

For detailed information on the Istanbul Film Festival: <http://film.iksv.org/en>

For high resolution images from the Istanbul Film Festival: www.iksvphoto.com

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ISTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL CELEBRATES 35TH EDITION

THE FESTIVAL TO KICK OFF ON 7 APRIL, WILL LEAVE ITS MARK ON THE CITY

Initiated by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (İKSV) as a film week in 1982, the Istanbul Film Festival has since become the most extensive film event in Turkey. The festival prepares to leave its mark on the city one more time this year as it celebrates its 35th edition, between 7 and 17 April, with the support of Akbank for the 12th time.

The Istanbul Film Festival presents a rich programme in its 35th edition as ever, ranging from the latest productions of world cinema to cult films, to the latest Turkish films and the classics, new discoveries, masterpieces, and hidden treasures. The festival hosts **187 feature films**, as well as **10 short** and **24 experimental** films, in **25 different categories** and in addition to the screening of a total of **221 films** by **223 directors** from **62 countries**, there will be **talks with guest filmmakers**, **panel discussions**, **concerts**, and other **special events**.

The press meeting of the 35th Istanbul Film Festival to be held on Monday night, 14 March at Soho House Istanbul was cancelled after the terrorist attack in Ankara. İKSV General Director Görgün Taner, Akbank CEO **Hakan Binbaşgil**, and Istanbul Film Festival Director **Kerem Ayan**, extended their deepest condolences to the families and friends of the victims and wished a quick recovery to those injured.

Görgün Taner emphasized that Istanbul Film Festival had been like a school of 35 years. He said: “*On its 35th year, Istanbul Film Festival continues to work towards the further development of the film industry, the art of cinema, and a festival culture in Turkey. It does so with its carefully designed programme, events, Meeting on the Bridge workshops, and prizes awarded at its competitions. This year, once again we believe that we prepared an intense, dynamic, and fulfilling festival. We wanted to continue the ‘school-like’ nature of our festival, which has been one of its trademarks since the beginning; we wanted to provide our audiences with new discoveries and new perspectives. We sincerely thank all our sponsors and supporters for their contribution towards the realisation of this festival. And we thank our audiences, for walking with us hand in hand for 35 years. I wish all of you a wonderful festival.*”

Akbank CEO **Hakan Binbaşgil** said on behalf of the 35th Istanbul Film Festival sponsor Akbank: “*Societies not only reach their desired goals through economic performance but also through their wealth in the fields of art and culture because art and culture is a society’s most important legacy for the future. As Akbank, we believe that preserving this local and global cultural legacy, sharing it with future generations, and standing beside art and artists are among our most important social responsibilities. We act upon this awareness and, for 12 years, have been a proud supporter of the Istanbul Film Festival, which has become one of the most important film festivals in the world. It has turned the eye of the world to Istanbul, introduced us to world cinema and spearheaded the development of our national cinema, provided Turkish cinephiles with the opportunity to watch outstanding examples of international film, and being the main sponsor of this festival brings us great pride. This year, Akbank Sanat will once again function as one of the festival’s important venues, hosting various panels and events, and serving as the festival’s press headquarters, as it does every year. Additionally, this year, Akbank Sanat will also be hosting film screenings for the first time, which, again, brings us great joy.*”

Cinema Honorary Awards

The Cinema Honorary Awards of the Istanbul Film Festival, bestowed on distinguished figures of Turkish cinema who have put their lives and hearts into cinema, will be presented to five artists this year: Yeşilçam’s “most beloved femme fatale” character, **Suzan Avcı**; one of Yeşilçam’s most prolific directors with over 200 films to his credit, **Ülkü Erakalın**; producer of numerous major features, including *Vurun Kahpeye* and *Vesikalı Yarım*, **Şeref Gür**; character actress **Perran Kutman** who has made generations of audiences laugh throughout her career spanning 50 years; actress and voice actress **Jeyan Ayrıl Tözüm** who has been the voices of some of the greatest Yeşilçam stars through her career of more than 60 years. The recipients will be presented their awards at the **Opening Ceremony of the 35th Istanbul Film Festival** at the **Haliç Congress Centre** on **Wednesday, 6 April**.

