

THE RED SEA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL CELEBRATES WOMEN IN CINEMA AT THE CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

MEDIA ALERT

Cannes, France – 21 May 2022

In ‘Celebration of Women in Cinema’, the Red Sea International Film Festival (RedSeaIFF), hosted a gala event this evening at the 75th Cannes International Film Festival on the grounds of the magnificent Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc in Cap d’Antibes.

The ‘Celebration of Women in Cinema’ gala event recognises and celebrates female filmmakers and acting talent’s incredible work being showcased on the Festival circuit. This is central to the Red Sea’s mission to empower talented women both in front and behind the camera to positively impact the future of the film industry and inspire a future generation of female creatives.

Mohammed Al Turki; CEO and Shivani Pandya Malhotra; Managing Director welcomed an array of film, TV, and fashion talent from around the world including:

Valeria Golino jury president for the Un Certain Regard and Rossy de Palma President of the Jury of the Caméra d’or at the 75th Festival de Cannes along with Naomie Harris, Laetitia Casta, Tahar Rahim, Kaouther Ben Hania, Naomi Campbell, Camille Razat, Sasha Luss, Anja Rubik, Lily Donaldson, Suki Waterhouse, Fatima Al Banawi, Ahd Kamel, Alex Pettyfer, Toni Garrn, Yasmine Sabri, Alessandra Ambrosio, Sara Sampaio, Numan Acar, Tara Emad, Mila Zahrani, Kat Graham and Salma Abu Dief.

At the after-party, Suki Waterhouse gave a private concert and fresh face on the Parisian electronic scene DJ FIONA had guests flocking to the dance floor.

Shivani Pandya, Managing Director of the RedSeaIFF, said: “The Red Sea International Film Festival is dedicated to championing women in the film industry. Our inaugural edition showcased 136 films of which 38% were directed by women and we hope to expand on that figure this year. Our goal is to drive the industry to showcase more unique stories and perspectives from a new wave of female voices from the region, and celebrate the power of positive female storytelling that resonates with audiences not just in the Arab world, but across the globe.”

Mohammed Al Turki; CEO of the RedSeaIFF added: “This is an opportunity for the Red Sea International Film Festival to pay homage to the incredible female talent in the Cannes line-up this year. We are committed to supporting and raising the visibility of exciting new voices from the Arab world through our Festival platform so they can make their mark on audiences and critics alike around the world.”

The second edition of the Red Sea International Film Festival will run in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia from December 1-10, 2022.

About the Red Sea International Film Festival:

The second edition of the Red Sea International Film Festival will bring the best in Arab and World Cinema to Jeddah, nestled on the eastern shore of the Red Sea.

The Festival will showcase a compelling slate of new and diverse films, alongside a retrospective programme celebrating the masters of cinema as well as introducing audiences to exciting new voices from the region and beyond. The Festival will provide a platform for Arab filmmakers and industry professionals from around the world to connect, host feature and short film competitions, and present a series of events, masterclasses, and workshops to support emerging talent.

Running alongside the Festival is the Red Sea Souk, the Festival’s industry market, designed for global exchange and partnerships between the international and Saudi film industries. The four-day market will offer a packed programme of curated events to foster co-production, international distribution, and new business opportunities. The Souk offers unbeatable access to the new vibrant Saudi scene, as well as the best of the Arab market through pitching sessions, one-on-one meetings, screenings, industry talks, and networking events.

About Majid Al Futtaim

Founded in 1992, Majid Al Futtaim is the leading shopping mall, communities, retail and leisure pioneer across the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

A remarkable business success story, Majid Al Futtaim started from one man's vision to transform the face of shopping, entertainment and leisure to 'create great moments for everyone, every day'. It has since grown into one of the United Arab Emirates' most respected and successful businesses spanning 17 international markets, employing more than 43,000 people, and obtaining the highest credit rating (BBB) among privately-held corporates in the region.

Majid Al Futtaim owns and operates 29 shopping malls, 13 hotels, and four mixed-use communities, with further developments underway in the region. The shopping malls portfolio includes Mall of the Emirates, Mall of Egypt, Mall of Oman, City Centre malls, My City Centre neighborhood centers, and five community malls which are in a joint venture with the Government of Sharjah. The Company is the exclusive franchisee for Carrefour in over 30 markets across the Middle East, Africa, and Asia, operating a portfolio of more than 375 outlets including City+, the region's first checkout-free store, and an online store.

Majid Al Futtaim operates more than 600 VOX Cinemas screens as well as a portfolio of world-class leisure and entertainment experiences across the region including Ski Dubai, Ski Egypt, Dreamscape, Magic Planet, Little Explorers, and iFLY Dubai. The Company is parent to a Fashion, Home, and Specialty retail business representing international brands such as Abercrombie & Fitch, Hollister, AllSaints, lululemon Athletica, Crate & Barrel, Maisons du Monde, LEGO, and THAT, a Majid Al Futtaim fashion concept store and app. In addition, Majid Al Futtaim operates Enova, a facility and energy management company, through a joint venture operation with Veolia, a global leader in optimised environment resource management.

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