



'Mouth' makes noise at BIFF

By Randee Dawn

Alison Murray's "Mouth to Mouth" breathed in the majority of adulation Sunday night at the eighth Brooklyn International Film Festival in New York.

The road-trip film took home two lead prizes, the Grand Chameleon award and the prize for best feature.

Ugyen Wangdi's Bhutan-based travelogue "Price of Letter (Yi Khel Gi Kawa)" won the Diane Seligman award for best documentary, Mattan Guggenheim's "Crickets" won for best short, Gabriel Judet-Weinshel picked up the best experimental prize for "Facechasers," and Philippe Grammaticopoulos nabbed an award for best animation with "Le Regulateur."

Spirit Awards went to five films — one in each category. Melissa Painter's "Steal Me" for feature; Jim Butterworth, Aaron Lubarsky and Lisa Sleeth's "Seoul Train" for

documentary; Ali Benkirane's "Amal" for short; Eliane Koller's "Element — Playing Planet" for experimental; and Antanas Janauskas's "Short Circuit (Trumpas Sujungimas)" for animation.

Audience awards were handed out to films in each of the five categories: Ron Brown's "A Perfect Fit" for feature; Kenny Hotz's "The Papal Chase" for documentary; Tony Mosher's "Frijolito, Go!" for short; Edouard Salier's "Empire" for experimental; and Christopher Conforti's "Frog" for animation.

Airn Crumley and Susan Buice nabbed best new director for their romantic comedy "Four Eyed Monsters."

The award show, which took place in the Brooklyn Museum's Cantor Auditorium, divided \$65,000 in cash among the award winners. In addition to the film prizes, John Turturro received the first Brooklyn Excellence Award. ■