

LINE UP 2023

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new films



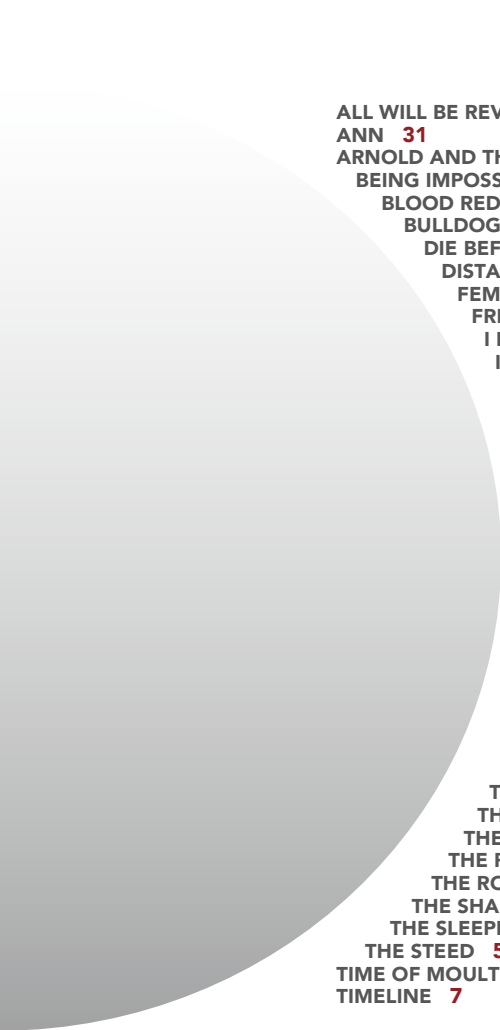
Media Luna New Films represents directors and producers with a handwriting signature on their work. We focus on international productions by talents, who demand to emerge through their original approach and their unique style.

Media Luna offers a broad spectrum of feature length films and television movies, touching all genres. With our line-up, we intend to shed light on various pieces of the Earth and of human life, showing fascinating diversities or unexpected similarities. The company's strategy is based on building long lasting relationships with producers and directors, in providing individual marketing strategies to each film for an effective and sensible placement in the international market. Therefore, you will find in Media Luna's catalogue films from a large number of countries, without boundaries.

Ida Martins, founder of the Media Luna brand name (1991), has been distributing independent films worldwide for more than 30 years. She has her background in journalism, advertising and in marketing, creating and organizing advertising agencies and developing several "direct-marketing" projects.

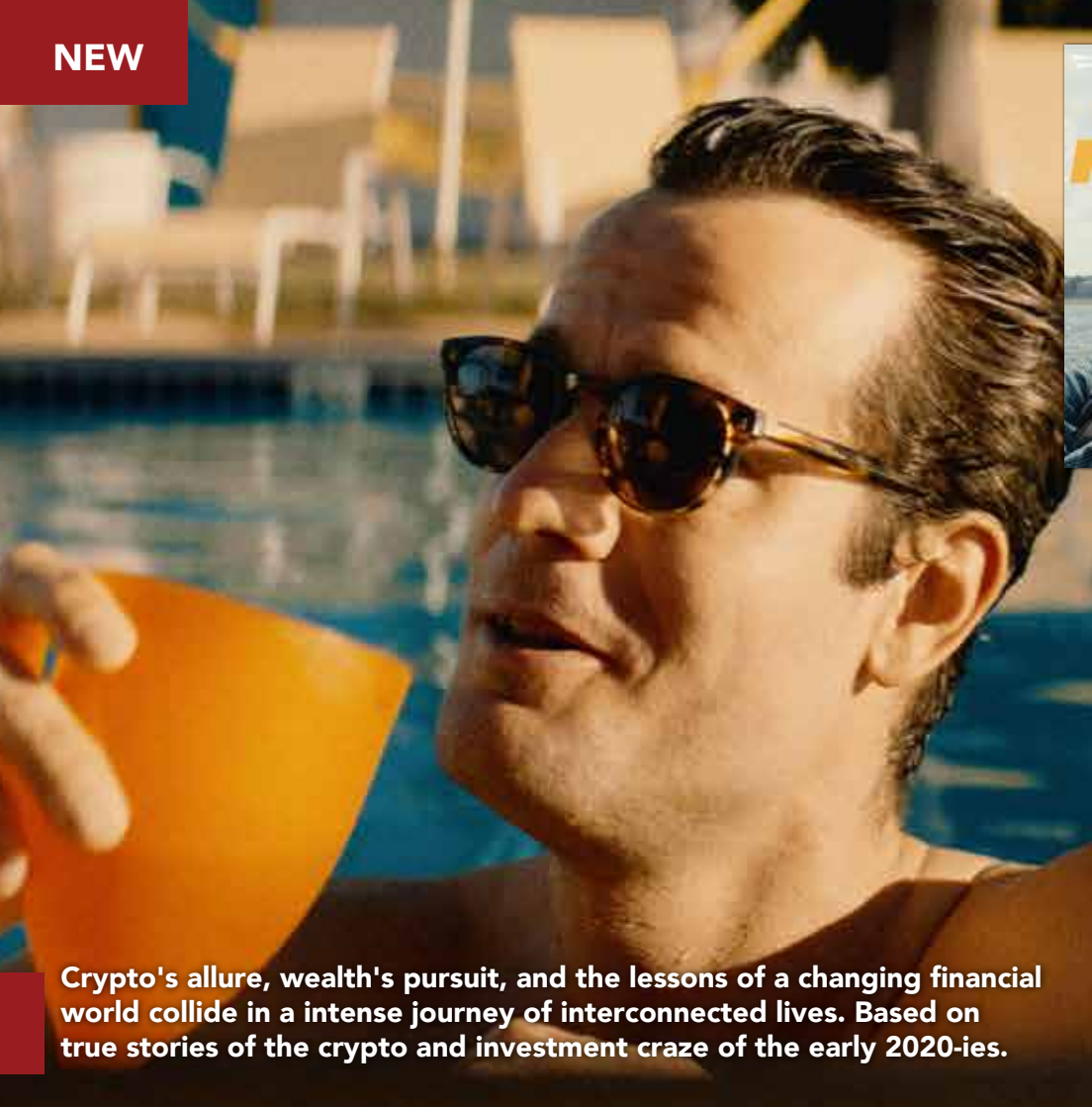
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NEW



Crypto's allure, wealth's pursuit, and the lessons of a changing financial world collide in an intense journey of interconnected lives. Based on true stories of the crypto and investment craze of the early 2020s.



Directed and written by
Rain Rannu

Starring
Miklos Banyai
Märt Pius
Ivo Uukkivi
Producer
Tõnu Hiielaid
Rain Rannu
Production Company
Tallifornia

Original Title: VABA
RAHA | 104' | 2:39:1 |
English, Estonian OV

Estonian 2023

FREE MONEY

Taavi, an unwitting Bitcoin holder, races to recover his lost fortune. Maximillion, a crypto entrepreneur, rides the turbulent waves of crypto's inception, facing hubris and redemption. Erik, a conservative banker, grapples with his son's crypto success while navigating challenges in a changing financial landscape.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Rain Rannu

is an Estonian film director and producer. His previous film as writer-director are the comedy *Chasing Unicorns*, and AI-themed sci-fi adventure *Child Machine* ("Lapsmasin", - "it sucks to be number two intelligent species on this planet — just ask the gorillas."). Together with producer Tõnu Hiielaid, Rain is a founder of the company Tallifornia that produces and finances narrative feature films from talented filmmakers from Estonia and elsewhere.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Miklós Bányai

is an Estonian actor. His previous work includes, the British TV Series *Dracula*, thereafter the American *FBI International*, and his first Feature was *Porthole*.

Märt Pius

is an Estonian actor. His first film was *Detektiivid Ja Valge Daami Saladus*. He was cast in the war drama *1944* which was selected as the Estonian entry for the Best Foreign Language Film at the Academy Awards.

Ivo Ukkivi

born in Tallinn, is a Film/Television actor and producer. He started his career at the Tallinn's Drama Theater with a role in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He debuts on the series *Salmonid* and starred in *V.E.R.I.* His work on film includes *Hysteria*, among others.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Free Money tells interconnected stories of money, loosely based on real-life events. It's my take on the crypto and investment craze of the last few years, where every taxi driver is an investment expert, where money has no price and everything can only go in one direction — up. And what happens when the crisis hits — as it always inevitably does. It is part satire, part fast-paced comedy, part drama. I'm interested in exploring the absurdity of money and what it does to people who get especially obsessed about it. A film with an authentic story of a recent phenomenon, told in a fun and interesting way for a wide international audience.



NEW



Directed and written by
Yesid Leone

Starring
Maria Fernanda Yepes,
Osvaldo de Leon,
Roberto Escobar
Producer
Lina Gomez
Production Company
Resplandor Films

A romantic reunion turns into a life-or-death game of secrets and survival in a confined public place, where everyone's life is at risk, and the past cannot stay hidden.

Línea de Tiempo | 106' |
2:39 Scope | Spanish OV

Colombia 2023

TIMELINE

Joaquin, a successful businessman, is having the time of his life; however, while dining at a gourmet restaurant, he runs into his ex-girlfriend Nina. The encounter is peaceful until Joaquin receives a series of mysterious text messages, demanding that he publishes dark secrets of certain people. If he doesn't comply, Nina will be murdered. A sordid game begins, in a confined public place where everyone's life is at risk.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Yesid Leone Moreno

is a screenwriter and director from Antioquia; he studied Television Production at the Jaime Isaza Cadavid Polytechnic in Medellín. Throughout his career, he has made around 30 short films, and has trained more than 500 actors in his hometown. He is a founding partner of Resplendor Films, parent company of the three feature films written and directed by him.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

María Fernanda Yepes

is a Colombian actress, known for *Sin Senos No Hay Paraíso*, *La Teniente* and *Línea de Tiempo*.

Oswaldo de León

an American actor and producer, he debuted on television in 2007 in the Mexican telenovela *Palabra de Mujer*, playing Ariel Castellanos. Oswaldo has participated in several plays and Mexican movies, and is known for *Juro Que Te Amo*, *Hidden Moon* and *Loca Por El Trabajo*.

Roberto Escobar

is a Cuban actor. He has worked in over 40 films, including *Perseguida*, *Transporter 2*, and *My Father the Hero*. His outstanding performances have gained Roberto various awards for his work in film, theater, and television.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The story takes place in a single predominant space, channeling through a series of unfortunate events. All characters are connected and immersed in the central conflict of the story. Intrigue, distrust, uncertainty and claustrophobia will be the four narrative elements, playing with the mind of the characters, and the spectators, giving you an experience in real time. Retrospective and distorted timelines are dominant elements, and like loose pieces of a puzzle that will all come together in the end.



