



8th

LINZ

**INTERNATIONAL
SHORT FILM
FESTIVAL**

*3rd QUEER &
FEMINIST DAY*

**8 -11
OCTOBER
2025**

FESTIVAL VENUES
CITY KINO LINZ
KUNSTUNIVERSITÄT LINZ

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TAKEN VISIT LINTZ RISK

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A city that can't be
put in a box, but inspires
to think outside
the box.

Parisa Ghasemi & Ashkan Nematian

Festivalleitung Linz International Short Film Festival

Festival Directors of the Linz International Short Film Festival

Erzählen heißt Widerstand leisten.

Wenn wir durch Kurzfilme erzählen, widersetzen wir uns der Unsichtbarkeit – mit einer Freiheit, die im Mainstream-Kino selten möglich ist: einer Freiheit zu sprechen, zu konfrontieren, zu imaginieren. Von Natur aus unabhängig, sind Kurzfilme nicht von Macht abhängig, sondern frei, sich ihr zu widersetzen. Sie tragen den Schmerz der Unterdrückten, die Träume der zum Schweigen Gebrachten und den Mut derer, die sich weigern zu verschwinden.

Jede Erzählung ist eine Brücke: von einem Leben zum anderen, von einem Kampf zum nächsten. In Zeiten von wachsendem Rassismus, Misogynie und Faschismus überschreiten Filme Grenzen, öffnen Perspektiven und stellen die Systeme infrage, die von unserer Spaltung profitieren. In diesem Klima wird Kino mehr als Kunst – es wird Widerstand, Erinnerung und ein Aufruf zur Gerechtigkeit.

Seit seiner Gründung steht das Linz International Short Film Festival für kulturellen Dialog, Vielfalt und Solidarität. Heute, in unserem achten Jahr, ist diese Vision dringlicher denn je. Mit einem Rekord von 3.500 Einreichungen aus 140 Ländern und 70 ausgewählten Filmen bleibt das Festival eine weltweite Bühne für Stimmen, die herausfordern, inspirieren und vereinen – ein Fenster zur Welt, in dem Vielfalt und Solidarität sichtbar werden.

Die Filme, die wir in diesem Jahr präsentieren, greifen drängende Themen auf – von Krieg und Vertreibung bis zu queeren Identitäten und feministischen Perspektiven, von der Klimakrise bis zu intimen Geschichten über Familie, Liebe und Erinnerung. Kurzfilme reißen Illusionen nieder und stellen uns Realitäten gegenüber, die dominante Narrative lieber verdrängen würden. Sie verstärken queere, feministische und dekoloniale Perspektiven. Sie erinnern uns daran, dass Kreativität eine Waffe gegen Verzweiflung sein kann – und dass Solidarität keine abstrakte Idee ist, sondern eine Praxis, die wir gemeinsam aufbauen.

Ein Eckpfeiler dieser Ausgabe ist die zweiphasige Film Talent Academy, die Nachwuchsfilm:innen aus aller Welt unterstützt und sie durch unsere offizielle Zusammenarbeit mit dem Festival de Cannes Short Film Corner Industry Rendez-Vous direkt mit der internationalen Branche vernetzt. Indem wir Austausch und Mentoring fördern, investieren wir in die nächste Generation von Geschichtenerzähler:innen, deren Werke die kulturellen Landschaften von morgen prägen werden.

Besonders stolz sind wir darauf, am 9. Oktober den 3. Queer-Feministischen Tag in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Frauenbüro der Stadt Linz auszurichten – ein klares Bekenntnis zu Geschlechtergerechtigkeit und LGBTQAI+-Rechten. Diese Initiativen unterstreichen unseren Glauben daran, dass Kino nicht nur Unterhaltung ist, sondern auch Widerstand, Heilung und Transformation.

Das Linz ISFF ist mehr als ein Festival: Es ist ein Manifest für Vielfalt, Solidarität und Gerechtigkeit. Jeder hier präsentierte Film ist Teil eines kollektiven Aufrufs – eines Aufrufs, Unterdrückung entgegenzutreten, das Leben zu bejahen und gemeinsam Freiheit zu imaginieren. Wir laden Publikum, Filmschaffende und Partner*innen ein, dieses Mosaik von Perspektiven zu feiern. Gemeinsam wollen wir die Kraft des Kinos nutzen – um Veränderung zu inspirieren, Brücken zwischen Kulturen und Generationen zu bauen und unseren gemeinsamen Kampf weiterzutragen.



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To narrate is to resist.

When we narrate through short films, we resist invisibility with a freedom rarely allowed in mainstream cinema – a freedom to speak, to confront, to imagine. Independent by nature, short films are not dependent on power, but free to oppose it. They carry the pain of the oppressed, the dreams of the silenced, and the courage of those who refuse to vanish.

Every narration is a bridge: from one life to another, from one struggle to the next. In times of rising racism, misogyny, and fascism, films cross borders, open perspectives, and confront the systems that profit from our division. In this climate, cinema becomes more than art – it becomes resistance, memory, and a call to justice.

Since its beginning, the Linz International Short Film Festival has stood for cultural dialogue, diversity, and solidarity. Today, in our eighth year, this vision feels more urgent than ever. With a record 3,500 submissions from 140 countries and 70 films selected, the festival continues to be a global stage for voices that challenge, inspire, and unite – a window to the world where diversity and solidarity become visible.

The films we present this year explore pressing themes – from war and displacement to queer identities and feminist perspectives, from the climate crisis to intimate stories of family, love, and memory. Short films strip away illusions and bring us face to face with realities that dominant narratives would prefer we forget. They amplify queer, feminist, and decolonial perspectives. They remind us that creativity can be a weapon against despair, and that solidarity is not an abstract idea, but a practice we build together.

A cornerstone of this year's edition is the two-phase Film Talent Academy, which supports emerging filmmakers from around the world and connects them directly with the international industry through our official collaboration with the Festival de Cannes Short Film Corner Industry Rendez-Vous. By fostering exchange and mentoring, we are investing in the next generation of storytellers whose work will shape tomorrow's cultural landscapes.

We are especially proud to host the 3rd Queer-Feminist Day on October 9, in collaboration with the Women's Office of the City of Linz, continuing our commitment to gender equality and LGBTQAI+ rights. These initiatives underline our belief that cinema is not only entertainment but also a form of resistance, healing, and transformation.

The Linz ISFF is more than a festival: it is a manifesto for diversity, solidarity, and justice. Every film presented here is part of a collective call – a call to confront oppression, to affirm life, and to imagine freedom together. We invite audiences, filmmakers, and partners to join us in celebrating this mosaic of perspectives. Together, let us embrace the power of cinema to inspire change, to build bridges across cultures and generations, and to carry forward our common struggle.



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Brigitte Hütter

Kunstuniversität Linz Rektorin
Principal of the University of Arts Linz

Als aufstrebende Filmemacher*innen aus dem Iran haben Parisa Ghasemi und Ashkan Nematian vor 8 Jahren an der Kunstuniversität Linz das Festival für Kurzfilme initiiert. Ein großes Anliegen der beiden war es, dem Publikum Einblicke in verschiedene Kulturen zu vermitteln, ohne dabei Grenzen zu setzen. Seitdem zeigt die Kunstuniversität und das Linz International Short Film Festival jeden Oktober die Werke junger, talentierter Filmschaffender – allein heuer sind 70 Filme zu sehen, die aus mehr als 3500 Einreichungen aus 140 Ländern ausgewählt wurden. Während des viertägigen Festivals ist die Kunstuniversität Linz mittlerweile der Place to be für Cineasten – auch weil sie mit ihren 1500 Studierenden aus 60 Nationen das perfekte Umfeld für das facettenreiche Kurzfilmprogramm bietet. Diversität wird auch vom Festivalteam als Terminus verstanden, der weit über die interkulturelle Vielfalt hinausgeht. Heuer wird beim Linz ISFF der dritte queer-feministische Tag am 9. Oktober gefeiert – und eine Fachjury wählt auch diesmal den besten queer-feministischen Film aus, um ebensolche Kinokunst zu fördern. Mit dem Mahsa Jina Amini Spezialpreis wird eine Regisseurin bei ihrem nächsten Filmprojekt unterstützt – und mit der Würdigung an die Leitfigur der Proteste gegen das Regime in Iran gedacht. Parisa Ghasemi und Ashkan Nematian sowie ihrem Team gilt für das Short Film Festival ganz besonderer Dank für ihren Einsatz – weil sie uns immer wieder einen Blick von den Leinwänden hier in Linz über den Rand Europas hinaus in die Welt ermöglichen. Lassen Sie uns also gemeinsam ein Festival der Toleranz, der filmischen Experimente und außergewöhnlichen Erlebnisse feiern, mit Dokumentar, Spiel- und Experimentalfilmen. Ab jetzt gilt für vier Tage: Close-Up!

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As emergent filmmakers from Iran, Parisa Ghasemi and Ashkan Nematian initiated the Short Film Festival at the University of Arts Linz eight years ago. It was a major concern of both artists to offer the audience insights into different cultures without setting any limits. Since then, the University of Arts and the Linz International Short Film Festival have been presenting works by young, talented filmmakers every October – this year, fully 70 films selected out of 3500 submissions from all over the world will be screened. During the four-day festival, Kunstuniversität Linz has become "the place to be" for movie buffs – also because, with its 1,500 students from 60 countries, the University provides the perfect setting for the multifaceted short film programme. Moreover, the festival organisers' approach to diversity embraces a concept that goes far beyond intercultural variety. This year, the Linz ISFF will celebrate the third queer-feminist day on 9 October – and an expert jury will again choose the best queer-feminist film in order to promote this type of cinematic art. With the Zhina Mahsa Amini Special Award, a woman director will be supported in her next film project; at the same time, this prize commemorates the figurehead of the protests against the Iranian regime. Parisa Ghasemi, Ashkan Nematian and their team deserve our special gratitude for their commitment to the Short Film Festival – because they enable us here in Linz, time and again, to take a look beyond the borders of Europe via the medium of film. Therefore, let us jointly celebrate a festival of tolerance, cinematic experiments and extraordinary experiences with documentaries, feature films and experimental productions. From now on, the motto for the next four days is: "Close-up!"



© David Visnjic

Andreas Babler

Vizekanzler/Bundesminister für Kunst und Kultur Vice-Chancellor/Federal Minister of Arts and Culture

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

als Filmfans sind Sie bestimmt mit dem grundlegenden Missverständnis vertraut, der Kurzfilm sei lediglich die kleine Variante großer Spiel- oder Dokumentarfilme. Das ist nicht nur falsch, sondern es gibt auch eine Parallele zur Politik: Gerade in Zeiten überwältigender, mitunter überrumpelnder Erzählungen lohnt es sich, den Blick bewusst auf das vermeintlich Kleine zu richten. Häufig bedeutet die kleine Form – sei es im Film oder beispielsweise in der Regionalpolitik im Gegensatz zur Weltpolitik – Unmittelbarkeit, Direktheit sowie Verdichtung und Konzentration. Der Kurzfilm ist markant, pointiert und mitunter auf wenige Gedanken reduziert, die er Ihnen, geschätztes Publikum, näherbringen möchte. Sie werden es beim Festival erleben können! Im Kino, TV und auf VOD-Plattformen hat er es hingegen schwerer. An dieser Stelle zeigt sich die besondere Bedeutung von Kulturinitiativen und Festivals: Ihnen ist es zu verdanken, dass Österreich über eine blühende, vielfältige und vitale Kunst- und Kulturlandschaft verfügt, die mir gerade auch in Zeiten angespannter Budgets sehr am Herzen liegt. „Think globally, act locally“, lautet eine alte, aber immer noch richtige politische Parole, die sehr gut zum Linz ISFF passt. Vom Kleinen zum ganz Großen: Im Herzen der Kurzfilm, im Fokus die Welt. Ich danke allen, die zum Gelingen des Festivals beitragen und wünsche Ihnen inspirierende Augenblicke.

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Ladies and gentlemen,

As film enthusiasts, you're no doubt familiar with the basic misconception that short films are merely the miniature version of major feature or documentary films. Not only is this wrong, it also has parallels with politics: precisely in times of overwhelming, in part overpowering narratives, it's worth consciously directing our gaze towards the supposed little things. The small form – be it in film or, to give an example, in regional politics as opposed to world politics – often imparts a sense of immediacy and directness along with concentration and consolidation. The short film is striking, to the point and occasionally even reduced to a few ideas which, dear audience, it aims to convey to you. And you'll have the chance to experience this during the festival! In the cinema, on TV and on VOD platforms, on the other hand, short films face more resistance. This is where the special significance of cultural initiatives and festivals becomes evident: it is thanks to them that Austria has a flourishing, diverse and vibrant artistic and cultural landscape, which, especially given the current budget constraints, is very close to my heart. Think globally, act locally" is an old political slogan that still holds true today and is very fitting for the Linz ISFF. From small-scale to big picture: showcasing short films to shine a spotlight on the world. I'd like to thank all those who contribute to the festival's success and wish you many inspiring moments.



