



22वां पुणे आंतरराष्ट्रीय
चित्रपट महोत्सव

महाराष्ट्र शासन

१८-२५ जानेवारी, २०२४

CINEMA IS HOPE

Jointly Organized by:



**CELEBRATING
BIRTH CENTENARY
OF
CINEMA
LEGENDS**



Mrinal Sen



Mukesh



Dev Anand



N.T.Rama Rao



Shailendra

Jointly Organised by

PIFF Theme - Cinema is Hope



In 2024, hope feels like a tattered flag – fraught by the relentless winds of war, climate anxiety, and a deepening social divide. The headlines scream of cities crumbling, while a parched earth begs for water, and inequality breeds despair. Is there room for hope in this cacophony of darkness? Can we, amidst the shadows, find a sliver of light?

This year's theme for PIFF, "Cinema is Hope," dares to answer with a resounding yes. Here, stories become lanterns amidst gloom. They are testaments to the human spirit's indomitable resilience, whispered promises of a brighter dawn.

Cinema, by its very essence, asks us to believe in possibilities unseen, to step into worlds both familiar and imaginary: a single act of courage rekindling embers of hope; stories that whisper of resilience and rebirth.

Hope, however, is not a passive balm. It is a call to action. Cinema can spark empathy and ignite a sense of collective responsibility. A film can bridge the chasms of distance and prejudice. Cinema reminds us that in the darkest corners, kindness persists, resilience blossoms, and love refuses to be extinguished. It shows us not just what is, but what can be – a world where children dream of rebuilding, where the destitute find solace in open arms, and where a single act of defiance can inspire a million acts of hope.

We hope that this year's PIFF forces us to face the darkness, not to succumb to it, but to find the flickering flame within ourselves, the flame that cinema helps us ignite. Because hope, however fragile, is a choice. And by choosing it, by sharing it, by amplifying its light through the stories on this screen, we can, together, push back the shadows and reclaim the dawn.

Let the films begin. Let hope flicker.

Cash Awards

In Competition Section

World Cinema

Government of Maharashtra "Prabhat" Best International Film	₹ 10 Lakhs
Government of Maharashtra "Prabhat" Best International Film Director	₹ 5 Lakhs
Human Spirit award is Instituted by MIT-School of Film & Television	USD 1000

Marathi Cinema

Government of Maharashtra "Sant Tukaram" Best International Marathi Film	₹ 5 Lakhs
Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Director	₹ 25,000
Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Actor	₹ 25,000
Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Screenplay	₹ 25,000
Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Cinematographer	₹ 25,000
Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Actress	₹ 25,000

PIFF Special award Instituted by Ms. Maria Prochazáková
Student of the final year (Direction) From
the Film & Television Institute of India
₹ 25,000

International Student Competition - Best Film Live Action	USD 1000
International Student Competition - Best Director Live Action	USD 500

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Eknath Sambhaji Shinde
Chief Minister
Maharashtra

MESSAGE

Mantralaya
Mumbai-400 032

I am pleased to welcome everyone to the 22nd edition of the Pune International Film Festival, jointly organised by the Government of Maharashtra and Pune Film Foundation. Witnessing the growth and evolution of this event over the past two decades is a testament to the enduring love and appreciation for cinema that unites us all.

In its 22nd edition, the Pune International Film Festival proudly celebrates the vast and vibrant landscape of cinema. We aim to showcase the diversity of voices, perspectives, and storytelling techniques that enrich the global film industry. Through this celebration, we hope to foster an appreciation for the myriad ways in which cinema reflects the mosaic of human experiences.

I extend a heartfelt thank you to the organisers and the esteemed jury for their unwavering commitment to curating a festival that transcends borders and genres. And a special expression of gratitude to the delegates, whose participation is invaluable for us!

(Eknath Sambhaji Shinde)



DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER MAHARASHTRA STATE

Devendra Fadnavis
Deputy Chief Minister
Maharashtra State

Date: 15th January, 2024

MESSAGE

It is with immense pleasure and pride that I stand before you to celebrate the 22nd year of the Pune International Film Festival. Over the years, this festival has evolved into a cultural extravaganza, welcoming filmmakers and cinephiles from around the globe.

Cinema, as an art form, is a reservoir of hope. At its core, it serves as a mirror to the human experience, showcasing the myriad ways in which hope can be a transformative force. Through the lens of filmmakers, we explore stories that inspire, challenge, and resonate with the shared aspirations of humanity. It is in these narratives that we find the power of hope, offering us a glimpse into the limitless possibilities that lie within the human spirit.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the organisers and the esteemed jury for their tireless efforts in curating a festival that not only entertains but also enlightens. Their dedication ensures that we are treated to a diverse array of films that not only entertain but also challenge our perspectives and provoke thought.

I would also like to thank the delegates, whose presence enriches the festival, turning it into a global forum for the exchange of ideas and appreciation for the art we all hold dear. Thank you, and here's to another year of cinematic brilliance and the boundless hope that cinema brings to us all.

(Devendra Fadnavis)



Ajit Pawar
Deputy Chief Minister
Maharashtra State



DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER
MAHARASHTRA STATE

Date:- 12th January 2024.

Message

I am pleased to know that the 22nd edition of the Pune International Film Festival being organized in Pune. Here's to another year of cinematic brilliance, cultural exchange, and the enduring power of hope.

It is great pleasure and excitement for Cinema lovers around Pune. Pune International Film Festival is a testament to the enduring love for cinema that unites us all. Over the years, this festival has evolved into a cultural extravaganza, welcoming filmmakers and cinephiles from around the globe. Films, at their essence, are a source of hope. As we revel in the 22nd edition of this festival, let us recognize the profound impact of cinema in fostering a sense of hope and unity. May the stories we witness on screen continue to inspire, challenge, and remind us of the limitless possibilities that lie within the world of cinema.

I extend my best wishes to the organisers of PIFF, the filmmakers, and each one, who is part of this event.

(Ajit Pawar)



Sudhir Mungantiwar



**MINISTER
FORESTS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS
FISHERIES**

MAHARASHTRA STATE
Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032

Vande Mataram.

*I am pleased to invite you to the 22nd edition of the **Pune International Film Festival (PIFF)**, jointly organised by the Department of Cultural Affairs, Government of Maharashtra, and the Pune Film Foundation. PIFF has welcomed film lovers with its yearly extensive and eclectic collection of films for the past two decades.*

As we enter the 22nd year of PIFF, I want to re-emphasise the hope that cinema communicates in the space of art. Films possess the extraordinary ability to uplift, inspire, and unite us in shared emotions. In curating the films for this year's festival, we have strived to encapsulate the spirit of hope. The stories illustrate that cinema is a form of entertainment and a powerful medium that mirrors our society and sparks meaningful conversations.

We must remember the rich tapestry of Marathi cinema, a testament to its diversity and the boundless creativity of its filmmakers. Marathi cinema has been pushing boundaries, exploring new narratives, and challenging norms, becoming a beacon of inspiration for the industry.

I am delighted that the Pune International Film Festival has added another feather to its cap. It is the only film festival in India to have ever been invited as a panellist at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival. This official film festival of the Government of Maharashtra is unparalleled in its extension to four major cities of the state. This remarkable achievement is a testament to this festival's exceptional quality and calibre.

My best wishes to the organising committee and the jury for their immense contribution to making this edition memorable. I would also like to thank the delegates, whose support for the festival was only possible. I welcome you all to PIFF 2023!

Date: 15.01.2024

Place: Mumbai


(Sudhir Mungantiwar)

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विकास खारगे, भा.प्र.से.
प्रधान सचिव (सांस्कृतिक कार्य)
महाराष्ट्र राज्य



सत्यमेव जयते



Vikas Kharage, I.A.S.
Principal Secretary (Cultural Affairs)
Maharashtra State

MESSAGE

I congratulate the Pune Film Foundation for organizing the 22nd edition of the Pune International Film Festival (PIFF) in association with the Government of Maharashtra, taking place from January 18th to January 24th. The Department of Cultural Affairs has been a steadfast supporter of the festival for several years.

PIFF has consistently embraced films from around the globe, solidifying its status as a celebration of the global language of art. In its 22nd edition, the festival stands as a testament to cinema's enduring spirit, serving as a beacon of hope. Through the medium of cinema and various workshops, it aims to explore how films convey a universal message of hope, offering narratives that inspire and provoke thought.

Maharashtra, a pioneer of Indian cinema, has consistently produced exceptional films. The state provides extraordinary locations, technical expertise, and essential support mechanisms for the film industry. Maharashtra's unwavering commitment to the cinematic art form solidifies its position as a key influencer in the world of filmmaking, shaping the industry's dynamic future.

Congratulations to the distinguished jury and the diligent organizing committee for ensuring that the Pune International Film Festival continues to be a memorable and impactful event.

Wishing everyone an immersive journey through a diverse array of cinematic experiences, and the joy of exploring the historical city of Pune while embracing the warm hospitality of Maharashtra.

Let us come together to celebrate the magic of cinema!

(Vikas Kharage)

Principal Secretary to Chief Minister
and Principal Secretary (Dept. of Cultural Affairs)



Dr. Avinash Dhakane
MD-MFSCDC

I am happy to welcome everyone to the 22nd edition of the Pune International Film Festival, organised with the active support of Government of Maharashtra by Pune Film Foundation. The love that this event has gotten over the past two decades is overwhelming. I see cinema as something that extends beyond the screen, influencing its audience in the most primal ways. In its 22nd edition, the Pune International Film Festival aims to portray how cinema is a beacon of hope—both for the filmmaker and the audience. Through PIFF, I hope that an infinite of works are spotlighted for the audience and they get to see the diversity in the perspectives of hope. I am sure that through this festival, cinephiles such as myself and many others continue to foster a love and appreciation for cinema. I thank the organisers and the jury for putting in so much work and going above and beyond to curate such a vast film festival. I would also like to thank the delegates, without whom this festival wouldn't happen. Come on, let's celebrate cinema!

Dr. Avinash Dhakane
Managing Director
MAHARASHTRA FILM, STAGE & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD
Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagari
Filmcity, Mumbai



Dr. Jabbar Patel
Chairman/Director PIFF



Director's Cut

A warm welcome to cinephiles! This 22nd edition of PIFF is a celebration of stories spun from silver thread, a testament that even in the bleakest hour, cinema, our shared love, ignites a beacon of hope.

We stand here, surrounded by screens and shadows, yet somehow, paradoxically, bathed in a radiance. The world outside may be disquieting, but in this sanctuary we gather, drawn by a shared hunger for tales that whisper promises of a brighter tomorrow.

This year, we celebrate the theme "Cinema is Hope." Films bear witness to the scars of our times. Yet, within these frames bloom defiance, resilience, and an unyielding ember of hope.

We laugh, cry, and rage with the characters in films. In doing so, we rediscover the profound humanity that binds us all together.

Cinema is not merely entertainment; it is a shared heartbeat, a tapestry woven from countless threads of experience. In these darkened theatres, we are not strangers, but fellow travelers on a cinematic odyssey. We gasp together at breathtaking vistas, hold our breath in moments of peril, and rise, hearts swelled, when hope triumphs.

For the days to come, let us lose ourselves in these moving portraits of love and defiant dreams. Let these stories remind us that even in the darkest corner, even in the most despairing hour, hope persists.

PIFF is a testament to the transformative power of stories, to the unifying magic of Cinema, and to the enduring spark of hope. So, dear fellow dreamers, let the silver screen illuminate your hearts. Let us, together, rewrite the narrative, not just on screen, but in the world beyond. Welcome, once again, to our sanctuary of light. The show is about to begin.

With immense warmth and cinema-fueled hope,

Dr. Jabbar Patel



S. D. Burman International Award for Creative Music and Sound

The S.D. Burman International Award for Creative Music and Sound was constituted in 2010 to honour the versatile and prolific musical talent in Indian Cinema. The award is named after the legendary Indian music composer who embodied different sounds of India in his compositions. It is also a unique initiative that acknowledges the integral place of music in our cinema and our culture.

The awardees have been from diverse musical streams – from exponents of classical music to music composers in popular films to singers. It has been a valuable addition to PIFF. The interactions with the awardees give an insight into a unique facet of Indian cinema to PIFF delegates. They bring out the beauty of poetry and music and how it gels with the narrative of an Indian film.

Awardees

8th PIFF, 2010



Pyarelal Sharma

9th PIFF, 2011



Mohammed
Zahur Khayyam

10th PIFF, 2012



Ilaiyaraaja

11th PIFF, 2013



Shivkumar Sharma

11th PIFF, 2013



Hari Prasad
Chaurasia

12th PIFF, 2014



Hridaynath
Mangeshkar

13th PIFF, 2015



Anandji V. Shah

14th PIFF, 2016



Uttam Singh

15th PIFF, 2017



Zakir Hussain

16th PIFF, 2018



S.P. Balasubrahmanyam

17th PIFF, 2019



Raamlaxman

18th PIFF, 2020



Usha Khanna

21st PIFF, 2023



Usha Mangeshkar

Awardee



M M
Keeravaani

S D Burman Award

M M Keeravaani

M. M. Keeravaani, is a highly acclaimed Indian film composer, playback singer, and lyricist renowned for his significant contributions to Indian cinema. He has left an indelible mark on the industry with his versatile musical compositions that seamlessly blend traditional and contemporary elements. Keeravaani's illustrious career spans multiple Indian languages, with a particular focus on Telugu and Hindi cinema. It was Ram Gopal Varma's blockbuster film *Kshana Kshanam* (1991) that made Keeravani an established music director. He achieved widespread recognition for his evocative score in the epic film *Baahubali: The Beginning* (2015) and its sequel *Baahubali: The Conclusion* (2017).

In 2022, M. M. Keeravani's exceptional work on *RRR* secured him the coveted Academy Award for Best Original Song, marking a historic moment for Indian cinema at the Oscars. Apart from multiple international awards, he has won two National Awards for his work. He was conferred with Padma Shir award by Government of India in 2023.

His ability to craft timeless melodies and innovative compositions has solidified M. M. Keeravani as a maestro in the realm of Indian film music. PIFF is delighted to present the maestro with S. D. Burman International Award for Creative Music and Sound.

PIFF Distinguished Award



The magic of silver screen captivates everyone. For over a century, countless people have contributed to the magic of filmmaking. It is because of their perseverance, that we celebrate the cinema across the globe. Writers, directors, actors, musicians, singers, and technicians have poured their heart and soul in this art form, in order to make this world a better place.

Since its inception, Pune International Film Festival (PIFF), has honoured many such distinguished artists, and craftsmen for their unmissable contribution to the field of cinema. As we celebrate cinema, we must pay respect and honour those, who made us feel those beautiful sentiments.

PIFF distinguished award for the contribution to cinema, is just our humble way of expressing our gratitude.

PIFF Distinguished Award Achievers

1st PIFF 2002



Mrinal Sen

1st PIFF 2002



Dilip Kumar

2nd PIFF 2003



Lata Mangeshkar

2nd PIFF 2003



Dev Anand

3rd PIFF 2005



Waheeda Rahman

3rd PIFF 2005



Shakti Samanta

4th PIFF 2006



Vyjayantimala

4th PIFF 2006



Yash Chopra

4th PIFF 2006



Victor J. Kemper

5th PIFF 2007



Dharmendra

5th PIFF 2007



Asha Parekh

6th PIFF 2008



Sharmila Tagore

6th PIFF 2008



Shammi Kapoor

7th PIFF 2009



Shashi Kapoor

7th PIFF 2009



Sulochana Didi

7th PIFF 2009



Hema Malini

PIFF Distinguished Award Achievers

7th PIFF 2009



Shubhash Ghai

8th PIFF 2010



Dr. Shriram Lagoo

8th PIFF 2010



Rajesh Khanna

9th PIFF 2011



Shashikala

9th PIFF 2011



Saira Banu

10th PIFF 2012



Amitabh Bachchan

10th PIFF 2012



Asha Bhosale

11th PIFF 2013



Ramesh Deo

11th PIFF 2013



Jeetendra

12th PIFF 2014



Adoor
Gopalkrishnan

12th PIFF 2014



Vinod Khanna

13th PIFF 2015



N. D. Mahanor

13th PIFF 2015



Shatrughan Sinha

13th PIFF 2015



Tanuja Mukherjee

13th PIFF 2015



Krzysztof Zanussi

14th PIFF 2016



Soumitra
Chatterjee

PIFF Distinguished Award Achievers

14th PIFF 2016



Shyam Benegal

15th PIFF 2017



Aparna Sen

15th PIFF 2017



Seema Deo

16th PIFF 2018



Ramesh Prasad

16th PIFF 2018



Ramesh Sippy

16th PIFF 2018



Raj Dutt

17th PIFF 2019



Dilip Prabhavalkar

17th PIFF 2019



Govind Nihalani

18th PIFF 2020



B. P. Singh

18th PIFF 2020



Vikram Gokhale

19th PIFF 2021



Ashok Saraf

21st PIFF 2023



Manoj Kumar

21st PIFF 2023



Enoch Daniels

Awardee



Ameen
Sayani

PIFF Distinguished Award

Ameen Sayani

Born on December 15, 1932, Ameen Sayani is an iconic Indian radio announcer, best known for his significant contributions to the world of broadcasting. With a career spanning over six decades, Sayani became a household name as the host of the immensely popular radio show *Binaca Geetmala*, which he presented from 1952 to 1993. This program played a pivotal role in shaping the musical preferences of generations, making Sayani a revered figure in the Indian music industry.

Sayani's distinctive and warm voice became synonymous with film music commentary, and his interviews with Bollywood legends added depth to his repertoire. His impeccable diction and engaging style endeared him to millions of listeners. Beyond radio, Ameen Sayani ventured into television, hosting shows that further solidified his status as an eminent media personality.

Recognized for his exceptional contribution to the field of broadcasting, Sayani has received numerous accolades, including the prestigious Padma Shri award in 2009. His enduring influence on Indian entertainment, particularly in the realm of film music, cements Ameen Sayani's legacy as a beloved and trailblazing figure in the cultural landscape of the country.

Pune International Film Festival is delighted to present Mr. Sayani with PIFF Distinguished Award for Contribution to Cinema.

Awardee



Goutam
Ghose

PIFF Distinguished Award

Goutam Ghose

Goutam Ghose is an internationally acclaimed filmmaker and cinematographer. He made his first documentary – *New Earth*, in 1973 followed by *Hungry Autumn* which won him the main award at the Oberhausen FF. He has since made several significant feature films including *Maa Bhoomi*, *Yatra*, *Padma Nadir Majhi*, *Patang*, *Gudia*, *Dekha*, *Abar Aranye*, *Moner Manush*, *Shunyo Awnko*, *Raahgir*.

He has made a number of prominent documentaries including *Meeting A Milestone* (on Ustad Bismillah Khan), *Beyond the Himalayas*, *Land of Sand Dunes*, *Ray* (On Satyajit Ray), *Impermanence* (On HH Dalai Lama). Ghose has won 18 National Awards besides many International awards like the Silver Balloon Award at Nantes FF, UNESCO Award - Cannes, Grand Prix - Golden Sernurg at Tashkent, UNESCO Award at Venice, Fipresci Awards, Red Cross Award at Verna FF, The Golden Peacock at IFF India.

He is a member of The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences' Oscar committee. He is also the only Indian to win the coveted Vittorio Di Sica Award in Italy. He was awarded the Knighthood of the Star of the Italian Solidarity in 2006. We, at PIFF are honoured to have him as an awardee for his illustrious contribution to cinema.

Awardee



Leela
Gandhi

PIFF Distinguished Award

Leela Gandhi

It was a vision of living grace when she walked on screen and danced. Her dancing made everyone else tap their feet. Leela Gandhi, a name synonymous with dance, and choreography in cinema.

From the age of eight, Leela Gandhi learned Kathak dance from Govind Nikam. In 1951, director Dinkar D. Patil made a Hindi film *Gharbar*. That was the debut of Leela Gandhi in cinema, as a dancer. Her 'jhadga' with Hindi actor Aga in *Prithisangam* (1957) became very popular. She choreographed many films starting with *Sangtye Aika* (1959). The film not only captivated the audience, but based upon the dance of Lavani, it was purely Leelabai's film. To date, people remember the excellent choreography of the film.

In addition to films, her theatrical journey continued. She worked in 75 films and 25 plays. After her retirement from film and drama, she served as the president of Akhil Bharatiya Natya Parishad. She won the Maharashtra State Film Awards for her roles in the films *Kartiki* (1975) and *Paij* (1981). PIFF honours her landmark career with PIFF Distinguished Award for contribution to Cinema.

Juries >>>

Cinema
is an
improvement
on **life.**

François Truffaut

CINEMA IS HOPE

Jury



Manju Borah

Manju Borah

Six times with nine National Film Awards winner Manju Borah, earlier a short story writer started her filmmaking journey in 1996 with an Assamese film *Sapon. Baibhab (A Scam in Verse)* is her first independent film released in 1999 followed by *Anya Ek Yatra* 2001, *Akashitorar Kothare (A Tale Told Thousands Times)* 2003, *Laaz (Shame)* 2004, *Joymati the Saviour* 2006, *Aai Kot Nai (MA)* 2008, *Ko:Yad (A Silent Way)* 2012, *Dau Huduni Methai (Song of the Horned Owl)* 2015, *Sarbaganakar Srimanta Sankardev* (an animated film) 2016 and *In the Land of Poison Women* 2018. All these films either received National Film Awards at different categories or were selected in Indian Panorama at IFF India and also at various International Film Festivals inside the country or abroad.

Manju Borah has served as Jury member of National Film Awards and Indian Panorama for a number of times and also in some International Film Festivals. She is the recipient of prestigious Senior Fellowship award from the Central Ministry of Culture on her research work associated with folklore of Assam and has been awarded the Women of Excellence Award by FICCI for her outstanding contribution to the field of Film and Entrepreneurship in the year 2009 and the Satyajit Ray Memorial Award given by the Asian Film Foundation for the year 2012 for working to spread film culture in India as a lifetime mission.

Besides film making, Manju Borah is a regular short story writer. She has already published three books of her short stories and a novel. She is also busy making telefilms, television serials, documentaries for Doordarshan as well as for other private and corporate houses of the country like Films Division, Sahitya Akademi etc. She holds various positions at different cine organisations and member of some Government organisations at National level.

Jury



Marissa Sue Prado

Marissa
Sue Prado

Marissa Sue Prado (better known simply as Sue Prado) (born May 18, 1981) is a Filipina character actress. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Arts (Major in Theatre) from the University of the Philippines Los Baños. She is an important name in Philippine New Wave Cinema. Her astute character portrayals in many films, including *Barber's Tale* (2013) and *Oro* (2016) garnered her wide acclaim in national and international circuits. Among her other notable works are *Manila Skies* (2009), *Area* (2016), and *The Story of Mabuti* (2013). She received multiple nominations and won awards for Best Actor for her work in *A Boat Between Two Rivers*. She has more than 100 acting credits in her name, including films, and television.

Her recent work in feature film *Your Mother's Son*, directed by Jun Robles Lana is getting praise worldwide with the film being screened at prominent festivals like Toronto IFF, and Tallinn Black Nights FF. Sue Prado has also been part of Jury for Sharm El-Sheikh FF and Orenburg FF in 2019.

Jury



Petr Zelenka

Petr Zelenka

Petr Zelenka is an acclaimed Czech screenwriter, director, playwright, and theatre director. He graduated in scriptwriting and dramaturgy from the Film Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague. He made his debut as a director in 1993 with a film about punk, *Visací Zámek*. In 1997, he premiered his most highly awarded film, the episodic film *Buttoners*, which won the prestigious Czech Lion for best script, direction and film, and Tiger Award at Rotterdam IFF. It went on to win multiple awards at festivals like Cottbus, Valladolid, Thessaloniki and more. The popular film *Loners* (2000) was based on Zelenka's script. For his films *Year of the Devil* (2003) and *Tales of Common Insanity* (2005) he was awarded by main prizes at the International Film Festivals in Karlovy Vary, and Moscow respectively.

In 2008, he made his next film *Karamazovi* that the Czech Film Academy sent out to the Academy Awards competition as the Best non-English film. It also won the Special Jury Prize, and FIPRESCI Prize at Rotterdam IFF. Since 2011, he has directed the HBO series *Therapy*, starring Karel Roden. In autumn 2015, the audience greatly acclaimed his film comedy *Lost in Munich* that by means of mystery comedy describes the events around the 1936 Munich Agreement. It won the prize for Best Film at Pune IFF.

As a playwright, his plays have staged across Europe in multiple renowned playhouses, and have even been translated in multiple languages. He has written and published multiple books. He remains an influential figure in contemporary Czech theatre, and film sphere.

Jury



Setareh Eskandari

Setareh Eskandari

Setareh Eskandari was born on June 25, 1973, in Torbat-e-Heydariyeh. She began her career in theatre in 1993 with the students of the Faculty of Fine Arts. In 1994, Setareh Eskandari was nominated for *The Legend* and two years later for her performance in *The Last Champions of the Earth*. She eventually joined the professional theatre with *Golden Tooth*, directed by Davood Mirbagheri. In 2008, she won the Fajr Theatre Festival's Best Female Actress Award for her performance in the show *Flickery Bliss of Downfallen Men*. It was in 1996 that Setareh Eskandari came to television with the series *House No. 13*. But much of her fame and popularity came in the 2005 *Narges* TV series. After that she has been acting in multiple popular TV Series and films.

Apart from her starring roles in TV and web series, she has appeared in such highly acclaimed films as Davood Mir-Bagheri's *Traveller Of Rey*, Abbas Kiarostami's *Shirin*, Ali Rafiee's *Mr. Yusof*, Ebrahim Forouzesh's *Hotchpotch*, Poursan Derakhshandeh's *Hush! Girls Don't Scream*, Iman Afsharian and Mehdi Pakdel's *Tomorrow*, Mostafa Ahmadi's *Closer*, Tina Pakravan's *It Happened At Midnight*, Tahmineh Milani's *Untaken Paths*, etc. In 2021, Eskandari directed her debut feature film, *The Sun Of That Moon*, which was premiered at IFF India – Goa and awarded at Idromeno Independent FF (Best Director), Imago FF (Best Film, Best Director) and Asia Pacific FF (Best Actress).

In addition to directing in two theatres, Setareh Eskandari has also appeared as a producer several times. She founded Mana House of Culture and Art in 2016, and a year later, opened the Iranian Puppet Museum with Siavash Sattari. Her other notable activities include launching the first puppet parade in the Chabahar Free Zone with the aim of creating happiness and dreams for Baluchi children.

Jury



Shai Goldman

Shai Goldman

Shai Goldman (born January 5, 1964) is an Israeli film and television photographer. Winner of the Ophir Cinematography Prize 2006, 2016 and 2019 for his work in the film *Synonyms*, directed by Nadav Lapid, which won the prestigious Golden Bear at Berlinale.

In his work as a Cinematographer he has participated in important and well-known film works that have received numerous awards as well as participating in some of the most important festivals in the world. Shai is characterised by his meticulous and clean work that combines refinement in both composition, and in games of light and shadow, when his prominent aesthetic position does not sterilise the emotional and obvious element from the picture.

He shot his first film, *Under Western Eyes* in 1995, and has since made more than 30 full - length films.

His best-known and most successful film as a Cinematographer was *The Band's Visit* (2007), directed by Eran Kolirin. Goldman brought the successful film, an abstract visual quality that allowed the work to deviate from the local and touch the universal, and therefore contribute to the film's considerable international success.

In 2016, the films *Beyond the Mountains and Hills*, *From the Diary of a Wedding Photographer* and *Tikkun* were presented, all three of which participated in major festivals such as Cannes and Locarno. For his work in *Tikkun*, Shai won the Ophir Prize, the Leah Van Leer Prize for cinematography at Jerusalem FF, the Best cinematography Award of the Valladolid FF in Spain and, the commendation of the jury at the Locarno.

He has collaborated with Nadav Lapid on *Ahed's Knee* (2021), which won the Jury Prize at the 2021 Cannes. Also, with Eran Colirin on *Let It Be Morning* which was A Certain Regard section at the Cannes 2021.

Jury



Sudhir Mishra

Sudhir Mishra

Sudhir Mishra is an acclaimed Indian film director and screenwriter. His films have received numerous accolades across the globe, and praise from critics, audiences alike.

In his early days, he assisted makers like Kundan Shah, Saeed Akhtar Mirza, and Vidhu Vinod Chopra. He made his directorial debut with *Yeh Woh Manzil To Nahin* (1987) which won him the National Award for Best Debut Director. After that he made many films which have created a strong impact on society at large, and many young filmmakers who consider him as their mentor in cinema. His films have handled multiple socio – political issues, right from Naxalist movement to plight of the people in slum areas, to today's corporate world and its intricate politics.

He has made impactful films like *Dharavi* (1991), *Main Zinda Hoon* (1988), *Is Raat Ki Subah Nahin* (1996) and *Chameli* (2003), His 2005 film with the background of Naxalist movement, *Hazaaron Khwaishein Aisi* garnered many nominations and awards. His next film, regarding early days of Indian cinema *Khoya Khoya Chand* was well received. He has also acted in some films in smaller roles.

With a career spanning over 30 years, his work has been recognised by the Government of India by receiving three National Awards from the President of India, as well as the Chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government. He was one of the pioneers of the alternative independent cinema movement in India in the 1980s and remains one of the few directors from that era who continues to remain contemporary.

Jury



Ümran Safter

Ümran Safter

Ümran Safter is an award winning producer, director and journalist. She produced a feature documentary film *The Eye of Istanbul* (2016) about Ara Guler, the legendary Armenian-Turkish photographer. The film has been screened at several international film festivals and awarded Best of Fest at the Washington DC Independent FF in 2016. In 2018, Ümran produced and directed *Sevan The Craftsman* about famous jewellery designer Sevan Bicakci. Her subsequent documentaries: *The Sin of Being A Woman* (2018), *On The Wings of Hope* (2019), and *Leave The Door Open* (2021) followed the suit and went on to earn much praise and screenings across the globe, at different festivals. She directed her first fiction feature film *Guilt* in 2022 which won multiple awards at festivals like Bosphorus, Adana, and Giffoni.

She is also a veteran journalist with two decades of experience covering Turkey and the Middle East. She started her career in journalism in 1996. She has worked at several media outlets and television stations including CNN Turk, Kanal 7, TRT Turk and Al Jazeera Turk, both as a correspondent and news editor. Some of the issues she has covered include the Iraq war, the Palestine-Israel conflict, and the conditions faced by Syrian refugees at the border. She has also produced a number of television documentaries and television shows; some of which include a feature on life in Guantanamo Prison, the story of victims of the Bosnian war, and the conditions faced by Iraqi refugees in Syria. She is the founder of Ekim Medya company.

Jury



Visakesa Chandrasekaram

Visakesa
Chandrasekaram

Visakesa Chandrasekaram is a lawyer, academic and a filmmaker. He has made six feature films: *Sayapethi Kusuma (Frangipani)* which won the Best International Film Award in 2015 Rio LGBT FF; *Paangshu (Earth)* which won the Jury Award of 2019 Religions Today FF, and *Munnei (Sand)* which won 2023 Tiger Jury Award at IFF Rotterdam. He was a Jury member of 2023 Sydney FF. While making remarkable and impactful films, he also works as a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Law in University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.



Opening Film

Il Sol dell'avvenire A Brighter Tomorrow

2023 | 96 Minutes

Italian

Colour

Italy

Director: Nanni Moretti

Producer: Nanni Moretti, Domenico Procacci

Cast: Nanni Moretti, Margherita Buy, Mathieu Amalric, Silvio Orlando, Jerzy Stuhr, Barbora Bobuleva, Benjamin Stender, Elena Lietti

Screenplay: Nanni Moretti, Francesca Marciano, Federica Pontremoli, Valia Santella

Cinematographer: Michele D'Attanasio

Editor: Clelio Benevento

Sound Designer: Alessandro Zanon

Music Composer: Franco Piersanti

Production Company: Fandango, Sacher Film, Rai Cinema, Le Pacte

World Sales: Kinology

Festivals: Cannes: Main Competition 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | Seattle IFF 2023 | Lima IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Giovanni, a prolific, pedantic Roman movie director who has just started shooting 'A Brighter Tomorrow', a new period drama following an Italian Communist branch leader and his secretary who are thrown into existential chaos by the Soviet Union's 1956 invasion of Hungary. But everything, both personal and professional, seems to be conspiring against Giovanni: His 40-year marriage and working relationship with Paola is in crisis, his French co-producer Pierre is on the verge of bankruptcy, and—even before its completion—the commercial prospects of his new film in a rapidly changing market are decidedly uncertain. It may be time for Giovanni to start rethinking his stringent way of doing things.



Director's Biography:

Nanni Moretti is a film director, producer, screenwriter, and actor. He made his debut with the feature documentary *Ecce Bombo* (1978) and received the Special Jury Prize at the Venice FF for *Sweet Dreams* (1981). *Red Wood Pigeon* (1989) was ranked as the top film of the year by Cahiers du Cinéma, and since *Caro diario* (1993), all of his films have premiered at Cannes. His film *The Son's Room* (2001) won the Palme d'Or at Cannes, and in 2012, he served as the President of the Official Competition Jury at Cannes. In 2021, his film *Three Floors* (2021) was screened at Cannes and the Busan IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 *Three Floors*
2015 *My Mother*
2011 *We Have A Pope*
2001 *The Son's Room*
1993 *Caro Diario*
1989 *Red Wood Pigeon*
1981 *Sweet Dreams*

I think cinema, movies, and magic have always been closely associated. The very earliest people who made films were magicians.

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CINEMA IS HOPE

World Competition >>>

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and **magic**
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associated.
The very
earliest people
who made
films were
magicians.

Francis Ford Coppola



World Competition

Citlivý Člověk

A Sensitive Person

2023 | 120 Minutes

Czech

Colour

Czech Republic, Slovak Republic

Director: Tomáš Klein

Producer: Tomáš Michálek, Ivan Ostrochovský

Cast: David Prachař, Jaroslav Cuhra, Tatiana Dyková, Jiří Lábus, Milan Mikulčík, Jiří Schmitzer, Vladimír Javorský, Ján Jackuliak, Alexandra Borbély

Screenplay: Tomáš Klein, Lucie Vaňková, Kateřina Traburová,

Cinematographer: Dušan Husár

Editor: Vadim Usoltsev

Sound Designer: Dominik Dolejší

Music Composer: Pjoni

Production Company: MasterFilm, Punkchart Films

World Sales: MasterFilm

Festivals: Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | Denver IFF 2023 | Cork IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Young Eliáš and his Dad, both disguised as women, run to find Eliáš's mother through a strangely dystopian landscape where people are filled only with frustration and fear. In order for the boy to keep his childhood ideals and become a real sensitive person, he has to face this cruel world of adults, which includes his own dad.



Director's Biography:

Tomáš Klein studied directing at FAMU. His short film *Retriever* was presented in the Cinéfondation section of the Cannes. He worked as the second director on *The Wolf from the Royal Vineyard Street* (2016), produced by Czech MasterFilm in coproduction with French Bocalupo Films and Slovak Media Film, which he later finished after the legendary author Jan Němec passed away.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2016 *The Wolf from the Royal Vineyard Street* (Co-Director)
- 2015 *Obsession* (Short Doc)
- 2014 *Retriever* (Short)



World Competition

Uroците na Blaga

Blaga's Lessons

2023 | 114 Minutes

Bulgarian

Colour

Bulgaria, Germany

Director: Stephan Komandarev

Producer: Stephan Komandarev, Katya

Trichkova, Eike Goreczka, Christoph Kukula

Cast: Eli Skorcheva, Gerasim Georgiev,

Rozalia Abgarian, Ivan Barnev, Stefan

Denolyubov, Ivaylo Hristov

Screenplay: Simeon Ventsislavov, Stephan

Komandarev

Cinematographer: Vesselin Hristov

Editor: Nina Altaparmakova

Sound Designer: Johannes Doberenz

Music Composer: Kalina Vasileva

Production Company: Argo Film, Bulgarian

National Television, 42film

World Sales: Heretic Outreach

Festivals: Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | Rome IFF

2023 | Golden Rose Bulgarian FF 2023 |

PriFest Pristhina IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023

| Sao Paulo IFF 2023

Synopsis:

When a retired, recently widowed teacher falls prey to a phone scam, she's left robbed of her life savings and without any money for her late husband's grave. Her life turns upside down when she realises that there's no way of gaining her money back, up until she receives an alluring, yet suspicious offer for work. The tables turn as she takes matters into her own hands and cash begins rolling in, this time claiming her most prized attribute: Her values, as she slowly and surely transforms into the scammer herself.



Director's Biography:

Stephan Komandarev is a renowned Bulgarian filmmaker, born in 1966 in Sofia, Bulgaria. Stephan graduated in Film & TV directing at the New Bulgarian University (1999). His works include award-winning feature and documentary films. He is a lecturer at the Film Department of the New Bulgarian University, Sofia (since 2008). He is a 2011 EAVE graduate and a Member of the European Film Academy, Bulgarian Film Directors' Association and Bulgarian Film Producers' Association. His fiction features, and documentary features have been screened at festivals across the globe, including Cannes, Busan, Sarajevo and many others.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2019 Rounds
- 2018 Occupation 1968 (Documentary)
- 2017 Directions
- 2014 The Judgement
- 2008 The World Is Big and Salvation Lurks Around the Corner



World Competition

Mokalake Tsmindani

Citizen Saint

2023 | 100 Minutes

Georgian

Black and White

Georgia, Bulgaria, France

Director: Tinatin Kajrishvili

Producer: Lasha Khalvashi, Tinatin Kajrishvili

Cast: Levan Berikashvili, George Babluani, Mari Kitia, Gia Burjanadze

Screenplay: Tinatin Kajrishvili, Basa Janikashvili

Cinematographer: Krum Rodríguez

Editor: David Apkhaidze

Sound Designer: Emanuel Soland

Music Composer: Tako Zhordania

Production Company: Artizm, Gemini, Mandra Films, Chouchkov Brothers

World Sales: Artizm

Festivals: Karlovy Vary IFF 2023

Synopsis:

On the main square of a small mining town stands a cross depicting a saint, regarded by the local miners as their protector. One day, the cross is taken down for repair and the statue of the saint suddenly vanishes. When a mysterious stranger subsequently appears among them, the residents put two and two together. Shortly after celebrating his presence, they lose hope, as an ordinary man cannot protect them from their misfortunes. Hopeless and frightened crowd crucifies the saint again, believing that he will have more power on the cross.



