

GIFF Gandhara
Independent
Film Festival

A CIRQUE FILMS INITIATIVE

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE 18 & 19 OCTOBER '25

3:00 PM - 11:00 PM

napa



NATIONAL ACADEMY
OF PERFORMING ARTS

HINDU GYMKHANA, M R KIYANI ROAD
KARACHI, SINDH, PAKISTAN-74400

MEDIA PARTNER



STRATEGIC PARTNER



RADIO PARTNER



TICKET PARTNER



STREAMING PARTNER



TICKET PARTNER



EDUCATION PARTNER



INDUSTRY PARTNER



DIGITAL MEDIA PARTNER



VENUE PARTNER



FESTIVAL OPEN

3:00 PM

FESTIVAL INTRODUCTION

3:30 PM



TOMORROW IS NOT LIKE TODAY

BY SEYED MAHDI KARBAIS / IRAN

HOSEIN AND REZA ARE CLOSE FRIENDS IN THE FIFTH GRADE AT ISAR PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. THE HAPPINESS AFTER THE GOAL OF HOSEIN IN PE, CREATES A STRANGE CONFLICT BETWEEN REZA AND THEIR TEACHER MR. AHMADI, BUT THE STORY WILL BE MORE THAN A SIMPLE CONFLICT.

SCREENING

3:45 PM



WATERLINE

BY LUCILA DE OTO, GASTÓN BONALVE / ARGENTINA

FACU SAILS WITH HIS UNCLE TO THE HOUSE OF HIS FATHER, RECENTLY MURDERED IN AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTEST. AS THEY ENTER THE ISLAND, TWO PREFECTS CHASE THEM AND SCOLD THEM. FACU ESCAPES THROUGH THE FOREST BUT THE PREFECT FOLLOWS HIM AND DRAWS HIS WEAPON: THE ONLY OPTION IS THE RIVER.

SCREENING

4:15 PM

BREAK

4:30 PM

WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

4:50 PM



THE PLOT & BEYOND

BY JAMI

THE WORKSHOP EXPLORES HOW A FILM'S THEMATIC STATEMENT IMPACTS EVERY ASPECT OF STORYTELLING — FROM PLOT AND CHARACTERS TO THE INCITING INCIDENT AND ULTIMATELY CONNECTION WITH THE CLIMAX.

WORKSHOP

5:00 PM

BREAK

6:00 PM



KARMASH

BY ALEEEM BUKHARI / PAKISTAN

THE LAST HEIR OF THE KARMASH TRIBE RECOLLECTS HIS NOW-FORGOTTEN ANCESTRAL TRADITIONS. HE WANDERS THROUGH FRAGMENTED MEMORIES OF HIS PAST, HIS LINEAGE, AND THE CITY, WHICH IS SLOWLY FADING INTO THE RUINS OF HIS CONSCIOUSNESS.

Q&A + SCREENING

6:20 PM

BREAK

6:50 PM



FANKAAR

BY AHSAN MINHAS / PAKISTAN

TRAPPED IN A NIGHTMARISH ROOM, A JOHN DOE CONFRONTS CRYPTIC MESSAGES AND SOCIETAL REALITIES IN A PSYCHOLOGICAL JOURNEY TO REVEAL A NEW REALITY HE LIVES IN.

Q&A + SCREENING

7:10 PM

BREAK

7:40 PM



HIMALIA

BY CLARA MILO, JULIETTE LOSSKY / CANADA

SET ON AN IDYLIC FARMLAND, A CHILD'S FASCINATION FOR THE LIGHT LEADS THE WAY INTO THIS OTHERWORDLY TALE STRUCTURED AROUND THE PASSAGE OF A SINGLE AND EVER-FLOWING SUNBEAM.

