

Delegates Guide

4-9 March, 2016

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DOHA FILM INSTITUTE

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QUMRA DELEGATES GUIDE

[Qumra Programming Team](#)

[Qumra Masters](#)

[Master Class Moderators](#)

[Qumra Project Delegates](#)

[Industry Delegates](#)

QUMRA PROGRAMMING TEAM



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CEO,
Doha Film Institute
Director, Qumra



Elia Suleiman
Artistic Advisor,
Doha Film Institute



Hanaa Issa
Director of Strategy
and Development,
Qumra Deputy
Director



Chadi Zeneddine
Senior Film
Programmer



Jovan Marjanović
Industry Advisor



Khalil Benkirane
Head of Grants



Ali Khechen
Qumra Industry
Manager



Jana Wehbe
Development
Producer



**Mahdi Ali Ali
Al-Sharshani**
Gulf Film Development
Manager



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Grants Senior
Coordinator/Researcher



Nina Rodriguez
Senior Industry
Coordinator



**Maryam Essa
Al Khulaifi**
Qumra Accredited
Delegates Senior
Coordinator



Meriem Mesroua
Grants Coordinator



Wesam Said
Grants Coordinator



Anthea Devotta
Senior Coordinator,
Film Workshops and
Labs



Lauren Mekhael
Co-Financing Manager



Amna Al-Binali
Development Assistant



Vanessa Paradis
Grants Assistant



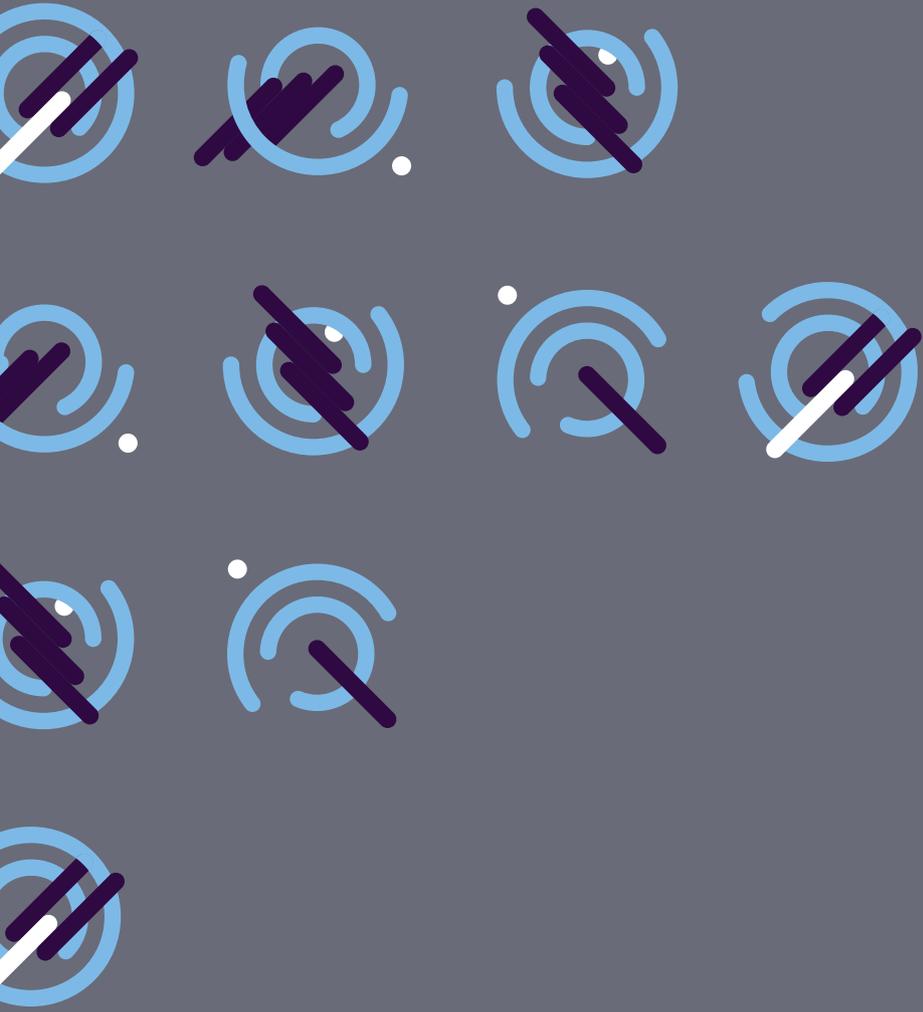
Lucie Meynial
Grants Senior
Coordinator



**Andrada Romagno-
Siordia**
Qumra Shorts
Coordinator



Farida Zahran
Development
Assistant



Qumra Masters

Nuri Bilge Ceylan



Nuri Bilge Ceylan was born in Istanbul in 1959, and spent his childhood in Yenice, Çanakkale, his paternal hometown. After graduating from the Department of Electrical Engineering at Istanbul's Boğaziçi University, he studied cinema at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University for two years. After making the short film 'Cocoon' (1995), his first two feature-length films, 'Small Town' (1997) and 'Clouds of May' (1999) were screened at the Berlin International Film Festival. His subsequent films are

'Distant' (2002), which won the Grand Jury and Best Actor Prizes at the Festival de Cannes; 'Climates' (2006), which took the FIPRESCI Prize at Cannes; 'Three Monkeys' (2008), for which he was named Best Director at Cannes; and 'Once Upon a Time in Anatolia' (2011), which gave him his second Cannes Grand Jury Prize. 'Winter Sleep' (2014), his most recent film, received the Palme d'Or, the most prestigious award of the Festival de Cannes.

Naomi Kawase



Naomi Kawase was born and raised in Nara, Japan, and graduated from Visual Arts College Osaka in 1989. Her medium-length documentaries 'Embracing' (1992) and 'Katatsumori' (1994), both of which are intimate looks at her own family, received international recognition and both won awards at the Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival in 1995. With her first narrative feature, 'Suzaku' (1997), a look at the impact of the economic decline in rural Japan, Kawase became the youngest filmmaker to receive the Caméra d'Or at the Festival de Cannes. She went on to win the Grand Prix at Cannes for 'The Mourning Forest' (2007), the story of a friendship between a retirement-home nurse and one of her charges, and was awarded the Carrosse d'Or of the Directors' Fortnight at Cannes to acknowledge her lengthy filmography of daring and demanding work.

Kawase returned to Cannes in 2011 with 'Hanezu', based on the novel by Masako Bando, and in 2013, she sat on the jury of the Official Competition at Cannes. In 2014, she was again in the Official Competition at Cannes with 'Still the Water'. Her most recent film, the award-winning 'An' (2015), opened the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes and is familiar to Doha audiences from the 2015 edition of the Ajyal Youth Film Festival. Starring two of Japan's most-renowned actors, Kirin Kiki and Masatoshi Nagase, the film is a delicate, tender story of two wounded souls who inspire each other to let go of the past.

Besides being a filmmaker, Kawase founded and is Executive Director of the Nara International Film Festival. In 2015, she was bestowed with the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Minister of Culture.

Joshua Oppenheimer



Joshua Oppenheimer was born in 1974 in the United States. A two-time Academy Award nominee, Oppenheimer is the recipient of a MacArthur Genius Grant. His debut feature-length film, 'The Act of Killing' (2012) was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature, named Film of the Year by 'The Guardian' and the 'Sight and Sound' Film Poll, and won 72 international awards, including a European Film Award, a BAFTA, an Asia Pacific Screen Award, a Berlinale Audience Award, and the Guardian Film Award for Best Film.

His second film, 'The Look of Silence' (2014) had its world premiere at the Venice Film Festival, where it won five awards including

the Grand Jury Prize, the FIPRESCI Prize and the FEDEORA Prize. It was nominated for the 2016 Oscar for Best Documentary Film, and has received 66 international awards, including an International Documentary Association Award for Best Documentary, a Gotham Award for Best Documentary, and three Cinema Eye Honors for Nonfiction Filmmaking.

Oppenheimer is a partner at the Final Cut for Real production company in Copenhagen, and Artistic Director of the Centre for Documentary and Experimental Film at the University of Westminster, London.

James Schamus



James Schamus is the screenwriter of Ang Lee's 'The Ice Storm', for which he won the award for Best Screenplay at the Festival de Cannes in 1997.

After co-founding the US powerhouse production company Good Machine in the early 1990s, from 2002 to 2014 Schamus was CEO of Focus Features, the motion picture production, financing and worldwide distribution company whose films include Wes Anderson's 'Moonrise Kingdom' (2012), Michel Gondry's 'Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind' (2004), Roman Polanski's 'The Pianist' (2002), Henry Selick's 'Coraline' (2009) and Sofia Coppola's 'Lost in Translation' (2003).

He has worked with Lee on nine films, including 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon' (2000), which won four Academy Awards, including Best Foreign Language Picture and Best Cinematography, and remains

the highest-grossing non-English-language film in the USA.

In 2014, Schamus directed the short documentary 'That Film About Money' (2014), and in 2016 made his feature directorial debut with an adaptation of Philip Roth's 'Indignation', which had its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival and was in competition at the Berlin International Film Festival. He was President of the Jury of the Berlinale in 2013.

Schamus is Professor of Professional Practice at Columbia University's School of the Arts, where he teaches film history and theory, and is the author of 'Carl Theodor Dreyer's Gertrud: The Moving Word', published by the University of Washington Press. He earned his BA, MA, and Ph.D in English from the University of California, Berkeley.

Aleksandr Sokurov



the Moscow International Film Festival; it would be mirrored six years later with 'Father and Son' (2003), which took the FIPRESCI Prize at the Festival de Cannes. His 'Russian Ark' (2002), remarkable for being composed of a single shot taken in the Winter Palace of the Russian State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, won the Visions Award at the Toronto International Film Festival.

His extensive filmography also includes numerous

Aleksandr Sokurov was born in 1951 in the former USSR. While a student of history at Gorky University, he began working in television and, at the age of 19, he produced his first television shows, and created several films and live television programmes. In 1975, he began studies at VGIK in Moscow. An excellent student, he was granted the Eisenstein Scholarship. At the time of his graduation, Andrei Tarkovsky, impressed by Sokurov's first feature, 'The Lonely Voice of a Man' (1977; released 1987) lent the younger director his support and the two went on to become lifelong friends. On Tarkovsky's recommendation, in 1980 Sokurov went to work at Lenfilm, while at the same working at the Leningrad Studio for Documentary Films.

Sokurov's work won international acclaim in 1997, with the release of 'Mother and Son', which won the Silver St. George award at

documentaries, and a tetralogy of films that are a meditation on power. 'Moloch' (1999), which considers Hitler in the time before the notorious Battle of Stalingrad, won the Best Screenplay Award at Cannes; 'Taurus' (2001) is a biography of Vladimir Lenin; 'The Sun' (2004) depicts Emperor Hirohito during the final days of World War II. The final film in the tetralogy is 'Faust', a retelling of Goethe's tragedy; it had its premiere at the Venice Film Festival, where it won the Golden Lion, the festival's most prestigious prize.

Most recently, 'Francofonia' (2015), Sokurov's consideration of the Louvre Museum, especially during World War II, premiered in Venice, where it won the Mimmo Rotella Award. Currently, he is in the process of founding Bereg, a film studio for non-commercial films.

Master Class Moderators

Paolo Bertolin



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 regional correspondent, covering several territories in the Asia Pacific region. He has collaborated with the Beijing, Hanoi and Mumbai International Film Festivals, the Doha Film Institute, the Udine Far East Film Festival, Nyon Visions du Réel, the International Film Festival Rotterdam, the Cannes Critics' Week, the International Film Festival Bratislava and Locarno Open Doors. Bertolin has producer credits on Phan Đăng Di's 'Big Father, Small Father and Other Stories' (2015) and Lav Diaz's 'A Lullaby for the Sorrowful Mystery' (2016), both entries in the Berlin International Film Festival Competition.

Jean-Michel Frodon



Jean-Michel Frodon is a journalist, a film critic, an historian and a professor. He has written for 'Le Point' and 'Le Monde', was Editorial Director of 'Cahiers du cinéma', and now writes for the online media Slate.fr. He is a member of the editorial board of 'Caiman Cuadernos de Cine', and a professor at Sciences Po Paris and the University of St. Andrews. His books include 'La Projection nationale', 'Conversation avec Woody Allen', 'Au sud du cinéma', 'Horizon cinéma', 'Le Cinéma chinois', 'Robert Bresson', 'Gilles Deleuze et les images', 'La Critique de cinéma', 'Le Cinéma français, de la Nouvelle Vague à nos jours', 'L'Art du cinéma', 'Le Monde de Jia Zhang-ke' and 'Cinemas of Paris'.

Richard Peña



Richard Peña was the Program 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, among them Michelangelo Antonioni, Sacha Guitry, Abbas Kiarostami, King Hu, Robert Aldrich, Roberto Gavaldon, Ritwik Ghatak, Kira Muratova, Fei Mu, Jean Eustache, Youssef Chahine, Yasujiro Ozu, Carlos Saura and Amitabh Bachchan, as well as major film series devoted to African, Arab, Argentine, Chinese, Cuban, Hungarian, Korean, Polish, Swedish, Taiwanese and Turkish. 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 in 2015/16, he is a Visiting Professor in Film Studies at Harvard University.

Qumra Project Delegates



Agnus Dei

See catalogue p. 52

Karim Sayad Director



Karim Sayad was born in Lausanne in 1984 to an Algerian father and a Swiss mother. After obtaining an MA in International Relations from the

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies of Geneva, he decided to become a documentary filmmaker. 'Babor Casanova' (2015), his first film, was selected for numerous international film festivals, including the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, and won awards from Doclisboa and the Festival dei Popoli in Florence.

Joëlle Bertossa Producer



Joëlle Bertossa graduated from the Brussels film school INSAS in 1999 and worked on several films as a first assistant director before being hired

by Nicolas Wadimoff at Akka Films in 2003, where she produced films including his 'Aisheen, Still Alive in Gaza' (2010). In 2012, Bertossa founded Geneva-based Close Up Films. Since then, she has produced several documentaries, among them João Pedro Plácido's 'Volta à terra' (2015), which premiered at Visions du Réel and was presented in the Acid programme at the Festival de Cannes. Her feature-length narratives as producer include Philippe Garrel's 'In the Shadow of Women' (2015), which opened the Directors' Fortnight at Cannes; and Paule Muret's 'For This Is My Body' (2015), starring Carl Barât and Fanny Ardant.

Close Up Films

Close Up Films is an independent production company based in Geneva. Not limited by genre, Close Up undertakes a wide range of fiction and documentary projects. Aspiring to reach a wide audience with projects that are demanding in both form and content, Close Up produces films from both young talents and established auteurs. Our films strive to question society and expand viewpoints on cinema and the world, and we choose to work on projects with international appeal, collaborating regularly with foreign partners.

Ali, the Goat and Ibrahim

See catalogue p. 62

Sherif Elbendary Director



Egyptian filmmaker **Sherif Elbendary** lives and works in Cairo. He graduated from the High Institute of Cinema in Cairo in 2007. His short films, 'Rise

& Shine, (2006) and 'At Day's End' (2008), appeared in numerous film festivals and won many awards. Sherif's 'Curfew' was part of the omnibus film '18 Days', which screened at the Festival de Cannes in 2011, and his 'Dry Hot Summers' won the Robert Bosch Film Prize in 2014, and was in competition at the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival in 2016. 'Ali, the Goat and Ibrahim' is Elbendary's feature-length debut. He is currently preparing his second feature, '2 Rooms and a Parlor'.

Hossam Elouan Producer



In 2008, **Hossam Elouan** received his MA in Cinema Studies from San Francisco State University. He received a post-graduate diploma

in International Co-production from EAVE in 2011, and trained in post-production at the EP2C Workshop in 2012. Elouan founded Transit Films in 2013 to produce Arab films that represent new Arab realities, and promote Arab presence in international film culture. His interests include issues of representation and misconceptions of otherness in global societies.

Transit Films

Transit Films is a Cairo based production company initiated by producer and EAVE 2011 fellow Hossam Elouan. Transit Films produces independent cinema that can reach art-house cinemas around the world.

Ali, the Goat and Ibrahim

continued See catalogue p. 62

Mohamed Hefzy

Producer



Mohamed Hefzy studied Metallurgical Engineering in London and works in his field of study overseeing his family business.

Over the last 10 years, he has managed to establish himself as one of the most prominent young scriptwriters and producers in the Arab world. In 2013, he was the only Arab to be selected by 'Screen International' as one of the world's most influential filmmakers. In 2005, he founded Film Clinic, a development and production company, and in 10 years, he has produced or co-produced 19 feature films in Egypt, the United States, the UK and the Arab world.

Film Clinic

Film Clinic was founded in 2006 and is managed by renowned producer and scriptwriter Mohamed Hefzy. The company is now considered one of the leading production houses in the MENA region; it not only creates unique feature films, but also empowers talent to do so. We are passionate about the filmmaking industry, as we enjoy operating in all its diverse fields on both national and international platforms. Our philosophy is to blend the creative, vibrant ideas of the younger generation with the expertise of the best in cinema, in order to present powerful films to audiences who have exquisite taste and admiration for the beloved silver screen

Amer: The Arabian Legend

See catalogue p. 102

Jassim Al-Rumaihi

Director



Jassim Al-Rumaihi works as a reporter at Al-Jazeera News Channel, covering news from Tunisia to Nepal. While studying at Northwestern

University in Qatar, he took several classes in film production. Since then, he has worked on a two short films, and he is currently working on his third with the support of the Doha Film Institute.

Bastard

See catalogue p. 82

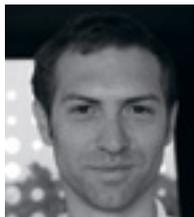
Uda Benyamina Director / Screenwriter



Uda Benyamina is a French-Moroccan director, screenwriter and actor. A graduate of the ERAC (École Régionale d'Acteurs de Cannes), she

trained at the Academy of Minsk, the Ontological Theatre and the Actors' Studio. She has performed in short and feature-length films and numerous plays, collaborating with Jean-Pierre Vincent and Youri Pobjgrenchko, among others. She has directed nine short films that have been shown in many festivals and broadcast on French television. Among them, 'The Road to Paradise' (2011), was awarded numerous prizes at festivals and 'My Big Fat Garbage' was selected for national and international film festivals. Benyamina is a recipient of the Emergence 2 Prize.

Marc-Benoît Créancier Producer



After dance and theatre training and a Master's degree in Film Studies, and several internships, **Marc-Benoît Créancier** finally determined his

vocation: he would become a producer. During his studies at La Fémis, his productions included Vincent Cardona's 'Coucou les nuages' (2010), which took second prize from the Cannes Cinéfondation, and Simon Buisson's web documentary 'Les Communes de Paris' (2010), which was selected for the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam. In parallel, he produced Claire Burger and Marie Amachoukeli's César Award-winning short 'C'est gratuit pour les filles' and worked in development at Son et Lumière. In 2010, he launched the production company Easy Tiger with Jessica Rosselet. He has since produced 20 short films. Créancier is currently in development with four feature-length projects. 'Bastard' is his first feature film.

Easy Tiger

Easy Tiger was founded in 2010 by young producers Jessica Rosselet and Marc-Benoît Créancier. The company's work is based on the search for talented authors and directors with varying backgrounds. We are convinced that the strength of producers lies above all in the talent of the filmmakers they can discover and provide with their utmost support. With this in mind, Easy Tiger has resolved focus on producing short films. In our view, the short form is the best school for gaining filmmaking experience, and can be a productive springboard for the transition to feature filmmaking.

Behind the Doors

See catalogue p. 54

Yakout Hbabi Director



Yakout Elhababi graduated from the ESAV Marrakech film school in 2010, and INSAS Brussels in 2013, where she studied editing. She has

worked on several Moroccan narrative and documentary productions, and also works as a freelance editor. Elhababi is currently developing 'Behind the Doors', her first feature-length documentary, set in her home region of northern Morocco.

Vincent Melilli Producer



Vincent Melilli is the Founder and Managing Director of the Ecole Supérieure des Arts Visuels de Marrakech. Previously, Melilli

was the French Audiovisual Attaché and Director of the French Institute in London from 2002 to 2004. He held an earlier post in Marrakech for four years, as Director of the French Institute, the leading French Institute in Africa. Prior to that, Melilli was Secretary General of the Maison de la Culture de Bourges, the oldest and largest of its kind in France. In the early 1980s, Melilli co-founded and ran the Escorial and Max Linder theaters, two of the most prominent art-house cinemas in Paris. Melilli grew up in Morocco, and left after high school to pursue theatre, literature and cinema studies in Paris.

Esav Production

Esav Production was launched in 2015. Its mission is to guide students of the École Supérieure des Arts Visuels de Marrakech (ESAV) through the making of their first professional projects, and to produce a new generation of filmmakers and cinema professionals in Morocco and the African continent. In 2015, Esav Production developed five short films, and work is underway on six shorts and a feature-length documentary in 2016.

Beirut Rooster

See catalogue p. 86

Ziad Kalthoum Director



Ziad Kalthoum was born in Homs in 1981 and graduated after studies in film. He has worked as an assistant director on several films,

series and television programmes, including Mohammad Malas's 'Ladder to Damascus' (2013). In 2011 he directed his first short documentary, 'Oh, My Heart' (2011), which was selected for the Carthage Film Festival. Kalthoum's first feature-length documentary 'The Immortal Sergeant' (2013), deals with the schizophrenic daily life and encounters he experiences between his mandatory military service in the Syrian Army and his role as assistant director during the shooting of 'Ladder to Damascus'. 'The Immortal Sergeant' was screened at the Locarno Film Festival in 2014 and the Fribourg International Film Festival in 2015.

