



SPECIAL CATEGORY 2017 “GIVE VOICE TO THOSE WHO HAVE NONE” – SHORT FILM COMPETITION
“WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR? GIVE VOICE TO SOLIDARITY”

During the seventh edition of the Sabaoth International Film Festival (S.I.F.F.) which will be held in Milan from the 29th of November to the 2nd of December, 2017 there will be a SPECIAL COMPETITION for short films on the theme of “Who is my neighbour? Give voice to solidarity!” There is no entry fee for this category and it is open to all filmmakers: contributions from teenagers and young people are particularly welcome.

THE 3 SHORT FILMS THAT ARE CHOSEN AS WINNERS WILL BE DONATED TO THREE NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATIONS THAT ACTIVELY WORK IN THE AREA OF SOLIDARITY, REACHING OUT TO THOSE IN NEED.

In the last edition the S.I.F.F. gave voice and visibility to the theme of the beauty of creation, with its battle for survival and the important and precious task that humanity has been entrusted with: nurturing and caring for nature. In 2013 we highlighted the issue of (dis)ability and the prejudice those with special needs are often subject to as well as narrating the inspiring stories of challenges overcome and victories achieved. In 2011, light was shed on the abuse suffered by women, in particular domestic violence, with a series of round tables, discussions and screenings and in 2008 to the massacres in Orissa, (India).

This time, we will explore an important and delicate theme essential for the future of humanity, taking our inspiration from the words of Jesus Christ. In the Gospels of Mark, Mathew and Luke we read of a scribe who asks Jesus which is the most important commandment. In Mark 12:29-31 Jesus replies: *“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”*

Chapter 2 of the Book of James in the New Testament is food for thought: *My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favouritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?*

Our question for you is: who is my neighbour? Is it the person who speaks my language, my neighbour, someone with my own interests, who lives in my country, who has the same colour of skin? What does it mean to love my neighbour as myself? How can this love be translated into a tangible action? Does it mean giving money to a beggar on the street? Donating a blanket for the homeless? If someone in my family had a problem how would I help them? Would I do the same for someone I don't know?

Our challenge for you is give us an answer in the light of what the Bible teaches us in maximum 3 minutes, with no audible dialogue .



Contents

The Special Category films should be maximum 3 minutes long and can either :

- Narrate a true story of love for one's neighbour that brings hope and transformation
or
- narrate what the world would be like if each one of us loved our neighbour as we love ourselves

The film must have NO AUDIBLE DIALOGUE OR SPOKEN WORDS, (musical soundtrack and sound effects are accepted)

Wherever Jesus went, He touched the hearts of people with His unconditional love radically transforming their lives forever. As they got to know Him, through his actions and His words, they learnt the real meaning of Life and discovered the Truth that gave them true freedom. Often, all it needs is a smile, a kind action, a word of comfort to change the story of someone's day and life. It doesn't take much to plant the seed of hope. It takes a little more to water it and nurture the precious flower of a transformed life. But what does it mean to give voice to solidarity the way Jesus did? What does it mean to do this as Christians? When I look at myself in the mirror and then at the people around me, do I see my reflection in them as well? Have we ever stopped to consider the implications and deep meaning of the word "otherness"?

In a world that urges us to invest on ourselves and on our personal survival, we believe it's still possible to meet our neighbor on neutral ground and come away enriched and blessed by that encounter. The Bible teaches us that there is more joy in giving than in receiving. Is that still true? What would the world be like if we acted according to what the Word teaches us: that every human being is made in God's image and likeness?

During the last day of the Festival, in which there will be round tables with guest speakers to discuss and share our thoughts on this theme, selected short films from the special category will be screened.

During the Gala evening, the three winning short films of this category will be screened.



