Koumbie, Renuka Jeyapalan, Roman Tchjen, Short Film Face Off, Short Films

The final episode of the 10th season of CBC’s *Short Film Face Off* was broadcast on July 29th and it all came down to three excellent filmmaker finalists waiting to hear who the winner was of a handsome \$40,000 film production prize made possible by Telefilm Canada and William F. White International. New this season, William F. White contributed an extra \$2,500 to each runner-up.

On tonight’s episode, the viewing audience had one more chance to see Roman Tchjen (*Parent Teacher*), Renuka Jeyapalan (*A Bicycle Lesson*) and Koumbie (*Hustle & Heart*) all reassembled onstage before the big winner was announced.

After each short was rescreened, Telefilm Canada’s Francesca Accinelli and host Steve Patterson presented this year’s \$40,000 filmmaking prize award to Koumbie. Congratulations, Koumbie! Congratulations also goes out to Roman and Renuka for each picking up \$2,500 from William F. White.

Season 10 SFFO Finalists With Panel.

You can catch all of this season’s episodes and films at <http://watch.cbc.ca/short-film-face-off/season-10/d611d09a-6397-4a86-a91b-7632cfe86a9a>.

It is hard to believe that another season of *Short Film Face Off* has come and gone. It felt like the contest had just started last week. This is perhaps a testimony to the amazing caliber of short films that were in this year’s competition. Watching a short film can be compared to reading a short story, and the shorts on this year’s *Short Film Face Off* prove that Canada is truly blessed with creative and skilled storytellers. Timeliness and relativity in their content can also make short films attractive to an audience, and this season’s featured short films certainly had no problems with reflecting the rich diversity that makes up Canada’s population.

Rest assured that after watching this 10th season of *Short Film Face Off*, Canada’s filmmaking and storytelling future is in very good hands. Looking forward to Season 11!

‘Hustle & Heart’ Throws Long For ‘Short Film Face Off’ Final Appearance

🕒 July 22, 2017 📁 Canada, Canadian culture, CBC, Indie Film, Short Films 📌 Canadian short films, CBC, Koumbie, Mike Fly, Noel Harris, Short Film Face Off, Short Films

The third installment of *Short Film Face Off*'s 10th season aired on July 22nd. Three more filmmakers hit the stage in their quest to take home a \$40,000 film production prize made generously possible by Telefilm Canada and William F. White. Viewers were also asked to cast their ballot for the winning film, which will be announced on next week's season-closing episode.

Tonight, **Koumbie** was first up with her film, *Hustle & Heart*. **Mike Fly**'s short *Come To Bed* was next followed by **Noel Harris**' *Touch*. *Hustle & Heart* looked at the relationship between two football players; a frustrated couple argues about a weeknight routine in *Come To Bed*; a single mom in *Touch* needs a babysitter for her kids so she can go to work and avoid being evicted.

Hustle & Heart garnered 12.0 points to advance to the final, while *Come To Bed* and *Touch* tied at 11.5 points.

Koumbie, Fly and Harris on SFFO

Hustle & Heart was a good insight into the stresses and fears that could potentially happen when an attraction to someone is not reciprocated by the other. The friend who rebuffed the advance handled the situation well, considering that the two friends played in a macho sport like football.

Come To Bed was a cheeky poke at how routine a couple's life can get. It was funny to see the husband/boyfriend speak in frustrated garbles and there was a nice nod to today's technology when the wife/girlfriend suggested he look at his 'Fitbit' instead of his watch.

Touch was an intense examination of poverty and family. It was hard to see the mother struggle with trying to find a babysitter, but it was gratifying to see her get help in the end. It was at first difficult to determine what the man's relationship was to the family, but the daughter made it clearer later on. The caress of the girl's back by the uncle was a bit tough to watch and was of some concern with the show's panelists Mohit and Nadia. However, Noel explained his backstory to that scene very well. In the end, the caress could be seen as an uncle's affection for his niece as he faces an uncertain future the next morning.

It was a pleasure watching Koumbie, Mike and Noel and their films compete on *Short Film Face Off*. Good luck to Koumbie as she makes a play for the \$40,000 on next week's episode. To watch tonight's entire episode or to see any of the three shorts separately, visit <http://watch.cbc.ca/short-film-face-off/season-10/d611d09a-6397-4a86-a91b-7632cfe86a9a>

For the next 24 hours, you can vote for the short that you think should take the prize by going online at <http://shortfilmfaceoff.isivote.com/> or by calling 1-877-876-3636.

Short Film Fan's Prediction: With three films that were powerful and well-made in their own right, it is difficult to pick just one winner. However, Short Film Fan predicts Renuka Jeyapalan's *A Bicycle Lesson* to win next week.