



BEST QUEER LONG FORMAT – FICTIONAL

Filmfest Munich, June 29, 2026

MASPALOMAS

(Spain 2025)

by José María Goenaga und Aitor Arregi

“Imagine being in your early seventies, having come out relatively recently, and finally wanting to express your identity openly and fully indulge your libido – only to suffer a stroke right in the middle of the act – in a darkroom, during a threesome – and wake up in a nursing home.

This is the fate of the protagonist, Vicente, portrayed with impressive depth and nuance by José Ramón Soroiz!

With great sensitivity, the film allows us to share in his longing for intimacy and self-determination, his speechlessness, and his fears. The result is an intimate portrait of a man whose journey of self-discovery we are privileged to witness up close.

The two directors succeed – in a deeply moving way – in giving their characters the time and space to connect with one another, even though they come from vastly different walks of life.

This non-judgmental perspective possesses great power and tenderness, as it grants every character the chance to grow – and the opportunity to learn how to be a good person.

MASPALOMAS is a powerful film about dignity, identity, and the profound desire to be true to oneself at any age. It offers a glimpse into a lived reality all too rarely depicted in cinema: homosexuality in old age.”

The Jury: Sophie Averkamp, Thea Ehre, Yony Leyser, Semhar Ogbazion and Bernd von Fehr



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NON-FICTIONAL

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FAR FROM MAINE

(Denmark/France/Italy/Norway/Switzerland/Hungary 2026)

by Roy Cohen

“A personal essay and investigation -- emotional, honest, and brave -- this documentary serves as a letter from within.

Living in the bubble of Tel Aviv with his American husband, the director and film's protagonist investigates the brutal murder of his Palestinian friend by the Israeli police. He uncovers fractures even within the peace movement, as well as the injustice of the legal system that protects the perpetrators and the criminality of leading government figures. His memories take him back to a summer camp in Maine -- to a time when people still believed in peace. When he visits his sister, who hopes for a better life for herself and her family -- right on the other side of the wall -- she hears unimaginable atrocities and chooses silence, in scenes that cannot help but evoke The Zone of Interest. And he faces a choice: to leave the land or to fight for peace and justice -- ideas that more and more people seem to be giving up on entirely.”

The Jury: Sophie Averkamp, Thea Ehre, Yony Leyser, Semhar Ogbazion and Bernd von Fehr