

PRESS RELEASES

RELEASE 4

Film Submissions Open for the Inaugural Red Sea International Film Festival

Submissions open until November 15, 2019, for the inaugural Festival March 12–21, 2020

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, September 17, 2019: Submissions are open for the inaugural edition of the **Red Sea International Film Festival**. Entries are invited from September 17, 2019, until November 15, 2019, for a program presenting a distinctive selection of international, Arab, and Saudi feature-length, short and immersive works. The Festival will take place in the ancient Jeddah Old Town in March 2020.

Submission details and conditions can be found via the Red Sea International Film Festival website at redseafilmfest.com/programme/film-submissions, and are open via Eventival from September 17, 2019 until November 15, 2019.

In Competition is an international program, celebrating innovative approaches to storytelling, judged for cash prizes in the **Yusr Awards** by a jury of global cinema leaders. International films must have Middle East premiere status, and Arab films are required to be original works by emerging and established filmmakers, with special attention given to promoting films from the Global South.

The **Yusr Awards** offer cash prizes totaling \$250,000 in diverse fields, including directing, screenwriting, and acting. The awards are designed to recognize daring, elevate new voices, and encourage film culture in Saudi and the region.

For short filmmakers from the Arab World, there's also a **Golden Yusr** and a cash prize for the Best Short Film. The **Red Sea Shorts Competition** is for filmmakers from the Arab World, a section where audiences can encounter contemporary creativity from the region's filmmakers and artists of any discipline.

A pioneering program exploring Saudi cinema called: **New Cinema/New Saudi** will make an introduction to vital filmmakers and artists from the Kingdom's energetic new cinema wave.

Tajreeb is the home for Saudi-made, extroverted, impressionistic narrative, documentary or animated films that capture the zeitgeist.

The Festival's setting in the UNESCO-listed, ancient coral labyrinth of Jeddah Old Town will be transformed through **Immersive Cinema** experiences, including Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality.

For more information, please contact:

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Red Sea International Film Festival