THE FINNISH FILM FOUNDATION

The Finnish Film Foundation supports and promotes the Finnish film industry by allocating public funding for professional film production, exhibition and distribution. It is also responsible for the festival distribution and international promotion of Finnish films.

Founded in 1969, the Finnish Film Foundation operates under the Ministry of Education and Culture. It receives its budget from lottery and pools funds allocated for promoting cinema and hands out around EUR 25 million annually.

The Finnish Film Foundation is the main financer of film production in Finland. It provides production support for feature, documentary, short and animation films as well as television series. The Foundation also funds international co-productions with a Finnish co-production partner.

Finland at a glance

- **Population:** 5.5 million
- **Cinema Screens:** over 300
- **Cinema Admissions:** 8–9 million
- **Cinema Box Office:** over 90 million €
- **Domestic Film Releases:** around 30
- **Domestic Market Share:** 20–30%

Founded in 1969, The Finnish Film Foundation celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

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Children’s Films

**Jill, Joy and the Sleeping Clock**

Onnelli, Anneli ja nukutuskello • 77 min • 2018

Jill and Joy receive a mission from their neighbours Tingelstein and Tangelstein, to look after their brother, the absentminded inventor Gadgetus. Jill and Joy get to know the wonders of Gadgetus’s farm but are drawn into an adventure when the farm faces the risk of being demolished. The girls save the farm, but the rescue mission requires help from Armstrong, a miniature pig, and the people living on Rose Valley.

The theme of Jill and Joy and the Sleeping Clock is empowering: the world is an open possibility, not a fate determined in advance. We can all change it! The film is playful and safe adventure of Jill and Joy, full of imagination. The film is based on Marjatta Kurenniemi’s beloved children’s book by the same name.

**Ricky Rapper and the Strongman**

Risto Räppääjä ja pullistelija • February 2019

Ricky and Serena Rapper, Nelly Noodlehead and Lennart Lindberg take a vacation at the Muscle Rock holiday village. There, they meet a father and son, Bill and Sylvester Pöntinen, who are training for a strongman competition. Serena and Nelly take a sudden interest in exercising – and in the Pöntinen duo. Ricky and Lennart ask Aunt Fran to train them for an arm-wrestling competition.

Ricky Rapper and the Strongman, based on the popular children’s book series written by Sinikka Nopola and Tiina Nopola, is the 7th Ricky Rapper film. It is filled with catchy songs, telling a story about diversity, friendship, jealousy and finding yourself. The unique visual world of Ricky Rapper aims to interest both children and their parents. The themes of the film are universal and easily relatable.

**Jill and Joy and the Sleeping Clock**


**Ricky Rapper and the Strongman**

Youth Films

10-year-old Vinski feels like an outsider and invisible among his age-mates, and even with his single mother Krista. Vinski meets a mysterious pharmacist who gives him a bottle of magical powder. A powder, that allows you to become invisible for real and walk through walls. It is fantastic to have the powers of a super hero, but soon a group of crooks becomes interested in the secret of invisibility as well.

Based on the well-known and beloved book by Aapeli, Vinski and The Invisibility Powder is a contemporary fantasy-action-comedy for the whole family.

Director: Juha Wuolijoki Script: Mauri Ahola, Juha Wuolijoki Producer: Juha Wuolijoki Production company: Snapper Films

Diva of Finland is a story about the painful subject of girl envy. It sheds light at the darker sides of being a young woman. The film is defined by the effortless work of the main cast – the young talents are all real life locals of their fictional environments. This film is packed with great music, thought provoking, awkward situations, horror caused by someone else’s amazingness, and snow.

**Stupid Young Heart**

Hölmö nuori sydän • 102 min • 2018

Stupid Young Heart is about the first love between the skinny and carefree Lenni and the gorgeous and popular Kiira. Not yet in a relationship, nor out of high school, they discover that they are expecting a baby. They suddenly have to deal with grown up problems of pregnancy, while extreme right ideas begin to encroach on their multicultural neighborhood.

Stupid Young Heart had its World Premiere in September 2018 at Toronto International Film Festival. The film has received critical acclaim both overseas and domestically. After its domestic premiere in October 2018, the film reached over 20,000 admissions in less than a week, with a teen audience majority. The film’s European Premiere is in Berlinale 2019, in the Generation Competition.

Director: Selma Vilhunen Script: Kirsikka Saari Cinematography: Lisabi Fridell Editors: Michal Leszczyński, Yva Fabričius Sound: Jan Schermer Cast: Jere Ristepää, Rosa Honkonen, Abshir Sheikh Nur, Ville Haapasalo, Pihla Viitala

**Supercool**

100 min • Autumn 2019

Best friends, Neil and Gilbert start their senior year of high school with high hopes and aspirations. Neil has always fantasized about being cool enough to date his long time crush and Gilbert has always dreamed of being a social media super star. After what is, by all accounts, a very disappointing and embarrassing first day in school, Neil makes a magical wish to be cool.

High school is for most teenagers about the friends you make and the experiences you share. Your first beer, first smoke, first kiss, first heartbeat and if you’re lucky, your first real love. However, if you’re only observing everything from the sidelines, you can feel left out, sad and lonely. But what if all your high hopes come true?

Director: Teppo Airaksinen Script: Ali Moussavi, Olli Haikka Editing: Jussi Rautaniemi Producers: Olli Haikka, Marko Talli

Production company: Yellow Film & TV

Selma Vilhunen’s (b. 1976) earlier collaboration with screenwriter Kirsikka Saari resulted in an international festival hit, the short film Do I Have to Take Care of Everything?, which was nominated for an Oscar in 2014. Vilhunen’s debut feature Little Wing received the Nordic Council Film Prize in 2017, and her documentary feature Hobbyhorse Revolution was nominated for the EFA Young Audience Award in 2018.

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**Aurora**

105 min • January 2019

One night at a hot dog stand in Finnish Lapland, Aurora, a party animal, meets Iranian Darian. Darian needs to marry a Finnish woman to get an asylum for himself and his daughter. Aurora turns him down, as she plans to move to Norway, away from her shit life. However, after meeting his sweet daughter, she agrees to help him. As Aurora introduces numerous women to Darian, the two of them grow close.

Director Mia Tervo: “I wanted to do a film with silly and warm humour by reaching towards sensitive cinematic poetry with some honest dark shades and romantic comedy. To draw a picture of the fragile moments of falling in love in a hopeless situation. To show the inner reality of a young woman in the arctic ghetto coping with inherited barriers against love and life. To show northern magic instead of superimposed exoticism. To salute the biggest, the force of nature, love.”

**Baby Jane**

90 min • March 2019

Small-town girl Jonna heads for Helsinki with studies and excitement in mind. With innocent enthusiasm she falls for the beat of the city – until one night she finds herself in a threatening situation. Piki, a wonderful, confident woman, comes to her rescue. Jonna is enchanted by her hero, and soon enough Piki has wrapped her rope around Jonna.

The film is based on a novel by one of the most acclaimed Finnish contemporary authors, Sofi Oksanen. Visually stunning and dramatically intense, the film is a triangle drama set in the Finnish LGBT scene. With haunting performances by the two leading actresses, the viewer will travel into a world of love, jealousy and power games.

**Baby Jane** is her first fiction feature.
Juha has lost his wife in a drowning accident. Years after he still feels numb and unable to connect with people. Meeting Mona, a dominatrix, changes everything.

Dogs Don’t Wear Pants is a darkly humorous story of loss, love and the sweet pain of being.

Pekka Malmikunnas is a bankrupt, penniless, middle-aged man, who has convinced his family that he is still the CEO of a large IT company. Maintaining this facade in order to save face has become something of a full-time job for him. When Pekka’s parents suddenly decide that the estranged family should reunite, his carefully crafted hoax is in danger of being revealed.

The Human Part is a dramedy based on a novel by the award-winning and top-selling author Kari Hotakainen. The brilliant Hannu-Pekka Björkman, one of Finland’s best-known actors, is supported by an excellent ensemble cast. The film had its world premiere in the competition of the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

Juha Lehtola (b. 1966) is an awarded director and scriptwriter working in cinema, TV and theatre. His filmography includes several films and series for TV and the theatrically released feature film Boy Upside Down (2014). He has been awarded with Prix Italia for the TV series White Marble which he wrote, and Venla prize (Best TV series) for Woman in the Meadow which he directed.

Dogs Don’t Wear Pants
Juha Lehtola

Feature film

The Human Part
Ihmisen osa

Feature film
Homeland is a love story of Anni and Veikko. It also tells the story of the times after WWII – from 1945 to 1952. Finland lost part of its territory to Soviet Union, and had to settle over 440,000 evacuees and war invalids from Karelia. Over 100,000 new homes were established.