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Thomas Stelzer

Landeshauptmann von Oberösterreich
Governor of Federal Province of Upper Austria

Die aktuelle achte Ausgabe des Linz International Short Film Festival macht klar, dass das Festival ein fester Bestandteil des Kulturprogramms in Oberösterreich und der Landeshauptstadt Linz ist. Die Mission des Linz International Short Film Festivals ist: „junge, talentierte Filmemacherinnen und Filmemacher in ihrem qualitätvollen Schaffen zu unterstützen und ihnen die Möglichkeit zu geben, ihre Werke in einem professionellen Rahmen zu präsentieren“. Das wird seit Gründung des Festivals 2018 gelebt und Jahr für Jahr mit neuen, außergewöhnlichen Einreichungen untermauert. Zahlenmäßig haben die Einreichungen den Rekord im Vorjahr weit hinter sich gelassen! 3500 Werke aus insgesamt 140 Ländern wurden eingesandt! Ein weiterer Beweis dafür, dass das Linz ISFF etabliert und weit über unsere Grenzen in der Kulturwelt Bekanntheit genießt. Das Festival fungiert als Leistungsschau hervorragender Filmemacherinnen und Filmemachern, die es verstehen, ihr Publikum mit ganz eigenen Erzählweisen und einer großen Bandbreite an filmischen Formen und ästhetischen Zugängen zu begeistern. Das garantiert auch ein anhaltendes Interesse beim Kinopublikum. Darüber hinaus erfährt auch die heimische Kulturbranche Aufwind. Das Filmfestival entwirft ein Umfeld für lokale Künstlerinnen und Künstler, Filmschaffende, sowie Raum für gemeinsamen künstlerischen Austausch. Mit einem vielschichten Rahmenprogramm und Mentoring-Angeboten wird das Standing von Linz als Filmstadt weiter ausgebaut. Ich danke allen Mitwirkenden sowie der Jury und der Festivalleitung Parisa Ghasemi und Ashkan Nematian für ihr Engagement, wünsche allen Teilnehmerinnen und Teilnehmern viel Erfolg und dem Publikum unvergessliche Kinoerlebnisse.

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The current eighth edition of the Linz International Short Film Festival makes it clear that the festival is an integral part of the cultural program in Upper Austria and the provincial capital Linz. The mission of the Linz International Short Film Festival is: "to support young, talented filmmakers in their high-quality work and give them the opportunity to present their works in a professional setting." This has been the case since the festival was founded in 2018 and is reinforced year after year with new, extraordinary submissions. In terms of numbers, the submissions have far exceeded last year's record! 3,500 works from a total of 140 countries were submitted! Further proof that the Linz ISFF is well established and enjoys recognition far beyond our borders in the cultural world. The festival thus serves as a showcase for outstanding filmmakers who know how to inspire their audiences with their own unique narrative styles and a wide range of cinematic forms and aesthetic approaches. This also guarantees sustained interest among cinema audiences. In addition, the local cultural industry is also experiencing an upswing. The film festival creates an environment for local artists and filmmakers, as well as space for joint artistic exchange. With a multifaceted supporting program and mentoring opportunities, Linz's standing as a film city will be further enhanced. I would like to thank all those involved, as well as the jury and the festival directors Parisa Ghasemi and Ashkan Nematian for their commitment. I wish all participants every success and hope that audiences will gain memorable experiences.



© Robert Maybach

Dietmar Prammer

Bürgermeister der Landeshauptstadt Linz
Mayor of the Provincial Capital of Linz

Traditionsveranstaltung internationalen Formats!

Es ist mir eine große Freude, die achte Auflage des Linz International Short Film Festival in unserer Stadt willkommen zu heißen. Vom 8. bis 11. Oktober 2025 verwandelt sich Linz erneut in einen Treffpunkt für Filmschaffende, Kunstliebhaber*innen und ein neugieriges Publikum aus aller Welt. Etwa 3.000 Einreichungen zeigen eindrucksvoll, wie stark die internationale Resonanz auf dieses Festival ist und wie groß der Wunsch nach Austausch und Begegnung in diesem Genre über die Grenzen hinweg bleibt. Das Hauptanliegen und die Vision des Festivals, nämlich der kulturelle Dialog in all seinen Facetten mit Betonung der Vielfalt, um Solidarität in der Gesellschaft zu erzeugen, passt hervorragend zum Selbstverständnis unserer Stadt. Linz ist seit jeher ein Ort, an dem Kunst, Kreativität und Innovation einen besonderen Stellenwert haben. Ein Festival, das Solidarität durch kulturelle Vielfalt fördert, bereichert unsere Stadt in hohem Maße. Besonders freut es mich, dass mit dem City-Kino und der Kunstuniversität Linz zwei Orte gewählt wurden, die hochqualitative Filmvorführungen und einen würdigen Raum für Austausch, Diskussion und Begegnung ermöglichen. So wird das Festival nicht nur zu einem künstlerischen Ereignis, sondern auch zu einem lebendigen Ort des Dialogs im Herzen unserer Stadt. Ich danke allen, die mit großem Engagement dieses Festival möglich machen. Den Besucher*innen wünsche ich spannende Eindrücke, inspirierende Gespräche und unvergessliche Filmserlebnisse.

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A traditional event of international stature!

It is my great pleasure to welcome the eighth edition of the Linz International Short Film Festival to our city. From October 8 to 11, 2025, Linz will once again transform into a meeting place for filmmakers, art lovers, and a curious audience from all over the world. Around 3,000 submissions impressively demonstrate the strong international response to this festival and the continuing desire for exchange and encounter in this genre across borders. The main concern and vision of the festival, namely cultural dialogue in all its facets with an emphasis on diversity in order to create solidarity in society, fits perfectly with our city's self-image. Linz has always been a place where art, creativity, and innovation have a special significance. A festival that promotes solidarity through cultural diversity greatly enriches our city. I am particularly pleased that the City Cinema and the University of Art and Design Linz were chosen as two venues that enable high-quality film screenings and provide a worthy space for exchange, discussion, and encounter. This makes the festival not only an artistic event, but also a lively place for dialogue in the heart of our city. I would like to thank everyone who has made this festival possible with their great commitment. I wish the visitors exciting impressions, inspiring conversations, and unforgettable film experiences.



© Land OÖ

Margot Nazzal

Landeskulturdirktorin von Oberösterreich
State Cultural Director of Upper Austria

„I'll be back“ ist wohl eines der berühmtesten Filmzitate aller Zeiten. Es freut mich ganz besonders, dass dies auch auf das Linz International Short Film Festival zutrifft. Zum bereits 8. Mal wird es heuer über die Bühne gehen und bereits im Vorfeld lässt sich festhalten: Das Interesse der jungen Filmemacherinnen und Filmemacher ist ungebrochen! Für die diesjährige Ausgabe gab es 3500 Einreichungen aus 140 Ländern und somit so viele wie noch nie! Die Werke – darunter dokumentarische, animierte und narrative – behandeln ein breites Spektrum gesellschaftlich relevanter Themen und gehen über reine Unterhaltung weit hinaus. Den Veranstalter:innen Parisa Ghasemi und Ashkan Nematian liegt insbesondere die Vielfalt, die sich in den Einreichungen spiegelt, am Herzen. Das Projekt fördert nicht nur künstlerischen, sondern auch einen persönlichen Austausch und soll Menschen über Grenzen hinweg verbinden. Ein Paradebeispiel dafür ist die Film Talent Academy, die gemeinsam mit dem Linz ISFF junge Filmmacher:innen unterstützt, sie mit der Industrie vertraut macht und Mentoring anbietet. Im Wort Festival steckt auch das Wort „Fest“ drinnen und Gründe zum Feiern gibt es genug, wenn das Film Festival von 8. bis 11. Oktober stattfindet. Filmliebhaberinnen und Kinofreunde strömen ins Kino, zu Talks, Paneldiskussionen, Workshops und Partys, was sowohl den lokalen Kinobetrieb als auch die Filmbranche insgesamt stärken kann. Ich gratuliere der Jury, den Festivalverantwortlichen sowie allen Teilnehmerinnen und Teilnehmern zu ihren herausragenden Leistungen und wünsche den Besucherinnen und Besuchern viele besondere Filmmomente.

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„I'll be back“ is probably one of the most famous movie quotes of all times. I am particularly pleased that this also applies to the Linz International Short Film Festival. It will be held for the eighth time this year, and one thing is already clear in advance: the interest of young filmmakers remains unbroken! This year's edition received 3,500 submissions from 140 countries, more than ever before! The works—including documentaries, animated films, and narratives—cover a wide range of socially relevant topics and go far beyond pure entertainment. Organisers Parisa Ghasemi and Ashkan Nematian are particularly keen to highlight the diversity reflected in the submissions. The project promotes not only artistic but also personal exchange and aims to connect people across borders. A prime example of this is the Film Talent Academy, which works with the the Linz ISFF to support young filmmakers, familiarise them with the industry and offer mentoring. The word “festival” derives from the latin word „festivus“, meaning festive, ceremonial and there are in fact plenty of reasons to celebrate when the film festival takes place from October 8 to 11. Film lovers and cinema enthusiasts flock to the cinema, talks, panel discussions, workshops, and parties, which can strengthen both the local cinema industry and the film industry as a whole. I would like to congratulate the jury, the festival organizers and all participants on their outstanding achievements and wish all of us many special film moments.



© Philipp Greindl

Doris Lang-Mayerhofer

Stadträtin für Kultur, Tourismus und Kreativwirtschaft der Stadt Linz
City Councilor for Culture, Tourism and Creative Industries of the City of Linz

Große Leinwand für Kurzfilme

Linz trägt den Titel UNESCO City of Media Arts nicht nur wegen der Ars Electronica, sondern lebt diesen kulturellen Anspruch auch mit einer großen kreativen, künstlerischen und universitären Szene im Bereich der Medienkunst. Das Internationale Kurzfilmfestival Linz hat sich in den wenigen Jahren seit seiner Gründung 2018 einen großartigen internationalen Zuspruch erarbeitet, heuer mit einem Rekord von 3.500 Einreichungen aus 140 Ländern. Es gilt zu Recht als eines der jungen neuen Aushängeschilder von Linz als UNESCO City of Media Arts. Für Linz hat dieses Festival auch deshalb eine große Bedeutung, weil es eine Plattform und ein produktives Umfeld für aufstrebende heimische Filmschaffende bietet. Mit der Talent Academy wurde in den letzten Jahren dazu ein professionelles Angebot geschaffen, das auch außerhalb der Festivaltage junge Talente fördert und international unterstützt. Das Festivalpublikum darf sich mit dem Rahmenprogramm auf vier spannende Tage mit einer Vielfalt, Diversität und Dichte freuen, wie sie wahrscheinlich nur ein Kurzfilmfestival bieten kann. Ich gratuliere den Initiatoren und dem Organisationsteam zu dieser sensationellen Entwicklung. Vielen Dank und viel Erfolg!

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Big Screen for Short Films

Linz holds the title of UNESCO City of Media Arts not solely on account of Ars Electronica, but also through its vibrant creative, artistic, and academic scene in media arts. Since its foundation in 2018, the International Short Film Festival Linz has gained remarkable international recognition, this year reaching a record of 3,500 submissions from 140 countries. It has rightfully become one of the flagships of Linz as a UNESCO City of Media Arts. For Linz, this festival is particularly significant as it provides a platform and a productive environment for emerging local filmmakers. With the establishment of the Talent Academy, a professional programme has been created in recent years that supports young talents not only during the festival but also throughout the year, offering international opportunities. The festival audience can look forward to four inspiring days showcasing a breadth and richness of work that only a short film festival can offer. My congratulations go to the initiators and the organising team for this outstanding achievement. Thank you and best of success!



© Violetta Wakolbinger

Eva Schobesberger

Stadträtin für Frauen, Bildung, Umwelt und Naturschutz der Stadt Linz
City Councilor for women, environment, nature conservation & education of the City of Linz

Wenn es um die Gleichstellung der Geschlechter geht, hat die Filmindustrie großen Aufholbedarf: Angefangen von der Darstellung unterschiedlicher Lebensrealitäten, über das eklatante Ausmaß sexualisierter Gewalt (#MeToo), bis hin zur nicht adäquaten (monetären) Anerkennung der Leistungen von Frauen: vieles muss sich noch bewegen und verändert werden. Das International Short Film Festival in Linz greift gekonnt diese Missstände auf und bietet in ihrer eindrucksvollen Vielfalt eine großartige Sichtbarkeit von Frauen, von FLINTA*Personen, insbesondere von Filmemacherinnen, Regisseurinnen, Drehbuchautorinnen und Produzentinnen. Der Erhalt von insgesamt 3.500 Filmeinreichungen aus 140 Ländern zeigt klar auf: das Festivalteam ist seiner Zeit voraus und zeigt die kreativsten und aktuellsten internationalen Werke! Ganz besonders freut mich die Kooperation mit dem Frauenbüro der Stadt Linz und die gemeinsame Umsetzung des Festival-Highlights: mit dem „Queer & Feministischen Tag“ am 9. Oktober 2025 wird insbesondere gendersensiblen Themen eine große Plattform geboten. Mein aufrichtiger Dank gilt dem gesamten Festivalteam und der Jury, die hier herausragende Arbeit geleistet haben. Ich wünsche allen Besucher*innen viel Freude, kritische Diskurse und vor allem einen weiten Blick über den eigenen Tellerrand.

EN

When it comes to gender equality, the film industry has a lot of catching up to do: from the portrayal of female realities of life, to the blatant extent of sexualised violence (#MeToo), to the inadequate (monetary) recognition of women's achievements: a lot still needs to happen and change. The International Short Film Festival in Linz skilfully addresses these grievances and, with its impressive diversity, offers great visibility for women, especially female filmmakers, directors, screenwriters and producers. The receipt of a total of 2,750 film submissions from 109 countries clearly shows that the festival team is ahead of its time and shows the most creative and up-to-date international works! I am particularly pleased about the cooperation with the Women's Office of the City of Linz and the joint realization of the festival highlight: the "Queer & Feminist Day". It offers a great platform for gender-sensitive topics. My sincere thanks go to the entire festival team and the jury, who have done an outstanding job here. I wish all visitors a lot of fun, critical discourse and, above all, a broad view beyond their own horizons.



