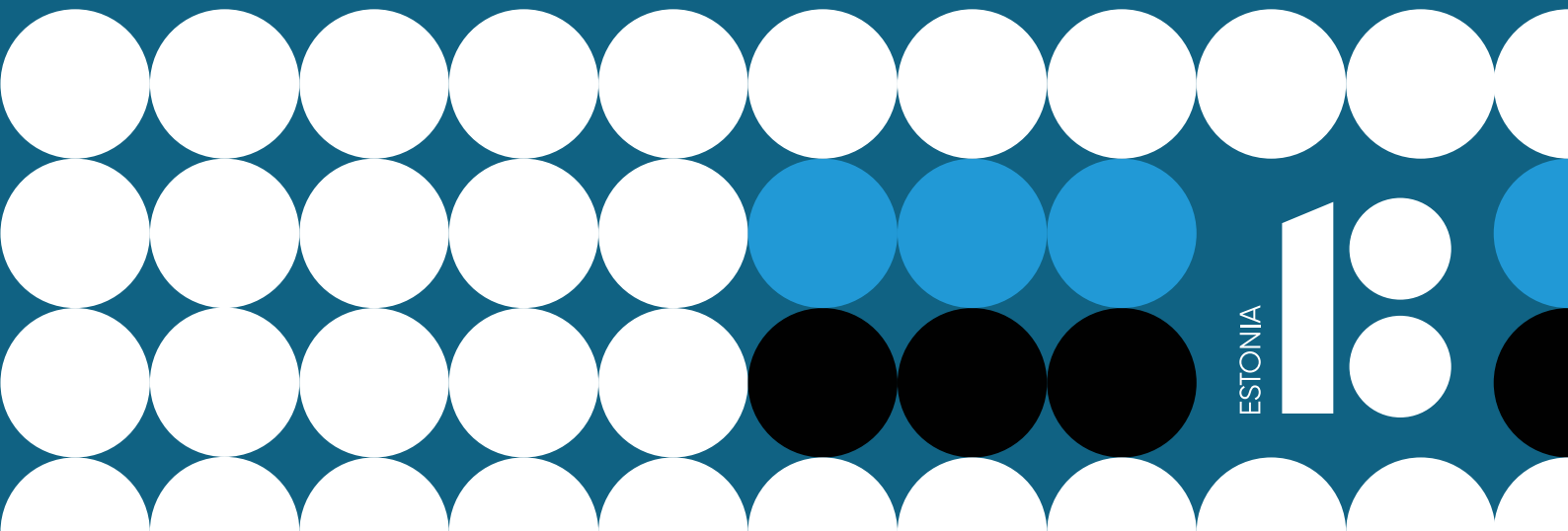


Estonian Films 2017-2018

Eesti filmid 2017-2018



Estonian Films 2017-2018

Eesti filmid 2017-2018

Features
Shorts
Animation
Documentaries



**Estonian
Film
Institute**

Editorial staff: Eda Koppel, Sigrid Saag
Design and layout: Aragon Disain
All photos courtesy of production companies

Estonian Film Institute
Tallinn 2018
ISSN 1406-8505

Printed by Adverts

2017

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The Riddle of Jaan Niemand

Scandinavian Silence

Rain

Eia's Christmas

at Phantom Owl Farm

November

The film is based on the Estonian bestselling novel *Rehepapp* by Andrus Kivirähk. The story is a mixture of magic, black humor and romantic love. In a pagan village where werewolves, the plague, and our ancestral spirits roam, lives a young farm girl named Liina. She is hopelessly in love with village boy Hans and lives out her desperate longing as a werewolf, running after her beloved, ready to die in the name of love. The main problem for the villagers is how to survive the cold, hard winter and, for that, neither stealing nor cheating nor losing one's soul is taboo. Where does love fit into this world of pragmatism where anything goes?

Estonian pagan and European Christian mythologies come together in this film. Both mythologies look for a miracle, for an ancient force that gives one a soul.



Director Rainer Sarnet

In his 48 years of existence, Rainer Sarnet has directed 5 films, lived with 3 women, accumulated about 10 friends, passionately loved Fassbinder, directed theatre plays by Przybyszewski, Gorky, and Jelinek, been deemed a wonder child at film school and had the opportunity to defend this ambitious title only 15 years later with his film *November*. The mystery is still out there.

Original title: November

Genre: fantasy, romance

Language: Estonian

Director: Rainer Sarnet

Screenwriter: Rainer Sarnet

Based on: *Rehepapp* by Andrus Kivirähk

Cinematographer: Mart Taniel E.S.C.

Art Directors: Jaagup Roomet, Matis Mäesalu

Editor: Jaroslaw Kaminski

Composer: Jacaszek

Sound design: Marco Vermaas

Main cast: Rea Lest, Jürgen Liik, Dieter Laser, Arvo Kukumägi, Katariina Unt, Heino Kalm

Producer: Katrin Kissa

Co-producers: Ellen Havenith, Lukasz Dzieciol

Produced by: Homeless Bob Production (Estonia), PRPL (The Netherlands), Opus Film (Poland)

International premiere: Tribeca Film Festival 2017

Festivals: Shanghai IFF, Karlovy Vary IFF, Sitges International Fantastic Film Festival, Fantasia Film Festival, Nordic Film Days Lübeck, Minsk IFF, Göteborg Film Festival.

115 min / DCP / 1.85:1 / Digital SR

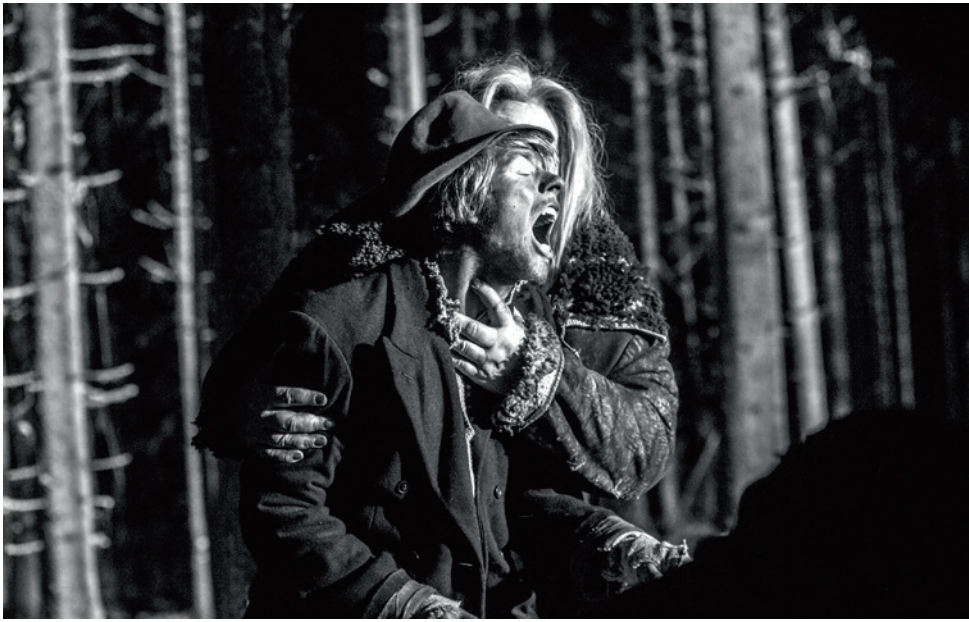
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The Dissidents

Fast-paced action comedy *The Dissidents* takes us back to the 1980s. Three young guys flee the Soviet Union to the West, to get to live an awesome life just as they've seen in *Miami Vice* and *Knight Rider*. At first the Swedes welcome them as real heroes, who broke through the Iron Curtain, but soon they're regarded as just another tedious immigrants. To put food on the table, they have to do something as lame as... work! But the boys are no quitters, so they come up with new crazy plans that should guarantee success in the Western world.



Director Jaak Kilmi

has made both successful features and documentaries. He won Jury Prize at Moscow International Film Festival for his feature debut *Revolution of Pigs* (2004). *The Dissidents* is his third feature. Kilmi has worked on co-productions with Finland, Latvia and Russia. Several of his films have been about the 1980s and he has managed to present the time from a new humorous angle that appeals also to young audience.

Original title: Sangarid

Genre: comedy

Languages: Estonian, Finnish, Swedish, Russian, English

Director: Jaak Kilmi

Screenwriter: Martin Algus

Cinematographer: Aigars Sērmukšs

Main cast: Märt Pius, Karl-Andreas Kalmet, Veiko Porkanen

Art Director: Katrin Sipelgas

Sound design: Pekka Karjalainen

Composers: Samuli Erkkilä, Joni Suhonen

Editor: Tambet Tasuja

Producer: Kristian Taska

Co-producers: Ilkka Matila, Janis Kalejs

Produced by: Taska Film (Estonia), MRP Matila Röhr Productions (Finland), Film Angels Productions (Latvia)

International premiere: Hamburg Film Festival

Festivals: Helsinki International Film Festival

90 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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The Man Who Looks Like Me

Middle-aged music critic Hugo, already suffering from a post-divorce depression, sinks even lower when he is forced to deal with his spiteful and messy father Raivo who pretends that he only has a few months to live. Both men get a new lease on life when they discover that they both have developed feelings for the same woman. Raivo tries every trick in the book to ruin all Hugo's romantic plans.



Director Andres Maimik

studied at Tartu Art College and the Estonian Institute of Humanities. He graduated in 2009 from Tallinn Pedagogical University with a degree in directing documentaries. He has worked as a journalist, film director and editor, scriptwriter and copywriter.

Director Katrin Maimik

received a bachelor's degree in dramatic theory from the University of Tartu in 2005 and an MA in scriptwriting from Tallinn University's Baltic Film and Media School in 2013.

Original title: Minu näoga onu

Genre: drama, comedy

Language: Estonian

Directors: Andres Maimik, Katrin Maimik

Screenwriters: Andres Maimik, Katrin Maimik

Cinematographer: Mihkel Soe E.S.C.

Art Director: Kristina Lõuk

Main cast: Rain Tolk, Roman Baskin, Evelin Võigemast

Sound design: Horret Kuus

Composer: Sten Sheripov

Editor: Helis Hirve

Producers: Maie Rosmann-Lill, Maarjo Masing

Produced by: Kuukulgur Film, Kinosaurus Film

World premiere: Karlovy Vary IFF 2017

Festivals: International Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg, Cairo International Film Festival.

110 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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The End of the Chain

A secluded fast food joint next to an empty parking lot, where it's good to go, because nobody recognizes you there. On a rainy autumnal day, people show up one after the other — all of them on the verge of a breakdown - or perhaps a breakthrough? The main character, Waitress, sees and absorbs it all. One by one - through their personal drama - the clients push the Waitress towards her own edge.

Director Priit Pääsuke

graduated from the Tallinn University with BA in film directing in 2005. From 2012 to 2015 he attended the MA program of theatre and film directing in Drama School of Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Since 2005 he works as a freelance director and editor and as a producer in his own production company Luxfilm. In 2008 Priit's short fiction *Black Peter* (2008) premiered at the 38th Tampere Film Festival, participated altogether at 22 film festivals and won 11 prizes; in 2015 he premiered a feature length documentary *Impromptu*. Existential comedy *The End of the Chain* is Priit's fiction feature debut.

Original title: Ketil lõpp

Genre: drama, comedy

Language: Estonian

Director: Priit Pääsuke

Screenwriter: Paavo Piik

Cinematographer: Meelis Veeremets E.S.C.

Art Director: Eugen Tamberg

Main cast: Maiken Schmidt, Hendrik Toompere jr.

Composer: Ann Reimann

Sound design: Ann Reimann

Editors: Priit Pääsuke, Valter Nõmm

Producer: Marianne Ostrat

Produced by: Alexandra Film, Luxfilm

World premiere: Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2017

Festivals: Adana IFF, Nordic Film Days Lübeck, CinEast Film Festival, Noordelijk Film Festival, Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival

81 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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Scary Mother

A 50-year-old housewife Manana struggles with her dilemma – she has to choose between her family life and her passion, writing, which she had repressed for years – she decides to follow her passion and plunges herself into writing, sacrificing to it mentally and physically.



Director Ana Urushadze

born in Tbilisi (Georgia) in 1990, graduated from the Shota Rustaveli Theatre and Georgia State Film University (TAFU) in 2013 and directed several short films such as *Ideas* (2010) and *One Man Loved Me* (2012). *Sashishi Deda* (*Scary Mother*) is her feature film debut.

Original title: Sashishi deda / Ohtlik ema

Genre: drama

Language: Georgian

Director: Ana Urushadze

Screenwriter: Ana Urushadze

Cinematographer: Konstantin Esadze

Art Director: Jimsher Berdzenishvili

Main cast: Nato Murvanidze, Dimitri Tatishvili

Composer: Nika Pasuri

Editor: Alexander Kuranov

Producer: Lasha Khvalashvili

Co-producer: Ivo Felt

Produced by: Artizm (Georgia), Allfilm (Estonia)

World premiere: Locarno International Film Festival 2017

Festivals: Sarajevo Film Festival, Singapore Film Festival, Gijon Film Festival, Chicago International Film Festival, Minsk International Film Festival.

