



The 18th edition of the Marrakech International Film Festival runs from November 29th to December 7th, 2019.

NINE MEMBERS FROM FIVE CONTINENTS COMPOSE THE JURY FOR THE 18TH MARRAKECH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Rabat, November 5th, 2019. The Marrakech International Film Festival presents its jury members for the 18th edition, which runs from November 29th to December 7th, 2019.

Scottish performer and producer Tilda Swinton will preside over a jury of eight exceptional actors and directors and film professionals of international renown, who represent different styles of cinema.

With 14 films in official competition, the jury will share their expertise and insights as writers, actors, directors, and producers to select the winners of the Festival's various awards, including the Etoile d'Or 2019 awarded to the best film.

Of the nine jury members, four are women: French director **Rebecca Zlotowski**, British director **Andrea Arnold**, Franco-Italian actress **Chiara Mastroianni**, and Scottish performer and producer **Tilda Swinton** as Jury President.

The jury for the 18th edition of the Marrakech International Film Festival also includes Brazilian director **Kleber Mendonça Filho**, Swedish actor **Mikael Persbrandt**, Afghan writer and director **Atiq Rahimi**, Australian director **David Michôd**, and Moroccan director **Ali Essafi**.

Hailing from eight countries and five continents, the Jury of the 18th Marrakech International Film Festival will announce the award winners during the closing night ceremony on December 7th, 2019.

For more information:

www.festivalmarrakech.info

BIOGRAPHIES

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TILDA SWINTON

PERFORMER AND PRODUCER / SCOTLAND

Tilda Swinton began her acting career in films by the late Derek Jarman, appearing in eight of his movies, including *Caravaggio* (1985) *The Last of England* (1987), *War Requiem* (1989), *The Garden* (1990), *Edward II* (1991), for which she was named Best Actress at the Venice International Film Festival, and *Wittgenstein* (1993). She gained wider international recognition in Sally Potter's *Orlando* (1992), and won both the BAFTA and the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for Tony Gilroy's *Michael Clayton* (2007). She has received critical acclaim for performances in films including Judd Apatow's *Trainwreck* (2015), Bong Joon-ho's *Snowpiercer* (2013) and *Okja* (2017), Joel and Ethan Coen's *Burn After Reading* (2008), Scott Derrickson's *Doctor Strange* (2016), Luca Guadagnino's *I Am Love* (2009) and *Suspiria* (2018), and Lynne Ramsay's *We Need to Talk About Kevin* (2011), among many others. Swinton's most recent work includes Wes Anderson's *The French Dispatch*, Joanna Hogg's *The Souvenir: Part II*, and Apichatpong Weerasethakul's *Memoria* (all upcoming). The mother of twins, she lives in the Scottish Highlands.

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**ANDREA
ARNOLD**
DIRECTOR / ENGLAND

Andrea Arnold hails from Dartford in England. After a period working as an actor and presenter for television, she studied directing at the AFI Conservatory in Los Angeles and screenwriting at the PAL Labs in Kent. Her third short film, *Wasp* (2003), won the Academy Award for Best Live Action Short, and was followed by the feature-length films *Red Road* (2006), *Fish Tank* (2009), and *American Honey* (2016), all of which won the Jury Prize at the Festival de Cannes, and the multi-award-winning *Wuthering Heights* (2011). More recently, Arnold has seen success directing for television, with credits including episodes of *Transparent* (2015-17), *I Love Dick* (2017), and the second season of the smash hit *Big Little Lies* (2019).



**ALI
ESSAFI**
DIRECTOR / MOROCCO

Ali Essafi is a director and visual artist, and was born in Morocco. After training as a psychologist, he began working in the visual arts and directing documentaries. His works as a director include *Général, nous voilà* (1997), *The Silence of the Root Fields* (1998), *Ouarzazate Movie* (2001), and *Sheikhates' Blues* (2005), which have won praise and awards on the international circuit. In 2003, he was appointed Artistic Director of Morocco's Société Nationale de Radiodiffusion et de Télévision (SNRT). His research into North African film archives has inspired publications, films, and installations, including *Wanted!*, commissioned by the Sharjah Biennial in 2011, and *Halaqat Nord-Africaines*, a selection of the Dakar Biennale in 2014. His latest film *Crossing the Seventh Gate* (2017) had its premiere in the Forum section of the Berlin International Film Festival.



