

ECFA Documentary Award



CHAMP (NL 2019) by Cassandra Offenberg

Jury Statement

The protagonist is a young woman who, against all odds and fears, continues to follow her dream.

She wants to be the best in her sport. However, this involves getting back up again after having been knocked down. Kickboxing is more than just a sport for Esma. It offers structure, support and an opportunity to vent, if emotions are brought to a boil by witnessing her mother's severe illness. Without showcasing it explicitly the film conveys an insight into the close family ties, that are marked as much by three generations of women as they are by her migrant background.

In just sixteen minutes we learn about Esma's various characteristics, which show her strength and vulnerability.

It is through the three chosen formats digital, 16 mm and smartphone, the filmmaker succeeds in creating atmospheric density, thus offering a profound visual experience on screen. This unique approach, which is complemented by the sound design and choice of music, lets the film stand out.

The ECFA-Documentary Award at **doxs! 2019** goes to Cassandra Offenberg for „Champ“.