



**The 20<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Marrakech International Film Festival  
Takes Place November 24<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

## **THE MARRAKECH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES ITS OFFICIAL SELECTION**

**Rabat, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023** - For its 20<sup>th</sup> edition, taking place from November 24<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, the Marrakech International Film Festival presents a selection of films from around the globe. Seventy-five films from 36 countries are screening in several sections : the Official Competition; Gala Screenings; Special Screenings; The 11<sup>th</sup> Continent; a Panorama of Moroccan Cinema; Cinema for Young Audiences; screenings on Jemaa El Fna; and Tributes to figures of world cinema.

The **Official Competition**, a selection of first and second feature films, reveals new talent in world cinema. Of the 14 films in competition, 10 are by first-time directors, of whom eight are women. Thirteen countries are represented, among them three Latin American nations (Brazil, Chile, and Colombia); three European countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, and the United Kingdom); five from the Middle East and Africa (Madagascar, Morocco, Senegal, and Palestine); as well as Mongolia, Turkey, and the USA.

The films in the running for the Étoile d'Or explore a variety of cinematic genres, from modern fable, documentary, and film noir to political farce, romance and family drama. The 14 filmmakers selected for the Official Competition have produced remarkably mature cinematic works that consider questions of education, the transmission of memory and national history, and that paint a portrait of young people in search of meaning and freedom.

**This 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the festival** opens with director Richard Linklater's fast-paced comedy *Hit Man*, starring the charismatic Glen Powell. A blend of action film and romantic comedy, this hilarious film is set to be one of the biggest hits of the year.

This year's **six Gala Screenings** present regional premieres of some of the most eagerly awaited international films of the year. Italian director Matteo Garrone attends the festival with *Me Captain (Io Capitano)*, a contemporary odyssey that tells the story of two Senegalese youths on an adventurous journey to Europe. Michel Franco presents *Memory*, a deeply moving film featuring an unforgettable turn by Jessica Chastain, who serves as President of this year's jury. Australian actor Simon Baker attends Marrakech with Ivan Sen's *Limbo*, an ultra-stylish, black-and-white thriller in which the star of *the Mentalist* is transformed. Three Gala screenings bring comic relief to the festival : Étoile d'Or-winner Alexander Payne returns to the Marrakech International Film Festival with *The Holdovers*, a tender comedy driven by a trio of deeply moving performances. Moroccan director Faouzi Bensaidi will present *Deserts*, his mystical and ludicrous western-like take on ultra-liberalism. The gala sessions will close with Cédric Kahn's *Making Of*, a behind-the-scenes social comedy starring the irresistible Jonathan Cohen.

**Special Screenings** feature 16 contemporary films, including several by prestigious directors including Nikolaj Arcel, Bertrand Bonello, Monia Chokri, Agnieszka Holland, Ladj Ly, and Alice Rohrwacher. The programme also showcases new talents world cinema with *Animalia*, Sofia Alaoui's fantastic and poetic fable, *Europa* by Étoile d'Or-winner Sudabeh Mortezaei, and Gábor Reisz's *Explanation for Everything*, a captivating work about education. Two exciting actors attend with their latest films: Isabelle Huppert, who appears in Élise Girard's *Sidonie in Japan* and Merve Dizdar, whose role in Nuri Bilge Ceylan's *About Dried Grasses* saw her win the Best Actress award at this year's Festival de Cannes.

Comprised of **13 innovative drama and documentary films**, the 11<sup>th</sup> Continent programme opens up dialogue between contemporary films and classic works that have been at the forefront of the history of cinema. The selection features the latest works by critically acclaimed filmmakers Kleber Mendonça Filho, Lisandro Alonso, and Mona Achache, as well as films by a new generation of daring auteurs, including Alain Kassanda, Rosine Mbakam, Vlad Petri, and Eduardo Williams.

The **Panorama of Moroccan Cinema** offers a chance to discover **six recent drama and documentary films** from the festival's home nation, two of which are world premieres : Khalid Zairi's *Mora Is Here* and Hicham Lasri's *Moroccan Badass Girl*. Moroccan cinema, which has been celebrated at some of the most prestigious film events throughout the year, has a significant presence throughout this year's festival, with 15 films presented in its various sections.

To raise awareness among the film-goers of tomorrow, the **Cinema for Young Audiences** programme features 13 screenings dedicated to young people aged 4 to 18.

The festival comes to life on **Jemaa El Fna** square in the heart of Marrakech with a programme of popular films presented by leading personalities.

