



The Sawiris Foundation Story Behind Your GFF Bag!

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The Sawiris Foundation was founded in April 2001 as a grant-making foundation

Film star Yousra and renowned director Inas El-Degheidy visited the Egyptian House in El Gouna yesterday, as it hosted a four-day handicrafts exhibition for the Northern Sinai NGO 'El Fayrouz Society'.

El Fayrouz is the organization that won the competition for producing GFF 2019 giveaway bags. The handicrafts competition, which was held in a collaboration between El Gouna Film Festival and the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (SFSD) a few months ago.

According to Amani Labib, a member of El Fayrouz Society, the organization was

established in 2006 with a mission to improve the quality of life for local women, by training them on the folkloric handicrafts, while at the same, promoting and preserving the local artistic culture. "I am beyond proud that our organization was selected to produce the GFF giveaway bags," she said, elaborating: "Promoting the works produced by the ladies is a great way to improve their living conditions, as well as celebrate our culture and heritage, not only through the giveaway bags, but also the exhibition, where we showcased a lot of our handmade items for the festival guests, in addition to El Gouna residents."

On the other hand, Yousra, expressed her admiration of all the handmade items of the Sinawi ladies, saying: "everything they do is just beautiful."

The Sawiris Foundation was founded in April 2001 as a grant-making foundation. Set up with an endowment from the Sawiris family, and prominent members of the business world and the development community, it is one of the first family donor foundations dedicated to social development in Egypt.

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Meet the filmmaker today

12:00

THE TRUTH
Hirokazu Kore-eda
Guest(s) attending:
NA

12:15

MIDNIGHT TRAVELER
Hassan Fazili
Guest(s) attending:
NA

12:30

FREEKEH
Bassel Ghandour
Guest(s) attending:
Rula Al Nasser (Producer)

12:30

BOTTLENECK
Mâns Berthas
Guest(s) attending:
Mans Berthas (Director)

12:30

GIVE UP THE GHOST
Zain Duraie
Guest(s) attending:
Zain Duraie (Director)

12:30

COLOR BLIND
Menna Ekram
Guest(s) attending:
Menna Ekram (Director)

12:30

EXAM | Emtehan
Sonia K. Hadad
Guest(s) attending:
Wouter Janson (Producer)

12:30

IN VITRO
Larissa Sansour, Søren Lind
Guest(s) attending:
Soren Lind (Director)

12:30

NIGHTCRAWLERS
Guest(s) attending:
Arturo Baltazar (Director)
Chantal Rodríguez (Producer)

13:30

1982
Guest(s) attending:
Mohammad Dali,
Gia Madi,
Ghassan Maalouf
Lelya Harkous
Rodrigue Suleiman
Aliya Khalidi,
Oualid Mouaness
Myriam Sassine

14:45

MIDNIGHT FAMILY
Luke Lorentzen
Guest(s) attending:
Luke Lorentzen (Director)
Kellen Quinn (Producer)

15:00

BACURAU
Guest(s) attending:
Juliano Dornelles (Director)

15:15

NOURA'S DREAM
Guest(s) attending:
Hinde Boujemaa (Director)
Imed Marzouk (Producer),
Lotfi Alabdelli,
Hakim Boumsaoudi (Cast)

15:30

37 SECONDS
Guest(s) attending:
Mitsuyo Miyazaki (Director),
Stephen Blahut (Cinematographer)

16:00

THE KNIGHT AND THE PRINCESS
Guest(s) attending:
Bashir Eldik (Director)
Abdelrahman Abouzahra,
Medhat Saleh,
Haitham Al-Khamiss
i, Bashir Eldik,
Ibrahim Morsy
Alabbas Bin Alabbas (Producer)

18:15

TALKING ABOUT TREES
Guest(s) attending:
Suhaib Gasmelbari (Director),
Altayeb Mahadi
Ibrahim Shaddad,
Manar Alhelw,
Suliman Ibrahim,
Suhaib Gasmelbari (Protagonists),
Marie Balducchi (Producer)

18:15

OUR LADY OF THE NILE
Guest(s) attending:
Atiq Rahimi (Director)

18:30

JETSKI
Guest(s) attending:
Sharif Abdel Mawla (Director)

18:30

IN OUR SYNAGOGUE
Guest(s) attending:
Ivan Orlenko (Director)

18:30

IN BETWEEN
Guest(s) attending:
Ben Vandenaële (Producer)

18:30

ADAM
Guest(s) attending:
Maryam Touzani (Director)
Nabil Ayouch (Producer)
Nisrin Erradi (Actress)

