

Belgium

CAMERIMAGE 2008 Honors Student's Work



Cinematographer student at the Institut National Supérieur des Arts du Spectacle (INSAS) in Belgium, Aurélian Pechmeja, has been awarded the 2008 LASZLO KOVACS STUDENT AWARD – Golden Tadpole Plus at the International Film Festival of the Art of Cinematography CAMERIMAGE in Lodz, Poland, for his remarkable work in *Dear Mom, to Read If I Don't Wake Up*.

The film also received the Prize of the Association of Polish Filmmakers and was brilliantly directed by Anton Iffland-Stettner.

It tells the story of two sick children throughout their long stay in hospital until recovery. The seasons follow one another, but are not perceived the same way inside the hospital as in the outside world. Anton Iffland-Stettner wanted to light the

interior scenes according to the evolving of the children's feelings and also in harmony with the seasons; symbolically, the illness starts in winter and ends in spring with the recovery.

"We have tried to match the lighting effects to the children's moods in the script and to the slow passing of time in hospital," says Aurélian Pechmeja, "and wanted to give an overall naturalistic look, rather than plain contrasts."

"Images were originated digitally and we transferred them to film at Studio Galaxy in Brussels through the ETERNA-RDI, Recording Digital Intermediate, combined to prints on Fujifilm's 8513. The results are truly excellent. Skin tones came out beautifully, which was most important for me in this movie."

Aurélian Pechmeja is one of the most talented, up-and-coming young cinematographers at the INSAS School in Belgium. At CAMERIMAGE 2008, another of his films had been selected: *Charleville-Mézières*, by Marguerite Didierjean. For its "film noir" genre, Aurélian chose to combine ETERNA 400/500.

"For the scenes inside the cabaret, ETERNA 500 did it, for its superb saturation and contrast. The other scenes were to look much less 'flashy,' and we wanted all the exterior images to be almost monochromatic. ETERNA 400 was the best choice. We even pushed desaturation a little further in post-production whilst the prints gave the end results we wished for, on Fujifilm's high contrast positive ETERNA-CP 3521XD." ■

