

EUROPEAN WORK IN PROGRESS ●

COLOGNE

17 – 19 October 2022

PROGRAMME

EUROPEAN WORK IN PROGRESS COLOGNE 2022

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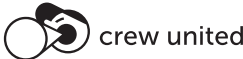
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A small anniversary: Five years of European Work in Progress in Cologne! EWIP Cologne was a success story right from the start. The response to the first edition already showed that an European market platform was created that is up to date and closes a gap between development and financing, releasing and marketing. The quality of the projects submitted was and is impressive, the excellent jury members convinced with their intuition and judgement, the festival successes in Venice, Cannes, Berlin, Sundance or Locarno for EWIP films speak for themselves. I want to say that if you haven't been to EWIP Cologne yet, you should definitely come. The concentrated work and the intensive exchange about quality and success in film – something special is going on in Cologne these days!

150 film projects were submitted for this year's anniversary edition, of which 28 were selected. Representatives of prestigious festivals are on site as well as renowned world sales companies, distributors and producers. A careful hygiene concept allows individual presentations, personal encounters and the safety of everyone again this year.

Our thanks go to our partners, to the team around Torsten Frehse, Hen-Suk Jung and Olimpia Pont Chafér for their great commitment and good cooperation and, of course, to this year's jury. We wish all teams lots of success and a good time in Cologne!

Petra Müller, Film- und Medienstiftung NRW

AG Verleih

Verband unabhängiger Filmverleiher e.V.

The German association of independent film distributors

Our members:



Welcome to the 5th anniversary edition of European Work in Progress Cologne!

First of all, I would like to thank everyone on behalf of the EWIP team and the board of AG Verleih who have remained loyal to us over the past few difficult years and who have made possible a very positive development of this platform in many different ways. We look forward to this fifth edition, which is sure to produce another series of deals with distributors, sales agents, broadcasters and co-producers, as well as festival invitations.

At this point, I am pleased that such important personalities from the film industry are making themselves available for the EWIP jury again this year. Thank you very much for that, too!

With the carefully selected projects, we want to further establish and continuously improve this event, which is becoming increasingly important in this world of upheaval in film distribution. I would like to thank Petra Müller and her team from the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW for their continuous and great support, as well as our partners and award sponsors for their great commitment, i.e. the Film Festival Cologne for the good cooperation.

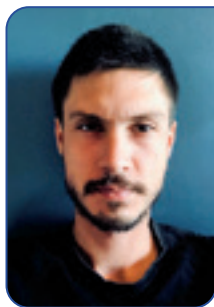
Of course we are aware that the crisis is not over, especially for the independent sector! This is precisely why it is important for us to make a contribution to how new, innovative strategies and methods enable new successes. In cooperation with AG Verleih, we have succeeded in developing the „International Distribution Summit“ right after EWIP. The summit is explicitly dedicated to the idea of true innovation in the field of theatrical distribution, providing 11 exciting contributions that will encourage imitation.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say hello to everyone who is following this year's EWIP online and my final thanks goes of course to the dedicated EWIP team!

Torsten Frehse, European Work in Progress Cologne



JURY



Olivier Barbier

Olivier Barbier has been active in the French film industry since 2012. Initially, he was active as Sales Executive at Wild Bunch International. Finally, he took over the position of Head of Acquisitions at the renowned international sales powerhouse mk2 films. Here he was responsible, among others, for the acquisition of the films *PORTRAIT OF A LADY ON FIRE*, *THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD*, *PETITE MAMAN*, *ALCARRÀS* and *CORSAGE*.



Vanja Kaludjercic

Vanja Kaludjercic is festival director of the International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) since 2020. Kaludjercic has over 20 years of industry experience, both on an international level and within the Dutch film landscape. The IFFR is one of the strongest and largest public festivals in the world, as well as an unmissable date in the international festival calendar. Prior to her position as Head of IFFR, she was Director of Acquisitions at MUBI and held key positions at Les Arcs European Film Festival, Sarajevo Film Festival, Netherlands Film Festival (NFF) and IFFR, where she established the IFFR Talks & Masterclasses from 2016 to 2018.



Julien Rejl



Saralisa Volm



Thanassis Karathanos

Julien Rejl is a graduate of the renowned La Fémis cadre. Between 2010 and 2020, he was responsible for distribution and acquisitions at the world sales company Capricci. In this context, he worked with directors such as Abel Ferrara, Hong Sangsoo, Albert Serra, Wang Bing, Tsai Ming-Liang and Philippe Garrel. Julien Rejl initiated the theatrical release of numerous restored masterpieces of film history including films by Jean-Luc Godard, Kenji Mizoguchi, Ingmar Bergman, Maurice Pialat, David Lynch and David Cronenberg. He worked as a film critic and writer and took over the programming of the Sofilm Festival between 2015 and 2019. In June 2022, he was entrusted with the artistic direction of the Cannes Director's Fortnight.

Saralisa Volm, filmmaker, author, actress and producer founded the production company POISON in 2014. Among others, she produced the film *FIKKEFUCHS* (directed by Jan Henrik Stahlberg), which was successfully released in German cinemas in 2017. She has already published several books and celebrated the world premiere of her feature film debut *SCHWEIGEND STEHT DER WALD* (*THE SILENT FOREST*) at the Berlinale 2022 which was priorly presented at EWIP 2021.

Thanassis Karathanos (*TWENTY TWENTY VISION* in Berlin, *PALLAS FILM* in Halle(Saale)) is a successful international film producer. He produced films by Olivier Assayas (*CLOUDS OF SILS MARIA*), Bruno Dumont (*MA LOUTE*), Paul Verhoeven (*ELLE*) and Elia Suleiman (*IT MUST BE HEAVEN*), among others. Two of the films he produced, *THE MAN WHO SOLD HIS SKIN* and *AJAMI*, were Oscar® nominated. His most recent productions, *THE GRAVEDIGGER'S WIFE* and *MARIUPOLIS*, celebrated their world premieres in the official selection of the Cannes International Film Festival in 2021 and 2022. He was the only German to be invited as an Oscar®-Academy member in 2022.



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AWARDS

An international jury of film experts will acknowledge the winners of the best pitches with awards worth a total of approximately 60,000 €.

Award Ceremony Dinner: Tuesday, 18 October 2022 at 08:00 pm, Cinenova

EWIP K13 Studios Award*

a voucher worth € 10,000 for Dolby Atmos Mixing (in cooperation with Dolby) as well as a voucher worth € 5.000 for dubbing



EWIP MMC Studios Award*

a voucher worth € 10,000 as well as a voucher worth € 5,000 for stage and room rental services



EWIP LAVALabs Moving Images Award*



a voucher worth € 10,000 for visual effects

EWIP TorinoFilmLab Audience Design Award*

consisting of two sessions with TFL experts to design a marketing and distribution strategy



EWIP mm filmpresse Award*

a voucher worth € 7,500 for international festival public relations

mm filmpresse

EWIP Gruvi Award*

a voucher worth € 5,000 to be spend on marketing Ad technology, including audience analysis, landing page design, and a GDS report.

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EWIP Dolby Award*

a voucher for Dolby Vision Grading



EWIP Way Film Translation Award*

voucher worth € 4,000 for high-quality subtitling



EWIP Crew United Certificates*

5-year premium membership for the participating production companies of three winning films



*All prizes are subject to the terms and conditions of the award sponsor, availability, and are not transferable to third parties.

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With offices in Berlin, Hamburg and Cologne, US-born producer, director and writer Matthew Way and team have processed countless cinematic masterpieces from and into over 40 languages that garnered Oscars, Golden Globes, as well as prizes in Cannes, Venice, Berlin, Toronto, Sundance etc.

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ABOUT IDS

The first edition of **International Distribution Summit (IDS)** is taking place from 19th to 20th October 2022 in Cologne, including warm up-panels on 18th October in co-operation with EWIP.

The **International Distribution Summit** is a response to the fundamental upheaval in the independent cinema industry of the last few years. How can film distribution be reshaped so that it will anchor the visit of movie theatres more profoundly in people's everyday cultural lives? What impulses, innovations and ideas have been developed internationally that will help emphasizing the importance of independent cinema for culture and society?

The **International Distribution Summit** has been created in order to establish a platform that generates sustainable ideas for theatrical distribution and audience development. International top-class players are invited as keynote speakers to present their successful concepts, best practices and innovations and discuss them with the participants.

The **International Distribution Summit** is an international platform for everyone involved in theatrical film distribution. Distribution companies and innovation drivers from all over the world are invited to come together now and in the future, to discuss and exchange ideas and strategy models.

The **International Distribution Summit** is supported by the BKM – Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.



Federal Government Commissioner
for Culture and the Media



Join the MEDIA Case Studies on European Distribution Strategies at EWIP Cologne on Tuesday 18 October!

AGENDA

Monday, 17 October 2022 – Cinenova

EUROPEAN WORK IN PROGRESS COLOGNE DAY 1

- from 10:00 am Arrival and Accreditation
- 12:00 pm Light Lunch and Refreshments
- 01:00 pm Welcome / Official Opening
- 01:15 – 03:00 pm 1st Round of Pitching Sessions
- 03:00 – 03:30 pm Coffee Break
- 03:30 – 05:15 pm 2nd Round of Pitching Sessions
- 05:30 – 07:30 pm One-to-One Meetings
- 07:30 pm Closing Day 1
- 08:30 pm Dinner at Stadtgarten
on invitation of
MMC Film & TV Studios

Tuesday, 18 October 2022 – Cinenova

EUROPEAN WORK IN PROGRESS COLOGNE DAY 2

- from 09:30 am Accreditation
- 10:00 – 11:45 am 3rd Round of Pitching Sessions
- 12:00 – 12:45 pm Panel: *Green Production - Green Distribution: Sustainable Practices for a Greener Industry.*
Guests: Birgit Heidsiek (Green Film Shooting, Germany), Eduardo Viéitez (Creast, Spain), Claudia Steffens (Pandora Filmproduktion, Germany), Björn Hoffmann (Pandora Filmverleih, Germany)
Moderation: Fabian Massah (Endorphine Production, Germany)
In Cooperation with Creative Europe Desk NRW and International Distribution Summit.
- 01:00 – 02:00 pm Lunch Break

© Oslo Pictures
“The Worst Person in the World” by Joachim Trier, released in European cinemas with the support of MEDIA Distribution.

Based in Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Munich and Potsdam, the Creative Europe Desks Germany inform about MEDIA funding schemes, training programmes and markets. The Desks organise a wide range of industry events in Germany and further afield.



02:00 – 03:45 pm 4th Round of Pitching Sessions

04:00 – 05:30 pm Case Studies I & II: Best Practices – International Distribution & Marketing Strategies for European Arthouse Cinema illustrated via two MEDIA funded films: THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD and COMPARTMENT NO° 6

Guests THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD:
Olivier Barbier (mk2, France),
Gábor Böszörményi (Mozinet, Hungary),
Enrique Costa (Elastica, Spain)

Moderation: Triin Tramberg, Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival (Estonia)

Guests COMPARTMENT NO° 6:
Marcello De Bellis (BIM Distribuzione, Italy),
Ljudmila Gosteva (BestFilm.eu, Estonia),
Jakob Kijas (Eksystem, Germany), Pierre Landais (Haut et Court, France)

Moderation: Alexandre Dupont-Geisselmann, farbfilm verleih (Germany)

In Cooperation with Creative Europe Desks Germany and International Distribution Summit.

05:45 – 07:30 pm One-to-One Meetings

07:30 pm Closing Day 2

08:00 pm Award Ceremony / Gala Dinner on invitation of TorinoFilmLab

Wednesday, 19 October 2022 – Filmpalast

EUROPEAN WORK IN PROGRESS COLOGNE DAY 3

in cooperation with International Distribution Summit

from 11:30 am Accreditation & Snacks

12:00 – 12:15 pm Welcome

12:15 – 01:00 pm Key Note 1: *Winning Your Audiences: Where Are We Now and Where Are We Going?*
Speaker: Ben Johnson, CEO, Gruvi (United Kingdom).

01:00 – 01:45 pm Key Note 2: *Cinema Subscription: Advantages For Independent Distributors Through "All You Can Watch"-Subscriptions.*
Speaker: Thomas Hosman, Co-Founder & CEO, Cineville (Netherlands).

In Cooperation with Creative Europe Desk NRW.

Please find further information on the International Distribution Summit (IDS) here:

www.international-distribution-summit.com

We connect people to make great films together!



PANEL

Green Production - Green Distribution: Sustainable Practices for a Greener Industry.

Finally! The film industry is going green. Film production, in particular, has become more and more ecological over the recent years. Is there anything else we can do? How can film production, world sales and film distribution be on the same page and make use of all possibilities to save our environment?

Our experts will discuss the most recent developments:

Birgit Heidsiek (Green Film Shooting, Germany)

Eduardo Viéitez (Creast, Spain)

Claudia Steffens (Pandora Filmproduktion, Germany)

Björn Hoffmann (Pandora Filmverleih, Germany)

Moderation: Fabian Massah (Endorphine Production, Germany)

In Cooperation with Creative Europe Desk NRW and International Distribution Summit.

Tuesday, 18 October 2022, 12:00 – 12:45 pm, Cinenova

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CASE STUDIES I & II

Best Practice – International Distribution & Marketing Strategies for European Arthouse Cinema

Innovative release strategies have become increasingly important in this accelerating digital world. Marketing activities for European arthouse productions differ in their approach to build and reach their audience. Distributors and sales agents will share their expertise on national and international distribution strategies. Illustrated by the examples of two MEDIA funded films: THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD (2021) and COMPARTMENT NO° 6 (2021).

Guests:

THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD: Olivier Barbier (mk2, France), Gabor Böszörményi (Mozinet, Hungary), Enrique Costa (Elastica, Spain)

Moderation: Triin Tramborg, Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival (Estonia).