20:45

PAPICHA
Guest(s) attending:
Amira Hilda

21:00

YOU ARE YOUNG YOU ARE PRETTY
Guest(s) attending:
Gerard Darmon
Franchin Don

21:00

ANOTHER REALITY
Guest(s) attending:
Noel Dernesch (Director)
Ahmad Srais (Actor)

21:15

143 SAHARA STREET
Guest(s) attending:
Samir Elhakim (Actor)

Schedule

THE TRUTH Sea Cinema 1 12:00 PM	MIDNIGHT FAMILY Sea Cinema 2 2:45 PM	THE KNIGHT AND THE PRINCESS Grand Cinemas Hurghada 4:00 PM	SHORT FILM PROGRAM 4 Sea Cinema 3 6:30 PM	YOU ARE YOUNG YOU ARE PRETTY Audimax (TU Berlin) 8:45 PM	Short film program 3 IN VITRO NIGHTCRAWLERS GIVE UP THE GHOST EXAM FREEKEH COLOR BLIND BOTTLENECK
MIDNIGHT TRAVELER Sea Cinema 2 12:15 PM	BACURAU Audimax (TU Berlin) 3:00 PM	SORRY WE MISSED YOU Sea Cinema 1 5:45 PM	ADAM Grand Cinemas Hurghada 6:30 PM	ANOTHER REALITY Sea Cinema 2 9:00 PM	
SHORT FILM PROGRAM 3 Sea Cinema 3 12:30 PM	NOURA'S DREAM Sea Cinema 1 3:15 PM	OUR LADY OF THE NILE Audimax (TU Berlin) 6:15 PM	CINEMA IN CONCERT Marina Theater 7:00 PM	143 SAHARA STREET Sea Cinema 3 9:15 PM	Short film program 4 NIMIC ALL INCLUSIVE IN BETWEEN IN OUR SYNAGOGUE THE TEARS THING JETSKI
1982 Grand Cinemas Hurghada 1:30 PM	37 SECONDS Sea Cinema 3 4:15 PM	TALKING ABOUT TREES Sea Cinema 2 6:15 PM	PAPICHA Sea Cinema 1 8:45 PM	SATURDAY FICTION Grand Cinemas Hurghada 9:30 PM	

Red Carpet Noura's Dream Returns to El Gouna



One year after she won the CineGouna Springboard award for her film project 'Noura's Dream', Tunisian director Hinde Boujemaa returned to El Gouna Film Festival's red carpet, this time with the complete film. In this edition of GFF, 'Noura's Dream' participates at the Feature Narrative Competition, after having its world premiere at the Discovery section of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). The film features Hend Sabry, Imen Cherif, Hakim Boumsaoudi and Lotfi Abdelli. It is also participating in the San Sebastian International Film Festival.

Intishal Al Timimi, Director of El Gouna Film Festival, welcomed Boujemaa to the Marina Theater stage with her film crew, which included Imed Marzouk (producer), and actor Hakim Boumsaoudi, in a festive atmosphere.

Today Yorgos Lanthimos' Short Film



Following his streak of critically-acclaimed hits, including 'The Lobster', 'The Killing of the Sacred Deer' and 'The Favorite', famed Greek director Yorgos Lanthimos returns with another compellingly surreal story. His latest short film, 'Nimic', remains faithful to Lanthimos' visual and narrative style. Although it is the only Official Selection Out of Competition, 'Nimic' will be screened in the today's shorts program.

The program also includes 'All Inclusive' by Teemu Nikki (Finland); 'In Between' by Samir Karahoda (Kosovo); 'In Our Synagogue' by Ivan Orlenko (Ukraine, France); 'Jetski' by Sharif Abdel Mawla (Netherlands); and 'The Tears Thing' by Clémence Poésy (France). The shorts screening will take place at Sea Cinema 3 at 6:30 p.m.

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Experts' Chat

Panel Discussion: 'The State of Film Distribution'

'The State of Film Distribution' was the title of a panel discussion held yesterday in the framework of the CineGouna Bridge program. The event, presented by Film Independent and the U.S. Embassy in Egypt, was moderated by Lebanese producer Myriam Sassine. The panelists were Missy Laney, the director of development at Adult Swim; Jordana Meade, the director of distribution at ITVS; and Rebecca Sosa, an accomplished film executive and consultant.

The panelists discussed the role of the new direct-to-consumer platforms that continue to subvert traditional distribution models and provide multiple options to release a movie. As distribution experts, the panelists presented snapshots of the distribution landscape today, as they explained the various ways filmmakers can distribute their movies and monetize their content.

According to the panelists, the many different kinds of mediums expanded the limits of viewership and the access to different kinds of movies, as people are now not only watching more, but they are also creating more space to watch films.

They agreed on the point that filmmakers of today should be aware of the differences between those mediums, in addition to recognizing their target audience, where they live, and the platforms through which they have access to movies.

