



## Happy Ending to GFF

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Intishal Al Timimi: “El Gouna film festival was born to last”

Last night, El Gouna was swamped with international and Arab celebrities who have all flocked to the Marina open-air theater to celebrate the closing of the second edition of GFF, which was hosted by Nardine Farag, actor and host of MBC's The Voice.

The renowned Hollywood star Owen Wilson surprised everyone when he appeared on the stage to introduce Farag. He described his first visit to Egypt as «unforgettable» and his participation in the GFF as “an incredible experience.”

The iconic Hollywood superstar Sylvester Stallone, who received the El Gouna Career Achievement Award, said: “what is in common between Egypt and Hollywood is the magic. I am proud to be here. I will be back.”

Amr Mansi, co-founder & CEO of GFF expressed his pride in the 2nd edition of the festival: “thanks everyone, from GFF leaders to all the staff and every volunteer and security guide, who spent long hours every day, to reach the moment where we are now,” he said.

In his speech, Intishal Al Timimi, the festival director, said that the end of the 2nd edition of the GFF is the beginning of its next edition. “We will carry on with the success stories of this edition, but will also take into consideration the negative aspects. This festival was born to last. And it will, with good planning, teamwork, and enhancement of every initiative.”

For his part, Naguib Sawiris, the founder of GFF, thanked the festival's guests and team, before he invited Ash to the stage, to sing a special song for the GFF.



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Yomeddine wins the GFF Cinema for Humanity Audience Award

The award (Trophy, Certificate and USD 20,000) is reserved for a film that exemplifies a humanitarian theme. Feature-length films across various sections, indicated with a star on the top corner of the image, are eligible for the award. This year, the Cinema for Humanity Audience Award went to Yomeddine by A. B. Shawky.

The award was delivered by the renowned Mauritanian film director and producer Abderrahmane Sissako. In his short speech, he said that taking part in El Gouna Film Festival is a great chance for him to discover the charming city of El Gouna, and the Egyptian people. He also expressed his pride in announcing the award for Yomeddine by A.B. Shawky: "It is a wonderful film, from a wonderful director," he said.

The filmmaker A.B. Shawky announced that he is proud to have an award in Egypt: "Thank you GFF for supporting me and for the great honor," he said.

**GFF Short Film Competition Award Winners**

23 short films competed for the GFF Short Film Competition awards, including 7 films by Arab filmmakers.

Kamal El Basha, head of the jury, thanked El Gouna Film Festival for the trust and the warm welcome. He said that all of the 23 short films are of high quality.

## GFF Cinema for Humanity Audience Award Winner

**OUR SONG TO WAR wins El Gouna Golden Star for Short Film award**

El Gouna Golden Star for Short Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 15,000) went to OUR SONG TO WAR by Juanita Onzaga

**JUDGEMENT wins El Gouna Silver Star for Short Film award**

El Gouna Silver Star for Short Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 7,500) went to JUDGEMENT by Raymund Ribay Gutierrez

The film director said in his short speech: "This is the first prize in my life. I can't express my pleasure. From the bottom of my heart, thank you El Gouna Film Festival. I would like to dedicate this award to all women who are victims of domestic violence."

**SHEIKH'S WATERMELONS wins El Gouna Bronze Star for Short Film award**

El Gouna Bronze Star for Short Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 4,000) went to SHEIKH'S WATERMELONS by Kaouther Ben Hania

In her comment, Ben Hania said: "I feel that El Gouna Film Festival loves me after two awards in two days. This one and the CineGouna Award yesterday. I have the same feelings towards the festival."

**EYEBROWS wins El Gouna Star for the Best Arab Short Film award**

El Gouna Star for the Best Arab Short Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 5,000) went to Eyebrows by director Tamer Ashry

Ashry stated that he is proud to have an award from the GFF for the second time: "My film Photocopy won an award at the 1st edition of GFF. And now again, I win the Best Arab Short Film award. This is very inspiring and encouraging. Thank you GFF."

The head of the GFF Short Film Competition jury is the renowned Palestinian director, writer, and actor Kamel El Basha. The jury members are: film curator and the spokeswoman for the Austrian Film Festival Forum Doris Bauer, Egyptian film star Ahmed Malek, renowned Jordanian actress Saba Mubarak, and the Asia Editor for Screen International, Liz Shackleton.



**GFF Feature Documentary Competition Award Winners**

12 films competed for the Feature Documentary Competition awards, including 4 films by Arab filmmakers. Here is a list of the award winners:

**AQUARELA wins El Gouna Golden Star for Documentary Film award**

El Gouna Golden Star for Documentary Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 30,000) went to AQUARELA by Victor Kossakovsky

**OF FATHERS AND SONS wins El Gouna Silver Star for Documentary Film award**

El Gouna Silver Star for Documentary Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 15,000) went to OF FATHERS AND SONS by Talal Derki

**THE SWING wins El Gouna Bronze Star for Documentary Film award**

El Gouna Bronze Star for Documentary Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 7,500) went to THE SWING by Cyril Aris.

The film director commented that it is a special award, because it is an Arab award.

**OF FATHERS AND SONS wins El Gouna Star for the Best Arab Documentary Film award**

El Gouna Star for the Best Arab Documentary Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 10,000) went to OF FATHERS AND SONS by Talal Derki. In his brief speech,

Derki said: "Thank you GFF. At last my film took an Arab award. I am very proud."

