

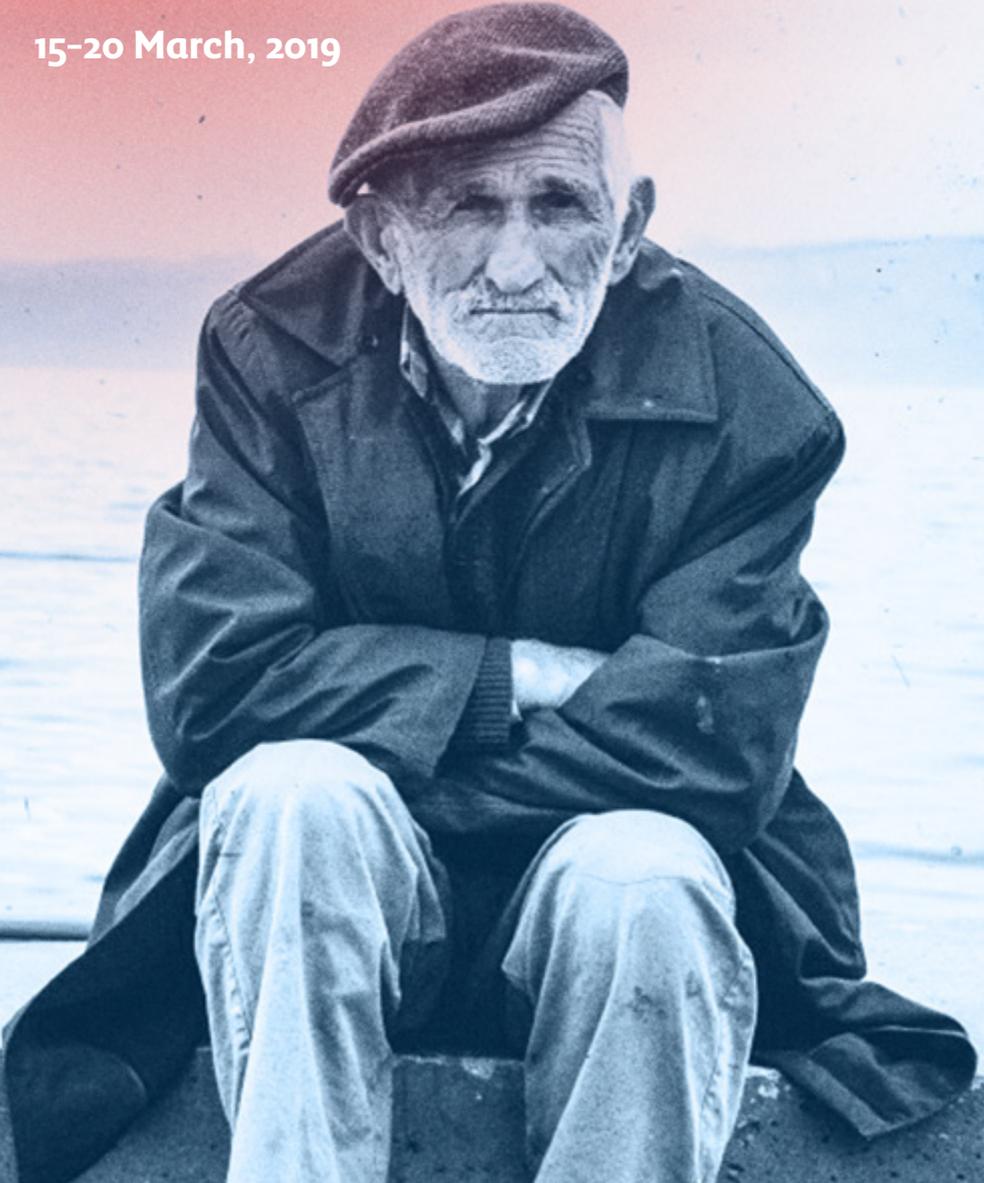
قمرّة
Qumra

مؤسسة الدوحة للأفلام

DOHA FILM INSTITUTE

Delegates Guide

15-20 March, 2019



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CEO,
Doha Film Institute
Director, Qumra



Elia Suleiman
Artistic Advisor,
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Hanaa Issa
Director of Strategy and Development
Deputy Director, Qumra



Khalil Benkirane
Head of Grants



Ali Khechen
Qumra Industry
Manager
Film Training Senior
Manager



Jovan Marjanović
Industry Advisor

QUMRA PROGRAMMING TEAM



Aya Al-Blouchi
Qumra Master Classes
Senior Coordinator
Youth Programmes Senior
Coordinator



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Qumra Industry Senior
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Mayar Hamdan
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Maryam Essa Al Khulaifi
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Qumra Pass Coordinator
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Coordinator



Wesam Said
Grants Coordinator



Rawda Al-Thani
Film Programming
Assistant



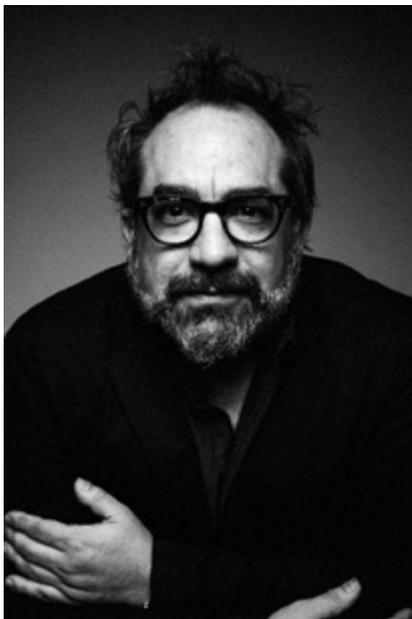
Jana Wehbe
Qumra Industry Senior
Coordinator



Ania Wojtowicz
Qumra Shorts Coordinator
Film Workshops & Labs
Senior Coordinator

Qumra Masters

Eugenio Caballero



In 2015 and 2016 he worked on the film 'A Monster Calls', directed by J.A. Bayona, earning him a Goya on his third nomination to this award. He received the Gaudi Award, the Fenix Award and the Platino Award for the same film.

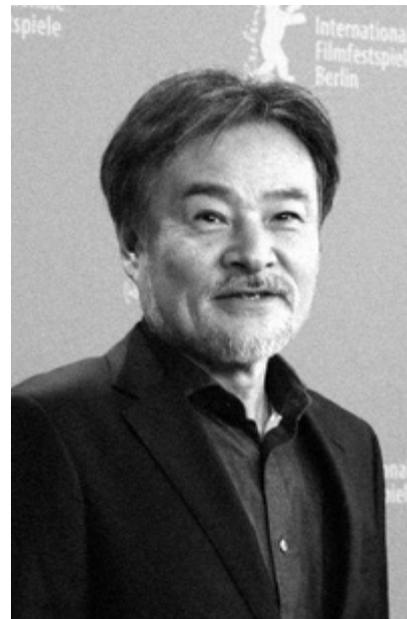
In 2017-2018 he designed the film 'Roma' working alongside director Alfonso Cuarón, for this work he has earned multiple international awards and nominations, including the Critics Choice Awards, the Art Directors' Guild, the BAFTAs and the Academy Award.

Mr. Caballero has been nominated seven times for the Ariel Award (Mexico's main film award) from which he has won two. He has served on the juries of numerous international festivals and is a member of the AMPAS (Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences), as well as the Mexican and Spanish film academies.

Eugenio Caballero is the Academy Award-winning production designer of Guillermo de Toro's 'Pan's Labyrinth'. Mr. Caballero's work on the film also earned him an Ariel Award, an Art Directors' Guild Award (the most prestigious award in his field), a Los Angeles Film Critics Association Award, and BAFTA Award nominations.

Mr. Caballero's credits include near 30 films, 20 of them as a designer. He has worked with directors Jim Jarmusch (The Limit of Control), Baz Luhrmann (Romeo and Juliet), Alfonso Cuarón (ROMA), Sebastian Cordero (Cronicas, Rabia and Europa Report), Floria Sigismondi (The Runaways), Claudia Llosa (Aloft), Fernando Eimbcke (Club Sandwich) Carlos Cuarón (Rudo y Cursi), among others.

Kiyoshi Kurosawa



at Cannes in 2003, 'Doppelganger' (2002), 'Loft' (2005), and 'Retribution' (2006), which screened at that year's Venice Film Festival.

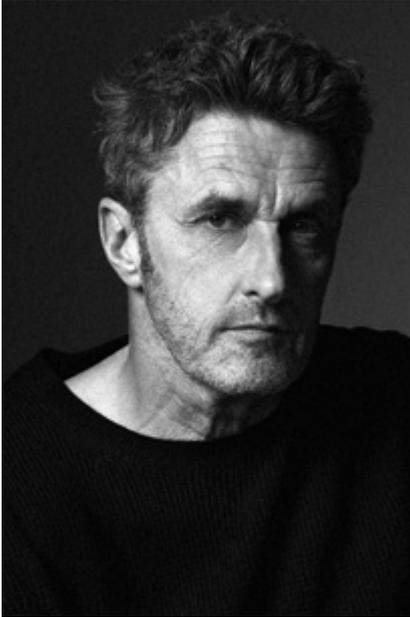
'Tokyo Sonata' (2008) won the Jury Prize in Cannes' Un Certain Regard section, and Best Film at the 2009 Asian Film Awards. Recent works include 'Real' (2013), 'Seventh Code' (2013), which won Best Director at that year's Rome Film Festival, 'Journey to the Shore' (2014), winner of Best Director in Cannes' Un Certain Regard section and the 33rd Kawakita Award in 2015, 'Creepy' (2016), an official selection of that year's Berlin International Film Festival, and 'Daguerrotype' (2016) which marked Kurosawa's first overseas production, made with a French cast and crew.

Kurosawa was the recipient of the 2016 Tokyo International Film Festival's Samurai Award. His 2017 film 'Before We Vanish' screened in Cannes' Un Certain Regard and its spin-off 'Foreboding' in Berlinale's Panorama. His latest film, 'To the Ends of the Earth' (working title) is a co-production with Uzbekistan, shot entirely on location.

Born in 1955 in Hyogo Prefecture, Kiyoshi Kurosawa is a world-renowned film director, writer, film critic, and professor at Tokyo University of the Arts. After graduating from Rikkyo University, where he produced 8mm independent films, Kurosawa made his commercial feature film directorial debut in 1983 with 'Kandagawa Wars'. He attracted international attention with 'Cure' (1997), and went on to deliver other notable works including 'License to Live' (1998), 'Barren Illusion' (1999), and 'Charisma' (1999).

His film 'Pulse' (2000) was awarded the FIPRESCI Prize in the Un Certain Regard section of the 2001 Cannes Film Festival. His subsequent films received acclaim at home and abroad, including 'Bright Future' (2002), which was selected in competition

Paweł Pawlikowski



Pawlikowski's transition to fiction occurred in 1998 with a short 50-minute hybrid film 'Twockers', a lyrical and gritty love story set on a sink estate in Yorkshire. Among Pawlikowski's other acclaimed narrative works are 'Last Resort' (2000); 'My Summer of Love' (2004); 'The Woman in the Fifth' (2011), and 'Ida' (2015 Best Foreign Language Film Oscar).

His most recent film, 'Cold War' earned him the Best Director Award at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival, and an Academy Award nomination for the same. It also won five awards at the 2018 European Film Awards including Best Film, Best Director and Best Actress Awards.

In 2013, he moved back to Warsaw, where he continues to make films and teaches film writing and directing at the Wajda School. The masterful quality of his work across both documentary and fiction has established Pawlikowski as one of the most esteemed filmmakers of our time.

Paweł Pawlikowski was born in Warsaw, and has lived in London, Germany and Italy. A graduate of literature and philosophy at London University, he started making short films during his postgraduate studies at Oxford, later joining BBC's documentary department.

In the late 1980s and 1990s, Pawlikowski was best known for his documentaries, whose blend of lyricism and irony won him many fans and awards around the world. 'Serbian Epics' (1992), made at the height of the Bosnian War, aroused a storm of controversy and incomprehension at the time but has now secured something of a cult status.

Alice Rohrwacher



Her second feature film, 'The Wonders', won the Grand Prix at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival. Also in 2014, Rohrwacher was appointed the President of the International Jury for the "Luigi De Laurentiis" Award for a Debut Film at the 71st Venice International Film Festival.

Her latest film, 'Happy as Lazzaro', was released to critical acclaim and won the Best Screenplay Award at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival.

Born in Tuscany, Alice Rohrwacher graduated from Torino University in Literature and Philosophy. She has worked as an editor, and composer for theatre.

Her first experience in filmmaking was in 2006, when directing a part of the Italian documentary 'Cecosamanca'. In 2011, she directed her first feature film 'Heavenly Body', which premiered at the Directors' Fortnight during the Cannes Film Festival.

Agnès Varda



including the Silver Bear Prize at Berlinale (1965) for her film 'Cleo from 5 to 7' (1965); Golden Lion at Venice International Film Festival (1985) for her film 'Vagabond' (1985), Léopardo d'Onore at the Locarno Film Festival (2014), Palme d'Or d'Honneur at Festival de Cannes (2015), and Grolsch Audience Award for Best Documentary at Toronto Film Festival for 'Faces, Places' (2017).

In 2003, Varda launched a third career as a visual artist, and her installations have been exhibited at the world's most prominent galleries and museums. Recipient of the Academy Honorary Award for her contribution to cinema, Agnès Varda continues to redefine documentary filmmaking with her playful yet political body of work.

One of the most influential, inventive and beloved artists of our time, the "Grandmother" of French New Wave, Agnès Varda began her career as a still photographer, and has since maintained a fluid interrelationship between photographic and cinematic forms.

Her films, photographs, and art installations focus on documentary realism, feminist issues, and social commentary with a distinctive experimental style. Her body of work includes 33 short, feature-length documentary, and narrative films.

Her first feature 'La Pointe Courte' (1955) is widely considered by critics to be the first French New Wave film. She has won numerous recognitions in her career

Master Class Moderators

Richard Peña



Richard Peña was the Programme Director of the Film Society of Lincoln Center and the Director of the New York Film Festival from 1988 until 2012. At the Film Society, Peña organised retrospectives of many film artists, as well as major film series devoted to numerous national cinemas. Together with Unifrance, in 1995 he created Rendez-Vous with French Cinema, the leading American showcase for new French cinema. He is Professor of Film Studies at Columbia University, where he specialises in film theory and international cinema, and has served as a Visiting Professor at the Sorbonne, Beijing University, UNAM-Mexico City and the University of São Paulo. He also currently hosts WNET/Channel 13's weekly 'Reel 13' about Jean Eustache, which will be published at the end of this year.

Jean-Michel Frodon



Jean-Michel Frodon is a world-renowned journalist, film critic, writer and historian of cinema. He has worked at the weekly 'Le Point' (1983-1990), and 'Le Monde' (1990-2003), and was editorial director of 'Cahiers du Cinema' between 2003 and 2009. Since then he has written for the website slate.fr and on the blog 'Projection Publique'. He is also a member of the editorial board and permanent writer for 'Caiman, Cuadernos de Cine' (Spain) and founder of the thinktank 'L'Exception'. A professor at Sciences Po Paris (Political Sciences Institute), Jean-Michel Frodon is associated with Prof. Bruno Latour for the SPEAP project. Since September 2012, he is Professorial Fellow in Film Studies and Creative Industries at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland.

Qumra Project Delegates

About Leila

See catalogue p. 66

Claire Charles-Gervais Producer



Claire Charles Gervais started her career interning for Canal + then worked in production and acquisition for the sales agency

Ondamax based in Miami. Returning to France, Claire worked in business affairs for the production company Fidelité Films for a year, and as business affairs then CFO for Urban Distribution International/Factory for four years. She joined In Vivo Films in 2016.

Louise Bellicaud Producer



Louise Bellicaud began her career in French film distribution in Mexico at Nueva Era Films. After she became involved in production,

Bellicaud went to London, where she worked in development and feature-film financing at Future Films. On her return to France, she worked for four years at Sacrebleu Productions. She has been involved in the animated television series 'Faces from Places', broadcast on ARTE, and Rémi Chayé's animated feature-length film 'Long Way North'. She launched In Vivo Films in 2015.

Al-Azza

See catalogue p. 96

Eiman Mirghani Director



Sudanese- Egyptian filmmaker Eiman Mirghani has always been interested in pushing boundaries through her works. Upon graduating

with a BA in Media & Film Studies from the University of Nottingham in 2015, Eiman started working in Doha, Qatar in various roles within filmmaking; from assistant director to screenwriter and producer. Her directorial debut in 2017 was the short film 'Is That All There Is?', a neo-noir, crime film which premiered in various festivals worldwide. Eiman's second short film was a documentary titled 'The Bleaching Syndrome', which was produced as part of the Doha Film Institute's annual Documentary Lab in 2018.

In Vivo Films

Set up in 2015 and based in La Rochelle, In Vivo Films produced 'Thirst Street' (2017, France-USA) directed by Nathan Silver, that premiered in Tribeca Film Festival and was selected to Venice Days, Sitges amongst others. In 2018, In Vivo Films produced three short-films and two feature films currently in post-production: 'Abou Leila' (Algeria-France) directed by Amin Sidi-Boumédiène and 'Los Europeos' (Spain-France) directed by Victor Garcia Leon.

Behind Closed Doors

See catalogue p. 38

Hend Fakhroo

Director / Screenwriter



Hend Fakhroo is a Qatari writer and director. She graduated with honours in 2005 with a marketing degree from St Edward's

University in Austin, Texas. Her first short film, 'His Name' (2012), screened at various international festivals, including the Short Film Corner at the 67th Festival de Cannes, the Doha Tribeca Film Festival and the River Film Festival. Her second film, 'The Waiting Room' (2016), had its home premiere in two competitions at the Ajyal film festival in Doha, and its international premiere, also in competition, at the Dubai International Film Festival. It was screened at the 70th Festival de Cannes Short Film Corner, and was also officially selected at the Beirut International Film Festival, as well as the Malmo Arab Film Festival. In 2017, Hend directed a visual campaign for Salam Stores in Qatar, and she is currently developing her first feature-length film.

Beit Byoot

See catalogue p. 106

Mayar Hamdan

Director / Screenwriter



A multimedia storyteller, filmmaker and visual artist, Mayar Hamdan graduated from Northwestern University. During her studies Mayar

was awarded two Studio20Q grants for 'Asfoora' (2015) and 'Man Down' (2015). 'Asfoora' has screened and found success at various film festivals, museums, schools and themed screenings. More recently, Hamdan has worked on numerous projects as a script editor, producer and art director. She currently works on the Doha Film Institute's Film Training and Development team and is in post-production on her DFI granted film, Beit Byoot (2018). Hamdan's independent work can be defined as the interdisciplinary exploration of Arab feminist themes, expressed under the canopy of an intense fascination by color theory, such is reflected in her photography, digital art, films and installation pieces.

Ghouna Jaber

Producer



Ghouna Jaber is a producer, living in Qatar. Jaber has extensive production experience and has worked on documentaries,

commercials, music videos, game shows, and scripted short films for the Doha Film Institute, Jeem Channel, and Qatar TV. She production managed the 16-minute short film 'Eye & Mermaid - Houreya Wa Ain', which screened at films festivals around the world and won several awards. Most recently, Jaber production managed three narrative short films, a short documentary and a short animated film with the Doha Film Institute's Qatari Film Fund.

The Black Veil

See catalogue p. 108

A.J. Al-Thani
Director / Screenwriter



A.J. Al-Thani is a Qatari filmmaker. Her love for movies began after watching 'Star Wars' in the cinema at six years old which sparked a lifelong

passion. A.J. Began making films from the very beginnings of the Doha Film Institute, by participating in their yearlong workshops and labs while also pursuing a degree in communication from Northwestern University. Her first grant was for her award-winning short film 'Kashta' that went on a successful festival run. A.J. received a grant from DFI for her new short 'The Black Veil' about a woman finding her family in ISIS-controlled Mosul, and is currently in a late post-production stage. 'Khuzama' is her first feature film where she is currently working with her longtime producer Justin Kramer of 'The Film House'.

Vibhav Gautam
Producer



Vibhav Gautam is a producer based in Doha, Qatar. He studied Media Industries and Technologies at Northwestern University in

Qatar and specialised in storytelling and filmmaking. He currently works with the Brand Qatar Committee at the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy leading campaign and social media strategies. Previously, he worked at Al Jazeera English's online social video team. He has worked on award-winning documentaries such as 'Worker's Cup' (Adam Sobel, 2017) that premiered in Sundance in January 2017. He's produced many short films in Doha, working alongside Studio 20Q and Doha Film Institute since 2014.

Bombay Rose

See catalogue p. 78

Gitanjali Rao
Director / Screenwriter



Gitanjali Rao graduated with honours as a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Sir J. J. Institute of Applied Art, Mumbai, in 1994. She is a

self-taught animator, filmmaker, illustrator, teacher and theatre artist. She has since, independently produced, directed and animated three internationally award-winning short films, 'Orange' (2006), 'Printed Rainbow' (2006) and 'True Love Story' (2014).

Deborah Sathe
Producer



As Director of International Operations at Cinestaan Film Company, Deborah is responsible for delivering content with an Indian

connect for either online, television or in the cinema. Cinestaan Film Company champions new as well as established talent, developing, producing and delivering groundbreaking productions.