Talking about documentary films, which face more viewership challenges compared to narrative films, the panelists stated that filmmakers should seek alternative distribution opportunities that may seem rather unpopular, such as educational institutions that are eager to buy various documentary films for their students. Filmmakers need to go beyond the traditional distribution mechanisms and realize that there is not only one plan that would lead to success in every case. Instead, amid the wide range of



opportunities out there, they should find the right plan for each specific case. There are no right answers for questions as to whether a filmmaker should participate in as much film festivals as s/he can with her/his very first short film, or make her/his debut by

streaming the film on online platforms. When faced with these decisions, the most important point, according to the panelists, is that filmmakers should think about distribution during the film's production process, and not after.

Panel Discussion: 'The Art and Science of Financing'

The second CineGouna Bridge activity in yesterday's program was a panel discussion entitled 'The Art and Science of Financing'. It was moderated by Leo Barraclough, the international features editor at Variety. The panelists were the emerging Egyptian film director Karim El Shenawy; Jordanian-Canadian producer Rula Al Nasser; Egyptian-American producer Dina Emam; narrative film and documentary producer Wendy Ettinger; the deputy director of European Film Promotion (EFP) Jo Mühlberger; and the director of the Hot Docs Industry Programs, Elizabeth Radshaw.

The panelists tackled the challenges of film financing, especially for a filmmaker's debut. Dina Emam spoke about her experience as a first-time producer in Abu Bakr Shawky's 'Yomeddine' and the difficulties of obtaining funds at the first stage, especially as it was a debut for both her and the film director. She said that they started by approaching people they know, then it snowballed into a greater network. She also mentioned the importance of having a network that gets bigger by time, presenting more and more opportunities.

Karim El Shenawy agreed with Emam on the importance of networking. He said that, at the beginning, young filmmakers with a first film could be so enthusiastic that they might think meeting a producer automatically means receiving the necessary funds—this being the case in his own experience. However, he later realized that building a complete network should be the main target, as that network grows into a future support system that is not necessarily financial, but sometimes just a piece of advice that the filmmaker is in need of.

The panelists also discussed the role of film festivals in promoting the works of first-time film directors and in giving them the opportunities to get involved in the international cinema scene, agreeing that having a place in the festival circuit can provide emerging filmmakers with the necessary confidence to continue working on future projects.





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‘Parasite’: Winner of Cannes’ Plame d’Or

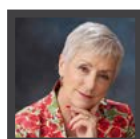
Vastly different from his two previous films, the futuristic train drama ‘Snowpiercer’, and the effects-heavy Netflix eco-oddy ‘Okja’, ‘Parasite’ by Joon-ho Bong is almost a family drama in the vein of Kore-eda’s ‘Shoplifters’, portraying a loving family living in society’s underbelly, surviving in sociopathic circumstances.

“ always with his sympathetic face that has a way of making the audience love him

With a subtext about class warfare, similar to ‘Burning’, if there were any equivalent to such a unique way of illustrating class warfare as it is today (a far cry from the Marxist hypotheses), it might be Michael Haneke’s 1997 ‘Funny Games’, though Haneke adds a hard edge of cruelty which is reversed and much subtler here, as we get glimpses of how the upper crust treats the “help”. In Funny Games, the beautiful household is terrorized by two cruel young men who invade the home. Here, the terror is only experienced once by the little boy as if it were a ghost; only with the ending is the true violence portrayed. Until then, there seems to be a mutual affection everyone shares.

Sometimes veering toward horror, sometimes strikingly violent, yet still comedic, the characters never break stride as they take over the upkeep of the wealthy family’s needs. The music plays a strong role in setting a mood in that it telegraphs the

“ Sometimes veering toward horror, sometimes strikingly violent, yet still comedic



Sydney Levine

about-to-turn weird action these very normal seeming characters are about to take.

This is the third collaboration of actor Kang-ho Song with Joon-ho Bong after ‘The Host’ and ‘Snowpiercer’. Song Kang-ho never professionally trained as an actor, beginning his career in social theater groups after graduating from Kimhae High School. Later, he joined Kee Kuk-seo’s influential theater company with its emphasis on instinctive acting and improvisation. Since his first film as an extra in ‘The Day a Pig Fell into the Well’ (1996), he has appeared in many films, always with his sympathetic face that has a way of making the audience love him.

See this film -- it is so good that they say it will be submitted for Best Film, not just Best Foreign Language film. Though I doubt its chances, in spite of the quality and drama, are enough to win the Palme d’Or in Cannes itself, the first for a Korean film.

*A version of this article appeared, 20 August, 2019 in sydneybuzz. It is re-published upon the writer’s approval.



