

Looking Forward to the 4th Edition
October 23 to 31, 2020

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

El Gouna Film Festival is deeply honored that the stellar group of industry professionals listed here are members of our advisory board. These individuals represent the pinnacle of professionalism and artistic achievement. Their support continues to guide and inspire us as we strive to produce a unique festival experience of the highest quality.



YOUSSRA Actor, Egypt



ATIQ RAHIMI Author, Film Director, France, Afghanistan



FOREST WHITAKER Actor, USA



HEND SABRY Actor, Tunisia, Egypt



HIAM ABBAS Actor, Screenwriter, Film Director, Palestine



MARGARETHE VON TROTTA Actor, Screenwriter, Film Director, Germany



TAREQ BEN AMMAR Producer, Distributor, Tunisia, France



YOUSRY NASRALLAH Film Director, Egypt



MOHAMED MALAS Film Director,



ABDERRAHMANE SISSAKO Film Director, Producer Mauritania



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OUR STORY

El Gouna Film Festival

was founded in 2017 by Engineer Naguib Sawiris, in collaboration with actress and producer Bushra Rozza, international event organizer and CEO of I-Events Amr Mansi, and film producer Kamal Zadeh. The initiative gained strength and momentum with the support and sponsorship of El Gouna founder Engineer Samih Sawiris, and of many private sector sponsors. The festival is presented under the auspices of the Egyptian Ministry of Culture.

The **GFF** team is helmed by Intishal Al Timimi, festival director, who brings his knowledge and understanding of the regional and international cinematic landscape to the team. He is supported by Amir Ramses, artistic director and the members of the programming team Nicole Guillemet, Teresa Cavina, Mohamed Atef and Raman Chawla.



EL GOUNA FILM FESTIVAL

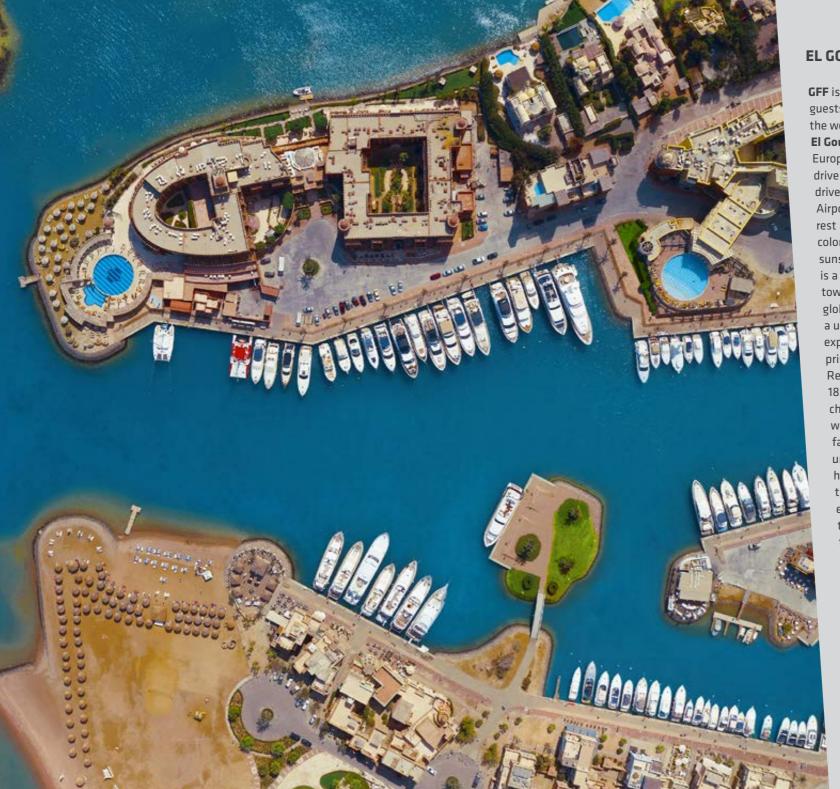
El Gouna Film Festival

has secured its position as one of the leading film festivals in the MENA region, showcasing a wide variety of films and talents to a passionate audience and experienced industry professionals.

