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Industry@Tallinn
& Baltic Event
15-22 November 2024

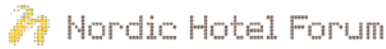
Sofja
Umarik

INDUSTRY@TALLINN & BALTIC EVENT SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS



REGIONAALARENGU TOETUSEKS





GERMAN FILMS IN TALLINN 2024

FIRST FEATURE COMPETITION



NO DOGS ALLOWED
by Steve Bache



ICE AGED
by Alexandra Sell

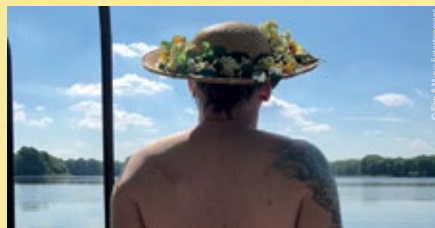


WITH MY OPEN LUNGS
by Yana Sad

REBELS WITH A CAUSE



THE PROTECTED MEN
by Irene von Alberti



YELLOW
by Oliver Hirschbiegel

GERMAN FOCUS

LONG STORY SHORT by David Dietl

SAD JOKES by Fabian Stumm

TURNING TABLES by Angelina Maccarone

LA MORT VIENDRA by Christoph Hochhäusler

DYING by Matthias Glasner

FROM HILDE, WITH LOVE by Andreas Dresen

SEPTEMBER 5 by Tim Fehlbaum

RIEFENSTAHL by Andres Veiel

german **70** YEARS
films



Federal Government Commissioner
for Culture and the Media

FFA

Filmförderungsanstalt German Federal Film Board

FFF BAYERN

Film und Medien
Stiftung NRW

HESSEN FILM
& MEDIEN

MBB
Medienboard
Berlin/Brandenburg



MFG
BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

MDM
Mitteldeutsche
Medienförderung

MO/N

Filmförderung
Niederrhein
Südwestfalen/Lippe



MV
FILMFÖRDERUNG

nordmedia

PÖFF28

8-24 November



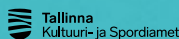
PRESENTERS



GRAND PARTNERS



WE THANK



SHOOT IN LITHUANIA

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Diverse & versatile architecture

Lithuanian Film Center
www.lkc.lt/en



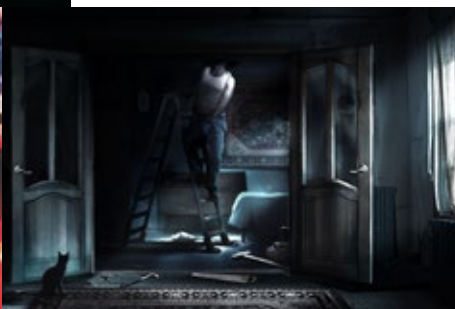
Vilnius Film Office
<https://filmvilnius.com/>

The Estonian Business
and Innovation Agency award
for the team of the best Estonian project



up to 4,000 €

to be used in 2025 to promote the project
at film markets in Europe or North America



Eligible projects:

CONTAINER

(Co-Production Market)

LET IT SNOW

(TV Beats Co-Financing Market)

THE CODE OF THULE

(TV Beats Co-Financing Market)

OUR ERIKA

(Works in Progress)

NEIGHBOUR

(European Genre Forum)

VON FOCK

(TV Beats Screening Day)

The award fund is financed
from the creative industries
measure of the Cohesion
Fund of the European Union





**industry
training.**

FILM

TV SERIES

GAMING

TRANSMEDIA



SIGN UP



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Dear friends!

Welcome to the 23rd Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event celebrating the creativity and hard work that drive our industry! This year is particularly special as both our Industry Innovation Forum and European Genre Forum mark their 10th anniversaries. And, as part of our sustainability commitment, Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event is now a Greentime-certified sustainable event, meeting UN global goals for ecological, social, and economic sustainability.

We're proud to highlight PÖFF-selected films from past project presentations, including *Mamifera* by Liliانا Torres, *Violent Butterflies* by Adolfo Dávila, *Rolling Papers* by Meel Paliale, *Empire of the Rabbits* by Zeynep Koray, *Dreaming of Lions* by Paolo Marinou-Blanco, *Tasty* by Egle Vertelyte, *The Black Hole* by Moonika Siimets, *Lioness* by Liina Triškina-Vanhatalo, *The Southern Chronicles* by Ignas Miškinis, *Life and Love* by Helen Takkin, and *Anna LOL* by Ivars Tontegode. And for a special moment of nostalgia, Klaus Härö's *Never Alone*, first presented in our Co-Production Market in 2011, has finally reached the screens in 2024, proving that some dreams, however long they may take, are worth the wait.

This year's industry programme showcases 76 films and series projects. The TV Beats Co-Financing Market highlights 10 series projects, reflecting the vibrant diversity of episodic storytelling today, while our partner, MIDPOINT Institute's Series Launch, will introduce 9 new projects. For the first time, we are hosting the TV Beats Screening Day, featuring the first episodes of 5 high-quality series from near and far. The Baltic Event Co-Production Market's 14 projects include a new category focusing on children's and youth films, a field with unique potential to shape the next generation of cinema lovers. In Script Pool, 5 outstanding screenplays will be presented, bringing fresh perspectives and bold storytelling. The 8 EGF projects invite us into the popular genre scene, while the 16 Works in Progress projects offer glimpses into a range of unique story worlds.

We are delighted to present Germany as this year's Focus Country, bringing ten unique projects and participation from six major German funds: Filmförderungsanstalt FFA (German Federal Film Board), MBB Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, MOIN Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, Hessen Film & Medien, and MDM Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung. Germany's participation reinforces our collective goal of nurturing stories that connect across Europe. In the spirit of resilience, our spotlight on Georgia includes the project *Aquarium*, and Georgia's current

political and cultural climate is examined in the panel *The Edge of Democracy: Surviving as a Filmmaker Amid War, Exile, and Censorship*.

At the heart of these achievements lies perseverance. In a world undergoing profound shifts, cinema's role is more vital than ever. Renowned anthropologist Margaret Mead once said the first sign of civilization was "a healed femur"—proof that early humanity valued compassion over self-interest. Today, amidst crises, cinema's purpose feels similar. Just as a healed bone symbolises compassion, films can mend the divides that threaten to fracture us further. In a time when humanity faces environmental concerns, social injustice, and relentless conflicts, our films are more than entertainment; they are calls to empathy, understanding, and action.

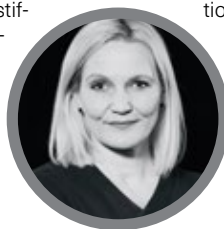
Ahead, you'll find masterclasses, lectures, and panels designed to equip participants with practical skills and insights for today's evolving industry. Our programme also encourages cross-generational collaboration, sharing expertise, mentorship, and welcoming new storytellers. Together, we can cultivate a culture of mutual learning and respect, where experienced professionals play an active role in nurturing new voices. We're excited to introduce Shorts Industry Shortcut, a new platform dedicated to emerging filmmakers, as well as the launch of the Tallinn Industry Academy and AI Atelier!

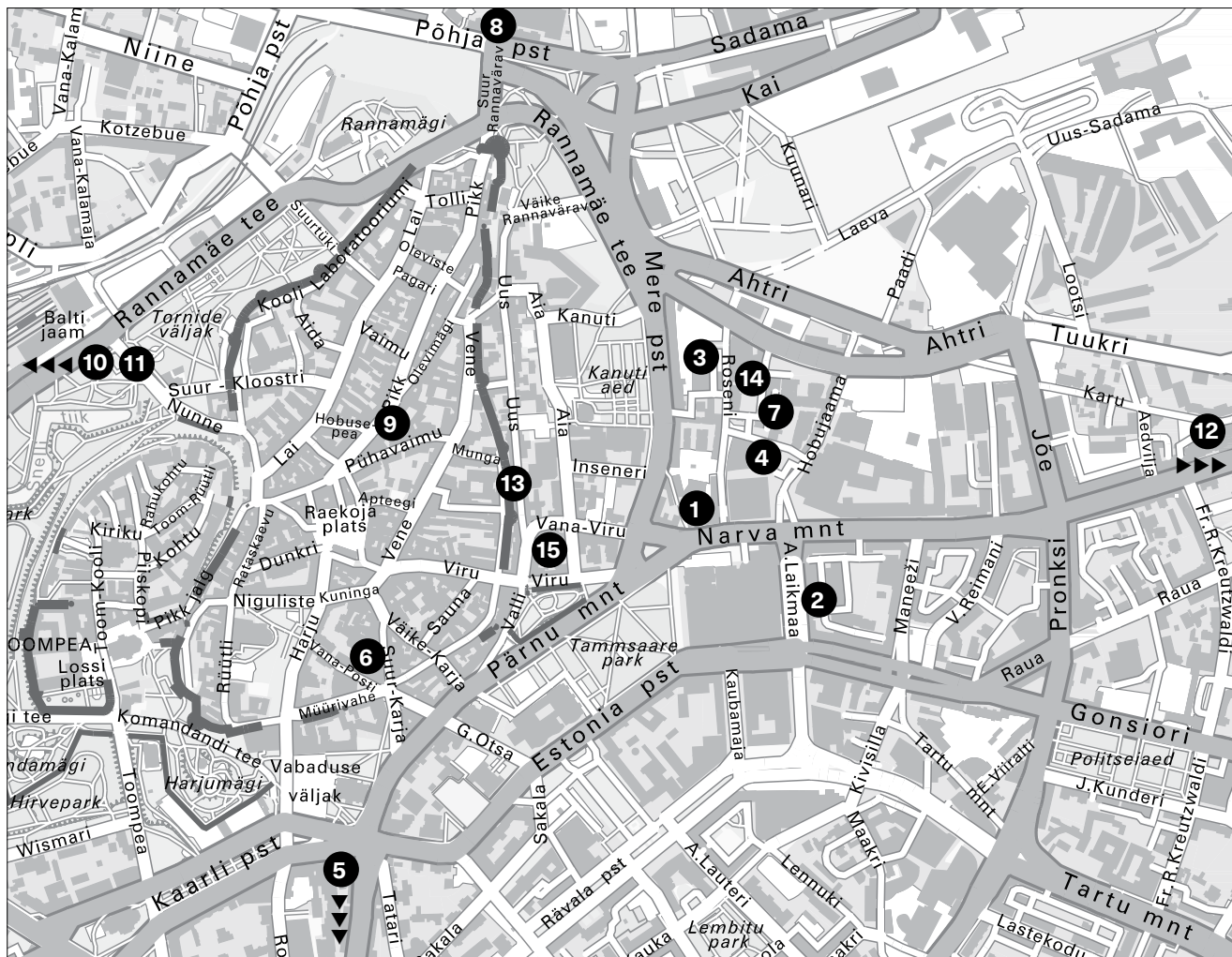
With nearly 200 talks, panels, and workshops, including 85 open to all, we invite all guests to join these essential conversations: Are we creating the right films? Funding stories that truly resonate? Who is our audience, and how do we reach them? These questions echo throughout the industry. This year's programme offers guidance and fresh perspectives, moving us toward a sustainable, inclusive, and impactful film industry.

As we embark on this year's journey, let's remember that, above all, we are humans—and that storytelling is an ancient, profound way of caring for each other. Like those early healers who set bones to mend bodies, let us use our films to mend the world, creating stories that move hearts and minds, bridge divides, and inspire future generations.

Thank you for joining us in Tallinn for what promises to be another meaningful edition. Here's to the power of cinema to connect, inspire, and mend.

Warm regards, **Marge Liiske**





- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>1 Nordic Hotel Forum
Viru väljak 3</p> <p>2 Tallink City Hotel
A. Laikmaa 5</p> <p>3 Metropol Spa Hotel Roseni
Roseni 13</p> <p>4 Apollo Cinema Coca-Cola Plaza
Hobujaama 5</p> <p>5 Apollo Cinema Solaris and Artis
Cinema Solaris Centre, Estonia pst 9</p> | <p>6 Sõprus Cinema
Vana-Posti 8</p> <p>7 PoCo Pop And Contemporary Art Museum
Rotermanni 2</p> <p>8 Tallinn Creative Hub
Kursi 3</p> <p>9 Embassy of Sweden
Pikk 28</p> <p>10 Selektor Studio
Telliskivi tn 60a - 5</p> | <p>11 Terminal Records & Bar
Telliskivi 60/2</p> <p>12 BFM
Narva mnt 27</p> <p>13 Kinomaja
Uus 3</p> <p>14 Platz Restoran
Roseni 7</p> <p>15 Butterfly Lounge
Vana-Viru 13</p> |
|---|--|---|

Practical Information

Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event is mainly held at the Nordic Hotel Forum (Viru väljak 3, 2nd floor). Please check the programme, as several events will also take place at other nearby venues such as PoCo Gallery, Metropol Hotel, BFM, EKA, Tallinn Creative Hub, Embassy of Sweden, Selektor Studio, etc.

All industry and press screenings are held at Apollo Cinema Coca-Cola Plaza (Hobujaama 5), while the TV Beats Screenings on November 20 will take place at Cinema Artis (Solaris Keskus).

You can find a detailed programme with specified venues on our website industry.poff.ee

ACCREDITATION BADGES

Please ensure that you always carry your accreditation badge with you. Your Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event badge is the only document that grants you entry to industry events, press and industry screenings, and evening events (if applicable to your badge category).

The accreditation badge is personal and can not be used by anyone else.

To secure a seat at a festival screening with the Industry badge, you may take out one free ticket per screening in advance, up to one day before the screening (with a maximum of 4 tickets per day). This can be done online or at the Guest Information Desk at Nordic Hotel Forum and cinemas. Please note that this ticket is only valid when presented with your badge, so be sure to bring your badge with you to the cinema.

You may enter any festival screening, subject to seat availability, by presenting your badge. Please note that entry with the badge alone is permitted only at the exact start time of the screening, not earlier.

In case you lose your badge, please immediately notify the Guest Information Desk at Nordic Hotel Forum.

For a greener future, after the event, we kindly encourage you to recycle your badge. We've set up convenient drop-off points near the hotel exits and information desks.

INDUSTRY GUEST INFORMATION DESK

Starting from November 17, you will receive your accreditation badge and other materials from the Industry Guest Information Desk located on the 2nd floor of Nordic Hotel Forum (Viru väljak 3, Tallinn).

November 17 / Opening hours: 13:00-18:00

November 18 - 21 / Opening hours: 09:00-19:00

November 22 / Opening hours: 09:00-18:00

Phone +372 5690 742

ONLINE SCREENINGS

For online streaming of films we are using a web platform exclusively reserved for film guests, industry professionals and accredited press - proscreen.poff.ee - which offers a digital streaming service for films in our programme. Our hybrid festival is powered by Elisa Stage - a VoD platform with Studio Grade DRM, helping us to deliver an exceptional viewing experience.

ProScreen will be accessible using your badge number, which you will see on your physical badge and we will also send the number to you by email, with the instructions of using the platform. If you haven't received one before the festival, please check your junk box. If it's not there, or you have any other queries related using ProScreen, feel free to send your questions to proscreen@poff.ee.

Please note, not the whole festival programme will be available on ProScreen. All available films will become accessible online 3 hours after their cinema premiere. The standard availability is until December 8 2024 22.59 CET, in some instances less.

Another online tool we have created for your convenience is the Vote-mo widget, which you can find on the bottom left corner of each of your film pages on the official PÖFF website. This is a space created as an opportunity to answer questions from the audience in a public chat-like form before and after the premiere.

“WHO IS HERE” PAGE

"Who is Here" page on the Eventual Visitor Page allows all our accredited festival attendees and film guests to view the list of individuals currently at the festival. To check the list and get in touch with others, please log in to your Eventual account.

MEETINGS

The project meetings are taking place at industrymeet.poff.ee – we will send you the Industry Meet account activating information at the start of November via email. If you have any questions or worries, please contact industrymeet@poff.ee

WEATHER

In November, Tallinn's average temperature ranges from +3°C (37°F) to -5°C (30°F), often accompanied by moderate rain or snow. As you prepare for your trip, don't forget to pack some cozy essentials like a coat, hat, scarf, gloves, and boots. Also, it's a good idea to check the weather forecast a few days before you set off.

INTERNET

Wireless internet is available everywhere in all of our partner hotels and in most of the cafes and venues around Tallinn. Additionally, you have the option to purchase affordable prepaid data cards for your smartphones and tablets from various kiosks and shops.

DISCOVERING TALLINN

In addition to all the films and festival events, there are also a lot of interesting and beautiful places to discover in Tallinn. For useful advice and inspiration on Tallinn's top attractions, activities, events, and places to eat and drink, check out the city's official tourism portal, visittallinn.ee, or follow [@VisitTallinn](https://twitter.com/VisitTallinn) on social media. If you are planning on having a full day or two for sightseeing, then you might consider buying a **Tallinn Card**, which gives you free access to more than 50 museums and attractions and lets you travel with public transport for free.

GETTING AROUND TALLINN

In Tallinn many festival locations are within walking distance. If you need to take a bus or a tram, then know that **using the public transport is free when you show your badge**.

FOOD AND DRINK

It is worth sharpening your eyes when walking around the city because you can find the PÖFF sticker on the doors of restaurants, cafes, bars, and venues – if you notice this, don't be afraid to step in, because the sticker marks all the warm, cosy, snug, and friendly wolf dens. You can also check the recommended bars and restaurants at **PÖFF website or scan the QR code below**.



DISCOVER TARTU

Even though there is already a lot to do in Tallinn, a real fan of PÖFF and Estonia will not stop here. You should also definitely go to Tartu, where you can see most of the films in PÖFF's programme and discover the beautiful city, which is the European Capital of Culture in 2024.

DRIVING SUSTAINABLE CHANGE AND ENSURING ACCESSIBILITY

Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event's 2024 edition has received Green-Time's Sustainable Event Certification, helping us take a more comprehensive approach to sustainability and showing our commitment to a responsible future.

We are equally committed to ensuring accessibility for all - The Nordic Hotel Forum is fully wheelchair accessible and features accessible hygiene rooms located on the first floor, behind the reception desk and the welcome desk in the conference area. For evening events taking place at various locations, a wheelchair symbol on the invitation will indicate full accessibility.



2024

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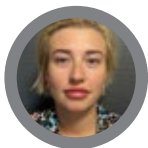
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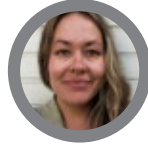
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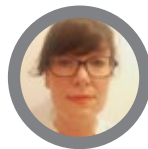
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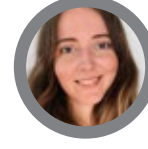
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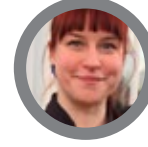
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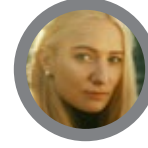
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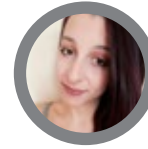
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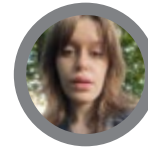
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Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event

Open Events Programme






ALL SCHEDULE IN
EET TIME ZONE
(GMT +2)

November 14

November 15

November 16

COLOUR GUIDE

-  Shorts Industry Shortcut
-  Series business
-  Across all formats
-  Discovery Campus
-  Film business
-  Genre!
-  Just Film Industry Days

TIME	EKA Auditorium A101	TIME	Nordic Hotel Forum Altair	Nordic Hotel Forum Nomet	CC Plaza A. le Coq	TIME	CC Plaza A. le Coq	Terminal Records & Bar
9:00		9:00				9:00		
9:30		9:30				9:30		
10:00		10:00	Live Action Masterclass 10:00-11:30			10:00	Would You Buy This? 10:00-11:30	
10:30		10:30				10:30		
11:00		11:00				11:00		
11:30		11:30				11:30		
12:00		12:00				12:00	From Shorts to Features 12:00-13:00	
12:30		12:30				12:30		
13:00		13:00			Short Films a Click Away 13:00-14:00	13:00		
13:30		13:30				13:30		
14:00		14:00				14:00		
14:30		14:30			Festival Ecosystem 101 14:30-15:30	14:30		
15:00		15:00				15:00		From Local to Global: The Success of Baltic Shorts 15:00-16:30
15:30		15:30		Shorts Industry Mingle 15:45-16:45		15:30		
16:00		16:00				16:00		
16:30		16:30				16:30		
17:00		17:00				17:00		
17:30	Animation Masterclass 17:00-19:00	17:30				17:30		
18:00		18:00				18:00		
18:30		18:30				18:30		
19:00		19:00				19:00		
19:30		19:30				19:30		
20:00		20:00				20:00		

PROGRAM INCLUDES ALL OPEN EVENTS AS OF 25/10/2024. POTENTIAL CHANGES AND THE FULL SCHEDULE, INCLUDING CLOSED EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS, CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE: industry.poff.ee/industry-events-search/

November 18

November 19

TIME	Nordic Hotel Forum Capella	Nordic Hotel Forum Sirius	TIME	Nordic Hotel Forum Capella	Nordic Hotel Forum Arcturus	Nordic Hotel Forum Sirius
9:00			9:00			
9:30			9:30			
10:00	TV Beats Forum • Honorary TV Beats Producer Award • Focus on Germany 1: How Did Apple TV+'s Series Constellation Come to Life? 10:00–11:30	1:1 Project Meetings: • TV Beats Co-Financing Market • MIDPOINT Series Launch 10:00–18:00	10:00	Project Pitching: MIDPOINT Series Launch 2024 10:00–11:30		1:1 Project Meetings: • TV Beats Co-Financing Market • MIDPOINT Series Launch 10:00–18:00
10:30			10:30		TV Beats Masterclass: The Art of Developing Compelling Stories for a Broad International Audience 10:45–12:15	
11:00			11:00			
11:30			11:30			
12:00	Project Pitching: TV Beats Co-Financing Market 12:00–13:30		12:00	Focus on Germany 2: All About Germany Screening Day Case Studies 1 12:00–13:30		
12:30			12:30			
13:00			13:00	LUNCH BREAK	7 Mistakes Comedy Writers Make Session 12:30-14:30	
13:30			13:30			
14:00	The Future Is Here: All You Can Use (& Abuse?) The Future Is Here: Practical Tools 14:30–16:00		14:00	• Brutally Honest Case Study: Developing and Financing <i>Von Fock</i> * • Writing for Diverse Platforms: Engaging Audiences in a World of Endless Choices • Screening Day Case Studies 2 14:30–17:00		
14:30			14:30		Networking session by Amanda Graham 15:30-17:30	
15:00		15:00				
15:30		15:30				
16:00	State of Play in Financing Series Brutally Honest Case Study: Black Sands 2 16:30–18:00	16:00				
16:30		16:30				
17:00		17:00				
17:30		17:30				
18:00			18:00			
18:30			18:30			
19:00			19:00			
19:30			19:30			
20:00			20:00			

* TV Beats Screening Day *Von Fock* (PREMIERE)
 21:30–22:40 ► CC PLAZA Hall 2

Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event Open Events Programme

ALL SCHEDULE IN
EET TIME ZONE
(GMT +2)







November 20

TIME	Nordic Hotel Forum Capella	Nordic Hotel Forum Arcturus	Nordic Hotel Forum Altair	Nordic Hotel Forum Sirius	
9:00					
9:30	Bridging the Gap: Preparing for the Future through Training and Up-skilling In cooperation with BFM Film.eu+ 9:30-11:00	ISI: Audience design Script Pool 9:00-11:00			
10:00					
10:30					
11:00					
11:30	CresCine Session 11:30-12:30	ISI: Audience design Script Pool 9:00-11:00	Navigating the Industry Music Meets Film 11:30-13:00		
12:00					
12:30					
13:00	The Edge of Democracy: Surviving as a Filmmaker Amid War, Exile, and Censorship 13:00-14:00				
13:30					
14:00		ISI: What does a sales company do and why might you want one Script Pool 14:00-15:30	Dialogue on Contracts: Before and After Signing Music Meets Film 14:00-15:30		
14:30					
15:00	Film for the Future: Exploring Sustainable Film-making Practices in Sweden and the Baltic States 15:00-16:00				
15:30					
16:00		ISI: How does film distribution actually work Script Pool 16:00-17:30	Filmmakers.eu presentation by David Zitslperger Black Night Stars 16:00-17:30		
16:30	Project Pitching: Baltic Event Co-production Market 16:30-18:30				
17:00					
17:30				Personality-Led Growth in the Film Industry 17:30-19:30	
18:00					
18:30					
19:00					
19:30					
20:00					

PROGRAM INCLUDES ALL OPEN EVENTS AS OF 25/10/2024. POTENTIAL CHANGES AND THE FULL SCHEDULE, INCLUDING CLOSED EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS, CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE: industry.poff.ee/industry-events-search/

TIME	Nordic Hotel Forum Vega	Tallinn Creative Hub	CC PLAZA Hall 6	ARTIS Hall 2
9:00				TV Beats Screening Day <i>Operation Sabre</i> 09:00–10:30
9:30				
10:00				
10:30				TV Beats Screening Day <i>Wolf's Palate</i> 10:45–12:00
11:00				
11:30				
12:00				LUNCH BREAK
12:30				
13:00		Industry Innovation Forum 10! 13:00-16:00		TV Beats Screening Day <i>Valhalla Project</i> 13:15–14:30
13:30				
14:00	Generative AI in Genre Film EGF 14:00-15:30			TV Beats Screening Day <i>Mutiny</i> 14:45–16:00
14:30				
15:00				
15:30				
16:00			Frame within a Frame Film Screening: <i>The Kite Runner</i> Case study and Q&A with Roberto Schaefer 15:30–18:30	
16:30				
17:00				
17:30				
18:00				
18:30				
19:00				
19:30				
20:00				

COLOUR GUIDE

-  Shorts Industry
Shortcut
-  Series business
-  Across all formats
-  Discovery Campus
-  Film business
-  Genre!
-  Just Film
Industry Days

Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event

Open Events Programme








ALL SCHEDULE IN
EET TIME ZONE
(GMT +2)

November 21

TIME	Nordic Hotel Forum Capella	Nordic Hotel Forum Arcturus	Nordic Hotel Forum Sirius	Nordic Hotel Forum Vega	The Swedish Embassy	CC PLAZA Hall 2	CC Plaza Hall 9
9:00							
9:30							
10:00	Exploring the Patterns & Preferences of Next-Gen Viewership		1:1 Project Meetings: – Baltic Event Co-Production Market – Script Pool			Project Pitching: International Works in Progress 9:45-11:30	
10:30				Infinite Waiting: How to Make Films Without Public Funding 10:45-11:30			
11:00	BFM Film.eu+						
11:30		Building Bridges: European Children's Film in Focus 11:45-12:45					
12:00	Project Pitching: Script Pool 12:00-12:45						
12:30							
13:00	Project Pitching: European Genre Forum 13:00-14:00	Actually useful AI tools for Creatives 13:15-14:30					
13:30							
14:00							
14:30				10:00-18:00			
15:00	Germany in Focus: Exploring Federal and Regional Film Funding for Co-Productions 15:00-16:30			1:1 Project Meetings: – European Genre Forum 14:00-18:00		Project Pitching: Just Film Works in Progress 15:00-16:15	
15:30							
16:00							<i>The Eternal Road</i> Frame within a Frame Screening + QA 15:30-18:30
16:30		Open Lecture: Lollo Urbansdotter Black Room 16:30-17:30		The Near Future Retreat 15:00–18:30			
17:00	Public Funding & Strategy in Focus: Helping Producers Thrive in a Changing Industry 17:00-18.30						
17:30							
18:00		Meet Robert Bohman – Transforming Spaces and Lives 18:00-19:15					
18:30							
19:00							
19:30							
20:00							

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COLOUR GUIDE

						
Shorts Industry Shortcut	Series business	Across all formats	Discovery Campus	Film business	Genre!	Just Film Industry Days

November 22

TIME	Nordic Hotel Forum Capella	Nordic Hotel Forum Arcturus	Nordic Hotel Forum Sirius	Nordic Hotel Forum Altair	Nordic Hotel Forum Vega	Nordic Hotel Forum Nornel	CC PLAZA Hall 2	CC PLAZA Hall 6		
9:00										
9:30							Project Pitching: Baltic Event Works In Progress 9:45-11:30			
10:00	Understanding the Ways Kids Understand Stories 10:00-11:30	International Co-Productions: Estonia & Iceland Music Meets Film 10:00-12:00	1:1 Project Meetings: - Baltic Event Co-Production Market - Script Pool 10:00-18:00					Frame within a Frame participants works screening 10:00-13:00		
10:30										
11:00										
11:30	Why Kicking in the Butt Sells Better than Kindness 11:45-13:15									
12:00										
12:30										
13:00										
13:30										
14:00	Theatrical Distribution of European Films									
14:30	Cracking the Code of Film Sales and Distribution Today 14:00-16:00	ISI: Design Your Festival Strategy Script Pool 14:30-16:00				Crafting Visual Texture: The Art of Bringing Depth and Detail to the Screen Black Room 14:00-16:00				
15:00										
15:30				1:1 Project Meetings: Works in Progress 14:30-18:00		1:1 Project Meetings: Works in Progress 15:00-18:00				
16:00										
16:30		Know Your Rights and Wrongs: Ingredients of Good Creator's Contract 16:30-18:00								
17:00										
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18:00										
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19:00										
19:30										
20:00										

Press & Industry Screenings

ACCESSIBLE WITH: JURY, PRESS, INDUSTRY PRO AND INDUSTRY STUDENT/TALENT.
GUEST BADGE ONLY IF FREE SEATS ARE AVAILABLE

Time	Hall	Film / Original title / Director / Country / Programme / Premiere / Length
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November 13

9:00	S	Shorts Live-Action Competition 3 / Shorts Live-Action Competition / 103 min
10:00	6	Shorts Animation Competition 5 / Shorts Animation Competition / 70 min
11:00	S	Shorts Live-Action Competition 4 / Shorts Live-Action Competition / 103 min
13:00	S	Shorts Live-Action Competition 5 / Shorts Live-Action Competition / 95 min

November 14

9:00	8	EMPIRE OF THE RABBITS / Tavşan İmparatorluğu / Seyfettin Tokmak / Turkey, Mexico, Croatia/ Official Selection - Competition / WP / 94 min
9:15	9	NEVER ALONE / Ei koskaan yksin / Klaus Härö / Finland, Estonia, Austria, Germany, Sweden / Baltic Film Competition / WP / 85 min
9:30	S	Shorts Kids Animation Competition 1 / Shorts Kids Animation Competition / 48 min
10:30	S	Shorts Kids Animation Competition 2 / Shorts Kids Animation Competition / 46 min
10:45	8	THE EXALTED / Cildenie / Juris Kursietis / Latvia, Estonia, Greece / Official Selection - Competition / WP / 98 min
11:00	9	PARADISE NOT LOST / Gabrielius iš neprarasto Rojaus / Linas Mikuta / Lithuania / Baltic Film Competition / WP / 77 min
11:30	S	Shorts Kids Animation Competition 3 / Shorts Kids Animation Competition / 44 min
13:15	6	I WAS BORN IN A GARAGE / Ma sündisin garaazis / Arko Okk / Estonia / Baltic Film Competition / WP / 65 min
13:30	8	SOME NIGHTS I FEEL LIKE WALKING / Petersen Vargas / Philippines, Italy, Singapore / Official Selection - Competition / WP / 103 min

November 15

9:00	8	GIRL AMERICA / Amerikánka / Viktor Tauš / Czechia, Slovakia, Switzerland / Official Selection - Competition / IP / 107 min
9:15	6	DREAMING OF LIONS / Sonhar com Leões / Paolo Marinou-Blanco / Portugal, Brazil, Spain / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 85 min
9:30	9	CIAO BAMBINO / Edgardo Pistone / Italy / First Feature Competition / IP / 97 min
9:45	S	OKAMOTO / Okamotomanta / Soujiro Sanada / Japan / Rebels with a Cause Competition / WP / 149 min
11:00	6	NOBODY LIKES ME / Nikdo mne nemá rád / Petr Kazda, Tomáš Weinreb / Czechia, Slovakia, France / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 105 min
11:15	8	100 LITRES OF GOLD / 100 litraaa sahtia / Teemu Nikki / Finland, Italy / Official Selection - Competition / IP / 88 min
11:30	9	A YARD OF JACKALS / Patio de Chacales / Diego Figueroa / Chile / First Feature Competition / WP / 108 min
13:30	9	REBEL WITH A BOW TIE / Kikilipsuga mässaja / Jaan Tootsen / Estonia / Baltic Film Competition / WP / 110 min
15:30	9	TASTY / Gardutė / Eglė Vertelytė / Lithuania, Estonia / Baltic Film Competition / BP / 108 min

LEGEND: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 – Hall numbers in Coca-Cola Plaza (Hobujaama 5)
S – Hall A Le Coq Suite in Coca-Cola Plaza (Hobujaama 5)

Time Hall Film / Original title / Director / Country / Programme / Premiere / Length

November 16

9:00	8	READING LOLITA IN TEHRAN / Lugesdes Teheranis 'Lolitat' / Eran Riklis / Italy, Israel / Official Selection - Competition / IP / 108 min
9:15	6	FISHGIRL / Alucina / Javier Cutrona / Ecuador / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 105 min
9:30	9	MONGRELS / Krantsid / Jerome Yoo / Canada / First Feature Competition / IP / 106 min
11:00	8	OUT OF CONTROL / Dis-moi juste que tu m'aimes / Anne Le Ny / France / Official Selection - Competition / WP / 110 min
11:15	6	STREETS OF GLÓRIA / Ruas da Glória / Felipe Sholl / Brazil / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 103 min
11:30	9	THE HOUSE WITH NO ADDRESS / Adresi Olmayan Ev / Hatice Aşkın / Turkey, Greece / First Feature Competition / WP / 96 min
13:00	8	A SIP OF HELL / Un Trago de Infierno / Pilar Boyle, Mariano Asseff / Argentina / Rebels with a Cause Competition / WP / 90 min
13:30	9	FLOW / Straume / Gints Zilbalodis / France, Belgium, Latvia / Baltic Film Competition / EP / 85 min
14:45	8	EVERYTHING THAT WILL HAPPEN HAS ALREADY HAPPENED / Vladan Nikolic, Julie Deffet, Shireen Khaled, Luz Marina Zamora / USA, Belgium, Lebanon, France / Rebels with a Cause Competition / WP / 95 min
15:15	9	Lioness / Emalõvi / Liina Triškina-Vanhatalo / Estonia, Germany, Latvia / Baltic Film Competition / 104 min

November 17

9:30	S	YELLOW / Oliver Hirschbiegel, Albert Oehlen / Germany, USA / Rebels with a Cause Competition In Focus: Germany / IP / 74 min
10:00	8	PINK LADY / Nir Bergman / Israel / Official Selection - Competition / WP / 106 min
10:15	9	NO DOGS ALLOWED / Steve Bache / Germany / First Feature Competition In Focus: Germany / WP / 106 min
10:15	6	THE BODY / Il Corpo / Vincenzo Alfieri / Italy / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 115 min
11:15	S	TOUCHED BY ETERNITY / Mūžības skartie / Mārcis Lāčis / Latvia / Baltic Film Competition / BP / 96 min
12:00	8	DEAF LOVERS / Kurdid armastajad / Boris Guts / Estonia, Serbia / Official Selection - Competition Standing with Ukraine / WP / 81 min
12:15	9	CORINA / Urzula Barba Hopfner / Mexico / First Feature Competition / IP / 98 min
13:15	S	THE END / Beigas / Māris Maskalāns / Latvia / Baltic Film Competition / IP / 88 min

LEGEND: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 – Hall numbers in Coca-Cola Plaza (Hobujaama 5)

S – Hall A Le Coq Suite in Coca-Cola Plaza (Hobujaama 5)

Press & Industry Screenings

ACCESSIBLE WITH: JURY, PRESS, INDUSTRY PRO AND INDUSTRY STUDENT/TALENT.
GUEST BADGE ONLY IF FREE SEATS ARE AVAILABLE

Time Hall Film / Original Title / Director / Country / Programme / Premiere / Length

November 18

10:00	8	SEED OF THE DESERT / Semilla del Desierto / Sebastian Parra R / Colombia / Official Selection - Competition / WP / 81 min
10:15	6	HANI / Hou Dasheng / Canada / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 73 min
10:30	9	SMARAGDA - I GOT THICK SKIN AND I CAN'T JUMP / Σμαράγδα / Emiliós Avraam / Cyprus / First Feature Competition / WP / 99 min
10:45	S	MY PARTNERS / Armastuse asjatundjad / Eva Kübar / Estonia / Baltic Film Competition / WP / 100 min
11:45	8	THE SHADOW / Vari / Jaak Kilmi / Estonia / Official Selection - Competition / 93 min
12:45	S	TESA MAN / Uģis Olte / Latvia / Rebels with a Cause Competition / IP / 60 min
13:00	9	LIFE & LOVE / Elu ja armastus / Helen Takkin / Estonia / Baltic Film Competition / 119 min
14:00	S	I CAN'T HAVE SEX / No puedo tener sexo / Bel Gatti / Argentina / Rebels with a Cause Competition / WP / 85 min

November 19

10:00	S	PROTECTED MEN / Die geschützten Männer / Irene von Alberti / Germany / Rebels with a Cause Competition In Focus: Germany / IP / 104 min
10:15	6	I, THE SONG / Dechen Roder / Bhutan, Norway, Italy, France / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 112 min
10:30	9	THE WEEPING WALK / Waarom Wettelen / Dimitri Verhulst / Belgium / First Feature Competition / IP / 106 min
11:00	8	PYRE / Vinod Kapri / India / Official Selection - Competition / WP / 111 min
12:00	S	DROWNING DRY / Seses / Laurynas Bareiša / Latvia, Lithuania / Baltic Film Competition / EP / 88 min
12:30	6	MOOR / Mavr / Adilkhan Yerzhanov / Kazakhstan, France / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 83 min
12:45	9	SUN NEVER AGAIN / Sunce Nikad Više / David Jovanovic / Serbia / First Feature Competition / WP / 72 min
13:15	8	THE BOY WITH PINK PANTS / Il ragazzo dai pantaloni rosa / Margherita Ferri / Italy / Official Selection - Competition / IP / 114 min
13:45	S	ANNA LOL / Ivars Tontegode / Latvia / Baltic Film Competition / WP / 105 min
14:15	6	RABBI CAPOEIRA / הרבאופק יברה / Barak Heymann, Omer Manor / Israel / Market Screening / WP / 70 min
14:30	9	IT HAPPENED ON OUR GROUND / Avner Faingulernt / Israel, Germany, Canada / Market Screening / WP / 125 min
15:45	6	THAI-LAND / Nir Dvortchin / Israel / Market Screening / WP / 75 min

Time	Hall	Film / Original Title / Director / Country / Programme / Premiere / Length
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November 20

9:00	8	THE LOOP / Ru Peu / Sang Beom KOO / Republic of Korea / Official Selection - Competition / 79 min
9:15	6	THE BROTHERS KITAURA / Kitaurakyodai / Masaki Tsujino / Japan / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 94 min
9:30	S	IN THE LAND THAT SINGS / Zeme, kas dzied / Māris Martinsons / Latvia / Baltic Film Competition / IP / 150 min
10:30	9	LOTUS / Signe Birkova / Latvia, Lithuania / First Feature Competition / WP / 117 min
10:45	8	BUZZHEART / Dennis Iliadis / Greece, USA / Official Selection - Competition / IP / 110 min
11:00	6	JŪHATSU / Lina Lužytė, Nerijus Milerius / Lithuania / Critics' Picks Competition / WP / 83 min
12:15	S	CONTACT LENS / 河马皮肤 / Ruiqi Lu / China / Rebels with a Cause Competition / WP / 78 min
12:45	9	TWO OF ME / Mind on kaks / Raul Esko, Romet Esko / Estonia / First Feature Competition / WP / 91 min
13:30	8	THE MOUSETRAP / Мишоловка / Serhii Kastornykh / Ukraine / Official Selection - Competition Standing with Ukraine / WP / 87 min
13:45	S	THE MEMORY BOOM / Xenia Glen / United Kingdom / Rebels with a Cause Competition / WP / 60 min
15:15	S	CAROLE & GREY / Jon Bass / USA / Rebels with a Cause Competition / IP / 66 min

November 21

10:00	8	SILENT CITY DRIVER / Чимээгүй хотын жолооч / Sengedorj Janchivdorj / Mongolia / Official Selection - Competition / WP / 138 min
10:15	9	THE SOUTHERN CHRONICLES / Pietinia Kronikas / Ignas Miškinis / Lithuania, Estonia / Baltic Film Competition / BP / 120 min
12:30	9	BLACK VELVET / Melnais samts / Liene Linde / Latvia / Baltic Film Competition / EP / 91 min
12:45	8	CAN I GET A WITNESS? / Ann Marie Fleming / Canada / Official Selection - Competition / IP / 111 min

LEGEND: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 – Hall numbers in Coca-Cola Plaza (Hobujaama 5)

S – Hall A Le Coq Suite in Coca-Cola Plaza (Hobujaama 5)

DIVE INTO SERIES



A new funding programme by the Council of Europe, home of Eurimages, to support independent series co-productions

coe.int/series

Pilot Programme for Series
Co-Productions
2023-2025



TV Beats Co-Financing Market

TV Beats Co-Financing Market, held at Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event since 2021, is dedicated to presenting high-quality drama series projects in advanced stages of development. The ten projects, selected for their international distribution potential, are pitched to potential partners, financiers, and broadcasters, and will have an opportunity to hold one-on-one meetings following the public presentation.

