

20.

RIVER  
FILM  
FESTIVAL



Associazione  
Culturale  
Researching  
Movie



# RiFF

24.05 - 20.06

2026

Porta Portello | Padova



# 20. RIVER FILM FESTIVAL

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**24.05 - 20.06.2026**

River International Film Festival di Padova – organizzato da Associazione Culturale Researching Movie – celebra l’eclettismo del cinema corto indipendente internazionale.

Nella suggestiva location di Porta Portello, sullo schermo galleggiante ancorato alle acque del fiume Piave, proiettiamo un’accurata selezione di opere realizzate dai nuovi talenti del panorama audiovisivo contemporaneo, con particolare attenzione alle cinematografie emergenti e a tematiche di carattere sociale e ambientale. Il caleidoscopio di estetiche, scuole e stili che caratterizza la nostra programmazione rispecchia i valori fondamentali del festival: **creatività, libertà, dialogo, inclusività e internazionalismo.**

*The River International Film Festival of Padua—organized by the Researching Movie Cultural Association, supported by the Municipality of Padua, the Veneto Region, and the Ministry of Culture, and held under the patronage of the University of Padua and the Ministry for the Environment and Energy Security—celebrates the eclecticism of international independent short cinema.*

*In the evocative setting of Porta Portello, on our floating screen anchored to the waters of the Piave River, we present a carefully curated selection of works created by emerging talents of the contemporary audiovisual scene, with particular attention to emerging film industries and to socially and environmentally relevant themes. The kaleidoscope of aesthetics, schools, and styles that defines our program reflects the festival’s core values: **creativity, freedom, dialogue, inclusivity, and internationalism.***

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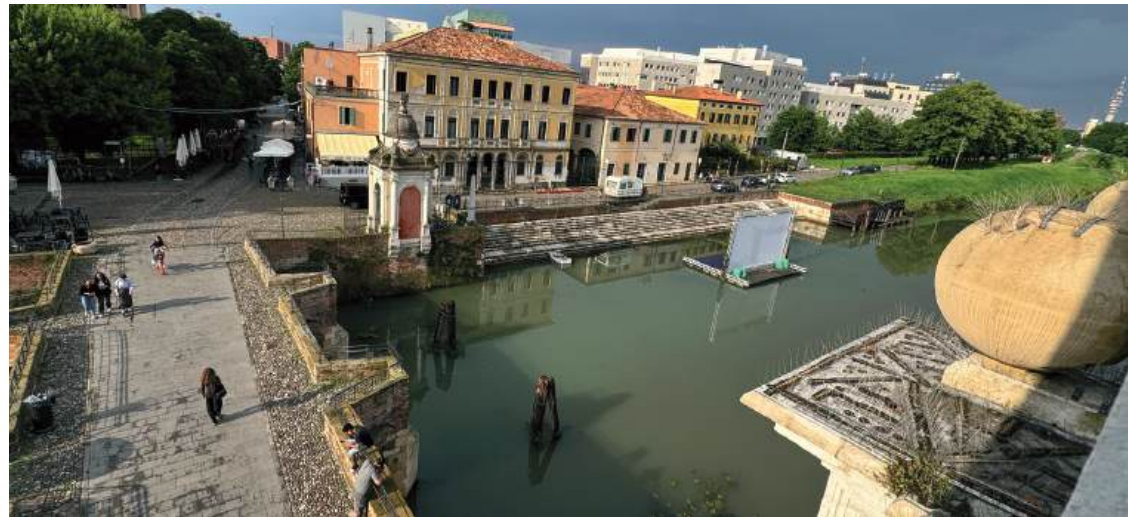
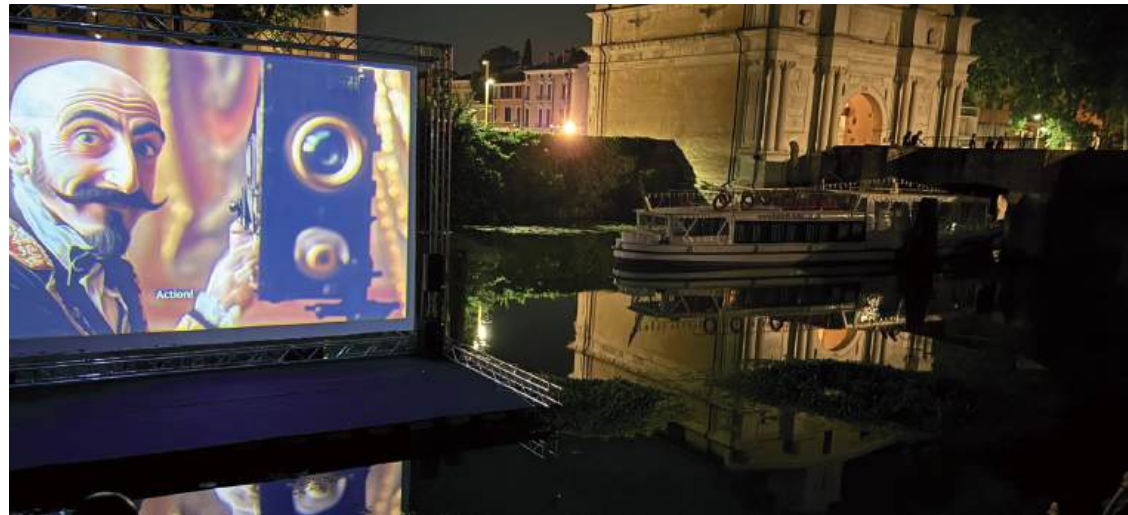


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È con piacere che rivolgo il mio saluto alla ventesima edizione del River Film Festival, una manifestazione che nel corso degli anni ha saputo consolidare il proprio ruolo nel panorama culturale di Padova, contribuendo ad arricchire l'offerta cittadina con una proposta cinematografica internazionale, accessibile e capace di dialogare con pubblici diversi.

20 anni: un traguardo significativo, che testimonia la continuità e contemporaneità di un progetto culturale che ha saputo costruire nel tempo una propria identità riconoscibile, valorizzando luoghi simbolici di Padova e trasformando l'esperienza cinematografica in un'occasione di incontro, partecipazione e confronto.

Particolarmente rilevante è anche la dimensione internazionale della manifestazione, che favorisce il dialogo tra culture, sensibilità e generazioni diverse. Il cinema, in questo senso, si conferma uno strumento prezioso di conoscenza e relazione: un linguaggio capace di avvicinare mondi lontani, di dare voce a prospettive meno rappresentate e di stimolare una riflessione condivisa sui temi sociali, culturali e civili del nostro tempo.

L'Amministrazione comunale riconosce nel River Film Festival un'esperienza significativa per la vita culturale della città e ne sostiene con convinzione il percorso, anche attraverso l'accoglienza in alcuni spazi istituzionali di particolare valore a promozione di una città aperta, dinamica e attenta alla crescita della propria comunità.

A nome dell'Amministrazione comunale, rivolgo agli organizzatori, agli autori, agli ospiti e al pubblico il mio augurio per questa ventesima edizione, con l'auspicio che il River Film Festival possa continuare a essere per Padova un'occasione di cultura, dialogo e apertura internazionale.

**Andrea Colasio**

Assessore alla Cultura del Comune di Padova

*It is with great pleasure that I extend my greetings to the twentieth edition of the River Film Festival, an event that over the years has successfully consolidated its role within Padua's cultural landscape, enriching the city's cultural offerings with an international, accessible cinematic program capable of engaging diverse audiences.*

*Twenty years is a significant milestone, bearing witness to the continuity and contemporary relevance of a cultural project that has built a distinctive identity over time, enhancing some of Padua's symbolic locations and transforming the cinematic experience into an opportunity for encounter, participation, and exchange.*

*Particularly noteworthy is the festival's international dimension, which encourages dialogue among different cultures, sensibilities, and generations. In this sense, cinema once again proves to be a valuable tool for knowledge and connection: a language capable of bringing distant worlds closer together, giving voice to less represented perspectives, and fostering shared reflection on the social, cultural, and civic issues of our time.*

*The Municipal Administration recognizes the River Film Festival as a significant contribution to the cultural life of the city and strongly supports its development, also through the hosting of events in institutional venues of particular importance, promoting the image of a city that is open, dynamic, and attentive to the growth of its community.*

*On behalf of the Municipal Administration, I extend my best wishes to the organizers, filmmakers, guests, and audiences for this twentieth edition, with the hope that the River Film Festival will continue to represent for Padua an opportunity for culture, dialogue, and international openness.*

**Andrea Colasio**

Councilor for Culture of Padua

Il River Film Festival si accinge a celebrare il suo ventesimo anniversario, ampliando la sua offerta con due nuove sezioni: il **lungometraggio** e l'**intelligenza artificiale**.

Il cinema, nelle sue molteplici forme e generi, lungometraggio, cortometraggio, virtual reality e AI, dalla finzione all'animazione ed al documentario, è uno dei linguaggi privilegiati con cui il nostro tempo riflette su se stesso.

Fin dalle origini, il cinema ha incarnato una tensione tipicamente filosofica: rendere visibile l'invisibile. Registi come Andrej Tarkovskij o Ingmar Bergman hanno esplicitamente concepito il cinema come meditazione sul tempo, sulla memoria e sulla trascendenza.

Il cinema contemporaneo continua questa tradizione, ma con una nuova urgenza: raccontare un mondo segnato da accelerazione tecnologica, crisi identitarie e valori universali diventati carta straccia. Il film diventa così una "coscienza collettiva" che pensa per immagini. Dal punto di vista filosofico e metafisico, esso non si limita a raccontare storie: diventa uno strumento per interrogare la realtà, il tempo, l'identità e il senso dell'esistenza.

Mai come oggi, con la crisi geopolitica attuale, il River Film Festival naviga a vista: non sappiamo chi, dei registi in concorso, potrà presenziare alla tanto attesa proiezione, sia per voli cancellati che per la loro stessa vita, soprattutto i nostri ospiti Iranian, ai quali abbiamo dedicato una serata speciale.

Al nostro pubblico auguriamo una buona visione.

**Emilio Della Chiesa**

Direttore e fondatore del River Film Festival

*The River Film Festival is preparing to celebrate its twentieth anniversary, expanding its program with two new sections: **feature films** and **artificial intelligence**.*

*Cinema, in its many forms and genres—feature films, short films, virtual reality, and AI, from fiction to animation and documentary—is one of the privileged languages through which our time reflects upon itself.*

*Since its origins, cinema has embodied a distinctly philosophical tension: making the invisible visible. Directors such as Andrei Tarkovsky and Ingmar Bergman explicitly conceived cinema as a meditation on time, memory, and transcendence.*

*Contemporary cinema continues this tradition, but with a new urgency: to tell the story of a world marked by technological acceleration, identity crises, and universal values that have become meaningless. Film thus becomes a "collective consciousness" that thinks in images. From a philosophical and metaphysical perspective, it does not merely tell stories—it becomes a tool to question reality, time, identity, and the meaning of existence.*

*Now more than ever, amid the current geopolitical crisis, the River Film Festival is navigating by sight: we do not know which of the filmmakers in competition will be able to attend the long-awaited screenings, whether due to canceled flights or threats to their own lives—especially our Iranian guests, to whom we have dedicated a special evening.*

*We wish our audience an enjoyable viewing.*

**Emilio Della Chiesa**

Director and founder of River Film Festival

Da vent'anni, su queste rive, il River Film Festival ha il potere raro di rinnovare chi entra nella sua orbita. Lo fa offrendo sguardi originali, diversi, capaci di andare a fondo nei temi della contemporaneità e di interrogare un mondo in continua, frenetica trasformazione, in cui anche il ruolo del cinema — e dell'umanità che lo crea, lo attraversa, lo sogna — viene continuamente messo in discussione.

Questi nuovi anni Venti sono tempi difficili, "pesanti", come direbbe il mio caro Marty McFly in "Ritorno al futuro". Tempi in cui passiamo senza soluzione di continuità dalla rassegnazione al desiderio di rivalsa, dalla stanchezza alla rincorsa di scintille di entusiasmo, senza darci davvero il tempo di fermarci. Avanziamo spesso col fiato corto, in cerca di un approdo sicuro.

E per trovarlo, poter guardare attraverso gli occhi dei nostri autori è un privilegio impagabile. Ci portano dove non potremmo arrivare senza di loro: ci consegnano mondi, visioni, prospettive. E, quasi senza che ce ne accorgiamo, diventano parte di noi.

Per me, che su queste rive compio soltanto due anni, è stato così. Guardare più di trecento opere è stato un viaggio difficile da raccontare davvero. Selezionarne 138 mi ha obbligata ad attraversare una forma di crescita personale, artistica e, in qualche modo, anche politica. Perché favorire il proseguimento del viaggio dei film selezionati negli occhi degli altri significa assumersi una responsabilità. Nel bene e nel male, significa averne cura.

Il cinema è materia viva: in ogni fotogramma, in ogni formato, in ogni gesto che lo porta sullo schermo e oltre lo schermo. È qualcosa da maneggiare con attenzione, da proteggere, da accompagnare. Qualcosa di cui prendersi cura. Diffidate da chi ne organizza il commiato.

**Marta Bruno**

Vice Direttrice del River Film Festival

*For twenty years, on these banks, the River Film Festival has had the rare power to renew those who enter its orbit. It does so by offering original, different perspectives, capable of delving deep into the themes of our present and of questioning a world in continuous, frantic transformation, where even the role of cinema — and of the humanity that creates it, moves through it, dreams it — is constantly being called into question.*

*These new Twenties are difficult times, "heavy", as my dear Marty McFly would say in "Back to the Future". Times in which we move seamlessly from resignation to the desire for redemption, from exhaustion to the pursuit of sparks of enthusiasm, without ever truly giving ourselves the time to stop. We often move forward breathlessly, searching for a safe shore.*

*And in order to find it, being able to look through the eyes of our filmmakers is a priceless privilege. They take us where we could never arrive without them: they offer us worlds, visions, perspectives. And, almost before we realise it, they become part of us.*

*For me, who have spent only two years on these banks, this is exactly what happened. Watching more than three hundred works was a journey that is difficult to truly recount. Selecting 138 of them forced me to go through a form of personal, artistic and, in some way, also political growth. Because helping the journey of the selected films continue through the eyes of others means taking on a responsibility. For better or worse, it means caring for them.*

*Cinema is living matter: in every frame, in every format, in every gesture that brings it to the screen and then beyond the screen. It is something to be handled with care, to be protected, to be accompanied. Something to be cared for. Beware of those who organise its farewell.*

**Marta Bruno**

Deputy Director of River Film Festival



Canaletto, Porta Portello, Padova, ca. 1741/1742, olio su tela, 62.1 × 109.1 cm, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.



Porta Portello, prima del River Film Festival



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## STAFF DEL FESTIVAL | FESTIVAL STAFF



**EMILIO DELLA CHIESA** Direzione Artistica | *Festival Director*

Emilio Della Chiesa, architetto e direttore artistico del River Film Festival, ha iniziato la sua carriera nel cinema con documentari musicali di Brian Eno, John Lourie, Arto Lindsay e Lidia Lunch. Ha partecipato regolarmente a Città in Cinema a L'Aquila, dove ha preso parte a stage e workshop con molti dei più grandi registi della fotografia, Rotunno, Storaro, Alekan, Almendros, Bayle, Zsigmond e altri, dopo di che è diventato membro dell'AIC (Associazione Italiana Autori della Fotografia Cinematografica).

Emilio è stato influenzato dalla personalità di Joris Ivens, che ha incontrato alla Mostra del Cinema di Venezia dove ha lavorato per oltre 30 anni come proiezionista. A Venezia incontra anche molte delle grandi personalità del cinema, come Fellini e Bergman. Ha continuato la sua formazione nel cinema lavorando prima come assistente, poi operatore e poi direttore della fotografia presso la scuola di Olmi per 12 anni. Successivamente è stato membro della giuria in vari festival in tutto il mondo. Come direttore della Fotografia ha realizzato diversi documentari, lungometraggi e cortometraggi.

*Emilio Della Chiesa, architecture and artistic director of the River Film Festival, began his career in cinema with music documentaries featuring Brian Eno, John Lurie, Arto Lindsay, and Lydia Lunch. He regularly took part in "Città in Cinema" in L'Aquila, where he attended workshops and training sessions with some of the greatest cinematographers, including Rotunno, Storaro, Alekan, Almendros, Bayle, Zsigmond, and others. He later became a member of the AIC (Italian Association of Cinematographers).*

*Emilio was influenced by the personality of Joris Ivens, whom he met at the Venice Film Festival, where he worked for over 30 years as a projectionist. In Venice, he also met many of the great figures of cinema, such as Fellini and Bergman. He continued his film education by working first as an assistant, then as a camera operator, and later as a director of photography at Olmi's school for 12 years. He subsequently served as a jury member at various festivals around the world. As a director of photography, he has worked on several documentaries, feature films, and short films.*



**MARTA BRUNO** Vice Direttrice | *Deputy Director*

Innamorata del cinema alle prime visioni, a 10 anni, contagiata dai suoi genitori e da "Effetto Notte" di Truffaut. Laureata in design della comunicazione, si è diplomata in regia cinetelvisiva alla Scuola Civica di Cinema Luchino Visconti, è stata montatrice, assistente di un regista pubblicitario, autrice e redattrice televisiva per Rai 2, DeAgostini - DeAbyDay, La3 TV.

*She fell in love with cinema at an early age, attending first screenings at just 10 years old, inspired by her parents and by "Day for Night" by Truffaut. She holds a degree in Communication Design and graduated in film and television directing from the Scuola Civica di Cinema Luchino Visconti. She has worked as an editor, assistant to an advertising director, and as a television writer and editor for Rai 2, DeAgostini - DeAbyDay, and La3 TV.*



**FEDERICO GRANDESSO**  
Relazioni Internazionali  
*International relations*



**VINCENZO DIMASI**  
Ufficio tecnico  
*Technics Management*



**MATTES FRÖHLICH**  
Animazione Clip del Festival  
*Festival Clip Animation*



**GIORGIO DESTRO**  
Consulenza ed assistenza legale  
*Legal advice and assistance*



**LAURA DALLA CORTE**  
Ufficio Stampa  
*Press Office*



**ROBIN LOCK**  
Supervisore tecnico  
*Technics Supervisor*



**ANDREA RAITIERI**  
Compositore Clip del Festival  
*Festival Clip Music Composer*



**PATRIZIA ROSELLI**  
Web Master  
*Web master*



**SILVIA DAL LAGO**  
Segreteria  
*Film entry Coordination*



**ROLAND MATTICZK**  
Immagine coordinata  
*Graphics*



**PAOLO PAVAN**  
Consulente organizzazione spazi  
*Security Plan Manager*



**MARTA MASATO**  
Grafica Editoriale  
*Editorial graphic*



### BRIGITTA PORTIER Presidente di giuria | Jury President

Sono passati oltre 35 anni da quando Brigitta Portier è attiva nell'industria cinematografica. Tutto è iniziato nel 1986, quando era responsabile delle richieste televisive al Festival di Cannes. Il suo ruolo principale consisteva nel gestire tutte le richieste dei pubblicitari internazionali che necessitavano di spazi per le interviste durante il Festival. Questo la portò al pubblicitista internazionale Richard Lormand, che le chiese di diventare sua assistente. Dopo due anni di collaborazione con lui, Brigitta decise di fondare la propria società, "Alibi Communications", e da allora è stata la pubblicitista internazionale per oltre 300 film nei principali festival cinematografici di tutto il mondo. Il suo talento per le lingue (parla fluentemente olandese, francese, inglese, tedesco, italiano e spagnolo), insieme alla sua passione per il cinema, ha contribuito in modo significativo al suo successo. La sua apertura e competenza le hanno permesso di costruire relazioni solide, amichevoli e sincere con registi, attori, produttori, agenti di vendita, nonché con giornalisti locali e internazionali. Grazie alla sua vasta rete di contatti nell'industria cinematografica, è sempre aperta a nuove sfide e ama promuovere film africani e arabi.

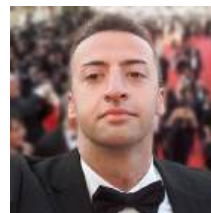
*It's been over 35 years since Brigitta Portier has been active in the film industry. It all started back in 1986 when she was in charge of the TV call at the Cannes Film Festival. Her main role was handling all the requests of International Publicist's requiring interview spaces during the Festival. This led to International Publicist Richard Lormand asking her to become his assistant. After two years working with Richard, Brigitta decided to create her own company 'Alibi Communications' and since then she has been the International Publicist for over 300 films at all the major film festivals around the world. Her gift for languages (fluent: Dutch, French, English, German, Italian, Spanish) along with her passion for cinema has played a significant part in her success. Her openness and knowledge have enabled her to create a good, friendly, honest relationships with Directors, Actors, Producers, Sales Agents as well as Local and International Journalists. With all her connections within the film industry she is always open to new challenges and loves promoting African and Arabic films.*



### SHIN KIM

Prima di entrare a far parte di HKBU, il Prof. Kim è stato Professore presso la Media School e Direttore dell'Institute for Convergence Culture della Hallym University, in Corea del Sud. Eletto Presidente della Korean Association for Public Diplomacy per il 2025, il Prof. Kim è Editor-in-Chief del Korean Social Science Journal, la principale rivista accademica del Korean Social Science Council (KSSC), un'associazione che riunisce quindici organizzazioni accademiche nazionali nelle scienze sociali e negli studi di management. L'area di ricerca e insegnamento del Prof. Kim comprende cinema e televisione, cultura e industrie creative, politiche dei media ed economia politica, nonché media globali. Recentemente, il Prof. Kim ha coordinato un progetto di ricerca nazionale quinquennale sulla modellizzazione dello sviluppo ICT della Corea ed è attualmente impegnato nello studio dell'impatto della narrazione nell'ambito delle scienze umane.

*Before joining HKBU, Prof. Kim was a Professor at the Media School & the Director of the Institute for Convergence Culture, Hallym University, South Korea. Elected as the President of the Korean Association for Public Diplomacy for 2025, Prof. Kim is the Editor-in-Chief of the Korean Social Science Journal - the flagship academic journal of the Korean Social Science Council, KSSC - an association of fifteen national academic associations in social sciences and management studies. Prof. Kim's area of research and teaching covers cinema and television, culture and creative industries, media policy and political economy, and global media. Prof. Kim recently managed a five-year national research project on modelling the Korea's ICT developments and is currently working on the impact of narration in humanity.*



### ALESSANDRO MASI

Dopo l'esperienza come responsabile dei contenuti e business developer della piattaforma VOD OwnAir.it, Alessandro Masi si trasferisce a Los Angeles dove si occupa principalmente di vendite internazionali e distribuzione per società come Myriad Pictures, Fremantle US, Cohen Media, Sierra/Affinity, Electric Entertainment, Sony Pictures Entertainment, American Zoetrope, lavorando su titoli di successo tra cui Barney Thomson, American Gods, The Salesman, Captain Fantastic, Manchester by the Sea, The Librarians, The Family Whistle, Adverse, A Father's Will, Light Falls. Distributore internazionale e produttore indipendente con il suo marchio FlexyMovies, da sempre fautore di strategie innovative di film business, ha assegnato premi speciali a film per le potenzialità sui mercati internazionali. Laurea in economia e commercio presso UniSiena, specialista in media management in Bocconi, MBA alla Hult, specializzazione in business dell'entertainment alla UCLA. Ha tenuto corsi di film business per il Centro Sperimentale, ricevuto il prestigioso Premio Heraclea come lucano distintosi all'estero nella sua professione, è membro della European Film Academy dal 2018.

*After his experience as head of content and business developer of the VOD platform OwnAir.it, Alessandro Masi moved to Los Angeles where he primarily worked in international sales and distribution for companies such as Myriad Pictures, Fremantle US, Cohen Media, Sierra/Affinity, Electric Entertainment, Sony Pictures Entertainment, American Zoetrope, handling successful titles including Barney Thomson, American Gods, The Salesman, Captain Fantastic, Manchester by the Sea, The Librarians, The Family Whistle, Adverse, A Father's Will, Light Falls. International distributor and independent producer with his brand FlexyMovies, always a supporter of innovative film business strategies, has awarded movies with special prizes for their potential on the international markets. He achieved a BSc in business economics from UniSiena, an MSc in media management from Bocconi, an MBA from Hult, a certificate in business of entertainment from UCLA. He has taught courses in film business for Centro Sperimentale, received the prestigious Heraclea Award as a Lucanian who has distinguished himself abroad in his profession, has been member of the European Film Academy since 2018.*



### DUBRAVKA LAKIĆ

Nata a Belgrado, Dubravka si è laureata in giornalismo presso la Facoltà di Scienze Politiche dell'Università di Belgrado nel 1983 e ha iniziato la sua carriera nel 1982 a Radio Belgrado. Dal 1995 al 1997 ha lavorato presso RTV Politika, dove è stata ideatrice di un programma cinematografico intitolato "In Media Res", e dal 2000 al 2004 di un altro chiamato "Kino-Klub". È membro della European Film Academy (EFA), del Consiglio esecutivo della Federazione dei Critici Cinematografici d'Europa e del Mediterraneo (FEDEORA), della Federazione Internazionale dei Critici Cinematografici (FIPRESCI), selezionatrice del programma internazionale del Cinema City IFF di Novi Sad, membro del consiglio del festival di documentari di Belgrado Beldocs e del consiglio del Centro Cinematografico Serbo.

*Born in Belgrade, Dubravka graduated in journalism at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade in 1983, she started her career in 1982 on Radio Belgrade. From 1995 to 1997, she worked in RTV Politika where she was the creator of a film show called "In Media Res", and from 2000 to 2004 another called "Kino-Klub". She is a member of the European Film Academy (EFA), a member of the Executive Board of the Federation of Film Critics of Europe and the Mediterranean (FEDEORA), a member of the International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI), a selector of the international program of the Cinema City IFF in Novi Sad, a member of the Board of the Belgrade documentary film festival Beldocs and a member of the Board of the Serbian Film Center.*



### REINHOLD JARETZKY

Nato nel 1952, ha studiato letteratura a Marburgo e Amburgo. È stato docente universitario presso l'Università di Amburgo e l'Università di Roma "La Sapienza" dal 1985 al 1991. Autore di biografie, è giornalista televisivo dal 1983 per ARD, ZDF, 3sat, arte. Nel 1999 ha fondato la casa di produzione cinematografica "Magic Mountain Film Berlin", con un focus sul documentario culturale. È autore di numerosi film documentari.

*Born in 1952, studied literature in Marburg and Hamburg. University lecturer at the University of Hamburg and at the University of Rome "La Sapienza" 1985-1991. Author of biographies. Television journalist since 1983 for ARD, ZDF, 3sat, arte. Founded in 1999 the film production "Magic Mountain Film Berlin" with focus on the cultural documentary. Author of numerous documentary films.*

# EVENTO SPECIALE

SPECIAL EVENT

domenica 24 maggio

Centro Culturale Altinate | San Gaetano  
Auditorium  
ore 16:00 - 20:00

Il Centro Culturale Altinate San Gaetano, in via Altinate 71, nel cuore di Padova, è uno degli spazi culturali più significativi della città. La sua posizione centrale e la facilità con cui può essere raggiunto lo rendono un luogo ideale per accogliere pubblico, istituzioni e operatori culturali, favorendo incontro, partecipazione e visibilità. Per il River Film Festival, inoltre, il San Gaetano rappresenta già uno spazio carico di valore: qui, nel 2025, ha trovato casa Veneto Agorà Cinema, evento speciale e primo mercato audiovisivo del festival, consolidando un legame importante tra il RiFF e uno dei luoghi simbolo della cultura cittadina.