With the aim of fostering better communication between cultures through the art of filmmaking, the past editions have succeeded in highlighting the people, films and projects shaping the film industry in the Middle East and beyond.

The spirit of cooperation and cultural exchange is the core value of **GFF**. The festival is committed to the discovery of new voices and strives to be a catalyst for the development of cinema in the Arab world, particularly through its industry segment, **CineGouna Platform**.





EL GOUNA

GFF is privileged to welcome its guests and participants from all over the world in the prestigious resort of El Gouna. Just a four-hour flight from Europe's major capitals, a four-hour drive from Cairo and a 30-minute drive from Hurghada International Airport, **El Gouna** is a place to savor rest and recreation, as well as colorful nightlife, with its year-round sunshine and picturesque views. It is a fully integrated, self-sufficient town, adhering to the highest global standards while offering a uniquely charming coastal experience. Covering 10 km of pristine shoreline on the beautiful Red Sea coast and accommodating 18 reputable hotels, two championship golf courses, two world-class marinas, co-working facilities, an airport, schools, universities, and an international hospital, the town has been thoughtfully designed to cater to everybody's needs. In addition to the influx of visitors from around the world, over 15,000 Egyptians and international residents call El Gouna their home and allow the festival to have a core audience. El Gouna's gracious seaside living supported by the convenience and exclusivity of a self-contained community, in addition to its commitment to operational efficiency makes the town well-versed in the art of hospitality.



- 1. Adel Imam recipient of the 2017 Career Achievement Award with Youssra
- 2. Naguib Sawiris and Sylvester Stallone
- 3. Tarek Ben Ammar, Patrick Dempsey and Nejib Ayed
- 4. Patrick Dempsey with members of the press
- 5. Bushra Rozza and Forest Whitaker recipient of the 2017 Career Achievement Award
- 6. Advisory Board members Abderrahmane Sissako and Atiq Rahimi
- 7. Ibrahim Al Aris recipient of the 2017 Career Achievement Award with Intishal Al Timimi
- 8. Clive Owen, Actor, UK
- 9. Owen Wilson, Actor, USA
- 10. Youssry Nasrallah, Daoud Abdelsayed recipient of the 2018 Career Achievement Award and Intishal Al Timimi
- 11. Paul Haggis, Director and Producer, Canada
- 12. Bushra Rozza, Dorra Bouchoucha recipient of the 2018 Career Achievement Award with Intishal Al Timimi
- 13. Maya Diab, Singer, Lebanon

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The festival's programme consists of the three official competitions (Feature **Narrative Competition, Feature Documentary** Competition and Short Film Competition), the Official **Selection out of Competition** and Special Presentations. A total of more than 80 films screen yearly at the festival. **GFF** bestow awards of more than **US \$224.000**, along with trophies to the winners of the competitive sections. Feature-length films with a humanitarian theme across any section are eligible for GFF's special Cinema for **Humanity Audience Award.** In its Special Presentations section, the festival showcase iconic films from the past that continue to be cherished by filmloving audiences.





COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS

Feature Narrative Competition:

- -El Gouna Gold, Silver and Bronze Stars for the top 3 films
- -El Gouna Stars for Best Actor, Best Actress and the Best Arab Narrative Film

Total Cash Awards: US \$110,000

Feature Documentary Competition:

- -El Gouna Gold, Silver and Bronze Stars for the top 3 films
- -El Gouna Star for the Best Arab Documentary

Total Cash Awards: US \$62,500

Short Film Competition:

- -El Gouna Gold, Silver and Bronze Stars for the top 3 short films
- -El Gouna Star for the Best Arab Short Film

Total Cash Awards: US \$31,500

Cinema For Humanity Audience Award

Feature-length films across various sections are eligible for El Gouna Film Festival's Cinema for Humanity Audience Award, which is bestowed upon a film that exemplifies a humanitarian theme.

