





Activist Djamila Bouhired edition

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The second edition of Aswan International Women Film Festival coincides with the end of the Women's Year launched by President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi to empower Egyptian women. The festival is indeed a bright spot in the far south of Egypt.

The idea of embracing the city of Aswan with a film festival specializing in women's films - whether women are behind the creation of the film industry or they are at the center of the subject matter - deserves attention. Women since the dawn of Egyptian cinema have a glorious history of great creativity starting with Bahiga Hafez and Aziza Amir, until the generation of Kamla Abou-Zekry and Hala Khalil, and later with the generation of Ayten Amin and Mariam Abou Ouf, culminating in many names of creative women added to the silver screen with glowing beauty.

The Aswan festival this year is of great importance because its second edition bears the name of the great Algerian freedom fighter Djamilia Bouhired, who is considered a global feminist symbol in the resistance against colonialism. The Egyptian cinema was the first to present a film about her, signed by the late international director Youssef Chahine. As well, this edition presents a tribute to three Egyptian filmmakers and artists who have given a lot to the film world. They are director Ateyyat El Abnoudy, director and producer Marianne Khoury and costume designer Nahed Nasrallah.

If film festivals play an important role in the dissemination of cinematic culture, Aswan festival has an added value this year by organizing film screenings outside of traditional cinema theaters and going inside some NGOs of the villages of Aswan to reach a segment of the audience whose circumstances may not allow them to see films. Also, the festival reaches Shalatin, the precious spot of the beloved land of Egypt, in a serious attempt to spread the cinema in places far from the entertainment circle focused in the capital.

The Nut Forum for Women's Issues remains one of the most important tributaries of the Aswan Festival. This year, with its current theme of involving men in the issue of violence against women with the participation of women from Aswan and the National Council for Women.

Film festivals remain an enlightening center of intellectual and cultural awareness and sense of belonging to our homeland. Therefore, the Ministry of Culture seeks with all its sectors to support the serious festivals and to stand behind them, so that Egypt remains a beacon of art and creativity.

Dr. Inas Abdel-Dayem
Minister of Culture



كلمة وزير السياحة

I am overwhelmed by pride and happiness because, for the second year in a row, Egypt has been hosting in the beautiful land of Aswan, the Aswan International Women Film Festival. It was a dream that the National Council for Women participated in its birth and its emergence into the light ... a dream of a real global cinema that discusses issues ... dreams ... fears ... aspirations of women everywhere in the world without distortion or reduction ... The Aswan International Women Film Festival became a realization of everything we would like to achieve .. Women's films from different countries of the world converge on the land of civilization ... for one purpose which is to raise the status of women. Cinema is the seventh art, which was and still is the universal language that all the peoples of the earth understand without restrictions or barriers. Egypt was the birthplace of the film industry in the Arab world. For more than 100 years, Egyptian cinema has succeeded in being the most important film heritage In the Arab world, and there are signs still remain in the hearts of all Egyptians and the whole world .. The Egyptian women artists were inspirations and founders of the film industry in Egypt that flourished with to their creativities... We remember with pride and appreciation "Asia - Bahiga Hafez - Aziza Amir - Mary Queeny- Fatma Rochdi and other creators ... who gave their lives to cinema.

So far, Egyptian cinema continues to thrive thanks to the new generation's creative talents who are discussing women's issues in depth. I would like to pay tribute to the great artists who are given a tribute at the festival this year. They are actress Mona Zaki the director and producer Marianne Khoury... writer and director Ateyyat El Abnoudy... and fashion designer Nahed Nasrallah. Great creative artists who gave a lot to the Egyptian cinema, and contributed to enriching many important films, whether documentary films or narratives.

The Aswan International Women Film Festival continues in 2018 with great success .. After the achievements of its first edition in 2017, that saw intensive presence of Arab and international guests ... trusting in Egypt ... in its security , its stability... and its welcome to everyone . Egypt is the country of safety ..,civilization .. arts .. love .. Continue its enlightenment role as a great country, with art as one of its most important pillars of soft power ..

Dr.Maya Morsy
Head of the National Council of Women



I am pleased to welcome the organizers of the Aswan International Women Film Festival, which has become one of the most important artistic and cultural events on the map of the international festivals held on the land of Aswan - the capital of African economy and culture and the winter resort that embraced the first edition last year with great success on both the organizational and the artistic aspects. The festival contributed to shedding light on the problems, issues and innovations of Egyptian and Arab women. It also became an important axis in linking Aswan women to their national issues. As for this year, Aswan welcomes the second edition of the festival, which is named after the Algerian freedom fighter Djamila Bouhired, amidst the beauty of its Nile, its immortal monuments and the originality of its artistic and cultural heritage. The festival is an addition to the cultural and tourist map in Egypt and a cultural and artistic transition that coincides with Aswan's reputation on the international and domestic. In this context, we must show our appreciation to the efforts made by the Board of Trustees of the Aswan International Women Film Festival and all its members under the chairmanship of Ambassador Mervat Tallawi to organize this grand artistic event.

With my wishes for the success of the activities of the festival in its second edition, God saves Egypt thanks to its loyal sons

General/Magdy Hegazy
Governor of Aswan



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Dr.Maya Morsy
Head of the National Council of Women



The concept of "women's cinema" offers two angles of view. The first is seeing women as creators and innovators, and the second seeing women as an inspiration for creativity.

The Aswan International Women's Film Festival is a tribute to all women in the film industry. Women are indeed creators and innovators and Egyptian cinema celebrated women throughout their historical development. The industry witnessed producers and artists who performed a number of historical, militant, religious, political and social films that deeply influenced Arab life. Women were a cultural and moral source in the Egyptian film field; indeed creative artists from various Arab countries took part in spreading Egyptian culture throughout the Arab world.

The second angle is portrayed in women as an inspiration for creativity, and a subject for cinematic work. The title of this Festival's session "Jamila Bouhaird.. an inspirational and resilient woman" serves as an expression of the two angles. The film was produced by a woman telling the story of a woman who struggled to defend her country.

In light of the current Arab situation and the challenges faced by the region as a whole, and women in particular, from the instability and conflict, the dangers of fragmentation and the violent expansion of terrorist trends and extremist ideology, we are in need of this kind of cinema, which expresses with great sensitivity the most important women's issues and their new and renewed problems. In addition to how these concerns intertwine with the national issues, which at the same time reflect the vision of creative women and their interaction with their national issues.

We look forward to the important role that women's cinema can play in promoting values that we desperately need in contemporary times, especially the values of tolerance, peace, citizenship, Arab belonging and solidarity. Not to mention highlighting the role of women in protecting national security with all its various dimensions, including social, ethical, political and security.

**Ambassador
Mervat Tallawy**



In our second edition, I cannot repeat words about progress, development, growth and realization of dreams. We are still groping for a place where the festival tends to stand amidst the cinema phenomenon and the competing festivals. I do not mean, of course, the Egyptian festivals ... that they do not intersect or compete. As much as they together form a pictorial of the status of the cinema art and its industry and our situation .. The people of this old country .. who are trying all the time .. to climb the impossible to reach the following day .. We are all have hope for a better tomorrow .. We are all going towards it and do not know if the direction of our race will take us to it or to another tomorrow less joyful, less hopeful and less dreamful than we dream .. However, We will continue to try as long as we live.

We thought, as we launch the first edition, that we say goodbye to the struggle of the first steps. And we thought that the next steps are easier. But the truth is something else. We are still, until the moment we stand together in the opening of our second edition, running and wheezing until our hearts are about to stop from the extensive efforts and difficulties. Everything is difficult and every challenge consists of a series of challenges that cannot be alleviated unless we overcome them .. In hopes of reaching the second stop .. To open the new edition and its successive events.

Amidst all these efforts and moments of pain and shock of many elements .. And the fear of something new that could turn into a crisis that affects this festival .. Those hearts remain sincere .. Friends and professionals who may not lead the image of the official celebration, but they always stood beside this festival, to defend cinema and culture in Egypt .. They are Dr. Omar Abdel-Aziz - Mossaad Fouda - Dr. Khaled Abdel-Gelil- Khaled Youssef - Sherif Mandour - Mohamed al-Adl - Dr. Ahmed Awaad

This is the edition of the beautiful rebel Djamila Bouhired.. This light that is never depleted .. the woman that all women should be proud of.. and to present her as evidence of their struggle that reached the impossible .. This is the edition in which we honor Mona Zaki .. the beloved Egyptian girl .. with the innocent face who grew up to become one of the most important stars of Egyptian cinema throughout her history. With her, a trio of leading female filmmakers : Ateyyat El Abnoudy, producer Mariane Khoury and the great costume designer Nahed Nasrallah.

Women will continue to create each day a new addition .. carrying for us joy and peace altogether .. In our film festival .. We fly altogether in her sky .. hoping to touch the top of the dream.

And if the previous acknowledgements went to the filmmakers who had their generosity for this festival and its likes... The last acknowledgement must be presented to those who showed us the enchantment of this wonderful country .. The always smiling people of Aswan smiling .. Who have received with us the dream .. And helped us in making dreams come true .. Mr. Mohamed Atta and engineer Nagwa, Mrs. Sana Ser Al-Khetm, Mr. Mohamed Idris and his wonderful team and Rayes Shaaban .. this is the Aswan list that increases and does not get shorter ..

Mohamed Abdel-Khalek
Festival President



The light of the cinema shines the land of Aswan

The second edition of the Aswan International Women Film Festival confirms that our dream of organizing a film festival specializing in women's cinema in southern Egypt has become a reality. Despite all the difficulties we faced, we were sure that the dream would come true. Indeed, the first edition has succeeded in attracting attention to this precious location of the land of Egypt. The second edition confirms that Aswan has become a destination for high art and film creativity from all around the world.

The second edition of the Aswan International Women Film Festival is a unique event in the history of Arab film festivals, as it is named after the Algerian rebellion Djamila Bouhired, who is a symbol of all the liberals of the world in their struggle against colonialism and a symbol of the Arab women's struggle for freedom as the love of Egyptians and Egypt shines for this daughter of the country with a million and a half martyrs.

