

**Launch of the 9th edition of The Malta Short Film Festival
and Malta Film Expo**

Radisson Blu Resort, St Julians

28th June, 2017

The 9th edition of the Malta Short Film Festival was launched today by Hon. Dr Owen Bonnici, Minister for Justice, Culture and Local Government.

The festival will be broadcast from the 5th of July till the end of September every Thursday after the 8pm news bulletin on TVM and repeated the following Monday at the same time on TVM2. This cultural programme is a platform for local and international filmmakers but also stimulates discussion about media literacy amongst the general public. The festival was the recipient of the Best Cultural Programme of the Malta Television Awards in 2009 after its first broadcast. Since then the festival has gone from strength to strength due to the concept, quality of programme in content and technically, and the constant support of the festival partners. This year the festival has received the EFFE label for the second time, an honour to distinguish excellence in festivals across Europe.

The unique format of the festival will remain that the films will shown, discussed by the resident judges and there will be both local and international public voting. The festival will be screening 29 films from 14 countries. There will be 4 films from Malta and 2 from Maltese directors residing in different countries. Genres will vary from fiction, comedy, animation, romantic films, documentary, horror, thriller and fantasy.

The judges will be Prof Rev Saviour Chircop, former Dean of the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences at the University of Malta; Mr Charles Stroud, veteran television drama director, Mr Tony Cassar Darien, Artistic Director for the Mediterranean Conference Centre; and Joyce Grech, seasoned cultural journalist and festival producer.

Each programme will be streamed live on www.tvm.com.mt while it is being aired on television and will then be uploaded to the festival website the following day.

The festival will span over 13 programmes with the final ceremony filmed at the grandeur venue of the Ballroom at the Radisson Blu Resort, St Julians.

For the third consecutive year, the Festival will be awarding the Rising star award, in collaboration with the Matthew Martino Benevolent Fund from the UK. The prize consists of a cash prize and an opportunity for film set experience in the UK. The award is given to a

filmmaker who has a promising career. Last year this award was given to brothers Nicholas and Mark Caruana.

Through our collaboration with Hands On Malta, School of Filmmaking, the Festival offers free training courses in specialised areas of filmmaking.

The festival was conceived by its director, Mr Tony Parnis, whose career as a film and TV director spans over 40 years. He has also been active as judge in film festivals both locally and abroad for many years.

Full profiles available on www.maltashortfilmfest.com in The Team Section.

The festival main supporters are Arts Council Malta through the Cultural Partnership Agreement, Radisson Blu Resort and TVM.

The festival is also supported by : Creative Europe, Sports Experience, The Resin and Membrane Centre, Deborah Milano, TEC Furniture, Camilleri wines, Maxell.

Official selection Malta Short Film Festival 2017

These are the films in the official selection for the year 2017, in alphabetical order and not according to merit.

Name	Country
Agata	Italy
Albedo Absolute	USA
Alicia	Malta
Ambivalent	Malta
Antoine	Luxembourg
A whole world for a little world	France
Black Cat	Australia
Common denominator	France
Dasha the Fool	Russia
Diversion	UK
Entrapment	Spain
Everyday	France
Hotel Eden	Spain
Magic Mouse	USA
Martina oh Martina	Spain
Pebbles	Ireland
Rabbit Blood	Australia
Room service	Spain
Silence	Netherlands
Sleepover	Spain

Son	Luxembourg
The bagpiper	UK
The guy who came on horseback	Iran
The last grain	Malta
The Musician	Spain
The Pinnacle of Excellence	Malta
The story of 90 coins	China
Zapp Galura	Austria
Ziemel	Malta

Malta Film Expo

The Malta Film Expo is building upon the Malta Film Foundation primary goal to facilitate the distribution of knowledge and information on the filmmaking world and increase film appreciation amongst the general public.

The indigenous film industry is growing immensely due to collective efforts from the public and private sectors. The Malta Film Expo will support the ongoing efforts by public to give more visibility to the local film industry, networking opportunities and also to international filmmakers wanting to promote their work in Malta.

The Expo will take place in the first weekend in September 2017. Activities will include the

- Continuous showing of prize winning short films from various festivals together with some of the locally produced features. These will be held together with Q&A sessions and intro talks by the film makers themselves.
- A film memorabilia exhibition showing costumes, props, designs, part sets and models from major films shot in Malta. Unique Film posters, stills, scripts, autographed photographs of stars, will also be displayed.
- Talks by keynote renowned speakers and discussions on various topics will be held. Select guests and general public are invited to voice their say on hot issues. Funding, facilities, logistics and legal aspects are just a few.

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