Land of Hope is a long-awaited return of director Markku Pölönen, and a strong, beautiful love story set in the aftermath of WWII when Finland was rebuilt. The film opened successfully in Finland, and has been seen at film festivals as well.

Markku Pölönen, born in 1957 in Eno, Finland, has won six Finnish film awards. Homeland is his ninth feature film.

Land of Hope • 109 min • 2018

M is an art film that explores the relationship between sexuality and death. They merge in all of us, disguising the fear of death or the desire to die, the world of Eros and Thanatos. The character M, inspired by Marilyn Monroe, is a symbol of this interpenetration. The actress’s death is as famous as her sexuality and thus sets a perfect example of how the ancient bond between sex and death is being forever mystified and exploited by the popular culture.

Director Anna Eriksson: “Even though Marilyn Monroe was my inspiration for the film, in the end M turned out to be a deeply personal work. Somewhere along the way I realized that the link between sexuality and death, that to me so profoundly defines Monroe’s fate, is a link that we all share with her. And that the myth that is Marilyn, holds in itself a reflection of our own dreams, our desires and our losses.”

Anna Eriksson is one of Finland’s leading musicians. Four years ago, Eriksson took time away from her long and multi-award-winning music career in order to concentrate in the making of the art film M. Eriksson is responsible for all the artistic aspects of the film. The world premiere of M was at the 33rd Venice International Critics’ Week.

M • 95 min • 2018
The angelic preacher Maria Åkerblom leads her followers to Helsinki, among them the adoring teenager Salome. Maria is soon sentenced to prison, accused of violent crimes. Soon Maria makes a daring escape and rejoins her devout followers. Meanwhile, Salome has befriended a streetgirl, Malin, and is now torn between her newfound freedom, and the ever more dangerous Maria’s all-consuming love.

Maria’s Paradise deals with relationship between love and power: how wonderful it is to relinquish all responsibility, to love and admire unconditionally. Teenage girl Salome’s feelings for angelic cult leader Maria largely stem from her need to earn the love of an unpredictable, God-like mother. Underneath is a deep-rooted craving for acceptance, which can lead to a total loss of self.

Director: Zaida Bergroth  
Script: Anna Viitala, Jan Forsström  
Cinematography: Hena Blomberg  
Editing: Samu Haikiala  
Music: Timo Kaukolampi, Tuomo Puranen  
Cast: Pihla Viitala, Satu-Tuuli Karhu, Saga Sarkola, Tommi Korpana, Elina Knihtila, Jan Korander, Rein Oja  
Producers: Daniel Kuitunen, Kaisla Viitala  
Production company: Komeetta  
Sales: Yellow Affair

Cheng, 45, a restaurant owner from China, has travelled with his young son halfway around the world to a remote village in Finland.

His wife died recently in an accident, and Cheng wanted to have a break from everything by traveling with his son to see an old Finnish friend who lives on a farm in the countryside of Finland. It’s the most remote place he can imagine with endless forests, thousands of lakes, a country with entire population of one-fifth of Cheng’s home town, Shanghai.

Director: Mika Kaurismäki  
Script: Hannu Oravisto  
Cast: Chu Pak Hong, Anna-Maija Tuokko, Lucas Huus, Kari Valanen, Vesa-Matti Loiri  
Producer: Mika Kaurismäki  
Production company: Marianne Films  
Sales: Yellow Affair
Metoo is a film to disclose and deconstruct the invisible exercise of power towards women, in private lives as well as in the society. The film follows six different women. The protagonists experience sexual harassment, judgement, underrating and exclusion. Those attitudes are found not only on the streets, in bars and work places, but also in a courtroom and on a stage of a theatre.

The film describes a power structure present in our society. We want to have screenings where the audience can afterwards discuss and share their own experiences. The film is directed by the Oscar nominated Kirsikka Saari and Elli Toivoniemi together with seven co-writer-directors, and the project also includes 11 short films under the title One-off Incident.

Kirsikka Saari is an Oscar nominated screenwriter for the short film Do I Have to Take Care of Everything? (2012). Saari’s second feature as a screenwriter, Stupid Young Heart, premiered in Toronto in 2018.

Elli Toivoniemi has produced over 20 films in all forms and lengths. Toivoniemi’s first short fiction film as a director, Role, had its world premiere in Locarno in 2014.

One Last Deal is a highly anticipated drama from the award-winning filmmaker Klaus Härö. The film premiered in Toronto in 2018.

Klaus Härö is one of the most award-winning film directors in Finland. His films have won more than 60 awards around the globe. The Fencer was shortlisted for an Oscar and nominated for a Golden Globe in the Best Foreign Language Film category in 2016. His previous works also include Elina, as if I Wasn’t There (Crystal Bear Berlinale 2003), Mother of Mine (2005) and Letters to Father Jacob (2009).

An elderly art dealer Olavi is about to retire. A man who has always put business and art before everything – even his family – cannot imagine life without work. At an auction, an old painting catches his attention. He decides to make one last deal in order to earn some proper pension money.

Olavi’s daughter Lee – whom he hasn’t seen for years – asks him to help her with his teenage grandson Otto. To fulfill his dream, the old dealer must face both the auction house and his own past mistakes. One Last Deal is a highly anticipated drama from the award-winning filmmaker Klaus Härö. The film premiered in Toronto in 2018.


Juice Leskinen was a singer, songwriter, poet, lyricist, folk artist – the father figure of Finnish rock lyrics. The most important factor of Juice’s life was his love life. Everything else – booze, lyrics and fame – came as its by-product. The movie tells the story of love professional, of a man who felt deeply and extremely sensitively, but wounded many people, including himself.

The film about Juice is no-nonsense and sharp, just as Juice himself. Touching, melancholy yearning, much as the landscape of Juice’s soul. Rough and outspoken, like Juice’s way of speaking. The movie spans Juice’s life from childhood through the tumultuous 70s and the height of fame in the 80s. All the events in the movie are true – except the ones that aren’t.

Teppo Airaksinen, 36, has directed three feature films. His first, Fanatics, was released in 2012, and the second film called Lapland Odyssey 2 in 2015. Airaksinen has also directed a lot of television series, including the Venla-award winning comedy series Kimmo (2012–2014) and Downshifters (2015–2016).

Harri and Simo, a father and a son, move into the small village of Harmaaketo which consists of little more than a church, a cemetery and a school – and snow, as far as the eye can see. The local villagers are steeped in envy, their small social circles and the cold climate. Harri, who has had to leave his priestly office and his wife behind in his old home town, must now find a new direction in life.

Time Out is a comedy-drama set in the harsh landscape of the cold Nordic winter. It is a story about morality and the importance of honesty in a world of lies. The real-life father and son duo Mikko and Niila Nousiainen have natural chemistry. There is warmth, humour and humanity to this drama.

Matti Kinnunen was born in Oulu, a small town in northern Finland. He holds a MA in Screenwriting and Film Directing from the University of Art and Design in Helsinki. His debut feature Miss Blue Jeans (2012) won a Silver Castle Award at FEST New Directors Film Festival. Kinnunen has also written and directed drama series.


Void
Tyhiö • 97 min • 2018

Eero’s career as an author is spiraling down: he just can’t get started with his new novel. The ambitious actor Pihla is about to get her international break. Neither of them is willing to sacrifice their career even though their relationship is doing worse than ever.

Void is a tragic and kooky comedy-drama about the price of success and the agony of failure, and about situations where your partner just doesn’t get it.

Aleksi Salmenperä is one of the most acclaimed Finnish filmmakers whose works have premiered in major film festivals such as Berlinale (A Bad Family, 2009), Hot Docs (Alcan Highway, 2013) and San Sebastian (A Man’s Job, 2007). He won the Jussi Award for Best Director with Distractions (2015), and with The Mine (2016) he was nominated for the Dragon Award for Best Nordic Film in Gothenburg IFF.


En del av mitt hjärta

Isabella, a driven business woman, travels to her hometown to celebrate her father’s birthday. Her big city confidence falters when she realizes that her great love from her teen years is going to marry her childhood friend.

Romantic drama  Director: Edward Af Sillén  Screenwriter: Lars Johansson  Producer: Patrick Ryborn  Production company: Unlimited stories  Co-production company: MRP Mazta Röhr Productions (Finland)

The Longest Day

Middle summer in Sweden, somewhere above the Arctic Circle. The people of a small Finnish speaking community bravely soldier on with their pursuits under the merciless never setting sun.