VdFS

© Niko Havranek

VdFS

Verwertungsgesellschaft der Filmschaffenden Collecting society of audiovisual authors Austria

Die VdFS setzt sich mit Nachdruck dafür ein, die kulturellen und ökonomischen Voraussetzungen für Filmschaffende zu optimieren. Die Förderung des Linz International Short Film Festivals stellt dabei einen bedeutenden Schritt dar, um die kreative Leistung von Filmschaffenden sichtbar zu machen und ihre Rolle als zentrale Träger kultureller Identität zu stärken. Das Linz ISFF präsentiert originelle Kurzfilmproduktionen junger, talentierter Filmemacher:innen und schafft Raum für abwechslungsreiche cineastische Erfahrungen sowie für die filmische Vielfalt aus aller Welt. Das Festival stellt den Kurzfilm als eigenständiges Filmformat in den Mittelpunkt und bietet eine professionelle Plattform für Independent-Filme mit Fokus auf Diversität. Wir unterstützen das Festival mit Überzeugung, da es einen wichtigen Beitrag zur Stärkung der Filmkunst, zur Förderung kultureller Diversität und zur internationalen Begegnung leistet und die Linzer Kulturszene nachhaltig bereichert! Wir wünschen Ihnen ein großartiges Festival!

EN

The VdFS is committed to optimizing the cultural and economic conditions for filmmakers. Supporting the Linz International Short Film Festival represents a significant step towards making the creative achievements and artistic aspirations of filmmakers visible and strengthening their role as central bearers of cultural identity.

The Linz ISFF presents original short film productions by young, talented filmmakers and creates space for diverse cinematic experiences as well as for film diversity from around the world. The festival places short film as an independent film format at its center and provides a professional platform for independent films with a focus on diversity.

We support the festival with conviction, as it makes an important contribution to strengthening film art, promoting cultural diversity, and fostering international encounters. At the same time, it sustainably enriches Linz's cultural scene and provides a productive environment for local artists and filmmakers!

Have a wonderful festival!



© Linz Tourismus_Tom Son

Marie-Louise Schnurpfeil

Geschäftsführerin Linz Tourismus Managing Director Linz Tourismus

Linz ist alles, was du nicht erwartest. Also anders. Nicht nur die Stadt, sondern auch ihre Veranstaltungen überraschen. Mittlerweile ein Fixpunkt im Veranstaltungskalender ist das Linz International Short Film Festival. Filme besitzen die besondere Kraft, uns emotional zu berühren, Denkanstöße zu geben und bleibende Eindrücke zu hinterlassen. Gerade Kurzfilme zeichnen sich dadurch aus, dass sie Geschichten und Ideen in einer konzentrierten und intensiven Form vermitteln. Mit viel Kreativität und Innovationsgeist finden Filmschaffende immer neue Wege, ihr Publikum zu überraschen und zu fesseln. Umso schöner ist es, dass das Linz International Short Film Festival heuer bereits zum achten Mal in Linz stattfindet. Inzwischen hat es sich zu einer bedeutenden Plattform für Künstler*innen aus aller Welt entwickelt. Heute ist das Festival ein fester Bestandteil der oberösterreichischen Kulturszene und begeistert sowohl einheimische als auch internationale Besucher*innen. Die stetig wachsende Zahl an Einreichungen im Wettbewerb unterstreicht die hohe Qualität und das Renommee der Veranstaltung.

Wir wünschen dem Publikum des Festivals ein inspirierendes Kinoerlebnis in Linz.

EN

Linz is everything you don't expect. Different. Not only the city itself, but also its events never fail to surprise. By now, the Linz International Short Film Festival has become a fixed highlight in the city's cultural calendar. Films have the unique power to move us, inspire reflection, and leave lasting impressions. Short films, in particular, stand out by telling stories and conveying ideas in a concentrated, powerful way. With creativity and innovation, filmmakers constantly find new approaches to captivate and amaze their audiences. It is all the more delightful that the Linz International Short Film Festival is taking place in Linz for the eighth time this year. Over the years, it has grown into an important platform for artists from all over the world. Today, the festival is a key part of Upper Austria's cultural landscape, attracting both local audiences and international film enthusiasts. The steadily increasing number of submissions for the competition highlights the high quality and strong reputation of the festival.

We wish the festival audience an inspiring cinematic experience in Linz.



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Jörg Pfaffenzeller

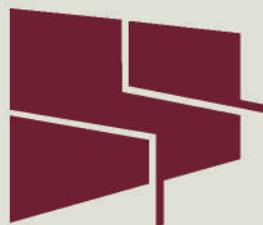
Vorsitzender WKO Film- und Musikwirtschaft Oberösterreich Chairman Upper Austria Economic Chamber, Film and Music

Als Obmann der Film- & Musikwirtschaft der Wirtschaftskammer Oberösterreich ist es mir eine große Freude, das Linz International Short Film Festival willkommen zu heißen. Dieses Festival ist nicht nur eine Plattform für filmische Vielfalt, sondern auch ein lebendiger Treffpunkt für Kreativität, Austausch und internationale Zusammenarbeit. Kurzfilme besitzen die besondere Kraft, in wenigen Minuten ganze Welten zu eröffnen, Emotionen zu wecken und Diskussionen anzustoßen – ein Wert, der gerade in unserer schnelllebigen Zeit von unschätzbbarer Bedeutung ist. Die Filmbranche steht heute an einem spannenden Schnittpunkt: Künstliche Intelligenz eröffnet neue Möglichkeiten in Produktion, Postproduktion und Storytelling, wirft aber zugleich Fragen nach Urheberschaft, künstlerischer Integrität und dem Wert menschlicher Kreativität auf. Wir sehen darin keinen Widerspruch, sondern eine Chance. Denn die wahre Stärke des Films liegt im menschlichen Blick, in der individuellen Handschrift und im schöpferischen Mut. KI kann hier wertvolles Werkzeug sein – doch die Seele des Kinos bleibt immer der Mensch. Das Festival zeigt eindrucksvoll, wie vielfältig und kraftvoll filmische Stimmen aus aller Welt sind. Über 3.500 Einreichungen aus 140 Ländern unterstreichen das eindrucksvoll. Es verbindet Innovation mit Tradition, Technik mit Emotion und Vision mit Verantwortung. In diesem Sinne wünschen wir allen Teilnehmerinnen und Besuchern inspirierende Begegnungen, bleibende Eindrücke und den Mut, neue Wege zu gehen.

EN

As Chairman of the Film & Music Industry Division of the Upper Austrian Chamber of Commerce, it is my great pleasure to welcome the Linz International Short Film Festival. This festival is not only a showcase for cinematic diversity but also a vibrant meeting point for creativity, exchange, and international collaboration. Short films have a unique power: in just a few minutes, they can open up entire worlds, spark emotions, and inspire reflection – a quality of immense value in our fast-moving times. Today, the film industry finds itself at an exciting crossroads: Artificial Intelligence offers new possibilities in production, post-production, and storytelling, while also raising questions of authorship, artistic integrity, and the irreplaceable value of human creativity. We do not see this as a contradiction but as an opportunity. The true strength of cinema lies in the human gaze, the individual signature, and the courage to create. AI can be a valuable tool – but the soul of cinema will always remain human. This festival powerfully demonstrates the richness and strength of cinematic voices from around the globe. More than 3,500 submissions from 140 countries underscore this impressively. It unites innovation with tradition, technology with emotion, and vision with responsibility. With this spirit, we wish all participants and visitors inspiring encounters, lasting impressions, and the courage to explore new paths.

ORGANISER



CLOSEfilm

CLOSEFILM FILM- UND KULTURVEREIN

Closefilm Association

Hinter dem Festival steht der CLOSEFILM Film- und Kulturverein. Der gemeinnützige Verein wurde 2018 von Parisa Ghasemi und Ashkan Nematian mit dem Ziel gegründet, Kunst, Kultur und insbesondere das Kino zu fördern. Um diese Vision zu verwirklichen, findet seit 2018 jährlich das Linz International Short Film Festival statt. Im Jahr 2022 wurde zusätzlich die Film Talent Academy ins Leben gerufen, die seither mehr als 50 Nachwuchsfilmschaffenden Training und Mentoring ermöglicht hat.

En

Behind the festival stands the CLOSEFILM Film and Culture Association.

The non-profit association was founded in 2018 by Parisa Ghasemi and Ashkan Nematian with the aim of promoting art, culture, and above all cinema. To realize this vision, the Linz International Short Film Festival has been held annually since 2018. In 2022, the Film Talent Academy was launched as a parallel initiative, and has since provided training and mentorship to more than 50 emerging filmmakers.

KERNTEAM/ CORE TEAM

Festivalleitung/Festival Directors **Parisa Ghasemi, Ashkan Nematian**

Kooperationen/Cooperations **Clara Schultes**

Gästebüro/Guest Office **Angelika Stürzl**

Grafikdesign/Graphic Design **Maryam Baradaran**

Produktion und Veranstaltungsassistent/Production and Event assistant

André Schneider, Al Majd



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- **VdFS, Verwertungsgesellschaft der Filmschaffenden Österreich**
- **Frauenbüro der Stadt Linz**
- **WKOÖ Film- und Musikwirtschaft**
- **Linz Tourismus**

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- **Festival of Nations (FON)**
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- **Lightson**
- **Zeitbasierte und interaktive Medienkunst Bachelorstudium**
- **Zeitbasierte Medien Masterstudium**
- **Hunger auf Kunst und Kultur** (Initiiert 2003 von Schauspielhaus Wien und der Armutskonferenz)

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- **Frauenbüro der Stadt Linz**
- **SFC | Rendez-vous Industry of Festival de Cannes**

JURY

Bojana Bregar



Bojana Bregar ist freie Filmkritikerin, Autorin sowie Kuratorin/Programmauswählerin. Sie wurde in Slowenien geboren und studierte Philosophie und Kultursoziologie an der Philosophischen Fakultät der Universität Ljubljana. Bereits 2007, noch während des Studiums, begann sie als Assistentin in der Programmabteilung der Slowenischen Kinemathek zu arbeiten. Seit mehr als einem Jahrzehnt ist sie als Filmkritikerin tätig und Mitglied der Redaktion von Ekran Magazine, einer der ältesten Filmzeitschriften Europas. 2014 gründete sie mit Kolleg*innen die Kraken Short Film Promotion Society, die zahlreichen jungen slowenischen Filmschaffenden durch verschiedene Veranstaltungen Sichtbarkeit verschafft – allen voran mit dem FeKK – Ljubljana International Short Film Festival. 2018 wurde sie als Artist-in-Residence von freiraum q21 eingeladen und nahm an der Ausstellung "Shaping Democracy! – The Republic in 24 Frames per Century" teil, die im Rahmen des VIS Vienna Shorts Festival eröffnet wurde. Im selben Jahr zog sie nach Wien, wo sie begann, mit dem Kollektiv Cinema Next zusammenzuarbeiten. 2019 wurde sie Teil des Programmauswahlteams des Vienna Shorts Film Festival.

EN

Bojana Bregar is a freelance film critic, writer and curator/selector of film programmes. She was born in Slovenia where she studied philosophy and cultural sociology at the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Arts, and in 2007, while still studying, started working as an assistant in the programme department of the Slovenian Cinematheque. She has been a film critic for more than a decade and is a member of the editorial staff at Ekran Magazine, one of the oldest film magazines in Europe. In 2014 she co-founded the Kraken Short Film Promotion Society that offers visibility to many up-and-coming Slovenian filmmakers via various cinematic and cinema related events, the main being FeKK – Ljubljana International Short Film Festival. In 2018 she was invited as an artist in residency by freiraum q21 and participated in the "Shaping Democracy! – The Republic in 24 Frames per Century" exhibition, which opened as a part of VIS Vienna Shorts Festival. She moved to Vienna in 2018 and started working with the Cinema Next collective, and in 2019 became a member of the programming team of Vienna Shorts Film Festival.

JURY

Pirouz Nemati



Pirouz Nemati ist ein iranisch-kanadischer Schauspieler, Filmemacher, Autor und Editor mit Wohnsitz in Montréal. Bekannt wurde er vor allem als Co-Autor und Hauptdarsteller von *Universal Language* (2024), einer surrealen Komödie, die iranische und kanadische Perspektiven miteinander verbindet. Der Film gewann den Publikumspreis der Quinzaine des Cinéastes in Cannes, war Kanadas offizieller Beitrag für die Academy Awards und brachte Nemati Nominierungen bei den Canadian Screen Awards in den Kategorien Beste Hauptrolle in einer Komödie und Bestes Originaldrehbuch ein.

EN

*Pirouz Nemati is an Iranian-Canadian actor, filmmaker, writer, and editor based in Montreal. He is best known for co-writing and starring in *Universal Language* (2024), a surreal comedy blending Iranian and Canadian sensibilities. The film won the Cannes Directors' Fortnight Audience Award, was Canada's official submission for the Academy Awards, and earned Nemati Canadian Screen Award nominations for Best Lead Performance in a Comedy Film and Best Original Screenplay.*

JURY

Sophia Hochedlinger



Sophia Hochedlinger ist Drehbuchautorin, Regisseurin und Editorin. Ihre Kurzfilme wurden international auf Filmfestivals gezeigt. Sie studiert Kunst und Medien an der Akademie der bildenden Künste Wien und ist als Co-Festivalleitung bei YOUKI - Internationales Jugend Medien Festival tätig.

EN

Sophia Hochedlinger is a screenwriter, director, and editor. Her short films have been shown at film festivals around the world. She studies art and media at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna and is co-director of YOUKI - International Youth Media Festival.

PROGRAM

3rd Queer & Feminist Day

9.10.2025

The Queer & Feminist Day will celebrate its third edition on October 9, 2025, reaffirming our commitment to gender diversity, inclusion, and equality. Initiated in collaboration with the Women's Office of the City of Linz, this special day was created to highlight and strengthen intersectional feminism, gender equality, women's rights, and LGBTQ+ issues.

