



TERMS & CONDITIONS

SHORT FILMS

ARTICLE 1

The Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival aims to reveal and promote relevant and/or innovative films, from both a thematic and aesthetic point of view. The NIFFF wishes, through its Swiss, International and Asian competitions, to showcase the creation of fantastic shorts in Switzerland.

ARTICLE 2

The NIFFF features the following competitive sections:

- Swiss Shorts
- International Shorts
- Asian Shorts

And the non-competitive section:

- Amazing schools

ARTICLE 3

The programming board selects and invites the films to be screened in the Swiss Shorts section.

Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected and invited:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.

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2. To be qualified as a Swiss production or co-production, the film should meet at least one of the following criteria:
3. To mainly be supported by a Swiss institution or organization promoting cinema in Switzerland;
4. To mainly be produced by a Swiss-based production company or producer;
5. To be directed by a Swiss director or a foreign director trained in a Swiss cinema school. The projection format must be DCP.
6. Running time must be no more than 25 minutes.
7. All films must be in original version with French and/or English subtitles.
8. All films must qualify as European Productions as defined by the European Fantastic Film Festivals Federation in its regulations, available at the following address: www.melies.org
9. All films must fulfill the festival's aims as defined in Article 1.

ARTICLE 4

The programming board selects and invites the films to be screened in the International Shorts section. Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected and invited:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.
2. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres.
3. The projection format must be DCP.
4. Running time must be no more than 25 minutes.
5. All films must be in original version with French and/or English subtitles.
6. Films must fulfill the festival's aims as defined in article 1.

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ARTICLE 5

The programming board selects and invites the films to be screened in the Asian Shorts section.

Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected and invited:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.
2. All films must be screened as Swiss Premieres.
3. The projection format must be DCP.
4. Running time must be no more than 25 minutes.
5. Come from one of the Asian countries considered by the NIFFF for its Asian shorts' programme. These countries are: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Brunei, Cambodia, China (Hong Kong, Macau, People's Republic of China), South and North Korea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Tibet and Vietnam.
6. All films must be in original version with French and/or English subtitles.
7. Films must fulfill the festival's aims as defined in Article 1.

ARTICLE 6

The programming board selects and invites the films to be screened in the Amazing schools section. Special dispensation notwithstanding, only films meeting the following criteria will be selected and invited:

1. All films must have been completed in the 18 months preceding the festival.
2. The film should meet at least one of the following criteria:
3. To mainly be supported or produced by a Swiss-based cinema school;
4. To be directed by a Swiss director or a foreign director trained in a Swiss cinema school.
5. The projection format must be DCP.

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6. Running time must be no more than 25 minutes.
7. All films must be in original version with French and/or English subtitles.
8. Films must fulfill the festival's aims as defined in article 1.

ARTICLE 7

All films sent for preselection must be registered online by filling in the entry form. The entry fee is set to CHF 20.-, except for the Amazing schools section (school films). Registration is only considered completed once the fee has been received by the Festival.

The Festival reserves the right to disqualify any submission that does not meet eligibility criteria mentioned in these Regulations, without refunding registration fees.

ARTICLE 8

The film can be sent via online screener (Vimeo, private YouTube) or download platforms (WeTransfer, Dropbox).

Complementary documentation such as press kit or production information can be sent by e-mail (shorts@niff.ch).

The final deadline to submit films is: April 18th, 2025

ARTICLE 9

Insurance and transport costs for sending copies are to be covered by the owner, the return is at the NIFFF's expense. Copies of films must reach the festival office no later than June 13th, 2025.

ARTICLE 10

The NIFFF will cover insurance costs for the storage and use of the prints on site at the festival.

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ARTICLE 11

Once a movie is selected by the NIFFF's Selection Committee, it can in no case be removed from the program.

ARTICLE 12

The jury is composed of a president and of a maximum of three figures from the world of Swiss Cinema or Culture. The Swiss Shorts Competition Jury must award:

- The HR Giger "Narcisse for the best Swiss Short Film" trophy as well as CHF 10,000 granted by SSA/SUISSIMAGE to the director of the film.
- The Silver Méliès Award for the best European Fantastic Short, a nomination to the Golden Méliès for the Best European Fantastic Short Competition organized in turn by the Méliès International Festivals Federation in each festival associated with the Federation.

ARTICLE 13

In addition, the following prize will be awarded:

- The Audience Award for best Short Film from any category (honorary).
- The Youth Award (a watch worth 500 CHF) for best Short Film from any category.

ARTICLE 14

All films selected will receive a participation certificate and will be asked to add in the festival's name and logo to their promotional material. Prize winners and distribution companies pledge to display the exact designation of the awards. In the event of the company or person responsible for the prize winner not complying with this clause, the NIFFF reserves the right not to release the amount allocated to the prize winner.

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ARTICLE 15

The Board of the «Association du Festival International du Film Fantastique de Neuchâtel» is entitled to solve all cases left aside by the afore-mentioned regulation.

ARTICLE 16

Participation in the festival implies the acceptance of these terms and conditions.