Drama  Director & screenwriter: Jonas Selberg Augustsén  Producer: Andreas Emanuelsen  Production company: Art & Bob Film & Drama Co-production company: Empire Pictures (Finland)

Psykosia

Viktoria is a psychologist specialized in the field of suicide. She is invited to a psych ward to treat Jenny. The closer the two women get, clearer it becomes that something is not as it seems.

Drama  Director & screenwriter: Marie Grahtø  Producer: Amalie Lyngbo Quist  Production Company: BEO Starling (Denmark)  Co-production Company: Bufo (Finland)
A narrative film about the world of people living in the Arctic, their situation as it is right now. The film progresses through the power of music, dance, performance and depiction of everyday life. Gaining your daily subsistence, the ordinary life is the central source for music and other kinds of self-expression. It is life itself breathing.

The cultures depicted in the film are the Chukchi, Alaskan and Canadian Inuit, the Sáysi Dene people of Canada, Greenlanders, Sámi, Nenets, Selkup and Nganasans.

**Anerca**
75 min • Spring 2019

Markku Lehmustalio started directing films in 1973. His films often portray traditional life and indigenous people in the Arctic hemisphere and have earned him recognition and awards worldwide. He worked for many years with the Nenets filmmaker Anastasia Lapsui, and in recent years, his close collaborator has been Johannes Lehmustalio.

**Back Towards Light**
Takaisin valoon • 81 min • 2018

A true story of an abducted Finnish woman. Marissa becomes a victim of human trafficking and goes through an unimaginable journey to stay alive, get to safety and maintain her sense of self. Back Towards Light tells the story of how one can find a way back into light after a traumatic experience, if only one doesn’t hold onto the anger and resentment.

Marissa contacted director Arto Halonen and told him her incredible story that has never been public before. Back Towards Light is a documentary film enriched by the use of fictional elements. The present day depictions are shown alongside interviews describing the events from 10 years ago which have been re-enacted by actors. The film was shot at the scene of the events, in Tunisia and Finland.

**Directors:** Johannes Lehmustalio, Markku Lehmustalio  
**Cinematography:** Johannes Lehmustalio, Markku Lehmustalio  
**Editing:** Markku Lehmustalio  
**Sound design:** Martti Turunen  
**Production company:** Giron Film

**Director:** Arto Halonen  
**Script:** Arto Halonen  
**Cinematography:** Joonas Pulkkanen, Mika Orasmaa F.S.C.  
**Editing:** Otto Heikola  
**Music:** Kirka Sainio  
**Producers:** Arto Halonen, Timo T. Lahtinen  
**Production company:** Art Films Production  
**Co-production company:** Smile Entertainment (Denmark)
Every modern person travels and we all know what tourism is all about... or do we? We are so busy dreaming about where, when & how, that we rarely ask ourselves: What did all those trips do to me in the end? Carnival Pilgrims is an exploration on the essence of the tourist experience, a cinematic tour through some of the most iconic, archetypal pilgrimage sites of the world. It takes a hard look at what is going on at these carousels of endless fun.

Director Mika Mattila: “Tourism lies at the core of contemporary human experience and forms the largest industry on our planet. There has, however, been surprisingly few critical inquiries on the phenomena. In tourism, I see a massive blind spot in relation to our self-conception, a revelatory opening to the nature of contemporary experience. Carnival Pilgrims probes deep into phenomena that is utterly familiar, yet suspiciously unexplored.”

Mika Mattila is a Finnish filmmaker specialising on creative documentary films. Mattila emphasises in his work the global perspectives in terms of subject matters, collaborators as well as the audiences. Mattila divides his time between the roles of director and cinematographer. He is the founder of the Helsinki-based production company Ideasthetic.


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Brides of Nepal
Nepalin morsiamet • 55/80 min • Spring 2019

Rekha, 14, dreams of becoming an English teacher. But she lives in a remote village in Nepal near the Indian border, where child marriages are common. Her father Balkumar feels compelled by the community and tradition to look for a husband for Rekha who wants to study instead. At the end of the film, we nevertheless see Rekha’s wedding being celebrated.

This story of a child bride unfolds in a series of beautiful unsentimental pictures that show us life in a poor rural village. The force of tradition is devastating: it thwarts the father’s love for his daughter, and the dowry ruins the finances of a poor family. Rekha loses the battle for her fate, but perhaps there is hope that her daughters will get a chance to make their dreams come true.


Tiina Madisson is a filmmaker, graphic designer and animator. In 2008–2012 she worked as writer-director for the Basaari series for the Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE. Tiina has travelled extensively in Nepal, which has featured large in her work, such as Blood for the Goddess about the Gadhimai animal sacrifice festival. In 2018, Tiina began MA documentary filmmaker studies at Aalto University.

Conductivity is a documentary film about creative leadership told through the story of three young conductors: I-Han Fu from Taiwan, Emilia Hoving from Finland and James Kahane from France. We follow them on their rocky road, where tension, anxieties and elements out of their control can create insurmountable obstacles. Conductor training, in essence, is leadership training.

Conductivity is a feature-length observational documentary about young conductors learning the ropes of orchestral conducting at Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. This is the second collaboration between director Anna-Karin Grönroos and producer Venla Hellstedt. The project was presented at IDFA Forum 2018.

Anna-Karin Grönroos has worked as a screenwriter and director for documentaries and factual TV series since 2003. Her latest film Letters Home won main prize at the National Short Film competition Kettupäivät in 2017. Her first one-hour documentary Ecopolis China premiered in the Mid-Length competition at IDFA in 2013.

Jenni Kivistö is completing her documentary MA in Aalto University. Her previous works include a feature documentary Land Within (DOK Leipzig) and a short film Äiti (Silver Mikkelä ZINEBI, Clermont-Ferrand). Jussi Rastas studied film in Spain (ESCAC) and has worked as a documentary filmmaker for eight years. In recent years, he has been filming in several conflict zones (Ukraine, Syria, Colombia).

Conductivity

Kapukoulu • 58/75 min • Spring 2019

The FARC guerrillas and the Colombian Government have agreed on peace. In reality, peace seems to be a distant idea in an unequal and torn-apart society in which everyone has their own opinion about law and moral. The film follows Ernesto, an ex-FARC, who wants to continue the fight for a more just society and bring down the current ruling class – but this time using words as his weapon.

As one of the most unequal countries in the world, Colombia gives us a shocking look into the roots of violence. What makes humans justify immoral actions they have made? In a country where the political leaders do not respect the citizens, “doing the wrong thing” can be justified. Or can it?

Jenni Kivistö, Jussi Rastas

Script: Jenni Kivistö, Jussi Rastas

Cinematography: Jussi Rastas

Editing: Jenni Kivistö, Jussi Rastas

Music: Simo Orpana

Producer: Markku Tuuma

Production company: Filmimaa

Co-production companies: Hansen & Pedersen (Denmark), Medieoperatørene (Norway), Les Films d’un Jour (France)

Director: Jenni Kivistö, Jussi Rastas

Producer: Venla Hellstedt

Production company: Tuffi Films

Co-production country: Germany

Sales: Cinetic (North America), MetFilm Sales

Conductivity

Club Colombia

[working title] • 90 min • Spring 2019

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Kapukoulu • 58/75 min • Spring 2019

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Co-production country: Germany

Sales: Cinetic (North America), MetFilm Sales

Conductivity is a documentary film about creative leadership told through the story of three young conductors: I-Han Fu from Taiwan, Emilia Hoving from Finland and James Kahane from France. We follow them on their rocky road, where tension, anxieties and elements out of their control can create insurmountable obstacles. Conductor training, in essence, is leadership training.

Conductivity is a feature-length observational documentary about young conductors learning the ropes of orchestral conducting at Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. This is the second collaboration between director Anna-Karin Grönroos and producer Venla Hellstedt. The project was presented at IDFA Forum 2018.

Anna-Karin Grönroos has worked as a screenwriter and director for documentaries and factual TV series since 2003. Her latest film Letters Home won main prize at the National Short Film competition Kettupäivät in 2017. Her first one-hour documentary Ecopolis China premiered in the Mid-Length competition at IDFA in 2013.

Jenni Kivistö is completing her documentary MA in Aalto University. Her previous works include a feature documentary Land Within (DOK Leipzig) and a short film Äiti (Silver Mikkelä ZINEBI, Clermont-Ferrand). Jussi Rastas studied film in Spain (ESCAC) and has worked as a documentary filmmaker for eight years. In recent years, he has been filming in several conflict zones (Ukraine, Syria, Colombia).
The Happiest Man on Earth is a documentary film about (un)wellbeing of men in 2018. Finland is the happiest country in the world says the UN report but what is the situation with Finnish men? Why do they die 6 years prior to Finnish women? This dilemma is handled through six different stories and supported by the best experts. All the stories are joined by the theme of wellbeing and equality.

