



IMMACON NEWS #27



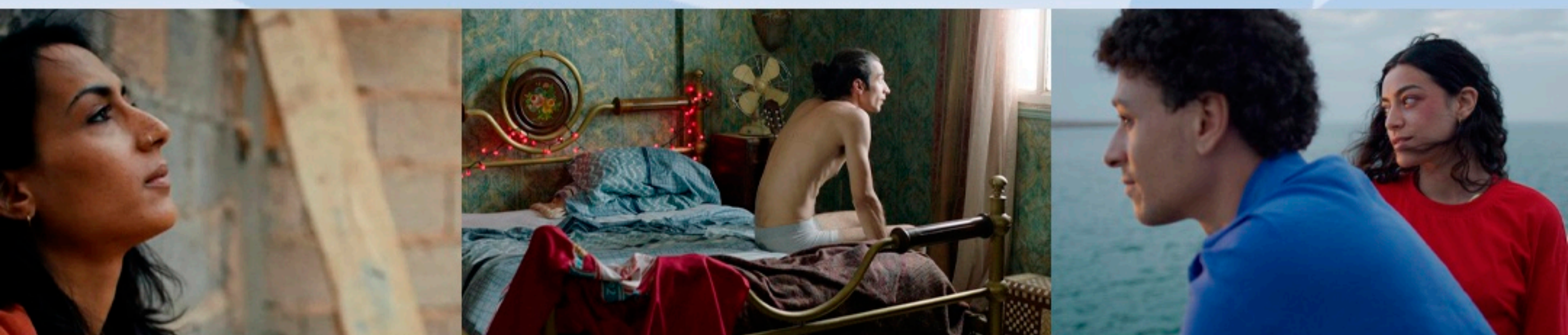
This month on the Imago website, explore the illuminating path of **Frida Marzouk, AFC**, a French-Tunisian cinematographer based in Paris whose journey to the DP chair ignited with the sight of a crane operator soaring like a cinematic superhero.

F FRIDA MARZOUK AFC

From high school economics to interning on sets, a pivotal break with Abdelatif Kechiche promoting her from intern to first AC, and 15 years as an electrician on massive New York productions, Marzouk's craft reveals a profound evolution: cinematography as body, emotions, and mind converging in one place.

Moving between naturalistic indie work and experimental shorts, her films like *Promised Sky*, *Under the Fig Trees* (handheld freedom), and the boundary-pushing *She Sings* resonate with subtle enhancement you can't tell it's lit, it just feels right.

Marzouk favors a single motivated source from outside for actor freedom, embracing modern LEDs for efficiency and trusting colorists for bold risks. Discover more about her journey and inspirations by reading the full article at imago.org





Frida Marzouk, AFC is an internationally recognized cinematographer known for her collaborative spirit, lighting expertise honed in New York, and ability to balance prep with on-set flexibility, favoring naturalistic lighting that enhances without drawing attention.

She welcomes change when it improves the story, thrives on crew complicity, and distills her practice simply: "**Cinematography is body plus emotions, plus your mind in one place.**"



Frida Marzouk continues to embrace challenges like a period piece genre shift, prioritizing crew loyalty key first AC, gaffer, colorist from initial calls, building teams via trust and private lighting chats.

As a new AFC member, she values the network for discussions, advocating listening over speaking early on: seize every opportunity, stay silent to build professionally.

Her vision is pragmatic: technology saves time, but complicity with directors turns sets into creative friendships.



Marzouk's inspirations draw from cinema that immerses deeply:

Scorsese's *Casino*, which blew her teenage mind on the big screen; Eric Zonka's *The Dreamed Life of Angels*, lensed by Agnès Godard for its raw emotional pull; and her enduring fandom of Robert De Niro, all rooted in French *cinéma vérité*.

"**What moves me most is how visuals stun and connect**", she reflects, her influences evident from New York electric work to Tunisian DP playgrounds.

SOCIETIES NEWS



“Le città di pianura” by Francesco Sossai is leading the nominations for the [2026 David di Donatello Awards](#).

With an impressive 16 nominations, the film stands out as the clear favorite, confirming a surprising and steadily rising trajectory.

AIC is pleased to announce that, among the film’s many nominations, special recognition goes to the one for Best Cinematography, awarded to our member [Massimiliano Kuveiller](#), whose work plays a decisive role in shaping the film’s visual identity.



Among the film’s most distinctive elements is the choice to shoot on film a precise aesthetic decision that lends the images a tactile grain and an intimate atmosphere, perfectly in keeping with the poetic tone of the story.

The award ceremony will take place on [May 6, 2026](#), at [Cinecittà Studios](#) in Rome.

[WATCH THE TRAILER](#) by [CLICKING HERE](#)

The [David di Donatello Awards](#) are the highest honour in Italian cinema, often considered the Italian equivalent of the Academy Awards.

Established in 1956, they recognise excellence across all areas of filmmaking, with particular relevance for cinematographers as a benchmark of visual authorship and craft.

