



Celebrating Cinema 23rd Pune International Film Festival

कुरायु विकासः रंगपूरी वार्ति। वार्त्वाका विकास प्रतिका विकास





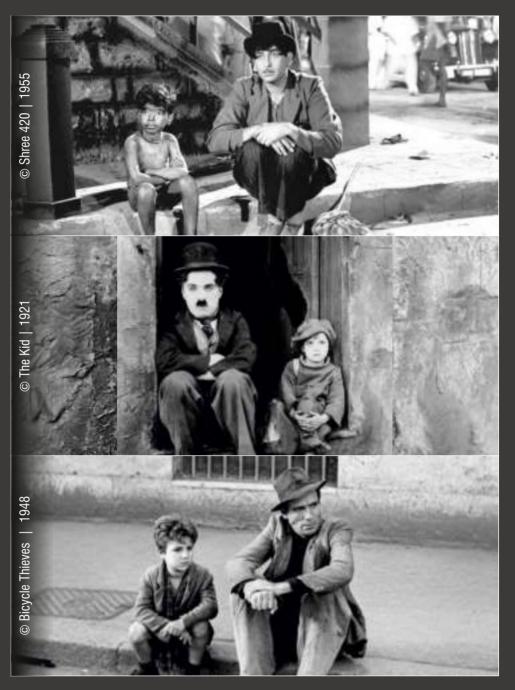




CELEBRATING THE SHOWMAN

Pune International Flim Festival









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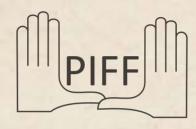




महाराष्ट्र शासन



CELEBRATING THE SHOWMAN



CELEBRATING BIRTH CENTENARY OF CINEMA LEGENDS



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Theme Note











Celebrating Raj Kapoor

The Pune International Film Festival proudly celebrates the birth centenary of the legendary Raj Kapoor, dedicating its 23rd edition to this cinematic luminary. Known as the "Showman of Indian Cinema," Raj Kapoor's work left an indelible mark on the world of Cinema. His films created spectacular narratives that taught generations to dream.

Raj Kapoor's films achieved remarkable popularity beyond India's borders, especially in Soviet Russia, China, and the Middle East. "Awaara" (1951), with its universal themes of love and social justice, achieved unprecedented global acclaim and captivated international audiences. It solidified Raj Kapoor's status as a global icon. He drew inspiration from Italian neorealism, capturing the raw realities of everyday life, while also echoing the poignant social commentary found in Chaplin's films. His focus on the plight of the poor, their struggles, and their inherent dignity resonated deeply with audiences in newly independent India as well as worldwide, transcending cultural and linguistic barriers.

Following in the footsteps of his illustrious father, Prithviraj Kapoor, Raj Kapoor carved out a niche for himself in the annals of Indian cinema. His contributions as an actor, director, and producer set new standards for storytelling and visual artistry. Films like "Shree 420" (1955) and "Mera Naam Joker" (1970) showcased his profound understanding of human emotions and societal dynamics.

As we celebrate Raj Kapoor's centenary, we express our deepest gratitude for his unparalleled contributions to cinema. His films are more than just entertainment; they are an integral part of India's rich cinematic heritage. Through this festival, we honour his legacy and continue to draw inspiration from his visionary work, ensuring that his spirit lives on in the hearts of cinephiles around the world.

Cash Awards



World Cinema

Government of Maharashtra "Prabhat" Best International Film	₹10 Lakhs
Government of Maharashtra "Prabhat" Best International Film Director	₹ 5 Lakhs

Marathi Cinema

Government of Maharashtra "Sant Tukaram'	Best International Marathi Film	₹5 Lakhs
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Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Director	₹ 25,000
Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Actor	₹ 25,000
Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Screenplay	₹ 25,000
Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Cinematographer	₹ 25,000
Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal - Best Actress	₹ 25,000

PIFF Special award

Instituted by Ms. Maria Prochazáková Student of the final year (Direction)	
From the Film & Television Institude of India	₹ 25,000

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Shri. Devendra Gangadharrao Fadnavis Hon. Chief Minister & Home Minister of Maharashtra

Devendra Fadnavis Chief Minister Maharashtra



Mantralaya Mumbai-400 032

Date: 17th January, 2025

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pride to extend a warm welcome to all attendees of the 23rd Pune International Film Festival (PIFF). This prestigious event, jointly organized by the Government of Maharashtra and the Pune Film Foundation, has become a beacon for cinephiles, filmmakers, and storytellers from across the globe.

Cinema is much more than entertainment, it is a powerful medium that transcends boundaries, unites cultures, and provokes thought. Over the years, PIFF has embodied this spirit, serving as a platform where creativity meets diversity and where stories from every corner of the world find their audience.

What makes PIFF truly exceptional is its commitment to making great cinema accessible to audiences beyond Pune. Through its year-round endeavors, the festival has brought outstanding films to several cities across Maharashtra, enriching cultural discourse and fostering a deeper appreciation for the art of filmmaking. This outreach reflects PIFF's vision of making cinema a shared experience that inspires and connects people from all walks of life.

Finally, I extend my appreciation to the dedicated team of organizers, the esteemed jury, and everyone who has worked tirelessly to curate and execute this remarkable festival. Your sincere efforts have ensured that PIFF continues to grow in stature, year after year.

Let us together celebrate the magic of cinema and the stories that unite us.

(Devendra Fadnavis)



Shri. Eknath Sambhaji Shinde Hon. Deputy Chief Minister & Minister of Urban Development, Housing & Public Works (Public Ent.)



DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER MAHARASHTRA STATE

Message

Heartfelt congratulations to all organizers, filmmakers, technicians, and cinema lovers on the occasion of the 23rd Pune International Film Festival (PIFF) jointly organized by the Government of Maharashtra and Pune Film Foundation.

Cinema is not just a medium of entertainment but a powerful tool for shaping society, reflecting cultural values, and bringing social change. It has the ability to showcase reality, emotions, and diverse perspectives from around the world. The Pune International Film Festival has become a prestigious platform that celebrates the art of filmmaking by bringing together outstanding films from India and across the globe.

Through PIFF, renowned artists, directors, and technicians from the global film industry come together to exchange ideas and inspire future generations of filmmakers.

This festival serves as a great learning experience for budding directors and cinephiles, offering a glimpse into different cultures and storytelling traditions. It is indeed a proud moment that this festival continues to elevate Indian cinema on the global stage.

I extend my best wishes to the entire PIFF team for their successful efforts in organizing this remarkable festival.

May this event continue to inspire and nurture cinematic excellence while contributing to the growth of the Indian film industry.

(Eknath Sambhaji Shinde)



Shri. Ajit Anantrao Pawar Hon. Deputy Chief Minister & Minister of Finance of Maharashtra





DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER MAHARASHTRA STATE

Date :- 23rd January 2025.

MESSAGE

I am honored to extend a hearty welcome to all delegates, esteerned jury members and filmmakers to Pune at the 23rd Pune International Film Festival (PIFF). Jointly organized by the Government of Maharashtra and the Pune Film Foundation this iconic event continues to be a premier platform for celebrating the magic of cinema.

Maharashtra as the home of the Hindi film industry and the birthplace of Indian cinema, proudly hosts one of the largest and most influential film industries in the world. From its illustrious past to its dynamic present, our state has been a cradle of creativity, nurturing talent and producing stories that transcend borders. PIFF embodies this legacy, offering a space where cinematic excellence and cultural dialogue converge.

This year's festival promises to be a remarkable one, with films from across the globe and fresh voices making their mark in Marathi and Indian cinema. PIFF serves as a beacon for filmmakers to showcase their artistry and for cinephiles to immerse themselves in the richness of storytelling.

With a privilege to witness films from over 50 countries, PIFF transforms into a vibrant tapestry of cultures. Through these films, we not only gain insight into diverse traditions and perspectives but also reaffirm the universal nature of human emotions. Cinema, as a reflection of life underscores how our shared experiences unite us far beyond our apparent differences.

All the delegates, participants, and cinephiles sharing their passion and engagement would breathe life into PIFF for sure. I am confident that the 23rd edition will be a memorable celebration of creativity, diversity, and cultural exchange.

(Ajit Pawar)



Adv. Ashish Shelar Hon. Minister For Information Technology, Cultural Affairs Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya



ADV. ASHISH SHELAR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Concernment of Mahammittee, Manuschava,

Date: 20.01.2025

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the 23rd Pune International Film Festival (PIFF), a remarkable celebration of cinema that has enriched our cultural landscape for over two decades. Organized jointly by the Government of Maharashtra and the Pune Film Foundation, this festival continues to set new benchmarks in honoring the art of storytelling.

This year is particularly special as PIFF celebrates the centenary year of Raj Kapoor, one of Indian cinema's most iconic figures. His timeless contributions to the art form resonate not just in India but across the globe. I am also elated to note that PIFF has expanded its reach internationally, becoming the only Indian film festival to hold editions in San Francisco. Furthermore, I take immense pride in PIFF's efforts to bring the magic of cinema to multiple cities across Maharashtra, ensuring that audiences statewide have the opportunity to experience the richness of this art form.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the organizers, the jury, and everyone working tirelessly to make this festival a success. Your unwavering dedication ensures that PIFF remains a beacon for filmmakers and cinephiles alike.

To all the participants and attendees—your passion and enthusiasm are what make this festival truly special. I am certain that the 23rd edition of PIFF will not only be memorable but will also inspire many more storytellers to share their unique perspectives with the world.

(Ady. Ashish Babaji Shelar)



Shri. Murlidhar Mohol Hon. Minister of State for Civil Aviation and Cooperation Government of India

मुरलीधर घोहोळ MURLIDHAR MOHOL



रशस्य मंत्री नागर विभागन एवं सहकारिता भारत सरकार Minister of State for Civil Aviation and Cooperation Government of India

Shri. Murlidhar Kisanrao Mohol Minister of State for Co-operation and Civil Aviation, Government of India Member of Parliament, Pune

Namaskar.

It is an honour to address the 23rd Pune International Film Festival (PIFF), an event that reinforces Pune's standing as a cultural and intellectual hub. Film festivals have been instrumental in the evolution of cinema, transitioning from their modernist roots to becoming dynamic cultural platforms in the digital age. Today, they serve as inclusive spaces where experimental works merge with mainstream narratives, nurturing talent and stimulating critical discourse.

Pune has always been a city that values creativity and dialogue and PIFF reflects these ideals. Since its inception, it has grown into a vibrant platform that bridges our city's artistic traditions with the global cinematic landscape. PIFF fulfils a dual responsibility: celebrating established cinematic works while introducing audiences to groundbreaking films that define new directions for the industry.

As PIFF marks its 23rd year, it highlights a generational journey of discovering talent, critiquing trends and presenting films that challenge norms. In 2002, when PIFF began, cinema stood at the brink of a digital transformation. Netflix, which began as a video rental service in 1997, revolutionised cinema through streaming by 2007. Similarly, PIFF must continue to adapt and build on its legacy, aspiring to rank among the top 100 out of over 3,500 global film festivals—a goal that resonates with Pune's cultural stature.

I commend the organisers, volunteers and filmmakers whose dedication brings this festival to life each year. The upcoming milestone of silver jubilee edition should inspire renewed commitment to making PIFF a hallmark of creativity and a proud reflection of Pune's cultural journey. I am sure that with collective efforts, PIFF will continue to enhance Pune's global presence and make every Punekar proud.

Warm regards,

Murlidhur Kisanrao Mohol



Shri. Vikas KharageI.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary
(Cultural Affairs) Maharashtra State







Vikas Kharage, 1.A.S. Additional Chief Secretary (Cultural Affairs) Maharashira State

MESSAGE

It is a profound honor to witness the 23rd Pune International Film Festival (PIFF), a prestigious gathering that celebrates the timeless art of cinema. Organized by the Government of Maharashtra in collaboration with the Pune Film Foundation, this festival stands as a testament to our shared commitment to fostering cultural dialogue and artistic expression.

Maharashtra has long been a pioneering force in the world of cinema, shaping its evolution as a powerful medium of storytelling. PIFF carries forward this illustrious legacy, providing an invaluable platform for both renowned and emerging filmmakers to share their unique voices. It is a space where creativity flourishes, ideas intersect, and audiences are inspired.

This year's festival presents a rich and diverse selection of films from across the globe each a reflection of the cultures, experiences, and narratives that define our world. These cinematic works offer us a window into lives and perspectives different from our own while reaffirming the universal human spirit that unites us all.

To the filmmakers, artists, delegates, and cinephiles gathered here, your passion and engagement breathe life into this festival. It is your enthusiasm that transforms PIFF into a vibrant forum for artistic exchange and appreciation.

I extend my heartfelt felicitations to the organizers, volunteers, jury members, and the selection committee, whose dedication and tireless efforts make this extraordinary celebration of cinema possible.

As we embark on this cinematic journey, let us embrace the stories that challenge, inspire, and broaden our understanding of the world. May this festival be an enriching and memorable experience for everyone.

(Vikas Kharage)

Additional Chief Secretary to Chief Minister and Additional Chief Secretary, Dept. of Cultural Affairs









Swati Mhase Patil, IAS

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to the 23rd edition of the Pune International Film Festival (PIFF), organized with the support of the Government of Maharashtra and the Pune Film Foundation. Over the past two decades, the overwhelming love and encouragement this festival has received has been truly humbling.

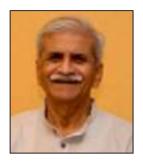
Cinema, to me, is far more than just what we see on the screen—it's a powerful medium that connects with audiences on the deepest, most primal levels. In this milestone year, the 23rd edition of PIFF aspires to illuminate the role of cinema as a beacon of hope—both for the filmmaker and the audience.

This festival serves as a platform to spotlight a rich tapestry of films, each offering unique perspectives on hope and the human spirit. I hope that cinephiles, like myself and countless others, continue to deepen their love and appreciation for this extraordinary art form through the experiences offered by PIFF.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the organizers and jury for their unwavering dedication and hard work in curating such an expansive and inspiring film festival.

A special thanks goes to the delegates, whose participation makes this celebration of cinema possible. So, let us come together and celebrate the magic of cinema!

Warm regards
Swati Mhase Patil
Managing Director
Maharashtra Film, Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Ltd
Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagari,
Film City, Mumbai



Dr.Jabbar Patel Chairman/Director PIFF



Director's Cut

I couldn't be more thrilled to welcome you to the 23rd Pune International Film Festival. For eight unforgettable days, our city will become a vibrant tapestry of stories, emotions, and ideas as we showcase the latest gems from around the globe.

There's something magical about how cinema transcends borders. Each film, whether whispered in a familiar tongue or articulated in a language entirely new to us, speaks to the universal chords of humanity. Films offer fresh perspectives, challenge our notions, and shed light on the myriad facets of the human spirit. It's this boundless ability to connect us all that fuels my passion year after year.

This year holds special significance as we pay tribute to the legendary Raj Kapoor on the occasion of his birth centenary. Isn't it incredible how legends like Raj Kapoor have shaped the very fabric of cinema? His work not only entertained but also brought profound insights into society and the human condition.

From the bustling streets captured in urban tales to the silent whispers of documentaries, there's a universe waiting to be explored. Our World Competition segment offers a rich tapestry of cultures and experiences. On the other hand, our Marathi competition shines a spotlight on the incredible talent thriving right here at home. It's a testament to our commitment to celebrate both global narratives and our own local voices.

Watching the city come alive with the buzz of screenings, discussions, and impromptu debates at coffee stalls fills me with a joy that's hard to put into words. It's a reminder of how deeply rooted the love for cinema is in our community.

So, I invite each and every one of you to join us. Dive into stories that move you, challenge you, and perhaps even change you a little. Engage with fellow film lovers, share your thoughts, and let's celebrate the artistry and emotion that cinema brings into our lives. Here's to a festival filled with captivating narratives and unforgettable moments!

Dr. Jabbar Patel

S. D. Burman



Instituted in 2010, the S.D. Burman International Award for Creative Music and Sound celebrates the versatile and prolific musical talents in Indian cinema. Named in honour of the legendary Indian music composer S.D. Burman, the award acknowledges his unparalleled ability to blend the diverse sounds of India into his compositions. This prestigious award also underscores the vital role that music plays in our cinema and cultural heritage.

Award recipients hail from various musical backgrounds, including classical music maestros, popular film music composers, and accomplished singers. This award has become a valuable addition to the Pune International Film Festival (PIFF), offering delegates a unique insight into the world of Indian cinema. Through their interactions with the awardees, delegates gain a deeper appreciation of the seamless integration of poetry and music into the narrative of Indian films.

S. D. Burman Awardees Legacy





S. D. Burman International Award for Creative Music and Sound

Kavita Krishnamurthy

Kavita Krishnamurthy is a legendary playback singer whose melodious voice has graced Indian cinema and captivated audiences for decades. Born on January 25, 1958, in New Delhi, she began her musical journey at a young age, showcasing her talent in school competitions and later studying classical music under the tutelage of Pandit Balram Puri.

Her career in playback singing took off in the 1980s when she worked with legendary composers like R.D. Burman and Laxmikant-Pyarelal. Her ability to adapt to various musical styles made her a favourite among music directors. Kavita gained widespread recognition with chartbusters like "Hawa Hawai" from Mr. India (1987) and "Tumse Milkar Na Jaane Kyun" from Pyaar Jhukta Nahin (1985). In the 1990s, she cemented her place as one of Bollywood's leading voices with hits like "Dola Re Dola" from Devdas (2002) and "Aaj Main Upar" from Khamoshi (1996).

Kavita's voice seamlessly blends classical finesse with modern versatility, enabling her to shine in genres ranging from classical ragas to soulful ballads. Her dedication to music has earned her numerous accolades, including the Padma Shri in 2005. A global icon, Kavita continues to inspire music lovers, embodying excellence and passion for her craft.

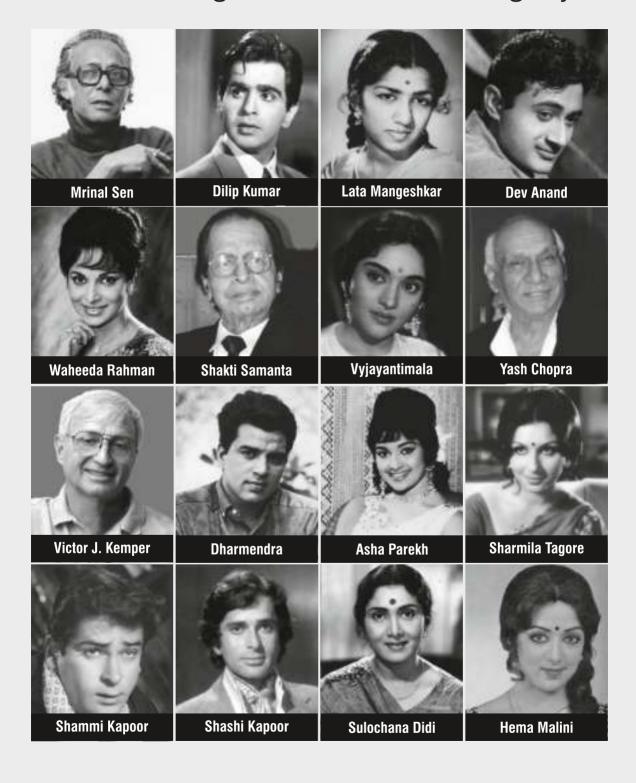
PIFF Distinguished Award



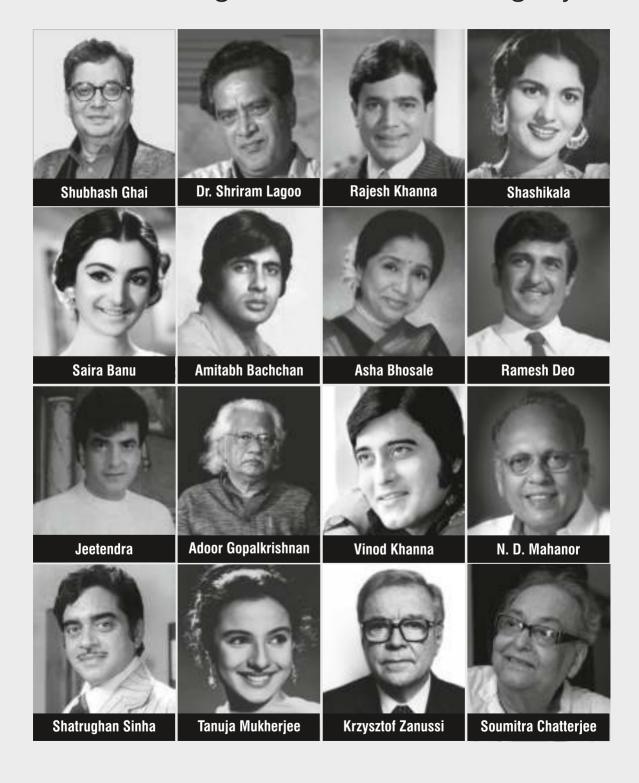
The allure of the silver screen has captivated audiences for over a century. It is the tireless efforts of countless individuals that allow us to celebrate the enchantment of cinema worldwide. Writers, directors, actors, musicians, singers, and technicians have all poured their heart and soul into this art form, making the world a more beautiful place.

Since its inception, the Pune International Film Festival (PIFF) has honoured many distinguished artists and craftsmen for their remarkable contributions to the field of cinema. As we celebrate the magic of cinema, we must pay our respects to those who have evoked such profound emotions in us. The PIFF Distinguished Award for Contribution to Cinema is our humble expression of gratitude.

PIFF Distinguished Awardees Legacy



PIFF Distinguished Awardees Legacy



PIFF Distinguished Awardees Legacy





The PIFF Distinguished Award for outstanding Contribution to Cinema

Anupam Kher

Anupam Kher is one of India's most accomplished actors, known for his versatility, dedication, and impactful performances across multiple languages and industries. Born on March 7, 1955, in Shimla, Kher trained at the National School of Drama (NSD), where he honed his craft before making his mark in cinema.

Kher's breakthrough came with *Saaransh* (1984), where he portrayed a grief-stricken elderly man at just 28, showcasing his remarkable ability to embody complex characters. Since then, he has acted in over 500 films in Hindi and international cinema, seamlessly transitioning between intense dramas, comedies, and villainous roles. Films like *Khosla Ka Ghosla*, *Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge*, and *A Wednesday* highlight his range and mastery of his craft.

Beyond acting, Kher is also an influential educator and motivational speaker, having established *Actor Prepares*, a premier acting school. His contributions to cinema have earned him multiple awards, including the Padma Bhushan.

Kher's impact extends beyond Indian cinema, with roles in Hollywood films like *Silver Linings Playbook* and *The Big Sick*. His enduring passion and adaptability continue to inspire generations of actors. Anupam Kher remains a towering figure in global entertainment, celebrated for his depth, charisma, and artistic brilliance.



The PIFF Distinguished Award for outstanding Contribution to Cinema

Shubha Khote

Shubha Khote is a celebrated actress whose career spans decades, leaving an indelible mark on Indian cinema and theatre. Born in 1938, into a family with strong ties to the arts—her father, Nandu Khote, was a prominent actor—she naturally gravitated toward performing. Her entry into films in the 1950s marked the beginning of a journey characterised by versatility, grace, and enduring charm.

Shubha Khote is best known for her impeccable comic timing and vibrant screen presence. She gained prominence with light-hearted roles in films like *Ek Duuje Ke Liye* and *Brahmachari*. Her ability to portray characters with warmth and authenticity endeared her to audiences. Khote often starred alongside stalwarts like Mehmood, forming a memorable comedic duo. Her performances were rooted in naturalistic acting, a rare quality in an era that leaned toward melodrama.

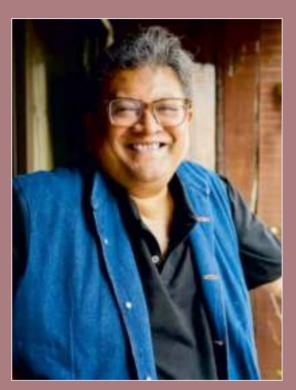
Beyond cinema, Shubha Khote's contributions to theatre underscore her creative range. Her mastery over stagecraft and her ability to connect with live audiences reaffirm her standing as a consummate performer. A pioneer in her own right, she paved the way for women in Indian cinema, inspiring generations of actors. Her legacy is one of humour, talent, and boundless passion for the arts.



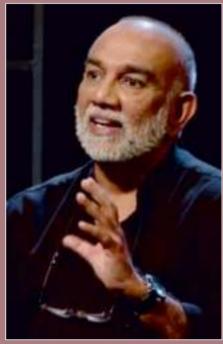


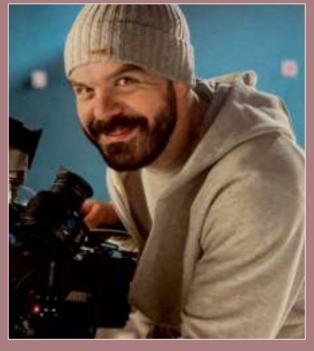














Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury

Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury is an Indian filmmaker known for his nuanced storytelling and ability to address pressing social issues through cinema. Primarily working in Bengali and Hindi films, Roy Chowdhury has earned a reputation for crafting narratives that blend realism with deep emotional resonance. His films often explore themes of justice, gender dynamics, and human relationships, making him one of India's most thought-provoking contemporary filmmakers.

Roy Chowdhury's breakthrough came with his Bengali films *Anuranan* (2006) and *Antaheen* (2009), both of which received critical acclaim for their exploration of complex human emotions and relationships. *Antaheen* won the National Film Award for Best Feature Film in 2009, solidifying his place in Indian cinema. His ability to capture the subtleties of personal struggles, combined with his lyrical visual style, sets him apart as a filmmaker.

His most widely recognised film, *Pink* (2016), marked his Hindi cinema debut and became a landmark in discussions on women's rights and consent in India. Starring Amitabh Bachchan and Taapsee Pannu, *Pink* presented a gripping courtroom drama that challenged societal perceptions of morality and victim-blaming. The film's impactful message and realistic portrayal of gender injustice resonated widely, earning both critical and commercial success.

Roy Chowdhury's style is characterised by an understated yet powerful narrative approach, relying on naturalistic performances and carefully constructed atmospheres. His films often use everyday settings to depict profound social realities, making them relatable and thought-provoking.

With a commitment to telling meaningful stories that reflect contemporary societal challenges, Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury continues to shape Indian cinema with his insightful and compelling narratives. His work not only entertains but also provokes critical discussions, reinforcing the power of cinema as a medium for change.



Djordje Stojiljkovic

Celebrated Serbian cinematographer Djordje Stojiljkovic (SAS), is a graduate of the Camera Department at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade. He is known for his evocative imagery and ability to enhance storytelling through his mastery of light, composition, and movement. Stojiljkovic developed his artistic sensibilities during a time of political and cultural transformation in the Balkans, a context that informs much of his visual work.

Stojiljkovic's cinematography is distinguished by its poetic realism, seamlessly blending naturalistic visuals with striking, often symbolic imagery. His ability to capture the emotional essence of a scene elevates the narratives he works on, immersing audiences in stories that resonate deeply. His approach to light and shadow, combined with his precise framing, creates a visual language that is both atmospheric and intimate, bringing characters and their environments to life in profound ways. Stojiljković's work has been featured in American Cinematographer, the world's leading magazine on cinematography, further solidifying his reputation as a visionary director of photography. He is also a brand ambassador for Nanlux, actively contributing to the advancement of lighting technology in filmmaking and sharing his expertise with the industry.

His collaboration on international projects including the sci-fi fantasy *Kalki 2898 AD* has brought him global acclaim. Stojiljkovic's work has been recognized at various international film festivals, where critics have praised his ability to use the camera not just as a recording device, but as a storyteller in its own right. His versatility allows him to adapt to different genres and directors, yet his signature style—a balance of raw authenticity and visual lyricism—remains consistent.

Beyond his technical expertise, Stojiljkovic's contributions to Serbian and Balkan cinema reflect a commitment to preserving and promoting the region's cultural identity through visual storytelling. His work continues to inspire, ensuring his legacy as one of Serbia's most influential cinematographers.



Marco Bechis

Marco Bechis is a celebrated Chilean-Italian filmmaker and screenwriter known for his poignant explorations of political oppression, exile, and human resilience. Born in Santiago, Chile, in 1957, Bechis grew up in a politically turbulent environment, deeply shaping his artistic sensibilities. His work often delves into themes of dictatorship and its psychological toll, offering a profound lens into the human condition.

Bechis's personal history is intricately linked to his films. After being detained and expelled from Argentina during the military junta in the late 1970s, he sought refuge in Europe, eventually settling in Italy. This lived experience of political exile and repression forms the emotional core of his storytelling. His narratives are characterized by a deep empathy for his characters, often exploring the blurred boundaries between victim and perpetrator.

One of his most acclaimed works is *Garage Olimpo* (1999), a harrowing depiction of Argentina's Dirty War. The film follows Maria, a young activist detained in a clandestine torture center, capturing the dehumanizing machinery of state violence. Its unflinching realism and ethical complexity earned international acclaim, highlighting Bechis's ability to transform historical trauma into universally resonant cinema.

Bechis employs a restrained yet evocative visual style, favoring naturalistic performances and a stark aesthetic that amplifies the gravity of his narratives. His focus on marginalized voices and untold histories extends to films like *Hijos/Figli* (2001) and Birdwatchers (2008), the latter addressing the plight of Brazil's Indigenous Guarani-Kaiowá people.

Beyond his artistic achievements, Bechis's work underscores cinema's power as a tool for memory and resistance. Through his films, he confronts societal injustices, ensuring that the stories of the silenced and oppressed are neither forgotten nor ignored. His legacy as a filmmaker is a testament to the enduring strength of human storytelling.



Margarida Gil

Margarida Gil is a distinguished filmmaker and writer who has made significant contributions to Portuguese cinema. Born in 1950 in Lisbon, Gil emerged as a vital figure in the artistic landscape of Portugal, particularly during a time of profound cultural and political change in the country. Her works reflect a nuanced understanding of human relationships, cultural identity, and the interplay between personal and collective experiences.

Gil began her career in the 1970s, an era marked by Portugal's Carnation Revolution and the subsequent end of the Salazar dictatorship. This period of political upheaval profoundly influenced her artistic sensibilities, and her films often explore themes of freedom, identity, and societal transformation. She studied at the Lisbon Theatre and Film School (Escola Superior de Teatro e Cinema), where she honed her craft and developed her distinctive voice as a storyteller.

Her directorial debut, *Rosa de Areia* (1989), garnered critical acclaim for its poetic and contemplative narrative style. The film delves into Portugal's colonial past and its impact on contemporary society, employing a visual language that is both evocative and introspective. Gil's subsequent works, such as *O Anjo da Guarda* (1999) and *Paixão* (2012), further showcase her ability to weave intimate human dramas with broader cultural and historical themes. Her most recent film, *Hands in Fire* (2024), premiered at the Berlinale.

Margarida Gil's films are celebrated for their striking cinematography, profound character development, and a deep engagement with Portugal's cultural and historical tapestry. Her work resonates with audiences beyond Portugal, offering universal insights into the human condition while remaining deeply rooted in her national identity.

Through her compelling storytelling and dedication to her craft, Margarida Gil continues to inspire new generations of filmmakers and solidify her legacy as one of Portugal's most influential cinematic voices.



Petri Kotwica

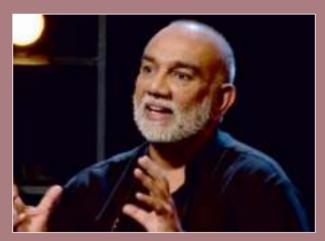
Petri Kotwica is a prominent Finnish filmmaker known for his compelling narratives and masterful exploration of human psychology. Born in 1964 in Helsinki, Kotwica has established himself as one of Finland's most notable contemporary directors, blending intense emotional depth with stark visual storytelling. His works often examine themes of morality, trust, and the fragility of human relationships, reflecting a distinctly Nordic sensibility.

Kotwica studied at the University of Helsinki and later honed his skills at the University of Art and Design Helsinki (now part of Aalto University). He gained recognition with his feature debut, *Homesick* (2005), which marked him as a director capable of crafting intricate emotional landscapes. His breakout success came with *Black Ice* (Musta jää, 2007), a psychological thriller that delves into betrayal, jealousy, and revenge. The film's taut narrative and striking cinematography earned it widespread acclaim, including a nomination for the Golden Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival.

A recurring theme in Kotwica's work is the moral ambiguity of his characters. His films resist simplistic categorizations, instead delving into the complex interplay of human emotions. For instance, *Rat King* (2012) explores the dark corners of online gaming addiction, while *Absolution* (2015) addresses guilt and forgiveness through the lens of a tragic accident.

Kotwica's visual style is minimalist yet powerful, employing Finland's stark landscapes to enhance the emotional resonance of his stories. His films often juxtapose external serenity with internal turmoil, creating a sense of unease that lingers long after the credits roll.

Through his thought-provoking narratives and keen psychological insights, Petri Kotwica continues to push the boundaries of Finnish cinema, earning him a respected place in the international film community.



Sudath Mahaadivulwewa

Sudath Mahaadivulwewa is a Sri Lankan filmmaker known for his socially conscious storytelling and commitment to shedding light on the country's socio-political realities. At just 22, he became the youngest TV director in Sri Lanka, marking the beginning of a prolific career in film and television.

Mahaadivulwewa emerged during a time of political unrest, using cinema as a tool for activism and awareness. His work often focuses on war, displacement, and human resilience, giving voice to marginalized communities. His signature documentary-style realism and unflinching portrayal of suffering set him apart from his contemporaries.

One of his most acclaimed works, *Shades of Ash* (2005), is a powerful critique of the military's occupation of civilian land in post-war Sri Lanka. In 2024, he released his second feature film, *My Red Comrade*, an experimental film shot in a single location with just two characters over four days.

Before venturing into film making, Mahaadivulwewa worked as a journalist, serving as the editor of the Cinema Page at *Lakdiva*, an alternative newspaper. He later transitioned into advertising, directing nearly 1,000 TV commercials and several acclaimed Sri Lankan teledramas.

Beyond filmmaking, he played a key role in film education by establishing Sri Lanka's first national film school, the Digital Film Academy (DFA). He has also taught film studies at six universities, covering both theoretical and practical aspects of cinema.

Despite challenges like censorship and political opposition, Mahaadivulwewa continues to push boundaries in Sri Lankan cinema. As the current Chairman of the National Film Corporation (NFC), he remains dedicated to fostering the country's film industry. His fearless storytelling and commitment to justice ensure his lasting impact on Sri Lankan cinema.



Tahmineh Milani

Tahmineh Milani is a renowned Iranian filmmaker and screenwriter celebrated for her bold and thought-provoking narratives that explore themes of gender, freedom, and social justice. Born in 1960 in Tabriz, Iran, Milani began her career as an architect before transitioning to cinema, and emerged as one of the most prominent voices challenging societal norms. A prolific director, she has made 15 films, each contributing to important social discourse in Iranian and global cinema.

Milani's films focus on the complexities of women's lives in a patriarchal society and address the struggles and aspirations of Iranian women, tackling subjects often considered taboo. Her works blend personal and political elements, crafting narratives that resonate deeply within and beyond Iran's borders.

One of her most acclaimed films, *Two Women (Do Zan,* 1999), examines the divergent fates of two university friends, capturing the societal pressures and constraints imposed on women. The film was both a critical and commercial success, earning international recognition and sparking important conversations about women's rights in Iran.

Another significant work is *The Hidden Half (Nimeh-ye Penhan,* 2001), a daring exploration of love, political idealism, and personal sacrifice set against the backdrop of Iran's tumultuous political history. The film's candid portrayal of sensitive issues led to controversy and even legal challenges, underscoring Milani's courage in confronting entrenched societal norms.

In *The Fifth Reaction (Vakonesh-e-Panjom, 2003)*, Milani explores the challenges faced by women in a legal system that favors men. The film follows a widow fighting for custody of her children, highlighting systemic injustices and the resilience of women against oppression.

Milani's work transcends filmmaking, serving as a testament to the power of art to challenge oppression and inspire change. Her legacy as a fearless storyteller ensures her place as one of the most influential figures in Iranian and global cinema.



Urvashi Archana

Urvashi Archana, an acclaimed actress in South Indian cinema, is known for her powerful performances and ability to bring depth to complex characters. She gained prominence in the 1980s with her naturalistic acting style, which set her apart in an industry often dominated by glamour-driven roles. Archana has worked in multiple languages, including Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Hindi, and Odia, making her one of the most versatile performers in Indian cinema.

Her career is marked by a strong selection of films that emphasize storytelling and character depth. She has collaborated with some of the most respected filmmakers in the industry. One of her most notable performances came in *Veedu* (1988), directed by Balu Mahendra. The film, a poignant drama about a woman struggling to build a house amidst bureaucratic hurdles, earned Archana the National Film Award for Best Actress. Her restrained yet deeply emotional portrayal cemented her reputation as an actress of immense talent and substance.

Another significant film in her career is *Daasi* (1988), a Telugu period drama directed by B. Narsing Rao. Her performance as a bonded laborer in pre-independence India won her another National Film Award for Best Actress, making her one of the few actresses to receive the honor multiple times. Films like *Neengal Kettavai* (1984), *Kuttrapathirikai* (2007), *Janani* (1993), *Shesha Drushti* (1997), and *Nireekshana* (1982), showcase her versatility across genres and languages.

Unlike many mainstream actresses of her time, Archana has been selective about her roles, prioritizing performance-oriented characters over commercial success. Her dedication to meaningful cinema has made her a respected figure in the Indian film industry. Her legacy is defined by her ability to portray deeply human emotions with authenticity, making her a significant and enduring presence in Indian cinema.













The year is 1800; the place, Sant Ignazio College, a decrepit old musical institute for girls, somewhere near Venice. Here lives "the Mute", a silent, solitary maid tasked with the humblest chores. No one suspects that she possesses an extraordinary talent that enables her to sense the harmony of the universe and reshape reality through music. While everyone at the college is making a huge fuss about the imminent visit of the newly enthroned Pope, and the old chapel master is struggling to put together a new composition for the Pontifex, Teresa makes a discovery in a storeroom: a brand-new invention, a beautiful instrument – a pianoforte. Around Teresa and her revolutionary "music machine" gathers an amazing quartet of young women: the best and most dynamic musicians of Sant Ignazio. From this secret cell of great yet overlooked talents, a new music will be born that takes the Pope, and the entire world, by surprise. Gloria! is about the imagination and talent of all the many female composers who, like pressed flowers, are hidden away in the pages of history.



Director's Biography:

Born in 1988, she produced her debut album *Minimal Musical* in 2014 while training as an actor at the Accademia Europea d'Arte Drammatica in Rome. Her Bachelor thesis explored Bertolt Brecht's use of popular music in political theatre. After graduating, she studied the Dalcroze Method, an educational practice centred on cultivating the inherent musicality of children via rhythmic movement. In 2021, she released *Bingo*, her second album. *Glorial* is her debut feature film as a writer and director.

Gloria! Gloria! 2024 | 106 Minutes Italian Colour Italy, Switzerland

Director: Margherita Vicario

Producer: Valeria Jamonte, Manuela Melissano, Carlo Cresto-Dina, Paolo del

Brocco

Cast: Galatéa Bellugi, Carlotta Gamba, Veronica Lucchesi, Maria Vittoria Dallasta, Sara Mafodda, Paolo Rossi, Elio, Vincenzo Crea, Natalino Balasso, Anita Kravos, Jasmin

Mattei

Screenplay: Anita Rivaroli, Margherita

Vicario

Cinematographer: Gianluca Rocco Palma

Editor: Christian Marsiglia
Sound Designer: Xavier Lavorel

Music Composer: Margherita Vicario, Davide

Pavanello

Production Company: Tempesta

World Sales: Rai Cinema

Festivals: Berlinale FF 2024 | Busan IFF

2024

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Gloria!











Ingrid (Julianne Moore) and Martha (Tilda Swinton) were close friends in their youth, when they worked together at the same magazine. Ingrid went on to become an autofiction novelist while Martha became a war reporter, and they were separated by the circumstances of life. After years of being out of touch, they meet again in an extreme but strangely sweet situation.

The Room Next Door The Room Next Door 2024 | 107 Minutes

English Colour Spain

Director: Pedro Almodóvar

Producer: Agustin Almodóvar, Esther García Cast: Julianne Moore, Tilda Swinton, John Turturro, Alessandro Nivola, Juan Diego Botto, Raúl Arévalo, Victoria Luengo, Alex Hogh Andersen, Esther McGregor, Alvise

Rigo, Melina Matthews Screenplay: Pedro Almodóvar Cinematographer: Edu Grau

Editor: Teresa Font

Sound Designer: Sergio Bürmann Music Composer: Alberto Iglesias **Production Designer:** Inbal Weinberg **Production Company: El Deseo**

World Sales: Sony

Festivals: Venice FF 2024 | Toronto IFF

2024



Pedro Almodóvar left his small town for Madrid as a teenager to realize his dreams of becoming a filmmaker. Arriving with few prospects, he secured employment at the National Telephone Company of Spain, which allowed him to purchase his first Super 8 camera. For the next twelve years, Almodóvar split his time between this serious day job and crazy nights collaborating with theatre groups and punk bands, and making short films with his friends. In 1980, after a year and a half of filming, Almodóvar made his feature length debut with Pepi, Luci, Bom. Since then, he has never stopped writing and directing films, which include the Academy Award winners All About My Mother and Talk to Her.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 Pain and Glory 2016 Julieta 2009 Broken Embraces 2001 Talk To her 1999 All About My Mother 1988 Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown



World Competition >>> We Remember Marlon Brando











Nobody knows where the woman comes from. She is sitting on a park bench and diligently playing a child's recorder. She says she is from France. With no money or means of supporting herself, she has been advised to teach French. This is how she comes to have two Korean women as her pupils. The woman likes to walk barefoot and to lie down on rocks. And when she is feeling up to it, she tries to see each instant in a non-verbal way and to live life as rationally as she can. But things remain as hard as ever. She relies on the Korean alcoholic drink of makgeolli to provide a bit of comfort every day.