Director's Biography:

Tinatin Kajrishvili was born in Tbilisi, Georgia in 1978. She graduated with a degree in film directing from the State Theatre and Film University of Georgia in 2001. She attended the producer's workshop of the European Audiovisual Entrepreneurs (EAVE) and made several short films before her feature film debut *Brides* (2014) and her second *Horizon* (2018) received their premier at Berlinale, and went on to be screened at multiple film festivals and won numerous accolades.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 *Horizon*

2014 *Brides*



World Competition

Synopsis:

Watako has just lost her lover, Kimura, in a traffic accident in Tokyo. She decides to bury the trauma of this tragedy and carries on with her life with her husband. Although she puts on a facade for a while, the loss of Kimura has left deep marks, and she can't escape his memory any longer. She must now confront her grief.

Hotsureru

Fly On

2023 | 83 Minutes

Japanese

Colour

Japan, France

Director: Takuya Kato

Producer: Masa Sawada

Cast: Kadowaki Mugi, Tamura Kentaro, Shota Sometani

Screenplay: Takuya Kato

Cinematographer: Shota Nakajima

Editor: Sylvie Lager, Mototaka Kusakabe

Sound Designer: Hirokazu Kato, Manabu Kagara

Music Composer: Eiko Ishibashi

Production Company: Comme des Cinémas, Nagoya Broadcasting Network

World Sales: Charades Sales

Festivals: 3 Continents Festival 2023



Director's Biography:

Takuya is a versatile playwright, theatre director, film director. Takuya's journey began at the age of 17 where he wrote radio and TV programmes. He was the youngest playwright/director to stage Tick at Mitsukoshi Theater at just 23. This production was also presented at Theatre Tram, where he won the Excellence Award at the Young Director Contest 2017. In 2018, his first TV drama script for Fuji Television's *The Stories of Heisei* was nominated for the 7th Shinichi Ichikawa Script Award. He wrote his first drama series *Do I Have to Enjoy Club Activities at School?* for Nippon Television. In 2022 he directed his first feature film *Grown-ups*.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 *Grown Ups*



World Competition

Here
Here
 2023 | 82 Minutes
 French
 Colour
 Belgium

Director: Bas Devos
Producer: Marc Goyens
Cast: Stefan Gota, Liyo Gong
Screenplay: Bas Devos
Cinematographer: Grimm Vandekerckhove
Editor: Dieter Diependaele
Sound Designer: Boris Debackere, Yanna Soentjens
Music Composer: Brecht Ameerl
Production Company: Quetzalcoatl
World Sales: Rediance
Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023
 | New York FF 2023 | San Sebastián IFF
 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF
 2023

Synopsis:

Here in Belgium, there is Stefan, one of the workers of an ever-expanding city, just like in every urban centre in this part of the world. He is preparing to return to Romania, as he has not found his place in Brussels. To create some memories before he leaves, he prepares a soup to share with colleagues, and friends. A hot meal makes you feel at home. In need of one himself and to shelter from a summer storm, he encounters a local woman helping out in a Chinese restaurant who is researching her doctorate on mosses. Her attention to the near-invisible stops him in his tracks. The sun sets among the buildings under construction, but Stefan prefers to walk and discover new places when the city is resting from its productivity. During the day, he also prefer to go by foot than take commuter routes; by walking one can observe the light, listen to the wind, feel the present space and time.



Director's Biography:

Bas Devos is a Flemish filmmaker. He studied at LUCA School of Arts. Since graduating, Bas Devos has made two shorts *The Close* and *We Know*. His first feature, *Violet* (2013) won the Grand Prix of the Generation 14plus International Jury in 2014 and was selected for New Directors New Films at MOMA New York. His second feature, *Hellhole* (2019) was selected for Berlinale Panorama. *Ghost Tropic* (2019), his third feature, premiered three months later at the Director's Fortnight section in Cannes 2019. He teaches film at LUCA School of Arts in Brussels.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 *Ghost Tropic*
 2019 *Hellhole*
 2013 *Violet*
 2009 *We Know* (Short)
 2008 *The Close* (Short)
 2006 *Pillar* (Short)
 2005 *Taurus* (Short)



World Competition

Synopsis:

Alex and Edith, young couple in their 30s, live their relationship made up of small gestures and everyday life among the ruins of Cuban buildings.

Milagro, a retired old lady, tries to survive by selling 'mani' (typical Cuban peanut cones) and by illegally raising piglets in her backyard.

Alain and Frank, two nine-year-old boys, go to school and dream of emigrating together to the United States to become Major League Baseball players.

These three narrations and their respective worlds develop in the setting of San Antonio De Los Baños, a town in the Cuban inland, where time has frozen. This scenario incarnates a picture of our times that comes to life thanks to the memory of the characters; it is in this place that the spectre of separation unveils itself, real scourge of the Cuban society.



Director's Biography:

Tommaso Santambrogio is a young Italian director; he has lived between Milan, Paris, Rome, Florence, and Havana, and has collaborated with several internationally renowned filmmakers, such as Werner Herzog and Lav Diaz. His first short films *The Last Scene*, and *Oceans Are The Real Continents* were both screened in 2019 at the Venice FF and were then selected in many festivals around the world. *Taxibol* (2023), his latest docu-film, recently premiered at Visions du Réel. *Oceans Are the Real Continents* (2023) is his debut feature film.

Los Océanos Son Los Verdaderos Continentes

Oceans Are The Real Continents

2023 | 119 Minutes

Spanish

Black and White

Cuba, Italy

Director: Tommaso Santambrogio

Producer: Marica Stocchi, Gianluca Arcopinto

Cast: Alexander Diego, Edith Ybarra Clara, Frank Ernesto Lam, Alain Alain Alfonso González, Milagros Llanes Martínez

Screenplay: Tommaso Santambrogio

Cinematographer: Lorenzo Casadio Vannucci

Editor: Matteo Faccenda

Sound Designer: Tommaso Barbaro

Music Composer: Ramiro Cordero, Marco Reccagni

Production Company: Rosamont, Rai Cinema

World Sales: Fandango Sales

Festivals: Venice FF 2023 | Thessaloniki IFF 2023 | Vancouver IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 *Taxibol* (Documentary)

2021 *Closing Time* (Short)

2019 *The Last Scene* (Short Doc)

2019 *Oceans Are The Real Continents* (Short)



World Competition

Puan

Puan

2023 | 109 Minutes

Spanish

Colour

Argentina, Italy, France, Germany, Brazil

Director: María Alché, Benjamin Naishtat

Producer: Federico Eibuszyc, Barbara

Sarasola - Day, Bárbara Francisco Mendivil

Cast: Marcelo Subiotto, Leonardo Sbaraglia,

Julieta Zylberberg, Alejandra Flechner,

Andrea Frigerio, Mara Bestelli

Screenplay: María Alché, Benjamin Naishtat

Cinematographer: Hélène Louvart

Editor: Livia Serpa

Sound Designer: Fernando Ribero

Music Composer: Santiago Dolan

Production Company: Pasto Cine, Pucará

Cine

World Sales: Luxbox

Festivals: San Sebastián IFF 2023 | Athens

IFF 2023 | Vancouver IFF 2023 | São Paulo

IFF 2023 | Viennale 2023

Synopsis:

Marcelo has devoted his life to teaching philosophy at the Public University of Buenos Aires. When his mentor Professor Caselli dies unexpectedly, Marcelo expects to become the new head of Department. However, his plans turn upside down with the unexpected arrival of Rafael Sujarchuk. Charismatic and seductive, Rafael returns from his pedestal in European universities to claim the vacant position for himself. Marcelo's clumsy efforts to prove he is the right candidate will trigger a philosophical duel, while his life -and the country- enter a spiral of chaos.



María Alché

María Alché is an Argentine director, script writer and actress. She wrote and directed the feature film *A Family Submerged* (2018), which won best Film in Horizontes Latinos at the San Sebastian FF, and was presented at the Festivals of Locarno, Havana, Lincoln Center NY, Jeonju and Viennale etc.

Benjamin Naishtat

Benjamin Naishtat is an Argentine filmmaker. His film *Rojo* (2018) was selected in Official Competition at the San Sebastian IFF, awarded with the Concha de Plata for Best Direction. He made *The Movement* (2015) which premiered at the Locarno FF. His film *History of Fear* (2014), premiered at the Berlinale Official Competition.

Director's
Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

María Alché

2018 *A Family Submerged*

Benjamin Naishtat

2018 *Rojo*

2015 *The Movement*

2014 *History of Fear*



World Competition

Schlamassel

Schlamassel

2023 | 112 Minutes

German

Colour

Germany

Director: Sylke Enders

Producer: Roman Avianus, Anja Wedell

Cast: Mareike Beykirch, Linda Wendel, Lore Stefanek, Margarethe Tiesel

Screenplay: Sylke Enders

Cinematographer: Jakob Wehrmann

Editor: Sebastian Lempe

Sound Designer: Robert Fuhrmann

Music Composer: Bert Wrede

Production Company: Joroni Film, CZAR Film

World Sales: Media Luna Film

Festivals: Sao Paulo IFF 2023

Synopsis:

1996. While sheep Dolly has been cloned into life, Grandma is dead, and the family is already tearing itself apart. There is nothing and nobody to find solace in for Johanna, 32 year-old intern at the local newspaper. Her soul is raging as she confronts her problematic family at Grandma's funeral. She does not give herself time to mourn throwing herself to her work at a newspaper. When she discovers a photo of a female concentration camp guard, she seizes the opportunity to confront to the woman. She experiences an urge that she cannot identify, as a sense danger starts to take over. But instead of finding release for her own discontent and anger, she has to face her own "Schlamassel" (mess).



Director's Biography:

Sylke Enders was born in Brandenburg an der Havel, GDR. She is a writer and director based in Berlin and known for realist tales about working moms and coming-of-age stories. She studied directing at the German Film and Television Academy. Her successful debut feature *Kroko* (2003) won the German film award in silver and was nominated for the EFA as best newcomer. *Hab Mich Lieb* premiered at Munich IFF. She was one of the 13 directors contributing to the episodic film *Germany 09 - 13 Short Films on The State Of The Nation* that premiered at Berlinale.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2013 *Schönefeld Boulevard*
 2007 *Mondkalb*
 2004 *Hab Mich Lieb!*
 2003 *Kroko*



World Competition

Ayeh Haye Zaye
Terrestrial Verses
 2023 | 77 Minutes
 Persian
 Colour
 Iran

Director: Alireza Khatami, Ali Asgari
Producer: Ali Asgari, Milad Khosravi, Alireza Khatami, Cyrus Neshvad, Reyhaneh Rad
Cast: Bahram Ark, Arghavan Shabani, Servin Zabetian, Sadaf Asgari, Faezeh Rad, Hossein Soleymani, Majid Salehi, Farzin Mohades, Gouhar Kheir Andish, Ardeshtir Kazemi
Screenplay: Alireza Khatami, Ali Asgari
Cinematographer: Adib Sobhani
Editor: Ehsan Vaseghi
Sound Designer: Alireza Alavian
Music Composer: Masoud Fayaz Zadeh
Production Company: Taat Films, Seven Springs Pictures, Tell Tall Tale, Cynefilms
World Sales: Films Boutique
Festivals: Cannes: Un Certain Regard 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Vancouver IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Terrestrial Verses follows everyday people from all walks of life as they navigate the cultural, religious, and institutional constraints imposed on them by various social authorities, from school teachers to bureaucrats. These stirring vignettes, humorous and affecting, capture the spirit and determination of people amidst adversity, offering a nuanced portrait of a complex society.



Alireza Khatami

Alireza Khatami is an award-winning Iranian American filmmaker based in Canada. His debut feature, *Oblivion Verses*, premiered at the Venice FF, winning three awards, including the Orizzonti Award for Best Screenplay and the FIPRESCI Prize. He also co-wrote *Until Tomorrow*, which premiered at the Berlinale 2022.

Ali Asgari

Ali Asgari is a prominent Iranian filmmaker with more than 200 awards to his name. His debut film, *Disappearance*, had its world premiere at the Venice FF in 2017. *Until Tomorrow* his second film, at the Berlinale in 2022.

Director's Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

Alireza Khatami:
 2017 *Oblivion Verses*

Ali Asgari:
 2022 *Until Tomorrow*
 2017 *Disappearance*



World Competition

Al Murhaqoon
The Burdened

2023 | 91 Minutes

Arabic

Colour

Yemen, Sudan, Saudi Arabia

Director: Amr Gamal

Producer: Mohsen Alkhalifi, Amr Gamal

Cast: Khaled Hamdan, Abeer Mohammed, Samah Alamrani, Fatema Adulbqawi

Screenplay: Mazen Refaat, Amr Gamal

Cinematographer: Mrinal Desai

Editor: Heba Othman

Sound Designer: Rana Eid, Rawad Hobeika

Music Composer: Chen Mingchang

Production Company: Adenium Productions

World Sales: Films Boutique

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Chicago IFF 2023 | Shanghai IFF 2023 | Sydney IFF 2023 | Durban IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Isra'a lives with her husband Ahmed and their three children in the old port city of Aden in southern Yemen. Their everyday lives are shaped by the civil war – which means military checks in the streets, frequent power cuts, and having to haul water from the street to the kitchen. Ahmed used to work for television, but after several salary cheques were not paid, he is now earning his money as a driver. When Isra'a unexpectedly becomes pregnant, the couple faces a crisis. They both know they cannot afford a fourth child: they are about to move to a cheaper flat and the children's school fees are due. Together they decide on an abortion. An odyssey begins in which a doctor friend becomes a key figure. Set against the backdrop of one of the world's most devastating civil wars, this sensitive family drama provides us with a glimpse into the society of a country largely unknown beyond its borders.



Amr Gamal is an independent Yemeni film and theatre director. In 2003, he received the President's Award in playwriting. In 2005, Gamal established Khaleej Aden Theatre Troupe, he has written and directed all the theatre productions by the troupe since 2005. His play *Ma'k Naze'* became the first Yemeni play to be performed in Europe after its big success in Yemen. His first feature film *10 Days Before The Wedding* (2018) was the first film to open commercially in Yemen since the last three decades. The film continued to be screened for over 8 months and became Yemen's official submission to the Oscar in 2018.

Director's Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:
2018: *10 Days Before The Wedding*



World Competition

L'homme d'Argile

The Dreamer

2023 | 94 Minutes

French

Colour

France

Director: Anaïs Tellenne

Producer: Diane Jassem, Céline Chapdaniel

Cast: Raphaël Thiéry, Emmanuelle Devos, Mireille Pitot, Marie-Christine Orry

Screenplay: Anaïs Tellenne

Cinematographer: Pierre W. Mazoyer

Editor: Héléïse Pelloquet

Sound Designer: Rémi Chanaud, Rosalie Revoyre, Maxime Roy

Music Composer: Amaury Chabauty

Production Company: Koro Films, Vagabonds Films, Micro Climat

World Sales: Be For Films

Festivals: Venice IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Raphaël, a one-eyed man, is the caretaker of a mansion where no one lives anymore. Soon to turn 60, he lives with his mother in a small house located at the entrance to the grounds of the stately manor. Between mole hunting, bagpipe practice and the occasional ride in the postwoman's Kangoo van, the days resemble one another. But one stormy night Garance, the estate's heiress, comes back to the family's abode and now nothing will ever be the same again.



Director's Biography:

Anaïs Tellenne is a filmmaker, actress, dancer, and writer. She began her career as a film, broadcast, and theatre actress before turning her attention to screenwriting and directing. She made her debut with a short film, *June 19* (2016). She was chosen for the annual selection of Le Groupe Ouest in-residence writers' workshop, where she fleshed out the screenplay for her first feature film *The Dreamer*. It was an official selection in the Orizzonti Extra section, the Venice FF. She is currently working on her second feature.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 Modern Jazz (Short)

2018 Le Mai Bleu (Short)

2016 June 19 (Short)



World Competition

Thadavu

The Sentence

2023 | 89 Minutes

Malayalam

Colour

India

Director: Fazil Razak

Producer: Pramod Dev, Fazil Razak

Cast: Beena R Chandran, Anitha M N, Subramaniam, Vappu, Ishak Musafir

Screenplay: Fazil Razak

Cinematographer: Mridul S

Editor: Vinayak Suthan

Sound Designer: Harikumar Madhavan Nair

Music Composer: Vaisakh Somanath

Production Company: Bunch of Coconuts, F R Productions

Festivals: IFF Kerala 2023 | MAMI Mumbai 2023

Synopsis:

Geetha, a play school teacher, is living alone and facing a harsh life. She is diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. She is unable to avail the costly treatment. On learning that jail inmates get medical assistance from the State, Geetha hatches a plan to commit a crime.



Director's Biography:

Fazil Razak is a Screenwriter, Editor, and Director. Over the past five years, he has worked on numerous short films and completed a feature film as a writer and director. In 2019, he wrote and directed his debut short film *Barrier*. The film won Best Film and Best Director at the 30th Kerala State Television Awards. His second venture was *Crescent*. The film won Best Film (under 20 minutes) at 30th Kerala State Television Awards. He was selected as one of the '75 creative minds of tomorrow' program at the 52nd IFF India (IFFI), Goa.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 *Crescent* (Short)

2019 *Barrier* (Short)



World Competition

Synopsis:

Suellen, a Brazilian toll-booth attendant, falls in with a gang of thieves in an attempt to keep her family afloat. In doing so, she realises she can use her job to raise some extra money illegally for a so-called noble cause: to send her son to expensive conversion therapy led by a renowned foreign priest.

Pedágio

Toll

2023 | 101 Minutes

Portuguese

Colour

Brazil, Portugal

Director: Carolina Markowicz

Producer: Karen Castanho Vega, Luís Urbano, Bianca Villar, Fernando Fraiha, Sandro Aguilar, Carolina Markowicz

Cast: Maeve Jinkings, Kauan Alvarenga, Thomás Aquino, Aline Marta Maia, Isac Graça

Screenplay: Carolina Markowicz

Cinematographer: Luis Armando Arteaga

Editor: Lautaro Colace, Ricardo Saraiva

Sound Designer: André Bellentani, Filipe Derado

Music Composer: Filipe Derado

Production Company: Biônica Filmes, O Som e a Fúria

World Sales: Luxbox

Festivals: Toronto IFF 2023 | San Sebastián IFF 2023 | Rio de Janeiro IFF 2023 | Rome FF 2023 | IFF India 2023 | Stockholm IFF 2023



Director's
Biography:

Carolina Markowicz has written and directed 6 short films selected for festivals including Cannes, Locarno, Toronto, SXSW and AFI, and winners of more than 70 awards. *The Orphan*, her most recognised one, premiered in Director's Fortnight in 2018 and won the Queer Palm, becoming first Brazilian film to win the Queer Palm. Since 2021, Carolina is a member of the Oscar Academy - AMPAS. Her debut feature, *Charcoal*, premiered at Toronto Competition and San Sebastian in 2022.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 *Charcoal*

2019 *Spit* (Short)

2018 *The Orphan* (Short)

2017 *Long Distance Relationship* (Short)

2016 *Postponed* (Short)

2014 *Tatuapé Mahal Tower* (Short)



World Competition

Ming Tian Bi Zuo Tian Chang Jiu

Tomorrow is a Long Time

2023 | 105 Minutes

Chinese Mandarin, English

Colour

Singapore, Taiwan, France, Portugal

Director: Jow Zhi Wei

Producer: Fran Borgia, Jeremy Chua, Stefano Centini, Xavier Rocher, Ico Costa

Cast: Leon Dai, Edward Tan, Julius Foo, Lekheraj Sekhar, Neo Swee Lin

Screenplay: Jow Zhi Wei

Cinematographer: Russell Morton

Editor: Alexandra Strauss

Sound Designer: Olivier Dandre, Alexandre Hecker

Music Composer: Ting Si Hao

Production Company: Akanga Film Asia, Volos Films, La Fabrica Nocturna Cinema, Potocol, Oublaum Filmes

World Sales: Pluto Films

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Vancouver IFF 2023 | Hong Kong IFF 2023 | Taiwan FF in Australia 2023 | Kinotrip IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Life is not the most fulfilling for sixteen-year-old Meng: Lounging at home with his grieving father on a daily basis, being excluded from his family's past, and forced into bullying other kids at school. Everything changes when he is thrown into a life-altering adventure that propels him into an exciting unfamiliar landscape.



Director's Biography:

Jow Zhi Wei studied at Le Fresnoy art school in France and at the Lasalle College of the Arts in Singapore. Since 2010, he has been a member of the Golden Horse Film Academy in Taiwan. In 2014, he received the Young Artist Award from the government of Singapore. After making three short films which screened at festivals including San Sebastián and Cannes, *Tomorrow is a Long Time* (2023) is his debut feature.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2013 After the Winter (Short)

2010 Waiting (Short)

2009 Outing (Short)

२२ वा पुणे आंतरराष्ट्रीय चित्रपट महोत्सव २०२४



महाराष्ट्र शासन - संत तुकाराम उत्कृष्ट आंतरराष्ट्रीय
मराठी चित्रपट ₹५,००,०००/- रोख पुरस्कार

Marathi Competition»»»

I have
to keep
making
films
in my **country**
so that it
gets established
as an **industry**
at **home.**

Dadasaheb Phalke



Marathi Competition

Bhera Deaf
2023 | 134 Minutes
Marathi
Colour
India

Director: Shrikant Prabhakar
Producer: Shrikant Prabhakar
Cast: Deepak Joil, Shraddha Khanolkar, Pramod Koyande, Akanksha Khot
Screenplay: Prasad Khanolkar, Shrikant Prabhakar
Cinematographer: S. Sameer
Editor: Smitaa Phadkke
Sound Designer: Dhananjay Sathe
Music Composer: Pradyumna Chaware, Pranav Jantikar
Production Company: Shri Vaij-Prabha Chitra
World Sales: Shrikant Prabhakar
Festivals: Chennai IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Set in the middle of Covid pandemic of 2020, this is a story of three lost souls, and their struggle to be heard. Suresh, working in Mumbai, finally returns to his mother, Anibai, who was unaware of pandemic and has lived alone in an old house across a stream in a remote village, where communication and mobility are lacking. Suresh is put into quarantine for 14 days. Vishnu, a naive, orphan and deaf boy, the only regular visitor of Anibai helps her after seeing her in misery and visits Suresh at quarantine centre, where he commits a mistake leading him in trouble with his uncle and gets expelled out of village. Anibai's appendix worsens and she is taken to the hospital. However, unbeknownst of her, Suresh has succumbed to death, from Covid. Vishnu is informed about Suresh's death and has been told to hand the ashes to the Anibai's house. Disturbed, Vishnu wept by the stream, clutching the ashes close to his heart, meets Anibai.



Director's Biography:

Shrikant Prabhakar has completed his graduation as commercial artist in advertising with photography specialisation. Shrikant has been working as a theatre actor, writer and director since 2006. His plays are performed in many national as well as few international theatre festivals. He also got awarded as the best director in state level drama competitions. *Bhera* is his director's debut film. Being an actor he has worked in several Marathi films, short films, television shows as well as commercial plays. He has also played a role of a screenplay writer for a few short films.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 Gaathbhet (Short)



Marathi Competition

Chabila
Chabila
 2023 | 106 Minutes
 Marathi
 Colour
 India

Director: Anil Amrut Bhalerao
Producer: Ajay Amrut Bhalerao
Cast: Swati Gothavale, Vinay Dhakade, Arun Amrut, Rajkiran Kunkikar, Mahesh Ghungare, Rajashri Patil, Aditya Kere
Screenplay: Anil Amrut Bhalerao, Ajay Amrut Bhalerao
Cinematographer: Ajay Amrut Bhalerao
Editor: Vrushabh Panchal
Sound Designer: Tejas Supnekar
Music Composer: Rohit Nagbhide

Synopsis:

Traditionally, Labhan Community has one job - work in stone mines and, stay away from civilisation, near the mountains in a commune. Due to their lack of connection with outer world, they have remained uneducated and backward, for generations. A mother, Jana wants to change this. She doesn't want her son Ganya to suffer the same fate as them. She wants, and does send him to school. But her husband feels otherwise. Every child of Ganya's age is working and earning more for family, as it is the need of survival. In an unfortunate incident, Jana succumbs to death. Now Ganya has no option but to work in mine with his father. It is then he realises why his mother sent him to school, uneasy, he cannot work there. His father understands the dilemma and decides to resume his school. What fate awaits them, is anyone's guess.



Anil Amrut Bhalerao is a Marathi filmmaker. He has worked as an assistant on multiple award winning projects which include National Award winning films like – *Dhag, Pani, Bhonga*. He has a passion for storytelling, especially the stories of those, who have been neglected by mainstream society.

Director's
Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2023 Chabila



Marathi Competition

Gypsy
Gypsy
 2023 | 117 Minutes
 Marathi
 Colour
 India

Director: Shashi Chandrakant Khandare
Producer: Shradhha Shashi Khandare
Cast: Kabir, Mangesh Arote, Gayatri Bansode, Pandurang Chikane, Rohit More
Screenplay: Shashi Chandrakant Khandare
Cinematographer: Pravin Sonawane
Editor: Ajit Mandale
Sound Designer: Vikas Khandare
Production Company: Bolpat Nirmitee
World Sales: Shashi Chandrakant Khandare

Synopsis:

A young boy from a nomadic tribe named Jyotyia has to eat bad food brought by begging every day. Hence it has a hot-fresh appeal. But he doesn't get to eat it. Finally, he has to rely on the smell of the substance. This gets him used to smelling different food items. Next the smell of a substance overwhelms him. And finally it is this smell that gives him the opportunity to change his life.



Director's
Biography:

Shashi Chandrakant Khandare is an Indian filmmaker. He was born in 1986 in Solapur. He started his career from a clapper to Associate Director. He is best known for his debut short film *Surma* as a writer & director.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2017 *Surma* (Short)



Marathi Competition

Naal Bhag 2

Naal Bhag 2

2023 | 130 Minutes

Marathi

Colour

India

Director: Sudhakar Reddy Yakkanti

Producer: Nagraj Popatrao Manjule, Shariq Patel

Cast: Shriniwas Pokale, Treesha Thosar, Bhargav Jagtap, Nagraj Manjule, Devika Daftardar, Deepti Devi, Jitendra Joshi

Screenplay: Sudhakar Reddy Yakkanti

Cinematographer: Sudhakar Reddy Yakkanti

Editor: Sanchari Das Mollik

Sound Designer: Antheno Ruben

Music Composer: A. V. Prafullachandra

Production Company: Aatpat Productions, Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd.

Synopsis:

The film explores the depths of human connection, the intricacies of family ties, and the unyielding power of love in the most unexpected of places. The sequel expands upon the touching themes that made the original "Naal" so beloved, delving deeper into the extraordinary found within the ordinary. In the sequel we reunite with Chaitu, as he embarks on an entirely new chapter of his life, having matured from the innocent young boy we once knew. The story unfolds in Shankar's village, a place that had eluded Chaitu on a previous attempt to reach. The turning point of his journey arrives as Chaitu comes face to face with his biological parents. This poignant meeting with his father is nothing short of an emotional earthquake, and Chaitu finds himself swept away by a tumultuous sea of feelings. Yet, the surprises don't end there; he uncovers a revelation, a possibility that had never even flickered across his consciousness in all these years.



Sudhakar is a well-known Indian Cinematographer and also a Writer, Director and Producer. He has received Special Jury National Award and many International awards for his well appreciated short film *Ek Akash* (2004) and received Debut director National Award for Feature Film *Naal*.

Director's Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 Naal

2004 Ek Aakash (Short)



Marathi Competition

Shyamchi Aai
Shyam's Mother
 2023 | 140 Minutes
 Marathi
 Black and White
 India

Director: Sujay Sunil Dahake
Producer: Amruta Arun Rao
Cast: Gauri Deshpande, Om Bhutkar, Sharva Gadgil, Mayur More, Sandeep Pathak, Sarang Sathaye
Screenplay: Sunil Sukthankar
Cinematographer: Vijay Mishra
Editor: Mahanteshwar Bhosage
Sound Designer: Kunal Loisure
Music Composer: Saket Kanetkar, Aabha Soumitra
Production Company: Pune Film Company Pvt. Ltd.
Festivals: Jio MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

It's 1932. The evening prayers in the jail are over. The British march is heard in the distance. The jail inmates sit in a circle, their eyes fixed on Pandurang Sadashiv Sane (34), fondly called 'Sane Guruji', who has promised them a story as sweet as lemon syrup. And so he begins... While on some evenings he tells them of his boyhood days, surrounded by the abundant beauty of the Konkan Region, on others he recalls growing up poor, embarrassed by the state of his family's affairs. But at the heart of each story is his 'aai' (Mother) - her words and lessons. He reminisces of the day his mother showed the importance of honesty and the time she went hungry just so her children could eat a full meal. Narrated from the prison, *Shyamchi Aai* is a story of Shyam and Aai, a mother with an unbreakable spirit.



Director's Biography:

Sujay Dahake is a practicing filmmaker known for his creative storytelling and innovative approach to cinema. Sujay did his Masters in Film Semiotics from Mumbai University. He later pursued another Masters in Filmmaking from the International Academy of Film and Television in Cebu, the Philippines. His directorial debut, *Shala* (2012), catapulted him into the limelight, earning him the Silver Lotus Medal at the 59th National Film Awards for Best Marathi Film and Best Screenplay. He also won awards from festivals such as the New York Indian FF and the Stuttgart Indian FF. If not filming, Sujay is seen stone sculpting or farming as his other interests.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2020 *Kesari*
 2019 *Up Your Mother's*
 2016 *Phuntroo*
 2014 *Aajoba*
 2012 *Shala*



Marathi Competition

Sthal
A Match

2023 | 104 Minutes

Marathi

Colour

India

Director: Jayant Digambar Somalkar

Producer: Shefali Bhushan, Karan Grover, Riga Malhotra, Jayant Digambar Somalkar

Cast: Nandini Chikte, Taranath Khiratakhar, Sangita Sonekar, Suyog Dhawas, Sandip Somalkar, Sandip Parkhi, Swati Ulmale, Gauri Badki, Mansi Pawar

Screenplay: Jayant Digambar Somalkar

Cinematographer: Manoj Karmakar

Editor: Abhijit Deshpande

Sound Designer: Sanjay Chaturvedi

Music Composer: Madhav Agarwal

Production Company: Dhun

Festivals: Toronto IFF: NETPAC Award 2023 | Jio MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | Dharamsala IFF 2023 | Cairo IFF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023

Synopsis:

In a village in the Vidarbha region of India, a determined young girl, Savita, yearns for education and a brighter future. However, as her farmer parents anxiously struggle to find a suitable match for her, societal expectations place immense pressure on her to prioritize marriage over personal aspirations. Being dark-complexioned and short in height, Savita is seen as an added 'burden' on her parents and 'marrying her off', as difficult as finding fair price for their crop. Facing countless rejections from potential suitors, she must navigate a world where the pursuit of marriage overshadows the very sustenance of life. The dark tradition of arranged marriages in rural India and the rooted system of patriarchy, colourism and social evil in society is seen through the eyes of young girl.



Director's Biography:

Born in a village in the Chandrapur district of Maharashtra, Jayant Digambar Somalkar is an engineering graduate, but his creative bent of mind made him veer towards filmmaking. His debut short film, *Class* (2016), showed at many film festivals and won many awards. He has cowritten and co-directed the critically acclaimed Amazon Prime Video Original Series *Guilty Minds*. *A Match* marks the director's debut feature, showcasing his talent for storytelling and commitment to presenting social issues in an authentic and compassionate manner. The film had its World Premiere at the 48th Toronto IFF and received the prestigious NETPAC award for the best Asian film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 A Match
2016 Class (Short)



Marathi Competition

Valli
Valli
 2023 | 143 Minutes
 Marathi
 Colour
 India

Director: Manoj Shinde
Producer: Manoj Shinde
Cast: Deva Gadekar, Varsha Sunil Ajit, Akshay Kakade
Screenplay: Manoj Shinde
Cinematographer: Suniel Kumar, Saurabh Meshram
Editor: Ajinkya Jumale
Sound Designer: Ajinkya Jumale
Music Composer: Deva Gadekar
Production Company: Spacetime Entertainment
World Sales: Manoj Shinde
Festivals: Singapore IFF 2023

Synopsis:

As a forced disciple of a Jogta-an outward female form possessing a male-body person, it took Valli a decade to learn that his true masculine self has been trapped in the garb of his highly marginalised and exploited Jogta custom. During this, Valli suffered several physical assaults, social mockery, and public persecution. He finally abandons his Jogta custom and escapes with Tara, living an equally miserable life. Only to get engulfed by the new realities of urban life.



Manoj Shinde is a Marathi filmmaker who made his debut short film *Ballet of Drought* in 2017. His debut feature was *Medicine Lamp* (2019). He made short *Paav Bhaji* in 2021 and *Valli* (2023) is his second feature film.

Director's
 Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Paav Bhaji (Short)
 2019 Medicine Lamp
 2017 Ballet of Drought (Short)

Global Cinema >>>

CINEMA IS HOPE

Cinema

is not
only about
making
people **dream.**

It's about
changing
things
and making
people
think.

Nadine Labaki



Global Cinema

20,000 Especies de Abejas

20,000 Species of Bees

2023 | 125 Minutes

Spanish, Basque, French

Colour

Spain

Director: Estibaliz Urresola Solaguren

Producer: Lara Izagirre Garizurieta, Valérie Delpierre

Cast: Sofia Otero, Patricia López Arnaiz, Ane Gabarain, Itziar Lazkano, Sara Cózar, Marbxelo Rubio, Unax Hayden, Andere Garabieta, Miguel Garcés

Screenplay: Estibaliz Urresola Solaguren

Cinematographer: Gina Ferrer Garcia

Editor: Raúl Barreras

Sound Designer: Koldo Corella

Production Company: Gariza Films, Inicia Films, Sirimiri Films

World Sales: Luxbox

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Málaga FF 2023 | Guadalajara IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | Seattle IFF 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023

Synopsis:

An eight-year-old is suffering because people keep addressing the child in ways that cause discomfort. They insist on calling the child by the birth name Aitor. And the nickname, Cocó, even if less obviously wrong, does not feel right either. During a summer in the Basque Country among the beehives, the child confides these worries to relatives and friends. But how can a mother handle her child's quest for identity when she is herself still dealing with her own ambivalent parental legacy?

The child explores her identity alongside the women of her family, who at the same time reflect on their own lives and desires.



Director's Biography:

Estibaliz Urresola Solaguren graduated in Audiovisual Communication (UPV-Bilbao), Editing Theory (EICTV Cuba), Master in Film Direction and Master in Film Business (ESCAC). She has directed the short films *Adri* and *Ashes and Dust*. Her feature-length documentary *Paper Voices* (2016) premiered at San Sebastián. Her latest short film *Chords* has premiered at the Semaine de la Critique Cannes and has won several national and international prizes, among which Best Short Film in the Forqué Awards.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 *Chords* (Short)
 2020 *Ashes and dust* (Short)
 2018 *The Declensions* (Short Docu Fiction)
 2016 *Paper Voices* (Documentary)
 2012 *Adri* (Short)



Global Cinema

Un Métier Sérieux

A Real Job

2023 | 101 Minutes

French

Colour

France

Director: Thomas Lilti

Producer: Emmanuel Barraux

Cast: Vincent Lacoste, François Cluzet, Louise Bourgoïn, Adèle Exarchopoulos, William Lebghil, Lucie Zhang, Bouli Lanners

Screenplay: Thomas Lilti

Cinematographer: Antoine Heberle

Editor: Gwen Mallauran

Sound Designer: François Guillaume

Production Company: 31 Juin Films

World Sales: Le Pacte

Festivals: San Sebastián IFF 2023 | IFF India 2023 | Hong Kong French FF 2023

Synopsis:

Benjamin is a PhD student without scholarship support. Under the pressure of his parents, and in need of money, he becomes a substitute teacher in a middle school. Without training nor experience, and facing a declining public educational system, he discovers how tough this job can be. Hopefully, his supportive and committed colleagues will lead him to take a fresh look at the profession.



Director's Biography:

Thomas Lilti is a doctor, director and screenwriter. After directing shorts including *Quelques Heures En Hiver* (1999), *Après L'enfance* (2002) and *Roue Libre* (2003) he made his feature debut in 2008 with *Les Yeux Bandés*, screened at Montreal FF. He went on to direct *Hippocrates: Diary of a French Doctor* (2014), which won the César for Best Supporting Actor (Reda Kateb) and received another 6 nominations, including Best Film and Best Director. His other films are *Irreplaceable* (2016) and *The Freshman* (2017). He is also the creator of the TV series *Hippocrate* (2018).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 *The Freshmen*
 2016 *Irreplaceable*
 2014 *Hippocrates: Diary of a French Doctor*
 2008 *Les Yeux Bandés*



Global Cinema

Gau Aeko Baato
A Road to a Village
 2023 | 106 Minutes
 Nepali
 Colour
 Nepal

Director: Nabin Subba
Producer: Amod Rai, Nabin Subba
Cast: Dayahang Rai, Pashupati Rai, Prasan Rai, Prem Subba, Keshav Rai, Raj Thapa
Screenplay: Nabin Subba, Mahesh Rai
Cinematographer: Josh Herum
Editor: Kwan Pun Leung
Sound Designer: Kishore Acharya
Music Composer: Heidi Li
Production Company: Menchhyayem Pictures
World Sales: Menchhyayem Pictures
Festivals: Toronto IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023

Synopsis:

Set in rural Nepal, the film explores the profound impact of a newly constructed road on the lives of a local family. As Maila, a traditional basket weaver, grapples with the cultural and technological upheavals brought by the road, his son Bindray's aspirations for modernity add complexity. The narrative unfolds with Maila's struggle for financial stability in a changing landscape, juxtaposing the allure of progress with the ghosts of the past, creating a deeply humane portrayal of the collision between tradition and modernity.