Cinestaan Film Company

Cinestaan Film Company (CFC) is an Indian studio with the capacity to develop, produce, sell and distribute cinema for a global audience. CFC is the lead producer and financier in Gitanjali Rao's debut feature animation 'Bombay Rose'. Previous work delivered by CFC includes 'The Hungry' (Chatterjee, 2017), 'Kalaakhandi' (Verma, 2018), 'Mirzya' (Mehra 2016), 'Cold War' (Pawlikowski, 2018), and 'Hotel Salvation' (Bhutiani, 2016), and are about to complete India's first live action animal feature, 'Aasha and the Street Dogs'.

Khalifa Al-Thani
Director / Screenwriter



Khalifa Al-Thani is an independent filmmaker and visual artist. He graduated from the School of Visual Arts in New York City with a degree

in Film and Video. Al-Thani experiments with nationalist documentaries and visual art pieces, most notably *The Fabricator* (2017). He is currently working on his DFI granted short film 'Border' and his feature-length screenplay 'About a Journal'. Al-Thani is part of the Film Training and Development team at the Doha Film Institute.

Mohamed D. Fakhro
Producer
mdfakhro@gmail.com



Mohamed D. Fakhro is a Qatari writer, copy-editor and producer. He is currently Strategic Communications Specialist at the Doha Film Institute

and holds a BA in Creative Writing from Miami University.

Vibhav Gautam
Producer



Vibhav Gautam is a producer based in Doha, Qatar. He studied Media Industries and Technologies at Northwestern University in

Qatar and specialised in storytelling and filmmaking. He currently works with the Brand Qatar Committee at the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy leading campaign and social media strategies. Previously, he worked at Al Jazeera English's online social video team. He has worked on award-winning documentaries such as 'Worker's Cup' (Adam Sobel, 2017) that premiered in Sundance in January 2017. He's produced many short films in Doha, working alongside Studio 20Q and Doha Film Institute since 2014.

Feras Fayyad
Director



Feras Fayyad is an Oscar-nominated director, who won an Emmy for Outstanding Current Affairs Documentary for 'Last Men in

Aleppo' (2017). Fayyad was born in Syria in 1984 and holds a BA in Audio-visual Arts and Filmmaking from the international film and television school EICAR in Paris. He has directed and edited several films, both documentaries and fiction, and has received particular recognition for his work on contemporary Syrian issues and the political transformation of the Arab world. 'Last Men in Aleppo' (2017) won the international documentary competition at Sundance Film Festival along with more than 50 other international awards.

Kirstine Barfod
Producer



Kirstine Barfod has a background in filmmaking and has produced several feature documentaries among them 'Just Boys' (2018),

'Venus' (2017), 'Born To Lose' (2015) and 'KIDD Life' (2012), her recent films include international directors such as, Tonislav Hristov (*The Magic Lives of V*), and Lina Alabed (*Ibrahim*). Kirstine is educated as a producer from the independent film school Super16, and studied cultural studies and literature from Malmö University. Kirstine has been working at the company since 2013, she has a close working relationship with Sigrid Dyekjær and they collaborate on development and production.

Danish Documentary Production

Danish Documentary Production was founded in 2007 by four award-winning directors and their producer. Today the company is run by director Pernille Rose Grønkjær ('The Monastery - Mr. Vig and the Nun', 'Love Addict', 'Genetic Me'), director Eva Mulvad ('A Modern Man', 'The Good Life', 'Enemies of Happiness'), director Mikala Krogh ('A Normal Life', 'Cairo Garbage', 'Everything is Relative', 'The Newsroom- Off the Record'), and producer Sigrid Jonsson Dyekjær ('Ai Wei Wei: The Fake Case', 'Something Better to Come', 'Free The Mind', 'Bugs', 'Amateurs in Space').

Children of the Famine

See catalogue p. 92

Reine Mitri

Director / Producer



Reine Mitri is a writer, director and producer. The primary theme of her films is personal and collective memory. Always interweaving the

intimate and the public, she delves into the reasons for personal and collective malaise. Over the past 15 years, she documented the changes in Beirut in particular and Lebanon in general, challenging the official endeavours to obliterate the country's memory. Since 2001, she has made six films including 'In This Land Lay Graves of Mine' (2014) which documents forced displacements during the Lebanese civil war and the country's present-day divisions.

Les films de l'absence

After 15 years of producing her own films, individually or within production companies, filmmaker Reine Mitri established her production company, Les films de l'absence. Adopting a nonconformist approach to cinema, the company produces politically, socially and aesthetically "disobedient" films, which are uncompromising and void of self-complacency.

Daughters of Abdul-Rahman

See catalogue p. 40

Zaid Abu Hamdan

Director



Zaid is a holder of an MFA from the New York Film Academy in Hollywood California, and a BA in Communication Arts from

the Lebanese American University in Beirut. He started his career working on international TV shows as an Assistant Director and Producer, including years of TV reporting and producing for MBC group from Hollywood. Zaid's TV work extended to developing content for E! Entertainment's Golden Globes coverage in Los Angeles, in addition to directing reality and scripted shows such as 'Sesame Street' and competition shows. In 2009, Zaid established his company Zaha Productions, producing five internationally award-winning short films to date. He

travelled with his short films to more than 40 international film festivals worldwide, gaining critical acclaim. His Internationally distributed films include 'Love...Older' and the 2012 Oscar-qualified film 'Bahiya & Mahmoud', the short that is now in final development into a TV series.

Zaha Productions

Zaha Productions was established in Amman in 2009, focusing on fiction projects for film and television. Zaha provides production services in Amman, Dubai, and Los Angeles, California. Zaha Productions owns an archive of internationally awarded short films and is now gearing up to the pre-production of its feature film 'Daughters Of Abdul- Rahman', in addition to fully developing a 30-episode TV series based on its 2012 Oscar qualified short film, 'Bahiya & Mahmoud'.

The Earth Doesn't Move

See catalogue p. 54

Yosr Gasmi

Director / Producer



Yosr Gasmi, born in 1984 in Tunisia, is a graduate of French Language and Literature from Paris-Sorbonne University and the Ecole Normale

Supérieure of Tunis. She has a particular interest in the image, under its diverse artistic and scriptural expressions. As an independent director, she collaborated with Mauro Mazzocchi in writing and producing their first feature film 'I Want to Be Mad, Raving Mad - L.E.N.Z.-' (2016).

Mauro Mazzocchi

Producer



Mauro Mazzocchi, born in 1986 in Italy, holds two degrees in Philosophy and Theater. He is an independent producer and director. As an

independent movie maker, he collaborated with Yosr Gasmi in the writing, making and production of their first feature film 'I Want to Be Mad, Raving Mad - L.E.N.Z.-' (2016). Since 2018, he joined L'Argent, a production company based in Toulouse, France.

End Of The Road

See catalogue p. 110

Ahmad Al-Sharif

Director



Ahmad Al-Sharif graduated with a degree in film. Working independently, he directed and produced several shorts

before joining the Doha Film Institute to continue his career as a producer and director. Ahmad has since worked on many high-end productions for such clients as Katara, Qatar Rail and the Qatar Museums Authority. His versatility has seen him take on many roles, such as producer, director and editor. In 2015, he was selected by the Doha Film Institute to direct the feature documentary, 'Dari Qatar', a first of its kind user-generated Qatari self-portrait film which was a year in the making, and was screened in cinemas in Qatar in 2017. Ahmad is currently in post-production for his latest short film 'End of the Road'. He is also writing his first feature narrative, a fantasy social-drama, which is currently untitled.

L'Argent

The production company L'Argent was created in 2015 by a group of filmmakers who worked together for many years. It defends creative and research cinema that seeks to explore boundaries of documentary and fiction. Established on a framework of common concerns, approaches and experiences, the L'Argent company supports in its operations the "horizontality" of relations and projects, and emphasises the fact that films must be made according to own available means, which differ each time. Previous credits include: 'Chantier A' (2013) by Tarek Sami, Karim Loualiche and Lucie Dèche; 'Reflux' (2013) by Guillaume Bordier; 'Metamorphosis' (2015) by Nicolas Pradal et Pierre Selvini.

Femmetasia

See catalogue p. 56

Mouhssine El Badaoui Director



Mouhssine El Badaoui was born in Casablanca to a family of performers. He first worked as a technician in the El Badaoui theatre

company, then as an actor and stage director. He took part in several tours in the kingdom and has directed several radio programmes, TV shows and theatre plays. He went on to study movie directing in the Institut des Arts de Diffusion in Belgium, where he graduated with honours in 2002. Mouhssine has worked as an assistant location manager on Belgian TV series, then as first assistant director on foreign films shot in Southern Morocco such as 'Babel' (Alejandro Iñárritu, 2006), '13 Hours' (Michael Bay, 2016), and 'Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk' (Ang Lee, 2016). He joined RTBF in 2007 where he directs several live multi-camera TV shows such as 'Au quotidien', 'Mise au point', '69 minutes sans chichis', and 'On n'est pas des pigeons'.

Waq Waq Studio

Waq Waq is a film studio and a production company based in Tangier, Morocco. Our last productions are 'Contro Figura' by R  Di Martino, selected at the Venice International Film Festival 2017 and 'Renault 12' (2018) by Mohamed Al Khatib, selected at the Marrakech and Premiers Plans Angers international film festivals.

Karim Aitouna Producer



Karim Aitouna is a Moroccan producer working between France and Morocco. Graduate in Law from the University of Mohamed V in

Rabat and former cultural programming assistant at the French Institute of Tangier-Tetouan, Aitouna joined the University Lumière Lyon 2 in France, where he got a Master's degree in film studies and in cultural management. He has produced short films, feature-length fiction and documentaries. He was part of the Emerging Producers program at the 2013 Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival.

The Forbidden Strings

See catalogue p. 70

Hasan Noori Director / Producer



Hasan Noori was born in Iran to Afghan parents. He studied sociology and worked as a social assistant for NGOs fighting child labour in Iran

and mainly with Afghan refugee children. He primarily makes video clips and films that raise awareness for the Afghan community in Iran. Hasan has a master's degree in Cinema from Tehran University. 'The Forbidden Strings' is Hasan's first documentary feature. Hasan is also an alumnus of IDFA Summer School 2017 and Karlovy Vary Docs in progress 2018. He is currently working on his next documentary film, 'The Songs of My Land', which is now in development.

Afsaneh Salari Producer



Afsaneh Salari was born in Iran. She holds her BA in editing from the Art University of Tehran and a master's in creative directing from Université

Paris 8 in France. She continued her education further in documentary directing with Docnomads joint masters. Afsaneh is the co-founder of Docmaniacs collective in Tehran, and works as a documentary director and producer both in Iran and France. She's an alumnus of the Berlinale Talents, IDFA Summer School and La F m  Summer School. Afsaneh has recently won a Sundance production grant for her current documentary feature in production 'The Silhouettes'.

Docmaniacs Collective

Docmaniacs collective was born out of the collaboration of three young Iranian documentary artists, Afsaneh Salari, Sepand Saedi and Hoda Siahtiri. Afsaneh and Hoda met in Europe during their master studies in Docnomads, documentary directing, and their similar worldview inspired them to work with each other after their education, alongside Sepand, Hoda's old friend and colleague. The collective aims to produce documentaries and are eager to accompany other regional filmmakers into the international circuit, while keeping an independent artistic and social voice. The collective is currently producing the documentaries 'The Silhouettes' by Afsaneh Salari, funded by Sundance Institute and Asian Cinema Fund, and 'The Forbidden Strings' partially funded by IDFA Bertha Fund and Doha Film Institute.

Froth See catalogue p. 92

Ilya Povolotskiy Director



Ilya Povolotskiy graduated from the law department of the Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation in

2009, and founded Black Chamber film production. He started as a director of advertisements for leading international brands and his last commercial project 'Push the Limit' (2016) for Toyota Russia was awarded at the 27th Red Apple International Advertising Festival.

Anna Shalashina Producer



Anna Shalashina graduated from the linguistics department of Lomonosov Moscow State University in 2011 and finished an

MBA program at Kingston University (London) three years later. Her dissertation on film co-production was nominated for the Best MBA Project of 2014. She is a member of EAVE (B'EST) since 2014.

Black Chamber

Black Chamber was founded by director Ilya Povolotskiy in 2009. Since then, Black Chamber has worked with many major international brands and received awards at advertisement festivals. The company has recently started producing films and its last film 'The Northerners' (Povolotskiy, 2017) premiered at the Krakow Film Festival.

In The Middle See catalogue p. 114

Mariam Al-Dhubhani Director



Mariam Al-Dhubhani is a Yemeni-Russian journalist and filmmaker. She is currently a senior at Northwestern University in

Qatar. She first pursued her passion for media during the 2011 Arab uprisings. Al-Dhubhani co-founded a production company named Background Group for Media. Her first short film 'We are the Peace' (2011) received an award in Yemen's inaugural film festival. 'Wishes for the New Year' (2012) was the first chalkboard animation in the Middle East. Her recent film 'Just Another Memory' (2018) is her directorial debut mentored by Oscar-nominated Director Rithy Panh with Doha Film Institute, which got the best documentary award at Ajyal Film Festival, 2018.

Noor Abunabaa Producer



Noor Abunabaa is a journalism junior at Northwestern University in Qatar. She has previously worked for the Daily Q and the Brookings

Center in Doha. She is also a research assistant for multiple projects at NU-Q. Her interests include human rights, educational development, and investigative journalism.

Mohammed Al-Jaberi Producer



Mohammed Al-Jaberi is a joint degree student in B.S. in Foreign Service and M.A. in Arab Studies at Georgetown University. He is

currently working on his honours thesis on the political stability and economic activity of two regions in war-torn Yemen. His research interests revolve around development, state-building and Islamic political movements. His newly developed interest in documentary filmmaking stems from his social sciences background. In addition to his role at Center for International and Regional Studies, Mohammed has interned at Teach for Qatar, the United States Embassy in Doha, and Qatar Foundation.

Larissa Sansour

Director / Screenwriter



Larissa Sansour is an artist and director born in 1973 in East Jerusalem, Palestine. In her recent works, she uses science

fiction to address social and political issues. Working mainly with film, Sansour also produces installations, photos and sculptures. Her work is shown in film festivals and museums worldwide. She has exhibited her work at Tate Modern, MoMA, the Berlinale and BFI London Film Festival. Recent solo exhibitions include 'Bluecoat' in Liverpool, 'Chapter' in Cardiff and 'Nikolaj Kunsthal' in Copenhagen. Sansour currently lives and works in London, UK. Sansour will be representing Denmark at the Venice Biennial 2019.

Palmyre Badinier

Producer



Palmyre Badinier studied Arabic Literature and International Relations, and she holds a master's degree in Law and Management for

the Audiovisual Industry. She has worked in the fields of journalism, diplomacy, and international artistic exchanges. Her career in the film industry began in 2006, when she was an associate producer with the Palestinian production company Dar Films. In 2008, she co-founded Paris-based Les Films de Zayna, an independent production company with a strong focus on stories and talents from the Arab world. Since 2017, Badinier is producing her film projects through Akka Films (Switzerland). Badinier's last titles include Raed Andoni's 'Ghost Hunting' (Best Documentary winner, Berlinale 2017), 'Railway Men' by Tunisian director Erige Sehiri (IDFA 2018), and 'Tiny Souls' by Dina Naser (to be premiered in competition at CPH DOX 2019). Among other projects, Badinier is currently developing Konstantin Bojanov's third feature film 'As I Close my Eyes' to be shot in India, and Larissa Sansour's first feature 'In Vitro'. She is a member of The EAVE network.

AKKA Films

Founded in 2002 by director and producer Nicolas Wadimoff, and recently joined by Philippe Coeytaux and Palmyre Badinier, Geneva-based production house AKKA Films is dedicated to art-house documentaries, series and fiction films. Films ingrained in social debates that reflect and question stakes of the world of today, exploring audacious and original ways of cinematographic expression. Openness on the world and discovery of the other have led AKKA Films to co-produce most of its films internationally and to promote their distribution worldwide.

Maysaa Almumin

Director / Screenwriter



Maysaa Almumin is currently living and working as an Assistant Professor in design in Qatar. She grew up in London where she was trained and

practised in architecture after which she moved to Kuwait and then Qatar where she started acting, scriptwriting and filmmaking since 2011. She has had acting training with Scandar Copti and Daniel Suissa, and has been involved in film projects in Kuwait, Italy and Qatar including projects by the Kuwait Pavilion at the Venice Biennale Architecture Exhibition 2014, Doha Film Institute and Northwestern University Qatar. The architecturally themed film 'Muneera' where Maysaa plays the lead role was screened at the Museum of Islamic art as part of Qatar Architecture Week in 2018. Maysaa wrote, directed and performed in short art films 'Rites of Passage' and 'Calling of the Congress' as explorations of the role and character of design/set/objects within narrative film, where it was screened and exhibited at the Voice of Feminism exhibition in October of 2018. Maysaa is currently producing her third AFAC granted short film due for completion in mid-2019.

Eiman Mirghani

Producer



Sudanese- Egyptian Filmmaker, Eiman Mirghani has always been interested in pushing boundaries through her work. Upon graduating

with a BA in Media & Film Studies from the University of Nottingham in 2015, Eiman started working in Doha in various roles within filmmaking from AD, and screenwriter to producer. Eiman is currently producing two short films, the DFI granted 'Al Sit' (Suzannah Mirghani) and AFAC-granted 'J'ai Le Cafard' (Maysaa Al Mumin) and is also writing her third short film 'Al-Azza'.

A.J. Al-Thani Director



A.J. Al-Thani is a Qatari filmmaker. Her love for movies began after watching 'Star Wars' in the cinema at six years old which sparked a lifelong

passion. A.J. began making films from the very beginnings of the Doha Film Institute, by participating in their yearlong workshops and labs while also pursuing a degree in communication from Northwestern University. Her first grant was for her award-winning short film 'Kashta' (2016) that went on a successful festival run. A.J. received a grant from DFI for her new short 'The Black Veil' about a woman finding her family in ISIS-controlled Mosul, and is currently in a late post-production stage. 'Khuzama' is her first feature film where she is currently working with her longtime producer Justin Kramer of 'The Film House'.

Dana J. Atrach Screenwriter



Dana J. Atrach is a Palestinian screenwriter who is fascinated by the world of untold stories. She creates to raise awareness and

inspire change by tackling quotidian social issues through comedy. Atrach holds a BS in Communication and Media Studies from Northwestern University in Qatar and an MFA in Screenwriting from the University of California, Los Angeles. She is an Assistant Professor in Residence at Northwestern University in Qatar where she teaches screenwriting. Atrach's first feature script, 'Heeya Howa' (2014), won "Best Unproduced Script Based on a Family Drama" at the St. Tropez International Film Festival. Her second feature script, 'Alterations', is currently under development. She is presently co-writing A.J. Al-Thani's 'Khuzama' while also working on her first animated short, 'Basreeli'.

Nouf Al Sulaiti Producer



Nouf Al Sulaiti is a Qatari producer with a passion for storytelling, who has worked on projects with both Doha Film Institute and the

Film House. She wrote and directed the short film 'Gubgub', winner of MoHaq Best Short and Abdulaziz Jassim Award for Best Performance at Ajyal Film Festival 2018. She has produced both fiction and documentary projects, and worked on numerous projects including A.J. Al-Thani's 'The Black Veil' (2019), Yassine Ouahrani's 'Noor' (2017), Zaki Hussain's 'How to Get Over a Heartbreak' (2017), and her own films 'Outdated' (2016), 'Papers' (2016), and 'Unnatural' (2019). Current productions include Zaki Hussain's 'Terima Kasih', Zahed Bata's 'The Wake', Danielle Beverly's 'Qatar Stars' and A.J. Al-Thani's feature debut 'Khuzama'.

Justin Kramer Producer



Justin Kramer is an American producer. His career started in New York City, where he worked on projects for HBO, MTV, CNN, VH1,

and AMC among others. His producing and directing have been seen in numerous award-winning short films, television shows, documentaries, music videos, and commercials. In 2009, he moved to Qatar to join the Doha Film Institute, where he produced and mentored numerous workshops that resulted in the first films and filmmakers from Qatar gaining international recognition. Since, Kramer has founded The Film House, the first company of its kind in Qatar, producing documentaries, commercials, and design at a world-class level. Kramer continues to mentor and produce films for filmmakers in Qatar while producing international films such as 'Mala Mala' (2014) by Antonio Santini and Dan Sickles and episodes of the BBC drama series 'McMafia'. Justin is currently producing 'Khuzama' by A.J. Al-Thani and 'Places of the Soul'; a documentary currently in post-production by Hamida Issa.

The Film House

Made up of talented, experienced and creative storytellers, producers, documentarians, animators, photographers and filmmakers, The Film House is an award-winning Dohabased film, video and multi-media production company unlike any other in the region. With a wealth of local knowledge and with Qatar's community in mind, the company is primed to foster local talent and to redefine visual storytelling in the region. The Film House is home for high-calibre international and local productions. The Film House has produced dozens of short films and are currently producing feature films and documentaries by Qatari filmmakers as well as television series for BBC, CNN and PBS.

Mahdi Ali Ali

Director / Screenwriter



Mahdi Ali Ali is a Qatari filmmaker and a manager in the Training and Education Department at the Doha Film Institute. Through

the years, he has successfully worked with major industry players in providing filmmakers in Qatar with comprehensive learning initiatives. Mahdi has contributed as Executive Producer and supervisor on more than 30 short films produced by the Institute. He holds an MFA from EICAR, the International Film School of Paris, and has made short films including 'Champs Elysées, I Love You' (2009), 'The Gulf Habibi' (2011), and 'Amphitheater' (2018), as well as other shorts for Al Jazeera Documentary and Al Jazeera Children's Channels.

