

ASWAN<sup>1st</sup> International  
Women Film Festival

February 20-26  
2017



*Shawar*  
Ahd Ashano?

# Aswan International Women Film Festival

## First edition, February 20-26, 2017

### Festival's Board

Honorary President	Elham Shahein
Festival President	Mohamed Abdel-Khalek
Festival Director	Hassan About El-Ela
Nut Forum Director	Azza Kamel
Artistic Advisor	Ahmed Hassouna
Secretary-General	Amira Atef
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Producers' Salon Rapporteur	Ashraf Sarhan
Artistic Workshops Rapporteur	Sayed Aly
Technical Support and Designs	Maha Hamdy
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Committee Member	Dina Hamza
Committee Member	Dr. Dalya El-Sageeny
Committee Member	Hisham Youssef
Committee Rapporteur	Rasha Hosny

# Minister of Culture



And so is realized the cultural equality upon which the strategy of the Ministry of Culture is founded with every Egyptian city has its own cultural and artistic activities. Aswan comes first with Aswan International Women Film Festival whose first edition is taking place during February 2017. This event will be the milestone in a series of cultural and artistic activities held this year, with two dimensions... The first is that 2017 is the year of women in Egypt, where governmental entities and NGOs are together celebrating the Egyptian woman and her role while discussing her problems and concerns.

The truth is that Egyptian woman reaffirms day after day that she is a cornerstone in the community and all its segments. Statistics show 55% of those who walked the streets during the revolution of 30 June, were women and girls, while the revolution of January 25, women roles in Tahrir Square were more than obvious to refer to...

The Egyptian woman has been subjected to hostile attitudes coming from a spectrum that wanted to isolate her from the world and draw her into the depths of a dark past. This spectrum has deliberately insulted and harassed her but she came stronger and tougher. However, under the justice of the law and the triumph of the society for the values of civilizations, these waves were retreated because of our Egyptian heritage: Egyptian history informs us that six queens of the caliber of Hatshepsut and during the Islamic era a great queen like Shajar al-Durr, have all ruled Egypt. In the modern era, we see “her” in every field as a leader and activist.

Second, the call initiated by President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi during the conclusion of the Youth Conference, which was held in Aswan, making Aswan capital of the African economy and culture.

If the Ministry of Culture is sponsoring the festival, with several ministries and official entities, the credit for his festival must go to a group of young people who founded Aswan International Film Festival and made a lot of effort to establish it with an international and wide participation.

**Hilmi Al-Namnam**  
**Minister of Culture**



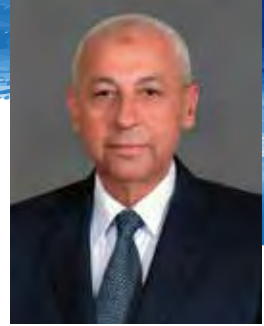
## Minister of Tourism

Again, returns Aswan strongly to the map of world tourism through an important event: Aswan International Women Film Festival, where films from the five continents are screened and where many creators from all over the world gather for the love of cinema and to discuss women's issues and how we can prevent violence against her in addition to Abu Simbel Producers Salon to promote lensing of international films in Egypt. All these aspects makes this newborn festival an important and integral event for the future of film industry, especially as it coincides with workshops for young amateurs from Aswan.

If the Aswan governorate is witnessing the birth of this new festival on February 20, the sun will continue to shine on the face of King Ramses at Abu Simbel on the morning of February 22, for Egyptians to continue their creativity through generations and ages.

**Minister of Tourism**

# Governor of Aswan



I am pleased to extend my greetings to the organizers of Aswan International Women Film Festival which will be held during the annual phenomenon of the sunrise on King Ramses II, an event that reflects human genius in time and place. Aswan with the kindness of its people is welcoming this festival on its land and besides its Nile and between its monuments and its heritage in order for this event to become an addition to the cultural and touristic map in Egypt and a new stage reflecting the status of Aswan on the international and regional scene. Hence, we all will concentrate our efforts for the success of this festival with the festival's board and tram with all my best wishes for a great and successful activities of the first edition

God save Egypt and its loyal sons

**General / Magdy Hegazy**  
**Governor of Aswan**



## Head of the National Council of Women

A dream we shared, as Egyptian girls and women, to have a cinematically elegant platform that reflects our problems, touches our reality and showing how we all contribute to build our beloved country in a fair and true way.

We have, as Egyptian girls and women, from the marginalization of our roles on film and from the portrayal of Egyptian women in an unfairly image that is contrary to reality. Sometimes, it was deliberate to insult her by showing her as only a body to make certain box office profit which then reflected on the public opinion on the value and status of Egyptian women and undoubtedly was one of the reason of harassment and violence against girls and women of in Egypt.

We are fully aware of the importance of cinema aka the seventh art in the formation of thoughts and conscience of the public ...Hence, we cannot overlook the impact of purposeful art in reflecting women's issues on film in a time when Egypt is in quite need of the support of its children, men and women .. It is a critical time for women to contribute more than any time before...

We share a great happiness because 2017 is announced to be the Year of Egyptian Woman where it will start with the organization of this festival. International films will be screened from all over the world on the land of civilization with one purpose: uphold the status of women ...Really, art has an important message and a soft power that is one of the characteristics of Egypt.

Hence, comes the National Council of Women's full support to Aswan International Women Film Festival...the first of its kind in Egypt with its creative ideas that deserve our support and assistance ... The National Council of Women has signed a cooperation protocol with Aswan International Women Film Festival to provide the festival all aspects of support. It was also decided to create an award on behalf of the Council not to mention the presence of the Council during all the festival's activities...

Really everything in the festival looks so special; starting with this time when the sun rises over the statue of Ramses II, which is an important event reflecting of our heritage ...

The festival management has also decided to choose LEILA, DAUGHTER OF THE DESERT for the opening of the first edition, marking its 80th anniversary and its screening in Venice Festival. The closing ceremony marks the screening of DALIDA, the story of this great international artists with Egyptian roots... The festival's awards have the name of Egyptian women who pioneered in Egyptian cinema... Nut Forum will discuss women's problem including violence suffered by women, both within the family or in the community....

Finally, the Council is sending greetings from the heart to all those involved in the festival with all its best wishes for success and aspiration.

**Dr.Maya Morsy**  
**Head of the National Council of Women**

# Honorary President of AIWFF



Cinema was the greatest passion for which I dedicated the most beautiful years of my life ... cinema is life with all its joys and sorrows ... cinema is the light that not only illuminates screening rooms, but also lights up our lives with a lot of beautiful meanings ... And so, Aswan International Women Film Festival (AIWFF) comes like a star shining across Upper-Egypt to become a celebration of cinema in the city of Aswan, the land of civilization and history.

In Aswan, the creators will meet in the world of film magic... where women are the focus of screened films ... It is a new celebration that will be added on the maps of film festival across Egypt, given the fact that Egyptian cinema was born on the hands of creative women who carved their names with letters of light in the history of the seventh art... In the beginning, there was Bahiga Hafez, Aziza Amir and Fatma Roushdi who paved the way to the stars of the current generation whose new films travel the world, from its east to its west.

In Aswan, we will meet every year, gathered by our love of cinema and its magic across film screens... We will enjoy the creativity of women filmmakers and monitor the issues and dreams of women worldwide ... Here in the land of the Nile River and its prosperity, the land of love and peace, we will meet annually to show the world how Egypt is beautiful, safe and capable of embracing successful film festivals from its far north to its far south, and from its far east to its far west.

Here from Aswan we will salute each and every creative talent who fought for the freedom of women... We will raise our slogan for this edition: “No To Violence Against Women”. We will also make sure that women will always be the cornerstones of all societies ...

Long live Women And Their Creativities.

**Actress/Producer Elham Shahein**  
**Honorary President of AIWFF**



## Festival President

Women in Egyptian cinema had always had special status ... Egypt where the first cinema machine rolled before most of the European countries and the Americas had a film industry uniquely associated with women.

I don't know if this is celebrating her or using her or maybe women have seen women themselves in filmmaking a way to reflect their ambition and willingness to early exit from the era of the harem that reigned over the region during certain social systems that took religions and morals as an excuse to impose restrictions on women's freedom.

During the early films, one should note that actresses had star power and box office status more than actors not only in Egyptian cinema but worldwide. Women producers appeared as well as women director who all created film with great professionalism. Hence the choice of our opening 1937' film LEILA, DAUGHTER OF THE DESERT with Bahidja Hafez as its star, director and producer.

Perhaps this beginning in Egyptian cinema is what has driven its path toward social and familial issues which made it popular like air and water (it was the most important industry in the early twentieth century in Egypt). The decline and content and box office failure when cinema started to exploit women affected filmgoing to the point that mothers punished their children if they think of going to the movies after it was the best reward...