**Council of Europe Series Co-Production Development Award
50 000 €**

The Series Co-Production Development Award aims to foster creative collaborations in series co-productions and to empower independent producers. This award is part of the Pilot Programme for Series Co-Productions, a funding initiative by the Council of Europe, which is home to Eurimages. It is open to independent producers from all Eurimages member states.

Jury

Clémentine Trolong-Bailly,

Representative of the Pilot Programme for Series Co-production of the Council of Europe, France

Christian Wikander,

Producer, Sweden

Remi Tereskiewicz,

Development Executive, BetaSeries, France



BUNKER

TV Beats Co-Financing Market
SLOVENIA, SERBIA, CROATIA



Original title: Bunker
Countries: Slovenia, Serbia, Croatia
Languages: Serbian, Croatian, Slovenian
Genres: crime series, psychological drama, drama
Director: Marko Šantić
Screenwriters: Ivica Đikić, Goran Vojnović
Producer: Lija Pogačnik
Production company: December
Project status: development
Budget: 1 625 000 EUR
Financed: 115 000 EUR
Number of episodes: 5
Episode duration: 45
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, post-production services, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers, technical participation

Short synopsis

From the private safe deposit box of Marina Sabo, a mysterious psychotherapist who was once a famous actress, clandestinely recorded videos of her sessions with several powerful and rich people from the region disappear. Among them is the film and theater director and media mogul Boris Herman, who is connected to Marina through deep and dark secrets from the past. Marina's son, Igor Sabo, in order to pay

off his debts, steals a USB key containing her clandestinely recorded therapy sessions with influential people. The recordings become very sought-after items and the police open an investigation. Marina needs to make a tough choice.

Production company

December was founded in 2013 by the producers Vlado Bulajić and Lija Pogačnik. December's main goal is to produce fiction and documentary films and work with innovative filmmakers with a recognisable style.

Representatives in Tallinn

Lija Pogačnik, producer

Marko Šantić, director



Contact

Lija Pogačnik
lija@decemberfilm.si

FATA MORGANA



Original title: Fata Morgana
Counties: Hungary, United Kingdom, France
Languages: French, English, Hungarian
Genres: thriller, historical drama, crime series
Screenwriters: Zsófi Ruttkay, Gábor Papp, György Pálfi, Gábor Harmi
Producer: Lydia Kali
Co-producer: Gabor Harmi
Production company: Oble
Co-production company: Queenside Pictures
Project status: script
Budget: 8 790 000 EUR
Financed: 955 000 EUR
Number of episodes: 6
Episode duration: 40
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, gap-financing, private funds / banks, streamers

Short synopsis

Set in the early decades of the 20th century on the cursed wastelands of Central Europe, *Fata Morgana* is based on the legendary true story of The Piperman. As a radical response to the physical abuse inflicted by frustrated men on women, our hero Victoria, decides to disguise herself as a man. She goes on a killing spree and hangs the husbands of oppressed women in the village. Is she a proto-feminist superhero or a despicable murderer? Maybe both...

Production companies

Oble is an independent and international studio. We produce fiction and factual stories. We entertain differently. Meaningfully.

Queenside Pictures creates high-end, internationally sellable content that raises questions. Attended East Doc Series, Seriencamp, IDFA, Sunny Side of the Doc, and DocsBarcelona. Invited to MIPDOC and MIPTV, *Queen of Chess* won HBO Europe Development, British Pathe, and DocsBarcelona Pitch awards.

Representatives in Tallinn

Lydia Kali, producer

Gabor Harmi, producer, screenwriter



Contact

Lydia Kali
lydia@oble.tv

IN PARADISE

TV Beats Co-Financing Market
POLAND, DENMARK, GERMANY



Original title: Im Paradies
Countries: Poland, Denmark, Germany
Language: German
Genres: family series, dramedy, comedy
Director: Yasemin Samdereli
Producer: Marco Gilles
Producer, screenwriter: Corinna C. Poetter
Production company: eitelsonnenschein GmbH
Project status: development
Budget: 5 200 000 EUR
Financed: 100 000 EUR
Number of episodes: 8
Episode duration: 45
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), streamers

Short synopsis

After her professional footballer husband ruins his marriage and his business and goes into hospital with burnout, Pia and her four children lose their wealth and social status and end up in Paradise, a dreary social housing block on the outskirts of the city. Left behind in emotional chaos and with a mountain of debt, the family has to start a new life in paradise. Unlike Pia, the children soon settle in among the stranded and the life artists. Pia tries to get her old life back with biting remarks, an indomitable will and a lot of heart, while at the same time

more or less successfully looking after her children, fighting against the acute lack of money and learning to emancipate herself between a Lebanese extended family, a permanently unemployed artist, an angel contact, his QAnon brother and a cryptic bicycle courier.

Production company

eitelsonnenschein is known above all for successful series productions that impress with their unpolished humor, multidimensional perspectives and alternative narrative concepts.

Representative in Tallinn

Corinna Poetter, producer, screenwriter



Contact

Corinna Poetter
corinna@eitelsonnenschein.de
+49 172 214 1774

LADIES



Original title: Ladies
Country: Turkey
Language: Turkish
Genre: comedy
Producers: Diloy Gulun, Beste Yamalioglu
Director, screenwriter: Sefa Ozturk
Production company: Karma Films
Project status: script
Budget: 321 567 EUR
Financed: 208 559 EUR
Number of episodes: 8
Episode duration: 30
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, foreign broadcasters, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), streamers

Short synopsis

Arzu (40), a therapist advising on relationships, decides to end her 15-year marriage upon discovering infidelity. Amid the separation's intense emotions, an inner voice emerges within Arzu, not her own, but that of a grumpy old woman. In a patriarchal society, every grown woman has this collective 'grandmother' within, waiting to wake up, now constantly criticizing Arzu. Cuckoldry is a failure that is hard to overlook for a therapist. Or is the truth that she has already turned into her husband's mother hard to confront? What about accepting

that she has been exploited financially and emotionally? As an expert, well aware of escape routes, Arzu tries suppressing this voice with medication, but running away burdens her more. Soon after, 93-year-old neighbor Mrs Ismet, with Alzheimer's, the embodiment of Arzu's inner voice, disrupts her life. Additionally, Arzu falls for her supervisor, an impossible love. Arzu must restore her life, untangle the mess, and find her own voice.

Production company

Karma Films, established in 2003, Istanbul, by Diloy Gulun to deliver production support for international filmmakers. Karma also develops and produces film and media projects, some of which have been awarded in A-list film festivals and found their place on digital platforms.

Representatives in Tallinn
Beste Yamalioglu, producer
Sefa Ozturk, screenwriter, director



Contact

Beste Yamalioglu
 beste@karma-films.com

LET IT SNOW



Original title: Let It Snow
Countries: Estonia, Finland
Languages: Finnish, Estonian
Genres: biographical, dark comedy, crime series
Screenwriter: Mihkel Seeder
Producer: Jevgeni Supin
Showrunner: Ain Mäeots
Production company: Zolba Productions
Co-production company: Take Two Studios Oy
Project status: development
Budget: 2 654 600 EUR
Financed: 215 000 EUR
Number of episodes: 6
Episode duration: 45
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors

Short synopsis

Kuldar's partner breaks up with him and relocates their kids from Estonia over the bay to Finland. Unable to imagine his life without his kids, Kuldar sells all his businesses in Estonia and also moves to Helsinki to start a new life there. Kuldar truly loves his children. But he also loves cocaine and that interest leads him to the criminal underbelly of Helsinki.

Life, a cruel prankster, suddenly offers Kuldar a chance to become the new drug lord of the city. Even though he has no experience in this trade, he accepts the challenge and becomes a provider for the whole region. Within just one year Kuldar manages to create and destroy his drug empire, date a dangerously unhinged Brazilian model, unintentionally instigate turf wars in the Finnish entertainment industry, and become the UN ambassador in Somalia and an accidental YouTube star. And next to all this craziness he still tries really hard to just be a normal dad.

Production company

360 Media OÜ (operating under the trademark Zolba Productions) is an independent Estonian production company founded in 2013. It focuses on the development and co-production of drama series and fiction and documentary features and provides production services.

Representatives in Tallinn

Jevgeni Supin, producer

Ain Mäeots, showrunner

Mihkel Seeder, screenwriter



Contact

Jevgeni Supin
jevgeni@zolba.ee

MERCY



Original title: Piedade
Country: Portugal
Languages: Portuguese, French
Genres: crime series, social drama, thriller
Director, producer, screenwriter: Justin Amorim
Production company: Promenade
Project status: development
Budget: 1 437 331 EUR
Financed: 617 331 EUR
Number of episodes: 6
Episode duration: 50
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers, technical participation

Short synopsis

The year is 2002. A journalist is about to uncover what will become the largest case of institutionalised pedophilia in Portugal. She navigates through the disappointments and lies surrounding her investigation while dealing with threats to her personal life. A journey into one of the most unforgettable cases in Portuguese collective memory.

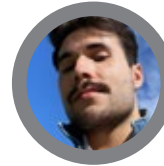
Production company

Founded in 2015 by Justin Amorim, **Promenade** is a Lisbon-based production company focused on its primary commitment to producing content that embodies youth, irreverence, inclusion, representation, diversity, and progressive ideologies, breaking away from traditional canons.

Representatives in Tallinn

Justin Amorim, producer

Filipe Bessa Vieira, supervising producer



Contact

Justin Amorim
justin@promenade.pt

NORRÖNA MURDERS

TV Beats Co-Financing Market
ICELAND, DENMARK



Original title: Norröna Morðin

Countries: Iceland, Denmark

Languages: Icelandic, English, Danish

Genres: mystery, drama, crime series

Producer, screenwriter: Hörður Rúnarsson

Production company: ACT4

Co-production company: Nordisk Film

Budget: 8 003 605 EUR

Financed: 3 523 608 EUR

Number of episodes: 6

Episode duration: 50

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, post-production services, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers, technical participation

Short synopsis

Norröna Murders is a Nordic noir series that explores what's behind the public masks people carry. Young Icelandic police officer Adam is tasked with investigating a brutal double murder aboard the ferry Norröna. The victims, Eva (Danish) and Uwe (German) took part in a rough sexual ritual called VikingR. The other two participants in the sexual act, Danish public figure Pernille and Icelandic diplomat become the main suspects making it a tricky investigation and a jurisdictional fight with

the Danish Police. What's more, Adam is Pernille's old lesbian lover and they share Adam's secret that he used to be in a female body but is now a transgender man, she begs him to help her and she'll continue keeping his secret. On board the ferry Adam chases the murderer but also uncovers a web of drug smuggling and human trafficking but is also coerced by a German PI protecting the German's dark family secret. The web of lies under the surface and deceit are now bound to come to the surface.

Production companies

Icelandic production powerhouse **ACT4** was founded in late 2022 by a group of award-winning Icelandic film industry veterans, joined by a group of international investors to build a new independent Nordic production powerhouse.

Nordisk Film produces and markets award-winning films and series, operates cinema chains in Denmark, Norway and Sweden, produces games through several game studios, distributes PlayStation in the Nordic and Baltic countries and develops global digital gifting solutions.

Representatives in Tallinn

Hörður Rúnarsson, producer

Marike Muselaers, head of international financing and co-production



Contact

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+354 680 9007

THE CODE OF THULE

TV Beats Co-Financing Market
ESTONIA, SWITZERLAND, SWEDEN



Original title: Thule kood
Countries: Estonia, Switzerland, Sweden
Languages: Estonian
Genres: science fiction, mystery, drama
Screenwriters: Uwe Lützen, Leana Jalukse, Peep Ehasalu, Rein Pakk
Producers: Helen Löhmus, René Ezra
Production company: Oree Films
Co-production company: Stikling Film
Project status: development
Budget: 3 400 000 EUR
Financed: 40 000 EUR
Number of episodes: 8
Episode duration: 45
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, sales agent, streamers

Short synopsis

When a mythical 2500-year-old meteorite is re-discovered on a remote island in Estonia, scientists believe that the global energy crisis can be solved by exploiting its potential. Both national and international interests are stoked; the promise of a clean and sustainable future is quickly forgotten in the turmoil of political and commercial power play – while the last guardians of the meteorite’s mythological powers are fiercely determined to hide what needs to be hidden: because some treasures are better left undug...

Production company

Oree Films is a film, commercial and digital production company with an innovation and consulting wing that pursues building bridges between Europe, North America, and Asia with offices in Tallinn, Estonia, and Tokyo, Japan.

Representatives in Tallinn

Helen Löhmus, producer
Uwe Lützen, screenwriter



Contact

Helen Löhmus
helen@oreefilms.com
+372 5348 0281

THE RELUCTANT CONTACT



Original title: The Reluctant Contact
Countries: Ireland, Canada
Languages: Ukrainian, English
Genres: thriller, historical drama
Screenwriter: Stephen Burke
Producer: Jane Doolan
Co-producer: Chris Farrer
Production company: Mammoth Films Limited
Co-production company: Shaftesbury
Project status: development
Budget: 12 288 135 EUR
Financed: 4 640 000 EUR
Number of episodes: 6
Episode duration: 60
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent

Short synopsis

Svalbard, Arctic Circle, 1977. In Pyramiden, a Soviet mining outpost on Norwegian territory, Ukrainian mine engineer Yuri still plays by Stalin-era rules: Look after number one. Yet when a coworker is found dead,

Yuri decides to investigate. Simultaneously, he begins a stormy affair with the volatile Anya who has come here to meet an unknown contact. Another new arrival is Katrin, an avid communist from West Germany. However, Timur, Pyramiden's KGB officer is suspicious of this foreigner and blackmails Yuri into spying on her. Meanwhile, Yuri discovers that Anya intends to defect to the West. Yuri agrees to help her, while also being acutely aware that there is still a murderer in Pyramiden. When Anya's contact finally reveals himself, Yuri is even more unsettled. The man, Grigory, Pyramiden's senior communist party official, is Yuri's close friend. While Pyramiden is frozen in twenty-four-hour darkness, Yuri finds himself in a dangerous world of secrets and conflicting agendas.

Production company

Established in Ireland in 2002 by producer Jane Doolan, **Mammoth Films** is one of Ireland's leading independent feature film production companies. In addition to developing its own material, Mammoth also acts as a co-producer and executive producer on a range of Irish and European projects with a distinct and unique voice and the best of Irish and International talent attached. The company has been awarded slate funding by Screen Ireland and by the EU Media Programme.

Representatives in Tallinn

Jane Doolan, producer
Stephen Burke, writer
James Mitchell, producer



Contact

Jane Doolan
mammothfilms@gmail.com

THE WOMEN I THINK ABOUT AT NIGHT

TV Beats Co-Financing Market
FINLAND



Original title: Naiset joita ajattelen öisin

Country: Finland

Language: Finnish

Genres: comedy, drama

Directors: Saara Cantell, Anu Kuivalainen

Screenwriter: Anna Ruohonen

Producers: Liisa Karpo, Marianne Mäkelä

Production company: napafilms Ltd

Project status: development

Budget: 4 495 711 EUR

Financed: 123 000 EUR

Number of episodes: 5

Episode duration: 42

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, foreign broadcasters, private funds / banks, sales agent, streamers

Short synopsis

Childless art teacher Alina (39) goes on an autumn holiday to Florence with her best friend Leila. Their friendship is tested when Leila announces her pregnancy, leaving Alina feeling lonely as the only one in her circle who chose to be childless. The situation escalates into an argument, and Leila returns home early. In Florence, Alina encounters forgotten female artists who come to life and encourage her to find her own path. In emotional turmoil, Alina decides not to use her

return ticket to Finland but irrationally escapes from her life, and the emotions she can't handle, and flies to Kyoto instead. In Japan, Alina, accompanied by these inspiring women, experiences a new sense of freedom. She becomes entangled in lies as she explains her whereabouts back home. Her adventure continues to Tibet and Africa, with real women explorers from past centuries at her side. Alina gradually realizes what she wants from life, but her old life and responsibilities won't let her go. *The Women I Think About at Night* is a travel/adventure series blending humour and magic.

Production company

napafilms is an award-winning Finnish film production company owned by producers Liisa Karpo and Marianne Mäkelä. Since it was founded in 2009, the company has focused on high end fiction and documentary films for international audiences.

Representatives in Tallinn

Liisa Karpo, producer

Anna Ruohonen, screenwriter



Contact

Liisa Karpo
liisa@napafilms.fi

TV Beats Screening Day

The TV Beats Screening Day is the festival's new initiative for 2024, aimed at showcasing high-quality, fresh series from the region on the big screen, along with the presence of key creative talent.



Toomas Ili

Screening Day Curator /
Head Of Content, Elisa Estonia

A WOLF'S PALATE



Original title: Vilko Gomuryš
Countries: Lithuania, Finland, Germany
Genre: psychological crime drama
Language: English, Lithuanian
Screenwriter: Emilis Vėlyvis
Director: Emilis Vėlyvis
Cinematographer: Feliksas Abruškauskas (LAC)
Editor: Emilis Vėlyvis, Darius Šilėnas
Main cast: Edward Holcroft, Agnė Šataitė, Ingeborga Dapkūnaitė, Tommi Korpela, Ieva Andrejevaitė, Giedrius Kiela,
Producer: Daiva Varnaitė – Jovaišienė, Asta Liukaitytė
Co-producer: Tero Kaukomaa, Josef Brandmaier
Production companies: Kino Kultas, Son of a Pitch
Release: 2025
Looking for: sales

Synopsis

The desecrated body of a young woman is found on the coast of a port city. Laura, an experienced investigator, takes the case, but the investigation quickly becomes cold. Her only lead is Ulvis, a mysterious deaf tattoo artist with a close connection to the victim. Meanwhile, in the capital, Stephen Wilkinson, a department head at a life insurance company, meets the stunning Silvija at a corporate party. After a passionate night, Silvija disappears without a trace. Set on finding her, Stephen tracks her down, discovering she's from the port city. When Stephen visits Silvija's mother, Marija, a wealthy businesswoman, instead of helping him, she calls the police. To his surprise, Stephen is arrested and taken to the police station, where he meets Laura. Stephen describes Silvija's distinctive tattoo, and Laura reveals the truth: Silvija is the murdered woman. Stunned, Stephen is drawn into a mystery as Laura realizes Silvija's life and death hide far darker secrets than expected.

Director

Emilis Vėlyvis is a renowned Lithuanian film director, screenwriter, and artist. He studied at the Vilnius Academy of Arts and at the Warsaw Academy of Arts. Vėlyvis gained international recognition with his film *Redirected* (2014). He is best known for his sharp, dark humor and provocative cinematic style. His notable works include *The Generation of Evil* (2022) and the *Zero* trilogy. Emilis is constantly evolving, exploring new genres, and pioneering innovative approaches in Lithuanian cinema.

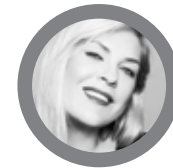
Producers and production company

Daiva Varnaitė-Jovaišienė and **Asta Liukaitytė** are a duo of producers who have established themselves for producing original and innovative films that resonate with broad audiences. Their portfolio spans a wide range of genres, from sci-fi (*Vesper*), thrillers (*Redirected*) to detective stories (*The Generation of Evil*), continually pushing the boundaries of storytelling. Known for challenging conventional narratives, they focus on exploring relevant social and political themes, delivering work that not only entertains but also inspires and provokes thought.

Kino Kultas is a dynamic, independent film production company co-founded by director Emilis Vėlyvis and producers Asta Liukaitytė and Daiva Varnaitė-Jovaišienė. Committed to innovation, Kino Kultas delivers high-quality content that resonates with audiences and explores relevant social and political themes.

Representatives in Tallinn

Daiva Varnaitė-Jovaišienė, producer
Asta Liukaityte, producer



Contact

Daiva Varnaitė-Jovaišienė
Kino Kultas
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MUTINY



Original title: Dumpis
Country: Latvia
Genre: war, thriller
Language: Latvian
Screenwriters: Ivo Briedis, Vitaly Dokalenko, Anastasiia Dudchenko
Director: Andrejs Ēķis
Cinematographer: Gatis Grinbergs
Editors: Paula Popmane, Jurgis Ločmelis
Main cast: Dainis Grūbe, Elīna Hanzena, Andris Keišs, Inga Tropa, Agnese Budovska, Igors Čerņavskis, Egons Dombrovskis, Producers: Dita Cimermane, Aija Ansonē, Vitaly Dokalenko, Andrejs Ēķis
Production company: Cinevilla Films
Sales: Canoe Film and Eyewell
Release: Domestic Q1 2024
Looking for: International distributors, platforms, broadcasters

Synopsis

Riga, 1975. After an escalating series of events, a Soviet Officer finds himself at the centre of a corrupt regime, prompting him to stage a coup and change the course of history.

When Valery Spagin is appointed to the Soviet naval ship Storozhevoy as Captain of the Third Rank, he embraces the opportunity to serve his country and vows to uphold its communist ideals. But as he and his family find themselves unwelcome by their new neighbours in Riga and he is exposed to widespread military abuse of power, Spagin is forced to confront his own belief system. With mounting threats from a corrupt political system that puts his existence and others at risk, Spagin incites

a riot aboard the ship, the scale of which becomes much bigger than intended. Unwilling to face international disgrace and permit the ship to fall into hands of the West, the Soviet authorities sink the Storozhevoy together with its crew.

Told from the perspective of both the Occupier and Occupied, *Mutiny* is a story of humanity and justice at the turn of a totalitarian regime.

Director

Andrejs Ēķis is an entrepreneur and a filmmaker. With unstoppable energy, he has directed nineteen films, produced eighteen, and written another eight. In 2004, driven by his vision of creating an ideal filmmaking location – a versatile cinematic playground catering to both local and international productions – he began to build Cinevilla Studios.

Producer and production company

Founded in 1997, **Cinevilla Films** quickly established itself as one of the leading film production companies in Latvia. Over the past decade, it has expanded its international focus successfully co-producing and remaking independent films and series and servicing international studios. Cinevilla Films' Producers – Andrejs Ēķis, Aija Ansonē and Dita Cimermane – are joined by Ukrainian producer Vitalii Dokalenko for *Mutiny*, who brings a unique and complimentary perspectives along with extensive production experience.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Andrejs Ēķis, director
Michael Werner, sales agent
Caroline Stern, sales agent



Contact

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 Michael Werner, Eyewell
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 Caroline Stern, Canoe Film
 Caroline@canoe.film / www.canoe.film



OPERATION SABRE



Original title: Sablja
Countries: Serbia, Bulgaria
Genre: crime, drama
Language: Serbian (English, German)
Directors: Goran Stanković, Vladimir Tagić
Screenwriters: Dejan Prčić, Vladimir Tagić, Goran Stanković, Maja Pelević, Marjan Alčevski
Cinematographer: Aleksandar Košutić
Editors: Lazar Predojević, Vladimir Radovanović, Milena Predić
Main cast: Dragan Mićanović, Ljubomir Bandović, Milica Gojković, Lazar Tasić, Zlatko Burić, Jasna Đuričić, Feđa Štukan
Producer: Snežana van Houwelingen
Co-producer: Martichka Bozhilova
Production companies: Radio Television of Serbia, This and That Productions, Agitprop
Sales: Beta Film
Release: 2024
Looking for: broadcasters

Synopsis

2003. After the assassination of Serbian Prime Minister Đinđić, the country plunges into chaos. Danica, a young reporter, tries to investigate the real story behind it. And even though it puts a crosshair on his back, police inspector Ljuba, tasked with finding Đinđić's killer, is willing to help her. On the other side of the law, Uroš, a petty criminal, is drawn into this deadly plot. He drove the getaway car, as he works for those who ordered the murder: the powerful and brutal Serbian Mafia. There is a network of corruption and criminals embedded within the government, which Đinđić had tried to dismantle. Now, those searching for his

killer are becoming targets themselves. The closer they get to the truth, the more they become victims of the system they are trying to expose...

Directors

Goran Stanković's thesis film *Way in Rye* was nominated for a Student Academy Award. In 2018, he directed the 40-episode series *Morning Changes Everything*, and, in 2021, *Bad Blood*.

Vladimir Tagić's short *Emergency Exit* (2015) premiered at Clermont-Ferrand, was showcased at Cannes, and won best screenplay in Munich. In 2018, he co-created the series *Morning Changes Everything* for RTS. His debut feature *Yugo Florida* is in post-production.

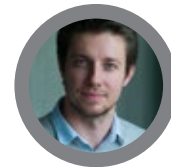
Their collaboration, *Operation Sabre*, won a Special Interpretation Award at Canneseries and the Primetime Killer Award at Serial Killer.

Production company

This and That Productions was founded in 2008 by a group of young filmmakers to produce high-quality, socially engaging features, creative documentaries, and TV shows. Their films have premiered at prestigious festivals and won over 90 awards worldwide.

Agitprop is a multi-awarded production company led by producer Martichka Bozhilova. Agitprop has produced a number of creative documentaries, fiction films, and internationally awarded TV series for partners like Channel 4, Sundance Channel, HBO, ARTE, PBS, and YLE.

Representatives in Tallinn:
Goran Stanković, director
Snežana van Houwelingen, producer



Contact

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Goran Stanković +381 649 197 696
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VALHALLA PROJECT



Original title: Operaatio Valhalla
Country: Finland
Genre: mystery-drama
Language: Finnish-English-Russian
Screenwriter: Jari Olavi Rantala
Director: Juha Wuolijoki
Cinematographer: Tero Saikkonen
Editor: Antti Reikko F.C.E. and Toni Tikkanen F.C.E.
Main cast: Sara Soulié, Joonas Saartamo, Alistair Brammer, Iben Dorner, Pääru Oja
Producer: Juha Wuolijoki and Laura Salonen
Co-producer:
Production company: Snapper Films Productions Oy
Sales: Keshet International
Release: In Finland Elisa Viihde (Ruutu+) 8.10.2024

Synopsis

Valhalla Project is a high-stakes mystery action thriller that explores the concept of parallel dimensions through two different timelines - portraying 1991 Russia alongside present-day Finland to create a compelling drama that involves a missing father, an environmental crisis, and corporate espionage on an international scale.

Climate researcher Alina Railo travels to Finnish Lapland with an international expedition to seek access to a parallel universe with hopes of finding a solution to the climate crisis - a parallel universe initially researched by her father, who disappeared in Lapland over 30 years ago.

Incorporating universally relatable themes of humanity, identity, and the limitations of life, *Valhalla Project* is a multilanguage drama featuring mainly English alongside Finnish and Russian dialogue.

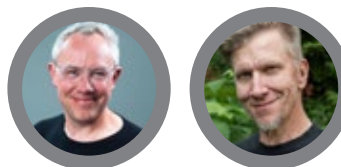
In addition to starring Sara Soulié (*Conflict*, *Hammarskjöld*, *The Man Who Died*) in the lead role, this mystery thriller features a stellar cast of internationally recognized actors, including Alistair Brammer (*Les Misérables*, *Medieval*), Iben Dorner (*Borgen*, *Thin Ice*), Joonas Saartamo (*Silence*, *Utö*) and Pääru Oja (*Vikings: Valhalla*, *Cold Courage*).

Filmed in subzero locations in Helsinki, North Karelia and Lapland in Finland, *Valhalla Project's* principal creatives are internationally recognised award-winning filmmakers creator and writer Jari Olavi Rantala (*Deadwind*, *The Unknown Soldier*), and director and producer Juha Wuolijoki (*King of Los Angeles*, *Christmas Story*, *Vinski and the Invisibility Powder*).

Produced by **Snapper Films**, this Elisa Viihde original series was one of 10 scripted series selected by a jury of TV executives for this year's MIP Drama Showcase - the annual showcase that offers an exclusive early-stage preview of high-end dramas to international TV buyers.

Representatives in Tallinn

Juha Wuolijoki, director, producer
Jari Olavi Rantala, creator



Contact

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 Snapper Films Productions Oy
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 www.snapperfilms.com

VON FOCK



Original title: Von Fock
Countries: Estonia, Latvia, Italy
Genre: period crime
Language: Estonian
Screenwriters: Leana Jalukse, Lilian von Keudell
Director: Arun Tamm
Cinematographer: Mart Ratassepp ESC
Editor: Hardi Kalder
Main cast: Priit Pius, Aurora Ruffino, Sten Karpov
Producers: Jevgeni Supin, Helen Lõhmus
Co-producers: Gunda Bergmane, Markus Frings
Production companies: Berghein Production, Movie.mento, Nafta Films, Albolina
Release: Spring 2025
Looking for: acquisitions

Synopsis

When Paul von Fock, the youngest of three brothers, inherits Sagadi Manor, he struggles to fit into his new role socially – but his brilliance at managing his estate and his keen sense of justice quickly secure him the position of assessor at the local court. Expecting to only solve pub brawls and border disputes, he is wholly unprepared for what awaits him – murder mysteries, fake identities, paintings and cash, stolen fortunes and futures. Realising that not only is his appointment at stake, but his reputation and sometimes his life, he admirably rises to the occasion and proceeds, with the help and intervention of the notorious femme fatale Maria von Nottbeck, to become a seasoned detective.

The greatest mystery, however, is Maria herself – but somewhere along the line, she allows Paul to unravel it.

Director

Arun Tamm is a celebrated Estonian director, whose amateur short *The Bastards* paved the way to the groundbreaking first feature *Bad Hair Friday*, which was nominated for the best debut at prestigious festivals such as Raindance and Tallinn Black Nights. Following this triumph, Arun expanded his creative horizons to directing and writing commercials and has since become one of the most sought-after commercial directors. He has also directed series and shorts and is currently developing his next feature, *Container*, featuring the talented Dar Salim.

Producer and production company

Jevgeni Supin, founder and CEO of **Zolba Productions**, is a prolific producer, whose track record includes hundreds of hours of both scripted and non-scripted programming, including the Estonian versions of some of the world's most famous formats (*Who Wants to Be A Millionaire*, *Dancing with The Stars*), and the first Estonian Viaplay original (*Who Shot Otto Müller*). Jevgeni is also one of the first Estonian producers to consciously target the international series market and put a meaningful effort into taking Estonian series production onto the international arena.

Representative in Tallinn
Jevgeni Supin, producer



Contact

Jevgeni Supin / Zolba Productions
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MIDPOINT
INSTITUTE

We are paving the way for success in the European film and TV industry

WE HELP emerging directors, writers, producers, script
consultants, development executives
ADVANCE PROJECTS
& IMPROVE SKILLS

☀ project development

☀ post-production guidance

☀ skills development

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MIDPOINT Series Launch 2024

MIDPOINT Series Launch, an "idea-to-market" drama series project development program, is a project-based training targeting and tailoring its content for the creative teams of emerging professionals coming from the Central and Eastern European region and the only program of this kind working with both limited and ongoing series. Spanning over nine months, it also offers a training for junior/aspiring development executives.

Collaborating with a wide spectrum of tutors from both Western and Eastern Europe, who bring their expertise in the fields of writing, directing, producing, financing, marketing, pitching and distribution, the program offers a thorough and effective development process. It also helps the projects to be built in a "bottom-up" manner: from a very early development stage, the creative teams of writers and producers are led to defining their series concept and theme and outlining their pilot scripts, to creating their season arc and season outlines, as well as pitching documents and a financing strategy, to marketing and pitching their project and expanding their network.

The entire development process is used as a platform to train the attending development executive participants, who are being prepared for their future role of commissioning editors and development producers on real, existing series projects, acquiring skills needed for developing a diverse range of projects.

Projects developed within MIDPOINT Series Launch are presented at the most established professional industry platforms, accepted to the leading international TV markets and festivals, commissioned, and developed by significant European broadcasters and financiers and its graduates have proven to become an important element in both their local and the international audiovisual ecosystem.

MIDPOINT Series Launch 2024 is realized with the support of the Creative Europe – MEDIA Programme of the European Union, the Ministry of Culture Czech Republic, and the Czech Film Fund. It runs in partnership with Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event, TV Drama Vision, MIA Market, TIFF AGORA Series, SerienCamp, Series Mania, Heart of Europe, and Serial Eyes. MIDPOINT Institute operates under the auspices of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague.

MIDPOINT Series Launch 2024 Tutors



Gabor Krigler
Head of Studies,
Group Leader



Steve Matthews
Group Leader



Tatjana Samopjan
Group Leader



Sasha Vyshnevskaya
Development
Executive Mentor



Agathe Berman
Pitching Tutor



Marike Muselaers
Financing Tutor



Nebojsa Taraba
Producer Tutor



**Sari Azoulay
Turgeman**
Guest Tutor



Benjamin Harris
Guest Tutor



David Kavanagh
Guest Tutor



Gerhard Maier
Guest Tutor



Cyril Tysz
Guest Tutor

THE ART OF MAGDALENE



Original title: The Art of Magdalene
Countries: Poland, Ireland, Sweden, Germany
Languages: English, Polish
Genres: drama
Writers: Wiktor Piatkowski, Jonathan Farrelly
Producers: Wiktor Piatkowski, Jonathan Farrelly
Production companies: Bahama Films, PIO Media
Project status: development
Type: ongoing series
Production budget per season (in EUR): 9 000 000
Number of episodes: 6
Episode duration (in minutes): 44
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors

Logline

A hard-working and religious immigrant is fed up with being used and humiliated. She builds an international art dealing empire based on the ignorance, superficiality and greed of some rich people. Her financial pyramid grows even faster when dangerous drug dealers start using it to launder money.

Short synopsis

In 2022 a Polish middle-aged woman was arrested by the Spanish police on charges of fraud, embezzlement of over 100 m EUR and money

laundering. Among their victims are artists, politicians, businessmen and celebrities from over 20 countries. Our story is inspired by those true events. We meet Magda as one of 100.000 Polish immigrants living in Ireland. Her life is just hard work and humiliation with a bit of art. Magda has always wanted to be an artist but she wasn't talented enough. When one day she accidentally sells a worthless painting to a rich guy she realizes she can take advantage of the ignorance and greed of rich people. She presents herself as a top art dealer from CEE and offers to her investors way more than just an opportunity for high returns, she invites them to an elite club. Magda, the girl next door, quickly transforms into Magdalene, the well-educated, charismatic, eloquent lady. With some help from her brother, she builds an empire that is just a smart financial pyramid.