Men are prisoners of their masculine community. Statistics suggest they're more willing to take life-threatening risks, don't seek help for health problems, and receive less education than women do. This has a serious affect on life expectancy and is only enhanced by loneliness and substance abuse. In today's politically charged climate, discussion of men's well-being should not be over-looked.

Tasha is a Sami girl who lives in a Russian orphanage. One day her biological mother calls her. Tasha is shocked since the authorities had declared her mother dead. She tells that she plans to pick her up and bring her back to the home village. Tasha has mixed feelings for this new found “family”. Is it really possible that the authorities have lied to her and for what reasons?

Dear Mother is an unfolding mystery interweaving the past and the present, the factual and the imagined. The secret at the heart of this film is in Tasha’s forgotten hometown Lujaur. Different native tribes were relocated to this swamp in the middle of the tundra by the Soviet authorities. It’s a story about buried secrets and the search for identity, the universal need to understand why our families turn out the way they do.


Joonas Berghäll is an internationally acclaimed Finnish director. His documentary feature Steam of Life (2010) was nominated for the European Film Award and selected as Finland's bid for the Oscars. Steam of Life and Mother’s Wish (2015) focused on social issues through a personal point of view. His latest works as a producer are Kaisa’s Enchanted Forest (Berlinale) and Entrepreneur (IDFA).

Paul-Anders Simma is an internationally acknowledged Finnish producer. He has over 30 years of experience in film and television, with numerous awards and proven skills as a producer, manager and project leader.
In 1980, Finland’s most famous hypnotist Olavi Hakasalo, a.k.a. Olliver Hawk, was put on trial accused of fraud. His mission in life had been to spread the gospel of the power of suggestion, and he was willing to risk everything to become a player of political influence. But in the corridors of power, with a nation’s destiny at stake, an eccentric showman sitting on too many secrets is considered a liability.

The Hypnotist is a meditation on power, truth and myths in Cold War Finland, told through the story of the nation’s most famous hypnotist. Our main character is the ultimate unreliable witness, and the film, which embraces the ambiguity of his story, takes the viewer on a journey into, and out of, Hakasalo’s personal truth.

Arthur Franck (b. 1980) has been chasing the non-fiction dragon for most of his adult life. Together with producer Oskar Forstén he founded the production company franckforsten in 2006, and together they have been making documentaries ever since. Franck graduated from Arcada University of Applied Sciences with a Bachelor of Arts in 2009.


Hockey midget Korea has to face Canada and other giants of the sport at the home Olympics. Ethnically Korean, but mentally North American hockey coach is given a huge challenge to prevent national embarrassment. Hockey Dreams is a humorous character-driven underdog story of a small team achieving the impossible. The film looks critically to the intertwined symbiosis of sports, business and politics.

This observational style film has unique access to the core of professional ice hockey both in players individual and managemental level. Shot for over four years, the film portrays a bigger picture of the modern Korean society through the characters. Besides the strong dramatic elements, the film is also funny and absurd in the collision point of the Eastern and Western cultures.

Janne Niskala has worked in around 15 documentaries mainly as a producer and cinematographer, incl. Planet of Snail (2011 IDFA winner). This is his second feature-length documentary as a co-director.

Oskari Pastila is a Helsinki-based director and producer. His first feature-length documentaries include Basket Case (2009), Knucklebonehead (2013) and Spandex Sapiens (2016).

Janne Niskala

Oskari Pastila

Hockey Dreams

90 min • Mid 2019

Hockey Dreams

90 min • Mid 2019

The Hypnotist

Olliver Hawk • 75 min • 2019

The Hypnotist

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Island of Souls has preserved in its memory what people have forgotten, the history of those who were not seen worthy of it. Through the filmmaker we meet the souls who have lived on the island; island’s first priest and doctor from 17th century, a woman who was there as a patient two hundred years later and in the present the scientists who study the nature and the state of the Baltic sea.

Island of Souls is highly ambitious cinematic work that explores the storytelling by combining known history with fictional writing. Our guide is the filmmaker who enters the island in the present, as the narrative makes the viewer travel 400 years of history. Island of Souls will be a feature-length creative documentary, a radioplay and a gallery installation.


Liisa Miettinen died alone with no one left to miss her. Director Elina Talvensaari happened to buy her home and with it everything Liisa ever owned – from books to photos to shampoo bottles and chocolates. What would happen if all her things were thrown away? The thought of absolute oblivion scared Talvensaari, so she decided to find out who this person was.

Director Elina Talvensaari: “Lady Time is a documentary film about human ways of handling the idea of death. It’s not that her life was extraordinary, but that everyone’s life is extraordinary. And still our lives are eventually going to be forgotten. The awareness of death gives life its meaning. Lady Time is an attempt to hold on to that meaning by telling a story of nobody, a mystery lady I shared a home with.”

Elina Talvensaari (b.1978) is an anthropologist-turned-filmmaker from Helsinki, Finland. She is deeply in love with images, but the background in anthropology is often present in her films as a distant gaze questioning our own thoughts and habits. Her short documentary How to Pick Berries premiered in Venice IFF, and Purity and Danger won Critics’ Choice Award at DocPoint Helsinki Documentary FF.

Director: Elina Talvensaari Script: Elina Talvensaari Cinematography: Joonas Pulkkanen Editing: Okku Nuutilainen Music: Lau Nau Producer: Jussi Rantamäki Production company: Aamu Film Company
Lost Boys is a dramatic tale of a delirious journey through the Southeast Asian underworld where the director Joonas searches for answers about the faith of his lost friends.

Lost Boys is an independent sequel to director Joonas Neuvonen’s debut film Reindeerspotting – Escape from Santaland. Reindeerspotting told the story of Jani, a young drug addict longing to escape from his hometown near the Arctic Circle. The film was released in 2010 and become an instant box-office hit in Finland and received exceptional acclaim also internationally.

Joonas Neuvonen (b. 1979) is known in Finland for his debut documentary Reindeerspotting – Escape from Santaland, the biggest Finnish documentary hit in cinemas of all times in 2010. It was also awarded at the Locarno Film Festival. Sadri Cetinkaya (b. 1979) is the editor and co-writer of Reindeerspotting. He is also the editor of the feature documentary Mr. Governor by Måns Månsson. Cetinkaya is currently doing a Master’s Degree at the Aalto University.

The Law of Nature

The old Finnish farmer Juha is about to retire, but still has one mission to accomplish: to sell his big, but heavily indebted dairy farm to his son Henry. But the young man has his own ideas, and as the economic challenges on the farm accumulate, the conflict between father and son escalates.

The cinematic documentary The Law of Nature is a touching family story taking place in the remote but wildly beautiful Finnish countryside. An intimate portrait of a farmer family torn between tradition and day-to-day realities in times of climate change and economic turmoil. The film tells of clashes between generations, but also of the great love and absurd humour that holds a family together.

Mika Rantonen and Verena Netzer are a Finnish-German directing-producing team making their debut in documentary filmmaking with The Law of Nature. Their combined background includes a variety of positions in fiction filmmaking as well as in social work. In 2017, they established their own production company, New Eyes Productions, to create cinematically ambitious and socially critical films.

Mika Rantonen and Verena Netzer

Director: Mika Rantonen, Verena Netzer Script: Mika Rantonen, Verena Netzer Cinematography: Mika Rantonen Editing: Katja Pällijeff Producers: Mika Rantonen, Verena Netzer Production company: New Eyes Productions

Mika Rantonen

Director: Mika Rantonen, Verena Netzer Script: Mika Rantonen, Verena Netzer Cinematography: Mika Rantonen Editing: Katja Pällijeff Producers: Mika Rantonen, Verena Netzer Production company: New Eyes Productions

Mika Rantonen


Mika Rantonen


Mika Rantonen

Maiden of the Lake tells about the joyful times of 13-year-old Emika and his cousin Antti in the magnificent nature of Lake Saimaa in all four seasons of the year. They swim and fish. They stay overnight on the frozen lake under the Aurora Borealis. In early summer they discover the world’s rarest seal. Maiden of the Lake is a breathtaking fairy-tale for the whole family.

Maiden of the Lake is a unique film. Unlike in other nature documentaries, the wonders of the wild are experienced through the eyes of 13-year-old girl, a pubescent bird whisperer. With this project we want to encourage children and their parents to go out in the nature, spend more time outdoors and have fun!


