

# JUST FILM Works in Progress

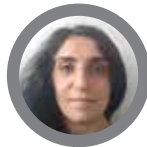
The Youth and Children's Film Festival Just Film is the biggest sub-festival of Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. Just Film Works in Progress focuses on film projects for children and young people.

## Just Film Works in Progress Award

The winner of the Best Project Award receives a 1000 EUR monetary prize to help the film gain visibility by covering promotion and publicity costs.

## Just Film Works in Progress Jury

**Gloria Morano** spent years working on different experimental cinema projects, among others, for a DVD publishing house and a filmmakers' cooperative in Paris, France. At the same time, she started helping to organise different film festivals in France and Italy. In 2017, after a stint at the Cinémathèque de la Ville de Luxembourg, Gloria took over as Head of the Young Audiences Programme at the Luxembourg City Film Festival. In 2018, she joined the festival's general artistic committee. Through all this, she hasn't lost her passion for experimental cinema and is actively engaged in the film selection process of the Festival des Cinémas Différents et Expérimentaux de Paris.



**Joe Ursell** is the Curation Manager at Into Film, a BFI funded education charity in the UK that works to put film at the heart of children and young people's social and cultural development. Joe is responsible for the curation of Into Film+, the UK's first free streaming service designed exclusively for schools; the Into Film Festival, a UK wide free festival

for schools and 5-19-year-olds that takes place every November and attracted more than 500,000 bookings in 2019; and Into Film's year-round screenings programme. Joe and his team also work with film archives, short film distributors, Doc Society, film festivals, and a host of other partners to introduce children and young people to as wide a range of cinema as possible.

**Alasdair Satchel** is a film and theatre maker from the Isle of Mull, off the West Coast of Scotland. He works with film education in English, Gaelic and French and is part of Eòlais Cinema, which delivers the Cinéma Cent Ans de Jeunesse from Paris in Scotland. His podcast series What We Do in the Winter and Tales Fae the East explore the extraordinary lives of everyday people.



# BOOM!



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** BUM!  
**Countries:** Latvia, Estonia  
**Duration in minutes:** 90  
**Genre:** comedy, youth, teen  
**Directors:** Marta Selecka, Andra Dorss  
**Screenwriter:** Lote Eglite  
**Cinematographer:** Valdis Celmins  
**Main cast:**  
**Producers:** Ugis Riekstins, Elina Zazerska  
**Production company:** Picture House  
**To be completed:** 2023  
**Production budget:** 650 000  
**Financing in place:** 20 000  
**Project status:** in production  
**Looking for:** co-producers, distributors, post-production services

## Synopsis

While showing off on a skateboard, a bit clumsy video game lover HUGO (~12) breaks his nose but gains magic superpowers. Now he is able to navigate objects (swapping, levitating, moving forward and backward etc.) with the power of his mind. This makes him the coolest guy of the school and the potential winner of the upcoming "Talent Show". Yet sudden fame damages relationship with his best friend TOM (~13), and soon he has to choose between popularity and real friendship.

## Directors

**Andra Dorss** has over 15 years of experience in the film and TV industry. She studied cinematography at the Latvian Academy of Culture. Upon graduation, Dorss directed fiction shorts and prime-time TV shows. Most of her work has been in the Baltic documentary scene, where she has been working with the best Latvian documentary directors on award-winning films. With documentary experience and great interest in youth she directed a documentary about teenage girls. It was nominated for the Best Debut at the Latvian National Film Festival The Big Christopher. Recently, she has focused on creating audiovisual content for children.

**Marta Selecka** (1979) has proven herself as a successful director and producer of children's TV content in Latvia. Previously, she has worked on TV and created documentary stories in the cultural genre. Marta has graduated from the doctoral programme in communication science at the University of Latvia and has been actively creating the most popular children's TV series for the last four years.

## Production company and producers

**Ugis Riekstins** has years of experience in the film industry at various departments. Owner of two successful companies: Arkogints Camera Rental and Art Department for more than 10 years. Recently, he has acted as co-producer for films like *Kriminālās ekselences Fonds*, *The Shift*, and *Rave*. *Boom!* is his debut as a producer.

**Elina Jozauska** has been active in the film industry for more than 15 years. She started her journey as PA on BBC's *Archangel* (2005) and has held positions in various departments of both commercials and film productions. Her latest work as a producer is the internationally awarded feature *The Pit* (2020) by Dace Puce.

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# DEVKA-BABA



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** DEVKA-BABA

**Country:** Russia

**Duration in minutes:** 90 min

**Genre:** fairy-tale

**Director:** Aglaya Nabatnikova

**Screenwriter:** Andrey Rubanov

**Cinematographer:** Ilya Ovsenev

**Main cast:** Taisya Kalinina, Olga Sergeeva, Yulia Marchenko, Nikolay Machulsky, Ivan Bychkov, Svetlana Ivanova

**Producer:** Victoria Lupik

**Production companies:** Anniko Films

**To be completed:** September 2022

**Production budget:** 570 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 370 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** co-production partners, sales agents, distributors, festival selectors

## Synopsis

Tanya (12) is spending her summer vacation at a dacha in a small town. She spends her days with her friend Masha (12) and her neighbour Vadik (12). Tanya has a problem: after a big fight, her parents seem to be planning a divorce.

One day a magic rag doll falls into Tanya's hands. It looks like an old, traditional Russian doll made from scraps of cloth. This doll begins to help Tanya. When Tanya realises that the doll works little miracles, she gives it to her friends. Suddenly, the doll is stolen. Tanya struggles to get it back.

