



Film Festival Essentials: What's on Monday October 15

Monday 15 October is a big day for Arabic film at the Festival, with a World Premiere, emerging Arabic film talents on show and the presentation of the Variety Filmmaker of the Year Award to Egyptian veteran Yousry Nasrallah among the highlights of the day.

The World Premiere of *hidden beauties*, competing in the Narrative competition and produced with assistance from SANAD, is the red carpet gala screening at Emirates Palace. Director Nouri Bouzid and Producer Abdelaziz Ben Mlouka will be joined on the red carpet by three of the film's stars: Nour Mziou, Bahram Aloui and Souhir Ben Amara, along with delegations from other films in the Festival.

In the New Horizons competition, Afghan author and director Afiq Rahimi will attend the 21.30 screening of his film *the patience stone*, based on his novel of the same name. The star of the film, celebrated Iranian actress Golshifteh Farahani, and producers Elaheh Sahraie Rad and Frédérique Dumas will also attend. In addition, rising star Anne-Marie Jacir will attend the 19:00 screening of her new film *when i saw you*, along with actor Mahmoud Asfa.

Yousry Nasrallah, a former film critic and one-time assistant to Youssef Chahine, released his first film in 1985. Yousry will be presented with his award for Variety's Middle East Filmmaker of the Year at an invitation-only reception at Emirates Palace. Previous recipients are Ashgar Farhadi, Mohamad Al-Daradji, Nadine Labaki, Amin Matalqa and Elia Suleiman. His film *after the battle*, which competed at Cannes in April, is featured in the Showcase section of the Festival and screens at 16.30. The film's stars Bassem Samra and Menna Shalabi will also attend the screening.



Fans of Arabic film can also attend two sessions of films screening in the Emirates Film Competition. At 15:30 films selected for the short documentary section of the competition will screen, with competitors in the student short documentary section screening at 18:30. Delegations from films will attend both sessions.

The President of the New Horizons Jury, internationally acclaimed film editor Françoise Bonnot, presents her masterclass on editing at 11:00 at Emirates Palace. This is a unique opportunity to learn from an industry leader. A masterclass on the role of the producer will take place at 17:00, led by Chris Curling, President of the European Producers Club, followed by a second masterclass on trailer production, led by British Producer Duncan Twells. The classes are free to attend.

Other screening highlights for Monday include the first screening of *love is all you need*, the new film from Oscar-winning Danish Director, Susanne Bier. Actor Sebastian Jessen, whose whirlwind on-screen wedding is the catalyst for this comic romance, will attend the screening.

Media representatives have the opportunity to conduct interviews with delegations from *anton's right here*, *the citizen* and *the world before her*. Please check the press schedule for details.

This is the first year the Abu Dhabi Film Festival has been presented under the management of twofour54, as part of the plan to strategically align the festival alongside Abu Dhabi's other media initiatives and related events, reinforcing Abu Dhabi as the creative hub for the region supporting film production.

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