*The Centro Culturale Altinate San Gaetano, located at Via Altinate 71 in the heart of Padua, is one of the city's most significant cultural venues. Its central location and easy accessibility make it an ideal place to host audiences, institutions, and cultural professionals, fostering exchange, participation, and visibility. For the River Film Festival, San Gaetano also represents a space rich in meaning: in 2025, it hosted Veneto Agorà Cinema, a special event and the festival's first audiovisual market, strengthening an important connection between RiFF and one of the city's symbolic cultural landmarks.*

# CERIMONIA DI APERTURA



# SHE

un film di Parsifal Reparato

Voci e corpi delle operaie dell'enorme parco industriale di elettronica in Vietnam, a Bac Ninh.

📅 Domenica **24** maggio ore 16:00



#### Una produzione

Antropica  
Istituto Luce Cinecittà  
PFA Films  
Les Films de l'oeil sauvage

#### con la partecipazione di

France Télévisions

#### in collaborazione con

Università degli Studi di Napoli  
Vietnam Academy of Social Science

#### col supporto di

Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée (CNC)  
Ministero della Cultura (MiC)  
Istituto Nazionale Previdenza Sociale  
Taiwan Foundation for Democracy  
Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro (CGIL)

**SHE è un racconto corale sulle operaie di uno dei più grandi stabilimenti industriali elettronici del Vietnam, con 80.000 lavoratori.**

L'80% della forza lavoro di base è costituita da donne che hanno accettato di fare turni di 12 ore, giorno e notte. I corpi delle operaie vengono svelati pezzo per pezzo, mantenendo il necessario anonimato che garantisce la libertà di raccontare le condizioni di lavoro imposte ad ognuna.

**SHE** è madre, figlia, moglie, single, migrante e stanziale allo stesso tempo. Ogni protagonista è diversa. Tuttavia, sono tutte collegate dallo sfruttamento a cui sono sottoposte ogni giorno, incapaci di realizzare i propri sogni nella dolorosa lotta per le proprie ambizioni.

# COOL CENTER AFRICAN VOICES

Dare forza a una nuova generazione di registe africane

📅 Domenica **24** maggio ore 17:30



La residenza cinematografica UNESCO-Tamayouz Cinema Foundation ha offerto a dieci talentuose registe africane l'opportunità di trasformare le proprie idee in realtà.

Nel corso di sei settimane in Marocco, hanno imparato, creato e collaborato per scrivere, produrre e dirigere i propri cortometraggi.

L'industria cinematografica africana rappresenta un importante motore di crescita economica, con il potenziale di generare oltre 20 miliardi di dollari all'anno e creare 20 milioni di posti di lavoro, secondo il rapporto UNESCO The African Film Industry: trends, challenges and opportunities for growth (2021).



LAMIA CHRAÏBI - PRODUCER  
Lamia Chraïbi, founder of the Tamayouz Cinema Foundation

Eppure, le donne restano fortemente sottorappresentate nei principali ruoli creativi e decisionali. Questa residenza UNESCO contribuisce a ridurre tale divario, creando uno spazio in cui le voci artistiche femminili possano crescere, entrare in relazione e aprire la strada a un cinema africano più inclusivo e diversificato.



LE REGISTE DI COOL CENTER AFRICAN VOICES

LOOM INSURANCE	Cianeh A. Kpukuyou
LUMIERE	Mariama Niang
BEHIND THE EADSET	Ivy Langat
+ 237 WANDAS	Lisette Nange
SIA	Hawi Kefale
AFTER HOURS	Esther Beukes
ON HOLD	Wissal Jabri
TRIGGER	Abigail Kelapile
SOUS LE VENTRE	Prunelle Sakofio
THE GIFT WITHIN	Rana Matar
TOYETIC	Hichman Lasri

# PROGRAMMA FILM IN CONCORSO

## FILM COMPETITION PROGRAM



## LUNGOMETRAGGI

### FEATURE FILMS

📍 **PALAZZO MORONI** Sala Paladin  
🕒 ore 18:00 - 20:00 / 6pm - 8pm

📍 **PORTELLO**  
🕒 ore 22:00 - 24:00 / 10pm - 12am

**Lunedì 25 maggio**  
*Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> May*

**THE EXTINCTION OF THE HUMAN RACE**  
Emanuele Aldrovandi / Italia 2025 / 85 min.

**Martedì 26 maggio**  
*Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May*

**NEW BEGINNINGS**  
Isabelle Ingold, Vivianne Perelmuter / Francia 2025 / 87 min.

**Mercoledì 27 maggio**  
*Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> May*

**SQUALI**  
Daniele Barbiero / Italia 2025 / 94 min.

**Giovedì 28 maggio**  
*Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> May*

**COMPARSA**  
Vickie Curtis, Doug Anderson / Guatemala 2025 / 79 min.

**Venerdì 29 maggio**  
*Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May*

**ZOE**  
Emanuela Galliussi, Dean Ronalds / Italia 2025 / 101 min.

**Sabato 30 maggio**  
*Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> May*

**COME ROMEO E GIULIETTA**  
Giuseppe Alessio Nuzzo / Italia 2025 / 86 min.

📍 **PORTELLO**

🕒 ore 22:00 - 24:00 / 10pm - 12am

**Domenica 31 maggio**  
*Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May*

**CATARTIS - conservare il futuro**  
Ferdinando Vicentini Orgnani / Italia 2025 / 94 min.

**Martedì 2 giugno**  
*Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June*

**INTERIOR APARTAMENTO DÍA**  
Laura Amelia Guzmán, Israel Cárdenas / Repubblica Dominicana  
2025 / 92 min.

**Mercoledì 3 giugno**  
*Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June*

**BEYOND THE SKIN**  
Alessandra Usai / Italia 2025 / 60 min.

# REALTÀ VIRTUALE

## VIRTUAL REALITY

**PALAZZO MORONI** Sala Anziani  dal **25 al 30 maggio**, ore 10:00 – 12:30 / 17:00 – 20:00  
from **25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May**, 10am - 12:30pm / 5pm - 8pm

### IMMERSIVE VR

**DREAMS OF BLINDNESS** Li Jiang / Cina 2025 / 121 min.

**HO SOGNATO DI SOGNARE UN SOGNO** Lucio Laugelli / Italia 2025 / 18 min.

**AN INDEFINITE LIFE** Liam Branagan / Australia 2025 / 11 min.

**TOWARD ENTROPY 360** Jaewook Lee / Stati Uniti 2025 / 15 min.

### INTERACTIVE VR

**MIRAGE** Naima Karim / Bangladesh, Olanda e Arabia Saudita 2025 / 8 min.

**THE THEATER AND I** Susan Shuhsien WANG / Taiwan 2025 / 18 min.

# SCUOLE DI CINEMA

## CINEMA SCHOOLS

**PORTELLO**  **Giovedì 4 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June**, 10pm - 12am

**THE HOLIDAYS** Iseta Alekseyeva / Federazione Russa 2026 / 20 min.

**JUST SAY HI** Olga Smelova / Russia 2025 / 15 min.

**POINT OF RETURN** András Heszky / Ungheria 2025 / 24 min.

**SONATA** Tullio Edoardo Rocca / Italia / 16 min.

**APNEA** Emanuele Sicignano / Italia 2025 / 19 min.

**FALLITI** Pietro Macaione / Italia 2025 / 15 min.

**LITTLE SOLDIER** Roxan Karami / Kurdistan 2026 / 13 min.

**PORTELLO**  **Venerdì 5 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June**, 10pm - 12am

**NICE GUY** Philip Schafferhans / Germania 2025 / 30 min.

**MY GARAGE!** Vladimir Sukhov / Federazione Russa 2025 / 22 min.

**KICKBACK** Dmitry Marin / Russia / 18 min.

**A GARDEN OVER THE SEA** Ziyang Wu / Cina / 2025 / 22 min.

**C'EST LA VIE** ZiHan Zheng / Cina 2025 / 30 min.

# SGUARDI VENETI

## VENETIAN GAZES

**PORTELLO**  **Sabato 6 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June**, 10pm - 12am

**CIELI ROSSI** Karma Gava / 2025 / 13 min.

**L'OSPITE** Alberto De Grandis / 2025 / 20 min.

**ULTIMA SPIAGGIA** Cesare Bisantis / 2025 / 20 min.

**MEDEA PROJECT** Iago Riet / 2025 / 24 min.

**LE PAROLE SONO PIETRE** Anastasia Zarbo / 2025 / 20 min.


**IL TACCO BULGARO** Federico Gionco / 2025 / 9 min.



# SGUARDI ITALIANI

## ITALIAN GAZES

 **PORTELLO**

 **Domenica 7 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm - 12am*

**LA MACCHINA DI RENATO** Andrea Orsenigo / 2025 / 18 min.

**CARAMELLA** Valerio Narcisi / 2025 / 16 min.

**BAGARRE** Sarah Narducci / 2025 / 15 min.


**GOODBYE BAGHDAD** Simone Manetti / 2025 / 20 min.

**REWIND AGENCY** Antonella Spatti / 2025 / 20 min.

**SOLO IL TUO VISO** Tommaso Banti / 2025 / 16 min.

**I FIORI NON HANNO LE SCARPE** Matteo Vicentini Orgnani / 12 min.

 **PORTELLO**

 **Lunedì 8 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm - 12am*

**CRUMBS** Marco Scannicchio / 2025 / 14 min.

**L'ARTE DELLA BANDIERA BIANCA** Riccardo Pittaluga / 2025 / 6 min.

**NON PUOI CAPIRMI** Christian Dei / 2025 / 10 min.

**HEAVEN OR NOT** Esmeralda Spadea / 2025 / 12 min.

**FRATTURE** Mattia Trezza-Stefano Mattacchione / 2025 / 14 min.

**TERESINA** Irene Belluzzi / 2025 / 20 min.


**UNA NOTTE ANCORA** Carmelo Segreto / 2025 / 20 min.

**ASTRONAUTA** Giorgio Giampà / 2025 / 16 min.

# ORIZZONTI INTERNAZIONALI

## INTERNATIONAL HORIZONS

 **PORTELLO**

 **Martedì 9 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm - 12am*

**LEV BERGER** Jan Fabris / Slovenia 2025 / 25 min.

**EASTER DAY** Mykola Zasioiev / Francia-Ucraina 2025 / 17 min.

**AI AI AI** Jörn Linnenbröker-Neda Rahmanian / Germania 2025 / 13 min.

**INTO THE DARK** George Negrila / Romania 2025 / 27 min.

**AM WASSER** Claudius von Stolzmann / Austria-Germania 2025 / 20 min.

**THE SHIFT** Xenia Beloglazova / Federazione Russa 2025 / 14 min.

 **PORTELLO**

 **Mercoledì 10 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm - 12am*

**IRREVOCABLE SENTENCE** Theodoros Tziatzios / Grecia 2025 / 18 min.

**THIRTY SEVEN DOLLARS** Ashish Sharma / Singapore 2025 / 10 min.

**A LIE** Tong Wang / Cina 2026 / 18 min.

**CLÍODHNA** Aaron Ryan / Irlanda-Germania 2025 / 10 min.


**PIT** Egor Koreshkov / Federazione Russa 2025 / 24 min.

**LINDA, LINDA!** Kiyan Agadjani / Lussemburgo 2025 / 18 min.

**VOICELESS** Thomas Schubert / UK 2025 / 20 min.

**DIRTY CLOTHES** María Barragán / Spagna 2025 / 3 min.

 **PORTELLO**

 **Giovedì 11 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm - 12am*

**SCHMIQUARDS** Charlotte Cayeux / Francia 2025 / 9 min.

**YOGA GIRL** Kaitlyn Furey / Stati Uniti 2025 / 9 min.

**THE PIANIST** Jan Wang / Stati Uniti 2026 / 14 min.


**NEMESIS** Zin Ataş / Turchia 2025 / 28 min.

**MILKY GIRL** Olga Dobromyslova / Federazione Russa 2025 / 15 min.

**THE RIDE** Slava Denisov / Stati Uniti 2025 / 15 min.

**ONE WAY TICKET TO TBILISI** Paul Ploberger / Austria-Georgia 2025 / 30 min.

 **PORTELLO**

 **Venerdì 12 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm - 12am*

**WARDEN** Sabah Mohammadi / Iran 2025 / 15 min.

**THE THIRD DREAM** Mohammadhossein Nikzad / Iran 2025 / 19 min.

**HAEMO\_PHILIA** Kiarash Salehi / Iran 2025 / 20 min.

**HEADACHE** Paria Shojaeian / Iran 2025 / 15 min.

**TOO FAR, TOO LATE** Reza Daghigh / Iran 2025 / 15 min.

**PREHISTORIC** Armin Etemadi / Iran 2025 / 20 min.

**FULL FAT** Amir Honarmand / Iran 2025 / 20 min.

# DOCUMENTARI

## DOCUMENTARIES



PORTELLO

**Sabato 13 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Saturday 13<sup>rd</sup> June, 10pm – 12am*

**BEYOND THE PYRAMIDS** Kenzy Tarek Samir / Egitto 2025 / 16 min.

**NUR SULTAN** Xoan Escudero / Spagna 2025 / 14 min.

**SOLO LINA** Filippo Da Ross Italia 2025 / 17 min.

**SUNDAY** Giulio Tonincelli / Italia 2025 / 15 min.

**AFTER THE WATER** Davide Marchesi / Italia 2025 / 23 min.

**SWEET SWEAT** Michele Formica / Italia 2025 / 20 min.

**PRIMA DELL'AURORA** Chiara Zoja / Italia 2025 / 15 min.



PORTELLO

**Domenica 14 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm - 12am*

**SPARTITI MANCANTI** Eleonora Valentino / Italia 2025 / 20 min.

**MARE INFINITU** Alexandra BREZNAY / Francia 2025 / 26 min.

**THE LAST PUESTERO** Belle Casares / Stati Uniti 2025 / 28 min.

**BEIRUT ADDIO** Jean-Claude Chinchéré / Italia 2025 / 20 min.

**HODOUD** Hamdi Khalil Elhousseini, Samar Taher Lulu / 13 min.

# ANTROPOCENE



PORTELLO

**Lunedì 15 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm – 12am*

**UN'AMICIZIA OLTRE IL CONFINE** Antonio Collese / Italia 2026 / 2 min.

**COME L'ACQUA DEL FIUME BRENTA** Francesco Leitner / 2025 / 30 min.

**OKAPI** Andrea Rinaldi / Congo/Italia 2025 / 15 min.

**TRANSCRISIS: AWARENESS SPARKS AS SPIDER SILK** Jansword Zhu / Cina 2025 / 3 min.

**IL CUSTODE DELLA NATURA** Leonardo Medesani, Chiara Gianusso / Italia 2025 / 14 min.

**ARS ANIMALIS FOR TROUBLED TIMES** Anne Ciecko / Stati Uniti 2025 / 4 min.

**AL WADIAA** Hedy Krissane / Tunisia 2025 / 11 min.

**THE PASSION OF ARGHAVAN** Pouria Bagheri / Iran 2025 / 19 min.

**ICE ICE BYE BYE** Sebastien Abdelhamid Godelu / Francia 2026 / 10 min.

# ANIMAZIONE

## ANIMATION



PORTELLO

**Martedì 16 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm – 12am*

**THE ROPE** Saba Javar / Iran 2025 / 17 min.

**FOUNTAIN (CHAWK)** Hazhir As'adi / Iran 2025 / 13 min.

**AT NIGHT** Pooya Afzali / Iran 2025 / 5 min.

**FILKOOL** Maral Forouzes, Naser Rezaeiyan / Iran 2025 / 7 min.

**MAMIMIMUMEMO** Tamaki Ngoc Tran / Finlandia 2025 / 7 min.

**LOST & FOUND** Yu-Chiao Lin / Taiwan 2025 / 6 min.

**THE SNOWY NIGHT** Chiao-Yun Cheng / Taiwan 2025 / 12 min.

**STORY OF A SAD BOY** Carlos Blázquez Rámila / Spagna 2025 / 5 min.

**PAPER FLOWERS** Carlo De Togni / Italia 2025 / 2 min.

**DOBRINA** Hannes Rall / Germania 2025 / 5 min.

**KAPŌ MA'I LELE** Laura Margulies-Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu / Stati Uniti 2025 / 12 min.

**RUKELI** Alessandro Rak / Italia-Svezia 2025 / 6 min.

**SPLASHBACK** Sören Meinke / Germania 2025 / 3 min.

**MOUNTAIN OF SILENCE** Sami Ali Kaka / Iraq 2025 / 3 min.

**LA VIE AVEC UN IDIOT** Theodore Ushev / France 2025 / 18 min.

# QUEER/LGBTQIA+



PORTELLO

**Mercoledì 17 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm – 12am*

**SANTE** Valeria Gaudieri / Italia 2025 / 20 min.

**DANI & BILLY** Egoitz Carpenter / Spagna 2025 / 13 min.

**FIRST TIME IN DRAG** Pietro Macaione / Italia 2025 / 15 min.

**WETBOY** Yentl Vlachos / Olanda 2025 / 10 min.

**GLITTER** Farideh Shafiei / Iran 2025 / 13 min.

**THE DRUG OF BEING LOVED** Àlex Arroyo / Spagna 2025 / 16 min.


**UNIFORMED (FARDADO)** Dan Biurrum / Brasile 2025 / 25 min.

**WHY WE PRIDE** Natalie Scarsbrook / U.K 2025 / 8 min.

# FANTASCIENZA

## SCIENCE FICTION

 PORTELLO

 **Giovedì 18 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm – 12am*

**TANTI AUGURI** Samuel di Marzo / Italia 2025 / 15 min.

**THE BLESSED ONE** César Manzano / Venezuela 2025 / 20 min.

**CANDIDO** Giorgio Clementelli / Italia 2025 / 14 min.

**THE 8 GATES** Miguel R. Berride / Spagna 2025 / 20 min.

**PHONONAUTA** Stefano De Felici / Italia 2025 / 13 min.


**SMALL TALK** Zana Selimi, Justus Briese / Svizzera 2025 / 17 min.

**THE AWAKENING OF THE LAND** Massimiliano L. Delfino / Italia 2025 / 16 min.

# INTELLIGENZA ARTIFICIALE

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

 PORTELLO

 **Venerdì 19 giugno**, ore 22:00 – 24:00  
*Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June, 10pm – 12am*

**FUNNY THINGS** Francesco D'Isa / Italia 2025 / 2 min.

**SILENT ECHOES** Carlo De Togni / Italia 2025 / 20 min.

**RAILBOUND** Jonathan Perry / Stati Uniti 2025 / 2 min.

**A DREAM MY SISTER HAD** Fabio Thieme / Germania / 7 min.

**HORIZON** Analog Mirage / Francia 2025 / 4 min.

**THE SEA** Davide Vichi / Italia 2025 / 10 min.

**NINE AWAKEN** Bun Kwai-Amos Why / Hong Kong 2025 / 17 min.

**MATRIX OF CYCLES** Yossi Galanti / Israel 2026 / 6 min.

**ECHOED IN WATER** Yossi Galanti / Israel 2025 / 2 min.

**MARKED FOR SNUFF** Pavel Karusev / Kazakistan 2026 / 15 min.

**ALL SHE WANTS FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU** Jeremy Ouisse / Francia 2025 / 4 min.

**I DON'T TRUST ARTISTS** Salvatore Frisina / Italia 2025 / 8 min.

**MAKE A WISH** Hakan Kemixiz / Turchia 2026 / 5 min.

# CERIMONIA DI PREMIAZIONE

## AWARD CEREMONY

**Sabato 20 giugno**, ore 21:30 – 24:00

*Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 9:30pm – 12am*



**Golden River** | hand-made by Murano Glass Masters

# LUNGOMETRAGGI

in concorso

## FEATURE FILMS

dal 25 al 30 maggio

Palazzo Moroni, Sala Paladin - ore 18:00 - 20:00

Scalinata Fluviale di Porta Portello - ore 22:00 - 24:00

3 giugno

Scalinata Fluviale di Porta Portello -

ore 22:00 - 24:00

Il RiFF celebra il suo ventesimo compleanno con un passaggio di categoria che ne segna la maturità e ne rafforza il valore culturale: l'ingresso dei **lungometraggi** in concorso. Sono un impegno e una scommessa che offre agli autori uno schermo, un pubblico vero e un confronto diretto: vedere la propria opera accolta, discussa e condivisa in un contesto ospitale e partecipato.

*RiFF celebrates its twentieth anniversary with a major step forward that marks its maturity and growing significance: the introduction of **feature films** in competition. It's a commitment—and a bold bet—that gives filmmakers a screen and direct contact with the Festival audience, offering the chance to engage with viewers in a welcoming, open, and hospitable environment.*



### THE EXTINCTION OF THE HUMAN

l u n  
25.05

RACE Italia 2025 / 85 min.

Durante una pandemia causata da un virus che trasforma gli esseri umani in tacchini, due coppie rimangono intrappolate nel corridoio del palazzo in cui vivono. Il conflitto tra Andrea, che vuole andare a correre, e Marco, che cerca di impedirglielo, si intensifica e coinvolge le rispettive compagne, i corrieri che consegnano i pacchi e un medico di ritorno dall'ospedale, sfociando in un confronto radicale che mette a dura prova le loro relazioni e le loro visioni del mondo.

*During a pandemic caused by a virus that turns humans into turkeys, two couples are trapped in the hallway of the building where they live. The conflict between Andrea, who wants to go jogging, and Marco, who tries to stop him, intensifies and involves their partners, the couriers delivering packages, and a doctor returning from the hospital, escalating into a radical confrontation that puts their relationships and worldviews to the test.*



### NEW BEGINNINGS

m a r  
26.05

Francia 2025 / 87 min.

Al Moon, veterano della guerra del Vietnam, vive da solo nelle terre della sua tribù nel nord della California. Mentre la violenza e la distruzione ecologica si abbattono sulla riserva, vecchie ansie riaffiorano. Al non ha altra scelta che mettersi in viaggio per affrontare ciò che lo tormenta e ricongiungersi con gli uomini del suo battaglione. Ogni incontro lungo il cammino rivela un paese diviso, alle prese con le proprie ferite, un inquietante riflesso del suo tormento interiore.

*Vietnam War veteran Al Moon lives alone on his tribal lands in Northern California. As violence and ecological destruction sweep across the reservation, old anxieties resurface. Al has no choice but to hit the road to confront what haunts him and reunite with the men of his battalion. Each encounter along the way reveals a divided country grappling with its own wounds - a disturbing reflection of his inner turmoil.*



### Emanuele Aldrovandi

Emanuele Aldrovandi (Reggio Emilia, 1985) is a writer and director working across theatre, literature and cinema.

After graduating in Philosophy and at the Paolo Grassi School of Dramatic Arts in Milan, he established himself in theatre, writing around fifteen plays since 2010 that have received numerous awards, including the Riccione/Tondelli Prize, the Hystrio Prize and the Pirandello Prize.



### Isabelle Ingold / Vivianne Perelmuter

Isabelle Ingold is a freelance editor and director. As an editor, she has worked with directors as diverse as Amos Gitai, Vincent Dieutre, Bojena Horackova, Itvan Kebabdzic, Hélène Marini, and Julia Pinget.

Vivianne Perelmuter is a Belgian-Brazilian filmmaker. Her films explore the fields of documentary, fiction and essay. They have been widely diffused at international festivals and awarded prizes on various occasions.



## SQUALI (SHARKS)

Italia 2025 / 94 min.

Max, un ragazzo di diciannove anni proveniente da un piccolo paese veneto, si ritrova a vivere l'estate che segue la maturità, quel periodo di libertà tanto atteso ma anche segnato dalla necessità di prendere decisioni importanti per il futuro. Insieme ai suoi amici, Filippo e Anna, ha pianificato un viaggio in Spagna per celebrare la fine della scuola, ma tutto cambia quando riceve una proposta inaspettata...

*Max, a nineteen-year-old boy from a small town in Veneto, finds himself experiencing the summer following his final exams, that long-awaited period of freedom, but also marked by the need to make important decisions for the future. Together with his friends, Filippo and Anna, he has planned a trip to Spain to celebrate the end of school, but everything changes when he receives an unexpected proposal...*

mer  
27.05



## Daniele Barbiero

Daniele Barbiero made his debut in short filmmaking with "Mirror," which won more than 30 awards at national and international short film festivals. This was followed by the shorts "Radice di 9" (starring Matilde Gioli, Francesco Montanari, and Matilda De Angelis), "The Colorful Life of Jenny P." and "The Essence of Everything."

After directing the first season of the TV series "Clan," available on Netflix and RaiPlay, he completed his feature debut "Squali."



## COMPARSA

Guatemala 2025 / 79 min.

In un quartiere guatemalteco ammutolito dalla paura, due sorelle adolescenti guidano una luminosa ribellione, scatenando marionette giganti, fuoco e performance artistiche per protestare contro la violenza di genere in una gioiosa lotta per la sopravvivenza.

*In a Guatemalan barrio silenced by fear, two teenage sisters lead a luminous rebellion—unleashing giant puppets, fire, and artful performance to protest gender violence in a joyful fight for survival.*

gio  
28.05



## Vickie Curtis & Doug Anderson

Comparsa is Vickie's directorial debut after ten years of writing non-fiction films. Vickie has represented the Comparsa team at DOC NYC's Industry Roundtables and also in Rio, when the project was selected for Doc Society's 2024 Democracy Story Lab. Doug Anderson (director, producer, sound recordist) is a filmmaker, producer, and sound engineer living in New York.



## ZOE

Italia 2025 / 101 min.

Zoe, una donna italiana, ha tutte le cose che dovrebbero rendere una persona felice, ma purtroppo non lo è. Durante il Martedì Grasso, nel pieno del carnevale, incontra un bambino vestito da mago le concede un desiderio e tre possibilità per vivere la vita che ha sempre desiderato.

*Zoe, an Italian woman, has all the things that should make a person happy, unfortunately she's not. On Mardi Gras a little boy dressed as a wizard grants her a wish at three chances to live the life she's always yearned for.*

ven  
29.05



## Emanuela Galliussi / Dean Ronalds

Emanuela Galliussi graduated at the Accademia Nazionale D'Arte Drammatica Silvio D'Amico in Rome. She acted in Film, TV and Theatre with top directors like Gabriele Muccino, Cristina Comencini, and James McTeigue. She collaborated with Juliette Binoche on Certified Copy by Abbas Kiarostami.



## COME ROMEO E GIULIETTA

Italia 2025 / 86 min.

Federica e Riccardo sono due ragazzi tanto diversi quanto speciali. In comune hanno solo uno spasmodico amore per la vita ed un segreto unico nel suo genere. Si conoscono, si amano e si perdono, proprio come i due protagonisti del romanzo di Shakespeare, vivendo in una bolla d'amore, costantemente messo alla prova da forze esterne che provano in tutti i modi a scalfirlo. Ma in un mondo in cui gli amori normali sembrano essere così fragili, forse ne serve uno speciale per superare qualunque ostacolo.

*Federica and Riccardo are as different as they are special. There is something that they have in common, though – an undeniable lust for life and a one-of-a-kind secret. The two get to know each other, fall in love and drift apart, just like in Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. They live in their own little bubble of love – a bubble, though, that everyone is threatening to pop. But in a world where ordinary loves break easily, a special one may be all it takes to form an unbreakable bond.*

sab  
30.05



## Giuseppe Alessio Nuzzo

Born in 1989, he is a film director, screenwriter, and producer. He studied directing at the National Film & TV School in London and the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome, also completing university studies at the University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli, the British Council, and the Maia Workshops. He holds two degrees, one in Cinema and Performing Arts with honors and a thesis on technological innovation and virtual reality in cinema, and another in Dentistry.



