

# Script Pool

Script Pool is part of the Future to Film programme and it highlights five selected international projects and the team behind them – director, scriptwriter, and producer. The aim is to gather film projects with high distribution value in the final stage of development.

Focusing on the script and the overall project presentation, the projects and their teams will be partnered with international industry decision-makers (sales agents, financiers and co-producers) whose contribution will increase their sales and distribution potential.

**The Most Promising Project will be awarded 2500 euros.**



## Jury

**Marie Zeniter**, Director of International Sales,  
Magnolia Pictures, USA

**Patrick Fisher**, Producer and Co-Managing Director,  
Creativity Capital, United Kingdom

**Katrin Kissa**, Producer, Homeless Bob Production, Estonia

## HUM

**ORIGINAL TITLE:** HUM**Country:** United Kingdom**Genre:** science-fiction/fantasy**Director:** Stefano Nurra**Screenwriters:** Stefano Nurra and Maria Grazia Cassalia**Producers:** Scott Imren, Gareth Jones**Production company:** Parsley Productions**Language:** English**Production budget in EUR:** 1 230 000**Financing in place in EUR:** 503 347**Looking for:** equity finance, sales agents, distribution deals

## Synopsis

Chris (30s) is plagued by a mysterious noise – The Hum. Failed by traditional healthcare, he turns to disgraced Prof. McAven (60s), fired from university because of his unorthodox techniques. Together with McAven's daughter Alice (30s), a psychologist, the three eventually discover the source of the Hum. The Afterlife. As the veil between the two worlds becomes dangerously thin, Chris is forced to confront past traumas before the Hum can reach its peak and kill him.

## Director

**Stefano** is a writer/director from Sardinia living in London. His films have been selected for festivals like Fantasia, Sitges, Frightfest, etc. He's been part of the European Genre Forum and shortlisted for the Sundance Screenwriting Lab and TV Pilot Lab. His scripts were Semi-Finalists in screenwriting competitions such as Shore Scripts, Script Lab, Screencraft. Stefano works as an editor and animator, his clients are broadcasters and creative agencies such as BBC, Amazon, Facebook, etc.

## Scriptwriter

**HUM** is written by Stefano Nurra and Maria Grazia Cassalia. Maria Grazia Cassalia is a screenwriter and script consultant based in Milan, Italy. Since her graduation in 2006 at the National Cinema School she

worked as a screenwriter, story and script editor for broadcasters (Rai, Disney Channel Italy) and production companies (FreemantleMedia, Cattleya, Cross Productions, Grundy Italia) on prime-time TV series.

## Production company and producer

**Scott Imren** established Parsley Productions in Brighton, UK in 1999 and since then has been making documentary films, award winning shorts and long running series for broadcasters all over the world (BBC, ITV, AlJazeera and RT) as well as providing directing services for major live broadcasts (Formula 1 Grand Prix, Formula E). Scott brings to HUM a personal connection with trusted freelancers and private investors as well as a solid experience in delivering high quality productions on a tight budget.

**Gareth Jones** joined George Harrison's HandMade Films as an in-house lawyer in 1984, before moving on to head their film and international sales division, and subsequently became Managing Director of sales agents Alibi Films International.

He has financed, sold international rights and/or distributed more than one hundred independent feature films including *Boiling Point*, *The Unfamiliar*, *Dtf*, *Withnail and I*, *Mona Lisa*, *Psych 9*, *4321* and *Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*.

**Scott Imren****Stefano Nurra**

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# THE BEAUTY FROM COMET

**ORIGINAL TITLE:** HUI XING MEI REN

**Country:** China

**Genre:** suspense, sci-fi, detective, religion

**Director:** LIAO Zihao

**Screenwriter:** LIAO Zihao

**Producers:** ZHU Yirong, SUN Bowen, Ruoyao Jane Yao

**Production companies:** Beijing Yuhe Yinghua Culture media Co, LTD

**Language:** English, Chinese, Japanese

**Production budget in EUR:** 1 381 499

**Financing in place in EUR:** 470 520

**Looking for:** Eastern and Northern European co-producers, public funds, private funds, technical in-kind participation, film crew

## Synopsis

The story takes place 26 years after the outbreak of the nuclear war in 1986. In 2012, an immersive play opened up at the comet theatre. At the end of the play, actress Fang Fei disappeared from the theatre stage. This case became an unsolved mystery case with day after day futile investigation. A year later, Fang Fei's mother, Yang Fuzhi, found the city's most outstanding private detective – "Y" to investigate the whereabouts of her daughter.

