

A.R.E.S. Short Film Festival



The Festival's goals

A short film is at the same time art expression's synthesis and a moment to set social messages to shared by others.

This Festival wants to launch a new kind of social communication; it is an invitation to prove one's commitment towards the social causes that most concern contemporary society.

It is therefore defined as an intervention finalized to include subjects and ideals to make of it not only an artistic workshop for creativity and innovation, but a social one, as well.

Communication through digital images places the young in the forefront of the cultural community: new technology's utilization associated to the necessity to communicate in a modern and easily divulged language.

The Festival's main purpose is the promotion of social cohesion by means of culture, by creating an open support network able to provide incentives, sustain and connect expression and positive experiences that in the cultural and social field can spread values as pluralism and collective welfare.

CONTEST REGULATION

Who can participate in the contest

All videomakers, italian or foreign, age 18 or older.

Organizers

The A.R.E.S. Short Film Festival is promoted by Ergoform soc. coop. and the City of Siracuse, in joint effort with the "Segno" Voluntary Association, the Busho Budapest Short Film Festival, the Association Cinecircolo (cinema club) "L'Eclisse".

Duration of the contest

The A.R.E.S. Short Film Festival will take place from 22 to 25 October 2009 in Siracuse, Sicily, Italy in the location of Castello Maniace. In the web page dedicated to the Festival, on www.ergoform.it, and by press a detailed calendar will be published accurately and with adequate advance.

Also, from 21 to 26 October 2009, in the Festival's same location, there will be a social videomaking Workshop "Ideas for an Art Sociology" on the 2009 contest's theme.

Instructions for registration and general rules

- 1) Registration is free and open to all italian or foreign videomakers of 18 years of age or older.
- 2) The Short films presented at the Festival are allowed a maximum length of 20 minutes, except documentaries for which there is no time limit.

- 3) The contest will be divided in two sections:
- **a section with free topic** divided in two age ranges JUNIOR (18-30) and SENIOR (30 or more)
- **a section with social topic** in this section there are no age distinctions (18 or older).
All video categories are accepted, except fiction, that will not be taken into consideration.

4) Films that are not in Italian must be subtitled in English.

5) Each participant can present only one project

- 6) Projects will only be accepted in DVD format and on the holder every participant must indicate: the film's title, original format, length, production year and also the videomaker's first and last name, home address and e-mail address.

The short films selected for the competition will be in mini DV.

All entries in the enrolment form and the releasing form (reproducible on photocopy and available on the web page dedicated to the Festival), must be filled in. Attached to the enrolment form there must also be at least two scene photographs from the film. Three copies of enrolment and releasing forms, each with appended signatures, along with three copies of author's ID have to be sent to the following address:

**ERGOFORM Soc. Coop.
Viale Santa Panagia, 90
96100 Siracusa, Italia**

8) Mailing expenses are assumed by the participant.

9) The projects have to be mailed with enrolment and releasing forms together with all the required material within **31st August 2009** (attested by postal stamp)

10) Each author affirms to be holder of the project's utilization rights in all its parts. Each author assures that the project's contents are in his availability and do not violate any law or regulation in force, infringement of any third party's rights, royalties, image rights, particularities, patent for industrial inventions. Each author also affirms and assures the absence of libellous contents. In any case the author relieves the Festival's promoters of any losses, damages, responsibilities, expenses or burden of any kind that can be caused by the project's contents or public screening.

11) The participants, by entering the contest, authorize utilization of their personal data, nominative and address by the Festival's promoters (acc. to Law 196/2003 in force in Italy) for all purposes connected to the Festival.

12) The DVD copy of every film (including those not selected for the contest) will not be given back, but will be entered in the Festival's archive. The films can be viewed during non-profit events, so as to promote the film itself and the festival promoter's activities.

13) The Festival's organizers, in spite of the rigorous care put in care and custody of the projects, do not take charge of theft, damage or loss they might undergo during the festival.

14) Registration as a participant automatically implies free concession to the Festival organizers of transfer fees and copyrights on the presented project, and right to transmit the film by any technical mean or transmission technology (via ether, satellite, DVD, VHS, internet). In any case, the utilization of this material will exclusively be for non profit initiatives.

The authors declare to relieve the Ergoform Soc. Coop. and the other promoters of the Festival, of any subsequent responsibility that might be caused by the presented project's use by Ergoform and the other promoters of the Festival. After the Festival, any relationship between the Festival's promoters and the film's authors is to be considered ended.

15) The participation form's dispatch implies acceptance of the present regulation, in every part.