Writer, producer

Wiktor Piatkowski created and co-wrote HBO's first original series produced in Poland (*Wataha*), 4 Netflix original feature films (incl. *Squared Love*), first Polish Viaplay series (*Murderesses*). Wiktor is an alumnus of Serial Eyes, European Showrunner Training, and Berlinale Talents.

Writer, producer

Jonathan Farrelly is MD of PIO Media. They are developing the TV series, *Carefree* and *Last In Line*. They have produced the feature film *Poster Boys* for Sky Cinema. They also produced 5 shorts including, *Leap Of Faith* (RTE), which was sold to HBO Europe and is currently available to watch on Disney Plus.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Wiktor Piatkowski, writer-producer
Jonathan Farrelly, writer-producer



Contact

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AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED

MIDPOINT Series Launch 2024
ROMANIA, FRANCE



Original title: Ca și cum nimic nu s-ar fi întâmplat
Countries: Romania, France
Languages: Romanian, French, English
Genres: historical drama, LGBT+, adaptation
Writers: Ioana Bogdana, Eva Todica
Producer: Ioana Bogdana
Production company: microfilm
Project status: development
Type: limited series
Production budget per season (in EUR): 5 325 000
Number of episodes: 4
Episode duration (in minutes): 50
Looking for: distributors, foreign broadcasters, streamers

Logline

Cristina juggles her marriage with Radu and her illegal love affair with sister-in-law Nana while fighting to survive Ceausescu's dictatorship with dark humour and desperate imagination.

Short synopsis

Romania, 1980s. In their final year of high school, Cristina and Nana are best friends with a secret - they're in love, in a time and place where being gay is illegal and dangerous. When their forbidden affair is almost exposed, Nana breaks up with Cristina. Cristina marries

clueless Radu, Nana's brother. She gets the perks of a "normal" life and an excuse to stay close to Nana forever. This decision shocks Nana, pushing her away. But the women's passion is much too strong to be repressed. Across the final decade of Communist Romania, Cristina finds herself torn between the safety of her marriage with Radu and her undying love for Nana. Will their love defy the odds or will the weight of their secrets tear them apart?

Writer, producer

Ioana Bogdana is a Bucharest-based writer and producer at Ada Solomon's microFILM. She co-wrote and produced the comedy series *In The City* (2022) for the CEE VoD VOYO. Her short films have been showcased in festivals like Shanghai IFF, Tallinn Black Nights, BFI London Film Festival, Thessaloniki IFF.

Writer

Eva Todică is a screenwriter based in Bucharest, Romania. She wrote and produced the comedy series *In The City* (2022) for the CEE VoD platform VOYO. Graduate of MIDPOINT's Writers Room and MFI's Script2Film programmes. She holds a degree in drama and theatre arts from Goldsmiths University, London.

Representative in Tallinn:

Ioana Bogdana, writer-producer
Eva Todică, writer



Contact

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microfilm.eu

BLACK WINDS



Original title: תורוחש תוחור

Countries: Israel

Languages: Hebrew

Genres: crime, drama, mystery, social drama, thriller

Director: Oz Zirlin

Writers: Oz Zirlin, Daniel Imaran

Project status: development

Type: limited series

Production budget per season (in EUR): 6 400 000

Number of episodes: 8

Episode duration (in minutes): 45-60

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, streamers

Logline

Adam and Daniel, two Ethiopian-Israelis, go against the police, the law system and the municipality in order to prove a policeman is involved in the disappearance and mysterious death of their friend/brother. Their quest for justice will tear them and the people around them apart.

Short synopsis

During his best friend's wedding, Yosef is getting bitter and dragged to the local police station. After Adam, Yosef's best friend convinces him to press charges – Yosef goes missing. Two days later Yosef is found dead – presumably by suicide. Adam and Yosef's younger brother,

Daniel, are convinced the police are involved with Yosef's death. They set out on a quest to find the truth – in order to get justice for Yosef. Adam, a law intern, wants to prosecute the people involved and get them in jail. Daniel, a man of the streets, wants to get his hands on the policeman who hurt his brother and to kill him. Their mutual quest for justice will make them work together, uncovering disturbing truths about the local municipality and about Yosef's life. But the deeper they dive into the case, the greater the gap between the two grows. Eventually, the two will have to confront each other, fighting for their version of justice.

Writer-director-producer

Oz Zirlin, born in Israel, Film school graduate with excellency (Minshar for art), Director of *Ziskind* (2020), *Adane and Yaleo* (2022), *Homefront* (2024) and winner of the Artistic Vision Award at Sam Spiegel Feature Lab (2023).

Writer

Daniel Imaran, born in Israel, studied acting at Yoram Loewenstein Performing Arts Studio and now working as an actor in the industry. Daniel appeared in numerous short films, commercials and stage plays.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Oz Zirlin, writer-director-producer

Daniel Imaran, writer



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BLOODY DUNES



Original title: Krūvinos kopos
Countries: Lithuania
Languages: Lithuanian
Genres: crime, teen / teen drama
Director: Irma Pužauskaitė
Writer: Andrius Lekavičius
Producer: Greta Akcijonaite
Production company: Magic Film
Project status: development
Type: limited series
Production budget per season (in EUR): 2 500 000
Number of episodes: 6
Episode duration (in minutes): 52
Looking for: co-producers, foreign broadcasters, post-production services, sales agent, streamers

Logline

The traces of the missing prom queen lead her friends to the border of Kaliningrad, Russia and the signs of the organ trafficking network but the lost girl is not the one who needs saving.

Short synopsis

Bloody Dunes follows a rebellious trio of high school girls who skip their prom after-party for a wild weekend with older kite-surfers on the mysterious Curonian Peninsula, a land divided by Lithuania and Kaliningrad, Russia. What begins as carefree fun turns dark when they witness

shadowy figures dragging blood-soaked bags toward the Russian border. The next day, prom queen Nastia narrowly escapes drowning, but vanishes mysteriously from the hospital before her friends can see her. Determined to save Nastia, the group returns to the dunes and embarks on a harrowing journey that leads them to the very edge of Kaliningrad, where they uncover a sinister organ trafficking network. Their mission to save their friend spirals into a fight for their own survival.

Director

Irma Pužauskaitė is a director and intimacy coordinator, known for her acclaimed debut feature *9th Step*. A graduate of LMU Film School, she works as an intimacy coordinator with top directors and platforms like Netflix and teaches at LMTA.



Writer

Andrius Lekavičius directed documentary features and docuseries that have captivated a wide audience with their compelling narratives. A dedicated runner, Andrius trains his stamina through marathons to stay focused during long filmmaking projects. Alumnus of Berlinale Talents and IDFAcademy.

Producer

Greta Akcijonaite is a development producer at Magic Film. With extensive experience in film exhibition, distribution and production, she develops TV series and co-productions

Representatives in Tallinn:
Greta Akcijonaite, producer
Andrius Lekavičius, writer



Contact

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magic.film

CATHEDRAL



Original title: Catedrali
Countries: Georgia
Languages: Georgian
Genres: drama, music, social drama, teen / teen drama
Director: George Varsimashvili, Rusudan Chkonia
Writer: George Varsimashvili, Rusudan Chkonia
Producer: George Varsimashvili, Rusudan Chkonia
Project status: development
Type: limited series
Production budget per season (in EUR): 1 200 000
Number of episodes: 6
Episode duration (in minutes): 59
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters, post-production services, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers, technical participation

Logline

A techno-club is a place where people find their freedom, but it's also a microcosm of society, where the truth belongs to the majority.

Short synopsis

Salome, an amateur DJ, has a dream to access the techno club Cathedral, which is considered to be an oasis of freedom from a society that is dominated by hate and division. On her way to the club, she meets a resident DJ Helen, who becomes her best friend. "Cathedral" is organized like a religious institution. The pastor is Katie, who established the place and made a set of rules that everyone in the community should

respect. Sandro is the main DJ and has the authority of a priest. The Illusion Room is the holy place where the Ten Commandments are displayed, while the darkroom is confessional. The project seems utopian, but as soon as cracks appear, it starts to fall apart.

Director, writer, producer

George Varsimashvili is a Georgian writer and director born in Tbilisi in 1986. After graduating from university in Georgia, he went on to study filmmaking at Paris 8 University (bachelor's and master's degree) and ESRA Paris film school. During his studies, he made a dozen short films, which travelled to different film festivals. He shot his graduation feature film *Particulier a Particulier* in 2012. Although the film was only a graduation movie, it was still released in film theatres in France and Georgia.

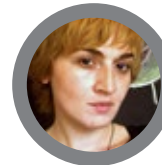
Director, writer, producer

Rusudan Chkonia born in 1978 is a Writer/Director from Georgia. She graduated from Tbilisi Film and Theatre University, faculty of film directing in 2001. Between 2005 and 2006, Chkonia took part in Berlinale's Talent Campus. In 2007, she was the first Georgian director selected at Cannes Cinéfondation residency. In 2012 she produced and directed her debut film *Keep Smiling*.

Representatives in Tallinn:

George Varsimashvili, writer-director-producer

Rusudan Chkonia, writer-director-producer



Contact

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THE GUIDE



Original title: Провідник
Countries: Ukraine
Languages: Ukrainian
Genres: dramedy, supernatural
Writer: Oksana Artemenko
Producer: Svitlana Soloviova
Production company: SvitloforFilm
Project status: development
Type: limited series
Production budget per season (in EUR): 900 000
Number of episodes: 6
Episode duration (in minutes): 42
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, sales agent

Logline

Ukraine, present day, a student just wants to be like everyone else. But fate makes him a guide for lost souls, helping them move on to the afterlife. Struggling with his new role, he must face his fears and discover what it really means to help others.

Short synopsis

Ukraine, present day, Zhenya moves to a new city for university, hoping to leave his past behind. He struggled with a lack of acceptance from his classmates in school, which made him feel uneasy. To earn some money, he takes a job in a morgue, where he discovers he has a new ability to guide lost souls to the afterlife. Zhenya is torn between

wanting to start a new life, spend time with his new classmates, and being like everyone else while dealing with this unexpected responsibility. As he learns to help the dead find peace, he uncovers important lessons about courage, acceptance, and what it truly means to connect with others.

Writer

Oksana Artemenko graduated from Kyiv International University with a degree in Film Directing and I.K. Karpenko-Kary Kyiv National University in Screenwriting. She has directed five short films that have been featured in many international film festivals. Oksana also works as a screenwriter for various short films, feature projects, and TV series.

Producer

Svitlana Soloviova is a Ukrainian film producer, founder of Svitlofor Film, and consultant at the Ukrainian Film Office. She has collaborated with BBC, MTV Europe, and others. Her works include many shorts, the documentary *Trading Lives*, and two features: *Ilovaisk 2014* (sold in over 15 countries) and *Oxygen Station*, which premiered at major film festivals.

Representative in Tallinn:

Svitlana Soloviova, producer

Oksana Artemenko, writer



Contact

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HOTEL LOVE



Original title: Hotel Love
Countries: Germany, Hungary
Languages: English
Genres: romantic comedy, thriller
Writer: György Baráthy
Project status: development
Type: ongoing series
Production budget per season (in EUR): 600 000
Number of episodes: 10
Episode duration (in minutes): 30
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, foreign broadcasters, streamers

Logline

A young woman has a secret rendezvous with world-famous singer Leonard Cohen – but the venue that looks like an old school hotel from the age of analogue turns out to be a dangerous VR labyrinth with no way out.

Short synopsis

Alice (22) is about to meet Leonard Cohen (49) for the first time in an old chic hotel. However, when she wants to escape the situation and the hotel itself – we learn that this is not a real place in the 70s but a VR

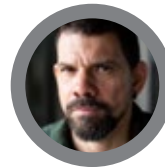
experience today. Alice's not an ingenue either, but a 50-year-old feminist journalist who only came here to write a vicious review. But it's as if mysterious forces don't want her to get out - or even as if she was lured here for a purpose in the first place. A thrilling chase through the endless labyrinth begins, and she has no one to rely on but an algorithm-driven sex doll who seems to be stuck in a time capsule of outdated gender norms. The good news is, these two have a hell of a chemistry. But can an algorithm based on outdated macho ideals evolve into something that can support a truly mutual relationship? And can Alice find the courage to embrace this new sense of joy? If they fall in love, will it be their escape—or will they remain trapped in the hotel forever?

Writer

György Baráthy is a Berlin-based writer from Hungary. He had the privilege of writing over 30 episodes for HBO Europe and participating in prestigious programs like the Sundance Episodic Lab, Serial Eyes, and Torino Series Lab.

Representative in Tallinn:

György Baráthy, writer



Contact

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MILD MIRACLES



Original title: Mirakulisti
Countries: Croatia
Languages: Croatian
Genres: comedy, dramedy
Writer: Rene Gallo
Producer: Danijel Pek
Project status: development
Type: ongoing series
Production budget per season (in EUR): 900 000
Number of episodes: 12
Episode duration (in minutes): 30
Looking for: broadcasters, distributors, streamers

Logline

Two ordinary people are hired to solve banal prayers. They have to do their best because their employer is God.

Short synopsis

Everyday people pray for many reasons and God hears all those prayers. But He doesn't have time for all of them. So, in order to attend some of those "meaningless" prayers, he has his "workers" all over the world to answer them. These workers are not omnipotent, they don't perform miracles, because they are ordinary people, like the rest of us. We follow two of them in Croatia, Mara the fanatical believer and Tomo the sceptic.

The prayers they attend to are everyday modern problems known to the Balkan people and beyond, such as; nepotism, corruption, envy, traditionalism, patriarchy... God doesn't tell them how to solve these problems, so our heroes usually find themselves in absurd situations with the local folk who live a fine balance between life's pleasures and trivial complaints. They always manage to get the job done, but usually not the way they intended to.

Writer

Rene Gallo is a screenwriter and director, based in Zagreb, Croatia. His first short film *Kiddo* premiered at the Mediterranean Film Festival Split in 2022 followed by Cottbus Film Festival. For most of his film career, he worked as an AD on advertising and film projects, with directors like Antoneta Alamat Kusijanović, Rok Biček and Gabriele Salvatores. He is Palunko Screenwriting School and Sarajevo Talent Campus alumnus where he participated with the short film script *Pramenka* in 2022.

Producer

Danijel Pek is a Croatian TV and film producer. He studied political science and film production in Zagreb and has professional experience as journalist and producer in television. In 2007 he founded the production company Antitalent (www.antitalent.hr) focused on film, TV and online content, today one of the leading production houses in Croatia. He is an EAVE and EAVE+ graduate, Producers on the Move, Berlinale and Sarajevo Talents alumnus. Films he produced were awarded with Palme d'Or and Camera d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival and a number of awards worldwide.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Danijel Pek, producer
Rene Gallo, writer



Contact

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TREMOR



Original title: Tremor
Countries: Romania
Languages: Romanian
Genres: supernatural, thriller
Writer: Tudor Ganea
Project status: development
Type: ongoing series
Production budget per season (in EUR): 3 600 000
Number of episodes: 6
Episode duration (in minutes): 50
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, streamers

Logline

A young architect in Bucharest uncovers hidden tunnels under the old city and ancient conspiracies linked to the disappearance of officials, forcing her to choose between exposing sinister forces or joining them.

Short synopsis

Bucharest. Little Paris, as it was known 100 years ago. Periodically shaken by devastating earthquakes, the city's built-up fund suffers major degradations. The historic buildings are in pre-collapse condition. Among the ruins of the interwar architecture, she is passionate about, Mara - a young architect freshly employed at the city hall, discovers

several buildings in excellent condition. When linking the mysterious disappearances of some officials to these rejuvenated buildings, the architect is revealed an occult conspiracy that has at its centre a macabre secret.

Writer

Tudor Ganea is an architect and novelist. He published six novels and designed hundreds of buildings. *Tremor* is his first screenplay.

Representative in Tallinn:

Tudor Ganea, writer



Contact

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MIDPOINT Series Launch 2024 Development Executives

Name: Frederik Ehrhardt

Country: Germany

Organisation: Freud & Ecstasy

Looking for: broadcasters, streamers, co-producers



Biography

Frederik is a producer and writer based in Cologne and New York. Most recently, he produced the screen adaptation of Markus Potter's Outer Critics Circle nominated Off-Broadway play *Stalking The Bogeyman* starring Tony winner Santino Fontana, as well as Pablo Pagán's neo-noir drama *Voyager*. Upcoming projects include collaborations with Independent Spirit Award winner Rashaad Ernesto Green and Oscar shortlisted director Andreas Kessler.

Contact

Frederik Ehrhardt

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Name: Eva Rálková

Country: Czechia

Organisation: Czech Television

Looking for: broadcasters, streamers, co-producers, distributors



Biography

As head of online content for the Czech Television's streaming platform, Eva commissions TV series for young audiences. Before joining the public service media, she worked as script editor in a leading Czech independent production company Bionaut, where she worked on drama series and animation and launched a new podcast label. She majored in Film Studies, focusing on development and production culture. She also coordinated a training programme for script consultants at the Czech Film Fund.

Contact

Eva Rálková

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Name: Petra Strašek

Country: Slovenia

Organisation: Pro Plus

Looking for: co-producers, post-production services, foreign broadcasters, public funds (national, regional, international)



Biography

Petra Strašek is Head of Fiction at the leading Slovenian TV network Pro Plus. She oversees all stages from pitch to final air of the show. A large part of her job is leading development processes for original fiction projects, both for linear and VOD audiences. She is actively encouraging the writer's room environment in all of the network's developments and is dedicated to nurturing the writers' skills.

Contact

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AIR FOR ART

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BEST PROJECT AWARD

The Best project will be handed The Eurimages Co-Production Development Award that includes a non-reimbursable subsidy of **€ 20,000** for feature-length fiction, animation, and documentary films, which must be used exclusively to cover the development expenses of the co-production project.

PRODUCERS NETWORK PRIZE FOR PROMISING YOUNG PRODUCERS

Two free passes to Producers' Network 2024
awarded by Cannes Marché du Film

The Marché du Film is the business counterpart of the Cannes Film Festival and one of the largest film markets in the world. Established in 1959, it is held annually in conjunction with the Festival de Cannes. The Producers' Network hosts 550 producers from around the world in a series of meetings and events. Created to stimulate international co-production and project financing, this event is specially designed for producers. Events include Breakfast Meetings, gathering some 200 industry professionals and producers for roundtable discussions.

In order to be eligible for the Producers Network award, the producer has to have produced one feature film that has been theatrically released within the past three years. The award cannot be given to the producer who has won the same award with the same project from another international film market.

Jury

Celine Dornier, Head of Film Investments
and International Co-Productions, Logical Pictures
Paul de Beco, Acquisitions Executive, Playtime
Eleni Chandrinou, Film and Audiovisual Consultant, Eurimages



AMY – GREAT ADVENTURES



Original title: AMY – Große Abenteuer auf kleinen Pfoten!

Country: Germany

Genre: children's film, family film

Project type: documentary

Written by: Heike Sperling

Directed by: Yann Sochaczewski

Produced by: Yann Sochaczewski

Production company: Altayfilm GmbH

Languages: German, English

Estimated budget in EUR: 1 500 000

Financing in place in EUR: 131 000

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, foreign broadcasters, private funds / banks, sales agent, streamers

Logline

The epic coming-of-age story of a Rocky Mountain Squirrel who took on the Urban Jungle in a heartwarming Nature Adventure.

Synopsis

Tiny and fragile, Amy appears almost insignificant amidst the vast wilderness of the Rocky Mountains. Yet, this Red Squirrel carves out her own space in this big world. Her tale takes a dramatic turn when she accidentally leaves her forest home and finds herself in a city, facing the challenge of beginning anew in an unfamiliar environment. In a time full of chaos and bad news, here comes Amy. This adorable and funny squirrel lady will show you that it's worth it to face all the obstacles life throws at you. Through her charm, Amy will immerse you into her world full of adventures and challenges. She must learn, fail, solve, adapt, and overcome. This tiny hero is quick on her feet and sharp in her head, full of courage and bravery, as it is the way of a squirrel heroine! With its enchanting blend of humour, adventure, and educational value, this feature-length coming-of-age story is more than just a nature documentary. It's a heartfelt story that resonates with audiences of all ages.

Director's note

Amy is a hybrid of fictional and non-fictional storytelling, making the animal protagonist emotionally tangible without humanising her. This dramatised portrayal allows viewers, especially younger ones, to immerse themselves in the struggles of everyday life that small animals face in a big world. This movie aims to encourage young viewers to face their challenges and feel seen and understood. Adults will also connect with the film, gaining insight into the existential nature of an animal's life. Watching our tiny and unlikely heroine fight her battles in front of the impressive backdrop of the Rocky Mountains on the big screen will emotionally immerse viewers, revealing that there is more to life on earth than our own human existence. I believe viewers will be spellbound by our tiny heroine's battles, making our project a hit with families.

ON LITTLE PAWS!

Co-Production Market 2024
FOCUS COUNTRY GERMANY

Producer-director

Yann Sochaczewski has been working in the nature film business for almost 20 years. After some years as a freelance wildlife cameraman, he founded the production company Altayfilm GMBH in 2011 and has since been developing his visions as a nature filmmaker, producer, author and cinematographer. Most of his films have won awards at international film festivals.

Company profile

Dive into the heart of nature with **Altayfilm**, the premier natural history film production company that brings the wonders of the wild into your home. At Altayfilm, we're not just filmmakers, we're storytellers, conservationists, and explorers dedicated to capturing untold stories of our wild planet.

Representatives in Tallinn

Yann Sochaczewski, producer-director

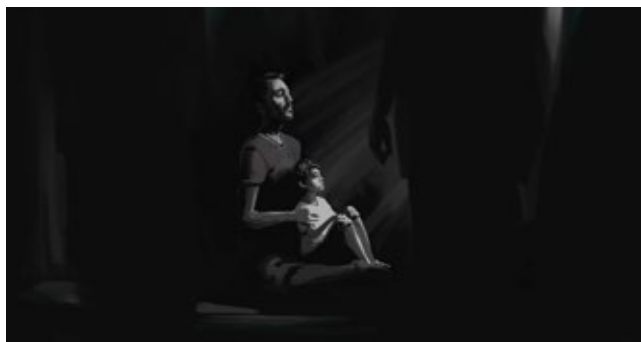
Miriam Kunde, production manager



Contact

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www.altay.film

CONTAINER



Original title: Konteiner
Country: Estonia, Norway
Genre: thriller
Project type: feature film
Written by: Elen Lotman
Directed by: Arun Tamm
Produced by: Madis Tüür
Production company: Münchhausen Films
Languages: English, Arabic
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 370 000
Financing in place in EUR: 170 000
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent

Logline

No parent puts a child in a container, unless it feels safer than home.

Synopsis

After escaping from war a father with his five-year-old son finds himself inside a trailer truck full of refugees, the final stretch towards freedom turns into a contained fight for space, water, oxygen, survival.

Director's note

A truck container full of refugees who have given all they have and now are headed to the unknown. The story follows the survival race between those people, strangers to each other, all thrown into one container and hoping to get somewhere but having no control over where the truck is headed. There are highly educated people and laymen among them. People who wouldn't meet each other in normal circumstances. There are also children in the truck. All of them have lost someone dear to them and have seen the horrors of war. Yesterday they were somebody. Now they have no control over their fate, just a hopeful wait in the dark container that could get you somewhere... or not. Everyone else out there is an enemy, a threat to the hoped-for freedom, a dark mass of "the others". As are the people in the container to "the others".

Director

Arun Tamm is a director known for mixing genres. Finding the right balance between the seriousness and the absurdity of everyday life is an ongoing process. With his bold enthusiasm to try new things they often push the limits of both ethics and morals, but always stay within the limits of good taste.

Producer

Madis Tüür is a film producer and partner at Münchhausen - focusing on international service productions. He is the co-producer of *Truth and Justice* (2019 by Tanel Toom) which made a domestic all-time box-office record and was shortlisted for the 92nd Academy Award in the Best International Film category. He is an Estonian service producer for the TV series *The Agency* (2024).

Company profile

Münchhausen - one of the Baltic region's pioneers in establishing international film service production, a company with 10+ years of business presence and experience in the industry.

Representatives in Tallinn

Arun Tamm, director

Madis Tüür, producer



Contact

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munchhausen.film

ENGLISH LESSON



Original title: Урок англійської
Country: Ukraine, Estonia, Sweden, Czech Republic
Genre: traditional animation, war film
Project type: hybrid, animation
Written by: Olga Voitenko
Directed by: Ivan Tymchenko
Produced by: Svitlana Soloviova
Production company: SvitlorFilm
Languages: English, Ukrainian
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 800 000
Financing in place in EUR: 25 000
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters

Logline

The film *English Lesson* consists of 6-7 stories told by Ukrainian children during an online lesson, all united by the war theme. The animated film, capturing the feelings and experiences of children with various backgrounds, will tell broad audiences what it's like to be a child during a war.

Synopsis

The online English lesson is ongoing. There are 7 windows in Zoom, including a teacher and 6 children of different genders and ages. Everyone has their cameras on, allowing the teacher to see the children's faces and the background in their rooms. The teacher starts the lesson. She announces in English the topic of the current lesson: "My city/village." The topic confuses pupils since they don't know if they should describe the places where they were born and spent their childhood or the ones where they are living right now. These places differ almost for everybody as the children in the online lesson are Ukrainians suffering from the Russian full-scale war in their country, resulting in losing homes and adapting to a new life elsewhere. Together with the teacher, pupils decide to describe their hometowns, which makes them go through different emotions.

Director's note

English Lesson consists of about 6 stories told from the perspective of children and united by the theme of war. At the centre of each story, the main characters will be children of different ages who have experienced occupation, lost loved ones and friends, fled abroad, adapted to a new life - where illegally taken to Russia, and returned home. These will be stories of despair and hope, horrors and love, losses and dreams. For the animation, we have chosen the dramedy genre, which will allow us to address complex, emotionally charged themes, filtering them through humour, thus maintaining a balance between the sad and joyful aspects of our story. The plot of the animation will revolve around an online English lesson, during which a child with their own story and experience of war will be seated behind each window.

The online format will enable the involvement of protagonists of different ages from different parts of Ukraine and abroad. Each student, while completing the teacher's assignment, will unconsciously drift away from the topic and delve into their own memories.

Director

Ivan Tymchenko was born in Kyiv, Ukraine. He got a bachelor's degree as a journalist. Since 2005 he has worked in the film industry, first as DOP. In 2019 he released his first feature fiction *Beshoot*, in 2023 he finished his 2nd feature fiction *Oxygen Station*, which had its world premiere in the main competition section of Tallinn Black Night IFF.

Producer

Svitlana Solovyova is a Ukrainian film producer and the founder and general producer of the studio Svitlofor Film, established in 2004. She holds a bachelor's degree in Cultural Studies from the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy and a master's degree in marketing from the Kyiv National Economic University. In 2008, Svitlana joined the non-profit non-governmental organisation Ukrainian Film Office as a producer. She continues to volunteer there, providing consultations on film production in Ukraine. In 2021, Svitlana participated in ACE Training Days Poland 2021. In 2022, she was a participant in WEMW 2022 VOD for Producers. In 2024, she is developing the TV series *The Guide* as part of the Midpoint Series Launch programme.

Company profile

Svitlofor Film was founded in 2004 and is based in Kyiv, Ukraine. Earlier the company specialised in production of commercial content and service production. The company had successful cooperation with big international partners like BBC, MTV Networks Europe, MTV EXIT and others. Now the company is focused on producing socially relevant films. The portfolio includes several short fiction films and two feature fiction films. Several features are at different stages of development.

Representatives in Tallinn

Ivan Tymchenko, director

Svitlana Solovyova, producer



Contact

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www.svitlofor.com

FLOOD



Original title: Potvynis

Country: Lithuania

Genre: drama

Project type: feature film

Written by: Jorūnė Greičiūtė, Matas Vildžius

Directed by: Jorūnė Greičiūtė

Produced by: Rūta Petronytė, Justinas Pocius

Production company: Smart Casual

Languages: Lithuanian, English

Estimated budget in EUR: 1 083 000

Financing in place in EUR: 14 000

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers

Logline

It's a scorching summer on a secluded island. In the midst of their vacation, the couple hears a rumour about an impending flood. Fear and anxiety, combined with local mystic rituals, make it hard to maintain a harmonious relationship.

Synopsis

Summer on a secluded island. While renovating their newly bought summerhouse, a couple hears a rumour about an upcoming flood. There is no scientific evidence for these predictions, but the locals take the matter very seriously. Backed by local magical rituals forecasting the flood, the behaviour of the villagers changes. The mood becomes sour, and people start to flee their houses, leaving everything behind. Since the villagers do not speak any common language, it is hard to figure out what is truly going on. Seeing all that fear and unease begin to take over the woman's heart. She tries to convince her partner to leave their new home, but the man does not believe in any threat. Trust between the couple starts to crumble, and maintaining a harmonious relationship becomes increasingly challenging.

Director's note

The main theme of this story is fear—fear of an upcoming disaster that cannot be proven, and fear of commitment. In both cases, it is a fear of change and losing control, rooted in mistrust of oneself and others. Two years ago, I had a discussion with my family about whether to quit our jobs and leave home because of an upcoming war. There were different opinions on what was going to happen, leading to a serious conflict. Although the political atmosphere has since thickened, we forgot about the argument. However, the insecurity from our inability to share a similar perspective remained. I became curious about how one's interpretation of their surroundings can affect the connection and trust between a couple and the reasons for differences in beliefs. With this project, I aim to explore the dynamics of love and trust in the face of a threat.

Director-writer

Jorūnė Greičiūtė was born in 1991 in Vilnius, Lithuania. In 2013 finished philosophy studies at Vilnius University (BA). 2009 - 2014 worked as a volunteer and volunteer instructor in Youth Line nonprofit organisation providing free emotional support by phone and internet. Since 2016 Jorūnė has been working in the film industry on various international and Lithuanian projects as a script supervisor. 2020 Jorūnė finished her MA studies in Film Directing at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre. 2020 - 2022 was teaching filmmaking to high-schoolers in Skalvia Film Academy and Youngblood film school. In 2020, her short film *Viskas gerai (It's Alright)* won the Best Lithuanian Film Award at European Film Forum Scanorama, New Baltic Cinema Programme, also in 2021 the Best Student Film award in National Film Awards Silver Crane.

Producer

Rūta Petronytė holds a bachelor's degree in creative Industries and a master's degree in political science, specialising in Politics and Media. She has been working in the film industry since 2012, accumulating experience in various national and international projects. Her first produced film, *Sasha Was Here* (dir. Ernestas Jankauskas), co-produced with Gabija Siurbute, premiered at the 2018 Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. Rūta is a member of the EWA Network, actively engaged in feminism and women's rights issues. She is also a member of EFA and the Independent Lithuanian Producers Association. Rūta participated in the Locarno Match Me '22, EPI Audiovisual Woman 2023, and ACE Training Days 2023 programmes. In 2021, she co-founded the studio Smart Casual with Justinas Pocius.

Producer

Justinas Pocius graduated from the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre – Film Producing in 2013. He has been working in the industry for the last 15 years in different positions. Now Justinas works as a Producer and Line Producer. He has worked on various local and international productions. Participated in – Nisi Masa European Short

Pitch, EP2C – Post Production Challenge '15 EPI - Sustainable Business Strategies: Mastering Transformation and Change, Production Value'23 and - Locarno Match Me '24.

Company profile

Smart Casual, founded by producers Rūta Petronytė and Justinas Pocius, is a Lithuanian film production company that values both precision and improvisation. The studio promotes openness, sustainability, and equality both on and off the screen. Smart Casual actively engages with the international film community, collaborating with various directors to produce globally appealing short and feature-length fiction and documentary films. They embrace diverse ideas and genres, prioritising substance and integrity while serving as trusted partners for creators.

Representatives in Tallinn

Jorūnė Greičiūtė, director-writer

Rūta Petronytė, producer

Justinas Pocius, producer



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LITTLE MR SANDMAN



Original title: Nukkumatti
Country: Finland, Estonia, Sweden
Genre: family film, adventure, fantasy
Project type: feature film
Written by: Kati Kaartinen & Heikki Kujanpää
Directed by: Heikki Kujanpää
Produced by: Klaus Heydemann
Production company: Inland Film Company Oy
Languages: Finnish
Estimated budget in EUR: 2 800 000
Financing in place in EUR: 61 000
Looking for: co-producers, distributors, gap-financing, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international)

Logline

When eight-year-old Anni's beloved Grandmother dies, she struggles to cope with the loss. Unable to sleep without her Grandma's bedtime stories, Anni invites the Sandman, a character from her tales. A Film about the healing power of imagination.

Synopsis

After the death of their beloved grandmother, Anni, an imaginative little girl, struggles to sleep without her Grandma's enchanting bedtime stories. The mythical Sandman visits Anni one night but his sleeping sand is depleted. They embark on imaginary adventures aboard The Sandman's magical airship to find more sand, travelling to India and the clouds above Svalbard. The father worries about her daughter's tales and drawings. Anni insists she must go to a cave in Tasmania to find sand for The Sandman. Anni also begins to understand its vital importance to The Sandman. Anni's brother Onni realises that a global pandemic of children's insomnia is widespread. The Sandman's powers start to fade without sand. Onni urges the Sandman to help Anni. The Tasmanian Beast imprisons them in his cave, but Anni conquers her fears. They escape with the sand. The Sandman regains his strength. Anni accepts her Grandma's death but finds comfort in dreaming of her. Children worldwide finally sleep again.

Director's note

Little Mr Sandman has a solid production set up in the co-production between delegate producer Inland Film Co of Helsinki, Münchhausen Films of Tallinn and Iris Film of Luleå, Sweden. The 2,8M EUR movie will shoot in the late spring / summer of 2026 and will be completed for the festival circuit and for commercial premiering in March 2027. The key to this film is best described in these words by writer Kati Kaartinen: "Sandman, aimed at the whole family, boldly tackles significant and "real" themes through the means of a live-action film. In the world of animation, it's often easier to deal with loss, grief, and death because the genre "protects" the viewer through detachment. In Sandman, alongside the viewer, freedom granted by imagination

and compassion accompanies themes of grief and death. Sandman's story doesn't evade or dilute any emotions. It combines everyday life and fantasy in a surprising way, while particularly respecting the perspective of a child..."

Director

Heikki Kujanpää has worked as a director, a writer and an actor in cinema, theatre, opera and television. He has written film scripts and plays for radio and stage. He has directed short, documentary and feature films. He's been awarded international prizes for his films *A Small Pilgrimage* and *The Icebreaker*. Kujanpää is one of the founders of Q-theatre in Helsinki. He has also worked as a director general in Kuopio City Theatre.

Producer

Klaus Heydemann is the producer of the following projects: 2016-2024 *Laugh or Die* (dir. Heikki Kujanpää), *Changes and Uphill* (dir. Sami Laitinen), *En Autobiografi and Rabobesto - or how I saved the monster* (dir. Mari Mantela), and documentaries like *Save and Quit?* (dir. Esa Illi). Co-productions like *Chronicles of Melanie* (dir. Viestur Kairiss), *The Pit* (dir. Dace Puce), and *The Swedish Torpedo* (dir. Frida Kempff). Currently, in 2024, Inland FC is preparing three feature films for production, including *Little Mr Sandman*.

Company profile

Inland Film Company Oy is a Finnish film production company founded in 2009. The company operates from Katajanokka, Helsinki. Klaus Heydemann owns the company and serves as its executive producer. Inland FC has established its position as a member of the Finnish film industry and film community.

Representatives in Tallinn

Heikki Kujanpää, director-writer

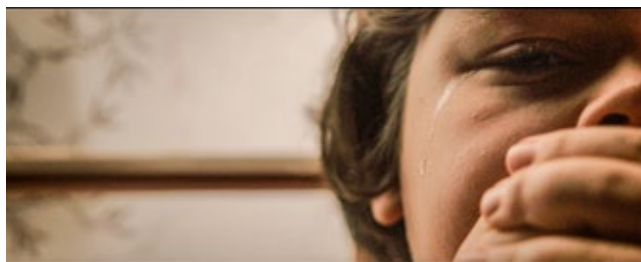
Klaus Heydemann, producer



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MY HAPPY FAMILY



Original title: Benim Mutlu Ailem
Country: Turkey, France
Genre: drama, youth film, psychological drama
Project type: feature film
Written by: Alkim Özmen
Directed by: Alkim Özmen
Produced by: Olena Yershova
Production company: Meraklı Hayalperver, TatoFilm
Languages: Turkish
Estimated budget in EUR: 701 919
Financing in place in EUR: 194 500
Looking for: co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, post-production services, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers, technical participation

Logline

An 11-year-old boy secretly sets out to make a movie by capturing rare moments of joy in his abusive family as part of a school project to impress the girl he loves.

Synopsis

Azat (11) wants to film his dysfunctional family for a school project to impress his crush. Ignoring his mother Beren's protests, he forges her signature to proceed. After his parents' divorce, Azat's grandfather, Bahadır, becomes his only male role model and collaborator on the project. But Bahadır is soon hospitalised. Azat enlists his estranged aunt Melike to continue filming. Beren discovers Azat's deception and physically assaults him. Azat captures this on film and, accepting his loneliness, submits the footage as his final school project.

Director's note

My Happy Family uses a dual visual style to distinguish between the contrasting worlds of family and school. The family scenes, set in the grandfather's house and the hospital, use low-key lighting to create a claustrophobic atmosphere, emphasising the characters' feelings of confinement. In contrast, the school scenes feature bright, overexposed and desaturated colours with natural lighting, symbolising the freedom of the protagonist, Azat. Close-ups and crowded frame compositions reinforce the family's oppressive environment, while Steadicam shots at school follow Azat's journey toward liberation. Costume and set design reflect the characters' emotions and social status, using matte colours and symbolic tones: blue for Azat's dreams, brown and grey for Bahadır's resignation, purple for Melike's sadness, and red for Beren's anger. Finally, the editing varies to match Azat's emotional states, using long shots for quiet moments and quick cuts for tension.