Yeohaengjaui Pilyo A Traveler's Needs

2024 | 91 Minutes Korean, French, English Colour

Director: Hong Sangsoo Producer: Hong Sangsoo

Cast: Isabelle Huppert, Lee Hyeyoung, Kwon

Haehyo

South Korea

Screenplay: Hong Sangsoo Cinematographer: Hong Sangsoo

Editor: Hong Sangsoo Sound Designer: Yuiin Seo Music Composer: Hong Sangsoo

Production Company: Jeonwonsa Film Co.

World Sales: Finecut

Festivals: Berlinale FF 2024 | San Sebastian

IFF 2024



Born in Seoul, South Korea in 1960, he studied at the city's Chung-Ang University, at the California College of Arts and Crafts and at the Art Institute of Chicago. Since 1996, he has written and directed

more than 30 feature films as well as several shorts.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 The Novelist's Film 2020 The Woman Who Ran 2015 Right Now, Wrong Then 2010 Hahaha 1996 The Day a Pig Fell Into a Well











Nina works in the only small hospital of a provincial town as an OB-GYN. Single and in abstinence from personal relationships, she is unconditionally devoted to her Hippocratic oath. When a newborn dies within seconds of being delivered under her supervision, she is accused of wrongdoings.

Under investigation, every detail of Nina's personal and professional life is being scrutinized. Despite the risks, Nina remains devoted to her duty as a doctor, committed to doing what nobody else will.

April April 2024 | 134 Minutes Georgian Colour

France, Italy, Georgia

Director: Dea Kulumbegashvili Producer: David Zerat, Ilan Amouyal Cast: la Sukhitashvili, Kakha Kintsurashvili,

Merab Ninidze

Screenplay: Dea Kulumbegashvili Cinematographer: Arseni Khachaturan

Editor: Jacopo Ramella Pajrin
Sound Designer: Lars Ginzel
Music Composer: Matthew Herbert
Production Designer: Beka Tabukashvil
Production Company: First Picture

World Sales: GoodFellas

Festivals: Venice FF 2024 | Toronto IFF 2024 | San Sebastian FF 2024 | Busan FF

2024



Director's Biography:

Born in 1986, Dea Kulumbegashvili is Georgian writer/director based in Tbilisi. Her debut short film *Invisible Spaces* was nominated for a Palme d'Or du Court Métrage at the Cannes Film Festival in 2014 and was also the first film from independent Georgia to be part of the Official Competition at the Cannes Film Festival. Her second short film *Léthé* premiered at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival in the Directors' Fortnight selection and played in dozens of other festivals around the world.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 April 2020 Beginning 2016 Léthé (Short) 2014 Invisible Spaces (Short)











One of the last days before the school holidays something happens between six year old Armand and Jon. The parents are called in for a meeting, but the school management doesn't really know what actually happened. Was it just a children's game or something much more serious? The incident between the two boys triggers a series of events, forcing parents and school staff into a captivating battle - where madness, desire and obsession arise.

Armand Armand

2024 | 117 Minutes

Norwegian

Colour

Norway, Netherlands, Sweden

Director: Halfdan Ullmann Tøndel **Producer:** Andrea Berentsen Ottmar

Cast: Renate Reinsve, Ellen Dorrit Petersen, Thea Lambrechts Vaulen, Endre Hellestveit,

Øystein Røger, Vera Veljovic

Screenplay: Halfdan Ullmann Tøndel Cinematographer: Pål Ulvik Rokseth

Editor: Robert Krantz

Sound Designer: Mats Lid Støten Music Composer: Ella van der Woude Production Designer: Mirjam Veske Production Company: Eye Eye Pictures,

Kepler Film, Prolaps, Film I Väst

World Sales: Charades Festivals: Cannes FF 2024



Director's Singraphy: Halfdan Ullmann Tøndel studied directing at Westerdals School of Arts. He made his debut with the short film *Bird Hearts* (2015), which premiered in Karlovy Vary and won the 'Golden Chair' award at the Grimstad Short Film Festival in 2016. It was nominated for an Amanda award, and was selected on Cineuropa's list of the best European short films that year. In 2017, he made the short film *Fanny*, which premiered in Aspen and was also nominated for an Amanda award, as well as making the same list of Europe's best short films. Both films have been screened at festivals around the world.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Armand 2017 Fanny (short) 2015 Bird Hearts (short)











After saying no on her wedding day, Aya leaves the Ivory Coast for a new life in the buzzing "Chocolate City" in Guangzhou, China. In this district where the African diaspora meets Chinese culture, she gets hired in a tea boutique owned by Cai, a Chinese man. In the secrecy of the back shop, Cai decides to initiate Aya to the tea ceremony. Through the teaching of this ancient art, their relationship slowly turns into tender love. But for their burgeoning passion to lean on trust, they must let go of their burdens and face their past.

Black Tea Black Tea

2023 | 110 Minutes Mandarin, French, English, Portuguese Colour France, Mauritania, Luxembourg,

France, Mauritania, Luxembourg Taiwan, Ivory Coast

Director: Abderrahmane Sissako Producer: David Gauquié, Julien Derys, Denis Freyd, Kessen Fatoumata Tall, Jean-Luc Ormières, Charles S. Cohen Cast: Nina Melo, Han Chang, Ke-Xi Wu,

Michael Chang, Huang Lu

Screenplay: Kessen Fatoumata Tall,

Abderrahmane Sissako

Cinematographer: Aymerick Pilarski

Editor: Nadia Ben Rachid
Sound Designer: Carlo Thoss
Music Composer: Armand Amar
Production Designer: Véronique Sacrez
Production Company: Cinéfrance Studios

World Sales: Gaumont Festivals: Berlinale FF 2024



Born in Mauritania in 1961, he grew up in Mali. He went to the Soviet Union to study filmmaking at the Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography in Moscow where he made his first short films.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Black Tea 2014 Timbuktu 2006 Bamako 2002 Waiting for Happiness 1998 Life on Earth

Director's Biography











Miriam is a librarian working in an out of the way branch of the Toronto Public Library. Working among the marginalized eccentrics and cranks that frequent her branch, she is trudging through her life shrouded in a fog of grief. To add weirdness to sadness, she keeps finding vaguely threatening letters throughout the library that seem to be addressed to her and the world at large, but mostly to her. While puzzling over this mystery, Miriam meets Janko, a younger foreign cab driver. When they start a love affair Miriam starts to feel her fog lift. But the question remains: what is the deal with those letters?

Darkest Miriam Darkest Miriam

2024 | 87 Minutes English

Colour Canada

Director: Naomi Jaye

Producer: Julie Baldassi, Brian Robertson **Cast:** Britt Lower. Tom Mercier. Sook-Yin Lee.

Jean Yoon

Screenplay: Naomi Jaye

Cinematographer: Michael Leblanc

Editor: Lev Lewis

Sound Designer: Bret Killoran

Music Composer: Eliza Niemi, Louie Short Production Designer: Brendan Callaghan Production Company: Younger Daughter Films, Low End, Through The Lens

Entertainment

World Sales: Game Theory Films
Festivals: Tribeca FF 2024



Director's Biography: Naomi Jaye is an award-winning director known for her distinct visual style and her ability to explore the humor in human frailty. Her debut feature film, *The Pin*, is a landmark work as one of the only Yiddishlanguage films made in North America in over 60 years. Shortlisted for the Cannes Film Festival in 2013, the film received critical acclaim. An alumna of the TIFF Talent Lab and Women in the Director's Chair, and the recipient of the WIFT New Vision Mentorship, Naomi continues to expand her creative repertoire. She is currently adapting Martha Baillie's Giller-nominated novel *The Incident Report* and developing a bold musical feature, *Waxing Poetic*, further cementing her reputation as a visionary filmmaker.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Darkest Miriam 2013 The Pin











A man disappears into the forest. A sea-son is lost. Lovers transcend time. When people wake up one morning, nothing is as it was. In six episodes, Electric Fields tells the story of lonely characters who have resigned themselves to an everyday life full of unfulfilled dreams. But suddenly inexplicable things happen and people wake up from their slumber. A shift in the rule of the world passes through business premises, pubs, hotel rooms and death rooms like a collective impulse. It pulls the characters into foreign cities, sends them into raging storms, leaves them brooding over a light that shouldn't shine. And suddenly new paths open up in people's hands.

Electric Fields Electric Fields 2024 | 80 Minutes

Swiss German, German, Italian, French Black & White Switzerland

Director: Lisa Gertsch **Producer:** Lisa Gertsch

Cast: Michael Neuenschwander, Sophie Hutter, Ole Eisfeld, Nicolas Rosat, Julia

Jentsch

Screenplay: Lisa Gertsch **Cinematographer:** Simon Bitterli

Editor: Lisa Gertsch

Sound Designer: Daniel Eaton & Martin

Scheuter

Music Composer: Gustav Gertsch

Production Company: Sabotage Filmkollektiv

GmbH, Zurich University of the Arts

World Sales: Festival Agency

Festivals: Seville FF 2024 | Max Ophuls Festival 2024 | Solothurn FF 2024 | Riviera International FF 2024 | Lighthouse IFF 2024

| Augenblick FF 2024



Director's Siggraphy: Lisa Gertsch was born in Bern in 1992. She received her Master of Arts in Feature Film Directing from the Zurich University of the Arts in 2023. Her bachelor's diploma film 'Almost Everything' was awarded a student Oscar in 2018. Lisa Gertsch is a member of Sabotage - a Zurich film collective and works as a director and screenwriter in German-speaking Countries. She lectures in the field of screenwriting and dramaturgy at the Zurich University of the Arts. Since 2018, she has been accompanying refugees in detention pending deportation.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Electric Fields 2019 Happy Birthday (short) 2017 Fast Alles (short) 2017 Almost Everything (short)











Rangoon, Burma, 1917. Edward, a civil servant for the British Empire, runs away from his fiancée Molly the day she arrives to get married. During his travels, however, panic gives way to melancholy. Contemplating the emptiness of his existence, the cowardly Edward wonders what has become of Molly... Determined to get married and amused by Edward's move, Molly follows his trail on this Asian grand tour.

Grand Tour Grand Tour

2024 | 129 Minutes Portuguese, Chinese, Thai, French, Burmese, Vietnamese, Filipino, Japanese Black and White Portugal, Italy, France

Director: Miguel Gomes **Producer:** Filipa Reis

Cast: Crista Alfaiate, Gonçalo Waddington,

Cláudio da Silva, Lang-Khê Tran

Screenplay: Mariana Ricardo, Telmo Churro,

Maureen Fazendeiro, Miguel Gomes

Cinematographer: Rui Poças AIP ABC,
Sayombhu Mukdeeprom, Guo Liang

Editor: Telmo Churro, Pedro Filipe Marques

Sound Designer: Miguel Martins **Production Designer:** Thales Junqueira,

Marcos Pedroso

Production Company: Vivo Film, Uma Pedra no Sapato, Shellac Films, Cinéma De facto

World Sales: MUBI

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Toronto IFF 2024 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2024 | BFI London

FF 2024



)irector's

Miguel Gomes is a Portuguese film director who has directed several short films presented and awarded in international film festivals. Gomes is presently working on Selvajaria, based on a book by brazilian author Euclides da Cunha and Cantiga, based on a graphic novel by french ilustrator Blexbolex. Retrospectives of Gomes' work took place in Austria, Italy, Spain, Germany, Greece, USA. He received a Career Award at Laceno d'Oro Film Festival (Italy, 2016). Miguel graduated in Film from the Lisbon Film and Theatre School and worked as a film critic. He lives in Lisbon.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 The Tsugua Diaries 2012 Tabu 2008 Our Beloved Month of August 2004 The Face You Deserve











Somewhere between the end of autumn and the start of winter, the absent one returns home to a small town in the mountains. Now in his 50s, always away and late, having missed his brother's funeral, he lingers at the threshold of the old home - what else can he attain other than delaying one more night of his arrival.

In Retreat In Retreat 2024 | 76 Minutes

Tibetan Colour India

Director: Maisam Ali

Producer: Saroj Kherotia, Thanikachalam Sa,

Maisam Ali

Cast: Harish Khanna Screenplay: Maisam Ali

Cinematographer: Ashok Meena

Editor: Maisam Ali, Raghavender Vuppuganti **Sound Designer:** Kriti Kamal Das, Niladri

Shekhar Roy, Rahul Tiwari **Production Designer:** Siddesh

Kandalgaonkar

Production Company: Varsha Production

World Sales: Maisam Ali

Festivals: Busan IFF 2024 | Acid Cannes FF

2024



Maisam Ali is a filmmaker born in Iran and hailing from the Himalayan region of Ladakh. He graduated from the Film & Television Institute of India (FTII). His short films include *Left to the Air* (2015) and *Far in Night* (2018). *In Retreat* is his debut feature film and an ACID selection at the 2024 Cannes.

Director's Siography: Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 In Retreat 2018 Far in Night (short) 2015 Left to the Air (short)











La Invención de las Especies On the Invention of Species

2024 | 91 Minutes

Spanish Colour Ecuador

Director: Tania Hermida

Producer: Tania Hermida - Lía Rodríguez Cast: Ana María Carrión, Pancho Aguirre, Gabriel Saltos. Jean Carlo Cabrera

Screenplay: Tania Hermida

Cinematographer: Tomás Astudillo

Editor: Iván Mora Manzano
Sound Designer: Raymi Morales
Production Designer: Gonzalo Martínez
Production Company: Ecuador Para Largo

World Sales: Habanero

Synopsis:

Twelve-year-old Carla is grieving and speechless when she arrives at the Galapagos Islands accompanying her father, an expert in turtle conservancy. During seven days, that evoke those of the Book of Genesis, she explores the island and the meaning of the words that live there. Together with native islander Darwin (15) and Wiki (12), she discovers secret places and meets Harriet, an old "curandera" who practices the art of healing with stories. Resembling the iguanas, that mutated into sea creatures to survive, Carla becomes an "Island" and learns to cling to the rocks, wait, plunge, and emerge to tell her story.

Director's Biography: Born in Cuenca, Ecuador, writer director Tania Hermida is a graduate of the International Film&TV School (EICTV) in San Antonio de los Baños (Cuba), where she directed her first short films. Her first feature film was an audience success in Ecuador and won several awards, including the Silver Zenith for First Films at the Montreal WFF, and the Coral Award for First Films at the Havana FF. Tania combines independent filmmaking with university teaching and research on screenwriting. She's a Member of the New Latin American Cinema Foundation and has been invited to participate as key speaker and jury in several film festivals and conferences.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 On the Invention of Species

2011 In the Name of the Girl 2006 How Much Further











Two men, both in heterosexual marriages, have an unexpected experience that challenges them to reconsider their understanding of sexuality, gender, and identity. One has a sexual encounter with another man, without considering it either as an expression of homosexuality or infidelity, and discusses it with his wife afterwards. The other finds himself in nocturnal dreams where he is seen as a woman, stirring confusion and leading him to question how much his personality is shaped by the gaze of others.

Sex Sex

2024 | 118 Minutes

Norwegian Colour

Norway

Director: Dag Johan Haugerud

Producer: Yngve Sæther & Hege Hauff

Hvattum

Cast: Jan Gunnar Røise, Thorbjørn Harr, Siri

Forberg, Birgitte Larsen

Screenplay: Dag Johan Haugerud Cinematographer: Cecilie Semec Editor: Jans Christian Fodstad

Sound Designer: Gisle Tveito and Yvonne

Stenberg

Music Composer: Peder Capjon Kjellsby **Production Designer:** Tuva Holmebakk

Production Company: Motlys **World Sales:** M-Appeal

Festivals: Berlinale FF 2024 | Tallinn Black Nights FF 2024 | BFI London FF 2024 |

Sydney IFF 2024



Director's Siography:

Dag Johan Haugerud has established himself as one of Norway's most influential writers and directors, in addition to being a novelist. With *I Belong* (2012), he won Amanda for Best Film, Director, Screenplay and Female Supporting Role. The film also won the Film Critics Award and was Norway's candidate for the Nordic Council Film Award. With *Beware of Children* (2019), he won the Dragon Award for Best film and Actor at the Gothenburg Film Festival, the film won a record number of 9 Amanda's after the international premiere at Giornate Degli Autori. In addition, the film won the Film Critics Award and Nordic Council Film Prize.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Sex

2020 The Light from the Chocolate Factory

2019 Beware of Children

2014 You Are The One That I Want

2012 | Belong











40-year-old housewife Cai has lost track of who she is and who she wants to be. During one of her daughter's basketball matches, she inadvertently injures an elderly woman. This seemingly trivial event is a catalyst for a life spinning out of control, as past events resurface while she moves into an unknown future. Director Qiu Yang follows a series of multi-awarded shorts with his debut feature, a mesmerizing and intimate drama about a woman forced to confront the wreckage of her life and her longing for change?

Kong fang jian li de nv ren Some Rain Must Fall

2024 | 98 Minutes Wu, Mandarin Colour

China, USA, France, Singapore

Director: Qiu Yang

Producer: Jeremy Chua, Mike Goodridge, Alex C. Lo, Mélissa Malinbaum, Lin Fan,

Darcy Xi Wang

Cast: Aier Yu, Shike Di, Yibo Wei

Screenplay: Qiu Yang

Cinematographer: Constanze Schmitt **Editor:** Carlo Francisco Manatad, Julien

Lacheray

Sound Designer: Mei Zhu, Romain Ozanne,

Emmanuel Croset

Music Composer: Ryan Somerville Production Designer: Shan Yinghao Production Company: Wild Grass Films,

Why Not Production, Good Chaos

World Sales: GoodFellas **Festivals:** Berlinale FF 2024



Director's siography:

Qiu Yang was born and grew up in Changzhou, China before studying film directing at the Victorian College of the Arts at the University of Melbourne in Australia. His latest short film, *She Runs*, won the Leitz Cine Discovery Prize at the 2019 Semaine de la Critique in Cannes while *A Gentle Night* was awarded the Short Film Palme d'Or at Cannes in 2017 and *Under the Sun* screened in the 2015 Cinéfondation competition, also at Cannes. His VR project *O* was selected for the Venice International Film Festival. He participated in the Cannes Festival Cinéfondation Residence and is a Berlinale Talents alumnus

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Some Rain Must Fall 2019 She Runs (short) 2017 A Gentle Night (short) 2015 Under The Sun (short)











Adi, a 17-year-old teenager from a remote village in the Danube Delta, lives and studies in Tulcea, the nearest city. When he returns home for the summer holidays, the boy falls in love with R\[zvan, a student from Bucharest. After a night out, Adi is badly beaten and left unconscious on a village alley. The moment both parents are confronted with the truth they cannot seem to understand, the unconditional love that Adi receives from his mother and father disappears. So, Adi is left with one option only.

Trei Kilometri Până La Capătul Lumii Three Kilometres to the End of the World

2024 | 105 Minutes

Romanian Colour Romania

Director: Emanuel Pârvu **Producer:** Miruna Berescu

Cast: Bogdan Dumitrache, Ciprian Chiujdea, Laura Vasiliu, Valeriu Andriuta, Ingrid Micu-Berescu, Adrian Titieni, Richard Bovnoczki Screenplay: Emanuel Pârvu & Miruna

Berescu

Cinematographer: Silviu Stavilă

Editor: Mircea Olteanu

Sound Designer: Mirel Cristea

Production Designer: Bogdan Ionescu **Production Company:** FAMart Association

World Sales: GoodFellas **Festivals:** Cannes FF 2024



Director's

Emanuel Pârvu was born in 1979 in Romania. He graduated from the Romanian National University for Theater and Film and holds a Master Degree in the Art of Acting and a PHD in Dramaturgical Structures. He works as an actor and as a film & theatre director. He is known for acting in Cristian Mungiu's *Graduation & Tales from the Golden Age*, Adrian Sitaru's *Art*, Contantin Popescu's *Pororoca*, and the most recent Calin Peter Netzer's feature *Familiar*. He has written and directed several short films before his feature debut '*Meda or The Not So Bright Side of Things*', 2017 that had the World Premiere in the Official Competition of Sarajevo IFF, where it won Best Director and Best Actor Award.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Mikado

2017 Meda or The Not So Bright Side of

Things











To a Land Unknown To a Land Unknown

2024 | 105 Minutes Arabic, Greek, English Colour

UK - Palestine - France - Greece -Netherlands - Germany - Qatar - United **Arab Emirates**

Synopsis:

Chatila and Reda are saving to pay for fake passports to get out of Athens. But when Reda loses their hard-earned cash to his dangerous drug addiction, Chatila hatches an extreme plan, which involves them posing as smugglers and taking hostages in an effort to get him and his best friend out of their hopeless environment before it is too late.

Director: Mahdi Fleifel Producer: Geoff Arbourne

Cast: Mahmood Bakri, Angeliki Papoulia,

Aram Sabbagh

Screenplay: Mahdi Fleifel, Fyzal Boulifa,

Jason McColgan

Cinematographer: Thodoris Mihopoulos

Editor: Halim Sabbagh

Sound Designer: Martin Hernandez, Steve

Bond

Music Composer: Nadah El Shazly **Production Designer:** Joanna Soulele **Production Company:** Nakba Filmworks.

Inside Out Films

World Sales: Salaud Morisset

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Toronto IFFI 2024 | San Sebastian IFF 2024 | Sarajevo

FF 2024



Mahdi Fleifel is a Palestinian-Danish director who graduated from the NFTS in the UK. He has directed short films including A Man Returned (2016), Silver Bear Jury Prize for Best Short Film in Berlin, A Drowning Man (2017), BAFTA nominated participant in the Cannes short film competition, and I Signed The Petition (2018), winner of Best Short Documentary at the Amsterdam Documentary Festival (IDFA) also nominated for the European Film Awards. His first feature-length documentary, A World Not Ours (2012) premiered in Toronto and participated in the Panorama section of the Berlin Festival, where it landed the Peace Film Prize. The second, To a Land Unknown, screened at the Quinzaine des Cinéastes in Cannes.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 To a Land Unknown 2020 3 Logical Exits (short) 2017 A Drowning Man (short) 2016 A Man Returned (short) 2012 A World Not Ours











A Ukrainian family is spending the last day of their holiday on the island of Tenerife. Overnight the tourists become refugees.

Pod Wulkanem Under The Volcano

2024 | 105 Minutes Ukrainian, Spanish, English, Russian, German, Wolof

Colour Poland

Director: Damian Kocur

Producer: Mikolaj Lizut, Agnieszka

Jastrzębska

Cast: Sofiia Berezovska, Roman Lutskyi, Anastasiia Karpienko, Fedir Pugachov, Mike

Mensah

Screenplay: Damian Kocur, Marta

Konarzewsk

Cinematographer: Nikita Kuzmienko

Editor: Alan Zeier

Sound Designer: Serhii Avdieiev

Music Composer: Peder Capjon Kjellsby

Production Designer: Aleksandra

Markowska

Production Company: Lizart Film World Sales: Salaud Morisset Festivals: Toronto IFF 2024

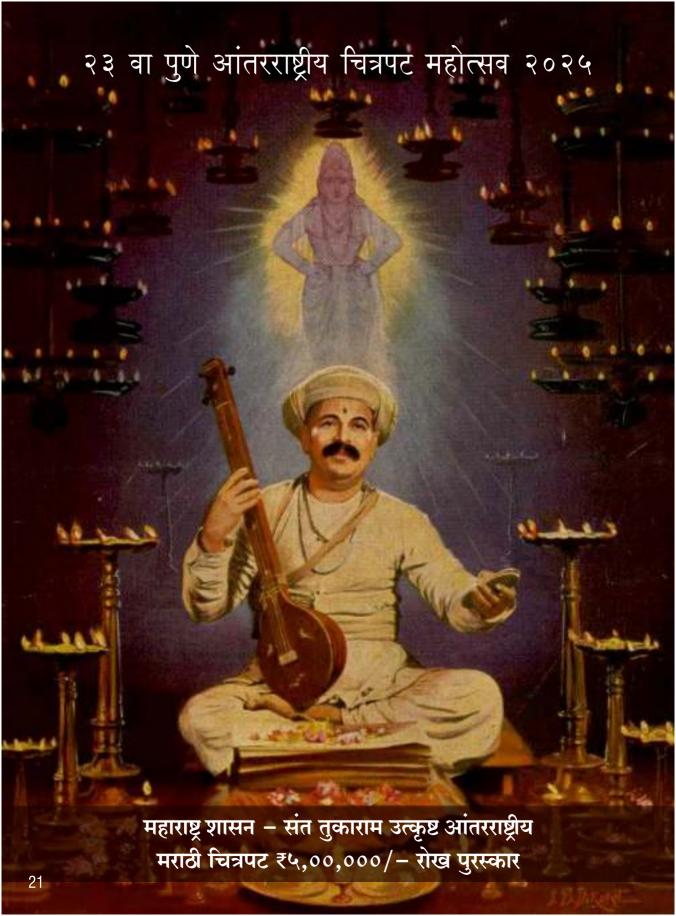


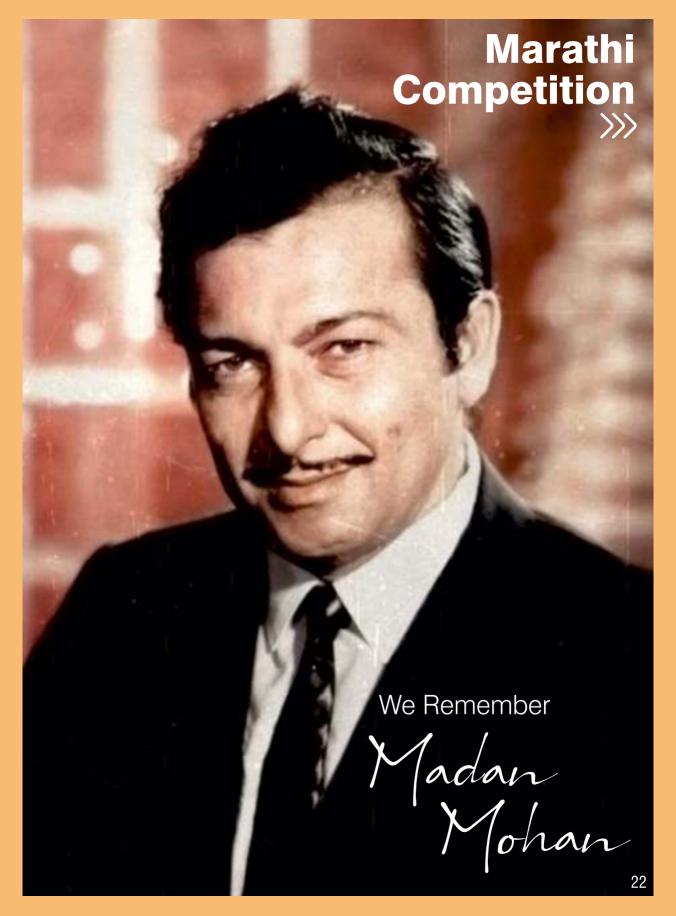
Director's Siography:

Director, scriptwriter, and cinematographer. Damian Kocur is a PhD student at the Łódź Film School. He is the author of several internationally awarded short films. His debut feature film 'Bread and Salt' (2022) was awarded the Special Jury Prize in the Orizzonti competition at the Venice Film Festival 2022, Cairo IFF, Antalya IFF, Cottbus Film Festival, and many more. His last short film 'As It Was' was nominated for Palme d'Or at Cannes 2023.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Under the Volcano 2023 As It Was (short) 2022 Bread and Salt 2020 Beyond Is The Day (short)















Sangala is an inspiring story of the hardships of an elderly self-respecting farmer in the drought stricken region of Marathwada (Maharashtra).

Sangala Bottom Water

2024 | 85 Minutes Marathi Colour, Black & White

India

Director: Raoba Gajmal **Producer:** Raoba Gajmal

Cast: Anil Dabhade, Balu Batule, Jyoti Gangvane, Narayan Pawar, Dilip Wagh, Raoba Gajmal, Nitin Munde, Krushna

Ganjave

Screenplay: Raoba Gajmal Cinematographer: Anil Bade

Editor: Bharat Jadhav

Sound Designer: Prashant Kambale
Music Composer: Asit Sakpal
Costume Designer: Shudbam Paikrao
Production Designer: Rameshwar Deore
Production Company: Rangfauj Production



Raoba Gajmal was born on 10 January, 1990, in rural Maharashtra. He has completed his education in performing arts from Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University. He is a professional actor, writer and director. *Sangala* is his debut feature film.

Director's Siography: Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Sangala











Cineman Cineman 2024 | 103 Minutes Marathi Colour

India

Synopsis:

Anand, a voluntarily retired teacher, has initiated a movement to screen films for school children in remote villages. Recognizing the power of cinema as an educational tool, he continues to promote film literacy despite facing public opposition. For the past 10 years, Anand and his Children's Film Club have been running an innovative initiative to teach children through cinema. His work catches the attention of a voung filmmaker named Omkar, who decides to document Anand's efforts. As Omkar films the process, Anand's struggle to bring quality cinema to children is revealed. During one screening in a remote village, the power goes out midway through the film, leaving the children to watch only half. It's here that Anand meets Ankur, a talkative, mischievous, and intelligent 9-year-old boy. While conversing with Anand, Ankur recounts the story of the incomplete film, which leads the narrative to take an unexpected turn. The journey, which began with Anand's love for cinema, eventually unfolds into an adventurous connection between two distant worlds, bridging the gap between cultures and stories from Hollywood to the village.

Director: Umesh Mohan Bagade **Producer:** Sumit Patil, Umesh Mohan

Bagade, Sarita Paste

Cast: Kishor Kadam, Prithviraj Chavan, Badi Siddharth, Richerd Klein, Ricky Wood Screenplay: Umesh Mohan Bagade Cinematographer: Abhishek Shete Editor: Sourabh Prabhudesai Sound Designer: Kshitij Yadav Music Composer: Rushikesh Kulkarni Costume Designer: Amruta Khandekar Production Designer: Akash Zende Production Company: Addventure Productions, Birdboy Entertainment Festivals: Kolkata IFF 2024 | Ajanta Ellora



Director's Biography:

Umesh Mohan Bagade is an Indian filmmaker who focuses on concept writing and direction, with 7-8 years of experience in films, TVCs, short films, and documentaries. Fascinated by the art of storytelling through audiovisuals, he chose this path as his profession. His short film Anahut won the Filmfare Best Film Audience Choice Award in 2018, and Chaukat was selected for the Indian Panorama at the International Film Festival of India 2016, both screening at prestigious global festivals. Through his production house Addventure Productions, he has produced, directed, and written numerous TV commercials. His debut feature film, Cineman, represents a significant milestone in his career, showcasing his passion for innovative and impactful cinematic storytelling.

Director's Selected Filmography:

IFF 2025 | Third Eye Asian FF 2025

2024 Cineman 2018 Anahut (short) 2016 Chaukat (short)











Giran Giran 2024 | 97 Minutes Marathi Colour India

Synopsis:

In the Mang community, a long-standing tradition dictated that after an eclipse, they would visit the house of a prominent villager to ask for alms. The villagers, believing that charity to the Mang people would ward off crises, would offer them stale food and old clothes. This practice is depicted in the film Giran.

In the village, superstition prevails—even when someone falls ill, they are not taken to a hospital but placed on burning embers as an offering to the gods. Guna resists the custom of kersunya, a practice of begging for grain in the village. However, when his mother-in-law falls ill, he realizes that he, too, must go to giran to beg. Determined to break the cycle, Guna takes the village's alms and sacred offerings and casts them into the water, bringing an end to the practice.

Giran is a story about the harmful impact of blind faith and superstition in the Matang community. While culture must be preserved, it should not come at the cost of perpetuating outdated and oppressive traditions.

Director: Vijay Shrirang Khude **Producer:** Vijay Shrirang Khude

Cast: Bhakti Dilip Ghogare, Ravindra Palkhe, Faizal Sayyad, Chhaya Aadat, Sadhana

Kashid, Atul Sabale

Screenplay: Vijay Shrirang Khude
Cinematographer: Ansar Khan
Editor: Vijay Shrirang Khude
Sound Designer: Zamir Tamboli
Music Composer: Abhishek Kate
Costume Designer: Bhakti Ghogare
Production Designer: Faizal Sayyed

Production Company: Mohit Films Baramati



Director's Siography:

Vijay Srirang Khude was born in the village of Niravagaj in Baramati Taluka, Pune district, Maharashtra. In 2017, he directed a short film titled Freedom, which won numerous awards. Following this success, he created another short film, Black Game, which also received accolades at various film festivals. He later directed a web movie, Walit, which is currently available on YouTube. In 2023, he wrote a story based on his childhood and aspired to turn it into a film. After approaching several producers without success due to the project's lack of commercial appeal, he decided to produce the film himself. With the support of friends and after overcoming numerous challenges, he successfully produced and directed Giran.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Giran

2021 Black Game (short)

2017 Freedom (short)

2008 Koyta (short)











Magic Magic

2024 | 135 Minutes

Marathi Colour India

Synopsis: Ca

Magic is the story of Arun Raut, a high-ranking encounter specialist wracked with the immense guilt of mistakenly killing an innocent man during a bust in Mumbai. Seeking to escape his inner turmoil, Arun takes a post in a small village to create a new life with his pregnant wife, Seema. However, this peaceful life is rattled when Arun meets Riddhi- the daughter of the man that he had killed. She claims to be in the village to start fresh with her twin sister and appears unaware of Arun's identity. Arun drowns in his paranoia, convinced that Riddhi seeks revenge for her father's death. As Riddhi becomes close to Arun's family he's left battling between hiding the truth from his wife and uncovering Riddhi's true intentions. Arun's mental anguish spirals out of control, plunging him into dark, gritty depths that compel him to act in ways that betray his true nature. Through this harrowing journey, Arun finds redemption and closure striving to make amends for his past actions.

Director: Ravindra Vijaya Karmarkar

Producer: Raju Satyam

Cast: Jitendra Joshi, Jui Bhagwat, Siddhirupa

karmarkar

Screenplay: Yogesh vinavak joshi, Abhishek

Deshmukh

Cinematographer: Kedar Vishwanath Phadke

Editor: Dinesh Pujari, Nainesh Dingankar

Sound Designer: Rahul Gurung Music Composer: Devendra Bhome Costume Designer: Santosh Shridhar

Gawade

Production Designer: Mahesh Gurunath

Kudalkar

Production Company: Tutri Ventures

R

Ravindra Vijaya Karmarkar has worked as a television Director for the past 15 years, especially known for his award-winning work for 'Best Director' on the popular Marathi show Aai Kuthe Kay Karte which is the remake of the legendary Bengali series Sreemoyee. He was also an associate director on Rege and Thackrey which were both commercially well received and critically acclaimed Marathi feature films in the theatrical runs.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Magic

Director's Biography











Nirjali Nirjali 2024 | 118 Minutes Marathi Colour India

Synopsis:

The film portrays the undocumented lives of the Pardhi community, a marginalized tribe in Maharashtra labeled as "born criminals" during the colonial era. Despite 75 years of Indian independence, their socio-economic conditions remain unchanged. The Pardhi are a nomadic tribe deprived of land, housing, education, and stable professions, often linked to theft and robbery.

The story follows a teenage girl determined to become a teacher despite facing personal, familial, social, and cultural challenges. Her journey highlights the systemic barriers faced by the Pardhi community. The film delves into issues such as their struggle to prove Indian citizenship, lack of education, and societal neglect.

It also examines broader societal dynamics, including caste discrimination in schools, exploitation of farm laborers by landlords, and the politics of dominance in rural settings. Through these layers, the film critiques the indifference of governance toward marginalized groups while presenting a chain of events that offer hope for transformation within the Pardhi community.

Director: Swati Sadashiy Kadu

Producer: Sandeep Balasaheb Lokhande **Cast:** Datta More, Swati Kadu, Hemant Pharande, Hanumant Shinde, Raveena

Gogawale, Vikas Videkar

Screenplay: Swati Sadashiv Kadu Cinematographer: Ajay Bhalerao, Rahul

Zende

Editor: Saumitra Dharasurkar, Titiksha
Sound Designer: Vikrant Pawar
Music Composer: Niranjan, Sagar
Costume Designer: Swati Sadashiv Kadu,

Shreedevi Zinjrute

Production Designer: Akash Ashok Shinde

Production Company: Chitrawari

Productions



Swati Sadashiv Kadu was born into a farm labourer family and completed her education while working as a labourer. She pursued studies in journalism and has been involved in reading and writing for many years, publishing two anthologies of poetry during her college years.

irector's ography:

After observing the challenges faced by the Pardhi community, she spent three years studying their issues at the ground level. This research led her to create her first film, *Nirjali*, which explores the living conditions and questions surrounding their lives.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Nirjali











Snow Flower
Snow Flower
2024 | 112 Minutes
Marathi
Colour
India, Russia

Synopsis:

In the beautiful village of Kokan, India, Bablya resides with his parents Digva and Nanda. Despite their pleas. Bablya is determined to join a Dashavtaar theater group traveling to Russia, convinced it offers a better life. This choice strains his relationship with Digva. In Russia. Bablya builds a life, falling in love with an Indian-Russian woman. They have a beautiful daughter and work at a pub until tragedy strikes—an altercation leads to their untimely deaths, leaving their daughter, Pari, orphaned. Upon hearing the news, Digya and Nanda rush to Russia, discovering Pari in a foster home. Hindered by regulations, they fight to bring Pari back to Kokan, India. Amidst memories of Bablya's happy home, they arrange his last rites with the help of Chandu, Bablya's friend. Permission granted, they bond with Pari, but their attempts to integrate her into Kokan fail. The school principal advises that Pari belongs where she can flourish. Despite resistance, Nanda realizes Pari's rightful place is in Russia, where she ultimately returns her, acknowledging that Pari can only thrive where she truly belongs.

Director: Gaiendra Ahire

Producer: Rekha Bhagat, Deepak Kumar **Cast:** Chhaya Kadam, Vaibhav Mangle, Sarfaraz Alam, Manwa Devendra Bhagwat,

Adamchuk Oksana Nikolaevna **Screenplay:** Gajendra Ahire

Cinematographer: Krishna Kumar Soren

Editor: Anant Kamath

Sound Designer: Sagar Sathe

Music Composer: Gajendra Ahire, Prachi

Reae

Costume Designer: Deepti Devendra
Production Designer: Deepti Devendra
Production Company: Seven Feathers Studio

Festivals: IFF India 2024



Gajendra Vitthal Ahire is an Indian Marathi film maker. He has 65 movies on his name and has contributed as Director, Story, Screenplay, Dialogues, Lyrics and as a Music composer. He is noted for his work in Marathi Cinema including a Not only Mrs Raut (2003), biopic Vasudev Balwant Phadke (2007), Anumati (2013), Postcard (2013), The Silence (2015), Pimpal (2017) and has won numerous awards in India and globally including Indian Panorama at IFFI, Goa and National Award. He has won (Rajat Kamal) Silver Lotus award and achieved international breakthrough when he directed Not only Mrs Raut.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Signature 2017 Pimpal 2015 The Silence 2013 Anumati 2006 Shevri 2003 Not Only Mrs Raut











In the heart of the deep forest, a timeless battle brews between greed and preservation, capitalism and conservation. Brave officers face off against a cunning mafia in a struggle that transcends mere human conflict. But as the jungle's very soul hangs in the balance, will they stand united to protect the delicate harmony between humanity and wildlife?

