



**Architecture Film Award – AFA**  
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**Milano Design Film Festival 9th edition**  
**21 - 24 October 2021**

Milan, 9 March 2021 – The second edition of the International Award for Cinema and Architecture is now underway. The **Architecture Film Award – AFA**, promoted by the Milano Design Film Festival (MDFF) along with the Order of Architects PPC of Milan and its Foundation, is aimed at the selection of films (fiction, documentaries, short films) related to the different aspects of architecture, the city and the landscape. The AFA is designed to **encourage the production of films dedicated to these disciplines** and to promote the audio-visual language as a communication tool for architects. Participation is open to persons over 21 years of age of any nationality, and the works must have been produced in the two-year period 2019-2021 and must be submitted in the original language with English subtitles. The deadline for registration and submission of the required materials is **Monday 21 June 2021**.

Starting from a reflection on the role that a film or video can play for the purpose of a more intense perception of space and architecture, there are two participating categories: **“Architecture’s film”**, for films (medium- and full-length) that tell stories about ancient, modern and contemporary architecture, and **“Studio’s film”** (short films), for audio-visual projects commissioned by architecture firms to promote their projects. The winners will receive a cash prize to be considered as reimbursement of expenses and recognition of personal merit, €3,000 for projects in the first category (“Architecture’s film”) and €1,500 for the second category (Studio’s film).

Is it possible to recognize the many interconnections between the architectural space and its political, social, geographical and communicative context in “filmed places” or in the “signs of the realities filmed”? And can these impressions contribute to providing a comprehensive interpretation of architecture and cities? **The Architecture Film Award – AFA is open to film projects dedicated to architecture in its broadest meaning and context, from interior design to the city and the landscape.** The films can feature actual or imagined works that relate to aspects purely connected to architecture as well as to other fields such as, but not limited to, art, music, theatre, dance, literature and technology.

“For MDFF, focusing attention on the cinema&architecture combination with a dedicated award is a way to disseminate even more effectively the research that links the two disciplines in the contemporary world. To follow the most current themes. To stimulate new points of view and relationships. To investigate the new narratives of space. And to keep alive the discussion on the use of this media today in professional



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studios,” comment Festival curators Silvia Robertazzi and Porzia Bergamasco. “The narration of architecture, cities and territories and the stories of their inhabitants are central elements of the cultural programming of the Foundation of the Order of Architects, Planners, Landscapers and Conservators of the Province of Milan,” explains Stefano Tropea, board member of the Foundation of the Order of Architects. “We are particularly interested in the different forms that storytelling can take in different media or, as in the case of the Architecture Film Award, with different uses of the audio-visual tool. What remains in the background is the importance of knowing and making known to as wide an audience as possible, who live and use spaces and architectures on a daily basis, the value of the design project and to increase awareness of the beauty and complexity of the places we build and inhabit.”

The award is organized in two phases and is an open competition. The competing works undergo an initial pre-selection phase, evaluated by internal members of MDFFF and of the Foundation of the Order of Architects PPC of the Province of Milan. The works admitted to the second phase will then be announced by email by Monday 13 September 2021. The complete list of titles will also be published on the website: [www.architecturefilmaward.com](http://www.architecturefilmaward.com)

During the **days of Milano Design Film Festival, to be held from 21 to 24 October 2021**, the works selected for the second phase will then be judged by a jury that will award the prizes in the two categories. The winning titles will be decided by the jury composed of: **Nina Bassoli** (curator, writer – Lotus International), **Marco Della Torre** (Dean’s Office Coordinator at the Academy of Architecture of Mendrisio – USI), **Franco Raggi** (Interior Design course director – ISIA Florence), **Carles Muro** (Associate Professor of Architectural Design, Milan Polytechnic), **Roberto Escobar** (Political philosopher and film critic), and **Bêka & Lemoine** (internationally renowned filmmaking duo).

For complete information and the full regulations:  
[www.architecturefilmaward.com](http://www.architecturefilmaward.com)

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