



IDFA 2018 Talks Program for Professionals

Amsterdam, Thursday, November 8 2018

During the upcoming IDFA, which takes place from November 14 through 25, both festival audiences and IDFA's professional visitors are invited to join in the festival's inspiring Talks program. For industry professionals, IDFA offers a thematically structured program featuring seven Industry Talks and 23 Industry Sessions on issues central to the documentary filmmaking community. In addition, five Filmmaker Talks will each offer an in-depth look at the body of work of a renowned filmmaker.

Industry Talks

This year's Industry Program is thematically structured. Under the theme *Documentary in Demand*, the Talks program includes *SVOD – Repositioning the Documentary Film Market*: a Talk offering key players in the field a platform to share their views on the transitional media landscape. Under the theme *Shifting Paradigms*, a discussion of fair practices for co-producing respecting aesthetics, cultures and economies across borders will be central at the Talk titled *Code of Conduct – Towards an Ethical Way of Co-producing*. With the Talk titled *World Film Heritage – Who Decides?* IDFA invites a discussion of who decides what films are preserved – and on what criteria. This Talk is part of the theme *Diamonds Are Forever*. Under the theme *Among Filmmakers*, IDFA hosts a Talk titled *Solidarity with Filmmakers at Risk*, inviting filmmakers and other stakeholders to discuss the development of a coordinated strategy for action to support filmmakers who are at risk.

IDFA Industry Talks take place from November 17 through November 21 at de Brakke Grond, and are open to all accredited guests. A full list of Industry Talks is now available [online](#).

Industry Sessions

This year, IDFA's Industry Sessions feature 23 events. Speakers include Chris King, Paul Miller and Zahra Rasool and topics range from blockchain, alternative financing and big data to serialized content and inclusive realities. For a selection of Sessions, IDFA has partnered with co-hosting partners. Examples in the roster of co-hosted events are *VR for Social Impact – Lessons from the Field | hosted by Google*, and *How to Make Money as an Author | hosted by LaScam*.

The Industry Sessions take place from November 16 through November 21 at de Brakke Grond, Compagnietheater and NH Carlton, and are open to all accredited guests. A full list of Industry Sessions can be found [online](#).

Filmmaker Talks

Filmmaker Talks are a series of conversations with renowned documentary directors: inspirational, hour-long talks covering their body of work, creative methods and views on documentary filmmaking, illustrated with excerpts from their films. This year, IDFA is honored to welcome Amos Gitai, Audrius Stonys, Helena Třeštíková, Maria Ramos and Nicolas Philibert to take to the stage during these talks. The Filmmaker Talk dedicated to Amos Gitai will accompany the sole screening of his latest short documentary film, *Letter to a Friend in Gaza*. The influences of the Baltic tradition of poetic documentary on Audrius Stonys' work will be central to the Talk on his oeuvre. In addition to a retrospective of her work at IDFA 2018, Helena Třeštíková has compiled a Top 10 of her favorite documentaries: she will present these as part of the Filmmaker Talk dedicated to her work. In her Filmmaker Talk, Maria Ramos will discuss her films and the state of her homeland, Brazil. Nicolas Philibert's methods and sources of inspiration will be central to his Filmmaker Talk.

Filmmaker Talks take place from November 15 through November 22 at Tuschinski and de Brakke Grond. [The Filmmaker Talks](#) are open to all visitors. Booking in advance is recommended.

A selection of Industry Talks and Sessions is hosted by Creative Europe Desk NL and Flanders, Europa Distribution, Netherlands Film Fund, Google, LaScam, Lyfta, Pitch the Doc, Archive Valley, ARTE, NCE and NBF.

IDFA's audience program is made possible by Fonds 21, VSBfonds and Creative Europe Media.

– End press release –

Editors' Notes

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About IDFA

IDFA (International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam) offers an independent and inspiring meeting place for audiences and professionals to see a diverse and high-quality program. The diverse nature of the event applies to the form and content of the films as well as to the cultural backgrounds of the filmmakers. IDFA offers an alternative to mass entertainment and uniformity, confirming that there is an increasing need in audiences for high-quality films that delve deep and urge us to reflect. Since 2007, the festival's New Media program IDFA DocLab showcases the best interactive non-fiction storytelling and explores how the digital revolution is reshaping documentary art.

In addition to the festival, IDFA has developed several professional activities, contributing to the development of filmmakers and their films at all stages. At co-financing and co-production market IDFA Forum filmmakers and producers pitch their plans to financiers; at Docs for Sale new documentaries are on offer to programmers and distributors; the IDFA Bertha Fund supports filmmakers and documentary projects in developing countries; and the IDFAcademy offers an international training programs for up-and-coming doc talents.

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