

The Lebanese Independent Film Festival



Press kit

5th edition

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SEPT 25 26

LEBANESE INDEPENDENT FILM 2021 FESTIVAL

STATION BEIRUT



WE FILM
FESTIVAL



Embassy of Sweden
Beirut

embrace



STATION



MESSAGE FROM THE ORGANISERS

Gauthier Raad

Founder & Director



Beirut has been and will remain a turning platform in the Arts. With all the towering difficulties and hardships our communities are going through, it is important, now more than ever, to voice our stories to tell them as is. Away from any stifling censorship. LIFF is exactly that.

A hub for freedom of choice, of expression. An independent festival where your stories count. Isn't this what art is all about?

This has been our main focus and goal since the creation of the festival 5 years ago. Participate in building healthier communities, where artists can thrive through their craft, and come together, network, collaborate and support one another.

And this year, we have received 1400 movies from more than 91 countries. Needless to say, our selection was quite the challenge. But we are truly excited, this year the lineup is quite exceptional.

The selected movies will be competing within 16 categories.

We believe that film festivals have a responsibility, not only to their immediate communities but to society as a whole: ART SHOULD HAVE A MESSAGE. The Lebanese Independent Film Festival is committed along with our NGO Partners 'EMBRACE' to fighting against the stigmas attached to mental health issues. Especially during these trying times.

For this year's edition, our poster serves as a hyper realistic backdrop to the current situation in Lebanon. Where the lights of the city are dimmed into darkness, a fleeing population on the horizon. But lights and glimmers of hope will sparkle out, with each act of love.

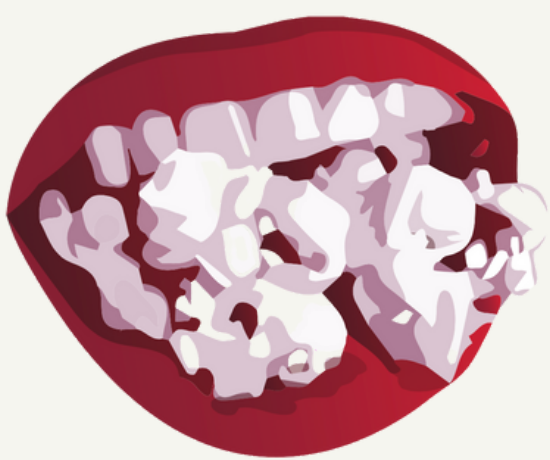
LIFF is here to stay, to grow, and help as much as we can, in reestablishing Beirut as an important platform; of the arts.

I would like to say THANK YOU to the entire team and our esteemed partners and sponsors especially the Swedish Embassy in Beirut and A Night of Misfit Films – ANOMFF (USA).

Dineta Williams-Trigg

Co-Director

Welcome home fellow creatives. We are here to support you, so try to relax and remain present. Who knows, maybe you will learn something new about yourself. Thanks for helping to make The Lebanese Independent Film Festival a safe place to be your best self, and a place to develop new friendships, network and grow as artists. Hugs and good vibes to all.



**WE FILM
FESTIVAL**



she is an American Film and Stage Actor, writer, producer and filmmaker. She is the owner, and proprietor of Full Figure Productions, whose mission, is to positively affect every human soul that she makes contact with through her storytelling, and lots of hugs. She created her own film festival “A Night of Misfit Films” in its third year, to provide other filmmakers the opportunity to screen unseen works.

Dineta is extremely honored to be a part of The Lebanese Independent Film Festival and truly believes that "As Creatives Our Voices Can Change the World".



Maria Chalhoub

Assistant Director

As filmmakers, we all have this constant craving for something more.

LIFF is where the realization of this missing thing being a sense of community hit.

And the most amazing thing about this community is that we are it.

Being a part of a festival that's main goal is bringing people together, while growing in the process, is something I'll forever be grateful for.

John Trigg

Audiovisual Supervisor

Being a part of Liff is a complete hands on experience. I have been able to apply the DP knowledge that I have, helping me to improve my skills, launching A Night of Misfit Films Festival in Scottsdale Arizona in 2016. Liff has provided me with opportunities that only an international film festival can.



Christelle Abdo

Executive Producer

It was a truly inspiring experience working with the Lebanese Independent Film Festival. I'm really grateful for the interesting community I got to be part of where talented people share the same love for film.