Finally, the **Tributes** programme offers a selection of films featuring or made by the personalities to whom the festival pays homage this year. These screenings take place at the Palais des Congrès, the Cinéma le Colisée, and on Jemaa El Fna square, rounding off the event's selection of 75 films.

# OFFICIAL COMPETITION

## **BANEL & ADAMA (BANEL E ADAMA)**

**d. Ramata-Toulaye Sy** / *France, Senegal, Mali*  
with Khady Mane, Mamadou Diallo, Binta  
Racine Sy, Moussa Sow, Ndiabel Diallo

## **BYE BYE TIBERIAS (BYE BYE TIBÉRIADE)**

**d. Lina Soualem** / *Palestine, France, Belgium,  
Qatar* / *Documentary*  
with Hiam Abbass

## **CITY OF WIND (SÈR SÈR SALHI)**

**d. Lkhagvadulam Purev-Ochir** / *France,  
Mongolia, Portugal, the Netherlands, Germany,  
Qatar*  
with Tergel Bold-Erdene, Nomin-Erdene  
Ariunbyamba

## **DISCO AFRIKA : A MALAGASY STORY (DISCO AFRIKA : UNE HISTOIRE MALGACHE)**

**d. Luck Razanajaona** / *France, Madagascar,  
Mauritius, Germany, South Africa*  
with Parista Sambo, Laurette Ramasinjanahary,  
Joe Lerova, Drwina Razafimahaleo, Jérôme Oza

## **DORMITORY (YURT)**

**d. Nehir Tuna** / *Turkey, Germany, France*  
with Doga Karakas, Can Bartu Arslan, Ozan  
Çelik, Tansu Biçer, Didem Ellialti, Orhan Güner,  
Isilti Su Alyanak

## **EXCURSION (EKSKURZIJA)**

**d. Una Gunjak** / *Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
Croatia, Serbia, France, Norway, Qatar*  
With Asja Zara Lagumdžija, Nađa Spaho, Maja  
Izetbegović, Mediha Musliović, Izudin Bajrović

## **HOUNDS (LES MEUTES)**

**d. Kamal Lazraq** / *Morocco, France, Belgium,  
Qatar, Saudi Arabia*  
with Ayoub Elaid, Abdellatif Masstouri,  
Mohamed Hmimsa, Abdellah Lebdiri,  
Lahcen Zaimouzen, Salah Bensalah

## **THE MOTHER OF ALL LIES (LA MÈRE DE TOUS LES MENSONGES / KADIB ABYAD)**

**d. Asmae El Moudir** / *Morocco, Egypt, Saudi  
Arabia, Qatar* / *Documentary*  
with Zahra Jeddaoui, Mohamed El Moudir,  
Ouardia Zorkani, Abdallah Ez Zouid, Said  
Masrour, Asmae El Moudir

## **THE OTHER SON (EL OTRO HIJO)**

**d. Juan Sebastián Quebrada** / *Colombia,  
France, Argentina*  
with Miguel González, Ilona Almansa, Jenny  
Nava, Simón Trujillo

## **PHANTOM YOUTH (NOTRE MONDE / BOTA JONË)**

**d. Luàna Bajrami** / *Kosovo, France*  
with Elsa Mala, Albina Krasniqi, Don Shala,  
Aurora Ferati, Gani Rrahmani, Uratë Shaban

## **PRISON IN THE ANDES (PENAL CORDILLERA)**

**d. Felipe Carmona** / *Chile, Brazil*  
with Andrew Bargsted, Hugo Medina, Bastián  
Bodenhöfer, Alejandro Trejo, Mauricio Pešutić,  
Óscar Hernández

## **SILENT ROAR**

**d. Johnny Barrington** / *United Kingdom*  
with Louis McCartney, Ella Lily Hyland, Mark  
Lockyer, Victoria Balnaves, Fiona Bell, Pablo  
Raybould

## **TOLL (PEDÁGIO)**

**d. Carolina Markowicz** / *Brazil, Portugal*  
with Maeve Jinkings, Kauan Alvarenga, Thomás  
Aquino, Aline Marta Maia, Isac Graça

## **TUESDAY**

**d. Daina O. Pusič** / *USA, United Kingdom*  
with Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Lola Petticrew, Leah  
Harvey, Arinzé Kene

# GALA SCREENINGS

## DESERTS (DÉSERTS)

**d. Faouzi Bensaïdi** / *France, Germany, Morocco, Belgium, Qatar*

with Fehd Benchemsi, Abdelhadi Taleb, Rabii Benjhaile, Hajar Graigaa, Faouzi Bensaïdi, Nezha Rahil

