



Press Release

DFI Opens 'Qoul Qasa: Creative Writing Workshop' to Nurture Storytelling Skills for Films

The workshop will be mentored by Qatari artist Ghanem Al Sulaiti during the course of five days

Doha, Qatar; February 27, 2013: Doha Film Institute (DFI), the leading cultural organisation established to support the growth of a sustainable film industry in Qatar and the Middle East, will begin the 'Qoul Qasa Creative Writing Workshop's,' to help nurture the skills of aspiring writers for future screenwriting and film projects.

The 'Qoul Qasa: Creative Writing Workshop' will be held from March 11 to 15, 2013, from 6:30pm to 9:30pm, and is open to local entry level talents. The workshop will cover all aspects of writing from identifying powerful themes to critical evaluation.

Launched by DFI's film financing arm, the Gulf Film Development's (GFD) 'Qoul Qasa :Creative Writing Workshop' will serve as a forum for participants to vocalise ideas, develop core writing techniques and the tools needed for dramatic cinematic writing, while promoting creative thinking among the aspiring writers. Participants will be mentored by critically acclaimed Qatari artist, Mr. Ghanem Al Sulaiti.

Mahdi Ali Ali, Manager of Gulf Film Development, said: "Whether the writers choose to write for theatre or for films, it is important to be well-versed in the basic techniques of writing. By focusing on the intricacies of developing powerful scripts, the workshop will also help participants to think creatively and define their individuality through their works. This is primarily how creative writing can evolve into compelling cinematic experiences."

Artist Ghanem Al Sulaiti commented " This workshop is considered to be a huge opportunity to reach out for young talents interested in art and specifically those into dramatic writing through which they will be familiar with the basis of creative writing, the steps of building the story and creating characters."

Spaces are limited for this five day workshop, so for those who are interested please submit an application via the Doha Film Institute website (www.dohafilminstitute.com).

DFI is committed to nurturing and developing a strong film industry in the region through various initiatives including film appreciation, education, finance and outreach. The year-long calendar of activities of DFI culminates with Doha Tribeca Film Festival, a community event that showcases the best of world and regional cinema.

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About Doha Film Institute:

Doha Film Institute (DFI) is an independent cultural organisation established in 2010 to incorporate Qatar's film initiatives under one banner; organically supporting the growth of the local film community by enhancing industry knowledge, cultivating film appreciation and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar. DFI's year-round platforms include funding and production of local, regional and international films, educational programmes, film screenings, and the annual Doha Tribeca Film Festival (DTFF).

With culture, community, education and entertainment at its foundation, DFI serves as an all-encompassing film hub in Doha, as well as a resource for the region and the rest of the world. DFI is committed to supporting Qatar's 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge based economy.

DFI has established a number of strategic cultural partnerships with leading local and international organisations including Tribeca Enterprises, World Cinema Foundation, Maisha Film Lab, Katara Cultural Village and Giffoni Film Festival.

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