Director's
Biography:

Nabin Subba is a Nepalese writer and filmmaker. He started out from writing and directing plays and began his career in film as a screenwriter. Since then, he has produced and directed 16 films. His notable directorial works include *Numatung* (2001), *Goodbye Kathmandu* (2016), and the TV documentary series *Dalan* (2008).

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2016 Goodbye Kathmandu
 2008 Dalan (Docu Series)
 2001 Numatung



Global Cinema

Kuru Otlar Üstüne
About Dry Grasses

2023 | 197 Minutes

Turkish

Colour

Turkey, France, Germany

Director: Nuri Bilge Ceylan

Producer: Nuri Bilge Ceylan

Cast: Deniz Celloğlu, Merve Dizdar, Musab Ekici, Ece Bağcı, Erdem Şenocak, Yüksel Aksu, Münir Can Cindoruk, Onur Berk Arslanoğlu, Yıldırım Gücük

Screenplay: Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Akin Aksu, Ebru Ceylan

Cinematographer: Cevahir Şahin, Kürşat Üresin

Editor: Oğuz Atabaş, Nuri Bilge Ceylan

Sound Designer: Fatih Aydoğdu, Clément Laforce, Jean-Pierre Laforce

Music Composer: Philip Timofeyev, Giuseppe Verdi

Production Company: NBC Film, Memento Production, Komplizen Film

World Sales: Playtime Group

Festivals: Cannes: Main Competition 2023 | NYFF 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | IFF India 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Samet, a young art teacher, is finishing his fourth year of compulsory service in a remote village in Anatolia. After a turn of events he can hardly make sense of, he loses his hopes of escaping the grim life he seems to be stuck in. Will his encounter with Nuray, herself a teacher, help him overcome his angst



Director's
Biography:

One of the modern masters of cinema, Nuri Bilge Ceylan was born in Istanbul. Each of his film has been presented, and won awards at major festivals. His film *Uzak* (2003) is the most awarded Turkish film. It won 47 awards, including Grand Prix at Cannes. With *Once Upon A Time In Anatolia* (2011), he won Grand Prix again. *Three Monkeys* (2008) won him Best Director at Cannes, while *Climates* (2006), *Winter Sleep* (2014) won FIPRESCI awards. With *Winter Sleep*, he also won Palme d'Or. He is considered to be one of the most influential directors, working in world cinema right now.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2018 The Wild Pear Tree
- 2014 Winter Sleep
- 2011 Once Upon A Time In Anatolia
- 2008 Three Monkeys
- 2006 Climates
- 2003 Uzak
- 1999 Clouds Of May
- 1997 Kasaba



Global Cinema

Ashil Achilles
2023 | 116 Minutes
Persian, Azerbaijani
Colour
Iran, Germany, France

Director: Farhad Delaram
Producer: Saeed Shahsavari, Frieda Oberlin, Johannes Suhm, Caroline Nataf
Cast: Mirsaeed Molavian, Behdokht Valian, Roya Afshar, Neda Aghighi, Firouz Agheli
Screenplay: Farhad Delaram
Cinematographer: Mohammad Reza Jahanpanah
Editor: Sasan Khoshniat
Sound Designer: Rober Hefter, Jonas Lechenmayr, Kai Unger, Hadi Manavipour
Music Composer: Mehrdad Jafari Raad
Production Company: GalanGedan Film Production, Basis Berlin Filmproduktion, Barrieri Filmproduktion, Unité
World Sales: Visit Films
Festivals: Toronto IFF 2023 | San Sebastian IFF 2023 | Rome FF 2023 | Munich FF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

A former filmmaker, now employed as a nighttime medical worker, helps a political prisoner escape her jail-like existence. Together they travel through Iran, connecting with local citizens experiencing similar problems while trying to keep one step ahead of the government authorities looking to recapture the pair.



Director's Biography:

Farhad Delaram is an award-winning writer and director who was born in Iran, in 1988. He graduated from the University of Tehran with a master's degree in cinema and has directed nine independent short films. His short, *Tattoo*, won the Crystal Bear award at the 69th Berlinale and screened in the Generation 14plus section. *Tattoo* has screened in over 90 film festivals across the globe picking up numerous awards along the way and is part of the Criterion Collection. *Achilles* is Delaram's first feature length film.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2022 My Name Salma (Short)
2021 Sillage: Portrait of an Onlooker (Short)
2020 Expo Pandemic (Short)
2019 Tattoo (Short)
2017 Away from Home (Short)



Global Cinema

Roter Himmel

Afire

2023 | 103 Minutes

German

Colour

Germany

Synopsis:

A small holiday house by the Baltic sea. The days are hot and it hasn't rained in weeks. Four young people come together, friends old and new. As the parched forests around them begin to ignite, so do their emotions. Happiness, lust and love; but also jealousies, resentments and tensions. Meanwhile the forests burn. And before long, the flames are there.

Director: Christian Petzold

Producer: Florian Koerner von Gustorf, Michael Weber, Anton Kaiser

Cast: Thomas Schubert, Paula Beer,

Langston Uibel, Enno Trebs, Matthias Brandt

Screenplay: Christian Petzold

Cinematographer: Hans Fromm

Editor: Bettina Böhrer

Sound Designer: Dominik Schleier, Adrian Baumeister, Lars Ginzel, Andreas Mücke-Niesytka

Production Company: Schramm Film Koerner Weber Kaiser

World Sales: The Match Factory

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | San Sebastián IFF 2023 | Tribeca FF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023



Director's Biography:

Christian Petzold (Hilden, Germany, 1960) debuted with *The State I Am In* (2001), which premiered at Venice. In 2003 *Wolfsburg* won the FIPRESCI Prize in the Panorama section of the Berlinale, where he participated in the official competition with *Ghosts* (2005), *Yella* (2007) and *Barbara* (2012), for which he bagged the Silver Bear for Best Director. In 2014 he competed with *Phoenix* in the Official Selection at San Sebastian, where he won the FIPRESCI Prize. He returned to the Berlinale competition with *Transit* (2018), *Undine* (2020), recipient of the FIPRESCI Prize, and *Afire*, winner of this year's Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2020 *Undine*
 2018 *Transit*
 2012 *Barbara*
 2007 *Yella*
 2003 *Wolfsburg*
 2001 *The State I Am In*



Global Cinema

Todo El Silencio

All The Silence

2023 | 78 Minutes

Spanish, Mexican Sign Language

Colour

Mexico

Director: Diego del Rio

Producer: Luis Salinas, Inna Payan, Maria Ayub

Cast: Adriana Llabrés, Ludwika Paleta, Moisés Melchor, Monserrat Marañon, Lilia Navarro, Angélica Bauter, Arcelia Ramirez, Eugenio Rubio, Gonzalo Esesarte

Screenplay: Lucia Carreras

Cinematographer: Octavio Arauz

Editor: Perlis López, Samuel Kishi

Sound Designer: Miguel Hernández, Mario Martinez

Production Company: Animal de Luz Films, This is Why Cinema

World Sales: Independent Distribution Agency

Festivals: Rainedance FF 2023 | Festival Do Rio 2023 | Warsaw IFF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023

Synopsis:

Miriam, an actress who is also a sign language teacher, but is not deaf herself. A downward spiral begins when she learns that she will indeed become fully deaf. Despite having deaf parents, deaf friends and a deaf girlfriend she refuses to accept a world without sound, and starts to tear down every person and aspect in her life.



Director's Biography:

Diego del Rio is theatre director, film director, opera director, author and teacher of acting. He graduated with honours in theatre studies from the Universidad de las Américas Puebla. He has directed, translated or adapted over 30 productions by major Mexican and international authors. Winner of many awards, he has consolidated himself as one of the most recognised contemporary theatre directors in Mexico. *All the Silence* is his first feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2023 All The Silence



Global Cinema

Synopsis:

For the past year, Sandra, a German writer, her French husband Samuel, and their eleven-year-old son Daniel have lived a secluded life in a remote town in the French Alps. When Samuel is found dead in the snow below their chalet, the police question whether he committed suicide or was killed. Samuel's death is treated as suspicious, presumed murder, and Sandra becomes the main suspect. Little by little the trial becomes not just an investigation of the circumstances of Samuel's death, but an unsettling psychological journey into the depths of Sandra and Samuel's conflicted relationship.

Anatomie d'une Chute

Anatomy of A Fall

2023 | 150 Minutes

French, English

Colour

France

Director: Justine Triet

Producer: Marie-Ange Luciani, David Thion

Cast: Sandra Hüller, Swann Arlaud, Milo Machado Graner, Antoine Reinartz, Samuel Theis

Screenplay: Justine Triet, Arthur Harari

Cinematographer: Simon Beaufills

Editor: Laurent Sénéchal

Sound Designer: Julien Sicart, Fanny Martin, Jeanne Delplancq, Olivier Goinard

Music Composer: Julien Sicart

Production Company: Les Films Pelléas, Les Films de Pierre

World Sales: Pictureworks, mk2 Films

Festivals: Cannes: Palme d'Or 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | San Sebastian IFF 2023 | NY FF 2023 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | Locarno FF 2023



Director's Biography:

Justine Triet is a French filmmaker whose fiction short, *Two Ships*, won a number of prizes at French and international festivals – European Film Award, Berlinale 2012; Grand Prix, Angers First Look; Grand Prix; 2013 Césars. Her debut feature *Age of Panic* was selected for ACID in Cannes 2013 and nominated for a 2014 César in the Best First Film category. *In Bed With Victoria*, her second feature, opened the Critics' Week in Cannes in 2016. The film was nominated for five Césars, including Best Film and Best Actress. *Sibyl*, her third feature, was selected to compete for the Palme d'Or at the 2019 Cannes FF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 *Sibyl*
2016 *In Bed With Victoria*
2013 *Age Of Panic*
2011 *Two Ships* (Short)



Global Cinema

Art College 1994

Art College 1994

2023 | 118 Minutes

Mandarin Chinese

Colour

China

Director: Liu Jian, Lin Shan

Producer: Yang Cheng, Shen Lihui, Gao Shiming

Cast: Dong Zijian, Zhou Dongyu, Papi Jiang, Huang Bo, Wang Hongwei, Jia Zhangke, Bi Gan.

Screenplay: Liu Jian

Editor: Liu Jian

Sound Designer: Li Danfeng, Gao Ruifeng

Music Composer: David Wen-Wei Liang, Sun Yunfan, Cui Jian, Alex Liu, Chen Li

Production Company: Nezha Bros. Pictures Company Ltd, Modern Sky Entertainment Company Ltd, China Academy Of Art's School of Animation and Game.

World Sales: Memento International

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Sydney IFF 2023 | Annecy IAFF 2023 | Tokyo IFF 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023

Synopsis:

ART COLLEGE 1994 is a portrait of youth set on the campus of the Chinese Southern Academy of Arts in the early 1990s. Against the backdrop of reforms opening China to the Western world, a group of college students live in full swing as they take their first steps into adulthood, where love and friendships are intertwined with artistic pursuits, ideals and ambitions. Caught between tradition and modernity, they now have to choose who they want to become.



Director's Biography:

Liu Jian majored in Chinese Painting and graduated from the Nanjing Art Institute in 1993. He began working on animations in 1995 and founded Le-joy Animation Studio in 2007. His first feature animation, *Piercing 1*, screened in numerous film festivals, including Holland Animation FF, Annecy IAFF, and Hong Kong IFF. The film also won Best Animated Feature Film at the 4th Asia Pacific Screen Awards. In 2017, his feature animation film *Have A Nice Day* premieres in competition at the Berlinale before being screened in more than 50 festivals worldwide including BFI London, Sitges, Thessaloniki and Annecy.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 *Have A Nice Day*
 2011 *Look At This Man* (Short)
 2011 *Face* (Short)
 2011 *Chaos and Order* (Short)
 2010 *Piercing 1*



Global Cinema

Synopsis:

When Home stops feeling like one, wandering becomes routine. Time, space and emotions implode, blurring Lisbon with Bangkok. Past, present or perhaps future intertwine in a story that begins when L meets K.

Baan

Baan

2023 | 102 Minutes

Portuguese, English

Colour

Portugal

Director: Leonor Teles

Producer: Filipa Reis

Cast: Carolina Miragaia, Meghna Lall

Screenplay: Leonor Teles, Ágata de Pinho, Francisco Mira Godinho

Cinematographer: Leonor Teles

Editor: Livia Serpa, Sandra T.

Sound Designer: Rafael Gonçalves Cardoso, Joana Niza Braga

Production Company: Uma Pedra no Sapato

World Sales: Totem Films

Festivals: Locarno IFF 2023 | Reykjavik IFF 2023 | Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023 |

Sarajevo FF 2023



Director's
Biography:

Leonor Teles' debut short *Batrachian's Ballad* (2016) won the Golden Bear at Berlinale and the Firebird Award at Hong Kong. Her first documentary feature *Ashore* (2018) won the SCAM Award at Cinéma du Réel. Her latest short *Dogs Barking at Birds* (2019) premiered in Orizzonti at Venice and was nominated for the EFA. She also works as a cinematographer and her last collaboration with director João Canijo, *Bad Living* (2023), won the Silver Bear at Berlinale.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 *Dogs Barking at Birds* (Short)

2018 *Ashore* (Documentary)

2016 *Batrachian's Ballad* (Short)



Global Cinema

La Hembrita

Babygirl

2023 | 92 Minutes

Spanish

Colour

Dominican Republic

Director: Laura Amelia Guzmán

Producer: Rafael Elías Muñoz, Israel

Cárdenas, Sarah Pérez Báez

Cast: Cecilia García, Aleska Vásquez,

Xiomara Fortuna

Screenplay: Laura Amelia Guzmán, Israel

Cárdenas

Cinematographer: Israel Cárdenas

Editor: Israel Cárdenas

Sound Designer: Denis Godoy, Homer Mora

Music Composer: Pedro Guzmán, Pablo
Chea

Production Company: Lantica Media, Aurora
Dominicana, Purpleline Productions

World Sales: Feel Sales

Festivals: IFF Rotterdam 2023 | Malaga FF
2023 | Uruguay FF 2023 | Sao Paulo IFF
2023 | AFI Latin American FF 2023

Synopsis:

Dominique is an aging socialite whose every need is met by Carmen, her longtime maid and a second mother to her own children. With one of her sons living abroad, and the other one about to move away and start a family, Dominique and her distant husband are left in their penthouse. She's about to become a grandma and although her son wants to keep the gender a surprise until the birth, Dominique has a great longing for a baby girl. When Carmen vanishes without a warning and leaves her estranged 7-year-old granddaughter behind in Dominique's empty nest, Dominique takes the girl in. Despite protests from her husband and sons, Dominique begins to contemplate a future where the girl with no name could become a permanent part of her life. As she deals with pushback from her family, Dominique finds herself challenging her own priorities.



Director's
Biography:

Laura Amelia Guzmán (Dominican Republic, 1980) has co-created 7 features during the last 17 years alongside her husband, Mexican filmmaker Israel Cárdenas, jointly producing, writing and directing documentaries and fictions that present a careful look at the social contexts that surround them. Their work has been presented at festivals such as Berlinale, Toronto, Venice, Rotterdam, among others. *Babygirl*, her first feature as sole director, had its world premiere at IFF Rotterdam in January 2023.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2023 *Babygirl*



Global Cinema

Oura El Jbel
Behind The Mountains

2023 | 98 Minutes

Tunisian Arabic

Colour

Tunisia, Belgium, France, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Qatar

Director: Mohamed Ben Attia

Producer: Dora Bouchoucha, Lina Chaabane

Cast: Majd Mastoura, Walid Bouchhioua, Samer Bisharat, Selma Zeghidi, Helmi Dridi, Wissem Belgharek

Screenplay: Mohamed Ben Attia

Cinematographer: Frédéric Noirhomme

Editor: Lenka Fillnerova

Sound Designer: Ludovic Escallier, Quentin Colette, Jean-Stéphane Garbe

Music Composer: Olivier Marguerit

Production Company: Nomadis Images

World Sales: Luxbox

Festivals: Venice IFF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023 | Marrakech IFF 2023

Synopsis:

After spending four years in jail for vandalizing his place of work, Rafik has only one plan, take his son to the mountains and show him his amazing discovery.



Director's Biography:

Tunisian filmmaker Mohamed Ben Attia studied audiovisual communication at the University of Valenciennes in France after graduating at the Institut de Hautes Etudes Commerciales (IHEC) in Tunis in 1998. He has directed few short films, *Romantisme* (2004), *Like The Others* (Silver award at FESPACO 2006), *Loi 76* (2011) and *Selma* (2013), which was selected in the international competition of Clermont Ferrand Festival 2014 and won several awards in various festivals. His debut feature *Hedi* in 2016 which wins the Best First Film Award and the Silver Bear Best Actor at the 2016 Berlinale. His second feature *Dear Son* was selected at the Director's Fortnight in Cannes 2018.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2018 Dear Son
- 2016 Hedi
- 2014 Selma (Short)
- 2011 Loi 76 (Short)
- 2006 Like The Others (Short)
- 2004 Romantisme (Short)



Global Cinema

Blackbird Blackbird Blackberry
Blackbird Blackbird Blackberry

2023 | 110 Minutes

Georgian

Colour

Switzerland, Georgia

Director: Elene Naveriani

Producer: Thomas Reichlin, Keti Danelia, Britta Rindelaub

Cast: Eka Chavleishvili, Teimuraz Chinchinadze

Screenplay: Elene Naveriani, Nikoloz Mdivani

Cinematographer: Agnesh Pakozdi

Editor: Aurora Franco Vögeli

Sound Designer: Philippe Ciampi, Marc von Stürler

Production Company: Alva Film, Takes Films

World Sales: Totem Films

Festivals: Cannes: Director's Fortnight 2023
 | Belfast FF 2023 | Sarajevo FF 2023 | BFI
 London 2023 | IFF Rotterdam 2023

Synopsis:

Etero, a 48-year-old woman living in a small village in Georgia, never wanted a husband. She cherishes her freedom as much as her cakes. But her choice to live alone is the cause of much gossip among her fellow villagers. Unexpectedly, she finds herself passionately falling for a man, and is suddenly faced with the decision to pursue a relationship or continue a life of independence. Etero must grapple with her feelings and decide how to find her own path to happiness.



Director's
Biography:

Elene Naveriani studied painting at State Academy of Art in Tbilisi. In 2011 they received their Masters in Critical Curatorial Cybermedia; in 2014 their Bachelor in Film from Geneva University of Art and Design. Their first feature *I Am Truly a Drop of Sun on Earth* premiered at IFF Rotterdam and was awarded numerous prizes including Entrevues Belfort and, Seoul, Xining, Valladolid, Porto. Elene also directed two further short films that received considerable acclaim. *Red Ants Bite* (2019) was nominated for the best Swiss short film award. In 2021, their second feature film *Wet Sand* had its World Premiere in Locarno where it won the Pardo for Best Actor.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 *Wet Sand*
 2019 *Red Ants Bite* (Short)
 2017 *I Am Truly a Drop of Sun on Earth*
 2014 *Gospel of Anasyrma* (Short)



Global Cinema

Body Odyssey

Body Odyssey

2023 | 104 Minutes

English

Colour

Italy, Switzerland

Director: Grazia Tricarico

Producer: Donatello Della Pepa, Salvatore Lizzio, Federico Giacinti, Antonella Volpe, Riccardo Di Pasquale, Olga Lamontanara, Michela Pini, Amel Soudan

Cast: Jacqueline Fuchs, Julian Sands, Adam Misik, Stefan Sauk, Lukas Loughran, Hanna Ullerstam, Maximilian Dirr, Tim Pritchett, Jun Ichikawa, Mili Pecherer, Jacelyn Parry

Screenplay: Grazia Tricarico, Marco Morana, Giulio Rizzo

Cinematographer: Corrado Serri

Editor: Montaggio Davide La Porta

Sound Designer: Eric Guerrino Nardin

Music Composer: Lorenzo Tomio

Production Company: Revok, Fenix Entertainment, Amka Films, Rai Cinema

World Sales: Intramovies

Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023

Synopsis:

Mona is a senior bodybuilder who is training for a world championship, her existence is a spasmodic quest for perfection and beauty.

Her life is steadily followed by her coach who monitors her single daily actions like a demiurge and an artist: her sleep, her nutrition, her training sessions, her doping dosage, her psychology and even her sexual life. This routine gets interrupted when a young guy appears: a single brief sexual encounter over-balances her discipline and her will. Her body, will start evolving into a separate entity with a different personality.



Director's Biography:

Grazia Tricarico (Apulia, Italy, 1986) graduated in Milan in Literature and Philosophy with a qualification in History and Criticism of Cinema. After a career as a video artist and editor, in 2013 she graduated in directing at National Academy of Cinema in Rome. She has written and directed: *Michele Nella Terra* (2012); *Bios* (2013); *Mona Blonde* (2014), *Persefone* (2014), *Ego Devorem* (2016). Her short films have been selected and awarded in several international festivals including Toronto, Clermont - Ferrand, Locarno, Venice. Her first feature film *Body Odyssey* is finalist at the Premio Solinas as best treatment, the screenplay won the Solinas Award for the original feminine universe, the Claudia Sbarigia Award.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2016 Ego Devorem (Short)
- 2014 Persefone (Short)
- 2014 Mona Blonde (Short)
- 2013 Bios (Short)
- 2012 Michele Nella Terra (Short Doc)



Global Cinema

Ser Ser Salhi

City of Wind

2023 | 103 Minutes

Mongolian

Colour

France, Germany, Mongolia,
Netherlands, Portugal, Qatar

Director: Lkhagvadulam Purev-Ochir

Producer: Katia Khazak, Charlotte Vincent

Cast: Tergel Bold-Erdene, Nomin-Erdene
Ariunbyamba, Bulgan Chuluunbat, Ganzorig
Tssetsgee, Tsend-Ayush Nyamsuren

Screenplay: Lkhagvadulam Purev-Ochir

Cinematographer: Vasco Viana

Editor: Matthieu Taponier

Sound Designer: Benjamin Silvestre

Music Composer: Vasco Mendonça

Production Company: Aurora Films, Guru
Media, Uma Pedra no Sapato, Volya Films,
27 Films Production, VOO by mobinet

World Sales: Best Friend Forever

Festivals: Venice FF 2023 | Toronto IFF
2023 | Busan IFF 2023

Synopsis:

A spiritual shaman is a crucial member of the community, the one who everyone depends on when in need of moral and spiritual guidance. What happens when that shaman is a 17-year-old high school student who must balance his profound Spiritual responsibilities while also juggling another life - that of a high school student - working hard to succeed in the cold, callous society of modern Mongolia. But when Ze encounters Maralaa, his senses are awakened and another reality manifests.



Director's Biography:

Lkhagvadulam Purev-Ochir is a Mongolian filmmaker. She graduated from Dokuz Eylul University (Turkey) with a BA in film direction. She also completed an academic certificate in screenwriting from FAMU (Czech Republic) in 2015. She also studied an MA in screenwriting at KinoEyes European Filmmaking Masters (Portugal). She has directed few short films including *Mountain Cat* (2020), selected among others at the Cannes, Sundance FF, Busan IFF and *Snow in September* (2022) which has won the Golden Lion for Best Short Film at the Venice FF before winning the IMDB Short Cuts Award for Best Short Film at the Toronto IFF. *City of Wind* is her first feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 *Snow in September* (Short)
2020 *Mountain Cat* (Short)



Global Cinema

Cerrar Los Ojos

Close Your Eyes

2023 | 165 Minutes

Spanish

Colour

Spain, Argentina

Director: Victor Erice

Producer: Cristina Zumárraga, Pablo E.

Bossi, Victor Erice, Jose Alba, Odile Antonio-Baez, Agustín Bossi, Pol Bossi, Maximiliano Lasansky

Cast: Manolo Solo, Jose Coronado, Ana Torrent, Petra Martínez, María León, Helena Miquel

Screenplay: Victor Erice, Michel Gaztambide

Cinematographer: Valentin Álvarez

Editor: Ascen Marchena

Sound Designer: Iván Marín, Juan Ferro

Music Composer: Federico Jusid

Production Company: Tandem Films, Nautilus Films, Pecado Films, La Mirada del Adiós A.I.E, Pampa Films

World Sales: The Film Factory

Festivals: Cannes FF 2023 | Toronto IFF

2023 | San Sebastián IFF 2023 | BFI

London 2023 | IFF India 2023 | Busan IFF 2023

Synopsis:

A famous Spanish actor, Julio Arenas, disappears while shooting a film. Although his body is never found, the police conclude that he's been the victim of an accident by the sea. Many years later, the mystery surrounding his disappearance is brought back into the spotlight by a TV programme outlining his life, and death, and showing exclusive images of the last scenes he filmed, shot by his dear friend, the director Miguel Garay.



Director's Biography:

Filmmaker Victor Erice is regarded as one of the most renowned filmmakers from Spain. After making several short films, he shot his feature debut *The Spirit of the Beehive* (1973), which would attain a legendary status within Spanish cinema. He then went on to make *The South* (1983), *The Quince Tree Sun* (1992), documentary about painter Antonio López García, won both the Jury Prize and the FIPRESCI Prize at Cannes. In 2005, within the context of the exhibition titled Erice-Kiarostami. Correspondence, he started to direct the series of short films *Letters to Abbas Kiarostami*. At the 2014 Locarno FF, Erice was awarded a Golden Leopard award for lifetime achievement.

Director's Selected Filmography:

1992 *The Quince Tree Sun* (Documentary)

1983 *The South*

1973 *The Spirit of the Beehive*

1963 *Los Días Perdidos* (Short)



Global Cinema

Club Zero

Club Zero

2023 | 110 Minutes

English

Colour

Austria, UK, Germany, France, Denmark, Qatar

Director: Jessica Hausner

Producer: Bruno Wagner, Philippe Bober, Mike Goodridge, Johannes Schubert

Cast: Mia Wasikowska, Sidse Babett Knudsen, Elsa Zylberstein, Mathieu Demy, Amir El-Masry, Ksenia Devriendt

Screenplay: Jessica Hausner, Geraldine Bajard

Cinematographer: Martin Gschlacht

Editor: Karina Ressler

Sound Designer: Erik Mischijew

Music Composer: Markus Binder

Production Company: coop99 filmproduktion, Coproduction Office, Paloma Productions

World Sales: Coproduction Office

Festivals: Cannes: Main Competition 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | Munich IFF 2023 | Sydney IFF 2023 | Sitges FF 2023

Synopsis:

Miss Novak joins the staff of an international boarding school to teach a conscious eating class. She instructs that eating less is healthy. The other teachers are slow to notice what is happening and by the time the distracted parents begin to realise, Club Zero has become a reality.



Director's Biography:

Jessica Hausner was born in Vienna, Austria in 1972. She studied directing at the Film Academy of Vienna where she made the award-winning short films *Flora* (1996) and *Inter-View* (1999). In 2001, her debut feature film, *Lovely Rita* premiered at the Cannes in Un Certain Regard. She returned to Un Certain Regard with her second feature, *Hotel* in 2004. In 2009, *Lourdes* was selected in Competition at the Venice FF where it was awarded the FIPRESCI Prize. *Amour Fou* (2014) was Hausner's third film to be presented in Un Certain Regard. Her English-language debut, *Little Joe* (2019), also premiered in Cannes but this time in Competition.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2019 Little Joe
- 2014 Amour Fou
- 2009 Lourdes
- 2004 Hotel
- 2001 Lovely Rita
- 1999 Inter-View (Short)
- 1995 Flora (Short)



Global Cinema

Mantagheye Bohrani

Critical Zone

2023 | 99 Minutes

Persian

Colour

Iran, Germany

Director: Ali Ahmadzadeh

Producer: Ali Ahmadzadeh, Sina Ataiean
Dena

Cast: Amir Pousti, Shirin Abedinirad,
Maryam Sadeghiyan, Alireza Keymanesh,
Saghar Saharkhiz, Mina Hasanlou, Alireza
Rastjou, Saba Bagheri, Maman Pari, Mr. Fred

Screenplay: Ali Ahmadzadeh

Cinematographer: Abbas Rahimi

Editor: Ali Ahmadzadeh

Sound Designer: Hasan Mahdavi

Music Composer: Milad Movahedi

Production Company: Counter Intuitive film

World Sales: Luxbox

Festivals: Locarno IFF 2023 | Tallinn Black
Nights FF 2023 | Thessaloniki IFF 2023 |
Busan IFF 2023 | Tokyo Filmex 2023 | IFF
Kerala 2023

Synopsis:

Amir leads a lonely life. With his dog for sole company, he drives through the underworld of Tehran, dealing drugs of all kinds and healing troubled souls like a modern prophet. He navigates the city streets aimlessly, following the directions of his GPS while getting high to escape a town with no future. And yet, in his wandering he will find the seed of resistance.



Director's Biography:

Ali Ahmadzadeh was born in Tehran in 1986. Despite being qualified in architecture, his interest in music led him to graduate from the Neinava Music University. He is also a graduate in Film Directing from Iranian Young Cinema Society. After shooting the short films *Pinned* (2007), *Advantage* (2009), *Collage* (2011) and *Zanjan* (2012), in 2013 he made his feature film debut with *Kami's Party*, which was selected at festivals in Tallinn, London, Florence and San Francisco, among others. In 2015 he directed *Atomic Heart*, which participated in competitions such as Bafici, Hong Kong, and Zurich. His third feature *Critical Zone* (2023) won the Golden Leopard at Locarno IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2015 *Atomic Heart*

2013 *Kami's Party*



Global Cinema

Crossing

Crossing

2023 | 108 Minutes

Dutch, English, Arabic, French, Spanish

Colour

Belgium, Croatia, Netherlands

Director: Jacqueline van Vugt

Producer: Germen Boelens, Raymond van der Kaaij

Cast: Hadewych Minis, Gijs Naber, Koen Ruitenbeek, Mus Nelson, Karim Saïda, Ahlaam Teghadouini, Marco Caceres, Soumaya Akaaboune, Antonio Estrada, Carmen Baquero

Screenplay: Jacqueline van Vugt

Cinematographer: Gregor Meerman

Editor: Gert van Berckelaer

Sound Designer: Bram Meindersma, Selle Sellink

Music Composer: Dag Tældeman

Production Company: Revolver Amsterdam

World Sales: Fortissimo Films

Festivals: Nederlands FF 2023 | Warsaw IFF 2023 | Seville European FF 2023

Synopsis:

During the ferry crossing from Morocco to Spain, three storylines intertwine, linked to the characters' fear of loss and love for one another. The Moroccan, Spanish and Dutch characters strive to connect to their loved ones, however their helplessness leaves room for the inevitable. Fear of loss shapes their destinies. As the boat docks in Spain, the drama unfolds as the characters come face to face with the consequences of their actions.



Director's Biography:

Jacqueline van Vugt studied at the Dutch Film and Television Academy. She graduated as Director of Photography. In 1995 Jacqueline directed and produced her first independent documentary *KPL 70-11-12-078* on Dutch soldiers in Bosnia-Herzegovina. For *Two Loves* (2001), on poet Bosie, boyfriend of Oscar Wilde, she won a Dutch Academy Award. Her short fiction, *Tomorrow*, won Best Short at the Mannheim-Heidelberg FF. Her documentary *Borders* was produced by PVH-film, directed and filmed by Jacqueline herself, has won several awards including FIPRESCI Award 2014. Her documentary, *Up to G-Cup* (2021), has won the Dutch Film critics Award. *Crossing* is Jacqueline van Vugt's first fiction feature.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 *Up to G Cup* (Documentary)
 2018 *Refuge* (Documentary)
 2013 *Borders* (Documentary)
 2003 *Toda Una Vida* (Documentary)
 2001 *Tomorrow* (Short)
 2000 *Two Loves* (Documentary)



Global Cinema

Dance First

Dance First

2023 | 100 Minutes

English

Colour

UK, Hungary, Belgium

Director: James Marsh

Producer: Michael Livingstone, Tom Thosttrup, Viktória Petrányi

Cast: Gabriel Byrne, Aidan Gillen, Sandrine Bonnaire, Maxine Peake, Fionn O'Shea

Screenplay: Neil Forsyth

Cinematographer: Antonio Paladino

Editor: David Charap

Sound Designer: Ben Baird

Music Composer: Sarah Bridge

Production Company: Sky Arts, 2Le Media, Proton Films

World Sales: Film Constellation

Festivals: San Sebastián IFF 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | CamerImage 2023 | Red Sea IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Beckett lived a life of many parts: Parisian bon vivant, World War II Resistance fighter, Nobel Prize-winning playwright, philandering husband and recluse. But despite all the adulation that came his way he was a man acutely aware of his own failings. In 1969, having been awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, an embarrassed Beckett simply wanted to be rid of it. This film revolves around this turning point, the internal debate raging within Beckett as to which of the people in his life most deserve to be the beneficiaries of his shame.



Director's Biography:

James Marsh is a UK based filmmaker who came into prominence with documentary *Man on Wire*, which won Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature Film, and *The Theory of Everything* (2015), earned nominations in four categories, including Best Film at Academy Awards. He made his directorial debut in 1999 with *Wisconsin Death Trip*, premiered at Telluride, shown in the Venice and at San Sebastian, where it received a FIPRESCI Prize Special Mention. Other films helmed by Marsh are *The King* (2005), selected for Un Certain Regard in Cannes, *Project Nim* (2011), Best Documentary Directing Award at Sundance and BAFTA nominee for Best Documentary, and *King of Thieves* (2018).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 King of Thieves
2015 Theory of Everything
2011 Project Nim (Documentary)
2008 Man on Wire (Documentary)
2005 The King
1999 Wisconsin Death Trap (Documentary)



Global Cinema

Les Jours Heureux

Days of Happiness

2023 | 118 Minutes

French

Colour

Canada

Director: Chloé Robichaud

Producer: Pierre Even, Paul-E. Audet, Jeannette Garcia

Cast: Sophie Desmarais, Sylvain Marcel, Nour Belkharja, Maude Guérin, Vincent Leclerc, Yves Jacques

Screenplay: Chloé Robichaud

Cinematographer: Ariel Méthot

Editor: Yvann Thibaudeau

Sound Designer: Sylvain Bellemare, Stephen de Oliveira, Luc Boudrias

Music Composer: Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Orchestre Métropolitain and its musicians

Production Company: Item 7

World Sales: Visit Films

Festivals: Toronto IFF 2023 | Vancouver IFF 2023 | Slovak Queer FF 2023

Synopsis:

Emma is a young conductor and rising star on the Montreal scene. *Days of Happiness* chronicles her complex relationship with her father and agent Patrick, who has maintained a devious hold on her since childhood. The possibility of an important position with a prestigious orchestra only raises the stakes for Emma. She will have to give way to her true emotions and make choices, both for her music and for herself, if she is to navigate her career and her romantic relationship with Naëlle, a newly separated cellist and mother of a young boy.



Director's Biography:

Screenwriter/director, Chloé Robichaud's career is already well-established. In 2013, at the age of 25, her first feature film, *Sarah Prefers to Run*, was part of the official selection for the Cannes Un Certain Regard. In 2016, her film *Boundaries*, about the lives of female politicians, was selected for the Toronto IFF, and also won the prestigious "New Directors Prize" at the Seattle IFF. Chloé is also the creator of the web series, *Féminin/Féminin*, which won two Géméaux Awards. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (with distinction) in directing from Concordia University in Montreal and earned a diploma in directing from the Institut National de l'Image et du Son (L'INIS) in 2010.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2016 *Boundaries*
2013 *Sarah Prefers to Run*



Global Cinema

Déserts

Deserts

2023 | 124 Minutes

Arabic

Colour

France, Germany, Morocco, Belgium

Director: Faouzi Bensaïdi

Producer: Saïd Hamich Benlarbi, Nicole Gerhards, Sébastien Delloye

Cast: Fehd Benchemsi, Abdelhadi Taleb, Rabii Benjhaile, Hajar Graigaa, Faouzi Bensaïdi, Nezha Rahil

Screenplay: Faouzi Bensaïdi

Cinematographer: Florian Berutti

Editor: Véronique Lange, Faouzi Bensaïdi

Sound Designer: Patrice Mendez, Abderrazak Amouzoune, Luc Thomas

Music Composer: Edgard Varese

Production Company: Barney Production, NIKo Film, Entre Chien et Loup, Mont Fleuri Production

World Sales: Urban Sales

Festivals: Cannes: Directors' Fortnight: 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023 | Valencia IFF 2023 | Marrakech IFF 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Mehdi and Hamid, who have been friends for a long time, are employed at a debt collection agency. As a consequence of their poor performance, their superiors decide to punish them by assigning a task in the oppressive Moroccan Sahara to recover debts. In the midst of the desert at a gas station, a motorcycle pulls up, carrying a menacing figure handcuffed to the luggage rack – the Fugitive. This encounter initiates an unexpected and mystical expedition for Mehdi and Hamid, altering the course of their journey in unforeseen ways.