Christian Abou Eid

Graphic Designer

Passionate about art in all its forms, Lebanese architect likes to discover the world around him through design, aesthetics and psychology.



Ghina Shaito

Presenter



Independent Films help take people to a world they've never been to before. Film is art and when its independent, it is driven by love and passion; it feels exactly like taking a peek into someone's mind

Halim Kassouf

Editor

Halim Rabih Kassouf is an Lebanese filmmaker, writer and editor. He also works as an editor at LIFF and Startup minute. He is also Known for his role as the Judge in a Lebanese theatre play “al-moufatech” Directed By “Michel Hourani.



Francesco Bakhos

Movie Critic



Francesco Bakhos is a Lebanese Student-Entrepreneur and film critic. He is the founder of 365 Movies Lebanon, an online platform for cinematic literacy and spoiler free reviews, he is also the creator of the environmental construction startup PlastEco.

Charelle Abdallah

Honorary Member

Cinema isn't only for entertainment, it is a major educational tool and if used right, it could enhance an entire society. This is why LIFF encourages artists to express themselves fearlessly, through their art. I hope the LIFF community will expand to a vast platform of independent, talented and humble artists, serving one another and Art.



Katia Saad

Media Consultant



Journalist, scriptwriter content and producer at Radio Monte Carlo Doualiya MCD (France)

Free-lance

Journalist-Writer

Annahar.com (Lebanon)

& beirutobserver.com (Koweït)

Relations Media Head Coordinator for "NASA Space Apps Challenges", Lebanon.

Program 2021



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LEBANESE INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL - LIFF

September 25th 2021

9am - 12am at Station Beirut

Theater A

9am-1pm

Sawah

Expiry

S, D & Bicycles

The Germit Experience

A Picture with Yuki

Good Kisser

Pause

HIV saved my life

Eat the Rainbow

Sycamore

Man from Beirut

Houwa

Iced

Quarantième

In Search of Times Past

Second Wind

I Will Be Fine

Luna

ÃH

The Bomb

I Want To Leave

Listen To Me Reda

Beirut 2020

1pm-4pm + Q&A

The Red Mountain

Rahil

The Seven Villages

T.E.R.D

That Stupid Armenian's Motion Picture Show or Garen

PIPE DREAM

Until The Rain Wanes

Em Hassoun

And The Party Goes On!

