

THE REDSEA LABS

2023

مؤسسة
البحر الأحمر
السينمائي
RED SEA
FILM FOUNDATION

معامل
البحر الأحمر
RED SEA
LABS

RED SEA LABS PROGRAMS AND TALENTS ●

Note From the Head of The Red Sea Labs	4
About the Red Sea Labs	6
Milestones and Achievements	10
The SeriesLab Projects	16
Eye of the Kite	18
Insight	20
Majhol	22
Mother Afraa	24
Namnam	26
Our Son is Prettier	28
The Bandit	30
The Runaway	32
The Lodge	34
Music For Film	40
Short Film Klinik	44
Cannes Makers	48
The Labs Team	52

NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF LABS ●



In times of transformation and change, we remain steadfast in our mission to nurture the industry and build a vibrant, creative community.

We kept our promise by widening our reach. The Labs programs now span across various disciplines, encompassing series, music, shorts, and on-set training, among others. Gathering here for the new edition of the Red Sea International Film Festival, we celebrate the remarkable success of our artists and storytellers. Through their unwavering passion, dedication, and collaborative spirit, they've illuminated our world with renewed meaning and profound beauty.

Ryan Ashore

Head of the Red Sea Labs

ABOUT THE RED SEA LABS ●

The Red Sea Labs provides a variety of programs aimed at nurturing and enhancing the skills of individuals who have distinct viewpoints in the realms of film and episodic storytelling. These programs encompass the entire creative journey, offering support and opportunities for talent development.

THE RED SEA LABS BRINGS PROJECTS FROM **INCEPTION TO PRODUCTION**

ABOUT THE SERIESLAB | 9

THE LODGE

A residency feature film lab that supports filmmakers through the entire creative process.

THE SERIESLAB

A long term episodic development program that supports writers in creating their original series pilot.

SHORT FILM KLINIK

A short film development program that helps bring an idea into a full short film script.

CANNES MAKERS

A short intensive program on international sales and distribution.

MUSIC FOR FILM

An intensive program on the art of music composition and orchestration.

INSPIRE!

A series of masterclasses throughout the year covering different topics such as cinema, music, and video games.







SUPPORTED OVER +150 ARTISTS AND PROFESSIONALS IN THEIR CAREERS.

THE RED SEA LABS CONNECTS EMERGING TALENTS WITH INDUSTRY EXPERTS THROUGH OUR RICH AND DIVERSE LONG-TERM AND SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS/WORKSHOPS/MASTERCLASSES.



DEVELOPED OVER
48
FEATURE FILMS.

BUILDING THE ECOSYSTEM OF THE FILM INDUSTRY



BUILDING NETWORKS AND PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN ARTISTS



CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND EXCHANGE OF IDEAS.

THE SERIES LAB ●

The SeriesLabs is a hands-on professional and creative writing program that provides writers the opportunity to work on their TV series pilot. The program aims to create a platform for episodic writers and offer them the right tools and guidance to create the next must-watch television sensation. The Red Sea Labs selects projects for full development and mentorship, with the guidance of TV writers, showrunners, and industry experts. The SeriesLab prepares participants to write compelling stories and pitch their pilot to major television networks and streaming platforms.

**THE
SERIES
LAB
PROJECTS ●**



EYE OF THE KITE



Genre(s) Created by

Coming of Age, Drama, Mystery, Romance. Saleh Al-Hamad

Logline

Set to be executed in 30 days for a dubious crime, Wael relives his tormented past and transformative years as he races against time to reconcile with his dying father, unveiling a haunting truth in the process.