The second edition of the festival is of great importance to all Egyptian film lovers, as it attests to the tribute of a group of creative artists; they are the daughters of the Nile: Mona Zaki, director Ateyyat El Abnoudy, director and producer Marianne Khoury and costume designer Nahed Nasrallah .

The festival continues its enlightening role in Aswan by organizing five workshops for amateur young people from the governorate. The workshops pave the way to introduce new creators to the cinema scene with hopes in seeing their work in the coming editions of the festival.

The Aswan International Women Film Festival is a beautiful dream that grows year after year, and the dreams of its organizers and participants are growing too for the land of Aswan to be illuminated by the light of the cinema and its charming rainbow.

Hassan Abou El Ela
Director of the festival



TRIBUTES

Aswan
International
Women
Film
Festival
February 20-26



Mona Zaki
Actress
Egypt

Born 1976, her first role came at the age of sixteen when she applied for a casting call only to be chosen by actor-director Mohamed to co-star in the theatrical play IN CLASSIC ARABIC. During her studies at the Faculty of Mass Communications at Cairo University, she was cast by director Ismail Abdel Hafez in THE FAMILY, a Ramadan series that marked her TV debut. After several TV series, Zaky became a leading film star with consecutive roles in successful Egyptian films like FIRST LOVE (2001), AFRICANO (2001), MAFIA (2002), TAYMOUR AND SHAFIKA (2007), and 30 YEARS AGO (2016). Winner of Best Actress Awards for her roles in the Egyptian acclaimed films SLEEPLESS NIGHTS (2003), THE GAZELLE'S BLOOD (2005) and SCHEHERAZADE, TELL ME A STORY (2009).



Ateyyat El Abnoudy Film Director Egypt



Born 1939, she studied at the Faculty of Law in Cairo University where she obtained her bachelor's degree in 1963. She continued her studies at the Higher Institute of Cinema, graduating in 1972 and then received a fellowship at the International Film and Television School in England in 1976. She became one of Egypt's most prominent filmmakers in documentary film production through her company Abnoud Film. In her films, she recorded the daily social life of the hard-working segments of Egypt starting with THE MUD HORSE (1971), which won more than thirty international awards. For more than 30 years, she has realized more than 25 films, most recently ETHIOPIA WITH EGYPTIAN EYES (2004). Special programs from her films were shown at several international festivals including the New York African Film Festival in New York (2007).



Mariane Khoury **Film Producer, Director** **Egypt**

After studying economics in Cairo and then Oxford, she soon was attracted to the world of cinema after graduation and continued her close collaboration with Egyptian director Youssef Chahine for nearly thirty years. Khoury's work has served as a focal point between filmmakers and the film industry with an emphasis on "author's cinema" and independent filmmaking with themes different than those in Egyptian cinema where she has treated controversial topics such as identity, memory, marginalization and social exclusion. She has played a key role in the European Film Panorama since its first edition in 2004 and the Zawya Cinema, two projects that have provided alternative world cinema to Egyptian filmgoers. Among the documentaries she realized: LAURA'S TIME (1999), WOMEN WHO LOVED CINEMA (2002) and ZELAL aka SHADOWS (2010), which won several awards, including the Italian Rai Award (2011) at the International Documentary Mediterranean Film Festival. Her current project is "Dashur" for the development of films presented by Egyptian and Arab talent. Marian has been a member of a jury at several festivals and as a consultant to several international cultural entities.



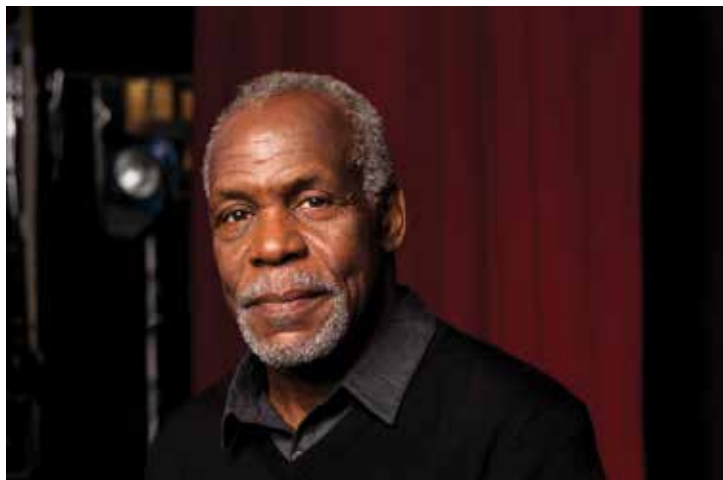
Nahed Nasrallah Costume Designer Egypt



Born 1953, she graduated from the German School (DEO) in Cairo 1974. After receiving a BA from the Faculty of Economics & Political Science in 1979, she studied fashion at the Chambre Syndicale de Couture 1991. As a costume designer, she worked in more than thirty Egyptian films starting with THE SIXTH DAY (1986), SUMMER THEFTS (1988) and recently CAT & MOUSE (2014), THE ORIGINALS (2015) and PHOTOCOPY (2016). Among her the award she received, the Cairo Film Society and the South African M-NET for her works in the films MERCEDES, THE IMMIGRANT and DESTINY.



Special Guest Star of the 2nd edition



Danny Glover
Actor
USA

Born 1946, he is an actor and political activist. He is well known for his leading role as Roger Murtaugh in the LETHAL WEAPON film series, THE COLOR PURPLE (1985), TO SLEEP WITH ANGER (1990), PREDATOR 2 (1990), and ANGELS IN THE OUTFIELD (1994). He also has prominent supporting roles in SILVERADO (1985), WITNESS (1985), SAW (2004) and SHOOTER (2007). He was nominated four times for the Emmy Award and given a tribute at Dubai Film Festival 2007 and Deauville American Film Festival in France 2011.



Opening Film

Runtime: 1h 30min

2017

Germany
Austria
Italy
Morocco

Looking For Oum Kulthum

Directed by: Shirin Neshat, Shoja Azari

► Shirin Neshat

Born 1957, she is an Iranian visual artist and filmmaker who lives in New York City. Known primarily for her work in video and photography, Neshat has been recognized countless times for her work, from winning the International Award of the Venice Biennale 1999. As for filmmaking, she won the Silver Lion for Best Director at Venice Film Festival 2009.



► Shoja Azari

Born 1957, he is an Iranian-born visual artist and filmmaker based in New York City. He co-directed with Neshat her films WOMEN WITHOUT MEN (2009) and LOOKING FOR OUM KULTHUM (2017). Azari's artworks have been increasingly showcased in galleries and museums around the world.



Script
Shoja Azari
Ahmad Diba
Shirin Neshat

Cinematography
Martin Gschlacht

Editing
Shoja Azari
Music
Shirin Neshat

Cast
Yasmin Raeis
Neda Rahmanian
Mehdi Moinzadeh

Print Source:
festivals@mcdistribution.me



► Synopsis

A film within a film, it is the plight of an Iranian woman artist/filmmaker living in exile, as she embarks on capturing the life and art of the legendary female singer of the Arab world, Oum Kulthum. Through her difficult journey, not unlike her heroine's, she must face the struggles, sacrifices and the price that a woman has to pay if she dares to cross the lines of a conservative male dominated society.

Closing Film

Runtime: 1h 28min

2017

Egypt

KISS ME NOT

Directed by: Ahmed Amer

► Ahmed Amer

A writer-director living between Cairo and New York, he attended the Berlinale Talent Campus 2013 and Sundance Writers Lab. His writing credits include WINTER OF DISCONTENT (2013) and ALI, THE GOAT AND IBRAHIM (2016). KISS ME NOT is his long narrative debut.



Script
Ahmed Amer

Cinematography
Hossam Shahine

Editing
Emad Maher
Music
Omar Fadel

Cast
Yasmine Rais
Mohamed Mahran
Sawsan Badr

Print Source:
moshira.bahar@mad-solutions.com



► Synopsis

Rising director Tamer is shocked when his first film is shut down due to the withdrawal of the heroine during filming, and her decision to retire from acting to wear the veil just when is about to film a kissing scene that is central to the film plot. Tamer does not know how to end his film amid pressure from the press and his producer who is only interested in recouping his money.



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MAGHREB-ORIENT

Partenaire du festival
international des films
de femmes d'Assouan

La chaîne culturelle francophone mondiale
porte le cinéma féminin à l'honneur !



20 - 26 Février 2018

Long Film Competition

Long Film Jury

▶ **Ahmed Rachedi - Film Director**
Jury President - Algeria



Born 1938 in Tebessa, he is producer, screenwriter and film director. Rachedi studied French literature, history and filmmaking, and began a film career along with French director René Vautier, who worked for the Algerian National Liberation Front. After the independence of Algeria in 1962, Rachedi headed the first center of audiovisuals and participated in the production of a collective film entitled FORWARD THE PEOPLE. In 1964 he became an official in the Department of Popular Cinema at the National Center of Algerian Cinema and then in charge of production at the National Organization for Cinema Trade and Industry between 1967 and 1973. He directed more than 20 narratives and documentaries and also participated in the production of THE SPARROW by Youssef Chahine, in addition to his participation in the production of the Z by the Greek-French director Costa Gavras, that was nominated for the Oscar of Best Film in 1970.

▶ **Bijaya Jena - Actress, Film Director**
India



Born in Cuttack, Orissa, she enrolled in the Film Institute of India for a Diploma Course in Film Acting. Bijaya became a celebrated actress in the Oriya Film Industry and soon won the State Award for Best Actress for her performance in JAGA BALIA. She went on to work in a number of Hindi and Oriya Feature Films, Television Serials and Plays, of which HAKIM BABU that received the National award for the Best Oriya Film. Among her acting credits, her role in Ismail Merchant's British Film, THE DECEIVERS, directed by Nicholas Meyer. In 1992, Bijaya made her directorial debut with the Oriya feature film TARA. Five year later, she scripted, directed and produced her second film ABHAAS that were screened in international festivals to great acclaim.

