



QCINEMA

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



NOV **08-17** 2024




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Q CINEMA

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



Hon. Ma. Josefina G. Belmonte
Mayor, Quezon City
Chairperson
Quezon City Film Commission

Welcome to the 12th edition of QCinema International Film Festival!

From the very beginning QCinema's principal mission has been to provide a motivating and enabling environment for independent filmmakers to do their best possible work.

We have seen it take its initial steps, grow, mature and evolve right before our eyes. It has learned to adapt and survived even its toughest challenge, coming out even stronger and better.

Its success also proves that political vision, government support and the arts can converge in harmonious and productive ways for the sake of the arts such as cinema. Now more than ever, the unwavering commitment of Quezon City to our filmmakers and film talents is vital in the midst of the rapid developments in the digital world and the quick adoption of new media technologies.

This year's theme "The Gaze" focuses on the power of cinema to give us a kaleidoscope of visions and voices that show us new and different ways of seeing life and the world. To gaze is to look steadily and intently, in admiration, astonishment, interest, wonder, contemplation, affection, pity, dismay, alarm, or surprise.

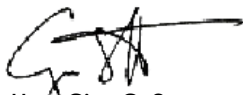
Through the years, QCinema has provided a safe nurturing space for diversity and inclusiveness that enables filmmakers to create a breadth and variety of cinematic experiences. Their films can surprise and delight us, their daring freshness may sometimes startle or outrage us but they never fail to engage us.

The expanded scope of the QCinema will surely delight filmmakers and filmgoers alike from the competition of new Asian titles to latest gems from world cinema, from genre to arthouse, from debut films to film masters, from shorts to documentaries. Definitely, there is something for everyone.

Let us continue to support the festival, its key events, and all its offerings.

See you at the QCinema!




Hon. Gian G. Sotto
 Vice Mayor, Quezon City
 Co-Chairperson
 Quezon City Film Commission

For the past 12 years, the country's most awaited film festival offers a joyous melange of familiar as well as distinctive new artistic voices, whether those of filmmakers who are just starting out or ones whose previous works haven't been released in the Philippines.

There will be films with classic styles and ideas but as always with QCinema, expect the unexpected, as some films will surely deliver surprising works that expand both the filmmaker's artistic scope as well as the possibilities of cinema as an art form.

Indeed, QCinema is helping ordinary moviegoers realize that, beyond mere superficial entertainment, cinema has the power to enlarge our aesthetic horizons and deepen our perception of human existence.

Whether you are a Cinema habitue, cinephile, reviewer, blogger, journalist or film industry worker, you not only get to have your fill of a sumptuous visual feast, you also get access to people in the film industry. Many films will have the filmmakers and performers available to answer questions about their respective works, the process and their role in them. You will hear the film directors share their vision and all the work they put into telling their story.

My sincerest congratulations to the organizers and programmers of this year's 12th edition of QCinema, led by the indefatigable members of QCinema Film Foundation. So, join me in picking from the overwhelming smorgasbord of over 80 well curated films. See as many of the offerings as possible within the 10 days allotted for the festival.

Have a wonderful QCinema experience!




Liza Diño
 Executive Director, Quezon City
 Film Commission
 Managing Director, QCinema
 Project Market

Congratulations to QCinema on its 12th edition!

As the festival continues to grow, we are thrilled to see the expansion not just through the films programmed this year but also through our ever-evolving industry program. A huge commendation goes to our Festival Director, Ed Lejano, for his incredible curation and programming this year.

We're proud to open the festival with a Quezon City Film Commission and QCinema-funded project that had its world premiere at the prestigious Director's Fortnight in Cannes this year. The opening film, **The Directors' Factory Philippines**, features the incredible work of directors Don Eblahan, Tan Siyou, Arvin Belarmino, Lomorpich Rithy (aka YoKi), Maria Estela Paiso, Ashok Vish, Eve Baswel, and Gogularajan Rajendran, showcasing a rich blend of talent from across the globe.

This year, we are delighted to announce the expansion of our industry program. We are now in the second edition of the **QCinema Project Market**, featuring 20 promising projects from Southeast Asia seeking investment and coproduction opportunities. Under the theme "**The Gaze**," the festival invites audiences to explore diverse perspectives and new ways of seeing the world through film.