## HIT MAN

**d. Richard Linklater** / *USA*

with Glen Powell, Adria Arjona, Austin Amelio, Retta

## THE HOLDOVERS (WINTER BREAK)

**d. Alexander Payne** / *USA*

with Paul Giamatti, Da'Vine Joy Randolph, Dominic Sessa, Carrie Preston

## LIMBO

**d. Ivan Sen** / *Australia*

with Simon Baker, Rob Collins, Natasha Wanganeen, Nicholas Hope, Mark Coe

## MAKING OF

**d. Cédric Kahn** / *France*

with Denis Podalydès, Jonathan Cohen, Stefan Crepon, Souheila Yacoub, Emmanuelle Bercot, Xavier Beauvois, Valérie Donzelli

## ME CAPTAIN (MOI CAPITAINE / IO CAPITANO)

**d. Matteo Garrone** / *Italy, Belgium*

with Seydou Sarr, Moustapha Fall, Issaka Sawagodo, Hichem Yacoubi, Doudou Sagna, Khady Sy, Bamar Kane, Cheick Oumar Diaw

## MEMORY

**d. Michel Franco** / *Mexico, USA*

with Jessica Chastain, Peter Sarsgaard, Brooke Timber, Merritt Wever, Elsie Fisher, Jessica Harper, Josh Charles

# SPECIAL SCREENINGS

## ABOUT DRIED GRASSES (LES HERBES SÈCHES / KURU OTLAR ÜSTÜNE)

**d. Nuri Bilge Ceylan** / *Turkey, France, Germany*  
with Deniz Celiloğlu, Merve Dizdar, Musab Ekici,  
Ece Bağcı, Erdem Şenocak, Yüksel Aksu

## ANIMALIA

**d. Sofia Alaoui** / *France, Morocco, Qatar*  
with Oumaïma Barid, Mehdi Dehbi, Fouad  
Oughaou

## THE BEAST (LA BÊTE)

**De.Bertrand Bonello** / *France, Canada*  
With Léa Seydoux, George MacKay

## BEHIND THE MOUNTAINS (LES ORDINAIRES / OURA EL JBEL)

**d. Mohamed Ben Attia** / *Tunisia, Belgium,  
France, Saudi Arabia, Qatar*  
with Majd Mastoura, Samer Bisharat, Walid  
Bouchhioua, Selma Zeghidi, Helmi Dridi,  
Wissem Belgharek

## LA CHIMERA (LA CHIMÈRE)

**de Alice Rohrwacher** / *Italy, France,  
Switzerland*  
with Josh O'Connor, Isabella Rossellini, Alba  
Rohrwacher, Carol Duarte, Vincenzo Nemolato

## EUROPA

**d. Sudabeh Mortezaei** / *Austria*  
with Lilith Stangenberg, Jetnor Gorezi, Steljona  
Kadillari, Mirando Sylari, Tobias Winter

## EXPLANATION FOR EVERYTHING

**d. Gábor Reisz** / *Hungary, Slovakia*  
with Gáspár Adonyi-Walsh, István Znamenák,  
András Rusznák, Rebeka Hatházi, Eliza Sodró,  
Lilla Kizlinger

## GOODBYE JULIA

**d. Mohamed Kordofani** / *Sudan, Egypt,  
Germany, France, Saudi Arabia, Sweden*  
with Eiman Yousif, Siran Riak, Nazar Gomaa,  
Ger Duany, Stephanos James Peter

## GREEN BORDER (ZIELONA GRANICA)

**d. Agnieszka Holland** / *Poland, USA, France,  
Czech Republic, Belgium, Germany, Turkey*  
with Jalal Altawil, Maja Ostaszewska, Behi  
Djanati Atai, Mohamad Al Rashi, Dalia Naous,  
Tomasz Włosok

## LES INDÉSIRABLES (BÂTIMENT 5)

**d. Ladj Ly** / *France, Belgium*  
with Anta Diaw, Alexis Manenti, Aristote  
Luyindula, Steve Tientcheu, Aurélia Petit,  
Jeanne Balibar

## MACHTAT

**d. Sonia Ben Slama** / *Tunisia, Lebanon, France,  
Qatar / Documentary*  
with Fatma Khayat, Najeh Ghared, Waffeh  
Ghared