**CATARTIS - CONSERVARE IL FUTURO** dom  
31.05  
Italia 2025 / 94 min.

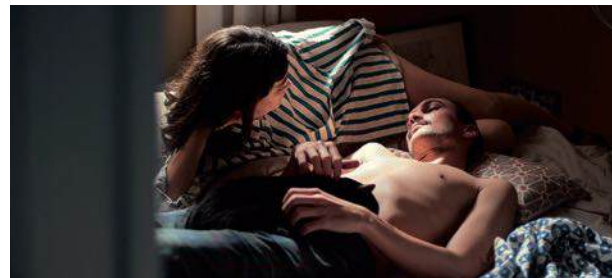
Un viaggio nel mondo dell'arte contemporanea che raccoglie le testimonianze di artisti e addetti ai lavori, e mostra un backstage inedito, visto dall'occhio del regista che ha raccolto con passione questi preziosi frammenti. I grandi protagonisti dell'arte ci sveleranno qualche segreto e ci mostreranno nuovi punti di vista. Ogni artista è portatore di una sua identità unica che nessun'altro avrebbe potuto inventare.

*A journey into the world of contemporary art that brings together the testimonies of artists and industry professionals, revealing an unseen backstage as seen through the eye of the director who has passionately collected these precious fragments. The great protagonists of art will unveil some secrets and show us new perspectives. Each artist carries a unique identity that no one else could have invented.*



**Ferdinando Vicentini  
Orgnani**

Graduated in directing at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome in 1992, where he made the short film "Apocrifi" about the Crowley case. He has written and directed the films "Vinodentro" (2014), "Ilaria Alpi - The Cruellest Day" (2003), and "Mare Largo" (1998), and many feature films distributed all around the world. In July 2025, he completed the documentary "CATARTIS - Preserving the Future" (2025), a journey into the world of contemporary art.



**INTERIOR APARTAMENTO DÍA** mar  
02.06  
Repubblica Dominicana 2025 / 92 min.

Omar e Nini sono una giovane coppia nel pieno della loro storia d'amore, condividono un piccolo appartamento a Santo Domingo dove fanno l'amore e si prendono cura della loro gatta cieca, Luna. Quando i loro percorsi come freelance creativi iniziano a incrinarsi e l'incertezza economica fa emergere profondi risentimenti, una nuova opportunità di lavoro per Nini sembra offrire una possibile via d'uscita.

*Omar and Nini are a young couple in bloom, sharing a small apartment in Santo Domingo where they make love and tend to their blind cat Luna. When their paths as creative freelancers begin to sour and financial uncertainty exposes deep resentments, a new job opportunity for Nini offers a potential lifeline.*



**Laura Amelia Guzmán  
& Israel Cárdenas**

Israel Cárdenas was born in Monterrey, Mexico, and Laura Amelia Guzmán was born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, both in 1980. They are directors, screenwriters and producers. Together, they directed feature films like "Cochochi" (2007), "Jean Gentil" (2010), "Carmita" (2013), "Sand Dollars" (2014), "Sambá" (2017), and "Holy Beasts" (2019). Their work was presented in film festivals like Berlin, Venice, Rotterdam, Toronto, and Tribeca.



**BEYOND THE SKIN** mer  
03.06  
Italia 2025 / 60 min.

La violenza che marchia, l'impegno che cura. Un medico friulano salva le donne sfregiate con l'acido. La sua missione è restituire il sorriso a donne che a causa di una violenza brutale hanno perso tutto: volto, ruolo, dignità.

*Violence that scars, commitment that heals. A doctor from Friuli saves women disfigured by acid. His mission is to restore a smile to women who, due to brutal violence, have lost everything: their faces, their roles, their dignity.*



**Alessandra Usai**

Alessandra Usai is a director, documentary filmmaker, and producer. She holds a degree in Literature with a specialization in Film History and trained in documentary filmmaking at the Scuola Civica di Milano. Her work explores human rights, social justice, and women's stories, with a poetic perspective and an anthropological approach. She has been engaged in social issues since 2008, when she made "Vrindavan", a documentary on the right to education, and she continues to investigate civic and environmental themes.

# REALTÀ VIRTUALE

in concorso

VIRTUAL REALITY

dal 25 al 30 maggio

Palazzo Moroni, Sala Anziani  
ore 10:00 - 12:30 | 17:00 - 20:00



## Realtà Virtuale: una sezione irrinunciabile

Sezione "storica" del RIFF dal 2019, la Realtà Virtuale è ormai un pilastro del concorso. Alla possibilità di esplorare nuovi mondi attraverso la visione immersiva si affianca oggi quella di viverli: opere interattive, esperienze partecipative e tecnologie sempre aggiornate, messe a disposizione del pubblico per ampliare — in modo concreto — i confini dell'esperienza cinematografica.

### Virtual Reality: A Must-Have Section

*A "historic" RIFF section since 2019, Virtual Reality has become an essential part of the competition. Alongside the opportunity to explore new worlds through immersive viewing, audiences can now also experience them: interactive works, participatory formats, and constantly updated equipment made available to the public —expanding, in a tangible way, the boundaries of the cinematic experience.*



## DREAMS OF BLINDNESS

25.05 - 30.05  
IMMERSIVE VR

Cina 2025 / 121 min.

Utilizzando i sogni come punto di partenza, questo film si concentra sul mondo interiore delle persone non vedenti. Attraverso l'integrazione di tecnologie di realtà virtuale e AIGC (Intelligenza Artificiale Generativa Condizionata), invita gli spettatori a entrare in uno spazio onirico condiviso, un viaggio immersivo nelle dimensioni poetiche dell'oscurità.

*Using dreams as an entry point, this film focuses on the inner worlds of visually impaired individuals. Through the integration of VR imaging and AIGC technologies, it invites viewers to enter a shared dream space, an immersive journey into the poetic dimensions of darkness.*



## Li Jiang

I wear many hats—actress, director, curator, and arts educator—all of which shape my identity as a teaching artist.

I starred in *Vanishing Days* (2018), which was selected for the 69th Berlin International Film Festival, an experience that inspired me to reflect on how the arts can connect the self to a broader world.



## HO SOGNATO DI SOGNARE UN SOGNO

25.05 - 30.05  
IMMERSIVE VR

Italia 2025 / 18 min.

Marta, una ventenne torinese, torna nel paese d'origine della sua famiglia per preparare un esame universitario e riconnettersi con le proprie radici. Inizialmente distaccata, ritrova per caso Giada, un'amica d'infanzia, che la guida alla scoperta del patrimonio naturalistico e culturale del Monferrato. Grazie all'incontro con Giada e Carlo, un giovane apicoltore impegnato in un progetto di monitoraggio ambientale tramite le api, Marta vive un'esperienza trasformativa che la spinge a riconsiderare il proprio stile di vita.

*Marta, a young woman in her twenties from Turin, returns to her family's hometown, to prepare for a university exam and reconnect with her roots. Initially detached, she unexpectedly reunites with Giada, a childhood friend, who guides her in discovering the natural and cultural heritage of Monferrato. Thanks to her encounter with Giada and Carlo, a young beekeeper involved in an environmental monitoring project using bees, Marta undergoes a transformative experience that leads her to reconsider her lifestyle.*



## Lucio Laugelli

After his university studies at DAMS in Bologna and IULM in Milan, he developed his profession in the audiovisual world, dividing his work between commercial and artistic projects.

For the former, he collaborates as a freelancer with agencies in Milan, Turin, and Alessandria, working with major brands such as Bvlgari, Parmacotto, Michelin, Yamamay, UNESCO, Confcommercio, Sony Music, Mescal Music, and many others. For the latter, he coordinates teams in synergy with independent production companies.



## AN INDEFINITE LIFE

Australia 2025 / 11 min.

Un richiedente asilo inizia uno sciopero della fame per protestare contro la sua detenzione a tempo indeterminato in un centro offshore, creando un dilemma etico per il Dottore incaricato di tenerlo in vita.

*An asylum seeker begins a hunger strike to protest his indefinite offshore detention, which creates an ethical quandary for the Doctor tasked with keeping him alive.*

25.05 - 30.05  
IMMERSIVE VR



## Liam Branagan

Liam Branagan and Eve Spence have collaborated on a number of award-winning short films, and are currently developing feature projects.

Liam produced their short film "Playground", which premiered at Berlin International Film Festival and went on to win six awards.



## TOWARD ENTROPY 360

Stati Uniti 2025 / 15 min.

"*Toward Entropy 360*" è un'esperienza filmica immersiva a 360° che invita il pubblico a entrare in un mondo dove i gesti monumentali della land art incontrano la silenziosa persistenza della natura. Quest'opera reimmagina opere di land art storicamente significativi non come monumenti statici, ma come ecologie in evoluzione e fragili, modellate dal tempo, dal clima e dalla memoria. Le piante si riappropriano del terreno, l'acqua sale e le forme familiari si dissolvono, mettendo in discussione la permanenza dell'ambizione umana.

*"Toward Entropy 360" is an immersive 360° film experience that invites audiences to step into a world where land art's monumental gestures meet the quiet persistence of nature. This work reimagines historically significant earthworks, not as static monuments, but as evolving, fragile ecologies shaped by time, weather, and memory. Plants reclaim the ground, water rises, and familiar forms dissolve, questioning the permanence of human ambition.*

25.05 - 30.05  
IMMERSIVE VR



## Jaewook Lee

Jaewook Lee is a new media artist whose practice uses video games as an artistic medium, alongside 3D/CGI animation, virtual reality (VR), and interactive installations. His work explores speculative histories and immersive ecologies. Through computational worlds, he treats interaction as a critical artistic method, examining cultural, ecological, and social questions. Lee's solo exhibitions include the Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei (2024), the Museo de Antofagasta at the SACO9 Contemporary Art Festival in Chile (2020), and the SVA-NYC Art Platform in Shanghai (2017, 2019).

[virtual reality](#)



## MIRAGE

Bangladesh, Olanda e Arabia Saudita 2025 / 8 min.

Mirage è una storia interattiva in Realtà Virtuale sulla figlia dell'artista, che sta lottando contro depressione e ansia. Il pubblico intraprende un viaggio immersivo nella mente della giovane ragazza. Grazie all'interattività e a un gilet aptico, gli spettatori saranno incoraggiati a sostenerla nelle sue difficoltà. Mirage fa luce sulle realtà spesso fraintese della depressione e dell'ansia, ispirando empatia.

*Mirage is an interactive Virtual Reality story of the artist's daughter, who is battling depression and anxiety. The audience embarks on an immersive journey through the young girl's mind. Using interactivity and a haptic vest, they will be encouraged to support her through her challenges. Mirage sheds light on the often misunderstood realities of depression and anxiety, inspiring empathy.*

25.05 - 30.05  
INTERACTIVE VR



## Naima Karim

Naima Karim is a fine artist born and raised in Bangladesh. She immigrated to the Netherlands after earning her Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from Dhaka University.

She works with various mediums, depending on her artwork, but primarily uses acrylic, oil, and watercolor. Her works are impressionistic, abstract, and minimalistic. Her inspirations are mainly the sky, clouds, and their transformation over time and with the seasons.



## THE THEATER AND I

Taiwan 2025 / 18 min.

In un angolo dimenticato della città, un anziano proiezionista attende. Gli spettatori entrano in un teatro della memoria ricostruito, offrendo vecchie pellicole al proiezionista, che ridà vita a un mondo scomparso attraverso il tremolio di un fascio da 35 mm. Mentre ogni bobina gira, la luce riporta alla luce i resti architettonici ed emotivi del Teatro Tengaiten — un tempo il cinema a cupola più grandioso di Taiwan, oggi ridotto a un anonimo parcheggio.

*In a forgotten corner of the city, an aging projectionist awaits. Audiences step into a reconstructed theater of memory, offering vintage film reels to the projectionist, who breathes life into a vanished world through the flicker of a 35mm beam. As each reel spins, light unearths the architectural and emotional remnants of the Tengaiten Theater—once Taiwan's grandest domed cinema, now reduced to a blank parking lot.*

25.05 - 30.05  
INTERACTIVE VR



## Susan Shuhsien WANG

Playing the principal specialist at an electronics company with earlier career as an architecture journalist, Susan brings a diverse background on the table. She holds a B.S. (Hons) in Industrial Design from NCKU Taiwan, a Postgraduate Diploma in Urban Design from UCL UK, and is currently pursuing an MA in Moving Pictures at NTUA Taiwan, exploring the intersection of technology and art, with XR training from KFF and TFA workshops. Her projects focus on urban memories and mental recovery, with independent production companies.

[virtual reality](#)

# SCUOLE DI CINEMA

in concorso

CINEMA SCHOOLS

4 e 5 giugno

Un omaggio alla freschezza e al coraggio delle nuove generazioni. I corti selezionati dalle scuole di cinema di tutto il mondo mostrano uno sguardo inedito e audace sul presente, con racconti che intrecciano intimità e sperimentazione visiva.

*A tribute to the freshness and courage of the new generations.*

*The shorts selected by film schools around the world show a new and bold look at the present, with stories that intertwine intimacy and visual experimentation.*



## THE HOLIDAYS

g i o  
04.06

Federazione Russa 2026 / 18 min.

Un giovane musicista in difficoltà torna nella sua piccola città natale per le vacanze estive. Lì incontra la sua ex ragazza del liceo e, per riconquistarla, decide di esibirsi in un concerto sul tetto del suo palazzo.

*A down-on-his-luck young musician returns to his small hometown for summer break. There, he meets his high school ex-girlfriend and, to win her back, decides to perform a concert on the roof of her apartment building.*



## Iseta Alekseyeva

Born in 1994 in Bashkortostan, she graduated from the Philology Department of the State Social and Humanitarian University in Kolomna. In late 2021, she enrolled in the Higher Cinema and Television Courses at VGIK. During her studies, she participated in ten projects in various positions, from logger to second director. Her graduation project resulted in the short film "Vacation"—the story of a young musician who returns to his hometown for the summer holidays.



## JUST SAY HI

g i o  
04.06

Russia 2025 / 15 min.

Vanya è segretamente innamorato di Masha. Il suo amico cerca di organizzare per loro un incontro perfetto, ma quando Vanya vede Masha, sprofonda nel mondo delle proprie fantasie.

*Vanya is secretly in love with Masha. His friend is trying to arrange a perfect acquaintance for them, but when Vanya sees Masha, he falls into the world of his own fantasies.*



## Olga Smelova

I was born in 1988 in Moscow. I graduated from MPGU in 2011 with a degree in culturology. I can sew, draw, cross-stitch, create and write different stories. My whole life is connected with art. I worked as an assistant director, assistant costume designer. I had a business of producing plush postcards. Since 2023 I have been studying in Moscow film school.



g i o  
04.06

## POINT OF RETURN

Ungheria 2025 / 24 min.

Sette amici camminano nel bosco in un caldo pomeriggio di sabato. Quella che inizia come una passeggiata leggera rivela lentamente le crepe silenziose tra di loro. Al centro: Lily e Abel, legati da anni da un rapporto platonico che nessuno dei due ha mai osato nominare. Mentre il gruppo si disperde in diverse configurazioni, le loro percezioni di sé e degli altri iniziano a cambiare.

*Seven friends walk through the woods on a hot Saturday afternoon. What begins as a light hike slowly reveals the quiet cracks between them. At the centre: Lily and Abel, connected for years by a platonic bond neither dared to name. As the group drifts into different formations, their perceptions of themselves and of each other begin to change.*



g i o  
04.06

## SONATA

Italia / 16 min.

Ginevra e Giulio sono fratelli, ma questa è l'unica cosa che hanno in comune: neanche il pianoforte li unisce più come un tempo. Obbligata a sacrificarsi per salvare Giulio da se stesso e dalla prigione, Ginevra scoprirà in sé lo stesso fuoco violento che arde nel fratello.

*Ginevra and Giulio are siblings, but that's all they have in common: even the piano no longer unites them. When Ginevra is forced to sacrifice everything to keep Giulio from destroying himself and ending up behind bars, she uncovers within herself the same violent fire that burns in her brother.*



## András Heszky

Born in Budapest, 1989. After a decade of work in the contemporary art field on international projects both abroad and in my hometown Budapest, curating exhibitions, creative directing and producing non-fiction short portrait films on artists both in commercial and not-for-profit galleries, I have studied script writing in Budapest and graduated at the Master in Film Directing studies at Escola Superior de Cinema i Audiovisuals de Catalunya. Point of Return is my debut short film created in the framework of the program.



## Tullio Edoardo Rocca

After earning a degree in Philosophy, Tullio Edoardo Rocca left the dust of the library behind and set off to study documentary filmmaking at the National Film School of Cuba. Once back in Rome, he began working as a videomaker and, with funding from the Lazio Region, co-founded "Atlantide" with two colleagues, a video service and rental company supporting emerging filmmakers.



g i o  
04.06

## APNEA

Italia 2025 / 19 min.

Giovanni si sveglia soffocando, l'aria di casa sua è pesante di un'inquietudine che non si può cancellare. Per ritrovare la normalità c'è solo lo sguardo di Daniele, il ragazzo con cui la sera prima ha commesso un brutale omicidio.

*Giovanni wakes up struggling for breath, the air in his house heavy with an unease that feels impossible to escape. The only anchor to reality is Daniele's gaze, the boy with whom he committed a brutal murder the night before.*



g i o  
04.06

## FALLITI

Italia 2025 / 15 min.

Federico è un aspirante attore che per inseguire le sue aspirazioni sta perdendo gli affetti; Anna, sua sorella, è una studentessa che non sa che fare della sua vita; Alan, il coinquilino, sta perdendo l'amore della sua vita. Tre ritratti generazionali legati da un solo bisogno: essere accettati e non restare da soli nelle proprie battaglie.

*Federico is an aspiring actor who, in pursuit of his aspirations, is losing his affections; Anna, his sister, is a student who does not know what to do with her life; Alan, the flatmate, is losing the love of his life. Three generational portraits linked by a single need: to be accepted and not to be alone in their struggles. where ISIS is about to find them. The baby is crying and ISIS is getting closer so the mom decides to sacrifice her son's life to save the lives of others.*



## Emanuele Sicignano

Born in Rome in 2003. He attended the classical high school at the Istituto Ginnasio Statale Virgilio, graduating in 2022. He developed a passion for directing during his teenage years, and in 2023 he was selected as one of seven students for the three-year directing course at the "Gian Maria Volonté School of Cinematographic Art" in Rome. In the summer of 2023, he was also chosen to take part in a photography workshop led by Sven Creutzmann at the Locarno Film Festival.



## Pietro Macaione

Pietro Macaione was born in Palermo in 1996. He graduated with honours from the Academy of Fine Arts in Palermo in 2020, with a thesis inspired by Senegalese director Djibril Diop Mambéty, and devised a feature film inspired by his movie *Le Franc*. He then built relations with African communities in Palermo and in 2020 he made the short documentary *Tagnol* for UNICEF and INTERSOS within the U-topia project supervised by Letizia Gullo.



## LITTLE SOLDIER

Kurdistan 2026 / 13 min.

Una madre fugge dall'ISIS con il suo neonato. Riesce a rifugiarsi in un nascondiglio segreto, ma l'ISIS sta per trovarli. Il bambino piange e i miliziani si avvicinano sempre di più, così la madre decide di sacrificare la vita di suo figlio per salvare quella degli altri.

*A mom is running away from ISIS with her newborn son. She gets into a hidden shelter where ISIS is about to find them. The baby is crying and ISIS is getting closer so the mom decides to sacrifice her son's life to save the lives of others.*

g i o  
04.06



## Roxan Karami

Born in 13/11/1991- Iran  
Language: Persian and Turkish  
Education: Psychology  
Residence: Tehran. Iran

This film is born from the pain and courage that have become an inseparable part of my life as a woman raised in the Middle East. Every day, I witness the silent and solitary battles women in this land carry on their shoulders in the fight for the right to live, freedom, and equality.



## NICE GUY

Germania 2025 / 30 min.

Michael, trentenne e cronicamente single, trascorre il suo tempo tra un lavoro senza prospettive e le chat con Lana\_69 su un sito di webcam per adulti. Nei fine settimana, lui e il suo migliore amico Tom vanno nei locali, sperando di conoscere delle donne.

Quando Tom trova una fidanzata, Mia, Michael si affida a consigli online, finendo sotto l'influenza dell'influencer della manofera Adrian e scivolando in misoginia, mascolinità tossica, autodenigrazione e inceldom.

*Michael, 30 and chronically single, spends his time at a dead-end job or chatting with Lana\_69 on an adult webcam site. On weekends, he and his best friend Tom go to clubs, hoping to meet women. When Tom finds a girlfriend, Mia, Michael turns to online advice, falling under the influence of menosphere Influencer Adrian and spirals into misogyny, toxic masculinity, self-hatred and inceldom.*

v e n  
05.06



## Philip Schafferhans

Born 1994 in Castrop-Rauxel, Germany he discovered his love for film in kindergarten, when he was introduced to flipbooks. He began studying film at FH Dortmund in 2016, specializing in writing and directing. In his films he covers topics such as social status, extremism, identity and history.



## MY GARAGE!

Federazione Russa 2025 / 22 min.

Il film *My Garage!* è un dramma mistico su un anziano che si rifiuta di lasciare il suo garage in una zona di emergenza, dove nasconde una misteriosa fonte di luce.

La resistenza alla demolizione si trasforma in un confronto escatologico, in cui il destino di un singolo garage diventa il destino dell'intero mondo.

*The film "My Garage!" is a mystical drama about an old man who refuses to leave his garage in an emergency area, hiding a mysterious light source in it. The resistance to demolition develops into an eschatological confrontation, where the fate of one garage becomes the fate of the whole world.*

v e n  
05.06



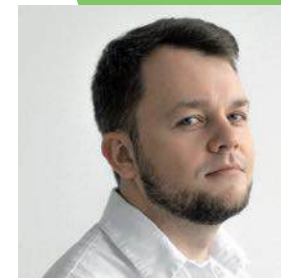
## KICKBACK

Russia / 18 min.

Un boss criminale decide di riscuotere la sua «tangente» dopo l'affare — ma non ha tenuto conto che, in questo mondo, persino il business dei bagni può andare in rovina.

*A crime boss decided to take his «kickback» after the deal - but did not take into account that in this world even the toilet business can go bust.*

v e n  
05.06



## Vladimir Sukhov

Born in Samara on October 3, 1991. Started working with video in 2009. 2013: founded the production company ER-PRODUCTION. 2013 – 2020: worked as a producer, managing the full cycle of corporate video and commercial production. Since 2020, working as a director of commercials and music videos. 2020: became the creator, participant, and director of the travel project This Is All Russia. 2024: graduated from German Sisdakov's School of Drama. 2025: directed the short film My Garage!



## Dmitry Marin

Born in 1984 in Pskov. In 2005 in Moscow graduated from the Higher Theater School named after Shchepkin in the workshop of V.M. Beilis and V.N. Ivanov. From 2005 - 2022 worked at the Maly Theater. In 2020 received a commendation from the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation. In 2024 graduated from the G.N. Danelia Higher Courses for Scriptwriters and Directors. Workshop of V.I. Khotinenko, P.K. Finn, V.A. Fenchenko.



## A GARDEN OVER THE SEA

Cina / 2025 / 22 min.

Una bambina racconta una bugia per caso, senza rendersi conto che quella bugia farà emergere ancora più menzogne all'interno della sua famiglia...

*A little girl accidentally tells a lie, not realizing that this lie would uncover even more lies within her family...*

ven  
05.06



## Ziying Wu

Ziying is a 2024 alum of the Beijing Film Academy's Department of Cinematography.



## C'EST LA VIE

Cina 2025 / 30 min.

In un villaggio di pescatori Minnan, Ziqing, un giovane in difficoltà con ambizioni artistiche, viene chiamato in ospedale per riportare a casa suo nonno. Nonostante sia gravemente malato, il vecchio, testardo e indisciplinato, insiste per uscire in mare a pescare grandi ombrine gialle. I due vengono così trascinati in un viaggio inaspettato.

*In a Minnan fishing village, Ziqing, a struggling young man with artistic ambitions, is called to the hospital to bring his grandfather home. Despite being seriously ill, the stubborn and unruly old man insists on going out to sea to fish for large yellow croaker. The two are drawn into an unexpected journey.*

ven  
05.06



## ZiHan Zheng

Advertising director with five years of directing experience. With a background in documentary filmmaking per Ergeng Documentary, later joined Ogilvy and transitioned into TVC commercial production. Extensive on-set experience, with a strong focus on narrative storytelling, supported by solid audiovisual skills and a refined visual sensibility.

# SGUARDI VENETI

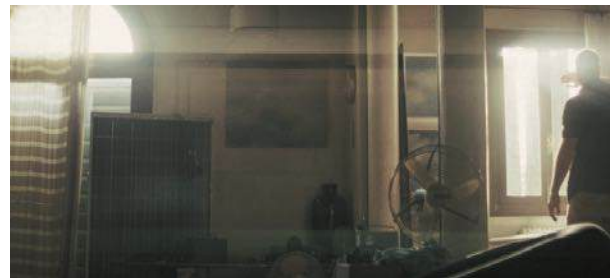
in concorso

VENETIAN GAZES

6 giugno

Visioni che nascono nel cuore del Veneto e restituiscono, con linguaggi diversi, l'energia creativa di una regione capace di interrogarsi, emozionare e sorprendere. Sguardi Veneti è la sezione che accoglie le opere di autrici e autori legati al territorio, che esplorano identità, relazioni, misteri e fragilità con uno sguardo personale e autentico. Una galleria di personaggi sospesi tra il desiderio di cambiamento e il peso delle aspettative, tra la solitudine e il coraggio di affrontare l'ignoto, un omaggio alla pluralità di voci che abitano e interpretano il Veneto oggi — con occhi liberi, sensibili, necessari.

*Visions born in the heart of Veneto and convey, with different languages, the creative energy of a region capable of questioning, exciting and surprising. Sguardi Veneti is the section that welcomes the works of authors linked to the territory, who explore identities, relationships, mysteries and fragilities with a personal and authentic gaze. A gallery of characters suspended between the desire for change and the weight of expectations, between solitude and the courage to face the unknown, a tribute to the plurality of voices that inhabit and interpret Veneto today — with free, sensitive, necessary eyes.*



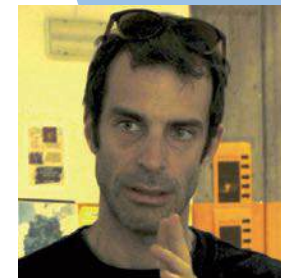
## CIELI ROSSI

2025 / 13 min.

In un futuro non troppo lontano, a causa delle elevate temperature molti italiani sono costretti ad emigrare verso nord. Il quarantenne Mirco è rimasto solo, nella sua casa nella campagna Veneta. Depresso, passa le giornate a ricordare la sua amata compagna pittrice, di cui rimangono soltanto i quadri appesi alle pareti. Si farà vivo un vecchio amico, che cercherà di convincerlo ad andarsene con lui prima che sia troppo tardi.

*In an undefined future, due to the high temperatures many Italians are forced to emigrate north. Mirco, a forty-year-old, is left alone in his house in the Venetian countryside. Depressed, he spends his days remembering his beloved painter companion, of whom only the paintings hanging on the walls remain. An old friend will show up and will try to convince him to emigrate before it's too late.*

s a b  
06.06



## Karma Gava

Graduated in psychology, Karma Gava studied film direction at the EICTV school in Cuba. Founder of the communications agency Heliko Film with which he creates commercials and documentaries in the direction or production department, in 2022 he became a member of the production and distribution company Artex Film.



## L'OSPITE

2025 / 20 min.

L'anziano Giuseppe, un'anima solitaria, vive una vita monotona nel suo rifugio isolato sull'Altopiano di Asiago. Tutto cambia una sera quando Vittorio, un viandante infreddolito, bussava alla sua porta portando con sé una storia inaspettata che svela un legame indissolubile tra i due: entrambi hanno combattuto in una delle battaglie più cruente della Prima Guerra Mondiale.

