



TIRANA  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM  
FESTIVAL  
2025



think different  
watch alike

21-27 SEPT  
[tiranafilmfest.org](http://tiranafilmfest.org)

23rd

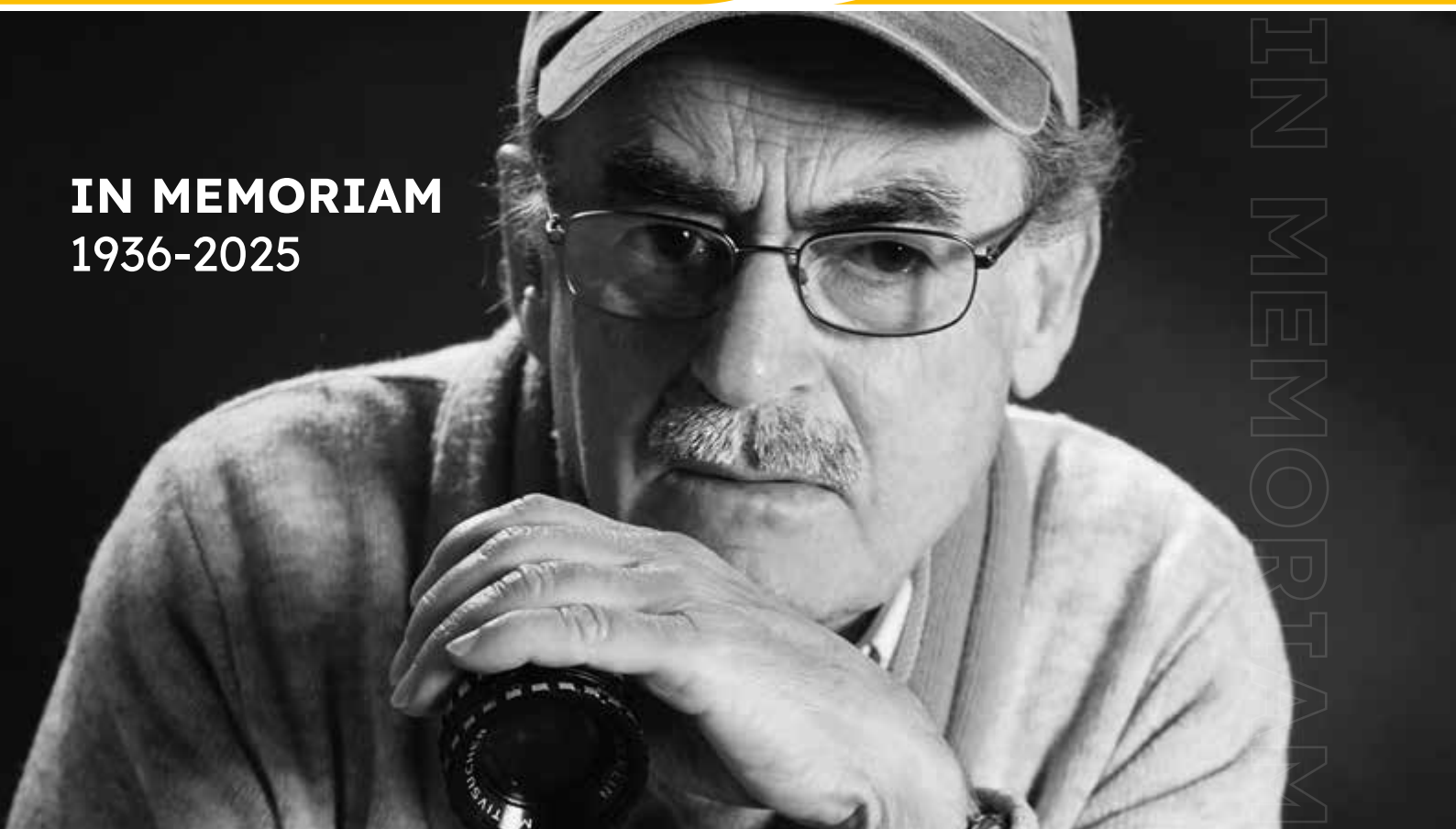






**Think  
different,  
Watch  
alike!**

**IN MEMORIAM**  
1936-2025



IN MEMORIAM

**3 In lieu of the opening speech by Agron Domi**

Founder & Director of TIFF



# TIRANA FILM INSTITUTE



TIRANA FILM INSTITUTE

## Festival & Events

Tirana Film Institute is an Albanian creative industry whose main focus is based on promoting the creative industry products in Albania and cooperating with European organizations in order to share common audiovisual products such as feature and short fictions, animations, documentaries, experimental, video art and student film in various forms. Tirana Film Institute carries out its activities in organizing artistic, cultural and cinematographic film weeks, national and international festivals.



TOUR is MOVIE

TIFF on Tour acts as ambassador for the submitted films and will travel with a selection to other Albanian cities during the year. TIFF will also propose special screenings to other regional festivals in accordance to a specific subject or theme.



Since 2014 TFI has organized CreativeMornings Tirana, an international project that has ranked Tirana on the map of more than 250 other cities from 70 countries around the world, that organize this event by sharing creative experiences with the community based on a global monthly theme.

## Distribution

TFI is also engaged at all times with film and audiovisual production, design of publicity campaigns, various marketing activities, promotion and film distribution through various shows, screenings and publications. TFI has started a new successful experience as a film distributor getting support from the Media Program of Creative Europe. By combining and exploring new ways of cinematographic work distribution i.e engaging the audience on public debates by screening in various cinema and open air venues including schools and youth centers.



## Production



Willow (2019)



Milcho Manchevski



LEAVING COPACABANA

In Post - Production

## ► STAFF 23RD TIFF 2025

**Agron Domi**

Festival Founder & Director

### **SELECTION & PROGRAM**

Agron Domi - Head of Selection & Program

Eneos Çarka - Selector

Renis Hyka - Selector

Lyubo Yonchev - Selector

Klaudia Pashnjari - Pre-Selector

Kristina Rushiti - Pre-Selector

Dionis Prifti - Pre-Selector

Bruno Carnide - Screenplay Selector

Adam Selo - Screenplay Selector

### **HEADOFFICE TIRANA**

#### **FILM INSTITUTE**

Erjona Imeralilaj - Project Manager

Arber Tema - Executive Assistant

Enkela Mezini - Hospitality Manager

Alketa Basha - Hospitality

Co-Manager

Serena Fejzo - Hospitality Coordinator

Orinda Lyto - Finance Accountant

### **PR & PROMOTION**

Kristina Hasa - Digital Marketing Specialist

Kozeta Kurti - PR & Communication

Ardit Roshi - Event Host

Julinda Emiri - Event Host

### **VISUAL IDENTITY**

Babak Safari - Creative Art Director

Nikola Senjo - Graphic Designer

Mohammad Javad - Motion Designer

### **SCREENINGS & EDITING**

#### **AM VIDEO PRODUCTION**

Adrian Guri - Director

Ardian Ziu - DCPs Editor

### **TRANSLATION**

Drita Shkurti - Chief of Films Translation

Esmeralda Çavo - Translator

Ilva Qazimi - Translator

Enkeleda Malasi - Translator

Merilda Lybeshari - Translator

Albana Kamberi - Editor

Gentiana Hasko -

Translator/Interpreter

### **WEBSITE**

EVOLVE Studio

### **GRATITUDE AWARD**

Paschalis Anastasiou, Shqipe Berisha, Artan Begolli, Marios Belibassakis, Karl Bergner, Klodian Burri, Florian Caja, Alert Çeloaliaj, Arbër Çepani, Shqiponja Çoba, Harry Çoçoli, Klajdi Domi, Arlinda Dudaj, Klea Dhima, Altin

Elezaj, Tatiana Gubera, Violeta Gjoni, Bledar Hodobashi, Ruth Huber, Konstantina Kamitsi, Tan Kazazi, Qirjako Koçollari, Milto Kutali, Sandra Leege, Gerti Loshi, Rudina Magjistari, Arbër Minxhozi, Silvana Mjeda, Daniela Musa, Kristi Ndrio, Spiro Nino, Irma Pema, Bora Pollozhani, Alma Poshnjari, Edit Pula, Niels Putman, Romina Ruda, Alessandro Ruggera, Diana Selenica, Fatjon Selimaj, Gjergj Sevo, Edoardo M Escribano Solera, Karafil Shena, Eljan Tanini, Greta Togani, Blerta Tuci, Eriona Vyshka, Valbona Zhupa

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## Organiser by



## Official Sponsor



## Supported by



## Official Partners



## Festival Partners



## Media Partners

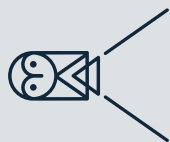


## Hospitality Venues





# SUBMISSION'S STATISTICS



## TOTAL FILMS 3245

3186 FILMS

59 SCRIPTS



## COUNTRIES

EUROPE 1923

SEE COUNTRIES 309

NORTH AMERICA 544

SOUTH AMERICA 81

ASIA 602

AFRICA 45

AUSTRALIA & OCEANIAN 50



## TOTAL RUN TIME

HOURS 1,532

MINUTES 91,920



## STUDENT

FILMS 811



## PRODUCTION YEAR

2024 - 1585 FILM

2025 - 1601 FILM



## DEBUT

DIRECTORS 974

FEATURE FILMS 530 | SHORT FILMS 2656

FICTION 1947

ANIMATION 282

DOCUMENTARY 613

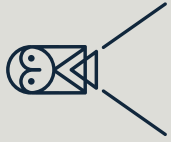
EXPERIMENTAL 226

IN ALBANIAN 118

SCRIPTS 59

WOMEN 1364 | MEN 1807 | OTHER 74

# SELECTION'S STATISTICS



**TOTAL FILMS 245**  
**10** SCRIPTS



**NON COMPETITION**  
**53** FILMS  
FEATURE **12** | SHORTS **41**



**TOTAL RUN TIME**  
HOURS **91**  
MINUTES **5458**



**DEBUT**  
DIRECTORS **47**



**COUNTRIES**  
EUROPE **239**  
SEE COUNTRIES **33**  
NORTH AMERICA **33**  
SOUTH AMERICA **3**  
ASIA **46**  
AFRICA **7**  
AUSTRALIA **1**



**COMPETITION**  
**192** FILMS

FICTION **12** | FICTION **180**  
FICTION **100**  
ANIMATION **43**  
DOCUMENTARY **32**  
EXPERIMENTAL **17**  
WOMEN **85** | MEN **107**



**STUDENT**  
FILMS **46**



**PRODUCTION YEAR**  
**2025 - 127** FILMS  
**2024 - 83** FILMS  
OTHER - **35** FILMS

8

FEATURE FILMS **19** | SHORT  
FILMS **226**  
FICTION **118**  
ANIMATION **50**

DOCUMENTARY **38**  
EXPERIMENTAL **39**  
WOMEN **98** | MEN **147**

**MEXI**



## **FOCUS**

Tribute to Rúnar Rúnarsson

**11 - 17**

## **OPENING FILM**

Father Mother Sister Brother

**19 - 20**

## **INDUSTRY EVENT**

4th Screenplay Contest TIFF 2025

Masterclass: Poetic Realism in the Cinema of Rúnar Rúnarsson

Talking Shorts: Low-Budget Filmmaking, Panel Discussion

TIFF Q&A session

**21 - 29**

## **JURY**

**31 - 40**

## **COMPETITION**

FULL LENGTH FILMS

SHORT FILMS

SHORT FILMS **STUDENT**

PANORAMA

**42 - 149**

## **SPECIAL PROGRAM**

RETROSPECTIFF

"OBSESSION" Fani Zguro's Video 2006-2025 & The Anarchists

REFLECTING ALBANIA

**150 - 164**

10

## **SPECIAL SCREENINGS**

TIFF Classics: Liri a Vdekje 4k restored - AQSHF

Made In ALBANIAN: Luna Park by Florenc Papas

Mama by Or Sinai

97TH OSCAR® 2025 SHORTLIST

EFA SHORT TOUR 2024

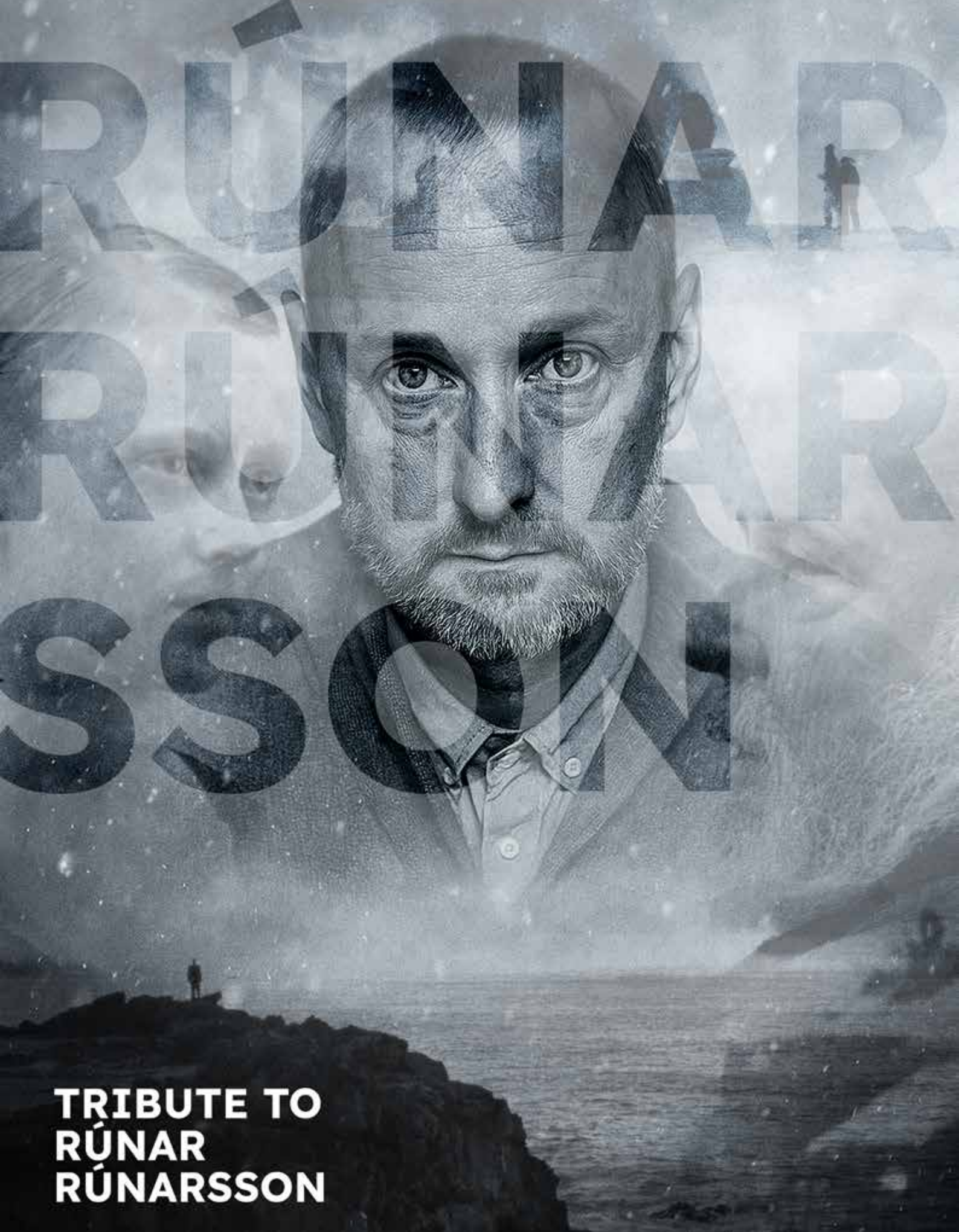
**166 - 179**

## **AWARDS TIFF 2025**

**181 - 182**

## **INFO TIFF & VENUES**

**183 - 184**



TRIBUTE TO  
RÚNAR  
RÚNARSSON



## ► TRIBUTE TO RÚNAR RÚNARSSON



“That feeling of standing on the edge of a cliff and having to reach the other side.

When a character has to make an important decision or is forced to act, for better or for worse, he sets off big changes in his life.

It's not just fiction. We all have to go through a transitory period like this.”

### Tribute to Rúnar Rúnarsson

Director, Screenwriter, Producer

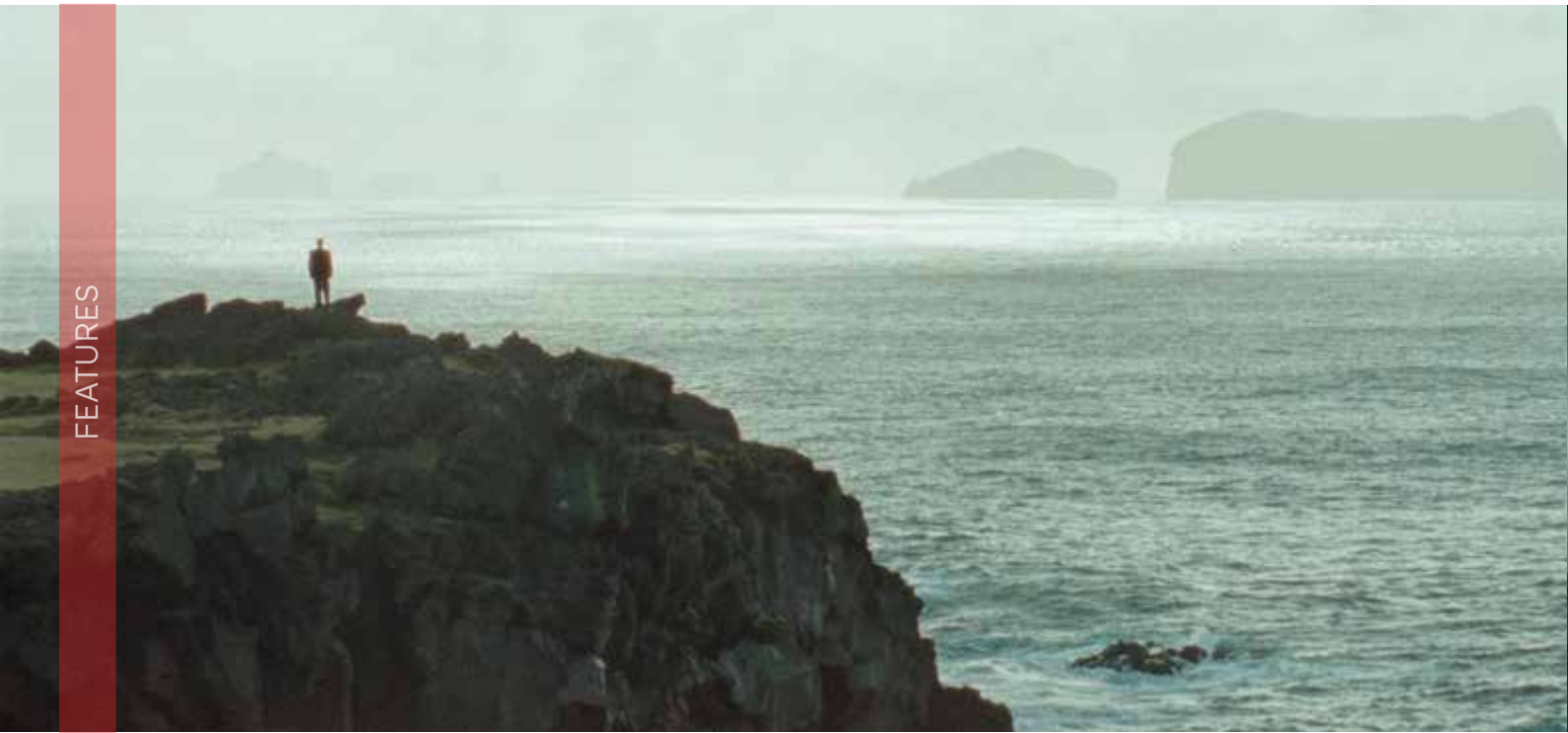
Rúnar Rúnarsson (born 20 January 1977; Reykjavík) is an Icelandic screenwriter and director. Films for which he is credited as both writer and director include the feature film *Volcano* and the short films *Anna*, *Two Birds*, and *The Last Farm* (which was nominated for an Oscar). In 2019 his film *Echo* was released which comprises 56 vignettes to draw a portrait of modern-day Iceland at Christmas time.

12

## FOCUS ON THE CINEMATIC POETICS OF RÚNAR RÚNARSSON

This year's TIFF FOCUS, curated by Blerina Hankollari, spotlights Icelandic director Rúnar Rúnarsson, whose films have quietly left a distinctive imprint on Nordic cinema. He depicts people caught in the delicate tug of grief and untold dramas of daily routines, crafting his cinematic poetics through minimalism and gentle rhythms of time.

Beginning with his seminal short *The Last Farm*, which tenderly considers the transition between life and death, he progresses to *Volcano* and *Sparrows*, each work a subtle dissection of family ties and the fragility they harbour. *Echo* assembles a constellation of vignettes set against the silence of a midwinter Christmas. Each fragment represents a voice that, in its smallness, assesses the width of a civilisation. Along with them, the program includes the films *O* and *When the Light Breaks*, which explore the abyss of a self-destructive human being and the impossibility of grief.



## Volcano

13 Iceland, Denmark | 2011 | 95' | Drama

Hannes is an old man who has grown apart from his children. Recently retired when his wife gets ill he tries to reconcile with them and to atone for his cold demeanor in the past.

