

NEUCHÂTEL INTERNATIONAL FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL



THE SWISS EVENT FOR FANTASTIC FILM, ASIAN CINEMA & DIGITAL CREATION

3 – 11 JULY 2020

20TH EDITION

TERMS & CONDITIONS

FEATURE FILMS

Article 1

The Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival aims to reveal and promote so-called fantasy or science fiction cinematographic works as well as cutting-edge films. The NIFFF's goal is to represent worldwide "fantastic" production as well as Asian production in Switzerland.

Article 2

The NIFFF features the following competitive sections:

- The International Competition of Fantastic Films
- The Asian Films Competition
- The Silver Méliès Award for the Best European Feature Film

Alongside these, the NIFFF features the following non-competitive sections:

- Ultra Movies
- Film of the third kind
- Amazing Switzerland
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies
- Retrospectives and special programs

Movies not meeting the requirements listed in articles 3 to 5 can be selected for one of the above-mentioned sections at the Artistic Director's request or on the suggestion of the other party.

Article 3

The programming board selects the films to be screened in the **International Competition**. Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.
2. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres. As a general rule, priority will be given to International and World Premieres.
3. The projection format must be DCP, HD files (ProRes), Blu-ray.
4. Running time must be at least 60 minutes.
5. Films must fulfill the aims of the festival as defined in article 1.

Article 4

The programming board selects the films to be screened in the **Asian Competition**. Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected.

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.
2. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres. As a general rule, priority will be given to International and World Premieres.
3. The projection format must be DCP, HD files (ProRes), Blu-ray.
4. Running time must be at least 60 minutes.
5. Films must fulfill the aims of the festival as defined in article 1.

Article 5

The programming board selects the films to be screened in the **Silver Méliès Award** for the best European Fantastic Feature. Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the next Golden Méliès Cycle.
2. All films must qualify as European Productions as defined by the European Fantastic Film Festivals Federation in its regulations, available at the following address: www.melies.org
3. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres. As a general rule, priority will be given to International Premieres.
4. The projection format must be DCP, HD files (ProRes), Blu-ray.
5. Running time must be at least 60 minutes.
6. Films must fulfill the aims of the festival as defined in article 1.

Article 6

The programming board in agreement with the films representatives select the films competing for the **Think Outside the Box Award**. The latter is awarded by a jury composed of more than 20 Swiss exhibitors from all the linguistic regions of Switzerland. Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.
2. Running time must be at least 60 minutes.
3. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres.
4. The projection format must be DCP, HD files (ProRes), Blu-ray.
5. Films must fulfill the aims of the festival as defined in article 1.
6. Films must be available for the Swiss territory.

The Think Outside the Box” award is financed by OUTSIDE THE BOX, which will acquire the rights of the awarded film for Switzerland and Liechtenstein. A guaranteed minimum of 5'000 CHF will be paid to the rights' owner. A theatrical release in at least 5 Swiss movie theaters for a minimum of 50 screenings will be guaranteed. A VOD release on the Teleclub/Swisscom platform will also be ensured. The date of the release of the film is decided with the exhibitors in agreement with the international sales agent. The promotion of the film is national. OUTSIDE THE BOX takes care of the promotion and picks a specific media partner for each linguistic region.

Article 7

The film can be sent via online screener (Vimeo, private YouTube), download platforms (WeTransfer, Dropbox), USB key, DVD or Blu Ray. The festival wishes to keep screeners of submitted films for its archives.

In addition to the submission form fully filled out, complementary documentation such as press kit or production information can be sent by e-mail (features@niff.ch).

The final deadline to submit films to the programming board is May 1st 2020.

Article 8

The transport expenses of the print will be covered by the festival, except if, after the festival, the print has to be shipped to another Film Festival at the request of the film's producer.

Copies of films must reach the festival office no later than June 19th, 2020.

Article 9

The NIFFF will cover insurance costs for the storage and use of the prints on site at the festival.

Article 10

Once a movie is selected by the NIFFF's Selection Committee, it can in no case be removed from the program.

Article 11

The International Jury is composed of a president and a maximum of five international or Swiss judges. The Jury of the International Competition must award:

- The HR Giger “Narcisse” Trophy for the Best Fantastic Feature Film” and a cash prize (CHF 10'000) for the promotion of the film which will be split between the director (75%) and the person or company who registered the film in the festival (25%). The screening fee paid to the winning film will be deducted from the cash prize.
- The Imaging the Future Prize for Best Production Design worth CHF 5'000.

The international jury has the possibility to give an honorific “Special Jury Mention” to a film of outstanding artistic and innovative value.

Article 12

The Critic's Award jury is composed of at least three Swiss and international professional journalists. The jury must award:

- The Critic's Award of the best feature in International Competition

Article 13

The Silver Méliès Jury is composed of a President and two other personalities. The Silver Méliès Jury must award:

- The Silver Méliès Award for the best European Fantastic Feature, a nomination to the Golden Méliès for the Best European Fantastic Feature Competition organized in turn by the European Federation of Fantastic Film Festivals in each festival associated with the Federation.

Article 14

Alongside these, the following awards will be given out during the NIFFF:

- Best Asian Film
- The Audience award, HR Giger "Audience Narcisse" Trophy.
- The RTS audience award, support for the distribution of the winning film to the amount of CHF 5000 offered by "Radio Télévision Suisse" (RTS). The RTS determines the final form this support will take.
- The Denis de Rougement Youth Award (watch - worth 500 CHF)

Article 15

The Board of the "Association du Festival International du Film Fantastique de Neuchâtel" are entitled to solve all issues not covered in the afore-mentioned regulations.

Article 16

All selected films must include in full view festival's name and logo to their promotional material. Prize winners and distribution companies pledge to attach the exact designation of the awards as mentioned in the palmarès. These logos are made available by the Festival. In the event the company or person responsible for the prize winner does not comply with this clause, the NIFFF can decide not to release the amount allocated to the prize winner.

Article 17

Participation in the festival implies the acceptance of all 17 articles of this regulation.