## THE NATURE OF LOVE (SIMPLE COMME SYLVAIN)

**d. Monia Chokri** / *Canada, France*  
with Magalie Lépine-Blondeau, Pierre-Yves  
Cardinal, Monia Chokri, Francis-William  
Rhéaume, Steve Laplante, Marie-Ginette Guay

## THE PROMISED LAND (BASTARDEN)

**d. Nikolaj Arcel** / *Denmark*  
with Mads Mikkelsen, Amanda Collin, Gustav  
Lindh, Kristine Kujath Thorp, Simon Bennebjerg

## SARAFINA!

**d. Darrel James Roodt** / *South Africa / 1992  
(restored version)*  
with Leleti Khumalo Whoopi Goldberg Miriam  
Makeba John Kani Mbongeni Ngema

## SIDONIE IN JAPAN (SIDONIE AU Japan)

**d. Élise Girard** / *France*  
with Isabelle Huppert, August Diehl, Tsuyoshi  
Ihara

## TERRESTRIAL VERSES (CHRONIQUES DE TÉHÉРАН / AYEH HAYE ZAMINI)

**d. Ali Asgari & Alireza Khatami** / *Iran*  
with Majid Salehi, Gouhar Kheir Andish, Sadaf  
Asgari

# THE 11<sup>TH</sup> CONTINENT

## A GOLDEN LIFE (OR DE VIE)

d. **Boubacar Sangaré** / *Burkina Faso, Benin, France / Documentary*

## BETWEEN REVOLUTIONS (ÎNTRU REVOLUȚII)

d. **Vlad Petri** / *Romania, Croatia / Documentary*

## THE BRIDE (LA MARIÉE / UMUGENI)

d. **Myriam Birara** / *Rwanda*

with Sandra Umulisa, Aline Amike, Daniel Gaga, Justine Musabyeyezu, Beata Mukakamanzi

## CASABLANCA

d. **Adriano Valerio** / *France, Italy / Documentary*

with Fouad Miftah, Daniela Brandi

## COCONUT HEAD GENERATION

d. **Alain Kassanda** / *Nigeria, France / Documentary*

with Tobi Akinde, Deyo Adebisi, Leye Komolafe, Adeyosola Adeniran

## THE DUPES (LES DUPES / AL-MAKHDU'UN)

d. **Tewfik Saleh** / *Syria / 1972 – (restored version)*

with Mohamed Kheir-Halouani, Abderrahman Alrahy, Bassan Lofti Abou-Ghazala, Saleh Kholoki, Thanaa Debsi

## EUREKA

d. **Lisandro Alonso** / *France, Germany, Portugal, Mexico, Argentina*

with Viggo Mortensen, Chiara Mastroianni, Alaina Clifford, Sadie Lapointe

## FOREMOST BY NIGHT (SOBRE TODO DE NOCHE)

d. **Víctor Iriarte** / *Spain, Portugal, France*

with Lola Dueñas, Ana Torrent, Manuel Egozkue

## THE HUMAN SURGE 3 (EL AUGE DEL HUMANO 3)

d. **Eduardo William** / *Argentina, Portugal, the Netherlands, Taiwan, Brazil, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, Peru*

with Meera Nadarasa, Sharika Navamani, Livia Silvano, Abel Navarro, Ri Ri Yang, Bo-Kai Hsu

## LITTLE GIRL BLUE

d. **Mona Achache** / *France, Belgium*

with Marion Cotillard

## MAMBAR PIERRETTE

d. **Rosine Mbakam** / *Belgium, Cameroon*

with Pierrette Aboheu, Duval Franklin Nwodu Chinedu, Marguerite Mbakop, Cécile Tchana, Nancy Karelle Kenmogne Fondjo, Fabrice Ndjéuthat

## PHANTOM BEIRUT (BEYROUTH FANTÔME / ASHBAH BEYROUTH)

d. **Ghassan Salhab** / *France, Lebanon / 1998 (restored version)*

with Darina Al Joundi, Aouni Kawas, Carole Aboud, Rabih Mroueh

## PICTURES OF GHOSTS (PORTRAITS FANTÔMES / RETRATOS FANTASMAS)

d. **Kleber Mendonça Filho** / *Brazil / Documentary*

# PANORAMA OF MOROCCAN CINEMA

## BIRDLAND (INDIVISION)

d. **Leila Kilani** / *Morocco, France*

with Ifham Mathet, Ikram Layachi, Bahia Bootia El Oumami, Mustafa Shimdat, Jaafar Brigui

## MORA IS HERE (MORA EST LÀ / MOUGHA YOUCHKED)

d. **Khalid Zairi** / *Morocco / Documentary*

with Fatima Attini, Hamid Oukattou, Ehdih Bachar, Josette Breton, Asmaa Bouykidarn, Moussa Akhedime