16) The Soc. Coop. Ergoform, as promoter and steering committee of the Festival, reserves the right to make any decision concerning any matter not foreseen in the the present regulation or that depart from its content simply because of organizational reasons.

17) The author's presence (or a delegate)at theprize-giving evening is necessary for the consignment of the awards to the winners. An exception can be made for particular cases after settling new arrangements with the Festival's promoters.

18) The Court of Siracusa,Italy has legal competence for any eventual controversy.

Preliminary selections, selections and awards

- a) All the films will undergo preliminary selections and will be judged by a committee made by the promoters,experts in the field,social and cultural operators.
- b) The selected films will participate in the contest and they will be made known in the web page dedicated to the Festival, on www.ergoform.it . The films will be viewed by the juries, that will assign the following awards:
 - "Best Short Film" award, free topic section, Animation category, Junior
 - "Best Short Film" award, free topic section, Experimental category, Junior
 - "Best Short Film" award, free topic section, Documentary category, Junior;
 - "Best Short Film" award, free topic section, Animation category, Senior
 - "Best Short Film" award, free topic section, Experimental category, Senior
 - "Best Short Film" award, free topic section, Documentary category, Senior

 - "Best Short Film" award, social topic section.
- c) The pre-selection committee's and the jury's judgments are final and unchallengeable. Therefore any requests by the others to know valuations given to the projects by the committe and the jury will be refused.
- d) The authors selected for the contest will be contacted by the Festival's promoters for info on time and date of the film's viewing

Contest topic 2009 (social topic section)

The films presented in the social topic section will have to attain to the Festival's topic for the 2009 edition:

“Li Mali Mestieri’ (The Bad Jobs) : social protection and informal economy in the new poverty scenery”

While describing the Festival's main topic, we are quoting the original title of director Gianfranco Mingozzi's documentary (Li Mali Mestieri: protezione sociale ed economia informale nello scenario delle nuove povertà), in which he confirms cinema's function as social analysis and communication. The director offers a view of post-war Palermo through scenes he collected on the streets and in the city's neighborhoods, as examples of those strange and creative jobs that were invented and improvised in order to survive in such poverty and tragic conditions.

The documentary is dated 1963, more than forty years have gone by and it is interesting to think about how much the scenery has changed: economic and industrial development brought opulence, but also created new kinds of poverty and contemporary misery, disparity and marginalization.

It's in this scenery made of frailty that black economy grows, the kind of economy that escapes from all control mechanisms, that doesn't represent only moonlighting, but is mostly a curious sophistication of the "art of getting by".

The most typical informal economy activities are: producing for self-sufficiency or for the limited excess trade, micro-craftsmanship activities, recycling discarded material in urban zones, and all the variegated combination of self-sustaining jobs you can find only, or at least mostly, in big cities.

From window cleaners to pitchmen, from rag sellers that rummage in the garbage at the pony express stations, to rom people assigned to residual jobs and made illegal parking attendants, from car washers to employees at gas stations, from newspaper sellers at trafficlighs, to free paper carriers, etc.

Often, working without insurance coverage and in places where the worker's health is not protected and safety rules are not applied is one of the biggest problems.

All these jobs, sometimes very bizarre, have many aspects in common: the workplace is never an office, a factory or in an indoor location. Apart from a few exceptions, the workplace is almost always the street, an open space. Another aspect is the extreme mobility, the very high level of flexibility and frailty. Also, considering the subjects, there is no other kind of work that manages to be so multi-ethnic: almost all ethnic groups are involved, even if in different ways and measure.

Therefore it seems that the "bad jobs" are still a strong aspect of the society we want to reflect upon, in the globalization, metropolitan and development panorama, where the "struggle for survival" is still an occupation for many.

WORKSHOP for Social Videomaking Ideas for an Art Sociology

The Workshop for social videomaking will be held from 21 to 26 October 2009, in the Festival's same location.

Registration is free and open to 15 participants ranging from 18 to 30 years of age. The registration form is available in the web page dedicated to the Festival, on www.ergoform.it, and must be filled out and returned personally to the Ergoform's headquarters in Viale Santa Panagia, 90, Siracusa (please see exact address above), or by fax at the n° 0931/491681 within October 12th, 2009.

FORE MORE INFORMATION

- web page dedicated to the festival on www.ergoform.it

- the organizing board : Soc. Coop. ERGOFORM
Viale Santa Panagia, 90
96100, Siracusa , Italia

tel./fax 0931/481681

email aresfestival@ergoform.it