



IDFA announces selections for four competitions and new program IDFA on Stage

Amsterdam, Tuesday 16 October 2018

Today the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) has published the films selected for the **Mid-length, Short, Student, and Kids & Docs** competitions on its website. Furthermore, IDFA presents yet another new program: **IDFA on Stage**, with four events situated at the intersection of performing arts and documentary film. As of today, a total of 67 new films have been added to the festival program. On Wednesday October 24th, IDFA will announce the full program and its opening film.

IDFA Competition for Mid-length Documentary

The films in the IDFA Competition for Mid-length Documentary once again show the gradual decline of the traditionally formatted one-hour documentary in this category. The selected films abandon formal conventions in terms of narrative structure, framing, choice of subject matter, and length, in favor of imagination and complexity.

IDFA Competition for Short Documentary

The quality of films from around the world eligible for the IDFA Competition for Short Documentary was so strong this year that not 12 but 14 titles were selected. A striking common feature of this year's 14 filmmakers is a strong leaning towards aesthetic exploration and a bold approach. On Wednesday November 21st, all films from this competition will be screened in Tuschinski 3.

IDFA Competition for Student Documentary

The IDFA Competition for Student Documentary is more cosmopolitan than ever before. Up-and-coming filmmakers are looking for a suitable film academy worldwide: the selected films include work by a Taiwanese filmmaker studying in France, a Puerto Rican studying at a film academy in Cuba, and a Kenyan studying at a German film school. Filmmakers in the selection are looking into finding their cinematographic signatures, and this has become more important than the subject of the film alone. In this way, this new generation emphatically looks beyond borders, is idiosyncratic, and strives for authorship. Another notable feature in the selection is the variety in duration of the productions, and the emphasis on high-quality post-production.

IDFA Competition for Kids & Docs

IDFA Competition for Kids & Docs is a pillar of IDFA and its policy, and stimulates the international dialogue on the form, content and future of youth documentary. For years the international film industry has been closely watching the high standards achieved in Dutch youth documentary. This year, four documentary films from the Netherlands have been selected for the strong pool of 12 films from Colombia, India, and Poland, among others.

IDFA on Stage

IDFA on Stage is made possible by Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds

Dziga Vertov, *Anniversary of the Revolution*

Alexander the Friend, *£¥€\$*

Emiliano Mazza de Luca, *Vida a bordo*

Amy Cutler, *Nature's Nickelodeons*

IDFA on Stage presents four one-off events exploring the space between documentary film and performing arts. IDFA on Stage offers film projects that go beyond the usual screening. In this way, Dziga Vertov's *Anniversary of the Revolution* (1918) will be brought back to life. This project is an initiative of Russian film historian Nikolai Izvolov in collaboration with the film and photo archive in Krasnogorsk. In the historical surroundings of Tuschinski 1, the images will be accompanied with a live score connecting the year of the Russian revolution to the present. Quotes from contemporary masterpieces performed by classical musicians Varvara Tishina (soprano), Victoria Dmitrieva (piano), Anna Azernikova (soprano/choir conductor) and Anastasia Kozlova (violin) blend with the poppy electronics of Moscow-based artist Kate NV to form a unique soundtrack that effortlessly bridges the intervening century. This festive world premiere of the completely restored and digitized version of *Anniversary of the Revolution* will take place on Tuesday November 20th in Tuschinski 1. IDFA on Stage also presents three contemporary immersive projects; the full program is now available online.

IDFA Junior

IDFA Junior is a balanced selection of youth documentaries for an enthusiastic, dedicated Dutch audience of children and parents. IDFA Junior is an accessible way of stimulating documentary culture among young viewers. IDFA Junior takes place on Sunday November 25th in EYE Filmmuseum.

Masters and Best of Fests now complete

The programs Masters and Best of Fests are now complete. The titles added today are Sophie Fiennes, *Artificial Things*; Sophie Huber, *Blue Note Records: Beyond the Notes*; Barbara Kopple, *New Homeland*; Barbara Miller, *#Female Pleasure*; Virpi Suutari, *Entrepreneur*; Murray Cummings, *Ed Sheeran: Songwriter*; Nicolas Jack Davies, *Rudeboy: The Story of Trojan Records*; Sean McAllister, *A Northern Soul*; Jordan Schiele, *The Silk and the Flame*; Kazuhiro Soda, *Inland Sea*; and Tim Wardle, *Three Identical Strangers*.

IDFA's audience program is supported by Fonds 21, VSBfonds, and Creative Europe Media. The competition program is made possible by Ammodo.

– End press release –

Editors' Notes

Press

For more information, please visit www.idfa.nl/en/info/press or contact our press office:

International Press Officer

Eveliina Petäjähö / eveliina@idfa.nl / +31 20 262 0766

Dutch Press Officer

Jair Tchong / jairtchong@idfa.nl / +31 20 262 0766

About IDFA

IDFA (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.

In addition to the festival, IDFA has developed several professional activities, contributing to the development of filmmakers and their films at all stages. At co-financing and co-production market IDFA Forum filmmakers and

producers pitch their plans to financiers; at Docs for Sale new documentaries are on offer to programmers and distributors; the IDFA Bertha Fund supports filmmakers and documentary projects in developing countries; and the IDFAcademy offers an international training programs for up-and-coming doc talents.

IDFA 2018 Ticket sales

From Thursday the 18th of October, tickets for IDFA Specials will be available online. Further tickets will be available from Thursday 1st of November on.

