



NEW

FILMS

COMING

FROM

SLOVENIA



A landmark year for gender balance in Slovenia

Finally, the year has come when Slovenia can boast as many as five full-length feature films from the hands of female directors and screenwriters. In 2018, when the Slovenian Film Centre prepared the first study of the state of gender balance in Slovenian cinematography, we discovered that as much as 90 percent of all films in Slovenian history had been signed by male directors and that the first Slovenian feature by a female director came out as late as 2002. A few years later, with the help of awareness-raising campaigns and promotion of the importance of gender balance in film storytelling, we ensured that in 2024, as many as five finished films out of twelve were made by female directors. Three of these films are debuts of young directresses, one of which received the Grand Prix at the Clermont Ferrand Festival in 2020, while another one won the 2022 European Film Award for Best Short Film. One of the films is the director's second feature, while the fifth one is

made by an experienced female director whose films have already been screened at A-category festivals and who completed her third feature this year. These excellent female filmmakers are joined by their male colleagues, two of them with their first films. Six full-length documentaries were also completed, half of which were directed by women, while the other half came from the hands of renowned male directors. The fact that as many as eleven short films out of twenty-two that were shot this year were directed by female directors also guarantees a sustainable future of gender balance in Slovenian filmmaking.

We are proud to present to festival selectors, sales agents, and distributors a selection of films which, for the first time in the history of Slovenian cinema, were created by a balanced mix of female and male directors.

Nataša Bučar,
Managing Director of Slovenian Film Centre

First films

FANTASY

by Kukla

LITTLE TROUBLE GIRLS

by Urška Djukič

**IDA WHO SANG SO BADLY
EVEN THE DEAD ROSE UP AND
JOINED HER IN SONG**

by Ester Ivakič

THIS IS A ROBBERY!
by Gregor Andolšek

Second films

THE LOST SON
by Darko Štante

**EVERYTHING THAT'S WRONG
WITH YOU**
by Urša Menart

Third or more films

FAMILY THERAPY

by Sonja Prosenc

HIDDEN PEOPLE

by Miha Hočevar

GIRL IN THE NIGHT
by Luka Marčetič

Children and Youth films

BLOCK 5

by Klemen Dvornik

TARTINI'S KEY

by Vinci Vogue Anžlovar

CIAO BELA
by Jani Sever

Documentaries

THE SILENCE OF LIFE

by Nina Blažin

LAND OF SAR/TBC

by Petra Seliškar

**ONCE UPON A TIME
IN THE SOČA VALLEY**

by Ema Kugler

OHO

by Damjan Kozole

FREEDOM

by Metod Pevec

DANCE OF LIFE

by Siniša Gačič



completed



in post-production



in progress



FANTASY

by Kukla

Sina, Mihrije and Jasna, girls in their early twenties, are besties. Their boyish lifestyle often leads them into conflicts with the men in the neighborhood who perceive them as a threat. One day, their attention is caught by a young woman, called Fantasy. Fantasy slowly mesmerizes the girls, whose paths will take different directions. Each in her own way, Sina, Mihrije and Jana will build the first steps of their adult lives, far from their supposed to be destiny.

cast Sarah Al Saleh, Mia Skrbina, Mina Milovanović, Alina Juhart
screenwriter Kukla **director** Kukla **director of photography** Lazar Bogdanović **film editor** Lukas Miheljak **production designer** Maja Šavc
costume designer Damir Raković **key make-up artist** Tina Prpar **producers** Barbara Daljavec, Lija Pogačnik, Vlado Bulajić **co-producer** Dejan Krajčevski



post-production

fiction

Kukla (1991) is a film director and musician. In the past years, she has been mostly directing music videos, which have reached over 100 million views. Her last short film *Sestre* (Sisters) has won Grand Prix International at Clermont Ferrand Film Festival 2021. Fantasy is her first feature film.

December

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Lija Pogačnik | lija@decemberfilm.si

co-production RTV Slovenija, Krug Film
in collaboration with Cinefondation, First Films
First, Ponta Lopud, Talent Village **co-funding**
Slovenian Film Centre, North Macedonia
Film Agency, Creative Europe Media



LITTLE TROUBLE GIRLS

by Urška Djukić

To fulfill her mother's expectations, shy and sensitive 16-year-old Lucija enters the local Catholic high school choir. In the spring, the conductor takes the girls for a weekend of intensive rehearsals to the convent of the Ursuline Sisters in Cividale. At that time the convent is in the process of renovation by a group of Italian workers. An outgoing thirdgrader Ana-Marija notices Lucija's interest in the attractive dark-eyed worker and they decide to play a trick on him. After an unfortunate first orgasm, deep feelings of shame overwhelm Lucija, and the struggle with guilt about her impulses begins.

cast Jara Sofija Ostan, Mina Švajger, Saša Tabaković
screenwriter Urška Djukić **co-writer** Maria Bohr **director** Urška Djukić
director of photography Lev Predan Kowarski **editor** Vladimir Gojun
production designer Vasja Kokelj **costume designer** Gilda Venturini
key make-up artist Eva Uršič **sound designer** Julij Zornik **producers**
Jožko Rutar, Miha Černec **co-producers** David Cej, Matteo Oleotto,
Katarina Prpić, Dragana Jovović, Stefan Ivančić, Ognjen Glavonić,
Marina Gumzi **associate producer** Julie Paratian



completed

fiction

90 min

Urška Djukić's last short film *Granny's Sexual Life* has won over 50 awards, including the European Film Academy award 2022 for best short film and the César Award 2023 for best animated short film. In 2019 she developed her first feature film *Little Trouble Girls* in 39th edition of the Cinéfondation Residency. In December 2023 this project was awarded as best work-in-progress project at Les Arcs film festival.

SPOK Films

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Miha Černec miha@staragara.com

co-production Staragara IT, 365 Films, Non Aligned films, Nosorogi, RTV Slovenija
in collaboration with Cinefondation, First Films First, Ponta Lopud, Moulin d'Andé, Torino Film Lab **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, Eurimages, RTV Slovenija, Viba film, Re-act, Italian Ministry of Culture, FVG Fondo Audiovisivo, FVG Film Commission, Film Center Serbia, Croatian Audiovisual Center, Creative Europe Media, Region Nouvelle Aquitaine, ARRI International Support Programme
sales agent Heretic Outreach



IDA WHO SANG SO BADLY EVEN THE DEAD ROSE UP AND JOINED HER IN SONG

by Ester Ivakič

In a small village in the remote Prekmurje region, an imaginative but tone-deaf 10-year-old Ida becomes convinced she can prevent her Grandma's death by joining the school choir.

cast Lana Marić, Liza Muršič, Milena Stropnik, Judita Franković Brdar, Matej Puc

screenwriters Nika Jurman, Ester Ivakič **director** Ester Ivakič **director of photography** Rok Kajzer Nagode **film editor** Andrej Nagode **production designer** Eva Ferlan **costume designer** Ina Ferlan **key make-up artist** Lea Bratušek **music composers** Alenja Pivko Kneževič, Simon Penšek **sound designer** Samo Jurca **producers** Jerca Jerič, Andraž Jerič **co-producers** Petra Vidmar, Mojca Pernat **associate producer** Tena Gojič



post-production

fiction

Ester Ivakič is a director, scriptwriter, and editor who has so far worked on a number of short films, music videos, and animations. She finished her bachelor's degree in Digital Media and Practices at the School of Arts in Nova Gorica, Slovenia, in 2016 with her short film *Srdohrd* for which she received a Special Jury Mention at the Festival of Slovenian Film. She wrote and directed the short film *Assunta* for her master's degree in Film Direction at the Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television in Ljubljana in 2018. She's currently finishing post-production of her debut feature film and also remains active working on music videos and experimental films, winning the Best Film award in the FeKK SLO competition for her film *Magical Castle is Here* Now at FeKK – Ljubljana Short Film Festival in 2021.