NEW



Directed by
**Luiza Shelling Tubaldini,
Katherine Chediak
Putnam**

Written by
**Rod Azevedo, Karol Bueno,
Katherine Chediak Putnam**

Starring
**Giovanna Grigio, Bruno
Montaleone, Bia Arantes**
Producers
**Andre Skaf,
Luiza Shelling Tubaldini**
Production Company
Filmland Internacional

Perdida | 116' | 2:39
Portuguese OV

Explore 'Perdida- Lost Sofia', based on Carina Rissi's novel, as a modern spirit navigates a 19th-century world where dreams blur with reality, forging an unforgettable destiny.

Brazil 2023

PERDIDA

A modern and independent girl, but when it comes to love, she learned everything from novels and princely characters. After using a borrowed cell phone, she mysteriously is transported to a different world, which resembles the 19th century. Sofia is taken in by the charming Ian Clarke, while desperately trying to find a way to return to her life. What she didn't know is that her heart had other plans.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Luiza Shelling Tubaldini began a career with short films, including *From Glauber to Jirges*, screened hors concurs at the Venice Film Festival. In 2016, he released the feature film *O Seller of Dreams*, remaining for almost a month in the national top 10 on Netflix. In 2017 he released the thriller *Motorrad* at the Toronto Film Festival, and recently *A Princesa da Yakuza* on Netflix, which became the 5th most watched movie on the planet, in the week of release. *Perdida* is her first film as a co-director.

Katherine Chediak Putnam is an emerging Brazilian-American director. Her short *Stray* was nominated for an Australian Writers' Guild Award, playing at the San Sebastian Horror and Fantasy Film Festival, where it was awarded Best Short Film.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Giovanna Grigio

is a Brazilian actress. She debuted on television as a child reporter, and in 2013 she starred in the remake of the soap opera *Chiquititas*. In 2017, she joined the cast of *Viva a Diferença*, and in 2020 she returned to the series *As Five*, in 2022 she joined the cast of *Rebelde*.

Bruno Montaleone

is known for *The Other Side of Paradise* (2017), *Lost Sofia* and *O lado bom de ser traída*.

Bia Arantes

is a Brazilian actress. She became known in 2009 in the soap opera *Cat's Cradle*. In 2011, she starred in *Conectados*. In 2016 she gave life to Cecília in the children's soap opera *Carinha de Anjo*. In 2019 she starred in the soap opera *Orphans of a Nation*, winner of the International Emmy for 'Best Telenovela'.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Adapting such a famous series of book as Perdida was an amazing and huge challenge. We wanted to bring more of the Jane Austen element to the adaptation. With minor adjustments to the story, together with the book's author, we were able to create an adventure, full of romance and time-travel elements. The cast process was also key, having Giovanna Grigio attached to the project was a major win.



NEW



Arnold Cautious and The Happiness Stone is a story about richness of imagination and finding happiness, from Award winning director Arto Halonen.



Directed by
Arto Halonen

Written by
**Arto Halonen,
Jukka Itkonen**

Starring
**Emil Paloniemi,
Mikko Nousiainen,
Maria Ylipää**

Producers
**Arto Halonen,
Aija Berzina**
Production Company
**Art Films production
AFP Oy**

Antero Varovainen ja
Onnenkivi | 89' | 2:40:1
Finnish OV

Finland 2023

ARNOLD AND THE HAPPINESS STONE

Julius has a vivid imagination, which sometimes worries his parents. One day Julius befriends mysterious Arnold Cautious, a vampire who loves strawberry juice and lives in an abandoned house on the outskirts of town. Using Arnold's grandmother's recipe book as their guide, they try to make The Happiness Stone to give to Julius's separated parents...so they can find happiness again.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Arto Halonen is an award-winning director and producer. He was awarded the Finland Prize, the highest annual cultural prize. In addition, he has received the City of Helsinki Culture Prize as only the third filmmaker. His documentary *The Shadow of the Holy Book* was nominated for the European Film Academy award, and his first fiction feature *Princes* was well received. His film *The Guardian Angel* was awarded Best Feature Film at the Gold Movie Awards in London, and he was nominated for Best Director.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Mikko Nousiainen is known for *The Trainer*, *Restless*, *The Unknown Soldier*, and *The Guardian Angel*.

Maria Ylipää is known for her roles in *Kristina från Duvemåla*, *Keisarikunta* and *Aallonmurtaja*.

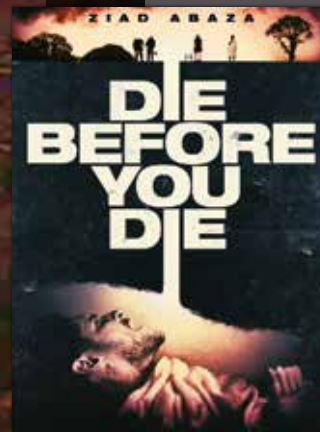
Emil Paloniemi is portraying the role of Julius, this is his first feature film.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

It is a story about the power of imagination and being different – which can lead to alienation in our society. However, it also can be a great asset. Imagination and difference are shown as something to aspire to. The movie touches on sensitive and challenging themes such as separation, loneliness, and self-worth, while contemplating how to face and solve difficult matters in life. We pursue to tell children and parents about life's troubles, but emphasizing that there's always a solution to be found. We look at matters through humor and empathy. As a director I've been motivated by the desire to improve, and bring quality and diversity to children's movie culture.



NEW



Directed by
Dan Pringle

Written by
**Dan Pringle,
Ziad Abaza**

Starring
**Ziad Abaza,
Priya Blackburn,
Mim Shaikh**

Producer
Adam J. Merrifield
Production Company
White Lantern Film

Die Before You Die | 103'
Aspect Ratio 1.85:1
English OV

A hot-headed influencer finds himself trapped six feet underground after an internet challenge goes dramatically wrong.

UK 2023

DIE BEFORE YOU DIE

Adi BC, a hot-headed influencer finds himself trapped six feet underground after an internet challenge goes dramatically wrong. With no knowledge of the group who buried him and no idea if they will return to dig him up, Adi is sent into a world that will force him to question his very nature.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Dan Pringle started as a producer, and completed several films including the award-winning *Silent Things* and the thriller *Emulsion* starring *Outlander's* Sam Heughan. Dan's debut as a writer/director, was with the cult thriller *K-Shop*. The film enjoyed critical success with The Times' Kate Muir hailing him as 'a filmmaker to watch out for'. His writing was acknowledged by the BIFAs', and he has since worked with executive producer Eva Green on his screenplay *A Patriot*. *Die Before You Die* marks his second feature as writer/director.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Ziad Abaza

was listed as 'Best Actor' and 'Most Promising New Comer' at the British Independent Film Awards for his role in *K-Shop*. He began his training in theatre and soon started working in Film and TV.

Priya Blackburn

was born on 12 October 1995 in London, England, UK. She is an actress, known for *Bohemian Rhapsody*, *Get Even* and *#No_Filter*.

Mim Shaikh

is a British Actor and Spoken-Word Poet. His debut was

the lead role of the dark-comedy feature *Freehold*. Prior to this, he starred in *Daytimer*, followed by the short film *Sunni Shia* which was awarded a BAFTA Children's Award. Shaikh is also a Broadcaster and debuted with his documentary *Mim Shaikh: Finding Dad* on BBC.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Die Before You Die is an examination of the nature of ego; how we identify and struggle with it. The idea was conceived after reading the work of Al Ghazali, who proposed that we must rid ourselves of the ego by considering death inevitability, to free ourselves from the fear of death. By reading his teachings, I found strong imagery coming to mind of ritual and ceremony. Soon after a story concept formed, following an ignorant, modern participant being shepherded into a burial trial. The film pulls the viewer into a seemingly ordinary thriller, before flipping the tone and taking them into a deeper, more profound experience.



NEW



Inspired on the novel by August Schmörlzer "Der Totengräber im Buchsbaum". A great love against the background of eternally equal criminal power.



Directed by
Peter Keglevic

Written by
**Peter Keglevic,
Klaus Pohl**

Starring
**Harald Schrott,
Erika Marozsán**
Producer
Wolfgang Rest
Production Company
**Film27,
Noble Heart,
Film SRL**

105' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1:2,35
German OV

Austria 2023

ALL WILL BE REVEALED

After decades Josef returns to his hometown to look for his childhood love. Is she still alive? Will she recognize him? Can everything become like it used to be? The poetry of a life love clouded by poisonous political mood which is fueled by a mystery murder series. And the perpetrators are always the same, from generation to generation.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Peter Keglevic

is an Austrian film director and screenwriter. He studied directing at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. Since then he has directed 30 films. *The Dance with the Devil* starred Sebastian Koch and Christoph Waltz received several awards. His film *Bella Donna* was screened at the Cannes Film Festival.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Harald Schrott

completed his acting studies in Innsbruck, then worked at the Tirol State Theater. He was part of the Mainz State Theater, where he starred in *Romeo and Juliet*. Schrott made his film debut in Volker Schlöndorff's *Die Stille*, which won the German Film Award. He took a challenging role as the Hitler assassin Claus Graf Schenk von Stauffenberg in film *The Hour of the Officers*.

Erika Marozsán

graduated from the Budapest Academy of Drama and Film and then became a member of Új Színház in Budapest. Her first movie appearance was in the

hit Hungarian film, *Peace negotiations – This century lasts until Thursday*. She also appeared on the Cinemax hit action thriller, *Sniper 2*, with Tom Berenger and Bokeem Woodbine, as well as *Gloomy Sunday and One Day Crossing*, which was nominated for an Oscar in 2001.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Power, depth, and tenderness. Poetry and sadness, childlike confidence, and resignation. Love. Physical love. Unrequited love. Man stands there with the longing for whatever love. It is a sentiment film. Impression, sensory perception, instinct - crucial elements. Silence. Stillness. Poetry. Also hate fueled by fear. And the love of two people.



NEW



Directed by
Jurijs Saule

Written by
**Michail Lurje,
Jurijs Saule**

Starring
**Zejhun Demirov,
Ulrich Tukur**

Producers
**Michail Lurje,
Jurijs Saule**
Production Company
Blobel Film

107' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1.5:1
German OV

The best elements of the thriller combined with the real-life question of whether the Quran allows for a violent interpretation.

Germany 2023

MARTIN READS THE QURAN

Martin visits a professor of Islamic Studies to tell him about an attack he has initiated. Can the professor show Martin a passage from the Quran that says it is wrong to kill people with bombs? If not, Martin's bomb will rightfully kill many people. The professor has no other weapons other than the word of God itself.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Jurijs Saule

studied literature and mathematics in Berlin. He founded the production company "Blobel Film" to realize his dream of directing his first feature film. His script for *Martin reads the Quran* was awarded the highest German screenplay prize and the golden Lola Award, which enabled the project to receive state funding. Jurijs Saule is a member of the "German Film Academy".

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Zejhun Demirov

who has Macedonian roots, began his acting career at the Acting School in Düsseldorf. He acted in the RTL series *Der Lehrer*. He made his feature film debut in the ORF production *Kebab mit alle*. He was awarded the Götz George Young Talent Award of the First Steps Film Prize for his role in *Oray*.