SCREENING

7:55 PM



SANDSTORM

BY SEEMAB GUL / PAKISTAN

ZARA, A SCHOOLGIRL IN KARACHI (PAKISTAN), SHARES A SENSUAL DANCE VIDEO WITH HER VIRTUAL BOYFRIEND, WHO THEN BLACKMAILS HER. CAUGHT BETWEEN HIS MANIPULATIVE BEHAVIOUR AND THE DESIRE TO EXPERIENCE LOVE ON HER OWN TERMS...

SCREENING

8:25 PM

BREAK

8:50 PM



A BETTER PLACE

BY ALI SOHAIL JAURA / PAKISTAN, SOUTH KOREA

AFTER BEING ABANDONED BY HER MOTHER ON A BUS STOP IN THE CITY OF SEOUL, 7-YEAR OLD JIA HAS NOWHERE TO GO.

Q&A + SCREENING

9:05 PM

BREAK

9:40 PM



THE TURTLE

BY MORIS AMIRYAN / RUSSIA

IGOR AND HIS SON SENYA TRAVEL TO NORTH OSSETIA FOR THE FUNERAL OF IGOR'S FATHER, WITH WHOM HE HAD NOT SPOKEN FOR MANY YEARS. SENYA IS UNAWARE OF HIS GRANDFATHER'S DEATH.

SCREENING

10:00 PM

AWARDS CEREMONY (ONLINE FESTIVAL PROGRAM)

10:35 PM

FESTIVAL DAY 2 END

11:10 PM

FESTIVAL OPEN

3:00 PM

FESTIVAL INTRODUCTION

3:15 PM



A YOUNG SOFIANE

BY FABIEN ARA / FRANCE

ZOLÉRA RECEIVES A CALL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT; HER SON SOFIANE HAS HAD A SCOOTER ACCIDENT. THE DOCTORS INFORM HER THAT HE COLLIDED WITH AN AMBULANCE AND DID NOT SURVIVE. SOFIANE'S BLOOD TYPE, A-, SUGGESTS INTOXICATION; THE YOUNG DELINQUENT CAUSED THE ACCIDENT, AND THE FIREFIGHTERS ARE NOT AT FAULT. HOWEVER, A DOUBT REMAINS: SOFIANE'S BLOOD TYPE WAS ACTUALLY "A+."

SCREENING

3:25 PM



THE LATE WIND

BY SHUGYLA SERZHAN / KAZAKHSTAN

A YOUNG PREGNANT WOMAN GRAPPLES WITH AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE AS HER BOYFRIEND VANISHES, LEAVING HER SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS AMID CITY TURMOIL

SCREENING

4:05 PM

BREAK

4:30 PM



FISH, PLEASE!

BY HARIS YULIYANTO / INDONESIA

DURING A TOUGH TIME, ROZAQ (35), A SOON-TO-BE FATHER, DESPERATELY STOLE FISH FROM A FOOD SUPPLIER AT THE HARBOR TO SAVE HIS WIFE, SASA (36), AND HER PREGNANCY. WORRIED ABOUT THEIR BABY BEING STUNT LIKE HIM, HE TOOK A BIG CHANCE. HOWEVER, A MYSTERIOUS GAS THREATENED TO TRANSFORM HIM INTO A FISH.

SCREENING

4:50 PM

BREAK

5:10 PM



MOTHER (MAI)

BY TITO REFOXO / SPAIN

ROIS, 1970. IN A SMALL VILLAGE IN THE RURAL REGION OF GALICIA, THE DISAPPEARANCE OF A LITTLE GIRL SHAKES THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE BANDÍN FAMILY. ONLY A COMPLEX PLAN AND A MOTHER DESPERATE TO RECOVER WHAT SHE LOVES MOST CAN CLARIFY HER WHEREABOUTS.

SCREENING

5:25 PM



PLACE UNDER THE SUN

BY VLAD BOLGARIN / MOLDOVA

A TALENTED PIANIST AND HIS 8-YEAR-OLD SON STRUGGLE TO FIND A PLACE TO SELL VEGETABLES AT THE BIGGEST MARKET IN MOLDOVA'S 2000'. WHEN THE FATHER SEEMS TO GIVE UP UNDER THE BURDEN OF HIS PRECARIOUS EXISTENCE, A GESTURE FROM HIS SON BRINGS NEW HOPE.