Description

Facing a 30-day countdown to execution for a dubious crime, the life of a tormented -21-year-old Saudi man unfolds in a non-linear narrative spanning his childhood, a transformative period studying abroad in California, and his harrowing final days in jail. Gradually, this limited series reveals a haunting truth that binds his past, present, and uncertain future. Wael's story is interwoven with the lives of distinct characters, such as Ghadah, his strong-willed love interest; Talal, his strict, aging father; Salman, his imposing cousin and antagonist; Faisal, his prison inmate sharing the same destiny; and Areej, his manipulative sister who oscillates between antagonist and unpredictable ally. Each character plays a crucial role in Wael's emotional turmoil and self-discovery. This powerful show delves into themes of guilt, redemption, faith, justice, and the complexities of the human experience. It offers an intimate portrayal of a man seeking to escape from his past while navigating the challenges posed by family dynamics, the search for meaning, and the weight of his past actions.

Statement

I'm adapting Eye of the Kite from my novel, which delves into the complexities of the human experience through the lens of a young man sentenced to death for a mysterious crime. This narrative explores the dichotomies of guilt and redemption, injustice and justice, love, and hate, as well as the tension between the collective consciousness and individual conscience. This story is born from a deeply personal drive to interrogate the weight of our past actions and the redemption we seek in our present. The non-linear narrative structure intensifies the intricacies of life, inviting viewers to examine their understanding of these dichotomies and reflect on their own positions within them. Eye of the Kite isn't merely a timely narrative—it's a timeless exploration of our shared human experience. It scrutinizes the complex dynamics of family, the relentless pursuit of meaning, and the enduring impact of our past actions, all against the backdrop of a gripping mystery and crime drama. The characters in this series embody humanity's various facets—strength and vulnerability, manipulation and resilience, antagonism and love. Through them, we witness the raw, unflinching journey of Wael—an individual standing on the precipice of his own mortality, grappling with forgiveness and self-understanding. In crafting Eye of the Kite, my aim is to illuminate these profound themes within a compelling, yet concise narrative. My aspiration is to create a story that resonates with viewers, igniting introspection and stimulating dialogue long after the screen fades to black.

INSIGHT



Genre(s)

Crime, Mystery, Thriller

Created by

Ahmed Alghamdi, Writer and Director

Logline

A mentally disturbed guy discovers that his haunting nightmares hold the key to solving crimes and catching a serial killer.

Description

"Insight" is a crime, mystery, and thriller show that takes place in Jeddah, Saudi. There is a hunt for a serial killer that takes the entire season to get solved, but in each episode, a separate criminal will be brought to justice. The crimes will vary, but most will be either murder or kidnapping. The overall atmosphere of the series is gloomy and mysterious, and there will always be blood and survival struggles. The dark side of life is what we will see, and justice will not always prevail. The story starts when Osama, the lead, accidentally discovers that his haunting nightmares hold the key to solving the crimes. Osama partners up with Ali, a skilled detective, who helps him find the killer of a missing girl. This starts Osama and Ali's partnership, where they manage to solve many crimes during the first season. However, Osama gets in a constant struggle with Ali, who wants to use Osama's visions to capture a mysterious serial killer to avenge his family. At the end of the first season, Osama gets into a very tight spot when his love interest, Marwa, gets kidnapped by the serial killer because she helps Osama understand his dreams and grow closer to capturing him. Osama has no idea the serial killer



Statement

I was raised in a conservative Saudi family where art was never on the table. Not only was any creative outlet never explored, but it was a taboo. I recall my art teacher not allowing me to draw anything with a soul, and to sketch only abstract geometrical shapes. He said, "Living things are God's creation, and we are not allowed to imitate him." It was Saudi during the 90s when art was limited, and being a religious devotee was the ideal. That forced so many people to follow a tight traditional lifestyle. Due to this unrealistic, idealistic life, some became drug addicts, others street car racers or drifters to rebel against that limited lifestyle. However, now, the time has come when Saudi has changed from a black-and-white country to a place that allows all its colors to flourish. However, change is hard. Change takes courage, and time. This story symbolizes the struggle of the change that many young Saudis are going through. It highlights the discrepancy between two different generations, where one wants to hold to its old, limited way of living and keep its head to the ground, and the other sets its hopes so high and dares to dream.