The festival will present around 20 short films from across the globe in four curated programs. A highlight of the day will be a panel discussion with filmmakers and jury members, offering space for in-depth conversations about the films and the personal experiences reflected in them.

With the Mahsa Jina Amini Special Award, Linz ISFF sends a clear message: we actively support filmmakers addressing queer and feminist themes and affirm our commitment to a cinema that defends and makes human rights visible. This award was presented to Giulia Grandinetti in 2023 for her film *Tria*, accompanied by a grant for her next project *Majonezë*. The film has since been completed, achieved great success at international festivals, and has been submitted for the Academy Awards. We are proud to present it at the opening of this year's festival.



PROGRAM

Opening Ceremony

8.10.2025 at 20:30 in City Kino

The festival begins with a festive ceremony, followed by the first screening of the Official Competition. We are especially proud to present *Majonezë* by Giulia Grandinetti, winner of the Queer-Feminist Award – Mahsa Jina Amini Grant 2023, alongside a strong selection of films developed within our Film Talent Academy. We are delighted to showcase the works of filmmakers who began their projects in the Film Talent Academy Short Film Lab and have now successfully completed their films.

After the screenings, there will be a Q&A with the filmmakers, celebrating the creativity and talent of recent years. The evening continues at the Festival Center with a buffet, meet & greet, filmmaker photo session, and a party at the University of Arts Linz.

Opening Program in detail:

City Kino | 18:00–20:30

Official greetings from representatives of politics, culture, institutions, and the Festival Director

Presentation of the participating Film Talent Academy

Majonezë – Italy – 22' | Fiction (Queer & Feminist Award – Mahsa Jina Amini Grant 2023)

SOS – Kosovo – 15' | Fiction (Film Talent Academy)

Fiber – Poland – 20' | Fiction (Film Talent Academy)

No One Will Ever Know – UK – 12' | Fiction (Film Talent Academy)

HEAST – Austria – 3' | Fiction (Film Talent Academy)

Q&A with attending filmmakers

University of Arts Linz | 20:30–24:00

Buffet, meet & greet, filmmaker photo session and party

Award Ceremony

11.10.2025 at 20:30 in City Kino

During the Award Ceremony at City Kino, starting 20:30, we celebrate the outstanding achievements of filmmakers whose works have challenged, inspired, and moved the jury. Awards will be presented in the following categories: Best Fiction, Best Documentary, Best Animation, Best Directing, Best Script, Best Acting, Best Editing, Best Cinematography, Best Sound Design, Best Austrian Film and the Queer-Feminist Mahsa Jina Amini Prize. Following the ceremony, the evening continues at the University of Arts Linz with a closing party – a chance for audiences, filmmakers, and guests to celebrate together and bring the festival to a joyful close.

City Kino | 20:30–22:30

Award Ceremony

University of Arts Linz | 22:30–late

Closing party

PROGRAM

Opening Film

Majonezë

Giulia Grandinetti

Italy 22'

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



Writer
Giulia Grandinetti

Producers
Riccardo Neri, Vincenzo Filippo, Giulia Grandinetti

Key Cast
Caterina Bagnulo, Alessandro Egger, Julian Jashar, Sean Cubito

Associated Producers
Parisa Ghasemi, Ashkan Nematian, Natasha Markou (London Production Studios)

PROGRAM

MASTERCLASS

Creative Europe Desk – MEDIA

Tips and Tricks for emerging Talents

Thursday 9.10.2025 11:00–12:30 at University of Arts Linz

Martina Petrović

Martina Petrović, Head of CED – MEDIA Office Croatia, will hold a masterclass focusing on tips and tricks when it comes to pitching training and the presentation of short film projects for workshops and markets, as well as funding opportunities for short films within Creative Europe Desk – MEDIA and beyond. Through practical exercises and interactive approach, industry guests and filmmakers will get an insight into how to prepare and present their projects as well as learn about pitching events and funding opportunities for short films.

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Feminist Cinema-What makes a film feminist?

Thursday 9.10.2025 13:00 – 14:30 at University of Arts Linz

Is it enough that it is directed by women or deals with “women’s issues”? Feminist film theory shows that it is not only about content, but about cinematic structures: about gazes, narratives, and aesthetics that expose and question patriarchal systems. Together with jury members, experts, and attending filmmakers, we want to discuss what a feminist structure of cinema can look like – and which often invisible patriarchal patterns still persist in film today.

PROGRAM

INDUSTRY EVENT: PITCH SESSION

The Pitch Sessions at Linz ISFF offer selected filmmakers from the festival's Film Talent Academy a unique opportunity to present their projects, being developed in Short Film LAB or First Feature LAB. This platform is open not only to those pitching their projects but also to all filmmakers eager to gain insights into the filmmaking process and effective pitching strategies as audience members. Whether you're pitching or simply looking to learn, this session promises to be an invaluable experience for anyone passionate about cinema.

Film Talent Academy Pitch-Sessions

at University of Arts Linz

Alumnee of Short Film LAB 2025 will compete for the Co-production Fund, providing essential support for their film projects. (Sponsored by Creative Europe Desk - MEDIA & CLOSEfilm Film- und Kulturverein)

Friday 10.10.2025 11:00-14:30

11:00-12:30 **Short Film LAB 2026** (initial pitch for selection in next Phase of LAB)

13:00-14:30 **Short Film LAB 2026** (initial pitch for selection in next Phase of LAB)

Saturday 11.10.2025 11:00-14:30

11:00-12:30 **First Feature LAB 2026** (initial pitch for selection in next Phase of LAB)

13:00-14:30 **Short Film LAB 2025** (final pitch for competition on Co-production Fund)

FESTIVAL NIGHT CLUB

University of Arts, Hauptplatz 8, EG

3 out of 4 nights after the film screenings, the Festival Center transforms into our Festival Nightclub, where we gather with music and celebrate together. Please note: on Thursday night there will be no Nightline, and the Festival Center will close after the final screening.



PROGRAM

FILMS

**IN OFFICIAL
COMPETITION**



400 Cassettes

Thelyia Petraki

Greece 14'

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



A Mother Goes To The Beach

Pedro Hasrouny

Portugal 16'

Teresa, a single mother spends a day at the beach with her six-year-old son, Benji and her sister Marga, who is back to Portugal for a summer vacation. The day becomes very stressful with her sister's constant speech about her son's achievements and her criticism towards Benji.



Producers

Kostas Tagalakis, Panos Papadopoulos

Key Cast

Panayiota Ylagli, Ellie Galousi, Argyris Pavlidis

Writer

Noelia Crispin

Producer

Malu Lins

Key Cast

Cláudia Jardim, Margarida Bento, Rodrigo Costa



A Move

Elahe Esmaili

Iran 27'

Elahe returns to her hometown in Mashhad, Iran, to help her parents move to a new place after 40 years. Influenced by the Woman-Life-Freedom movement, she's also hoping for a bigger move beyond just a new apartment.



Writer
Elahe Esmaili

Key Cast
Hossein Behboudi Rad



A thousand questions and one miracle

Esther Wenger

Austria 28'

In the 1950s, young Eva grows up in a society where traditional gender roles define a woman's worth. She struggles to conform to the expectations placed upon her and longs to escape the pressure. As a little girl, Eva dreams of becoming invisible. As a young woman, she embraces life, love, and the freedoms she has newly discovered. Today, as an older woman, Eva realizes that the world tends to overlook the elderly. This short film playfully explores the cyclical nature of invisibility in a woman's life—from childhood to old age—and reveals how being overlooked can ultimately become a source of self-empowerment.



Writer
Esther Wenger

Producer
Viktor Perdula

Key Cast
Regina Fritsch, Alina Fritsch, Amelie Voegtle



Almost Certainly False

Cansu Baydar

Turkey 20'

Having fled the war in Syria, Hanna and her young brother Nader find themselves staying in a run-down neighbourhood of Istanbul. Hanna spends her days learning nail design in order to earn a living, while dreaming of finding a way to migrate to Europe. When she meets a Turkish guy, İbo, on a night out, she finds herself trying to balance her identity and desires with the needs of her young brother.



Director
Cansu Baydar



At Home I Feel Like Leaving

Simon Maria Kubienna

Germany 20'

A young woman returns to her home village after her childlike father had gone missing in the surrounding woods. Throughout her day back home, she is torn between feeling responsible and a deep longing for connection and ease.



Producers
Fabian Leonhardt, Lena Zechner



Bitter Chocolate

Sahar Sotoodeh

Germany 20'

Yasi, a determined 16-year-old girl, has made it to the Capital from her hometown with the excuse of the IELTS exam, to illegally terminate her unwanted pregnancy before time runs out.



Bougainvillea

Yasir Faiz

Egypt, Sudan 17'

Amidst Sudan's popular revolution in December 2018, a group of six women found themselves ensnared within the confines of oppression. Through their journey, a powerful narrative unfolds, revealing the transformative power of determination and the enduring hope that resides within the human spirit.



Writer
Sahar Sotoodeh

Producer
Farzad Pak

Key Cast
Setareh Maleki, Ghazal Shojaei

Producer
Ibrahim Snoopy Ahmed

Key Cast
Linda Omer, Islam Mubarak



Caries

Aline Höchli
Switzerland 10'

Eager to create a monumental work of art, a shaman remains blissfully unaware that she is painting her murals inside the mouth of a vain weather presenter.



Cheese!

Elena Wiener, Josefine Maier
Germany 2'

Mmmmmmm cheese! Cutting cheese, eating cheese, licking cheese. Penetrating... cheese. An erotic ode to the enjoyment of cheese that leaves you hungry for more.



Writer
Aline Höchli
Producers
Aline Höchli, Stefan Holaus

Writers
Elena Wiener, Josefine Maier

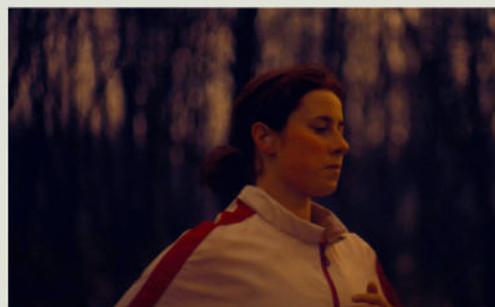


Common Pear

Gregor Božič

Slovenia 15'

In a not-too-distant future ravaged by climate crisis, a team of scientists analyse the archival footage of farmers from the past, in an attempt to understand their connection to the land.



Writers
Marina Gumzi, Gregor Božič

Producer
Marina Gumzi

Key Cast
Dora Ciccone, Toby Matthews, w/ Jože Krečič, Jerneja Prinčič, Marjan Jug, Mario



Confession

Rebeka Bizubová

Slovakia 29'

Amidst Sudan's popular revolution in December 2018, a group of six women found themselves ensnared within the confines of oppression.

Through their journey, a powerful narrative unfolds, revealing the transformative power of determination and the enduring hope that resides within the human spirit.



Writer
Rebeka Bizubová

Executive producer
Emília Širotníková

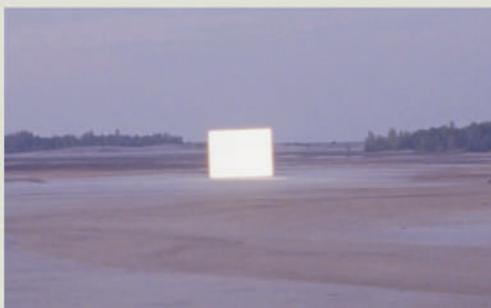


Conveyor

Eginhartz Kanter

Austria 8'

Conveyor explores landscapes scarred by open-pit mining, caught between dawn and dusk. Shot on 16mm, the film reveals the ambivalent beauty and melancholy of an industrially wounded nature, where power plants and conveyor belts still pulse with activity. Out of this emptiness, a white surface appears—mirror, screen, or projection ground? It transforms the desolation into a utopian promise, opening space for new imagination. Accompanied by electronic sounds built from field recordings, Eginhartz Kanter interweaves structural film, photographic experiment, and ecological diagnosis into a meditative reflection on landscape, technology, and possible futures.



Concept & Realisation
Eginhartz Kanter



Crocodile Nest

Jazmin Rojas Forero

Colombia 9'

The tropical hall of the Düsseldorf Zoo is altered by the encounter between a woman and the crocodile keeper. While observing and being observed by crocodiles, they talk about family memories with reptiles in Colombia, ghosts, and the zoo's history.



Writer
Jazmin Rojas Forero

Producers
Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln, Jazmin Rojas Forero

Key Cast
Valeria Oggioni, Vincent Kleemann



Dead Time

Giacomo Tazzini

Italy 14'

Sun. Heat. Sweat. Boredom. The Italian summer. A day like any other, for the inhabitants of a small provincial town. It's a day like any other also for Luca, a boy in his early twenties - until something absurd suddenly presents itself in front of him.



Disturbia

Mira Yankova

Bulgaria 7'

Before our very eyes a strange human-bird hybrid undergoes constant transformation to cope with the omnipresent tensions of economical, ideological, military, and climatic threats.



Producers
Stefano Pennacchiotti, Emanuele Vallerini, Giacomo Tazzini

Writer
Mira Yankova
Producer
Adrian Georgiev



Dreamland

Tehya Jennett, Maxfield Biggs

United States 4'

An experimental, pseudo silent film using fragmented archival footage, prose, and propaganda to dissect the ecological devastation that came with the "American Dream." Comprised entirely of archival footage from U.S. propaganda and home videos sourced from the public domain, this film is an open letter to the place of dreams - what it has been, and what it could be. The associated poem "Dreamland" addresses the complicated history of Americana's role in covering up global destruction.