Director-writer

Alkim Özmen's short films have been screened and awarded in many national and international festivals. In addition to directing, he has worked as an assistant director on fifteen feature films, including films of Nuri Bilge Ceylan and Yeşim Ustaoğlu. He is an alumnus of Berlinale Talents and has participated in screenwriting workshops such as Meditalents and Sources2. *My Happy Family* will be his feature debut.

Producer

Olena Yershova graduated as a film director in Kyiv. Her short film as director and writer *Demoniada* premiered in the competition at Locarno IFF. In 2011 she created the company TatoFilm, which operated in Ukraine and Turkey. She has produced 13 feature films, which have received more than 250 awards. Olena served as the head of Antalya Film Forum (2019 - 2020), *Guria* (Cannes Atelier 2022) is in production and *Escape from Harem*, a drama series (Turkey/France), was awarded at Netflix/EPC competition in development.

Company profile

TatoFilm (TR/UA) was founded in 2011 by Olena Yershova as a boutique production company for emotionally deep stories. TatoFilm has already produced ten full-length features and four feature documentaries that have garnered a total of more than 250 awards.

Representatives in Tallinn

Alkim Özmen, director-writer

Olena Yershova, producer (online)



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NORDEN



Original title: Norden
Country: Belgium, Norway
Genre: psychological drama, family film, thriller
Project type: feature film
Written by: Eva Cools
Directed by: Eva Cools
Produced by: Maarten D'Hollander
Production company: Krater Films
Languages: Dutch, Norwegian
Estimated budget in EUR: 2 500 000
Financing in place in EUR: 400 000
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers

Logline

In a secluded Norwegian farmhouse cut off from civilization, Vos (15) is lovingly raised by his alternative mother Grace together with his 4 siblings. When his sister becomes very ill, his mother seeks healing in rituals and natural remedies. Vos starts to question his upbringing and hesitates between loyalty for his mother and his own desires.

Synopsis

The 15-year-old VOS grows up with his spiritual mother GRACE (45) and his four siblings: STORM (17), LIV (11), ODIN (7) and KAYA (5) in a country house in Norway, cut off from the outside world and modern technology. The Flemish family moved to Norway to lead a self-sustainable life. They enjoy living in the middle of the raw nature, next to a crystal-clear lake where they fish trout and a wild forest where the children go mushroom picking. When the mother pays a two-day visit to the local, remote village, Liv falls seriously ill, vomiting severely. Vos starts worrying about their food. Are they being poisoned by the mushrooms? Alarmed by the news that there has been lead poisoning in the local village and that their groundwater might be polluted, Grace forbids the children to go fishing in their lake or use the groundwater, because Liv is probably being poisoned by the lead. Only the audacious Vos doesn't listen, questioning his mother's theories and secretly breaking the rules. While exploring, he meets Astrid (18), a Norwegian girl camping in the woods, sparking his curiosity about the outside world. As Liv's condition worsens, Grace clings to her natural remedies and spiritual beliefs, prompting Vos to question their safety. Torn between loyalty to his mother and his new desires sparked by Astrid and the outside world, Vos faces a pivotal decision.

Director's note

The Ruinerwold case made headlines. On October 14, 2019, police discovered a father and his 5 children in a farmhouse in The Netherlands, prompted by the plea for help from Israel, the 6th child. The children, never registered, had lived in isolation for nine years. This, and other stories, particularly poignant for me as a new mother, in-

spired me to make a film about an adolescent raised in isolation with siblings due to their mother's spiritual choice to live apart from society. The film explores the thin line between alternative upbringing, isolation, and neglect, highlighting the lasting impacts of isolation on development and the potential for rebellion against extreme worldviews. I delve into children's conflicting loyalties and the challenges of breaking away from a singular ideology, which can feel like betrayal. This tension between personal growth and family ties forms the heart of my film. I hope I'll be able to come and pitch my project to an international industry audience.

Director-writer

Eva Cools is a Belgian-Spanish screenwriter and director who began her career in 2005 with her first commercial for Sunparks, back when animals spoke dialogues without the help of AI. Eva is committed to authenticity in her work, driven by the motto: No story without backstory. She is dedicated to capturing the right emotions and fragility in her stories, fostering empathy with her audience. When it comes to directing, Eva believes that casting is half the battle. After writing and directing four short films that toured international film festivals, Eva made her feature film debut with *Cleo* in 2019. The film premiered at Film Fest Ghent in the Explore Zone and had its international premiere at the Rome Film Festival, where it received the award for the best first feature film. *Cleo* was selected for 17 international film festivals, winning a total of six awards. In 2020, she directed the feminist dramedy series *Bathroom Stories* for VRT MAX

Producer

Starting with a documentary background **Maarten D'Hollander** turned to line producing international fiction feature productions. He founded Krater Films in 2020, and as a producer, he collaborates on various films and is actively developing independent international fiction and documentary projects.

Company profile

Krater Films is a Belgium based company, specialising in fiction films and documentaries aiming for international acclaim. Founded in 2020, Maarten has been an indie producer since 2015, while Tim boasts over a decade at Lumière as head of production. Together they aim to craft compelling content.

Representatives in Tallinn

Eva Cools, director-writer

Maarten D'Hollander, producer



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PUSH THE BUTTON



Original title: Push The Button
Country: Sweden, Norway, Denmark
Genre: dark comedy, drama, road movie
Project type: feature film
Written by: Anton Källrot
Directed by: Anton Källrot
Produced by: Ylva Olaison, Madeleine Ekman, Jonathan Silén
Production company: ÖGAT Film
Languages: Swedish, English
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 500 000
Financing in place in EUR: 1 100 000
Looking for: broadcasters, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, private funds / banks, sales agent, streamers, post-production, co-production, tax incentives

Logline

A dark comedy about shutting down the internet.

Synopsis

Johanna's journalistic career is going nowhere, as she struggles with a lack of focus and screen addiction. By chance, she comes across a tech-resistant movement and decides to write an article on its mysterious leader Puck's crusade against the internet. She joins a burnt-out influencer, a self-professed shaman and two blasé advertisers on a wild road trip, changing the course of her life and, perhaps, the future of humanity.

Director's note

Push the Button was born as a way to confront my own anxiety about the future, a future where an intelligence greater than ours is being bred by our most brilliant minds and is raised on information supplied by all of humanity. It revolves around the question "If there was a button that could shut this tech algorithm down, would you push it?". The film is a way to examine the idea of whether humanity controls its own destiny or if we are predestined, surfing the same wave of progression that evolution put us on millions of years ago. *Push the Button* is a satire about our ambivalence towards technological advancements, a comedic, poetic *Apocalypse Now* for the Burning Man generation.

Director-writer

Anton Källrot was born in Gothenburg in 1980. Since graduating from the Film School in Gothenburg in 2010, he has directed theatre and film, as well as a large number of advertising productions. In 2011, he co-founded the production company ÖGAT Film with Ylva Olaison and Jonathan Silén. Anton wrote and directed *Det Moderna Projektet* (*The Modern Project*), which had its world premiere at the Moscow Film Festival and was nominated for a Guldbagge Award for Best Actor in 2017. In 2021, he directed August Strindberg's *Dödsdansen*

(*The Dance of Death*) in a unique performance specially adapted for the pandemic. The production was hailed as the theatre event of the year by Mikaela Blomqvist in GP (Göteborgs-Posten) in 2021. Anton has also created several award-winning commercials, including ones for organisations like Stadsmissionen.

Producer-cast

Ylva Olaison is a producer and actress trained at the University of Performing Arts in Gothenburg. She holds a master's degree in film processes from the Film School in Gothenburg. Since 2011, she has been leading ÖGAT Film together with Anton Källrot and Jonathan Silén.

Producer

Producer **Madeleine Ekman** has 30 years of experience in the Swedish film industry. She co-produced Magnus Von Horns *The Girl With the Needle* that was competing at the main competition in Cannes this year. Most recently she worked as a producer for Nordisk Film Production in Sweden, after having been a film commissioner at the Swedish Film Institute, having the responsibility for international co-productions. Madeleine ran Zentropa Sweden as CEO for nearly ten years, co-producing features like *Jagten*, *A Royal Affair*, *Hämnden* and Lars von Trier's films *Antichrist*, *Melancholia* and *The House that Jack Built*. She also produced Magnus von Horns film *Efterskalv* and was rewarded a Guldbagge for best feature film. She is a mentor and Member of EWA, teaches at Avek in Finland, is an ACE producer and a EFA member.

Producer-AI-expert

Jonathan Silén is a trained actor from the University of Performing Arts and holds a master's degree in film processes from the Film School in Gothenburg. Jonathan was nominated for a Guldbagge Award in 2017 for Best Male Lead for his performance in *Det Moderna Projektet* (*The Modern Project*). He is currently studying AI at Hyper

Island and lectures on AI and filmmaking. He is one of the founders of ÖGAT, and his role in the project involves production development. Jonathan plays the part of Yannick. Jonathan contributes through his profound interest and knowledge of the themes and is a valuable component in the development of *Push the Button*.

Company profile

ÖGAT was founded in 2011 by Ylva Olaison, Anton Källrot, and Jonathan Silén. During development, we work closely with actors to test and refine the material, and during filming, we bring methods from the field of theatre, where we also operate.

Representatives in Tallinn

Anton Källrot, director-writer

Ylva Olaison, producer-cast, ÖGAT Film

Jonathan Silén, producer-AI expert, ÖGAT Film



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RUKI'S FIRST SUMMER



Original title: Rukis Erster Sommer
Country: Germany, Tunisia
Genre: family film, children's film, road movie
Project type: feature film
Written by: Zazou Röver
Directed by: Frédérique Veith
Produced by: Philipp Goeser
Production company: Schiwago Film
Languages: German, Arabic
Estimated budget in EUR: 2 115 000
Financing in place in EUR: 840 000
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers

Logline

A 10-year-old girl sets out on the greatest adventure of her lifetime: A summer holiday that with the help of her father and an old soup chicken leads her into the Tunisian desert where she finds her roots and learns to navigate another culture.

Synopsis

Finally, summer holidays! For 10-year-old Sarah, that means that she gets to visit her estranged Tunisian father Khaled on the holiday island of Djerba. At first, Sarah is in heaven: fishing, swimming, picnicking on the beach, and riding mopeds with her dad. But soon reality strikes and Khaled has to go back to work. On a construction site, Sarah causes an accident and from here on out she feels foreign and misses her mother. At the local market, Sarah is completely overwhelmed and saves a pitiful chicken from becoming their dinner. She names it Ruki and never lets her out of her sight. Having underestimated taking care of a little girl all by himself, Khaled decides to take her to his family living in an oasis in the desert. A great adventure through the beautiful country begins where Sarah and Ruki have to overcome many challenges. With the help of her new friend, she finds a second home, reunites her family and her dream of the perfect summer holidays finally becomes a reality.

Director's note

Having grown up between two cultures myself, I deeply relate to Sarah. My French mother tongue further facilitated my connection to Tunisia. *Ruki's First Summer* has the potential to become a moving family film that humorously addresses societal changes. The unfiltered perspective of a child growing up between two worlds is where its charm lies. Sarah's desire to belong enables her to overcome boundaries and build bridges, turning misunderstanding into mutual understanding. The film starts in a metropolis and journeys into the desert, reflecting Sarah's inner world through vivid colours and clear sounds. Her bond with a chicken balances her. I aim for a child-appropriate yet realistic acting style. Sarah's lively interactions with her parents, friends, and

the chicken will make us laugh and cry, the full range of emotions on her journey to self-discovery. In a time of division, the ability of children like Sarah to find connection in differences gives me hope and inspiration.

Director

Frédérique Veith is a German-French director, journalist, and producer. Following her internship at Saarländischer Rundfunk, she worked for five years as an editor and author in culture, family programming, entertainment, and television drama. She then moved to Berlin and completed the Producer Program 2003/2004 at the dffb. Alongside her producer work, she co-directed her debut film *Fussballgöttinnen* (funded by Medienboard Berlin Brandenburg, Saarland Medien, Kulturelle Filmförderung Schleswig-Holstein, and Filmförderung NRW), which premiered in cinemas through Edition Satzgeber in 2006. Today, she primarily works as an author and director for public television in Germany and abroad. Her short film *Die Sommersprosse* (funded by Medienboard Berlin Brandenburg and Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein) screened at numerous international film festivals and had multiple cinema releases as part of Spatzenkino in Berlin and Brandenburg.

Producer

Philipp Goeser is a producer from Germany and has been with Schiwago Film for 6 years. Originally, he studied philosophy and film studies but knew early on that he wanted to make films and not just talk about them. In the past years he has been developing and producing a diverse slate of TV films, series and cinema productions. *Ruki's First Summer* is his first film for a young audience.

Company profile

Founded in Berlin in 2000, **Schiwago Film's** portfolio includes a wide range of feature films, many of which have won several awards. Its greatest success to date came in 2012 with the feature film *A Cof-*

fee in Berlin (also titled *Oh Boy*), which won many prestigious awards, such as six LOLAS – German Film Awards. Other outstanding Schiwago productions such as *Lara* (2019), *Styx* (2018), *Muxmäuschenstill* (2004), *Toubab* (2021) and *Inside* (2023) also complement the film production's portfolio as internationally acclaimed and award-winning films. With TV film series such as *Ostfrieslandkrimis*, *Fluss Des Lebens* and *Tatort*, Schiwago also has established itself in the German media landscape as an esteemed production company.

Representatives in Tallinn

Frédérique Veith, director

Philipp Goeser, producer



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SAVE OUR SOULS



Original title: Save Our Souls

Country: Germany

Genre: drama, thriller

Project type: feature film

Written by: Jonas Steinacker, Moritz Licht

Directed by: Jonas Steinacker

Produced by: Simon Pilarski

Production company: Lichtschloss Filmproduktion

Languages: English

Estimated budget in EUR: 1 281 000

Financing in place in EUR: 330 000

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, sales agent

Logline

Save Our Souls tells the story of three disillusioned young adults planning a live-streamed suicide off a cargo ship as a protest during the 2026 World Climate Summit. As they sail into the unknown, their will to die clashes with an unexpected desire to survive.

Synopsis

In *Save Our Souls*, three young activists, Leo, Jade, and Raúl, grapple with deep disillusionment in a world indifferent to the climate crisis. Determined to make a final statement, they plan to livestream their collective suicide from a cargo ship as the 2026 World Climate Summit begins. As their journey unfolds at sea, what begins as a radical act of protest transforms into an emotional confrontation with their own will to live. Directed by Jonas Steinacker and mentored by Oscar-winner Michael Haneke, *Save Our Souls* is a visually striking psychological drama exploring the intersection of personal despair and global environmental urgency. The film features Idan Weiss, the lead actor in Agnieszka Holland's upcoming *Franz*, where he portrays Franz Kafka.

Director's note

What do you do when attending protests no longer feels like enough? How does a young person feel when they have everything ahead of them but can see no future? And what keeps us holding on to life when everything seems hopeless? Is it love? Fear? Or life itself? *Save Our Souls* tells the story of three young people who no longer see a way out. Leo, Jade, and Raúl are united by the sense that something is fundamentally wrong with the world. They represent many young people today who are increasingly struggling with feelings of disorientation, fear of the future, and depression. This emotional landscape is something I know well as part of this generation.

By November 2026, the Paris Climate Agreement and the 1.5-degree target it set will have been in effect for 10 years. Yet, we already know that we will miss this target. I want to use this sad anniversary as a catalyst to spark more meaningful debate around climate change. In

a society suffering from division and hardening stances, my goal is to create a film that primarily moves people and fosters greater empathy. *Save Our Souls* is a political film - but without dogma or finger-pointing.

Director-writer

Jonas Steinacker, born in 1998 in Bergisch-Gladbach, Germany, completed practical training in multimedia at Bavaria Film Studios in Munich. He was selected by Michael Haneke to study directing and screenwriting at the renowned Vienna Film Academy, where he was one of only three students chosen for this opportunity. His work explores themes of youth and social issues, with notable films including *Wir Gegen Uns* and the award-winning *Nelly's Story*. Currently, he works as a freelance director and writer in Germany and Austria, developing projects that reflect his commitment to impactful storytelling.

Representatives in Tallinn

Jonas Steinacker, director-writer

Simon Pilarski, producer



Producer

Simon Pilarski founded Lichtschloss Filmproduktion in 2016. His notable works include *Nächstenliebe*, which won the Hessian Young Talent Film Award, and *4 Days to Eternity*, showcased at the Paris International Film Festival in 2022. He also co-produced *Shortcut*, a project that achieved significant success in the USA. Currently, Simon is collaborating with XYZ Films and Global Screen on *The Trek*. Lichtschloss Filmproduktion is dedicated to developing original, marketable films that seamlessly blend popular genres with unique concepts, drawing inspiration from the innovative approach of A24 and aiming for broad international appeal.

Company profile

Lichtschloss Filmproduktion creates original, marketable elevated-genre films for global cinema and VoD. Inspired by A24, they blend popular genres with unique ideas, mentored by Augenschein Filmproduktion.

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THE LAST MEAL



Original title: Pēdējais mielasts
Country: Latvia, Slovenia
Genre: dramedy
Project type: feature film
Written by: Elza Gauja, Ilona Balode-Ūdre
Directed by: Elza Gauja
Produced by: Uldis Cekulis, Līva Vernere
Production company: VFS films, Stara Gara
Languages: Latvian, English
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 014 210
Financing in place in EUR: 21 742
Looking for: co-producers, public funds (national, regional, international)

Logline

Behind the stereotypical facade of hopeless alcoholics, there are fragile human beings.

Synopsis

Zigis and Ana, two homeless people who meet by chance, promise to help each other end this meaningless life, but life turns out to be more cunning: it teaches them to care not only for each other but also for Zigis's seven-year-old daughter.

Director's note

The idea for this film is inspired by a true story from Latvia's State Police press statement where a paradoxical plot led to the realisation of a unique film opportunity. Growing up in a family with a history of suicide, I was prompted to delve into the motivations behind such actions. Through personal experiences and interactions with homeless individuals, a theme of loneliness and distrust emerges. The film aims to shed light on the experiences of the homeless, highlighting their humanity and struggles. With nearly a million homeless people in Europe, the storytelling challenge lies in balancing the seriousness of the topic with humour. The film's tone will be vibrant, dynamic, and humorous, portraying a life-affirming narrative of two individuals grappling with the desire for intimacy despite their urge to end their lives. Shot on real locations with a hand-held camera, the film seeks to humanise the homeless and address the complexities of trust and change in their lives.

Director-writer

Elza Gauja has written, directed and produced several short films, both documentaries and fiction, including documentary *Meanwhile in Lucavsala* and a debut narrative film *Keep Smiling, Mom!*. Elza has participated in the MFI Script 2 Film workshop, Ex Oriente Film training programme and Midpoint Series Launch 2022. Meanwhile, Elza is doing

her film directing master studies at the Latvian Academy of Culture. Previously she has also studied film and theatrical acting.

Producers

Uldis Cekulis created the independent production company VFS Films 25 years ago and has worked on almost 50 creative documentaries both as a producer and sometimes as a cameraman. His co-produced films have received prestigious awards, like the Shanghai IFF Golden Goblet for *Bridges of Time* the Karlovy Vary IFF Crystal Globe for *Immortal* and the Best Documentary award at the 36th Warsaw FF for *The Jump*. His Latvian-Italian co-production *The Rossellinis* premiered at the 77th Venice IFF.

Līva Vernere is a film producer based in Rīga, Latvia. After graduating bachelors in Film production she is doing her masters in Curatorial Studies at the Latvian Academy of Art. Has worked with film studios Tritone Studio, Air Productions and fon Films as a producer of documentary and fiction short films screened locally and internationally. Līva joined the VFS Films team as a producer in 2024.

Company profile

VFS Films is a Latvian production company established in 1997 and best known for its human-interest documentaries, shorts, animation and author-driven television docu-series. Most of our films have travelled around the world and many have received prestigious awards.

Representatives in Tallinn

Elza Gauja, director

Uldis Cekulis, producer

Līva Vernere, producer



Contact
Uldis Cekulis
uldis@vfs.lv
www.vfs.lv

THE WORKER



Original title: Der Arbeiter
Country: Germany, Bulgaria
Genre: drama, social drama
Project type: feature film
Written by: Eliza Petkova
Directed by: Eliza Petkova
Produced by: Nicolas Kronauer
Production company: Row Pictures GmbH, Fourmat Film GmbH
Languages: German, Bulgarian, English
Estimated budget in EUR: 2 000 000
Financing in place in EUR: 450 000
Looking for: third country co-producers, distributors, public funds (national, regional, international), broadcasters

Logline

After a mine collapse, Georgi leaves his family in Bulgaria for Germany. He switches jobs, facing exploitation as an undocumented worker. His desire to maintain the image of a luxurious life in rich Germany leads him to construct a facade far from his truth.

Synopsis

Georgi, a Roma man and a father in his late twenties, sustains his family as a miner in a small Bulgarian village. After a mine collapse kills his best friend, Georgi leaves his wife and daughter to seek a better life in Germany. He believes earning money abroad will allow him to provide well for his daughter. However, in Berlin, he ends up exploited as an illegal construction worker. He's forced to take various jobs, yet his desire for financial stability remains unfulfilled. Georgi finds himself in a legal and societal grey area, rightsless and invisible. He creates the myth of a successful, carefree life to earn admiration and validation in his village. To maintain this façade, he crosses boundaries, even sleeping with men for money. His emotions become entangled when he enters a relationship with an older man, compelling him to question his notions of masculinity. He finds solace in his friendship with art student Lilyana, who offers him a glimpse into a different life.

Director's note

Several encounters motivated me to make this film, feeling it was my duty after working with many Bulgarian Roma in a Berlin counselling centre. Their living conditions shocked and saddened me. *The Worker* reflects the harsh reality lived by many. They were uninsured, paying high rents without leases, and working off the books for poor or no pay, some as prostitutes. They lived in overcrowded apartments while their families believed they had stable jobs. These individuals are vulnerable as they officially "do not exist" in Germany. Pandemic aid packages excluded them, deepening their poverty and stigmatisation. I feel compelled to make this film, as such stories are rare and often silenced. My aim is to create an authentic film that respects its protagonists, using a mix of professional and non-professional actors and shooting on lo-

cation to ensure authenticity. My collaboration with cinematographer Constanze Schmitt will help create a sincere, sensitive, and artistically valuable film.

Director-writer

Eliza Petkova, born in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria, pursued a Master's in Philosophy and Modern Japanese Studies before moving to Berlin in 2008 as a freelance documentary filmmaker. She joined the German Film and Television Academy Berlin in 2011, graduating in 2020 with several acclaimed shorts and two feature films. Her debut, *Zhaleika*, premiered at the 66th Berlin International Film Festival, earning a Special Mention. Her second feature, *A Fish Swimming Upside Down*, premiered at the 70th Berlinale, and she won the Wim Wenders Grant in 2020. In 2021, she received the Kompagnon-Fellowship and was named Best Director at the Tirana International Film Festival. Her documentary *Mayor, Shepherd, Widow, Dragon* won the Critics Award for Best Documentary at the 43rd Film Festival Max Ophuels Prize.

Producer

Nicolas Kronauer, holding a vocational diploma in media production, specialized in production during his film studies at Darmstadt University, graduating with a BA. With experience as a Junior Producer in Berlin, he became Fourmat Film's executive producer in 2017, managing projects from concept to final cut, and handling financing and organization. He also served as the young talent section leader at the Producers' Association from 2021 to 2023 and teaches at Darmstadt University.

Company profile

ROW Pictures (formerly Rohfilm Factory) is an independent production company for feature and series projects, founded by Karsten Stöter in 2016 with offices both in Leipzig and Berlin-Brandenburg. We develop films with local and international talents and focus on excellence in storytelling.

Fourmat Film – because we found our team of four in 2017, and film is our format. We produce national and international feature and documentary films that we enjoy watching - and our tastes are diverse.

Representatives in Tallinn

Nicolas Kronauer, producer



Contact

Nicolas Kronauer
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rowpictures.de/en

WHEN A TREE FALLS IN THE



Original title: Когато дърво падне в гората

Country: Bulgaria, North Macedonia

Genre: drama, thriller, action

Project type: feature film

Written by: Decho Taralezhkov, Kamen Kolarov

Directed by: Kamen Kolarov

Produced by: Kalin Klinov, Decho Taralezhkov

Production company: Invictus

Languages: Bulgarian

Estimated budget in EUR: 1 095 000

Financing in place in EUR: 525 000

Looking for: co-producers, festivals, post-production services, sales agent

Logline

In a remote mountain village, a PTSD-ridden ex-army sniper is on the verge of suicide, when the retiring local forest guard chief offers him a job protecting the forest. He accepts the new assignment as a sacred duty, which soon gets him into an open conflict with the all-powerful timber mafia.

Synopsis

After a career as a NATO special forces sniper has brought him to the verge of suicide, Youssein (45) finds an unexpected second chance when the forestry chief in his home village, Rangel (67), offers him to join the forest guard, the one true way to fulfil his patriotic duty. As he rejoins the world of the living, Youssein meets Rangel's youngest daughter Velina (36), who has returned home to take a break from an overwhelming life in Berlin. Six months later, Youssein and Velina, pregnant with a baby he has accepted as his own, are about to move in together. The moment Rangel retires, however, the newly-elected mayor Khamid (55) and his sociopathic son Meddy (27) start a massive logging campaign in the centuries-old forest above the village, its protected status miraculously revoked. When all peaceful and legal means to stop them prove futile, Youssein sees no other way but to abandon the promise of a normal, happy life and wage war on the ruthless timber mafia.

Director's note

We Bulgarians are proud of our country's majestic mountains and their centuries-old forests. For centuries they have sheltered fighters against foreign conquerors and oppressive government regimes. There's even an expression in our language – "I'll hit the forest". It means that someone is so angry or disgusted with the state of things that they want to escape society and start a fight for what's right. Why, then, does this nation allow its forests to be destroyed? The so-called timber mafia is enslaving people in remote regions, controlling both politicians and the media. As peaceful protests prove futile, I keep wondering when someone will finally be sick of it all and hit the forest. But what defines what's right? Where is the line that mustn't be crossed when defending

even the most sacred idea? This is a very personal project for me in the importance of which I strongly believe and I'm convinced that the universal conflicts it depicts will move audiences all over the world.

Director-writer

Kamen Kolarov is a Bulgarian film director and scriptwriter largely known for his work on TV series and commercial videos. He is 41 years old and holds a degree in Law from Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski and in Film and TV Directing from the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts. He has directed three short films and two documentary films, over 40 episodes of TV series, dozens of commercials and music videos. Currently, he is shooting a documentary and working on his first feature film.

Producer

Kalin Kalinov, together with his brothers Alexander and Bogomil, is the founder and co-owner of the Sofia-based production company Invictus Ltd. He focuses on producing author-driven titles with a strong commercial potential. His latest project *Because I Love Bad Weather* by Bulgarian first time director Yana Lekarska won the Audience Award at the 2024 Sofia IFF. Currently, Kalin is in advanced post-production on *Axis of Life* by Atanas Hristoskov, and is co-producing Miroslav Terzić's *The Excursion* and the first North Macedonian animated feature *John Vardar vs the Galaxy*. In addition, he is developing *When a Tree Falls in the Forest*, the debut feature of director Kamen Kolarov.

Producer-writer

Decho Taralezhkov is a Sofia-based writer, producer and script consultant, known for his long-time collaboration with acclaimed filmmakers Petar Valchanov and Kristina Grozeva. He has a BA in Dramaturgy from the National Academy of Theater and Film Arts. He is a MID-POINT, Talents Sarajevo and Berlinale Talents alum. Currently, he is working on several fiction and documentary projects with Valchanov/

Grozeva and Kamen Kolarov, with whom he owns and runs the production company Dystopia Films.

Company profile

Invictus, founded by Kalin Kalinov and his brothers Alexander and Bogomil, is a Bulgarian film production company with over 15 years of experience, focused on author-driven projects with a strong artistic vision and potential for broader commercial distribution.

Representatives in Tallinn

Kamen Kolarov, director-writer

Kalin Klinov, producer

Decho Taralezhkov, producer-writer



Contact

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www.nvictus.eu

WOMEN SUICIDE SEASON



Original title: Сезон Жіночих Самогубств

Country: Ukraine, Germany

Genre: A coming of age drama with elements of melancholic irony

Project type: feature film

Written by: Anastasiya Gruba

Directed by: Anastasiya Gruba

Produced by: Aleksandra Kostina

Production company: Bosonfilm

Languages: Ukraine

Estimated budget in EUR: 850 000

Financing in place in EUR: 35 000

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, post-production services, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, technical participation

Logline

Lost young IT guy Simon runs away from his mother and other challenges to live in a camper on the banks of a river, but his escape from one woman leads him to three others who, one by one, attempt suicide until he saves them

Synopsis

Lost young IT guy Simon runs away from his mother and other life challenges to live in a camper on the banks of a river, doing nothing but what he loves: fishing and sleeping. But in early spring, the number of female suicides rises, and Simon faces three attempts of Women Suicide Season. He feels compelled to save them, which ruins his long-desired privacy. Marta, a burned-out paramedic, becomes Simon's friend and teacher, despite his initial hostility. Slava, a fisher-girl, is about to shoot herself over the loss of her father. Simon falls in love with her but still lacks the determination to make a serious move. For Olena, a young pregnant woman abandoned by her boyfriend, Simon develops a strong desire to protect her, seeing her as the younger sister he never had. Their transformation is not easy for him or for the suicidal women, but it does lead to bitterly ironic situations between them. Simon's unexpected compassion allows these women to heal and it grows into his skin.

Director's note

Women Suicide Season is a story about the uncertainty and indecisiveness that drive a young, intelligent man into the life of a hermit. The protagonist Simon hides from his mother and other difficulties in a pseudo-comfortable, carefree world of fishing, but fate challenges him with three suicidal women who cannot find a way out of their problems and pain. These three women symbolise the stages a protagonist has to go through in order to grow up and become responsible and decisive. The first woman makes Simon realise that the world is much bigger than he thinks and makes him question whether this is really the life he wants. The second woman is the first serious relationship, a symbol of a friend and a wife, who gives Simon freedom and happiness, but also tests his willpower. She almost succeeds in bringing him

out of the "comfortable shell" in which he has locked himself, but he still does not have the courage to return to the city with her. The third woman is much younger than Simon, she arouses his older brother's feelings, he wants to protect her, he is ready to take responsibility for her, at least for a short time, and this completes his transformation. He realises that if he doesn't save her, he will be left alone in the camper forever, and he is not happy about it. This invaluable experience has transformed Simon into a qualitatively different person, ready to meet his mother and, more importantly, to face life as it is. As well as helping Simon to change himself, each of the women has a difficult story to tell that has brought them to the river. Simon doesn't just save the women, he plays an integral part in their transformation.

In order to tell this multi-layered story, I have chosen to use irony because I believe that it will allow me to show the problems the protagonist faces on his way to the transformation most clearly, and it is also the most appropriate for the way I see the world. To emphasise this, I plan to build the visual style of the film so that the colour scheme of the scene is the opposite of the mood of what is happening. A perfect example for me is the work of the 20th century Japanese artist Kawase Hasui. I'm struck by how much sadness is hidden in these brightly coloured prints.

Director-writer

Ukrainian screenwriter and director **Anastasiya Gruba** graduated from the drama department of Kyiv National Theatre, Cinema, and TV University, an alumnus of Steve Kaplan's Comedy Intensive. Her recent author's fiction feature project, *Women Suicide Season*, was selected for the Global Media Makers Los Angeles Residency (Film Independent, USA), Munich Film Up Film Residence, and Ukraine in Focus Pitching Session Marché du Film. Her last short fiction, *Ice Hole*, was developed in frames of European Short Pitch.

Producer

Aleksandra Kostina is Ukrainian producer, European Film Academy, and Film Independent Member, recipient of the Academy Gold Fel-

lowship for Women Award. In 2018 established the company Bosonfilm. Her debut feature fiction *Pamfir* by Dmytro Sukholytkyy-Sobchuk (Quinzaine, Cannes IFF) is a six countries co-production, developed in Cinéfondation Residence, premiered in Cannes IFF, selected for 60+ film festivals, including Karlovy Vary IFF, IFF Rotterdam, Cairo FF, sold to 20+ countries and nominated to European Discovery Prix FIPRESCI of the EFA Awards.

Company profile

Bosonfilm is a Kyiv-based company focused on debut films by Ukrainian filmmakers. It was established in 2018 by producer Oleksandra Kostina, an EFA Member and recipient of the Academy Gold Fellowship for Women Award. Its first title, *Pamfir*, premiered at Cannes IFF, and was nominated for EFA awards. Recent projects include the fiction feature *Women Suicide Season* by Anastasiya Gruba, supported by Netflix's Fund for Creative Equity, developed in the Global Media Makers Los Angeles Residency by Film Independent and Munich Film Up Residency.

Representatives in Tallinn

Anastasiya Gruba, director-writer

Aleksandra Kostina, producer



Contact

Aleksandra Kostina

www.facebook.com/bosonfilm

CREATIVE EUROPE MEDIA PROGRAMME

Creative Europe MEDIA is European Commission's support program for the European audiovisual industry. Various supporting schemes from development to distribution are available to make the European film industry stronger and more competitive. The MEDIA programme supports the development of films, series and video games, but also audiovisual markets, training programmes, festivals and a whole variety of projects related to innovation and technology.

The Creative Europe MEDIA Desks are active in each member state to make the program more visible in the industry, promote its funding options and training possibilities. They do not only consult but also facilitate collaborations and networking.

PÖFF's focus on Germany this year gives us the possibility to learn more about Germany and its regions, bring together filmmakers, and collaborate on the organizational level. Baltic, Nordic and German Creative Europe MEDIA offices are happy to collaborate and bring together film producers from our region and Germany, to offer the environment for relaxed but efficient networking. Our Matchmaking Dinner will take place on Wednesday, November 20 for selected producers from Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Germany. We hope that new co-productions will emerge and that producers will submit new collaborative applications for MEDIA funding schemes.

November 20

19:00 ► *Restaurant Platz (Roseni 7)* (by invitation only)

Matchmaking Dinner is hosted by German, Nordic and Baltic Creative Europe MEDIA Desks.

**Creative
Europe** | Desks
Germany
MEDIA

Co-funded by
the European Union  Creative
Europe
MEDIA

CREATIVE EUROPE MEDIA



2025 CALL FOR PROPOSALS - OUT NOW!



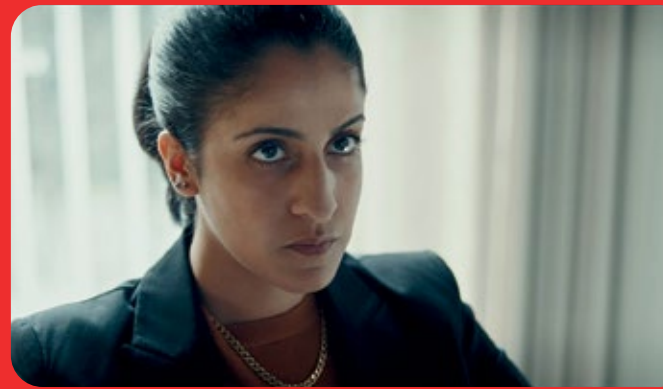
Creative
Europe
MEDIA

culture.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe/

HESSEN FILM & MEDIEN



KLANDESTIN (R: ANGELINA MACCARONE)



HESSE @ PÖFF &
INDUSTRY @ TALLINN
& BALTIC EVENT

GERMANY IN FOCUS

With nearly 140 German film professionals representing every side of the industry – directors, actors, cinematographers, screenwriters, producers, sales agents, distributors, agents, journalists, publicists and many more – Germany takes centre stage at Tallinn. Our lineup includes 23 majority productions, 9 minority co-productions, and 22 short films in the PÖFF programme, along with 10 exciting projects at Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event. We're thrilled to showcase Germany's dynamic film culture and invite you to get to know our five featured regions in cooperation with their Film Funds: Berlin-Brandenburg with MBB Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg; Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein with MOIN Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein; Hessen with Hessen Film & Medien; North Rhine-Westphalia with Film- und Medienstiftung NRW; and the collective Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, and Thuringia with MDM Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung.

November 21

15:00-16:30 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella*
**Germany in Focus: Exploring Federal
and Regional Film Funding for Co-Productions**

In this must-attend session, **Bérénice Honold**, advisor to the CEO for international and European affairs at the German Federal Film Board (FFA), will provide a comprehensive presentation on the German Federal Film Funding system, focusing on its structure and the upcoming reforms scheduled for 2025. This session will offer essential insights into how the national funding landscape in Germany is

evolving and what this means for international producers interested in co-productions.

Following the federal overview, the event will transition to "**In the Spotlight: German Regional Funds & Talents**," moderated by seasoned journalist Martin Blaney. In this segment, attention shifts to Germany's diverse regional funds, showcasing how these organisations support film production and international collaborations. Along with an overview of the regional funding landscape, the session will highlight the German filmmakers and talents attending Tallinn, offering a comprehensive perspective on both funding opportunities and the creative talent behind key projects. These talents will present their films and projects, share their experiences, and outline the support and partnerships they are seeking within their respective areas of focus, including fiction, documentary, and animation.

The discussion will centre on co-producing with Germany and on new projects from German talents. It will also offer practical advice on federal and regional funds. Panellists will share insider recommendations on what works – and what doesn't – when seeking funding from Germany. With German talents and film fund representatives attending producers will also have the opportunity to hear first-hand about current and upcoming projects and the potential for collaboration.