COMPARTMENT NO° 6: Marcello De Bellis (BIM Distribuzione, Italy), Ljudmila Gosteva (BestFilm.eu, Estonia), Jakob Kijas (Eksystent, Germany), Pierre Landais (Haut et Court, France)

Moderation: Alexandre Dupont-Geisselmann, farbfilm verleih (Germany)

In Cooperation with Creative Europe Desks Germany and International Distribution Summit.

Tuesday, 18 October 2022, 04:00 – 05:30 pm, Cinenova

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50° 56' 16.4" N, 6° 56' 23.4" E

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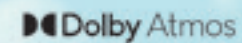
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PROJECTS

European Work In Progress Cologne seeks to elevate the exposure of European high-profile arthouse cinema by creating opportunities to collaborate with international sales agents, distributors, producers, financiers as well as other industry partners.

More than 150 projects involving 60 countries have been submitted for this fifth edition of EWIP. 28 carefully selected projects will present first scenes to give an ahead of the game look with the aim to find complementary partners in their final stage of production.

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama, Mystery
Producers: Pilar Peredo, Edgard Tenenbaum (Tu Vas Voir)
Co-Producers: Caroline De Jenlis (Palermo Production), Lorena Quevedo (Twins Latin Films), Augusto Pelliccia (Augustus Color)
Director: Juan Sebastian Torales
Writer: Juan Sebastian Torales
DoP: Ezequiel Salinas
Cast: Diaz Nicolás, Soldi María, Coronel Carlos, Grimaldi Martina
Language: Spanish
Budget: € 985.600

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ALMAMULA

WANTED

- Partners to close the financing gap
- World sales
- Distribution
- Meet Festival programmers

ALMAMULA (ALMAMULA)

95 minutes, France/Argentina/Italy

SYNOPSIS

Santiago del Estero, Argentina. Nino is in the midst of exploring his sexual awakening. At 14, Nino is already the victim of homophobic attacks. To protect him, his family abandons the city life and moves to the country. Their new farm is surrounded by the Monte, a huge humid and dark forest. In this rural and superstitious environment, Nino hears about a mysterious creature, the Almamula, who takes away anyone who commits sexually reprehensible acts. The priest's pre-confirmation lessons show Nino that his sexuality is not acceptable in the eyes of God. The pressure of the upcoming ceremony weighs on him and his fascination with the Almamula who would accept his sin grows. Nino decides to include the Almamula in his prayers, seeing in her his salvation, and starts searching for it.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Juan Sebastian Torales is an Argentinian director. In 2008, he wrote, produced and directed his first short documentary, LA CROIX, selected for the Mar del Plata Film Festival, in which the artist Luizo Vega crucifies himself in real time. He also wrote and directed the short films LOS ARBOLES (2011) and LE WARRIOR (2018). In 2007, he moved to Paris where he collaborated with Jayro Bustamante on two short films and as first assistant director on the film TEMBLORES. Since 2013, Juan is a recognized editor of French TV with more than 40 documentaries to his credit. ALMAMULA is his first fiction project (Eurimages Development Prize, San Sebastián FF 2019). As a preamble to the story of his film, he directed and produced his short films SACHA and MACO (2019) his home town Santiago del Estero.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Juan S. Torales



PRODUCER
Pilar Peredo



PRODUCER
Edgard Tenenbaum

PRODUCERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Pilar Peredo graduated in Fine Arts at the University of La Plata, Buenos Aires. She worked with directors such as Emmanuelle Crialese, Paula Hernandez, Christopher Hampton, Jayro Bustamante, Cesar Diaz and Maryam Touzani. She debuted as a producer with IXCANUL by Jayro Bustamante (Alfred Bauer Silver Bear Award, Berlinale 2015). Since then, she produced the documentary TERRITORIO LIBERADO by César Diaz, TEMBLORES by Jayro Bustamante (Berlinale Panorama 2019) and, together with Edgard Tenenbaum, LOS REYES DEL MUNDO by Laura Mora that has just been awarded with the Golden Shell of San Sebastián.

Edgard Tenenbaum was born in Rosario, Argentina. He moved to Paris where he collaborated with Amos Gitai. In 2001 he founded the company Tu Vas Voir together with Gérard Lacroix. Their film AN OPEN GAZE features a variety of subjects and conveys a strong humanism. One of his best-known films is THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES by Walter Salles, co-produced with Robert Redford and Film Four, and more recently, SWEET MUD, by Dror Shaul.

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama

Producer: Ingmar Trost (Sutor Kolonko)

Co-Producer: Roberto Cavallini (Albolina)

Director: Antonello Scarpelli

Writer: Antonello Scarpelli

DoP: Stefania Bona

Cast: Emilia Scarpelli, Francesco Scarpelli, Antonello Scarpelli, Claudio Caiolo, Kristin Suckow, Anna Grisebach

Language: Italian, German

Budget: € 1.100.000

CONTACT

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AS IT IS

WANTED

- Festivals
- World sales
- Distribution
- Gap financing

AS IT IS (così com'è)

90 minutes, Germany/Italy

SYNOPSIS

Emilia (62) has a stable existence in Calabria with her husband Francesco (65). Her modest everyday life is clouded solely by her husband's recent diagnosis of Alzheimer's and concern for her two sons. The older one, Antonello (32), has been living in Germany for several years, struggling to keep his head above water as an artist. Emilia tries to get in touch with her son, but Antonello's absence is not merely physical. When Francesco's condition worsens, the parents decide to visit their son in Germany in the hope of finally having a frank face-to-face conversation. The joy and awkwardness of the reunion after such a long time lead to Emilia's fear of missing the best opportunity. Everything that needs to be said is in the air, the elephant in the room, but nobody says it.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Antonello Scarpelli is a Cologne-based writer and director of Italian origin. His films explore the genre boundaries between documentary and feature film. He specifically likes to work with non-professional actors in roles that were written especially for them after periods of long research. His medium length film TARDA ESTATE (2017) was shot in his homeland in Calabria and premiered at the Visions du Réel Film Festival. AS IT IS is Antonello's feature film debut, shot on location in his native village Celico and in Cologne.

PRODUCTION COMPANY PROFILE

Founded in 2010, Sutor Kolonko produces documentaries and narrative feature films with a strong focus on international co-production. Sutor Kolonko's films include: the Cannes award-winning SOFIA'S LAST AMBULANCE by Ilian Metev as well as his follow-up "3/4", winner of a Golden Leopard at Locarno 2017, A VOLUNTARY YEAR by Ulrich Köhler and Henner Winckler (Locarno 2019), ROJO by Benjamin Naishtat (San Sebastian 2018), and the Emmy®-winning SOLITARY by Kristi Jacobson. Sutor Kolonko's most recent credits include: THE MOLE AGENT by Maite Alberdi, which was nominated for an Academy Award® in 2021, and the hybrid film MOTHER by Carolin Schmitz, which had its world premiere at the Munich Film Festival 2022.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Antonello Scarpelli



PRODUCER
Ingmar Trost



CO-PRODUCER
Roberto Cavallini

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama

Producer: Benny Drechsel (Rohfilm Productions)

Director: Kanwal Sethi

Writer: Kanwal Sethi

DoP: Erik Molberg Hansen

Cast: Serkan Kaya, Seyneb Saleh, Amira Demirkiran, Olga von Luckwald

Language: German

Budget: € 3.100.000

CONTACT

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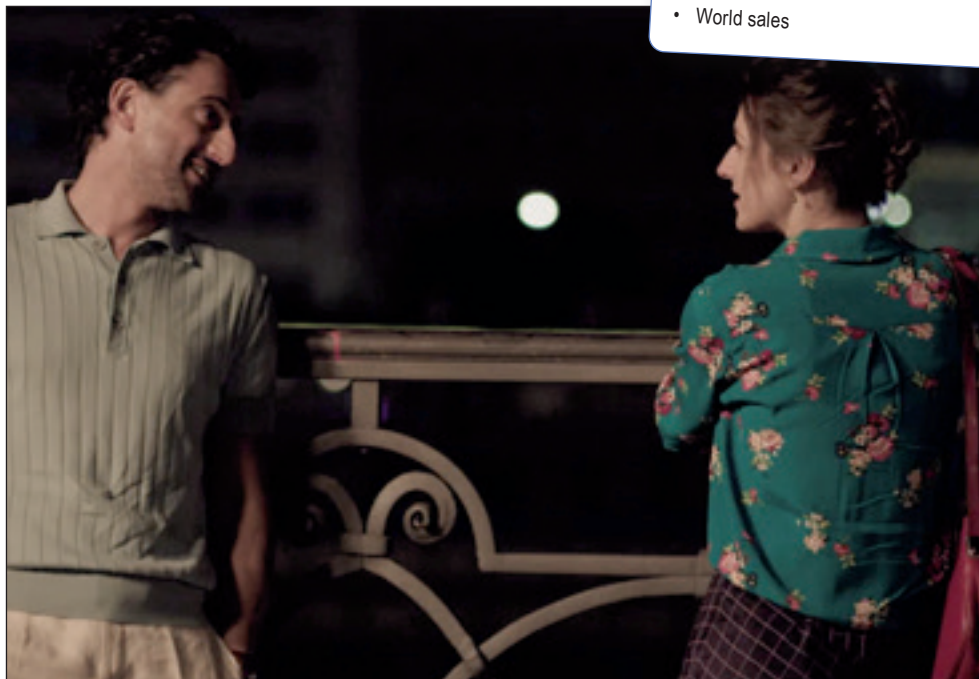
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BETWEEN US

WANTED

- World sales

BETWEEN US (ZWISCHEN UNS)

100 minutes, Germany

SYNOPSIS

Ilyas and Yasemin are still lovers after 14 years of marriage. Together they run one of the best cafés in town. But when the two lovers reach the middle of their lives everything changes. Yasemin is shot dead unexpectedly and there is no trace of the perpetrators. In the search for the perpetrators, the authorities and investigators put his entire family and friends under general suspicion. Fuelled by the coverage of ruthless media, rumours of an honour killing and terrorism do the rounds. The family's environment becomes first fearful, then hostile. The increasingly encroaching authorities thus ruin not only the personal environment, but also the material livelihood of Ilyas and his family, the café, which they have to close.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Kanwal Sethi was born in Amritsar, India in 1971. After graduating from high school, he founded a theatre group and began directing at various independent theatres. After moving to Germany in 1992, he first studied Politics and Economics in Dresden. After an intensive period of travelling, he moved to Leipzig, where he took script courses at the university and the German Literature Institute and worked as an assistant director at Schauspielhaus Leipzig and on various film projects. His own productions in several independent theatres followed. At the same time, he began working on his own film projects. His short films and documentaries were shown at international film festivals and at the MoMA New York and won numerous prizes. His feature films include ONCE AGAIN (2016) and FERNES LAND (2011).

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Benny Drechsel grew up in Munich. In 1997 he moved to Berlin in order to work as a post production supervisor and soon as an associate producer for documentary films and debut films. In 2002 he moved to Barcelona, but came back to found Rohfilm with his former colleague and friend Karsten Stöter in 2005. Until today Rohfilm produced and co-produced 30 international films. In 2014 Benny Drechsel was a member of the jury for short films at the Critics' Week in Cannes. Since 2016 Benny Drechsel is the sole owner and producer at Rohfilm, a company based in Leipzig and Berlin. His filmography includes GROSSE FREIHEIT (2021), TASTE OF PHO (2019), TOUCH ME NOT (2018), THE YOUNG KARL MARX (2017).



DIRECTOR/WRITER

Kanwal Sethi



PRODUCER

Benny Drechsel

FILM FACTS

Genre: Fiction
Producer: Saïd Hamich Benlarbi
Co-Producers: Nicole Gerhards (NiKo Film), Sébastien Delloye (Entre Chien et Loup)
Director: Faouzi Bensaïdi
Writer: Faouzi Bensaïdi
DoP: Florian Berutti
Cast: Fehd Benchemsi, Abdelhadi Taleb, Rabii Benjhaile
Language: Moroccan Arabic
Budget: € 1.755.000



DESERTS

WANTED

- Post-production support
- German distribution
- Film festivals and broadcasters

CONTACT

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DESERTS (DÉSERTS)

105 minutes, France/Germany/Morocco/Belgium

SYNOPSIS

DESERTS is a modern western drawing a kaleidoscopic portrait of Moroccan society.

Longtime friends, Mehdi and Hamid travel the region on behalf of a debt collection agency, crisscrossing the south Moroccan countryside, mountains and desert in their old car. Their clients are the poorest of the poor, living in small villages and old mining towns with lifeless streets. Mehdi and Hamid are generally given a hostile reception and they struggle to extract their debts from the bad payers. Paid nearly nothing themselves, they play hard to make good figures. One day, in a gas station planted in the middle of the desert, a motorcycle parks in front of them, with a man handcuffed to the luggage rack. Their encounter with the fugitive marks the beginning of an unforeseen and increasingly mystical journey.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

After working in the theatre as stage director and actor, Faouzi Bensaïdi directed his first short film LA FALAISE (1997) which received twenty-four awards at French and international film festivals. In 1999, he co-wrote André Téchiné's film LOIN. In 2000, he directed two short films: LE MUR, awarded in Cannes and TRAJETS, awarded in Venice. His first feature film MILLE MOIS (2003) was awarded at Cannes' Un Certain Regard and was distributed in 10 countries. His second film WWW – WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD (2006) was selected for the Venice Days and distributed in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Norway, Germany, Denmark, United States. DEATH FOR SALE (2011) was selected and awarded at the 62nd Berlinale and VOLUBILIS premiered at Venice Days 2017, and then went on to festivals of Namur, Montpellier, Busan, Montreal, El Gouna. He received a Bronze Tanit at the Carthage Film Festival (Tunisia) and the National Jury Award at the National Film Festival Tangier.

PRODUCERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Saïd Hamich Benlarbi founded Barney Production in 2009, and the company Mont Fleuri Production in Morocco in 2013. He has collaborated with filmmakers such as Leyla Bouzid, Rachel Lang, Philippe Faucon, Nabil Ayouch, Meriem Ben'Mbarek, Clément Cogitore and Faouzi Bensaïdi. Recently, Barney Production and Mont Fleuri Production have accompanied the series SENTINELLES (Tetra Media Fiction for OSC - Séries Mania 2022), TERRE conceived for Netflix, and co-produced QUEENS by Yasmine Benkiran.

Nicole Gerhards founded NiKo Film in 2008 and was the lead producer on eg. THE STRANGER IN ME by Emily Atef, BABAI by Visar Morina, and co-producer on films like THE PRIZE by Paula Markovitch, UNTIL THE BIRDS RETURN by Karim Moussaoui, YALDA by Massoud Bakhshi, and MORE THAN EVER by Emily Atef. In 2022 NiKo Film was listed among the 75 leading European independent producers by Screen Daily.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Faouzi Bensaïdi



PRODUCER
Saïd Hamich Benlarbi



CO-PRODUCER
Nicole Gerhards



CO-PRODUCER
Sébastien Delloye

WANTED

- World sales
- Distribution partners

FILM FACTS

Genre: Arthouse Drama

Producers: Eva Kemme, Ansgar Frerich, Uschi Feldges (Basis Berlin), Jörn Möllenkamp (Living Pictures Production), Majid Barzegar (Rainy Pictures)

Director: Behrooz Karamizade

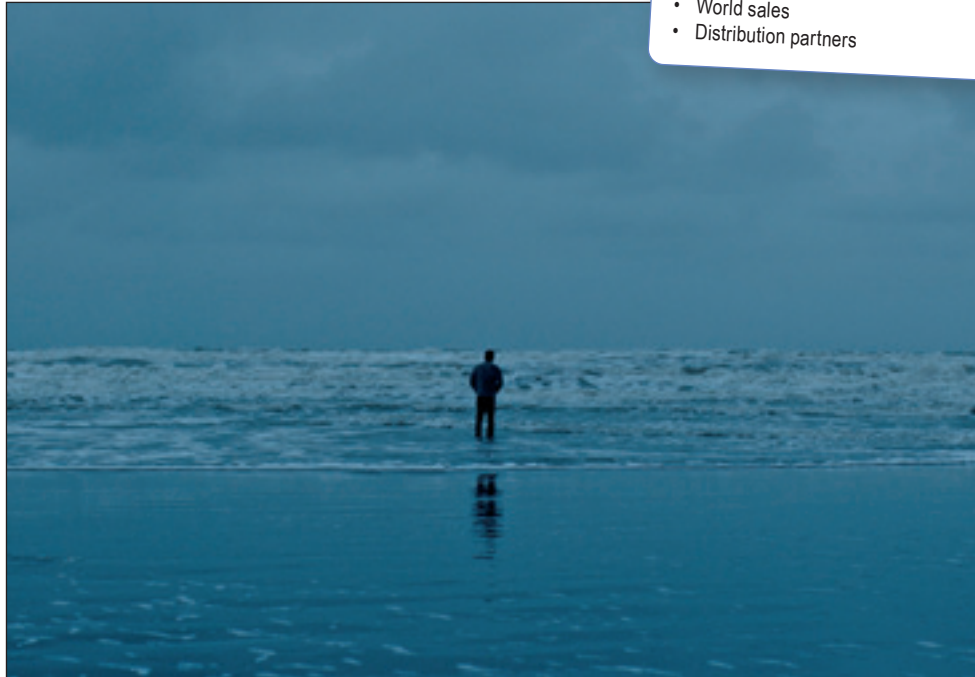
Writer: Behrooz Karamizade

DoP: Ashkan Ashkani

Cast: Hamid Reza Abbasi, Sadaf Asgari, Keyvan Mohamadi

Language: Farsi

Budget: € 1.260.000



EMPTY NETS

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Elfbuchenstr. 20
34119 Kassel, Germany

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EMPTY NETS (WT) (LEERE NETZE (AT))

98 minutes, Germany/Iran

SYNOPSIS

When young Iranian Amir signs on with a rural fishery on the rough coast of the Caspian Sea to raise the money for a marriage to his great love Narges, Amir becomes entangled in criminal machinations of illegal caviar poaching. Amir increasingly finds himself on uncertain ground that also endangers his relationship with Narges. A haunting film about the search for a freer future and life-threatening escape movements in contemporary Iran.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Behrooz Karamizade was born in 1978 in Ahwaz/ Iran and immigrated with his family via the former Soviet Union through the former GDR to West-Germany in 1984. He has lived in Germany since 1985. From 2005 to 2013 he studied Film Directing at the Kunsthochschule in Kassel. With his first short films he won several awards and participated in more than 200 international film festivals, i.e. Rotterdam International Film Festival and the International Short Film Festival Oberhausen. His graduation film BAHAR IM WUNDERLAND has been invited to more than 150 film festivals and won 20 awards, including the German Human Rights Film Award 2014. In 2016 BAHAR IM WUNDERLAND was broadcast on ARTE. Karamizade received the German Screenplay Award for his screenplay on EMPTY NETS.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

After a Bachelor in Media and Communications, Eva Kemme graduated as a producer from the Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie (DFFB). Since 2012 she is General Manager and producer at BASIS BERLIN Filmproduktion. The film projects she was involved in as producer won more than 70 international awards, including two German Film Awards, awards in Sundance, Krakow and Vision du Réel. In 2018 Talal Derki's documentary OF FATHERS AND SONS won the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize in Sundance. In the same year she was nominated for the German Film Award in the category Best Documentary for TASTE OF CEMENT. In 2019, OF FATHERS AND SONS was honoured with an Academy Award® Nomination. In 2021 she won the German Film Award for Best Children's Film for VEINS OF THE WORLD by Byambasuren Davaa.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Behrooz Karamizade



PRODUCER
Eva Kemme



PRODUCER
Ansgar Frerich



PRODUCER
Uschi Feldges

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama, Romance

Producer: Jamila Wenske (Achtung Panda!)

Co-Producers: Emilia Haukka, Jussi Rantamäki (Aamu Film Company)

Director: Birgit Möller

Writer: Knut Mierswe

DoP: J-P Passi

Cast: Lena Urzendowsky, Cino Djauid, Meryem Ebru Öz, Paul Pötsch, Sophie Killer

Language: German and a tiny splash of Finnish

Budget: € 2.000.000

CONTACT

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FRANKY FIVE STAR

WANTED

- World sales
- International festival premiere
- Financing for music rights
- DCP with final graphic title design

FRANKY FIVE STAR (FRANKY FIVE STAR)

105 Minutes, Germany, Finland

SYNOPSIS

Franky is still figuring out where to go in life. She has never allowed herself to fall in love because she is too busy dealing with her inner chaos. Her best friend Katja knows her mood swings, but Franky has never revealed to anyone that she has an old hotel in her head, inhabited by four weird, but lovable characters who can switch into her body by using the elevator. When Katja's new boyfriend Hasi shows up, Franky's inner personalities start to fall for him and things get out of control. Franky almost loses her best friend and her home. In a mad attempt to become normal, Franky tries to destroy the hotel in her head. She needs Hasi's help to reunite with her inner world, and is finally able to open up to him. A quirky romance about finding your true self (or more than one).

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Birgit Möller was born 1972. She studied at the Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie (DFFB) and photographed many shorts and feature films, i.e. DIE BOXERIN (ABOUT A GIRL) and TANGERINE. Since 2004 she directs commercials for TV and cinema. In 2006 she graduated with the full-length feature film VALERIE. She is an alumna of Villa Aurora, L.A. (2008) and Binger Directors Lab (2011). FRANKY FIVE STAR is her second feature film.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Jamila Wenske was born in East Berlin, studied at the Film University Konrad Wolf and at Atelier Ludwigsburg-Paris. Her successes as an international producer include feature films such as THE WOODCUTTER STORY (Cannes Critics' Week 2022), COMPARTMENT NO° 6 (Grand Prix Cannes 2021), THE HAPPIEST DAY IN THE LIFE OF OLLI MÄKI (Un Certain Regard Award Cannes 2016), THE BOOKSHOP (Berlinale 2018) and PERSIAN LESSONS (Berlinale 2019). In 2018, she was one of Variety's "10 Producers to Watch". In this year's Screen International Cannes Edition she was listed as one of the leading independent film producers of Europe.



DIRECTOR
Birgit Möller



WRITER
Knut Mierswe



PRODUCER
Jamila Wenske



CO-PRODUCER
Emilia Haukka

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama

Producers: Jose Alba, Odile Antonio-Baez (Pecado Films)

Co-Producers: Natacha Kucic (First Draft), Daniele Segre (Redibis Film), Paola Herrera (Una Comunidad)

Director: Alessandro Pugno

Writers: Alessandro Pugno, Natacha Kucic

DoP: Alberto D. Centeno

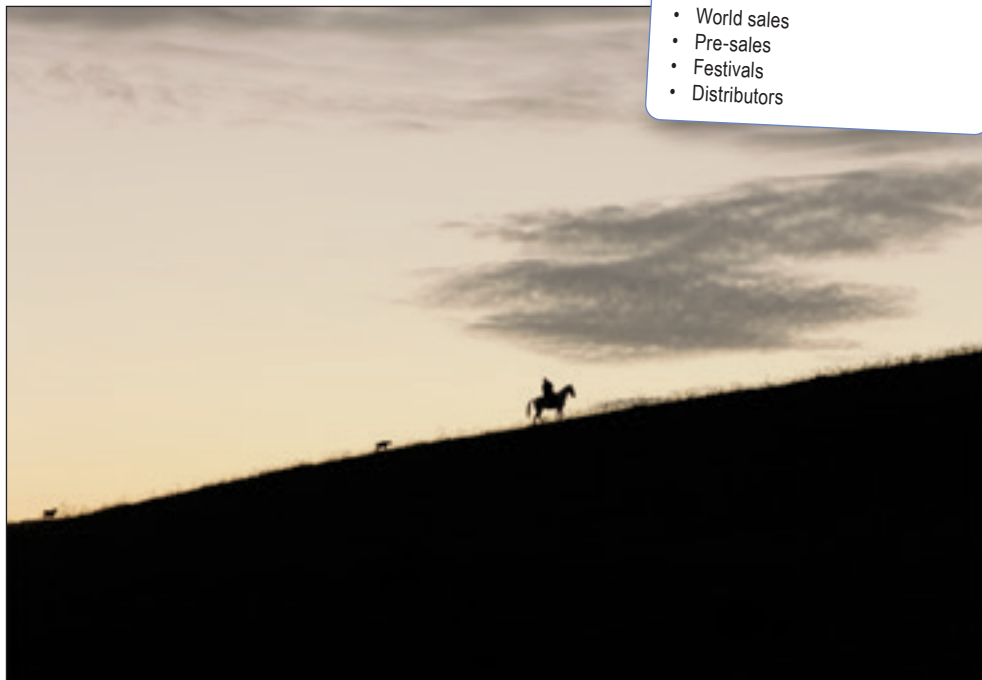
Cast: Guillermo Bedward, Donovan Raham, Antonio Estrada, Brontis Jodorowsky, Ian Caffo, Silvia Degrandi

Language: Spanish, Italian

Budget: € 1.600.000

WANTED

- World sales
- Pre-sales
- Festivals
- Distributors



HUMAN / ANIMAL

CONTACT

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HUMAN / ANIMAL (ANIMAL / HUMANO)

90 Minutes, Spain/Italy/Mexico

SYNOPSIS

Raised in a family-owned funeral home in northern Italy, little Matteo hates knowing that he too will die and be placed into a box. So, he decides to face death rather than wait for it: he will be a bullfighter. Years later, Matteo is training in the famous bullfighting school of Seville. He is an angry teen too eager to confront a bull, too vulnerable, too aggressive to be any good. Meanwhile, a calf is born. Young Fandango grows carefree in the hills of Andalusia. And yet... Will he make it to the bullring or will he be sent to the slaughterhouse before time? Will Fandango be fierce enough to please the crowds? Will Matteo learn to "dance" as his master demands of him? Against all odds, human and animal come face to face in the center of a bullring ablaze with sunlight.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Alessandro Pugno graduated in philosophy, lives and works between Italy and Spain since 2012. After working as photographer and publishing a book of poems, he created Papavero Films in 2007 and started to direct documentaries. In 2014 he was selected for Berlinale Talents and in 2021 as discovery in the National Photo Contest Photoespaña. HUMAN / ANIMAL is his first feature film. His filmography as director includes PLAYGROUNDS OF LEAD (Trento Mountain FF, La Habana, Guangzhou, Festival dei Popoli, Ismalia, Malaga FF, among others), UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS (Best Documentary at Malaga FF, Mar del Plata, Guadalajara, Sevilla, Punto de Vista, São Paulo, DocumentaMadrid, Festival dei Popoli, IDFA market, among others) and THE THREE DISTANCES (Torino FF).

PRODUCTION COMPANY PROFILE

Pecado Films is a Spanish independent production company founded by Jose Alba in 2008, and since then it has become one of the most important production companies in South of Spain. Their projects JOURNEY TO A MOTHER'S ROOM, OLIVER'S UNIVERSE, GERNIKA or WHEN BROOKLYN MET SEVILLE, accumulated several nominations to Goya Awards and Prizes in the Feroz, Carmen, ASECAN or CEC. They participated and were awarded in international festivals, including a Special Mention of the Jury and the Youth Award in San Sebastián IFF. In 2022, Pecado Films has theatrically released one feature film in Spain and has produced four feature films to be released in 2023. Pecado Films is a company co-funded by Creative Europe Media (Slate Funding 2021).