The festival will also be screening Atif Yılmaz's *Two Ships, Side by Side* featuring **Suzan Avcı**, **Ülkü Erakalın's Eyes Worth a Life**, and Kartal Tibet's *Gırgıriye* featuring **Perran Kutman**.

Competition Thrill Expands Across the Festival

The competition thrill in the 35th Istanbul Film Festival will kick off as soon as the festival starts. The winners of the National and International Golden Tulip, FACE Human Rights in Cinema, and first-time National Documentary and National Short Film competitions and the Audentia Award that will be given for the first time in the world at the 35th Istanbul Film Festival to draw attention to gender inequality will be announced at the **Award Ceremony** to be held at **Uniq Hall, Uniq Istanbul** on the night of **Friday, 15 April**.

INTERNATIONAL GOLDEN TULIP COMPETITION

In the **International Competition** section of the Istanbul Film Festival, **15 films** from **14 countries**, under the "New Perspectives in Cinema" theme will vie for the Golden Tulip.

The jury of the International Golden Tulip Competition, presided by **Pablo Trapero**, comprises actress **Melisa Sözen**, actor **Lior Ashkenazy**, video artist **Ali Kazma**, and producer **Ewa Puszczynska**.

The **International Competition Golden Tulip Award**, presented in memory of **Şakir Eczacıbaşı**, will be supported with a **25,000 Euro** monetary award given by the **Eczacıbaşı Group**. The director of the Best Film will be awarded with **10,000 Euro**, the distribution company of the film in Turkey will be awarded **10,000 Euro**, and the director of the film to receive the Special Jury Prize will be awarded **5,000 Euro**.

International Golden Tulip Competition films:

- *Sutak / Heavenly nomadic / Mirlan Abdykalykov / Kyrgyzstan*
- *Eva Doesn't Sleep / Pablo Agüero / Argentina*
- *Peace to Us in Our Dreams / Sharunas Bartas / Lithuania*
- *The Childhood of a Leader / Brady Corbet / England*
- *Kor / Ember / Zeki Demirkubuz / Turkey*
- *Les démons / The Demons / Philippe Lesage / Canada*
- *The End / Guillaume Nicloux / France*
- *Un monstruo de mil cabezas / A Monster With Thousand Heads / Rodrigo Pla / Mexico*
- *Jajda / Thirst / Svetla Tsotsorkova / Bulgaria*
- *Belgica / Felix Van Groeningen / Belgium*
- *Zjednoczone Stany Milosci / United States of Love / Tomasz Wasilewski / Poland*
- *Interruption / Yorgos Zois / Greece*
- *Ein atem / One Breath / Christian Zübert / Germany*
- *Rodinný film / Family Film / Olmo Omerzu / Czech Republic*
- *Auf Einmal / All of A Sudden / Aslı Özge / Germany*

HUMAN RIGHTS IN CINEMA: THE FILM AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE (FACE)

The **Film Award of the Council of Europe (FACE)** is being presented only at the Istanbul Film Festival for 10 years. The FACE Award supported by the **Council of Europe** and its coproduction fund **Eurimages** comprises **10,000 Euros monetary prize** and a **statuette**. The FACE Award Jury comprises author, actor and screenwriter **Ercan Kesal**, director **Jakob Brossmann**, European Film Fund Eurimages Deputy Executive Director **Isabel Castro**, and **Leyla Kayacık** who is the Senior Adviser at the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Deputy Secretary General on matters related to Human Rights and Supremacy of Law.