Writer
Tehya Jennett

Director
Maxfield Biggs

Director/ Editing
Tehya Jennett



Enough

Lisa Großkopf

Austria 11'

With *Enough*, performance artist Lisa Großkopf continues the tradition of using minimal means—just a camera and her body—to confront societal pressures inscribed on women. Reciting affirmations like "I am good as I am" and "I love myself as I am," she exposes how the rhetoric of self-love can collapse into coercion, a demand for relentless positivity in a competitive culture. Parallel to these mantras, she forcefully applies a skincare device meant for cleansing, turning it into an instrument of self-punishment. Her reddened, bruised face becomes testimony to the violence of imposed ideals, echoing the legacy of feminist performance art while leaving an image that lingers uncomfortably long after the act.



Director, Concept & Realisation
Lisa Großkopf



Fall into Each other

Vivian Bausch

Austria 6'

In the kitchen, everything is boiling, and so is Ernstl, but he has to keep functioning. After his secret lover dies, Ernstl is confronted by the widow, Lara, about their hidden affair. Despite the anger and pain they feel, Ernstl and Lara unexpectedly come together in a moment of physical closeness.



Feet in water

Éloïc Gimenez Yoon

France 9'

Jeanne and Louis, a couple in their seventies, discover the unexpected effect of a footbath in the middle of the day on their balcony. Jeanne recalls a distant and comical memory of a dog biting her husband's left buttock.



Writer
Vivian Bausch

Producer
Vivian Bausch

Key Cast
Horst Heiss, Caroline Frank, Selim Obermüller, Alexander Meile

Writers
Éloïc Gimenez Yoon, Sophie Roze

Producer
Christophe Camoirano

Key Cast
Jacques Germain, Danielle Stefan



Fiber

Natalia Nylec

Poland 20'

What 15-year-old Nina, a sensitive adolescent in a small town in Upper Silesia, desires most is to belong – which is why she's an altar girl at Sunday Mass, and a loyal supporter of her local football team. When her club's flag is set on fire by their greatest rivals, Nina hatches a spectacular plan for revenge, which finally earns her the respect of her crew of hooligans and the affections of Mateusz, her crush. But her victory is short lived, and soon the rival hooligans are out for blood.

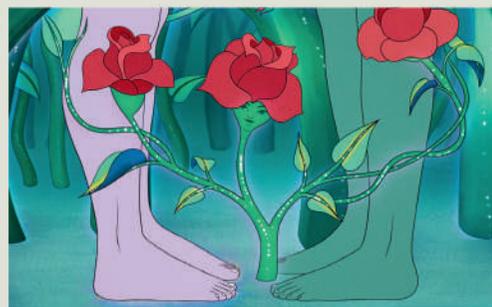


Gardening

Sarah Beeby

United Kingdom 14'

In the aftermath of sexual assault, a woman retreats into the garden of her mind. Searching for answers and struggling to do 'the right thing', she realises that she must regain her voice and find new paths to healing, before she and her garden are destroyed completely.



Writer
Natalia Nylec

Producers
Ewa Jastrzębska, Jerzy Kapuciński

Writer
Louisa Wood

Producer
Jo Lewis

Key Cast
**Evanna Lynch, Chetna Pandya, Simon Mc Burney, Freddie Fox
Speech Debelle, Ellen Thomas**



Grandma Nai Who Played Favorites

Chheangkea

Cambodia, France, United States 19'

During her chaotic family's Qingming visit, dead Grandma Nai sneaks away from her peaceful afterlife after overhearing that her queer grandson is about to get engaged to a woman.



Gül

Lidija-Rukiye Kumpas

Austria, Turkey 28'

A summer day amidst languages, meals, and misunderstandings. Gül, far away from home, works in a Turkish village with a patchwork family. As young Filiz idles, Gül faces an unexpected early departure, her thoughts torn between her distant homeland and the life she's living.



Writer
Chheangkea

Producers
Daniel Mattes, Karen Madar

Key Cast
Bonrotanak Rith, Sokun Theary Ty, Saroeun Nay, Phalla Im

Producer
Lidija-Rukiye Kumpas

Key Cast
Gullola Kutlieva, Ali Mushin Kumpas, Filiz Kumpas



HEAST

Lena Isabella Deisenberger
Francisca Friedrich
Austria 3'

A portrait of Austria captured with a broken camera, accompanied by an enhanced and AI-generated version of the national anthem.



Hippopotami

JJ Lin
China, Hong Kong 13'

In the suburbs of a northern Chinese city undergoing urbanization, a quirky girl who wants to see animals in the zoo is taken for a ride which will forever change her perspective on life.



Producer
Lena Isabella Deisenberger

Writer
JJ Lin

Producers
Lou Ying, JJ Lin

Key Cast
Zhang Zhiyong, Xu Ge, Wang Zixi, Wang Zhenhua



Hunter Gatherers

Chiara Zilioli

Italy 1'

The protagonist spends her days in a simple and brutal way: hiding in the trees, carefully observing birds and eventually hunting them with no remorse. As she arrives at the last prey, something unexpected happens.



Director
Chiara Zilioli



Im Dickicht

Katharina Pichler

Austria 8'

Like in a dream, shadowy landscapes pass by. Time and again, the silhouette of a decaying, overgrown ammunition hall breaks through the image. The gaze drifts toward the sky, searching for stability, only to lose itself once more in the dense forest. Katharina Pichler's experimental film *Im Dickicht* unfolds a subtle, almost eerie tension through its alienated visual language and uses the forest as a metaphor for the complexity of human perception.



Producer
Katharina Pichler



In Captivity of a finger

Zahra Shafieidehaghani

Iran 3'

The Scarecrow deceives the people and gets elected by using their trust. The people realize that the Scarecrow is illiterate and want to take back their vote of confidence, but the Scarecrow rules the people with bullying, whipping, and torture. The people gather and eliminate the Scarecrow and take back their votes. But the country is very damaged. People are building the country with sacrifice and selflessness, by donating their organs.



Writer
Zahra Shafieidehaghani

Producer
Esmail Mokhtarian

Animation
Ehsan Sapehr



In Her Sleep

Noel Poltronieri Eppelin

Costa Rica 20'

Ana is an insomniac working at a job she hates, while Mila is an obsessive dancer stuck in a relationship she doesn't understand anymore. But when it's them together, everything is different and they find comfort in their profound and loving relationship, however, the lack of emotional expression slowly makes them contain more and more until they succumb to their outlets; rage and art.



Writer
Noel Poltronieri Eppelin

Producers
David Giro, Henry Vinicio

Key Cast
Yamila Rodriguez, Ema Muñoz, Jafeth Hernández



Inflatable bear, hourly

Elisabeth Werchosin

Germany 12'

A young immigrant actress, dressed as a costumed bear, faces a surreal odyssey in Berlin's Soviet-era outskirts, where a chaotic birthday party blends humor, tragedy, and the echoes of a home she can't forget.



Inheritance

Khaliyesa Barbara Minishi

Kenya 12'

Kavaa has travelled upcountry to bury her grandfather who disowned her when she was born out of wedlock 22 years earlier.

At that awkward family reunion, Kavaa finds acceptance with the village outlier, who catapults her into a liminal realm, where she can face-off with her grandfather and rise above his rejection to find new self-esteem.



Writer
Elisabeth Werchosin

Producers
Elisabeth Werchosin, Kirill Krasovski, Roman Blatman

Key Cast
Varvara Shmykova, Corinna Kirchhoff

Writer
Ngwatilo Mawiyoo

Producer
Ivy Kiru

Key Cast
Pauline Kyalo



Ink Fish

Lucy Cordes Engelman

The Netherlands 9'

A young composer, struggling to create a melody, finds unexpected inspiration from a silent squid, awakening her to the hidden vibrations of the world. The film unfolds like a song, building through discord and discovery toward a powerful crescendo, revealing how unseen rhythms shape the music of existence. Inspired by the ancient Hindu Vedic idea that the universe began with unseen vibrations, the film follows her persistent creative process as she gains unexpected inspiration from the more-than-human world despite difficulties and heartbreak throughout her day. As she tunes into these hidden rhythms, she discovers that even what we think we cannot hear might profoundly shape the music of existence.



Writer
Lucy Cordes Engelman

Producers
Marc Thelosen, Koert Davidse

Key Cast
Ishtar Bakhtali, Mick Johan



Inside

Mahtab Pishghadam

Iran 10'

Mahtab unexpectedly has to face her inner reality...



Writer
Mahtab Pishghadam

Producers
Mahtab Pishghadam, Soroush Ghaderi

Key Cast
Aynaz Aghasi



Loss

Sonya Umanski, Alika Levinson
Ukraine 7'

A young girl enters a nightmare as a doctor's action during anesthesia leads to a disturbing journey. Based on true events, the film explores her vulnerability to male authority.



Mother is a Natural Sinner

Hoda Taheri, Boris Hadžija
Germany 15'

Hoda, an Iranian refugee woman, lives in exile in Germany with her boyfriend, Hadi. Due to an unexpected pregnancy, Hoda starts to examine common beliefs regarding gender roles in a relationship and openly challenges the current patriarchal social norms surrounding feminine bodies and motherhood.



Writers
Sonya Umanski, Alika Levinson

Directors
Hoda Taheri, Boris Hadžija

Producer
Maximilian Feldkamp



Mujer Espíritu

Adriana Ronquillo
Vásquez, Ampersan
Mexico 6'

The spirits of the night produce life with their songs. The spirit woman, who understands the magic of nature, can cross between all the kingdoms, become an owl, water or tree. Spirit Woman is an animation inspired by the ceremonial chants of Maria Sabina, Mazateca sage, connoisseur of indigenous medicine based on the understanding of flora and fauna.



Producers
La Furia Estudios, Ampersan, Chancha Vía Circuito

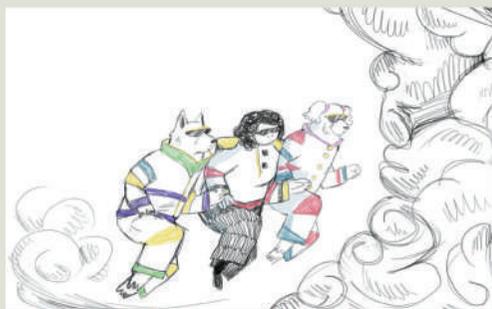
Key Cast
Zindú Cano, Kevin Garcia



My Mom

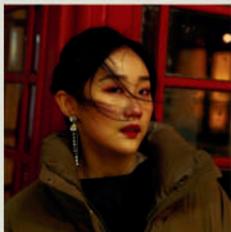
Agnieszka Popińska
Poland 13'

This is going to be a film about my mom...or rather what I would like to tell her. A short humorous story about arguments, growing up and the relationship between mother and daughter.



Writer
Agnieszka Popińska

Producer
The Polish National Film School



No One Will Ever Know

Ruijing Bu

United Kingdom 12'

One gloomy morning, a desperate woman comes to a beach, intending to take her own life. Suddenly, a floating corpse appears, disrupting her thoughts. Soon after, a young girl arrives unexpectedly. The three reach a secret that no one will ever know.

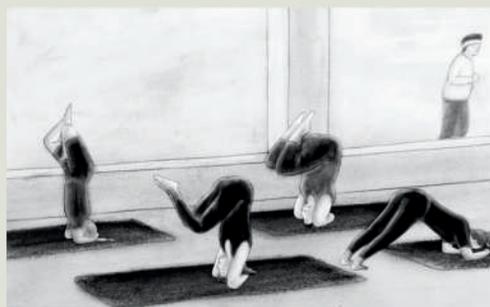


On Hold

Delia Hess

Switzerland 7'

A young woman is stuck in the hold queue of a telephone hotline. A surreal episodic short film about the absurdities of urban life and the frustration of a paralysing standstill.



Writer
Ruijing Bu

Producer
Anastasia Savinova

Key Cast
Emma Croft

Writer
Delia Hess

Producers
Delia Hess, Anja Sidler



Our Time, Our Condition.

Christiane Muñoz

Germany 12'

OUR TIME, OUR CONDITION is an experimental attempt at making inventory of cis-female life experience within our contemporary structures. In fragments, three women talk about their living conditions, unseen violence and their own entrenched thought patterns. Not showing their faces ensures a protection they lacked in their previous experiences. Images of masculinity that both discuss the questions of binarity and traditional gender roles, hint at the same time at the immediate commonplaceness of the reports.



Producer
Antonia Dahlmeier



Pear Garden

Shadab Shayegan

Germany, Iran 7'

Six years old Lily visits her grandmother after grandma had a mastectomy and doesn't have breasts anymore. At night, Lily finds out that the shadow of grandma has the breasts, Lily follows her and tries to get the breasts back for her grandma.



Producer
Shadab Shayegan

Key Cast
Cheshmeh Ebrahimzadeh, Shahin Taslimi, Nava Hemyari

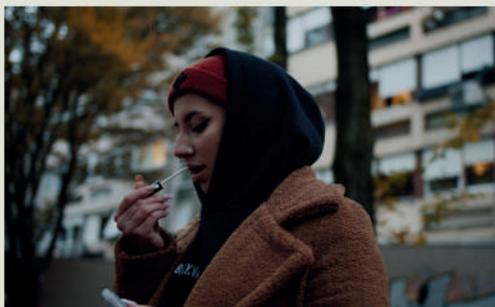


Project Nika

Tadija Tadić

Croatia 18'

Nika, a young influencer managed by her mother, is growing up in the spotlight. Through both their perspectives, the film explores their unconventional relationship as Nika navigates the uncertain path from adolescence to adulthood, driven by her desire for fame.



