



7TH EDITION

# AGENDA 2025

17-21 September

٢١-١٧ سبتمبر

The American University in Cairo - Tahrir Square

حرم الجامعة الأمريكية بالقاهرة - ميدان التحرير

**MEDFEST**  
*Egypt*

**7<sup>TH</sup>**  
النسخة  
السابعة  
**EDITION**  
تجربة سينائية فريدة

**AGENDA**



# WELCOME NOTE

We are thrilled to welcome you to the 7th edition of MedFest Egypt, the festival that explores the intersection between cinema and health. This year, we delve into the powerful theme of "Transitions" those moments of change that define who we are and who we become. Whether it's a shift in identity, a life-altering diagnosis, the passage from youth to adulthood, or the end of a chapter and the beginning of another. Transitions shape our mental, emotional, and physical landscapes in profound ways.

Our program reflects these experiences through a carefully curated selection of films, discussions, workshops, panels, and masterclasses. We've created a space where filmmakers, healthcare professionals, and audiences come together to reflect on how change whether welcomed or unexpected, can lead to healing, discovery, and growth.

At MedFest Egypt, we believe that through storytelling and dialogue, we can better understand the challenges and beauty that lie within every transition.

ABOUT

# **MEDFEST** *Egypt*

An Egyptian touring International Short Films Festival.  
The 1st of its kind in the MENA region Founded in 2017,  
merging between films, health, and social impact. through a  
Unique Cinematic Experience. Screening a selection of  
diverse, high-quality, award-winning films followed by  
moderated discussions with a selected panel of experts from  
the filmmaking and healthcare worlds. As well as doing a 360  
ongoing program with different workshops, panels, and  
screenings to the general public across Egypt and  
internationally all year round .

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**PROGRAM**

# OPENING CEREMONY

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WEDNESDAY - 17TH OF SEPT ● INVITATIONS ONLY

🕒 9:00PM - 10:30PM

📍 EWART MEMORIAL HALL

## OPENING CEREMONY

The 7<sup>th</sup> edition will kick off with a musical performance, followed by the opening led by Sherif Nour Eldin. Actress Amina Khalil and Professor Mona El Rakhawy will be recognized for their contributions to cinema and health. The juries for both film and photography competitions and industry program “From Script to Screen” will be introduced, and the evening will conclude with the screening of the opening film “Diagnosis” - UK - 18 minutes

# ART EXHIBITION

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FROM 17<sup>TH</sup> TO 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER

🕒 11:00AM - 9:30PM      📍 MARGO GALLERY

## **PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION**

Experience powerful photographic interpretations of the concept of transitions as a result of a photography competition powered by Fujifilm and the jury and the curation of the exhibition by Divaz

## **ART EXHIBITION: "TRANSITIONS"**

For the first time, MedFest Egypt presents a curated art exhibition showcasing artistic interpretations of transition and change selected expertly organized and curated by Arcade Gallery.

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE



## DAY 1

THURSDAY - 18TH OF SEPT

🕒 10:30AM - 12:30PM

📍 HILL HOUSE

● CLOSED EVENT

### **WORKSHOP - DIGITAL SAFETY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS**

This workshop empowers women and girls to navigate digital safety.

**Instructor :** Farah Shash - Community Psychologist

🕒 11:00AM - 8:00PM

📍 MARRIOTT ROOM

● CLOSED EVENT

### **PITCHING SESSION - FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN**

Industry support program script to screen

**Jury:** Andrew Mohsen – Film Critic, Sawsan Youssef – Producer & Heba Yossry – Filmmaker

🕒 12:00PM - 4:00PM

📍 ARMENIAN HALL

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

### **WORKSHOP - IMPROVISE IN MOTION VOL.1**

Improvisation workshop. Explore shifting dynamics through games, discussion, and character work to play with the concept of transitions.

**Instructor :** Ramsi Lehner - Improvisation Coach and Actor (powered by Improhub)

🕒 1:00PM - 4:00PM

📍 HILL HOUSE

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

### **EXTENDED WORKSHOP PART 1 - KICKSTART FILMMAKING**

Perfect for beginners, providing essential knowledge to create their first film. This part covers: intro to filmmaking basics by the director Marouan Omara, Screenwriting by Karim ElDalil and Production with Bee Productions by Zeina Eissa & Mostafa Salah.

🕒 3:00PM - 4:00PM

📍 ORIENTAL HALL

### **MASTER CLASS - HOW TO WATCH A FILM**

A great start before watching films. Join this masterclass, Ramy Abdelrazek guides participants through cinema's language.