Cash Award: **US \$20,000**

- Amjad Abu Alala with the cast and crew of You Will Die at Twenty, winner of El Gouna Gold Star for Best Film
- Suhaib Gasmelbari director of *Talking* About Trees, winner of El Gouna Gold Star for Best Documentary
- 3. Wassim Geagea Director of *Ome*, winner of El Gouna Silver Star for Short Film
- 4. Producer of the short film *Exam*, winner of El Gouna Gold star for Short Film
- 5. Mounia Meddour Director of *Papicha*, winner of El Gouna Star for Best Arab Feature Film
- 6. Hend Sabry, winner of El Gouna Star for Best
- Nabil Ayouch with Mariam Touzani, Director of Adam, winner of El Gouna Bronze Star for Feature Film
- 8. Oualid Mouaness Director of 1982, winner of the FIPRESCI Jury Award

OPENING CEREMONY

The star-studded opening ceremony of the 3rd edition of **GFF** was held on **September 19, 2019** at the **Marina** Theatre. The lavish event was filled with many surprises starting with the colorful show of the Lebanese dance group Mayyas, winner of the 2019 'Arabs Got Talent', which stunned GFF's audience with their choreography. Egyptian-Canadian star Mena Massoud announced the EDA Foundation award, and Egyptian star Mona Zaki, Goodwill Ambassador of UNICEF, announced the five-year agreement between El Gouna Film Festival and UNICEF. Among the attendees was director and producer Mai Masri; recipient of GFF's Career Achievement Award.

- 1. Mr and Mrs Samih Sawiris
- 2. Opening ceremony red carpet
- 3. Mr and Mrs Abu
- 4. Laila Eloui, Actor, Egypt
- 5. Youssra, Actor, Egypt
- 6. Red carpet interviews
- 7. Mona Zaki, Actor, Egypt
- 8. Mai Masri, winner of GFF 2019 Career Achievement Award, with her daughter
- 9. Mr and Mrs Khaled Bichara





- 1. Mohamed Ramadan, Actor, Egypt
- 2. Saba Mubarak, Actor, Jordan
- 3. Amina Khalil, Actor, Egypt
- 4. Mr and Mrs Amir Eid
- 5. Mr and Mrs Intishal Al Timimi
- Mahmoud Sabbagh, Director of Red Sea International Film Festival, Saudi Arabia
- 7. Media interactions on the red carpet
- 8. Sherif Ramzy and his wife Reham Ayman
- 9. Mena Massoud, Actor, Egypt-Canada
- 10. Mr and Mrs Amr Mansi and Naguib Sawiris
- 11. Marwan Hamed, Jury President of the Short Film Competition and his spouse
- 12. Yasmine Sabry, Actor, Egypt
- 13. Dorra Zarrouk, Actor, Tunisia
- 14. Arwa Gouda, Actor, Egypt



CLOSING CEREMONY

The festival concluded on September 27, 2019 with a glittering closing ceremony at the Marina Theater, hosted by Nardine Farag, actress and host of MBC's 'The Voice'. Among the attendees was star Mohamed Henedy; recipient of the Career **Achievement Award**. The winners of the Cinema for Humanity **Audience Award** and winners of the festival's competitive sections were also announced to a full house packed with regional and international celebrities. members of the festival's advisory board, dignitaries and representatives of participating organizations and the delegates who attended the festival.



- 2. Media interactions on the red carpet
- 3. El Gouna CEO Tarek Kamel
- 4. Eyad Nassar, Actor, Jordan
- 5. Guests of the closing ceremony
- 6. Mr and Mrs Moussa Touré
- 7. Khaled Elsawy, Actor, Egypt
- 8. Mr and Mrs Nashen Moodley with Khairy Beshara, Jury President of the Feature Narrative Competition





- 1. Samih Sawiris
- 2. Steven Seagal, Actor, USA
- 3. Anissa Daoud, Actor and Director, Tunisia
- Feature Documentary Competition jury members Ludmila Cvikova, Talal Derki, Anne Aghion and Moussa Touré
- 5. Enas Eldeghedy, Director, Egypt
- 6. Mohamed Henedy, Actor, Egypt
- 7. Elham Chahine, Actor, Egypt
- 8. Festival guests on the red carpet
- 9. Festival guest
- 10. Naguib Sawiris
- 11. Ragaa ElGiddawy, Actor, Egypt
- 12. Red carpet interviews































































