

REGULATIONS VISIONS DU RÉEL EDITION 2017 FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DE CINÉMA NYON

1. Programming

Visions du Réel, Festival international de cinéma Nyon, is an international film festival. Two essential notions derive from its name: vision and reality.

Reality stands for both the physical world and our perception of it as human beings. In reality, objectivity and subjectivity overlap. Reality is what we see, hear, smell and touch, but it is also what the senses communicate to our minds: the very idea of reality. "Réal" is therefore reality and the imaginary world that comes with it.

A vision is more than a look. It develops and confronts ideas, while capturing moments in order to interrogate our relationship with the world and society today and tomorrow.

Reality and vision mean more than a simple observation of the world. These concepts evoke the diversity and creativity of the human spirit.

Visions du Réel selects films that, through their formal and aesthetic choices, provide personal and singular descriptions of past and present realities.

The selected films – traditional narratives, experimental films, essays, diaries, works of contemporary art, family videos, historical investigations or even fragmented stories – are characterised by a free form that reinvents genres and incorporates stylistic devices that may be influenced by "direct cinema" or fiction.

The criteria adopted by the Artistic Director and the selection committee include the respect for the people filmed and the spectator, the deep involvement of the filmmakers in their work and the actual relevance of the film's existence. Other criteria are the originality of the project, the coherence in the film between the subject and the form, the treatment of time through editing and «mise en scène», the composition of the frame, the beauty of the shots, etc.

One of the Festival's aspirations is to satisfy the demands of the professionals and of the public with the conviction that documentary filmmaking is today both the most original and the most accessible contemporary form of art.

2. SECTIONS COMPETITIVE SECTIONS

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Composed of three sections – feature films, medium-length films and short films –, the competition seeks to present the best of contemporary documentary film productions. Only world, international or European premieres are eligible. Priority is given to world premieres.

REGARD NEUF

A selection of first feature films that focuses on discovering new talents. Only world, international or European premieres are eligible. Priority is given to world premieres.

HELVÉTIQUES

A selection of feature and medium-length films that are (co)produced by Switzerland. Only world, international or European premieres are eligible. Priority is given to world premieres.

PREMIERS PAS

A selection of first short films created by film schools. Only world, international or European premieres are eligible. Priority is given to world premieres.

GRAND ANGLE

A selection of the best of contemporary world cinema destined for a large audience. This section presents films, at least as Swiss premiere, directed by renown filmmakers and possibly already presented at other international film festivals.

NON-COMPETITIVE SECTIONS

Ateliers

Tributes to renown filmmakers known for their creativity and in-depth research. Retrospectives and masterclasses open to the public are included.

MAÎTRE DU RÉEL

Section dedicated to the work of an internationally renown filmmaker, who will be awarded a prize for her/his career. This section includes a retrospective and a masterclass open to the public.

FOCUS

An overview of contemporary documentary film productions of a Southern or Eastern country, the Focus section is organised together with Visions du Réel's Doc Outlook – International Market (DOCM). This section is developed in cooperation with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Swiss fund visions sud est. It includes a selection of films from the guest country and, in addition, the DOCM organises panel discussions, a pitching of projects from that same country and coproduction meetings.

DOC ALLIANCE SELECTION

A selection of three films amongst the ones nominated by the seven Doc Alliance festival partners.

3. SELECTION

The Artistic Director selects the films for the official programme in collaboration with the selection committee composed of Swiss and foreign experts.

The Artistic Director chooses the section in which the film will be presented.

The Festival may invite films that have not been selected for the official programme to be registered in the Media Library of the DOCM to be viewed by buyers and professionals. These films are featured in a separate catalogue and can be viewed in the Media Library (VOD service for accredited professionals). The participation of these films in the Media Library is subject to a fee (see Terms & Conditions Media Library).

All films selected for the Festival are included free of charge in the Media Library and buyers and professionals can view them.

4. SELECTED FILMS

All films selected in the competitive sections of Visions du Réel (International Competition, Regard Neuf, Helvétiques, Premiers Pas and Grand Angle) must be submitted in DCP format. No other film formats will be accepted.

The International Competition is open to:

- Short films (up to 30')
 - Medium-length films (between 31' and 60')
 - Feature films (more than 60')
- a) Finished during the 12 months preceding the Festival.
 - b) Presented as world, international or European premieres. Priority is given to world premieres.

Regard Neuf is open to:

- Feature films (more than 60')
- a) First films.
- b) Finished during the 12 months preceding the Festival.
- c) Presented as world, international or European premieres. Priority is given to world premieres.