Tobias N. Siebert Producer



Tobias N. Siebert was born in Munich. In 2004, he graduated with honours from the Munich State Academy for Film and Television with

a BA in Production and Media Economics. He began his career as an editor for television channels including MTV, ARD and NHL, and also acted as a technical supervisor for large public events. He is a partner and General Manager of Basis Berlin Postproduktion and Basis Berlin Filmproduktion. His filmography includes documentary and arthouse narrative films, as well as numerous television programmes. He produced Byambasuren Davaa and Luigi Falorni's 'The Story of the Weeping Camel' (2004), for which he was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary. The film was sold in 60 countries. Siebert is a member of the EAVE Producers Network and the German Producers' Alliance.

BASIS BERLIN

BASIS BERLIN was founded in 2006 as a post-production house for art-house films and premium television projects. With its partners' strong film-production background, BASIS BERLIN began to co-produce projects and increase developing its own content. In 2010, the partners founded BASIS BERLIN Filmproduktion to streamline this process. BASIS BERLIN Filmproduktion focuses on international art-house cinema with crossover potential, and high-quality television programming, which gives the company the financial freedom to invest in proper development.

Bull Shark

See catalogue p. 36

Mohamed Al Ibrahim Director / Screenwriter



Mohammed Al Ibrahim's 2010 narrative short 'Land of Pearls' screened at a number of events, including the Gulf Film Festival, the

Doha Tribeca Film Festival and the Abu Dhabi Film Festival. He participated in the FEST Training Ground in Portugal. In 2013, he wrote and directed the short film 'Bidoon', which was named best short narrative at both the Abu Dhabi and Gulf Film Festivals. He is currently majoring in Film and Media at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Mohamed Al Hamadi Producer



Mohammed Al Hamadi works as a Senior Standards Engineer at Qatar Petroleum. He graduated from the University of Tulsa with a BSc in

Chemical Engineering and is completing a degree in Fine Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, with a double major in Painting & Printmaking and Fashion Design. Al Hamadi has been heavily involved in the arts scene in Doha since 2007 and in Tulsa before that. In 2011, he joined the Innovation Group as CEO of Innovation Films and has since then produced a number of films, corporate videos, web series and music videos.

Innovation Films

Innovation Films is a film and television production company whose main vision is to create a solid film industry that exports world-class filmmaking. Past productions include the feature film 'Lockdown: Red Moon Escape', as well as several successful short films; the company also co-produced the American indie title 'KillCam'. Innovation prides itself on creating and nurturing local talent, both in front of and behind the camera, and most crew members working with Innovation are local film professionals or trainees. We actively contribute to local expertise by having interns shadow industry professionals on set and placing trainees on commercials, and short and feature films. Innovation also conducts scriptwriting, producing and directing classes, and weekly acting workshops overseen by Academy Award nominee Scander Copti.

Bull Shark continued See catalogue p. 36

Bassam Al Ibrahim

Producer



Bassam Al Ibrahim graduated from the University of Essex with a BSc in Engineering and Telecommunications. His educational

background, project management aptitude and business acumen have aided him in his role as Executive Producer and Board Member at Innovation Films. Over his career, Al Ibrahim has produced a number of award-winning films, including 'Bidoon' and 'Qarar', and has overseen production on many other projects that have pushed the boundaries of filmmaking in Qatar, tackling the thriller, horror and romance genres in films including 'I', 'His Name' and the feature-length 'Lockdown: Red Moon Escape'. Al Ibrahim co-founded ILOVEQATAR.net, an online community forum that has developed into one of Qatar's most successful brands, and was appointed a committee member on ict-QATAR's youth Internet policies initiative.

Khalid Al Jaber

Producer



In 2010 **Khalid Al Jaber** created Innovation Films, a subsidiary of the Innovation Group. His aim was to develop cinema and filmmaking in

the region with the help of his filmmaker partners. Al Jaber produced his first feature-length film 'Lockdown: Red Moon Escape' in 2012, and is set to produce a number of short films and features as part of the company's long-term plan to create more homegrown content.

Buqsha See catalogue p. 104

Fahad Al Obaidly

Director



Fahad Al Obaidly is a researcher who works for the National Museum of Qatar. Also a curator and fashion designer, he introduced

his brand Fahad Al-Obaidly in 2014. He completed his course in fashion design, specialising in casual menswear, at the Institute Marangoni. Being an Arab with a European vision of style in fashion greatly contributes to the philosophy behind his work. Al Obaidly has directed two short fashion films, and directed one short documentary.

Salwa Al Khalifa

Producer



Salwa Al Khalifa is a Sudanese filmmaker. She studied Mass Communication at Qatar University, and obtained a diploma in

Documentary Filmmaking. She has directed a few short films, and has worked as an assistant director and script supervisor in a number of independent short films in Qatar.

Death Street

See catalogue p. 38

Mohanad Hayal Director / Screenwriter



Mohanad Hayal was born in Iraq. After graduating from Baghdad University's Faculty of Fine Arts & Cinema and attending several

film-directing workshops in the USA, he gained considerable experience working as an assistant to directors Mohamed Al-Daradji and Oday Rasheed. He has made a number of short and documentary films. His 'Happy Birthday' was selected for the 2013 Berlin International Film Festival. He conducts filmmaking workshops and is one of the founders of the Iraqi Independent Film Centre.

Hala Al Salman Producer



Being raised by Iraqi parents between the multicultural cities of Dubai and Montreal has made **Hala Al Salman** a true citizen of the world. For five

years, she produced short socio-political documentaries from across the Middle East for Current TV and the CBC. Her background in journalism and never-ending fascination with the human condition have always informed her work as a narrative filmmaker. Her most recent film, 'Bêtes humaines' (2011) is a quirky French-language omnibus film set in the Montreal metro. It premiered at the International Newport Beach Film Festival and was nominated for a Gemini Award.

Dream Group

Dream Group is a production company whose goal is to seek and explore individual creativity, producing high-impact films with a social conscience. Dream Group has produced numerous short films, documentaries and television programmes and contributed to the establishment of the Iraqi Independent Film Centre.

Dede

See catalogue p. 64

Mariam Khatchvani Director / Screenwriter



Writer-director **Mariam Khatchvani** was born in Ushguli, Svaneti, and studied film directing at the Shota Rustaveli State

Film University. She has directed several documentaries, including 'Verdzoba' (2006), 'Beyond the Window' (2007) and 'Lichanishi and Kvirikoba' (2009). In 2013, she made the short film 'Dinola', which won 18 awards at European film festivals and was selected for La Fabrique des Cinémas du Monde at the Festival de Cannes. Funded by the Georgian National Film Centre, it screened at more than 30 film festivals and was one of five nominees for Best Short Film at the European Film Awards in 2014. The Sundance Institute invited Khatchvani and writer-producer Vladimer Katcharava to attend the 2015 Screenwriters' Lab, where they expanded 'Dinola' into the full-length screenplay for 'Dede'.

Vladimer Katcharava Producer



Producer **Vladimer Katcharava** graduated in 2001 from Tbilisi State Theatre and Film University. Between 2009 and 2011, he was the managing

director of the Tbilisi-based studio IFP, serving as production manager on Levan Koguashvili's 'Street Days' (2010). He was executive producer for Aleko Tsabadze's 'Renee Goes to Hollywood' (2010), Rusudan Chkonia's 'Keep Smiling' (2012) and Rezo Gigineishvili's 'Love with an Accent' (2012). In 2011, Katcharava founded the production company 20 Steps Productions and produced Sandro Katamashvili's award-winning animated short 'Granny' (2013), and co-produced Ben Hopkins's feature-length 'Lost in Karastan' (2014) as well as Mohsen Makmalbaf's 'The President' (2014), which opened the Venice Film Festival. Currently, he is producing Mariam Khatchvani's 'Dede' and Gigineishvili's 'Hostages'.

20 Steps Productions

20 Steps Productions was founded in 2010 in Tbilisi with the goal of contributing to the development of the film industry in Georgia. It focuses on development and co-production of independent films that will appeal to both domestic and international audiences. Among the company's recent productions are: Mohsen Makhmalbaf's 'The President' (2014) which opened the Orizzonti section of the Venice Film Festival; Ben Hopkins's 'Lost to Karastan' (2014), which was selected for competition in the Montreal World Film Festival; and Mariam Khatchvani's 'Dinola' (2014), a nominee for the European Film Academy's European Short Film Award.

Evil Eye See catalogue p. 40

Sophia Al-Maria Director / Screenwriter



Sophia Al-Maria is a Qatari-American writer and artist. Her first book, 'The Girl Who Fell to Earth', was released in late 2012, and her art

has been shown around the world, at the New Museum in New York City, the Contemporary Art Museum in Kitakishyu, Japan, and the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London. She made her Biennale debut at Gwanju in South Korea with 'Scout'. Currently, she is working on 'Evil Eye', a feature-length film funded in part by the Doha Film Institute. Al-Maria was a fellow at the Sundance January Screenwriters Lab in 2015, and currently writes for film and television in the UK. She will present a new 20-minute film at her first solo show in North America at the Whitney Museum in New York in July, 2016.

Anna Lena Vaney Producer



Anna Lena Vaney is a film producer. Working with esteemed international artists and focusing on artistic prominence, her company is

dedicated to bringing artists' creative vision into the field of film. Milestones of audiovisual work produced by Vaney include Douglas Gordon and Philippe Parreno's film 'Zidane, a 21st Century Portrait' (2006), which premiered in the Official Selection at the Festival de Cannes; Pierre Huyghe and Parreno's 'No Ghost Just a Shell' series; Jean-Stephane Sauvaire's 'Punk' (2013); Huyghe's 'The Host and the Cloud' (2011) and award-winning short film 'Human Mask' (2014); and Jesper Just's 'Servitudes' (2015), which recently screened on Times Square in New York City. Vaney is currently developing feature-length films with Just, Sophia Al-Maria, Parreno and Rirkrit Tiravanija.

Anna Lena Films

Founded in 1999, **Anna Lena Films** is a film production company dedicated to bringing artists' creative vision into the field of film. Focusing on artistic prominence, bold subjects and new formats, the projects of Anna Lena Films are produced in collaboration with esteemed international contemporary artists and authors. The company is run by Anna Lena Vaney and Victorien Vaney.

Ghost Hunting See catalogue p. 72

Raed Andoni Director



Born in Palestine in 1967, **Raed Andoni** started his career in cinema as an independent producer in 1998. He cofounded Dar Films, a leading

production company, and produced and secured international distribution for a number of Palestinian films. 'Improvisation' (2005), Andoni's first medium-length documentary as a director, was produced in association with ARTE and saw great success at festivals. His first feature, 'Fix Me' (2009) was screened at Sundance and Cannes, released in European cinemas, and won several prizes, including the SCAM award for Best Documentary of the Year and the Tanit d'Or for best documentary at Carthage Film Festival in 2010.

Les Films de Zayna

Les Films de Zayna was established in Paris in 2008 by Palestinian director and producer Raed Andoni and Palmyre Badinier in order to build close collaborations among writers, technicians and other talents, mainly from the Arab world and Europe. Zayna's documentary filmography includes Nassim Amaouche's short film 'En terrain connu' (2013); the collective project 'Family Albums' (Sameh Zoabi, Erige Sehiri, Mais Darwazeh, Nassim Amaouche; 2012) which has its premiere and won a special mention award at CINEMED; and Raed Andoni's 'Fix Me' (2009), which won awards including a Golden Tanit in Carthage and the BAFICI Human Rights Award, and was named Best Documentary of the Year by SCAM in 2011. Zayna is currently producing Erige Sehiri's 'The Normal Way' and Andoni's 'Ghost Hunting'. Zayna has recently teamed up with Palestinian producers to develop Future Logic, a new platform for Palestinian cinema.

Palmyre Badinier Producer



Palmyre Badinier studied Arabic Literature and International Relations at the Sorbonne and has worked in the fields of journalism,

diplomacy and international artistic exchanges. She has managed the Paris-based production company Les Films de Zayna since 2008. In parallel, Palmyre has worked as an associate producer for the Palestinian production company Dar Films, and provides legal consultancy for foreign companies and authors who wish to work with French partners. Palmyre is a member of EAVE.

The Great Family See catalogue p. 56

Eliane Raheb Director



Lebanese director **Eliane Raheb** has directed several short and medium-length films, which have won awards at various festivals and have been

broadcast on Arte / ZDF, Al Jazeera and NHK. 'Sleepless Nights' (2012), her first feature-length documentary, screened in more than 40 film festivals and was ranked fifth in 'Sight and Sound' magazine's listing of the best documentaries of 2013. Raheb is a founding member of Beirut DC, where she established the Beirut Cinema Days film festival. She has taught documentary filmmaking at Saint Joseph University since 2003 and is currently a guest of the prestigious DAAD arts academy of Berlin.

Lara Abou Saifan Producer



Lara Abou Saifan is an independent producer and production manager based in Beirut. She holds a BA in Communication Arts from the

Lebanese American University in Beirut, and has credits on work for major regional and international networks including Al Jazeera, MBC, the BBC and the Sundance Channel.

I Want to Feel What I Feel When I Am Asleep See catalogue p. 92

Abdullah Al-Mulla Director / Screenwriter



Abdullah Al-Mulla grew up in Qatar until moving abroad to pursue his university studies. He first became involved in film through the

Doha Film Institute, and has worked on 10 short films to date. He is currently working on his next screenplay and researching a larger work.

Beirut DC

Beirut DC is a Lebanese cultural association, created in 1999 by a group of filmmakers and arts advocates. The association's main activities are producing independent documentaries; organising capacity-building workshops with young Arab filmmakers; and staging the biennial Beirut Cinema Days film festival as well as several Arab film weeks in Europe and in the Arab world. Beirut DC's latest productions include 'Seeing the Self' (2015), 20 short videos by Syrian and Lebanese youngsters; and Bassem Fayyad's 'Diaries of a Flying Dog' (2014), Zeina Sfeir's 'All About My Father' (2010) and Simon Al Habre's 'The One-Man Village' (2008), three feature-length documentaries. In 2015, the association held the Beirut Cinema Platform, three days of meetings, training and pitching for 15 Arab producers and 25 industry experts.

The Innocent Prisoner

See catalogue p. 106

Amina Ahmed Al-Boluchi

Director / Screenwriter



Amina Ahmed Al-Boluchi

graduated from Qatar University with a BA in Mass Communication. She has directed 'The Pearl of

Qatar's Concert: Abdulrahman Almanai' (2013) and her graduation project, 'Made in Qatar' (2015). Most recently, working with the Doha Film Institute, she made 'To My Mother' (2015).

Kashta

See catalogue p. 94

AJ Al-Thani

Director / Screenwriter



AJ Al-Thani is a Qatar-born filmmaker. Her love for movies and moviemaking began at the age of six when she saw 'Star Wars' in

the cinema in 1999. She began to pursue her dream of being a filmmaker with the launch of the Doha Film Institute. Al-Thani's relationship with the Institute began in 2010 when she participated in one of its first film workshops, which opened the door for many local filmmakers to pursue their passion. For almost six years Al-Thani has been developing her skills with the help of the Institute. She is now working on her first professional short film through a grant from the Institute.

Jaime Siordia

Producer



Born and raised in Los Angeles, **Jaime Siordia** studied photography and cinema before beginning his film career. Spending several years

on numerous sets, he quickly began writing and producing television pilots and independent films throughout the United States. After spending a year as an event producer with Film Independent, he began working for film festivals including the Los Angeles Film Festival, Sundance and Tribeca, landing in New York where he returned to filmmaking. Now based in Doha, Siordia has produced films for clients including Qatar Airways, Vodafone, Barwa Bank and Al Jazeera.

The Film House

The Film House is a Doha-based film, video, photography and multi-media production company. Its talented team of experienced and creative storytellers, documentarians, animators, photographers, and film directors cover all aspects of projects, from idea generation through post-production. Not a traditional production company, The Film House offers flexible production to facilitate a range of requirements. With a wealth of local knowledge and 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 a home for high-calibre international productions that want to come to town and place Qatar in the spotlight.

Love in the Middle East See catalogue p. 108

Mostafa Sheshtawy Director

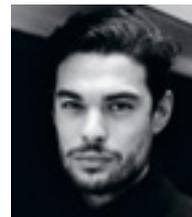


Filmmaker and photographer **Mostafa Sheshtawy** was born in Egypt and raised in Qatar. He began his film career by

documenting the Egyptian revolution in 2011. Since then, he has worked on various productions in Egypt and Qatar with the Doha Film Institute, primarily in the camera department. His directorial debut was the short documentary 'Immortalizing Memories', which screened in the Ajyal Youth Film Festival in 2015. Sheshtawy's first short narrative film is the romantic comedy 'Love Blood Test' (2015).

The Mimosas See catalogue p. 84

Oliver Laxe Director / Screenwriter



Oliver Laxe lives and works in Morocco. His first feature-length film, 'You All Are Captains' (2010) was premiered at the Directors'

Fortnight at the Festival de Cannes, where he received the FIPRESCI Prize. He is one of the founders of Zeitun Films. He is currently working on a new feature, 'Yihad'.

Felipe Lage Producer



Felipe Lage has been the managing director of Zeitun Films since 2009. He has been involved in the production of Oliver Laxe's

'You Are All Captains' (2010), Eloy Enciso's 'Arraianos' (2012), Alberto Gracia's 'The Fifth Gospel of Kaspar Hauser' (2013), Lois Patiño's 'Coast of Death' (2013) and Enrique Rivero's 'Pozoamargo' (2015), all of which won awards at some of the world's most prestigious film festivals, among them the Festival de Cannes, the Film Festival Locarno, the International Film Festival Rotterdam and the Jeonju International Film Festival. Lage's current ongoing projects are Laxe's 'The Mimosas' and Patiño's 'Tempo Vertical'.

Zeitun Films

Zeitun Films was created in 2009 under the management of Felipe Lage. Since its launch, Zeitun has taken on an important role in the production of art-house films in Spain. The company's first film, Oliver Laxe's multiple-award-winning 'You All Are Captains' (2010) was the first-ever Galician film selected for the Festival de Cannes. It was followed by Eloy Enciso's 'Arraianos' (2012), which screened at the Film Festival Locarno; Alberto Gracia's 'The Fifth Gospel of Kaspar Hauser' (2013), which received the FIPRESCI Prize at the International Film Festival Rotterdam; and Lois Patiño's 'Coast of Death', which took the Best Emerging Director Award at Locarno, and Enrique Rivero's 'Pozoamargo'. With its commitment to the world of cinema, Zeitun Films seeks to engage the creativity, talent and passion of young filmmakers.

The Mimosas

continued see catalogue p. 84

Lamia Chraibi

Co-producer



Lamia Chraibi

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 9 years.

La Prod

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 ('The End'), Narjiss Nejjar ('The Dry Eyes'), Mohamed Mouftakir ('Angel's Terminal'), Simohamed Achaour ('One Film'), and Talal Selhami ('Achoura'). La Prod has produced various projects, including feature films, documentaries and television programmes and series, and video clips.

More Than Two Days

See catalogue p. 112

Ahmed Abdelnaser

Director / Screenwriter



Ahmed

Abdelnaser was born in Doha. A filmmaker and an editor, he became passionate about cinema at an early age. After winning

two awards for best editing, he became a montage trainer with Avid. As a lecturer, he taught the art of film editing at the Aljazeera Media Training Centre. His first film, 'Children of the Earthquake' (2007) was shot in Pakistan with the support of Reach Out to Asia. His recent short film 'I Exist' (2014), filmed on the borders of Turkey, won five international awards for Best Short Film, and participated in more than 30 film festivals. 'More Than Two Days' (2015) was supported by the Film Training and Development Department of the Doha Film Institute.

My Uncle the “Terrorist”

See catalogue p. 74

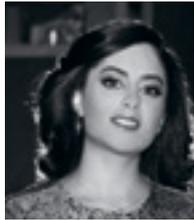
Elias Moubarak Director



Born in 1985, **Elias Moubarak** is a Lebanese filmmaker and professional photographer. He graduated from the Lebanese American University, where

he majored in communication arts, specialising in radio, film and television. He has directed several short films, including ‘Baghdad 64’ (2008) which was selected for a number of film festivals. He has worked as a director of photography and editor; since 2009, his photography has been published in numerous books and magazines, and has been exhibited on several occasions, including in a solo photography exhibition entitled ‘Rust Never Sleeps’.

Aya Al Blouchi Producer



After freelancing in Doha for production and publishing houses, **Aya Al Blouchi** assumed the role of Young Audience Coordinator

in Beirut at Metropolis Art Cinema Association. Simultaneously, she worked with TEDxBeirut as Logistics and Volunteer Coordinator for the 2011 and 2012 editions. In 2013, Al Blouchi joined the Doha Film Institute in Qatar as Youth Programmes Senior Coordinator. Driven by a passion to contribute to a sustainable film industry ecosystem in the region, she started to invest in and produce various shorts and feature-length films with students and established filmmakers.