Tonight on the Red Carpet Cinema in Concert

Paying homage to the timeless works of music that accompanied some of the most memorable films, GFF –in cooperation with the U.S. Embassy in Egypt– will host Cinema in Concert tonight September 25, 2019 at the Marina Theater.

The program of the 3rd edition’s Cinema in Concert is divided into two segments. The first segment is entitled ‘Hits of Hollywood’, and the second comes under the title ‘Homage à Nino Rota’, and celebrates the composer’s works for films by Federico Fellini and Luchino Visconti.

The concert will be conducted by Maestro Ahmed El Saedi, the main founder and chairman of the Egyptian Philharmonic Society. According to El Saedi, Rota’s segment will be presented for the first time in the world. “It has been especially composed for El Gouna Film Festival,” stated El Saedi.

Through Cinema in Concert, El Gouna Film Festival honors the exceptional talents of musicians in film, and celebrates the music; the integral element that has a unique and powerful influence on cinematic production.

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Pain & Glory: A tribute to the artist's mother

M. Sayed Abdel Rehim

Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar is a living legend. Every film made by him is considered a piece of art, especially that Almodóvar has his own style, his signature that no other director had succeeded to recreate, no matter how many of them try.

In his new film, Pain and Glory, starring Antonio Banderas, Penélope Cruz and Asier Etxeandia, Almodóvar returns to his favorite issue; his relationship with his mother. He had previously touched on this issue in several other films, including All About My Mother and Volver.

The film is about a film director who is feeling physically exhausted, and how he remembers his life –especially his childhood– in order to use these memories as events, feelings and ideas in his new film. The film includes two parallel narrations, where we get to share the protagonist's childhood, as well as his present days.

Pain and Glory is an autobiography that

“

We observe all these conflicts in a very smooth and gentle double-narration that takes us deep inside the artist, without letting us get lost because

inspects and explores the outer and inner life of an artist. We witness the hero's deep relationship with his mother; his first sexual encounter; his search for himself during his youth; his rise to fame as a well-known director; his struggles with the actors; and even the moviegoers who watch his films. But the real conflict in this film is between the artist and himself; his body and his soul; his feelings and his desires.

We observe all these conflicts in a very smooth and gentle double-narration that takes us deep inside the artist, without letting us get lost because. The mother is always there, taking care of her child, and possibly, to take care of us too. Indeed, maybe we will not be lost –as the artist didn't get lost in his path– because of the mother's love, even after her death.

This is a film about how mothers can protect us in our long routes that we take throughout our lives. So, many thanks to Pedro Almodóvar and the mothers of the whole world.

Pain and Glory made its international debut at the 2019 Cannes Film Festival, where it was selected to compete for the Palme d'Or. At the Festival, Banderas won the award for Best Actor, while Alberto Iglesias won the award for Best Soundtrack. The film was also selected as the Spanish entry for the Best International Feature Film at the 92nd Academy Awards. Almodóvar's film is part of the Official Selection out of Competition at El Gouna Film Festival 2019.

CINEGOUNA
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BUILDING BRIDGES: ITALIAN INCENTIVES FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-PRODUCTION

ELGOUNA
FILM FESTIVAL
3RD EDITION
مهرجان الجونة السينمائي



CHAT WITH
ROBERTO STABILE

HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF ANICA
GENERAL DIRECTOR FOR FILM OF THE MINISTRY FOR
CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ACTIVITIES

ITALY, ESPECIALLY IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, HAS BEEN QUITE ACTIVE IN PROMOTING CO-PRODUCTIONS. REGIONAL FILM COMMISSIONS SUPPORT, THROUGH LOCAL INCENTIVES, THE PRINCIPLES OF OPENNESS AND COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL AUDIOVISUAL PRODUCERS, WHICH MIBAC (ITALIAN MINISTRY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ACTIVITIES) HAS SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED.

MR. ROBERTO STABILE, AS HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF ANICA (ITALIAN FILM AUDIOVISUAL AND MULTIMEDIA INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION) AND COLLABORATOR OF ITA (ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY), IS INSTRUMENTAL IN PROMOTING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ITALIAN AUDIOVISUAL INDUSTRY AND THE WORLD MARKETS.

HE HAS SET UP A GLOBAL NETWORK OF INFORMATION DESKS FOR INDUSTRY RELATIONS WITH LEADING INTERNATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPHIC AUTHORITIES. CURRENTLY, HE COORDINATES THE CHINA PROJECT, WITH THE AIM OF FOSTERING DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN CHINESE AND ITALIAN FILM INDUSTRIES.

ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS AROUND THE WORLD, HE ALSO REPRESENTS THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR CINEMA OF MIBAC.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25,

4:00PM EL GOUNA LIBRARY