



PRESS RELEASE

THE ATLAS WORKSHOPS

The new Industry and Talent Development Program of the Marrakech International Film Festival will be held from December 2 to 5, 2018

The Marrakech International Film Festival is pleased to launch its new Industry and Talent Development Program, the Atlas Workshops. Wholly dedicated to cinema from Africa and Middle-East, the workshops are a creative and professional platform to support filmmakers as well as a place for exchange between international professionals and regional talents.

The Atlas Workshops have been designed to assist regional emerging regional directors who are currently preparing their first, second, or third feature-length narrative or documentary films. For this first edition, eight projects in development and six films in post-production, originating from nine countries, have been invited to take part. They will benefit from a tailor-made day-long consultation with professionals who will provide them artistic feedback, as well the Industry point of view. At the end of the workshop, a jury will award a Development Prize of 10 000 € and a postproduction Prize of 20 000 € to the best projects.

The Atlas Workshops are also intended to explore questions surrounding film distribution in the region. In parallel with panels dedicated to sharing views on audience development as well as the circulation of films from Africa and the Middle East, the members of the Network of Arab Alternative Screens, which brings together 20 cinema screens across Arab-speaking countries, have been invited to convene, in the Atlas framework, in order to meet with attending professionals, as well as the talents who are presenting their projects.

Finally, the Atlas Workshops consider the process of composing music for films, in a session intended not only to encourage selected filmmakers to think about the musical universe of their films, but also to foster regional artistic collaboration by introducing talented score composers to their filmmaking peers.

In partnership with Netflix, the Atlas Workshops is delighted to gather in Marrakech from December 2 to 5, 150 Moroccan and international professionals in order to champion talents from Africa and the Middle-East.

THE 14 PROJECTS SELECTED FOR THE ATLAS WORKSHOPS Marrakech International Film Festival

6 films in post-production

- THE DAY I ATE THE FISH by Aida Elkashef (Egypt) – documentary
- EUROPA « Based on a true story » by Kivu Ruhorahoza (Rwanda) – fiction
- IT'S FAR AWAY WHERE I MUST GO by Karima Saidi (Morocco) – documentary
- KILOMETERS 60 by Hassen Ferhani (Algeria) – documentary
- THE WOMEN IN BLOCK J J by Mohamed Nadif (Morocco) – fiction
- WE ARE FROM THERE by Wissam Tanios (Lebanon) - documentary

8 projects in development

- PLUM SEASON by Rim Mejdi (Morocco) - fiction

- LES DAMNES NE PLEURENT PAS by Fyzal Boulifa (Morocco) - fiction
- LAUNDRY by Zamo Mkhwanazi (South Africa) – fiction
- THE NIGHTS STILL SMELL OF GUNPOWDER de Inadelso Cossa (Mozambique) - documentary
- IN THE RIVER TRAP by Nicolas Sawalo Cisse (Senegal) - fiction
- QUEENS by Yasmine Benkirane (Morocco) - fiction
- THE RIVER RUNS RED by Rami Kodeih (Lebanon) – fiction
- VUTA N'KUVUTE (A Tug of war) by Amil Shivji (Tanzania) – fiction