Petteri Saario (b. 1961) is an award-winning documentary filmmaker who specializes in depicting the endangered relationship between man and nature. Besides directing and producing he is also familiar with underwater and wildlife filming. His films have won awards both in Finland and internationally.

A young woman, Veera, haunted by her childhood traumas is trying to become more independent through live-role-playing. As she guides herself and her mentally disabled brother through the world of multiple roles and identities, witches and wizards, she finally finds the courage to face the demons of her own past; namely her abusive father.

Director Tonislav Hristov: “I’ve always been interested in the line between fact and fiction. Are people in documentaries real or are just playing roles they believe to be themselves? When I met Veera, our main character, I understood the potential of the subject. With her I could move freely from fact to fiction, because this is the subject of the film; the way my characters do it themselves by live role playing.” The film had its world premiere at Sundance World Documentary Competition.

Tonislav Hristov was born in Vraza, Bulgaria, in 1978. In 2003 he moved to Finland and started to study film. He has directed six documentaries. His latest documentary The Good Postman (IDFA 2016, Sundance 2017) was nominated for the European Film Awards in 2017. His other films include Love & Engineering (Tribeca, Hot Docs, Visions du Réel 2014) and Soul Food Stories (IDFA 2013).


Tonislav Hristov

The Magic Life of V
85 min • January 2019

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85 min • January 2019


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Only 30 families remain of the nomadic tribes of Dahra in Morocco. A decade-long draught has forced them to settle on the foothills of Atlas Mountains. They struggle not only against the harsh nature, but also against a government that is reluctant to help them. The tribe of Dahra have decided not to give up and move to cities. They have built a small school and call it the School of Hope.

The poorest are worst hit by the climate change. But the tiny nomadic Dahra tribe have decided to do something themselves. Education is maybe the way to secure the future for their children and for the families. This is not at all a unanimous opinion. But school is working and there is hope. The film is for every audience aware of the alarming situation.

Mohamed El Aboudi was born in Morocco. He has BA in Theatre from University of Fes, Morocco (1991) and MA in Film and Television from Bond University, Australia (1997). Mohamed has directed more than 30 short documentaries for the Finnish Broadcasting Company Yle as well as three feature-length documentaries.


Who Made You?

Artificial intelligence and new technologies are reaching our mental and physical existence like never before in the history of human kind. The film is a journey that leads us to the world of cyborgs, sex robots and androids. It challenges us to face our values, ethics and rethink our position.

The main character of the film is the young researcher Dr Michael Laakasuo whose work “Moralties of Intelligent Machines” has gained international recognition. The film asks what the development of AI means to us as human beings. What are the values we want to hold on to? What we should be aware of? The visually rich film was shot in Finland, Sweden, Spain, Japan and Greece.

Iiris Härmä has experience as a producer, director and writer in documentary film productions in her own Guerilla Films company which was founded 1999. Her background is in Ethnology and Cultural Studies and Film Studies. Her film Leaving Africa was screened in more than 50 international film festivals and won many awards like the Margaret Mead Filmmaker Award.

Minority Co-productions

Donner
Most people have a need to fit in, to live life trouble-free almost unnoticed. Then we have the other kind: the unpolished, noisy, intolerably intense. The Donner kind.

Documentary Directors & screenwriters: Alberto Herskovits, Olavi Linna Producer: Alberto Herskovits Production company: Altofilm (Sweden) Co-production company: frankförsön (Finland)

End of the Line: The Women of Standing Rock
The incredible story of a group of indigenous women willing to risk their lives to stop the Dakota Access oil pipeline construction that threatens their land, water and very existence.

Documentary Director & screenwriter: Shannon Kring Producers: Shannon Kring, Sophia Ehrnrooth, Pearl Daniel-Means, Jukka Helle, Markus Selin Production company: Red Queen Media (US) Co-production company: Solar Films (Finland)

A Stranger
A man is soon about to die, but he doesn’t know that yet. He only knows that he needs to tell his story.

Documentary / Fraemling Director: Mikel Cee Karlsson Producer: Erik Hemmendorff Production Company: Plattform Produktion (Sweden) Co-production Company: Bufo (Finland)
Silent as Murderers / MADE
27 First Years
27 ensimmäistä vuotta
29 min • 2018

27 First Years is a short documentary written and directed by Jussi Sandhu about his mother Anneli and his brother Sami. It’s a story about the role of a mother when a 27-year-old, severely disabled son moves away from home. The aging mother has to learn how to live alone for the first time in her life, since all of her children are grown up and husband passed away.

Shot over a span of six years, 27 First Years deals with themes of independency, caregiving and motherhood. Despite its heavy story about a severely disabled man’s mother letting her loved ones go, it’s first and foremost an empowering documentary about love and the importance of the support of one’s family. The film was in competition for Best Nordic Short Film at Nordisk Panorama 2018.

Director: Jussi Sandhu
Script: Jussi Sandhu
Cinematography: Salla Lehtikangas, Ville Hakonen
Editing: Pakka Lehtikangas
Music: Tommi Mäki
Cast: Anneli Sandhu, Sami Sandhu
Producer: Niina Virtanen
Production company: Wacky Tie Films

Calling Mother
Soita äidille
17 min • January 2019

Calling Mother is about the moments when you just have to call your mum. It is a compilation of phone calls made by different people to their mothers. Film follows the lifespan of a human being from youth to adulthood, a child changing from a dependent to a caretaker. Phone calls are connected by images of an old telephone center and a story of a young mother who doesn’t have a mother to call to.

Calling Mother is an experimental documentary about a relationship that is intimate, painful and often a bit ridiculous. We are now developing an international series of short documentaries shot around the globe on the same topic. Each film will paint a picture the area through phone calls and relationships between children and their mums.

Directors: Marianne Mäkelä, Heli Pekkonen
Script: Marianne Mäkelä, Heli Pekkonen
Cinematography: Heli Pekkonen
Editing: Leo Suonikko
Music: Kaapo Huttunen
Producers: Marianne Mäkelä, Hannu-Pekka Vitikainen
Production company: Zone2 Pictures

A Communist’s Daughter
Kommunistin tytär
25 min • January 2019

A Communist’s Daughter is a documentary film about director Jani Peltola’s grandmother Eila, who lived in the Crimea in the 1930s as a refugee. Later in Finland in the 60s, she grew wealthier with the nation. The documentary is built on family film archives, showcasing the trophies of the standard of living they had reached.

The film is the story of the disappearance of a nation and a family, secret memories and common traumas. The film shows how close the major and minor turns of history are to each other, and how fast people and societies can change.

Director: Jani Peltola
Script: Jani Peltola
Cinematography: Jarno Kuuru
Editing: Tuomas Oittinen
Producer: Pertti Veijalainen
Production company: Illume

Crossing Tracks
Latu
28 min • 2018

Hannu is a cross country skier, being trained by his father who is a professional skiing coach. His father’s goal is to coach Hannu to the top level in Finland, and there is hope that he will even be in a future Olympic team. Their whole relationship is based on skiing. What will happen if Hannu is not successful and especially if his interest towards the sport fades?

Crossing Tracks is an intimate and honest father-son story in the fascinating world of competitive cross country skiing. The story is set in the Arctic Circle, with remarkably beautiful setting but with endless extreme conditions: snow, mosquitoes, dark winters and light summers.

Director: Otso Alanko
Script: Otso Alanko
Cinematography: Otso Alanko
Editing: Matti Näränen
Music: Veera Lummi
Cast: Hannu Haapamäki, Heikki Haapamäki
Producer: Liisa Karpo
Production company: napafilms
People who have once lost their eyesight have the possibility of regaining it when entering into a dream state. The movie aims to create a simulation of this visionary realm of experience, seeking to take a step into the unknown. What follows is an unusual voyage to inner space — into that still-unmapped twilight territory known to us as the psyche.

Dreams of the Blind is founded on interviews with people concerning their own dream experiences after losing their eyesight, and on scientific research made on the topic. With striking visuals crafted by acclaimed Russian director Aleksandr Sokurov’s long-time cinematographer, Aleksandr Burov, Dreams of the Blind is recommended for adventurous moviegoers.

**All Inclusive**

**10 min • Spring 2019**

All Inclusive is about Kalervo, a bullied, downtrodden white-collar man whom nobody takes seriously, and how he receives an unexpected gift from Annukka. A gift which Kalervo soon realizes has the power to change his life. The bill is due, and payback never tasted sweeter.

Kalervo has felt powerless all his life, unable to fight back, until Annukka—a woman who loves him—gives Kalervo a life altering gift. Like with many of director Nikki’s works, All Inclusive can be interpreted in many ways, but at the core it’s a film about power, love and change. If you could right the wrongs in your life, would you, and would you stop there?