Raavsaaheb The Tiger 2024 | 138 Minutes Marathi Colour

Director: Nikhil Mahajan

Producer: Nikhil Mahajan, Swapnil Bhangale, Akshay Bardapurkar, Prasanna Ajarekar, Josh

Studios

India

Cast: Jitendra Joshi, Mukta Barve, Mohit Takalkar, Sonalee Kulkarni, Priyadarshan Jadhav, Sagar Deshmukh, Mrunmayee Deshpande, Rashmi Agdekar, Sahyadri Malegaonkar, Snehalata Tagde, Shubham Ugale

Screenplay:Nikhil Mahajan, Prajakt Deshmukh, Shripad Deshpande, Jeejivisha

Kale

Cinematographer: Amey Vasant Chavan

Editor: Hrishikesh Petwe

Sound Designer: Baylon Fonseca

Music Composer: Amitraj

Costume Designer: Sachin Lovalekar Production Designer: Amit Waghchaure Production Company: Blue Drop Films, Planet Marathi, Anashwar Media and

Entertainment, Josh Studio **Festivals:** IFF India 2024

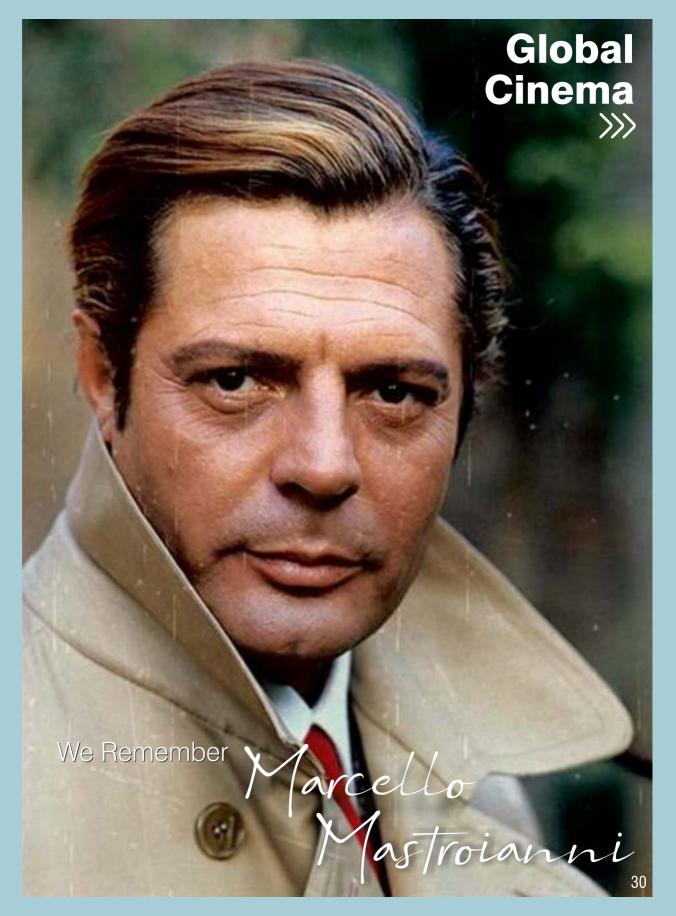
Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Godavari 2015 Baji 2013 Pune 52



Director's Biography:

Nikhil Mahajan is a National Award Winning Filmmaker based in Mumbai, India. He is a graduate in film from The IFS Sydney. Nikhil is a writer, producer and director. *Pune 52* (2012) is his debut. *Godavari* (2021), is his latest directorial venture that opened at Vancouver IFF before travelling to NZIFF. It also won two awards at the International Film Festival India, Goa making it the first Marathi film in history to win two awards at a major International Film Festival. *Godavari* also earned Nikhil the coveted Suvarna Kamal for Best Direction at the National Film Awards in 2022.











1950's, France, by the serene banks of the Marne River. François, a daydreaming child of boundless imagination, has his life changed when his father decides to start building a boat in the garden. Thus begins the family's grand odyssey, a collective venture to construct a boat that would carry them away—somewhere between reality and reverie.

Slocum et Moi A Boat in the Garden 2024 | 75 Minutes French

Colour

Luxembourg, France

Director: Jean-François Laguionie

Producer: Stephan Roelants, Camille Raulo,

Jean-François Bigot

Cast: Elias Hauter, Grégory Gadebois, Coraly Zahonero de la Comédie Française. André

Marcon, Mathilde Lamusse

Screenplay: Anik Le Ray et Jean-François

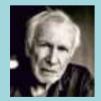
Laguionie

Editor: Aurélien Antezac Sound Designer: Philophon

Music Composer: Pascal Le Pennec
Animation Supervisor: Giles Rudziak
Composing: L'Incroyable Studio

Production Company: JPL Productions,

Mélusine Productions World Sales: Urban Sales Festivals: Cannes FF 2024



Director's Singraphy:

Born in 1939 in Besançon, France, Jean-François Laguionie developed a passion for drawing from an early age. After studying at the Arts Appliqués, he met Paul Grimault, who introduced him to animation and whose studio he shared for almost ten years. It was there that he conceived his first short films. Each time, they met with success at festivals, including the Palme d'Or for Short Films at the Cannes Film Festival for *Rowing Across the Atlantic*. In 1999, he directed *The Castle of the Apes*, a much more ambitious and mainstream film than the previous one. He went on to collaborate with Blue Spirit Productions and JPL films on his subsequent feature films.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 The Prince's Voyage 2016 Louise by the Shore 2011 The Painting 2003 Black Mor's Island 1999 A Monkey's Tale 1985 Gwen, or the Book of Sand









January 2020. A film crew reunites near Wuhan to resume the shooting of a film halted ten years earlier, only to share the unexpected challenges as cities are placed under lockdown.

An Unfinished Film An Unfinished Film

2024 | 106 Minutes Mandarin

Colour

Singapore, Germany

Director: Lou Ye

Producer: Philippe Bober, Yingli Ma Cast: Qin Hao, Mao Xiaorui, Qi Xi Screenplay: Lou Ye, Yingli Ma Cinematographer: Zeng Jian

Editor: Tian Jiaming Sound Designer: Fu Kang

Production Designer: Zhong Cheng **Production Company:** Essential Films,

Yingfilms Pte. Ltd.

World Sales: Coproduction Office
Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Toronto IFF

2024



Director's Biography:

A prominent figure among China's Sixth Generation directors, Lou Ye's works explore complex social issues while navigating censorship. These include *Suzhou River* (2000) and *Summer Palace* (2006), both of which gained international acclaim but faced domestic restrictions. Lou's films have competed and received awards in major festivals like Cannes, the Berlinale and Venice, cementing his status as a bold voice in Chinese cinema.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 The Shadow Play 2014 Bling Massage 2012 Mystery 2000 Suzhou River









In the near future a new technology exists that can put the consciousness of a dead person back into a living body, in an attempt to ease the grief of separation, a little extra time to say goodbye. What remains of all the love that bodies promise each other when their time is over?

Another End Another End

2024 | 129 Minutes English, Spanish Colour Italy

Director: Piero Messina

Producer: Nicola Giuliano , Francesca Cima , Carlotta Calori , Viola Prestieri , Paolo Del

Brocco

Cast: Gael García Bernal, Renate Reinsve, Bérénice Bejo, Olivia Williams, Pal Aron Screenplay: Piero Messina , Giacomo Bendotti , Valentina Gaddi , Sebastiano

Melloni

Cinematographer: Fabrizio The Palombara

Editor: Paola Freddi

Sound Designer: Mirko Perri Music Composer: Bruno Falanga Production Designer: Eugenia F. From

Naples

Production Company: Indigo Film, Rai

Cinema

World Sales: Newen Studios **Festivals:** Berlinale FF 2024



Director's Siography: After graduating with honors from the DAMS film school in Italy, he took a degree in directing at the CSC – Scuola Nazionale di Cinema in Rome. In 2011, his short film *Terra* screened in the Cinéfondation section at Cannes. His debut feature film *The Wait*, starring Juliette Binoche and Lou de Laâge, was selected for the main competitions at Venice and Toronto. He has also directed television series including *L'ora* and *Suburra – Blood on Rome*

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Another End 2015 The Wait 2011 Terra (short)









One day in the life of three young women with different generations. Each of them is in a phase of an emotional relationship and they want to overcome the crisis in their relationship, but the patriarchal habits in the traditional society and the power of government are an obstacle.

At the End of the Day At the End of the Day

2024 | 99 Minutes

Farsi Colour Iran

Director: Babak Bahrambeygi

Producer: Babak Bahrambeygi, Mehdi

Kohian

Cast: Hanieh Tavasoli, Mahtab Servati, Shayesteh Sajadi, Shabnam Moghadami, Reza behbodi, Khayam Vagar,Hesam Rezaian Screenplay: Babak Bahrambeygi, Khosro

bereenplay. Dabak Damambe

Monsefshokri

Cinematographer: Reza Teimouri Editor: Babak Bahrambeygi Sound Designer: Ensieh Maleki

Music Composer: Maseod Sekhavatdost
Production Company: Independent Producer
World Sales: 7th ART Independent Film

Distribution



Babak Bahrambeygi, is an editor and director, born in 1978 in Kermanshah, Iran. He made his first film *A Long Day* in 2017. *At the End of the Day* is his second film

Director's Biography **Director's Selected Filmography:** 2024 At the End of the Day

2017 A Long Day









A family finds it difficult to talk about feelings, love or intimacy. The family business demands their full attention: renting, selling and repairing excavators. Everyone has to pitch in. When the daughter has a fatal accident, the family stops functioning. The son would rather go to the USA than take over the company. The father takes a liking to the new choir director and the mother suddenly finds herself alone. A new Heimatfilm with people searching and machines dancing.

Bagger Drama Bagger Drama

Switzerland

2024 | 94 Minutes Swiss German, English Colour

Director: Piet Baumgartner **Producer:** Karin Koch

Cast: Bettina Stucky, Phil Hayes, Vincent Furrer, Karin Pfammatter, Maximilian Reichert

Screenplay: Piet Baumgartner
Cinematographer: Pascal Reinmann

Editor: Tania Stöcklin

Sound Designer: Peter von Siebenthal

Music Composer: Rio Wolta

Production Designer: Marc Oliver Dörfel **Production Company:** Dschoint Ventschr

Filmproduktion

Festivals: San Sebastian IFF 2024



Director's Siography: Piet Baumgartner is an experienced visual artist, film and theater director. He is interested in people, machines and emotions. His production EWS about the biggest political scandal in the Swiss parliament was named best play of the year. Piet Baumgartner's documentary *The Driven Ones* about the business elite of tomorrow was invited to compete at the world's most important documentary film festival IDFA and was nominated for the Swiss Film Award. Piet has been honored with national and international awards. The origin of *Bagger Drama* is the music video *Through My Street*, which was created in 2015 with the musician Rio Wolta.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Bagger Drama 2023 The Driven Ones (documentary) 2013 Elite (short)

2011 Alle Werden (short)









1907. Afonso starts life anew on a tropical island off the African coast, as a plantation physician. He is tasked with treating servants "infected" by Banzo, a profound homesickness fatal to many enslaved people who succumb to starvation or take their own lives. To prevent spreading, the group is sent to a secluded hill encircled by forest. Afonso tries to heal them, but understanding their spirits is a challenge stronger than any medical intervention.

Banzo Banzo

2024 | 127 Minutes

Portuguese

Colour

Portugal, France, Netherlands

Director: Margarida Cardoso **Producer:** Filipa Reis

Cast: Carloto Cotta, Hoji Fortuna, João Pedro Bénard, Gonçalo Waddington, Sara Carinhas,

Ruben Simões

Screenplay: Margarida Cardoso Cinematographer: Leandro Ferrão Editor: Pedro Filipe Margues

Sound Designer: Vincent Sinceretti, Evelien

Molen

Music Composer: Rutger Zuydervelt

Production Company: Uma Pedra No Sapato

World Sales: Uma Pedra No Sapato **Festivals:** Karlovy Vary IFF 2024



Director's Biography:

Margarida Cardoso started as a filmmaker in 1995, exploring subjects that cross her personal history and experiences, as well as prominent post-colonial issues in recent Portuguese history, such as the Portuguese revolution and the colonial war in Africa. Her filmography includes features Sita – The life and times of Sita Valles (2022), Understory (2019), Yvone Kane (2015), The Murmuring Coast (2004), Kuxa Kanema – The Birth of Cinema (2003) and the short Among Us (1999).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 Sita – The life and times of Sita Valles 2019 Understory 2015 Yvone Kane 2004 The Murmuring Coast 2003 Kuxa Kanema – The Birth of Cinema









A tropical garden provides the setting for the meeting between two lonely souls who accompany one another for a time: that of an upper-class woman from whom dementia is taking all she ever was, and that of her caretaker, a lonely immigrant, alienated from the world by a terrible secret.

Querido Trópico Beloved Tropic

2024 | 108 Minutes

Spanish Colour

Panama, Colombia

Director: Ana Endara **Producer:** Isabella Gálvez

Cast: Paulina Garcia, Jenny Navarrete,

Juliette Roy

Screenplay: Ana Endara, Pilar Moreno Cinematographer: Nicolas Wong

Editor: Bertrand Conard
Sound Designer: Carlos García
Production Designer: Daniel Rincón
Production Company: Mente Pública, Big-

Sur Películas, Mansa Productora

World Sales: Figa

Festivals: Toronto IFF 2024 | San Sebastian

IFF 2024



Ana Endara is a filmmaker based in Panama City. She studied direction at the International Film and Television School in Cuba, and works as a videographer at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. She's directed several documentaries, including *Reinas* (2014) and *The Joy of Sound* (2016). *Beloved Tropic* (2024), her latest film, is her fiction debut.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Beloved Tropic

2016 The Joy of Sound (documentary)

2014 Reinas (documentary)









After an incident at their high school, the outgoing Wei, only son of a well-off Chinese family, and Shuo, his quiet but perceptive classmate, become closer. A mysterious energy seems to connect the two, drawing them into each other's lives. Wei soon introduces his new friend to his father, a cell biologist, and his mother, a former flight attendant. Learning that Shuo comes from a troubled background, Wei's parents encourage this boy with an enigmatic charm to spend more time in their home. As Shuo integrates himself more and more into the family, he gradually discovers that their comfortable existence is shadowed by unspoken secrets, unmet expectations and suppressed emotions. Then a tragic event causes old wounds and current fears to come to light.

Jia ting jian shi Brief History of a Family

2024 | 99 Minutes

Mandarin Colour

China, France, Denmark, Qatar

Director: Lin Jianjie

Producer: Lou Ying, Zheng Yue, Wang Yiwen **Cast:** Zu Feng, Guo Keyu, Sun Xilun, Lin

Muran

Screenplay: Lin Jianjie

Cinematographer: Zhang Jiahao

Editor: Per K. Kirkegaard

Sound Designer: Margot Testemale, Jacques

Pedersen, Fanny Weinzaepflen

Music Composer: Toke Brorson Odin

Production Designer: Xu Yao

Production Company: First Light Films

World Sales: Films Boutique

Festivals: Berlinale 2024 | Karlovy Vary IFF

2024 | Sundance FF 2024



After graduating with a BA in bioinformatics, Lin Janjie turned to filmmaking and studied at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. His short films A Visit (2015) and Gu (2017) screened successfully at international film festivals. Brief History of a Family is his debut feature film.

Director's 3iography: Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 Gu (short) 2015 A Visit (short)









When 13-year-old farmgirl Jackie loses her best friend Nova in a drug-related tragedy, she flees to confront the village's elusive drug dealer—the mailman. Despite the 17 years age difference, Jackie moves in with the dealer in his ramshackle apartment, determined to stay until she learns the truth about the fateful night. As she grapples with guilt and uncovers the truth, "Bye Bye Boredom" delivers a riveting exploration of youth, loyalty, and the silent whispers of a troubled past.

Bye Bye Boredom Bye Bye Boredom

2024 | 76 Minutes

Swedish Colour Sweden

Director: Elina Sahlin **Producer:** Christian Kielberg

Cast: Kiwi Casslind, Kalled Mustonen, Electra

Hallman, Albin Grenholm
Screenplay: Elina Sahlin

Cinematographer: Emil Klang (FSF) **Editor:** Hanna Storby (SFK), Michał

Leszczyłowski (SFK)

Sound Designer: Jonas Jansson **Music Composer:** Lisa Montan

Production Designer: Frida Mary Eriksson **Production Company:** Makeriet Film

World Sales: Media Luna Festivals: Goteborg FF 2024



Elina Sahlin is a Swedish screenwriter and director. She has made the short films *Department of Detachment* (2021) and *Yellow Cross my Heart* (2020), which is based on her own published novel of the same name. Bye bye boredom is her first feature film.

Director's Siography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Department of Detachment (short) 2020 Yellow Cross my Heart (short)









In the cancer department of the children's hospital, two boys named Isa and Ali, who dream of becoming football players, plan to achieve their dreams before Ali's last serious operation. It should be away from the eyes of doctors and nurses.

Kapitan Captain 2023 | 90 Minutes

Farsi Colour Iran

Director: Mohammad Hamzei Producer: Seved Saber Emami

Cast: Pantea Panahiha, Pejman Bazeghi, Sepideh Eydi, Amir Hossein Bayat, Parham

Gholamlou

Screenplay: Amir Mohammad Abdi Cinematographer: Amin Jafari

Editor: Omid Mirzaei

Music Composer: Habib Khazaifar World Sales: Farabi Cinema Foundation



Born in Arak in 1979, Mohammad Hamzei is an Iranian director and actor. He has a bachelor's degree in cinema. He started his professional career in the field of cinema by working as directors' assistant and has appeared in more than thirty different movies and TV series with filmmakers such as Iraj Karimi, Farzad Motaman, Mohammad Hossein Latifi, Hojat Qasemzadeh. In his artistic career, Hamzei has directed more than twenty short, half-length and television films including As Always, Near or Far, According to a Habit – and other video works. He has won several awards from domestic festivals such as Tehran Short Film Festival. In 2017, Hamzei directed his debut feature film, Azar.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 Azar









An enduring but fragile love story shared by Qiaogiao and Bin, set in China, from the early 2000s to the present day, Caught up in each other. Qiaoqiao and Bin enjoyed all that the city had to offer, singing and dancing. Until one day, Bin finds himself wanting to try his luck in a bigger place than Datong. He left without any notice. Some time later. Qiaogiao decides to go on a iournev to look for him.

Feng Liu Yi Dai Caught by the Tides 2024 | 111 Minutes

Mandarin Colour China

Director: Jia Zhang-Ke

Producer: Casper Liang Jiayan, Shôzô

Ichivama

Cast: Zhao Tao. Li Zhubin

Screenplay: Jia Zhang-Ke, Wan Jiahuan Cinematographer: Yu Lik-Wai, Eric Gautier Editor: Yang Chao, Lin Xudong, Matthieu

Laclau

Sound Designer: Zhang Yang

Production Designer: Ye Qiusen, Liu Qiang,

Liu Weixin, Liang Jingdong

Production Company: X Stream Pictures

World Sales: Impact Films

Festivals: Cannes FF | Toronto IFF | New

York IFF | BFI London FF



Jia Zhang-Ke was born in Fenyang, China and studied at Beijing Film Academy. He's directed many films, including Xiao Wu (1998), Still Life (2006), and Festival selections including Platform (2000), Unknown Pleasures (2002), A Touch of Sin (2013), and Ash Is Purest White (2018). He's received many awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award Carrosse d'Or at Cannes in 2015. Caught by the Tides (2024) is his latest film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 Ash Is Purest White 2013 A Touch of Sin 2010 I Wish I Knew 2006 Still Life 2004 The World 2000 Platform









Clear Nights Clear Nights 2024 | 100 Minutes Portuguese Colour Portugal

Synopsis:

Clear Nights tells the story of two siblings, in a time when they both rediscover themselves, face their problems and undergo a profound inner transformation. Lidia struggles to cope with her newborn baby: she can't handle the expectations, doesn't recognize her body, and distances herself from home and her boyfriend. Her brother Lauro works in a funeral agency. Divorced with a son, he grapples with accepting his bisexuality. Though the siblings rarely saw each other, their shared challenges bring them closer on a journey of rediscovery and profound inner transformation. The light at the end of the tunnel isn't an illusion: the tunnel is.

Director: Paulo Filipe Monteiro

Producer: Pandora da Cunha Telles, Pablo

Iraola

Cast: Beatriz Godinho, Duarte Melo, Romeu Runa, Custódia Gallego, Lídia Franco Screenplay: Paulo Filipe Monteiro Cinematographer: Manuel Pinho Braga

Editor: João Braz

Sound Designer: Olivier Blanc Music Composer: Jorge Moniz Production Designer: Luísa Bebiano **Production Company:** Ukbar Filmes World Sales: The Open Reel



Paulo Filipe was born on 8 August 1961 in Coimbra, Portugal. He is an actor and writer, known for Zeus (2016), Clear Nights (2024) and Pas de Quoi (2020).

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Clear Nights

2020 Pas de Quoi (short)









Lia, a retired teacher, has made a promise to find out what happened to her long-lost niece, Tekla. When Lia learns from a neighbour, Achi, that Tekla might have left their Georgian homeland and is living in Turkey, Lia and Achi set off together to find her. Arriving in Istanbul, they discover a beautiful city full of connections and possibilities. But searching for someone who never intended to be found is harder than they expected – until they meet Evrim, a lawyer fighting for trans rights. As Lia and Achi weave their way through the city's backstreets, Tekla starts to feel closer than ever.

Crossing Crossing

2024 | 105 Minutes Georgian, Turkish, English Colour Sweden, Denmark, France, Turkey,

Director: Levan Akin **Producer:** Mathilde Dedye

Cast: Mzia Arabuli, Lucas Kankava, Deniz

Dumanlı

Screenplay: Levan Akin

Cinematographer: Lisabi Fridell **Editor:** Emma Lagrelius, Levan Akin

Sound Designer: Anne Gry Friis Kristensen,

Sigrid DPA Jensen

Production Company: French Quarter Film

World Sales: Totem Films

Festivals: Tribeca FF 2024 | Berlinale 2024



Director's Siography:

The Swedish filmmaker of Georgian descent was born in Stockholm in 1979. His work explores class, gender and sexuality. His film *And Then We Danced* premiered in the Quinzaine des Réalisateurs at the 2019 Cannes Film Festival and was Sweden's official entry for the Oscars. He directed on the TV series *Real Humans* and was co-executive producer and director on the series adaptation of *Interview with the Vampire*.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2019 And Then We Danced

2015 The Circle 2011 Certain People









After not being given any role in an audition for an Iranian mainstream film, a young girl and a young boy with the dream of acting and cinema decide to make a film, different from the mainstream cinema.

Dark Matter Dark Matter

2023 | 83 Minutes

Farsi

Black & White

Iran

Director: Karim Lakzadeh **Producer:** Arash Jooyandeh

Cast: Mahdis "Shaadab" Mahdiyar, Iman Sayyadborhani, Keivan Parmar, Raha

Soleimani

Screenplay: Karim Lakzadeh
Cinematographer: Karim Lakzadeh

Editor: Karim Lakzadeh

Sound Designer: Amin Behrouz Zadeh Production Designer: Karim Lakzadeh Production Company: Independent Producer

World Sales: Antidote Sales **Festivals:** Karlovy Vary IFF 2023



Director's Siography: Karim Lakzadeh studied in a theater school and came to Tehran to start his undergraduate studies in Cinema. Karim started his work by making several short films such as The Gambler and participated in some reputed film festivals such as FIFF. His feature film *Red Head* has competed in the Mannheim-Heidelberg film festival, as well as his last feature film which participated in Fantaspua Festival in 2021. He is an independent filmmaker and he prefers alternative fiction and multi-genre forms of storytelling.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Dark Matter 2017 Redhead 2016 Girl in a Room (short) 2016 Scissor (short) 2015 Gambler (short)









The year is 2022. There is a war going on. Ukrainian Sonya and Russian guy Danya meet in Istanbul. They have common problems: they need to find money for food, an apartment and a job. They have the same desire to have fun, dance, drink and sex. But the main questions are how to deal with the past, arrange life and build their joint future...

Deaf Lovers Deaf Lovers

2024 | 81 Minutes Ukrainian, Russian, Sign language Colour Estonia, Serbia

Director: Boris Guts

Producer: Boris Guts, Maxim Mussel, Anastasiya Gusentsova, Daria Likhacheva,

Maksim Podolski

Cast: Anastasia Shemyakina, Daniil Gazizullin

Screenplay: Boris Guts

Cinematographer: Daria Likhacheva Sound Designer: Teo Tao, Ilia Maslennikov Music Composer: Teo Tao, Ilia Maslennikov World Sales: Antipode Sales International Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights FF 2024



irector's iography:

Boris Guts (1980) is a Russian director and social activist who addresses painful issues in his experimental films. In his early years, he worked as a television journalist, and later graduated from the Higher Courses for Screenwriters and Directors at the All-Russian State Institute of Cinematography. He has directed five feature films, which have participated in and won awards at numerous domestic and international film festivals. When the war with Ukraine broke out, Boris Guts left Russia. Guts's feature film debut was the 2016 psychological drama Watermelon Rinds. The director's social conscience is most vividly revealed in his film Minsk, which exposes the terror regime in Belarus. The film won the FIPRESCI Prize at the Film Festival Cottbus

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 MINSK 2019 We Look Good in Death 2018 Fagot 2016 Watermelon Rinds









The world and life are boring. Kana, 21, lives every day with feelings that she has no outlet for. She switches from the kind but boring Honda to the confident and stimulating Hayashi and starts a new life, but gradually Kana finds herself cornered. Struggling and clashing, will she be able to find her place in the world?

Namibia No Sabaku Desert of Namibia

2024 | 137 Minutes Japanese

Colour Japan

Director: Yoko Yamanaka

Producer: Keisuke Konishi, Shinji Ogawa,

Masafumi Yamada, Tokushi Suzuki Cast: Yuumi Kawai, Daichi Kaneko,

Kanichiro, Yuzumi Shintani, Keisuke Horibe,

Makiko Watanabe

Screenplay: Yoko Yamanaka Cinematographer: Shin Yonekura

Editor: Banri Nagase

Sound Designer: Tomohiro Kobata

Music Composer: Takuma Watanabe

Production Company: Happinet Phantom

Studios

BRIDGEHEAD Co., Ltd. cogitoworks Ltd.

World Sales: Happinet Phantom

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Busan IFF 2024



irector's

Born in 1997 in Nagano Prefecture. After dropping out of the Nihon University's College of Art, she self-taught herself and produced her directorial debut work, *Amiko*, which won the Audience Award at the Pia Film Festival 2017. The following year, at the age of 20, *Amiko* was selected for the 68th Berlin International Film Festival, becoming the youngest director ever invited and setting a record as the youngest feature film director at the festival. Her film has been screened in over 10 cities and countries including Hong Kong and New York. Her directorial works include *Anytime*, *Anywhere* which is a part of the omnibus film 21 seiki no onna no ko produced by Ū-ki Yamato, and *Uozadoshi* as part of the ndjc program.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 21st Century Girl 2017 Amiko









April, an independently minded lawyer known for taking on lost causes, resolves to secure a victory in her next case. However, when Dariuch, another seemingly hopeless client, asks her to defend his faithful canine companion, Cosmos, April is unable to resist. She dives into the absurdity of defending a canine client, confronting not only the legal system but also advocating for both women's and animal rights. A lively and at times comical court case unfolds - where a dog's life hangs in the balance.

Le Procès du Chien Dog on Trial

2024 | 80 Minutes French Colour Switzerland, France

Director: Laetitia Dosch

Producer: Lionel Baier, Agnieszka Ramu,

Thomas and Mathieu Verhaeghe

Cast: Laetitia Dosch, François Damiens, Jean-Pascal Zadi, Anne Dorval, Anabela

Moreira

Screenplay: Laetitia Dosch, Anne Sophie

Bailly

Cinematographer: Alexis Kavyrchine Editor: Suzana Pedro, Isabelle Devinck **Sound Designer:** Xavier Lavorel. Vuk Vukmanovic, Raphaël Sohier, Maxence Ciekawy

Music Composer: David Sztanke **Production Designer:** Anne-Carmen

Vuilleumier

Production Company: Bande À Part Films

World Sales: mk2 Films

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Locarno FF

2024 | Busan IFF 2024



Dosch is a French actress known for her roles in Justine Triet's Age of Panic (2013) and Jeune Femme (2017), which won the Caméra d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival. Her other notable works include A Simple Passion (2021), Employee of the Month (2022), and A Little Lesson in Love (2022). She also conceived and produced a performance duo with her horse titled Hate (2018). The director's debut feature, Dog on Trial, was screened in the Un Certain Regard section at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Dog On Trial









Together with her sister Juste's family, Ernesta, her husband Lukas, and her son are spending the weekend at a country house after Lukas's victory in a mixed martial arts tournament. The families are swimming in a nearby lake, having dinner, discussing family finances. After a near-tragic accident, the sisters become single mothers. The film follows the sisters' life in the aftermath of the tragedy.

Seses **Drowning Dry** 2024 | 88 Minutes Lithuanian

Colour Lithuania, Latvia

Director: Laurynas Bareiša Producer: Klementina Remeikaitė Cast: Gelminė Glemžaitė, Agnė Kaktaitė, Paulius Markevičius, Giedrius Kiela Screenplay: Laurynas Bareiša Cinematographer: Laurynas Bareiša

Editor: Silvija Vilkaitė

Sound Designer: Julius Grigelionis Production Designer: Sigita Šimkūnaitė **Production Company: Afterschool**

Production

World Sales: Alpha Violet

Festivals: Locarno FF 2024 | Busan FF 2024



Born in Lithuania in 1988, Laurynas Bareiša graduated in applied mathematics and cinematography, and he earned an MA in film directing. He recently worked as cinematographer on the feature films Summer Survivors (2018) and Slow (2023) by Marija Kavtaradzė. He directed the short films By the Pool (2017), Caucasus (2018), and Dummy (2020). His first feature film, Pilgrims (2021), was awarded the prize for the Best Film in the Orizzonti Competition of the Venice Film Festival.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Pilarims 2020 Dummy (short) 2018 Caucasus (short) 2017 By The Pool (short)











The film follows the very individual members of the Lunies family, who haven't been a family for a long time. Lissy is quietly happy about her demented husband Gerd slowly wasting away in a home. But her new freedom is short-lived: Diabetes, cancer and kidney failure mean that she doesn't have much time left either. Her son Tom, a conductor in his early 40s, is working on a composition called 'Dying', while at the same time being made the surrogate father of his ex-girlfriend's child. And Tom's sister Ellen, starts an affair with the married Sebastian, with whom she shares a love for alcohol. As Death finally turns up on the doorstep, the estranged family members finally meet again.

Sterben Dying

2024 | 180 Minutes

German Colour Germany

Director: Matthias Glasner

Producer: Jan Krüger, Ulf Israel, Matthias

Glasner

Cast: Lars Eidinger, Corinna Harfouch, Lilith

Stangenberg, Ronald Zehrfeld, Robert

Gwisdek

Screenplay: Matthias Glasner

Cinematographer: Jakub Bejnarowicz

Editor: Heike Gnida

Sound Designer: Christoph Walter, Nils

Vogel-Bartling

Music Composer: Lorenz Dangel Production Designer: Tamo Kunz

Production Company: Port au Prince Film &

Kultur Produktion, Schwarzweiss

Filmproduktion

World Sales: The Match Factory

Festivals: Berlinale FF 2024 | Karlovy Vary

IFF 2024 | Busan IFF 2024



)irector's iography:

Matthias Glasner Was Born In Hamburg In 1965. In The 90s, He Made The Hipster Trilogy *Die Mediocren, Sexy Sadie*, And *Fandango* For The Cinema, All Of Which Premiered At The Berlinale. This Was Followed By The Films *Der Freie Wille* (Berlinale Competition), *This Is Love* (San Sebastian Competition) And *Gnade* (Berlinale Competition). For Television, He Has Directed The Series *Kdd-Kriminaldauerdienst* And, As Writer And Director, The Series *Blochin - Die Lebenden Und Die Toten*, As Well As The Two-Part Series *Landgericht* Based On The Novel Of The Same Name And Winner Of The German Book Prize By Ulrike Krechel. He Recently Shot The 2nd Season Of The International Series *Das Boot* for Sky.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Dying 2011 Gnade 2009 This is Love 2006 Der freie Wille 2000 Fandango 1996 Sexy Sadie

1995 Mediocre









East of Noon East of Noon

2024 | 109 Minutes

Arabic Colour

Egypt, Netherlands, Qatar

Director: Hala Elkoussy

Producer: Hala Elkoussy, Abdelsalam Moussa, Lonnie Van Brummelen, Marc

Thelosen

Cast: Menha El Batraoui, Ahmed Kamal,

Omar Rozeik, Fayza Shama **Screenplay:** Hala Elkoussy

Cinematographer: Abdelsalam Moussa
Editor: Bobbie Roelofs, Hala Elkoussy
Sound Designer: Abdalrahman Mahmoud,

Jaim Sahuleka

Music Composer: Ahmad Elsawy Production Designer: Hala Elkoussy Production Company: Nu'ta Film, VRIZA,

seriousFilm

World Sales: Pascale
Festivals: Cannes FF 2024

Synopsis:

East of Noon is a satire on the inner workings of an ailing autocracy and its inherent vulnerability to youth's unchained vision of a better world. The story unfolds in two spaces: SHARQ12, a sandy enclave situated in an industrial ruin; and the Sea, a fluid landscape and simultaneously a longed for state of freedom. How do you imagine the sea when you have never seen it?

The characters embody a core personal question: How is hope kept alive in a grim reality? They struggle with fear in quest for a freedom that is instinctive, but ill-defined, with a hovering dilemma: can one stay clean in a dirty world? It is the young artist Abdo who most longs for freedom. His music is his saviour. The stories of his grandmother Jalala provide further relief from the hopeless reality, but also perpetuate the status quo, reflecting the complex relationship of art to authority.



Director's Biography: Egyptian artist Hala Elkoussy works across many media – photography, video, installations, sculpture and film – and her work has been collected by leading international galleries such as the Tate Modern in London and Stedelijk in Amsterdam. At home, she established Fotomasr, an Egyptian photographic historical archive. Her first feature, Cactus Flower, premiered in Rotterdam, while East of Noon went to this year's Cannes Directors' Fortnight.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Memento Mare 2017 Cactus Flower 2012 In Search of a City 2010 Mount of Forgetfulness









Sonny and Akiko's joy upon the arrival of their first child quickly turns to panic when their doctor gives them unimaginable news. Desperate, Sonny considers using his experiment on an Al super-intelligence to prove the doctors wrong, but every action he takes risks a troubling and dangerous reaction.

Electric Child Electric Child

2024 | 118 Minutes

English, Japanese, Swiss German

Colour

Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands, Philippines

Director: Simon Jaquemet

Producer: Michela Pini, Aurelius Eisenreich,

Simon Jaquemet

Cast: Elliott Crosset Hove, Rila Fukushima, Sandra Guldberg Kampp, João Nunes

Monteiro, Helen Schneider Screenplay: Simon Jaquemet Cinematographer: Gabriel Sandru

Editor: Caterina Mona

Sound Designer: Roland Widmer **Music Composer:** Wiwek Mahabali

Production Designer: Michael Baumgartner

Production Company: 8horses **World Sales:** Visit Films **Festivals:** Locarno FF 2024



Director's Biography: Simon Jaquemet (born 1978) is a Swiss filmmaker. His debut feature, *War* (2014), premiered at San Sebastián New Directors, followed by major festival screenings at Locarno, KVIFF, and the Berlinale. *The Innocent* (2018) was screened at TIFF Platform, was in the official selection at San Sebastián, garnered accolades, and was presented at over 40 festivals.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2018 The Innocent

2014 War









Overqualified and undervalued, Rita is a lawyer at a large firm that is more interested in getting criminals off the hook than bringing them to justice. One day, she is given an unexpected way out, when cartel leader Manitas hires her to help him withdraw from his business and realize a plan he has been secretly preparing for years: to become the woman he has always dreamt of being.

Emilia Pérez Emilia Pérez

2024 | 130 Minutes Spanish, French, English Colour France

Director: Jacques Audiard

Producer: Jacques Audiard, Pascal

Caucheteux

Cast: Adriana Paz, Edgar Ramirez, Mark Ivanir, Zoe Saldaña, Karla Sofía Gascón,

Selena Gomez

Screenplay: Jacques Audiard Cinematographer: Paul Guilhaume

Editor: Juliette Welfling

Sound Designer: Cyril Holtz, Erwan

Kerzanet, Aymeric Devoldere

Music Composer: Camille, Clément Ducol Production Designer: Emmanuelle Duplay Production Company: Why Not Productions,

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Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | San Sebastian

IFF 2024



)irector's

Since making his directing debut in 1994 with the taut crime thriller See How They Fall, Jacques Audiard has come to be regarded as one of France's finest filmmakers. From the searing underworld dramas Read My Lips, The Beat That My Heart Skipped and A Prophet to his Palme d'Orwinning Dheepan, about Sri Lankan refugees living in France, alongside his relationship drama Rust and Bone, the Western The Sisters Brothers and heartbreakingly romantic Paris, 13th District, Audiard deftly plays with the conventions of genre, infusing them with new vitality.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Paris, 13th District 2018 The Sisters Brothers 2015 Dheepan 2012 Rust and Bone 2009 A Prophet 2001 Read My Lips









In 1934, as playwright Luigi Pirandello travels to Stockholm, where he is about to receive the Nobel Prize, he begins reliving the drama and magic of the loved ones who have populated his life and inspired his art. Pirandello reminisces about the madness of his wife, his stormy relationship with his children, his controversial stance towards fascism, and his love for Marta Abba, the young actress who became his muse.

Eternal Visionary Eternal Visionary

2024 | 109 Minutes Italian Colour

Italy

Director: Michele Placido
Producer: Federica Vincenti
Cast: Fabrizio Bentivoglio, Valeria

Bruni-Tedeschi, Michele Placido, Giancarlo

Commare, Aurora Giovinazzo

Screenplay: Toni Trupia, Michele Placido **Cinematographer:** Michele D'Attanasio

Editor: Consuelo Catucci
Sound Designer: Marc Bastien
Production Designer: Tonino Zera

Production Company: Golden Art Production

World Sales: Festival Agency



Director's Biography An Italian internationally famous actor and director, born on May 19, 1946, in Ascoli Satriano, Puglia, Italy. He studied acting at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome. His debut was in the play Midsummer Night's Dream in 1969. Two years later, he started working in films with great directors. He is known for *La piovra* (1984-2001), *Big Business* (1988), and *Romanzo Criminale* (2005). He was nominated for and won several awards, such as the Silver Berlin Bear for Best Actor for *Ernesto* (1979).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Eternal Visionary 2022 Caravaggio's Shadow 2016 7 Minutes 2005 Romanzo Criminale 1992 Close Friends









Alex will soon be a father. In a warehouse, he discovers some deeply disturbing family photographs. Some suggest his mother's marital infidelity; others, the participation of his father, a retired officer, in various acts of violence. Alex's investigation will take him to a town devastated years before by the violence of the internal armed conflict to discover their true and intricate family album.

Álbum de Familia Family Album

2024 | 94 Minutes

Spanish

Black & White

Peru, Colombia

Director: Joel Calero **Producer:** Joel Calero

Cast: Emanuel Soriano, María Fernanda Valera, Camila Ferrer, Lucho Cáceres, Natalia

Torres Vilar

Screenplay: Joel Calero Cinematographer: Llano, ABC Editor: Roberto Benavides Sound Designer: Omar Pareja

Production Company: Factoria Sur, Bhakti

Films

World Sales: Habanero



Director's 3iography:

Joel Calero is a screenwriter and film director born in Huancayo, Peru in 1968. He is one of the two Latin American writers/directors who has obtained the prestigious screenwriting scholarship from the Film Project Development Course Ibero-Americans from the Carolina Foundation for their films. The Last Afternoon (2016), the first film in his film-political trilogy, narrates the emotional and political reunion of a couple of ex-subversives. This film won several international awards, among which the Best Director at the 32nd Festival stands out at the International Film Festival in Guadalajara and Best Screenplay at the 45th Film Festival from Gramado. The Most Feared Skin (2024) is the second film in the trilogy. Family Album is the film that closes the trilogy.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 The Most Feared Skin 2016 The Last Afternoon











On a quiet roadside, a car smolders as a young family desperately needs help. Nearby, a sleek, luxury vehicle glides past, its occupants—an impeccably polished family—don't even slow down. But who are these people who choose not to stop? And what are they hiding?

Family Therapy is a darkly comedic, satirical drama that follows a Slovenian 'nouveau riche' family living in a glass-walled mansion—a literal and metaphorical symbol of their detached superiority. This setting serves as a satirical backdrop for a humorous reimagining of the premise of Pasolini's Teorema: Their world is upended when a young stranger enters the family's household, shattering the illusion of perfection and exposing the chaotic, dysfunctional relationships festering beneath their polished exterior.

As the stranger's presence unravels the family's carefully constructed facade, we delve into the reasons behind their coldness: Is it a desperate attempt to preserve their fragile equilibrium? A deep-seated fear of their own vulnerabilities? Or does it speak to a larger societal malaise?



)irector's iography:

Sonja Prosenc, writer-director. Her award-winning films The Tree (2014) and History of Love (2018), which was awarded in Karlovy Vary IFF Crystal Globe Competition, were Slovenia's Official Oscar Entries and received international acclaim. Her distinctive film language has drawn attention from cinephiles, critics, and academics. Recognized as one of the four directors of the future at Slamdance in 2019 and a European female director to watch by Cineuropa, she was also selected for the Eurimages Gold Album in 2020, which presented 50 notable European female directors of the last 20 years. In 2019, Prosenc ventured into genre and directed the short comedy Paradise, which won the National Best Short Film Award, and the mystery thriller TV series Trigrad.