That's why we thought of social development of society by fighting against the darkness and violence that prevailed in our country in recent decades, through bringing back cinema to women and women to cinema and hence we decided to go to the far point from Cairo, the big city that swallows all activities. We decided to go where ancient life has started. In Aswan, up there, women were queens and goddesses who were source of inspiration to ancient Egyptians. Maybe we did not travel there to lens a film but I am sure tomorrow that Aswan will be the landscape of films made by new generations from Aswan. Our workshops were overpopulated by this new generation who represent the future. And I am sure than the next editions will be showing their new works. New films will be created by Aswan women with new dreams and new lights that fight the darkness...

I know that the word "festival" in Egypt started to mean disorientation and deformation ... but we did not come to make a noise in this quiet, beautiful city. We came to learn from our ancestors ... the art of contemplative viewing.

**Mohamed Abd El Khalek**  
**Festival President**



# Festival Director



When the sun of Monday, February 20, 2017 rises, it will announce the beginning of the first step in achieving a dream that began nearly four years ago, shared with my friend scriptwriter Mohamed Abdel-Khalek where Aswan was the place that caressed our imagination to embrace a specialized festival in women's films, siding this beautiful city of civilization, which was deprived for many years from an art event worthy of what its sons have given to humanity and reminiscent of the role played by women in our lives since the dawn of history, especially women who were pioneers in filmmaking on silver screens.

We have chosen Aswan but we faced challenges to achieve this dream. We made a hiatus to think of another location but the faces of Aswan people and the architecture of Nubian homes kept on tackling our imagination for a festival that illuminates the Philae Temple and the High Dam that were witnesses to the ancient and modern Egyptian greatness.

We shared our dream with many, and by the virtue of the fellowship of the same profession for ten years, Amira Atef was at the forefront of our partners. She revised and learned every detail with amazing accuracy and she flew with us to the skies of our dream by giving us positive energy whenever we encountered obstacles ... As for Azza Kamel, I consider her the biggest asset in this project because of her amazing efforts that cannot be reduced in a few lines. With Amira and Azza, the dream came in full circle before we were granted the honorary presidency of the beautiful and great actress Elham Shahein, an artist with a big heart whom we have chosen with great sureness because of her beliefs in women cinema and because her venturing in film production with her own finance making her the sole Egyptian actress doing so nowadays.

On the way towards our dream, we had additional partners as important as the aforementioned figures; partners who gave us their best efforts and their full support by opening for us closed doors; Sherif Awad, Ahmed Hassouna, Ashraf Sarhan, Sayed Abdel-Khalek, Marwa Said, Maggie Hamid and even Uncle Abdo, this good old man from Aswan to whom we always asked about Aswan, its geography and weather whenever we wanted to know some details...

Finally, the dream will be realized... A dream we know its beginning but we don't know its end... since our dreams are still without limit...

**Hassan Abou El-Ela**  
**Festival Director**



# TRIBUTE

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Naglaa Fathy  
Actress  
Egypt



A famous Egyptian actress and one of the most recognizable faces in the Egyptian cinema. She was born Fatma al-Zahraa in 1951 and was discovered by producer Adly Al-Mowaled by chance after he saw her in Alexandria only to offer her film debut. Having consulted with the late artist (Abdel Halim Hafez), a close friend of the family, he gave her artistic name Naglaa. Her film debut came in 1966 with THREE FRIENDS only to given a starring role by leading producer Ramses Naguib) in JOYS by Ahmed Badrakhan. The early seventies was a period of great activity for Fathy where she starred in dozens of films along with leading men of the era. She also formed an onscreen duet with Mahmoud Yassin in a series like MY BLOOD AND MY TEARS AND MY SMILE and OBLIVION TRIP. Although most of her films during the seventies belonged to the romantic genre, Naglaa Fathy also created comic and dramatic performances. She also starred in several remakes of classic starrer of Faten Hamama whom she regarded as role model. Her work gradually diminished during the eighties that she concluded it with THE DREAMS OF HEND AND CAMELLIA with director Mohamed Khan. She retired after her marriage to anchorman Hamdy Kandil and devoted herself to charity.

TRIBUTE





Cristina Flutur  
Actress  
Romania

A Romanian film and theatre actress, she made her debut in cinema, portraying the complex Alina Ringhis, main character in Cristian Mungiu's praised drama, BEYOND THE HILLS. For her outstanding performance in this film she received the Best Actress the 2012 Cannes Film Festival. Before 2012, she performed for several years in theatre productions, both in Romania, on the stage of the Radu Stanca National Theatre in Sibiu, and abroad, when on tour to Kiev, Sarajevo, Helsinki, Turku, Sankt-Petersburg, Skopje, Trabzon, Naples, Bogota, Rome.

TRIBUTE

# OPENING FILM

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### ► Bahidja Hafez

An actress, a film director, a screenwriter and a musical composer who was born in Muharram Bek District at the city of Alexandria in 1908. Her father was Ismail Mohamed Hafez, headmaster of Sultanate Private School during the reign of Sultan Hassan Kamel while the son of her aunt was Ismail Sidqi who became the Prime Minister of Egypt. In 1930, she got a degree in music composition from Paris Conservatory which later allowed her to compose soundtracks for several films in which she co-starred including THE VICTIMS (also was its co-director), THE ACCUSATION, LEILA, DAUGHTER OF THE DESERT, LEILA THE BEDU GIRL, SALWA, Market's Flower, AL-SAYYID AL-BADAWI. Hafez also founded first music syndicate in 1937. She passed away in 1983.

Egypt

## Leila, Daughter of the Desert

Directed by: Bahidja Hafez 1937



Written by:

**Bahidja Hafez**

**Mahmoud Al-Ahmady**

Cinematography by:

**Hassan Mourad,**

**Mohamed Abdel-Azim**

Edited by:

**Vahé Boyadjian**

Cast

**Bahidja Hafez**

**Hussein Riad**

**Zaki Rostom**

Runtime:

**125 MIN**

Print Source:

**Rotana**

### ► Synopsis

Ziad and Omar scheme a plot to kidnap the Bedouin Leila with the help of Kesra after they promised him that she will be his. Ziad and Omar also have a more sinister plan to discredit Leila's cousin whom they also envy ...

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# CLOSING FILM

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► **Lisa Azuelos**

Born 1965 in Neuilly-sur-Seine, France. She is a writer, director and producer, known for LOL (2012) and ONE WILD MOMENT (2015). Azuelos is of Moroccan descent and daughter of singer Marie Laforêt.

co-director), THE ACCUSATION, LEILA, DAUGHTER OF THE DESERT, LEILA THE BEDU GIRL, SALWA, Market's Flower, AL-SAYYID AL-BADAWI. Hafez also founded first music syndicate in 1937. She passed away in 1983.

France

**Dalida**

Directed by: Lisa Azuelos 2016



Written by:

**Lisa Azuelos**

based on the book by Orlando

**Jacques Pessis**

**Catherine Rihoit**

Cinematography by:

**Antoine Sanier**

Edited by:

**Baptiste Druot**

Cast

**Sveva Alviti**

**Riccardo Scamarcio**

**Jean-Paul Rouve**

Runtime:

**124 MIN**

Print Source:

**ADF**

► **Synopsis**

Based on the true story of acclaimed music icon Dalida who was born in Cairo then gained celebrity in the 1950s by singing in French, Spanish, Arabic, German, Italian. She came to Egypt to star Youssef Chahine's LE SIXIÈME JOUR. Her life tragically ended in 1987 after selling more than 130 million records worldwide...

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# COMPETITION LONG

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## Jury of Long Film Competition



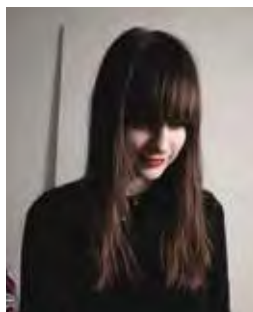
▶ Hala Khalil  
Film Director  
Egypt

Hala Khalil is a director, scriptwriter and producer. She has written and directed numerous films, short films documentaries and TV series and has also worked as an executive producer. Her filmography includes : BEST OF TIMES (2004), CUT AND PASTE (2006) and her award-winning short, THE KITE (1997). Khalil has also served on several festival juries (Cairo, Ossian, Rotterdam Arab and Beirut.



▶ Dr. Rita Datta (Rwita Dutta)  
Film Critic/ Film Director  
India

A film-scholar, film-maker and film-critic, her first documentary 3RD WORLD premiered in 2006. Her debut short-narrative WINGS OF DESIRE got the best film award in Hyderabad International Film Festival in 2008. At present, she is writing the script of an India-Bangladesh co-production. Datta writes articles regularly on cinema for several national and international journals and also contributes for several publications on films & film studies. She is a member of the International Film Critics Association - FIPRESCI. Presently she is writing a book on 'Women in Indian Cinema'.