► **Corrina Antrobus - Film Critic**
UK

A founder of Bechdel Test Fest, she was awarded a Women in Hollywood Trailblazer Award in 2017. Bechdel Test Fest launched in 2015 to become the London-based, ongoing screening series promoting positive representation for women in and on film. Bechdel Test Fest has programmed events for and with London Short Film Festival (LSFF), BFI, Birds Eye View and Underwire. Antrobus entered film field in VOD marketing for Virgin Movies alongside film writing for Total Film, Virgin Media, F-Word and Huffington Post. Last year, she was on the jury for the British Independent Film Awards where she judged the Best Female Director category at LSFF. She now works in marketing and distribution for Picturehouse Cinemas and Entertainment whilst running Bechdel Test Fest.



► **Udith Hees - Actress, Writer, Producer**
The Netherlands

After Psychology Studies at Amsterdam University, she joined Werkteater, a troupe performing in theaters, prisons, hospitals and on instant locations. Hees then worked for more than sixteen years as an actress on stage, film and in TV productions. She also wrote different theatrical plays, some destined for children and others for adults in addition to short films for television focusing on environment and discrimination issues. Since 2000, she has been working as a scriptwriter and head of development of Film & TV Drama at Egmond Film & Television, known for producing the Best Foreign Film Oscar-winner Antonia's' Line (1995). Judith Hees now works as a creative producer at both Kaap Holland Film, and at Warner Bros International Television Productions. In 2017, the company coproduced international films such as Dunkirk by Christopher Nolan and Racer and the Jailbird by Michael Roskam.



► **Kamla Abou-Zekry - Filmmaker**
Egypt

She worked as assistant director in the movie 131 Hard Labor (1993) and Why the Sea is Laughing (1995) before she directed her first short film THE SIX O'CLOCK TRAIN in 1999. Abou-Zekry then made her long narrative debut with the romantic comedy FIRST YEAR CON in 2004, which was followed by other distinct award-winning films including HEAD AND TAIL and FOR LOVE AND PASSION (2006) and ONE-ZERO (2009) that was screened in the 66th Venice Film Festival. Her film A DAY FOR WOMEN was screened at the opening of Cairo International Film Festival 2016.



China

Angels Wear White

Directed by: Vivian Qu

Runtime: 1h 47min

2017



► Vivian Qu

A screenwriter, director and producer, she is a key figure of the Chinese independent film circle. Her directorial debut TRAP STREET premiered to critical acclaim at Venice Festival 2013 only to be screened at over fifty film festivals worldwide. In 2014, Qu produced BLACK COAL, THIN ICE that won the Golden Bear for Best Director and the Silver Bear for Best Actor at Berlin Festival 2014. ANGELS WEAR WHITE is her second long narrative.



Script
Vivian Qu

Cinematography
Benoît Dervaux

Editing
Hongyu Yang
Music
Zi Wen

Cast
Vicky Chen
Meijun Zhou
Ke Shi

Print Source:
Festival@Wildbunch.Eu

► Synopsis

In a small seaside town, two schoolgirls are assaulted by a middle-aged man in a motel. Mia, a teenager who was working on reception that night, is the only witness. However, for her fears of losing her job, Mia chooses to keep silence.

Runtime: 1h 40min

2017

Tunisia

Beauty And The Dogs

Directed by: Kaouther Ben Hania

► Kaouther Ben Hania

Born 1977 in Sidi Bouzid, she studied at the School of Arts and Cinema of Tunis while directing several short films. After more film studies at the Sorbonne-Nouvelle University, Ben Hania realized three long films including CHALLAT OF TUNIS (2014), ZAINEB HATES THE SNOW (2016) and BEAUTY AND THE DOGS (2017).



Script
Kaouther Ben Hania

Cinematography
Johan Holmquist

Editing
Nadia Ben Rachid
Music
Amin Bouhafa

Cast
Mariam Al Ferjani
Ghanem Zrelli
Noomen Hamda

Print Source:
festivals@mcdistribution.me



► Synopsis

During a student party, Mariam, a young Tunisian woman, meets the mysterious Youssef and leaves with him. A long night will begin, during which she'll have to fight for her dignity.

Long Film Competition

Aswan
International
Women
Film
Festival
February 20-26

Algeria

The Blessed

Directed by: Sofia Djama

Runtime: 1h 42min

2017



► Sofia Djama

Born 1979 in Oran, she studied foreign languages before writing short stories including LIMPLY, ONE SATURDAY MORNING that became her 2012 award-winning short film. THE BLESSED is her long narrative debut.



Script
Sofia Djama

Cinematography
Pierre Aïm

Editing
Sophie Brunet

Cast
Sami Bouajila
Nadia Kaci
Lyna Khoudri

Print Source:
j.bechu@bacfilms.fr

► Synopsis

Algiers, a few years after the civil war. Amal and Samir have decided to celebrate their twentieth wedding anniversary in a fancy restaurant. While on their way, they share their views on Algeria. While Amal speaks about lost illusions and Samir about the necessity to cope with them, their son Farid and his friend wander around in a hostile neighborhood...

Runtime: 1h 44min

2017

Egypt

Cactus Flower

Directed by: Hala Elkoussy

► Hala Elkoussy

A visual artist and a filmmaker, she works across a variety of media: photography, video, installation, sculpture. After obtaining her BA from the American University in Cairo, she obtained her MA in Image and Communication from Goldsmith College, London University, 2002. Elkoussy has produced a number of short films that were screened in exhibitions and biennials across the world. CACTUS FLOWER is her long narrative debut.



Script
Hala Elkoussy

Cinematography
Abdelsalam Moussa

Editing
Micheal Youssef
Music
Ahmed El Sawy

Cast
Salma Samy
Menha Batraoui
Marwan Alazab

Print Source:
elkoussyhala@hotmail.com



► Synopsis

Aida, a struggling actress of provincial background, finds herself kicked out on the streets of Cairo; together with her neighbor Samiha, a reclusive old bourgeois. With no money and nowhere to go, the two women, aided by Yassin, a street-savvy youth, embark on a journey to find shelter

Georgia

Dede

Directed by: Mariam Khatchvani

Runtime: 1h 37min

2017



► Mariam Khatchvani

Born 1986, she is a Georgian film director and screenwriter. After her graduation in 2008 from the Shota Rustaveli Theatre and Film University, she went to direct several short documentaries, including VERDZOBA (2006), BEYOND THE WINDOW (2007), LICHANISHI and KVIRIKOBA (2009). DEDE is her long narrative debut.



Script
Vladimer Katcharava
Mariam Khatchvani
Irakli Solomonashvili

Cinematography
Konstantin Esadze

Editing
Levan Kukhashvili
Music
Mate Chamgeliani
Tako Jordania

Cast
George Babluani
Girshel Chelidze
Mose Khachvani

Print Source:
festivals@widemanagement.com

► Synopsis

It's 1992. Young Dina lives in a remote mountain village where life is strictly governed by centuries of tradition. Dina's grandfather has promised her to David, who is returning from the war. But with him comes a comrade-in-arms, the handsome Gegi, and Dina falls in love.

Runtime: 1h 45min

2017

France
Belgium

Endangered Species

Directed by: Gilles Bourdos

► Gilles Bourdos

Born 1963, he is a French film director, screenwriter and producer best known for his atmospheric cinema, which uses troubling themes in contrast with strong aesthetic imagery. He was one of the founders of the French production company Persona Films which produced most of his early work. Bourdos often collaborates with filmmaker Michel Spinosa, cinematographer Ping Bin Lee and musician Alexandre Desplat.



Script
Michel Spinosa
Gilles Bourdos
Richard Bausch

Cinematography
Ping Bin Lee

Editing
Yannick Kergoat
Music
Alexandre Desplat

Cast
Alice Isaaz
Vincent Rottiers
Grégory Gadebois

Print Source:
festival@wildbunch.eu



► Synopsis

Three interlinked family stories. Josephine and Tomas are happy newlyweds, but Josephine's parent quickly discover a darker reality behind the couple's glowing matrimonial bliss. Meanwhile, Melanie announces to her parents that she is pregnant - and the father is far from the ideal son-in-law! And lastly Anthony, his head in the clouds and unlucky in love, who is faced with having to take charge of his suddenly uncontrollable mother.

Long Film Competition

Aswan
International
Women
Film
Festival
February 20-26

FRANCE

FACES PLACES

Directed by: Agnès Varda, JR

Runtime: 1h 29min

2017



► Agnès Varda



► JR



Born 1928, she is a French film director who was born in Belgium but spent most of her working life in France. Her films, photographs, and art installations focus on documentary realism, feminist issues, and social commentary with a distinctive experimental style. On 11 November 2017, Varda received an Oscar Honorary Award for her contributions to cinema, making her the first female director to receive such tribute.

Born 1983 in France, JR is a mural artist who exhibits freely in the streets of the world, catching the attention of people who are not typical museum visitors. He embarked on a long international trip for his Cannes' selected film WOMEN ARE HEROES, in which he underlines the dignity of women who are often the targets of conflicts.

Cinematography
Roberto De Angelis
Claire Duguet
Julia Fabry
Nicolas Guicheteau
Romain Le Bonniec
Raphaël Minnesota
Valentin Vignet

Editing
Maxime Pozzi-Garcia
Agnès Varda

Music
Matthieu Chedid

Print Source:
kajal@cohenmedia.net

► Synopsis

Agnès Varda and muralist JR, partake on a special art project. Together, they travel around France in a special box truck equipped as a portable photo booth and traveling printing facility as they take photographs of people. With that inspiration, they also create special colossal mural pictures of individuals, communities and places they want to honor and celebrate.

