

‘Intaj-From Ground Zero Experience’ at Ajyal 2024 Transports Audiences to Gaza Through the Eyes of 22 Palestinian Filmmakers

Anchored by acclaimed Palestinian director Rashid Masharawi, the exhibition features short films that present glimpses of life from one of the world’s most harrowing environments

Doha, Qatar; November 11, 2024: This year’s Intaj Exhibition at Ajyal 2024 will be one of the most poignant to date, featuring 22 films presenting raw, unfiltered moments that have been unfolding in Gaza over the past 12 months. Exhibiting at Msheireb Downtown Doha, the films explore a range of genres including fiction, animation and documentary, revealing a vibrant artistic community that continues to create despite immense obstacles.

Fatma Hassan Alremaihi, Chief Executive Officer of DFI and **Festival Director**, said: "Through Intaj: From Ground Zero Experience, we are honouring the resilient voices of Gaza's creative community. These short films are not just stories of survival but represent the enduring strength of artistic expression even in the most challenging circumstances. The experience reiterates our commitment to amplifying powerful underrepresented voices that deserve to be heard and pays respect to the unbreakable will to express one’s truth."

Sheikh Khalifa Al-Thani, Creative Director of the Exhibition said: "All deeply personal narratives of resilience, each filmmaker’s journey of creative storytelling was forever altered by the horrors they experienced, and their work transformed into narratives of strength and hope that remain unfaltering in the face of incomprehensible suffering. Each film offers a unique perspective on resilience, courage, and humanity and we are hopeful that they enable the world to understand Gaza and the Palestinians’ suffering in a deeply intimate way."

Intaj: From Ground Zero Experience weaves together an anthology of 22 short films of resilience, anchored by acclaimed Palestinian filmmaker Rashid Masharawi. These films will offer audiences an intimate view of Gaza’s enduring spirit through stories shaped by hardship and hope.

The filmmakers who have contributed to the project include: Aws Al-Banna, Ahmed Al-Danf, Basel El-Maqousi, Mustafa Al Nabih , Muhammad Al Sharif, Alaa Ayoub, Bashar Al-Balbisi, Alaa Damo, Hana Eleiwa, Ahmed Hassouna, Mustafa Kolab, Karim Satoum, Mahdi Kreirah, Rabab Khamis, Khamis Masharawi, Wissam Moussa, Tamer Najm, Neda’a Abu Hassnah, Nidal Damo, Reema Mahmoud, Etimad Washah, and Islam Al Zeriei.

Ajyal 2024 features 66 thought-provoking films from 42 countries depicting themes that will resonate with and inspire audiences with stories of resilience, hope and community empowerment. The event will also have interactive discussions, inclusive screenings, film exhibition, Qatar’s largest pop-culture event – Geekend. Events will be held across key locations, including Katara, Sikkat Wadi Msheireb, Lusail and VOX Cinemas Doha Festival City.

Tickets can be purchased online at <https://my.dohafilminstitute.com/ajyal/films/>

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About Doha Film Institute

Doha Film Institute is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organisation. It supports the growth of the Arab film community through cultivating film appreciation, enhancing industry knowledge and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar and the region. The Institute's platforms include funding and production of local, regional and international films; skills-sharing and mentorship programmes; film screenings; the Ajyal Film Festival; and Qumra. With culture, community, learning and entertainment at its foundation, the Institute is committed to supporting Qatar's 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge-based economy.

About Ajyal Film Festival

Ajyal Film Festival is an annual celebration of film designed to nurture young minds and support the development of mindful global citizens and thoughtful future leaders. 'Ajyal', Arabic for 'generations', builds on the Institute's history of community-based programming, and brings people of all ages together through screenings and events that inspire creative interaction and stimulate cinematic dialogue. Through its' jury programme, youth between the ages of 8 and 25 are given an opportunity to watch, analyse and discuss global cinema and culture, developing self-confidence, independent critical thinking skills, self-expression, and an appreciation of cinema, while making new friends and discovering global cultures.

Doha Film Institute:

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