MAJHOL



Genre(s)

Thriller, Crime, Dark
Comedy

Created by

Moayad Abualkhair

Logline

In 2037, in a fictional Arabian city. A dirty cop followed by a -10year-old version of himself. Gets sucked into an ongoing war with torn allegiances between his former employers in the Mafia and the Anti-Corruption Agency.

Description

Majhol, in Arabic, can mean obscure and/or anonymous. It describes the mood of this mild comic-book/secondary world. There's an ominous fog in the city during the night. The protagonist begins his journey as a corrupt cop trying to balance his mental stability. It is reflected in his scenes as it appears unclear if it's dusk or dawn. The narrative is driven by the anticorruption detective, Sammar, and her need to bring down mobster Bo'Rakan. Between them is the protagonist, Officer Mo, who's been working for the mobster and joins the detective in search of redemption. As he is also in the middle of a side narrative between him and his subconscious, Lil Mo is projected to him as a -10year-old version of himself. The pilot kicks off with Mo after he has a mental breakdown from his involvement in the murder of a witness who could have testified against mafia Al-Nufud. He seeks refuge and shelter in the only place he thinks no one will look: an asylum. This is where Sammar comes into his life, as she's been unsuccessful in cracking a single case against the mob. Her attempts have only shaken the trust of her superiors, as she has left many witnesses in demise. Her intel helps her track down Mo. Lucky for her, she finds the dirty cop at a turning point, which helps her recruit him. The two black ducks click, and a relationship between them blossoms into a partnership that will put an end to Bo'Rakan. But it will also introduce more obstacles and drama in the wake of their success, including the introduction of the man in the shadows, "Majhol," a rogue American operative living in Morocco for the past 30 years under the alias Bo'Turky.

Statement

I wrote Majhol as a passion project. Growing up, I personally struggled with identity and fitting in with social and cultural structures. And believed that we are all shaped psychologically and subconsciously by our interactions and experiences. And that it's our life journey to comprehend our behavior and alter it if need be. This is where my protagonist finds himself, figuring out who he is while fighting his subconscious over control of his path. I dig into the psychological aspects of people in the world of crime and corruption. I believe people in many walks of life stumble into their character rather than arrive with it. And in that light, while symbolically addressing the battles within that makes us who we are. I wrote a story about mental stability and whether one can reclaim their shattered identity. The show is inspired by the Film Noir movement both in subject and execution. Much like Noir, the show explores the gray area of morality and exhibits the world of crime from behind the shadows. Our protagonist is a lost cop and a man in transition. He battles his inner voice quite literally, as it appears to him in a younger and wiser version of himself. Lil Mo is the moral compass for Mo and the comic relief in the story, as he speaks unfiltered. He serves as a mentor for Mo and a guide to fulfill his arc. Sammar, on the other hand, is the complete opposite of a femme fatale. She is the moral law in the story and the one operating in a world with dark men who test her character, although she does share a femme fatale's jaw-dropping figure and wildcard attitude. I'm composing crime and comedy. Mental health issues and social hierarchies. Toxic masculinity and toxic femininity. So, no doubt this is a serious show, but one that is infused with dark comedy.

MOTHER AFRAA



Genre(s)

Fantasy, Family Drama

Created by

Aixa Kay

Logline

When their mother dies, three sisters learn that they are the heiresses to a magical realm of women warriors protecting the desert.

