



17th Marrakech International Film Festival  
November 30 - December 8, 2018

## The 17<sup>th</sup> Marrakech International Film Festival (MIFF) reveals its jury members

Eight unique talents of world cinema will join American filmmaker and president of the jury James Gray as jury members at the 17<sup>th</sup> Marrakech International Film Festival.

Hailing from eight different countries, these emblematic figures of auteur cinema, daring filmmakers, multi-talented artists and brilliant actresses represent diverse artistic sensibilities.

The jury this year is composed of american actress **Dakota Johnson** (*50 shades of Grey*, *Suspiria*), Indian actress **Ileana D'Cruz** (*Barfi!*), Lebanese filmmaker and visual artist **Joana Hadjithomas** (*I want to see*), British director **Lynne Ramsay** (*We need to talk about Kevin*, *A Beautiful Day*), Moroccan director **Tala Hadid** (*House in the Fields*), French director **Laurent Cantet** (*The Class*– Palme d'Or 2008), German Actor **Daniel Brühl** and Mexican director **Michel Franco** (*April's Daughter*).

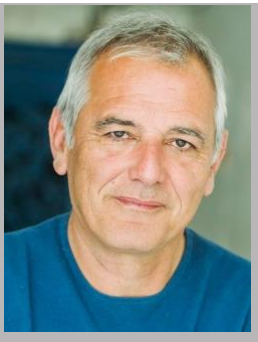
From November 30<sup>th</sup> to December 8<sup>th</sup>, these nine celebrities will select the recipient of **L'Étoile d'Or 2018** among the 14 first and second feature films in competition.

# BIOGRAPHIES



**JAMES  
GRAY**  
DIRECTOR / USA

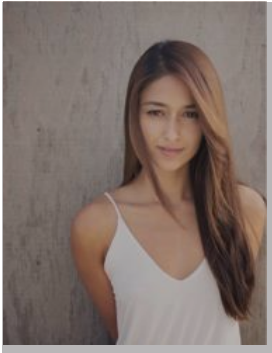
**JAMES GRAY** made his directorial debut in 1994 at the age of 25 with *LITTLE ODESSA*, a widely acclaimed film which received the Silver Lion at the Venice Film Festival. That same year, he received nominations from the Independent Spirit Awards for Best First Feature and Best First Screenplay. His past films also include *THE YARDS*, *WE OWN THE NIGHT*, *TWO LOVERS* and *THE IMMIGRANT*, all of which premiered In Competition at the Cannes Film Festival. Gray's film *THE LOST CITY OF Z* had its world premiere as the closing night selection of the 2016 New York Film Festival and was released in theaters by Amazon Studios in April 2017. His latest film, *AD ASTRA*, which he also co-wrote, stars Brad Pitt and is set to be released in theaters in early 2019. Born in New York City, Gray grew up in Queens and attended the University of Southern California School of Cinema-Television.



**LAURENT  
CANTET**  
DIRECTOR / FRANCE

After completing photography studies at the Provence University in Marseille, Laurent Cantet studied Cinema at IDHEC (Institut des Hautes Etudes Cinématographiques, or the Institute for Advanced Cinematographic Studies). He directed 2 short films: *Tous à la manif* (All in the Demonstration) (1994) and *Jeux de Plage* (Beach Games) (1995) followed by a television-movie for ARTE, *Les Sanguinaires* (Bloodthirsty) in the series *2000 vu par ...* (2000 seen by ...) (1998).

Laurent Cantet then directed 7 feature films: *Ressources humaines* (Human Resources) (2000, which won a Cesar for best first film); *L'Emploi du Temps* (Time-out) (2001, which earned the Don Quixote Award at the Venice Film Festival); *Entre Les Murs* (The Class) (2008, Palme D'Or winner at the Cannes Film Festival); *La Fuente* (Segment of a collective film, *Sept Jours à la Havane* (Seven Days in Havana)); *Foxfire, confessions d'un gang de filles* (Foxfire, Confession of a Girl Gang) (2013); *Retour à Ithaque* (Return to Ithaca) (2014, which won the Abrazo for best film at the Latin America Biarritz Festival); and *L'Atelier* (the Workshop) (2017, un certain regard, Cannes Film Festival).

