

5th Ajyal Youth Film Festival to Pay Tribute to Kuwaiti Acting Legend Abdulhussain Abdulredha and Present “Made in Kuwait” Programme

- *Late actor's son Bashar to collect award on his behalf at the Festival's opening ceremony on 29 November*
- *2017 Festival introduces new programming strand dedicated to showcasing creative works of countries in focus*
- *Inaugural edition to focus on Kuwaiti cinematic voices in Made in Kuwait*

Doha, Qatar; November 21, 2017: Following the presentation of a posthumous honorary award to the late acting legend Abdulhussain Abdulredha, Ajyal Youth Film Festival presented by the Doha Film Institute will launch “Made in Kuwait” programme.

In fitting celebration of Abdulredha's illustrious career, who charmed millions with his inimitable acting prowess and endearing personality, the inaugural edition of the new section will focus on Kuwaiti cinematic voices in Made in Kuwait, which illuminate the unique perspectives of the country's filmmaking talents.

Fatma Al Remaihi, Chief Executive Officer of the Doha Film Institute, said: “Abdulhussain Abdulredha has been a guiding star for artists across the Arab world. Beyond his sterling arts and cinematic contribution, he was a benevolent man who made a positive connection to the minds of audiences. He demonstrated through his life and works how art can transcend all differences and unite people. As we mourn his sad passing, we pay tribute to him by showcasing the works of young Kuwaiti talents that he would have been proud of.”

Six short films by Kuwaiti filmmakers will be screened in tribute to the great actor, who touched the lives of people across the Arab world through his comedy and inspired generations of creative artists.

The ‘Made in Kuwait’ programme includes six compelling short films that will undoubtedly touch a chord with all filmgoers. The programme includes:

- ***Muneera*** by Oscar Boyson is a cautionary tale that warns of paying attention to the mystical while ignoring the truth in front of us. It dreamily and seamlessly moves between Kuwait City and Venice.
- ***I Wasn't Cheating*** by Mousaed Khaled is about Suleiman, who is wrongly accused of cheating in an Arabic exam. Part morality tale, part gentle comedy, it takes us all back to those tense days of academic success.
- ***Sandarah*** by Yousef Al Bagshi is a tribute to human benevolence, and deep with emotions brought about by conflict through a story set during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, when a detachment of soldiers is sent to arrest a family.

- ***The Best Life*** by Meqdad Al Kout is an amusing take on the obsession for online living, and presents how a man is glued to his smartphone, following his favourite social media guru over the course of a day.
- ***Bird Watch – Health*** by Zahra Al-Mahdi is a charming episode that features wonderful line-drawn animation and whimsical handmade models, and explores the marvellous imagination of children.
- ***A Picture*** by Dawood Shuail is about Abdullah, whose father gives him a new camera. But while he is out and about taking shots, he inadvertently takes a picture of a crime in progress.

Tickets for the 5th Ajyal Youth Film Festival are available for purchase for QR25 for general screenings online at www.dohafilminstitute.com and from Ajyal FNAC Ticket Outlet at FNAC (Doha Festival City) or the Ajyal Katara Box Office in Katara Building 12. For up-to-date information or more details on the Ajyal Youth Film Festival, please visit www.dohafilminstitute.com/filmfestival.

The Ajyal Youth Film Festival is made possible thanks to its partners: Cultural Partner, Katara Cultural Village, Principal Partners Occidental Petroleum Corporation and Ooredoo and Strategic Partner Qatar Tourism Authority.

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Note to Editors:

About Doha Film Institute:

Doha Film Institute is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organisation. It supports the growth of the local film community through cultivating film appreciation, enhancing industry knowledge and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar. The Institute's platforms include funding and production of local, regional and international films; skills-sharing and mentorship programmes; film screenings; the Ajyal Youth Film Festival; and Qumra. With culture, community, learning and entertainment at its foundation, the Institute is committed to supporting Qatar's 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge-based economy.

Doha Film Institute

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