Helvétiques is open to:

- Medium-length films (between 31' and 60')
- Feature films (more than 60')
- a) Produced or coproduced by Switzerland.
- b) Finished during the 12 months preceding the Festival.
- c) Presented as world, international or European premieres. Priority is given to world premieres.

Premiers Pas is open to:

- Short films (up to 30')
- a) Produced by a Film School.
- b) Finished during the 12 months preceding the Festival.
- c) Presented as world, international or European premieres. Priority is given to world premieres.

Grand Angle is open to:

- Feature films (more than 60')

Presented at least as Swiss premieres.

The Festival also presents four non-competitive sections: Ateliers, Maître du Réel, Focus and Doc Alliance. These sections are not open for submissions and are programmed by the Festival.

Definitions and rules that are applied to films presented as premieres:

1. **World premiere:** the film has never been screened before nor been broadcast on television or the web.
2. **International premiere:** the film has only been screened in its main production country and has neither been broadcast on television nor the web.
3. **European premiere:** the film has been screened outside Europe, but has never been shown in any European country, except for its main production country. It has neither been broadcast on television nor the web.
4. **Swiss premiere:** the film has been screened outside of its main production country and in Europe, but never in Switzerland. It has neither been broadcast on television nor the web.

The film producer must keep the Festival's programming department informed of any screenings that may take place before the Festival. Once the film is selected, the production company must agree not to screen nor broadcast nor make the film available on the web before the end of the Festival.

5. REGISTRATION AND SHIPPING OF THE FILMS FOR PRESELECTION

All films sent for preselection must be registered online by filling in the entry form.

An entry fee of CHF 20.- applies for each film submitted. Registration is only considered completed, once the fee has been received by Visions du Réel.

The Festival reserves the right to disqualify any submission, without refund of any kind, if it is not completed in accordance with these Regulations.

The preselection material can either be a password protected online link (valid until the end of April 2017) or two DVD copies (with the title of the film and the name of the contact person). The DVDs have to be sent to the following address before the registration deadline (date as per postmark):

**Visions du Réel
Programme
Place du Marché 2
CH-1260 Nyon
Switzerland**

For DVDs coming from outside of Switzerland, please write the following on the package: « No commercial value. For cultural purposes only ». The value mentioned on the customs documents must not exceed €10.

For the DVDs, cost of insurance and shipping will be paid by the sender, including any fees of forwarding agents and costs relating to customs import and export duties.

The DVDs of the films selected for the Festival will not be sent back. Once the Festival is over, the DVDs will become part of the Festival's archives. The DVDs of the non-selected films will be destroyed within three months after the Festival.

Films sent for preselection must be in the original version with French or English subtitles. The DVDs or online links must be with Visions du Réel on 20 January 2017 at the latest.

Submission deadlines

- **10 October 2016** for films finished by September 2016
- **8 January 2017** for films finished by February 2017

The entry form must be filled in and the entry fee received before these deadlines.

6. CONFIRMATION OF SELECTED FILMS

The selection process begins on 10 October 2016.

Should the selection committee find a film of interest, the submitter will receive a preselection notice.

Films that are not selected will receive a refusal notice. However, if they are considered interesting for the Media Library, producers will receive an invitation to register the film to the Media Library (see Terms & Conditions Media Library).

Notification of final selection (with indication of the section) will be sent to the submitter by the end of February 2017 at the latest. The official selection will be announced during Vision du Réel's annual press conference in March 2017. Submitters are not permitted to announce their selection before that date.

All selected films will be added free of charge to the Media Library, a password protected online platform accessible to all accredited professionals (see Terms & Conditions Media Library).

7. DOCUMENTATION FOR SELECTED FILMS

For each selected film, the following documents and materials must be sent immediately. Visions du Réel reserves the right to use any and all documents and materials for the promotion of the film and the Festival:

- At least three photos of the film (digital images, 10cm x 15cm, 300DPI, JPG)
- A portrait of the filmmaker(s) (digital picture, 10cm x 15cm, 300DPI, JPG)

- A dialogue list with timecodes in English and/or French
- Two DVDs or a password protected link of the final version of the film in high definition with English subtitles
- A link to the film trailer (3 minutes max.), available on streaming (Vimeo, Youtube, Dailymotion, etc.)
- The international title (that will be used in all internal and external communication by the Festival)
- Posters, flyers and other promotional material

8. VERSION AND SUBTITLES

The selected films of the competitive sections will be screened in their original version with English and French subtitles.

The production company has to pay for the cost of the English subtitles engraved on the copy of the film.

The French subtitles, if existing, must also be provided engraved on the copy or in a separate file. In case they do not exist, the Festival will create electronic subtitles in French. These remain the property of the company producing the subtitles.