## MOROCCAN BADASS GIRL

d. **Hicham Lasri** / *Morocco*

with Fadoua Taleb, Salah Bensalah, Malek Akhmiss, Karam Lamrani

## MY DAD IS NOT DEAD (MON PÈRE N'EST PAS MORT)

d. **Adil El Fadili** / *Morocco*

with Adam Raghaf, Abdelnbi El Beniwi, Nadia Kouunda, Fatima Atef, Aziz El Fadili, Didier Benureau

## MY THURSDAY SOUK (MON SOUK DU JEUDI / SOUK EL KHMIS D'EL GARA)

d. **Izza Edery-Génini** / *Morocco, France / Documentary*

with the residents of El Gara, the Edery family

## TRIPLE A

d. **Jihane El Bahhar** / *Morocco*

with Majdouline Idrissi, Aziz Daddas, Hind Benjebara, Khalil Oubaaqa, Fatema Zahra Benasser, Abdellatif Chawki

# CINEMA FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

## THE CAMEL AND THE MILLER (LE CHAMEAU ET LE MEUNIER)

d. Abdollah Alimorad / *Iran*

## DOUNIA AND THE PRINCESS OF ALEPPO (DOUNIA ET LA PRINCESSE D'ALEP)

d. Marya Zarif & André Kadi / *Canada, France*

with Rachaf Ataya, Elsa Madorissian, Manuel tadros, Raïa Haidar, Marya Zarif

## MICA

d. Ismaël Ferroukhi / *Morocco, France*

with Zakaria Inan, Sabrina Ouazani, Azelarab Kaghat

## NINA AND THE HEDGEHOG'S SECRET (NINA ET LE SECRET DU HÉRISSEMENT)

d. Alain Gagnol & Jean-Loup Felicioli / *France, Luxembourg*

with Audrey Tautou, Guillaume Canet, Loan Longchamp, Keanu Peyran, Guillaume Bat

## NO LOVE LOST (LA FILLE DE SON PÈRE)

d. Erwan Le Duc / *France*

with Nahuel Pérez Biscayart, Céleste Brunnquell, Maud Wyler, Mohammed Louridi, Mercedes Dassy

## THE SECRET WORLD OF ARRIETTY

(ARRIETTY : LE PETIT MONDE DES CHAPARDEURS / KARIGURASHI NO ARIETTI)

d. Hiromasa Yonebayashi / *Japan*

with Mirai Shida, Ryûnosuke Kamiki, Tatsuya Fujiwara



**BLUE ELEPHANT 2**

**(L'ÉLÉPHANT BLEU 2 / EL FEEL EL AZRAQ 2)**

**d. Marwan Hamed / Egypt**

with Nelly Karim, Hend Sabry, Karim Abdel Aziz

**DADOS**

**d. Abdelouahed Mjahed / Morocco**

with Rafik Boubker, Majdouline Idrissi, Ibtissam Laroussi, Jamila El Haouni, Sandia About Tajeddine, Driss Roukhe

**GREEN CARD**

**d. Hicham Regragui / Morocco**

with Fayçal Azizi, Aziz Hattab, Hashem Bastaoui, Hassna Moumni, Fatima Ezzahra Baladi, Hamid Nider

**INDIANA JONES AND THE DIAL OF DESTINY**

**(INDIANA JONES ET LE CADRAN DE LA DESTINÉE)**

**d. James Mangold / USA**

with Harrison Ford, Phoebe Waller-Bridge, Mads Mikkelsen, Antonio Banderas, John Rhys-Davies, Ethann Isidore

**PATHAAN**

**d. Siddharth Anand / India**

with Shah Rukh Khan, Deepika Padukone, John Abraham

**SHINE A LIGHT**

**d. Martin Scorsese / USA / Documentary**

with Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Ron Wood

**VOLUBILIS**

**d. Faouzi Bensaïdi / France, Morocco**

with Mouhcine Malzi, Nadia Kounda, Abdelhadi Taleb, Nezha Rahil, Faouzi Bensaïdi, Mouna Fettou

**VOY ! VOY ! VOY !**

**d. Omar Hilal / Egypt, United Arab Emirates**

with Mohammed Farrag, Nelly Karim, Bayoumi Fouad, Taha Dessouki, Amgad El Hagggar

**For further information, please visit :**

[www.marrakech-festival.com](http://www.marrakech-festival.com)