Additionally, we are launching the **Asian Next Wave Film Forum**, spearheaded by Ms. Manet Dayrit. This dynamic platform reflects the global shift towards more accessible and inclusive storytelling, focusing on genre filmmaking, financing, and coproduction. The forum will spotlight the "Next Wave" of filmmakers who are breaking cultural boundaries and creating a more globally interconnected cinematic experience.

As Executive Director of the Quezon City Film Commission, I am also delighted to share that our bid for Quezon City to become a **UNESCO Creative City of Film** is actively underway. Our collaboration with various stakeholders in the city has been immensely productive, thanks to the visionary leadership of our Mayor, Joy Belmonte, who has passionately championed the Philippine entertainment industry. In line with this, we are hosting a **Creative Industries Day**, where international film commissions from UNESCO-accredited Creative Cities of Film—such as Rome (Italy), Valladolid (Spain), and Busan (South Korea)—will engage with the Quezon City Film Commission to exchange best practices and discuss challenges.

This year, we are proud to make NOVOTEL and SINE POP the hub for our QCinema Project Market and other Industry Programs, transforming them into vibrant spaces for networking and industry activities. We are expecting an exciting influx of international guests and cineastes, along with our loyal festival-goers who have supported QCinema throughout the years.

We can't wait to welcome you all to Quezon City and to the festival's events that celebrate the spirit and passion of filmmaking!




 Eduardo Lejano, Jr.
 Artistic Director
 QCinema International Film Festival

GAZES

As we reach this milestone of twelve years, it heralds an occasion to look into where we are right now, and where it could lead us. This year's 12th edition of QCinema International Film Festival, may well be our rite of passage, representing our own coming of age.

This year's theme "The Gaze" aims to underscore that every cinematic work - whether it's a feature or whatever form it may be, represents a perspective filtered through the filmmaker's thoughtful eye, offering a distinctive way of looking while conveying layered meanings and messages.

This year's curation embraces a kaleidoscope of gazes, from the platform of new Asian titles to latest gems from world cinema, from genre to arthouse, from debut films to film masters, from shorts, animation to documentaries.

Our main competition, the Asian Next Wave, is our launching pad for fresh voices with most of them making their regional premieres, culled from very-recent festivals. This impressive line-up includes a documentary, a first for this competition, with two good examples of co-productions being purely-Asian funded, and a Philippine entry making its world premiere.

The annual shorts competition is now QCShorts International, where our six QCinema-produced shorts, in their world premieres, compete with six outstanding Southeast Asian shorts.

The festival has an expanded gaze, so to speak, to include the opening of new competition sections: RainbowQC, which embraces international works of the LGBTQ experience, and, New Horizons, our global platform for exciting first films, competing under the Special Critics Prize.

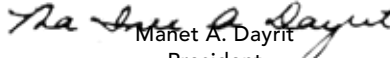
We open with Director's Factory, an omnibus of four shorts produced by Directors Fortnight, with the support of QCinema, representing our first international foray with the Cannes parallel section.

The QCinema Project Market (QPM), which was launched last year, is much bigger this year with two of the funded projects making their Philippine premieres.

Our other industry initiatives take on a wider scope with our Asian Next Wave Film Forum and Master Classes involving more local and international industry players covering a broader range of topics. All these only serve to show Quezon City's major thrust to become a UNESCO Creative City for Film is not only timely but befitting.

Now twelve years old and fully grown, QCinema has truly come of age, casting a wider net to embrace all there is to become one of the leading film events in Southeast Asia.




 Manet A. Dayrit
 President
 QCinema Film Foundation

Welcome to QCinema's 12th edition. As usual, Ed Lejano's programming this year does not disappoint. His curation of award winning international titles from the major film festivals is amazing.

With the addition last year of the QCinema Project Market, our festival has become more vibrant. We now have the movers and shakers of the region's film industry in attendance. The QCinema Project Market, headed by Liza Diño-Seguerra brings our local and South East Asian filmmakers to Quezon City to pitch their film projects for substantial grants and to make international co-production deals.

This year, QCinema is even bigger and better with the launch of the Asian Next Wave Film Forum. We will discuss the current shift in Asian cinema, where the lines between art-house and genre filmmaking are increasingly blurred. Participants will learn from established international filmmakers, industry professionals, and festival directors who are at the forefront of this shift, gaining insights into how art house and genre filmmakers can co-exist, collaborate, and succeed in today's increasingly interconnected film industry.

I am proud to say that we have created a complete international film festival experience this year with the amazing programming, vibrant project market and relevant industry forum. This would not have been possible without the full support of Mayor Joy Belmonte who has believed in our vision for QCinema from the get go. Thank you, Mayor Joy.