Mariam

Rhythm of Forgetting

6:30pm-7:30pm Reception

7:30pm - 9:30pm Avant Premiere with the presence of the directors

Avant Premiere An Attempt by Pamela Nassour

Avant Premiere Notfa by Salem Hadchity





Theater B

FILMS

9am-1pm

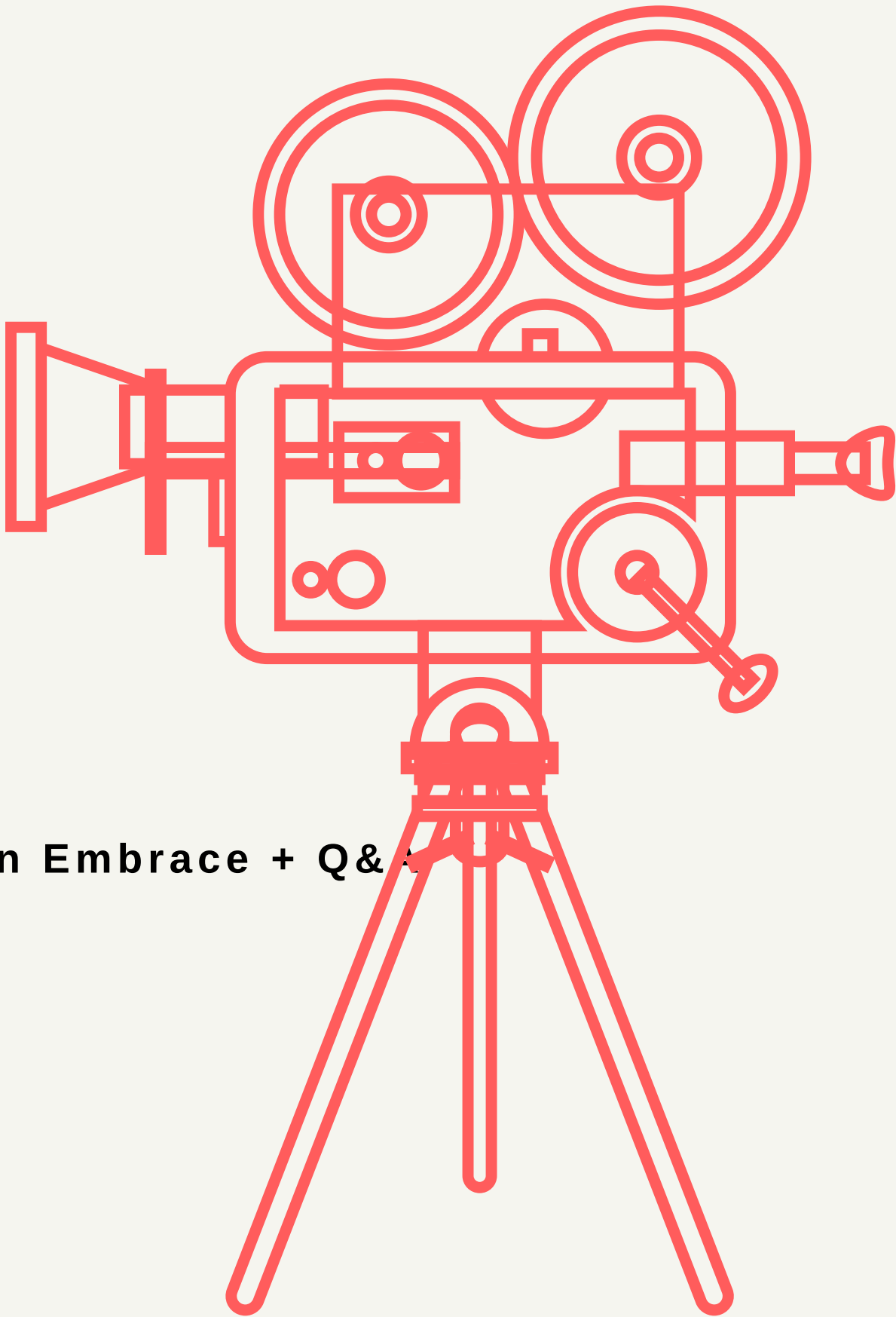
Medulla
THE VISITOR
Amber
Family Routine
The Laundry
Ashmina
Wetlands
The Manchador
Taniel
CHEYENNE
Invisible Child
WATER IS LIFE
Lupita
Thumb Runner
Best Friends Forever
Darkest
Baradar
Agatha
Tick Tock
The Times and Tales of Two Beiruts
Untitled Number 4
Zeibekiko in Beirut
When Beirut Was Beirut
Once There Was a Boy
Elle

1pm-4pm Mental Health Block with the collaboration Embrace + Q&A

TRIGGER
Hors Champ
Light Fingers
“Film Title”
Another Conversation
The System
Je Suis Aniss
Onslaught
Oumi

10:15pm-11:30pm

Welcome to Ouzville



LEBANESE INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL - LIFF

September 26th 2021

9am - 12am at Station Beirut

Theater A

9am-1pm

The Girl Who Wore Freedom

MEETING WITH THE DEVIL®

The First Rainbow Coalition

A CONVERSATION WITH AMERICA

The Wedding Cake

True Calling

Goodnight and Goodbye

Trillo & Suede

Blue Flower

Haiku

The Way Home

The Wedding Cake

Cadence of the Valley

RSVP

Huda

The House

Amygdala

Did you see what's happening in Beirut?

1pm-4pm + Q&A

The Hurl

To Kill a Memory

A ball, wicker chairs and ice cream

BARZAKH

Staccato

Harmonica

Where To?