Whether you are a filmmaker looking to co-produce with Germany or a producer wanting to explore the benefits of working with German funds, this event will provide you with actionable knowledge and connections to build your next project.



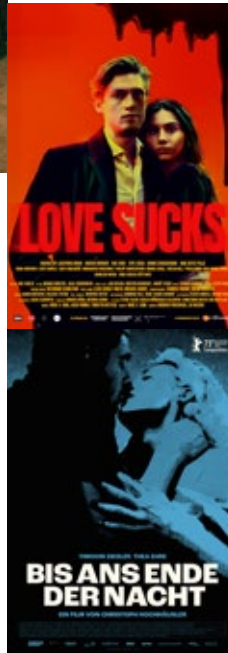
Le Prince
by Lisa Bierwirth
(2021)



TV-Series *The Zweiflers* by Anja Marquardt
and Clara Zoë My-Linh von Armin (2024)



Turning Tables by Angelina
Maccarone (POFF 2024)



Shahid by Narges
Kalhor (2024)

Hessen Film & Medien

We, Hessen Film & Medien, are the first point of contact for film funding in Hesse, Germany. With the goal to strengthen the regional film and media industry, we support film and media professionals and those who want to shoot and produce in Hesse. We promote both the artistic and commercial quality of film and series productions and offer support throughout all production stages. Our goal is to pave the way for daring ideas while promoting emerging talent, diversity, social and environmental sustainability as well as transparent structures.

phasize the importance of local involvement, ensuring a minimum local spend of 125%, with particular attention to the participation of local filmmakers and service providers. There is no requirement for shooting days to take place in Hesse.

Through STEP, our continuing education and industry qualification program, we ensure strong talent and individual professionalization. The one-of-a-kind program provides an effective tool to counter the shortage of skilled workers in the film industry.



Two focal points are the work with emerging talent and the promotion of documentary films: talents should be able to establish themselves as part of the local film industry. We also promote outstanding documentary film formats. In addition to financial support, we create networking platforms and regularly offer workshops for the further professionalization of the industry.

Another key focus is the targeted promotion of international co-productions, which allows Hessian production companies to expand their global network and gain valuable international experience. Therefore, to qualify for an international co-production, a German co-production partner is required. We em-

phasize the importance of local involvement, ensuring a minimum local spend of 125%, with particular attention to the participation of local filmmakers and service providers. There is no requirement for shooting days to take place in Hesse.

Through STEP, our continuing education and industry qualification program, we ensure strong talent and individual professionalization. The one-of-a-kind program provides an effective tool to counter the shortage of skilled workers in the film industry.

Contact

Marion Wagner, Head of funding
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Merle Lenz, Film Commission
lenz@hessenfilm.de





The Theory of Everything by
Timm Kröger (Germany/Austria/
Switzerland, PÖFF 2023)



*Stefan Zweig: Farewell
To Europe* by Maria
Schrader (Germany/
France/Austria,
PÖFF 2016)



The Editorial Office by Roman Bondarchuk (Ukraine/
Germany/Slovakia/Czech Republic, PÖFF 2024)

Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung

Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung (MDM) awards funding to promising film and media projects realised in the German federal states of Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia. The region offers excellent filming conditions - unique locations, excellent creative talent and service providers - and is home to numerous production companies with extensive experience in international co-productions.

Tailor by Sonia Liza Kenterman
(Greece/Germany/Belgium,
PÖFF 2020, world premiere)






In the Fog by Sergei Loznitsa (Germany/Russia/
Latvia/Netherlands/Belarus, Baltic Event 2010)

In 2023, over 18 million euros in funding were invested in the development, production and distribution of a total of 172 film and media projects. More than 12.6 million euros were invested in the production of 49 cinema and television films. International co-productions and promising newcomer projects are two of the MDM's traditional funding priorities – some of which are presented here.

Funding schemes are available for all phases, starting from idea and script development through to production and distribution/sales. To be eligible, production companies must spend at least the awarded funds in the region of Mitteldeutschland.

Contact

Mitteldeutsche
Medienförderung GmbH
Petersstraße 22-24
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Website: mdm-online.de
 @mdmedienfoerderung
 @MDMedienfoerderung
 company/mdmedienfoerderung



Riefenstahl

Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg

- More than 300 films and series are being shot here every year!
- Highly skilled multilingual crews
- Excellent production conditions on the highest standards
- Most exciting film location in Germany
- Berlin culture and lifestyle

INTERNATIONAL CINEMA & TV SERIES

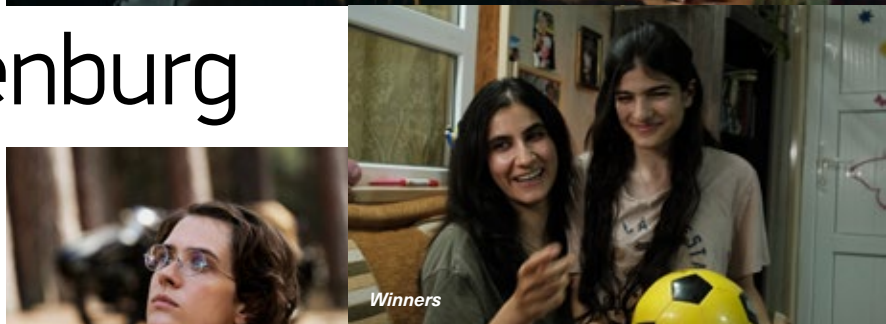
Production conditions in Berlin-Brandenburg are excellent. The capital region attracts producers from all over the world and is the home to the famous Studio Babelsberg. In the past years, major international film productions and high end drama series were shot here, including most recently *The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* by Francis Lawrence, *John Wick 4* with Keanu Reeves, *The Matrix Resurrections* by Lana Wachowski, as well as *Babylon Berlin*. Steven Spielberg filmed *Bridge of Spies*, Golden Palm winner *The White Ribbon* by Michael Haneke used Brandenburg's stylistic setting for its story, Quentin Tarantino's *Inglourious Basterds* brought Brad Pitt and Diane Kruger into the studio and Stephen Daldry's *The Reader* with Kate Winslet plus 4 times Oscar winner *The Grand Budapest Hotel* by Wes Anderson were filmed here.

FILM & TV SERIES FUNDING

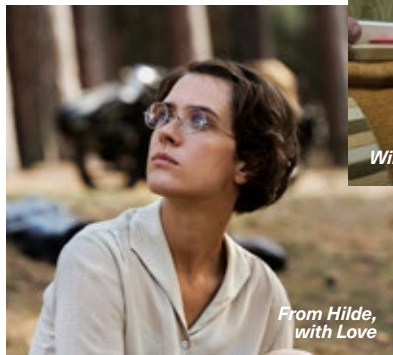
With an annual budget of approximately € 35 million the regional film fund Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg supports film and serial pro-



Dying



Winners



*From Hilde,
with Love*

MBB funded films at this year's edition of the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival include *Dying* (Matthias Glasner), *From Hilde, with Love* (Andreas Dresen), *Riefenstahl* (Andres Veiel), *Winners* (Soleen Yusef), *La Mort viendra* (Christoph Hochhäusler), *Turning Tables* (Angelina Maccarone) and *Ice Aged* (Alexandra Sell).

jects in all its stages: development, production, distribution, as well as digital postproduction and A-festival competition presence. MBB is open to outstanding national and international projects ranging from high end art house to cinema blockbusters. The funding policy is focused on cinema production, exceptional TV movies and TV series.

Contact

www.medienboard.de
www.bbfc.de



Niko – Beyond the Northern Lights
by Kari Juusonen and Jørgen Lerdam, Ulysses Films



Greetings from Mars by Sarah Winkenstette, Leitwolf



German's Oscar Entry
The Seed Of The Sacred
Fig by Mohammad Rasoulof, Run Way Pictures

Dying
by Matthias Glasner, Port au Prince Films



Niko – Beyond the Northern Lights and *Greetings from Mars*, the German Film Awards winner *Dying* by Matthias Glasner and *Skill Issue* by Willy Hans, which had its world premiere in Locarno. All four films will also be screened in Tallinn!

MOIN FILM FUND

HAMBURG AND SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN

Hello, Tere and MOIN! We are Moving Images North. MOIN Film Fund Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein supports cinema films, high-end series and innovative audiovisual formats – from first draft to production, distribution and festival presentation. With an annual budget of around 15 million euros, our focus is to develop the regional audio-visual industries in Northern Germany. We welcome filmmakers from around the globe to film in our region between the North and the Baltic Seas.

Our region uniquely combines vibrant city life with vast landscapes and two rushing seas. MOIN's Film Commission is your first contact for questions about locations, permits and local production infrastructure. Discover what our region has to offer in our location guide on our website.

Hamburg is an ideal partner for international co-productions, offering remarkable filming locations and world-class post-production facilities. The city is home to renowned production houses behind acclaimed projects such as the European children's film co-productions



Skill Issue
by Willy Hans, Fünferfilm

Through our new development program NEST, we connect screenwriters, creators and producers, both online and offline. You can apply online with your idea, even before starting your script or concept.

We strive to make the German film industry more diverse through our OMNI Inclusion Data platform, Diversity Checklists, and a heterogeneous composition of our funding committees. We believe good films thrive without clichés and stereotypes.

At MOIN we also promote environmentally conscious filming. Everyone involved in a MOIN-funded project helps reduce the carbon footprint by following our Green Filming Badge guidelines as well as the ecological standards set by the German film industry.

Contact

Website: moin-filmfoerderung.de

📧 @moinfilmfoerderung 📱 @moinfilmfoerderung

🌐 company/moinfilmfoerderung



Skatergirl-Get Up
(by Lea Becker)



The Assessment



Tomorrow Somewhere
by the Sea

Film- und Medienstiftung NRW NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA

Funding for German and international film production in NRW has a successful track record, with notable films such as Jean-Pierre Jeunet's *Amélie*, Maren Ade's *Toni Erdmann*, Stephen Daldry's *The Reader*, Lars van Trier's *Nymphomaniac*, Jim Jarmusch's *Only Lovers Left Alive*, Matthias Glasner's *Dying*, Andreas Dresen's *From Hilde, with Love*, or Fleur Fortuné's *The Assessment*, all being shot in this vibrant region, called North Rhine-Westphalia – either directly on location or in studio. The list also includes works by internationally acclaimed German directors like Wim Wenders, Tom Tykwer, Fatih Akin and Margarethe von Trotta.



Long Story Short



From Hilde, with Love

The Film- und Medienstiftung NRW has been operating since 1991 as a funding partner for the film culture and industry in North Rhine-Westphalia and Germany, with a focus on international co-productions. With an average annual funding volume of 35 million Euros, it supports the development, production, and distribution of feature films, documentaries, high-end TV movies and series, as well as games and VR, fostering a thriving innovative environment for filmmakers and creatives.

FILM AND MEDIA HUB NRW AT A GLANCE

- one of Germany's largest federal states with 18 million inhabitants
- situated in the heart of Europe: one-hour flight from London, Paris and Berlin
- metropolitan areas of Cologne, Düsseldorf, Ruhr Region
- highly professional English-speaking production crews

WHAT ARE THE NRW FUNDING SCHEMES?

- development and pre-production
- production, distribution and sales
- combination of German and European funds possible

„A great land
for filmmaking“
Ari Folman

“If you ever
get a chance
to shoot
here, do it.”
Helen Mirren

WHO CAN APPLY?

- only producers are eligible
- a German co-producer is needed, ideally from NRW
- applications must be submitted before starting the project

WHAT ARE THE CONDITIONS?

- conditionally repayable, interest free loan
- minimum of 150 % spend in the region
- up to 50 % of the German share
- producer's investment: 5 % of the budget

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- support is based on a jury decision
- submission deadlines five times a year
- free consultation is recommended
- entry forms, guidelines and deadlines: www.filmstiftung.de/en

Contact

Film und Medienstiftung NRW GmbH

Film und Medienstiftung NRW @filmmedienrw

Helga Binder,
Deputy Head of Film Funding / International Co-Productions
Telephone +49 - 211 - 930 50 75 | helgabinder@filmstiftung.de

**Film und Medien
Stiftung NRW**

Empowering Dreams

**Your Partner in Germany's
leading Media Region, at
the Heart of Europe**



Focus Country Representatives

HESSEN FILM & MEDIEN

Anna Schoeppe, Managing Director, Hessen Film & Medien
Patrick Schaaf, Head of Strategic Development / Communications,
Hessen Film und Medien
Stefan Adrian, Project Manager, Hessen Film und Medien



Dascha Petuchow, Producer, Plotlessfilm
Simon Pilarski, Producer, Lichtschloss
Filmproduktion (Co-Production Market project *Save Our Souls*)
Nicolas Kronauer, Producer, Fourmat Film
(Co-Production Market *The Worker*)



Sebastian Simon, Producer, PixelPec
Jutta Feit, Producer, Jip Film
Anke Sabrina Beermann, Producer, M&H Productions
(Breaking into the Industry participant)



MEDIENBOARD BERLIN-BRANDENBURG

Miriam Henze, Funding Executive,
Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg GmbH
Maritza Grass, Producer, Carousel Film
(Breaking into the Industry participant)
Laura Klippel, Producer, Bandenfilm



Sophie Ahrens, Producer, Schuldenberg Films
Laura von Portatius, Producer, Wüste Film
Ewa Wikiel, Director (Script Pool project *The Queen Of Thule*)



MITTELDEUTSCHE MEDIENFÖRDERUNG

André Naumann, CEO, Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung
Dana Messerschmidt, Funding Department,
Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung
Jette Blümner, Producer
(Breaking into the Industry participant)



Jonas Eisenschmidt, Producer, Radpaar Films
(Breaking into the Industry participant)
Claudia Schröter, Producer, CALA Film Central
(PÖFF project Turning Tables by Angelina Maccaron)
Tamara Kollmeder, Producer, Colourgraphie
(Breaking into the Industry participant)

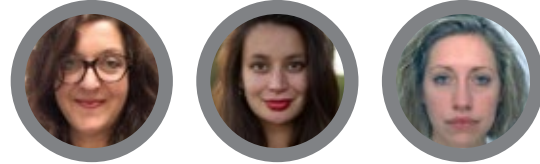


Marcel Lenz, Producer, ostlicht filmproduktion
Jana Lotze, Producer, Oma Inge Film
Leopold Pape, Producer (Breaking into the Industry participant)
Eliza Płoceniak-Alvarez, Producer, Blaue Pampelmuse



MOIN FILMFÖRDERUNG HAMBURG SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN

Katrin Mersmann, Head of Funding, MOIN Film Fund
Sandra Müller, Producer, Marlene Film
Jennifer Mueller von der Haegen, Producer, Weydemann Bros



Dr. Katharina Burgdorf, Junior Producer, TamtamFilm
Sebastian Weyland, Producer, Heimathafen
Oliver Bassemir, Producer, OhneFalschFilm

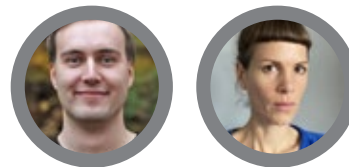


FILM- UND MEDIENSTIFTUNG NRW

Heike Meyer-Döring, Head of Creative Europe Desk NRW,
Corinna C. Poetter, Producer, Screenwriter, eitelsonnenschein
GmbH (TV Beats Co-Financing project *In Paradise*)
Daniel Ehrenberg, Producer, Eyrie Entertainment



Patrick Büchting, Director, Producer, Screenwriter
(Just Film project *Tomorrow Somewhere by the Sea*)
Julia Keller, Director



beep SOUND POSTPRODUCTION



20+

Years in Business

9

Sound Studios

100+

Feature Films

500+

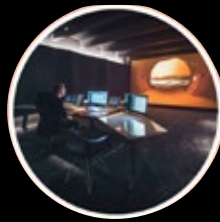
TV Episodes

1000+

Commercial



Sound Editing



Mix



Foley Recording



ADR Recording



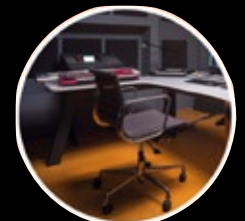
Location Recording



Voice Casting



Localization



Music Composition

Works in Progress

Best Project Award – 7000 € presented by Studio Beep

The best projects both in the International and Baltic Works in Progress will be granted 7000 euros, consisting of 6000 euros worth of services by Studio Beep, together with 1000 euros travel allowance.



Jury

Casey Baron, US Programming Lead at Tribeca Film Festival

Julie Marnay, Program Manager at First Cut Lab
and head of European Short Pitch in 2019

Alexis Cassanet, EVP International Sales & Distribution
at Gaumont Film Company

LATE SHIFT (a.k.a KINDNESS)



Original title: Late Shift (a.k.a Kindness)

Country: Greece

Genre: social drama

Written by: Stefanos Tsivopoulos

Directed by: Stefanos Tsivopoulos

Produced by: Nikos Smpiliris

Production company: Boo Productions

Languages: Greek, Romanian

Estimated budget in EUR: 602 000

Financing in place in EUR: 455 000

Project status: post-production

Runtime: 95

Looking for: co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, post-production services, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers, technical participation

Synopsis

Elena, a single mother from Romania, scrapes by as a metro cleaner in Athens. She shares a cramped apartment with her nine-year-old son, Luca, and her controlling mother, Ada, clinging to the hope that Greek citizenship is her ticket out of a life defined by struggle. But when her corrupt employer fires her, Elena's world tilts. Desperate for justice, she reaches out to Yota, a charismatic union lawyer. What begins as a plea for help evolves into a close bond that stirs something deep within Elena—long-buried emotions flare to life, and their connection slowly ignites into a blazing romance. Yota rekindles Elena's activism and her longing to build a family for Luca. However, Elena's relentless

quest for justice will alienate her family and push Yota away. Elena fights to belong on her own terms, no matter the cost.

Director, writer

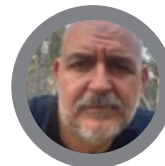
Stefanos Tsivopoulos is a Greek film director, screenwriter, and video artist who has directed over 30 short and medium-length films in various countries. His films have garnered international recognition, being showcased at prestigious art institutions and film festivals, including Tate Modern in London, Centre Pompidou in Paris, BFI London, and the Thessaloniki, Athens, and Syros Film Festivals in Greece. *Late Shift* is his debut feature film.

Producer and production company

Nikos Smpiliris (producer, and member of the EFA) started his career in the film business as an arthouse distributor before turning to film production in 2012, when he collaborated with Athina Rachel Tsangari at HAOS FILM. He has produced titles like C. Nikou debut *Apples* and the short film *Pigeons are Dying...* by S. Markoulakis which were received with critical acclaim and screened in many major festivals. He has also collaborated with established Greek directors.

BOO is one of the leading audiovisual companies in Greece, focusing on the production of films, series, and commercials. Boo is excelling in discovering new talents: *Dogtooth* was nominated for an Oscar and Boo has also supported in their early films Chr. Nikou (*Apples*) and AR Tsangari (*Attenberg*).

Representative in Tallinn
Nikos Smpiliris, producer



Contact

Nikos Smpiliris
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BALANCE



Original title: Balance
Country: Germany
Genres: road movie, drama
Written by: Björn Schürmann, Ina-Lene Dinse
Directed by: Björn Schürmann
Produced by: Björn Schürmann
Production company: projekt::film
Languages: German, Dutch, English
Estimated budget in EUR: 350 000
Financing in place in EUR: 340 000
Project status (stage of development): post-production
Runtime: 79
Looking for: broadcasters, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers

Synopsis

Johannes lives in Berlin and hasn't seen his young adult daughter Clara for several months. In the meantime, she has graduated from school in the Netherlands, where she lives with her mother, and is about to move to Korea for an indefinite time. She stops off to spend a night with Johannes in Berlin before setting off on her long journey. But when Clara's flight is canceled, they suddenly have more time than they are used to and have to leave their comfort zones. During the following winter road trip between punk rock and poetry to a place from their family past, they negotiate growing up in a father-daughter relationship.

Director, producer

First studied education in Berlin, he helped set up the largest self-organized film school in Europe, the filmArche in Berlin, where he also studied directing. His short films have been shown at international festivals and have won several awards. *Balance* is his first feature film, which he also produced. He is developing his next project, the feature film *Ritterin*, with the Berlin production company Jost Hering Filme for the German TV-Channel ZDF in their cinema co-production program.

Production company

projekt::film has already produced numerous short and medium-length fiction films and documentaries as well as music videos. Almost all of our films have been shown at international festivals and have received numerous awards. *Balance* is the first feature that they have released independently.

Representatives in Tallinn

Björn Schürmann, director, producer
Barbara Ophoff, film editor, marketing



Contact

Björn Schürmann
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+49 152 538 42944

PAPERS

International Works in Progress
PANAMA, SPAIN, URUGUAY



Original title: Papeles

Countries: Panama, Spain, Uruguay

Genres: crime film, drama, thriller

Written by: Arturo Montenegro

Directed by: Arturo Montenegro

Produced by: Andry José Barrientos

Production company: Q Films

Languages: Spanish, English, Turkish

Estimated budget in EUR: 1 900 000

Financing in place in EUR: 1 600 000

Project status: post-production

Project type: feature film

Runtime: 114

Looking for: festivals, foreign broadcasters, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent

Synopsis

Trapped in the worldwide scandal of the Panama Papers, Ana Méndez, legal director of the law firm Shubbert Fassano, faces an unprecedented media attack against the country and the law firm where she works. Accused of money laundering, she is hunted by the prosecutor Roberto Ramirez and Interpol, so Ana escapes to the jungle to avoid imprisonment. There, the loneliness and the absence of her three children and Eric, her husband, cause her irreparable damage.

Director, screenwriter

Arturo Montenegro is an award-winning Panamanian film director and screenwriter. In his films, Montenegro has dealt with a wide range of themes and genres that include: *Birthday Boy*, a film that stands for euthanasia. *Everybody Changes*, a film about a transgender woman with three boys, Panama's official selection to the Academy Awards 2020, Golden Globes. Winner of the HIVOS Award at the Roze Filmdagen. Winner of the Excellence Award at the Outshine Film. Finalist of the 2020 Sebastiane.

Production company

The strengths of **Q Films** lie in four fundamental pillars: A knowledgeable and experienced team, creative instinct, well-defined and achieved objectives for each project and the strength of believing in what it does.

Representatives in Tallinn

Arturo Montenegro, director, screenwriter

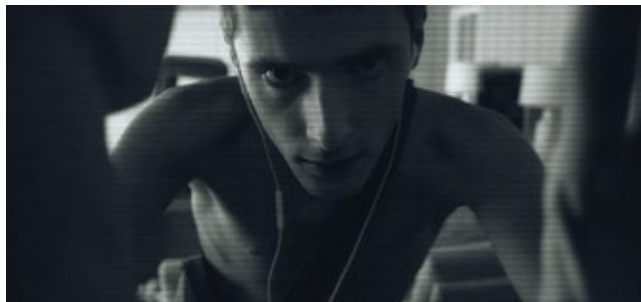
Andry José Barrientos, producer



Contact

Arturo Montenegro
arturo@q-films.net
+507 667 51824

INTERIOR



Original title: Interior
Countries: Germany
Genres: thriller, psychological drama
Written by: Timo Ackermann, Pascal Schuh, Joe Hofer
Directed by: Pascal Schuh
Produced by: Timo Ackermann, Katrin Haase, Oliver Arnold
Executive producer: U5 Filmproduktion GmbH & Co. KG
Co-producer: Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf
Languages: German
Estimated budget in EUR: 578 792.74
Financing in place in EUR: 558 792.74
Project status (stage of development): post-production
Runtime: 90
Looking for: festivals, foreign broadcasters, post-production services, private funds / banks, sales agent, technical participation

Synopsis

Kasimir (25) uses a Trojan couch to infiltrate houses. Once there, he secretly films and is picked up again a few days later: "delivery error". He delivers the tapes to the brain surgeon Dr. Liebermann (50), who uses it to try to learn how to feel. While Kasimir provides him with more footage of further break-ins as proof of his love, the doctor, unimpressed, prepares an awake surgery in his cellar. The hospital's ethics council did not approve it, but Liebermann sees an opportunity for his patient. Broken by unrequited love, Kasimir begins to break with Liebermann's dogma: never intervene in what happens in front of the camera. An unforgivable breach of trust. During Kasimir's last break-in, Liebermann places a tiger in the apartment, which kills Kasimir.

Director

Pascal Schuh was born in Bonn and studied film at the Film University Babelsberg. His bachelor thesis film, *Songs of a Caretaker*, was a finalist at the Student Academy Awards 2022. *Interior* is his debut feature film and currently is working on *Not Coming Out*, which won the Talent Village Award 2022 at Les Arcs Film Festival.

Producer, screenwriter

Timo Ackermann began his career in moving images through a technical path. During a three-year apprenticeship at ProSiebenSat.1 Media SE, he specialised in camera work and became a media designer for image and sound. Afterwards, he pursued a bachelor's degree in media management. Since 2021, he has been studying for a Master's in Film and TV Production at Film University Babelsberg, where he has worked on several productions, as well as co-written and produced the feature film *Interior*.

Production companies

U5 Filmproduktion is a German independent production company for high-quality feature films and series. Up until now, U5 has produced over 100 films, including award-winning projects such as *Füxe* (2023, 4x35'), *Becoming Charlie* (2022, 6x15') and *Das Mädchen von Früher* (2023, crime film).

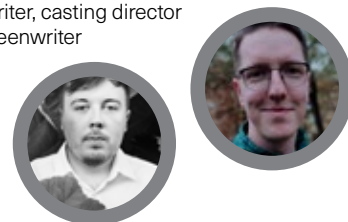
Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf. This is the university where Pascal Schuh and Timo Ackermann study. The university is a co-producer in this special funding framework.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Pascal Schuh, director, screenwriter, casting director
Timo Ackermann, producer, screenwriter

Contact

Timo Ackermann
timo.ackermann@ewetel.net
+49 152 018 68673



WOLVES

International Works in Progress
SWITZERLAND



Original title: Wolves
Countries: Switzerland
Genres: drama, social drama
Written by: Jonas Ulrich
Directed by: Jonas Ulrich
Produced by: Nicole Ulrich
Production company: Dynamic Frame GmbH
Languages: English, Swiss German
Estimated budget in EUR: 700 000
Financing in place in EUR: 600 000
Project status: post-production
Runtime: 105
Looking for: broadcasters, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, private funds / banks, sales agent, streamers

Synopsis

Luana works in a daycare center and still lives with her mother. She dreams of escaping her sheltered but lonely life. Things change when her cousin invites her to a rehearsal of his metal band WLVS, consisting of two friends and the newly joined Polish singer Wiktor. When the band goes on their first tour, Luana calls in sick at work and joins them. Every evening, Luana watches Wiktor on stage, impressed by his presence. While offstage, he is calm, reserved, and almost shy. After an intense gig, they start an affair. Luana sees herself getting drawn into

his world more and more, cutting ties to her old life. At the same time, controversial pictures of Wiktor emerge and provoke accusations of right-wing extremism on social media. While trying to keep the band together and make sense of her turbulent relationship with Wiktor, the more she learns about him, the more worried she becomes. Who is he really?

Producer and production company

Nicole Ulrich (1987) is a film producer based in Zurich. In 2020, she completed the master's programme in Creative Producing at ZHdK, Zurich University of the Arts. Subsequently, she worked at tellfilm GmbH in Zurich, and since 2021, she has been a producer for fiction and documentary films at Dynamic Frame. She has collaborated with various directors and participated in several programmes, including the Co-Production programme of the Berlinale in 2021 and the New Producers Room 2022 in Cannes.

Dynamic Frame was founded in 2013 as an independent production company. We produce a variety of moving image content, such as fiction and documentary films, commercials and music videos.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Jonas Ulrich, director

Nicole Ulrich, producer



Contact

Nicole Ulrich
nicole.ulrich@dynamic-frame.ch

FACE TO FACE



Original title: A la cara
Countries: Spain, Belgium
Genre: drama
Written by: Javier Marco, Belén Sánchez-Arévalo
Directed by: Javier Marco
Produced by: Odile Antonio-Baez
Production company: Pecado Films
Language: Spanish
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 675 289
Financing in place in EUR: 1 500 289
Subjects: empathy, motherhood, fatherhood, social media, solitude
Project status (stage of development): post-production
Runtime: 95
Looking for: festivals, sales agent

Synopsis

When Pedro opens the door of his house to greet a potential flatmate, he's surprised to find Lina, a well-known TV host. She isn't interested in the room; she only wants Pedro to say out loud what he wrote on social media: "I'm glad about what happened to you. I hope you kill yourself too. I can help you." Lina leaves Pedro's house frustrated that she couldn't achieve what she came for – to burn away the guilt she has carried since her daughter attempted suicide. The next morning, Pedro finds Lina in a state of shock on a nearby street. Lina ends up occupying the room, but only because she needs somewhere to hide to avoid facing the moment her daughter will be disconnected from life support and to escape from the journalists hounding her like wolves after their prey. For days, Lina and Pedro are two shadows sharing the

same space without crossing paths, but little by little, all the demons they harbor inside begin to emerge and they soon discover they are more alike than they thought.

Director

Javier Marco is a Spanish film director, scriptwriter and editor, currently living in Madrid. His works have gathered several international awards and has been selected at renowned international film festivals such as Palm Springs, San Sebastian, Cleveland, FICG Guadalajara or Leeds, among others. His directorial debut, *Josefina* (2021), was the only Spanish feature-length film selected at the New Directors section in San Sebastian International Film Festival 2021 and was nominated to three Spanish Film Academy Awards 2022: Best New Director, Best Main Actress and Best Editing.

Producer and production company

Odile Antonio-Baez is a film producer and business partner at Spanish independent production company Pecado Films. In 2021, she was selected by Torino Film Lab to be part of its Script Editing programme at ScriptLab. In 2023, she participated in EAVE+. Her productions have been selected at the official sections of international film festivals such as Cannes, Sundance, Toronto, Mar de Plata, Seminci, Just Night-Tallinn Black Nights and San Sebastian.

Pecado Films is an independent production company. Their projects accumulate several nominations to Spanish film awards, as well as selections in international festivals such as Cannes, Sundance, Toronto, Mar de Plata, Seminci, Just Night-Tallinn Black Nights and San Sebastián.

Representatives in Tallinn

Javier Marco, director
Odile Antonio-Baez, producer



Contact

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odileab@pecadofilm.com
+34 666 939 605

AQUARIUM



Original title: Akvariumi
Country: Georgia, Germany, USA
Genres: drama, fantasy, thriller
Written by: Tornike Bziava
Directed by: Tornike Bziava
Produced by: Tornike Bziava, Daria Shlifshtein
Production company: Reactormonkey Films, 29plus7pictures
Languages: Georgian, English
Estimated budget in EUR: 699 944
Financing in place in EUR: 304 602
Project status (stage of development): In-Production
Runtime: 120
Looking for: co-producers, distributors, gap-financing, sales agent

Synopsis

After his father's death, Demna, an artist, becomes a target of the police and law enforcement officers, led by his former friend. When sudden love visits him by meeting Irina, an older beautiful woman and soon disappears because of the tragedy the only escape for Demna is to fulfill his childhood dream of fleeing to New York, where his mother lives in exile, thus fulfilling his father's dreams and transforming his life.

Director, producer, screenwriter

Tornike Bziava's films were shown and awarded at A-class festivals such as Cannes IFF, Venice IFF, Berlin Panorama, Clermont-Ferrand ISFF, Hong Kong IFF, Toronto, Uppsala, Brussels, ECU Paris, OZU IFF and etc. He began with stage acting in theatre as well as directing his experimental films in the 2000s. Later he started to do international feature film projects co-produced with France. Films shot on black & white Kodak 5222 as well as Ari Alexa cameras.

Representatives in Tallinn

Tornike Bziava, screenwriter-director-producer

Daria Shlifshtein, producer



Contact

Tornike Bziava
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+995 577 201 777

CALL ME CALENDAR



Original title: Kalendārs mani sauc

Country: Latvia, Lithuania

Genre: adaptation, tragicomedy

Project type: feature film

Runtime: 90

Written by: Juris Poškus

Directed by: Juris Poškus

Produced by: Madara Melberga

Co-Produced by: Ieva Norvilienė

Production companies: FA Filma, Tremora

Languages: Latvian

Estimated budget in EUR: 863 000

Financing in place in EUR: 733 000

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, sales agent

Synopsis

Oscar, a positive 30-year-old, falls hopelessly in love with the girl of his dreams and takes the first steps towards independence from his mother. To prove his worth, Oscar recruits a motley crew of companions who, despite their age, have never lost their sense of childhood. Together, they create a heartbreaking, tragicomic chain of events to prove that escape from loneliness is possible if you act from the heart.

Director-writer

From 1986 to 1992 **Juris Poškus** studied English Language and Literature at the University of Latvia. He then moved to California, where he

studied from 1993 to 1995 at the California Institute of the Arts, Film Department in Los Angeles, where he received his MA degree. His feature film *Kolka Cool* (2011) won the Grand Prix at the St. Petersburg International Film Festival. *Kolka Cool* was named the best Latvian film of the past decade. The latest film by Juris Poškus, of which he is not only the director but also the screenwriter and one of the editors, *24 Hr Sunshine* (2023), is an existential comedy about a mid-life crisis.

Producer

Producer of creative documentaries and art house fiction. **Madara Melberga** appreciates working very closely with directors and content in general, her interest lies in stories balancing on the edge and her favourite theme – dilemma. Lately Madara has turned to writing too. BA in philosophy, currently studying MA in Theology.

Company profile

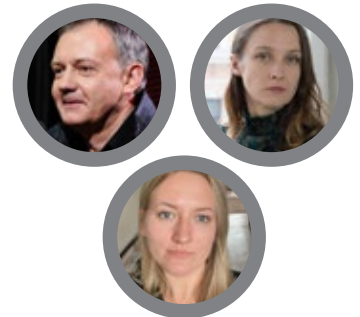
Studio Fa Filma, based in Riga, Latvia, produces feature/documentary films for national and international markets, emphasising contemporary stories. We collaborate closely with characters/actors in development. Many films are arthouse with artistic merit, some backed by Creative Europe grants and national film institutions.

Representatives in Tallinn

Juris Poškus, director-writer

Madara Melberga, producer

Laura Olina, production manager



Contact

Madara Melberga
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+371 2699 5300
www.fafilma.lv

OUR ERIKA



Original title: Meie Erika
Country: Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia
Genre: biographical, drama
Project type: feature film
Runtime: 130
Written by: German Golub, Mehis Pihla
Directed by: German Golub
Produced by: Marju Lepp,
Production company: Filmivabrik oü, Studio Uljana Kim, Kultifilma, Amber Land Films, Hansafilm, Elisa
Languages: Estonian, Russian
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 847 000
Financing in place in EUR: 1 740 690
Looking for: distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, private funds / banks, sales agent

Synopsis

This is a drama of a personal triumph over seemingly insurmountable odds. *Our Erika* is the story of the track cyclist Erika Salumäe, from her painful and tortured childhood to her first Olympic win in 1988. Erika is a highly focused and defiant fighter who wants to be the best bicycle racer in the world, driven by her subconscious need and desire to be loved. USSR is like a worn-out fairy tale where Erika as a young woman tries to survive. In this declining regime, under psychological and physical pressure, Erika transforms from a girl into an Olympic

champion. Erika realises quite quickly that success brings recognition but does success really bring the desired love? Will you be loved only if you produce visible results? In 1988, at the Town Hall square, Erika Salumäe was received as a national hero - 'our Erika'.

Director-writer

Born into an Estonian/Russian family in Estonia, **German Golub** studied at the Tallinn-based Baltic Film, Media and Arts School where he directed several short films and documentaries. One of these shorts, *My Dear Corpses*, won a Student Academy Award (Gold) in 2020.

Producer

Marju Lepp has acted as a producer at Filmivabrik since 1998. Over the past decade, she has produced 21 documentaries and five feature films. Our films have screened at A-category film festivals such as IDFA in Amsterdam, Leipzig, Montreal, Mumbai, Cairo etc. Marju Lepp is a member of the Audiovisual Art Endowment Committee of the Estonian Cultural Foundation.

Company profile

Filmivabrik was established in 1998. Filmivabrik has produced 7 feature films and 27 documentaries, encompassing experimental and traditional genres. FV has also produced TV shows, short films, and an animated film. Filmivabrik also provides professional film lighting rental services.

Representatives in Tallinn
German Golub, director-writer
Marju Lepp, producer



Contact

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+372 516 3641

RENOVATION



Original title: Renovacija
Country: Lithuania, Latvia
Genre: drama
Project type: feature film
Runtime: 90
Written by: Gabrielė Urbonaitė
Directed by: Gabrielė Urbonaitė
Produced by: Uljana Kim, Alise Rogule
Production company: Studio Uljana Kim, Mima Films
Languages: Lithuanian, Ukrainian, English
Estimated budget in EUR: 800 000
Financing in place in EUR: 574 000
Looking for: distributors, festivals, gap-financing, sales agent

Synopsis

Present day Vilnius a perfectionist 29-year-old Ilona lives under pressure to get settled by the age of 30. She's close to it: nominated for the translator of the year award, she's in a promising relationship with her boyfriend Matas, and together, they finally found a perfect apartment. However, the building's renovation begins, exposing cracks not only in the building, but also in their relationship. A new connection with Oleg, a construction worker from Ukraine, makes her question whether she really wants to settle down and have a family. Ilona experiences a change – she starts writing poetry, something she hasn't done since high school. At her 30th birthday party, Ilona opens up to Oleg about her doubts. But he's going back to Ukraine to defend his country, which makes her choices seem less difficult. She kisses Oleg goodbye, but

Matas sees it, and they break up. A couple of months later, Ilona finally opens up to Matas, sparking hope for a more authentic relationship.