Temporama

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co-production RTV Slovenija, Gustav film, Film Factory, Dinaridi Film **in collaboration with** Film Studio Viba Film **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, Creative Europe – MEDIA



THIS IS A ROBBERY!

by Gregor Andolšek

Rajko is a professional magician who broke his arm during one of his shows. But his insurance company Tangenta is unwilling to pay him the insurance benefits due to a bureaucratic error. Outraged by the injustice, he is defended only by the kind-hearted insurance agent Marcel who tries to help by getting Rajko in the room with the Tangenta's CEO himself. But the meeting goes sour as Marcel impulsively kidnaps the CEO, much to Rajko's surprise, and together they soon find themselves on the run.

cast Stane Tomazin, Gregor Čušin, Uroš Smolej, Tijana Zinajić
screenwriters Miha Zbašnik, Gregor Andolšek, Marko Bratuš **director** Gregor Andolšek **director of photography** Miloš Srdić **film editor** Anže Verdel **production designer** Neža Zinajić **costume designer** Urška Recer **key make-up artist** Lija Ivančič **music composer** Blaž Gracar
producers Jerca Jerič, Andraž Jerič **co-producers** Teo Rižnar, Julij Zornik, Brana Srdić



post-production

fiction

Slovenian director and screenwriter Gregor Andolšek (1979) holds a graduate degree in Film Directing from the International Film School of Paris, EICAR. His filmography consists of numerous no-to-low-budget shorts including The Tunnel (2017), Toilet Stories (2014, with T. Zinajić), and Entre Potes (2008, with I. Tobalina). This Is a Robbery! will be his debut fiction feature.

Temporama

Andraž Jerič andraž@temporama.si

co-production RTV Slovenija, NuFrame, 001, A Atalanta in collaboration with Film Studio Viba Film co-funding Slovenian Film Centre



THE LOST SON

by Darko Štante

Andrej, a seasoned criminal investigator, faces a shocking revelation when he encounters his estranged brother, Kristian, as a domestic violence perpetrator. As he grapples with guilt and tries to mend their relationship, parallels between Kristian's behavior and their abusive father's emerge. Amidst personal turmoil, Andrej's professional life intertwines, leading to substance abuse and strained relationships. A tragic turn of events pushes Andrej to confront his past trauma, ultimately culminating in a heartbreaking confrontation with their father. As he seeks redemption and reconciliation, Andrej's life takes a devastating turn when Kristian commits a horrific act, forcing him to confront the depths of familial turmoil and personal responsibility.

cast Jure Henigman, Nejc Cijan Garlatti, Lara Vouk, Tamara Avguštin, Nika Rozman, Svit Šturbej, Liam Benjamin Štante with Goran Bogdan & Igor Samobor

screenwriter Darko Štante **director** Darko Štante **director of photography** Peter Zeitlinger **film editors** Sara Gjergek, Yorgos Mavropsaridis **production designer** Miha Knific **costume designer** Nikolina Kostanjšek **key make-up artist** Matea Katunar **producers** Nina Robnik, Miha Černec **co-producers** Konstantina Staurinou, Rena Vougioukalou, Boris t. Matić & Lana Matić, David Cej, Robert Jazzdiski



post-production

fiction

Darko Štante, an acclaimed director and scriptwriter from Slovenia, holds a master's degree in Film Direction from the Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television in Ljubljana. He made his debut with "Consequences" (2018), which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and went on to win multiple awards and secure distribution deals worldwide.

STARAGARA

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co-production Graal S.A., Propeler Film, Kaval Film, Staragara I.T., RTV Slovenija **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, RTV Slovenija, Film Studio Viba Film, ERT, Greek Film Centre, Croatian Audiovisual Centre, North Macedonia Film Agency, Creative Europe – MEDIA, Re-Act



EVERYTHING THAT'S WRONG WITH YOU

by **Urša Menart**

Maruša, a woman in her mid-twenties grappling with the aftermath of her mother's illness, seeks refuge at her estranged father's farm. Feeling lost and disconnected, she finds an unlikely friend in Alja, a nurse and social media influencer living in a small coastal town in Germany. Bonding over their shared struggles and a sense of humor, Maruša and Alja quickly develop a close friendship. However, as they meet in person and navigate the complexities of their lives, including Alja's health issues and personal dilemmas, their friendship is put to test.

cast Anuša Kodelja, Klara Kuk, Matija Vastl, Mojca Fatur, Kaja Ocvirk
screenwriter Urša Menart **director** Urša Menart **director of photography** Roy van Egmond **production designer** Marco Juratovec **costume designer** Kristina Savić **key make-up artist** Lija Ivančič **producers** Katja Lenarčič, Danijel Hočevar **co-producers** Alexander Wadouh, Roxana Richters, Paula Klossner, Dimče Stojanovski & Stefan Orlandić



post-production

fiction

Urša Menart (1985) has directed a few documentaries (What about Mojca?, There Once Was a Land of Hardworking People) and co-written two feature films both directed by Damjan Kozole: Nightlife (Best Director Award, Karlovy Vary IFF 2016) and Half-Sister (Karlovy Vary IFF, 2019). Her debut feature My Last Year as a Loser (2018) with her as the writer/director won the Slovenian national award Vesna for Best Film and Best Screenplay.

Vertigo

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co-production Chromosom Film, Tidewater Pictures, RTV Slovenija, Living Pictures **in collaboration with** Film Studio Viba Film **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, MV Filmförderung, Film Center Serbia, Creative Europe – MEDIA, Re-Act



FAMILY THERAPY

by Sonja Prosenec

Family Therapy revolves around a Slovenian ‘nouveau riche’ family living in a glass house, exuding detached superiority. This satirical setting provides the backdrop for a humorous reinterpretation of Pasolini’s “Teorema”: a young stranger disrupts the family dynamics, unveiling hidden chaos and dysfunctional relationships. The film not only questions the obliviousness to others’ struggles but also probes the reasons behind their choices. Are they afraid of confronting their own vulnerabilities, or is it a learned indifference, a symptom of a broader societal ailment?

The film will have its world premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival in the International Narrative Competition in 2024.

cast Marko Mandič, Katarina Stegnar, Aliocha Schneider, Mila Bežjak
screenwriter and director Sonja Prosenec **director of photography** Mitja Ličen **film editor** Ivana Fumić **music composers** Primož Hladnik, Boris Benko **sound designer** Gisle Tveito **producers** Rok Sečen, Sonja Prosenec **co-producers** Marta Zaccaron, Fabiana Balsamo, Jarle Bjørknes, Tamara Babun, Matija Drniković, Dimče Stojanovski



completed

fiction

122 min

Sonja Prosenec, a writer-director. Her work spans across award-winning and critically acclaimed arthouse dramas (“The Tree” and “History of Love,” both Official Oscar Entries), audience-beloved comedy (“Paradise,” 2019), and thriller series (“Trigrad” – Series Mania, France, Sarajevo FF 2023). Her distinctive film language has earned praise from cinephiles, critics, and academics alike. Sonja’s “Family Therapy” merges comedy with her distinctive artistic vision.