The head of the Feature Documentary Competition jury is Ally Derks, founder of the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA). The jury members are: Palestinian film director Rashid Masharawi, award-winning Indian filmmaker Mike Pandey, international film curator Keith Shire, and award-winning Lebanese documentary filmmaker Hady Zaccak.

**GFF Feature Narrative Competition Award Winners**

15 films competed for the GFF Feature Narrative Competition awards, including 5 films by Arab filmmakers. Here is a list of the award winners:

**A LAND IMAGINED wins El Gouna Golden Star for Narrative Film award**

El Gouna Golden Star for Narrative Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 50,000) went to A LAND IMAGINED by Yeo Siew Hua

**RAY & LIZ wins El Gouna Silver Star for Narrative Film award**

El Gouna Silver Star for Narrative Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 25,000) went to RAY & LIZ by Richard Billingham

**THE HEIRESSSES wins El Gouna Bronze Star for Narrative Film award**

El Gouna Bronze Star for Narrative Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 15,000) went to THE HEIRESSSES by Marcelo Martinessi

**YOMEDDINE wins El Gouna Star for the Best Arab Narrative Film award**

El Gouna Star for the Best Arab Narrative Film (Trophy, Certificate and USD 20,000) went to YOMEDDINE by A.B. Shawky

**THE MAN WHO SURPRISED EVERYONE receives the jury special mention**

The jury awarded a special mention to THE MAN WHO SURPRISED EVERYONE by Natasha Merkulova and Aleksey Chupov

**Mohamed Dhrif wins El Gouna Star for the Best Actor award**

El Gouna Star for the Best Actor (Trophy and Certificate) went to the Tunisian actor Mohamed Dhrif for his role in DEAR SON by Mohamed Ben Attia

**Joanna Kulig wins El Gouna Star for the Best Actress award**

El Gouna Star for the Best Actress (Trophy and Certificate) went to Joanna Kulig for her role in COLD WAR by Pawel Pawlikowski

The head of this competition's jury is the Oscar-winning Croatian producer Cedimir Kolar. The jury members are: Carlo Chatrian, Italian journalist, author and the artistic director of Locarno Film Festival; Sri Lankan film director, screenwriter and visual artist Vimukthi Jayasundara; Moroccan screenwriter, film director, cinematographer, actor and producer Ahmed El Maanouni; award-winning film director Ana Urushadze, and Egyptian film star Mona Zaki.

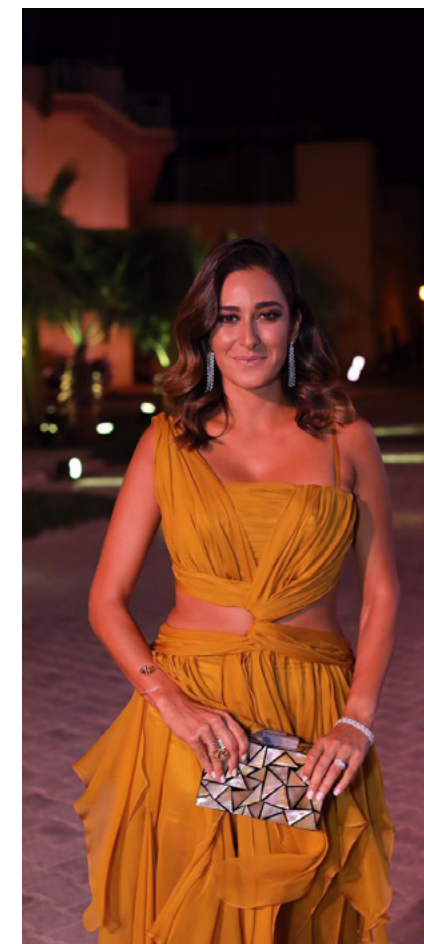
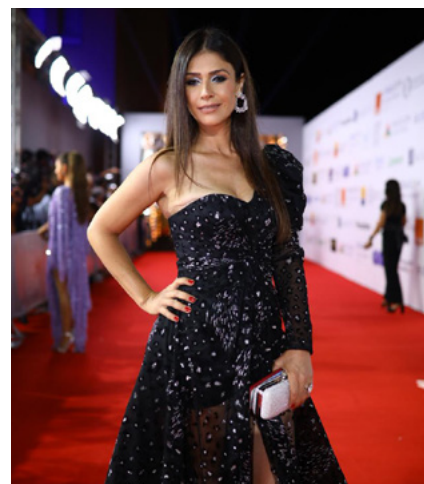
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Charming Closing Ceremony of the GFF at the Marina Open-Air Theater

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A.B. Shawky announced that he is proud to have an award in Egypt: "Thank you GFF for supporting me and for the great honor," he said.







السبت ٢٩ سبتمبر (أيلول) ٢٠١٨



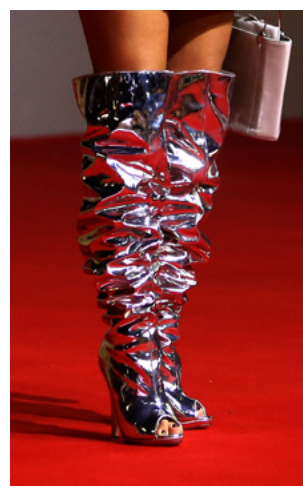


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السبت ٢٩ سبتمبر (أيلول) ٢٠١٨





السبت ٢٩ سبتمبر (أيلول) ٢٠١٨