▶ Carmen Gray  
Film critic  
Germany

She was born in New Zealand and now lives in Berlin. Gray is a freelance journalist and film critic who has written for publications including The Guardian, The Observer, Sight & Sound, Screen International, The Calvert Journal, Senses of Cinema and Estonian Culture Weekly. She is the former Film Editor of Dazed & Confused magazine in London. She is also a film programmer, and is on the selection committee for Berlin Critics' Week. She has served on juries at many major festivals, including Toronto, Berlin, Locarno, Moscow and Rotterdam, as well as for the Harpa Nordic Film Composer Award. She previously worked as a language teacher, and now regularly teaches writing workshops for young critics in Poland, Serbia and Estonia.



▶ **Nina Anjaparidze**  
Film Critic  
Georgia

She studied at Shota Rustaveli State University. Worked at the Georgian National Film Centre as Film Export Specialist. Currently she is the director of Tbilisi International Film Festival.



▶ **Ya Ni**  
Film Director  
China

She graduated from the University of China, majoring as art director. Ya Ni studied with famous film directors Su Li and Yan Gong. Ya Ni is a national first-grade director, and winner of State Council. The films independently written, produced and directed by Ya Ni include LOVE OF LOUNGE BRIDGES and PEOPLE WITH NO EYES.

## ► Hsiao-Hsien Hou

He was born in Kuangtung Province that had been an intellectual center in China. In 1948, his family moved to Taiwan and, in 1969, he studied film at the National Taiwan Arts Academy. He began his film career as a scriptwriter and assistant director. Hou's films are often about growing up in rural Taiwan. His films between 1980 and 1989, got either best film or best director awards from prestigious festivals like Venice, Berlin, Hawaii, and Nantes.



Taiwan  
China  
Hong Kong

## The Assassin

Directed by: Hsiao-Hsien Hou 2015

Written by:

Cheng Ah

T'ien-wen Chu

Hsiao-Hsien Hou

Hai-Meng Hsieh

Cinematography by:

Ping Bin Lee

Edited by:

Chih-Chia Huang

Ching-Song Liao

Cast

Chen Chang

Qi Shu

Yun Zhou

Runtime:

105 MIN

Print Source:

[mariannek@television-int.tv](mailto:mariannek@television-int.tv)



## ► Synopsis

Ziad and Omar scheme a plot to kidnap the Bedouin Leila with the help of Kesra after they promised him that she will be his. Ziad and Omar also have a more sinister plan to discredit Leila's cousin whom they also envy ...



► **Christy Garland**

Born 1968 in Canada, she directed the documentaries *THE BASTARD SINGS THE SWEETEST SONG* (2012) that was critically acclaimed and *DOORMAT* (2008). Garland is currently shooting *WHAT WALAA WANTS* in the West Bank.

Canada

## Cheer Up

Directed by: Christy Garland 2015



Cinematography by:

**Sari Aaltonen**

Edited by:

**Thor Ochsner,**

**Graeme Ring**

Runtime:

**75 MIN**

Print Source:

**ac@widehouse.org**

► **Synopsis**

A team of cheerleaders from the Arctic Circle in Finland struggle to improve but teenage life can be tough for them. For Patricia, Aino and Miia, finding out who they are, where they belong and what family means is much more important than any trophy.

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► **Annie J. Howell, Lisa Robinson**

Lisa Robinson and Annie J. Howell's debut long narrative, *SMALL, BEAUTIFULLY MOVING PARTS* (2011) went on to play over thirty festivals. They both live in New York.



## Claire in Motion

Directed by: Annie J. Howell,  
Lisa Robinson 2015

USA

Written by:

**Annie J. Howell**

**Lisa Robinson**

Cinematography by:

**Andreas Burgess**

Edited by:

**Jim Isler**

Cast

**Betsy Brandt**

**Chris Beetem**

**Zev Haworth**

Runtime:

**83 MIN**

Print Source:

[jy@visitfilms.com](mailto:jy@visitfilms.com)



► **Synopsis**

Claire is sure of herself, her work and family, until - like a bad dream - her husband disappears, leaving a trail of puzzling secrets that shatter her certainty. Claire's search for her missing husband leads her to a world of secrets.



▶ **Otto Bell**

A creative director based in New York, he studied at Oxford University then directed more than fifteen advertising documentaries for different brands. The Eagle Huntress is his long documentary debut.

USA

## The Eagle Huntress

Directed by: Otto Bell 2016



Cinematography by:

**Simon Niblett**

Edited by:

**Pierre Takal**

Runtime:

**87 MIN**

Print Source:

[pascale@pascaleramonda.com](mailto:pascale@pascaleramonda.com)

▶ **Synopsis**

Thirteen-year-old Aisholpan has just one wish - to become an eagle huntress, thereby continuing the family tradition. To fulfill her dream, she must overcome one remaining fundamental obstacle: falconry is usually the purview of men.

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► **Yahia Mouzahem**

He realized several documentaries and the short films ME, HER AND OTHERS, VENGEANCE and IMAGINATION. Mouzahem was also co-producer of BEN BOULAID by Ahmed Rachedi.



Algeria

## The Assassin

Directed by: Yahia Mouzahem 2016

Written by:

Hafiza Merimache

Cinematography by:

Frédéric Dorian

Edited by:

Ryma Bensalah

Cast

Sawsan Moalegue

Lobna Sediri

Sara Hanachi

Runtime:

86 MIN

Print Source:

ymouzahem@yahoo.fr



► **Synopsis**

the lives of several families residing in a big house at casbah de constantine. between the families are bonds of friendship and solidarity under the haughty gaze of the owner lalla zbida who looks after them...



► **Selma Vilhunen**

He was born in Kuangtung Province that had been an intellectual center in China. In 1948, his family moved to Taiwan and, in 1969, he studied film at the National Taiwan Arts Academy. He began his film career as a scriptwriter and assistant director. Hou's films are often about growing up in rural Taiwan. His films between 1980 and 1989, got either best film or best director awards from prestigious festivals like Venice, Berlin, Hawaii, and Nantes.

Finalnd

## Little Wing

Directed by: Selma Vilhunen 2016



Written by:

**Selma Vilhunen**

Cinematography by:

**Tuomo Hutri**

Edited by:

**Samu Heikkilä**

Cast

**Linnea Skog**

**Paula Vesala**

**Lauri Maijala**

Runtime:

**100 MIN**

Print Source:

[bjorg@medialuna.biz](mailto:bjorg@medialuna.biz)

► **Synopsis**

Varpu is a twelve-year-old girl who doesn't know who is her father. The relationship between her and her mother, Siru, is good and warm, but there's one flaw: Siru doesn't treat Varpu as a child. One day, when mother and daughter have a fight, Varpu steals a car and drives across Finland to find her father.

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► **Anca Damian**

She studied at the Academy of Theatre and Film Arts in Bucharest where she majored in cinematography and later obtained a Doctor's degree in Film. Her films CROSSING DATES (2008), CRULIC - THE PATH TO BEYOND (2011) and A VERY UNSETTLED SUMMER (2013) participated in numerous film festivals.



## Magic Mountain

Directed by: Anca Damian 2015

Romania

Written by:

Anca Damian

Cinematography by:

Anca Damian

Edited by:

Ion Ioachim Stroe

Cast

Chen Chang

Christophe Miossec

Jean-Marc Barr

Jerzy Radziwilowicz

Runtime:

89 MIN

Print Source:

[pascale@pascaleramonda.com](mailto:pascale@pascaleramonda.com)



► **Synopsis**

An animated docudrama retracing the biography of Adam Jacek Winkler wonders through nearly half a century of history. A Polish refugee in Paris, Adam lived a boundless life, wanting to change the world



► **Ana Katz**

Born 1975 in Buenos Aires, she is director known for *A STRAY GIRLFRIEND* (2007), and *MUSICAL CHAIRS* (2002). In 2015, she also appeared in the Spanish film *KIKI, LOVE IS MADE* and, in 2016, in the Uruguayan-Argentine co-production *THE CANDIDATE*.

Argentina

## My Friend from the Park

Directed by: Ana Katz 2015



Written by:

**Inés Bortagaray**

**Ana Katz**

Cinematography by:

**Guillermo Nieto**

Edited by:

**Andrés Tambornino**

Cast

**Julieta Zylberberg**

**Andrés Milicich**

**Mirella Pascual**

Runtime:

**86 MIN**

Print Source:

[jy@visitfilms.com](mailto:jy@visitfilms.com)

► **Synopsis**

Running away from a bar without paying the bill is just the first adventure for Liz (mother to newborn Nicanor) and Rosa (supposed mother to newborn Clarisa). This budding friendship between nursing mothers starts with the promise of liberation.

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► **Marina Seresesky**

Born 1969 in Buenos Aires, she was an actress who moved behind the camera with the short films *THE WEDDING* (2012) and *THE CORTEGE* (2010) that won more than 120 festival awards around the world.