MONOO (SI)

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co-production Incipit Films, Wolfgang&Dolly, Incitus Film, Living Pictures **co-funding** Creative Europe – MEDIA, Slovenian Film Centre, Italian Ministry of Culture (MIC), Friuli Venezia Giulia Film Commission – FVG, Croatian Audiovisual Centre, Film Center Serbia, RTV Slovenija, Regional audiovisual fund Friuli Venezia Giulia, Filmkraft Rogaland, Zefyr Media Fund



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HIDDEN PEOPLE

by Miha Hočevar

Guti (35, Slovenian) and Sig (50, Icelander) wake up naked and handcuffed to one another on a riverbank near Ljubljana. Sig suffers from memory loss, while Guti recalls a fight with skinheads Sid drunkenly participated in and Guti tried peacefully to intervene in. Sig has no passport or any clue about his identity—the skinheads have taken everything he owned. Guti is trying to build a new home for himself on a river raft after losing his house to the bank and his life to his ex-wife. He introduces Sig to his friends—suburban misfits, who remind Sig of a legend of the hidden people. The film is a fairy-tale dramedy about new beginnings. It is also a self-ironic story about small countries and nations (Slovenia and Iceland) in the “big” Europe; about the unexpected connections that can help us find our place under the sun and continue with our lives. Finally, it is also about a vast number of invisible people who feel like “internal refugees” in the European societies they are a part of.

cast Blaž Šef, Ólafur Darri Ólafsson, Barbara Ribnikar, Ana Urbanc, Luka Marčetič, Janez Hočevar, Igor Samobor, Gregor Gruden

screenwriters Srdjan Koljević, Miha Hočevar **director** Miha Hočevar
director of photography Simon Tanšek **film editor** Jelena Maksimović
production designer Neža Zinajič **costume designer** Nadja Bedjanič
key make-up artist Mojca Gorogranc Petrushevska **producer** Danijel Hočevar **co-producers** Igor Kecman, Jelena Mitrović



in progress

fiction

Miha Hočevar (1963) created and directed hundreds of commercials—including certain TV commercials that have been very successful and popular. He writes scripts too. So far, he directed five features and several shorts. Three of his features – Going Our Way 2 (2013), Going Our Way (2010), and Fuck It (2000) – were major box-office successes in Slovenia and are second and sixth biggest Slovenian box-office hits of all time.

Vertigo

Danijel Hočevar danijel@vertigo.si

co-production RTV Slovenija, Backroom
Production **in collaboration with** Film Studio Viba
Film **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, Film
Center Serbia, Re-Act, Creative Europe – MEDIA



GIRL IN THE NIGHT

by Luka Marčetić

The aimless life of an alienated kleptomaniac takes an unexpected turn for the worse when he steals a bicycle from an enigmatic girl who spends her nights fighting crime.

cast Urban Kuntarič, Lara Wolf

screenwriter Luka Marčetić **director** Luka Marčetić **director of**

photography Lev Predan Kowarski **production designer** Katarina Riznar

costume designer Katarina Šavs **key make-up artist** Lija Ivančič

music composers Simon Penšek, Alenja Pivko Kneževič **sound designer**

Julij Zornik **producers** Jerca Jerič, Andraž Jerič **co-producers** Julij Zornik, Katarina Riznar



post-production

fiction

Luka Marčetić was born in 1985 in Zagreb, Croatia, where he lived until moving to Slovenia by the age of 15. He moved to California where he worked as a game developer with several startups at the age of 22. After moving back to Slovenia he graduated at the Institute and Academy of Multimedia in Ljubljana and started experimenting with different audiovisual formats for various platforms. He created the first Slovenian web series Day of Love in 2009, followed by three seasons of Paired Up, a television show which gained both critical and commercial success between 2015 and 2019. In 2016 he directed his first feature film, a local low-budget comedy At Hostar which broke Slovenian box office records and became the most viewed film in Slovenian history.

Temporama

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co-production 001, Studio Cepelin
in collaboration with Film Studio Viba Film
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre



BLOCK 5

by Klemen Dvornik

Alma recently moved into a new neighbourhood, which is a skateboarder's nest of her classmate Luna.

When Alma discovers that her father's company plans to demolish the playground, she gets determined to save green areas. Alma has no choice but to join forces with her worst enemies – Luna's skate gang. The battle over the playground evolves into a conflict about unity and forgiving one another.

cast Kaja Zabret, Kaja Šuštar, Yuri Friderich, Niko Lemark, David Trontelj, Marko Mandić, Voranc Mandić, Mark Jacob Cavazza, Sarah Al Saleh, Ivana Roščič, Tihomir Stanić, Enis Bešlagić

screenwriter Dora Šustić **director** Klemen Dvornik **director of photography** David Hofmann **film editor** Ivana Fumić **production designer** Miha Knific **costume designer** Katarina Šavs **key make-up artist** Mojca Gorogranc Petrushevska **music composer** Davor Herceg **sound designer** Lukáš Ujčík **producers** Barbara Daljavec, Branislav Srdić **co-producers** Peter Badač, Jakub Rálek, Danijel Pek, Katarina Prpić, Dimče Stojanovski, Stefan Orlandić Stojanovski, Vlado Bulajić, Lija Pogačnik



completed

fiction

79 min

Klemen Dvornik works in the broad field of audiovisual industry, and is known to the general public as the director of one of the most successful Slovenian series *The Lake* (2019). He has received several awards for his work. He is an active member of various professional associations (DSR, ZDSFU, FERA, AVACI, WDW), and since 2016 he has been a professor of television directing at AGRFT. He is a father of two sons.

A Atalanta

.....
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co-production BFILM.cz, Antitalent, Living Pictures, December, RTV Slovenija
in collaboration with Film Studio Viba Film
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre, Czech Film Fund, Croatian Audiovisual Center, Film Center Serbia, Eurimages, Creative Europe – MEDIA



TARTINI'S KEY

by Vinci Vogue Anžlovar

Set in the picturesque coastal town of Piran, three children from distinct backgrounds cross paths. Mario, a local girl, lives with her grandmother. Robert, hailing from a modest family, is at summer camp while Barbara, from an affluent background, is on holiday with her father and his partner. She is also the unintended recipient of a misdirected SMS. This message sets off a domino effect, leading them through a series of puzzles and adventures tied to medieval Piran's mysteries. As they outwit caricatured bandits, Grandemare and Jofa, their friendship bond strengthens and love sparks between Barbara and Robert. The culmination of their journey reveals the "treasure": a collection of letters exchanged between famed violinist Tartini and the iconic violin maker, Stradivarius.

The film was presented at the 2023 festival in Tallinn as part of the Work in Progress – Just Films section.

cast Svit Šturbej, Ella Lapajne, Maks Kerševan, Jurij Drevenšek, Zala Djurić, Goran Navojec, Primož Pirnat, Tanja Ribič, Janez Škof, Nenad Tokalič, Filip Vidušin

based on the book by Roman Kukovič **screenwriter** Vinci Vogue Anžlovar **director** Vinci Vogue Anžlovar **director of photography** Mirko Pivčević **film editor** Vinci Vogue Anžlovar **costume designer** Barbara Drmota **key make-up artist** Anita Ferčak **music composer** Milko Lazar **producer** Zoran Dževerdanović



completed

fiction

115 min

Vinci Vogue Anžlovar (1963) is a multifaceted creative artist who writes music and scripts as well as directs films and TV series. His first artistic endeavours consisted of putting together several bands. He studied film direction at the AGRFT, University in Ljubljana. One of his screenplays won the international competition held by a Japan company Lakuna while he was still a student. He used the money award to shoot one of the most successful Slovenian films of all time: Grandma Goes South (1991). Vinci's filmography from 2010 includes three features: Grandpa Goes South (2022), Selfie Without a Retouch (2016, documentary), and Vampire from Gorjanci (2011).