**By :** Ramy Abdelrazek – Film Critic

🕒 4:30PM - 5:30PM

📍 HILL HOUSE

### **ROUND TABLE - NEW CURRENTS AND EMERGING PATHWAYS**

ESLSCA will host a roundtable on the future generation of filmmakers across Egypt, exploring practices, new methods and approaches to sustainable cinema beyond Cairo.

#### **Panelists :**

Muhammed Taymour – Founder of Egyptian Film Producers Club,

Aya Dowara – Producer and Learning Program Director at Sard - Mariam Naoum

Medhat Saleh – Director and Founder of “Nghmsha” Cultural

and Ahmed Nabil – Programmer and Cinema Educator (powered by: ESLSCA)

**Moderated by :** George Louis Bartlett – Cinema Studies Lecturer in ESLSCA University



## PROGRAM SCHEDULE



## DAY 1

THURSDAY - 18TH OF SEPT

🕒 5:00PM - 7:00PM

📍 EWART MEMORIAL HALL

● FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

### FILM PROGRAM 1 - FIRST STEPS

First Steps takes us through the tender moments of childhood. These are the stories of young souls navigating a world bigger than their small hands can grasp, yet finding extraordinary strength in the simplest moments.

🎬 TOUCHING DARKNESS	ANIMATION	2024	CZECH
🎬 DAWN EVERY DAY	FICTION	2024	EGYPT
🎬 AMPLIFIED	FICTION	2024	JORDAN, EGYPT
🎬 ABU JUDY	FICTION	2024	EGYPT

#### Panelists :

Youssef Gabriel – Actor, Maha El-Wazir – Scriptwriter, and Dr.Maha Emadeldin – Professor of Psychiatry

**Moderated by:** Nadine Emile – Film Programmer and Radio Host

🕒 7:00PM - 8:00PM

📍 FOUNTAIN AREA

### PANEL - NO TIME FOR TRANSITIONS

In this panel we explore balance and mental wellness in a fast-paced world. Learn strategies to create space, manage overwhelm, and protect mental health while meeting modern personal and professional demands.

#### Panelists:

Yosra El Lozy – Actress, Nardine Farag – TV Presenter and Actress, Amr Gamal – Actor and Acting Coach, and Prof.Dr.Mona El Rakhawy – Professor of Psychiatry

**Moderated by:** Mohamed El Bassiouni – Co-Founder & Managing Director of “Tayarah”

🕒 8:00PM - 10:00PM

📍 EWART MEMORIAL HALL

● FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

### FILM PROGRAM 2 - BODIES IN MOTION

Bodies in Motion explores the powerful language of the human form - how we express our deepest fears, our wildest hopes, and our most vulnerable truths through the poetry of movement.

🎬 GUEST ROOM	FICTION	2015	USA
🎬 THE MIRACLE OF LIFE	DOCUMENTARY	2024	PALESTINE, NETHERLANDS
🎬 SLOW LIGHT	AIMATION	2022	POLAND
🎬 JUNE BUG	FICTION	2024	USA
🎬 NOS PETITES MAINS	DOCUMENTARY	2022	FRANCE
🎬 FLOUKA VAGABOND	ANIMATION	2025	ALGERIA

#### Panelists :

Gehad Hossam El Din – Actress, Kawthar Younes – Filmmaker, Dr.Hend Mahmoud – Psychiatrist

**Moderated by:** Dr.Khalid Ali – Senior Lecturer in Geriatrics and Film Critic

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

## DAY 2

FRIDAY - 19TH OF SEPT

🕒 11:00AM - 1:00PM 📍 EWART HALL

### FILM SCREENING - VIENNA SHORTS

● FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

For the first time in the Arab world, Vienna Shorts film festival is collaborating with MFE. Film screening and a conversation with Max Bergmann “the Festival Artistic Director” (with the support of Austrian Cultural Forum)

🎬 ABOUT ME	FICTION	2025	AUSTRIA
🎬 BLUE NOISE	FICTION	2022	AUSTRIA
🎬 CONTOURING	DOCUMENTARY	2019	AUSTRIA
🎬 EVEN THOUGH IT'S NIGHT	FICTION	2024	FR/ES
🎬 MASTERPIECE MOMMY	FICTION	2024	UK

🕒 11:00AM - 1:00PM 📍 ORIENTAL HALL

### MASTER CLASS - THE POWER OF AI IN FILMMAKING

For filmmakers who want to unlock the future of their work at Medfest's Eg AI Masterclass.

