



CALL FOR ENTRIES WRITTEN BY SCRIPT & FILM FESTIVAL - 2° EDITION

ORGANIZATION

The Written by Script & Film Festival is one of the first festivals dedicated exclusively to already-produced short films, entirely focused on screenwriting.
It is organized and promoted by Stolen Film – ETS, a cultural association made up of professionals actively working in the film industry across various departments.

Screenwriting at the center

While many festivals award prizes such as Best Director, Best Cinematography, or Best Editing, the Written by Script & Film Festival instead rewards the core components of cinematic writing: Best Screenplay, Best Story, Best Dialogues, Best Plot.

The Festival was created in response to movements aiming to recognize and valorize screenwriters and story authors of audiovisual works, figures who are too often marginalized.

WHEN? WHERE?

The Written by Script & Film Festival will take place over three days in June, in Rome.

SIDE ACTIVITIES

The Written by Script & Film Festival also offers an in-depth opportunity for authors through the podcast interview format "Come l'hai scritto?" (How did you write it?).

During the festival days, guests will be invited to share their professional experiences, discussing the origins of their projects, the specifics of their work, and their life paths.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES – WRITTEN BY

The Written by Script & Film Festival includes **three competition categories**:

1. COMPLETED SHORT FILMS
- 2A. PITCH STAGE - FEATURES
- 2B. PITCH STAGE - SHORTS

Each applicant may submit projects to more than one category, with a **maximum of 3 projects per category**.

1. COMPLETED SHORT FILMS

A category open to short films of any theme, with a maximum duration of 20 minutes.

As part of the evaluation, the shooting script used during production will be reviewed. The script will be physically available in the festival spaces.

AWARDS – COMPLETED SHORT FILMS

Best Screenplay Award (trophy + prize with partner TBA)
Students' Jury Award (trophy + prize with partner TBA)
Best Story Award (plaque)
Best Dialogues Award (plaque)
Best Plot Award (plaque)

1.1 ELIGIBLE WORKS

The Festival accepts both original works and adaptations of existing material.

Narrative short films of any genre are eligible, including animation.

Non-fiction works (e.g. music videos, documentaries, etc.) are not eligible.

Works by authors of all ages and nationalities are accepted, including both professionals and emerging filmmakers.

1.2 REQUIREMENTS

Maximum length: 20 minutes

Submission of the shooting script is mandatory

The script must be written in Italian or English and uploaded via the designated form

1.3 SELECTION

Short films will be selected by the Festival's artistic committee.

Selection criteria include: Originality, Narrative quality, Dialogue writing, Screenplay structure, Effectiveness of cinematic adaptation.

Selected films will be screened during the Festival.

1.4 HOW TO APPLY – SHORT FILMS

Submissions must be made exclusively via FilmFreeway.

The submission fee also serves as membership dues for Stolen Film – ETS for the year 2026.

Each applicant may submit up to 3 completed short films, with a separate submission for each film.

The shooting script is mandatory.

Failure to submit the script will result in disqualification.

After FilmFreeway submission, the shooting script must be uploaded at:

<https://forms.gle/sFD4fbMS72Lvr3g6>

For selected films only, the following materials will be requested:

- High-quality screening file
- Author biography, filmography, and photo
- Italian and English subtitles (.srt)
- Film stills
- Posters and brochures
- Trailer (max 2 minutes)

2. PITCH STAGE

The Pitch Stage aims to promote the work of emerging screenwriters by creating opportunities to meet the public and industry professionals, including authors, editors, and production companies.

Pitch Stage Categories

2A – Feature Film Projects

2B – Short Film Projects

AWARDS – PITCH STAGE

Best Feature Film Pitch (plaque + prize with partner TBA)

Best Short Film Pitch (plaque + prize with partner TBA)

Awards will be granted by a jury of producers and independent production companies. Participating companies will be announced via the Festival's official channels.

2.1 ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Narrative projects of any genre are accepted.

Non-fiction projects (e.g. documentaries, music videos) are excluded.

2.2 REQUIREMENTS

- Projects must be the exclusive property of the author(s) and must not have been previously assigned to producers or third parties.
- Adaptations are accepted only with proof of adaptation rights.
- Projects already adapted into audiovisual works are not eligible.
- Projects already in production are not eligible.
- Projects must be written in Italian or English.

2.3 SELECTION

Projects will be selected by the artistic committee based on: Originality, Narrative quality, Dialogue writing, Screenplay structure, Production value. Finalists will pitch live during the Festival. Each author will have 10 minutes to present their project.

The Festival does not guarantee production of selected projects.

2A. HOW TO APPLY – FEATURE FILM PITCH

Up to 3 feature projects per applicant. Each project requires a separate submission.

A single PDF file must include:

- Logline
- Synopsis
- Story outline (max 10 pages)
- Optional visual materials (pitch deck, moodboard, trailer, hypothetical cast, etc.)
- Author bio (max 500 characters)
- Treatment (optional)

IMPORTANT:

The PDF filename must exactly match the project title on FilmFreeway.

Submission link:

<https://forms.gle/5C78dSf2TWCCbQR9>

2B. HOW TO APPLY – SHORT FILM PITCH

Up to 3 short film projects per applicant. Each project requires a separate submission.

A single PDF file must include:

- Logline
- Synopsis
- Story outline (max 10 pages)
- Screenplay (max 20 pages)
- Optional visual materials
- Author bio (max 500 characters)

Same filename rules apply.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Participants retain full rights to their works but grant the Festival a non-exclusive license for screening and promotional use. Submission implies acceptance of all conditions, including:

- Promotional use of excerpts
- Non-refundable fees
- Mandatory membership with Stolen Film – ETS
- Jury decisions are final

PRIVACY

Personal data will be handled in accordance with Italian and EU privacy regulations.

FINAL PROVISIONS

The Festival reserves the right to amend these regulations.

Any disputes will fall under the jurisdiction of the Court of Rome.

For more information:

<https://stolenfilm.it/writtenby>
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