107 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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alief.co.uk



The Swan

The world is contemporary rural Iceland. For Sól (9) things have been better. Her father is gone, and when her mother has a nervous breakdown, Sól is sent away to live with distant relatives deep in the middle of nowhere. The only person Sól connects to is the mysterious farmhand Jón (33). By day he works like a horse and by night he writes ferociously in his journals. "Words are loyal, unlike people" he tells Sól, making her feel that finally, here is someone worth being loyal to.

But Sól has competition. The farmers' daughter Ásta (23) has a claim on Jón too, and an angry one. Sól is convinced that Jón is her soulmate, but his behaviour towards her is becoming increasingly transgressive. And when Ásta's secret comes out and Jón becomes the focus of a potential crime, Sól finds herself in the middle of a drama she can hardly grasp.



Director Asa Hjörleifsdóttir

born in Reykjavik in 1984, is a graduate of the Columbia University Film MFA program. Before going to film school, Asa studied English and french literature and worked as a book critic for the Icelandic National Radio. Asa has written and directed a number of short films. Most notable is her award-winning thesis film *Astarsaga*, which played at more than 40 festivals including Clermont-Ferrand and Palm Springs. It was also a finalist for the 2014 Student Academy Awards. *The Swan* is her debut feature film.

Original title: Svanurinn / Luik

Genre: drama

Language: Icelandic

Director: Asa Helga Hjörleifsdóttir

Screenwriter: Asa Helga Hjörleifsdóttir

Based on: *The Swan* by Gudbergur Bergsson

Cinematographer: Martin Neumeyer

Art Director: Drífa Freyju-Ármannsdóttir

Main cast: Grima Valsdóttir

Sound design: Tiina Andreas

Editor: Sebastian Thümler

Producers: Birgitta Björnsdóttir, Hlin Johannesdóttir

Co-producers: Anneli Ahven, Verena Gräfe-Höft

Produced by: Vintage Pictures (Iceland),
Kopli Kinokompanii (Estonia), Juna Film (Germany)

World premiere: Toronto International Film Festival 2017

Festivals: Filmfest Hamburg, Leiden International Film Festival, Alice nella Città, Noordelijk Film Festival, Nordic Film Days Lübeck, Cairo International Film Festival

91 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / Dolby SR

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The Eternal Road

Based on true events, *The Eternal Road* is an epic story of one man's struggle for survival. Jussi Ketola returns to Finland from the great depression that struck America only to face growing political unrest. One summer night of 1930s, nationalist thugs violently abduct Ketola from his home. Beaten and forced to walk the Eternal Road to Soviet Union, where cruelty seems to know no end, his only dream is to return to his family at any cost. Hope dies last.



Director AJ Annila

is an award-winning director from Finland, who is best known for his unique and unprejudiced choice of topics. His first feature *Jade Warrior* (2006) was a martial art adventure and the first Finnish film to get a theatrical release in China. His second feature *Sauna* (2008), a psychological horror film, was awarded at a number of international film festivals and was nominated for the Nordic Council Film Prize.

Original title: Ikitie / Igitee

Genre: drama

Languages: Finnish, English, Russian

Director: AJ Annila

Screenwriters: Antti Tuuri (novel), AJ Annila, Aku Louhimies

Cinematographer: Rauno Ronkainen

Art Director: Kalju Kivi

Main cast: Tommi Korpela, Sidse Babett Knudsen, HP Björkman,

Sampo Sarkola, Irina Björklund

Sound: Fredrik Dalenfjäll

Editor: Tambet Tasuja

Producer: Ilkka Matila

Co-producers: Kristian Taska, Martin Persson, Gunnar Carlsson

Produced by: MRP Matila Röhr Production Oy (Finland), Taska Film (Estonia), Anagram (Sweden)

World premiere: Helsinki International Film Festival Love & Anarchy 2017

Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival, Santa Barbara International Film Festival

110 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / Dolby Digital

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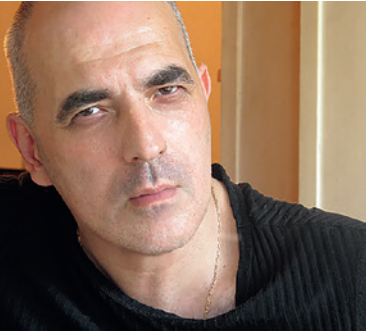
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The Confession

Priest Giorgi, a former film director, is sent to serve the small parish in the mountain village. To bring villagers closer to the church he starts showing films there. After the screening of the first picture *Some Like It Hot* the audience implies that the local music teacher Lili looks exactly like Marilyn Monroe. After meeting Lili, Father Giorgi's balance between cleric and secular world starts to quiver – the woman is extremely sexy and the temptation is difficult to resist.



Director Zaza Urushadze

is an acclaimed Georgian film director and screenwriter. He graduated from the Georgian State University of Theatre and Film in 1988. His filmography includes: *Tangerines* (2013) – nominated for Foreign Language Oscar and The Golden Globes. Also *The Guardian* (2012), *Stay with Me* (2011), *Three Houses* (2008), *Here Comes the Dawn* (1998).

Original title: Agsareba / Pihtimus

Genre: drama

Language: Georgian

Director: Zaza Urushadze

Screenwriter: Zaza Urushadze

Cinematographer: Giorgi Shvelidze

Art Director: Thea Telia

Main cast: Dmitri Tatishvili, Joseph Khvelidze,

Sophia Sebiskveradze

Sound design: Harmo Kallaste

Composer: Sten Sheripov

Editor: Alexander Kuranov

Producers: Ivo Felt, Zaza Urushadze

Produced by: Cinema24 (Georgia), Allfilm (Estonia)

World premiere: Warsaw International Film Festival 2017

Festivals: Busan International Film Festival, Chicago International Film Festival

89 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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Green Cats

The story of two old folks, Markus and Eduard, who have spent the most time of their lives behind prison walls. From a young age they have revolved in circles around thieves and other rouses. State robberies and frauds have led men to long periods of punishment from Soviet Estonia until nowadays Europe Estonia. Now, the seventy-year-old men have been granted amnesty. Both have a passionate desire to change their lives and plan their life in freedom. Once liberated, they soon realise the world has changed and they do not fit in anymore.



Director Andres Puustusmaa

is an Estonian director and actor. In 1994 he graduated from The Drama School of the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre and started working in the Estonian Drama Theatre. In 2002 he moved to Moscow to study directing at the Moscow Film Institute (VGIK). Since 2004 he has worked as a director on feature films and TV-series both in Estonia and Russia. His previous titles include *18-14* (2007), *Red Pearl of Love* (2008), *Rat Trap* (2011), *In Warsaw* (2016).

Original title: Rohelised kassid

Genre: drama, comedy

Languages: Estonian, Russian, English

Director: Andres Puustusmaa

Screenwriter: Andres Puustusmaa

Cinematographer: Pavel Emilin

Art Director: Martin Mikson

Main cast: Tõnu Kark,

Sergey Makovetskiy, Mait Malmsten,

Kirill Kyaro, Ülle Kaljuste

Composer: Priit Pajusaar

Editor: Andreas Lenk

Producer: Katerina Monastyrskaya

Produced by: Leo Production

World premiere: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2017

105 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

Contact

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The Manslayer / The Virgin / The Shadow

The film consists of three chapters. *The Manslayer* takes place in the end of 19th century. The leading character Maara is a young bride who is about to start her life in her new family. *The Virgin*, set in the spring of 1949, tells the story of a young woman called Elina, who has been deported from Ingria into Estonia during the previous war. *The Shadow* takes place in the present, on the border of real life and fantasy. The main character Luna Lee has decided to flee from home. Is there anything besides emptiness somewhere?

The film is led by the singularity of the leading character – Maara, Elina and Luna Lee are all played by the same actress.



Director Sulev Keedus

completed the Higher Courses for Directors and Scriptwriters in Moscow in 1989. Since 1981 he has been a freelance director and has produced 5 features and 15 documentaries.

Selected Filmography: *In Paradisum* (documentary, 1993), *Georgica* (feature, 1998), *Somnabulance* (feature, 2003), *Jonathan from Australia* (documentary, 2007), *Letters to Angel* (feature, 2011), *The Russians on Crow Island* (documentary, 2012), *War* (documentary, 2017)

Original title: Mehetapja / Süütu / Vari

Genre: drama

Languages: Estonian, Spanish, French

Director: Sulev Keedus

Screenwriters: Sulev Keedus, Madis Kõiv

Cinematographers: Erik Põllumaa E.S.C., Ivar Taim

Main cast: Rea Lest

Art Director: Toomas Hõrak, Anna-Liisa Liiver

Sound design: Saulius Urbanavicius

Composer: Martynas Bialobžeskis

Editor: Kaie-Ene Rääk

Producer: Kaie-Ene Rääk

Co-producer: Rasa Miskinyte

Produced by: F-Seitse (Estonia), Era Film (Lithuania)

World premiere: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2017 - Official Selection

141 min / DCP / 1.85:1 / Dolby Digital

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Class Reunion 2: A Wedding and a Funeral

The sequel to one of the most loved Estonian comedy films *Class Reunion 2: A Wedding and a Funeral* sees the return of the three high-school friends Mart, Andres and Toomas. This time they are planning a memorable stag party for Toomas, but due to unexpected turn of events end up at a funeral instead. Even though the men have finally embraced their midlife crisis, they are still tirelessly and passionately trying to surf the waves of life. How to retain your sex appeal while your new album is being trashed by the media? How to move on when you discover that your spouse has cheated on you? How to make yourself desirable to the opposite sex again, after being turned down on numerous occasions? Will there be a wedding, who is going to kick the bucket, will Mart be able to save his marriage, and will Andres ever find happiness?



Director Rene Vilbre

has directed different TV shows, commercials, documentaries, short and fiction films.

Filmography: Short film *Another* (for ARTE, Grand Prix at the Cinessone Film Festival, France 2006), more than 10 international festivals; feature film *Mat The Cat* (Children & Youth Film Prize of the Nordic Film Institutes, 47. Nordische Filmtage Lübeck 2005), more than 15 international festivals; feature *I Was Here*, international premiere at Karlovy Vary IFF 2008 (Moscow International Festival of Detective films, Winner in category "Crime and Punishment", The Year's Best Film by The Cultural Endowment of Estonia, more than 15 international festivals all over the world), *Kid Detectives & The Secret of the White Lady* (2013).

Original title: Klassikokkutulek 2: pulmad ja matused

Genre: comedy

Language: Estonian

Director: René Vilbre

Screenwriters: Lars Mering, Claudia Boderke, Martin Algu

Cinematographer: Mihkel Soe E.S.C.

Art Director: Anni Lindal

Main cast: Mait Malmsten, Henry Kõrvits, Ago Anderson

Editor: Tambet Tasuja

Producers: Kristian Taska, Evelin Penttilä

Executive Producers: René Erza, Tomas Radoor, Ilkka Matila

Produced by: Taska Film

Domestic premiere: February 16, 2018

90 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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The Little Comrade

One day, six-year-old Leelo's school teacher mother is taken away by soldiers and the little girl has to find answers to a lot of questions on her own: why is the blue-black-white flag forbidden, what's a traitor, why is a scary NKVD detective snooping around in their home and is being a Soviet Pioneer a thing of honor or shame? Through frequently tragicomic situations, Leelo tries to be as good a girl as she can in the two-faced, Stalinist world around her so that her mother will one day come back home.



Director Moonika Siimets

is a talented young Estonian director and scriptwriter. She graduated from the Baltic Film and Media School of Tallinn University and attended Judith Weston's scriptwriting and directing master classes in Los Angeles. She has directed multi-award-winning documentaries, TV series, and short films, including *Is it You?* (2013), which screened at Stockholm Film Festival, *The Last Romeo* (2013) and *Pink Cardigan* (2014). Her documentary credits include *Report: Green Estonia* (2007), *Another Dimension* (2012), *Trendy Dog* (2010), and *World Champion* (2009). *The Little Comrade*, made in the frame of the Estonian centennial film programme, is her full-length feature debut.

Original title: Seltsimees laps

Genre: family, historical drama

Language: Estonian

Director: Moonika Siimets

Screenwriter: Moonika Siimets

Cinematographer: Rein Kotov, E. S. C.

Main cast: Tambet Tuisk, Helena Maria Reisner, Yulia Aug, Eva Koldits, Liina Vahtrik, Juhan Ulfsak, Lembit Peterson, Maria Klenskaja

Art Director: Jaagup Roomet

Sound design: Matis Rei

Composer: Tõnu Kõrvits

Editor: Tambet Tasuja

Producer: Riina Sildos

Produced by: Amrion

To be released: March 23, 2018

100 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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ESTONIA





Mihkel

Mihkel and Igor dream of moving from their home in Estonia to the land of opportunity and justice, beautiful Iceland. However, events take an unexpected turn and Mihkel ends up being betrayed by Igor, his oldest friend. It is a story of Biblical betrayal, reenacted in a dark, real-life tragedy as Igor, a modern-day Judas, sells Mihkel out for material gain.



Director Ari Alexander Ergis Magnússon

was born in Reykjavik in 1968. He studied at the Sorbonne University and earned a BFA in fine arts from Parsons Paris School of Art and Design (1991-1996). Since then, his paintings, installations and video work have been shown in Scandinavia, France, England, USA, China, Argentina, Russia and Siberia. In recent years, Magnússon has focused on his documentary films - *The Cultural Thriller Movie Series*. His documentary *Screaming Masterpiece*, featuring by Björk and Sigur Rós was nominated for the Nordic Council Film Prize (2005). *Mihkel* (2018) is his first full feature film.