Spain

## The Open Door

Directed by: Marina Seresesky 2015

Written by:

**Marina Seresesky**

Cinematography by:

**Roberto Fernández**

Edited by:

**Raúl De Torres**

Cast

**Carmen Machi**

**Terele Pávez**

**Asier Etxeandía**

Runtime:

**82 MIN**

Print Source:



[produccion@meridionalproducciones.com](mailto:produccion@meridionalproducciones.com)

► **Synopsis**

By night, Rosa is a street prostitute, something she inherited from her mother Antonia. Rosa does not know how to be happy. But this Christmas, the unexpected arrival of a new family member will give her an opportunity.

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► **Sara Broos**

A Swedish filmmaker, she makes author-driven personal films. Broos also produced short films, videos and documentaries. Her first long documentary received The Dragon Award at Gothenburg Film Festival and Best Nordic Documentary at Nordic Docs in Norway.

Sweden

## Reflections

Directed by: Sara Broos 2015



Written by:

**Sara Broos**

Cinematography by:

**Billie Mintz**

**Hampus Linder**

**Sara Broos**

Edited by:

**Sara Broos**

Runtime:

**80 MIN**

Print Source:

[broosfilm@gmail.com](mailto:broosfilm@gmail.com)

► **Synopsis**

The director takes her mother Karin Broos, a famous Swedish painter, on a seaside trip to Latvia, hoping to close the silent gap between them. Out of this experience, we relive the complexities of a mother-daughter relationship.

COMPETITION LONG

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► **Rubaiyat Hossain**

She is known for her critically acclaimed debut MEHERJAAN (2011) which faced political and cultural wrath in Bangladesh for its antiwar narrative. Rubaiyat Hossain has completed her BA in Women Studies and MA in the US.



## Under Construction

Directed by: Rubaiyat Hossain 2015

Bangladesh

Written by:  
**Rubaiyat Hossain**  
Cinematography by:  
**Martina Radwan**  
Edited by:  
**Sujan Mahmud**  
Cast

**Shahana Goswami**  
**Rahul Bose**  
**Sohel Mondol**

Runtime:  
**88 MIN**

Print Source:  
[meherjaan.film@gmail.com](mailto:meherjaan.film@gmail.com)



► **Synopsis**

Theatre actress Roya suffers from her husband's wish for children and traditional life. Not interested in motherhood, she decides to reconstruct a famous and politically minded play for modern times, reclaiming her identity and her freedom.



### ► Stephan Streker

He began his career as a journalist until he realized his short films SHADOW BOXING (1993), MATHILDE, THE WIFE OF PIERRE (1996) and THE DAY OF THE FIGHT (1998). Streker realized the long films MICHAEL BLANCO (2004), THE WORLD IS OURS (2013) and his 3rd long film A WEDDING (2016) that recently received Prix Cinévox.

Belgium

## A Wedding

Directed by: Stephan Streker 2015



Written by:

**Stephan Streker**

Cinematography by:

**Grimm Vandekerckhove**

Edited by:

**Jerome Guiot**

**Mathilde Muyard**

Cast

**Lina El Arabi**

**Sébastien Houbani**

**Babak Karimi**

Runtime:

**98 MIN**

Print Source:

[sales.jour2fete@gmail.com](mailto:sales.jour2fete@gmail.com)

### ► Synopsis

Eighteen-year-old Zahira is asked by her family to follow Pakistani tradition and choose a husband out of three young men. Torn between family customs and her western lifestyle, the young woman turns for help to her brother and confidant Amir.

COMPETITION LONG

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### ► Mohamed Hammad

After media studies at Helwan University, he wrote and directed the acclaimed short films THE FIFTH POUND (2006), CALL CENTER (2006) and PALE RED (2009). His long narrative debut WITHERED GREEN was screened at Locarno and Stockholm then at Dubai Festival where Hammad received Best Director Award.



Egypt

## Withered Green

Directed by: Mohamed Hammad 2016

Written by:

**Mohamed Hammad**

Cinematography by:

**Mohammed El-Sharkawy**

Edited by:

**Mohamed Hammad**

**Mohammed El-Sharkawy**

Cast

**Heba Ali, Asmaa Fawzi**

**Tamer Abdel-Hamid**

Runtime:

**72 MIN**

Print Source:

**mohefzy@gmail.com**



### ► Synopsis

Iman, a young woman who is committed to customs traditions, lives with her younger sister Noha after the death of their parents in a small apartment. When a young man approaches Noha for marriage, Iman immediately contacts their estranged uncles to be present during his visit.

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COMPETITION LONG



### ► Enrico Pau

Born 1956 in Cagliari, he is a film director and film professor. His cinematic experiences began with several short films that are presented at various festivals. His first long film LIGHTWEIGHTS (2002) was a story of two boxers and their rivalry. In 2006, Pau directed his second long film JIMMY ON THE HILL that won the CICAIE Award at Locarno Film Festival.

Italy

## Woman of Death

Directed by: Enrico Pau 2015



Written by:

**Antonia Iaccarino**

**Enrico Pau**

**Igor Tuveri**

Cinematography by:

**Piers McGrail**

Edited by:

**Andrea Lotta**

**Johannes Nakajima**

Cast

**Donatella Finocchiaro**

**Barry Ward**

**Carolina Crescentini**

Runtime:

**107 MIN**

Print Source:

**info@raicinema.it**

### ► Synopsis

Until the end of the 1950s, the legendary accabadora (Woman of Death) existed in the villages of rural Sardinia. Annetta is one of these women who is usually called upon by families to help the terminally ill exit this world as painlessly as possible.

COMPETITION LONG

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# COMPETITION SHORT

## Short Film Jury



▶ Nathalie Biancheri  
Film Director  
Italy

Based in London, she graduated from Kings College in Comparative Literature and Classics and began her career at the BBC. She has worked as a Researcher, Associate Producer and self-shooting director in documentaries and dramas at both the BBC and independent production companies. Her short narrative THE CROSSING was nominated for Best Short Film at Edinburgh International Film Festival. She is currently shooting two feature length documentaries, I WAS HERE and IN HIS SKIN



▶ NUJOOM ALGHANEM  
Film Director  
UAE

Nujoom Alghanem is an Emirati poet, scriptwriter and award-winning director. She has produced several short fictions and documentaries. In addition to producing her own films, she is also a film, media and cultural consultant to educational and professional institutes and organisations in the UAE. Alghanem's filmography includes: NEARBY SKY (2014), which won Best Non-Fiction Prize in the Muhr Feature competition at DIFF and AMAL (2011), which won First Prize in the Muhr Emirati competition at DIFF.



▶ **Wessam Soliman**  
Scriptwriter  
Egypt

She graduated at the Higher Institute of Cinema and wrote the script for several short films, including PLEASE DO NOT WAIT and SPRING 89. Her long narrative films include BEST OF TIMES (Best Screenplay from the Catholic Center), DOWNTOWN GIRLS (Best Screenplay from the Film Society), FACTORY GIRL (Best Screenplay from Salé Festival), and IN THE HELIOPOLIS FLAT (Best Screenplay from the National Film Festival Award)



▶ **Lydia Papadimitriou**  
Film Critic  
Greece

Lydia Papadimitriou is Reader in Film Studies at Liverpool John Moores University. She has published extensively on different aspects of Greek cinema, and is currently researching on film festivals, distribution, documentary, and Balkan cinema. She has authored 'The Greek Film Musical' (2006), co-edited 'Greek Cinema: Texts, Forms and Identities' (2011), and is the Principal Editor of the 'Journal of Greek Media and Culture'. She has published numerous articles in books and journals, including New Review of Film and Television Studies (NRFTS), Screen and Filmicon. She has recently co-edited a special issue 'Film Festivals: Origins and Trajectories' (2016).



### ► Mohamed Saadoun

An independent director, producer and writer from Alexandria, he realized TV ads and short films like *PICTURE AND A FRAME* (2013) and *WAITING* (2011).

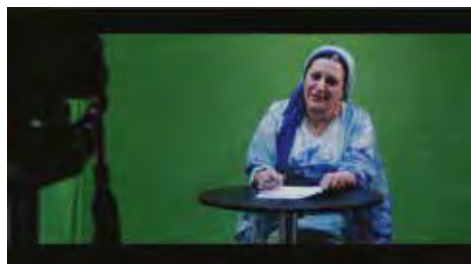
### ► Maryam Touzani

Born in Tangier, she has pursued a university degree in London. She moved back to her country after her studies and worked as a journalist, specializing in cinema. *WHEN THEY SLEPT*, her first short narrative, was awarded around the world. *AYA GOES TO THE BEACH* is her second short narrative.