**By:** Mark Hanna - Filmmaker

🕒 11:00AM - 1:00PM 📍 HILL HOUSE

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

### WORKSHOP - SUPPORTING LOVED ONES THROUGH LIFE TRANSITIONS

Film-based workshop that explores adults caring for both aging parents and young families, highlights stories and strategies for navigating challenges.

**Instructors :** Dr.Khalid Ali, Dr.Mona El Rakhawi and Dr.Yassin El Mahgoub

🕒 11:00AM - 4:00PM 📍 MARRIOTT ROOM

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

### WORKSHOP - EVERYBODY NEEDS ACTING VOL.1

An acting workshop offering a unique experience using acting exercises to help you become more present.

**Instructor :** Amr Gamal – Actor and Acting Coach (powered by 3alam Tany)

🕒 2:00PM - 3:00PM 📍 ORIENTAL HALL

### MASTERCLASS - BEHIND THE BREAKDOWN: THROUGH THE LENS OF AHMAD ALMORSY

Acclaimed cinematographer Ahmad AlMorsy as he takes the audience through the pivotal transitions of his career. Attendees will gain insight into the development of his cinematic eye and the defining moments that shaped his path to major industry productions.

**Moderated by :** Amr Mousa – Director/Filmmaker (powered by: FujiFilm)

🕒 2:00PM - 5:00PM 📍 HILL HOUSE

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

### WORKSHOP - THE STORY WITHIN (Creative Writing for Self-Expression)

Discover your body's untold stories, through drama, writing, and storytelling, release what you hold and step into creative transformation

**Instructor :** Aisha Radwan – Expressive arts therapist (powered by: Expressive Art Egypt)

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

## DAY 2

FRIDAY - 19TH OF SEPT

🕒 3:00PM - 5:00PM

📍 EWART HALL

● FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

### FILM PROGRAM 3 - CONNECTIONS

Heart Connections unveils the invisible threads that bind us - the unspoken bonds between mothers and children, the silent promises between strangers, and the healing power of human touch. These are the stories that remind us we are never truly alone.

🎬 JUNIOR MESSENGER	FICTION	2021	UK
🎬 MENSCH	FICTION	2024	FRANCE
🎬 FIVE WEEKS	FICTION	2022	UK
🎬 HE'S MINE	FICTION	2016	CANADA
🎬 THE MOTHER AND THE BEAR	DOCUMENTARY	2024	EGYPT
🎬 DISSOLUTION	MIX	2025	USA

#### Panelists :

Tamer Habib - Scriptwriter, Nahed El Sebaie - Actress & Dr.Nabil El Kot - Psychiatrist

**Moderated by:** Youssef Hesham - Filmmaker

🕒 5:00PM - 6:30PM

📍 FOUNTAIN AREA

### PANEL - THE FIELD AND THE FRAME

Explore the connections between cinema, football and mental health. This panel scores a hat-trick by discovering how sports foster community, belonging, and healing, and how storytelling bridges cultures through universal themes.

#### Panelists :

Dr.Ahmad Aboul-Wafa - Psychiatrist, Marriette Rissenbeek - Creative Producer & Captain Abdel Rahman Tarek - Sports Manager

**Moderated by:** Mohamed Abdel Wahab "Huba" - Sports Presenter

🕒 6:30PM - 8:30PM

📍 EWART HALL

● FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

### FILM PROGRAM 4 - INNER LANDSCAPES

Inner Landscape delves into the hidden corners of the human psyche, where memories dance with dreams and where the courage to face our deepest truths becomes our greatest strength.

🎬 MY TEENAGE BLACKOUT	ANIMATION	2024	FRANCE
🎬 RICHARD	DOCUMENTARY	2024	AUSTRIA
🎬 INTERNAL NOISE	FICTION	2023	EGYPT
🎬 PERSONA	ANIMATION	2022	KOREAN
🎬 REAL LIFE MODELS WERE NOT HARMED IN THE MAKING OF THIS FILM	FICTION	2023	EGYPT
🎬 ON HOLD	ANIMATION	2024	SWITZERLAND
🎬 À TOI LES OREILLES	FICTION	2023	CANADA

#### Panelists :

Sedky Sakhr – Actor, Miryam Ahmadi – Filmmaker, Dr. Moustafa Altantawy – Psychiatrist

**Moderated by:** Ahmed Nabil – Filmmaker

🕒 9:00PM - 11:30PM

📍 EWART HALL

### ENTERTAINMENT - EIN GAMAL (interactive comedy show)

(This event entrance is not included in the festival passes - it needs a separate ticket)

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### DAY 3

SATURDAY - 20TH OF SEPT

🕒 11:00AM - 12:30PM

📍 ORIENTAL HALL

#### MASTER CLASS - BEYOND POST : SHAPING THE FUTURE OF FILM

Learn about the post-production process, story, emotion, and visual worlds through innovation and collaboration.