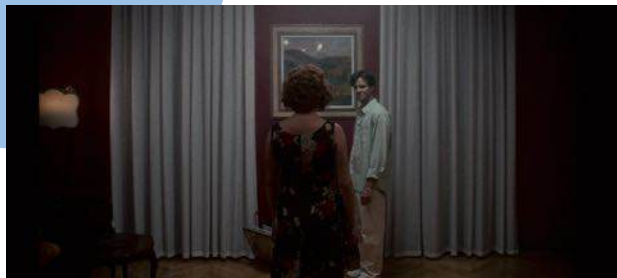
*The elderly Giuseppe, a solitary soul, leads a monotonous life in his secluded refuge on the Asiago Plateau. Everything changes one evening when Vittorio, a cold and weary traveler, knocks on his door, bringing with him an unexpected story that reveals an unbreakable bond between them: both fought in one of the bloodiest battles of World War I.*

s a b  
06.06



## Alberto De Grandis

Born in Mestre (Venice) in 2001. In 2020, he earned a diploma in set design, contributing to the production of performances at the Teatro Goldoni in Venice. He graduated in directing and screenwriting in 2022 from STUDIO CINEMA INTERNATIONAL, studying under the guidance of Pupi Avati, Daniele Costantini, Giancarlo Scarchilli, Emanuela Morozzi, Tommaso Avati, and Luca Verdone. He attended advanced film training courses on the "Stanislavski System - character study" and "Character analysis and composition" led by Maria A. Listur. As a director, L'Ospite (The Guest) is his fourth work.



## ULTIMA SPIAGGIA

2025 / 20 min.

Carla è la domestica di una ricca famiglia. Cosimo è un figlio trascurato dai genitori. Due anime ferite dall'indifferenza in una villa austera e assordante. Una madre in cerca di un figlio, un figlio bisognoso di una madre.

*Carla is the maid of a rich family. Cosimo is a child neglected by his parents. Two souls wounded by indifference in an austere and deafening villa. A mother looking for a son, a son in need of a mother.*

s a b  
06.06



## Cesare Bisantis

Cesare Bisantis was born in Padova in 1997. In 2019 he graduated in modern literature and in 2020 he studied screenwriting at the New York Film Academy of Los Angeles. In 2021 Cesare directed his first short film, *La barzelletta*, part of a horror pills series. In 2022 he directed his very first personal project, *Guido's Summer*, a short movie inspired by the iconography of 1960s swimming pools. Since 2017 he works as press officer for Venice Film Festival and for La Biennale.



## MEDEA PROJECT

2025 / 24 min.

Il progetto MEDEA è un adattamento audiovisivo della tragedia euripidea, un lavoro ibrido tra teatro e musica, danza e performance, cinema e video arte, ambientato in particolari e significativi luoghi della città di Padova.

*An alternative audiovisual adaptation of the tragedy of Medea by Euripides, a hybrid work between theatre and music, dance and performance, cinema and video art, set in particular places in the city of Padua (Italy).*

s a b  
06.06



## Iago Riet

25 years old Italian director graduated in the Master's degree in Performing Arts and Multimedia Productions at the University of Padua. Among his past experiences, he worked on the ParisDoc team at the Cinéma du réel 2026 and 2025; he was member of the official jury at Court'Échelle 2025 and Passaggi d'Autore 2023. He is now working as broadcast operator at France Télévisions; meanwhile, he is focusing on the distribution of the short film/installation 'MEDEA project' (2025).



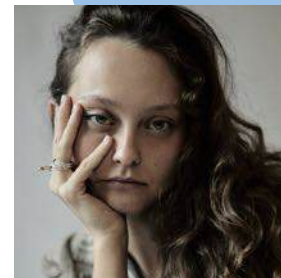
## LE PAROLE SONO PIETRE

2025 / 20 min.

"Le parole sono pietre" nasce da una sfida curatoriale: come dare risonanza a un'opera d'arte importante — un dipinto che non poteva essere fisicamente spostato — aprendo al contempo un dialogo con una generazione che raramente entra in contatto con opere di questo tipo nei contesti tradizionali.

*"Le parole sono pietre" stems from a curatorial challenge: how to give resonance to an important artwork — a painting that could not be physically moved — while opening a dialogue with a generation that rarely encounters such works in traditional spaces.*

s a b  
06.06



## Anastasia Zarbo

Anastasia Zarbo is an Italian-Russian young creative, currently studying acting at CSC – Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. With a background in art history and cultural heritage from the Brera Academy of Fine Arts, her work is driven by a strong belief in the transformative power of art. She explores the intersections between cinema and visual art, often engaging with philosophical themes and questions of perception. Her dual cultural background informs a unique sensibility that blends intimacy with intellectual inquiry.



## IL TACCO BULGARO

2025 / 9 min.

Quello che sembra essere un normale incontro tra una escort e un suo cliente in un albergo si rivelerà essere un'insolita e pericolosa missione per due agenti segreti.

Tutto ruota intorno a un paio di scarpe "speciali": a prima vista sembrerebbero normali scarpe da donna, ma in realtà nascondono nei tacchi un congegno letale.

*What appears to be a normal meeting in a hotel between an escort and her client turns out to be an unusual and dangerous mission for two secret agents. It all revolves around a pair of "special" shoes: at first glance, they appear to be ordinary women's shoes, but in reality, they hide a lethal device in their heels.*

s a b  
06.06



## Federico Gionco

Federico Gionco was born in Treviso (northern Italy) on August 26, 1997. He graduated in directing and screenwriting at the National Film Academy in Bologna.

# SGUARDI ITALIANI

in concorso

ITALIAN GAZES

7 e 8 giugno

Un viaggio nelle pieghe più intime della società contemporanea italiana, raccontata attraverso gli occhi di autori capaci di cogliere la complessità del reale. I cortometraggi selezionati per questa sezione esplorano con sguardo lucido e appassionato le solitudini urbane, le contraddizioni del mondo del lavoro, i legami familiari e le fragilità dell'animo umano.

Tra notti insonni e risvegli inattesi, incontri casuali e destini incrociati, emergono storie di resistenza, riscatto, amicizia e speranza. Ogni film è una finestra aperta su un'Italia spesso invisibile, ma vibrante di umanità.

*A journey into the most intimate folds of contemporary Italian society, seen through the eyes of filmmakers capable of capturing the complexity of reality. The short films selected for this section explore with clarity and emotional depth the solitude of urban life, the contradictions of the working world, family ties, and the fragility of the human spirit.*

*Through sleepless nights and unexpected awakenings, chance encounters and intertwined destinies, emerge stories of resilience, redemption, friendship, and hope. Each film is a window onto an often-invisible Italy, yet one that pulses with humanity.*



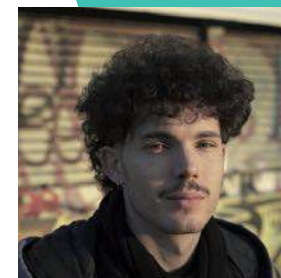
## LA MACCHINA DI RENATO

dom  
07.06

2025 / 18 min.

Stefano accompagna il padre Renato, affetto da una grave malattia degenerativa, verso la Svizzera, per aiutarlo a sottoporsi al suicidio assistito. Tutto pare già deciso, tranne il destino dell'utilitaria di famiglia: la vecchia Fiat Panda guidata dal ragazzo.

*Stefano drives his father Renato, suffering from a serious degenerative disease, to Switzerland to help him undergo assisted suicide. Everything seems already decided, except the fate of the family car: the old Fiat Panda driven by the son.*



## Andrea Orsenigo

Born on 2000 in Lombardy, in 2019 he attended the three-year course at the Civica Scuola di Cinema Luchino Visconti in Milan, specializing in screenwriting. He currently lives in Milan where he works as a screenwriter for several independent and non-independent short films. Renato's Car is his first short film as director and producer.



## CARAMELLA

dom  
07.06

2025 / 16 min.

Ilenia è una ragazza che lavora in una fabbrica di scarpe nelle Marche e sogna di diventare attrice. Quando le viene assegnato un turno di notte che entra in conflitto con il suo corso di recitazione, fatica a trovare qualcuno disposto a scambiare i turni con lei. Con il crescere della frustrazione, si confida con Massimino, un nuovo collega, raccontandogli il suo desiderio di sfuggire alla monotonia per inseguire la sua passione.

*Ilenia is a girl that is working in a shoe factory in Le Marche, who dreams of becoming an actress. When she's assigned to a night shift that conflicts with her acting course, she struggles to get anyone to swap shifts. As her frustration builds, she confides in Massimino, a new colleague, about her desire to escape the monotony and pursue her passion.*



## Valerio Narcisi

Valerio Narcisi, born in 1986, is a director and screenwriter from the Marche region. His first short film, Arturo (2020), won the award at the Roccafluvione Film Festival and was selected for the Civitanova Film Festival. His cinematic vision focuses on telling the reality of today and his provincial roots in a direct and grotesque style. He holds a degree in Engineering and trained in filmmaking at Officine Mattioli.



## BAGARRE

2025 / 15 min.

Anna e Silvia sono migliori amiche dal primo giorno di università. Principalmente perché l'ha deciso Anna, che per tre anni si è trascinata l'amica nel tentativo di portarsela dietro per sempre. Fino a quello che credono essere l'ultimo esame di entrambe, quando qualcosa si rompe.

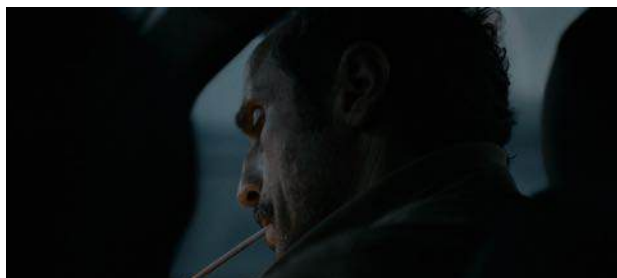
*Anna and Silvia have been best friends since their first day at university—mostly because Anna decided so. For three years, she pulled Silvia along, trying to take her everywhere, maybe forever. Until what they believe is their final exam, when something breaks.*

dom  
07.06



## Sarah Narducci

Neapolitan director and screenwriter, born in 1997. In 2019, she directed her first short film, *Un padre* (A father), thanks to which she was admitted to the Directing course at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia, where she is attending the three-year course. During her studies, she made the documentary *Placid Blue* and the fantasy short film *Anche la terra è stanca* (Even the Earth is Tired). In 2022, she was a jury member for the BNLX Cinema del Futuro award at the Giornate degli Autori section of the 79th Venice Film Festival.



## GOODBYE BAGHDAD

2025 / 20 min.

Marzo 2005. Giuliana Sgrena viene rilasciata a un mese dal suo sequestro avvenuto a Baghdad ad opera di un gruppo jihadista. Nicola Calipari, alto dirigente del SISMI, dopo aver condotto personalmente le trattative si occupa della sua liberazione. Un viaggio in auto verso la salvezza e attraverso silenzi, preoccupazioni, timori e speranze.

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

dom  
07.06



## Simone Manetti

Born in Livorno in 1978, Simone Manetti is an Italian director and documentary filmmaker whose work has established him as one of the most distinctive voices in contemporary non-fiction cinema. Over the years, he has developed a strong authorial approach, combining investigative depth, emotional sensitivity, and a sharp attention to the social, political, and human dimensions of his stories. With *Goodbye Baghdad*, Simone Manetti takes his first step into narrative filmmaking.



## REWIND AGENCY

2025 / 20 min.

Emma (35) e Zeno (55) si ritrovano per un appuntamento romantico in un camper tra le montagne. Ma dietro il velo di una sceneggiatura pre-stabilita, gli errori di Emma rompono la finzione svelando, tra risate e imbarazzi, la vera natura del loro legame.

*Emma (35) and Zeno (55) meet up for a romantic date in a camper van in the mountains. But behind the facade of a pre-planned scenario, Emma's mistakes shatter the illusion, revealing—amid laughter and awkward moments—the true nature of their relationship.*

dom  
07.06



## SOLO IL TUO VISO

2025 / 16 min.

Giuseppe è un incel, disperatamente innamorato dell'amore. Filma di nascosto le ragazze per rubare i loro tratti facciali e ricostruire nella privacy del suo computer i suoi sogni sessuali e romantici.

*Giuseppe is an incel, desperately in love with love. He secretly films girls to steal their facial features and reconstruct his sexual and romantic dreams in the privacy of his computer.*

dom  
07.06



## Antonella Spatti

Antonella Spatti was born in the province of Bergamo in 1986. She currently lives in Milan, where she works as a director.

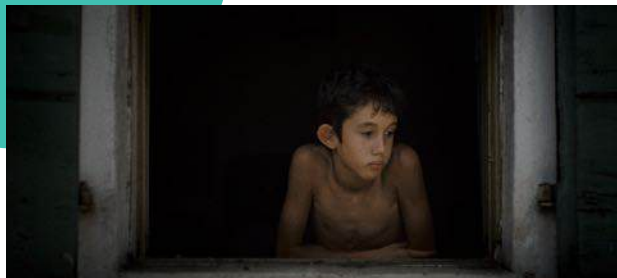
Her journey in the audiovisual world began at DAMS in Bologna and continued in Rome, where she attended NUCT – International School of Cinema and Television – and MURNAU – School of Specialization in Fantasy Cinema, studying film directing.

Since 2015, she has been working as a director, alternating between commercial and narrative projects.



## Tommaso Banti

Tommaso Banti is an Italian director. He studied Cinema at RUFA. He directed two short films: *'L'Odore del Vento'*, which received several selections and awards at international festivals such as the Toronto Independent Festival of CIFT and the Prague International Indie Film Festival, and *'Solo Il Tuo Viso'*.



## I FIORI NON HANNO LE SCARPE

2025 / 12 min.

dom  
07.06

Un bambino cerca un contatto umano, ma l'unico adulto accanto a lui non se ne accorge. Così prende una decisione silenziosa, estrema e naturale, una scelta che forse solo un bambino avrebbe potuto immaginare.

*A child seeks human connection, but the only adult beside him fails to notice. So he makes a silent, extreme, and natural decision, a choice that perhaps only a child could have imagined.*



## Matteo Vicentini Orgnani

Born and raised in Rome, Matteo Vicentini Orgnani grew up in a family of artists, which naturally led him to develop a strong passion for storytelling and cinema. He studied at Officina delle Arti Pier Paolo Pasolini, where he refined his filmmaking skills. Over the years, he has worked on various film projects, including the feature film Don't Close the Door (Non chiudete quella porta), which he directed and which was then acquired and distributed by Cinecittà.



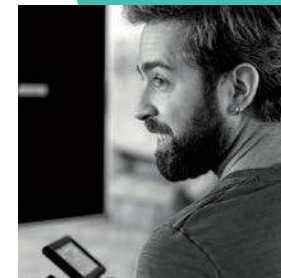
## L'ARTE DELLA BANDIERA BIANCA

2025 / 6 min.

dom  
07.06

In un piccolo consiglio comunale, si discute dell'idea di esporre uno striscione che chieda la pace a Gaza. Ogni parola proposta viene dibattuta, raffinata e svuotata di significato dai compromessi politici e dalle paure diplomatiche. Alla fine, tutto ciò che rimane è un lenzuolo bianco, simbolo di resa e impotenza collettiva.

*In a small town council, there is a discussion about putting up a banner calling for peace in Gaza. Every word proposed is debated, refined, and emptied of meaning by political compromises and diplomatic fears. In the end, all that remains is a white sheet, a symbol of surrender and collective impotence.*



## Riccardo Pittaluga

Veronese by birth, Milanese by adoption, Riccardo Pittaluga is the author of short films, video clips, documentaries and commercials. Trained at the DAMS cinema in Bologna, he deepens his path at Fabrica and at the IED and after 15 years of freelance experience, in 2018 he founded the multimedia production house Minimal Zero s.r.l.



## CRUMBS

2025 / 14 min.

lun  
08.06

È la cena del suo compleanno, ma Angela (45) non ne vuole sapere di festeggiare. Intanto i figli e la zia cercano di farle mangiare il suo pezzo di torta a fatica, ma il suo silenzio diventa sempre più ingombrante. L'unica che riesce a farla parlare è sua figlia Benedetta (27), che scoprirà un segreto che solo a lei può svelare...

*It is Angela's (45) birthday dinner, but she wants nothing to do with celebrating. Meanwhile, the children and their aunt struggle to get her to eat a slice of cake, but her silence becomes increasingly oppressive. The only one who manages to make her speak is Benedetta (27), the daughter who will uncover a secret meant for her ears only...*



## Marco Scannicchio

My name is Marco Scannicchio, and I was born in Milan on November 4, 1999. On November 10, 2022, I earned my Bachelor's degree in DAMS (Drama, Art, and Music Studies) from the University of Bologna, with a thesis in the Sociology of Culture titled "Stardom and the Production of Culture." Since December 2022, following a successful admission process, I have been enrolled in the Master's program in Playwriting and Screenwriting at the Silvio d'Amico National Academy of Dramatic Arts.



## NON PUOI CAPIRMI

2025 / 10 min.

lun  
08.06

Doriano, sopraffatto da un ambiente familiare teso e una relazione amorosa che sta per crollare, cerca rifugio nel mondo virtuale, convinto che gli offrirà la libertà che tanto desidera. Ma questa nuova realtà si trasforma in una trappola, allontanandolo sempre più dalle persone a lui vicine. Mentre la sua famiglia fatica a comprendere il suo cambiamento, si ritrova a interrogarsi se l'isolamento di Doriano sia la causa o la conseguenza della loro stessa disgregazione.

*Doriano, overwhelmed by a tense home environment and a deteriorating relationship, escapes into the virtual world, believing it will provide the freedom he longs for. However, this new reality becomes a trap, pulling him further away from those around him. As his family grapples with their inability to understand him, they are left questioning whether Doriano's isolation is the cause or the result of their own dysfunction.*



## Christian Dei

Christian Dei is a 17-year-old emerging director and screenwriter from Rimini, currently studying directing at the Rossellini Institute in Rome. He began his journey as an actor in a few films and TV series, with the aim of entering the film industry behind the scenes and learning all the dynamics of filmmaking in order to pursue his greatest dream of becoming a director. He has directed short films that have garnered attention for their originality and emotional depth. In 2024, he directed "Non puoi capirmi," marking an important milestone in his career.





lun  
08.06

## HEAVEN OR NOT

2025 / 12 min.

Poco dopo il suo funerale, Simone apre gli occhi in camera da letto e crede di trovarsi nell'aldilà. La prima persona che vede è Angelica, una ragazza dall'aspetto dolce, che si offre di fargli da guida. Il posto appare fantastico sotto ogni aspetto e Simone inizia a convincersi di essere in Paradiso. Col passare dei minuti, l'ambiente gli appare sempre più bello, ma le persone che incontra non gli sembrano completamente felici.

*Shortly after his funeral, Simon wakes up and believes he is in Heaven. A lovely lady becomes his guide and the place seems to have all the characteristics of Heaven. Everything seems increasingly beautiful, but locals do not seem happy.*



## Esmeralda Spadea

After graduating summa cum laude from the University of Milan, Esmeralda Spadea continued her training at the NYFA in Los Angeles. She was in several movies with Brendan Fraser, Morgan Freeman and Alec Baldwin. Ambiguity, subtle irony and double reading levels are key elements of her works. Award-winning author of films and documentaries, she debuted as a director with "Heaven or Not", exploring introspective themes, and "A biochemical life" about the autobiographical theme of oncologic disease.



lun  
08.06

## FRATTURE

2025 / 14 min.

Mauro, an aspiring writer, and Alessandra, a young lawyer, live together in an atmosphere of growing tension. He, absorbed in his creative world, ignores daily responsibilities, leaving her burdened with both domestic and professional pressures. Exhausted and neglected, Alessandra feels an ever-widening gap in their relationship. Through arguments and misunderstandings, the couple's fragility erupts in a violent act that marks a point of no return. Mauro is left to face solitude.

*Mauro, aspirante scrittore, e Alessandra, giovane avvocat, convivono in un clima di crescente tensione. Lui, immerso nel suo mondo creativo, ignora le responsabilità quotidiane, lasciando a lei il peso della gestione domestica e professionale. Esausta e trascurata, Alessandra percepisce una distanza sempre più profonda nel loro legame. Tra discussioni e incomprensioni, la fragilità della coppia esplode in un gesto violento che segna un punto di non ritorno.*



## Mattia Trezza / Stefano Mattacchione

Mattia Trezza was born in Sora in 1993. He moved to Rome for his great passion for cinema. He studied Screenwriting and Directing and began working in television and film in different departments. In the meantime, he carries out personal projects.

Stefano Mattacchione (Sora, 1994) is a film editor. After graduating from the Scientific High School of Sora in 2013, he moved to Rome, where he attended the two-year Editing program at the Rome Film Academy.



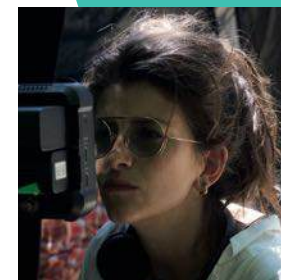
dom  
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## TERESINA

2025 / 20 min.

Un gruppo di giovani che vive in un casale tra i monti si trova a fronteggiare la morte di una capra, simbolo di un progetto comunitario che sta naufragando. La tragedia personale di Nicola, che perde l'animale, scatena conflitti tra i membri del gruppo, portandoli a dividersi e a mettere in luce fallimenti e frustrazioni.

*A group of young people living in a farmhouse in the mountains, faces the death of a goat, symbolizing a community project that is failing. Nicola's personal tragedy, losing the animal, triggers conflicts among the group members, causing them to split and highlight their failures and frustrations.*



## Irene Belluzzi

A filmmaker with a strong background in production and assistant directing, Irene has spent the past decade shaping her artistic voice through cinema, advertising, and collaborative projects. Founder of Insania Film, she has directed music videos and developed authorial works. Trained with Marco Bellocchio and Andrea De Sica, she wrote her first feature treatment and directed Rosaria before developing her first fiction short, made in 2024 after winning the SIAE Call for Creators.



lun  
08.06

## UNA NOTTE ANCORA

2025 / 20 min.

Tommaso e Luna si sono sforati per pochi mesi, cambiandosi per sempre. Lei ora studia le balene in Patagonia, lui vive della sua musica. Due anni dopo, in una notte di fine estate, si ritrovano casualmente in un casale sospeso nel tempo, scoprendo che quel legame non si è mai affievolito.

*Tommaso and Luna crossed paths for a few months, changing each other forever. She now studies whales in Patagonia, he lives through his music. Two years later, on a late summer night, they meet again, realizing that their bond has never faded.*



## Carmelo Segreto

Born in Sicily, he graduated in Film Studies at DAMS Bologna Non essere cattivo, training Production and Directing in Rome and Bologna. In 2017 he made Voglio essere Libero on Libero Grassi. In 2018 he directed Un Giorno alla Volta, winner of the Giulio Questi Prize and Rai Cinema Channel Award. In 2019 he made Humam, selected at 50 festivals and released on RaiPlay and MUBI. In 2020 he founded Inlakesh Film and in 2024 Bonobo Film, producing Una Notte Ancora, Audience Award at Ortigia FF 2025. Now finishing the short movie Il Podcast di Ettore.



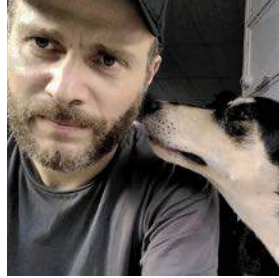
## ASTRONAUTA

2025 / 16 min.

Audely, 39 anni, lavora come boscaiolo nella giungla guatemalteca. A casa, sua figlia Carol, 11 anni, sogna di entrare in quella stessa foresta. Audely ci riflette, poi va sulla luna...

*Audely, 39, works as a lumberjack in the Guatemalan jungle. At home, his daughter Carol, 11, dreams of entering that same forest. Audely thinks about it, then goes to the moon...*

l u n  
08.06



## Giorgio Giampà

Giorgio Giampà is a David di Donatello-nominated producer, a Fenix Awards-nominated composer, and an award winning short films director recently selected at Clermont-Ferrand.

His projects have premiered and won at Venice, Sundance, Toronto, and Berlinale.

He studied cinematography under Beppe Lanci (Tarkovsky, Bellocchio, Cavani).

Astronauta is his directorial debut and serves as a prequel to the feature film in development, Isabel Hernandez, recently selected for EAVE.

# ORIZZONTI INTERNAZIONALI

in concorso

INTERNATIONAL HORIZONS

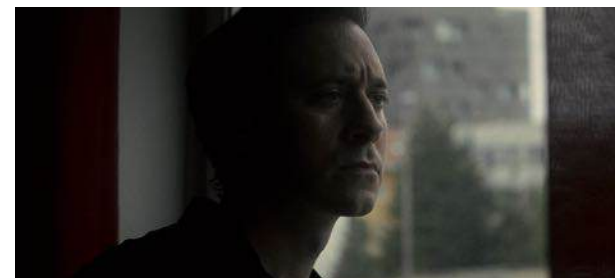
9 | 10 | 11 | 12 giugno

I cortometraggi di questa sezione arrivano da ogni angolo del pianeta e offrono uno spaccato potente delle tensioni, delle trasformazioni e delle sfide del nostro tempo.

Dall'intimità di relazioni complesse ai conflitti geopolitici, dalle riscritture del reale al surreale che invade il quotidiano, Orizzonti Internazionali è un mosaico di storie che parlano di desiderio, identità, ingiustizia, sogno e redenzione. Un invito a guardare oltre i confini, per ritrovare nei dettagli di culture diverse un'eco universale di emozioni.

*The short films in this section come from every corner of the globe and offer a powerful glimpse into the tensions, transformations, and challenges of our time.*

*From the intimacy of complex relationships to geopolitical conflicts, from rewritings of reality to the surreal intruding on the everyday, International Horizons is a mosaic of stories exploring desire, identity, injustice, dreams, and redemption. An invitation to look beyond borders and discover, in the details of different cultures, a universal echo of human emotion.*



## LEV BERGER

Slovenia 2025 / 25 min.

Quando il tecnico del suono si rende conto che il loro servizio televisivo sul politico più popolare del paese è stato falsificato, si mette alla ricerca della verità.

*When the sound recordist realises that their TV report involving the country's most popular politician has been faked, he sets out to find the truth.*

m a r  
09.06



## Jan Fabris

Jan Fabris was born in 1986 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. In 1999 his interest in filmmaking and film history began to grow. In 2005 after high school graduation he decided to study chemistry. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry in 2010 and his Ph.D. in Biomedicine in 2014. After finishing film school in 2016, he collaborated with several different directors to make their short and feature films.



## EASTER DAY

Francia-Ucraina 2025 / 17 min.

La domenica di Pasqua a Kyiv, due soldati dell'ufficio di reclutamento dell'esercito percorrono lentamente le strade, osservando gli uomini che potrebbero essere chiamati a servire. La loro ricerca li conduce a un giovane che è uscito solo per comprare del cibo per il suo gatto. Può cercare di evitare il loro sguardo, ma in questo giorno sacro nulla è così semplice come sembra a prima vista.

*On Easter Sunday in Kyiv, two soldiers from the army recruitment office drive slowly through the streets, watching men who might be called to serve. Their search leads them to a young man who has stepped out only to buy food for his cat. He may try to avoid their gaze, but yet on this holy day, nothing is as simple as it first appears.*

m a r  
09.06



## Mykola Zasiiev

Mykola Zasiiev (1994, Ukraine) is a filmmaker and screenwriter. He graduated with a degree in Filmmaking from Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts in 2017. While still a student, he collaborated with leading Ukrainian TV and film production studios as a scriptwriter, 1st AD, and acting coach. His short films have been screened at numerous international film festivals. His narrative debut Phase (2021) premiered at Molodist IFF and was later selected for Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (Tokyo, 2022), winning Best Narrative Short at the French Riviera Film Festival and earning a Golden Dzyga nomination.



**AI AI AI**  
Germania 2025 / 13 min.

m a r  
09.06

Un ultimo ciak, la voce si spezza — eppure la scena è perfetta. E se le emozioni non provenissero più dagli esseri umani? "AI AI AI" ci conduce in un futuro prossimo in cui l'intelligenza artificiale clona le voci, conserva i ricordi e solleva una domanda silenziosa ma esistenziale: chi possiede una voce — e chi possiede l'anima che vi sta dietro?