Director-writer

Gabrielė Urbonaitė is a Lithuanian writer, director and editor. Gabrielė is a recipient of the National Lithuanian Film Award Silver Crane for her short film *The Swimmer and the Princess* Grace Film Award for Back. Her debut feature *Renovation* was selected for EKRAN+ and Mediterranean Film Institute's Script 2 Film training programmes. She holds a BFA in Film from Emerson College and an MFA in Screenwriting & Directing from Columbia University.

Producer

Uljana Kim graduated from the Institute of Cinematography in Moscow (VGIK) in 1993 and is a film critic by education. She founded Studio Uljana Kim in 1997 and has since then produced thirty-one feature and documentary films.

Company profile

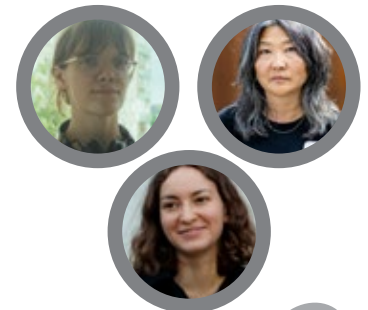
Studio Uljana Kim is a leading company in Lithuania for producing full length features. Since its foundation in 1997 twenty feature films and eleven documentaries have been produced by the company. Half of them premiered at the most important international film festivals and others were successful at the domestic box office. The company's goal is to produce & co-produce high quality art-house films intended for a worldwide audience.

Representatives in Tallinn

Gabrielė Urbonaitė, director-writer
Uljana Kim, producer
Migla Butkute, line producer

Contact

Migla Butkute
migla.butkute@gmail.com



SAND IN YOUR HAIR



Original title: Smėlis tavo plaukuose
Country: Lithuania
Genre: drama
Project type: feature film
Runtime: 90
Written by: Mantas Verbiejus
Directed by: Mantas Verbiejus
Produced by: Živilė Gallego
Production company: Fralita Films
Languages: Lithuanian
Estimated budget in EUR: 800 000
Financing in place in EUR: 800 000
Looking for: festivals, sales agent

Synopsis

Malvina is an 80-year-old former ballerina. Her divorce in the courtroom is the beginning of her journey out of solitary confinement. When Malvina and her fiancé Kipras, who is the same age, buy tickets to Berlin, they notice that they don't have Kipras's passport – he had left it at the nursing home. Unfortunately, the head of the institution has no intention of giving him the passport, instead forcing Kipras to continue his treatment. Can love overcome loneliness and resist social taboos? What dark mechanisms of coercion lie behind our facade of respect for old age? This trip has been put off too long for it to be stopped now.

Director-writer

Mantas Verbiejus obtained a bachelor's degree in film directing at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre in 1999. Mantas' first feature film *Divorce* (2022) was shown in Lithuanian cinemas. Mantas is known as a director of advertising and musical film, *Lituanica* (composers: Gintautas Venislovas, Martynas Bialobžeskis; author of the libretto - Martynas Bialobžeskis) is one of them. Mantas' debut film *Divorce* brought big national audience attention.

Producer

Zivile Gallego established her own production company Fralita Films in 2009 and since then she has produced 12 films, released and awarded nationally and internationally. Graduate of EAVE 2011 and ESoDoc 2017 Zivile Gallego is a member of the European Film Academy, Lithuanian Independent Producers Association, and the European Women Audiovisual Network.

Company profile

Established in 2009, **Fralita Films** stands at the forefront of cinematic innovation, crafting compelling feature films and documentaries that resonate on both national and international stages. Cooperating with partners from various countries, the company has produced 12 films.

Representatives in Tallinn
Mantas Verbiejus,
director-writer
Živilė Gallego,
producer



Contact

Živilė Gallego
zivile.gallego@fralita.com
+370 6433 0022

JUST FILM Works in Progress

Just Film Works in Progress focuses on film projects for children and young audiences. The Youth and Children's Film Festival Just Film is the biggest sub-festival of Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

Just Film Works in Progress Award

Renowned Pan-Baltic production house **Nafta Films** proudly sponsors the Just Film Works in Progress Award, **granting €2500 to support emerging film talent.**



Jury

Janne Vierth (Sweden), Commissioner of feature films, short films, and documentaries for children and youth (2-18) at the Swedish Film Institute, Film and TV Scriptwriter

Teresa Lima (Portugal), Co-founder, Programmer, and Director of PLAY - International Film Festival for Children and Youth

Eva-Maria Schneider-Reuter (Germany), Artistic Director of the Sehpferdchen Film Festival for the generations, Media Educator

DIRTY LAND



Original title: Terra Vil

Countries: Portugal, Italy

Genres: Drama

Written by: Luis Campos

Directed by: Luis Campos

Produced by: Luis Campos

Additional producers: Ana Almeida, Alessandro Amato, Luigi Chimienti, Humberto Rocha, Pedro Medeiros, Mário Patrocínio, Marta Lima, Nuno Tavares

Production company: Matiné

Co-Pro: dispàrte, BRO Cinema, Um Segundo Filmes, Agente a Norte and Anticyclone Productions

Languages: Portuguese

Estimated budget (EUR): 377 000

Financing in place (EUR): 377 000

Project status: post-production

Runtime: 96 min

Looking for: festivals, foreign broadcasters, sales agent

Synopsis

In the harsh riverbank landscapes of the north of Portugal, once the setting of an ever-present national tragedy, João is a 12-year-old introverted boy who lives alone with his alcoholic father António - an artisanal lamprey fisherman. Their communication is sparse in words and João spends the days sneaking into the unlocked house next door, where he most feels at home, finding comfort and caress from three women: Teresa and her teenage daughters Paula and Liliana. When together, all five of them look like a single dysfunctional family sustained by a homemade business of lamprey selling.

However, in a year plagued by drought and the effects of climate change, the business's profitability is scarce and António's erratic behaviour makes the situation increasingly unsustainable. When in one of the dawn fishing outings João unexpectedly witnesses an unforgivable attitude from his father, he faces a dilemma on which side to choose.

Director, writer, producer

Luis Campos is an awarded filmmaker, a PhD in Media_Arts, and an alumni of EAVE Producers Workshop, Berlinale Talents, Rotterdam Lab, ZFF Academy, Locarno Match Me, and ACE Producers Mentoring Programme. Founder of GUIÕES - Portuguese Language Screening Festival, PLOT - Professional Script Lab, and DRAMA.pt, develops film and media projects through his own production company Matiné.

Production company

Matiné is a Portuguese production company dedicated to creating film and television content. Founded by award-winning filmmaker Luis Campos, Matiné is focused on producing innovative and high-quality content for audiences worldwide. Further information is available at www.matine.pt.

Representative in Tallinn

Luis Campos, director-writer-producer



Contact

Luis Campos, director-writer-producer

info@matine.pt

+351 913 986 429

ELLA AND FRIENDS: NATURE CALLS

Just Film Works in Progress
FINLAND



Original title: Ella ja kaverit menevät metsään

Countries: Finland

Genres: children's film, comedy

Written by: Katri Manninen

Directed by: Elin Grönblom

Produced by: Aleksii Hyvärinen

Production company: Don Films

Languages: Finnish

Estimated budget (EUR): 1 700 000

Financing in place (EUR): 1 590 000

Project status: post-production

Runtime: 80 min

Looking for: broadcasters, distributors, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, private funds/banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agents, streamers

Synopsis

Fearless second-grader Ella and her quirky classmates – Tiina, Samp-pa, Tuukka, Pate, Hanna, and Pukari – find themselves racing against the clock when their strict principal threatens to hold them back unless they complete a crucial environmental science project. Led by their nature-loving teacher, the kids head into the forest for an unforgettable learning experience. Meanwhile, a greedy businessman, Father One, plots to turn the forest into a luxury resort with help from Hunter Korhonen, a shady nature photographer. Oblivious to the danger, the kids enjoy their adventure until they realise the forest – and a family of otters – are in jeopardy. Inspired by a mystical encounter with

Mother Nature, Ella leads her friends on a daring mission to protect the otters and stop Father One's plans. With clever traps and quick thinking, they outsmart the villains in a thrilling, fun-filled showdown that celebrates friendship, teamwork, and standing up for what's right.

Director

Elin Grönblom is a writer and director from Finland. She got her Masters in Filmmaking in the USA in 2011 and has since written and directed several kids and youth TV series. *Ella ja Kaverit Menevät Metsään* is Elin's feature film debut and she has more feature films in the pipeline.

Producer and production company

Aleksii Hyvärinen is a Finnish film producer, writer, and co-founder of Don Films, with over 20 years of industry experience. In 2022, he produced *The Twin*, an English-language horror with a theatrical release in 34 countries, and *Jingle Bells*, a local comedy hit. Currently, he is producing *Ella and Friends: Nature Calls* and executive producing *Delivery Run*. Recent co-productions include *There's Something in the Barn*, *Paranoia* and Netflix's *Hold Your Breath: The Ice Dive*. Aleksii is a member of the EFA.

Hailing from Helsinki, Finland comes **Don Films**. Co-founded in 2010 by friends Taneli Mustonen and Aleksii Hyvärinen, with solid backgrounds in producing, directing and screenwriting, we devote ourselves to character-driven stories with high stakes and unstoppable momentum.

Representatives in Tallinn
Elin Grönblom, director
Aleksii Hyvärinen, producer



Contact

Aleksii Hyvärinen, producer
aleksi@donfilms.fi



Original title: Emi
Countries: Argentina, Uruguay
Genres: drama, youth film
Written by: Ezequiel Erriquez Mena
Directed by: Ezequiel Erriquez Mena
Produced by: Laura Mara Tablón
Production company: Rita Cine
Languages: Spanish
Estimated budget (EUR): 359 696
Financing in place (EUR): 269 772
Project status: post-production
Runtime: 92 min
Looking for: festivals, programmers, sales agents

Synopsis

Emi talks to his mother Mariana about a recurrent image he has: a woman sitting in her living room, surrounded by policemen. Mariana assures him that it's a product of his imagination because when he was put up for adoption, he was a newborn.

Mariana and Darío are Emi's parents and they live with him in the suburbs of Buenos Aires. Emi is 18 years old and he likes motorbikes. He works at Rodo's motorcycle repair shop. There, he hangs up with Sol, Rodo's daughter, and they become friends. One day, Sol tells him that she has a brother who was given up for adoption as soon as he was born. Emi spends his days in silence and drives his motorbike on the highways on solitary trips by night. One day, an accident makes him

break the silence: he burns his hand with a welder at work. Rodo takes him to a hospital's emergency room and accompanies him to his home. There, Emi's secret is revealed when Rodo and his parents meet.

Director, writer

Ezequiel Erriquez studied Cinema at the University of Buenos Aires. Since 2004, he has written and directed short films, feature films, and series. He now teaches Cinema at the UFLO. He specialised in screenwriting, directing, and creative production at the Binger Film-lab. He was selected by the Editing Studio of the Berlinale Talent Campus where he worked at the DFFB with Lars Von Trier's editor Molly Malene Stensgaard to finish the editing of his first film *A la Cantábrica*. His second film *La Crecida* won the IILA-CINEMA AWARD 2023 as the Best fiction feature in Italy. Now, he is in post-production of his third film *Emi*.

Producer and production company

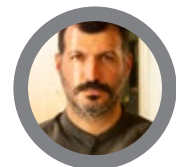
Laura Mara Tablón is a producer, scriptwriter, and film director. In 2015, she founded Rita Cine, a film company focused on auteur movies. She has been a jury member for the Argentine Film Institute on several occasions, and recently for the Peruvian Film Institute. She is also an active member of APIMA (Independent Argentine Producers Association). Her films have premiered at international festivals such as Berlina-le, Biennale di Venezia, Cannes, San Sebastian, and Mar del Plata. She develops the work of Argentine authors: Sol Berruezo Pichon-Rivière, Iván Fund, Betania Cappato, and Ezequiel Erriquez Mena.

Rita Cine is a film company focused on arthouse films, based in Buenos Aires, founded in 2015 by Laura Mara Tablón. It has a very clear premise: make movies that we believe in with people who love cinema.

Representative in Tallinn
Ezequiel Erriquez Mena, director-writer

Contact

Ezequiel Erriquez Mena, director-writer
 ezequielerriquez@gmail.com



LITTLE ELEPHANT IN THE WOODS

Just Film Works in Progress
NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM



Original title: Olifantje in het bos
Countries: Netherlands, Belgium
Genres: children's film
Written by: Tijs van Marle, Meikeminne Clinckspoor
Directed by: Meikeminne Clinckspoor
Produced by: Ingmar Conjarts, Gijs Kerbosch, Guusje van Deuren
Production company: 100%
Languages: Dutch, English, Flemish
Estimated budget (EUR): 2 700 000
Financing in place (EUR): 2 700 000
Project status: post-production
Runtime: 70 min
Looking for: distributors, festivals, sales agents, streamers

Synopsis

Olivia (6) lives with her parents and half-sister Nim (11) in a busy city. Nim has Down syndrome and looking after her can sometimes feel like a big responsibility. Nim has always been fascinated by elephants. She calls Olivia Ollie since birth, her little elephant she carried around the house. As Ollie grew, their roles slowly reversed, with Ollie taking the lead.

The whole family gathers at a campsite to celebrate their grandmother's birthday. Nim and Ollie are excited to perform Little Elephant in the Woods for Grandma. But when Nim panics and runs off to get her forgotten elephant headband, Ollie follows. She catches up to Nim deep in the forest, but they've lost their way.

After an argument, Ollie tries to return alone but. She gets worried about Nim. Just as she's about to give up, Nim finds her and, in her own imaginative way, takes on the caregiving role. They return together and perform for Grandma, realizing they can take care of each other.

Director

Meikeminne Clinckspoor is a Screenwriter & Director for Children's stories. She directed multiple award-winning shorts and worked as a children's coach and casting director on international projects. Currently, she is working on Little Elephant in the Woods, set to release in summer 2025.

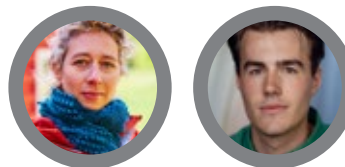
Producer and production company

Ingmar Conjarts is a producer at 100%. He produced *This is Not a Christmas Movie*, directed by Michael Middelkoop. Currently, Ingmar is working on several feature films, including the children's movie *Little Elephant in the Woods*.

100% is a production company for film, TV, and photography. Combining commercial work, creative documentaries, and a wide range of renowned fiction projects, 100% has established itself as a forward-thinking player internationally.

Representatives in Tallinn

Meikeminne Clinckspoor, director
Ingmar Conjarts, producer



Contact

Ingmar Conjarts, producer
ingmar@100prcnt.film

SECRET DELIVERY



Original title: Tichá pošta
Countries: Czechia, Slovakia, Serbia
Genres: family film, adventure, historical film
Written by: Jiří Stránský, Klára Formanová, Ján Sebechlebský
Directed by: Ján Sebechlebský
Produced by: Julietta Sichel
Production company: 8Heads Productions
Languages: Czech, German
Estimated budget (EUR): 2 200 000
Financing in place (EUR): 2 200 000
Project status: post-production
Runtime: 97 min
Looking for: distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, sales agents

Synopsis

This adventurous family film takes place in the snowy Giant Mountains, Czechia, towards the end of the Nazi occupation. A group of child heroes rescues a downed French pilot. Their actions resemble the principle of the well-known "telephone game" – the pilot is passed between mountain villages like a secret message – secret delivery - at school. But the children play a highly risky game. They are confronted by deadly soldiers of the occupying army, they must outwit traitors and informers and, last but not least, survive in the harsh conditions of winter in the mountains. This thrilling and visually attractive film story, which is an adaptation of the literary novella by writer and screenwriter Jiří Stránský, is based on real events. The authors want to address

young viewers with the theme of courage, friendship, and heroism, but also to show how people change when confronted with danger.

Director

Ján Sebechlebský is a Slovak film director based in Prague, Czech Republic, with a very extensive filmography. Ján has directed more than a dozen documentaries, music videos, and series. His filmography includes, among others, the WW2 film based on Jiří Stránský's novel *The Ballad of a Pilot*, the children's film *The Healing Water* and the most expensive TV series ever produced in Slovakia, the historical saga *The Time of Hopes*, nominated for PRIX EUROPA 2024.

Producer and production company

Julietta Sichel is a Czech film producer with almost 30 years of experience in the film business. She started producing films in 2010, after founding 8Heads Productions and concentrating on international co-productions and projects with international potential. Films produced or co-produced by 8Heads Productions were presented at numerous festivals around the world and sold for several territories. The current focus of the company is high-quality films for children and youth, such as e.g. teenage ice-hockey drama *The Pack* (2020) which was shown in the Tallinn Just Film Competition in 2020, or children's winter historical road movie *Secret Delivery*, currently in post-production.

8Heads Productions has been active on the market since 2010. The company focuses on films and series with international potential. Films produced or co-produced by 8Heads Productions have been screened at numerous film festivals around the world and sold to various territories.

Representative in Tallinn
Julietta Sichel, producer

Contact

Julietta Sichel, producer
 julietta@8heads.com
 +420 602 292 971



THE RIVER



Original Title (Local language): El Río

Countries: Chile, Argentina

Genres: Drama, road movie

Written by: Cristóbal García

Directed by: Cristóbal García

Produced by: Santiago Ortúzar & Francisco Bisañez

Production company: Vórtice Films

Languages: Spanish

Estimated budget (EUR): 200 000

Financing in place (EUR): 150 000

Project status: Post-production

Runtime: 100 min

Looking for: distributors, festivals, post-production services, sales agents, streamers

Synopsis

Toño and Pancho escape from the Seneme. They arrive at the Mapocho River where they meet Mayita and Katia. As they walk along the shore looking for a place to stay, they meet Beto, a young Argentinian who offers them his tent to sleep in. But a storm causes the river to rise and they must escape from the place. With nowhere to go, the young people decide to travel the entire river to get to know the sea. But Beto is unable to fit in and one afternoon they find him committing suicide in a tree. Sad, the young people bury him on the riverbank, and the next day they continue their trip. One night, Mayita complains profusely because her stomach hurts. She goes outside to pee, and when she bends down, a baby falls to the ground. Then she realizes: she was pregnant. The following days Mayita rests and feeds her daughter. Lit-

tle by little she regains her strength and is ready to continue. After a few days, they reach the mouth of the river and excitedly contemplate the immensity of the sea.

Director, writer

Cristóbal García wrote and directed the plays *El mal Parido* and *Primer Paraíso*. He studies Playwriting and adapts to theatre. The novel *El Obsceno Pájaro de la Noche* by José Donoso, premiered under his direction. He studied Screenwriting at the Escuela de Cine de Chile. He wrote and directed the short film *A House in the Sand*, (premiere at FICG 36). He is co-founder of the production company Vórtice Films and is currently preparing his debut feature *The River*.

Producer and production company

Santiago Ortúzar is an Executive Producer and Partner of the company Vórtice Films. Produces the short film *A House of the Sand*, starring Gloria Münchmeyer (Volpi Venice Cup) and Sergio Hernández, and the film *El Río*, winner of the Production Fund (2023), Ministry of Culture of Chile.

Vórtice Films is a Chilean production company focused on the creation of content for film and television. Since its beginnings, it has worked on the search and development of its own language that can distinguish us, to promote the emergence of new voices within Chilean cinema.

Representatives in Tallinn
Santiago Ortúzar, producer





Contact

Santiago Ortúzar, producer
filmsbosque@gmail.com

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Discovery Campus

The Black Nights Discovery Campus is an international continuing education programme organised by Black Nights Film Festival and Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event (I@T&BE), in collaboration with a variety of prestigious international partners that allows young film professionals to pursue, complement and integrate their studies in filmmaking. At the campus, they can discover the new skills needed to improve, upgrade and update their knowledge in their field of work and meet new mentors, contacts and fellow talents to keep an eye on.

Discovery Campus unites established talent programmes Script Pool Project Competition, Black Nights Stars, Music Meets Film, Black Room, alongside new and refreshed Frame within a Frame. Each programme will present new talents for the industry to keep an eye on.

We are proud to be exclusive legal partners of PÖFF 2024



TGS Baltic is a top-tier commercial law firm with offices in all the Baltic countries. TGS Baltic Estonia is celebrating its **30th anniversary** this year.



DISCOVER MORE

tgsbaltic.com

Script Pool

Highlighting five international projects and the team behind them - director, scriptwriter, and producer. The aim is to gather film projects with high distribution value with a final draft in place. Focusing on the script and the overall project presentation, the projects, and their teams will be presented to the international industry decision-makers (sales agents, financiers, and co-producers) whose contribution will increase their sales and distribution potential. The programme could not be done without our partners International Screen Institute and T-Port Online Platform for Student & Short Films, The Write Retreat, Law Firm TGS Baltic and all our mentors and jury members.



TGS Baltic presents The Most Promising Project Award at Script Pool by providing the winning project's screenwriter the opportunity to attend The Write Retreat Mallorca with travel allowance (valued at 4000 € in total).



Jury

Moritz Peters, Director Marketing & Acquisitions
at Plaion Pictures GmbH, Germany

Fabien Westerhoff, CEO and Partner at Film Constellation, UK

Margrit Stärk, Director Acquisitions & Coproductions
Feature Films ZDF, Germany

THE QUEEN OF THULE

Script Pool
GERMANY, POLAND
NORWAY

Original title: Die Königin von Thule
Countries: Germany, Poland, Norway
Genres: road film, action, dramedy
Written by: Paula Redlefsen
Directed by: Ewa Wikiel
Produced by: Paula Redlefsen
Production company: ScriptDock
Languages: German, Polish, English
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 617 000
Looking for: co-producers

Short synopsis

NINA (27), a lonely young woman who works as a coat check girl in Berlin's hottest bar, is deeply committed to belonging. The bar is run by YLENA (45) and CEM (43), an enigmatic couple who have a bumpy relationship. After a legendary party, Nina finds herself in the back of a car, abducted by Ylena, with no recollection of what happened last night.

Her scattered flashbacks don't add up – every bit contradicts the previous one. Apparently, Cem died and the Polish task force is after the main suspect, Ylena. Can Nina trust her garbled memory - or her kidnapper with a criminal record? Ylena grew up poor in rural Poland and vowed to make her life free and glamorous - never to return here. Now she has a useless coat check girl along on this mad chase towards freedom. She wants to run alone, but Nina clings to her.

Each turn in the bumpy road reveals who the women really are and turns them into the most loyal friends. When the mystery of the killing is revealed, nothing is left to lose.

Producer, screenwriter

Paula Redlefsen studied acting at HB Studios in NYC for three years. Back in Berlin, she mainly played in English language productions. She worked as a dialogue coach, casting director and assistant director, meanwhile making her own short films. In 2008 she studied screenwriting at Ars Nova, followed by classes at Masterschool Drehbuch, HFF Potsdam and full-time at Serial Eyes 2024. She writes series and feature films. Her favorite genres are comedy and drama. In 2017 she co-founded the online platform www.scriptdock.de.

Director

Ewa Wikiel was born in 1989 in Warsaw. During her bachelor's degree in political science, she was a guest student in Michael Haneke's directing class. She is studying directing at the DFFB. In 2019, her short film *Nikotyna* received the rating Especially Valuable. Her films have been screened in competitions at international festivals, including France, Poland, Croatia, Portugal, and Italy. *KRZYK- Losing Control*, her graduation film, just won Best Narrative Feature at the Greenpoint Film Festival in NYC.

Production company

ScriptDock is a dockyard for screenplays, haven for screenwriters, transfer site for pitches.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Ewa Wikiel, director

Paula Redlefsen, producer, screenwriter



Contact

Paula Redlefsen
paula@scriptdock.de

BACKSTAGE

Original title: Backstage
Countries: Turkey, Germany
Genres: dark comedy, psychological drama
Written by: Can Merdan Doğan
Directed by: Can Merdan Doğan
Produced by: Jamila Wenske, Erkan Taşkıran
Production companies: GustavFilm GmbH, Achtung Panda!
Language: Turkish
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 600 000
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers, technical participation

Short synopsis

Gül (40) is a background singer for TV show star Engin Sezgin (45). She has studied music but doubts her talent as a singer and dreams of a solo career. During a rehearsal for the TV station's 25th anniversary, she impulsively corrects Engin for singing a wrong note. He almost hits her with a water bottle. After the incident, Gül visits Engin in his dressing room and tries to smooth things over. The power-drunk Engin takes advantage of her, calls Gül by her "dead" male name Ahmet and harasses her. She leaves the room shocked and hurt. The violent energy stays with Engin and makes him stumble. He accidentally falls on the back of his head and dies. But the show must go on. After a spontaneous funeral and some persuasion from the ensemble, it's decided: Gül will be the star of the show tonight. She is given her long-awaited solo. Gül bravely takes the stage. But her voice fails. Immediately, all her fears come to the surface. Will she be able to overcome them?

Director, screenwriter

Can M. Doğan is a director and screenwriter. His short film *Stiletto: A Pink Family Tragedy* (2021) premiered in the Short Film Competition of the 65th BFI London Film Festival and won the Best International Short Film at the Dublin International Film Festival. The film has screened at over 20 film festivals worldwide, including the Netherlands, Germany and South Korea. It was also broadcast on Canal+ France in 2022. He has recently completed his second short film, *The Longest Night*.

Producer

Achtung Panda! is based in Berlin and Baden-Württemberg and run by **Jamila Wenske**. We produce successful international feature film co-productions. Screen International named Achtung Panda! among the 75 leading European independent production companies during the Cannes Film Festival 2022. In 2018, Jamila was named one of the *10 Producers To Watch* by Variety. Her successes include feature films such as Juho Kuosmanens *Compartment Nr.6* (2021) or most recently *Elbow* by Asli Özarslan (Berlinale 2024).

Production companies

GustavFilm wants to encourage filmmakers who have a strong voice and want to make courageous films with a unique attitude. Its vision is to create a new queer aesthetic in European cinema. GustavFilm wants to challenge and question established representations and ideas with its film projects.

Achtung Panda! is based in Berlin and Baden-Württemberg. Screen International named Achtung Panda! among the 75 leading European independent production companies during Cannes Film Festival 2022. In 2018, Jamila was named one of the *10 Producers To Watch* by Variety.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Can Merdan Doğan, director, screenwriter

Erkan Taskiran, producer



Contact

Can Merdan Doğan
 canmerdan_dogan@hotmail.com
 +49 151 122 41790

THE CAREGIVER

Original title: Hoitaja (working title)

Countries: Finland

Genres: dark comedy, dramedy, social drama

Written by: Miia Tervo

Directed by: Miia Tervo

Produced by: Marko Talli

Production company: Yellow Film & TV

Language: Finnish

Estimated budget in EUR: 1 706 000

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers

Short synopsis

Aino (38), a broke-ass mental health nurse who hates the rich. Life takes a new turn when a new patient Mikael (40), an investment advisor, arrives at the mental hospital. Mikael had a nervous breakdown during the economic downturn, ran away from his wedding, jumped off the roof, and saw no point in life. Fortunately, the house was a single story, he had a lot of money anyway, and he didn't even love his ex-fiancée Erin (25). Aino's daughter Jade (16) wants to apply to an expensive ballet school and threatens to sell her virginity if she doesn't get money for her studies. Against all odds, Aino wins 2700 euros in the lottery and now she needs to make her winnings grow. When an old friend invites Mikael to his extravagant couple's party Mikael suggests that he could teach Aino to invest and Aino to play his girlfriend. Everything goes well when Mikael guides Aino to the wonderful world of money until then they discover that they are helplessly in love with each other.

Director, screenwrite:

Award-winning director **Miia Tervo** grew up by the Arctic Circle in Finnish Lapland. Her first short films went worldwide including IDFA, and Torino and one received an EFA nomination. Tervo's debut feature film *Aurora* (2019) was a critical success and had a world premiere as the opening film in Gothenburg, (SXSW) it had its US premiere, and in Edinburgh, it won the Best International Feature. In the Finnish Oscars/ Jussi Awards it won eight awards. Her second feature *The Missile* (2024) is now on its world tour.

Producer

Marko Talli is currently running Yellow Film's feature films department and has produced over twenty titles during the last seven years. Recent credits range from feature films such as the children's film trilogy *Super Furball* (2018-2025), which screened at PÖFF, and *The Ragged Life Of Juice Leskinen* (2018), which won three Jussi Awards. He also produced the acclaimed feature documentary *The Happy Worker* (2022) for ARTE. He is best known as the producer of *M/S Romantic* (2019) which won four Venla Awards.

Production company

Yellow Film & TV is the largest independent production company in the Nordics with a passion for captivating stories in scripted movies and non-scripted content. Marko Talli is currently running the feature films department and has produced over twenty titles during the last seven years.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Miia Tervo, director, screenwriter

Marko Talli, producer



Contact

Marko Talli
marko.talli@yellowfilm.fi

FABULA RASA

Script Pool
GERMANY, LUXEMBOURG, CANADA

Original title: Fabula Rasa

Countries: Germany, Luxembourg, Canada

Genres: thriller, comedy, dark comedy

Written by: Miriam Suad Bühler, Maurice Sinner

Produced by: Steffen Gerdes

Production companies: Red Balloon Film, maze pictures

Co-production company: Red Lion

Language: English

Estimated budget in EUR: 3 326 378

Looking for: broadcasters, distributors, foreign broadcasters, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers

Short synopsis

Otto (35) and Anna (30) live in a suburb of a major North German city. They are a young couple, like something out of a bank commercial. Otto commutes to the city daily, where he works at a consulting firm. Anna manages the household and runs an Etsy shop offering custom-made women's jackets. The couple is educated, secure, and bored. However, their lives are not normal because an omniscient Narrator shapes their reality. The disembodied voice not only molds the environment – objects change color, shape, or type as soon as described – but also influences their decisions, steering them onto a predetermined path. The narrator wants Otto to kill Anna, but Anna disrupts the order by killing Otto instead. The narrator stumbles, unsure of how to handle Anna as the new protagonist. He struggles to regain control, leading to a cat-and-mouse game between the narrator and his unruly creation. The battle for power over reality and fiction intensifies as Anna challenges the narrator's authority.

Screenwriters

Miriam Suad Bühler studied screenwriting at the NYC Film Academy and Hamburg Media School, graduating as the youngest student in their history. She began writing TikTok and short video sketches for ZDF and contributed to the screenplay GEMINI, nominated for the German Screenplay Award. Miriam worked on the award-winning sitcom *Nix Für Jung*s and has been part of the writers' room for *Doppelhaushälfte*, one of Germany's most successful comedies, and a finalist for the German Television Award and Prix Europa.

Maurice Sinner, born in Luxembourg in '92, shot his first comedy at 11. After working as a camera assistant, he earned a bachelor's in media communication. Since 2012, he's been with the political art collective Richtung22, co-writing theater, film, and radio. As a freelance journalist, he contributed to Luxembourg's public radio and the Centre for Political Education. In 2020, he completed a master's in screenwriting, with his film *Ba Ham* nominated for the 2021 Max Ophüls Prize.

Producer

Steffen Gerdes is a Creative Producer with extensive experience in advertising and marketing for international feature films. At Pandora Filmverleih, he led projects like *UFO In Her Eyes* by Xialo Guo, *Fraktus* by Lars Jessen, *Soul Kitchen*, and *The Cut* by Fatih Akin. At Red Balloon Film, he worked as a Producer on international co-productions such as *Happy Holidays* by Scandar Copti, *Yunan* by Ameer Fakher Eldin, *YURT* by Nehir Tuna and *L'Empire* by Bruno Dumont. Steffen is a member of EAVE.

Production companies

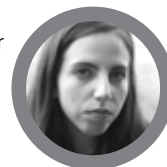
Red Balloon Film, founded in 2016 by CEO & Producer Dorothe Beine-meier and maze pictures in Hamburg, Germany, specializes in children and family entertainment as well as high-quality arthouse content, drawing on years of national and international experience. Based on its founders' long-standing experience, maze pictures has successfully developed and (co-) produced artistically ambitious fictional ideas for movies and high end series for the national and international market.

Red Lion was founded in 1996 by Jeanne Geiben and Pol Cruchten, who were joined by Vincent Quénaul in 2013. Since the passing of Pol Cruchten, a pioneer of Luxembourg's cinema, Jeanne Geiben and Vincent Quénaul have been acting as producers for the company.

Representatives in Tallinn:
Miriam Suad Bühler, screenwriter
Steffen Gerdes, producer

Contact

Steffen Gerdes
steffen@redballoon-film.de



KINGPINS

Original title: Visiem vajag naudu

Countries: Latvia

Genres: dark comedy, youth film

Written by: Kristians Riekstins

Directed by: Kristians Riekstins

Produced by: Alise Rogule

Production company: Mima Films

Language: Latvian

Estimated budget in EUR: 150 000

Looking for: co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, post-production services, sales agent, streamers, technical participation

Short synopsis

A struggling actress decides to solve her money woes by robbing the bowling alley where she works as a waitress. However, when the heist goes wrong, she must use all her wit and acting prowess to convince the establishment's boss of her innocence, outsmart her conniving co-workers and uncover the real thief.

Director

Kristians Riekstins (1993) is a writer-director from Riga Latvia. He is a graduate of the Latvian Academy of Culture's National Film School, author of multiple short films, and editor of trailers and commercials. His interests include existential crises, rude jokes, old B-movies and writing about himself in the 3rd person.

Producer

With a Bachelor's degree in Arts, **Alise Rogule** has produced different projects for more than 12 years. In 2022 Alise was selected as a participant together with 9 European promising producers for the Cannes Film Festival Court Metrage's new initiative - New Producers Room and Match Me! in Locarno Film Festival. In 2023 Alise was selected for Visitors Programme at the European Film Market in Berlin and was a participant in the ACE Producers Mentoring EU programme.

Production company

Starting as a creative production company working with mostly commercials, **Mima Films** became the leader in the local market. In 2018, we took a huge step and produced our first feature. Since then we have changed our focus on films and production services so we can work on projects which we enjoy the most.

Representatives in Tallinn:

Kristians Riekstins, director, screenwriter

Alise Rogule, producer



Contact

Alise Rogule
alise@mimafilms.lv
+371 2612 8469

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Black Nights Stars

Black Nights Stars is a programme launched by the Black Nights Film Festival in 2017, designed to enhance the visibility of young actors from the Baltic Sea region – Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and Finland.

Eight young talents from the Baltic Sea Region were selected by an international jury, consisting of Casting Directors Ulrike Möller from Germany, Sien Josephine Teijssen from Belgium, Yngvill Haga from Norway, and Sam Jones from the UK, all members of the International Casting Directors Association. Other jury members were Talent Agent Silke Rodenbach from Germany, Actor and Actors Coach Tom Sawyer from the UK, and former Black Nights Star Henessi Schmidt from Estonia.

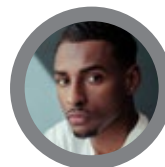
The programme is focused on meetings with international film professionals and training in practical skills, helpful in their career, as well as to promote these young talents inside and outside their home territories.

The event is inspired by the European Shooting Stars program organised by European Film Promotion since 1998.

MEET THE ACTORS OF BLACK NIGHTS STARS 2024



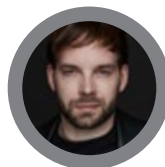
**Andreas Bruun
Pedersen**
(Denmark)



**Salah Isse
Mohamed**
(Finland)



**Maria
Kowalska**
(Poland)



**Märten
Metsaviir**
(Estonia)



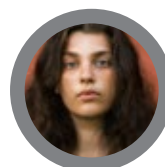
**Robertas
Petraitis**
(Lithuania)



**Zethphan
Smith-Gneist**
(Germany)



**Alec
Toselli**
(Sweden)



**Maria
Valk**
(Estonia)

Music Meets Film

Music Meets Film (MMF) has been running for over a decade bringing together film music professionals from all around the world. Last year we renewed our approach as we are now bringing into the spotlight young film composers – the next talents of film music.

MMF is part of the Discovery Campus continuous educational programme, where the participants can learn from the best – both from their wins and mistakes. The aim is to offer a highly practical programme of lectures and masterclasses providing realistic tools for the participants' careers. These will help them to navigate the industry in the filmmaking process with the whole team, knowing one's intellectual rights, who to contact and how to network to land your next project as well as co-productions and the process of creating a film score.

The eight young talents will attend MMF's panels and masterclasses led by award-winning professionals and industry-leading companies and partners. From each session, the participants could gain precise practical knowledge and possible new connections to advance their careers.

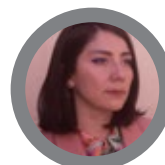
MEET THE TALENTS OF MUSIC MEETS FILM 2024



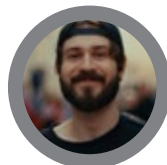
**Agathe
Lavarel**
(France)



**Brooks
Leibee**
(USA)



**Célyne
Baudino**
(France)



**Kristjan
Ruus**
(Estonia)



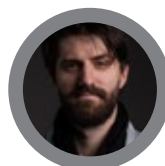
**Lauri
Kadalipp**
(Estonia)



**Mikko
Aaltio**
(Finland)



**Natalie
Schäfer**
(Sweden)



**Villem
Rootalu**
(Estonia)

Black Room

The Black Room masterclass explores the visual language of cinema and provides comprehensive training for Production Designers seeking to enhance their understanding of visual storytelling and the artistry within their craft. The primary objective of Black Room masterclass is to offer extensive knowledge and practical skills necessary to design visually impactful cinematic worlds.

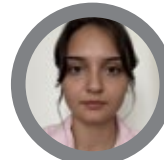
Black Room serves as a platform that unites Production Designers working in the Art Department. One of the central ideas behind Black Room is to expand the film industry network, ignite innovative concepts, and gather inspiration, thereby discovering new prospects for future projects and benefiting from the collective experiences of others.

