

Press Release

Abu Dhabi Film Festival to Celebrate Work of François Truffaut

- *Iconic filmmaker's newly restored movies to be screened for first time in the Arab world*
- *Films include THE 400 BLOWS, JULES AND JIM and THE LAST METRO*

Abu Dhabi-UAE: 20 September, 2014 – Abu Dhabi Film Festival (ADFF), powered by twofour54, will screen a selection of restored films by legendary filmmaker, François Truffaut, for the first time in the Arab world. Truffaut passed away 30 years ago, in 1984, an occasion for ADFF to remember and celebrate this influential director.

Many of the films have been newly restored and will be presented in the best possible quality at the Festival. The selected titles include THE 400 BLOWS, JULES AND JIM, THE WILD CHILD, THE MAN WHO LOVED WOMEN, SMALL CHANGE, Academy Award winning DAY FOR NIGHT and THE LAST METRO, which was screened at Cannes earlier this year as part of the Cannes Classics segment.

The films will be screened at ADFF, which takes place from October 23 to November 1, 2014.

Ali Al Jabri, Director, Abu Dhabi Film Festival, said: "Few filmmakers have had as much impact on the art of cinema as François Truffaut. We want to give local audiences the chance to experience these great works of cinematic genius on the big screen to relive some of the magic that captivated movie-goers at the time and today."

THE 400 BLOWS often ranks among the greatest films of all time and won the Best Director Award in Cannes when it premiered in 1959. It is the semi-autobiographical childhood story of a troubled French youth who is ignored and misunderstood at home and school until he is placed in a juvenile detention centre. After running away, he ends up facing an uncertain future in one of cinema's most legendary closing shots.

Another of the director's celebrated films, JULES AND JIM, is a bittersweet tale centred on the lives of two friends, who fall in love with the same woman, Catherine. Truffaut's timeless meditation, now stunningly restored, on loving more than one person at the same time features Jeanne Moreau in one of her iconic performances.

Influential film critic for "Cahiers du Cinéma", mastermind of the "auteur theory" and heir to the humanistic cinematic tradition of Jean Renoir, Truffaut's gift to the world were tender love stories, exciting crime films and brilliant literary adaptations. Known for his fluid camera work and post-modern approach, Truffaut was one of the key figures of the French new wave cinema of the late 1950s and is spoken in the same breath as other movie legends such as Jean-Luc Godard and Louis Malle. Truffaut died in 1984 and is still highly regarded within the filmmaking community and beyond.

ADFF was established in 2007 with the aim of helping to create a vibrant film culture throughout the region and has previously showcased the work of major figures in world cinema, including

Ingmar Bergman and Naguib Mahfouz. A key event in Abu Dhabi's cultural calendar, it features an extensive 10-day programme of Arab and international cinema, complemented by red-carpet premieres and associated events.

-ENDS-

For more information, please contact:

William Royce, twofour54: D: +971050 614 6653 , E: william.royce@twofour54.com

About Abu Dhabi Film Festival

Abu Dhabi Film Festival (ADFF), powered by twofour54, is presented each October to help create a vibrant film culture throughout the region. With a focus on Arab cinema and the wealth of emerging and established film talent from around the world, ADFF has become one of the most anticipated cultural events in Abu Dhabi, helping to enhance the emirate as a hub of creativity.

Abu Dhabi Film Festival is committed to curating exceptional programs and engaging and educating the local community with their own and other cultures through the art of cinema. The films of Arab film directors are presented in competition with those of the most respected film-makers from all over the world.

About twofour54

twofour54, the commercial arm of the Media Zone Authority-Abu Dhabi, is a leading media and entertainment hub in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, aiming to nurture the development of creative industries in the region through supporting talent, content development, and young entrepreneurs.

As part of its mission to help Arabs realise their ambitions across diverse media platforms, twofour54 provides financial support, a creativity lab that engages members in creative projects, as well as training and networking opportunities through tadreeb, and world-class production facilities through intaj. All of these services are supported by its end-to-end business services provider, tawasol.

A key contributor to the UAE's economic growth and diversity, twofour54's Abu Dhabi campus is home to more than 300 local, regional and international media and creative companies including Ubisoft, Cartoon Network, Sky News Arabia, CNN, Flash Entertainment, Sports 360, Reed Exhibitions, Charisma, Tahadi and Jawaker.

twofour54 powers the Abu Dhabi Film Festival and Abu Dhabi Media Summit annually to drive the development of a vibrant film and entertainment industry. The Abu Dhabi Film Commission (ADFC) is also part of twofour54 and offers international projects incentives such as a 30 per cent cash-back rebate on their first production.

For more information, visit: www.twofour54.com