Description

Mother Afraa is a one-hour Fantasy and Family Drama. It takes place over three worlds existing simultaneously: The Desert, Alqumairat Valley, and Riyadh City. The desert is an arid world where scarcity presides, patriarchal tribes thrive, and betrayal and danger hide in plain sight. Alqumairat Valley is lush green where matriarchy presides, and women have superpowers they use to nurture and protect. Riyadh City is a chaotic world, where construction is everywhere, and skyscrapers stand side by side with old neighborhoods. The series begins with the three sisters discovering the portal into their grandmother Afraa, the matriarch of Alqumairat Valley. The joy of this discovery is short-lived because Alqumairat Valley is in trouble. It is being targeted by desert tribes who seek access to the New World. Doubt and lack of faith in Afraa's leadership are also ensuing from within. The commander of her guardian fleet betrays her trust and is exiled as punishment. The second in command begins to rile up the guardians to rebel against Afraa. The guardians wage an unsanctioned attack on enemy tribes. Despite winning, this opens up Alqumairat Valley to an orchestrated war by the desert tribes. Meanwhile, in Riyadh, the three sisters are getting acquainted with their newly discovered magical abilities. Grandmother Afraa has sent her advisor and lifelong friend Albaseera to train them. Learning magic, while simultaneously hiding magic, leads the three sisters to big troubles at home. It puts a strain on their relationships and mental wellbeing. Also, managing Albaseera, who has never lived in the New World, proves challenging at times. Not only is she blind and eccentric, it is difficult to come up with a backstory

for her. As war with the surrounding tribes escalates, Alqumairat Valley is on the verge of surrender. But people's true colors are shown at times like this. The three sisters join the defense lines with their grandmother. Afraa's commander, who has been exiled, also shows up to the rescue. She brings with her a new ally: Women of the Sea. Together, they end the war. This newly formed alliance will lead us into the next season: Season of the Sea. Followed by Season of the Mountain. All the while deepening and testing familial connection, while also expanding into more landscapes and people that make Saudi Arabia the beautiful, diverse place that it is, with over 32 million.



Statement

My paternal grandmother is one of the many Najdi families who migrated to Iraq (Az Zubayr) during the 19th century and returned to Saudi Arabia in the 1950s. She was a hardworking and solemn woman who never shared anything personal. In the year of her passing, I heard her screaming in her room, «The people have invaded us!» We were living in peaceful, modern Riyadh at the time. Yet the agony in the flashback she was experiencing seemed otherworldly. It made me realize how little I knew about my grandmother's experience with migration. She is not alone in this. Many women have experienced migrations during the Arabian Peninsula's years of drought. Some cross deserts, and others cross mountains and seas. Mother Afraa is inspired by women's resilience and bravery during these migrations. It explores the theme of interruption of stories, fractured family ties, and generational trauma, how knowing our family story can help deepen our sense of belonging, and how celebrating our uniqueness can be our superpower. As we will see in the series, magic might help people win a battle, but healing and solidarity can help them end the war.

NAMNAM



Genre(s)

Crime, Dark Comedy

Created by

Yasser B.

Logline

Set in Mecca in the 1980s, a 12-year-old boy who works alongside his father in their butcher shop accidentally kills his bully, but ironically realizes how much it benefits his life. Now, burdened with a life-changing decision, what will he do with the body?

Description

Namnam isn't just a story passed in whispers; it's real, it's intense, and it's funny, in the darkest way you can think of. Meet Hassan, A smart, introverted 12-year-old boy carrying the weight of family responsibilities. With his father struggling to run their butcher shop, Hassan aims to prove himself to both his father and the town mayor. Despite being a true Saudi, Hassan's appearance, a mix of Asian features and a feminine look, makes him an easy target for bullies. Sometimes, We can hear his thoughts as an audience, and the worse his problems get, the darker and funnier his thoughts become. One midnight encounter changed his life forever; confronted by one of the bullies, Hassan's actions lead to a tragic accidental death, pushing Hassan to make a nervous, impulsive decision—selling the victim's flesh to the town mayor. Surprisingly, this decision aligns with his goals of keeping the business afloat and seeking justice and revenge. Hassan steps into the world of a young vigilante, using the power of quietness, observing and targeting pedophiles, and using the money obtained from their terrible activities to sustain the family business. Yet, danger jumps in; a determined detective gets closer to the truth, and the whole town starts to get suspicious, prompting Hassan to carefully plan his next move and learn how to master the art of hiding evidence. He teams up with an older partner who is known as the town freak who suffers from Schizophrenia, helping Hassan do things beyond a kid's capability, which will add stress to Hassan's plate. Sometimes, Hassan uses his charm to set traps and get the attention of those he's after. With word spreading about Hassan's top-quality, delicious meats, he can't stop offering his unique service. Eventually, Hassan turns into the very legend itself—The Namnam.