Director's Biography:

Acclaimed Moroccan filmmaker Faouzi Bensaïdi directed his first multi-award-winning short film, *The Cliff*, in 1997. In 2000, he directed two short films: *Le Mur*, presented at the Directors' Fortnight in Cannes, and *The Rain Line*, which won an award at the Venice IFF. His first feature-length film, *A Thousand Months* (2003), received two awards when it was presented in the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes. His subsequent film *What a Wonderful World* (2006) played at Venice; *Death for Sale* (2011) won the Art Cinema Award at the Berlinale; and *Volubilis* (2017), which was selected for Venice Days and won seven awards at the Tangier National FF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2017 Volubilis
- 2011 Death for Sale
- 2006 What a Wonderful World
- 2003 A Thousand Months
- 2000 The Rain Line (Short)
- 2000 Le Mur (Short)
- 1997 The Cliff (Short)



Global Cinema

Nu Aștepta Prea Mult De La Sfârșitul Lumii

Do Not Expect Too Much from the End of the World

2023 | 163 Minutes

Romanian

Colour

Romania, Luxembourg, France, Croatia

Synopsis:

Part One: We follow Angela, an overworked production assistant who must drive around the city of Bucharest in order to film the casting for a "safety at work" video commissioned by a multinational company, ostensibly to raise awareness among its own employees on the various dangers that lead to work related accidents. Soon she encounters Marian, a half paralysed worker, who gets the part.

Part Two: When Marian reveals on camera that his work related accident is due to the company's negligence, his statement ignites a scandal, which forces him to re-invent his story to suit the company's narrative.

Director: Radu Jude

Producer: Ada Solomon, Adrian Sitaru

Cast: Ilinca Manolache, Ovidiu Pirșan, Nina Hoss, Dorina Lazăr, László Miske, Katia Pascariu

Screenplay: Radu Jude

Cinematographer: Marius Panduru

Editor: Cătălin Cristuțiu

Sound Designer: Marius Leftărăche

Production Company: 4 Proof Films

World Sales: Heretic Outreach

Festivals: Locarno IFF 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | Chicago IFF 2024 | Busan IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023



Director's Biography:

Radu Jude is a Romanian filmmaker. His feature debut *The Happiest Girl in the World* (2009) was selected for more than 50 international film festivals. Titles such as *Everybody in Our Family* (2012), *Aferim!* (2015), and *Scarred Hearts* (2016) followed and won multiple awards. The international premiere of *The Dead Nation* in Locarno 2017 marked his debut in documentary film. His latest feature, *Bad Luck Banging or Loony Porn*, won the Golden Bear in Berlinale 2021. His latest short, *The Potemkinists* premiered in the Directors' Fortnight 2022 in Cannes and has appeared in over 20 festivals up to now.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 *The Potemkinists* (Short)
 2021 *Bad Luck Banging or Loony Porn*
 2020 *Uppercase Print*
 2018 *I Do Not Care If We Go Down in History as Barbarians*
 2017 *The Dead Nation* (Documentary)
 2016 *Scarred Hearts*
 2015 *Aferim!*
 2012 *Everybody in Our Family*
 2009 *The Happiest Girl in the World*



Global Cinema

Alafzar
Dustland
 2022 | 95 Minutes
 Persian
 Colour
 Iran

Director: Kazem Daneshi
Producer: Bahram Radan
Cast: Pejman Jamshidi, Sara Bahrami, Setareh Pesiani, Tarlan Parvaneh, Sadaf Espahbodi, Mehdi Zaminpardaz
Screenplay: Kazem Daneshi
Cinematographer: Hadi Behrouz, Mehran Mamdooh
Editor: Hamid Najafirad
Sound Designer: Alireza Alavian, Mansour Shahbazi
Music Composer: Behzad Abdi
Production Company: Radrou Creative House
World Sales: Ariana Films Distribution
Festivals: Fajr FF 2022 | Antalya Golden Orange IFF 2022 | Newport Beach FF 2022

Synopsis:

Following the occurrence of a crime, the case is handed over to the interrogator, who himself is in a difficult situation, both professionally and personally. He has to decide on a case involving the mayor's family, and this decision could have far-reaching consequences for everyone. He has to decide between revealing a secret or being silent and expedient, which one is preferable to the other?



Director's
Biography:

Born in 12th November, 1992, Kazem Daneshi holds BS in computer software engineering and BA in Directing. An award-winning short and documentary filmmaker in national and international film festivals; started his job as production manager, director and producer of TV productions. *Dustland* is his debut feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2022 *Dustland*



Global Cinema

Elaha

Elaha

2023 | 110 Minutes

German, Kurdish

Colour

Germany

Director: Milena Aboyan

Producer: Matthias Greving, Igor Dovgal

Cast: Bayan Leyla, Derya Durmaz, Nazmi Kirik, Armin Wahedi, Derya Dilber, Cansu Leyan, Beritan Balci, Hadnet Tesfai, Homa Faghiri, Slavko Popadic

Screenplay: Milena Aboyan, Constantin Hatz

Cinematographer: Christopher Behrmann

Editor: Elias Engelhardt

Sound Designer: Perschya Chehrazi

Music Composer: Kilian Oser

Production Company: Kinescope Film GmbH

World Sales: Pluto Film / Max Mueller

Bhavan

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Sydney FF 2023

| Giffoni FF 2023 | Calgary IFF 2023 | Riga IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Elaha is a young Kurdish-German woman torn between the unconditional love for her family and her own aspirations in life. Although she cares most about having a good time with her girlfriends and taking care of her younger brother, she has to fight patriarchy while being the perfect daughter. Ultimately, she has to make a decision: To tell the truth or live a life in grand delusion. A psychological journey about emancipation that reveals that only by facing reality, we can be true to ourselves.



Director's Biography:

Milena Aboyan was born a Yazidi Kurd in Armenia in 1992. In 2010 she began a four-year acting training program in Germany. During the program, she played parts in several theatrical productions. After receiving her acting degree, she changed disciplines and began to focus on writing. She started working as an assistant dramatic advisor for an early-evening ARD series. In 2015, she began studying screenwriting at the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg. In 2019 she won the Emden Screenplay Award. *Elaha* is her debut feature film. It was already awarded the "Kaiju Cinema Diffusion Prize" at the Locarno IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 Was Bleibt (Short)

2018 Der Greteltrick (Short)

2017 Sonne Scheint Über August (Short)

2016 Die Vertreibung Der Elefanten (Short)



Global Cinema

Embryo, Larva, Butterfly

Embryo, Larva, Butterfly

2023 | 91 Minutes

Greek

Colour

Cyprus, Greece

Director: Kyros Papavassiliou

Producer: Marios Piperides, Janine Teerling

Cast: Maria Apostolakea, Hristos Sougaris,

Makis Papadimitriou, Stephania

Sotiropoulou, Yiannis Niarros

Screenplay: Kyros Papavassiliou

Cinematographer: Thodoros Mihopoulos

Editor: Gianis Halkiadakis

Sound Designer: Christos Kyriakoulis

Music Composer: MMD

Production Company: AMP Filmworks, Graal

World Sales: Cercamon

Festivals: Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 |

Thessaloniki IFF 2023 | Sitges IFF 2023 |

Gijón IFF 2023 | Adelaide FF 2023

Synopsis:

Penelope and Isidoros exist in a universe where one day they can be young lovers, and the next, older and divorced. Their relationship is stretched into new dimensions as their shared and individual recollections are in constant flux. However, somewhere next to their world is another where time is linear. It is possible to break free from the world of arbitrary time? Penelope and Isidoros learn that this "freedom" comes with a cost.



Director's Biography:

Kyros Papavassiliou was born in Cyprus in 1972. His short film *In the Name of the Sparrow* was selected in competition at Cannes in 2007. His debut feature *Impressions of a Drowned Man* had its world premiere at IFF Rotterdam in 2015. Next to filmmaking, Papavassiliou also writes and directs theatre. He has published a collection of poems entitled *Poneman*.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2015 Impressions Of A Drowned Man
2007 In The Name Of The Sparrow
(Short)



Global Cinema

Europa

Europa

2023 | 98 Minutes

English, Albanian, German

Colour

Austria

Director: Sudabeh Mortezaei

Producer: Mehrdad Mortezaei, Sudabeh Mortezaei

Cast: Lilith Stangenberg, Jetnor Gorezi, Steljona Kadillari, Mirando Sylari, Tobias Winter

Screenplay: Sudabeh Mortezaei

Cinematographer: Klemens Hufnagl

Editor: Julia Drack

Sound Designer: Atanas Tcholakov

Production Company: Fratella

Filmproduktion, Good Chaos

World Sales: Memento International

Festivals: BFI London 2023 | Viennale 2023

| Sarajevo IFF 2023 | Marrakech IFF 2023 |

Haifa IFF 2023 | Zurich IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Beate is an ambitious executive working at EUROPA, a mysterious corporation looking to expand into the Balkans region. Seemingly promoting philanthropy and investment in underdeveloped areas, Europa actually needs to buy off lands from locals in a remote valley in Albania using Beate as the main negotiator for this ambiguous mission. But things don't go as planned when she is challenged by Jetnor, a stubborn and spiritual farmer who refuses to leave the land of his ancestors.



Director's Biography:

Born to Iranian parents in Ludwigsburg, Germany, in 1968, Sudabeh Mortezaei grew up in Tehran and Vienna, and completed studies in theatre and film in Vienna and Los Angeles (UCLA). Her feature-length directorial debut, *Macondo* (2014), had its premiere in the Competition at the Berlinale. *Joy* (2018), her second feature, premiered at the Venice IFF and received numerous prizes, including the Best Film Award at the London FF and the Étoile d'Or at the Marrakech IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 *Joy*

2014 *Macondo*

2009 *In Bazaar of Sexes* (Documentary)

2006 *Children of The Prophet* (Documentary)



Global Cinema

Aku Wa Sonzai Shinai

Evil Does Not Exist

2023 | 106 Minutes

Japanese

Colour

Japan

Director: Ryusuke Hamaguchi

Producer: Satoshi Takata

Cast: Hitoshi Omika, Ryo Nishikawa, Ryuji Kosaka, Ayaka Shibutani, Hazuki Kikuchi, Hiroyuki Miura

Screenplay: Ryusuke Hamaguchi

Cinematographer: Yoshio Kitagawa

Editor: Ryusuke Hamaguchi, Azusa Yamazaki

Sound Designer: Izumi Matsuno

Music Composer: Eiko Ishibashi

Production Company: NEOPA Inc., Fictive LLC

World Sales: M-Appeal

Festivals: Venice IFF 2023 | BFI London

2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | San Sebastian IFF

2023 | New York IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai 2023

Synopsis:

Urban ambitions clash with nature in a quiet village close to Tokyo

Takumi and his daughter Hana live in Mizubiki Village, close to Tokyo. Like generations before them, they live a modest life according to the cycles and order of nature. One day, the village inhabitants become aware of a plan to build a glamping site near Takumi's house; offering city residents a comfortable 'escape' to nature. When two company representatives from Tokyo arrive in the village to hold a meeting, it becomes clear that the project will have a negative impact on the local water supply, causing unrest. The agency's mismatched intentions endanger both the ecological balance of the nature plateau and their way of life, with an aftermath that affects Takumi's life.



Director's Biography:

Ryusuke Hamaguchi was born in Japan in 1978. In 2008, *Passion*, his master's degree graduate work from Tokyo University of Arts, was selected at the San Sebastián IFF and Tokyo Filmex. In 2015, his award-winning film *Happy Hour* premiered at the 68th Locarno IFF. In 2021, *Wheel of Fortune and Fantasy* won the Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize at the 71st Berlinale. At the 74th edition of Cannes, *Drive My Car* won the Screenplay Prize and three independent prizes, including FIPRESCI. The following year it received four Academy Award nominations, including Best Film, Best Director, Best Adapted Screenplay and won the Academy Award for Best International Feature Film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 *Drive My Car*
 2021 *Wheel of Fortune and Fantasy*
 2018 *Asako I & II*
 2015 *Happy Hour*
 2012 *Intimacies*
 2010 *The Depths*
 2008 *Passion*



Global Cinema

Synopsis:

In Sarajevo, a teenager seeking validation reveals that she had sex for the first time during a game of 'truth or dare' among middle schoolers. Trapped in her own lie, she invents a pregnancy and becomes the center of a controversy that spirals out of control.

Ekskurzija

Excursion

2023 | 93 Minutes

Bosnian

Colour

Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia,
France, Norway, Qatar

Director: Una Gunjak

Producer: Amra Baksic Camo, Adis Djapo

Cast: Asja Zara Lagumdžija, Nada Spaho,
Maja Izetbegović, Mediha Musilović, Izudin
Bajrović, Muhamed Hadžović

Screenplay: Una Gunjak

Cinematographer: Matthias Pilz

Editor: Clemence Diard

Sound Designer: Igor Camo

Music Composer: Drasko Arzic

Production Company: Film House Bas Celik,
Mer Film, Nukleus film, SCCA / pro.ba,
Salaud Morisset

World Sales: Scca

Festivals: Locarno IFF 2023 | Sao Paulo IFF
2023 | Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023 |
Thessaloniki IFF 2023 | Sarajevo IFF 2023



Director's
Biography:

Una Gunjak was born and raised in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Her first short film, *The Chicken*, premiered at the Cannes FF Critics' Week in 2014 and won the European Film Award for Best Short Film. Her other short film *Salamat*, made in Germany within the initiative Lebanon Factory, premiered at the Directors' Fortnight in 2017. *Excursion* (2023) is her first feature film and gained the support of Eurimages, Aide au Développement at Cinemed 2019, Hubert Bals Script and Project Development Fund, and Sørfond - Norwegian South Film Fund in 2021.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 *Salamat from Germany* (Short)
2016 *On (Dis)covering* (Short)
2014 *The Chicken* (Short)



Global Cinema

Kuolleet Lehdet

Fallen Leaves

2023 | 81 Minutes

Finnish

Colour

Finland, Germany

Synopsis:

Fallen Leaves tells the story of two lonely people who meet each other by chance in the Helsinki night and try to find the first, only, and ultimate love of their lives. Their path towards this honourable goal is clouded by the man's alcoholism, lost phone numbers, not knowing each other's names or addresses, and life's general tendency to place obstacles in the way of those seeking their happiness.

Director: Aki Kaurismäki

Producer: Aki Kaurismäki, Misha Jaari, Mark Lwoff, Reinhard Brundig

Cast: Alma Pöysti, Jussi Vatanen, Janne Hyytiäinen, Nuppu Koivu

Screenplay: Aki Kaurismäki

Cinematographer: Timo Salminen

Editor: Samu Heikkilä

Sound Designer: Pietu Korhonen

Production Company: Sputnik Oy, Bufo, Pandora Films

World Sales: Jenna Demingo

Festivals: Cannes: Main Competition Jury Prize 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | Chicago IFF 2023 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023



Director's Biography:

Aki Kaurismäki, grew up into "the age terrorized by the television", and has tried and managed to stick totally to the inseparable realities of the real world and the "deep screen" that only the 35 mm film - light against the electronic machinations, the beauty of artisan tradition against technological overkill - makes possible. His films are full of quotations but always invisible, a part of a constant dialogue where particles of film culture reveal realities of human environment, society and psyche as it is now; only vaguely known to foreign spectators, there is always an overwhelming presence of Finnish typicalities, 'objects of love' and references to well-known sources of Finnish literary evergreens, painting or of course popular music (or our beloved films).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 The Other Side Of Hope
 2011 Le Havre
 1996 Drifting Clouds
 1991 La Vie De Boheme
 1989 The Match Factory Girl
 1989 Leningrad Cowboys Go America
 1988 Ariel
 1987 Hamlet Goes Business
 1983 Crime And Punishment



Global Cinema

Fogaréu

Fogaréu

2022 | 100 Minutes

Portuguese

Colour

Brazil, France

Director: Flávia Neves

Producer: Mayra Aua, Vania Catani, Tarcila Jacob, Thomas Sparte, Nathalie Mesuret

Cast: Bárbara Colen, Eucir de Souza, Allan Jacinto Santana, Timothy Wilson, Kelly Crifer, Nena Inoue, Vilminha Chaves, Fernanda Vianna, Vilma Montenegro

Screenplay: Flávia Neves, Melanie Dimantas

Cinematographer: Luciana Baseggio, Glaucio Firpo

Editor: Will Domingos, Waldir Xavier

Sound Designer: Waldir Xavier

Music Composer: Fernando Arana

Production Company: Bananeira Filmes, My Mama, Blue Monday

World Sales:

Festivals: Berlinale 2022 | Edinburgh IFF 2022 | Vancouver IFF 2022 | Festival do Rio 2022 | Guadalajara IFF 2022

Synopsis:

On the frontier between the real and the fantastic, the colonial times and the overwhelming modernity of agribusiness, the town of Goiás is the stage where the young Fernanda is faced with secrets about her past. Following the death of her foster mother, she goes back to her wealthy uncle's house to implode certainties and let the painful truth about her origins surface.



Director's Biography:

Flávia Neves was born in Goiânia, Brazil in 1982. She studied film at the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Rio de Janeiro and at the Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión in Cuba. At 16, she directed her first short film, *Liberdade*, screened at FICA (International Environmental FF). She has also worked as an assistant director and producer on short films and documentaries for cinema and TV, before and during her university studies. She wrote and directed the documentary series *Amanajé. O Mensageiro Do Futuro*, which portrayed 13 Indigenous groups from the central-western region of Brazil. *Fogaréu* is her debut feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 *Amanajé, O Mensageiro De Futuro* (Docu Series)
1998 *Liberdade* (Short)



Global Cinema

Footprints on Water

Footprints on Water

2022 | 108 Minutes

English

Colour

India, UK

Director: Nathalia Syam

Producer: Mohaan Naadar

Cast: Adil Hussain, Nimisha Sajayan, Lena Kumar, Antonio Aakeel

Screenplay: Neetha Syam

Cinematographer: Alagappan N

Editor: Suresh Pai

Sound Designer: Resul Pookutty

Music Composer: Tuomas Kantelinen

Production Company: The Production

Headquarters

World Sales:

Festivals: New York Indian FF 2022 | Ottawa

Indian FF 2023 | UK Asian FF 2023 | IFF

Kerala 2023

Synopsis:

Away from the glitz and glam of Birmingham resides an illegal immigrant community who are always in hiding, leaving no proof of their existence, not even their footprints. Raghu, an illegal immigrant in Birmingham - UK, believes that he has finally struck gold as his daughter, Meera, is all set to marry a wealthy groom, a legal resident in the UK. Following a heated argument with Raghu, Meera storms out of the home and never returns. Raghu worries, knowing Meera's habit of making hasty extreme decisions in the spur of the moment. Raghu sets on a mission to find her all by himself without coming under the police radar. Raghu's search for Meera unveils a different side of her life that he never knew existed. Raghu realises that in his race behind the materialistic riches, he has lost everything and everyone that mattered to him the most. But is he too late?



Nathalia Syam is a London-based filmmaker. After completing her degree in Film Studies, she worked as an assistant director for the British and South Indian films. As a seasoned film practitioner, she now leads the BFI Film Academy for Resource Productions. She is director of two short films, *Thaara* (2016) and *Lehenga* (2018), the latter of which was nominated for the Best of British award at the BAFTA-qualifying Iris Prize Award in Cardiff. *Footprints on Water* is her feature film debut. It has already secured the Best Debut Film award at the 2022 New York Indian FF as well as the Best Director and Best Actor awards at the 2023 UK Asian FF.

Director's
Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 *Lehenga* (Short)

2016 *Thaara* (Short)



Global Cinema

Gondola

Gondola

2023 | 85 Minutes

No Dialogue

Colour

Germany, Georgia

Director: Veit Helmer, Matz Müller

Producer: Tsiako Abesadze, Veit Helmer

Cast: Mathilde Irrmann, Nini Soselia, Nlara Chichinadze, Zviad Papuashvili

Screenplay: Viet Helmer

Cinematographer: Goga Devdariani

Editor: Iordanis Karaisaridis, Moritz Geiser, Nikoloz Gulua

Music Composer: Malcom Arison, Soley Stefansdottir

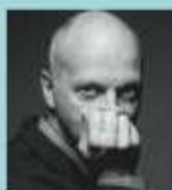
Production Company: Veit Helmer-Filmproduktion, Natura Film

World Sales: Veit Helmer-Filmproduktion, Natura Film

Festivals: Tokyo IFF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023 | Arras FF 2023

Synopsis:

A cable car connects a village in the mountains with a small Georgian town in the valley. Iva starts working at the cable car as an attendant. The cable car has two gondolas. When one gondola goes up, the other goes down. The gondolas meet each other half way. The attendant of the other gondola is Nino. Iva and Nino meet each other as they drive past every half hour, giving them a moment of elation and celebration each time.



Director's Biography:

Veit Helmer shot his first film at the age of 14. He studied film directing at Munich Film school and became famous with his cutting edge short films *Surprise*, shown at Cannes and *Tour Eiffel*, presented at Venice. His first feature film *Tuvalu* (1999), was invited to 62 festivals, including San Sebastian and Berlinale. His cult movie *Absurdistan* premiered in Sundance competition. His documentary film *Behind the Couch* was aired by BBC and 20 broadcasters from all continents. He collaborated with famous artists, such as actor Udo Kier on *Gate to Heaven* (2003), composer Goran Bregovic for *Baikonur* (2010) and actress Paz Vega for *The Bra*. His films won 155 awards altogether.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2018 *The Bra*
- 2014 *Fiddlesticks*
- 2011 *Baikonur*
- 2008 *Absurdistan*
- 2003 *Gate to Heaven*
- 1999 *Tuvalu*



Global Cinema

Wadaean Julia

Goodbye Julia

2023 | 120 Minutes

Arabic

Colour

Sudan, Egypt, Germany, France, Saudi Arabia, Sweden

Director: Mohamed Kordofani

Producer: Amjad Abu Alala, Mohammed Alomda

Cast: Eiman Yousif, Siran Riak, Nazar Gornaa, Ger Duany, Stephanos James Peter

Screenplay: Mohamed Kordofani

Cinematographer: Pierre de Villiers

Editor: Heba Othman

Sound Designer: Rana Eid

Music Composer: Mazin Hamid

Production Company: Station Films Headquarters

World Sales: MAD Films

Festivals: Cannes: Un Certain Regard 2023 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023 | Marrakesh IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Wracked by guilt after covering up a murder, Mona a northern Sudanese retired singer in a tense marriage tries to make amends by taking in the deceased's southern Sudanese widow, Julia, and her son, Daniel, into her home. Unable to confess her transgressions to Julia, Mona decides to leave the past behind and adjust to a new status quo, unaware that the country's turmoil may find its way into her home and put her face to face with her sins.



Director's Biography:

Mohamed Kordofani is a Sudanese filmmaker whose short film *Nyerkuk* won the Black Elephant Award for Best Sudanese Film, NAAS Award for Best Arab Film at the Carthage FF, Jury Award at the Oran International Arab FF, and Amone-Belavite Pellegrini Award at the FCAAA in Milan. His second short *Kejers Prison* (2019) was screened during the Sudanese revolution at the sit-in square in front of thousands of protesters, and his documentary *A Tour in Love Republic* was the first pro-revolution film to be broadcasted on Sudan's national TV. *Goodbye Julia* is his debut feature film..

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 *Kejers Prison* (Short)
2016 *Nyerkuk* (Short)



Global Cinema

Блажь | Blazh
Grace
 2023 | 119 Minutes
 Russian, Georgian, Balkar
 Colour
 Russia

Director: Ilya Povolotsky
Producer: Ivan Nechaev, Ilya Povolotsky
Cast: Maria Lukyanova, Gela Chitava, Eldar Safikanov, Ksenia Kutepova
Screenplay: Ilya Povolotsky
Cinematographer: Nikolay Zheludovich
Editor: Aleksandr Kletsov, Ilya Povolotsky
Sound Designer: Alexander Krotov, Andrey Dergachev
Music Composer: Zurkas Tepla
Production Company: Blackchamber
World Sales: Pascale Ramonda
Festivals: Cannes FF 2023 | San Sebastián IFF 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023 | Stockholm IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023

Synopsis:

An old camper van passes through obscure Russian province, carrying a teen girl, her father and a rusty film projector. They've been on the road for long, drifting among the eerie picturesque "nowheres". She's used to his melancholy and random women. He bears with her whims. But everything changes on the way up North, when their world packed in the tight space of the car along with hopes, hurts, fears, and unburied past — eventually explodes.



Director's Biography:

Ilya Povolotsky (1987, Izhevsk) studied Law, and soon after graduation started a small production company. Directing commercial and commissioned work he gradually shifted to developing independent film projects. His first short documentary film *Northerners* was presented in competitions of Krakow FF and Camerimage, and was soon followed by a feature-length documentary *Froth*, which received a Special Mention at IDFA 2019 and numerous distinctions worldwide. *Grace* is the director's first scripted picture.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2019 *Froth* (Documentary)
 2017 *Northerners* (Short Doc)



Global Cinema

Čuvari Formule

Guardians of the Formula

2023 | 120 Minutes

Serbian, French

Colour

Serbia, Slovenia, Montenegro, North Macedonia

Director: Dragan Bjelogrić

Producer: Goran Bjelogrić, Dragan Bjelogrić, Dragan Solak

Cast: Alexis Manenti, Radivoje Raša Bukvić, Lionel Abelanski, Ognjen Mićović, Anne Serra, Jérémie Laheurte

Screenplay: Vuk Ršumović, Ognjen Sviličić, Dragan Bjelogrić

Cinematographer: Ivan Kostić

Editor: Milena Predić

Sound Designer: Igor Popovski, Ivan Nešković

Music Composer: Aleksandar Randalović

Production Company: Cobra Films

World Sales: Cobra Films

Festivals: Locarno IFF 2023 | Sarajevo IFF 2023 | Sao Paulo IFF 2023 | Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023

Synopsis:

October 1958, the Cold War is at its peak. The fear of a nuclear war is growing every day. Working on a secret experiment at the state nuclear institute in Yugoslavia, a group of young communist scientists led by Prof. Popović get irradiated with a lethal dose of uranium. Under the veil of secrecy, they are sent to Paris to the Institut Curie clinic for experimental medical treatment headed by Dr. Mathé. Dr. Mathé who is a fiery adversary to nuclear weapons feels a genuine contempt for the work endeavours of Prof. Popović and his team. On the other hand, they doubt Mathé's true intentions to cure them. As they are left with only days to live, the medical team still has no solution. Dr. Mathé proposes to perform the first-ever human bone marrow transplant. Is it an experiment with human lives or does he truly want to help? Based on a true story.



Director's Biography:

Dragan Bjelogrić is one of the greatest Serbian actors, directors, and producers. Among a successful acting career that lasts 40 years, he dedicated the last two decades to producing and directing movies and TV shows. His 3 directed films have participated at more than 100 international film festivals.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Toma

2014 See You In Montevideo

2010 Montevideo, Taste Of Dream



Global Cinema

How To Have Sex?

How To Have Sex?

2023 | 98 Minutes

English

Colour

UK

Director: Molly Manning Walker

Producer: Ivana Mackinnon, Emily Leo, Konstantinos Kontovrakis

Cast: Mia McKenna-Bruce, Lara Peake, Shaun Thomas, Samuel Bottomley, Enva Lewis, Laura Ambler

Screenplay: Molly Manning Walker

Cinematographer: Nicolas Canniccioni

Editor: Fin Oates

Sound Designer: Steven Fanagan, Nikos Konstantinos

Music Composer: James Jacob

Production Company: Wild Swim, Heretic

World Sales: Pictureworks

Festivals: Cannes: Un Certain Regard Winner 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | Sundance FF 2024 | Busan IFF 2023

Synopsis:

It's supposed to be the best summer ever. Tara, Skye and Em touch down on the Greek party resort of Malia for the vacation to end all vacations, the girls trip every British teenager ticks off at the cusp of adulthood. Tara, the last remaining virgin, is on a mission to change that: and her best friends are causing chaos right alongside her. The 16-year-old drinks and dances her way through the strip – with all its messy bars and grimy nightclubs – until she meets a couple of boys on the neighbouring hotel balcony who she hopes might give her a summer to remember.



Director's Biography:

Molly Manning Walker originally trained as a Cinematographer. She graduated from the National Film and Television School, UK with an MA in Cinematography. Her graduation film, *November 1st*, took Bronze at the Student Academy awards and was long-listed for a BAFTA among other festivals it was in competition at Camerimage. Molly's directing debut was the short film *Good Thanks, You?* premiered at Semaine De la critique Cannes and went on to play at many festivals. *How To Have Sex?* is her debut feature film as a director. The film won the top prize in Un Certain Regard section.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2020 *Good Thanks, You?* (Short)



Global Cinema

**Vampire Humaniste Cherche
Suicidaire Consentant
Humanist Vampire Seeking Consenting
Suicidal Person**

2023 | 92 Minutes

French

Colour

Canada

Director: Ariane Louis-Seize

Producer: Jeanne-Marie Poulain, Line Sander Egede

Cast: Sara Montpetit, Félix-Antoine Bédard, Steve Laplante, Noémie O'Farrell, Marie Brassard, Madeleine Péloquin, Marc Beaupré, Patrick Hivon, Micheline Bernard, Ariane Castellanos

Screenplay: Christine Doyon, Ariane Louis-Seize

Cinematographer: Shawn Pavlin

Editor: Stéphane Lafleur

Sound Designer: Thierry Bourgault D'Amico, Marie-Pierre Grenier, Simon Gervais, Luc Boudrias

Music Composer: Pierre-Philippe Côté

Production Company: Art et essai

World Sales: H264 Distribution

Festivals: Venice IFF 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | Vancouver IFF 2023 | Sitges FF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

Sasha is a young vampire with a serious problem: she's too sensitive to kill! When her exasperated parents cut off her blood supply, Sasha's life is in jeopardy. Luckily, she meets Paul, a lonely teenager with suicidal tendencies who is willing to give his life to save hers. But their friendly agreement soon becomes a nocturnal quest to fulfill Paul's last wishes before day breaks.



Director's Biography:

Ariane Louis-Seize is a French-Canadian filmmaker based in Montreal. She made her directorial debut with her short film *Wild Skin*, which has travelled in more than 50 festivals. In 2017, she directed *Little Waves*, which had its world premiere at TIFF and its international premiere at the Berlinale. She is also known for her short film *The Depths* (2019) followed by *Shooting Star* (2020), which both had their world premiered at TIFF. With *Shooting Star*, she won a dozen awards and was nominated for a Prix Iris nomination at the 22th Quebec Cinema Award. *Humanist Vampire Seeking Consenting Suicidal Person*, is her first feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 See You In My Dreams (Short)
2020 Shooting Star (Short)
2019 The Depths (Short)
2019 Rituals (Short)
2018 Little Waves (Short)
2016 Wild Skin (Short)



Global Cinema

In Our Day
In Our Day
 2023 | 84 Minutes
 Korean
 Colour
 Republic of South Korea

Director: Hong Sangsoo
Producer: Hong Sangsoo
Cast: Ki Joobong, Kim Minhee, Song Sunmi, Park Miso, Ha Seongguk, Kim Seungyun
Screenplay: Hong Sangsoo
Cinematographer: Hong Sangsoo
Editor: Hong Sangsoo
Sound Designer: Hong Sangsoo
Music Composer: Hong Sangsoo
Production Company: Jeonwonsa Film Co.
World Sales: Finecut Co. Ltd.
Festivals: Cannes: Director's Fortnight 2023
 | São Paulo IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 |
 NYFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

In Seoul, two alternating conversations: an actress is solicited by an amateur; an old poet hosts a fan. The two stars dodge the existential questions of their guests with food, alcohol, guitar playing and naps, games with a cat and rock, paper, scissors. The actress is thinking of giving up her career; the poet is struggling with alcohol and tobacco withdrawal. With the compact eloquence of a haiku, *In Our Day* invites us to look at what is most important and what makes each day of our lives matter.



Director's Biography:

Hong Sangsoo is one of the most celebrated South Korean directors working in today's cinema. Hong is known for his slow-paced films about relationships and everyday dilemmas in contemporary South Korea. He studied at Chungang university, California college of arts, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He made his first feature film in 1996 since then he has made 30 feature films and a few short films. His films are regular presence at prestigious festivals like Cannes, Berlinale, Venice, Toronto etc. He has multiple awards and accolades on his name in all these festivals.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 The Novelist's Film
 2020 The Woman Who Ran
 2015 Right Now, Wrong Then
 2013 Our Sunhi
 2010 Hahaha
 2006 Woman On The Beach
 2004 Woman Is The Future Of Man
 1996 The Day A Pig Fell Into The Well



Global Cinema

Im Totem Winkel

In the Blind Spot

2023 | 117 Minutes

Turkish, German, English, Kurdish

Colour

Germany

Director: Ayşe Polat

Producer: Mehmet Aktaş, Ayşe Polat

Cast: Ahmet Varlı, Çağla Yurga, Nihan Okutucu, Tudan Ürper, Katja Bürkle

Screenplay: Ayşe Polat

Cinematographer: Patrick Orth

Editor: Serhad Mutlu, Jörg Volkmar

Sound Designer: Johannes Grehl, Jürgen Funk

Music Composer: Martin Rott, Matthias Wolf

Production Company: Mitosfilm

World Sales: Arthood

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Istanbul IFF 2023
| Oldenburg IFF 2023 | Hong Kong Asian FF
2023 | Singapore IFF 2023

Synopsis:

A German film team is shooting a documentary in northeastern Turkey. In a remote Kurdish village, they witness an elderly woman performing a recurring ritual to keep the memory of her missing son alive. The Kurdish translator of the German crew is also the nanny of Melek, a 7 year-old Turkish girl. Her father, Zafer, works for a sinister organisation and is caught between loyalty to them and fear for his family's well-being when his daughter appears to be haunted by a mysterious force. The fateful encounter of these people develops a destructive power.



Director's Biography:

The German-Kurdish director, screenwriter and producer Ayşe Polat was born in Malatya, Turkey and grew up in Hamburg, Germany. After numerous internationally award-winning short films, she made her first feature film in 1999, titled *Tour Aboard: En Garde* followed in 2003, which won two Silver Leopards for Best Film and Best Actress at the Locarno IFF 2004. In 2009 she shot the comedy *Luks Glück* followed by *The Heiress* in 2013 and the documentary *The Others* in 2016. She has directed several TV-movies and is currently working on her new feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2016 *The Others* (Documentary)
2013 *The Heiress*
2009 *Luks Glück*
2003 *En Garde*
1999 *Tour Aboard*



Global Cinema

La Chimera
La Chimera
 2023 | 130 Minutes
 Italian, English
 Colour
 Italy, France, Switzerland

Director: Alice Rohrwacher
Producer: Carlo Cresto-Dina
Cast: Josh O'Connor, Isabella Rossellini, Carol Duarte, Alba Rohrwacher, Vincenzo Nemolato

Screenplay: Alice Rohrwacher
Cinematographer: Hélène Louvart

Editor: Nelly Quettier

Sound Designer: Xavier Lavorel
Production Company: tempesta, Ad Vitam, Amka Films Production, RAI CINEMA

World Sales: The Match Factory

Festivals: Cannes: Main Competition 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | Chicago IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

Everyone has their own Chimera, something they try to achieve but never manage to find. For the band of tombaroli, thieves of ancient grave goods and archaeological wonders, the Chimera means redemption from work and the dream of easy wealth. For Arthur, the Chimera looks like the woman he lost, Beniamina. To find her, Arthur challenges the invisible, searches everywhere, goes inside the earth – in search of the door to the afterlife of which myths speak. In an adventurous journey between the living and the dead, between forests and cities, between celebrations and solitudes, the intertwined destinies of these characters unfold, all in search of the Chimera.



Director's
Biography:

Alice Rohrwacher was born in Pieve di Teco, Italy, and educated in Turin, Italy, and Lisbon, Portugal. Rohrwacher's debut film, *Heavenly Body* (2011), was invited to Directors' Fortnight at Cannes and the Sundance FF. Her second feature, *The Wonders* (2014), won the Grand Prix at Cannes, and her third feature, *Happy As Lazzaro* (2018), received the Best Screenplay award at Cannes. *La Chimera* was screened in the main competition at 2023 Cannes, and has subsequently been invited to various prestigious international film festivals.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 *Happy as Lazzaro*
 2014 *The Wonders*
 2011 *Heavenly Body*



Global Cinema

Synopsis:

At an old manor house in northern Portugal, Ana helps her friend, Emília, the elderly housekeeper who is determined to continue to keep the unoccupied house in order for the owners who are never there. As the seasons turn, Mónica, Ana's daughter, challenges her mother's choices and the three generations of women search to understand where they belong in a world that is rapidly fading, where the cycle of life is renovated only through inevitable endings.

Léguas

Legua

2023 | 119 Minutes

Portuguese

Colour

Portugal, France, Italy

Director: Filipa Reis, João Miller Guerra

Producer: Rachel Daisy Ellis, Filipa Reis

Cast: Carla Maciel, Fátima Soares, Vitória Nogueira da Silva, Sara Machado, Paulo Calatré, Manuel Mozos

Screenplay: Filipa Reis, João Miller Guerra, Sara Morais, José Filipe Costa, Leticia Simões

Cinematographer: Vasco Viana

Editor: Luísa Homem

Sound Designer: Benoît Guérineau

Music Composer: Ricardo Jacinto, Hypogeo

Production Company: Uma Pedra no Sapato

World Sales: Luxbox

Festivals: Cannes: Directors' Fortnight 2023
| São Paulo IFF 2023 | Gijón IFF 2023 |
Riga IFF 2023



Filipa Reis has been a film director and producer since 2000 with a postgraduate degree in Cinema and Television, in 2008 Filipa founded the production company Uma Pedra no Sapato. João Miller Guerra is a director, editor and visual artist with a Design major and post graduate course in Painting.