Runtime: 1h 30min

2017

USA

For Ahkeem

Directed by: Jeremy S. Levine
Landon Van Soest

► **Jeremy S. Levine**
Landon Van Soest

An Emmy award-winning documentary filmmaking team whose work explores social commentary through rich characters and cinematic stories. GOOD FORTUNE, their long documentary about efforts to aid Africa received a National Emmy Award among many others. Landon and Jeremy co-founded Transient Pictures, that produces original content for many organizations.



Cinematography
Nicholas Weissman

Editing
Lily Frances Henderson
Music
Noah Bennett Cunningham

Print Source:
jeremy@transientpictures.com



► **Synopsis**

Beginning one year before the fatal police shooting of a black teenager in nearby Ferguson, Missouri, the documentary focuses on the coming-of-age story of Daje Shelton, a black 17-year-old girl in North St. Louis. She fights for her future as she is placed in an alternative high school and navigates the marginalized neighborhoods, biased criminal justice policies and economic devastation that have set up many black youths like her to fail...

Long Film Competition

Aswan
International
Women
Film
Festival
February 20-26

Layla M

Directed by: Mijke De Jong

Runtime: 1h 38min

2017



► Mijke De Jong

A Dutch director, screenwriter and producer, she is known for her acclaimed films including BLUEBIRD (2004) and FRAILER (2014). Her work centers on topics like violence, family problems and belonging. De Jong is part of the Netherlands Film Fund that try to tighten the Dutch bonds with other countries through coproduction.



Script
Jan Eilander
Mijke De Jong

Cinematography
Danny Elsen

Editing
Dorith Vinken
Music
Can Erdogan

Cast
Nora El Koussour
Ilias Addab
Hassan Akkouch

Print Source:
info@cinemien.nl

► Synopsis

Eighteen -years-old Layla is of Moroccan background yet born and raised in Amsterdam. In the times of constant terrorist threat, she struggles with the increasing suspicion towards girls with headscarves and boys with beards that she witnesses every day. Eventually, she joins a group of Muslims who fight for their practice of Islam. Layla posts films online depicting the horrors in Syria and Gaza and makes political flyers...

Runtime: 1h 30min

2017

Germany
Austria
Italy
Morocco

Looking For Oum Kulthum

Directed by: Shirin Neshat, Shoja Azari

► Shirin Neshat

Born 1957, she is an Iranian visual artist and filmmaker who lives in New York City. Known primarily for her work in video and photography, Neshat has been recognized countless times for her work, from winning the International Award of the Venice Biennale 1999. As for filmmaking, she won the Silver Lion for Best Director at Venice Film Festival 2009.



► Shoja Azari

Born 1957, he is an Iranian-born visual artist and filmmaker based in New York City. He co-directed with Neshat her films WOMEN WITHOUT MEN (2009) and LOOKING FOR OUM KULTHUM (2017). Azari's artworks have been increasingly showcased in galleries and museums around the world.



Script
Shoja Azari
Ahmad Diba
Shirin Neshat

Cinematography
Martin Gschlacht

Editing
Shoja Azari
Music
Shirin Neshat

Cast
Yasmin Raeis
Neda Rahmanian
Mehdi Moinzadeh

Print Source:
festivals@mcdistribution.me



► Synopsis

A film within a film, it is the plight of an Iranian woman artist/filmmaker living in exile, as she embarks on capturing the life and art of the legendary female singer of the Arab world, Oum Kulthum. Through her difficult journey, not unlike her heroine's, she must face the struggles, sacrifices and the price that a woman has to pay if she dares to cross the lines of a conservative male dominated society.

Egypt

Mesteka And Rehan

Directed by: Dina Abdel Salam

Runtime: 1h

2017



► Dina Abdel Salamr

She is a novelist and filmmaker. Her first novel A TEXT ABANDONED BY ITS CHARACTERS was published in 2012. Among her film works: the short narrative REST IN PEACE (2014) and the short documentary GIRLS OF A FEATHER (2016).



Script
Dina Abdel Salam

Cinematography
Ashraf Mahdy
Abdallah Dawestash

Editing
Dina Abdel Salam
Music
Wael Taha

Cast
Aziza Fadel
Aly Darwish
Maged Abdel Razek

Print Source:
dm_salam@yahoo.com

► Synopsis

Mesteka, a seventy-year old Muslim widow, and Rehan, a sixty-seven-year-old Christian widower, are neighbors living in the same building. Because their grownup children hardly ever visit them, they both get used to monotony, loneliness, and isolation to go on ...

Runtime: 1h 44min

2017

Poland

Tattoo Girls

Directed by: Miguel Gaudêncio

► Miguel Gaudêncio

Born in Mozambique and raised in Portugal, he had made more than two hundred music videos by the age of thirty. In 2004, he directed his first short-narrative THE HOLE and, in 2008, his first long narrative SECOND LIFE became a box office success in Portugal.



Cinematography
Miguel Gaudêncio

Editing
Miguel Gaudêncio
Sebastian Mucha

Music
Adi Goldstein

Print Source:
contact@greenboxeurope.eu



► Synopsis

A documentary about a group of ordinary women, and their different styles of daily life, showcasing their stories and the impact they have on society. We are trying to understand the underlying and hidden truths of each character by their simple daily actions.

Long Film Competition

Aswan
International
Women
Film
Festival
2nd
February 20-26

Short Film Competition

▶ **Ayten Amin - Film Director**
Egypt

Born in Alexandria, she studied Film Criticism at the Egyptian Association of Film Writers and Critics 2001 and independent filmmaking at Art Lab of The American University in Cairo (2004-2006).

Amin directed her first short narrative HER MAN as a graduation project in December 2006. The film was screened in several international festivals such as Clermont Ferrand and received several national prizes.

It was followed in 2009 by the short narrative SPRING 89, produced by The Egyptian Film Center. She was among the filmmakers who directed the collective film TAHRIR 2011: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE POLITICIAN that was officially selected in Venice Film Festival and Toronto Film Festival 2011. It was officially nominated for Best Documentary in Cinema for Peace Award, Berlin 2012. Released in 2013, her long narrative debut VILLA 69 (2013) won both the Cairo Film Connection prize and the Hubert Bals Fund in Durban Film Mart 2011.



▶ **Emanuele Gerosa - Film Director**
Italy

Born 1975 in Rovereto, he studied Contemporary History at Bologna University. Upon his graduation in 2001, he ventured into filmmaking.

His first medium-length documentary KAMENGE NORTHERN QUARTERS (2010) travelled several international Film Festivals winning 3 awards. His second medium-length documentary LION SOULS (2012) won Jury Prize at Ismailia Festival 2013.

Two years later, Gerosa completed his first long documentary BETWEEN SISTERS that premiered at Popoli Festival then at True/False Film Festival in the US. It received several awards including Best Film at Ismailia Festival 2016. Currently, he is working on his new film ONE MORE JUMP produced by Graffiti Doc (Italy) and Amka Films Production (Swiss).



▶ **Yulia Zakharova - Film director, actress**
Russia

She is a director actress, screenwriter, senior teacher at Kazan State Institute of Culture (KazGIK), and deputy dean of the Faculty of Cinematography and Television. Having been a theater director since 2009, she is a winner of numerous international and all-Russian festivals and competitions. In November 2016, her script HALIMA was recognized as the best in the nomination of a short meter in the Open Competition of Scenarios of Tatarstan Republic. The film was produced in 2017. International Film Festival 2016.





Runtime: 14min

2016

Runtime: 30min

2017

Finland

After The Reunion

Directed by:
Kirsikka Saari

► Kirsikka Saari

Born 1973 in Helsinki, she a writer-director known for BOYFRIEND (2013) and DO I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING? that was nominated for the 2014 Oscar of Best Short Film.



Print Source:
kirsikka.saari@gmail.com

► Synopsis

Fifty-year-old Saila wakes up with flashes of her memories and old emotions. Is her mind or her hangover after her class reunion?



Denmark

Atelier

Directed by:
Elsa María Jakobsdóttir

► Elsa María Jakobsdóttir

She graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 2017 as the first Icelandic to be accepted into film program. Her first short narrative MEGAPHONE (2013) won Best Icelandic Film at Northern Wave Festival.



Print Source:
elsamariajakobs@gmail.com

► Synopsis

A young woman comes to a remote island to get away from her problems. However, her stay is jarringly interrupted by an artist whose acoustic installation disturbs everything around her.



Runtime: 7min

2017

Runtime: 30min

2015

Iraq

Baghdad Perfume

Directed by:
Roua Alazzawi

► Roua Alazzawi

She obtained a Master of Fine Arts in filmmaking in 2012. Alazzawi wrote and directed several short films including her latest film BAGHDAD PERFUME.



Print Source:
roua_nazar@hotmail.com

► Synopsis

Iter, a young wife and mother, lives a sheltered life during the civil war. One night, she is forced to confront reality when her young son's life hangs in the balance.



Romania

Bones For Otto

Directed by:
Matei Lucaci-Grunberg

► Miguel Gaudêncio

Two women who met in extreme circumstances: the first is a professional call girl, working on the streets to feed her family and the second is an opera singer who desperately needs 500 dollars to fly to New Zealand for realize her dreams...



Print Source:
m.lucaci.grunberg@gmail.com

► Synopsis

Born 1989 in Bucharest, he is a theater and film writer-director. His theater and film productions have earned him national and international awards. Currently, he is preparing his first long film.



Runtime: 17min

2017

Runtime: 18min

2016

Saudi
Arabia

The Bus

Directed By:
Norah Almowald, Noor Alamir

► Norah Almowald, Noor Alamir

Two up and coming filmmaking duo; Norah Almowald studies filmmaking at Effat University. Noor Alamir currently works at Visual and Digital Production, University of Arkansas.



Print Source:
norahalmowald93@gmail.com

► Synopsis

A documenting glance at the daily lives of young women during their trip on the bus of the their university.



Morocco

Carried By The Wind

Directed by:
Kevin Le Dortz

► Kevin Le Dortz

Born 1994, he is a French filmmaker who realized his first short film CARRIED BY THE WIND as an inspiration by his visit to Moroccan landscapes.