Maha Haj

Director / Screenwriter



Born in Nazareth, Maha Haj is a graduate of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in English and Arabic literature. Her cinematic

experience was derived from her work as an art director on films like 'The Time That Remain' (2009) by Elia Suleiman, and others. She wrote and directed the short film 'Oranges' (2009). In 2016, she released her first feature film 'Personal Affairs' which was widely acclaimed and selected to the Un Certain Regard official selection at Cannes Film Festival, and went on to win the Best Feature award at Haifa Film Festival 2016, the Critics award at Montpellier International Film Festival, and Best First Feature in Philadelphia.

Baher Agbariya

Producer



Baher Agbariya is a Palestinian producer, living in Haifa. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in International Business. In 2012 he established his

own production company Majdal Films, and has been independently producing feature films ever since. Among those are notable and prize-winning features, Hany Abu-Asaad's films 'Omar' (2013), nominated for an Academy Award, and 'The Idol' (2015), Jessica Habie's 'Mars at Sunrise' (2013), Tawfi AbuWael's 'Thirst' (2004), and 'Freedom Train' (2017); and Maha Haj's 'Personal Affairs' (Cannes Film Festival 2016, Un Certain Regard). Recently, he executive produced the Nazareth shoot for Elia Suleiman's upcoming film.

Majdal Films

Majdal Films was founded in 2012 by Baher Agbariya, with the aim to produce both fiction and documentary feature films. Notable and prizewinning features include Hany Abu- Assad's Academy Award-nominated film 'Omar' (2013) and 'The Idol' (2015); Maha Haj's 'Personal Affairs' (2016) (official selection at the Cannes Film Festival, Un Certain Regard); and Jessica Habie's 'Mars at Sunrise' (2014), amongst others.

www.majdalfilms.com

Hassan Al- Malki
Director / Screenwriter



Hassan Al- Malki Al-Jahni is a senior at Northwestern University with a degree in communication and a concentration in film and Middle

Eastern studies. Al-Jahni's primary interest is in animated films. In his free time, he works on his paintings, graphic design and illustrations. He took on many production roles during his studies. He is also a research assistant researching middle eastern folktales and animation. Currently, Al-Jahni is working on his first independent animated film titled 'Msa7ar'.

Kadija Leclere
Director / Screenwriter



Kadija Leclere is an actress who graduated from the Royal Conservatory of Dramatic Arts in Brussels in 1997. She acted for several years

before working as a casting director on over a hundred films. During this time, she also directed her first short film entitled 'Camille' (2001) serving as a springboard to 'Sarah' (2007), her second short, which was selected in many festivals. She directed her first feature film 'The Bag of Flour' in 2013, which was selected in more than 60 festivals. 'My Little One' is her second feature film.

Noura Dreams

See catalogue p. 80

Hinde Boujemaa
Director / Screenwriter



Hinde Boujemaa is a Tunisian director. In 2012, she directed her first feature-length documentary, 'It Was Better Tomorrow', which

was selected for the Venice Film Festival, won the Muhr for Best Director at the Dubai International Film festival, and was named Best Documentary at Douz Doc Days. In 2014, her short fiction film 'And Romeo Married Juliet' won Best Short Film awards at the Dubai, Alexandria, Oran Film Festivals, as well as in Verona, where it also took an award for Best Actress.

François d'Artemare
Producer



François d'Artemare established the French film company Les Films de l'Après-Midi in 2001. He produced features and shorts from all over the

world such as 'Snow' (2012) by Aida Begic, 'The Strange Case of Angelica' (2010) by Manoel de Oliveira, 'Mountain' (2015) by João Salaviza, 'One Floor Below' (2015) by Radu Muntean, and 'Saint George' (2016) by Marco Martins. He now develops films by Zhengfan Yang, Colombe Schneck, and Christophe Fonseca. The company is currently in post-production of 'Noura Dreams' by Hinde Boujemaa and 'Made in Bangladesh' by Rubaiyat Hossain.

Les Films de l'Après-Midi

Les Films de l'Après-Midi has produced feature-length films from countries all over the world, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ethiopia, Hungary, Portugal and Romania. The company is firmly committed to supporting young filmmakers, among them Hiwot Admasu, João Salaviza, Keywan Karimi, and Meriem Mesraoua. Les Films de l'Après-Midi is also developing projects by established directors like Begić, Canijo, Pelin Esmer and Muntean.

Paper Plane

See catalogue p. 112

Nada Bedair
Director / Screenwriter



Nada Bedair is a senior at Northwestern University in Qatar, where she majors in media industries and technology and minors in gender

and sexuality studies. Bedair is passionate about social justice, particularly women's empowerment. She aspires to empower women through her work as a filmmaker in documentary and fiction. Some of her notable works are her documentary 'Treasures of the Past', which was featured at Muscat International Film Festival and won best documentary in Ajyal film festival. It showcases three powerful old women defying gender and social stereotypes in their own communities.

Sahar Elkabbash
Producer



Sahar Elkabbash is a film student born in Egypt and raised between Egypt and Qatar. She is completing her undergraduate degree in

Media Industries and Technology from Northwestern University in Qatar and aims to pursue a career in filmmaking. Elkabbash has participated in multiple student films funded by 20Q, a student film organisation. She recently completed a brief internship at Doha Film Institute. Elkabbash aims to make films that shed light on underrepresented and misrepresented minorities in the film industry, especially, those of the MENA region.

Md Razi Al Islam
Producer



Md Razi Al Islam is a communications major at Northwestern University in Qatar. Originally from Bangladesh, being born and raised in Qatar piqued Razi's interest in intercultural interactions. During his last three years at NUQ, he has worked on multiple short film projects as well as other types of independent productions.

These experiences led to Razi co-producing his first short film titled 'Taiara Waraa'. He aspires to direct his own short film one day.

Papicha

See catalogue p. 82

Mounia Meddour

Director / Screenwriter / Producer



Mounia Meddour was born and raised in Algeria. At the age of 18, she moved to France with her family as a result of death threats

they received during the Algerian Civil War. Mounia studied Journalism and Film in Paris, where she also joined the summer directing programme at La Fémis. She has directed five documentaries. Her first short film, 'Edwige' (2011), won the Ciné+ Award at the Saint-Jean-de-Luz Festival, the UniFrance Short Film Award, and the Grand Jury Award at the Festival du Premier Court-Métrage de Pontault-Combault. In 2012, the film was selected for the Dubai and Gulf Film Festivals. Her current project, 'Papicha', received development funding from the Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée (CNC) as well as the Sopadin Screenwriting Award.

Xavier Gens

Producer



Born in 1975 in Dunkerque, Northern France, Xavier Gens is a renowned French filmmaker. He directed 'Frontière(s)

(2007), 'Hitman' (2007), 'The Divide' (2011), 'Crucifixion' (2017), 'Cold Skin' (2017) and 'Budapest' (2018). Together with Gregoire Gensollen, he founded Paris-based production company The Ink Connection in 2010 to create, develop and package a slate of international co-productions directed by himself as well as other foreign directors.

The Ink

Connection

The Ink Connection was founded in 2010 by Gregoire Gensollen and director Xavier Gens. In 2011, they delivered 'Edwige', a short film directed by Mounia Meddour and their first feature film production, 'The Divide', directed by Xavier Gens, which was released theatrically in the US by Anchor Bay. In 2016, they delivered their second feature film, 'Where is Rocky II?', directed by renowned French contemporary artist Pierre Bismuth, also known for winning the Best Original Screenplay Academy Award for 'Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind' (Michel Gondry, 2004). This French-German-Belgian-Italian co production premiered in 2016 at Hot Docs Film Festival in Toronto, then opened Art Basel's Film Program and played at numerous film festivals such as Locarno, Rotterdam, CPH:DOX. It won the "Prix Nouvelles Vagues" at La Roche-Sur-Yon as well as the FILAF d'Or at the Festival International du Livre d'Art et du Film in Perpignan. In 2017, they co-produced their third feature film 'Cold Skin', directed by Xavier Gens, with Spanish producers Kanzaman.

Places Of The Soul

See catalogue p. 72

Hamida Issa Director



Hamida Issa is a Qatari director, writer and producer. She graduated with a BA in Politics from University College London and a MA in Global

Cinemas and the Transcultural from the School of Oriental and African Studies. Issa worked for the education team at the Doha Film Institute at its inception and made her first short film, '15 Heartbeats', which premiered at the Doha Tribeca Film Festival, in 2011. She has made numerous short films since, which include a music video and a video art installation. She is the first Qatari woman in history to step foot on Antarctica and is currently making her first feature-length documentary, 'Places of the Soul', which considers her experience and environmental sustainability.

Justin Kramer Producer



Justin Kramer is an American producer. His career started in New York City, where he worked on projects for HBO, MTV, CNN, VH1,

and AMC among others. His producing and directing have been seen in numerous award-winning short films, television shows, documentaries, music videos, and commercials. In 2009, he moved to Qatar to join the Doha Film Institute, where he produced and mentored numerous workshops that resulted in the first films and filmmakers from Qatar gaining international recognition. Since, Kramer has founded The Film House, the first company of its kind in Qatar, producing documentaries, commercials, and design at a world-class level. Kramer continues to mentor and produce films for filmmakers in Qatar while producing international films such as 'Mala Mala' (2014) by Antonio Santini and Dan Sickles and episodes of the BBC drama series 'McMafia'. Justin is currently producing 'Khuzama' by A.J. Al-Thani and 'Places of the Soul'; a documentary currently in post-production by Hamida Issa.

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Danielle Beverly
Director / Producer



Danielle Beverly works as a one or two-person crew, to craft observational documentaries. 'Dusty Groove: The Sound of Transition',

edited by Adam Kurnitz ('Gimme Danger', 'Boom for Real: The Late Teenage Years of Jean-Michel Basquiat') will premiere in 2019. Beverly's documentary feature 'Old South' (2015) was broadcast on America ReFramed, toured The Southern Circuit, and community gardens via its DIY "Healing Spaces Tour", and is distributed by Women Make Movies. Her debut feature 'Learning to Swallow' (2005) premiered at Silverdocs, screened on America ReFramed, and is distributed by Women Make Movies. 'Lonnie Holley: The Truth of the Dirt' (2017, Co-Producer/ Cinematographer) was broadcast on AfroPop, screened at The National Gallery of Art, and won the Audience Award at Macon Film Festival. Beverly is an Assistant Professor at Northwestern University in Qatar, where she teaches documentary filmmaking.

Nouf Al Sulaiti
Producer



Nouf Al Sulaiti is a Qatari producer with a passion for storytelling, who has worked on projects with both Doha Film Institute and the

Film House. She wrote and directed the short film 'Gubgub', winner of Mohaq Best Short and Abdulaziz Jassim Award for Best Performance at Ajyal Film Festival 2018. She has produced both fiction and documentary projects, and worked on numerous projects including A.J. Al-Thani's 'The Black Veil' (2019), Yassine Ouahrani's 'Noor' (2017), Zaki Hussain's 'How to Get Over a Heartbreak' (2017), and her own films 'Outdated' (2016), 'Papers' (2016), and 'Unnatural' (2019). Current productions include Zaki Hussain's 'Terima Kasih', Zahed Bata's 'The Wake', Danielle Beverly's 'Qatar Stars' and A.J. Al-Thani' feature debut 'Khuzama'.

Republic of Silence

See catalogue p. 74

Diana El Jeiroudi Director



Diana El Jeiroudi is a Syrian director and producer who has resided in Berlin since 2013. In 2002, she co-founded Proaction Film, the first independent

production company in Syria after the Damascus Spring. Her filmography includes 'The Pot' (2005), which was selected for the Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival, and 'Dolls, A Woman from Damascus' (2007) and 'Morning Fears, Night Chants (2012), both of which screened at the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam. In 2008, she co-founded the DOX BOX Film Festival, followed by the DOX BOX Association in Berlin. El Jeiroudi's work has been recognised through various awards, including an EDN Award and a Katrin Cartlidge Award. She has served as a juror for several film festivals and funds, including Sundance, the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam and One World, and she sat on the jury of L'Oeil d'Or, the first documentary award at the Festival de Cannes, in 2015. She is a member of the Deutsche Filmakademie.

Katja Dringenberg Editor



Katja Dringenberg is a German editor based in Berlin. Her body of work spans numerous films for cinema and TV including the early films of Tom Tykwer.

She has won the German Camera Award (Deutscher Kamerapreis) twice for Andres Veiel's 'Blackbox BRD' and Tom Tykwer's 'Deadly Maria'. Her directorial work includes the documentaries 'Kindheit hinter Draht', 'Ich Dich Auch', 'Endlich', and 'The Congo Tribunal', as well as the feature narrative 'Idioten der Familie', which is currently showing in German cinemas.

No Nation Films

No Nation Films is a film production company that specialises in creative documentary films for the international market, founded in Berlin in 2014 by Orwa Nyrabia and Diana El Jeiroudi, continuing the work of Damascus-based Proaction Film, which they launched in 2002. Over the years, the company has co-produced films with partners from Canada, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany and Yemen. Its award-winning documentaries have addressed a variety of topics, including women's rights, cultural identity, radicalisation and life in the midst of war. No Nation Films productions have been released theatrically in France, Italy, Austria, Japan, Portugal, Spain and the UK, and have been selected for more than 150 film festivals around the world, including Busan, Cannes, IDFA, Locarno, London, New York, Sundance and TIFF, among others.

Sanctorum

See catalogue p. 84

Joshua Gil

Director / Screenwriter



Joshua Gil graduated with a master's degree in Cinematography from the School of Cinema and Audiovisuals of Catalonia

(ESCAC) in Barcelona, Spain. He began his professional career in the photography department of the film 'Japan' (2002) by Carlos Reygadas. He subsequently developed as a director of photography in short films, feature films and documentaries while deepening his studies abroad with filmmakers such as Patricio Guzman and The Quay Brothers. In 2007, he began his career as a director of documentaries, publicity and television series. In 2015, he directed his first feature film 'La Maldad' selected at the 65th Berlin International Film Festival.

Carlos Sosa

Producer



Carlos is the founder and director of the film production company Viento del Norte Cine. He has been Artistic Director at Los

Cabos Film Festival, Coordinator of the Guadalajara International Film Festival from 2007 to 2010 and on the jury of such festivals as In edit Barcelona, Santiago de Chile-Music Documentary Festival, Albacete International Film Festival and DocsDF. He is also the founder and general director of La Casa del Cine MX, one of Mexico City's premier art film cinemas. Currently, he is producing 'El gran Fellove' by Matt Dillon, 'Lady Death' by Analein Cal y Mayor, and 'Sanctorum' by Joshua Gil.

Parábola Cine

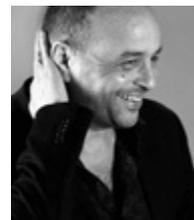
Parábola Cine was created in 2017 by filmmaker Joshua Gil, to produce his upcoming feature films. Currently in post-production, 'Sanctorum' is the first of them.

Severed Head

See catalogue p. 52

Lotfi Achour

Director / Screenwriter / Producer



A theatre and cinema director, Lotfi Achour directed more than twentyfive theatrical productions in London, Paris,

Tunis, Avignon and beyond. His last play was produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company for the London Olympics and he was the author of an installation for the 2006 Nuit Blanche in Paris. In film, Achour directed four award-winning short films that screened from Clermont- Ferrand to Tokyo, including 'Father' in the Official Selection of the 2017 César Awards and 'Law of the Lamb', selected in the Official Competition at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival and the 2018 César Awards. 'Burning Hope' (2016) is his first feature film. Achour is currently working on a documentary project and his next fiction feature film, 'Severed Head'.

The Artistes Producteurs Associés

The Artistes Producteurs Associés (A.P.A.) have produced two documentaries, four short films, the feature film 'Burning Hope' (2016), and have partnered with Canal +, France 3, and Orange Studio. Two of their latest productions in short films 'Law of the Lamb' and 'All the Rest is the Work of Man' were respectively in official competition at Cannes Film Festival and the Mostra of Venice in 2016. Their films have participated in more than 200 festivals and have been awarded over fifty times. The company is co-managed by author, director and producer Lotfi Achour, and actress, author and producer Anissa Daoud.

Anissa Daoud

Producer



Anissa Daoud has participated in over 30 projects in both theatre and cinema, in Tunisia, France, Italy, Syria and Palestine. She has been involved

in various projects as an actress, author, producer and director. Anissa has won several awards as an actress in Jilani Saadi's 'Tender is the Wolf' (2006), Fares Naanaa's 'Borders of Heaven' (2015), Kaouther Ben Hania's 'Beauty and the Dogs' (2017) and Lotfi Achour's 'Burning Hope' (2017). She has also directed two documentaries, including the feature film 'Our Women in Politics and Society' (2016), and co-directed with Aboozar Amini the short film 'Best Day Ever' (2018), presented at the Directors' Fortnight "Tunisia Factory" at Cannes Film Festival.

Sister

See catalogue p. 86

Svetla Tsotsorkova
Director / Screenwriter



Svetla Tsotsorkova was born in Burgas in 1977, and graduated from the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts in Sofia in 2004. Her first short

film 'Life with Sophia' (2004) was screened at various international film festivals; Semaine de la Critique, Karlovy Vary, and Telluride, winning multiple awards including Trieste, and Lodz. Her first feature 'Thirst' had its world premiere at the 2015 New Directors competition in San Sebastian Film Festival. The film participated in more than 60 festivals around the world, received various awards and was sold in 15 countries. 'Thirst' was nominated by the European Film Academy as European Discovery 2016.

Svetoslav Ovcharov
Producer



Svetoslav Ovcharov was born in 1957 in Bulgaria. He is the author of three books, several theatre and TV plays. He has written and

directed 26 documentaries and six feature films. Most of them participated in various prestigious film festivals like Cairo, Busan, Warsaw, Moscow, Thessaloniki, Sao Paolo, and Haifa. He is a professor at the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts in Bulgaria.

Six Months and One Day

See catalogue p. 104

Yassine Ouahrani
Director / Screenwriter
yassine.oah@gmail.com



Yassine Ouahrani is a French- Moroccan filmmaker and graduating Communication's student at Northwestern University in

Qatar. He was a two-time Studio20Q grant recipient for two short narrative films and received recognition from the university's annual Media Awards for his short film 'Noor'. His work revolves around Arab culture and identity with an emphasis on diaspora through contemporary and periodical pieces. He is currently working on the short film '6 Months and One Day', and developing his first feature-length film about his grandfather's life as an immigrant wrestler in France.

Omega Films

Omega Films was established in 2006, and since then the company has produced four features, four documentaries and one animation film. Their work has participated in various distinguished platforms such as the San Sebastian, Cairo, Pusan, Warsaw, Moscow, Thessaloniki, Sao Paolo, Haifa, and Rotterdam film festivals. Omega Films, together with Front Film, co-produced Svetla Tsotsorkova's first feature 'Thirst' (2015), which was sold in 15 countries and participated in over 60 international festivals. Between 2006 and 2016 the company also ran a private TV kitchen channel called Fiesta TV.

The Unknown Saint See catalogue p. 88

Alaa Eddine Aljem
Director / Screenwriter



Trained at ESAV Marrakech and INSAS in Brussels, Alaa Eddine Aljem directed several short films, among them 'The Desert Fish' (2015), which

had great coverage in the film festival circuit and took the Critics, Screenwriting and Grand Prize at the Moroccan National Film Festival. 'The Unknown Saint' is Aljem's debut feature, currently in financing. With this project, he participated in the Open Doors Lab at the Locarno Festival, where it won the ICAM award. It was also selected for La Fabrique des Cinémas du Monde in Cannes in 2016, and took part in the Sundance Screenwriters Lab. In 2016, Aljem was named by 'Screen International' as one of the Five Arab Stars of Tomorrow.

Francesca Duca
Producer



Francesca Duca was born in Italy in 1981. She studied Literature and Visual Anthropology at Università degli Studi in Perugia,

ULB Université Libre de Bruxelles, and at the University of California, Los Angeles. After conducting fieldwork in India, she wrote a thesis about Bollywood. She obtained an MA in Cinema Writing, Production and Direction from INSAS in Brussels, during which time she wrote and directed two short films. She has worked in the cinema and television industries in Berlin, Brussels and Rome, and is a co-founder of Casablanca-based Le Moindre Geste production company, which focuses on the promotion of independent authors.

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Farah Kassem
Director



Born in Tripoli, Lebanon, Farah Kassem graduated from ALBA University in 2008 with a bachelor in Audio Visual studies. Since

2008, Farah has been working as a director, editor and cinematographer on several documentaries. Her filmography includes short documentaries that premiered in renowned film festivals like Visions du Réel, Warsaw Film Festival, DOK Leipzig, Dubai International Film Festival and others. She recently completed her master's degree in documentary filmmaking at DocNomads, a mobile Film School in Documentary Directing taking place in Lisbon, Budapest and Brussels.

Cynthia Choucair
Producer



Born in Beirut in 1975, Cynthia graduated from ALBA in 1998 and obtained a master's in Film Directing from Lesav-USJ in 2002. She directed

9 fiction and documentary films of different lengths. Her short film 'The Chair' (2002) was selected in more than 35 festivals worldwide and won several prizes. Her last documentary 'Counting Tiles' competed at the International Film Festival of Rotterdam in 2018 and participated at various festivals around the world. In 2007, she established her production house, Road2films, focusing on documentaries, fiction films and cultural TV programs. Cynthia teaches documentary filmmaking at ALBA University and she is a member of the Cultural Association Beirut DC.