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Women Behind the Camera

Five Serbian Cinematographers Shaping the Industry

In an interview for "Beauty and Health" Magazine, five prominent Serbian directors of photography - [Jelena Stanković](#), [Bojana Andrić](#), [Maja Radošević](#), [Milica Drakulić](#) and [Tatjana Krstevski](#) are redefining the role of women behind the camera in contemporary Serbian cinema.

For decades, cinematography was widely perceived as a male-dominated profession.

Today, these filmmakers stand among the key creative voices shaping the visual identity of Serbian and regional film and television.



As members of the Serbian Association of Cinematographers, they have contributed to numerous acclaimed productions while helping expand the visibility of women working in cinematography.



Each of them brings a distinct creative perspective. Their work ranges from socially engaged storytelling and visually bold feature films to international co-productions, television series and academic work. Beyond their work on set, several are also involved in education, mentoring younger filmmakers and strengthening professional networks.

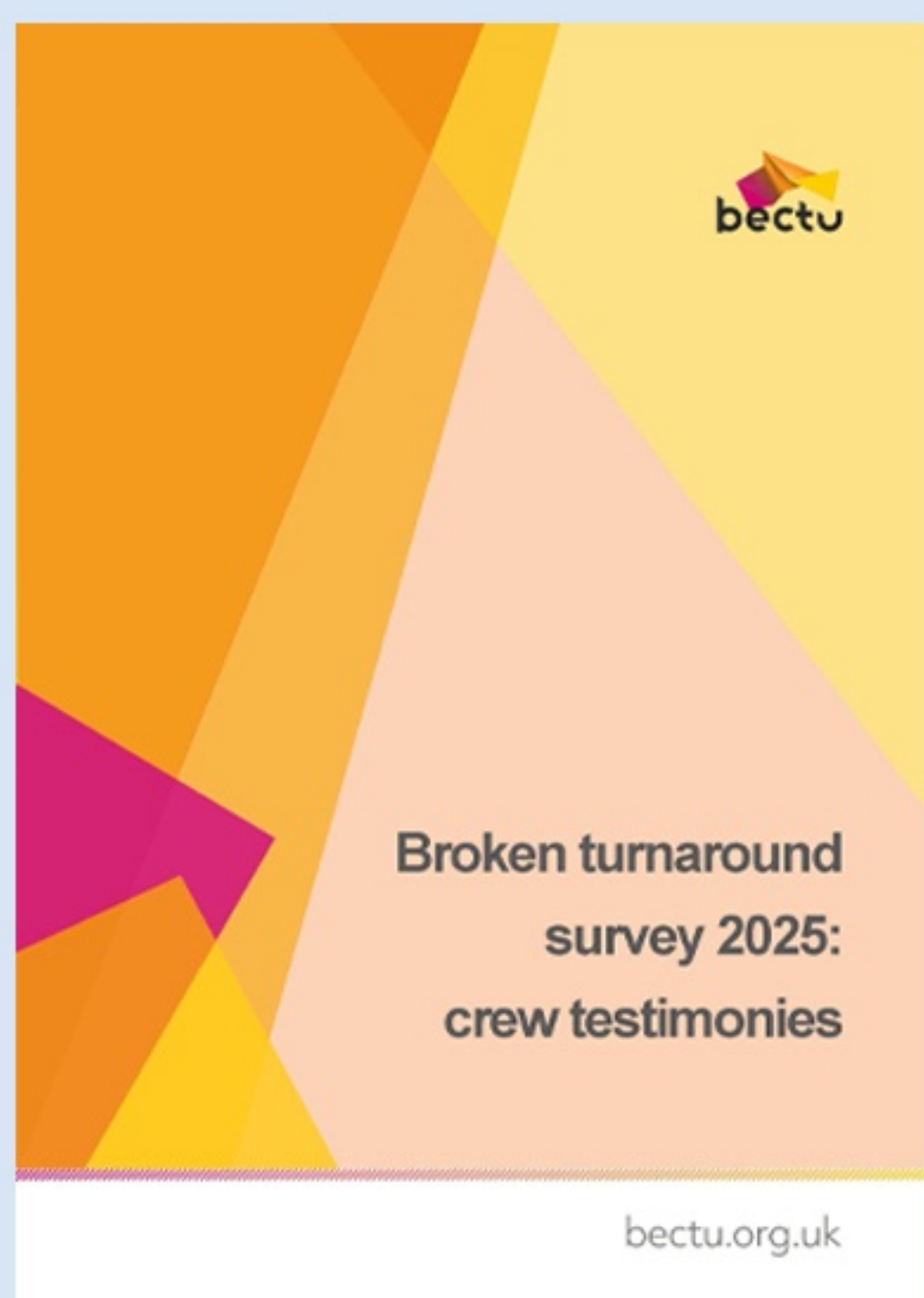
Together, their careers illustrate a broader transformation within the industry. By challenging long-standing stereotypes and establishing themselves through award-winning work and international collaborations, these cinematographers are helping reshape both the visual language of Serbian cinema and the professional landscape for future generations of women filmmakers.