Odrešitev Za Začetnike Family Therapy

2024 | 122 Minutes Slovenian, English, French Colour Slovenia

Director: Sonja Prosenc

Producer: Rok Sečen, Sonja Prosenc **Cast:** Marko Mandić, Katarina Stegnar, Aliocha Schneider, Mila Bezjak, Ana Djurić,

Kristoffer Joner, Matija Vastl Screenplay: Sonja Prosenc Cinematographer: Mitja Ličen

Editor: Ivana Fumić

Sound Designer: Gisle Tveito

Music Composer: Primož Hladnik, Boris

Benko

Production Designer: Tajana Čanić

Stanković

Production Company: Monoo **World Sales:** Slovenian Film Centre

Festivals: Tribeca FF 2024

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Family Therapy 2019 Paradise (short) 2018 History of Love 2015 Impromptu (short) 2014 The Tree 2013 Morning (short)









Faruk
Faruk
2024 | 97 Minutes
Turkish
Colour
Germany, Turkey, France

Synopsis:

Faruk, a man in his nineties, increasingly becomes the protagonist in the film his daughter is making about the impending demolition of his block of flats in Istanbul. In the hope of delaying the demolition of a building he has been living in for decades, Faruk regularly attends building management meetings. As the daughter films her father, the boundaries between reality and fiction begin to blur. Shot in authentic locations and based on real characters and events, Faruk offers an insight into the life of an elderly man in the bustling metropolis of Istanbul. Alongside exploring the implications of gentrification, the work also delves into the complexities of a father-daughter relationship.

Director: Aslı Özge **Producer:** Aslı Özge

Cast: Faruk Özge, Derya Erkenci, Gönül Gezer, Nurdan Çakmak, Semih Arslanoğlu,

Fikret Özge

Screenplay: Aslı Özge

Cinematographer: Emre Erkmen Editor: Andreas Samland, Aslı Özge Sound Designer: Joe De-Vine

Music Composer: Karim Sebastian Elias

Production Designer: Aslı Özge
Production Company: EEE Films
World Sales: Heretic Sales
Festivals: Berlinale 2024



Director's Biography: Born in Istanbul, Turkey, she has lived in Berlin since 2000. After studying at the film and television school of Marmara Üniversitesi in Istanbul, she made short films and a documentary. Her debut feature film *Men on the Bridge* premiered at Locarno in 2009 and went on to win numerous awards. Her second feature, *Lifelong*, and her first German-language feature, *All of a Sudden*, both screened in Panorama at the Berlinale, with the latter film winning a Special Mention from the Europa Cinemas Label and the FIPRESCI Award.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Faruk 2023 Blackbox 2016 All of a Sudden 2013 Lifelong 2009 Men on the Bridge









When melancholic construction worker Dan finds himself drifting from his wife and daughter, he discovers community and purpose in a local theater's production of Romeo and Juliet. As the drama onstage starts to mirror his own life, he and his family are forced to confront a personal loss.

Ghostlight Ghostlight

2024 | 115 Minutes

English Colour USA

Director: Kelly O'Sullivan, Alex Thompson **Producer:** Ian Keiser, Alex Wilson, Pierce Cravens, Eddie Linker, Chelsea Krant, Alex

Thompson

Cast: Keith Kupferer, Katherine Mallen Kupferer, Tara Mallen, Dolly De Leon

Screenplay: Kelly O'Sullivan Cinematographer: Luke Dyra

Editor: Mike Smith

Sound Designer: Tom Myers Music Composer: Quinn Tsan Production Designer: Linda Lee

Production Company: A Little Engine Picture,

Runaway Train

World Sales: Visit Films
Festivals: Sundance FF 2024



irector's lography: Kelly O'Sullivan is a writer, director and actor. She wrote and starred in Saint Frances which premiered at SXSW and won a Special Jury Prize for "Breakthrough Voice" and the Audience Award for Narrative Feature. Saint Frances, released by Oscilloscope Laboratories, is one of the most acclaimed independent films of 2020. Kelly received a Gotham Award nomination for Breakthrough Actor, a John Cassavetes nomination from the Independent Spirit Awards and was also named one of Filmmaker Magazine's "25 New Faces of Independent Film."

Alex Thompson is a writer, director and producer based in Chicago. His debut feature, *Saint Frances*, premiered at the '19 SXSW Film Festival and won the Grand Jury prize for "Breakthrough Voice" and the Audience Award.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Ghostlight 2020 Saint Frances









On a remote volcanic island – a place everyone wants to leave – Nana has learned to stay. Her mother Nia, who suffers from a mysterious illness, left soon after her birth. When Nana comes down with a high fever, she is sent to the foot of a volcano for treatment. There, she encounters a world suspended between dreams and reality. Years later, when Nana is a teenager, Nia returns.

Hanami Hanami

2024 | 96 Minutes

Cape Verdean Creole, Japanese, French,

English Colour

Switzerland, Portugal, Cape Verde

Director: Denise Fernandes

Producer: Eugenia Mumenthaler, David Epiney, Luís Urbano, Sandro Aguilar

Cast: Sanaya Andrade, Daílma Mendes, Alice Da Luz, Nha Nha Rodrigues, Yuta Nakano Screenplay: Denise Fernandes, Telmo

Churro

Cinematographer: Alana Mejía González

Editor: Selin Dettwiler

Sound Designer: Henri Maïkoff

Music Composer: Rahel Zimmermann

Production Designer: Mathé

Production Company: Alina film, O Som e a

Fúria

World Sales: MORETHAN Films

Festivals: Locarno FF 2024 | BFI London FF

2024 | Chicago IFF 2024



Denise Fernandes was born in Lisbon, to Cape Verdean parents, and grew up in Switzerland. Her latest short film *Nha Mila* (2020) was presented in Locarno, New Directors/New Films, among others, and was a European Film Awards candidate. *Hanami*, filmed in Cape Verde, is her feature directorial debut.

Director's Siography: **Director's Selected Filmography:** 2024 Hanami 2020 Nha Mila (short)

2015 The Nothingness Wandering Out

of the Self (short)









The young film student Maria do Mar is working on a documentary about the old manor houses along the Douro River. It is the final project in her thesis on "Reality in Cinema". Maria has an unlimited confidence in what is visible. Her candour and her naivety allow her to see the bright side of life – such as the beauty of the landscape and the authenticity of the place, or what's left of it. But when Maria enters the final manor house on her list, she soon realises that something is going on in this house that is not as innocent as it first seemed. The manor is truly a house of horrors.

Mãos no fogo Hands in Fire 2024 | 109 Minutes Portuguese Colour Portugal

Director: Margarida Gil **Producer:** Alexandre Oliveira

Cast: Carolina Campanela, Marcello

Urgeghe, Adelaida Teixeira, Rita Durão, Sofia

Vilarico

Screenplay: Margarida Gil

Cinematographer: Acácio de Almeida

Editor: João Braz

Sound Designer: Paulo Abelho
Music Composer: Daniel Bernardes
Production Designer: Carlos Subtil
Production Company: Ar de Filmes Lda.

World Sales: Pedro Ramalhete **Festivals:** Berlinale FF 2024



Director's Siography:

Born in Covilhã, Portugal in 1950, she studied German philology in Lisbon. As a filmmaker, she can look back on a career spanning over 30 years with films including Black Rose, which was presented at Locarno. She was married to the director João César Monteiro and worked closely with him as an actor, screenwriter and assistant director. In 2005, she won the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Rome International Film Festival.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 Sea 2012 Passion 2005 Adriana 1998 Guardian Angel 1992 Black Rose









Under the shadow of the US invasion, an extended Afghan refugee family begins their new lives in Iran unaware of the ultimate price expected of them as outliers in this (un)welcoming environment: Mohammad, a young teenager and promising student; Leila, a woman isolated by geography, and Qasem who bears the weight of his family's sacrifice.

In the Land of Brothers In the Land of Brothers

2024 | 95 Minutes Farsi, Dari, Hazaragi Colour

Iran, France, Netherlands

Director: Alireza Ghasemi & Raha Amirfazli

Producer: Adrien Barrouillet

Cast: Hamideh Jafari, Bashir Nikzad.

Mohammad Hosseini

Screenplay: Alireza Ghasemi, Raha Amirfazl Cinematographer: Farshad Mohammadi

Editor: Hayedeh Safiyari Sound Designer: Taco Drijfhout Music Composer: Frédéric Alvarez

Production Designer: Saeed Asadi, Hamed

Aslani

Production Company: Furyo Film **World Sales:** Alpha Violet

Festivals: Karlovy Vary IFF 2024



Director's

Raha Amirfazli is an Iranian filmmaker (1995 - Tehran) who graduated from the Art University of Tehran in Film Directing. She has made several short films that have earned her national and international screenings, including *Solar Eclipse*. In addition to serving as a referee in the Danish journal "Short Film Studies," she also served as the editorin-chief of the "24 Frames" website.

Alireza Ghasemi is an Iranian Filmmaker (1990 - Tehran) who graduated in Filmmaking from the Art University of Tehran. He also spent a year as an exchange student at the Film Academy Baden-Württemberg in Germany. Alireza is an alumnus of the Berlinale Talent Campus 2022 and has directed several acclaimed short films.

Director's Selected Filmography:

Raha Amirfazli

2023 Trees of Valiasr Street or: Impression (short) 2021 Solar Eclipse (short)

Alireza Ghasemi

2019 Better Than Neil Armstrong (short) 2017 Lunch Time (short)









For an exhibition that ultimately did not take place, the Pompidou Museum asked the filmmaker to answer in images the question: Where are you, Leos Carax? [] He attempts an answer, full of questions. About him, "his" world. I don't know. But if I knew, I would answer that...

C'est Pas Moi It's Not Me

2024 | 41 Minutes

French Colour

France

Director: Leos Carax

Producer: Charles Gillibert & Leos Carax Cast: Denis Lavant, Kateryna Yuspina, Nastya Golubeva Carax, Loreta Juodkaite, Anna-Isabel Siefken, Petr Anevskii, Bianca

Maddaluno

Screenplay: Leos Carax

Cinematographer: Caroline Champetier, AFC

Editor: Florian Sanson

Sound Designer: Lucas Doméjean

Puppeteer: Romuald Collinet, Estelle Charlier **Production Designer:** Florian Sanson, Jean-

Noël Vincensini, Margaux Remaury **Production Company:** Cg Cinéma, Théo

Films, Arte France Cinéma

World Sales: Les Films Du Losange **Festivals:** Cannes FF 2024 | Karlovy Vary

IFF 2024



Leos Carax (born November 22, 1960) is a Frenchborn film director, critic, and writer. Carax is noted for his poetic style and his tortured depictions of love. His first major work was *Boy Meets Girl* (1984), and his notable works include *The Lovers on the Bridge* (1991), *Pola X* (1999), *Holy Motors* (2012), and *Annette* (2021).

Director's 3iography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Annette 2012 Holy Motors 1999 Pola X 1991 The Lovers On The Bridge 1986 Bad Blood 1984 Boy Meets Girl





lvo







lvo
2024 | 104 Minutes
German
Colour
Germany

Synopsis:

Ivo works as a palliative home-care nurse. Every day, she visits families, couples and single people. They live in small flats and large houses. They all have different lives and deaths. They all have different ways of dealing with the time that remains. At home, Ivo's teenage daughter has long since become independent. From morning to night, Ivo drives around in her old Skoda which she has made into her personal living space. Here, she eats her meals, works, sings, swears and dreams. One of her patients, Solveigh, has become a close friend. Ivo has also formed a relationship with Solveigh's husband, Franz. Day after day, the two work together to care for Solveigh. And they sleep with each other. Solveigh's strength is diminishing and she soon has to rely on support for the simplest tasks. She wants the final decision to be her own: she wants Ivo to help her die.

Director: Eva Trobisch

Producer: Lucas Schmidt, Wolfgang Cimera,

Lasse Scharpen

Cast: Minna Wündrich, Pia Hierzegger, Lukas

Turtur, Lilli Lacher, Johann Campean

Screenplay: Eva Trobisch

Cinematographer: Adrian Campean

Editor: Laura Lauzemis

Sound Designer: Andreas Hildebrandt **Music Composer:** Martin Hossbach

Production Designer: Julia Maria Baumann **Production Company:** Studio Zentral.

Network Movie Film - und Fernsehproduktion

World Sales: Loco Films Festivals: Berlinale FF 2024



Director's siography:

Born in Berlin in 1983, she worked as an assistant first in the theatre and later in film before taking up a degree in directing at the University of Television and Film in Munich in 2009. In 2013, she studied film dramaturgy at the NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and, in 2015, she embarked on a master's degree in screenwriting at the London Film School. Her debut feature film, *All Good*, premiered at Locarno where it won the Best First Feature award. The work went on to receive numerous other prizes, including the Woman in Motion Award at Cannes and the German Film Critics' Award.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Ivo

2018 Alles ist gut (All Good)









Darkhan, a young scientist, returns home after a seven-year absence, accompanied by his girlfriend Elena. His grandfather Sagat invites them to join him on a journey to his ancestral homeland far inland. As they embark on this transformative trip, all three must confront the challenge of acceptance and understanding, testing the bonds that connect them.

Joqtau Joqtau 2024 | 70 Minutes Kazakh, Russian Colour

Kazakhstan

Director: Aruan Anartay

Producer: Aruzhan Dossymkozha, Alexandra

Sytnik, Aruan Anartay

Cast: Yermek Shynbolatov, Irina Balkova, Isbek Abilmazhinov, Aydos Auesbayev, Rakhilyam Mashurova, Alibek Anartayev

Screenplay: Aruan Anartay

Cinematographer: Aigul Nurbulatova **Editor:** Aydan Serik, Rinat Bekchintaev,

Valentina Bekchintaeva Sound Designer: Ilya Gariyev

Music Composer: Sanzhar Baiterekov Production Designer: Ayana Nurdinova Production Company: Short brothers

World Sales: Parallax Films **Festivals:** Locarno FF 2024



Aruan Anartay is a director and poetic storyteller from Kazakhstan working with both fictional and documentary tissues of reality. He unveils the untold stories of the Central Asian steppes, offering a singular view of universal themes such as distance, reconnection, and ever-winning tenderness.

Director's Siography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 Warm Lake 2020 A Train of Health 2017 Bailanys 2016 Nostalgia Seller 2015 Tauba









Last Swim
2024 | 100 Minutes
English, Farsi
Colour
United Kingdom

Last Swim

Synopsis:

Ziba is an ambitious and brainy young Londoner. Proud of her Iranian heritage, she is conscientious and sensible but also indulges in a certain romantic nihilism. Perhaps this is because of her passion for astronomy, or perhaps because she longs for happier times. Although she is the only member of her close-knit friendship group to attain good results in the end-of-school exams, she is struggling to remain optimistic. She and her friends want to spend the day together in the hot summer London and witness a unique celestial event. Secretly, Ziba is planning an irreversible step that – in her mind – will give her back control over her life. Caught between a deep passion for being alive and an overwhelming desire to end the pain and fear of her current reality, Ziba must learn to let go of her adolescent dreams and cope with uncertainty.

Director: Sasha Nathwani

Producer: Campbell Beaton, Nisha Mullea, Helen Simmons, Bert Hamelinck, Sorcha

Shephard, James Isilay

Cast: Deba Hekmat, Narges Rashidi, Jay Lycurgo, Solly McLeod, Lydia Fleming, Denzel Baidoo, Michelle Greenidge Screenplay: Sasha Nathwani, Helen

Simmons

Cinematographer: Olan Collardy

Editor: Stephen Dunne

Sound Designer: George Castle **Music Composer:** Federico Albanese

Production Designer: Julija Fricsone Gavriss **Production Company:** Caviar, Pablo & Zeus

World Sales: Indiesales **Festivals:** Berlinale FF 2024



The director was born in London to an Iranian mother and Indian father. He has a degree from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Last Swim is his debut feature film. His short film Raj's Story was a recipient of a One Point Four Award and a Channel 4 Diversity Award. He has also directed various music videos and has twice been nominated for Best Video at the Brit Awards.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Last Swim 2021 Raj's Story (short) 2020 Izzy Bizu - Tough Pill (short) 2018 End of the Line (short) 2017 Play the Game (short)

Director's Biography:









Man is a dog to man. Three dog stories exploring the complexities of human relationships, exposing the hurdles of love and loneliness.

Chiennes de Vies Life's a Bitch

2023 | 92 Minutes French

Black & White Belgium

Director: Xavier Seron **Producer:** Julie Esparbes

Cast: Ninon Borsei, Jean-Jacques Rausin,

Mara Taquin

Screenplay: Xavier Seron

Cinematographer: Olivier Boonjing

Editor: Julie Naas

Sound Designer: Julien Mizac, Philippe

Charbonnel

Music Composer: Thomas Barrière

Production Designer: Sophie Monroy

Production Company: Hélicotronc

World Sales: Be For Films

Festivals: Tallinn Black Nights FF - 2023 |

Sao Paulo IFF - 2024



)irector's

After going to law school, Xavier attended the Institut des Arts de Diffusion (IAD) in Belgium. Very early on, his partiality for dark humor and shooting in black and white became evident in his style. In 2014 he co-directed with Cédric Bourgeois Dreamcatchers. As of 2011, he made several short films with Méryl Fortunat-Rossi: Bad Moon, The Black Bear (selected for 250 festivals) and The Plumber (22 awards, including once again the Magritte for best short fiction film). In 2016, Xavier directed Death by Death, his first feature film. This black comedy was selected for Karlovy Vary, and won several awards, including the Palm Springs New Voices/New Visions Award and the Magritte for Best Screenplay and Best Actor.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Life's a Bitch 2020 Squish (short) 2016 Death by Death

2016 The Black Bear (short)

2014 Dreamcatchers (documentary)

2005 Rein d'Insoluble (short)









A revolutionary militant, a thug, an underground writer, a butler to a millionaire in Manhattan. But also a switchblade waving poet, a lover of beautiful women, a warmonger, a political agitator and a novelist who wrote of his own greatness. Eduard Limonov's life story is a journey through Russia, America and Europe during the second half of the 20th century.

Limonov: The Ballad Limonov: The Ballad 2024 | 133 Minutes English, French, Russian Colour Russia, Italy, France

Director: Kirill Serebrennikov

Producer: Dimitri Rassam, Ilya Stewart, Lorenzo Gangarossa, Mario Gianani, Lorenzo

Mieli

Cast: Ben Whishaw, Viktoria Miroshnichenko

Screenplay: Kirill Serebrennikov, Pawel

Pawlikowski, Ben Hopkins

Cinematographer: Roman Vasyanov

Editor: Yuriy Karikh

Sound Designer: Boris Voyt

Music Composer: Massimo Pupillo

Animator: Timofey Gostev, Ekaterina Rubleva

Production Designer: Vlad Ogay

Production Company: Wildside, Chapter 2, Fremantle Spain, France 3 Cinéma, Hype

Studio

World Sales: The Festival Agency

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Busan IFF 2024



Director's Singraphy:

Kirill Serebrennikov, born in Russia in 1969, initially studied physics at Rostov University before starting his career as a director. He is now one of the leading figures in Russian cinema. His debut feature was Ragin (2004). He won the Best Film Award at the Rome Film Festival for Playing the Victim (2006). His other notable films include Yuri's Day (2008) and The Student (2016). He competed and won the Soundtrack Award at the Cannes Film Festival for Leto (2018), which was set against the backdrop of the Russian alternative rock scene in the early 1980s. Serebrennikov has continued to produce significant works such as Petrov's Flu (2021) and Tchaikovsky's Wife (2022).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 Tchaikovsky's Wife 2021 Petrov's Flu 2018 Leto 2016 The Student 2004 Ragin









Marianne, a pragmatic doctor, and Tor, a compassionate nurse, are both avoiding conventional relationships. One evening, after a blind date, Marianne encounters Tor on the ferry. Tor, who often spends his nights there seeking casual encounters with men, shares his experiences of spontaneous intimacy. Intrigued by his perspective, Marianne begins to explore whether casual intimacy could also be an option for her.

Kjærlighet Love2024 | 119 Minutes Norwegian

Norwegiar Colour Norway

Director: Dag Johan Haugerud **Producer:** Yngve Sæther, Hege Hauff

Hvattum

Cast: Andrea Bræin Hovig, Tayo Cittadella Jacobsen, Marte Engebrigtsen, Lars Jacob Holm, Thomas Gullestad, Marian Saastad

Ottesen, Morten Svartveit

Screenplay: Dag Johan Haugerud Cinematographer: Cecilie Semec Editor: Jens Christian Fodstad

Sound Designer: Yvonne Stenberg & Gisle

Tveito

Music Composer: Peder Kjellsby Production Designer: Tuva Hølmebakk

Production Company: Motlys **World Sales:** M-Appeal

Festivals: Venice IFF 2024 | Busan IFF 2024



Director's Biography: Dag Johan Haugerud has established himself as one of Norway's most influential writers and directors, in addition to being a novelist. With *I Belong* (2012), he won Amanda for Best Film, Director, Screenplay and Female Supporting Role. The film also won the Film Critics Award and was Norway's candidate for the Nordic Council Film Award. With *Beware of Children* (2019), he won the Dragon Award for Best film and Actor at the Gothenburg Film Festival, the film won a record number of 9 Amanda's after the international premiere at Giornate Degli Autori. In addition, the film won the Film Critics Award and Nordic Council Film Prize.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 - Beware of Children

2012 - I Belong









Elskling Loveable 2024 | 103 Minutes Norwegian Colour Norway

Synopsis:

Maria (40) strives to balance parenthood and a demanding career while her second husband, Sigmund, frequently travels for work. As the strain of competing needs takes its toll, their marriage begins to unravel. Despite Maria's desperate efforts to salvage their relationship, Sigmund eventually informs her of his desire for a divorce, forcing her to confront her deepest fears. This revelation propels her into a torrent of grief, anger, and unconscious memories from her own past. Maria eventually realizes that part of the key to understanding her situation lies in her relationship with her own mother and her internal self-image. Through a deeper confrontation with her mother, she finally connects with herself in a way she never knew she lacked. When she meets her husband for a conversation, the pain of abandonment is no longer the same.

Director: Lilja Ingolfsdottir

Producer: Thomas Robsahm

Cast: Helga Guren, Oddgeir Thune

Screenplay: Lilja Ingolfsdottir

Cinematographer: Øystein Mamen

Editor: Lilja Ingolfsdottir, Anton Robsahm

Sound Designer: Bror Kristiansen

Production Designer: Lilja Ingolfsdottir

Production Company: Nordisk Film

Production AS

World Sales: Trust Nordisk

Festivals: Karlovy Vary IFF 2024



Director's Siography:

Lilja Ingolfsdottir trained at the London International Film School and the Prague Film School, Famu. Her oeuvre, which spans two decades, includes several award-winning shorts such as What I wish you had said to me; that you will never say, Like a Flamingo, Neglect, Hong Kong, and What We Fear. Ingolfsdottir's films have premiered at prestigious international short film festivals such as Edinburgh. Grimstad and Haugesund. Her recognition in the industry has been marked by awards and grants, demonstrating her significant influence on Norwegian film. Her latest film Loveable is her feature debut. Ingolfsdottir teaches screenwriting and directing at the Norwegian Film School. She has also developed several feature film scripts and worked as a script consultant.

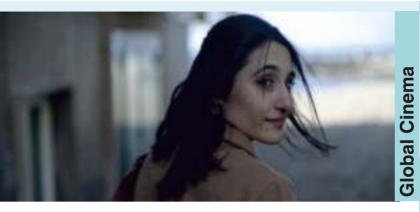
Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Loveable 2021 What I wish you had said to me; that you will never say (short) 2020 Like a Flamingo (short) 2010 Neglect (short)









A bleak winter in a cold and rainy Southern Italy: A woman in her early twenties works in an alienating job in a leather factory and feels the need to fill an absence in her life. One day on the beach, she has a sudden inspiration, and from that moment on her life also becomes someone else's. A voice on her cellphone becomes a tenuous line between her desires, her imagination, and the world around her

Luce Luce 2024 | 95 Minutes Italian Colour

Director: Silvia Luzi and Luca Bellino **Producer:** Donatella Palermo

Cast: Marianna Fontana

Screenplay: Silvia Luzi and Luca Bellino **Cinematographer:** Jacopo Maria Caramella

Editor: Silvia Luzi and Luca Bellino Sound Designer: Paolo Benvenuti, Daniele

Sosio

Italy

Music Composer: Alessandro Paolini,

Stefano Grosso

Production Company: Bokeh Film, Stemal

Entertainment

World Sales: Fandango **Festivals:** Locarno FF 2024



Director's Siography:

Silvia Luzi and Luca Bellino are directors, screenwriters and producers. Their first feature *Crater* (2017) was premiered at at 74th Venice International Film Festival (Critics Week, in competition). The film won the 30° Tokyo Film Festival's Special Jury Prize and many other awards. Luzi and Bellino also directed several award-winning documentaries such as *The Threat* (2008) and *On the Art of War* (2012).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Luce 2017 Crater 2012 On the Art of War (documentary) 2008 The Threat (documentary)











Rio de Janeiro, 1997. Malu, a 50-year-old unemployed and bipolar actress, lives in a precarious house in a favela close to the sea. Dreaming of her glorious past in the theater, she finds herself obliged to house her mother, Lili, a deeply conservative old lady, who has nowhere else to live. In solitude, Malu tries to reconnect with Lili, but it doesn't work and after a complicated episode Malu expels Lili for her house. A few years later, living in complete loneliness and abandonment, Malu develops severe neurological conditions, and Joana finally returns to care for her mother. They discover that Malu has little time left to live, her brain is deteriorating by the day. Joana decides to take Malu to São Paulo, to look after her during the last months of her life. The imminence of death brings an unexpected lightness to their mother-daughter relationship. On the road to São Paulo, already reconciled with her daughter, talking about Brazil's fragile and young democracy.

Malu
Malu
2023 | 103 Minutes
Brazilian Portuguese
Colour
Brazil

Director: Pedro Freire

Producer: Tatiana Leite, Roberto Berliner,

Sabrina Garcia, Leo Ribeiro

Cast: Yara de Novaes, Juliana Carneiro da

Cunha, Carol Duarte, Átila Bee Screenplay: Pedro Freire

Cinematographer: Mauro Pinheiro Jr.

Editor: Marilia Moraes

Sound Designer: Daniel Turini **Music Composer:** Jonas Sá

Production Company: Bubbles Project and

TvZero

World Sales: Pluto Film **Festivals:** Sundance FF 2024



)irector's iography:

Pedro Freire is a film, theatre and TV director, writer and producer. Graduated as Film Director at EICTV and in Theatre at CAL. In 2016 his short film Se por acaso, done under the artistic supervision of Abbas Kiarostami, premiered at Locarno Film Festival. He worked as screenwriter for Ruy Guerra, assistant director to Karim Aïnouz and collaborated as director of actors or casting director for filmmakers such as Jonathan Nossiter, Marcelo Gomes, Sandra Kogut, Sérgio Machado and Cao Guimarães, in a total of 16 feature films, as well as assistant director for theatre directors Enrique Diaz and Bia Lessa. He wrote the screenplay for the feature Hopefuls (Ives Rosenfeld), winner of the Carte Blanche prize at Locarno 2014.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Malu 2016 Bliss (short) 2009 Se Por Acaso (short)









Inspired by true events. Ximena, a successful psychiatrist, receives an unexpected visit from her eldest daughter, Tamara, back from a long period cut off from the world as the member of a sect. A police investigation is launched while the girl takes refuge in her mother's house as it transpires that Tamara's newborn son disappeared within the sect in strange circumstances. Both the law and Ximena will try to find out what has become of the missing baby.

Quizás Es Cierto Lo Que Dicen De Nosotras

Maybe It's True What They Say About Us

2024 | 95 Minutes French, Spanish Colour

Chile, Argentina, Spain

Director: Sofía Paloma Gómez, Camilo

Becerra

Producer: Gabriela Sandoval, Carlos Núñez **Cast:** Aline Küppenheim, Julia Lübert, Camila

Roeschmann

Screenplay: Sofía Paloma Gómez, Camilo

Becerra

Cinematographer: Manuel Rebella

Editor: Valeria Racioppi

Sound Designer: Juan Carlos Maldonado Music Composer: Pablo Mondragón Production Company: Storyboard Media &

La Jauría

World Sales: Meikincine Entertainment **Festivals:** San Sebastian FF 2024



Director's Siography:

Camilo Becerra (Santiago de Chile, 1981) debuted with the feature film *El último sacramento* (2004), followed by *Perro muerto* (2010), recipient of the Best Chilean Film Award at the Valdivia Festival and of Best Debut Film at Trieste Festival. In 2018 he codirected *Sleep Disorders* with Sofia Paloma Gómez (Santiago de Chile, 1985), who had joined him in writing the screenplay of *Perro muerto* and has also directed the feature-length documentaries *I Want to Die Inside a Shark* (2012), shown at festivals including Visions du Réel, FIDOCS and Havana, and *La rebelión interior*, currently in post-production.

Director's Selected Filmography:

Sofía Paloma Gómez 2024 Maybe It's True What They Say

About Us
2018 Sleep Disorders
2012 I Want to Die Inside a Shark
(documentary)

Camilo Becerra

2024 Maybe It's True What They Say About Us









Self-help author Ji-wook still lives with his hairdresser mother Kyung-hee, who is slowly succumbing to dementia. As secrets from a forgotten – or repressed – past surface, we journey deeper into a dark and Freudian tale of belief, memory, oblivion and fictions that are embraced as a way of maintaining the illusion of happiness.

Mother's Kingdom Mother's Kingdom 2023 | 97 Minutes Korean Colour

South Korea

Director: Lee Sang-hak **Producer:** Park Jong-chan

Cast: Han Ki-jang, Nam Kee-ae, You Seong-

j00

Screenplay: Lee Sang-hak
Cinematographer: Kim Ji-ryong
Editor: Lee Sang-hak, Lee Jiwoon
Sound Designer: Goyo Soundworks
Music Composer: Kim Hyungsuk
Production Designer: Kang Sorang

Production Company: Korean Academy of

Film Arts

World Sales: Finecut

Festivals: JEONJU IFF 2024



Born in 1985, Seoul. He directed short films such as Asphalt (2016), Squid (2016) and Ship of Fools (2018). *Mother's Kingdom* is his first feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Mother's Kingdom 2021 Self-Portrait (Short) 2018 Ship Of Fools (Short) 2018 Mom Is A Witch (Short) 2016 Squid (Short) 2014 Inevitable (Short)

Director's Siography:









Nawi's aspirations of attending high school are shattered when she learns that her father Eree plans to marry her off to a stranger, Shadrac. Despite her family's necessity for the bride wealth—symbolized by a substantial amount of livestock—Nawi refuses to succumb to this arranged child marriage. Her steadfast ally in this struggle is her brother and closest friend, Joel.



Toby & Kevin Schmutzler

Brothers Toby & Kevin co-direct films since childhood and believe in the transformative power of movies to foster social change. After a historical short film venture *About German Women*, and their stage direction debut with *Hunger and Greed* on crimes of the garbage industry the brothers cocreated the Netflix documentary *Biking Borders*, which has financed the construction of seven schools in remote regions in Africa and South America.



Apuu Mourine

Apuu is a musician, designer, and first-time ... filmmaker born and raised in Turkana, Kenya. Despite facing opposition and cultural taboos, Apuu began her music career at a young age. With her music, she continuously wants to drive the transformation of her

Director's Singraphy.

tribe, the Turkana, as a storyteller and educator.

Valentine Chelluget

Vallentine is a self-made filmmaker residing in Kisumu, Kenya. Val got her expertise through workshops, YouTube, and – despite her age of just 23 – years of field work. As a director, scriptwriter, and producer, Val has created various short films that got her jobs in the directing department of several award-winning Kenyan productions like *Deranged* or *Okethoree*, and the Kenyan Film Prize nominated "Wife for Hire".

Nawi: Dear Future Me Nawi: Dear Future Me 2024 | 99 Minutes Swahili, English Colour Kenya, Germany

Director: Toby Schmutzler, Kevin Schmutzler,

Apuu Mourine, Vallentine Chelluget **Producer:** Lydia Wrensch, Caroline Heim,

Brizan Were

Cast: Michelle Lemuya Ikeny, Joel Liwan,

Ochungo Benson, Ben Tekee **Screenplay:** Milcah Cherotich

Cinematographer: Klaus Kneist, Renata

Mwende

Editor: Toby Schmutzler

Sound Designer: Roman Pogozelski **Music Composer:** Amadeus Indetzki, Apuu

Mourine

Production Designer: Erixon Kangethe,

Korodi Esinyen

Production Company: FilmCrew Media GmbH, Startup Lions Assets Kenya Ltd,

Baobab Pictures GmbH
World Sales: Festival Agency

Director's Selected Filmography: Toby & Kevin Schmutzler 2024 Nawi

2020 Lockdown Movie 2020 About German Women (short)









Sara works for the army headquarters in Prague. She is an attractive 29-year-old single woman.

When she meets the gallant, graceful, and soft-faced Martin, she is fascinated by him.

Gradually, their connection grows, but when Sara wants to take their relationship to a deeper and more physical level, Martin shies away, hiding a deep secret. Nikdo mne nemá rád Nobody Likes Me

2024 | 104 Minutes

Czech Colour

Czech Republic, Slovakia, France

Director: Petr Kazda, Tomáš Weinreb **Producer:** Tomáš Weinreb, Petr Kazda, Vojtěch Frič, Miša Jelenek, Juraj Lehotský,

Guillaume de Seille

Cast: Rebeka Poláková, Mantas Zemleckas, Barbora Bobulová, Hana Vagnerová, Taťjana

Medvecká, Miroslav Hanuš

Screenplay: Petr Kazda, Tomáš Weinreb

Cinematographer: Juraj Chlpík

Editor: Vojtěch Frič

Sound Designer: Petr Kapeller **World Sales:** MMM Film Sales



Director's Siography Tomas Weinreb (1982) & Petr Kazda (1978) are directors, writers and producers from the Czech Republic. Their debut film *I, Olga Hepnarova* was opening title of Panorama Berlinale 2016, selected by the EFA board, screened over 100 festivals and was sold into over 20 territories for cinemas and VOD (Netflix, MUBI, Amazon), released also in France, Poland and latest in Japan. The film received international awards, Vilnius and Sofia included, as well as domestic Critics and Academy awards.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Nobody Likes Me

2024 Nobody Likes Me 2016 I, Olga Hepnarova









Berta Müller, a successful self-help writer, is accused of plagiarism. Far from taking responsibility, she will deny the accusations and try to justify herself, even if this means bringing out all her darkness.

Culpa Cero No Guilt 2024 | 110 Minutes Spanish Colour Argentina, Spain

Director: Valeria Bertuccelli. Mora Elizalde Producer: Pablo Bossi, Cabe Bossi, Pol

Bossi

Cast: Valeria Bertucelli, Cecilia Roth, Justina Bustos, Gaia Garibaldi, Martin Garabal, Mev Scapola, Mara Bestelli, Lucía Maciel

Screenplay: Valeria Bertuccelli, Mora

Elizalde & Malena Pichot

Cinematographer: Julián Apezteguia

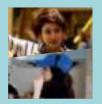
Editor: Luz López Mañé

Sound Designer: Tritón - Guido Berenblum Music Composer: Gabriel "Vicentico" Fernández Capello - Héctor Castillo

Production Designer: Leandro Borrell, Lina

Montello

Production Company: Pampa Films World Sales: Meikincine Entertainment Festivals: Latin American FF 2024



Valeria Bertuccelli

Valeria Bertuccelli began her professional career as an actress in the theater underground in the renowned Parakultural. Her path on screen led her to star in great Argentine box office hits including A Boyfriend for My Wife (dir. Juan Taratuto). In 2018 she released her first film as screenwriter and

director, The Queen of Fear.

Mora Elizalde

Mora Elizalde was born in Buenos Aires in 1992 and graduated in Image Design and Sound of the University of Buenos Aires. At the age of twelve she began filming and editing as a mode of play and experimentation, documenting trips or filming shorts with a webcam. Between 2020 and 2022 she wrote the series Hole In One, together with Valeria Bertuccelli.

Director's Selected Filmography:

Valeria Bertuccelli 2024 No Guilt 2018 The Queen of Fear

Mora Elizalde 2024 No Guilt









Set in a small remote Saudi Arabian village, in the 90s when artistic expression was banned, Norah is a story about the basic human need to communicate through art, in all its forms. Nader, a new schoolteacher and an artist in secret, arrives at the village and meets Norah, a young woman who ignites the creativity inside him and inspires him to paint again. At great risk, they develop a delicate connection and a quiet bond. Nader enlightens Norah on the wider world outside of her tiny community and she realises she must leave, to find a place where she can be free to express her artistic self.

Norah Norah 2023 | 94 Minutes Arabic Colour Saudi Arabia

Director: Tawfik Alzaidi Producer: Tawfik Alzaidi

Cast: Yaqoub Alfarhan, Maria Bahrawi,

Abdullah Alsadhan

Screenplay: Tawfik Alzaidi

Cinematographer: Shaun Harley Lee

Editor: Mounir Soussi

Music Composer: Omar Fadel

Production Designer: Rand Abdel Nour **Production Company:** TwentyOne Entertainment, Black Sugar Pictures

World Sales: Cercamon **Festivals:** Cannes FF 2024



Director's Singraphy:

Tawfik Alzaidi is a Saudi director, based in Riyadh. He wrote, directed and produced Norah, his homegrown debut feature film. Tawfik is considered to be a leading and influential member of the new cinema wave in Saudi Arabia. Tawfik began directing his own short films in 2006. His first short film "The Fabricated Crime" won best editing in the Jeddah Film Festival in 2007 and his film The Silence won the Gulf Short Film Award in the Muscat International Film Festival 2009.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Norah 2015 The Other (short) 2014 Four Colours (short) 2010 Exit (short) 2009 The Silence (short) 2007 The Fabricated Crime (short)









In 1978, five leftist youths, who believed that the leftist revolution could be achieved through politics, not violence, gathered in a house and began to discuss the magazine they had published. The subsequent events, which took place that night, revealed the political chaos that existed in Turkey prior to the 1980 coup d'état.

Nothing In Its Place Nothing In Its Place

2024 | 74 Minutes

Turkish Colour

Turkey, Germany, South-Korea

Director: Burak Çevik

Producer: Burak Çevik, Ipek Erden

Cast: Burak Can Aras, Efe Tasdelen, Yigit Ege Yazar, Celal Ozturk, Onur Gozeten, Tufan Berk

Yildiz, Eren Kol

Screenplay: Burak Çevik
Cinematographer: Baris Aygen

Editor: Burak Çevik

Sound Designer: Taylan Gecit Music Composer: Faten Kanaan Production Designer: Erim Gayretli

Production Company: Fol Films, Vayka Film

World Sales: Square Eyes Film

Festivals: Karlovy Vary IFF 2024 | JEONJU

IFF 2024



Director's Riography.

Burak Çevik (1993, Istanbul) founded Fol Cinema Society and curated experimental and arthouse film screenings. He was lecturer on Non-Fiction between 2018-2020 at Istanbul Bilgi University. His films *The Pillar of Salt* (2018), *Belonging* (2019) and *Forms of Forgetting* (2023) premiered at Berlinale Forum. His video works have screened at various festivals, such as Locarno Festival, Toronto International Film Festival, FID Marseille and New York Film Festival.

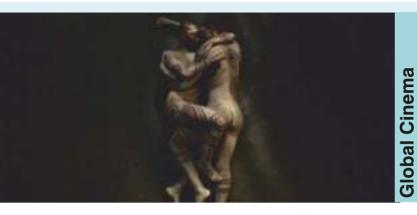
Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Forms of Forgetting 2019 Belonging 2018 The Pillar of Salt









Following Koffi's return to his birthplace after he has been ostracized by his family, 'Omen' explores the weight of beliefs on one's destiny through four characters accused of being witches and sorcerers, all of them intertwined and guiding each other into the phantasmagoria of Africa.

Augure

Omen

2023 | 90 Minutes

French Colour

Belgium, Netherlands, Democratic

Republic of Congo

Director: Baloii

Producer: Benoit Roland

Cast: Marc Zinga, Lucie Debay, Eliane Umuhire, Yves-Marina Gnahoua, Marcel

Otete Kabeya
Screenplay: Baloji

Cinematographer: Joaquim Philippe **Editor:** Bruno Tracq, Bertrand Conard

Sound Designer: TJan Deca, Erik Griekspoor,

Danny Van Spreuwel

Music Composer: Liesa Van der Aa Production Designer: Eve Martin Production Company: Wrong Men

World Sales: Sudu

Festivals: Cannes FF 2023



Jirector's Biography

Born in 1978 in Lubumbashi (Democratic Republic of Congo) and based in Belgium, Baloji (not to be confused with the photographer Sammy Baloji) is an award-winning musician, filmmaker, a polymath artist, he's working as art director, costume designer for fashion and other visual art forms. Baloji name meaning refers to occult and evil forces. In Swahili, it initially meant "man of science," but in colonial times, it turned into "man of occult sciences/sorcerer". This assignment has influenced his entire work as a heavy burden to bear and, at the same time, as a driver for a playful and empirical approach, shaping his vision with an imaginary suspended between oneiric and magical realism, notably through a work on the mask and the symbolisms and its report of association of colors and sound caused by its synesthesia.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Omen

2019 Zombies (short)









Portuguese immigrant Aurora works as a warehouse picker in a vast fulfilment centre in Scotland. Trapped between the confines of her workplace and her flatshare, Aurora seeks to resist the loneliness, alienation and ensuing small talk which begin to threaten her sense of self. Set against a landscape dominated by an algorithm-driven gig economy designed to keep us apart, On Falling explores the vital struggle to find meaning and connection.

