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Locarno Festival

2–12 | 8 | 2017

Rules and Regulations for participation

Preamble

Locarno Festival is recognized by the International Federation of Film Producers' Associations (FIAPF) as belonging to the category of "Competitive Festivals". The following Rules and Regulations are subject to the "Regulations for International Film Events" published by the FIAPF.

1. Organizers

Locarno Festival is organized by the Festival Association. Its principal subsidies are provided by the Swiss Federal Government, the Canton Ticino, the Tourist Offices and Municipal Authorities of the region. Additional financing is provided by other associations, organizations, institutions and private partners.

2. Festival dates

The 70th Locarno Festival will take place in Locarno from 2 to 12 August 2017.

3. Goals

Locarno Festival aims to promote personal filmmaking of artistic merit; to provide a showcase for major new films of the year from around the world; to take stock, in its competitive sections, of the new perspectives of filmmaking expression, concentrating especially on such new film directors and industries as command international attention.

4. Programs

The Festival is composed of several sections which accept films shot in any format.

- a) The Piazza Grande section offers as world, international or European premieres works intended for a mainstream audience but made by genuine auteur filmmakers, with original genre films and the best of recently made documentaries.
- b) The Concorso internazionale presents as world or international premieres a selection of fiction feature films, documentaries, or animated films over 60 minutes. This panorama of contemporary auteur cinema includes films by young talents alongside work by established filmmakers.
- c) The Concorso Cineasti del presente is reserved for first and second full-length features over 60 minutes. This section offers a selection of films as world or international premieres, ranging from documentary to fiction and including the most hybrid and up-to-date forms of cinematic creativity.
- d) Signs of Life presents as world or international premieres a competitive selection of works by well-established filmmakers, exploring new narrative forms and innovative film language.
- e) The Pardi di domani section is reserved for short and medium-length films not more than 40 minutes in length by young filmmakers who have not yet made feature-length films: student and graduation films, and the first cinematic ventures from new talents. This section is organized around two distinct competitions: one is reserved for Swiss filmmakers, while the other is open to work from all over the world. Both competitions present exclusively world or international premieres.
- f) The Fuori concorso selection offers recent work – feature films and shorts, film essays and documentaries – by well-established filmmakers as world or international premieres.
- g) Histoire(s) du cinéma is the sidebar dedicated to the history of cinema. It offers works from filmmakers and artists to whom the Festival dedicates special tributes. This section also presents newly restored prints of rare and important works in film history.
- h) The Retrospectiva – a historical or thematic program, or the complete works of a major filmmaker – is designed to make a contribution to the history of cinema or to enable the audience to (re)discover the body of work of an important auteur.
- i) Open Doors Screenings is a non-competitive section, focusing in 2017 on a selection of films from the cinematographic and cultural universe of Afghanistan, the Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The Open Doors initiative is organized with support from the Swiss Foreign Ministry's Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and will be exploring South Asia in 2016-2018. For more information and regulations: www.pardo.ch/opendoors
- j) Within the framework of the Festival two sections are independently organized:
 1. The Semaine de la critique, reserved for documentaries, is organized by the Swiss Film Journalists Association. www.semainedelacritique.ch
 2. Panorama Suisse presents a selection of Swiss films, chosen by a commission with representatives of the Solothurn Film Days, SWISS FILMS and the Swiss Film Academy. www.swissfilms.ch – www.journeesdesoleure.ch

5. Official prizes and juries

The Juries will be invited by the Artistic Director and the President. Persons directly associated with the production or exploitation of a film in competition may not serve as jurors.

a) Concorso internazionale

A Jury composed of five personalities from the world of cinema and culture will award the following prizes:

- the Pardo d'oro (Golden Leopard), Grand Prize of the City of Locarno (CHF 90,000 to be shared equally between the director and the producer) to the best film;
- the Premio speciale della giuria (Special Jury Prize) of the Municipalities of Ascona and Losone (CHF 30,000 to be shared equally between the director and the producer);
- the Pardo per la migliore regia (Leopard for Best Direction) of the City and Region of Locarno (CHF 20,000 to the director) for the best directed film;
- the Pardo for the Best Actress;
- the Pardo for the Best Actor.

The Jury may also award:

- a maximum of two special mentions, the nature of which will be clearly defined by the Jury.

The three first prizes may not be awarded ex aequo.

The film receiving the Pardo d'oro will not be eligible for other prizes.

b) Concorso Cineasti del presente

A Jury composed of five personalities from the world of cinema and culture will award the following prizes:

- the Pardo d'oro Cineasti del presente (CHF 40,000 to be shared equally between the director and the producer) to the best film;
- the Premio per il migliore regista emergente – Città e regione di Locarno (CHF 20,000 to the director) to the best emerging director;
- the Premio speciale della giuria Ciné+ Cineasti del presente (CHF 25,000 for broadcast rights, paid to the French distributor). This amount is conditional on the film obtaining a commercial theatrical release in France within a two year period from the screening of the film at the Festival.