Print Source:
k.ledortz@gmail.com

► Synopsis

Wijdane, a young girl from Tangier, likes to play soccer. One day, she sees some boys playing outside. While she wants to join them, she knows that traditions prevent her from doing so...



Runtime: 22min

2017

Runtime: 24min

2017

Tajikistan
India

The Illusion Seller

Directed by:
Sharofat Arabova

► Sharofat Arabova

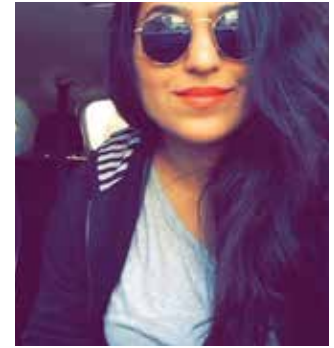
1985 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, she graduated in cultural studies and filmmaking. Her past films include TASFIYA (2014) and IN BETWEEN (2013).



Print Source:
sharofat@gmail.com

► Synopsis

Zukhro, a little Tajik girl befriends the Indian emigrant Kabir who came to her village from far away...



Lebanon
Germany

lilacs

Directed by:
Mira Shaib

► Mira Shaib

After film and communications studies from the Lebanese American University, she worked as assistant director in theatrical and film production. LILACS is her latest short narrative.



Print Source:
moshira.bahar@mad-solutions.com

► Synopsis

Hanna, a melancholic woman, returns to Lebanon after twelve years of absence in search of her twin brother who has been kidnapped during the Lebanese civil war.



Runtime: 5min

2017

Runtime: 28min

2016

Greece

Mum, I'm Back

Directed by:
Dimitris Katsimiris

► Dimitris Katsimiris

Born in Rhodes, he has written theatrical plays and directed the award-winning short films BIRTHDAY (2016) and MUM, I'M BACK (2017).



Print Source:
dkatsi81@gmail.com

► Synopsis

After forty years of absence, a woman returns to the village where she was born to attend the funeral of her mother. At the cemetery, she encounters many faces from the past...



USA

The Sacred Disease

Directed by:
Erica Scoggins

► Erica Scoggins

Her narrative films and visual art examine moments of unreality. She has studied fine arts and writing at Belmont University and finished her MFA in Film Directing at California Institute of the Arts.



Print Source:
ericallynnscoggins@gmail.com

► Synopsis

Angie, who lives with her mom, struggles to manage a heavy dosage of medication for a neurological disorder. Nicole, a mysterious and reckless woman, convinces Angie to toss the pills and accompany her to an old mansion in the deep woods of East Tennessee.



Runtime: 15min

2017

Runtime: 15min

2017

USA

Sofie

Directed by:
Ella Jane New

► Ella Jane New

Born in Barbados and raised in Uganda, Kenya, England and New York City, she became an actress and writer-director of several films including WHEN I'M WITH YOU (2015) and EARTH BENEATH MY FEET (2015).



Print Source:
ellajanenew@gmail.com

► Synopsis

Sofie, a seventeen-year old deaf teenager from Brooklyn, sneaks out on a Friday night to meet her friend Luis to get away from troubles at home...



Italy
Egypt

The Step

Directed by:
Mohamed Hossam El-Din

► Mohamed Hossam El-Din

An Egyptian-born filmmaker who was raised in Italy and graduated from Rome University, his short film UNDERGROUND was selected at the Short Film Corner of Cannes Festival 2015.



Print Source:
sherif.fathy.salem@gmail.com

► Synopsis

Nadine; an Italian teenager who was born in Italy to an immigrant couple, faces a harsh situation while making her audition to become a ballet dancer at one of Rome's prestigious theaters.



Runtime: 11min

2017

Runtime: 8min

2017

BAHRAIN
UAE

A Time To Pray

Directed by:
Ahmed Al Kuwaiti

► Ahmed Al Kuwaiti

Born in Mozambique and raised in Portugal, he had made more than two hundred music videos by the age of thirty. In 2004, he directed his first short-narrative THE HOLE and, in 2008, his first long narrative SECOND LIFE became a box office success in Portugal.



Print Source:
ahmedalkuw@gmail.com

► Synopsis

A Bahraini filmmaker based, he studied Digital Production at the American University in Dubai. He has worked as assistant director in film and music videos.



SPAIN

Two Times, One Bed

Directed by:
Marta España

► Marta España

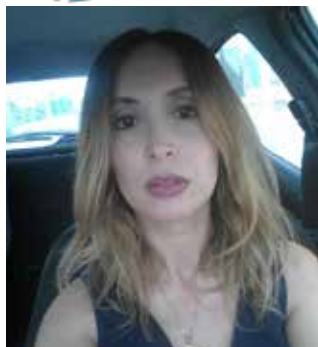
Born 1989 in Seville, she worked as assistant director and producer in several short and long films on the international scene. TWO TIMES, ONE BED is her second short narrative.



Print Source:
mareshu@msn.com

► Synopsis

A young woman can't go back to sleep after being woken up by some strange noise. Is she still alone or someone is inside the house?



Runtime: 22min

2017

Tunisia

Wedding Of Thorns

Directed by:
Mirvet Médini Kammoun

► Mirvet Médini Kammoun

An architect and Fine Arts Professor, she realized several short films including NEJMA (2014). In 2010, she also published an essay on Youssef Chahine entitled CAMERA OF ALL BATTLES.



Print Source:
dm_salam@yahoo.com

► Synopsis

January 14, 2011. A wedding ceremony is organized in a popular area of the capital Tunis. However, an unexpected event interferes with the smooth festivities.

Special Presentations Out of Competition



Runtime: 41min 2017 Runtime: 1h 50min 2016

Albania

Missing Earring

Directed by:
Bujar Alimani

► Bujar Alimani

Born 1969 in Patos, he is a director and writer, known for AMNESTY (2011), GAS (2006) and CHROMIUM (2015).



Print Source:
alimanifilm@hotmail.com

► Synopsis

After her husband passes away, a widow invites the mistress to discuss the details of the will..



Indonesia

Aisyah, Let Us Be A Family

Directed by:
Herwin Novianto

► Herwin Novianto

Born 1965, he is an Indonesian film director who won the Citra Award for Best Director at the 2012 Indonesian Film Festival for his drama LAND OF HEAVEN... THEY SAY.



Print Source:
sherif.fathy.salem@gmail.com

► Synopsis

Aisyah, a Muslim young woman, becomes a teacher in a Catholic village..

Special Presentations

Kazan Festival



Runtime: 30min 2017 Runtime: 52min 2016

Russia

Halima

Directed by:
Yulia Zaharova

► Yulia Zaharova

She is a director actress, screenwriter, senior teacher at Kazan State Institute of Culture (KazGIK), and deputy dean of the Faculty of Cinematography and Television. In November 2016, her script HALIMA was recognized as the best in the nomination of a short meter in the Open Competition of Scenarios of Tatarstan Republic.



Print Source:
tatarkino2007@mail.ru

► Synopsis

When the students at an elite school is excited about the possibility of winning a grant for an internship at the UN, no one notices the appearance of Halima, a new student who does not meet the standards of modern adolescents...



Russia

Come Back Free

Directed by:
Ksenia Okhapkina

► Ksenia Okhapkina

A documentary filmmaker, she studied Film and TV at Saint Petersburg University. Her early short films were screened worldwide at film festival and on Russian TVs. COME BACK FREE is her second medium length documentary.



Print Source:
kseniaokhapkina@gmail.com

► Synopsis

A poetic documentary about life in a war-torn Chechen village, with the cemetery as its symbolic focal point. The village lives and breathes in unison.

Award of the Egypt Film Critics Association (EFCA)
by the name of the great Egyptian film critic Samir Farid

With the launch of the first edition of the Aswan International Women Film Festival 2014, as a continuation of the protocols of cooperation between the Egypt Film Critics Association (EFCA), member of the International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI), and the Egyptian festivals and in the framework of supporting film culture using various elements of experience and artistic evaluation, EFCA has reached an agreement with the board of AWIFF to form a committee of critics to assign a new Award by the name of great Egyptian film critic Samir Farid, one of the founders of EFCA and one the most prominent Egyptian and Arab figure in film criticism and culture. The Award will be assigned every year.

Award Regulations:

- The committee will grant one award by the name of film critic Samir Farid for Best Film in the official competition of the festival.
- The committee will award certificates of appreciation (maximum two certificates) for Best Artistic Contribution.

Jury of Samir Farid Award:



Essam Zakarea - Jury President

A Cairo-born journalist, film critic and researcher, he wrote hundreds of articles about films for several Arabic publications. Zakarea was the author of ten books about Egyptian and foreign cinemas. He also translated from English and German tens of articles, and many novels and books about cinema. He

was jury member in several local and international film festivals and participated in many cultural seminars, research circles, film programs, in addition to working in different positions in many Egyptian festivals. He is the current president of Ismailia International Film Festival for Documentary and Short Films.



Magda Khairallah

A writer, critic and scriptwriter who was born in Alexandria, she obtained a Bachelor of Science from Ain Shams University and a BA from the Higher Institute of Cinema. She has published articles in magazines such as Akher Saa and newspapers such as al-Wafd, al-Kahera and Rose Al Yousuf. A member

of the Egyptian Film Critics Association, the Egyptian Association of Film Writers and Critics, and a member of Viewing Committee of Cairo Film Festival. Jury Member at The National Film Festival, Film Society Festival, the Catholic Festival, and Malmö Arab Film Festival. She has also written several long films, made-for-television films and a number of successful TV series.