**By:** Adham ElSherif, Omar Adel, Sarah ElMasry, Mahmoud Yussif Ali & Nagib Afifi  
(powered by: CULT)

🕒 11:00AM - 1:00PM

📍 EWART HALL

● FILM SCREENING & TALK

#### FILM SCREENING - CARTE BLANCHE

Selected short films curated by Marriette Rissenbeek, former head of Berlinale

🎬 AM ENDE	FICTION	2024	GERMANY
🎬 DETLEV	STOP-MOTION	2024	GERMANY
🎬 IT'S JUST A WHOLE	ANIMATION	2023	GERMANY
🎬 KRUSTE	FICTION	2023	GERMANY

🕒 11:00AM - 1:00PM

📍 MARRIOTT ROOM

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

#### WORKSHOP - WHAT DO MEN WANT?

How has cinema influenced our perception of masculinity. A Preview of Masar Ekhtiary program, about manhood

**Instructors:** Raymond Barsoum, Adel Naeem and Mahmoud Saadallah (powered by Aspire for Community Development)

🕒 11:00AM - 2:00PM

📍 HILL HOUSE

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

#### WORKSHOP - TRANSITIONS IN MOTION (Expressive Video Art)

Capture your inner landscape, through movement and symbolic filmmaking, turn emotion, memory, and metaphor into a powerful visual expression of self.

**Instructor :** Aisha Radwan - Expressive arts therapist (powered by: Expressive Art Egypt)

🕒 1:00PM - 2:00PM

📍 ORIENTAL HALL

#### MASTERCLASS - ABOUT DIRECTING "TRANSITIONS THROUGH VISION"

With Sameh Alaa, Palme d'Or-winning director

**Moderated by :** Yasser Azmy - Editor

🕒 1:30PM - 5:30PM

📍 MARRIOTT ROOM

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

#### WORKSHOP - IMPROVISE IN MOTION VOL.2

Improvisation workshop. Explore shifting dynamics through games, discussion, and character work to play with the concept of transitions.

**Instructor :** Ramsi Lehner - Improvisation Coach and Actor (powered by Improhub)

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### DAY 3

SATURDAY - 20TH OF SEPT

🕒 2:00PM - 3:00PM

📍 ORIENTAL HALL

#### PANEL - FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN: NAVIGATING THE FILM INDUSTRY ECOSYSTEM

This panel explores the lifecycle of filmmaking, covering funding mechanisms, distribution strategies, marketing dynamics, and the evolving landscape of digital platforms, providing practical insights for filmmakers.

##### Panelists :

Safei Eldin Mahmoud - Producer, Meriame Deghedi - Distribution Manager, Sawsan Youssef - Producer

**Moderated by:** Dr.Mervat Abou Oaf - Dean of Visual & Creative Arts at ESLSCA

🕒 3:00PM - 5:00PM

📍 EWART MEMORIAL HALL

● FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

#### FILM PROGRAM 5 - CROSSING BORDERS

Crossing Borders follows the souls who leave everything behind in search of belonging, who carry their entire worlds in their hearts, and who teach us that the most beautiful journeys often begin with the most painful goodbyes.

🎬 IF I COULD FLY	FICTION	2025	GERMANY
🎬 SAUDI ONE WAY	DOCUMENTARY	2024	EGYPT
🎬 SOMETHING TO TELL YOU	DOCUMENTARY	2024	FRANCE
🎬 LOSS	FICTION	2024	EGYPT
🎬 NIGHT OF PASSAGE	FICTION	2025	AUSTRIA

**Supported by :** IOM MENA

##### Panelists :

Lena Chamamyan - Singer, Mohammed Alomda - Director & Producer & Dr. Ahmad Aboul-Wafa - Psychiatrist

**Moderated by:** Dr.Mohamed Elshorbgy - Medical Content Creator

🕒 5:00PM - 6:00PM

📍 ORIENTAL HALL

#### PANEL - LET'S TALK DIGITAL SAFETY

In partnership with EU & UNICEF, this panel tackles the transition to the digital age and safety for families and protection strategies for youth with special consideration for girls and women.