These prizes may not be awarded ex aequo.

c) Signs of Life

A Jury composed of three personalities from the world of cinema, culture, journalism and film criticism will award the following prize:

- Signs of Life Award ELECTRONIC-ART.FOUNDATION to the best film (CHF 5,000 to the director)

This prize may not be awarded ex aequo.

d) Best First Feature Prizes to the director

A jury composed of three personalities from the world of cinema, culture, journalism and film criticism will award the following prizes to the best first features among the films screened in the Concorso internazionale, the Concorso Cineasti del presente, the Fuori concorso, Signs of Life or in the Piazza Grande section. First feature: first fiction, documentary, or animated film over 60 minutes in length. Films by directors who

have already had such a film theatrically released or shown at a film event will not be considered first features.

The Jury will award the following prizes:

- The Swatch First Feature Award (CHF 15,000 to be shared equally between the director and the producer);
- The Swatch Art Peace Hotel Award: A special mention which consists of a 3-6 months residency, including travel expenses, in the Swatch Art Peace Hotel in Shanghai (www.swatch-art-peace-hotel.com). Details will be indicated upon reception of the mention.

These prizes may not be awarded ex aequo.

e) Pardi di domani

A Jury composed of five personalities from the world of cinema and culture will award:

- Pardino d'oro for the best Swiss short film – Premio Swiss Life (CHF 10,000);
- Pardino d'oro for the best international short film – Premio SRG SSR (CHF 10,000);
- Pardino d'argento Swiss Life for the National competition Pardi di domani (CHF 5,000);
- Pardino d'argento SRG SSR for the International competition Pardi di domani (CHF 5,000);
- Locarno short film nominee for the European Film Awards – Premio Pianifica (CHF 2,000);
- Award for the best Swiss Newcomer;
- Premio Medien Patent Verwaltung AG.

These prizes may not be awarded ex-aequo and are conferred on the directors of the winning films.

f) The decisions of the official Juries are final.

g) A single copy of the Pardo statuette awarded for each main prize will be handed over respectively to the director or male or female lead actor of the winning film.

6. Entry conditions

a) Production of selected films must have been completed within the 12 (twelve) months preceding their Festival screening.

b) Films selected must not have been previously released outside their country of origin nor have been shown in any international film festival prior to their official presentation at the Locarno Festival. Films available on the Internet, broadcast on television or commercially released on DVD, Blu-Ray or any other format are not eligible. All Swiss productions and co-productions must be world premieres.

c) Works that are solely promotional, educational or scientific in character are not eligible for selection in the Festival.

A Selection Committee (with an advisory brief) made up of film experts will assist the Artistic Directorship in the scouting and selection of works for the Festival.

7. Submission of films for preselection

- a) Submission is subject to payment of a registration fee (including tax): for feature-length films (from 41 minutes) the fee is CHF 130, for short films (up to 40 minutes) CHF 50. Submission and payment must be carried out directly on the website www.pardo.ch. In case of cancellation of the submission, the registration fee will not be reimbursed.
- b) Once the online submission process has been completed, a link for the direct upload of the film will be sent.
- c) Any material sent to the Festival by mail must have following customs declaration: "Of no commercial value, for cultural purposes only". The participant is liable for all costs of transportation and customs clearance. The Festival management reserves the right to refuse any shipments entailing additional costs. Material sent to the Festival will not be returned.
- d) All films must be submitted in the original language with English subtitles. For preselection, English-language films do not require subtitles.
- e) The submission and participation of a film in the Festival imply acceptance of the Rules and Regulations for participation. In any unforeseen eventuality, the decision of the Festival Directorship is final. The Italian text of these Rules and Regulations is the authentic and binding version.

8. Closing date for submission

The submission and the upload of the film must be completed no later than **June 2, 2017**.

Incomplete or misleading Entry Forms or documentation will not be considered.

9. Selected films

- a) All selected works must be screened in their original language with English subtitles. English-language films must be subtitled in French. Films presented in the Piazza Grande must be screened in their original language and be subtitled in two languages. For films in 35mm, two prints must be supplied (in order to enable a double screening in case of rain), of which at least one must be subtitled in two languages.