Blade Production

Zoran Dževerdanović

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co-production RTV Slovenija **in collaboration with** Film Studio Viba Film **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre



CIAO BELA

by Jani Sever

Bela plays the piano, writes songs, and has trained taekwando. She lives with her father, who is a music producer. Her mother left for America, looking for an acting career. At the beginning of her first year of high school, Bela learns that her mother wants to come back into her life. This causes her to reflect on the relationships she has taken for granted as well as on the relationships she is re-establishing. Bela experiences her first love. And her first major life crisis. A crisis which, in extreme moments, leads her to try drugs and self-harm. In the search for meaning and self-expression Bela forms the band that represents freedom and a confession of her world-view. And calls her mother.

cast Krešimir Mikić, Alisa Miličević, Gaja Mazvita Strauss Tihaolang, Maša Slapar, Luka Lukša, Laura Prajs, Brin Strnad Volkar, France Mandić, Ana Urbanc, Suzana Krevh, Neža Buh, Maruša Geymayer Oblak

screenwriter Jani Sever **director** Jani Sever **producer** Nina Jeglič **director of photography** Darko Herič **music composers** Ana Đurić, Milovan Bošković



completed

fiction

Jani Sever (1963), a former journalist and editor-in-chief (1996-2006) of the leading Slovenian political weekly Mladina, works as a producer, director, and screenwriter. He has produced more than ten documentaries and fiction features, five shorts, a TV and a web series, as well as directed Status Zero (2016), a documentary about unemployed youth; and Pero Lovšin – You Can (2018), a documentary about the first East European punk star. His last documentary film Antigone – How dare we!, (2020) won Best Documentary Award at the Slovenian Film Festival.

Sever & Sever

Nina Jeglič nina.jeglic@gmail.com

co-funding RTV Slovenija, Slovenian Film Centre, Film Studio Viba Film



THE SILENCE OF LIFE

by Nina Blažin

An observational documentary with cinematic experience asking: What is important in life? The motivation for the film is director's loss of her father. Every one of us will have to face mortality. It's up to us what we'll be like in those moments. This is a story of retired journalist, paliative care promotor Manca Košir who gets diagnosed with cancer and lets us into her intimate world, which is the door in exploring departure. She says her friendship with death began at the age of 19, when she was in the film *The Birch Tree* (1967), lying in a coffin most of the time. It is also a story of director's experience of the loss of her father. But most of all it is a story about departing, memories and love. The creative documentary about mortality explores in its core the acceptance of time and celebration of life. What will you do with the time you have left?

cast Manca Košir

screenwriter Nina Blažin **director** Nina Blažin **director of photography** Darko Herič, ZFS **film editor** Zlatjan Čučkov **music composer** Aldo Kumar **sound designer** Julij Zornik **producer** Igor Pediček



completed

documentary

87 min

Nina Blažin (1980) graduated in film and TV directing from the AGRFT, University in Ljubljana. Beginning with Berlin Talent Campus 2006, she has attended many international film workshops—some recent ones are: Sources 2 2017, Script Circle 2017, Script & Pitch 2017, Interfilm Berlin, Eurodoc 2019 Novi Sad, Balkan Documentary Centre 2020. As a director, she looks for the pure Truth, pure Life. Her debut documentary *How Much Do You Love Yourself?* won the Best Documentary Award (FSF Portorož, 2018) and was selected for ZagrebDox 2019 as well as for Hot Docs' "Changing Faces of Europe" in 2019 in Toronto in collaboration with European Film Promotion. Nina is a member of the Directors' Guild of Slovenia and EWA.

Casablanca

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co-production RTV Slovenija, Incipit film
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre **distribution** Fivia



LAND OF SAR/TBC

by Petra Seliškar

Three teenage brothers, Zekir, Zarif, and Zani, spend several months each year alone in the mountains of Solunska glava, looking after their family's flock. Zekir and Zarif, the oldest ones, lead the sheep in the upper pastures, while Zani stays in a lower hut and takes care of the cows. At 2,400 meters of altitude, far from any kind of society, the brothers live a free and precarious life, filled with hard work, simple games and innocent joy. Except for their two much younger siblings, whom Zekir tries to teach the trade, and a younger sister who occasionally visits Zani, the boys' only companions are their numerous dogs. One of them, Belichka, who was Zarif's favourite, is held captive by a breeder from the city who made a dubious agreement with the boys. As they come of age, many questions rise in the brothers' minds: who are they, individually and in relation to each other? Can they manage a sustainable life as shepherds? What lies ahead in their future? As tensions arise between Zekir and Zarif, the latter grows eager to change his life.

cast Zarif, Zekir, Zani, Zarife, Basri, Besir and 19 dogs

screenwriters Petra Seliškar, Tancrede Riviere **director** Petra Seliškar

director of photography Brand Ferro **film editors** Laureline Delom, Sashko Potter Micevski **producer** Petra Seliškar **co-producers** Victor Ede, Sara Ferro



post-production

documentary

Director, writer, and producer Petra Seliškar (1978) founded her own production house Petra Pan Film in 2003, focusing on creative documentaries. With her wealth of experience and talent, she has flourished as a filmmaker with profound insight, sensibility, strong narrative force, and an innovative approach. Seliškar's filmography includes the following internationally awarded documentaries: Body (2023), Farewell (2020), My World Is Upside Down (2015), Mother Europe (2013), and The Grandmothers of Revolution (2006). Petra has co-produced more than 20 international films.

PETRA PAN FILM

Petra Seliškar petrapanfilm@gmail.com

co-production RTV Slovenija **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, Aide Aux Cinémas Du Monde – CNC, Région Sud – Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, North Macedonia Film Agency, Eurimages, Creative Europe – MEDIA



ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE SOČA VALLEY

by Ema Kugler

Knowledge of history is the foundation of every nation! The film's content revolves around old beliefs in the Posočje region, the origins of which remain unknown. What is documented, however, is that in 1331, messengers of the new faith (Christianity) arrived from Čedad, initiating a violent Christianization process in Posočje. This lasted for a long time and was extremely brutal. Their sanctuaries were demolished, and adherents of the old beliefs were persecuted, many of whom were killed. As a result, they pledged to remain silent. This belief was passed down orally from generation to generation.