PRESS CONFERENCE

August 26, 2019

- Amr Mansi, Naguib
 Sawiris, Engy El
 Mokadem, Samih
 Sawiris, Khaled Bichara
 and Bushra Rozza
 during the press
 conference
- 2. GFF press conference
- 3. Samih Sawiris, Khaled Bichara and Bushra Rozza during the press conference

HIGHLIGHTS

During the 3rd edition, the festival screened 83 films representing 44 countries and awarded prizes of more than US \$220,000 to the winning films of the competitive sections. The programme was much appreciated and applauded by critics, film professionals and audiences. Several films from the programme went on to win more awards and plaudits in their journey thereafter.

At the 92nd Academy Awards, five of **GFF**'s feature film selection earned a total of 11 nominations. *Pain and Glory, Corpus Christi, Les Misérables,* and *Parasite* received nominations for Best Foreign Language Film. *Parasite* scored four out of a total of six Academy Award nominations by winning Best Picture, Best Foreign Language Film, Best Original Screenplay, and Best Director.

- 1. Tarek Ben Ammar, Naguib Sawiris and Nate Parker
- 2. Guests at Cinema in Concert
- 3. Passant Sahwky, Actor, Egypt
- 4. Abdel Rahman Abou Zahra, Actor, Egypt
- 5. Mona Zaki and Kinda Alloush
- 6. Hala Shiha, Actor, Egypt
- 7. Karim Kassem, Actor, Egypt
- 8. Arwa Gouda, Bushra Rozza, Reham Abdel Ghafour, and Ghada Adel
- 9. Chico, Actor, Egypt
- 10. Mr and Mrs Medhat Saleh
- 11. Nisreen Tafesh, Actor, Syria
- 12. Nahed Alsebai, Actor, Egypt





At the 73rd British Academy Film Awards, *Parasite* received two out of four nominations; Best Film not in the English Language and Best Screenplay. *Parasite* was also nominated as Best Film, and Bong Joon-ho received a nomination as Best Director. While *Pain and Glory* received a nomination for Best Film not in the English Language.

At the 77th Golden Globes, **Parasite** scored the Best Foreign
Language Film award, it also
received Best Director and
Best Screenplay nominations.
While **Pain and Glory** received
Best Actor and Best Foreign
Language Film nominations.

At the 26th SAG Awards, **Parasite** became the first non-English film to win the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture.

- 1. Reham Abdel Ghaffour, Actor, Egypt
- 2. Celebrities on the red carpet
- 3. Amir Ramses with the cast and crew of *The Knight and the Princess*
- 4. Rania Youssef, Actor, Egypt
- 5. Hend Sabry and Hana Shiha
- 6. Nate Parker, Bushra Rozza and Tarek Ben Ammar
- 7. Bushra Rozza
- 8. Farida Elgondy, Actor, France-Lebanon
- 9. Amr Youssef and Kinda Alloush



At the 45th César Awards, Ladj Ly's **Les Misérables** was recognized with the Audience Prize, Best Film award, Best Editing award and Best Male Newcomer award to Alexis Manenti. Mounia Meddour's **Papicha** received Best First Film award and Best Female Newcomer award to Llyna Khoudri. While **Parasite** scored Best Foreign Film award.

At the 34th Goya Awards, **Pain and Glory** received seven Goya
Awards, out of a total of 15
nominations, including; Best
Actor for Antonio Banderas, Best
Director for Almodovar, Best
Supporting Actress for Julieta
Serrano, Best Film, Best Original
Screenplay, Best Editing and
Best Original Music.