**Director:** Teemu Nikki
**Script:** Teemu Nikki
**Cinematography:** Jarmo Kiusanen
**Editing:** Teemu Nikki
**Production design:** Santtu Toivola
**Costume design:** Ninni Lahtinen
**Producer:** Inland Film Company

**Ashes**

**17 min • 2018**

Laura, 52, is wheelchair-bound. She has just lost her 20 years younger brother who was very dear to her. She quarrels with her family regarding her brother’s funeral. To honour his wish, she decides to arrange a different kind of a funeral: to scatter his ashes at sea. This triggers a series of events. With her assistant Anna, she steals the ashes from the urn at the crematorium.

Ashes is a film about loyalty, and about facing and dealing with the loss of a dear one. It is a comedy, or one might say “a feel-good film” about grief.

**Director:** Ville Tanttu
**Script:** Kristofer Möller
**Cinematography:** Theofanis Kavvadas
**Editing:** Anssi Kömi, Ville Tanttu
**Music:** Anastasios Strikos

**Cast:** Hellen Willberg, Stella Laine, Laila Björkstam, Göran Schauman

**Producer:** Studio Lumo

**Baby with a Playlist**

**12 min • January 2019**

Young fathers tell how they try to achieve contact with their unborn child. As it is impossible to have any visual connection, the only thing left is everything audible. Since talking to the belly feels quite awkward, playing carefully selected music might feel a bit less awkward. Carefully curated playlist is the best way to tell something about yourself as a father, and also as a human being.

“I don’t know any other way of telling about myself, other than through my record collection.” In the film seven men share their thoughts about the confusion they experience during pregnancy. The visual style emphasizes their surreal mindscape. A serious talk about the music you play for a fetus might sound goofy, but it tells more about fathers trying their best to be involved from the start.

**Director:** Juho Luukkainen
**Script:** Juho Luukkainen
**Animation:** Jan Andersson
**Producer:** Patrik Sigmundt

**Production company:** Kaiho Republic

**Dreams of the Blind**

**Sokeiden unet**

**26 min • January 2019**

Dreams of the Blind is an experimental film that explores the realm of dreams and the visionary experiences of people who have once lost their eyesight. The film uses striking visuals and interviews to create a simulation of the dream world, offering a unique perspective on the human psyche.

**Director:** Mies Mikkonen
**Script:** Mies Mikkonen
**Cinematography:** Aleksandr Burov
**Editing:** Mies Mikkonen
**Cast:** Lars Svedberg, Tommi Eronen, Frank Boyle, Sanna Pahlkonen, Kai Eerola, Anja Kuusima, Joona Vainio, Oskari Riitola
**Producers:** Klaus Haydemann, Merja Riitola
**Production company:** Inland Film Company
**A Chamber Play**

Ett kammarspel
20 min • 2018

The psychoanalyst Helena receives a new patient, Alice. But the story Alice is telling gets uncomfortably close to Helena’s own life.

A Chamber Play is a tale of possessive love and psychological manipulation. A bergmanesque drama taking the form of a suspense thriller, the film balances on the fine line between the tragical and the comical. The script (by writer-director-editor-composer Viktor Granö) was one of the winners in the Kortfilm 2018 competition, arranged by the Finnish Film Foundation, Yle and Svenska kulturfonden.

**Director:** Viktor Granö
**Script:** Viktor Granö
**Cinematography:** Jonatan Sundström
**Editing:** Viktor Granö
**Music:** Viktor Granö
**Cast:** Stina Rautelin, Emelie Wallberg, Pekka Strang, Andrea Björklöf
**Producer:** Viktor Granö
**Production company:** Ljud och bild

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**Cleaning Woman**

Slivoja
16 min • 2018

When author Katarina Ohtola decides on a change, the services of a publisher, a reporter and a cleaning woman are called for.

With Cleaning Woman, director Nikki wanted to examine the concept of “artist” – who wants to be an artist, and how to become one? The filming began without a complete script and the story emerged through the process. In the end the story of Cleaning Woman became richer than intended. It may be viewed as a comedy about jealousy, about being an artist, or simply about the dread of a blank page.

**Director:** Teemu Nikki
**Script:** Teemu Nikki
**Cinematography:** Elina Knihtilä
**Editing:** Teemu Nikki
**Music:** Viktor Granö
**Cast:** Elina Knihtilä, Tommi Eronen, Pihla Penttinen
**Producer:** Jani Pösö
**Production company:** It’s Alive Films

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**Close to Me**

Iholle
18 min • 2019

Aila is looking for a lost cat when she meets Simo, a young man of few words. Simo tells her that he has seen the cat and they continue the search together. They are both longing for love and eventually the day turns into a night, that reveals unexpected and possessive side of Simo.

The film explores two important matters, codependency and social exclusion, through a story about two lonely souls coming together. The main character, Aila, is a codependent and unemployed young woman living in Helsinki’s suburbs. She is in risk of being socially excluded and she desperately attempts to be normal like working people usually are.

**Director:** Joonas Rutanen
**Script:** Joonas Rutanen
**Cinematography:** Päivi Kettunen F.S.C
**Editing:** Mervi Junkkonen
**Music:** Miika Colliander
**Producer:** Kai Nordberg, Kaarle Aho
**Production company:** Making Movies

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**From Matti with Love**

Rakkaudella, Matti
18 min • 2018

It’s midsummer in a Finnish small town near the Russian border. Matti, a lonely 54-year old man, meets Masha, a Russian transwoman. When the glittering night falls, Matti has to face the consequences of his fake life.

From Matti with Love is a shameless dramedy about sexual identity, taking place in a Finnish small town near the Russian border, on a summer night. Estonian star Rain Tolk and Petteri Pennilä, one of the bravest actors in Finland, play two lonely hearts who have to deal with shame, loneliness, fragility and forgiveness in a surprising situation.

**Director:** Jarno Lindemark
**Script:** Jarno Lindemark
**Cinematography:** Janne Häkkinen
**Editing:** Eero Tammi
**Cast:** Petteri Pennilä, Rain Tolk, Sampo Sarkola, Tarja Heinula, Oto Kangasaho
**Producer:** Patrik Sigmundt
**Production company:** Ljud och bild

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**Cleaning Woman**

Slivoja
16 min • 2018

When author Katarina Ohtola decides on a change, the services of a publisher, a reporter and a cleaning woman are called for.

With Cleaning Woman, director Nikki wanted to examine the concept of “artist” – who wants to be an artist, and how to become one? The filming began without a complete script and the story emerged through the process. In the end the story of Cleaning Woman became richer than intended. It may be viewed as a comedy about jealousy, about being an artist, or simply about the dread of a blank page.

**Director:** Teemu Nikki
**Script:** Teemu Nikki
**Cinematography:** Elina Knihtilä
**Editing:** Teemu Nikki
**Music:** Viktor Granö
**Cast:** Elina Knihtilä, Tommi Eronen, Pihla Penttinen
**Producer:** Jani Pösö
**Production company:** It’s Alive Films

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**Close to Me**

Iholle
18 min • 2019

Aila is looking for a lost cat when she meets Simo, a young man of few words. Simo tells her that he has seen the cat and they continue the search together. They are both longing for love and eventually the day turns into a night, that reveals unexpected and possessive side of Simo.

The film explores two important matters, codependency and social exclusion, through a story about two lonely souls coming together. The main character, Aila, is a codependent and unemployed young woman living in Helsinki’s suburbs. She is in risk of being socially excluded and she desperately attempts to be normal like working people usually are.

**Director:** Joonas Rutanen
**Script:** Joonas Rutanen
**Cinematography:** Päivi Kettunen F.S.C
**Editing:** Mervi Junkkonen
**Music:** Miika Colliander
**Producer:** Kai Nordberg, Kaarle Aho
**Production company:** Making Movies

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**From Matti with Love**

Rakkaudella, Matti
18 min • 2018

It’s midsummer in a Finnish small town near the Russian border. Matti, a lonely 54-year old man, meets Masha, a Russian transwoman. When the glittering night falls, Matti has to face the consequences of his fake life.

From Matti with Love is a shameless dramedy about sexual identity, taking place in a Finnish small town near the Russian border, on a summer night. Estonian star Rain Tolk and Petteri Pennilä, one of the bravest actors in Finland, play two lonely hearts who have to deal with shame, loneliness, fragility and forgiveness in a surprising situation.