Original title: Halastjarnan / Mihkel

Genre: thriller

Languages: English, Icelandic, Estonian

Director: Ari Alexander Ergis Magnússon

Screenwriter: Ari Alexander Ergis Magnússon

Art Directors: Atli Geir Grétarsson,

Eugen Tamberg (Estonian unit)

Cinematographer: Tómas Örn Tómasson

Main cast: Pääru Oja, Kaspar Velberg, Maiken Schmidt, Atli Rafn Sigurdarson, Tómas Lemarquis

Sound design: Øistein Boassen

Composer: Gyda Valtysdottir

Editor: David Alexander Corno

Producers: Kristinn Thórdarson, Leifur B. Dagfinnsson, Fridrik Thór Fridriksson and Ari Alexander Magnusson

Co-producers: Evelin Penttilä, Riina Sildos, Egil Ødegård

Produced by: Truenorth (Iceland), Amrion (Estonia), Evil Doghouse Productions (Norway)

To be released: March 2018

96 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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Portugal

Karina and Martin are in a relationship where everyday life flows in an effortlessly accustomed way and no small misbehaviors can shake it's rush. Life is good. Perhaps it's this perfection and frequent patterns that make them finally pose a question - is everything to be expected in life?

This is a story about following the yearning of your soul. Longing for something other than the present and having the courage to be deliberately lost.

The characters in the film are looking for a place of love and understanding in the world. Their journey is playful, mellow and thoroughly human. It is full of mistakes, but also possibilities for new beginnings, and colorful personalities who all share a common goal – to find happiness.

Because there is only one way home, and that is to continue traveling.

This adventurous and soulful story with comedic beats is profound and smooth like a summer's night. It is a physical progression and a mental journey towards something other than a mere geographical location on a map.



Director Lauri Lagle

is an Estonian actor and theatre and cinema director. He's theatrical work has been critically highly acclaimed and he has been awarded numerous prizes for his works. Internationally he is mostly known for the main role in Veiko Õunpuu's *Free Range. Ballad of Approving the World* (2013). *Portugal* is Lagle's first feature film as a screenwriter and director.

Original title: Portugal

Genre: drama

Language: Estonian

Director: Lauri Lagle

Screenwriter: Lauri Lagle

Cinematographer: Erik Põllumaa E.S.C.

Art Director: Kamilla Kase

Main cast: Mirtel Pohla, Margus Prangel, Taavi Eelmaa, Jarmo Reha, Anne Tüürpu

Editors: Liis Nimik, Hendrik Mägar

Producers: Tiina Savi, Ivo Felt

Produced by: Allfilm

To be released: April 12, 2018

110 min / DCP / 2.39 / 5.1

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www.allfilm.ee



Fire Lily

The mystical drama thriller *Fire Lily* tells the story of Pia (38), an ophthalmologist, whose marriage has recently ended because she was not able to have children. As she strives to move forward with her life, Pia learns the unknown but also finds her inner strength. Unexpectedly, her deepest wish materializes, but not quite in the way she imagined it.



Director Maria Avdjushko

Maria Avdjushko is an Estonian actress, producer and filmmaker. Maria graduated from the Tallinn Academy of Music and Theater in the field of acting and started working as an actress at the Youth Theater immediately after school. From 1992 to 2014 she was employed as the actress of the Estonian Drama Theater. During her prolific career, she has played over 50 roles in theater and over 20 film and television roles. To date, she has written and directed two experimental short films and a life-story documentary. *Fire Lily* is her feature film debut

Original title: Tulilillia

Genre: drama, thriller

Language: Estonian

Director: Maria Avdjushko

Screenwriters: Maria Avdjushko, Leana Jalukse, Al Wallcat

Cinematographer: Thierry Pouget

Art Director: Carolin Saan

Main cast: Ingrid Isotamm, Johann Urb, Eva Eensaar, Epp Eespäev, Bert Raudsep, Adele Taska, Rasmus Kallas

Composer: Tõnu Kõrvits

Editor: Helis Hirve

Producer: Aet Laigu

Co-producers: Maria Avdjushko, Julien Madon, Bastien Sirodot

Produced by: Meteoriit, Ugri Film (Estonia), Single Man Productions (France), Umedia (Belgium)

To be released: May 11, 2018

90 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

Contact

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Take It or Leave It

One sleepy Saturday morning a 30-year-old construction worker Erik gets some earth shattering news: his ex-girlfriend Moonika who he hasn't even seen for the past six months is about to go into labour. She however is not ready for motherhood and if Erik doesn't want the kid either, the little girl will be put up for adoption. Take it or leave it!



Director Liina Triškina-Vanhatalo

Liina Triškina-Vanhatalo is an acclaimed Estonian filmmaker. She has been involved in filmmaking having various positions since 1999. *Take It or Leave It* is her first full length feature.

Original title: Võta või jäta

Genre: drama

Language: Estonian

Director: Liina Triškina-Vanhatalo

Screenwriter: Liina Triškina-Vanhatalo

Cinematographer: Erik Põllumaa E.S.C.

Art Director: Markku Pätila

Main cast: Reimo Sagor, Epp Eespäev, Liis Lass,

Adeele Sepp, Nora Altrov

Sound design: Seppo Vanhatalo

Editor: Tambet Tasuja

Producer: Ivo Felt

Produced by: Allfilm

To be released: September 2018

90 min / DCP / 1:1,85 / 5.1

Contact

Allfilm

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www.allfilm.ee

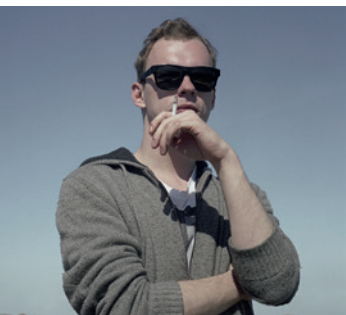


The Riddle of Jaan Niemand

Somewhere in Estonia at the beginning of the 18th century. After ten years of war, plague and famine, the land is swept clean of people. An anxious silence hangs over the land.

On one particularly starry night, two peasants find a stranger on the seashore. He's disheveled and comatose. They take him to the local manor lord and slowly bring him back to consciousness. When he opens his eyes, he realizes that he can't remember who he is or how he got there. He's just as much a stranger to himself as to the people around him. By force of circumstance, he must stay at the manor and live as one of them.

His preliminary state of lethargy slowly gives way to recovery. He must come to terms with the question: Who am I? He finds himself in a bizarre world, one full of meager uncertainty and growing disorder. There are sparse hints at his past... but what do you do when there is more than one correct answer to a question? What do you do when the answers aren't good enough? Can we choose who we are? He embarks upon a journey of self-discovery with the most unlikely of landscapes as the backdrop.



Director Kaur Kokk

graduated from the Baltic Film and Media School and has been successful with his short films both in Estonia and abroad. His short *Olga* (2013) received the Jury Special Mention at the 2014 Clermont-Ferrand IFF. *The Riddle of Jaan Niemand* is his debut feature.

Original title: Põrgu Jaan

Genre: drama

Language: Estonian

Director: Kaur Kokk

Screenwriters: Kaur Kokk,
Anti Naulainen

Cinematographer: Mart Taniel E.S.C.

Art Director: Matis Mäesalu

Main cast: Meelis Rämmeld, Andres Lepik, Pääru Oja, Peeter Volkonski, Adele Taska, Egon Nuter

Editors: Velasco Broca, Marion Koppel

Producer: Katrin Kissa

Produced by: Homeless Bob Production

To be released: October 5, 2018

110 / DCP / 1.85:1 / Digital SR

Contact

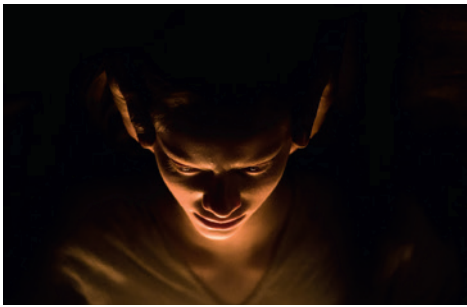
Homeless Bob Production

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Scandinavian Silence

Over the course of one evening, two apparent strangers – a prisoner released a moment ago and a provocative young woman – must embark on an arduous journey on the road towards unveiling the truth about a dark secret, concealed for the past ten years, in order to finally lay to rest the guilt that consumes them.



Director Martti Helde

is a highly valued young author for his daring ideas and innovative approach to the form and film language. His creative handwriting is characterised by tying together complex and diverse mediums; as well as Helde's passion to play with the dramaturgy and form. Martti's first feature *In the Crosswind* (2014) received a wide resonance in international media after premiering in Toronto IFF and its theatrical release in France (ARP Selection). To date, *In the Crosswind* has been released in a dozen countries worldwide and screened in more than 50 film festivals, winning numerous awards.

Original title: Skandinaavia vaikus

Genre: psychological thriller

Language: Estonian

Director: Martti Helde

Screenwriters: Nathaniel Price, Martti Helde

Cinematographer: Erik Põllumaa E.S.C.,
Sten-Johan Lill E.S.C.

Production Designer: Anneli Arusaar

Main cast: Rea Lest, Reimo Sagor

Sound Designer: Matis Rei

Composer: Mick Pedaja

Editor: Jaak Ollino Jr.

Producer: Elina Litvinova

Co-producers: Laurent Petin, Michele
Halbserstadt, Frederic de Goldschmidt

Produced by: Three Brothers (Estonia),
ARP Selection (France), Media International
(Belgium)

To be released: October 26, 2018

100 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

Contact

Three Brothers

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Rain

Rain follows 11-years-old Ats, whose older brother Rain unexpectedly returns to the family home in a small seaside town to face their authoritarian father Kalju and their mother, a woman on the verge of losing love. Ats is a witness of the clash between his father and brother, two stubborn men from different generations with radically different views of the world. When father tries to push Rain, who has lost his footing, into the boundaries of his world, Rain finds hope in Aleksandra, a mysterious woman with a shady past.



Director Janno Jürgens

was born in 1985 in Haapsalu, Estonia. He has made different experiments in short film genre since 2006. Janno graduated from the Baltic Film and Media School in 2012 as a film director. His short film *Distance* (2012) had its world premiere at Locarno Film Festival in 2012. *Rain* is his debut feature.

Original title: Rain

Genre: drama

Language: Estonian

Director: Janno Jürgens

Screenwriters: Anti Naulainen, Janno Jürgens

Cinematographer: Erik Põllumaa E.S.C.

Art Director: Matis Mäesalu

Main cast: Indrek Ojari, Marcus Borkmann, Rein Oja, Magdalena Popławska

Producer: Kristjan Pütsep

Produced by: Alasti Kino

To be released: 2018

110 min / DCP / 1.85:1 / 5.1

Contact

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Eia's Christmas at Phatom Owl Farm

Children's adventure film *Eia's Christmas at Phantom Owl Farm* follows a 10-year-old Eia, whose Christmas holiday is taking an unexpected turn, after being brought to mysterious farm in rural South Estonia. She follows her heart to rescue an old primeval forest, helps two lovers to find each other, and is destined to unwrap her family's well-kept secret.



Director Anu Aun

has graduated with BA from TV Directing and completed postgraduate studies in Film Directing in Baltic Film and Media School. Anu has produced and directed several short films, documentaries and one feature film. Anu's latest short film *Shift* (2010) was selected to more than 70 international film festival and won 17 prizes from all over the world. Anu's debut feature *The Polar Boy* (2016) was developed in Torino Film Lab and Nipkow Program. The film screened in Mannheim-Heidelberg International Film Festival official competition, Cairo International Film Festival, Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival and many others. Anu is currently in production with creative documentary *Walker on Water* and whole-family film *Eia's Christmas at Phantom Owl Farm*.

Original title: Eia jõulud Tondikakul

Genre: family, adventure

Language: Estonian

Director: Anu Aun

Screenwriter: Anu Aun

Cinematographer: Heiko Sikka E.S.C.

Art Director: Matis Mäesalu

Main cast: Paula Rits, Siim Oskar Ots, Märt Pius, Priit Pius, Priit Võigemast, Mirtel Pohla, Liis Lemsalu, Tambet Tuisk, Juhan Ulfsak, Meelis Rämmeld, Anne Reemann, Tõnu Oja

Editor: Margo Siimon

Producers: Maie Rosmann-Lill, Maario Masing

Produced by: Luxfilm, Kinosaurus Film

To be released: December 2018

95 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

Contact

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2017

Helen's Birthday

Ice

Early Spring

2018

Nissan Patrol

Agreement

Bewitched

The Christmas Mystery

True

Traitor

Good Shepherd

Beqaa VR

The Verging

Fish

Helen's Birthday

Middle-aged Helen, who still hasn't gotten over her divorce, is dragged to the night club on her birthday. Unable to give life a new chance, she ends the night as an intruder in her old home.



Director Tanno Mee

graduated from the Baltic Film and Media School (BFM) BA program of film and video directing in 2008 with a short film *House of Memories* (35'). In 2010 Tanno premiered a short documentary *Being Normal* (28'), commissioned by the Estonian Public Broadcasting, and in 2014 another documentary *Allan Leida, Leida Allan* - co-directed with Liis Nimik. With an interest in sensitive, nuanced drama, Tanno is shifting back to fiction with his new short film *Helen's Birthday*.