- 1. Mona Zaki, Actor, Egypt
- 2. Lekaa El Khimisi, Actor, Egypt
- 3. Ola Roshdi and Ahmed Dawood
- 4. Intishal Al Timimi, Amina Khalil, Karim Kassem and Bushra Rozza
- 5. Hala Khalil, Safia El Emary, Elham Chahine
- 6. Basma, Actor, Egypt
- 7. Farrah El Dibany, Mezzo-soprano, Egypt
- 8. Youssra, Enas Eldeghedy, Laila Eloui, Bosy Shalabi
- 9. Short Film Competition Jury Members
- 10. Mohamed Sami, Dina El Sherbiny, Mai Omar, Reem Sami
- 11. Sherine Reda, Actor, Egypt
- 12. Nardine Farag, Celebrity Anchor, Egypt
- 13. Yosra Ellouzi, Actor, Egypt
- 14. Mr and Mrs Ahmed El Fishawy

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

The **Special Presentations** section presents gems from the past that continue to attract the interest of filmloving audiences. This section celebrates the life and work of the great masters of cinema. During the 3rd edition and to commemorate the birth of legendary Egyptian writer Ihsan Abdel Quddous, GFF screened the much acclaimed film Be'r Al Herman (The Well of **Deprivation)**. Restored films by Ferid Boughedir, Walter Salles, François Truffaut and Federico Fellini were also screened.

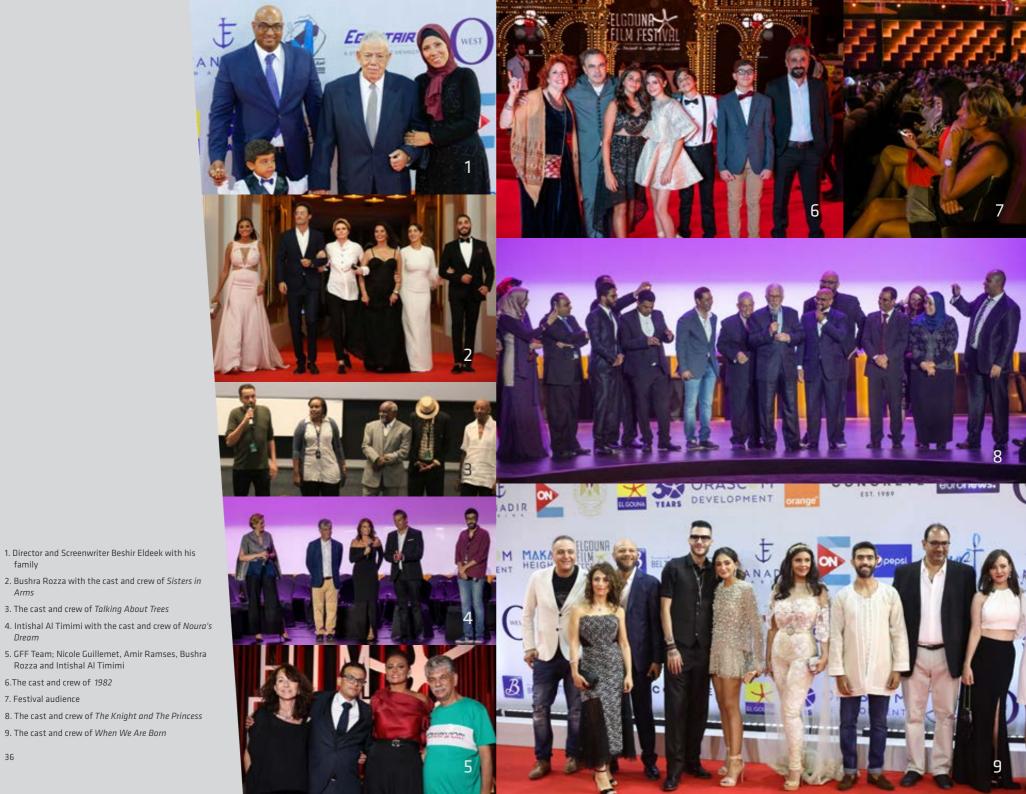
- Naguib Sawiris, Onsi Sawiris, Enas Eldeghedy, Ahmed Ihsan Abdel Quddous and Intishal Al Timimi
- 2. Bushra Rozza, Intishal Al Timimi, Shahira Fahmy, Samih Sawiris, Ahmed Ihsan Abdel Quddous, Enas Eldeghedy and Amr Mansi
- 3. Intishal Al Timimi and Mena Massoud
- 4. Bushra Rozza, Enas Eldeghedy and Youssra
- 5. Youssra, Enas Eldeghedy, Shahira Fahmy, Ahmed Ihsan Abdel Quddous, Naguib Sawiris and Onsi Sawiris
- 6. Exhibits displayed at the Ihsan Abdel Quddous Exhibition



