

23rd Festival of Slovenian Film looking a little different

In 2020, the world appears to be no longer the way we knew it. The shift has caught us all off-guard, and months after the microscopic virus has brought society to its knees, we are still struggling to adapt to the new reality. In the light of these circumstances, the **23rd edition** of the Festival of Slovenian Film will look a little different than its previous editions. The festival moved from September to the early autumn week of **6 to 11 October**, and from Portorož to Slovenia's capital, with the Komuna Cinema as its central venue. While the Covid-19 pandemic is to deprive us of the typical bustle of social events, we secretly hope to at least bring to Ljubljana this autumn a breath of warm, big-hearted Mediterranean air.

The 23rd FSF will be delivered in a hybrid form. The films in the Official Competition selection will be screened in the Komuna Cinema, Ljubljana, while the Panorama Programme will be available on an **online platform** set up in collaboration with the public broadcaster RTV Slovenija. A stone's throw away from the Komuna Cinema, the conference halls of the **Hotel Slon** will host the **Q&As with the filmmakers**, which will be free to attend with prior registration and streamed live on the festival website. Similarly, **Industry Events** will be a combination of in-person and (in the case of international speakers) virtual attendance. The full list of events will be available on our website shortly.

The line-up of films selected for the 23rd FSF comprises **five programmes**: Official Competition, Panorama Programme, Children's Animations, Student Films, and a new addition we call Corona Programme, a set of 12 short films made during lockdown. The Official Competition selection includes 7 feature-length films (3 fiction films and 4 documentaries), 9 co-productions (6 feature-length and 3 short films), 7 medium-length documentaries, 18 shorts, and 9 student films. In total, 50 films are in the running for Vesna awards. In addition to the films in competition, the festival also showcases a wide range of filmmaking talent in its Panorama Programme, with 4 feature-length films (documentaries), 8 medium-length films (also documentaries), 20 shorts, and 14 student films.

The films selected for Official Competition are in the running for **Vesna Awards** for feature-length fiction and documentary films, medium-length, short and student films, and minority coproductions. The awards will be handed out by a **five-member jury** consisting of Katja Colja, Polona Petek, Maja Sever, Siniša Gačić, and Matic Majcen. The festival will also present the **Metod Badjura Lifetime Achievement Award**. The name of this year's winner will be announced shortly.