Ulrich Tukur

was part of the Freie Volksbühne Berlin with numerous leading and supporting roles, that landed him Actor of the Year award by German theater critics. He was

artistic director of the Hamburg Kammerspiele. Tukur played the role of Lieutenant Colonel Anton Grubitz in the Oscar-winning film *The Lives of Others*.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

What would it mean for our society if it could not be proven that the Quran and God himself forbid the use of violence? Must we restrict the beliefs of others if they threaten our way of life? Do we presume to know better than the Almighty? Is Martin a madman, a bloody reformer, or the blurry mirror of a modern citizen forsaken by God?



NEW



A privileged married man sees his whole world falling apart when his seemingly unstable mistress abducts him and makes him face his selfish choices.



Directed by
Tim Kent

Written by
Billie Vee

Starring
**David Bark- Jones,
Billie Vee**

Producers
Alessio Bergamo
Production Company
Under Sparrows Call LTD

95' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1.5:1
English OV

UK 2023

SPARROW'S CALL

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



■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

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

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

David Bark Jones

Debut was as Redpenny in *A Doctor's Dilemma* at the Manchester Royal Exchange. Since then he has appeared in numerous award winning plays films and TV productions. Most notably as Carl in Patrick in *Dealer's Choice* at the National Theatre, with Colin Firth *Pride and Prejudice*, in Guy Richie's *RocknRolla*, in the upcoming Weinstein Radius *The Expatriate*. Recent credits include Marvels new *Secret Invasion*.

Billie Vee

is a greek / british actress and screenwriter. Born in Athens, under the name Vasiliki Vlachou, Billie was cast in a number of roles in theatre, TV and cinema in Greece, Cyprus and the UK. Nominated twice for Best Actor in the Hamilton Film Festival and St

Albans Film Festival, she has written a number of award-winning short films, a web series and her first feature film *Sparrow's Call* in which she also stars.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

If you were given the chance to experience your deepest, darkest desires - would you take it? That's the inspiration behind Sparrow's Call. I wanted to explore that innate battle between our daily lives and our secret thoughts. Thoughts that can often be taboo and buried deep inside our subconscious - never to be revealed. It's a film that leaps from the ordinary to the extraordinary, from the mundane to the mind-blowing. But satisfying those sexual desires comes at a price, and soon it's no longer a game.

NEW



Directed by
Vanessa Matsui

Written by
Bill Robertson

Starring
**Liane Balaban,
Allan Hawco**

Producers
Bill Robertson
Production Company
BillFilms

Over the course of one evening, Iris and Alex are pulled into a collision course of sexual chemistry, delusion, forgiveness, and hope, as they explore love and their desires.

94' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 16:9
English OV

Canada 2023

MIDNIGHT AT THE PARADISE

As teenagers, Iris and Alex fell in love watching the sexy film 'Breathless'. Years later, Iris is married to a workaholic doctor, stressed out by motherhood and caring for her dying father. When Iris invites Alex to screening of 'Breathless' but he shows up with his fiancée, her world shakes. The ex-lovers will spend the evening contemplating the past and plotting a future together.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Vanessa Matsui is a director-actor-writer and *Midnight At The Paradise* is her debut feature. She participated in the Sundance New Voices Lab where she developed of her critically acclaimed hit series *Ghost BFF*. Her work has landed her several Canadian Screen Awards including as an actor. Vanessa is currently the Producer and Director for *How To Fail As A Pop Star*, and Guest Director for *Son Of A Critch*.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Liane Balaban

made her debut at Sundance in *New Waterford Girl*, for which she also received a TIFF Special Citation. Starred opposite Dustin Hoffman in *Last Chance Harvey*, *One Week* with Joshua Jackson, in *World Traveler* opposite Billy Crudup.

Allan Hawco

is an actor, writer and one of Canada's most recognizable stars. He created and starred in hit series *Republic of Doyle*. He appears on the Netflix show *Moonshine*. Other credits include: *Another Life* *Frontier Season*, and Amazon Original *Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan*.

Kenneth Welsh

worked with David Lynch, Martin Scorsese. He starred many plays on Broadway, including *The*

Real Thing directed by Mike Nichols, and Frankie and Johnny In *The Claire de Lune* opposite Kathy Bates. *Midnight At The Paradise* is his final film.

Emma Ferreira

currently stars opposite Rob Lowe in Netflix's *Unstable*. She was named a Netflix Top Fresh Face and a TIFF Rising Star for her feature debut *Learn To Swim*, which was recently picked up by Ava Duvernay's company.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Midnight At The Paradise explores what makes long-term relationships work, as impacted by desire, memory, and time. As I delved deeper into the process, it felt cathartic to direct this film. It was the privilege to work with the talented cast and especially with Kenneth Welsh in his final film role. When I saw their chemistry, I knew we had a very special cast who would bring their unique truths to these complex characters, while exploring life, death, and what it is to be human.



NEW



Directed and written by
Sylke Enders

Starring
**Mareike Beykirch,
Linda Wendel,
Lore Stefanek,
Margarethe Tiese**

Producers
**Roman Avianus,
Anja Wedell**
Executive Producers
**Jonas Knudsen,
Thorne Mutert,
Jan Fincke**

Production Company
Joroni Film, Czar Film

112' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1:2 | German OV

Confront the past as it becomes a mirror of your own mess. A film by Sylke Enders recognized with a European Film Award nomination.

Germany 2023

SCHLAMASSEL

Johanna's soul is raging as she confronts her problematic family at Grandma's funeral. She does not give herself time to mourn throwing herself to her work at a newspaper. When she discovers a photo of a female concentration camp guard, she seizes the opportunity to confront to the woman. She experiences an urge that she cannot identify as a sense danger starts to take over.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Sylke Enders studied directing at the German Film and Television Academy. Her debut feature film *Kroko* won the German Film Award and was nominated for the European Film Award. *Mich Lieb, Du Bist Dran* premiered at Munich IFF. She was one of the 13 directors contributing to the episodic film *Germany 09 - 13 Short Films on The State Of The Nation* that premiered at Berlinale.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Mareike Beykirch

studied at the University of Music and Theater Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy. She appeared in plays by Falk Richter, Nora Abdel-Maksoud, Schorsch Kamerun. Beykirch was part of the #ActOut initiative in SZ-Magazine. *Schlamassel* is her latest feature.

Lore Stefanek

studied acting at the Max Reinhardt Seminar in Vienna. She was part of the Municipal Theater in Heidelberg, the Braunschweig State Theater, and of the Frankfurt Schauspiel. She stars on the plays *The German Lunch Table* and *The King Dies* at the Theater in der Josefstadt in Vienna.

Lina Wendel

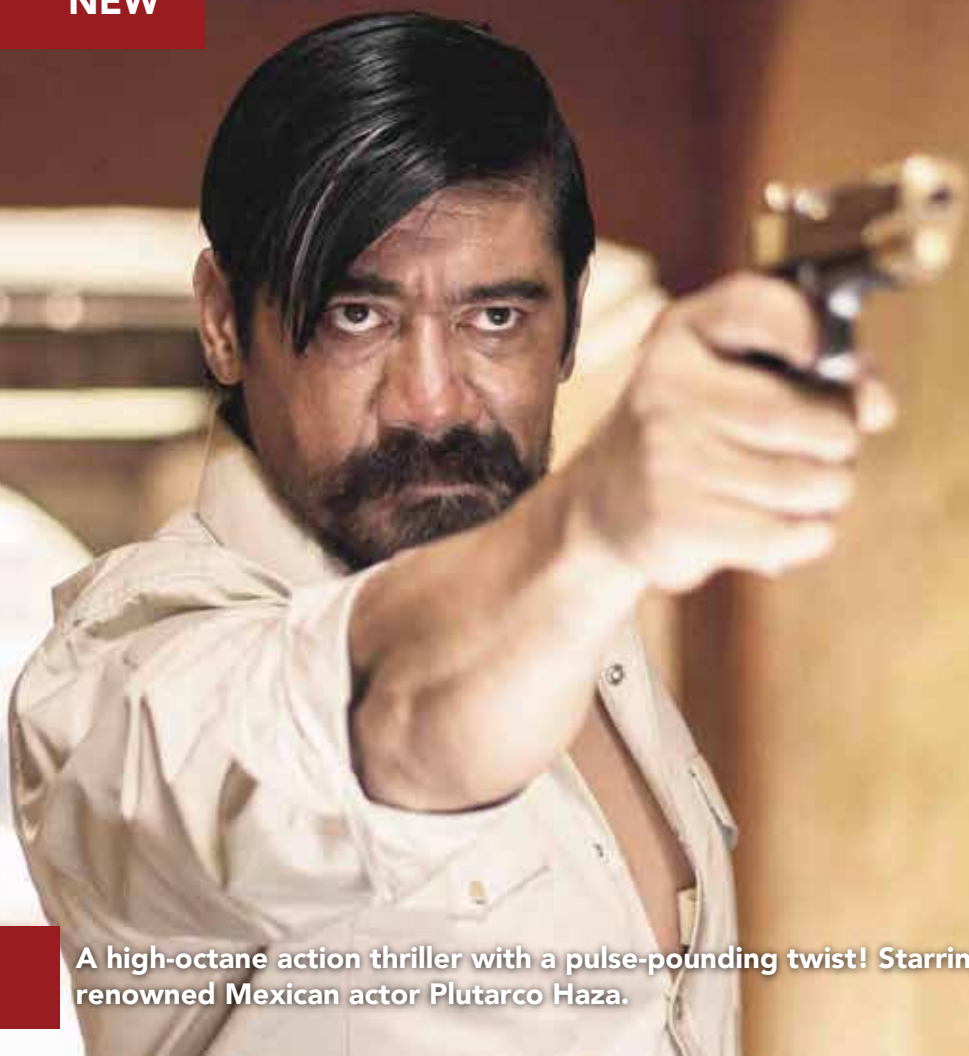
she studied at the Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts. Wendel took part in films such as *Großstadtrevier*, *SOKO Wismar*, *Der Alte* and *Tatort*. For her portrayal of the title character in the film *Silvi*, received several awards.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

SCHLAMASSEL deals with the transmission of unresolved history and family trauma through families in which the culture of conversation is reduced to the minimum. Whether during the Nazi era, the SED regime, or now in united Germany: the narrowness of the parents' world has often been tragically perpetuated. I am not interested in questions of guilt or responsibility. I want to explore how the denial of a real confrontation with the past prevents a kind of healing and how this affects the next generations. These poisoned, heartless family atmospheres make it difficult for the next generation to take responsibility.



NEW



A high-octane action thriller with a pulse-pounding twist! Starring renowned Mexican actor Plutarco Haza.