CINEMA IN CONCERT The programme of the 3rd Society. John Corigliano The Red Violin Chaconne 1. Cinema in Concert orchestra and attendees 3. Cinema in Concert

edition's Cinema in Concert was divided into two segments. The first Hits of Hollywood, and the second Hommage à Nino Rota, celebrating the composer's works for Federico Fellini and Luchino Visconti films. The concert was conducted by Maestro Ahmed El Saedi, the main founder and chairman of the Egyptian Philharmonic

- 2. Maestro Ahmed El Saedi



family

Arms

Dream

Rozza and Intishal Al Timimi 6.The cast and crew of 1982 7. Festival audience

CINEGOUNA PLATFORM

CineGouna Platform

is an industry-oriented event created to support and empower Egyptian and Arab filmmakers and help them find artistic and financial support. CineGouna Platform presents the CineGouna SpringBoard and the CineGouna Bridge programmes that provide opportunities for sharing and learning.



- Resul Pookutty, Sound Designer, India, giving a Masterclass
- 2. Alessandra Speciale, Anissa Daoud and guest
- 3. Rashid Masharawi, Film Director, Palestine
- 4. Festival guests
- 5. Festival guests and attendees at the CineGouna Platform lounge in TU Berlin





CINEGOUNA SPRINGBOARD

CineGouna SpringBoard is a project development and co-production lab that offers opportunities to find creative and financial support for Arab film directors and producers with projects in development or films in post-production. Applications of feature narrative and feature documentary projects in development, as well as films in post-production, are accepted for participation in the programme from all parts of the Arab world.

In its 3rd edition, CineGouna

Platform doubled its

prize money, offering a

total of US \$250,000 for

the winning projects in

development and films in

post-production. The prizes

were funded by El Gouna

Film Festival along with its

sponsors and partners.

- 1. CineGouna Platfrom team with the winners
- Ismael Ferrouki and Lamia
 Charaibi winners of OSN presale cash award for the film in post-production *Mica*
- 3. CineGouna Platform winners

CINEGOUNA BRIDGE

CineGouna Bridge is a meeting point and a forum for dialogue between different cinematic voices, where Arab filmmakers and their international counterparts engage in and share their perspectives on a wide range of subjects related to the social and business aspects of cinema.



- Ragnhild Ek, Moderator of CineGouna Bridge panel discussion on Refugee Voices in the Film Industry
- 3. Teresa Cavina in conversation with Mai Masri
- 4. CineGouna Bridge panel The State of Film Distribution
- 5. Sandra Schulberg giving a Masterclass on Renovation and Preservation
- 6. Panel The Art and Science of Financing
- 7. Asser Yassin and Yosra Ellouzy among the attendees
- 8. Panel The Role and Impact of Film Festivals
- 9. Panel African Cinema: Past, Present and Future
- 10. CineGouna Bridge attendees





















CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

El Gouna Film Festival's Career Achievement Award celebrates individuals whose work and commitment to cinema have left an indelible mark in the field of their work.

The **3**rd **edition** of **El Gouna Film Festival** honored two exceptional talents:

Mai Masri

One of the pillars of Palestinian and Arab cinema; **Mai Masri** is an award-winning and highly acclaimed director and producer, who's best known for her powerful Palestinian documentaries that focus on women and children in a humanistic and poetic approach.

Mohamed Henedy

Henedy is one of the most renowned comedians and acclaimed actors of Egyptian and Arab cinema today. He was able to achieve his famed status with a very successful career spanning more than three decades.

- 1. Hend Sabry, Actor, Tunisia
- 2. Youssra and Enas Eldeghedy with the Egyptian House team members
- 3. Nabil Ayouch, Director and Producer, France
- 4. Amira Diab and Hani Abu Assad
- 5. Youssra and Samih Sawiris
- 6. Nissrin Erradi, Actor, Morocco
- 7. Passant Shawky, Actor, Egypt
- 8. Mohamed Henedy, Actor, Egypt
- 9. Mai Masri, Director, Palestine



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