



Press Release

The 2018 Session of the Carthage Film Festival has introduced a new FOCUS section that highlights each year four countries representing sub-Saharan Africa, the Arab world, Asia and Latin America, giving the festival its founding tricontinental dimension, thus confirming its vocation as a festival of the South.

For the 2019 session that will take place from November 3^d to 10th, the experience will be renewed and Senegal, Iraq, India and Brazil will be the guest of honor countries. Once the invitations were issued, Nejb Ayed, General Director of the JCC began a tour that took him to Baghdad and Dakar.

During his meeting with the Iraqi cinema authorities and professionals, as well as members of the national media, Néjb Ayed reminded of the role the JCC has played since 1966, as the meeting place and the platform to discover Arab and African talents, all generations combined and their activist commitment to just causes. For their part, Iraqi film professionals considered that the celebration of their craft in Carthage is a sign of recognition and a strong message that effectively breaks the cultural blockade that their cinema has been facing for more than a decade. This "FOCUS" on Iraq will allow Tunisian moviegoers to discover and rediscover through a dozen films, from classics to the latest, a vibrant and talented cinema but also Iraqi culture in all its forms. A strong delegation as well as the National Troupe of Popular Arts will be coming to Tunis

In Dakar, Nejb Ayed met in the Senegalese Ministry of Culture with the Chief of Staff of the Minister of Culture and the Secretary General of the Ministry. Such a meeting allowed the facilitation of collaborative procedures by creating a direct channel between the JCC and Senegalese cinema professionals.

The decision to make Senegal, the guest of honor representing Sub-Saharan Africa was unanimously hailed as an acknowledgment of the important role played by Senegalese cinema in the very foundation of the Carthage Film festival. Moreover, Nejb Ayed recalled at his Dakar press conference, that the first Golden Tanit in the history of the JCC was awarded in 1966 to Sembène Ousman for "LA NOIRE DE" and that Sembène was the traveling companion of Tahar Cheriaa, founder of the JCC.

Senegal will be in Tunis in November to show its cinematography but also its rich and festive cultures with participation of the National Ballet of Senegal in event activities that will certainly liven up avenue Bourguiba.

Collaborative programs with Brazil and India are currently being finalized and the same film loving and festive spirit will confirm that the JCC is the Festival of Cinema but also of life.



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