## Alia

Directed by: Mohamed Saadoun 2017

Egypt



Cast: Ola Mandour - Mostafa Elfeky

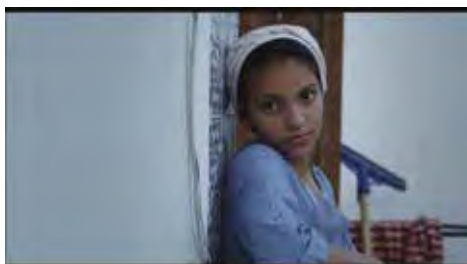
Runtime: 10 MIN

Print Source: [saadoun.director@gmail.com](mailto:saadoun.director@gmail.com)

## Aya Goes to the Beach

Directed by: Maryam Touzani 2016

Morocco



Cast: Badia Aziz - Nouhaila ben Moumou

Runtime: 17 MIN

Print Source: [touzanimaryam@hotmail.com](mailto:touzanimaryam@hotmail.com)

### ► Synopsis

Suffering from her uncaring husband and son, a housewife takes a refuge in her imagination to go places she has never been

### ► Synopsis

Ten-year-old Aya is a domestic worker in a small house. Locked away from the world, she takes care of the household duties. Despite this situation, the child inside her resurfaces daily.

motherhood, she decides to reconstruct a famous and politically minded play for modern times, reclaiming her identity and her freedom.



► **Dubravka Turić**

Born 1973 in Zagreb, she received her MA in film from the University of Zagreb in 1998. Turić has edited over twenty narratives, experimental, and animated films, and over two hundred commercials. BELLADONNA is her directorial debut.

## Belladonna

Directed by: RDubravka Turić 2015

Croatia



Cast: Lara Barić, Drazen Kuhn

Runtime: 18 MIN

Print Source: [ew@everythingworks.hr](mailto:ew@everythingworks.hr)

► **Synopsis**

Three women of different ages and backgrounds meet in the waiting room of an ophthalmologist's office. Overhearing the conversation of the two older women, the young woman Sasha learns of the tragedy they experienced.



► **Gertrud Schulte Westenberg**

Born in Saxony, she studied educational science in Bielefeld and economics in Berlin. She has directed the documentary RENT REBELS and the two short films DRAGON CIRCLE and CABUWAZI BEYOND BORDERS.

## Cabuwazi Beyond Borders

Directed by:Gertrud Schulte Westenberg 2016

Egypt



Runtime: 18 MIN

Print Source: [ew@everythingworks.hr](mailto:ew@everythingworks.hr)

► **Synopsis**

During the summer of 2015, thousands of refugees arrived in Berlin and amongst them are many children. An independent group named "Cabuwazi Beyond Borders" travels directly to these refugee centers to teach children circus classes.

COMPETITION SHORT

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► **Cristina Picchi**

An Italian filmmaker and visual artist based in London, her short film CINETRAN: RUSSIAN WINTER (2014) won audience award at Nyon Visions du Réel. Her short WINTER won Jury's Special Mention at Clermont-Ferrand 2014.

## Champs des Possibles

Directed by: Cristina Picchi 2016

Italy



Runtime: 14 MIN

Print Source: [cristina@cristinapicchi.com](mailto:cristina@cristinapicchi.com)

► **Synopsis**

A contemporary city symphony where floating memories blend with urban sounds and tales of loss and love are mirrored by the demolition and construction of new buildings.



► **Nicoline Skotte Jacobsen**

She works at Forfra Film, a production and advertising company in Copenhagen. FRONT VIEW OF MY FATHER won the Most Innovative Documentary Award at Sichuan Festival, China

## Front View of My Father

Directed by: Nicoline Skotte Jacobsen 2015

Denmark



Runtime: 29 MIN

Print Source: [nicolineskotte@gmail.com](mailto:nicolineskotte@gmail.com)

► **Synopsis**

The director invites her estranged father to participate in different games to let them both reflect on the divorce that has deprived them of sharing her childhood.

motherhood, she decides to reconstruct a famous and politically minded play for modern times, reclaiming her identity and her freedom.



► **Mohamed Yargui**

Born in Bejaia, he studied dramatic arts and film technique at the House of Culture of Bejaia. Yargui directed several short films: AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL and HOURIA.

## I Promise

Directed by: Mohamed Yargui 2016

Algeria



Cast: Farid Oukal - Wahida Bounit

Runtime: 17 MIN

Print Source: [mohamedyargui@hotmail.fr](mailto:mohamedyargui@hotmail.fr)

► **Synopsis**

On the rocky paths leading to his childhood birthplace, Allili ascends in silence unravelling his thoughts of his sister Baya and the burdens he holds...



► **Raymund Ribay Gutierrez**

Born in 1992, he graduated from Mapua Institute of Technology with a BS Multimedia Arts and Sciences. Attended Brillante Mendoza's directing film workshop where worked as a 2nd assistant director and cinematographer.

## Imago

Directed by: Raymund Ribay Gutierrez 2016

Philippines



Cast: Ruby Ruiz, Louie Tan

Runtime: 17 MIN

Print Source: [festival@filmsdistribution.com](mailto:festival@filmsdistribution.com)

► **Synopsis**

On a humid night within the bustling slums of Metropolitan Manila, Inday, a 54-year-old single parent of a special child goes to her unusual work.

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▶ **Maria Ibrahimova**  
 Her debut documentary MISS GULAG was screened in more than 40 international festivals. LETTER TO GOD won an Audience Award at the DC Shorts Film Festival in Washington.

## Letter to God

Directed by: Maria Ibrahimova 2015

Azerbaijan



Cast: Yuri Baliev, Maria Ibrahimova  
 Runtime: 17 MIN  
 Print Source: [jenny@augohr.de](mailto:jenny@augohr.de)

▶ **Synopsis**  
 A lonely widower discovers that he is dying. After a series of mysterious encounters, he decides to do the only thing he can think of: write a letter to God.



▶ **Syni Pappa**  
 Born in Cologne, she graduated from Raindance Film School in London. In 2015, she completed her short WHACK that was screened in several festivals. Currently, she is writing her long film debut WRONG ISLAND.

## The National Garden

Directed by: Syni Pappa 2016

Greece



Cast: Mary Karazisi, Katerina Lazopoulou  
 Runtime: 15 MIN  
 Print Source: [jenny@augohr.de](mailto:jenny@augohr.de)

▶ **Synopsis**  
 Fashion design child prodigy Tina attends a Halloween contest dressed as a Penguin only to lose the first prize to Princess Jasmine. However, she comes to a life changing revelation.



▶ **Aisha Alzaabi**

She has several short films and commercials to her credit. Her film THE OTHER DIMENSION (2014) won Best Short Film Award in at DIFF 2014.



▶ **Marwa Kamel**

She graduated from the Animation Department at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Minia University 2002. Kamel directed her documentary A DREAM OF SALT in 2016.

## A Night in a Taxi

Directed by: Aisha Alzaabi 2016



Cast: Bakhsh Mohammed, Mohammed Kbashi

Runtime: 15 MIN

Print Source: [aishaalzaabi@live.com](mailto:aishaalzaabi@live.com)

▶ **Synopsis**

A taxi driver working the night shift in Abu Dhabi always listens to the grumblings of his passengers. However, the day he wants to express his inner feelings, no one is prepared to lend him a sympathetic hearing.

## Sandoq Eldonia

Directed by: Marwa Kamel 2015



Cast: Hassan Eladl, Amna Ali Salem

Runtime: 6 MIN

Print Source: [meroo590@gmail.com](mailto:meroo590@gmail.com)

▶ **Synopsis**

A child is trying to reach the whereabouts of a mysterious treasure through the words of a storyteller and his pictures inside a peep show.

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► **Dijana Mladenovic**

She is the founder Kinematograf Co. In 2013, she directed her first short film THRESHOLDS. SCARLET is her second short film.



► **Abdel-Fatah Farag**

An editor at the investigation section of Al-Watan newspaper, he directed his first documentary HARVESTER OF SORROW in 2013, which dealt with the lives of garbage collectors in Cairo. SHIMAA is his second documentary.

## Scarlet

Directed by: Dijana Mladenovic 2016

Croatia



Cast: Alma Prica, Niksa Butijer

Runtime: 15 MIN

Print Source: [dijana.mladenovic@pu.t-com.hr](mailto:dijana.mladenovic@pu.t-com.hr)

► **Synopsis**

After a completed military action, the atmosphere of triumphant relaxation and camaraderie will be suddenly and irreversibly disturbed by a revelation of a hidden crime.

## Shimaa

Directed by: Abdel-Fatah Farag 2015

Egypt



Runtime: 12 MIN

Print Source: [abdo\\_farg\\_red@yahoo.com](mailto:abdo_farg_red@yahoo.com)

► **Synopsis**

Shimaa works in assembling scrap at Tal Al-Hadadeen area in Tanta, Gharbia Governorate. Through her life and her dreams, she is still practicing this arduous profession mostly handled by strong men....



▶ **Ali Asgari, Farnoosh Samadi**

Asgari was born in Tehran, he studied filmmaking in Italy. His short film MORE THAN TWO HOURS competed in Cannes 2013 and Sundance 2014. Samadi graduated from Rome's Fine Arts Academy. She was the scriptwriter for MORE THAN TWO HOURS by Asgari. They both are collaborating on a new long film.