Amal Mamdouh

She graduated from the Journalism Department at Mass Communications Faculty of Cairo University then received the Diploma of the Higher Institute of Criticism, the Diploma of Scriptwriting and Directing from the Cinema Palace and the Diploma of Anthropology from the Institute of African Research. She joined several film workshops in Criticism and Scriptwriting. A member of the Egyptian Film Critics Association, the Egyptian Association of Film Writers and Critics, and a member of Viewing Committee of Cairo Film Festival 2017. She has published articles and studies in Egyptian media such as the Film Magazine, Al-Gomhuriya newspaper, the New Cultural Magazine and the Lebanese magazine Al-Jadida magazine. She has frequent reviews of articles in the catalogs of both the International Critics Week and the Cairo Film Festival. She lectured at several film symposia, the latest of which was during the screenings of the National Film Festival in Luxor.

Symposia and Lectures

**Samir Farid, a symposium moderated by Dr. Khaled Abdel-Gelil
Advisor to the Minister of Culture for Cinema Affairs
President of the National Film Center, Egypt**



**Women in Youssef Chahine's Films,
a symposium moderated by
director and producer Sherif Mandour, Egypt**



Arab women's contribution to the future of Arab cinema

From the founding initiative of Aziza Amir, to the status quo where we monitor in many Arab cinemas a serious presence of films achieved by Arab women filmmakers, which are often more ambitious, and relatively, than those achieved by male directors, including the makers of so-called independent cinema. While a good number of those films are keen to address the issue of Arab women, it is remarkable that there are many films that draw their attention to the issues of society as a whole regardless of the women's issue per se. However, women tend to speak more seriously and artistically about the issues and conditions of societies. In the lecturer's opinion, this will be further enhanced by the increasing presence of Arab women and their limited chances of indulging in commercial cinema, making their choices more stringent and serious.



Ibrahim Al-Aris - Film Critic and researcher Lebanon

Born 1946 in Beirut and worked in several film professions as screenwriter and assistant director in a number of Egyptian-Lebanese-Turkish films. He also worked with the late Abdel-Hayy Adib in writing scenarios for these films. Later, he studied filmmaking in Rome, script and criticism in London and published short stories and criticism in the Lebanese and Palestinian press. He returned to Lebanon in 1972 head the cultural sections of AL-DUSTOUR and AL-BALAGH magazines, in the Lebanese AL-SAFIR newspaper, and in the magazine AL-YOUM AL-SABE published in France. Now, since 1992, he heads the film section of AL-HAYAT newspaper. He translated from French, English and Italian about forty books in cinema, philosophy, economics, criticism and history. He has also published more than thirty-six works in cinema, thought, journalism and culture. Participated in collective books and in a large number .of intellectual and literary conferences

Nut Forum
For Women Issues



With the beginning of the New Year, there is a new birth for "Aswan International Women Film Festival" on the beach of our generous, holly Nile that provides Egyptians with water and life. With the beginning of each dawn, sunlight appears to announce a new birth. Though it disappears again by the end of the day .leaving darkness, it shines again with the beginning of a new dawn with the gift of life for all of us

The first season of Nut forum, the slogan was "Together with Art, We can Confront Violence against Women". The forum's activities included a large presence of festival guests and representatives from civil society organizations in Aswan. All participants wore the "White Ribbon" as a commitment not to commit .violence against women. During the forum, various films on women's issues were presented

This year, the forum raises the slogan "Men and Women ... Hand in Hand to achieve Gender Equality". It is the time for men to become part of the solution not of the problem. Eliminating discrimination between men and women requires cooperation among all members of the society. Men, in partnership with women, can play an important role to .eliminate gender discrimination and achieve equality

Men should be active players in the development of the global gender equality movement, as they constitute the largest proportion of decision-makers at the global, regional and national levels, as they are also decision-makers in the family and , (society and as they have influential capabilities (Judiciary, media, education, doctors, lawyers, mosques' preachers ... etc

Men's engagement is a strong support for women's rights. Their participation enhances women's issues that used to be women's concern. Men can play an effective role to enhance gender equality and to eliminate all forms of discrimination as well as the .dominant forms of masculinity

Since Culture involves knowledge, art, literature, ethics, law, customs, life values, human rights, the principles, traditions, practices and power relationships among individuals, it influences most forms of gender discrimination against women everywhere. No one can ignore that culture continuously changes according to the surrounding variables on both the national .and international levels

Culture must therefore be seen as a changing body of discourses, power relations, and social, economic and political processes, rather than viewed as a fixed set of beliefs and practices. Hence, Nut forum focuses on the cultural values that respect women's human rights. The forum believes that both men and women are equal and partners. Both can change the negative influence of Culture on gender equality and discrimination issues in order to achieve sustainable development and luxury of the whole .world. With this regard, Nut Forum appreciates the artists' and filmmakers' efforts and works that adopt gender equality issues

It's a call for Aswan's sun to rise and shine, a call for the Nile to continuously flow over both men and women with no discrimination. It is a call for Nut, whose body arches across the sky, wearing a dress decorated with stars, to swallow sun at .the end of the day and give birth to it again the next morning

Dr. Azza Kamel
Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Festival
Chairwoman of the Nut Forum



Dr. Azza Kamel

She holds a PhD in Philosophy in Education. She is also a novelist and a writer. She worked with various Egyptian and Arab newspapers as al-Shouroqu , al-Tahrir, Akhbar al-Adab, al-Massry al-Youm, al-Hayat and al-Doha. She has developed and prepared various studies and researchers on the image of both men and women in media. She prepared a study on "Women in the World Constitutions).

She has also different literary writings on women's rights. She is the author of "Women in the constitutions of the world" book. She is the author of short stories titled: "Al Nahr Al Rajef", "Hareir Al Torab", "Creators not to Watch". She is also the author of "Nassab" novel. .

Dr. Azza had been Jury President of the Best Film on Women Award in Ismailia International Festival for six years (2008 : 2016). She had been also Jury President of the Foreign Film Competition in Muscat International Film Festival during 2008.

She is the founder of the Appropriate Communication Techniques for Development - ACT, a civil society organization that focus on women's issues in Egypt. Through her center, Dr. Azza contributed to produce different documentary films on women's conditions in Egypt, especially violence against women. She is the founder of "Shoft Taharosh" (I Saw Harassment) initiative that aims to combat harassment phenomena.

Ms. Naziha Obeidi - Minister of Women, Family and Childhood - Egypt



Minister of Women, Family and Childhood Political and civil society activist, Naziha Al Obeidi, Minister of Women, Family and Childhood, graduated from the Sorbonne University, and has completed many researches and studies in the field of Arab and Islamic civilization, among them the research «Quélès de l'amour et la passion dans la civilization arabe» aspects de la civilization Arabe et Musulmane ». She obtained a doctorate from the Sorbonne University in the Arab Civilization, the Diploma in Education Studies, the Masters in Research Methodology and Translation (Arabic / French / French / Arabic), the Bachelor Degree in Education with a very good observation, From the University of Paris Tulipiac. Obtained additional degrees in Social Psychology, Child Psychology, General Sociology, Anthropology in Comparative Semitic Languages, Communication Sciences and the History of Contemporary Arab Political Thought, developed her training skills and became Trainer of Media and Communication Trainers, Negotiation Techniques, Strategic Planning , Human rights based curriculum, results-based management, resource mobilization and project financing, social climate and organization of work on enterprise competitiveness, and planning and statistics by gender (UNDP-Egypt). She is a member of Women for a Better World and an executive director of the Arab World at the Center for Environmental Education in the United Arab Emirates.

The Mediterranean region, and a national coordinator of the Network of Trainers for the Development of Women in the Mediterranean. In the field of management, the Minister was appointed Director of the Department of International Cooperation and External Relations and Director of the Advancement of Women. She also had a great track record of preparing and preparing the fifth and sixth national reports of the CEDAW Agreement, developing a training project in jewelry, training in embroidery, And the creation of a mechanism to support women's economic initiatives to enhance the capacity development of non-governmental organizations. The completion of a study on women's participation in political life, the study of the distribution of time among women and men, and the national strategy to combat violence against women.



Dr. Issam El-Adawi - Egypt

Dr. Issam El-Adawi is a Professional International Development Practitioner with more than twenty-seven years' experience working in developing and industrialized countries in conceptualizing, planning, implementing, and evaluating projects in social and community development, health and population and communication fields for various regional and international organizations. He has a significant experience working in MENA region for more than 15 years. He was a substantial Chief of Party experience and country director in Iraq and Egypt. He has been also a substantial expertise with a variety of international implementing agencies and donors, including Johns Hopkins University, Helsinki Consultancy Group, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Near East Foundation, and various international NGOs.

Furthermore, Dr. Issam played essential role in introducing the Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) methodology in the Arab World to assess community needs and propose the most appropriate interventions to meet those needs.



Zahra' Langhi - Libya

She is a strategist, peace activist, academic and researcher in the fields of gender, peace building processes and conflict resolution, Islamic history & Islamic intellectual schools of thought.

In 2014 she was announced in the Guardian as one of 'Seven Women to Watch in Global Politics' by the leader of UNDP & the former Prime Minister of New Zealand Helen Clark.

In 2016 she was featured among 100 inspiring women in the world working for the empowerment of women & peace building. Langhi was ranked #26 in Salt Magazine.

She is the co-founder & Director of the Libyan Women's Platform for Peace, a socio-political movement that aims at peace building, inclusivity and gender equality.

Langhi is an author of several articles, amongst are "The Presumed Clash between Islamic Sharia & International Conventions regarding Women's Rights", "Gender & State Building in Libya: Towards a Politics of Inclusion" in the Journal of North African Studies, "The Libyan Political Accord from A Human Rights Lens", "Analysis of the Fourth Draft of the Libyan Political Accord" and "Libya's Religious Sector and Peace Building efforts".



El Saedia Wadah - Morocco

El Saedia Wadah is a lawyer in the Authority of Casablanca in Morocco since 1985. She is also a member in the National Council for Human Rights since 2011. She has been also a member in the Lawyers' Commission in Casablanca during 2015 - 2017. She was a previous member in Young Lawyers' Association during 1989 - 1991.