Le Moindre Geste Le Moindre Geste Ltd. is an independent production company founded by director-producers Francesca Duca and Alaa Eddine Aljem in 2012. It is based in Marrakech and Casablanca. Le Moindre Geste offers authors a real context of coaching, mentoring and development of their projects while leaving them all the freedom to make their own film. Le Moindre Geste focuses on art films with a common denominator: start from the personal to reach the universal. A chance to explore places, people, stories and feelings.

Road 2 Films Founded in 2007, Road 2 Films is a Lebanese production house specialised in producing documentaries, cultural and social TV programs as well as fiction films, online content and TV Ads. Road 2 Films is the continuation of the long-experienced path of its founders who have been working since 1995 as independent producers and directors for both Arabic and European television networks.

You Don't Die Two Times

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Ager Oueslati

Director



Ager Oueslati grew up like many immigrant children from the 1970s-80s in the Parisian suburbs, or what she calls the Babel Tower

where families had left their home country for different reasons. Her father fled Bourguiba's Tunisia, while her mother left her native Algeria. They met in Paris and named their firstborn Ager, which means migration. After graduating in journalism, Ager worked on the television documentary 'The Women's Jungle' (2016), about the condition of immigrant women stuck in the camp of Calais.

Belkacem Hadjadj

Producer



Belkacem Hadjadj is an Algerian director, producer and actor. He attended the École Normale Supérieure in Algiers, and later the Institut

Supérieur des Arts du spectacle (INSAS) in Brussels. He has worked at RTBF (Radio-Télévision belge de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles) and RTA (now EPTV) in Algeria. In 1987, he assisted at the Sorbonne a doctorate of cinema under the direction of Jean Rouch on a theme that reflects one of his permanent concerns—the relationship between oral tradition and image. He then began producing his own films, most notably 'Machahou' (1995) and 'The Woman Taxi Driver of Sidi Bel-Abbès' (2000), going on to found Machahou Production in 1999.

Machahou Production

Machahou Production was founded in 1999 by Belkacem Hadjadj, an Algerian director and writer whose previous films include 'Machahou' (1995), 'The Woman Taxi Driver of Sidi Bel-Abbès' (2000) and 'La Goutte' (1990).

Industry Delegates



Ghassan Abu Hussain - Qatar
Al Jazeera | Assistant Manager for Editorial Affairs

Ghassan Abu Hussein has over 25 years of experience in media, characterised by a richness and diversity among major media organisations in MENA. He began his career at the talk show program 'Free Platform' (Al-Minbar Al-Hurr) with Dr. Walid Saif on channel ART. In 2002, he joined CNN International, as reporter and editor, covering the repercussions of the war on Iraq in 2003 for CNN Arabic. He has also worked as a field reporter in Johannesburg, where he covered stories and documentaries from Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Angola, Sierra Leone, Madagascar and South Africa, providing coverage of the farewell of Nelson Mandela, and later covering the protests in Bahrain during the Arab Spring. Ghassan worked as a manager for international relations and Al Jazeera spokesperson, and a manager of program acquisitions at Al Jazeera Documentary Channel. He is a PhD candidate student in the Gulf Studies program at Qatar University.

In 1996, Al Jazeera changed the face of media in the Middle East. Free from the shackles of government control, the 24-hour Arabic news operation sent shockwaves through the Arab world. Since then, it has grown to become a global brand recognized and valued by people and decision-makers; making it one of the leading Arabic news sources in the world. With fearless reporting and access to more than 70 bureaus internationally, millions of people turn to Al Jazeera for a refreshing new perspective on regional and global affairs. They trust Al Jazeera to cover all viewpoints —with balance and integrity. It is now a media network consisting of Al Jazeera English, Al Jazeera Balkans, Al Jazeera Mubasher, Al Jazeera Documentary, Al Jazeera Media Institute and Al Jazeera Center for Studies.



Karim Aïnouz - Brazil
Inflamável | Director

Karim Aïnouz is an award-winning filmmaker, screenwriter and visual artist. His filmography includes 'Madame Satã' (Cannes 2002), 'Love for Sale' (Venice 2006), 'The Silver Cliff' (Cannes 2011), 'Futuro Beach' (Berlin Competition 2014), 'Central Airport THF' (Berlin Amnesty Prize 2018), amongst others. He is a screenwriting tutor at Porto Iracema das Artes in Brazil, and a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences.

Inflamável is a film production company based between Berlin and Fortaleza, with a two-decade experience in producing and outreach. The company is dedicated to supporting new talents' creation and to develop content that is both artistic and accurate, bringing together the traditional worlds of film and television with new media.



Bobby Allen - UK
MUBI | VP Content

Bobby Allen has over twenty years of experience in the global film and entertainment business. Currently, he is the senior vice president content at MUBI, one of the fastest growing independent VOD platforms in the world, where he is responsible for all programming, content and editorial. He is also leading MUBI's move into theatrical distribution and production. Before joining MUBI he was an independent film producer and the VP of sales and acquisition at Celluloid Dreams. Before that, he was head of production at MTV Films Europe, head of acquisitions at Film Four and he has held senior executive positions in international film sales and acquisitions at companies such as PolyGram Film International, Lionsgate, and Mayfair Entertainment.

MUBI is a curated subscription video-on-demand service that takes film curation to the next level by offering just 30 handpicked gems online. Every day one is added to the list, and one is removed from the program. MUBI is a global service, streaming cult, classic and award-winning films to members in more than 200 territories. In October 2015, MUBI launched Paul Thomas Anderson's 'Junun' as the first in a series of global exclusive releases, theatrical releases and original productions. MUBI has offices in London and New York City.



Zeynep Atakan - Turkey
Zeyno Film | Producer

Zeynep Atakan was born in İstanbul in 1966 and graduated from the Film and TV department at Marmara University's Faculty of Fine Arts. Özbatur worked as an assistant director and producer in the television advertisement industry from 1986 to 1999, and co-founded her advertisement production company in 1994. In 1999, Özbatur Atakan transitioned to the film industry and began producing international film projects. In 2007, she founded Zeyno Film and went on to win the European Film Academy's Prix Eurimages European Co-Production award in 2010, and founded Yapımlab. Özbatur Atakan has been the chairwoman of SE-YAP, the Turkish Guild of Film Producers, since 2011. In 2014, she was elected vice president of the European Women's Audiovisual Network (EWA), and won the Bilge Olgaç Achievement Award at the 17th Flying Room International Women's Film Festival in the same year. Zeynep Özbatur Atakan continues to work as a film producer and holds production workshops in her studio.

Zeyno Film was founded in 2007 by Zeynep Atakan. Having incorporated Atakan's previous productions, Zeyno Film aims to produce and market films of international standards in Turkey and worldwide. The company has produced Nuri Bilge Ceylan's 'Climates', 'Three Monkeys', 'Once Upon A Time In Anatolia', and 'Winter Sleep', and 'The Wild Pear Tree'.



David Atlan-Jackson - France
Backup Media Group | Head Of Acquisitions

A founding partner, David selects the films considered for Backup Media's different companies and funds' involvement. He tracks the development activity of producers from all over the world and assesses the potential financing schemes that can be attached to their projects. David Atlan-Jackson studied international finance and English literature in Paris and completed a master's degree in Entertainment & Media Business Administration in La Sorbonne.

Backup Media was launched in 2002 and aims at financing production and distribution of ambitious independent films and TV programs from all over the world. Backup also operates Moviechainer - a rights management software and management tool for the whole industry. Their recent work includes Cannes Official title 'Girls Of The Sun' by Eva Husson (2018), Toronto's Platform opening film 'Donnybrook' by Tim Sutton (2018), Still Alice by Richard Glatzer (2015), and 'Cold in July' by Jim Mickle (2014).



Deema Azar - Jordan
TaleBox | Producer / Script Consultant

Deema Azar is a Jordanian film producer and script consultant. She is also co-founder and managing partner at TaleBox, a Jordanian production and training company based in Amman. Azar occupied the position of Regional Training Manager at the Royal Film Commission - Jordan between 2012 and 2016. She produced the German/Jordanian co-production 'The Parrot', recipient of the 2015 Film Prize of the Robert Bosch Stiftung. Her next project is Darin J. Sallam's debut feature film 'Farha'. Azar is also an independent script consultant and an alumna of Torino Film Lab's Story Editing program.

TaleBox was established in 2016 stemming from the belief in the power of telling unique stories from the Arab World and a desire to contribute to the development and empowerment of the Jordanian and Arab cinema industry. A Jordanian production company based in Amman, they focus on emerging voices and local and regional talents. TaleBox nurtures rising film directors and fosters up-and-coming producers. Their work in film spans ideation and development through production and release. Additionally, they invest their experience and expertise in training, casting, story editing and script consulting.



Amra Bakšić Čamo - Bosnia and Herzegovina
SCCA/pro.ba | Producer

Amra Bakšić Čamo is one of the founders of SCCA/pro.ba, an independent film, video and new media production from Sarajevo. She has produced numerous awarded short films and art videos, documentaries, TV programs and feature films, which have been screened and awarded at festivals such as Cannes, Berlin, Venice, Locarno, Venice, Sarajevo, Busan. She is a Head of CineLink at Sarajevo Film Festival and one of the curators of Torino Film Lab. Amra works at the Academy of Performing Arts in Sarajevo as a lecturer.

SCCA/pro.ba is a film and TV production company established in 1998. The company's films have participated and won awards in festivals around the globe, including the Berlin International Film Festival, the Venice Film Festival, the Festival de Cannes, the International Film Festival Rotterdam, the Locarno Festival, the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam, the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, and the Sarajevo Film Festival.



Zsuzsi Bánkuti - Germany
The Match Factory | Head of Acquisitions

Zsuzsi Bánkuti worked for 12 years in distribution, festivals, and cinema exhibitions in Hungary, before becoming Head of Acquisitions at The Match Factory in 2012.

The Match Factory is dedicated to bringing the finest in art-house cinema to the international market. Since its foundation in 2006, the company's passion has been to work with films of unique vision from around the globe. The Match Factory has built strong relationships with acclaimed directors and producers, while working simultaneously to discover promising new filmmakers with a compelling and original style.



Joslyn Barnes - USA
Louverture Films | Producer

Joslyn Barnes is a writer and producer. Among the films she has been involved with producing are: 'Bamako' (Sissako), 'Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives' and 'Cemetery of Splendour' (Weerasethakul), 'Narrow Frame of Midnight' (Hadid), 'White Sun' (Rauniyar), 'Zama' (Martel), and 'Capernaum' (Labaki). Among the documentaries are: 'Trouble the Water', 'Black Power Mixtape', 'The House I Live In', 'House in the Fields', 'Strong Island', 'Hale County This Morning, This Evening', 'Aquarela' and 'Angels are Made of Light'. In 2017, Barnes was the recipient of both the Cinereach Producer Award and the Sundance Institute | Amazon Studios Producer Award. In 2018, she won the Emmy Award for Exceptional Merit in Documentary Filmmaking, and in 2018 and 2019 earned Oscar Nominations for Best Documentary Feature.

Louverture Films is dedicated to the production of films of historical relevance, social purpose, commercial value, and artistic integrity. The company partners with progressive filmmakers and producers from around the world.



Violeta Bava - Argentina
Ruda Cine / Venice Film Festival | Producer / Programmer

Violeta Bava was born in Argentina and holds a double degree in Theory, Aesthetics and History of Cinema and Drama from the University of Buenos Aires. She was a programmer of the Buenos Aires International Film Festival and Co-Director of BAL, a leading co-production market for Latin American films, for almost twenty years. Since 2012, she is the Latin American delegate for Venice International Film Festival, and the Head of Studies of Torino Film Lab FeatureLab. Bava is the regional Consultant for IFFA Macao, Industry Advisor of Visions du Réel (Nyon), and founder of Ruda Cine, film production company based in Argentina.

Ruda Cine is a production company based in Buenos Aires whose recent feature-length productions include Milagros Mumenthaler's 'The Idea of a Lake' (2016) and Eduardo Williams's 'The Human Surge' (2016), which won the Golden Leopard for Best Film at the Locarno Festival. Ruda Cine's catalogue includes Martín Rejtman's 'Two Shots Fired' (2014) and Mumenthaler's 'Abrir puertas y ventanas' (2011), winner of the Pardo d'Oro for Best Film, the Pardo d'Argento for Best Actress and the FIPRESCI Award at the Locarno Festival, among many other awards. Recently they have co-produced 'Too Late to Die Young' by Dominga Sotomayor, awarded as Best Director in Locarno International Competition 2018.



Mohammed Belhaj - Qatar
Al Jazeera Documentary Channel | Executive Producer and Commissioning Editor

Mohammed Belhaj is an Executive Producer and Commissioning Editor at Al Jazeera Documentary Channel (AJD). He represents the channel on the Network Programming Committee, which finances the projects of interest to all the network's channels. An award-winning documentary writer-director, Belhaj has made numerous documentaries all over the world. He has worked on many subjects and in various environments. He oversees the documentary courses at the Al Jazeera Training Centre, as well as workshops in several Arab countries.

Aljazeera Documentary Channel is an Arabic-language channel that was launched in January 2007. In terms of content, we are looking for original human stories related to Arab and Muslim communities around the world. In addition, we are interested in minority issues and human topics with global interest. In term of approach, we are looking for creative work based on observation of the attitudes and reactions of the characters while dealing spontaneously with the real.



Reda Benjelloun - Morocco
TV 2M | Head of Documentary Department

Reda Benjelloun is a graduate of the Sorbonne. He began his career as a consultant in a law cabinet. In 1995, he started a career in journalism at Morocco's TV 2M, first as a reporter and news presenter, and afterwards as News Magazine Producer. Currently, he is Director of Magazines and Documentaries. In 2011, he launched the weekly documentary television programme 'Men and Stories', which broadcasts national and international acquisitions and co-productions.

Created in March 1989, 2M TV is the second Moroccan public TV channel, and has the largest audience and advertising market share. It is broadcast worldwide via satellite, TNT, and terrestrial. 2M programmes a weekly primetime slot of documentaries called 'Des histoires et des hommes' (Men and Stories).



Paolo Bertolin - Italy
Venice International Film Festival | Consultant

Paolo Bertolin is a festival programmer, film critic, and producer. He joined the Venice International Film Festival as a member of the selection committee in 2008. Since 2010, he has worked as a regional correspondent, covering several territories in the Asia-Pacific region. He has also collaborated with the Beijing, Bratislava, Hanoi, Mumbai and Rotterdam International Film Festivals, the Doha Film Institute, the Udine Far East Film Festival, Visions du Réel, and the Cannes Critics' Week. In 2018, Paolo joined the selection committee for Cannes Directors' Fortnight. Bertolin has producer credits on the Berlin International Film Festival Competition entries 'Big Father, Small Father and Other Stories' (2015) and 'A Lullaby for the Sorrowful Mystery' (2016).

The Venice International Film Festival is the oldest and longest-running film festival in the world. The festival aims to raise awareness and promote the various aspects of international cinema in all its forms: as art, entertainment, and as an industry, in a spirit of freedom and dialogue. The festival also organises retrospectives and tributes to major figures as a contribution towards a better understanding of the history of cinema.



Bero Beyer - The Netherlands
International Film Festival Rotterdam | Festival Director

Before being appointed in 2015 as the new director of the International Film Festival Rotterdam, Bero Beyer was a film consultant for the Dutch Film Fund, focusing on art-house films and international co-productions. Beyer is also an independent film producer of award-winning, acclaimed films such as 'Atlantic' (2014), 'Paradise Now' (2005) and 'Rana's Wedding' (2002). From 2010 to 2012, Beyer was a member of the Film Commission of the Cultural Council, the Dutch government's external advisory body on cultural affairs. He has been a member of the European Film Academy since 2005, and is a graduate of the Art Academy Rotterdam.

The International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) is one of the biggest cultural events in the Netherlands, and one of the largest audience-oriented film festivals in the world. It focuses on independent and remarkable cinema, priding itself on being a supportive platform where both audiences and industry are invited to look ahead. Combining within its organisation a festival, a fund (Hubert Bals Fund) and a co-production market (CineMart), IFFR offers a launching pad and supportive platform for innovative and talented filmmakers.



Rémi Bonhomme - France
Semaine de la Critique | Program Manager

Rémi Bonhomme was appointed Programme Manager of the Critics' Week at the Festival de Cannes in 2009. In 2014, in collaboration with the TorinoFilmLab, he created Next Step, a new programme to support directors transitioning from short to feature-length filmmaking. Bonhomme sits on the board of the Metropolis Art Cinema in Beirut, and is a partner in the company MC Distribution (Lebanon). He was an associate producer on the Lebanese feature film 'Every Day Is a Holiday' by Dima El-Horr, which had its premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2009.

Sidebar section of the Cannes Film Festival, 'Semaine de la Critique' has steadfastly remained true to its tradition of discovering emerging talents. Ever since it was conceived by the French Union of Film Critics in 1962, the objective of La Semaine has been to showcase short films as well as first and second feature films by directors from all over the world. A reflection of a mix of demand and curiosity, La Semaine intends to explore the new creation through a selective programme of 10 short and 10 feature films.



Bassem Breche - Lebanon
Scenario Beirut | Screenwriter / Director

Bassem Breche is an award-winning scriptwriter and director. He has directed three short films, 'Both' (2007), 'Ziu' (2013) and 'Free Range' (2014). As a scriptwriter, Breche has written various web series and films including 'Shankaboot' (International Digital Emmy Award, 2011), 'Fasateen' (2012), 'The Little Drop' (2015), 'Undocumented' (2017) and 'Aleph' (2017). Breche is the founder/director of Scenario Beirut, a collective of screenwriters based in Beirut. Currently, Breche is working on his feature film 'The Maiden's Pond'.

Scenario Beirut is a collective of screenwriters who offer thorough script consultancy services covering reading, writing, and development of scripts. We create shows and work with individual writers, directors, producers, and production companies from Lebanon and abroad.

**Vincenzo Bugno - Germany****Berlin International Film Festival / World Cinema Fund |
Project Manager**

Vincenzo Bugno graduated with a degree in Cinema and the History of the Arts. As a journalist, film critic and author-director, he has contributed to newspapers and magazines including 'Corriere della Sera', and television channels like ARTE. He has worked as an advisor, curator and programmer for numerous international film festivals, among them the Festival del Film Locarno. He is a founder, project manager and juror of the World Cinema Fund, and the advisor for the Maghreb for the Berlin International Film Festival. He is also a member of the Berlinale Competition Selection Committee, and curator of the Feature Lab at TorinoFilmLab.

The aim of the Berlinale World Cinema Fund is to help the realisation of films in regions which lack a constructive film industry. They work with feature films, and documentaries with a strong cultural identity and an innovative artistic concept. The WCF also supports the distribution of this cinema in Germany. The WCF's goal is to further improve cooperation between European producers and producers/filmmakers from WCF regions and also between distributors from the same regions.

**Emilie Bujès - Switzerland****Visions du Réel / Visions Sud est | Artistic Director / Expert**

Emilie Bujès is the artistic director of Visions du Réel, International Film Festival Nyon. She is also a member of the Image/Mouvement commission of the National Centre for Visual Arts in Paris and an expert for the Swiss fund visions sud est. She was previously an independent curator, teaching at the Geneva School of Art and Design, as well as Deputy Artistic Director of the La Roche-sur-Yon International Film Festival. She has been a curator at the Contemporary Art Centre Geneva, and contributed to the programmes of various film festivals and art institutions such as the Berlin International Film Festival, Transmediale, and CAC Vilnius.

Visions du Réel, Festival International de Cinéma Nyon, Switzerland, is one of the leading documentary film festivals in Europe. Created in 1969, the festival and its industry section offer project development, encounters, and discussions, as well as a variety of points of view and approaches of the "cinéma du réel" in competitions for feature- and medium-length, and short films as world or international premieres.

**Julian Carrington - Canada****Hot Docs | Distribution Manager**

Julian Carrington is Distribution Manager at the Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival. He oversees the Festival's distribution marketplace, including the Distribution Rendezvous pitch meeting program, and the Doc Shop, the Festival's on-demand industry screening library. Julian also currently serves as a film programmer with Toronto's Planet in Focus Environmental Film Festival. Previously, he acted as an associate programmer with the Toronto International Film Festival, and, from 2015 to 2017, managed the Documentary Organization of Canada's Festival Concierge service. In that capacity, Julian supported documentary filmmakers in developing distribution and audience-engagement strategies, and promoted Canadian documentaries at festivals worldwide.

Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival is North America's largest documentary festival, conference and market. Each year, the Festival presents a selection of approximately 200 cutting-edge documentaries from Canada and around the globe. During the Festival, Hot Docs also presents the renowned Hot Docs Forum, a dynamic pitching event that stimulates international co-production financing for projects at various levels of completion. With more than 200 broadcasters and distributors from around the world, it is a preeminent source of up-to-the-second market intelligence.



Teresa Cavina - Italy
Giornate degli Autori | Film Curator & Industry Consultant

Teresa Cavina is an Italian festival programmer, script analyst and co-production expert. From 1989 to 1997, she was a programmer at the Venice International Film Festival, and in 1998, she moved to the Festival del Film Locarno, which she co-directed from 2001 through 2005. In 2006, she launched the Rome Film Festival, where she was artistic director until 2008. In Rome, she founded the New Cinema Network, an international co-production platform featuring training and support for second-time filmmakers. From 2009 to 2012, Cavina was the artistic director of the Festival International de Programmes Audiovisuels (FIPA), and programming director of the Abu Dhabi Film Festival from 2009 to 2014, where she co-created Sanad, a fund that provided support to Arab filmmakers and films relevant to Arab culture and heritage. Currently, she focuses on working closely with filmmakers, producers, script labs and funding bodies, including Premiosolinas (Italy), AFAC (Lebanon) and HAF (Hong Kong). Cavina is also on the reading team for Eurimages.