## The Silence

Italy

Directed by: Ali Asgari, Farnoosh Samadi 2015



Cast: Fatma Alakus, Cahide Ozel

Runtime: 15 MIN

Print Source: [giovanni@kinoproduzioni.it](mailto:giovanni@kinoproduzioni.it)

▶ **Synopsis**

Fatma and her mother are Kurdish refugees in Italy. On their visit to the doctor, Fatma has to translate what the doctor tells to her mother but she keeps silent.



▶ **Sara Broos**

She completed her acting studies in Vienna. During her master studies at Hamburg Media School she directed WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN and SECRECIES.

## Tilda

Germany

Directed by: Katja Benrath 2015



Cast: Debby Mullholland, Gerhard Olschewski

Runtime: 14 MIN

Print Source: [jenny@augohr.de](mailto:jenny@augohr.de)

▶ **Synopsis**

The shy old woman Tilda lives surrounded by her dolls. Her only connection to the outside world is Pastor Krause. However, she could never dream of looking him in the eye.

COMPETITION SHORT

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#### ▶ Laura Luchetti

She has directed short films, music videos, commercials, documentaries, theatre productions. Luchetti's first long film HAYFEVER has been awarded by many International Film Festivals. The script of her new film TWIN FLOWER was selected at Cannes' atelier 2015.

## Toilets

Directed by: Laura Luchetti 2016

Italy



Runtime: 9 MIN

Print Source: [lauluch@libero.it](mailto:lauluch@libero.it)

#### ▶ Synopsis

Lea is an old lady who has worked in the same public toilets for many years. She loves her job with its tidiness and cleanliness, but more than anything else, she loves to dream.

# PANORAMA

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### ► Amal Benkacimi

A filmmaker who started her career in cultural and artistic programs. Her first film THE SWING (2013) was a collective workshop outcome while her second film HARASSMENT (2014) received an award at Oscar Egypt Film Festival for Narratives and Documentaries 2016.

## Acoustic Musical Journey

Algeria

Directed by: Amal Benkacimi 2016



Runtime: 16 MIN

Print Source: [amiliaamal@gmail.com](mailto:amiliaamal@gmail.com)

### ► Synopsis

A journey of relaxation with the French artist Beret Relax Hang who narrates her stories with several with musical instruments and her family.



### ► Gonzalo San Vicente

Born 1981 in Uruguay where he studied communications and worked as a freelancer in film and TV. San Vicente moved to Berlin in 2008 where he founds Floruit Films where AMI was born.

## Tilda

Germany

Directed by: Gonzalo San Vicente 2016



Runtime: 8 MIN

Print Source: [jenny@augohr.de](mailto:jenny@augohr.de)

### ► Synopsis

Little Ami finds out that her mother must leave on a business trip. But Mom tells Ami a white lie that turns true in a way neither of them expected.



### ► Alessandro Capitani

He graduated from the National School of Cinema of Rome in 2009. His short film JENNIFER'S LAW (2013) was awarded in several festivals including an educational trip to Universal Studios.

## Bellissima

Directed by: Amal Benkacimi 2016

Italy



Cast: Giusy Lodi - Emanuele Vicorito

Runtime: 12 MIN

Print Source: [alessandrocipitani1980@gmail.com](mailto:alessandrocipitani1980@gmail.com)

### ► Synopsis

Twenty-years old Veronica is entrapped in her overweight. During a party, a young man starts to make fun of her. The desperate Veronica hides in the toilets thinking that there is no one else who can see her.



### ► Nadine Boller

Born in 1986 in Switzerland, she finished her Master in film science at Lausanne University. Boller attended an intensive documentary course at MET Film School Berlin to realize her first project: a documentary about a nomad family in Kyrgyzstan. Three films emerged including THE BLOCK (2015).

## The Block

Directed by: Nadine Boller 2016

Switzerland



Runtime: 10 MIN

Print Source: [jenny@augohr.de](mailto:jenny@augohr.de)

### ► Synopsis

In the middle of the steppes of Kyrgyzstan, an old foundation dating back to the Soviet era is gaining more and more importance in the nomads' daily life.

PANORAMA

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► **Irma Orozco**

Born 1983 in Guadalajara where she studied graphic design and music at its university. Currently she is living in Germany, working as a freelance animator and visual artist.

## Don Ruperto

Directed by: Irma Orozco 2017

Germany

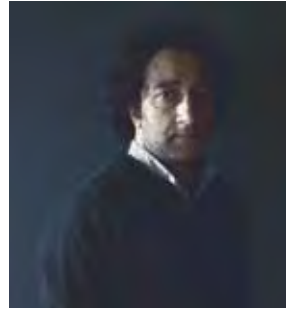


Runtime: 11 MIN

Print Source: [jenny@augohr.de](mailto:jenny@augohr.de)

► **Synopsis**

Don Ruperto is an old cynical man who does not care about other people's feelings. When he gets himself into trouble, he is helped by those he once hurt.



► **Gonzalo San Vicente**

He studied filmmaking at Jesuit Workshop. An editor and assistant director, Shafiey is currently preparing his first long film.

## The Dream of a Scene

Directed by: Gonzalo San Vicente 2016

Egypt



Cast: Liliet Fahmi, Yasser Shafiey

Runtime: 22 MIN

Print Source: [yassershafiey@live.com](mailto:yassershafiey@live.com)

► **Synopsis**

A young director is looking for a heroine who can accept shaving her hair as an expression against what is prevalent in the society. However, he faces rejection until Shaimaa arrives and accepts the role...



► **Maria Ibrahimova**

Her debut documentary MISS GULAG was screened in more than 40 international festivals. LETTER TO GOD won an Audience Award at the DC Shorts Film Festival in Washington.

Azerbaijan

## I Want to Fly

Directed by: Maria Ibrahimova 2016



Cast: Yuri Baliev, Maria Ibrahimova

Runtime: 22 MIN

Print Source: [jenny@augohr.de](mailto:jenny@augohr.de)

► **Synopsis**

Kamal has a dream: he wants to fly, but many say paragliding is an impossible dream for a man in a wheelchair...



► **Mohanad Diab**

Born 1985, he directed short documentaries and narratives. Diab began his career as a TV presenter then completed graduate studies in directing, editing and scriptwriting. TAHRA'S LIFE won Best Documentary Award at Alexandria Film Festival for Mediterranean Countries 2015.

Egypt

## Tahra's Life

Directed by: Mohanad Diab 2015



Runtime: 8 MIN

Print Source: [mohanad.diab@hotmail.com](mailto:mohanad.diab@hotmail.com)

► **Synopsis**

Tahra endured a lot of difficulties and hardship to achieve a better living for her five children through her work in construction, blacksmithing and tailoring...



► **Jasna Nanut**

Born 1975 in Zagreb, she worked in television for fifteen years until she decided to dedicate herself to filmmaking. Tanya is her first short narrative film. Nanut is currently working on her first long screenplay.

## Tanja

Directed by: Jasna Nanut 2016

Croatia



Cast: Marina Redžepović, Zdenko Jelčić

Runtime: 25 MIN

Print Source: [jasna.nanut@gmail.com](mailto:jasna.nanut@gmail.com)

► **Synopsis**

Tanja lost her job, her boyfriend and her apartment. She moves back into her dad's place in the neighborhood where she grew up. One day, Tanja meets her old schoolmate Denis at a local bar.

# Salé Festival Films

**ASWAN**  
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▶ **Younes Reggab**

Born 1975, he realized several short films since 2003 including KHOUYA (MY BROTHER), MIDNIGHT (2009) MORTAL CHAT (2013). THE FALLEN LEAVES is his long narrative debut.



Morocco

## The Fallen Leaves

Directed by: Younes Reggab 2014

Written by:

Younes Reggab

Younes Chara

Aziz Ablaghe

Mohamed Rayane

Cinematography by:

Ali Reggab

Edited by:

Younes Reggab

Haitam Ahammad

Cast

Rabie Kati

Sanaa Bahaj

Yasmina Zaki Messaoudi

Runtime:

119 MIN

Print Source:

[produccion@meridionalproducciones.com](mailto:produccion@meridionalproducciones.com)



▶ **Synopsis**

Zahra, a successful dancing teacher, is preparing the end of the year show at her conservatory. However, Unbeknownst to everyone, she is hiding a deep secret going back to her tragic adolescence.



