



**The 19th edition of the Marrakech International Film Festival
11 to 19 November 2022**

**THE MARRAKECH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
ANNOUNCES THE 23 PROJECTS AND FILMS SELECTED
FOR THE 5TH EDITION OF THE ATLAS WORKSHOPS,
HELD IN MARRAKECH FROM 14 TO 17 NOVEMBER 2022**

***Rabat, 19 October 2022.* The Atlas Workshops will take place in Marrakech from 14 to 17 November 2022.** The industry platform of the Marrakech International Film Festival, which now plays a key role in the regions it covers, the Atlas Workshops have the stated mission of supporting a new generation of Moroccan, Arab and African filmmakers by exhibiting their projects on the international stage.

For its 5th edition, the Atlas Workshops will present 16 projects in development and six films in post-production from 11 countries, selected from 240 applications received from the African continent and the Arab world.

This year's cohort features new talents such as Sameh Alaa (Egypt), winner of the Palme d'Or for a short film at the Festival de Cannes Film Festival, alongside filmmakers who have already made a name for themselves on the international scene, among them Meryem Benm'Barek (Morocco), who won a prize at Cannes with her first feature-length film *Sofia*; Rafiki Fariala (Central African Republic) and George Peter Barbari (Lebanon), discovered at the Berlin International Film Festival with their respective films *We, Students!* and *Death of a Virgin and the Sin of Not Living*, and Mamadou Dia (Senegal), who won a prize at the Locarno Film Festival for *Nafi's Father*. In addition, Moroccan filmmaker Faouzi Bensaïdi will unveil excerpts from his new film *Déserts* to festival directors as part of the Atlas Film Showcase.

The 23 selected projects and films will receive **tailor-made support from script, production, distribution, editing and music consultants** before they participate in a **co-production market attended by nearly 250 accredited international professionals**. Juries will award **financial prizes totaling €106,000**, including the ArteKino Prize.

The Atlas Workshops also presents **two round tables that focus on screenwriting** through tracing the careers of established filmmakers and screenwriters; as well as **a panel that brings together several key distributors from the Arab world**. In parallel, professionals will share their expertise in **sound, casting, working with archives and production in the Atlas Station workspace**.



This year, **seven films, including five from Morocco, that were supported by previous editions of the Atlas Workshops** in the development and/or post-production stages **have been selected for the programme of the 19th edition of the Marrakech International Film Festival**: *The Damned Don't Cry* by Fyza Boulifa (Morocco), *Queens* by Yasmine Benkiran (Morocco), *Fragments from Heaven* by Adnane Baraka (Morocco), *Abdelinho* by Hicham Ayouch (Morocco), *Goldfishes* by Abdeslam Kelai (Morocco), *Ashkal* by Youssef Chebbi (Tunisia) and *Under the Fig Trees* by Erige Sehiri (Tunisia).

For more information, please visit atlasateliers.marrakech-festival.com

PROJECTS AND FILMS SELECTED FOR THE 2022 ATLAS WORKSHOPS

PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT

BEHIND THE PALM TREES – Meryem BENM'BAREK (Morocco) – second film

CHILDREN OF GOD (BENIMANA) – Marie-Clémentine DUSABEJAMBO (Rwanda) – first film

CONGO BOY – Rafiki FARIALA (Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo) – second film

DEMBA – Mamadou DIA (Senegal) – second film

GHOST SHIP (VAISSEAU FANTÔME) – Moïse TOGO (Mali, Cameroon) | **Documentary** – first film

LENDE – Katy Lena N'DIAYE (Senegal) – second film

LA MER AU LOIN – Saïd HAMICH BENLARBI (Morocco) – second film

PIGEON WARS – Dania BDEIR (Lebanon) – first film

SO THE LOVERS COULD COME OUT AGAIN – George Peter BARBARI (Lebanon) – second film

THE PASSPORT – Rakan MAYASI (Palestine) – first film

WHALE BELLY (18) – Sameh ALAA (Egypt) – first film

ATLAS CLOSE-UPS (Moroccan projects in development)

ALI – Younes BOUAB (Morocco) – first film

L'APOCALYPSE ARABE – Samy SIDALI (Morocco) – first film

MERCURY – Ish AÏT-HAMOU & Monir AÏT-HAMOU (Morocco) – first film

LES SAISONS DU SILENCE – Abdeslam KELAI (Morocco) – second film

LE SOLEIL DES AUTRES – Asmae EL MOUDIR (Morocco) | **Documentary** – third film

FILMS IN PRODUCTION OR POST-PRODUCTION

BYE BYE TIBERIAS – Lina SOUALEM (Palestine) | **Documentary** – second film

CABO NEGRO – Abdellah TAÏA (Morocco) – second film

CHOPPED – Karam ALI & Casey ASPROOTH-JACKSON (Palestine) | **Documentary** – first film

DISCO AFRIKA – Luck RAZANAJAONA (Madagascar) – first film

INSHALLAH A BOY (INSHALLAH WALLAD) – Amjad AL RASHEED (Jordan) – first film

OR DE VIE – Boubacar SANGARE (Burkina Faso) | **Documentary** – first film

ATLAS FILM SHOWCASE (films in final stages of editing seeking festival premieres)

DESERTS – Faouzi BENSÂÏDI (Morocco)