

Terms & Conditions – Short Films

Article 1

The Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival aims to reveal and promote innovative films, from both a thematic and aesthetic point of view. The NIFFF wishes, through its Swiss competition, to promote the broadcasting and creation of fantastic shorts in Switzerland.

Article 2

The NIFFF features the following competitive sections:

- The SSA/SUISSIMAGE Swiss Fantastic Shorts
- International Fantastic Shorts
- New Shorts from Asia

Article 3

The programming board selects and invites the films to be screened in the **SSA/SUISSIMAGE Swiss Fantastic Short Films Competition**.

Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected and invited:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.
2. To be qualified as a Swiss production or co-production, the film should meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - To mainly be supported by a Swiss institution or organization promoting cinema in Switzerland;
 - To mainly be produced by a Swiss-based production company or producer;
 - To be directed by a Swiss director or a foreign director trained in a Swiss cinema school.
3. The projection format must be DCP or HD files (ProRes).
4. Running time must be no more than 25 minutes.
5. All films must be in original version with French and/or English subtitles.
6. 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
7. All films must fulfill the festival's aims as defined in Article 1.

Article 4

The programming board selects and invites the films to be screened in the non-competitive **International Fantastic Shorts Selection**. Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected and invited:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.
2. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres.
3. The projection format must be DCP or HD files (ProRes).
4. Running time must be no more than 25 minutes.
5. All films must be in original version with French and/or English subtitles.
6. Films must fulfill the festival's aims as defined in article 1.

Article 5

The programming board selects and invites the films to be screened in the non-competitive section **New Shorts from Asia**.

Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected and invited:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.
2. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres.
3. The projection format must be DCP or HD files (ProRes).
4. Running time must be no more than 25 minutes.
5. Come from one of the Asian countries considered by the NIFFF for its Asian shorts' programme. These countries are: Burma, Brunei, Cambodia, China (Hong Kong, Macau, People's Republic of China), Korea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Tibet and Vietnam.
6. All films must be in original version with French and/or English subtitles.
7. Films must fulfill the festival's aims as defined in Article 1.

Article 6

Given that the 20th edition was postponed due to the health crisis, the films sent for NIFFF 2020 can exceptionally be submitted again for NIFFF 2021, on the condition that they haven't been released in Switzerland or added to a streaming platform before the festival.

Article 7

The film can be sent via online screener (Vimeo, private YouTube) or download platforms (WeTransfer, Dropbox).

Complementary documentation such as press kit or production information can be sent by e-mail (**shorts@niff.ch**).

The final deadlines to submit films are:

- **April 2nd, 2021 for the Asian and International shorts**
- **April 30th, 2021 for the Swiss Shorts**

Article 8

Insurance and transport costs for sending copies are to be covered by the owner, the return

is at the NIFFF's expense. Copies of films must reach the festival office no later than **June 11th, 2021**.

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 jury is composed of a president and of a maximum of three figures from the world of Swiss Cinema or Culture. The Swiss Short Film Competition Jury must award:

- The HR Giger "Narcisse for the Best Swiss Short Film" trophy as well as CHF 10,000 granted by SSA/SUISSIMAGE to the director of the film.
- The Silver Méliès Award for the best European Fantastic Short, a nomination to the Golden Méliès for the Best European Fantastic Short Competition organized in turn by the European Federation of Fantastic Film Festivals in each festival associated with the Federation.
- The award for Innovation, given to the most technically or narratively original and innovative Swiss film .

Article 12

In addition, the following prize will be awarded:

- The Audience Award for Best Short Film from any category.

Article 13

All films selected will receive a participation certificate and will be asked to add in the festival's name and logo to their promotional material. Prize winners and distribution companies pledge to display the exact designation of the awards. In the event of the company or person responsible for the prize winner not complying with this clause, the NIFFF reserves the right not to release the amount allocated to the prize winner.

Article 14

The Board of the "Association du Festival International du Film Fantastique de Neuchâtel" is entitled to solve all cases left aside by the afore-mentioned regulation.

Article 15

Participation in the festival implies the acceptance of these terms and conditions.