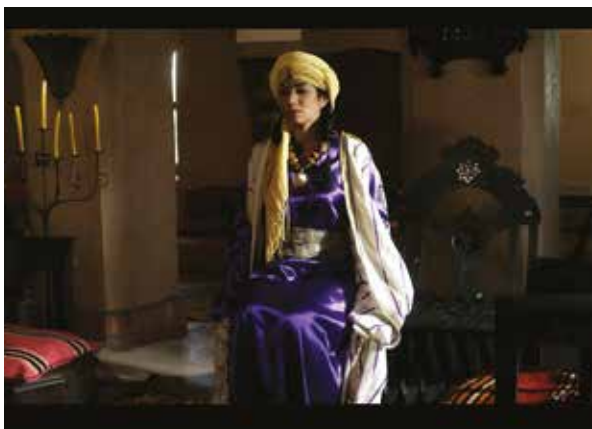
► **Farida Bourquia**

Born 1948 in Casablanca, she studied at Lunacharsky Institute and the Theater Institute in Moscow starting from the 1960s. Upon returning to Morocco in 1970s, she taught drama at Casablanca Conservatory and worked at the National TV. In 1982, Bourquia made her directorial debut EMBERS that was followed in 2007 by TWO WOMEN ON THE ROAD. She is considered to be the first Moroccan woman working in the field of film directing.

Morocco

## Reflections

Directed by: Farida Bourquia 2014



Written by:

**Mohamed Mouncef El Kadiri**

Cinematography by:

**Ivan Oms Blanco**

Edited by:

**Adil Mimdal**

Cast:

**Fatym Layachi**

**Mohamed Majd**

**Amina Rachid**

Runtime:

**89 MIN**

Print Source:

**hassania\_raho@yahoo.fr**

► **Synopsis**

A great epic retracing Moroccan's history when the country became a great empire with the advices Zaynab Ennafzaouia, a legendary woman of genius who lived during the reign of the Almoravid King Youssef Ibn Tachefine her fourth husband.

SALÉ FESTIVAL FILMS

**ASWAN**  
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# Egyptian Panorama

**ASWAN**  
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### ► Yousry Nasrallah

Born 1952 in Cairo, he studied economics at its university then filmmaking at the Higher Institute of Cinema. Nasrallah started to work as film critic for the Lebanese newspaper Al-Safir then became an assistant director in Lebanon then to the great director Youssef Chahine in GOODBYE BONAPARTE and AN EGYPTIAN STORY. For Chahine as well, he co-wrote ALEXANDRIA AGAIN AND FOREVER in 1990, the same year he made his directorial debut with and fought the first directorial experience in the same year with SUMMER THEFTS then MERCEDES in 1993. His film credits also include THE CITY (1999), THE GATE OF SUN (2004), THE AQUARIUM (2008) and SCHEHERAZADE, TELL ME A STORY (2009).



## Brooks, Meadows and Lovely Faces

Directed by: Yousry Nasrallah 2016

Egypt

Written by:

**Yousry Nasrallah**

Cinematography by:

**Samir Bahzan**

Edited by:

**Mona Rabei**

Cast

**Laila Eloui**

**Menna Shalabi**

**Bassem Samra**

Runtime:

**115 MIN**

Print Source:

[ynasrallah@hotmail.com](mailto:ynasrallah@hotmail.com)



### ► Synopsis

Yahya works with his two sons Refaat and Galal as cooks for special events. It is planned that Refaat will get married to Karima, his cousin from his father's side. However, both are in love with someone else.



► **Kamla Abou Zekri**

She began her career as assistant-director in the film 131 HARD LABOR (1993). Abou Zekri made her long narrative debut with the romantic comedy INTRODUCTION TO SWINDLING (2004). Acclaimed films followed with HEADS & TAILS, ON LOVE AND PASSION and ONE-ZERO. The latter was screened in Venice Festival.

Egypt

## A Day for Women

Directed by: Kamla Abou Zekri 2016



Written by:  
**Hanaa Atteya**  
Cinematography by:  
**Nancy Abdel-Fatah**  
Edited by:

**Moataz El-Kateb**

Cast:

**Elham Shahein**

**Hala Sedki**

**Nelly Kerim**

Runtime:

**111 MIN**

Print Source:

[info@mad-solutions.com](mailto:info@mad-solutions.com)

► **Synopsis**

The news about opening a new swimming pool at a local community wins the excitement of women who come from different social backgrounds. At the pool, Laila starts seeking consolation for losing her son, while Shamiya looks for empathetic listeners to her personal life's stories and Azza is simply joyful about putting on a swimming suit for the first time at this all-women gathering!

EGYPTIAN PANORAMA

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20-26 February 2017

### ► Hala Khalil

Hala Khalil is a director, scriptwriter and producer. She has written and directed numerous films, short films documentaries and TV series and has also worked as an executive producer. Her filmography includes : BEST OF TIMES (2004), CUT AND PASTE (2006) and her award-winning short, THE KITE (1997). Khalil has also served on several festival juries (Cairo, Osson, Rotterdam Arab and Beirut.



Egypt

## NAWARA

Directed by: Hala Khalil 2016

Written by:

Hala Khalil

Cinematography by:

Zaki Aref

Edited by:

Mona Rabei

Cast

Menna Shalabi

Mahmoud Hemeda

Sherine Reda

Runtime:

106 MIN

Print Source:

rashagawdat@gmail.com



### ► Synopsis

Every day Nawara goes to work along a path that takes her between the alleys of the poor neighbourhood and the roads that lead to the villas within a luxury compound. Every day, on her way to work, she carries the worries of the people in her neighbourhood and their simple dreams. Little does know that the spring of 2011 will bring her something unexpected.

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EGYPTIAN PANORAMA



► **Ismail Farouk**

Born in Cairo in 1974, he began his work in the field of advertising and television until he directed his first long narrative 90 MINUTES. SONS OF THE COUNTRY, ABDOU MOOTA, SWEEPER, and AN UPPER-EGYPTIAN.

Egypt

## Those Who Behave Are Dead

Directed by: Ismail Farouk 2014



Written by:

**Mohamed Abdel-Khalek**

Cinematography by:

**ISameh Selim**

Edited by:

**Ghada Ezz El-Deen**

Cast:

**Ghada Abdel-Razek**

**Abeer Sabry**

**Marwa Abdel-Menem**

Runtime:

**110 MIN**

Print Source:

**rania@sabbah.com**

► **Synopsis**

Seven women live in pension and share a great friendship although they came from different social backgrounds in the reality of a male-dominated society.

EGYPTIAN PANORAMA

**ASWAN**  
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## 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 (AIWF), 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 of 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:



Jury of Samir Farid Award:

Film Critic Magda Morris (President)

A member of EFCA

Deputy editor of Gomhoreya Newspaper

Participated in several national and international juries

President of the Luxor European and Arab Film Festival, 4th edition

Writes weekly articles in Gomhoreya, Ahaly, Hayat Newspapers



Film Critic Mohamed El-Rouby

Film and theatre critic and

A member of EFCA- its Vice President (2009 -2015)

Chief Editor of Masrahna (Our Theater) Newspaper

Participated in several national and international juries



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### EFCA:

It was founded as an initiative of film critic Samir Farid in 1972 and was headed by the veteran critic and director Ahmed Kamel Morsi, with the membership of Fathi Farag, Ahmad Rafat, Samir Farid, Youssef Cherif Rizkallah, Ahmed El-Hadary and many others. Through more than forty years, EFCA organized hundreds of film events, published dozens of newsletters and publications and included the most prominent names in history of Egyptian film criticism including Sami Asalamouni, Khaireya El-Beshlawi, Rafik al-Sabban, Anwar Khurshid, Hashim El-Nahas, Subhi Shafiq and Amir Emary.





# NUT FORUM

TOGETHER, WITH ART,  
WE OPPOSE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

**ASWAN**  
International  
WOMen Film  
Festival  
20-26 February 2017

## Thursday: 23 February

### Session One

9:00 - 11:00

El Ta'a El Marbota Campaign - NCW  
UN Women experience in Combating  
Violence against Women.  
Women between Reality and Screen -  
Mrs. Karima Kamal

### Session Two

11:30 - 13:30

(Negateeve) Photos of women  
refugees from Syria to Lebanon in the  
Lebanese media- Ghida Anani/ Birut  
Film Screening: "I'am Ahlam"  
Violence against Women in Libya -  
Zahra' Langhi  
Film Screening: "Justice for Salwa is  
Justice for All"  
Karama Regional Coalition & Violence  
against Women Issues - Hebaqu Osman  
(America)

### Session Three

14:00 - 16:00

Discrimination against Women in  
Private and Public Life - Asma Khader  
/Jordon  
Media and Violence against Women in  
Algeria - Heda Hazam

### Session Four

16:30 - 20:30

Free tours to watch festival films

## Friday: 24 February

### Session One

9:00 - 11:00

Combating Violence against Women in  
Croatia - Rada Boric  
Short film: "Scarlet grimizno"- Croatia  
Combating Violence against Women in  
Finland - Krsi Mustalahti  
Film Screening

### Session Two

11:30 - 13:30

Media and Violence against Women in  
Morocco - Ayat Aznak  
Media and Violence against Women in  
Tunisia  
Film Screening

### Session Three

14:00 - 16:00

Film Screening: "Mobil Cinema Festival  
Films" - ACT & UN Women

British Council: My Right Project  
Film Screening

### Session Four

16:30 - 20:30

Free tours to watch festival films

## Saturday: 25 February

### Session One

9:00 - 11:00

Combating Violence against Women in Upper Egypt - Civil Society Organizations  
Film Screening

### Session Two

11:30 - 13:30

Cinema and Violence against Women - Azza Kamel

Film Screening

### Session Three

14:00 - 16:00

Women's role in Peacemaking- the Judge Naima Gebri/ Libya  
Film Screening

### Session Four

16:30 - 20:30

Free tours to watch festival films

## Sunday: 26 February

### Session One

9:00 - 11:00

Film Screening:  
Ahlam Hind and Camelia- Feature Film/ Egypt

### Session Two

11:30 - 13:30

Film Screening: "From Pain I Came" - Short Documentary / Egypt

Film Screening: "Accabadora" -Feature Film/Italy

### Session Three

14:00 - 16:00

Film Screening: "Bellisma"- Feature film/ Italy

### Session Four

16:30 - 20:30

Closing Ceremony at 7.00 pm

# WORKSHOPS

**ASWAN**  
International  
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## Drawing Animation Workshop (Aswan youth workshop)

Dr. Ashraf Mahdy, the the Marinette teacher at the fuculty of Fine Arts will present a creative process through which he will train some of Aswan young people to learn some limitted animation skills by computer software.