cast Ivan Peternelj, Matija Vastl, Blaž Šef, Klemen Kovačič, Aino Aalto
screenwriter Ema Kugler **director** Ema Kugler **directors of photography**
Lev Predan Kowarski, Dejan Ulaga **music composer** Robert Jiša **producer**
Ema Kugler **co-producers** Zvokarna, NuFrame



completed

documentary

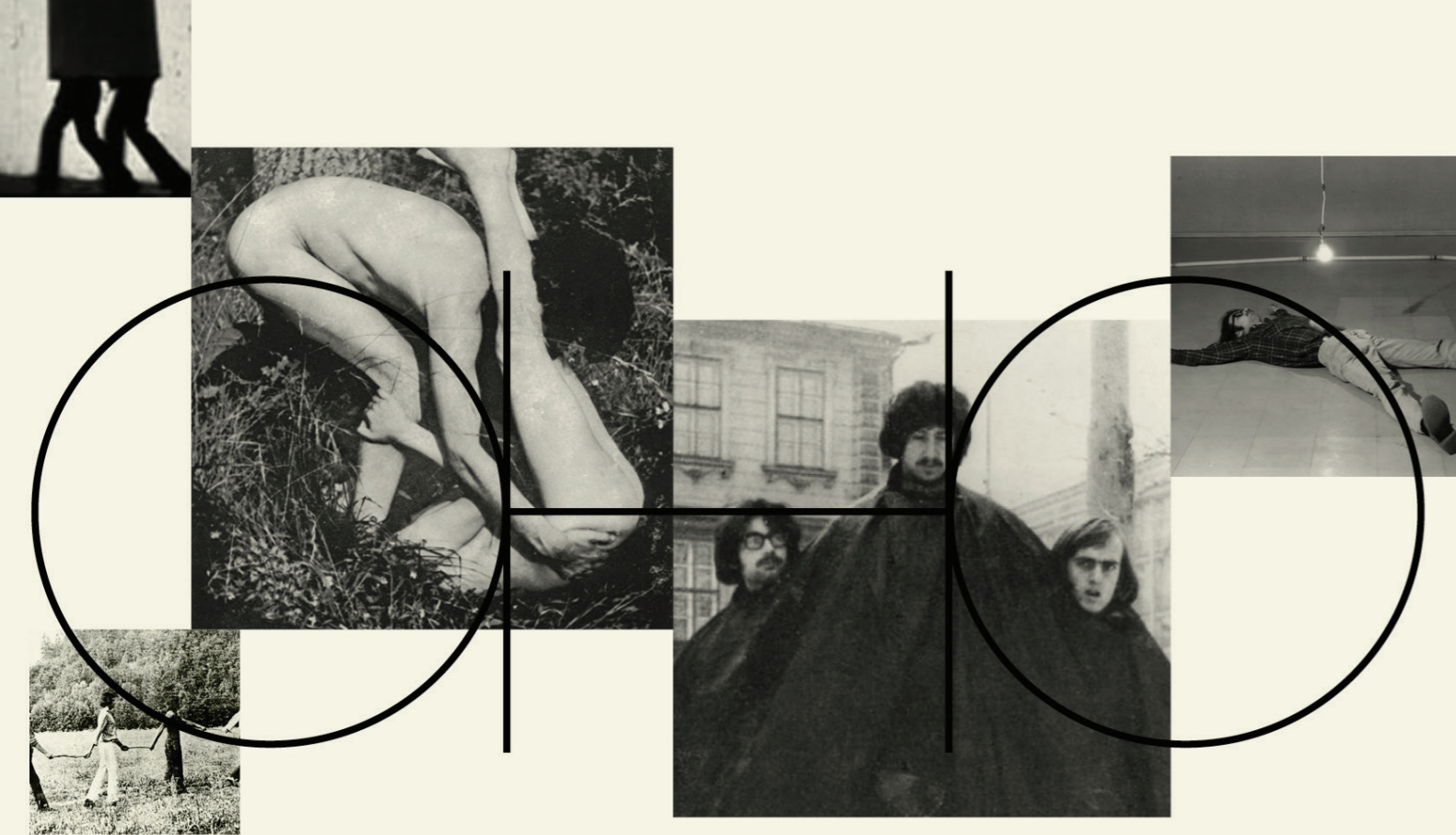
90 min

“With her work the artist proves that gesamtkunstwerk is the ultimate artistic expression. In her work a tension between life and death is staged to nearly tangible presence. We experience her work sensually on the performances in vast industrial halls, factories, stone-pits or on projections in full darkness, filled with sound or/and images that avoid any typological definitions. Experiencing her events leave deep sensual imprints on us. The images would appear to us in the true senses of this word. They appear to us as phantoms much later, after we are hardly able to remember the time and place where they inhabited us – in the sleeping dreams or the dreaming with eyes wide opened. Ema Kugler is a master of phantoms.” (Jurij Krpan, Explanation of Prešeren Fund Award, 2008)

Zavod ZANK

Ema Kugler

ema.kugler@guest.arnes.si



OHO

by Damjan Kozole

OHO is categorized as one of the most interesting, complex and important examples of avant-garde art and counterculture of the 1960s in ex-Yugoslavia and beyond. The OHO film, featuring rich film heritage, aims to comprehensively capture the phenomenon of the movement for the first time. At the same time, it aims to capture the spirit of a time marked by hippie culture, the Vietnam War, the Prague Spring and the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia, student protests around the world, and the Cold War. A time that we thought was dead and gone but is dangerously returning to its darkest dimensions. In addition to providing historical illumination, the film will follow OHO's ideas via its members' stories throughout time – all the way to the present day, to explore the relevance of OHO for the present time.

cast Marko Pogačnik, Igor Gaister, Matjaž Hanžek, Milenko Matanović, David Nez, Milenko Sudac

screenwriters Urška Jurman, Matic Drakulić, Damjan Kozole **director** Damjan Kozole **director of photography** Sašo Štih **film editor** Matic Drakulić **music** Laibach **sound designer** Julij Zornik **producers** Danijel Hočevar, Zala Opara



in progress

documentary

Damjan Kozole is a Slovenian filmmaker, whose directing credits include critically acclaimed Spare Parts (2003), nominated for the Golden Bear at the 53rd Berlin IFF 2003; globally released Slovenian Girl (2009); Nightlife (2016), winner of Best Director Award at the 51st Karlovy Vary IFF; and his last fiction feature Half-Sister (2019). Kozole is also a respectable author of many documentary films like Ulay: Project Cancer (2013) and Borders (2016).

Vertigo

Danijel Hočevar danijel@vertigo.si

Zala Opara zala@vertigo.si

co-production RTV Slovenija in collaboration with Film Studio Viba Film co-funding Slovenian Film Centre, Creative Europe – MEDIA



FREEDOM

by Metod Pevec

The film director and a psychiatrist go together to the Dob prison, Slovenia's largest prison institution. The film director believes that many stories remain hidden behind the prison walls, and the psychiatrist believes that his method of psychodrama can help the convicts.

screenwriter Metod Pevec co-writer Vladimir Milošević director Metod Pevec director of photography Metod Pevec film editor Olga Michalik cinematographers Dejan Ulaga, Gaja Naja Rojec editing consultant Ivo Trajkov producers Danijel Hočevar, Zala Opara



in progress

documentary

Born in 1958 in Ljubljana, Metod Pevec is seasoned film director and screenwriter as well as novelist and actor. He has previously directed intimate feature and documentary films like ALEXANDRIAS (2011), DOM (2015), POD NJENIM OKNOM (2003) and I AM FRENK (2019). He is a recipient of Golden Arena award at the Pula Film Festival 2020 for the best directing of I Am Frenk, several awards for his documentary films including Vesna award for the best documentary Dom at the Festival of Slovenian Film 2015, in 2013 he received Prešeren Award from the Republic of Slovenia for his directing endeavours, and many others. FREEDOM offers a unique exploration of the hidden angles of inmates' lives. Filmed in Slovenia's largest correctional facility, Dob prison, the film seeks to understand whether a criminal's mind is open to transformative change.

Vertigo

Danijel Hočevar

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Zala Opara

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co-production RTV Slovenija in collaboration with Film Studio Viba Film co-funding Slovenian Film Centre



DANCE OF LIFE

by Siniša Gačić

The dance takes on the metaphor of life, which Alenka wants to voluntarily end. Just like in a dance step, Marijan stands by her side. But it is difficult to break away while music is playing.

screenwriter Siniša Gačić **director** Siniša Gačić **director of photography** Siniša Gačić **film editor** Andrej Nagode **sound designer** Ivan Antić **producers** Siniša Gačić, Anja Vrdlovec



in progress

documentary

Siniša Gačić (1980) finished Academy for Film, Television, Radio and Theatre in Ljubljana. For his first feature documentary film *A Fight* for he received Grand Prix award at Slovenian film festival. His last film *Daughter of Camorra* had international premiere at Sarajavo film Festival and won VESNA award for Best documentary film at Slovenian film festival. In 2016 he established production company *Zuhr Film* which focuses on production of documentary films. For past 15 years he works as director at Slovenian national TV, where he directs main live shows.

