

Doha Film Institute Presents the World Premiere of ‘Ode to Our Land’, a fascinating cinematic tribute to His Highness, the Father Amir

- *A new production by Doha Film Institute for the National Museum of Qatar, ‘Ode to Our Land’, is helmed by two promising Qatari talents, Amal Al Muftah and Rawda Al-Thani.*
- *‘Ode to Our Land’ is a first-of-its-kind film project that celebrates the vision of HH, the Father Amir, in establishing a modern nation dedicated to the prosperity of all its people.*
- *A poetic ode and cinematic essay, the feature documentary also underscores Qatar's exciting and ever-evolving film ecosystem.*

Doha, Qatar—14 February 2024

Doha Film Institute is celebrating the transformational vision and mission of **Father Amir, His Highness Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani** with a fascinating cinematic tribute that will mark its world premiere on February 19, 2024 with a special invite only event.

Ode to Our Land is a heartfelt and compelling testimony to the Father Amir’s foresight, commitment and inspiring action that built a modern nation dedicated to the prosperity of all its people and the betterment of the Arab world.

The very special cinematic ode to the leader is directed by young Qatari talents Amal Al Muftah and Rawda Al-Thani reflects the remarkable growth of the film industry in Qatar. The poetic essay, produced by the Doha Film Institute for the National Museum of Qatar, chronicles the nation’s transformational growth under the leadership of the Father Amir.

Speaking on the film's significance, **Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, Chairperson, Doha Film Institute and Qatar Museums**, noted, “***Ode to Our Land*** is a celebration of the incredible journey Qatar embarked on under the Father Amir's vision, which in turn reinvigorated Arab culture and our collective sense of pride. This film beautifully captures our national identity, the challenges we have overcome, and the pride and cultural resurgence that was inspired by the Father Amir’s tireless dedication to our shared futures. ***Ode to Our Land*** is a tribute and a celebration of Qatar’s rise to prominence on the world stage and the creative empowerment of its people.”

Fatma Hassan Alremaihi, Chief Executive Officer of the Doha Film Institute, said: “***Ode to Our Land*** is a passion project for all of us, an expression of sincere gratitude for our visionary leadership in driving Qatar’s thriving cinema ecosystem. His Highness, The Father Amir’s tremendous achievements have fueled an unstoppable creative force and paved the way for us to become a world-renowned champion of Arab voices in film, television, and the arts. We applaud the filmmakers’ success in encapsulating a life as vast and multi-dimensional as that of HH The Father Amir in a fascinating testament to the pivotal moments of our past and offering the world an accurate representation of our nation’s rich history, tradition, and culture.”

Ode to Our Land follows the life and times of His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, from his youth to today's great metropolis and global centre, which his transformative vision and leadership made possible. The film charts the path from the Father Amir's memories, dreams, and aspirations that shaped his vision of the ambitious and innovative development of a nation to global cultural power through interviews, recollections and the filmmakers' poetic and very personal experiences of growth. It is a journey of a man of great courage, unfailing persistence, and radical foresight.

"We are truly honoured and humbled to premiere our project *Ode to Our Land* in Doha," said Amal Al Muftah and Rawda Al-Thani. "As filmmakers born and raised in Qatar, we have directly benefitted from the Father Amir's vision. Witnessing the exciting rise of Doha's skyline, we felt gratitude for our country's respect for us as women and as artists and to be empowered to seize the opportunity to learn at the highest institutional levels and grow alongside our country. We are thankful to the Doha Film Institute, Qatar Museums, our mentor Tala Hadid, and the government officials and creative professionals who entrusted us with the story of the Father Amir and his incredible journey."

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About Doha Film Institute

Doha Film Institute (DFI) is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organization, that 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 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.

For more info, please visit: www.dohafilminstitute.com

About National Museum of Qatar

The National Museum of Qatar (NMoQ) seeks to preserve and celebrate Qatar's heritage and natural history, engage with its present, and inspire the country's ambitions for the future. The museum, which opened in March 2019, gives voice to the country's heritage and culture through commissioned films and artworks, storytelling, artefacts, and music, combining wide-ranging scholarship with oral histories of the people of Qatar. NMoQ is organised as a thematic and chronological sequence of galleries, which take the visitor on a 1.5-km journey through immersive, multisensory experiences that provide multiple perspectives. The iconic building, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Jean Nouvel, is based on the form of the desert rose and is composed of large interlocking disks of different diameters and curvatures that surround the restored historic Palace of Sheikh Abdullah bin Jassim Al Thani (1871-1957), son of the founder of modern Qatar. Sheikh Abdulaziz Al Thani has served as director of the National Museum of Qatar since 2023.