Statement

You know when you make those daily sacrifices, expecting nothing in return, simply because it's the right thing. But when the response is the opposite, you reach a point where you not only want to stop, but you crave to show them how they've affected you, how they've altered your true self. It provokes a desire for revenge, but you hold back because you know it's wrong. So, you choose to live with it. When loved ones let you down, and you feel like trust has lost its meaning? When you hesitate to share your thoughts because it feels like no one really listens? These are the silent struggles of introverted personalities. This is the world Hassan navigates every day. In Hassan's mind, he believes he's doing what's right, even though he knows what he does is terribly wrong. The community thinks whoever is behind these actions should burn in hell, but if they were in Hassan's shoes, they might find themselves making the same choices. Life presented opportunities to those who were around him, but they stumbled, unaware of the consequences awaiting them. Hassan embodies kindness and intelligence, and his inner thoughts have a lot of humor. He studies everyone by observing them, yet remains a mystery to everyone else. This story delves into losing guidance at such a young age, growing up fast, facing tough choices, and finding his own way to make things right. The show promises to keep viewers on the edge of their seats, pondering Hassan's motivations, methods, and mistakes. It tackles themes often overlooked in Saudi culture—bullying, harassment, racism, and the crucial experiences within boys' schools that were and still are building children's personalities. Exploring an era before the distractions of social media and the modern influences on young personalities that we witness today. Set in 1980s Mecca, a time of dynamic change and diversity, it also examines the religious extremism swirling around Hassan. Communication proves a challenge for him due to his introverted nature, leading him to improvise his own path in life. I hope that viewers will find elements of Hassan's journey relatable and that his actions might provide a sense of release. By blending harsh reality with dark comedy, I aim to shed light on the profound responsibility of raising a child. Namnam is not just entertainment; it's an opportunity for reflection for both viewers and educators alike.

OUR SON IS PRETTIER



Genre(s)

Comedy

Created by

Hanaa Saleh Alfassi

Logline

After the golden child flushes all of the family money down the toilet on a bad investment, an old-school family is desperate to gain back their riches amidst the new, progressive changes in Saudi and their son's opportunistic engagement to a social media influencer that clashes with their values. Their world turns upside down and All. Hell. Breaks. Loose.

Description

This half-hour comedy started around 2018, right before women were allowed to drive in Saudi Arabia. We're calling it "Waladna Ahla" [Our Son is Prettier] because our patriarch and matriarch cannot see their eldest son in any other way. It's a famous expression used to boast that their child is better, smarter, and prettier than everyone else. While the truth is, he's none of that. This is a comedy of manners where the family is unified by an unhealthy love, but also quick-witted humor, and oddball characters that exhibit occasional self-awareness. After Hmoud flushes all of the family money down the toilet on a bad investment in an NFT project, his conservative family is desperate to gain back their riches. After failing at making money from his magic gigs and in an attempt to redeem himself, he surprises them with an engagement to Sarah, a liberal Saudi social media influencer totally out of his league with whom he fell in love while abroad, and a plan to convince her to help them monetarily. Cha-ching! Hmoud's smooth talking and empty promises win Sarah over and following a whirlwind proposal and wedding, she finds herself stuck with Hmoud and his family, who soon begin to gradually become disparaging in their treatment of her. She feels trapped in spite of the new laws that are being passed in the interest of women. She finally resolves to leave for good, but oops! She goes into labor and gives birth surrounded by Hmoud's family.

Statement

As third-culture kids who lived all over the MENA region, we quickly learned to hide our true selves to fit in with family, friends, and society at large. We all feel the pressure to conform, pretending to be someone we're not. We're the generation that survived the '90s, navigating religious restrictions and cultural norms like pros. We often self-censor to avoid backlash. But deep down, we yearn for authenticity, freedom, and self-expression. While Saudi society is evolving rapidly, people are still catching up with the changes, and while some of us will dare to become who we truly are, some will always want to keep the title of "Our Son is Prettier."