*A final take, the voice breaks — yet the scene is perfect. What if emotions no longer come from humans? "AI AI AI" leads into a near future where artificial intelligence clones voices, preserves memories, and raises a quiet yet existential question: Who owns a voice — and who owns the soul behind it?*



**Jörn Linnenbröker / Neda Rahmanian**

Jörn Linnenbröker grew up in the Rhineland, completed a Master's degree in theatre and media studies, English and education in Bavaria and then went on to study acting and singing at the University of the Arts in Berlin. Neda Rahmanian is a German actress with Iranian roots. After studying acting at the University of Music and Theatre in Rostock (1999–2003), she spent ten years performing on stage at renowned theatres in Hamburg, Zürich, and Basel.



**AM WASSER**  
Austria-Germania 2025 / 20 min.

m a r  
09.06

Una giovane donna sfida il suo rapitore a un dibattito che deciderà tra la vita e la morte. Il film mostra i momenti complessi e intimi di due persone — un rapitore e la sua vittima — prima di un possibile omicidio, mentre entrambi si trovano nella stessa barca. Diventa presto chiaro che, in circostanze diverse, i due avrebbero potuto diventare amici.

*A young woman challenges her kidnapper to a debate that decides between life and death. The film shows the complex and intimate moments of two people, a kidnapper and his victim, before a possible murder, while both are in the same boat. It quickly becomes clear that the two could have become friends in a different situation.*



**Claudius von Stolzmann**

Claudius von Stolzmann is a European actor who studied at the Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts Berlin and in the Graduate Acting Program at NYU Tisch School. He has lived and worked in Vienna since 2017. "Am Wasser" is his first professional short film.



**INTO THE DARK**  
Romania 2025 / 27 min.

m a r  
09.06

Quando una donna priva della vista, giocatrice di scacchi, viene a conoscenza di una procedura medica rivoluzionaria in Italia che ha miracolosamente restituito la vista a un uomo dopo un grave incidente, per la prima volta nella sua vita si accende una speranza. Sebbene sia non vedente dalla nascita, la sua famiglia la incoraggia a fare un atto di fede e a sottoporsi allo stesso intervento sperimentale — nonostante i rischi.

*When a blind woman chess player hears about a groundbreaking medical procedure in Italy that miraculously restored sight to a man after a devastating accident, hope sparks for the first time in her life. Though she has been blind since birth, her family urges her to take a leap of faith and undergo the same experimental surgery — despite the risks.*



**George Negri**

I am a very good director of photography, working at romanian national television. Ever since university I've been trying to write scripts and make films as a director, I'm a movie enthusiast, I watch at least one a day.



**THE SHIFT**  
Federazione Russa 2025 / 14 min.

m a r  
09.06

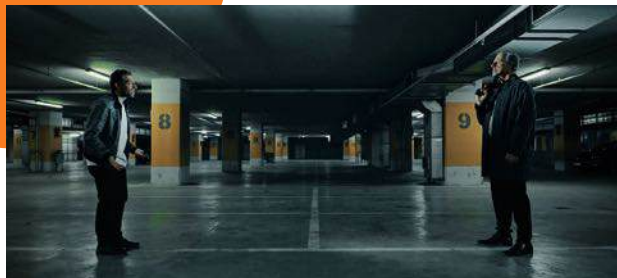
Bloccata per la notte in una stazione degli autobus deserta, l'attesa di una giovane donna si trasforma in una prova quando la sua unica compagnia è uno sconosciuto sorridente...

*Stranded overnight at an empty bus station, a young woman's wait turns into a trial when her only company is a smiling stranger...*



**Xenia Beloglazova**

I was born in Anapa in 1993. In 1993, I graduated from Moscow State University, and in 2019, I graduated from Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography with a degree in Cinema Drama. I started my career in cinema at the KIT Film Studio production company (part of holding company Gazprom-media), where I was involved in promoting TV series and films. From 2020 to 2023, I worked at the independent film distribution company White Nights, where I was in charge of pre-release promotion. Since 2023, I have been working as a screenwriter and editor.



mer  
10.06

## IRREVOCABLE SENTENCE

Grecia 2025 / 18 min.

Quando una sentenza del tribunale permette ad Alexis, carismatico proprietario di una scuola di danza, di tornare in libertà, Andreas, un tranquillo musicista ex militare, decide di farsi giustizia da solo. In un parcheggio vuoto, un confronto meticolosamente pianificato precipita verso un punto di non ritorno, dove vendetta, verità e colpa diventano impossibili da distinguere.

*When a court decision lets Alexis, a charismatic dance-school owner, walk free, Andreas, a quiet ex-military musician, takes justice into his own hands. In an empty parking space, a carefully planned confrontation spirals toward a point of no return, where revenge, truth and guilt become impossible to separate.*



## Theodoros Tziatzios

Born in 1979 in Thessaloniki, I graduated in 1999 with a diploma as an "IT Applications Specialist." In 2007, after years of working in motion graphics and 3D animation as a freelancer, I founded the advertising film production company "Real Creations L.P." Having served as a director and/or producer on more than 500 domestic & international projects, the time has come, to make the next logical step and test myself in short films as well.



mer  
10.06

## A LIE

Cina 2026 / 18 min.

Una ragazza che ha appena ingerito delle pillole nel tentativo di togliersi la vita riceve una telefonata dal padre, con cui non parla da molti anni, mentre inizia il conto alla rovescia verso i suoi ultimi momenti.

*A girl who has just taken pills in an attempt to end her life receives a phone call from her estranged father, whom she has not spoken to for many years, as the countdown to her final moments begins.*



## Tong Wang

Tong Wang is based in Singapore. Her work consistently focuses on the unspoken power structures embedded in intergenerational trauma within East Asian families. Through a restrained and austere realist style, she seeks to capture the absurd truth of how, under the alienating forces of capitalism—shaping families, individuals, and relationships—"love" in East Asian familial contexts can serve as a disguise for violence, while kinship becomes a tool of emotional coercion.



mer  
10.06

## THIRTY SEVEN DOLLARS

Singapore 2025 / 10 min.

"*Thirty Seven Dollars*" è un potente thriller di 10 minuti che esplora il devastante ciclo della violenza urbana attraverso un dialogo improbabile tra predatore e preda. Quando Jessica, una donna rispettabile, incontra Donnie, un criminale di strada instabile, il loro scambio si trasforma in una riflessione inquietante su scelta, conseguenze e il vero costo della violenza.

*"Thirty Seven Dollars" is a powerful 10-minute thriller that explores the devastating cycle of urban violence through an unlikely conversation between predator and prey. When Jessica, a dignified woman, encounters Donnie, a volatile street criminal, their exchange becomes a haunting meditation on choice, consequence, and the true cost of violence.*



## Ashish Sharma

After a successful career in the tech industry, I transitioned to filmmaking, driven by a deep-seated passion for storytelling and visual narrative. Although my background in technology and leadership provided a strong foundation, it was the art of crafting compelling stories that truly captivated me. My move into cinema is fueled by a desire to create emotionally resonant films that engage audiences on a profound level.



mer  
10.06

## CLÍODHNA

Irlanda-Germania 2025 / 10 min.

CLÍODHNA, una ragazza poco più che ventenne, vive in una remota regione costiera dell'ovest dell'Irlanda, dove si parla irlandese. Mentre la crisi abitativa la costringe a considerare l'emigrazione, deve confrontarsi con le più ampie difficoltà generazionali della sua comunità — il declino della lingua e della cultura, insieme alla mancanza di opportunità per i giovani.

*CLÍODHNA, a woman in her early twenties, lives in a remote, Irish-speaking coastal region in the west of Ireland. As a housing crisis forces her to consider emigration, she must reckon with the broader generational struggles of her community — declining language and culture, alongside a lack of opportunities for young people.*



## Aaron Ryan

Aaron Ryan is an Irish filmmaker from County Clare, Ireland. His passion for film was driven by the rich traditions of storytelling, music, and craftsmanship that defined his upbringing. Since directing his first short film in 2023, he has honed his skills as a director, producer and editor creating work that is atmospheric, moody and packed with emotion that doesn't shy away from showing grit and authenticity.



mer  
10.06

## PIT

Federazione Russa 2025 / 24 min.

L'intera vita di un musicista anziano è una fossa: orchestrale, finanziaria ed emotiva. Ma se gli venisse data una seconda possibilità — riuscirebbe ad uscirne?

*The entire life of an aging musician is a Pit: orchestral, financial, and emotional. But if he's given a second chance — will he be able to climb out of it?*



## Egor Koreshkov

Born in 1986 in Moscow into a family of classical musicians. A graduate of the Acting Department of the Directing Faculty at GITIS (Russian Institute of Theatre Arts). Has appeared in over 70 film and television projects. Recipient of both Russian and international awards. Lives and works in Moscow.



mer  
10.06

## VOICELESS

UK 2025 / 20 min.

"VOICELESS" è un dramma toccante su Joe, un giovane uomo balbuziente che viene trascinato, suo malgrado, nel gruppo di scrittura e performance dei suoi amici. Spinto oltre la sua zona di comfort, affronta la paura di parlare in pubblico e scopre il potere della propria voce nel modo più inaspettato.

*"VOICELESS" is a poignant drama about JOE, a young man with a stammer who's reluctantly pulled into his friends' writing and performance group. Pushed beyond his comfort zone, he confronts his fear of public speaking and discovers the power of his own voice in the most unexpected way.*



## Thomas Schubert

Thomas Schubert is a German director and editor based in London. Since graduating from the University of York in 2020, Thomas has worked as a videographer and motion graphics artist for a range of commercial and narrative projects, ranging from video essays to animated shorts to brand films. In 2020, Thomas received the Royal Television Society's Student Craft Award for Editing.



mer  
10.06

## LINDA, LINDA!

Lussemburgo 2025 / 18 min.

L'ex rapinatrice di banche Linda (82 anni) prova nostalgia per il suo passato turbolento. Quando un giorno il suo ex complice Tony (80 anni) riappare, si trova di fronte a una scelta: fare un ultimo colpo o mandarlo al diavolo.

*Former bank robber Linda (82) longs for her turbulent past. When one day her former partner-in-crime Tony (80) reappears, she is faced with a choice: to do one last job or to send him to hell.*



## Kiyan Agadjani

Born in Luxembourg to Iranian parents, Kiyan Agadjani found his way to the arts first through classical piano, which was soon replaced with a love for the silver screen. In 2016, he was a jury member of the Giornate Degli Autori during the Venice Film Festival, after which he decided to become a filmmaker. In 2018 he moves to the UK, where he studies filmmaking and makes his first short film George Barton. In 2021, Kiyan returns to Luxembourg, where he works as screenwriter, director and assistant director. His latest short Arman & Elisa won the award for Best Short at the Austin Film Festival.



mer  
10.06

## DIRTY CLOTHES

Spagna 2025 / 3 min.

Una donna si sente intrappolata e sogna un altro amore. Alla fine deve prendere una decisione.

*A woman feels trapped and dreams of another love. In the end she has to make a decision.*



## María Barragán

With a degree in audiovisual and film production, she has numerous short films and audiovisual projects of different kinds to her credit since 2002, highlighting her work as a director since 2014, among which are her short films Reencuentro (2015), La mujer del espejo (2017), Mamá no trabaja (2021), Bully (2022), works of different genres but with a constant: intimate and low-budget cinema with international projection and recognition.



## SCHMIQUARDS

Francia 2025 / 9 min.

Patoche e Dom vanno al bar di Milou per cercare di ottenere la loro parte da un affare losco...

*Patoche and Dom go to Milou's bar to try to obtain their share from an obscure deal...*

g i o  
11.06



## Charlotte Cayeux

After a Master's degree in Cinema and Audiovisual Studies at Paris 3 University, Charlotte Cayeux has directed several short films, including "Those who can die", "Our Horizons", and "For educational purposes". Her first novel, "L'Autre Ahmed ou L'Attente", was published in French in 2021.



## YOGA GIRL

Stati Uniti 2025 / 9 min.

Una donna fatica a rimanere fedele ai suoi rituali quotidiani di benessere mentre è sull'orlo di un esaurimento mentale.

*A woman struggles to stay committed to her daily wellness rituals while on the brink of a mental breakdown.*

g i o  
11.06



## Kaitlyn Furey

Kaitlyn Furey is a filmmaker based out of Los Angeles and originally from Baltimore, MD. My goal is to craft films that are striking, thought provoking, relatable, and supportive of positive change. I am fascinated by the human experience and the different lens individuals perceive it through. I want to hear all of their stories.



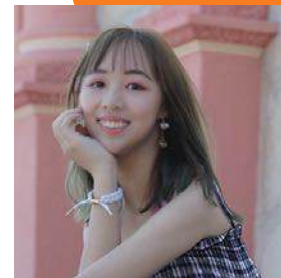
## THE PIANIST

Stati Uniti 2026 / 14 min.

Simon è un pianista alle prese con la composizione di un nuovo brano sotto la pressione di una scadenza di una settimana. Privo di ispirazione, non riesce a scrivere nemmeno una nota; frustrato, decide di uscire e cercare ristoro in un caffè vicino. Mentre sorseggia il suo caffè, Simon ascolta involontariamente una coppia che litiga al tavolo accanto — un incontro inatteso che accende una scintilla di ispirazione.

*Simon is a pianist struggling to compose a new song under a looming one-week deadline. Lacking inspiration, he finds himself unable to write a single note; in frustration, he decides to step out and seek respite at a nearby café. While sipping his coffee, Simon inadvertently overhears a couple arguing at the adjacent table—an unexpected encounter that sparks a flicker of inspiration.*

g i o  
11.06



## Jan Wang

Jan Wang is a multi-disciplinary artist now based in Los Angeles, she writes and directs narrative films both in America and China. Born in Shanghai, she has a broad experience in art for her whole childhood. Through the interest of combining arts together, she started her film production career, which inspired her unique filmmaking style now.



## NEMESIS

Turchia 2025 / 28 min.

Un giovane prete di Istanbul arriva in un monastero della Carolina del Nord per aiutare a risolvere un mistero bizantino, ma il legame con la figlia del sacerdote capo lo trascina in un gioco di perfezione che mette alla prova la fede, l'identità e il desiderio.

*A young priest from Istanbul arrives at a North Carolina monastery to help with a Byzantine mystery, but a bond with the head priest's daughter pulls him into a game of perfection that tests faith, identity, and desire.*

g i o  
11.06



## Zin Ataş

Currently pursuing a degree in Radio, Cinema, and Television, Zin completed studies at Hasan Kalyoncu University from 2022 to 2024 and now studying at Altınbaş University. Zin's career began with a role at HKÜ Radio 106.8 from 2022 to 2023, where responsibilities included sound recording, broadcasting, and audio editing supervision. Transitioning into film, Zin served as Production Supervisor for the short film Niran (2023) and Art Assistant for Eksik (2023). In late of 2024 and the beginning of 2025, Zin took on the dual role of director and producer for the medium-length film Nemesis.



## MILKY GIRL

Federazione Russa 2025 / 15 min.

Una giovane coppia di amanti dà alla luce una splendida bambina bionda. Tutto procede bene finché non diventa evidente che il padre è passato in secondo piano e che la madre è pronta, in pratica, a scomparire dentro la figlia.

*A young couple of lovers gives birth to a beautiful blond girl. Everything goes well until it becomes clear that the father has faded into the background, and the mother is ready to practically disappear into the child.*

g i o  
11.06



## Olga Dobromyslova

Olga graduated from the Faculty of Journalism of Moscow State University and began her career as a director, working on biographical films for individuals, as well as on television as an editor and producer at the largest advertising agency BBDO Moscow. In 2020, Olga graduated from the directing department of the Higher Courses for Scriptwriters and Directors. Her debut film was shown at such international festivals as Schlingel, Cinekid ScreeningClub, Providence Children's Film Festival.



## THE RIDE

Stati Uniti 2025 / 15 min.

Una Plymouth del '76 riflette sul proprio viaggio, osservando decenni di vite umane, catturando momenti di libertà, tentazione e redenzione mentre passa di mano in mano da un proprietario all'altro.

*A '76 Plymouth reflects on its journey, witnessing decades of human life, capturing moments of freedom, temptation, and redemption as it changes hands from one owner to the next.*

g i o  
11.06



## Slava Denisov

Slava Denisov is a Los Angeles-based director and editor. During his studies in Russia, Slava directed several award-winning short films and music videos before moving to Los Angeles, where he began working as an editor on multiple indie and studio projects, along with numerous shorts, music videos, and commercials. His latest directorial work, The Ride, featuring Ron Perlman, has been officially selected by over a dozen festivals, including Oscar-qualifying events, and earning multiple nominations and awards, including best film and best director.



## ONE WAY TICKET TO TBILISI

Austria-Georgia 2025 / 30 min.

Lena scopre che il suo fidanzato Joni è morto in un incidente d'auto in Georgia, e la polizia sospetta un suicidio. Si reca lì per ripercorrere i suoi ultimi passi e incontra Nana, la sua compagna di viaggio. Insieme visitano i luoghi in cui Joni era stato, alla ricerca di risposte — ma ciò che Lena scopre è qualcosa di diverso. Un film agrodolce sul lutto e sull'amicizia.

*Lena learns that her boyfriend Joni died in a car accident in Georgia, with police suspecting suicide. She travels there to retrace his steps and meets Nana, his travel companion. Together, they visit the places Joni had been in search of answers - but what Lena discovers is something different. A bittersweet film about grief and friendship.*

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11.06



## Paul Ploberger

PAUL PLOBERGER was born in Austria in 1986. After completing drama school in Salzburg and working as an actor and photographer, he decided to switch sides: He studied directing at Film Academy Vienna. During his studies, he made several short films that were screened at renowned international festivals and received awards. He is currently working as a screenwriter and director.



## WARDEN

Iran 2025 / 15 min.

Zivar, una donna di mezza età, è la responsabile di un dormitorio studentesco. Reagisce duramente quando una studentessa rientra in ritardo nella struttura. Nella sua solitudine, però, si sente in colpa e cerca di migliorare la situazione.

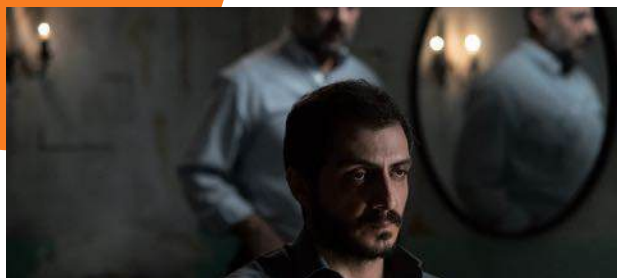
*Zivar, a middle-aged woman, is the supervisor of a student dormitory. She reacts harshly when a student returns late to the dorm. In her solitude, she feels guilty and tries to improve the situation.*

FOCUS  
I R A N v e n  
12.06



## Sabah Mohammadi

Born in Iran/Kurdistan/17/12/1988  
Bachelor of Directing from Soure University, Tehran.



## THE THIRD DREAM

Iran 2025 / 19 min.

FOCUS  
IRAN **ven**  
12.06

Un sognatore resiste all'interrogatorio di un medico implacabile, deciso a estrarre la verità sul suo sogno attraverso un uso coercitivo della psicoanalisi. Con l'intensificarsi della pressione, i ricordi vengono alterati, cancellati e riscritti a piacimento. Senza alcuna via di fuga dall'autorità, si rende conto che la verità non è mai stata sua da proteggere e che la confessione era inevitabile fin dall'inizio.

*A dreamer resists interrogation by a relentless doctor determined to extract the truth about his dream by coercive use of psychoanalysis. As pressure deepens, memories are altered, erased, and rewritten at will. With no escape from the authority's reach, he realizes the truth was never his to protect, and confession was inevitable from the beginning.*



## HAEMO\_PHILIA

Iran 2025 / 20 min.

FOCUS  
IRAN **ven**  
12.06

Un uomo con una mano protesica ha il compito di sgomberare una macelleria entro la fine della settimana. Abituato alla solitudine e a una routine rigida, il suo ritmo viene improvvisamente sconvolto dall'arrivo inatteso di una misteriosa ragazza. Con le sue richieste insolite e il suo atteggiamento curioso, sembra determinata a trattenersi nel negozio, mentre all'esterno si prepara un'insolita agitazione.

*A man with a prosthetic hand is tasked with clearing out a butcher shop by the end of the week. Accustomed to solitude and a strict routine, his rhythm is suddenly disrupted by the unexpected arrival of a mysterious girl. With her unusual requests and curious demeanor, she seems determined to linger in the shop, while outside, an unusual commotion brews.*



## Mohammadhossein Nikzad

Born in Tehran, Iran in 1997, holds a Pharm. D. from Tehran University of Medical Sciences. His interest in cinema developed alongside his academic studies, eventually leading him to pursue filmmaking through self-guided learning, workshops, and independent study. With a focus on psychological and sociopolitical themes, his work explores the intersection of power, identity, and the human psyche, often through stylized and surreal visual language.



## Kiarash Salehi

Kiarash Salehi is a 24-year-old filmmaker from Isfahan, currently studying Industrial Engineering at Azad University in Tehran. He began his cinematic journey by attending independent film workshops and classes in Tehran. Before entering the world of cinema, he was actively involved in photography, literature, literary criticism, and editing classical Persian texts, experiences that shaped his perspective on storytelling and character development.



## HEADACHE

Iran 2025 / 15 min.

FOCUS  
IRAN **ven**  
12.06

Il netturbino, nella sua solitudine, scopre in un bidone della spazzatura una pianta che emette un suono incantevole. Se ne innamora e la porta a casa con sé. La pentola riempie la solitudine dell'uomo, ma gradualmente proprio quel suono che un tempo gli dava gioia inizia a causargli fastidio e disagio. Decide di riportarla al suo posto originario, ma alla fine, a causa dell'attaccamento che ha sviluppato, sceglie di tenerla accanto a sé.

*The garbage collector, in his solitude, discovers a pot in a trash can that emits a lovely sound. He falls in love with the pot and takes it home. The pot fills the man's loneliness, but gradually, the very sound that once brought him joy begins to cause him trouble and discomfort. He decides to return the pot to its original place, but ultimately, due to the attachment he has developed, he chooses to keep it by his side.*



## TOO FAR, TOO LATE

Iran 2025 / 15 min.

FOCUS  
IRAN **ven**  
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Morteza e suo padre stanno cercando delle medicine per la madre malata quando Morteza scopre che è morta. Sua sorella lo esorta a riportare il padre in ospedale, ma Morteza, incapace di dargli la notizia, continua la ricerca insieme a lui. Durante il loro viaggio, vecchi conflitti e ricordi li riavvicinano, finché Morteza trova finalmente il modo di dire al padre della morte della madre, attingendo a un ricordo d'infanzia legato alla perdita.

*Morteza and his father are searching for medicine for his sick mother when Morteza learns she has passed away. His sister urges him to bring their father back to the hospital, but Morteza, unable to share the news, continues the search with his father. As they journey together, past conflicts and memories bring them closer, until Morteza finally finds a way to tell his father about their mother's death, drawing on a childhood memory of loss.*



## Paria Shojaeian

Armin Etemadi is an Iranian filmmaker, writer, and researcher exploring dreams, memory, and feminist interiorities through inventive low-budget cinema. He studied filmmaking at the Iranian Youth Cinema Society (IYCS). His films screened at Oscar-qualifying festivals including Tehran ISFF and Flickers' Rhode Island. His latest film "Prehistoric" has recently won the Best International Short Film Prize at the 40th Fribourg International Film Festival (2026).



## Reza Daghigh

Born in 1988 in Mashhad, Iran, Reza Daghigh has resided in Tehran since 2016. He graduated in 2012 with a degree in Cinema, focusing on film editing, from the University of Applied Science and Technology. He began his career as an editor in 2006. He has also directed music videos and TV commercials. In 2016, he directed his first short film, Death Time. His second short film, Middle Eastern Stories: Father, completed in January 2022, involved his roles as director, producer, and writer. This film has received recognition through various international awards.



## PREHISTORIC

Iran 2025 / 20 min.

"Prehistoric" segue Nina, che si rifiuta di accettare la morte del suo compagno e continua a cercare la convalida che lui un tempo le dava. Mentre si prepara per uno spettacolo teatrale che rispecchia in modo inquietante la sua vita, il confine tra palcoscenico e realtà si fa sempre più labile. Attraverso questo processo, si libera gradualmente dalla dipendenza e inizia ad abbracciare il proprio potere.

*"Prehistoric" follows Nina, who refuses to accept her partner's death and continues to seek the validation he once gave her. As she prepares for a theater performance that eerily mirrors her life, the boundary between stage and reality blurs. Through this process, she gradually frees herself from dependence and begins to embrace her own power.*

FOCUS  
IRAN

ven  
12.06



## Armin Etemadi

Armin Etemadi is an Iranian filmmaker, writer, and researcher exploring dreams, memory, and feminist interiorities through inventive low-budget cinema. He studied filmmaking at the Iranian Youth Cinema Society (IYCS). His films screened at Oscar-qualifying festivals including Tehran ISFF and Flickers' Rhode Island. His latest film "Prehistoric" has recently won the Best International Short Film Prize at the 40th Fribourg International Film Festival (2026).



## FULL FAT

Iran 2025 / 20 min.

Durante una rapina notturna, una giovane donna riconosce inaspettatamente il suo aggressore come un ex compagno di università, trasformando un incontro teso in una riunione imbarazzante.

*During a late-night mugging, a young woman unexpectedly recognizes her assailant as an old college classmate, turning a tense encounter into an awkward reunion.*

FOCUS  
IRAN

ven  
12.06



## Amir Honarmand

Amir Honarmand is an Iranian-Canadian award-winning writer, director, and producer. His work explores moral contradictions, personal bias, and the hypocrisies that shape human behavior, often through dark humor and grounded, character-driven storytelling. His short films, including Silkworm and Full Fat, have screened at international festivals such as Tirana, Brussels ISFF, Vancouver, and Short Shorts, receiving top honors at multiple international festivals. He has contributed to major studio productions as a Technical Director at Sony Pictures Imageworks.

# DOCUMENTARI

in concorso

DOCUMENTARIES

13 e 14 giugno

La realtà filtrata dallo sguardo autoriale. I documentari selezionati affrontano il presente e la memoria con urgenza e profondità, restituendo storie sommerse, volti dimenticati e riflessioni sul nostro tempo.

*Reality filtered by the authorial gaze. The selected documentaries address the present and memory with urgency and depth, restoring submerged stories, forgotten faces and reflections on our time.*



## BEYOND THE PYRAMIDS

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Egitto 2025 / 16 min.

L'Egitto è spesso rappresentato come un museo, un luogo in cui il tempo si è fermato e il mondo viene solo per guardare indietro. "Beyond the Pyramids" infrange questa illusione. Attraverso paesaggi sonori intimi e riprese sul campo, la regista Kenzy Samir si addentra nelle correnti spirituali nascoste del Cairo, seguendo i ritmi dei rituali Zar e delle danze rotanti sufi che continuano a pulsare sotto il rumore della città.

*Egypt is often framed as a museum, a place where time has stopped and the world comes only to look back. "Beyond the Pyramids" breaks that illusion. Through intimate soundscapes and raw field footage, filmmaker Kenzy Samir journeys into Cairo's hidden spiritual undercurrents, tracing the rhythms of Zar rituals and Sufi whirling that still pulse beneath the city's noise.*



## Kenzy Tarek Samir

Kenzy Samir is an Egyptian visual storyteller and travel journalist based between Rome and Dubai. With a background in visual communication and a deep love for culture and symbolism, her work often explores the invisible threads between faith, ritual, and identity. Drawn since childhood to the spiritual side of life, from folk tales and prayers to the quiet rituals that shape everyday existence, Kenzy uses film and photography to listen rather than look.



