

WORLD
NEW WAVES OF CREATIONS
A.I
FILM
FESTIVAL

21-22 APRIL 2026

PALAIS DES FESTIVALS
CANNES



FESTIVAL PROGRAM



WORLD
21-22 APRIL 2026
FILM
FESTIVAL
NEW WAVES OF CREATIONS

NEW PARTNERSHIPS
NEW DESTINATIONS
...AND A TRULY GLOBAL VISION.

THE VISION

A.I.-POWERED CINEMA IS CROSSING BORDERS,
CONNECTING CULTURES, AND RESHAPING HOW
STORIES ARE TOLD.

THE JOURNEY HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN.

WAIFF 2026 envisions a new era of cinema where artificial intelligence becomes a creative partner, not a shortcut.

A **global festival** connecting cultures, platforms, and generations, celebrating bold storytelling, hybrid filmmaking, and emerging voices.

From short-form to feature films, **we explore how A.I. transforms imagination into cinematic art.**

WORLDWIDE ROAD TO CANNES

The Road to Cannes is WAIFF's global journey. International editions select the five best A.I.-driven films from each country. These finalists travel to Cannes for the Grand Finale at the Palais des Festivals, competing with creators from around the world. Each nation brings its unique culture, vision, and creative identity to the global stage.



WAIFF BRASIL
SÃO PAULO
27-28 February



WAIFF KOREA
SEOUL
6-7 March



WAIFF JAPAN
KYOTO
12-13 March



WAIFF CHINA
WUXI
20-21 March

THE VENUE CANNES



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LE PALAIS des FESTIVALS

KEY 2026 OFFICIALS : FILMS & AWARDS



GONG LI
WAIFF's President / 2026 edition

Winner of the Volpi Cup in Venice

Appointed as president or jury member at major festivals worldwide including Cannes, Venice, Berlin and Shanghai

Honored as Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters in France



AGNES JAOUÏ
WAIFF's President of the Jury / 2026

Honorary César (2024)

César for Best Film (2001)

César for Best Supporting Actress (1998)

COMPETITIONS



AI SHORT FILMS

DURATION:
minimum **5 minutes**, maximum **10 minutes**

4 GENRES
(action, animation, emotion, fantasy)

MINIMUM OF 3 AI TOOLS
(including at least one image-based tool)

PRODUCTION FILE REQUIRED

ENGLISH OR ORIGINAL VERSION
with English subtitles.



SOCIAL MEDIA MICRO-SERIES

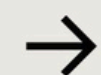
4-6 EPISODES
each **under 2 minutes**

VERTICAL FORMAT 9:16
Designed for Reels / Shorts

AI-GENERATED IMAGERY + NARRATION

PRODUCTION FILE REQUIRED

ENGLISH OR ORIGINAL VERSION
with English subtitles



ADVERTISING & CORPORATE AI FILMS

RECOMMENDED DURATION:
up to 3 minutes

FICTIONAL PRODUCT OR SERVICE.

PRODUCTION FILE REQUIRED.

ENGLISH OR ORIGINAL VERSION
with English subtitles.



AI FEATURE FILMS

MINIMUM DURATION:
25 minutes

FULLY AI-DRIVEN OR HYBRID PROJECTS.

FICTION OR DOCUMENTARY FILMS.

SIGNIFICANT USE OF AI
(writing, image, post-production)

PRODUCTION FILE REQUIRED

ENGLISH OR ORIGINAL VERSION
with English subtitles

DROP OFF YOUR
AI FILMS BEFORE
FEB. 27, 2026

Check the regulation before
to submit your project and
prepare your file:



AWARDS



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KEYNOTE 2026 SPEAKERS



MATHIEU KASSOVITZ

HYBRID FILMS



JEAN-MICHEL JARRE

ARTISTIC CREATION



JOHANN CHORON

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REZA SIXO SAFAÏ

BUILDING AN AI STUDIO

PRO TALKS SPEAKERS

FRENCH ACTOR, FILM DIRECTOR
PRODUCER AND SCREENWRITER **MATHIEU KASSOVITZ** ¹

CEO TECH CANNES, PRODUCER **SARAH LELOUCH** ²

CEO CINEMAGE SOFICAS , CEO ABEL AND OZMA LABS,
FEDERATION STUDIOS COFOUNDER **SERGE HAYAT** ³

CSO BETASERIES, PREDICTIVE AI TOOL **REMI TERESZKIEWICZ** ⁴

CEO GENARIO & GENARIO STUDIO
(AI SCREENWRITING TOOL) **DAVID DEFENDI** ⁵

PRODUCER SONGWRITER **JEAN-MICHEL JARRE** ⁶

AI FILMMAKER, PHANTOMX.
INSTRUCTOR AT CURIOUS REFUGE **KAVAN CARDOZA** ⁷

SUNDANCE/CANNES WINNING FILMMAKER
+ COFOUNDER MASSIVE STUDIO AI **REZA SIXO SAFAÏ** ⁸

VFX SUPERVISOR / AI CREATIVE DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER **BRAD MINNICH** ⁹

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS & GEN AI LEAD
MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT (GOOGLE) **JOHANN CHORON** ¹⁰