She has been also a previous chairperson of the Moroccan Association to Combat Violence against Women during 2000-2003. As a lawyer, she works in the Legal Listening and Counseling Center for Women Victims of Violence since 1996. She was also a member in the Moroccan Organization for Human Rights.

She participated in various national, regional and international seminars on women's rights and relevant laws and legislations.

Mrs. El Saedia issues various articles and papers on sexual harassment, marital mediation and Personal Status Code: marriage and divorce.



Doaa Hafez - Egypt

She has joined the British Council Egypt in 2003 and is currently the Head of Society Programmes with a focus on Women Empowerment and Youth Development. Before this role, she was the Programme Manager of the Education and Scientific Research Programmes at British Council Egypt. During the last 6 years and since she developed and managed programmes responding to the local needs and aligned with British Council Strategy. She created and managed relationships with both governmental and non-governmental bodies positioning British Council Society Programme among other International Organisations and helping British Council to reach a wide range of Egyptian Youth.

To reinvigorate her technical knowledge, she has enrolled on the Gender and Development MSc in the Faculty of Economic and Political Science at Cairo University. The course has been supported by UN Women and co-developed and delivered with Institute of Development Studies, (Sussex).



Khadija Ramadan - Libya

She has got her BA on Economics and Political Science from University of Garyounis. She is specialized in politics, international relations and human rights.

She is a program producer in several TV and audio channels. She is also a news editor in several websites and Libyan TV channels. Furthermore, she is an Editor and Correspondent of the Electronic Africa Gateway in Benghazi. She worked as a director of the Benghazi office of the channel Libya Al- Ahrar from 2012 to 2014. She was also a military correspondent for the same channel in the period of the revolution and beyond.

In addition, Mrs. Khadija is a member of the local research unit on mapping the religious sector in Libya, USIP. She is also an editor and news producer for Channel 218 in Amman.



Samira Ben Sawda - Algeria

She has got the BA in Economics and Political Science and International Relations in 1991 from Algeria University. Her MA focused on the International Relations.

She has been a member in the presidential human rights issues team during 1991 - 2003.

She was a representative member in the Algerian Mission of the Human Rights Committee in Geneva during 2002 - 2003. She was also a member in the National Committee for Media to participate in the development of communication strategies during 1999 - 2003.

She is the Chairperson of the Algerian Network of Cinema and TV. She is also the Vice-President of the Network of Moroccan Women Leaders. In addition, she is a member in the Executive Office of the Moroccan Economic and Social Network under the auspices of the World Bank. She is also a member in the National Committee of the Good Governance.

She developed a documentary series on "Algeria Beni Mazgneh 30 episodes of Algerian television". The series addressed various themes.

Mrs. Samira has got an Award for the Best Business Woman in 2009 from the Algerian Business Women Association. She was also chosen among the best ten Algerian Female Leaders of 2017. Through the national media outlets, she was also selected among the Algerian National Characters in 2017. She initiated the first private TV channel in Algeria (KTV , K NEWS).



Hibaaq Osman - Egypt

Hibaaq Osman is the founder of Karama, a growing movement to end violence against women, and deliver sustainable, inclusive peace and democracy in the Arab region. Hibaaq has made it her mission to elevate the voices of women, raise their profiles and develop their skills as peacemakers and leaders. Karama's guiding principle is ensuring that strategies affecting women in the region are not simply responsive to the needs of women on the ground, but are led by women and real representatives of the community. The aim is to put women in the Arab region at the centre of humanitarian response, conflict prevention and resolution, and promoting women's participation in public life.

Hibaaq has been widely recognized for her work with Karama. Named one of the 500 Most Influential Muslims, Hibaaq formerly served as a member of UN Women's Global Civil Society Advisory Group and is currently on the board of Donor Direct Action.



Gielan Elmessiri Gender Specialist, UN Women Egypt

She joined UN Women in April 2014 as the Egypt Project Coordinator for the joint EU-UN Women flagship programme on women's political and economic empowerment in the Arab States region. She has over 23 years of professional experience in development work in the areas of advocacy and partnerships, policy analysis and coordination, programme design and implementation, and knowledge building. She has designed and implemented sustainable and impactful initiatives such as the establishment of the first Professional Master degree in Gender and Development at an Egyptian public university.

Prior to joining UN Women, she was Senior Policy Officer for Gender and Development at the Netherlands embassy in Cairo responsible for identifying and appraising opportunities for Netherlands funding in the fields of gender equality and development and managing a portfolio of related projects in addition to ensuring that gender issues are effectively mainstreamed across all areas of Netherlands programming. She was also the Deputy Director of the Ombudsman office at the National Council for Women.

Gielan holds a master's degree in Development Studies from the American University in Cairo (AUC), and graduated from the Faculty of Mass Communication, AUC



Magda Mories

MAGDA MORIES Egyptian film critic , member in Egyptian film critic the member of (FIPRESCI) , deputy editor in chief in elgomhuria newspaper , columnist in (alahly) Egyptian newspaper and (al - hayat) international news paper .



Ahmed Mahmoud - Egypt

Journalist and columnist , Former head of public relations department - Al Ahram press establishment

He started Working with Al-Ahram press establishment as a Journalist since 1992.

He first started by writing articles for Al-Shabab magazine (Publication for Youth) issued by Al-Ahram and further worked on the creation of the lay out design for the French publication Al-Ahram Hebdo and maintaining the technical part of it, that included the print and the website as well

He later joined, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in 2003, his main duty at that time was managing the project of its Arabic website.

In 2006, he became the ICRC communication delegate in Darfur "Sudan" before returning to Al-Ahram one year later.

Mahmoud was selected by CAWTAR Center to exchange information about gender, based in Tunisia to be member of the juries to select the winning posters in order to print the "together against gender-based violence" guide.

He also was a member of the juries of The Appropriate Communications Techniques For Development center - ACT in Ismailia International Film Festival the year 2016,

In October 2017 he was selected as the head of juries for the press contest " Journalism without stereotyping

" which is a campaign organized by ACT to select the best press coverage on women's issues and rights, especially the political participation of women in local communities, As well as support for a culture of gender equality with a focus on the use of gender-responsive vocabulary.

Mahmoud published several articles and features in the newspaper Al Ahram Weekly and Ahram online, while he is also a regular columnist for Al Ahram daily newspaper website in Arabic-language under the title "free opinions".

Mahmoud is active in the human right field concerning defending women rights, women empowerment and defeating violence based on gender.

Mahmoud graduated in 1993 from the Faculty of Arts, Department of Philosophy, Cairo University.



Nadia Bouchambeh - Algeria

She had her post graduate studies on International Relations from the Institute of Political Science and International Relations, Algeria University

She is an investigative journalist, specialized in preparing and presenting various cultural, social and artistic programs. She prepared and presented different programs in the National Radio - The Cultural Program during 1996 - 2003. She has strong experience in TV field investigations and preparing documentary films. She presented the first three seasons of Oran International Arabic Film Festival. She is also a member of the organizing committee of the Algerian public television- Director of Program Production (1997 - 2015).

She was a member of one of the jury committees at Cairo Arab Media Festival 2008 when she supervised the broadcasters' selection competitions.

In collaboration with the director and producer Ahmed Rachdi

She has cooperated with the director and producer Ahmed Rachdi in preparing documentary researches, scriptwriting, dialogue translation and training of actors, coordination and production management during 2007-2018



Marie-Therese El-Amir - Lebanon

She is a Lebanese expertise in women and development issues. Her past experience were mainly concerned with women's rights, democracy, leadership and human rights. She is a member in The Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering (RDFL). In addition, she is a board member in Business Power Women (BPW), a board member in Community Maryam & Martha(shelter to protect abused & single women) and a member of the Pastoral Commission For Women (Laiic Counseling). During 2013 - 2016, she was also a board member in Euromed Feministe Initiative (EFI-IFE).



Magda Mahmoud - Egypt

the deputy of the National Council for Women, Giza branch. She has recognized achievements in Eve magazine. Her work depended on field reports. She tackled and addressed various topics and issues relevant to women and the family. This way, she succeeded to produce distinct editions of the magazine, among them was the memorial edition titled "Eve .. 60 Years of Revolution". This edition addressed the history of the Egyptian woman's attempts and struggle to access her political, social and economic rights over 60 years since Eve magazine was issued in 1955

She worked also as sports editor in October 1982, military affairs editor during 1985 - 2000, parliamentary editor during 2000 - 2012 and a presidency editor during 1994 - 2014. During her journalistic work, she had the chance to cover news of various and different entities as the ministry of health, interior, manpower, endowments, in addition to women's issues in League of Arab States, National Council for Women and National Council for Childhood and Motherhood.

Magda is also a member in the Syndicate of Journalism since 1986, a board member in Dar El Helal foundation, a member of media and foreign relations committees in the National Council for Women, a member in Editors Parliamentarian Editors' Association and a former member in Sports Critic Association.

First Day Feb 22, 2018

First Session

9:30 am - 11:00 am

- Welcome, Forum Objectives, Dr. Azza Kamel
- Efforts of Arab Countries to Combat Violence Against Women, Concept Paper, (Ms. Jilan Al-Misiri, United Nations)
- Algeria as an Example, Dr. Samira El Haj Gillani
- Morocco as an Example, Lawyer/ Saadia Waddah

Second Session

11:15 am - 01:00 pm

- Lebanon as an Example, Ms. Marie Therese - Lebanese Women's Association.
- Libya as an Example, Ms. Zahra Lanji, Libyan Women's Peace Platform.
- Ms. Khadija Alamami - Director
Chairwoman of the session
Journalist Magda Mahmoud

Viewing of Festival's Screenings

Second Day Feb 23, 2018

First Session

9:30 am - 11:00 am

- Women, Security and Peace, H.E Ambassador Mervat Tallawy, Director General of Arab Women Organization
- Screening of the film DREAM OF RETURN
- Discussion

Chairwoman of the Session

Ms. Hibak Osman, president of Karama organization.