Original title: Heleni sünnipäev

Genre: psychological drama

Language: Estonian

Director: Tanno Mee

Screenwriter: Tanno Mee

Cinematographer: Mart Raun

Art Director: Reet Brandt

Main cast: Mari Abel, Margus Prangel, Gert Raudsep

Sound design: Ann Reimann

Composer: Ann Reimann

Editor: Tanno Mee

Producer: Marianne Ostrat

Produced by: Alexandra Film

World premiere: Helsinki International Film Festival Love & Anarchy 2017

Festivals: Riga International Film Festival 2Annas 2017, Nordic Film Days Lübeck 2017, Scanorama European Film Forum 2017

19 min / DCP / 1.85:1 / 5.1

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Ice

Harri is a lieutenant colonel in the Estonian army. Divorced, he only sees his 10-year old son during school holidays. Harri decides to make up for lost time by going to an adventurous father-son winter trip to an island. Missing the last ferry, Harri decides to take a local ice road over the frozen sea. On the vast snowy desert past memories collide with the present.



Director Anna Hints

has studied literature, folklore and has a BA both in photography and film directing. She has background in contemporary art, she's also a folk singer. Student film *Free World* (2012) has brought her Kaljo Kiisa named Young Filmmaker Award and Grand Prix in national short film section of PÖFF. She's participant in short documentary collection *Roots* (2018). *Ice* is her debut short fiction.

Original title: Jää

Genre: drama

Language: Estonian

Director: Anna Hints

Screenwriters: Anna Hints, Greta Varts

Cinematographer: Tõnis Tuuga

Art Directors: Matis Mäesalu, Anneli Arusaar

Main cast: Mait Malmsten, Aksel Ojari

Editor: Marion Koppel

Producer: Eero Talvistu

Co-producers: Emilie Dubois, Raoul Nadalet

Produced by: Exitfilm (Estonia), Origine Films (France), Antevita Films (Luxembourg)

World premiere: Busho Budapest Short

Festivals: Split FF, Helsinki IFF, Schlingel IFF, PÖFF shorts, Festival de Cinéma Européen des Arcs, Mumbai IFF.

14 min / DCP / 2.35:1 / Stereo

Contact

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Early Spring

When 15 year old Sander falls prey to an almost fatal bad joke, he has to decide whether to try and break away from his determined social status, or conform and accept his role in the group. *Early Spring* is not a cool youth movie about frolicking teenagers. It's a sociopsychology challenge to incite a discussion about group dynamics, conformism, and social roles that are largely shaped and confirmed in teenage years. On top of that, the means of self-expression are largely absent in a typical small town in east or north Europe. Hopefully there is a moment of self-reflection here for everyone who has witnessed the blind acceptance of the group leader's whims, even when they clash with the observers principles and conscience. Roles in the group are largely brought on by chance, circumstance and a claustrophobic insecurity about being young and being a teenager. Breaking that predetermined cycle is a big part of becoming an adult.



Director Rain Tolk

Rain Tolk is an actor and director from Tallinn, Estonia. Together with Andres Maimik he created his own production house Kuukulgur Film in 2002. He has been directing feature films, TV-series, commercials and music videos since.



Director Gustaf Boman Bränngård

Screenwriter and director Gustaf Boman Bränngård was born and raised in Stockholm. Gustaf wrote the screenplay for the short film *Girl* (Plattform produktion, 2011) by Fijona Jonuzi and *Stormaktstiden* (Kågerman, 2014) by Pella Kågerman. Both which were in competition for Startsladden at Gothenberg International Film Festival and has been shown on SVT (Swedish Public Broadcast). *Girl* was also screened at the Sundance Film Festival in 2012. In Tallinn, he has written the script for the short film *Borders* (Birds of Paradise, 2015) directed by Mikk Mägi. Gustaf has studied creative writing at Södertörn College, film production at Trollhättan College and film theory at Stockholm University.

Original title: Varakevad

Genre: drama

Language: Estonian

Directors: Rain Tolk,
Gustaf Boman Bränngård

Screenwriter: Gustaf Boman
Bränngård

Cinematographer: Madis
Reimund

Art Director: Getter Vahar

Main cast: Joseph Mattias

Metsala, Katariina Kilik,
Märten Männiste, Teet
Tammelaan, Rauno Gutman

Editors: Rain Tolk, Helis Hirve

Producer: Alvar Reinumägi

Produced by: Kuukulgur Film

Domestic premiere: PÖFF
shorts 2017

15 min / DCP / 16:9 / 5.1

Contact:

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Nissan Patrol

Art student Jane is hitchhiking and gets picked up by an SUV, driven by a brokenhearted former soldier with a macho mentality. The young man reads the free-spirited young woman wrong and a simple ride turns into a nightmare for Jane. The short film *Nissan Patrol* is about a situation that triggers a casual everyday violence. The young man who has experienced hardships in his life, is unable to accept it, but channels it into a violent impulse. The rape attempt may be triggered by the small mundane things - the girl's adventurous appearance, macho mentality "this is what all the women want" or "when you're hitchhiking you better be prepared to pay" but most of all, inability to value the reasons and consequences of your actions.



Director Andres Maimik

studied at Tartu Art College and the Estonian Institute of Humanities. He graduated in 2009 from Tallinn Pedagogical University with a degree in directing documentaries. He has worked as a journalist, film director and editor, scriptwriter and copywriter.



Director Katrin Maimik

is a director and screenwriter. Katrin received a bachelor's degree in dramatic theory from the University of Tartu in 2005 and an MA in scriptwriting from Tallinn University's Baltic Film and Media School in 2013. Their first co-written and co-directed full-length feature *Cherry Tobacco* (2014) and *The Man Who Looks Like Me* (2017) premiered at Karlovy Vary IFF

Original title: Nissan Patrol

Genre: drama

Language: Estonian

Directors: Andres Maimik, Katrin Maimik

Screenwriters: Andres Maimik, Katrin Maimik

Cinematographer: Mihkel Soe E.S.C.

Art Director: Adele Thele Kuusk

Main cast: Lauli Otsar, Ott Raidmets

Sound design: Kristijan Kurm/Quartal Studio

Composers: Sten Sheripov,

Hanna Liisa Uusmaa

Editor: Andres Maimik

Producer: Andres Maimik

Produced by: Kuukulgur Film

Domestic premiere: January 12, 2018

13 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

Contact

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Agreement

Short comedy about parenting, manipulation, love and filmmaking. The situation spins out of control on the set, when the director cannot tame the starlet any longer and finds himself being manipulated by a sweet little girl. The girl has her own secret though, that makes her behave this way. It's a film about little white lies and clandestine agreements, that influence our lives on a daily basis.



Director Andres Maimik

studied at Tartu Art College and the Estonian Institute of Humanities. He graduated in 2009 from Tallinn Pedagogical University with a degree in directing documentaries. He has worked as a journalist, film director and editor, scriptwriter and copywriter.



Director Rain Tolk

Rain Tolk is an actor and director from Tallinn, Estonia. Together with Andres Maimik he created his own production house Kuukulgur Film in 2002. He has been directing feature films, TV-series, commercials and music videos since.

Original title: Kokkulepe

Genre: drama, comedy

Language: Estonian

Directors: Andres Maimik, Rain Tolk

Screenwriters: Andres Maimik, Rain Tolk

Cinematographer: Mihkel Soe E.S.C.

Art Director: Anneli Arusaar

Main cast: Annabriith Heinmaa, Rain Tolk, Alvar Reinumägi, Katre Kaseleht, Maria Peterson

Editors: Andres Maimik, Helis Hirve

Producer: Alvar Reinumägi

Produced by: Kuukulgur Film

Domestic premiere: January 12, 2018

15 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

Contact

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www.kuukulgur.ee



Bewitched

B*ewitched* talks about middle-aged Rainar, who discovers on a family outing that they have left behind their food. Wandering in the forest, he stumbles upon mysterious Liina, who slowly bewitches him.



Director Maria Avdjushko

Actress, screenwriter, producer, and director. She has played in over 20 feature films in Estonia, Russia, and Finland. She has also worked for Tallinn City Theatre and Estonian Drama Theatre and performed in more than 50 roles in various theatres. Currently Avdjushko works as a freelance actor, producer and a film director

Original title: Nõiutud

Genre: drama, horror

Language: Estonian

Director: Maria Avdjushko

Screenwriter: Maria Avdjushko

Cinematographer: Ants Tammik

Main cast: Margus Prangel, Ester Kuntu, Adele Taska, Piret Kalda, Bert Raudsep

Composer: Tõnu Kõrvits

Editor: Sander Kalle Somma

Producer: Andres Maimik

Produced by: Kuukulgur Film

Domestic premiere: January 12, 2018

25 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / Stereo

Contact

Kuukulgur film

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The Christmas Mystery

The *Christmas Mystery* is a black comedy about a student Jass, who earns extra income by impersonating Santa. Behind one of the doors is a lone woman who reads him poetry and offers whiskey. Jass realizes all of a sudden that he's been drawn into a bizarre sex game with the woman, but being a polite young man, he has a hard time saying "no". In that moment the easy side job turns into a surreal dream for the young man.



Director Andres Maimik

studied at Tartu Art College and the Estonian Institute of Humanities. He graduated in 2009 from Tallinn Pedagogical University with a degree in directing documentaries. He has worked as a journalist, film director and editor, scriptwriter and copywriter.



Director Katrin Maimik

is a director and screenwriter. Katrin received a bachelor's degree in dramatic theory from the University of Tartu in 2005 and an MA in scriptwriting from Tallinn University's Baltic Film and Media School in 2013.

Their two co-written and co-directed full-length feature films *Cherry Tobacco* (2014) and *The Man Who Looks Like Me* (2017) premiered at Karlovy Vary IFF.

Original title: Jõulumüsteerium

Genre: drama, comedy

Language: Estonian

Directors: Andres Maimik, Katrin Maimik

Screenwriters: Andres Maimik, Katrin Maimik

Cinematographer: Mihkel Soe E.S.C.

Art Director: Katrin Sipelgas

Main cast: Maria Avdjushko, Markus Habakukk

Sound design: Sven Sosnitski, Quartal Studio

Editors: Andres Maimik, Helis Hirve

Producer: Maarjo Masing

Produced by: Kuukulgur Film

Domestic premiere: January 12, 2018

20 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

Contact

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True

In this cold world an innocent joke can disengage an avalanche.



Director Marta Pulk

Born in 1988 is and Estonian director-editor who graduated with MA from Baltic Film and Media School in 2014. Marta also studied directing at Escole Superior Artistica de Porto in Portugal from 2012–2013. She has edited number of feature films and documentaries and has directed two documentaries as a director. *True* is her first short film as a director.

Original title: Omad

Genre: drama

Languages: Estonian, Russian

Director: Marta Pulk

Screenwriter: Marta Pulk

Cinematographer: Sten-Johan Lill E.S.C.

Art Director: Kamilla Kase

Main cast: Tiina Tauraite, Sten Karpov, Rea Lest, Tiit Lilleorg

Sound design: Matis Rei

Editor: Hendrik Mägar

Producer: Karolina Veetamm

Produced by: Kinosaurus Film

Domestic premiere: March 2, 2018

15 min / DCP / 16:9 / 5.1

Contact

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Traitor

A married couple is faced with an unusual dilemma when a stranger asking for help appears on their doorstep.

We start with two parallel storylines – Darius, a Middle-Eastern backpacker exploring the Estonian backcountry; and the quiet morning of Jaan and Kaia, an older married couple. Darius witnesses a crime in the woods and takes a photo of it. The criminals give chase and Darius ends up on the doorstep of Jaan and Kaia, begging for help. The foreigner makes Jaan suspicious and he refuses to help. However, when the criminals appear at the door as well, we realize that the main thug is the couple's son, with who their relationship has festered. Kaia has given up hope and tells Jaan to let Darius in, but Jaan decides to remain impartial, therefore losing the respect of both his son and his wife and becoming a traitor to both.



Director Philip Kaat

studied film at Lancaster University and currently works as a videographer in the Estonian film industry. He has worked on a number of feature films in the camera department and *Traitor* is his debut as a director.

Director Ali Moniri

studied creative writing at Lancaster University. He has written a number of scripts and co-produced a feature in England. The short film *Traitor* is his debut as a director.

Original title: Reetur

Genre: thriller, drama

Languages: Estonian, English

Directors: Philip Kaat, Ali Moniri

Screenwriters: Philip Kaat, Ali Moniri

Cinematographer: Marcin Kukielski

Art Director: Liina Laigu

Main cast: Raimo Pass, Tiina Mälberg, Saeid Behbahaninia, Imre Öunapuu, Jaan Roose

Sound design: Henri Kuus

Editor: Sander-Kalle Somma

Producer: Aet Laigu

Produced by: Meteoriit

Domestic premiere: March 2, 2018

10 min / DCP / 5.1

Contact

Meteoriit

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Good Shepherd

Ibrahim is a simple, kind-hearted man whose main source of income is raising sheep. He lives with his family in the Middle Eastern mountains. The last few years have been particularly wretched and illnesses have struck his flock causing many animals to perish. There seems to be no end in sight to these calamities. One day, Ibrahim's younger brother Omar calls him and in a carefree tone asks to use a building on the edge of their father's farm for something that Ibrahim does not want to hear anything about...