Directed by
Christian Cavazos
Written by
**Tim Hebb,
Mattias Westman**
Starring
**Iván Aragón, Alexia
Alexander, Plutarco Haza,
Israel Islas, Luca Valenti**
Producers
**Mattias Westman,
Anders Johan Palm,
Patricia Zavala Kugler,
Anna Renata Roth
Kanarska, Víctor Zavala
Kugler**
Production Company
**Jade Films & Westman
Films Inc.**

95' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 16:9 | English OV

Mexico 2023

THE ROUTE TO EL JARDIN

After losing everyone they love in a brutal Narco massacre, Felipe, Rosa and her brother Pedro set out on a rage-driven quest for revenge from their peaceful village all the way to Mexico City. But when the tables are turned and the crime lord sends his most dangerous killer, the three friends find themselves in a merciless fight for their lives.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Christian Cavazos

studied at the University of Baja California and has a master degree in 3D animation. He started as a production assistant at Univision. As producer he received three "EMMY Awards" for Documentaries. In 2012 he began his career as a Filmmaker and co-founded the "Scumbags Filmmaking Group" and *The Route to El Jardin* is his first feature.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Plutarco Haza

is a Mexican actor. Haza has starred in the most successful Mexican telenovelas and was a lead on Hidalgo: *La historia Jamás Contada*. He received a National Film Award (Premio Nacional de Cinematografía) for his career.

Israel Islas

is known for *Rosario Tijeras*, *No manches Frida* and *Aztech*.

Iván Aragón

starred in *No Man's Land*, and *Jungle Nest* and *The Route To El Jardin*.

Alexia Alexander

is known for *The Route To El Jardin*, *Ghost Recon: Wildlands* and *La Cabeza de Joaquín Murrieta*.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

We live in a Mexico where organized crime is in control. Cartels massacring innocent people and authorities corrupted by these organizations, doing nothing for money. In a country that seems to have no remedy, the film narrates this to the extreme. With courage (a consequence of their innocence) and the desire for things to improve, they decide to take justice into their own hands and do the unthinkable. End this organizations.



NEW



Directed by
Karin Heberlein

Written by
**Angela Gilges,
Karin Heberlein,
Christopher von Delhaes**

Starring
**Friederike Becht,
Arian Wegener,
Ulrich Brandhoff, Michael
Wittenborn**

Producers
**Martin Lehwald,
Marcos Kantis,
Philipp Goesser**
Production Company
Schiwago Film

94' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 16:9 | German OV

Germany 2022

Courageous and emotionally touching, **SIMPLY NINA** follows an 8-year-old who decides to be her true self. International premiere at Busan International Kids and Youth Film Festival. Awarded with Edith Lando Peace Prize at Reel 2 Real International Film Festival for Youth.

SIMPLY NINA

Today is Nina's big day. The day when she will no longer hide and tell everyone she no longer identifies as Niklas. But the 8-year-old doesn't yet know that this decision will shake up her family, the neighborhood and the neatly trimmed front gardens of their picture-perfect suburbia.



■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Karin Heberlein

studied acting in London and worked for various theatres in the UK and internationally. She received a scholarship for the "Drehbuchwerkstatt" at the HFF in Munich and now she writes screenplays for film and television. Her first feature film as a director was released 2020 and has since won several awards at international festivals.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Arian Wegener

was born in 1992. He is an actor, known for *Alarm für Cobra 11 - Die Autobahnpolizei*, *Buba* and *Frühling*.

Friederike Becht

studied acting at the Berlin University of the Arts and appeared in several television and cinema films. In 2008, she got a supporting role in the German-American co-production *The Reader*. In 2011, she starred in the feature film *Westwind*.

Ulrich Brandhoff

studied performing arts at the Max Reinhardt Seminar in Vienna. In 2011, he was awarded the prize for Best Actor in a leading role at the International Acting School Meeting in Warsaw. In cinema he has

appeared several films, including the film biopic *Django - A Life for Music* and in the historical film *The Young Karl Marx*. He acted in Fatih Akin's thriller *In the Fade*, which premiered at the Cannes International Film Festival.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

SIMPLY NINA is a story about courage, the courage needed to stand up for who we are - who we are versus who we think we need to be. Nina's disarming honesty while fighting to be accepted for who she is, unbalances the adults that surround her, as they are equally forced to look at themselves and their own little lies, to which they have grown accustomed to. With many real stories in mind, that were shared with us while writing the screenplay, we wanted to create an uplifting, moving and upbeat film, without make less of the difficulties that Nina encounters.



Busan Kids and Youth IFF, Reel 2 Real IFF (Edith Lando Peace Prize)



NEW



Directed and written by
Iván Löwenberg

Starring

**Bego Sainz,
Anahí Allué,
Agustina Quinci,
J.C. Montes-Roldán,
Eduardo Azuri**

Producers

**Iván Löwenberg, Nicolás
Münzel Camaño, Facundo
Escudero Salinas, Elsa
Reyes, Ricardo Goría
Tamer, Aída Herrerías**
Production Company
**LO GO Producciones,
Pensilvania Films**

86' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 4:3 | Spanish OV

**The days of darkness are coming. World premiere in competition at
Cairo International Film Festival.**

Mexico, Argentina 2022

I DON'T WANT TO BE DUST

Bego, a housewife in a mid-life crisis, lives bored and afraid of being inconsequential. Her husband spends his time in suspicious late work meetings, and her son, a filmmaker, is in his thirties' lost in his dreams of greatness. However, her life evolves into a mysterious game of distorted realities once she enters into a cult that preaches three days of darkness...

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Iván Löwenberg

has been a grant holder of the National Fund for Culture and the Arts (FONCA) twice, and won the Hubert Bals Fund to develop his debut film, *Castration* (2012). His last short film, *Encounter* (2019), won at Morelia Film Fest, and received a nomination to the Mexican Academy Awards (Ariel). It has won more than 20 international prizes.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Bego Sainz

Has a degree in communication. This film is her acting debut.

Anahí Allué

She has participated in more than 40 theatre plays, including *Chicago*, *Wicked* and *Billy Elliot*, where she was awarded by the Metro Awards as Best Actress for her role as Mrs. Wilkinson. She is part of the cast of Amazon's hit *El juego de las llaves*, as well as Netflix's *Oscuro Deseo*.

Agustina Quinci

Actress, singer and composer. Started her acting

career in Argentinian TV Series in 2004. In 2019, she received a nomination for Best Revelation Actress at the Mexican Academy Awards for her role in *La camarista*. She appears as Laura Pausini in Netflix' smash hit series *Luis Miguel*.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

What could be behind a person whose main motivation to be alive is a cataclysm of big proportions? Why do people choose to believe one thing and try so hard to convince people to believe in it, too? The difficulty in distinguishing between reality and spectacle, world crises of obscene dimensions, loneliness in a hyper-connected world, so exposed and so consumerist... it is easy to feel tiny and inconsequential.



Cairo IFF, Milwaukee FF



NEW



Directed and written by
Ciaran Creagh

Starring
**Eileen Walsh,
Zara Devlin,
Ian Beattie**
Producers
**Ferdia Doherty,
Ciaran Creagh,
Niall Flynn**
Production Company
Hill Sixteen Features

98' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1.85:1
English OV

Based on a true story that shook the world. International premiere in competition at Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

Ireland 2022

ANN

It's 1984 and Ann, a pregnant teenager, is about to give birth, ending up in the Grotto of her local church. Shockingly, two hours later, Ann and her baby are dead. This story follows the last thirteen hours of her life: A girl alone - abandoned by society.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Ciaran Creagh

is a screenwriter, director & producer whose credits include the feature film *In View* (Best Screenplay, Rhode Island International Film Festival). Creagh also wrote the drama *Parked*, starring Colm Meaney, which was nominated in four categories at the 2011 Irish Film and Television Awards and won Best First Feature at Galway Film Festival and Best Screenplay at the 2012 Foggia Film Festival.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Zara Devlin

Is an actress, known for *The Other Lamb*, *Ann*, and *A Bump Along the Way*.

Ian Beattie

Is a Northern Irish actor best known for his roles as Antigonus in Oliver Stone's film *Alexander*, and as Ser Meryn Trant in the HBO series, *Game of Thrones*.

Eileen Walsh

is an Irish actress, known for *The Magdalene Sisters*, *Nicholas Nickleby* and *Eden*. She has been married to Stuart McCaffer since 2003.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

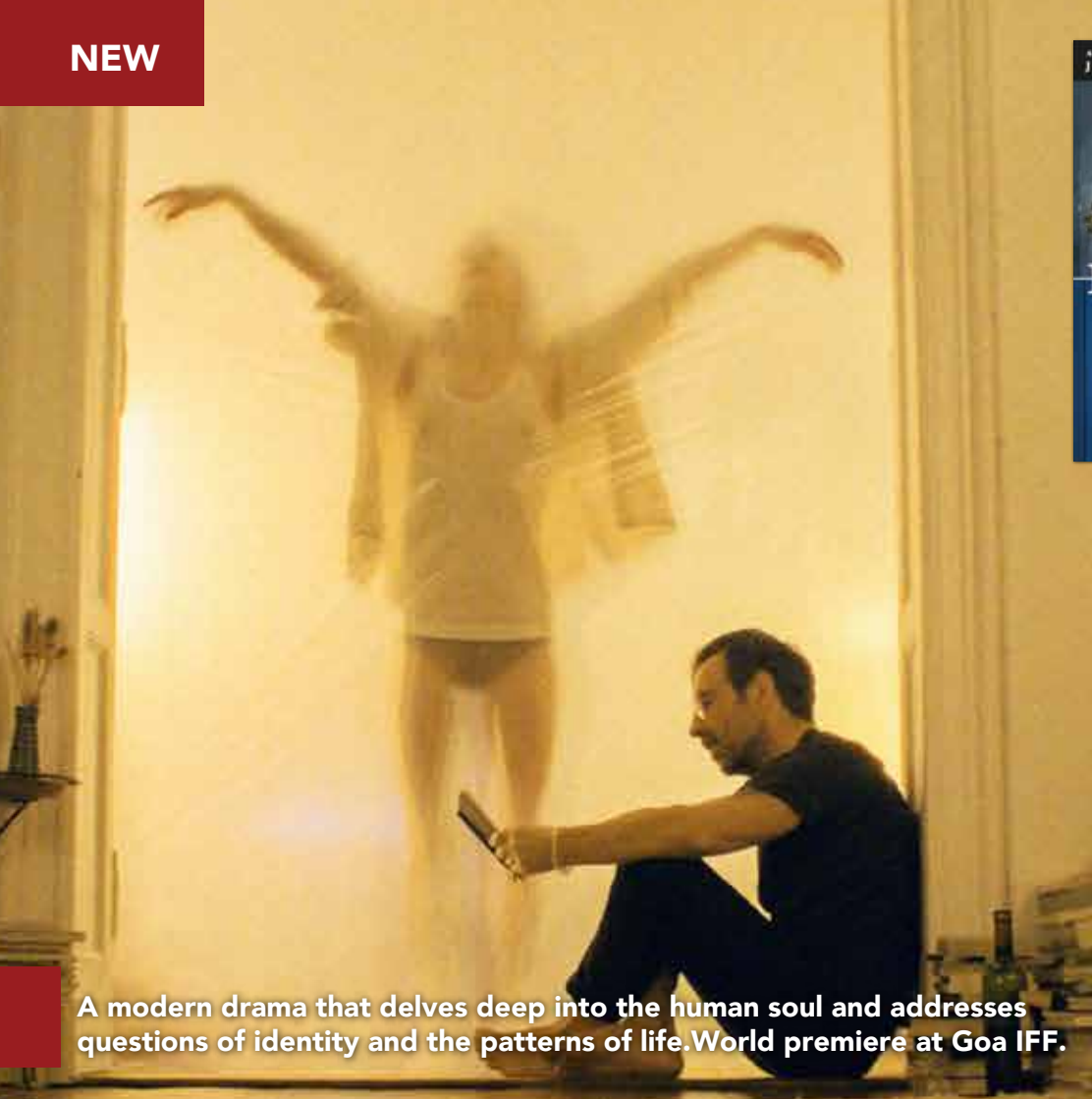
I began my journey with Ann Lovett in 2018. I remember the talk in our house and how people reacted to her death and that of her baby son Patrick. She knew that her baby was coming. She hid it well from almost everyone. She brought a scissors and a page from her science book showing her how to cut the cord. She was not prepared. And she was 15 years old. Set in 1980's rural Ireland, this is an amazing story of grit and determination and pure horror at the same time.