**Director:** Jarno Lindemark
**Script:** Jarno Lindemark
**Cinematography:** Janne Häkkinen
**Editing:** Eero Tammi
**Cast:** Petteri Pennilä, Rain Tolk, Sampo Sarkola, Tarja Heinula, Oto Kangasaho
**Producer:** Patrik Sigmundt
**Production company:** Ljud och bild
Short films

**Human Flesh**
20 min • Autumn 2019

Human Flesh is an experimental short film. Despite its analytical edge and unconventional structure it is a rather humorous account on the capacity signs have to express meaning. The film aims at exposing the complexities language, images, sounds and gestures pose in our attempt to express or represent pretty much anything... be it an emotion, a thought or a even a simple form.

**How to Approach a Giant Hole**
22 min • 2018

A big sinkhole emerges in a small town ahead of the local elections. Masoud, a local politician in the midst of his election campaign, picks up his brother from a mental health clinic.

The narrative in the film is not traditionally straightforward. In the film, the scenes make a whole with glimpses from a night and give us a small feeling of what it is to be alive in the year 2000 and something. The mystical hole in the small city symbolizes different things. Fear of the future, hopelessness, emptiness and confusion. In the end it, is a story of two brothers trying to connect after being apart for some time.

**Ha Ha Ha**
9 min • January 2019

At the Factory, laughter is produced, canned and shipped into the world in precisely measured, temperate doses. It lacks something, though: freedom and authenticity. One woman is unable to laugh according to the norms. She accidentally releases a reckless laughter breaking all the Factory rules. Soon realizes she is leading a revolution for freedom and joy, against pomposity.

Ha Ha Ha is a silent film landed in the 21st century, an odd relative of the films of Jacques Tati. It uses images, movement, and dance as its narrative methods. Director Samuli Valkama and choreographer Jyrki Karttunen have designed it a funny, absurd story about accidentally born genuine joy.

**Homebound**
19 min • February 2019

Homebound is a survival story set in one of the world’s biggest refugee camps. A bus waiting to forcefully return refugees to their country of origin.

One of the passengers, Xidig, 8, is exited to go home, but his brother Salim, 12, knows that a war-torn and dangerous place is no one’s homeland.

**Director:** Marika Harjusaari  
**Script:** Ilona Ahv Cinematography: Aetti Ahokoivu  
**Editing:** Sina Uusikalo  
**Music:** Mikko Renfors  
**Cast:** Mahad Darar, Amir Darar, Melissa Haiden  
**Producers:** Kaarlo Aho, Kai Norberg  
**Production company:** Making Movies

**Director:** Sawandi Groskind  
**Script:** Sawandi Groskind, Quynh Tran  
**Cinematography:** Johannes Östergård  
**Editing:** Nina Ijäs  
**Music:** Benny Ojala  
**Cast:** Ebrahim Saberi, Miragha Sediqi  
**Producer:** Teresa Ekman  
**Production company:** Parad Media

**Director:** Samuli Valkama  
**Script:** Samuli Valkama, Jyrki Karttunen  
**Cinematography:** Aarne Tapola  
**Editing:** Mikko Sippola  
**Music:** Tuomas Fränti  
**Cast:** Heidi Naakka, Jyrki Karttunen, Mikko Paloniemi, Eero Vesterinen, Aksinja Lommi, Jyrki Kasper  
**Producer:** Mate Sasioglu  
**Production company:** Sons of Lumière

**Director:** Jari Ruscica  
**Script:** Jari Ruscica  
**Cinematography:** Jarmo Kuru  
**Editing:** Jari Ruscica  
**Cast:** Ona Kamu, David Kozma, Kris Gummerus, Suzanna Pezo, Jarkko Pajunen, Geoffroy Erista, Kaisa El Ramly, Ilmari Järvenpää, Mila Virtanen, Heta Keskinarkaus  
**Producer:** Jari Ruscica  
**Production company:** Askel Productions
In the last hours of the night, Mirja, a Night Radio host, gets a call on the air from Aija, who tells of a possible end of the world. Eventually this unexpected call sets the wheels in motion, starting to break Mirja's cramped bubble in a way she never would have expected.

I'm Listening is a drama about courage and choices, told through a dialogue between two women, in an absurd style and with humour. The visual style brings forth a whole new level of narration, as all the characters are set in the same room physically, without them actually being of one's own room. The main point is that whatever the location may be, the themes stay the same, universal and relatable.

Director: Katja Korhonen
Script: Katja Korhonen
Cinematography: Sonja Huttunen
Editing: Magdalena Spik
Music: Teemu Leikkala
Cast: Marjaana Maijala, Takauma
Production company: Takauna

Two middle-aged women on a tennis court. One experienced, the other one not so much. One hour match. The psychological game starts. How to respond to that? Keeping your calm? There are moments where breathing does not fix things. Match is a film about indirect and direct aggression and how to finally express suppressed feelings.

Director Pia Andell: “I started competing in tennis after a break that lasted decades. What surprised me was the psychological game that was on from the get-go, and sometimes the bending of rules to one’s own advantage. I wanted to make a film about it, and had just the actors for it: Milka Ahlroth and Nina Hukkinen – good players, great actors.”

Director: Pia Andell
Script: Pia Andell
Cinematography: Antti Ruusuvuori
Editing: Antony Bentley
Music: Timo Hietala
Cast: Nina Hukkinen, Milka Ahlroth, Max Brenner, Marc Gassot
Production company: Of Course My Films

Mother and Milk describes the mental process of becoming a parent – imagined as a catastrophe film. When the baby is born, the new mother has to give up the life she knew. A flood of breast milk covers everything – her home, work, friends, relationship and a good night’s sleep. Only after realizing that she is a part of the eternal chain of generations, Mother is able to accept the situation and start living her new life in the family.

The style of the film is absurd and exaggerated and it uses animation to its full potential. In addition to traditional short film distribution, the aim is to reach audiences that wouldn’t normally watch short films. In Finland, the main distributor is Vauva Magazine, the biggest Baby Media in Finland. There is also a plan to use the film in co-operation with the public health care provider.

Director: Ami Lindholm
Script: Ami Lindholm
Storyboard: JP Saari
Storyboard: JP Saari
Production company: Of Course My Films

The project has won Best Project Award in Nordic co-production and finance market 2018 in Haugesund and Best Pitch Award in Finnish Film Affair 2018. The project includes a feature film titled Meteo.

Director: Reetta Aalto, Tine Alavi, Alli Haapasalo, Ulla Heikkilä, Sonya Lindfors, Inari Niemi, Anna Paavilainen, Kirsi Kaari Saari, Aino Suni, Mia Turvo, Elii Toivoniemi, Jenni Toivoniemi
Cinematography: Päivi Knihtilä, Jammo Kuru, Kerttu Hakkarainen
Storyboard: JP Saari
Animator: Päivi Knihtilä, Jammo Kuru, Kerttu Hakkarainen
Production company: Of Course My Films

One-off Incident is a collection of short films to disclose and deconstruct the invisible exercise of power towards women, in private lives as well as in the society. For the project Tuffi Films asked 15 women to make films based on their own experiences and observations.

The eleven short films describe the situation and power structure still very much present in our society. The project has won Best Project Award in Nordic co-production and finance market 2018 in Haugesund and Best Pitch Award in Finnish Film Affair 2018. The project includes a feature film titled Meteo.

Directors: Reetta Aalto, Tine Alavi, Alli Haapasalo, Ulla Heikkilä, Sonya Lindfors, Inari Niemi, Anna Paavilainen, Kirsi Kaari Saari, Aino Suni, Mia Turvo, Elii Toivoniemi, Jenni Toivoniemi
Production company: Of Course My Films

The eleven short films describe the situation and power structure still very much present in our society. The project has won Best Project Award in Nordic co-production and finance market 2018 in Haugesund and Best Pitch Award in Finnish Film Affair 2018. The project includes a feature film titled Meteo.
**Silent as Murderers**

Hiljaa kuin murhaajat
16 min • January 2019

Two friends are spending their last summer together, working as gardeners. They share a secret: in the night, they sneak into other people’s homes while the residents are sleeping.

Silent as Murderers is about a strange phase in the life of two close friends, and their unbalanced relationship. The short drama has some thriller elements and keeps falling forward without explaining itself too much. The story grew out of director’s frustrations and experiences – while the main character’s best friend is going forward in her life, she feels she’ll be left behind and forgotten.

Director: Lauri-Matti Parppai
Script: Lauri-Matti Parppai
Cinematography: Mikko Parttimaa
Editing: Dimitri Okulov
Music: Lauri-Matti Parppai
Cast: Maaria Nuoranne, Ella Lymi
Producer: Ilona Tolmunen
Production company: MADE

**The Stick**

Keppi
12 min • January 2019

A little girl really wants a dog. Her father gives her one chance to get it. Will she succeed?