Filipa and João codirected several shorts and documentaries, that were selected and awarded at international film festivals including IDFA, Cinéma du Réel, DOK Leipzig and BAFICI. *Djon África*, their debut fiction feature, premiered at Rotterdam's Tiger Competition in 2018.

Director's
Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 *Djon África*

2015 *On the Side* (Short)

2014 *The Indispensable Practice of Vagueness* (Short)

2014 *Fragments of a Participant Observation* (Short)

2012 *Bela Vista* (Short)

2012 *Cal's Cradle* (Short)



Global Cinema

Mademoiselle Kenopsia

Mademoiselle Kenopsia

2023 | 80 Minutes

French

Colour

Canada

Director: Denis Côté

Producer: Guillaume Vasseur, Denis Côté, Vincent Biron

Cast: Larissa Corriveau, Evelyne de la Chenelière, Olivier Aubin, Hinde Rabbaj

Screenplay: Denis Côté

Cinematographer: Vincent Biron

Editor: Terence Chotard

Sound Designer: Jean-François Caissy, Terence Chotard, Stéphane Bergeron

Production Company: Voyelles Films

World Sales: H264 Distribution

Festivals: Toronto IFF 2023 | Locarno IFF 2023 | Viennale 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023 | Thessaloniki IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Set on carrying out her task with dedication, a woman is obsessed with watching over anonymous interiors and occupying them. Both a custodian of the premises and a ghostly presence, she becomes an echo of how we relate to time, solitude and the melancholy of forsaken spaces.



Denis Côté (1973 - New Brunswick, Canada) founded Nihilproductions in the 1990s and has shot about fifteen short films. He was a journalist and film critic before directing his first feature film *Drifting States* in 2005, beginning a sustained collaboration with producer Stéphanie Morissette that continued with *Our Private Lives* in 2007; then *Curling* (2010), his fifth feature film, which won top honours at the Locarno FF and was shown in over 70 festivals. His first feature film under the umbrella of La maison de prod, *Vic + Flo Saw a Bear* (2013), won the Silver Bear/Alfred Bauer Prize for Innovation at the 2013 Berlinale in Germany.

Director's Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2022 That Kind of Summer
- 2021 Social Hygiene
- 2016 Boris Without Béatrice
- 2013 Vic and Flo Saw a Bear
- 2010 Curling
- 2005 Drifting States



Global Cinema

Magnificat

Magnificat

2023 | 97 Minutes

French

Colour

France

Director: Virginie Sauveur

Producer: Josselyn Bossennec, Bertrand Cohen, Bruno Levy, Stéphane Meunier

Cast: Karin Viard, François Berléand, Nicolas Cazalé, Anaïde Rozam

Screenplay: Virginie Sauveur, Nicolas Silhol

Cinematographer: Noemie Gillot

Editor: Thibaut Damade

Sound Designer: Mathieu Leroy, Benjamin Rosier, Eric Bonnard

Music Composer: Nathaniel Mechaly

Production Company: Move Movie, Terence Films, Orange Studio

World Sales: Orange Studio

Festivals: CINEMANIA Francophone FF 2023

Synopsis:

When an elderly priest dies, the people in charge of his diocese discovered that it was a woman. Without anyone suspecting it, she had been practising her vocation for years. Dismayed, the bishop decided to launch an investigation and asked the chancellor of the diocese to find out how, why and with what complicity such a deception was possible.



Director's Biography:

Virginie Sauveur charted her course in film after graduating from ESRA. Joining K'ien Productions in 1998 as a production assistant, Sauveur swiftly pivoted towards screenwriting, showcasing a natural talent that captured industry attention. In 2001, Arte recognized her potential, granting Sauveur the opportunity to write and direct *Quelques Jours Entre Nous* in 2003. The film went on to win Grand Prize at Luchon IFF. Virginie has directed multiple TV Movies, and series. *Magnificat* is her debut feature.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2003 *Quelques Jours Entre Nous* (Short)

2003 *Alice Ou Le Cul Des Autres* (Short)



Global Cinema

Marinette

Marinette

2023 | 95 Minutes

French, English

Colour

France

Director: Virginie Verrier

Producer: Virginie Verrier

Cast: Garance Marillier, Emilie Dequenne, Sylvie Testud, Fred Testot, Alban Lenoir

Screenplay: Virginie Verrier

Cinematographer: Xavier Dolléans

Editor: Jérôme Bréau

Sound Designer: Christophe Prié

Music Composer: Jean-Fabien Dijoud

Production Company: Vigo Films

World Sales: Pulsar Content

Festivals: Tribeca FF 2023 | Reykjavik IFF 2023 | Hof IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Marinette Pichon is one of the world's greatest stars of football, having held for almost two decades the record for the number of goals and caps for the French team (men/women combined), before becoming a FIFA Legend by being the first French player to have a career in the US. Pioneer of French women's soccer, the film follows her fight to spread awareness on women's rights in sport. A path full of pitfalls, from a childhood ravaged by an alcoholic and violent father to the heavy burden of coming out in an era where there is no such thing as LGBTQ+ rights. Her success in sport will fuel her desire to make a difference in the recognition of French women's soccer, homosexuality, and equal opportunity. It is the story of a woman's life, a fighter, an uncompromising ode to freedom, to surpassing oneself.



Director's Biography:

Virginie Verrier was born in Paris. The films of Bunuel and Fellini she discovered in high school convinced her to become a film director. She graduated from the Conservatoire Libre du Cinéma Français and Paris University 8 and her career as an assistant director. Soon she started directing music videos, TV series and documentaries; in parallel she directed many short films. In 2016 she created the production company Vigo Films. *2 Hours From Paris* is her first feature film, which she produced and directed. She has written and directed multiple episodes or TV Series in France. *Marinette* is her second feature.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2016 *2 Hours From Paris*



Global Cinema

Melk
Milk
 2023 | 96 Minutes
 Dutch
 Colour
 Netherlands

Synopsis:

Days after giving birth to a stillborn baby, Robin's breasts start to produce milk. Unable to throw it away, Robin takes the unusual decision to donate her milk. As her quest for a place to donate becomes more difficult than anticipated, more and more milk starts to crowd her freezer, relationship, and life.

Director: Stefanie Kolk
Producer: Erik Glijnis, Leontine Petit
Cast: Frieda Barnhard, Aleksej Ovsiannikov, Ruth Sahertian, Jules Elting, Murat Toker, Arnoud Bos, Zineb Fallouk, Wirmie Wilhelm
Screenplay: Stefanie Kolk, Nena van Driel
Cinematographer: Emo Weemhoff
Editor: Maarten Ernest
Sound Designer: Jacob Oostra
Production Company: Lemming Film, NTR
World Sales: Bendita Film Sales
Festivals: Giornata degli Autori Venice 2023 | Zurich FF 2023 | Warsaw IFF 2023 | Bordeaux IFF 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023



Director's Biography:

Stefanie Kolk studied biophysics and lived in Japan for two years before entering the Netherlands Film Academy. Her graduation short *Clan* and shorts *Harbour* and *Eyes on the Road* premiered at the Locarno IFF, Pardi di Domani International Competition in 2016, 2017, and 2019. Stefanie's films have been shown at festivals around the world, in Dutch cinemas, and on Dutch national television. She was a participant at Berlinale Talents 2019 and a Talent en Route at the Netherlands FF 2019. Her first feature film, *Melk*, was selected for Berlinale Script Station 2021 and for holding its World Premiere in the Giornata degli Autori at Venice in 2023.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 *Eyes On The Road* (Short)
 2017 *Harbour* (Short)
 2016 *Clan* (Short)



Global Cinema

Midnight At The Paradise

Midnight At The Paradise

2023 | 94 Minutes

English

Colour

Canada

Director: Vanessa Matsui

Producer: Bill Robertson

Cast: Liane Balaban, Allan Hawco, Kenneth Welsh, Emma Ferreira, Ryan Allen, Kate Trotter

Screenplay: Bill Robertson

Cinematographer: Jason Tan

Editor: Pauline Decroix

Sound Designer: Stephen Barden, Bernice Chu, Daniela Pinto

Music Composer: Dillon Baldassero, Songs Written & Performed by The Neighbourhood Watch

Production Company: BillFilms

World Sales: Media Luna

Festivals: Hustler FF 2022 | Cinequest FF 2023

Synopsis:

When they were teenagers, Iris and Alex went to see the sexy French New Wave classic 'Breathless' and fell in love. But life had other plans. Twenty years later, Iris is married to workaholic doctor Geoff, stressed out by motherhood and caring for her dying, self-centred film critic father, Max. Tonight she has scheduled a screening of 'Breathless' at the rundown Paradise Theatre in Max's honour, and on a whim invites Alex. But when Alex shows up with his fiancée Anthea, Iris' world is turned upside down and the two ex-lovers spend the evening contemplating the past and plotting a future together.



Director's Biography:

Vanessa Matsui is a director-actor-writer and *Midnight At The Paradise* is her debut feature. She is an alumna of the Sundance New Voices Lab where she developed the second season of her critically acclaimed hit web series *Ghost BFF*, which she created, wrote, directed for and starred in. *Ghost BFF* was nominated for six Canadian Screen Awards including best Digital Series and two nominations for Vanessa as an actor, it screened at festivals globally and won multiple awards including Best Web Series at the LA International Femme FF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 *Midnight At The Paradise*



Global Cinema

Misericordia

Misericordia

2023 | 95 Minutes

Italian

Colour

Italy

Director: Emma Dante

Producer: Marica Stocchi

Cast: Simone Zambelli, Simona Malato, Tiziana Cuticchio, Milena Catalano, Fabrizio Ferracane, Carmine Maringola, Sandro Maria Campagna

Screenplay: Emma Dante, Elena Stancanelli, Giorgio Vasta

Cinematographer: Clarissa Cappellani

Editor: Benni Atria

Sound Designer: Benni Atria, Gianluca Costamagna, Francesca Genevois

Music Composer: Gianluca Porcu

Production Company: Rosamont And Rai Cinema

World Sales: Charades

Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023 | Rome FF 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Sicily. Contrada Tuono, a small seaside village with stone huts, surrounded by waste and debris. Behind it, a majestic mountain. This is where Arturo was born and where his mother died giving birth to him. Betta and Nuccia, with the help of young Anna, prostitutes like his mother was, take Arturo in and raise him as if he was their own son. Now eighteen years old, Arturo is seemingly different. He is not like other people his age. Though he looks like a man, he behaves like a child. He is unable to speak and moves in an odd way. Arturo navigates the world with a soul that is at times too pure but inspires hope and joy in the village. But like everyone else in Contrada Tuono, he must fight for survival.



Director's Biography:

Emma Dante is an Italian playwright and director. She is a graduate of Silvio d'Amico - the National Academy of Dramatic Art. She is among the most recognised names in contemporary dramaturgy in the world, she is most known for exploring themes of family and marginalization in her work. She has written and directed number of plays which have been showcased across the globe and won multiple accolades, and have been met with praise. She made her debut in cinema with *A Street In Palermo* (2013), which was screened at Venice IFF. Her second feature, *The Macaluso Sisters* (2020) won Pasinetti and Lizzani Prizes, and five Silver Ribbons at the Venice IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2020 *The Macaluso Sisters*
2013 *A Street in Palermo*



Global Cinema

**Kaibutsu
Monster**

2023 | 126 Minutes
Japanese
Colour
Japan

Director: Kore-Eda Hirokazu
Producer: Banse Megumi, Ito Taichi, Taguchi Hijiri
Cast: Mugino Saori, Hori Michitoshi, Mugino Minato, Hoshikawa Yori, Fushimi Makiko
Screenplay: Sakamoto Yuji
Cinematographer: Kondo Ryuto
Editor: Kore-Eda Hirokazu
Sound Designer: Tomita Kazuhiko
Music Composer: Ryuichi Sakamoto
Production Company: AOI Pro. Inc.
World Sales: Impact Sales
Festivals: Cannes: Main Competition 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | San Sebastián IFF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Caerimage 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | Sydney FF 2023

Synopsis:

When her young son Minato starts to behave strangely, his mother feels that there is something wrong. Discovering that a teacher is responsible, she storms into the school demanding to know what's going on. But as the story unfolds through the eyes of mother, teacher and child, the truth gradually emerges.



**Director's
Biography:**

Kore-Eda Hirokazu, the Japanese writer – director is one of the contemporary masters of cinema. After debuting as a director with *Maborosi* (1995), he made several feature films including *After Life* (2001), *Nobody Knows* (2004), and *Like Father, Like Son* (2013) for which he garnered numerous awards at numerous internationally renowned film festivals. In 2018, he was recognised with directing mastery receiving Cannes Palme d'Or with *Shoplifters*. In the following year, he was chosen as the Asian Filmmaker of the Year by the Busan IFF. He has moved audiences across the world with his stories about various configurations of families.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2022 Broker
- 2019 The Truth
- 2018 Shoplifters
- 2015 Our Little Sister
- 2013 Like Father, Like Son
- 2004 Nobody Knows
- 1998 After Life
- 1995 Maborosi



Global Cinema

Orlando, Ma Biographie Politique
Orlando, My Political Biography

2023 | 98 Minutes

French

Colour

France

Director: Paul B. Preciado

Producer: Yaël Fogiel, Laetitia Gonzalez

Cast: Paul B. Preciado, Oscar S. Miller, Janis Saraoui, Liz Christin, Elios Levy, Victor Marzouk, Kori Ceballos, Vanasay

Khamphommala, Ruben Rizza

Screenplay: Paul B. Preciado

Cinematographer: Victor Zebo

Editor: Yotam Ben David

Sound Designer: Arno Ledoux

Music Composer: Clara Deshayes

Production Company: Les Films du Poisson, 24images

World Sales: Party Film Sales

Festivals: Toronto IFF 2023 | Berlinale 2023 | San Sebastián IFF 2023 | IDFA 2023 | Mar del Plata IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

A century after the publication of 'Orlando: A Biography', by Virginia Woolf, Paul B. Preciado, philosopher and trans activist, addresses a letter to tell her that her character has come true: the world is becoming Orlandesque. Preciado calls a cast: "Who are the contemporary Orlandos?" 25 different people, all trans and non-binary, from 8 years old to 70 who come to play Woolf's fictional character while also narrating their own lives; and a series of mid twentieth century trans archives that evoke the real historical Orlandos in their struggle for recognition and visibility.



Director's Biography:

Paul B. Preciado is a writer, philosopher, curator, and one of the leading thinkers in the study of gender and body politics. Among his different assignments, he has been Curator of Public Programs of documenta 14 (Kassel/Athens), Curator of the Taiwan Pavilion in Venice in 2019, and Head of Research of the Museum of Contemporary Art of Barcelona (MACBA). He has published multiple books, which are a key reference to queer, trans and non-binary contemporary art and activism. He was born in Spain and lives in Paris.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2023 Orlando, My Political Biography



Global Cinema

Paradise

Paradise

2023 | 93 Minutes

English, Sinhala, Malayalam, Hindi,

Tamil

Colour

India, Sri Lanka

Director: Prasanna Vithanage

Producer: Anto Chittilappilly

Cast: Roshan Mathew, Darshana Rajendran, Mahendra Perera, Shyam Fernando

Screenplay: Prasanna Vithanage, Anushka Senanayake

Cinematographer: Rajiv Ravi

Editor: A Sreekar Prasad

Sound Designer: Tapas Nayak

Music Composer: K

Production Company: Newton Cinema

World Sales: Prasanna Vithanage

Festivals: Busan IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023 | Dharamsala IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Eager to celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary, Amritha, a video blogger, and her husband Kesav, a film producer, arrive in Sri Lanka from Mumbai to experience a mystical tour of historical places. When three masked men enter their hill country bungalow and steal their mobile phones, laptops, and Amritha's camera, the couple seeks aid from the local police and reports the theft to Sergeant Bandara. Pressured to catch the culprits, Sergeant Bandara produces three unemployed men as suspects. Kesav identifies them as the culprits. One of the men collapses at the police station. The injured man is sent to hospital and dies while receiving treatment in the ICU. The arrests fail to recover their stolen goods, leaving Kesav and Amritha confined to their bungalow. Amritha finds solace in the beautiful surroundings; however Kesav grows increasingly frustrated as he is unable to proceed with his work. The difference in their attitudes creates a deep chasm in their marriage.



Director's Biography:

Prasanna Vithanage is a Sri Lankan filmmaker. He is widely regarded as one of the most influential filmmakers in Sri Lanka, known for his thought-provoking films that often deal with social, political, and cultural issues. His films have received numerous awards and accolades, both locally and internationally. Prasanna is the only five-times NETPAC award winner ever. Over the course of more than 25 years in the film industry, he has addressed social and political issues and garnered 17 awards for his debut feature *Ice on Fire* (1992). The director's notable works include *Death on a Full Moon* (1997); *August Sun* (2003); *Flowers of the Sky* (2008); *With You, Without You* (2012); *Children of the Sun* (2019).

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2019 Children of the Sun
- 2012 With You, Without You
- 2008 Flowers of the Sky
- 2003 August Sun
- 1997 Death on a Full Moon
- 1992 Ice On Fire



Global Cinema

Paradiset Brinner

Paradise Is Burning

2023 | 118 Minutes

Swedish

Colour

Denmark, Finland, Italy, Sweden

Director: Mika Gustafson

Producer: Nima Yousefi

Cast: Bianca Delbravo, Dilvin Asaad, Safira Mossberg, Ida Engvoll, Mitja Siren, Marta Oldenburg, Andrea Edwards

Screenplay: Mika Gustafson, Alexander Öhrstrand

Cinematographer: Sine Vadstrup Brooker

Editor: Anders Skov

Music Composer: Giorgio Giampà

Production Company: Hobab, Intramovies, Toolbox, Tuffi Films

World Sales: Intramovies

Festivals: Venice IFF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Chicago IFF 2023 | Rome FF 2023 | Lisboa FF 2023

Synopsis:

In a working-class area of Sweden, sisters Laura (16), Mira (12) and Steffi (7), get by on their own, left to their own devices by an absent mother. With summer on the way and no parents around, life is wild and carefree, vivacious and anarchic. But when social services call a meeting, Laura has to find someone to impersonate their mom, or the girls will be taken into foster care and separated. Laura keeps the threat a secret, so as not to worry her younger sisters. But as the moment of truth draws closer, new tensions arise, forcing the three sisters to negotiate the fine line between the euphoria of total freedom and the harsh realities of growing up.



Director's Biography:

Mika Gustafson was born in 1988 in Linköping, Sweden. She holds a Bachelor's degree in film directing from Valand Academy, Gothenburg. In her short films, she proposes hazy tales of youth, in which reality and fiction are confused by way of partially scripted stories, montage, and handheld camerawork, as the director throws herself with absolute immediacy into the medium. Her first feature film was the documentary *Silvana* (2017), about the Swedish rapper Silvana Imam, which earned her the Swedish Golden Guldbagge for Best Documentary. Her first feature-length fiction film, *Paradise is Burning* (2023), was awarded the Orizzonti Award for Best Director at the Venice FF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 *Silvana* (Documentary)
2016 *Mephobia* (Short)



Global Cinema

Synopsis:

Hirayama seems utterly content with his simple life as a cleaner of toilets in Tokyo. Outside of his very structured everyday routine he enjoys his passion for music and for books. And he loves trees and takes photos of them. A series of unexpected encounters gradually reveal more of his past. A deeply moving and poetic reflection on finding beauty in the everyday world around us.

Perfect Days

Perfect Days

2023 | 124 Minutes

Japanese

Colour

Japan, Germany

Director: Wim Wenders

Producer: Wim Wenders, Takuma Takasaki, Koji Yanai

Cast: Koji Yakusho, Tokio Emoto, Arisa Nakano, Aoi Yamada, Yumi Aso, Sayuri Ishikawa, Tomokazu Miura, Min Tanaka

Screenplay: Wim Wenders, Takuma Takasaki

Cinematographer: Franz Lustig

Editor: Toni Froschhammer

Sound Designer: Matthias Lempert, Frank Kruse

Music Composer: Patrick Watson

Production Company: Master Mind Ltd., Spoon Inc., Wenders Images GbR

World Sales: The Match Factory

Festivals: Cannes: Main Competition 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | NY FF 2023 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023



Director's Biography:

Wim Wenders (born 1945) came to international prominence as one of the pioneers of German Cinema during the 1970's and is now considered one of the most important figures in contemporary film. In addition to his many prize-winning feature films, his work as a scriptwriter, director, producer, photographer and author also encompasses an abundance of innovative documentary films. He has directed multiple award winning films, prominently – *The American Friend* (1977), *Paris, Texas* (1984), *Wings of Desire* (1987) and genre bending documentaries like *Buena Vista Social Club* (1999), *PINA* (2011), and *The Salt of The Earth* (2014). He is regarded as one of the masters in modern cinema.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Anselm (Documentary)

2014 The Salt of the Earth (Documentary)

2011 PINA (Documentary)

1999 Buena Vista Social Club (Documentary)

1987 Wings of Desire

1984 Paris, Texas

1982 The State of Things

1977 The American Friend



Global Cinema

Synopsis:

...Hard times require furious playing

Teen-volleyball player Sofia's future freedom and agency are threatened by a violent swarm mentality...

On the eve of a future-defining championship, promising volleyball player Sofia (17) is faced with an unwanted pregnancy. Seeking an illegal termination, she becomes the target of a fundamentalist group determined to stop her at any cost – but neither Sofia nor those who love her are willing to surrender to the blind fervor of the swarm.

Levante

Power Alley

2023 | 99 Minutes

Brazilian Portuguese, Spanish

Colour

Brazil, France, Uruguay

Director: Lillah Halla

Producer: Clarissa Guarilha, Rafaella Costa, Louise Bellicaud, Claire Charles-Gervais

Cast: Ayomi Domenica Dias, Loro Bardot, Grace Passô, Gláucia Vandeveld, Rômulo Braga

Screenplay: Maria Elena Morán, Lillah Halla

Cinematographer: Wilssa Esser

Editor: Eva Randolph

Sound Designer: Ruben Valdés, Waldir Xavier, Alejandro Grillo

Music Composer: Maria Beraldo, Badsista

Production Company: Arissas, Manjeriçao Filmes, In Vivo Films, Cimarrón Cine

World Sales: M-Appeal

Festivals: Cannes: Critic's Week 2023 | Festival do Rio 2023 | Braunschweig IFF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Tokyo IFF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023



Director's
Biography:

Lillah Halla is a Brazilian filmmaker graduated from EICTV, Cuba. Her short film *Menarca* (2020), was one of the ten selected at the Cannes Critics' Week, licensed by Canal + and MUBI. *Menarca* was awarded at TIFF -Tirana (2021), Toulouse (2021), Kurzfilmtage Winterthur (2020) and Curta Cinema (2020). *Power Alley* (2023), is her debut feature film. Her second feature, *Flehen*, currently under development, was part of Full Circle Lab Nouvelle Aquitaine and Sam Spiegel Jerusalem Lab in 2021/2022.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2020 *Menarca* (Short)



Global Cinema

Gohr El Fe'ran

Rat Hole

2023 | 94 Minutes

Arabic

Colour

Egypt

Director: Mohamed El-Samman

Producer: Mohamed El-Samman

Cast: Rana Khattab, Mohamed Yorka, Kamal El-Asnawy, Hanan Helmy

Screenplay: Mohamed El-Samman

Cinematographer: Mahmoud El Namr

Editor: Wael Arbab

Music Composer: Safa Barakat

Production Company: Mohamed El-Samman

World Sales: MAD Films

Festivals: Aswan International Women's FF 2023 | Amman IFF 2023 | Meta FF Dubai

Synopsis:

Desperate to make some extra money, Kholoud bites off more than she can chew at work and races against time to fulfil an unreasonable quota.



Mohamed El-Samman, born on December 15, 1985, is an Egyptian director. He has worked as a screenwriter and filmmaker on several works, including *Million March to Ethiopia* (2011).

Director's
Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Rat Hole



Global Cinema

Synopsis:

The French couple adopts a brother and sister from Lithuania. They invite a Lithuanian translator Gabriele to live together for a while and help children to adapt to the new environment. But the family idyll is soon disturbed by cultural differences, contradictory upbringing methods, and rivalry for the kids' affection.

Per Arti
Remember To Blink
 2022 | 109 Minutes
 Lithuanian, French
 Colour
 Lithuania

Director: Austėja Urbaitė
Producer: Živilė Gallego
Cast: Dovilė Kundrotaitė, Anne Azoulay, Arthur Igual, Inesa Sionova, Ajus Antanavičius
Screenplay: Austėja Urbaitė
Cinematographer: Julius Sičiūnas
Editor: Gabrielė Urbonaitė, Austėja Urbaitė
Sound Designer: Julius Grigelionis
Music Composer: Domas Strupinskas
Production Company: Fralita Films
World Sales: Film Republic
Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023 | Warsaw FF 2023 | Go East FF 2023 | Thessaloniki IFF 2023 | IndieLisboa 2023



Director's Biography:

Austėja Urbaitė was born in 1991. In 2010, she began studying film directing at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre. Her student short film entitled *The Etude* (2013) earned considerable attention. Her short film *The Bridges* (2015) received numerous nominations and awards on the film festival circuit. *Remember to Blink* (2022) is Aust[ė]ja's first feature film, it has been awarded for "Best Film", "Best Director", "Best Sound Editing" in national Silver Crane awards 2023, received a Golden Lily for "Best Film" in Go East FF in Germany as well as an international critics association award "FIPRECI" and an audience award for "Best Feature Film" in Indielisboa FF, Portugal.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2015 Bridges (Short)
 2013 This is Reality (Short)
 2013 The Etude (Short)



Global Cinema

Subete No Yoru Wo Omoidasu
Remembering Every Night

2020 | 116 Minutes

Japanese

Colour

Japan

Director: Yui Kiyohara

Producer: Mayumi Amano

Cast: Kumi Hyodo, Minami Ohba, Ai Mikami, Guama Uchida, Tadashi Okuno, Shintaro Yuya, Mizuho Nojima

Screenplay: Yui Kiyohara

Cinematographer: Yukiko Ioka

Editor: Azusa Yamazaki

Sound Designer: Young Chang Hwang

Music Composer: Jon no son

Production Company: PFF Partners (Pia/HoriPro Inc./NIKKATSU) /PFF General Incorporated Association

World Sales: Parallax International Sales

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | San Sebastian IFF 2023 | Beijing IFF 2023

Synopsis:

A story of three women, weaved in the "Tama New Town" suburbs of Tokyo, opened in 1971 as the country's largest-ever residential housing project. One person's precious memory resonates through one day in the life of another.



Kiyohara Yui was born in Tokyo in 1992. *Our House*, her feature debut, won the Grand Prize at the Pia FF in 2017 and internationally premiered at the 68th Berlinale in the Forum section. It went to the 18th Curitiba IFF and won the Grand prix. It also won the Best Director of the 2018 Asian New Talent Award in Shanghai.

Director's
Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:
2017 *Our House*



Global Cinema

Khaterat e Bandbaz
Ropewalker Memories

2023 | 114 Minutes

Persian

Colour

Iran

Director: Hamed Rajabi

Producer: Samira Baradari, Rouhoullah Baradari

Cast: Mir Saeed Molavian, Farzad Motamen, Masoumeh Beigi

Screenplay: Hamed Rajabi

Cinematographer: Amin Jafari

Editor: Hamidreza Barzegar

Sound Designer: Zohreh Aliakbari

Music Composer: Babak Mirzakhani

Production Company: Toubia Films

World Sales: Irimage

Synopsis:

A young man and his father live together in the same apartment. Against his son's wishes, the father brings home sex workers. One day he brings home a young woman who not only does not respond to his advances, but also refuses to leave. Both father and son unite in trying to make her depart. However, when she does finally leave, but of her own free will, her absence becomes unbearable for the two men.



Director's Biography:

Hamed Rajabi graduated in Cinema from Tehran University and took part in the 2011 'Berlinale Talent Campus' in Berlin. His first feature, *A Minor Leap Down*, was selected at the 2015 Berlinale Panorama, where it won the FIPRESCI award. He was scriptwriter on two feature films directed by Majid Barzegar: *Rainy Seasons* (2010) and *Parviz* (2012), both selected at numerous international festivals. *Parviz* had its world premiere at the San Sebastian IFF, where it won Jury's Special Mention Award. He was also scriptwriter on *Dressage* by Pooya Badkoobeh, which won the 2018 Special Mention Award in Generation section at the 68th Berlinale.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2015 *A Minor Leap Down*



Global Cinema

Munnel Sand
2023 | 102 Minutes
Tamil
Colour
Sri Lanka

Director: Visakesa Chandrasekaram
Producer: Visakesa Chandrasekaram
Cast: Sivakumar Lingeswaran, Kamala Sri Mohan Kumar, Thurkka Magendran, Gowtham Sharma
Screenplay: Visakesa Chandrasekaram
Cinematographer: Rishi Selvam
Editor: Sithum Samarajeewa
Sound Designer: Aruna Kaluarachchi
Music Composer: Pathmayan Sivananthan
Production Company: Havelock Arts Studios
World Sales: Visakesa Chandrasekaram
Festivals: IFF Rotterdam 2023 | Tasveer FF of Seattle 2023 | Sydney FF 2023 | Durban IFF 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Rudran, an ex-Tamil militant returns home from military detention, looking for his lover Vaani who had disappeared during the war. Rudran's mother, Sellamma who is gifted with a 'boon' of soothsaying, tells the locals whether their kith and kin are alive or dead, but she refuses to say the same about Vaani. While men and women defeated in the war find solace in massive Hindu temples, Rudran initially refuses to pray, but later in an act of desperation, he joins a month-long pilgrimage seeking help from God Ayyappa, hoping to unite with his lover.



Director's Biography:

Visakesa Chandrasekaram is a lawyer, academic and a filmmaker. He has made three feature films: *Frangipani* (2014) which won the Best International Film Award in 2015 Rio LGBT FF; *Earth* (2018) which won the Jury Award of 2019 Religions Today FF, and *Sand* (2023) which won 2023 Tiger Jury Award at IFF Rotterdam. He was a Jury member of 2023 Sydney FF. He currently works as a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Law in University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2018 Earth
2014 Frangipani



Global Cinema

Sira

Sira

2023 | 120 Minutes

French, Peule

Colour

Burkina Faso, France, Germany, Senegal

Director: Apolline Traoré

Producer: Apolline Traoré, Denis Cougnaud

Cast: Nafissatou Cissé, Mike Danon, Lazare Minoungou, Nathalie Vairac, Ruth Werner, Abdramane Barry, Ildevert Meda, Oumou Ba, Seydou Diallo, Moïse Tiemtore

Screenplay: Apolline Traoré

Cinematographer: Nicolas Berteyac

Editor: Sylvie Gadmer

Sound Designer: Vianney Aubé, Alioune Mbow

Music Composer: Cyril Morin

Production Company: Les Films Selmon, Araucania Films

World Sales: Wide Management

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | Sydney FF 2023 | Durban IFF 2023 | IFF India 2023

Synopsis:

After a brutal attack, a young nomad named Sira refuses to surrender to her fate without a fight and instead takes a stand against Islamist terror. A feminist counterpoint to current reporting from the Sahel region.



Director's Biography:

Apolline Traoré, is a Burkinabé director, winner of several distinctions and awards. She entered the prestigious Emerson College School of Art in Boston, United States. Her graduation film; *The Price of Ignorance* won the Jury Prize at Fespaco 2001. Her first short film *Kounandi* was selected at the Sundance FF and the Toronto IFF in 2004. She worked for a few years on independent films in Hollywood, and then decides to return to Burkino Faso. After *Frontières* (2017), *Desrances* (2019), *Sira* (2023) is her fifth feature film. She was distinguished in 2019, Knight of the Order of Merit, Arts, Letters and Communication.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Witba: A Woman Leader (Documentary)
 2019 Desrances
 2017 Frontières
 2013 Me Zaphira
 2004 Under the Moonlight
 2003 Kounandi (Short)
 2000 The Price of Ignorance (Short)



Global Cinema

Las Hijas
Sister & Sister
 2023 | 80 Minutes
 Spanish
 Colour
 Panama, Chile

Director: Kattia G. Zúñiga
Producer: Alejo Crisóstomo, Kattia G. Zúñiga, Isabella Gálvez Peñafiel, Said Isaac
Cast: Ariana Chaves Gavilán, Cala Rossel Campos, Gabriela Man, Fernando Bonilla, Joshua De León, Lía Jiménez, Michelle Quiñones, Angello Morales, Mir Rodríguez
Screenplay: Kattia G. Zúñiga
Cinematographer: Alejo Crisóstomo
Editor: Andrea Chignoli
Sound Designer: José Rommel Tuñón
Music Composer: Michelle Blades
Production Company: Celbita Films, Mente Pública
World Sales: Pluto Films
Festivals: SXSW 2023 | Málaga FF 2023 | Seattle IFF 2023 | Santiago IFF 2023 | Chennai IFF 2023 | AFI Latin American FF 2023

Synopsis:

Summer vacation. Two sisters, Marina (17) and Luna (14), travel from Costa Rica to Panama to look for their absent father. While dealing with frictions that arise between them, they find space to explore their desires, new friendships, lovers, and skateboarding, on a journey toward emancipation where they discover the joy of the simple act of hanging out. An intimate and tender tale of sisterhood in the urban tropics, with a deep portrayal of colourful teenage life.



Director's Biography:

Kattia G. Zúñiga is Panamanian-Costa Rican, born in 1982. She has a degree in physical therapy and graduated as a dancer from Danza Abierta program of the University of Costa Rica. As an actress, she starred in the fiction features *Nina and Laura* by Alejo Crisóstomo and *Viaje* by Paz Fábrega, among others. She has written and directed the fiction short films *It's Cecilia* and *Things That Don't Break* and has collaborated on several film projects in the art and sound departments. *Sister & Sister* is her debut feature as director.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2017 *Things That Don't Break* (Short)
 2012 *It's Cecilia* (Short)



Global Cinema

**HLM Pussy
Sisterhood**

2023 | 100 Minutes

French

Colour

France, Morocco

Director: Nora El Hourch

Producer: Philippe Gompel

Cast: Léah Aubert, Médina Diarra, Salma Takaline, Oscar Al Hafiane, Mounir Margoum, Bérénice Bejo

Screenplay: Nora El Hourch

Cinematographer: Maxence Lemonnier

Editor: Quentin Jourde d'Arzac

Sound Designer: Rémi Chanaud, Benjamin Lecuyer

Music Composer: Clément Tery

Production Company: Manny Films

World Sales: Memento International

Festivals: Toronto IFF 2023 | Chicago IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Fifteen-year-olds Amina, Djeneba, and Zineb have been an inseparable trio since childhood. When one of the girls is the victim of a predatory incident, an emboldened Amina posts a video of the assault on social media as a means of denouncing the assailant. The video unexpectedly goes viral, eliciting both widespread support and backlash from their community and the internet at large. Amina's actions force a wedge into this formerly invincible friendship, shedding light on the divides in the girls' race, class, and cultural privilege.



Director's
Biography:

Nora El Hourch is a French-Moroccan filmmaker. Her short film *A Few Seconds* (2015) screened at the Directors' Fortnight at Cannes, and was also selected for the Toronto IFF. It won Best Short Film Award at Stockholm, Golden Pram at Zagreb and was also part of the programme at SXSW. In her films, Nora often portrays characters from minority background and tackles issues such as class inequality, injustice, and the role of women in society. *Sisterhood* (2023) is her debut feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2015 *A Few Seconds* (Short)



Global Cinema

Soula
Soula
 2021 | 92 Minutes
 Algerian Arabic
 Colour
 France, Algeria

Director: Salah Issaad
Producer: Salah Issaad, Taqiyeddine Issaad, Abdelghafour Issaad, Franck Sottiaux
Cast: Soula Bahri, Idir Beinaibouche, Franck Yvari
Screenplay: Salah Issaad, Soula Bahri
Cinematographer: Arthur Fanget
Editor: Salah Issaad
Sound Designer: Jonas Braasch, Marco Pascal, Alexandre Perrier
Music Composer: Nicolas Montaigne
Production Company: Issaad Film Productions
World Sales: MAD Films
Festivals: Red Sea IFF 2023 | Beirut International Woman's FF 2023 | Malmo Arab FF 2023 | Amman IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Soula, a young single mother, is rejected by her family in the name of honour. Having nowhere to go when her father throws her out of her home, she calls upon many friends and relatives for help. As she embarks on a tumultuous 14-hour long journey, Soula's sole goal is to spare her baby daughter her pain and struggles. But everything and everyone around her represents a potential threat and the line is often blurry between those who want to help her and those who pull her further into a spiral of violence. From Batna to Annaba, the young woman hops from one car to another swaying in between moments of exhilarating relief and banality with friends and moments of great angst and solitude. Against a backdrop of soothing landscapes, in a dystopic yet breath-taking road trip, Soula heads towards her inevitable destiny.



Director's Biography:

Salah Issaad is an Algerian director. After receiving a bachelor's degree in Letters and Foreign languages in 2008, he joined the Law school of Batna in Algeria. He moved to France to complete his film studies at the University of Paris VIII. Afterward, he joined the ARFIS audiovisual school in Lyon, then he ended up joining the Factory School in Villeurbanne, where he obtained his Cinema director diploma.