Writer
Tadija Tadić

Producers
Ana Martinović, Aleksandra Giljević

Key Cast
Nika Ilčić, Maja Ilčić



Salamatu's Rhapsody

Abu-Bakr Adamu
Oluwatimilehin Adejumo

Nigeria 10'

The film follows the journey of Salamatu, a young woman torn between her love for hip-hop and her family's expectations. Through her struggle, the film reflects the broader societal tensions between traditional values and contemporary aspirations. Ultimately, it tells a powerful story of resilience and the transformative power of pursuing one's true calling, even in the face of cultural norms.



Writer
Abu-Bakr Adamu

Producer
Shimataver Sunday Igbawua

Key Cast
**Hajya Hauwa Ibrahim, Wapi Barau, Habiba Zock-Sock
James Ameh Oche**



Sëida – Border/Bristle/Silk

Silke Müller
Austria 2'

Ink drawn animation of a poem in Ladin language. „Sëida“ means border/bristle/silk. The poem describes a moment of encounter in nature. Ladin is a Rhaeto-Romanic language and is the oldest language in South Tyrol, Austria. It is used by a Ladin minority. Film is created by 2 female artists. The Austrian author of the poem writes and speaks Ladin.



Illustrator, Animator, Editor
Silke Müller

Author
Rut Bernardi



Shadows Rand Beiruty

France, Jordan 12'

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



Director
Rand Beiruty



Shame

Hadi Moussally

Lebanon 4'

In the 19th century, in the Levant region, Salma Zahore, along with her parents and neighbors, participated in a photoshoot using a long exposure technique. At the end of it, Salma decided to take off her coat, revealing her body. Unaware of the chaos this gesture could cause within her circle, she did not know it could lead to shame (عيب).



Writer
Hadi Moussally

Producer
h7o7

Key Cast
Salma Zahore



She Stays

Marinthia Gutiérrez

Mexico 10'

Throughout a night out in downtown Tijuana, Laura waits for her destiny to arrive.



Director
Marinthia Gutiérrez



She Dolls With Dollies

Karin Fisslthaler

Austria 3'

In film, portraits from old films and magazines are cut, collaged, and anonymized as tulips and cacti shimmer through their faces in a surreal botanical fever dream. Static black-and-white stars and uniforms clash with vibrant floral animation, while Kurt Schwitters' 1944 poem *Sie puppt mit Puppen* (She dolls with Dollies) is fragmented into an electronic-soundscape. From Marilyn Monroe to Arnold Schwarzenegger, icons dissolve into ornamental excess—a hypnotic meditation on pop culture, repetition, and the fragile line between beauty and erasure.



Stampfer Dreams

Thomas Renoldner

Austria 12'

STAMPFER DREAMS is an animated homage to Austrian scientist Simon von Stampfer, inventor of the stroboscopic disc. Inspired by his original creations, the film unfolds in dreamlike sequences that journey from Alpine childhood landscapes to visions of technological progress, blending playfulness with critical reflection.



Director
Karin Fisslthaler



Director
Thomas Renoldner



Shoes and Hooves

Viktória Traub

Hungary 15'

A pedicurist in a small-town, Paula the centaur-girl longs to have human feet. When she meets Arnold the crocodile-man, it is love at first sight. Can Paula take the first steps in her search for identity? What will be the price of her attempts to fit in and deny her true self?



SOS

Anita Morina

Kosovo 15'

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



Writers
Zsuzsanna Bak, Polett Dus, Viktória Traub

Producer
Polett Dus

Writer
Anita Morina

Producers
Fis Cahani, Anita Morina

Key Cast
Gentrit Shala, Shkumbin Istrefi, Rebeka Qena, Drita Kabashi



Tako Tsubo

Fanny Sorgo, Eva Pedroza

Austria 6'

In *Tako Tsubo*, Mr. Ham decides to have his heart removed to free himself from complicated feelings. His doctor assures him this is no problem in today's world—but Ham, contemplative by nature, keeps the heart for a while to better understand it. This painterly, minimalist animated short by Eva Pedroza and Fanny Sorgo reflects surrealistly on emotion in a performance-driven society. Through strange dialogues, poetic outbursts, and the bizarre coexistence of bodies and organs, the film stages a meditation on vulnerability, detachment, and the absurd ways we cope with affect. Accompanied by Mary Ocher's haunting ballad *Sweet Charity*, it balances melancholy with ironic tenderness, turning the broken heart into both a grotesque burden and an object of reflection.



Producers

Eva Pedroza, Fanny Sorgo, Maria Trigo



The First Times

Giulia Cosentino, Perla Sardella

Italy, Spain 16'

Emilia and Caterina write letters to each other revisiting their adolescent memories and earliest experiences at a boarding school in the 1950s. Did they choose the lives they truly wanted, or only those that they dared to imagine?



Producers

Ainhoa Andracka

Zuri Goikoetxea, Doga Producciones

Margot Mecca, Maffé Film

Matteo Tortone, Maffé Film



The Mother and the Bear

Yasmina El Kamaly
Egypt 12'

Egyptian filmmaker Yasmina El Kamaly reflects on her family's matrilineal history by examining her relationship with her mother, as well as the complicated bond between her mother and grandmother. Using journals, home videos and letters, she locates their longing for affection and the dysfunctional ways they go about getting it—offering and rebuffing attention, smothering and straining love—as the root.



The One Who Knows

Eglė Davidavičė
France, Lithuania 12'

Anxious teenager Ūla is taken on an unexpected adventure during her swimming practise, through which she grows-up and learns to see her body anew.



Producer
Amal Ramses



Writer
Eglė Davidavičė



The Other Way Around

Anna Vasof

Austria 7'

The Other Way Around is anything but harmless. In Anna Vasof's world, simple reversals become radical subversions of the social and political order. With playful humor and sharp critique, she stages "acts against the proper way" that reconfigure our relations with machines, objects, and animals. Cinema itself becomes her "partner in crime," exposing absurd norms while inviting us to imagine other ways of living. The result is funny, unsettling, and ultimately hopeful.



The People Who Keep Living

Kate Tiuri

Ukraine 12'

Six months into the full-scale war, Chad, the night mayor of Lviv, launches charity raves to help people "forget and dance" despite curfews and shelling—moving parties from streets to bunkers and factories. Meanwhile, Daria opens Lviv's smallest bakery, determined to pursue her dream even through blackouts, and Bogdan keeps his mountain farm alive as a rare refuge. Together, they embody resilience, creativity, and the will to carve out moments of light amid war.



Writer
Kate Tiuri

Producers
Artem Pavlenko, Kate Tiuri



Concept & Realisation
Anna Vasof



The singers

Fabian Rausch, Zorah Berghammer
Austria 17'

On the way back from holidays, a young girl closely observes the world surrounding her. She is fascinated by the voice of a young man, encounters nature and gets a glimpse about growing up.



The Steak

Kiarash Dadgar
Canada, Iran 8'

A birthday party preparation is thrown into chaos by an awful event.



Writer
Fabian Rausch

Producer
Maximilian Demets

Key Cast
Alessia Savvytsky, Anna C. Ortmann, Clemens Berndorff, Heinrich Baumgartner, Nathanael Klein

Writers
Kiarash Dadgar, Ali Narimani

Producer
Kiarash Dadgar

Key Cast
Faranak Khamis, Amin Simiar, Panisa Peyvagh



The Thin Line

Jaki Dell'Oro

Germany 5'

An elderly man drifts through a vast, empty space — a labyrinth of fragmented memories. His daughter arrives for her daily visit, struggling to care for him as he slips between reality and delusion.



Writer
Jaki Dell'Oro

Producers
Jaki Dell'Oro, Sandro Manuel Baldoxeda Böhme

Key Cast
Bernd Raucamp, Vivienne Causemann



Theo & Martin

Flurina Schneider

Austria 3'

Shot on Super 8 and without sound, Flurina Schneider's Theo and Martin condenses into just three minutes the charged encounter between two young men. With playful glances, tentative touches, and growing intimacy, their exploration unfolds as a tender, erotic game—more about desire and discovery than explicit action. The circling camera captures their closeness in feverish, fragmentary images: beds, couches, and bathtubs glow in red light, turning into charged spaces of intimacy. In its brevity and restraint, the film radiates erotic power, celebrating the beauty of male desire with sensitivity and intensity.



Production
Flurina Schneider

Performers
Theo Emil Krausz, Martin Brandner

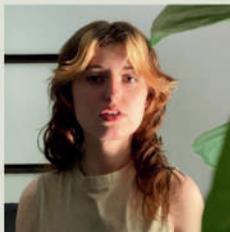


Three Birds

Zarja Menart

Slovenia 8'

A wise birdwoman sends three birds to guide a girl into the dark unknown landscapes of her inner world.



Vigil

Claudia Estrada Tarascó

Spain 8'

We witness the first pig vigil of a teenage girl, whose aim is to say goodbye to the animals before they enter the slaughterhouse. In a country where it is a tradition to eat ham and where 53 million pigs are slaughtered every year, this situation will completely change the perspective of our protagonist.



Writer
Zarja Menart

Producers
Tina Smrekar, Drasko Ivezic



Writer
Claudia Estrada Tarascó

Producer
Claudia Estrada Tarascó



Week 11

Lisa Studener

Austria 17'

Rosa is pregnant. Unexpectedly so. It's just her and the weight of a life-changing decision.

Seeking clarity, a twist of fate takes her back to her abandoned childhood home in the countryside for a weekend. Removed from the noise of her daily life, surrounded by stillness and nature, she confronts her future head-on.



Writer
Lisa Studener

Producers
Lisa Studener, Alba Diaz

Key Cast
Franziska Lindenthaler



Zarko, You Will Spoil the Child!

Veljko Popovic, Milivoj Popovic

Croatia, France 14'

The film recounts the memories of a childhood in Split in the 1980s. These are stories retold after Sunday lunch when everyone is in a good mood, stories filled with emotions we can easily relate to. But above all, the film is a moving tribute to the love of a grandpa and grandma who did their best to keep their granddaughter smiling.



Writers
Veljko Popovic, Tisja Kijakovic Braic

Producers
Veljko Popovic, Milivoj Popovic, Patrick Hernandez, Veronique Siegel

Key Cast
Isa Kijakovic Braic, Nenad Srdelic, Snjezana Sinovcic Siskov, Andrea Mladinic, Veljko Popovic, Tisja Kijakovic Braic



Edges

Júlia Faria, Giulia Levy

Spain 13'

An afternoon in the pool was supposed to be just a chill hangout for 16 year-old Laura, but when she runs into her mother's old friend and her son Marco, their interaction makes her circle the edges of what is or is not considered abusive.



Writers
Júlia Faria, Giulia Levy

Producers
Júlia Faria, Giulia Levy

Key Cast
**Mar Blanch, Enzo Oliver, Carolina Canhisares,
Rafaela Rivas**

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Kostümbild, Schauspiel & Voice.



FILM TALENT ACADEMY

LINZ ISFF

(FOURTH EDITION)

Launched in 2022, the Film Talent Academy of the Linz International Short Film Festival (Linz ISFF) has been dedicated to nurturing emerging filmmakers and providing them with the resources, mentorship, and exposure necessary to succeed in the film industry. In 2025, the academy expanded with the introduction of the First Feature LAB, a new initiative for filmmakers working on their debut feature films. This expansion further strengthens the academy's commitment to supporting talents at various stages of their careers.

The Talent Academy offers two key development programs: the **Short Film LAB** and **First Feature LAB**, along with tailored masterclasses and workshops designed to equip filmmakers with professional guidance and international visibility. In collaboration with Festival de Cannes – SFC Rendez-Vous Industry, participants in both labs will benefit from a final pitch session on the prestigious stage of the Festival de Cannes, providing access to an invaluable networking environment and the opportunity to attend exclusive panels, events and masterclasses.

A dedicated booth for the Film Talent Academy will be present at the Cannes Marché du Film, further fostering international exchange and connections between filmmakers and industry professionals.



FIRST FEATURE LAB

Film Talent Academy

in collaboration with Festival de Cannes – SFC | Rendez-vous Industry

The First Feature LAB is an intensive two-phase program designed to support emerging author filmmakers (writer-directors) as they take the leap from short films to their debut feature. Combining professional mentorship, development tools, and international exposure, the LAB provides selected participants with a rare opportunity to sharpen their creative vision and pitch their projects on a global stage in Cannes & in Linz.

PHASE 1 – Online Masterclasses & Linz ISFF Residency

Selected participants will first engage in a series of online masterclasses focused on pitch training and then they will attend a 4-day residency during the Linz International Short Film Festival, where they will pitch their feature projects in front of a selection committee. From this group, approximately 5-7 feature film projects will be selected to move on to Phase 2.

PHASE 2 – Mentoring & Cannes Pitch Event

Phase 2 includes personalized mentorship, script feedback, and intensive project development sessions. The program takes 6 months and culminates in an exclusive pitch session at the Marché du Film during Festival de Cannes 2026, connecting filmmakers with global producers, collaborators, and industry representatives. Graduates of the LAB will be featured on the Talent page of the Linz ISFF website, and their final projects will be showcased in future editions of the festival.

ELIGIBILITY

Role of the Applicant: The writer and director must be the same person.

Previous Experience: Applicants must have completed at least one or two short films.

Project Requirement: The program supports debut feature film projects in development.

Selection Criteria: Applicants from all over the world are chosen based on the strength of their project, filmmaking potential, and their vision.

Commitment: Availability for both phases (online and in-person) is mandatory.

Language: English proficiency is required.

Participants: Up to 10 filmmakers will be selected for Phase 1.

SHORT FILM LAB

Film Talent Academy

in collaboration with Festival de Cannes – SFC | Rendez-vous Industry

The Short Film LAB is a dynamic two-phase development and industry-access program for promising emerging filmmakers developing their next short film. Designed to sharpen creative concepts, build professional networks, and elevate international visibility, the LAB helps filmmakers position their projects for success.