THE BANDIT



Genre(s)

Drama, Thriller

Created by

Aziz Madhi

Logline

Set in 1930 Saudi Arabia, Omar is torn between loyalty to his father's bandit gang and his own moral integrity, as they target a struggling village in search of oil rumored to be underneath its ground.

Description

The Bandit is an epic drama that delves into the legacy, loyalty, and fraught relationship between a son and his father. The series follows Omar, a 35-year-old man hardened by a life of nomadic banditry and living under the iron-fisted rule of his father, Abdullah (65). A childhood lesson, «We only kill traitors,» haunts Omar as he faces a life-altering moment: the birth of his first child with his wife, Mariam (28). Now wrestling with newfound responsibilities as a father, Omar finds his world upended when Abdullah abruptly relocates their bandit clan to a remote, drought-stricken village. Before he can even unpack his reservations, he's blindsided by a confrontation with Mariam, who challenges the morality of their lifestyle and the future they're setting up for their child. Ignoring both his gut feeling that something's off and Mariam's plea, Omar remains conflicted but loyal to his father. The stakes dramatically escalate when Abdullah unveils his audacious plan—he believes that oil lies beneath the village and is hell-bent on searching for it, regardless of the cost. This mission takes a sinister turn when the village leader is found dead under suspicious circumstances. Realizing his father has crossed a moral line he can't ignore, Omar stands at an excruciating crossroads: follow his father to a point of no return, or defy the life he's always known to help the village. Each episode intensifies the escalating conflict, setting up Omar for a seismic collision not just with his father, but a world ravenous for the untapped «black gold» beneath the village soil.



Statement

In a fast-changing world, «The Bandit» serves as a poignant exploration of the shifting values between generations—a narrative tension I've personally experienced as the youngest of nine in a traditional Saudi family. Set against the rarely depicted backdrop of 1930s Saudi Arabia, this story transcends time and geography to delve deep into the labyrinth of complex family relationships and the moral conundrums that accompany them. It grapples with the struggle to reconcile old-world traditions with new-world challenges, a tension that is as relevant today as it was nearly a century ago. This story is so expansive and so universal that only the canvas of television can truly do it justice, allowing it the room it needs to unfold, breathe, and ultimately resonate with audiences worldwide.

THE RUNAWAY



Genre(s)

Dramedy

Created by

Abeer Amer

Logline

After escaping her wedding, Rawan seizes her newfound freedom to completely transform her life in a journey of self-discovery.

Description

«The Runaway» is a female-driven series that follows Rawan, a young, privileged Saudi woman determined to seize control of her life in a changing society. It all begins on her wedding day when she realizes her mother has been making all her life decisions for her. Fueled by this revelation, we witness her impulsive decision to break free from a life mapped out for her. Rawan escapes her wedding and heads to Riyadh with the help of her best friend, Sara, embarking on a journey of self-discovery. Throughout the series, Rawan's quest for self-discovery leads her into uncharted territory, where she encounters chaos and uncertainty. She ventures into new experiences, often for the first time, and grapples with life-altering decisions. Her struggles and triumphs become central themes, showcasing her transformation from a timid bride into a resilient and empowered woman. Set in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the series explores the clash between tradition and modernity. Rawan's escape forces her to confront her desires and fears, with Sara remaining her loyal companion. Rawan also reunites with Fareeda, her former nanny who now runs a bakery. She encounters various people who push her toward personal growth. What makes Rawan's character unique is her unwavering determination. We witness Rawan evolve from a shy, sheltered woman into a confident individual in control of her life. Each episode takes viewers on a rollercoaster ride, blending humor and touching moments as we follow Rawan's transformative story, caught between the comforts of her privileged upbringing and her burning desire for independence and self-discovery. «The Runaway» addresses universal themes like individuality, societal

pressures, and the pursuit of empowerment. This series tackles the challenges faced by Saudi women in a changing world, making it relatable and relevant. Rawan's story serves as a powerful reminder that anyone can dare to chase their dreams and define their path.