Human Rights in Cinema Competition films:

- *White People / Lisa Aschan / Sweden*
- *Wonderland / Michael Krummenacher, Jan Gassmann, Lisa Blatter, Gregor Frei, Benny Jaber, Carmen Jaquier, Jonas Meier, Tobias Nölle, Lionel Rupp, Mike Scheiwiller / Switzerland*
- *Mediterranea / Jonas Carpignano / Italy*
- *The Magic Mountain / Anca Damian / Romania*
- *Embrace of the Serpent / Ciro Guerra / Columbia*
- *Behemoth / Zhao Liang / China*
- *Interrogation / Vetri Maaran / India*
- *The Red Land / Diego Martínez Vignatti / Belgium*
- *3000 Nights / Mai Masri / Palestine*
- *Coastliners / Erdem Tepegöz, Barış Pirhasan, Alphan Eşeli, Melisa Önel, Ramin Matin*

NATIONAL GOLDEN TULIP COMPETITION

10 films that were completed in the 2015-16 season will be vying for the **Golden Tulip** in the **National Competition** of the festival, while raising the occasion to **three Turkey and four world premieres**. The **National Competition** Jury will be headed by actress **Müjde Ar**, with actor **Tansu Biçer**, actress **Niki Karimi**, director **Ben Hopkins**, journalist and writer **Murat Uyrkulak**, and distributor **Torsten Frehse** as its members.

Best Film in the **National Competition** selected by the jury will be awarded with the Golden Tulip and **150,000 TL**, and the **Best Director** will be awarded with Golden Tulip and **50,000 TL**. **Best Actress** and **Best Actor** will be awarded with **10,000 TL** each. The Istanbul Film Festival National Golden Tulip Competition Jury will also give the **Best Screenplay**, **Best Cinematography**, **Best Editing**, and **Best Music** awards. Producer of the film awarded with the **Special Jury Award** in memory of Onat Kutlar will be given **60,000 TL** by **Anadolu Efes**.

National Golden Tulip Competition films:

- *Tarla / The Field / Cemil Ağacıkoğlu*
- *Benim Kendi Hayatım / My Own Life / Adnan Akdağ*
- *Rüzgarın Hatıraları / Memories of the Wind / Özcan Alper*
- *Siyah Karga / Black Crow / Tayfur Aydın*
- *Kalandar Soğuğu / Cold of Kalandar / Mustafa Kara*
- *Rauf / Barış Kaya, Soner Caner*
- *Mavi Bisiklet / Blue Bicycle / Ümit Köreken*
- *Toz Bezi / Dust Cloth / Ahu Öztürk*
- *Ana Yurdu / Motherland / Senem Tüzen*
- *Rüzgarda Salınan Nilüfer / Swaying Waterlily / Seren Yüce*
- *Kasap Havası / Wedding Dance / Çiğdem Sezgin*

NATIONAL DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

The Istanbul Film Festival, will be awarding a **Best Documentary Award**, in order to support documentary filmmakers and documentary film production in Turkey, and **10,000 TL** with the support of **5. Kat Restaurant**. The National Documentary Competition jury consists of documentarians **Emel Çelebi**, **Güliz Sağlam**, and **Carlos Hagerman**. **7 world premieres** and **3 Turkey premieres** will be held within the Istanbul Film Festival National Documentary Competition.

National Documentary Competition films:

- *Hazır Ol! / Attention! / Onur Bakır & Panagiotis Charamis*
- *Rafet'in Çocukları / The Children of Rafet / Mümin Barış & Reşit Ballıkaya*
- *Başgan / Mr. President / Orhan Eskiköy*
- *Genç Pehlivanlar / Young Wrestlers / Mete Gümürhan*
- *Soluk / Sigh / Metin Kaya*
- *Koloni / Colony / Gürcan Keltek*
- *Beyaz Çınar / Çınara Sipi / White Sycamore / Kazım Öz*
- *Ötekiler / The Others / Ayşe Polat*
- *Sürgün Türküleri Yılmaz Güney / Ballad of Exiles Yılmaz Güney / İlker Savaşkurt*
- *Kayıp Zamanlar / Missing Times / Faysal Soysal*
- *Yok Devenin Pabucu: Bir Aşk Hikayesi / Holy Camel! : A True Love Story / Sibel Mary Şamlı*
- *Kara Atlas / Dark Atlas / Umut Vedat*

NATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION

On its 35th anniversary, the Istanbul Film Festival launches the **National Short Film Competition** with the intent of incentivizing short film making, supporting the development in this field, and bringing together the audience and short films of quality. The pre-selection board is composed of Head of Cannes Film Festival Short Film Corner **Alice Kharoubi**, director **Fatih Kızılgök**, and film critic **Serdar Kökçeoğlu**. The National Short Film Competition jury consists of director **Can Evrenol**, actress **Hazal Kaya**, and DokuFest director **Nita Deda**. The jury will select the **Best Short Film** which will be awarded 5,000 TL. **FIPRESCI** will also select a film to award the **FIPRESCI Prize**.