So enjoy, everyone. I hope you take full advantage of what we have in store for you all this year.



Jason Tan Liwag
 Head of short film programming
 QCinema International Film Festival

2024 QCINEMA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

For its 12th year, the QCinema International Film Festival will be screening 22 short films – 12 of which will be world premieres from Filipino filmmakers.

As one of QCinema’s most prized and popular programs, six homegrown shorts directed and produced by emerging Filipino filmmakers are making their world premiere at the festival after receiving the QCShorts seed grant earlier this year. Screening alongside and competing against our grantees are six shorts from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam in the newly expanded short film competition—QCShorts International. QCShorts International now juxtaposes new homegrown works by Gilb Baldoza, Joseph Dominic Cruz, Kukay Bautista Zinampan, Nicole Rosacay, Sam Villa-Real, and Whammy Alcazaren with works by Al Ridwan, Chanasorn Chaikitiporn, Exsell Rabbani, Ekin Kee Charles, Hồng Anh Nguyễn, and Mickey Lai from our neighboring countries in Southeast Asia.

Outside of QCShorts International, the festival has also created a new program – Shorts Expo – an exhibition program spotlighting new and independently produced short works from Filipino filmmakers under QCLokal. From new works by festival alumni Glenn Barit, Joanne Cesario, and Maria Estella Paiso to world premieres from first-time QCinema participants Pabelle Manikan, Shiri De Leon, and Nicole Matti, this program weaves political documentaries, spellbinding experimental films, and emotionally charged narrative fiction to examine the connections that keep families together, the boundaries that threaten to rip them apart, and the spirit that keeps them persistently challenging frontiers of life and cinema.

In addition to these collections, a new mid-length work from Philippine New Wave director and visual artist John Torres will also be making its Philippine premiere under QCLokal, with the screening followed by a live sound performance by Torres. The increased number of short films and mid-length work in QCinema is tied to the festival’s commitment to leveraging the short film as a form for experimentation and storytelling while also honoring the abundance of short-form work made since the pandemic in and out of campuses.

The Quezon City Film Commission

The Quezon City Film Commission (QCFC) was created through City Ordinance No. SP- 1690, S-2006 making Quezon City the first local government unit in the Philippines to have its own Film Commission.

In line with the Quezon City government’s goal of spreading cultural and social awareness, it is the objective of the Commission to establish Quezon City as the seat of the nation’s entertainment industry.

As the country’s major hub for film and television corporations, the local government, through the initiative of City Mayor Ma. Josefina G. Belmonte, who also acts as the Chairperson of the Film Commission, has laid out a long-term plan to provide the necessary logistical and technical support to the film industry.

The QCFC intends to work towards an environment full of opportunities for filmmakers, writers, actors, producers, editors and other media practitioners to hone their craft. In this way, the city ensures the continued progress of its film and media industries, creating the conditions for sustained local economic development, and maintaining Quezon City’s status as the country’s filmmaking capital.

The present Quezon City Film Commission is composed of:

Hon. Ma. Josefina G. Belmonte
 Chairperson

Hon. Gian G. Sotto
 Co Chairperson

Liza Diño
 Executive Director

Hon. Dorothy A. Delarmente
 Quezon City Council Majority
 Floor Leader

Hon. Kate G. Coseteng
 Quezon City Council Minority
 Floor Leader

Projects

As the primary policy making body on film in Quezon City, the QCFC have formulated several measures since its inception, ever determined to proclaim and uphold the title of the City as the Hollywood of the Philippines and further the advocacy of helping the Philippine Film Industry through shared efforts and synergy.

QCinema Film Foundation Inc.

QCinema Film Foundation Inc. (QCFF) serves as the operational, coordinating and secretariat body of the Quezon City Film Commission. While the Foundation performs all administrative functions, by nature, it will be an implementing and creative body that will help in establishing an atmosphere for the development of film industry in Quezon City. QCFF also aims at helping existing film organizations in achieving their goals by facilitating the grant incentives and other material support. The Foundation shall refrain from competing with existing agencies and duplicating their tasks, although it possesses the power to create new programs.

