

أيام المواهب

2023

7-6 ديسمبر

**TALENT
DAYS**

2023

6-7 DECEMBER



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|
| WELCOME NOTE | 2 |
| TALENT DAYS PARTNERS | 2 |
| TALENT DAYS GODMOTHER | 3 |
| TALENT DAYS SCHEDULE | 4 |
| THE AGENDA | 4 |
| WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 | 5 |
| THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 | 9 |
| TALENT DAYS FILMMAKERS | 19 |
| RED SEA: SHORTS COMPETITION | 20 |
| NEW SAUDI NEW CINEMA FILMMAKERS | 23 |
| NEOM ALUMNI | 26 |
| CINEMA ASSOCIATION ALUMNI | 28 |
| TALENT DAYS TEAM | 30 |
| THANK YOU NOTE | 30 |
| CONTACT US | 31 |

WELCOME TO TALENT DAYS,

where dreams take flight

Time to embark on a cinematic journey at Talent Days, where your aspirations find wings! Think of Talent Days as your guiding star through this remarkable event tailored to make your cinematic dreams a reality. These two days at the event, hosted as part of The Red Sea Souk film market, are the launching pad for your creative journey.

At Talent Days, you're not just a spectator; you're a rising filmmaker ready to turn your cinematic dreams into reality. This extraordinary event features a series of meetings, workshops, and networking sessions crafted to bring your creative visions to life. Consider it a journey guided by your own talent.

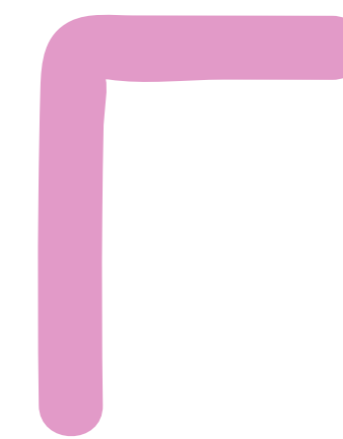
Luminaries support you with mentorship, supervision and guidance. They include producers, film festival directors, sales agents, and film directors. They will be your support system, ready to share their knowledge and expertise.

Every event and activity here will be translated into Arabic, expanding the reach to each and every valued participant.

Networking for a Brighter Future begins here. Offering more than just education; Talent Days is an opportunity to connect, collaborate, and build lasting relationships. An exclusive network of international industry leaders will be present, highlighting promising talents. In just two days, you will not only learn about the intricacies of the film world but also establish connections that could kickstart your career.

Take note of everything detailed below, because with this guide, you'll make the best out of Talent Days!

TALENT DAY PARTNERS



نيوم NEOM

جيل 2030 generation



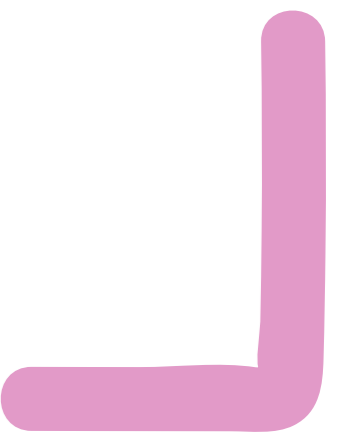
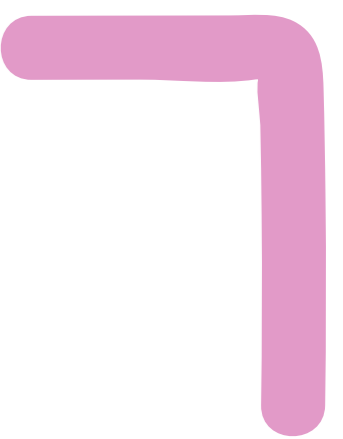
Alliance Française
Arabie Saoudite



CINEMA ASSOCIATION



maflam.com



TALENT DAYS GODMOTHER

Michelle Rodriguez,
ACTRESS

With a burst of enthusiasm and plenty of anticipation, we proudly announce the sensational actress Michelle Rodriguez as our guiding light this year: the Talent Days Godmother.

We look forward to our talk with her, and everything she has to offer our participants during this exciting edition.



Michelle started working in 1999 as an extra. It only took a magazine ad announcing an open casting call in New York for her to decide to finally step into the spotlight.

The role was the female lead in the movie “Girlfight” (2000). Michelle auditioned, along with 350 other girls. After various trials inside an actual boxing ring and five arduous months of training in Brooklyn’s Gleason’s Gym, she was finally chosen to portray the role of Diana Guzman.

As soon as the film started making the rounds at various film festivals, Michelle began gaining critical acclaim for her performance, earning her awards at the Deauville Film Festival for Best Actress, the Las Vegas Film Critics Society for Female Breakthrough Performance, and the Independent Spirit Award for Best Actress.

As “Girlfight” (2000) continued to gain notoriety with its September 2000 release, Michelle was already hard at work with blockbuster franchise hits, starting with “The Fast and the Furious” and “Resident Evil”.

Michelle continues her legacy by being part of the biggest-grossing productions of all time in a filmography that includes James Cameron’s “Avatar”, JJ Abrams’ TV sensation “Lost”, and most recently, the 2023 Universal hits “Dungeons and Dragons” and “Fast X”.

THE AGENDA

Talent Days will take place on December 6 - 7, 2023

@ the Ritz-Carlton Jeddah Hotel.

All events will be translated into Arabic.

COME AND MEET US!