SCREENING

5:45 PM

BREAK

6:05 PM



KAREEM

BY ABDUL MAJID ABBASI / PAKISTAN

SEVEN-YEAR-OLD KAREEM EAGERLY AWAITS THE RETURN OF HIS FATHER, WHO HAS SPENT YEARS WORKING ABROAD.

Q&A + SCREENING

6:25 PM

SEEPRIIME LAUNCHPAD / NETWORKING

7:10 PM



Nabeel Qureshi
Panelist



Fizza Ali Meerza
Panelist



Nadeem Baig
Panelist

HOW DOES CULTURE SHAPE STORIES? AND DO STORIES SHAPE OUR CULTURE IN RETURN?

A THOUGHT-PROVOKING CONVERSATION ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CINEMA AND SOCIETY — EXPLORING WHETHER FILMS MERELY REFLECT THE WORLD AROUND US, OR HAVE THE POWER TO INFLUENCE CHANGE.

PANEL DISCUSSION

7:45 PM

BREAK

8:20 PM



TIME AFTER TIME

BY TABISH HABIB / PAKISTAN

TIME AFTER TIME IS AN ODE TO ALL THE FATHERS WHO DESPITE EVERYTHING, CONTINUE TO SHOW UP WITH LOVE, VULNERABILITY, AND HOPE IN EVEN THE MOST HOPELESS OF TIMES.

SCREENING

8:35 PM



ZOÉ

BY RÉMI ST-MICHEL / CANADA

THE REMAINING SHREDS OF ZOE'S MIND DESPERATELY CLING TO HER VAGUE MEMORIES OF BETTER FEELINGS.

SCREENING

9:00 PM

BREAK

9:15 PM



THE TEMPLE

BY ALAIN FOURNIER / GERMANY

THE CREW OF A GERMAN U-BOAT ON A MISSION IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC WITNESS STRANGE PHENOMENA ON BOARD. AFTER AN INEXPLICABLE EXPLOSION IN THE ENGINE ROOM, THE SUBMARINE SLOWLY SINKS TO THE ABYSSAL DEPTHS, WHILE MADNESS DECIMATES THE SUBMARINERS.

SCREENING

9:30 PM

BREAK

9:50 PM



THE PROFESSIONAL PARENT

BY ERIK JASAŇ / SLOVAKIA

INGRID, A SINGLE MOTHER LIVING WITH HER DAUGHTER AND GRANDMOTHER IN AN EASTERN SLOVAK VILLAGE WHERE ROMA FACE STIGMA, BECOMES A PROFESSIONAL PARENT TO A ROMA GIRL TO SURVIVE.

SELECTIONS AND MARKETS:

78TH FESTIVAL DE CANNES

24TH FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE CINE DE LEBU (OSCAR® QUALIFYING)

20TH HOLLYSHORTS FILM FESTIVAL (OSCAR® QUALIFYING),

17TH BALI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (OSCAR® QUALIFYING),

44TH THOMAS EDISON FILM FESTIVAL (OSCAR® QUALIFYING) - HONORABLE MENTION AWARD

11TH ALEXANDRIA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL (OSCAR® QUALIFYING)

41TH ST KIDLA FILM FESTIVAL (OSCAR® QUALIFYING), 53RD HUESCA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (OSCAR® QUALIFYING),

50TH ODENSE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (OSCAR® AND EFA QUALIFYING),

23RD TIRANA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (OSCAR® AND EUROPEAN OSCAR QUALIFYING)

CLOSING FILM - EXCLUSIVE

22:05 PM

**AWARDS CEREMONY
IN-PERSON FESTIVAL PROGRAM
BOTH FOREIGN & LOCAL LANGUAGE FILMS**

10:35 PM

FESTIVAL DAY 3 END

11:10 PM