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Alessandro Pugno



**WRITER/
CO-PRODUCER**
Natacha Kucic



PRODUCER
Jose Alba



**EXECUTIVE
PRODUCER**
Odile Antonio-Baez

FILM FACTS

Genre: Dramedy
Producer: Natalia Drozd (Forest Film)
Director: Anna Kuznetsova
Writer: Anna Kuznetsova
DoP: J-P Passi
Cast: Daria Saveleva,
Polina Kutepova, Irina Nosova,
Magoga Machulskaya
Language: Russian
Budget: € 716.000

CONTACT

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www.forestfilm.net



INTERMISSION

WANTED

- Sales agents
- Festivals

INTERMISSION (КАНИКУЛЫ)

118 minutes, Russia/Finland

SYNOPSIS

Young teacher Tanya accompanies twelve teenagers to a theatre festival in Sochi. They are all being supervised by Maria, a very experienced vice-principal. The teachers are not too fond of each other: Maria thinks that Tanya is too irresponsible and egocentric, while Tanya believes that Maria is a true conformist. However at the festival they find themselves united by much more fundamental values: a distaste of marching to someone else's drums as well as an ability to feel joy even in misfortune. Tanya, who is on the same wavelength as the teens and seems unwilling to leave their immature world finally meets a worthy adult in whom she finds a role model, a mother figure and a lover. Meanwhile, the 12 teenagers are going through their own dramas: first love, rejection, betrayal and friendship.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Anna Kuznetsova was born 1983 in the Ukraine. Since 2000 she lives in Moscow where she graduated from the Journalism Faculty of Moscow State University in 2005. In 2017 she made her degree as a director at Moscow Film School. Her documentary PRIZE OF THE REPUBLIC (2017) was awarded with the Special Mention by the Jury at DVIZHENIE FF 2017 and participated in the official competition of Message to Man IFF 2017. Anna Kuznetsova directed four short films, one of them, 628 (2018), participated and was awarded at many international film festivals, including SHNIT, Brno IFF, Camerimage, PÖFF SHORTS, Premiers Plans d'Angers, Grenzland-Filmtage Selb IFF, BOGOTÁ SHORT FF. INTERMISSION is her feature film debut.

PRODUCERS' BIOGRAPHY

Natalia Drozd, born 1977 in Leningrad, has been working as a production lawyer for 10 years at CTB Film Company, where she started her career as a producer in 2009. 2020 Natalia created her own company Forest Film. Natalia has produced and co-produced more than 16 feature films, including GOLIAF (2022) (Orizzonti Extra Venice IFF 2022) and ASSAULT (2022), both directed by Adilkhan Erzhanoov (Big Screen IFFR 2022), UNWANTED (2021) by Lena Lansikh (Best Debut Director San Sebastián 2021), COMPARTMENT NO° 6 (2021) by Juho Kuosmanen (Grand Prix in Cannes 2021), CORE OF THE WORLD (2018) by Natalia Meschaninova (San Sebastián and Toronto), ARRRHYTHMIA by Boris Khlebnikov (Best Actor at Karlovy Vary), I WON'T COME BACK (2014) by Ilmar Raag (Tribeca IFF) and others.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Anna Kuznetsova



PRODUCER
Natalia Drozd

FILM FACTS

Genre: Fiction

Producers: David Rosier (Decia Films), Luciana Tomasi (Prana Filmes)

Directors: Carlos Papá Guarani, Augusto Canani

Writers: Carlos Papá Guarani, Augusto Canani

DoP: Pepe Mendes

Cast: Ara Poty Carmem, Vherá Poty, Priscila Souza, Dellani Lima

Language: Mbya-Guarani, Portuguese

Budget: € 1.145.234



WANTED

- Funding and financing for post production
- Sponsors and grants
- Distribution
- World sales and Festivals
- Broadcasters

JEPOTÁ

CONTACT

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JEPOTÁ (JEPOTÁ)

100 minutes, Brazil/France

SYNOPSIS

Irai is a young indigenous man who can no longer survive by selling his traditional wood carvings on the roadside. After reluctantly accepting a day job on a white man's local farm, Irai meets Jerá, a mysterious young woman. As they get involved, he notices that Jerá disappears into the woods and has an alarming behaviour. The community shaman tells him she is exhibiting symptoms of a disorder known as 'jepotá': she might be turning into an animal. One day, Jerá mysteriously vanishes. Hoping to heal his lover, Irai seeks a medicine woman who retreated to the wilderness years ago. Along with her, he navigates across devastated land and through different layers of reality. His odyssey will bring him to uncover the truths of Jerá's condition and of a severe disruption oppressing his people.

DIRECTORS' BIOGRAPHIES

Augusto Canani is a Brazilian award-winning filmmaker who has developed fiction and documentaries for Globo TV. He attended the Rogue Film School course given in L.A. by Werner Herzog, from whom he was encouraged and supported to write and direct his feature film JEPOTÁ. His shorts include INTESTINO GROSSO (2000), THE BIZARRE FRIENDS OF RICARDINHO (2010) and LOVE DRAIN (2012, over 30 international awards).

Director and writer Carlos Papá Guarani, born in a Mbya Guarani forest settlement, attended the University of São Paulo becoming one of the first indigenous screenwriters in Brazil. Author of books and of a released feature, he returned to his community to become a leader for his people. He co-founded The Maracá Institute to pass on the culture of threatened Mbya groups to the young generations.

PRODUCERS' BIOGRAPHIES

David Rosier is a French producer and Oscar nominee. He founded Decia Films to bring inspiring stories to the audience with a specific focus on ecology and social justice. His films include Wim Wenders' and Juliano Salgado's THE SALT OF THE EARTH (2015, Cannes Jury Prize, César), POPE FRANCIS – A MAN OF HIS WORD (2018, Cannes Official Selection) by Wim Wenders, and co-produced AHED'S KNEE by Nadav Lapid (2021, Cannes Jury Prize).

Luciana Tomasi is a Brazilian producer and director of Prana Filmes. She has produced 14 feature films, some for Columbia Pictures and Fox Films, and over 20 shorts and TV programs for Rede Globo. With more than 200 international awards, her work includes LOVE DRAIN (2011) by Augusto Canani and more recently LEGALIDADE (2019) by Zeca Brito, THE PINK CLOUD (2021) by Luli Gerbase.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Carlos Papá Guarani



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Augusto Canani



PRODUCER
David Rosier



PRODUCER
Luciana Tomasi

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama

Producers: Nicolás Celis, Fernanda de la Peza (Tres Tunas Cine)

Co-Producers: Viola Fügen, Michael Weber (Match Factory Productions), Leontine Petit, Erik Glijnis (Lemming Film), Katrin Pors (Snowglobe)

Director: Amat Escalante

Writers: Amat Escalante, Martín Escalante

DoP: Adrián Durazo

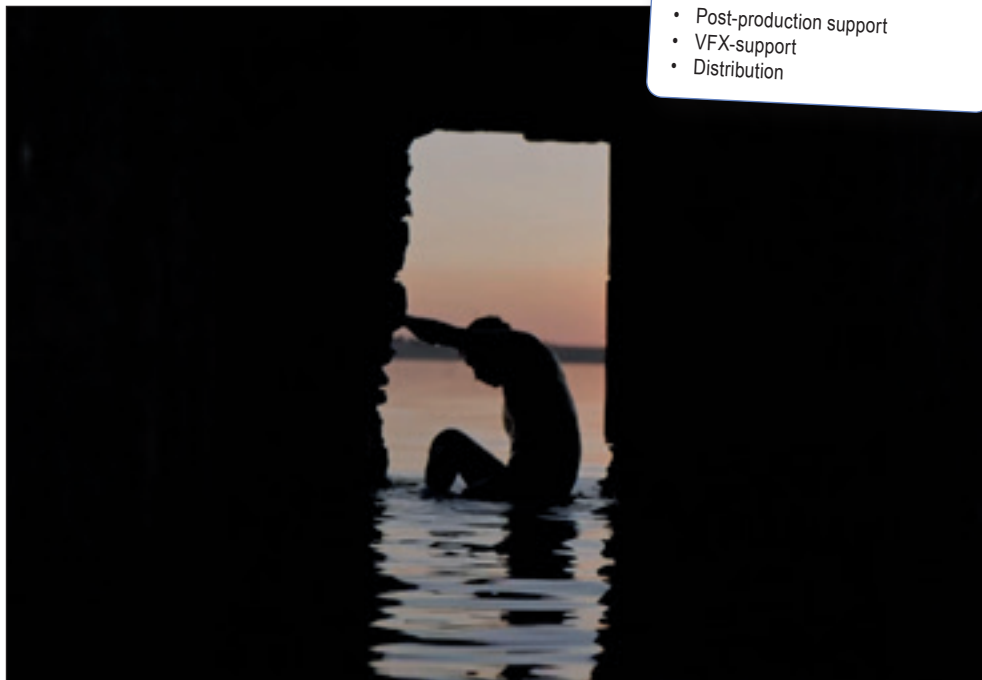
Cast: Ester Expósito, Juan Daniel García, Bárbara Mori, Fernando Bonilla

Language: Spanish

Budget: € 2.400.000

WANTED

- Post-production support
- VFX-support
- Distribution



LOST IN THE NIGHT

CONTACT

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LOST IN THE NIGHT (PERDIDOS EN LA NOCHE)

120 minutes, Mexico/Germany/Netherlands/Denmark

SYNOPSIS

Emiliano is a twenty-year-old man who lives in a small mining town in Mexico. He searches for those responsible for the disappearance of his mother whilst facing an incompetent judicial system. His life turns upside down when he finds a clue that leads him to the Aldama Family's summer home: a family of eccentric celebrities. There he is immersed in a dark world full of secrets, lies, and revenge.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Amat Escalante is a self taught Mexican film director, producer and screenwriter. He is best known for directing the controversial Mexican crime thriller HELI, for which he was awarded Best Director in Cannes in 2013. His latest film, THE UNTAMED (LA REGIÓN SALVAJE), was awarded with the Silver Lion for Best Director in Venice 2016, as well as with five Mexican Academy Award (Ariels), including Best Director. His first film SANGRE won the FIPRESCI Prize at Cannes 2005 in the Un Certain Regard section. LOS BASTARDOS also premiered in Cannes Un Certain Regard 2008.

PRODUCTION COMPANY PROFILE

Tres Tunas Cine is a Mexican film production company based in Guanajuato. It was founded by director Amat Escalante. The company has developed his feature films SANGRE (2005), which was officially selected for the 59th Cannes International Film Festival, LOS BASTARDOS (2008), which also was selected for Cannes and won Best Film at the 6th Morelia Film Festival, REVOLUCIÓN (segment EL CURA NICOLÁS COLGADO, 2010), which was officially selected for the 60th Berlinale and for the Cannes Critics' Week, HELI (2013), which won Best Director in Cannes and THE UNTAMED, which won the Silver Lion for Best Director at the 73rd Venice International Film Festival.



DIRECTOR
Amat Escalante



PRODUCER
Nicolás Celis



PRODUCER
Fernanda de la Peza



CO-PRODUCER
Viola Fügen

FILM FACTS

Genre: Comedy
Producer: Olmo Figueredo (La Claqueta PC)
Director: Patricia Ortega
Writers: Patricia Ortega, José Ortuño
DoP: Fran Fernández-Pardo
Cast: Kiti Mánver, Pepe Quero, Inés Benítez
Language: Spanish
Budget: € 2.000.000



MAMACRUZ

WANTED

- Pre-sales
- Film Festivals
- Post-production support

CONTACT

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E pattycinema@gmail.com

MAMACRUZ (MAMACRUZ)

90 minutes, Spain/Venezuela

SYNOPSIS

When her daughter emigrates, a religious grandmother learns how to use the internet. An accidental encounter with pornography makes her figure out a dilemma: does she uphold the beliefs about how to be a decent woman or does she surrender to the tempting search for a delicious and shameless orgasm?

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Patricia Ortega, born in 1977 in Venezuela, holds a degree in Social Communication. She graduated from the International School of Film and Television of San Antonio de los Baños EICTV (Cuba) and specialized in Film Directing (2003-2005). In 2006 she graduated from Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg (Germany), specialized in Documentary Film Directing. She founded the production company Mandragora Films (2009). Her first feature film was YO, IMPOSIBLE (2018). MAMACRUZ will be her second feature. She has made various short films and documentaries as director, screenwriter and executive producer: SUEÑOS DE HANSSEN (2000), LA BODA DE BLANCO (2001), ACROSS THE SEA (2005), DOS SOLES DOS MUNDOS (2007), EL NIÑO SHUÁ (2006), KATAA OU-OUTA (2007), THE INVISIBLE T (2017), ABSENCES (2018).