Carlo Chatrian - Germany
Berlinale | Artistic Director



Carlo Chatrian worked as a film critic for several magazines. He has published numerous essays and monographs on filmmakers. Deputy director of the Alba Film Festival, he has been a member of the selection committee for the Florence Festival dei Popoli and the Nyon Festival Visions du Réel. Carlo Chatrian started working with the Festival del film Locarno in 2002 and from 2006 - 2009 was part of the selection committee. Since 2010, he has been a consultant to the Swiss Cinematheque in Lausanne and since 2011 has been director of the "Film Commission Vallée d'Aoste" Foundation. In June 2018, he was appointed Artistic director at Berlinale. 2020 will be his first edition.

The Berlinale is a unique place of artistic exploration and entertainment. It is one of the largest public film festivals in the world, attracting tens of thousands of visitors from around the globe each year. For the film industry and the media, the eleven days in February are also one of the most important events in the annual calendar and an indispensable trading forum.



Lamia Chraïbi - Morocco
La Prod | Producer

Lamia Chraïbi is a producer and the founder of La Prod, a Casablanca-based company created in 2007. Before creating her own production company, Lamia worked in France as a line producer in the advertisement industry for nine years.

La Prod develops fiction in its wider sense combining imagination and rigour without compromise or self-censorship. It has developed major projects with talented directors like Hicham Lasri, Narjiss Nejjar, and co-produced 'Mimosas' by Oliver Laxe. La Prod has produced various projects, including feature films, documentaries and television programs including series, and video clips.



Charlotte Corchete - France
Locarno Festival | Head of the Pardi di Domani Committee

A researcher at École des Hautes Études en Science Sociales in Paris (EHESS), Charlotte was born in France in 1992 and graduated from La Fémis in 2017. During her career, she has had the opportunity to work in the programming department of the film collection of the Centre Pompidou and to manage the production and distribution of several independent films. Formerly a member of the selection committee of the Festival Entrevues Belfort, she also participates in the programming of several study days at the École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Paris and at La Fémis. She heads the short film committee of the Locarno Film Festival's selection committee.

A crucible of future talent, the Pardi di domani section in Locarno festival screens shorts and medium-length films (not more than 59 minutes in length) by independent filmmakers or film school students who have not yet tried their hand at feature films. The section has two separate competitions: one limited to recent Swiss productions, the other international, featuring films from all over the world.



Natalie Cristiani - Italy
Editor

Natalie Cristiani is an Italian film editor with extensive experience working on major productions worldwide. She graduated from Centro Sperimentale Di Cinematografia in Rome as a Film Editor in 2002. She contributed to Berlinale Talents in 2014, and in 2015 she directed her first feature documentary 'Nicola Costantino: La Artefacta' presented in HOTDOCS, BFI among others. Based in Italy, she is currently dividing her time between Buenos Aires, Rome and Madrid, and is fluent in Italian, Spanish and English.



Guy Daleiden - Luxembourg
Film Fund Luxembourg | CEO

Guy Daleiden graduated in History and German linguistics and literature at the University of Freiburg, Germany. He started his professional career as a civil servant in 1990, when he joined the Prime Minister's office as Government Attaché. He has been the managing director of Film Fund Luxembourg since 1999, where he is in charge of promoting the audiovisual production policy of the Luxembourg government. In this capacity, he is responsible for implementing the government's audiovisual production support policy, advises lawmakers on film-related issues and assists ministers in the drafting of regulations and legislation and in developing international co-production agreements. He represents Luxembourg in a range of European and international audiovisual initiatives. Guy Daleiden is Vice-President of the EFAD (European Film Agency Directors Association). He is the administrator of the Luxembourg Film Academy and of EAVE (European Audiovisual Entrepreneurs), as well as a member of the board of directors of the Luxembourg City Film Festival.

Film Fund Luxembourg was established in 1990 and restructured in 1999. Its main objective is to promote and foster an environment in which the country's film industry can develop and flourish. The Fund, an official body supervised by the ministers responsible for the audiovisual sector and culture, manages the various programmes and mechanisms through which the Luxembourg government provides financial incentives to audiovisual productions. Film Fund Luxembourg represents Luxembourg in all European and international audiovisual initiatives.



Jamel Dallali - Qatar
Al Jazeera Documentary Channel | Manager of Production

Jamel Dallali is a filmmaker, producer and director. He holds a Master's degree in Documentary Practice from Brunel University in England. His work has won awards at international festivals in Bahrain, Morocco, Tunisia and Iraq. In 2016, Dallali was president of the selection jury for the Latin-Arab Forum in Argentina, and he was also a member of the jury for FEDEO in Morocco in 2017.

Launched in 1996, Al Jazeera was the first independent news channel in the Arab world dedicated to providing comprehensive news and live debate. It challenged established narratives and gave a global audience an alternative voice – one that put the human being back at the centre of the news agenda-quickly making it one of the world's most influential news networks. Since then, it has added new channels and services, with more than 70 bureaus around the world, while maintaining the independent and pioneering spirit that defined its character.



Matthieu Darras - France
Tatino Films | CEO

Matthieu Darras is the director of the First Cut Lab that he co-founded in 2015. Previously, he founded & directed the European Network NISI MASA (2002-2012), and later on co-founded and was the artistic director of the TorinoFilmLab (2008-2018). A writer for the film magazine Positif (1998-2016), Matthieu Darras has been working as festival programmer, notably for the Cannes Critics' Week (2005-2011) and the San Sebastian Film Festival (since 2010). He recently created the Pop Up Film Residency.

Tatino Films' activities include organization, consultancy and expertise in the fields of audiovisual professional training, film festivals and film industry events, as well as consultancy and expertise related to public cultural policies.



Emma Davie - UK
Edinburgh College of Art | Programme Director / Reader

Emma has made a wide variety of documentaries for national and international broadcasters and most recently co-directed a feature documentary called 'Becoming Animal' (2018) with Swiss-Canadian director Peter Mettler. It has played at festivals all over the world including IDFA, Jihlava, RIDM and been nominated for best documentary at CPH Dox, Edinburgh Film Festival, Documenta Madrid and many more. Her previous work includes 'I am Breathing', co-directed with Morag MacKinnon. This film was nominated for three Scottish BAFTA's, won a Scottish BAFTA for Best Director and played in over 50 countries. Also, 'What Age Can you Start Being an Artist?' for Channel 4 which was shortlisted for a Grierson; 'Gigha. Buying Our Island' and 'Flight'. She currently teaches at Edinburgh College of Art where she runs the postgraduate course in documentary directing and supervises many documentaries. She also works as a mentor and advisor on films teaches on workshops and gives seminars internationally.

Edinburgh College of Art Postgraduate in Documentary Film is a practical course, which unites the questioning practice of an Art School with the rigour of academia and the demands of the industry. It is part of Screen Academy Scotland and also linked to Scottish Documentary Institute. Students benefit from masterclasses from visiting directors, producers, editors and work as a community, supporting each other in finding their unique cinematic language. Their films regularly show internationally at IDFA, Visions du Reel, Sundance etc., and have won BAFTA's, Griersons, and Oscar nominations for work made on the course or on leaving.



Jean des Forêts - France
Petit Film | Producer

Jean des Forêts operates his own company, Petit Film, where he produces and coproduces films from a variety of directors, cinéastes, visual artists, formalists, and storytellers, working at all times in close cooperation with distributors, sales agents and festivals. Jean des Forêts is also EAVE national coordinator for France and head of studies of one of the EAVE's international workshops, Puentes.

Petit Film produces and co-produces director-driven films, French or foreign, at all times working in close cooperation with distributors and sales agents. Recent titles include 'Diane Has the Right Shape' by Fabien Gorgeart, 'Raw' by Julia Ducournau (Cannes Critic's Week 2016 - Fipresci prize), 'Aloys' by Tobias Nölle (Berlin International Film Festival Panorama 2016 - Fipresci prize). 'Kairos' by Nicolas Buenaventura is currently in post-production, and 'Unconditional' by Stéphane Demoustier has just commenced production.



Amy Dotson - USA
Independent Filmmaker Project | Deputy Director & Head of Programming

Amy Dotson is the Deputy Director & Head of Programming for IFP, focused on supporting the future of storytelling in all forms. Her responsibilities include the oversight of all domestic and international programming and partnerships for the organization, including signature programs IFP Labs (Film, Screen Forward Series, and Audio Story), IFP Week & Conference, IFP Expanded International programming, as well as numerous year-round public programs and membership initiatives at the Made in NY Media Center by IFP. She is an ongoing Group Leader of the prestigious Venice Biennale College- Cinema program since its inception in 2012, and has previously held positions at SILVERDOCS: AFI Documentary Festival, Miramax Films, Fred Berner Productions and Curious Pictures. Dotson graduated from NYU with a Masters in Media Ecology where she studied the intersection of media, art and technology and began her career with a focus on fine arts, sculpture and welding.

The Independent Filmmaker Project (IFP) champions the future of storytelling by connecting film, series, digital and audio artists with essential resources at all stages of development through distribution. The organization fosters a vibrant and sustainable independent storytelling community through its year-round programs, which include IFP Week, IFP Labs (Film, Series, International & Audio Storytelling), Filmmaker Magazine, IFP Gotham Awards and the Made in NY Media Center by IFP, a tech and media incubator space developed with the New York Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment.



Catherine Dussart - France
CDP | Producer

Catherine Dussart began her career as a press officer but soon turned to working as a producer. She started producing short films and naturally graduated to feature films and documentary productions both for television and cinema. She established Les Productions Dussart in 1992 and CDP (Catherine Dussart Productions) in 1994. She has produced almost 100 films in more than 15 countries. Her last productions include 'Graves Without a Name' by Rithy Panh (Venice, Telluride, Toronto 2018), 'A Tramway in Jerusalem' by Amos Gitai (Venice 2018), 'Jonaki' by Aditya Vikram Sengupta (Rotterdam 2018), 'Vangelo' by Pippo Delbono (Venice 2016), and 'The Missing Picture' by Rithy Panh which received Prix Un Certain Regard at the Cannes Film Festival in 2013 and was later nominated for the Oscars in the Best Foreign Film category. She is a member of the board at TF1 (French Major TV Channel) since 2013 and the President of Comité des Rémunérations and Member of Comité de l'Éthique et de la RSE.

Since 1994, Catherine Dussart has produced and co-produced feature films and documentaries through her company CDP. Credits include 'Kalo Pothi' (Venice Film Festival) 'Chauthi Koot' by Gurinder Singh (screened in the Un Certain Regard section at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival) 'The Missing Picture' by Rithy Panh (Cannes Film Festival 2013 - Un certain regard Award), and 'Araf' by Y. Ustaoglu (Venice, Abu Dhabi Black Pearl Award, Tokyo 2012).



Daniela Elstner - France
Doc & Film International | CEO

Daniela Elstner started working for UniFrance before heading the international department at Les Films Losange. In 2008, she joined Doc&Film International as head of the company and shareholder. Daniela Elstner has been expanding their activities to sales of all kind of cinema films, working with internationally acclaimed directors, such as Bruno Dumont, Jacques Doillon, Gianfranco Rosi, Frederick Wiseman, Sophie Fiennes, Nicolas Philibert, and Adina Pintilie. She is president of the French Sales Agent Organisation (ADEF) since 2015. She is also treasurer of the European Sales Agent Organisation, Europa International.

Doc&Film International is an international sales company working with directors from all over the world. They attend all major markets and festivals around the globe in order to ensure maximum international exposure for their films. Backed by a worldwide network of theatrical distributors, broadcasters and digital platforms, they aim to give all their films the best chance to reach an audience.



Joseph Fahim - The Czech Republic
Karlovy Vary | Middle East Representative

Joseph Fahim is an Egyptian film critic and programmer. He is the Middle East delegate of the Karlovy Vary Film Festival, a former member of Berlin Critics' Week and the ex-director of programming of the Cairo International Film Festival. He co-authored various books on Arab cinema and has contributed to numerous outlets in the Middle East, including Middle East Eye, Middle East Institute, Al Monitor, Al Jazeera, Egypt Independent and The National (U.A.E.), along with international film publications such as Verite. To date, his writings have been published in five different languages.

The Karlovy Vary International Film Festival is a film festival held annually in July in Karlovy Vary, Czech Republic. The Karlovy Vary Festival is one of the oldest in the world and is Central and Eastern Europe's leading film event.



Sofian El Fani - Tunisia
Cinematographer

Sofian is a Tunisia-based cinematographer. He has worked on several international productions such as 'Blue is the Warmest Color' (Best Cinematography, Cesar nomination), 'Timbuktu' (Best Cinematography, Cesar Award), and 'The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks'. He recently shot 'It Must Be Heaven' by E. Suleiman.



Moustafa Faris Radwan - Qatar
Al Jazeera Documentary Channel | Output Evaluator / Acquisition Department

A member of the Emmy International Awards jury in 2017 and 2018, Moustafa is currently working as a producer at the Al Jazeera documentary channel. He co-wrote a number of documentary film series such as the Arabic Theatre, 'Al Azhar', 'Dahaleez' and a film called 'The Neighbors of the Morgue'.

Al Jazeera Documentary Channel is a pan-Arab satellite Arabic language film and documentary channel and a branch of the Al Jazeera Media Network based in Doha, Qatar. It aims to provide viewers an immense amount of high quality documentary films. These films cover and analyze a breadth of topics including historical, scientific, political, artistic, and travel issues.



Paul Gilbert Federbush - USA
Sundance Institute | International Director

Federbush served as Senior Vice President of Production and Acquisitions at Warner Independent Pictures (WIP), overseeing the acquisition, production and development of such projects as 'Slumdog Millionaire' directed by Danny Boyle and 'Paradise Now' directed by Hany Abu-Assad. He currently serves as the International Director of Sundance Institute.

Founded by Robert Redford in 1981, Sundance Institute is a global, nonprofit cultural organization dedicated to nurturing artistic expression in film and theatre, and to connecting brave, distinctive new work with global audiences. The Institute promotes independent storytelling to unite, inform and inspire, regardless of geo-political, social, religious or cultural differences. Sundance Institute is internationally recognized for its annual Sundance Film Festival and its artistic development programs for directors, screenwriters, producers, film composers, playwrights and theatre artists.



Sarim Fassi Fihri - Morocco
Centre Cinematographique Marocain | Director

Sarim Fassi-Fihri holds a Master's in Production from the University of Toulouse. In 1987, he founded Moroccan Productions & Services (MPS) to produce Moroccan films and to ensure the production of foreign films in Morocco. In all, Sarim Fassi-Fihri has produced, co-produced, or assured the production of more than 40 feature films, television films, and TV series.



Simon Gabriele - France
Indie Sales | Acquisitions & Sales

Simon Gabriele is working on the acquisitions and sales of Indie Sales, being previously acquisitions manager at Films Distribution, a Paris-based sales agent since 2015, and before that, a trainee at Le Bureau, M6, Umedia, Le Pacte.

Indie Sales acquires around 12 films per year, from all nationalities & genres, with a strong commercial and artistic potential. Animation has an important position in our line-up with high profile titles such as 'Tito & The Birds', 'Another Day Of Life', and 'My Life As A Courgette'. Our catalogue consists of 55 films from the broadest range possible with established directors such as Ziad Doueiri, Gabriele Muccino or Emanuel Mouret as well as talented newcomers Claire Burger, Sameh Zoabi, Adil & Bilall, and female directors Alice Winocour, Yolande Zauberman, and Justine Triet. Our movies have been selected in Cannes, Berlinale, TIFF, San Sebastian, Venice, Locarno, Sundance, winning prestigious awards such as the Giornate Degli Autori Director's Award 2018 in Venice ('C'est ça l'amour' by Claire Burger), or the Best Foreign Language Oscar Nomination ('The Insult' by Ziad Doueri). We are seeking co-production opportunities, and our first co-production, 'Suburra' by Stefano Sollima has been sold in 50 territories.



Per Eirik Gilsvik - Norway
Sørfond | Project Manager

Per Eirik Gilsvik is project manager of Sørfond, a film production fund jointly administered by the Films from the South festival and the Norwegian Film Institute. Per Eirik has been working for the Films from the South Festival since 2012 as one of the festival's programmers and as project manager of the special section The Critical Room, the festival's forum for film & debate. He has worked representing Sørfond since 2014.

Sørfond is a film production fund that supports projects from developing countries on the DAC-list. A Norwegian co-producer is required to apply. At least 50% of the project's budget must be in place at the time of applying. Since its start in 2012, Sørfond has supported 52 film projects - both fiction and documentary. The fund is administered by The Oslo Films from the South Festival & the Norwegian Film Institute.



Ricardo Giraldo - Mexico
Cinema23 Premios Fenix | Director

Ricardo's work is linked to film promotion, contemporary classical music, audiovisual media and museography. As director of Cinema23 / Fénix Film Awards, he works towards the construction of a participative film community, mainly from Latin America, Spain, and Portugal, and to promote and give visibility to the film culture of those regions. He has worked in film promotion since 2005, and as a programmer in FICCO - México and later as director of Ambulante Documentary Film Festival in 2011 and 2012. He studied music in Mexico and The Netherlands in the Royal Conservatory of The Hague and worked as the composer in residence for The Residentie Orkest of The Hague. His compositions and audiovisual works have been presented in various festivals and venues around the world. He also co-designed the permanent exhibition of the Museum Memoria y Tolerancia in Mexico City.

Cinema23 promotes film culture from Latin America, Spain and Portugal. It is formed by the most outstanding film professionals from the region, with more than 1,000 filmmakers, critics, film promoters, programmers, film festival directors, academicians, distributors and exhibitors. The Fénix Film Awards held its 5th edition in December 2018 and was broadcast live on TV to more than 40 countries.



Jason Gray - Japan
Loaded Films Ltd. | Creative Producer

Jason Gray has worked in the Japanese film industry since 2001 as a translator, journalist and consultant. He served as Japan correspondent for Screen International from 2006-2014. In 2012, he wrote and directed narrative short film 'Yukuharu', which screened at festivals in eight countries. He has served as a producer for 'Magic Kimono' (2017), producer and collaborating writer on 'Ten Years Japan' (2019), and Kiyoshi Kurosawa's latest production 'To the Ends of the Earth' (2019).

Established in 2011 by Eiko Mizuno-Gray and Jason Gray, Loaded Films is an independent film company based in Tokyo, focused on international co-productions. Loaded Films has engaged in collaborations with countries such as Latvia, France, Canada, Hong Kong and Uzbekistan.



Gabor Greiner - Germany
Films Boutique | Sales Agent

After studying Cultural Management in Vienna, Birmingham and Chicago, Gabor worked as a journalist and film critic at Austria's largest web-based cultural magazine 'cycamp'. In 2003, he moved to Brussels to take charge of the distribution support department of the MEDIA Program at the European Commission's Film Fund, which was created to support the European audiovisual sector. In 2009, Gabor became acquisitions executive at the international sales agent, The Match Factory. In August 2010, Gabor moved to Berlin to take over acquisitions of the French-German sales company, Films Boutique, winner of the Golden Bear in 2017 and the Golden Lion in 2011 and 2016.

Films Boutique is an independent Berlin-based international sales company specialised in the distribution of innovative feature films by filmmakers from all over the world. Only 10 to 15 new titles are added to our line-up per year as we are going back to basics, treating films as works of art and concentrating on a limited number of high-profile titles. We are proud to serve our producers and distributors, who trust us in building long lasting relationships and the reputation of new and confirmed talents.



Tala Hadid - Morocco
Kairos Films | Director

Tala Hadid's work has screened at festivals around the world, and has received numerous awards, including an Academy Award. In 2015, Hadid's 'House in the Fields' was selected to screen as a work-in-progress at the Venice International Film Festival, where it was awarded two prizes. The film was also the recipient of the Commune di Milano prize for Best Feature Film at the 2017 FCAAL Milano Film Festival, the prize for Best Documentary Film at the Hong Kong International Film Festival, and the 2017 John Marshall Award in the United States.

Founded by Tala Hadid, Kairos Films is dedicated to developing, producing and marketing original, artistically rigorous, innovative, and socially conscious films, in Morocco and internationally. The company's first film, 'House in the Fields', was awarded various post production prizes at the Final Cut in Venice workshop at the Venice Biennale. Besides its own productions, the company will also develop a range of high-quality film, visual art, and theatre productions in Morocco, in collaboration with both film professionals and a wide range of cultural producers.



Reem Haddad - Qatar
Al Jazeera Media Network | Senior Producer (Documentaries) / Commissioning Editor

Reem is a Senior Commissioning Producer for 'Witness', Al Jazeera English's award-winning flagship documentary strand. As a commissioner, Reem aspires to help filmmakers find their voice. She looks for underrepresented stories and unique access that give more depth to today's issues and take the viewer behind the news headlines. An Al Jazeera veteran, Reem is unafraid to explore different formats of storytelling. Over the last 12 years, she has worked on various studio programmes such as 'Everywoman' a magazine show that featured women's stories from around the world and 'The Stream' a daily show powered by social media. She helped launch the innovative talk show 'The Cafe' and produced a number of its episodes. She directed several documentaries, and in recent years directed and produced Al Jazeera's award-winning web documentary featuring the stories of Syrian refugees, 'Life on Hold'.