Tallinn, Cairo IFF, Goa IFF



NEW



A modern drama that delves deep into the human soul and addresses questions of identity and the patterns of life. World premiere at Goa IFF.



Directed
Lars Knorrn

Written by
**Lars Knorrn &
Aleksandar Jovanovic**
Starring
**Aleksandar Jovanovic;
Hannah Ehrlichmann;
Anne Schäfer;
Malik Blumenthal &
Lucas Englander**

Producers
**Felix Leiberg,
Walter Peitz**
Production Company
Distanz Film GmbH

94' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1:2,39
German OV

Germany 2022

DISTANCE

Isolating himself in his apartment, with wife and kids temporarily moving out, agency owner Laszlo not only tries to save his professional career but also his marriage - until his quest for answers gets challenged by fun-loving new neighbour Zoe who pops up on his doorstep one day. Now Laszlo might have found a new zest for life – or get transformed into something entirely different in the process.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Lars Knorr

lived for six years in London, where his career as a commercial director began. His ambition moved him further to Paris, where he made his feature film debut *Silhouettes*, in which he critically explored observations from the advertising and fashion world. Today Lars lives in Berlin.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Aleksandar Jovanovic

Landed his first leading role in Fatih Akin's feature film *Kurz und Schmerzlos*. He received awards for it: among them the Bronze Leopard at the Locarno FF. He has starred in more than 90 films and worked with Germany's most successful filmmakers. He took part with Sir Anthony Hopkins and Sir Ben Kingsley in the US thriller *Collide* and in *The lost City of Z* alongside Robert Pattinson and Sienna Miller.

Hannah Ehrlichmann

Studied acting at the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy. She made her debut there as Margarete in *Faust*, and was seen as Stella in *A Streetcar Named*

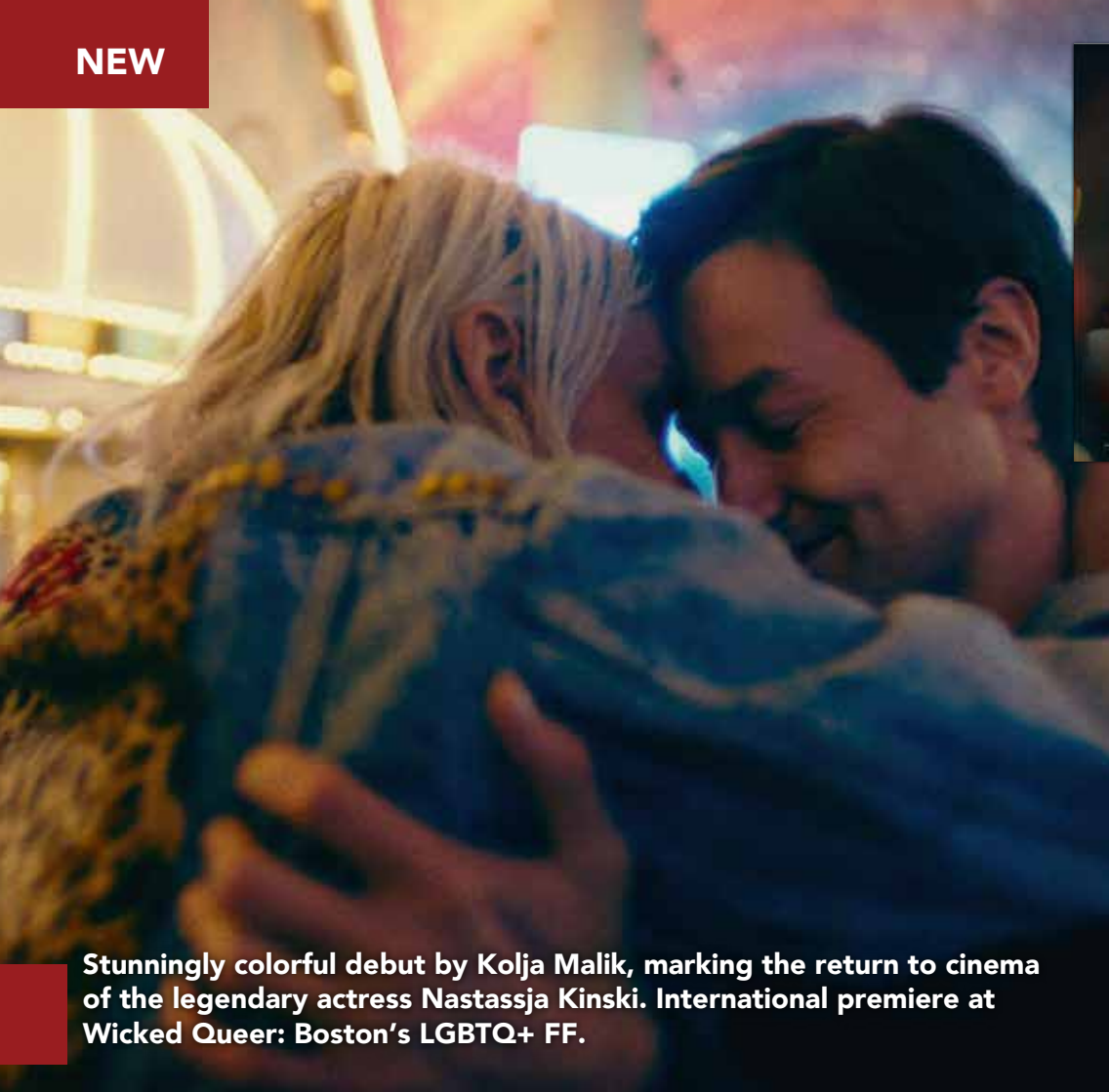
Desire. She was nominated as the best young theater artist of the year by critics' surveys by Theater heute.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I had the desire to capture this extraordinary moment - not only to share very personal feelings, but also to explore them throughout the entire process. The risk of showing oneself vulnerable is a fundamental position of the characters in DISTANZ. The characters face in their most human form the consequences of the ego and fear, but also the desire for love and truth.



NEW



Stunningly colorful debut by Kolja Malik, marking the return to cinema of the legendary actress Nastassja Kinski. International premiere at Wicked Queer: Boston's LGBTQ+ FF.

Written and directed by
Kolja Malik

Starring
**Tim-Fabian Hoffmann,
Daniel Roth,
Robert Stadlober,
Thomas Thieme,
Nastassja Kinski**
Producers
**Susann Schimk,
Jan Philip Lange**
Production Company
**solo:film GmbH
JuniFilm**

100' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 2.39:1
German OV

Germany 2022

LASVEGAS

Tristan is a young and ambitious fashion designer searching for independence from his family. When he meets Sunny, a charismatic hustler, he sees what freedom can look like. But Sunny has secrets. What begins as a wild and beautiful love story slowly turns into an intense trip between dream and reality.



■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Kolja Malik

wrote his first screenplay at the age of eleven and was awarded various prizes for young film maker as a teenager. In 2018, his short film STORKOW KALIFORNIA opened the section Perspektive Deutsches Kino at the 68th Berlinale and was a part of the Short Film Corner at the Festival de Cannes 2018.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Tim-Fabian Hoffmann

studied acting in Salzburg. His feature film debut *Desire Will Set You Free* alongside Nina Hagen, Peaches, Amber Benson, and others premiered at Montreal FF. He appears in shows like *Deutschland 83* and *Lu von Loser* (nominated for the German television award 2021). He is part of the ActOut-Initiative as well as a member of Queer Media Society.

Daniel Roth

started his acting career in movie *Das Luftschiff*. After that, he participated in many films like *They Call Us Candy-Girls*, *Claire's Verhältnisse* and *Tears*. LASVEGAS is his second collaboration with Kolja Malik.

Nastassja Kinski

is a German actress who has appeared in more than 60 films in Europe and the United States. Her worldwide breakthrough was with *Stay as You Are*. She then came to global prominence with her Golden Globe Award-winning performance as the title character in the Roman Polanski-directed film *Tess*. Other films in which she acted include the Wim Wenders drama *Paris, Texas*. LASVEGAS is her return after a long break.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

LASVEGAS is my attempt at understanding the origins of violence. On the other hand, I did not want to merely do a retelling of the real-life case this film is based on but turn it into an escapist love story. I did not want to make a calculating movie but a warm one – a dark embrace. One I can cry to without leaving the theater feeling sick.



Wicked Queer: Boston's LGBTQ+ FF, Outshine FF

NEW



Directed by
Molly Haddon

Written by
Jorrdan Daley
Starring
**Mia Artemis,
Adam Golledge,
Elly Hiraani Clapin**

Producers
**Rebecca Yates,
Jorrdan Daley and Molly
Haddon**
Production Company
Breathless Films

78' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1.85:1
English OV

World premiere at Sydney IFF in competition.

Australia 2022

THE LONGEST WEEKEND

Three disconnected siblings find themselves living once again under the same roof when the father who abandoned them returns to their lives. Each must decide whether a reunion is in their best interests. When the meeting proves their fears correct, that their father cannot mend the damage he left in his wake, they realize that their best hope is each other.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Molly Haddon

is a film and theatre director. She studied film at Macquarie University and completed the Graduate Certificate: Cinematography at AFTRS and the Directors Studio program at NIDA. Molly has directed award-winning short films.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Mia Artemis

She appeared in the Australian Television series' *Les Norton and Black B*tch*. Mia appeared as Tiger' in the hit Netflix series *Sweet Tooth*, and landed the role of 'Paula Kunde' in the Netflix series *Pieces of Her* starring Toni Collette.