Salah directed a feature film and several short films, where his passion motivates him to tell stories that appreciate human relationships. He likes to explore different narrative forms and film genres like drama, tragedy, stories inspired by real events, as well as comedies.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2020 I am Cyrano (Short)



Global Cinema

Sparrow's Call

Sparrow's Call

2023 | 95 Minutes

English

Colour

United Kingdom

Director: Tim Kent

Producer: Alessio Bergamo

Cast: David Bark Jones, Billie Vee

Screenplay: Billie Vee

Cinematographer: Zoran Veljkovic

Editor: Kant Pan

Sound Designer: Glenn Freemantle

Music Composer: Antonio Deodati,
Unaderosa

Production Company: Sparrow's Call LTD

World Sales: Media Luna

Festivals: Panorama of European Cinema
2023

Synopsis:

Mike, a successful married man, is captivated by exotic dancer Val, after saving her from danger. However, as their passion deepens, Mike must confront the repercussions of his affair, as his marriage and career hang in the balance, particularly in Val's hands...



Director's
Biography:

Tim Kent founded the Actors Studio based at Pinewood Studios in 2005. He has been directing professional actors the craft of screen acting for over 25 years. Tim is now working as a director and producer based at the legendary Pinewood Studios. His debut independent feature film *Sparrow's Call* is due for release in 2023

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Sparrow's Call



Global Cinema

СТЕПНЕ

Stepne

2023 | 111 Minutes

Ukrainian, Russian

Colour

Ukraine, Germany, Poland, Slovakia

Director: Maryna Vroda

Producer: Maryna Vroda

Cast: Oleksandr Maksiakov, Nina Antonova, Oleg Primogenov, Radmila Schegoleva

Screenplay: Maryna Vroda, Kirill Schuvalov

Cinematographer: Andrii Lysetskyl

Editor: Franziska Wenzel, Maryna Vroda, Marek Šulík

Sound Designer: Igor Jedinák

Music Composer: Anton Baibakov

Production Company: Vrodastudio

World Sales: New Europe Sales

Festivals: Locarno IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Set amidst stunning Ukrainian winter landscapes, vanishing villages, and emerging feelings of alienation between people in post-Soviet society, *Stepne* is the story of Anatoliy, a man who comes back home from the big city to take care of his dying mother. The mother's passing, a meeting with his brother, and a woman he loves make him reflect on the life he's had and the choices he made along the way. And then, just before her death, the mother tells Anatoliy about a treasure she has buried in the shed...



Director's
Biography:

Maryna Vroda was born in 1982 in Ukraine. In 2007, she graduated in Directing from the Kyiv National I. K. Karpenko-Kary University of Theatre, Cinematography and Television. In 2011 her short film *Cross-Country* won Cannes Palme d'Or. In 2010 Maryna participated in the Berlinale Talent Campus and in 2016 she studied for a Master at the Film University Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF. *Stepne* (2023) is her feature debut.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2015 Penguin (Documentary)
2014 Snails (Short)
2011 Cross Country (Short)
2007 The Rain (Short)
2007 The Oath (Short)
2006 Family Portrait (Short)



Global Cinema

Richelieu

Temporaries

2023 | 89 Minutes

French, Spanish

Colour

France, Canada

Director: Pier-Philippe Chevigny

Producer: Geneviève Gosselin-G, Miléna Poylo, Gilles Sacuto

Cast: Ariane Castellanos, Marc-André Grondin, Nelson Coronado, Antonio Ortega, Gerardo Miranda, Luis Oliva, Micheline Bernard, Eve Duranceau, Marvin Coroy

Screenplay: Pier-Philippe Chevigny

Cinematographer: Gabriel Brault-Tardif

Editor: Amélie Labrèche

Sound Designer: Philippe Lecoœur, Jérôme Gonthier, Jean-Guy Véran

Music Composer: Félícia Atkinson

Production Company: Le Foyer Films, T.S. Productions

World Sales: Be For Films

Festivals: Tribeca FF 2023 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | Fantasia IFF 2023 | Athens IFF 2023 | Vancouver IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Facing bankruptcy after a difficult breakup, Ariane moves back home to the Richelieu Valley and gets a job in a food transformation plant for seasonal migrant workers. Focused on solving her financial issues, Ariane serves as an interpreter between Stéphane, the factory's aggressive supervisor, and the 42 seasonal Guatemalan workers hired as cheap labour. She obeys Stéphane's often excessive orders, pressuring the underpaid Latino workers to constantly work overtime and turning down any request for better conditions. Little by little, she befriends a group of four Guatemalans assigned to the most physically demanding unit of the entire factory. Shovelling shredded corn in the harsh sun all day long, Manuel, Alfonso, Guillermo, and Juan have no one else but her to voice their concerns. Realizing the extent of her new friends' vulnerability, Ariane begins to take a stand. Tension slowly builds up, as Ariane defies Stéphane's decision to fire workers or to illegally install surveillance cameras in the dormitories. When Manuel falls ill to a mysterious condition, the stakes develop into a crisis situation.



Director's Biography:

Pier-Philippe Chevigny is a filmmaker from Montreal, Quebec. His fiction films combine anxiety-inducing mise-en-scène with contemporary social themes. In 2013, his first short film *Tala* received international attention, selected at over 40 festivals. His next short, *Vétérane*, was part of the Quebec delegation to Clermont-Ferrand and Namur in 2017. Finally, *Rebel*, made in 2019, was a resounding success: more than 130 festival selections, including Toronto, Busan, Namur, Stockholm, Vladivostok, etc. and 30 awards including qualification for the Oscar for Best Short Film awarded by the Tirana FF. Building on this success, Pier-Philippe completed in 2023 *Richelieu*, a first feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2019 Rebel (Short)
- 2017 Vétérane (Short)
- 2013 Tala (Short)



Global Cinema

Le Règne Animal
The Animal Kingdom

2023 | 130 Minutes

French

Colour

France

Director: Thomas CAILLEY

Producer: Pierre Guyard

Cast: Romain Duris, Paul Kircher, Adèle Exarchopoulos, Tom Mercier, Jean Boronat

Screenplay: Thomas Cailley, Pauline Munier

Cinematographer: David Cailley

Editor: Lillian Corbeille

Sound Designer: Fabrice Osinski, Raphaël Sohier, Matthieu Fichet, Nicolas Becker, Niels Barletta

Music Composer: Andrea Laszlo De Simone

Production Company: Nord-Ouest Films

World Sales: The Festival Agency

Festivals: Cannes: Un Certain Regard 2023
| Busan IFF 2023 | SITGES 2023 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

Set in near future, two years after the first mutations from human to animal, society tries to adapt to this new reality. Specialized centres are created to take care of and treat these "creatures". However, a convoy accident causes the creatures to disperse into the wild, leading to a series of unexpected events.



Director's Biography:

After directing a short film *Paris Shanghai* (2011), Thomas Cailley made his first feature film *Love at First Fight* (2014) to win a total of three awards including the FIPRESCI award at the Cannes. It received multiple nominations at César awards and won three, including Best First Feature Film. *The Animal Kingdom* is his second feature film and was chosen as the opening film for the Un Certain Regard at the Cannes 2023.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2014 *Love At First Fight*
2011 *Paris Shanghai* (Short)



Global Cinema

L'Etabli
The Assembly Line
 2023 | 117 Minutes
 French
 Colour
 France, Belgium

Director: Mathias Gokalp
Producer: Antoine Gandaubert, Fabrice Goldstein, Antoine Rein
Cast: Swann Arlaud, Mélanie Thierry, Olivier Gourmet, Denis Podalydès
Screenplay: Mathias Gokalp, Nadine Lamari, Marcia Romano
Cinematographer: Christophe Orcand
Editor: Ariane Mellet
Sound Designer: Laurent Benaïm
Music Composer: Flemming Nordkrog
Production Company: Karé Productions
World Sales: Indie Sales
Festivals: Festival du Film Francophone de Grèce 2023 | Vive le Cinéma 2023 | French FF USA - 2023

Synopsis:

France, a few months after May 68.

Robert, an academic and far-left activist, decides to get a job at a car factory as a line worker. Like other comrades, he wants to infiltrate the factory to rekindle the revolutionary fire, but the majority of workers do not want to hear any more about politics. When the company demands that all work three extra hours a week with no compensation, Robert and a few others see the possibility of a social movement.



Director's
Biography:

Mathias Gokalp studied French and literature in Paris and direction in Belgium (INSAS). He worked as a trainer in an educational working group about cinema and directed TV broadcasting. He directed documentaries and several short films, among which *Mi-temps*, nominated at the European Film Awards in 2002, and *Le Droit Chemin*, winner of the SACD prize at la Director's Fortnight in 2004. *Nothing Personal* is his first feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2016 Victor Ou La Piété (Short)
 2010 Je Suis Japonnais (Short Doc)
 2009 Nothing Personal
 2004 Le Droit Chemin (Short)



Global Cinema

**A Noiva
The Bride**

2022 | 81 Minutes
Portuguese
Colour
Portugal

Director: Sérgio Tréfaut
Producer: Sérgio Tréfaut
Cast: Joana Bernardo, Lola Dueñas, Hugo Bentes, Hossein Hassan
Screenplay: Sérgio Tréfaut
Cinematographer: João Ribeiro
Editor: Pedro Filipe Marques
Sound Designer: Marcelo Lessa
Production Company: Faux Unipessoal Lda
World Sales: Alfama Films
Festivals: Venice IFF 2022 | São Paulo IFF 2022 | Seville European FF 2022 | Duhok IFF 2022

Synopsis:

A European teenager ran away from home to marry a Daesh fighter. She became a bride of the Jihad. Three years later, her life has dramatically changed. She is living in an Iraqi prison camp. Now she has two children to take care of and is pregnant again. She is a 20 years old widow and soon will be put on trial in the Iraqi courts. What have the experience of war and brainwashing done to her?



Director's
Biography:

Sérgio Tréfaut was born in São Paulo, Brazil. After completing a Master's degree in Philosophy at the Sorbonne (Paris), he started to work in Lisbon as a journalist. His career evolved from there to his eventually becoming a producer and a prize-winning director of documentaries and feature films screened in more than 50 countries. Sérgio Tréfaut has been on the board of the EDN (European Documentary Network) and co-founded and co-directed Doclisboa IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2011 Viagem A Portugal
2005 Lisboaetas (Documentary)
2002 Fleurette (Documentary)
1999 Outro País (Documentary)



Global Cinema

Crowrà
The Buriti Flower
 2023 | 123 Minutes
 Krahô , Portugese
 Colour
 Brazil, Portugal

Director: João Salaviza, Renée Nader Messorá

Producer: João Salaviza, Renée Nader Messorá, Ricardo Alves Jr., Julia Alves

Cast: Ilda Patpro Krahô, Francisco Hýjnô Krahô, Solane Tehtikwyj Krahô, Raene Kôtô Krahô, Débora Sodré, Luzia Cruwakwyj Krahô And the communities of Pedra Branca, Coprer, Morro Grande and Manoel Alves Pequeno.

Screenplay: João Salaviza, Renée Nader Messorá

Cinematographer: Renée Nader Messorá

Editor: Edgar Feldman João Salaviza, Renée Nader Messorá

Sound Designer: Pablo Lamar

Production Company: Karo Films, Entre Films Brazil

World Sales: Films Boutique

Festivals: Cannes: Un Certain Regard 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023 | AFI Latin American Fest 2023 | Dharamsala IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Through her child's eyes, Patpro will go through three periods of the history of her indigenous people, in the heart of the Brazilian forest. Tirelessly persecuted, but guided by their ancestral rites, their love of nature and their fight to preserve their freedom, the Krahô never stop inventing new forms of resistance.



João Salaviza

João Salaviza is a Portuguese film director, screenwriter, editor, producer, and former actor. He is the recipient of several accolades, including the Short Film Golden Bear for *Rafa* (2012), the Short Film Palme d'Or for *Arena* (2009), the Jury Prize at Un Certain Regard section in Cannes for *The Dead And The Others* (2018) and the Ensemble Prize at Un Certain Regard for *The Buriti Flower* (2023).

Renée Nader Messorá

Renée Nader Messorá, is an Argentine cinematographer, writer, and director. She worked on feature film *Mountain* (2015). She has also shot multiple short films and frequently collaborated with João Salaviza. Her co-direction of *The Dead And The Others* at Cannes 2018 gained international recognition, leading to *The Buriti Flower*, her second feature in collaboration with João Salaviza.

Director's Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

João Salaviza

2018 *The Dead and The Others*
 2015 *Mountain*
 2012 *Rafa* (Short)
 2009 *Arena* (Short)

Renée Nader Messorá

2018 *The Dead and The Others*



Global Cinema

Sluzka

The Chambermaid

2022 | 100 Minutes

Czech, German, Slovakian, Hungarian

Colour

Slovakia, Czech Republic

Director: Mariana Čengel Solčanská

Producer: Radka Babincová, Simona Bago Móciková, Viktor Schwarcz

Cast: Dana Droppová, Radka Caldová, Vica Kerekes, Zuzana Mauréry, Cyril Dobrý

Screenplay: Mariana Čengel Solčanská, Hana Lasicová

Cinematographer: Ladislav Janošík

Editor: Ondrej Azor

Sound Designer: Vianney Aubé, Alioune Mbow

Music Composer: Vladimír Martinka

Production Company: Bright Sight Pictures, Cineart TV Prague

World Sales: Picture Tree International

Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023 | Göteborg IFF 2023 | IFF India 2023 | Santa Barbara IFF 2023 | OUTshine FF Miami 2023 | BFI Flare FF 2023

Synopsis:

Just before World War 1, the fifteen-year-old poverty-stricken Anka from a small Slovak town arrives in Prague to be a maid in a wealthy family. She meets Resi, the daughter of a noble family, who was born and raised to be an adornment and a trophy – of the house, of her family, of Austria-Hungary. Anka and Resi, two girls born in the same year, but at the other ends of the social ladder, find a soulmate in each other. They become best friends, lovers and the only light in a male-dominated world.



Director's
Biography:

Mariana Čengel Solčanská is one of the most influential Slovak directors and writers. She has directed four features. Her latest films *The Kidnapping* and *The Scumbag* had a massive social and political impact and gained record-breaking box office in Slovakia. Solčanská is also a novelist.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 *The Enchanted Cave*

2020 *The Scumbag*

2017 *The Kidnapping*



Global Cinema

Los Delincuentes

The Delinquents

2023 | 189 Minutes

Spanish

Colour

Argentina, Luxembourg, Brazil, Chile

Director: Rodrigo Moreno

Producer: Ezequiel Borovinsky

Cast: Daniel Elias, Esteban Bigliardi, Margarita Molfino, German De Silva, Laura Paredes, Mariana Chaud, Cecilia Rainero, Javier Zoro Sutton, Gabriela Saidon

Screenplay: Rodrigo Moreno

Cinematographer: Alejo Maglio, Ines Duacastella

Editor: Manuel Ferrari, Nicolás Goldbart, Rodrigo Moreno

Sound Designer: Roberto Espinoza

Production Company: Wanka Cine

World Sales: Mubi

Festivals: Cannes: Un Certain Regard 2023
| Toronto IFF 2023 | IFF Rotterdam, 2023 |
Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | Sydney IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Morán is a bank employee in Buenos Aires who dreams up a risky plan to liberate himself and his co-worker Román from the shackles of working life: Morán will steal enough cash from the bank to fund their retirement if Román hides the money for him after he confesses and serves prison time; in three years' time, they'll reunite, split the cash, and never have to work again. Departing to the countryside to fulfill his side of the deal, the less adventurous Román finds himself transformed by Morán's idyllic vision of economic liberation far from the rigors of urban life. But what is the true cost of freedom?



Director's Biography:

Rodrigo Moreno is an Argentine filmmaker born and based in Buenos Aires. His films were awarded and exhibited in several film festivals like Berlinale, San Sebastian, Toronto, Sundance, Rotterdam, Viennale, London, among many others. His film *El Custodio* won the Alfred Bauer Preis in Berlinale and Best Latin American script in Sundance among many others awards. His following film *Un Mundo Misterioso* was also invited to the official competition in Berlinale while *Reimon* and *Una Ciudad De Provincia* were filmed in 2014 and 2017 respectively and both were produced by his own company *Compania Amateur*. Moreno is often identified as a key figure in the "New Argentine Cinema" movement that emerged around 1998.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 *Una Ciudad De Provincia*

2014 *Reimon*

2011 *Un Mundo Misterioso*

2006 *El Custodio*

2001 *El Descanso*



Global Cinema

The Dive

The Dive

2022 | 91 Minutes

English

Colour

Germany, Malta

Director: Maximilian Erlenwein

Producer: Jonas Katzenstein, Maximilian Leo

Cast: Sophie Lowe, Louise Krause

Screenplay: Maximilian Erlenwein, Joachim Hedén

Cinematographer: Frank Griebe

Editor: Philipp Thomas

Sound Designer: Michael Schlömer

Music Composer: Volker Bertelmann, Raffael Seyfried

Production Company: augenschein Filmproduktion

World Sales: Protagonist Picture / Max Mueller Bhavan

Festivals: Munich FF 2023 | Cologne FF 2023

Synopsis:

It was a perfect day for a dive. Clear sight, stable weather and an incredible, reclusive spot. Drew and May, sisters and experienced divers who share a close and complex bond, are excited as they marvel at this undiscovered underwater world. Their sense of wonder is interrupted when May gets struck by the rockfall and is dragged down. Deep underwater, she is trapped by debris, unable to move. As dangerously low levels of oxygen and cold temperatures put May's life at risk, it is up to Drew to fight for her sister's survival. Despite all her ingenuity and strength, Drew ultimately finds herself having to choose between putting her own life at risk or saving her sister. Time is running out.



Director's Biography:

Maximilian Erlenwein studied sociology and media studies in Marburg and directing at the German Film and Television Academy Berlin (dfhb). During his studies he worked as a cinematographer and shot reports and magazine features. In 2005 he founded Fat Lady Filmproduktion, with which he directed several music videos, documentaries, image films and commercials. His feature film debut *Schwerkraft* (2009) won the First Steps Award and the Max Ophüls Prize, among others. The psychological thriller *Stereo* premiered in the Panorama section of the Berlinale in 2014. The Netflix series *Skylines*, where he directed the first three episodes, received a total of 4 Grimme Awards, including Best Series.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2014 *Stereo*
2009 *Schwerkraft*



Global Cinema

Der Fuchs

The Fox

2022 | 113 Minutes

German, Austrian, French

Colour

Germany, Austria

Director: Adrian Goiginger

Producer: Hana Geissendorfer Malte Can, Peter Wirthensohn, Thomas Pridnig, Gerrit Klein, Adrian Goiginger, Peter Wildling, Martin Pfeil

Cast: Simon Morzé, Maximilian Reinwald, Karl Markovics, Karola Niederhuber, Marko Kerezovic, Adriane Gradziel, Alexander Beyer

Screenplay: Adrian Goiginger

Cinematographer: Yoshi Heimrath, Paul Sprinz

Editor: Simon Blasi

Sound Designer: Marvin H. Keil

Music Composer: Arash Safaian

Production Company: Geissendorfer Pictures, Lotus-Film, Giganten Film, 2010 Entertainment, Film AG, SWR, ARTE, BR, ORF

World Sales: Beta Cinema

Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023

Synopsis:

The Fox is the true story of Franz Streitberger, a motorcycle courier for the Austrian Army who was soon drafted into the German Wehrmacht. At the beginning of the Second World War, the introverted young soldier encounters a wounded fox cub, which he then looks after as if it were his own child and takes with him to occupied France. Through this unique friendship with the wild animal, his own past as an outcast farmer's son, which he has always run away from, slowly catches up with him...



Director's Biography:

Adrian Goiginger was born in 1991 in Salzburg, Austria. He is a writer and director, whose directorial debut *The Best of All Worlds* (2017) became a break-out hit after premiering at the Berlinale in 2017 and winning more than 100 awards around the world, including Best European First Film at the Zlin FF and the Best Narrative Feature Award at the New York City Independent FF and five prizes at the Austrian Film Awards in 2018. He also wrote and directed *Above The World* (2022). *The Fox* is his third feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 Above The World
2017 The Best Of All Worlds



Global Cinema

Adentro Mio Estoy Bailando
The Klezmer Project

2023 | 115 Minutes
Spanish, Yiddish, Ukrainian, Romanian,
English, German
Colour
Austria, Argentina

Director: Leandro Koch, Paloma Schachmann

Producer: Andrew Sala, Lukas Rinner, Sebastián Muro, Leandro Koch, Paloma Schachmann

Cast: Leandro Koch, Paloma Schachmann, Perla Sneh, Rebeca Ianover, César Lerner, Marcelo Moguilevsky, Lukas Rinner, Vanya Lemen, Ivan Popovych

Screenplay: Leandro Koch, Paloma Schachmann

Cinematographer: Leandro Koch, Roman Kasseroller

Editor: Leandro Koch, Javier Favot

Sound Designer: Nahuel Palenque

Music Composer: Traditional Klezmer Music

Production Company: Nabis Filmgroup GmbH, Nevada Cine Srl

World Sales: Films Boutique

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | São Paulo IFF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Mar del Plata IFF 2023 | IDFA 2023

Synopsis:

Argentinian cameraman Leandro makes a living from filming Jewish weddings. At one of his jobs, he falls in love with Paloma, the clarinetist of the Klezmer band. To seduce her he pretends to be shooting a documentary film about traditional Yiddish folk music. What Leandro does not know is that his "fake" film project will take him on an unscripted journey throughout Eastern Europe in search of the last remaining Klezmer melodies.

Their wanderings through Ukraine, Romania, and Moldavia are mostly fruitless, with the Jewish presence limited to old photos and painful memories. What they do discover is that many local folk musicians still incorporate elements of the klezmer tradition in their repertoire.

Koch and Schachmann intertwine their personal journey with a folktale about two lovers who defy Jewish traditions, and music historian Rob Cohen explains why after the Second World War the language of the klezmer tradition—Yiddish—gave way to Hebrew



Leandro Koch

Leandro Koch is an Argentinean Writer and Director. He studied Film at the Universidad del Cine, and was part of the Film Program at Universidad Di Tella. He wrote and directed two short films, *Yet Some Day* (2020) and *Visible Island* (2019).

Paloma Schachmann

Paloma Schachmann is an Argentinean Musician, Filmmaker and Researcher, specialized in Klezmer music. She plays in several bands including Oido Obsoleto, Blau, and in the ceremonies of the Amijal Synagogue. Since 2018 she directs Klezmer Culture, a project for the diffusion of Klezmer in Latin America.

Director's Biography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

Leandro Koch

2020 *Yet Some Day* (Short)
2019 *Visible Island* (Short)

Paloma Schachmann

2023 *The Klezmer Project*



Global Cinema

Kadib Abyad

The Mother of All Lies

2023 | 97 Minutes

Arabic

Colour

Morocco, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,
Qatar, Egypt

Director: Asmae El Moudir

Producer: Asmae El Moudir, Marc Lotty

Cast: Zahra Jeddaoui, Mohamed El Moudir,
Ouardia Zorkani, Abdallah EZ Zouid, Said
Masrour, Asmae El Moudir

Screenplay: Asmae El Moudir

Cinematographer: Hatem Nechi

Editor: Asmae El Moudir, Adviser: Nadia Ben
Rachid

Sound Designer: Abdelaziz Glassine,
Michael Fawzy

Music Composer: Nass El Ghiwane

Production Company: Insightfilms, Fig Leaf
Studio

World Sales: Outlook Films

Festivals: Cannes: Un Certain Regard 2023
| Sundance FF 2024 | Toronto IFF 2023 |
Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 |
MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

Young Moroccan filmmaker Asmae El Moudir wants to know why she only has one photograph from her childhood, and why the girl in the picture isn't even her. She decides to explore the past and its mysteries by creating a handmade replica of the Casablanca neighbourhood where she grew up. There, she begins to interrogate the tales her mother, father and grandmother talk about their home and their country. Slowly, she starts to unravel the layers of deception and intentional forgetting that have shaped her life. The truth is hard to face, but in this sometimes surreal nonfiction film, El Moudir begins to draw what is real to the surface



Director's Biography:

Asmae El Moudir is a Moroccan film director, screenwriter and producer. She studied at La Fémis in Paris and holds a master's degree in production from the Superior Institute of Information and Communication in Rabat. She also graduated in 2010 from the Moroccan Film Academy in Film studies (ISCA). Asmae has directed documentaries for SNRT, Al Jazeera Documentary, BBC and Al Araby TV. She has won important national and international awards and her films have been screened in festivals worldwide. After making a number of short films, Asmae completed her first feature documentary, *The Postcard*, in 2020. *The Mother Of All Lies* is her second feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2020 *The Postcard* (Documentary)
2015 *Rough Cut* (Short)
2013 *Thank God It's Friday* (Short)
2012 *The Colours Of Silence* (Short)



Global Cinema

La Voie Royale
The Path of Excellence

2023 | 107 Minutes

French

Colour

France, Switzerland

Director: Frédéric Mermoud

Producer: Véronique Zerdoun, Jean-Stéphane Bron, Lionel Baer

Cast: Suzanne Jouannet, Marie Colomb, Maud Wyler, Cyril Metzger, Marilyne Canto

Screenplay: Anton Likiernik, Frédéric Mermoud, Salvatore Lista

Cinematographer: Tristan Tortuyaux

Editor: Sarah Anderson

Sound Designer: Balthasar Jucker, Etienne Curchod

Music Composer: Audrey Ismaël

Production Company: Tabo Tabo Films, Bande à Part Films

World Sales: Pyramide

Festivals: Locarno IFF 2023 | Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023

Synopsis:

Sophie is a brilliant student. Encouraged by her math teacher, she leaves the family farm to try her chance at the entrance exam for top rated schools by enrolling in a preparatory science class. Going through new encounters, challenges, failures and fierce competition, Sophie realizes that entering the prestigious engineering school of Polytechnique, is not just a question of competition, but a challenge of climbing the social ladder.



Director's Biography:

After a Master's degree in philosophy from the University of Geneva and a filmmaking diploma, Frédéric Mermoud directed several acclaimed short films, including *L'escalier* and the César-nominated *Rachel*. In 2009, his first feature film, *Partners*, was presented in competition at Locarno IFF, and won the Best Screenplay Award for a Swiss film. In 2012, he directed episodes of the cult Canal + series *The Returned*, which won an International Emmy Award. He returned to cinema in 2016 with *Moka*, which was a critical and public success. *The Path Of Excellence* is his third feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2016 Moka
- 2009 Partners
- 2007 Le Créneau (Short)
- 2006 Rachel (Short)
- 2003 L'escalier (Short)
- 1998 Son Jour À Elle (Short)



Global Cinema

Le Grand Chariot

The Plough

2023 | 95 Minutes

French

Colour

France, Switzerland

Director: Philippe Garrel

Producer: Edouard Weil, Laurine Pelassy, Joëlle Bertossa, Flavia Zanon

Cast: Louis Garrel, Damien Mongin, Esther Garrel, Lena Garrel, Francine Bergé, Aurélien Recoing, Mathilde Weil, Asma Messaoudene

Screenplay: Jean-Claude Carrière, Arlette Langmann, Philippe Garrel, Caroline Deruas Peano

Cinematographer: Renato Berta

Editor: Yann Dedet

Sound Designer: Thierry Delor, Guillaume Sciama

Music Composer: Jean-Louis Aubert

Production Company: Rectangle Productions

World Sales: Wild Bunch International

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Viennale 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | Gijon IFF 2023 | Istanbul IFF 2023

Synopsis:

The Plough is a constellation. It is also a puppet theatre. This is the story of a family of puppeteers: siblings Louis, Martha and Lena; their father, who directs the troupe; and the grandmother, who makes the dolls. Together, they are a company and put on puppet shows. One day, following a performance, the father dies of a stroke, leaving his children alone.



Director's Biography:

Philippe Garrel was born on April 6th, 1948, and made numerous short films during his youth. In 1967, he directed his first feature film, *Marie Pour Mémoire*. Three years later, he directed rock icon Nico in the celebrated cult film *La Cicatrice Intérieure*. He has directed more than twenty-five feature films, which have screened widely in the most prestigious international festivals. His latest film, *The Plough*, was premiered in main competition at the Berlinale 2023.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 *Lover For A Day*
 2005 *Frontier Of The Dawn*
 2004 *Regular Lover*
 2001 *Wild Innocence*
 1990 *J'entends Plus La Guitare*
 1983 *Liberte, La Nuit*
 1970 *La Cicatrice Interieure*
 1967 *Marie Pour Memoire*



Global Cinema

La Passion De Dodin Bouffant

The Pot Au Feu

2023 | 135 Minutes

French

Colour

France

Director: Tran Anh Hung

Producer: Olivier Delbosc

Cast: Juliette Binoche, Benoit Magimel, Emmanuel Salinger, Patrick D'Assumcao, Galatea Bellugi, Jan Hammenecker, Pierre Gagnaire

Screenplay: Tran Anh Hung

Cinematographer: Jonathan Ricquebourg

Editor: Mario Battistel

Sound Designer: François Waledisch, Paul Heymans, Thomas Gauder

Music Composer: Ryuichi Sakamoto

Production Company: Curiosa Films

World Sales: Gaumont Films

Festivals: Cannes: Main Competition 2023 |

San Sebastian IFF 2023 | NYFF 2023 |

MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | BFI London 2023

Synopsis:

Peerless cook Eugenie has worked for the famous gourmet Dodin for the last 20 years. As time went by, the practice of gastronomy and mutual admiration turned into a romantic relationship. Their association gives rise to dishes, one more delicious than the next, that confound even the world's most illustrious chefs. But Eugenie is fond of her freedom and has never wanted to marry Dodin. So, he decides to do something he has never done before: cook for her.



Director's Biography:

Tran Anh Hung (Danan, Vietnam, 1962) made his debut in 1993 with *The Scent of Green Papaya*, winner of the Caméra d'Or in Un Certain Regard at Cannes and of the César for Best Debut Feature, nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film. Following this came *Cyclo* (1995), which carried off the Golden Lion and the FIPRESCI Prize in Venice. He returned to Un Certain Regard with *The Vertical Ray of Sun* and to the Venice competition with *Norwegian Wood* (2010). His other films are *I Come with the Rain* (2009) and *Eternity* (2016). *The Pot-Au-Feu* bagged the Best Director Award in Cannes 2023.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2016 Eternity

2010 Norwegian Wood

2009 I Come With The Rain

2000 The Vertical Ray of Sun

1995 Cyclo

1993 The Scent Of Green Papaya



Global Cinema

The Queen of My Dreams

The Queen of My Dreams

2023 | 96 Minutes

English, Urdu

Colour

Canada

Director: Fawzia Mirza

Producer: Jason Levangie, Marc Tetreault, Andria Wilson

Cast: Amrit Kaur, Nimra Bucha, Hamza Haq, Ayana Manji, Gul-e-Rana, Ali A. Kazmi, Meher Jaffri

Screenplay: Fawzia Mirza

Cinematographer: Matt Irwin

Editor: Simone Smith

Sound Designer: Formosa Group

Music Composer: Alysha Brilla

Production Company: Baby Daal

Productions; Shut Up & Colour Pictures

World Sales: Level K

Festivals: Toronto IFF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Leeds IFF 2023 | Whistler FF 2023

Synopsis:

Azra, a Pakistani woman living in Toronto, is worlds apart from her conservative Muslim mother. When her father suddenly dies on a trip home to Pakistan, Azra finds herself on a Bollywood-inspired journey through memories, both real and imagined, from her mother's youth in Karachi to her own coming-of-age in rural Canada.



Director's Biography:

Fawzia Mirza is a queer, South Asian Muslim writer and director. They co-wrote and starred in the feature *Signature Move*, which world premiered at SXSW, screened 150+ film festivals, won 15 awards. They wrote and directed the award-winning *Noor & Layla* (Outfest, BlackStar, Bentonville, Bend, Frameline, 50+ festivals worldwide) and directed the rom-com short *The Syed Family Xmas Eve Game Night* (world-premiered Toronto IFF 2021) named one of Canada's Top 10. Fawzia's directorial feature debut *The Queen Of My Dreams*, shot in Canada and Pakistan, world premiered Toronto IFF 2023, was nominated for the Jean Marc Valée DGC Discovery Award.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 *The Queen of My Dreams*
 2022 *Auntie* (Short)
 2021 *The Syed Family Xmas Eve Game Night* (Short)
 2021 *Noor and Layla* (Short)



Global Cinema

O Corno
The Rye Horn
 2023 | 105 Minutes
 Galician, Portuguese
 Colour
 Spain, Belgium, Portugal

Director: Jaione Camborda
Producer: Jaione Camborda, Andrea Vázquez, Maria Zamora, Rodrigo Arelas, Katleen Goossens
Cast: Janet Novás, Siobhan Fernandes, Carla Rivas, Daniela Hernán Marchán, Diego Anido
Screenplay: Jaione Camborda
Cinematographer: Rui Poças
Editor: Cristobal Fernández
Sound Designer: Sergio Silva
Music Composer: Camilo Sanabria
Production Company: Esnatu Zinema, Miramemira, Elastica Films, Bando à Parte, Bulletproof Cupid
World Sales: Films Boutique
Festivals: San Sebastián IFF 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Tokyo IFF 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

1971, Illa de Arousa, Francoist Spain. Maria is a woman who earns a living harvesting shellfish. She is also known on the island for helping other women in childbirth with special dedication and care. After an unexpected event, she is forced to flee and sets out on a dangerous journey that will make her fight for her survival. Seeking her freedom, Maria decides to cross the border by one of the smugglers' routes between Galicia and Portugal. On her perilous journey to Portugal, Maria encounters female solidarity and realizes that she is not alone and that, thanks to the help of others, she might finally find her freedom.



Director's
Biography:

Jaione Camborda was born in San Sebastian, Spain in 1983. She studied at the Prague (FAMU) and Munich (HFF) film schools before moving to Galicia, where she founded the production company Esnatu Zinema and directed shorts including *Proba de axilidade* (2015), *Nimbos* (2015) and *Rapa das bestas* (2017). *Arima* (2020), her debut feature, earned her the Best Director Award in the New Waves section of the Seville European FF and Best Film in the Escáner section of the Márgenes FF.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2020 *Arima*
 2015 *Rapa das bestas* (Short)
 2015 *Proba de axilidade* (Short)
 2015 *Nimbos* (Short)



Global Cinema

La Sirène

The Siren

2023 | 100 Minutes

Persian

Colour

France, Germany, Luxembourg, Belgium

Director: Sepideh Farsi

Producer: Sébastien Onomo

Cast: Hamidreza Djavdan, Mina Kavani

Screenplay: Javad Djavahery

Animation: Zaven Najjar

Editor: Isabelle Manquillet, Grégoire Sivan

Sound Designer: Luca Theis, Pierre Vedovato

Music Composer: Erik Truffaz

Production Company: Les films d'Ici

World Sales: BAC Films

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Annecy IAF 2023
| Valladolid IFF 2023 | Thessaloniki IFF 2023
| MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

1980, Abadan. The capital of the Iranian oil industry is resisting an Iraqi siege. Fourteen-year-old Omid has braved the siege and stayed in the city with his grandfather, waiting for his elder brother to return from the front line. Along with Omid, a gallery of unusual characters have all remained in the city for their own reasons, and each resists in his or her own way. But the noose is tightening as Omid tries to save his loved ones. But how can you resist in a war without taking up arms? Then Omid finds an abandoned ship in Abadan's harbour. Is this the answer to saving the people he loves?



Director's Biography:

Sepideh Farsi was born in Tehran, Iran, she moved to Paris to study mathematics but soon turned her focus to filmmaking. After making several short films, she made a documentary *Homi D. Sethna, Filmmaker* (2001), which won the FIPRESCI Prize, Cinéma du Réel, and Traces de Vie prize. Her documentaries *Harat* and *Tehran Without Permission* both premiered at Locarno, her first two feature films *Dreams of Dust* and *The Gaze* at the IFF Rotterdam. Her most recent documentary *7 Veils* received the Grand Prix of the French Competition at the IFF Marseille. Farsi was a Member of the Locarno IFF Jury in Best First Feature in 2009.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 *7 Veils* (Documentary)
2014 *Red Rose*
2009 *Tehran Without Permission*
2007 *Harat*
2003 *Dreams of Dust*
2001 *Homi D. Sethna, Filmmaker* (Documentary)
1998 *The World Is My Home* (Documentary)



Global Cinema

Das Lehrerzimmer
The Teacher's Lounge

2022 | 94 Minutes

German

Colour

Germany

Director: İlker Çatak

Producer: Ingo Fliess

Cast: Leonie Benesch, Michael Klammer, Rafael Stachowiak, Eva Löbau, Leonard Stettinisch, Anne-Kathrin Gummich

Screenplay: Johannes Duncker, İlker Çatak

Cinematographer: Judith Kaufmann

Editor: Gesa Jäger

Sound Designer: Kirsten Kunhardt, Thorsten Többen

Music Composer: Marvin Miller

Production Company: if... Productions

World Sales: Pictureworks

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | Valladolid IFF 2023 | Vancouver IFF 2023 | Telluride FF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Carla Nowak, a dedicated sports and math teacher, starts her first job at a high school. She stands out among the new staff because of her idealism. When a series of thefts occur at the school and one of her students is suspected, she decides to get to the bottom of the matter on her own. Carla tries to mediate between outraged parents, opinionated colleagues and aggressive students, but is relentlessly confronted with the structures of the school system. The more desperately she tries to do everything right, the more the young teacher threatens to break.



