

66 Venice Film Festival

2nd – 12th September 2009



1. The 66th Venice International Film Festival, organised by La Biennale di Venezia, will be held on the Venice Lido from 2nd to 12th September 2009. The Festival has the official recognition of the FIAPF (International Federation of Film Producers Associations).

2. The aim of the Festival is to raise awareness and promote all the various aspects of international cinema in all its forms: as art, entertainment and as an industry, in a spirit of freedom and tolerance. As well as all the sections mentioned in the following paragraphs, the Festival will include retrospectives and homages to major figures as a contribution towards raising awareness of the history of cinema.

3. OFFICIAL SELECTION

3.1 Venezia 66

An international competition comprising a maximum of 20 feature films, presented as world premieres.

3.2 Out of Competition

Some of the most important works of the year, and in particular those by directors already established in past editions of the Festival, will be presented in the non-competing section.

A maximum of six Out of Competition films will be screened at around midnight, whose characteristics are particularly suitable for showing at this time of night.

Only feature films presented as world premieres will be admitted. Only in exceptional circumstances will derogations from this rule be allowed for films which have not yet been given public screenings outside their country of origin.

3.3 Orizzonti

A section aiming to provide an overview of the new trends in cinema. A maximum of 18 feature films will be presented. This section will also include a maximum of 7 documentary feature films.

Only feature films presented as world premieres will be admitted. Only in exceptional circumstances will derogations from this rule be allowed for films which have not yet been given public screenings outside their country of origin.

3.4 Controcampo Italiano

A section aiming to take stock of the latest trends in Italian cinema, comprising a maximum of 7 programmes. Only works presented as a world premiere will be admitted.

3.5 Corto Cortissimo

An international competition for short films, screened here as a world premiere or at least never publicly screened outside their country of origin. The duration of the shorts must not exceed 30 minutes. Only fiction and animation films will be admitted.

4. INDUSTRY OFFICE

The "Industry Office" is set up during the Festival which places its infrastructures and screening rooms at the disposal of producers and international sales companies. There are specific regulations to be respected in order to participate in the "Industry Office".

5. INDEPENDENT AND PARALLEL SECTIONS

5.1 Settimana Internazionale della Critica (SIC- International Critics' Week)

A series of 7 or 8 films – debut works – independently organized by a commission nominated by the National Syndicate of Italian Film Critics (SNCCI) in accordance with its own regulations.

5.2 Giornate degli Autori (Venice Days)

A series of 10-12 films independently organized by a commission nominated by the Italian Association of Film-makers (ANAC - Associazione Nazionale Autori Cinematografici) and by the Association of Independent Directors and Producers (API - Associazione Autori e Produttori Indipendenti) in accordance with their own regulations.

6. JURIES AND AWARDS

6.1 Venezia 66

An International Jury of 7 or 9 personalities from the world of cinema and culture from various countries, excluding any person involved in any capacity on the production of the works invited or who may have an interest in their distribution, will award the following prizes for the feature films (no split awards permitted):

- Golden Lion for best film
- Silver Lion for best director
- Special Jury Prize
- Coppa Volpi for Best Actor
- Coppa Volpi for Best Actress
- "Marcello Mastroianni" Award for Best New Young Actor or Actress
- "Osella" for Best Technical Contribution
- "Osella" for Best Screenplay

The Jury may also choose to award a Special Lion for an overall work to a director or actor of a film presented in the Venezia 66 section.

Films awarded the Golden Lion, Silver Lion or Special Jury Prize may not be awarded the Coppa Volpi (for actors or actresses) or the Mastroianni Award. They may, however, be awarded one of the two Oselle awards.

6.2 Orizzonti

An International Jury of 5 personalities from the world of cinema and culture from various countries, excluding any person involved in any capacity on the production of the works invited or who may have an interest in their distribution, will award the following prizes for the full-length films (no split awards permitted):

- Orizzonti Award
- Orizzonti DOC Award

6.3 Controcampo Italiano

An international jury of 3 personalities from the world of Italian cinema and culture, excluding any person involved in any capacity on the production of the works invited or who may have an interest in their distribution, will assign the Controcampo Italiano (Italian Reverse Shot) Award (no split awards permitted). The winning director will also be given a Euro 40,000 voucher to be spent on film stock, granted by Kodak.

6.4 Corto Cortissimo

An International Jury of 3 personalities from the world of cinema and culture from various countries, excluding any person who has worked on the production of the works invited or who may have an interest in their distribution, will award the following prizes for the short films (no split awards permitted):

- Corto Cortissimo Lion for the Best Short Film
- "Short Film Nominee Venice for the European Film Awards 2009".
- Special Mention.

