

Skepto International Film Festival 2023 - Regulation

General informations

Skepto International Film Festival is a competitive festival dedicated to short films, without restrictions on subject matter, style, or production budget. The main goal of the festival is to give visibility to independent filmmakers from all over the world and to build an open space where they can freely exchange ideas. Video productions of any genre or style are allowed. Audiovisuals created through the use of artificial intelligence in all its forms are also included. The thirteenth edition of the festival will take place in Cagliari from October 2023 to June 2024: the main competition will be held in October 2023 in Cagliari, and there will also be two side events at locations to be identified in Italy and/or Europe and to be held at later dates, in any case by June 2024. The final date and location of the Festival and the two side events will be announced on the official website of the event www.skepto.net

Art. 1 - Registration method and deadline

To participate in the Festival, it is necessary to submit your application, exclusively through the online platform Festhome (festhome.com), and make the payment of the participation fee (as per Art. 2), by the non-extendable deadline of June 10, 2023. (The only exception is the short films of the "special Schools section" for which please refer to the dedicated section on the website www.skepto.net).

The Festival is dedicated to Short Films: video productions of any genre or style are allowed, including audiovisuals created through the use of artificial intelligence. The maximum duration of the works submitted must not exceed, under penalty of exclusion, 20 minutes including end credits, only for the AI category, the maximum allowed duration must not exceed 5 minutes. The production date cannot be earlier than January 1, 2022.

Regardless of the style (animation, live action, stop motion, etc.), the following category to which the short film belongs must be indicated during registration:

- Dramatic
- Comedy
- Horror/Thriller
- Documentary (including docu-fiction)
- AI
- Other

Registration for the Skepto International Film Festival implies full acceptance of these regulations and, in case of selection, authorization for the screening of the registered short film during the main competition in Cagliari and the aforementioned side events (which will be organized and held at locations to be identified in Italy and Europe, in any case no later than June 2024). Dates and locations of the screenings will be indicated through the website www.skepto.net. By registering, each author declares that they own all rights (direct and indirect) to the submitted work and assumes responsibility for its content.

Any irregularities or non-compliance with the aforementioned regulations will render participation in the Festival void.

Art. 2 - Submission of works and participation fee

To submit works, you must exclusively use the Festhome platform (festhome.com). The registration fee is set at € 10 + Festhome fees. Payment must be made at the same time as registration, through the same online platform.

Under penalty of exclusion, all short films with dialogues, regardless of the original language, must be provided with English subtitles (except for short films submitted in the special Schools section as per Art. 6 of these regulations).

The author warrants the submission of his/her original work and there are no disputes regarding the ownership of his/her submission. He/she warrants the submitted material does not defame or invade the rights of any person living or dead and he fully indemnify Skepto International Film Festival against any claim made for such violations of law.

The selection of films and the awarding of prizes and recognitions are carried out at the sole and unquestionable discretion of the artistic direction and the jury.

Art. 3 - Pre-selection phase

All short films regularly registered will be viewed by special pre-selection juries who, in coordination with the Artistic Direction, will select the films to be screened during the Festival. Among all selected works, the Best-Short finalists will also be identified, who will be viewed by the official jury and evaluated for the awarding of prizes and special mentions. Short films selected for screening but not included among the finalists will be screened in the "Freestyle" out-of-competition section or in one of the thematic sections.

Art. 4 - Selected films regulations

The list of selected short films will be published on the website www.skepto.net, and the authors of the selected short films will receive a courtesy notification via e-mail as soon as the pre-selection process is completed.

Under penalty of exclusion, the authors of the selected short films must provide, by September 15, 2023, the following materials:

- a high-quality digital file of the short film for screening. The media file must necessarily be compatible with the Windows operating system. All short films with dialogues (except for those in the special Schools section), regardless of the original language, must be provided with English subtitles embedded in the video file (and not contained in a separate file). The digital file can be sent through upload services provided by the participant (e.g., Dropbox, WeTransfer, FTP, etc.): the Dropbox account is info@skepto.net, while the email for sending via WeTransfer is skeptoiff@gmail.com;
- 2 or more stills or frames of the short film in digital format;

- the form containing the data related to the work and the synopsis (the organization will send the selected participants the format to fill out), which will be made available on the Festival's communication materials and on the website www.skeptto.net;

As all main and collateral screenings of Skepto are free admission, no screening fees will be paid for short films screened during the event and collateral events in any case.

To protect the authors, the short films will be sent to the various screening venues in a protected digital format. All external venues possibly involved in the organization of Skepto events will sign, together with the commitment to destroy the material as soon as the screening is completed, a confidentiality agreement with the Festival, in order to guarantee full responsibility for the use, exclusively in the agreed venue and date.

Art. 5 – Awards, Mentions and prize money

The thirteenth edition of Skepto International Film Festival will award the following prizes and special mentions:

- Best-Short Award, awarded to the best short film among all those selected for participation in the competition;
- Special "Alberto Signetto" Award, awarded to the best documentary short film;
- Special Environmental Sustainability Award, awarded to the best short film on the theme of the necessary development of a responsible and respectful cultural, economic, and social model for the planet hosting us;
- Special Skeptyricon Mention: to the best satirical, grotesque or splatter genre short film.
- Special SkeptAI Mention: to the best work made with the contribution of Artificial Intelligence in all its forms.
- Skepto Schools Award, awarded to the best short film presented in the schools section (please refer to the dedicated section on the website www.skeptto.net).

The total prize money for the event will be no less than € 2,000.

The Artistic Direction of Skepto International Film Festival reserves the right to establish additional prizes and special mentions for short films regularly registered in the main section that fall into particular categories (for example, animated short films or works dedicated to particular themes) during the event. If the number of works received is deemed insufficient, the Festival Direction may decide to cancel one or more sections or special prizes, informing the interested parties in due time and returning the relevant registration fees.

Art. 6 - Communications to participants

All official communications on the different phases of the competition will be published on the official website www.skepto.net. To facilitate the participants, the organization will send email notifications regarding the selection of short films and the procedures to be followed in order to participate regularly in the event. However, failure to receive the aforementioned communications does not constitute sufficient reason for not complying with the terms indicated in these regulations, as all updates published on the event website www.skepto.net have the character of official notification.

Art. 7 - Privacy

By registering for the festival, you declare that you are fully informed about the processing of personal data and authorize its storage in the festival's database in compliance with and according to the provisions and effects of Italian Law 675/96 and the European GDPR. The data controller is the Skepto Association, represented by its legal representative. The purpose of data collection is to enable participation in the Festival, to allow the publication of the list of participants and to identify the related works. The data may also be used for administrative and accounting purposes and to inform participants about any further events of the same nature. However, if the author wishes to delete, rectify, or view the stored information, they can do so at any time by simply sending a request via email to infoskepto@gmail.com.

The Festival Management reserves the right to use, free of charge, for promotional, press and external communication purposes, excerpts of a maximum duration of 45 seconds from the selected works, photos, and all received material.

Contacts

For further information, you can consult the FAQ section on the website www.skepto.net or contact the organizational secretariat by email: infoskepto@gmail.com