Opotho (You White Person)

Brussels-Beirut

Room 217

6pm-9pm + Q&A

Deep Yellow

Tamouzi

Presumed Missing

A Deafening Silence

Till we meet again

Pendemonium

What Remains

30/2

Mirage

Un peu des deux

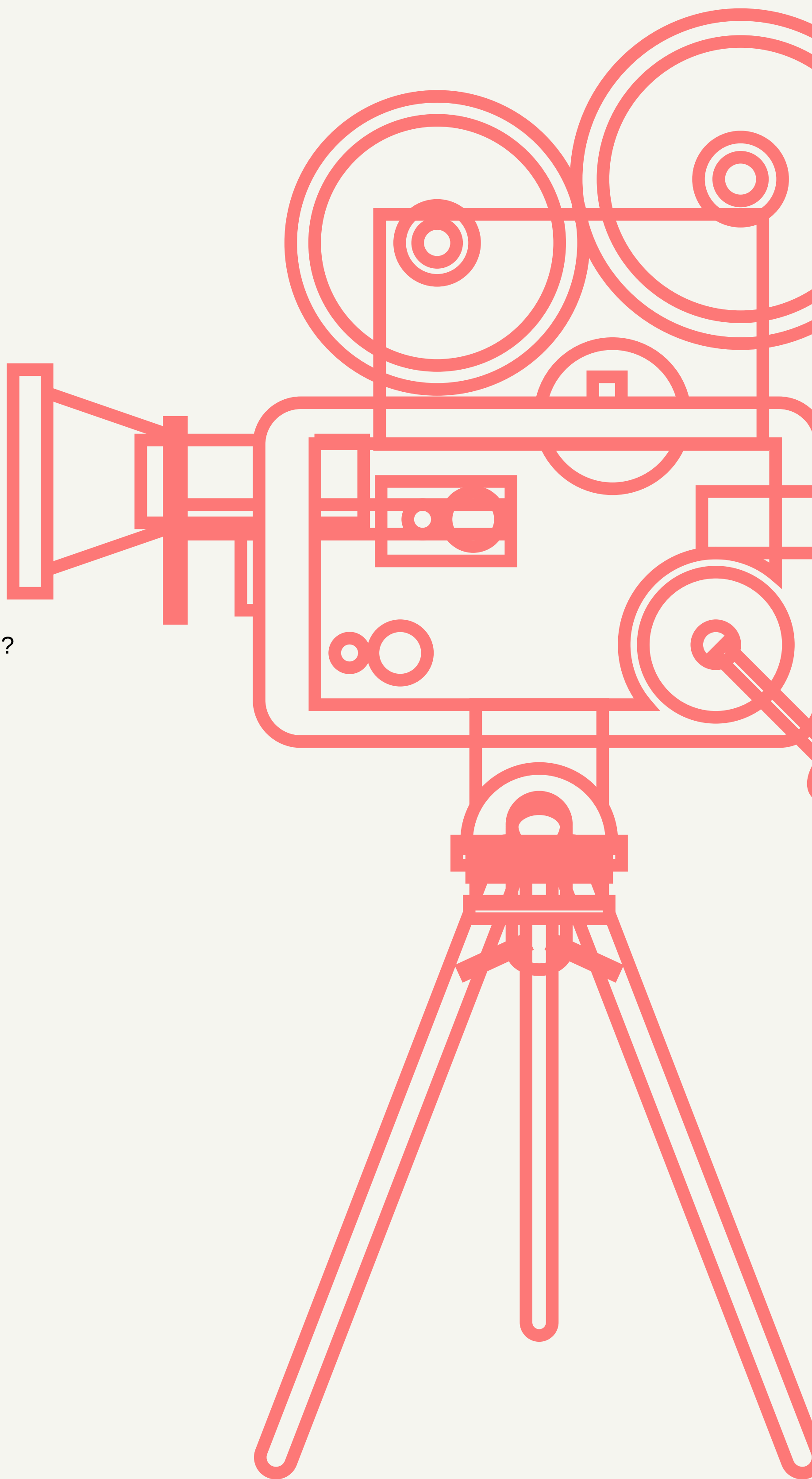
Felfol

Leila

Ila Haythou

Room 16

Award Ceremony





Theater B

FILMS

9am-1pm

From Durban to Tomorrow
Less
SOMOS
The Girit Experience
BLACKBETTY
Long time no see
Zakaquito
Retention
Lockdown
Lucid Green