The Pearl

See catalogue p. 42

Noor Al-Nasr Director / Screenwriter



Noor Al-Nasr is a graphic designer, writer and aspiring film maker. She has always been interested in art in all its forms, especially

the moving image. Her first short film, ‘Health Invaders’ (2015) was shot as part of a challenge for Qatar’s Seha health organisation. It made its premiere in the Ajyaa Youth Film Festival and was featured at the Festival de Cannes.

Seat 26

Founded by Qatari producer Aya Al Blouchi, **Seat 26** is a Lebanese production company that aims to support young filmmakers achieve their dream projects. The company invests in student films and produces short and feature-length fiction and documentary films by first- and second-time filmmakers. Seat 26 also aims to diversify into local, regional and international co-production projects. The company’s mandate is to spread film within the community by using film as a craft and medium for storytelling. From a cultural and educational perspective, Seat 26 conducts industry-related workshops, with a focus on script writing and editing. As an investor, Al Blouchi was an executive producer on several short films, including Bachir Abou Zeid’s ‘Soldier 888’; Hala Matar’s ‘Desire’; and Amir Fakih’s ‘Batikh ya Watan’. Her feature filmography includes co-production of Elie Khalife’s ‘Single, Married, Divorced’, and executive producer and producer credits on Abou Zeid’s ‘Mafkoud’.

Poisonous Roses See catalogue p. 66

Fawzi Saleh Director / Screenwriter



Born in Port Saïd, Egypt, in 1981, **Fawzi Saleh** is a screenwriter, filmmaker and human-rights activist. He holds a degree

in screenwriting from the Cairo Film Institute, and has contributed to numerous documentary films as a researcher and co-writer. In 2006, he directed the experimental short film 'Mocha', which attracted attention to his talent. A turning point in his career came in 2008 when he worked as an assistant director for Rashid Masharawi, when the director encouraged him to start shooting his first documentary feature, 'Living Skin', which he completed in 2010.

Karim Aitouna Producer



Karim Aitouna is a Moroccan producer. Together with Thomas Micoulet, he launched Hautlesmains Productions. Their first feature

documentaries are Anna Roussillon's award-winning 'Je suis le peuple' (2015), which was featured in the Acid Programme at the Festival de Cannes, and David Yon's 'La Nuit et l'enfant' (2015), which screened in the Forum section of the Berlin International Film Festival. Aitouna is member of EAVE and EURODOC.

Qafas See catalogue p. 96

Mayar Hamdan Director / Screenwriter



Mayar Hamdan is a recent graduate of Northwestern University in Qatar, where she studied Media Industries and Technology, with

a concentration in Animation and Post-Production.

Albatrik Art Productions

Egyptian actor Mahmoud Hemeida founded **Albatrik Art Productions** in 1995. The company's main goal is to support Arab filmmakers and to contribute to the growth and development of filmmaking in Egypt. In 2002, in collaboration with the German institution C.T.Z., Albatrik contributed to a project for youth that resulted in the production of a stage play. The company has also produced musical events at the Cairo Opera House and at Egyptian universities for acclaimed violinist Abdu Dagher. Albatrik assisted in the formation of the Actors' Studio, which supports young talent by providing acting workshops conducted by professional filmmakers.

hautlesmains

hautlesmains is a production company based in Lyon. The company aims to produce director-driven films with captivating stories that focus on social and multicultural matters.

A Ranged Marriage

See catalogue p. 98

Nora Al Subai

Director / Screenwriter



Nora Al-Subai is a Qatari writer and director, born and raised in France. She graduated from Carnegie Mellon with a degree in Computer Science.

Her short film, 'My Hero' (2013), premiered in the Ajyal Youth Film Festival, where it was named Best Short Film. The film also made its way into the Festival de Cannes, the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, the Children's Film Festival Seattle, and the Latin Arab Festival in Buenos Aires.

The Search for the Star Pearl

See catalogue p. 44

Hafiz Ali Ali

Director / Screenwriter



Hafiz Ali Ali is an established Qatari film producer and director with extensive experience in the arts. He began his creative endeavours

in theatre while still in school, and has participated in numerous local and regional festivals and appeared in several television series. Ali graduated from the California Institute of the Arts in 1999 with a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology and from Chapman University in 2005 with an MFA in Film and TV Directing; he obtained his Executive MBA degree from HEC Paris in 2014. Between 2000 and 2009, he directed several television shows and documentary films for Qatar TV and Al Jazeera Children's Channel before working for the Qatar Foundation as Arts Programme Manager; since 2013, Ali has been Heritage Houses Manager for Msheireb Museums and recently he was appointed Director of Msheireb Museums. His films, which have been selected for many international film festivals and won several awards, include 'The Oryx Return' (2007) and 'Scents and Shadows' (2010). His feature-length screenplay 'The DNA of Love' is currently in development.

The Silk Railroad

See catalogue p. 76

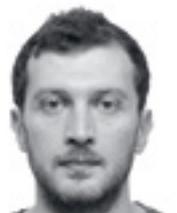
Martin DiCicco Director



Martin DiCicco is acinematographer whose documentary work has been broadcast on NHK, ESPN, and the History Channel in the United States.

Commercially, he has shot campaign spots for Google and Red Bull. He shot and directed episodes of the series, 'Undrafted', which was nominated for a 2015 Emmy Award for Best Documentary Series. His feature-length documentary filmography as cinematographer includes Nick Sherman's 'Soundtracker' (2010), which was selected for Hot Docs, and Joshua Tickell and Rebecca Harrell Tickell's 'Pump' (2014), which screened at the Zurich Film Festival. 'The Silk Railroad' is his feature directorial debut.

Kakha Macharashvili Producer



Kakha Macharashvili is the General Director of Sakdoc, a documentary production company based in Tbilisi.

Macharashvili's producing credits include Tinatin Gurchiani's feature-length documentary 'The Machine Which Makes Everything Disappear' (2012), which won the World Cinema Documentary Directing Award at Sundance 2013; and Nana Ekvimishvili's narrative feature 'In Bloom' (2013), which won the FIPRESCI Prize at the Hong Kong International Film Festival, and was named Best Film at the Sarajevo Film Festival.

Sakdoc

Sakdoc is a documentary production company based in Tbilisi. The company's productions to date include Salomé Jashi's 'Bakhmaro' (2011), which was named Best Central/Eastern European Film at the Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival, and Ugis Olte's 'Double Aliens', a Latvian-Georgian co-production which was selected for the IDFA Mid-Length Documentary Competition in 2015. Sakdoc is currently in production with Jashi's 'The Dazzling Light of Sunset', a co-production with MDR/Arte and YLE.

Stolen Skies

See catalogue p. 46

Laila Hotait Salas Director / Screenwriter



Laila Hotait Salas, Ph.D, is a Lebanese-Spanish filmmaker and artist. Her first documentary film, 'Crayons of Askalan' (2011) has been presented

in more than 20 film festivals, including Hot Docs, the Doha Tribeca Film Festival, CPH:DOX and DocsDF. Her sound art works have been presented at international venues such as the Centre Pompidou, the Kunst-im-Tunnel Museum Düsseldorf and several art galleries. Hotait was selected by the CPH:LAB as an international emerging film talent in 2011, and co-directed the film 'From a Distance' with Rania M. Tawfik the same year. Her work has received support from institutions including the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture, the Sundance Documentary Fund Programme, Screen Institute Beirut and the Doha Film Institute.

Nadia Hotait Producer



Since 2010 **Nadia Hotait** has worked as a producer for Laaventura and she has been Head of Development at Lola New Horizons (Lolafilms) since

2014. Her work has been broadcast on networks including BBC Arabic, Aljazeera and Documania Channel, and the films she has produced have competed at Hot Docs, CPH:DOX and DocsDF and screened in numerous other venues. Hotait was a Mohamed S. Farsi Foundation grantee in the European Master of Audiovisual Management programme. She received her BA in Audiovisual Studies from Complutense University, Madrid, and Waseda University, Tokyo, and graduated with a MFA in Film, Video and New Media from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where she obtained the Louise Raymond Fellowship.

Laaventura

Laaventura is an award-winning production platform set up by the Hotait sisters based in Beirut, Madrid and Mexico. Laaventura manages a wide variety of projects from film and documentary to large format video-installations and transmedia projects. Laaventura has been producing content in Arabic, English and Spanish since 2009. Our work has been broadcast on networks including BBC Arabic, Al Jazeera and Documania, and has been presented internationally at more than 50 film festivals. Laaventura's video-installation work has been exhibited at galleries and museums throughout the world, and the company has received several awards for its artistic production.

Those from the Shore See catalogue p. 88

Tamara Stepanyan Director / Producer



Tamara Stepanyan was born in Armenia and moved with her parents to Lebanon in 1994. After studying and working

there, she moved to France, where she is currently developing her first narrative feature. Stepanyan has participated in film workshops in South Korea, at the Asian Film Academy as part of the Busan International Film Festival in 2007; and in Denmark, in an exchange programme at Den Danske Filmskole, in 2012. She has won several international awards for her films.

Nathalie Combe Producer



After obtaining a Ph.D in Modern Literature, Nathalie Combe worked as a writer and translator for several French publishers from 1995 to 1997. In

1998, she created an alternative production company to produce experimental film and essays. In 2006, she launched her own independent company, Cosmographe Productions, to develop creative documentaries. Her films have received award from many international festivals and have been broadcast on ARTE, France TV, RTBF, WDR, 2M, and Al Jazeera Documentary. She is a member of Eurodoc, Unifrance and EDN.

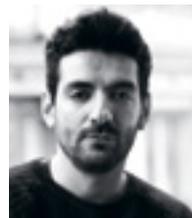
Cosmographe Productions

Cosmographe Productions is an independent production company based in Montpellier. Created by Nathalie Combe in 2007, it focuses on creative documentaries and fiction films. Cosmographe productions have been broadcast on European television, and have been screened and won awards prizes in numerous festivals worldwide. Selected filmography includes Hazen Alhamwi's 'From My Syrian Room', Christophe Farnarier's 'El Perdido', Elvira Diaz's 'El Patio' and Tamara Stepanyan's 'Limbo'.

Founded by renowned theatre director and actor Vigen Stepanyan, **Visan** is a small Armenian production company. The company has produced a number of Stepanyan's plays, and two films by Tamara Stepanyan: 'February 19' (2011), which won the "Hayak" Armenian National Award for Best Short Fiction Film and the Best Fiction Film Award at the Lebanese Film Festival, and 'Embers' (2012), which was named Best Documentary at the Busan International Film Festival and the Golden Apricot International Film Festival.

Till the Swallows Return See catalogue p. 48

Karim Moussaoui Director / Screenwriter



Born in 1975, **Karim Moussaoui** is an active member of Chrysalis, one of Algeria's most important independent film associations.

Moussaoui has worked on a number of plays and films, among them 'Paloma Delight' with Nadir Mokneche. In 2006 he made his first two short films: 'What We Must Do', based on Charles Bukowsky's short story 'The Copulating Mermaid of Venice'; and 'Breakfast'. In 2011, his feature film script 'Till the Swallows Return' was selected for the Méditalents writing workshop; there he met Virginie Legeay, with whom he co-wrote the screenplay for 'Les Jours d'avant'. 'Till the Swallows Return' was developed during the Cinéfondation's Résidence du Festival de Cannes between October 2014 and February 2015.

Jaber Debzi Producer



Jaber Debzi is a producer who lives and works in Algiers. Since 2014, he has been Chairperson of Chrysalide, one of the most important

and active cultural associations in Algeria. Between 2007 and 2011, he chaired and hosted the Film Clubs Association. Since 2010, Debzi has worked as a producer and production manager for numerous production companies in Algiers. In 2015, he launched Prolégomènes, his own film company. He is currently producing Karim Moussaoui's narrative feature 'Till the Swallows Return', Djamel Kerkar's creative documentary 'Spectres' and 'The Moped and the Goldfinch' a short narrative film by Amir Bensaïfi.

Prolégomènes

After co-producing 'The Days Before' (2013), a medium-length narrative film by Karim Moussaoui, Jaber Debzi founded **Prolégomènes**, an Algerian production and distribution company, in 2015. Its mission is to support bold film projects driven by a new generation of Algerian directors, among them Moussaoui and Djamel Kerkar. The company's strategy is to accompany filmmakers throughout the life of their films to ensure that the work emerges during a time when Arab cinema remains fragile. Currently, Prolégomènes has two feature-length films in production: Moussaoui's narrative feature 'Till the Swallows Return' and Kerkar's creative documentary 'Spectres', as well as 'The Moped and the Goldfinch' a short narrative film by Amir Bensaïfi.

To the Ends of the Earth See catalogue p. 58

Hamida Issa Director



Hamida Issa is a Qatari director, writer and producer. She graduated with a BA in Politics from University College London and an 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 is the first Qatari woman in history to step foot on Antarctica and is currently making her first feature documentary, 'To the Ends of the Earth', which considers her experience and environmental sustainability.

Justin Kramer Producer



Justin Kramer is an American filmmaker and artist. His career began in New York City, where he worked on projects for HBO, MTV,

CNN, VH1 and AMC, among others. His work has been seen in numerous award-winning short films, television shows, feature documentaries, music videos and commercials. In 2009, Kramer moved to Qatar to join the Doha Film Institute, where he produced several workshops and programmes that resulted in filmmakers from Qatar gaining international recognition. Kramer now heads up The Film House, the first production company of its kind in Qatar. His upcoming documentary 'Zabaleen', an intimate look at a family of Egyptian garbage collectors, is due to be released in 2016.

The Film House

The Film House is a Doha-based film, video, photography and multi-media production company. Its talented team of experienced and creative storytellers, documentarians, animators, photographers, and film directors cover all aspects of projects, from idea generation through post-production. Not a traditional production company, The Film House offers flexible production to facilitate a range of requirements. With a wealth of local knowledge and 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 a home for high-calibre international productions that want to come to town and place Qatar in the spotlight.

Tondo See catalogue p. 78

Jewel Maranan Director



Jewel Maranan is an independent documentary filmmaker from the Philippines. She began working on independent documentaries in

2008, tackling conflict situations in Metro Manila. Over the years, she has developed a deep interest in the ways in which history inches through ordinary life. Maranan is also an active participant in efforts to help develop Southeast Asian documentary work through SEA DocNet, a project-based network organized by the Goethe Institute in Southeast Asia. She currently manages Cinema Is Incomplete, a cinemathèque, film-distribution centre and production company, which she launched in 2011.

Ingmar Trost Producer



After graduating with a BA (Hons) in Film and Spanish and Latin American Studies, **Ingmar Trost** took an MA course in Documentary

Directing at Goldsmiths College in London. He founded Sutor Kolonko in 2010 to produce challenging feature-length documentary and narrative films. Ingmar is an alumni of EAVE, Documentary Campus and EURODOC, and was Germany's Producer on the Move at the Festival de Cannes in 2015.

Sutor Kolonko

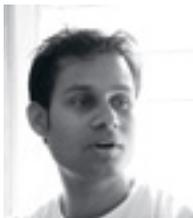
Sutor Kolonko was founded in 2010 to produce challenging feature-length films driven by strong stories told with distinctive style. The company strives to be a point of departure and a harbour, especially for young writers and directors. Recent credits include Felipe Guerrero's 'Oscuro Animal' (2016), which was in competition at the International Film Festival Rotterdam; Isabelle Stever's 'The Weather Inside' (2015); Ingo Haeb's 'The Chambermaid Lynn' (2014), which won the FIPRESCI Prize and the Award for Best Artistic Contribution at the Montreal World Film Festival; Juris Kursietis's 'Modris' (2014), which received a Special Mention in the New Directors section of the San Sebastian Film Festival; and Ilian Metev's 'Sofia's Last Ambulance' (2012), which won the Visionary Award in the Critic's Week at the Festival de Cannes. Sutor Kolonko's development slate currently includes Metev's 'Mimu Pepo Tati' and Tom Schreiber's 'Beautiful Souls', among others.

White Sun

See catalogue p. 68

Deepak Rauniyar

Director / Screenwriter



Deepak Rauniyar is a Berlinale Talent Campus and TIFF Talent Lab alumnus. His feature length debut, 'Highway' (2012) had its premiere at the

Berlin International Film Festival, and was the first film from Nepal to screen at a major international festival. Currently in progress, 'White Sun', his second feature, has been selected for L'Atelier at the Festival de Cannes and Boost! in Rotterdam, and awarded funding from the Hubert Bals Fund.

Joslyn Barnes

Co-Producer



Joslyn Barnes is an independent film producer. Among the films she has been involved in producing since co-founding Louverture Films together with

actor Danny Glover are: 'Bamako' (2006), 'Trouble the Water' (2008), 'The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975' (2011), 'The House I Live In' (2012), 'Concerning Violence' (2014) and 'The Narrow Frame of Midnight' (2014). She was an associate producer on 'The Time That Remains' (2009) and the Palme d'Or-winning 'Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives' (2010). Recently, she co-produced Apichatpong Weerasethakul's 'Cemetery of Splendour' (2015) and produced Avi Lewis and Naomi Klein's 'This Changes Everything' (2015). Currently, she is producing Yance Ford's 'Strong Island' and co-producing Lucrecia Martel's 'Zama', Deepak Rauniyar's 'White Sun' and Victor Kossakovsky's 'Aquarela'.

The World Is Blue

See catalogue p. 100

Amna Al Binali

Director / Screenwriter



Amna Al-Binali graduated from Qatar University with a degree in English Literature and Linguistics. She directed her first short film, 'Doctor's

Office', at the La Fémis Gulf Summer School in 2015. 'The Notebook', her second short film, had its premiere at the Ajyal Youth Film Festival in 2015.

Aadi Production

Co-founded by writer-director Deepak Rauniyar and actor-casting director Asha Magrati, **Aadi Production** is a team of experienced and dedicated film and video professionals based in Kathmandu. Aadi's first short film was 'Threshold'; it screened internationally, winning awards at the Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival in 2008 and the Ahmedabad International Film Festival in 2009. Aadi's debut feature 'Highway' (2012), which premiered at the Berlinale, was the first Nepali film ever to screen at a major international film festival. The company is currently developing its second feature, 'White Sun', which it hopes to launch in 2016.

Industry Delegates

Jad Abi Khalil - Lebanon

Co-founder | Beirut DC



Jad Abi-Khalil was born in Lebanon and completed his cinema studies at the Université Saint-Joseph in 1998. He has directed numerous short films and feature-length documentaries, and began producing feature documentaries in 2007. Abi-Khalil is a founding member of

Beirut DC, the cultural association for Arabic cinema, and chaired its board of directors from 2009 to 2013. He was Head of the DOCmed programme from 2011 to 2013. Currently, Abi-Khalil is Head of the Beirut Cinema Platform.

Beirut DC is a Lebanese cultural association, created in 1999 by a group of filmmakers and arts advocates. The association's main activities are producing independent documentaries; organising capacity-building workshops with young Arab filmmakers; and staging the biennial Beirut Cinema Days film festival as well as several Arab film weeks in Europe and in the Arab world.

Mark Adams - UK

Artistic Director | Edinburgh International Film Festival



Mark Adams is Artistic Director of the Edinburgh International Film Festival. Most recently he was Chief Film Critic for the respected film-trade paper 'Screen International' and was also a film critic for 'The Sunday Mirror' in the UK. He attends most of the key international film festivals around the world, and as a film journalist and reviewer for more than 25 years he has written for 'Variety', 'The Hollywood Reporter' and 'Moving

Pictures International', as well as many national newspapers in the UK. He has also worked extensively in the film industry - he was Head of Programming at the National Film Theatre in London for six years; was Director of Cinema at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London; and has programmed for film festivals around the world, as well as acting as a consultant for various organisations.

Established in 1947, the Edinburgh International Film Festival (EIFF) is world-renowned for discovering and promoting the very best in international cinema - and for heralding and debating changes in global filmmaking. Intimate in scale, ambitious in scope, and fuelled by pure passion for cinema in all its manifestations, EIFF seeks to spotlight the most exciting and innovative new film talent, in a setting steeped in history.

Kaleem Aftab - UK

Journalist/Producer



Kaleem Aftab is a film journalist and film producer based out of London. He wrote an acclaimed biography of Spike Lee.

Frank W. Albers - Germany

Programme Manager | Robert Bosch Stiftung



Frank W. Albers was born in Bremen. After his studies, he worked as a freelancer for the Berlin International Film Festival and for a Berlin-based television production company. Until 2000, he was the head of the Goethe-Centre in Reykjavík and a university teacher at the

University of Iceland. Since 2001, he has worked for the Robert Bosch Stiftung. Here he developed and runs the Film Prize for International Co-operation - Germany and the Arab World. Albers lives in Stuttgart and Berlin.

Each year, the Robert Bosch Stiftung issues three Film Prizes for International Co-operation between young German and Arab filmmakers to realise a joint film project, in the categories of short animation, short fiction film, and short or feature-length documentary. Young filmmakers in the fields of directing, production, cinematography and screenwriting are given the opportunity to explore the methods and creative styles of their partner's country in several international workshops.

Kamal Aljafari - Palestine

Filmmaker



Kamal Aljafari's filmography includes 'Recollection' (2015), 'Port of Memory' (2009) and 'The Roof' (2006). 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. In 2010, he taught film at The New School in New York City, and from 2011 to 2013

he was a senior lecturer and head of the directing program for the German Film and Television Academy (DFFB), Berlin. He is the recipient of numerous film prizes and art grants. In 2013, Aljafari received the art medal of the state of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil. A retrospect of his work is planned for 2016 at Lussas Film Festival in France and at the Cinéma-thèque québécoise.