Director Evar Anvelt

has been working in the film industry for the last 15 years and is one of the founders of Nafta Films. He has worked various roles in production and post-production, specialising in colour grading. Evar is also a musician and often composes music for his own film projects. He has directed many commercials and while *Good Shepherd* is his first short film. Evar currently has multiple projects in development, including a feature film.

Original title: Hea karjane

Genre: drama

Languages: Arabic, English, Estonian

Director: Evar Anvelt

Screenwriters: Evar Anvelt, Andres Peets

Cinematographer: Meelis Veeremets E.S.C.

Art Director: Farah Naboulsi

Main cast: Said Serhan, Tarek Yaacoub, Theo Bou Harb, Mohammad Akil

Sound design: Matis Rei

Composers: Evar Anvelt, Maarja Nuut

Editor: Marion Koppel

Producers: Esko Rips, Diana Mikita

Produced by: Nafta Films

Domestic premiere: March 2, 2018

23 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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Beqaa VR

Beqaa VR is a 7-minute virtual reality (VR) short movie experience loosely inspired by the real life experience of 7 Estonian cyclists held captive by terrorists in Beqaa Valley in Lebanon for 4 months in 2011.

In this psychological short movie, the viewer is put in the shoes (or rather, eyes) of an Estonian hostage, who is held captive in a tool shed together with other hostages and their captors. Unaware of their fate and subject to verbal and physical interrogation, the hostages are plotting their escape. Shall they summon up the courage to go for it? Are they willing to face the consequences should it all go horribly wrong?



Director Rain Rannu

is Estonian technology entrepreneur and film-maker, interested in exploring the intersection of creativity and technology. His directorial debut road-movie *Chasing Ponies* was released in Estonia in 2016.

Original title: Bekaa VR

Languages: English, Arabic, Estonian

Director: Rain Rannu

Screenwriters: Rain Rannu, Lauri Lippmaa

Cinematographer: Michal Lovecký

Art Director: Dalia Yassine

Main cast: Ott Kartau, Riho Vahtras, Oday Toufaily, Joseph Wehbeh

Sound design: Kristjan Kurm

Composer: Janek Murd

Editor: Sander Somma

Producers: Esko Rips, Diana Mikita

Produced by: Nafta Films

Domestic premiere: March 2, 2018

7 min / Virtual reality

Contact

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The Verging

In a slightly ragged Estonian village life circle's centrifuge is at its full swing. There is a need to spin along in order to survive. One autumn day father leads his son to the heart of the centrifuge where childhood comes at a crossroads with the mysterious path to manhood.



Director Kaspar Ainelo

graduated from Baltic Film and Media School with BA in film production and Tallinn University with MA in Communication, Advertising and Imagology. Last few years he has worked at film production company Kinosaurus Film. *The Verging* is Kaspar's first short film as a director.

Original title: Pööripäev

Genre: drama

Director: Kaspar Ainelo

Screenwriter: Kaspar Ainelo

Cinematographer: Mattias Veermets

Main cast: Romet Liig, Meelis Rämmeld

Art Director: Gerda-Katrina Samm

Sound design: Kauri Lemberg

Composer: Kauri Lemberg

Editors: Jette-Krõõt Keedus, Marion Koppel

Producers: Kaspar Ainelo, Peeter Urbla

Produced by: Exitfilm

Domestic premiere: March 2, 2018

10 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / Stereo

Contact

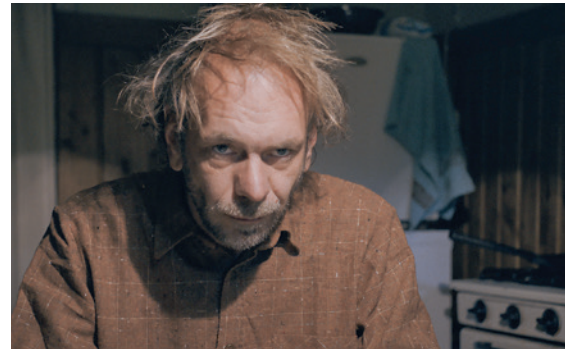
Exitfilm

Kaspar Ainelo

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Fish

Life passed on from generation to generation can often turn out to be a cruel paradox.

A father and a son go fishing. The father isn't feeling well but doesn't show it. He teaches his son everything - to drive the car, dig out the worms - and how to do it all himself.

The boy catches a fish and his father is just as happy. As he leans down to fill a bucket with water, the father suddenly doesn't feel well - he slips on the pier and falls into the water. He starts to sink, his fist cramped around the fish his son caught. The father starts floating towards the surface and sees his son reaching his hand down to him. He holds up the fish and the boy takes it. The father has a heart attack and sinks into the water.

The boy watches the surface of the water where he just saw his father. Then, he pulls the bucket out of the water and leaves.



Director Jaan Toomik

is an Estonian video artist, painter and award-winning filmmaker, often described as the most widely acknowledged Estonian contemporary artist on the international scene.

Filmography: *Communion* (2007), *Oleg* (2010), *Landscape with Many Moons* (2014)

Original title: Kala

Genre: drama

Language: Estonian

Director: Jaan Toomik

Screenwriter: Jaan Toomik

Cinematographer: Erik Põllumaa E.S.C.

Art Director: Jaan Toomik

Main cast: Toomas Saarepera

Sound design: Ivo Felt

Editor: Jaak Ollino Jr.

Producer: Ivo Felt

Produced by: Allfilm

To be released: 2018

12 min / DCP / 1.85:1 / 5.1

Contact

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2017

Manivald

Letting Go

Mary and 7 Dwarfs

Miriam by the Lake

2018

Strawberry Eaters

The Overcoat

Solstice

Captain Morten and the Spider Queen

Winter in the Rainforest

About Love

Teofrastus

Manivald

Manivald is still living at home with his retired mother. The day before his 33. birthday a young hot wolf called Toomas comes to fix their washing machine. A love triangle develops, which leaves Manivald more and more frustrated.



Director Chintis Lundgren

is an Estonian animation director. She started in 2008 as an independent author and since 2011 she runs her own animation studio called Chintis Lundgreni Animatsioonistuudio. She is also a co-founder of Adriatic Animation, a new animation studio based in Croatia.

Selected filmography: *The Great Grey Shrike* (2009), *About the Hard Life of the Barn Swallow* (2011), *Mysterious Swamp* (2013), *Life with Herman H. Rott* (2015)

Original title: Manivald

Languages: English, Estonian

Director: Chintis Lundgren

Screenwriters: Chintis Lundgren, Draško Ivezić

Animators: Chintis Lundgren, Draško Ivezić, Darko Vidačković, Mia Murat

Editors: Chintis Lundgren, Jelena Popović

Composer: Terence James Dunn

Sound design: Pierre Yves Drapeau

Tehnique: hand-drawn animation

Producer: Chintis Lundgren

Co-producers: Draško Ivezić, Jelena Popović

Produced by: Chintis Lundgreni Animatsioonistuudio (Estonia), Adriatic Animation (Croatia), NFB (Canada)

World premiere: Animafest Zagreb 2017

Festivals: Annecy IAFF, Palm Springs International Shortfest, Sundance FF, Clermont Ferrand Short Film Festival

13 min / DCP / 1.85:1 / Stereo

Contact

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Sales

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Letting Go

Story about a young girl from an orphanage who wants to let go of the shadows that haunt her past.



Director Ülo Pikkov

is an internationally renowned filmmaker, producer and film scholar. Since 1996 Pikkov has directed several award-winning animation films (*Empty Space, Tik-Tak, Body Memory, The End, Dialogos*). He has published articles on film and written fiction books for children and adults. Currently Pikkov is completing his doctoral studies at the Estonian Academy of Arts.

Original title: Lahtilaskmise lugu

Director: Ülo Pikkov

Screenwriter: Ülo Pikkov

Animators: Marili Sökk, Triin Sarapik-Kivi

Editor: Ülo Pikkov

Composers: Andrea Martignoni, Amos Cappuccio

Sound design/mixing: Andrea Martignoni, Amos Cappuccio

Technique: stop motion animation

Producer: Ülo Pikkov

Co-producer: Michelle Kranot

Produced by: Silmviburlane

World premiere: PÖFF Shorts 2017

Festivals: Animateka International Animated Film Festival, Fredrikstad Animation Festival, Piccolo Festival Animazione

11 min / DCP / 16:9 / 5.1

Contact

Silmviburlane

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Mary and 7 Dwarfs

Having spent her whole life inside the nunnery, an old and dignified nun Maria has determined to fulfill her youth fantasy. The only problem there seems to be her incomplete, almost non-existent memory. Maria is afraid that her youth fantasy might prove to be a sin.



Director Riho Unt

Has graduated from Estonian State Institute of Arts in 1982 as interior designer. Since then he has worked in Nukufilm studio as a director. His films have won a number of awards at animation festivals.

Selected Filmography: *Brothers Bearhearts* (2005), *Miriam's Nestbox* (2006), *Miriam and the Flood* (2006), *North Dragon* (2007), *Lily* (2008), *Happy Birthday* (2012), *Miriam's Kite* (2013), *The Master* (2015), *Miriam by the Lake* (2017)

Original title: Maria ja 7 põialpoissi

Language: Estonian

Director: Riho Unt

Screenwriter: Riho Unt

Animators: Triin Sarapik-Kivi, Olga Bulgakova

Editors: Riho Unt, Sergei Kibus

Sound design/mixing: Horret Kuus / B6 Studio

Tehnique: puppet animation

Producer: Kerdi Oengo

Produced by: Nukufilm

World premiere: PÖFF Shorts 2017, Tallinn

13 min / DCP / 1.85:1 / 5.1

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Miriam by the Lake

Miriam's family is outing by the lake. After a long and tiring day the whole family is resting in the tent, only Hen can't sleep. She goes out for a walk. She hears a lot of frightening night sounds and sees eyes blinking in the dark. The Hen grabs the photocamera to make pictures about the monsters surrounding her. In the morning everybody can see what the Hen was afraid of.



Director Riho Unt

has graduated from Estonian State Institute of Arts in 1982 as Interior Designer. Since then he has worked in Nukufilm studio as a director. His films have won a number of awards at animation festivals.

Selected Filmography: *Brothers Bearhearts* (2005), *Miriam's Nestbox* (2006), *Miriam and the Flood* (2006), *North Dragon* (2007), *Lily* (2008), *Happy Birthday* (2012), *Miriam's Kite* (2013), *The Master* (2015)

Director Sergei Kibus

(1987) is a director, animator, and cinematographer. He has written and directed short fiction and drama, and contributed as a cinematographer on a number of documentary or animated films. Since 2013, he has worked as a cinematographer and director in Estonian stop-motion animation studio Nukufilm having been involved with multiple productions such as *Eternal Hunting Grounds* (2015), *Morten on the Ship of Fools* (2018), and *Mary and the 7 Dwarfs* (as DOP, Nukufilm 2018). His new film, plasticine animaton *Teofrastus*, is due in 2018.

Original title: Miriamjärve ääres
Directors: Riho Unt, Sergei Kibus
Screenwriters: Leelo Tungal, Peep Pedmanson
Animators: Marili Sökk, Triin Sarapik-Kivi
Editors: Riho Unt, Sergei Kibus
Composer: Tiit Kikas
Sound design/mixing: Tiina Andreas, Aleksandra Koel, Liisa Taul
Tehnique: puppet animation
Art Director: Ivika Luisk
Producers: Kerdi Oengo, Andrus Raudsalu
Produced by: Nukufilm
International premiere: Oulu International Children's and Youth Film Festival 2017
Festivals: Cinekid Amsterdam, ANIM'EST, Helsinki IFF, Chicago ICFF, Nordic Film Days Lübeck, Taiwan ICFF, Anima Brussels

5 min / HD / 16:9 / stereo

Contact

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 www.nukufilm.ee



Strawberry Eaters

A fantasy film about two strawberry farmers whose field is destroyed by ravenous snails. The couple tries to start a new life in the city but when the woman announces they're expecting a child, the paranoid man suspects that snails are behind that as well.



Director Mattias Mälk

after graduating the Estonian Academy of Arts, Mälk has worked as an artist on Eesti Joonisfilm projects. He made his director's debut with the film *Northern Starfish* (2014), followed by the fantasy film *Strawberry Eaters* (2018). He also does 3D modeling and has worked as a character animator.