Adam Golledge

Graduated from Sydney Theatre School and since had roles in *Smoko Porno*, *Yesterday*, *my dead boyfriend messaged me on Grindr* (Winner at LA Film awards 2020, and Paris Independent Film Festival 2020) He starred as Renton in the live theatre production of *Trainspotting*. Adam was on US hit show *Deadly Women*.

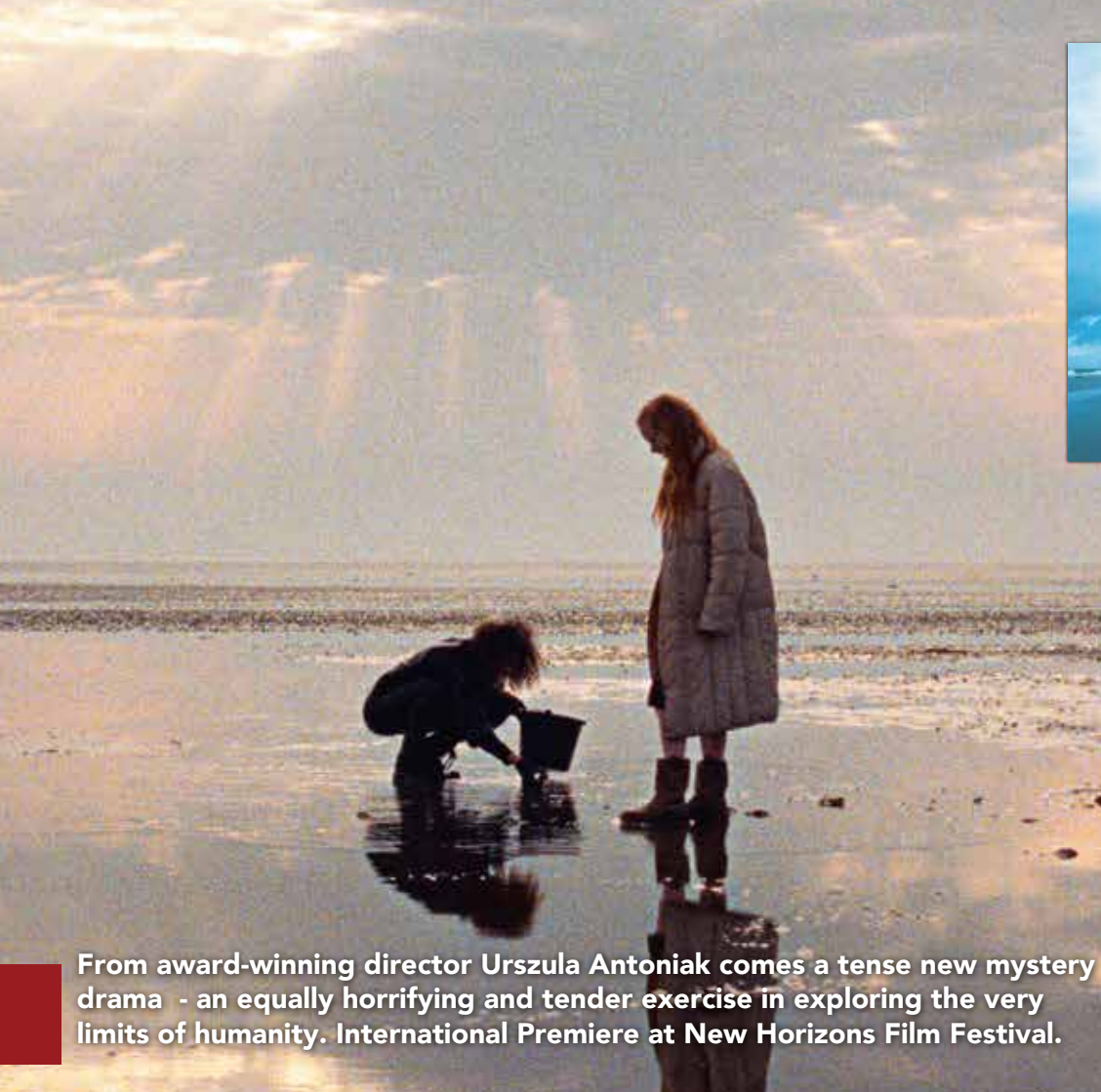
■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Inspired by the trauma of violence and abandonment in childhood and how it can differ even between those who grew up together. Our characters long for closure but come to realize that no person or explanation can fix you. You must do the work yourself. After all the anger and the pain, there can be acceptance, growth, calm and peace.



Sidney IFF, Brisbane IFF





Written and directed by
Urszula Antoniak

Starring
**Anneke Sluifers, Khadija
El Kharraz Alami,
Abke Haring**
Producers
**Floor Onrust,
Noortje Wilschut**
Production Company
Family Affair Films

77" | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1,66:1
English OV

From award-winning director Urszula Antoniak comes a tense new mystery drama - an equally horrifying and tender exercise in exploring the very limits of humanity. International Premiere at New Horizons Film Festival.

Netherlands 2022

SPLENDID ISOLATION

Little is known about the catastrophe Anna and Hannah have escaped. On a desolate island they find an abandoned house where Anna takes care of Hannah – until Hannah's fragile condition reminds the two lovers that their time together is coming to an end. And then, one day Hannah realizes that an intruder followed them to the island.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Urszula Antoniuk

Is a Polish/Dutch scriptwriter and film director. Her debut film *Nothing Personal* won six awards at the 2009 Locarno FF, including Best First Feature and Best Actress. Her second film, *Code Blue*, was selected at Cannes Directors' Fortnight. Her filmography also includes *Beyond Words* which premiered at Toronto and was selected for competition in San Sebastian. *Splendid Isolation* is her latest feature film.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Anneke Sluithers

Is a film and theater actress and writer. She is seen on stage in different shows, such as *Giants* by Artemi and *Alice, Leo and Lena* by NT Jong. On screen, Anneke performed next to Gijs Naber in *Tulipani: Love, Honour and a Bike* by Academy Award winning director Mike van Diem.

Khadija El Kharraz Alami

Graduated from HKU Theater School and has received wide acclaim for her performances, especially in *Nu ben ik Medea*. She performed at the National Theater The Hague, with Theatre National de Strasbourg and the Thalia theater.

Abke Haring

Is a writer, director and actor. She took on parts like Jeanne d'Arc in *Bloed en Rozen* and Hamlet in *Hamlet vs Hamlet*, which won her the Theo d'Or for the best female lead role.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Time freezes when every moment spent together can be the last one. Saying goodbye is a process driven by hope and denial, cut short by the arrival of Death. The one who leaves and the one who stays behind: both feel guilty of abandoning the other.

Splendid Isolation was born out of the urge to respond to that moment. I have adopted a lyrical tone to approach the subject of death that allows us a view from an intimate perspective. For me, it was a return to the essence of filmmaking.



Rotterdam IFF, New Horizons FF, Sao Paulo FF, Goa IFF





Directed by
Jaak Kilmi

Written by
Aidi Vallik
Starring
**Nils Jaagup England,
Rebeka Kask,
Laura Vahtre**
Producer
Evelin Penttilä
Production Company
Stellar Film

Original Title: Tagurpidi torn
101' | Aspect Ratio 2.33:1
Estonian OV

The joyful days of summer turn into something much more sinister when a band of young kids has a run-in with a seasoned security guard.
International Premiere at Giffoni FF.

Estonia, Latvia 2022

THE SLEEPING BEAST

Kristjan and his best friends spend their summer days with games and adventures in an abandoned old factory. After being chased away from the grounds by Elmar, the grumpy security guard, a freak accident casts a dark shadow over the group – and Kristjan has to face the hardest decision of his young life. Will he dare to save a man against all odds?

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Jaak Kilmi

Graduated in directing from the Tallinn Pedagogical University. Starting his career with a string of award-winning short films, Kilmi also directed a number of successful feature-length documentaries before turning to fictional stories, such as the highly-regarded drama *Dissidents* and adventure comedy *Christmas in the Jungle*. His films have gained him international recognition with festivals and audiences worldwide.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Young actors **Nils Jaagup England**, **Rebekka Kask** and **Laura Vahtre** all made their feature film debut with *The Sleeping Beast* whereas supporting cast members Reimo Sagor (from the Scandinavian action thriller TV hit show *Hamilton*), Evelin Võigemast (known for voicing the title role in the animated *Lotte* theatrical films) and Andres Lepik (*Truth and Justice*) are experienced acting veterans.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

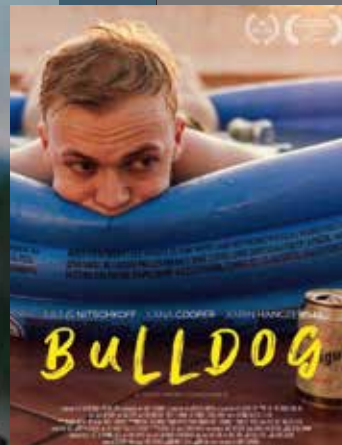
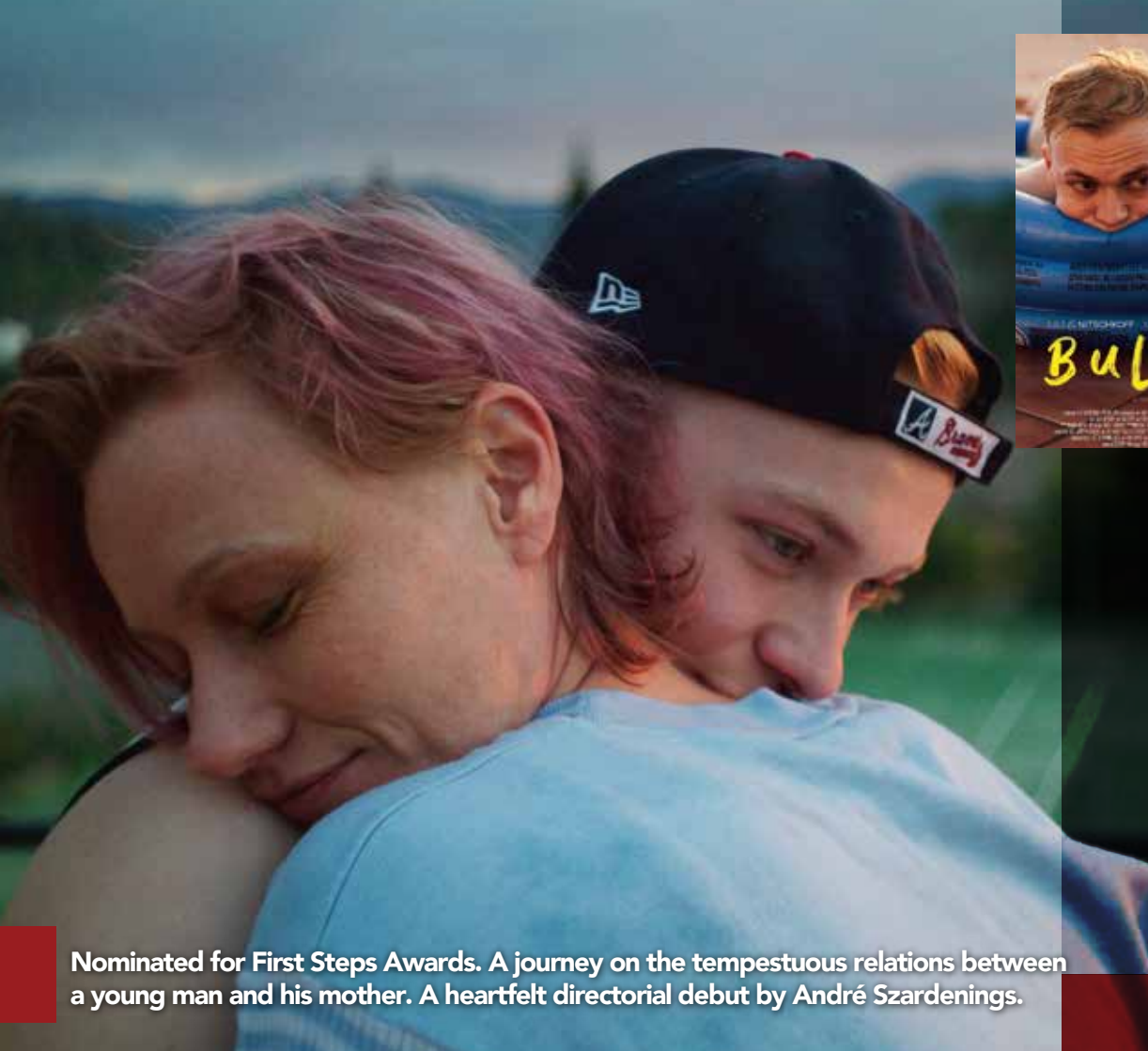
For a long time, I have wanted to make a film about children. The Sleeping Beast is not a children's film although I wouldn't hesitate to recommend it to them. But we don't offer simple solutions or morality. We speak in half-tones - both bright and dark ones.