## NUR SULTAN

s a b  
13.06

Spagna 2025 / 14 min.

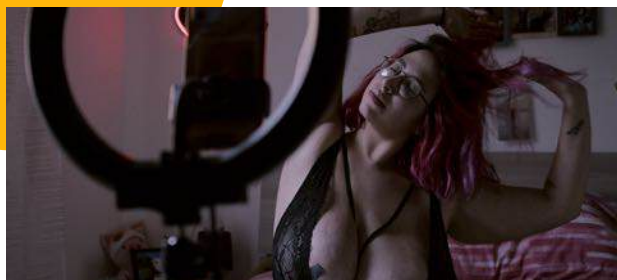
Nur Sultán è una matrioska. Una città dai molti nomi: due anni fa era Nur Sultán, dieci anni fa Astana, trenta Akmolinsk, sessanta Tselinograd, cento Ak Mola. Il luogo è lo stesso, ma il suo significato è cambiato continuamente. Questo non è un film sulla geografia né un elenco di nomi esotici — è un racconto in prima persona del tempo che ho trascorso lì. Un viaggio lontano dall'eurocentrismo, dove ciò che mi ha portato a 7.000 km da casa non è stato il turismo o la curiosità, ma qualcos'altro.

*Nur Sultán is a matryoshka. A city with many names: two years ago it was Nur Sultán, ten years ago Astana, thirty Akmolinsk, sixty Tselinograd, a hundred Ak Mola. The place is the same, but its meaning has constantly changed. This is not a film about geography or a list of exotic names—it's a first-person story about the time I spent there. A journey far from eurocentrism, where what took me 7,000 km from home wasn't tourism or curiosity, but something else.*



## Xoan Escudero

Xoan Escudero (Vigo, 1981). Trained as an art historian, Xoan Escudero began his career in film as a sound technician in the early 2000s. His growing interest in visual storytelling led him to direct his first short film, Curta nº2 (2009). In the following years, he focused on screenwriting, he co-founded the production company Y La Nave Va and directed his first music video. In 2017, he released O Tempo Futuro, finalist at the Mestre Mateo Awards. He returned in 2025 with Nur Sultán, a first-person non-fiction short exploring his personal connection to Kazakhstan.



## SOLO LINA

Italia 2025 / 17 min.

Oggi, a 21 anni, Lina è una modella curvy su Only Fans. La sua storia è quella di una bambina che scopre il suo corpo assieme alle sue insicurezze, poi quella di una ragazza che le affronta grazie all'amicizia con Sara e alla relazione con Ninì. Due cose che, purtroppo, potrebbero non durare.

*Today, at 21, Lina is a curvy model for Only Fans. Her story is that of a little girl discovering her body along with her insecurities, then a girl coping with them through Sara's friendship and the relationship with Ninì. Things that, unfortunately, may not last forever.*

s a b  
13.06



## Filippo Da Ross

He began experimenting with his first short films in Treviso before moving to Rome where he attended the course "Lettere Musica e Spettacolo" at Sapienza University. In 2023 he is selected as the winning project at the "Premio Sonogo" with the screenplay of the short Fiammetta dal dolce canto. In the same year he was admitted to the Directing course of the "Gian Maria Volontè School of Cinematic Art." In his stories he often combines the romantic with the fantastic, often mixing fairy-tale or folkloric atmospheres with contemporary imagery.



## SUNDAY

Italia 2025 / 15 min.

Sunday è una ragazza di 14 anni con disabilità cognitive e fisiche che vive in una zona rurale del nord Uganda. In un luogo in cui la disabilità è vista come uno stigma e la pratica dell'eutanasia è ancora presente, lei vive in un mondo tutto suo. Porta addosso il peso di sguardi che la giudicano strana, scoordinata, fuori tempo. Ma lei non lo sa, e balla.

*Sunday is a 14-year-old girl with cognitive and physical disabilities, living in a rural area of northern Uganda. In a place where disability is seen as a stigma and "mercy killing" still persists, she inhabits a world of her own. Beneath the weight of glances that judge her as strange, uncoordinated, out of time, she does not see it. And she dances.*

s a b  
13.06



## Giulio Tonincelli

Giulio Tonincelli is an independent documentary filmmaker, artistically born in 2015. Co-founder of Monwalk Studio and programmer at Orvieto Cinema Fest. His projects moves through West Asia, Latin America and Africa, shaped by presence, time, and observation. His short films have been selected in over twenty countries. Father, completed in January 2022, involved his roles as director, producer, and writer. This film has received recognition through various international awards.



## AFTER THE WATER

Italia 2025 / 23 min.

"After the Water" esplora le esperienze della popolazione migrante dell'isola e le dinamiche politiche, ambientali e storiche che plasmano il territorio dell'isola greca di Lesbo.

*"After the Water" explores the experiences of the island's migrant population and the political, environmental, and historical dynamics shaping the territory of the Greek island of Lesbos.*

s a b  
13.06



## Davide Marchesi

Davide Marchesi is a filmmaker and documentarian. His latest film, *After the Water* (Lesbos, 2024), is the outcome of a research project begun in 2015, focusing on migration and territorial tension. Shot with the support of the NGO Yoga & Sport with Refugees, the documentary traces the intersection between the island's political and environmental conflicts and the suspended lives of its inhabitants.



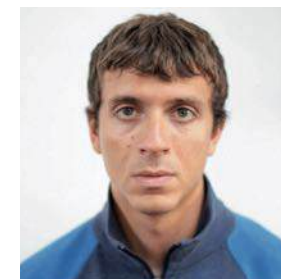
## SWEET SWEAT

Italia 2025 / 20 min.

Khadim Dia, giovane fighter di MMA italo-senegalese, si allena senza sosta in vista di uno dei match più importanti della sua vita. A una sola settimana dal match, deve affrontare una prova brutale: perdere 10 chilogrammi per rientrare nella sua categoria di peso. Mentre il tempo scorre inesorabile, Khadim spinge corpo e mente ai limiti estremi. La pressione è immensa: una vittoria per KO gli aprirebbe le porte della più prestigiosa organizzazione del mondo, l'UFC.

*Khadim Dia, a young Italo-Senegalese MMA fighter, is training relentlessly for the biggest match of his life at Ostia's premier arena. With just one week to go, he faces a brutal challenge: shedding 10 kilograms to qualify for his weight class. As the clock ticks down, Khadim pushes his body and mind to their absolute limits. The pressure is immense—a K.O. victory would earn him an invitation to the most prestigious tournament in the world: the UFC.*

s a b  
13.06



## Michele Formica

Michele Formica studied at the Academy of Fine Arts, a formative experience that helped define his visual sensibility from an early stage and laid the foundation for a cinematic language rooted in composition, texture, and the expressive power of the body. His artistic path developed at the intersection of visual arts, fashion imagery, and moving image practice, allowing him to build a style that is both highly controlled and deeply intuitive. He co-founded Goofy Studio, a creative practice through which he has produced fashion campaigns, music videos, and experimental visual works for leading luxury brands.



## PRIMA DELL'AURORA

Italia 2025 / 15 min.

16 ottobre 1944. Aurora Vuillerminaz, la partigiana Lola, saluta con uno sguardo le sue amate montagne e decide di non rivelare nemmeno un nome ai soldati fascisti che l'hanno catturata. Prima dell'Aurora racconta il suo ultimo viaggio. Intrecciando fotografie d'archivio, interviste e animazione, a distanza di ottant'anni si interroga su che cosa significhi oggi fare Resistenza.

*October 16, 1944. Aurora Vuillerminaz, known as the partisan Lola, bids farewell to her beloved mountains with a final glance and resolves not to reveal a single name to the fascist soldiers who have captured her. Lola recounts her last journey. Interweaving archival photographs, interviews and animation, the film retraces the places of Lola's mission, among the peaks that shaped it, and—eighty years later—questions what it means to resist today.*

s a b  
13.06



## Chiara Zoja

Chiara Zoja (born 2004) is an Italian director and writer. She is making her debut with the short doc *Lola*, which in 2024 won second prize in Match and Catch, a ideas competition organized by Film Commission Vallée d'Aoste. Alongside her film studies at DAMS in Turin, she has been training as a director through audiovisual projects between Piedmont and Aosta Valley. At the heart of her storytelling lies the desire to give voice to courageous women's stories, rooted between past and present.



## SPARTITI MANCANTI

Italia 2025 / 20 min.

Nel Settecento Napoli fu uno dei più importanti centri musicali d'Europa. Nei quattro conservatori cittadini nacque il cosiddetto metodo dei partimenti, oggi quasi dimenticato e non più in uso da secoli. Si trattava di un metodo basato sullo scrivere soltanto alcune parti di certi strumenti, tralasciandone altre: si dava infatti per scontato che gli allievi sapessero ricavare le parti mancanti grazie alla tradizione orale e alla loro formazione musicale.

*In the 18th century, Naples was one of the most important musical centres in Europe. The four conservatories in the city gave rise to the so-called partimenti method, now almost forgotten and no longer in use for centuries. This method involved writing only some parts for certain instruments, leaving others out: it was assumed that students would be able to figure out the missing parts thanks to oral tradition and their musical training.*

d o m  
14.06



## Eleonora Valentino

Eleonora Valentino was born on 30 January 2002 in Cagliari but lives, works and studies in Naples. In 2024, she obtained a bachelor's degree in cinema and audiovisual studies from the Academy of Fine Arts in Naples and is continuing her studies by attending a two-year specialisation course in cinema. Her main interests include directing, creative writing, production and videomaking. She has been part of the Mécena srl team since 2024.



## MARE INFINITU

Francia 2025 / 26 min.

Al confine tra terra e mare, a Bastia, alcune persone sono in una pausa meditativa davanti all'orizzonte. La regista va loro incontro e le interroga sull'apertura che questo altrove offre loro, sui legami che intrecciano con il mare infinito.

*At the edge of land and sea in Bastia, people pause in quiet contemplation facing the horizon. The filmmaker approaches them and asks how this elsewhere opens something within them, and what connection they feel with the endless sea.*

d o m  
14.06



## Alexandra Breznay

French street photographer and director. She graduated from the International Center of Photography and Sciences Po Paris and is represented by two photo agencies, Hans Lucas and R.É.A. After living in New York, she currently lives in Paris where she pursues documentary photography with a poetic outlook on urban spaces. Her eye is attracted to in-between moments and she focuses on the loneliness generated by big cities. Her work has been exhibited in France and abroad and her photographs have been published in several press publications.



## THE LAST PUESTERO

Stati Uniti 2025 / 28 min.

The Last Puestero è un documentario che racconta la storia di Adonai, un gaucho — ovvero un cowboy argentino — che trascorre gran parte delle sue giornate in solitudine in un remoto avamposto della Patagonia, proteggendo il bestiame da bracconieri e puma. Sebbene sia profondamente orgoglioso del suo lavoro e delle abilità che esso richiede, egli si trova a dover affrontare la solitudine derivante dall'essere lontano dalla moglie e dai figli, che vivono in città.

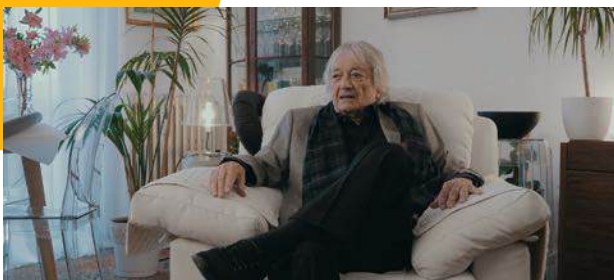
*The Last Puestero is a short documentary that tells the story of Adonai, a gaucho -or Argentine cowboy- who spends most of his days alone in a remote Patagonian outpost, protecting cattle from poachers and pumas. While deeply proud of his work and the skills it demands, he struggles with the loneliness of being away from his wife and children in town.*

d o m  
14.06



## Belle Casares

Writer, producer, and director originally from Colorado. She studied documentary filmmaking at The New School in New York and screenwriting at the University of Miami. Her work explores cultural identity, personal transformation, and the essence of masculine and feminine energies, reflecting the complexities of finding one's place in an ever-changing world. The Last Puestero is her debut film as a producer-director.



dom  
14.06

## BEIRUT ADDIO

Italia 2025 / 20 min.

L'incredibile storia del cantante italiano Joe Diverio, si intreccia con quella della guerra civile libanese. Il 1982 segna la vita di Joe, l'Italia vince i Mondiali e la guerra a Beirut infuria.

*The incredible story of the Italian singer Joe Diverio is tied with that of the Lebanese civil war, 1982 marks Joe's life - Italy wins the World Cup and the war in Beirut rages.*



## Jean-Claude Chinchéré

Born in 1993, he studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Turin. For 10 years, he followed the exodus of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. His photographs have been exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions in Italy and around the world, including the World Bank in Washington DC. His work has appeared in numerous magazines and newspapers. "Beirut Addio - Singing Under the Bombs" (2025) is his first short film.(2026).



dom  
14.06

## HODOUD

Gaza 2025 / 13 min.

Hodoud racconta la storia di una famiglia di Gaza, Ameen e Narmeen, separate dai confini e da un valico chiuso dopo la guerra.

Ma coloro che hanno assorbito più profondamente il dolore della separazione... sono stati i bambini. Tra Gaza e il Belgio, i piccoli non solo sopportano l'assenza dell'abbraccio della madre, ma vivono una vita sospesa che non ha nulla a che vedere con l'infanzia che meriterebbero.

*Hodoud tells the story of a Gazan family, Ameen and Narmeen separated by borders and a closed crossing after the war. But those who absorbed the pain of separation most deeply... were the children.*

*Between Gaza and Belgium, the little ones not only endure the absence of their mother's embrace, but live a suspended life that bears no resemblance to the childhood they deserve.*



## Hamdi Khalil Elhusseini / Samar Taher Lulu

Hamdi Khalil Elhusseini, a Palestinian filmmaker, is known for his human and social storytelling, earning recognition at the ConnectHER Film Festival with Jewels (2023) and Khalil Hanaa (2024 and 2025).

Samar Taher Lulu, a young filmmaker born in Gaza, debuted in 2019 with Religious Tolerance and won awards at ConnectHER in 2023 and 2025 with Jawaher and Khalil Hanaa. Through her work, she gives a voice to the oppressed and seeks to bring them international visibility.

# ANTROPOCENE

in concorso

## ANTHROPOCENE

### 15 giugno

Il rapporto tra umanità e pianeta in un'epoca segnata dalla crisi ecologica. Questa sezione propone opere che riflettono sull'impatto ambientale, sulla memoria dei luoghi e sulle forme di resistenza della natura, delle comunità, dei singoli.

*The relationship between humanity and the planet in an era marked by the ecological crisis. This section proposes works that reflect on the environmental impact, on the memory of places and on the forms of resistance of nature, communities, individuals.*



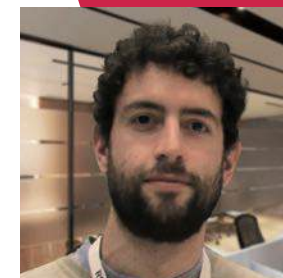
### UN'AMICIZIA OLTRE IL CONFINE

lun  
15.06

Italia, 2026 | 2 min.

Un pallone sgonfio tra le macerie, nel silenzio di un mondo in bianco e nero. Tra le crepe della desolazione si nasconde la luce di una realtà differente che attende solo un gesto per essere riconosciuta.

*A deflated ball among the ruins, lost in the silence of a monochrome world. Within the cracks of desolation lies the light of a different reality waiting for a single gesture to be recognized.*



### Antonio Collese

Born in Padua in 1993, Antonio Collese is a Bioinformatician with a PhD who also has a long-standing passion for filmmaking. He started out in 2013 joining the crew Hidden Embers and has since been part of several successful projects, including winning several Jury Prizes at the renowned Padovaciak Film Festival.



### COME L'ACQUA DEL FIUME BRENTA

lun  
15.06

Italia 2025 / 30 min.

Nicola Zamuner, ex campione del mondo di canoa, scende il fiume Brenta con il suo SUP dal lago di Levico fino a ridosso del suo sbocco in pianura. Un viaggio dove Nicola incontra le storie delle persone che vivono sull'acqua e i luoghi nascosti creati dall'acqua purissima del fiume e, nel viaggio, impara nuove cose su se stesso e sulla sua vita.

*Nicola Zamuner, a former world canoe champion, paddles down the Brenta River on his SUP, from Lake Levico to just before its mouth in the plains. A journey where Nicola encounters the stories of the people who live on the water and the hidden places created by the river's pure water. Along the way, he learns new things about himself and his life.*



### Francesco Leitner

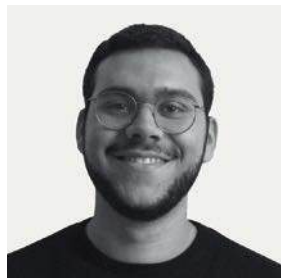
Professional journalist since 1997, with experience of reporting, documentaries and in-depth TV features (Rai, La7, Sky Tg24), radio anchor (Radio Popolare, RMC) and traditional journalism (Reuters, Panorama Economy, Il Diario, Il Manifesto). Experience in devising formats and directing music short doc with Saturnino Celani (Jovanotti band), drafting of formats for Rai and Sky Tg 24, corporate and advertising video campaigns. In the last year worked with Channel 4 production (Alpine Train at Christmas), ZDF/ARTE (Bella Ciao).



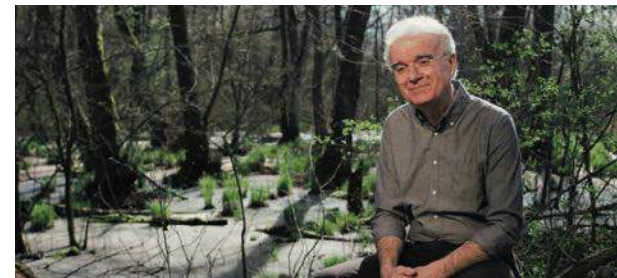
**OKAPI** lun 15.06  
Congo/Italia 2025 / 15 min.

Nella Repubblica Democratica del Congo, un Paese segnato dallo sfruttamento coloniale e da conflitti ancora in corso, il sistema educativo attraversa una profonda crisi. Attraverso testimonianze e momenti di animazione emerge il ritratto di una società in cui l'istruzione rimane una delle poche strade verso la speranza. L'okapi diventa simbolo di connessione e resilienza, incarnando la possibilità di un futuro diverso.

*In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a country marked by colonial exploitation and ongoing conflict, the education system faces a deep crisis. Through testimonies and moments of animation, a portrait emerges of a society where education remains one of the few paths toward hope. The okapi becomes a symbol of connection and resilience, embodying the possibility of a different future.*



**Andrea Rinaldi**  
Andrea Rinaldi is a 23-year-old filmmaker born in Bergamo, Italy. He graduated in Cinema from DAMS at the University of Brescia with top marks. In 2025 he completed a Master's program in Audiovisual Ideation and Production at ALMED in Milan, in collaboration with Università Cattolica. He is currently based in Milan, where he is working as a Junior Videomaker at Lifegate



**IL CUSTODE DELLA NATURA** lun 15.06  
Italia 2025 / 14 min.

Franco Correggia, naturalista piemontese, cresce tra i boschi e i sentieri del Monferrato, dove prende forma la sua vocazione. Tra ricerca, scrittura e lavoro sul campo, dedica la sua vita alla tutela dei paesaggi locali, intrecciando scienza e azione. La sua storia è un invito a riconsiderare il nostro rapporto con la natura, ricordandoci che è dalla consapevolezza che ha origine il cambiamento.

*Franco Correggia, a Piedmontese naturalist, grew up among the woods and trails of Monferrato that shaped his life's calling. Through research, writing, and fieldwork, he actively protects the local landscapes. His story becomes an invitation to reconsider our relationship with nature, reminding us that awareness is the first step toward change.*



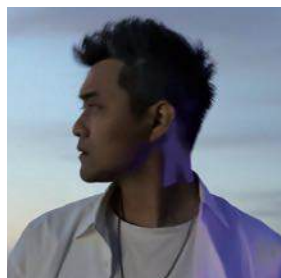
**Leonardo Medesani / Chiara Gianusso**  
Leonardo Medesani and Chiara Gianusso are directors and writers based in the Monferrato (Asti) area in Northern Italy. Leonardo is the founder of the independent production company Roundwood Studios, where he develops and directs original film projects. Chiara, with international experience in storytelling and sustainability, joined the studio in 2024, where she writes and produces the docuseries Monfrà Stories with Medesani.



**TRANSCRISIS: AWARENESS SPARKS AS SPIDER SILK** lun 15.06  
Cina 2025 / 3 min.

Transcrisis traccia il conflitto interiore del corpo a livello molecolare, dove ogni cellula negozia la vita sul limite della sopravvivenza, ogni minuto. Al cuore del film vi è una riflessione sul cancro — non soltanto come malattia, ma come metafora. Esso incarna il momento in cui il corpo si rivolge contro sé stesso, quando i codici della vita si inceppano e la resilienza si trasforma in frattura, e tuttavia permane la SPERANZA.

*Transcrisis traces the body's inner conflict at the molecular level, where every cell negotiates life at the edge of survival every minute. At the heart of the film is a reflection on cancer—not merely as a disease, but as a metaphor. It embodies the moment when the body turns against itself, when the codes of life misfire, and resilience becomes rupture, yet there is still HOPE.*



**Jansword Zhu**  
Jansword Zhu is an interdisciplinary artist entangling celestial mythology, genetics, and planetary wisdom, rooted in Oriental philosophy and its philosophical contemporary reinterpretation in his work. Invoking electrons, genes, and stars, he explores the intersections between life, technology, and the environment, dismantling the boundaries between scientism and transcendence. Through his techno-spiritual rituals, he poses critical questions about our ever-shifting era. Zhu's art spans digital art, film, installation, and painting.



**ARS ANIMALIS FOR TROUBLED TIMES** lun 15.06  
Stati Uniti 2025 / 4 min.

Il regno animale osservato rivela un'ingegnosa capacità di adattamento, ispirando curiosità umana — e persino speranza — in mezzo a tumulti e crisi.

*The observed animal kingdom reveals artful resourcefulness, inspiring human curiosity—and even hope—amidst tumult and crises.*



**Anne Ciecko**  
Anne Ciecko is a US-based maker, writer, and educator. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, she currently lives and works in towns in western Massachusetts, with deep gratitude and respect for the natural environments and Native histories of these lands. Her poetry films/videopoems/multimedia poetry and other experimental short works have been selected for festivals worldwide.



**AL WADIAA**

Tunisia 2025 / 11 min.

In Cisgiordania, una giovane ragazza intraprende un viaggio delicato per salvare l'ulivo dei suoi nonni, simbolo di amore, memoria e resistenza, minacciato dalla distruzione.

*In the West Bank, a young girl embarks on a tender journey to save her grandparents' olive tree, a symbol of love, memory, and resistance, threatened by destruction.*

lun  
15.06



**Hedy Krissane**

Hedy Krissane is a Tunisian-Italian director. His career spans both Italy and Tunisia, where he has developed, written, and directed various projects, showcasing a deep understanding of cinematic language and storytelling. Krissane began his career in the audiovisual sector by directing short films that gained recognition at international festivals as Festival de Cannes, Torino Film Festival and Venice.



**THE PASSION OF ARGHAVAN**

Iran 2025 / 19 min.

Restiamo inconsapevoli della nostra stessa metamorfosi — finché non guardiamo in uno specchio e vediamo uno sconosciuto fissarci.

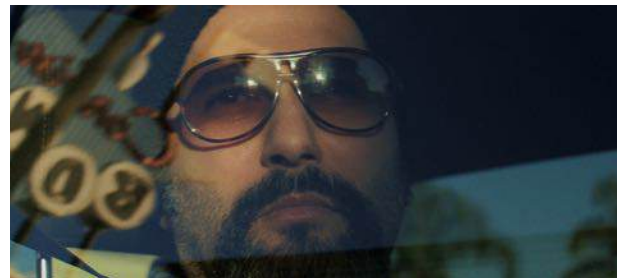
*We remain unaware of our own metamorphosis - until we look into a mirror and see a stranger staring back at us.*

lun  
15.06



**Pouria Bagheri**

Pouria Bagheri (born 16 January 1996, Tehran), is an Iranian independent film director and screenwriter. Writer and Director of "Dusty" (Khak Gerefte), "Twenty One" (Bistoyek), "Litter" (Shalte) and The Iranian painting and Art, the short documentary in collaboration with UNESCO and Action Art (was made during Covid19).



**ICE ICE BYE BYE**

Francia 2026 / 10 min.

Los Angeles, una mattina ordinaria si frantuma quando un uomo apparentemente comune è costretto a fuggire all'arrivo dell'ICE, che riduce una vita a un numero di pratica e la routine a sopravvivenza.

*Los Angeles, an ordinary morning shatters when a seemingly ordinary man is forced to flee as ICE arrives, reducing a life to a case number and routine to survival.*

lun  
15.06



**Sebastien Abdelhamid Godelu**

Sébastien Abdelhamid is a French director based in Los Angeles. His work explores contemporary social tensions through intimate, character-driven storytelling. Ice Ice Bye Bye is his latest short film.

# ANIMAZIONE

in concorso

ANIMATION

16 giugno

L'animazione come atto creativo totale. Tecniche diverse – dal disegno a mano alla CGI – danno vita a mondi visionari e poetici, capaci di raccontare l'invisibile con potenza evocativa e ironia.

*Animation as a total creative act. Different techniques – from hand drawing to CGI – give life to visionary and poetic worlds, capable of telling the invisible with evocative power and irony.*



## THE ROPE

m a r  
16.06

Iran 2025 / 17 min.

Una madre e di suo figlio sono legati da un cordone ombelicale sin dalla nascita. Le loro vite sono plasmate da questo legame inseparabile, che impedisce loro di vivere il successo, i traguardi e i momenti di gioia, poiché devono rimanere sempre insieme. Quando il figlio raggiunge la mezza età, la madre muore, lasciandolo a un bivio. Deve decidere se recidere il legame per conquistare la propria libertà oppure cedere al decadimento inevitabile.

*A mother and her son are bound by an uncut umbilical cord. Their lives are shaped by this inseparable connection, preventing them from experiencing success, achievements, and joyful moments, as they must always be together. As the son reaches middle age, his mother passes away, leaving him at a crossroads. He must decide whether to sever the bond for his own freedom or to succumb to the inevitable decay.*



## Saba Javar

Saba Javar is an Iranian filmmaker, screenwriter, actress, poet, and singer who graduated with a degree in Cinema from the University of Tehran. She is an official member of the Cinema Instructors' Association at the Iranian House of Cinema, one of the most significant professional institutions representing film artists and industry professionals in Iran. Alongside her creative work, she has been actively engaged in academic and educational activities, teaching cinema at universities in several cities across Iran.



## FOUNTAIN (CHAWK)

m a r  
16.06

Iran 2025 / 13 min.

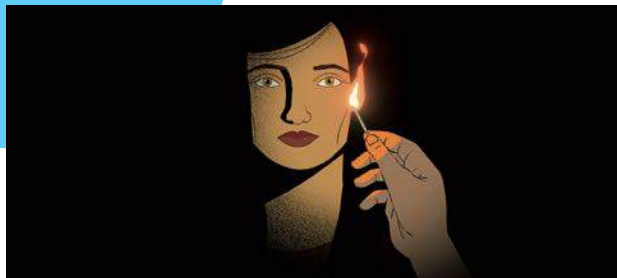
Un uomo di mezza età, proiezionista di un cinema in una piccola città, incontra dopo molti anni il suo amore adolescenziale. I volti di tutti gli abitanti della città sono deformati e solo il pianto può farli tornare alla loro forma normale.