- b) Each film participating in the Concorso internazionale should preferably be represented by the majority producer, the director of the film and a leading member of the cast. Each film participating in the Concorso Cineasti del presente should preferably be represented by its majority producer and its director. The Festival undertakes to provide accommodation for these representatives in accordance with its hospitality regulations.
- c) It is mandatory to provide the Festival with all the required documentation. This includes a file of the final version of the film in the original language with English subtitles for our archives and for internal consultation. The participant is liable for the costs of transportation and customs clearance of all material related to the selected film.
- d) All selected films will be shown in a Digital Library immediately after their first official screening in Locarno (unless otherwise agreed with the right holders) to accredited professionals.
- e) The producers and distributors of all films selected undertake to make mention in their publicity and advertising materials (posters, press-kits, trailers, website, etc.) of the selection of the film for the Locarno Festival, by featuring the official logo which will be supplied by the Festival. The logo must not under any circumstances be modified or altered without the prior permission of the Festival. Any publication featuring the logo must be approved by the Festival (marketing@pardo.ch).
- f) Each film in the competitive sections may have up to five public screenings during the Festival.

10. Prizewinners

- a) The producers and distributors and the buyers and sellers of rights to films awarded prizes undertake to make mention in their publicity and advertising materials (posters, press-kits, trailers, website, etc.) of the winning of a prize at the Locarno Festival. The official logos of the various prizes will be supplied by the Festival. The logo must not under any circumstances be modified or altered without the prior permission of the Festival. Any publication of a logo must be approved for press by the Festival (marketing@pardo.ch). The producers and distributors of prize-winning films also undertake to add to the start of all prints released for distribution the official prize logo, provided by the Festival.
- b) Prizewinners will be asked to supply a copy of their winning film for additional screenings (screenings of the award-winning films on the day after the end of the Festival and possibly screenings at the Festival's partner events, in Switzerland or in other countries, in the weeks following the Festival).

11. Shipment of screening copies of selected films

- a) Screening copies of films invited to the Festival must arrive in Locarno, or in case of DCP prints to our partner lab, by **11 July 2017**, after which date the presentation of a film at the Festival cannot be guaranteed. Exceptions to this deadline may be granted in writing by the Festival Management. Please be aware of the fact that for shipments to Switzerland, customs clearance may involve delays.
- b) 35mm, DCP prints and electronic supports (standard definition Beta Digital or Beta SP PAL), must be sent to the following addresses:
1. From Switzerland (including from foreign Embassies located in Switzerland):
Locarno Festival
Via Ciseri 23
6601 Locarno
 2. From countries outside Switzerland, via air mail or air freight:
Locarno Festival
IN TRANSIT c/o TNT
via Passeggiata 4
6883 Novazzano
Switzerland
- with the following customs declaration:
“Of no commercial value, for cultural purposes only”.
- Special instructions: goods must be delivered in transit.
- Important: for customs and Global Forwarding air freight offices worldwide require a proforma invoice. Title, format, language, subtitles, length, and the information whether the film is in color or black-and-white, must always be stated on the abovementioned document. For 35mm copies it is also necessary to indicate the number of reels and the length in meters of each film. At the same time, the sender must send notification of shipment by e-mail (printadmission@pardo.ch) to the Festival, indicating the film's title and the number of parcels, as well as the date of dispatch and forwarding information (Air Waybill/AWB number).
- c) Our Digital Cinema screenings are only on a server basis. All films must be shipped on a physical drive containing just the DCP (Digital Cinema Package) of the selected film, encoded following DCI or SMPTE standards. To assure the best handling of the DCP and the distribution of the KDMs of your film, it is imperative to ship the DCP to our partner lab for a quality check and to provide the D-KDM (Distribution Key): the partner lab will generate the KDMs for all playback servers in use at the Festival. D-KDMs must be open from the moment the DCP is shipped for quality check until 21 August. Further technical and logistical specifications will be available online during the submission process.
- d) The participant is liable for all costs of transportation and customs clearance for both outward and return shipment. If the return shipment of the selected films entails costs, these will be billed to the participant before the end of the year. The Festival reserves the right to refuse any shipments entailing additional costs.

- e) As far as possible, the Festival will respect the wishes of participants concerning return shipment of their films. The Festival accepts no liability for any forwarding errors that may result from a lack of instructions, or from erroneous information provided by the participant. As a rule, films will not be returned before the end of the Festival. Films will be returned to participants within the two weeks following the end of the Festival.
- f) Any claims or queries arising from the return of a film sent to the Festival must reach the Festival by e-mail (printadmission@pardo.ch) no later than three days after the film has been received: no claims can be dealt with after such time.

12. Insurance of prints

- a) Transportation of films to and from the Festival is entirely at the risk of the participant. All prints will be insured, from the moment of their arrival in Switzerland to the moment of their return shipment, against any loss or damage that may occur.
- b) The liability of the Festival is limited to reimbursement of the replacement costs of a new print, as per the prices declared by the producer. All other costs or liabilities are specifically excluded. Negatives will be treated as standard prints for insurance purposes.
- c) The Festival reserves the right to refuse to allow the participation of any film that fails to meet the technical requirements for a public screening of good quality.