

COMPETITIONS REGULATIONS 2016

ENTERING A FILM IN THIS FESTIVAL IMPLIES THE ACCEPTANCE OF THESE REGULATIONS!

1. MAIN OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

The 24th Curtas Vila do Conde - International Film Festival, organized by Curtas Metragens CRL – Cooperativa de Produção Cultural CRL, based in Vila do Conde, Portugal, will be held from **9th to 17th of July 2016**. Assuming as main objective the promotion and diffusion of cinematographic and audio-visual works, selected according to a quality criteria, the event will put on focus not only on the discovery of new films and filmmakers but also on the recognized legacy of Cinema.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Animations, documentaries, fiction films, experimental films and music videos, in film (16mm and 35mm), or digital (DCP or video files), produced in 2015 or 2016, no longer than 60 minutes (unless noted exceptions), preferably with subtitles in Portuguese or English, are admitted to the various competitions.

3. COMPETITIVE SECTIONS AND AWARDS

Jury of Portuguese and International Competition

The jury of Portuguese and International competitions, composed by a maximum number of 5 recognized professionals to be designated by the festival board, will attribute the following prizes:

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

- Great Prize (for the best film in competition);
- Animation Award (to distinguish an animation film in competition);
- Manoel de Oliveira Award (to distinguish a documentary in competition);
- Fiction Award (to distinguish a fiction film in competition).
- Vila do Conde Short Film Nominee for the European Film Awards (nomination for the best European short film).

PORTUGUESE COMPETITION

- Best Portuguese Short Film Award (for the best film in the Portuguese competition);
- Best Director Award (to distinguish a director in Portuguese Competition).

The films of the Portuguese Competition also run for the International Competition Awards.

Audience Awards

In addition to the prizes awarded by the jury of Portuguese and International Competitions, the festival's audience will award two films through ranked voting, choosing the best

film of the International Competition and the best film of the Portuguese Competition, in both cases corresponding to the highest average:

- Audience Award – International;
- Audience Award – Portuguese.

EXPERIMENTAL COMPETITION

This competition is dedicated to experimental films, particularly those that will reveal new approaches to moving images and the development of the language of Cinema. The jury of this competition, composed by a maximum number of 3 recognized professionals, to be designated by the festival board, will attribute the:

- Best Experimental Film Award.

MUSIC VIDEOS COMPETITION

Dedicated competition to music videos of bands or artists of Portuguese origin or produced by Portuguese authors, with a specific jury also composed by a maximum number of 3 recognized professionals to be designated by the festival board, will attribute the prize for:

- Best Music Video.

TAKE ONE! COMPETITION

Dedicated to films up to 30 minutes, directed by Portuguese students, enrolled in Portuguese Universities or in cinema schools or filmmaking courses abroad. The jury of this competition, composed by a maximum number of 3 recognized professionals to be designated by the festival direction, will attribute the:

- Take One! Award.

CURTINHAS COMPETITION

This competition is dedicated to children's films rated over three years old, and up to 30 minutes. The jury is composed of a large group of children aged from 7 to 13 years old, which will attribute the:

- Curtinhas Award.

Until the announcement of the final program of the 24th Curtas Vila do Conde, in June 2016, the amounts in cash or kind attributable to each award require confirmation.

4. DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION FEES

International, Experimental and Curtinhas Competition
Submission deadline: **8th April 2016**.

Submission Fees:

- completed and paid entries till 15th January 2016 – 7,00 euros;
- completed and paid entries from 16th of January till 15th March 2016 – 9,00 euros;
- completed and paid entries from 16th of March till 8th April 2016 – 12,00 euros.



Portuguese and Music Videos Competition

Submission deadline: **23rd May 2016**.

Submission Fees:

- completed and paid entries till 15th January 2016 – 7,00 euros;
- completed and paid entries from 16th of January till 15th March 2016 – 9,00 euros;
- completed and paid entries from 16th of March till 23rd May 2016 – 12,00 euros.

Take One! Competition

Submission deadline: **23rd May 2016**.

Free submission.

The festival does not guarantee viewing and appreciation of films received after these dates.

5. SUBMISSION

It is essential that you complete the online entry form on the festival site, completing all the listed steps. If you want to register more than one film, you must complete the process for each of the titles (except for “user” data).

Make sure that before submitting a film, to prepare the following elements:

- details and film data;
- a photo/still of the film (.jpg or .png, 72dpi, till 200Kb maximum size);
- link or file of the preview video file.

Online submissions at:

<http://curtas.pt/festival/submissions>

5.1. Applicants must register as a “user” receiving automatically by email, the access data (“user” and “password”).

5.2. Fill all the required film data at the entry form.

5.3. Proceed with the payment of the submission fee, through Paypal or a valid credit card, following the instructions of the platform. The user is responsible for the basic data of the electronic invoice of the payment made.

5.4. MPEG-4 video files are preferably accepted (see section 6 of this Regulations for recommended characteristics). Users may submit the preview video file (hereinafter designated as screener) as follows:

5.4.1. Online streaming video

Filling the upload form with the access data to the screener (link and password) on the submissions platform. It is recommended the use of dedicated platforms, like YoutubeHD or VIMEO, with private viewing protected by a password. Enabling the “download option” it is also recommended.

5.4.2. Download

Following the recommended specifications for the screener (see section 6), users can provide other info for direct download of the file (for example, FTP - with username and password - or from any cloud service).