## Director and scriptwriter

**LIAO Zihao** graduated from The Ohio State University with a Film Director major. His short films *Goodbye, Love*, *Undercurrent* and *Ringtones* were nominated by several international film festivals. His debut feature, *Who Is Sleeping in Silver Grey* is selected to the First Feature Competition of Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2021.

## Production company and producer

**Beijing Yuhe Yinghua Culture media Co, LTD**, an industrial chain film and television media company based in Beijing. Its activities include film and television investment, development, production, and distribution.

**Zhu Yirong**, producer. Scriptwriter and producer, her work includes *Mask*, *One Sweet Day* and *Who is Sleeping in Silver Grey*.

**Ruoyao Jane Yao**, co-producer. International sales, programmer, and producer. Her production work includes *White Joy*, *Birde Token*, *May 1st, 2021* and *China 354*.



**Ruoyao Jane Yao**



**Zihao Liao**

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# DREAMING OF LIONS

Script Pool  
Portugal, Belgium

**ORIGINAL TITLE:** SONHAR COM LEÕES

**Countries:** Portugal, Belgium

**Genre:** dark comedy

**Director:** Paolo Marinou-Blanco

**Screenwriter:** Paolo Marinou-Blanco

**Producer:** Justin Amorim

**Production companies:** Promenade Films,  
Darya Films

**Language:** Portuguese

**Production budget in EUR:** 1 399 277

**Financing in place in EUR:** 700 000

**Looking for:** production partners, sales agents, distributors

## Synopsis

A dark surreal comedy about euthanasia and assisted suicide. In Lisbon, Portugal – where euthanasia is still not legal – Gilda and Amadeu meet and fall in love through an underground organisation that claims to help the terminally ill kill themselves painlessly. They go on a last wild and surreal adventure to Belgium to finalise their plans, but a secret awaits them that threatens to change everything.

## Director

**Paolo Marinou-Blanco** is a Portuguese and Greek screenwriter, director, and producer, with a BA from the London School of Economics, an MA in Literature from University College London, and an MFA in Film and TV from NYU. After an internship with Spike Lee, Paolo wrote and directed his 1st feature *Goodnight Irene*, which screened at Edinburgh, Tallinn, Dublin, Valencia and over 30 festivals worldwide. Paolo also works as a screenwriter in the US (as a WGA member), Portugal

and Brazil. His 2nd feature as writer/director/coproducer, *Dreaming of Lions*, was selected for MFI Script 2 Film and Torino Film Lab (Comedy Lab), and has won production funding from Portugal.

## Production company and producer

**Promenade** is a film and audiovisual production company based in Lisbon, Portugal. The CEO and founder, Justin Amorim, was born in Toronto and moved to Southern Portugal during his childhood. Holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts in Film & Video by the School of Visual Arts in New York. His professional background includes companies such as Tribeca Film Institute & Festival, Elle Magazine, August Man, BlackBook, and Wilhelmina Models NY. Produced and directed his first feature film *Leviano* (2018), which premiered theatrically in Portugal and internationally at the Thessaloniki IFF. His next fiction TV series *5Starz* for RTP will premiere in late 2021.