The mentors for Black Room 2024 are internationally acclaimed **Production Designer Uli Hanisch** – *The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* (2023), *The Queen's Gambit* (2020), *Cloud Atlas* (2011) and **Production Designer/Art Director Marco Bittner Rosser** – *Tár* (2022), *Only Lovers Left Alive* (2013), *Inglourious Basterds* (2009). The central theme for this year's masterclass is 'Creative Collaboration.'

MEET THE TALENTS OF BLACK ROOM 2024



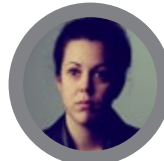
**Amalia
Mititelu**
(Romania)



**Edzhe
Ziyayev**
(Bulgaria)



**Elizabet
Lisitsin**
(Estonia)



**Ermina
Apostolaki**
(Greece)



**Freda
Purik**
(Estonia)



**Johanna Helen
Baumann**
(Germany)



**Maria Rosa
Thornhill**
(Malta)



**Slobodanka
Pilic**
(Bosnia and
Herzegovina)

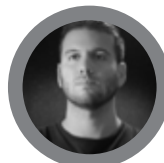
Frame Within a Frame

Frame Within the Frame 2024 is set to immerse participants in the captivating world of cinematography from 20th to 22nd November. This three-day event brings together industry professionals, aspiring filmmakers, and visual storytellers for a celebration of the craft through masterclasses, film screenings, case studies, and panel discussions. FWF offers a rare opportunity to learn from renowned experts, providing invaluable insights into the technical and creative aspects of filmmaking, making it a must-attend event for those passionate about visual storytelling.

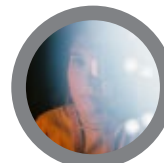
The programme kicks off with a **Masterclass by Roberto Schaefer**, a BAFTA-nominated cinematographer known for his work on *Finding Neverland* and *Quantum of Solace*. Schaefer's session, titled "**Cinematographic Mastery: Elevating Visuals with Limited Resources**", will delve into maintaining high visual standards across various budget levels, from indie films to large-scale productions. Following this, attendees can enjoy a screening of *The Kite Runner*, accompanied by a Q&A moderated by **Elen Lotman**, offering a deep dive into the film's cinematic narrative and creative process.

Day two features **Ville Penttilä's masterclass**, focusing on "**Lighting the Vision: The Gaffer's Art in Shaping Cinematic Imagery**", highlighting the gaffer's collaboration with cinematographers. The day continues with a screening of *The Eternal Road* and a Q&A session with **Cinematographer Rauno Ronkainen** and **Penttilä**. The masterclass concludes with a **Panel Discussion** on crafting immersive visuals and a hands-on demonstration of **ARRI's SkyPanel X**, led by **Steve Calavitis**, celebrating a century of ARRI's lighting innovation.

MEET THE TALENTS OF FRAME WITHIN A FRAME 2024



**Ariel
Navarro**
(Cuba)



**Ema
Diehelová**
(Slovakia)



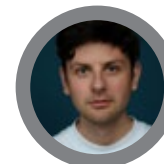
**Karla
Budišćak**
(Croatia)



**Kārlis
Bergs**
(Latvia)



**Laura
Köhler**
(Germany)



**Paul
Sonntag**
(Germany)



**Rishi
Selvam**
(Sri Lanka)



**Tomas
Lipsky**
(Czechia)

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European Genre Forum

The project who would benefit the most from virtual studio services, will receive an award of 25 000 euros consisting of one day rental of LED stage, preceded by one day of pre-lighting for the production of the selected film. The award is presented by a virtual production studio ATM Virtual.

The main goal of this international project is to connect, train, and support young and emerging as well as established European film talents at the beginning of their careers in the genre industry. The EGF annual cycle includes three labs: a Production Lab in Zagreb, a Directing Lab in April in Amsterdam, and a final Sales and Marketing Lab in Tallinn.

Participants receive a full range of feedback, acquire skills, and connect with established professionals in the global genre industry. The labs help participants enhance their projects and prepare for accessing co-production markets and financing opportunities for their films. The EGF Sales and Marketing Lab in Tallinn will take place from November 19th to 21st. Special sessions will focus on topics related to development, sales, and marketing, as well as the latest AI tools for filmmaking. As in previous years, the highly anticipated final pitch of the 8 chillingly fresh and exciting projects from the participants of EGF 2024 will be at the heart of the Tallinn Lab. Come and discover the hottest new talent in European genre cinema!

For the first time, the project who would benefit the most from virtual studio services, will receive an award of 25 000 euros consisting of one day rental of LED stage, preceded by one day of pre-lighting for the production of the selected film. The award is presented by a virtual production studio ATM Virtual.

Mentors



Helene Granqvist



Joanna Solecka



Valeria Richter

Tuesday, November 19

9:30-13:00 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Altair, Vega*
Pitching preparation parallel meetings 1:1
Helene Granqvist, Valeria Richter

14:00-15:30 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*
Digital marketing of genre
Joanna Solecka

15:45-17:45 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*
Marketing 1:1 project meetings
Joanna Solecka

Wednesday, November 20

9:30-12:30 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*
Pitching preparations group session
Helene Granqvist, Valeria Richter

14:00-15:30 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*
Open Workshop: Generative AI in genre film

15:30-17:00 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*
Pitching rehearsal
Helene Granqvist, Valeria Richter

Thursday, November 21

9:00-10:30 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*
Marketing 1:1 project meetings
Joanna Solecka

10:45-11:30 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*
**Open Workshop: Infinite Waiting:
How to make a film without public funds**
Miguel Llanso, Sander Maran

13:00-14:00 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Capella*
Project Pitching: European Genre Forum

14:00-17:00 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*
1:1 Project Meetings

17:00-17:30 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*
Wrap up of European Genre Forum 2024

THE DARK ARCHITECT



Original title: Pimeän arkkitehti

Countries: Finland, Estonia

Genre: horror film

Written by: Risto Tuominen

Directed by: Risto Tuominen

Produced by: Ilkka Matila

Production company: MRP Matila Röhr Productions Oy

Co-production company: Taska Film

Language: Finnish

Estimated budget in EUR: 2 300 000

Financing in place in EUR: 58 000

Runtime: 90

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, post-production services, private funds / banks

Synopsis

Joni Widenius, a young man from Helsinki, moves on his father's demand to study in the remote northern city of Vaasa. Joni suffers from maladaptive daydreaming, where fantasies mix in with reality. He has lived all his life in the shadow of his tyrannical father. Joni's father has bought him a cheap apartment in a grim and decaying 1960s building. Upon moving in, Joni gets to know some neighbors, including a depressed single mother Marja, with whom he falls in love. Later he discovers a sheet of leather adorned with hieroglyphs and a rotten human tongue hidden in his apartment. Joni begins to unravel the secrets of the house and discovers that the building was actually built as a tomb according to ancient Meroitic principles, and its architect was buried alive in the wall of Joni's bathroom. In service of the dead

architect, the residents attempt to force Joni to sacrifice Marja's little son in a ritual meant to stop the decay of the building.

Director, screenwriter

Risto Tuominen earned a Master of Fine Arts in Directing at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles. His thesis short film *Tides* won the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation's Production Award. Tuominen has an extensive background as an assistant director in numerous feature films, television series, and commercials. Additionally, he served in the Finnish Defence Forces, contributing as an army officer to peacekeeping efforts in Afghanistan. *The Dark Architect* will be his debut feature film.

Producer and production companies

Ilkka Matila is one of Finland's most prolific film producers and an MRP Matila Röhr Productions co-owner. During the past 30 years, he has produced 23 award-winning feature films, numerous shorts, serial dramas and documentaries, mostly in international co-production.

MRP Matila Röhr Productions Oy (founded in 1990) is Finland's most experienced feature film production company. MRP has produced over 50 feature films and more than 150 other productions, including documentaries, animation, television drama, short movies and documentary series.

Taska Film has produced half of Estonia's top ten box office hits. Their action war drama *1944* was the Estonian entry for the Best Foreign Language Film at the Academy Awards in 2015.

Representatives in Tallinn

Risto Tuominen, screenwriter, director

Ilkka Matila, producer

Contact

Ilkka Matila
ilkka.matila@matilarohr.com
+358 405 011 025





Original title: Elle
Countries: Israel, Canada, Greece
Genres: horror, psychological thriller
Written by: Adva Reichman
Directed by: Adva Reichman
Produced by: Maya Korn
Production company: MHK Productions
Languages: English, Hebrew
Estimated budget in EUR: 900 000
Financing in place in EUR: 200 000
Runtime: 110
Looking for: co-producers, public funds, private funds, sales agent

Synopsis

Shira, late 30s, pregnant, tries to impress her former soccer team and new captain, but crashes. Her pregnancy stripped her of her identity and now requires bed rest. To her dismay, Roy, her husband, insists she gets help. A doula is hired - Elle. Shira begins dreaming about dying at birth like her mom, while her marriage unravels as Elle urges her to reclaim her career. An offer from her dream team in Europe finally allows her to see a way to be a mother and fulfill herself. Roy refuses, sues for custody and Shira concedes. Elle overhears and brutally forces Shira into delivery, alone. Shira and her baby survive and take refuge at her dad's, who suspects the doula is Lilith, a baby-killing demon. Roy has a change of heart but disappears. As Shira's dad searches for him, Elle finds Shira. To Elle's fury, Shira realizes her priorities and offers her life

instead of the baby's. A fight erupts. Dying, Elle plans to take over Shira's body and raise the baby to become her version of a strong woman. Determined to save her daughter, Shira stabs herself so she can't be possessed. Elle dies. Shira, saved, hums Elle's signature lullaby.

Director, screenwriter

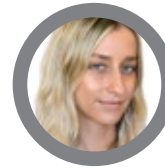
Adva Reichman is an Israeli writer and director based in LA with an MFA in film from USC. *Samir*, a feature she co-wrote was financed by Warner Bros. *Jerusalem 67*, an American- Israeli co-production feature she wrote is currently in post. Her short film *Something to Live For* screened in dozens of festivals including Urbanworld and Taormina Film Festival, headed by Oliver Stone. Her script, *Project Fog*, was an Academy Nicholl Fellowship semi-finalist, Rhode Island Festival winner, and a Sundance Lab 2nd round.

Producer and production company

A UK/ German native, **Maya Korn** is an LA-based genre producer. Her credits include *Deathcembers A Christmas Miracle*, Tribeca winner *Lucky Grandma & Diabla*, premiering on Alter to 50k views. Prior, she was in marketing (BBC) & female content (Refinery 29 & Maven Pictures). She is a Columbia University Producing MFA, Eave TTB and WEMW grad. Her feature *Lucky Strikes* completed the Berlinale Talent Project Market, Fantasia Frontieres and got a Special Mention at Sitges.

MHK Productions is a production company in LA & the UK, uncovering stories in the genre space that give a voice to minorities & highlight political issues. Our narrative work has been to 200 festivals & won over 50 awards. Our commercial & TV work has forged collaborations with MTV & FB Live.

Representatives in Tallinn
Adva Reichman, writer-director
Maya Korn, producer



Contact

Maya Korn
maya@mhkproductions.com

GODLING



Original title: Godling
Country: United Kingdom
Genres: science fiction, psychological drama
Written by: Stuart Wright
Directed by: Ashley Horner
Produced by: Ashley Horner
Production company: Pinball Films Ltd
Language: English
Estimated budget in EUR: 997 103
Financing in place in EUR: 520 650
Runtime: 94
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, post-production services, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers, technical participation

Synopsis

The British holiday park of Shackville is a construct, literally, with those living there in makeshift chalets and shacks playing their role in processing Aliens who arrive in human form, via a woodland portal, on planet earth. Sent here primarily to save us from ourselves the Aliens appear as human 'blanks' due to some problem in the process, and capitalism has used this 'glitch' to re-programme our extra-terrestrial benefactors, making them good servants of the dollar. Ellis will be the first to throw a spanner in the works.

Screenwriter

Stuart Wright is an award-winning screenwriter, receiving The Owl Screenwriter Award for Best Feature Film Script from the inaugural year of the Athens Film Office screenwriting programme (supported by the Marche Du Film) at Cannes Film Festival 2023. As well as a number of exciting genre films projects in development with Pinball Films, he is developing a three-part noir TV series *Black Moss* with Free@Last TV.

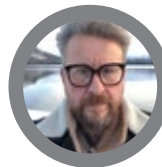
Director, producer

Ashley Horner misspent the early 90s playing guitar with indie art rockers *Pale Saints* and *Edsel Auctioneer*. Film school beckoned, where he made his first shorts and spent a hard time cutting celluloid. His debut feature film *Brilliantlove* was selected for the Tribeca Film Festival in 2010 and released internationally by IFC. Current projects in development include sci-fi *Godling*, A documentary on 4AD records, and black metal horror *Nothing Holy*. He is a producer member of ACE, EAVE and TAPS.

Representatives in Tallinn

Stuart Wright, screenwriter

Ashley Horner, director, producer



Contact

Ashley Horner
+44 079 7124 3909
ashleu@pinballfilms.com

INHERITANCE



Original title: Спадок
Countries: Ukraine
Genres: psychological drama/horror
Written by: Bytiutskyi Stanislav
Directed by: Bytiutskyi Stanislav
Produced by: Inna Lastochkina
Production company: Contemporary Ukrainian Cinema (CUC)
Co-production company: Fantastic Films
Languages: Ukrainian
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 007 000
Financing in place in EUR: 32 500
Runtime: 90
Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, post-production services, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, editor, composer, co-writer

Synopsis

Katia and Anton are a young couple. Madly in love, they are building plans for the future, having recently moved into their own flat, which they inherited from Anton's grandfather. Gradually, Katia begins to doubt her feelings and the relationship begins to deteriorate. One day, while stripping old wallpaper. They notice a small crack in the wall. The more their relationship breaks down, the bigger this crack becomes, and eventually, it becomes a gaping hole. The strangest thing is that there seems to be nothing at all behind the hole in the wall—only dark emptiness, from which a grinding sound can be heard from time to time. When an evil creature emerges from the hole and takes Anton away, Katia engages in a bloody battle to rescue him and break her morbid connection with the past and abandon the plans that have been forced on her.

Director, screenwriter

Stanislav Bytiutskyi, born in Kyiv, is an architecture and film studies graduate. He's known for articles on film, festival curator and film scholar at the main Ukrainian film archive, Dovzhenko Centre. His debut documentary, *Goodbye, Cinephiles* (2014), rethinking the revolution in Ukraine. His short film *24* (2016) earned acclaim as Ukraine's top short film and was screened at FID Marseille and Vienna Shorts. His last short film *Intolerance* (2020) won Best Short Film at Kinokolo-Award (Ukraine).

Producer and production company

Inna Lastochkina is a Ukrainian producer based in Kyiv, working with Contemporary Ukrainian Cinema since 2019. She has produced eight films, including the award-winning shorts *Glorious Revolution* and *Record*. Since the beginning of the war, Inna has produced 3 short films.

Founded in 2015, **Contemporary Ukrainian Cinema (CUC)** promotes young Ukrainian filmmakers. Their films have premiered at festivals such as Rotterdam, San Sebastián, Sarajevo, Clermont-Ferrand, Palm Springs, etc.

Established in 2000, **Fantastic Films** leads in European genre content production. Producers Brendan McCarthy, John McDonnell, and Deirdre Levins prioritize unique stories and creative talent. Notable works include *You Are Not My Mother*, *Vivarium*, *Six Shooter*, *The Last Days On Mars*, and *Wake Wood*.

Representatives in Tallinn

Stanislav Bytiutskyi, director, screenwriter
Inna Lastochkina, producer



Contact

Inna Lastochkina
 innalasto4kina@gmail.com
 +380 634 455 990

THE KIDS ARE FERAL



Original title: The Kids Are Feral
Countries: United Kingdom
Genres: horror film, comedy
Written by: Ben Thompson
Directed by: Ben Thompson
Produced by: Matthias Pachner
Production company: Vibrant Youth
Languages: English
Estimated budget in EUR: 1 950 000
Financing in place in EUR: 0
Runtime: 90

Looking for: broadcasters, co-producers, distributors, private funds / banks, public funds (national, regional, international), sales agent, streamers

Synopsis

We follow Gavin as he arrives in Kalliston, a town in the highlands of Scotland. He quickly befriends Dee, the school's outcast and nemesis of the school bully - Logan. During a confrontation in the woods, Logan is dragged deep into the undergrowth of the forest by mysterious creatures. Fearing Logan is dead, Gavin convinces Dee to go back and investigate the woods. They find an underground bunker with a delirious Logan inside. Feral children surround Dee and Gavin, seemingly responding to Logan's commands as their new alpha leader. Dee and Gavin manage to escape. The feral children begin entering the town under the command of Logan and become a serious threat. Dee and Gavin begin a quest to save the town from the feral menace.

Director, screenwriter

Through his production outfit, Vibrant Youth, **Ben Thompson** has directed seven short films. The most recent – *The Ghost of Me and You* – starred the professional actress Kirsty Strain (*Outlander*, *Guilt*). It featured intricate motion control camera movements and visual effects. The film was screened at numerous film festivals. Backed by a multi-talented crew, it is Ben's goal to make a feature film. He currently works full-time at Screen Academy Scotland as a Film Technician.

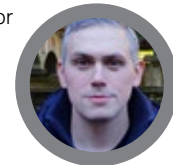
Producer and production company

Matt Pachner specialized in film production through his studies. He produced multiple short films refining his skills as a producer before moving to Scotland. Working freelance on corporate films he got a taste of the commercial side of filmmaking while expanding his network. Matt's focus though lies on telling engaging stories that a broad audience can connect with. He also aspires to create an inclusive environment in production that facilitates the individual creative mission of every department.

Vibrant Youth is Ben Thompson's production outfit which operates out of Edinburgh, Scotland. They have produced two short films that have achieved success at international genre festivals. As their name suggests they aim to make spirited genre stories with a youthful voice regardless of the age of those involved.

Representatives in Tallinn

Ben Thompson, writer-director
Matthias Pachner, producer



Contact

Ben Thompson
thekidsareferal@gmail.com
+44 753 496 5512

MONSTRO



Original title: Monstro
Country: Spain
Genres: fantasy, silent film
Written by: Andrés Goteira
Directed by: Andrés Goteira
Produced by: Laura Doval
Co-produced by: Alberto Diaz
Production company: Gaitafilmes S.L.
Language: Galician
Estimated budget in EUR: 980 000
Financing in place in EUR: 470 000
Runtime: 85
Looking for: distributors, festivals, foreign broadcasters, gap-financing, sales agent

Synopsis

Bonio arrives at an isolated house in the wilderness and moves in. In the solitary stillness of his abode, Bonio finds himself trapped in self-imposed isolation. However, in the shadows of the night, a mysterious monster begins to visit him, unleashing a whirlwind of emotions and fears that he thought he had buried deep within himself. Each visit from the monster is an uncomfortable reminder, an unforgiving mirror that forces him to confront his loneliness, his insecurities and the barriers he has built around himself. In his struggle to understand the true nature of the monster, Bonio embarks on a journey towards acceptance and coexistence with the unknown.

Producer

Laura Doval is a co-founding partner of the production company Gaitafilmes. In addition to the executive production of *Dhogs* (2017), she was responsible for the distribution and sales of the film in Spain, roles that she continues to play in new projects of the production company: *Welcome To Ma Maison* and *Monstro*, among others. She is the executive producer of the documentary *Aurora* (premiered in Festival de Málaga) and the animated short film *Sandwich Cat* (awarded at SXSW).

Representatives in Tallinn

Andrés Goteira, scriptwriter, director

Laura Doval, producer

Alberto Diaz, co-producer



Contact

Laura Doval
lauradoval@gaitafilmes.com
+34 679 345 025

NEIGHBOUR



Original title: Naaber

Countries: Estonia

Genre: thriller

Written by: Oskar Lehemaa

Directed by: Oskar Lehemaa

Produced by: Evelin Penttilä

Production company: Stellar Film

Language: Estonian

Estimated budget in EUR: 1 500 000

Financing in place in EUR: 8 000

Runtime: 100

Looking for: co-producers, distributors, sales agent, private funds / banks public funds (national, regional, international)

Synopsis

Oliver moves into an old apartment building in a tiny decaying town. On the first night in his new home, he overhears the upstairs neighbours having sex. Oliver gets carried away and pleasures himself to the sound of their lovemaking. Through voyeuristic excitement, the fourth-floor tenants become his obsession. Gradually Oliver begins to overhear sounds of violence and muffled cries of pain. At first hesitant to intervene, he finally calls the police. Turns out the local policemen are friends of the Man upstairs. Instead of helping, they start terrorising Oliver. During the night a dark figure breaks into his apartment to send a message - don't meddle with other people's lives. Panicked, Oliver wants to leave the apartment, but an argument erupts upstairs. Suddenly bullets blast

through the ceiling - he has become a witness to a murder. Now he must escape his pursuers in the old apartment building and stay alive long enough to call for help and expose his neighbours' dark deeds.

Director, screenwriter

Oskar Lehemaa is a live action and animation director from Estonia. He has worked across many genres, from his horror short film *Bad Hair*, to the feature length stop-motion comedy *The Old Man Movie*, all the way to the kids adventure animation *The Mystery of Missing Socks*. Oskar is happy his films have travelled the world, attending festivals from Annecy to Sundance. Now he is working on his next feature length project and looking forward to connecting with new audiences across the globe.

Producer and production company

Evelin Penttilä started her career as a film producer in 2011 and her filmography includes more than 15 feature films. In 2015 she founded Stellar Film as the leading producer aiming to make the film sphere in Estonia more versatile. The company has a slate of projects in all stages of production and is focused on bringing Estonian talent to the world. She is a member of European Film Academy, part of ACE Producers & EAVE networks and was Producer on the Move 2022.

Stellar Film is one of the leading production companies in Estonia, established in 2015 and run by Evelin Penttilä and Johanna Maria Paulson. The filmography ranges from short and feature-length fiction films to documentaries and TV series, all of which share a common goal of telling encouraging and inspiring stories, blending genres, and pushing boundaries.

Representatives in Tallinn

Oskar Lehemaa, director, screenwriter

Evelin Penttilä, producer

Contact

Evelin Penttilä
evelin@stellar.ee
+372 5552 3500



VRYKOLAX



Original title: Vrykolax

Country: Greece

Genres: folk horror, mystery

Written by: Geoff Dupuy-Holder, Achilleas Gatsopoulos

Directed by: Achilleas Gatsopoulos

Produced by: Vassilis Economou, Minos Nikolakakis

Production company: ASPHALT

Languages: Greek, English

Estimated budget in EUR: 840 000

Financing in place in EUR: 50 000

Runtime: 100

Looking for: co-producers, distributors, festivals, private funds / banks, public funds, sales agent, streamers

Synopsis

Vrykolax is a compelling folk-horror tale intertwining murder mystery with Greek supernatural lore. Propelled by his mother's demise, Thomas, a British painter who has forsaken art because of supposed mental illness, embarks on a journey to uncover his family's enigmatic past on a remote Greek island. There, haunted by visions and inexplicable phenomena, he starts to exhibit special powers akin to a kind of local shaman. When murder erupts, the strange, backward islanders blame the crimes on an undead vampire-like entity known as the Vrykolakas. Thomas grapples with his newfound abilities as he delves deeper into the island's dark secrets. But in a hostile, corrupt community where nothing is as it seems, where is the line between paranormal evil and simple human malice? The race is on for Thomas to uncover the truth

before his loved one dies. As the tension escalates, Thomas confronts the chilling possibility that he himself may be the Vrykolax.

Screenwriter

Geoff Dupuy-Holder – genre screenwriter, script doctor, script consultant, novelist and author of more than 30 non-fiction books on folklore and the paranormal. Winner of the Genre Summit Screenplay Competition, the Visceral Films International Horror Screenplay Contest and the University of Chichester Thresholds Prize for Non-Fiction. Member of the Writers Guild of Great Britain. Likes dogs.

Director, screenwriter

Achilleas Gatsopoulos – Greek-born, began his artistic journey in Fine Arts, studying VFX in the UK and earning a Master's in Production Design for Film. Worked in the Art Department of *Glass Onion*, *Lost Daughter* and *Harry Potter* while creating stage and motion designs for major events in London and Germany. His clientele includes Mercedes Benz, Audi, Warner Bros and MTV. He has directed music videos and created video projections for artists like Pet Shop Boys and James Blunt.

Production company

Minos Nikolakakis and Vassilis Economou founded **Asphalt** to manifest their creative vision with projects that will entertain wider audiences and can help find meaning in the turmoil of the contemporary world. It will explore the boundaries of genre cinema and focus on international co-productions.

Representatives in Tallinn

Achilleas Gatsopoulos, writer-director

Vassilis Economou, producer

Contact

Achilleas Gatsopoulos
achilleas.gatsopoulos@gmail.com
+49 176 3207 3264



SHORTS INDUSTRY SHORTCUT

The Shorts Industry Shortcut (or SIS) is PÖFF Shorts' industry arm, a stimulating, thought-provoking and inspiring guidance platform for emerging filmmakers. Its events are conceived so as to further the careers of future generations of filmmakers and guide them on the short film circuit.

They also follow current trends in (short) film, strengthen the ties between the Baltic and International short film communities and meet the needs of the global film industry.

The aforementioned events include a panel on a hot topic from the short film industry in collaboration with the Short Film Conference. This year's topic revolves around the exhibition of short films in theatres, on television and streaming platforms. This is followed by a "Festival Ecosystem 101" presentation with the objective to demystify the short film circuit in the presence of 4 short film industry movers and shakers, a speed-dating session between short film professionals and filmmakers in attendance (SIM) and a "Would You Buy This?" session with live feedback from shorts distributors and sales agents. The two-day industry events are rounded off with masterclasses by established filmmakers from both the animation and live action branches.

November 14

17:00-19:00

► *EKA Auditorium, Room A101*

Masterclass with Martina Meštrović:

An Artistic Journey from Sculpture to Animated Film

Moderated by Lilli-Krõõt Repnau (EKA)

In collaboration with EKA

November 15

10:00-11:30

► *Nordic Hotel Forum (Altair)*

In Conversation: Tonia Mishiali and Anna Hints

Moderated by Tara Karajica (PÖFF Shorts)



Short Film
Conference

13:00-14:00

► *A Le Coq*

Panel: Short Films, a Click Away

Moderated by Maria Stoianova (Short Film Conference)

In collaboration with the Short Film Conference

14:30-15:30

► *A Le Coq*

Festival Ecosystem 101

Moderated by Laurence Boyce (PÖFF Shorts)

15:45-16:45

► *Nordic Hotel Forum (Nomel)*

Short Industry Mingle (Speed-dating Session)

November 16

10:00-11:30

► *A Le Coq*

Would You Buy This?

Moderated by Jing Haase (Swedish Film Institute)

12:00-13:00

► *A Le Coq*

From Shorts to Features

In collaboration with Go Long!

15:00-16:30

► *Terminal*

From Local to Global: The Success of Baltic Shorts

In collaboration with Baltic Shorts, Lithuanian Shorts, the Latvian Short Film Agency, 2Annas, the Estonian Film Institute

Baltic Shorts **NANAS**



Estonian
Film
Institute



Latvian
Short Film
Agency

**Lithuanian
Shorts**

Speakers



**Martina
Meštrović**



**Anna
Hints**



**Tonia
Mishiali**



**Alexandra
Gramatke**



**Sari
Volanen**



**Amos
Geva**



**Maria
Stoianova**



**Riina
Mikkonen**



**Annegret
Richter**



**Florian
Fernandez**



**Michal
Bobrowski**



**Jing
Haase**



**Nela
Zielinska**



**Rimante
Daugelaite**



**Diana
Trope**



**Laima
Graždanoviča**



**Mirjam
Mikk**

GO LONG!

November 16

12:00-13:00 ▶ *A Le Coq*

From Shorts to Features – Lecture by Anna Ciennik

In collaboration with Shorts Industry Shortcut

What does it mean to write a feature film? How different is it from writing a short? How long does it take? Is it useful to attend writing workshops? When to work with a script consultant? Or to get a screenwriter on board? Why do we even need a screenplay? Important aspects of script development will be addressed in this one-hour talk in an open and casual way. **Open to accredited guests**

15:00-18:00

▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, Wolf*

Go Long! 1-1 Meetings with Anna Ciennik

November 17

9:00-13:00 & 14:00-17:00 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum*

Go Long! 1-1 Meetings with Katharina Suckale

10:00-12:00 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, Wolf*

Go Long! 1-1 Meetings with Anna Ciennik

November 19

11:00-12:15 ▶ *Kino Artis 2*

Go Long! Participants' Films Screening

14:00-18:00 ▶ *Metropol Hotel, Hall 3*

Go Long! Roundtables and 1-1 Meetings

PÖFF Shorts is a sub-festival of the Black Nights Film Festival, dedicated to showcasing the very best fiction, animation and documentary shorts from across the world. With five competitions – which are Academy Award qualifying, BAFTA qualifying and European Film Award qualifying – as well as a large selection of side programmes and retrospectives, PÖFF Shorts is an anticipated event on the festival circuit not only for the breadth and diversity of its programme but also for the talent it showcases.

Celebrating the art of the short film in and of itself and being there to champion the unique nature of the medium, we also recognise that

short films are the beginning of a cinematic journey that will lead to feature films for many young filmmakers. With the world of short films filled with bright and exciting young talents, many filmmakers who are currently making a mark on the world of short films will soon be stepping into the world of features.

Go Long!, now also in collaboration with the Shorts Industry Shortcut, aims to nurture a select number of filmmakers whose shorts have screened in competition at PÖFF Shorts. Taking filmmakers at the beginning of their journey into the world of feature films, Go Long! offers the participants advice on their ideas via informal networking with a panel of industry professionals. The participants will then be able to better negotiate the feature film world with invaluable tips and feedback for their feature proposals.

Experts



**Anna
Ciennik**



Rickard Olsson



Kristel Töldsepp



Katharina Suckale



**Fredrik
Lange**



**Aurelia
Aasa**

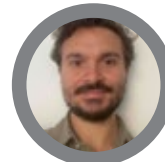
Participants



**Carmen-Louise
Suuroja**



**Darcy
Cagen**



**Edoardo
Brighenti**



**Iiti
Yli-Harja**



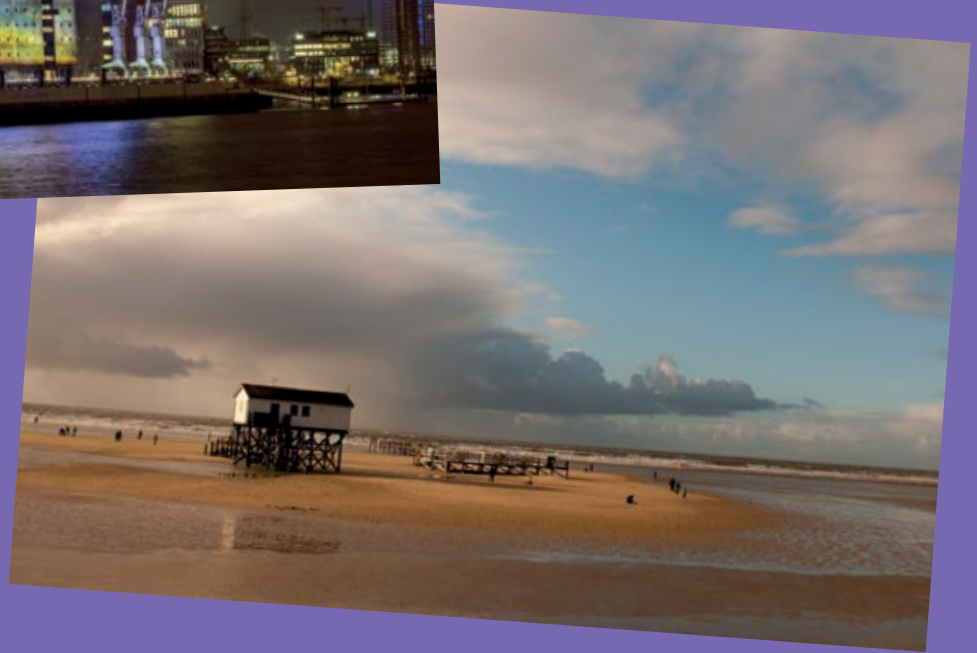
**Pablo Martinez
Ballarin**

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BREAKING INTO THE INDUSTRY:

Mentorship Opportunity for Aspiring Producers

Breaking Into the Industry: Mentorship Programme for Aspiring Producers is a unique initiative tailored for Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event, guided by the distinguished industry veteran Katriel Schory.

With over 40 years of experience in the international film industry, Katriel will assist participants in crafting project presentations that resonate with various funders. He will provide guidance on nurturing producer-director relationships, developing film projects, and creating personal career and company strategies.

Plenary sessions, one-on-one mentorship, and interactive industry events are combined to cover various aspects of being a creative producer, from sourcing compelling stories to mastering the development process and refining leadership strategies.

At the programme's core focus are the critical questions every professional in the field faces: how to strategise, sustain, and scale up your company (and yourself) in a highly chaotic and constantly changing industry. The programme aims to equip participants with the tools and insights needed to achieve these goals.

Dates and activities

The programme is an in-person workshop from November 17 to 22 in Tallinn. November 18 and 19 are full-day workshops, and November 20-22 are dedicated to participating in ITBE general sessions, one-on-one mentorships with Katriel Schory (available on demand), film screenings, networking, and other parts of the ITBE programme.

Participants



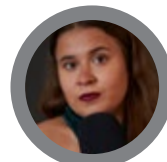
Dan Grossu
(Romania)



Ali Hakim
(Germany)



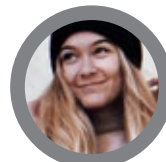
Inka Hietala
(Finland)



Klara Jovanov
(Croatia)



Maritza Grass
(Germany)



Pauline Kokla
(Estonia)



Annika Ranin
(United Kingdom)



Maria Leźnicka
(Poland)



Jonas Eisenschmidt
(Germany)



Anke Sabrina Beermann
(Germany)



Leopold Pape
(Germany)



Tamara Kollmeder
(Germany)



Jette Blümler
(Germany)

MOVIES SERIES GAMES/XR

Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung GmbH (MDM) awards funding to promising film and media projects realised in the German federal states of Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia. MDM has supported numerous international co-productions. The region offers excellent filming conditions – unique locations, excellent creative talent and service providers – and is home to numerous production companies with extensive experience in international co-productions.



Mitteldeutsche
Medienförderung

www.mdm-online.de

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TALLINN INDUSTRY ACADEMY

The Tallinn Industry Academy is an intensive training programme aimed at empowering and supporting young professionals in the independent film industry, particularly in the areas of film circulation, including online and traditional distribution, sales, marketing, exhibition, promotion, and festival programming. This workshop serves as a gateway for a new generation of filmmakers and industry practitioners, fostering their development, enhancing their understanding of industry challenges, and expanding their professional networks.

Designed for individuals working with boutique markets (small to medium-sized), this programme is ideal for those eager to enhance their

skills and broaden their connections in sales, marketing, distribution, exhibition, and programming/curating. It is especially beneficial for participants who are already part of an established company or possess significant experience in these fields.

The 5-day programme offers an immersive learning experience, combining lectures and panel discussions with practical tasks. Thirteen young and emerging professionals from the field of circulation will engage deeply with panels and lectures led by seasoned industry experts. Each session is designed to provide participants with practical knowledge and valuable connections to help advance their careers.

Participants



**Rokas
Jonas**
(Lithuania)



**Eva
Duriez**
(France)



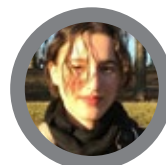
**Noa
Nwande**
(France)



**Márton
Berecz**
(Hungary)



**Jan
Slanina**
(Czech Republic)



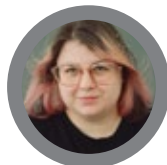
**Victoire
de Pous**
(France)



**Cecilia
Pezzini**
(Italy)



**Margarita
Rimkus**
(Latvia)



**Oleksandra
Kalininchenko**
(Ukraine)



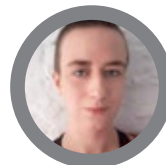
**Gert
Põrk**
(Estonia)



**Konrad
Glabek**
(Poland)



**Du
Liangli**
(Finland, China)



**Anna
Krejcirova**
(Czech Republic)

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AI ATELIER 2024 / 2025

Welcome to the first, highly anticipated edition of the Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event Generative AI Atelier 2024-2025 - the first ever intensive AI masterclass training programme for the film, content, media and creative industry in the region at a major festival and market.

This, 5 day online/offline groundbreaking program offers you the latest trends, hottest insights, and practical skills to understand, master, and implement AI in the film industry.

With personalized learning experiences guided by some of the best experts and globally acclaimed star mentors from Europe and beyond, this Atelier is your gateway to the future of understanding, mastering, and implementing AI in your profession and company.



The program is designed by Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event in partnerships with Storytek Innovation-lab and supported by the Creative Europe MEDIA Programme.

Course Director: Sten-Kristian Saluveer.

ONSITE SESSIONS TALLINN, ESTONIA (NOVEMBER 18-20, 2024)

Monday November 18

10:00-11:00
Hello from the organizers, program orientation and welcome

11:00-13:00
Revisiting the basics: The theoretical and practical foundations of (generative AI)
Shahab Anbarjafari, Chief Data Scientist, Director, PWC Nordics

13:00-14:00
Lunch

14:00-16:00
A deep dive to traffic lights, and applications of AI in film and media industry.
Matthew Blakemore, CEO, AI Carramba



16:00-18:00
The Hollywood Futurists Perspective: The present and future of AI and user generated entertainment in film and media

Sander Saar, Futurist & Global Content Strategist, Movmaker / Red Bull Media House



Tuesday November 19

10:00-13:00
How generative AI tools can power creative writing, brainstorming and script development: A screenwriter's perspective.