The violence of the fairy tales has found its way back into the games of the children and as the line between fantasy and reality gets increasingly blurred, a sort of naïve romanticism and beauty still remains in their games.



Giffoni FF, Schlingel FF,
Goa IFF, Junior Cz FF,
Cottbus FF





Directed and written by
André Szardenings

Starring
**Julius Nitschkoff,
Lana Cooper,
Karin Hanczewski**
Producers
**Katharina Kolleczeck,
Lea Neu**
Production Company
**FS Internationale
Filmshule Köln,
André Szardenings,
Bayerischer Rundfunk,
Kalekone Film**

95' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1,5:1
German OV

Nominated for First Steps Awards. A journey on the tempestuous relations between a young man and his mother. A heartfelt directorial debut by André Szardenings.

Germany 2022

BULLDOG

Bruno's irrational, symbiotic relationship with his mother Toni, is turned upside down when her new girlfriend Hannah, decides to move into their bungalow in Spain. Up until now, Bruno has always been the center of his mum's attention but now that Hannah is there things are different.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

André Szardenings

Started as a DoP for films like *Cloud Atlas* directed by Tom Tykwer. *Bulldog* is his directorial debut, which was nominated for the most significant German newcomer award: First Steps Awards.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Julius Nitschkoff

had his feature film debut in 2015. Since then he has appeared in over 60 productions like the Netflix show *Parfum*, the Sky series *Das Boot* and the Amazon show *Beat*.

Lana Cooper

is a German actress. For her role in *Love Steaks* she won the award for best acting at the Filmfest München and Evolution Mallorca. For *Beat Beat Heart* she won an award at Günter Rohrbach Filmfest.

Karin Hanczewski

is a German-Polish actress. She played the leading role in movies like *Lotte, Im Sommer Wohnt Er Unten und Bruder Schwesterherz*, which all won

prizes at film festivals. She has leading role in Germany's most successful crime Show *Tatort*.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I was interested in showing this buff boy from the outside and exploring his softer, sensitive, fragile, and emotional core. In this way I was happy to find Julius Nitschkoff who combined both aspects I was looking for. For me as a gay man it was important to have a different approach to the film's topic. I wanted to show a cis male, whose life is controlled or influenced only by women and/or queer characters.



Goa IFF, Max Ophüls Preis
FF, Music & Cinema FF





Award winner at the Max Ophüls FF. Story based on the directresses own experience navigating the film industry.

Directed and written by
**Marina Prados &
Paula Knüpling**

Starring
**Celine Meral,
Christoph Gawenda,
Benny Claessens.**
Producers
**Marina Prados &
Paula Knüpling**
Production Company
Ladybitches Productions

97' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Aspect Ratio 1.85:1
German OV

Germany 2022

LADYBITCH

An inexperienced actress lands her first leading role in a theater production of an important director. The pressure to perform among the other well-known actors is huge, and the situation comes to a head when she is sexually harassed by the director.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Marina Prados

born in Barcelona, studied acting and lives in Berlin since 2016. **Paula Knüpling**, born in Berlin, worked since the age of eight as an actress in films. The pair began working together in 2018 with the sci-fi theater play *HERE* at Berlin Volksbühne. Their GenZ Company Ladybitches Productions was founded in 2021 with the intention of creating queer working structures and representations.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Celine Meral

started acting in 2016 at Volksbühne Berlin. She worked in numerous theater productions as well as in TV and cinema productions, such as *Country Girls* or the award-winning film *Berlin Alexanderplatz*.

Christoph Gawenda

worked at Staatsschauspiel Stuttgart. He moved to Schaubühne Berlin under Thomas Ostermeier. His work in film include; *Parkour* and *Einer wie Bruno*. In 2005, he won "Best new coming Actor" by SAT.1.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Our autobiographical directorial debut shines a light on the gray areas of abuse that are often overlooked, but no less painful or destructive. We both grew up in the theater and film industries and have experienced various forms of abuse. We wanted to break down stereotypical characters and create complicated situations whilst simultaneously draw a clear line in terms of consent.



Max Ophüls Preis FF,
Achtung Berlin FF,
Luxembourg City FF





Written and directed by
Benjamin Martins

Starring
**Christoph Kaiser,
Beate Krist,
Sarah Palarczyk,
Dirk Waanders**
Producer
**Floriana Maddalena
Maiello**
Executive Producer
Benjamin Martins
Production Company
Herbsthund Filme

78' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Shot on Blackmagic
Pocket | German OV

Based on the life of Jochen Klepper, German poet and journalist during the Nazi Regime. International premiere in competition at Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

Germany 2021

THE SHADOW HOUR

Jochen Klepper was a German writer and journalist, who lived with his Jewish wife Johanna and his stepdaughter Renate in Nazi era Germany. When towards the end of 1942 the deportation of his wife and stepdaughter seemed imminent, he had the choice of either saving his career or his marriage. Jochen Klepper made his decision and faced the consequences. Thousands of Germans at that time did the same.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Benjamin Martins

studied drama in Cologne and Berlin before giving his directorial debut in 2014. Three years later he and his dog 'Muesli' founded the film production company Herbsthund Filme. He was soon nominated for several major German film awards including the 'first steps award', which is organized by the German Film Academy and the 'German Cinema New Talent Award' at the Munich Int. Film Festival.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Christopher Kaiser

Received his acting training at the Mannheim Drama School and at the Chekhov Studio Berlin. He worked for various TV series of public broadcasters like RTL and SAT1. He also was a member of numerous theater ensembles in Mannheim, Heidelberg and Karlsruhe, Germany.

Beate Krist

She was born in Tunis and received her acting training at the Academy of Performing Arts in Ulm. Ever since she played multiple lead roles in theaters all over Germany, such as the title role in *Maria Stuart* and Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*.

Sarah Palarczyk

Studies drama at the ADK in Ludwigsburg and is now working as actress, singer and voice actress. She played parts in films such as *Promise at Dawn* and *End-80*.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

During World War II more than 20 Jewish families committed suicide on a daily basis in Berlin. Many of their names have been forgotten. Jochen Klepper died as one of them. With THE SHADOW HOUR I hope to keep alive the remembrance of the victims. This story is told in a quite unusual way. I'm inviting the audience to witness Jochen Klepper's imaginative inner world that promises unwavering hope even in the darkest place.



Tallinn Black Nights,
Munich FF, Jönköping FF





Directed and written by
Tito Jara H.

Starring
**Andrés Crespo,
Carlos Valencia,
Emilia Ceballos**
Producers
**Tito Jara H.,
Magda Garcés**
Production Company
**Atefilms,
Hotel B Filmes,
El Medano
Producciones.**

93' | Colour | Audio 5.1
Spanish OV

A story of intrigue and fanaticism in a city where professed faith mixes well with corruption and fraud. World premiere at Goa IFF.

**Ecuador, Colombia,
España 2021**

THE PREACHER

A cynical swindler uses a girl who is said to have visions of the Virgin Mary and who is considered a miracle by many for his own sinister agenda. Together with the girl's parents, he will generate a business with the "Blessed One" – an enterprise so large and lucrative that it will inevitably get out of their hands.



■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Tito Jara H.

Director and writer of the feature film *A Tus Espaldas*, one of the most popular films in Ecuadorian cinema's history with theatrical releases in Ecuador, Venezuela and Spain. It has been programmed in dozens of international film festivals such as La Habana and Trieste FF.



■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Andrés Crespo

Has won Best Actor at the Guadalajara and Cartagena Film Festival. He has participated in several feature films, including *Pescador* by Sebastián Cordero. He is part of the Netflix series *Narcos*, *Frontera Verde* by Ciro Guerra and also stars in *Camionero* which was selected for the Cannes Series festival.

Carlos Valencia

Starred in the film *Ratas, Ratones y Rateros* by Sebastián Cordero (premiered at the Venice Film Festival and was nominated for the Goya Award as Best Foreign Film) for which he won the Colón award. Winner of the Silver Award for Best Actor at the Huelva Film Festival.



Emilia Ceballos

Colombian actress with experience in film, theatre, TV and cinema. Her outstanding work encompasses roles in *Los Fierros* by Director Pablo González, *Volar* from Director Javier Pinto and other works such as *asother* work as *Lost Time*.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In beautiful Quito downtown you can find many petty scammers that offer their miraculous healing services. How dangerous and immoral are their activities? I felt that this context is wonderful to place a crime that while it is being explained, creates a thread that joins corruption and power at all levels.



Goa IFF, Chicago Latino FF,
Cine Latino Minneapolis FF



Directed by
Catherine Linstrum

Starring
Emilia Jones,
Sienna Guillory,
George MacKay
Writer
Catherine Linstrum,
David-John Newman
Producer
Stella Nwimo
Production Company
Yellow Nuclear Ltd

92' | Colour | Aspect
Ratio 2.39:1 | Audio
5.1 | Shot on Arri
Alexa | English OV

This atmospheric and thrilling drama was directed by BAFTA award winner Catherine Linstrum and stars 1917 lead George MacKay.