Statement

«The Runaway» is a project born out of my unwavering belief in the power of storytelling to shed light on important societal issues and spark meaningful conversations. As a writer, I've always sought narratives that not only entertain but also challenge perceptions and resonate with the times we live in. What inspired me to write «The Runaway» is the fascinating shift occurring in Saudi society, particularly among young women. This generation is rewriting the script of their lives, navigating a delicate balance between tradition and the pursuit of individual freedom and self-discovery. The courage and determination exhibited by these women inspired me to delve into their stories. As Saudi Arabia undergoes profound social and cultural changes, the world's eyes are turning toward this nation, hungry for stories that capture the essence of this transformation. It's a pivotal moment in history, where questions of gender roles, societal expectations, and individual empowerment are at the forefront of global discussions. Television, with its vast reach and immersive storytelling capabilities, is the perfect medium to bring these narratives to life. It allows us to explore the complexities of characters like Rawan—our protagonist—in depth, delving into their struggles, triumphs, and personal growth. Through television, we can provide audiences with an intimate and relatable window into the lives of these young Saudi women. «The Runaway» deserves to be a TV show because it speaks to universal themes of courage, self-discovery, and the human desire for freedom. It's a story that transcends borders, cultures, and backgrounds, inviting viewers from all walks of life to empathize with and learn from Rawan's journey. It's a narrative that can bridge gaps, challenge stereotypes, and encourage meaningful dialogue.

The Lodge ●

The Lodge residency program, in collaboration with TorinoFilmLab, has chosen 12 Saudi, Arab, and African feature film projects to participate in the intensive ten-month program. Each project comprises of a writer, a director, and a producer. The Lodge offers these selected individuals the invaluable opportunity to collaborate with top-notch instructors who will guide them in developing their films and realizing their creative visions. This program not only focuses on script development but also includes a producer coaching program that covers various aspects of professional growth, production, financing, sales, and marketing.

Participants also have the chance to collaborate with experienced filmmakers and industry professionals from around the world in areas such as directing, cinematography, editing, sound, post-production, and sales. The Lodge this year took place in Alula, Dammam, Torino, and is concluding in Jeddah.

After the development phase and meetings with industry professionals, four projects will be awarded the prestigious Lodge Production award, which includes a grant of 50,000 USD, and all selected projects will have the opportunity to premiere their films at the Red Sea International Film Festival.

THE ARTISTS

My Father Killed Bourguiba



**Director and
Writer**

Fatma Riahi



Co-writer

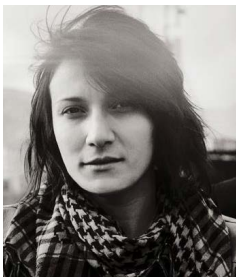
Louai Haffar



Producer

Sara Ben Hassan

Temporary Lives



**Director and
Writer**

Wessam Hachicho



Producer

Amélie Quéret

The Sun Sees Everything



**Director and
Writer**

Wissam Tanios



Producer

Christian Eid

An Endless Night



**Director and
Writer**

Mohamed Kassaby



Producer

Mohamed Kateb

The Girl And The Missing Bed



**Director and
Writer**

Samer Battikhi



Producer

Fatma Racha Shehadeh

Black Snake



**Director and
Writer**

Naishe Nyamubaya



Producer

Sue-Ellen Chitunya

THE ARTISTS

Fantastic Tale



**Director and
Writer**

Vincho Nchogu



Producer

Josh Olaoluwa

Mecca, Berlin



**Director and
Writer**

Mujtaba Saeed



Co-Writer

Ghaith Al Mhitawi



Producer

Nadia Eliewat

By Hasnaa's Side



**Director and
Writer**

Amaal Youssif



Producer

Ghaidaa Abuazzah

In The Beginning, It Is The End



**Director and
Writer**

Ghadeer Binabbas



Producer

Ahmed Alerwi

The Night Whisperer



**Director and
Writer**

Lina Mahmoud



Producer

Chris Hanada

The Middle One



**Director and
Writer**

Sarah Almuneef



Producer

Séverine Tibi

Music For Film ●

The Music For Film Lab is designed to train composers in the art and craft of film scoring. Our primary objective is to equip participants with a deep understanding of the unique aspects, diverse vocabulary, technological tools, and the layers of skillsets that the modern film composer needs to possess in order to create and deliver an original score of the industry's highest standards.