## Director

**Aglaya Nabatnikova** (1982) graduated the Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography in 1999. She is an alumna of Berlinale Talent 2009. Her filmography includes *Jungfrau* (2007, 40 minutes; Best Cinematography at Afia Film Festival, Denmark, EsEm Festival, Armenia; diploma for the original script at X Eurasian Television Forum); *The Iron* (2010, 7 minutes, shortlisted for the YouTube Play Media Biennale, USA); and *The Nymph* (2016, 15 minutes, Kolkata International Short Film Festival, India).

## Production company and producer

**Anniko Films** is a film studio that carries out the full production cycle was founded in 2009 by producer **Victoria Lupik** and film director Maria Saakyan. The company's projects are supported by international foundations (WCF, Danish Film Institute), and by the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation. Their newest film *White Road* was selected to the Berlinale Residency. It is also one of the 15 projects to have been selected for Cinéfondation's L'Atelier of Cannes Film Festival 2021.

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# FELIPE

Just Film Works in Progress  
Argentina, Spain, France, Guatemala



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** FELIPE

**Countries:** Argentina, Spain, France, and Guatemala

**Duration in minutes:** 86

**Genre:** coming of age, drama

**Director:** Federico Schmukler

**Screenwriter:** Federico Schmukler

**Cinematographers:** Marcos Gabriel Navarro and Ricardo D'angelis

**Main cast:** Felipe Szumik, Andrea del Carmen Charras, Pablo Marcelo Limarzi, Catalina Oliva

**Producer:** Julieta Sánchez Sananez, Brujas Producciones

**Co-producers:** Carlo D'ursi Fortunato, Jayro Bustamante, Gustavo Matheu Paredes, Georges Renand

**Production companies:** Potenza Producciones, La Casa de Producción, Les Film du Volcán

**To be completed:** 2022

**Production budget:** 700 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 600 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** Post-production partners, international sales agent, distributor

## Synopsis

The Argentinian crisis of 2021 marks Felipe's generation, who at only 13 years of age doesn't quite grasp what is happening within his surroundings. Secluded, Felipe falls in love with his 13-year-old neighbour Lucía. When the crisis erupts and violence becomes a real danger, they run away together. In their hiding place, Felipe comes face

to face with the consequences of his wish of being a grown-up and is obliged to face his fears and guilt of maturity.

## Director

**Federico Schmukler** is an Argentine director and screenwriter. Since 2016, he has written and directed three short films with success at international festivals. He's also the screenwriter of *Los Pájaros* by Sebastian Muñoz, *María* by Julieta Sanchez and his first film *Felipe*, which is in post-production stage. He has worked as assistant director and script supervisor for ten feature films, two fiction series and more than 15 short films. His work with the director Jayro Bustamante is highlighted in the direction area.

## Production company and producer

**Brujas Producciones** is a production company that was born with the main goal to produce films of young directors and find stories that talk about life in neighbourhoods exposing its culture from inside. At the moment, they are in post-production phase of our first feature film *Felipe* and developing other projects in Argentina and Spain.

**Julieta Sánchez Sananez** is a producer and lawyer. After working as a producer for seven years, she founded Brujas in 2020 with the goal of exposing social problems in Latin America.

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# PAULA



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** PAULA  
**Country:** Argentina, Italy  
**Duration in minutes:** 90  
**Genre:** teen drama  
**Director:** Florencia Wehbe  
**Screenwriters:** Florencia Wehbe, Daniela De Francesco  
**Cinematographer:** Dario Mascambroni  
**Main cast:** Lucia Castro  
**Producers:** Fernanda Rocca, Claudio Esposito  
**Production companies:** Bombilla Cine (Argentina), The Piranesi Experience (Italy)  
**To be completed:** January 2022  
**Production budget:** 467 135 EUR  
**Financing in place:** 355 135 EUR  
**Project status:** in post-production  
**Looking for:** distributor partners and broadcasters

## Synopsis

At only fourteen years old, Paula hates her body. In an attempt to express what she feels, Paula creates a blog and becomes part of a large virtual community that shares her problems. Sheltered in anonymity, she uploads content recorded with her cell phone, exposing her friends and family. The feeling of belonging blinds Paula, who begins to walk a lonely path in which bulimia and anorexia lurk as alternatives in the search for self-acceptance.

## Director

**Florencia Wehbe** is from Río Cuarto. She studied in The Metro Cinema School in Córdoba. She worked as First Assistant for the features films *Primero Enero* (Berlinale Kgen, Bafici, Fiff - Fribourg, Festival Do Rio) and *Mochila de Plomo* (Berlinale Generations, BAFICI, FIFF, Sao Paulo), in which she participated as co-scriptwriter too. *Mañana tal vez* is her directorial debut. It was filmed in 2019, and has been selected to many international film festivals, winning the Best Argentinian Film at La Plata Latinoamerican Film Festival, Best Sound at Guayaquil International Film Festival, and the audience award in Santiago del Estero International Film Festival. She has also worked as Art Director for features like: *Rinoceronte* (2021), *Los Hipócritas* (2018), *Instrucciones para flotar un muerto* (2016), *Adagio* (2015), *El Espacio entre los dos* (2012).

## Production company and producer

**Bombilla Cine** is first and foremost a TEAM that has long started to produce CINEMA independently and that, little by little and thanks to the results obtained, is encouraged to go for more with each new project. Going for more in realisation, conceptual and artistic terms. Bombilla Cine is based in Cordoba, Argentina.