Manet A. Dayrit
President

Members

Jim Baltazar
Liza Diño
Kints Kintana
Atty. Jojo Salomon
Armi Cacanindin
Kara Alikpala
Paolo Villaluna
Ed Lejano
Milo Sogueco
Ignacio Gimenez
Bing Advincula
Mike Sandejas



QCinema 2024 Sustainability Declaration

As QCinema grows as a leading cultural event in the Philippines, we recognize the importance of minimizing our environmental impact and commit to sustainable practices.

We hereby declare our dedication to becoming a sustainable festival, with the following actions at the forefront of our efforts:

1. Reducing Carbon Footprint.

We are basing most of our events in Quezon City, primarily in Cubao, to limit travel and reduce emissions associated with the festival. Whenever possible, we will utilize the city's libreng sakay buses (Q City Bus) and new electric buses to transport guests between venues, reducing the festival's reliance on fossil fuels.

2. Transitioning to Digital Solutions.

To cut down on paper waste, we are implementing an app-based booking system for festival badge holders, making event access more seamless and eco-friendly. We are also encouraging all attendees to view the festival schedule online instead of using printed brochures.

3. Promoting Reusability.

We are urging festival-goers to bring reusable tumblers for free drinks and eco bags for carrying festival materials, helping reduce the consumption of single-use plastics and other disposable items.

4. Implementing Waste Segregation

We are establishing a waste segregation system at all screening venues to ensure proper disposal and recycling of materials produced during the festival, while also recovering items that can be reused, recycled, or upcycled, and making festival-goers aware of their role in this process.

These actions reflect our commitment to environmental stewardship, inspired by recommendations from our environmental impact study, "Setting the Stage for Sustainability: An Environmental Impact Baseline Study of QCinema International Film Festival." This study, the first of its kind in the Philippines, is conducted in partnership with the University of Glasgow's Glasgow Centre for International Development and UPLB Foundation, Inc.

Together, we set the stage for a sustainable future in cultural and creative industries.



OPENING FILM

OPENING: DIRECTORS FACTORY PHILIPPINES

Since 2013, the Cannes Directors' Fortnight has played host to the Directors' Factory, a program that surfaces new talents and gives them an opportunity to be showcased on the International scene. Every year, they select eight filmmakers, four from a partner country, and another four from other emerging cinemas from around the world, all of whom have ambitious first or second feature projects. They are paired up, and they produce four short films, which are then premiered at the Directors' Fortnight.

This year, Directors' Factory selected the Philippines as its partner country – the first Southeast Asian nation to be chosen for the honor. These films were supported by the Quezon City Film Commission, and the QCinema International Film Festival is proud to premiere these films on local soil on our opening night.

QCINEMA 
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



COLD CUT

Don Josephus Raphael Eblahan, Tan Siyou

Nineteen year-old Joy (Chevy Claire Recososa Guanter) is practicing to perform in a local talent show. But things change when she meets a mysterious butcher (Noriel Tome Obnimaga), who takes her on another trajectory.

Ang 19-year-old na si Joy (Chevy Clair Recososa Guanter) ay nag-eensayo para sumali sa isang local talent show. Pero nagbago ang lahat ng makilala niya ang isang butcher (Noriel Tome Obnimaga), na nagdadala sa kanya sa bagong landas.

Philippines, France | 2024 | 13 mins | Drama | Bisaya

Prod: Bradley Liew, Dominique Welinski, Bianca Balbuena | Dir/Scr: Don Josephus Raphael Eblahan, Tan Siyou
DOP: Tey Clamor | Ed: Lawrence S. Ang | With: Chevy Claire Recososa Guantero, Noriel Tome Obnimaga, KC Lyn Retes



SILIG

Alvin Belarmino, Lomorpich Rithy

Mamang (Sylvia Sanchez) returns to her hometown after a long time away, bringing with her a terminal disease. She reunites with her friend Sabina (Angel Aquino), who helps her try to fulfill her wish of being cremated.

Bumalik si Mamang (Sylvia Sanchez) sa kanyang hometown pagkatapos ng mahabang panahon, dala ang isang nakamamatay na sakit. Nakita niya muli ang kaibigan niyang si Sabina (Angel Aquino), na tutulong sa kanya na makamit ang kanyang hiling na ma-cremate.

Philippines, France | 2024 | 14 mins | Drama | Bisaya

Prod: Bradley Liew, Dominique Welinski, Bianca Balbuena | Dir/Scr: Alvin Belarmino, Lomorpich Rithy | DOP: Mackie Galvez | Ed: Jordan dela Cruz | With: Sylvia Sanchez, Angel Aquino



NIGHTBIRDS

Maria Estela Paiso, Ashok Vish

The Tigmananuk is a bird spirit created by the gods to give aid to wingless birds who seek freedom. One of these spirits (Bob Jbeili) comes down to earth to help Ivy (Pokwang), a woman trapped in an abusive situation.