SCREENPLAY:  
Rúnar Rúnarsson

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Sophia Olsson

EDITING:  
Jacob Schulsinger

PRODUCER/S:  
Egil Dennerline, Skúli Fr. Malmquist, Þórir S.  
Sigurjónsson

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Zik Zak Filmworks, Fine & Mellow Productions

DISTRIBUTION:  
TrustNordisk

Awards & Selections:  
- Director's Fortnight, 2011, Cannes Film Festival

## ► TRIBUTE TO RÚNAR RÚNARSSON

FEATURES



# Echo

Iceland, France | 2019 | 79'

14

Everyday life in Iceland around Christmas time: 56 vignettes full of joy, sorrow and thought-provoking situations. As Iceland gets ready for Christmas, a peculiar atmosphere settles over the country. An abandoned farm is burning, a children's choir sings Christmas carols, chicken carcasses parade through a slaughterhouse, a museum employee is arguing on the phone, a young girl makes her mother try on her new virtual-reality headset... In 56 discrete scenes, Echo draws a portrait, both bitter and tender, of modern society.

SCREENPLAY:  
Rúnar Rúnarsson

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Nimbus Iceland, Pegasus Pictures

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Sophia Olsson FSF

DISTRIBUTION:  
Jour2Fête, Øst for Paradis

EDITING:  
Jacob Secher Schulsinger

PRODUCER/S:  
Live Hide, Lilja Ósk Snorradóttir, Rúnar Rúnarsson

Awards & Selections:  
Youth Jury Award, Locarno Film Festival 2019



## When the Light Breaks

15 Iceland, France, Holland, Croatia | 2024 | 90' | Drama

On a long summer's day in Reykjavik, the life of Una, a young art student, is turned upside down. From one sunset to another, when laughing turns into crying and beauty coexists with sorrow.

SCREENPLAY:  
Rúnar Rúnarsson

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Sophia Olsson FSF

EDITING:  
Andri Steinn Guðjónsson

PRODUCER/S:  
Heather Millard, Rúnar Rúnarsson

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Compass Films

DISTRIBUTION:  
The Party Film Sales

Awards & Selections:  
Cannes Film Festival, 2024  
Toronto International Film Festival

## ► TRIBUTE TO RÚNAR RÚNARSSON

SHORTS



### The Last Farm

Iceland | 2004 | 17' | 35mm | Drama

In a remote, windswept valley somewhere in the rugged landscapes of Iceland, a solitary elderly couple prepares for the forthcoming winter. However, the urge to work in such feverish haste remains unknown.

#### Awards & Selections:

Nominee for Best Short Film, Live Action, 2006, Academy Awards (Oscars)

16

SHORTS



### Two Birds

Iceland | 2008 | 15' | 35mm | Drama

2 Birds takes place during one bright summer night and follows a group of young teenagers on a journey from innocence to adulthood. The main character is a timid boy who has a typical schoolboy crush on a girl his age, who happens to be a friend of his mate.

#### Awards & Selections:

Nominee for PALM D'OR, 2008, The Cannes Film Festival

Nominee for the Best Short Film, 2008, European Film Academy Awards

Nominee for Short Film Grand Jury Prize, 2009, Sundance International Film Festival



## ► TRIBUTE TO RÚNAR RÚNARSSON

SHORTS



### Anna

Denmark | 2009 | 35' | 35mm | Drama

Anna is a 12 year old girl, living in a small fishing village. She is at a crossroad in her life. Her surroundings are changing, and so is she.

2009 Director's Fortnight, Cannes International Film Festival

Awards & Selections:

Director's Fortnight, 2009, Cannes International Film Festival

17

SHORTS



### O (Circle)

Iceland, Sweden | 2024 | 20' | Drama

Fragile soul's inner turmoil unfolds as he grapples with personal demons while pursuing a seemingly mundane goal, unveiling the profound human struggle within life's simplicity.

Venice International Film Festival – Orizzonti Short Film Competition, 2024

Toronto International Film Festival – Short Cuts

Awards & Selections:

Orizzonti Short Film Competition, 2024, Venice International Film Festival

Short Cuts, 2024, Toronto International Film Festival





F A T H E R

M O T H E R

Opening Film

Opening Film



MOFFRA INTERNAZIONALE  
D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA  
LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA 82  
Official Selection

S I S T E R  
B R O T H E R



## Father Mother Sister Brother



by Jim Jarmusch

USA, Ireland, France | 2025 | 110' | Comedy, Drama

20

A feature film in the form of a triptych. The three stories all concern the relationships between adult children, their somewhat distant parent (or parents), and each other.

*"A film whose simplicity, sweetness and unvarnished ordinariness make it seem almost a miracle."* **The Hollywood Reporter**

*"...there is a contentment and calm here, an acceptance and a Zen simplicity that is a cleansing of the moviegoing palate, or perhaps the fiction-consuming palate in general. It is a film to savour."* **The Guardian**

SCREENPLAY:  
Jim Jarmusch

EDITING:  
Affonso Gonçalves

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Saint Laurent

Awards & Selections:

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Frederick Elmes, Yorick Le Saux

PRODUCER/S:  
Joshua Astrachan, Charles  
Gillibert, Carter Logan, Atilla  
Salih Yücer

DISTRIBUTION:  
The Match Factory, MUBI

Winner of Golden  
Lion for Best Film,  
2025, Venice Film  
Festival

# Industry Events

- ▶ **4th Screenplay  
ContesTIFF 2025**
- ▶ **Masterclass:  
Poetic Realism in the Cinema  
of Runar Runarsson**
- ▶ **Talking Shorts:  
Low-Budget Filmmaking,  
Panel Discussion**
- ▶ **TIFF Q&A session**

**4th Screenplay  
ContesTIFF  
2025**





## ► 4th Screenplay ContesTIFF 2025

Screenplay ContesTIFF consists in the application of original live-action and animated short film scripts or other short form scripts of all genres (max. 20 pages) through the Filmfreeway online platform

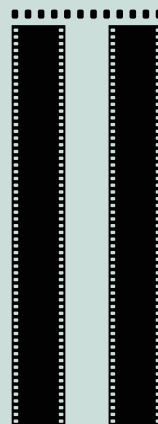
The said competition did not aim to evaluate only the best script, but to evaluate from our partner producers and distributors the best and most possible script to be produced by them and with the greatest chances to be successfully distributed in the most popular international festivals for short films.

Needless to say, the priority would lie on the scripts whose stories were not necessarily and geographically related to the author's residence, but which facilitated the production of the film anywhere in Europe and were most likely to be shot in Albania as well, thus utilizing local resources, locations, Albanian production companies and Film Commission offices.

23 Our partners shall award the winner scripts with the MAILUKI Films Distribution Award and the possibility of signing a production or a distribution contract with our production and distribution partners.

The 10 selected screenwriters will be invited to Tirana during the festival to present their projects to our partner distributors and producers in an open pitching session.

The winners of the 4th Screenplay ContesTIFF 2025 will be announced at TIFF Awards Ceremony on September 27, 2025.





## ► 4th Screenplay ContesTIFF 2025



Gregory JM Kasunich | USA  
**A Good Guy With A Gun**



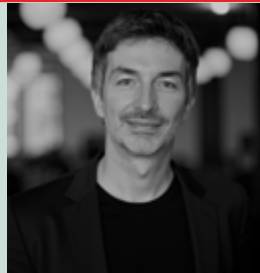
Deniz Dursun | Turkey  
**Daylight**



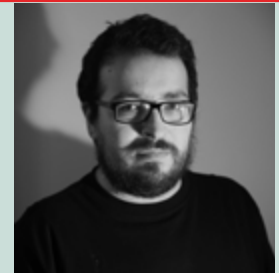
Sashenka Ndreka | Albania  
**M(I)TRA**



Jia Shi | China  
**Made in China**



Frederik Ehrhardt | USA  
**Mudslide**



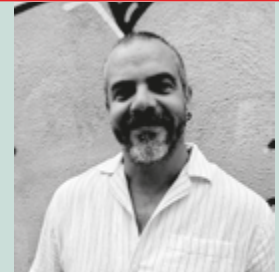
Sasan Khoshniat | Iran  
**Saliva**



William Armstrong | Botswana  
**The Beach of Stones**



Anh My Nguyen | Vietnam  
**The Tin Can in the Cemetery**



Alex Brau | Spain  
**The Treehouse**

24



Ahmed Saad Alnasser | Saudi Arabia  
**Under The Abaya**

► Selected scripts  
for Pitching



RÚNAR

RÚNARSSON

September 25th  
2025  
19:30

**MASTERCLASS  
WITH  
RÚNAR  
RÚNARSSON**

**Moderated by  
Blerina Hankollari**

**Villa 31-Art Explora**  
[tiranafilmfest.org](http://tiranafilmfest.org)



## Poetic Realism in the Cinema of RÚNAR RÚNARSSON

We are honoured to welcome Icelandic filmmaker Rúnar Rúnarsson, whose cinema stands as one of the most emotionally resonant and visually subtle voices in contemporary European filmmaking. Rúnarsson is a distinctive voice, deeply rooted in Nordic minimalism and poetic realism. Today, we'll explore how his films—ranging from shorts like *The Last Farm*, *O* to features such as *Volcano*, *Sparrows*, *Echo* and *When the Light Breaks*—capture the subtle emotional currents of daily life with rare sensitivity and nuance.

His storytelling unfolds through characters poised in transitional moments: caught between youth and adulthood, life and death, strength and fragility. What defines Rúnarsson's poetic realism is his masterful use of silence, patient observation of raw everyday rituals, and the presence of nature as an almost breathing entity, constructing very personal cinematic time nappes that imbue his cinematic world with a poetic fiber weaving together narrative and atmosphere.

TIFF FOCUS is putting the spotlight on his cinema by showcasing a selection of his most significant titles, curated by Blerina Hankollari, offering a unique opportunity to engage deeply with his work. Throughout this masterclass, we will examine how his intimate and tender portrait of Iceland becomes a canvas for ethically complex human experiences, inviting us to engage with cinema as empathetic observers of life's quiet truths.



Moderated by

**Blerina Hankollari**

With an academic background in European philosophy and a strong grounding in film theory, Blerina Hankollari has long approached cinema as both an intellectual pursuit and a personal passion. She served as a creative consultant on Gentian Koçi's documentary *Not a Carwash* (2012), which premiered at Hot Docs. She went on to produce Koçi's first and second feature films, *Daybreak* (2017) and *A Cup of Coffee and New Shoes On* (2022).

In 2025, she was selected among twenty rising European producers to attend the Producers on the Move Programme by European Film Promotion during Festival de Cannes and was also selected for the EAVE Producers Workshop 2025.



September 26, 2025  
11am

Vila 31 Art Explora

[tiranafilmfest.org](http://tiranafilmfest.org)

# Low-Budget Filmmaking

Moderated by  
Sanne Jehoui



## ► Talking Shorts: Low-Budget Filmmaking, Panel Discussion



Low Budget Filmmaking – Panel Discussion

Date: September 26th, 11:00

Location: Villa 31-Art Explora

Talking Shorts, in collaboration with Tirana Film Festival, present this panel on low-budget filmmaking. What can be achieved on shoe-string budgets? What are the production elements that need prioritising when working in this context? We will weigh up the restrictions versus the freedoms of filmmaking with limited means, and discuss how filmmakers working with small budgets can achieve results that deceptively look of higher production value, but also how a short film does not need to look perfectly polished for it to be a successful film. This will also lead us to consider low-budget shorts in the context of festivals - how do programmers evaluate work, and does a film's budget even matter for its selection?

Moderated by: **Sanne Jehoul**



**Sanne Jehoul** is an arts and film worker with experience in programming & curation, talent development, production, moderation, and festival strategy. She currently manages the talent development programme at the BFI Doc Society Fund, and is part of the editorial team at Talking Shorts. Previously she was programme director at Glasgow Short Film Festival as well as managing the short film slate of sales and festival distribution agency Square Eyes. She has worked with international festivals across programming, facilitation, and production (including Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur and Vienna Shorts), sat on international festival juries and panels as well as delivering and moderating conversations and masterclasses, and in 2021 was a Curator-in-Residence at Q21 in Vienna. She is also a Story Room (Shorts) host with the Documentary Association of Europe, and sits on the board of Kortfilm.be.

Panelist: **Eneos Çarka, Miranda Stern, Bogdan Mureşanu**

28



**Eneos Çarka** is a filmmaker, curator, and researcher. His films have screened at numerous festivals, galleries, and cultural events such as IDFA, HotDocs, FIPADOC, Venice Architecture Biennale.. He received the FIPRESCI Award in 2023 for his MFA film "The Silence of The Banana Trees". His first feature documentary "Another Day" received a Best First Feature Nomination as well as the Best Regional Documentary at DokuFest. He is an alumnus of the DocNomads MFA program in Creative Documentary and is currently developing his second feature film, a hybrid docu-fiction. Since 2021, he curates the documentary and experimental programs at Tirana IFF.



**Miranda's** graduation documentary 'milk' is currently nominated for the 2025 BAFTA award for 'Best British Short'. Her short documentary 'CLEAN' received a BAFTA Scotland nomination for 'Best Short Film'. 'Two Copper Wires' received a Grierson nomination for 'Best Student Documentary' and was one of Clermont-Ferrand's 2023 market picks. Miranda was associate producer on 'Since Yesterday'. She completed a Masters in Directing Documentary at the National Film and Television School, and is currently finishing the Sean Connery Talent Lab. Her two fiction films which she wrote and directed - 'Revert' and 'Static' are released in 2025.



**Bogdan Mureşanu** debuted as a screenwriter in 2008 with "The Human Torch" and has written the screenplays for "Opinci" (2019) and "Where is Sofia?". He wrote and directed the short films "Trimmed, Shaved and Milled" (2013), "Spid" (2016), "Negruzzi 14" (2016) and "Simmelweis Reflex (2016)". "The Christmas Present" (2018), won the European Film Academy Award in 2019, had over 200 festival selections and 72 awards and was shortlisted for Oscar nominations. His feature film "The New Year That Never Came", was nominated last year at the European Film Awards and winner of 23 international awards.



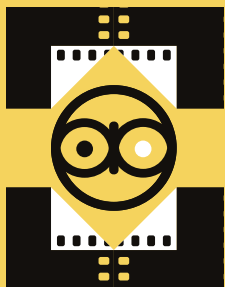
## ► TIFF Q&A session



<https://vimeo.com/tiranafilmfest>

vimeo





# Jury

- ▶ PerspecTIFF
- ▶ Documentary & Experimental
- ▶ Live Action & Animation
- ▶ Student, Balkan, In ALBANIAN
- ▶ Panorama
- ▶ Screenplay ContesTIFF
- ▶ Capture Frame
- ▶ Student Critics



## Joni Shanaj



Born in 1976 in Tirana, Joni Shanaj is a filmmaker, writer, producer, and educator shaping Albania's post-dictatorial cultural landscape. With an M.A. in Social Anthropology (Lund University) and Film & TV Directing studies (Skurups Högskola), he embodies a DIY spirit and artistic independence. For over a decade, he has lectured at the University of Arts in Tirana. Through his production company, SCRB & NKNB, he produced *Another Day* (2023, Eneos Çarka), premiered at IDFA 2023 and lauded for its artistic depth. His work often bridges the personal and political, reflecting Albania's complex post-dictatorial identity. His unwavering commitment to artistic freedom and his mentorship of young talent have left an indelible mark on Albanian cinema. Through works like *Ivi Tirana Punk*, *Pharmakon*, and *Another Day*, Shanaj continues to redefine storytelling in a nation reclaiming its voice.

## Or Sinai



Or Sinai is a graduate of the Jerusalem Sam Spiegel Film & Television School, a Berlinale Talents alumni.

Her debut feature - *MAMA* Premiered at Cannes 2025, and was selected to TIFF 2025 among other festivals. Wrote and directed a documentary feature and a few short fiction that participated in festivals around the world, among them - the short film *Anna*, which won the Cinéfondation Award at the Cannes FF.

All her films tell stories about women from the outskirts of society.

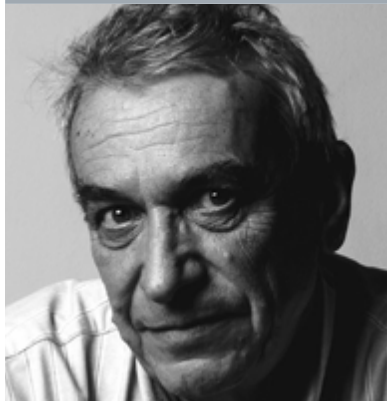
## Vuk Perović



Co-founder, art director and programmer of UnderhillFest, an international documentary film festival. Programmer of Herceg Novi film festival - Montenegro film festival, the most important film festival in Montenegro, which has been going on for more than three decades. Author of a TV show about the film "The Seventh Continent". Done interviews with well-known film authors at prestigious festivals (Cannes, Berlin, Venice). Director of Radio Crne Gore. Member of juries at various European film festivals. Member of international film critics organizations FEDEORA and FIPRESCI (International Federation of Film Critics). Wrote about film and culture for various regional media. Member of Panel of European film critics on festival Cinematik, Slovakia. Worked as a lecturer on Faculty of Visual Arts. Cofounder of CIRCLE, a training program for women in the documentary film industry. Member of Temporary Council that established Film center of Montenegro. Lecturer. IVLP alumni.



## Gianfilippo Pedote



Film producer, director and screenwriter. As a director he directed the feature film “Soldato Peter” (2023), together with Giliano Carli, and some documentary films and TV programs. As a producer he has produced over 40 feature films and documentaries with directors such as Agostino Ferrente, Samir, Sandro Baldoni, Alina Marazzi; Giuseppe Bertolucci, Godfrey Reggio. Among these: Selfie (doc, 2019) by Agostino Ferrente; The Bridges of Sarajevo (2015), a collective film by J.L. Godard, Ursula Meier, Leonardo Di Costanzo and others (2014); Anna Piaggi (2019), Everything Speaks of You (2012), We Also Want Roses (doc, 2007), I Would Like One Hour Only (2003), by Alina Marazzi; Italian Dream (2008) by Sandro Baldoni; Fame Chimica (2004) by Paolo Vari and Antonio Bocola; Il Mnemonista (2001) by Paolo Rosa and Studio Azzurro, Anima Mundi and Evidence, by Godfrey Reggio with music by Philip Glass. The films produced have participated in the main international festivals. He teaches at the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera Milan.

## Menelaos Karamaghiolis



Menelaos Karamaghiolis is an artist and filmmaker who works in Athens. His feature documentary ROM (1989) was called “a turning point for Greek documentary films” and “a masterpiece that must become a classic of the history of cinema.” His fiction film BLACK OUT (p.s. RED OUT) (1998) was hailed as “the first post-modern Greek film”. Karamaghiolis pioneered the first Greek interactive documentaries, MEETING WITH REMARKABLE PEOPLE. He is the founder of Døcumatism, a group of artists and filmmakers who aim to find solutions and raise awareness about crucial social issues. Karamaghiolis is currently working on film installations and live events for the ongoing collective community projects of the AfroGreeks and Greekies. His work has been shown at international institutions such as the National Museum of Contemporary Art Athens, the 56th Venice Biennale, Rodeo (Piraeus London), Serpentine London and the Centre d’Art Contemporain Genève among others.

## Samir Ljuma



Samir Ljuma is an acclaimed cinematographer and producer. Ljuma has collaborated with both Macedonian and international filmmakers, including Sergej Georgiev, Ilija Cvetkovski, Hanis Bagashov, Dimitar Orovchanec, and Tamara Kotevska and Ljubomir Stefanov. His work on the double Oscar-nominated documentary Honeyland garnered global recognition, winning three major awards at the Sundance Film Festival. Ljuma’s recent projects include The Walk (2023) by Tamara Kotevska, All That We Are by Ondi Timoner, and Napoli 1990-Napoli 2023 by Nico Marzano currently in the post-production, as well as Palace of Youth by Maddie Gwinn and The Beauty of the donkey by Dea Gjinovci and War Fever by Ineke Smith. He has received numerous prestigious awards, including the American Society of Cinematographers Award for Best Documentary Cinematography, the IMAGO Award, the IDA Award, the Cinema Eye Honors Award, and the Sundance Film Festival Award.



## Ana Nedeljković

She graduated in painting from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Belgrade. She was awarded a PhD in art practice at the same faculty. She is a visual artist, director, animator and educator.

Her first film "Rabbitland", co-directed with Nikola Majdak (2013) was awarded the Crystal Bear at the Berlinale. It has received numerous other awards and has been shown at more than a hundred festivals worldwide. Their second film "Untravel"(2018) was screened at Berlinale, Annecy and Sundance, nominated for the Annie Award and received numerous awards. Their third film "Money and Happiness" (2022) has been premiered in Locarno, and screened at Annecy and numerous other festivals. At present they are working on project development for their first animated feature film "New Rabbitland". Working within their own studio, they also make many commercial animation projects as well as conducting animation workshops. She lives and works in Belgrade, Serbia



## Konstantina Kotzamani

Konstantina Kotzamani is a Greek filmmaker born and raised in Greece. Her short and medium-length films have premiered at major international festivals including Cannes, Venice, Berlinale, and Locarno. A three-time recipient of the Best Short Film Award from the Hellenic Film Academy, she has also received two European Film Academy (EFA) nominations for Best Short Film. Her film Limbo was Oscar-qualified in 2017. Her medium-length film Electric Swan, financed by CNC France and ARTE, premiered at the Venice Film Festival in 2019. It was named Best Short of the Year by the French Critics' Association. Her most recent film, What Mary Didn't Know, supported by CNC France, ARTE, the Swedish Film Institute, and the Greek Film Centre, premiered at the Locarno Film Festival and is currently being showcased on ARTE. She was the main writer for Arcadia (Berlinale 2019) and co-writer of Third Kind (Cannes 2017). A beneficiary of the Onassis Foundation, she studied at La FUC (Universidad del Cine) in Buenos Aires, where she developed her first feature film, Titanic Ocean. Konstantina's cinema delves into primordial themes such as love, dreams, mystery, and the surreal.