6.5 "Luigi De Laurentiis" Award for a Debut Film

All the debut feature films presented in the various sections of the Film Festival (Official Selection and Independent and Parallel Sections) will be eligible for the Lion of the Future – "Luigi De Laurentiis" Venice Award for a Debut Film. An International Jury of 5 personalities from the world of cinema and culture from various countries, including one producer, will award a prize of 100,000 US dollars, donated by Filmauro, to be divided equally between the director and producer (no split awards permitted).

6.6 The Juries will operate according to their own regulations; the Director of the Festival, or his delegate, may attend the meetings to advise on matters of regulations or procedures.

6.7 The Director will recommend the nominations for the awarding of one Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement, to the President and Board of Directors (on exceptional circumstances 2 Lions may be assigned).

6.8 The producers and distributors of the films presented undertake to display a notice with the mention of any prize received, the Biennale logo and that of its partners when any of these films receives a public screening.

7. SELECTION OF FILMS

7.1 Conditions for the submission of a film

Both feature-length and short films will be admitted in the following screening formats:

- 35mm;
- Digital Cinema Package – DCP

All films submitted must be of recent production, completed not prior to 15 September 2008, and must not have been previously presented in any other format or length, not even as a work-in-progress, for any selections of preceding editions of the Festival. Under no circumstances may films that have had a prior public screening be presented at the Venice Film Festival. Derogations may be requested only for films presented exclusively in their country of origin. Works previously presented in competing or non-competing sections at other international festivals are also excluded, as are those already available on the web.

7.2 Selection procedure

Regarding the selection of the films submitted, the Festival Director will be assisted by a commission of experts, as well as by a group of correspondents and international consultants each dealing with different geographical areas. The Programming Office will put each decision on the record.

7.3 Admission fees

For every film entered for selection to the Festival, excluding shorts, an admission fee of 60 euros is requested to cover administrative costs. This sum will not be reimbursed if the film entered is not sent to the Festival HQ. The costs of screenings carried out away from the main venue (Venice) are to be met by the participants.

7.4 Materials to be sent for selection

In order to be eligible for selection, the films must be presented no later than June 26th 2009, accompanied by:

- a) the selection entry form, duly completed exclusively via our website, www.labiennale.org ;
- b) one print (35mm) or a DVD or DIGITAL BETA video (Pal only), which must be sent to the Festival HQ by 26th June 2009. For short films, only DVDs are admitted;

- c) story outline in Italian or English, a bio-filmography of the director, the cast and credits, a list of dialogues and, if possible, a press-pack;
- d) payment of the admission fee.

The Festival is under no obligation to return DVDs and videos submitted for selection, unless they arrive with prepaid return packaging via express carrier (courier or diplomatic bag). Any returns must be requested no later than September 2009.

The work-in-progress materials and films for which no return has been requested may be transferred to the Biennale Archives, for documentation and research purpose. They will not be used for commercial purposes, in order to protect the interests of the film-makers and the producers.

8. INVITED FILMS

8.1 Entry Form

The invited films will receive an Entry form to be duly completed and returned no later than 17th July 2009. Receipt of the form by the Festival implies the legal acceptance of the invitation by all concerned and will be considered definitive and irrevocable.

8.2 Programme

The invitation of a film to participate must remain confidential until the announcement of the programme by the Festival. Failure to comply will result in its exclusion from the selection.

The general scheduling and screening times are the sole responsibility of the Management of the Festival.

8.3 Film prints

The presenters of invited films must send the following by, and no later than, 14th August 2009:

- 2 prints of the original version with Italian subtitles (English subtitles for Italian films) for the official gala and press preview screenings;
- 1 print of the original version, preferably with subtitles in Italian, as a reserve copy (if so wished by those presenting the film);
- 1 DVD of the original version with Italian subtitles for exclusive internal use by the Festival services.
- A list of subtitles.

All subtitling costs are to be paid by those submitting the film.

The Festival reserves the right to refuse any print which, on advice of the Festival technicians, is considered to be of inadequate quality for public screening.

8.4 Specifications for the Digital Cinema copy of the movie.

The specifications for digital cinema with regard to the systems used by the Festival are available on the official website.

