

SICILIA QUEER FILMFEST 2025
PALERMO MAY 25th – 31st 2025

PARTICIPATION RULES

PREMISE

1. ORGANIZERS

The Sicilia Queer filmfest is organized by the cultural association Sicilia Queer. As an independent festival, it has been supported throughout the years by the MIC - Directorate General for Cinema; the Regione Siciliana, Department of Tourism, Sport and Show Business – Sicilia Film Commission; the Municipality of Palermo, Department of Culture. Additional support comes from some associations and private sponsors.

2. AIMS

The Sicilia Queer filmfest – International New Visions Festival is a project that aims for promoting cinematographic culture and the fight against social discrimination, defending and supporting the culture of diversity through the promotion of non-compliant movies, exploring horizons in search of a new perspective towards the cinema of the future. The festival aims to promote young actors, emerging and independent cinematography, new expressive forms linked to experimentation and the innovation of both traditional and non-traditional languages.

3. DATE AND DURATION

The fifteenth edition of the Sicilia Queer filmfest will be held from May 25th to 31st, 2025, for a total duration of seven days.

4. PROGRAM

In addition to several non-competitive sections, the festival features two different competitive sections:

- **Queer Short:** International Short Film Competition. A competitive section for works related to queer themes in a broad sense. Any genre is accepted (fiction, documentary, animation, music video, experimental films) except for commercials and TV jingles and titles.

- **International New Visions Award:** International Competition for fiction feature movies and documentaries competition. A competitive section for debut and second movies, for debuting directors or for innovative movies considered such from wide perspectives, not necessarily related to queer issues.

5. INTERNATIONAL QUEER SHORT COMPETITION SUBSCRIPTION

- a) A 10€ (ten euros/00) entry fee is applicable to submitted films until December 20th, 2024; 15€ (fifteen euros/00) from December 21st, 2024 to February 5th, 2025, and 20€ (twenty euros/00) from February 6th to February 28th, 2025.
- b) Film selection is at the discretion and judgment of the festival direction.
- c) Only short films relatable broadly to queer issues and completed after January 1st, 2023, are eligible for the competition. The running time must not exceed 25' of total duration. The festival direction reserves the right, in exceptional cases, to admit works that exceed this running time.
- d) All films should be submitted online through the official entry form which can be filled out via the FilmFreeway platform.
- e) Filmmakers willing to enter the competition must send a DVD or a streaming link or upload a file following the procedures indicated in the entry form on FilmFreeway by March 30th, 2025.
- f) Along with the DVD/link, a dialogue list in Italian, English or French should be sent for those movies that are not Italian dialogued and are not subtitled in Italian, English or French. All selected films must be subtitled in English.
- g) The festival direction will appoint an international of at least three members designated to award the prize for best film.
- h) A public award may be established, which can be named and supported by one of the festival's sponsors.
- i) In case you're not able to provide us with a digital preview copy please send your DVD (the date of the postmark will be considered authentic) to the following address:

SICILIA QUEER FILMFEST
c/o SUDTITLES srl
Via Catania, 73
90138 – Palermo
ITALY

6. NEW VISIONS AWARD INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILM COMPETITION SUBSCRIPTION

- a) A 20€ (twenty euros/00) entry fee is applicable to submitted films until December 20th, 2024; 25€ (twentyfive euros/00) from December 21st, 2024 to February 5th, 2025; 30€ (thirty euros/00) from February 6th to February 28th, 2025.
- b) Film selection is at the discretion and judgment of the festival direction.
- c) Only fiction feature films and documentaries completed after January 1st, 2023, are eligible.
- d) All films should be submitted online through the official entry form which can be filled out via the FilmFreeway platform.
- e) Filmmakers willing to enter the competition must send a DVD or a streaming link or upload a file following the procedures indicated in the entry form on FilmFreeway by March 30th, 2025.
- f) Along with the DVD/link, a dialogue list in Italian, English or French should be sent for those movies that are not Italian dialogued and are not subtitled in Italian, English or French. All selected films must be subtitled in English.
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Via Catania, 73

90141 – Palermo
ITALY

7. SELECTED FILMS AND SHIPPING OF PRINTS

- a) Only for invited works, the Programming Office will request complete documentation, providing a list of required materials. Publication of these materials is considered authorized and free for both the catalog and promotional purposes through print and web.
- b) Any missing informational and photographic materials must arrive strictly within one week from the notification of selection.
- c) The shipping costs of all the materials for the selection are at applicant's expense. Materials from non-selected films will not be returned, and the copyright owners agree their deposit and preservation in the Sicilia Queer filmfest archive for exclusive purposes use of study, cataloguing and reporting to other festivals. The archive will be available for free consultation.

8. FILM SCREENING

- a) The screening schedule is exclusive decision of the Festival Direction.
- b) Screening formats must be submitted in DCP, Blu-ray, or HD video file format.
- c) Foreign language films, if not already subtitled in Italian, will be screened in the original version with Italian electronic subtitles provided by the festival.
- d) The Festival Direction will produce a general catalog of the presented works.

9. AWARDS

- a) All the awards are assigned to the directors of the winning works. The competitive sections of the festival will have the following awards:
 - **International New Visions Award:** International Fiction Feature Films and Documentaries Competition. The award, followed by the related motivations, will be assigned by an international jury of at least three members selected by the Festival Direction. The final, incontestable judgement of the jury will assign a prize of 1,000.00€ (one thousand euros/00) to the best feature film.

- **Queer Short Award:** The award, followed by the related motivations, will be assigned by a jury of at least three members selected by the Festival Direction. The final, incontestable judgement of the jury will assign a prize of 500.00€ (five hundred euros/00) to the best short film.
- b) Producers and distributors, as well as those involved in the purchase and sales of the awarded films, agree to mention the award received at the festival in advertising materials (posters, press kits, trailers, websites). The official logos of the various awards will be provided by the festival and must not be altered in any way without the festival's authorization.
 - c) Winners will be invited to provide (free of charge) a copy of the awarded film for additional screenings for any collateral initiative aimed at promoting the awarded works in the weeks following the festival.

10. GENERAL RULES

- a) The screening copies of the selected works must be sent before April 30th, 2025 (in case of international shipping), and before May 5th, 2025 (in case of domestic shipping).
- b) Unless differently agreed, screening copies of selected films coming from non-EU countries must be sent via express courier. Please write on the outside of the package: "No commercial value. For cultural purposes only". The festival will not accept the shipping of films burdened by customs fees at festival expense.
- c) Filmmakers and/or producers are responsible for the content of their works and they automatically acknowledge, by entering the competition, that they have fulfilled any obligations towards third parties, including royalties and copyright.
- d) Selected films, whose availability has already been confirmed by right holders, cannot be later withdrawn from the festival for any reason. If filmmakers or producers decide to withdraw a selected film already included in the festival schedule, a payment of 2,000.00€ (two thousand euros/00) will be required as compensation for damages.
- e) The application to the SICILIA QUEER filmfest implies the unconditional acceptance of every part of these regulations.
- f) The Direction of the SICILIA QUEER filmfest can make decisions on matters not mentioned above. In case of any controversy, the place of jurisdiction is the

Court of Palermo. Please note that, in case of any dispute, only the Italian version of these regulations is legally valid.

The Direction of the Sicilia Queer