DECEMBER 6

| TIME | EVENT | MODERATOR | GUESTS | LOCATION | ENTRANCE |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 10:00 | TALENT DAYS WELCOMING BREAKFAST: A COLLABORATIVE CELEBRATION WITH NEOM | | INDUSTRY GUESTS & FILMMAKERS | SOUK INDUSTRY ROOM | UPON INVITATION |
| 11:30 | IN CONVERSATION WITH: TALENT DAYS GODMOTHER | IBRAHEM AL HAJJAJ | MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |
| 14:00 | IN CONVERSATION WITH: REVEALING A CASTING DIRECTOR'S SECRETS | RULAN HASAN | MARGERY SIMKIN | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |
| 15:30 | CREATIVE TALK: FILMMAKING WITH A GREEN SPIRIT | | BASSAM ALASAD | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |
| 17:00 | CREATIVE TALK: MASTERING THE CRAFT OF FILM MARKETING | | MATHIAS NOSCHIS | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |

DECEMBER 7

| TIME | EVENT | MODERATOR | GUESTS | LOCATION | ENTRANCE |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 09:30 | MEET & MATCH | | FILMMAKERS & INDUSTRY PLAYERS | SOUK INDUSTRY ROOM | UPON INVITATION |
| 10:00 | THE ART OF THE PITCHING TRAINING BY MAFLAM | DANYA M ALHAMRANI | | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |
| 11:30 | WHAT IS LOVE?... BABY DON'T HURT ME: THE ART OF DISCUSSING FILMS | OUMKALTHOUM SARAH BARD | MARTA BALAGA, KALEEM AFTAB | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |
| 12:30 | SNAPSHOT ON ACTORS | OZZY AGU | HENRY GOLDING | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |
| 14:00 | A FILM CASE STUDY: BEHIND THE SCENES OF DAMMI | BAKR ALDUHAIM | ROSA ATTAB, YANN MOUNIR DEMANGE | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |
| 15:00 | CREATIVE TALK: CHANNELING EMOTIONS INTO CREATIVITY | | AGATHE BERMAN | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |
| 16:30 | PANEL: SAUDI ARABIA'S FILM OPPORTUNITIES | JOYCE PIERPOLINE | HANA ALOMAIR, WAYNE BORG, EMAD ESKANDER | SOUK FORUM ROOM | ALL BADGES |



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!



**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 6**

**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 6
10:00 AM
LOCATION:
SOUK INDUSTRY ROOM
ACCESS:
BY INVITATION**

**TALENT DAYS WELCOMING
BREAKFAST:
A COLLABORATIVE
CELEBRATION
WITH NEOM**

**WITH THE INDUSTRY GUESTS
AND THE TALENTS.**

The time has come for our Talent Days participants to gather, mix and mingle, and forge strong connections.

Film industry leaders from around the world will be present, casting a spotlight on promising talents.

They are all here to share their knowledge and expertise, guiding your path to success.

**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 6
11:30 AM
LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM
ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

**IN-CONVERSATION WITH
TALENT DAYS GODMOTHER**

Michelle Rodriguez

MODERATED BY

Ibrahim Al Hajjaj

DESCRIPTION:

Prepare to join an exclusive conversation featuring our Talent Days Godmother, Michelle Rodriguez, alongside iconic Saudi actor Ibrahim Al Hajjaj. Join us for an enthralling discussion about her illustrious career and the invaluable insights she carries into the world of filmmaking.

Michelle Rodriguez will delve into her creative inspirations, the influences that have shaped her, the invaluable lessons she's learned, and the challenges she's overcome throughout her journey. Brace yourself for a conversation that promises unique insights, tailored advice for emerging artists, and a profound exploration of visionary perspectives on the industry's future.

**MICHELLE
RODRIGUEZ,
ACTRESS**

Michelle started working in 1999 as an extra until she auditioned for the role of Diana Guzmanin in "Girlfight" (2000), to be selected after various trials inside a ring and five months of training.

The film toured various film festivals, and Michelle gained critical acclaim for her performance, earning awards at the Deauville Film Festival for Best Actress; the Las Vegas Film Critics Society for Female Breakthrough Performance; and the Independent Spirit Award for Best Actress.

Michelle then followed with blockbuster franchise hits, starting with "The Fast and the Furious" and "Resident Evil", as well as the biggest-grossing productions of all time like James Cameron's "Avatar", JJ Abrams' TV sensation "Lost", and the 2023 Universal hits "Dungeons and Dragons" and "Fast X".

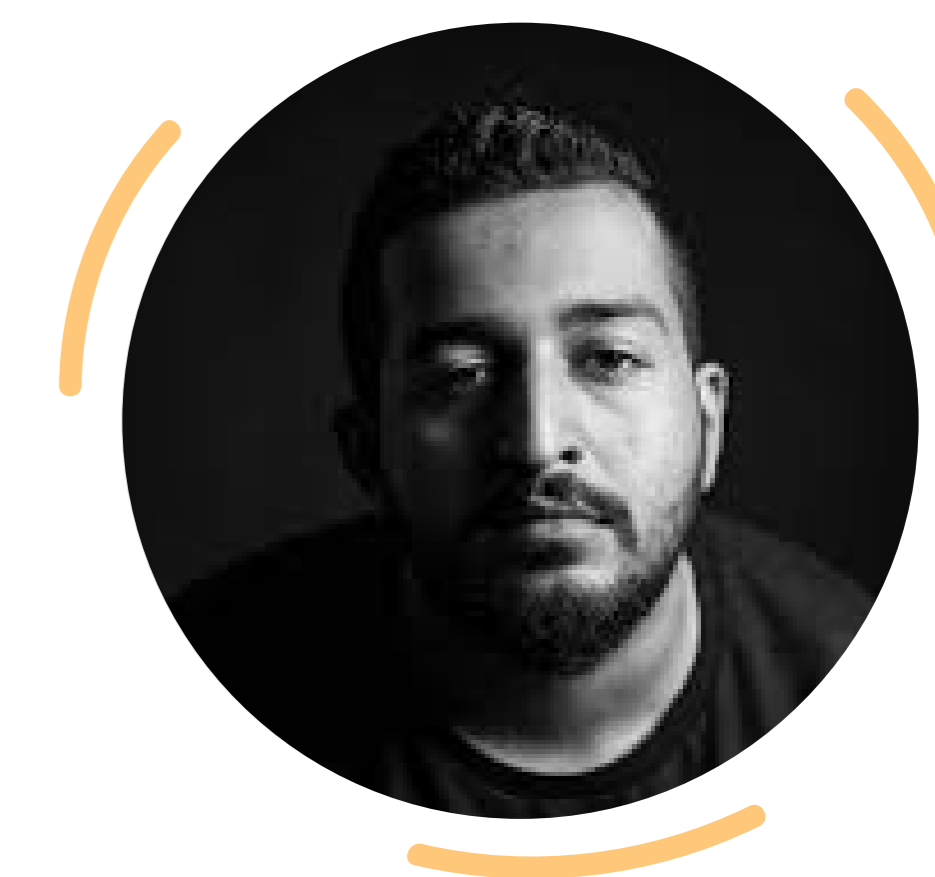


**IBRAHEM
AL HAJJAJ,
ACTOR**

Ibrahim Al Hajjaj, a Joy Award winner for Best Actor, has rapidly become a leading star in Saudi Arabia's TV and theatrical scene.