34

## Yves Piat

A self-taught filmmaker, Yves Piat gained attention with Nefta Football Club (2018), a short film blending humor and tenderness. It was selected in over 150 festivals worldwide and received nominations at both the Oscars and the César Awards.

His work explores the space between social reality and poetic detachment, with a minimalist approach and a taste for twist-driven storytelling. He seeks to reveal, with a human touch, the extraordinary within the everyday. Yves Piat is currently developing two feature film projects.





## Efijeni Kokëdhima



With architectural studies at ETH Zürich and participation in multidisciplinary projects in Paris, Berlin, Athens, and Tirana, Efijeni navigates between architecture and film. An Albanian curator and producer, she co-founded and runs the Greek production company Reconstructing Memories. In 2019, she curated Cine Tarkovsky in Tirana—a project that transformed the hermetic villa of Albania's former dictator into a public screening space. Her first production, the short film *Light of Light*, premiered at the 52nd International Film Festival Rotterdam and has since won numerous awards, including the Grand Prix for Best Experimental Film (Slamdance Film Festival), the Golden Athena (Athens International Film Festival), Best Documentary of 2024 (Hellenic Film Academy), and the Small Iron Camera 300 (Manaki Brothers Film Festival), among other distinctions. She is currently producing the debut feature of Neritan Zinxhiria, *The Appalling Human Voice of the Animals*. Her latest short film production, *Noi*, is premiering at the Raindance Film Festival in London.

## Elis Mataj



Elis Mataj, PhD. Director, film lecturer and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Dramatic Arts at the University of Arts. Mataj teaches film directing and is actively involved in coordinating student film projects. In this role, he fosters connections between students and both national and international film festivals, helping to promote their work on broader professional platforms.

## Fabrizio Bellomo



Fabrizio Bellomo (1982, Bari) is a multidisciplinary artist. He participated in the 41st, 39th, and 38th editions of the Torino Film Festival, winning the Special Jury Prize at the 39th edition. His projects *Villaggio Cavatrulli* and *Abito Mari* were presented at the Venice Architecture Biennale (2018, 2025). His work has been exhibited internationally at MACRO Rome, Triennale di Milano, Scuderie del Quirinale, Fondazione Pino Pascali, Festival dei Popoli, Cinemed Montpellier, Tirana Art Lab, and IIC Tokyo, among others. Collaborating with institutions such as Fondazione Forma, Apulia Film Commission, and Galleria Continua, his works are included in the collections of MuFoCo, ICCD, Museo Archeologico di Fano, and Nctm e l'Arte. Recent solo exhibitions include *Abito Mari* (GOCAT, Tirana, 2025), *'Nziembru* (Fondazione Elpis, Milan, 2024), and *Meccanicismo* (KCB, Belgrade, 2018).



## Adele Budina

Adele Budina is an Italo-Albanian producer and founder of A.B. FILM. With a background in Political Science, she transitioned into the world of cinema, building a career in audiovisual production. At 16 she acted in the award-winning Italian film "Letters in the wind" (Edmond Budina) and directed her first short Mostly Happy Marionettes (2024, Bosnia). Budina has collaborated with leading Italian companies, including Palomar, PACO Cinematografica, Vision Distribution, Minerva Pictures, and Eagle Pictures. Her work includes internationally awarded films supported by institutions such as MIC, Lazio Region, the Macedonian National Film Agency and QKK. Among her productions are the feature films Broken (Edmond Budina, 2017), Parlate a bassa voce (Esmeralda Calabria, 2022) – premiered at the 40th Torino Film Festival, etc. A screenwriter, juror at five international festivals, and trainer for youth cinema programs, Budina remains a passionate advocate for Albanian cinema and cross-cultural collaboration.



## Anxhela Çikopano

Anxhela Çikopano, Ph.D., is a researcher in theater and the history of cinema at the Centre of Art Studies in the Academy of Sciences of Albania, as well as a lecturer in the History of Cinema at the University of Arts in Tirana. She holds a 4-year diploma in Theater Directing and a PhD in Cultural Anthropology, focusing on Albanian customary laws and theater. Her research centers on socialist and post-socialist theater and cinema in Albania. She has published a monograph titled "Customary Laws in Albanian Drama" and is currently working on a second book about revisionist theater in communist-era Albania.



## Arti Lushi

Arti Lushi was born in Librazhd on 1985.

He studied Political Sciences dhe Communication/Public Relations in University of Tirana.

In 2015 he co-founded TransformArt, an cultural initiative for promoting modern albanian poetry and organised poetry reading evenings.

He's the author of four books; two of wich are in prose (Humus, 2010), (Gjakime, 2015) and (Palcë dhe Frymë, 2020), (Zoti i Kripës, 2025) in poetry. His work is published in many anthologies, in Albania and Europe.

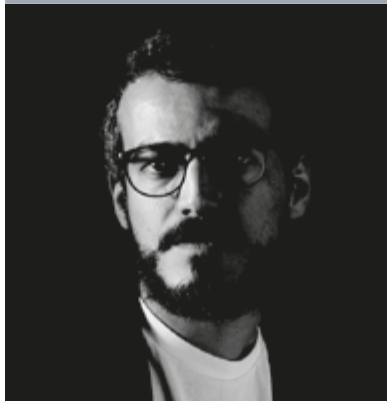
Lately he won the first price in "Prishtina Book Panair" with "Zoti i Kripës", Buzuku 2025. He lives and works in Tirana.





## Bruno Carnide

MAILUKI FILMS  
— SINCE 2008 —



Nominated twice for the Sophia Awards of the Portuguese Film Academy, Bruno Carnide is an independent Portuguese director and founding director of Leiria Film Fest – International Short Film Festival.

Carnide directed several fiction, animation and documentary short films, which won dozens awards and have been exhibited in hundreds film festivals around the world, including Oscar Qualifying Festivals.

He is curator at Museum of the Moving Image, in Portugal, and also a lecturer in the field of cinema at Polytechnic of Leiria and Instituto Superior Miguel Torga (Portugal).

As a freelancer, Bruno Carnide has directed hundreds of corporate and commercial videos for companies such as Google, Volkswagen, Ford, MTV, Nickelodeon, RTP or Schweppes.

He is occasionally a jury member at International Film Festivals.

## Adam Selo

SAYO  
NARA FILM



Adam Selo is a director and producer, based in Bologna. In 2004 he founded his independent production company, Elenfant Film. His work of distributing his films in festivals, led him to the founding of Elenfant Distribution, a distribution team that deals with the distribution and sale of national and international short films.

Later, he founded with the director Olga Torrico the production company Sayonara Film, that produces documentaries, short films, animations and follows the road of the distribution. Between the shorted produced by his company there is Gas Station, by Olga Torrico, awarded in Venice in 2020 at International critics Week. The last productions are After the Bridge, by Davide Rizzo and Marzia Toscano, premiered at Hot Docs International Film Festival, Toronto and Casablanca, by Adriano Valerio, a French/Italian Co-Production, recently premiered in Venice, at Giornate degli Autori 2023.

## Dritan Huqi

ON FILM  
PRODUCTION



Born in Tirana, Albania. He is a graduate of Albanian Economic University and University of Law. President of the “Albanian Producers and Filmmakers Association” Member of European Film Academy. In 2011 he was selected for “Producers On The Move” in Cannes Film Festival, by European Film Promotion. He is Producer in “On Film Production” movies company. Has also produced more than 10 documentary series (around 50 episodes) and 4 TV series (with 10 episodes each) and more than 45 shorts movies.



## Elton Koritari

EJAlbum founder and administrator, project manager and curator of art and cultural events, specially focused on photography. Elton Koritari has been working in the Creative Industry for years, managing art projects, curating exhibitions, directing communication campaigns and also representing in Albania some of the most important brands in that sector. He's work is mainly focused on research about communities, social activism and visual education.



## Ena Bulku

Ena Bulku graduated with a master's degree in graphic painting with a deep experience in art therapy projects, treating creativity as part of life. As a PR specialist for various creative and social projects, Ena excels in building artistic initiatives through powerful public relations strategies. She has curated several visual arts exhibitions of Albanian and foreign artists. For four years she directed the artistic calendar of the Center for Openness and Dialogue, COD, in the Prime Minister's office. Currently, she holds the position of Director of the Gallery of Contemporary Art Tirana, known also as GOCAT, where she promotes contemporary art and cultivates a vibrant cultural community.



## Rubin Kadiu

Rubin Kadiu is a visual artist, a graduate of the University of Arts in the field of Monumental Painting. In 2016, he completed his Master of Science studies with the same specialization. As an artist, he has held several solo and group exhibitions both in Albania and abroad. Since 2023, Rubin has been part of the Center for Openness and Dialogue at the Prime Minister's Office, where he serves not only as the head of the dialogue and multimedia sector but also as a curator for various exhibitions featuring both local and international artists.





## Alvin Çyço



Alvin Çyço is a Film & Television Directing bachelor student at the University of Arts in Tirana, Albania.

He has done a numerous short student films, including those within the country and abroad.

Documentaries have been part of his journey, telling the story of Rock music in Albanian regions lately.

Wanting to tell stories that are untold, telling those stories in his way, creating, contributing in our society is what satisfies and makes him keep going.

## Ana Veseli



Ana Veseli is a filmmaker from Kruje, Albania. She has worked across film, television, and digital media in roles ranging from directing and scriptwriting to producing and content creation. Her projects include short films, TV shows, documentaries, and digital campaigns in both Albania and abroad. She is currently in her second year of a Master's in Film and Television Directing at the University of Arts in Albania.

## Heldi Mema



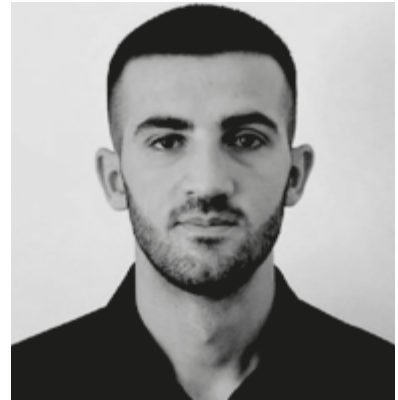
Heldi Mema is a filmmaker and a cinema student at the University of Arts, Albania. His passion for film began in childhood and has been reflected in a wide range of creative projects, from graphic design to screenwriting and directing. He has participated in various artistic processes, both personal and collaborative. As a member of the jury, he values authenticity, originality, and the creative force expressed through cinema.

## Horgito Hoxha

Horgito Hoxha, 21 years old, is a student at the University of Arts in Tirana, majoring in Film and Television Directing. His previous studies were completed at the Vocational School of Hospitality and Tourism, but his passion for art, cinema, and literature has guided him toward artistic creation.

During his studies, he has realized film etudes, as well as portrait and general documentaries, where he has experimented with visual language and different forms of storytelling. Alongside his work in the field of film, he is also the author of two literary books.

His goal is to further develop the connection between literature and film, viewing them as powerful tools for artistic and human communication.

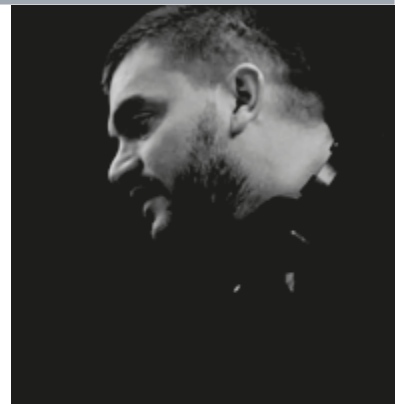


## Rejnis Plaku

Rejnis Plaku is 32 years old, and he has dedicated most of his life to the art of filmmaking. He began working at a very young age and built a solid career as a video editor with over 12 years of experience. Along the way, he discovered his true passion for directing, which led him to pursue formal studies in Film Directing.

He has successfully completed the Bachelor's degree in Film Directing, and is currently continuing the Master's studies in Film Directing at the University of Arts in Tirana. Throughout his career, he has directed numerous documentaries that explore real stories with depth and authenticity, as well as a short fiction film titled LORA.

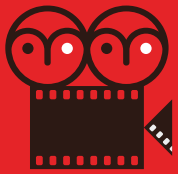
Every new project has allowed him to grow as a filmmaker, refining both his artistic vision and technical skills. His goal is to keep telling powerful stories through cinema and to contribute meaningfully to contemporary Albanian and international film.





Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Embassy of Switzerland in Albania**



COMPETITION

# FULL LENGTH FILMS

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# Competition

Regional Premiere

## Don't Let the Sun by Jacqueline Zünd

Switzerland, Italy | 2025 | 100' | Sci-Fi, Drama

**43** In a world almost like ours, Jonah works for an agency that offers human relationships. When he's hired to serve as Nika's father, he begins to lose control of his tightly controlled life. A delicately dystopian drama set in a place of unbearable heat, where people are desperate for human warmth.



**SCREENPLAY:**  
Jacqueline Zünd & Arne Kohlweyer

**CINEMATOGRAPHY:**  
Nikolai von Graevenitz

**EDITING:**  
Gion-Reto Killias

**PRODUCER/S:**  
Louis Mataré, David Fonjallaz, Davide Pagano,  
Andrea Razzano, Gianfilippo Pedote

**PRODUCTION CO.:**  
Lomotion, Casa delle Visioni

**DISTRIBUTION:**  
Sideral, Filmcoopi

**Awards & Selections:**  
- Pardo for Best Performance, Levan Gelbakhiani, 2025  
Locarno Film Festival  
- Nominee for Golden Leopard, Jacqueline Zünd, 2025  
Locarno Film Festival

# FULL LENGTH FILMS ▶ PerspecTIFF

National Premiere



## EEL by Chu Chun-Teng



Taiwan | 2025 | 102' | Fantasy, Romance

On a remote island near Taipei, a mysterious woman and a lost man cross paths, unraveling hidden stories and searching for belonging and transformation in a place where time and memory dissolve into mist.

44

**SCREENPLAY:**  
You Shann-Jiun, Chu Chun-Teng

**CINEMATOGRAPHY:**  
Nguyễn Vinh Phúc

**EDITING:**  
Alulu Kuo, Chu Chun-Teng

**PRODUCER/S:**  
Susan Huang

**PRODUCTION CO.:**  
Static Film & Visual Art Production

**DISTRIBUTION:**  
Parallax Films

**Awards & Selections:**  
- Nominee for Best First Feature, 2025, Berlin International Film Festival



# Competition

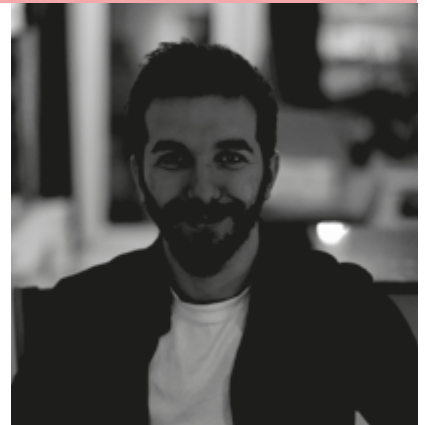
National Premiere



## Everybody Calls Redjo by Ibër Deari

North Macedonia | 2025 | 126' | Comedy, Drama

- 45 In a world where everyone is packing bags, a man stands tall as the last man standing. This comedy-drama takes you on a riotous journey through the hilarious misadventures of our village hero Redjo, the jack-of-all-trades with a heart of gold.



SCREENPLAY:  
Ibër Deari & Artin Selmani

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Dario Sekulovski

EDITING:  
Avdi Thaçi

PRODUCER/S:  
Sasho Pavlovski

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Manufaktura Production

Awards & Selections:  
- Best Film in the Meridian Category, 2025  
Bari International Film Festival



## Meat by Dimitris Nakos



Greece | 2024 | 104' | Drama

In a village in the Greek countryside, Takis prepares the opening of his new butcher shop. One day before the inauguration, his son Pavlos kills the neighbor who claims part of their land. The only witness is Christos, a young man from Albania whom Takis has had with him since childhood.

46

SCREENPLAY:  
Dimitris Nakos

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Yorgos Valsamis

EDITING:  
Lambis Haralambidis

PRODUCER/S:  
Thanos Anastopoulos

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Fantasia Ltd, Foss Productions

DISTRIBUTION:  
Fantasia Ltd

Awards & Selections:

- Greek Critics Award, 2024, Thessaloniki International Film Festival
- Official Selection, 2024, Toronto International Film Festival



# Competition

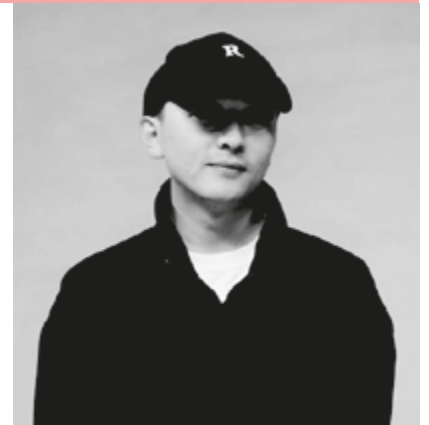
National Premiere



## Undoing Time by Li Pu

China | 2024 | 90' | Drama

- 47 Mi Xun finally returns to his hometown after learning of his father's accidental death. Facing family and friends again, he feels alienated and lost. He is filled with remorse and guilt, and haunted by nightmares. Memories condense, shift and reconstruct themselves continuously in his mind. The past, sealed in dust, slowly reveals itself, and hidden feelings emerge.



SCREENPLAY:  
Li Pu

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Wan Yuxiangma

EDITING:  
Du Yu

PRODUCER/S:  
Xu Zhipeng, Zhao Hua

Awards & Selections:  
- Nominee for Best Film, 2025  
Asian Film Festival Rome

National Premiere

## When The Phone Rang by Iva Radivojević



Serbia, USA | 2024 | 73' | Drama

Through an intimate reconstruction of an important phone call, *When The Phone Rang* investigates dislocation and the nature of remembering. In the protagonist's eleven year old mind the phone call erases her entire country, history and identity.

48

SCREENPLAY:  
Iva Radivojević

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Martin DiCicco

EDITING:  
Iva Radivojević

PRODUCER/S:  
Andrijana Sofranić Šućur, Marija Stojnić,  
Madeleine Molyneaux, Iva Radivojević

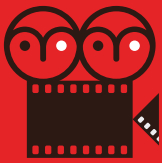
PRODUCTION CO.:  
Set Sail Films, Ivaasks Films, Picture Palace Pictures

DISTRIBUTION:  
Lights On Film

Awards & Selections:  
- Nominee for Best Film, 2024, Locarno Film Festival



Embassy of Israel in Tirana



COMPETITION

# FULL LENGTH FILMS

Documentary Documentary  
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Documentary Documentary



# Competition

National Premiere

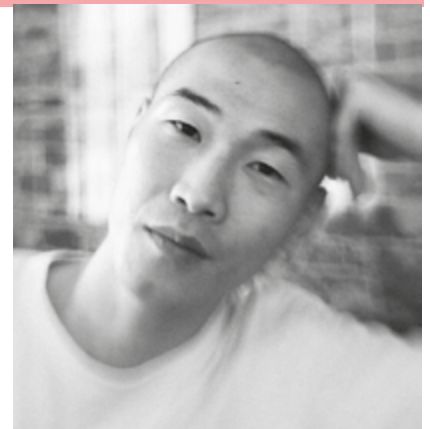


## Always by Deming Cheng

USA | 2025 | 84'

51

A cinematic allegory of a boy becoming a teenager in rural China. Searching through an emotional landscape of growth, he reflects on the poetry of his solitary childhood.



CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Deming Chen

EDITING:  
Yi-Chu Lin

PRODUCER/S:  
Hansen Lin, Gugi Gumilang

PRODUCTION CO.:  
SaNoSi Productions, HandsOn Studio

Awards & Selections:  
- DOX:AWARD, 2025, CPH:DOX

National Premiere



## Double Trouble by Emilia Śniegoska



Germany, Poland | 2025 | 70'

Once upon a time in a Polish village in Romania, Hanka and Bronka, left behind by their deceased husbands and their children who have emigrated for work, face everyday life with humour and persistence. Fighting to stay independent, they will soon need to make a life-changing decision. Is the world of these two lifelong friends coming to an end?

52

SCREENPLAY:  
Emilia Śniegoska

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Vision House

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Ewa Radzewicz

EDITING:  
Katarzyna Drozdowicz

PRODUCER/S:  
Justyna Rutkowska, Łukasz Bluszcz

Awards & Selections:  
- Official Selection, 2025, Visions du Réel



# Competition

National Premiere



## Higher than Acidic Clouds by Ali Asgari

Iran | 2024 | 70'

53

When his film on air pollution stirs trouble, shutting all doors before him, an Iranian director embarks on a turbulent journey through the realms of memory and dream.



SCREENPLAY:  
Ali Asgari

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Arman Fayyaz

EDITING:  
Ehsan Vaseghi

PRODUCER/S:  
Ali Asgari, Milad Khosravi

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Seven Springs Pictures, Taat Films

DISTRIBUTION:  
Seven Springs Pictures

Awards & Selections:  
- Nominee for Best Documentary Film, 2024  
International Documentary Film Festival  
Amsterdam (IDFA)



## Militantropos by Alina Gorlova, Yelizaveta Smith, Simon Mozgovyi



Austria, France, Ukraine | 2025 | 111'

MILITANTROPOS captures the human condition through the fractured realities of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The film pieces together everyday lives transformed by war — those who flee, those who lose everything, and those who stay to resist and fight — tracing both the instinct to survive and the need for closeness. Amid devastation and atrocity, the human is absorbed into war — and war, in turn, becomes part of the human.

