

**THE MARRAKECH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF THE ATLAS WORKSHOPS,
THE FESTIVAL'S PLATFORM FOR PROFESSIONALS
DEDICATED TO FILMMAKERS FROM THE AFRICAN CONTINENT
AND THE ARAB WORLD**

Marrakech, 17 November 2022. The Marrakech International Film Festival has closed the 5th edition of the Atlas Workshops, which took place from 14 to 17 November in Marrakech.

The 5th edition of the Atlas Workshops brought together 250 international professionals around a selection of 23 projects and films by a new generation of Moroccan, Arab and African filmmakers. The 16 projects in development and 6 films in production or post-production benefited from tailor-made support representing nearly 150 hours of mentorship from consultants in scriptwriting, production, distribution, editing and music. One film was selected for the Atlas Film Showcase and screened to an audience of festival directors.

The Atlas Workshops co-production market generated a larger-than-ever number of requests for individual meetings with the participating directors and producers, illustrating the strong interest of professionals in cinema from the African continent and the Arab world. In all, 350 such meetings were organised.

For this fifth edition, the Atlas Workshops awarded eight prizes representing a total of €106,000. The jury of the three Atlas Post-Production Awards, composed of Gaia Furrer (Venice Days), Eric Lagesse (Pyramide Films) and Sébastien Onomo (Special Touch Studio), gave the awards to films *INSHALLAH A BOY* by Amjad Al Rasheed - Jordan, *DISCO AFRIKA* by Luck Razanajaona – Madagascar and *A GOLDEN LIFE* by Boubacar Sangaré – Burkina Faso.

The jury of the four Atlas Development Awards, composed of producers Lamia Chraïbi (La Prod), Nicole Gerhards (Niko Film) and Farès Ladjimi (Supernova Films), awarded prizes to *LA MER AU LOIN* by Said Hamich - Morocco, *PIGEON WARS* by Dania Bdeir - Lebanon, *DEMBA* by Mamadou Dia - Senegal and *LËNDE* by Katy Lena Ndiaye – Senegal.

In addition, the ARTEKINO International Prize, awarded by the Franco-German channel to a project in development, went to *WHALE BELLY* by Sameh Alaa – Egypt.

Over the course of five editions, this professional programme of the Marrakech International Film Festival has supported 111 projects and films, among them 48 from Morocco. As proof of the platform's success, many of the films that have received its support have been selected for and won awards at prestigious film festivals. This year, five films supported by the Atlas Workshops were selected by the Festival de Cannes (*Ashkal* by Youssef Chebbi and *Under the Fig Trees* by Erige Sehiri), the Venice International Film Festival (*Queens* by Yasmin Benkiran and *The Damned Don't Cry* by Fyza Boulifa) and the Locarno Film Festival (*Fragments from Heaven* by



Adnane Baraka), before having their premieres in the Middle East and Africa during this 19th edition of the Marrakech International Film Festival.

AWARDS OF THE FIFTH EDITION OF THE ATLAS WORKSHOPS

ATLAS PRIZE FOR POST-PRODUCTION €25,000

INSHALLAH A BOY by Amjad Al Rasheed – Jordan

Produced by Rula Nasser - Jordan

ATLAS PRIZE FOR POST-PRODUCTION €15,000

DISCO AFRIKA by Luck Razanajaona - Madagascar

Produced by Jonathan Rubin - France

ATLAS PRIZE FOR POST-PRODUCTION €10,000 €

A GOLDEN LIFE by Boubacar Sangaré – Burkina Faso

Produced by Faissol Gnonlonfin - Benin

ATLAS PRIZE FOR DEVELOPMENT €15,000

LA MER AU LOIN by Saïd Hamich - Morocco

Produced by Sophie Penson - France

ATLAS PRIZE FOR DEVELOPMENT €10,000

PIGEON WARS by Dania Bdeir - Lebanon

Produced by Pierre Sarraf - Lebanon

ATLAS PRIZE FOR DEVELOPMENT €5,000

DEMBA de Mamadou Dia - Senegal

Produced by Maba Ba - Senegal

ATLAS PRIZE FOR DEVELOPMENT €5,000

LËNDE by Katy Lena Ndiaye – Senegal

Produced by Oualid Baha - France

ARTEKINO INTERNATIONAL PRIZE €6,000

WHALE BELLY by Sameh Alaa - Egypt

Produced by Mark Lotfy - Egypt

For more information, please visit

<https://atlasateliers.marrakech-festival.com/en>