Zavod Zuhr

Siniša Gačić sinisa.gacic@gmail.com

co-funding Slovenian Film Centre

The image features a vibrant, abstract background composed of several vertical stripes in yellow, cyan, white, green, and magenta. A large black triangle is positioned on the left side, pointing towards the right. The text is arranged in three columns on the right side of the image.

Short Films

APARTMENT 2A

by Gaja Möderndorfer

BABY MONEY

by Matjaž Jamnik & Gaja Naja Rojec

BEYOND THE FACE

by Anja Resman

BRIDGE LISTENER

by Miha Mazzini

CATLANDS

by Ana Čigon

COMMON PEAR

by Gregor Božič & Marina Gumzi

CONTAINER

by Simon Intihar

DYSTOPIAS

by Sara Bezovšek

GIRL WHO WASN'T AFRAID

OF BEARS

by Lea Vučko

JULKA

by Valeria Cozzarini

JUMP INTO THE FUTURE

by Darko Štante

KISMET

by Žiga Virč

LEPER

by Anže Grčar

LITTLE HOUSE

by Nika Jurman

NO ONE EVER LOOKS AT

ELEPHANTS AS YOU DO

by Sandra Jovanovska

ONCE UPON A TREE:

THE APPLE OF DISCORD

by Timon Leder

THE HOUR OF DEATH

by Tomaž Gorkič

THREE BIRDS

by Zarja Menart

(UN)BECOMING

by Ivana Vogrinc Vidali

WELCOME HOME

by Filip Jembrih

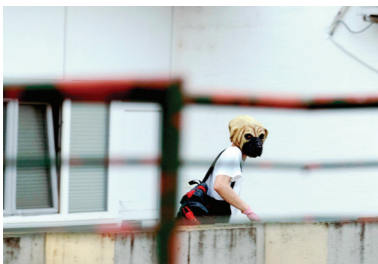


APARTMENT 2A fiction 19min

by Gaja Möderndorfer

In an apartment building, residents call the police and the SPCA to stop a dog's incessant barking. What is going on behind the locked door of the flat belonging to the elderly everyman? The short Apartment 2a depicts generations not divided by a gap, but united in their disregard for the person next door. The elders have been made indifferent by the bitterness of age, the young by the self-absorption of being terminally online.

Forum Ljubljana: [Eva Rohrman](mailto:eva.rohrman@mail.ljudmila.org)
eva.rohrman@mail.ljudmila.org
co-production MB Grip,001, Teleking,
Invida **co-funding** Slovenian Film
Centre **distribution** Forum Ljubljana



BABY MONEY fiction 14.5min

by Matjaž Jamnik & Gaja Naja Rojec

The failed robbery becomes the talk of the town among local teenagers, adding excitement to an otherwise dull Sunday afternoon. As they learn that the son of the clerk who was robbed is their peer, they begin to speculate who did it and why.

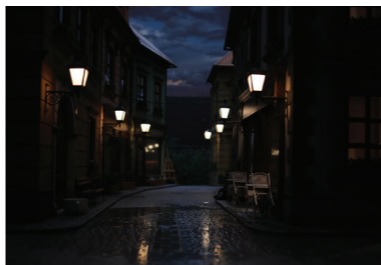
NOSOROGI: [Marina Gumzi](mailto:marina@nosorogi.com)
marina@nosorogi.com
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre,
Mestna občina Velenje, Film Studio
Viba Film



Gaja Möderndorfer graduated from the Accademia di Belle Arti di Venezia and completed her master's studies in filmmaking at the Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television in Ljubljana. Her master's film, 'Nellie', received the Student Prešeren Award, IRIS award for best photography and the award for the best Southeast European film at the International Drama Short Film Festival in Greece.



AGRFT graduates Matjaž Jamnik and Gaja Naja Rojec form a creative team working across film and video. Their graduation film Nobody Told Me I Have to Love You (2019) was screened at the Cinéfondation section of the Cannes Film Festival. Their next film, a short documentary Framing Sutherland (2021) was awarded the Critic's Jury Award and the best Slovenian Short at the FEKK 2022.



SPOK Films: [Jožko Rutar](mailto:jozko.rutar@gmail.com)
jozko.rutar@gmail.com
co-production ZVVIKS, Antitalent,
School of Arts UNG **co-funding**
Slovenian Film Centre, RTV Slovenija,
Croatian Audiovisual Centre



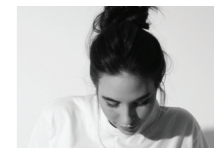
SOLSTICIJ: [Slađana Vide](mailto:sladana@solsticij.si)
sladana@solsticij.si
co-production Studio Arkadena
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre

BEYOND THE FACE

animation 9min

by Anja Resman

A young man is cleaning his father's apartment who recently passed away. He is forced to relive traumatic memories of growing up and losing his soul.



Anja Resman (1997) is a Slovenian animator, film director and creator of animated films. After graduating at Secondary school of design and photography in Ljubljana she created her first short stop motion animated film Anabel (2016). In her second year of college she created a short film Wake Up (2018). Beyond the Face is her master short film at School of Arts University of Nova Gorica.

BRIDGE LISTENER fiction 15min

by Miha Mazzini

Hana lives alone and maintains the family tradition of roadside innkeeping, which no one needs anymore because the traffic was diverted to the highway. One day she gets a guest, a woman with a profession she didn't know existed. The listener of bridges came to listen to the highway bridge, but she will hear everything else, even the darkest secrets.



Miha Mazzini is a writer with more than 30 published books and translations into 14 languages. One of his short stories won the US Pushcart Prize in 2012. He is also a screenwriter and filmmaker of award-winning short and feature films (his last feature film Erased among others won the best screenplay at Raindance Film Festival in the UK and it has been taken on by HBO and ZDF/ARTE).



CATLANDS animation 9min

by Ana Čigon

The film takes place in Catlands, the union of distinct feline territories inhabited by cats of various social statuses. The delicate established status quo is disrupted by newcomers trespassing the lawns of the cats' united territories. To address this international issue, the most prominent residents devise a cunning plan, one that cannot be executed without harming some innocent victims.

Bonobostudio: Vanja Andrijević
info@bonobostudio.hr
URGH!: Viva Videnović viva@urgh.si
co-production bonobostudio, RTV Slovenija **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, Croatian Audiovisual Centre
distribution Bonobostudio



COMMON PEAR

fiction/documentary 15min

by Gregor Božič & Marina Gumzi

2033. A young neuroscientist is researching the extinction of the local Pyrus species. Trying to determine what used to stimulate farmers to cultivate the economically unviable fruit trees, she stumbles upon an unfinished documentary.

NOSOROGI: Marina Gumzi
marina@nosorogi.com
co-production Digital Orchard **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, Film Studio Viba Film, Mestna občina Nova Gorica, GO! – 2025, FVG Film Commission



Ana Čigon (1982) is an established Slovene artist known for her video art, films and performances dealing with social issues which often contain elements of humour, irony and satire. She has made documentaries, experimental films and has worked in animation. It is in the latter that she recently found the most inspiration because of her academic background in painting and video art.