54

### SCREENPLAY:

Yelizaveta Smith, Alina Gorlova, Simon Mozgovyi, Maksym Nakonechnyi

### PRODUCTION CO.:

Tabor Productions, Mischief Films, Les Valseurs

### CINEMATOGRAPHY:

Vyacheslav Tsvetkov, Khrystyna Lizogub, Denys Melnyk

### DISTRIBUTION:

Square Eyes

### EDITING:

Alina Gorlova, Simon Mozgovyi, Yelizaveta Smith

### PRODUCER/S:

Eugene Rachkovsky, Ralph Wieser, Nabil Bellahsène, Justin Pechberty, Damien Megherbi

### Awards & Selections:

- Nominee for Directors' Fortnight Audience Award, 2025  
Cannes Film Festival



# Competition

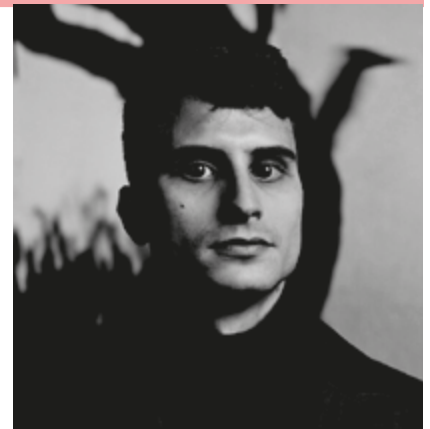
National Premiere



## To the West, in Zapata by David Bim

Cuba | 2025 | 85'

55 In a constant cycle of survival and separation, a man has to go to extreme lengths in the Zapata swamp to provide for his wife and son.



SCREENPLAY:  
David Bim

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
David Bim

EDITING:  
David Bim

PRODUCER/S:  
Lia Rodríguez, David Bim

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Ventu Productions

DISTRIBUTION:  
Square Eyes

Awards & Selections:  
- FIPRESCI Prize, 2025, Visions du Réel International Film Festival



## Yalla Parkour

by Areeb Zuaiter



Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sweden | 2024 | 89'

In her relentless pursuit of a memory that reinforces her sense of belonging, Areeb crosses paths with Ahmed, a parkour athlete in Gaza, sparking in a journey where conflicting aspirations intersect. Nostalgia meets with ambition, and the weight of a confined past meets with an unpredictable future.

56

SCREENPLAY:  
Areeb Zuaiter

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Umit Gulsen, Ibrahim Al Olta, Marco Padoan

EDITING:  
Phil Jandaly

PRODUCER/S:  
Hala Fawaz, Basel Mawlawi, Lisa Nyed

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Kinana Films

DISTRIBUTION:  
ArtHood Entertainment

Awards & Selections:  
- Nominee for Panorama Audience Award, 2025  
Berlin International Film Festival



COMPETITION

# SHORT FILMS

Action Live Action  
e Action Live Action  
Live Action **Live Action**  
ve Action Live Action  
Action Live Action  
tion Live Action



National Premiere



## Ali

Bangladesh, Philippines | 2025 | 15'

In a coastal town, women are not allowed to sing. A teenager joins a singing competition for a chance to move to the city, while hiding his true voice in a sinister way.



by Adnan Al Rajeev

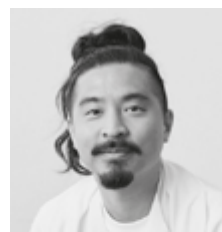
National Premiere



## Amarela

Brazil | 2024 | 15'

On the day of the World Cup final between Brazil and France, Erika Oguihara, a Japanese-Brazilian teenager who rejects her family traditions, experiences a violence that seems invisible and plunges into a painful sea of emotions.



by André Hayato Saito

National Premiere



## Atom & Void

Portugal | 2024 | 9'

In Valya's burrow, a repeated rumbling disrupts her life, pushing her into the unknown, unexplored.



by Gonçalo Almeida



# Competition

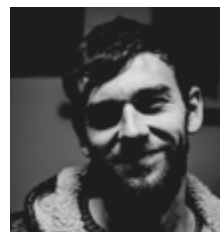
National Premiere



## Big Boys Don't Cry

France | 2025 | 24'

A scorching summer in a small village near Marseille. After a three-year absence, Lucas and his group of friends welcome back their best friend Hicham. This eagerly-awaited return quickly arouses conflicting emotions in the gang, but above all, new hopes in Lucas.



by Arnaud Delmarle

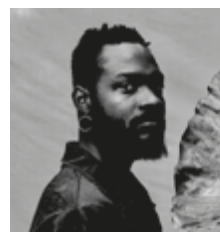
National Premiere



## Blue Heart

Haiti, France | 2025 | 15'

Their loving son is away. Marianne and Petion are living in Haiti with a telephone, waiting for a call from the USA, where their son has left for the American dream.



by Samuel Suffren

Regional Premiere



## Cold Snap

UK | 2024 | 14'

Anna returns to her family's farm, but her mother is rattled by the unexpected visit. Over a fraught weekend, the two women struggle to connect as they face up to an imminent loss.



by Ellen Evans

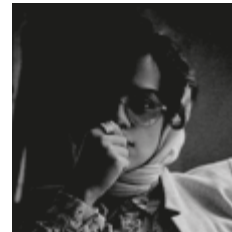


Regional Premiere

## Conex

Iran, USA | 2025 | 15'

A middle-aged man seeks refuge from the harsh and soulless world of society by escaping to a world he has created for himself.



by Dina Rezaei

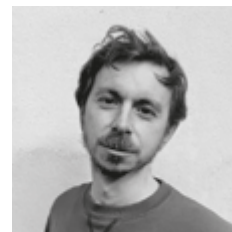


National Premiere

## Dammen

France | 2025 | 15'

Two young women are enjoying the wild surroundings of an isolated lake. It's a sunny day.



by Grégoire Graesslin

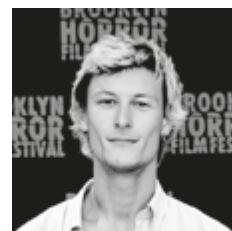


International Premiere

## Far From the Plains

UK | 2025 | 17'

As great storms loom and his mother fades into depression, 14-year-old Frankie finds refuge in a South London stable, but when the storm breaks, he must confront the reality of loss and find hope in unlikely places.



by Luigi Sibona



# Competition

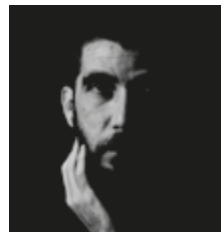
National Premiere



## Gaza Bride17

Palestine, UK, Estonia | 2025 | 20'

A fisherman from Gaza is trapped in his haunting memories After losing his only child, he suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder that leads him on a psychological journey, reliving his tragedy in a different reality.



by Waseem Khair

National Premiere



## Gote Goat Ghost

India | 2024 | 30'

A Brass Band member's hate comment in a public toilet triggers a chain reaction of various social expressions.



by Shivam Shankar

National Premiere



## Hyena

USA, China | 2025 | 21'

In an isolated castle, students prepare for a life-changing examination. As anticipation builds to a fever pitch, a storm strikes. Trapped within crumbling walls, their academic sanctuary becomes a prison, and minds begin to break.



by Altay Ulan Yang

International Premiere



## Icarus

Belgium, France | 2025 | 20'

A freediving boy, desperate to connect with his grieving father, pushes himself to the limit underwater.



by Christos Kardana

Regional Premiere



## Ne Me Quitte Pas

Spain | 2025 | 18'

1962. Matthias, a former soldier stationed in the Belgian Congo, goes into exile on an island in the Mediterranean Sea with his beloved Awa, a young Congolese woman he met during his deployment in Africa. Awa dreams of a better life, a life free from persecution. Matthias hopes to escape his past and, maybe, build a future.



by Karim Huu Do

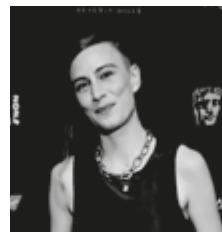
World Premiere



## Revert

UK | 2025 | 16'

A recently single dad can't stop his baby from crying in order to pray. Having lost confidence in his ability to raise his daughter alone, he impulsively begins the long car journey north to drop her off with his mother.



by Miranda Stern



# Competition

National Premiere



## Sammi, Who Can Detach His Body Parts



by Rein Maychaelson

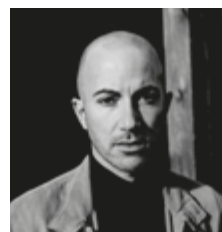
Indonesia | 2025 | 19'

He was born with the peculiar ability to move and remove his body parts. Throughout his life, he shares his body parts to people he loves. Until the day he died, all left from him is a torso with a faceless head. His mother is trying to recollect his body parts.

European Premiere



## The Best Unsaid



by Lorenzo Bianchi

France | 2025 | 22'

In a remote French village, at the dawn of a new day, the dreams of a young mother and her teenage son meet, bringing to the surface a buried wound.

National Premiere



## The Last Sunday in May



by Alejandro Bordier

Luxembourg | 2024 | 18'

When Jean passes by the house of his childhood years later, he faces the dramas of his family's past.

International Premiere



## The Rebirth

Kyrgyzstan | 2025 | 11'

The Manas epic, recognized by the Guinness World Records as the world's longest, tells the entire story of the Kyrgyz people—their journey through history, their sorrows, and their triumphs. The tradition of reciting Manas is passed down to a manaschi, a chosen storyteller gifted by higher powers.



by Ilgiz-Sherniiaz  
Tursunbek Uulu

National Premiere



## The Spectacle

France, Hungary | 2025 | 17'

A young Roma boy is lifted into the light, only to find it fades in an unexpected way.



by Bálint Kenyeres

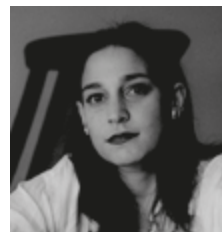
National Premiere



## WassupKaylee

France, USA | 2025 | 19'

Kaylee Hord, a 17-year-old prank video influencer, is the newest member of a popular TikTok content house where she struggles to fit in and pay the rent. But when a new and intense friendship offers the chance of viral fame, Kaylee learns how far she'll go to belong.



by Pepi Ginsberg



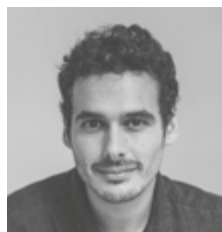
International Premiere



## What Disappears

Argentina, Mexico, Spain, UK, USA | 2024 | 15'

Set in a desolate world, Maria (70s) clings to the edges of her life, cocooned in denial and desperation. When an enigmatic, younger woman named Kat arrives, Maria is forced to confront her isolated existence.



by Nono Ayuso, Rodrigo Inada

National Premiere



## Wonderwall

UK | 2025 | 28'

Liverpool, 1995. The dockers are on strike. But Siobhan (9) and her big brother Rory have other things on their mind : will their heroes Oasis beat Blur in tonight's Battle of Britpop. When a fight breaks out, Siobhan runs off into the night. She drifts around, tired and alone, and the streets seem strange and unfamiliar.



by Róisín Burns

Regional Premiere



## Yo Yo

Iran, France | 2025 | 15'

In a desert at the southernmost point of Iran, a young man's mind is taken over by the whispers in his head, while his friend tries to rescue him from a darkness only he can hear.



by Mohammadreza Mayghani



COMPETITION

# SHORT FILMS

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# Competition

National Premiere



## Anthéor

France | 2024 | 21'

A young woman decides to face her anxieties, returning to places occupied by the shadows of the past. Driven by tempestuous winds, she defies a wild sea, crosses sharp rocks like blades, to return to the origin.



by Patrice Joseph Blanc

National Premiere



## Because Today is Saturday

Portugal, France, Spain | 2025 | 12'

It's Saturday, and a woman struggles with the difficulty of reconciling her home life and her need to escape to unleash her creative side.



by Alice Eça Guimarães

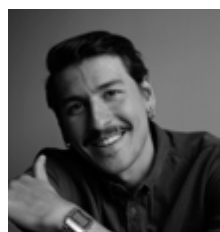
National Premiere



## Budō

Sweden | 2024 | 15'

On the outskirts of Tokyo lives the lonely Miho, an old widow. On her daily trip to the supermarket she meets a hungry stray cat. The cat follows her home, but soon makes himself more comfortable in her little apartment than she could ever imagine... BUDŌ is a anime inspired saga about loneliness, adventure and courage.



by Alexander Toma, Amanda Aagard

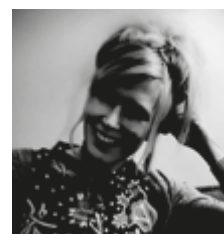
National Premiere



## Eating Time

Estonia | 2025 | 16'

After an explosion, an elderly woman finds herself in a shoemaker's workshop. She embarks on a journey through a labyrinth of floors, living simultaneously in the here and now and in the dusty past. On her journey to her childhood, she meets her past self and passes through rooms of her memory lane. As a young girl, she swallowed a key that opened a door to an endless maze of passageways. Once trapped in a room of the past, she must perform an equivalent eating ritual to trigger a time shift and continue her journey through long corridors and more rooms. Back in childhood, the woman tries to eat her way through time again, but the inexorable rhythm of the machinery of life keeps on ticking.



by Mari Kivi

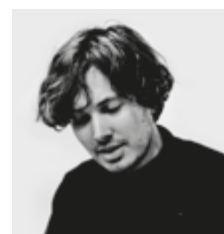
National Premiere



## God is Shy

France | 2025 | 15'

During a train ride, Ariel and Paul pass the time sketching their deepest fears. Their game takes an unexpected turn when Gilda, a mysterious passenger, intrudes on their exchange. Yet, her relationship with fear seems far less innocent than their playful drawings.



by Jocelyn Charles

68

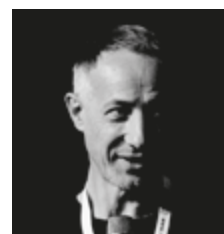
National Premiere



## Il Burattino e la Balena

France, Italy | 2024 | 8'

Story of a puppet who doesn't become a child.



by Roberto Catani



# Competition

National Premiere



## In Thousand Petals

Belgium, France | 2024 | 10'

A young married woman collects the sweet memories of her romance. On closer inspection, she leaves bits of herself behind...



by Louise Bongartz

European Premiere



## Interlude

Japan | 2025 | 7'

The paradise of life, I believe, exists in the interlude—a fleeting moment granted to all, equally, that quietly arrives between one thing and the next.



by Taiyo Nobata

National Premiere



## Little Story

Belgium, Netherlands | 2024 | 14'

Ant is traveling in the rear of a city bus. She is holding a small red Egg. When the bus stops, Ant gets out with her Egg and walks to work. In an office building, Ant serves coffee and tea to employees and, in the evening, she works as a cleaner in a fastfood restaurant. The fragile Egg is always close to her.



by Mirjam Plettinx

National Premiere



## Murmuration

Netherlands, Belgium | 2025 | 13'

An elderly man realises he's suddenly turning into a bird.



by Janneke Swinkels,  
Tim Frijsinger

National Premiere



## S the Wolf

France | 2025 | 11'

A man recounts his capillary peregrinations through his adolescence - from the barber's trauma to his first love to the loss of his hair and eventually his father. Through this, we see a construction of a masculinity in the making.



by Sameh Alaa

70

National Premiere



## Society of Clothes

Canada, France, Korea | 2024 | 15'

One morning, a shirt and a pair of pants come out of a closet. They come together to form a person, who eats breakfast, chooses a hat and puts it on. In this universe, people are composed of nothing but clothes.



by Dahee Jeong



# Competition

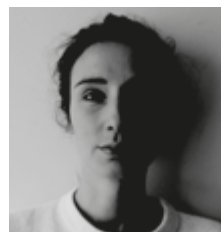
National Premiere



## Tears

Germany, Poland | 2025 | 9'

A film about the impossibility of making a decision. A world filled with possibilities and a lost woman who may not want to choose at all.



by Paulina Ziolkowska

National Premiere



## The Girl Who Cried Pearls

Canada | 2025 | 18'

A haunting fable about a girl overwhelmed by sorrow, the boy who loves her, and how greed leads good hearts to wicked deeds.



by Chris Lavis,  
Maciek Szcerbowski

National Premiere



## The Magician

Croatia, France, Romania | 2025 | 24'

Sulina, 1910. It is the inauguration of the first electric power station in this Romanian port city. In the jubilation of a modern and cosmopolitan crowd, Ilarion, a prestidigitator from another time, tries to play his last card.



by Bogdan Mureșanu

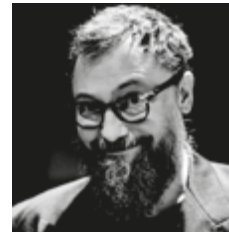
National Premiere



## There Will Be No Other End

Poland | 2024 | 8'

A short film about society (in five chapters).



by Piotr Milczarek

International Premiere



## Vor

Taiwan | 2024 | 18'

Daikon and Bean met at the edge of the world, then that hot summer turned into spring.



by Ping An Huang



**EMBASSY OF GREECE  
IN ALBANIA**



COMPETITION

# SHORT FILMS

Documentary Documentary  
Documentary Documentary  
Documentary **Documentary**  
Documentary Documentary  
Documentary Documentary  
Documentary



# Competition

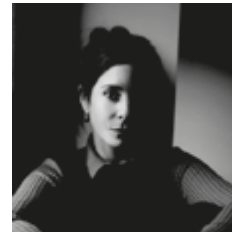
National Premiere



## +10K

France, Spain | 2025 | 30'

Pol is 21 and lives with his grandmother. He dreams of living in Miami and generating 10k€ a month. He attends personal development events, follows online coaches and invests in cryptocurrencies. Pol doesn't know when he'll achieve his goal of becoming the best version of himself. The only thing he knows is that one day, he'll get there.



by Gala Hernández López

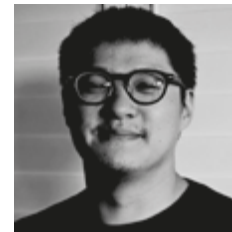
European Premiere



## A View from Home

Canada | 2025 | 15'

With warmth, humour, and nostalgia, 'A View from Home' reflects on the joys and challenges of finding belonging, captured intimately through heartfelt conversations with loved ones - all unfolding against the ever-changing backdrop of a downtown Toronto park.



by Mingzhe Zhou

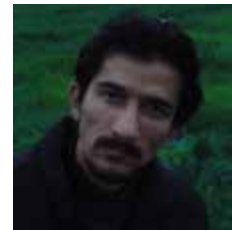
National Premiere



## Beneath Which Rivers Flow

Iraq | 2025 | 16'

In the marshlands of Southern Iraq, Ibrahim and his family live in solitude as strangers to the outside world, their lives tethered to the river, the reeds, and the buffalo they tend. Silent and withdrawn, Ibrahim finds comfort only in his buffalo, his sole companion. But as the rivers dry and the landscape withers, Ibrahim faces unrelenting forces threatening the only life he has ever known, and the only creature he has ever understood.



by Ali Yahya

National Premiere



## History is Written at Night

Cuba | 2024 | 20'

A huge blackout has plunged Cuba into darkness. In the streets, the inhabitants try to escape the gloom while the bonfires seem to announce the end of an era. Taking refuge inside our house, my mother tells me about a vision that has been tormenting her for years.



by Alejandro Alonso

National Premiere



## in retrospect

Germany | 2025 | 14'

Immigrant workers build a shopping mall for the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich. In 2016 nine people with migrant backgrounds are killed in a racist attack at this same mall. 'Why such hatred?' asks a woman in a Sohrab Shahid Saless' film „Addressee Unknown“, shot in the 1980s.



by Mila Zhlutenko,  
Daniel Asadi Faezi

National Premiere



## Koki, Ciao

Netherlands | 2025 | 11'

The autobiography of Koki, an immortal parrot, loyal comrade of Marshal Tito, leader of Yugoslavia for 35 years. Made over 4 years with Koki responding to previously unseen archives, this biopic relives the caged memories of this 68 year speaking bird, who had the honour of meeting Hollywood stars, and bloodthirsty dictators.



by Quenton Miller



# Competition

National Premiere



## L'mina

France, Italy, Morocco, Qatar | 2025 | 26'

Jerada is a mining town in Morocco where coal extraction, although officially halted in 2001, continues informally to this day. "L'mina" recreates the current work in informal mining pits using a set design created in collaboration with the town's residents, who perform in their own roles.



by Randa Maroufi

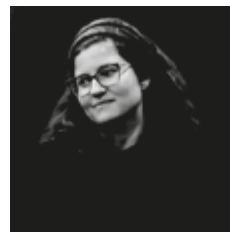
National Premiere



## Razeh-del

Iran, UK, Italy | 2024 | 28'

In 1998, two schoolgirls sent a letter to Iran's first-ever women's newspaper. While they waited to be published, they considered making an impossible film.



by Maryam Tafakory

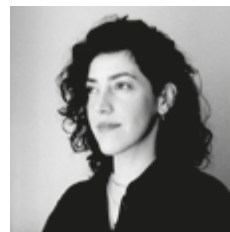
Regional Premiere



## Shadows

Jordan | 2024 | 12'

At a crowded airport, Ahlam, a 15-year old mother, is running away from Baghdad, the only place she's ever known. As she fights the shadows lurking around her, she reflects on her journey to reclaim her life.