Al Jazeera strives to deliver content that captivates, informs, inspires and entertains. Launched in 1996, Al Jazeera was the first independent news channel in the Arab world dedicated to providing comprehensive news and live debate. It challenged established narratives and gave a global audience an alternative voice—one that put the human being back at the centre of the news agenda—quickly making it one of the world's most influential news networks. Since then, it's added new channels and services, with more than 70 bureaus around the world, while maintaining the independent and pioneering spirit that defined its character.



Bashar Hamdan - Qatar
Al Jazeera Media Center | Producer

Bashar Hamdan is a filmmaker who works with Al Jazeera. He began his professional career in 2004 at Vision for Art Production, in Amman before becoming head of the directing department. One of his early successes was on the 'Duality' series as a scriptwriter for Al Jazeera Documentary. He was later invited to move to Doha to work with Al Jazeera for the investigative documentary series 'Black Box' which became one of the channels top rated shows. In 2018, he was assigned to the weekly program 'The Rest of Story' as a supervisor of production. To date, Bashar has directed 26 documentaries among them 'Lost in Ukraine', 'Targeting Journalism', 'Paris Taxi' and 'Photograph' which showcased in a multitude of festivals such as; Al Jazeera Film Festival, Malmo Arab Film Festival, International Euro Arab Film Festival and London Palestine film festival. Bashar is currently also working on the Palestinian cinema archive database project, Palestine Films.

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Khalil Hanoun - Qatar
Al Jazeera Network | Senior Producer

Khalil Hanoun graduated from Université Libanaise in 1995. He has worked as a director making documentary films for both Al Jazeera and the BBC.

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Ashley Hasz - USA
Amazon Studios | Film Marketing

Ashley Hasz currently works as part of the film marketing team at Amazon Studios where she develops and oversees the execution of marketing strategies for Amazon’s film slate. Prior to that, she served as the Sr. Director of Film & Integrated Marketing at Participant Media, where she oversaw the complex intersection of traditional film marketing and impact campaign work for the company’s films. Working with filmmakers, distributors, and impact partners, Ashley understands how to shepherd a film from script through release, maximizing both box office and impact potential, while aligning all collaborator’s goals for optimum awareness. Over the last few years, Ashley has worked on such films as ‘Beautiful Boy’, ‘Cold War’, ‘Deepwater Horizon’, the Oscar-winning Best Picture ‘Spotlight’, and played a key role in the campaigns for ‘The Look of Silence’, ‘3 1/2 Minutes’, ‘Ten Bullets’ and ‘Merchants of Doubt’.

Amazon Studios brings bold and innovative series and films from top tier and up-and-coming creators to customers in over 200 countries and territories. In film, Amazon Studios produces and acquires original movies for theatrical release and early window distribution exclusively for Amazon Prime members.



Lison Herve - France
Stray Dogs | Sales & Acquisitions

After an MA in Production at INA (National Audiovisual Institute), Lison started her career as Sales & Festivals Assistant at Memento Films International, then moved on to coordinating the co-production market of Les Arcs European FF. She joined Stray Dogs in 2017 as Head of Festivals and is now handling Sales and Acquisitions.

Launched in 2015, Stray Dogs is a sales agency dedicated to bringing edgy, international, director-driven films with cult potential to worldwide audiences. We aim to provide our distributors and programmers friends with fresh, interesting, special content, which will appeal to younger audiences and gain value over time. In 2018, we expanded our activities by opening a French distribution department and press services.



Teresa Hoefert de Turegano - Germany
Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg GMBH | Funding Advisor

Teresa Hoefert de Turégano is a funding advisor for international co-productions at the Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg in Germany. She is also responsible for various international programmes at the Medienboard such as the DE-TR coproduction development fund; the DE-IL, DE-FR artist-in-residence programmes, etc. She taught cinema at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland and has worked for Eurimages and the European Audiovisual Observatory at the Council of Europe. She regularly works as a consultant on film and cultural policy. Her publications include a book and numerous articles on subjects related to culture, film and the politics of cinema.

The Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg was established in 2004 as the central regional agency for film funding and media development in Berlin and Brandenburg, Germany. With an annual budget of approximately 26 million for film funding, the Medienboard supports national and international film productions and has both cultural and economic objectives.



Alexis Hofmann - France
BAC Films | Head of Acquisitions

Alexis Hofmann graduated from La Fémis. After working for the Centre national de la cinématographie (CNC), he joined Haut et Court, and then Memento Films, working in the programming and marketing departments for both. He joined Bac Films in 2006 as a programmer, later becoming Marketing Project Manager. Hofmann has overseen acquisitions for Bac Films since 2014.

Bac Films is active in theatrical distribution, TV sales, production, international co-production, and global sales. For over 30 years, Bac has been among France's top independent distributors, with more than 500 films, nine of which have won the Palme d'Or at the Festival de Cannes.



Annemarie Jacir - Palestine
Philistine Films | Director / Writer / Producer

Annemarie Jacir has written, directed and produced over sixteen films. Two of her films have premiered as Official Selections in Cannes, one in Berlin and in Venice. Her short film 'Like Twenty Impossibles' (2003) was the first Arab short film in history to be an official selection of the Cannes Film Festival and continued to break ground when it went on to be a finalist for the Academy Awards. Her second work to debut in Cannes, the critically acclaimed 'Salt of this Sea', went on to win the FIPRESCI Critics Award, and garnered fourteen other international awards including Best Film in Milan. Her second feature 'When I Saw You' won Best Asian Film at the Berlin Intl. Festival, Best Arab Film in Abu Dhabi and Best Film in Amiens, Phoenix, and Olympia, and garnered a nomination at the Asian Pacific Screen Awards. Founder of Philistine Films, she collaborates regularly as an editor, screenwriter and occasional producer with fellow filmmakers. Her most recent film 'Wajib' (2017) won 36 international awards including Best Film in Mar Del Plata, Dubai, Amiens, DC Film Festival, Kosovo and Kerala and jury mention at the London BFI Festival.

Philistine Films is an independent production and services company founded in 1997 with offices in Jordan and Palestine. Philistine Films was created to support new voices, and to offer a platform for the emerging independent Arab film scene. We focus on producing and co-producing feature-length narrative and documentary films, and finding unconventional stories and fresh narratives. We also offer production services. We hope to challenge the creative, financial, and practical obstacles confronting filmmakers working outside the mainstream.



Kamal Aljafari - Germany
Filmmaker

Kamal Aljafari is a film director. His filmography includes 'Recollection' (2015), 'Port of Memory' (2009) and 'The Roof' (2006). Aljafari's films have been screened in numerous film festivals including Locarno, Torino, Toronto, Rotterdam, FIDMarseille as well as museums including Tate Modern and MoMa in NYC. He was a featured artist at the 2009 Robert Flaherty Film Seminar in New York, and in 2009/2010 was the Benjamin White Whitney Fellow at Harvard University's Radcliffe Institute and Film Study Center.



Alice Kharoubi - France
Marché du Film, Festival de Cannes | Programmer

After studying Communications in France and the United States, Alice Kharoubi began to collaborate with the Festival de Cannes, working for the Marché du Film. She has been Head of Cannes Court Métrage, an entity dedicated to short films developed by the festival, for 10 years. She was the short film programmer for the Abu Dhabi Film Festival since its first edition, and was the programmer for Festival Tous Écrans in Geneva. She has now returned to working with the screenings department at the Marché du Film. Kharoubi sits on several short film selection committees, and has participated as a juror at festivals worldwide.

Every year in May, Cannes becomes the largest trade hub for the film industry. The Marché du Film is a vital meeting point for more than 12,000 industry professionals, including 3,900 producers, 3,300 buyers and distributors, and 1,000 festival programmers - a place to meet peers from around the world, and boost business opportunities.



Tania El Khoury - Lebanon
Khamsin Films | Producer

After studying cinema in Beirut, Tania El Khoury moved to Paris in 2002 where she graduated with a master's degree at Sorbonne Nouvelle. She has been working since 2006 as a legal and financial manager at Moby Dick Films, which produced feature films of emerging and confirmed directors. She is now a producer at Moby Dick Films where she is working on several projects such as 'Tide' by Hussen Ibraheem (co-produced with Placeless Films), 'Le temps des Vacances' by Gregory Boutboul and 'A family affair', by Romy Coccia di Ferro. In 2017, she founded the Beirut-based company Khamsin Films.

Khamsin Films aims to facilitate the production of films from the Arab World by supporting both emerging talents and established filmmakers with a strong artistic, visual and cinematographic language to tell their stories in films intended for local and international audiences. The company has several projects ongoing from the region including the new feature film of Ghassan Salhab, 'The River', (in post-production) co-produced with the post office (Lebanon), Survivance (France) and Unafilm (Germany). Two documentaries co-produced with Caractères Productions (France): 'Our Choices' by Salah Al-Ashkar and 'The Vein of Life' by Fadi Idris (in post-production). The second feature documentary of Sonia Ben Slama, 'Machtat' (in development) co-produced with Alter Ego Production (France). Khamsin Films is also producing the first film of Romy Coccia di Ferro, 'A Family Affair' (in development) and the TV series 'Heim' by Liwaa Yazji and Mohammad Abou Laban (in development).



Smriti Kiran - India
Mumbai Film Festival | Creative Director

A journalist, creative director, producer and author, Smriti Kiran has been part of the entertainment industry for the last two decades. Her extensive experience in television programming took shape at multiple networks like NDTV, Star News, Star World, Star Plus, Star Movies and Zee TV. An avid believer in the power of narratives, she wrote the screenplay book of the record-breaking film '3 Idiots' and produced the screenplay books of auteur extraordinaire Guru Dutt. Smriti is at present the Creative Director of the Mumbai Film Festival, where she is committed to help build the festival into a cutting-edge entity.

The Mumbai Film Festival is an inclusive movie feast. We showcase the latest independent cinema - art-house fare alongside genre movies from Bollywood and Hollywood and international cult movies. We offer the best of world cinema to the people of Mumbai, and we offer the best of Indian cinema to the world. The festival is run by the Mumbai Academy of Moving Image (MAMI), a non-profit trust. Over the last two decades, MAMI has consistently shaped the cinematic landscape of India.



Jason Kliot - USA
Open City Films | Founder

Jason Kliot is the producer of more than 40 feature films by acclaimed directors including Jim Jarmusch, Brian De Palma, Nadine Labaki, Steven Soderbergh, Miguel Arteta, Hal Hartley, Nicole Holofcener, Alex Gibney, Amir Naderi, and Todd Solondz. From auteur-driven projects and successful commercial box-office hits to theatrical documentaries, Kliot's films have won several awards at the Sundance Film Festival, the Berlin International Film Festival, the Cannes International Film Festival and the Venice International Film Festival, including two Sundance Grand Jury Prizes, the Cannes Film Festival "Prix du Jury" and the Silver Lion for Best Director at Venice. His films have been nominated for two Academy Awards, a Golden Globe, and 25 Independent Spirit Awards. His most recent production is Nadine Labaki's 'Capernaum'.

Open City Films is a New York-based production company dedicated to the production of high-quality independent films produced throughout the world that are both commercial and critical successes. Throughout their prolific careers, founders Jason Kliot and Joana Vicente have produced pioneering works by first-time filmmakers and have championed the distinctive visions of such established directors as Jim Jarmusch, Brian De Palma, Steven Soderbergh, Miguel Arteta, Hal Hartley, Nicole Holofcener, Alex Gibney, Amir Naderi and Todd Solondz. Open City Film's have won awards at Sundance, Berlin, Cannes, The Gotham Awards, and The Independent Spirit Awards among others.



Adel Ksiksi - Qatar
Al Jazeera Documentary Channel | Programming Manager

As manager of programming, Adel is responsible for developing plans for programs' strands and preparing the programs grid on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. Adel also oversees the global planning effort with regards to special events, series, and long and short term programs planning to increase viewership ratings.

At Al Jazeera Documentary, we tell the stories that deserve to be told. Real-life portraits of the people and places that make up our world—raising awareness and inspiring millions of people across the Middle East, our 24-hour programming is diversified and of the highest quality. It encourages innovative thinking in Arabs worldwide and inspires future generations of great filmmakers. We show documentaries whether political, historical, social or cultural; our mission is to make brilliant films.



Sabah Al Kuwari - Qatar
Al Rayyan TV | General Manager

In 2012, Sabah Al Kuwari joined Al Rayyan TV as a presenter, and later promoted to Head of Social Media. In 2014, she was assigned as Head of Programs, then Director of the Planning & Programs Department. She held the position of Director of the Creative Services Department in 2016, followed a year later by the appointment as General Manager of Al Rayyan TV. In 2018, she obtained a Master's Degree (MBA), from Plymouth University, UK.

Al Rayyan TV adopts Qatar National Vision (2030) and aspires to be a supportive media for achieving sustainable development through three main functions: Development, Awareness and Entertainment, which the channel will translate into a program mix representing its media strategy. Al Rayyan is a diverse channel that targets the Qatari community as a key audience and takes into account the specificity of its national identity and aspirations.



Pierre-Alexandre Labelle - USA
Under the Milky Way | Co-Founder

Originally from Canada, Pierre-Alexandre Labelle studied at McGill University in Montreal and moved to France to work as a derivatives trader for Cargill. In 2005, he became interested in film distribution, and launched one of the first independent VoD platforms in France. In 2010, he co-founded Under the Milky Way, one of the leading international digital distributors of films, where he is primarily responsible for international business development. He has been based in New York City since 2011.

Under the Milky Way is an international company dedicated to digital film distribution and marketing. Its main activities consist of international rights aggregation and distribution on transactional Video on Demand (TVoD) platforms. Under the Milky Way works with a large number of Global VoD Platforms, such as Amazon, Google, Microsoft, and Netflix, and was also awarded the global iTunes "preferred aggregator" status in 2011. The company is fully operational in more than 100 territories and serves all kinds of rights-holders (producers, distributors, and sales agents) out of 13 regional offices in Asia, Europe, and North America.



Brigitte Lacombe - USA
Lacombe, Inc. | Photographer

Award-winning French photographer Brigitte Lacombe has been making portraits of notable people for over 30 years, as well as working as a special photographer for iconic directors, such as Martin Scorsese, David Mamet, Steven Spielberg, Spike Jonze and Quentin Tarantino. Since 2009, Brigitte has been working on an ongoing project for the DFI and DTFF in Doha - a collection of over 250 portraits of international filmmakers and actors called 'I Am Film', focused on filmmakers from the MENA region.



Marian Lacombe - France
Lacombe, Inc. | Filmmaker

Marian Lacombe was raised in France and lived in New York. For the past 20 years, she has worked as a reporter, anchorwoman, and editor-in-chief on daily news and magazines for the private French television channel M6 in Paris. She opened and ran its correspondent headquarters in Lyon and Marseilles, and is now an independent documentary filmmaker.



Chiraz Latiri - Tunisia
Centre National du Cinéma et de l'Image Tunisien | General Director

Born in 1972 in Sousse, Chiraz Latiri is a doctor and a lecturer of Computer Science at the Superior Institute of Multimedia Arts of Manouba (ISAMM). Director of the ISAMM from 2006 to 2011, she became the Director of the Tunisian National Cinema and Image Center (CNCI) in 2017. Her goal is to ensure CNCI as a major player in the cultural and creative industries in Tunisia and seeks to bring the cinema sector closer to the technology sector of artistic engineering and video games. Upon her arrival, she managed to negotiate for the budget to be doubled. The Franco-Tunisian cooperation has registered a sharp acceleration since her appointment, and the exchanges with the CNC are permanent. In 2018, she also set up a film co-development fund with Italy. She was the initiator of the creation of the Arab Film Institutes commission bringing together 7 CNCs of the Arab world and the Co-development project south-south "Sentoo" with 5 African countries.

The National Center of Cinema and Image (CNCI) was created in 2011 as a non-administrative public institution with legal personality and administrative and financial autonomy. The CNCI team is composed of 18 people including the General Director and ten executives. In July 2017, after initiating a strategy of coordination and collaboration with the relevant national structures, the new CEO began to implement new strategic orientations based on a global reorganization plan and cooperative relations with national institutions and international counterparts working in the field of cinema and digital creative industries. The relocation of the CNCI headquarters to the premises of the City of Culture has consolidated its activities in a more appropriate structure, including: The Tunisian Cinematheque, three cinema theatres, The Creative Digital Lab (CDL): a space for development and incubation of ecosystem operators; The Gaming Center: testing and promotion area for Tunisian video games; and JCC: The Carthage Film Festival.



Fiona Lawson Baker - Qatar
Al Jazeera English | Executive Producer

Fiona is the Executive Producer of the 'Witness' program, which is the flagship observational documentary strand on Al Jazeera English. Fiona has more than fifteen years' experience in global factual television in the UK, Australia and Asia. She started her broadcast career at BBC London. As an Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS) graduate, she worked for SBS television in production, commissioning and acquisitions. Since 2008, she has worked in Singapore and Malaysia, overseeing productions for Al Jazeera English (AJE), ZDF and the Discovery, History and Crime & Investigation Channels.

Al Jazeera English is a 24-hour English-language international news and current affairs channel with a reputation for fearless reporting from the heart of the story. Its award-winning programming takes viewers inside the key stories to provide the grassroots perspectives that reveal the human face of world news. It transmits to more than 310 million households on six continents and in more than 130 countries.



Paz Lazaro - Germany
Berlin International Film Festival | Head of Panorama, Curator

Paz Lázaro is section head and curator of Berlinale's Panorama section. She was born in Seville, Spain in 1972 and holds a degree in Spanish philology, English philology and sociology. Paz Lázaro started working for the Berlin International Film Festival in 2000 and has been Panorama's Programme Manager since 2006. In 2007, she became a member of the selection committee for the competition. She is also part of the Berlinale delegates team for Ibero-American films and of the Berlinale Special Series selection committee. Before becoming a film festival curator, Paz Lázaro worked in film production, mainly in Spain, as well as in theatre production with artists including Constanza Macras and the Dorky Park Company (No Wonder, Sure). From 2004 to 2007 she was part of the curating team for Interfilm - International Short Film Festival Berlin. As a script consultant, she has collaborated with the ICAA in Spain, ICAU in Uruguay and FOPROCINE in Mexico for IMCINE, the Match Factory, as well as Ibermedia.

The Berlinale is a unique place of artistic exploration and entertainment. It is one of the largest public film festivals in the world, attracting tens of thousands of visitors from around the globe each year. For the film industry and the media, the eleven days in February are also one of the most important events in the annual calendar and an indispensable trading forum. The Berlinale brings the big stars of international cinema to Berlin and discovers new talents. It accompanies filmmakers of all disciplines on their paths into the spotlight and supports careers, projects, dreams and visions.



Thierry Lenouvel - France
Ciné-Sud Promotion | Producer

Thierry Lenouvel has a Bachelor of Arts in Modern Literature and Cinema. He was the co-founder and general delegate of the Mediterranean Film Festival, Montpellier from 1980 to 1995. He was also the founder and organizer of the Script Development Fund, at the Amiens Film Festival (1996-2015). Thierry co-founded Cinema in Motion/San Sebastian and then Final Cut in Venice. He is a member of CICAIE (Art house theaters association), Fonds Sud Cinéma, EFA (European Film Academy), SPI (Syndicate of Independent Film Producers) and several film festivals juries. He was also an Associate of the distribution company Les Films du Sémaphore (1983-1989) which has released films by Pedro Almodovar, Youssef Chahine, Benoît, Jacquot, Gaston Kaboré, Emir Kusturica, Philip Noyce, John Sayles, and Shinji Somai. In 1993, he created Ciné-Sud Promotion, a company designed to promote art house films, which has to date produced almost 50 films, many internationally awarded.

Ciné-Sud Promotion was founded in 1993 as a company designed to promote art house films from acclaimed directors such as Rachid Bouchareb, Wang Chao, Guillermo Del Toro, Raymond Depardon, Djibril Diop Mambety, Julio Medem, Jafar Panahi, Manuel Poirier, Arturo Ripstein, and Paulo Rocha amongst others. The company's editorial line is quality, without frontiers, constraints of form, style or genre, researching emerging talents and supporting as well confirmed directors with projects delivering a singular and important message on humanity and society under a strong cinematic form. To date, they have produced or co-produced nearly 50 films, garnering over 250 international awards.



Franklin Leonard - USA
The Black List | Founder

Franklin Leonard is a film producer, cultural commentator, professor, and entrepreneur. He is the founder and CEO of the Black List. Franklin has worked in feature film development at Universal Pictures and the production companies of Will Smith, Sydney Pollack and Anthony Minghella, and Leonardo DiCaprio. He has been a juror at the Sundance and Toronto Film Festivals and speaker at the White House's 2015 Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Nairobi, Kenya. He's been one of Hollywood Reporter's 35 Under 35 and Fast Company's "100 Most Creative People in Business" and was awarded the 2019 Writers Guild of America, East Evelyn Burkey award. He is an occasional commentator for the BBC and MSNBC on matters of culture, politics, and race, an associate professor at the American Film Institute, and a member of the Associates Branch of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences. His TED talk was viewed more than one million times in its first two months of release.

The Black List celebrates and supports great screenwriting and the writers who do it via film production, its annual survey of best unproduced screenplays, online marketplace, live staged script readings, screenwriter labs, and film culture publications. More than 400 scripts from the annual Black List survey have been produced as feature films earning 250 Academy Award nominations and 50 wins including four of the last ten Best Pictures and ten of the last twenty-two screenwriting Oscars.