Since his career's inception in 2014, he has performed in over 440 shows, captivating audiences with his roles in TV series and feature films, including notable titles like "Sattar" and "Alkhallat+."

Co-founder of Blacklight Films and House of Comedy, Ibrahim's impact extends beyond acting to producing over 200 live shows. Additionally, his partnership with Mana reflects his commitment to spreading knowledge and arts.



**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 6
02:00 PM
LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM
ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

**IN-CONVERSATION WITH
Margery Simkin**
**REVEALING A CASTING
DIRECTOR'S SECRETS BY
Rulan Hasan**

DESCRIPTION:

Get ready to embark on a journey where you'll uncover invaluable insights into the art of film casting. Learn effective methods for selecting actors who will bring your characters to life and master the art of choosing non-professional talents. Benefit from expert guidance to elevate the overall quality of your film.

**MARGERY
SIMKIN,
CASTING DIRECTOR**

Originally from Metuchen, New Jersey, Ms. Simkin attended the University of California, Santa Cruz, and graduated with a major that had nothing to do with film. Slight exaggeration (i.e., lying) led to her first casting-related position trolling NYC schools for children who looked like famous actors for a film.

This led to an assignment to find non-professionals for the original "Fame". More traditional casting work soon followed. She went on to cast such films as "Beverly Hill Cop", "Top Gun", "Brazil", "Field of Dreams", "Twelve Monkeys", "Erin Brockovich", "Marley & Me", "Avatar" and "Avatar: The Way of Water". Based in Los Angeles, Ms. Simkin has had the privilege of working with many great directors including Terry Gilliam, Frank Oz, Danny DeVito, David Frankel and James Cameron.



MOTTO:
"Be open. The magic and importance of serendipity in filmmaking should never be minimized."

FAVORITE FILM:
Singin' in the Rain (1952)
By Stanley Donen,
Gene Kelly

**RULAN
HASAN,
SCREENWRITER,
CREATIVE DIRECTOR**

Rulan Hasan, a talented Jeddah native, wears many hats: screenwriter, script supervisor, and music creative director. She kickstarted her career in 2016 by co-writing the "Doon" Action/Thriller series on Viu, leading to the Netflix-acquired "Bashar" series.

Her creative journey encompasses comedy shows, short films, and features. Notably, she won accolades at the 9th Saudi Film Festival for "Abd". Rulan is a creative director, collaborating with artists like "Wegz - Mish Fair" and "Big Sam". She is the KSA Director of Culture for the non-profit organization "Sunflower Seed" which aims to help Saudi female filmmakers and give them opportunities for experience.

Rulan has dedicated herself to "Rights House" since 2020, a writing hub/community used by several known and underground writers and artists to create writing rooms. Rulan gives FREE Writing Workshops to help new writers emerge in the filmmaking field.

MOTTO:
"Use your voice, dig deeper, you can inflict a change in this world."

FAVORITE FILM:
Parasite (2019)
By Bong Joon Ho



CREATIVE TALK: FILMMAKING WITH A GREEN SPIRIT

**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 6, 3:30 PM**
**LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM**
**ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

DESCRIPTION:

Join us for an enlightening discussion on green filmmaking. Discover valuable tips and insights, explore cinema's environmental impact, and eco-friendly production practices, and consider how to seamlessly integrate sustainability into the film industry. Connect with Bassam, an environmentally conscious creator, and leave with a wealth of knowledge to help foster a more responsible and equitable future for cinema.

CREATIVE TALK: MASTERING THE CRAFT OF FILM MARKETING

**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 6, 5:00 PM**
**LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM**
**ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

DESCRIPTION:

Unlock the secrets of successful film marketing at this exclusive insider event. As a whirlwind of questions brews within your creative mind, remember that seeking guidance is the bedrock of success. While intuition serves as a valuable asset, combining it with marketing expertise can truly revolutionize your game. This extraordinary opportunity not only grants you direct access to invaluable insights but will also provide priceless tips. Don't let this chance slip away – seize it and elevate your film marketing to new heights!

BASSAM ALASAD, PRODUCER, GREEN CONSULTANT

Managing Director and Chief Content Officer at Creative Media Solutions and Producers Guild of America and (Documentary Association of Europe) member, produced and co-produced several projects, films, reality shows, and digital content all around the region, including the latest project, «Born a King,» and the recently released feature film «Champions» as a Co-Producer and currently producing “Montreal” and the feature documentary “Finding Oum Al Ghaith”.

In 2017, Bassam co-founded Greener Screen, a social enterprise aiming to help the media industry in the region to become a net-zero emission by 2030 in partnership with BAFTA. In 2021 Bassam joined the Amman International Film Festival as the Head of Industry.



MOTTO:

“Do it for the love of storytelling, not for the fame.”

FAVORITE FILMS:

No Country for Old Men (2007)
By Ethan Coen, Joel Coen

The Aquarium (2008)
By Yousry Nasrallah

MATHIAS NOSCHIS, FILM MARKETING STRATEGIST

Mathias Noschis is the founder of Alphapanda, a film marketing agency with team members in Berlin, Warsaw and Milan. Alphapanda's client list includes Warner Bros., the European Film Awards and several independent producers, distributors and sales agents.

The type of projects handled by Alphapanda include “The Quiet Girl” (Berlinale '22 et Oscars '23), “Corpus Christi” (Venice '19), “God's Own Country” (Sundance '17), “Touch Me Not” (Berlinale Golden Bear '17) as well as documentaries “Pianoforte” (CPH:DOX '23), “Flee” (Sundance '21) and “The New Gospel” (Venice '19).

Mathias is also a consultant for Creative Europe MEDIA and for the French CNC and a marketing expert and tutor for organizations such as ACE Producers, Locarno Industry Academy and IFFR Lab.



MOTTO:

“Think in terms of career rather than individual films.”

FAVORITE FILM:

Magnolia (1999)
By Paul Thomas Anderson



**THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7**

**THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7
9:30 AM
LOCATION:
SOUK INDUSTRY ROOM
ACCESS:
BY INVITATION**

MEET & MATCH

FILMMAKERS

X

INDUSTRY

PLAYERS

In a relaxed setting, prepare to connect with industry trailblazers who are poised to provide invaluable feedback on your career. This is your moment to learn and excel. Our mentors are here to impart their wisdom, enrich your path, and guide you toward a bright future.