Original title: Maasikaõgijad

Director: Mattias Mälk

Screenwriter: Mattias Mälk

Animators: Heta Jääliinoja, Paula Mauer, Mattias Mälk

Editor: Mattias Mälk

Composer: Liina Sumera

Sound design/mixing: Horret Kuus

Tehnique: drawn animation

Producer: Kalev Tamm

Produced by: Eesti Joonisfilm

To be released: January 2018

15 minutes / DCP / 1.85:1 / 5.1

Contact

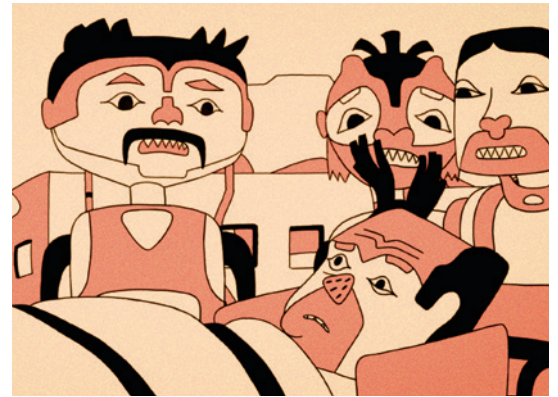
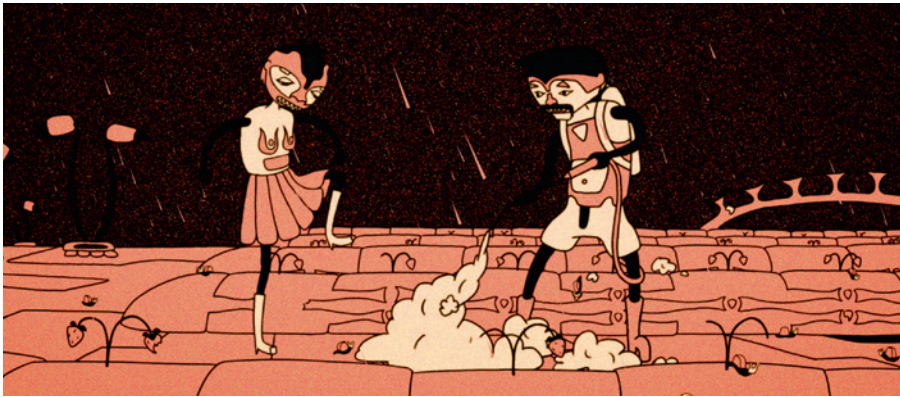
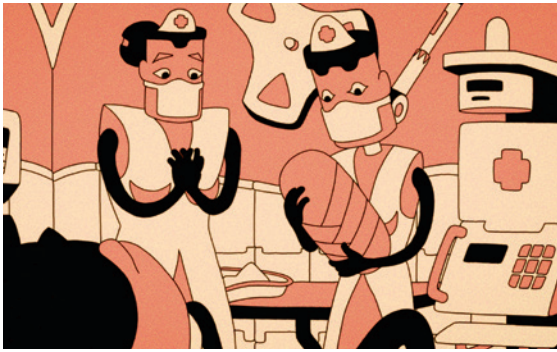
Eesti Joonisfilm

Kalev Tamm

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The Overcoat

It's all about how an overcoat changed the life of a poor office clerk, named Akaky Akakievitch, who lived in the city a long time ago. Gently mocked by his colleagues at work for his old, threadbare coat, and after an unfortunate run-in with the scary Commissioner, the head of his whole department, Akaky decides to save up for a brand new overcoat. But not even he could foretell the great and terrible chain of events that would be set off.

An animated adaptation of Gogol's classic ghost story, with thrills, laughter and a wandering cat, *The Overcoat* is a warm and wonderful Christmas special for the whole family; and reminds us how lucky we are for all we've got...



Director Sean Mullen

studied Animation at Ballyfermot College of Further Education. He is a co-founder and creative director at Giant Animation. Throughout the company's development Sean has worked in all areas of the animation pipeline on a diverse range of projects. His work has screened all over the world, and has won numerous awards including the an IFTA, Best Animation at the Galway Film.



Director Meelis Arulepp

has worked in A Film since 1990. Meelis has co-directed 8 short films and worked as a supervising animator and character animator on more than 20 animated films, eg. *Smurfs – The Legend of Smurfy Hollow*, *Asterix and the Vikings*, *Titeuf – the Movie* etc.

Filmography: *The Little Short-sighted Snake* (short, 2005), *Things You Think* (TV series, 2011), *The Great Painter* (2013)

Original title: Sinel

Directors: Sean Mullen, Meelis Arulepp

Screenwriter: Hugh O'Conor

Composer: Liina Sumera

Technique: 2D/3D mixed

Producer: Kristel Töldsepp

Co-producer: Jonathan Clarke

Produced by: A Film Estonia (Estonia), Giant Animation (Ireland)

To be released: February 2018

26 min / DCP / 2.37:1 / Stereo

Contact

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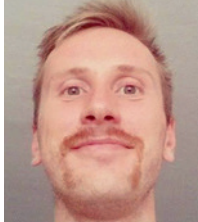
Solstice

In a rural Estonian community, local delinquent Tärna abandones his pregnant girlfriend. Aapo, who resides in Paide, starts to suspect he might be an ant not a man. A Beefeater is tormented by his itchy hat. A penguin is left heartbroken after his girlfriend cheats on him with a walrus. The penguin decides to leave his home. Others follow his lead. The paths of all these characters cross, during the Solstice, in Tärnas home village.



Director Sander Joon

is an Estonian animation and VJ-artist. He graduated from Estonian Academy of Arts in 2015 but started his career with creating visual elements together with Mikko Mägi already in 2011. Joon works with 2D and 3D digital animation, as well as hand drawn animation and puppet animation. He focuses on consequent design and uses animation to create surreal worlds with a dash of humor. His graduation film *Velodrool* was screened in festivals all over the world and it also won the Grand Prix from the Fredrikstad Animation Festival in 2015.



Director Mikko Mägi

is an Estonian director and animator. He studied at the Estonia Academy of Arts and graduated in 2015. He is a co-founder and co-owner of animation studio BOP! and GIF Visuals. He is the co-creator of the animated series *Old Man Cartoon* (2011–present).

Filmography: *Borders* (2015), *Old Man Cartoon – One* (2015), *Tommy Cash - ProRapSuperstar* (2015, music video)

Original title: Pööriöö

Language: Estonian

Directors: Sander Joon, Mikko Mägi

Screenwriter: Mikko Mägi

Art Directors: Sander Joon, Liisi Grünberg

Animators: Sander Joon, Liisi Grünberg, Jelizaveta Mušnikova, Leore Lisann Klõsheiko, Eva Liisa Sepp, Katarina Skott

Editor: Mikko Mägi

Composer: Rasmus Lill

Sound design/mixing: Horret Kuus

Producer: Mikko Mägi

Produced by: BOP Animation

To be released: April 2018

10 min / HD / 16:9 / Stereo

Contact

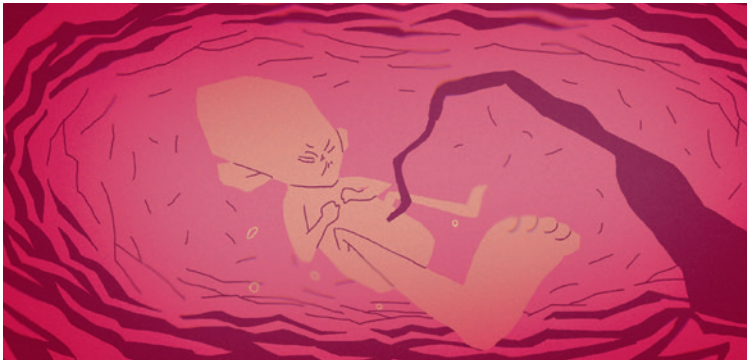
BOP Animation

Mikko Mägi

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Captain Morten and the Spider Queen

Sometimes you need to be shrunk in order to grow up. Morten is a 10-year old dreamer. His Father sails the seas on his ship, The Salamander. Morten is taken care of by Aunt Anna, who is an evil task-master. Morten plays with a toy boat with insects for crew. One day Morten is magically shrunk and awakes on his toy boat! He is thrilled to be a Captain but the bugs are as big as he is and they eerily resemble adults from his 'real' world.

Storm is coming and the toy ship is sinking. Morten has to save the ship and return to the real world.



Director Kaspar Jancis

made his first animated film during his school years. He has been part of the creative core of several rock groups, written song lyrics and melodies. With his films, Kaspar has won several awards including Cartoon d'Or in 2010.

Filmography: *Weitzenberg street* (2003), *Frank and Wendy* (2005), *Marathon* (2006), *The Very Last Cigarette* (2007), *Crocodile* (2009), *Villa Antropoff* (2011), *Piano* (2015).

Original title: Morten lollide laeval

Languages: English (dub to Estonian, French, Gaelic, Flemish)

Director: Kaspar Jancis

Screenwriters: Mike Horelick, Paul Risacher, Robin Lyons, Kaspar Jancis

Art Directors: Kaspar Jancis, Riho Unt

Animators: Märt Kivi, Sam Turner, Triin Sarapik-Kivi, Andres Tenusaar, Olga Bulgakova, Tereza Perez-Girau, Patricia Sourdes, Susanne Guy; Martin Puller, Nuria Robles

Editor: Keith Garvey

Composer: Pierre Yves Drapeau

Sound design/mixing: Ciarán Ó Tuairisc

Technique: Stop motion animation

Producer: Kerdi Oengo

Co-producers: Paul Cummins, Mark Mertens, Robin Lyons

Produced by: Nukufilm (Estonia), Telegael (Ireland), Grid VFX (Belgium), Calon (UK)

To be released: 2018

78 min / 2KHD / 2.39:1 / 5.1

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Winter in the Rainforest

In one of the corners of the world there is a place where all impossible fantasies come true. In a rainforest, among the lush nature there live fragile animals made of china. In the savage rivers the weird white stony creatures come to life: birds with legs like human fingers are hunting fish with wings, the segmented spiders catch miniature dancers... it is a surreal world with no logic: the time passes her oddly, inhabited by mysterious creatures, the nature is exotic but familiar, the sounds of nature create mixed feelings - is it really a rainforest or northern pine forest...?



Director Anu-Laura Tuttelberg

received an MA degree in animation from Estonian Academy of Arts in 2013. Her first animation *Fly Mill* (2011) screened in numerous festivals around the world and won more than 20 prizes. Her short animation *On The Other Side Of The Woods* (2014) premiered at Annecy International Animation Festival. She has made set designs for short stop motion animations such as *The Lemonade Tale* (2013) and *Tik-Tak* (2015), *Empty Space* (2016) in Nukufilm studio in Estonia and *It's About Time* (2014) in Atomart studio in Latvia.

Original title: Talv vihmametsas

Director: Anu-Laura Tuttelberg

Screenwriter: Anu-Laura Tuttelberg

Animator: Anu-Laura Tuttelberg

Editor: Anu-Laura Tuttelberg

Composer: Maarja Nuut

Technique: stop motion animation

Art Director: Anu-Laura Tuttelberg

Producers: Kerdi Oengo, Andrus Raudsalu

Produced by: Nukufilm

To be released: 2018

6 min / DCP / 16:9 / 5.1

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About Love

One of the million different possible versions of love stories. It is about a man constantly seeking the ideal companion. At one point he realizes that he does not know how his ideal woman looks like. Like it often happens in real life.



Director Girlin Bassovskaja

is a tandem of directors Jelena Girlin and Mari-Liis Karula.

Filmography: *The Table* (2004), *The Dress* (2007), *Miriam's Colors* (2008), *Oranus* (2009), *Papa* (2014)

Original title: Armastusest
Director: Girlin Bassovskaja
Screenwriter: Girlin Bassovskaja
Animator: Marili Sökk
Editors: Girlin Bassovskaja
Composer: Pärt Uusberg
Sound design/mixing: Horret Kuus
Technique: puppet animation
Producer: Kerdi Oengo
Produced by: Nukufilm
To be released: 2018

10 min / DCP

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 www.nukufilm.ee



Teofrastus

A stray cat Teofrastus finds loving owners. Finally he has his “own territory” in their lovely country-house where he is happy and protected. But happy days don’t last for long - in autumn the new owners move back to town to go to work. On one gray day while watching birds from the balcony of a small city-flat, Teofrastus accidentally jumps down and gets lost in a block of houses all looking the same. Does Teofrastus find again “his own territory” or will the chilly city landscape and indifferent looks of city people be his lot?

This clay animation is telling about the importance of finding your place and caring about each other in our rapidly spinning world.



Director Sergei Kibus

(1987) is a director, animator, and cinematographer. He has written and directed short fiction and drama, and contributed as a cinematographer on a number of documentary or animated films. Since 2013, he has worked as a cinematographer and director in Estonian stop-motion animation studio Nukufilm having been involved with multiple productions such as *Eternal Hunting Grounds* (2015), *Morten on the Ship of Fools* (2018), and *Mary and the 7 Dwarfs* (as DOP, Nukufilm 2018)

Original title: Teofrastus

Director: Sergei Kibus

Screenwriter: Sergei Kibus (based on a book by Astrid Reinla)

Art Director: Pärtel Tall

Animators: Olga Bulgakova, Triin Sarapik-Kivi

Editor: Sergei Kibus

Composers: Ekke Västrik, Mari Jürjens

Sound design/mixing: Ekke Västrik

Tehnique: clay animation

Producer: Kerdi Oengo

Produced by: Nukufilm

To be released: 2018

15 min / DCP / 1.85:1 / Dolby Stereo

Contact

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2017

Ash Mountains

Constructing Albert

14 Cases

Soviet Hippies

Toys and Totems

War

Roosenberg

2018

Rodeo

Ahto. Chasing a Dream

Roots

The Wind Sculptured Land

The Mountains That Weren't There

Baltic New Wave

Inga Can Hear

Ash Mountains

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, the population of the Ash Mountains has dropped by more than half, with no signs of growth or relief in sight. A place once known as the El Dorado of the proletariat has become synonymous with death and decay. However, legends remain: dwarves atop semi-coke mountains, exiles digging for forgiveness in pits, Mercedes-Cowboys roaming the night, and a magical bird, who must burn up to rise again.