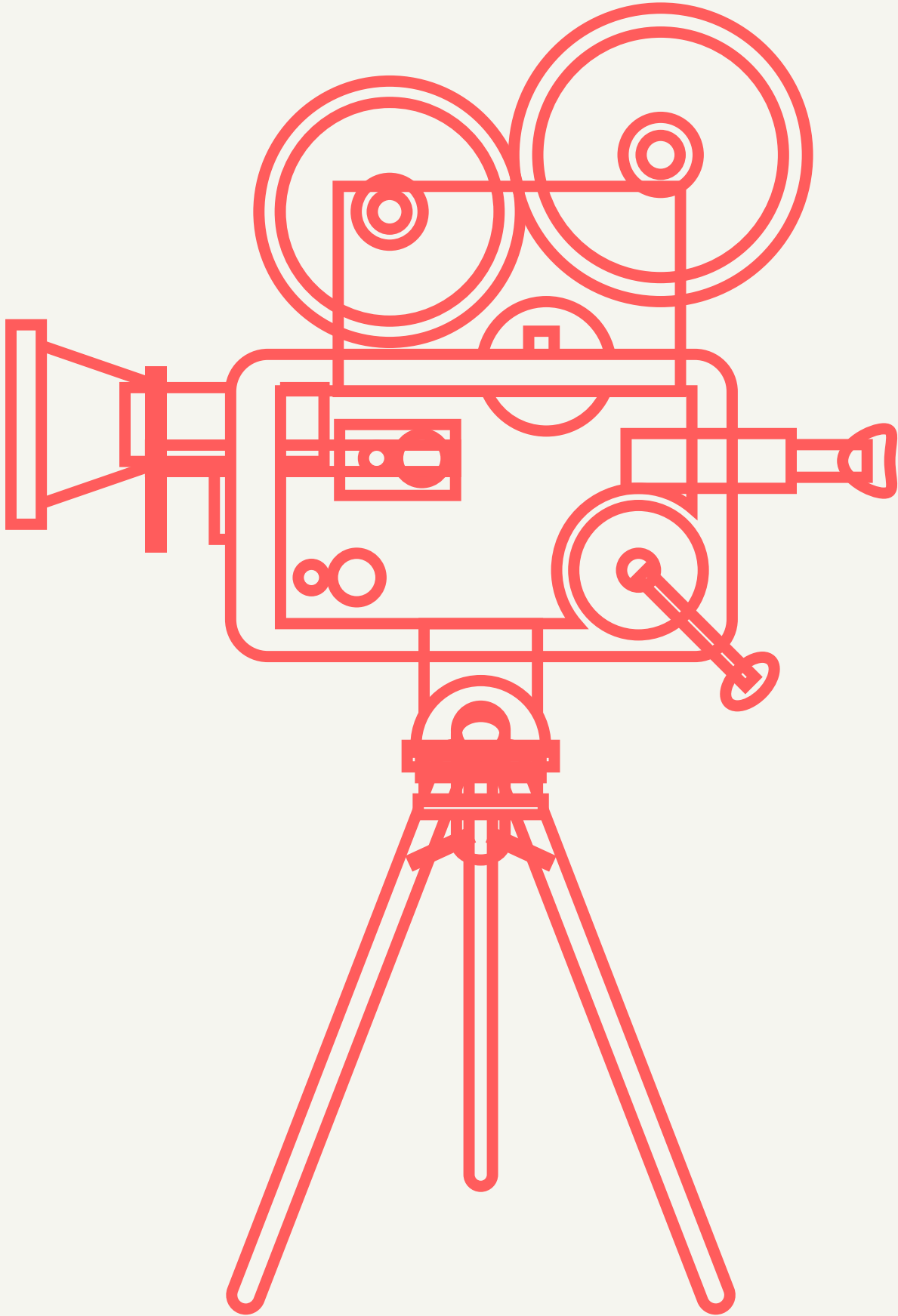
1pm-4pm + Q&A

Stillness
Chapter 1
Missing Piece
Red Threads
Jasminum
TakeAway
Recipe in Exile
Once Upon a Revolution
Aida
Echoes

6pm-9pm + Q&A

Whelve
How my grandmother became a chair
Valens
Us.Lebanon
LAHZA - A MOMENT
LOVE
Iman
GHABE

Award Ceremony





Jury 2021



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Danielle Davie

Danielle Davie is a documentary filmmaker and visual anthropologist based in Lebanon. She obtained a PhD in documentary & anthropological cinema in France. She directed ethnographic films and a few shorts, some of which were screened in international film festivals. She is now co-directing Embodied Chorus, a feature-length creative documentary. In parallel, she is working on experimental videos. Danielle is also coordinator & lecturer at some Lebanese universities and art schools; and co-founder of Rawiyat-Sisters In Film collective



Noir Barakat



This happening by accident, being born in Beirut, has inspired him to express his pursue for beauty through the city's imperfection in different forms of visual arts.