**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 7
10:00 AM
LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM
ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

DESCRIPTION:

Unlock the art of pitching - the mastery of storytelling, the craft of persuasion, and the secret to inviting others on your cinematic voyage. This Arabic workshop aims to demystify the art of film pitching, foster creative storytelling, and enhance participants' ability to communicate their ideas effectively. Join us on a journey to unleash your cinematic potential.



**THE ART OF THE PITCHING: TRAINING
IN COLLABORATION WITH MAFLAM
(IN ARABIC ONLY)**

Danya Alhamrani - Maflam

**DANYA
ALHAMRANI
PRODUCER**

MOTTO:

“Learn the fundamentals, and then create create create.”

FAVORITE FILM:

**Animals Are Beautiful People
(1974) By Jamie Uys**

For over two decades, the Saudi Arabian producer has worked on projects ranging from documentaries to cooking shows. She has produced content for both international and regional broadcasters.

Her work has aired on Discovery, BBC, ZDF, New Zealand TV, Shahid, and Saudi TV. Danya has directed numerous documentaries, including Rise which chronicles the changing social landscape of Saudi Arabia through stories of the Kingdom's most influential women of the past 50 years. Her most recent film Abuwy explores the evolving roles of fathers in the Arab world. Her most recent project, Dirat Ajdadi is an intimate portrait of Saudis with intellectual disabilities.

**THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7,
11:30 AM
LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM
ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

**WHAT IS LOVE?...
BABY DON'T HURT ME:
THE ART OF DISCUSSING FILMS
Marta Bałaga, Kaleem Aftab**

**UNDER THE FINAL CUT OF
Oumkalthoum Sarah Bard**

DESCRIPTION:

Get ready for a cinematic clash of the Titans! Two experienced journalists are about to engage in a thrilling duel, right before your eyes. This interactive event isn't your run-of-the-mill movie discussion. It's a riveting battle of perspectives.

Imagine this: Titanic, the iconic film that took the world by storm. Did it sweep you off your feet, or did it leave you cold as the iceberg itself?

Now, it's your turn to weigh in. Share your thoughts with the journalists as they build and defend their arguments. What was it about Titanic that touched your heart, and what left you wanting more? Join us for a dynamic cinematic conversation that you won't want to miss!

**MARTA
BAŁAGA,
JOURNALIST**

Marta Bałaga is a film journalist and moderator, she writes for Variety and Cineuropa and regularly contributes to the Finnish monthly magazine Episodi. She has collaborated with various festivals, including Helsinki International Film Festival – Love & Anarchy and its industry sidebar Finnish Film Affair, or New Horizons International Film Festival and Polish Days.

Member of the International Federation of Film Critics FIPRESCI and the European Film Academy. She has served on many juries, including Venice Critics' Week at Venice Film Festival.

MOTTO:
"You are entering a world of pain."



FAVORITE FILM:
The Big Lebowski (1998)
By Joel Coen, Ethan Coen

**KALEEM
AFTAB,
FILM CRITIC**

Kaleem Aftab is the Director of International Programming at the Red Sea International Film Festival.

He is also a renowned film critic, who penned an autobiography of Spike Lee and reviews films for BBC Radio London. He likes to party for the GRAM!

MOTTO:
"Be excellent!"

FAVORITE FILM:
Wild at Heart (1990)
By David Lynch



THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7,
11:30 AM
LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM
ACCESS:
ALL BADGES

WHAT IS LOVE?...
BABY DON'T HURT ME:
THE ART OF DISCUSSING FILMS
Marta Bałaga, Kaleem Aftab

UNDER THE FINAL CUT OF
Oumkalthoum Sarah Bard

OUMKALTHOUM SARAH BARD, **DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER**

Oumkalthoum Sarah, a legal graduate, began her film career in 2016 as an actress, notably starring in Netflix's «Amra and the Second Marriage.» Since 2019, she's been integral to the Red Sea International Film Festival, contributing to its inception as Saudi Arabia's first international film festival.

Oumkalthoum shifted her focus to nurturing film talents and spearheading innovative initiatives as a talent developer. Currently, she works as a Development Producer at Sirb Productions.

MOTTO:

“Dive fearlessly into your passion, form industry connections, and let every mistake fuel your unstoppable cinematic evolution.”



FAVORITE FILM:

Parasite (2019)
By Bong Joon Ho

TALENT DAYS
WHERE
DREAMS
TAKE
FLIGHT

**THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7
12:30 PM**

**LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM**

**ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

**SNAPSHOT ON ACTORS
Henry Golding**

**MODERATED BY
Ozzy Agu**

DESCRIPTION:

Ever wondered about the daily grind of an actor? The routine of an emerging star is far from ordinary. Let's plunge into the psyche of a rising talent!

In just 30 minutes, Henry will bare his soul to filmmakers!
This session peeks behind the curtain, passion, and aspirations of an actor on the ascent.

**HENRY
GOLDING,
ACTOR**

Henry Golding, a Malaysian-British actor who rose to fame with his star-making role in Crazy Rich Asians and quickly followed up with diverse roles in notable films such as "A Simple Favor" (2018), "The Gentlemen" (2019) and "Last Christmas" (2019).

Golding has become a much sought after actor in Hollywood, known for his leading roles and compelling performances.

The Malaysian born actor next stars in Old Guard 2 for Netflix opposite Charlize Theron, Guy Ritchie's The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Affairs (opposite Henry Cavill) and Nacho Vigalondo's festival film Daniela Forever.



**OZZY
AGU,
ACTOR**

Ozzy Agu, a dynamic African On-Air Personality, has made significant strides in the entertainment industry. Hosting 53Extra, MNET MultiChoice's lifestyle TV magazine, for 4 years, he excelled in interviewing prominent figures and reporting on trends in music, art, fashion, and culture.

Ozzy gained further acclaim hosting the live red carpet at the Africa Magic Viewers Choice Awards from 2015-2017. Selected by SuperSports Africa, he hosted FANFEST! during the 2018 FIFA World Cup. Ozzy's off-air roles include moderating prestigious panels and events. A classically trained actor from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, he's acted since 2011 and holds a Business Administration degree from Mercer University.



**THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7
02:00 PM
LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM
ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

**A FILM CASE STUDY:
BEHIND THE SCENES
OF “DAMMI”
Rosa Attab, Yann Mounir Demange
MODERATED BY
Bakr Alduhaim**

DESCRIPTION:

Join us for an exclusive, behind-the-scenes journey into “Dammi”. In this insider event, you’ll have the opportunity to delve into the creative process and gain unique insights into the artistic choices, challenges, and triumphs that breathed life into this indie gem. Discover the inspirations behind the powerful narrative and what emotions led them to film something so personal. Pick up valuable filmmaking wisdom spanning from writing and directing to acting. Connect directly with the talented individuals who turned this vision into reality. This rare peek into the journey of “Dammi” showcases how dedicated teams translate creative passion onto the big screen.

**ROSA
ATTAB,
PRODUCER, SCREENWRITER**

Rosa Attab, a BAFTA and Independent Spirit Awards nominee, gained recognition as one of «10 Producers to Watch» in Variety’s 2017 feature. She notably produced «You Were Never Really Here,» by Lynne Ramsay, a Cannes Film Festival 2017 winner for Best Screenplay and Best Actor. As a writer-producer, she has contributed to films like «Ibrahim» (Cannes FF 2020), «A Brighter Tomorrow» (Director’s Fortnight 2021), and «Dammi» (Locarno 2023, Toronto 2023) starring Riz Ahmed. Of French-Algerian heritage, she received her education at Cornell University and ESCP Europe.

Her career began at Wild Bunch as Head of Acquisitions and continued as Head of Intl & Dev and producer at “Why Not Productions”, a renowned Paris-based company. She collaborated with directors like Cristian Mungiu, Arnaud Desplechin, Yann Demange, Ken Loach, and Jacques Audiard on films like «Rust and Bone,»

«Dheepan,» and «The Sisters Brothers.» Today, she operates as an independent, multicultural writer-producer, splitting her time between Paris and London, and consults for companies such as CAA and Dear Gaia Films.



MOTTO:
“To start a therapy... to read... to create your own ecosystem of allies and friends...”

FAVORITE FILM:
“That’s a tricky one, it’s like picking up one best friend.”

**YANN MOUNIR
DEMANGE,
FILMMAKER**

Born in Paris and raised in London as a man of French Algerian heritage, Yann Mounir Demange has always been passionate about telling unexpected stories.

Yann made a name for himself as a filmmaker in the U.K. directing the BAFTA-nominated series, “Deadset”, and the entire first season of the critically acclaimed multi-BAFTA-nominated series, “Top Boy”, as well as his feature film debut “71”, for which he received the British Independent Film Award for Best Director.

Transitioning to working in the U.S., Yann most recently directed the feature film “White Boy Rick” (Sony) and the pilot episode of HBO’s “Lovecraft Country”. He also served as an Executive Producer on Bassam Tariq’s “Mogul Mowgli” and is directing the upcoming Marvel film, “Blade”, starring Mahershala Ali.



MOTTO & FAVORITE FILM:
Stay tuned and you will find out during the talk!

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7
02:00 PM
LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM
ACCESS:
ALL BADGES

A FILM CASE STUDY:
BEHIND THE SCENES
OF “DAMMI”
Rosa Attab, Yann Mounir Demange
MODERATED BY
Bakr Alduhaim

BAKR ALDUHAIM, **CONSULTANT AND FILM PRODUCER**

Bakr Alduhaim is an award-winning Saudi producer and cinematographer, boasting an impressive career spanning numerous years in the dynamic world of filmmaking. His portfolio showcases a rich tapestry of accomplishments, ranging from captivating fictional narratives and thought-provoking documentaries to engaging commercials. While Bakr’s lens has often focused on the picturesque landscapes of France, his artistic journey has transcended geographical boundaries across Europe and beyond, including his cherished homeland, Saudi Arabia, where he founded his consultancy and film production company Vues.



MOTTO:
“The film industry is always evolving, so never stop learning, and just before entering the film industry, leave your ego by the door.”

FAVORITE FILM:
No Country for Old Men
(2007) By Ethan Coen,
Joel Coen

TALENT DAYS
WHERE
DREAMS
TAKE
FLIGHT

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7
03:00 PM
LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM
ACCESS:
ALL BADGES

DESCRIPTION:

In this dynamic workshop, we'll explore the vital aspects of creativity for both your audiovisual projects and professional relationships. We'll help you identify key issues that will elevate your storytelling, supported by real-world examples.

Additionally, we'll guide you on infusing creativity into your professional connections by identifying your strengths and challenges, enabling effective project pitching and productive collaborations with producers and networks.

Discover how to turn setbacks into assets and the power of curiosity and observation in understanding your industry better. Our goal is to foster a warm, vivid, and insightful atmosphere, channeling all energy into the moment while promoting lively discussions. Brace yourself for an exhilarating journey into the world of creativity!

**CREATIVE TALK: CHANNELLING
EMOTIONS INTO CREATIVITY**

Designed by Agathe Berman

**AGATHE
BERMAN,**
FILM PRODUCER

Pitch expert, producer, writer, teacher and artistic consultant. She trains international film industry Pitching Sessions - SeriesMania Coproduction forum, Unifrance TV events, Transylvania Pitch Stop, Torino Series Lab, MIARome, BalkanFilm Market, Odessa Film Festival & pitching workshops - Eureka SeriesMania Institute, MidPoint, Series classes in La Femis, Paris.

She has produced over 60 films as a partner of Paris-based Films d'Ici. Her credits include award-winning productions directed by talents such as Cédric Klapisch, Richard Copans, Louise Hémon, Gilles Bannier and Christophe Honoré. Since 2018, with her company – AgatheBermanStudio – she has been developing her “Pitchology” expertise, along with a mixed-media project. Trained in Polygram Fastlane Media Program (London, Los Angeles), mastered in linguistics, cinema and media (Paris Sorbonne).

MOTTO:
“Sharpen your eye, cultivate
patience and courage.”