Ang Tigmananuk ay engkantong ibon na gawa ng mga diyos para tulungan lumaya ang mga ibong walang pakpak. Bumaba ang isang engkanto (Bob Jbeili) sa lupa para tulungan si Ivy (Pokwang), isang babaeng hindi makatakas mula sa kanya maabusong asawa.

Philippines, France | 2024 | 13 mins | Drama | Bisaya, Tagalog

Prod: Bradley Liew, Dominique Welinski, Bianca Balbuena | Dir/Scr: Maria Estela Paiso, Ashok Vish

DOP: Pong Ignacio | Ed: Lawrence S. Ang | With: Pokwang, Bob Jbeili, Arsenio Dagwayan



WALAY BALAY

Eve Baswel, Gogularaajan Rajendran

War has broken out, forcing Norayda (Ruby Ruiz) and her daughter Yahaira (Shaina Magdayao) to flee their home. They relocate to a quiet house by the sea, and they are made to reimagine what it means to be home.

Umusbong ang giyera. Napilitan si Noryda (Ruby Ruiz) at ang kanyang anak na si Yahaira (Shaina Magdayao) na lumuwag mula sa kanilang tahanan. Nakarating sila sa isang tahimik na bahay sa may baybayin, at muli nilang iisipan kung ano ang tahanan para sa kanila.

Philippines, France | 2024 | 14 mins | Drama | Tagalog

Prod: Bradley Liew, Dominique Welinski, Bianca Balbuena | Dir/Scr: Eve Baswel, Gogularaajan Rajendran

DOP: Pao Orendain | Ed: Jordan dela Cruz | With: Shaina Magdayao, Ruby Ruiz



DON JOSEPHUS RAPHAEL EBLAHAN COLD CUT

Don Josephus Raphael Eblahan was born in 1996, in Philippines. He is a filmmaker and musician born of Ifugao and Visayan descent. Eblahan's works explore themes of trauma, spirituality, and nature told through the cosmic lens of post-colonial spaces and Indigenous identities. His works have been selected in festivals such as the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival where he won the International Student Jury Prize as well as the Special Mention of the International Jury for his 2020 short film Hilum. In 2022, his film The Headhunter's Daughter was awarded the Short Film Grand Jury Prize at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival and the Gold Hugo at the 58th Chicago International Film Festival.



TAN SIYOU COLD CUT

Siyou is a Los Angeles based filmmaker originally from Singapore. Her latest short STRAWBERRY CHEESECAKE premiered at the Locarno Film Festival. Her previous short HELLO AHMA, completed under the American Film Institute's Directing Workshop for Women, played in competition at the 44th Toronto International Film Festival and the 70th Berlinale. Most recently, she has been selected at Berlinale's 2022 Talents Tokyo, Busan's 2019 Asian Film Academy, the 2019-21 Universal Directors Initiative, and the 2021 Commercial Directors Diversity Program. She is a film graduate of Wesleyan University.

Siyou is working on her first feature AMOEBA with support from the Hubert Bals Fund. To date, AMOEBA has been awarded the Most Promising Project at the 2019 Southeast Asian Film Lab, the Open SEA Fund Award at the 2021 SEAFIC and the 2023 SFFILM Rainin Grant. After being developed at the TorinoFilmLab's 2022 ScriptLab, the project has gone onto selections at Berlinale's 2023 Co-Production Market and the Far East Film Festival's 2023 Focus Asia, where it won the TAICCA/ Focus Asia Co-production Award.

As a visual artist with a printmaking background, she has also worked as an Art Director at Jesse Dylan's production company Wondros. In her role, she combined fine art and film for locally and internationally-based commercials, music videos, documentaries, VR pieces, and campaigns for non-profit organizations. Her work has garnered several awards, including a Cannes Lion, two AICP awards, a Ciclope Award and the Jury Award at SXSW. Her commercial clients have included Chanel, Mercedes, Nike, Taschen and Vanity Fair.



LOMORPICH RITHY SILIG

Lomorpich Rithy is an independent filmmaker from Cambodia. She's the founder of Plerng Kob, which launched multiple fundraisers to preserve Cambodia's art heritage. She won best screenplay for Young Love at the 6th National Film Festival, as well as the Jury special award for a Directorial Debut.