Dr. Mahdy will perform his animation experiments on the paintings of the well known painter, Engy Aflatoun, who was interested in woman issues in her works. Dr Mahdy will present a rare vidio tape about a female pioneer whose creative art works were rejected by the anti- woman complex reality world in Egypt



## Dr. Franceseca Araiza

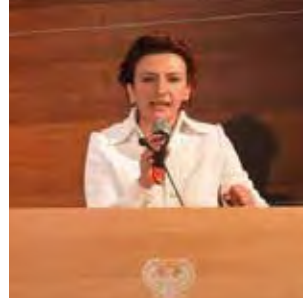
Dr. Franceseca Araiza, the asst. professor at the American University in Cairo and founder of "Rice Your Voice " Organization will train some young girls from Aswan and the nearby governorates how to become doumentary film directors. Dr. Araiza's main subject during the festival activities will be "WOMAN & NATURE IN SOUTHERN EGYPT" through which girls will present their documentary films.



**“Through my eyes”  
as women see it  
Documentary Workshop for  
Women  
Kirsi Marie Liimatainen**

There´s no camera that can make a picture or create a film. Only your eyes can make a film or tell a story.

Forget about different lenses, lights and other technical accessories, just use what you´ve got. We want to hear your life story - it´s a story worth telling.



**Rosetta Messori**

is a singular photographer, whose images testify to a strong narrative tension and, at the same time, an overwhelming pictorial vocation. Her images are the result of long exposures and a particular movement of the camera while shooting, in order to "dematerialize" the real with the aim of creating new forms generated from contact with light.

Messori´s photographs have the poetry of a narrative and the formal elegance of a painting.

The attraction exerted on the artist by ancient civilizations and cultures such as the Egyptian, Assyrian or Babylonian one, by primordial places of the deserts in which the nature explodes in a jubilation of shapes and gleams, creates in her mind the need to "find a balance between light and colour, shape and speed, where the time turns on itself and everything seems to penetrate."



## Mohamed Hamdy Imaging Photosynthesis Workshop (Aswan Youth Workshop)

It's a workshop that trains youth to document, the suggested locations for films scenes photography. During our 1st tournament, Aswan youth will be trained to document the beauties of the locations that are good for film photography as a start to collect all Egypt location data.

Every year, the workshop will present its film photography location data documentations to the producers participating in Abu Simpel Seminar that will be attended the film producers. Also this data will be available on Aswan Forum for the film producers around the world who wish to come and work in Egypt.



## Sayed Abdelkhalik 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

In Aswan Int. Woman Film Festival, the workshop program aims to train youth, in Aswan and other nearby cities, on the narrating arts; photography and cinema language such as cinematography, graphics and directing.

Workshop program also trains youth, especially females, on using cinema language to express their ideas and dreams that they didn't express before because of their society restricted habits and traditions.

The workshop program also seeks to take in the greatest possible number of upper Egypt youth where they lack the specialized institutes of Cinema, animation and Visual Arts.

.230 young men and women applied for the festival workshop scholarship. By co-ordinating with Aswan university and some other organizations, 40 applicants were granted the scholarship.

The festival workshop program seeks to extend the working period along the year to increase the workshop beneficiary youth number especially Aswan and nearby cities residents.

Through workshops, the festival seeks to rediscover young talents and especially those of females who reside these areas and make them intensive training programs supervised by professional artists from inside and outside Egypt.

Let's dream of a day when Aswan Int. Film Festival presents films made by local artists from upper Egypt who can compete for prizes in different festivals around the world.

# PRODUCERS SALON

**ASWAN**  
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► **Great film producer Gaby Khoury**  
Director of the Forum and the Main Spokesperson

His name has been associated with the late and great filmmaker Youssef Chahine for whom he produced most of his films as partner in production. He is managing Misr International Films to leave a clear imprint in the world of film production, perhaps for the quality of films which belongs mostly to cinema of reality that is not aiming to make box office revenues. Khoury also coproduced with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) the historical documentary production on ancient Egypt. He also coproduced many commercial films worldwide



► **Director and Producer / Sherif Mandour**  
Supervisor of The Producers Salon

Member of the board of the Egyptian Film Chamber and member of member of the Film Commission of the Supreme Council for Culture. He graduated from the Faculty of Social Work, and then turned to study directing at the Higher Institute of Cinema in Egypt. He began as an assistant director in the Egyptian television programs, and later worked as an assistant director in films with senior directors. He created his own company which produced many important films and also directed other films such as MEDITERRANEAN MAN and PARTITA. He is the pioneer of independent film production with AIN SHAMS aka EYE OF THE SUN and HELIOPOLIS. Jury member in festivals such as Oran in Algeria and Karama in Jordan. Recipient of numerous production awards at international festivals.



► **Mohamed Hefzy**  
Producer and screenwriter

He studied engineering and then scriptwriting. Hefzy founded Film Clinic that started as a scriptwriting workshop then became a production company in 2008. He seeks to open foreign markets to Egyptian film with his cinematic experiences and support for young and talented cineastes ...



► **hab Ayoub**  
Film producer

One of the most important producers in Egypt ... He began his career in 2000 as a producer of many Egyptian films  
He also participated as an actor in some films. Ayoub has considerable experience in the supervision of international production lensing in Egypt ...



► Ashraf Sarhan  
Actor and director  
Coordinator of The Producers Salon



He works at the Russian channel RT where he presents a weekly popular program that scored great viewership  
He won numerous awards in Russia for his TV presentation.  
He created many of roles in films and on theater including on Ruhr Theater in Germany and at Marcel Diaz Lab.  
His most distinct role came with director Hala Khalil in her film CUT AND PASTE.  
He also participated in the movie AL-SHABAH (THE GHOST) and PAPER CODE among others  
He also appeared in many Russian and European films ..

# Special Acknowledgments

## The festival board and management would like thank:

Mr. Hilmi Al-Namnam, Minister of Culture

Dr. Yahya Rashid, Minister of Tourism

General / Magdy Hegazy, Governor of Aswan

Dr. Abdel-Kader Mohamed Abdel-Kader, President of Aswan University

General / Magdy Moussa, Aswan Director of Security

Mr. Hesham El-Demeiry, Head of Egyptian Tourist Authority

General / Hassan Khalaf, Head of the Sector of Minister of Culture Office

Dr. Khalid Abdel-Gelil, adviser to the Minister of Culture for Cinema Affairs

Dr. Sayed Khatab, Head of Culture Palaces Authority

Dr. Haytham Al-Hag Aly, Head of the Book Authority

Dr. Ahmed Awaad, Head of Cultural Development Fund

Ms. Naema Tawfik, Head of Upper-Egyptian Sector at the Ministry of Tourism

Mr. Mohamed Idris, Director General of Aswan Culture

Mr. Mohamed Hassan, Director of Information at Aswan Governorate

Mr. Mohamed Abdel-Karim, Director of Public Relations at Aswan Governorate

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Ms. Eman Okel, Director of Public Relations at Cultural Development Fund

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# Special Acknowledgments to artists, friends and supporting institutions

Great film critic / Samir Farid

Director / Mossaad Fouda, Head of Filmmakers Syndicates

Director / Khaled Youssef

Columnist / Hamdy Rezk

Columnist / Emad Sayed Ahmed

Director / Mohamed Hamdy

Artist / Nagy Shaker

Artist / Tarek El-Komy

Dr. Ashraf Mahdy

Director / Ismail Farouk

Director / Omar Zahran

Director / Mohab Zanoon

Artist / Hend Adnan

Engineer / Mohamed Atta

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Mr. Khaled Esmat

Mr. Osama

Mr. Sayed Tawfil

Management of Basma Hotel in Aswan

Mr. Nader Nassif

Mr. Hamdy Abdel-Aziz