##### Panelists :

Ramy Radwan - TV Presenter, Retal Abdel Aziz - Actress and Farah Shash - Community Psychologist

**Moderated by:** Salma El Fawwal - Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF

🕒 6:30PM - 8:30PM

📍 EWART MEMORIAL HALL

● FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

#### FILM PROGRAM 6 - TENDER WOUNDS

Healing begins where the heart breaks. Tender Wounds explores the delicate art of mending - how we piece together our shattered selves, how we learn to love through loss, and how the scars we carry become the maps that guide us home to ourselves.

🎬 THE GIRL FROM HIGH SCHOOL	FICTION	2025	FRANCE
🎬 TETA	FICTION	2024	EGYPT
🎬 40	FICTION	2025	EGYPT
🎬 ONE LAST TIME	FICTION	2024	LEBANON

##### Panelists :

Amir Ramsis - Director, Tamer Nabeil - Actor and Dr. karim Raghilb - Psychologist

**Moderated by:** Micheal Malak | Content Creator

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### DAY 4

SUNDAY - 21TH OF SEPT

🕒 12:00PM - 4:00PM

📍 MARRIOTT ROOM

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

#### WORKSHOP - EVERYBODY NEEDS ACTING VOL.2

An acting workshop offering a unique experience using acting exercises to help you become more present.

**Instructor :** Amr Gamal - Acting Coach & Actor (powered by 3alam Tany)

🕒 12:00PM - 4:00PM

📍 ARMENIAN ROOM

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

#### WORKSHOP - AUTHENTIC EMBODIMENT

Explore the different colors of our emotions and how we can quickly transition from one to the other using our body as an instrument.

**Instructor :** Nadine Emile - Performer & Choreographer

🕒 2:00PM - 4:00PM

📍 HILL HOUSE

● REGISTRATION REQUIRED

#### EXTENDED WORKSHOP PART 2 - KICKSTART FILMMAKING

Perfect for beginners, providing essential knowledge to create their first film. This part covers: Cinematography by Maged Abo Eldahab & Distribution with I AM FILM by Saad Hendawy and Bahaa El Gamal

🕒 4:30PM - 5:30PM

📍 ORIENTAL HALL

● FILM SCREENING

#### FILM SCREENING - BEST OF MFE EGYPT

A selection of short films screening from Medfest Eg previous editions since 2017

🎬 DAUGHTER	STOP MOTION	2019	FRANCE
🎬 REGRESSION	FICTION	2016	COLOMBIA
🎬 SHAKE UP	FICTION	2023	FRANCE
🎬 NOTHING EVER REALLY ENDS	FICTION	2016	NORWAY

🕒 6:00PM - 7:00PM

📍 ORIENTAL HALL

#### PANEL - MEET THE FILMMAKERS

The festival's filmmakers share their creative processes, challenges, and personal journeys behind this year's standout films. Gain a behind-the-scenes look at artistic and logistical aspects of filmmaking, from concept to screen. Ahmed Samir, Mohamed Adam, Salma El Sayed Stohy, Yasmina El Kamaly, Aya El Hoseiny, Amr Fekry, Ramy Kassab & Adel Ahmed Yehia.

**Moderated by :** Ahmed Nabil - Filmmaker

# AWARDS CEREMONY

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SUNDAY - 21TH OF SEPT

🕒 7:30PM - 8:45PM  
**RED CARPET**

📍 MAIN GARDEN

🕒 9:00PM - 10:30PM  
**AWARDS CEREMONY**

📍 EWART MEMORIAL HALL

Celebrating the closure of the MFE 7th edition journey, and honoring the outstanding participants and winners of the Main film competition, Photography competition and the industry program "From script to screening"



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## ABOUT THE VENUE



The American  
University in Cairo

The AUC Tahrir Square Campus, located in the heart of downtown Cairo, is a historic and vibrant hub for education, culture, and innovation. As the original home of The American University in Cairo, it has played a significant role in shaping Egypt's intellectual and artistic landscape for over a century.

Today, the campus continues to serve as a center for academic excellence, hosting diverse programs, cultural events, and conferences that foster dialogue and collaboration between local and international communities. With its rich heritage and strategic location, AUC Tahrir Square remains a beacon of learning, creativity, and civic engagement in the region.



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