Katri Manninen, AI expert, screenwriter and showrunner



13:00-14:00
Lunch

14:00-17:00
Voice cloning: professional applications and workflows.

Workshop powered by Respeecher.
Margarita Grubina, Vice President, Respeecher



Wednesday November 20

9:00-12:00
Mastering power prompting for generative AI visual tools.
Hands on workshop powered by Pxlrace.
Maciej Zemojcin, CEO, Pxlrace



12:00-13:00
Lunch and wrap for module one

13:00-16:00
Departure from Tallinn or visit to Industry Innovation Forum Tallinn / Black Nights Film Festival

**Online sessions at AI Atelier online platform Howspace
January 14-15, 2025**

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INDUSTRY INNOVATION FORUM TALLINN 10!:

Looking back, envisioning the future for European content and media

The European audiovisual industry faces a 'polycrisis' in 2024, marked by fundamental shifts: audience-centric value chains replacing producer-centric models, AI's transformative impact across the sector, evolving roles of financiers, and the increasing importance of talent and IP.

The 10th Industry Innovation Forum (IIFT), formerly European Film Forum Tallinn, celebrates its 10th anniversary on November 20th, 2024 in a special edition format as an official sidebar of the Tallinn Digital Summit looking back and envisioning the future competitiveness of the European audiovisual, content and media ecosystem.

The Tallinn Digital Summit (November 19-20, Tallinn Creative Hub) brings together global digital innovation leaders, hosted by Estonia's Prime Minister. IIFT complements the TDS in with its 10th edition celebration by assembling leading content creators, producers, policymakers, and executives from Europe and beyond from audiovisual, media gaming, and IP sectors to share the most cutting-edge insights, predictions and recommendations.

THE 10TH IIFT WILL FOCUS ON

- Europe's Competitiveness and Innovation: Past and Future
- European Commission and Estonian Perspectives

- Future Drivers of European Competitiveness
- New Business Models for European Film/TV Success
- European Future Media Hubs and Industry Collaboration
- Public/Private Funding Transformation
- Virtual Production and XR Development
- Global IP Building from Europe
- AI's Role in Creative Industries
- Preview of Major Study on AI's Impact on European Media

The event is curated by **Sten-Kristian Saluveer** (Head of Cannes Next, CEO @ Storytek) and co-moderated by **Kristen Davis** (CEO @ CinQC). Organized by Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event, part of Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival, by the mandate of the Creative Europe MEDIA program of the European Commission.

November 20

12:00-15:00 CET / 13:00-16:00 Estonia time
► *Tallinn Creative Hub*

Pre-registration opens November 9, 2024, at industry.poff.ee, required for both IIFT and Digital Summit access.

CRESCINE'S KEY INDUSTRY INSIGHTS AND TRENDS:

Tallinn Outlook 2024 - Audiences, Markets, Skills & Innovation

What's shaping the future of European cinema? From audience preferences and content export drivers to genre performance and industry skills alignment, and do's and don'ts in small European film territories - come and find out at CresCine's key industry trends session.

CresCine, an innovative industry-academia consortium, returns to Tallinn with its power-packed hour of premium insights. CresCine analyses and publishes high-calibre research on competitiveness factors in the film and audiovisual industries, serving everyone from independent producers to key decision-makers.

The 2024 IT&BE session spotlights our latest European skills study findings, revealing vital opportunities and challenges for maintaining industry competitiveness and resilience. Get exclusive access to our upcoming audience design and development tools, plus benchmarking solutions that empower your creative decisions. We'll also unveil the roadmap for CresCine's green production framework, designed to help producers from smaller countries master green production and co-productions. Interested partners can sign up for pilot programs to gain early benefits.

Funded by Horizon Europe, CresCine is a three-year initiative dedicated to elevating European small markets through original research and practical implementation. The work spans seven nations: Estonia, Lithuania, Denmark, Ireland, Belgium (Flanders), Croatia, and Portugal. The project unites 18 distinguished partners, including Europe's premier research institutions and leading industry organizations such as the European Film Academy, the Marché du Film - Festival de Cannes, and the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival / Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event.

November 20

11:30-12:30 ► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Capella*

Discover more industry insights at crescine.eu



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the European Research Executive Agency can be held responsible for them.

PANELS AND TALKS

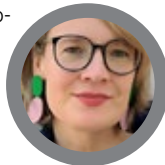
PANEL DISCUSSION: BRIDGING THE GAP – PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE THROUGH TRAINING AND UP-SKILLING

November 20

9:30-11:00 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella*

As the film industry continues to evolve in response to changing audience expectations and rapid innovation, the need for professionals to stay current through ongoing training and upskilling has never been more important. The panel discussion, "Bridging the Gap – Preparing for the Future through Training and Up-skilling," will explore the essential skills filmmakers and creatives will need in the coming years and how the industry can better prepare its workforce for emerging challenges. A central theme will be identifying who should take responsibility for organizing and financing these vital training programs. The panel will also examine the pressures that continuous upskilling places on professionals, especially freelancers and creatives. This session is ideal for those looking to understand how the film industry is preparing for the future and how to approach upskilling strategically to stay competitive. This session is organized by the FilmEU+ project, which unites leading European higher education institutions to promote excellence in education, innovation, and research in Film and Media Arts. Together, they aim to solidify Europe's leadership in the creative industries worldwide.

Moderator: Professor Ulrike Rohn, Baltic Film, Media and Arts School of Tallinn University



Panelists

Rauno Ronkainen, Cinematographer, Aalto University, Finland

Eda Koppel, Tallinn Industry Academy, Estonia

Inese Boka-Grube, Producer, Mistrus Media, Latvia

Ene Katrine Rasmussen, Head of Industry & Training, National Film School of Denmark, Denmark



EXPLORING THE PATTERNS & PREFERENCES OF NEXT-GEN VIEWERSHIP

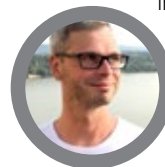
November 21

10:00-11:30 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella*

How can European cinema and film festivals capture the attention of Gen Z? In this session, students from eight universities in the FilmEU alliance, with guidance from filmmakers and industry experts, will present fresh insights into the viewing habits of young adults.

They'll reveal key research findings and showcase creative marketing strategies designed to attract young audiences to European films and festivals. Discover practical, innovative ways to connect with Gen Z and make European cinema a must-experience for the next generation.

This session is organized by the FilmEU+ project, which unites leading European higher education institutions to promote excellence in education, innovation, and research in Film and Media Arts. Together, they aim to solidify Europe's leadership in the creative industries worldwide.



Moderator: Ermo Säks, Baltic Film, Media and Arts School of Tallinn University

THE EDGE OF DEMOCRACY

November 20

13:00-14:00 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella*

How to remain a filmmaker in the world facing challenges like: war, displacement, (de)colonization, censorship.

This panel is organized in collaboration with the Northern Lights Nordic Baltic Film Festival, a unique independent Belarusian film festival in exile. The festival relocated outside its home country, Belarus, in 2020 following fraudulent elections, repression, and persecution. Northern Lights has collaborated with Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival since 2022.

The Edge of Democracy addresses the urgent question of how filmmakers can continue their craft in a world marked by war, displacement, (de)colonization, and censorship. Featuring directors from conflict zones and politically charged environments, the discussion will explore the personal and professional challenges they face in telling stories that challenge authority and reflect their lived realities. The panellists will share how they navigate exile, resist censorship, and use cinema as a form of activism and cultural preservation. With perspectives spanning across different regions and conflicts, the conversation will highlight the role of film in addressing historical and political wounds, and the responsibility of filmmakers to keep creating despite immense obstacles. Through their experiences, this session will illuminate how cinema can remain a voice for the silenced, and a powerful tool for change in an increasingly hostile world.



Moderator:
Davide Abbatescianni,
film critic and journalist, Italy

Panellists:

Andrei Kashperski, director, Poland/Belarus

Tanya Haurlychyk, Cinematographer,
documentary filmmaker, Germany/Belarus

Volia Chajkouskaya, producer, director,
festival founder, Estonia/Belarus

Yuliya Pogrebnyak, screenwriter, Finland/Belarus

Uldis Cekulis, producer, Latvia

David Vashadze, Head of independent
Georgian Film Institute, Georgia



FILM FOR THE FUTURE:

Exploring Sustainable Filmmaking Practices in Sweden and the Baltic States

November 20

15:00-16:00 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella*

Step into the future of cinema at Film for the Future, where Sweden and the Baltic States are exploring exciting new ways to make filmmaking more sustainable!

From hands-on green initiatives to real-life case studies, this event offers a look at the collaborations and projects that are making a difference. With lively discussions on co-productions, virtual production, and the growing role of AI, you'll walk away with fresh ideas and practical insights for your own filmmaking journey.

Let's explore what's next – together!

Speakers:

Daniel Chilla, Film Commissioner, Film Stockholm AB, Sweden

Olga Hartšuk, Producer, Nafta Films, Estonia

Ylva Olaison, Producer, ÖGAT Film, Sweden

Ronny Fritsche (online), Producer and Sustainability Expert, Green Producers Club, Sweden



November 21

15:00-18:30 ▶ *Embassy of Sweden, Pikk 28*

The Near Future Retreat

The Near Future Retreat (©New Nordic Narratives) is a long-running, radical think tank conversation that journeys across key Nordic and European film industry events. Starting its journey with the main partner, Industry@Tallinn, in 2022, we have revisited Tallinn and our main collaborators during 2023 and 2024: the European Film Market/Berlinale, NEXT/Marché du Film - Festival de Cannes, New Nordic Films/Haugesund, Finnish Film Affair/Helsinki and the European Film Academy, where the 12th Retreat will take place this December, supported by Swiss Films. Its goal, to offer a safe space for a growing number of creatives as they voice their unique perspective on what their most urgent needs and wants are, as we all listen and look towards shaping the future of our film and television communities - together. The Retreat adheres to the Chatham House Rules, and facilitators Helene Granqvist and Valeria Richter, will begin to share insights and reflections from these precious encounters during 2025.

Mentors:

Helene Granqvist, Producer, President & Pitch Coach, New Nordic Narratives/Near Future Retreat, Nordic Factory Film, Sweden

Valeria Richter, Scriptwriter, Nordic Factory Copenhagen, Denmark



JUST FILM INDUSTRY DAYS:

November 22

10:00-11:30 ► Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella
Understanding the Ways Kids Understand Stories

In an era where attention spans are often thought to be diminishing, we question whether traditional storytelling methods still hold sway. Are classic narratives becoming obsolete, or is this a misconception? How are the elements of storytelling crafted by adults interpreted by young audiences? Are young viewers put off by overly didactic stories? Do stories need to adapt to remain relevant and engaging? We will explore how stories contribute to the development of emotional intelligence in children and teenagers, and whether specific narrative techniques can enhance this growth. We invite you to a conversation that seeks to give insights into the complex relationship between storytelling and the expectations of today's young audiences.

Moderator: Alasdair Satchel, Film Educationalist, Screen Argyll, United Kingdom

Speakers:

Janne Vierth, Commissioner for Film for Children and Young People, Swedish Film Institute, Sweden

Sa-Ra Zwarteveen, Family Learning Programmer, British Film Institute, and Film Educator/Lecturer, UCL Institute of Education, United Kingdom



November 22

11:45-13:15 ► Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella
Why Kicking in the Butt Sells Better than Kindness

Do you remember when Kevin set up a series of painful traps, like heating the door handle, dropping paint cans, and making Marv step on nails, to outsmart the burglars in *Home Alone*?

Do you remember when the Minions used rockets and weapons in *Despicable Me*?

Do you remember all the times Tom and Jerry fought each other? There are hundreds of examples of violence of this sort in children's cinema. Why is it that violence in children's films often outperforms gentler, kindness-based narratives at the box office?

The panel addresses the commercial appeal of slapstick humour, exaggerated violence, and morally questionable choices in children's movies. Focusing on the perspective of sales and distribution, we'll discuss how these elements shape global success and reflect cultural preferences.

Do audiences prefer physical comedy and conflict over more positive messaging, and why? We'll also consider the cultural boundaries that influence the portrayal of these behaviours, asking how far is too far when it comes to selling humour and action. What works in one region might be considered too extreme in another, and the global nature of distribution demands careful navigation of these sensitivities. How do distributors balance market demands with the responsibility of delivering content that resonates with young viewers without crossing ethical lines? And where the lines are drawn when it comes to shaping the values of young viewers through film.

How far can filmmakers go, and how do distributors navigate varying audience sensitivities while maximising box office appeal?

This session will provide insight into the economics, cultural factors, and challenges of navigating controversial content in children's films.

Moderator: Alasdair Satchel, Film Educationalist, Screen Argyll, United Kingdom

Speakers:

Yohann Comte, Co-Founder, Charades, France

Benjamin Côle, Managing Director, Pluto Film



PANELS AND TALKS

PUBLIC FUNDING & STRATEGY IN FOCUS: HELPING PRODUCERS THRIVE IN A CHANGING INDUSTRY

November 21

17:00-18:30 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella*

In a rapidly changing world, public film financing is at a crossroads. As financial constraints tighten and technology advances, national and regional film funds must navigate new realities while safeguarding artistic integrity and cultural values. With direct public funding shrinking and cash and tax incentives becoming more prominent, producers must understand how to adapt their projects to appeal to funders who are balancing economic pressures with cultural objectives. This panel is essential for producers who want to remain competitive, understand where the money lies, and learn how to position their projects to take full advantage of today's public financing opportunities.

Moderator: Petri Kempainen, Industry Consultant, Good Hand Production, Finland

Panellists

Bérénice Honold, Advisor to the CEO for International and European Affairs, German Federal Film Board (FFA), Germany
Anna Schoeppe, Managing Director, Hessen Film & Medien, Germany
Laimonas Ubavičius, Director, Lithuanian Film Centre, Lithuania
Katrin Mersmann, Head of Funding, MOIN Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, Germany
André Naumann, CEO, Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung MDM, Germany
Cecilie Aspenes, Film Consultant, Feature Film and TV drama, Norwegian Film Institute, Norway
Edith Sepp, CEO, Estonian Film Institute, Estonia
Sten-Kristian Saluveer, Strategic Advisor, Cannes Next, Estonia



MADE IN EUROPE – THEATRICAL DISTRIBUTION OF EUROPEAN FILMS ACROSS THE GLOBE 2014-2023

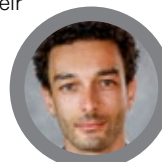
November 22

14:00-14:30 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella*

What is the current state of theatrical distribution of European films? The report *Made in Europe: Theatrical distribution of European films across the globe 2014-2023* provides the latest insights into the global success and circulation of European films over the past decade. Pub-

lished by the European Audiovisual Observatory, this study examines the performance of European films both domestically and internationally, highlighting key trends in major markets and regions. To reflect the diversity of European cinema, the report also analyses the most active production countries, tracks their output and achievements over time, and spotlights the films that topped box office rankings in the last 10 years.

Speaker: Manuel Fioroni, Film Analyst, European Audiovisual Observatory, France



HOT OR NOT: CRACKING THE CODE OF FILM SALES AND DISTRIBUTION TODAY

November 22

14:30-16:00 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Capella*

The panel discussion titled "Hot or Not: Cracking the Code of Sales and Distribution Today" offers an exciting and necessary exploration of the post-COVID cinema market. Experienced industry professionals Yohann Comte (Charades), Céline Dornier (Logical Pictures), Clément Chautant (Arizona Distribution) and Stephan Henz (DCM Distribution), will answer to the questions like "How is the market of the post-covid era?" "In terms of titles and genres, what is trending at cinemas?" "What does the returning audience expect?" "Has the meaning of festival recognition changed?" "And what about the producers – has their B2C understanding grown?"

The film industry is still recovering from the effects of the pandemic, with cinema attendance rebounding but not yet reaching pre-pandemic levels in most markets. Although blockbusters are driving box office returns, there remains a significant gap in audience numbers for independent and mid-budget films, particularly in Europe. Producers need to be aware of this new reality as they plan their distribution strategies, ensuring their projects align with current market demands for both domestic and international releases.

The returning audience is showing renewed interest in major cinematic experiences, often preferring action-packed blockbusters or films with recognizable IPs. However, certain markets, such as those in France and Denmark, have shown increasing support for domestic productions, indicating a possible shift toward local storytelling and a renewed interest in European cinema. Producers must understand these trends to tailor their projects for specific markets and genres that are proving to be more resilient in the post-COVID era.

In terms of festival recognition, the hybrid model has become the norm. While festival laurels remain important for visibility, their influence on sales and distribution strategies has evolved. With streaming platforms increasingly dominating distribution pipelines, festival recognition is no longer the sole pathway to success. Producers must now combine traditional festival circuits with digital strategies to maximise their reach and find the right buyers for their films.

Additionally, the discussion will focus on the B2C understanding of producers. In the streaming era, producers need to be more in tune with audience preferences, genre trends, and digital marketing strategies. Many are still adjusting to the demands of a post-COVID market, which requires a deeper grasp of consumer behaviour, particularly as hybrid distribution models (simultaneous theatrical and online releases) become more common.

Moderator: Petri Kempainen, Industry Consultant, Good Hand Production, Finland

Panellists:

Yohann Comte, Co-Founder, Charades, France

Céline Dornier, Head of Film Investments and International Co-Productions, Logical Pictures, France

Clément Chautant, Acquisitions, Arizona Distribution, France

Stephan Henz, Head of Local Content & Acquisitions, DCM Distribution, Germany

Antonio Saura, CEO, Latido Films, Spain



TV BEATS FORUM WORKSHOPS

November 18

16:30-18:00

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Arcturus*

Working in VR Writers' Room

In collaboration with Words Across Europe

Join Words Across Europe at the TV Beats Forum in Tallinn as we highlight how we use virtual reality to foster collaboration among European screenwriters. We're hosting a 1.5-hour hands-on VR writers' room session for up to five pre-registered writers, with headsets provided for the experience. Led by Joachim Friedman, a seasoned screenwriter and expert in serial storytelling, the session will include a collaborative story outlining exercise around a surprise theme. Participants will experience first-hand how WAE cultivates creativity and teamwork. As space is limited, interested writers should express their interest via email to tvbeatsforum@wordscrosseurope.eu. Please submit a brief personal statement explaining your interest in the session and provide an overview of your experience as a writer and in working in writers' rooms.



**Joachim
Friedman**



**Nathalie
Lichtenthaeler**



**Gabija
Siurbyte**

November 19

10:45-12:15

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Arcturus*

European Writers Club: Masterclass with Per-Olav Sørensen

The art of developing compelling stories for a broad international audience

Masterclass with acclaimed director, writer, and producer Per-Olav Sørensen as he shares his expert storytelling process, honed over years of experience creating hit series like *Nobel*, *Quicksand*, *The Playlist*, *Home for Christmas*, and more. In this masterclass, he reveals how he transforms ideas into gripping narratives, builds rich characters, and masterfully balances emotion with structure.

Come and gain practical insights from his journey in the industry, and learn how to create captivating stories for TV and film that resonate with audiences worldwide.



**Per-Olav
Sørensen**

SESSIONS BY AMANDA GRAHAM

7 MISTAKES COMEDY WRITERS MAKE SESSION

November 19

12:30-14:30 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Arcturus*

Comedy writers can make a lot of mistakes. Like start writing before their lives are messed up enough. Or not using comedy writing for what it's really intended – revenge. Or... heaven forbid, they start dating comedians.

This isn't about that. We can talk about that over beer afterwards.

This session's about the craft. The 7 biggest mistakes in scripts and how YOU can avoid them. For new and seasoned writers.

Some of the mistakes we'll talk about...

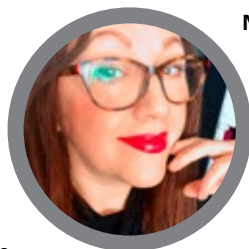
1. Underdeveloped storyworld: Weak storyworld = weak jokes. We'll learn to build a solid world that'll cradle your characters, theme, and storylines.

2. Not character-led: Ignore your characters at your peril. We'll go through all the evil ways you can squeeze out all the juicy goodness and belly laughs from them.

3. They stop before it gets funny – Ouch. Yeah, this one hurts. But it's true. This one will help you make your scripts 1 jillion* percent funnier.

Want to know more? And the rest of the list? Come to the session.

*Not a guarantee



NETWORKING SESSION

November 19

15:30-17:30 ▶ *Nordic Hotel Forum, conference room Arcturus*

Most of us hate networking. Or aren't good at it. Or it feels phony. Problem is, in this industry it's essential.

This is a fun, irreverent, high-energy session that will revolutionise your networking.

It's broken down into 4 sections. Here's just some of what we'll talk about...

Attitudes to networking - What's the biggest secret about human nature? How do we figure out people's needs? What's the biggest mind-set shift we can make to set us apart from 99% of people out there? What on earth is the bridge?

Who to network with - How we find people and who to find. How to make a creative cohort. How to ripple out. Industries you can use your skills in until the film and tv industry fully recovers.

Networking in person - How to find events. The 3 zones in ANY networking room and what to do in each zone. How to talk 1-on-1 and to the Big Bad Groups. How to leave a conversation. Why everything's down to a foot?!

Networking online - How to get your emails opened AND answered! LinkedIn tips.

DISCOVERY CAMPUS WORKSHOPS

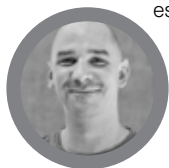
November 20

ISI: AUDIENCE DESIGN

9:00-11:00

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Arcturus*

Audience Design is a creative distribution practice to engage audiences across platforms and genres with a story-based and multi-angle approach. As practicing Audience Designer, I will talk about the theoretical foundations of this practice and present recent film projects as best-practice examples.



Benjamin Cölle

THE BUSINESS OF FILM

11:30-13:00

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Arcturus*



The Business of Film is an exploration of how money flows in and out of content production. The companies involved and understanding how they view a film or television production.

Patrick Fischer

NAVIGATING THE INDUSTRY

11:30-13:00

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Altair*

Starting out a career in film music can be exciting and overwhelming at the same time. We live in a time where connection with people and companies all over the world is seemingly in a matter of minutes. But where to start, where to go and apply to make these ideas of connection into a reality?



Thea Zaitsev



Sandra Perens



Graham Ball

ISI: WHAT DOES A SALES COMPANY DO AND WHY MIGHT YOU WANT ONE

14:00-15:30

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Arcturus*



This session will break down what a sales company does from business models and share further top tips on how to determine which sales company is right for your project.

Julia Short

DIALOGUE ON CONTRACTS: BEFORE AND AFTER SIGNING

14:00-15:30

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Altair*

What to know before going into a contract and what happens after signing when conditions change? These matters will be discussed and answered in a dialogue between the attorney-at-law and partner at TGS Baltic Priit Lätt and film composer Liina Sumera.



Liina Sumera



Priit Lätt

FRAME WITHIN A FRAME MASTER SCREENING: THE KITE RUNNER

15:30-18:30

► *Coca Cola Plaza, Screen 6*

This programme features a special screening of *The Kite Runner*, a world-renowned film showcasing the masterful work of cinematographer Roberto Schaefer ASC, AIC. Following the screening, there will be an in-depth case study on the cinematography of the film, presented by Roberto Schaefer himself. The session will be moderated by Elen Lotman ESC, President of the Estonian Society of Cinematographers. Together, they will discuss the cinematographic approach, creative inspi-



The Kite Runner

rations, and technical processes that Roberto and his team employed to bring the film's stunning visuals to life.



Roberto Schaefer



Elen Lotman

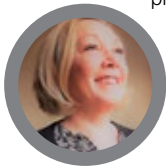
ISI: HOW DOES FILM DISTRIBUTION ACTUALLY WORK

16:00-17:30

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Arcturus*

The distribution world is very complex and it is hard to discern what services a film and documentary distributor actually provides or should provide. There is often a confusion where a sales company's services end and a distributor's services start.

This session will deliver a clear breakdown of the distribution sector and best practice when it comes to making a deal and working with distributors.



Julia Short

FILMMAKERS EUROPE PRESENTATION BY DAVID ZITZLSPERGER

16:00-17:30

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Altair*

Filmmakers Europe is a networking and casting directory platform that allows actors to gain wider visibility amongst the leading casting professionals across Europe, breaking down the barriers to casting opportunities across the continent in film and television, while promoting regional autonomy and diversity. Casting directors can create projects, post breakdowns, manage castings and share proposals. Agents can use the platform to manage their clients, receive breakdowns and sub-

mit to casting directors and producers can use the platform for their upcoming projects.



Managing Director David Zitzlsperger will present his platform in a workshop on how to navigate the platform and how to make use of this opportunity in its best possible way for all parties involved.

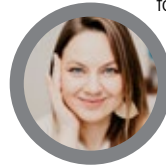
David Zitzlsperger

PERSONALITY-LED GROWTH IN THE FILM INDUSTRY

17:30-19:30

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Sirius*

Tired of your best work going unnoticed? Wonder why less talented folks get all the attention? This workshop on personality-led growth teaches you to showcase creativity without feeling like a sell-out, find your audience, and amplify your voice. It's time to step from behind the scenes into the spotlight.



Marju Sokman

November 21

FRAME WITHIN A FRAME MASTER SCREENING: THE ETERNAL ROAD

15:30 -18:30

► *Coca Cola Plaza, Screen 9*

This programme features a special screening of *The Eternal Road*, a Finnish cinematographic masterpiece. Following the screening, there will be an in-depth case study on the unique collaboration between the



The Eternal Road

gaffer and the cinematographer. Cinematographer Rauno Ronkainen FSC, and Gaffer Ville Penttilä FSC, ICLS, will lead the discussion. Ville's exceptional collaboration with Rauno on *The Eternal Road* earned them the Finnish Society of Cinematographers' award. The session will be moderated by Matilde Matvere, who was also a crew member of the film, providing further insight into the creative and technical processes behind this acclaimed work.



Ville Penttilä



Rauno Ronkainen

**BLACK ROOM OPEN LECTURE:
TALENT + AGENT BY LOLLO URBANSDOTTER**

16:30-17:30

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Arcturus*

Lollo Urbansdotter is the founder and owner of Magnolia Agency, one of Sweden's first film agencies. Since 2005, she and her team have steered the agency to align with the evolving demands and trends of the film industry. In her talk, she will offer valuable insights on navigating the dynamic film industry, the role of an agency in supporting talent, and the keys to building enduring, successful partnerships with both clients and collaborators.



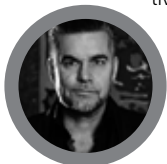
Lollo Urbansdotter

ROBERT BOHMAN: TRANSFORMING SPACES AND LIVES

18:00-19:15

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Arcturus*

Robert Bohman is a Swedish concept designer and as an entrepreneur Sweden's most known addiction therapist. Robert is renowned for his exceptional ability to turn any ordinary space into a compelling narrative. At this year's PÖFF film festival, Robert will share insights from his personal journey to establishing the House, address the issue of substance abuse in the film industry and the importance of creating an open dialogue on this critical topic.



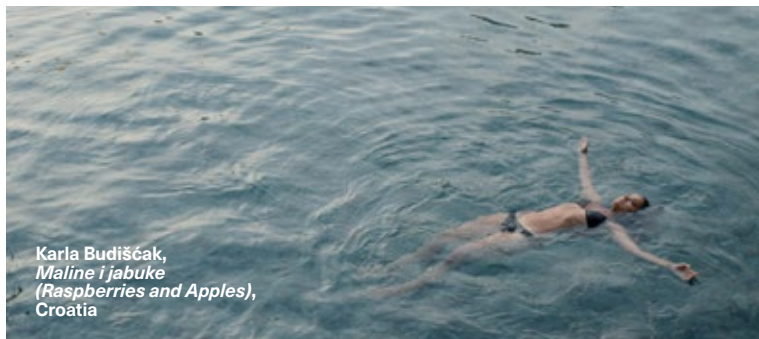
Robert Bohman



Ariel Navarro,
El Secadero (Dryland),
Cuba



Laura Köhler,
Donnerstag (Thursday),
Germany



Karla Budišćak,
Maline i jabuke (Raspberries and Apples),
Croatia



Ema Diehelova,
Noci a Dni (Nights and Days),
Slovakia

November 22

FRAME WITHIN A FRAME TALENT SCREENING

10:00 -13:00

► *Coca Cola Plaza, Screen 6*

This programme showcases the cinematographic works of eight emerging talents: Ariel Navarro (Cuba), Ema Diehelová (Slovakia), Karla Budišćak (Croatia), Kārlis Bergs (Latvia), Laura Köhler (Germany), Paul Sonntag (Germany), Rishi Selvam (Sri Lanka), and Tomas Lipsky (Czechia). Through a selection of short films, music videos, and scenes from feature films, these artists will present their cinematographic vision to industry professionals, fostering future collaboration. Each screening will be introduced by the cinematographer, with a Q&A session moderated by Dhanushka Gunathilake, Project Manager of the Frame Within a Frame Programme.



Rishi Selvam,
Munnel (Sand),
Sri Lanka



Kārlis Bergs,
Tepat – Paskrien līdzi
(Right Here –
Run Along),
Latvia



Tomas Lipsky, *Ključanje*
(Boiling), Czech Republic



Paul Sonntag,
Okpen-Eze
(Wandering Spirit),
Nigeria/Germany



Paul Sonntag,
Don't Cry Over Spilt Spritz,
Italy/United States

Spritz?

**INTERNATIONAL CO-PRODUCTIONS:
ESTONIA AND ICELAND**

10:00-12:00

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Arcturus*

Co-production between Estonia and Iceland has proven to be a fruitful friendship and a successful collaboration point. The discussion will be on two case studies: *Smoke Sauna Sisterhood* and *Driving Mum* with their teams and Marianne Ostrat moderating the panels.



Hilmar Oddsson



Tõnu Kõrvits



Matis Rei



Hendrik Mägar



Anna Hints



Eðvarð Egilsson



Marianne Ostrat

**BLACK ROOM & FRAME WITHIN A FRAME –
CRAFTING VISUAL TEXTURE:
THE ART OF BRINGING DEPTH AND DETAIL TO THE SCREEN**

14:00-16:00

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*

Black Room workshop will close as a joint panel discussion event together with Frame Within A Frame participants.

Cinematographers and Production Designers will discuss and explore the collaborative process of creating visually rich, textured films. The discussion aims to cover techniques, materials, lighting and digital ef-



facts that contribute to achieving a tactile, immersive visual experience.

The panel will be moderated by Production Designer **Kaia Tungal**.



**Marco Bittner
Rosser**



Roberto Schaefer



Ville Penttilä

ISI: DESIGN YOUR FESTIVAL STRATEGY

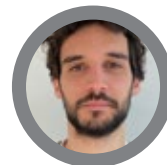
14:30-16:00

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Arcturus*

The strategy for your film may be to launch at a festival, which is the right festival, which is the right strand. Do international buyers attend? Will your film get reviewed? Does your film really rely on a festival launch? Would a specialist festival be best suited? This session will take you through the options so that you can design your film festival strategy.



Julia Short



Tommaso Priante



Casey Baron

**KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AND WRONGS:
INGREDIENTS OF GOOD CREATOR'S CONTRACT
PRACTICAL WORKSHOP BY TGS BALTIC**

16:30-18:00

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Arcturus*

The workshop is based on „Guidelines of European Audiovisual Authors' Contracts“ drafted by UNI MEI – media, entertainment & arts, FERA – Federation of European Film Directors and FSE – Federation of Screenwriters in Europe. The aim of the workshop is to discuss the main elements of an author's contract to be used in the audiovisual sector in the digital age.



Priit Lätt



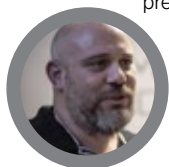
Sivia Urgas

**FROM TUNGSTEN TO SKYPANEL X:
ARRI'S CENTURY OF LIGHTING INNOVATION**

17:30 -19:30

► *Nordic Hotel Forum, Vega*

ARRI is celebrating 100 years of ARRI Lights this year, and as a technical partner of Frame Within a Frame, they will present their latest lighting technology to the eight talents of FWF and industry technicians. The presentation and demonstration, titled "From Tungsten to SkyPanel X: ARRI's Century of Lighting Innovation," will be led by Steve Calavitis from Camera Nordic, showcasing ARRI's groundbreaking advancements in lighting technology over the past century.



Steve Calavitis



ARRI Sky Panel X



MARKET SCREENINGS



Thai-Land

by Nir Dvortchin

Israel, 2024

75 minutes

Thai, English, Hebrew

Producer: **Haggai Arad, Aharon Peer, Elad Peleg**
Daroma Productions

NOVEMBER 19,

15:45

► *Apollo Cinema*
Coca-Cola Plaza, screen 6

The special and unique bond between an ageing Israeli farmer and his Thai workers raises critical questions regarding identity and agendas.

It Happened On Our Ground

by Avner Faingulernt

Israel, Germany, Canada 2024 / 90 minutes

English, German, Hebrew

Producers: **Hagar Saad Shalom, Paul Cadieux, Jurgen Kleinig, Danae Elon**
Films Border Skene

NOVEMBER 19,

14:30

► *Apollo Cinema*
Coca-Cola Plaza, screen 9

Set against the tranquil backdrop of an ancestral farm, a German aristocratic family grapples with their complex role during the Holocaust. Wendy, the strong-willed matriarch, inherited the farm from her uncle, Hitler's first foreign minister, and used her privileged



Rabbi Capoeira

by Barak Heymann

Israel, 2024

70 minutes

Hebrew, Portuguese, Yiddish

Producer: **Barak Heymann**
Heymann Brothers Films

NOVEMBER 19,

14:15

► *Apollo Cinema*
Coca-Cola Plaza, screen 6

How does a shy ultra-Orthodox guy become a world master in Capoeira and how does the ultra-Orthodox community of his city, Bnei Brak, react to the revolution he is determined to bring about? *Rabbi Capoeira*, the new film by Barak Heymann (*Comrade Dov, High Maintenance*) documents the five year long Sisyphean struggle of Miki Hayat, founder of the association "ultra-Orthodox in rhythm", to connect spirit and body and to bridge between fears and dreams.

position to save Jews from a concentration camp that was erected on their land. We follow three generations of women as they seek to reconcile their family's complicated legacy while wrestling with themes of guilt, redemption, and fractured relationships.



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**WATCH FILMS ONLINE
FROM**

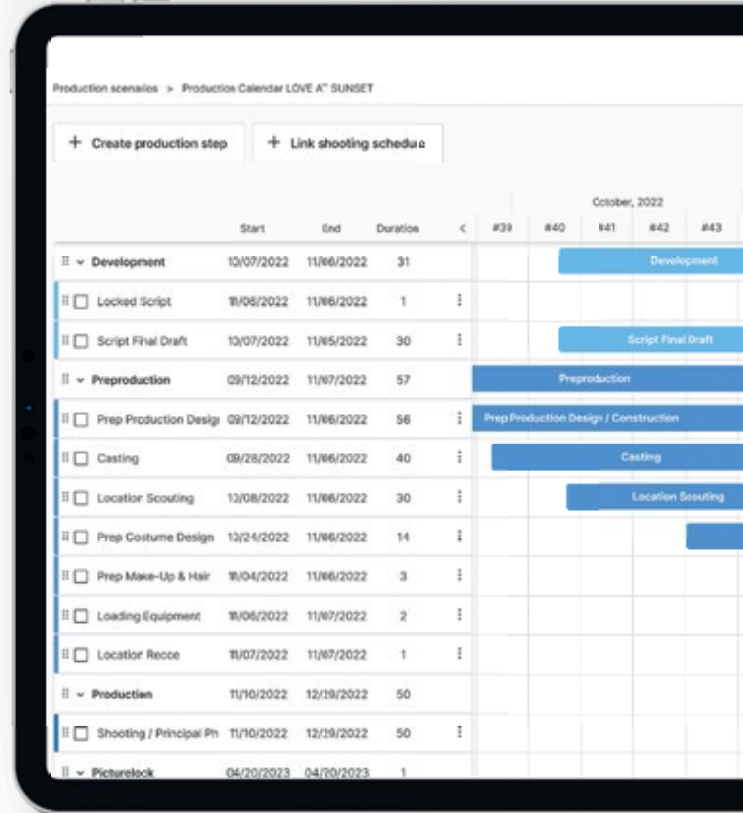
PÖFF

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for
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Production scenarios > Production Calendar LOVE AT SUNSET

+ Create production step + Link shooting schedule

October, 2022

	Start	End	Duration	<	#39	#40	#41	#42	#43
Development	10/07/2022	11/06/2022	31						
<input type="checkbox"/> Locked Script	10/06/2022	11/06/2022	1	:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Script Final Draft	10/07/2022	11/05/2022	30	:					
Preproduction	09/12/2022	11/07/2022	57						
<input type="checkbox"/> Prep Production Design	09/12/2022	11/06/2022	56	:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Casting	09/28/2022	11/06/2022	40	:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Location Scouting	12/08/2022	11/06/2022	30	:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Prep Costume Design	12/24/2022	11/06/2022	14	:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Prep Make-Up & Hair	11/04/2022	11/06/2022	3	:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Loading Equipment	11/06/2022	11/07/2022	2	:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Locator Recce	11/07/2022	11/07/2022	1	:					
Production	11/10/2022	12/19/2022	50						
<input type="checkbox"/> Shooting / Principal Ph	11/10/2022	12/19/2022	50	:					
Picturelock	04/20/2023	04/20/2023	1						

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Please join the various pitch sessions and cast your vote:

TV Beats Co-Financing Market | Baltic Event Co-Production

Market | International Works in Progress | Baltic Works

in Progress | Just Film Works in Progress | Script Pool |

European Genre Forum | MIDPOINT Series Launch

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