By mastering these skills, composers will gain the necessary expertise to create and deliver original scores that meet the industry's highest standards. Throughout the program, we strive to enhance composers' craftsmanship by fostering a heightened appreciation for scoring drama, nurturing their storytelling instincts, and encouraging the infusion of their own distinctive musical idioms and characters.

In addition, we aim to establish a strong connection with local filmmakers in the industry, raising awareness about the art of film scoring and underscoring its vital role in the stories they produce and direct.

THE ARTISTS



**Noman
Al-Thahab**



**Amer Emad
Hafiz**



**Hassan
Alabdullah**



**Loay Rami
Al Haidari**



**Abdulaziz
Mohammad
Jan**



**Osman
Alkhwaiter**



**Abdalla
Jastaniah**

SHORT FILM KLINIK ●

The ShortFilmklinik in partnership with the Goethe Film Institute, was a collaborative program involving 12 selected filmmakers from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Germany. The program kicked off with the first workshop, which took place during the second edition of the Red Sea International Film Festival. Following this, a second workshop was held in Germany, coinciding with the Berlinale Film Festival. The program concluded with a final development and pitching workshop, where the 12 writers had the opportunity to pitch their projects to a jury panel, and three projects were awarded.

THE ARTISTS



**Bashayer
Abdulaziz**

Ascending



**Mohamed
Kateb**

Shawky



**Kamna
Mohan**

Empty Nesters



**Aziz
Mahdi**

Kicking the Air



**Zorana
Mušikić**

Lifescore



**Ghaith
Al-Adwan**

Men Do Cry



**Ruchi
Undevia**

Don't Shake Me



**Maha
Hani**

Yasmin



**Tala
Alotaib**

Once Upon a Time in a
Gas Station



**Hind
Anabtawi**

As the Snow Melts



**Jamie
Jorge**

Doll

CANNES MAKERS●

The Cannes Makers program in partnership with Marché du film, invites participants to discover the different professions within the global film market that help bring a film from script to screen, while also addressing the issues impacting the industry today, such as diversity, inclusion, representation, and sustainability.

Through this new mentoring program, our aim is to shape the new generation of film industry leaders by fostering collaboration across borders, connecting our participants with key industry experts and nurturing their drive to thrive!

The three-day program took place on the sidelines of the Cannes Film Festival and will resume during the third edition of the Red Sea International Film Festival.

THE ARTISTS



**Shahad
Abonmai**

Saudi Arabia



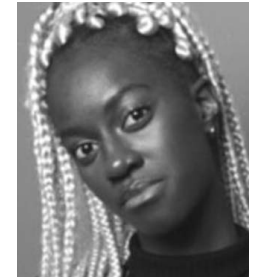
**Raghad
Bajbaa**

Saudi Arabia



**Clemens
Mayer**

Germany



Noa Nwande

France



**Marwan
Elshafie**

Saudi Arabia



**Eyva Cibrelis-
octaville**

France



**Mamoun
Scally**

Morocco



**Errika
Zacharopou-
lou**

Greece



**Angel
Lama**

Nepal



**Darya
Levchenko**

Ukraine



**Alphonse
Morain**

France

THE LABS TEAM ●



**Hania
Bakhshwain**

Labs Officer



**Mansoura
Mansour**

Labs Communication
Manager



**Dur
Jamjoum**

Labs Submission Officer



**Diala
Gouth**

Labs Associate

**that's a
WRAP.**