PHASE 1 – Online Masterclasses & Linz ISFF Residency

From August to October 2025, participants will join online masterclasses focused on pitching strategies and project presentation.

In October, filmmakers will attend a 4-day residency during the Linz International Short Film Festival, where they'll pitch their short film projects in front of a selection committee.

All participants will receive a certificate of participation. Around 10 projects will be selected to continue to Phase 2.

PHASE 2 – Mentoring & Cannes Pitch Event

From December 2025 to May 2026, selected filmmakers will receive focused mentorship, script guidance, and project refinement.

The program concludes with a high-level pitch session at the Marché du Film during Festival de Cannes 2026, offering direct access to international co-producers, curators, and industry professionals.

Projects and participants will be featured on the Talent page of the Linz ISFF website, and final short films will be screened at future editions of the festival.

ELIGIBILITY

Role of the Applicant: The writer and director must be the same person.

Previous Experience: Applicants must have completed at least one short film.

Project Requirement: Projects must be for a short film currently in development.

Selection Criteria: Applicants from all over the world are chosen based on their project quality, filmmaker vision, and potential for impact.

Commitment: Full availability for both phases of the program is required.

Language: English proficiency is necessary.

Participants: Up to 20 filmmakers will be selected for Phase 1.

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We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the entire SFC | Rendez-vous Industry team for their generous support and inspiring collaboration.

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SFC | Rendez-vous Industry
Institutions & Market Liaison

Céline Roustan
SFC | Rendez-vous Industry
Coordination & Development



ISABELLE FAUVEL
MENTOR

After working as a producer at Flach Film, **Isabelle Fauvel** founded Initiative Film in 1993, the first company entirely dedicated to creative development. Since then, she has collaborated internationally with writers, directors, & producers on talent & book scouting, script consultancy, story editing, pitching training, and project development. She has worked with leading festivals (Torino Film Lab, ACE Producers, MFL...) & is a regular speaker at universities and film schools. Isabelle also builds bridges with the publishing world through film adaptation events such as Shoot the Book! and the Polar en Séries Prize in Lyon. In January 2025, she founded Silence&Conversation, a pioneering company succeeding Initiative Film, dedicated to renewing creative tools and promoting the circulation of talent.



Arash T. Riahi
MENTOR

Arash T. Riahi is an award-winning Austrian filmmaker, producer, and screenwriter of Iranian origin. He is the founder and co-owner of Golden Girls Filmproduktion, one of Austria's leading independent production companies, and co-president of the Austrian Academy of Film since 2021. His work as director and producer has won over 200 awards, including for the documentaries Exile Family Movie and Everyday Rebellion, and his debut fiction film For a Moment Freedom was Austria's Oscar candidate in 2010. He also works as a dramatic advisor (SOURCES 2, EAVE) and teaches at the Vienna Film Academy. Recent productions include How to be Normal (Berlinale 2025), Perla (Rotterdam Tiger Competition 2025), The Witness (Venice 2024), Eismayer (Venice 2022), Born in Evin (Berlinale 2020), Once Upon a Time in Venezuela (Sundance 2020), and Solo (Cannes 2019).



FLAVIO ARMONE
MENTOR

Flavio Armone, a Cinema History graduate from Torino, began working in film festivals in 2004 and founded the international sales agency Lights On in 2015. Focused mainly on short films by emerging talents, Lights On also handles select features such as *Lúa Vermella* (Berlinale Forum 2020), *Mammalia* (Berlinale Forum 2023), *Dreaming & Dying* (Locarno 2023, Pardo d'oro & Swatch First Feature Award), and *78 Days* (Rotterdam 2024). Films represented by Lights On have premiered at leading festivals including Cannes, Venice, Sundance, Locarno, and Rotterdam.



MARTINA PETROVIĆ
MENTOR

Martina Petrović is Head of MEDIA Desk Croatia (today Creative Europe Desk – MEDIA Office Croatia) and studied International Relations and Psychology. After working at the Ministry of Culture on international cultural cooperation, including Croatian film presentations in Berlin and Cannes, she joined the newly founded Croatian Audiovisual Centre in 2008. Chosen by the European Commission as Head of MEDIA Desk Croatia, she has since secured MEDIA Programme financing and promoted Croatian film internationally. For these efforts, she received the first Albert Kapović Award from the Croatian Producers Association at the Zagreb Film Festival in 2010.



AFSUN MOSHIRY
MENTOR

Afsun Moshiry is a Shiraz-born, Mannheim-raised film curator, programmer, and creative producer currently based in Berlin, where she is part of the curatorial team of Sinema Transtopia, advisor to the Berlinale Forum, producer at Road River Films and artistic director of Interfilm's Script Pitch & Lab. In the past she has curated film programmes for the Berliner Festspiele and the Akademie der Künste, was a permanent member of the Kassel Dokfest, and Director of the Dokfest Campus. She is currently working on several research projects on Iranian Cinema.



CHRISTINA PELEKANI
MENTOR

Christina Pelekani is an experienced marketing and distribution consultant and founder of Endorphin Agency. Since 2016, she has been Head of Marketing & Communications at Feelgood Entertainment S.A., handling the releases of Paramount Pictures, Disney Studios, Sony Pictures, and independent productions in Greece and Cyprus. Previously, she worked with Village Roadshow Greece (Warner Bros. distributor). She holds an MA in Arts Management from City University of London, a BA in Marketing, and is a graduate of EAVE Producers Workshop, Power to the Pixel, and EUROVOD. A member of the European Film Academy (EFA) and European Women's Audiovisual Association (EWA), since 2015 she has also lectured and advised at major industry events and film festivals including EAVE, First Cut Lab, Midpoint, WEMW, Torino Film Lab, and Thessaloniki IFF.



PARISA GHASEMI

HEAD OF FILM TALENT ACADEMY
MENTOR

Parisa Ghasemi is an Iranian-Austrian filmmaker, curator, and queer-feminist activist. Her cinematic work addresses identity, generational conflict, migration, and queer desire with a personal and politically conscious perspective.

She is the co-founder of the Linz International Short Film Festival & Closefilm Verein, and Film Talent Academy. She is a board member of KUPF – the Cultural Platform of Upper Austria and one of the Presidents of dieRegisseur*innen Austria, the association representing women directors in Austria. Parisa holds a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Film from the University of Arts in Tehran and a Master's in Time-Based Media from the University of Arts Linz, Austria.

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Linz ISFF Residency and Pitch

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**FILM TALENT
ACADEMY**

Short Film LAB

2025-26 Phase 1 – Online Masterclasses
Linz ISFF Residency and Pitch

Filmmakers will pitch their projects in development!



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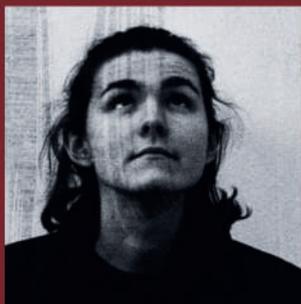
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ANASTASIIA PASHCHENKO
VYACHESLAV TURANYTSYA
SARA JURINCIC

**TALENTS
2025**

Short Film LAB

Closing Time

Sara Jurincic

20' Hybrid: Docu-Fiction

Genre: Social

Country of Production: Croatia, Denmark



Logline

Late-shift workers are frozen in the dim flicker of the neon night lights. Framed by the street shop windows, touchingly unprotected to the passerby's gaze. As reality starts to glitch, the sides of the window switch and the inequality of immigrant workers comes to light.

Biography

Sara Jurincic Filmmaker from Croatia based in Copenhagen. Graduated MA at AF Zagreb in 2015. 2017 she graduated at Restart documentary film school. Her new experimental-documentary short film "VALERIJA" already won 13 international awards including The Heart of Sarajevo, European Film Awards nomination at ZINEBI Film Festival, Grand Prix at Rabat Int. Film Festival, 25FPS and many more, including being shown on over 50 international film festivals. From 2018 she established NOMAD STUDIO and VOID LAB, art and spatial experiment labs. She has been part of emerging talent programs at CPH:DOX, IDFA, Dok Leipzig, Sarajevo Talents and EW Talent Lab. Her graduation short film "September 3.2105." won multiple awards and was shown at more than 40 international film festivals, with an international premiere at Oberhausen film festival. She is now developing her debut feature length film "13.4443°, 144.7937° Trench" and a new short film "Closing time".

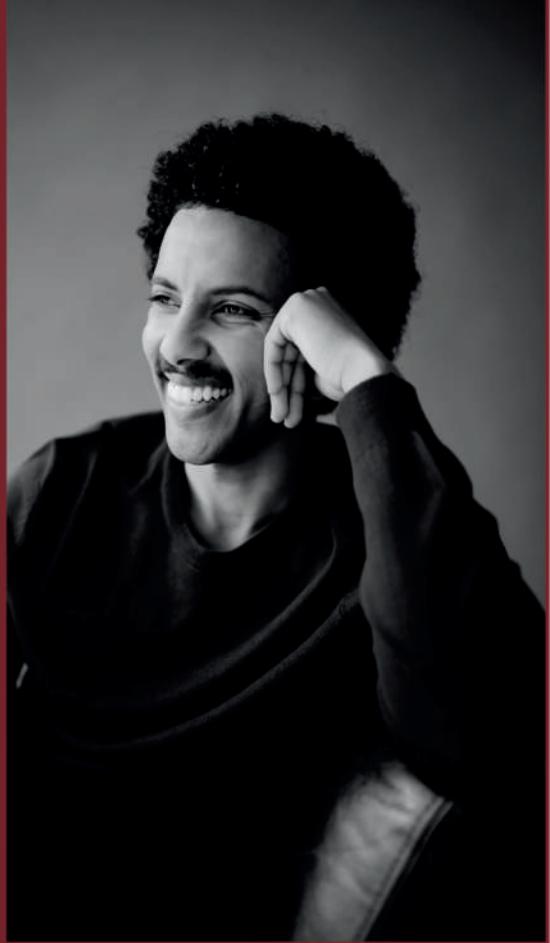
Temar Lije

Mickies Kiros

22' Fiction

Genre: Drama, Mystical

Country of Production: USA, Ethiopia



Logline

On a typical day in Addis Ababa, Dawit, a young deacon from the countryside, navigates the challenges of city life while holding on to his rural values. Confronted by the stark contrasts between his spiritual duties and the temptations of modernity, he must reconcile the man he is becoming with the lessons he learns along the way.

Biography

Born in Ethiopia and raised in the U.S., Mickies Kiros is a storyteller whose work delves into the diaspora experience and the rich cultural nuances of Ethiopian heritage. Through his films, Mickies weaves together Ethiopian actors, music, and visually iconic elements, blending his passion for storytelling with a unique perspective on navigating the intersection of two worlds—balancing tradition with modern realities. His debut film, *Hāgarē* (2023), was selected for several festivals, while his upcoming short film, *Melody* (2025), is currently in production. Additionally, his next project, *Temar Lije*, is in early pre-production and set to begin filming during fall of 2026.

In Search of Me

Iqra Rafiq

20' Fiction

Genre: Drama

Country of Production: Pakistan



Logline

A struggling photographer, Mahnoor, embarks on a journey of self-discovery through her evolving relationship with a charismatic dancer, Akbar, and his mentor, Rani, uncovering the transformative power of art and identity in modern day Lahore.

Biography

Iqra Rafiq is a Lahore-based film writer and director with a master's degree in filmmaking. Her work explores themes of spirituality, feminist theory, mental health, and the male and female gaze in Pakistani cinema. Rafiq's diverse portfolio includes short films, documentaries, and videos, with a focus on social and psychological issues. Her films have earned significant recognition, including selections at major international film festivals and prestigious awards, such as the Satyajit Ray Award for Best Short Film at the London Indian Film Festival. In addition to her filmmaking career, Rafiq teaches at Beaconhouse National University's Department of Theatre, Film & TV. She is currently developing new short film projects, continuing her exploration of complex human experiences and societal themes. Through her films and academic work, Rafiq aims to amplify underrepresented voices and contribute to meaningful global conversations.

Marion

Masha Egieva

12' Fiction

Genre: Erotic Drama

Country of Production: UK, France



Logline

Feeling unseen by her husband, the wife of an obsessed, glaucoma-stricken art historian takes radical measures to reignite the spark in their relationship.

Biography

Masha Egieva is a screenwriter-director based in London and Paris. Masha's short historical thriller "Saint Vassily" (2024) premiered at HollyShorts, with selections at HollyShorts London (UK), the European Film Festival of Lille (FR), and Beeston Film Festival (UK). It was made in collaboration with DP Arnaud Potier (Gus Van Sant's upcoming "Dead Man's Wire") and editor Helle le Fevre (Joanna Hogg's "The Souvenir"). In addition to being in pre-production for her short erotic thriller "Marion", Masha is in funded development for her debut feature psychological thriller-horror "Penumbra", written by Raphaël Duhamel. Both "Marion" and "Penumbra" are UK-France co-productions. Masha is a UCL and Oxford alumna.

The Sky Doesn't Grieve Over Its Fallen Stars Gregory Randolph Jr.

15' Fiction

Genre: Drama, Social-Surreal

Country of Production: UK, USA



Logline

When a failing actress has had enough - what will keep her from falling over the edge?

Biography

Gregory Randolph Jr. was born in New York City and grew up in Boston, Massachusetts. He graduated from Providence College, Rhode Island in English and Film. He worked for several commercial television broadcast companies including NBC, HBO and ABC News among others between 2011-2020. In 2021, Greg enrolled at London Film School. At London Film School he made many films culminating in his graduate thesis film, *Different Faces*. Themes often present in Greg's films explore themes present in compassion, forgiveness, and a better understanding.

The Idol

Anastasiia Pashchenko

20' Fiction

Genre: Drama, Horror

Country of Production: Ukraine, Czech Republic



Logline

A schoolgirl lost in her illusions about rave culture—until they become reality and break her world apart.