9. SHIPPING DEADLINE OF THE SCREENING COPY

The screening copy (DCP) of the selected film must be with Visions du Réel by 31 March 2017 at the latest. This deadline must be respected.

10. SHIPPING COSTS OF THE SCREENING COPY

Shipping costs and custom duties to Switzerland must be paid by the sender.

With regard to the return of the screening copy, the Festival pays the Swiss export duties and shipping costs to the recipient, to the exclusion of all other costs (import duties, VAT, storage, etc.).

11. THE FESTIVAL'S RESPONSIBILITY

The Festival insures the screening copy as soon as it arrives at the Festival's office and until it is sent back. Should a film copy be lost or damaged during the Festival, Visions du Réel will only pay the cost of a new copy based on current prices.

12. PARTICIPANTS' OBLIGATIONS

The films selected for the competitive sections (International Competition, Regard Neuf, Helvétiques, Premiers Pas and Grand Angle) must be made available to the Festival free of charge and without compensation to the rights holders.

A film cannot be withdrawn from the Festival once confirmation of its participation in Visions du Réel has been received following the official email notification of its selection.

The production company confirms that all image rights of the persons in the film have been cleared.

13. DEBATE

The first screening of the films presented in the International Competition, Regard Neuf, Helvétiques, Premiers Pas and Grand Angle sections is followed by a public debate. Filmmakers whose films have been selected in those sections are required to attend those debates.

All filmmakers whose films are in the Festival's programme are invited to participate in discussions that take place every day at the Forum. These discussions, open to the public, are moderated by experts and focus on ethical and aesthetic aspects of the films.

14. PROGRAMMING

The Artistic Director decides which films are selected. This decision cannot be challenged.

Each film can be screened one or more times during the Festival.

15. INVITATION

The filmmakers whose films have been selected in the following sections: International Competition, Regard Neuf, Helvétiques, Premiers Pas and Grand Angle are invited to Nyon as follows:

- Three days for Swiss filmmakers who come from outside the Canton de Vaud and Geneva (two hotel nights paid for by Visions du Réel)
- Four days for European filmmakers (three hotel nights paid for by Visions du Réel)
- Five days for filmmakers coming from outside Europe (four hotel nights paid for by Visions du Réel)

The Festival pays for accommodation for one person per film. The Festival does not pay for either travel expenses or any other expenses.

16. FESTIVAL JURIES AND PRIZES

The International Competition Feature Films Jury will award the Sesterce d'or for the best feature film (CHF 20,000) and the Jury Prize for the most innovative feature film (CHF 10,000) of the International Competition.

The International Competition Medium-length and Short Films Jury will award the Sesterce d'or for the best medium-length film (CHF 10,000) and the Jury Prize for the most innovative medium-length film (CHF 5,000) of the International Competition. It also awards the Sesterce d'or for the best short film (CHF 5,000) and the Jury Prize for the most innovative short film (CHF 2,500) of the International Competition.

The Regard Neuf International Jury awards the Sesterce d'argent Regard Neuf for the best feature film (CHF 10,000) and the Jury Prize for the most innovative feature film (CHF 5,000) of the Regard Neuf section.

The Cinéma Suisse International Jury awards the Sesterce d'argent for the best Swiss feature film competing in any of the Festival's competitive sections (CHF 15,000). It also awards the Jury Prize for the most innovative Swiss film (CHF 10,000).

The Young Audience Jury, composed of local students, awards the prize for the best film of the Premiers Pas section (CHF 3,000).

The Sesterce d'argent Prix du Public is awarded by the audience for the best feature film of the Grand Angle section (CHF 10,000).

The Interreligious Jury awards a feature film of the International Competition that sheds light on issues dealing with meaning and sense of direction in life (CHF 5,000).

The Buyens-Chagoll Prize Jury awards a film of humanist dimension focusing on stories that develop values that provide meaning to the future of mankind (CHF 5,000).

17. PAYMENT OF THE PRIZES

The prize money is paid (in CHF) directly to the filmmakers who are responsible for redistributing this money according to the contracts they have with their partners.

18. PROMOTION AND PUBLICATION OF THE PRIZES

All award-winning films, according to point 16, must include in full view the logo AWARD WINNER 2017 VISIONS DU REEL – NYON on their promotional materials and on the documentation for the national and/or international distribution of the DVD. Films that have not been awarded any prizes may use the OFFICIAL SELECTION 2017 VISIONS DU REEL – NYON logo for their promotion. These logos are made available by the Festival.

19. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

Participation in the Festival implies unconditional acceptance of all rules and regulations set out in this document. The Artistic Director alone is allowed to make exceptions.

In the event of differences among the texts in the various languages, only the French version is binding.