by Rand Beiruty

National Premiere



## Sixty-seven Milliseconds

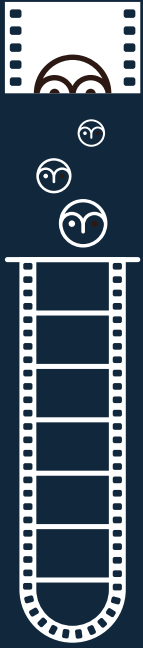
France | 2025 | 15'

In search of a bullet whose trail has been captured on surveillance camera footage, the film follows its trajectory and those of its main protagonists. Blending the early cinema technique of chronophotography with CGI, *Sixty-seven Milliseconds* questions the legitimacy of policing in France and warns of its excesses.



by Fleuryfontaine





COMPETITION

# SHORT FILMS

Video Art & Video Art &  
Experimental Experimental

Video Art & Video Art &  
Experimental Experimental

Video Art & Video Art &  
Experimental Experimental



# Competition

National Premiere



## A Hundred-Headed Dragon

Spain | 2025 | 15'

In the Garden of Hesperides, a fruit, capable of granting immortality to whoever ate it, once grew. This garden, located somewhere off the coast of West Africa, was guarded by a dragon with one hundred heads.



by Helena Girón Vázquez,  
Samuel M. Delgado

National Premiere



## A Metamorphosis

Myanmar | 2024 | 17'

In the houses, after parting, Mothers were made up of tears. Sons were transformed into empty glass cups. And the lullabies became a curse.



by Lin Htet Aung

National Premiere



## Foot to Ground

USA | 2024 | 8'

Minimalist frontiers proliferate from acquisition. Larping utopia, shedding skins, forging new luxury amidst shards of past lives. Embracing shadows, sculpting stagnant futures in the flicker of ancient flames.



by Christopher Thompson

# SHORT FILMS ▶ Video Art & Experimental

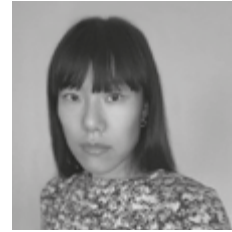
National Premiere



## Green Grey Black Brown

South Korea, China, France | 2024 | 12'

A synthetic realm unfolds, meticulously engineered by global startups. Everything is bound together by a dark slime—an oily, recurrent presence that merges Jurassic-era flora with plastic plant decorations destined for shopping malls.



by Yuyan Wang

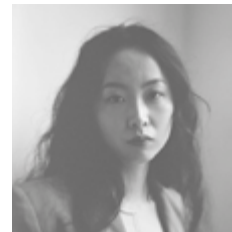
National Premiere



## How to be a Ghost in Bangkok?

Thailand, UK | 2025 | 10'

After being ghosted by a romantic partner during a trip to Bangkok, the artist situates a contemporary act within a timeless Southeast Asian ghost cultural gesture, transforming personal heartbreak into a surreal exploration of ghosthood while reimagining its embodiment through ten playful yet haunting guidelines.



by Jing Zhao

82

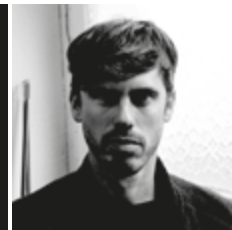
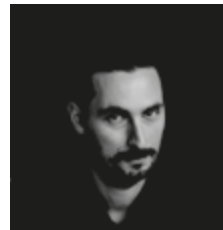
National Premiere



## Lamento

Switzerland | 2025 | 17'

A woman and a man find themselves in a sitcom set, HE is sitting on the sofa, the TV is on, a car drives up, SHE comes in. There's an immediate conflict of which the characters themselves might not even know the origin. But they follow the script, they try to authenticate the emotions of the music that drives them from room to room, from one situation to the next. And whilst the rehearsed gestures get more alien and the setting more nightmarish, the claimed reality becomes increasingly permeable.



by Jannik Giger, Demian Wohler



# Competition

National Premiere



## Lizzy

USA | 2024 | 15'

The work Lizzy is the result of the hours and days spent in the aftermath of the death of a neighbour, who passed away in the house where she had lived out her whole life, located on the Hillsborough river in Tampa, Florida. She left behind an electric organ addressed to the filmmaker.



by Susanna Wallin

National Premiere



## Rain

USA, Greece, Italy | 2024 | 6'

Rain, as circular shapes of memory imprinted on the fast paced celluloid or as liquid moving sculptures of the present in digital form, documents a verbal interaction between two people.



by Vasilios Papaioannu

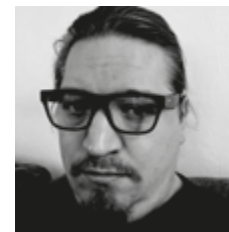
International Premiere



## The Ghost Feel Hour

Finland | 2025 | 11'

An introspective documentary that connects the cinema space, ticket blowups, and the ritual of watching with memories and dreams.



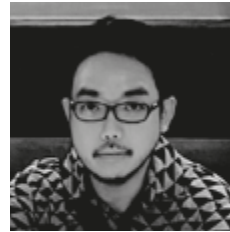
by Eero Tammi



## The Slides of Prof. Somkiat Tang-Namo

Thailand | 2025 | 7'

This film was made from hundreds of educational slides that belonged to the late Professor Somkiat Tang-namo, a pioneer of art aesthetics in Thailand and the founder of the first Thai virtual university for free public education.



by Prapat Jiwangsan



Embassy  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Tirana



COMPETITION

SHORT  
FILMS  
Student

Fiction Fiction

Fiction Fiction

ion Fiction **Fiction**

n Fiction Fiction

Fiction Fiction



# Competition

National Premiere



**110**

Switzerland | 2024 | 19'

An elementary school sports day gets out of hand. A harmless argument between two children ends in death threats between the two fathers. The collective overload shakes an entire society and unfolds into a microcosm of chaos.



by Sinan Taner

National Premiere



**Baozhda**

China | 2024 | 25'

Keran follows his parents to his uncle's home to celebrate the New Year. While the adults are out, Keran loses the sheep his uncle's family had prepared for the New Year.



by Keran Abukasimu

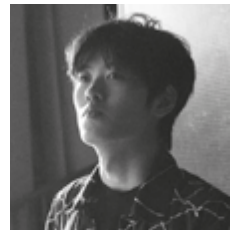
European Premiere



**Can You Hear Me**

China | 2024 | 26'

A boy's academic setback sets his family on a spiral to secure his future and later unveils the crumbling reality of his father's affair, yet the slew of misfortunate incidents pushes the boy to learn the art of accepting his family in the span of a single day.



by Zhe Huang

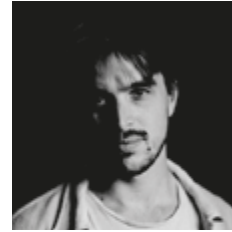
International Premiere



## Cool Boy

Denmark | 2024 | 19'

13-year-old Felix struggles to keep his mother's alcohol abuse hidden from his best friend Anton. But the closer Felix gets to Anton's well-functioning nuclear family, the more his shame and jealousy grow, pushing their friendship to the limit.



by Peter Salling

National Premiere



## Extracurricular Activity

China | 2024 | 22'

Two teenagers secretly meet for sex, but something goes wrong. When the boy confesses to his mother what has happened, she takes charge and makes all further decisions.



by Wei Dean, Xu Yidan

88

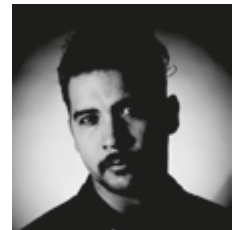
National Premiere



## Family Sunday

Mexico | 2025 | 16'

In a peripheral zone of Mexico City, the collection of money from merchants and residents of the area is an everyday occurrence. On a sunny Sunday, in a housing unit located in one of these areas, a merchant has not paid his fee and the sicarios have come to give him an ultimatum.



by Gerardo Del Razo



# Competition

National Premiere



## Maybe in March

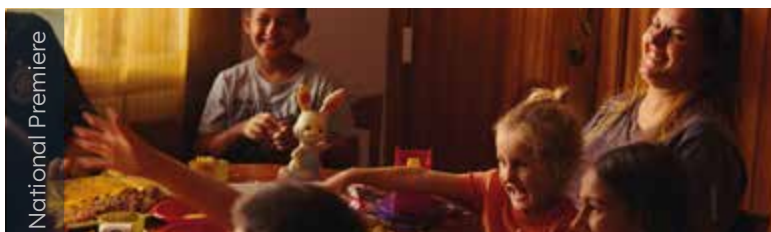
Denmark | 2025 | 25'

Somewhere in rural Denmark, a house awaits its farewell. A family holds its breath. And something is slipping away.



by Mikkel Bjørn Kehlert

National Premiere



## Rage

Spain | 2024 | 19'

Eric lives in a juvenile center. He tries to rebuild his relationship with his mother so he can live with her again when he turns 18. When she doesn't show up to visit him, he runs away to go to her house. There, he discovers she has a new family and that she has moved on with her life without him.



by Fran Moreno Blanco,  
Santi Pujol Amat

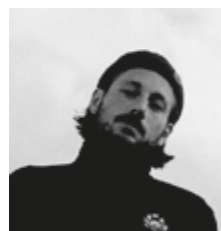
National Premiere



## Skin on Skin

Germany | 2024 | 30'

Two men displaced in the hell of the German meat industry. Something lies between them. Something makes them dream again.



by Simon Schneckenburger

Regional Premiere



## Withered Blossoms

Australia | 2024 | 14'

After evading and attempting to conceal her separation from a long-term partner for two weeks, a young woman finally visits her Grandma who is grappling with age.



by Lionel Seah





COMPETITION

# SHORT FILMS Student

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# Competition

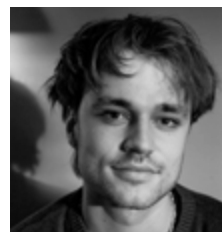
National Premiere



## Detlev

Germany | 2024 | 13'

A constantly freezing man in his forties drives to a lonely petrol station every evening and orders a microwaved Toast Hawaii. Detlev indulges in this in a bizarre ritual, because it's the only thing that warms him in his daily life.



by Ferdinand Ehrhardt

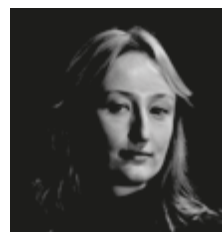
World Premiere



## Fructus Fliegus

Germany | 2025 | 5'

After a fruit fly flies into her roommate's eye, the protagonist sets off on a journey through her brain to remove the intruder.



by Emilia Zieser

93

Regional Premiere



## Hometopia

UK | 2024 | 5'

An old man hopes that he and his brother will one day live in a big villa, and no matter how much the village gossips about him, he builds what he thinks is a very luxurious house with his own hands using branches, bricks, and mud, but is that really the truth?



by Qing Yang

National Premiere



## Intermission

UK | 2025 | 10'

The tragicomic story of a young man goes to a concert with the hope of being moved - only to feel more detached than ever before.



by Milo Bonnard

National Premiere



## Jeanne & Jean Jean

France | 2024 | 7'

One Saturday afternoon, in a furniture store, Jeanne and Jean Jean wonder if they are really meant to live together.



by Thanys Martin

94

National Premiere



## Jour de Vent (Windy Day)

France | 2024 | 7'

Wind blows through a park. People fly away.



by Martin Chailloux, Ai Kim Crespín, Elise Golfouse,  
Chloé Lab, Hugo Tailleux, Camille Truding



# Competition

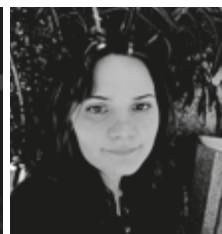
National Premiere



## Presqu'îles (Peninsula)

Belgium | 2025 | 6'

One day, a woman wakes up in a tiny forest. Or maybe she is the big one ? We don't really know. The forest is filled with funny looking people, also very tiny. They don't seem to be happy with the woman being there.



by Angèle Vergoni, Sarah Vanhoeck

National Premiere



## Sublime

France | 2024 | 8'

In a society where beauty is revered like a deity, a doll seeks to find her place.



by Marie Heribel, Candice Yernaux,  
Juliette Buysschaert, Camille Leroy, Joséphine  
Vendeville, Martin Laurent, Lucas Foutrier

National Premiere



## The Crooked Heads

Poland | 2025 | 9'

A forgotten Polish neighborhood drowns in the haze of coal mine smoke. A young man shaves his head, dons a tracksuit, and faces his brother's shadow and the weight of his past.



by Jakub Krzyszpín

National Premiere



## Trash

France | 2024 | 7'

In a dark alley, a scrawny rat has no choice but to fight with a pigeon for a small slice of pizza. Without a second thought they throw themselves in a vertiginous chase from the top to the bottom of the street.



by Gregory Bouzid, Maxime Crançon, Robin Delaporte, Mattéo Durand, Romain Fleischer, Alexis Le Ral, Margaux Lutz, Fanny Vecchie

National Premiere



## Wild Animal

China, USA | 2024 | 13'

In the Mongolian wilds, a hunter's heir, With his father, a bond so rare. Kindness within, 'midst nature's might, A tale of love, in the wild's wild fight.



by Tianyun Lyu





COMPETITION

# SHORT FILMS Student

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entary Documentary



# Competition

National Premiere



## A Little Regret in Helsinki

Finland | 2025 | 13'

A Chinese girl returns home to Helsinki, with a desire to reassess her feelings about home, perfection, friendship, and regret. A tender dialogue is raised between father and daughter.



by Haohao Qiaoshi Liu

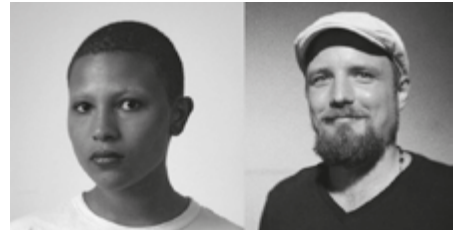
National Premiere



## Accidental Animals

Germany | 2024 | 10'

While cartographing the world, the google street view car sometimes crosses paths with animals. "Accidental animals" examines these encounters between the technical reproduction machine and animals like spiders, donkeys or dogs. How comes the algorithm blurs pigs' faces? What does it mean when the car's fifteen cameras meet the animal's eyes?



by Leila Fatima Keita, Felix Klee

National Premiere



## Animal Eye

Costa Rica | 2025 | 14'

Scientists and philosophers encounter the limits of their own vision through the eyes of animals.



by Carlo Nasisse

National Premiere



## Perfected Grammar

Indonesia | 2024 | 11'

In Budapest, an elderly Mother (anonymous) teaches her Hungarian-speaking Daughter (anonymous) the difference between the active and passive tenses in the Mother's mother tongue, Indonesian. However, the examples the Mother uses open a wound about the Mother's hurtful relationship with the country.



by Andrea Suwito

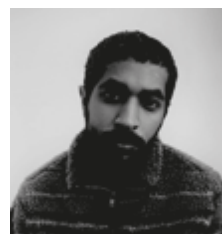
National Premiere



## Perishable Idol

Qatar, Kuwait, France | 2024 | 19'

As the blue sky meets the surrounding seas, the native-turned-archeologist Hassan Al-Failakawy returns to his abandoned island of Failaka, off the coast of Kuwait, after decades of displacement.



by Majid Al Remaihi

100

National Premiere



## Room 826

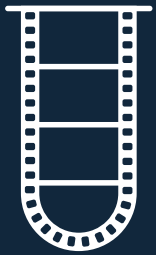
France | 2024 | 13'

Last winter, my uncle found a film roll. The only film known so far in our family. Oddly enough, the film has nothing to do with a home movie since it has no human presence. The camera floats through empty spaces like a ghost. Faced with this shadowy past, I have decided to explore the images.



by Sophie Leclercq





COMPETITION

# SHORT FILMS Student

Experimental Experimental  
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Experimental Experimental



# Competition

Regional Premiere



## Dinosaur's Egg

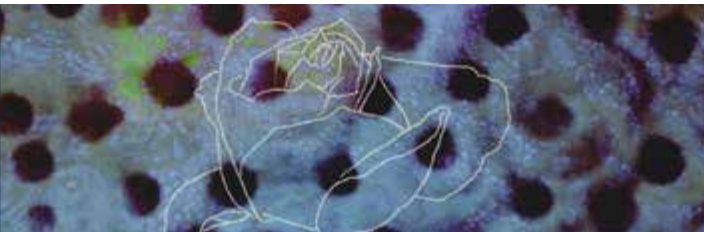
India | 2024 | 18'

Dinosaur's egg, a Semi autobiographical Hybrid documentary is an attempt to make memory as narrative, provoking the film maker to traverse the realms of sense of a place and the idea of Archeological imaginations on an introspective journey...



by Sruthil Mathew

National Premiere



## Hangnail

Hong Kong | 2024 | 7'

Spanning film photographs, scanned images of pages and book covers, 3D animation, and 2D animation, Hangnail critically explores the fetishisation and romanticisation of feminine death, delving deep into the complex legacy of fictional heroines across various art forms and within the digital realm.



by Hou Lam Tsui

World Premiere



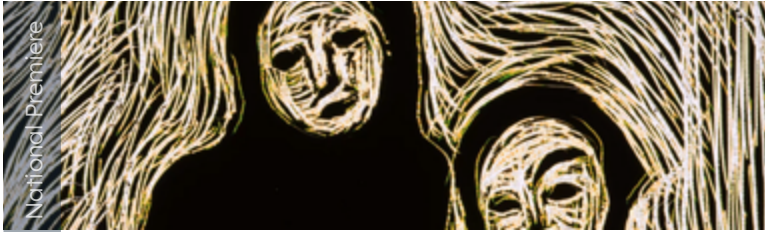
## Non-fiction

China | 2025 | 10'

A storyteller, an ethnic Korean from China living in Japan, revisits fragmented memories, blurring the line between fiction and reality.



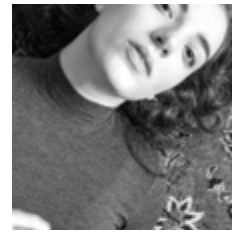
by Sheng Qi Zhang



## Poppy Flowers

Estonia | 2024 | 5'

Remembering is a fluid affair. A daughter tries to reconcile with her mother through memories of their shared rituals, exposing the intricate aspects of their relationship. As the daughter matures, she begins to contemplate conventional notions of divinity. The blank frames of the 35mm strip regain their function as memorabilia in the process of engraving her past onto its surface.



by Evridiki Papaiaikovou



COMPETITION

# SHORT FILMS

Balkan  
Short Films Balkan  
Short Films Balkan  
Short Films Balkan  
Short Films Balkan



National Premiere



## 400 Cassettes

Greece | 2024 | 14' | Fiction

After a lesson about cosmic archaeologists and a water fight in the schoolyard, Elly steals Faye's soul and Faye gives Elly a rare birthday present. But then, under a sky full of stars, a song from the past will remind the girls that nothing really lasts forever.



by Thelyia Petrakit

World Premiere



## All That Belongs To Us

Turkey | 2025 | 20' | Fiction

Necla and Cemal, trying to go from their village to the city center, find themselves in a stranger's car. Suspicion brews as the driver, Hidayet, probes the two's guarded silence, sensing hidden truths. This never ending journey does not end in peace, Necla and Cemal will be able to find some peace of mind.



by Deniz Kezik

National Premiere



## Choice

North Macedonia | 2025 | 17' | Fiction

A young mother and her toddler face a devastating reality when a new law bans her scheduled abortion. Desperate to avoid the lengthy process of obtaining a special license, she opts for an illegal procedure.



by Marko Crnogorski



# Competition

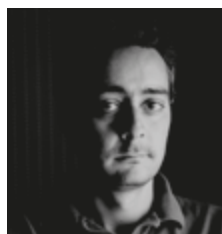
International Premiere



## Endless Days

Greece, Cyprus | 2024 | 17' | Fiction

On a sunny day, a man heads to the inner city with expectations. As the hours pass, his expectations fade, leading him to wander aimlessly until he is compelled to return earlier.



by Costas Yiallourides

National Premiere



## Eraserhead in a Knitted Shopping Bag

Bulgaria | 2025 | 20' | Fiction

Set in one day in the middle of a 90's Eastern European summer, the film follows Ro, a 12-year-old witty cinephile in her attempt to get a pirated VHS of David Lynch's Eraserhead against all odds. Her success would mean more than she ever thought.



by Lili Koss

107

Regional Premiere



## Hercules

Bosnia and Herzegovina | 2024 | 26' | Fiction

"Hercules" tells the story of a depressed man on the verge of suicide, who gradually starts to find hope and a sense of purpose in raising a cricket. Through this unique relationship, he transforms his chaotic life, proving his worth to himself and those closest to him.



by Marko Dukic

# SHORT FILMS ▶ Balkan Short Films

Regional Premiere



## Pave Paradise

Greece | 2024 | 16' | Experimental

Athens, Greece. The city council announces the reconstruction of a rundown district, hosting the oldest square of the capital. Within months, tensions between inhabitants and authorities erupt, leading to violent incidents in the area.



by Alcaeus Spyrou

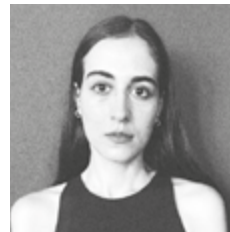
International Premiere



## Pitylos

Greece | 2024 | 18' | Fiction

Two sisters visit their family house after their mother's death. The "lull" in their lives will be disturbed by a group of young people and a researcher's narration about the creation of the petrified forest.



by Galatia Lagoutari

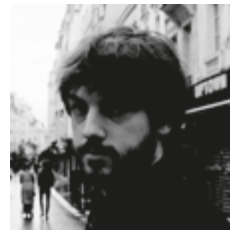
International Premiere



## Roots

Greece, UK | 2025 | 24' | Fiction

Karafil, a young Albanian boy, crosses the borders into Greece with his parents, seeking a better life. The only possession he brings is a small sapling from their yard, his only true 'friend.' As they cross the borders, Karafil is forced to abandon the sapling in a forest they traverse.