Biography

Anastasiia Pashchenko is a filmmaker from Kyiv, now based in Prague, where she studies Montage at FAMU. She previously earned a Bachelor's degree in Television Directing from Kyiv National Karpenko-Kary University. Her films explore the lives of teenagers—rebellious, and the search for freedom, love, and identity. She has directed several short films, a documentary, and a music video, all touching on themes of growing up. *The Edge of the Sky Burns* (2021), a coming-of-age drama about siblings in Kyiv experiencing drugs for the first time, was screened at international festivals. *Odd* (2020), based on a Ukrainian novel, won Best Cinematography at festival First Step. It follows a boy from a 20th-century village who finds inspiration in nature and expresses himself through painting, but his grandfather dismisses his passion as useless, prioritizing survival and hard work instead. Her music video *Elene* (2021) further explores teenage freedom and rebellion against parental control. Anastasiia's upcoming short film *The Idol*, selected for Linz Short Lab 2025, continues exploring self-growth, adolescence, first experiences with drugs, true friendship, and the illusions of love. She plans to expand it into a feature set in Kyiv in 2015, reflecting the protagonist's search for identity and freedom amid the rise of underground culture.

In the name of Ukraine

Vyacheslav Turyanytsya

20' Fiction

Genre: Cop Thriller

Country of Production: Ukraine

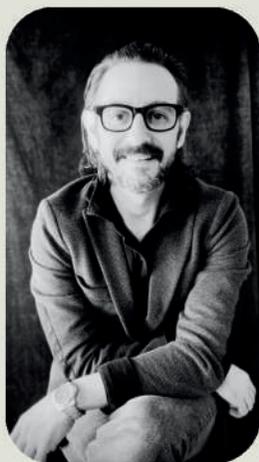


Logline

A police officer goes undercover to a private sex party to obtain video evidence that can be used against the party organizers for allegedly running a place of debauchery.

Biography

Vyacheslav Turyanytsya is a Ukrainian filmmaker. He holds a master's degree from the Director's Faculty of Kyiv National Ivan Karpenko-Kary University of Theatre, Cinema and Television. Currently he is pursuing a PhD in Film studies. During the onset of the full-scale invasion in Ukraine, he made his student short film *Kharkiv Music Fest Did Happen* in 2022 (Special Mention in Directing at the Early Bird Int. Student FF). In 2024 Vyacheslav wrote and directed his next short film *Thoughts on Peace in an Air Raid*. The extracts of it were presented at *Cinéma de Demain - SFC | Rendez-vous Industry - Focus WiP 2024*. The world premiere of the film took place at the 54th IFF Rotterdam (2025).



BURAK OĞUZ-SAGUNER
GON BUSQUETS
ALLEGRA OXBOROUGH
OLGA KOLEVA

TALENTS 2025

First Feature LAB



Foto: ÖVP Linz

Große Leinwand für kurze Filme

>> Linz lebt seinen Titel als UNESCO City of Media Arts mit einer lebendigen Szene im Bereich der Medienkunst. Das Internationale Kurzfilmfestival hat seit 2018 großen internationalen Zuspruch gefunden – heuer mit 3.500 Einreichungen aus 140 Ländern. Es ist heute ein junges Aushängeschild der Stadt und zugleich ein wichtiges Forum für heimische Talente. Mein Dank gilt den Initiatoren und dem Organisationsteam.

linz.at/kultur

Doris Lang-Mayerhofer
Stadträtin der Landeshauptstadt Linz

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ALEXANDRA DZHIGANSKAYA
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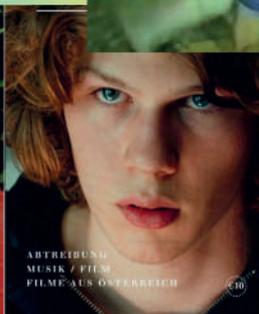
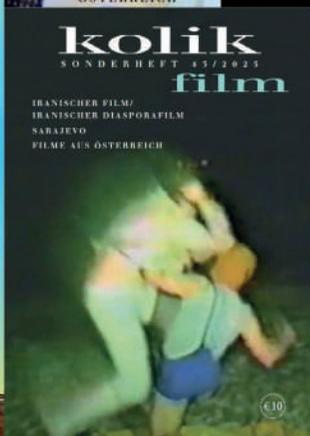
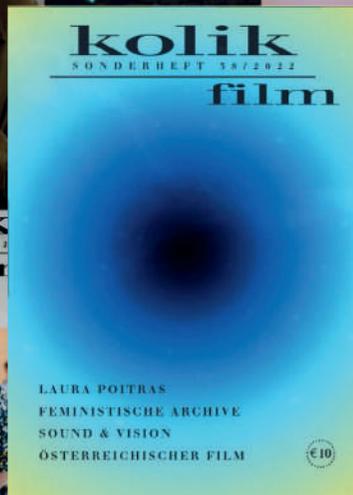


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Kooperation mit dem Lentos Kunstmuseum

Wir freuen uns, unsere Kooperation mit dem Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz bekanntzugeben.

Festivalgäste haben während der Festivalzeit die Möglichkeit, das Lentos Museum mit ihrem Festivalpass zu einem ermäßigten Eintritt zu besuchen.

Das Lentos Kunstmuseum zählt mit seiner Sammlung zu den bedeutendsten Museen moderner und zeitgenössischer Kunst in Österreich. Ausgehend von Sammlungsbeständen, deren Schwerpunkte in Meisterwerken der europäischen Malerei der ersten Hälfte des 20. Jahrhunderts sowie einer reichhaltigen Grafiksammlung und qualitativ hochwertigen Fotografiebeständen liegen, spannt das Lentos den Bogen zwischen der klassisch-historischen Kunst des frühen 20. Jahrhunderts bis hin zu aktuellsten Kunstpositionen unserer Gegenwart.

EN

Cooperation with the Lentos Art Museum

We are pleased to announce our partnership with the Lentos Art Museum Linz. During the festival, guests with a festival pass can visit the Lentos Art Museum at a discounted rate.

With its collection, the Lentos Art Museum is one of the most important museums of modern and contemporary art in Austria. Starting with collections that focus on masterpieces of European painting from the first half of the 20th century as well as a rich collection of graphic art and high-quality photography, the Lentos spans the spectrum from the classical-historical art of the early 20th century to the most current art positions of our present day.



Festival Pass & Ticket

Festivalpass	€ 45,00
Festivalpass ermäßigt	€ 25,00
Kunstuni-Festivalpass	€ 5,00
Einzelticket pro Filmblock	€ 7,00

Studierende und Mitarbeiter*innen der Kunstuniversität Linz haben die Möglichkeit, einen besonders günstigen Festivalpass um 5€ zu erwerben.

Ermäßigte Festivalpässe gibt es auch generell für Studierende, Pensionist*innen, Inhaber*innen der 4youCard und des Aktivpasses, Mitglieder der WKO - Fachverband Film und Musikwirtschaft, Mitglieder der VdFS, ...

Das Linz ISFF unterstützt die Aktion „Hunger auf Kunst und Kultur“. Initiiert 2003 vom Schauspielhaus Wien und der Armutskonferenz“. Für Kulturpassbesitzer*innen steht daher ein Kontingent an Freikarten zur Verfügung.

EN

Festival pass	€ 45,00
Festival pass discounted	€ 25,00
Art University Festival Pass	€ 5,00
Single Ticket per film block	€ 7,00

Students and staff of the University of Arts Linz have the opportunity to purchase a particularly affordable festival pass for just 5€.

Discounted festival passes are also available for students, pensioners, holders of the 4youCard and Aktivpass, members of the WKO - Film and Music Industry Association, and VdFS members,...

The Linz ISFF supports the "Hunger auf Kunst und Kultur" initiative, which was launched in 2003 by the Schauspielhaus Wien and the Armutskonferenz. A contingent of free tickets is available for Culture Pass holders.

Veranstaltungsorte/Festival Venues: City Kino Linz, Graben 30, 4020 Linz & Kunstuniversität Linz, Hauptplatz 8, 4020 Linz

Wednesday 08.10.2025

Thursday 09.10.2025
Queer & Feminist Day

Kunstuni

11:00
-
12:30

MASTERCLASS
Creative Europe Media Desk
Tips & Tricks

Kunstuni

13:00
-
14:30

PANEL DISCUSSION
The Feminist Cinema
What makes a film feminist?

City Kino

15:00
-
17:00

Boundaries Official Competition 2

The First Times - Italy/Spain - 16' Documentary

Edges - Spain - 13' Fiction

Gardening - UK - 14' Animation

Bitter Chocolate - Germany - 20' Fiction

Enough - Austria - 11' Fiction

At Home I Feel Like Leaving - Germany - 20' Fiction

Grandma Nai Who Played Favorites - Cambodia/France/USA - 19' Fiction

City Kino

17:30
-
19:00

Breaking Silence Official Competition 3

INSIDE - Iran - 9' Fiction

Loss A - Ukraine - 7' Animation

Mother Goes To The Beach - Portugal - 16' Fiction

The One Who Knows - France/Lithuania - 12' Animation

In Her Sleep - Costa Rica - 20' Fiction

Theo & Martin - Austria - 3' Fiction

Shame (عيب) - Lebanon - 4' Fiction

Salamatu's Rhapsody - Nigeria - 10' Fiction

City Kino

19:30
-
21:00

Revolution Within Official Competition 4

A Move - Iran - 27' Documentary

Shadows - France/Jordan - 12' Animation

Inheritance - Kenya - 12' Fiction

Our Time, Our Condition. - Germany - 12' Documentary

Pear Garden - Germany/Iran - 7' Animation

400 Cassettes - Greece - 14' Fiction

City Kino

21:30
-
23:00

Sacred & Profane Official Competition 5

Week 11 - Austria - 17' Fiction

Mother is a Natural Sinner - Germany - 15' Fiction

Bougainvillaea - Egypt/Sudan - 17' Fiction

Confession - Slovakia - 29' Documentary

Mujer Espiritu - Mexico - 6' Animation

City Kino

18:00
-
20:30

OPENING CEREMONY

+ Official Competition 1

Majonezë - Italy - 22' Fiction (Queer & Feminist award 2023)

SOS - Kosovo - 15' Fiction (FilmTalent Academy)

Fiber - Poland - 20' Fiction (FilmTalent Academy)

No One Will Ever Know - UK - 12' Fiction (FilmTalent Academy)

HEAST - Austria - 3' Fiction (FilmTalent Academy)

Kunstuni

21:00
-
24:00

FESTIVAL NIGHT CLUB

Björn Büchner

Friday 10.10.2025

Kunstuni

11:00
-
12:30

PITCH-SESSION
Film Talent Academy
Short Film LAB
2026

Kunstuni

13:00
-
14:30

PITCH-SESSION
Film Talent Academy
Short Film LAB
2026

City Kino

15:30
-
17:30

Strange Transformation Official Competition 6
A thousand questions and one miracle - Austria - 28' Fiction
Disturbia - Bulgaria - 7' Animation
In Captivity of a finger - Iran - 3' Animation
The Other Way Around - Austria - 7' Animation
Common Pear - Slovenia - 15' Documentary
Crocodile Nest - Colombia - 9' Documentary
On Hold - Switzerland - 7' Animation
The Steak - Canada/Iran - 8' Fiction
Dreamland - USA - 4' Documentary

City Kino

18:00
-
20:00

Hybrid Realities Official Competition 7
Vigil - Spain - 8' Documentary
Conveyor - Austria - 8' Documentary
Caries - Switzerland - 10' Animation
DeadTime - Italy - 14' Fiction
Hunter Gatherers - Italy - 1' Animation
Hippopotami - China/Hong Kong - 13' Fiction
Shoesand Hooves - Hungary - 15' Animation
Stampfer Dreams - Austria - 12' Animation
She Dolls with Dollies - Austria - 3' Animation
Cheese! - Germany - 2' Animation

City Kino

20:30
-
22:30

Roots & Shadows Official Competition 8
Gül - Austria/Turkey - 28' Fiction
Feet in water - France - 9' Animation
Project Nika - Croatia - 18' Documentary
My Mom - Poland - 13' Documentary
Zarko, You Will Spoil the Child! - Croatia/France - 14' Animation

Kunstuni

22:30
-
03:30

FESTIVAL NIGHT CLUB
mess kj

Saturday 11.10.2025

Kunstuni

11:00
-
12:30

PITCH-SESSION
Film Talent Academy
First Feature LAB
2026

Kunstuni

13:00
-
14:30

PITCH-SESSION
for Co-production Grant
Film Talent Academy
Short Film LAB
2025

City Kino

15:30
-
17:30

Tangled Relation Official Competition 9
The Mother and the Bear - Egypt - 12' Documentary
Fall into Eachother - Austria - 6' Fiction
Ink Fish - Netherlands - 9' Fiction
Tako Tsubo - Austria - 6' Animation
Three Birds - Slovenia - 8' Animation
The Thin Line - Germany - 5' Fiction
The Singers - Austria - 17' Fiction

City Kino

18:00
-
19:30

Fragile Ground Official Competition 10
Seida-Border/Bristle/Silk - Austria - 2' Animation
Im Dickicht - Austria - 8' Documentary
Inflatable bear, hourly - Germany - 12' Fiction
Almost Certainly False - Turkey - 20' Fiction
The People Who Keep Living - Ukraine - 12' Documentary
She Stays - Mexico - 10' Fiction

City Kino

20:30
-
22:30

AWARD CEREMONY

Kunstuni

22:30
-
03:30

FESTIVAL NIGHT CLUB
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Linzer
University of Arts Linz

mit Unterstützung von

Kultur



Federal Ministry
Housing, Arts, Culture,
Media and Sport
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