Mohamed Allal - Algeria

Journalist



A journalist and Algerian media expert specialising in culture and cinema in Algeria, Mohammed Allal has worked for several media and Arabic organisations, and now oversees the Art and Cinema page in the Algerian newspaper 'Al Khabar'. He also prepares and presents the cultural programme on the KBC network. He has attended many international film festivals, and has held positions in several Algerian festivals, including Artistic Director of the Arab Film Days in Constantine, and as a member of

the Technical Committee and as Deputy Director of the Oran International Arab Film Festival. He has worked on a number of documentaries, including Merzak Allouache's 'Tahqiq' and 'Zero Zero', a film about the football crisis between Algeria and Egypt. He has a Post-graduate Diploma in Media Studies from the Research Institute of Arab Studies of the Arab League in Egypt and a bachelor's degree in Media and Communications from Badji Mokhtar University of Annaba, Algeria.

Talal Al Asmani - UAE

Senior Development Executive | Image Nation Abu Dhabi



Talal Al Asmani joined Image Nation Abu Dhabi after returning to the UAE from Los Angeles, where he obtained his Master's degree in Film. As Image Nation's senior development executive, Al Asmani works with writers and directors to develop

projects and send them to production. Al Asmani hosts Image Nation's film-chat segment called 'Mawaheb Chats'. His work is aimed at achieving a sustainable film industry in the UAE and the Gulf region.

Founded in 2008, Image Nation has become one of the leading content creators in the Gulf region, focused on its mission of helping to build the foundations of a film and television industry in Abu Dhabi and the UAE.

Zeynep Atakan - Turkey

Producer | Zeyno Film



Zeynep Özbatur Atakan was born in 1966 in Istanbul. After graduating from the Film and TV department at Marmara University's Faculty of Fine Arts, Atakan worked as an assistant director and producer, and co-founded her advertisement production company in 1994. In 1999, she transitioned to the film industry and began producing international film projects. In 2007, she founded Zeyno Film. In 2010, Atakan won the European Film Academy's Prix

Eurimages European Co-Production award, and founded Yapımlab. She has been Chairwoman of SE-YAP, the Turkish Guild of Film Producers, since 2011. In 2014, she was elected vice president of EWA, the European Women's Audiovisual Network. Özbatur Atakan won the Bilge Olgaç Achievement Award at the 17th Flying Broom International Women's Film Festival in 2014. She continues to work as a film producer, and hold production workshops in her studio.

Zeyno Film was founded in 2007 by Zeynep Özbatur Atakan. The company aims to produce and market films of international standards in Turkey and worldwide. Zeyno Film has produced Nuri Bilge Ceylan's 'Climates', 'Three Monkeys', 'Once Upon a Time in Anatolia' and 'Winter Sleep', as well as undertaking international sales for these productions. In 2010, the company launched the production laboratory Yapımlab as a platform for providing education and consultancy to young film practitioners. Zeyno Film continues to produce internationally successful films in Turkey, as well as to introduce new producers into the film industry. The company's vision for the future is to distinguish itself as a leader in developing creative approaches for alternative models in film production.

Selim El Azar - UAE

Chief Executive Officer | Gulf Film LLC



With 20 years' experience in the field of acquisitions and distribution, Selim El Azar is the CEO of Gulf Film LLC.

Headquartered in Dubai, Gulf Film was established in 1989 as a distributor of major studio productions and independent movies in both Arabic and English to audiences across the region. The company distributes and exhibits more than 150 titles - 50 per cent of films distributed to the region - cementing its position as the leading distributor in the Middle East by far. Recognising the potential of film exhibition, in 2000 Gulf Film expanded its industry portfolio with the creation of Grand Cinemas. Re-inaugurated in 2014 as Novo Cinemas, it is today the largest chain of theatres in the Middle East. In 2012, Gulf Film was acquired by Elan (formerly Qatar Media Services or q.media). Gulf Film and Novo Cinemas aim to offer a comprehensive range of film and entertainment services to existing and new markets. The combination of Elan, Gulf Film and Novo Cinemas creates a regional entertainment powerhouse that provides the latest in film innovation and sets worldwide standards in the Gulf region and beyond.

Paul Baboudjian - Lebanon/UAE

Executive Director | Screen Institute Beirut

Producer | Tharwa Productions



Paul Baboudjian began his career as a creative and manager in the media industry. He produced short films and documentary projects in various Mediterranean countries, developing his experience and an international reputation. He has produced Bahij Hoheij's 'Chatti Ya Dini' (2010), which won the Black Pearl Award for Best Narrative

Film from the Arab World. He supported two of the Arab world's most successful documentaries: Mahmoud Kaabour's 'Grandma, A Thousand Times' and Mahdi Fleifel's 'A World Not Ours' (both 2010). Baboudjian also produced Ali F. Mostafa's second feature-length film, 'From A to B' (2014), the first Arab film to open the Abu Dhabi Film Festival.

The overall aim of the Screen Institute Beirut is to support and promote film in all its forms as an important means of expression of cultural, artistic and social values. The Institute's Film Fund offers documentary production grants to emerging and proven talents in the Arab world.

Tharwa Productions is a boutique company with services dedicated to supporting film productions, television commercials, corporate films, documentaries, televisions and photographic shorts.

Cameron Bailey - Canada

Artistic Director | Toronto International Film Festival



Cameron Bailey is the Artistic Director of the Toronto International Film Festival. He has been responsible for the overall vision and programming of the Festival since 2008, and was a programmer for the Festival for 11 years prior to that. Born in London, Bailey grew up in the UK and

Barbados before emigrating to Canada. He worked as a film critic before taking up his current position. Bailey has served on festival awards juries around the world, including in Tokyo, Reykjavík, Beijing and Zanzibar.

The Toronto International Film Festival has become the premier North American launching pad for the best in international and Canadian cinema, and is recognised as one of the most influential film festivals in the world. TIFF also has a year-round programme of screenings and events at its five-screen home, TIFF Bell Lightbox. TIFF's mission is to transform the way people see the world through film.

Ahmed Al Baker - Qatar

Director/Producer | Innovation Films



In 2010, Ahmed Al Baker gave a TED speech entitled 'From Dream to Reality', when he told the story of chasing his dream to become a filmmaker. In 2009, he had decided it was time to pursue his passion, and made 'The Package', his first film, which he wrote, produced and directed. He co-founded the Qatar-based film production company Innovation Films; since then, he has produced

a number of short films both locally and internationally. He co-wrote and directed his second feature-length film, 'Lockdown: Red Moon Escape', in 2011. The film was screened at the Doha Tribeca Film Festival and the Gulf Film Festival in 2012. Currently, Al Baker is working on an international sci-fi/drama series that has been picked up for production by the Katara Cultural Village Foundation.

Innovation Films is a film and television production company whose main vision is to create a solid film industry that exports world-class filmmaking. Past productions include the feature film 'Lockdown: Red Moon Escape', as well as several successful short films; the company also co-produced the American indie title 'KillCam'. Innovation prides itself on creating and nurturing local talent, both in front of and behind the camera, and most crew members working with Innovation are local film professionals or trainees. We actively contribute to local expertise by having interns shadow industry professionals on set and placing trainees on commercials, and short and feature films. Innovation also conducts scriptwriting, producing and directing classes, and weekly acting workshops overseen by Academy Award nominee Scander Copti.

Amra Bakšić Čamo - Bosnia and Herzegovina

Producer | SCCA/pro.ba



Amra Bakšić Čamo has produced numerous award-winning short films, videos, documentaries, television programmes and feature films, including Danis Tanović's 'An Episode in the Life of an Iron Picker', which won the Jury Grand Prix and the Silver Bear for Best Actor at the Berlin International Film Festival in 2013, and his 'Death in Sarajevo', which

won the Silver Bear this year. Bakšić Čamo is Head of the CineLink regional co-production market and project development programme of the Sarajevo Film Festival. A member of the ACE and EAVE networks and the EFA, she works at the Academy of Performing Arts in Sarajevo as a lecturer in the production department.

Established in 1998, SCCA/pro.ba is a film and television production company. After being strongly rooted in the production of art videos and art installations, pro.ba began producing films and television programmes. Our films have participated in and won awards at festivals around the globe, including the Berlinale, the Venice Film Festival, the Festival de Cannes, the International Film Festival Rotterdam, the Festival del Film Locarno, the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam and the Sarajevo Film Festival. The company produced Danis Tanović's 'Death in Sarajevo', which won a Silver Bear in the Official Competition at the Berlinale this year.

Zsuzsi Bánkuti - Germany

Head of Acquisition | The Match Factory



After 12 years of distribution and cinema exhibition in Hungary, Zsuzsi Bánkuti became Head of Acquisitions at The Match Factory in 2012.

World sales company The Match Factory is dedicated to bringing the finest in arthouse cinema to the international market. Since our founding in 2006, our passion has been to work with films of signature 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 powerful and original style.

Ritesh Batra - India

Writer/Director | PoeticLicense Motion Pictures



Born in 1979, Ritesh Batra is a BAFTA-nominated writer-director. He is widely known for his debut feature-length film 'The Lunchbox', starring Irrfan Khan, Nawazuddin Siddiqui and Nimrat Kaur, which had its premiere at the Festival de Cannes Film Festival in 2013, where it won the Grand Golden Rail. Batra was

also awarded the Toronto Film Critics Association Award for best First Feature Film in 2014. Currently, Batra is directing an adaptation of Julian Barnes's Booker Prize-winning novel 'The Sense of an Ending', starring Academy Award winner Jim Broadbent.

Poetic License Motion Pictures is a Mumbai-based production company established by BAFTA-nominated director Ritesh Batra. The company is focused on international co-productions that are at the intersection of art house and commercial content. The company also produced the short film 'Masterchef', which was commissioned by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. It was one of five international films that represented the Gates Foundation's social initiative, and had its premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in 2014. The company's upcoming project is Batra's 'Photograph', which was part of the European Film Market in 2015.

Violeta Bava - Argentina

Producer | Ruda Cine

Programmer | Buenos Aires International Film Festival



Violeta Bava was born in Buenos Aires. In 2002, she received a double degree in the Theory, Aesthetics and History of Cinema and Drama from Buenos Aires University. Bava is the programmer of the Buenos Aires International Film Festival and the co-director of BAL, a leading co-production market for Latin American

films. Since 2012, she has been the Latin American delegate for the Venice International Film Festival. She sits on the Torino Film Lab Advisory Board and is a regional consultant for the Doha Film Institute. She is also the founder of Ruda Cine, a film production company based in Argentina.

Ruda Cine is a production company based in Buenos Aires. The company produced the feature-length films 'Two Shots Fired' (2014) by Martín Rejtman, and Milagros Mumenthaler's 'Back to Stay', winner of the Pardo d'Oro for Best Film, the Pardo d'Argento for Best Actress and the FIPRESCI Award at the Film Festival Locarno in 2011, among many other awards.

BAFICI, a 12-day-long film festival that started in 1999, takes place every April in Buenos Aires, and celebrates a rich and diverse culture with the works of renowned directors and upcoming talents. The event showcases an innovative range of films, including world premieres and new releases of Argentinean cinema, together with international retrospectives of the work of key filmmakers from the independent cinema world.

Mohammed Belhaj - Qatar

Executive Producer | Al Jazeera Media Network



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.

The Al Jazeera Documentary Channel is the Arabic-language documentary branch of the Al Jazeera Network. Launched on 1 January, 2007, it aims to provide viewers with an immense amount of high-quality documentary film.

Mohamed Bendjebbour - UAE

Audiovisual Attaché | Khaleeji French Film & TV Office



Mohamed Bendjebbour worked as a marketing executive for DANON Group before entering the television sector. After a five-year stint in Los Angeles as director of the French film office for the USA, he created the French Film Office in India,

based in Mumbai from 2004 to 2008. Before settling down in Dubai in 2012 as Head of the French Film Office for the Gulf region, he was Director of Marketing of La Villette, the largest urban cultural park in Europe.

The Khaleeji French Film & TV Office aims at developing co-operation in the field of entertainment between entertainment industries from the Gulf countries and France. Based in Dubai, the company works with the embassies of France in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Reda Benjelloun - Morocco

Director | TV 2M



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 afterward 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, TV-2M is the second public Moroccan television channel, which holds the best audience and advertising market share. It is broadcast worldwide via satellite, TNT and terrestrial channels.

Danielle Beverly - Qatar

Assistant Professor | Northwestern University in Qatar



Danielle Beverly is an independent documentary filmmaker who typically works as a one-person crew, recording picture and audio alone. Her recent 'Old South' debuted in March 2015, and is currently on a film festival and college

tour. In the summer of 2015, it screened in community gardens across New York State and the American South on the Healing Spaces Tour. She is currently in production on the feature documentary 'Dusty Groove: The Sound of Transition'.

Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q) is educating leaders for the media industry and creating the future of media and communications in the Middle East. Ranked #12 in the United States by US News & World Report and in the top 25 universities worldwide by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, Northwestern is one of the best universities in Qatar.

Bero Beyer - The Netherlands

Festival Director | International Film Festival Rotterdam



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 arthouse 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. Beyer 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. With the latest feature-length films, documentaries, short films, exhibitions, performances and talk shows, the annual festival makes Rotterdam an exciting capital of film. The festival presents approximately 200 feature-length and 250 short films from from around the world, accompanied by live performances, debates and question-and-answer sessions with filmmakers and actors.

Philippe Bober - France/Germany

CEO | Coproduction Office



As a producer, Philippe Bober was involved in the early films by Lars von Trier, Lou Ye and Carlos Reygadas. He has also worked with directors Roy

Andersson, Jessica Hausner, Ulrich Seidl, Michelangelo Frammartino and Ruben Östlund since their feature film debuts.

Coproduction Office produces and sells bold and award-winning films by directors who have strong personal vision. Founded in 1987 by French producer Philippe Bober, the European group of companies consists of an international sales company and three production companies - Essential (Berlin), Parisienne (Paris) and the Coproduction Office (Copenhagen) - under the Coproduction Office banner. Among Europe's most significant international sales companies, the Coproduction Office distinguishes itself with an outstanding catalogue of carefully chosen gems, which includes the restorations of 10 works by Roberto Rossellini, among them 'Stromboli' and 'Rome, Open City'.

Dora Bouchoucha - Tunisia

Producer | Nomadis Images



Dora Bouchoucha graduated with a degree in English Literature and has been a film producer since 1994. Through her company Nomadis Images, she has produced and co-produced several Tunisian and international documentary, short and feature-length films. Her films have been selected for film festivals in Venice, Cannes and Berlin. Bouchoucha founded the Carthage Film Festival Projects Workshop in 1992, and Takmil in 2014. She founded the Sud Écriture workshops in 1997, which she continues to run, and is actively involved in training and promoting southern cinema. She was a permanent member of the International Rotterdam Festival CineMart Board for more than 10 years, and was a

consultant for Arab and African films for the selection committee of the Venice International Film Festival from 2007 to 2011. In 2010, Bouchoucha was appointed Head of Fonds Sud, and in 2012, she became President of the CNC Aide aux cinémas du monde. She headed the Carthage Film Festival in 2008, 2010 and 2014. At the 2015 Festival de Cannes, she was named Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres by the French Minister of Culture. The most recent film she produced, Mohamed Ben Attia's 'Hedi', was selected for the Official Competition of the 2016 Berlin International Film Festival, where it took the Silver Bear for best actor as well as the Best First Feature prize.

Nomadis Images is a Tunisian audiovisual production company whose main activities include the production of short and feature-length fiction films, documentaries and commercials; service provision; and training. The company's filmography includes 'Hedi' (2016), 'Buried Secrets' (2009), 'Barakat' (2006) and 'Satin Rouge' (2002).

Vincenzo Bugno - Germany

Project Manager World Cinema Fund | Berlin International Film Festival



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

The aim of the Berlinale World Cinema Fund (WCF) is to assist with the production of films in regions that lack an established film industry. The fund focuses on feature-length narrative and documentary films that show a strong cultural identity and an innovative artistic concept. The WCF also promotes the distribution of this cinema in Germany. In 2015, the WCF launched WCF Europe, with the goal of further improving co-operation among European producers and producers and filmmakers from WCF regions.

Emilie Bujès - Switzerland

Programmer | Visions du réel/visions sud est



Emilie Bujès is a programmer for the Visions du Réel International Documentary Film Festival, the International Film Festival Nyon in Switzerland, and works as an expert for

the Swiss fund visions sud est. She is also a programmer for the La Roche-sur-Yon International Film Festival in France, and a freelance curator, primarily working with artists' film.

The Visions du Réel International Documentary Film Festival, whose 47th edition takes place from 15 to 23 April, 2016, in Nyon, Switzerland, includes six competitive sections: an International Competition: Regard Neuf; an International Competition for first features; Hévetiques, a panorama of new Swiss films; and First Step, for shorts from film schools. The Doc Outlook - International Market, held concurrently, features activities that help participants make connections for funding, co-production, promotion and film-rights acquisition.

Rémi Burah - France

Senior Executive Vice President | ARTE France Cinéma



After working as a banker in the audiovisual sector in London and Paris, Rémi Burah joined Haut et Court as a partner, where he worked for eight years as CEO and Managing Director of the communication agency. He joined ARTE France Cinéma, the film branch of the

European television channel, in 2001, where he is currently Senior Executive Vice President. Since 2004, he has also been CEO of ARTE/Cofinova, a finance company he initiated through the SOFICA French tax system.

Since its founding, ARTE France Cinéma has been involved in more than 600 films and has worked together with more than 300 directors representing more than 50 nationalities. The subsidiary policy focuses on talent renewal, efforts to boost European and world cinema, and steps to revitalise French cinema.

Sophie Cacaoult - France

Senior Manager | Havas Media



Sophie Cacaoult has worked in media and entertainment for 25 years, with companies including Canal+ and M6.

Currently, she is overseeing the Disney account for Havas Media.

Havas is one of the world's largest global communications groups. Founded in Paris, the group now employs 16,000 people in more than 100 countries. Havas is committed to being the world's best company in creating meaningful connections between people and brands through creativity, media and innovation. Havas Media Group is made up of four main networks: Havas Media, Arena Media, Forward Media and Havas Sports & Entertainment.

Gianluca Chakra - Lebanon/UAE

Managing Director | Front Row Filmed Entertainment



After working for film festivals and distribution companies based in the Middle East, Gianluca Chakra founded Front Row Filmed Entertainment, the youngest and fastest-growing distribution company in the Middle East. He has

solidified exclusive distribution deals with prolific companies including Hammer Films, Exclusive Film Distribution, HanWay Films, Protagonist Pictures, Studio Ghibli and Studio Canal, among many others.

Launched in 2003 by Gianluca Chakra, Front Row has established itself as the leading independent film distributor in the Middle East. It has proved its efficiency on all media platforms. Front Row has also partnered with the Kuwait National Cinema Company and Real Image Labs in order to expand its business throughout the region.

Peter Chappell - UK

Producer/Director | Luna Films Ltd



Peter Chappell works extensively in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. He has directed a drama adapted from Nobel laureate Nadine Gordimer's book 'Oral History'; his films have won numerous awards, including the Canadian Film and Television Academy's Award for Best Scientific Documentary and the Parliamentary Assembly of Europe's Prix

Europa for 'Origins of AIDS', and the Silver FIPA for 'Our Friends at the Bank', which also won the Outstanding Journalism Award at the Ökomeia Festival in Germany. He has organised workshops in Tunisia, Palestine and Qatar, and is on the advisory board of MAISHA film lab in Uganda.

Luna Films is a London-based independent film and television production company. Set up in 1989 as a limited company, its memorandum of association provide for activities in "all or any of the businesses of film producers, distributors, film entertainment & promotion". Luna Films was incorporated to provide a platform for production following the opening up of the broadcasting sector to independent companies in the 1980s. It aims to produce documentaries and fiction films and to extend the networks and training activities of its two principal producers, Holly Aylett and Peter Chappell.

Carlo Chatrian - Switzerland

Artistic Director | Festival del Film Locarno



Carlo Chatrian has worked as a film critic for several magazines, and has published numerous essays and monographs on filmmakers. He is Deputy Director of the Alba Film Festival, and has been a member of the selection committee for the Festival dei Popoli in Florence and the Visions du Réel International Film

Festival in Nyon, France. Chatrian began working with the Festival del Film Locarno in 2002, and from 2006 to 2009 was a member 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.

The Festival del Film Locarno aims to promote personal filmmaking of artistic merit; to provide a showcase for major new films of the year from around the world; and to take stock in its competitive sections of the new perspectives of filmmaking expression, concentrating especially on such new film directors and industries as command international attention.

Sebastien Chesneau - France/UAE

Acquisitions & Sales | Cercamon



Film acquisitions and world sales are Sebastien Chesneau's key areas. He has 15 years of experience with initiating, negotiating and closing deals on

hundreds of feature-length narrative and documentary films in both on acquisitions, and sales and licensing.

Cercamon is a world sales company. We handle up to eight films internationally. Cercamon means "world searcher". We attend all major festivals and markets. Films aquired include 'The High Sun', which won a jury prize at the Festival de Cannes in 2015, and 'On the Other Side', which played in the Panorama section of the Berlin International Film Festival, and 'Dark Night', which was selected for the Sundance Film Festival.