Christophe Leparc - France
Directors' Fortnight, Festival de Cannes / Managing Director | Cinemed / Director

Christophe Leparc is the Managing Director of the Directors' Fortnight at the Festival de Cannes, and Director of Cinemed, Mediterranean Film Festival of Montpellier, France. He has been working in the film industry since 1990, specialising in the organisation and programming of film festivals. Leparc worked as Programme Manager for the Cannes Critics' Week between 2000 and 2008. Since 2007, he has been Managing Director of the Directors' Fortnight, another sidebar of the Festival de Cannes.

Among the various sections of the Festival de Cannes, the Directors' Fortnight is distinguished by its independent-mindedness, its non-competitive nature, and its concern for catering to non-industry-professional audiences. Striving to be eclectic and receptive to all forms of cinematic expression, the Fortnight pays particular attention to the annual production of fiction features, short films and documentaries, to the emergence of independent fringe filmmaking, and even to contemporary popular genres, provided these films are the expression of an individual talent and an original directorial style.



Camille Lopato - France
Diversión Cinema | Founder

Camille worked for seven years in a French distribution company. In 2015, she co-founded the first virtual reality cinema in France. In August 2016, Camille founded Diversión cinema, a company specialised in distributing and showcasing VR films and experiences.

Diversión cinema specializes in showcasing and distributing immersive productions. Since 2016, we have created and operated virtual reality showcasing spaces for companies and festivals (Mostra di Venezia, Dubai International Film Festival, IDFA, Marché du film - Festival de Cannes). In 2018, we created Viktor Romeo, a self-service VR station to make exhibition of 360 VR contents easier. The same year, we launched our Distribution division, that acts as an international sales agent for 360 videos, VR and interactive experiences, with the aim of bringing the best narrative content to audiences worldwide. Agile and adaptable, Diversión cinema is always looking for new partners to exhibit VR, and ultimately help shape the emerging immersive content market.



Marcin Łuczaj - Poland
New Europe Film Sales | Acquisitions

Marcin Łuczaj graduated in Film & Media Studies from the University of Lodz and in Cultural Studies from the University of Warsaw. He works for New Europe Film Sales, a Warsaw-based sales agency for both features and shorts, where he is responsible for feature film acquisitions and for the short film catalogue. Marcin has several years of experience as a programmer for Warsaw Film Festival and ZabrOFFka International Short Film Festival International Short Film Festival, and as a guest curator for various international film festivals.

New Europe Film Sales (NEFS) is a boutique international sales company based in Warsaw, Poland working with global content across the world. The company's catalogue includes the Icelandic hit 'Rams' (Prix Un Certain Regard 2015), 2016 Silver Bear winner 'United States of Love', Polish art-house hit 'The Last Family' (Best Actor in Locarno FF 2016) and 2017 Berlinale Best First Feature winning 'Summer 1993'. NEFS works with many first and second time filmmakers and animation and also represents a catalogue of short films, including 2017 Oscar-winner 'Sing', 10 Oscar shortlisters, and 2017 Cannes Palme d'Or winner 'Gentle Night' among others.



Agustina Macri - Argentina
SancarlosBA | Director

A filmmaker and sociologist in training, Agustina Macri currently develops and produces fiction and documentary projects across different genres, disciplines and regions, and is particularly interested in female topics. In October 2018, she premiered her first feature film as a director, the romantic drama "Soledad" based on a true story. Agustina was part of Oliver Stone's documentary team in 'Putin's Interviews' and part of 'Snowden' as a production assistant. As a filmmaker, she directed the behind-the-scenes documentary for the Cirque du Soleil show about Soda Stereo, "Séptimo Día". As a showrunner, she produced for Netflix a TV documentary series about Boca Juniors and a film about 'Fangio'. As a producer, she's developing new TV & cinema projects in Italy, Spain, Cuba and Colombia. Among her projects in development, is a new documentary project with Cirque du Soleil about Lionel Messi and her second film.

SancarlosBA is a small and independent production company based in Buenos Aires and Madrid. We produce music videos, documentaries and feature films. Among our most notable projects, are 'Soledad', Agustina Macri's first feature films, 'Séptimo Día' the behind the scenes of Cirque du Soleil's show with Latin American rock band Soda Stereo. Currently, we are producing 'Fangio #1', the first official documentary feature about the 5-time F1 Champion, and 'Messi 10', the making of Messi's first Cirque du Soleil exclusive show.



Funa Maduka - USA
Netflix | Content Acquisition

Funa Maduka is the Director of International Original Films at Netflix where she works with the world's top global and emerging filmmakers. Throughout her tenure, she has remained positioned at the frontline of the company's global expansion, managing the launch of the film offering across 100+ countries. Her film acquisitions brought Netflix its first film nominations at both the Golden Globes and the Academy Awards. Previously she worked at Participant Media developing and managing campaigns for film and television projects. She has held leadership and strategic positions at McKinsey & Company, the Oprah Winfrey Foundation (where she served four years as the inaugural Dean of Students at the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy), Obama for America, the Clinton Global Initiative and on the trading floor at Goldman Sachs. She is an awarded filmmaker, credited with producing and directing the first Nigerian film to world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival. She remains active in girl's education advocacy and water-access initiatives.

Netflix is the world's leading Internet television network with over 75 million members in over 190 countries enjoying more than 125 million hours of TV shows and movies per day, including original series, documentaries and feature films. Members can watch as much as they want, anytime, anywhere, on nearly any Internet-connected screen. Members can play, pause and resume watching, all without commercials or commitments.



Aranka Matits - Germany
Featurette | Acquisitions and Co-Productions

As the founder of boutique agency Featurette, Aranka Matits advises on acquisitions, co-productions, and strategic planning. Current and past clients include a roster of theatrical distributors, international sales agents, on-demand platforms, and VOD aggregators, as well as a multinational broadcaster. In addition, she teaches workshops on sales, distribution, and project marketing around the globe. She is also a regular speaker at events hosted by EAVE, the Producers Network or ACE Producers. She regularly serves on project development and festival juries, and is a voting member of the European Film Academy.

Featurette advises on acquisitions, co-productions and strategic planning. Clients include a roster of theatrical distributors in France, Germany, the UK, Switzerland, the Benelux, Italy, Spain and Portugal, platforms and aggregators as well as multinational broadcasters. Acquisitions include 'On Body And Soul', 'Una Mujer Fantástica', 'I Am Not A Witch', 'Foxtrot', 'Custody', 'God's Own Country', 'Petit Payson', and 'The Florida Project'.



Clémence Michalon - France
JourzFête | Sales Agent

Clémence Michalon is a graduate of Sciences Po Lyon and has a degree in Media Management from ESCP Europe. In 2016, she joined JourzFête's sales team as festivals manager. She is now in charge of sales in several territories including the MENA region.

JourzFête is a Paris-based distribution company set up in 2006 by Sarah Chazelle and Etienne Ollagnier. It releases theatrically 8 to 10 titles per year in France, both documentaries and feature film. The company also handles video and TV sales. In 2012, It enlarged its activities to International sales, handling 3 to 5 titles per year, which are all released in France by JourzFête itself.



Rima El Mismar - Lebanon
Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC) | Executive Director

Rima El Mismar completed her studies in Communication Arts (Film emphasis) at the Lebanese American University (LAU) in Beirut. Prior to graduating in 1998, she started writing for local newspapers and cultural supplements, focusing on cinema, before pursuing her professional career as a film critic as of 1999. In June 2011, she joined the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC) as the Film Programs Manager and oversees all film programs, and was recently appointed as Deputy Director.

AFAC is an independent regional initiative that offers financial and professional support to emerging and established artists and cultural institutions from the Arab region. Founded in 2007, AFAC is active in 18 Arab countries and supports projects in Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Cinema, Music and Research & Training, as well as special programs for Creative Writing, Documentary Filmmaking and Documentary Photography. For film, AFAC runs two programs, General Grants for Cinema which accommodates all types and lengths of film projects and AFAC Documentary Program (ADP) for creative Arab documentaries tackling social realities and social justice in the Arab region.



Eiko Mizuno Gray - Japan
Loaded Films Ltd. | CEO / Producer

Eiko Mizuno Gray began her career at the Toronto International Film Festival as a festival publicist (1998-2008) and the International Film Festival Rotterdam (2000-2004) promoting Japanese/Asian cinema. In Japan, she worked at TOKYO FILMeX and the Tokyo International Film Festival in various capacities as well as Studio Ghibli (int'l dept). As president of Loaded Films, she is active in international co-productions. Japan-Hong Kong anthology feature 'Ten Years Japan', executive produced by Hirokazu Kore-eda, had its world premiere at the Busan International Film Festival in October 2018. Her most recent production is the latest film by Kiyoshi Kurosawa, 'To the Ends of the Earth', a co-production between Japan and Uzbekistan.

Established in 2011 by Eiko Mizuno-Gray and Jason Gray, Loaded Films is an independent film company based in Tokyo, focused on international co-productions. Loaded Films has engaged in collaborations with countries such as Latvia, France, Canada, Hong Kong and Uzbekistan.



Luke William Moody - UK
Sheffield Doc/Fest | Director of Programming

As Director of Film Programming since 2016, Luke leads film curation for the Festival and Doc/Fest All Year programme. He joined from Doc Society where, as Head of Film, he supported international award-winning feature documentaries across the Channel 4, Puma, Bertha and Pulse film funds for six years including 'All These Sleepless Nights', 'Hale County This Morning', 'This Evening', 'Shirkers', 'An Insignificant Man', 'Black Mother' and 'A Spell To Ward Off Darkness'. Further commissions include new artworks from Deutsche Börse prize-winning photographer Trevor Paglen, artist James Bridle and musician Gaika. He also co-founded and curated digital platform Something Real and documentary festival Frames of Representation at ICA, London.

Sheffield Doc/Fest is a world leading and the UK's premier documentary festival, celebrating the art and business of documentary and all non-fiction storytelling. Operating in the heart of UK, we're a hub for all documentary and non-fiction content across all platforms, from feature length to shorts, and including interactive, augmented reality, and virtual reality projects.



Sam Morrill - USA
Vimeo | Director of Curation

Sam Morrill joined Vimeo in 2009 where he currently serves as its Director of Curation, leading Vimeo's five-person Curation Team. From customer support, to content acquisitions, to curating Vimeo's lauded Staff Picks channel, Sam has experienced Vimeo's growth and evolution from a variety of different angles. In 2016, Sam led the launch of Vimeo Staff Pick Premieres, a weekly program in which the most celebrated short films from the festival circuit premiere online exclusively on Vimeo. When he's not watching videos, he's probably traveling, watching baseball or searching for the last golf ball he hit into the woods. Sam resides in his hometown of Brooklyn, New York.

Vimeo empowers video creators of all kinds to tell exceptional stories and connect with their audiences and communities. Home to more than 90 million members in over 150 countries, Vimeo is the world's largest ad-free open video platform. The company provides professional software, tools and technology for creators to host, distribute and monetize their videos anywhere. Headquartered in New York City and with offices around the world, Vimeo is an operating business of IAC (NASDAQ: IAC).



Hania Mroué - Lebanon
Metropolis Cinema / MC Distribution | Director

Hania Mroué is Founder and Director of Metropolis Art Cinema, the first art-house cinema in Lebanon, which opened in 2006 and aims to support regional and international productions by presenting audiences with alternative cinema, including recent independent titles, cult films, creative documentaries and experimental video. In 2009, Hania launched MC Distribution, a distribution company specialising in independent Arab titles, and she is also a founding member of Beirut DC, which aims to produce and promote independent Arab cinema, create a network for communication and collaboration among Arab filmmakers, and establish a media library to house the archives of independent Arab works. Mroué was also Managing Director of Cinema Days of Beirut.

Metropolis Cinema is an arthouse cinema that opened in Beirut 2006. Its two-screen theatre is dedicated to auteur films from all over the world, including classics of all eras and genres, and recent independent Arab productions. It is also a hub for more than 20,000 children who attend its year-round screenings and activities. Metropolis recently launched its new Cinematheque Beirut project which aims at preserving Lebanese film heritage. MC Distribution handles the distribution activities of Metropolis. Its catalogue includes around 75 Arab films and internationally acclaimed titles such as 'Mommy', 'A Separation', 'Mustang', 'Mahbas', 'Beauty and the dogs', and 'Ghost Hunting'.



Lucy Mukerjee - USA
Tribeca Film Festival | Senior Programmer

Lucy Mukerjee is a Senior Programmer at the Tribeca Film Festival where she is dedicated to championing underrepresented voices. She has been empowering storytellers for two decades as a film producer, activist and a curator. Prior to Tribeca, Lucy was the Director of Programming for Outfest, where she oversaw the curation of their trio of film festivals for four years. Before that, she produced two dozen feature films for Lionsgate and Warner Bros. Over her career, Lucy has built a reputation for creating change and elevating those around her. A connector and a champion of intersectional stories, she is dedicated to increasing the visibility of marginalized voices to help humanity reflect, learn, care and grow.

The Tribeca Film Festival was founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal and Craig Hatkoff in 2001 to spur the economic and cultural revitalization of lower Manhattan following the attacks on the World Trade Center. Now in its 18th year, the Festival has evolved into a destination for creativity that reimagines the cinematic experience and explores how art can unite communities. It has become a leading cultural event that brings visionaries and diverse audiences together to celebrate storytelling in all its forms, including film, TV, VR, gaming, music, and online work. With strong roots in independent film, Tribeca is a platform for creative expression and immersive entertainment. The Festival champions emerging and established voices; discovers award-winning filmmakers and creators; curates innovative experiences; and introduces new technology and ideas through premieres, exhibitions, talks, and live performances.



Selin Murat - Canada
RIDM / Film & Industry Programmer | Parabola Films / Producer

Co-founder of Parabola Films in Montreal, Selin Murat has been working in independent documentary in Canada and internationally for more than ten years, producing award-winning feature-length films for broadcast and theatrical releases. Residing between Montreal and Istanbul, Selin now collaborates with RIDM and its forum, as a film and industry programmer.

Quebec's only film festival dedicated to creative documentaries, the Montreal International Documentary Festival (RIDM) presents the best reality-based films, including the works of established directors and new talents alike. RIDM also offers activities for professionals in the industry in the form of the RIDM Forum, a unique bilingual documentary market in North America. RIDM Forum provides an intensive program of professional workshops, conferences and business meetings that focus on training, sharing of knowledge and encourages the development of partnerships.



Hassan Naeimi - Qatar
Qatar TV | Planning Producer

Qatar Television is a Qatar Government-owned public service national television channel in Qatar that is owned and run by Qatar General Broadcasting and Television Corporation. The channel broadcasts various programmes including news, economical bulletins, documentaries, religious programmes, and entertainment. Launched in 1970, QTV was the first television network to produce and transmit its own programmes in the country. In 1974, it began transmitting colour broadcasts. It had a monopoly on television audience until 1993, when Qatar Cablevision began broadcasting satellite channels. Despite the broadening of television offerings, Qatar TV remains popular among locals.



Monika Navarro - USA
Tribeca Film Institute | Senior Director, Programs

Monika Navarro recently joined TFI as Senior Director of Programs. Navarro comes to TFI from ITVS, where she managed multiple content and funding initiatives, helmed a development portfolio and acted as consulting producer on a variety of projects, including 'Las Sandinistas' (SXSW 2018), and 'Councilwoman' (America Reframed). Navarro oversees all of TFI's documentary, scripted, education and interactive programming initiatives. Navarro previously directed the documentary film 'Lost Souls' (ANIMAS PERDIDAS), which premiered on PBS' long-standing 'Independent Lens' strand, and has also produced content for World Channel, American Documentary, and the Peabody Award-winning PBS series 'Latino Americans'. She is a member of the Brown Girls Doc Mafia, NALIP, and an advisory board member for Firelight Media. She has served as a mentor for CAAM, Points North Institute, Big Sky Native Filmmaker Initiative and the 4th World Media Lab.

Tribeca Film Institute champions storytellers to be catalysts for change in their communities and around the world. Each year, we identify a diverse group of exceptional filmmakers and media artists then empower them with funding and resources to fully realize their stories and connect with audiences. Further, our education programs empower students through hands-on training and exposure to socially relevant films, offering young people the media skills necessary to be creative and productive global citizens. We are a year-round nonprofit arts organization founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal, and Craig Hatkoff in the wake of September 11, 2001.



Giona Antonio Nazzaro - Italy
Venice International Critics' Week | General Delegate

Giona Antonio Nazzaro is a General Delegate of Venice International Film Critic's Week, and programmer and curator for Visions du Réel (Festival de cinema de Nyon). He is a member of the SNCCI (Union of Italian film critics), journalist and writer. He has also programmed for the Torino Film Festival, Festival dei Popoli (Florence, Italy) and the Festival Internazionale del Film di Roma. Giona works with the Locarno Film Festival, and is an author of books and essays on Hong Kong Cinema and postmodern action films. He regularly contributes to the daily newspaper 'Il Manifesto'. He also writes for the Italian weekly Film Tv and is part of Filmcritica's editorial committee.

Venice International Film Critics' Week takes place during the Venice Film Festival and is the longest running sidebar of the festival with 31 editions to date. It has as its main goal to discover challenging cutting first films and new directors. Directors such as Olivier Assayas, Harmony Korine, Mike Leigh, Pedro Costa, Kevin Reynolds and many others have been discovered at the Critics' Week. All genres are accepted — Fiction, Animation, Documentary, Hybrid Cinema, etc.



Irit Neidhardt - Germany
Mec Film | Founder

Irit Neidhardt is the founder of Mec Film, author, curator, mentor and speaker in the field of cinema and the Arab World. She has co-produced several Arab feature documentaries. Irit Neidhardt is a member of the board of the German edition of the Global Media Journal. She is also a member of the German Documentary Association (AG DOK), German Association of Art House Theatres (AG Kino-Gilde) and The German Middle East Studies Association for Contemporary Research and Documentation (DAVO), moreover, she is a member of the executive committee of Nawras. She has served on juries for film festivals and funding institutions in Germany, Egypt, Jordan, Palestine and Lebanon

Mec Film is an international distribution and sales company for films by Arab directors. We represent short and feature-length documentary and fiction films, distributing to festivals, institutions, cinemas and for educational purposes and occasionally selling to TV. We work with VOD partners such as MMedia in Beirut, realeyz in Berlin, minaa in Amman or kanopy in the USA. DVDs can be purchased from our online DVD-shop or borrowed at selected public and university libraries all over the globe.



Orwa Nyrabia - The Netherlands
IDFA | Artistic Director

Orwa Nyrabia is the Artistic Director of the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam. He was born in Syria where he worked as an actor and journalist, before starting up the first independent documentary-specialized production company in the country, in 2002, together with his partner Diana el Jeiroudi. Later on, in 2008, Nyrabia and El Jeiroudi co-founded the independent documentary film festival DOX BOX, which quickly became the Arab region's leading documentary festival. Nyrabia moved to Egypt in 2012, then to Germany in 2013, where he continued producing award-winning international co-productions such as 'Dolls, A Woman from Damascus' (IDFA 2007), 'Return to Homs' (IDFA 2013 and Sundance 2014) and 'Silvered Water' (Cannes 2014). His films have earned a long list of awards including a Sundance Grand Jury award and a Grierson Award, and his work earned him accolades such as the George Polk Award, the Nestor Almendros Award and the Katrin Cartlidge Award.

The International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam offers an independent and inspiring meeting place for audiences and professionals to see a diverse and high-quality program. The diverse nature of the event applies to the form and content of the films as well as to the cultural backgrounds of the filmmakers. IDFA offers an alternative to mass entertainment and uniformity, confirming that there is an increasing need in audiences for high-quality films that delve deep and urge us to reflect. Since 2007, the festival's New Media program IDFA DocLab showcases the best interactive non-fiction storytelling and explores how the digital revolution is reshaping documentary art.



Karel Och - The Czech Republic
Karlovy Vary IFF | Artistic Director

Karel Och graduated in film history and theory. He has worked for the Karlovy Vary IFF as a member of the selection committee since 2001, in charge of the documentary selection and the tributes & retrospectives. In 2010, Och was appointed KVIFF's artistic director. He is a member of the European Film Academy, and since 2014 he has been working as a tutor of the Venice Days jury as well as the member of the commission at the Netherlands Film Fund supporting the development of projects in the international context.

Karlovy Vary IFF is the leading film event in Central and Eastern Europe. Established in 1946, the festival annually presents around 180 features within three competitions (incl. documentaries) and a rich sidebar program. Recently, KVIFF introduced a stronger focus on the film production of Arab countries.



Rithy Panh - Cambodia
Bophana Audiovisual Resource Center | Filmmaker

Rithy Panh is a Cambodian-French filmmaker, writer and producer. Born in Cambodia, he studied filmmaking at the Institut des Hautes Études Cinématographiques in France. He has directed numerous internationally acclaimed films, including 'The Rice People', which was selected for the Official Competition of the Festival de Cannes in 1994; 'The Land of Wandering Souls' (2000), which won several awards, including the Robert and Frances Flaherty Award at the Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival; the influential 'S21: The Khmer Rouge Death Machine' (2004), which took numerous awards around the world, among them the Albert Londres Award; 'Paper Cannot Wrap Embers' (2007), 'The Sea Wall' (2008) and 'Duch, Master of the Forges of Hell' (2012). In 2013, Panh directed 'The Missing Picture', which was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film and won the Grand Prix in the Un Certain Regard section at the Festival de Cannes. He then directed 'France is our Mother Country' (2014) 'Exile' (2015) Cannes Film Festival 2016, 'Graves Without a Name' Venice, Telluride, and Toronto Film Festivals 2018. He is also a principal founder of the Cambodian Film Commission, an industry development organisation that includes the CFC Film Lab, a professional film training programme for Cambodians.



