

Sharjah Film Platform Press Release



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Sharjah Art Foundation's Film Festival, Sharjah Film Platform 3, Opens this Weekend

12 November 2020

Third edition of annual festival runs from 14 to 21 November 2020 in select Sharjah cinemas and online



Mirage City Cinema, Sharjah Art Foundation

Sharjah Film Platform 3 (SFP3)
Saturday, 14 November 2020–Saturday, 21 November 2020
Mirage City Cinema, Al Mureijah Art Spaces, Al Mureijah Square
The Flying Saucer, Dasman
CINEMACITY IMAX, Zero 6 Mall, near University City

Sharjah Art Foundation's annual film festival, Sharjah Film Platform (SFP), returns for its third edition from 14 to 21 November 2020 with more than 60 short and feature-length films in the narrative, documentary and experimental categories. Included in the screening programme are UAE, Middle East and world premieres as well as recent releases by early-career and established local, regional and international filmmakers.

'There is an exceptional community of filmmakers in the UAE and the surrounding region, and through the establishment of Sharjah Film Platform in 2018, we aimed to build on the Foundation's longstanding support for filmmakers and help bring their work to wider international audiences,' said **Foundation director Hoor Al Qasimi**. 'The substantial developments happening this year—the inclusion of an online screening component for the festival and the launch of the SFP Industry Hub—allow us to build on our commitment to film by bringing the work of incredible filmmakers from the region straight into the homes of viewers around the world and by creating new infrastructure to support emerging filmmakers and lay the groundwork for more risk-taking, experimental and exceptional films in the years to come.'

16 November 2020

Programme 6: Spotlight on Women

CINEMACITY IMAX Zero 6 Mall
6:00 pm
Suitable for ages 18+

Extra Safe (2019)
Director: Nouran Sherif

This 9-minute narrative short follows 29-year-old Noha as she navigates a series of unwanted events in a pharmacy.

Istimlak (2020)
Director: Sarah Almubarak

This 2-minute experimental short depicts a young woman trying to flee from a future that has been decided for her.

Shame (2020)
Director: Abdullah Al Benhamda

This 19-minute experimental short examines a horrific incident that took place eight years ago. The film considers issues of injustice and shame in society when the victim is a woman.

How the Air Feels (2017)
Director: Khaula Malik

How the Air Feels is a 10-minute documentary short about a woman who breaks her silence on a painful family secret. The film won the National Board of Review Student Filmmaker Award and AFI Docs Film Festival in 2017. Malik was also awarded the 2017 BAFTA NY John Grist Scholarship.

An-nissa (2017)
Director: Ymane Fakhir

This 9-minute narrative short revolves around a house in which time is suspended and everything comes to a sudden standstill. Featuring slow shots and ghostly pacing, the film's silent moments are interrupted by fragmented stories. The film received a special mention at Festival La Nuit de l'Instant, Marseille, France (2018).

The Rebel Body (2019)
Directors: Shoghig Halajian, Johanna Breiding

The Rebel Body is a 30-minute documentary short that takes the story of Anna Göldi, the last European witch to be executed (1782) in Switzerland, as a point of departure and considers the ramifications of hearsay and storytelling.

Muse (2020)
Director: Azhur Saleem

This 13-minute narrative short focuses on an artist who turns to his android muse for help as he tries to sell his newest paintings. Events take a dark turn when the android learns what has inspired the work. The film was nominated for Best Sci-Fi at the Bolton International Film Festival and was the official selection at the Sci-Fi London Film Festival (2020).