Photographer: [Dusan Petrovic](#)
Text: [Tamara Bogunovic](#) & [Lepota i zdravlje](#)

Styling: [Vesna Stankovic](#)
MUp: [Marija Rakazovic](#)
Hair: Milena Ban

COMMITTEE NEWS

IWCC, IMAGO WORKING CONDITIONS COMMITTEE



Dear Colleagues!

The British union BECTU has welcomed our study **BEHIND THE LENS** as an essential foundation for improving working conditions internationally.

They have therefore invited the IMAGO Working Conditions Committee to collaborate on the launch of their study **BROKEN TURNAROUND**, which they plan to present at the Cannes Festival in May.

To support this initiative, they are seeking short testimonials, either video or written from colleagues sharing personal experiences related to extended working hours, fatigue-related accidents, health risks, burnout, and similar issues.

We kindly ask you to send video contributions via SwissTransfer

(<https://www.swisstransfer.com/de>)

and written statements to

iwc@imago.org

We will collect all submissions and forward them directly to BECTU.

The Committee sees this as a valuable opportunity to raise awareness of the deteriorating working conditions that are so often hidden behind the glamour of our industry, and we strongly encourage all of you to take part.

With kind regards
Kurt Brazda AAC



A report on Broken Turnaround in the UK Film and TV industry

July 2025

bectu.org.uk/broken-turnaround/



[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

WHAT'S GOING ON

Reflections from the road...

"In March, while traveling to Europe to represent IMAGO at the Micro Salon AFC in Paris and the BSC Expo in London, I seized the opportunity to also attend the Festival Chefs Op' En Lumière in Chalon-sur-Saône, Burgundy.



This enchanting city is believed to be the birthplace of photography, as Nicéphore Niépce is credited with inventing it in the 1820s, and it once hosted a festival historically supported by Kodak, which operated its French factory there. Now in its eighth edition and exclusively dedicated to cinematographers, the festival ran from February 28th to March 8th and this is the second consecutive year IMAGO has supported it. We specifically backed a highly attended Master Class by Manu Dacosse, SBC, who discussed his work on François Ozon's critically acclaimed adaptation of Camus' L'Étranger.



Although I could only stay two days before flying to Italy for a shoot, I met French-Tunisian cinematographer Frida Marzouk, AFC, attended a screening of her film Promis le Ciel, and sat in on her Master Class, an encounter that inspired me to invite her to be featured in this newsletter.

The very convivial festival, centered around the Palais des Arts and the Mégarama Multiplex, provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow cinematographers, including Jean-Marie Dreujou, AFC, ASC, AFC's president until recently, who led a Master Class on the saga Kaamelott.

I also had the pleasure of meeting N.T. Binh and Philippe Rouyer, film critic directors of Positif, the eternal rival of Les Cahiers du Cinéma, who were presenting their latest books, Le Jeu des Formes and Haneke par Haneke."

Mustapha Barat, ABC & IMAGO President

IMAGO Mentorship Program

Denis Lenoir, AFC, ASC, ASK
Lara Vilanova, AEC

IMAGO Mentorship Program - First Edition update

We're thrilled to share that the first edition of the **IMAGO Mentorship Program** is officially underway!

The program was launched last fall with two core goals: supporting the professional growth of young talent and fostering international collaboration among member societies.

22 mentor-mentee pairs from 15 participating societies are now actively engaged in their exchange, with mentors and mentees already connecting across borders.

For candidates who were overqualified but still seeking guidance, we're exploring a dedicated series of focused Zoom sessions; a more tailored space for peer support and targeted discussion. Stay tuned for more details later this year.

Looking ahead, we plan to launch Edition 2 in September. Before then, we'll conduct a thorough evaluation of this year's program to fine-tune our approach and maximize impact.

To everyone who participated, mentors, mentees, and nominating societies alike thank you.

Your engagement is what makes this initiative truly meaningful.

View the official pairing list [HERE](#)

SPONSOR NEWS



SmallHD Monitor Overlay License for Hi-5 and Hi-5 SX delivers customizable onscreen lens data



ARRI and SmallHD have introduced the SmallHD Monitor Overlay License for the Hi-5 and Hi-5 SX hand units, enabling focus pullers to view essential lens data directly on supported SmallHD monitors.

The overlays display information such as focus and iris scales, focal length, and other lens details in fully customisable layouts, ensuring visibility without obstructing the live image. Integrated via SmallHD's Add-On API and compatible with the PageOS 6 platform, the system allows users to adjust size, position, and opacity, as well as create personalised display pages.

Developed in collaboration with focus pullers, this solution enhances on-set workflows while maintaining a clean monitoring experience. The license is available now through ARRI's online shop, expanding the functionality and versatility of the Hi-5 ecosystem.

LEARN MORE by [CLICKING HERE](#)