**The Piranesi Experience** is an independent Italian production company founded in 2014 by former students of Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. The headquarters are located in Bari with offices in Rome and Palermo. The Piranesi Experience develops and produces original content with an editorial line specifically centered around social issues.

## Contact

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# SUMMER ENDS SOON



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** SKORO KONCHITSYA LETO

**Countries:** Russia, Kazakhstan

**Duration in minutes:** 100

**Genre:** coming-of-age

**Director:** Yana Skopina

**Screenwriters:** Yana Skopina, Rodion Golovan

**Cinematographer:** Daria Balanovskaya

**Main cast:** Alikhan Abildin, Olga Obumova, Ramazan Ahmedov

**Producer:** Ardak Kassymbek, Yerkezhan Maksut, Tamara Bogdanova

**Production companies:** KINOKULT, UVENT Production

**To be completed:** summer 2022

**Production budget:** 650 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 500 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** post-production partners, distributors, sales agencies, festivals

## Synopsis

The group of young people, fascinated by music, socially and nationally mixed up in a Kazakh neighbourhood towards the back-drop of a social turmoil and drastically changing times of the early 90th in the Soviet Union. The main character of the story, Kazakh boy Bakha (16), falls in love with the Russian Polish girl, Berta (18), who, already feeling ready for a relationship of a different kind, is attracted to the front-man of the band from their courtyard – a Russian guy Vitka (19). And Vitka, in turn, does not miss a single pretty girl, while remaining in a

relationship with Berta. And in this mess, Bakha doesn't seem to have any real force to fight. The age and the race abyss become an almost insurmountable obstacle for him, but, nevertheless, he turns out to be the winner.

## Director

**Yana Skopina** (1983) studied at a drama school and successfully graduated in Advertising Technologies from ORT International College, in Filmmaking from VGIK, as well as from the Moscow State University of Theatre Arts. Since 2015, she has been teaching directing at VGIK. She is an author, curator, and teacher of filmmaking. She has made seven short films and won awards at numerous festivals, including Tefi, Meters, Bastau, Vgikfest, Film Festival Fellow, Artkino, Film Guild.Ru, Film Kustendorf, St. Anna, Biof2018.

## Production company and producer

Moscow-based independent film company **Kinokult** was founded in 2015 with a mission to search for new cinematic language and forms. The company's focus is on domestic production and international co-production of documentary and feature films, as well as video art, with potential for international distribution. The company's filmography includes titles that have received awards at both Russian and international film festivals. Kinokult has presented projects in various stages of development at co-production markets such as Karlovy Vary IFF WIP, Les Arcs Industry Village, Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event, Producers' Network at Marché du Film, and Roskino KBE. Domestically, Kinokult actively supports young independent filmmakers.

## Contact

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# Works in Progress

## **Best Visual Effects Award – 10 000€**

Asymmetric Studios presents their Best Visual Effects Award to the jury's choice of best project in the International or Baltic Event Works in Progress sections.

The award consists of a 5000€ cash prize, as well as a 20% discount in services (up to a value of 10,000€) from this leading international visual effects and 3D animation studio.

## **Baltic Event Award – 2500€**

The award is intended to cover the promotional costs of the film's theatrical distribution in Estonia, Latvia, and/or Lithuania.



## Jury

**Charles Bin**, Partner and Co-Founder, Best Friend Forever, Belgium  
**Alena Shumakova**, Correspondent for Russia and Eastern Europe at Quinzaine des Réalisateurs in Cannes, Russia/Italy  
**Torsten Frehse**, Managing Director and Shareholder/Neue Visionen, Founder/Pluto Film World Sales, Germany

# SOLIDARITY

International Works in Progress  
United States, Lithuania



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** SOLIDARITY

**Countries:** United States, Lithuania

**Duration in minutes:** 100

**Genre:** drama, social realist

**Director:** Dustin Brown

**Screenwriter:** Dustin Brown

**Cinematographer:** Mark Mannschreck

**Main cast:** Elpidia Carrillo, Mantas Valantiejus, Michael Harney, Carlos Miranda, Montse Hernandez, Daniel Mora

**Producers:** Dustin Brown, Daniel Dreifuss

**Co-producers:** Daniel Leighton, Kaiulani Bush, Mantas Valantiejus

**Production companies:** Dustin Todd Films, Midnight Lantern Productions

**To be completed:** 2022

**Production budget:** 350 000 USD

**Financing in place:** 175 000 USD

**Project status:** in production

**Looking for:** gap financing, finishing funds, co-producers, distributors, sales agents, festivals

## Synopsis

A cross-cultural look at the immigrant experience in Los Angeles through the parallel lives of a Mexican seamstress and a Lithuanian

butcher. Inés is a single mother working a crushing schedule in a garment factory sweatshop. Tomas toils in blood and flesh as a butcher whose only companion is his dog, Luna. Two alienated souls lost in the urban metropolis, but in this dual narrative, a connection develops that transcends language and culture. Based on the award-winning short film, *Solidarity* explores the profound forces in society that bind people together.

## Director

**Dustin Brown** is a writer and director with a passion for telling character-driven, socially conscious stories. His work has been recognized by some of the most prestigious film festivals including Cannes, BAFTA, Clermont-Ferrand and supported by Film Independent and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. He is a graduate of the American Film Institute Directing Program. *Solidarity* is his feature film directorial debut.

