

Join the Last Day of Ajyal Film Festival Celebrations this Saturday

- *Ajyal Creativity Hub enters final stage today with unmissable activities, performances and exhibitions*
- *Wonder & Under the Moonlight Cine-Concert presents cheerful and family-friendly short films*

Doha, Qatar; 23 November 2019: Experience magical performances and compelling feature films on the last day (23 November) of Ajyal Film Festival 2019, the annual cinema event hosted by the Doha Film Institute (DFI) at Katara Cultural Village.

As the festival curtains draws to a close, Ajyal's **Wonder & Under the Moonlight Cine-Concert** will offer a unique musical show, presented by the Forum des Images, to delight young and old. A feast for all the senses, a thrilling selection of shorts about tales of the stars, sun and moon will be held at 11.30 AM at Katara Building 16 and is free to the public. Live musicians will accompany: **Get the Moon** by Jutta Schünemann, **Sooner or Later** by Jadwiga Kowalska, **Lunette** by Phoebe Warriess, **A Little Star** by Svetlana Andrianova, and **Little Wolf** by An Vrombaut.

Ajyal Tunes got off to a rocking start yesterday with electrifying performances from Doha's underground music scene, featuring talented youth artists Sana Zharandi, Amjad Essam, Savanna Rose, Varun, Omar Abdulaziz, Ayman Shukur, Jerin Jose, Jueun, Mothanna, and Omar Alyafai among others, curated by Qatari artist Dana Almeer. Qatar-based singer/songwriter and rapper Mvrs rounded off the show with a stirring rap performance. An exciting celebration of musical talents from every discipline, **Ajyal Tunes** is part of the festival's growing artistic scope – showcasing and celebrating arts and culture from every discipline.

Don't miss out on the last day of the **Ajyal Creativity Hub** and its bustling activities at **Geekdom**, Qatar's largest pop-culture event presented in partnership with Qatar National Tourism Council, and **ARC**, Ajyal's interactive multimedia exhibition featuring artworks by 19 of Qatar's most promising artists and creative talents. Located in Katara Buildings 18 and 19, all performances and exhibits will remain open to the public until 10 PM.

The **Feel** short film programme will explore the power of intuition in shaping our sense of the world with a curated selection of ten short films screening at VOX Cinemas, Doha Festival City, at 12.30 PM, including **Belles étoiles** (France/2017) by Naïma Di Piero and Elhadj Sidib; **Like an Elephant in a China Shop** (France/2017) by Louise Chevrier, Luka Fischer, Rodolphe Groshens, Marie Guillon, Estelle Martinez, Benoit Paillard, Lisa Rasasombat; **Hedgehog** (France/2018) by Vaibhav Keswani, Jeanne Laureau, Colombine Majou, Morgane Mattard, Kaisa Pirttinen, and Jong-ha Yoon; **Maha'mel** (Ships) (Qatar/2018) by Dhabya AlMuhannadi; **The Stained Club** (France/2018) by Mélanie Lopez, Simon Boucly, Marie Ciesielski, Alice Jaunet, Chan Stéphanie Peang, Béatrice Viguière; **Beit Byoot** (Jordan, Qatar/2019) by Mayar

Hamdan; *The Unlucky Hamster* (Qatar, Indonesia/2019) by Abdulaziz Mohammed Khashabi; *Child of the Earth* (Switzerland, USA/2018) by Claudio Fäh; *The Kite* (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland/2019) by Martin Smatana; and Nada Bedair's *Paper Kite* (Qatar/2019).

The **Overcome** short film selection, screening at 3 PM at VOX Cinemas, Doha Festival City, is a testament to the ability of people to overcome obstacles in pursuit of their dreams. The programme includes: *Layla* (UK/2019) by Celine Cotran; Jolanta Bańkowska's *Story* (Poland/2019); *Youth* (Egypt, USA/2019) by Farida Zahran; *Thermostat 6* (France/2018) by Maya Av-ran, Mylène Cominotti, Marion Coudert, Sixtine Dano; *Maradona's Legs* (Germany, Palestine/2019) by Firas Khoury; *Esperança* (France/2019) by Cécile Rousset, Jeanne Paturle, Benjamin Serero; *Fault Line* (Iran/2018) by Soheil Amirsharifi; Baptiste Drapeau's *Half and Half* (France/2018); *The Helmet* (Yemen/2019) by Osama Khaled; *Memo* (France/2017) by Julien Becquer, Éléna Dupressoir, Jules Durand, Viviane Guimarães, Ines Scheiber; *Refuge* (Qatar/2019) by Maha Essid; and *Fragile* (Qatar/2019) by Kholood Al-Ali.

Today is your last opportunity to watch an exciting selection of feature films:

- **For Sama** (Syria, UK/2019) by Waad al-Kateab, Edward Watts screening at VOX Cinemas, Doha Festival City at 5.30 PM. Please note that the screening is rated PG-18.
- **Ailo's Journey** (France, Finland/2018) by Guillaume Maidatchevsky will screen at Novo Cinemas, the Pearl, at 5.30 PM.
- DFI-supported feature **Bombay Rose** (India, France, UK, Qatar/2019) by Gitanjali Rao screening at 8.30 PM at Novo Cinemas, the Pearl. Please note that the screening is rated PG-18.
- DFI-supported film **You Will Die at Twenty** (Sudan, France, Egypt, Germany, Norway, Qatar/2019) by Amjad Abu Alala will screen at VOX Cinemas, Doha Festival City at 8.30 PM and is rated PG-15.
- **Honeyland** (North Macedonia/2019) by Ljubomir Stefanov and Tamara Kotevska will screen at 6 PM at VOX Cinemas, Doha Festival City.

Tickets for the 7th Ajyal Film Festival are available for purchase at the Ajyal Main Box Office located in Katara Building 10; at the Ajyal Box Office at VOX Cinemas Doha Festival City for screenings taking place at VOX Cinemas; and from the Novo Cinemas Box Office for screenings at Novo Cinemas, the Pearl. For ticket purchase and up-to-date information on the Ajyal Film Festival, please visit:

<https://www.dohafilminstitute.com/filmfestival/ticketinformation>

<https://www.dohafilminstitute.com/filmfestival/films>

2019 Ajyal Film Festival's Official Partners include: **Katara Cultural Village** – Cultural Partner; **Qatar National Tourism Council** – Principal Partner; **Novo Cinemas, Ooredoo** – Strategic Partner, **St. Regis Doha** - Signature Partner.

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About Doha Film Institute

Doha Film Institute is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organisation. It supports the growth of the local film community through cultivating film appreciation, enhancing industry knowledge and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar. The Institute's platforms

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include funding and production of local, regional and international films; skills-sharing and mentorship programmes; film screenings; the Ajyal Film Festival; and Qumra. With culture, community, learning and entertainment at its foundation, the Institute is committed to supporting Qatar's 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge-based economy.

Doha Film Institute

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