FESTIVAL REGULATIONS (please also complete the separate Application Specifications form)

1. Participation is free of charge and open to everyone. Films that have already participated in other festivals or have already been broadcast/distributed or shown on YouTube or via other social networks or in any other events or by any other means **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
2. The short film can be made with any type of video camera. Films shot with camcorders or cell phones will be accepted.
3. The organization reserves the right to pre-select those shorts that will be shown to the public. These selected works will be screened the final day of the Festival.
4. All music for the soundtrack and associated visuals (photographs, slides, film etc.) **MUST** be free of copyright or you must have secured the performing rights licenses for public performance of copyrighted contents (please complete the end section of this form). In the event that your production contains the work of other individuals or organizations including any copyrighted musical compositions or excerpts thereof, you understand that it is your responsibility to secure any necessary permissions and/or licenses, and you will hold Sabaoth S.C.A.R.L. and its affiliates harmless for any failure to do so. You have secured (or will secure prior to performance) small performing rights licenses for the public performance of any copyrighted musical composition and synchronization licenses for the inclusion of any copyrighted musical compositions in film, video, or multimedia presentations. **(Please complete the release form on page 5)**
5. The jury, made up of experts in this field, will proclaim the winners at the Gala evening on December 2, 1017. Their decision is final and irrevocable. The winners will be notified in due time.
6. THE 3 WINNING SHORT FILMS WILL BE DONATED TO THREE NO-PROFIT ASSOCIATIONS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN PROJECTS AIMED AT OFFERING SOLIDARITY TO THOSE IN NEED.
7. THEME OF THE SHORT FILM: «Love your neighbour as yourself» (see “**Contents**” on page 2).
8. LENGTH OF THE SHORT FILM: 3 minutes max.
9. FINAL SLOGAN: the last frame of the short film must have the following slogan:
“WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR? GIVE VOICE TO SOLIDARITY!”
10. CONDITIONS: as specified under “**Contents**” on page 2, there **must be no audible dialogue or narration/spoken words in the short film.** Music soundtracks and sound effects are permitted.
11. No royalties of any kind will be paid for any use of the material.



REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION:

A) Please send a copy of the short film in **region free, PAL DVD** **with no copy protection**, USB pen drive, or via internet transfer (e.g.: WeTransfer).

B) The name, address, email address and telephone number of the participant should be written in capital letters on the sleeve or front of the DVD case and on the DVD. In the case of USB pen drive or file upload please include a separate document with this information.

C) The DVD or USB pen drive together with the completed entry forms, should be sent to the following address by **June 30, 2017** (the postmark will be held as the valid date):

Sabaoth International Film Festival
Viale Rosalba Carrieria, 11
20146 Milano
Italia
Tel: 00393356863164 Fax: 00390331954852

The Organization will not be held responsible for damaged parcels and/or those delivered late, neither for any theft or loss of the package.

Files sent via internet should be sent, together with the completed entry forms, to the following address.
E-mail festival@sabaothfestival.com

D) The DVDs/USB pen drives received will not be returned. The works, at the end of the festival, will be kept in the festival archives. The organization declines any responsibility for damage to or theft of the films during the time they are in the possession of the S.I.F.F.



The participants should complete and return the following release declaration:

This edition of the Sabaoth Intl. Film Festival may be replicated in other cities and countries. S.I.F.F. will inform you, if this opportunity arises, of the dates and venues.

Please indicate if you agree to your film being shown.

YES..... NO....

I undersigned..... hereby waive all rights to royalties and authorize the Sabaoth International Film Festival to broadcast the submitted work at its discretion in order to promote the work of associations actively involved in solidarity towards those in need.

YES..... NO.....

I hereby waive all rights to royalties and authorize the Sabaoth International Film Festival to offer my production to an association in Italy to promote solidarity towards those in need.

I authorize the Association to add its contact details at the end of the film.

YES..... NO.....

I hereby authorize the Sabaoth International Film Festival to duplicate a number of copies necessary for the international and national jury to be used EXCLUSIVELY for the purpose of assessing the films to be admitted to the Festival and those deemed winners. Sabaoth Intl Film Festival will inform me of the number of copies.

YES..... NO.....

SIGNATURE.....DATE.....

Participation in the competition implies the integral acceptance of the aforementioned regulations. In the case of issues not covered by this specific application form, the decisions taken by the festival organization will be deemed final and irrevocable.

For information:

Liliana Oliveri

Executive Director

Sabaoth International Film Festival

E-mail – execdirector@sabaothfestival.com

Website www.sabaothfilmfestival.com