



The Film & Video Institute

# THE IAC BRITISH INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR FILM COMPETITION 2012

## Judges' Comments

**Title:** El Hecho Imposible

**Number:** 58168

**Award:** Five Star

There's something about the ambiguity of the title 'The Impossible Fact' that sits well with this film. Here's an enigmatic story that's shot with style – two ingredients that ensure it stands out in competition with others. We couldn't really see the reason why the film was presented entirely in very grainy black and white and also in 4:3 – maybe it was pure style, maybe it was to have it merge more accurately with the archive footage.

We liked the way the collision course was set up between the happy pedestrian musician and frustrated traffic-baulked car driver. Mobile phone conversations are inter-cut well to show us their two different lifestyles, and the 'brakes keep failing' line means were even more sure how they're going to meet. Talking about subtitles – it's always a good idea to have the words disappear at a scene change. If the same words carry over into the next scene they're asking to be read again, and because of this we missed out on much picture information.

The pace of the film varies nicely with the crash forming a rapidly-cut climax, and details are beautifully observed. There's broken glass (even the woman's glasses), his twitching hand, the 90 degree point of view, the horn's continuous note, the broken guitar. And it's at this point that the film breaks away from conventionality and moves into the musician's mental anguish. Shock causes all sorts of hallucinations and they flash by one by one.

The angels, the singing and emptying of water bucket; the policeman on the stretcher, the mute ambulance medics, the imagined rose, the car driver who's now a nurse. And then the return to normality that sees both of them side by side on the way to hospital, and having their story broadcast on the radio.

We the judging panel offer our warmest congratulations on your Five Star award. This is an interesting, well cut film that successfully tells a story from beginning to end.

### **Judging Panel:**

Tom Hardwick FACI

Ron Prosser FACI

Rob Day FACI