Iwana Chronis - The Netherlands

Manager, Hubert Bals Fund | International Film Festival Rotterdam



Since 2009, Iwana Chronis has headed the Hubert Bals Fund of the International Film Festival Rotterdam. Previously, she worked at the Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development, where she coordinated the Cultural Emergency Response programme for endangered international cultural heritage. Additionally, she has worked at

the Netherlands Foundation for Visual Arts, Design and Architecture (now the Mondriaan Fund) and at Amnesty International's Movies that Matter Festival in 2009. Chronis holds an MA in Theatre, Film and Television Studies from the University of Utrecht and an MA in Social Theory from the University of Melbourne.

The Hubert Bals Fund of the International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) provides financial support to remarkable feature films by extraordinary filmmakers from Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and parts of Eastern Europe. The Fund offers several funding schemes for development, production and co-production, post-production and distribution. Since the Fund's establishment in 1989, close to 1,100 projects have received support. Each year, a rich harvest of films supported by the Fund is presented at IFFR and screens at various other prestigious film festivals around the world.

Patrick Connolly - USA

Vice President, Programming and Scheduling | AMC/Sundance Channel Global



Patrick Connolly, Vice President of Programming and Scheduling for AMC / Sundance Channel Global, is responsible for the planning, global strategy and scheduling of linear and VOD programming schedules, as well as promotion planning and on-air creative for AMC Global and Sundance Channel Global. In addition, he executive produces all film festival coverage for Sundance Channel Global. Connolly joined AMC Networks in 2011. Previously, he was a scheduling and programming consultant with Showtime in the US and Sundance

Channel domestic. Connolly began his career in programming at Fox, where he held various roles at Fox Kids, Fox Family and Fox Children's Network, eventually joining Fox Broadcasting, where he served as Vice President of Children's Programming. In that role he oversaw all aspects of children's programming at the network. He also worked as a documentary programming consultant at Sundance Film Festival and as a programmer at BAFTA New York and the International Documentary Association.

[Dedicated to producing quality programming and movie content for more than 30 years, AMC Networks Inc. owns and operates several of the most popular and award-winning brands in cable television. AMC, IFC, SundanceTV, WE tv, and IFC Films produce and deliver distinctive, compelling and culturally relevant content that engages audiences across multiple platforms. The company also operates BBC AMERICA through a joint venture with BBC Worldwide. In addition, the company operates AMC Networks International, its global division.](#)

Frédéric Corvez - France

CEO | Urban Distribution International



Frédéric Corvez began his career at Equinoxe (Sony Pictures International and Canal+), where he was in charge of international development. As a member of the reading group at Studio Canal, he contributed to the creation of Kanpaï Distribution. He joined MK2 and then Celluloid Dreams, where he directed

and developed the TV department. He founded UMEDIA/UDI in 2004; in 2006, he created GOMEDIA, a post-production company that specialises in editing, sound editing, mixing, dubbing and subtitling. In 2011, he launched Urban Factory to produce and co-produce international feature films.

[Urban Distribution International \(UDI\) presents international art-house 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: to bring quality cinema to the largest audience possible on every continent.](#)

Huda Cotran - UK

Producer



Born in Lebanon, Huda Cotran moved to the UK in 1974. She began working in the British film industry six years ago. In 2011, Cotran was part of FootPrint Films, the executive producers of Lynne Ramsay's 'We Need to Talk About Kevin'. In 2014, she started working alongside TradeMark, as a producer of the hand-painted animated film 'Loving Vincent'. Currently Cotran is

producing a play in the West End called 'Kowalski', which will be staged in early 2017. She is also chairing a live, friendly match between Barcelona and the English football team, to take place in July, 2017. The match will be televised internationally, and the proceeds will go to the Red Cross to aid refugees from Syria.

Scott Curtis - Qatar

Director, Communication Program | Northwestern University in Qatar



Scott Curtis studies the history of film, especially early and silent-era cinema. He is particularly interested in how experts in science, medicine, and education use motion picture technology as a research tool or teaching aid. His book on this topic, 'The Shape of Spectatorship: Art, Science, and Early Cinema in Germany' (Columbia University Press, 2015), explores the collision between expert vision and moving images in science, medicine, education, and aesthetics. He has published extensively on the use of motion pictures in a variety of scientific fields, such as biology, physics, psychology, and medicine. He has also written on more traditional topics in film history, including animation; early German film and theory; industrial film;

the Motion Picture Patents Company; film sound; Alfred Hitchcock; and Douglas Fairbanks. He has held posts as the medical photographer for Sacred Heart Medical Center in Eugene, Oregon; the research archivist for the Special Collections Department of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences' Margaret Herrick Library; and a lecturer for the Cinema and Media Studies program of the University of Southern California. He is also the founder of Block Cinema, a former co-chair of Chicago Film Seminar, and the President of Domitor, the international society for the study of early cinema. Curtis received a BA from the University of Oregon and an MA and PhD from the University of Iowa.

[Northwestern University in Qatar \(NU-Q\) is educating leaders for the media industry and creating the future of media and communications in the Middle East. Ranked #12 in the United States by US News & World Report and in the top 25 universities worldwide by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, Northwestern is one of the best universities in Qatar.](#)

Ely Dagher - Lebanon

Filmmaker, 'Waves '98'



Born in Beirut in 1985, Ely Dagher currently lives in Lebanon and Europe. After graduating in Art Direction, Illustration and Animation from the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts in 2007, Dagher focused on New Media and Contemporary Art Studies at Goldsmiths College, London. Working in cross-

media platforms including film, video and painting, Dagher's explores the correlation and possibilities created through the play among cultures, histories and fictions. His short film 'Waves '98' won the Palme d'Or at the Festival de Cannes in 2015.

Jamel Dallali - Qatar

Manager of Production, Production Department, Documentary Channel Al Jazeera Media Network



Jamel Dallali is the production department manager at Al Jazeera Documentary Channel. A film director, he obtained his Master of Documentary Practice from Brunel University in the UK. His documentary films include 'Love and Death', 'The Assassination of Farhat

Hached', 'Displaced in the Diaspora - Palestinians in Iraq', 'Mohammed Moncer Bay: The End of the Throne', 'Salah Ben Youssef, a Crime of State' and 'Sparks from the Suburbs'. His films have won awards in Bahrain, Iraq, Morocco and Tunisia.

The Al Jazeera Documentary Channel is the Arabic-language documentary branch of the Al Jazeera Network. Launched on 1 January, 2007, it aims to provide viewers with an immense amount of high-quality documentary film.

Matthieu Darras - Italy/France

Artistic Director | TorinoFilmLab / Delegate for Central & Eastern Europe | San Sebastian Film Festival



Matthieu Darras is Artistic Director for the TorinoFilmLab, and collaborates with various film talents initiatives such as the Venice Biennale College and When East Meets West's First Cut Lab. As a festival programmer, Darras worked for the Critics' Week at the Festival de Cannes, and as

artistic director of the Alba and Bratislava film festivals. He is currently the delegate of San Sebastián Film Festival in charge of Eastern Europe. He writes for the French film magazine 'Positif', and founded and directs NISI MASA, the European Network of Young Cinema.

TorinoFilmLab is a year-round lab that supports emerging talents from all over the world through training, development and funding activities. TorinoFilmLab runs several training initiatives, including Script&Pitch, AdaptLab, Story Editing, Audience Design and FrameWork. These programmes conclude at the TorinoFilmLab Meeting Event. TorinoFilmLab also provides production and distribution grants to feature-length films developed in its programmes.

George David - Jordan

General Manager | Royal Film Commission - Jordan



George David has worked for the Royal Film Commission - Jordan (RFC) since 2005, and is currently its General Manager. He has also been part of the production team on numerous film and television projects, as well as working in entertainment PR. David is currently serving as the First Vice President on the Board of Directors of the Association of

Film Commissioners International. He has also pioneered several educational initiatives in film and television, namely the Film Train and the Educational Feature Film Program (EFFP). In 2011, David was instrumental in setting up and administering the newly established RFC Jordan Film Fund.

The Royal Film Commission - Jordan (RFC) was established in 2003 with a mandate to develop and promote an internationally competitive Jordanian audio-visual industry and build Jordan's creative economy. The RFC offers capacity-building programmes and provides comprehensive production support services to local, regional and international productions. The RFC is a financially and administratively autonomous Jordanian government body led by a board of Commissioners chaired by HRH Prince Ali bin Al-Hussein. The RFC believes filmmaking is a form of creative expression that transcends borders promoting cross-cultural understanding through the sharing of stories, thoughts and ideas. In 2005, the RFC launched Rawi, a screenplay development lab, in consultation with the Sundance Institute. Independent Arab screenwriters are offered the chance to develop their work in a uniquely creative environment under the guidance of internationally acclaimed screenwriters from all over the world.

Everette E. Dennis - Qatar

Dean and CEO | Northwestern University in Qatar



Dr. Everette E. Dennis has served as Dean and CEO of Northwestern University in Qatar since June, 2011. Dr. Dennis is a widely-known institution-builder, educator and author, having led several organisations over a distinguished career in higher education, foundations and advanced study centres. In Qatar at NU-Q, he has strengthened the curriculum, expanded the faculty, built a research programme and led major outreach

efforts, putting the school on the map regionally and globally. On his watch, a Middle East studies programme was initiated as well as a joint-minor with Georgetown University Qatar on media and politics. He organised the Qatar Media Industries Forum, which brings together leadership of local industries as well as fostering partnerships with Al Jazeera Networks and the Doha Film Institute.

Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q) is educating leaders for the media industry and creating the future of media and communications in the Middle East. Ranked #12 in the United States by US News & World Report and in the top 25 universities worldwide by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, Northwestern is one of the best universities in Qatar.

Claire Dobbin - Australia

Script Consultant



Claire Dobbin was Senior Development Executive at Australia's national screen agency for 14 years. She works internationally as a script editor with writers from Europe, the USA, the UK, the UAE, Jordan and the Gulf countries. She is also a creative consultant to the RAWI script lab and was Chair of the Jury of the

2012 Fajr Film Festival in Tehran. She is currently editing screenplays with writers from Canada, Jordan, New Zealand, Norway, Saudi Arabia and Yemen. Dobbin is Vice President of eQuinox Europe, the highly regarded script workshop, and President of the Melbourne International Film Festival.

Benjamin Doménech - Argentina

Producer | Rei Cine



Benjamin Doménech was born in Buenos Aires in 1986. In 2009, he launched Rei Cine with Santiago Gallelli and Matías Roveda. His credits as a producer include Benjamin Naishat's 'History of Fear' (2014), Laura Guzmán & Israel Cárdenas's 'Sand Dollars' (2014), Adrián Villar Rojas's 'What Fire Brought to Me' (2013), Jazmín López's 'Leones' (2012), Dominga

Sotomayor's 'Thursday Till Sunday' (2012), Gonzalo Tobal's 'Villegas' (2012) and Anita Rocha da Silveira's 'Kill Me Please' (2015), which all had their premieres in festivals in Cannes, Berlin, Venice or Toronto and have been distributed worldwide. His current slate of projects includes films by Gael García Bernal, Natalia Garagiola, Lucrecia Martel and Tobal.

Rei Cine was created in order to provide a creative platform for groundbreaking filmmakers, to establish long-term relationships and become involved in all creative and production stages of filmmaking. Since 2013, Rei distributes films under the label Rei Distribution, focused on tailor-made releases and for formation of new audiences for Latin American art-house films.

Ellis Driessen - The Netherlands

International Policy Officer | Netherlands Film Fund



Ellis Driessen is an acquisition consultant for Europe and Middle East, supporting the acquisition team of sales agent Fortissimo Films in Amsterdam. She is currently works for the Netherlands Film Fund's International Affairs Department. The Fund is the national

agency responsible for supporting film production in the Netherlands and activities such as festivals and training. Until 2011, Driessen was Head of the Holland Film Meeting, the co-production market at the Netherlands Film Festival in Utrecht.

The Netherlands Film Fund is the national film agency responsible for supporting film production in the Netherlands and essential activities such as festivals and training. Its focus is to develop and strengthen Dutch cinema and film culture both domestically and internationally. The Film Fund offers a selective scheme for production and distribution support of minority Dutch co-productions, as well as a scheme for dubbing and distribution support for theatrical releases of Dutch films.

Catherine Dussart - France

Producer | CDP



Since 1994, Catherine Dussart has produced and co-produced feature-length narrative and documentary films through her company CDP.

CDP's credits include Min Bahadur Bahm's 'The Black Hen' (2015), which won the Federa Prize for Best Film at the Venice Film Festival; Gurvinder Singh's 'Chauthi Koot', which screened in the Un Certain Regard section at the 2015 Festival de Cannes; Rithy Panh's 'The Missing Picture' (2013), which won the Un Certain Regard award at Cannes and was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film; YeŞim Ustaoglu's 'Araf' (2012), which won a Black Pearl Award at the Abu Dhabi Film Festival, Panh's 'Duch, Master of the Forges of Hell' (2011), Mehran Tamadon's 'Bassidji' (2010), Panh's 'The Burnt Theatre' (2005), Jocelyne Saab's 'Dunia - Kiss Me Not on the Eyes' (2006), Shokei Imamura's 'Warm Water Under a Red Bridge' (2001), Pavel Lungin's 'The Wedding' (2000) and Imamura's 'Dr. Akagi' (1998).

Julien Ezanno - France

Bilateral Affairs Advisor | Centre National du Cinema et de L'image Animée - CNC



Julien Ezanno was hired by the Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée (CNC) in 2001 after a career in the airline industry. He was first appointed at the CEO's cabinet to deal with general issues, then in 2007, he took on the management of international co-production, when he was in charge of negotiating new

agreements with countries seeking to establish privileged relations with France. He was also the French delegate to Eurimages. Ezanno was appointed Communications Director of the CNC in 2014, and in 2015 he was appointed Bilateral Affairs Advisor.

The Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée (CNC) is a public administrative organisation, set up as a separate and financially independent entity. The Centre comes under the authority of the Ministry of Culture and Communication and Frédérique Bredin is its president. The CNC's principal missions are to provide support for the film, broadcast, video, multimedia and technical industries; to promote film and television works for distribution to all audiences; and to preserve and develop film heritage.

Isabelle Fauvel - France

Film Development Expert | Initiative Film



Isabelle Fauvel founded Initiative Film in 1993, drawing on her background as a producer - having spent six years working at Flach Film, where she co-produced several films, including Jean-Claude Lauzon's 'Léolo', which screened in competition in the Festival de Cannes in 1992. With the team she has established

at Initiative Film, and the large database they have developed, she scouts material, develops concepts, and conducts tailor-made research, making her a key partner for literary adaptation. She has close links with writers, directors and producers internationally, as well as with workshops and labs.

Founded in 1993 by Isabelle Fauvel, Initiative Film is the first French consulting company that specialises in the development of audiovisual projects for professionals, including producers, screenwriters, directors and artistic agents. From the birth of the story to the start of production, we accompany your creative progress and your thoughts on the artistic and economic feasibility of your projects. Occasional or long-term missions allow us to have the necessary distance in relation to a work in progress or to find new projects and recruit fresh talents.

Hassan Ferhani - Algeria

Filmmaker, 'Roundabout in My Head'



Hassen Ferhani was born in Algeria in 1986. In 2006, he directed his first short film, 'Les Baies d'Alger', which was screened in official competition in numerous international festivals. In 2008, he participated in a workshop at La Fémis, where he directed the short film 'Le Vol

du 140'. Since 2009, Ferhani has worked as an assistant director. In 2010, he co-directed the documentary 'Afric-Hotel', which screened at Visions du Réel and FIDMarseille. 'Roundabout in My Head', his first feature, won the Grand Prix in the French Competition at FIDMarseille.

Mercedes Fernandez - Italy

Managing Director | TorinoFilmLab



Born in Lugo, Spain, Mercedes Fernandez has worked in several film festivals, including the Torino Film Festival, Bologna's Future Film Festival and Imilleocchi, the Festival Internazionale del Cinema e delle Arti in Trieste. From 2005 to 2008, Fernandez worked as

a production manager for the music-booking agency Concerti e Produzioni, and as a tour manager for artists including Michael Bublé, Caetano Veloso, Gilberto Gil, Vinicio Capossela, Sergio Cammariere and Roberto Benigni. She has worked at TorinoFilmLab since its inception in 2008.

TorinoFilmLab is a year-round, international laboratory that supports emerging talents from all over the world - with a special attention to those working on their first and second feature-length narrative films - through training, development, funding and distribution activities.

Tine Fischer - Denmark

Festival Director | CPH:DOX Copenhagen International Documentary Film Festival



Tine Fischer is the founder and director of the CPH:DOX international film festival. She is also the director of the DOX:LAB international talent development and production programme, and CPH:FORUM, an international coproduction and financing forum. In 2009, she graduated from EAVE and founded the production company Fischer Film, specialising in

art-house and films that cross over between film and contemporary art. She is currently developing five feature-length projects with Danish producer Helle Ulsteen. She produced Mauro Andrizzi and Marcus Lindeen's 'Accidentes Gloriosos' (2011), which won the Orizzonti Award at the Venice Film Festival.

CPH:DOX is one of the largest documentary events in Europe with more than 200 films and 91,400 admissions in 2015, and with a special focus on the space between non-fiction, artists' films and experimental cinema. The festival runs a strong industry platform with the co-production and financing forum CPH:FORUM, CPH:MARKET, and the distribution company DOXBIO, as well as the film production workshop CPH:LAB.

Eve Gabereau - UK/Canada

Co-Managing Director | Soda Pictures



Eve Gabereau is the co-Founder and Managing Director of Soda Pictures, working in acquisitions, distribution strategy and co-production for the UK and Canadian markets. Recent production projects include Omer Fast's 'Remainder' (2016) and Mark Lewis's 'Invention' (2015). Prior to Soda, Gabereau worked as a

journalist, writing for such publications as 'The Guardian' and 'Time Out', and in cultural affairs in Canada, the USA, Japan and China. She has a Master's degree in Communications and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from McGill University. She is originally from Vancouver, but has lived in London since 1998.

Soda Pictures is an Anglo-Canadian film distribution company with headquarters in London. Established in 2002, the company has a library of more than 300 films. Current titles include Grímur Hákonarson's Icelandic Academy Award entry and Un Certain Regard prizewinner 'Rams' (2015), Alice Winocour's 'Disorder' (2015), Joachim Trier's 'Louder than Bombs' (2015) and Omer Fast's existential thriller 'Remainder' (2015), which Soda also co-produced. In Canada, they are preparing the release of Ben Wheatley's 'High-Ris', starring Tom Hiddleston, Sienna Miller and Jeremy Irons.

Melanie Goodfellow - UK

Journalist



Melanie Goodfellow has written about the film industry in Europe and the Middle East for nearly 20 years. She currently covers the French cinema industry for 'Screen International'. She has previously covered the film industry out of Rome, Brussels and Tokyo for 'Screen', 'Moving Pictures' and 'Variety'.

She also works closely with several festivals, including the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam, the International Film Festival Rotterdam and the Dubai International Film Festival, as well as cross-media agency Power to the Pixel. She began her career as a foreign correspondent at Reuters news agency.

Mike Goodridge - UK

CEO | Protagonist Pictures



Mike Goodridge is Chief Executive Officer of the UK-based production, finance and sales company Protagonist Pictures, which has established itself as one of Europe's leading independent film outfits since it was established in 2008. Goodridge took over the company in 2012, and he has been responsible for stepping up the scale and budget of films in which the company is involved. Under his aegis, Protagonist has doubled in size and delivered such hit films as Yann Demange's '71' (2014), John

Michael McDonagh's 'Calvary' (2014) and Yorgos Lanthimos's 'The Lobster' (2015). Goodridge took the reins at Protagonist in 2012 after 22 years as a film business journalist and film critic. He worked in senior editorial positions at 'Screen International' for 19 years. He also works as a programmer for the international section of the Sarajevo Film Festival. He has written several books on cinema including two on film directors, and is a member of BAFTA and the European Film Academy.

Commercially minded and creatively spirited, Protagonist Pictures is an international sales and finance company committed to strong relationships with film-makers, financiers and distributors. Launched in London in 2008 by shareholders including Film4, Vertigo Films and Ingenious Media, the company quickly created a strong brand as a home for bold stories and exciting new directing voices. It has now expanded from its UK origins to handle titles from around the world, with a wider range of directors, producers and budgets. The current slate includes new films from Andrea Arnold, Ben Wheatley, Rebecca Miller and Whit Stillman.

Radouane Hafiani - Country

Journalist | Maroc Telegraph



Radouane Hafiani received a diploma in Journalism and Communication Sciences from the Higher Institute of Journalism and Communication, an Applied Studies Diploma in Journalism Investigation from IREX Institute and a Master of Investigative Journalism from the Media Centre in Paris. In 2001, he reported news for the daily sports section of 'The Sports Oasis' in Casablanca, and from 2001 to 2009 wrote for the daily 'Morning'. From 2009 to 2011, he was Head of Press

Investigations morning newspaper and in 2011, he was elected Secretary-General of the Union of Moroccan Journalists. Since 2014, he has been Director of Publishing and Editor-in-Chief of 'Maroc Telegraph'. He won a prize for excellence in journalism from Bryce Naw (Amsterdam), a Certificate of Appreciation from the National Assembly for Culture and Education in 2009 and, in 2011, an award from the Arab Institution for Expatriate Reporters in Canada.

