

Doha Film Institute's Drive-In Cinema at Lusail Continues to Enthrall Audiences in December

- *Open-air cinema in Lusail will screen an exciting selection of films for audiences of all ages, in partnership with Qatar Tourism*
- *Qatar National Day 2021 line-up will shine the spotlight on local talent with films from the popular Made in Qatar programme*

Doha, Qatar 01 December 2021: Following an incredible public response to the Drive-In screenings at this year's Ajyal Film Festival, the Doha Film Institute (DFI) will continue to give audiences the open-air cinema experience in Lusail throughout December 2021, in partnership with Qatar Tourism.

From Thursday 2 December until Saturday 25 December, DFI's Drive-In Cinema will feature an exciting line-up including Disney classics, animated family favourites, and specially selected "Made in Qatar" films created by local talent. Audiences of all ages are invited to enjoy the open-air cinema during the cool winter weather, bringing the community together at safe social distances.

Fatma Hassan Alremaihi, Chief Executive Officer of the Doha Film Institute, said: "The current global situation has shown us the necessity of purpose-driven initiatives that keep our minds and creative spirits active in times of isolation, and the drive-in format provides a safe and enjoyable communal film going experience for audiences. A retro favourite, the drive-in during the pandemic is being reimagined across the world, and these experiences help create lasting memories for the audiences lucky enough to enjoy them in person. A crowd-pleasing highlight of Ajyal, DFI's Drive-In cinema at Lusail in partnership with Qatar Tourism returns with a diverse line-up of family-friendly titles to appeal to all members of the family."

The first week of films will be the **'Disney Anniversaries Series'**. Screening at 7pm, the line-up features; **Dumbo** (United States/1941) by Ben Sharpsteen, Samuel Armstrong, Norm Ferguson, Wilfred Jackson, Bill Roberts, Jack Kinney, and John Elliotte on Thursday 2 December. The live-action **101 Dalmatians** (United States, United Kingdom/1996) by Stephen Herek will screen on Friday 3 December, followed by **Beauty and the Beast** (United States/1991) by Gary Trousdale, Kirk Wise on Saturday 4 December.

The **'Big and Small Series'** starts on Thursday 9 December with **Abominable** (United States, China, Japan/2019) by Jill Culton, followed by **Despicable Me** (United States, France, Japan/2010) by Pierre Coffin and Chris Renaud on Friday 10 December, and **Minions** (United States, Japan, France/2015) by Pierre Coffin and Kyle Balda, on Saturday 11 December.

To mark Qatar National Day, the popular **Made in Qatar** programme featuring a selection of films created by homegrown talent will screen on 16 November at 7pm.

This year's Drive-In programme will close with **'The Festive Series'**, beginning on Thursday 23 December with **Home Alone 1** (United States/1990) by Chris Columbus, followed by **Home Alone 2: Lost in New York** (United States/1992) by Chris Columbus on Friday 24 December.

and concluding with **The Santa Clause** (United States, Canada/1994) by John Pasquin on Saturday 25 December.

Tickets and the latest information about the Drive-In Cinema can be found at <https://www.dohafilminstitute.com/nowplaying>.

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About Doha Film Institute

Doha Film Institute is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organisation. It supports the growth of the local film community through cultivating film appreciation, enhancing industry knowledge and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar. The Institute's platforms include funding and production of local, regional and international films; skills-sharing and mentorship programmes; film screenings; the Ajyal Film Festival; and Qumra. With culture, community, learning and entertainment at its foundation, the Institute is committed to supporting Qatar's 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge-based economy.

About Ajyal Film Festival

Ajyal Film Festival is an annual celebration of film designed to nurture young minds and support the development of mindful global citizens and thoughtful future leaders. 'Ajyal', Arabic for 'generations', builds on the Institute's history of community-based programming, and brings people of all ages together through screenings and events that inspire creative interaction and stimulate cinematic dialogue. Through its' jury programme, youth between the ages of 8 and 25 are given an opportunity to watch, analyse and discuss global cinema and culture, developing self-confidence, independent critical thinking skills, self-expression, and an appreciation of cinema, while making new friends and discovering global cultures.

Doha Film Institute:

Twitter: @DohaFilm; Instagram: @DohaFilm; Facebook:
www.facebook.com/DohaFilmInstitute

For more information, please contact:

Qadar Arif

Qadar.arif@bluerubicon.qa

+974 3100 6400