On Falling On Falling

2024 | 104 Minutes English, Portuguese Colour United Kingdom, Portugal

Director: Laura Carreira

Producer: Jack Thomas-O'Brien & Mário

Patrocínio

Cast: Joana Santos, Inês Vaz, Piotr Sikora,

Jake McGarry, Neil Leiper Screenplay: Laura Carreira Cinematographer: Karl Kürten

Editor: Helle le Fevre

Sound Designer: Ines Adriana

Production Designer: Andy Drummond **Production Company:** Sixteen Films, BRO

Cinema

World Sales: GoodFellas

Festivals: Toronto IFF 2024 | San Sebastian

IFF 2024



Director's Siography:

Laura Carreira is a Portuguese filmmaker based in Edinburgh, Scotland since studying film at the ECA (Edinburgh College of Art). Her first short film *Red Hill* won the New Visions Award at the 73rd Edinburgh International Film Festival and was nominated for the Best Short Film award at the 2019 BAFTA Scotland Awards. Her short film *The Shift* premiered at the Venice International Film Festival in 2020, won the New Talent Award at IndieLisboa and was nominated for the European Film Awards and the London Critics' Circle Film Awards. In 2022, Laura was named one of the Rising Stars Scotland by Screen International. *On Falling* is her debut feature film. Her second feature film is in development.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 On Falling 2020 The Shift (short) 2018 Red Hill (short)









Mathieu lives in Paris, Alice in a small seaside resort in Western France. He is a famous actor, about to turn fifty. She is a piano teacher in her forties. They were in love fifteen years ago, then separated. Time has passed. They each went their ways and slowly healed. When Mathieu tries to overcome his melancholia in a thermal spa, he stumbles upon Alice.

Hors Saison
Out of Season
2023 | 115 Minutes
French

Colour France

Director: Stéphane Brizé **Producer:** Sidonie Dumas

Cast: Guillaume Canet, Alba Rohrwacher,

Sharif Andoura, Lucette Beudin

Screenplay: Stéphane Brizé, Marie Drucker

Cinematographer: Antoine Heberlé

Editor: Anne Klotz

Sound Designer: Emmanuelle Villard

Music Composer: Vincent Delerm

Production Designer: Mathieu Menut

Production Company: Gaumont

World Sales: Gaumont
Festivals: Venice IFF 2024



Director's Siography:

Director and screenwriter Stéphane Brizé was born in 1966, in Rennes, France. After studying electronics, he entered drama school in Paris. Between 1993 and 1996, he filmed two short subjects that won several awards. Since 1999, he has directed most notably *Mademoiselle Chambon*, *A Few Hours of Spring and The Measure of a Man*. The latter was in competition in Cannes in 2015. A Woman's Life, adapted from the eponymous novel by Guy Maupassant, was in competition in Venice in 2016, where it received the Prix Louis Delluc. Many of his films deal with the effects of the financialization of the economy on men and women.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 Another World 2018 At War 2016 A Woman's Life 2015 The Measure of a Man 2012 A Few Hours of Spring 2009 Mademoiselle Chambon









The long journey of Parthenope's life, from her birth in 1950 till today. A feminine epic, devoid of heroism but brimming with an inexorable passion for freedom, Naples, and the faces of love—all those true, pointless, and unspeakable loves. The perfect Capri summer, the lightheartedness of youth. Which ends in ambush. And then all the others—the Neapolitans, men and women, observed and loved, disillusioned and vital, their waves of melancholy, their tragic ironies and dejected glances. Life, be it ordinary or memorable, knows how to be very long. The passing of time offers up a vast repertoire of emotions. And there in the background, so close and so very far, is Naples, this ineffable city that bewitches, enchants, screams, laughs, and always knows how to hurt you.

Parthenope Parthenope

2023 | 136 Minutes

Colour

Italy, France

Director: Paolo Sorrentino

Producer: Lorenzo Mieli, Anthony Vaccarello,

Paolo Sorrentino, Ardavan Safaee

Cast: Celeste Dalla Porta, Stefania Sandrelli, Gary Oldman, Silvio Orlando, Luisa Ranieri,

Isabella Ferrari

Screenplay: Paolo Sorrentino Cinematographer: Daria D'Antonio

Editor: Cristiano Travaglioli

Sound Designer: Emanuele Cecere, Mirco

Perri, Silvia Moraes

Music Composer: Lele Marchitelli Production Designer: Carmine Guarino

Production Company: A24
World Sales: Star Entertainment
Festivals: Cannes FF 2024



Director's Siography:

Paolo Sorrentino (Naples, Italy. 1970) made his debut with One Man Up (2001), screened in Cinema del Presente at Venice. He has competed in Cannes with The Consequences of Love (2004), The Family Friend (2006), Il Divo (2008), This Must Be the Place (2011), The Great Beauty (2012), Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, and Youth (2016), winner of three European Film Awards. Completing his filmography are Loro (2018) and The Hand of God (2021), Grand Jury Prize in Venice and Academy Award nominee. Parthenope competed at Cannes, where it landed the CST Award for its director of cinematography.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 The Hand of God 2016 Youth 2012 The Great Beauty 2008 Il Divo 2006 The Family Friend 2004 Consequences of Love









A 30-year-old doctor, Alaa, encounters his old friend Mahdy, who is experiencing a bizarre condition where mint plants sprout from his body.

Moattar Binanaa Perfumed with Mint

2024 | 113 Minutes

Arabic Colour

Egypt, France, Tunisia, Qatar

Director: Muhammed Hamdy **Producer:** Farès Ladjimi

Cast: Alaa El Din Hamada, Mahdy Abo Bahat, Abdo Zin Eldin, Hatem Emam Moustafa Screenplay: Muhammed Hamdy Cinematographer: Muhammed Hamdy

Editor: Thomas Glaser

Sound Designer: Mostafa Shaaban, Antonin

Dalmasso, Aymeric Dupas

Production Designer: Ammar Abo Bakr **Production Company:** Supernova Films

World Sales: Reason 8

Festivals: Venice FF 2024 | Toronto IFF 2024 | Tallinn Black Nights FF 2024



Muhammed Hamdy is a filmmaker, director of photography, and producer from Cairo. He was a cinematographer on *The Square* (People's Choice Award Documentary Winner, TIFF '13), *We Are the Giant* (14), and *Olmo and the Seagull* (15). *Perfumed with Mint* (24) is his directorial debut.

Director's Biography Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Perfumed With Mint









© Les Films du Worso

Sweden, 2018. A mysterious syndrome affecting refugee children is sparking concerns among doctors and politicians. Sergei and Natalia have been forced to flee from their native country after an attack that almost took Sergei's life. They have settled with their two young daughters in Sweden, waiting for the Migration Board to decide on their Asylum Application. They try their best to lead a normal life. They work hard, send their kids to Swedish school, learn the language, submitting themselves to regular inspections from the authorities and hoping that one day, they will be Swedish citizens. But when their asylum application is rejected, Katja, their youngest daughter collapses and falls into a mysterious coma. Faced with a moral dilemma, Sergei and Natalia's resilience will be tested. Can they summon hope to save their daughters?

Quiet Life Quiet Life

2024 | 99 Minutes English, Russian, Swedish

Colour

Greece, Sweden, France, Germany,

Finland, Estonia

Director: Alexandros Avranas

Producer: Sylvie Pialat, Alejandro Arenas

Azorin, Benoît Quainon

Cast: Chulpan Khamatova, Naomi Lamp, Miroslava Pashutina, Eleni Roussinou Screenplay: Stavros Pamballis, Alexandros

Avranas

Cinematographer: Olympia Mytilinaiou

Editor: Dounia Sichov

Sound Designer: Kristjan Kurm, Kostas Varympopiotis, Persefoni Miliou **Music Composer:** Tuomas Kantelinen

Production Designer: Markku Pätilä
Production Company: Les Films du Worso

World Sales: Elle Driver **Festivals:** Venice FF 2024



irector's liography: Alexandros Avranas was born in Larissa in 1977. He studied at U.d.K Berlin. After directing several short films, art pieces and documentaries, his first feature film, *Without*, won 7 awards in the National Section of the 49th Thessaloniki International Film Festival. His next film, *Miss Violence*, received the Silver Lion for Best Director, the Coppa Volpi for Best Actor and 3 collateral awards, at the 70th Venice international

Film Festival. The film went on to win 12 international

awards including Best Script at the Stockholm International Film Festival. His most recent film, Love Me Not, premiered in competition at the 65th San Sebastián Film Festival. Alexandros also directs works for the stage, with his most recent play premiering at the National Theater of Greece.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 Love Me Not 2016 Dark Crimes 2013 Miss Violence 2009 Without









A group of men attack two young shepherds. The 13-year-old Achraf is forced to bring the head of his cousin Nizar to the family as a gruesome message. Trying not to lose his mind, Achraf realizes that the ghost of his cousin is determined to accompany him. With the helplessness of his elders, Achraf is torn between holding on to Nizar and his duty to lead the family to retrieve the body.

Les Enfants Rouge Red Path

2024 | 100 Minutes

Arabic Colour

Tunisia, France, Belgium, Poland, Saudi

Arabia, Qatar

Director: Lotfi Achour

Producer: Anissa Daoud, Sébastien

Hussenot, Lotfi Achour

Cast: Ali Hleli, Yassine Samouni, Wided Dabebi, Younes Naouar, Latifa Gafsi **Screenplay:** Natacha de Pontcharra, Doria

Achour, Sylvain Cattenoy, Lotfi Achour Cinematographer: Wojciech Staroń Editor: Ewin Ryckaert, Malek Chatta, Anne-

Laure Guégan

Sound Designer: Aymen Labidi

Music Composer: Jawhar Basti, Venceslas

Catz

Production Designer: Mohamed Mouhli **Production Company:** A.P.A: Artistes Producteurs Associés, La Luna Productions

World Sales: MPM Premium

Festivals: Locarno FF 2024 | Stockholm FF 2024 | Thessaloniki FF 2024 | Warsaw FF

2024 | Vancouver FF 2024



Director's Siography: Born in Tunis, Lotfi Achour is an author, director, and producer. After his baccalauréat, he enrolled at the Faculty of Law and Economics in Tunis, where he studied economics. After a family tragedy, he realized that he wanted to become an actor and, at the age of 21, began his training at the Grenoble Conservatory and studied theater and cinema at the Sorbonne Institute of Theatrical Studies. His latest show was co-produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company for the London 2012 Olympic Games. In the cinema, he has directed 3 short films that have won dozens of awards, including Law of Lamb, which was nominated in the short film category at the 69th Cannes Film Festival.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Red Path

2022 Angle mort (short)

2016 Burning Hope

2016 Law of Lamb (short)

2014 Father (short)

2006 Ordure (short)









Sonja, 41, is a dedicated housewife raising her 10-year-old daughter, Mia. She has kept her civil partnership with Adela, 27, hidden from everyone out of fear. One day, Sonja's Citizen Pass suddenly stops working, stripping away all her freedoms. Unbeknownst to her, this glitch will unveil her past, a past she desperately concealed from the state to avoid persecution as a terrorist. Set in the near future, the story unfolds in a dystopian world shaped by the policies of an authoritarian Eastern Bloc government. Here, a nightmare digital dictatorship reigns, with Citizen Passes dictating access to public services and personal liberties.

Reset Reset

2024 | 95 Minutes

Polish Colour Poland

Director: Patricia Ryczko **Producer:** Patricia Ryczko

Cast: Kasia Borek, Karolina Micula, Julia

Polaczek, Marieta Zukowska **Screenplay:** Patricia Ryczko

Cinematographer: Grzegorz Korczak

Editor: Morten Rud

Sound Designer: Piotr Borczynski
Music Composer: Jimmy Svennson
Production Designer: Wojtek Pawlak
Production Company: Storygeist Film

World Sales: Reel Suspects



Director's Siography: Director, and screenwriter, who graduated from Polish National Film School and Wajda Film School, Patricia Ryczko's feature debut *I am REN* had its world premiere at the 35th Warsaw Film Festival in 2019, and the polish theatrical release in 2020. Her short films have won quite a few international prizes. Ryczko is known as a published author, her first novel, a Scandinavian psychological thriller *A Child Made to Order* placed itself among the top-selling novels in the Mystery & Suspense category on Amazon UK & US.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Reset 2019 I am REN 2012 Monster (short) 2008 Sprinter (short) 2006 Below the Silence (short) 2003 Mila (short)









Fred is unemployed and just gambling. He lives with his sick mother. He meets Roxana who is filming the wedding ceremonies and then he becomes her assistant. In their first work trip to the north of Iran, Roxana gets involved in a serious problem but Fred somehow helps and saves her, however, there are some more serious problems that Fred will have nothing to do with.

Roxana Roxana

2023 | 120 Minutes

Farsi Colour Iran

Director: Parviz Shahbazi
Producer: Massoud Radaie
Cast: Yasna Pourtahmasb, Mahsa
Akbarabadi, Maedeh Tahmasbi, Behrang

Alavi, Rambod Motalebi Screenplay: Parviz Shahbazi Cinematographer: Parviz Shahbazi

Editor: Parviz Shahbazi

Sound Designer: Alireza Alavian

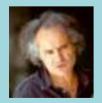
Music Composer: JSepehr Sepasgozar &

Rouzbeh Mirheydari

Production Designer: Amir-Hossein Haddad Production Company: Massoud Radaie World Sales: Iranian Independents

Festivals: Red Sea FF 2023 | Sao Paulo FF

2023 | Tokyo FF 2023



Director's Siography:

Born in 1962 in Iran, Parviz Shahbazi is a filmmaking graduate of the Tehran Cinema College. After editing several films and directing 12 shorts he made his first feature, *Traveler from the South*, in 1997. This debut feature brought Shahbazi worldwide recognition and several awards. His second feature, *Whispers* (2000) has likewise won much international acclaim. In 2002 his third film, *Deep Breath*, was selected for the Directors' Fortnight section of the Cannes IFF, to great critical acclaim. *Karat 14*, made in 2007, and *Trapped*, 2013, are Shahbazi's fourth and fifth features. *Malaria*, his sixth movie, was selected for the 2016 Venice Film Festival and the same year won the Grand Prix at the Warsaw IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 Tala 2017 Malaria 2013 Trapped 2003 Deep Breath 1997 Travel from the South









Ai Ni Ranbou Rude to Love 2024 | 105 Minutes Japanese Colour Japan

Synopsis:

An unsettling drama about a marriage which is steadily losing its spark. Momoko (Noriko Eguchi) leads a respectable life as a housewife. She dresses elegantly and ensures that the apartment looks just right, down to the last detail; she attends to her husband assiduously and goes to great lengths to cook him proper Japanese food. Are these expressions of love, or rather paranoia from the emotional chasm that has opened out between them? And when does devoted care become an obsession? A psychologically precise case history of a spent relationship, in which long suppressed pain has risen to the surface. A film that examines the dark corners of human frustration and hysteria, where the desire to create something good develops into the urge to destroy.

Director: Yukihiro Morigaki

Producer: Rampei Yokoyama, Takuma

Yoshida

Cast: Noriko Eguchi, Kotaro Koizumi, Jun

Fubuki, Fumika Baba

Screenplay: Yukihiro Morigaki, Sahoko

Yamazaki, Ayako Suzuki

Cinematographer: Toyotaro Shigemori

Editor: Kenichi Hirai

Sound Designer: Masayuki Inomata
Music Composer: Taro Iwashiro
Production Designer: Keiko Matsunaga
Production Company: Tokyo Theatres Co.,
Inc., Yomiuri Telecasting Corporation
World Sales: Yomiuri Telecasting

Corporation

Festivals: Karlovy Vary IFF 2024



Morigaki Yukihiro was born in Hiroshima, Japan, in 1983 and started making documentaries while at university. He is a well-known commercials and TV drama director who has won awards at Cannes Lions and ACC CM Festival and his short film *Clockwork Couple* won the best film of the 2014 FOX Movie Premiere Short Film Festival.

Director's Siography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 The Night Beyond the Tricornered Window

2017 Goodbye, Grandpa!









Colour Spain

Synopsis:

Maria, a promising young writer and new mother, stumbles upon a chilling headline: a French woman has drowned her 10-month-old twins in the bathtub. The gruesome act seizes Maria's imagination, becoming an obsession. Why did she do it? From that moment onwards, the specter of infanticide looms over Maria's life as a haunting possibility.

Director: Mar Coll

2024 | 111 Minutes

Spanish, Catalan

Salve Maria Salve Maria

Producer: Sergi Casamitjana, María Zamora

Cast: Laura Weissmahr, Oriol Pla Screenplay: Mar Coll, Valentina Viso Cinematographer: Nilo Zimmermann

Editor: Aina Calleja

Sound Designer: Amanda Villavieja, Elena

Coderch

Music Composer: Zeltia Montes

Production Designer: Laura Santos

Production Company: Escándalo Films

World Sales: Be For Films Festivals: Locarno FF 2024



Director's Siggraphy: Mar Coll (born 1981) is a Spanish screenwriter and film director. For her first feature, *Three Days With The Family* (2009), she won the Goya and Gaudí Awards for Best Director. For her second film, *We All Want What's Best for Her* (2013), she received nominations for Best Director and Best Screenplay at the Gaudí Awards. She has also directed the limited series *Killing the Father* (2018) and *This Is Not Sweden* (2023). Salve Maria is her long-awaited return to cinema.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2013 We All Want What's Best For Her 2009 Three Days With The Family









In Borneo, at the edge of the tropical forest, Keria is given a baby orangutan that has been rescued from the oil palm plantation where her father works. At the same time, her young cousin Selaï has come to live with them, seeking refuge from the conflict between his nomadic family and the logging companies. Together, Keria, Selaï and the little ape will battle the destruction of their ancestral forest home, now under greater threat than ever. But for Keria, the fight will also allow her to discover the truth of her own origins.

Sauvages Savages

2024 | 87 Minutes

French Colour

Switzerland, France, Belgium

Director: Claude Barras **Producer:** Nicolas Burlet

Cast: Babette de Coster, Martin Verset, Laëtitia Dosch, Benoît Poelvoorde, Pierre-

Isaïe Duc

Screenplay: Catherine Paillé, Claude Barras

Cinematographer: Simon Filliot

Editing: Anne-Laure Guégan, Claude Barras **Music Composer:** Charles de Ville, Nelly

Tungang

Head of Puppet Making: Grégory Beaussart

Head of Props: Delphine Daumaas **Production Company:** Nadasdy Film

World Sales: Goodfellas

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Locarno FF

2024



Director's Singraphy:

Born in 1973, in Sierre, Claude Barras is a Swiss director and producer. Son and grandson of farmers, he studied illustration for children's books at the Emile Cohl school, anthropology and digital image at Lulière University in Lyon and then 3D Infographics at Lausanne School of Art. After his studies he co-directed Banquise with Cédric Louis, his first animated short film, selected for Cannes Official Competition in 2006. Claude Barras then worked with the animation collective, Helium Films, producing and directing some ten animated short films which were selected for and won prizes in many festivals. He also teaches animation at the Geneva School of Applied Arts and the Ecole de la Poudrière in Valence.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Savages

2016 My Life as a Courgette











Director Narges Shahid Kalhor no longer wants to be called "Shahid" (martyr) as her surname and casts an actress as herself, who is supposed to set about changing the family name. All of a sudden, her bizarre great-grandfather appears. A man who was declared a martyr in Iran after his heroic death a hundred years ago and thus bequeathed to his descendants the honorific "Shahid". He seeks to prevent his great-granddaughter from going through with her plan.

Shahid Shahid

2024 | 84 Minutes German, Farsi, English Colour Germany

Director: Narges Kalhor **Producer:** Michael Kalb

Cast: Baharak Abdolifard, Nima Nazarinia, Narges Kalhor, Thomas Sprekelsen, Carine

Huber

Screenplay: Narges Kalhor, Aydin Alinejad

Cinematographer: Felix Pflieger
Editor: Frank Müller, Narges Kalhor
Sound Designer: Philip Hutter
Music Composer: Marja Burchard
Production Designer: Ann-Kristin Büttner

Production Company: Michael Kalb

Filmproduktion

World Sales: Filmotor **Festivals:** Berlinale FF 2024



Born in 1984 in Tehran, Iran, Narges Kalhor studied directing and visual communication. In 2009, she applied for political asylum in Germany while in the country for a festival. Her graduation film *In the Name of Scheherazade* premiered at the Visions du Réel festival in Nyon and was awarded the Goethe Institut's prize for best documentary film at DOK Leipzig.

Director's Siography:

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Shahid

2019 In the Name of Scheherazade









Zhuang is a late bloomer. When he first meets his classmate Meng, a talented long-distance runner, he rashly and spontaneously takes the blame for her theft of a starting pistol. But before they can get to know each other better, Meng gives him the cold shoulder. Confused, Zhuang decides to join Meng's track team, even though this leaves him with less time for studying. Academic pressure is added to the puzzles of adolescence. Zhuang plans to surprise everyone with a bold gesture. He is just waiting for the right moment...

Kai Shi De Qiang She Sat There Like All Ordinary Ones

2024 | 105 Minutes

Mandarin Colour China

Director: Youjia Qu

Producer: Meng Xie, Xianjian Wu

Cast: Taiwen Zhang, Jijun Miao, Haipeng Xu, Houyao Yang, Zhongwei Jiang, Hanyu Fu

Screenplay: Youjia Qu Cinematographer: Qing Lv

Editor: Siqi Shan

Sound Designer: Li Danfeng Music Composer: Siyang Chen Production Designer: Yao Xu

Production Company: Beijing Booy Media.,

Ltd.

World Sales: Rediance **Festivals:** Berlinale FF 2024



irector's iography: Filmmaker and photographer Youjia Qu graduated from Beijing Film Academy and the Rhode Island School of Design. His debut short film *Meijing* (2017) won several awards including the Night Award at Signes de Nuit, Best Fiction Film at Chongqing Youth Film Festival, and Best Film at Stars Hollywood Festival. His second film *Together Apart* (2019) was awarded Best Short Film at FIRST Film Festival Xining, selected in IFFR Bright Future Mid-length competition. His feature project *Lava* was selected for Busan Asian Project Market and Berlinale Co-Production Market. *She Sat There Like All Ordinary Ones* (2024) is his first feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 She Sat There Like All Ordinary Ones 2019 Together Apart (Short)

2019 Together Apart (Short) 2017 Meijing (Short)









Iran

Farsi Colour

Shoomah Showmah

2024 | 94 Minutes

Synopsis:

Mitra is a single mother who runs an ecotourism complex with her son Arvand. Together, they organize tourist tours and diving training. After a lengthy wait, the bodies of divers who were suspiciously killed in the war are found, but there is no clue of 'Sadra" Mitra's husband. So, she decides to find him.

Director: Mojgan Bayat

Producer: Abd Mohammad Najibi Cast: Fatemeh Motamed Arya, Pejman

Bazeghi, Rouzbeh Hesari

Screenplay: Hamidreza Aligholiyan

Cinematographer: Iman Tahsinzadeh, Abed

Abdinasab

Editor: Kianoosh Ayari

Sound Designer: Alireza Alavian Music Composer: Soroosh Entezami **Production Company:** Barsin Film World Sales: Ariana Films Distribution



Born in 1979, Mojgan Bayat holds an MA in directing. She started her career as an assistant director in 2007. Meanwhile she has also acted in 12 films. In 2012 she made her debut as a director. Her short film Acid and her first feature film Child of Earth were acclaimed by many national and international festivals. Showmah is her second feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Showmah 2018 Born of the Earth 2015 Acid (short) 2014 Dirty Gold (short) 2012 Confluence (short)









Sicily. Early 2000s. After serving several years in prison for Mafia-related crimes. Catello (Toni Servillo), a long-serving politician, has lost everything. When the Italian secret service prevails upon him to help capture the last major Sicilian Mafia boss Matteo (Elio Germano), who has been on the lam for three decades. Catello sees an opportunity to stage a comeback. A shrewd man of a hundred masks. Catello is a tireless illusionist and master manipulator, who turns truth into falsehood and falsehood into truth. As unique as it is improbable, Catello begins a correspondence with Matteo - using handwritten letters passed discretely to the fugitive with the intention of exploiting the younger man's emotional shortcomings. It's a gamble, one which, with one of the most wanted criminals in the world, involves a high degree of risk.



Fabio Grassadonia and Antonio Piazza, directors and screenwriters, made their debut in 2013 with the film Salvo, which triumphed at Critics' Week at the Cannes Film Festival, winning the Grand Prix and the Prix Révélation. The film was distributed in 20 countries and won the Silver Ribbon for Best Cinematography and the Italian Golden Globe for Best Actress. In returned to Cannes with Sicilian Ghost Story, while returned to Cannes with Sicilian Ghost Story, while was selected as the opening film of Critics' Week. The film, previously awarded the Sundance Institute Global Filmmaking Award for its screenplay, won the David di Donatello for Rest Non-Original Screenplay as well as Silver Best Actress. In 2017, Grassadonia and Piazza

Ribbons for Best Cinematography and Best Set Design. The film was screened at the most prestigious international film festivals and distributed worldwide.

lddu Sicilian Letters 2024 | 122 Minutes Italian Colour France, Italy

Director: Fabio Grassadonia. Antonio Piazza **Producer:** Nicola Giuliano, Francesca Cima,

Carlotta Calori, Viola Prestieri

Cast: Toni Servillo, Elio Germano, Daniela Marra, Barbora Bobulova, Giuseppe Tantillo, Fausto Russo Alesi, Antonia Truppo,

Tommaso Ragno

Screenplay: Fabio Grassadonia, Antonio

Piazza

Cinematographer: Luca Bigazzi

Editor: Paola Freddi

Sound Designer: Stefano Campus, Mirko

Perri, Giulio Previ

Music Composer: Colapesce

Production Designer: Gaspare De Pascali Production Company: Indigo Film, Rai

Cinema

World Sales: Les Films du Losange Festivals: Venice FF 2024 | Toronto IFF

2024

Director's Selected Filmography:

2017 Sicilian Ghost Story 2013 Salvo









Stormskärs Maja Stormskerry Maja 2024 | 163 Minutes

Swedish, Finnish

Colour Finland

Synopsis:

When Maja is married to the humble fisherman Janne, they begin their family life on the remote island of Stormskerry, a place where survival is an unyielding challenge. Amidst the hardships of their isolated existence, Maja's awakening to her own potential is kindled through the love of Janne and her children. Her journey becomes a forge of resilience where she discovers a love that transcends the boundaries of life and death.

Director: Tiina Lymi

Producer: Hanna Virolainen, Jukka Helle **Cast:** Amanda Jansson, Desmond Eastwood, Linus Troedsson, Tony Doyle, Beppe Lantz,

Tobias Zilliacus

Screenplay: Anni Blomqvist

Cinematographer: Rauno Ronkainen

Editor: Joona Louhivuori Sound Designer: Kirka Sainio Music Composer: Lauri Porra

Production Designer: Otso Linnalaakso **Production Company:** Solar Films Oy **World Sales:** Picture Tree International

Festivals: IFF Rotterdam 2024



Tiina Lymi (1971, Finland) is a well-known Finnish actress, director, screenwriter and author. Ever since her first film role for *Akvaariorakkaus* (1993), she has been acting for films, plays, and television series. She was awarded with the prestigious Jussi Award for Best Leading Actress. Lymi has been working as a theater and television director.

Director's Siography: Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 Man and a Junior 2016 Off The Map









After the mysterious disappearance of their baby daughter, a young couple begins to receive strange videos, realising someone has been filming their daily life—even their most intimate moments. The police set up surveillance around their home to catch the voyeur, but the family starts to crumble as secrets unravel under the scrutiny of eyes watching them from all sides.

Stranger Eyes
Stranger Eyes
2024 | 126 Minutes
Mandarin, English
Colour

Director: Yeo Siew Hua

Singapore, Taiwan, France

Producer: Fran Borgia, Stefano Centini, Jean-Laurent Csinidis, Alex C. Lo

Cast: Wu Chien-Ho, Lee Kang-Sheng, Anicca Panna, Vera Chen, Pete Teo, Xenia Tan.

Maryanne Ng-Yew
Screenplay: Yeo Siew Hua
Cinematographer: Hideho Urata
Editor: Jean-Christophe Bouzy

Sound Designer: Tu Duu-Chih, Tu Tse-Kang Music Composer: Thomas Foguenne Production Designer: James Page Production Company: Akanga Film Asia, Volos Films, Films de Force Majeure, Cinema

World Sales: Playtime

Inutile

Festivals: Venice IFF 2024



Director's Biography: Yeo Siew Hua is a director and writer from Singapore. He won the 71st Locarno Festival's Golden Leopard prize for his film *A Land Imagined* (2018). His debut feature, the experimental *In The House of Straw* (2009), was lauded by critics as a significant film of the Singapore New Wave. Yeo is a member of the Asia Pacific Screen Awards (APSA) Academy and a founding member of the 13 Little Pictures film collective in Singapore.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2018 A Land Imagined

2014 The Obs: A Singapore Story 2009 In the House of Straw









Tabestan-e Haman Saal Summertime

2024 | 108 Minutes

Farsi Colour Iran

Director: Mahmoud Kalari

Producer: Ali Oji

Cast: Ali Shadman, Fariba Naderi, Ryan Sarlak, Ronika Bahramzadeh, Samira

Hassanpour

Screenplay: Mahmoud Kalari
Cinematographer: Koohyar Kalari

Editor: Hamid Najafi Rad Sound Designer: Alireza Alavian Music Composer: Hesam Naseri

Production Designer: Kamyab Aminashayeri

Production Company: Ali Oji Films

World Sales: Irimage

Festivals: Fair FF 2024 | Bosphorus FF 2024

Synopsis:

This story follows two young cousins, a boy named Atta and a girl named Masi, as they navigate the innocence of childhood in 1953 Tehran, unaware of the political turmoil gripping the city during the American-backed coup in Iran. Living in their grandmother's old house, the two face the absence of their fathers—Atta's in prison, and Masi's lost to death. Their carefree days take a dark turn when their aunt, Marzi, accuses Davoud, Masi's brother and Atta's idol, of stealing her jewelry. Pressured and unwilling, Atta is forced to identify Davoud as the thief through the reflection in a fortune-teller's mirror, shattering their world of trust and love. Decades later, 77-year-old Atta Ameri returns to Iran to visit the old house, where memories of childhood bonds, betrayal, and enduring emotions come flooding back.



Director's Siography: Born in 1951 in Tehran, Mahmoud Kalari has established himself as one of the most distinguished cinematographers in New Iranian Cinema working with renowned cineastes such as Abbas Kiarostami, Jafar Panahi, Asghar Farhadi and Mohsen Makhmalbaf, winning four Best Cinematography Awards in Fajr National Film Festival. Kalari started his artistic career in 1974, completed photography courses in New York and worked with Paris-based Sigma Photo News Agency. In 1984, Kalari entered film industry as DoP of the film, Frosty Roads. In 1998, he directed his debut feature film, The Cloud and the Rising Sun, which won the Best Film Award at Mar del Plata IFF.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2001 Dance with Dream

1998 The Cloud and the Rising Sun









Accompanied by his best friend Miyata, Sanu returns to Izu, a Japanese seaside resort where he fell in love five years earlier with his wife Nagi. Overcome by grief and nostalgia for the place, Sano starts looking for a red cap that Nagi had once misplaced.

Super Happy Forever Super Happy Forever

2024 | 94 Minutes

Japanese Colour

France, Japan

Director: Kohei Igarashi

Producer: Makoto Oki, Yusaku Emoto, Martin

Bertier, Damien Manivel

Cast: Hiroki Sano, Yoshinori Miyata, Nairu

Yamamoto, Hoang Nh Quynh

Screenplay: Kohei Igarashi, Koichi Kubodera

Cinematographer: Wataru Takahashi

Editor: Keiko Okawa, Kohei Igarashi, Damien

Manivel

Sound Designer: Gen Takahashi, Agathe

Poche, Simon Apostolou

Music Composer: Daigo Sakuragi

Production Designer: Masato Nunobe

Production Company: MLD Films, Nobo LLC

World Sales: BAC

Festivals: San Sebastian FF 2024



Director's Singraphy:

Kohei Igarashi directed his first feature film, *Voice of Rain That Comes at Night*, recipient of the Critics' Award at the Seoul Digital Cinema Festival. His graduation film from Tokyo University of the Arts, *Iki o koroshite / Hold your Breath Like a Lover* (2014), competed in the Cineasti del presente section of Locarno Festival. His third feature, *The Night I Swam* (2017) co-directed with Damien Manivel, had its premiere in the Orizzonti section of the Venice Festival and participated in Zabaltegi-Tabakalera, where he presented his short film *Suigyo no majiwari / Two of Us* in 2023. This film precisely provides the starting point for Super Happy Together, the film premiered in the Giornati degli Autori at Venice.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Super Happy Forever 2017 The Night I Swam 2014 Hold Your Breath Like a Lover 2008 Voice of Rain That Comes at Night









The Alienated
The Alienated
2024 | 95 Minutes
Japanese
Colour
Germany, Moldova, France

Synopsis:

Varvara, a professor of philosophy, is discussing the concept of God's death with her students. She is visited by her sister Angelina, an eminent gynaecologist who has been recalled from Moscow and sent to the city of X, where she is to reduce the number of abortions. Not long afterwards a girl comes to see her at the hospital, asking her to perform an abortion, claiming that she is carrying the Antichrist in her womb. After a heated dispute with a student, Varvara ponders the presence of evil in human nature, while Angelina carries out an illegal abortion on the girl and takes the embryo home with her... This mystical film by Anja Kreis is beguiling for its ominous atmosphere and raises uncomfortable questions about human conscience, morality and faith, although it declines to provide definitive answers.

Director: Anja Kreis **Producer:** Anja Kreis

Cast: Dana Ciobanu, Maria Chuprinskaya, Epchil Akchalov, Maria Stepanova, Ira Cazac

Screenplay: Anja Kreis

Cinematographer: Eugeniu Dedcov

Editor: Anja Kreis

Sound Designer: Dumitru Gretu

Production Designer: Igor Iurco, Sergiu

Radu

Production Company: Fortis Fem Film

World Sales: Fortis Fem Film **Festivals:** Karlovy Vary IFF 2024



Director's Siography: Director, screenwriter, producer. Anja studied film and fine arts at Academy of Media Art Cologne (KHM). Her graduation film Scythe Hitting Stone had its premiere in the competition of the Transilvania IFF 2018 and won the Special Jury Award. With Alisa Berger and Yana Ugrekhelidze Anja founded 2019 production company Fortis Fem Film, whose goal is to increase the presence of women in film business - in front of and behind the camera. They focus on short and long feature, documentary and animated films that deal explicitly with various women's issues

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 The Alienated

2024 The Alienated 2017 Scythe Hitting Stone









II Più Bel Secolo Della Mia Vita The Best Century of My Life

2023 | 90 Minutes

Italian Colour Italy

Synopsis:

Because of an absurd Italian law, Giovanni – who was abandoned at birth – cannot know the identity of his biological parents before his 100th birthday. In order to attract public opinion on this issue, his only hope is to resort to the help of Gustavo, the only abandoned-at-birth centenarian alive. He's the only person who would have the right to avail himself of this legislation, but seems utterly uninterested in doing so.

The Best Century of My Life shows the encounter between a centenarian projected into the future and a young man stuck in the past, and their shared journey to rediscover their origins.

Director: Alessandro Bardani

Producer: Mattia Guerra, Stefano Massenzi,

Gabriele Mainetti

Cast: Sergio Castellitto, Valerio Lundini, Carla

Signoris, Antonio Zavatteri

Screenplay: Alessandro Bardani, Luigi Di Capua, Leonardo Fasoli, Maddalena Ravagli

Cinematographer: Timoty Aliprandi Editor: Claudio Di Mauro (AMC) Sound Designer: Daniele Maraniello Music Composer: Francesco Cerasi Production Designer: Marta Marrone Production Company: Lucky Red, Goon

Films, Rai Cinema

World Sales: True Colours - Glorious Films



Director's Siography:

Director, screenwriter and actor, Alessandro Bardani was born in Rome on September 16, 1978. A graduate of the "Corrado Pani" Academy, he began his career and made his directorial debut with the short film *Relativity*, with which he won the Alice Award "un corto per il David" at the 2007 David di Donatello Awards. In 2015 he wrote and directed, the blockbuster theater play titled *The Best Century of My Life*. He's currently writing a television series produced by Bim and Feltrinelli together with Leonardo Fasoli and Maddalena Ravagli.Based on the eponymous play, *The Best Century Of My Life* is his first feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2023 The Best Century of My Life 2012 Ce L'hai Un Minute (short) 2007 Relativity (short)









Carlo is a bum who suffers from recurrent nightmares. He lives by the rule of the coin, tossing the very same coin over and over again to take every single decision of his life. Coin toss after coin toss, he arrives in L'Aquila, a city hit by an earthquake. Here he becomes involved in a gruesome murder case. With the help of Marta, an alcoholic woman he met on the road, he starts an investigation which will soon have a metaphysical perspective.

The Coin
The Coin
2025 | 79 Minutes
Italian, English
Black & White, Colour
Italy, Serbia

Director: Emiliano Dante

Producer: Ray Wilkins, Nenad Dukic **Cast:** Piotr Hanzelewicz, Tiziana Tarantelli, Danil Aceto, Tim Fritz, Pietro Albino Di

Pasquale

Screenplay: Alessandro Aniballi, Emiliano

Dante

Cinematographer: Emiliano Dante

World Sales: Nenad Dukic

Editor: Emiliano Dante

Sound Designer: Ettore Vozza

Music Composer: Emiliano Dante

Production Designer: Dalila Guergache

Production Company: Dansacro



Director's Siography: Emiliano Dante is an experimental filmmaker born in L'Aquila, Italy, in 1974. His main works before The Coin are the feature fiction *Limen (Omission)* (2012) and the trilogy of experimental documentaries about the earthquake: *Into The Blue* (2009), *Habitat – Personal Notes* (2014) and *Apennine* (2017). He taught Cinema, photography and television in the University of L'Aquila, History of Contemporary Arts in the University of L'Aquila and in the University of Cassino, filmmaking in Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia of L'Aquila and Cinema in the Academy of Fine Arts of Rome.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2025 The Coin 2017 Apennine (documentary) 2014 Habitat - Personal Notes (documentary) 2012 Omission 2009 Into The Blue (documentary)









Winter 1862. In the midst of the Civil War, the US Army sends a company of volunteer soldiers to the western territories, with the task of patrolling the unchartered borderlands. As their mission ultimately changes course, the meaning behind their engagement begins to elude them.

The Damned The Damned 2024 | 88 Minutes

English

Colour

Italy, United States, Belgium

Director: Roberto Minervini

Producer: Paolo Benzi, Denise Ping Lee &

Roberto Minervini

Cast: Jeremiah Knupp, René W. Solomon,

Cuyler Ballenger, Noah Carlson, Judah

Carlson, Tim Carlson

Screenplay: Roberto Minervini

Cinematographer: Carlos Alfonso Corral

Editor: Marie-Hélène Dozo

Sound Designer: Bernat Fortiana Chico Music Composer: Carlos Alfonso Corral Production Company: Okta Film, Pulpa Film

World Sales: Les Films du Losange Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Toronto IFF

2024



Director's Biography:

Roberto Minervini is an Italian-born film director, who lives and works in the U.S. He is widely considered to be one of the world's most prominent auteurs of narrative documentaries, which combine dramatized and observational elements. After completing a Master of Arts in Media Studies at the New School in New York City in 2004, Roberto taught Documentary Filmmaking in Asia. In 2007. he moved to Texas and directed three feature films, The Passage, Low Tide and Stop the Pounding Heart, a Texas Trilogy that focused on rural communities in the American South. In more recent years, he has begun to produce the work of other visionary filmmakers through his production company Pulpa Film. Roberto's latest film, The Damned, is his first fiction film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2018 What you gonna do when the world's on fire?

2015 The Other Side (Louisiana) 2013 Stop The Pounding Heart

2012 Low Tide









Opal Coast, Northern France. In a quiet and picturesque fishing village, something finally happens: a special baby is born. A child so unique and peculiar that it unleashes a secret war between extraterrestrial forces of good and evil.