Maroc Telegraph is a website that covers socio-political topics as well as cultural and film industry sectors. They cover news from the Arab region, European and Intl'. The site receives 30,000 page viewers per day and 35,000 users per day.

Hauvick Hebachian - Lebanon

Film Critic



Lebanese film critic Hauvick Hebachian currently works for the leading Arab daily newspaper 'An-Nahar' (Lebanon), where he is in charge of the weekly cinema page. He began his career as freelance film journalist working with local and regional newspapers from the Arab world. He has also directed and produced programmes and documentaries about cinema for various Arab television networks. He has

participated in numerous audio-visual workshops supporting young students in Lebanon. Since 2005, he has attended regional and international film festivals, including Cannes, Berlin, Venice, Toronto, Karlovy Vary, Rotterdam and Marrakech, and has been a jury member at festivals in Estonia, Germany, Morocco, Switzerland and Vietnam. He is a member of FIPRESCI and Netpac.

Alexandra Hannibal - USA

Manager, Documentary Programmes | Tribeca Film Institute



Alexandra Hannibal manages the submission, review, granting, and professional development process for the Tribeca Film Institute's documentary programmes. She has worked with various documentary film editing and producing teams, including Apograph's

production of 'The Abolitionists', the Emmy-nominated, Peabody Award-winning three-part docuseries for 'American Experience' on PBS. In 2013, having completed her Master's degree in Media Studies from The New School for Public Engagement, Alex joined Tribeca's documentary team full-time.

The 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 empower them with funding and resources to fully realise their stories and connect with audiences. We are a year-round, non-profit arts organisation founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal and Craig Hatkoff in the wake of September 11, 2011.

Mille Haynes - Denmark

Head | CPH:DOX / CPH:LAB



The Head of CPH:LAB and CPH:DOX, Mille Haynes holds an MA in Film Studies and is a EAVE graduate. Haynes is an independent producer with a track record that includes award-winning

documentaries and experimental films, consultancy for the Danish Film Institute Filmworkshop, festival curating, lectures on producing, and jury work. Haynes has been working with CPH:DOX since 2015.

CPH:LAB is CPH:DOX's pioneering talent development, training and production programme. Since 2009, the lab has established itself as a highly ambitious yet playful laboratory-style talent scheme for international filmmakers, focusing on exploring new, innovative creative processes in development and production; supporting alternative partnerships between filmmakers across borders; and encouraging new financing methods and production processes focused on cross-sector partnerships and market access.

Teresa Hoefert de Turégano - Germany

Funding Advisor | Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg



Teresa Hoefert de Turégano is a funding advisor for international co-productions at the Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg. She is also responsible for various international programmes at the Medienboard, among them co-production development funding and artist-in-residence programmes. She taught

cinema at the University of Lausanne 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. 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. Financing is available for development, slates, production, distribution and other activities.

Maike Mia Höhne - Germany

Curator Berlinale Shorts | Berlin International Film Festival



Maike Mia Höhne has curated the short film section of the Berlin International Film Festival since 2007. She studied Visual Communication in Hamburg and Cuba and completed her post-graduate studies with a focus on Cinema at the Hochschule für Bildende Künste in

Hamburg. Since 2001, she has worked in as a freelance writer, curator, producer, photographer and director in various contexts. Her films are distributed by Arsenal and Kurzfilmagentur. She has also been active for many years as a lecturer and moderator at film events.

The Berlinale Shorts section shows up to 30 short films annually. The films compete for Golden and Silver Bears, nominations for the European Film Awards and the Audi Short Film Award. The short film as art form and as a springboard for young talent is an established, ongoing tradition at the Berlinale, where shorts enjoy high priority. In order to give this special format the attention it deserves, no formal restrictions are imposed on entries.

Bilal Hoosein - Qatar

EP of Reversioning Programs Directorate, English Channel Al Jazeera Media Network



Bilal Hoosein began his career in television just over a decade ago. He began working as a professional news cameraman and video-editor covering the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Based in South Africa he travelled extensively on the African continent working as a freelance producer and reporter. In 2005

he started his own television production company with a focus on documentary production, sales and acquisitions for the international broadcast market. He joined the Al Jazeera English Channel in 2010 and is currently working as Head of Acquisitions and Executive Producer for Reversioning.

Al Jazeera English is an international news channel with over sixty bureaus around the world that span six continents. Since its establishment in 2006 it has grown in reach and popularity due to its global coverage from under-reported regions. The channel currently broadcasts to over 250 million households across 130 countries. Al Jazeera English is part of the Al Jazeera Network - one of the world's leading media corporations encompassing Al Jazeera Arabic, Al Jazeera English, Al Jazeera Balkans, Al Jazeera Mubasher, Al Jazeera Documentary Channel, the Al Jazeera media Training Center and the Al Jazeera Center for Studies.

Fadi Ismail - UAE

Director of Group Drama for o3 Productions/MBC | MBC Group



Fadi Ismail has over 23 years of experience working in news, current affairs, documentaries and drama. Previously, he has been part of the management launch team for Al Arabiya News channel; Assistant Director, News and International Operations; Producer and Reporter for special events, documentaries, telethons and live political chat shows. He has advised

various existing channels regarding revamping projects as well as launching new channels. He has been in his current position as General Manager at MBC since 2002, where he is responsible for selecting, buying and distributing hundreds of hours of Turkish, Indian, Korean work, and adapting scripted long telenovella formats and other dramatic content.

O3 Productions specialises in the production, acquisition and distribution of original and innovative Arabic drama series, Arabic movies, Turkish drama series and other international scripted drama formats. Our expertise and high level of commitment to quality covers the entire value chain of audiovisual content production, acquisition and distribution. O3's expertise is growing intensively to include high-end Arabic television drama series. Our reputation of being leaders in the Arabic television drama market is growing with every new production.

Ali Jaafar - UK

Managing Director | Mezza Terra Media



Ali Jaafar is the managing director of Mezza Terra Media and UK Editor of 'Deadline Hollywood'. Previously, he was Executive Director of the film division of Quinta Communications. The company co-produced Hany Abu-Assad's 'The Idol' (2015), Rachid Bouchareb's Academy

Award-nominated 'Outside The Law' (2010), Julian Schnabel's 'Miral' (2010), Jean-Jacques Annaud's 'Black Gold' (2011) and Nadine Labaki's 'Where Do We Go Now?' (2011), the first Arab film to win the prestigious Audience Award at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Mezza Terra Media is a film and television production company, specialised in developing and producing content inspired by and from the Arab world for a global audience. Mezza Terra Media is the lead producer on Hany Abu-Assad's 'The Idol' (2015). The company has a number of other film and TV projects in development.

Samer Mohammed Mahmoud Jaber - Qatar
Head of Productions | Qatar Television



Samer Jaber studied filmmaking in Jordan before pursuing his passion for film at the London Film Academy in the UK. His first foray in "the business" was as a producer / presenter at the Arab Radio and Television Network, then he moved on to directing music videos, advertisements and documentaries for

a variety of private production houses around the Middle East. In 2003, Jaber directed his first sitcom, 'El Tahadi'. In 2005, he moved to Doha where he has directed six television series. He is currently Head of Production at Qatar Television.

Qatar Television, or QTV, is a Qatar Government-owned public service national television channel operating under the Qatar Media Corporation (QMC) umbrella. The channel's broadcasts offer a broad range of general interest programming, including news, economical bulletins, documentaries, religious features and entertainment.

Ali Al Jabri - UAE
Director | SANAD Film Fund



Ali Al-Jabri is a professional theatre and film actor. He started his career in acting for theatre in 1988, and has worked with many established and respected directors. Al-Jabri held the position of Secretary General of the Emirates Film Competition

from 2001 to 2009. He became the Managing Director of the Competition until he was appointed Festival Director of the Abu Dhabi Film Festival in 2012. Currently, he directs twofour54's SANAD film fund.

SANAD is the Development and Post-Production Fund of twofour54, providing talented Arab filmmakers with meaningful support towards the development or completion of their narrative and documentary feature-length films. SANAD offers up to USD20,000 per project for the development stage and up to USD60,000 per project for the post-production stage, from a total fund of USD500,000.

Fred Joubaud - Canada
Director, International Sales & Digital Acquisitions | Tricon Films & Television



Fred Joubaud is Director of International Sales & Digital Acquisitions at Tricon Films & Television, one of North America's strongest independent production and distribution companies. Previously, Joubaud served as General Manager of Ouat Media, Inc., an Academy Award-winning film sales and distribution company, providing high-profile and award-winning short films

and feature-length documentaries from the world's top emerging filmmakers. Joubaud has represented 16 Academy Award-nominated short films, including four Oscar winners. More recently, he distributed the short film 'Ave Maria', a French-German-Palestinian co-production that has been nominated for this year's Academy Awards in the Best Live Action Short Film Category.

Tricon Films & Television is one of North America's strongest independent production and distribution companies dedicated to producing and representing groundbreaking television. Tricon Films & Television has fast emerged as a leading supplier of high-quality factual and scripted content that continues to perform successfully both domestically and around the world. Launched in 2002, Tricon's distribution arm has an impressive track record of selling a broad mix of award-winning programming from prime-time scripted comedy and dramatic series, to reality, lifestyle, factual and documentary series. Tricon distributes licensed international content to more than 300 broadcasters and in more than 150 countries worldwide.

Vanja Kaludjerčić - Croatia/Denmark/France
Head of Paris DOC | Cinéma du réel
Head of Studios | CPH:DOX



Vanja Kaludjerčić is a Croatia-born festival programmer and project market manager. She worked at the Motovun Film Festival in Croatia and the Slovenian Cinematheque before organising several festivals and festival sections in Zagreb, including the Human Rights Film Festival, the ZagrebDox Pro workshop and

Animafest. After moving to Paris, she was in charge of acquisitions at Coproduction Office from 2008 to 2010. She managed the Paris Project, and in 2012 she joined Les Arcs European Film Festival as Head of Industry. Currently Kaludjercic works for CPH:DOX, the Sarajevo Film Festival and Cinéma du réel in Paris.

Founded in 1978, Cinéma du réel is an international documentary film festival. It presents four competitive sections, featuring films by experienced documentary directors as well as first timers. It includes thematic sections, retrospectives highlighting the best of documentary cinema history, special events, hommages. The screenings take place at the Centre Pompidou and in several cinemas that are partners of the festival.

ParisDOC screenings endorse the distribution and placement of feature documentaries by promoting encounters between filmmakers and industry professionals.

Nejla Kemmou - Tunisia

Columnist/Film Critic



Nejla Kemmou graduated from the Institute of Journalism and News Science in Tunisia, specialising in television, in 2006. She has worked as a journalist for a number of outlets, including 'Al Sahafa' and 'The Tunisian', and was a reporter for

MBC.net from 2009 to 2012. Since 2010, Qamou has been a culture editor at 'Dar Al Sabah'. She also writes film criticism for several Arab magazines, and has worked on numerous Tunisian films.

Alaa Karkouti - Egypt

Film Partner & Film Analyst | MAD Solutions/Arab Cinema Center



Alaa Karkouti is the founder and managing partner of MAD Solutions. Working in the film industry for 15 years gave him unique insight, knowledge and expertise of the film business, which

placed him as a high-profile figure at festivals around the world, where he has chaired and participated in various panels and juries. Karkouti started his career as a journalist and is still part of the publishing world.

MAD Solutions is the first company in the Arab world that focuses on the marketing and promotion of Arab films around the world. It was founded by leading film analyst Alaa Karkouti in partnership with renowned artist Maher Diab. It aims to provide integrated creative solutions for the entertainment industry.

Born from the Passion to support Arab Film's international presence, boost interest in Arab cinema, culture and business, the Arab Cinema Center (ACC) functions as an international platform to promote Arab cinema, provide access to the best of Arab talent, films and companies participating in key film festivals.

Antoine Khalife - France/Saudi Arabia/UAE

Special Advisor/Producer | ART

Director of Arab Programming | Dubai International Film Festival



Antoine Khalife has been involved in numerous film projects, bringing together Arab filmmakers with Arab and European companies. In 2009, he joined the Cairo-based broadcasting corporation ART as Special Advisor and Producer. With ART, he is been involved as an associate producer in many films, including Nadine

Labaki's 'Where Do We Go Now?' (2011), Hany Abu-Assad's 'Omar' (2013), Chawki El Mejri's 'The Kingdom of Ants' (2012), Vatche Boulghourjian's 'Tramontane' (2014) and Sophie Boutros's 'Solitaire'. Khalife also works with the Dubai International Film Festival, where he is the director of the Arab Programme.

Established in 1993, Arab Radio and Television (ART) is the largest broadly diversified media conglomerate in the Arab world. The group's companies operate in theatrical film and television production, acquisition and distribution, television broadcasting, teleports and pay-TV. ART has been involved in films including Nadine Labaki's 'Caramel' (2007) and 'Where Do We Go Now?' (2011), Hany Abu-Assad's 'Omar' (2013), Chawki El Mejri's 'The Kingdom of Ants' (2012) and Vatche Boulghourjian's 'Tramontane' (2014).

Joe Khalil - Qatar

Associate Professor in Residence | Northwestern University in Qatar



An expert in Arab television production and programming, Joe Khalil, Ph.D, has more than 15 years of professional television experience as director, executive producer and consultant with major Arab satellite channels (Orbit, MBC, MTV, CNBC Arabiya) and has conducted workshops on behalf of USAID, IREX and the University of Pennsylvania. He received an MA from Ohio University and a PhD from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Khalil is the recipient of the 2008 SIUC Excellence in Commitment Graduate Student Research Award and a research grant from the Smith Richardson Foundation. Khalil's scholarly

interests revolve specifically around Arab youth, alternative media and global media industries. As consultant, Khalil has conducted or supervised corporate research related to production and programming. Khalil has authored a policy monograph on Arab satellite entertainment television and public diplomacy and is also co-author of Arab Television Industries (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009, with Marwan Kraidy). He is currently working on a book project based on his dissertation, Youth-Generated Media in Lebanon and Saudi Arabia, which examines alternative media cases in both countries.

Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q) is educating leaders for the media industry and creating the future of media and communications in the Middle East. Ranked #12 in the United States by US News & World Report and in the top 25 universities worldwide by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, Northwestern is one of the best universities in Qatar.

Kim Young-woo - South Korea

Senior Programmer | Busan International Film Festival



Kim Young-woo studied Visual Arts and Television at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, and has worked in programming for several film festivals

in Korea. Since 2014, Young has worked for the Busan International Film Festival, where he is in charge of Asian cinema.

The Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) has not only become Asia's leading film event, but also a bridge between Korea, Asia and the world beyond. Given the scale and scope of the Festival's initiatives and offerings, BIFF could be best described as a unique collection of "islands" (the film programme, the Asian Film Market, the Asian Cinema Fund, the Asian Film Academy, et al.) clustered around the Busan Cinema Centre megastructure.

Matthijs Wouter Knol - Germany

Director, European Film Market | Berlin International Film Festival



Since 2014, Dutch-born Matthijs Wouter Knol has been the director of the European Film Market. He has managed the Berlinale Talents programme since 2008, and he co-initiated the Berlinale Residency programme. From 2007 to 2008, he worked for the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), dividing his activity between the

co-production and sales markets and the IDFAcademy training programme, for which he initiated the IDFAcademy Summer School. He began his career in 2001, working as a documentary film producer in Amsterdam and acting as Head of Development at Pieter van Huystee Film.

Every February, the European Film Market (EFM) opens its doors during the Berlin International Film Festival to welcome more than 8,400 producers, buyers, sales agents, distributors, exhibitors and financiers to the first major film market of the year.

Titus Kreyenberg - Germany

CEO/Producer | unafilm



Titus Kreyenberg was an executive producer for film and television for many years before founding unafilm, his own production company, in 2004. unafilm is one of the most prolific German

partners for international co-productions. Kreyenberg is also a partner in the French production company Surprise Alley.

unafilm produces feature films. Straight forward and artistically challenging. Fiction and nonfiction. National and international. The company operates in Cologne and Berlin. unafilm's productions have competed in A-level festivals around the world, among them the Berlinale, the Festival de Cannes, the Toronto International Film Festival, the Festival del Film Locarno, the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam, the San Sebastian Film Festival, DOKLeipzig. In 2013, Amat Escalante's 'Heli' won the award for Best Director in the Official Competition at Cannes, and in 2014 'Bridges of Sarajevo' showed in competition at Cannes.

Fiona Lawson Baker -

Executive Producer, 'Witness' | Al Jazeera Media Network



Fiona Lawson Baker is the Executive Producer of the 'Witness' programme, the flagship observational documentary strand on Al Jazeera English. Fiona has more than 15 years' experience in global factual television in the UK, Australia and Asia. She began her broadcast career at BBC London. As an Australian Film

Television and Radio School 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, ZDF and the Discovery, History and Crime & Investigation Channels.

Al Jazeera English is an international news channel with over sixty bureaus around the world that span six continents. Since its establishment in 2006 it has grown in reach and popularity due to its global coverage from under-reported regions. The channel currently broadcasts to over 250 million households across 130 countries. Al Jazeera English is part of the Al Jazeera Network - one of the world's leading media corporations encompassing Al Jazeera Arabic, Al Jazeera English, Al Jazeera Balkans, Al Jazeera Mubasher, Al Jazeera Documentary Channel, the Al Jazeera media Training Center and the Al Jazeera Center for Studies.

Christophe Leparc - France

Managing Director | Directors' Fortnight, Festival de Cannes / Director | Cinemed



Christophe Leparc has been Managing Director of the Directors' Fortnight at the Festival de Cannes since 2007. He has worked in the film industry since 1990, specialising in the organisation of film festivals. In 1994, he began to

work for the Mediterranean Film Festival of Montpellier as a prospector and a member of the selection committee, where he focused on retrospectives. From 2000 to 2008, Leparc he was Programme Manager for the Cannes Critics' Week.

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 with catering to non-professional audiences. Striving to be eclectic and receptive to all forms of cinematic expression, the Fortnight pays particular attention to fiction features, short films and documentaries and to the emergence of independent filmmaking, as well as to popular contemporary genres that express individual talent and an original directorial style.

Sydney Levine - USA

Journalist | Indiewire



Sydney Levine is an executive of long standing in the international film business. She is a writer of SydneysBuzz, the popular blog on international film business, which also has run on IMDbPro since 2008, when it acquired her 25-year-old company FilmFinders. The industry's first database of worldwide features used by distributors, sales agents and festival programmers acquiring features, FilmFinders became the industry standard for organising and tracking

the rights-buying activities of the film business and was adopted by the Cannes Marché and developed into Cinando.com. Levine works with the markets in Cannes and Berlin in administering buyers' data for North America, Latin America and Asia, and gives tours of the market to newcomers. She has recently completed a book about Latin American film financing

SydneysBuzz consists of a blog, acquisitions rights reports on the international business, professional education initiatives and strategic planning and consulting for individuals, companies and countries seeking to improve their position in the international film market. SydneysBuzz was originally part of a larger newsletter created during the time of FilmFinders about the international film business; IMDb turned it into an independent blog to update the industry on international film developments. The blog can be found on both IMDbPro's home page and on Indiewire, which picked it up in 2009.

Marie-Pierre Macia - France

Founder/Producer | MPM Film



After earning a degree in Classics and Literature, Marie-Pierre Macia began her career at the Cinémathèque Française in Paris. From 1999 to 2002, she headed the Directors' Fortnight of the Festival de Cannes, where she championed the first features by now well-recognised filmmakers including Sofia Coppola,

Carlos Reygadas, Stephen Daldry and Palme d'Or winner Cristian Mungiu, among others. In 2007 she founded MPM Film, which has produced Béla Tarr's 'The Turin Horse' (2011), Panos Koutras's 'Xenia' (2014), and recent films by Paz Encina and Lucrecia Martel. Macia was also the director of the SANAD Fund.

Among MPM Film's productions are Béla Tarr's 'The Turin Horse' (2011) and Panos Koutras's 'Xenia' (2014). Upcoming titles include 'Ejercicios de memoria' by Paz Encina and 'Zama' by Lucrecia Martel. The MPM Film International Sales line-up includes Jasmila Zbanic's 'For Those Who Can Tell No Tales' (2014), Mahdi Fleifel's 'A World Not Ours' (2012), Jem Cohen's 'Museum Hours' (2012), Ali Aydin's 'Mold/Küf' (2012) and William Vega's 'La Sirga' (2012). MPM Film's new acquisition, Mahmoud Sabbagh's 'Barakah Meets Barakah' had its world premiere at the Berlinale in 2016.

Funa Maduka - USA

Content Acquisition - Global Independent Feature Films & Documentaries | Netflix



Funa Maduka is a global content acquisitions executive for film at Netflix Inc., focusing primarily on content from Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Prior to her post at Netflix, she worked at Participant Media, supervising campaigns around original content for Pivot. She has

held leadership and strategic positions at McKinsey & Company, the Oprah Winfrey Foundation, the Clinton Foundation and Goldman Sachs. She holds a BA in History from Cornell University and a Masters in Business Administration from the Harvard Business School.

Netflix is the world's leading Internet television network with more than 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.

Alexandre Mallet-Guy - France

President | Memento Films



Alexandre Mallet-Guy is the president of Memento Films Distribution and Memento Films Production, which he founded in 2003. His latest productions include Joachim Trier's 'Louder Than Bombs' (2015), which was selected for

the Official Competition of the Festival de Cannes; Nuri Bilge Ceylan's Palme d'Or-winning 'Winter Sleep' (2014) and Asghar Farhadi's 'The Past', which won a Best Actress award at Cannes in 2013.