As a director and photographer, Noir Barakat uses his skills to break all visible and invisible boundaries. He doesn't only show his point of view in his image, but also unintentionally helps the viewer understand better the mystery of this world and discover something new about them.

Noir Graduated from The Holy Spirit University Kaslik 1999 and has a Master's Degree in Filmmaking.

Most recent works are two photo exhibitions "When I Looked At You", "It's Not All Hearts And Flowers"

In addition a short documentary "Eme-Li" which one Best Lebanese Documentary - FICMEC8 as well as the short film "شو بيبقى / Shadows In A Frame" which also won Special Mention Award for Best Asian Narrative at GUFA Hong-Kong.

Chady Richa

Chady Richa pursued his university studies in Radio/TV and films. Lately he played controversial characters starring in several Lebanese movies and hit TV series such as “Albi Da2” (Heart beat) & “Mish Ana” (Not Myself). Chady created the concept of the prime-time TV show “Sahret Omer” (Lifetime Encounters). He keeps on producing and presenting it successfully for two seasons now. Chady is on an ongoing endeavor to help himself reach new dreams sailing toward wider horizons.



Basheer Lagoussis



Basheer Lagoussis a Greek/Lebanese Director holding a diploma in production design from Milano and a Masters in advertising from Beirut. Started his career as a production designer then moved to creative work with many impressive local and multinational agencies.

Later he launched his career as a director and filmed ads campaign for big clients in Beirut, Egypt, Gulf and other countries of the world.

He was also a jury member of many student film festivals in Beirut

Ziad Seaibe

Ziad Seaibe is a professional actor, he has been acting professionally since 1990. He participated in several tv, theater and cinema productions in which some of them were awarded in well acclaimed festivals.

In addition to professional acting, Ziad works as a drama instructor in 2 universities (Notre Dame University-NDU and Al Kafaat University-AKU), as well as in Lebanese Film Academy-LFA.

Ziad earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Drama from the Lebanese University in Beirut, then he later attended the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik –USEK in Mount Lebanon, where he received his Master of Arts degree.

Ziad lives in Beirut, Lebanon.





LIFF Team

Director: Gauthier Raad
Codirector: Dineta Williams-Trigg
Audiovisual supervisor: John Trigg
Assistant Director: Maria Chalhoub
Executive Producer: Christelle Abdo
Editor: Halim Kassouf
Graphic Designer: Christian Abou Eid
Presenter: Ghina Shaito

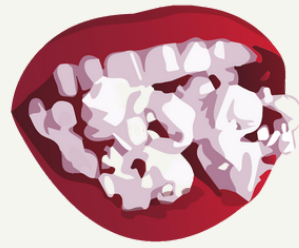
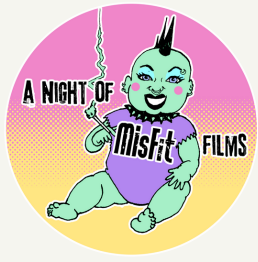
It wouldn't have been the same without you:

Marybelle Abdallah
Diva Yaghi
Nour Tabet
Hady Abi Saleh
Omar Seaibi
Jovanie Feghaly
Georges Saab Saadeh
Leah Haddad
Marina Ali Farhat
Shazdeh Hachem
Habib Habib
Andrea Abd El Nour
Yvan Tawk
Celine Chehwane
Farah Challita



Embassy of Sweden
Beirut

STATION
embrace



agenda
culture

MVD
SOLUTIONS



INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS
Liban



DUNKIN'

VECTORS
CONCEPT.DESIGN.PRINTING

Wooden
Bakery

himaya
For innocence in danger

Pizzanini
HOME OF THE GIANT PIZZA

وشبي SHISH W SHI

K A F A
ENOUGH VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION
كفى عنف و استغلال

أبعاد
ab'ad



HAJAI