

## **Terms & Conditions – Features Films**

### **Article 1**

The Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival aims to reveal and promote thematically or aesthetically innovative feature films. The NIFFF's goal is to represent fantastic and Asian productions in Switzerland, and to create in Neuchâtel a world-class cinema event.

### **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 to the rights holder.

### **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. The projection format must be DCP or HD files (ProRes).
3. Running time must be at least 60 minutes.
4. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres. Priority might be given to International and World Premieres.
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. The projection format must be DCP or HD files (ProRes).
3. Running time must be at least 60 minutes.
4. The films must come from one of the Asian countries considered by the NIFFF for its Asian competition. 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.
5. The films must be in original version with French and/or English subtitles.
6. The films must fulfill the aims of the festival as defined in Article 1.
7. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres. Priority might be given to International and World Premieres.

#### **Article 5**

The programming board selects the films to be screened in the **Silver Méliès Award competition** for the best European Fantastic Feature Film. 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](http://www.melies.org)
3. The projection format must be DCP or HD files (ProRes).
4. Running time must be at least 60 minutes.
5. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres. Priority might be given to International Premieres.
6. Films must fulfill the aims of the festival as defined in Article 1.

#### **Article 6**

The programming board selects the films competing for the **Think Outside the Box Award**. The latter is awarded by a jury composed of exhibitors from all the language 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 or HD files (ProRes).
5. Films must fulfill the aims of the festival as defined in Article 1.
6. Films must be available for distribution on 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 CHF 5,000 will be paid to the rights holder. 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 takes place on a national level. OUTSIDE THE BOX takes care of the promotion and picks a specific media partner for each linguistic region.

### **Article 7**

Given that the 20<sup>th</sup> 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 on a streaming platform before the festival.

### **Article 8**

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

**The final deadline to submit films to the programming board is April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.** After this date, the programming board accepts to receive files on request but reserves the right not to follow up due to the imminence of the festival.

### **Article 9**

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.

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 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

### **Article 10**

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

### **Article 11**

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

### **Article 12**

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%). Any potential screening fee paid to the film will be deducted from the cash prize.
- The Imaging the Future award for Best Production Design, worth CHF 5,000.

The international jury has the can award an honorific "Special Jury Mention" to a film of outstanding artistic and innovative value.

### **Article 13**

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 14**

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

- The Silver Méliès Award for the best European Fantastic Feature Film, 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 15**

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 5,000 offered by the Radio Télévision Suisse (RTS).
- The Denis-de-Rougement Youth Award (a watch worth 500 CHF)

### **Article 16**

The Board of the "Association du Festival International du Film Fantastique de Neuchâtel" is entitled to solve all issues not covered in the aforementioned regulations.

### **Article 17**

All selected films will receive a participation certificate and must add in, in full view, the festival's name and logo to their promotional material. Prize winners and distribution companies pledge to attach the exact designation of the awards. These logos are made available by the festival. 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 18**

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