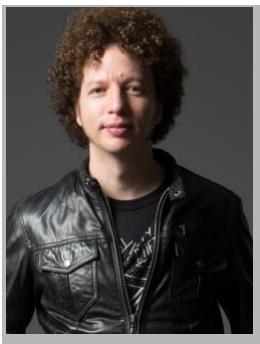


## ILEANA D'CRUZ

ACTRESS / INDIA

India makes more movies in more languages than any country in the world. And in this diverse large film industry, Ileana D'Cruz is one of the few actors who has a body of work across multiple languages having featured in Telugu, Tamil and Hindi cinema. She has also found a fine balance between commercial and critical acclaim. She won the Filmfare award for Best Actor for the Telugu film, Devadasu. She has starred in some of the biggest Telugu hits such as Pokiri (2006), Jalsa (2008), Kick (2009) and Julayi (2012). She made her Hindi cinema debut with Barfi (2012) and won the Filmfare award for Best Debut (Female). Barfi was screened at Marrakech International Film Festival in 2012 and was chosen as India's official entry for the 85th Academy Awards. Her roster of Hindi cinema includes films across multiple genres: comedy (Main Tera Hero, Mubarakaan), crime dramas (Rustom, Raid) and heist thrillers (Baadshaho).

She is also the face of Ponds Skin care, Clear Shampoo and, Fiji Tourism. She has a social media following of over 11.5 million.

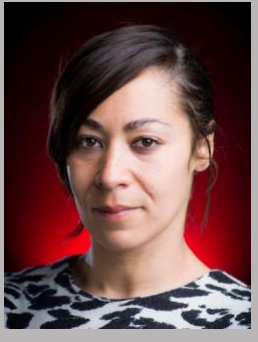


## MICHEL FRANCO

DIRECTOR / MEXICO

**Michel Franco** was born in Mexico City in 1979. The films he has written, directed and produced include "Chronic" (nominated for the Palme d'Or and winner of the Best Screenplay award at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival), and "After Lucia" (winner of the Best Film Award at Certain Regard, 2012 Cannes Film Festival). He has produced "600 Miles" (directed by Gabriel Ripstein and winner of the Best First Feature award at the 2015 Berlin Film Festival), and "From Afar" (directed by Lorenzo Vigas winner of the Leone d'Oro at the 2015 Venice Film Festival). His most recent work "April's Daughter", was part of Cannes International Film Festival, 2017 and won the Jury Prize, Un Certain Regard. Lucía Films is his production company.

Michel was part of the jury of the 74th. edition of Venice International Film Festival, Biennale Cinema 2017.



## TALA HADID

DIRECTOR, PHOTOGRAPHER / MOROCCO

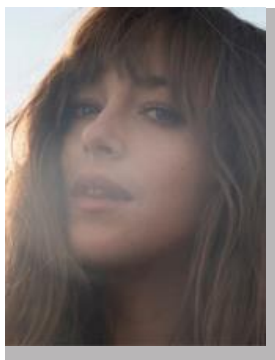
**Tala Hadid** is a photographer and filmmaker and made her first feature documentary film, *Sacred Poet*, on Pier Paolo Pasolini. Her films have screened at film festivals around the world, including Berlin and Venice and shown, among other venues, at the MoMA and Lincoln Center in NYC, The Walker Arts Center in Minneapolis, La Cinémathèque Française in Paris, the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington D.C, the Los Angeles County Museum and the Photographer's Gallery in London. Her films have received numerous awards, including a short film Oscar from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. In 2013, the Fine Art photography publisher Stern published a volume of a selection of Hadid's photographs from her project *Heterotopia* as part of its *Stern Fotografie Portfolio* series of emerging photographers. In 2014, Hadid completed work on *Itarr el Layl*. The award-winning film premiered at the Toronto film Festival and went on to screen at numerous film festivals and venues around the world, including the Lincoln Center in New York, the Rome Film Festival, and the London Film Festival. In 2017, Hadid's project, *House in the Fields*, was an official selection at the Berlin Film Festival where it was nominated for the Glashütte Original Documentary Award. The film was also the recipient, among other prizes, of the Commune di Milano prize for best feature film at the 2017 FCAAL Milano Film Festival, the Prize for Best Documentary film at the Hong Kong International Film Festival, the Fiction/ Non Fiction award at Millennium Docs against Gravity in Warsaw, the 2M Grand Prize at FIDADOC 2017, the 2017 John Marshall Award in the US, the Special Jury Prize at the 2018 National Film Festival in Tangiers, and the Grand Prize of the city at the 2018 International Mediterranean Film Festival of Tetouan. Hadid's work is also part of the Ruben Bentsov Moving Image Collection at the Walker Museum in the US.



## JOANA HADJITHOMAS

ARTIST, DIRECTOR / LEBANON

Together with Khalil Joreige, filmmaker and artist Joana Hadjithomas has directed award-winning documentaries including *The Lost Film* (2003), *Tents/ Camps 2000–2007* (2008), *The Lebanese Rocket Society* (2012), and *ISMIRNE* (2016), as well as the feature-length narrative films *Around the Pink House* (1999), *A Perfect Day* (2005), and *I Want to See* (2008) starring Catherine Debeuve and Rabih Mroué. Hadjithomas and Joreige's work has been shown in some of the most important museums, biennales, and art centres around the world. In 2017, they received the prestigious Marcel Duchamp Art Award. Together with Georges Schoucair, they founded About Productions. They are board members of Beirut's art house Metropolis Cinema, as well as the Beirut Film Archive. Currently, they are working on their new feature length fiction film.