## Production company and producer

**Mantas Valantiejus** is a Lithuanian-born actor and producer. He has worked on numerous award-winning film projects and has acted alongside Mena Suvari and Elpidia Carrillo. The character of Tomas in the feature film *Solidarity* is inspired by his real-life story of living undocumented for many years in the U.S.

## Contact

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# INTENSIVE CARE



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** ЗДОРОВЫЙ ЧЕЛОВЕК

**Country:** Russia

**Duration in minutes:** 92

**Genre:** drama

**Director:** Pyotr Todorovskiy

**Screenwriter:** Pyotr Todorovskiy

**Cinematographer:** Gleb Filatov

**Main cast:** Nikita Efremov, Irina Starshenbaum, Darya Balabanova

**Producers:** Valeriy Fedorovich, Evgeniy Nikishov

**Production company:** 1-2-3 Production

**To be completed:** February 2022

**Production budget:** 1 000 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 100%

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** pre-sales and sales agent, festivals

## Synopsis

Yegor in mid-life crisis witnesses a random act of violence. Spurred by tragedy, he realises the urge to help people and becomes a volunteer. But new life costs Yegor dear: he loses his career and finds himself on

the verge of divorce wondering whether he is strong enough to follow this new path.

## Director

**Pyotr Todorovsky Jr.**, director, producer, screenwriter. His first film *Love Story* received positive reviews from viewers and critics at the 2017 Window to Europe Festival but was never released to a wider audience. His second project *Six Empty Seats*, a drama series, won the Best TV Series Award at Serial Killer International Festival 2020, Brno, Czech Republic, was included in the Best around the World programme of SerienCamp Festival 2020 and was picked up by Beta Film for international sales.

## Production company and producer

**1-2-3 Production** is a Moscow-based production company with focus on both commercial genre and director-driven feature films and premium high-concept series. Since the company's foundation in 2018 the strategic management is executed by producers Valeriy Fedorovich and Evgeniy Nikishov, members of the International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, TEFI Russian Television Prize Television Producers of the Season 2019.

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# BETHLEHEM LIGHT

International Works in Progress  
Czech Republic,  
United Kingdom



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** BETLÉMSKÉ SVĚTLO

**Countries:** Czech Republic, United Kingdom

**Duration in minutes:** 90

**Genre:** comedy

**Director:** Jan Sverak

**Screenwriter:** Jan Sverak

**Cinematographer:** Vladimír Smutný

**Main cast:** Zdeněk Sverak, Daniela Kolarová, Tereza Ramba, Vojtěch Kotek, Ondřej Vetchý, Patricia Schumann, Jitka Cvančarová

**Producer:** Jan Sverak

**Co-producer:** Eric Abraham

**Production companies:** Biograf Jan Sverak, Portobello Productions, Czech Television

**To be completed:** February 2022

**Production budget:** 1 500 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 100%

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** distributors, sales agent

## Synopsis

Everyday existence of writer Šejnoha is enlivened by characters from his stories. They enter his reality at various stages of completeness

and with all kinds of strange demands. Both Šejnoha and the characters ask the same questions: What is the burden we bear in our life, and how can we learn to live with it? How to fulfil our own expectations of a better life without destroying everything we have? If we come to terms with ourselves, are we giving up, or does redemption await us?

## Director

Most of the films released by Jan Sverak are box office hits in his home territory. He is best known for the Academy Award® and Golden Globe® winning *Kolya* (1997) and Academy Award® nominee *Elementary School* (1991). Jan has developed his own cocktail style mixing the opposites – sentiment with humour, humane stories with an epic Hollywood narration. Three of his feature films show his tremendous passion for fantasy. His latest film *Bethlehem Light* (2022) is spiced up with a dose of magical realism.

## Production company and producer

**Jan Sverak** has been producing feature films since 1994. He has released eight box office hits including the Academy Award winning *Kolya* (1997). Most of Jan Sverak's films were co-produced by Eric Abraham and supported by the Czech Film Fund.

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# WE MIGHT AS WELL BE DEAD

International Works in Progress  
Germany



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** WIR KÖNNTEN GENAUSO GUT TOT SEIN (WT)

**Country:** Germany

**Duration in minutes:** 92

**Genre:** social satire, absurd drama

**Director:** Natalia Sinelnikova

**Screenwriters:** Natalia Sinelnikova and Viktor Gallandi

**Cinematographer:** Jan Mayntz

**Main cast:** Ioana Iacob, Susanne Wuest, Jörg Schüttauf, Knut Berger, Moritz Jahn, Şiir Eloğlu, Mina Özlem Sagdiç

**Producer:** Julia Wagner

**Co-producer:** Magdalena Wolff

**Production companies:** HEARTWAKE Films, Filmuniversität Babelsberg Konrad Wolf

**To be completed:** early 2022

**Production budget:** 380 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 365 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** world sales, distribution, festival programming, broadcasters, streamers

## Synopsis

The high-rise building near the forest is famous for its carefully curated community. As a dog disappears and her daughter refuses to leave the bathroom, security officer Anna faces an absurd battle against the fear that slowly spreads among the residents and shakes the utopia with a view.

## Director

**Natalia Sinelnikova** was born in St. Petersburg in 1989 and emigrated to Germany at the age of 7. In 2013, she graduated from Hildesheim University with a Bachelor in Culture Studies and a major in photography and theatre and moved to studying film directing at Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf in Potsdam. Her graduation film *Weeping Willows* premiered at the Moscow Jewish Film Festival and was screened at various international festivals. She is currently finalizing her master's degree and in post-production with her first feature *We Might as Well Be Dead*.