**Paolo Marinou-Blanco**



**Filipe Bessa Vieira**



**Justin Amorim**

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# SELMA

**ORIGINAL TITLE:** SELMA

**Country:** Bosnia-Herzegovina

**Genre:** thriller

**Director/Screenwriter:** Reshad Kulenović

**Screenwriters:** John Bernstein, Reshad Kulenović

**Producer:** Azra Mehić

**Production company:** Real Stage

**Language:** Bosnian, German

**Production budget in EUR:** 424 554

**Financing in place in EUR:** 60 326

**Looking for:** co-producers, sales agents, distributors

## Synopsis

Ahim, a former Bosnian war-refugee now living in Berlin, is a high school mathematics teacher, as well as a published poet whose poems are inspired by his unremitting past and memories. A mysterious call from Bosnia sets him on a perilous journey back to Sarajevo to search for the body of his wife. At the end he comes to learn that living alongside the ghosts of the past is the only way to ensure his own survival.

## Director

**Reshad Kulenović** is a writer/director based in Bosnia and the USA. His short film *Snovi* played over 20 international film festivals and was nominated for a Student Academy Award. It won the Grand Prize at the Oscar-qualifying Rhode Island International Film Festival and had its European premiere at Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. His short noir *Blood & Moonlight* premiered at Sarajevo Film Festival. He is in post-production on *The Heretical* with Oscar nominated animator Dan Sousa. *Selma* will be his first feature film.

## Scriptwriter

**John Bernstein** is a former Professor of Film at Boston University. John has taught screenwriting worldwide and has conducted professional film seminars at the Munich Film School, the National Film School of Denmark, and at the Estonian Film Institute. He has also worked as Director of Development, Film Consultant, Story Editor, and Dramaturge for major film companies and theatres. His film *A Scent of Paradise* (starring Penelope Cruz) has won international prizes. He now resides in Denmark.

## Production company and producer

**Azra Mehić** received her MA in Producing from the American Film Institute (AFI) Conservatory. Her credits include *Wolves From Another Kingdom*, *Snovi* and *Cirkus Columbia*. *Snovi* was nominated for the Academy Award in the Student Category.

**Real Stage** is a production company based in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Founded by producer Ishak Jalimam they have produced short films that have screened at the Clermont-Ferrand Film Festival, Sarajevo Film Festival, Cottbus Film Festival, and many others.



**Reshad Kulenovic**



**Azra Mehic**

## Contact

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# WEREWOLF

**ORIGINAL TITLE:** LIBAHUNT

**Country:** Estonia

**Genre:** drama, mystery, thriller

**Director:** Eeva Mägi

**Screenwriter:** Eeva Mägi

**Producer:** Kristofer Piir

**Production company:** Allfilm

**Language:** Estonian

**Production budget in EUR:** 1 000 000

**Financing in place in EUR:** 105 000

**Looking for:** co-producers, sales agents, distributors

## Synopsis

One sunny summer morning, a crane brings a blonde and blue-eyed baby to Tammaru farm's corral. The same afternoon, a black baby with curly hair is washed up on the same farm's shore. Both girls are taken in and raised as one with the farm's heir Margus. According to the family's beliefs, one day Margus has to choose one of them to continue the family's bloodline with. A colour-blind love-triangle starts to grow in the mystical world of Tammaru.

## Director and scriptwriter

**Eeva Mägi** was born in 1987 in Estonia. In 2015, she obtained a master's degree in directing documentary from Baltic Film and Media

School. *Lembri Uudu* was her first independent film that had its international premiere at DOK Leipzig and has later participated in many festivals. In 2018, she was given a young filmmaker's award by the Cultural Endowment of Estonia. In 2020, her short doc *The Weight of All the Beauty* won at Oscar qualifying Melbourne International Film Festival. Since then, Eeva has successfully directed three short fiction films and is in post-production with her first feature doc.

## Production company and producer

**Allfilm** is an Academy Award and Golden Globe nominated production house operating since 1995. Allfilm develops and produces quality features, documentaries, TV series & provides full production service for all the above.

**Kristofer** joined the staff of Allfilm in early 2019. Since fall 2020, Kristofer has worked closely together with writer-director Eeva Mägi. They currently have three active projects in different stages of production – feature film *Werewolf* in development; feature documentary *From Mari with Love* and short fiction *F From the Third Octave* in post-production.



**Kristofer Piir**



**Eeva Mägi**

## Contact

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