Director Ivar Murd

is an upcoming young Estonian director born in 1990 in Kohtla-Järve. He studied directing at Farleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey and has worked in theatre, film and advertising. *Ash Mountains* is his debut feature documentary.

Filmography: *Porcelain* (2010, short), *Bingo!* (2013, documentary short), *Drought* (2013, short), *Nomad* (2013, short).

Original title: Tuhamäed
Theme: social issues
Languages: Estonian, Russian
Director: Ivar Murd
Screenwriter: Ivar Murd
Cinematographer: Madis Luik
Sound: Markku Tiidumaa
Editor: Mirjam Jegorov
Producer: Margus Õunapuu
Produced by: Film Tower
Domestic release: September 14, 2017

71 min / DCP / 2.35:1 / Stereo

Contact

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Constructing Albert

The most important culinary revolution of modern times took place at elBulli, a restaurant in a remote cove on the Catalan coast. Ferran Adrià is the famous maestro people know, but behind elBulli's success was also a hidden genius: Albert, Ferran's younger brother. Four years after closing of elBulli, Albert has decided to become master of his own world, building 5 unique restaurants in the centre of Barcelona. Enigma, the jewel in the crown of this gastronomic empire, will prove to be his greatest hurdle. Will Albert escape the shadow of his famous brother and enter the Pantheon of great chefs?



Director Laura Collado

has a degree in Journalism and a passion for storytelling, Laura founded Truesday Films in 2012 to develop and produce gripping and entertaining stories. Very involved in the narrative of all the projects she has worked on before in the role of a creative producer, *Constructing Albert* is Laura's debut as a director.

Director Jim Loomis

Graduated with honours in Film and Television from Napier University in Edinburgh. Jim has been working in documentary for more than twelve years. His credits as DOP and editor include films produced for broadcasters such as BBC, DK, ARTE, Al Jazeera International, CNN, TVC and *TVE - I Will be Murdered* (2013), *Colgados de un sueño* (2012), *Life From Others* (2012), *Ferran Adrià Revealed* (2010) to name a few.

Original title: Constructing Albert / Alberti leiutamine

Theme: gastronomy

Languages: Catalan, Spanish, English

Directors: Laura Collado, Jim Loomis

Screenwriters: Laura Collado, Jim Loomis

Cinematographer: Jim Loomis

Composer: Arian Levin

Sound design: Horret Kuus

Editor: Jim Loomis

Producer: Laura Collado

Co-producers: Marianne Ostrat, Muntsa Tarrés

Produced by: Truesday Films (Spain), Alexandra Film (Estonia), Televisió de Catalunya (Spain)

World premiere: San Sebastian International Film Festival 2017 - Culinary Zinema: Film & Gastronomy

Festivals: Napa Valley FF, Palm Springs IFF, Docpoint Tallinn, SXSW 2018

82 min / DCP / 2.35:1 / 5.1

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14 Cases

Filmed over three years, *14 Cases* follows different age Estonian Russians who are struggling with their identities but desperately wish to be integrated into the modern society. Russian-speaking families in a decision-making period.



Director Marianna Kaat

graduated from the St. Petersburg State Arts Academy in 1986. Until 1991 she worked as a script editor and a director for Eesti Telefilm and thereafter as the acquisition manager for Estonian Television. In 1998 she founded her own production company Baltic Film Production and since then has produced and directed documentaries, features and TV series.

Filmography: *Underground* (2015), *A Working Title Wunderkind* (2012), *Pit No. 8* (2010), *The Last Phantoms* (2006)

Original title: 14 käänet

Theme: social issues

Languages: Estonian, Russian

Director: Marianna Kaat

Screenwriter: Marianna Kaat

Cinematographer: Rein Kotov E.S.C.

Camera: Max Golomidov

Sound design: Tiina Andreas

Editor: Kadri Kanter

Producer: Marianna Kaat

Produced by: Baltic Film Production

Estonian premiere: September 28, 2017

83 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

Contact

Baltic Film Production

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Soviet Hippies

Pease, Love and Freedom! A wild flower power ride on the footprints of the Soviet hippie movement. In search of freedom and happiness under the thumb of the Soviet regime, a colorful crowd of artists, musicians, freaks, vagabonds and other long-haired drop-outs created their own underground network called the System. Years later, a group of eccentric hippies from Estonia take a road journey to Moscow where people still gather annually on the 1st of June to commemorate a tragic event in 1971, when thousands of hippies were arrested by the KGB.



Director Terje Toomistu

is an Estonian documentary filmmaker with a background in anthropology. Her work often draws from various cross-cultural processes, queer realities and cultural memory. She holds double MA degrees (cum laude) in Ethnology and in Media and Communication from University of Tartu, where she is currently pursuing a PhD degree in anthropology. In 2013-2014, she was also a Fulbright fellow in UC Berkeley, U.S. Together with Estonian artist Kiwa, she curated a multimedia exhibition about Soviet hippies, which has been exhibited in museums and galleries internationally.

Original title: Nõukogude hipid

Themes: history, social issues

Languages: Estonian, Russian, English, Ukrainian

Director: Terje Toomistu

Screenwriter: Terje Toomistu

Cinematographer: Taavi Arus

Sound design: Seppo Vanhatalo

Editor: Martin Männik

Producer: Liis Lepik

Co-producers: Sarita Sharma,
Sami JahnuKainen

Produced by: Kultusfilm (Estonia), Kinomaton
(Germany), Mouka Filmi (Finland)

International premiere: Sao Paolo IFF 2017

Festivals: DokLeipzig IFF, EstDocs FF, Trieste
FF, Göteborg FF, Santa Barbara IFF

52 & 75 min / HD / 16:9 / Stereo

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Toys and Totems

Some objects in our lives are more significant than others, be they ritual artifacts or childhood toys. Their life-stories intertwine with our own. Reflecting to and from their significant objects, children create reality, and so can grown-ups. The film, with its documentary stories, stop-motion animation and associative imagery, pays tribute to the humans' bittersweet yearning for divine re-connection and transformation. Playing is a cosmological act that can make anything possible.



Director Kadriann Kibus

(1979) is an Estonian documentary film director and producer. She has worked on a number of documentary films as a director, producer or editor. Her body of work includes titles such as *The Pigeons* (52', Vesilind 2012), *The Women of Muhu Island* (60', 2014, Sabat Film, EstDocs jury prize), *Come Back Free* (as assistant producer, Vesilind 2016, IDFA mid-length competition jury prize). Kadriann is the deputy of the Estonian Documentary Guild and runs her own studio Sabat Film. Her film approach is poetic and empathetic, with inclination for surreal and appreciation for the abstract.

Director Sergei Kibus

(1987) is a director, animator, and cinematographer. He has written and directed short fiction and drama, and contributed as a cinematographer on a number of documentary or animated films. Since 2013, he has worked as a cinematographer and director in Estonian stop-motion animation studio Nukufilm having been involved with multiple productions such as *Eternal Hunting Grounds* (Medieoperatørene, Nukufilm 2015), *Morten on the Ship of Fools* (2018), and *Mary and the Seven Dwarfs* (as DOP, Nukufilm 2018). His new film, plasticine animaton *Teofrastus*, is due in 2018.

Original title: Nukud ja tootemid

Theme: culture

Language: Estonian

Directors: Kadriann Kibus, Sergei Kibus

Screenwriter: Kadriann Kibus

Cinematographer: Sergei Kibus

Sound design: Ekke Västriik

Editor: Kadriann Kibus

Animator: Sergei Kibus

Producer: Kadriann Kibus

Produced by: Sabat Film

Domestic release: October 12, 2017

30 min / DCP / 16:9 / surround 5.1

Contact

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War

In a Christian culture, suicide is a taboo, and a soldier's suicide is a double taboo. Rivo, who has been on a military mission to Afghanistan twice, suffers from a post-traumatic disorder, which ends in suicide. For four years, Rivo's girlfriend Hanna tries to battle his psychological disorder, but then gives up and moves from Estonia to Australia. One year later Rivo steps in front of a train. His last message to those who know him is to forgive him.

Who is a (professional) soldier in today's world? How does he cross the Bridge of Death? Does he have to sacrifice himself for the chain of command in order to participate in situations where none of what he was taught in childhood applies anymore? Where do you draw the line between justified and unjustified suffering? Euphemisms may not work on a personal level. The glorification of war has aggravating, not alleviating effects. War is a story about a peacekeeper, who after having returned from a mission could not come to terms with his life anymore, with the life between the present and the eternity. The documentary was filmed in Afghanistan and Australia.



Director Sulev Keedus

completed the Higher Courses for Directors and Scriptwriters in Moscow in 1989. Since 1981 he has been a freelance director and has produced 5 features and 15 documentaries.

Selected Filmography: *In Paradisum* (documentary, 1993), *Georgica* (feature, 1998), *Somnabulance* (feature, 2003), *Jonathan from Australia* (documentary, 2007), *Letters to Angel* (feature, 2011), *The Russians on Crow Island* (documentary, 2012), *The Manslayer / The Virgin / The Shadow* (feature, 2017)

Original title: Sõda

Theme: social issues

Languages: Estonian, English

Director: Sulev Keedus

Screenwriter: Sulev Keedus

Cinematographer: Sulev Keedus

Sound: Anna-Liisa Liiskmaa, Erle Vaher, Mart Kessel-Otsa, Harmo Kallaste

Editor: Kaie-Ene Rääk

Producer: Kaie-Ene Rääk

Produced by: F-Seitse

International premiere: Nordische Filmtage Lübeck 2017

55 min / DCP / 16:9 / 3.0

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Roosenberg

Roosenberg is a place, a space, a building, a film. Roosenberg is Amanda, Godelieve, Rosa and Trees. *Roosenberg* is a letter that tells of an encounter with four elderly nuns in a fascinating abbey in Belgium. The every day communal life of four sisters, their religious practice and final departure from the building tells the story of modernist architecture. It is a memory, a story of a space at the beginning of the end.

Director Ingel Vaikla

is a visual artist and filmmaker from Estonia, currently based in Belgium. She studied photography in Estonian Academy of Fine Arts (BA) and film in Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Gent (MA). In her work she questions the relationship between architecture and its users, and the representation of architecture in camera based mediums. Ingel was part of the team representing Estonia at the 2012 Venice Architecture Biennale with a contribution titled *How Long is the Life of a Building?* Ingel has been curating film programmes for Tallinn Photo Month Biennale and for the International Interior Architecture Symposium SISU. Her documentary film *The House Guard* (2015) has been screened at numerous international film festivals and exhibitions. She recently finished her latest film *Roosenberg* that speaks of the author's encounter with a fascinating modernist monastery in Belgium designed by monk architect Dom Hans van der Laan.



Original title: Roosenberg

Theme: intimate portrait, author's point of view

Director: Ingel Vaikla

Screenwriter: Ingel Vaikla

Cinematographer: Ingel Vaikla

Sound design: Simonluca Laitempergher

Editors: Olivia Degrez, Ingel Vaikla

Producer: Ingel Vaikla

Produced by: Ingel Vaikla / Vaikla Studio

World premiere: IDFA 2017

Festivals: Mõtica Theatre Festival, Exhibition at deSingel Architecture Gallery, Docpoint Tallinn 2018

29 min / HD / 16:9 / 5.1

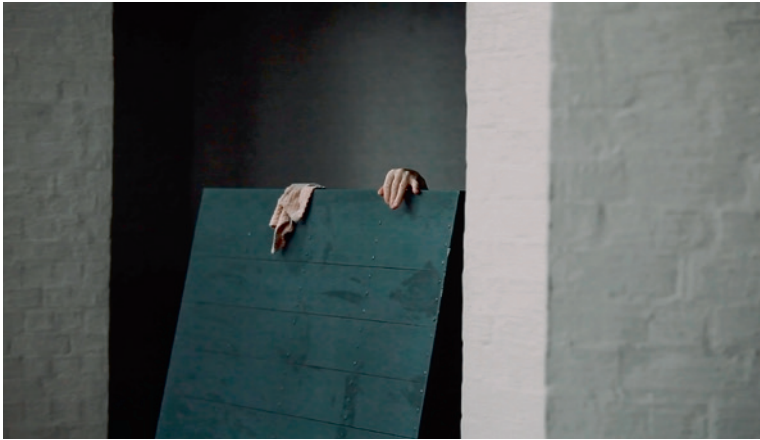
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Rodeo

It is 1992 and the first free elections held in Estonia since World War II have to the surprise of all brought to power young and idealistic political forces. They are led by 32-year-old Mart Laar, Europe's youngest prime minister, who is charged with crafting a country out of chaos. This is a story about gaining and losing trust, about the widening conflict between idealists and a rising economic elite, when a prime minister's good options grow fewer by the day.



Director Raimo Jõerand

is a freelance screenwriter and documentary director, mainly focused on historical topics, among them *The Blue Hills* (with Kiur Aarma). 2006–2013 he worked as development and documentary consultant at Estonian Film Institute.

Director Kiur Aarma

has studied semiotics, journalism, and scriptwriting at the University of Tartu and at the Baltic Film and Media School in Tallinn. He has over the past 15 years worked as an author, producer, and co-director of multiple internationally acclaimed documentary films, including *Lotman's World* (2009), *Disco and Atomic War* (2009) and *The Gold Spinners* (2013).



