



Garden-in-Movies ShortFilmFest

International Short Film Competition

4th Edition - Radicepura, 1-2-3 August 2025 - Catania

Regulations - Competition 2025

Premise

The **Garden-in-Movies Film Festival**, born in 2017 as part of the **International Festival of Landscape Radicepura Garden Festival** (Giarre, Catania) and now in its fourth edition (1-2-3 August 2025), narrates the **Garden** through the language of cinema from a broad perspective that embraces every dynamic that fosters cultural, political, social and artistic values. Not only nature and landscape, but also ecology, sustainability, education, culture, human rights and environmental respect.

The Festival consists of three days of screenings, meetings and conversations with prestigious guests and offers three different sections for feature films: "**Roots**" (Italy), "**Mediterranean Essence**" (Mediterranean Countries) and "**Beyond the Garden**" (Rest of the world). In addition, a competitive section for short films, the **Garden-in-Movies / ShortFilmFest**, an international competition of short films with an **Expert Jury** and an **Audience Jury** that respectively award the **Best Short Film Award** and the **Audience Award**.

The Festival takes place in the summer, at the evocative **Radicepura Park**, transformed for three days into an open-air botanical lounge and a movie theater under the stars, at the foot of Mount Etna and overlooking the sea, embellished by the fragrances and scents of the plants in the park.

Aims

Through Cinema, the Garden-in-Movies aims at **enhancing nature and the environment as a driving force of development and contamination**, in a holistic vision that goes beyond the narrow concept of "garden" and transforms it into a broad **metaphor for landscape and life**, from any **cultural, political and social** angle. All this in the name of Beauty.

Artistic Direction and Organizers

The Garden-in-Movies Film Festival, created and directed by **Ornella Sgroi**, journalist and film critic, is organized in partnership with **Radicepura Foundation**.

Garden-in-Movies/ShortFilmFest

The Garden-in-Movies is determined to grow, by presenting movie novelties, identifying new talents and promoting unreleased and experimental works. So, starting from the second edition, the Festival

launches the **Garden-in-Movies/ShortFilmFest**, an international short film competition, in keeping with the founding spirit of the main Film Festival.

Competition theme

The international short film competition Garden-in-Movies/ShortFilmFest is targeted at all those works that, through the language of cinema, enhance **nature, environment, landscape, ecology and environmental sustainability** as engines of development and contamination. But the "garden" also serves as a metaphor for **any place, context, dynamic, relationship capable of fostering cultural, political, social and artistic values**. Therefore, short films that express the concept of "garden" from this perspective are also eligible for selection.

Admission requirements

The Entrants can submit **short films of fiction, documentaries or animation, of any genre** (drama, comedy, thriller, science fiction, fantasy, noir, etc.), with a running time no longer than **15 minutes** (including opening and end credits), released or unreleased and coming from any country, produced **after January 1, 2023**.

All short films in Italian must be **subtitled in English**, whereas those in a foreign language must be **subtitled in Italian**. Films in a language other than English should also be subtitled in English, though this is not mandatory.

In case of selection, the festival reserves the right to use stills and excerpts from the films for promotional purposes, not exceeding 10% of the running time.

Registration and deadline

Registration for the short film competition must be completed **through the form available below on this page** (for information, please write to gardeninmovies@radicepura.com or call +39 095964154) or via the Festhome platform.

The deadline for registration and submission of the required materials is **May 15, 2025**.

Selection, Juries and Awards

After the deadline expires, the Festival will compile **a shortlist of finalist works that will be screened in competition at the IV edition of Garden-in-Movies** (1-2-3 August 2025) for the **Best Short Film Award** and the **Audience Award**.

The awards will be presented by both an **Expert Jury** and an **Audience Jury**.

The **Expert Jury**, composed of three members, is appointed by the Festival and includes representatives from film, television, art, culture, journalism, entertainment and landscape industries.

The **Audience Jury**, composed of Festival attendees, express their vote using specific forms distributed before every screening.

Any **honorable mentions** from the Expert Jury will be announced during the Awards Ceremony evening.

General rules

By entering the Competition, Entrants hereby warrant that all information submitted is true, current and complete and that the Entrant is the owner of the submission and its copyright. Any Entrants who have supplied incomplete, inaccurate or fraudulent information may be automatically disqualified. The Festival and Radicepura Foundation decline all responsibility in this regard. **Submitting a film is binding and implies acceptance of these regulations**. The Court of Catania is competent for any disputes.