Director's Biography:

İlker Çatak was born in Berlin in 1984 and later lived in Istanbul where he completed high school. İlker studied Film Directing in Berlin and Hamburg, graduating in 2014 at Hamburg Media School. His graduation film *Sadakat* received many international awards before winning the Student Academy Award in Gold in 2015. His first feature film, *Once Upon A Time Indianerland* debuted in 2017. İlker's second feature film *I Was, I Am, I Will Be* (2019) received the Bronze Lola at the German Film Awards. His feature film *Stambul Garden* was released in Germany in autumn 2021 and also selected at the German Film Awards.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 *Stambul Garden*
2019 *I Was, I Am, I Will Be*
2017 *Once Upon A Time Indianerland*



Global Cinema

Le gang des bois du temple
The Temple Woods Gang

2022 | 114 Minutes

French, English

Colour

France

Director: Rabah Ameur-Zaïmeche

Producer: Rabah Ameur-Zaïmeche

Cast: Régis Laroche, Philippe Petit, Marie Loustalot, Kenji Meunier, Salim Ameur-Zaïmeche, Slimane Dazi

Screenplay: Rabah Ameur-Zaïmeche

Cinematographer: Pierre-Hubert Martin

Editor: Grégoire Pontacaille

Sound Designer: Nikolas Javelle

Music Composer: Annkrist, Sofiane Saïdi

Production Company: Sarrazink Productions

World Sales: Reason 8 Films

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Festival international du film indépendant de Bordeaux 2022

Synopsis:

A retired military man lives in the Temple Woods housing project. Just as he's burying his mother, his neighbour Bébé, who belongs to a gang of robbers from the area, is preparing to rob the convoy of a wealthy Arab prince.



Director's Biography:

Born in 1966 in Algeria, Rabah Ameur-Zaïmeche arrived in France in 1968. He grew up in the Bosquets council estate in Montfermeil (Seine-St-Denis). After studying human sciences, he founded Sarrazink Productions in 1999. Since then, he has produced and directed seven films. His first film, *Wesh wesh, What's Going on?* (2001) won the Louis-Delluc Prize, and he received the Youth Prize at the Cannes FF for his second film, *Back Home* (2006). His following films proved very successful around festivals: Locarno in 2011 for *The Smugglers' Songs* (Jean-Vigo Prize 2012) and Berlinale in 2015 for *The Story of Judas*. He won the FIFIB Grand Prix for *South Terminal* in 2019.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2015 *The Story Of Judas*
- 2011 *The Smugglers' Songs*
- 2008 *Adhen*
- 2006 *Back Home*
- 2001 *Wesh, Wesh, What's Going On?*



Global Cinema

Shahre Khamoush

The Wasteland

2022 | 98 Minutes

Persian

Black & White

Iran

Director: Ahmad Bahrami

Producer: Reza Mohaghegh

Cast: Baran Kowsari, Ali Bagheri, Babak Karimi, Behzad Dorani

Screenplay: Ahmad Bahrami

Cinematographer: Masoud Amini Tirani

Editor: Mostafa Vaziri

Sound Designer: Hasan Mahdavi

Music Composer: Foad Ghahremani

Production Company:

World Sales: Persia Film Distribution

Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights 2022 | Fajr FF 2023

Synopsis:

Bemani has spent ten years in jail for killing her husband. Her child was taken away in prison and allegedly given to her husband's family. Temporarily released, she immediately starts looking for her son. Bemani goes to the car demolition workshop where Ebi, her brother-in-law, works, but he claims not to know anything about the boy's fate. She finds out, however, that it was Ebi who sold the child to a rich family. Bemani tries to extract more information from the workers of the demolition shop, but they demand an indecent favour in return for the information. As a desperate mother, she is prepared to go to the extremes, but not in the way the men are hoping for.



Director's Biography:

Born on 22 December 1972 in Shahryar – Iran, Ahmad Bahrami holds BA in Cinema (Directing) from Soureh University. He has made few short films before directing long-length films. He has also written, directed and produced some documentaries and tele-movies for Iranian television. His second film *The Wasteland* won many awards in international film festivals including Orizzonti Best Film Award at the 77th Venice IFF in 2020. *The Waste Town* is the third feature film he has written and directed.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2020 *The Wasteland*

2017 *Panah*



Global Cinema

C'è Ancora Domani
There Is Still Tomorrow

2023 | 118 Minutes

Italian

Black and White

Italy

Director: Paola Cortellesi

Producer: Mario Gianani, Lorenzo

Gangarossa

Cast: Paola Cortellesi, Valerio Mastandrea,

Romana Maggiora Vergano, Emanuela

Fanelli, Giorgio Colangeli, Vinicio Marchioni

Screenplay: Paola Cortellesi, Giulia Calenda,

Furio Andreotti

Cinematographer: Davide Leone

Editor: Valentina Mariani

Sound Designer: Filippo Porcari, Federica

Ripani

Music Composer: Lele Marchitelli

Production Company: Wildside, Vision

Distribution

World Sales: Vision Distribution

Festivals: Rome FF 2023 | Haifa IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Rome, the latter half of the 1940s. Delia is a wife to Ivano and a mother to her three children: these are the roles that have always defined her. Ivano works to support the family and never misses an opportunity to remind her of the fact. The only person he respects is his father, a man filled with spite, whom Delia has to take care of. In spring, when they celebrate the engagement of Marcella, their eldest daughter, something happens: a mysterious letter leads Delia to hope in brighter future.



**Director's
Biography:**

Paola Cortellesi is an Italian actress, voice actress, film director, singer, and presenter. She has starred in about 20 movies as well as a number of theatrical, television and radio shows. She is considered as one of the finest singing voice in Italy. She won David di Donatello award for Best Actress in 2011 for *Escort In Love*. Her debut film as a director, *There Is Still Tomorrow* (2023) was screened at Rome FF, where it won three awards. The film was well loved by critics, and audiences alike, making it a big hit.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 *There Is Still Tomorrow*



Global Cinema

Tótem

Tótem

2023 | 95 Minutes

Spanish

Colour

Mexico, Denmark, France

Director: Lila Avilés

Producer: Tatiana Graullera, Lila Avilés,
Louise Riousse

Cast: Naima Senties, Monserrat Marañón,
Marisol Gasé, Saori Gurza, Teresita Sánchez,
Mateo García Elizondo, Juan Francisco
Maldonado, Iazua Larios, Alberto Amador

Screenplay: Lila Avilés

Cinematographer: Diego Tenorio

Editor: Omar Guzmán

Sound Designer: Guido Berenblum

Music Composer: Thomas Becka

Production Company: Limerencia Films,
Laterna Film

World Sales: Alpha Violet

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | BFI London 2023
| Telluride IFF 2023 | Hong Kong IFF 2023 |
Melbourne IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Seven-year-old Sol spends the day at her grandfather's home, helping with the preparations for a surprise party for her father. Throughout the day, chaos slowly takes over, fracturing the family's foundations. Sol will embrace the essence of letting go as a release for existence.



Director's Biography:

The Mexican director, screenwriter and producer founded the Limerencia Films production company in 2018. In the same year, she made her debut feature film *The Chambermaid* which screened at over 50 international festivals, won numerous awards and was selected as Mexico's entry for the Best International Feature Film Oscar. She has also been a jury member at the international film festivals in San Sebastián, Morelia and Lima.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 *The Chambermaid*



Global Cinema

Bajo Terapia
Under Therapy
 2023 | 93 Minutes
 Spanish
 Colour
 Spanish

Director: Gerardo Herrero

Producer: Gerardo Herrero, Mariela Besuievsky

Cast: Malena Alterio, Alexandra Jiménez, Fele Martínez, Antonio Pagudo, Eva Ugarte, Juan Carlos Vellido

Screenplay: Gerardo Herrero

Cinematographer: Juan Carlos Gómez

Editor: Clara Martínez Malagelada

Sound Designer: Eduardo Esquide

Music Composer: Paula Olaz

Production Company: Tomasol Media, Alcaraván Films

World Sales: Latido Films

Festivals: San Sebastián IFF 2023 | Málaga FF 2023 | Norwegian IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Three married couples undergoing therapy are summoned by their female psychologist to a meeting. The psychologist won't be attending the reunion herself, but she will give to them instructions about what they must do. Thus, to the sound of a trumpet (literally), the six protagonists will gradually air their dirty laundry concerning their relationships and bring up issues like taking care of the kids, the different home tasks, money, jealousy and sex, until it all leads to a most unexpected and equally shocking end.



Director's Biography:

Gerardo Herrero has produced more than 100 feature films for directors including Alain Tanner, Manoel de Oliveira, Tomás Gutiérrez Alea, Mariano Barroso, Ken Loach and Arturo Ripstein. He is a prolific promoter of international coproductions and collaborations between Spain and Hispanic American countries. He has produced multiple awards and Best Foreign film Oscar winner – *The Secret In Their Eyes* (2009). As director, he has directed numerous films, screened at multiple festivals, with nominations and wins. Most notable films include, *Comanche Territory* (1997), *Frontera Sur* (1998), *The Galindez File* (2003), *Heroine* (2005), *Frozen Silence* (2012).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2012 *Frozen Silence*
 2006 *Rough Winds*
 2005 *Heroine*
 2003 *The Galindez File*
 1998 *Frontera Sur*
 1997 *Comanche Territory*



Global Cinema

Műanyag Égbolt
White Plastic Sky

2023 | 111 Minutes

Hungarian

Colour

Hungary, Slovakia

Director: Tibor Bánóczy, Sarolta Szabó

Producer: Orsolya Sipos, József Fülöp, Juraj Krasnohorsky

Cast: Tamás Keresztes, Zsófia Szamosi, Géza Hegedűs D., Judit Schell, István Znamenák, Zsolt Nagy, Márton Patkós, Renátó Ólasz

Screenplay: Tibor Bánóczy, Sarolta Szabó

Cinematographer: Tibor Bánóczy, Sarolta Szabó

Editor: Judit Czako

Sound Designer: Stefan Smith

Music Composer: Christopher White

Production Company: Salto Films, Artichoke

World Sales: Films Boutique

Festivals: Berlinale 2023 | Annecy 2023 | Hong Kong IFF 2023

Synopsis:

In the near future – 2123, there are no more animals or plants on Earth and the remaining humans are living under a plastic dome. The price for their continuing survival is very high: at the age of 50, they are implanted with a special seed that turns them into a tree which will provide oxygen and food for the community. A young man, Stefan, accepts this system – until the day his wife Nóra decides to give up her life and undergo voluntary implantation. Driven by his love for her, Stefan decides to break the rules of society in order to save her.



Director's
Biography:

Tibor Bánóczy and Sarolta Szabó, the multi-award winning writer and director duo known for their mysterious and often bizarre worlds. They have created critically successful animated shorts such as *Les Conquérants*, which was part of the official programme of Sundance Film Festival's New Frontier in 2012 and was competing at the 2013 César Awards for Best Animated Film. Their animated short, *Leftover*, won the ACSE Equality and Diversity Award at Clermont-Ferrand International Short FF in 2015 and was nominated for Best Animated Film at the César Awards in 2016, and has since been presented at over 40 festivals around the world. *White Plastic Sky* is their animated feature debut.

Director's Selected Filmography:

Tibor Bánóczy & Sarolta Szabó

- 2014 *Leftover* (Animated Short)
- 2011 *Les Conquérants* (Animated Short)
- 2009 *Sleep* (Animated Short)



Global Cinema

Barandeha

Winners

2022 | 85 Minutes

Persian

Colour

United Kingdom, Iran

Director: Hassan Nazer

Producer: Nadira Murray, Paul Welsh

Cast: Reza Naji, Hossein Abedini, Parsa Maghami, Helia Mohammadkhani, Malalai Zikria, Shahrzad Kamalzadeh

Screenplay: Hassan Nazer

Cinematographer: Arash Seifie Jamadi

Editor: Dave Arthur, Hassan Nazer, Reza Jouze

Sound Designer: William Aikman

Music Composer: Mohsen Amini, Mohammad Saeed Shayan

Production Company: Sylph Productions, Edge City Films

World Sales: Dream Labs

Festivals: Edinburgh IFF 2022 | Bari International Film and TV Fest 2023 | Raindance UK 2022 | Dinard Festival Du Film Britannique 2022

Synopsis:

In a poor Iranian village, the children work hard to support their families. One day nine-year old Yahya and his friend Leyla find a precious statuette in the desert. As the authorities search for the lost treasure, sharing Yahya's passion for cinema, Yahya's boss Nasser Khan decides to help the children find its rightful owner.



Director's Biography:

Hassan Nazer is a British writer/director of Iranian origin. He studied theatre at the Art University in Arak before leaving Iran for Europe as a refugee in 2000. Aged 18, he arrived in the UK before going on to study film and media in Aberdeen in 2006. Hassan's previous feature films have been released in Iran and internationally. His latest *Winners* won the Audience Award at the Edinburgh IFF 2022, as well as being the official UK submission for the International Feature Film category at the 95th Academy Awards (2023). Hassan was a Jury Member at the All Lights India IFF, SAARC FF, and BAFTA Scotland.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 The Check Post
2015 Utopia
2012 We Are All Sinners
2011 Black Day



Global Cinema

Kobieta Na Dachu
Woman On The Roof

2022 | 97 Minutes
Polish
Colour
Poland, France, Sweden

Director: Anna Jadowska
Producer: Maria Blicharska
Cast: Dorota Pomykala, Bogdan Koca, Adam Bobik, Agnieszka Suchora, Ewa Stariczek, Edyta Januszewsk
Screenplay: Anna Jadowska
Cinematographer: Ita Zbroniec-Zajt
Editor: Julia Gregory, Piotr Kmiecik
Sound Designer: Roman Dymny, Vincent Verdoux
Music Composer: Katharina Nuttall
Production Company: Donten & Lacroix
Films City Films
World Sales: Loco Films
Festivals: Tribeca FF 2023 | Camerimage 2023 | Seattle IFF 2023 | Brussels IFF 2023 | Hanoi IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Mirka, a 60-year old woman, appears to have a normal life. One morning she starts her day like any other, wakes up early, puts her family's clothes out to dry and purchases food for her fish and commits a bank robbery with a kitchen knife. This unexpected act, breaks her family and life apart and she is forced to look within and discover what she must change to ensure a more fulfilling life. She realises that her need for money is surpassed only by her need for love.



Director's
Biography:

Anna Jadowska graduated from Łódź Film School and Wajda Masterschool of Directing, her feature *Touch Me* (Berlinale 2003 Forum section) won the Grand Independent Cinema Prize in Poland in 2004. The same year, her short film *Corridor* is selected to the Cannes Critics' Week. In 2005, she won the Best Polish Debut Award for her film *Now, Me*. Her last feature, *Wild Roses* (2017) won numerous awards among which the Impact Award Stockholm IFF, 5 Awards Cottbus IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 *Wild Roses*
2005 *Now, Me*
2003 *Touch Me*
2003 *Corridor* (Short)

Documentary >>>

Facts
sometimes
have a
strange and
bizarre **power**
that makes
their inherent
truth seem
unbelievable.

Werner Herzog



Documentary

Das Rauschen Der Zeit

Anselm

2023 | 93 Minutes

German, English

Colour

France, Germany

Synopsis:

In *Anselm*, Wim Wenders creates a portrait of Anselm Kiefer, one of the most innovative and important painters and sculptors of our time. Shot in 3D and 6K-resolution, the film presents a cinematic experience of the artist's work which explores human existence and the cyclical nature of history, inspired by literature, poetry, philosophy, science, mythology and religion. For over two years, Wenders traced Kiefer's path from his native Germany to his current home in France, connecting the stages of his life to the essential places of his career that spans more than five decades.

Director: Wim Wenders

Producer: Kartsen Brüning

Cast: Anselm Kiefer, Daniel Kiefer, Anton Wenders

Screenplay: Wim Wenders

Cinematographer: Franz Lustig

Editor: Maxine Goedicke

Sound Designer: Regis Muller

Music Composer: Leonard Küssner, Laurent Petitgand, René Aubry

Production Company: Road Movies

World Sales: The Festival Agency

Festivals: Cannes 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 |

Toronto IFF 2023 | Telluride FF 2023 |

Sydney FF 2023



Director's Biography:

Wim Wenders (born 1945) came to international prominence as one of the pioneers of German Cinema during the 1970's and is now considered one of the most important figures in contemporary film. In addition to his many prize-winning feature films, his work as a scriptwriter, director, producer, photographer and author also encompasses an abundance of innovative documentary films. He has directed multiple award winning films, prominently – *The American Friend* (1977), *Paris, Texas* (1984), *Wings of Desire* (1987) and genre bending documentaries like *Buena Vista Social Club* (1999), *PINA* (2011), and *The Salt of The Earth* (2014). He is regarded as one of the masters in modern cinema.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 *Perfect Days*

2014 *The Salt of the Earth* (Documentary)

2011 *PINA* (Documentary)

1999 *Buena Vista Social Club* (Documentary)

1987 *Wings of Desire*

1984 *Paris, Texas*

1982 *The State of Things*

1977 *The American Friend*



Documentary

Voyage au Pôle Sud

Antarctica Calling

2023 | 82 Minutes

French

Colour, Black and White

France

Synopsis:

The few thousand kilometres that separate Patagonia from the South Pole are a fascinating and hypnotic journey for explorers. Some even speak of an addiction, 'the Antarctic bite'. Luc Jacquet has been experiencing it for 30 years. This time, he comes back for a visually-striking adventure, offering us in images what one cannot convey with words. Almost like a final journey to a vanishing continent and its inhabitants.

Director: Luc Jacquet

Producer: Laurent Baujard, Pierre Emmanuel-Fleurantin

Cast: Luc Jacquet

Screenplay: Luc Jacquet

Cinematographer: Christophe Gailliot, Jérôme Bouvier, Sarah Del Ben

Editor: Stephane Mazalaigue

Sound Designer: Samy Bardet

Music Composer: Cyrille Aufort

Production Company: Paprika Films

World Sales: Playtime

Festivals: Locarno IFF 2023 | Rio de Janeiro IFF 2023 | Reykjavik IFF 2023 | IFF India 2023



Director's Biography:

French film director and screenwriter Luc Jacquet is renowned for *March of the Penguins* which won the Oscar for Best Documentary Feature 2005 and was nominated for the Writers Guild of America Award for Best Documentary Screenplay. *The Fox And the Child* (2007) had released in Britain and Ireland with an English-language narration by Kate Winslet. *Ice and the Sky* was the closing film of Cannes 2015. In 2017, he organized an artistic expedition to Antarctica with photographer Vincent Munier and diver Laurent Ballesta. He came back with a film, *March of the Penguins 2: The Next Step* (2017), and the immersive exhibition *Antarctica!*

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2017 *March of the Penguins 2: The Next Step*
- 2015 *Ice and Sky* (Documentary)
- 2007 *The Fox and The Child* (Documentary)
- 2005 *March of the Penguins* (Documentary)



Documentary

Bella Ciao - Per la libertà

Bella Ciao

2022 | 92 Minutes

Italian, Turkish, Arabic, Spanish, English

Colour

Italy

Synopsis:

For decades, wherever people have fought against injustice, they have sung "Bella ciao." Some say it was the anthem of Italian partisans fighting against fascism in WWII, but the origins of the song are unclear. Was it a folk song favoured by exploited workers in the rice fields in Italy? The accounts of various speakers are richly illustrated with archive material. Ultimately, the song's origins are less important than what it means to those who sing it as a call for liberty. A Kurdish woman talks about the magical moment she first heard "Bella ciao" as a child, when it was sung during a demonstration—in the banned Kurdish language. In the film, the song connects the struggles for liberation by different generations in various countries. The main focus is on Italy, Turkey and Iraq, all countries in which democracy is under attack to a greater or lesser degree.

Director: Giulia Giapponesi

Producer: Carlo Degli Esposti, Nicola Serra

Cast: Ilkay Akkaya, Stefano Bellotti, Cesare Bermani, Eduardo Carrasco, Floriana Diena Putaturo, Marcello Flores D'Arcais, Fausto Giovannardi

Screenplay: Giulia Giapponesi, Armando Maria Trotta

Cinematographer: Gianluca Ceresoli

Editor: Francesca Sofia Allegra

Sound Designer: Luca Leprotti, Eugenio Mininni

Music Composer: Marco Biscarini

Production Company: Palomar

World Sales: Cinephil

Festivals: IDFA 2022 | Bergamo Film Meeting 2022 | Ljubljana Doc Fest 2023 | Millenium Docs against Gravity 2023



Director's Biography:

Giulia Giapponesi is a screenwriter, director and editor. After graduating in Communication Studies, she worked for over ten years as a video editor, working on television projects, commercials and video clips. In 2012, she founded and chaired the association Kinodromo which promotes independent Italian productions. Additionally, she manages the programming of a small arthouse cinema in Bologna. In 2019 she wrote and directed the short film *The Load*, which was selected to more than 50 international festivals. In 2018, she wrote and directed the documentary *Carracci - The Silent Revolution*, which won awards for Best Director and Best Soundtrack at FilmArte Berlin. *Bella Ciao* (2022) is her first feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 *The Load* (Short)
2018 *Carracci - The Silent Revolution* (Documentary)



Documentary

Par cœurs
By Heart
 2023 | 76 Minutes
 French
 Colour
 France

Synopsis:

It's summertime, 2021. Isabelle Huppert plays Liubov, Chekhov's unforgettable heroine in *The Cherry Orchard*. In a nearby theatre, Fabrice Luchini recites Nietzsche. Both actors are premiering at Avignon's Festival. When they leave backstage to stand out on stage, they are completely transformed. As everything seems utterly natural, audience does not imagine what happened before. By following their daily lives during the weeks preceding the premieres, Benoît Jacquot brings a singular perspective of the two actors and shows them like we've never seen before.

Director: Benoit Jacquot
Producer: Kristina Larsen
Cast: Isabelle Huppert, Fabrice Luccini
Screenplay: Benoit Jacquot
Cinematographer: Caroline Champetier
Editor: Julia Gregory
Sound Designer: Paul Kusnierek
Production Company: Les Films du Lendemain
World Sales: Les Films du Losange
Festivals: São Paulo IFF 2023 | CPH:DOX 2023 | Cinemania FF 2023



Director's Biography:

Benoît Jacquot was born in Paris in 1947. He was the assistant to various directors before making his first film, *The Musician Killer* in 1975. Till date, he has directed over forty films. He has received multiple nominations at Cannes, and Venice with his films like – *Seventh Heaven* (1997), *The School of Flesh* (1998), *Right Now* (2004) and many others. His film *Farewell, My Queen* (2012) opened the 62nd Berlinale. He also received René Clair Award that year. His 2014 film *Three Hearts* competed for the Golden Lion at the 71st Venice IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2014 *Three Hearts*
- 2012 *Farewell, My Queen*
- 2006 *The Untouchable*
- 2004 *Right Now*
- 1998 *The School of Flesh*
- 1997 *Seventh Heaven*
- 1975 *The Musician Killer*



Documentary

Kiarostami Masghoul-e Kar Ast

Kiarostami at Work

2023 | 76 Minutes

French, Persian, English, Italian

Colour, Black and White

Iran

Synopsis:

'Kiarostami at Work' is a documentary showcasing Abbas Kiarostami's boundless passion for work and creativity. The film features images captured by Seifollah Samadian during their thirty years of friendship and travels together, including behind-the-scenes footage of 'Shirin', 'Certified Copy' by the late Hamideh Razavi, and 'Taste of Cherry' by Bahman Kiarostami. Juliette Binoche, Martin Scorsese, and some others have shared insights into Kiarostami's creative works. Throughout more than five decades of his life, Kiarostami engaged in diverse artistic pursuits, from cinema to poetry, making him a symbol of honour for the word 'work'.

Director: Seifollah Samadian

Producer: Seifollah Samadian

Cast: Juliette Binoche, Martin Scorsese, Gilles Jacob, Jonathan Rosenbaum, Geoff Andrew, Ahmad Kiarostami

Cinematographer: Seifollah Samadian, Hamideh Razavi, Bahman Kiarostami

Editor: Seifollah Samadian

Sound Designer: Mohammad Reza-Delpak

Production Company: Tassvir Film Center

World Sales: Dreamlabs

Festivals: Cyrus FF 2023 | Iranian FF Australia 2023 | Busan IFF 2023



Director's Biography:

Seifollah Samadian was born in Iran in 1954, starting his photographic career in 1968 and his documentary film making in 1978. He has been both publisher and editor-in-chief of TASSVIR (Image) Magazine since 1991 and founded Tassvir Film Festival & Tassvir Film Center in 2003. Samadian has worked in close collaboration with Abbas Kiarostami as the cameraman of 'A.B.C Africa', 'Five' and 'Roads of Kiarostami'.

His documentary, '76 minutes & 15 Seconds with Abbas Kiarostami' (2016), has been selected and screened at the Venice Film Festival and at over hundred festivals and cultural centres.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2016 76 mins and 15 seconds with Abbas Kiarostami (Documentary)

2006 Once Upon a Time in Marrakech (Documentary)



Documentary

Lyd
Lyd
 2023 | 78 Minutes
 Arabic
 Colour
 Palestine, UK, USA

Synopsis:

Lyd is a sci-fi documentary that follows the rise and fall of Lyd — a 5,000-year-old metropolis that was once a bustling Palestinian town until it was conquered when the State of Israel was established in 1948. As the film unfolds, a chorus of characters creates a tapestry of the Palestinian experience of this city and the trauma left by the massacre and expulsion.

Director: Rami Younis, Sarah Ema Friedland
Producer: Sawsan Asfari, Fivel Rothberg, Rami Younis, Sarah Ema Friedland
Cast: Eissa Fanous, Jihad Baba, Manar Meme, Maha Nakib, Um Hassan Tarteer, Tarteer Family, Orwa Switat, Maisa Abd Elhadi
Screenplay: Rami Younis, Sarah Ema Friedland, Eyas Salman
Cinematographer: Sarah Ema Friedman
Editor: Eyas Salman
Sound Designer: Fivel Rothberg
Music Composer: Haitam Bishara
Production Company: Perinspire LLC, Cacoon Films
World Sales: Arab Cinema Center
Festivals: Amman IFF 2023



Rami Younis: Rami Younis is a Palestinian writer and cultural activist from Lyd. He is one of the founders of the Palestinian activist group Khotweh, which was active on the issues of home demolitions and Palestinian identity in Lyd and Ramleh, mixed Jewish-Arab cities.

Director's Biography:

Sarah Ema Friedland: Sarah Ema Friedland is a filmmaker and artist rooted in creative non-fiction. She was named one of the "Top 10 Independent Filmmakers to Watch" by the Independent Magazine, and is a recipient of the Paul Robeson award from the Newark Museum, and was nominated for a New York Emmy.

Director's Selected Filmography:

Rami Younis:
 2023 Lyd (Documentary)

Sarah Ema Friedland:
 2023 Lyd (Documentary)



Documentary

Sur l'Adamant
On The Adamant
 2023 | 109 Minutes
 French
 Colour
 France, Japan

Synopsis:

The Adamant is a unique day care centre: it is a floating structure. Located on the Seine in the heart of Paris, it welcomes adults suffering from mental disorders, offering them care that grounds them in time and space, and helps them to recover or keep up their spirits. The team running it is one of those that try to resist the deterioration and dehumanisation of psychiatry as best it can. The film invites us to board it and meet the patients and caregivers who invent its life day to day.

Director: Nicolas Philibert
Producer: Céline Loiseau, Gilles Sacuto, Miléna Poylo
Screenplay: Nicolas Philibert
Cinematographer: Nicolas Philibert
Editor: Nicolas Philibert, Janusz Baranek
Sound Designer: Érik Ménard, François Abdelnour
Production Company: TS productions, Longride
World Sales: Les Films du Losange
Festivals: Berlinale: Golden Bear 2023 | IDFA 2023 | Sydney FF 2023 | BFI London 2023 | Busan IFF 2023



Director's Biography:

Nicolas Philibert was born in 1951 in Nancy (France). After studying philosophy, he turned to film and became an assistant director, notably for René Allio, Alain Tanner and Claude Goretta. In 1978, with Gérard Mordillat, he co-directed his first documentary feature, *His Master's Voice*. In 2001, he directed *To Be and To Have*, about daily life in a "single class" school in a mountain village. Screened as part of the Official Selection at the 2002 Cannes, Prix Louis Delluc 2002. His documentaries are frequent present at Cannes, Berlinale, Venice, Locarno, and multiple prestigious festival, garnering him multiple awards.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2018 *Each and Every Moment* (Documentary)
 2009 *Nénette* (Documentary)
 2006 *Back to Normandy* (Documentary)
 2001 *To Be and To Have* (Documentary)
 1997 *Every Little Thing* (Documentary)
 1993 *In The Land of Deaf* (Documentary)
 1978 *His Master's Voice* (Documentary)



Documentary

Chambre 999
Room 999
 2023 | 85 Minutes
 French, English
 Colour
 France

Synopsis:

In 1982, Wim Wenders asked 16 of his fellow directors to speak on the future of cinema, resulting in the film *Room 666*. Now, 40 years later, in Cannes, director Lubna Playoust asks a new generation of filmmakers the same question: is cinema a language about to get lost, an art about to die?

Director: Lubna Playoust
Producer: Nathanaël Karmitz, Elisha Karmitz, Rosalie Varda
Cast: Wim Wenders, David Cronenberg, Joachim Trier, Alice Rohrwacher, Asghar Farhadi, Ruben Östlund, Christian Mungiu, James Gray, Lynne Ramsey, Claire Denis, Buz Luhrmann
Cinematographer: Marine Atlan
Editor: Nicolás Longinotti
Sound Designer: César Mamoudy
Music Composer: Pierre Rousseau
Production Company: MK Productions
World Sales: MK2
Festivals: Cannes 2023 | Telluride FF 2023
 Ghent FF 2023 | Melbourne IFF 2023



Director's Biography:

Lubna Playoust is a French filmmaker and actress. Her debut feature film, *Room 999*, had its premiere in the official selection in 2023 at Cannes Classics. Additionally, she plays a role in the cast of Canadian director Monia Chokri's film *The Nature of Love (Simple comme Sylvain)*, which also premiered in 2023 at Cannes in the Un Certain Regard section. In 2022, her short film *Le Cormoran* was featured at the Telluride FF, and in 2021, it garnered recognition at the San Sebastian and Clermont-Ferrand festivals.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2021 *Le Cormoran* (Short)



Documentary

Paat Katha
The Golden Thread
 2022 | 85 Minutes
 Hindi, English, Bengali
 Colour
 Netherlands, Bosnia-Herzegovina,
 Norway, UK

Synopsis:

Outside Kolkata, a few jute mills crank on, virtually unchanged since the industrial revolution. Powered by steam and sweat, work is a dance to the rhythms of the century-old machines. *The Golden Thread* follows the weft and warp of jute work, weaving the 'fiber of the future' with the dreams and desperations of its workers.

Director: Nishtha Jain
Producer: Nishtha Jain, Irena Taskovski, Morana Ikić Komljenović
Cast: Prem Chaurasia, Maqsood Alam, Tanti Dutta, Mohamad Qasim
Screenplay: Nishtha Jain, Deborah Matzner
Cinematographer: Rakesh Haridas
Editor: Alexander Goekjian, Nishtha Jain
Sound Designer: Niraj Gera
Music Composer: Kenneth Ishak
Production Company: Raintree Films, Taskovski Films, Kolek Doo Dokudum
World Sales: Taskovski Films
Festivals: IDFA 2022 | Zurich FF 2023 | Munich IFF 2023 | Indian FF of LA 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023



Director's Biography:

Nishtha Jain is an internationally-acclaimed filmmaker from Mumbai best known for her films *Gulabi Gang* (2012), *Lakshmi and Me* (2007) and *City of Photos* (2004). Her films interrogate lived experience at the intersection of gender, caste and class. They explore the political in the personal and uncover the mechanisms of privilege. She's a Chicken & Egg Award winner (2020); Member of the Academy of Motion Pictures and Sciences (AMPAS); Film Independent Global Media Maker Fellow (2019-20); Recipient of Fulbright-Nehru Academic. Jain's films have won numerous awards, been widely screened at film festivals. She's been working across various platforms –documentary, narrative, virtual reality and TV series. Jain has served as a juror at IDFA, ZFF, Cinema Verité and IDSFFK.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2019 Proof (Short Doc)
 2016 Submerged (VR Doc)
 2012 Gulabi Gang (Documentary)
 2009 At My Doorstep (Documentary)
 2007 Lakshmi and Me (Documentary)
 2006 6 Yards To Democracy (Documentary)
 2004 City Of Photos (Documentary)

Indian Cinema >>>>

CINEMA IS HOPE

Cinema's
characteristic
forte is its
ability to
capture and
communicate
the intimacies
of the
human mind.

Satyajit Ray



Indian Cinema

Deep Fridge
Deep Fridge
 2023 | 100 Minutes
 Bengali
 Colour
 India

Director: Arjunn Dutta
Producer: Krishna Murari Kyal
Cast: Tanusree Chakraborty, Abir Chatterjee, Anuradha Mukherjee, Shoaib Kabeer, Debjani Chatterjee
Screenplay: Arjunn Dutta, Ashirbad Maitra
Cinematographer: Supratim Bhol
Editor: Sujay Datta Ray
Sound Designer: Sreejan Deb
Music Composer: Soumya Rit
Production Company: Colors Of Dream Entertainment
World Sales: Colors Of Dream Entertainment
Festivals: IFF India 2023 | Ajanta – Ellora IFF 2023 | Third Eye Asian FF 2023

Synopsis:

On a particularly rainy evening, with the city flooding, as Tatai falls sick. His now divorced parents Swarnava and Mili, come face to face for the first time after five years, post their divorce for a whole night. Amidst the backdrop of heavy rainfall, frequent power cuts, a dying refrigerator and their son running high temperature, Mili and Swarnava, go through different stages of realisation, and how a frisk incident which led to their divorce, makes them think what if things hadn't turned the way it did. They acknowledge the pain, find closure, and release each other. But in a parallel universe of make believe surrealism, they remain together as a loving and happily married couple in the eyes of the audience.



Director's Biography:

Arjun Dutta a Master's Degree holder in Sociology from the prestigious Presidency College, Kolkata. His debut feature film *Abyakto*, travelled to various film festivals all over, including the prestigious IFF India where it was nominated for the Centenary Debut Award, London Indian FF, Dhaka IFF among others. He has also garnered a Filmfare Award in the year 2021. Having won the Audience Choice Award at the Indo German Filmweek in Berlin and Best Director Award at the Guwahati IFF. His second *Guldasta* competed at the Indo German Filmweek. *Shrimati* his third, ran successfully in the theatres. His fourth instalment is the much anticipated *Deep Fridge*.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 *Shrimati*
 2020 *Guldasta*
 2018 *Abyakto*



Indian Cinema

Adrishya Jalakangal

Invisible Windows

2023 | 126 Minutes

Malayalam

Colour

India

Director: Dr. Bijukumar Damodaran

Producer: Radhika Lavu, Naveen Yerneni, Y Ravi Shankar, Tovino Thomas

Cast: Tovino Thomas, Nimisha Sajayan, Indrans

Screenplay: Dr. Bijukumar Damodaran

Cinematographer: Yedhu Radhakrishnan

Editor: Davis Manuel

Sound Designer: Ajayan Adat, Pramod Thomas

Music Composer: Ricky Kej

Production Company: Ellanar Films

World Sales: Ellanar Films

Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023

Synopsis:

A night watchman of a morgue starts having some strange experiences. In the wee hours of the night the dead bodies in the morgue come alive and start talking to him about their lives, injustices in the society and impending dangers.



Director's Biography:

A three time India's National Award winning filmmaker, Dr Biju is considered to be one of the most important contemporary voices in Indian cinema. His first film *Saira* screened in the Cannes in 2007 under Cinema of the World section. His films have been screened at many international film festivals and won numerous awards including coveted Golden Goblet award for best artistic achievement at Shanghai IFF 2019. His films screened at the major festivals includes Cannes, Montreal, Shanghai, Telluride, Moscow, Chicago, Cairo, Fajr, Tallinn, Dhaka, IFF Kerala and IFF India. He has been invited as a member of the jury in many film festivals across the world including Iran, Russia, Pune, Kerala etc.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 Sound of Silence
 2016 When The Woods Bloom
 2015 Birds With Large Wings
 2013 Names Unknnown
 2012 Colour of Sky
 2010 The Way Home
 2005 Saira



Indian Cinema

Joseph's Son

Joseph's Son

2023 | 85 Minutes

Manipuri

Colour

India

Director: Haobam Paban Kumar

Producer: Haobam Paban Kumar

Cast: Rewben Mashangva

Screenplay: Haobam Paban Kumar, Sudhir Naoroibam

Cinematographer: Joydeep Bose

Editor: Sankha

Sound Designer: Sukanta Majumdar

Music Composer: Rewben Mashangva

Production Company: NFDC, Oli Pictures

World Sales: Oli Pictures

Festivals: Shanghai IFF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023 | Kolkata IFF 2023

Synopsis:

David, a passionate footballer, has not come home. His mother persuades Joseph, his father and a musician, to go and look for him. After no luck with David's friends, Joseph goes to the police. The body of a teenage boy lies in the morgue in Imphal, and they tell him the only way to know whether it is or isn't David, is to go there to see for himself. Reluctantly he sets out on the long journey and as he travels, his fear grows deeper: a fear born of constant conflict - past and present – to which a personal fear is added.