National Short Film Competition films:

- *Merkür / Mercury / Melis Balcı, Ege Okal*
- *Asfalt / Asphalt / Süleyman Demirel*
- *Salı / Ziya Demirel / Türkiye-Fransa*

- *Balık Havuzu / Fish Pond / Ezgi Kaplan*
- *Karadeniz / Black Sea / Ulaş Karaoğlu*
- *Tik Tak / Tick Tock / Zeynep Koçak*
- *Timur Hakkında / About Timur / Özgü Özbudak*
- *Cemil Şov / The Cemil Show / Barış Sarhan*
- *Orman / The Jungle / Onur Saylak, Doğu Akal*
- *Jamais Vu / Levent Türkan*

SEYFİ TEOMAN BEST DEBUT FILM AWARD

The Istanbul Film Festival presents the **Seyfi Teoman Best Debut Film Award** in memoriam director and producer Seyfi Teoman, who passed away in 2012. Director of the film awarded with the **Seyfi Teoman Best Debut Film Award** will be presented 30,000 TL by **CMYLMZ Fikirsanat**. **All the debut feature fiction films from Turkey** in the International Golden Tulip Competition, Human Rights in Cinema and the Turkish Cinema (National Golden Tulip Competition, “Out of Competition” and “New Turkish Cinema”) sections are eligible for the prize. **Seyfi Teoman Best Debut Film Award** jury consists of scriptwriter and director **Mahmut Fazıl Coşkun**, distributor **Ioanna Stais**, and actor **Ahmet Rifat Şungar**.

Films to compete for the Seyfi Teoman Best Debut Film Award:

- *Benim Kendi Hayatım / My Own Life / Adnan Akdağ*
- *Rauf / Barış Kaya, Soner Caner*
- *Mavi Bisiklet / Blue Bicycle / Ümit Köreken*
- *Toz Bezi / Dust Cloth / Ahu Öztürk*
- *Ana Yurdu / Motherland / Senem Tüzen*
- *Kasap Havası / Wedding Dance / Çiğdem Sezgin*
- *Kümes / The Coop / Ufuk Bayraktar*
- *Son Kuşlar / The Last Birds / Bedir Afşin*
- *Dolanma / Entanglement / Tunç Davut*
- *Çıracak / The Apprentice / Emre Konuk*
- *Kötü Kedi Şerafettin / Bad Cat / Mehmet Kurtuluş, Ayşe Ünal*
- *Yemekteydim ve Karar Verdim / We Were Dining and I Decided / Görkem Yeltan*
- *Anadolu Masalları / Anatolian Tales / Emin Fırat Övür*

AUDENTIA AWARD

With a view to drawing attention to gender inequality, the Council of Europe’s co-production fund, **Eurimages**, has introduced an annual award of 30,000 euros to be conferred on a woman director for her to use on her next project. The **Audentia Award** will be given **for the first time in the world at the 35th Istanbul Film Festival**, where the films of 15 women directors in the festival programme will be competing for the award. Named after the Latin word for courage and bravery, the “Audentia” award intends to give greater visibility to women directors in order to encourage other women to follow in their footsteps. The first Audentia jury consists of director **Yeşim Ustaoglu**, director **Angelos Frantzis** and **Sanja Ravlic**. The patroness for the first edition of the prize will be **Anna Serner** (CEO of the Swedish Film Institute), who was chosen for her outstanding courage and commitment to advancing the cause of gender equality in the film industry.

