



# ECRANS NOIRS

FESTIVAL

2023



27<sup>th</sup> edition



# GENERAL REGULATIONS

## TITLE I :

### GENERAL PROVISIONS

Created in 1997, the Écrans Noirs Festival, a project of the Association Écrans Noirs, has for objective the promotion and the diffusion in Cameroon and in Central Africa of the African film industry, of the African diaspora and that of Africa-based movies.

As such, it aims to:

- 1 To present high quality African movies to the general public, as well as movies produced about- or in Africa;
- 2 To promote, from the earliest stages, a film culture among children and young people which

encourages critical thinking, debate and a plurality of opinions;

3 To encourage the gathering of directors, actors and professionals of the 7th Art with other professional artists, and with the public;

4 To promote training in film and audiovisual professions, as well as in related professions, and to help integrate the young people who have been trained to find employment.

## TITLE II :

### GENERAL REMARKS

**Article II.1 :** The festival is organised by the Association Écrans Noirs, a public interest association as recognised by the Cameroonian government by the Presidential Decree No. **2016/219** dated **28.04.2016**

**Article II.2 :** Its working languages are French and English.

**Article II.3 :** The festival includes a competitive and a non-competitive programme.

**Article II.4 :** The Organizing Committee of the Écrans Noirs Festival is exclusively authorized to rule on cases not provided for in these regulations. Its decisions are not subject to appeal.

## TITLE III :

### LOCATION AND TIMING

**Article III.1 :** The Écrans Noirs film festival takes place every year. The 27th edition will take place from **15 to 22 July 2023** in Yaoundé.

**Article III.2 :** Other cities in Central Africa may host the event in a decentralised format.

**Article III.3 :** The dates may be changed by decision

of the Board of Directors of the Écrans Noirs Association in the case of force majeure. In such cases, the decision shall be published at least 15 days before the originally scheduled dates.

## TITLE IV : SELECTION

**Article IV.1 :** The Écrans Noirs Festival is open to all films directed by Africans, including the African diaspora, in feature and short film format, covering fiction, documentary, series and web series, and in compliance with the present regulations.

**IV.2 :** Films are submitted to the festival in competition or out of competition (retrospective, panorama, tribute or favourite), and are subject to prior selection.

**IV.3 :** The deadline for registration shall be May 05, 2023.

**Article IV.2 :** The Écrans Noirs Festival also includes a competition for foreign films about Africa or the african diaspora.

**Article IV.3 :** Registration forms are available at [www.ecransnoirs.org](http://www.ecransnoirs.org).

1 It must, in compliance with the following requirements, be submitted with :

## TITLE V : COMPETITION

**Article V.1 :** The organizing committee of the Écrans Noirs Festival is exclusively responsible for the selection of films and series and their registration for the competition, or not, as well as for their screening programme.

**Article V.2 :** Only African and foreign films, series or web series are eligible to compete at the 27th edition,

1 provided they were produced after January, 1st 2021 for African and foreign films,

2 and after October 1st 2022 for Cameroonian films.

**Article V.3 :** The official competition covers the following categories

1 International feature-length fiction and animation ( a minimum of 75 minutes) ;

2 International feature-length documentary;

3 a synopsis, photos and images from the film;

4 a biography and a passport photo of the director;

5 A biography and a passport photo of the main actor or actress of the film

6 A poster of the movie;

7 a link for downloading and viewing the film, or episodes for series and web series, in MPEG-4 (H.264) format;

**Article IV.4 :** All registrations shall be confirmed by an automatically generated letter of acknowledgement.

**Article IV.5 :** Please address any complaints to [reclamations@ecransnoirs.org](mailto:reclamations@ecransnoirs.org), with copy to [reclamationsecransnoirs@gmail.com](mailto:reclamationsecransnoirs@gmail.com) if you do not receive the acknowledgement

(a minimum of 52 minutes);

