AN EVENING OF SHORT FILMS

Film-makers are often asked the broad question: why make a short film? They don't necessarily translate to fame and fortune.

But when it comes to short films, the game is changing. Over the past six years the number of short film narratives available has exploded and opened up new pathways for rising film-makers.

In collaboration with the Concorto Film Festival in Piacenza, Italy, the CFF team has prepared a selection of some of their best shorts that will be screened on September 27.

Short Films Under The Stars celebrates how short film cinema is now at the centre of innovative storytelling, with new directors making their first mark in the film-makers' playground with new ideas and new filming techniques. Thousands of shorts are created across the world every year, and as time passes there is no better time to produce a short film as it's becoming a frequently-watched medium.

Short Films Under The Stars champions independent productions from across the world. Great short films continue to be made, and these films don't necessarily get to cinemas or to TV. This festival is believed to be the ideal place for such productions, and is an important alternative distribution and exhibition platform.

This is the film event where the audience is given the opportunity to vote for the best film. Film-makers are encouraged to submit their own short films for the 2016 edition of *Short Films Under The Stars*.

Entrance is €10 and includes wine and canapés and free popcorn. Bookings by e-mail to euromediaforum@gmail.com or text to 9945 4066. For the detailed short film programme visit www.facebook.com/Euro. Media.Forum

This event is being held in collaboration with Villa Bologna, Concorto Film Festival and Euro Media Forum.

Oratorio *Canticum Vitae* premiere

The Mediterranean Conference Centre will be the venue for the premiere of the oratorio *Canticum Vitae (Song of Life)* as part of the ongoing celebrations commemorating the 50th anniversary of *Id-Dar tal-Providenza,* founded by Mgr Mikiel Azzopardi on September 12, 1965.

The premiere, on October 7 at 7.30pm in Republic Hall at the Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta, will feature the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra.

Canticum Vitae (*Song of Life*) is a composition of Hermann Farrugia Frantz and is based on extracts from the Bible and the Liturgy that were compiled by Mgr Lawrence Gatt, former director of *Id-Dar tal-Providenza*.

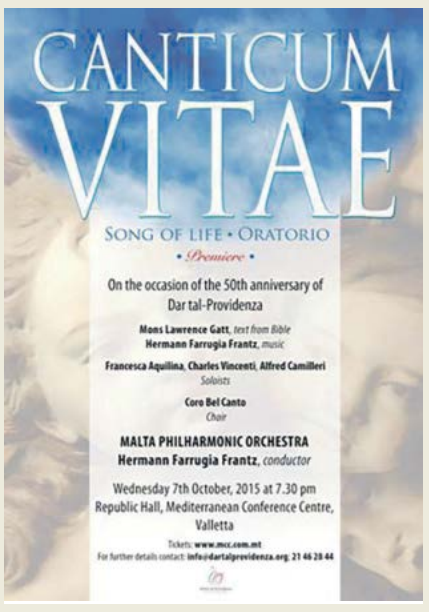
The Maltese trans-lation of the Biblical texts is accredited to the *Għaqda Biblika Maltija*.

The translation into Maltese of the remaining texts was completed by Dun Nikol Aquilina, who also revised the whole text.

Mro Farrugia Frantz will be conducting the orchestra with the participation of soloists Francesca Aquilina, Charles Vincenti and Alfred Camilleri as well as the *Coro Bel Canto*. Artistic direction is in the hands of Pierre Portelli.

Tickets may be booked through www.mcc.com.mt against a donation of €15 or €10 towards *Id-Dar tal-Providenza.*

More information is available from *Id-Dar tal-Providenza* on info@dartalprovidenza.org or on 2146 2844.



Call for composition competition for the Mdina Biennale concert

Applications are being received for a competition of compositions as part of a concert of a capella choral music, Versus – Of God and Man, which will take place at the Mdina Cathedral on November 25 as part of the Mdina Cathedral Contemporary Art Biennale between November 13 and January 7. The concert is being held with the collaboration of the Marigold Foundation and proceeds will go towards the foundation's causes.

For this concert the chamber choir Collegium *Musicale* from Estonia will be performing music by the Maltese composer Reuben Pace as well as music by Estonian composers.

This renowned chamber choir was founded in 2010 by Endrik Üksvärav, who is also the principal conductor of the choir and a professional tenor. The repertoire of the choir extends from Renaissance to contemporary music, with a focus on early music and the work of Estonian composers (Arvo Pärt, Erkki-Sven Tüür, Veljo Tormis etc.).

The choir has won several awards, including the Gran Prix in Gorizia, Italy (first prize) and the Gran Prix in Arezzo, Italy (second prize). It also released several CDs including Peegel peeglis with the music of Arvo Pärt and Pärt Uusberg and Roxanna Panufnik's Tallin Mass for Warner Classics.

The choir has toured extensively with performances in Italy, France and Japan. Last year the choir was awarded Choir of the Year 2014 by the Estonian Choral Association.

The submitted composition must satisfy crucial requirements which include a duration of not more than three minutes; text which should preferably be of a religious nature in English, Italian, Latin, Maltese or Estonian; a scoring for chamber choir SATB (16 performers) a capella, and any style or idiom which excludes the use of electronics.

The deadline for submissions, with an entry fee of €25, is November 1, 2015.

There are no age or nationality restrictions. The first four works chosen will be workshopped with the choir in the period between November 19 and 24 in Malta.

The winning entry will be performed publicly on November 25. A recording of the performance will be made for personal use only.

Three copies of the score and queries about fee payment should be sent to House of Music, Triq Dun Manwel Żammit, Siġġiewi SGW 3014, Malta.

The name of the composer should not appear on the score itself, but details of the composer including contact details should be put on a separate application sheet.

A piano reduction should also be included in the submission.

A PDF of the score and a MIDI rendering in mp3 format should be sent to pacereuben@gmail.com. Queries and the application sheet should be sent to the same e-mail address.