Films to compete for the Audentia Award:

- *White People / Lisa Aschan*
- *As I Open My Eyes / Leyla Bouzid*
- *The Magic Mountain / Anca Damian*
- *Evolution / Lucile Hadzihalilovic*
- *Mountain / Yaelle Kayam*
- *Wild / Nicolette Krebitz*
- *3000 Nights / Mai Masri*
- *Song of Songs / Eva Neymann*
- *Ansızın / All of A Sudden / Aslı Özge*
- *Toz Bezi / Dust Cloth / Ahu Öztürk*
- *Kasap Havası / Wedding Dance / Çiğdem Sezgin*
- *Chevalier / Athina Rachel Tsangari*
- *Thirst / Svetla Tsotsorkova*
- *Ana Yurdu / Motherland / Senem Tüzen*
- *Yemekteydim ve Karar Verdim / We Were Dining and I Decided / Görkem Yeltan*

FIPRESCI AWARD

The **International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI)** will give the FIPRESCI Award to one film from the **International Competition**, one film from the **National Competition**, and one film from the **National Short Film Competition**. The **FIPRESCI jury** will be headed by **Chris Fujiwara** from USA, and will have **Harri Römpötti** from Finland, **Patrizia Pistagnesi** from Italy, **Viera Langerova** from Slovakia, **Senem Erdine** and **Ali Deniz Şensöz** from Turkey.

cineuropa.org AWARD

Cineuropa.org Award, will be presented to a film that besides having indisputable artistic qualities also brings out the idea of dialogue and integration. **cineuropa.org Award** will be presented to a film in the **National Golden Tulip Competition** section of the 35th Istanbul Film Festival and selected by film critic **Vladan Petkovic**.

10 Movie Theatres Host Festival Films

A supporter of independent movie theatres since its inception, the 35th Istanbul Film Festival will be hosted at **ten cinemas: Atlas, Beyoğlu, and Fitaş** (two halls) movie theatres, as well as **Akbank Sanat** and **Istituto Italiano di Cultura** in the Beyoğlu region, **Feriye** movie theatre in Ortaköy, **Rexx** movie theatre (two halls) in Kadıköy, and the **Istanbul Modern Cinema** in Tophane. The screenings will be at **11:00, 13:30, 16:00, 19:00** and **21:30**, with traditional **midnight** sessions at **24:00** on Fridays and Saturdays, at the Atlas and Rexx movie theatres.

Festival Spreads out across Istanbul This Year

The Istanbul Film Festival screenings spread out on both sides of the city this year. On 16 and 17 April, which is the final weekend of the festival, a special selection of films will be screened at the **Hoca Ahmet Yesevi Cultural Centre** in Sultangazi and the **Türkan Saylan Cultural Centre** in Maltepe.

New Sections in the Festival

The Istanbul Film Festival continues its much loved, classic sections such as the **Akbank Galas, Challenging the Years, From the World of Festivals, Young Masters, Documentary Time with NTV, Mined Zone, Antidepressant, Kids' Menu**, and **Midnight Madness** in its 35th edition, with the addition of sections special to this year.

- **Musicians:** The festival offers a brand new section this year for those who nurture their souls with music. **8 films** that tell the stories of people who have made music an inseparable part of their lives will meet the audience in the **Musicians** section.
- **Hidden Gems:** One of the festival's new sections to make much impact is the **Hidden Gems**, which will unearth films that are little-known in cinema history, that were banned, lost, left unscreened for years, or that did not receive the acknowledgement they deserve. Curated by **Alkan Avcioğlu**, this section will debut **4 films**, which were either discovered late or were restored.
- **In Pursuit of Light: American Avantgarde Cinema of the 70s:** With a view to opening a well-deserved space for experimental cinema, the Istanbul Film Festival goes back to the beginnings of this special genre and gathers the pioneering figures of the American avant-garde cinema from its prime in the 70s. In this section curated by **Burak Çevik**, films by such masters as **Stan Brakhage, Michael Snow, Robert Breer, Hollis Frampton, Jonas Mekas, Stan VanDerBeek** and **Yvone Rainer** will make their Turkey premiere screened in their **original** 16mm format at the Istanbul Modern Cinema.
- **Otto Preminger: Anatomy of a Director:** The Istanbul Film Festival pays tribute to one of the most authentic, most independent, and most creative directors of all times, **Otto Preminger**, on the 30th anniversary of his death. A special selection of his 10 outstanding films will give cinephiles the perfect opportunity to get to know Otto Preminger better and watch his films on the big screen even after so many years. Father of "film noir", called "Otto the Terrible" among other nicknames, he was always the one to push the limits, raise discussions, and to address taboos in his films. The master graphic designer **Yurdaer Altıntaş**, who has prepared the posters for many of the Istanbul Film Festival's sections and events in earlier editions, has designed a special poster for this section.