**CHIARA
MASTROIANNI**
ACTRESS / ITALY & FRANCE

Chiara Mastroianni was born in Paris and made her screen debut in André Téchiné's *My Favourite Season* (1992), for which she was nominated for a César Award, and went on to appear in Robert Altman's *Prêt-à-Porter* (1994) before taking her first lead role in Danièle Dubroux's *Diary of a Seducer* (1995). Among many other performances, her filmography includes roles in Raúl Ruiz's *Time Regained* (1998), Manoel de Oliveira's *The Letter* (1998), Mike Figgis's *Hotel* (2000), Marjane Satrapi and Vincent Paronnaud's *Persepolis* (2005) and *Chicken With Plums* (2010), Christophe Honoré's *Making Plans for Lena* (2009), Mathieu Demy's *Americano* (2011), Claire Denis' *Bastards* (2013), Benoit Jacquot's *Three Hearts* (2014), and, most recently, Honoré's *On a Magical Night* (2019), for which she won the Best Actress Award in the Un Certain Regard section at the Festival de Cannes.



**KLEBER
MENDONÇA FILHO**
DIRECTOR / BRAZIL

Kleber Mendonça Filho was born in Recife (Brazil). He graduated with a degree in journalism works as a film critic and programmer, and his short films have won more than 100 awards in Brazil and around the world. He made his feature-length directorial debut with the documentary *Crítico* (2008). His first fiction feature, *Neighbouring Sounds* (2012), was selected for more than 100 festivals, won 32 awards, and was Brazil's selection for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. His subsequent feature, *Aquarius* (2016), was in Competition at the Festival de Cannes, as was his most recent film, *Bacurau* (co-director, 2019), where it won the Jury Prize.



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**DAVID
MICHÔD**
DIRECTOR / AUSTRALIA

An internationally acclaimed, award-winning screenwriter, director, and producer, **David Michôd** was born in Australia. He wrote and directed his debut feature-length film *Animal Kingdom* (2009), which won the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival and was named Best First Film by the New York Film Critics Circle, as well as *The Rover* (2014), which had its premiere at the Festival de Cannes, and *War Machine* (2016). His most recent feature, *The King* (2019), had its world premiere at the Venice International Film Festival. For television, Michôd has directed episodes of *Enlightened* (2012) and *Flesh and Bone* (2014), and he was an executive producer and writer on the acclaimed mini-series *Catch-22* (2019).



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**MIKAEL
PERSBRANDT**
ACTOR / SWEDEN

Born in Jakobsberg (Sweden), **Mikael Persbrandt** came to international prominence in 2011 for his European Film Award-nominated performance in Susanne Bier's Academy Award-winning *In a Better World*, prior to which he had a lengthy career onstage, on television, and in cinema. His breakthrough came in 1997 with his role as hardboiled detective Gunvald Larsson in the hugely successful Beck TV series. In 2005, he was the recipient of the prestigious Ingmar Bergman Award. Persbrandt's many other credits include roles in Jan Troell's *Everlasting Moments* (2008) and Kjell Åke Andersson's *Nobody Owns Me* (2013), for both of which he won the Guldbagge Award for Best Actor. He also appeared in Lasse Hallström's *The Hypnotist* (2012), and Peter Jackson's *The Hobbit trilogy* (2012-14).



ATIQ RAHIMI

WRITER AND DIRECTOR / AFGHANISTAN

Atiq Rahimi was born in Kabul (Afghanistan). He wrote the best-selling Farsi-language novel *Earth and Ashes* (*Khâkestar-o-khâk*) in 2000. His eponymous film adaptation of the work won the Prix du regard vers l'avenir at the Festival de Cannes in 2004, and his libretto *Terre et Cendres*, also based on the novel, was staged in 2011. His first French-language novel, *The Patience Stone* (*Syngué sabour, pierre de patience*) was published in 2008. It won the Prix Goncourt, and Rahimi adapted it for the cinema in 2012. A multi-faceted artist, he has also directed several documentaries and written numerous other books, as well as the upcoming opera *Shirine*. His photographs are in the collection of the British Museum, and he created a combination of drawing and calligraphy known as callimorphism. His most recent film, *Our Lady of the Nile* (2019), screens in the Marrakech International Film Festival this year.



REBECCA ZLOTOWSKI

DIRECTOR / FRANCE

Screenwriter and director **Rebecca Zlotowski** was born in Paris. A graduate of the École Normale Supérieure and of La Fémis, she has to date directed four feature-length films: *Dear Prudence* (2010), which was selected for the Semaine de la Critique at the Festival de Cannes and won the Prix Louis-Delluc for Best First Film and the Prix du Syndicat de la Critique; *Grand Central* (2013), which was selected for the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes; *Planetarium* (2016), which had its world premiere at the Venice International Film Festival; and *An Easy Girl* (2019), which premiered in the Directors' Fortnight at Cannes. Zlotowski is also the director of the television series *Savages* (2019).