

IDSFFK brings together 9 award-winning films from festivals across the world

Nine films will be showcased in the Festival Winners category at the 16th International Documentary and Short Film Festival 2024, to be held at the Kairali Sree Nila theatre complex from July 26 to 31. Included in this list are outstanding works such as the Croatian-Serbian film 'The Man Who Could Not Remain Silent' by Nebojša Slijepčević, which won the Palme D'or (Short film) at the 77th Cannes film festival this year. The 14-minute film narrates the events of the ethnic cleansing perpetrated in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1993 and the true story of one brave man among 500 passengers in a train who tries to stand up against the violence.

Other award-winners that will be screened are 'An Odd Turn,' directed by Francisco Lezama, which won the Golden Bear for best short film at the Berlin International Film Festival this year, and Wenqian Zhang's Chinese film 'Remains of the Hot Day,' which won the Silver Bear for second-best film at the same festival. Lezama narrates the story of a museum security guard in Buenos Aires who foresees a sharp rise in the dollar's value with her pendulum. Zhang makes us see through the eyes of a six-year-old girl who watches as the figures of grown-ups flicker and vanish before her eyes like shadows.

'Hollywoodgate', directed by Ibrahim Nash'at, takes us to Afghanistan after the US soldiers leave. The director spends a year inside the country following the Taliban as they take possession of the weapons cache left behind by the American troops. 'Searching for Amani', helmed by directors Nicole Gormley and Debra Aroko, tells the tale of a 13-year-old aspiring journalist who investigates his father's mysterious murder within the boundaries of one of Kenya's largest wildlife conservancies.

Asmae El Moudir's 'The Mother of All Lies', which was screened at the Cannes Film Festival in 2023, and Eva Könnemann's German film 'That's All From Me', which received a special mention at the Berlinale, will also be part of the screening schedule. Moudir's surreal non-fiction film recreates the set of her Casablanca neighbourhood and enlists the help of her family and friends to solve the troubling mysteries of her childhood. Meanwhile, Könnemann's film is a fictitious video correspondence between two women of different generations.

Spanish film 'Cura Sana' directed by Lucía G. Romero narrates the story of two sisters in a situation of domestic violence who learn to treat each other with love instead of violence. The film won the Crystal Bear award at the Berlinale. Lastly, LAM Can-zhao's Chinese film 'A Summer's End Poem' takes us through the tale of a country boy who spends his savings on his dream of a city hairstyle, with surprising results.