

## THE RED SEA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES SUPPORT OF MAÏWENN'S UPCOMING PERIOD DRAMA 'JEANNE DU BARRY'

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 12 January 2023

The Red Sea International Film Festival (Red Sea IFF) today announced through the Red Sea film Foundation, they are backing the upcoming French period drama 'Jeanne du Barry' directed, co-written and featuring French actress and filmmaker Maïwenn. The film stars Johnny Depp as 18th century French King Louis XV, with Maïwenn in playing the role of the titular courtesan, Madame du Barry.

'Jeanne du Barry' also stars Pierre Richard, Benjamin Lavernhe, Noémie Lvovsky, Melvil Poupaud, India Hair and Pascal Greggory.

Since 2019, the Red Sea film Foundation has supported the development, production, and post-production of 170 films from the Arab world and Africa. 'Jeanne du Barry' is the Red Sea IFF's first international co-production with France and demonstrates the Festival's ongoing mission to support distinctive filmmaking and champion visionary female talent both on and behind the camera from around the world.

Shot in France and currently in post-production, 'Jeanne du Barry' is Maïwenn's sixth feature which she also co-wrote with Teddy Lussi-Modeste and Nicolas Livecchi. The film has been acquired by Netflix for France after local theatrical release by Le Pacte, and is produced by Why Not Production Company's Pascal Caucheteux and Grégoire Sorlat, Johnny Depp's production company IN.2, La Petite Reine and France Télévisions, with the Red Sea IFF serving as executive producers, and Wild Bunch International serving as sales' agent.

Mohammed Al Turki; CEO of the Red Sea IFF said: "We are thrilled to be supporting Maïwenn's upcoming feature 'Jeanne du Barry'. This is a film that immediately interested us, it's an incredibly unique and ambitious biographical feature and a testament to our commitment to supporting new talent and collaborating with world-class writers, directors and producers. We hope this collaboration will strengthen the ties between Saudi and French cinema and the first of many international films that we can support that advocate for women filmmakers."

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## **About the Red Sea International Film Festival**

Red Sea International Film Festival provides 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 program 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.

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