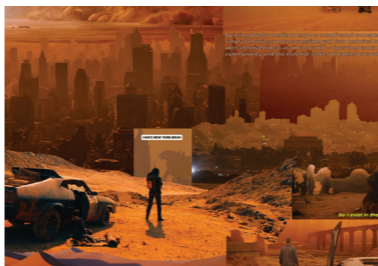


Gregor Božič studied in Ljubljana, Berlin and at Le Fresnoy in France. His work as a director and/or cinematographer has been selected to international venues such as Cannes, Toronto, Locarno, Rotterdam, etc. Apart from working on films, he is a passionate researcher of fruit trees.

Marina Gumzi studied dramaturgy and film production in Ljubljana, Berlin and Paris. Head of NOSOROGI, she switches between the roles of a producer and scriptwriter. Films she produced and/or (co)wrote were presented at festivals and art venues all across the globe.



Fabula: Radovan Mišič
fabula@fabula.si
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre



Temporama: Andraž Jerič
andraz@temporama.si
co-production Aerodrom.io, 001
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre

CONTAINER fiction 13min

by Simon Intihar

A rebellious, tight-knit circle of friends, devoted to skateboarding and their grindcore band, have their friendship put to the test when they're faced with their worst nightmare: losing the only safe haven they have — a squatted storage container in the middle of nowhere. The story of growing up ends when the container is destroyed in front of their eyes. The film was inspired by a group of teenagers who transformed a humble storage container into a vibrant, tolerant, rebellious community.



Simon Intihar is a Slovenian filmmaker and musician. His short films have been screened at over 80 film festivals (Krakow, Virginia, ZagrebDox, Flickerfest, Bengaluru, etc.), gathering several awards. As a musician he played at more than 100 music festivals, including InMusic, Metal-days, Europavox, WAVES, etc. He is a Talents Sarajevo (2017) and Berlinale Talents (2019) alumnus. In 2019, he curated a list of films for the site www.goodshortfilms.it under the section "Guest Picks".

DYSTOPIAS animation in progress

by Sara Bezovšek

Dystopias is an experimental animation film that explores various possible dystopian futures of humanity using film and internet references. It shows the viewer different types of speculative, totalitarian, or post-apocalyptic dystopias by highlighting their most common elements: bureaucratic and technological control, control and repression, economic collapse, total war, nuclear winter, environment destroyed through climate change... Dystopias is part of the multi-year project SND in which the author is using the cut-and-paste technique, combining found digital material and creating new narratives.



Sara Bezovšek (1993) is a visual artist focused on new media, experimental film and graphic design, in which she also holds an MFA from the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Ljubljana. She has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions. She was the recipient of the Prešeren Award for Students in 2018 and was nominated for the OHO Young Artist Award in 2022. She received the main award at the Ljubljana Short Film Festival (FeKK) for one of her short films in 2021 and the vesna award for the best Slovenian experimental film in 2022.



GIRL WHO WASN'T AFRAID OF BEARS

animation 15min

by Lea Vučko

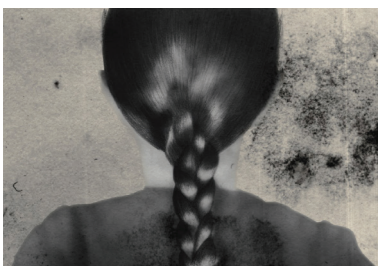
This feminist western tells a story about a girl who ventures into the world after freeing herself from the clutches of a patriarchal home, dressed as a cowboy. On her way she encounters magical creatures who are trying to prevent her from continuing her journey to self discovery.

INVIDA: Jure Vizjak

info@invida.tv

co-production RTV Slovenija

co-funding Slovenian Film Centre



JULKA

animation 15min

by Valeria Cozzarini

Julka is a Slovenian-speaking eight-year-old girl who has two friends, Danilo and Marko, with whom she is inseparable. Their lives change drastically when the fascist regime bans the use of local and minority languages and begins a period of persecution and oppression. One day, a teacher hears Julka speaking Slovene in class, so he punishes her and uses violence to enforce his excessive nationalism. The story for the screenplay is based on a short story by the writer Boris Pahor, *The Butterfly on the Hook*.

ARSMEDIA: Boštjan Ikovic

info@arsmedia.si

co-production RTV Slovenija, Altreforme,

NuFrame, 001 **co-funding** Slovenian

Film Centre, Viba Film, Friuli Venezia

Giulia Film Commission – FVG, Re-Act



Lea Vučko is a young animator and upcoming director. As an animator she participated in animated series *Princ Ki-Ki-do*, short animated film *Weasel* and teaser *Orange is the New Black: Unraveled* by Netflix under the direction of Špela Čadež. In 2022 her debut animated short film *The Legend of Goldhorn* received the Vesna Award for the best animated film at the Slovenian Film Festival and received the Slovenian Association Award for the best visual style.



Valeria Cozzarini started experimenting with animation during her BA in Painting at the Academy of Fine Art of Venice. She took part in the European Animation Masterclass in Halle (Saale) – Germany – in 2008. In 2009 she was selected for the Fondazione Bevilacqua la Masa artists' studios in Venice. She was awarded First Prize at the Cortinametraggio Film Festival and in 2017 Best Art Music Video Award at the Expression Art Movie Film Festival.



CASABLANCA: Igor Pediček

casablanca@siol.net

co-production RTV Slovenija,

ActaLogic, UP FAMNIT **co-funding**

Slovenian Film Centre



Studio VIRC: Boštjan Virc

info@studio-virc.si

co-production Nukleus Film, Korektif

co-funding Slovenian Film Centre,

Viba Film, Croatian Audiovisual Centre

JUMP INTO THE FUTURE

animation in progress

by Darko Štante

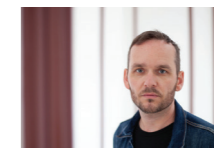
Who among Slovenes does not know Zvitorepec, Lakotnik, Trdonja and other heroes of many comics and picture books? And naughty bunnies from Zigzag, commercials for Mercator, Viki Cream, Chunga Lung, Jelovica and many more. The author of these folk creations is Miki Muster, undoubtedly one of the best creators in the field of comics, where we consider him the originator of picture books and animation in Slovenia. *Jump Into the Future* is an episode where our heroes fight for a cleaner environment. They visit the future and meet the culprit for pollution in the present.

KISMET

fiction 15min

by Žiga Virc

11-year-old Roma girl Milena fights against bloodstained sheets and wedding cakes. Her sister views marriage as liberation, and Milena aims to prove to her that destiny – kismet – is a myth.



Darko Štante, an acclaimed director and scriptwriter from Slovenia, holds a master's degree in Film Direction from the Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television in Ljubljana. He made his debut with "Consequences" (2018), which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and went on to win multiple awards and secure distribution deals worldwide.



Žiga Virc, a distinguished film and television director, is known for his feature "Houston, we have a problem!" which debuted at Tribeca and became a Slovenian cinema hit. Virc has directed various formats, garnering multiple awards, and has worked with major networks like HBO Europe and Netflix. His films have been showcased in global festivals and received significant media coverage.



LEPER fiction 12min

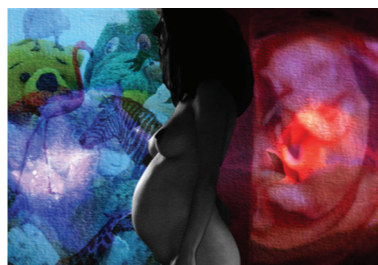
by **Anže Grčar**

Thirty-year-old Tibor returns to his hometown after serving his prison sentence, where he confronts the consequences of an accident he caused years ago.

