

DOXS RUHR-revisited N° 10 | 2022

ECFA DOC Award - Jury Statement

by Amina Saidi (Germany), Remke Oosterhuis (Netherlands), Gert Hermans (Belgium)

THE SCHOOL BY THE SEA (NO 2021) by Solveig Melkeraaen

The director of the winning film has created an intimate setting in which two adorable main characters speak up freely and with amazing self-reflection about true friendship, caring and consideration. We feel humbled by their words and by the delicacy of their relationship. From this entire film speaks a message of hope, expressed through many micro-observations that all have a special sense of humour and tenderness. There is a great appreciation shown for landscapes and nature, that we understand as an appreciation for life in itself. As one of the main characters says: "Friends give me joy, love and good feelings." Which is exactly the same as what this film offers to its audience. Therefore we decided to give the ECFA Doc Award 2022 to the Norwegian film 'School by the sea' by Solveig Melkeraaen.