L' Empire The Empire

2024 | 110 Minutes

French

Colour

France, Italy, Germany, Belgium,

Portugal

Director: Bruno Dumont

Producer: Jean Bréhat, Bertrand Faivre **Cast:** Lyna Khoudri, Anamaria Vartolomei, Camille Cottin, Fabrice Luchini, Brandon

Vlieghe, Julien Manier Screenplay: Bruno Dumont

Cinematographer: David Chambille **Editor:** Bruno Dumont, Desideria Rayner **Sound Designer:** Jeremy Hassid, Romain

Ozanne

Production Designer: Erwan Le Gal, Célia

Marolleau, Peppie Biller

Production Company: Tessalit Productions

World Sales: Memento Festivals: Berlinale FF 2024



Director's Signraphy:

Born in Bailleul, Nord in France in 1958, he directed his debut feature film Life of Jesus in 1997; the film was selected for the Director's Fortnight at Cannes. His feature films *Humanity* and *Flanders* both won the Grand Prize of the Jury at Cannes while *Slack Bay* and, most recently, the satire France, starring Lea Seydoux as a famous journalist, also screened in competition at the festival. His biopic *Camille Claudel* 1915 starring Juliette Binoche was invited to the Berlinale Competition in 2013.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 France 2019 Joan of Arc 2016 Slack Bay 2013 Camille Claudel 1915 1999 Humanity 1997 Life of Jesus









Bauk
The Erl King
2024 | 97 Minutes
Serbian
Colour
Serbia, Bulgaria

Synopsis:

Eight-year-old Sava, his mother and one-year-old brother live in a Belgrade skyscraper. His father is absent, he works on a cargo ship. This relatively normal life is disrupted by the beginning of the bombing of Serbia. The air attacks begin in a general atmosphere of tension, disbelief and despair. Sava's behavior changes. His school is closed down, a shelter becomes another home, and the girl Milica, the daughter of the local priest he is in love with, leaves the country with her mother and sisters.

Director: Goran Radovanović

Producer: Jesenka Jasniger, Goran

Radovanović, Miloš Biković, Tatjana Žeželj

Cast: Jakša Prpić, Sara Klimoska, Vojin

Cetkovic, Miloš Biković

Screenplay: Goran Radovanović **Cinematographer:** Vladislav Opelyants

Editor: Nenad Pirnat

Sound Designer: Milos Drndarevic Music Composer: Ace Vaptsarov Production Designer: Vladislav Lašić Production Company: Archangel Digital Studios, Nama Film, PREMIERstudio World Sales: Goran Radovanović

Festivals: Moscow IFF 2024 | Sao Paulo IFF

2024



Acclaimed director Goran Radovanović (1957, Serbia) studied art history at Belgrade's Faculty of Philosophy. His feature film *Enclave* (2015) was Serbia's candidate for the Academy Award for a foreign language film. Radovanović is a member of the European Film Academy and the Association of Film Artists of Serbia. Currently, he works as a guest professor at the International Film and Television School (EICTV) in Cuba.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 The Makavejev Case or Trial in a Movie Theater 2015 Enclave 2011 With Fidel Whatever Happens 2009 The Ambulance









Lebanon, 1982. To keep a promise made to an old friend, Georges, an idealistic theater director, travels to Beirut for a project as utopian as it is risky: to stage the play Antigone on the front line, in order to steal a moment of peace from the raging civil war. The characters will be played by actors from different political and religious camps. Lost in a city and a conflict he knows nothing about, Georges is guided by Marwan. As fighting resumes, everything is soon called into question, and Georges, who falls in love with Imane, has to face up to the reality of war.

Le Quatrième Mur The Fourth Wall

2024 | 116 Minutes French, Arabic

Colour

France, Luxembourg, Belgium

Director: David Oelhoffen

Producer: Christine Rouxel, Maya Hariri,

Bruno Levy

Cast: Laurent Lafitte, Manal Issa, Simon

Abkarian

Screenplay: David Oelhoffen

Cinematographer: Guillaume Deffontaines

Editor: Sandie Bompar

Sound Designer: Pierre Mertens, Quentin Collette, Angelo Dos Santos, Rana Eid, Loïc

Collignon

Music Composer: Tom Gatti, Jérôme Reuter Production Designer: Hussein Baydoun,

Christina Schaffer

Production Company: Eliph Productions, Rhamsa Productions, Move Movie, Amour Fou Luxembourg, Panache Productions,

L'Émissaire de Baal **World Sales:** Le Pacte



David Oelhoffen was born in 1968. After working in production, he wrote and directed his first short film *The Wall* in 1996. He went on to write and direct a medium length feature *In My Absence* and three other shorts of which *Under the Overalls*, presented at the 2004 Venice Film Festival and nominated at the 2006 César. In 2006 he directs his first feature length *In Your Wake*.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 The Last Men 2018 Freres Ennemis 2014 Far From Men 2006 In Your Wake

Director's Biography:









Karoline, a young factory worker, finds herself abandoned and pregnant while striving to climb out of poverty in post WW1 Copenhagen. Amidst her struggles, she meets Dagmar, a charismatic woman running a hidden adoption agency within a candy store, helping poor mothers in finding foster homes for their unwanted children. To escape poverty, Karoline takes on the role of a wet-nurse. A strong connection is formed between the two women, yet Karoline's world shatters as she stumbles upon the dreadful revelation of the nightmarish fate she unknowingly embraces.

Pigen med nålen The Girl with the Needle

2024 | 115 Minutes

Danish

Black & White

Denmark, Poland, Sweden

Director: Magnus von Horn

Producer: Malene Blenkov, Mariusz

Wlodarski

Cast: Victoria Carmen Sonne, Trine Dyrholm

Screenplay: Magnus von Horn, Line

Langebek Knudsen

Cinematographer: Michal Dymek

Editor: Agnieszka Glinska Sound Designer: Oskar Skriver Production Designer: Jagna Dobesz Production Company: Nordisk Film

Production A/S **World Sales:** MUBI

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Karlovy Vary

IFF 2024 | Toronto IFF 2024



Director's Siggraphy: Magnus Von Horn (1983, Sweden) graduated from the prestigious Polish film school in Lodz. The subject of his first film, the short documentary *Radek* (2007), was prompted by a violent robbery in which Von Horn was victimised shortly after his arrival in Poland. Aggression and juvenile delinquency are also central themes in his short films *Echo* (2008) and *Without Snow* (2011). In 2015 he made his feature debut, The *Here After*. Von Horn took part in the Torino Film Lab with his character-driven feature, *Sweat* (2020).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 The Girl with the Needle 2020 Sweat

2015 The Here After









Actress and psychologist Antonia Giesen decides to film a script revealed by a voice within the mind of one of her patients. Seeking collaboration with the filmmaking duo León & Cociña, they craft a crossroads of theatre, science fiction, animation and fabulated biopic, populated by parallel worlds and haunted by the shadow of a Chilean Nazi writer as a demonic figure.

Los hiperbóreos The Hyperboreans

2024 | 71 Minutes Spanish, German Colour, Black & White Chile

Director: Cristóbal León & Joaquín Cociña

Producer: Catalina Vergara

Cast: Antonia Giesen, Francisco Visceral

Rivera

Screenplay: Cristóbal León, Joaquín Cociña,

Alejandra Moffat

Cinematographer: Natalia Medina

Editor: Cristóbal León, Joaquín Cociña, Paolo

Caro Silva

Sound Designer: Claudio Vargas **Music Composer:** Valo Aguilar

Production Designer: Natalie Geisse, Javiera

Sandoval

Production Company: León & Cociña Films,

Globo Rojo Films

World Sales: Bendita Film Sales **Festivals:** Cannes FF 2024



Director's Siography:

Cristóbal León and Joaquín Cociña, both born in 1980 in Chile, have been collaborating since 2007. Both attended the Catholic University of Chile, with León furthering his studies at UDK (Berlin) and De Ateliers (Amsterdam). Through their experimental films, León & Cociña offer a fresh interpretation of religious symbolism and magical rituals deeply entrenched in Latin America's traditional culture. Their film production incorporates various techniques, including photography, drawing, sculpture, dance, and performance. Their stopmotion films are characterized by a raw cinematic language, where papier-mâché figures and innocent-looking drawings starkly contrast with themes such as religion, sex, and death prevalent in their works.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2021 The Bones (short) 2018 The Wolf House 2013 The Andes (short) 2012 The Witch and the Lover (short)



A Special Presentation







Synopsis:

Alessandro is an Italian filmmaker making films on environmental issues while Lala is an Indian village boy who fled home to secure dignity and land for his displaced peasant family. The narrative ing Parikrama travels through multiple spaces and times, through parallel experiences of its two protagonists that intercept, though they come from worlds apart.

During the voyage of Alessandro and his crew along river Narmada they meet the wonder boy Lala who is of the same ages as his motherless son Francesco. The one without his mother, the other without his motherland.

Alessandro's narrative takes a new turn as the river Narmada flows by.

Parikrama
The Journey
2024 | 112 Minutes
Hindi, English, Italian
Colour
India, Italy

Director: Goutam Ghose

Producer: Sergio Scapagnini, Amedeo Pagani,

Sukankan Roy, Sandeep Donde, Shardul

Donde, Jitendra Adappa

Cast: Marco Leonardi, Chitrangada Singh,

Aryan Badkul, Emanuel Esposito **Screenplay:** Goutam Ghose, Sergio

Scapagnini, Amedeo Pagani, Jagannath Guha Cinematographer: Goutam Ghose, Ishaan

Ghose

Editor: Niladri Roy

Sound Designer: Anirban Sengupta
Music Composer: Goutam Ghose
Costume Designer: Neelanjana Ghose
Production Designer: Renato Lori, Debasish

Debnath

Production Company: Indrapur

Cinematografica SRL, Life Journey Films Production LLP, R H Media Pvt,Ltd.

Festivals: Giffoni FF 2024



Director's Biography:

Goutam Ghose is an acclaimed Indian filmmaker cinematographer, and music director renowned for his profound contributions to parallel cinema. Born in Kolkata, he studied at the University of Calcutta Ghose's work blends realism with evocative storytelling, often highlighting social issues and human resilience. His debut film *Maa Bhoomi* (1979) earned critical acclaim, followed by masterpieces like *Dakhal* (1981) and *Paar* (1984). An adept documentarian, Ghose has captured compelling narratives in films like *Beyond the Himalayas, Ray,* and *Meeting a Milestone*. Winner of multiple National Film Awards and international honors, his artistic oeuvre cements him as a pivotal figure in Indian cinema.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2010 Moner Manush 1993 Patang 1987 Antarjali jatra 1984 Paar 1979 Maa Bhoomi









La Plus Précieuse Des Marchandises The Most Precious Of Cargoes

2024 | 81 Minutes

French Colour

France

Director: Michel Hazanavicius

Producer: Patrick Sobelman, Florence

Gastaud, Michel Hazanavicius

Cast: Jean Louis Trintignant, Dominique Blanc, Grégory Gadebois, Denis Podalydes Screenplay: Michel Hazanavicius, Jean-

Claude Grumberg

Animator: Julien Grande

Editor: Michel Hazanavicius, Laurent Pelé-

Piovani

Sound Designer: Jean-Paul Hurier, Selim

Azzazi

Music Composer: Alexandre Desplat Production Designer: Julien Grande Production Company: Ex Nihilo, Les

Compagnons Du Cinéma
World Sales: Festival Agency
Festivals: Cannes FF 2024

Synopsis:

Once upon a time, a poor woodcutter and his wife lived in a great forest. Cold, hunger, poverty and a war raging all around them meant their lives were very hard. One day, the woodcutter's wife rescues a baby. A baby girl thrown from one of the many trains that constantly pass through the forest. This baby, this "most precious of cargoes", will transform the lives of the poor woodcutter's wife and her husband, as well as those whose paths the child will cross – including the man who threw her from the train. And some will try to protect her, whatever the cost. Their story will reveal the worst and the best in the hearts of men.



Director's Siography:

Michel Hazanavicius was born and raised in Paris, France. His grandparents were originally from Lithuania, but relocated to France in the 1920s. Hazanavicius attended art school, and moved on to work as a director for commercials and television projects. In 1999, he wrote and directed his first feature film *Mes Amis* (1999), which featured his brother Serge Hazanavicius. Hazanavicius came to the attention of international audiences with the release of an almost wordless film, *The Artist* (2011), which starred Bérénice Bejo and Jean Dujardin. The film was a critical and popular hit, garnering many major nominations and awards.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 Final Cut 2017 Redoubtable 2014 The Search 2011 The Artist









The Old Bachelor 2024 | 192 Minutes

The Old Bachelor

Farsi Colour Iran

Synopsis:

In an Iran weighed down by a struggling economy, two middle-aged brothers live with their bullying father. A man prone to rages and driven by chauvinism, the father's abusiveness found his second wife leaving him. Now he picks on his eldest son, while the younger sibling fantasises about ways to kill his father. When the man rents out the flat above to a young woman, with intentions of marrying her, the woman's attraction to the older son slowly pushes this profoundly damaged family to breaking point.

Director: Oktay Baraheni

Producer: Arsalan Baraheni, Babak

Hamidian, Hanif Sorouri

Cast: Leila Hatami, Hamed Behdad, Hassan

Pourshirazi, Mohammad Valizadgan Screenplay: Oktay Baraheni Cinematographer: Adib Sobhani

Editor: Reza Shahbazi

Sound Designer: Ahsan Afsharian **Music Composer:** Hesam Naseri

Production Designer: Anahita Taymourian **Production Company:** Seven Springs

Pictures

World Sales: Seven Springs Pictures
Festivals: IFF Rotterdam 2024



Director's Siography: Iranian film director and writer Oktay Baraheni (1974, Iran) holds a degree in Cinema from York University Toronto, Canada. His father was well-known Iranian writer and intellectual Reza Baraheni. Oktay Baraheni's debut feature, *Bridge of Sleep* (2016), drew inspiration from Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment, and his sophomore feature channels the dark soul of Shakespeare's family tragedies. In 2024, Oktay made his second feature film, The Old Bachelor, which is also inspired by The Brothers Karamazov. *The Old Bachelor* drew the critiques and juries' attention during its premiere at 2024 IFFR while it won the best film from Big Screen there.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 The Old Bachelor 2016 Bridge of Sleep









Florence wants to introduce David, the man she's madly in love with, to her father Guillaume. But David isn't attracted to Florence and wants to throw her into the arms of his friend Willy. The four of them meet in a restaurant in the middle of nowhere.

Le Deuxième Acte The Second Act 2024 | 85 Minutes

French Colour France

Director: Quentin Dupieux **Producer:** Hugo Sélignac

Cast: Lea Seydoux, Vincent Lindon, Louis Garrel, Raphaël Quenard, Manuel Guillot

Screenplay: Quentin Dupieux
Cinematographer: Quentin Dupieux

Editor: Quentin Dupieux

Sound Designer: Alexis Place

Production Designer: Joan Le Boru

Production Company: Chi-Fou-Mi

Productions

World Sales: Kinology **Festivals:** Cannes FF 2024



Director's Biography Quentin Dupieux (1974, France) is a filmmaker and musician. In his musical career he is known under the pseudonym Mr. Oizo. Although his filmmaking and musical career ran parallel, he first gained attention following the release of his track 'Flat Beat', which became a hit throughout Europe in 1999. Dupieux is considered a true auteur, being the writer, editor and director of photography for all his films. He even (co-)composed the music for half of his films. Many of them had their world premieres at major festivals like Cannes, Venice and Sundance. Dupieux' films are often unique, skewing away from narrative conventions, with a great taste for the absurd and a dark sense of humour.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Daaaaaali! 2023 Yannick 2022 Smoking Causes Coughing 2022 Incredible But True 2019 Deerskin









Investigating judge Iman grapples with paranoia amid political unrest in Tehran. When his gun vanishes, he suspects his wife and daughters, imposing draconian measures that strain family ties as societal rules crumble.

Daney Anjir Maabed The Seed of the Sacred Fig 2024 | 167 Minutes

Farsi Colour

Iran, France, Germany

Director: Mohammad Rasoulof

Producer: Mohammad Rasoulof, Amin Sadraei, Jean-Christophe Simon, Mani

Tilgner, Rozita Hendijanian

Cast: Misagh Zare, Soheila Golestani, Mahsa Rostami, Setareh Maleki, Niousha Akhshi, Reza Akhlaghi, Shiva Ordooei, Amineh Arani

Screenplay: Mohammad Rasoulof **Cinematographer:** Pooyan Aghababaei

Editor: Andrew Bird

Sound Designer: Philipp Kemptner, Hassan

Shabankareh

Music Composer: Karzan Mahmood Production Designer: Amir Panahifar Production Company: Run Way Pictures

World Sales: Impact Films

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Toronto IFF

2024 | San Sebastian IFF 2024



Director's siography:

Mohammad Rasoulof (Shiraz, Iran. 1972) directed his first feature, *The Twilight* (2002). With the second, *Iron Island* (2005), he collected the Special Jury Prize at Gijón Festival, among other accolades. Outstanding in his filmography are *The White Meadows* (2009), with which he competed at San Sebastian, *Goodbye* (2011), Best Director Award in Un Certain Regard at the Festival de Cannes, *A Man of Integrity* (2017) winner of the Un Certain Regard Award and *There Is No Evil* (2020), winner of the Golden bear in Berlin. *The Seed of the Sacred Fig harvested this year's Special Jury and FIPRESCI Prizes in Cannes.*

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 The Seed of the Sacred Fig 2017 A Man of Integrity 2011 Goodbye 2009 The White Meadows 2005 Iron Island 2002 The Twilight









"You, only better in every way". That's the promise of The Substance, a revolutionary cell-replicating product that creates a younger, more beautiful, more perfect version of yourself.

The Substance The Substance

2024 | 140 Minutes

English Colour

United Kingdom, United States of

America, France

Director: Coralie Fargeat

Producer: Coralie Fargeat, Tim Bevan, Eric

Fellner

Cast: Demi Moore, Margaret Qualley, Dennis

Quaid

Screenplay: Coralie Fargeat

Cinematographer: Benjamin Kračun **Editor:** Valentin Féron, Jérome Eltabet,

Coralie Fargeat

Sound Designer: Valérie Deloof, Victor

Fleurant

Music Composer: Raffertie

Production Designer: Stanislas Reydellet **Production Company:** Working Title Films,

Blacksmith

World Sales: MUBI

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Toronto IFF

2024 | San Sabastian FF 2024



Coralie Fargeat is a French filmmaker. Her debut feature, *Revenge*, had its world premiere at TIFF '17. The Substance is her latest film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 The Substance 2017 Revenge 2014 Reality + (short) 2003 The Telegram (short)

Director's Biography:









David Kolski oversees the construction of the highest tower ever built in France. Promoters' constant pressure, crushing delivery delays, overworked employees. David lives in a hurry. One night, while returning home for dinner, he meets a woman of astonishing beauty who captivates him. He is mesmerized. This woman is Victoria. Ambitious and intelligent, beautiful and independent, head of people at a multinational company, she runs her life as the ones of her employees, with an iron hand. Immediately, David also finds himself trapped in this fascinating system.

Director: Sylvain Desclous

Le Système Victoria The Victoria System 2024 | 101 Minutes

Cast: Damien Bonnard, Jeanne Balibar, Cédric Appietto, Antonia Buresi, Sharif Andoura, Ouassini Embarek, François Busnel

and Éric Reinhardt

Screenplay: Sylvain Desclous and Éric

Reinhardt

French Colour France

Cinematographer: Inès Tabarin Editor: Isabelle Poudevigne

Sound Designer: Alexis Farou, Hugo Fernandez, Amélie Canini and Christophe

Vingtrinier

Music Composer: Florencia Di Concilio Production Designer: Catalina Labra **Production Company:** Cinefrance Studios &

Madison Films

World Sales: France ty distribution



Sylvain Desclous, born in 1973 in Créteil, is a French director and screenwriter. After studying political science, modern literature, and law, he trained in screenwriting at La Fémis. He began his career with short films such as CDD/I (2006), Là-bas (2010), Flaubert et Buisson (2012), Le Monde à l'envers (2013), and Mon Héros (2015). In 2016, his first feature film, Vendeur, was released, starring Gilbert Melki and Pio Marmaï. This was followed by the documentaries La Peau dure (2019) and La Campagne de France (2022). Then, in 2023, Sylvain Desclous presented De Grandes Espérances, with Rebecca Marder, Benjamin Lavernhe, and Emmanuelle Bercot. His next film, The Victoria System, is adapted from Éric Reinhardt's novel.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Grand Expectations 2022 La Campagne de France

2016 Vendeur









A strange, silent village bereft of all apparent life. A middle-aged wagon-driver, of determined demeanour, trundles a lifeless corpse towards the cemetery. Does not each step of the way shed light on the span of a dictator's life?

Mard-e Khamoush The Wasteman

2024 | 80 Minutes

Silent

Black & White

Iran

Director: Ahmad Bahrami

Producer: Mohammad Hosseinkhani

Cast: Ali Bagheri

Screenplay: Ahmad Bahrami

Cinematographer: Masoud Amini Tirani

Editor: Mostafa Vaziri

Sound Designer: Hassan Mahdavi Music Composer: Foad Ghahremani Production Designer: Nahid Sedigh World Sales: DreamLab Films Festivals: 26th Shanghai IFF



raphy

Born in 1972 in Shahryar – Iran, Ahmad Bahrami holds a BA in Cinema Direction from Soureh University. He made several short films before directing features. He has also written, directed and produced various documentaries and television films for Iranian television. His second feature The Wasteland has won numerous awards at international film festivals, including the Orizzonti Best Film Award at the 77th Venice Film Festival in 2020.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 The Wasteman 2022 The Wastetown 2020 The Wasteland 2017 Panah









In Iran, the retired dance teacher Tarlan witnesses her friend Rana's murder by her husband, who is an important government figure. When the police refuse to investigate, Tarlan must decide whether to bow to political pressure or risk her reputation and livelihood in pursuit of justice.

Shahed
The Witness
2024 | 100 Minutes
Farsi
Colour

Germany, Austria

Director: Nader Saeivar

Producer: Said Nur Akkus, Silvana

Santamaria, Arash T. Riahi, Sabine Grüber,

Emre Oskay, Timur Savci

Cast: Maryam Bobani, Nader Naderpour, Hana Kamkar, Abbas Imani, Ghazal Shojaei,

Fahrid Eshaghi

Screenplay: Jafar Panahi, Nader Saeivar

Cinematographer: Rouzbeh Raiga

Editor: Jafar Panahi

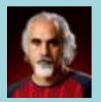
Sound Designer: Abdolreza Heydari, Iman

Bazyar

Music Composer: Karwan Marouf **Production Company:** ArtHood Films,

Golden Girls Films **World Sales:** ArtHood

Festivals: Venice IFF 2024 | Busan IFF 2024



irector's

Born in 1974 in Tabriz, Nader Saeivar is an Iranian writer and director who started his career in 1992 with short films. In 2018 he was awarded Best Screenplay in Cannes for *3 Faces* (2018) alongside Jafar Panahi. In 2020 he made his feature directorial debut with *Namo*, which premiered in the Berlinale. His second feature, *No End*, premiered at the Busan International Film Festival in 2022. The Witness is his third feature as a director. He also has a master's degree from University of Tehran and teaches Cinema at various institutes and universities.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 No End 2020 Namo









The Wolves Always Come at Night The Wolves Always Come at Night 2024 | 96 Minutes

Mongolian

Colour

Australia, Mongolia, Germany

Synopsis:

It is spring in the desert of Bayankhongor province in Mongolia, where young nomadic couple Davaa and Zaya live with their four kids, caring for their birthing animals. The kids spend the nights telling each other ghost stories of disappearing gers. Davaa awakes startled to check the herd for wolves, but finds nothing there. Local herders discuss the auspicious sighting of two 'red stars'. One fateful day a violent dust storm hits the families camp and they discover half their animals killed. They make the painful decision to leave for the city and Davaa is forced to sell his beloved horse. Setting up their home in the cities 'districts', the family begin adjusting to their new life. Davaa starts work at a gravel factory but becomes increasingly haunted by the presence of his lost animals.

Director: Gabrielle Brady

Producer: Julia Niethammer, Ariunaa

Tserenpil, Rita Walsh

Cast: Davaasuren Dagvasuren, Otgonzaya Dashzeveg, Ariuntsetseg Davaasuren, Ukhaanzaya Davaasuren, Amin-Erdene Davaasuren, Nandin-Erdene Davaasuren Screenplay: Davaasuren Dagvarsuren,

Otgonzaya Dashzeveg, Gabrielle Brady Cinematographer: Michael Latham Editor: Katharina Fiedler. Bfs

Sound Designer: Carlos E. García

Music Composer: Aaron Cupples

Production Company: Chromosom Film,

Guru Media, Over Here **World Sales:** Cinephil

Festivals: Toronto IFF 2024 | BFI London FF

2024 | Thessaloniki FF 2024



Director's siography:

Gabrielle Brady makes hybrid films, working in creative collaboration with film protagonists. Her award-winning debut *Island of the Hungry Ghosts* (2018) screened at over 80 international film festivals and had a theatrical release in the US, UK, Germany, and Australia. The film has won over 30 international awards including; Best Documentary at the Tribeca Film Festival, Byens-Chagoll Award at Visions du Reel, Human Rights Award at IDFA, Grand Jury prize at the Mumbai Film Festival and Best Documentary Film Adelaide Film Festival, and was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award. Brady studied Documentary Direction at La Escuela Internacional de Cine in Cuba.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 The Wolves Always Come at Night 2018 Land of the Hungry Ghosts (documentary)









Abandoned by her mother, 13-year-old Maria is forced to live with her grandmother in a bleak industrial town. During a violent clash on the street, Maria meets Kristina, a girl of the same age who is striving to become a fashion model. Trying to get closer to her, Maria enrolls in a mysterious modeling school, where the girls are preparing for the biggest casting event in the region. Her ambiguous relationship with Kristina and the intense, cult-like environment of the modeling school force Maria on a quest to discover her own identity.

Akiplėša Toxic 2024 | 99 Minutes Lithuanian

Colour Lithuania

Director: Saulé Bliuvaité
Producer: Giedré Burokaité

Cast: leva Rupeikaitė, Vesta Matulytė, Giedrius Savickas, Vilma Raubaitė, Eglė

Gabrėnaitė

Screenplay: Saulė Bliuvaitė Cinematographer: Vytautas Katkus

Editor: Ignė Narbutaitė

Music Composer: Gediminas Jakubka Production Designer: Paulius Aničas Production Company: Akis Bado World Sales: Bendita Film Sales Festivals: Locarno FF 2024



Director's Siography:

Born in 1994, film director and screenwriter Saulė Bliuvaitė graduated from the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre's Film Directing program in 2018. Her recent short film *Limousine* received the Best Short Documentary award at the Warsaw Film Festival. Saulė is the co-writer and co-editor of the historical drama *Isaac*, nominated for a FIPRESCI prize at the 2020 European Film Awards. *Toxic* is her debut feature film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Toxic

2021 Limousine (short documentary)









Pietro is a revered teacher, Teresa his brilliant and precocious student. Their affair is both illicit and tempestuous. After one fight, Teresa suggests that each tell the other a secret, one so shameful or shocking that were it to be made public, it would destroy that person's life. Time passes, Pietro's stature as a writer grows and his family settles into the comfort of a bourgeois life. But he is haunted by the possibility that Teresa may one day reappear and tear apart his world with the secret she knows.

Confidenza Trust

2024 | 136 Minutes

Italian Colour Italy

Director: Daniele Luchetti

Producer: Fabrizio Donvito, Benedetto Habib, Marco Cohen, Daniel Campos Pavoncelli Cast: Elio Germano, Federica Rosellini, Vittoria Puccini, Pilar Fogliati, Isabella Ferrari Screenplay: Daniele Luchetti And Francesco

Piccolo

Cinematographer: Ivan Casalgrandi

Editor: Aël Dallier Vega

Music Composer: Thom Yorke

Production Designer: Paolo Bonfini

Production Company: Indiana Production.

Vision Distribution

World Sales: Vision Films In

Festivals: IFF Rotterdam 2024 | Karlovy

Vary IFF 2024



Born in Rome in 1960, Daniele Luchetti began his career as an assistant director and actor in films by Nanni Moretti. Luchetti's directorial debut *It's Happening Tomorrow* (1988) received a special mention at the 1988 Cannes Film Festival. His recent films include *La nostra vita* (2010), winner of three David di Donatello awards and *The Ties* (IFF21) which opened the 2021 Italian Film Festival.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Codice Carla 2023 Raffa 2020 The Ties 2019 Ordinary Happiness 2013 Those Happy Years 2010 Our Life

Director's Siography:









When anti-regime journalist Lena is arrested for livestreaming the brutal crackdown of a demonstration protesting the 2020 Belarusian election, her husband Ilya is confronted with an impossible situation. Subjected to further police raids and facing the likely reality that his wife will spend years in prison, Ilya must reckon with what he might have to give up by standing with Lena. At the same time, an incarcerated Lena is under pressure from the authorities to renounce her activism and betray her firmly held principles.

Under the Grey Sky Under the Grey Sky

2024 | 81 Minutes Belarusian, Russian Colour

United Kingdom, United States of

America, Poland

Director: Mara Tamkovich

Producer: Katarzyna Ocioszynska **Cast:** Aliaksandra Vaitsekhovich, Valentin

Novopolskij

Screenplay: Mara Tamkovich **Cinematographer:** Krzysztof Trela

Editor: Katarzyna Leśniak

Sound Designer: Joanna Napieralska Production Designer: Katarzyna Pawelec Production Company: Media Corporation

(Poland)

World Sales: Loco Films
Festivals: Tribeca FF 2024



Director's Siography:

Polish-Belarusian director and scriptwriter. She studied journalism at Warsaw University, film directing at Warsaw Film School and at Wajda School. For nearly ten years she worked as a journalist for independent Belarusian TV and Radio broadcasting from abroad to deliver uncensored information to Belarusians. As a filmmaker, Mara focuses on socially relevant topics, deeply connected to reality. Her short films were shown at numerous festivals in Poland and abroad, receiving awards at 58th Chicago IFF, 47th Gdynia Film Festival, Listapad Minsk IFF, FEST— New Directors New Films Festival, Linz ISFF and others. Under the Grey Sky is her debut feature. Mara is a member of Polish Filmmakers Association and Belarusian Independent Film Academy.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Under the Grey Sky 2022 Na Zywo (short) 2018 Daughter (short) 2015 Równanie (short)









Universal Language 2024 | 89 Minutes Farsi, French

Une Langue Universelle

Colour Canada

Synopsis:

In a mysterious and surreal interzone somewhere between Tehran and Winnipeg, the lives of multiple characters interweave with each other in surprising and mysterious ways. Gradeschoolers Negin and Nazgol find a sum of money frozen in the winter ice and try to claim it. Meanwhile, Massoud leads a group of increasingly-befuddled tourists through the monuments and historic sites of Winnipeg. Matthew quits his meaningless job in a Québecois government office and sets out upon an enigmatic journey to visit his mother.

Space, time and personal identities crossfade, interweave and echo into a surreal comedy of misdirection.

Director: Matthew Rankin **Producer:** Sylvain Corbeil

Cast: Rojina Esmaeili, Saba Vahedyousefi, Sobhan Javadi, Pirouz Nemati, Matthew

Rankin, Mani Soleymanlou

Screenplay: Ila Firouzabadi, Matthew Rankin,

Pirouz Nemati

Cinematographer: Isabelle Stachtchenko

Editor: Xi Feng

Sound Designer: Pablo Villegas, Sacha

Ratcliffe, Bernard Gariépy Strobl

Music Composer: Amir Amiri, Christophe

Lamarche-Ledoux

Production Company: Metafilms
World Sales: Best Friend Forever
Festivals: Toronto IFF 2024 | Busan IFF

2024 | New York FF 2024



Matthew Rankin was born in Winnipeg and studied history at McGill and Univerité Laval. He is the director of some forty documentary, fiction and animation films which have been presented at Sundance, SXSW, TIFF, Annecy, the Berlinale, the Dawson City International Short Film Festival and at Cannes Critics Week. His first feature, *The Twentieth Century* (2019), was awarded the 2020 FIPRESCI Prize at the Berlinale. He lives in Montréal.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2019 The Twentieth Century

Director's Biography









Viktoria and Amon Maynard lead an almost perfect life with their children. Successful in their business, they are immensely rich. The world is at their feet, there is no risk. To compensate, Amon goes hunting, but he doesn't shoot animals. This is a film about winners and losers, about us and the others.

Veni Vidi Vici
Veni Vidi Vici
2024 | 86 Minutes
German
Colour
Austria

Director: Daniel Hoesl, Julia Niemann

Producer: Ulrich Seidl

Cast: Olivia Goschler, Laurence Rupp, Ursina

Lardi

Screenplay: Daniel Hoesl, Julia Niemann Cinematographer: Gerald Kerkletz

Editor: Gerhard Daurer

Sound Designer: Andreas Pils

Music Composer: Manuel Riegler

Production Designer: Johannes Salat

Production Company: Ulrich Seidl

Filmproduktion GmbH **World Sales:** Magnolia

Festivals: Sundance FF 2024 | IFF

Rotterdam 2024



Director's Siography:

Daniel Hoesl (1982, Austria) studied in Salzburg, Vienna and at FAMU in Prague. After working in the arts for a while, he began working for filmmakers such as Ulrich Seidl (on his Paradise trilogy) and Michael Glawogger. Hoesl is interested in radical concepts, in a narrative and aesthetic way. He is founder of the production company/film collective A European Film Conspiracy, with which he made his feature debut, *Soldier Jane* (2013).

Julia Miemann (1987) studied philosophy and pursued a career in writing. She was a journalist for Der Standard among others, before entering the film world. She worked as an assistant director for director Daniel Hoesl on the feature *WiNWiN*, which had its world premiere at IFFR 2016.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Veni Vidi Vici 2021 Davos (Documentary) 2016 WiNWiN 2013 Soldier Jane









Viet and Nam
Viet and Nam

2024 | 129 Minutes

Vietnamese

Colour

Vietnam, Philippines, Singapore, France, Netherlands, Italy, Germany, United

States

Synopsis:

In the depths of the underground coal mines, where danger awaits and darkness prevails, Nam and Viêt, both young miners, cherish fleeting moments, knowing that one of them will soon leave for a new life across the sea. But the departure cannot happen as lying somewhere deep within the earth, in the far-off forest is Nam's father, a soldier, whose remains they're compelled to find. Together, following the mysteries of memories and dreams, they retrace the path to the past.

Director: Trương Minh Quý

Producer: Brad Liew, Bianca Balbuena **Cast:** Phạm Thanh Hải, Đào Duy Bảo Định

Screenplay: Trương Minh Quý Cinematographer: Son Doan

Editor: Félix Rehm

Sound Designer: Vincent Villa

Production Designer: Trung Đạo Trương

Production Company: Epicmedia

Productions,

Deuxième Ligne Films, E&W Films, An Original Picture, Volos Films, Scarlet Visions

World Sales: Pyramide International **Festivals:** Cannes FF 2024 | Karlovy Vary

IFF 2024



Trubhg Minh Quý is a filmmaker from Buon Ma Thuot in the Central Highlands of Vietnam. He is an alumnus of 2012 Asian Film Academy and 2016 Berlinale Talents. His directorial credits include *The Tree House* (2019) and *The Attendants* (2021). *Viet and Nam* (24) is his latest film.

Director's Siography: Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Viet and Nam 2021 The Attendants 2019 The Tree House









Michelle is enjoying a peaceful retirement in a Burgundy village,

close to her longtime friend Marie-Claude. When her Parisian

daughter Valérie drops off her son Lucas to spend school

vacation with his grandma, Michelle, stressed out by her

daughter, serves her toxic mushrooms for lunch. Valérie quickly

recovers, but forbids her mother from seeing her grandson

anymore. Feeling lonely and guilty, Michelle falls into a

depression... until Marie-Claude's son gets out of prison.

Quand Vient L'Automne When Fall Is Coming

2024 | 104 Minutes

French Colour France

Director: François Ozon Producer: François Ozon

Cast: Hélène Vincent, Josiane Balasko

Screenplay: François Ozon

Cinematographer: Jérôme Alméras

Editor: Anita Roth

Sound Designer: Brigitte Taillandier, Julien

Roig, Jean-Paul Hurier

Music Composer: Evgueni Galperine, Sacha

Galperine

Production Designer: Christelle

Maisonneuve

Production Company: FOZ World Sales: Playtime

Festivals: San Sebastián IFF - 2024 | BFI

London FF - 2024



Born in Paris on 15 November 1967, after graduating in film from the Sorbonne he studied directing at the Parisian film school FEMIS from 1990-93. After several short films, he made a name for himself with a family farce, Sitcom (1998). He took part in Competition at the Berlinale in the year 2000 with his Fassbinder adaptation Gouttes d'eau sur pierres brulantes, and again in 2002 with 8 Femmes.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2013 Young and Beautiful

2012 In The House









When the light breaks on a long summer's day in Iceland. From one sunset to another, Una, a young art student encounters love, friendship, sorrow and beauty.

Ljósbrot When The Light Breaks

2024 | 82 Minutes

Icelandic Colour

Iceland, Netherlands, Croatia, France

Director: Rúnar Rúnarsson

Producer: Heather Millard, Rúnar Rúnarsson

Cast: Elín Hall, Mikael Kaaber, Katla Njálsdóttir, Baldur Einarsson, Gunnar Hrafn

Kristjánsson, Ágúst Wigum **Screenplay:** Rúnar Rúnarsson

Cinematographer: Sophia Olsson FSF
Editor: Andri Steinn Guðjónsson
Sound Designer: Ranko Paukovic
Music Composer: Jóhann Jóhannsson
Production Designer: Hulda Helgadóttir
Production Company: Compass Films &

Halibut

World Sales: The Party Film Sales
Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Toronto IFF

2024 | Karlovy Vary IFF 2024



Director's Siography: Rúnar Rúnarsson's feature career starts in 2011 when he presents his debut film *Volcano* at the Directors' Fortnight in Cannes. The film receives 17 international awards in a vast number of festivals. His second feature *Sparrows* (2015) also has an impressive festival run, with 20 international awards and la Concha Ora, the main prize at the San Sebastian Film Festival. Four years later, after being selected for the Cannes Atelier, his third feature film *Echo* premieres at the Locarno Film Festival, and wins 6 international awards.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2019 Echo 2015 Sparrows 2011 Volcano









Aïcha is gifted with prophetic dreams. She lives on a farm in northern Tunisia with her husband Brahim and their three sons. Aïcha and Brahim's world is turned upside down when their two eldest boys, Mehdi and Amine, go off to war. Having lived up to this point solely for their children, the parents now find themselves in a new and painful reality. A few months later, Mehdi returns home with a pregnant wife named Reem whose niqab and silence deeply unsettle Brahim. Aïcha, on the other hand, welcomes Mehdi and Reem into the family home and vows to protect them at all costs. Mehdi's return triggers strange events in the village. Aïcha is so consumed with protecting her son that, at first, she barely notices the rising fear in the community. She must face the limits of her maternal love to counteract the growing darkness.

Mé el Aïn Who Do I Belong To 2024 | 117 Minutes

Arabic Colour

Tunisia, France, Canada

Director: Meryam Joobeur

Producer: Nadim Cheikhrouha, Sarra Ben Hassen, Maria Gracia Turgeon, Annick Blanc,

Meryam Joobeur

Cast: Salha Nasraoui, Mohamed Hassine Grayaa, Malek Mechergui, Adam Bessa, Dea Liane, Rayen Mechergui, Chaker Mechergui

Screenplay: Meryam Joobeur

Cinematographer: Vincent Gonneville Editor: Maxime Mathis, Meryam Joobeur Sound Designer: Aymen Labidi, Gwennolé Le Borgne, Elias Boughedir, Niels Barletta

Music Composer: Peter Venne

Production Designer: Mohamed llyes

Dargouth

Production Company: Instinct Bleu, Tanit

Films

World Sales: LuxBox

Festivals: Berlinale FF 2024 | Karlovy Vary

IFF 2024



Director's Siggraphy: Who Do I Belong To is Meryam Joobeur's debut feature film. Her shorts Gods, Weeds and Revolutions and Born in the Maelstrom both screened at international film festivals. Her Oscarnominated short Brotherhood was selected by over 150 festivals and won 75 international awards. In her own words, she believes wholeheartedly in the transformative power of storytelling and hopes that her films can capture the beauty, complexity and universal nature of the human condition.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Who Do I Belong To

2018 Brotherhood (short) 2017 Born in the Maelstrom (short) 2012 Gods, Weeds and Revolutions (short)











In a small Hungarian town, Ana Bauch is a dedicated and liberal-minded literature teacher within the public system. Beloved by her students for her unorthodox and creative approach, she assigns Agnieszka Holland's 1995 Total Eclipse, depicting the relationship between 19th-century French poets Arthur Rimbaud and Paul Verlaine, so they can better understand Rimbaud's poetry. When a conservative father interrupts his son Victor during the screening and hears of the assignment, he reports Ana to the school's principal. Ana is accused of misconduct and spreading homosexual propaganda, and when the local media get wind of the brewing scandal, she faces even more scrutiny. In a system within which many have given up, Ana must decide to fight or to flee — perhaps to a restaurant job abroad.