Festival's Stellar Section: Akbank Galas

Istanbul Film Festival's popular section "**Akbank Galas**" will host the Turkey premieres of 10 most anticipated films by great directors and star actors. This year, the **Akbank Galas** section features a wide array of interesting, award-winning, and striking productions, including the **Coen Brothers' Hail, Caesar!**, which was the opening film of the Berlin Film Festival, Argentine director and president of the International Golden Tulip Competition Jury **Pablo**

Trapero's *The Clan*, which broke all box-office records in its native country, and French master filmmaker **Claude Lelouch's** *Un + une*. Among the section's other films are Oscar-nominee *Brooklyn*; *Truman*, a tale of friendship that debuted at Toronto, *The Lady in the Van*, starring master actress **Maggie Smith**, and **Ben Wheatley's** J.G. Ballard adaptation *High-Rise*. The festival's opening film will be **Jeff Nichols'** science-fiction *Midnight Special*, also in the Akbank Galas line-up.

A Masterpiece of Turkish Cinema, Zeki Ökten's The Herd is on the Silver Screen Again After 38 Years

With the collaboration of **Groupama**, the Istanbul Film Festival has been running the project **Turkish Classics Revisited** for nine years now, renovating the significant works of the Turkish cinema and reintroducing them to modern viewers. This year sees the renovation of *Sürü / The Herd* (1978), written by Yılmaz Güney and directed by **Zeki Ökten** and starring **Tarık Akan**, **Melike Demirağ** and **Tuncel Kurtiz**. The film, renovated by **Atlas Post Production**, will meet the audiences 38 years after its production in 2016, which coincides with the 80th birthday of Tuncel Kurtiz.

The Festival Does Not Forget Children

The 35th Istanbul Film Festival screens two French films for its young followers this year in a section entitled, "Kids' Menu": **Simon Roubly's** animation film *Adama*, which was nominated for the European Film Academy's European Film Awards, and the laughter-filled *Sophie's Misfortunes*, adapted from Comtesse de Segur's book from the 1850s.

Festival Guests

The Istanbul Film Festival continues to host many guest filmmakers, actors and film professionals together with the festival audience. The actors and directors whose films will introduce their films before the screenings and hold Q&A sessions after. The festival guests include:

- The President of the Jury for the Golden Tulip International Competition **Pablo Trapero**, whose film *El Clan* will be screened in the Akbank Galas section, and his actress wife **Martina Gusman**;
- The Greek popstar **Sakis Rouvas**, who stars in the film *Chevalier*;
- **Leyla Bouzid**, the director, and the Tunisian singer **Ghalia Benali**, one of the actresses, of the film *As I Open My Eyes*, to be shown in the Musicians section;
- **Felix van Groeningen**, the director of *Belgica*, which won the Best Director Award at Sundance;
- **Ciro Guerra**, the director of Colombia's first ever Oscar-nominated film, *Embrace of the Serpent*;
- **Lucille Hadzihalilovic**, recipient of the festival's Radikal People's Choice Award and the FIPRESCI Award for the International Competition section 10 years ago;
- **Anca Damian**, who won the Jury Special Award for her animation documentary *Crulic* in the 2012 FACE Human Rights in Cinema Competition and whose latest film *The Magic Mountain* will be screened at this year's festival;
- **Gianfranco Rosi**, director of *Fire at Sea*, the recipient of Berlin Film Festival's grand prize, the Golden Bear;
- Director **Mai Masri**, whose film *3000 Nights* deals with the lives of Palestinian women under occupation.