FAVORITE FILM:
Beau Geste (1939)
By William A. Wellman



**THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7,
4:30 PM**
**LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM**
**ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

SAUDI ARABIA'S FILM OPPORTUNITIES

**Hana Alomair, Wayne Borg,
Emad Eskander**

**MODERATED BY
Joyce Pierpoline**

DESCRIPTION:

Uncover the wealth of opportunities awaiting creative talents in Saudi Arabia – from financial backing to state-of-the-art cinema studios. These aren't just assets; they're the building blocks of imagination. And, viewed through a filmmaker's lens, Saudi Arabia is transforming into a vibrant talent incubator, igniting a new generation's passion for sharing captivating narratives with the world. Uncover the wealth of opportunities awaiting creative talents in Saudi Arabia – from financial backing to state-of-the-art cinema studios. These aren't just assets; they're the building blocks of imagination. And, viewed through a filmmaker's lens, Saudi Arabia is transforming into a vibrant talent incubator, empowering a new generation's passion for sharing captivating narratives with the world.

HANA ALOMAIR,

PRODUCER AND FILMMAKER

Saudi film director Hana Alomair is the writer/director of "The Complaint" (Best Short Film prize winner) at the Saudi Film Festival (2015), and "Swan Song" (2019) (Best Actor prize winner). She is the co-writer and director of the first Saudi Netflix original mini-series, "Whispers" (2020), and the writer of "Sharshaf" which won The Red Sea Lodge Production Grant of \$500,000. The project of her film "Dancing on Fire" was selected to be one of the six Saudi projects in the Red Sea Lodge and won a prize of \$70,000 from Shahid in the Red Sea International Film Festival Market (the Souk). She works as a Content Advisor at MBC and is the chairperson of the Cinema Association.

MOTTO:

"Watch as many films as you can and then read about them and about filmmaking and cinema and literature and philosophy. And then strive to be original and have your own voice. You will make something that is rich and unique."



FAVORITE FILM:
Ikiru (1952)
By Akira Kurosawa

WAYNE BORG,

MANAGING DIRECTOR - MEDIA, ENTERTAINMENT, CULTURE & FASHION INDUSTRIES, NEOM

Wayne Borg is an accomplished international executive with over 20 years of unparalleled experience in leadership roles in the media and creative industries. As Managing Director of media industries, entertainment and culture, he is developing these key industry sectors as part of the wider ambitions of Neom.

Having lived and worked in Australia, Europe, Asia, the United States and the Middle East, he has led key divisions of major iconic international media and entertainment businesses and driven broad-brush strategic and policy initiatives for government in the media, cultural and creative industries sectors.

MOTTO:

"Never give up."



FAVORITE FILM:
Heat (1995)
By Michael Mann

**THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7,
4:30 PM**
**LOCATION:
SOUK FORUM ROOM**
**ACCESS:
ALL BADGES**

**SAUDI ARABIA'S FILM
OPPORTUNITIES**

**Hana Alomair, Wayne Borg,
Emad Eskander**

**MODERATED BY
Joyce Pierpoline**

**EMAD
ESKANDER,
HEAD OF RED SEA FUND**

Emad Eskander is a Saudi storyteller/filmmaker. A marketing graduate from King Fahad University of Petroleum and Minerals, Emad started his professional career as a creative conceptualizer in ad agencies. He then gained valuable experience in multiple multinational companies such as Unilever and P&G. His passion for films in Saudi and the region prompted him to leave the corporate world for a more creative role in local up-and-coming film agencies. In 2019, he founded his own conceptualizing and writing studio, Blue Bus Entertainment. In its first year, the studio was able to make huge strides in the local and regional film industry.



FAVORITE FILM:
“All Coen Brothers’ films.”

MOTTO:
“No story lives unless someone wants to listen.” ~ J.K. Rowling

**JOYCE
PIERPOLINE,
PRODUCER**

Joyce Pierpoline is a producer of award-winning independent films and founder of Pierpoline Films based in New York and Paris. Feature films include “Mediha” (DOCCNYC 2023), “The Listener” (Venice); “The Transfiguration” (Cannes); Sundance award-winning cult favorite “Teeth” (Sundance, Berlinale); “Happy Tears” (Berlin); “Angelica” (Berlin); and the multi awarding-winning first film by Neil Labute, “In the Company of Men” (Sundance, Cannes).

She serves on the board of BAFTA North America where she is Chair of the Film Committee and on the executive board of NYWIFT. She is a member of the European Producers Club, the European Film Academy, and the Producers Guild of America where she is co-founder of the Women’s Impact Network, promoting gender equality in the industry.



FAVORITE FILM:
The Godfather (1972)
By Francis Ford Coppola

MOTTO:
“Attend international film festivals and watch films from all over the world.”



TALENT DAYS FILMMAKERS

In the 2023 Talent Days edition, we have the pleasure of welcoming filmmakers presenting a film as part of our Festival and also a group of filmmakers represented by the Cinema Association.

Those filmmakers will be present during those two days, creating new, valuable connections for their upcoming projects.



RED SEA: SHORTS COMPETITION

RED SEA: SHORTS COMPETITION



TIGRAN AGAVELYAN

FILM:
The Courier

FAVORITE FILM:
Taste of Cherry (1997)
By Abbas Kiarostami



RAMI ALZAYER

FILM:
Saeed

FAVORITE FILM:
Roma (2018)
By Alfonso Cuarón



SONNY CALVENTO

FILM:
Primetime Mother

FAVORITE FILM:
Dogtooth (2009)
By Yorgos Lanthimos



MAHNOOR EUCEPH

FILM:
Eid Mubarak

FAVORITE FILM:
The Matrix (1999)
By Lana Wachowski,
Lilly Wachowski



FIRAS ALTAYBEH

FILM:
The Woodland

FAVORITE FILM:
“I don’t have an answer, I like
too many films.”



AMARTEI ARMAR

FILM:
Yaa

FAVORITE FILM:
Blade Runner (1982)
By Ridley Scott



SARA BALGHONAIM

FILM:
Me & Aydarous

FAVORITE FILM:
“There isn’t only one...”