United Kingdom 2019

NUCLEAR

Brutalised by her own brother, a traumatised young girl, Emma, and her mother are on the run. Finding refuge in an isolated retreat, where a nuclear power station looms, Emma begins to break away from the protection of her mother and is forced to navigate a hostile world alone. A tense and haunting tale of a toxic family with a dangerous past.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Catherine Linstrum

Catherine began her career working for the BBC television as a documentary director and wrote the screenplay for *Dreaming of Joseph Lees*, directed by Eric Styles. *Nuclear* is her feature film debut.

■ CAST BIOGRAPHY

Emilia Jones

Nominated for a BAFTA Award for her leading role in *Horrible Histories*, she was born in London and began acting when she was 8 years old. Her credits include *High-Rise*, *Brimstone* and *Ghostland*.

Sienna Guillory

A former model, she is best known for her portrayal of Jill Valentine in the action-horror film series *Resident Evil*. She also starred in the epic fantasy blockbuster *Eragon* and Ben Wheatley's dystopian adaptation of J.G. Ballard's sci fi extravaganza *High-Rise*.

George MacKay

One of 2014's Berlinale Shooting Stars, George rose to fame with roles in *Sunshine on Leith* and *Pride*. He recently played the lead in Sam Mendes' award winning drama *1917* and in TIFF premiered epic western *True History of the Kelly Gang*.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Nuclear explores characters and themes that have intrigued me for a long time, with its intense emotional story playing out in a world where reality and unreality collide. It is an emotional psychological drama with supernatural elements, it has a twisting narrative, where our characters transition - from this life to the next, from childhood to adulthood, from revenge to redemption.



World Premiere at
Warsaw IFF





Directed and written by
Christian Neuman

Starring
Udo Kier,
Jefferson Hall,
Amber Anderson,
Sophie Mousel
Producers
Jesus Gonzalez-Elvira,
Alex Tate
Production Companies
Calach Films,
Caviar Films

Original Title: Skin Walker
86' | shot on Arri Alexa
English OV

Skin Walker mixes gothic images, supernatural terror and psychological drama into a tribute to the great European horror movies of the 1970s.

Luxembourg/Belgium 2019

SKIN WALKER

Regine is a fragile young woman trying to build a new life – safer and happier than the one she had as a child. Escaping her trauma is not so easy however, and when her grandmother is brutally murdered, Regine must return to the village she once left and revisit the gruesome horrors of her past to protect herself and her family.

■ DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Christian Neuman

is a Luxembourg born artist and filmmaker. He is best known for his work in the fashion industry as the creative director behind several brands and campaigns in. Trained at London Film School, his shorts and fashion films have screened at festivals worldwide. *Skin Walker* is his feature film debut.

■ CAST INFORMATION

Amber Anderson

She is a British actress, known for the film *Your Highness* (2011) and the TV series *BlackMirror*. She will play Jane Fairfax in the 2020 movie adaptation of Jane Austen's *Emma*.

Jefferson Hall

The British actor starred in the successful theatrical reboot of *Halloween* (2018) and also is no stranger to the small screen with roles in TV saga *Vikings* and HBO's worldwide fantasy phenomenon *Game of Thrones*.

Udo Kier

Udo is a German actor who has appeared in over 200 films such as *Downsizing* (2017), *Iron Sky* (2012) and *Dogville* (2003) and collaborated with acclaimed filmmakers like Lars von Trier and Gus van Sant.

■ DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

My intention was to create a film that deals with the protagonist's descent into madness. I was interested in creating a specific atmosphere, close to a gothic melodramatic tale. To some degree I am giving up on linear storytelling, with the hope of the film being experienced by gliding through time in a dreamlike and surreal state.



World Premiere at Cairo
IFF, BIFFF





FEMI

by Dwight Fagbamila

with Yannick Jozefzoon,
Joy Verberk, Janneke Remmers,
Victor Ijdens

With the birth of his child approaching, Dennis moves back to his hometown. Not allowed to see his pregnant ex-girlfriend, he is increasingly haunted by questions about the death of his father. And all things spiral out of control when Dennis seeks a spiritual confrontation with his unborn through a spell that slowly threatens to consume his sanity.

*Drama | Netherland 2022 | Dutch,
English OV*



*World Premiere at
Warsaw FF*



IN THE LIGHT OF THE NIGHT

by Misha L. Kreuz

with Diana Maria Frank, Ralf
Drexler, David Rott

Minthe, a young woman with a tormented past, becomes the victim in a conspiracy of criminals. She makes a pact with a mysterious cave creature and have to carry out a dangerous task.

In the search of her true identity, she has to confront her demons to finally begin a whole new life..

*Drama | Germany 2022
German OV*



Jonkoping



SUBMERSIBLE

by Alfredo León León

with Natalia Reyes, José Restrepo,
Leynar Gómez

A handmade narco sub is on the verge of sinking and losing its precious cargo. The three crew members are forced to open the forbidden cabin where they find a special "gift" for the buyer. The boat, barely big enough for them to begin with, becomes a steaming powder keg of fears, desires and greed.

*Drama | Ecuador 2020
Spanish OV*



*BIFAN, AFI Latin American,
Havana IFF*



SIDESHOW

by Adam Oldroyd
with Les Dennis, Anthony Head,
 April Pearson, Nathan Clarke

When two inept young criminals break into the home of a washed-up psychic in search of his hidden loot, they get a lot more than they bargained for... because 'The All-Seeing Stupendo' is a genuine master of the dark mystic arts – at least that's what it says on his poster and he's sticking to it.

Crime, Thriller | UK 2020
English OV



**World Premiere at
 Cairo IFF**



THE BALLAD OF BILLY MCCRAE

by Chris Crow
with David Hayman, Sianad
 Gregory, Ian Virgo

Chris Blythe returns to his home town in Wales after losing a fortune in Canada. He falls in love with Elen, a volatile and charismatic woman. But Elen's father Billy is a dangerous man. And Chris finds himself torn between love and hate...

Crime, Thriller | UK 2020
English OV



BLOOD RED OX

by Rodrigo Bellott
with Mazin Akar, Kaolin Bass,
 Andrea Camponovo

Amir and Amat are invited to a trip into the South American rain forest, but the pleasant visit to Bolivia quickly takes a bizarre turn as Amat starts having strange visions and loses his mind over the ghostly presence of a giant blood red ox. Amir must save him from paranoia but he will quickly realize he can't trust nothing and nobody - as he might be losing his mind too.

Psychological Horror, Thriller
Bolivia 2020 | Spanish, English OV



**Guadalajara IFF,
 Chicago Latino FF, Los Angeles LFF**



MY NAME IS SARA

by Steven Oritt

with Zuzanna Surowy, Michalina Olszańska, Eryk Lubos

During World War II, after a grueling escape to the Ukrainian countryside, Sara steals her Christian best friend's identity and finds refuge in a small village, where she is taken in by a farmer and his young wife.

Drama | USA 2019 | English OV



Giffoni CGS Award, Sao Paulo IFF, Goa IFFI



MARYGOUND

by Daria Woszek

with Grażyna Misiorowska, Helena Sujecka, Sylwester Piechura, Janusz Chabior

Mary is a lonely, small-town, grocery store worker, living a carefree life. On the eve of her 50th birthday, Mary's life soon begins to take on a totally unexpected turn for the better – becoming an awesome revelation.

Erotic Drama | Poland 2020 | Polish OV



SXSW, Best Film at Fantasia FF & Gijon FF



THE DRIFTERS

by Benjamin Bond

with Lucie Bourdeu, Jonathan Ajayi, Tom Sweet

In London, Koffee, a West African migrant, meets Fanny, a young French woman with a troubled past, looking for adventure. When a daring motorbike robbery for Koffee's violent boss, Doog, goes wrong, they escape to the coast with some stolen jewellery and a gun. Koffee realizes he may only have a few days of freedom before Doog catches up with him, so he

*Drama, Roadtrip | UK 2019
English OV*



Sao Paulo IFF



TIME OF MOULTING

by Sabrina Mertens
with Miriam Schieweck, Freya Kreutzkam, Zelda Espenschied

Germany in the 1970ies. Stephanie is an intelligent and lively child, leading an isolated life with her mentally unstable mother and a mistrusting father. The passing years only bring aging, but no future. Unspoken thoughts lurk underneath the surface of everyday life. So Stephanie retreats into a dark world of barbaric fantasies, nourished by the traces of the past. One day, however, Stephanie's secret invades the family's reality...

Drama | Germany 2020 | German OV



*Best Film at Seville European
FF, IFF Rotterdam, Fantasia FF*



NAKED ANIMALS

by Melanie Waelde
with Marie Tragousti, Sammy Scheuritzel, Michelangelo Fortuzzi

Five friends growing up in a small town in Germany, debate whether to leave or stay after finishing school. They seek each other, they run away from each other as they kiss and brawl deciding what it seems to be the rest of their lives... A kaleidoscope of violence, love, and loneliness where intimacy and pain go hand in hand.

*Coming-of-Age Drama | Germany
2020 | German OV*



*World Premiere at Berlinale
Encounters, Sao Paulo FF, Seville FF*



THE STEED

by Erdenebileg Ganbold
with Ariunbold.E, Enkhtuul.G,
Tserendagva.P

After being cruelly separated, a Mongolian boy and his horse brave the unforgiving Mongolian wilds during the Russian revolution to be reunited.

*Drama | Mongolia 2019
Mongolian OV*



*Best Film at San Diego IFF,
Spirit of Cinema Award at Oldenburg FF*



PERSECUTED

by Yesid Leon

with María Gaviria, Roberto Escobar, Geraldine Zivic

Mariana develops a paranoid disorder after witnessing the murder of two people. She now decides to take care of the victims' little girl. In a race against time, Mariana has to protect her and herself from the assassins, overcoming her fears.

*Thriller | Colombia 2018 |
Spanish OV*



MY FOOLISH HEART

by Rolf van Eijk

with Steve Wall, Gijs Naber, Raymond Thiry

Amsterdam, 1988. Detective Lucas is in charge of the investigation on the mysterious death of music legend Chet Baker. While penetrating the mind of the infamous trumpeter, Lucas needs to face his own demons and shadows.

*Drama/Neo-Noir | Netherlands
2018 | English, Dutch OV*



*Shangai IFF, Netherlands
FF, Geneva, Punta del Este*



BEING IMPOSSIBLE

by Patricia Ortega

Starring Lucía Bedoya, Belkis Avilladares, María Elena Duque

A young woman discovers she underwent several surgeries to alter her intersexual body as a baby. She has to find herself outside gender binaries.

*Drama, LGBTQ | Venezuela 2018
Spanish OV*



*Valladolid, Habana, SXSW,
Guadalajara, Amsterdam*

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