

DFI Cinema Teams up with Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra for new Thematic Film Series

Legendary Film Composer Patrick Doyle to Present Master-Class at Inaugural 'A Symphony of Films' Series

Doha, Qatar; August 23, 2016: The Doha Film Institute Cinema (DFI Cinema) is launching a new thematic series, 'A Symphony of Films', in September following the success of the previous themed series; 'Masters of Illusion', 'Science Fiction in Film-Spaceships in Cinema' and 'Fashion in Film: Costume as Character.' The Institute is teaming up with the Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF); the British Embassy in Doha; and the British Council for the inaugural 'A Symphony of Films' series, that brings together the double delight of film screenings and live concerts.

'A Symphony of Films' will be held from September 22 to 26, 2016, at Katara Drama Theatre and Opera House. It promises two exceptional experiences for audiences including the Qatar premiere screening of German director FW Murnau's expressionist horror film *Nosferatu, eine Symphonie des Grauens* (*Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror/1922/German*) with live accompaniment of the original score performed by the Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra. Other films to be screened in the series include *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Sergio Leone; *North by Northwest* by Alfred Hitchcock; free youth screening of the 3D film *Brave* by Pixar in the presence of Patrick Doyle; Akira Kurosawa's *Ran*; *Caramel* by Nadine Labaki and *Landscape in the Mist* by Theo Angelopoulos.

Master film composer Patrick Doyle will further regale audiences in a live concert. Doyle is renowned for his works on *Sense and Sensibility*, *Gosford Park*, *Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire*, *Thor*, *Cinderella*, *Carlito's Way* and *Rise of the Planet of the Apes*, among others. He will also conduct a master-class for film and music enthusiasts in Qatar on September 24 at 5pm at MIA Auditorium on the importance of music in film and the power a soundtrack can have over audiences.

Doyle's concert, 'A Symphony of Films,' will highlight outstanding compositions from his career and also mark the 400th death anniversary of William Shakespeare with Doyle's compositions for films based on the works of the Bard including *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Hamlet*, *Henry V* and *As You Like It*, with actor-director Sir Kenneth Branagh.

Fatma Al Remaihi, Chief Executive Officer of the Doha Film Institute, said: "We are delighted to partner with the Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra and British Council's Shakespeare Lives Programme for the new thematic series that marks a celebration of two of the most powerful artforms – music and film. 'A Symphony of Films' is a one-of-its-kind event that will further strengthen awareness and appreciation of the two artforms, in all their pristine and classic glory, among our community. The unique showcase of accomplished films, live music performance and the master-class will contribute to strengthening a deeper understanding of global film and music trends. It is our honour to welcome Patrick Doyle, a legendary film music composer, to mark our inaugural series that will also be a celebration of William Shakespeare on his 400th death anniversary year in partnership with Shakespeare Lives Programme."

Patrick Doyle said: “I’m very much looking forward to my first trip to Qatar. To celebrate Shakespeare, in this 400th year anniversary of his death, we thought it would be a wonderful opportunity to perform music from a selection of Shakespeare film adaptations that I’ve had the good fortune to work on with my friend Sir Kenneth Branagh. I am also delighted to present some world premieres from a selection of my films over the past 25 years. It’s a tremendous honour to be invited by the British Embassy in Doha, the British Council and the Doha Film Institute.”

Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror is a compelling work in cinema and an unauthorised adaptation of Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*. Following a court ruling, the prints of the film were ordered to be destroyed; a few, however, were saved. Today, the film is regarded as a visual masterpiece, and has been voted as the second best-reviewed horror film. Film lovers in Qatar will now have a rare opportunity to watch the film to the accompaniment of live music.

Tickets to the performances are available at qatarphilharmonicorchestra.org and are priced QAR 75-200. Tickets to the films screenings are available at www.dohafilminstitute.com and are priced QAR 35 with a QAR 10 discount available for students and Culture Pass by Qatar Museums holders. *Brave* and the Masterclass with Patrick Doyle are free events, but audiences are encouraged to reserve a free ticket for admission.

For more information, please log on to: www.dohafilminstitute.com

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Note to Editors:

About Doha Film Institute:

Doha Film Institute is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organisation. It supports the growth of the local film community through cultivating film appreciation, enhancing industry knowledge and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar. The Institute’s platforms include funding and production of local, regional and international films; skills-sharing and mentorship programmes; film screenings; the Ajyal Youth Film Festival; and Qumra. With culture, community, learning and entertainment at its foundation, the Institute is committed to supporting Qatar’s 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge-based economy.

Doha Film Institute

Twitter: @DohaFilm; Instagram: @DohaFilm; Facebook: www.facebook.com/DohaFilmInstitute

About British Council’s Shakespeare Lives Programme:

Shakespeare Lives is an invitation to the world to join in the celebrations by participating in a unique online collaboration and experiencing the work of Shakespeare directly on stage, through film, exhibitions and in schools. The programme aims to reach over half a billion people around the world. The British Council and the GREAT Britain campaign are working with host of British theatres, museums, educators and artists on brand new productions of Shakespeare’s plays, film adaptations, public readings and educational resources for schools and English language learners of all ages in the UK and around the world.

About The Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra

The Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra promotes and performs western and Arabic music in order to inspire the children and adults of Qatar and the Arab world to create and enjoy music. In blending these cultures the Qatar Philharmonic extends a message of peace to the world. The Philharmonic was founded in 2007 as a center in the Qatar Foundation, chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. It is composed of 101 professional musicians

chosen in international auditions from 30 countries. The Philharmonic's first music director, Nader Abbassi, was succeeded by Michalis Economou and Han-Na Chang, and Dmitrij Kitajenko was recently named Conductor of Honor. The orchestra has also worked with such conductors such as David Afkham, James Gaffigan, Lorin Maazel, Marc Minkowski and Tung-Chieh Chuang .

As a member of the Qatar Foundation, the Philharmonic assists Qatar in its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential. It is an integral part of the Philharmonic's work to host new and established composers, soloists and conductors of the Arab world.

The Qatar Philharmonic gives on average 50 different performances per year at their home in the Katara Opera House, which it opened in December 2010 with the world premiere of Marcel Khalifé's Rababa Concerto. Touring performances have included the Royal Albert Hall in London, the Kennedy Center in Washington, Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris, the Konzerthaus in Vienna for the 50th anniversary of OPEC, the Syrian Opera House in Damascus, the United Nations General Assembly, the BBC Proms in London, Linz Brucknerhaus and Santa Cecilia Hall in Rome.

You can also visit: qatarphilharmonicorchestra.org

About Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. QF was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Qatar Foundation's Chairperson. QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>