8.5 Catalogue

All necessary material for the Festival catalogue (synopses, cast and credits, biography and a complete filmography of the director, photographs of the director, of actors and scenes from the film in b/w and colour, plus a brief director's comment on the film) must reach the Festival as soon as possible, but no later than the 17th July 2009, and must be marked as "Material for Catalogue".

8.6 Press Material

The proprietors of films participating in the Festival must send the following press material separately, no later than the 14th August 2009, for distribution to the press and potential buyers:

- for feature-length films, approx. 2000 press packs (half in English, half in Italian) and 400 photos;
- for short films, approx. 1200 press packs (half in English, half in Italian) and 100 photos.

The publicity and promotional material must state "Film Selected for the 66th Venice Film Festival" and, where applicable, the phrase "World Premiere".

8.7 Official Logo

All forms of promotional activity after the presentation of the programme by the Festival must, with the explicit commitment of those submitting films, include a mention of participation in the 66th Venice Film Festival, the relevant section and the official Biennale di Venezia logo, as supplied by the Festival. Films awarded a prize must also state which award was won, in accordance with the official graphic designs predetermined and supplied by the Biennale di Venezia.

9. SHIPPING AND INSURANCE

9.1 Shipping Costs

All shipping costs to and from the Festival (including any costs from Venice airport to Venice Lido and custom charges for films sent from outside the European Union), are to be met by the participants.

9.2 Addresses

In case of 35mm films, the presenters should contact the Programming Office before hand for instructions regarding the shipment (program@labiennale.org).

For 35mm prints sent from outside the European Union and subject to Temporary Import regime, the presenters may make use of the temporary import regime granted expressly for the Film Festival, by using the official shipping agent for La Biennale. Copies of films sent by air freight must be addressed to La Biennale's official shipping agent:

SATTIS srl – Santa Croce 310

30135 Venezia (Italia)

Destinazione: Aeroporto Marco Polo

Tel. + 39 041 5299111 – Fax +39 041 5299112

amarchiori@sattis.it

The copies of the films in DVD and Betacam format, together with all the materials sent for selection must be sent by courier or post directly to the Festival address:

La Biennale di Venezia Settore Cinema

66. MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA

Ca' Lolin - San Marco 2893, 30124 Venice, Italy

Tel. +39 041 5218878

Fax +39 041 5218854

cinema@labiennale.org

www.labiennale.org

From 1st June to 14th September, the address will be:

La Biennale di Venezia - Settore Cinema

66. MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA

Palazzo del Cinema, Lungomare Marconi, 30126 Lido di Venezia, Italy

Tel. +39 0412726501

Fax +39 0412726520

9.3 Shipping of Promotional Material

All costs relative to the transport of publicity, promotional and photographic material from the place of origin to the Biennale offices or the Festival are to be met by the participants. These include all customs charges for material sent from outside the European Union. Publicity and promotional material sent to the Festival will not be returned.

9.4 Shipping Insurance

All insurance costs covering the transport of films and press material to and from the Festival are to be met by those presenting the films.

9.5 Insurance at the Festival

The Biennale provides “fully-comprehensive risk” insurance coverage for the entire period during which the prints are in the care of the Festival. The insurance value of a film may not exceed the average laboratory costs for a standard print. Furthermore, all necessary measures will be taken by the Festival to protect the author’s copyright for works entrusted to the Festival, in accordance with the FIAPF dispositions regarding safeguarding against piracy.

10. COPIES FOR THE ARCHIVES

10.1 Donation to the Archives

Directors and producers of films presented at the Festival are warmly invited to donate a print of their work on film, to be added to the Biennale’s Historical Archives of Contemporary Arts, destined solely for the purposes of research and conservation, and excluding all commercial use in order to protect the interests of the film-makers and the producers.

Moreover, the directors and producers of films that receive awards are obliged to deposit a copy of their film with the Biennale's Historical Archives of Contemporary Arts in high-definition Digibeta, complete with the official logo, as well as an indication of the competition section and any award the film won at the 66th Festival.

10.2 Conservation of works

Copies will be kept at the Biennale's Historical Archives of Contemporary Arts for the sole purpose of documentation and research, excluding any commercial use, in order to protect the interests of the film-makers and the producers.

11. GENERAL RULES

Participation in the Festival automatically entails observance of the regulations herein. Producers, distributors or other parties who submit films to the Festival must guarantee they are legally authorised to do so. The Director of the Festival reserves the right to adjudicate any cases not covered by the regulations herein, and can make exceptions to the regulations in justified, well-motivated cases. Should any dispute arise regarding the interpretation of any article contained in these regulations, the original Italian version is to be considered binding.