



Press Release

NHK Documentary “The Patient Parade” Wins Fourth Award

TOKYO, September 27, 2009 — The NHK documentary “China in a Torrent: The Patient Parade” won the Prix Italia for best current-affairs documentary at the prestigious Prix Italia television and radio festival, which was held on September 20–26 in Turin, Italy.

“The Patient Parade” is one of 13 parts of a series that takes an in-depth look at the stresses and disparities that have arisen in China as the country moves toward becoming a superpower. The Prix Italia is the fourth international award won by “The Patient Parade” this year.

Awards for “The Patient Parade”

Prix Italia

Best TV Documentary – Current Affairs

61st Prix Italia (Turin, Italy)

Golden Nymph

Best News Documentary

49th Monte-Carlo Television Festival (Monte-Carlo, Monaco)

The 2009 intermedia-globe Grand Award

News Category

World Media Festival 2009 (Hamburg, Germany)

FIPA D’OR Grand Prize

Reportage and Current Affairs

22nd International Festival of Audiovisual Programs (Biarritz, France)

China in a Torrent: The Patient Parade

(NHK, 49 min., 2008)

Crowds of people from all over China rush to a public hospital seeking medical care. To get the treatment, they must stand in line for two days, through the night and into the morning. Why must they wait like this? And what’s happening to China’s healthcare system? This program closely examines a large hospital in Beijing to reveal the realities of medical care in China.



Comment from the Prix Italia Jury

“This film follows one family’s desperate attempt to raise enough money to get their son treated for an eye condition, intercut with access to one of the country’s private healthcare developers. It’s an extremely well cast film, and placing the emotional case against the system manages to tell the story of the last ten years of growth in China, and throws forward to a dystopic future.”

“China in a Torrent” Series (1 x 60 min., 12 x 49 min., 2007–2008)

With its reform and door-opening policies, China has grown dramatically to become the 21st century’s global player. But it has pressing internal problems. The “China in a Torrent” series takes an in-depth look at the internal affairs of a country attempting to make historic policy changes.

About NHK

NHK (the Japan Broadcasting Corporation) is Japan’s public broadcaster. Funded entirely by receiving fees from Japanese households, it has a reputation for impartial, high-quality programming. Through its five nationwide TV channels, NHK reaches about 50 million households. Reflecting long experience with HDTV, it makes 90% of its major programs in HDTV. Most of NHK’s programs are available internationally through its affiliate MICO (Media International Corporation).

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