by Konstantinos Doxiadis



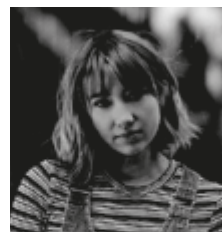
National Premiere



## Smell of Fresh Paint

Serbia | 2024 | 14' | Fiction

When Emma's (19) parents sell the apartment where she grew up, revolt, she runs away from home with her younger sister. Obsessed with returning to her true home, she begins following the man who bought the apartment.



by Nada Petrović

Regional Premiere



## The Professional Parent

Romania, Slovakia | 2024 | 15' | Fiction

Ingrid, a single mother living with her daughter and grandmother in an eastern Slovak village where Roma face stigma, becomes a professional parent to a Roma girl to survive.



by Erik Jasan

109

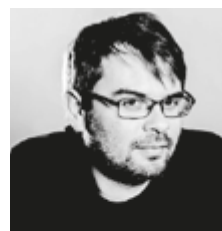
National Premiere



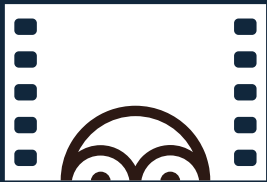
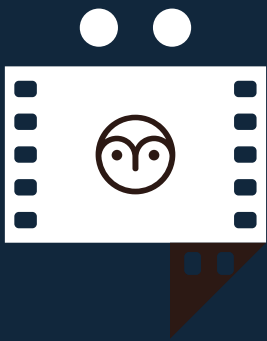
## Upon Sunrise

Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain | 2025 | 15' | Fiction

After losing her job, a single mother engages in petty scams in an attempt to provide for her six-year-old son.



by Stefan Ivančić



COMPETITION

# SHORT FILMS

Albanian In Albanian

Albanian In Albanian

Albanian In **ALBANIAN**

Albanian In Albanian

Albanian In Albanian



# Competition

National Premiere



## Five Seasons of My Childhood

Kosovo, Spain | 2024 | 15' | Documentary

A journey through childhood memories brings nostalgia full of pain and love. Nothing is as it was in childhood; only memories roam freely and illuminate in retrospect. The environment and everything of that time has been violently ruined and altered by someone. Seasons have settled in the ruins of troubled memories.



by Besim Ugzmajli

National Premiere



## SOS

Kosovo | 2025 | 16' | Fiction

At a remote train station, 30-year-old Drin lives a solitary, routine life, recording trains and finding connection with his online girlfriend. But when his job is suddenly replaced by a radar, Drin finds himself spiraling into an existential crisis. Lost and out of place, he's forced to confront what he truly wants in life.



by Anita Morina

Regional Premiere



## Summer Emperors

Albania | 2025 | 7' | Documentary

A humid summer in rural Albania. Two men, defined by strength and resilience, share a bond forged through physicality and camaraderie.



by Renato Balla

National Premiere



## The Champ

Albania | 2024 | 15' | Fiction

In a deserted city, former swimming champion Rudi lives with his daughter Ana. Rudi teaches Ana to swim, but she misunderstands his intent, dreaming of her own swimming success. One night, the truth comes to light.



by Ermir Keta

International Premiere

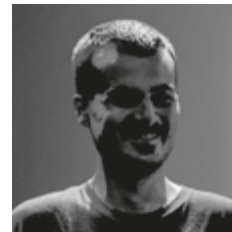


## The Goddess on the Throne

Kosovo | 2025 | 8' | Documentary

The voice of historian Aleks Buda echoes into the present – words, met by darkness, the absence of things. How to confront history when there are no objects to which this history adheres? How to revisit a history marked by gaps?

Hyjnesha në Fron traces this endlessly expanding echo in the present void - a haunting sound of rhythmical distortion, stretching over excavated images. A search but also a starting point: For demanding historical spaces filled with objects and people whose sudden reoccurring make the entanglement of absence and violence hauntingly concrete.



by Durim Klaiqi

# PANORAMA

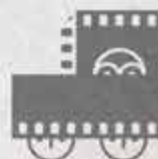
COMPETITION



PICTURE YOUR LIFE  
CREATE THE FUTURE



TEENS  
PROGRAM



KIDS  
PROGRAM



## Amen

France | 2024 | 7' | Animation

A group of pigs are raised peacefully in a monastery when, one day, one of them finds out the truth behind their existence. Thus he decides to free his friends.



by Orphée Coutier, Bettina Demarty,  
Kimie Maingonnat, Laurene Perego,  
Louise Poulain, Avril Zundel



## Autokar

Belgium, France | 2025 | 18' | Animation

In the 1990s, 8-year-old Agata leaves Poland for Belgium. Her perspective transforms the migratory reality into an initiatory experience.



by Sylwia Szkiłdź

114



## Cardboard

UK | 2025 | 10' | Animation

When an overwhelmed, single dad pig moves his piglets into a rundown trailer park, he fears he's failed his family. But soon his kids create a wildly imaginative game from a simple cardboard box, and Dad has a choice: dwell on the past, or join them on their intergalactic adventure.



by Jean-Philippe Vine



# Competition

National Premiere



## Dolores

Mexico | 2024 | 9' | Animation

Dolores is a 7 years old girl who just wants to play, runs away from a fire demon and accidentally falls into grave.



by Cecilia Andalón  
Delgadillo

National Premiere



## Filante

France | 2024 | 9' | Animation

Every night, Paulette observes the same shooting star in the sky. She makes her deepest wish : to find her mysteriously missing pet rat. The days go by, but the animal doesn't return. Paulette wants to understand what's wrong with her star.



by Marion Jamault

115

National Premiere



## Forevergreen

USA | 2025 | 13' | Animation

An orphaned bear cub finds a home with a fatherly evergreen tree, until his hunger for trash leads him to danger.



by Nathan Engelhardt, Jeremy Spears

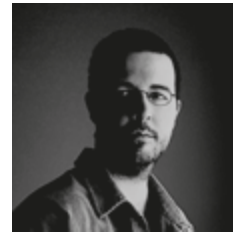
World Premiere



## Nara and Her Camera

Canada | 2025 | 7' | Documentary

In Holcá, in the Yucatán, 8-year-old Nara wanders and explores her hometown with the help of her new camera.



by Jérémie Roy

Regional Premiere



## On the Mat Outside My Door

Germany | 2025 | 5' | Animation

An oversized, cheeky rat has moved in with our protagonist. She whistles along with the radio, sits in the fridge, splashes in the tub, and is simply everywhere – loud, pesky, full of life. When she suddenly disappears, he realizes: it's never been this quiet – or this empty.



by Antje Heyn

National Premiere



## Snow Bear

USA | 2024 | 12' | Animation

When a lonely polar bear can't find a friend... he makes one.



by Aaron Blaise



# Competition

National Premiere



## The Drifting Guitar

France | 2024 | 30' | Animation

A weasel, whose absurd job is selling ties, roams the countryside. Considered a pest and constantly wandering, she decides to take a chance in the forest. Her fate is about to change, thanks to the unconditional help of a hedgehog.



by Sophie Roze

National Premiere



## The Empty Panel

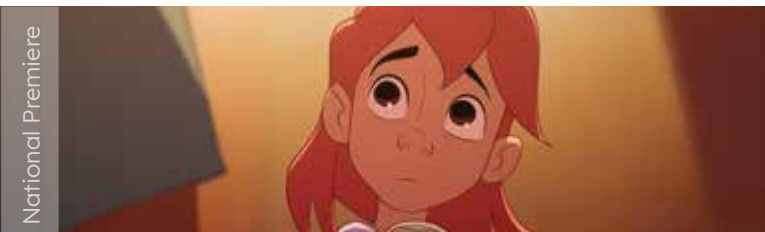
France | 2025 | 12' | Animation

Since the death of his dog, 16-year-old Paul has given up drawing the fantastic adventures in which they were heroes. But his little sister insists that he completes an unfinished drawing.



by Thibault Chollet

National Premiere



## The Piano

USA | 2025 | 8' | Animation

A young girl sneaks out of bed one night to discover her dad bent over the piano, pouring his soul into the keys. The powerful bond they form through playing music together lasts a lifetime. After his passing, she honors his memory by playing their song and teaching it to her son, passing the musical bond to the next generation.



by Avery Kroll

National Premiere



## The Rumble-Bumble Rally

Norway | 2024 | 9' | Animation

Did you know that the living room is actually a racetrack? Dad asks Mathilde (5) to tidy up her toy cars. Together with her two tiny imaginary friends, Mathilde ready-set-go a tidy up race – and that's when things get wild!



by Annette Saugestad Helland, Johan Kaos

National Premiere



## Tin Tune

USA | 2025 | 11' | Animation

When you're three inches tall, a cluttered attic can offer a world of mystery and wonder! Zip and his friend Wheel explore the shadowy corners of a long forgotten Nursery, playing with the wooden blocks, wind-up toys, tin soldiers and jack-in-the-box.



by Carolyn Gair



# Competition

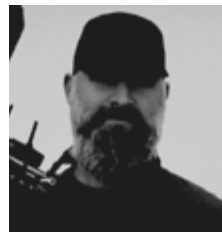
National Premiere



## Blue Whale

Italy | 2024 | 15' | Fiction

Four boys living on the fringes of society plan a criminal act. Some do it out of necessity, while others seek fleeting gains. Disagreements between two brothers threaten to escalate the situation further. After all, one cannot expect wolves to find the path to self-control on their own.



by Lorenzo Corvino

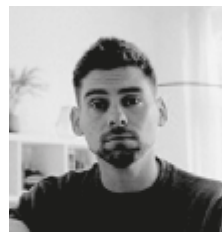
International Premiere



## Bunker

Belgium | 2025 | 23' | Fiction

Sam's mother didn't show up at work this morning. As usual, while he was supposed to handle his move out of the house, the young man in his twenties drops his plans to take care of her. He will have to lie, cover things up, put on a brave face, threaten, forget himself...



by Colin Javaux

119

National Premiere



## Juanita

Spain | 2025 | 20' | Fiction

A 12-year-old Latina girl tries to grow up under the expectations of female beauty, despite living in Barcelona. Before a pool party, Juanita must confront something that has been growing with her: the hair on her legs.



by Karen Joaquín,  
Uliane Tatit

European Premiere



## Little Pains

UK | 2025 | 20' | Fiction

At only eleven, Sophie is forced to turn a day of mourning into a journey of discovery and connection.



by Milda Baginskaitė

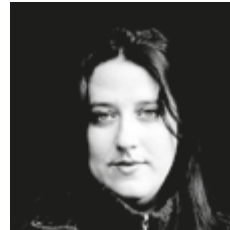
National Premiere



## Nest

Switzerland | 2025 | 20' | Fiction

On the night before a religious procession, a fifteen-year-old encounters a group of teenagers hidden in the dark of the local sports hall.



by Stefania Burla

National Premiere



## Omni

Germany | 2024 | 14' | Fiction

A teenage girl creatively counters the inappropriate advances of a stranger only to spark judgment and jealousy among her peers.



by Eva Rini May



# Competition

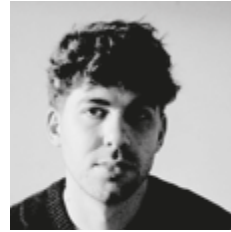
National Premiere



## Phantom

Italy | 2024 | 17' | Fiction

Leonardo, introverted and lonely, has one true companion: his Phantom F12. Recently moved to town, Leo meets Dylan, a charming boy who gets him out of his shell.



by Gabriele Manzoni

World Premiere



## The Ghosts

Italy | 2025 | 15' | Fiction

In the Italian countryside, two teenagers and their friends are persistently searching for Luca, a peer to whom they gave a small sum of money in advance without receiving the hashish they had requested.



by Federico Papagna

121

National Premiere



## When the Snow Has Melted

Norway | 2024 | 17' | Fiction

After Theo (10) loses his sister in an accident, he returns to school only to realize that something has changed: everyone is acting strangely around him.



by Rasmus Sandager



## Worms

Italy | 2025 | 19' | Fiction

by Domenico Distilo

In the rural landscape of Friuli, northern Italy, twelve-year-old Rosi shoulders the weight of her fractured family after her father's abandonment. Living with her two younger sisters, Emy and Mary, and their mother, who has spiraled into a deep depression, Rosi juggles household responsibilities...





COMPETITION

# PANORAMA

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# Competition

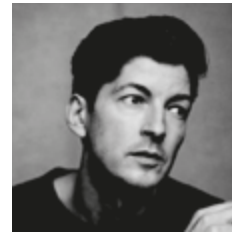
National Premiere



## A Friend of Dorothy

UK | 2025 | 22' | Fiction

Dorothy is a lonely widow whose body is failing, but her mind remains as bright as ever. When 17-year-old JJ accidentally kicks his football into her garden, he upends Dorothy's daily routine of pills, prunes and crosswords, and an unlikely friendship blossoms.



by Lee Knight

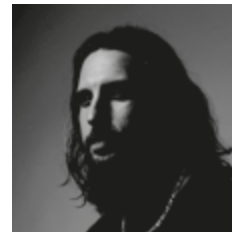
World Premiere



## Cinco

Germany, Spain | 2025 | 24' | Fiction

Ruby is a young man from a working-class neighborhood in Madrid, tired of the violence and distrust that define his group of friends' daily lives.



by Diego Gardo, Victor Candela

125

National Premiere



## Feet

Spain | 2025 | 15' | Fiction

A teenager overwhelmed by the continuous arguments with his father finds a way to earn easy money to leave home: anonymously selling pictures of his feet. As he enters this dark world, he will have a revelation that will change his life.



by Oscar Campos, Paula Vélez

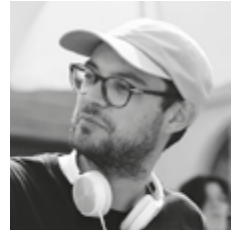
World Premiere



## Finir au Soleil (End Up in the Sun)

France | 2025 | 24' | Fiction

The mother of Louis, 9 years old, acts increasingly distant. Louis doesn't really realize it until the day she goes away for an entire evening. A feeling of anxiety then takes hold of him. Would she be able to abandon him and his brother?



by Ephrem Koering

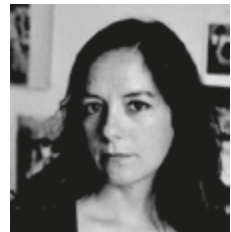
National Premiere



## Lou

France | 2024 | 18' | Fiction

A summer morning in the south of France. Lou, 5, detects a foreign smell in her mother's hair: cold tobacco. When a man joins them to spend the afternoon at the river, Lou watches him and wonders: who is he, what is he doing there and why is he sticking to his mother?



by Tara Maurel

126

National Premiere



## Majini

Germany, Tanzania | 2024 | 19' | Fiction

When their father falls ill, a young boy who can't swim must go out to sea with his brother to catch fish, while struggling with the societal pressures placed on him as a young man.



by Joshua Neubert,  
Victor Muhagachi



# Competition

National Premiere



## Majonezë

Italy | 2024 | 22' | Fiction

Ersekë, Albania. Elyria lives with her family following the strict rules imposed by her father, hiding her anger with obedience. A powerful desire for rebellion grows in her day by day that will lead her to the fulfillment of a bitter, but necessary, act of revolution.



by Giulia Grandinetti

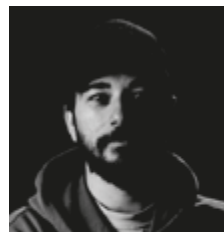
Regional Premiere



## Strangers in the Night

Iceland | 2025 | 18' | Fiction

On a snowy Christmas Eve in Reykjavik, a lonely, aging rocker encounters a mysterious young woman who holds the key to a hidden chapter of his past, forcing him to confront buried truths about family, freedom, and the untold cost of his rock-and-roll dreams.



by Vangelis Chatzopoulos

127

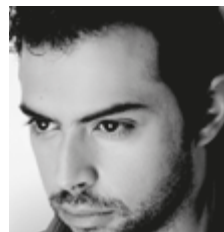
World Premiere



## The Massagist

Greece | 2025 | 20' | Fiction

Eleni Triantis has an ugly wound on her back. She hires Margarita for a series of massage sessions. Margarita, upon seeing the wound, suspects that her client is getting abused and begins a personal investigation to see if her suspicion is correct.



by Iasonas Sigma

National Premiere



## The River Runs Through the Village

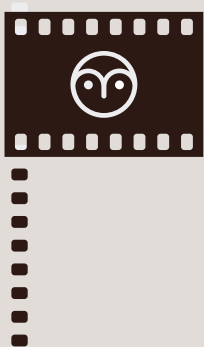
by Xenophon Nikolakopoulos

Greece | 2024 | 17' | Fiction

Memory is our only true wealth. Andreas learns this the hard way, as his father who is suffering from Alzheimer's cannot recognize him anymore. In his attempt to help his father remember, Andreas loses track of the time following the path carved by footprints of memory.

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**agimi**





COMPETITION

# PANORAMA

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WORLD NEW WORLD  
WORLD NEW WORLD  
WORLD NEW WORLD



# Competition

National Premiere



## Aicha

Morocco | 2025 | 25' | Fiction

A 17-year-old girl struggles with an emotionally distant mother as her life takes a tragic turn. The mother joins a mystic ceremony to face her grief and the lost bond with her daughter.



by Sanaa El Alaoui

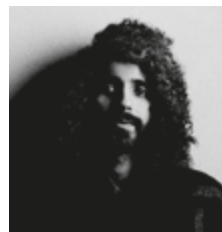
National Premiere



## Blackout

Egypt | 2024 | 15' | Fiction

It's the Eid holiday. We're in an apartment building that is owned and lived in by three generations of a very conservative family. When the elderly grandfather gets sick, his daughters believe that his illness is because of bad luck brought on by a young woman who rents an apartment in the building.



by Ahmed El Zogbhy

131

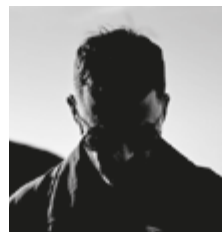
International Premiere



## Cadinho's Dream

Brazil | 2025 | 15' | Fiction

Adão struggles to make his son Cadinho's dream of seeing the sea come true. Amid financial challenges, the short film celebrates the persistence of childhood dreams and the sacrifices of those who pursue them.



by Martin Escriche

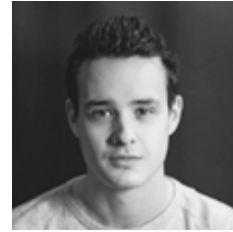
National Premiere



## Death of An Actor

France | 2024 | 22' | Fiction

When a man learns that fake news regarding his own death is spreading like wildfire on social media, he'll be forced to deal with the unintended consequences of this rumor.



by Ambroise Rateau

International Premiere



## Goodbye Baghdad

Italy | 2025 | 20' | Fiction

March 2005. Giuliana Sgrena is freed one month after her abduction in Baghdad by a jihadist group. Nicola Calipari, a senior officer of SISMI, personally led the negotiations and managed her release. A car journey towards safety, filled with silences, worries, fears, and hopes.



by Simone Manetti

132

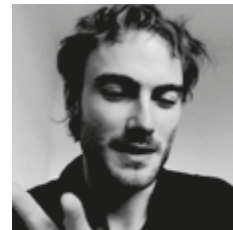
National Premiere



## Loynes

Belgium, France, North-Macedonia, UK | 2025 | 25' | Fiction

A Kafkaesque courtroom drama set in 19th-century Liverpool, recounting the trial of a corpse with neither name nor past. Dozens have gathered for the absurd ceremony — and perhaps to deliver justice.



by Dorian Jaspers



# Competition

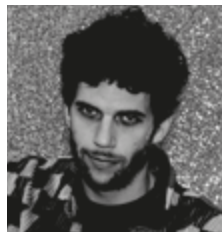
National Premiere



## Pentest

France | 2025 | 20' | Fiction

Nabil is about to deliver a meal to the offices of a major bank, but the receptionist curtly refuses him access. Touched by the young man's distress, a security guard discreetly opens an emergency exit for him. Nabil enters the building.



by Tristan Lhomme, Benjamin Chevallier

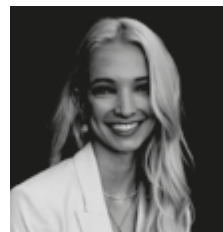
National Premiere



## Rise

Zimbabwe | 2025 | 22' | Fiction

A charismatic young boy who lives on a rubbish dump in Zimbabwe must convince a reclusive boxing coach to teach him to fight to find safety and strength in a world that has left him behind.



by Jessica J. Rowlands

133

National Premiere



## The Boy With White Skin

France | 2024 | 15' | Fiction

Entrusted by his father to a group of gold-miners, an albino child embodies all of their hopes.



by Simon Panay



National Premiere

## The King of Forks

France | 2024 | 24' | Fiction

A humanitarian is tasked with transporting a box of unknown contents. When his vehicle becomes immobilized in the heart of a relentless desert, he continues on foot, accompanied by a mysterious companion he meets along the way.