Hungarian Colour Hungary

Director: Katalin Moldovai

Producer: András Muhi, Katalin Moldovai,

Béla Attila Kovács

Cast: Ágnes Krasznahorkai, Áron Dimény, Tünde Skovrán, Soma Sándor, Zsolt Bölönyi,

Ágnes Lőrincz

Screenplay: Zita Palóczi, Katalin Moldovai

Cinematographer: András Táborosi

Editor: Orsolya Soltész

Sound Designer: Gábor Kerekes **Music Composer:** Tibor Cári

Production Designer: Gyopár Bocskay Production Company: Spotfilm, Salamandra Film, Magma Cinema, Digital Fiction Studios World Sales: National Film Institute Hungary Festivals: Toronto IFF 2024 | Göteborg IFF

2024



Director's Singraphy:

At the Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvanian in Cluj-Napoca, Romania she finished her BA degree in Film-Photo-Media studies in 2013. She continued her studies in Hungary at the Budapest Metropolitan University, where she earned her MA degree in Television and Film Directing. During this period, she directed short movies and a documentary film. Her latest short, As Up To Now (2019) was nominated for the Cinéfondation Award at the 72nd Cannes Film Festival. Without Air (2023) is her first feature-length film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Without Air 2018 As Up To Now (short) 2014 Burok (short) 2013 After Season (short)











Xoftex is a Greek refugee camp, where Syrian and Palestinian asylum seekers anxiously wait for news of their refugee status. To pass the time between interviews with the immigration office, Nasser and his friends film satirical sketches and make preparations for a zombie horror flick. Except that the reality of the camp could be taken for a horror scenario itself. The tension between its inhabitants gains momentum and every conflict removes one more brick from the wall which divides reality from dream – or, indeed, nightmare. Fragments of real life, humour, and the unimaginable suffering of people risking their lives to escape their own country, merge into an explosive, at times, surreal spectacle which invites the viewers to immerse themselves in the story and the lives of immigrants in a way they will never have experienced before.

Xoftex
Xoftex
2024 | 99 Minutes
German
Colour
Germany, France

Director: Noaz Deshe **Producer:** Andro Steinborn

Cast: Abdulrahman Diab, Osama Hafiry, Mohamad Al Rashi, Amal Omran, Jalal

Albaroudi, Lujain Mustafa

Screenplay: Noaz Deshe, Babak Jalali Cinematographer: Noaz Deshe Editor: Felipe Guerrero, Noaz Deshe

Sound Designer: Lars Ginzel, Oliver Achatz,

Louise Hofmann

Music Composer: Thomas Moked Blum,

Noaz Deshe

Production Designer: Marita Götz, Lea

Walloschke

Production Company: Arden Film GmbH **World Sales:** MAD Sales & Distribution **Festivals:** Karlovy Vary IFF 2024

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Director's Siography:

Noaz Deshe works as a director, DOP and musician. He composed the soundtrack of Babak Jalali's *Frontier Blues*, And was the cinematographer of the Tiger winner - *Radio Dreams*. His debut feature film *White Shadow* about the hunting of a young Albino won the Lion of the Future Award at Venice Film Festival and was showcased at Sundance Film Festival. *Xoftex* is his second feature film. In addition to his artistic work, he has worked as a volunteer on sea rescue missions and in refugee camps.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Xoftex

2013 White Shadow



In the loving memory of **Sir Ratan Tata**

Ratan Tata, one of India's most respected industrialists and philanthropists, is celebrated for his visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to excellence. Born on December 28, 1937, in Mumbai, he belongs to the illustrious Tata family, which has been a cornerstone of India's industrial landscape for generations.

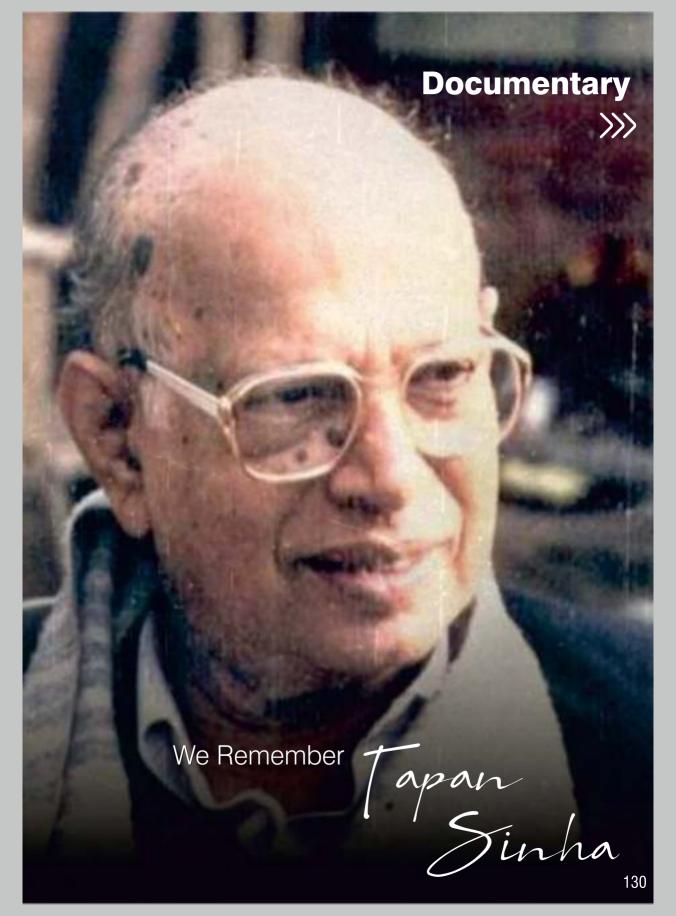
Ratan Tata studied architecture and management at Cornell University and Harvard Business School. He joined the Tata Group in 1962, gradually rising through the ranks to become Chairman in 1991. Under his leadership, the group underwent a remarkable transformation, expanding its global footprint and diversifying its portfolio. Landmark acquisitions like Jaguar Land Rover, Tetley, and Corus Steel showcased Tata's strategic vision and cemented the group's position as a global powerhouse.

Known for his commitment to innovation and social responsibility, Tata spearheaded the creation of the Tata Nano, an affordable car aimed at improving mobility for millions in India. Beyond business, his philanthropic initiatives through the Tata Trusts have significantly contributed to education, healthcare, and rural development.

Ratan Tata's humility, integrity, and emphasis on ethical business practices have made him a role model. His legacy extends beyond boardrooms, inspiring generations to strive for excellence while making a positive impact on society.















A Night of Knowing Nothing A Night of Knowing Nothing 2021 | 96 Minutes Bengali, Hindi

Colour, Black & White India, France

Synopsis:

A university student in India writes letters to her estranged lover. Through these letters, we get a glimpse into the drastic changes taking place around her. Merging reality with fiction, dreams, memories, fantasies and anxieties, an amorphous narrative unfolds.

Director: Payal Kapadia

Producer: Thomas Hakim, Julien Graff,

Ranabir Das

Voice over Artist: Bhumisuta Das Screenplay: Payal Kapadia, Himanshu

Prajapati

Cinematographer: Ranabir Das

Editor: Ranabir Das

Sound Designer: Moinak Bose, Romain

Ozanne

Production Company: Petit Chaos, Another

Birth

Festivals: Cannes FF 2021



Director's Siggraphy: Payal Kapadia is a Mumbai-based filmmaker. She studied film directing at the Film and Television Institute of India. Her short films *Afternoon Clouds* (2015) and *And What Is the Summer Saying* (2018) premiered respectively at the Cinéfondation at the Festival de Cannes and the Berlin International Film Festival. *A Night of Knowing Nothing* (2021), her first feature-length film, had its premiere in the Director's Fortnight at Cannes, where it won the Œil d'Or for Best Documentary. Her most recent film, *All We Imagine as Light*, premiered at Cannes, where it was awarded the Grand Prix.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 A Night of Knowing Nothing (documentary) 2021 All We Imagine as Light

2021 All We Imagine as Light 2018 What is the Summer Saying (short)

2015 Afternoon Clouds (short)









Against the Tide Against the Tide 2023 | 97 Minutes Koli, Marathi, Hindi Colour India

Synopsis:

Bombay fishermen Rakesh and Ganesh are inheritors of the great Koli knowledge system—a way to harvest the sea by following the moon and the tides. Rakesh has kept faith in the traditional fishhing methods while Ganesh has strayed away from them, embracing technology. Against the Tide is a tale of deep friendship and rising resentment between the two men, as close as brothers, against the backdrop of an adoring sea, which is increasingly turning hostile because of climate change.

Director: Sarvnik Kaur

Producer: Koval Bhatia, Sarvnik Kaur **Cinematographer:** Ashok Meena, Vikas Urs,

Vandita Jain

Editor: Atanas Georgiev, Blagoja Nedelkovski

Sound Designer: Moinak Bose

Music Composer: Igor Vasilev Novogradska Production Company: Snooker Club Films, A

Little Anarky Films

World Sales: Film Harbour **Festivals:** Sundance FF 2023



irector's

Sarvnik Kaur is a documentary filmmaker known for her skeptical take on modernism's grand narratives and scientific certainties. Her films explore the anxieties and conflicts hidden beneath the mundane, reflecting the human predicament of our times. Her latest feature, Against the Tide, premiered at Sundance 2023, winning the Special Jury Award for Verité Filmmaking and numerous accolades worldwide, including the Grand Jury Prize at Seattle International and awards at IceDocs, Visions du Réel, and Sydney International. Her debut, Soz - A Ballad of Maladies, won India's 64th National Award for Best Debut Direction. A fellow of prestigious labs like HotDocs and IDFA Academy, her work is supported by major funds and studied by film scholars globally.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Against the Tide 2017 Soz - A Ballad of Maladies









Ernest Cole: Lost and Found Ernest Cole: Lost and Found

2024 | 106 Minutes

English Black & White France, USA

Synopsis:

Ernest Cole, a South African photographer was the first to expose the horrors of apartheid to a world audience. His book House of Bondage, published in 1967 when he was only 27 years old, led him into exile in NYC and Europe for the rest of his life, never to find his bearings. Raoul Peck recounts his wanderings, his turmoil as an artist and his anger, on a daily basis, at the silence or complicity of the Western world in the face of the horrors of the Apartheid regime. He also recounts how, in 2017, 60,000 negatives of his work were discovered in the safe of a Swedish bank.

Director: Raoul Peck

Producer: Tamara Rosenberg, Raoul Peck Voice over Artist: Lakeith Stanfield Screenplay: Ernest Cole, Raoul Peck Cinematographer: Wolfgang Held, Moses

Tau. Raoul Peck

Editor: Alexandra Strauss

Sound Designer: Stéphane Thiébaut,

Avmeric Devoldère

Music Composer: Alexeï Aïgui Production Company: Velvet Film

World Sales: mk2 Films

Festivals: Cannes FF 2024 | Toronto IFF

2024 | Busan IFF 2024



)irector's

Raoul Peck's complex oeuvre includes the films *The Man by the Shore* (Competition, Cannes Film Festival 1993); *Lumumba* (Directors' Fortnight, Cannes Film Festival 2000); *Sometimes in April* (Competition, Berlinale 2005); *Moloch Tropical* (TIFF 2009, Berlinale 2010) and *Murder in Pacot* (TIFF 2014, Berlinale 2015). His company Velvet Film was founded in 1989 and operates in the United States, France and Haiti. All of Peck's documentaries, feature films and television dramas have been produced or co-produced by Velvet Film.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Silver Dollar Road (Documentary) 2017 The Young Karl Marx 2016 I Am Not Your Negro (Documentary) 2009 Tropical Moloch 2000 Lumumba









Cristina García Rodero: La Mirada

Oculta

Eyes of the soul: Cristina García

Rodero

2023 | 70 Minutes

Spanish Colour Spain

Synopsis:

Fiercely independent, self-taught and critically acclaimed, Spanish photographer Cristina García Rodero, winner of the National Photography Award, was the first to capture her country's festivals - religious and pagan - and it took her 15 years to complete them. Today, half a century later, this warm, strong-willed and tireless 74-year-old artist continues to document how life, love, beauty and death are celebrated in the world. Cristina García Rodero: Eyes of the Soul, delves into her creative process, offering a privileged look at the artist.

Director: Carlota Nelson

Producer: Jose Maria Morales & Miguel

Morales

Cast: Cristina Garcia Rodero

Screenplay: Carlota Nelson with the support

of Clara Martinez Malagelada Cinematographer: Juan Gonzalez Editor: Clara Martinez Malagelada

Sound Designer: Juan Ferro (MILCICLOS)

Music Composer: Victoria de la Vega

Production Company: Wanda Films

World Sales: Urban Sales **Festivals:** Hot Docs 2024



Director's 3iography:

Graduated in Creative Writing and Film from Columbia College, United States, she is a screenwriter and documentary director. Her interest has always been linked to social issues such as the situation of aboriginal artists in Australia, apartheid in South Africa, or the limbo encountered by the sailors of the former Soviet Union - which is the central theme of her first documentary, Anchored (2010). She is a member of the Academy of Cinematographic Sciences and Arts of Spain and co-founder of the BERDE collective, where she teaches film and creative writing workshops to adults with functional diversity, and directs a radio show that distributes free audio resources to families and children who do not have access to the Internet.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Eyes of the Soul: Cristina García Rodero (Documentary) 2019 Igniting the Spark (Documentary) 2010 Anchored (Documentary)









Godard Seul Le Cinéma Godard Cinema

2022 | 110 Minutes

French Colour France

Synopsis:

Jean-Luc Godard is cinema, its quintessence. He has just turned 91, and made more than 140 films. He is a public figure as much as a man surrounded by mystery and sees the creative act as a necessary act of criticism and deconstruction. "I always start from the negative. I am a positive man who starts from the negative," he says. He is an artist who reinvents himself tirelessly, and inevitably destroys himself. Godard seul le cinéma takes us beyond the clichés of a myth that has sometimes become caricatural, to meet a man more sentimental than it seems, a man inhabited, sometimes surpassed, by his art.

Director: Cyril Leuthy

Producer: Cathy Palumbo, Victor Robert
Cast: Macha Meril, Thierry Jousse, Alain
Bergala, Marina Vlady, Romain Goupil, David
Faroult, Julie Delpy, Daniel Cohn Bendit,
Gerard Martin, Nathalie Baye, Hanna
Schygulla, Dominique Paini

Cinematographer: Gertrude Baillot **Editor:** Phillipe Baillon, Cyril Leuthy

Sound Designer: Guillaume Valeix, Nicolas

Paturle

Music Composer: Thomas Dappelo **Production Company:** 10.7 Productions

World Sales: Mediawan Rights **Festivals:** Venice IFF 2022



Director's Siography: Cyril Leuthy graduated from FEMIS in 2002. He then began a successful career as a documentary editor and worked on films such as Mark Kidel's *Becoming Cary Grant* (2016). His first film as a director, *La nuit s'achève* (The Night is Fading), won the prize for the most innovative first film at Visions du Réel 2015 before it went on to participate in many international festivals. He has since directed several documentaries, including mainly artist portraits such as *Melville le dernier samouraï* (2019) and *Rendez-vous with Maurice Chevalier* (2021).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 Godard Cinema (Documentary) 2021 Rendezvous with Maurice Chevalier (Documentary) 2019 Melville - The Last Samurai (Documentary) 2015 The Night is Fading









Balatar az Abrhaye Asidi Higher Than Acidic Clouds 2024 | 70 Minutes Farsi Black & White Iran, Luxembourg

Synopsis:

After the premiere of his film Terrestrial Verses (co-directed by Alireza Khatami) in Cannes, Ali Asgari was banned from traveling. However, filmmakers like Asgari are not easily deterred from practicing their art, despite relentless repressive interference. In stubborn resistance to his growing pessimism about the way his city is developing, Asgari expresses his dreams and reflections in countless apocalyptic shades of gray. He muses about his mother's native language, his sisters who could never see his films in the cinema, and Rome, where he lived for ten years. But above all, the filmmaker longs to go outside and fly above the city at a height from which all people are equal. He is left with his memories and imagination, the only things that cannot be confiscated.

Director: Ali Asgari

Producer: Ali Asgari, Milad Khosravi

Cast: Ali Asgari (narrator)

Screenplay: Ali Asgari, Ali Shams **Cinematographer:** Arman Fayaz

Editor: Ehsan Vaseghi

Sound Designer: Abdolreza Heydari Music Composer: Navid Divan

Production Company: Taat Films, Seven

Springs Pictures

World Sales: Seven Springs Pictures **Festivals:** Tallinn Black Nights FF 2023



Director's Biography: Ali Asgari is a prominent figure in Iranian cinema with more than 200 awards to his name. Two of his short films, More Than Two Hours (2013) and The Silence (2016), were nominated for the Palme d'Or at the Festival de Cannes. Ali's films focus on the precarious lives of individuals living on the margins of society in his native country, Iran. His debut feature film, Disappearance, had its world premiere at the Venice International Film Festival. After dedicating his time to creating several other short films, he directed Until Tomorrow, his second feature film, which premiered at Berlinale 2022. Ali's third feature film, Terrestrial Verses, a cross-genre film, premiered at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Higher Than Acidic Clouds (Documentary) 2023 Terrestrial Verses 2022 Until Tomorrow 2017 Disappearance









Nocturnes Nocturnes 2024 | 83 Minutes Hindi, English, Bugun Colour India, USA

Synopsis:

In the dense forests of the Eastern Himalayas, moths are whispering something to us. In the dark of night, two curious observers shine a light on this secret universe. Together, a female scientist and a young man from the indigenous Bugun community are on an expedition to decode these nocturnal creatures in a remote ecological "hot spot" on the border of India and Bhutan. The result is a deeply immersive film that transports audiences to a rarely-seen place and urges us all to look more closely at the hidden interconnections of the natural world.



Director's Biography:

Anirban Dutta, a Delhi-based filmmaker, photographer, and media educator, founded Metamorphosis in 2003. His award-winning documentaries on diverse social issues have screened at festivals like Sundance, IDFA, and Busan. Co-directing Flickering Lights and Nocturnes, he has earned accolades such as IDFA's Best Cinematography (2023) and Sundance's Special Jury Award (2024). Anirban also engages globally through residencies and exhibitions.

Anupama Srinivasan, a Delhi-based filmmaker and educator, studied at Harvard and FTII Pune. Her award-winning documentaries, including Flickering Lights and Nocturnes, have screened at major festivals like Sundance and IDFA. She has taught at leading institutions and directed film festivals, including IAWRT Asian Women's Film Festival (2013–15) and Peace Builders Film Festival (2016).

Director: Anirban Dutta, Anupama Srinivasan

Producer: Anirban Dutta

Cast: Mansi Mungee, Gendan "Bicki"

Marphew, Ramana Athreya

Screenplay: Anirban Dutta, Anupama

Srinivasan

Cinematographer: Satya Rai Nagpaul, ISC

Editor: Yaël Bitton

Sound Designer: Tom Paul, Shreyank

Nanjappa

Music Composer: Nainita Desai

Production Company: Metamorphosis Film

Junction, Sandbox Films **World Sales:** Dogwoof

Festivals: Sundance FF 2024 | Thessaloniki IDF 2024 | CPH:DOX 2024 | Hot Docs 2024

 \mid Sydney FF 2024 \mid DOC NYC 2024 \mid

Sheffield Docfest 2024

Directors' Selected Filmography:

2024 Nocturnes (documentary) 2023 Flickering Lights (documentary)









Phool Ka Chhand Rhythm of a Flower 2024 | 83 Minutes Hindi, Marathi Colour India

Synopsis:

Kumar Gandharva, afflicted by tuberculosis at his peak, lies bedridden for six years, unsure if he will ever sing again. Absorbing nature's sounds and folk melodies through his window, he hums softly, keeping his connection to music alive. Amit Dutta's Rhythm of a Flower, his first feature-length animation, transforms this poignant moment into a poetic biopic. Hand-animated by Allen Shaw in gentle watercolors, the film traces Gandharva's journey—from his rural childhood and youthful rise to his later years as a revered teacher. The animation mirrors Gandharva's fluid, transformative art, presenting a world in flux: flowers become gramophones, tanpuras grow into trees, and staff notes take flight as birds. These motifs emerge and dissolve, echoing Gandharva's own nimble, cyclical compositions. The film's meditative pace and visual elegance invite viewers into a serene, dreamlike exploration of the legendary singer's life and art, offering a cinematic tribute to his enduring genius.

Director: Amit Dutta

Producer: The Raza Foundation & Takshila

Education Society

Voice over Artist: Kuldeep Barve Screenplay: Amit Dutta, Kuldeep Barve

Animator: Allen Shaw **Editor:** Amit Dutta

Sound Designer: Amit Dutta

Music By: Kumar Gandharva

Music Consultant: Kuldeep Barve

Production Designer: Siddharth Kaneria

Production Company: The Raza Foundation,

Takshila Educational Society
World Sales: Amit Dutta

Festivals: MAMI 2024 | IFF Rotterdam 2025



Director's Biography:

Amit Dutta is an acclaimed Indian filmmaker and visual artist known for his experimental and meditative approach to cinema. A graduate of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Dutta has directed numerous award-winning films that blend literature, art, history, and philosophy. His works, including Nainsukh and The Museum of Imagination, have been screened at prestigious festivals such as Berlinale FF, Venice IFF, IFF Oberhausen, IFF Rotterdam etc. Renowned for their contemplative pace and visual richness, his films often explore themes of memory, tradition, and the intersection of art forms. Dutta also writes extensively on cinema and teaches at academic institutions in India.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Rhythm of a Flower 2015 Chitrashala 2013 The Seventh Walk 2011 Sonchidi 2010 Nainsukh

2009 The Man's Woman and Other

Stories











Riefenstahl Riefenstahl 2024 | 115 Minutes German, English Colour, Black & White Germany

Synopsis:

Leni Riefenstahl, a controversial artist and Nazi propagandist, is known for films like Triumph of the Will and Olympia, which glorify physical perfection and dominance while expressing disdain for weakness. Her aesthetics remain influential today, but what about their underlying messages? This film explores her rise as the Reich's premier filmmaker, her denial of close ties to Hitler and Goebbels, and her postwar efforts to control her legacy. Personal documents reveal her mourning of "murdered ideals" and echoes of postwar German longing for order. Could there come a time when her work would also experience a renaissance where we question - what if it was right?

Director: Andres Veiel

Producer: Sandra Maischberger

Cast: Andrew Bird

Screenplay: Andres Veiel

Cinematographer: Toby Cornish

Editor: Stephan Krumbiegel, Olaf Voigtländer,

Alfredo Castro

Sound Designer: Matthias Lempert **Music Composer:** Freya Arde

Production Company: Vincent Productions

GmbH

World Sales: Beta Cinema Festivals: Venice IFF 2024



Director's Siggraphy: Andres Veiel works on film and theatre projects that are mostly located in the border area between reality and fiction. His work is characterized by intensive research, some of it lasting several years. He has received more than fifty awards, including the European Film Prize and several German Film Prizes. His theatre plays *Der Kick* (2006) and *Das Himbeerreich* (2013) and *Let them eat money* (2018) have been performed on more than 100 stages worldwide. Andres Veiel teaches at various film schools. At the DFFB (German Film and Television Academy) he offers a master class in documentary film, in which he accompanies students from the initial idea until the completion of their films.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2020 Ökozid 2017 Beuys 2011 If Not Us, Who? 2004 Die Spielwütigen 2001 Black Box Brd









The Lost Paradise
The Lost Paradise
2024 | 45 Minutes
Marathi, Gondi
Colour
India

Synopsis:

'The Lost Paradise' tells the story of Adivasis (tribals) of Jiwati taluka in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra, who live in the farflung corner of Maharashtra, on the edge of Telengana border. A neglected region for many decades, the Adivasis have suffered much and continue to do so as they lose their forests to mining. The challenge of holding on to ancient rites and customs in the face of burgeoning modernisation and crop failures due to climate change. the film explores the philosophy and a tribal way of living in harmony with nature.

Director: Avinash Shriram Shembatwad

Producer: Project office

Cast: Bhimrao Chahkati, Shravan Pendor Screenplay: Avinash Shriram Shembatwad

Cinematographer: Ajay Ghadge

Editor: Atharva Mule

Sound Designer: Ajinkya Jumale **Music Composer:** Tanmay Sancheti

Production Designer: Virgi

Production Company: Project Office

Festivals: Nagpur FF 2025



Director's Biography: Avinash Shembatwad, a civil servant and executive magistrate in Dhanora taluka, Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, is also a passionate filmmaker. His debut feature, *Yathavkash*, portrays the struggles of competitive exam aspirants, with its cast and crew drawn entirely from this community. His short film, *Chunaav*, made for the Election Commission of Maharashtra, received critical acclaim, winning multiple awards, including "Best Experimental Director" at the 14th Pune Short Film Festival. His latest work, *The Lost Paradise*, is inspired by his experiences as a Tahsildar working with tribal communities in Jiwati taluka, Chandrapur. Shembatwad's films reflect his commitment to social issues and storytelling.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 The Lost Paradise (documentary) 2023 Yathavkash 2023 Chunaav (short)









Witches
Witches
2024 | 90 Minutes
English
Colour
United Kingdom

Synopsis:

In this personal and intimate film, writer-director Elizabeth Sankey uses her own story of being admitted to a psychiatric ward after the birth of her son to explore the unexpected yet compelling connections between perinatal mental health and the history and portrayal of witches in western society and pop culture. Using clips of cinema's witches to illustrate her own experience and those of fellow sufferers, alongside interviews with medical professionals and academics, Sankey creates her own spell book for all to use.

Director: Elizabeth Sankey

Producer: Manon Ardisson, Chiara Ventura,

Jeremy Warmsley

Screenplay: Elizabeth Sankey

Cinematographer: Chloë Thomson BSC

Editor: Elizabeth Sankev

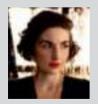
Music Composer: Jeremy Warmsley

Production Company: Mubi

World Sales: Mubi

Festivals: BFI London FF 2024 | Tribeca FF

2024

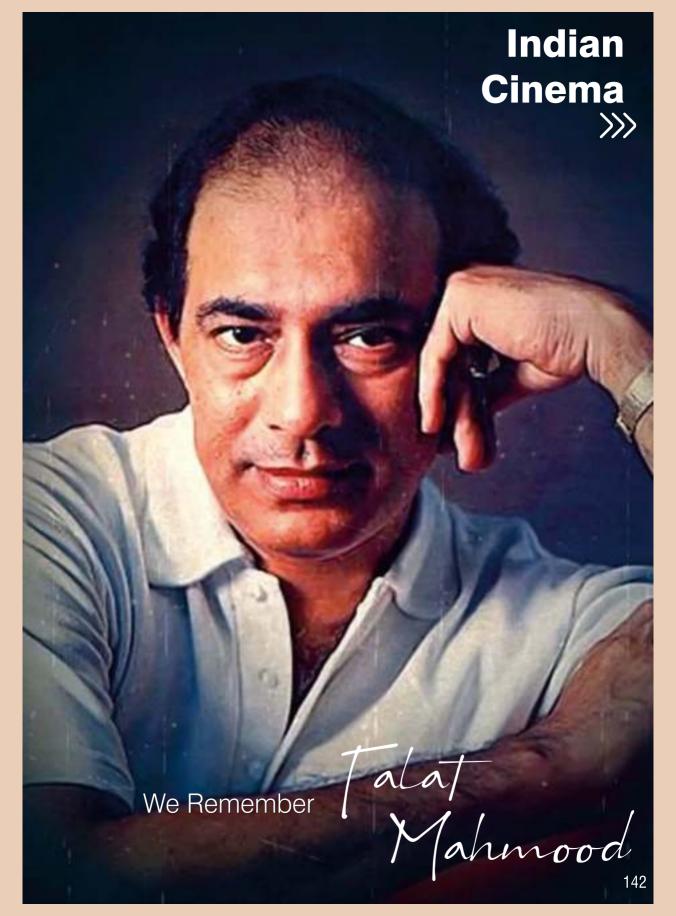


Director's signification (1)

Elizabeth Sankey is a filmmaker, writer and musician from London. In 2019 she directed and wrote her first feature documentary, *Romantic Comedy*, a personal exploration of the genre. The film was shown at over 35 international festivals including IFFR, SXSW, and Sheffield DocFest. In 2022 she wrote and directed *Boobs*, a TV programme about womens' bodies for the broadcaster Channel 4. She has also written several documentary shorts for BBC iPlayer's Inside Cinema strand. With her band *Summer Camp*, she has released four studio albums on Moshi Moshi Records, and in 2014 created the soundtrack to Charlie Shackleton's feature debut *Beyond Clueless*.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Witches (Documentary) 2022 Boobs (Documentary) 2019 Romantic Comedy (Documentary)











Synopsis:

An elderly couple must decide on a fateful night about who between them should go into the forest to get killed by the Tiger, so that their family can claim compensation from the government.

In the Belly of a Tiger In the Belly of a Tiger

2024 | 90 Minutes

Hindi Colour India

Director: Siddartha Jatla

Producer: Sarada Vemuri, Fang Li, Bhavana

Goparaju

Cast: Lawrence Francis, Poonam Tiwari,

Sourabh Jaiswar

Screenplay: Siddartha Jatla, Amanda

Mooney

Cinematographer: Siddartha Jatla Editor: Akhmad Fesdi Anggorro Sound Designer: Resool Pookutty Music Composer: Shigeru Umebayashi Production Company: Momo films

Festivals: Berlinale FF 2024 | Adelaide FF 2024 | Sao Paolo FF 2024 | Göteborg FF

2024



irector's iography: Siddhartha Jatla is a cinematography graduate of FTII and son of Director Jatla Venkataswami Naidu. His debut film, *Love and Shukla*, inspired by the invisible struggle for privacy amongst India's urban lower middle class, premiered at Busan IFF, and then screened at Shanghai, Tallinn Black Nights, Palm Springs and 40+ festivals around the world before releasing on Netflix and being sold to Panorama Studios. The film won the prestigious NETPAC award, SIGNIS award and also featured in BBC's critics entry, by FIPRESCI critic Gulbara Tolomushova for 100 Greatest Foreign Language Films of all time.

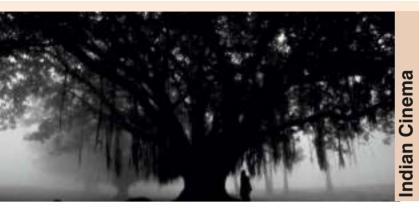
Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 In the Belly of a Tiger 2017 Love and Shukla









Swaha
In the Name of Fire
2024 | 99 Minutes
Magahi
Black & White, Colour

Synopsis:

In a remote village, Rukhiya and Phekan, from the Dalit community, face daily struggles and social discrimination. When village work halts due to a temple renovation, Phekan leaves for the city but is betrayed, exploited, and left with nothing. Rukhiya, left alone, endures isolation and cruel judgment from the villagers. Haunted by past traumas and strange whispers, she loses touch with reality. Branded a witch, she begins to accept her madness. Nehura, a crematorium worker, struggles with guilt after cremating an unknown body for alcohol. Seeking redemption, his path unexpectedly crosses with Rukhiya and Phekan, revealing a deep spiritual connection that binds them in a journey of madness and awakening.

Director: Abhilash Sharma **Producer:** Vikash Sharma

Cast: Chandra Shekhar Dutta, Satya Ranjan, Sonalli Sharmisstha, Bulloo Kumar

Screenplay: Shilpee Bhardwaj, Abhilash

Sharma

India

Cinematographer: Devendra Golatkar Editor: Suresh Pai, Abhilash Sharma Sound Designer: Mohandas V. P. Music Composer: Devarshi

Production Designer: Nilesh S Gorakshe Production Company: Prajna Films World Sales: Under Consideration

Festivals: Shanghai IFF 2024 | Lucca IFF 2024 | Kolkata IFF 2024 | IFF Kerala 2024



)irector's

Born in Dhanbad, a town known for its coal mines, Abhilash is an independent filmmaker who explores women's narratives and the human condition within socio-political landscapes. His journey began in Delhi's theater scene, where he directed impactful plays like Vijay Tendulkar's Silence! The Court is in Session. Inspired by world cinema through SARAI, he transitioned to filmmaking and honed his craft in Mumbai. Winning the Best Director Award at the Shanghai International Film Festival marks his most significant accomplishment, reflecting his dedication to thought-provoking cinema.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 In the Name of Fire 2012 A Thread of Love 2010 Without Ticket Passengers (short)









Synopsis:

24 hours in the life of a rural medical officer who decides to leave his professional duty to pursue his passion for acting, by traveling to the city for an audition, jeopardizing his engagement, his family's debt, a patient between life & death and a pregnant woman facing complications. Karken Karken 2024 | 92 Minutes Galo, Hindi, English Colour India

Director: Nending Loder
Producer: Prithul Kumar
Cast: Nending Loder
Screenplay: Nending Loder
Cinematographer: Nyago Ete

Editor: Lodam Gongo

Sound Designer: Satish Chandra Tiriya Music Composer: Kekho Thiamko Production Designer: Rahul Kardong Production Company: National Film Development Corporation Ltd. (NFDC) World Sales: National Film Development

Corporation Ltd. (NFDC) **Festivals:** IFF India 2024



Director's Siography: Nending has acted in three major feature films and many short films before. He hails from Ziro, a picturesque valley in the North-Eastern state of Arunachal Pradesh, India. He belongs to the Apatani scheduled tribe. After graduating from college, in 2017, he took a few acting classes for film & television and auditioned for movies in Mumbai, India. That is also where he developed an interest in screenwriting. His dream, through cinema, is to preserve his mother tongue which is among the many other endangered languages in India. He loves dancing, reading, cycling and hiking through his ancestral forest land. *Karken* is his directorial debut.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Karken









Lacchi
Lacchi
2024 | 109 Minutes
Kannada
Colour
India

Synopsis:

Lacchi, marginalized by her family, endured hardship and marital abuse while striving to secure a brighter future for her daughter, Sita. Determined to shape Sita's destiny despite societal challenges, Lacchi remained resolute. Tragedy strikes when Sita vanishes unexpectedly, leaving Lacchi shattered. Amid her anguish, a police investigation seeks answers to pressing questions - was poverty a catalyst? Were religious beliefs a factor? Did Lacchi's alleged immorality play a role? Did Sita's father harbour culpability? The investigation delves deep into these aspects, trying to uncover the truth behind Sita's disappearance.

Director: Krishne Gowda **Producer:** Krishne Gowda

Cast: Greeshma Sridhar, Tejashwini Gowda, Narayana swamy, Krishne Gowda , Sridhar

Screenplay: Krishne Gowda **Cinematographer:** Arjun Raja

Editor: Nagesh N

Sound Designer: Sri Ramu

Production Designer: Basavaraj Arakalagudu **Production Company:** Sapthagiri Creations



Director's Siography: Krishne Gowda is a film director who is best known for *Pinki Elli* (2019), *Naanu Kusuma* (2023) and *Lacchi* (2024). He has been involved in Kannada theatre, TV serials, and films as an actor, producer, and director. Over the years, he has produced and acted in more than 15 films and served as a jury member for BIFFeS and the Karnataka State Film Awards committee. *Pinki Elli* garnered global attention and won many prestigious national and international awards. *Naanu Kusuma* also received widespread acclaim and numerous prestigious accolades.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Lacchi 2023 Naanu Kusuma 2019 Pinki Elli









Level Cross Level Cross 2024 | 116 Minutes Malayalam Colour India

Synopsis:

When a modern pretty girl falls into the lap of an unruly man one strange day, two worlds meet. Their differences in culture. mentality, appearance, and even the way they look at life, come from two extremes of the spectrum. In spite of those superficial differences, they find uncanny resemblance about life, emotions and basic humanity. As they slowly try to fit into each other's lives, there comes the third man. The man brings in a contradictive perspective - a new narrative. Set in an imaginary land beyond time and space, the film is a play of truth and lies, wrongs and rights, trust and betrayal. The film whispers into the audience' ears that the present is the remaining evidence of the past; details of which are hiding in the narrative. This is a story of survival. The film is layered with human emotions from conflicting perspectives, and subtle subtexts of unsaid metaphor. This aesthetically shot thriller offers a unique cinematic experience through stunning visuals and endearing sound design.

Director: Arfaz Ayub **Producer:** Ramesh P Pillai

Cast: Asif Ali, Amala Paul, Sharafudheen

Screenplay: Arfaz Ayub

Cinematographer: Appu Prabhakar

Editor: Deepu Joseph

Sound Designer: Jayadevan Chakkadath Music Composer: Vishal Chandrashekhar Production Designer: Prem Navas Production Company: Abhishek Films

Festivals: Chennai IFF 2024 | IFF India 2024 | Jagran FF 2024 | Guwahati Asian FF 2025



Director's Biography Arfaz Ayub is an Indian filmmaker, actor, and writer who made his directorial debut with Level Cross (2024), a critically acclaimed Malayalam psychological thriller. The script of the film is included in the Academy (OSCAR) Library, known as the Margaret Herrick Library in Los Angeles. Holding degrees in Mass Communication and Video Production, he began his career assisting his father, Adam Ayub, a pioneer in Malayalam television. Over a decade, Arfaz has worked with renowned directors in Hindi, Malayalam, and Telugu industries as Codirector, Associate Director and First AD. He played a pivotal role in major projects, including *Drishyam 2* (Malayalam), *Drushyam 2* (Telugu), *Kooman, 12th Man, Ram, The Body, Torbaaz,* and *Horror Story.*

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Level Cross 2022 Kooman 2022 12th Man 2021 Drushyam 2









Rador Pakhi Morning Sunshine 2024 | 129 Minutes Assamese Colour India

Synopsis:

Jyoti, an aspiring writer, from the Indian State of Assam, is destined to be bedridden as she is diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy at a tender age. A battle she is fated to fight for life. Even though life is hostile to her, Jyoti does not let her suffering get the better of her. Torn between her obligations towards her family and her aspirations, she decides to fight against all odds to lead an independent life and become an acclaimed author. Jyoti has seen the worst of times when many lose hope, but she accepts her life as a challenge with open arms to become her ideal self and inspires many.

Director: Dr Bobby Sarma Baruah

Producer: Dr Bobby Sarma Baruah, Basanta

Kumar Baruah, Sulakhyana Baruah

Cast: Sulakhyana Baruah, Kamal Lochan,

Arun Nath, Bina Patangia

Screenplay: Dr Bobby Sarma Baruah **Cinematographer:** Sumon Dowerah

Editor: Ratul Deka

Sound Designer: Rukmajit Baruah

Music Composer: Rupam Bhuyan

Production Designer: Dr Bobby Sarma

Baruah

Production Company: Imaging Media **Festivals:** IFF India 2024 | Third Eye Asian

FF 2025



Director's

Dr Bobby Sarma Baruah is a multiple National (Rajat Kamal) and International award winning Indian Filmmaker. She did her Master of Arts in Assamese Literature, B.Ed. and Master's degree in Communication and Journalism from Gauhati University. She completed her PhD from the Department of Communication and Journalism, at Gauhati University. She is awarded the Senior Fellowship from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in 2014. Her Filmography includes feature films- Adomya (Indomitable) (2014), Sonar Baran Pakhi (The Golden Wing) (2016), Mishing (The Apparition) (2018), Sikaisal (If Only Trees Could Talk) (2022) and Rador Pakhi (Morning Sunshine) (2024).

Director's Selected Filmography:

2023 Saatra - The Holy Land (documentary) 2022 If Only Trees Could Talk 2018 The Apparition 2016 The Golden Wing 2014 Indomitable









Synopsis:

Chelladurai and Jeyasudha, siblings, face life's struggles after a devastating tragedy. Their uncle Periyasamy's constant guidance has fortified their unbreakable bond since childhood.

Kozhipannai Chelladurai Poultry Farm Chelladurai

2024 | 90 Minutes

Tamil Colour India

Director: Seenu Ramasamy **Producer:** Dr. D.Arulanandhu

Cast: Aegan Arulanandhu, Sathya Devi,

Sahaya Brigida, Yogi Babu Screenplay: Seenu Ramasamy Cinematographer: Ashok Raj Editor: Sreekar Prasad

Sound Designer: Udayakumar T
Music Composer: Ragunandhan NR
Production Designer: Saravana Abiraman
Production Company: Vision Cinema House

World Sales: Vision Cinema House **Festivals:** Oakland IFF 2024 | Newport Beach FF 2024 | Chennai IFF 2024 | Arpa IFF 2024 | Girona FF 2024 | Jaipur IFF 2024



Director's Biography: Seenu Ramasamy is an Indian filmmaker, screenwriter, and poet who predominantly works in Tamil cinema. He is known for directing the films *Thenmerku Paruvakaatru* (2010), *Neerparavai* (2012), and *Dharma Durai* (2016). He made his directorial debut with *Koodal Nagar* (2007). He garnered acclaim for Thenmerku Paruvakaatru, which won the 3 National Film Awards for Best Feature Film in Tamil, Best Actress, and Best Lyrics.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2022 Maamanithan 2019 Kanne Kalaimaane 2016 Dharma Durai 2012 Neerparavai 2010 Thenmerku Paruvakatru

2007 Koodal Nagar









Taarikh
Taarikh
2024 | 87 Minutes
Assamese
Colour
India

Synopsis:

Durlov Dutta, aged 70, shares the company of loneliness in life's twilight, yet his psyche diverges from the norm. In 2008, an irreversible incident shattered his mental equilibrium, leaving him stranded in time as fate snatched his loved ones away. While the world surged forward, he remained stagnant. Enter Anuran Hazarika, a journalist, who vows to liberate Durlov from his anguish. Anuran's journey to restore colour to Durlov's life is not an easy one. It involves peeling back the layers of time and pain, uncovering the buried secrets and unresolved emotions that have kept Durlov shackled to his sorrow. Through a series of heartfelt conversations and investigative endeavors, Anuran begins to piece together the fragments of Durlov's past, striving to understand the full extent of the tragedy that befell him in 2008.