*A middle-aged man who is a projectionist of a small-town cinema meets his teenage love after many years. The faces of all the residents of the city are deformed and only crying will make their faces return to their normal form.*



## Hazhir As'adi

Born in 1992 in Kurdistan, Iran. Has a master's degree in dramatic literature and is a member of the Iranian Association of Asifa. Writer and director of three short animations that have won more than fifty national and international awards. Member of the selection and judging panel of the 19th Red Rock Festival 2025 and the 7th Florida Animation Festival 2022.



## AT NIGHT

Iran 2025 / 5 min.

Nel mezzo della guerra, un uomo osserva la persona amata accendendo i tre fiammiferi che gli sono rimasti. Poi, nel buio più totale, dalla loro unione nasce una foresta che li protegge dalla guerra.

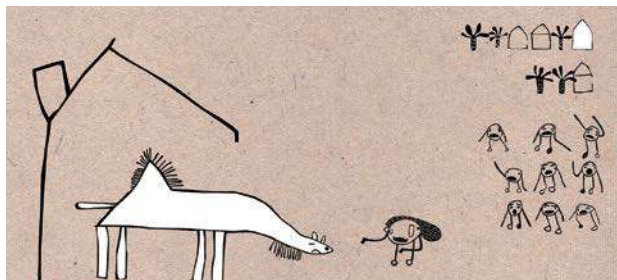
*In the midst of war, a man watches his beloved one by lighting the three matches he has left. Then, in the pitch darkness, a forest grows from their lovemaking and protects them from the war.*

mar  
16.06



## Pooya Afzali

Pooya Afzali (born 1983, Iran) began his artistic journey with traditional Iranian music, later studying Industrial Design at Tehran University of Art. During this period, he also explored poetry and worked as an editor, developing a deep interest in language, rhythm, and narrative expression. His work often merges these artistic sensibilities with animation, exploring poetic and philosophical themes, human emotions, and existential questions.



## FILKOOOL

Iran 2025 / 7 min.

FILKOOOL è una grande creatura che non riesce a trovare il suo posto nella propria casa. Tutti cercano di cambiarlo, finché un bambino con sindrome di Down, in modo semplice e unico, dimostra che non ha bisogno di cambiare. L'animazione rappresenta i movimenti dei personaggi con la reale calma e lentezza dei bambini con sindrome di Down. L'opera è basata sui disegni di mio fratello MAZDAK, che ha la sindrome di Down, e da anni creiamo insieme mondi diversi. Tutti i doppiatori di questa animazione sono persone con sindrome di Down.

*FILKOOOL is a big different creature who doesn't fit in his house. Everyone tries to change him, until a child with Down syndrome enters and shows in a simple and unique way that he doesn't need to change. The animation depicts the characters' movements with the real calmness and slowness of children with Down syndrome. The work is based on the drawings of my brother MAZDAK, who has Down syndrome, and we have been creating different worlds together for years. All the voice actors in this animation are people with Down syndrome.*

mar  
16.06



## Maral Forouzesheh / Naser Rezaeiyan

MARAL FOROUZESH is an Iranian Illustrator, Graphic Designer, and Art Director. She creates poetic worlds by blending her illustrations with her brother MAZDAK's drawings, who lives with Down Syndrome. In her work, all characters live with Down Syndrome. She is the founder of ROUTE 47. She has received multiple international illustration awards. Her film FILKOOOL has been selected and awarded in over 40 international festivals.



## MAMIMIMUMEMO

Finlandia 2025 / 7 min.

"MAMIMIMUMEMO" è un cortometraggio animato di 6 minuti su una città invasa da entità aliene che assumono la forma di materia vegetale extraterrestre. La sorellina appena nata della protagonista, Mimu — Memo — è diventata una di loro, assumendo la forma di un seme.

*"MAMIMIMUMEMO" is a 6 min animation shorts about a city invaded by an alien entities - taking shape of an extraterrestrial plant matter. The protagonist Mimu's new born sister - Memo has become one of their kind, assuming the shape of a seed.*

mar  
16.06



## Tamaki Ngoc Tran

Tamaki is a Vietnamese/Japanese animator. 2020 pandemic had allowed her to first start with animation and since then, her animation style and technique has evolve into many different areas of disciplinary. Tamaki believe that in order to become a good (enough) animator, one must first start as a student of culture first and foremost: to observe the world - how it stays idle, bounce and spin. Absorb that understanding to then release it into something new, woven back into culture.



## LOST&FOUND

Taiwan 2025 / 6 min.

Dopo essere stato svegliato bruscamente dalla sveglia, un esausto Wei-De si ritrova sopraffatto da mostri nati dalle frustrazioni lavorative e dalle aspettative familiari. Mentre cerca disperatamente di fuggire, mette a soqquadro la sua casa alla ricerca di qualcosa di importante. Sotto una pressione simile, come reagirà?

*After being jolted awake by his alarm, a weary Wei-De finds himself overwhelmed by monsters formed from work frustrations and family expectations. As he scrambles to escape, he tears apart his home in search of something important. Under such pressure—how will he respond?*

mar  
16.06



## Yu-Chiao Lin

My name is Yu-Chiao Lin. Ever since I was young, I've been influenced by Japanese animation, which sparked my love for drawing. I enjoy expressing my thoughts and emotions through my artwork—using each stroke to convey what's in my heart. I hold high standards for my creations. When facing challenges, I push myself to learn more and stay motivated, always striving to grow and continue creating with passion.



## THE SNOWY NIGHT

Taiwan 2025 / 12 min.

Quest'opera si ispira al capriolo siberiano che vive nel freddo altopiano orientale e incorpora antiche leggende locali sui mostri delle nevi. La storia racconta di un cacciatore nella foresta che scatena la vendetta di una creatura mitologica dopo aver inseguito un cervo. L'incontro, strano e inquietante, accresce il fascino umano per il misterioso folklore.

*This work is inspired by the Siberian roe deer living on the cold Eastern Plateau, and incorporates ancient local legends of snow monsters. The story tells of a snow hunter in the forest who triggers the revenge of a mythical creature after pursuing a deer. The strange and eerie encounter adds to the human fascination with mysterious folklore.*

mar  
16.06



## Chiao-Yun Cheng

This is my first time creating a stop-motion animation. I served as the director and was responsible for visual composition and atmosphere building. Besides editing and puppet animation, I also handcrafted most of the puppets featured in the film. It was an experience I poured myself into deeply.



## STORY OF A SAD BOY

Spagna 2025 / 5 min.

Un ragazzo, nutrito dalla madre con semi per uccelli, sogna di farsi crescere le ali.

*A boy, whose mother feeds him birdseed, dreams of growing wings.*

mar  
16.06



## Carlos Blázquez Rámila

Carlos Blázquez Rámila (Bilbao, 1976) is a highly experienced and versatile audiovisual director currently leading creative projects at Producciones La Extraña Pareja. Over the course of his extensive career, he has successfully produced and directed a wide array of high-quality audiovisual content, demonstrating remarkable adaptability across different visual formats. His comprehensive portfolio spans engaging corporate videos, dynamic commercial campaigns, and deeply compelling documentaries.



## PAPER FLOWERS

Italia 2025 / 2 min.

Yokohama, 1866. Un artigiano giapponese dell'origami posa come samurai per i ritratti coloniali del fotografo Felice Beato. Mentre diventa oggetto esotico per gli occhi europei, un riconoscimento silenzioso tra fotografo e soggetto incrina la performance. Un'animazione senza parole su identità, sguardo e resistenza.

*Yokohama, 1866. A Japanese origami maker poses as a samurai for Felice Beato's colonial portraits. As he becomes an exotic object for European eyes, a silent recognition between photographer and subject cracks the performance open. A wordless animation on identity, gaze, and resistance.*

mar  
16.06



## Carlo De Togni

Carlo De Togni is an Italian filmmaker and founder of Mondo Novo, an independent production studio. A pioneer in the use of generative AI as an expressive medium, he has made several short films that draw on the visual and expressive languages of the past to interrogate the present. His work has screened at Academy Award-qualifying festivals including Cinequest and Tehran ISFF, won Best Animation Audience Choice at Beverly Hills Film Festival 2025, and received the Honoree Award at Runway AI Film Festival 2024.



## DOBRINA

Germania 2025 / 5 min.

Lotte Reiniger incontra Sergio Leone in questo cortometraggio d'animazione, dove il desiderio arde con la stessa intensità del sole del deserto.

*Lotte Reiniger meets Sergio Leone in this animated short, where desire burns as bright as the desert sun.*

mar  
16.06



## Hannes Rall

Hannes Rall is President's Chair Professor in Animation Studies at Nanyang Technological University Singapore. He is also a successful director of animated short films. They have been shown at over 900 film festivals worldwide and have received 95 international awards. His previous animated short SHAKESPEARE FOR ALL AGES film has been selected for over 250 international film festivals worldwide and won 25 awards.



## KAPŌ MA'I LELE

Stati Uniti 2025 / 12 min.

mar  
16.06

"*Kapō Ma'i Lele*" è un'animazione sorprendente che rielabora un racconto tradizionale hawaiano (mo'olelo). Il film offre una versione fresca e umoristica della storia di come nacque Kohelepele (Koko Head). Narrato in hawaiano e in inglese pidgin, "*Kapō Ma'i Lele*" segue le vicende dell'arrogante e donnaiolo semidio Kamapua'a, mentre insegue con desiderio Pele, la potente e affascinante dea dei vulcani.

"*Kapō Ma'i Lele*", (*Kapo And Her Flying Lady Parts*) is a visually stunning, animated take on a traditional Hawaiian tale (mo'olelo). The film offers a fresh and humorous rendition of the story of how Kohelepele (Koko Head) came to exist. Told in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian) and Pidgin English, "*Kapō Ma'i Lele*" follows the exploits of arrogant, playboy demigod, Kamapua'a as he lustfully pursues Pele, the powerful and alluring Volcano Goddess.



## Laura Margulies / Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu

Laura has been creating hand painted animated films for 35 years. Her work combines motion, color, texture, live action, rhythm and sound to create award winning, expressive media. Kumu Hina Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu is the current Ambassador of Culture for The Council of Native Hawaiian Advancement and engages both the Kanaka (Hawaiian) and non-Hawaiian community as an educator and spokesperson for matters of Hawaiian language, history, and culture.



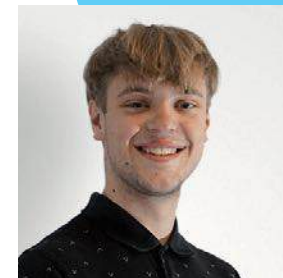
## SPLASHBACK

Germania 2025 / 3 min.

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Splashback racconta la storia di un piccolo pesce la cui vita tranquilla viene bruscamente sconvolta quando un cacciatore umano invade il suo territorio. Inizialmente spaventato da un rilevatore di movimento e poi braccato da un arpione, il pesce terrorizzato fugge in una grotta buia. Lì incontra una banda di pesci "cool" e spiega la minaccia mortale con un semplice disegno.

*Splashback tells the story of a small fish whose peaceful life is abruptly disturbed when a human hunter invades its territory. Initially startled by a motion detector and then hunted by a harpoon, the terrified fish flees into a dark cave. There, it meets a cool gang of fish and explains the deadly threat with a simple drawing.*



## Sören Meinke

Sören Meinke, born in 2004, is a 3D artist and animation filmmaker currently studying Media Production at the TH OWL (University of Applied Sciences and Arts). He discovered his passion for filmmaking in his childhood with his first own films and stop-motion experiments. This early fascination led him to the 3D software Blender, which is now his central creative tool for bringing his visions to life.



## RUKELI

Italia-Svezia 2025 / 6 min.

mar  
16.06

Con la promulgazione delle leggi razziali, viene privato del titolo, separato dalla moglie e dalla figlia, sottoposto a castrazione chimica e imprigionato nei campi di concentramento di Wittenberge e Neuengamme, dove morirà a 37 anni.

*With the enactment of the racial laws, he is stripped of his title, separated from his wife and daughter, subjected to chemical castration, and imprisoned in the Wittenberge and Neuengamme concentration camps, where he will die at age 37.*



## Alessandro Rak

Born in Naples, Rak studied animation at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. Returned in his hometown, in 2001, he founded with Andrea Scoppetta the animation studio Rak&Scop. After collaborating to several music videos and creating the comic series Ark and Zero or One, in 2007 he had his breakout with the comic series A Skeleton Story, co-created with Scoppetta.



## MOUNTAIN OF SILENCE

Iraq 2025 / 3 min.

mar  
16.06

Per raggiungere un mondo di serenità, a causa della guerra le persone devono lasciare la propria terra natale intraprendendo un percorso difficile e pieno di dolore, ma gli esseri umani restano sempre legati e connessi alla propria patria.

*To reach the world of calmness, because of the war people they have to leave their homeland taking tough path full of sorrow, but human always thinking and connected to their homeland.*



## Sami Ali Kaka

Born in 1976 in Erbil, Kurdistan regional of Iraq. He holds a bachelor's degree in cinema from Salahaddin University in Erbil. He begun his career in media field in 1993 but his first experiment in cinema industry back to 2004. He participated many international and local film festival also he gained appreciation and awarded art prizes. His latest short animation film called (Abyss).



## LA VIE AVEC UN IDIOT

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16.06

France 2025 / 18 min.

Accusato dalle autorità di non lavorare abbastanza, Vladimir è costretto a vivere con un idiota come punizione. Lo sceglie da un manicomio e il suo nome è Vova. Questo idiota può pronunciare una sola sillaba: "ooh".

*Accused by the authorities of not working hard enough, Vladimir is forced to live with an idiot as punishment. He chooses him from an asylum and his name is Vova. This idiot can only pronounce one syllable: ooh.*



## Theodore Ushev

Theodore Ushev was born in Bulgaria and earned a master's degree in graphic and poster design at the National Academy of Fine Arts in Sofia in 1995. Theodore has since 2003 worked regularly in the Animation and Youth Studio at the National Film Board of Canada. He designed and animated the Engrenage web portal and developed the site In vivo for the Canadian pavilion 2005 World Exposition in Aichi, Japan. In 2007 he completed his movie Sou destined for the mobile devices as part of the 10 movie-series The Art of Seduction, together with directors as Denisse Villeneuve, Guy Madin, and Isabella Rosselini.

# QUEER/LGBTQIA+

in concorso

17 giugno

Corpi, identità, relazioni: la sezione QUEER / LGBTQIA+ raccoglie storie che mettono al centro il desiderio di autodeterminazione. Voci intime e politiche che raccontano la complessità dell'esistere fuori dalle norme.

*Bodies, identities, relationships: the QUEER / LGBTQIA+ section collects stories that put the desire for self-determination at the center.*

*Intimate and political voices that tell the complexity of existing outside the norms.*



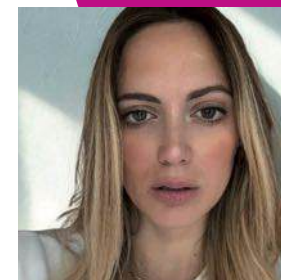
## SANTE

Italia 2025 / 20 min.

Bianca ha dodici anni quando viene scelta per interpretare l'angelo nella festa del paese, simbolo di purezza e grazia. Mentre si prepara a sollevarsi in volo, l'incontro con Ginevra incrina la superficie dell'infanzia e apre una crepa da cui filtra un desiderio nuovo e destabilizzante. In un tempo e uno spazio sospesi, il film attraversa il passaggio impercettibile ma radicale tra purezza e consapevolezza del corpo, tra infanzia ed età adulta.

*Bianca is twelve years old when she is chosen to play the angel in the village festival, a symbol of purity and grace. As she prepares to take flight, her encounter with Ginevra cracks the surface of childhood and opens a fissure through which a new and unsettling desire begins to seep. In a suspended time and space, the film traces the subtle yet radical passage from purity to bodily awareness, from childhood to adulthood.*

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17.06



## Valeria Gaudieri

Valeria Gaudieri (1995) was born in Naples. After earning a degree in Philosophy, she began working as a camera assistant. In 2020, she completed a Master's in Cinematography at Goldsmiths, University of London, under the artistic direction of Steve McQueen. In 2021, she was admitted to the directing program at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome, where she directed No Place Like Home (Giffoni 2025) and Sante, her graduation short film.



## DANI&BILLY

Spagna 2025 / 13 min.

In un mediocre sabato sera, Dani esce dal club per fumare. Non trovando il suo accendino, si avvicina a un ragazzo seduto da solo in un angolo. Billy non solo gli presta il fuoco, ma gli chiede di accompagnarlo in una passeggiata, cambiando così il corso della serata di entrambi.

*On a mediocre Saturday night, Dani leaves the club to smoke. Not finding his lighter, he approaches a boy who is sitting alone in a corner. Billy not only gives him a light, but asks him to come with him for a walk, thus changing the course of both of their nights.*

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17.06



## Egoitz Carpenter

Egoitz Carpenter is a screenwriter and director born in 1999 in Bilbao. After studying a degree in Political Science and Public Administration, he decided to change his professional and academic path by studying a Master's degree in Cinematography and Visual Arts at SchoolTraining. Egoitz has been working for several years in the audiovisual industry in television, advertising and cinema, having worked in the production, art and wardrobe departments, as well as teaching as a script teacher in the course 'El hacedor de historias'.





## FIRST TIME IN DRAG

Italia 2025 / 15 min.

Rico, persona non binaria, ha costruito nella sua casa la sua fortezza, accolta dall'amore di sua madre e della sua amica Andrea e Sara. Il sogno di fare drag la accompagna da tempo, anche se il futuro le fa paura. Decide di mostrarsi al suo piccolo paesino vicino Roma per la prima volta in drag. Prepara tutto con estrema cura, ma qualcosa va storto. Eppure, proprio lì, scopre una vittoria più profonda: essere finalmente sé stessa.

*Rico, a nonbinary person, has built in her home her fortress, welcomed by the love of her mother and her friends Andrea and Sara. The dream of doing drag has been with her for a long time, even though the future scares her. She decides to show herself to her small town near Rome for the first time in drag. She prepares everything with extreme care, but something goes wrong. Yet, right there, she discovers a deeper victory: be herself.*

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## Pietro Macaione

Pietro Macaione was born in Palermo in 1996. He graduated with honours from the Academy of Fine Arts in Palermo in 2020, with a thesis inspired by Senegalese director Djibril Diop Mambéty, and devised a feature film inspired by his movie *Le Franc*. He then built relations with African communities in Palermo and in 2020 he made the short documentary *Tagnol* for UNICEF and INTERSOS within the U-topia project supervised by Letizia Gullo.



## WETBOY

Olanda 2025 / 10 min.

Durante una giornata estiva al lago, il ventenne Sef lotta con sentimenti inespressi per il suo migliore amico, confrontandosi con paura, desiderio e i fragili confini dell'amicizia.

*During a summer day at the lake, 20-year-old Sef wrestles with unspoken feelings for his best friend, navigating fear, desire, and the fragile boundaries of friendship.*

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17.06



## Yentl Vlachos

Yentl is a filmmaker from the Netherlands who tells deeply personal stories with universal social themes. She graduated in directing from Fontys School of Arts and combines her background in theater. Yentl has directed music videos, commercials, and short films, creating distinctive, nostalgic works that evoke authentic emotions. With a passion for storytelling and a commitment to exploring socially relevant topics, she continuously seeks to push creative boundaries and craft films that resonate both personally and universally.



## GLITTER

Iran 2025 / 13 min.

La regista vuole mettere in scena uno spettacolo con il suo fidanzato come protagonista... ma il ragazzo non ama il trucco e gli abiti femminili scelti per il teatro e rifiuta di uscire dal tradizionale ruolo maschile che la società gli ha assegnato, anche all'interno di una rappresentazione.

*The female director wants to stage a play starring her boyfriend...But the boy does not like the make-up and women's clothes chosen for the theater and he refuses to step out of his traditional male role that society has given him, even in a play.*

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17.06



## Farideh Shafiei

Born in 1979 in Iran. From an early age, she was captivated by the magic of cinema and the power of storytelling. This passion led her to study Cinema and Screenwriting at Tehran Art University. After earning her BA, she entered the world of business, where she faced the many limitations and challenges of being a young woman in Iran.



## THE DRUG OF BEING LOVED

Spagna 2025 / 16 min.

Carlos e Roi condividono un amore profondo e passionale. Ma, temendo di diventare emotivamente dipendente, Roi decide di andarsene. Carlos non riesce a capire la sua decisione. In qualche modo, però, trova un certo conforto nel dolore. Tornato a Minorca, cerca chiarezza dentro di sé e arriva a capire che il suo amore per Roi non se ne andrà.

*Carlos and Roi share a deep, passionate love. But afraid of becoming emotionally dependent, Roi decides to walk away. Carlos doesn't understand his decision. Somehow, though, he finds a certain comfort in the pain. Back in Menorca, he searches for clarity within himself and comes to realize that his love for Roi isn't going anywhere.*

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17.06



## Àlex Arroyo

Àlex Arroyo (Ciutadella de Menorca, 2001) is a filmmaker and founder of Ensoldemà Films. He debuted with the summer love short "sol sol" (2021), selected at the Premis VOC and screened in over 30 territories across Catalonia, Valencia, and the Balearic Islands. He directed the gastronomic short documentary "The taste of memories" (2023), selected at the Málaga Film Festival. His latest work is *The Drug of Being Loved*, an intimate exploration of heartbreak.



## UNIFORMED (FARDADO)

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17.06

Brasile 2025 / 25 min.

Poliziotto militare e gay, Gustavo vive due realtà che sembrano inconciliabili. In un ambiente in cui essere in uniforme significa essere destinato a non dichiararsi, vede la propria natura essere schiacciata dalla paura. Ma fino a che punto il silenzio protegge, e quando diventa un'arma?

*A gay police officer, Gustavo lives two irreconcilable realities. In a world where the uniform condemns him to hiding, he feels his true nature being crushed by fear. But for how long is silence a shield, and when does it become a weapon?*



## Dan Biurrum

With a degree in Film, Dan Biurrum seeks to create narratives that echo life. From Vitória da Conquista, Bahia, the scarcity of opportunities led him to advertising, and it was in this field that he found a creative laboratory to hone his vision for cinematic language. With *Uniformed*, Dan celebrates his film debut.



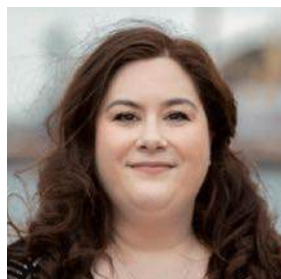
## WHY WE PRIDE

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U.K 2025 / 8 min.

"*Why We Pride*" è un cortometraggio documentario di Blatella Films, co-prodotto con Southend-on-Sea Pride, che esplora la storia dei diritti LGBTQ+ nel Regno Unito, evidenziando le tappe fondamentali e le lotte ancora in corso, sottolineando perché gli eventi Pride restano cruciali per l'uguaglianza.

*"Why We Pride" is a short documentary film by Blatella Films, co-produced with Southend-on-Sea Pride, that explores the history of LGBTQ+ rights in the UK, highlighting key milestones and ongoing struggles, emphasising why Pride events remain crucial for equality.*



## Natalie Scarsbrook

Natalie began her filmmaking career by co-founding Blatella Films Ltd in 2012. Originally Blatella Films focused on corporate and commissioned film work, until in 2024, when they produced their first feature documentary 'Our Journey to Pride'. This film has so far garnered 11 awards from film festivals across four continents, which is something Natalie are extremely proud of. With more projects lined up Natalie is exploring her interest in feminism and activism through filmmaking. It combines a life-long passion for storytelling and history.

# FANTASCIENZA

in concorso

SCIENCE FICTION

18 giugno

Viaggi nel tempo, universi distopici, futuri alternativi: la fantascienza torna come spazio privilegiato per interrogare l'identità, la tecnologia e le derive del presente. Una sezione che mescola e fonde immaginazione e critica sociale.

*Time travel, dystopian universes, alternative futures: science fiction returns as a privileged space to question identity, technology and the drifts of the present. A section that mixes and fuses imagination and social criticism.*



## TANTI AUGURI

Italia 2025 / 15 min.

Bruno è un anziano padre che vive da solo. Il compleanno di suo figlio Sergio si avvicina e l'uomo non riesce a contenere l'entusiasmo per l'evento. Organizza la festa nei minimi dettagli, impaziente di rivedere suo figlio. Ma la realtà lo travolge in pieno quando l'utilizzo di un'intelligenza artificiale svela un drammatico ricordo ormai sepolto.

*Bruno is an elderly father who lives alone. His son Sergio's birthday is approaching, and the man can hardly contain his excitement for the event. He meticulously organizes the party, eager to see his son again. But reality hits him hard when the use of an artificial intelligence reveals a dramatic memory long buried.*

g i o  
18.06



## Samuel di Marzo

Samuel di Marzo, born in 1997, developed an interest in screenwriting and directing from an early age. After completing classical studies, he graduated from the Artithesi directing academy while also earning a degree in audiovisual communication from the University of Salerno. In 2018, he directed *Tutte le strade*, a short film that earned him the Silver Star at the Italian Film Festival. In 2022, he competed at Cortinametraggio with "La virtù dell'innocenza".



## THE BLESSED ONE

Venezuela 2025 / 20 min.

Nella desolazione geometrica del vuoto, Alan deve affrontare la sfida di sopravvivere senza la sua forza, mentre un'organizzazione guidata da Carmen sembra aver scoperto il segreto della libertà e dell'uguaglianza: l'eliminazione del talento.

*In the geometric despair of the void, Alan must face the challenge of surviving without his strength, as an organization led by Carmen seems to have uncovered the secret to freedom and equality: the eradication of talent.*

g i o  
18.06



## César Manzano

César Manzano (1972, Caracas). Has a career spanning 30 years. He has worked in directing and post-production for companies such as Televisa, RTI, Turner, Cartoon Network, Venevisión, RCTV Internacional, VIP 2000, and Playboy Latin America, among others. His first film, *Espejos* (2014), won the Best First Feature Award at the Venezuelan Film Festival (2015).



## CANDIDO

Italia 2025 / 14 min.

2049. Candido ha 79 anni e da 50 anni è sposato con Serena, l'amore della sua vita. Pur sentendosi un uomo "analogico", Candido non ha più la forza di lottare contro i nuovi strumenti tecnologici e vi si adegua contro voglia. Per rimanere al passo coi tempi ed accontentare i suoi familiari, ora si trova di fronte alla scelta più importante della sua vita...

*2049. Candido is 79 years old and has been married to Serena, the love of his life, for 50 years. Although he feels like an "analog" man, Candido no longer has the strength to resist new technologies and reluctantly adapts to them. To keep up with the times and satisfy his family, he now finds himself facing the most important decision of his life...*

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18.06



## Giorgio Clementelli

Born in Rome in 1973. After graduating from Law School, he obtained a Master's degree in Television and New Content from the Mediaset Film School and began working in 2001 as a director for the most important Italian networks (Rai, Mediaset, Sky). He has directed two feature films on American horror (TRUE AMERICAN HORROR vol. 1 and 2), a docufilm in verse on the pandemic awarded by the Lazio Film Commission (S.P.Q.R.), a comedy series for TV, numerous corporate videos, shorts, an internationally awarded web series (FIRPO).



## THE 8 GATES

Spagna 2025 / 20 min.

Uno dei leader dell'Unione viene avvelenato dopo aver bevuto dalla coppa di King Crimson. Consapevole che qualcuno lo vuole morto, inizia una corsa contro il tempo per scoprire chi sia.

*One of the Union's leaders is poisoned after drinking from King Crimson's cup. Aware that someone wants him dead, he begins a race against time to find them.*

g i o  
18.06



## Miguel R. Berride

Miguel R. Berride (Vigo, 2003) is a highly promising emerging director, screenwriter, and producer who is rapidly making a name for himself within the contemporary audiovisual landscape. Demonstrating a profound passion for cinematic storytelling from a young age, he formally developed his artistic skills by graduating with a degree in Audiovisual Communication from the University of Vigo.



## PHONONAUTA

Italia 2025 / 13 min.