3 International short fiction and animation; (30 minutes maximum);

4 International short documentary; (30 minutes maximum);

5 Foreign film (Feature-length fiction or documentary); (52 minutes minimum) ;

6 Series (3 successive episodes of 26 minutes, or 2 successive episodes of 52 minutes) ;

7 Web series (3 episodes or releases of maximum 7 minutes each);

8 Central Africa Feature-Length fiction; (75 minutes minimum);

9 Central Africa feature documentary; (52 minutes minimum);

10 Central Africa short documentary; (30 minutes maximum);

- 11 Central Africa short fiction; (30 minutes maximum) ;
- 12 Cameroonian Feature Fiction; (75 minutes minimum) ;
- Decisions to cancel any section of this competition are at the exclusive discretion of the organisers.
- Article V.4 :** Tout film coréalisé par deux ou plusieurs auteurs, et dont l'un d'eux ne serait pas africain, concourt dans la section Films étrangers.
- Article V.5 :** A film submitted for selection will only be considered for entry provided it has not yet been screened in Yaoundé or Douala at a festival,

## TITLE VI : PARTICIPATION

- Article VII.1 :** The official selection will be revealed on **5 July 2023**.
- Article VII.2 :** The selected producers or directors shall send to the festival media meant for professional distribution.
- Article VII.3 :** All Films received for screening shall be in high definition (dcp, hard disk, Internet).
- Article VII.4 :** Any film submitted for screening

## TITRE VII : JURIES AND AWARDS

- Article VII.1 :** The official competition shall be judged by international juries consisting of at least four members, who shall be selected by the Organising Committee.
- Article VII.2 :** Each Jury consists of a Chairman and members. The Chairman provides a brief written report to the festival for their records, while keeping the names of the authors of the various judgements confidential. Decisions within the Juries are taken by mutual consent, but if required after a vote and on the basis of a simple majority of voters. Should it not be possible to decide between the members of the jury by voting, the Chairman's vote shall have double effect.

- awards ceremony or any other form of event, apart from normal or commercial releases.
- Article V.6 :** Films are selected based either on submissions or on visibility.
- Article V.7 :** The same Director or Producer may have more than one film selected.
- Article V.8 :** A script contest, details of which are provided in a specific regulation, is organised for scriptwriters from Central Africa.

- during the Ecrans Noirs Festival may only be withdrawn before the end of the event by the director or producer with the approval of the festival's organising committee and upon a release form.
- Article VII.5 :** Any film submitted to the Écrans Noirs Festival shall be made at the disposal of the festival for two (02) public screenings.

- Article VII.3 :** The jury may not include any person who took part in the production of a film selected in the same category as the one in which he/she is supposed to be a juror.
- Article VII.4 :** The Délégué Général or his representative shall represent the festival during the celebrations but shall not have the right to vote.
- Article VII.5 :** The jurors may award the following prizes:
- 1- Best Cameroonian web series,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA franc 350,000
  - 2- Best Cameroonian Actor,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA franc 500,000



**3- Best Cameroonian actress,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA franc 500,000

**4- Best Cameroonian Film,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA franc 1,000,000

**5- Best short film in Central Africa,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA franc 350,000

**6- Best Cameroonian Actor,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA franc 500,000

**7- Best international short film,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA franc 500,000

**8- Best international Documentary,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA franc 1,000,000

**9- Best series,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA franc 500,000

**10- Best Screenplay,**  
a trophy + a scroll

**11- Best African Actress,**  
a trophy + a scroll

**12- Best African Actor,**  
a trophy + a scroll

**13- The jury Prize,**  
a trophy + a scroll

**14- The Ecran d'Or prize,**  
a trophy + a scroll + CFA francs 2,000,000

**Article VII.6 :** A jury may consider that none of the films competing for a prize are worthy of it, and cash prizes are not cumulative.

**Article VIII :** Accepting to participate in the Écrans Noirs Festival involves adhering to these regulations.

Done in Yaoundé, on March 07, 2023  
The Délégué Général of the festival