Founded in 2003 by Alexandre Mallet-Guy, Memento Films Distribution is an independent distribution company based in Paris and specialised in international art-house cinema. The company releases between six and eight films a year. Among its recent releases are Jafar Panahi's 'Taxi' (2015), Nuri Bilge Ceylan's 'Winter Sleep' (2014) and 'Once Upon a Time in Anatolia' (2012), Pawel Pawlikowski's 'Ida' (2013) and Asghar Farhadi's 'The Past' (2013) and 'A Separation' (2011).

Jovan Marjanović - Bosnia and Herzegovina

Head of Industry | Sarajevo Film Festival



Jovan Marjanović has been involved in the Sarajevo Film Festival since 1999, first as a technician and programme coordinator and later as the Cinelink manager. He is now on the festival's Executive Board as Head of Industry. Marjanović has produced a number of award-winning documentaries, shorts and feature films and consults for several international film institutions. He was on the Board

of Management of the Bosnian National Film Fund from 2011 and headed it from 2014 to 2016. He has served as the National Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Eurimages since 2006. He holds an MSc from the Cass Business School in London, and teaches Film Business at the Academy of Performing Arts in Sarajevo.

In 1995, towards the end of the four-year-long Siege of Sarajevo, the Obala Art Centre initiated the Sarajevo Film Festival with the aim of helping to reconstruct civil society and retain the cosmopolitan spirit of its city. Today, over two decades later, it is a trailblazing film festival with a special focus on the region of Southeast Europe that shines an international spotlight on the region's talent, their current films and future projects. High-quality programming, a strong industry segment, and an educational and networking platform for young filmmakers attract the international film industry, film authors and media representatives to the event, along with a public audience of more than 100,000. Together, this makes it a leading film festival in Southeast Europe.

Lina Matta - UAE/USA

Channel Manager | MBC Group



Lina Matta is the Senior Channel Manager for MBC 2, MBC 4, MBC Max & MBC Variety. Her responsibilities include co-ordinating the programming strategy and vision of the channels while working on achieving ratings and financial targets. Previously, Lina re-launched Dubai One, DCN's English-language television channel. She is also the co-founder of New York-based, Brown Hats Productions

(BHP). BHP produced the award-winning documentaries 'Running for Bogota' and 'Prison Lullabies', the American online literary talkshow 'Titlepage.tv' and the Arab film series, ANA Contemporary Arab Cinema, now in its fifth year. Matta sits on the Advisory Board of the Mohamed Bin Rashid School of Communication at the American University in Dubai.

The MBC Group is the largest and leading private media company in the MENA region, which enriches people's lives through information, interaction and entertainment. In 2002, nearly a decade after the launch of MBC1 in London, and as the first private free-to-air Arab satellite TV channel, MBC Group moved its headquarters to Dubai Media City, where it remains. Today, MBC Group includes 18 television channels and several online platforms.

Cara Mertes - USA

Director, Just Films | The Ford Foundation



Cara Mertes supports and connects the independent film communities globally as a public television executive, independent executive producer-director, funder, curator and teacher. As Director of Ford Foundation's JustFilms, she funds content, networks and leadership fostering independent film and digital storytelling. She has served as the director of the Sundance Institute Documentary Film

Program and Executive Producer of the POV documentary series on PBS, where she was awarded with Emmy, George Foster Peabody, and duPont-Columbia awards. She has executive-produced several Academy Award-nominated films, including 'Street Fight', 'My Country My Country' and 'The Betrayal - Nerakhoon', and led major Ford support for the Oscar-winning 'Citizenfour'.

The Ford Foundation is guided by a vision of social justice—a world in which all individuals, communities and peoples work toward the protection and full expression of their human rights; are active participants in the decisions that affect them; share equitably in the knowledge, wealth and resources of society; and are free to achieve their full potential. Across eight decades, its mission has been to reduce poverty and injustice, strengthen democratic values, promote international cooperation, and advance human achievement.

Rima El Mismar - Lebanon

**Deputy Director and Film Programmes Manager
AFAC - Arab Fund for Arts and Culture**



Born in Lebanon in 1975, Rima El Mismar completed her studies in Communication Arts with a Radio/TV/Film emphasis at the Lebanese American University in Beirut. Before 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. El Mismar joined the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC) in June 2011, where she oversees all film programmes as Film Programmes Manager. She was recently appointed Deputy Director.

The Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (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 programmes for Creative Writing, Documentary Filmmaking and Documentary Photography. For film, AFAC runs two programmes: General Grants for Cinema, which accommodates all types and lengths of film projects, and the AFAC Documentary Programme (ADP), for creative Arab documentaries tackling social realities and social justice in the Arab region

Wendy Mitchell - UK

**Film Programme Manager | British Council
Contributing Editor | Screen International**



Wendy Mitchell is a Film Programme Manager at the British Council, where she looks after various film programmes, including the UK-Nigeria screenwriting lab, as well as running the festival selector screening programme in London for the world's top festivals, such as Cannes, Berlin, Toronto and many others. She is also a contributing editor at 'Screen International' and ScreenDaily.com, the global film business publications

headquartered in London. Prior to joining the British Council in 2015, she was Editor of 'Screen International'. Mitchell previously worked as staff news editor for 'Entertainment Weekly' in New York and as Managing Editor at indieWIRE. She is also a contributor for the SkyArts television series 'Discovering Hollywood' and has appeared as a film industry commentator on the the BBC, CNN and Sky networks.

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We are on the ground in six continents and over 100 countries, bringing international opportunity to life, every day. 'Screen International' is the leading film industry resource covering the international film markets. We provide a whole-industry perspective from some of the most knowledgeable writers and data analysts in the business. Across print and online mediums, 'Screen International' delivers analysis, opinion and commentary on the issues, people and products shaping the worldwide film industry.

Boris Mitić - Serbia/Croatia

Director | Dribbling Pictures



Boris Mitić is a self-taught documentary filmmaker, producer, distributor, lecturer, blitz-chess player, street football playmaker and three-time superfather who lives from the money that he loses by making films. He is currently indulging

in the creation of a megalomaniac documentary about Nothing, narrated by Nothing, filmed by 100+ complementary cinematographers from around the world and pre-sold, of course, to the largest broadcasters and art museums.

Based in Belgrade and Zagreb, since 2003 Dribbling Pictures has focused on the production of creative documentaries. The company receives major international funding from Eurimages, Cinéma du monde, the Doha Film Institute and the IDFA Bertha Fund, and has received record domestic support from more than 20 broadcasters, 200 festivals and 30 awards. We also like to lecture about the realpolitik of documentary filmmaking in new, inspiring ways. Currently in production: Boris Mitić's 'In Praise of Nothing' and Mira Turajlic's 'The Other Side of Everything', both due in late 2016.

Abdulla Al-Mosallam - Qatar

Founder and CEO | Qatar Animation Centre



Abdulla Al-Mosallam is the founder of the Qatar Animation Centre and CAO of the Doha Film Institute. Previously, he has held positions at Al Jazeera Children's Channel and the Commercial Bank of Qatar. He began his career with

Qatar Development Bank as a credit officer, working closely with various government bodies, such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consulting and the Ministry of Trade and Commerce.

The Qatar Animation Centre is a youth centre established in 2014 under the Ministry of Youth and Sports to help kickstart the animation industry in Qatar by offering a creative space for youth to express themselves and launch their creativity. The Centre develops young people's skills in the industry and the production of animated films by offering training courses throughout the year in the field of animation and production in an atmosphere of creativity.

Christian Mouroux - Argentina

Artistic Director | LatinArab International Film Festival



Christian Mouroux is a freelance programmer, curator and audiovisual producer from Argentina. Born in Buenos Aires in 1984, he studied Political Science and Arts at the University of Buenos Aires. From a young age, he worked as a freelance cameraman and producer for

film and television. In 2009, he joined on as the Artistic Director of Creciente Cine Fértil, and in 2011 launched the LatinArab International Film Festival, the first ever festival of Arab cinema in Latin America. He is preparing to launch Cine Fértil's film production unit by mid-2016.

Cine Fértil specialises in the promotion of Arab cinema and culture from Argentina to Latin America, as well as the promotion of Argentinean and Latin American cinema in the Arab countries. Cine Fértil generates tools for intercultural dialogue, mutual knowledge of our societies and for the development of common audio-visual production strategies. In 2011, Cine Fértil launched the LatinArab International Film Festival, which, after five successful editions, has positioned Cine Fértil as one of the most relevant organisations dedicated to the cultural and cinematographic exchange between Latin America and the Arab countries.

Valérie Mouroux - France

Head of Cinema Department | Institut Français



A graduate of the École Normale Supérieure and holder of an Agrégation in French Literature, Valérie Mouroux dedicated the first 10 years of her career to teaching Literature and Cinema. In 1998, she switched to directing Écrans Nord-Sud, an association that deals with the promotion of African cinema. In

2002, she was recruited by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the Head of the Documentary Films Office, then of French Cinema. Since 2009, she has been Director of the Cinema Department of the Institut Français, the public operator of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for cultural affairs abroad.

The Institut Français is the agency of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs for cultural action outside France. It promotes French films and film heritage through non-commercial distribution and film literacy initiatives. It also supports world cinema through La Fabrique des Cinémas du Monde, the Cinémathèque Africaine and the Aide Cinémas du Monde, a fund co-managed with the CNC.

Hania Mroué - Lebanon

Director | Metropolis Cinema/MC Distribution



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, Mroué 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. In addition, Mroué also was Managing Director of Cinema Days of Beirut.

Metropolis Cinema is an art-house cinema that opened in Beirut 2006. Its two-screen theatre is dedicated to showing 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 12,000 children who attend its year-round screenings and activities. Metropolis has just begun a partnership with the Berlinale for the Talents Beirut, an annual workshop dedicated to film editors, sound designers and cinematographers from the region. MC Distribution handles the distribution activities of Metropolis. Its catalogue includes around 50 Arab films and internationally acclaimed titles such as 'Mommy' and 'A Separation'.

Matt Mueller - UK

Editor | Screen International



Matt Mueller is the Editor of 'Screen International', which provides insight and intelligence into the global film industry via its print magazine, daily editions at major festivals and markets, various supplements, and its online offering, ScreenDaily.com. Before landing at

'Screen', Matt worked as a freelance film journalist for 'The Sunday Times', 'The Independent' and Indiewire, among others and, prior to that, served as Editor on two different UK consumer film titles, 'Premiere' (UK) and 'Total Film'.

'Screen International' is the leading film industry resource covering the international film markets. They provide a whole-industry perspective from some of the most knowledgeable writers and data analysts in the business. Across print and online mediums, 'Screen International' delivers analysis, opinion and commentary on the issues, people and products shaping the worldwide film industry.

Jean Yves Nana - Burkina Faso

Head of the African Cinematheque | FESPACO



Cinema and audiovisual engineer Jean Yves Nana has worked on several films from Burkina Faso, Africa and Europe as a cameraman or assistant cameraman. He also held numerous administrative positions within the Ministry in charge of cinema, and teaches at the major Burkina Faso training structures (the Institute of

Image and Sound and the National School of Administration and Magistracy. The Head of Department of the African Film Library of Ouagadougou at FESPACO, he is responsible for the coordination of conservation, restoration and promotion of films.

The Pan-African Film & TV Festival of Ouagadougou (FESPACO) was established in 1969 from the will of African film industry fans and filmmakers. This African film biennial is organized around film screenings, professional meetings, and a film market. At each edition, a slate of about 150 Pan-African films is shown by FESPACO in both competition and out-of-competition section. FESPACO also features a colloquium on each edition's theme, workshops, panels and master classes. The film market provides a platform of interaction for industry professionals. FESPACO is also host to the African Film Library of Ouagadougou, where many film and non-film works are stored.

Laura Nanchino - France

Coordinator and Journalist | Cineuropa



After studying at the Panthéon-Sorbonne, then specialising in Brussels, French-born Laura Nanchino focused on the field of cinema during an internship at the European Parliament in 2010, during which she worked for the LUX Film Prize for European cinema, where she is currently web manager. From 2011 to 2014, she participated in Euromed

Audiovisual III, a European Union programme intended to support southern Mediterranean cinema. Nanchino has worked with Cineuropa since 2012. She coordinates Cineuropa's databases of European films and professionals, feeds its social networks, and regularly writes film reviews and industry reports.

Cineuropa is an online information portal that promotes the European cinema industry worldwide. Thanks to a wide network of correspondents based in all European countries, Cineuropa is the leading source of information on European cinema, providing up-to-date information on a daily basis. Cineuropa has succeeded in building a faithful and enthusiastic audience comprising key cultural players, film-industry professionals and film aficionados based all over the world, as well as developing initiatives such as the Cineuropa Prize.

Heidi Palm Sandberg - Norway

Managing Director | Sørfond



Heidi Palm Sandberg has been the managing director of the Films from the South Foundation since 2010. In 2011, she took part in establishing Sørfond with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Norway. The foundation also

organises two festivals in Oslo each year: Arab Film Days in April, and the Films from the South Festival in October, which screens films from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The purpose of the Sørfond grants is to stimulate the production of films in developing countries where such production is limited by political or economic causes. The grants contribute to strengthen film as a cultural expression, to promote diversity and artistic integrity on the international film scene, and to strengthen freedom of expression. They also contribute to increased co-operation between Norwegian and international film industries.

David Parfitt - UK

Chairman | Film London



David Parfitt has worked as an independent film and theatre producer for over 25 years. His film credits include 'Henry V'; 'Peter's Friends'; 'Much Ado About Nothing'; 'The Madness of King George'; 'Mary Shelley's Frankenstein'; 'Twelfth Night' and 'The Wings of the Dove', both of which were nominated for four Academy Awards; 'Shakespeare in Love', which won seven Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and four BAFTAs,

including Best Film; 'Gangs of New York', (as a production consultant); 'I Capture the Castle'; 'Chasing Liberty'; 'A Bunch of Amateurs'; and 'My Week with Marilyn'. His television credits include 'The Wipers Times' and 'Parade's End'. In 2007 he co-produced, with Finola Dwyer, the critically acclaimed theatre production of 'Elling' at The Bush Theatre and in the West End. Before moving into film and theatre production, David worked as an actor.

Film London is the capital's screen industries agency, connecting ideas, talent and finance in film, television, animation, games and beyond. Working to develop the capital as a global content production hub, it attracts production to London and provides bespoke assistance. Film London supports the city's new and emerging filmmaking talent, invests in film culture and delivers key international industry events including the London Screenings and the Production Finance Market.

Seri Park - South Korea

Asian Project Market Coordinator | Busan International Film Festival



Seri Park began her career in the field of film festivals as a co-ordinator of the Asian Film Academy (AFA), one of supportive programmes to encourage young filmmakers from Asia organised by the Busan International Film Festival

(BIFF). Since then, she has worked for the Asian Project Market at BIFF, supporting talented filmmakers and producers with competitive film projects seeking investors all over the world.

Since its inception in 1996, the Busan International Film Festival has quickly grown to become the largest film festivity in Asia. The Festival has established its role as a strong supporter of the film industry through its various programmes, such as the Asian Film Market, the Asian Project Market, the Asian Cinema Fund and the Asian Film Academy.

Roman Paul - Germany

CEO | Razor Film Produktion



In 2002, Roman Paul founded Razor Film Produktion along with Gerhard Meixner in Berlin to focus on international feature-film productions for worldwide distribution. Razor's productions have premiered and won awards at major festivals all over the world, have won two Golden Globes and one Emmy, have twice

been nominated for Academy Awards and received the BerndEichinger Award for Outstanding Achievements in Production at the German Film Awards in 2014. Paul is a member of ACE and of the European and German Film Academies. Since 2013, has also been the co-director of the At elier Ludwigsburg-Paris master class.

Founded in 2002 by Gerhard Meixner and Roman Paul, Razor Film Produktion develops and produces high-quality art-house and crossover feature-length films for the international market, focusing on new talent and high quality.

Mirsad Purivatra - Bosnia and Herzegovina

Festival Director | Sarajevo Film Festival



Mirsad Purivatra is Director and Co-Founder of the Sarajevo Film Festival, one of the most influential film festivals in Europe. Beginning in 2003, Purivatra initiated and developed the CineLink Co-Production Market, with the aim of aiding the development of regional cinema, discovering new talent, and launching new projects on the wider European market. CineLink is recognised as the most potent catalyst for regional film

production today. In 2007, the festival expanded to include an educational platform in form of the Sarajevo Talent Campus. Purivatra was producer of Danis Tanovi 's 'Cirkus Columbia', and co-producer of Nuri Bilge Ceylan's 'Once Upon a Time in Anatolia'. Purivatra's recent productions include Cristi Puiu's new film, 'Sierra Nevada'. He is a Chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

In 1995, towards the end of the four-year-long Siege of Sarajevo, the Obala Art Centre initiated the Sarajevo Film Festival with the aim of helping to reconstruct civil society and retain the cosmopolitan spirit of its city. Today, over two decades later, it is a trailblazing film festival with a special focus on the region of Southeast Europe that shines an international spotlight on the region's talent, their current films and future projects. High-quality programming, a strong industry segment, and an educational and networking platform for young filmmakers attract the international film industry, film authors and media representatives to the event, along with a public audience of more than 100,000. Together, this makes it a leading film festival in Southeast Europe.

Jim Quilty - Lebanon

Film Writer and Critic



Jim Quilty is a Beirut-based Canadian journalist. A lapsed fiction writer, he has for over a decade written about the arts, cultural production and politics of the Middle East and North Africa. Nowadays he edits the arts and culture section of

'The Daily Star', Beirut's English-language daily, and has published work in a number of magazines, including 'ArtReview', 'FlashArt', 'Bidoun', 'Variety', 'Middle East Report' and 'Middle East International'.

Jean-Pierre Rehm - France

General Director | FIDMarseille



After teaching history and the history and theory of art and film at various art schools, Jean-Pierre Rehm began working for the French Ministry of Culture and curating exhibitions. He regularly writes for exhibition catalogues and artist and filmmaker monographs, including those

of Roe Rosen, Tsai Ming-liang, Mark Lewis, William Eggleston, Jimmie Durham, Peter Friedl, Jacques Rozier, Isidore Isou. He also writes art and cinema reviews for 'Cahiers du Cinéma', 'Cinéma' and 'Trafic', among others. Since 2001, he has been Director of FIDMarseille.

FIDMarseille is an international competitive film festival. Rooted in documentary practice, it also includes narrative features and shorts and is fully open to contemporary cinema. Five years ago, the festival took the decisive step of welcoming in the official selection fiction films alongside documentaries. In 2014, FIDMarseille presented about 150 films, which for the most part were making their world or international premieres. FIDLab is FIDMarseille's international co-production platform for projects at every stage of production. Ten projects are selected for two days of presentations, workshops, one-on-one meetings and discussion panels.

Ben Ross - UAE

Head of Narrative Film and Television | Image Nation Abu Dhabi



Ben Ross's career began with Academy Award-winning producer Scott Rudin, when he worked on such films as 'Clueless' and 'Sabrina'. Ross then spent several years working for Brillstein-Grey Entertainment, the management and production company co-founded by current Paramount Pictures Chairman Brad Grey, where he specialised in

management, working closely with clients including Brad Pitt and Courteney Cox. After spending several years writing, directing and producing films on his own, among them 'The Young Kieslowski', winner of the 2014 Los Angeles Film Festival Audience Award, Ross now serves as Head of Narrative Film and Television for Image Nation Abu Dhabi.

Image Nation Abu Dhabi is one of the leading media and entertainment companies in the Arabic-speaking world. It produces local and international films, documentaries and television content, and became a pan-Arabic broadcaster with the 2015 launch of Quest Arabiya.

Ghassan Salhab - Lebanon

Filmmaker



Born in Dakar, Ghassan Salhab has directed six feature films, all of which have screened at international festivals: 'Beyrouth fantôme' (1998); 'Terra incognita' (2002), which was selected for the Un Certain Regard section of the Festival de Cannes; 'The Last Man' (2006); '1958' (2009); 'The Mountain' (2011); and 'The Valley' (2014). He has also directed numerous short films and videos,

including 'Posthumous' (2007), 'Narcisse perdu' (2004), 'My Living Body, My Dead Body' (2003), 'La Rose de personne' (2000), 'Baalbeck' (co-directed with Akram Zaatari and Mohamad Soueid, 2000), 'Afrique fantôme' (1994) and 'Après la mort' (1991). Salhab also collaborates on various screenplays and teaches film at the Academie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts and the Université Saint-Joseph.

Rasha Salti - Lebanon

Programmer and Curator



v Salti is an independent film and visual arts curator, writer and researcher who works and lives in Beirut and collaborates with a number of international film festivals, museums and arts organisations. She has co-curated 'The Road to Damascus' a retrospective of Syrian cinema that toured worldwide in 2006, with Richard Peña, and 'Mapping

Subjectivity: Experimentation in Arab Cinema from the 1960s until Now' with Jytte Jensen, which was showcased at the Museum of Modern Art in New York from 2010 to 2012. She was a programmer at the Abu Dhabi Film Festival from 2009 to 2011, and an international programmer at the Toronto International Film Festival from 2011 until 2015.