## Production company and producer

**HEARTWAKE** films produces fiction and documentary films of artistic and social relevance, with a focus on feminist, queer & underrepresented perspectives.

Founder/producer **Julia Wagner** is alumna of EAVE Producers Workshop, Rotterdam Lab, Berlinale Talents & member of European Women Audiovisual Network, French-German Filmacademy and German Producers Association. She worked on *In the Aisles* and *What Doesn't Kill Us* for Sommerhaus and currently produces *Embodied Chorus* (LEB/GER/LUX) with HEARTWAKE. In development are feature drama *Mascha* (WT), queer mini-series *Loose*, and gangster dramedy *Queen of Thule* (co-produced with KOI Studio PL).

## Contact

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# BEAUTIFUL HELEN

International Works in Progress  
Georgia, Turkey, France



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** MSHVENIERI ELENE

**Countries:** Georgia, Turkey, France

**Duration in minutes:** 95

**Genre:** drama

**Director:** George Ovashvili

**Screenwriters:** George Ovashvili, Roelof Jan Minneboo

**Cinematographers:** Marci Ragályi, Irakli Akhalkatsi

**Main cast:** Natia Chikviladze, Dimitri Kvtisiashvili

**Producer:** George Ovashvili

**Co-producers:** Mesut Ulutaş, Guillaume de Seille

**Production company:** Wagonnet Films

**To be completed:** February 2022

**Production budget:** 250 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 190 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** gap financing, distributors, sales agents, festivals, co-producers, cinema markets

## Synopsis

After finishing university in New York Helen comes back to her homeland. Everything is foreign here for her. Helen tries not only to find her place in Tbilisi, but also to find herself and find the keys that fit the

locks of the main existential questions of life. Her encounter with film director Gabo is the start of an adventure that takes us into the minds and souls of a man and a woman, an old and a young soul.

## Director

**George Ovashvili** is a Georgian director, writer, and producer. First feature film *The Other Bank* premiered at the Berlin Film Festival's Generation section in 2009 and won over 50 international prizes. Second feature *Corn Island* won the Crystal Globe at Karlovy Vary International Film Festival in 2014 and was shortlisted for the Academy's best foreign language film in 2015. *Khibula* ended the trilogy of long features. *Beautiful Helen* (2021) is his 4th long fiction which is in post-production stage.

## Production company and producer

**Wagonnet Films** was founded by the producer, director, and writer George Ovashvili. Wagonnet Films was registered on the base of previous George Ovashvili companies George Ovashvili Productions and Alamdary Films (*The Other Bank* (2009), *Corn Island* (2014), *Khibula* (2017)). Except making co-productions, Wagonnet Films works as a service company and offers a full-package service to the foreign crews willing to shoot in Georgia.

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# CORK



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** SURO

**Country:** Spain

**Duration in minutes:** 110

**Genre:** thriller, drama

**Director:** Mikel Gurrea

**Screenwriters:** Mikel Gurrea, Francisco Kosterlitz

**Cinematographer:** Julian Elizalde

**Main cast:** Vicky Luengo, Pol López

**Producers:** Laura Rubirola, Sergi Moreno, Tono Folguera, Clàudia Maluenda, Xabi Berzosa

**Production companies:** Lastor Media, Malmo Pictures, Irusoin

**To be completed:** February-March 2022

**Production budget:** 1 100 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 975 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** sales agents

## Synopsis

A young, vulnerable couple inherits a cork-harvesting farm in rural Catalonia. As newly fledged landowners, they dream of building a fair and sustainable life, only to find their ideals clash head-on with their dire need to make money.

## Director

**Mikel Gurrea** (Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona; London Film School) is a young writer-director whose short films have been selected to festivals such as Venice, San Sebastian, and Montreal and his dramatic work for the stage as a playwright has opened in theatres like London's Queen Elizabeth Hall and Madrid's Fernan-Gomez. His feature film debut, *Suro (Cork)* – currently in post-production – was awarded at the San Sebastian Film Festival and developed at Ikusmira Berriak, Sources2 and the Jerusalem Film Lab.

## Production company and producer

In 2011, **Laura Rubirola** joined the film production company Rodar y Rodar (*The Orphanage*, *Julia's Eyes*) where she was a production coordinator for several films. Later, she has worked as a freelance associate producer (*The Body*, *God's Crooked Lines*). In 2016, she launched the audiovisual production company Malmo Pictures and the screenwriting and audiovisual creation school Showrunners Barcelona. She has recently worked as an executive producer of the TV series *The Innocent* (Netflix) as well as written and directed the short film *Vera*, which held its world premiere at Tribeca Film Festival in 2020.

## Contact

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# CHILD MACHINE



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** CHILD MACHINE

**Country:** Estonia

**Duration:** 95 minutes

**Genre:** science fiction

**Director:** Rain Rannu

**Screenwriter:** Rain Rannu

**Cinematographer:** Ants Tammik

**Main cast:** Johann Urb, Anna Elisabeth Leetmäe, Yulin Ng, Priit Pius, Ivo Uukkivi, Tom Urb

**Producers:** Tõnu Hiie laid, Rain Rannu

**Production company:** Tallifornia

**To be completed:** Winter 2021/2022

**Production budget:** 500 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 500 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** sales agent, distributors, streamers

## Synopsis

A 9-year-old girl gets accidentally trapped in a secret bunker where an AI-start-up is nearing the completion of a super intelligent AI. Both the girl and the machine want to escape.