Talks, Panel Discussions and Master Classes in the Festival

The 35th Istanbul Film Festival offers an intense schedule not only for its film programme, but also with its talks, panel discussions, and master classes.

The Golden Tulip National Competition's President of the Jury, actress **Müjde Ar** will meet film lovers in a talk session, while the Golden Tulip International Competition's President of the Jury, director **Pablo Trapero** will give a master class. Curator of the festival's special section **In Pursuit of Light: American Avantgarde Cinema of the 70s**, **Burak Çevik** and director **Herb Shellenberger** will hold a panel discussion on experimental cinema. In parallel to this year's special retrospective section **Otto Preminger: Anatomy of a Director**, film critic **Nil Kural** and former director of the Edinburgh Film Festival **Chris Fujiwara** will hold a panel discussion on the cinema of the legendary director. Furthermore, documentarians **Emel Çelebi** and **Güliz Sağlam** will hold a panel discussion on documentary-making in Turkey, and video artist **Ali Kazma** on video art. You can follow the up-to-date information on the festival events on film.iksv.org and on our social media accounts.

Concerts and Parties at the Festival

Mdou Moctar, star of the Nigerien film *Color of Blue With a Little Red in It*, which features audio-visually captivating music performances, will give a concert within the scope of the festival at **Salon İKSV** on **Saturday night, 9 April**. Guitarist, singer, and composer Mdou Moctar has won worldwide recognition for his experimental approach to traditional Tuareg music.

Tunisian singer **Ghalia Benali**, who impresses with her acting in the role of mother in *As I Open My Eyes*, will also give a concert within the scope of the festival. Acclaimed as one of the most amazing voices of the Arab world, **Ghalia Benali** blends Arabic folk tunes and traditional jazz forms with modern chillout and classic Indian music. She will be at the **Salon İKSV** on **Tuesday night, 12 April**.

Meetings on the Bridge

Meetings on the Bridge, organised in the scope of 35th Istanbul Film Festival on **8-14 April 2016** with the support of **Anadolu Efes**, brings filmmakers from Turkey and the Neighbours together with the international industry. While providing an opportunity for filmmakers to hold the first international presentations for their new film projects at Film Development Workshop and films in post-production at Work in Progress, it also aims to pave the way for co-productions. Since 2008, **36 Meetings on the Bridge films are completed and make their premieres at national and international film festivals** and 42 films and projects are awarded and funded with **588.614 Euros**.

This year, the writers, directors and producers of the **Film Development Workshop** selected projects had prep days with experts on script, production, pitching, marketing, social media and crowdfunding. Following the prep days held in March, the teams of the projects will be holding one to one meetings with international producers, funds, festivals, broadcasters and buyers. At the end of the workshop the international jury will determine the projects that will receive the following development awards: **The Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism Support Award of USD 10,000**, **Melodika Sound Post-Production Award** covering the expenses of sound post-production of the film, **Mediterranean Film Institute (MFI) Script Workshop Award** including the scriptwriting workshops, organised twice in Greek islands, followed by two online sessions.

Aiming to offer a gap financing support for films from Turkey, **Work in Progress** in its fifth year, will be presenting a selection of films in post-production **on April 12 and 13** to international distributors, festival and fund directors, broadcasters. The international jury will decide on the film or films to receive the following awards after watching the offline edit of the selected films: **30.000 TL Anadolu Efes Award**, **Digiflame Award** covering the expenses of online editing and color, **Başka Sinema Award**, screening at Başka Sinema theatres without VPF.

Meetings on the Bridge has launched NEIGHBOURS platform last year in order to initiate new international collaborations and enhance communication between filmmakers from Turkey and the neighbouring countries. With the aim of building a ground for institutions and individuals to cooperate while developing common stories, the platform, organised within Film Development Workshop, invites film professionals and filmmakers from neighbouring countries through methods of scouting and interviewing.