Original title: Rodeo

Theme: contemporary history

Languages: Estonian, English, Russian, Swedish, Finnish

Directors: Raimo Jõerand, Kiur Aarma

Screenwriters: Raimo Jõerand, Kiur Aarma

Cinematographer: Manfred Vainokivi

Editor: Matti Näränen

Composer: Ardo Ran Varres

Sound: Horret Kuus

Producer: Kiur Aarma

Co-producer: Ari Matikainen

Produced by: Traumfabrik (Estonia), Kinocompany (Finland)

World premiere: January 29, 2018, DocPoint Helsinki

74 min / DCP / 16:9 / stereo

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Ahto. Chasing a Dream

On a sunny day in November 1938 a magnificent white schooner set sail from Greenwich with 14 people on board. Among other wealthy passengers from US, Canada and England there is also a young an Estonian Captain Ahto Valter, his Scottish-American wife and their 1,5 years old son Teddy "Baby in cage" Valter.

With a crew of adventurers chosen from 5,000 applicants in the United States, ketch Ahto starts a memorable and adventurous voyage around a world, flying the Estonian flag. Voyage that lasted 18 months and was full of happiness, love and joy, but also betrayal and war. After arriving from a long trip back to America Ahto finds out that world he left 1,5 years ago is not the same anymore - he can't return to homeland Estonia never again...

This colorful journey around the world will open to us thanks to Ahto's diary and unique footage that was shot during the trip. A dramatic story of a man who overcomes a mutiny on a ship, accidents at sea, headwind, reefs and the beginning of a World War II. Everything to fulfill his dream.



Director Jaanis Valk

has a Master of Arts in Film Arts and has directed three short fiction films and several short documentaries. *Ahto. Chasing a Dream* is his first full length documentary.

Filmography: *Call Of The Heart*, *Inna Taarna* (2005), *The Pharmacist* (2007), *From Side To Side* (2010)

Original title: Ahto. Unistuste jaht

Theme: history

Languages: English, Estonian

Director: Jaanis Valk

Screenwriters: Jaanis Valk, Anto Juske

Cinematographer: Erik Norkroos

Editors: Kersti Miilen, Erik Norkroos

Producer: Erik Norkroos

Produced by: Missing Pictures - Rühm Pluss Null

To be released: March 8, 2018

94 min / HD / 16:9 / 5.1

Contact

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Roots

The collection of short documentaries *Roots*, tells six very personal stories. They are stories about birth and death, being alone and together, great joy and great sadness. They are told honestly and bravely from a female perspective. The authors are well known, Estonian, female directors, between the ages 29-61, who are also mothers, daughters and wives. And why not lovers or world travelers. The central symbol of the collection is the root, a vital organ. Roots don't have leaves but they may grow buds that sprout above the ground. The root is the beginning, the origin, the starting point, the cause. Roots hold on to us and feed us. Even when we are far away. Even if we have to let go of everything we've held on to thus far. Those who are closest to us are our roots. We are intertwined and we breathe together.



Poem of Love
by Nora Särak



At the Monastery with Mom
by Anna Hints



Flesh and Blood
by Heilika Pikkov



40 Years Later
by Moonika Siimets



Wombstone
by Kersti Uibo



Waiting for the Miracle
by Aljona Suržikova

Original title: Juured

Languages: Estonian, English, Russian

Directors: Nora Särak, Aljona Suržikova, Heilika Pikkov, Anna Hints, Moonika Siimets, Kersti Uibo

Screenwriters: Nora Särak, Aljona Suržikova, Heilika Pikkov, Anna Hints, Moonika Siimets, Kersti Uibo

Animations by: Anu-Laura Tuttelberg

Composers: Maarja Nuut, Hendrik Kaljujärv

Producer: Ülo Pikkov

Produced by: Silmviburlane

To be released: Spring 2018

90 min / DCP / 5.1

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The Wind Sculpted Land

An epic story of Estonian wild nature, where versatile landscapes with wild animals and thousands of migrating bird flocks are screened. The main character of the film is our biggest forest mammal – moose. The journey in the wilderness opens our past endeavors, calls and character, all of which the landscapes have held and sculpted through thousands of years.



Director Joosep Matjus

was born in 1984 in Estonia. He received a BA and MA in Film Arts from Baltic Film and Media School in 2009 and is known as a director, cinematographer and a screenwriter. He has fully dedicated himself to the wildlife filmmaking. **Filmography:** *Summer Documentary* (2006), *Rebirth* (2007), *Old Man and the Moose* (2009), *The Gull Theorem* (2014).

Original title: Tuulte tahatud maa

Theme: nature

Language: Estonian

Director: Joosep Matjus

Screenwriters: Joosep Matjus, Atte Henriksson

Cinematographers: Atte Henriksson, Joosep Matjus

Art Director: Joosep Matjus

Sound design: Horret Kuus

Music by: Eeter

Editor: Katri Rannastu

Producer: Riho Västriik

Co-producer: Annette Scheurich

Produced by: Wildkino

To be released: September 2018

60min / DCP / 16:9 / 5.1

Contact

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The Mountains That Weren't There

Estonian pro-cyclists Tanel Kangert and Rein Taaramäe are under the microscope as they both cycle in the World Tour level teams.

Talent, diligence and willpower can take you to the world stage, even if you grow up in Vändra, on the periphery of Europe. Can make you a pro whose name is heard from week to week on the Eurosport channel when the Tour de France or Giro d'Italia are underway.

One exceptional success story is understandable, but when there are two of them, and at the same time... Tanel Kangert and Rein Taaramäe grew up to become world-class cyclists under the guidance of coach Erich Perner. What were their paths to success, and at what cost? Are they happy in a world fraught with falls and reprehensible doping stories?

This is a film in which peripheral low-lying landscapes meet world-famous mountaintops and we peek behind the scenes into the hidden world of the top-flight teams Astana and Katusha.



Director Ivar Jurtshenko

was deeply involved with cycling and was a junior category road race champion of Estonia in numerous times. During his university studies he had an opportunity to work with the Estonian Television's sport department and became a sports journalist in their team. As of today, he has been working at the same position for twenty years in various publications.

Original title: Mäed, mida polnud

Theme: sport

Languages: Estonian, Russian, English, French, Italian

Director: Ivar Jurtshenko

Screenwriter: Ivar Jurtshenko

Cinematographer: Taavi Arus

Sound: Indrek Soe

Editor: Taavi Arus

Producer: Pille Rünk

Produced by: Allfilm

To be released: Autumn 2018

70 min / HD / 16:9 / 5.1

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Baltic New Wave

In the beginning of 60s behind the Iron Wall a new generation of filmmakers in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia challenged the Soviet dogma of propaganda newsreels back then called documentaries and turned documentary filmmaking into a form of Art. They explored metaphor, promoted associative thinking, balanced facts and images in an earlier unseen and groundbreaking visual language - all that was and is called Poetic cinema. This phenomenon continues to influence and inspire generations of filmmakers and their audiences in the whole world.

Half a century later we try to build bridges of time and detect how the old masters were thinking and how they managed - in the midst of that vast Soviet Solaris Ocean - to put a Human in the focus and search for the answers to the Eternal questions - the ones that every generation has to answer anew... We re-touch, re-discover and re-visit the film worlds created by the masters of the generation 60ties. Our path leads from misty Lithuanian meadows to Latvian fisherman villages, from the Death row of Riga prison to the desserts of Israel, from the Midsummer bonfires of Estonian islands to 235 000 000 faces behind the Iron Wall.



Director Audrius Stonys

is a globally acclaimed Lithuanian documentary filmmaker. In 1992 he was awarded a Felix Award from the European Film Academy for his documentary *Earth of the Blind*, and in 2002 he received the Lithuanian National Prize of Culture and Arts. Stonys' documentary *Ramin* was the Lithuanian nomination for the Oscar in 2012.

Director Kristine Briede

is as a screenwriter, producer, director and cinematographer for various cultural, artistic and social integration projects.

Original title: Baltijas Jaunais vilnis / Balti uus laine

Theme: cinema, history

Languages: Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian

Directors: Audrius Stonys, Kristine Briede

Screenwriters: Kristine Briede, Audrius Stonys

Co-screenwriters: Ramune Rakauskaite, Arunas Matelis, Riho Västriik

Cinematographers: Valdis Celminš, Audrius Kemezys, Joosep Matjus, Janis Šenbergs, Laisvunas Karvelis

Sound design: Artis Dukaļskis

Editors: Kostas Radlinskas, Andra Doršs

Producer: Uldis Cekulis

Co-producers: Arunas Matelis, Riho Västriik

Produced by: VFS Films (Latvia), Studio Nominum (Lithuania), Vesilind (Estonia)

To be released: 2018

80 min / DCP / 2.39:1 / 5.1

Contact

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vfs.lv/baltijas-jaunais-vilnis/



Inga Can Hear

I*nga Can Hear* is a story about 15-year old Inga, a girl caught between two worlds. Being the only hearing member of a deaf family residing in the remote, poor Latvian countryside, Inga has been the family's interpreter in the hearing world since the age of seven. Her role in the family has forced her to grow up very quickly and her personality fluctuates between a very responsible young woman and a moody teenager.

Inga is about to graduate from middle school and she has to take a decision on what to do next, a decision that will probably affect her whole life. Inga's head is full of questions. To pursue a career as an actress? To become a fire-fighter? What will happen to the family, for whom she has sometimes been the only link to the outside world? And can Inga survive in the hearing world without her affectionate parents and the protective bubble of her family?



Director Kaspars Goba

is a documentary film director and professional photographer. His career in filmmaking began in 1996 and he has worked as a director, scriptwriter and cinematographer and he has participated in the production of more than 20 documentaries focusing on social and environmental issues. His documentary *Seda. People of the Marsh* (2004) was co-produced with filmtank hamburg GmbH for ARTE/NDR; in Latvia this film received a prize at the National Film Festival Lielais Kristaps as The Best Document of the Century. His latest film *homo@lv* (2010) was the first documentary from Latvia screened at the Berlin International Film Festival.

Original title: Inga dzird / Kuuleb ei kuule

Theme: social issues

Director: Kaspars Goba

Screenwriter: Kaspars Goba

Cinematographers: Maris Maskalans,
Kaspars Goba

Composer: Pēteris Pāss

Editor: Andris Grants

Producer: Ieva Goba

Co-producer: Eero Talvistu

Produced by: ELM Media (Latvia), Exitfilm
(Estonia)

To be released: 2018

70 min / DCP / 16:9 / 5.1

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Kinomatón (DEU)	104	VFS Films (LAT)	122
Kopli Kinokompanii	14	Vintage Pictures (ISL)	14
		Wildkino	118

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BestFilm

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Estonian Theatrical Distribution

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Film Festivals

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Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival

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Just Film**

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**Haapsalu Horror and
Fantasy Film Festival**

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**Matsalu International
Nature Film Festival**

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www.filmi.arhiiv.ee

Basic facts on Estonia

Population: 1.3 mln

Capital: Tallinn

Cinema admissions in 2017: 3.51 mln

Box office in 2017: 19.4 mln €

Admissions per capita in 2017: 2.67

Share of domestic films in 2017: 8 %

Average ticket price in 2017: 5.53 €

Cinema Top 2017		
Original title	No of admissions	Country of Origin
Despicable Me	148 754	US
Pirates of the Caribbean	107 068	US
The Boss Baby	101 772	US
The Dissidents	85 306	EE / FI
Cars 3	83 356	US
Fast & Furious 8	82 827	CN / US / JP
Swingers	79 346	EE
Fifty Shades Darker	71 045	US / CN
Beauty and the Beast	62 382	US
Emoji Movie	54 438	US

Domestic feature films 2008-2017

2008: Taarka / I Was Here / December Heat / Visitor / A Wish Tree

2009: Vasha / Buratino: the Son of Pinocchio / The Temptations of St. Tony / Bank Robbery

2010: The Snow Queen / Phobos / Red Mercury / Poll Diaries

2011: A Friend of Mine / Letters to Angel / Graveyard Keeper's Daughter / Rat-trap / Farts of Fury / Lotte and the Moonstone Secret / The Idiot / That's IT!

2012: Douchebags / Rat King / Bad Hair Friday / Hella W / Lonely Island / Purge / Mushrooming / A Lady in Paris / All Musicians Are Bastards / Demons / Pizzas

2013: Living Images / The Arbiter / Free Range: Ballad on Approving of the World / Kertu. Love is Blind / Tangerines / Black Diamonds / Kid Detectives & The Secret of the White Lady

2014: In the Crosswind / Man in the Orange Jacket / I Won't Come Back / Landscape with Many Moons / Cherry Tobacco / Zero Point

2015: 1944 / The Fencer, The Secret Society of Souptown / Roukli / Ghost Mountaineer / Angry Painter / Dawn

2016: Mother / Class Reunion / Family Lies / The Days That Confused / The Polar Boy / Seneca's Day / Chasing Ponies / The Spy and the Poet / Pretenders / When You Least Expect It / Bodom / Dearest Sister

2017: November / The Dissidents / The End of the Chain / The Man Who Looks Like Me / The Eternal Road / The Swan / Scary Mother / The Confession / The Manslayer. The Virgin. The Shadow / Green Cats / Dreamfish / Swingers



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