*Child Machine* is a science fiction adventure exploring the themes of machine superintelligence, human stupidity, and AI value misalignment.

## Director

**Rain Rannu** is an Estonian film director who often tackles the topics of technology and its impact on society. *Child Machine* is his third feature film. His latest narrative feature is the critically acclaimed start-up comedy *Chasing Unicorns* (PÖFF Baltic Competition, 2019). He is also the director of the first Estonian virtual reality narrative short *Beqaa VR* (2018). Together with producer Tõnu Hiie laid, Rain is a founder of indie production company Tallifornia.

## Production company and producer

**Tallifornia** is an indie film production company founded in 2018 by Rain Rannu and Tõnu Hiie laid that focuses exclusively on narrative features. Tallifornia produces 2-4 full-length films per year. Recently, Tallifornia has produced *Chasing Unicorns* by Rain Rannu (PÖFF Baltic Competition, 2019) and *Kratt* by Rasmus Merivoo in 2020 (Just Film FF 2020, BIFAN 2021, Fantasia 2021). Currently, Tallifornia has three features in post-production and three going into production in 2022.

## Contact

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# DARK PARADISE



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** TUME PARADIIS

**Countries:** Estonia, France

**Duration:** 100 minutes

**Genre:** drama

**Director:** Triin Ruumet

**Screenwriters:** Triin Ruumet, Andris Feldmanis, Livia Ulman

**Cinematographer:** Erik Põllumaa, ESC

**Main cast:** Rea Lest, Jõrgen Liik

**Producer:** Elina Litvinova

**Co-producer:** Jeremy Forni

**Production companies:** Three Brothers, Chevaldextrois

**To be completed:** 2022

**Production budget:** 1 500 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 1 360 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** post-production funds, gap financing, sales agent, distributors, festivals, Streamers

## Synopsis

A poignant tale about Millennials follows a 27-year-old woman called Karmen. She discovers that her recently buried father was actually wallowing in debt and her whole life has been one big lie. When Karmen's life starts to collapse, she takes out her feelings on her brother

Viktor by disfiguring his face. At the centre of the film is a hedonistic lifestyle and the nihilistic search for love and intimacy.

## Director

**Triin Ruumet** is one of the most interesting new generation directors in Estonia. A diverse, unconventional, and fearless director, her strength lies in her personal and somewhat irreverent approach to her subject matter. Her student films participated and were lauded at dozens of festivals. Triin Ruumet's 2016 debut *The Days that Confused* was a success with almost 63 000 domestic admissions and several film awards in Estonia and internationally.

## Production company and producer

**Three Brothers** is a boutique company created to make international audiovisual works that in their form and content express bold authors' handwriting. Directors include critically acclaimed Martti Helde, bold and brave Triin Ruumet, as well as up and coming Rebeka Rummel. Their films have premiered in A-list festivals, received Europa Cinemas Label Award, FIPRESCI & Audience Awards.

## Contact

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# KEEP SMILING, MOM!



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** MAMMA VĒL SMAIDA

**Country:** Latvia

**Duration:** 95 minutes

**Genre:** road-movie, dramedy

**Director:** Elza Gauja

**Screenwriters:** Elza Gauja, Rasa Bugavičute-Pēce, Anta Aizupe, Baiba Broka, Daiga Kažociņa

**Cinematographer:** Aleksandrs Grebņevs, LGC

**Main cast:** Anta Aizupe, Baiba Broka, Daiga Kažociņa, Matīss Budovskis, Jānis Skutelis

**Producers:** Andris Gauja, Elza Gauja, Marta Bite

**Production companies:** Riverbed

**Financed by:** National Film Centre of Latvia, Ministry of Culture of Latvia, TV3 Group, Arkogints, SDG Lighting

**To be completed:** January 2022

**Production budget:** 151 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 151 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** festivals, sales, distribution, broadcasters

## Synopsis

Three sisters, dead broke and disconnected from each other, travel around Europe with their mother's corpse on top of their van, trying to

minimize transportation costs. The idea is to get her home, legally or not. The trio has to talk, reminisce, and maybe even admit that underneath their fantasies of perfection — these are women in a desperate search for freedom.

## Director

**Elza Gauja** graduated from the Latvian Academy of Culture as a film director, later studied acting and currently is doing her master studies in film directing. Elza has starred in theatrical performances and has won the Best Actress award at the Performing Arts Festival Autumn of the Patriarch. She also performs in feature films and was nominated for the Latvian Film Prize Lielais Kristaps as the Best Actress. Elza is currently finishing her two debut feature films: the documentary *Dream Isle. A Requiem* and her feature dramedy *Keep Smiling, Mom!*.

## Production company and producer

After completing his screenwriting studies at the Latvian Academy of Culture, **Andris Gauja** has produced, written, and directed both documentaries (including the award-winning *Family Instinct*, (2010) and narrative films (*Keep Smiling, Mom!* (coming in 2022), *Nothing Can Stop Us Now* (2019), *The Lesson* (2014).

**Riverbed** is a full-service film production company focused on auteur-driven narrative storytelling with a strong emphasis on powerful imagery. We believe in challenging our limits, not limiting our challenges.

