

## 40th Tehran Int'l Short Film Festival gets kudos on its first days



### Arts & Culture Desk

ILNA - The 40th Tehran International Short Film Festival, which opened on October 19, has attracted an audience of thousands on its first days.

Mehrab Mohammadzadeh, the head of the festival's Information Committee, announced that over 6,000 cinephiles flocked to the festival on its opening day.

Speaking about this unprecedented reception, Mohammadzadeh expressed his hope to be a perfect host to all artists, guests, and festival-goers, given the available resources.

Attracting more than 6,000 attendees on the event's first day signifies a revival of cinematic festivals, he highlighted.

He further said, "In response to the audience's demand, we have also introduced special screenings to ensure that no one misses the opportunity to experience these short films."

Mohammadzadeh highlighted the success of the specialized panel discussions, adding that Hall 12 of the Mellat Cineplex hosted eager students who had registered in advance. However, due to the students' high interest, daily single-meeting ticket sales have been sold out at the venue, and the hall was filled to its capacity. According to information posted on the festival's website, out of the 7,216 submissions from 131 countries, 58 short films have been selected to be screened in the International Competition Cinema Competition.

The selected films will compete in the sections of short fiction, animation, documentaries and experimental films.

The 40th Tehran International Short Film Festival kicked off on October 19 at Mellat Cineplex, and will run until October 24 in the two main categories of the Iranian Cinema Competition and the International Cinema Competition.

The festival's secretary, Mehdi Azarpendar, said 1,787 films were submitted for the national section, comprising 1,185 fiction films, 267 documentaries, 222 experimental films, and 113 animations.

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# Philippine official praises Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art's collection

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The Philippines' National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) Chairman Victorino Mapa Manalo, along with the deputy ambassador of the country in Tehran, visited the 'The Pioneers of Calligraphy' exhibition at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, held from October 14 to 20. This exhibition provides an overview of a hundred years of the development of Iranian calligraphy from the early 1970s, according to IRNA.

Victorino Mapa Manalo praised Iranian calligraphy as a delicate and beautiful art form and admired its transformation from the Qajar era to the contemporary period in terms of aesthetics.

After visiting the exhibition, the Philippine official also explored the museum's collection, explaining that the museum possesses many masterpieces created by modern and contemporary artists from around the world, some of which are considered among the most significant and influential artworks from a his-

torical art perspective.

He compared the architecture of the museum to iconic buildings such as the Guggenheim Museum in New York and the Joan Miró Foundation in Barcelona, Spain, recognizing the incorporation of traditional Iranian architectural elements.

He expressed readiness, interest, and hope for future close collaboration between the museums of both countries, with due regard for necessary standards.

The exhibition features over a hundred works by



70 calligraphy artists, including prominent figures like Asadollah Shirazi, Malek-Mohammad Qazvini, Ali-Mohammad Isfahani, Abdolhossein Qazvini,

Mohammadreza Kalhor, Mirza Gholamreza Isfahani, Mirza Kazem Tehrani, Mir Hossein Khoshnevis Bashi, Mehdi Sharif Shirazi, and many more.

## Selected works of 5Photo Award to go on display in Tehran

The secretary of the fourth Biennial Exhibition of the International 5Photo Award Festival has announced that the artistic works from this event will be on display at the Morteza Momayez Gallery of the Iranian Artists Forum from November 17.

Mehdi Shadizadeh stated that the international biennial will be held for one week, according to IRNA.

He added, "During the third edition of this festival, we were unable to showcase the artworks due to certain circumstances and conditions at that time."

Following discussions with Lili Golestani, the chair of the Policymaking Council for this festival, it was decided to display the works of both the third and fourth editions at the same time. Shadizadeh elaborated, "This biennial is much more comprehensive than previous ones because it will feature artworks from many artists worldwide, including those from Iran, South America, Japan, Turkey, Italy, and India among others."

The biennial is organized in collaboration with the cultural and artistic institution of Didnegar.



## 'Mr. Babak's Family' to feature in Japanese festival

Iran's short film 'Mr. Babak's Family,' directed by Aminreza Alimohammadi

and produced by Amin Rafiei, is scheduled to take part in the 7th edition of

the Shibuya TANPEN Film Festival in Japan, ILNA reported.

This is the eighth international experience of the film at global festivals.

This festival, scheduled to take place from December 22 to 24 in two Japanese cities of Nagasaki Tokyo, showcases a diverse array of content, including short and feature films, music videos, and television series.

The international distribution of this film is handled by Soulmaz E'temad.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