JAD CHAHINE

FILM:
Al Tora'
(The Call Of The Brook)

FAVORITE FILM:
A Thousand and One Nights
(Arabian Nights) (1974)
By Pier Paolo Pasolini



ALI ALI

FILM:
Smokey Eyes

FAVORITE FILM:
The Big Short (2015) By
Adam McKay



ETHAR BAAMER

FILM:
In Between

FAVORITE FILM:
Coraline (2009)
By Henry Selick



KANTARAMA GAHIGIRI

FILM:
Terra Mater -
Mother Land

FAVORITE FILM:
Yeelen (1987)
By Souleymane Cissé

RED SEA: SHORTS COMPETITION



IMRAN HAMDULAY

FILM:
The Wait

FAVORITE FILM:
Hiroshima Mon Amour (1959)
By Alain Resnais



IBRAHEM MELHEM

FILM:
Farewell

FAVORITE FILM:
Inglourious Basterds (2009)
By Quentin Tarantino



FARNOOSH SAMADI

FILM:
Titanic, Suitable Version for
Iranian Families

FAVORITE FILM:
Close-Up (1990)
By Abbas Kiarostami



SHUGYLA SERZHAN

FILM:
The Late Wind

FAVORITE FILM:
Taste of Cherry (1997)
By Abbas Kiarostami



SAMAN HOSSEINPUOR

FILM:
Suitcase

FAVORITE FILM:
Dead Poets Society (1989)
By Peter Weir



KEVIN RAHARDJO

FILM:
Accidentally Intentional

FAVORITE FILM:
Fight Club (1999)
By David Fincher



HIRA SHERAZ

FILM:
Solatia

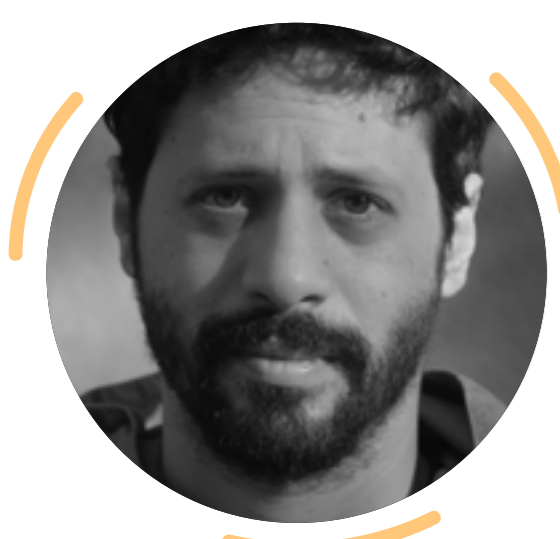
FAVORITE FILM:
Dogtooth (2009)
By Yorgos Lanthimos



AWA GUEYE

FILM:
Timis / Dusk

FAVORITE FILM:
the Lord of the Rings (2001)
By Peter Jackson



HUSSEN IBRAHEEM

FILM:
Manity

FAVORITE FILM:
Eternity and a Day (1998)
By Theodoros Angelopoulos



DAHLIA NEMLICH

FILM:
Somewhere in Between

FAVORITE FILM:
Hair (1979) By Milos Forman



NUMAN ACAR

FILM:
WALIZ, THE SUITCASE

FAVORITE FILM:
Yol by Yilmaz Güney



**NEW SAUDI
NEW CINEMA
FILMMAKERS**

NEW SAUDI NEW CINEMA FILMMAKERS



ABDULLAH ALKHAMEES

FILM:
The Old School

FAVORITE FILM:
No Country for Old Men
(2007) By Ethan Coen,
Joel Coen



FAISAL ALZAHrani

FILM:
I'm Fine

FAVORITE FILM:
Cinderella (2015)
By Kenneth Branagh



JOWANA ALZAHrani

FILM:
The Last Thread

FAVORITE FILM:
The Hunger Games (2012)
By Gary Ross



HAYDER DAWOOD

FILM:
The Last Winter

FAVORITE FILM:
Life, and Nothing More...
(1992) By Abbas Kiarostami



REEMA ALMAJID

FILM:
Fishbowl

FAVORITE FILM:
Interstellar (2014)
By Christopher Nolan



DHAFER ALSHEHRI

FILM:
Detour

FAVORITE FILM:
Pan's Labyrinth (2006)
By Guillermo del Toro



HANIA BAKHASHWAIN

FILM:
The Ride

FAVORITE FILM:
The King's Speech (2010)
By Tom Hooper



ALABBAS HAMIDADDIN

FILM:
Fishy

FAVORITE FILM:
The Godfather (1972)
By Francis Ford Coppola



ABDULRAHMAN AL JANDAL

FILM:
Street 105

FAVORITE FILM:
Snatch (2000)
By Guy Ritchie



ABDULRAHMAN BATAWIE

FILM:
Art Block

FAVORITE FILM:
Django Unchained (2012)
By Quentin Tarantino

NEW SAUDI NEW CINEMA FILMMAKERS



AFNAN BAWYAN

FILM:
Saleeg

FAVORITE FILM:
Persepolis (2007)
By Vincent Paronnaud,
Marjane Satrapi



OSAMA KHALIFA

FILM:
Jameel Alsaeed

FAVORITE FILM:
Interstellar (2014)
By Christopher Nolan



MARIAM KHAYAT

FILM:
The Menace from Above, Saleeg

FAVORITE FILM:
Howl's Moving Castle (2004)
By Hayao Miyazaki



DUR JAMJOOM

FILM:
Kum-Kum

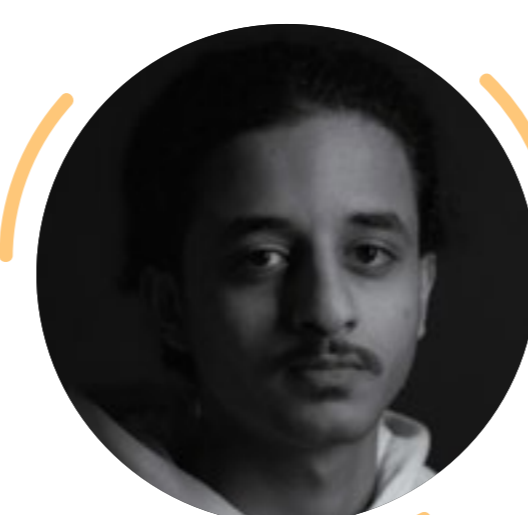
FAVORITE FILM:
Coraline (2009)
By Henry Selick