Director's Biography:

Haobam Paban Kumar is a prominent voice from Manipur dabbling in both non-fiction and fiction storytelling. His film *AFSPA 1958* was awarded the Golden Lotus for the Best Documentary at the 56th National Film Awards 2008. *A Cry In The Dark* was screened at the 31st Toronto IFF 2006 and MOMA New York 2007. After nearly a decade of documentary filmmaking, he made his critically acclaimed feature film *Lady of the Lake* (2016) which featured at 67th Berlinale.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2020 Pabung Syam (Documentary)
- 2020 Nine Hills One Valley
- 2016 Lady of The Lake
- 2014 Floating Life (Documentary)
- 2008 AFSPA 1958 (Documentary)
- 2006 A Cry In The Dark (Documentary)



Indian Cinema

Viduthalai Part 1
Liberation Part 1
 2023 | 145 Minutes
 Tamil
 Colour
 India

Director: Vetrimaaran
Producer: Elred Kumar
Cast: Soori, Vijay Sethupathi, Bhavani Sre, Chetan, Ilavarasu, Gautam Vasudev Menon, Rajiv Menon
Screenplay: Vetrimaaran
Cinematographer: R. Velraj
Editor: R. Ramar
Sound Designer: Prathap
Music Composer: Ilaiyaraaja
Production Company: RS Infotainment
World Sales: RS Infotainment
Festivals: Chennai IFF 2023

Synopsis:

1987, TAMIL NADU

Following the dastardly act of bombing a railway bridge which resulted in 25 civilian deaths, The People's Army, an armed anti-government outfit poses a big threat to the stability and peace in the region. A special police battalion is tasked with capturing the leader of the People's Army - Perumal Dead or alive. Kumaresan, a new police recruit arrives at the camp. He forms a bond with a local girl Thamizharasi. He bears witness to the stalled progress of a people due to militant activity in the region. His empathy for the public earns him the wrath of his superiors. The indigenous people's unwavering support for Perumal and his movement baffles Kumaresan. Thus Perumal successfully evades capture. The frustrated police force resort to detaining and torturing the villagers to get intel on the leader's whereabouts. To save Thamizharasi and her villagers from further harassment by the police, Kumaresan, reveals Perumal's whereabouts to his superiors. The rookie cop manages to nab Perumal.



Director's Biography:

Vetrimaaran is an Indian film director, film producer and screenwriter who primarily works in Tamil cinema. As of 2021, he has won five National Film Awards, eight Ananda Vikatan Cinema Awards and two Filmfare South Awards. Vetrimaaran made his directorial debut with the *Polladhavan* (2007). His second feature film *Aadukalam* (2011) won six National Film Awards. He produces films under his production company, Grass Root Film Company. His 2016 directorial *Visaranai* was selected as India's official entry to the Academy Awards. His film *Asuran* (2019) received the National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Tamil. He is also the founder of International Institute of Film and Culture (IIFC).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 *Asuran*
 2016 *Visaranai*
 2016 *Vadachennai*
 2011 *Aadukalam*
 2007 *Polladhavan*



Indian Cinema

Kaadhal Enbadhu Podhu Udamai

Love is for All

2023 | 108 Minutes

Tamil

Colour

India

Director: Jayaprakash Radhakrishnan

Producer: Jomon Jacob

Cast: Lijomol Jose, Rohini Molleti, Vineeth Radhakrishnan, Kalesh Ramanand, Deepa

Screenplay: Jayaprakash Radhakrishnan

Cinematographer: Sree Saravanan

Editor: Dani Charles

Sound Designer: Rajesh Saseendran

Music Composer: Kannan Narayanan

Production Company: Mankind Cinemas

World Sales: Mankind Cinemas

Festivals: IFF India 2023

Synopsis:

Lakshmi is excited to know that her daughter, Sam is in love. But when Sam seems hesitant to talk more about it, she asks Sam's to bring her lover home for Lunch. A handsome young man, Ravindra accompanied by a traditionally dressed girl, Nandini show up for lunch. Lunch is served and Sam confesses her love for Nandini. All hell breaks loose. Lakshmi throws Nandini out of her house. She calls her estranged husband Pandian home. Sam is heartbroken as Nandini and Ravindra leave. Later, Nandini and Ravindra return. Pandian comes to the scene. Conversations turn nasty, revealing deep schism, and relationships align and deviate in unexpected ways. The dramatic climax brings to the fore many social, ethical and legal questions about same-sex relationships. The story is seen from multiple perspectives, including that of maid Mary who tries to make sense of new ideas of love and sex.



Director's Biography:

Jayaprakash Radhakrishnan is an Indian film director and actor, who has worked in Tamil and Malayalam language films. He rose to fame through the thriller drama *Lens* (2016), which won him the coveted Gollapudi Srinivas National Award for best debut director. He Later made *The Mosquito Philosophy* (2019) shot mumblecore style without any written scrip or dialogues. His most recent film is the critically acclaimed *Thalaikoothal* (2023) streaming on Netflix.

Director's Selected Filmography:

- 2023 Thalaikoothal
- 2019 The Mosquito Philosophy
- 2016 Lens



Indian Cinema

Synopsis:

In times when the old get younger and the young get older, the relationship between the young and the old has gotten even more complex. Nana, a retired single adamant old man, has no idea that an unwelcomed guest on his four – a puppy is going to change the course of his life. Aadima, a senior graphic designer artist doesn't have the faintest of inkling that the same puppy is going to force her to go on adventures she otherwise wouldn't. And Neel, her grandson has no clue that he is going to help Nana and Aadima understand the needs of elderly singles. It is a slice-of-life delightful tale of longingness, companionship, reconciliation and co-existence.

Outhouse

Outhouse

2023 | 97 Minutes

Hindi

Colour

India

Director: Sunil Sukthankar

Producer: Dr. Mohan Agashe

Cast: Sharmila Tagore, Dr. Mohan Agashe, Jihan Hodar, Sunil Abhyankar, Pradeep Joshi, Neeraj Kabi, Sonali Kulkarni

Screenplay: Sumitra Bhave, Sunil Sukthankar

Cinematographer: Dhananjay Kulkarni

Editor: Mohit Takalkar

Sound Designer: Anmol Bhave

Music Composer: Saket Kanetkar

Production Company: Developing Awareness through Entertainment (DATE)

World Sales: Developing Awareness through Entertainment (DATE)

Festivals: Kolkata IFF 2023



Director's Biography:

Sunil Sukthankar, a writer-director, started working with social scientist turned filmmaker Sumitra Bhave in 1985. After winning the National award for first short film *BAI*, Sunil and Sumitra have jointly directed 18 feature films, 80 documentaries and short films and 6 TV serials. Their films have won 3 International Awards, 11 National Awards, 45 State Awards and many National level awards. Their film *Kaasav* won the President's Gold Medal for Best Feature film in 2016. Sunil is also a lyricist and has written more than 100 songs and has won awards for his lyrics. He has written 5 feature film scripts and two web shows.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2016 *Kaasav*

2013 *Astu*

2012 *Samhita*

2011 *Ha Bharat Maza*

2002 *Vastupurush*

1994 *Doghi*



Indian Cinema

Rimdogittanga

Rapture

2023 | 127 Minutes

Garo

Colour

India, China, Switzerland, Netherlands, Qatar

Director: Dominic Sangma

Producer: Xu Jianshang, Eva Gunme R. Marak, Anu Rangachar, Sun Li, Harsh Agarwal, Aditya Grover, Stephen Zacharias, Dominic M Sangma

Cast: Torikhu A. Sangma, Handam R. Marak, Celestine K. Sangma, Balsrame A. Sangma, Johan Ch. Sangma, Riksil K. Marak, Nadira N. Sangma

Screenplay: Dominic Sangma

Cinematographer: Tojo Xavier

Editor: Mohan Kumar Valasala

Sound Designer: Vineet Vashishtha

Music Composer: Anon Cheran Momin

Production Company: Anna Films

World Sales: Anna Films

Festivals: Locarno IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023 | Festival Des 3 Continents 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023 | Camerimage 2023

Synopsis:

Each night, a village is gripped by the fear of child-kidnappers, as the church prophesied that an apocalyptic darkness will come lasting for 80 days. For a 10-year-old boy who suffers from night blindness, the village has never been more fearful.



Director's Biography:

Dominic Megam Sangma is a graduate of Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, India, specialised in Direction and Screenplay Writing. He worked at National Film and Development Corporation Ltd, for two years before he opened his own Production Company called Anna Films. He is a guest faculty in Film and Television Institute, Itanagar, India. He was selected in Berlinale Talents 2020. He co-founded Kelvin Cinema Festival of Films and he is an Artistic Director of the festival.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 Moan



Indian Cinema

**Bahadur The Brave
The Brave**

2023 | 93 Minutes
Hindi, Nepali
Colour
India

Director: Diwa Shah
Producer: Visvesh Singh Sehrawat, Thomas Ajay Abraham
Cast: Rupesh Lama, Rahul Mukhia
Screenplay: Diwa Shah
Cinematographer: Modhura Palit
Editor: Viraj Zunjarrao
Sound Designer: Rakesh KJ, Thomas Ajay Abraham, Jishnu Dev
Production Company: Hardhyaan Films, Sinai Pictures
World Sales: Sinai Pictures
Festivals: San Sebastián IFF 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2023

Synopsis:

A nationwide lock-down is imposed in India during the coronavirus pandemic. While all Nepalese migrant labourers are boarding the vans to leave for Nepal, Hansi sees this as an opportunity to earn more money for his ailing son in the emerging labour crises. His brother-in-law, Dil Bahadur, offers him illegal work in a godown. Things take a tragic turn when Dil Bahadur is accused of stealing money instead. Hansi encourages him to leave for Nepal. However, Nepal has closed its border during the pandemic and the migrants have no place to go. Their innocent mischief has led to a tragedy of an irretrievable accord, ignorant of the pawns they have become at the mercy of the bigger powers at play.



Director's
Biography:

Diwa Shah studied Creative Writing at Durham University, in the UK. She has worked as an assistant director on films alongside her mother, National Award winning filmmaker Shalini Shah, including *Samosa & Sons* (2023), for which she also wrote the song lyrics. *Bahadur The Brave* is her first feature-length project.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2023 *The Brave*



Indian Cinema

Kaathal
The Core
 2023 | 114 Minutes
 Malayalam
 Colour
 India

Director: Jeo Baby
Producer: Mammooty
Cast: Mammooty, Jyothika, RS Panicker, Muthumani, Sudhi Kozhikode
Screenplay: Paulson Skaria, Adarsh Sukumaran
Cinematographer: Salu K Thomas
Editor: Francies Louis
Sound Designer: Tony Babu
Music Composer: Mathews Pulickan
Production Company: Mammootykompany Films
World Sales: Mammootykompany Films
Festivals: IFF India 2023 | IFF Kerala 2023

Synopsis:

Kaathal The Core unveils the captivating narrative of Mathew and Omana, a seemingly harmonious couple residing in the serene village of Teekoy in the Kottayam district of Kerala. Mathew Devassy, a retired Co-operative bank secretary with a stellar reputation in the community, reluctantly steps into the realm of politics to contest a Panchayath by-election, upon his party's request.

Kaathal The Core is a poignant exploration of the intricate dynamics of a marriage, the pursuit of justice, and the quest for personal fulfilment, set against the backdrop of a close-knit village community.



Director's Biography:

Jeo Baby is an Indian film director, scriptwriter and actor who works in Malayalam films. He made his directional debut with *2 Penkuttikal* which was released in 2016. His second movie *The Little God* was released in 2017. In 2020 he directed *Kilometers and Kilometers* which has Tovino Thomas playing the lead role. His fourth Malayalam film, *The Great Indian Kitchen*, won the 51st Kerala State Film Award for Best Film and he received the Kerala State Film Award for Best Screenplay. He received Special Jury Mention at the 52nd Kerala State Film Awards for the film *Freedom Fight* (2022).

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2022 Sree Dhanya Catering Service
 2022 Freedom Fight
 2021 The Great Indian Kitchen
 2020 Kilometers and Kilometers
 2017 The Little God
 2016 2 Penkuttikal



Indian Cinema

Raahgir
The Wayfarers
 2019 | 86 Minutes
 Hindi
 Colour
 India

Director: Goutam Ghose
Producer: Amit Agarwal
Cast: Tilottama Shome, Adil Hussain, Neeraj Kabi, Omkardas Manikpuri
Screenplay: Jagannath Guha, Goutam Ghose
Cinematographer: Ishaan Ghose
Editor: Niladri Roy
Sound Designer: Suchisuvro Sen, Anirban Sengupta
Production Company: Adarsh Telemedia
World Sales: Adarsh Telemedia
Festivals: Busan IFF 2019 | MAMI Mumbai FF 2019 | Shanghai IFF 2021 | DC South Asia FF 2021 | UK Asian FF 2021 | IFF Kerala 2021

Synopsis:

Nathuni and Lakhua, perpetually on the fringes of survival in remote Jharkhand, venture to the nearest town in search of work. Nathuni, a woman in her 30s and the sole bread winner of her family, has a paraplegic husband and two children, while Lakhua is a loner and a wanderer. They meet by chance on their way to the town. The sheer act of sharing a journey brings them closer. They share their life-stories. While they speak, the monsoon clouds overpower the sky and they encounter Chopattal, who was carrying a dying old couple to the hospital. His vehicle was stuck in mud and he was trying in vain to get some help. They endanger their chance of work for the day, but a sense of purpose propels them to use the last iota of their strength to push the vehicle through mud, impassable in torrential rain. Raahgir is a story of empathy and resilience even in the hardest of physical circumstances.



Director's Biography:

Goutam Ghose is an internationally acclaimed filmmaker and cinematographer. He has won 18 National Awards and several prestigious international awards. He made his first documentary – *New Earth*, in 1973 followed by *Hungry Autumn* which won him the main award at the Oberhausen FF. Ghose has won many International awards like the Silver Balloon Award at Nantes FF, UNESCO Award - Cannes, UNESCO Award at Venice, The Golden Peacock at IFF India. He is also the only Indian to win the coveted Vittorio Di Sica Award in Italy. He was awarded the Knighthood of the Star of the Italian Solidarity in July 2006.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2010 Shunyo Awnko
 2001 Dekha
 1997 Gudia
 1989 Meeting A Milestone (Documentary)
 1984 Paar
 1974 Hungry Autumn (Documentary)
 1973 New Earth (Documentary)



Indian Cinema

Idimuzhakkam

Thunderclap

2023 | 128 Minutes

Tamil

Colour

India

Director: Seenu Ramasamy

Producer: Syed Mubarak aka Kalaimagan Mubarak

Cast: G.V. Prakash Kumar, Gayathrie, Saranya, M.S. Bhaskar

Screenplay: Seenu Ramasamy

Cinematographer: A.R. Ashok Kumar

Editor: Sangathamizhan

Sound Designer: T. Udhayakumar

Music Composer: N.R. Raghunathan

Production Company: Skyman Films

World Sales: Skyman Films

Synopsis:

Murugan was a small-time meat seller like his childhood friend Gayatri and fell in love with her, who is a strict vegetarian. Due to her nature and habit, Murugan closes his meat shop & starts gracing goats only with his mother. In Between Gayatri's father arranges Gayatri's marriage with a politician's elder brother who is a divorcee. Knowing this on approaching Gayatri's father, Murugan comes to know that Rs.20 Lakhs borrowed money has been given to Politician Maran for making Gayatri as permanent Govt employee. Murugan goes to Maran to get the money and in the scuffle Politician Maran loses his life. Murugan got implicated in a false declaration by Gayatri, compelled by her father for wrong reasons. He tries to escape from prison two times and meets another life imprisonment convict, who becomes closer for saving his life in the prison. He helps Murugan to escape from the prison to avenge Gayatri for implementing him on false declaration.



Director's Biography:

Seenu Ramasamy is an Indian filmmaker, screenwriter and poet who predominantly works in Tamil cinema. He made his directorial debut with *Koodal Nagar* (2007). He garnered acclaim for the film *Thenmerku Paruvakaatru*, which went on to win the National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Tamil. His next film *Neerparavai* (2012) also released to positive reviews. *Dharma Durai* (2016) was a box-office success.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 Maamanithan
2019 Kanne Kalaimaane
2016 Dharma Durai
2012 Neerparavai
2010 Thenmerku Paruvakaatru
2007 Koodal Nagar



Indian Cinema

Iratta
Twin
 2023 | 112 Minutes
 Malayalam
 Colour
 India

Director: Rohit M.G. Krishnan
Producer: Joju George, Martin Prakkat, Sijo Vadakkan
Cast: Joju George, Anjali, Srindaa, Srikanth Murali
Screenplay: Rohit M.G. Krishnan
Cinematographer: Vijay
Editor: Manu Antony
Sound Designer: Charles
Music Composer: Jakes Bejoy
Production Company: App Pathu Pappu Production House, Martin Prakkat Films
World Sales: App Pathu Pappu Production House
Festivals: IFF India 2023

Synopsis:

Vinod and Pramod are identical twins working in the police department. Their personalities are at extreme ends. ASI Vinod is shot dead inside a high-range police station with three gunshots in his chest just minutes before the arrival of a minister at the police station. Police Superintendent and Vinod's twin brother, DYSP Pramod reaches the station and pressure from the superiors urges him to quickly probe into the murder. Vinod's offending nature had earned him a bunch of enemies in and out of the department. At some point of the enquiry, Pramod also comes under suspicion. The prime suspects behind the death were three policemen but there is more to it. Will the mystery around Vinod's death unravel to catch the real culprit? Why was he shot dead?



Director's Biography:

Rohit M.G. Krishnan is a debutant director and scriptwriter. A self taught filmmaker, he made several short films during his college days gaining acclaim. Post his graduation, he used the income from his Postal Department job to make short films while working on the script of his feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:
 2023 Twin



Indian Cinema

Gorai Phakhri

Wild Swans

2023 | 95 Minutes

Bodo

Colour

India

Director: Rajni Basumatary

Producer: Jani Viswanath

Cast: Helina Damary, Sangeena Brahma, Mithinga Narzary, Anjali Daimari

Screenplay: Rajni Basumatary

Cinematographer: Chida Bora

Editor: Tinni Mitra

Sound Designer: Amrit Pritam, Debajit Changmai

Music Composer: Avinash Baghel

Production Company: Manna Films

World Sales: Manna Films

Festivals: Vancouver IFF 2023 | Kolkata IFF 2023 | Chennai IFF 2023

Synopsis:

Set in the foothills of Bodoland in Northeast India, the story explores the lives of women in a patriarchal society recovering from decades of armed conflict between the State and separatist groups. The romantic ideas of rural life of the young research scholar from the city are crushed after witnessing the effects that militarization and patriarchy have on the everyday lives of these women.



Director's Biography:

Rajni Basumatary has written and directed *Raag, the Rhythm of Love* (2014), *Jwlwi - The Seed* (2019) and *Wild Swans* (2023). *Jwlwi - The Seed* has been awarded as the Best Film in Other language in Assam and Jury's Special Award for Outstanding Performance. She has also acted in a few highly successful and acclaimed films, including *Mary Kom* and Netflix series *Rana Naidu*.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 *Jwlwi – The Seed*

2014 *Raag, The Rhythm of Love*



Champaran Mutton | Champaran Mutton
2023 | 24 Minutes | India | **Director:** Ranjan Kumar

Student Competition
FTII, Pune

Synopsis:

A small story of a sweet family based in Bihar and their day to day struggles spun around motive leading to cook and relish Champaran Mutton (a local Bihari delicacy). Film also explores caste politics and discrimination as an underlined theme.



My Father Told Me | My Father Told Me
2022 | 16 Minutes | India | **Director:** Sisira Anil CK

Student Competition
FTII, Pune

Synopsis:

Nimisha a 27 year old who works in Kuwait as a nurse. Her family includes father, mother and younger sister, a middle class family. Nimisha comes home for a 45 days of vacation where she plans to marry her boyfriend secretly and take him to Kuwait using husband visa which her company provides.



Pochamma | Wet Black Leaf
2023 | 23 Minutes | India | **Director:** Vivek Allaka

Student Competition
FTII, Pune

Synopsis:

Pochamma, a young girl has fallen in love with the sea. A Witch who is an outcaste in the village helps Pochamma to reach the sea to express her love. The film traverses on different eventualities culminating on the transcendental journey of jubilation of these two spirited woman and the excitement of the witch about Pochamma's love culminating on the sea.



Lakshmi | Lakshmi
2022 | 18 Minutes | India | **Director:** Harold Antony Paulson

Student Competition
K R Narayanan National Institute

Synopsis:

Lakshmi depicts the real life story of a migrant family and their community in the present socio political scenario. Lakshmi is in search of her husband who has been missing months back. Movie unveils the deep memories, hardships and agonies of a woman and her daughter, who doesn't have a support system to survive.



Separation Season | Separation Season
2023 | 27 Minutes | Czech Republic | **Director:** I-Ju Lin

Student Competition
FAMU, Prague

Synopsis:

In June, a graduation month, a college graduate Ting experiences a sudden separation from her close cousin Jane. During a series of rituals, Ting tries to defend Jane's choice against their family and seeks an answer to Jane's suicide and the life.



Vinland | Vinland
2023 | 29 Minutes | Czech Republic | **Director:** Martin Kuba

Student Competition
FAMU, Prague

Synopsis:

Daniil, a Georgian teacher, departs from his wife and kid for what should be a seasonal job only in Prague. His return home becomes uncertain, as he is driven into the strange new reality in West.



Pierwszy taniec w chmurach | Dancing Clouds
2023 | 24 Minutes | Poland | **Director:** Michał Mieszczyk

Student Competition
Krzysztof Kiesiowski Film School at the University of Silesia in Katowice

Synopsis:

Seeking redemption, Patryk is trying to put his life together with Maja and become a father to her two-year-old son Mati. To get money for the wedding, he decides to become an accomplice in drug smuggling. Unexpectedly, Mati's biological father returns to the country, representing everything Patryk lacks: stability, security and affluence. Patryk's dreams collide with ruthless reality.



Funeralia | Funeralia
2022 | 16 Minutes | Poland | **Director:** Bartłomiej Błaszczyński

Student Competition
Krzysztof Kiesiowski Film School at the University of Silesia in Katowice

Synopsis:

K, along with his inseparable mother, wins a grave digging contest that he shouldn't have won. This doesn't sit well with the organizers, who teach him a lesson by taking away what was most important to him.



Asamtol | Asamtol

2023 | 27 Minutes | India | **Director:** Archit S Kirkinde

Student Competition
MIT SFT

Synopsis:

In a remote farmhouse, Rahul and Om's leisurely hangout takes a dark turn when a seemingly harmless dating app encounter spirals into a life-threatening situation. Rahul investigates and flees, seeking aid, only to find himself entangled in a fragile loop.



Daayra | Daayra

2023 | 23 Minutes | India | **Director:** Sharvari Khambe

Student Competition
MIT SFT

Synopsis:

A couple adopts two children, an older sister and a younger brother. As time passes, the younger brother develops an attraction towards the parents, causing distress for the sister. In response to her brother's behaviour, the sister resorts to punishing him in an aggressive manner. When the parents discover the situation, they attempt to intervene and separate the siblings, triggering an intense reaction from the sister.



Sundarkaanda | The Beautiful Episode

2023 | 21 Minutes | India | **Director:** Jayshankar Ramu

Student Competition
MIT SFT

Synopsis:

Naveeni plays Goddesses in Marathi TV mythological shows. She is very successful. But she is not happy. The roles weigh her down. She is unable to be expressive. She wishes to go back to doing theatre; the reason she loves being an actor. The film follows her leading to the decision she makes.



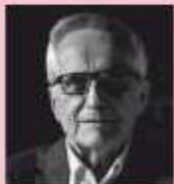
Closing Film

**Rapito
Kidnapped**
2023 | 125 Minutes
Italian
Colour
Italy, France, Germany

Director: Marco Bellocchio
Producer: Beppe Caschetto, Simone Gattoni, Paolo del Brocco
Cast: Paolo Pierobon, Fausto Russo Alesi, Barbara Ronchi, Enea Sala, Leonardo Maltese, Filippo Timi, Fabrizio Gifuni
Screenplay: Marco Bellocchio, Susanna Nicchiarelli, Edoardo Albinati, Daniela Ceselli
Cinematographer: Francesco Di Giacomo
Editor: Francesca Calvelli, Stefano Mariotti
Sound Designer: Adriano Di Lorenzo, Lillo Rosato, Gianluca Basili, Nadia Paone
Music Composer: Fabio Massimo Capogrosso
Production Company: IBC Movie, Kavac Film, Rai Cinema
World Sales: The Match Factory
Festivals: Cannes: Main Competition 2023 | Toronto IFF 2023 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2023 | New York IFF 2023 | Busan IFF 2023

Synopsis:

In 1858, in the Jewish quarter of Bologna, the Pope's soldiers burst into the home of the Mortara family. By order of the cardinal, they have come to take Edgardo, their seven-year-old son. The child had been secretly baptized by his nurse as a baby and the papal law is unquestionable: he must receive a Catholic education. Edgardo's parents, distraught, will do anything to get their son back. Supported by public opinion and the international Jewish community, the Mortaras' struggle quickly take a political dimension. But the Church and the Pope will not agree to return the child, to consolidate an increasingly wavering power...



Director's Biography:

Marco Bellocchio was born in Piacenza in 1939. In 1959 he enrolled at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome. His debut feature film, *Fists in the Pocket*, won an award at Locarno in 1965. In 2011 he received the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the Venice IFF. In 2016 *Sweet Dreams* was the opening film of the Director's Fortnight at the Cannes. In 2019 *The Traitor* was In Competition at Cannes. In 2021, he presented the documentary *Marx Can Wait*, Out of Competition at Cannes, receiving the Palme d'Honneur in the same year.

Director's Selected Filmography:
2022 Exterior Night
2021 Marx Can Wait (Documentary)
2019 The Traitor
2016 Sweet Dreams
2003 Good Morning, Night
2002 My Mother's Smile
1980 A Leap in the Dark
1976 Victory March
1965 Fists in the Pocket

MasterClasses >>>>

CINEMA IS HOPE

To **make films**,
it always begins
with two words:
what and **how**.

First of all,
you have to
find **a story**,
or what are you
going to tell?

And you have to
find a **way** to
tell it **visually**.

Wong Kar-wai

Seminar



Mr. Vikas Kharge
Mr. Milind Gunaji
Mr. Avinash Dhakane

Friday, 19 January
3.15 PM

PVR ICON:
The Pavillion Pune

Maharashtra Government Film Policy and Shooting Destinations

Seminar

Maharashtra is home to cinematic excellence in India. Cinema is in the air we breathe in Maharashtra. Stunning locations, variety of terrains, and skilled technicians, artists with ample studio spaces in Film Cities. Maharashtra has everything to offer to make your vision come true.

Principal Secretary to Chief Minister and Principal Secretary to Cultural Ministry, Mr. Vikas Kharge, and Mr. Avinash Dhakane the Managing Director of Maharashtra Film, Stage, and Cultural Development Corporation (MFSCDC) will discuss the ease and multiple possibilities of film shooting in the State of Maharashtra. Joining the panel is avid explorer and actor Milind Gunaji, who has explored Maharashtra through his true passion of travel, and acting.

MasterClass



Mr. Jahnu
Barua

Saturday, 20 January
3.30 PM

PVR ICON;
The Pavillion Pune

Filmmaker's passion, Handling actors and Non-actors

Jahnu Barua

It is often said the success of filmmaking lies in passionately completing the process of making a film! Rest all, follows. How to handle the set, how to deal with professional crew and actors? What to do when dealing with non-actors? The questions that cloud the mind of any maker. Whilst doing all this, how can one keep the true passion of filmmaking alive?

Join the master of the craft, Jahnu Barua as he takes us through his journey and imparts the knowledge of filmmaking, handling the cast and crew. After all these years, Mr. Barua still passionately creates new stories and keeps working on his craft.

Mr. Jahnu Barua is an acclaimed film director from Assam, who prominently works in Assamese films. He is recipient of multiple National Film Awards. His films have garnered praise in festivals like Locarno IFF, Chicago IFF, Brussels IIFF, Singapore IFF and many others. He was awarded Padma Shri in 2003 and Padma Bhushan in 2015 by the Government of India.

Panel Discussion



Mr. Riteish Vilasrao Deshmukh,
Mr. Sanjay Krushnaji Patil,
Mr. Nikhil Mahajan,
Mr. Varun Narvekar
Mr. Mangesh Desai

Sunday, 21 January
3.15. PM

PVR ICON:
The Pavillion Pune

In Search of New Marathi Cinema

Panel Discussion Marathi Cinema has a rich heritage of being one of the oldest regional industry in India. Being 100 year old itself, it has seen many transitions throughout the decades. In last few decades, Marathi cinema is achieving not only the box offices success, but national and international acclaim, like never before. But where does the future lie? How do we attract more audiences to theatres, and reach beyond borders of our region? Discussing all these pertinent questions, we have a panel of young filmmakers who have carved their niche in cinema, and made their mark on global cinematic canvas. Participating in the panel are National Award winner and internationally acclaimed directors Nikhil Mahajan, Varun Narvekar, Screenwriter and Lyricist Sanjay Krushnaji Patil, Actor and Producer Mangesh Desai, and Riteish Vilasrao Deshmukh.



Vijay Tendulkar

VijayTendulkar

Vijay Tendulkar was a colossal personality in Indian Theatre. His immense contribution to theatres sometimes overshadows his brilliant work in other literary forms such as essay, the short story and novel. Even in Cinema, by writing screenplays for emerging giants like Shyam Benegal and Govind Nihalani, he left an indelible mark on the Indian new wave that emerged in the seventies. Today, it is hard to even imagine how one writer could have contributed so much to different art forms in the same period. To salute the genius of Vijay Tendulkar, PIFF started the Vijay Tendulkar Memorial Lecture since the 10th edition of PIFF. Eminent and knowledgeable personalities are invited to speak about different aspects of cinema as part of this initiative. PIFF boasts of a large number of student delegates, many of whom are students of Cinema, Theatre and related fields. Over the course of the last few years, these lectures have become an important forum during PIFF for the sharing of knowledge and insights, and for lively interaction between the seniors and the emerging talent from the film fraternity.

This year's Vijay Tendulkar Memorial Lecture will be delivered by a tour de force actor in Indian film industry, Mr. Manoj Bajpayee. He will discuss about his journey so far. He will explore his method, and process as an actor.

Vijay Tendulkar Memorial Lecture



Mr. Manoj
Bajpayee

Monday, 22 January
3 PM

PVR ICON:
The Pavillion Pune

The Craft of Acting.

Manoj Bajpayee

A tour de force of acting, Manoj Bajpayee is a name known to every single audience across the country. Considered as one of the finest actors to work in Hindi film industry, Manoj Bajpayee has earned three National Film Awards, two Asia Pacific Screen Awards, and coveted honour of Padma Shri for his versatile acting in more than 70 films.

Initially, he got small roles in films like *Drohkaal* (1994). He got noticed in Shekhar Kapur's *Bandit Queen* (1994), despite a small role. He became a household name, and portrayed a character that touched everyone's heart – Bhiku Mhatre. It was Ram Gopal Varma's game changing *Satya* (1998) that changed his life, and Hindi cinema forever.

Since then Manoj has never looked back and delivered stellar performances in films like – *Zubeidaa* (2001), *Pinjaar* (2003), *Rajneeti* (2010), *Gangs of Wasseypure Part 1 and 2* (2012), *Aligarh* (2016) and many others.

Manoj Bajpayee will offer insights into his craft as an actor, his journey so far, his challenges, and aspirations as he delivers Vijay Tendulkar Memorial Lecture.

Panel Discussion



Mr. Saibal Chatterjee
Ms. Beena Paul
Mr. Edvinas Pukašta

Tuesday, 23 January
3.15 PM

PVR ICON:
The Pavillion Pune

Future & Importance of Film Festival

Panel Discussion Film Festivals provide a unique experience to cinephiles. A platform for the makers of different kind of cinema, festivals offer them a way to showcase their art, their labour of love. For audience, it's a treat to watch those films from across the globe, and expand the horizons.

The advent of OTT platforms, global pandemics have forced many festivals to opt for alternatives of being online or even cease to exist. Not all festivals are receiving the love and numbers they used to.

Do festivals matter in such case? What is the position of festivals in today's "online" world. Are they still the avenues for the discovery of new talent? All these and many more questions shall be answered by our panel of eminent scholars.

Gracing the panel are: National Award winning critic and festival director of Pondicherry IFF, Mr. Saibal Chatterjee.

We also have with us, Lead Programmer of Tallinn Black Nights FF, and jury member of festivals like Cannes and Busan, Mr. Edvinas Pukšta.

Two time National Film Award winner as Best Editor, artistic director of IFF Kerala, Ms. Bina Paul will discuss the topic, Future of Film Festivals.

MasterClass



Mr. Shai
Goldman

Wednesday, 24 January
3 PM

PVR ICON:
The Pavillion Pune

Shai Goldman Cinematography Workshop

Shai Goldman

It is said that Camera is a pen for the screen. Captivating images, moving portrayals of humans create a magic on screen. Good camera can evoke emotions and create unforgettable visual memories. The Director of Photography is instrumental in crafting written words on the big screen.

We are privileged to have a magician, Mr. Shai Goldman, conducting his session on creating magic through camera.

Mr. Goldman is a multiple award winning cinematographer whose films are regular presence at prestigious film festivals. Winner of the Ophir Cinematography Prize 2006, 2016, and 2019 for his work in the film *Synonyms*, directed by Nadav Lapid, which won prestigious Golden Bear at Berlinale.

His best-known and most successful film as a Cinematographer was *The Band's Visit (2007)*, directed by Eran Kolirin. Goldman brought the successful film, an abstract visual quality that allowed the work to deviate from the local and touch the universal, and therefore contribute to the film's considerable international success.

Committee >>>>

Art is inherently political. Even trying to make a film that has nothing to do with politics is, in and of itself, a political act.

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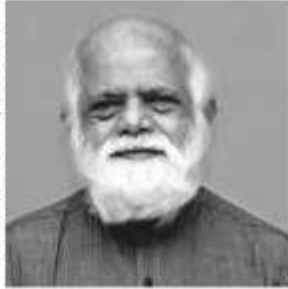
film that has nothing to do with **politics** is, in and of itself, a political act.

act.

Barry Jenkins

Selection Committee

World Competition



Samar Nakhate

World Competition



Makarand Sathe

World Competition



Abhijeet Ranadive

World Competition



Saibal Chatterjee

Marathi Competition



Abhijit Deshpande

Marathi Competition



Vidyashankar Jois

Marathi Competition



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Student Competition



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Sangeeta Shedge
Office Help

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Melinda Dillon



Mike Hill



Hugh Hudson



Carlos Saura



Burt Bacharach



Lance Reddick



Ray Stevenson



Michael Gambon



Piper Laurie



Dariush Mehrjui



Matthew Perry



Andre Braugher

Tribute



Sanjay Chauhan



Vani Jairam



Javed Khan
Amrohi



K. Viswanath



Satish Kaushik



Sameer Khakar



Bhalchandra
Kulkarni



Pradeep Sarkar



Uttara Baokar



Nitish Pandey



Sulochana Tai



Gufi Paintal

Tribute



Navroze
Contractor



Ravindra Mahajani



Jayant Savarkar



Nitin Chandrakant
Desai



N.D. Mahanor



Seema Deo



Akhil Mishra



Sanjay Gadhvi



Junior Mehmood



Ravindra Berde



Vijayakanth



Dinesh Phadnis

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National Informatics Centre, New Delhi.
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Italian Institute Of Culture
Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Pune
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PUNE



GOETHE
INSTITUT
MAX MUELLER
BHAVAN

Festival Partner



Festival Partner



FINNISH FILM
FOUNDATION

Festival Partner

Arab Cinema
C E N T E R

ORGANIZED BY MAD SOLUTIONS

Festival Partner



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फ़िल्म समारोह निदेशालय
Directorate of Film Festivals



**FILM AND TELEVISION
INSTITUTE OF INDIA**



FILMS DIVISION

Festival Partners

महा मेट्रो



PUNE METRO

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|| ntai ||
national film
archive of india

NFDC

cinemas of india

Venue Partner



Venue Partner

PVR

Venue Partner



Venue Partner

cinépolis

Mall Partner

THE PAVILLION
SHOPPING | ENTERTAINMENT | FOOD

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TATA MOTORS
Connecting Aspirations

In Association with



Hospitality Partner



JW MARRIOTT
PUNE

Hospitality Partner



Inns that care

TARAWADE
clarks inn

Hospitality Partner

E-SQUARE
THE  FERN
AN ECOTEL HOTEL
PUNE
A leading environmentally sensitive hotel

Gifting Partner



Outdoor Partner



In support with



BHARAT FORGE

In support with



Food and Beverage Partner



Radio Partner



Outreach Partner



Outreach Partner



Outreach Partner



Social Media Partner



Graphic Design Partner



Film City



Maharashtra Film, Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Limited (Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagari)

- Film City is managed by Maharashtra Film, Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Ltd. (MFSCDC)
- Set up in 1977 by Government of Maharashtra to promote cinema, theatre, culture & performing arts
- Situated in the western suburb of Mumbai - spread over 521 acres of lush green, picturesque land
- Outdoor as well as indoor shooting locations ,Dynamic sets for films and mega TV serials
- Witness to iconic movies like The Burning Train, Anand, Kalia, Ramleela, Sultan, Bajirao Mastani, Bharat, Padmavat, and Gangubai Kathiawadi
- Facilitated shooting for mega serials like Bharat Ek Khoj, Ramayan and Mahabharata
- Film City offers 15 AC studios ranging from 2000 sq. ft. to 20,000 sq. ft. for indoor shoots
- 70 outdoor locations and 76 makeup rooms
- Film City published "Spotlight" in 2017 to strengthen Maharashtra as a film-friendly destination
- Film City initiated the concept of "Bollywood Tourism" by setting up a theme park in 2021
- Film City was made the nodal agency to implement the Single Window System system and was launched in 2019 for the state of Maharashtra
- Film City allotted land of ~20 Acres to Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India for establishment of National Centre of Excellence for training of Animation, Video, Gaming and Comics segment
- Financial incentive to Marathi Feature Films
Rs.40 / 30 Lakhs to eligible films
- Showcasing Marathi movies at domestic / international film festivals
- Promotion of selected feature films at Cannes Film Festival, Film Bazaar, Goa International Film Festival