Klaus Schoenbach - Qatar

Associate Dean for Research | Northwestern University in Qatar



Klaus Schoenbach is Associate Dean of Research and Professor in Residence at Northwestern University in Qatar. Schoenbach studied mass communication, sociology and German literature at the University of Mainz, Germany, and received a PhD in 1975. Among other highlights of his career, Schoenbach held the endowed BBDO

Chair of Media Studies at Zeppelin University, Friedrichshafen, Germany, from 2005 to 2008, and served there as dean of the faculty for Communication and Cultural Management. In 2008 he became the university's vice president. From 2010 to 2014, he was professor of General Communication Studies at the University of Vienna.

Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q) is educating leaders for the media industry and creating the future of media and communications in the Middle East. Ranked #12 in the United States by US News & World Report and in the top 25 universities worldwide by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, Northwestern is one of the best universities in Qatar.

Georges Schoucair - Lebanon

Producer | About Productions



A very dynamic entrepreneur, Georges Schoucair created multiple business ventures and started producing films in 2005 under the banner of About Productions. Under his management, the company succeeded to become one of the most acknowledged film production companies in the Middle East. His films have been exhibited worldwide and

received vast acclaim from both critics and public. Reaching out to Middle Eastern audiences, Georges established MC Distribution, an entity that distributes Arab and international films throughout the region. In 2008, he took on the role of vice president of Metropolis, a unique art house cinema venture in Beirut.

About Productions produces feature films and documentaries with a distinctly Arab voice, expressing the identity of the region. Since 1998, the company has brought together an important network of Arab and Lebanese artists. About Productions has a strong partnership with MC Distribution, a company dedicated to promoting films from the Middle East along with priority access to Metropolis Cinema, the only arthouse theatre in Lebanon. In February, 2016, Schoucair launched Shortcuts Films, dedicated to financing independent features worldwide and producing innovative Arab and international content.

Ahmed Shawky - Egypt

Film Critic | El Kahera



Ahmed Shawky obtained bachelor's degrees in Pharmacy and Communications, and studied Cinema at the Jouzet School of Cinema in Cairo. He has been a film critic since 2009, and his work appears regularly in newspapers and on websites, including his weekly blog on Dot Egypt. He is a co-founder of 'Cinematograph', an e-magazine published in Dubai. His articles have appeared in 'Al Ahram Almasa'ya', 'Al Tharir', 'Al Quds Al Arabiya', 'Alyoum Alsaab'a', 'Good News Cinema', 'White and Black', 'Cultural

Doha', 'The Magazine' and on websites including 'Eye on Cinema' and 'Film Reader'. His 'Conversations with Ahmed Shawky' was published in 2014 by the Alexandria Film Festival, and 'The Taboo in Eighties Directors' Cinema' was published by the Ministry of Culture in 2016. He works as a scriptwriting consultant in the Middle East and leads master classes and workshops in screenwriting, and has been a juror at numerous film festivals.

Andrea Stavenhagen - Mexico

Head of Impulso Morelia | Morelia Film Festival

Delegate for Latin America | San Sebastian Film Festival



Andrea Stavenhagen began her professional career in the field of film promotion and dissemination collaborating at IMCINE's Short Film section. She went on to become Deputy Director of Research and Dissemination at the Film Training Centre (CCC) in Mexico. She was Industry Co-Director at the Guadalajara International Film

Festival and head of the Iberoamerican Coproduction Meeting until 2013. She also co-directed the Morelia Lab Workshop for Young Producers in Latin America at the Morelia Film Festival, where she is currently Industry Coordinator. She is the delegate for Latin America for the San Sebastian Film Festival and a consultant for the Sarajevo Film Festival.

The Festival Internacional del Cine en Morelia (FICM) was founded in 2003 to nourish a new generation of Mexican filmmakers, giving them a vibrant platform for exhibition and creating a meeting point for film lovers from around the world. It offers three competitive sections of Mexican short, documentary and feature films. It also includes a section devoted to titles that explore questions of nationality, border-crossing innovations in form, tributes to film pioneers and work from Mexico's indigenous communities. As a crucial element, we screen the Mexican premieres of numerous feature films, and host visits by leading figures from the world of cinema.

Konstantina Stavrianou - Greece

Managing Director | Graal



Konstantina Stavrianou was born in Athens and co-founded Graal s.a. in 1999. Since 2003, she has been working in post-production as a post-production producer on short and feature-length narrative and documentary films. She oversees the co-production and post-production sectors for both Greek and international productions and is Graal's managing

director. She has served as jury member at co-production markets at film festivals in Thessaloniki, Istanbul and Romania. She is currently producing two feature-length films and co-producing four international projects. 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 17th year of operation, is clearly focused on cinema. In 2003, Graal entered international co-production for the first time and continued with a wide selection of projects. It has a wide international track record, with films presented in Cannes, Venice, Berlin and other international festivals. The company has co-produced 51 films to date and has a portfolio of approximately 390 titles. Since 2010, Graal has been the main sponsor of the Agora Film Market section of the Thessaloniki International Film Festival, offering a complete image post-production award.

Matthew Takata - USA

International Manager, Feature Film Program | Sundance Institute



Matthew Takata is the Manager for the Feature Film Program's international work at the Sundance Institute. His focus is on international outreach and selection for the Institute's Screenwriters and Directors Labs in Utah, FFP's labs in India, Turkey, Jordan, Italy and Japan, and the annual Sundance Institute Global

Filmmaking Award presented by AJ+. Previously, Takata worked in development at GK Films, following a stint at Key Creatives and International Creative Management. Takata attended the University of California, Los Angeles, and is a native of the San Francisco bay area.

Sundance Institute's Feature Film Program has supported many of the leading independent filmmakers of the past 30 years whose distinctive, singular films have engaged audiences worldwide. The Institute's guiding values of risk-taking and freedom of expression have broadened to include American and international artists in a meaningful and vibrant dialogue across cultural and geographic boundaries, providing in-depth support to a next generation of filmmakers, from development through distribution. Films supported by the Feature Film Program include 'Whiplash', 'Fruitvale Station', 'Beasts of the Southern Wild', 'Sin Nombre', 'Wadjda' and 'The Lunchbox'.

Intishal Al Timimi - UAE/The Netherlands

Head of SANAD | SANAD Film Fund



Intishal Al Timimi is Head of SANAD and has been part of the committee responsible for selecting suitable projects for funding since 2010. He worked as the Director of Arabic Programming at the

Abu Dhabi Film Festival (ADFF) for four years, where he was a programmer since 2008. From 2001-2009, Al-Timimi was Artistic Director of the Arab Film Festival in Rotterdam.

SANAD is the development and post-production fund of twofour54, providing talented Arab filmmakers with meaningful support towards the development or completion of their narrative and documentary feature-length films. SANAD offers up to USD20,000 per project for work in development, and up to USD60,000 per project for post-production, with a total fund of USD500,000.

Sacha Tohme - Lebanon

Managing Director | Moving Turtle



Sacha Tohme is Managing Director of Moving Turtle, a distributor and an aficionado of cinema.

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 differing genres to a range of audiences throughout the region by dedicating equal time, energy, and attention to all our titles. Specialising in distribution along all platforms of high-end, award-winning, art-house movies in the Middle East and North Africa, our aim is to develop a still emergent quality cinema market. Titles include '45 Years', 'Taxi', 'Winter Sleep' and 'Amour', among many others.

Nadine Toukan - Qatar

Producer



Nadine Toukan is an independent film producer based in Doha and Amman. She blazed a trail that ignited Jordan's contemporary cinematic arts movement, producing award-winning commercially released films, including the Academy Award-nominated 'Theeb' (2014), as well

as 'When Monaliza Smiled' and 'Captain Abu Raed'. Toukan is spending 2016 with the Doha Film Institute, leading a programme that supports productions by emerging Qatari filmmakers.

Giles Trendle - Qatar

Acting Managing Director and Director of Programmes, Al Jazeera English Al Jazeera Media Network



Giles Trendle is Acting Managing Director and Director of Programmes at Al-Jazeera English. He began his career with Al Jazeera Arabic on its flagship investigative documentary show, 'Top Secret'. He moved across to Al Jazeera English in 2006, where he commissioned and acquired films for the 'Witness' documentary strand. He also oversaw numerous documentary series and helped develop content-sharing among the network's channels. Prior to joining Al Jazeera, Trendle was an independent

documentary filmmaker and journalist specialising in the Middle East. He began his career in journalism in 1985, spending many years in Lebanon as a freelance journalist. He reported for 'The Economist' and the 'Sunday Times', among others. He moved into television and over the years made numerous documentaries, including films in Iraq both during and after Saddam Hussein's fall, as well as a film following former British hostage John McCarthy's return to Beirut.

Al Jazeera English is an international news channel with over sixty bureaus around the world that span six continents. Since its establishment in 2006 it has grown in reach and popularity due to its global coverage from under-reported regions. The channel currently broadcasts to over 250 million households across 130 countries. Al Jazeera English is part of the Al Jazeera Network - one of the world's leading media corporations encompassing Al Jazeera Arabic, Al Jazeera English, Al Jazeera Balkans, Al Jazeera Mubasher, Al Jazeera Documentary Channel, the Al Jazeera Media Training Center and the Al Jazeera Center for Studies.

Nadia Turincev - France/Lebanon

Producer | Rouge International



In 2007, together with Julie Gayet, Nadia Turincev founded the production house Rouge International. Prior to that, she worked at ACE-European Film Studio, Europa Cinemas, the European Producers

Club, EU Media Development programme, and was on the selection committees of the Directors' Fortnight at Cannes and the Moscow International Film Festival.

Rouge International is a Paris-based production house launched in 2007 by Nadia Turincev and Julie Gayet. The company currently has seven feature-length films, among them two creative documentaries, in development, pre production, production or post-production.

Gülin Üstün - Turkey

Head of Meetings on the Bridge | Istanbul Film Festival



Gülin Üstün graduated from Bogazici University Department of English Language and Literature. She worked in various agencies of the industry and established the production departments until 2000, when she joined Atlantik Film. There, she worked as a producer for television commercials and was in charge of international projects. Subsequently, she worked on project

development, acquisition and sales distribution of feature films and started her own company, GU-FILM. In 2009 she co-produced 'Turquaze', the first Belgian-Turkish co-production. As well as providing PR and marketing strategy services to Turkish films and developing feature film projects, she is the head of Meetings on the Bridge, the industry section of the Istanbul Film Festival.

As the largest, oldest and most influential international film event in Turkey, the Istanbul Film Festival will celebrate its 35th edition in April, 2016. With National and International Competitions, as well as a Human Rights Competition endorsed by the Council of Europe, the festival screens more than 150 feature films each year, awarding the Golden Tulip as its main prize. The Festival also incorporates Meetings on the Bridge, a platform for Turkish and European film professionals that includes a competitive film project development workshop, and a works-in-progress section.

Marie Pierre Vallé - France

Head of Acquisitions | Wild Bunch



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 in theatrical distribution with Wild Bunch Distribution and in video distribution with Wild Side Video. The company has developed a pan-European distribution network with direct distribution arms in Italy (BIM Distribuzione), Germany (Wild Bunch Germany) and Spain (Vertigo). Wild Bunch has also positioned itself in the market of electronic distribution through its French VOD/SVOD platform FilmoTV.

Adriek Van Nieuwenhuyzen - The Netherlands

Head of Industry Office | International Documentary Festival Amsterdam/ IDFA Bertha Fund



Adriek van Nieuwenhuyzen obtained her Master's degree in Theatre and Film Science from the University of Utrecht. During her studies she began to specialise in documentary and became involved in the first edition of the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam (IDFA). In 1993, she became Deputy Director

of IDFA, and since 2007, she has been Head of the Industry Office there. Besides working for IDFA, she is a member of the selection committee of the IDFA Bertha Fund (formerly the Jan Vrijman Fund), which aims to generate more attention for the voices of filmmakers in the developing world.

IDFA is a leading annual documentary event, bringing the documentary community together in Amsterdam. It offers filmmakers a platform to launch their documentaries in various festival programmes and has two markets: the Forum for co-financing/production and Docs for Sale, a sales market. Young talent is placed at the forefront at IDFAcademy. IDFA is well attended by both a large audience (250,000 tickets sold) and 3,000 international documentary professionals. IDFA created the IDFA Bertha Fund to support filmmaking in developing countries. Stimulating international collaborations and creating visibility for films and their makers are key for IDFA.

Nick Vivarelli - Italy

Journalist | Variety



Born in Florence to an American mother and an Italian father, Nick Vivarelli has spent plenty of time in both Italy and the USA. After studying comparative literature at New York University, he dabbled as a literary translator and art gallery organiser before venturing into journalism and film criticism. Since then, he has worked for several media outlets, including The Associated Press and 'Newsweek', and

collaborated with Italian film monthly 'Ciak' and news agency AGI. A regular on the international film festival circuit, he is currently Italy and Middle East correspondent for 'Variety'. He is also the author of 'Slalom', a Tuscany-set thriller published by Manni Editori, and is currently making a documentary about his uncle titled 'Piero Vivarelli: Life as a B-Movie'.

'Variety' is a weekly American entertainment trade magazine owned by Pense Media Corporation. It was founded in New York in 1905 as a weekly; in 1933 it added 'Daily Variety', based in Los Angeles, to cover the motion-picture industry; in 1998 it brought out 'Daily Variety Gotham', based in New York. Variety.com is a free website that features breaking entertainment news, reviews, box-office results, cover stories, videos, photo galleries and more, plus a credit database, production charts and calendar, with archive content dating back to 1905.

Marietta Von Hausswolff Von Baumgarten - Sweden

Head of Development/Script Consultant | Mother of Sons



Swedish screenwriter Marietta von Hausswolff von Baumgarten is the Minister of Persuasion for the state of the Kingdoms of Elgaland-Vargaland, and a member of the Swedish Drama Union and the European Film Academy. She wrote and co-produced 'Call Girl', which won the FIPRESCI Prize at the Toronto International Film Festival and was shown in numerous festivals worldwide. Since 2007, she has been connected as a script consultant with TorinoFilmLab, Binger Film Lab and the Venice Biennale College Cinema, on films such as 'the

Babadook', 'Djeca, Children of Sarajevo', 'Hi-So', 'Los Hongos', 'Les Quattro Volte', 'Beyond /Svinalångorna', 'H', 'The Fits' and 'Mediterranea', among others. Other related programmes are Feature Expanded, Bridging the Dragon, TIFF STUDIO Toronto, Boost Rotterdam, the Rutger Hauer Masterclasses, Generation Campus Moscow, Script Lab Russia, the Balkan Film Fund Athens, Talent Campus, the Irish Film Board and Filmpool Nord, and she consults privately, alone and together with Kamoli Films.

Hossam Wahbeh - Qatar

Head of Training Programmes Section | Al Jazeera Media Network



Hossam Wahbeh studied Media Design at the University of Mainz. He holds a Master's degree in Media Authorship from the Hochschule der Medien in Stuttgart as well as a Ph.D in Fine Arts from the Bauhaus University in Weimar. Previously a lecturer in documentary film and journalism at Al-AQSA University,

he is currently the Head of Training Programmes Development at the Al-Jazeera Media Training and Development Centre, a trainer for the Documentary Film Workshops and Diploma, and a lecturer in television directing, presenting, reporting, filming and aesthetics.

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Michael J. Werner - The Netherlands/Hong Kong

Chairman | Fortissimo Films



Los Angeles-born Michael J. Werner is a long-time veteran of the film-sales business, with more than 35 years experience in international film distribution, sales, production and

consulting, specialising in the Asia-Pacific region. He joined Fortissimo Film Sales as an external consultant in 1995 and in 2000 became a partner in the company.

Fortissimo is one of the world's leading international film, ancillaries and television sales organisations specialising in the production, presentation, promotion and distribution of award-winning and innovative films. Approaching 25 years in business, Fortissimo currently represents over 300 films including feature-length narrative and documentary films, animated films and short films from every corner of the globe. Upcoming titles include Lech Majewski's 'Valley of the Gods' and Dennis Bartok's 'P.O.V.'.

Andy Whittaker - UK

CEO | Dogwoof



Andy Whittaker founded Dogwoof in 2004. He is listed in 'The Guardian's Top 100 Power List of People in Film. A specialist in film and digital media, Andy

seeks partners to build relationships in the MENA region and the UK for film distribution and production.

A global sales company, distributor and film financier, Dogwoof is the leading UK and global theatrical film distributor for documentary and narrative feature-length films from the MENA region. Dogwoof's catalogue includes 'Cartel Land', 'Son of Babylon', 'Food Inc.' and 'Ablaam, Budrus'. Dogwoof is based in London

Jane Williams - UAE

**Director, Director Dubai Film Connection
Dubai International Film Festival**



With a background in training and talent development, Jane Williams has worked extensively in Europe and the Arab world. Since 2006, she has worked for the Dubai International Film Festival, where she has established a number of key initiatives, including the Dubai Film Connection co-production platform which annually

showcases 10 film projects from directors originating from the Arab world. Jane is also currently Co-Head of Studies of the Biennale College-Cinema - a unique programme launched in 2012 that combines training and production funding with a premiere screening at the Venice Film Festival.

Established in 2004, the Dubai International Film Festival (DIFF) is the leading film festival in the Gulf region. It features the prestigious Muhr Awards, which recognise outstanding talent from the Arab World. The Dubai Film Market (DFM), the business centre of the Festival, supports filmmakers from the Arab world through a number of initiatives including the Dubai Film Connection co-production market, which showcases 10 projects from filmmakers of Arab nationality. Enjaaz provides post-production support for film projects led by Arab filmmakers, and production financing for projects helmed by Gulf filmmakers.

Maxwell Wolkin - USA

Director, Non-Theatrical Sales | Film Movement



Maxwell Wolkin is the Director of Non-Theatrical Sales at Film Movement, where he has been employed since 2012. While his primary responsibilities lie in festival releasing strategy, bookings, and non-

theatrical and institutional sales, he is also a member of the small and dedicated team that scouts, acquires and markets Film Movement's releases.

Founded in 2002, Film Movement is a full-service distributor of more than 300 feature-length and short films. Film Movement has released films from more than 50 countries on all platforms, including theatrical, non-theatrical, VOD, digital, home video, television, airlines, hotels, educational, etc. Recent releases include 'Theeb', which at the time of writing is on the Academy Awards shortlist for Best Foreign Language Film. In 2015, Film Movement launched Film Movement Classics, a prestige reissue label that brings arthouse and cult favorites from around the world to Blu-ray in North America.

Robb Wood - Qatar

Director of Strategic Partnerships | Northwestern University in Qatar



Robb Wood builds partnerships between Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q) and leading private and public institutions, including large-scale research collaborations and strategy workshop programmes with industry executives. In his time at NU-Q, he has managed and co-authored the school's flagship research projects - Media Use in the Middle East, a multi-national survey of media consumption in the region, and Media Industries in the Middle East, an examination of the state of the major

media sectors in the region. He also heads programming for NU-Q's Qatar Media Industries Forum. Before coming to Northwestern, he served on the launch teams of Al Jazeera America in Washington, DC, and New York, as well as the Doha Film Institute. Wood was a University Fellow at George Washington University's School of Media and Public Affairs, where he received his Master's degree; he received his bachelor's degree in Political Science and Religion from Middlebury College.

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Heidi Tao Yang - Canada

Industry Programmer, Funds & Deal Maker

Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Film Festival



Heidi Tao Yang is the Industry Programmer, Funds & Deal Maker at the Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Film Festival, where she oversees the Funds. Her role includes providing ongoing project guidance and support of the Fund's fellows. Prior to joining Hot Docs, she headed the

programming at WIFT-T, where she oversaw over 350 hours of annually curated programmes for filmmakers. She has worked in feature films, supervised 30 hours of documentary television, and produced award-winning short dramatic films. She is an alumnus of the Producer's Lab at the Canadian Film Centre.

Hot Docs is dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary by showcasing the work of Canadian and international documentary filmmakers, and creating production opportunities for documentary filmmakers. Each year, the Festival presents a selection of approximately 200 cutting-edge documentaries from Canada and around the globe. Since their inception, the Hot Docs film funds have supported 172 Canadian and international documentary projects with an incredible \$3.6 million in no-interest loans and grants.

Nikolay Yankin - Russian Federation

Producer



Nikolay Yankin is the CEO of Aleksandr Sokurov's foundation Example of Intonation, which was established in 2013 in order to support a new generation of Russian cinema, working primarily with talented young people chosen by Sokurov, who guides them through the first steps in cinema. Since its inception,

the foundation has made seven films, which have been shown at film festivals in Cannes, Sochi, Moscow and Locarno, among others. The foundation now executes some producing functions of for Sokurov as well, and plans to create the director's new documentary over the next two years.

Hisham Zaman - Norway

Filmmaker



A Norwegian film director of Kurdish descent and a graduate of the Film School at Lillehammer, Hisham Zaman had a major international breakthrough with his first film, 'Bawke' (2005), which received more than 40 national and international awards. In 2007, Zaman directed the noteworthy medium-length film 'Winterland'. In 2013, he made his debut feature film 'Before Snowfall', which

won the prestigious Dragon Award at the Gothenburg film festival and the prize for best cinematography at the Tribeca Film Festival. His second feature film, 'Letter to the King' (2014), also received the Dragon award and the FIPRESCI Prize at the European Cinema Festival of Lecce. Zaman is now in development with his next feature film.