

TITLE **Press Release NFF 2021**UPDATED **01.07.2021**

## New Artistic Direction

From its eleventh edition in January 2022, the Norient Film Festival is heading into the future with a new international curatorial team and a watch group. The NFF aims to delve deep into the current trends of films and music as inextricably tied to the many societies around the world. The artistic directors for the 2022 edition are Rebecca Salvadori, video and sound artist from London, U.K., and Chafic Tabbara, film critic from Beirut, Lebanon. The rest of the international curatorial team live and work in Leicester, New Delhi, Bern, and Zurich. In the NFF watch group, almost 20 volunteers take part in the previewing process of the films submitted. Festival founder and previous artistic director Thomas Burkhalter is now working in the background as the festival's strategic director.

The 11th Norient Film Festival takes place from January 12 to 16, 2022, both online and offline in the city of Bern, Switzerland. The program will be released in November 2021. The call for films is open now, submissions are accepted via FilmFreeway.

### Artistic Co-Direction NFF 2022

Rebecca Salvadori, London (U.K.), video and sound artist – [rebecca@norient.com](mailto:rebecca@norient.com)

Chafic Tabbara, Beirut (Lebanon), film critic – [chaf@norient.com](mailto:chaf@norient.com)

### Members Program Group NFF 2022

Dr Monia Acciari, Leicester (U.K.), associate professor in film and television history

Radha Mahendru, New Delhi (India), curator, arts manager, and cultural producer

Tamara Milosevic, Bern (Switzerland), director and creative producer

Claudia-Andreea Popvici, Zürich (Switzerland), photographer and filmmaker

## Links and Contact

Website NFF with archive: [www.norientfilmfestival.com](http://www.norientfilmfestival.com)

Call for Films NFF 2022: <https://norient.com/11th-norient-film-festival-2022-call-films>

Contact: Hannes Liechti, head of production, [nff@norient.com](mailto:nff@norient.com), +41 76 479 78 20

*Detailed biographies of everyone mentioned above see next pages.*

## About Norient

Norient is an audio-visual gallery and a community (of practice) for the sound of the world: for contemporary music, quality journalism, cutting-edge research, projects, and events like the Norient Film Festival (NFF). Norient conceives music, sound, and noise as seismographs of our time, facilitates space and place for thinkers and artists from currently fifty countries to tell new and different stories of the now and tomorrow. The goal is to support (sub)cultural diversity, broaden horizons, and open up dialogue across people, continents, and disciplines.

<https://www.norient.com>

## Biographies Curatorial Team

**Rebecca Salvadori** is an Italo-Australian video artist based in London. She has a long experience of filming environments with a focus on non-hierarchical/chronological layering and sequencing of audio to footage. Her film works act as constellations of highly personal and willfully elusive heterogeneous elements: multifaceted portraits of moments, people, and environments that can be approached from different angles as they move in between personal and transpersonal scales. Her work has been shown in major international institutions such as ICA, South London Gallery, Camden Arts Centre, and Barbican Centre. Salvadori is the co-founder of artist collective Tutto Questo Sentire, a part of A/V duo Footage together with video artist Leah Walker.

**Chafic Tabbara** is a Lebanese film critic, who wrote for many newspapers and magazines (Almodon, Raseef22, Vice...). He has a BA in film studies and a master in history of cinema. He writes weekly for *Alakhbar* Newspaper in Lebanon and periodically in *Alshafa* magazine (Alajazeera). Since 2013, he has attended and covered Arab and international film festivals. He is a jury member of the annual «Arab critic award for European films» and «Arab Critic awards for Arab films».

**Dr Monia Acciari** is an associate professor in film and television history at De Montfort University (U.K.); she researches and writes about film curatorship, film festivals, and Indian cinema (broadly speaking). She is also currently writing her monograph on the history of film festivals in India. She has been visiting professor at Indian Universities and delivered practical courses on film festivals organization and film history. Monia is fascinated by the synergies between film festivals and archives as creative sites for artistic expression. She is also senior curator of two festivals in the U.K., collaborates with several festivals in India, and is part of the FIPRESCI-India collective of film critics.

**Radha Mahendru** is a curator, arts manager, and cultural producer. Locating her practice at the intersection of art and activism, her work opens out forms of engagement that art can produce outside of the exhibition space. She is a working member of Abr Circle, an online initiative committed to creating a network of support by commissioning performances/digital works in India, and a core member of Art Chain India, a democratic peer-support movement for visual artists in India working with all media.

**Tamara Milosevic** was born in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Studied documentary film directing at Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg in Ludwigsburg, Germany. Received a specialised degree from EICTV Cuba (Escuela de cine y television de San Antonio de los Baños). Focused largely on society, politics, social media, and explosive topics. Received several international awards and nominations for her work. Lives in Bern, Switzerland, and works as an independent filmmaker, creative producer, and lecturer for documentary filmmaking.

**Claudia-Andreea Popovici** was born in Romania and grew up in Germany. She studied art / photography at the Zurich University of the Arts in Zürich and in São Paulo, Brazil. She works as a photographer/filmmaker and cultural producer in Zürich, Switzerland.