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# 85 countries vie for foreign language film Oscar

## Description

LOS ANGELES, Oct 13 â?? Yemen is competing for an Academy Award for best foreign language film for the first time, one of 85 countries submitting entries including Paul Verhoevenâ??s *Elle* and Pedro Almodovarâ??s *Julieta*, organisers announced Tuesday.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which presents the Oscars, will consider Yemeni director Khadija al-Salamiâ??s *I Am Nojoom, Age 10 and Divorced* â?? which explores the culture of child brides â?? it said in a statement.

The entries for Best Foreign Language Film also include Dutch director Verhoevenâ??s *Elle*, a transgressive thriller starring French actress Isabelle Huppert, and *Afterimage*, by the legendary Polish director Andrzej Wajda, who died Sunday.

Wajda portrayed the last years of avant-garde painter Wladyslaw Strzeminski, who battled Stalinist orthodoxy, in a film some see as a metaphor for present-day Poland under the conservative Law and Justice Party.

Mexicoâ??s Jonas Cuaron, son of star director Alfonso Cuaron, directed his countryâ??s entry, the thriller *Desierto*, while Spain entered Almodovarâ??s *Julieta*, a vibrant portrait of a woman confronting crisis.

Switzerland submitted the animated *My Life as a Zucchini*, by Claude Barras, and Italy sent Gianfranco Rosiâ??s *Fire at Sea*, a documentary about migrantsâ?? lives, focusing on the Italian island of Lampedusa.

The academy will make a preliminary cut later this year before announcing five finalists in January.

The 89th Oscars ceremony is set for February 26, 2017.

Hungaryâ??s *Son of Saul*, by director Laszlo Nemes, won the prestigious award this year. â?? AFP

(Source: http://www.themalaymailonline.com)

**Category**

1. Academy Awards
2. Venice International Film Festival

**Tags**

1. Academy Awards
2. Afterimage
3. Andrzej Wajda
4. Best Foreign Language Film Award
5. Claude Barra
6. Desierto
7. Elle
8. Film
9. Filmmaking
10. Fire At Sea
11. Foreign language film
12. Gianfranco Rosi
13. I Am Nojoom
14. Jonas Cuaron
15. Julieta
16. Khadija al-Salami
17. Laszlo Nemes
18. My Life As A Zucchini
19. Oscar
20. Paul Verhoeven
21. Pedro Almodovar
22. Son of Saul

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