Ai confini dei sistemi planetari, il campo elettromagnetico si assottiglia e la voce dell'universo diviene più flebile. Una nave spaziale, simile a una grande cassa armonica, sonifica le onde gravitazionali e le segue verso galassie in cui sono in atto violente mutazioni cosmiche.

*At the edges of planetary systems, the electromagnetic field thins, and the voice of the universe grows faint. A spaceship, resembling a large resonating chamber, translates gravitational waves into sound and follows them into galaxies undergoing violent cosmic mutations.*

g i o  
18.06



## Stefano De Felici

Regista e autore, realizza progetti in ambito commerciale e sociale sperimentando differenti linguaggi e intrecciando i media. È laureato in Giurisprudenza, diplomato in Regia e Produzione multimediale, specializzato in Regia e strumenti della cultura digitale - multimedia e interattività. Ha realizzato progetti cross-mediali e cinematografici vincitori di premi nazionali e internazionali. Esordisce nella regia con il corto documentario Cemento all'indice selezionato all'Ischia Film Festival nel 2008.



## SMALL TALK

Svizzera 2025 / 17 min.

In un mondo in cui l'interazione sociale ha raggiunto il minimo storico, le persone sono costrette a parlare con degli sconosciuti in "camere di dialogo" per poter accedere alla vita pubblica. Coinvolti in questo sistema, gli amici Laya ed Emil si trovano ad affrontare la domanda su quanto possano essere sinceri i dialoghi in un contesto simile — e su cosa definisca davvero una relazione profonda.

*In a world where social interaction has reached an all-time low, people are forced to talk to strangers in dialogue chambers in order to gain access to public life. Caught up in this, friends Laya and Emil find themselves grappling with the question of how honest conversations can be in such a system – and what truly defines a deep relationship.*

g i o  
18.06



## Zana Selimi / Justus Briese

Zana and Justus graduated from Zurich University of the Arts with a Bachelor's degree in Cast/Audiovisual Media in 2025. Justus works at a camera equipment rental while pursuing projects as a director, cinematographer and editor. Zana works as a producer at the art, culture and community space Zentralwäscherei Zurich, and is also active as a freelance director, screenwriter and producer.



## THE AWAKENING OF THE LAND

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18.06

Italia 2025 / 16 min.

Alessia ha trascorso tutta la vita preparandosi a guidare la storica azienda di famiglia, un'azienda produttrice di olio e vino ormai sull'orlo del fallimento. Torna alla villa ancestrale per confrontarsi con Marco, socio del padre, profondamente legato alla tradizione e contrario a trasformare i terreni in case vacanza. Per uscire dallo stallo, Marco propone un rituale pagano per entrare in contatto con gli antenati. Alessia segue le sue macabre istruzioni e scopre quanto sia difficile costruire un futuro senza fare i conti con i segreti sepolti nella terra.

*Alessia has spent her whole life preparing to run the family's historic business, an Italian producer of olive oil and wine now on the brink of collapse. She returns to the ancestral family villa to confront Marco, her father's business partner, who is deeply attached to tradition and refuses to turn the land into vacation homes. To break the deadlock, Marco proposes a pagan ritual to contact their ancestors. Alessia follows his macabre instructions and discovers how difficult it is to build a future without reckoning with the secrets buried in the land.*



## Massimiliano L. Delfino

Massimiliano is an award-winning filmmaker born in Rome (Italy). His short film "Personalized Futures" (2023), was screened at and won awards from numerous festivals, both in Europe and in the USA. He studied filmmaking in Rome (Scuola di Cinema di Roma) and in Los Angeles at USC-School of Cinematic Arts (2022), and received a PhD in Italian Studies with a concentration in Italian cinema from Columbia University (NY) in 2020. He is also a published and prize-winning poet.

# INTELLIGENZA ARTIFICIALE

in concorso

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

### 19 giugno

L'Intelligenza Artificiale entra ufficialmente in concorso. Dopo l'esordio del 2025 — con i cortometraggi in animazione e la proiezione in anteprima del primo lungometraggio interamente realizzato in AIGC — il RIFF inaugura la categoria AI Shorts. In uno scenario in rapida evoluzione tecnologica e creativa, riteniamo indispensabile osservare e accompagnare le sperimentazioni degli autori: uno strumento potente, tanto discusso quanto decisivo per immaginare nuove forme di racconto.

*Artificial Intelligence enters the competition. After its 2025 debut—with short films included in the animation category and the preview screening of the first feature film created entirely with AIGC—RIFF launches the AI Shorts category. In a landscape of rapid technological and creative change, we believe it is essential to follow and engage with how filmmakers are using this tool: powerful, widely discussed, and as fascinating as it is unsettling.*



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19.06

### FUNNY THINGS

Italia 2025 / 2 min.

Funny Things è una poesia visiva creata attraverso diversi modelli di IA, LoRA in conflitto ed errori accolti intenzionalmente. L'opera parla della paura e della presenza silenziosa del conflitto, mescolando umorismo e inquietudine per evocare un incubo che somiglia a una sit-com distorta. Glitch, gesti vuoti e creature artificiali mostrano come l'ansia rimodelli la percezione, in un lavoro dove gli errori tecnici sono parte integrante della trama stilistica.

*Funny Things is a visual poem created through mixed AI models, conflicting LoRA, and welcomed errors. The piece reflects on fear and the quiet presence of conflict, using humor and distortion to evoke a sit-com-like nightmare. Glitches, useless gestures, and artificial creatures reveal how anxiety reshapes perception, turning technical errors into part of the emotional texture of the work.*



### Francesco D'Isa

Francesco D'Isa (Florence, 1980) is a philosopher, visual artist, and writer. He is currently a researcher at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, where his work investigates the aesthetic and philosophical impact of AI-generated imagery. He teaches Philosophy at the Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici (Florence) and AI Applied to Art at the LABA Academy of Fine Arts (Brescia and Florence). He has published novels, essays, and graphic novels.



ven  
19.06

### SILENT ECHOES

Italia 2025 / 20 min.

Cinque attori di una commedia perduta di Mack Sennett del 1926 sono intrappolati senza regista, sospesi tra le immagini dell'epoca muta e un backstage digitale disturbato da glitch. Discutendo su come finire il film, ognuno incarna una diversa relazione con la tecnologia: vanità, auto-moltiplicazione, furto creativo, cieca dipendenza e aperta resistenza. Il loro conflitto rivela dove finisce l'autore umano e inizia l'algoritmo.

*Five actors from a lost 1926 Mack Sennett comedy are trapped without a director, caught between silent-era footage and a glitching digital backstage. Debating how to finish the film, each embodies a different relationship with technology: vanity, self-multiplication, creative theft, blind dependence, and outright resistance. Their conflict reveals where human authorship ends and algorithmic collaboration begins.*



### Carlo De Togni

Carlo De Togni is an Italian filmmaker and founder of Mondo Novo, an independent production studio. A pioneer in the use of generative AI as an expressive medium, he has made several short films that draw on the visual and expressive languages of the past to interrogate the present. His work has screened at Academy Award-qualifying festivals including Cinequest and Tehran ISFF, won Best Animation Audience Choice at Beverly Hills Film Festival 2025, and received the Honoree Award at Runway AI Film Festival 2024.



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19.06

## RAILBOUND

Stati Uniti 2025 / 2 min.

"*Railbound*" è un film poetico costruito direttamente a partire dalle fotografie del prolifico fotografo americano Mike Brodie. Il film spinge i confini dell'intelligenza artificiale generativa, risultando indistinguibile da riprese dal vivo. Raccontato attraverso la voce riflessiva di un padre che insegue il ricordo del movimento — una giovinezza trascorsa viaggiando sui treni, vivendo tra un luogo e l'altro, prima che il mondo decidesse chi sarebbe diventato.

"*Railbound*" is a poetic film built directly from the photographs of the prolific American photographer, Mike Brodie. The film pushes the boundaries of generative AI, indistinguishable from live action footage. Told through the reflective voice of a father chasing the memory of motion - a youth spent riding the rails, living between places, before the world ever decided who he was.



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19.06

## A DREAM MY SISTER HAD

Germania / 7 min.

Cinque anni fa, mia sorella fece un sogno in cui io mi trasformavo in una scimmia. Ho portato quel sogno sullo schermo usando l'intelligenza artificiale e un videogioco. Abbracciando i glitch e lasciando il software svilupparsi secondo una logica onirica, il film esplora cosa accade quando qualcuno che ami si trasforma in qualcuno di sconosciuto. Ooh Ooh Ah Ah!

Five years ago, my sister had a dream where I turned into a monkey. Now I brought her dream to the screen using AI and a video game. By embracing the glitches and letting the software unravel in a dream-like logic, the film explores what happens when someone you love transforms into someone unfamiliar. Ooh Ooh Ah Ah!



## Jonathan Perry

Jonathan Perry is an American filmmaker and screenwriter best known for his acclaimed arctic film *Subnivean* (2019), acquired by Amazon Prime Video and making him the youngest director on any major streaming platform at 17. He later completed the large-scale *Crookery* (2021) and is now releasing two films in 2026 - the AI-driven *Railbound* and his ambitious live-action project *Sentinelese*.



## Fabio Thieme

Fabio Thieme is an auteur filmmaker and director for film & theater. He completed studies in Rome and Berlin and is now studying directing at the HfS Ernst Busch Berlin. His films, which he also produced himself with his film production „Serkalo“, received awards at international film festivals. His work often deals with pretense, imitation and forgery as an act of creation.



ven  
19.06

## HORIZON

Francia 2025 / 4 min.

«A volte guardo l'orizzonte e mi sembra che qualcosa dentro di me scivoli via.»

"*Horizon*" è un cortometraggio generato con l'intelligenza artificiale, la storia della *Air Runner Girl*, una ragazza che può volare attraverso i sogni.

"*Sometimes I look at the horizon and it feels like something in me slips away.*"

"*Horizon*" is an AI-generated short film, the story of the *Air Runner Girl*, a girl who can fly through dreams.



ven  
19.06

## THE SEA

Italia 2025 / 10 min.

Mentre una violenta tempesta si abbatte sulla costa, una donna è attirata di nuovo verso la spiaggia che ha segnato la sua infanzia. A ogni infrangersi delle onde, viene trascinata attraverso tre capitoli fondamentali della sua vita e nel legame irrisolto con suo padre. Mescolando un dramma realistico con visioni surreali e oniriche, "*The Sea*" la segue mentre affronta ciò che è stato perduto, ciò che resta e il momento in cui la memoria si apre finalmente alla verità.

As a violent storm rises over the coast, a woman is drawn back to the beach that shaped her childhood. With each crash of the waves, she is pulled through three defining chapters of her life and into the unresolved bond with her father. Blending grounded drama with surreal, dream-like visions, "*The Sea*" follows her as she confronts what was lost, what remains, and the moment when memory finally breaks open into truth.



## Analog Mirage

I am a French photographer and filmmaker. After being hit by a car and unable to work for several months, I started exploring image creation with AI. What began as an experiment became a new way to make films. My work focuses on poetic videos built around a fictional character called the *Air Runner Girl*, a girl who can fly through dreams. Through her, I explore freedom and imagination.



## Daide Vichi

Daide Vichi is an Italian filmmaker and creative technologist exploring AI-driven, emotionally charged cinema. He blends drama, music, and vivid visuals in shorts like *The Sea* and *Amare Illegale*, focusing on memory and identity. With a music background, he uses AI as a creative partner and works as a software engineer.



## NINE AWAKEN

Hong Kong 2025 / 17 min.

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19.06

In un mondo in cui l'interazione sociale ha raggiunto il minimo storico, le persone sono costrette a parlare con degli sconosciuti in "camere di dialogo" per poter accedere alla vita pubblica. Coinvolti in questo sistema, gli amici Laya ed Emil si trovano ad affrontare la domanda su quanto possano essere sinceri i dialoghi in un contesto simile — e su cosa definisca davvero una relazione profonda.

*Waking up on time. Starting work on time. Leaving the office on time. Having meals on time. Going to sleep on time. He works in a micro space station on a tiny moon orbiting a mega planet, day after day, night after night. Is it real? Is it life? He never thinks about questions like these until she shows up. She wants to disrupt his routine. She tries to short-circuit him. Why does she want to do that? Can she succeed in saving him from this loop?*



## MATRIX OF CYCLES

Israel 2026 / 6 min.

ven  
19.06

"Matrix of Cycles" è una narrazione visiva di cinque minuti che intreccia linee temporali bibliche e contemporanee per esplorare la natura ciclica del collasso ambientale e della rinascita. Il film rappresenta il rinnovamento del pianeta come un ritmo sistemico inevitabile, un grembo di schemi ricorrenti in cui ogni epoca di distruzione diventa il travaglio per una nuova genesi.

*"Matrix of Cycles" is a five-minute visual narrative that interlaces biblical and contemporary timelines to explore the cyclical nature of environmental collapse and rebirth. The film portrays the planet's renewal as an inescapable systemic rhythm, a womb of recurring patterns where every era of destruction serves as the labor for a new genesis.*



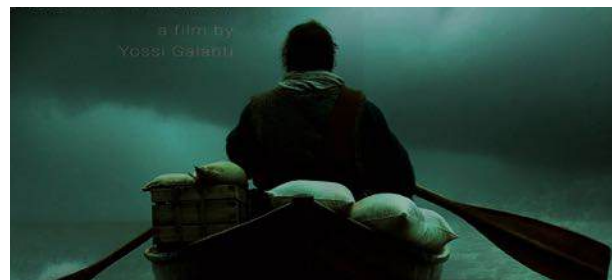
## Bun Kwai / Amos Why

Kwai Bun is the Owner of ManyMany Creations Ltd., an award-winning animation studio with over 20 years of history, and Quantum Matrix Ltd. He currently serves as Chairman & CEO of a Nasdaq-listed company. A pioneer at the frontier of visual generative, he is leading the integration of AI into professional filmmaking. Amos Why is a Hong Kong independent filmmaker, nominated as Best New Director at the 2015 Hong Kong Film Awards, blending creative innovation with human insight.



## Yossi Galanti

Yossi Galanti is a visual artist and filmmaker whose work explores the urban and natural landscape as a cultural value, addressing social and environmental issues such as pollution and human-habitat relations. His films employ diverse visual and cinematic techniques, including slow cinema, AI, micro-films, VR photography, and photogrammetry, often incorporating elements of surrealism and photomontage.



## ECHOED IN WATER

Israel 2025 / 2 min.

ven  
19.06

Questo breve video d'arte reinterpretava il dipinto del XV secolo "Saint Elizabeth's Day Flood" sia come trauma storico sia come presagio contemporaneo. Combinando immagini generate con l'intelligenza artificiale ispirate al dipinto con riprese video moderne, il film collassa il tempo: chiese gotiche si affiancano a torri di vetro, i villaggi remano accanto ad androidi e acque fangose in piena invadono sia antiche città sia skyline contemporanei.

*This short video art piece reimagines the 15th-century painting, Saint Elizabeth's Day Flood — as both historical trauma and contemporary omen. Combining AI-generated shots inspired by the painting with modern video footage, the film collapses time: Gothic churches stand beside glass towers, villagers row past androids, and muddy floodwaters surge through both ancient towns and contemporary skylines.*



## MARKED FOR SNUFF

Kazakhstan 2026 / 15 min.

ven  
19.06

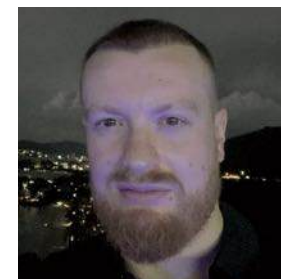
Anni '70. Durante una missione segreta in America Latina, due soldati americani rompono i ranghi per inseguire un colpo redditizio. Il piano va storto e le loro strade si separano. Ma le ferite della guerra non guariscono mai davvero: questi vecchi compagni si incontreranno di nuovo, questa volta nella giungla di cemento. E stavolta, uno di loro non sarà mosso dall'avidità, ma da qualcos'altro...

*The '70s. While on a black ops mission in Latin America, two GIs broke ranks to pursue a lucrative score. The plan went sideways, and they went their separate ways. But the wounds of war never truly heal; these old buddies will meet again, this time in the concrete jungle. And this time, one of them will be motivated not by greed, but by something else...*



## Yossi Galanti

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## Pavel Karusev

With a background in video editing and illustration, I am now focused on creating movies by leveraging generative AI. I strive to craft cohesive, immersive narratives that truly captivate audiences. On FilmFreeway, you can explore my latest projects, where I use cutting-edge AI tools to push the boundaries of visual storytelling.



**ALL SHE WANTS FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU** ven 19.06

Francia 2025 / 4 min.

Ogni Natale, la famiglia Bergot perde uno dei suoi membri — sempre sulle note della stessa melodia. Morris, l'ultimo superstite, tenta di sfuggire al destino barricandosi in casa subito dopo Halloween, non appena ha inizio il periodo natalizio. È convinto che restando nel silenzio avrà salva la vita. Ma ci sono canzoni a cui è impossibile sottrarsi...

*Every Christmas, the Bergots family loses one of its own — always after hearing the same song. Morris, the last survivor, tries to escape it by locking himself away just after Halloween, when the Christmas season begins. He is convinced that if he does not hear the song, he can survive. But some songs are impossible to avoid...*



**I DON'T TRUST ARTISTS** ven 19.06

Italia 2025 / 8 min.

In un futuro prossimo in cui gli artisti sono perseguitati come streghe, Euridice, la mitica musa di Orfeo, narra un mockumentary surreale. Dal suo punto di vista, ripercorre gli aspetti più controversi dell'arte, dell'amore e dell'ossessione, commentando immagini tratte dai sogni restaurati di Orfeo. Il film si muove tra il poetico e il provocatorio per interrogarsi sul ruolo degli artisti, delle muse e della creatività in un mondo che ha deciso di cancellarli.

*In a near future where artists are persecuted like witches, Eurydice, the mythical muse of Orpheus narrates a surreal mockumentary. From her perspective, she revisits the most controversial aspects of art, love, and obsession, commenting on images drawn from Orpheus' restored dreams. The film moves between the poetic and the provocative to question the role of artists, muses, and creativity in a world that has decided to erase them.*



**Jeremy Ouisse**

I started making films at the age of 13, using my parents' camcorder and two VCRs connected together, editing my first stories directly on the living-room television. Today, I am a documentary filmmaker working with French national television channels. My work focuses on telling real stories with precision, visual rigor, and a strong sense of narrative, through portraits, places, and everyday craftsmanship.



**Salvatore Frisina**

He teaches Mass Media Communication at the University of Padua, and works as a filmmaker for the Department of General Psychology, producing research-based and narrative audiovisual projects. As a writer and director, he has made several short films, including E-Lena, which screened in competition at the Trieste Science+Fiction Festival. His short film A Good Idea won the Best Screenplay Award at the Oblivion Frames Film Festival (Lisboa).



**MAKE A WISH** ven 19.06

Turchia 2026 / 5 min.

Durante una normale EVA per riparare una frattura strutturale sulla ISS, una toppa in titanio scivola dalla presa di un astronauta e cade verso la Terra. Quello che inizia come un piccolo incidente in orbita completa silenziosamente un viaggio inaspettato, portando il peso dello spazio nell'angolo più ordinario della vita rurale.

*During a routine EVA to repair a structural fracture on the ISS, a titanium patch slips from an astronaut's grasp and falls toward Earth. What begins as a minor mishap in orbit quietly completes an unexpected journey carrying the weight of space into the most ordinary corner of a rural life.*



**Hakan Kemixiz**

He creates commercials and short films both domestically and internationally. His fascination with filmmaking began in childhood and evolved into a professional career by the age of 25. Over the past two years, he has expanded his practice into AI-driven storytelling, integrating emerging technologies into his cinematic language. Guided by the belief that curiosity is the ultimate catalyst for growth, he continues to experiment, research, and embrace failure as part of the creative process, constantly pursuing new forms of expression and innovation.

# CERIMONIA DI PREMIAZIONE

AWARD CEREMONY

20 giugno ore 21:30

Scalinata Fluviale di Porta Portello

La giuria internazionale della 20. edizione del River Film Festival 2026 assegnerà il Golden River:

- al miglior film "Lungometraggi"
- al miglior corto "Sguardi Italiani"
- al miglior corto "Orizzonti Internazionali"
- al miglior corto "Queer / LGBTQIA+"
- al miglior corto "Scuole di cinema"
- al miglior corto "Animazione"
- al miglior corto "Fantascienza"
- al miglior corto "Documentari"
- al miglior corto "Antropocene"
- al miglior corto "Intelligenza Artificiale"

Premio del pubblico:

- al miglior corto "Sguardi Veneti"
- al miglior corto "Virtual Reality"



Golden River | hand-made by Murano Glass Masters

20 giugno ore 21:30

Scalinata Fluviale di Porta Portello

Assegnazione dei **Golden River Awards**  
e dei **Premi del Pubblico**  
in presenza della giuria internazionale  
e dei vincitori

## COME RAGGIUNGERCI | HOW TO REACH US



### Dall'Aeroporto Venezia Marco Polo

Prendere una tra queste linee ACTV 35-10a-25a-4a-29 fino alla Stazione Ferroviaria di Mestre (10 min dall'aeroporto), poi prendere un treno per Padova (15 min). In alternativa prendere ATVO MESTRE EXPRESS fino alla Stazione Ferroviaria di Mestre e prendere un treno per Padova.

### Dalla Stazione

A piedi (20 min): Proseguire per Via Nicolò Tommaseo e Via Venezia fino a Porta Portello

In Bus (10 min): Prendere la linea 10 e scendere alla fermata Tommaseo 114 (ang. via Venezia) e proseguire verso Via Venezia fino a Porta Portello

### Da Padova Centro

A piedi: Proseguire verso via Nicolò Tommaseo o Via Trieste e Via Venezia fino a Porta Portello

In tram: scendere alla fermata Eremitani o Trieste e proseguire a piedi fino a Porta Portello

### HOW TO GET TO THE FESTIVAL

*From Venice Marco Polo Airport*

*Take one of these lines ACTV 35-10a-25a-4a-29 to Mestre Railway Station (10 min from the airport), then take a train to Padua (15 min). Alternatively take ATVO MESTRE EXPRESS to Mestre Railway Station and take a train to Padua. (visit Trenitalia or Italo Treno websites).*

### *From the Station*

*On foot (20 min): Continue along Via Nicolò Tommaseo and Via Venezia until Porta Portello.*

*By Bus (10 min): Take line 10 and get off at the stop Tommaseo 114 (ang. via Venezia) and continue towards Via Venezia until Porta Portello.*

### *From Padua City Center*

*On foot: Continue towards Via Nicolò Tommaseo or Via Trieste and Via Venezia until Porta Portello.*

*By tram: get off at the Eremitani or Trieste stop and walk to Porta Portello.*



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## AIUTA IL CINEMA, SOSTIENI IL RIVER FILM FESTIVAL



attraverso una donazione libera



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## OBIETTIVI PER LO SVILUPPO SOSTENIBILE



I 17 obiettivi sono stati adottati nel 2015 dalle Nazioni Unite come parte dell'Agenda 2030. Essi pongono l'accento sulle grandi sfide del nostro tempo, come la fame, la povertà e la pace, nonché il consumo di risorse e il cambiamento climatico. La realizzazione di questi obiettivi dipende da tutti: governi, aziende, organizzazioni e individui.

Il River Film Festival sottolinea la particolare responsabilità dell'industria culturale e cinematografica nel raggiungimento di questi obiettivi. L'impegno del festival è evidente negli esempi di sei obiettivi: istruzione di qualità (SDG 4), uguaglianza di genere (SDG 5), energia pulita e accessibile (SDG 7), industria, innovazione, infrastrutture (SDG 9), consumo e produzione sostenibili (SDG 12), azione per il clima (SDG 13).

*The 17 goals were adopted in 2015 by the United Nations as part of the Agenda 2030. They put the focus on the big challenges of our time, such as hunger, poverty and peace as well as the consumption of resources and climate change. The realisation of these goals depends on everybody – governments, corporations, organisations and individuals.*

*The River Film Festival highlights the special responsibility of the culture and film industry in achieving these goals. The festival's dedication is evident in the examples of six goals: quality education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), affordable and clean energy (SDG 7), industry, innovation, infrastructure (SDG 9), sustainable consumption, and production (SDG 12), climate action (SDG 13).*



### SDG 4: L'EDUCAZIONE CULTURALE PER IL FUTURO

L'ampia gamma di film internazionali proiettati al River Film Festival ha il potenziale per mostrare i legami con un futuro equo e sostenibile, per suscitare dibattiti e ispirare nuovi modi di guardare e pensare il mondo. L'arte e la cultura hanno anche la capacità di parlare alle persone a livello emotivo.

#### SDG 4: CULTURAL EDUCATION AS A KEY TO THE FUTURE

*The wide range of international films screened at the River Film Festival has the potential to show links to a fair and sustainable future, to provoke debate and inspire new ways of looking at and thinking about the world. Art and culture also have the ability to speak to people on an emotional level.*



### SDG 5: IMPEGNO PER LA PARITÀ DI GENERE

Sin dalla sua fondazione nel 2006, il festival ha generato idee e visioni per un mondo diversificato. La promozione della diversità include il riconoscimento del cinema queer. Nella composizione dello staff e delle giurie, la parità di genere è un obiettivo importante.

#### SDG 5: COMMITMENT TO GENDER EQUALITY

*Since its foundation in 2006, the festival has generated ideas and visions for a diverse world. The promotion of diversity includes the recognition of queer cinema. In the composition of the staff and juries, gender equality is an important goal.*



### SDG 7: ENERGIA PULITA E ACCESSIBILE

La sede del festival ha raggiunto la piena autonomia energetica a zero emissioni di CO2, attraverso il fotovoltaico, già dal 2022. Stiamo approntando soluzioni di risparmio energetico per la mobilità del nostro staff, dei registi e membri della giuria con bici elettriche.

#### SDG 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

*The festival venue has achieved full CO2-neutral energy autonomy through photovoltaics as early as 2022. We are preparing energy-saving solutions for the mobility of our staff, filmmakers and jury members with electric bikes.*



### SDG 9: IMPULSO PER L'INDUSTRIA CINEMATOGRAFICA

Le innovazioni tecnologiche svolgono un ruolo importante al River Film Festival. Si organizzano regolarmente discussioni e workshop sulla produzione cinematografica sostenibile. L'attenzione si concentra su esempi di buone pratiche per produzioni verdi e modalità di produzione sostenibili.

#### SDG 9: IMPETUS FOR THE FILM INDUSTRY

*The festival venue has achieved full CO2-neutral energy autonomy through photovoltaics as early as 2022. We are preparing energy-saving solutions for the mobility of our staff, filmmakers and jury members with electric bikes.*



### SDG 12: RIUTILIZZARE, RIDURRE, RICICLARE!

Per ridurre al minimo il consumo di risorse, il River Film Festival fa sempre più affidamento su alternative ecologiche e sull'economia del riciclo. Il motto del 2026 sarà: "Porta il tuo bicchiere!". In questo modo si risparmiano diverse centinaia di chilogrammi di rifiuti.

#### SDG 12: REUSE, REDUCE, RECYCLE!

*To minimise resource consumption, the River Film Festival is increasingly relying on environmentally friendly alternatives and the recycling economy. The motto for 2026 will be: "Bring your own glass!". This will save several hundred kilograms of waste.*



### SDG 13: LOTTA CONTRO IL CAMBIAMENTO CLIMATICO

La salvaguardia della biodiversità e il ripristino degli ecosistemi naturali, sono al centro dei temi affrontati dalla sezione Antropocene con la quale il festival contribuisce a promuovere una conoscenza e coscienza critica.

#### SDG 13: ACTIONS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

*The preservation of biodiversity and the restoration of natural ecosystems are at the heart of the themes addressed by the Anthropocene section, with which the festival contributes to promoting critical knowledge and awareness.*





**RIVER FILM FESTIVAL**