



IDFA presents IDFA Forum 2018 Selection

Amsterdam, Thursday, October 18th, 2018

Today, the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) announced the selected projects for this year's IDFA Forum. The selection for the upcoming IDFA Forum reflects the inclusive emphasis of the festival and its continuous, world-wide support of documentary filmmakers. IDFA Forum takes place in Amsterdam from November 18th to 21st 2018.

IDFA Forum 2018 Selection

One of the largest co-financing and co-production markets in documentary film, IDFA Forum received a record-breaking number of 768 submitted projects this year. Of these, a committee of international experts made a final selection of 51 projects to be presented during the upcoming edition of IDFA Forum. The main production companies of the selected projects are based in 24 different countries.

This year's IDFA Forum selection features a broad array of projects, ranging from ones examining pressing contemporary issues to ones exploring the artistic boundaries of documentary filmmaking. Returning IDFA guests are **Nanfu Wang** (*Untitled Cuba Project*, United States), **Camilla Nielsson** (*Democrats 2*, Denmark), and **Renzo Martens** (*A Gentrification Program*, the Netherlands). Filmmakers' interest in experimenting with the language of documentary film is demonstrated, for instance, in *Lash* by **Yoonsuk Jung** (South Korea) and *The Way We Were* by **Marten Persiel** (Germany). Furthermore, this year's selection features new projects by established filmmakers as well as emerging talents. **Guy Davidi**, co-director of the Academy Award-nominated *5 Broken Cameras*, presents *Senseless* (Denmark/Israel). The renowned **Mohamed Al-Daradji** (*Iraq's Invisible Beauty*, Belgium), and **Hemal Trivedi** (*The Half Truths*, India, United States), as well as the up-and-coming talents **Sun Hee Engelstoft** (*Forget Me Not*, Denmark) and **Ayşe Toprak** (*The Other Half*, Turkey) will also present their latest projects at IDFA Forum 2018.

IDFA Forum aims to expand the genre of documentary filmmaking and has, since 2008, featured a Crossmedia section. Seven projects will be presented in this year's Crossmedia Forum, among them **Ali Eslami and Mamala Shafahi's** *nerd_funk* (the Netherlands, Iran).

The full selection has been made available [online today](#).

IDFA Forum reflects support of IDFA Bertha Fund and IDFAcademy

IDFA is dedicated to advancing the field of international documentary film with its professional activities, such as IDFA Forum. Supporting the development of the genre on a global scale is also at the heart of the IDFA Bertha Fund, which stimulates and empowers the creative documentary sector in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Middle East and parts of Eastern Europe; as well as IDFAcademy, which offers training to emerging filmmakers.

Of the 2018 IDFA Forum selection, 4 films are also supported by the IDFA Bertha Fund. These are projects by **Marianela Maldonado** (*Children of Las Brisas*, Venezuela), **Nino Orjonikidze and Vano Arsenishvili** (*The Platform*, Georgia), **Mehrdad Oskouei** (*The Revisited*, Iran) and **Hemal Trivedi**. Additionally, 4 projects of the selection are alumni of the IDFAcademy Summer School, and 1 of the IDFAcademy & NPO-fonds Workshop.

IDFA Forum 2018 Harvest

The audience program of IDFA 2018 features 13 films previously presented at IDFA Forum. IDFA Forum's harvest at IDFA 2018 has been made available [online today](#).

IDFA Forum is supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science of the Netherlands, and Creative Europe Media.

– *End press release* –

Editors' Notes

Press

Please note that IDFA Forum is an invite-only event. Please contact the International Press Officer, Eveliina Petäjäaho, if you are interested in participating in the event as a member of press.

International Press Officer

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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 documentary film talents.

The first edition of IDFA under new artistic director Orwa Nyrabia takes place from Wednesday 14th through Sunday 25th of November in various cinemas and locations throughout Amsterdam.

About IDFA Forum

IDFA Forum is one of the largest and most influential meeting places for documentary filmmakers, producers, commissioning editors, funds, private financiers and other documentary stakeholders. IDFA Forum helps facilitate the financing of important, unique and ground-breaking creative documentaries, whether they are single docs, series or interactive and crossmedia projects.

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