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Olmo Figueredo founded La Claqueta 20 years ago in Seville. It has become one of the most important production companies in southern Spain. Selected by the European Film Fund for the network program „Producers on the Move 2020“ and as „New Producer to Watch“ by MIPTV 2012, he has received numerous awards: Platino Award for BORN IN SYRIA (2016), Forqué Awards for BORN IN SYRIA, BORN IN GAZA, 24 Goya Award nominations and a Latin Grammy Award nomination for 10 YEARS WITH BEBE. ADIÓS (2019) was one of the biggest commercial releases of the year. THE ENDLESS TRENCH won two Goya Awards, the Silver Shell for Best Director at San Sebastián, Best Film at Forqué Awards and was selected as Spanish Oscars®-Submission in 2021. TOBACCO BARNS just premiered at San Sebastián. His current productions are TIN & TINA, DE PERDIDOS A RÍO and MAMACRUZ.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Patricia Ortega



WRITER
José Ortuño



PRODUCER
Olmo Figueredo

FILM FACTS

Genre: Political Satire
Producer: Martin Lehwald (Mux Film)
Co-Producers: Jana Kreissl, Tobias Gaede (Silva Film)
Director: Jan Henrik Stahlberg
Writer: Jan Henrik Stahlberg
DoP: Ralf Noack, Philip Jestädt, Carolin Hauke
Cast: Jan Henrik Stahlberg, Tilman Vellguth, Sophie Roeder, Henriette Simon, Bettina Hoppe
Language: German, French, Greek
Budget: € 900.000

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WANTED

- Gap financing
- TV Pre-sales
- Festivals
- World sales
- VFX and post-production support

M^x

M^x (MUXMÄUSCHENSTILL^x)

100 minutes, Germany

SYNOPSIS

After his car accident, Mux is in a vegetative state. But he awakes and starts writing his Manifesto of Muximus. It's 2023 and the self-proclaimed reformatory travels to his old friends in Elstertrebnitz an der Mulde. Besides him Karsten, Mux' submissive and violent carer from the clinic. Mechthild and her family are already expecting them. At a welcoming BBQ, Mux gives a flaming speech: The neo-liberalists will no longer laugh! From here they would carry the candle of Muxismus through the cities of the continent until the spirit of justice would reign in all of Europe! There would be nothing stronger than an idea whose time had come! Rapidly, the Muxists begin to document their revolution: Unemployed people being re-socialized, workers join the movement and community is capitalized. It's financed rather involuntarily by high earners who evaded taxes and are now blackmailed by the Muxists. And all proclaiming that they won't stop until the revolution is spread all over Europe.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Jan Henrik Stahlberg



PRODUCER
Martin Lehwald



CO-PRODUCER
Jana Kreissl



CO-PRODUCER
Tobias Gaede

DIRECTORS' BIOGRAPHY

Jan Henrik Stahlberg was born 1970 in Neuwied, Germany. After attending acting lessons from Ruth von Zerboni in Munich, he studied at the Institut des Arts de Diffusion in Brussels. He appeared in more than sixty films since 2000. As writer and lead actor he is known for MUXMÄUSCHENSTILL (2004). For BYE BYE BERLUSCONI! (2006), SHORT CUT TO HOLLYWOOD (2009) and FIKKEFUCHS (2017) he worked as writer, director and actor.

PRODUCERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Martin Lehwald studied German literature and Philosophy and works in the film industry since 1989. In 2000, he founded the company Schiwago Film in Berlin, specializing in TV and feature films. One of its first successes was MUXMÄUSCHENSTILL (2004). The portfolio contains critically acclaimed arthouse films as OH BOY (2012), MANIFESTO (2015) or STYX (2018). In 2020, Martin Lehwald and Markus Kantis founded the company Mux Film to produce M^x and create its distribution strategy from the scratch.

Jana Kreissl completed her Theatre, Film and Media Studies in Vienna and studied later at the Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie (DFFB). She had great success producing her first feature film AREN'T YOU HAPPY? (2019) by Susanne Heinrich. Tobias Gaede studied at DFFB and graduated with the experimental documentary TURKISH RIVIERA (2020) by Senem Göçmen which premiered at the Festival dei Popoli in Florence. In 2020, Jana Kreissl and Tobias Gaede founded Silva Film, a company based in Lübeck and Munich.

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama

Producer: Hans de Weers (Fatt Productions)

Co-Producer: Heino Deckert (Ma.ja.de Fiction)

Director: Jos Stelling

Writer: Jos Stelling

DoP: Goert Giltay

Cast: Anastasia Weinmar, Willem Voogd, Bram Reurink, Hadewych Minis, Gene Bervoets, Jan Bijvoet, Loek Peters

Language: Dutch, Russian, English

Budget: € 2.600.000



WANTED

- World sales
- Post-production financing

NATASHA'S DANCE

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NATASHA'S DANCE (DE DANS VAN NATASJA)

100 minutes, Netherlands/Germany

SYNOPSIS

NATASHA'S DANCE tells the tragicomic love story of the unworldly Daantje and the socially isolated, scarred by life, Russian Natasha. A light-hearted mosaic of events illustrates their fatal connection, their final 'homecoming' and the sense and senselessness of life.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Jos Stelling (1945, Utrecht) developed his passion for film in his youth at a Catholic boarding school, where he taught himself the art of filmmaking. His debut film MARIKEN VAN NIEUMEGHEN (1974) screened in competition in Cannes. In addition to filmmaking, he ran his own cinema (1978). In 2004, he opened the Louis Hartlooper Complex of cinemas. This exceptional arthouse complex quickly established itself as an important cultural center in Utrecht. In 1981 he founded and directed (until 1991) the Netherlands Film Festival. Jos Stelling received numerous awards for his films and work at film festivals worldwide. And equally numerous awards for his contributions to filmmaking. He was „patron“ of the Cinedays (2003) and in 2010 received the honorary title of „Professor“ at the Armenian University. Especially in Eastern Europe, Jos Stelling is considered an important film director.

PRODUCERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Hans de Weers has founded FATT Productions in 2014, producing films and TV dramas. He looks back on more than 25 years of experience and has produced films such as ANTONIA'S LINE (Academy Award®), MRS. DALLOWAY by Marleen Gorris, ALEXANDER by Oliver Stone, BLUE BIRD by Mijke de Jong (Chrystal Bear Berlinale) and TV series like the Emmy® nominated TOKYO TRIAL. His productions earned many accolades and were of an especially high quality, commonly attracting a large audience.

Heino Deckert established Ma.ja.de. Filmproduktion in 1991. He has completed more than 140 films, an eclectic range of high-profile collaborations with renowned directors including Sergej Loznitsa, Pirjo Honkassalo, Vitalij Manskij, Viktor Kossakovsky, Ai Weiwei and Thomas Heise among others. His productions include: IN THE FOG, MY JOY and DONBASS by Sergei Loznitsa, HEIMAT IS A SPACE IN TIME by Thomas Heise or ARCHITECTON by Victor Kossakovsky.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Jos Stelling



PRODUCER
Hans de Weers



CO-PRODUCER
Heino Deckert

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama

Producers: Tomáš Weinreb,
Petr Kazda (Black Balance)

Co-Producers: Miša Jelenek,
Juraj Lehotský (Arytmia),
Guillaume de Seille (Arizona
Productions), Vojtěch Fric (Love.frame)

Directors: Tomáš Weinreb,
Petr Kazda

Writers: Tomáš Weinreb, Petr Kazda
DoP: Juraj Chlpík

Cast: Rebeka Poláková,
Mantas Zemleckas, Barbora Bobulová,
Hana Vagnerová, Miroslav Hanuš

Language: Czech, Slovak, French

Budget: € 1.307.500



WANTED

- World sales
- Distribution

NOBODY LIKES ME

CONTACT

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NOBODY LIKES ME (NIKDO MĚ NEMÁ RÁD)

105 minutes, Czech Republic/Slovak Republic/France

SYNOPSIS

Sara works for the army headquarters in Prague. She is an attractive 29-year-old single woman. When she meets the gallant, graceful, and soft-faced Martin, she is fascinated by him. Gradually, their connection grows, but when Sara wants to take their relationship to a deeper and more physical level, Martin shies away, hiding a deep secret. Yet Sara refuses to accept his unwillingness to open up to her and manages to compel him to expose himself. Martin reveals his naked body to Sara. She discovers that Martin is intersex. Sara's initial astonishment does not deter her from pleasuring Martin sexually. They are falling in love and happy, and Sara agrees to keep Martin's secret. Yet their happiness comes to an end when Sara unintentionally reveals Martin's secret to her family.

DIRECTORS' BIOGRAPHY

Tomáš Weinreb (1978) & Petr Kazda (1982) are directors, writers and producers from Czech republic. Both graduated from the Film College in Písek and the FAMU, from the department of Documentary Filmmaking and of Scriptwriting respectively. They have cooperated on several short fiction and documentary student films. Their debut film I, OLGA HEPNÁROVA opened Berlinale Panorama 2016, was selected by the EFA Board and sold to more than 15 territories. The film received many awards and was screened at over 100 festivals: e.g. Guadalajara, Sofia (Best Director), Hong Kong, Vilnius (Best Film), Linz, Metz Subversive FF (Best Film, Youth Award), Melbourne, Seville, Ghent, Cairo, Reykjavik, São Paulo, Goa, Minsk (Best Director & Actress), Košice (Best Actress), Fantasia, Thessaloniki. NOBODY LIKES ME is the second film. The third film THE FOREST was part of Cannes Atelier 2022.

PRODUCTION COMPANY PROFILE

The production company BLACK BALANCE was founded by Tomáš Weinreb and Petr Kazda to make auteur cinema. They produced their debut film I, OLGA HEPNÁROVA and worked with Czech companies like Frame100R, love.FRAME, Barrandov Studios, Spoon, etc. as well as with Polish Media Brigade and the Slovak ALEF FILM. They are pursuing their international ambitions with ARIZONA PRODUCTIONS and Guillaume de Seille. Currently NOBODY LIKES ME is in post-production. The producers are also working with Juraj Lehotský and Miša Jelenek on the film PLASTIC SYMPHONY (2022).



**DIRECTOR/
PRODUCER**
Tomáš Weinreb



**DIRECTOR/
PRODUCER**
Petr Kazda



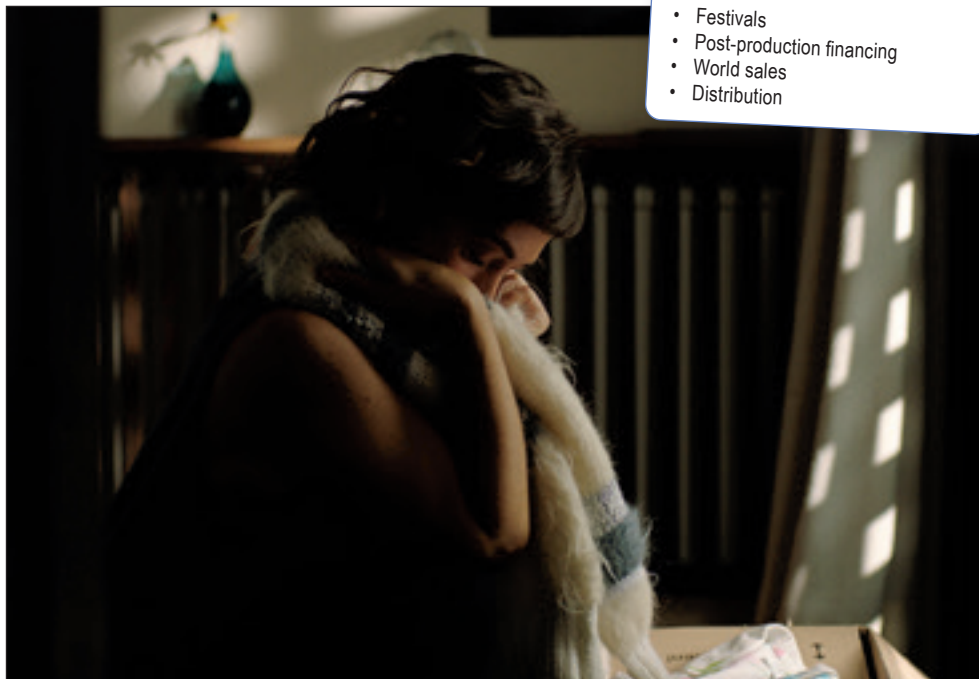
CO-PRODUCER
Miša Jelenek



CO-PRODUCER
Guillaume de Seille

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama, New Heimatfilm
Producer: Tanja Egen
Director: Tanja Egen
Writers: Tanja Egen, Esther Preussler
DoP: Claudia Schröder
Cast: Friederike Becht, Marion Ottschick, Peer Martiny, Jasmina Music
Language: German, Dutch
Budget: € 482.833



WANTED

- Festivals
- Post-production financing
- World sales
- Distribution

ON MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS (WT)

CONTACT

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ON MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS (WT) (GERANIEN)

82 minutes, Germany

SYNOPSIS

Nina lives a self-determined life as a theatre actress with her husband and child in Amsterdam. She returns to her provincial home for her grandmother's funeral, where she is confronted with her unhappy past, which she thought she had left behind. Preoccupied with preparations for the funeral, her mother almost manages to hide her grief from the family – if it weren't for Nina's presence and the pressing question of how to make her peace with her late mother's harsh parenting style in time for the eulogy. While Nina's inglorious offer to play a TRAUMSCHIFF role horrifies her, the funeral services keep getting postponed. And with each new flight cancellation, it becomes clear that Nina is beginning to see her mother in a new way, and also learns about herself. The two become closer than ever before. So why not shoot TRAUMSCHIFF? Grandma always liked it.

DIRECTOR'S & PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Tanja Egen was born in the Ruhr region in Germany. After gaining initial experience as an assistant director at theatres, she moved to Berlin to study Philosophy, Theatre Studies and Art History. After successfully completing her bachelor's degree, she began studying Directing at the Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie (DFFB), for which she received a scholarship. She has directed several short films: FUNKE, which premiered at the Achtung Berlin Film Festival and subsequently screened at international festivals, followed by DER GESELLSCHAFTER, which screened at several festivals, and others. In addition to short films, she also makes music videos and is the co-founder and director of a volunteer cinema club. ON MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS (WT) is her first feature film, and she is currently writing her debut feature, MISTRAL (WT).



**DIRECTOR/WRITER/
PRODUCER**

Tanja Egen



WRITER

Esther Preussler

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama, Thriller
Producers: Sam Chua Weishi (Pōtocol), Jeremy Chua (Pōtocol), Patrick Mao Huang (Flash Forward Entertainment), Izabela Igel (Harine Films), John M Lo
Director: Nelicia Low
Writer: Nelicia Low
DoP: Michal Dymek
Cast: Tsao Yu-Ning, Liu Hsiu-Fu, Ding Ning, Zi Heng
Language: Mandarin
Budget: € 1.150.000



PIERCE

WANTED

- Gap financing for post-production
- Potential VFX partner in Europe
- World sales

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PIERCE (刺心切骨)

100 minutes, Singapore/Taiwan/Poland

SYNOPSIS

Taiwan. High-school fencer Jie is shunned by his teammates after his disturbed older brother, once a fencing champion, is sent to jail for killing someone during a fencing match. When his brother is released, their widowed mother is determined to bury their family's traumatic past and arranges to send him to a remote village. Jie secretly goes to help his brother despite her warnings. Eventually, their mother finds out that her sons have reconnected and reports Jie's brother to his prison officer. The brothers threaten to reveal the truth about the incident. But, when the older brother gets into another fencing „accident“, Jie questions everything about him. As the National Championships approach, Jie must decide whether to trust his brother again, or abandon him for good.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Nelicia Low is a writer, director and ex-National fencer based in Singapore and Taiwan. In 2018, she received her MFA in film directing at Columbia University in New York. Her short film FREEZE premiered in competition at the 2016 Clermont-Ferrand ISFF and screened at over 70 international film festivals including Busan IFF, Taipei Golden Horse IFF and Brussels ISFF. She is an alumnus of Talents Tokyo 2020 where PIERCE won the Special Mention Award, of the Full Circle Lab Philippines 2020, Le Groupe Ouest's LESS IS MORE 2019 and SGIFF's Southeast Asian Film Lab 2018.