The Stick is director Teppo Airaksinen and screenwriter Melli Maikkula’s second collaboration since the short film The Ceiling which received a Special Mention at Cannes Film Festival 2017.

Director: Teppo Airaksinen
Script: Melli Maikkula
Cinematography: Aarni Tapola
Editing: Jussi Rautiainen
Cast: Elina Patrakka, Juho Milonoff, Vilma Melasniemi
Producer: John Lundsten
Production company: TACK Films

**Still Lives**

Kiirehassä liikkumatoin
6 min • 2018

Today, people are constantly busy. At the same time, we have never been as still: sitting down while working, while travelling, even when exercising at the gym. This contrast is the basic concept of Still Lives. The film uses the rough and naive look of folk art to help us to identify and sympathise with the characters, and, hopefully, to inspire tolerance in this time of hate speech and racism.

Still Lives is an experimental stop motion animation starring figures from the traditional folk art of various times and places. Accompanied by a soundtrack of narrators facing the pressures of modern life, statues, paintings and other items explore the theme of busy stillness from different points of view in seven separate scenes.

Director: Elli Vuorinen
Script: Elli Vuorinen
Cinematography: Elli Vuorinen
Editing: Elli Vuorinen
Producer: Terhi Väänätien
Production company: Pyjama Films

**A Target**

Maalitaulu
8 min • 2018

Arto is waiting for his wife and child in his car. As they return from the store they tell him that an unknown man harassed them. Arto decides to take the law into his own hands and plans to make a video to shame the man on social media.

A Target is a film about the social media age and about punishing someone by shaming. It does this by means of black comedy, tragedy and horror. It is a short black farce where social media ammunition replaces six-shooters and a shopping mall parking lot replaces Main Street.

Director: Antti Heikki Pesonen
Script: Antti Heikki Pesonen
Cinematography: Aarni Tapola
Editing: Hanna Kuurinkallio
Music: Antti Pouta
Cast: Hannes Suominen, Max Ovaska, Kreetta Salminen, Iida-Maria Heinonen, Milena Argillander
Producer: Miia Haavisto
Production company: Tekele Productions
Sales: Magnetfilm
Two Bodies on a Beach

Kaksi ruumista rannalla
19 min • January 2019

A woman wakes up on a beach tied in a plastic press wearing only underwear and high heels. “Not again”, she sighs and decides to track down the enemy and strike back. She gets a companion from an older woman who has been pushed to the borders of society.

During their journey through classical cinematic landscapes these nameless women from different generations struggle to connect and understand each other’s perspectives while their passion for men and male attention gets in away.

Director: Anna Paavilainen
Script: Anna Paavilainen, Laura Birn
Cinematography: Jarmo Kiuru
Editing: Tuuli Alanäär
Music: Kasperi Laine
Cast: Laura Birn, Rea Mauranen, Lauri Majala, Tommi Korpela
Producers: Misha Jaari, Mark Lwoff
Production company: Bufo
The visionary filmmaker Aki Kaurismäki, a master of world cinema, has written, directed and produced films since the early 1980s. His films have received numerous awards, most notably the Grand Prix at Festival de Cannes in 2002 for The Man Without a Past and Best Director at Berlinale in 2017 for The Other Side of Hope. Kaurismäki’s feature and short films are available for retrospectives both in 35 mm film and DCP. Most of the feature films can be screened with English, French, German, Spanish or Swedish subtitles. The Finnish Film Foundation handles requests together with Sputnik and The Match Factory.

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Markku Lehmuskallio and Anastasia Lapsui

Markku Lehmuskallio started directing films in 1973. His collaboration with the Nenets filmmaker Anastasia Lapsui has lasted for almost two decades comprising 18 films to date. The couple’s films portray traditional life and indigenous people in the Arctic hemisphere and have earned them recognition and awards worldwide. Titles available in digital form are Skierri: Land of the Dwarf Birches (1982), Raven’s Dance (1980), Seven Songs from the Tundra (2000), and A Bride of the Seventh Heaven (2004).

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Digitised Finnish Classics

Mika Kaurismäki's first film The Liar (1980) was an overnight sensation. Since then, he has made a host of feature films and documentaries internationally. His older films are now available for retrospectives in digital format, including Helsinki Napoli All Night Long (1987), Zombie and the Ghost Train (1991) and Mama Africa (2010), as well as more recent ones, such as The Girl King (2015).

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Päivi Hartzell’s The Snow Queen

Päivi Hartzell is an esteemed filmmaker known for her beloved children’s films. The Snow Queen, from 1986, is a modern take on Hans Christian Andersen’s classic fairy tale, with a dream-like cinematography by Henrik Paersch.

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Eija-Liisa Ahtila and Ilppo Pohjola

Internationally acclaimed artists Eija-Liisa Ahtila and Ilppo Pohjola produce work for their company Crystal Eye.

Ahtila has exhibited at numerous museums, biennales and film festivals, including Tate Modern, MoMA, Documenta, Berlinale, and Sundance. In 2011, she was appointed to the main jury of the Venice Film Festival, and in 2013, she was the Chair of the jury in FIDMarseille. Titles available in digital format are Me/We, Okay, Gray (1993), If 6 Was 9 (1995/1996), Today (1996), Consolation Service (1999), Love Is a Treasure (2002), Where Is Where (2008) and The Hour of Prayer (2009).


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Mika Kaurismäki

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Marianna Films
marianna.films@gmx.net
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TV Series

For inquiries related to TV series, please contact the production company or the sales company.

Happy Hour of the Wolf
When Heta’s husband strangely disappears, she ends up in a radical divorce therapy by Koistinen. Four desperate divorced men and one woman begin the journey towards a new life.

Jättekiva / 10 x 20 min / Romantic comedy
Director: Niklas Lindgren
Producer: Jarno Virtanen
Production company: Warner Bros. International Television Production Finland / vbitvp.com/finland

Idiomatic
Aino, originally from Finnish Lapland, and Swedish-speaking Micke are forced to move to a bourgeois neighborhood next door to Micke’s wealthy parents.

Aino, originally from Finnish Lapland, and Swedish-speaking Micke are forced to move to a bourgeois neighborhood next door to Micke’s wealthy parents.

Jättekiva / 10 x 20 min / Romantic comedy
Director: Niklas Lindgren
Writer: Laura Immonen
Producer: Jarno Virtanen
Production company: Warner Bros. International Television Production Finland / vbitvp.com/finland

Reindeer Mafia
The son of a reindeer lord in the northernmost Lapland starts an outlaw snowmobile club in order to fight back the tyrannical power of his father.

Poromafia / 8 x 42 min / Drama
Director: Sami Parkkinen
Writer: Tarja Kyönniä, Manuela Infante
Producer: Liisa Pentiö-Asikainen, Pete Eklund
Production company: Kalho Republic / kalhorepublic.com

Secret Enemies
Loaded with major themes and fascinating details echoing the current state of world affairs, Secret Enemies is a fast-paced thriller that is both scarily realistic and incredible.

6 x 52 min / Drama
Directors: Mika Kurvinen, Alicia Scherson
Writers: Tanja Kylölä, Manuela Infante
Producer: Liisa Pentiö-Asikainen, Pete Eklund
Production company: Kalho Republic / kalhorepublic.com

All the Sins
After leaving home 10 years ago, Detective Lauri Räihä is sent to investigate the murders of two men in the small northern town where he grew up.

Kaikki synnit / 6 x 45 min / Crime, drama
Director: Mika Ronkainen
Writers: Merja Aakko, Mika Ronkainen
Producer: Iikka Matila
Production company: MRP Matila Röhr Productions / matilarohr.com

Invisible Heroes
During the 1973 military coup in Chile, Finnish diplomats helped over 2000 left-wing Chileans escape the military junta’s persecution. They were the invisible heroes.

6 x 52 min / Drama
Directors: Mika Kurvinen, Alicia Scherson
Writers: Tanja Kyönniä, Manuela Infante
Producer: Liisa Pentiö-Asikainen, Pete Eklund
Production company: Kalho Republic / kalhorepublic.com

Sherlock North
Consulting detective Sherlock Holmes in subzero Northern Scandinavia, featuring a female Dr Watson from Finland, and the coldest Moriarty you have ever seen.

Sherlock North 10 x 45 min / Crime
Creator-producer: Juha Wuolijoki
Production Company: Snapper Films / snapperfilms.com

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Producer: Iikka Matila
Production company: MRP Matila Röhr Productions / matilarohr.com

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