FRENCH VISUAL ARTIST, FILM DIRECTOR,
CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIST AND AI-DRIVEN STORYTELLER **STÉPHANE TRANQUILLIN** ¹¹

FRENCH DIRECTOR, CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIST,
PRODUCER AND GENERATIVE AI EXPERT **GILLES GUERRAZ** ¹²

FRENCH VISUAL ARTIST, CREATIVE DIRECTOR,
AND GENERATIVE AI EXPERT **NATHALIE DUPUY** ¹³

AI VISUAL ARTIST, CREATIVE FILMMAKER,
DIGITAL CREATOR AND GENERATIVE STORYTELLING PIONEER **KELLY BOESCH** ¹⁴

FRENCH DIRECTOR, AI VISUAL ARTIST, GENERATIVE AI EXPERT **ELISABETH GUTHMANN** ¹⁵



PANELS & keynotes

2026
21 APRIL
DAY 1

Festival Opening — Espace Miramar

Morning & Afternoon — Pro Talks

10:00 – 10:30 : Opening with Officials

10:30 – 11:00 : Keynote Jean-Michel Jarre (AI : Augmented Imagination)

11:15 – 12:00 : Panel 1 - *Artistic creation*

12:05 – 12:30 : Award *Best Soundtrack AI*

12:30 – 15:30 : Lunch / Networking (VIP)

15:30 – 16:00 : Keynote Matthieu Kassovitz (Hybrid Films)

16:00 – 16:50 : Panel 2 - *Financial models*

17:00 – 17:25 : Award *Best Advertising AI Film*

17:30 : End of Pro Talks

Evening — Palais des Festivals

VIP Entry Opens : 18:00 • Lounge “Orchestre Debussy”

18:30 – 19:00 : Private Keynote with Gaëtan Briel

19:00 – 21:00 : Dinner in the VIP area

20:00 : General Admission

20:30 – **Opening Gala** - Film Screenings, Awards, AI Concert

21:00 - 22:30 : Ceremony (musical interlude after presentation of two awards)

22:30 : Estimated close

Access reserved for:

- Pro Talks speakers
- Accredited professionals
- Official Jury
- Sponsors, partners, and VIP guests
- Institutional representatives



PANELS & keynotes

2026
22 APRIL
DAY 2

Awards Day — Pro Talks / Espace Miramar

Morning & Afternoon — Pro Talks

10:00 – 10:30 : Keynote Johann Choron (Copyright & AI : What's Next ?)

10:30 – 11:15 : Panel 3 - *Legal Framework, International Issues*

11:25 – 12:00 : Award *Best Micro-Serie* (with CANNESERIES Festival)

12:00 – 12:45 : Panel 4 - *Building an AI studio*

12:30 – 15:30 : Lunch / Networking (VIP)

15:30 – 15:50 : Award *Best AI Screenplay* (with GENARIO)

15:50 : End of Pro Talks — Day 2

Evening — Palais des Festivals

VIP Entry Opens : 18:00 (Access lounge "Orchestre Debussy")

18:30 – 19:00 : Friendly aperitif in the VIP area

19:00 : General admission

19:30 – 21:30 : Ceremony (musical interlude after presentation of two awards)

20:30: **Closing Gala** —Official WAIFF 2026 Awards Ceremony (Théâtre Debussy)

Closing: Robot dance performance set to music by Jean-Michel Jarre.

After the ceremony: Grand VIP dinner

Access reserved for:

- Short Films Awards *Emotion, Fantasy, Action & Animation*
- Feature Film Award *+25 minutes length*
- Palmares Gala Evening



WAIFF Official Route Key Sites



Les Arcades
Screenings / Films

5 min 



Palais des Festivals
Gala Evenings / Lounge VIP espace Debussy

12 min 



JW Marriott Cannes
Pro talks + Networking VIP Platinum



13 min 

5 min 



Espace Miramar
Pro Talks panels : Platinum + Standard VIP



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OUR SPONSORS



A five-star icon on the Croisette, steps from the Palais des Festivals, blending contemporary design, sea views, and world-class event spaces.



Pioneering multimodal AI models that power intelligent, creative experiences across film, media, and beyond.



Shaping future creative and tech leaders through immersive, hands-on learning designed for a rapidly evolving world.



An AI-powered creative studio empowering the next generation of filmmakers and storytellers to bring ideas to life at speed.

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THEY TRUST US



CANAL+

TF1



LCP
ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE

arte



cult'

ESIS' ÉCOLE SUPÉRIEURE DE L'IMAGE ET DU SON

le film français
Le premier hebdomadaire des professionnels de l'audiovisuel A. HILDEGARDE COMPANY

STATION F

ēngle



fnac

Dauphine
ALUMN

EICAR.

TheAtre
de l'IA

Écran
total



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ynov
CAMPUS

madame
FIGARO

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CONTACTS

**THE WORLD A.I. FILM FESTIVAL IS AN INTERNATIONAL
SHORT-FILM FESTIVAL FOCUSING ON NEW CINEMA AT
THE INTERSECTION OF
A.I. AND COLLECTIVE CREATIVE JOURNEY.**

WWW.WORLDAIFILMFESTIVAL.COM

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www.worldaifilmfestival.com



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