by Raphaël Lopez



National Premiere

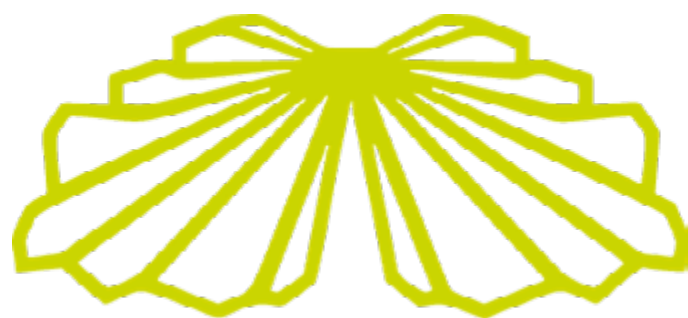
## Washhh

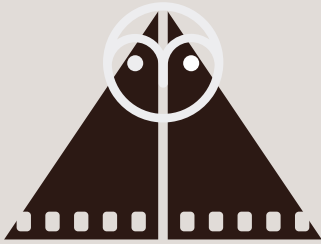
Malaysia | 2024 | 23' | Fiction

Late at night in a Malaysian camp, a group of female trainees on duty are urgently summoned. One trainee, allegedly possessed by a ghost, accuses them of breaking the rules by leaving "dirty things" in the toilet. The instructor sternly orders them to clean it up by midnight.



by Mickey Lai





COMPETITION

# PANORAMA

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DIVERGENT MINDs



# Competition

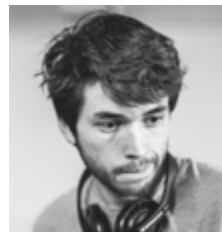
Regional Premiere



## A Long Night Ahead

Belgium | 2024 | 25' | Fiction

Mauro, a truck driver, meets a strange group of young people at a roadside rest stop who lead him into the woods for a journey bordering life and death.



by Julien Bernard-Simmonds

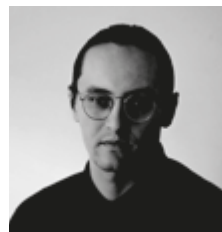
Regional Premiere



## Adorer

Austria | 2025 | 24' | Fiction

After a one-night stand, Yves believes he has found the love of his life. But when his feelings go unreciprocated, he crosses a line to invade the privacy of the woman he adores.



by Krystian Kuzański

137

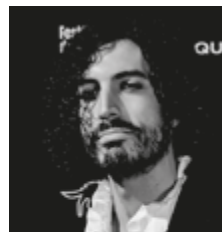
World Premiere



## Between Thoughts

Canada | 2025 | 15' | Fiction

During what seems like an ordinary evening, three friends, Alexe, Étienne, and Gabriel, come together to celebrate Gabriel's birthday. Between them lies a pact: to live the truth of the moment without filters. This intimate ritual becomes a fragile dance between affection and tension.



by Gabriel-Antoine Roy

International Premiere



## Burden

Armenia | 2024 | 20' | Fiction

On the day his daughter is born, a man with hearing impairment finds another man hidden in his car trunk, pleading for an escape to the border.



by Gevorg Nersesyan

National Premiere



## I Wanted To Hear Your Voice

USA | 2025 | 12' | Documentary

After eight years of caring for his mother with severe dementia, a son struggles through their daily care routine. Recorded voicemails serve to show the progression of the disease, underscoring the frustration, isolation and burnout that comes with intensive caregiving.



by James Pellerito

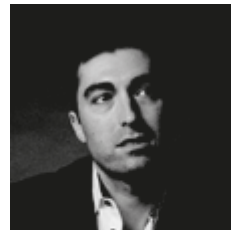
World Premiere



## Koko Suzanne

Congo, Ireland, USA | 2025 | 17' | Fiction

Based on true events, a young girl's life is turned upside down when her grandmother's strange behaviour sparks fears of witchcraft. As her family struggles to reconcile illness with the supernatural, she must navigate the streets of Kinshasa in order to protect the grandmother she knows and loves.



by Zach Bandler



# Competition

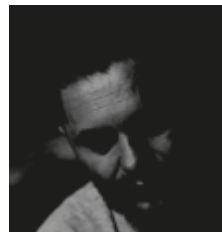
International Premiere



## Octopus

Romania | 2025 | 12' | Fiction

A young boy's imagination begins to blur the lines of reality, leaving the adults around him uncertain about what's real. As his uncanny abilities begin to grow, they're forced to ask: is it a gift—or a curse?



by George Dogaru

World Premiere



## Stuporia

Austria, Germany | 2025 | 16' | Fiction

Over the course of a day full of misfortune, a dancer who has been robbed of his ability to dance finds the strength to heal his wounds and dance one last time.



by Joshua Jádi

139

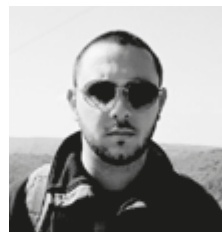
Regional Premiere



## The Sorceress Echo

Spain | 2025 | 24' | Fiction

Cebriana, a woman who lives in the middle of the mountains with her grandmother, sees a fire burning endlessly. No one else has seen it, and there are no traces of embers left behind. People think she is crazy and no one believes her, but she is absolutely sure of what she has seen.



by Marc Camardons Cirera

National Premiere



## Watch Me Burn

UK | 2025 | 20' | Fiction

After an accident that left her mostly deaf, Rue moves to a remote village with her parents. Feeling isolated from her family and overwhelmed by her new life, she befriends a group of girls who convince her to go ahead with an act of cruelty in order to belong.



by Sofia Spotti

Regional Premiere



## What If They Bomb Here Tonight?

Lebanon | 2025 | 17' | Fiction

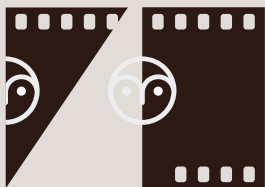
A Lebanese couple spends a sleepless night, fearing an Israeli airstrike could shatter their glass walls. With children nearby, they face the impossible choice to stay or flee their life.



by Samir Syriani



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COMPETITION

# PANORAMA

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PARADE PARADE



# Competition

National Premiere



## Boysick

France | 2025 | 27' | Fiction

Milàn has a broken heart since his breakup with Gaëtan. In denial, Milàn makes one last attempt by following him on a dating app.



by Maël Caradec

Regional Premiere



## Homunculus

France | 2025 | 18' | Documentary

Homunculus displays the wandering of a man in quest for other men. He will realize along his travels that people see him as an «Arab», some ambiguous, virile, and powerful entity both celebrated by white gay males and hated by French police forces.



by Bonheur Suprême

143

World Premiere



## Midnight Longing

Iran | 2025 | 17' | Fiction

Farid, whose partner recently left Iran, wants to play in a theatre production in which he plays a character who wants to fly.



by Fatemeh Amini,  
Mehrnaz Iranmanesh

National Premiere



## Sauna Day

Estonia | 2024 | 13' | Fiction

SAUNA DAY invites you into the world of Southern Estonian men who go to the dark-intimate space of a smoke sauna after a hard day's work. Beneath their tough exteriors lies a desire for connection, veiled in secrecy.



by Anna Hints,  
Tushar Prakash

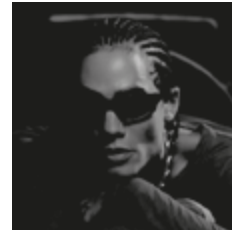
National Premiere



## The Shade of Chlorine

France | 2024 | 23' | Fiction

Bilal lives off odd jobs he gets from the BOY application, but his head is filled with dreams of music. Hired to clean a luxurious villa, he falls under the spell of the mysterious Ulysses, the owners' son. This encounter will widen his horizons.



by Clément Dezelus

144

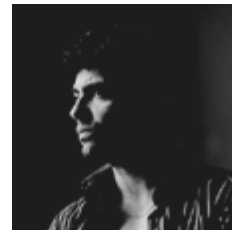
International Premiere



## Three Times Mina

France | 2025 | 26' | Documentary

Mina is in Cannes to perform for three nights during the Festival. She drifts from glittery clubs to hotel rooms, from lovers' arms to those of friends. There's Mina the performer, Mina the lover but also Mina the Italian singer from the 70's, whom she evokes on stage every night.



by Nans Laborde Jourda

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# PANORAMA



# Competition

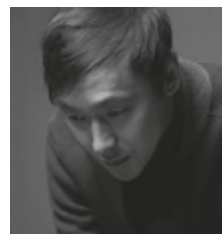
World Premiere



## Honor History, Create History

China | 2024 | 3' | Animation

From July 26 to August 11, 2024, Paris, with its city landmarks transformed into venues, hosted the epic Olympic Games. As the official cloud service partner of the Olympics, Alibaba Cloud teamed up with Jody Xiong, the visual effects director for the Opening Ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics...



by Jody Xiong

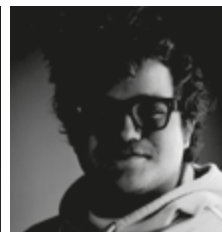
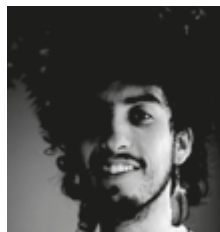
Regional Premiere



## In the Shadow of The River

Spain | 2024 | 5' | Documentary

A river divides two worlds, and in its shadow, the voice of a migrant tells us about their final journey. In the Shadow of the River explores the dream that never came true and the echo left behind at the border.



by Emiliano Reyes, Jesús García Nuño de la Rosa

147

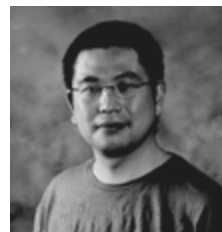
European Premiere



## Last Dream

Japan | 2025 | 10' | Sci-Fi

Stranded alone in space in only his spacesuit, an astronaut from Earth becomes an observer to the fantastic stream of flashback visions experienced by Earth in its final dying moments as humanity's nuclear war engulfs the planet in apocalyptic destruction and demise.



by Takeshi Kushida

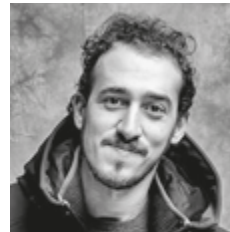
World Premiere



## Nothing to Tell

Italy | 2025 | 20' | Experimental

In a not too distant future, Daniel lives an oppressive and monotonous everyday life, until one day he decides to buy a gun.



by Fabrizio Condino

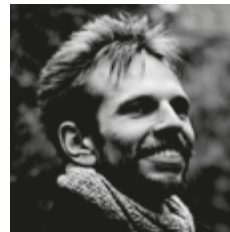
National Premiere



## The Diffusion Pilot

Estonia | 2024 | 8' | Experimental

A journey and exploration of generative AI.



by Aurelijus Čiupas

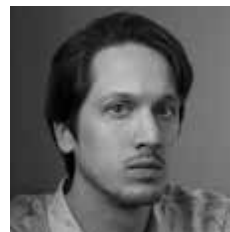
National Premiere



## The Egggregores' Theory

Italy | 2024 | 15' | Sci-Fi

He does not remember much from that time. Things have faded, like the color of a painting after too much light. The only thing that bothers him is this music. It keeps popping up...



by Andrea Gatopoulos



# AI 2.0 Program

Regional Premiere



## The World Without Them

Switzerland, UK | 2024 | 9' | Documentary

A documentary-style video exploring the extinction of stock footage images. Through their behaviours, habits, and challenges, the film reveals how these visuals perpetuate biases and stereotypes.



by Annelore Schneider,  
Claude Piguet

National Premiere



## Their Eyes

France | 2025 | 20' | Documentary

How does a machine learn to read the world? Testimonies and screen recordings introduce the experience of online micro-workers from the Global South: their job is to teach the AI of self-driving cars to navigate the streets of the Global North.



by Nicolas Gourault

149

National Premiere



## White Cloud

Belgium | 2024 | 19' | Documentary

At a remote industrial site in Inner Mongolia, miners extract a strategic resource essential to our way of life, under dramatic human and environmental conditions.



by Emmanuel Van der Auwera

SPECIAL PROGRAM

# RetrospectIFF

- ▶ **Fani Zguro's  
Video Arts 2006-2025**
- ▶ **The Anarchist  
Video Arts 1999 - 2016**



## Fani Zguro

### “OBSESSION” Fani Zguro’s Video 2006-2025

Tirana International Film Festival present Fani Zguro’s “Video 2006-2025” from September 21 to September 27, which consists in a solo screening artist’s videos realized between 2006 and 2025. The screening features a site-specific project titled “Obsession”, realized for TIFF 2025. This video will be a screening of interludes between other videos, all in red. The idea of this site-specific project talks about the artist’s relation with the video. Always very closed to cinema, Fani Zguro was never interested in video-art until 2005, when he saw Steve McQueen’s solo exhibition at Fondazione Prada in Milan, where he became obsessed by the british artist’s work. It was a total obsession, because almost all his videos are connected to that exhibition. From “Street by Street” to “Selfportrait” or “Pushing an Elephant Upwards” and so on...almost all Fani Zguro’s videos share the feeling/fixation of that exhibition. But there is a Steve McQueen’s video that becomes the main obsession on Zguro’s works (even “Could Be”, “From What Is Before” and so on...even drawings and installations). That video titled “Charlotte”, was realized by Steve McQueen in 2004, where a single eye appears surrounded by a deep red, and yes, that kind of red ‘contains’ the story-board of the video “Obsession” 2025. Unfortunately there are moments in everyone’s life that become fundamental forever. It’s called addiction, but “Obsession” would be more poetic.

151

Fani Zguro was born in 1977 in Tirana. Lives and works in Tirana and Milan. Zguro has been graduated at the Accademia delle Belle Arti di Brera in Milan (1998-2007). In 2007 he won the International Onufri Prize assigned by the National Gallery of Arts in Tirana; in 2016 the International Mulliqi Prize assigned by the National Gallery of Kosovo in Pristina; the Best Video-Art award assigned by TIFF Tirana and in 2021 Award TOP7 Gallery of ArtVilnius21. Zguro also curated the 14th International Onufri Prize at National Gallery of Arts in Tirana (2016) and in 2017 he was part of the AiR program at Q21 - Museums Quartier in Vienna and Cité Internationale des Arts Paris (2003-2004). Since 2015 he is part of NYC apexart’s jury. His work has been shown at Haus der Kulturen der Welt Berlin, National Museum of Contemporary Art Bucharest, Musée des Civilisations de l’Europe et de la Méditerranée Marseille, Filmoteca Espanola Madrid, Photo Museum Braunschweig, Ost Anders Festival Nuremberg, Triënnale Kortrijk, 2nd Tirana Biennale, 3rd Mardin Biennial, 4th Young Artists Biennial of Bucharest, 6th Wrong Biennale, 6th Çanakkale Biennial, 7th Edition of the Black-and-White Biennial in Satu Mare, 13th Biennale of Cairo, Ludwig Museum Budapest, Belvedere 21 - Museum für Zeitgenössische Kunst Vienna, Palais PopulaireBerlin, the New York Public Library and Centre Pompidou Paris.

## ► "Obsession" Fani Zguro's Video Arts 2006-2025



### A.C.A.S.

| 2011 | 6'

In a street, parked cars on both sides, walking on a sidewalk, a bicycle leaning against the window of a shop called 'Idé', it seems like they are having 'solden'.



### Broken Threads

| 2007 | 7'

Assembling all the scenes in the film depicting the foreign agents, Zguro produces a collage of hip looks and western airs, fur coats and dark shades, incarnating what was then publicly demonized, but privately longed for. Wedded to the dark voice of Nick Cave, the sequel evokes a recollection of hushed penchants and covert desires. Naturally, Cave's demeanor bolsters the villains' badass aura.

152



### Fireflies

| 2010 | 3'

Fireflies by Fani Zguro is a small, dark video in which the artist activates an artificial device to reconstruct the sight of their dance. Maybe we should open our eyes, move about in the nighttime, invent new gazes at the world in order to be able to see once more. The artist, in Fireflies, opens up a territory with an essential, terse gaze that reveals new perspectives of vision and reinvention of the world. Where are the fireflies?



## In A Blind Of An Eye

| 2008 | 5'

The dog in Fani Zguro's "In a Blind of an Eye" (2008) is, of course, blind itself, but the work like wise addresses a deeper blindness that radiates from the strange stranger and seeps into our vision. A strange and disconcerting figure, the hound's cloudy eye resists our attempts at 'identifying' with it, of intruding upon the alterity of its being, while the lengthy and static shot presses us uncomfortably against the milky film, imposing strict limits on our point of view which permit no insight into the animal's bodily condition nor the circumstances that surround it.



## Obsession

2025 | 10"

153

"Obsessions" is a site-specific video realized for TIFF 2025 and will be a screening of interludes between other videos, all in red.



## Pushing an Elephant Upwards

| 2007 | 5'

In a room. On a desk a pile of photocopies.  
In the lobby of a hotel, a lamp.  
Table. Glass. Bottle. Cup. Papers.

## ► "Obsession" Fani Zguro's Video Arts 2006-2025



### Selfportrait

| 2006 | 3'

The static nature of the framing forces us to enter inside the silent image, to discover the slightest vibrations, in spite of the shortness of time: to reconstruct a profile, a brow, a cheekbone. It is an archaic work that speaks of the desire to see the things of the world even when they try to elude our gaze. Paradoxically, with its opacity the screen functions as a mirror and the tension of our gaze becomes a fundamental part of the function of the video.



### Street by Street

| 2007 | 8'

Road construction. And someone in front of the camera.

154



**Tuesday**  
**4 December 2018h 16.30**  
**Studio Ugo La Pietra Milan**

| 2019 | 16'

I first ran into Ugo La Pietra's name in 2014 or 2015 (unforgivably late), on Milan Triennial posters around the city. I'd often roam the exhibitions of the Milan Triennial, hosted in one of my favorite spaces, not only for its architecture, but also for the site it was located in, the most beautiful city park. I discovered Ugo La Pietra there, on an ideal sunny Sunday for my visit. I walked in, only to face one of the most beautiful surprises ever. Ugo La Pietra wasn't the vintage architect or designer I was expecting. He was a well-hidden giant.



## ► "Obsession" Fani Zguro's Video Arts 2006-2025



### U Turn

| 2006 | 3'

"U Turn" consists of an accident, an error, a misunderstanding, a jest of fate, like what happened to Christopher Columbus. Based on geographical maps of the time, Columbus believed that the country he was going to was Asia. This was the beginning of the curse of the Americas, which began even before Columbus's visit. Just look at Oliver Stone's "U Turn"



TIRANA  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM  
FESTIVAL  
2025

# RetrospecTIFF

Video Arts 1993-2025



FANI ZGURO &  
THE ANARCHISTS

24 September  
12:00

AGIMI Art Centre



# THE ANARCHISTS

THE ILLEGAL WE DO IMMEDIATELY,  
THE UNCONSTITUTIONAL TAKES  
A LITTLE LONGER

The quotation “the illegal we do immediately, the unconstitutional takes a little longer,” attributed to Henry Kissinger, was the proposal of the Belgian artist Johan Grimonprez for a site-specific project made years ago; a series of graffiti on advertising hoardings. It is one of those brilliant quips that speak and cover up at the same time. It is like the ABC of a photographer’s manual that explains the moment of the shot: first do it, then think! Everything seems wrong, so turn it upside-down, do the opposite, devise a new crime, different from the collective stereotype, and the treasure island will be yours. When you eliminate everything that is slow and yellowed, it becomes supersonic. Yes, you are all alone, but this is precisely the real surprise. When you’re the only one left on stage, it’s all yours. There can be no anarchy clearer than this. This is why when Johan Grimonprez predict disasters, they actually happen. Miguel Calderon and Shingo Yoshida do the opposite; they apply violence. The same violence is also applied in the video by Dora Garcia, but this is done on people who are real, imagined or self-imagined by the society, due to the people (Marilyn Manson says it better). Someone travels in ‘space’, like Jakup Ferri, someone else travels with the perception, like Santiago Sierra, inside a room of extremes, in black and white without even moving an eyebrow. Is it useless for artists to exhaust themselves leafing through anthologies on which strategy has functioned? It’s very simple: apply Anarchy!

Miguel Calderon, Maria Thereza Alves & Jimmie Durham, Jakup Ferri, Dora Garcia, Manuela Garcia, Johan Grimonprez, Lia Perjovschi, Santiago Sierra, Bert Theis, Shingo Yoshida, Fani Zguro



## 1 2 3 (Public Action)

by **Bert Theis**

| Luxembourg, Italy | 1999 | 3' | Video Art

It wasn't the pigeons who wanted to prevent this action; they were actually very interested in the burgers that had been bought especially for the performance. It was different for McDonald's; they immediately called the police even though the action took place outside their premises.



## Burned Word (Palabra Quemada)

by **Santiago Sierra**

Spain | 2012 | 31' | Video Art

Burned word was performed in El Cabanyal, Valencia, traditional fishing town that has for years been fighting against the speculative plans of the city council. The project was conducted in collaboration with the neighborhood association and Perifèries collective. The word was built by the fallas Workshops of Manolo Martin.

158



## Collected Stones

by **Jimmie Durham & Maria Thereza Alves**

USA, Germany, Brazil | 2002 | 22'

Using both natural and artificial materials, Durham favors those historically employed as tools. He explores the intrinsic properties of bones, wood, feathers, and stones—materials he gathers on walks. This approach is evident in the films from the Collected Stones. For Durham, stone is neither material nor metaphor; it is a generative force that resists institutionalization, representation, and monumentality.



## Special program



### Deviant Majority

by **Dora Garcia**

Spain | 2010 | 45' | Video Art

In "The Deviant Majority" García addresses revolutionary reforms in psychiatry that grew out of the political situation of the late 1960s, and the heirs of such reforms today. The piece is structured around three meetings: with the ex-Psychiatric Hospital of Trieste's theater company Accademia della Follia, comprised of actors with and without psychiatric experience; Rio de Janeiro's Freaked on the Scene Theater of the Oppressed;



### Every Day Words Disappear

by **Johan Grimonprez**

Belgium | 2016 | 15' | Video Art

Hardt embarks on a journey to identify the transformative powers of the ongoing struggle to re-invent democracy. Within this struggle he understands 'the commons' as an antidote against a society run by fear; an inspiration for a paradigm that is based on dialogue and cooperation.