## Contact

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# LIGHT LIGHT LIGHT



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** VALOA VALOA VALOA

**Country:** Finland

**Duration:** 90 minutes

**Genre:** drama

**Director:** Inari Niemi

**Screenwriters:** Juuli Niemi, based on the novel by  
Vilja-Tuulia Huotarinen

**Cinematographer:** Sari Aaltonen

**Main cast:** Rebekka Baer, Anni Iikkanen, Pirjo Lonka, Laura Birn

**Producer:** Oskari Huttu

**Production company:** Lucy Loves Drama Oy

**To be completed:** Spring 2022

**Production budget:** 1 350 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 1 300 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** sales, distribution, financing

## Synopsis

In the spring of 1986, an explosion occurs at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. At the same time, a girl called Mimi arrives in a small village in western Finland, and immediately fills 15-year-old Mariia's life with radiating light. Twenty years later, Mariia returns home to take care of her sick mother, and memories start rising to the surface

though she tries to fight them back. The summer Mariia and Mimi got to spend together two decades ago was full of fierce joy of discovering what life could perhaps be. The love they had was magical and powerful but still Mariia couldn't save the neglected and abandoned Mimi from herself. After the summer Mimi committed suicide and years after the tragedy Mariia needs to remember the light, so that she can accept also the dark in her past. And forgive herself.

## Director

**Inari Niemi** (born 1978) is a Helsinki-based film director and screenwriter. She has directed the documentary feature *Robin – The Movie* (2012), and fiction features *Summertime* (Kesäkaverit, 2014) and *Wonderland* (Joulumaa 2017). The latter two were Jussi-award nominees for best film, and *Wonderland* was also a nominee for the best screenplay.

Her latest works include the praised short film *Girl Thing* – a part of Tuffi Film's awarded *Force of Habit* anthology series sold by TOTEM FILMS, and *My Husband's Wife*, 8 x 42" series produced by Lucy Loves Drama with Studio Hamburg and YLE.

## Production company and producer

**Lucy Loves Drama** is a production company with a passion for stories, people and the art of cinema. We want to tell stories about important issues, stories that are universal – stories that make us laugh, cry and above all, bring comfort to the audience and help us get through everyday life. We want to make cinema that makes the world a better place to live in – to entertain, bring joy and warmth, make an impact on people both emotionally and intellectually.

## Contact

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# PARADE



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** PARADAS

**Country:** Lithuania

**Duration:** 90 minutes

**Genre:** dramedy

**Director:** Titas Laucius

**Screenwriter:** Titas Laucius

**Cinematographer:** Laurynas Bareisa

**Main cast:** Rasa Samuolyte, Giedrius Savickas

**Producer:** Klementina Remeikaite

**Production company:** afterschool production

**To be completed:** spring 2022

**Production budget:** 500 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 400 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** co-producers, distributors, sales agents, festivals, post-production services

## Synopsis

Miglė got divorced 26 years ago. One day she gets a call with a strange request: in order to marry his new girlfriend, her ex-husband wants to get a divorce through the "Catholic court", the only institution that has the power to undo the bond of a Christian marriage. During the process of the court – a series of awkward and embarrassing meetings

with several priests – Miglė and her former husband find themselves getting closer to each other. Maybe even closer than they were during their marriage.

## Director

**Titas Laucius** (born in 1993) finished his BA in Scriptwriting at Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy, followed by an MA in Film Directing. His short fiction film *Snake* (2018) won the award for Most Promising Director in the student film competition of Vilnius Film Festival Kino Pavasaris. His second short film *Family Unit* (2019) won the Best Short Film at Vilnius Film Festival Kino Pavasaris and National film award for best student film. *Parade* is his feature film debut.

## Production company and producer

The film production company „afterschool“ based in Vilnius, Lithuania, was established in 2014 by director/DOP Laurynas Bareisa and producer Klementina Remeikaite. Since then, the company has created and produced over 10 short films, including Laurynas Bareisa's short *Dummy* (Berlinale Shorts 2020), Vytautas Katkus's short film *Places* (Venice, Orizzonti 2020). The last produced feature film *Piligrimai* (dir. Laurynas Bareisa) won the Best Film Award at Venice Film Festival in the Orizzonti Competition in 2021.

## Contact

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# SISTERS



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** MĀSAS

**Countries:** Latvia, Italy

**Duration:** 95 minutes

**Genre:** drama, family

**Director:** Linda Olte

**Screenwriter:** Linda Olte

**Cinematographer:** Aleksandrs Grebnevs

**Main cast:** Emma Skirmante, Iveta Pole, Katrina Kreslina, Gerda Aljena

**Producers:** Matiss Kaza, Una Celma, Dace Siatkovska

**Co-producers:** Thomas Menghin, Wilfried Gufler, Debora Nischler

**Production companies:** Fenixfilm (LV), Albolina Film (ITA)

**To be completed:** January 2022

**Production budget:** 950 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 925 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** festivals, sales agent, distribution

## Synopsis

Anastasia (13) and Diana (11) are two sisters living in a Latvian orphanage. When they get to know that an American family is ready to adopt them, Diana cannot wait to move to the States, while Anastasia is less excited about the idea of leaving her home. When their estranged bio-

logical mother Alla returns to their lives, Anastasia does everything to establish a relationship with her, but Alla has other plans. Anastasia has to make a crucial decision – to leave her biological mother behind and move to live in America, or to remain home in hopes of living with her real mom.