PRODUCTION COMPANY'S PROFILE

Founded in 2014 by film producer and screenwriter Jeremy Chua, PŌTOCOL focuses on the development and co-production of auteur films from around Asia. Completed films include A YELLOW BIRD by K. Rajagopal (Cannes Critics' Week 2016), A LULLABY TO THE SORROWFUL MYSTERY by Lav Diaz (Silver Bear Berlinale 2016), BROTHERHOOD BY PEPE DIOKNO (Karlovy Vary 2016), A FAMILY TOUR by Ying Liang (Opening Film Locarno 2018), MOTEL ACACIA by Bradley Liew (Tokyo 2019), A LOVE UNKNOWN by John Clang (2020 IFFR Bright Future), DEATH OF NINTENDO by Raya Martin (Berlinale Generation 2020), FARAWAY MY SHADOW WANDERED by Liao Jiekai and Sudhee Liao (2021 IFFR Harbour), REHANA MARYAM NOOR by Abdullah Muhammad Saad (Cannes Un Certain Regard 2021), AUTOBIOGRAPHY by Makbul Mubarak (Venice Orrizonti 2022).



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Nelicia Low



PRODUCER
Jeremy Chua



PRODUCER
Sam Chua Weishi



PRODUCER
Izabela Igel

FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama, Comedy

Producers: Adar Shafran,
Roni Abramowsky, Moshe Edery
(Firma Films)

Co-Producer: Peter Rommel
(Rommel Film GmbH)

Director: Adar Shafran

Writers: Assaf Zelicovitch,
Yoav Hebel, Sarel Piterman

DoP: Daniel Miller

Cast: Sean Mongoza, Kimor Azulay,
Zvika Hadar, Michael Kabia

Language: Hebrew, English, Tigrina,
Arabic

Budget: € 1.300.000

CONTACT

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RUNNING ON SAND

WANTED

- World sales
- Gap financing
- Post-production funding

RUNNING ON SAND (RUNNING ON SAND)

95 minutes, Israel

SYNOPSIS

Aumari, a young Eritrean refugee who lives in Israel, is caught by the immigration police, and deported back to his country. At the last moment he manages to escape at the airport and runs straight into the hands of Maccabi Netanya's soccer fans that mistake him for the new Nigerian striker who was supposed to land that day. Aumari morphs from an unseen refugee into the big star of a city that adores him. There is only one problem: Aumari has no soccer talent. He does, however, have a talent to make friends, to make people laugh and come together. He manages to make big changes in the team and even find love. But when Aumari becomes a refugee again, will anyone stand by him and will he manage to stop running away for the first time in his life?

DIRECTOR'S & PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Adar Shafran was born in Tel-Aviv. In 2008 he established the production company Firma Films, together with his partner Roni Abramowsky. He worked as a creative producer in feature films and TV series, and was working very closely with the directors. He directed shorts and commercials and was part of some of the most successful Israeli films and series. Among his productions and co-productions are MAKTUB (box office hit Israel 2017), THROUGH THE WALL (three Israeli Academy Awards), FILL THE VOID (Best Actress at Venice Film Festival, eleven Israeli Academy Awards) and FORGIVENESS (box office hit Israel 2019).

CO-PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Peter Rommel was born in 1956 in Stuttgart, Germany. After working with director Fridrik Thór Fridriksson on his Oscar®-nominated feature CHILDREN OF NATURE, Peter Rommel founded Rommel Film to co-produce international features like MOVIE DAYS, SWEETIE BARRET or DEVIL'S ISLAND. NIGHT SHAPES by renowned director Andreas Dresen was his first inhouse production. Many further successful collaborations followed, including SUMMER IN BERLIN, CLOUD 9 and STOPPED ON TRACK. In 2013 the adaptation of Charlotte Roche's controversial novel WETLANDS premiered in Locarno and was invited to Sundance. 2019 marked the release of BUT BEAUTIFUL. Currently, several feature films and documentary projects are in development.



DIRECTOR/
PRODUCER
Adar Shafran



CO-PRODUCER
Peter Rommel

FILM FACTS

Genre: Documentary

Producer: Julia Shaginurova
(Einbahnstrasse Productions)

Co-Producer: Masha Novikova
(NovDoc)

Director: Masha Novikova

Writer: Masha Novikova

DoP: Alexandra Ivanova

Language: Russian

Budget: € 311.000



WANTED

- Festivals
- World sales
- Broadcasters

RUSSIA VS LAWYERS

CONTACT

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RUSSIA VS LAWYERS (RUSSIA VS LAWYERS)

100 minutes, Germany/Netherlands

SYNOPSIS

Civil society in Russia is experiencing an unprecedented attack from the state. The opposition is virtually wiped out. Even for speaking out a simple truth, like for calling the Russian war against Ukraine a 'war', one can be sent to prison. Lawyers who have the courage to defend activists and protesters have become the last frontier between a violent state and its society. Not surprisingly, they are now at risk themselves. RUSSIA VS. LAWYERS is an account of how a vast country, by steadily increasing repression of its citizens, has ceased to be a law-based state. Through the personal stories of Russian lawyers and their defendants, we show how, over time, a totalitarian system was established in which civil freedoms and legal institutions were effectively destroyed.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Masha Novikova, is a director and producer of Russian origin, living and working in Amsterdam. She studied Cinematography, Script Writing and Film Directing at the Kunstweb. She has written, produced and directed over 15 documentary features including FALLEN ANGEL (2005); THREE COMRADES (2006, Sundance 2007); ANNA, SEVEN YEARS ON THE FRONTLINE (2008); BETWEEN HEAVEN AND EARTH (2008); SWEET SMOKE OF THE FATHERLAND (2011); DAYMOHK (2018, HotDocs, 2019); ARTIST OF PERESTROIKA (2021).

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Julia Shaginurova (Germany) is a producer, creative producer and drama consultant. She started her career as a journalist and architecture reviewer in Moscow. After switching to the film industry, she creatively produced over 15 feature films and series titles. Since 2015, Julia Shaginurova has been based in Berlin, where she founded Einbahnstrasse Productions, a company that focuses on creative documentaries and feature films about human rights. Among them COTTON 100% (2022) about forced cotton picking in Uzbekistan, CONVENIENCE STORE, 2021 (EWIP Award 2020 and invitation to Berlinale Panorama in 2022), a story about modern slavery based on true events, and DISSENTERS AND MADNESS, a documentary about punitive psychiatry in the Soviet Union.



**DIRECTOR/WRITER/
PRODUCER**
Masha Novikova



PRODUCER
Julia Shaginurova

FILM FACTS

Genre: Experimental

Producer: Claudia Salcedo
(Señor y Señora)

Director: Lois Patiño

Writer: Lois Patiño

DoP: Mauro Herce,
Jessica Sarah Rinland

Language: Lao, Swahili

Budget: € 235.000

CONTACT

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SAMSARA

WANTED

- Gap financing
- World sales

SAMSARA (SAMSARA)

80 minutes, Spain

SYNOPSIS

Dozens of teenage monks live in the Buddhist temples of Luang Prabang in Laos. One of them reads the Bardo Thodol to an old woman, a text that should be read to people before they die, as it provides orientation in the afterlife. The woman dies and we accompany her spirit on a sensory journey until she is reincarnated in her next body. We thus enter the bardo, the place of transit in the Buddhist conception. The experience becomes introspective, close to meditation: the screen is filled with light and colour, devoid of images, in a passage of the film meant to be experienced with closed eyes, a passage led by sound. When the image returns to the screen, the story is set in a Tanzanian coastal village, following the woman's spirit in a goat that will grow up in the company of a fishing family.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Lois Patiño, born in Vigo (Galicia, Spain) in 1983, is a filmmaker and artist. His films have been shown at various festivals such as Cannes, Berlinale, Locarno, Toronto, Rotterdam, New York, Viennale, IDFA, Oberhausen or Clermont Ferrand. Programs on his work have been made at NYFF, Flaherty Seminar, BAFICI or Cali Film Festival. His most recent projects SYCORAX (2021) and THE SOWER OF STARS (2022) have premiered at Quinzaine des Réalisateurs in Cannes and Berlinale Shorts. His feature films COSTA DA MORTE (2013) and RED MOON TIDE (2020) premiered in Locarno and at Berlinale Forum. He is currently editing his third feature film SAMSARA, which won Jeonju Cinema Project in 2020.



DIRECTOR/WRITER

Lois Patiño



PRODUCER

Claudia Salcedo

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Since 2020 Claudia Salcedo is a producer at Señor y Señora and Apellaniz y Sosa. Her current projects are SAMSARA by Lois Patiño and ANEKUMEN by Irati Gorostidi. She also has worked on THE SACRED SPIRIT by Chema García Ibarra and COSMIC CHANT, NIÑO DE ELCHE by Marc Sempere-Moya and Leire Apellaniz. As line producer she produced the short films FAITH by Maider Fernández Iriarte, CONTADORES by Gorostidi and LA CONCHA by Apellaniz. Previously she was production coordinator at ZENTROPA SPAIN and POTENZA PRODUCCIONES. Claudia Salcedo lived in Buenos Aires from 2013-2019, where she was screenings coordinator at Ventana Sur and a member of the program department at BAFICI Festival. She has also worked for several editions at the Punto de Vista Festival.

FILM FACTS

Genre: Animation

Producers: Isabel Herguera (Sultana Films), Chelo Loureiro (Abano Producciones), Mariano Ramírez (El Gatoverde Producciones), Fabian Driehorst (Fabian&Fred)

Director: Isabel Herguera

Writers: Isabel Herguera, Gianmarco Serra

DoP: Eduardo Elosegí

Language: Spanish, English, Bengali, Hindi

Budget: € 1.767.550



WANTED

- German distribution
- World sales
- International PR
- Financing

SULTANA'S DREAM

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E hola@elgatoverdeproducciones.com
www.elgatoverdeproducciones.com

SULTANA'S DREAM (SULTANA'S DREAM)

75 minutes, Spain/Germany

SYNOPSIS

Inés is a young artist who is incapable of dreaming. Unexpectedly, she comes across the book 'Sultana's Dream' in which the author Rokeya Hossain reveals Ladyland: a place where women are in charge and men live in seclusion. Inés is fascinated by the story and embarks on a journey through India searching for the traces of Rokeya and Ladyland.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Isabel Herguera studied Fine Arts in UPV Bilbao and continued her studies at Kunstakademie Düsseldorf under Nam Jung Paik, where she directed her first animated short film. She completed a master degree in Calarts L.A., where she directed her second short. In 2003 she became the head of the International Animation Festival of Cataluña and the animation department coordinator at Arteleku in San Sebastián. She has directed five more short films since, which have been screened at international animation festivals worldwide. She is considered one of the women pioneers of independent animation in Spain and her work has been exhibited in museums. She also holds visiting professor tenures at NID Ahmedabad since 2005, CAFA Beijing since 2012, and is professor at KHM Cologne since 2017.

PRODUCTION COMPANY PROFILES

The production studio Fabian&Fred was founded in 2015 by Fabian Driehorst (producer) and Frédéric Schuld (director). Fabian&Fred's films won several awards, got nominated for Lola and Annie Awards and were submitted for the Oscars® and the European Film Awards.

Abano Producción was founded in 2007. Their experience ranges from feature films to shorts, documentaries and TV series in all animation techniques with a substantial number of international awards. Among them the animated feature by Chelo Loureiro: VALENTINA (Goya Award for Best Animated Film) and Alberto Vázquez's UNICORN WARS.

El Gatoverde was founded in 2015 by a business group with extensive experience in other cultural and artistic sectors. The company aims to develop its own vision of the audiovisual. It wants to give visibility to important issues but also tell stories that entertain, move, make think and eventually inspire for building a better society.