Meetings on the Bridge master classes and panels will be held on April 8-12 at Aynalı Geçit. All panels and master classes will be free of charge. Please e-mail onthefridge@iksv.org to attend or request further information.

Follow the Festival on Social Media

Follow all developments, all information on the films, events, and guests, and tips on the programme of the Istanbul Film Festival on our social media accounts and be the first to know. Enjoy the contests, get to know the programme well, get a chance to win surprise presents. Use hashtag **#istfilmfest16** to be part of the festival chat. You can also access all information pertaining to the festival on **İKSV Mobil** application, downloadable on AppStore and Google Play, and read the festival catalogue on your iPad on the **İKSV Kitaplık**, downloadable on AppStore.

#istfilmfest16

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When and Where Festival Tickets Go on Sale

Festival tickets go on sale on **26 March Saturday at 10:30**. The tickets can be purchased on **Biletix sales channels and from the box offices at the Atlas and Rexx movie theatres, without any service charge.**

Ticket Prices

Weekday daytime screenings (11:00, 13:30, 16:00) are **only 8 TL**.

Weekday 19:00 screenings and weekends (11:00, 13:30, 16:00, 19:00) are **18 TL**; for **students and seniors** (over 65) **14 TL**.

All 21:30 screenings are **20 TL**.

Screenings at the Istanbul Modern Cinema, Türkan Saylan Cultural Centre, and Hoca Ahmet Yesevi Centre are **8 TL**.

All audiences will be privileged to an **early bird discount on their ticket purchases until the day festival screenings start**.

Tulip Card holders will as always benefit from the **advance sales** and **special discounts up to 25%** on the festival tickets. Advance sale tickets can be purchased at the **Atlas and Rexx movie theatres**, as well as from the **Tulip Card Communications Centre**, and on the **Biletix website (www.biletix.com)** and **Biletix sales points**. Advance sales period for Tulip Card members: **22 March** for Black and White Tulip Card members and **23-25 March** for Red and Yellow Tulip Card members.

The **Festival Sponsor AKBANK** provides a special advantage of 20% discount to the **Axess Card holders** on all tickets except for the weekday daytime screenings.

The **festival catalogue**, which the filmgoers are glued to during the two weeks of the festival for the film information, festival schedule, events, and all the details it contains, will be **on sale for 5 TL at Atlas and Rexx movie theatres and at İKSV as of 19 March Saturday**.

Supporters of the 35th Istanbul Film Festival

The **35th Istanbul Film Festival** is held with **the support of more than 20 institutions**. The festival is organised by the generous support of the **Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey**. The **Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality** and **Beyoğlu Municipality** continue their publicity support for the festival.

Besides the Festival Sponsor Akbank, there are 6 theme sponsors:

- **Anadolu Efes** "National Competition and Turkish Cinema"
- **Sabah Newspaper** "From the World of Festivals"
- **ATV** "Challenging the Years"
- **NTV** "Documentary Time with NTV"
- **TLC** "Antidepressant"
- **Nescafé Gold** "Young Masters"

Festival's popular section, "**Akbank Galas**" will again be held under the sponsorship of **Akbank**.

The Istanbul Film Festival continues to reintroduce the distinguished works of the Turkish cinema on the silver screen in its "**Special Screening: Turkish Classics Revisited**" section, which was launched nine years ago under the sponsorship of the **Groupama**.

Limits Off supports the Istanbul Film Festival as the contributing corporation.

35th Istanbul Film Festival guests are transferred by **Renault**.

The Istanbul Film Festival continues its collaboration with the **Goethe-Institut Istanbul, German Films, and Kino 2016**, in 2016 as it did in 2015.

The Leading Sponsor of all İKSV festivals is **Eczacıbaşı Holding**, the Official Communications Sponsor is **Vodafone Turkey**, the Official Carrier is **DHL Worldwide Express**, and the service sponsors are **Zurich Sigorta, GFK, Memorial Health Group, directComn Marketing Group** and **AGC**.