Ewa Puszczyńska - Poland
Opus Film | Producer / Head of Development

Ewa Puszczyńska is an experienced Polish film producer. Her work includes the Oscar-winning film 'Ida' by Pawel Pawlikowski. For 20 years, she has been working exclusively for Opus Film, successfully leading international co-productions and executing projects for international companies. She was the Polish line producer for David Lynch's 'Inland Empire'. In 2012, she started producing films also through her own company Extreme Emotions. Her latest project was 'Cold War', a new film by Pawel Pawlikowski which won the Best Director Award in Cannes 2018, five EFA awards (Best Film, Best Director, Best Script, Best Editing, Best Actress) and was nominated in three Oscar categories (Best Foreign Language Film, Best Director, Best Cinematography). She is a speaker at Film School in Lodz and Andrzej Wajda Film School in Warsaw, MAIA, SOFA workshops, a talents' advisor for Torino Film Lab, and member of PFA, and the EFA board. Ewa Puszczyńska is an experienced Polish film producer. Her work includes the Oscar-winning film 'Ida' by Pawel Pawlikowski. For 20 years, she has been working exclusively for Opus Film, successfully leading international co-productions and executing projects for international companies. She was the Polish line producer for David Lynch's 'Inland Empire'. In 2012, she started producing films also through her own company Extreme Emotions. Her latest project was 'Cold War', a new film by Pawel Pawlikowski which won the Best Director Award in Cannes 2018, five EFA awards (Best Film, Best Director, Best Script, Best Editing, Best Actress) and was nominated in three Oscar categories (Best Foreign Language Film, Best Director, Best Cinematography). She is a speaker at Film School in Lodz and Andrzej Wajda Film School in Warsaw, MAIA, SOFA workshops, a talents' advisor for Torino Film Lab, and member of PFA, and the EFA board.



Mirsad Purivatra - Bosnia and Herzegovina
Sarajevo Film Festival | Festival Director

Mirsad Purivatra is the founder and director of Sarajevo Film Festival (Bosnia & Herzegovina). He is also a producer or co-producer of films such as 'Cirkus Columbia' by Danis Tanovic, 'Once Upon Time in Antaaloja' and 'The Wild Pear Tree' by Nuri Bilge Ceylan, and 'Siieranevada' by Cristi Puiu. A Professor at the Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts, he is the recipient of numerous national and international awards and recognitions, including Knight of the Order of Arts and Humanities (Chevalier de l'ordre des arts et des lettres) by the Republic of France.



Jean-Pierre Rehm - France
FIDMarseille | General Director

Jean-Pierre Rehm teaches history and the theory of art and film in various art schools, while also curating exhibitions for the French Ministry of Culture. He writes regularly for exhibition catalogues, on artists and filmmakers including William Eggleston, Mark Lewis, Roee Rosen, and Tsai Ming-liang. Since 2001, he has been Director of FIDMarseille, the International Film Festival of Marseille.

Obala Art Centar was founded in 1984 with the purpose of developing and promoting cultural, artistic and educational activities. In 1995, Obala initiated the Sarajevo Film Festival with the aim of helping to reconstruct civil society and retain the cosmopolitan spirit of the city. Today, the Sarajevo Film Festival is the leading film festival in the region, recognized by both film professionals and the wider audience. Obala Art Centar runs also the major art-house cinema, regular film distribution with a special focus on audience education and development through the Operation Kino program, and activities within the Festival and its cinema.

FIDMarseille is an international competitive film festival. Rooted in documentary practice, it also includes narrative features and shorts, and is primarily open to contemporary cinema. Eight years ago, the festival took the decisive step of welcoming in the official selection of fiction films alongside documentaries. In 2016, FIDMarseille presented about 150 films, for the most part, these were films making their world or international premieres. FIDLab is the FIDMarseille international co-production platform for projects at every stage of production. Ten projects are selected for two days of presentations, workshops, one-to-one meetings, and discussion panels.



Michel Reilhac - The Netherlands
Melange / Chief Executive Officer | Venice Biennale College /
Head of Studies

Michel Reilhac is an independent VR filmmaker and interactive story architect. A pioneer in Virtual Reality filming, his first VR film 'Viens !' premiered at Sundance in 2016. He is a thought-leader for hybrid forms of storytelling, and immersive, participatory, and interactive experiences. Reilhac is the conceiver and co-programmer of Venice VR, the first ever official competition of artistic VR content at the Venice Biennale International Film Festival. He is also Head of Studies for the Venice Biennale College, and was Head of the Cross Media College at Scuola Holden, Torino, Italy between 2013 and 2016. He is frequently invited to teach and speak at international events such as TED X, Cannes International Film Festival, Sunny Side of the Doc, Dixit, FEMIS, and CPH: DOX. He is also an international curator for Hybrid content and VR films at Berlinale Film Market; World VR Forum in Crans Montana, Switzerland; Cannes International Film Market, NEXT Pavilion; Paris Virtual Film Festival; and Venice International Film Festival. From 2002-2012, Michel was Head of Film Acquisitions at Arte France and executive director of Arte France Cinema. In 2012, in recognition for his work at Arte, Michel was named "Man of the Year in Film" by the French trade magazine 'Le Film Français'.



Louise Ronzet - France
Urban Distribution International | International Sales

After obtaining a master's degree in international affairs, Louise started her career in marketing & communications. Three years later, she turned to the film industry, working as a marketing & sponsorship coordinator in international film festivals in Spain and Australia. Back in France in 2014, she started working as an international sales & festivals coordinator at Bac Films. She joined UDI in April 2016.

Urban Distribution International (UDI) presents international arthouse films by promising young filmmakers and renowned directors whose films distinguish themselves through innovation and originality. Since its creation in 2004 by Frédéric Corvez, UDI has always been driven by the same goal: bring quality cinema to the largest audience possible on every continent.



Ghassan Salhab - Lebanon
Filmmaker

Ghassan Salhab is a Lebanese screenwriter and film director. He collaborates on various projects and teaches film in Lebanon. He has directed feature films such as 'Beyrouth fantôme' (1998); 'Terra incognita' (2002); 'The Last Man' (2006); '1958' (2009); 'The Mountain' (2011); and 'The Valley' (2014). He has also directed numerous "film-essays" including 'Le voyage immobile', co-directed with M.Soueid, 'Chinese ink', (Posthumous), 'Narcisse Perdu', 'My living body My dead body', and 'La Rose de personne'. In 2016, he was a DAAD (Berlin) guest-resident. He has also published articles in various magazines, and a book, 'Fragments du Livre du naufrage'. His latest feature 'Une rose ouverte / Warda' has been selected at Berlinale Forum 2019.



Rasha Salti - France
ArteFrance | Programmer and Curator

Rasha Salti is a researcher, writer and curator of art and film. Since 2017, she is commissioning editor for La Lucarne at ArteFrance. Salti has worked as a programmer for several festivals, including TIFF. She is presently a programmer for the Festival International du Film de Marrakech.

ArteFrance is a French-German public television channel. 'La Lucarne' is a weekly program dedicated to radical, auteur and vanguard non-fiction.



Pierre Sarraf - Lebanon
..né.à Beyrouth | Producer & Partner

Pierre Sarraf is one of the founding partners of ..né.à Beyrouth, the Beirut-based film development and production company. Born in Beirut in 1975, Pierre grew up in a city divided by civil war. In 1990, he emigrated to Italy, France then Canada to study Biochemistry and Business Management (MBA). After a few years of professional experience, he returned to Beirut in 2003 to set up "..né.à Beyrouth" Production which develops, co-produces and line produces fiction films. Pierre Sarraf is also teaching Cinema Production at ALBA university.

..né.à Beyrouth began in 2001 as an annual Lebanese film festival. Rooted at the centre film culture in Lebanon. After having played a key role in the Lebanese film scene, the producers and directors of the ..né.à Beyrouth family decided to produce films themselves. The team sought to support the blossoming Lebanese up-and-coming talents by actively contributing to this very culture. In 2009, the ..né.à Beyrouth team expanded into the advertising world. After having worked with the region's major advertising agencies, an organic growth into corporate film production developed. With a homegrown flavour, an intimate environment, and an ongoing thirst to explore new arenas, ..né.à Beyrouth continues to rise while staying tied to its rich Beirut roots.



Georges Schoucair - Lebanon
About Productions | Producer

Over his 10+ years of experience, Georges Schoucair has developed and produced award-winning independent movies and actively contributed to the development of the Lebanese cinema industry. His films screened at prestigious film festivals such as Cannes, Berlinale, Toronto, Venice, and Locarno. In parallel to About Productions, his Lebanese based production company, Schoucair co-founded MC Distribution, a distribution company which releases Arab and international films in the Middle-East. Since 2008, he has been the active vice-president of Metropolis, the unique art house cinema venture in Beirut. His most recent endeavour is Schortcut Films, which has the objective to invest and coproduce high quality international independent films.

About Productions produces feature films and documentaries with a distinctly Arab voice, expressing the identity of the region. Since 1998, the company managed to bring together an important network of Arab and Lebanese artists. They have produced award-winning films such as 'A Perfect Day' (2005), 'I Want to See' (2008) and 'The Lebanese Rocket Society' (2012) by Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige, 'The Last Man' (2006) and 'The Valley' (2014) by Ghassan Salhab, 'Stray Bullet' (2010) by Georges Hashem, 'Melodrama Habibi' (2007) by Hany Tamba, 'Ladder to Damascus' (2013) by Mohamad Malas, 'Tramontane' (2016) by Vatche Boulghourjian, 'Panoptic' by Rana Eid, 'Amal' by Mohamed Siam and 'A Certain Nasser' by Badih Massaad and Antoine Waked (2017).



Sebastián Sepúlveda - Chile
Editor/ Director

Sepúlveda lived the first 18 years of his life between Europe and South America due to his family's exile from Chile during the military regime. On return to Santiago in 1990, he began studying history. Towards the end of the 1990s, Sepúlveda studied screenwriting at La FEMIS in Paris and editing at EICTV in Cuba. He was involved in editing a number of films in the 2000s including 'La Leon', and 'Young and Wild'. Sepúlveda's directorial debut was 'The Quispe Girls' (2013), produced by Juan de Dios and Pablo Larraín. The film screened at the Venice Critic's Week and won Best Cinematography. In 2015, he edited 'The Club', winner of a Silver Bear at the Berlinale. He was nominated to the Spirits Awards 2017 for the editing of 'Jackie'. He's currently working on the editing of Pablo Larraín's new film, 'Ema'.



Alessia Sonaglioni - France
Eurimages | Project Manager

With a long-standing experience as a lawyer and manager in the Council of Europe, Alessia has spent nine years at Eurimages, a film fund that finances co-productions. She also manages a non-profit organisation supporting European women professionals in the audiovisual sector (EWA Network).

Eurimages is the cultural support fund of the Council of Europe. Established in 1989, it currently numbers 38 of the 47 member states of the Strasbourg-based Organisation, plus Canada as Associate member. Eurimages promotes independent filmmaking by providing financial support to feature-length films, animation and documentary films. In doing so, it encourages co-operation between professionals established in different countries. Eurimages has a total annual budget of €25 million. This financial envelope derives essentially from the contributions of the member states as well as returns on the loans granted.



Alessandra Speciale - Italy
**Venice Film Festival / Africa and Arab Countries correspondent /
Head of Final Cut in Venice**

Alessandra Speciale is a consultant for Africa and Arab Countries at the Venice International Film Festival, and head of the project of Final Cut in Venice, a workshop to support African and Arab films in post-production. Since 1991, she has been Artistic Director of the African, Asian and Latin America Film Festival of Milan. With the association COE, she has distributed more than 200 films in Italian alternative circuits. She has also collaborated with other festivals, such as the Locarno Festival and the San Sebastián International Film Festival. In 2016, Speciale was elected President of the Milano Film Network.

Final Cut in Venice is a project proposed by Venice Production Bridge, with its sixth edition due to take place in September 2018. This work-in-progress workshop will present six quality rough cuts coming from all African countries, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria, giving filmmakers the opportunity to find the post-production financing necessary to complete their work.



Konstantina Stavrianou - Greece
Graal S.A. | Managing Director

Konstantina Stavrianou was born in Athens and co-founded Graal S.A. in 1999. Since 2003, she has been working in film post-production as a producer on short and feature-length narrative films as well as documentaries. She oversees the co-production and post-production sectors for both Greek and international productions, and is Graal's managing director. Stavrianou has served as a jury member at co-production markets, and at film festivals in Thessaloniki, Istanbul, and Romania. She is a Berlinale Talents alumna and a member of the EAVE network.

Graal is a production and post-production facility in Greece. The company, currently in its 19th year of operation, is clearly focused on cinema. In 2003, they entered international co-production for the first time and continued with a wide selection of projects. It has an extensive international track record, with films in Cannes, Venice, Berlinale and other international festivals. Graal has co-produced 53 films to date and has a portfolio of approx. 390 titles. Since 2010 it is the main sponsor of the Agora Film Market section of Thessaloniki IFF, offering a complete image post-production award.



Nadia Tebib - Qatar
Al Jazeera Network | Senior Producer

Nadia Tebib has been a Senior Acquisition Producer at Al Jazeera Arabic since 1998. Her primary role is filtering, and evaluating of high-value documentary content under budgetary parameters for Al Jazeera Arabic Channel. She evaluates, researches and manages documentaries coming from worldwide companies according to the network's Code of Ethics and editorial needs. She also attends international markets for viewing and acquiring programs for the channel, as well as assisting in the development of new network strategies.

Launched in 1996, Al Jazeera was the first independent news channel in the Arab world dedicated to providing comprehensive news and live debate. It challenged established narratives and gave a global audience an alternative voice – one that put the human being back at the centre of the news agenda – quickly making it one of the world's most influential news networks. Since then, it has added new channels and services, with more than 70 bureaus around the world, while maintaining the independent and pioneering spirit that defined its character.



Christoph Terhechte - Germany
Marrakech International Film Festival | Artistic Director

Christoph Terhechte was Artistic Director of the Forum at Berlin International Film Festival from 2001 to 2018. In 2018, he became the Artistic Director of the Marrakech International Film Festival.

The Marrakech International Film Festival was created in 2001 by His Majesty King Mohammed VI to promote arts and the film industry in Morocco.



Benjamin Thompson - USA
Tribeca Film Festival | Short Film Programmer

After graduating from Aberystwyth University in 2003, Ben left Wales to head to New York. Shortly after arriving he joined the Tribeca Film Festival. While there he discovered a passion for short-form storytelling and creativity and began working with the programming team watching film submissions. In 2010, he became the Shorts Programmer for the festival. Ben is fascinated by the influence film has on our world and culture, and travels to search out new stories from around the globe. He has watched over 8,000 short films for Tribeca alone.

Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal, and Craig Hatkoff founded the Tribeca Film Festival in 2002 to contribute to the revitalization of lower Manhattan in the wake of September 11. The mission of the Tribeca Film Festival is to enable the international film community and the general public to experience the power of film by redefining the film festival experience. Since its inception, the Tribeca Film Festival has won recognition as an essential meeting point for the cultures of the world. Last year, over 200 directors and 900 invited industry came here from all over the globe.



Sacha Tohme - Lebanon
Moving Turtle | Managing Director

As founder and Director of Moving Turtle, a growing independent distribution company based in Beirut and serving the entire Middle East region, Sacha Thome is committed to bringing quality cinema of differing genres to a range of audiences throughout the region.

Moving Turtle is a growing independent distribution company based in Beirut, Lebanon, serving the entire Middle East region. Our team brings a wealth of film expertise to deliver quality entertainment. We pride ourselves in formulating enriched relationships with foreign directors, producers, and fellow distributors. We commit to bring quality cinema of different genres to a range of audiences throughout the region by dedicating equal time, energy, and attention to all our titles.



Joelle Touma - France
Screenwriter

A screenwriter and script doctor, Joëlle Touma started writing screenplays in 1998. At that time she was also a TV host and an actress in Lebanon. She then became the Beirut correspondent for the French daily Libération and the Belgian daily Le Soir, also working as a fixer in Lebanon with several media outlets. Since 2006, she has been dedicating herself only to writing screenplays. She has worked with Ziad Doueiri ('Lila says' 2004, 'The Attack' 2011 and 'The Insult', nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film in 2018) and Rachid Bouchareb ('Just Like a Woman' 2011). She also wrote for Le Bureau des Légendes, a French series produced for Canal+ and is developing a new feature film with Ziad Doueiri.



Ania Trzebiatowska - USA
Autlook Filmsales | Sales & Acquisitions Executive

Ania Trzebiatowska trained in production and post-production at the BBC and the British Museum. She studied film as well as digital culture and technology in Poland and the UK, and has worked in the film industry for over a decade. In 2018, she joined Autlook Filmsales as their Sales & Acquisitions Executive for North America. Prior to that, she was with the NYC-based sales agency, Visit Films, where she served as Senior Director of Acquisitions since 2015. For the last ten years, she has also been acting as the Artistic Director of Off Camera IFF (Krakow, Poland). She is based in Los Angeles and travels extensively to international festivals and markets, speaking on panels and serving on festival juries around the world (including Sundance, Outfest, Rotterdam, Aspen and Seattle IFF).

Autlook Filmsales is a worldwide sales agent focused on author-driven, cinematic docs with international appeal. We select around 25 TV documentaries a year and up to 10 feature docs with global theatrical/VOD potential. Autlook is a full-service sales agent, handling festivals, TV, theatrical, educational, DVD and digital sales worldwide. Our projects include 'Of Fathers and Sons', 'Midnight Family', 'The Disappearance of My Mother', 'Machines', 'Heartbound', 'Jonathan Agassi Saved My Life', 'Island of the Hungry Ghosts', and 'Time Trial'.



Marie-Pierre Vallé - France
Wild Bunch | Head of Acquisitions

Marie Pierre Vallé obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Literature and Art History. She was responsible for television films acquisitions at TF1, then became Creative Director at StudioCanal. Since 2008, she has been Head of Acquisitions at Wild Bunch, working with domestic and international independent film companies.

Created in 2002, Wild Bunch is a leading independent film distribution company. A major player in international sales, Wild Bunch is also active in France on theatrical distribution (Wild Bunch Distribution) and in video distribution (Wild Side Video). The company has developed a pan-European distribution network with direct distribution arms in Italy (BIM Distribuzione), in Germany (Wild Bunch Germany) and in Spain (Vertigo). Wild Bunch has also positioned itself in the market of electronic distribution through its French VOD/SVOD platform FilmoTV.



Joana Vicente - Canada**Toronto International Film Festival | Executive Director and Co-head**

Joana Vicente is the newly appointed Executive Director & Co-Head at TIFF. Before joining TIFF in November 2018, Vicente served for nine years as the Executive Director of the not-for-profit Independent Filmmaker Project (IFP), the oldest and largest organization of independent filmmakers in the United States. Vicente was instrumental in the exponential growth of the organization, which fosters a vibrant and sustainable independent storytelling community through such year-round programs as the Independent Film Week, Filmmaker Magazine, the IFP Gotham Awards, and the Made in NY Media Center by IFP. Vicente has produced over 40 films (most recently the Oscar-nominated 'Capernaum'), and founded three production companies, including the first US digital production company as well as the first HD production/international distribution studio in the US. She is a recipient of the "Made in New York Award," which recognizes those who have made significant contributions to the growth of NYC's media and entertainment industries.

TIFF is a charitable cultural organization with a mission to transform the way people see the world through film. TIFF is dedicated to presenting the best of international and Canadian cinema and creating transformational experiences for film lovers and creators of all ages and backgrounds. As Canada's premier home of cinema, TIFF offers screenings, lectures, discussions, festivals, workshops, events, professional development and opportunities to meet, hear and learn from filmmakers from Canada and around the world.



Marietta von Hausswolff von Baumgarten - Sweden**MotherOfSons / Head of development | Torino Film Lab / Script Consulting**

Swedish screenwriter Marietta von Hausswolff von Baumgarten wrote and co-produced 'Call Girl' which won the FIPRESCI at TIFF and was selected at Film Society Lincoln Center, NYC. Since 2007 Marietta has been connected as a script consultant for Torino Film Lab, the Binger, and Venice Biennale College. As an independent consultant, Marietta has worked with filmmakers from 48 countries. She writes and develops Television Drama for some of the important Scandinavian production houses. She is a member of the Swedish Drama Union and the European Film Academy and a Tisch graduate. Marietta is also the Minister of a micro-nation called Elgaland-Vargaland, or K.R.E.V.



Elliott Whitton - USA**Cinereach | Head of Development**

As Head of Development, Elliott manages Cinereach's slate of films in development working closely with the Cinereach productions team and filmmakers to develop content for the organization to support, finance and produce. Elliott joined Cinereach in 2012 after spending time working in both advertising and film in New York, Singapore and his native Australia. Prior to moving to New York in 2011, Elliott worked as a creative for a range of brands including film campaigns for The Walt Disney Company in Asia. He got his start in film at American independent production companies including Big Beach and Likely Story. Elliott holds a Bachelor of Business and a Bachelor of Creative Industries from the Queensland University of Technology and is an AWARD school graduate.

Cinereach is an independent film production company, financier and foundation dedicated to the support of vital, artful films. As a philanthropic organization, Cinereach helps expand films' creative potential through adaptive development, financing, production, and other support models that align with the unique vision of each supported filmmaker. Recent productions include the narrative feature films 'We the Animals', 'Sorry to Bother You' and a forthcoming stop-motion feature based on 'Marcel the Shell with Shoes On', as well as the documentaries MATANGI / MAYA / M.I.A. and Shirkers.