

Winner of the British Shorts Jury Award 2026: The Tobacconist by Keifer Nyron Taylor



Jury Statement

The jury quickly reached a unanimous decision:

The chosen film captivates with its precise and empathetic portrayal of both its characters and the society they inhabit.

The camera bears witness to the circumstances of a young man with respect and attentiveness, remaining closely focused on the human experience at the heart of this short drama.

The decision to shoot in black and white, combined with precise framing, elevates the narrative to a timeless, existential level.

The editing speaks through what is left unsaid, generating an emotional resonance that lingers with the viewer.

We sense an extraordinary gift for observation and intuition for storytelling here, and we look forward to more films from Keifer Nyron Taylor, writer and director of *The Tobacconist*.

Winner Statement

Sincere thanks to the British Shorts Jury's warm remarks on *The Tobacconist*.

Eternal gratitude for the cast and crew's commitment and faith in the story. Every day was a challenge.

To my friends in Brixton and locals at the center of this film, who continue guiding me, nuff love.

Alive or dead, they keep expanding in memory and imagination.

The Jury

Sascha Hilpert – Writer & Director, eg. *Formen moderner Erschöpfung*, 2025

Sinem Kılıç – Philosopher and culture journalist, eg. *Die Zeit*

Judy Landkammer – Director & Editor, eg. *The Teaches of Peaches*, Teddy Award Berlinale 2024

Aslı Özarslan – Writer & Director, eg. *Ellbogen*, Best First Feature Award Berlinale 2024