

Press release

Geneva, January 11th, 2017

FIFDH 2017

A horizon of action, commitment and transformation

The poster of the 15th edition is unveiled!

"This scene, which is strong, beautiful and complex at the same time, offers several interpretations, explains Isabelle Gattiker, director of the Festival. It is definitely an image à clés that our public can embrace. What are these women looking at holding their strange binoculars? Are they looking for a relative across the border? Are they scrutinizing the world around them? Are they searching for another horizon? I like the idea that in an unstable territory, the two of them stand tall; they are not afraid, they peer beyond the frame, towards a clear sky. While still deeply rooted in an appalling reality, this image offers us in its own way, as does the upcoming 15th edition of the FIFDH, a horizon of action, engagement, ideas and transformation".

This photograph was taken at the border between Turkey and Syria by **Bulent Kilic**, named best wire photographer in 2014 by *Time* magazine and *The Guardian*.

A major filmmaker in residency in Geneva

The Cambodian filmmaker **Rithy Panh**, awarded at major international film festivals and nominated at the Oscars, will participate in a weeklong artist's residency in Meyrin, at the gates of Geneva, starting January 23rd.

On this occasion he will create a monumental art work, based on stories and personal images proposed by inhabitants of Geneva, that resonates with his latest film, *Exil*, presented at Cannes and the FIFDH.

The opening of this installation created especially for the FIFDH will be held on Friday, March 10th at the Pitoeff theater, in the presence of many guests and partners. It will then travel around the world.

A forum and key points of understanding

The world today is in turmoil. It is tense, dangerous, agitated. How can we defend and promote human rights in such a moment of vertigo? The question arises amidst wars, violence, the migratory crisis, terrorist threats but also through the unpredictable upheavals in our societies.

In addition to addressing the state of human rights through the historical perspective of **Louis Joinet**, pioneer of this struggle, the Forum will discuss through 19 high-level public debates, the wars in Yemen, with **Tawakkol Karman**, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize laureate and in Syria, with the former senior official from the Obama administration and former prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and Sierra Leone, **Stephen Rapp**. The Festival will also be concerned with the advent of strongman politics, as is the case in Turkey, with the Turkish sociologist and dissident **Pinar Selek**. It will also delve into important developments in our societies such as redefinitions of gender, the right to privacy and black identity.

Let's open the debate!

The FIFDH is the most important event dedicated to film and human rights in the world. For 15 years, it has been held every year in the heart of Geneva, the international capital of human rights, in parallel with the UN Human Rights Council's main session.

Video presentation of the festival: www.youtube.com/fifdhgeneve1

Full program on February 21st at www.fifdh.org

International
film festival
and forum on
human rights

Geneva
10-19 march
2017

www.fifdh.org



The 15th edition of the International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights will be held throughout the Canton of Geneva, Orbe and Lausanne from March 10th to the 19th, 2017.

We look forward to welcoming you at the **PRESS CONFERENCE ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST** at 11 am at the Fonction: Cinéma, 16, rue du Général Dufour (Geneva).

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