### Fraude

by **Manuela Garcia**

Mexico | 2015 | 3' | Video Art

The video presents a printing press infinitely producing to allude to the fraudulent structure of national elections experienced within democratic systems. It focuses on each part and process of the machine, such as movement, force and time, addressing how this machinery is supported by obscure governmental situations that control access to information...

# RetrospecTIFF ► The Anarchists 1999-2016



## I Fight For My Right to be Different

by **Lia Perjovschi**

Romania | 1993 | 6' | Video Art

I built a double me that I tried to make it stronger, submerged it in a container with black pigment it became very heavy, it looked like a real body, I threw it against all the walls, I copied its fall, I hit the audience with it, they didn't move... I left, they staided...



## Inverted Star (Poseídos)

by **Miguel Calderon**

Mexico | 2002 | 4' | Video Art

This video was made with people that responded to a classified ad in a newspaper to collaborate in a project that offered a specific amount of money in return, if they could prove they were possessed by the devil. The participants were videotaped at their own homes acting out in front of the camera, their strange behavior as a consequence (they wanted us to believe) of their altered state.

160



## Journal Intime

by **Shingo Yoshida**

Japan | 2003 | 2' | Video Art

This performance piece expresses the absurdity of everyday life as it exists in the liminal space between reality and fiction.



### Let Me See Your Eyes

by **Fani Zguro**

Albania, Italy | 2009 | 1' | Video Art

They would look at their pupils, for example. If the pupil was dilated, they concluded that the kid had been using cocaine. If it was small, then the drug was heroin... and so on. For me this investigation was the most original subject that had to do with the Cold War. Exactly as in the video "Let Me See Your Eyes," I have used the parents' control of their child while he was watching TV. Let me see your eyes!



### Los Anarquistas

by **Santiago Sierra**

Spain | 2006 | 20' | Video Art

Eight disguised and paid anarchists listen to the midnight's mass, analyzing the church's structure. They show how much churches are linked to their past advantages and the utopic political and commercialized faith. Sierra demonstrates the actual inconsistency and unsuitability of both sacred and profane things.



### Muscle Memory

by **Jakup Ferri**

Kosovo, Netherlands | 2014 | 4' | Video Art

The dance of Jakup Ferri at "Muscle Memory" is not a rigorous form technique of training, but a multiple changes of direction within a single space.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

# Reflecting ALBANIA





# Special program

International Premiere



## Albgreko

Greece | 2024 | 27' | Documentary

Children and grandchildren of Albanian immigrants from the 90s born and raised in Greece, share their stories of a joint Albanian & Greek heritage, making their identity a compass for a brighter future.



by Ilir Tsouko

National Premiere



## Anulloje Ligjin

Italy | 2023 | 62' | Documentary

A road-movie around space and time of Albanian country. Between and trough it. A portrait of the famous period called "transition process": from the socialist monuments to the skyscrapers, from red flags to new green empire.



by Fabrizio Bellomo

163

World Premiere



## Passing Time

Germany | 2024 | 89' | Documentary

Following the collapse of the communist regime in the 1990s, almost half of the population had left Albania by 2010. Today, especially young people are emigrating. Like so many young people. Until then, it's a matter of waiting.



by Eve Pfeilschifter, Elena Bengl

## ► Reflecting ALBANIA



### Stronger Than the Cyclopes

Italy | 2024 | 84' | Documentary

The balance that Fatos Lubonja makes of his life in this film inevitably takes the form of a question, an open question about the nature of Democracy and its concrete possibilities of existence and resistance to the many threats that – today more than ever – loom over it.



by Stefano Grossi



### The Tirana Conspiracy

Italy | 2024 | 71' | Documentary

December 2000. The famous photographer Oliviero Toscani accepts an invitation from the art critic Giancarlo Politi to curate a section of the first edition of the Tirana Biennial. The photographer presents four scandalous artists, authors of works that are uncomfortable, inappropriate, even immoral: Dimitri Bioy, a paedophile; Marcello Gavotta, a pornographer; Bola Equa, an activist wanted by the Nigerian government; and Hamid Picardo, Bin Laden's official photographer. This is just the beginning of what will go down as one of the biggest hoaxes in contemporary art history. Now that the crimes are time-barred, the protagonists can finally tell the truth.



by Manfredi Lucibello



# SPECIAL SCREENINGS

- ▶ **TIFF Classics:**  
Liri a Vdekje **4k restored - AQSHF**
- ▶ **Made In ALBANIAN:**  
Luna Park by Florenc Papas
- ▶ **Mama**  
by Or Sinai
- ▶ **97th OSCAR® 2025**  
Shortlist
- ▶ **EFA Short Tour**  
2024



ARKIVI  
QENDROR  
SHTETËROR  
I FILMIT

# Liri a Vdekje

## FREEDOM OR DEATH



TIRANA  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM  
FESTIVAL

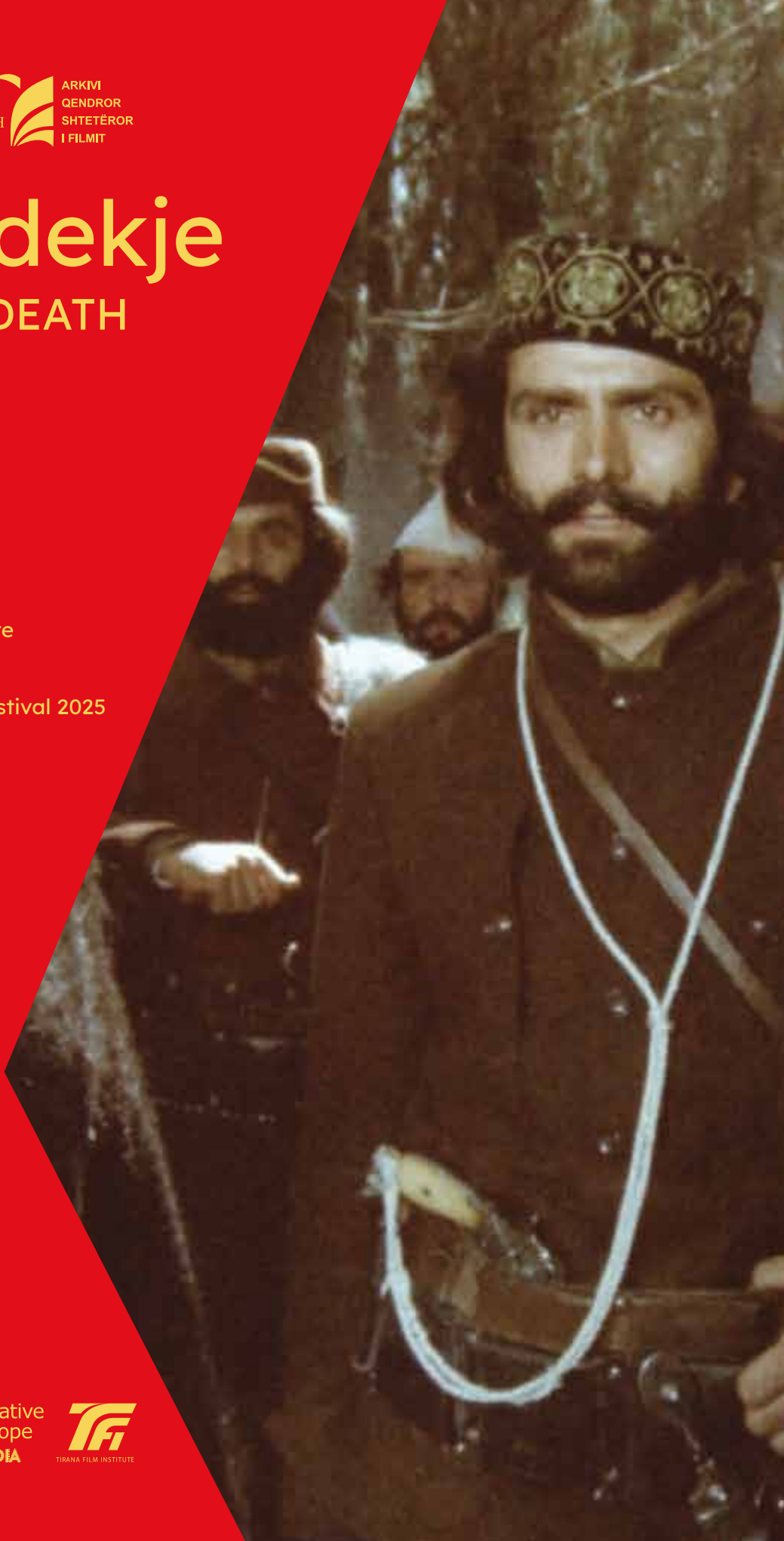
## Premiere

AQSHF dhe Tirana Film Institute  
organizojnë shfaqjen e filmit  
përmbyllës të edicionit të 23-të  
të Tirana International Film Festival 2025

A  
Season  
of Classic  
Films 2025



Creative  
Europe  
MEDIA



## ► Liri a Vdekje 4K restored - AQSHF



by **Ibrahim Muçaj, Kristaq Mitro**  
Albania | 1979 | 120' | Drama, War

This biographical war drama tells the story of a group of patriotic Albanian outlaws who return to visit their relatives before setting off to assassinate a major in the occupying Ottoman Turkish empire.

# LIRI A VDEKJE FREEDOM OR DEATH

168



SCREENPLAY:  
Vath Koreshi

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Petraq Lubonja

ART DESIGNER:  
Arben Basha

MUSIC COMPOSER:  
Kujtim Laro

WORLD PREMIERE

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Kinostudio "Shqipëria e re"

Cast:  
Timo Flloko, Gjergj Lala, Kadri Roshi, Nikolla Llambro,  
Sotirak Bratko, Kastriot Çausi.



► Made In ALBANIAN

National Premiere



## Luna Park

by Florenc Papas

169

Albania, Italy, Greece, Croatia, Kosovo | 2024 | 101' |  
Drama

In Albania's post-communist landscape, a lonely mother, Mira, and her troubled teenage son, Toni, struggle through an outbreak of civil violence that tears their East European nation apart.



SCREENPLAY:  
Florenc Papas & Glykeria Patramani

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Simos Sarketzis

EDITING:  
Federica Forcesi

PRODUCER/S:  
Dritan Huqi, Riccardo Neri, Vincenzo Filippo,  
Ioanna Bolomyti

PRODUCTION CO.:  
On Film Production, Lupin Film, Buka,  
Atalante Productions, Studio Corvus, Buka Production

DISTRIBUTION:  
B-Rated International

Awards & Selections:  
- Official Selection, 2025, Giffoni Film Festival  
- Nominee for Best Film, 2025  
Sofia International Film Festival

National Premiere



# Mama

by Or Sinai



Israel, Poland, Italy | 2025 | 93' | Drama

170

Spending 15 years apart from her family in order to build their future, Mila has become comfortable in the wealthy landscape of her employer. When an accident sends her unexpectedly back home to rural Poland, Mila has to face a new truth: her husband and daughter's lives have been moving on without her.

SCREENPLAY:  
Or Sinai

PRODUCTION CO.:  
Baryo, MoreFilm & IntraMovies

CINEMATOGRAPHY:  
Matan Radin

DISTRIBUTION:  
IntraMovies

EDITING:  
Michal Holland

PRODUCER/S:  
Adi Bar Yossef

Awards & Selections:  
- Special Screening, 2025, Cannes Film Festival

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

**97th OSCAR®**  
**2025**

**Shortlist**



ON LIVE ACTION  
TION LIVE ACTION  
ION LIVE ACTION  
TION LIVE ACTION  
ON LIVE ACTION



LIVE  
ACTION

► 97th OSCAR®  
2025 Shortlist



## A Lien

by David & Sam Cutler-Kreutz

USA | 2023 | 15'

A young couple face up to and deal with a dangerous immigration process.



## Anuja

by Adam J. Graves

India, USA | 2024 | 22'

ANUJA tells the story of a gifted nine-year-old girl who, alongside her sister Palak, faces a life-changing opportunity that tests their bond and mirrors the struggles of girls worldwide.

172



## The Last Ranger

by Cindy Lee

South Africa | 2024 | 28'

When young Litha is introduced to the magic of a game reserve by the last remaining ranger, they are ambushed by poachers. In the ensuing battle to save the rhinos, Litha discovers a terrible secret.



## The Man Who Could Not Remain Silent

by Nebojša Slijepčević

Croatia, France, Bulgaria, Slovenia | 2024 | 14'

February 27, 1993, Strpci, Bosnia and Herzegovina. A passenger train from Belgrade to Bar is stopped by paramilitary forces in an ethnic cleansing operation. As they haul off innocent civilians, only one man out of 500 passengers dares to stand up to them. This is the true story of a man who could not remain silent.



LIVE  
ACTION

► 97th OSCAR®  
2025 Shortlist

Oscar® Winner



173

## I'm Not a Robot

by Victoria Warmerdam

Netherlands, Belgium | 2023 | 22' | Oscar® Winner

After repeatedly failing CAPTCHA tests, music producer Lara spirals into obsession, haunted by the disturbing question of whether she might actually be a robot.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

**97th OSCAR®**

**2025**

**Shortlist**



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MATION ANIMATION  
ION ANIMATION



## Beautiful Men

by Nicolas Keppens

Belgium, France, Netherlands | 2023 | 18'

Three balding brothers travel to Istanbul to get a hair transplant. Stuck with each other in a hotel far from home, their insecurities grow faster than their hair.



## Magic Candies

by Daisuke Nishio

Japan | 2024 | 21'

The other kids at the park never ask Dong-Dong to play. But he's fine just playing marbles on his own. One day he goes out in search of new marbles, but ends up buying a bag of colorful, marble-shaped candies instead.

175



## Wander to Wonder

by Nina Gantz

Netherlands, France, Belgium, UK | 2023 | 14'

Mary, Billybud, and Fumbleton are three miniature actors who star in a kids' TV series. After their creator dies, they are left alone in the studio. With their slowly decaying costumes and growing hunger, they continue to make increasingly strange episodes for their fans.



## Yuck!

by Loïc Espuche

France | 2024 | 13'

Yuck! Adults kiss each other on the mouth, and children find it disgusting! What's more, you can see it from afar: when people are about to kiss, their lips become all pink and shiny.

Oscar® Winner



176

## In the Shadow of the Cypress

by Hossein Molayemi, Shirin Sohani

Iran | 2023 | 20' | Oscar® Winner

Living in a house by the sea with his daughter, a former captain who has post-traumatic stress disorder leads a tough and secluded life.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS



EFA  
Shorts Tour  
2024



**2720**

**By: Basil Da Cunha**

Portugal, Switzerland | 2023 | 25' | Docufiction

After a violent police raid in a poor clandestine neighbourhood in Lisbon, a 7-year-old girl seeks to find her missing older brother. At the same time, a young newly released ex-convict tries to start anew, free from a life of crime. The fate of these two will cross in the worst way.



**Clamor**

**By: Salomé Da Souza**

France | 2023 | 25' | Fiction

Johannes and Gabin are young, cousins and in love with each other: their story takes place in Southern France.

178



**The Exploding Girl**

**By: Caroline Poggi, Jonathan Vinel**

France | 2024 | 19' | Animation

For the past three months, Candice has been exploding every day. Sometimes even 2 or 3 times a day. Her record is seven times. She currently has had 192 explosions.



**Wander to Wonder**

**By: Nina Gantz**

Netherlands, France, Belgium, UK | 2023 | 14' Animation

Mary, Billybud, and Fumbleton are three miniature actors who star in a kids' TV series. After their creator dies, they are left alone in the studio. With their slowly decaying costumes and growing hunger, they continue to make increasingly strange episodes for their fans.



EFA Winner



179

## The Man Who Could Not Remain Silent

by Nebojša Slijepčević

Croatia, France, Bulgaria, Slovenia | 2024 | 14' | Fiction | EFA Winner

February 27, 1993, Strpci, Bosnia and Herzegovina. A passenger train from Belgrade to Bar is stopped by paramilitary forces in an ethnic cleansing operation. As they haul off innocent civilians, only one man out of 500 passengers dares to stand up to them. This is the true story of a man who could not remain silent.

# **AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD**

courtesy by:



# AWARDS

## 23rd edition

### TIFF 2025



181



## FULL LENGTH FILMS

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Best <b>PerspecTIFF</b> | Owl Trophy statue |
| Best <b>DIRECTOR</b>    | Plaque Trophy     |
| Best <b>SCREENPLAY</b>  | Plaque Trophy     |
| Best <b>DOCUMENTARY</b> | Owl Trophy statue |

## SHORT FILMS

|                                                               |                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Best <b>SHORT Film</b> eligible for 98th Academy Awards® 2026 | Owl Trophy statue |
| Best <b>SHORT Film</b> eligible for European Film Awards 2025 | Owl Trophy statue |
| Best <b>LIVE ACTION</b> Short Film                            | Plaque Trophy     |
| Best <b>ANIMATION</b> Short Film                              | Plaque Trophy     |
| Best <b>DOCUMENTARY</b> Short Film                            | Plaque Trophy     |
| Best <b>VIDEO ART &amp; EXPERIMENTAL</b>                      | Plaque Trophy     |
| Best <b>BALKAN</b> Short Film                                 | Plaque Trophy     |
| Best <b>In ALBANIAN</b> Short Film                            | Plaque Trophy     |
| Best <b>DEBUT</b> Short Film "Ron Holloway"                   | Plaque Trophy     |
| Best <b>Screenplay ContesTIFF</b> - Distribution Award        | Plaque Trophy     |

## STUDENT SHORT FILMS

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Best <b>Student FICTION</b>      | Plaque Trophy |
| Best <b>Student ANIMATION</b>    | Plaque Trophy |
| Best <b>Student DOCUMENTARY</b>  | Plaque Trophy |
| Best <b>Student EXPERIMENTAL</b> | Plaque Trophy |

## PANORAMA

|                             |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Best <b>GENERATIONS</b>     | Plaque Trophy |
| Best <b>NEW WORLD</b>       | Plaque Trophy |
| Best <b>DIVERGENT MINDS</b> | Plaque Trophy |
| Best <b>PARADE</b>          | Plaque Trophy |
| Best <b>AI Film</b>         | Plaque Trophy |

|                                    |               |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD</b>       | Plaque Trophy |
| <b>TEENs Audience Choice AWARD</b> |               |
| <b>KIDs Audience Choice AWARD</b>  |               |

| **Honorary TIFF Award** to Rúnar Rúnarsson



## VENUES

### Cinema Millenium

Rr. Murat Toptani, Pedonalja  
www.kinemamillenium.com  
+355 69 7856678

### AGIMI Art Center

Bajram Curri Blvd, Tirana 1001  
+355 67 589 9999

### Kino Piramida

Bulevardi "Dëshmorët e Kombit", Piramida e Tiranës

### Vila 31 Art Explora

Rr. Ismail Qemali, 1000, Tiranë

### Babel Library

Rr. Papa Gjon Pali II, Tiranë  
+ 355 69 703 4241

### OPENAIR Tirana - REJA (The Cloud)

Bulevardi Dëshmorët e Kombit, Tiranë  
In front of the National Gallery of Arts



## HOSPITALITY

### Sky Hotel Tirana

Rr. Ibrahim Rugova, 5, 1000 Tiranë  
+355 (04)241 5995; +355 68 4093715  
<https://sky1hotel.al/>

### Livia Hotel

Rr. Qemal Stafa, 1001, Tiranë  
+355 (04)2229188; +355 (04)222 9188  
<https://hotel-livia.hotelmix.net/>

### Relax City Center Hotel

Rr. George W. Bush, Tiranë  
+ 355 69 850 3684  
<https://hotel-relax.al/>

### Tirana Square Hotel

Rr. Bardhok Biba, 1, Zogu I Blvd 4, 1001, Tiranë  
+ 355 69 209 0068  
<https://tirana-square-hotel.albaniahotels.org/en/>

### Center Elite Hotel

Rr. Xhorxhi Martini, 1001, Tiranë  
+ 355 69 787 7773; +355 69 678 8202  
<https://www.hotelsalbanian.com/center-elite-tirana/>

**SkyHOTEL**



**Taiwan Restaurant**

Parku Rinia, Rr. Ibrahim Rugova 3, Tiranë 1001  
+355 (04)225 1175; 04 225 1175  
kompleksitaiwan.al



**Rozafa Restaurant**

Rr. Luigj Gurakuqi, Tiranë 1001  
+355 68 208 7747  
<https://rozafa.al/index.php/sq/>



**The Crown Restaurant**

Rr. George W. Bush, Tiranë 1001  
+ 355 69 8030666  
<https://thecrowntirana.com/>



**N'Mes Restaurant**

Shëtitorja Murat Toptani, Tiranë  
+ 355 69 749 0455



**Gzona Restaurant**

Shëtitorja Murat Toptani, Tiranë 1000  
+ 355 68 807 0605  
[www.gzona.al](http://www.gzona.al)



**Nona Restaurant**

Rr. Abdi Toptani, Tiranë 1001  
+355 69 704 8331  
<https://nona.com.al/>



**Tirana Airport Taxi**

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[info@tiataxi.al](mailto:info@tiataxi.al)



**SERVICES**

**Emergency Services:** 127 / 25 33 64, 22 22 35, 25 33 65

**Police:** 129

**Night Drugstore:** 222 22 41

**OTHER**

**ALBARENT / Rent a Car Albania**

0682049911, 0686046902

**Mother Teresa Airport:**

236 21 37 / 237 12 01 / 223 48 54 178



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# OPEN TIFF AFTER PARTY