**DAKOTA  
JOHNSON**  
ACTRESS / USA

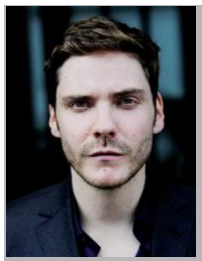
Dakota Johnson has become one of Hollywood's fastest rising stars and has received rave reviews for her varied performances. In addition to acting, she has several films in development including the Amazon film UNFIT and Sony's QUEENS OF THE STONED AGE, both of which she is attached to star in and produce. This fall, she stars in two very diverse roles. Re-teaming with Luca Guadagnino and Tilda Swinton, Johnson stars in Guadagnino's much talked about version of Dario Argento's SUSPIRIA. She also stars in Drew Goddard's noir thriller BAD TIMES AT THE EL ROYALE alongside Jeff Bridges, Jon Hamm and Chris Hemsworth. Next year she will be seen starring in THE PEANUT BUTTER FALCON, an adventure story also starring Shia LaBeouf, and in the UNTITLED BABAK ANVARI film with Armie Hammer and Zazie Beetz. After bursting onto the scene with her performance in David Fincher's critically acclaimed THE SOCIAL NETWORK, which was written by Aaron Sorkin, Johnson went on to appear in the feature comedies THE FIVE YEAR ENGAGEMENT and 21 JUMP STREET. She then landed the coveted role of Anastasia Steele in the feature adaptation of E L James' novel FIFTY SHADES OF GREY, and starred in the subsequent sequels, FIFTY SHADES DARKER and FIFTY SHADES FREED. In 2015, Johnson starred in two highly acclaimed feature roles. The first was opposite Johnny Depp in the Whitey Bulger biopic BLACK MASS, which was directed by Scott Cooper. The other, a starring role in Luca Guadagnino's remake of Jacques Deray's La Piscine titled A BIGGER SPLASH, alongside Tilda Swinton, Ralph Fiennes and Matthias Schoenaerts. Both premiered at the Venice Film Festival.

Johnson received the CinemaCon Female Star of the Year award in 2018 and was nominated for a BAFTA Rising Star Award in 2016.



**LYNNE RAMSAY**  
DIRECTOR / GREAT BRITAIN

Lynne's latest film You Were Never Really Here, starring Joaquin Phoenix, premiered at Cannes 2017 to critical acclaim, with Lynne winning the Best Screenplay award and Joaquin winning the award for Best Actor. We Need to Talk About Kevin was the only British film nominated for the Palm d'Or in official competition in 2011. Tilda Swinton was nominated for a Golden Globe for her performance. The film received several BAFTA nominations and won Best Director at the British Independent Film Awards, Best Film at the London Film Festival and Best Screenplay from the Writers Guild of Great Britain.



## DANIEL BRÜHL

ACTOR / Germany

There are only a few German actors with the international appeal of Daniel Brühl. He was born into a German-Spanish family in Barcelona and grew up in Cologne, laying the groundwork for a multilingualism that made him famous for his feature film debut in 2001, "The White Rush" and his final breakthrough with the 2003 internationally acclaimed "Good Bye Lenin", a coveted actor in Spain, France and the USA. Quentin Tarantino brought him to Hollywood for "Inglorious Basterds", for Ron Howard's film "Rush" Brühl played the Austrian Formula 1 driver Niki Lauda. This was followed by a Golden Globe Award 2014 nomination for Best Supporting Actor, films such as, "The First Avenger: Civil War" and "Inside Wikileaks". In 2018, the TNT series "The Alienist" was launched in the USA, in which Daniel Brühl is the title hero of the psychologist Dr. Laszlo Kreizler. It aired on Netflix worldwide in April and won 1 Emmy out of 6 nominations. In the same year, the film "Entebbe" celebrated its world premiere at the Berlinale - with Brühl in the leading role. Furthermore for the first time Daniel Brühl was the producer for Julie Delpy's new film "My Zoe", in which he is also featured. In 2019 he will shoot "The Angel of Darkness", which is a new limited series based on the sequel to best-selling author Caleb Carr's "The Alienist".

In addition in the near future Daniel Brühl and Luke Evans are reuniting for an untitled dramedy feature inspired by the 2006 French film Mon Meilleur Ami. Remembering his roots Daniel Brühl owns a Spanish Tapas Bar in the heart of Berlin.