5.4.3. Upload

If there's still no chance to provide access to the screener, and as long it meets the recommended specifications (see section 6), users can upload the screener.

5.5. If by any reason users can't submit a screener by the above options, please contact us by e-mail at submissions@curtas.pt

5.6. At the end of the process, users will receive a submission confirmation and an invoice/receipt on payment made.

5.7. After submission, and by any time, candidates may still access any entry data for verification and possible correction, using its assigned ‘login’ and ‘password’.

5.8. All submitted films will be available for viewing on the 20th Short Film Market by the attending and duly accredited professionals.

5.9. Any questions should be addressed to Submissions Manager SÉRGIO GOMES, submissions@curtas.pt or by telephones +351 252 638025 / 646516.

6. RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATIONS FOR PREVIEW VIDEO FILES FOR SELECTION

Only preview video files up to 60 minutes will be considered. If your option is to share a link for downloading (via URL, FPT, Cloud, or other), or to upload a file, you should, whenever possible, prepare a HD MPEG-4 (.mp4) preview video file, with the following specifications:

Video settings:

MPEG-4 (.mp4)

Compression codec: H.264;

Bit rate: 3000 (mín.) to 5000 (max.);

Encoding mode: multi-pass

Recommended dimensions: 1280x720 (720p)

Recommended fps (frames per second): 25 fps

Optimized for: Streaming

Audio Settings:

Format: MPEG 4 - ACC;

Sample rate: 44.1 kHz;

Channels: Stereo (L R);

Bit rate: 256 kbps

The preview video file should contain subtitles (preferably ‘burned-in’) in Portuguese, English, Spanish or French, when-

ever there is dialogues or commentaries in languages other than Portuguese.

A file up to 60 minutes should not exceed the maximum size of 1.5 GB (1500 MB).

7. SELECTION

The Festival Board will inform the directors of the selected films and the respective copy contacts until **20th May 2016**, for the International, Experimental and Curtinhas Competition, or until **3rd June 2016**, for the Portuguese, Music Videos and Take One! Competition.

After notification of selection, it is required to send immediately, via e-mail or download link, the following materials:

- at least, one high-resolution digital format image of the film;
- the dialogues list of the film (in Portuguese and/or English) for subtitling;
- a written permission from director/producer/distributor to screen the film during the event;
- EPK's (Electronic Press-Kit) and other promotional materials of the film are optional but equally important.

The absence of notification of film selection from the Festival Board by the above mentioned dates, will mean that the respective film was not selected for the competitions of the 24th Curtas Vila do Conde. However, efforts will be made so that all candidates are informed via e-mail of the status of their films.

8. SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection committees will consider all submitted films that meet the eligibility criteria described in section 2 of this regulations and correctly submitted, namely regarding section 4 and 5.

For the International Competition, the selection committee will consider a quality criteria and the preference for world premieres. The films already included in programs of other Portuguese film festivals or that have already had its public presentation in Portugal will not be considered.

In the Portuguese Competition, the selection committee will consider, above all, a quality criteria. The films already included in programs of other Portuguese film festivals or that have already had its public presentation in Portugal will not be considered.

For the Take One! Competition, the selection committee will also consider a quality criteria, the preference for national premieres and will take into account a maximum diversity of represented schools.

9. EXHIBITION COPIES

Deadline for reception at the Festival of the screening copy of the selected films is **10th June 2016** (International, Experimental, and Curtinhas Competition), or **17th June 2016** (Portuguese, Music Videos and Take One! Competition).

The screening copies of the selected films must be provided in the following formats:

(in case of film) - 16mm ou 35mm;

(digital or video)

- DCP 2K;
- Digital files on PAL standards, maximum resolution of 1920x1080px, , preferentially by codec Apple ProRes 422 HQ or, if not possible, by codec H264.

Compliance with these characteristics of digital files is important to ensure the screening of the film in the best conditions. The Festival is not responsible for the possible need to convert files whose characteristics differ from those above.

In the Portuguese and Take One! Competition, the screening copies must include English subtitles.

10. TRANSPORTS AND OTHER IMPORTANT ARRANGEMENTS

10.1. Candidates must cover transportation costs of both preview and screening copies. For both, a clearly visible inscription of "SEM VALOR COMERCIAL / NO COMMERCIAL VALUE " is necessary on the packages. Any film sent on the festival charge will have its reception refused and automatically returned to the sender.

10.2. Curtas Vila do Conde will exclusively pay the return transport costs of screening copies, after exhibition at the festival.

10.3. All screening copies will remain covered under insurance from reception until return.

10.4. The Festival Board reserves the right to display excerpts and 'trailers' of the selected films in TV channels or broadcast through its website for Festival promotion, at most 10% of the total length of the film.

10.5. The festival won't pay for any screening rights of films in competition.

11. SHORT FILM MARKET

All the submitted films in the Festival, selected or not for the all competitions, will automatically be included in the **20th Short Film Market**, attended exclusively by the accredited professionals, from 11th to 17th July 2016.



12. FESTIVAL EXTENSIONS

The Festival organizes extensions in various Portuguese cities from **19th of July to 30th of October 2016**. Please state on the online entry form whether to authorize the participation of your film in such sessions, as well as continued care of the copy at the Festival during the mentioned period.

13. NON-SPECIFIED CASES AND EXCEPTIONS

The Festival Board reserves the right to consider and decide on any matter omitted in this regulations.

Vila do Conde, November 2015