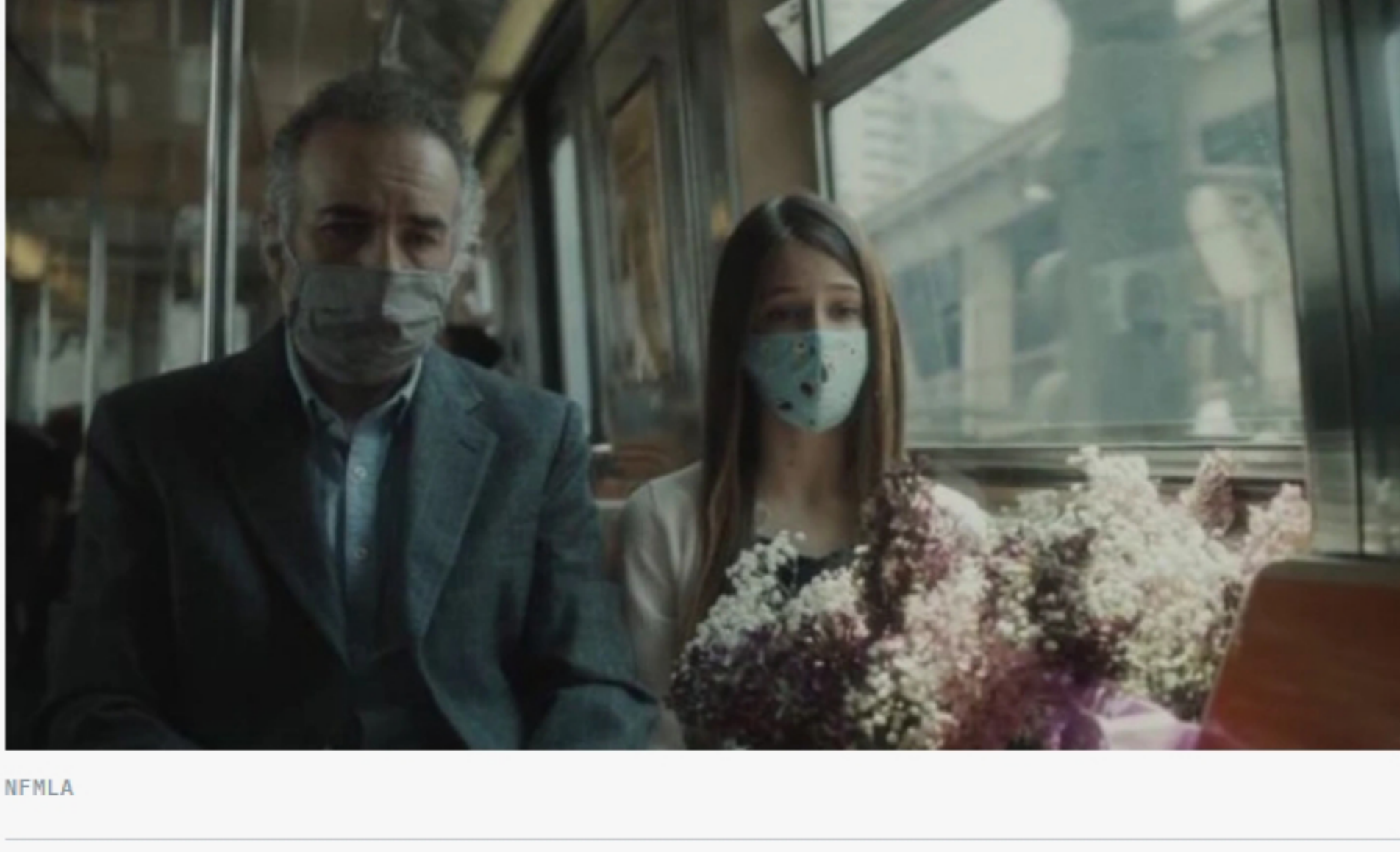


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NewFilmmakers Los Angeles, AMPAS Team for Middle Eastern, Arab and Dutch Cinema Festival – Global Bulletin

By Naman Ramachandran



NFMLA

FESTIVAL

NewFilmmakers Los Angeles (NFMLA) and the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences** (AMPAS), with presenting partners **The Arab Film and Media Institute** and **Dutch Culture USA** are partnering for a short film festival that runs across the Dec. 10 and 11 weekend.

The annual event, titled **NFMLA Film Festival InFocus: Middle Eastern, Arab & Dutch Cinema**, will feature virtual screenings of films followed by live Q&As. The films are by emerging filmmakers from the Netherlands, Lebanon, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Jordan, Iran, France, Belgium and the U.S.

The program includes the U.S. premiere of “Nervosa,” the latest work by NFMLA alum Thessa Meijer and the Tribeca award-winning short “Leylak,” by co-directors Scott Aharoni and Dennis Latos.

Festival panels will feature conversations with Palestinian director-writer **Hany Abu-Assad** (“Omar”), whose upcoming feature “Huda’s Salon” will be distributed by IFC Films, and Saudi Arabian filmmaker **Haifaa Al-Mansour** (“Wadjda”).

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
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NFMLA and the Academy have also brought together industry professionals to participate in this year’s edition including Robert Walak and Alisa Tager at Anonymous Content, Tanja Tawadjoh at Black Bicycle Entertainment, Beatriz Sequeira at Blumhouse Productions, Annamaria Sofillas at Topic/First Look Media, Talha Asad at HBO, Allie Moore at Left Handed Films and Brie Neimand at ViacomCBS.

The festival programming is supported by Los Angeles City Council member Mitch O’Farrell.

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