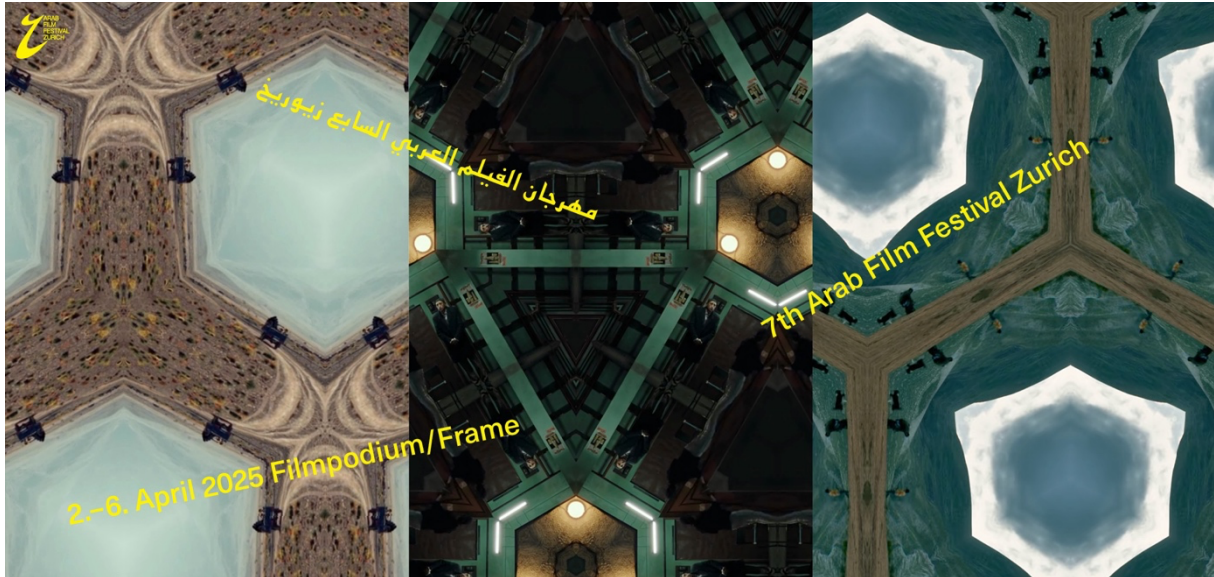


## The 7th Arab Film Festival Zurich 2025 (AFFZ)

### Newsletter 1



### 5 Days of Arab Cinema Celebration

We are delighted to present the new edition of the Arab Film Festival Zurich (AFFZ), to be held from **2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2025**. For five intense days, we invite you to immerse yourself in the richness and diversity of Arab cinema, in this event showcasing captivating works, emerging talent and inspiring discussions, including a Master Class session.

The Filmpodium, the festival's emblematic and historic venue, will remain the central venue for events. For this special edition, we will add an exceptional new partner: Frame Cinemas.

### Tributes to Sudan and Saudi Arabia



**Goodbye Julia, 2023 – Sudan**



**My Driver & I, 2024 – Saudi Arabia**

Sudan and Saudi Arabia are this edition's Focus Countries. This section offers us the chance to show and discuss some of their excellent productions, their shared challenges and unique expressions.

## Unique Experiences, a new VR section

The AFFZ is set to introduce a Virtual Reality (VR) section, aiming to provide festivalgoers with immersive experiences in the heart of Arab cinematic narratives. This innovative addition reflects the festival's commitment to showcasing emerging forms of artistic expression and engaging a younger audience eager for discoveries.

## School Program

The school program during and after the festival will engage schools in Zurich and elsewhere in Switzerland: There will be special screenings of suitable films for school classes, followed by moderated discussions.

## Awards and Competition



12 full-length feature films and documentaries will be in competition. An independent jury will select two winners. The prize money amounts to CHF 3,000 for "Best Film" and CHF 2,000 for "Best Director".

## Celebrating filmmakers and our audience

Bringing filmmakers from Arab countries to our town and fostering encounters and exchanges with Swiss filmmakers and our audience is one of the festival's main concerns, as is the opportunity for Arab films to find a Swiss audience. That is why we are delighted to unveil an exciting new feature: the **Audience Award for Best Arab Feature Film**.

***We invite you to join an unforgettable cinematic event that showcases the dynamism, creativity and diversity of Arab cinema. Come and discover new perspectives, explore emerging talent and immerse yourself in the fascinating stories that forge our cultural identity.***

***Save the dates and join us at the 7th AFFZ as we celebrate Arab cinema!***

**Read more about the festival and the association IAFFZ at [www.iaffz.com](http://www.iaffz.com)**