JAMAL KUTBI

FILM:
Khaled El Sheikh Between Two Fires,
Art & Politics

FAVORITE FILM:
5 Broken Cameras (2011)
By Emad Burnat, Guy Davidi



TALA ALMUSAAD

FILM:
Salem's Legs

FAVORITE FILM:
Sunset Boulevard (1950)
By Billy Wilder



SULTAN RABEA

FILM:
Fiasco Run

FAVORITE FILM:
Trainspotting (1996)
By Danny Boyle



ABDULLAH SAHARTI

FILM:
Hadi Eleies

FAVORITE FILM:
Alexandria... New York (2004)
By Youssef Chahine



HASSAN SAEED

FILM:
Antidote

FAVORITE FILM:
Citizen Kane (1941)
By Orson Welles



NEOM ALUMNI

NEOM ALUMNI



ZAKI ALABDULLAH

FAVORITE FILM:
Close-Up (1990)
By Abbas Kiarostami



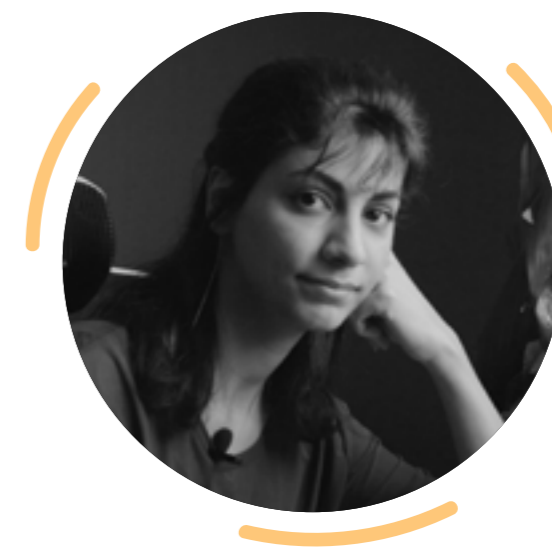
KHAWLAH ALHALAWANI

FAVORITE FILM:
Inception (2010)
By Christopher Nolan



QUTAIBAH ALKHATEEB

FAVORITE FILM:
Hayao Miyazaki's movies



SHAHAD ALNAFISI

FAVORITE FILM:
The Sound of Music (1965)
By Robert Wise



ABDULAZIZ ALTUWAIJRI

FAVORITE FILM:
Good Time (2017)
By Benny Safdie, Josh Safdie



BASHAYER AQEEL

FAVORITE FILM:
Paddington 2 (2017)
By Paul King



YAM FIDA

FAVORITE FILM:
Interstellar (2014)
By Christopher Nolan



HADEEL MOHARRAM

FAVORITE FILM:
I'm Thinking of Ending
Things (2020)
By Charlie Kaufman



WID ALQUBLAN

FAVORITE FILM:
Big Momma's House (2000)
By Raja Gosnell



SERREEN SULTAN

FAVORITE FILM:
The Grand Budapest Hotel (2014)
By Wes Anderson



MOHAMED ATABANI

FAVORITE FILM:
Instant Family (2018)
By Sean Anders



**CINEMA
ASSOCIATION
ALUMNI**

CINEMA ASSOCIATION ALUMNI



**SALMA
MURAD**

FAVORITE FILM:
90's films



**AYMAN
ALGHAMDI**

FAVORITE FILM:
Fight Club (1999)
By David Fincher



**FAISAL
ALOTAIBI**

FAVORITE FILM:
Titanic (1997)
By James Cameron



**RASHA
ALSHARIF**

FAVORITE FILM:
My Neighbor Totoro (1988)
By Hayao Miyazaki



**SULTAN
ALALLAH**

FAVORITE FILM:
Interstellar (2014)
By Christopher Nolan



**MARIAM
KHAYAT**

FAVORITE FILM:
Howl's Moving Castle (2004)
By Hayao Miyazaki



**ALI
ALSARHEED**

FAVORITE FILM:
Through the Olive
Trees (1994)
By Abbas Kiarostami



**ABDULLAH
ALSWAYAD**

FAVORITE FILM:
Interstellar (2014)
By Christopher Nolan



**TERAD
SINDI**

FAVORITE FILM:
12 Angry Men (1957)
By Sidney Lumet



**NORA
ABOUSHOUSAH**

FAVORITE FILM:
Erin Brockovich (2000)
By Steven Soderbergh

TALENT DAYS TEAM

SHIVANI PANDYA MALHOTRA

Red Sea International Film Festival Managing Director

HOLLY DANIEL

Red Sea Souk, Film Market Producer

ZAIN ZEDAN

Red Sea Souk Manager

ALICE KHAROUBI

Head of Talent Days
International Shorts Programmer

YAR MEKHTIGIAN

Talent Days Coordinator

RAZAN DUHAITHEM

Talent Days Assistant

The Talent Days Team wants to warmly thank our amazing colleagues and friends at the Red Sea International Film Festival.

We're so grateful for all the incredible ways you helped make this event happen!

THANK YOU Note

WE WANT TO EXTEND OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR YOUR INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR EVENT.

TO OUR INDUSTRY GUESTS:

Your expertise and involvement enriched Talent Days, and we're thankful for your insights and interactions that added depth to our discussions.

TO OUR ATTENDEES AND GUESTS:

Your active participation and vibrant presence created a memorable atmosphere.

TO OUR SPEAKERS:

Your knowledge and passion left a lasting impact. Your dedication to our event's success was truly commendable, and we're grateful for your thought-provoking presentations.

TO OUR TALENT DAYS TEAM MEMBERS:

Your hard work and meticulous planning were the foundation of this event's success. Your commitment to excellence was evident in every detail.

We also want to express our gratitude to our sponsors and partners for their critical support.

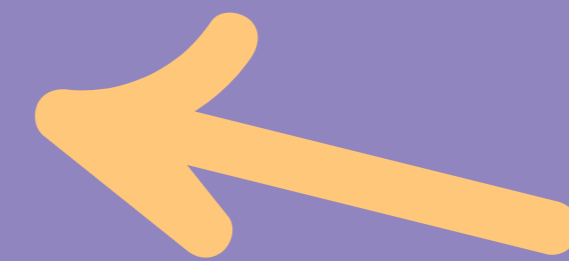
Thank you all for turning Talent Days into the remarkable experience that it is.

We look forward to seeing you again next year.

CONTACT US

TALENT DAYS

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel,
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
December 6 – 7, 2023



EMAIL

talentdays@redseafilmfest.com

FESTIVAL INFORMATION HOTLINE

920051177

**NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 9,
FROM 09:00 AM TO 09:00 PM**