Director: Himiyoti Talukdar

Producer: Arundhati Sarma Baruah & Dr

Muktismaan Hazarika

Cast: Arun Nath, Boloram Das, Swagata

Bharali, Kula Kuldeep

Screenplay: Himjyoti Talukdar, Ankurjyoti

Deka, Adhiraj Kashyap

Cinematographer: Aniruddha Barua
Editor: Uddipta Kumar Bhattacharyya
Sound Designer: Debajit Gayan
Music Composer: Tarali Sarma
Production Designer: Chandan Deka
Production Company: Trending Now Media

World Sales: Trending Now Media
Festivals: Chennai IFF 2024



)irector's siography: Born in Biswanath Chariali, Assam, Himjyoti Talukdar, an MBA by qualification, has channeled his deep passion for cinema into a remarkable journey in filmmaking. His career began in 2016 as the scriptwriter for the children's film *Marksheet*, which laid the groundwork for his promising future as a director. In 2018, he made his directorial debut with *Calendar*, an Assamese feature film widely praised for its engaging narrative. Building on this success, he recently completed his second feature film, *Taarikh*, in 2024. Renowned for his ability to blend compelling storytelling with nuanced portrayals of Assam's cultural and social tapestry, his work has captivated both audiences and critics alike.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Taarikh 2018 Calendar









Synopsis:

In a charming village, a teenage girl passionately pursues her musical dream. However, life's harsh realities challenge her innocence. As she faces these trials, she embarks on a journey to rediscover the profound connection between music and life, seeking a new harmony in the symphony of her dreams.

Village Rockstars 2 Village Rockstars 2

2024 | 108 Minutes

Assamese Colour

India, Singapore

Director: Rima Das **Producer:** Rima Das

Cast: Bhanita Das, Basanti Das, Junumoni Boro, Boloram Das, Manabendra Das,

Bhaskar Das

Screenplay: Rima Das **Cinematographer:** Rima Das

Editor: Rima Das, Khushboo Agarwal Sound Designer: Shreyank Nanjappa Music Composer: Pallab Talukdar Production Designer: Rima Das

Production Company: A Flying River Films

World Sales:

Festivals: Busan IFF 2024 | MAMI FF 2024 | Dharamshala IFF 2024 | IFF Kerala 2024 |

Berlin IFF 2024



Director's Siggraphy: Rima Das, filmmaker from India is known for making indigenous and realistic stories. She is also one of the Brand Ambassadors of Toronto International Film Festival's 'Share Her Journey' campaign. She has been on the jury of Berlin International Film Festival Generation 14plus, Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival, Asia Pacific Screen Awards, and Zlin Film Festival for Children & Youth. Her films Village Rockstars (2017), Bulbul Can Sing (2018), Tora's Husband (2022) and Village Rockstars 2 (2024) travelled to prestigious film festivals which include Toronto, Berlin, Busan International Film Festivals. Village Rockstars bagged the National Film Award for the Best Feature Film in India 2018 and was India's Official Entry to the Academy Awards 2019.

Director's Selected Filmography:

2024 Village Rockstars 2 2022 Tora's Husband 2018 Bulbul Can Sing 2017 Village Rockstars 2016 Man With the Binoculars

Marathi Cinema Today

We Remember Akkineni Nageswara Rao



A Special Screening by Maharashtra Film, Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Limited









Synopsis:

In 1975, amidst the backdrop of India's Emergency, Abhimanyu, a generous & straightforward man in his 40s, faces unexpected challenges. Unable to conceive after 20 years of marriage, his wife Vimal insists he remarry. They choose Jyoti, a distant relative, but Jyoti's brother, Pintu Sheth, opposes the match due to an old grudge. Defying opposition, Abhimanyu marries Jyoti. Soon after, Pintu and the village chief, both harboring personal vendettas, conspire against him during the Emergency, leveraging forced vasectomy drives to ruin his life. Abhimanyu evades the authorities with Vimal's help but becomes a fugitive. Facing betrayal, relentless pursuit by police and health officials, & rumours sweeping the village, Abhimanyu fights to protect his dignity, family, and future. His resilience is tested when he is captured but escapes, determined to challenge the oppressive system.

Set against the tense backdrop of the Emergency, the story captures Abhimanyu's remarkable struggle, the love and sacrifice in his marriages, and the chaos of enforcing government orders, all while exploring themes of survival, resistance, and justice.

Aanibaani 2023 | 120 Minutes Marathi Colour India

Aanibaani

Director: Dinesh Devram Jagtap

Cast: Upendra Limaye, Sayaji Shinde, Pravin Tarade, Veena Jamkar, Usha Naik, Sunil

Abhyankar

Screenplay: Arvind Jagtap

Cinematographer: Mangesh Ashok Gadekar

Editor: Pramod Kahar

Sound Designer: Nikhil Lanjekar Music Composer: Pankaj Padghan Costume Designer: Pournima Oak **Production Designer:** Sudhir Sutar **Production Company:** Dinisha Films

Dinesh Jagtap is a seasoned writer, narrator, and director with over 15 years of experience including 7 years dedicated to creating impactful non-fiction serials for Doordarshan. He has won the award for Best Production and Direction at the Pune International Film Festival for two consecutive years and earned a nomination for the Marathi Film State Award by the Government of Maharashtra. Striving to elevate Marathi cinema to global standards, Jagtap is committed to reintroducing history and culture through his work. He passionately studies and crafts stories that highlight the cultural and spiritual heritage of Maharashtra. He aims to present the untold stories of Maharashtra's historical and spiritual events with unparalleled artistic excellence.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2023 Aanibaani



A Special Screening by Maharashtra Film,Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Limited









Synopsis:

Dadu, an unmarried man living with his grandmother, becomes the target of her constant taunts. In a moment of frustration, he brings home a buffalo, only to be ridiculed further when she demands he find it a mate. Determined to prove her wrong, Dadu sets out to find a bull but discovers they're often sold off for slaughter. His search leads him to another village, where he learns of a canceled wedding because the bride eloped with a boy nicknamed "Tonga" (bull). As Dadu takes up the task of finding this boy, his journey transforms into a deeper exploration of identity, relationships, and humanity. Through the metaphor of the bull and his interactions with the people around him, Dadu begins to reflect on his own life, guilt, and purpose. Gaabh is a heartfelt tale of rural life, exploring bonds between people and animals, and the raw beauty of transformation.

Gaabh
Gaabh
2024 | 125 Minutes
Marathi
Colour
India

Director: Anup Jatratkar

Producer: Mangesh Narayan Goture **Cast:** Kailash Waghmare, Sayali Bandkar,

Vikas Patil, Vasundhara Pokharankar, Umesh

Bolake, Chandrashekhar Janawade

Screenplay: Anup Jatratkar

Cinematographer: Veerdhawal Patil

Editor: Ravindra Chandekar

Sound Designer: Chandrashekhar Janawade

Music Composer: Chandrashekhar

Janawade

Costume Designer: Chaitali Ganu

Production Company: Timelapse Production,

AJ Multimedia Production

Festivals: Third Eye Asian FF 2023 | Grand

Canyon FF 2023 | Sincine FF 2023



Director's Biography: Anup Jatratkar has been an active contributor to the world of cinema and literature since 2005. With a creative journey spanning nearly two decades, he has made over 30 short films and established himself as a prominent screenplay writer for six Marathi feature films. Jatratkar's talent for storytelling extends to theater as well. His one-act play, Nishparn Pimpalachya Chayet, earned the prestigious Vijay Tendulkar Puraskar from the Maharashtra Government in 2020. Beyond screenwriting and theater, he is also a novelist, with his debut work currently in the pipeline for publication. Jatratkar makes his directorial debut with the Marathi feature film Gaabh.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Gaabh



A Special Screening by Maharashtra Film,Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Limited









Synopsis:

This is the poignant love story of a middle-class couple. Their happy life takes a devastating turn when the wife is diagnosed with incurable pancreatic cancer. Struggling with emotional and financial turmoil, the husband seeks help from relatives but faces rejection, forcing him to sell his ancestral home. As his wife battles cancer, he witnesses another patient's harrowing struggles, making him question whether to continue her treatment. Ultimately, he honors her final wish—a world tour together—choosing her happiness over further suffering. After her death, the husband wrestles with grief and financial hardship but eventually reclaims their ancestral home. On the journey back, he shares the story with their young daughter, who was too little to understand her mother's struggles.

Kulup Kulup 2024 | 106 Minutes Marathi Colour India

Director: Dr Rudra Karpe
Producer: Arundhati Ram Karpe
Cast: Mahesh Patil, Srushty Vandana
Screenplay: Dr Rudra Karpe, Dr Dipak Patil

Cinematographer: Dr Rudra Karpe

Editor: Dr Rudra Karpe

Sound Designer: Adwait Walunjkar Music Composer: Dr Rudra Karpe Costume Designer: Neha Patil

Production Designer: Kshitij Nachankar **Production Company:** Zero Zero Films

World Sales: 91k



Jirector's Biography: Dr Rudra Karpe is a qualified surgeon with MBBS and MS in ophthalmology. During his undergraduate, he completed 7 short films, many of them are prize winners for the best short film, best direction, best cinematography, best music, and best editing. After having experience with short films, he decided to make an independent feature film. He recently started studio 'Zero Zero Films' in Aundh, Pune. The film also received five nominations for 59th Maharashtra state film awards namely Best Debut Director, Best music composer, Best female singer, Best debut actor and Best Debut actress.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2024 Kulup



A Special Screening by Maharashtra Film, Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Limited









Tendiva 2023 | 122 Minutes Marathi Colour India

Tendiya

Synopsis:

Tendlya is a drama set in the 1990s, a period of transformation in Indian society as it aspired to step into the 21st century. During this era, cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar had become a household name, inspiring millions across the nation. Against this backdrop, two youngsters from a remote village in Maharashtra embark on a journey to chase their dreams. Gajya, a 23-year-old driver struggling to make ends meet, once dreamt of becoming a cricketer but had to abandon it due to life's hardships. Yet, his passion for the game drives him to save for a color TV to watch Tendulkar play, a rare luxury in rural India. Meanwhile, Tendlya, a 13-year-old schoolboy, dreams of playing cricket like his idol but faces repeated failures. Their intertwined stories reflect the aspirations of countless Indians, highlighting the power of resilience, hard work, and determination in overcoming obstacles.

Director: Sachin Jadhav. Nachiket Waikar

Producer: Sachin Jadhav

Cast: Firoj Shekh, Aman Kamble, Sambhaji

Tangade, Raju Mali, Advaita Jadhav

Screenplay: Sachin Jadhav, Nachiket Waikar

Cinematographer: Balu Sandilysa

Editor: Nachiket Waikar Sound Designer: Pivush Shah

Music Composer: Sarang Kulkarni, Bhanu

Dhande

Costume Designer: Supriya Jadhav **Production Designer:** Subhash Jadhav



Sachin Jadhav is a director, writer and producer. He has a BSc Botany, and a master's degree in

Nachiket Waikar is a director, editor, and writer. He studied Film Editing from the Film and Television Institute of India. Letters from Korlai, Golden Mango. Kra-Ma-Sha, and Prism are some of his award winning films screened at various film festivals. Tendlya is his feature film debut as a director.

philosophy. Tendlya is his first feature length film.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2023 Tendlya



A Special Screening by Maharashtra Film,Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Limited









2023 | 90 Minutes Marathi Colour India

Ghoda The Horse

Synopsis:

The film tells the story of Malhari, a construction worker from central Maharashtra who migrates to a village near Satara with his wife Ranjana and their four-year-old son, Pandhari. Struggling to make ends meet, Malhari works hard to provide for his family. One day, Pandhari notices a wooden rocking horse owned by their affluent neighbor and asks his father for the same toy. Unable to afford it, Malhari initially avoids the request but eventually decides to craft a horse himself using wood from the construction site. Just as he completes the toy and begins his journey home, the van carrying it drives off, leaving Malhari chasing after it in vain. This sets Malhari on an emotional journey to retrieve the horse, navigating challenges that expose the layers of human behavior and societal disparities. The story symbolizes the struggles of ordinary people in a world driven by power and wealth, with the rocking horse representing the elusive aspirations often beyond their reach.

Director: T Mahesh

Producer: T Mahesh, Anil Vanave

Cast: Kailash Waghmare, Archana Mahadeo, Rahul Belapurkar, Vajra Pawar, Shivraj Nale Screenplay: Mahesh Kumar Munjale, Jameer

Attar

Cinematographer: Yogesh M Koli

Editor: Rohan Patil

Sound Designer: Piyush Shah Music Composer: Vinit Deshpande Costume Designer: Prashant Ingole Production Designer: Nikhil Deshpande,

Nitin Suryawanshi

Production Company: T Mahesh Film

Production

Festivals: Dadasaheb Phalke FF (2020)



T Mahesh is a filmmaker with seven years of experience in directing feature films and short films. Known for a meticulous approach to storytelling, he has directed two short films and the Marathi feature film *Ghoda* in 2023.

Director's Siography Mahesh oversees every creative aspect of filmmaking, from development to post-production, working closely with actors to guide performances and crafting visuals that enhance narrative depth. His expertise extends to managing camera operations, lighting, and audio, ensuring a cohesive and impactful cinematic experience.

Director's Selected Filmography: 2023 Ghoda











VAFA Short Film

Dear Pra
Dear Pra
2024 | 15 Minutes
Marathi, English
Colour
USA

Director: Nitin Adsul

Synopsis:

Even as a family advances on the path to the American dream, landmines of mental health issues camouflaged by self-shame and social stigma threaten to tear them apart. Will love and soul-baring transparency give them the strength to rise beyond a devastating situation? A freshman Congressman's heart wrenching tale shines an unflinching, yet caring light on an affliction that has upended the lives of millions of individuals and families in the US and around the world.



Nirmalya Nirmalya 2024 | 18 Minutes Marathi Colour USA

Director: Aniket Chandrakant Dhavale

Synopsis:

An Indian family in the USA is confronted with a difficult decision regarding the future of their newborn child. What choice will they make, and what factors will influence their decision?



Paayrav
Paayrav
2024 | 14 Minutes
Marathi
Colour
USA
Director: Kshiteej Sumant

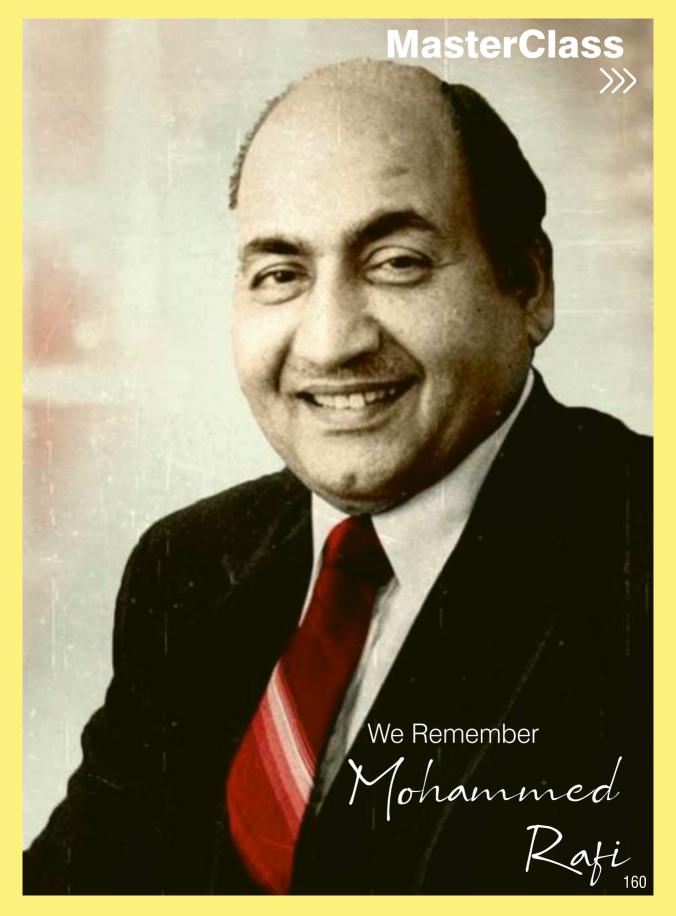
Synopsis:

An elderly woman with a special talent for predicting future arrivals begins to wonder if she can also foresee her own death. Namu Tai, curious and determined to challenge fate, embarks on a journey that brings back memories from her past. As she explores her gift, she faces the thin line between life and death, dealing with her fears and beliefs. Her journey reflects on mortality and seeks understanding and acceptance.

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CELEBRATING THE SHOWMAN



Workshop by Film City





MFSCDCL is conducting a seminar at the 23rd Pune International Film Festival, led by Swati Mhase Patil, Managing Director of MFSCDCL. Renowned producer and artist Vinod Satav, will also be joining the discussion.

The Maharashtra Film, Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Ltd. (MFSCDCL) has launched initiatives to support Marathi cinema. Since 1997, the Maharashtra government has provided financial aid to Marathi filmmakers. A 50% discount is available for shooting Marathi films and serials at Filmcity's studios and outdoor locations, making production facilities more accessible. MFSCDCL is also developing a Marathi e-Market Portal, which will provide details on subsidies, industry history, and notable figures.

The seminar will provide insights into the latest schemes available to filmmakers, helping them secure financial support and high-quality infrastructure. These initiatives reinforce MFSCDCL's commitment to strengthening Marathi cinema through funding, resources, and accessible production facilities. It is also working to market Marathi cinema globally by participating in the Marché du Film at Cannes.

How and Why? A Talk on Documentary by Renowned Makers











The 23rd Pune International Film Festival presents *Documentaries - How and Why*, a panel discussion on the art, craft, and impact of non-fiction filmmaking.

Moderated by acclaimed filmmaker Umesh Kulkarni (*Vihir, Deool*), the discussion features esteemed panelists: Anupama Srinivasan, a filmmaker and cinematographer known for *I Wonder and On My Own*; Sarvnik Kaur, director of the critically acclaimed *Against the Tide*; Kuldeep Barve, a seasoned editor and music composer (*Phool Ka Chhand*); and Payal Kapadia, whose documentary *A Night of Knowing Nothing* gained wide recognition, while her latest film, *All We Imagine as Light*, won the prestigious Grand Prix at Cannes.

The panel will explore the evolving landscape of non-fiction films, the rise of creative documentaries, and their place in contemporary cinema, offering a thought-provoking session for cinephiles and creators alike.



Vijay Tendulkar

Vijay Tendulkar was a colossal personality in Indian Theatre. His immense contribution to theatres sometimes overshadows his brilliant work in other literary forms such essay, the short story and novel. Even in Cinema, by writing screenplays for emerging giants like Shyam Benegal and Govind Nihalani, he left an indelible mark on the Indian new wave that emerged in the seventies. Today, it is hard to even imagine how one writer could have contributed so much to different art forms in the same period. To salute the genius of Vijay Tendulkar, PIFF started the Vijay Tendulkar Memorial Lecture since the 10th edition of PIFF. Eminent and knowledgeable personalities are invited to speak about different aspects of cinema as part of this initiative. PIFF boasts of a large number of student delegates, many of whom students of Cinema, Theatre and related fields. Over the course of the last few years, these lectures nave become an important forum during PIFF for the sharing of knowledge and insights, and for lively interaction between the seniors and the emerging talent from the film fraternity.

This year, the prestigious Vijay Tendulkar Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Boman Irani, during which his creative process will be outlined, and the art of building compelling characters will be discussed, with insights offered from his remarkable journey.



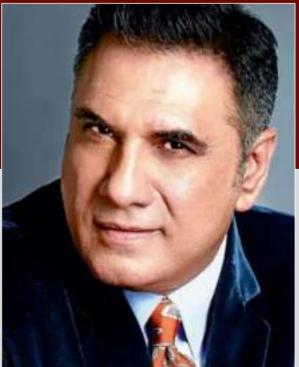
Vijay Tendulkar Memorial Lecture on Acting

Boman Irani is a celebrated actor whose dynamic talent and magnetic presence have made him one of Indian cinema's most versatile performers. Born on December 2, 1959, in Mumbai, Irani's journey to stardom was unconventional. Initially a photographer and theatre artist, he made his film debut relatively late, proving that passion and perseverance can transcend age and convention.

Irani's breakthrough came with the critically acclaimed *Munna Bhai M.B.B.S.* (2003), where he portrayed the strict yet comically endearing Dr. Asthana. He has since delivered remarkable performances in various roles, from the quirky Viru Sahastrabuddhe in *3 Idiots* to the cunning business tycoon in *Don.* Known for his meticulous approach, Irani brings authenticity and relatability to every character, captivating audiences with his nuanced performances.

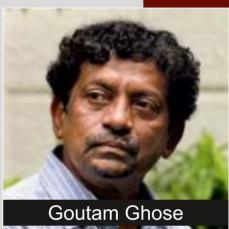
Boman Irani will deliver the prestigious Vijay Tendulkar Memorial Lecture on acting this year. In it, he will outline his creative process and discuss the art of building compelling characters, offering insights from his remarkable journey.





Cinema and Soul: Tapan Sinha





The 23rd Pune International Film Festival is honoured to host a panel discussion celebrating the centenary year of renowned filmmaker Tapan Sinha. The discussion will feature acclaimed director Goutam Ghose and esteemed author and film critic, Swapan Mullick.

Goutam Ghose is a distinguished Indian film director, music director, and cinematographer. He is the only Indian to have received the "Vittorio Di Sica" Award in Italy in 1997. Swapan Mullick is a National Award winning film scholar, former critic for *The Statesman*, and also served as the director at the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute in Kolkata.

The panel will explore various facets of Tapan Sinha's remarkable career, including his storytelling techniques, directorial style, and significant impact on Indian cinema. Enriched by the insights and experiences, it will offer a deeper appreciation of Sinha's enduring legacy of blending realism with lyrical storytelling, inspiring generations of Indian filmmakers and celebrating the power of art to reflect society.

Content Creation using AI in Films

Paco Torres is an acclaimed Spanish filmmaker known for his emotionally rich and visually striking narratives. His films, including *The Magic of Hope, Halowin,* and *The Rattle of Benghazi,* have earned global recognition. He has directed over 300 commercials for major brands and worked with Warner Bros., with his fiction films distributed on platforms like Netflix, Apple TV, and Amazon Prime. Winner of over 30 prestigious awards, Torres is currently developing Veleta, a film about the world's first female footballer, along with several television projects set to premiere in 2025.

This year at PIFF, Torres will be conducting a workshop on Content Creation using AI in Films, aimed at exploring the limitless possibilities of Generative Artificial Intelligence. Participants will gain practical insights into using cutting-edge generative tools to enhance their cinematic and artistic projects, making them indispensable in industries such as marketing, audiovisual production, and communication in the age of Artificial Intelligence.





Challenges in Marathi Cinema: From Production to Audiences.









The 23rd Pune International Film Festival presents Challenges in *Marathi Cinema:* From Production to Audiences, a compelling panel discussion addressing the hurdles contemporary Marathi films face. From funding and production struggles to distribution challenges and audience reach, the discussion will examine the evolving landscape of Marathi cinema.

The session will be moderated by renowned filmmaker Paresh Mokashi, best known for *Harishchandrachi Factory*, India's official entry to the Oscars in 2010. Joining the discussion are Addinath M. Kothare, an acclaimed actor-director known for Paani and his contributions to Marathi and Hindi cinema; Sunil Phadtare, a respected producer with deep industry experience in Marathi film production and distribution; and Aditya Sarpotdar, a filmmaker behind successful films like *Classmates* and *Munjya*, known for blending mainstream appeal with regional storytelling.

This panel will provide crucial insights into the Marathi film industry's current state and future prospects, making it a must-attend for cinephiles and filmmakers alike.

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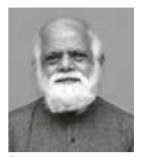
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Sangeeta Shedge Office Help

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方For Your Great Efforts §





Raj Kapoor

The Showman of Indian Cinema...

Raj Kapoor, born on December 14, 1924, was the "Showman of Indian Cinema," shaping Hindi cinema's golden era. Growing up in the illustrious Kapoor family, his early exposure to theater and cinema profoundly influenced his artistic sensibilities.

Kapoor began as an actor but soon established R.K. Films in 1948, debuting as a director with Aag. Films like Barsaat (1949), Awaara (1951), and Shree 420 (1955) cemented his legacy, reflecting post-independence India's socio-political landscape with romance, drama, and Chaplinesque humor.

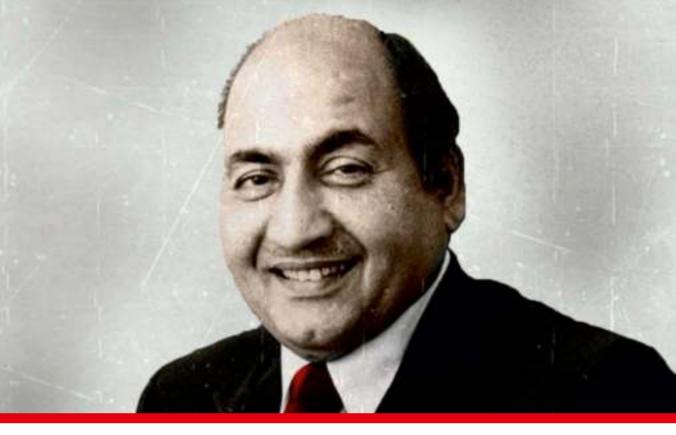
Renowned for evoking deep emotional resonance, Kapoor's "common man" persona resonated globally. Collaborations with music directors like Shankar-Jaikishan produced timeless songs.

Raj Kapoor's artistic genius earned him numerous accolades, including the Dadasaheb Phalke Award. His work continues to inspire generations, cementing his status as an enduring icon in Indian filmmaking.



Step into the magical world of the Showman who made India dream.





Mohammed Rafi

One of India's Most Legendary Playback Singers...

Mohammed Rafi, born on December 24, 1924, remains one of India's legendary playback singers. Beginning with humble roots, his prodigious talent led to his debut in the Punjabi film Gul Baloch (1944).

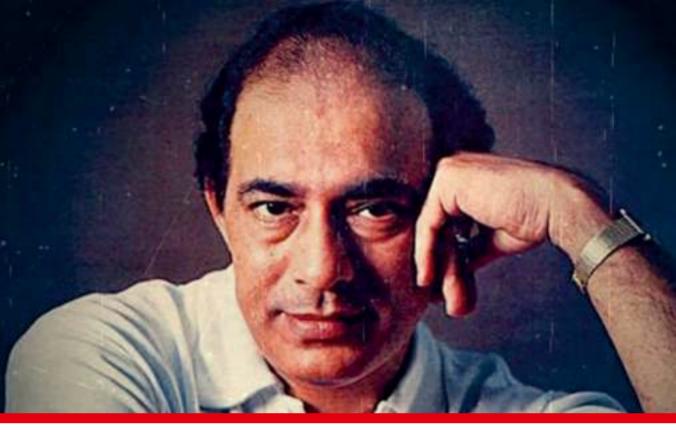
Rafi's phenomenal voice defined the golden era of Indian cinema, adapting to genres from romantic ballads to patriotic anthems. Collaborating with music directors like Naushad and S.D. Burman, he lent his voice to iconic songs like Main Zindagi Ka Saath Nibhata Chala Gaya and Chaudhvin Ka Chand Ho.

His voice captured the spirit of actors like Dev Anand, Dilip Kumar, and Shammi Kapoor. Rafi's humility and dedication earned him millions of admirers and numerous awards, including the Padma Shri. His timeless melodies continue to enchant listeners, securing his status as the eternal voice of Indian cinema.



Listen to the golden voice that still echoes in every heart.





Talat Mahmood

The Velvet Voice of India...

Talat Mahmood, the "Velvet Voice of India," born on February 24, 1924, was a legendary playback singer renowned for his soulful renditions. His classical training shaped a distinctive singing style, marked by smoothness and subtle nuances.

His breakthrough came with Tasveer Teri Dil Mera Behla Na Sakegi (1941), catapulting him to fame. Talat's silken voice and deep emotional conveyance made him ideal for melancholic and romantic melodies. Collaborating with music directors like Anil Biswas and Naushad, he delivered classics such as Jalte Hain Jiske Liye and Sham-e-Gham Ki Kasam. A pioneer of modern ghazal singing, he popularized the genre among mainstream audiences.

His immense contributions earned him many accolades, including the Padma Bhushan. Talat Mahmood's timeless voice continues to captivate listeners, securing his legacy as one of India's greatest musical icons.



Experience the timeless charm of the velvet voice of India.





Madan Mohan

One of India's Most Gifted Music Composers...

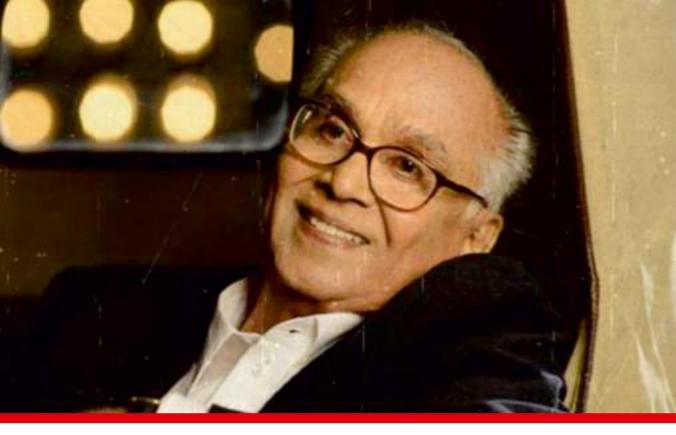
Madan Mohan, born on June 25, 1924, remains one of India's most celebrated music composers. His classical training and passion for melody enabled him to blend traditional Indian music with contemporary film compositions, creating a unique style that touched the soul.

Starting in the early 1950s, Madan Mohan worked with legendary singers like Lata Mangeshkar, Mohammed Rafi, and Talat Mahmood, crafting timeless classics such as Lag Jaa Gale, Teri Aankhon Ke Siva, and Nainon Mein Badra Chhaye. His music stood out for its emotional depth and intricate arrangements, earning him the title "King of Ghazals".

Despite commercial challenges, his dedication to his craft earned him lasting admiration. Madan Mohan's legacy endures through his unforgettable melodies, continuing to captivate and inspire generations of musicians.







Akkineni Nageswara Rao

A Trailblazer Actor in Telugu Cinema...

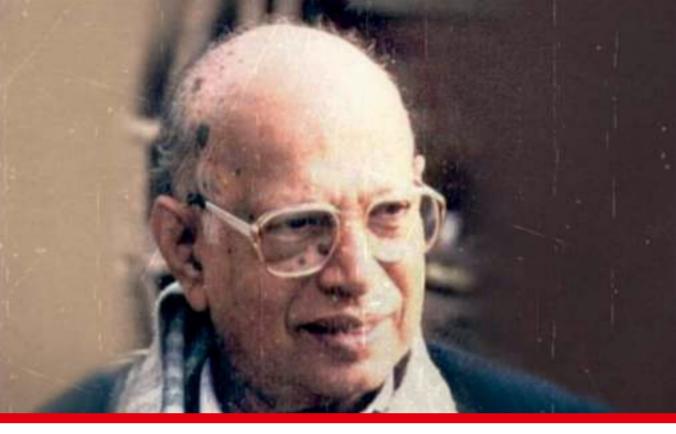
Akkineni Nageswara Rao (ANR), a trailblazer actor in Telugu cinema, was born on September 20, 1923. Rising from humble beginnings, ANR became a celebrated icon with a career spanning over seven decades.

He started in theater and made his film debut in Dharmapatni (1941). Known for his natural acting and screen presence, ANR showcased versatility in roles ranging from mythological to romantic. His milestone films include Devadasu (1953), Mayabazar (1957), and Muga Manasulu (1964).

Beyond acting, ANR established Annapurna Studios, fostering cinematic excellence. His dedication earned him the Dadasaheb Phalke Award and Padma Vibhushan. ANR's legacy of artistry and humility continues to inspire, cementing his status as an evergreen legend.







Tapan Sinha

A Pioneering Filmmaker...

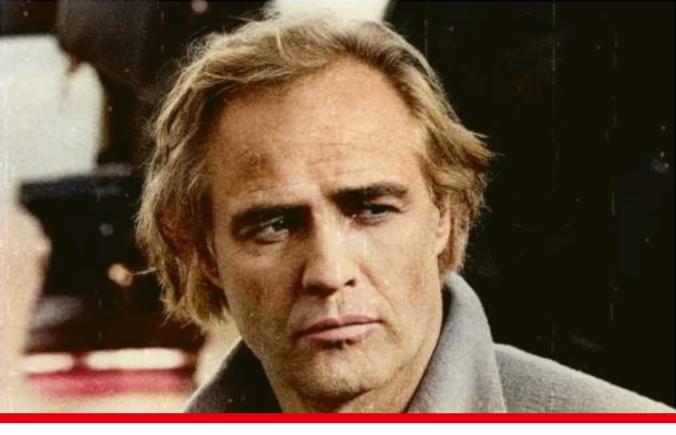
Tapan Sinha, born on October 2, 1924, was a pioneering filmmaker who left an indelible mark on Indian cinema. Influenced by both Indian and Western traditions, Sinha began his career as a sound engineer at New Theatres in Kolkata after studying physics.

Inspired by European filmmakers, Sinha's debut film, Ankush (1954), showcased his talent for socially relevant narratives. Over his career, he directed over 40 films in various Indian languages, earning critical acclaim for classics such as Kabuliwala (1957), Apanjan (1968), and Ek Doctor Ki Maut (1990).

Sinha's films often explored themes of social justice, human relationships, and cultural identity. He received numerous accolades, including the Padma Shri and multiple National Film Awards. His cinematic legacy blends realism with lyrical storytelling, inspiring generations of Indian filmmakers and celebrating the power of art to reflect society.







Marlon Brando

One of the Greatest Actors in Cinematic History...

Marlon Brando, born on April 3, 1924, revolutionized acting with his naturalistic and emotionally raw performances. Studying under Stella Adler at the Actors Studio, Brando mastered Method Acting, which became central to his iconic roles.

His breakthrough role as Stanley Kowalski in A Streetcar Named Desire (1951) set a new standard for screen acting, followed by an Academy Award-winning performance in On the Waterfront (1954) as Terry Malloy. Brando brought complex characters to life in films like The Godfather (1972) and Apocalypse Now (1979), underscoring his brilliance.

Beyond acting, Brando was a vocal advocate for civil rights and social justice. His legacy endures, influencing generations of actors and filmmakers, affirming his status as a true pioneer of modern acting.







Marcello Mastroianni

One of the Most Celebrated Actors of European Cinema...

Marcello Mastroianni, born on September 28, 1924, epitomized charm, sophistication, and depth as one of European cinema's most celebrated actors. With a career spanning five decades, he became the face of Italian cinema's global renaissance.

His breakthrough role in Federico Fellini's La Dolce Vita (1960) as Marcello Rubini captured post-war Europe's existential angst, cementing his global stardom. He continued his collaboration with Fellini in 8½ (1963), delivering another masterful performance.

Renowned for his effortless blend of humor, vulnerability, and charisma, Mastroianni excelled in diverse roles, working with esteemed directors like Luchino Visconti, Vittorio De Sica, and Michelangelo Antonioni. Notable films like Divorce Italian Style (1961) and A Special Day (1977) showcased his versatility.

Mastroianni's legacy transcends cinema, remaining an enduring symbol of Italian artistry and timeless performances.



Discover the effortless charm of Italian cinema's greatest icon.



Tribute



Rashid Khan Singer



Prabha AtreSinger



Norman Jewison Filmmaker



Ameen Sayani Radio Personality



Kumar Sahani Producer/Director



Pankaj Udhas Singer



Paolo Taviani Writer, Director



Tim McGovern
VFX artist



David Seidler screenwriter



Bernard HillActor



Roger Corman Film Maker



Ramoji Rao Film Producer

Tribute



Vijay Kadam Actor



Alain Delon Actor



Aruna Vasudev Critic, Author, Editor, Painter



Maggie Smith Actress



Atul Parchure
Actor



Delhi Ganesh Actor



Zakir Hussain
Tabla Maestro



Shyam Benegal
Director



Santosh Deshpande PIFF Team

Acknowledgement

Government of Maharashtra

I & B Ministry, Government of Maharashtra

Ministry of External Affairs

Ministry of Home Affairs

Finance Department, Government of Maharashtra

Revenue Department, Government of Maharashtra

Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra

Bureau of Immigration, Ministry of Home Affairs, India

National Informatics Centre, New Delhi, Government of India.

Italian Institute Of Culture

Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Pune

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Mr. Prithul Kumar, Joint Secretary (Films), M/o I & B and Managing Director - NFDC.

Dr. Rajendra Bhosale Pune Municipal Commissioner

Mr. Jitendra Dudi, District Collector, Pune

Mr Shravan Hardikar, MD, Maha Metro

Income Tax Office, Pune

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Festival Manager, National Film Institute"

Kamyar Mohsenin

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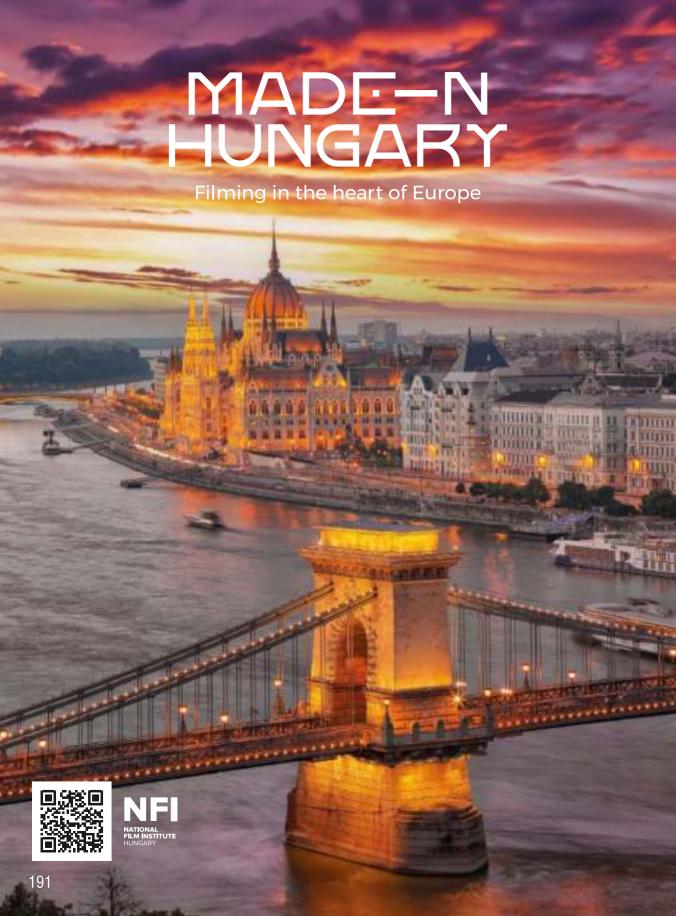
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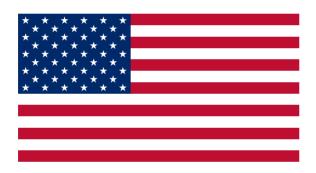
(a) Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Mumbai





















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That allow people to Discover, Nurture & Excel in their abilities

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Our Extended Festivals

23rd Pune International Film
Festival, Nagpur Edition,
Nagpur
28th February to 2nd March 2025

15th Yashwant International
Film Festival,
Mumbai
7th March to 11th March 2025

3rd Latur International
Film Festival, Latur
14th March to 17th March 2025

Film City





Maharashtra Film, Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Limited (Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagari)

- Film City is managed by Maharashtra Film, Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Ltd. (MFSCDC)
- Set up in 1977 by Government of Maharashtra to promote cinema, theatre, culture & performing arts
- Situated in the western suburb of Mumbai spread over 521 acres of lush green, picturesque land
- Outdoor as well as indoor shooting locations, Dynamic sets for films and mega TV serials
- Witness to iconic movies like The Burning Train, Anand, Kalia, Ramleela, Sultan, Bajirao Mastani, Bharat, Padmavat, and Gangubai Kathiawadi
- Facilitated shooting for mega serials like Bharat Ek Khoj, Ramayan and Mahabharata
- Film City offers 15 AC studios ranging from 2000 sq. ft. to 20,000 sq. ft. for indoor shoots
- 70 outdoor locations and 76 makeup rooms
- Film City published "Spotlight" in 2017 to strengthen Maharashtra as a film-friendly destination
- Film City initiated the concept of "Bollywood Tourism" by setting up a theme park in 2021
- Film City was made the nodal agency to implement the Single Window System system and was launched in 2019 for the state of Maharashtra
- Film City allotted land of ~20 Acres to Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India for establishment of National Centre of Excellence for training of Animation, Video, Gaming and Comics segment
- Financial incentive to Marathi Feature Films
 Rs.40/30 Lakhs to eligible films
- Showcasing Marathi movies at domestic / international film festivals
- Promotion of selected feature films at Cannes Film Festival, Film Bazaar, Goa International Film Festival







Temple Road Makeup Rooms







Temple

Abu village



Set on Appu Pappu Maidan



Khandala Ghat



Studio Complex



Dhaba



Court



Lake







Railway station



Helipad