## Director

**Linda Olte** is one of the leading directors at Latvian Television (LTV). She is the director of the television series *Divorce* (2020), has directed several TV documentaries, and has been the editor of several award-winning documentary films, such as *My Father the Banker* (2014). *Sisters* is Olte's debut narrative feature film.

## Production company and producer

**Matiss Kaza** (1995) graduated from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts with a BFA in Film & Television. Despite his young age, Matiss has already produced and directed two feature-length documentaries, including the award-winning *One Ticket Please* (2017) and *The Wanderers* (2020), as well as two feature-length narrative films, *At the Movies* (2020) and *Wild East* (2021), with three more in post-production set for release in 2022.

**Fenixfilm** is a full-service production company based in Riga, Latvia. Founded by veteran Latvian film director and producer Una Celma, the company has been active for more than 15 years in the creation of documentaries and fiction films, many of which have explored female-driven storylines and problems. Fenixfilm has served as the delegate producer on four feature-length fiction films and more than ten documentaries.

## Contact

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# SOVIET MILK



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** MĀTES PIENS

**Country:** Latvia

**Duration:** 110 minutes

**Genre:** drama

**Director:** Ināra Kolmane

**Screenwriter:** Arvis Kolmanis

**Cinematographer:** Rolandas Leonavičius

**Main cast:** Maija Doveika, Elīna Vaska, Rūta Kronberga

**Producers:** Jānis Juhņēvičs, Marta Romanova-Jēkabsons

**Production company:** Film Studio DEVIŅI

**To be completed:** autumn 2022

**Production budget:** 1 185 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 943 000 EUR

**Project status:** in post-production

**Looking for:** sales agent, post-production services, gap-financing, distributors, festivals, broadcasters, streamers, co-producer

## Synopsis

A young and promising doctor loses everything due to her conflict with the totalitarian Soviet regime – career, love for life, and even her mother’s instinct denying breast milk to her baby. However, the grown-up daughter becomes her only supporter who tries to help ease the mother’s depression. The lifelines of mother and daughter flow in

the occupied Soviet Latvia from 1945 to 1989 when the Soviet Union collapses.

Based on the bestseller *Soviet Milk* by Nora Ikstena, translated to more than 20 languages.

## Director

**Ināra Kolmane** is one of the most recognised film directors in Latvia with a background of directing more than 15 films. In 1994, she completed her studies at the St. Petersburg Institute of Theatre, Music and Cinematography. She is a member of the European Film Academy. Some of her latest projects include feature films *Bille* (2018) and *Mona* (2012), and documentaries *Double Life. Sex in the USSR* (2017), *Ruch and Norie* (2015), *My Husband Andrei Sakharov* (2006). *Soviet Milk* is her third feature.

## Production company and producer

Film Studio **DEVIŅI** is one of the oldest and experienced production companies in Latvia (established in 1991), which focuses on the co-production of feature films and documentaries. The founders of the company are director Ināra Kolmane and Jānis Juhņēvičs – an award-winning producer of several international co-productions with Iceland, France, Russia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Ukraine, and others. Producer’s Marta Romanova-Jēkabsons’s debut as feature producer was the family feature *Bille* together with J. Juhņēvičs (2018, Latvia-Lithuania-Czech Republic).

## Contact

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# STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN



**ORIGINAL TITLE:** TAEVATREPP

**Country:** Estonia

**Duration:** 90 minutes

**Genre:** drama

**Director:** Mart Kivastik

**Screenwriter:** Mart Kivastik

**Cinematographer:** Rein Kotov

**Main cast:** Mait Malmsten

**Producers:** Marju Lepp, Manfred Vainokivi

**Production company:** Filmivabrik

**To be completed:** autumn 2022

**Production budget:** 900 000 EUR

**Financing in place:** 900 000 EUR

**Project status:** in production

**Looking for:** distributors, sales agents, festival, post-production services

## Synopsis

Ulf has reached the point in his life where little is left of the future and whether he regrets his past or accepts it, there is no changing the course. Everyday life has become so mundane that it's difficult to tell one day from the next. Time seems not to exist anymore. When an old friend and a lifelong mentor reveals the secret to time travel on his deathbed, Ulf decides to try it out – and spends ever longer periods in the complicated, but idyllic world of his teenage years.

## Director

**Mart Kivastik** is an Estonian writer, scriptwriter, and film director. After graduating from the University of Tartu in 1989, Kivastik has been working as a freelancer. He has written plays, screenplays, short stories, and novels, also articles on literature, theatre and film.

His first book was published in 1993. The novel *Vietnamese Recipe* was published in 2012 and was awarded the prize Best Travel Book of the Year. Starting from 1997, Mart's plays have been staged in various Estonian theatres and abroad.

Film credits as a scriptwriter include full-length films *Firewater*, *Taarka*, *Vasha*, and a number of short films. He has written and directed two feature films – *A Friend of Mine* (Exitfilm 2011) and *When You Least Expect It* (Kopli Kinokompanii 2016).

## Production company and producer

**Studio Filmivabrik** was established in 1998. Filmivabrik has produced 23 documentaries, both experimental as well as more traditional documentaries. Filmivabrik has produced five feature films, TV-shows, short films, and an animated film. The features and documentaries have screened at different film festivals (IDFA, Doc Leipzig, PÖFF etc).

**Marju Lepp** has worked as a producer at Filmivabrik since 1998. Over the past decade, she has produced 21 documentaries and five feature films, the latest among them *On The Water* (feature, 2020) and *The Best of Salieri* (documentary, 2021).

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