Second Session

11:15 am - 01:00 pm

- Presentation of the law of anti- violence against women - Tunisia
- Why Engage Men in Achieving Equality Between Men and Women
- The ta marbuta Campaign and ana ragel Campaign, Ms. Safa Habib, National Council for Women
Chairman of the Session
Dr. Essam al-Adawi

Viewing of Festival's Screenings

First Day

Feb 22, 2018

First Session

9:30 am - 11:00 am

The Economic Empowerment of Women in the Age of Technology,
Ms. Nour El-Zeini, Director General of Institutional Communications - Suez Canal Bank
- Efforts of the Civil Society in Aswan Towards Achieving Equality
and Non-Discrimination Between the Sexes,

Ms. Suheir El Masry, President of the Egyptian Family Development Association,

Ms. Safinaz Mohamed, President of the South Women Foundation,

Ms. Zainab Abdeen, Director of the Temple Development Foundation

Ms. Amani Mamoun, South Free

Ms. Samir Kamel, President of Al Mustakbal Development Association

Mr. Amer Saad, Director General of the Regional Union of Societies

Ms. Sana Ser Al-Khetm, First Care Society

Chairwoman of the Session

Ms. Hamdiya Osman

President of Al-Aakab Association for Development

First Session

9:30 am - 11:00 am

-The role of art in issues of equality and non-discrimination
between the sexes, Ms. Magda Morris, journalist and critic

- Scientific Women in Egyptian Cinema between Reality and Hope,

(Dr. Mervat Fouda, professor at the National Research Center and

President of the Association of Women in Science in Developing Countries.

Viewing of Festival's Screenings

Workshops



A new edition and a new dream from Aswan ... This edition will feature five workshops to develop the skills of young people from Aswan and neighboring provinces in the field of filmmaking ... The number of applicants reached 234 ... 100 young men and women were selected to participate this year in the workshop grants provided by Aswan International Women Film Festival, with the support of the civil society organizations and the Egyptian Ministry of Culture, in cooperation with Aswan University and the British Council to expand the community development, which is one of the main objectives of the festival, as it holds its new edition this year bearing the name of Algerian activist Djamila Bouhired, the symbol of women's struggle for the national rights .. Training is important as it should be in our priorities with the growing need for Aswan's young people for it giving the significance of science and art in the development of our people .. Let the training workshops help to fertile the social soil in Aswan .. year after year .. for the flowering and blooming of new tree leaves ...

Sayed abdelkhalek
Workshop Coordinator

Actor, Director Participated in many Films and Theatrical Projects since 2001,
also numerous art Workshops and Graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts and Drama art Criticism



Documentary Workshop Aida al-Kashef Egypt

A film director, producer, and executive director of the Cairo-based Ganoub Film for Production and Distribution. In 2009, al-Kashef has directed her first short film RHAPSODY IN AUTUMN as her graduation project from the High Cinema Institute in Egypt. The film has received The Dubai Muhr Silver Award amongst other international awards. She has directed and produced her second work A TIN TALE in (2011) which was premiered in the Dubai Film Festival.

She has also acted in several films, in THE SHIP OF THESUS, an independent Indian film which premiered in Toronto. For her role in the film, she won Best Actress among The Muhr African Asian Awards in Dubai Film Festival, and Best Supporting Actress at Indian National Film Awards. She is currently working on producing and directing her long documentary debut.



Animation Workshop Ashraf Mahdy Egypt

He is an artist who holds a Ph.D. in Graphic and currently works as an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Fine Art at Zamalek, He also teaches at the Faculty of Art & Design at Pharos University in Alexandria.

He participated in various collective Art Exhibitions (Salon of Youth, National Egyptian Triennale for Graphic, Biennale of the Mediterranean, Sarsal International Biennale for Graphic, French Art Nimes Exhibition, and many other local exhibitions).

His works became parts of private collections for owners in Egypt, Kuwait, Sarajevo, Finland and Saudi Arabia.

He is also an animator, puppeteer, actor & director.



Ksenia Okhapkina
Russia

She studied Film and TV at Saint Petersburg University. Her early short films were screened worldwide at film festival and on Russian TVs. Her films include SNOW-STORM (2010), THE NIGHT PERFORMANCE (2012), IN THE BEGINNING WAS... THE CUBE (2013), RED (2015) and COME BACK FREE (2016)



Nasser Abdel-Rahman
Egypt

A scriptwriter who wrote a number of critically acclaimed films and TVseries, including AL-MADINA that won awards at Locarno Festival, AQUARIUM which was screened at the Berlin and Oran festivals. CHAOS, THIS IS, the last film by the late Youssef Chahine. He collaborated with director Kahled Youssef in several films including SHEHATA'S SHOP and QAMAR'S PALM. He participated in the writing of the collective film 18 DAY which was shown at Cannes Festival.



Reviewing
Cinematography in Egyptian Film
Rosh Abdel-Fattah
Syria

She studied Film and TV at Saint Petersburg University. Her early short films were screened worldwide at film festival and on Russian TVs. Her films include SNOW-STORM (2010), THE NIGHT PERFORMANCE (2012), IN THE BEGINNING WAS... THE CUBE (2013), RED (2015) and COME BACK FREE (2016)



Art Direction Workshop
Sigrun Drapatz
Germany

Born 1963, she studied at Academy of Design in Hamburg then the Academy of Fine Arts in Germany. She worked in numerous projects around the world. Her working method is an interaction of scientific research and artistic approach, creating sites specific by working with communities.

Area of interest is East Europe and the Middle East. Currently she is working ON FLOWER WHISPERS, an ongoing project placed in historical time dealing with contemporary questions and consisting of fictional, autobiographical and pictorial notes left by women who had been living in the past.

Abu Simbel Producers' Salon

Since the first edition of Aswan International Women Film Festival in February 2017, in the same period of this edition, the festival tends to move in the circles of cinema - industry and art - on the national and the international scene.... Cinema, as an art, is one of the most transient art to propagate between borders... The development of communications technology has also increased the speed of this reach... Moreover, the activities in different circles to create links between filmmakers in Egypt and their peers around the world would create new opportunities for the Egyptian film in these territories... It will also open new peripherals for the multiplicity of sources of foreign films that are screened in the commercial cinema across Egypt .. or even in festivals and artistic events.

In this edition, a number of our guests belonging to the exhibitors, filmmakers and producers circles will meet representatives of Kazan Film Festival in the framework of the cooperation protocol between the Aswan Film Festival and the Kazan Festival .. This protocol represents a gateway for the Egyptian film to enter the commercial cinema market in the republics of Russia... The Salon's program also includes a meeting with one of the film distributors as well as a meeting with officials of a film streaming company...

The future of the Egyptian film is the essence of the Producers' Salon interest and the solution to the problems of the this industry is the target of all filmmakers in general .. Our efforts, as organizers of Egyptian festivals and as workers in the film industry in addition to our country's organizations and civil society state institutions, are to move closer to the horizon of change and hope for faster development.

The more we can speak together as partners in the same concerns and hopes ... the more we meet with global peers to reach common objectives.



Jean-Hubert Njitat Nankam - Producer - France, Cameroon

Franco-Cameroonian, with a background in International Trade and Communication, he became passionate about audiovisual production with the launch of TV5 Africa signal in the early 1990s. This led him to the creation of Martika Production Company in Paris, 1993. Upon his return to Cote D'Ivoire, he started to produce the documentaries, talk shows and television series that were aired on than ten television channels in French-speaking Africa, on TV5 and other channels in Europe and the US.

Nankam has been a consultant for the A+ channel since February 2014 and a co-founder of the DIFFA Company with Lagardère Group as a partner.



Sherif Fathy Salem - Film producer, director - Egypt

He's a certified EU Audiovisual expert and member of the European Documentary Network & the Italian Independent Producers Association. He trains and teaches in the American University of Rome and Misr International University & Ona professional media academy in Cairo. In 2005 he founded SPOT1.tv as an independent film production house in Italy...



In the second edition of the festival, the screenings will be expanded for the Aswan community in cooperation with cultural institutions and civil society organizations. The festival will provide the Aswan community a unique cultural service to increase knowledge to realize the meeting of different cultures for them reach wider horizons.

Dr. Ahmed Awaad
President of the General Authority for Culture Palaces



Ahalina “Our people” program

As part of the festival's quest to reach out to the largest possible audience with its programs, the management is organizing in collaboration with the Egyptian General Authority for Culture Palaces. A program to show films in some villages and NGOs of Aswan, located far from the center of the governorate where the festival is held. Since the first edition, this aim was an idea and now it becomes a true and fruitful cooperation with the General Authority for Culture Palaces in order to develop the various cultural activities targeting our people all over Egypt and to the farthest points. Daily mobile units of the festival will reach villages Shalatin .. offering a showcase of long and short films. Ahalina “our people” program is the beginning of the reach of the festival’s activity outside of cinema theaters and to the public spaces .. To the target audience.. We imagine that this will expand with our the partnerships and the cooperation with all cultural institutions ...to realize our people’s need all over Egypt for arts and culture ... Each silver screen will shine over the darkness .. even if for a short time at the beginning.

كلمة اميرة بالانجليزي

Acknowledgements

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Prof. Ahmed Galab, President of Aswan University

Mr. Hesham El-Demairy, Chairman of the Tourism Authority

Mr. Hussein Zein, Chairman of the National Media Authority

Dr. Khaled Abdel-Galil, President of the National Film Center

Dr. Ahmed Awaad, President of the General Authority for Culture Palaces

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Mr. Anan El-Galaly, the great businessman

Director Khaled Youssef

Director Omar Abdel Aziz, President of the Federation of Artistic Syndicates

Director Mossad Fouda, Chairman of the Cinema Syndicate

Producer Mohamed Al Adl, Chairman of the Cinema Committee at the
Supreme Council of Culture

Scriptwriter Tamer Habib

Scriptwriter Nasser Abdel Rahman

Dr. Ashraf Mahdy

Director Aida Al - Kashef

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Director Saad Hendawy, member of the advisory body of the festival
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