TRAMAL FILMS: **Nina Robnik**
nina@staragara.com
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre



Anže Grčar was born in 1997 in Trbovlje. He studied film and television directing at AGRFT (Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television) from 2018–2021. His short documentary (In)visible won the Vesna Award for best student film in the Festival of Slovenian Film and was In Competition at Kino Otok – Isola Cinema International Film Festival Izola and at DOKUDOC Maribor. He currently works as 2nd assistant director on various feature films. His latest film, which he directed, is a short fiction film titled Scars (2024).



STARA GARA: **Nina Robnik**
nina@staragara.com
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre, Viba Film, Re-Act

NO ONE EVER LOOKS AT ELEPHANTS AS YOU DO

animation 10min

by **Sandra Jovanovska**

“No one ever looks at elephants as you do” is a visual exploration of the organic bond between mother and baby in stop-motion animation. This lyrical story reflects an inseparable connection with nature. Imagine something growing inside you. It stretches your insides, though it’s a tiny soul. It teaches you to always look straight to the essence.



Sandra Jovanovska is a multimedia artist specializing in audiovisual arts. She completed her studies in French and English before pursuing a master’s degree in media arts at the Academy of Arts, University of Nova Gorica. Her debut film, “Scarecrow Cross,” won the best student film award at “Cinedays” in Skopje. Her latest film, “Animals are Special Effects,” received the best experimental film award at the “Progeny Short Film Festival” in Blagsburg, USA. Her master’s animated film “Soma” has been screened at over forty festivals, establishing her as a promising talent in the field.



LITTLE HOUSE fiction in progress

by **Nika Jurman**

When Tatjana (40), a dreamer living in her parents’ oversized village home, stuck in a daily grind, stumbles upon the idea of a garden shed as her own home, she becomes unstoppable.

Vertigo: **Katja Lenarčič**
katja@vertigo.si
co-funding Slovenian Film Centre, Viba Film



Nika Jurman (1991) is a Slovene screenwriter and director with a philosophy, literature, and film criticism background. Her first screenwriting project was a successful comedy series, Paired Up (2015-2017). In 2017, she started writing her first feature film, Ida Who Sang So Badly Even the Dead Rose Up and Joined Her in Song with the director Ester Ivakič. She attended the Midpoint feature launch in 2020 with the same project. Last year she wrote, directed, animated, and produced an independent animated short called Borbike (2022), which won the best animation award at the Slovenian Film Festival.



Zavod Dagiba: **Timon Leder**
timon@dagiba.si
co-production RTV Slovenija, ZVVIKS, Invida **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre

ONCE UPON A TREE: THE APPLE OF DISCORD

animation in progress

by **Timon Leder**

On a sunny autumn day, during his morning run, Peter the hedgehog chances upon a beautiful red apple – only to find out that Johnny the rabbit and Sadie the squirrel are eyeing the same fruit. A heated argument breaks out, waking up and annoying Nala the bear. After her attempts to stop the kerfuffle fail, she sends the animals to consult the wise Owl. Being a cunning creature, Owl quickly finds a way to resolve the “apple of discord” dispute, the outcome taking everyone by surprise.



Timon Leder (1986) is a film director, animator, and educator. His professional animated debut, Weasel (2016), was selected for over 40 competitive programs at international film festivals and was accompanied by an audio-visual exhibition. His second film, Mouse House (2022), has received seven awards so far and was adapted into the interactive children’s film-musical show Mouse Music House. As an animator, Timon has collaborated on numerous films such as Twisted Tales: The Real Cinderella (2022), Martin Krpan (2017), Cipercooper (2014), and series like Ki-ki-do (2014–) and How It Grows... (2020–).



THE HOUR OF DEATH

fiction

20min

by **Tomaž Gorkič**

The morbid and sometimes cynical narrative follows the life of Urban, who is trapped in impersonal and monotonous daily patterns from birth to death. Years pass relentlessly as Urban grows up and ages, with tireless repetitions persistently dominating his monotonous daily life like a working machine. However, just before death, a glimmer of the meaning of life dawns upon Urban.

666 Productions: Deja Škerjanc

info@666productions.si

co-production Zvorkarna, NuFrame, Kerozin **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre



THREE BIRDS

animation

9min

by **Zarja Menart**

The wise birdwoman sends three birds to guide a girl into the dark unknown landscapes of her inner world.

Bonobostudio: Vanja Andrijević

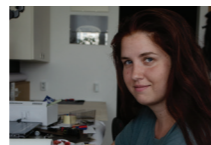
info@bonobostudio.hr

Finta Film: Tina Smrekar tina@finta.si

co-production RTV Slovenija, Adriatic Animation **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, Croatian Audiovisual Centre **distribution** Bonobostudio



Tomaž Gorkič is a film and theater director and scriptwriter working in Slovenia and Italy. His debut film, *Idyll* (2015) received 21 awards at international film festivals and was defined as “the first true Slovenian horror film” and as “the most radical Slovenian film after the independence” (Marcel Štefančič Jr., Mladina). His second feature, *The Curse of Valburga* (2019), traveled the world after its international premiere at 52nd Sitges International Fantastic Film Festival in Spain, participating in over fifty film festivals and winning eight awards.



Zarja Menart is a director, animator, illustrator and art director. She has been working side by side with Špela Čadež for a decade revitalising the multiplane cut-out technique as main animator on multiawarded films *Nighthawk* and *Steakhouse*. The short animated film *The Three Birds* is her directorial debut.



Temporama: Andraž Jerič

andraz@temporama.si

co-funding Slovenian Film Centre, Viba Film



PERFO: Eva Kučera Šmon

eva.kucerasmon@perfo.si

co-production Terminal 3, Remkora **co-funding** Slovenian Film Centre, Viba Film, Croatian Audiovisual Centre

(UN)BECOMING

fiction

in progress

by **Ivana Vogrinc Vidali**

Mira and her loyal dog Borka live a peaceful and isolated life in the countryside, until one night they witness a shocking event. After intervening in a sexual assault in the woods near their house, they are forced to face the aftermath. Mira embarks on a transformative journey through the complexities of the justice system until the lines between humanity and nature blur irrevocably.



Ivana Vogrinc Vidali, currently studying film directing at FAMU in Prague, graduated in film directing at the Academy of Theater, Radio, Film and Television (AGRFT) in Ljubljana with her short film *Trans-celestial Railways* (2021). Her student short film *On the Moon, Luna and Their Reflection* (2018) premiered in the student competition program at Ji.hlava IDFF in 2019. She recently completed her next two student shorts that are set to premiere in 2024.

WELCOME HOME

fiction

15min

by **Filip Jembrih**

After ten years in Slovenia, Vera and her son Jan return to her hometown in rural Croatia. They are met with old family problems because Vera doesn't share the strong religious views of her mother, Marija. Marija wants Jan baptized before Vera's father's funeral, which makes things worse between them. Vera feels out of place in her hometown, but Jan starts to fit in and make friends, even acting against his mother's wishes.



Born in 1997 in Brežice, he studied at the High School of Design and Photography in Ljubljana. In 2019, he enrolled at Slovene Academy for theatre, radio, film and television. His first directorial short film *Fabula* was presented at the Kranjska Gora International Film Festival (KGIFF) and the Fiorenzo Serra Film Festival (FSFF). This year his short documentary *Cradle* is being presented and he finished filming his graduation film *Faraway Fields*.



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