**DIRECTOR/WRITER/
PRODUCER**

Isabel Herguera



WRITER

Gianmarco Serra



PRODUCER

Chelo Loureiro



PRODUCER

Fabian Driehorst

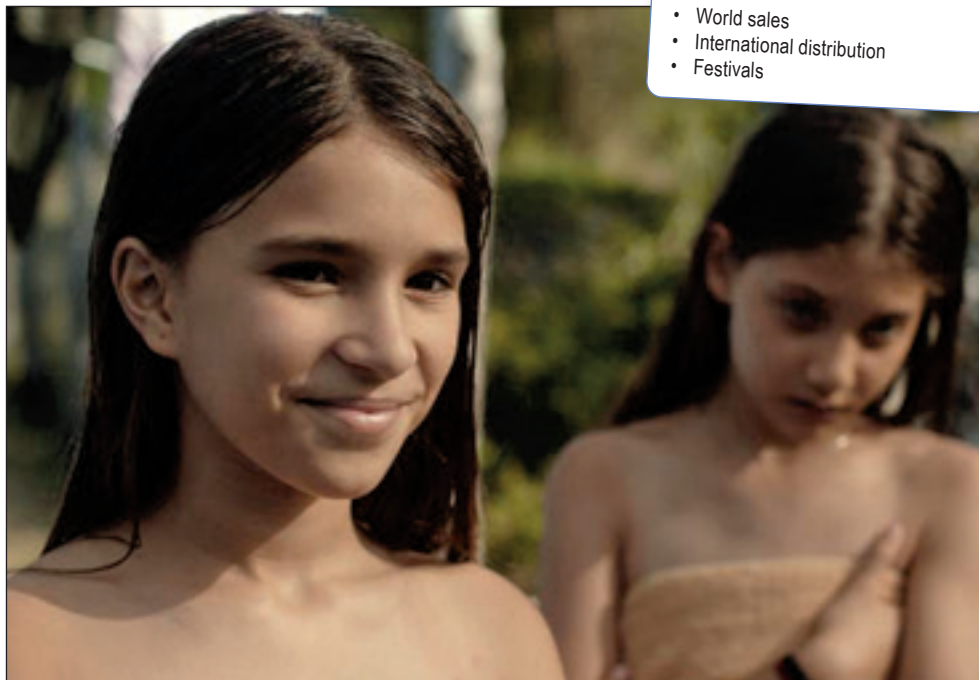
FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama
Producers: Marta Donzelli, Gregorio Paonessa (Vivo Film)
Co-Producer: Joseph Rouschop (Tarantula)
Director: Federico Bondi
Writer: Federico Bondi
DoP: Gianluca Palma
Cast: Francesca Raffone, Olivia La Terra Pirrè, Lino Musella, Antonia Truppo, and with Fabrizio Rongione
Language: Italian
Budget: € 3.000.000

CONTACT

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SUPERLUNA

WANTED

- World sales
- International distribution
- Festivals

SUPERLUNA (SUPERLUNA)

90 minutes, Italy/Belgium

SYNOPSIS

An earthquake strikes the small Italian town of Isolarotonda. There are no victims, but people are forced to leave their homes. While the ground keeps trembling, deeply upsetting all adults, ten-year-old Viola lives this experience as a sort of "carnival", a vacation where everything is upside down. Challenging everyone's vision, she starts to imagine the earthquake as a "friend" who has forced her to live outdoors and brought the community together, creating a visionary game she becomes more and more involved in...

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

After a few shorts and documentaries, Federico Bondi wrote and directed his first feature film MAR NERO in 2008, which was the only Italian film in competition at the 61st Locarno International Film Festival, where it won three awards (Golden Leopard for Best Actress, Ecumenical Jury Award, Young Jury Award). The film was nominated to the "David di Donatello" Awards (Best Actress) and Federico Bondi was nominated at the Silver Ribbon Awards as Best New Director. In 2019 his second feature film DAFNE participated in the 69th Berlinale in the Panorama section, winning the prestigious FIPRESCI Award. The film was also awarded with a Special Silver Ribbon and nominated at the European Film Awards 2019 as Best Feature Film. Federico Bondi has also directed many advertisements and documentaries including: SOSTE (2001), SOSTE JAPAN (2002) and EDUCAZIONE AFFETTIVA (2014).

PRODUCTION COMPANY PROFILES

Established in Rome in 2004 by Gregorio Paonessa and Marta Donzelli, Vivo Film is an independent production company with a catalogue of over 50 films, presented and awarded at the most prestigious festivals worldwide. Vivo Film's credits include Michelangelo Frammartino's LE QUATTRO VOLTE (2010, Cannes Semaine de la Critique), Emma Dante's A STREET IN PALERMO (2013 Venice), Laura Bispuri's SWORN VIRGIN and DAUGHTER OF MINE (2015 and 2018 Berlinale), Susanna Nicchiarelli's NICO 1988, (Best Film of Orizzonti, 2017 Venice), MISS MARX and CHIARA (2020 & 2022 Venice), Michela Occhipinti's FLESH OUT (2019 Berlinale), Abel Ferrara's SIBERIA (2020 Berlinale), Federico Lagi's IL PATAFFIO (2022 Locarno).

Tarantula is one of the main film production companies in French-speaking Belgium. Founded in 1996, its goal is to create quality productions whose contents and forms reflect modern society. Tarantula produced more than 50 films, many of which were selected for important festivals.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Federico Bondi



PRODUCER
Marta Donzelli



PRODUCER
Gregorio Paonessa



CO-PRODUCER
Joseph Rouschop

FILM FACTS

Genre: Mystery

Producers: Anna Kruglova (Fortis Fem Film), Tatiana Pascaru (Pascaru Production)

Director: Anna Kruglova (aka Anja Kreis)

Writer: Anna Kruglova (aka Anja Kreis)

DoP: Eugen Dedcov

Cast: Dana Ciobanu, Maria Chuprinskaya, Epchil Akchalov

Language: Romanian, Russian

Budget: € 500.000

CONTACT

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www.pascaru.pro



THE ALIENATED

WANTED

- Sound and colorgrading services
- Co-Producers
- Distributors
- World sales
- Meet artistic directors of festivals

THE ALIENATED (SUFLETE CURATE)

100 minutes, Germany/Moldova

SYNOPSIS

A professor of Philosophy introduces her students to the concept of the death of God and questions herself about the presence of irrational evil in human nature. Immediately after this, her sister visits her: she is a gynaecologist who was sent to reduce the number of abortions in the city of N. Shortly afterwards, she performs an illegal abortion – the woman claims to carry the Antichrist in her womb and takes the embryo home. But what is happening in the city of N.? Maybe the professor has just found the answers to her question?

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Anja Kreis studied Film and Fine Arts at the Academy of Media Art Cologne. Her graduation film SCYTHE HITTING STONE premiered at Transylvania International Film Festival in 2018 and won the Special Jury Award. Anja was also the recipient of the Grand Prix du Jury (Festival Univercine Nantes, 2019), the Grand Prix des Longes Metrages (Poitiers 2018), Prix Francois-Chalais Meilleur Scenario & Prix de la Region Normandie Meilleur Debut (Festival du Cinema Russe à Honfleur, 2017) etc. 2019 her film was distributed in France (Folle nuit russe).

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Together with Alisa Berger and Yana Ugrehelidze Anja Kreis founded FORTIS FEM FILM in 2019 with the aim to increase the presence of women in the film industry. They focus on feature, documentary and animated films that deal explicitly with various women's issues. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SURVIVAL, the first production of FORTIS FEM FILM, was selected for Berlinale 2021 and received two awards: the Teddy Jury Award and the Compass Award. Tatiana Pascaru is the executive producer of Pascaru Production that she leads with her husband Sergiu Pascaru. THE ALIENATED is her first international project.



DIRECTOR/
PRODUCER
Anna Kruglova



PRODUCER
Tatiana Pascaru

FILM FACTS

Genre: Documentary

Producer: Tatiana Huezo (Radiola Films)

Co-Producers: Viola Fügen, Michael Weber, Maya Scherr-Willson (Match Factory Productions)

Director: Tatiana Huezo

Writer: Tatiana Huezo

DoP: Ernesto Pardo

Language: Spanish

Budget: € 646.000



WANTED

- Distribution
- PR
- Post-production delivery support

THE ECHO

CONTACT

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THE ECHO (EL ECO)

95 minutes, Mexico/Germany

SYNOPSIS

In a small town called El Eco located in a remote valley in Mexico, a low and bright autumn light stretches the shadows of children herding their sheep, turning them into giants. The extreme climate, marked by wind, cold and drought, accompanies the development of the children over the course of a year. Time passes, the children cultivate the land, the rain comes again, a child slaughters a lamb for the first time. Some things remain unchanged, but there is something distinct in their gazes.

DIRECTOR'S & PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Mexican-Salvadoran filmmaker Tatiana Huezo graduated from the Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica and has a Master Degree in Creative Documentary from the University Pompeu Fabra. She gained international reputation with her first feature documentary THE TINIEST PLACE (2011), which screened at over 80 festivals. Her work has been widely recognized and was acknowledged by the Mexican Academy with six Ariel Awards, including Best Documentary, Best Director for TEMPESTAD (2016). The film became Mexico's selection for the Oscars® and Goya Awards in 2018. PRAYERS FOR THE STOLEN is her first fiction film, which premiered in the Un Certain Regard section in Cannes (Special Jury Mention). It also received three awards at San Sebastián. The film was shortlisted as the Best Foreign Language Film for the Oscars® 2022.

PRODUCTION COMPANY PROFILE

MATCH FACTORY PRODUCTIONS was founded in October 2013 by Michael Weber and Viola Fügen and produces arthouse films in line with the high quality The Match Factory is known for. We work with several acclaimed directors, such as Karim Aïnouz, Marco Bellocchio, Iciar Bollain, Małgorzata Szumowska but also with newcomers like Francesca Alegria and Türker Süer. Their line-up includes amongst others INVISIBLE LIFE by Karim Aïnouz (Brazilian's Oscar Entry 2020), MEMORIA by Apichatpong Weerasethakul (Columbia's Oscar Entry, 2022), THE TRAITOR by Marco Bellocchio and EVOLUTION by Kornél Mundruczó.



DIRECTOR/WRITER/
PRODUCER

Tatiana Huezo



EXECUTIVE
PRODUCER

Maya Scherr-Willson



CO-PRODUCER

Viola Fügen

FILM FACTS

Genre: Documentary

Producer: Georg Tschurtschenthaler
(gebrueder beetz filmproduktion)

Co-Producers: Udi Nir, Sagi Bornstein (udiVsagi Production)

Directors: Udi Nir, Sagi Bornstein

Writers: Udi Nir, Sagi Bornstein

DoP: Jörg Junge

Language: Hebrew, German, English

Budget: € 450.000



WANTED

- Co-Producers
- Broadcasters
- Distribution
- World sales

THE FIRST LADY

CONTACT

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www.udivsagi.com

THE FIRST LADY (THE FIRST LADY)

90 minutes, Germany/Israel

SYNOPSIS

As a teenager, Efrat Anne Tilma was threatened by a police officer in Tel-Aviv who told her that if he sees her walking the streets in women's clothes again, he will drown her in the sea. She fled the country, made a name for herself as a lip-sync artist in Europe, spent a month in a male prison in Belgium, and finally saved up enough money to travel on her own to Casablanca and undergo sexual reassignment surgery. After the surgery Efrat vowed never to reveal her full story to anyone. She landed her dream job as a flight attendant, got married, and led a quiet life in Berlin for over 20 years. Now in her seventies, she returns to Israel to seek recognition, claim the respect she deserves and spend the last chapter of her life in the country she once had to flee.

DIRECTORS' BIOGRAPHIES

Udi Nir studied Playwriting at the Israeli School of Drama and worked in theatre, before partnering with Sagi Bornstein and turning to documentary filmmaking. Amongst their films as directors are VIRAL DREAMS (2021, HotDocs, DocAviv / Editing Award, Film Festival Cologne, Japan Prize / Governor of Tokyo Award, IDA Awards / Best Shortform Series), GOLDA (2019, DocAviv, DocNYC, Israeli Academy Award nomination), #UPLOADING_HOLOCAUST (2017, DOK Leipzig, DocAviv, Krakow), KAFKA'S LAST STORY (2011, DOK Leipzig, DocAviv).

Sagi Bornstein is a director, producer and editor of documentary films. He studied Photography at Camera Obscure in Tel-Aviv and worked as a video editor, before starting his own production company.

PRODUCTION COMPANY PROFILE

Since its founding in 2000, gebrueder beetz filmproduktion has produced more than 230 high-quality documentaries, series and feature length docs for the international market. According to Realscreen – "it is one of the 100 most important independent production companies worldwide". In 2020 gbf produced the first German Netflix Original documentary miniseries A PERFECT CRIME. In 2018 the company launched the investigative documentary thriller THE CLEANERS in competition at Sundance. The company's productions compete regularly at main international A-festivals like Sundance, Berlinale, IDFA, TIFF, SXSW and have won numerous awards (Sundance Special Jury, Prix Europa, German Academy Awards, five Grimme Awards) and prestigious nominations (Academy Award®, International Emmy® Award).



DIRECTOR/WRITER

Udi Nir



DIRECTOR/WRITER

Sagi Bornstein



PRODUCER

Georg Tschurtschenthaler

FILM FACTS

Genre: Documentary

Producer: Lino Rettinger (Lichtblick)

Co-Producer: Francois Pierre Clavel (Kidam)

Director: Orkhan Agazadeh

Writer: Orkhan Agazadeh

DoP: Daniel Guliyev

Language: Azeri

Budget: € 400.000

CONTACT

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WANTED

- World sales
- Post-production partner



THE PROJECTIONIST

THE PROJECTIONIST (THE PROJECTIONIST)

90 minutes, Germany/France

SYNOPSIS

In the Soviet Union Samid was the projectionist in his village just at the border with Iran. Cinema was important back then, the main propaganda tool, but also the centre of the community. Even mosques were turned into cinemas. Those times are long gone. Samid now earns his living by fixing radios and TVs, but he kept the film equipment in his basement. The passing time left its traces on the projector, but Samid never stopped hoping to show films again. Last year his son died in a tragic accident. After months of grief Samid makes the decision to bring the projector to life. He puts all his energy into this new plan. Replacing the broken projection bulb seems difficult enough, but he is soon confronted with unexpected dynamics within his village. The young boy Ayaz becomes Samid's unlikely ally. Together they are determined to bring light into the village.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Orkhan Agazadeh was born in Azerbaijan close to the Iranian border in 1988. After his BA in Journalism and Mass Communications, he obtained a scholarship at the London Film School. In 2017 he graduated with distinction. His first short documentary A LETTER TO LENIN premiered at DOK Leipzig. His graduation short film THE CHAIRS was screened at many festivals like Palm Springs Short FF, Angers Premiers Plans, Tampere, Brussels, Poitiers and won several awards. He works in the national film industry as a writer and director and since 2019 lectures at the State University of Arts and Culture in Baku. Orkhan was selected by the Cinefondation Residency of Cannes Film Festival in 2020, the La Prevote residency in 2021 and took part in Cinemart of Rotterdam.

