

SHORTO FILM MARKET

11th Edition | November 28th - 30th, 2026 | Torino

CALL: Almost Famous

Almost Famous is an international distribution pitching forum for upcoming short films, of any genre, up to 30 minutes, made in partnership with Lights On distribution company. S. Selected participants will have five minutes to pitch their project to an audience of film professionals. The pitch should include the screening of a 2-minute film excerpt. Short films at the last phase of postproduction, with a rough cut or finished and unreleased, without a distribution deal, are eligible to participate. Following the pitch session, participants will attend a series of one-to-one meetings with industry professionals scheduled by the ShorTO team.

Almost Famous is dedicated to the following categories of applicants: single directors or creative teams composed of a producer and a director, from any country of the world, looking for distribution.

A diversified panel of Decision-Makers, composed of Italian and International film industry professionals – commissioning editors, buyers, distributors, festival representatives, directors, producers, and film institutions – will be invited to attend and provide feedback to the selected projects.

Eligible applicants are:

- Directors
- Creative Teams of Director and Author
- Producers
- Production Companies

DATE AND PLACE

Almost Famous pitches and one-to-ones will take place in Torino, Italy, from Saturday, November 28th, 2026, to Monday, November 30th, 2026, during ShorTO Film Market.

The selection involves taking part in an online pitching training in November, before the market.

SUBMISSIONS

To take part in the selection process of *Almost Famous* pitching forum, applicants are required to apply through Filmchief or FilmFreeway.

Filmchief:

- Register and sign in at <https://shorto.filmchief.com>

If applicants have already been accredited to TSFM from 2017 on, their username and password remain the same, and they can be used to sign in. In the event of lost credentials, these can be retrieved directly on the website.

- Submit a filled online entry form, accessible at this link:

<https://shorto.filmchief.com/submit-work/almost-famous-2026>

FilmFreeway:

- Register and sign in at <https://filmfreeway.com/>
- Submit a filled online entry form, accessible at this link:

<https://filmfreeway.com/ShorTOFilmMarket2026>

Short films of any genre up to 30 minutes are eligible to participate.

Projects must be submitted in English. Selected projects will be pitched exclusively in English.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Short film images, up to 3 stills (Maximum file size: 5 MB, allowed extensions: jpg or png.)
- Short film link (rough cut or finished) & password (if required)
- Link to the previous director's film (when available)
- Current state of your project (max. 350 characters)
- Delivery date of the final version (if the short film is not complete)
- The Film Dossier MUST contain: (Maximum file size: 5 MB, allowed file type: pdf)

Synopsis (max. 350 characters)

Full credits

Note of intent (max. 1 page)

A written description of the target countries you wish to engage for collaborations

Director's bio and filmography

Producer/production company bio and filmography

Short bios/profiles of relevant team members (actors, DOP, editor, etc.)

Festivals' submissions done (if any)

The note of intent is the creative vision for the project, the author's personal insight, the source(s) of inspiration, and the meaning of the film.

ShorTO selection panel retains sole discretion to accept or reject any project submissions that are deemed incomplete or lacking required materials.

DEADLINES & FEES

The call opens on Wednesday, June 10th, 2026.

Regular deadline: Tuesday, August 25th, 2026, at 23:59 CEST. Fee/Regular: € 40,00.

Late deadline: Monday, October 5th, 2026 at 23:59 CEST. Fee/Regular: € 55,00.

The fee is payable at the end of the submission process via PayPal only.

NOTIFICATION & GRANTS

Applicants will receive a selection or rejection notice via email by the end of October 2026.

All participants are required to travel to Torino to attend the on-site *Almost Famous* pitch.

ShorTO will provide accommodation for 2 nights and a free accreditation to the market event to a single representative for each selected project.

In case of selection, participation in the online pitching training and the on-site market event in November is mandatory.

All selected participants will be offered to attend a consulting session on the distribution of their film with Lights On.

LIGHTS ON AWARD

Lights On will award one of the selected projects with a two-year distribution contract. The awarded project will be chosen at the sole discretion of Lights On.

AI DISCLAIMER

Any visual or written content generated with the support of AI must be clearly labelled to indicate that it was generated by an AI system rather than a human.

CONTACT

For any further information, please contact info@centrodelcorto.it.