PRODUCTION COMPANIES' PROFILES

The spectrum of LICHTBLICK production activity spans documentary films for television and cinema, feature films and TV movies. Since its founding in 1991, LICHTBLICK has collaborated with filmmakers, TV broadcasters and partner companies in more than 40 countries. Over many years LICHTBLICK has remained true to its founding concept: to tell substantive, gripping and entertaining stories in a personal and innovative manner.

For the last decade, KIDAM has fought for arthouse fiction and documentary, author-driven films, accompanying experienced directors as well as new future sensation authors. Experts in European natural co-productions, bringing to the film what the story needs (diverse French funding resources and artistic true devotion) KIDAM aims at films directed by singular authors from all over the world.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Orkhan Agazadeh



PRODUCER
Lino Rettinger



CO-PRODUCER
Francois Pierre Clavel

FILM FACTS

Genre: Documentary

Producers: Catalina Flórez Ibarra (urua films GmbH), Leonie Pokutta

Director: Jonas Brander

Writer: Jonas Brander

DoP: Jonas Brander

Cast: Luz Marina Bernal, Albeiro Camayo

Language: Spanish

Budget: € 120.000

WANTED

- Funding and financing
- TV pre-sales
- Image and audio post support
- Distribution campaign and audience design
- Festivals
- World sales



UNTIL THE SUN DIES

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UNTIL THE SUN DIES (HASTA QUE SE APAGUE EL SOL)

90 minutes, Germany/Colombia

SYNOPSIS

Luz Marina, a mother who is fighting for justice in the extrajudicial killing of her son, and the indigenous leader Albeiro, face growing injustice from the authorities and rising violence in the indigenous territories. After the murder of her son, Luz Marina is resisting and denouncing through art and theatre, as well as using legal and political means. Albeiro is the coordinator of the „Guardia Indígena“, an unarmed self-defence unit of the Nasa tribe, which has been caught in the crossfire of conflict between guerrilla and paramilitary groups, multinational corporations and state repression. UNTIL THE SUN DIES tells the condition of a whole country: The beauty of life and resistance falling in a heartbeat into death and destruction.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Jonas Brander is a filmmaker, activist, photographer, campaigner and journalist, whose work is centred around global justice, social resistance processes and migration. Since 2013 he lives between Bogotá and Berlin and works on long-term audiovisual documentary projects in Latin America. He is also a political activist for refugee rights in Europe. Since 2020 he is part of the core team of the campaign and organization LeaveNoOneBehind. His filmic and photographic projects follow indigenous activists, displaced communities and people of marginalized social classes. After countless campaign videos for different organizations and publications in Südwind, VICE, jungle world or others, UNTIL THE SUN DIES is his first full-length documentary.

PRODUCERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Catalina Flórez Ibarra is a Colombian director and producer. She emigrated to Germany in 2002 and studied Documentary Film Direction at the Film Academy Baden-Württemberg and the EICTV (Cuba). She was a founder and managing partner of the production company SOILFILMS from 2013 to 2022 where she produced several feature films and awarded documentaries such as FRANCO'S LEGACY – SPAIN'S STOLEN CHILDREN and CHRONICLE OF A REVOLT – ONE YEAR ISTANBUL (2015). urua films is her new production house and UNTIL THE SUN DIES is its first original production.

Leonie Pokutta is a freelance producer based in Madrid who studied Film in Colombia, France (La Fémis) and Germany (Film Academy Baden-Württemberg) focusing on international productions. Her last feature documentary OHNE DIESE WELT by Nora Fingscheidt was co-produced with ZDF and shown at various festivals. Her last feature fiction FULL OF FIRE by Dennis Stormer premiered at Oldenburg FF 2020.



DIRECTOR/
WRITER/DOP

Jonas Brander



PRODUCER

Catalina Flórez Ibarra



PRODUCER

Leonie Pokutta



TFL
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TV series projects at an early
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OPEN FROM 16TH JANUARY
TO 31ST MARCH 2023

FeatureLab for creative teams
working on the director's 1st or
2nd feature film projects, at an
advanced development stage.

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FROM 14TH NOVEMBER 2022
TO 16TH JANUARY 2023

Green Film Lab, 3-day
intensive workshops on green
practices and on how to
produce in a sustainable way.
Upcoming workshop:
March 2023, Dublin (Ireland)

OPEN FROM 28TH NOVEMBER
TO 20TH JANUARY 2023

TFL Funds

Audience Design Fund,
distribution support for
internationally co-produced
feature films, addressed to
European producers and sales
agents.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS OPEN FROM
24TH OCTOBER TO 31ST JANUARY 2023

Co-Production Fund, targeting
feature films involving European
and non-European production
companies.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS OPEN FROM
23RD JANUARY TO 30TH MARCH 2023

TFL Next & Extended

Multiple workshops & multiple
topics, across the year, both online
and offline.

TFL Extended – Audience Design,
Residential workshop addressed to
international film, media and digital
professionals.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS OPEN FROM
11TH OCTOBER TO 12TH DECEMBER 2022

TFL COMING SOON

Every year TorinoFilmLab gathers feature film projects developed within TFL's labs, currently in post-production or ready to be released in international festivals. Since 2015, these upcoming films have been presented in the frame of the TFL Coming Soon showcase, this year is hosted by European Work in Progress.

The two TFL projects that will have the chance to reach the wide audience of international film industry professionals present in Cologne are BRIEF HISTORY OF A FAMILY (previously BLOOD AND WATER) by Jianjie Lin and LAST SHADOW AT FIRST LIGHT (previously YOU ARE THERE) by Nicole Midori Woodford. They participated in the programme FeatureLab in 2018 and both won the TFL Co-Production Award 2018 (€ 50,000 each allocated thanks to Creative Europe – MEDIA sub-programme).



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FILM FACTS

Genre: Drama, Mystery, Thriller
Producers: Yue Zheng, Yiwen Wang, Ying Lou (First Light Films), Rikke Tambo Andersen (Tambo Film), Ping Zhou (Films du Milieu)
Director: Jianjie Lin
Writer: Jianjie Lin
DoP: Jiahao Zhang
Cast: Feng Zu; Keyu Guo; Xilun Sun; Muran Lin
Language: Chinese
Budget: € 1.449.382

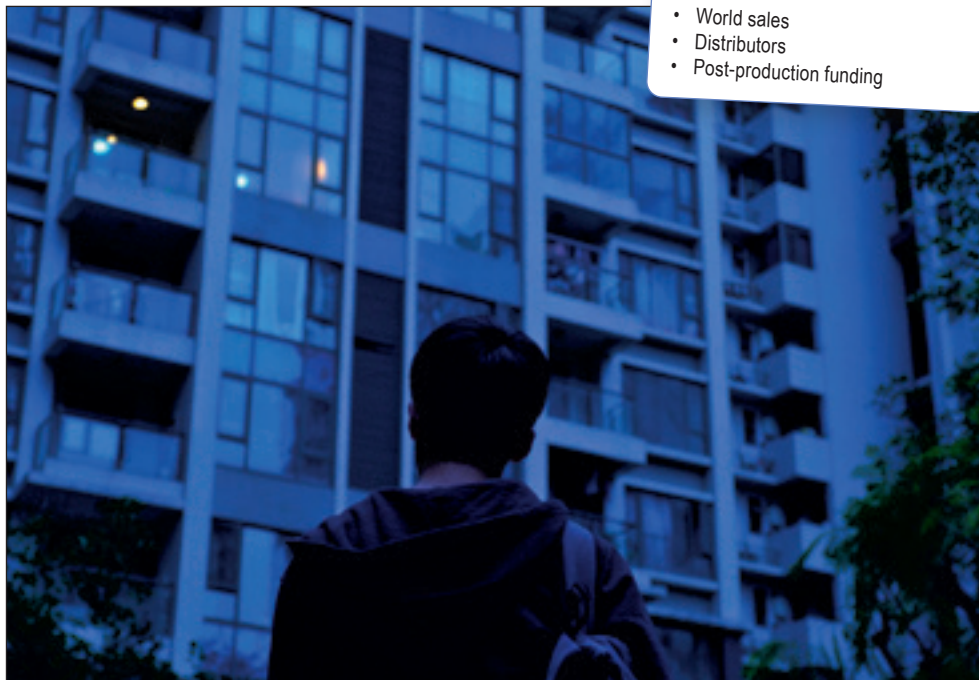
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WANTED

- World sales
- Distributors
- Post-production funding



BRIEF HISTORY OF A FAMILY

BRIEF HISTORY OF A FAMILY (家庭简史 JIA TING JIAN SHI)

100 minutes, China/Denmark/France

SYNOPSIS

An incident on the playground brings two high school boys worlds apart together: the outgoing and candid Wei, and the quiet yet observant Shuo. As their friendship evolves, Wei introduces Shuo to his father, a cell biologist, and his mother, a former flight attendant. Learning that Shuo comes from a broken home, the family welcomes this underprivileged kid with enigmatic charm. Slowly integrating himself into Wei's family life, Shuo soon discovers that their middle-class existence is shadowed by unspoken secrets, unmet expectations, and untended emotions. In the quest for a brighter future, the family seeks an unusual path, putting past wounds and present anxieties under the microscope. Crises loom ahead.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

After obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Bioinformatics, Jianjie's passion to decipher human existence led him to filmmaking. He received his MFA degree from NYU Tisch School of the Arts. His short films A VISIT (2015), a satire about corruption and vanity, and GU (2017), about a family's last reunion at court, were screened at many international film festivals. His latest short film HIPPOPOTAMI (in post-production) looks at the harshness and absurdity of life through the eyes of a little girl. BRIEF HISTORY OF A FAMILY, his debut feature film, won a Co-Production Award at the FeatureLab of TorinoFilmLab in 2018. It is supported by CNC Aides aux Cinémas du Monde, Région Île-de-France and the Danish Film Institute.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Rikke Tambo Andersen is a producer from Copenhagen, Denmark, who has worked in the film industry for more than 10 years. Rikke holds a BA in Film and Media Studies and an MA in Management of Creative Business Processes, and graduated from the Danish Film School Super16 as a producer in 2016. Rikke works with both fiction and documentary. In 2018 she became a member of the EAVE Network and in 2019 she was chosen to be part of the Cannes Producers Network and Berlinale Talents. Rikke is the Danish co-producer of BRIEF HISTORY OF A FAMILY, which is the first Danish-Chinese co-production supported by Danish Film Institute.



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Jianjie Lin



PRODUCER
Rikke Tambo Andersen

FILM FACTS

Genre: Supernatural Drama
Producer: Jeremy Chua (Pötocol)
Director: Nicole Midori Woodford
Writer: Nicole Midori Woodford
DoP: Hideho Urata
Cast: Masatoshi Nagase,
Mariko Tsutsui, Peter Yu,
Mihaya Shirata
Language: Japanese, Mandarin,
English
Budget: \$ 650.000

CONTACT

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LAST SHADOW AT FIRST LIGHT

LAST SHADOW AT FIRST LIGHT (LAST SHADOW AT FIRST LIGHT)

100 minutes, Singapore/Japan/Slovenia

SYNOPSIS

Since the disappearance of her Japanese mother, 16-year-old Ami has been haunted by ghosts, strange dreams, and shadowy spirits throughout her childhood. As her beloved grandmother slowly falls ill with dementia, Ami discovers tapes of old, undelivered messages from her mother in her father's belongings. She decides to confront him to find out the truth about her mother's disappearance. Tired of repressing the past, her father contacts the only person he thinks can help: his brother-in-law. Ami finds her uncle in Tokyo, a disillusioned, lonely cab driver addicted to gambling. He reluctantly accompanies Ami on a road trip to Rikuzentakata. Following in her mother's footsteps, Ami discovers her special abilities and comes to understand the trauma suffered not only by her mother, but by the entire family.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Nicole Midori Woodford is a Singaporean director, writer and editor. She is an alumna of Berlinale Talents, Asian Film Academy, SEAFICLab, TorinoFilmLab, Talents Tokyo. In 2021, she directed THE EXCURSION, an episode for HBO Asia mini-series FOLKLORE, that premiered at Tokyo IFF. She has also written, directed and edited several short films such as PERMANENT RESIDENT (2018), which was selected for many festivals including Clermont-Ferrand ISFF and Busan IFF; TENEBRAE (2018), which was produced with Astro Malaysia as part of an Astro Omnibus of short films focusing on upcoming Southeast Asian directors; WAITING ROOM (2018), which is distributed on Krisflyer Entertainment of Singapore Airlines; FOR WE ARE STRANGERS (2015), which was in competition at Busan IFF and Singapore IFF. LAST SHADOW AT FIRST LIGHT is her first feature film.

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Jeremy Chua is a Singaporean producer and screenwriter. In 2014 he founded Pötocol and focuses on the international co-production of Asian films. His filmography includes AUTOBIOGRAPHY by Makbul Mubarak (Orritonzi / Venice IFF 2022), REHANA MARYAM NOOR by Abdullah Mohammad Saad (Un Certain Regard / Cannes IFF 2021), A FAMILY TOUR BY YING LIANG (Opening Film International Competition Locarno IFF 2018), A YELLOW BIRD by K. Rajagopal (Cannes Critics' Week 2016), and A LULLABY TO THE SORROWFUL MYSTERY by Lav Diaz (Silver Bear Berlinale 2016).



DIRECTOR/WRITER
Nicole Midori Woodford



PRODUCER
Jeremy Chua

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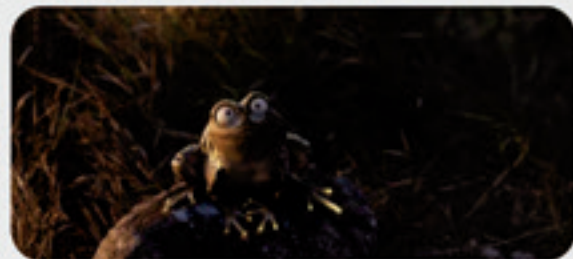


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