ALVIN BELARMINO SILIG

ARVIN BELARMINO's first short film Kyel was part of the 2015 Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival Short Film Category. In 2016, his short film Nakaw won Best Fiction Film in the 3rd Minikino Film Festival in Jakarta, Indonesia. It was part of the 2018 Brussels Short Film Festival in Belgium and the 2017 Asiana International Short Film Festival in Seoul Korea as a competition film. In the Philippines, Nakaw won the Best Short Film in the 2017 Gawad Urian and returned as a finalist in the 2017 Cinemalaya. In 2020, his short film Tarang won Best Director at the 2021 Pista ng Pelikulang Pilipino Sine Isla. It also won Best Film at the 36th Interfilm Berlin Short Film Festival. In 2022, the Cinefondation Residency in Paris, France chose Belarmino as one of the top 6 filmmakers for his feature film project Ria, which won the CNC Pitch Award. The residency is programmed by Festival de Cannes. In the same year, the filmmaker was a participant at the 10th edition of the Locarno Filmmakers Academy which formed part of the 75th Locarno Film Festival in Switzerland. In 2023, Ria was selected at the La Fabrique Cinema in Cannes and also for the Sorfond Pitching Forum in Norway.



MARIA ESTELA PAISO NIGHTBIRD

Maria Estela Paiso has been in post-production since 2016 and has edited two feature films and several shorts. The themes of her personal projects revolve around memory and often use techniques that attempt to make tangible what has already passed. Her post-production background plays a major role in her DIY shorts and music videos. In 2021, she forayed into directing with her short film Ampangabagat Nin Talakba Ha Likol. In between dreaming about the films she wants to make, she spends her free time trying to get a 100 at karaoke and watching the downpour of frogs outside her window.



ASHOK VISH NIGHTBIRD

Ashok Vish is known for A Boy Called Boris (2014), Children Playing God (2018) and Nightbirds.



EVE BASWEL WALAY BALAY

Eve Baswel was born and raised in Maguindanao in 1995. She received her degree in Communication Arts from Far Eastern University. Her love for the spontaneity of visual arts can be seen through her works in photography and cinematography. Her films and photos reflect the inherent absurdity, loneliness, and vulnerability of being human.

Her first feature film, "Tia Madre," received eight nominations during the Cinema Originals 2019. The film won the award for Best Cinematography. Tia Madre had been recently acquired by Netflix Philippines.

Eve has been selected among 8 filmmakers to participate in the Director's Factory 2024 for Cannes Directors Fortnight. She also participated during the Full Circle Lab 2023 for fiction feature films bringing with her Heaven Help Us!

While developing her second feature film Bato Bato Sa Langit Ang Tatamaan Magagalit, she is also set to direct and write her first series Langit Lupa Impyerno [Heaven Earth Hell] with Epicmedia and Anima Studios.



GOGULARAAJAN RAJENDRAN WALAY BALAY

Gogularajan Rajendran a.k.a Gogu is a filmmaker based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He is also a director, editor, writer, and artist. After graduating from Architecture School, he pursued filmmaking by working freelance for clients and on personal projects. Through his works, Gogu wants to tell his audiences that magic does exist and it can be achieved through innocence. Gogu has edited a few local feature films, notably "Metro Maalai".

His short film "Bird on the 27th floor" has been selected for Seashores thank Festival 2021, and his short film "Virus Mairus" won the Kuman Pictures Challenge. He has also acted in two local telemovies.

Gogu participated in the 2017 Young Filmmaker Workshop (Finas and AFA Busan), 2021 YFW Producer's Lab (Next New Wave and Finas), 2021 Bucheon International Fantastic Film School, and Southeast Asian Project Pitch (Seapitch 2021).

He is currently developing his script for his debut feature film, "Kaali".

A showcase of some of the most exciting Asian films from this year, from emerging filmmakers at the onset of their career as storytellers.



PIERCE

Nelicia Low

刺心切骨

High school fencer Jie (Hsiu-fu Liu) is set on reconnecting with his older brother Han (Tsao Yu-ning), who has just been released from a stint in juvenile prison. Their mother (Ding Ning) wants the family to have nothing more to do with Han, but Jie goes behind her back to try and help his wayward brother, and discovers that there is something truly dangerous in him. Pierce uses the intensity of fencing as a means of conveying complex family trauma, the chaotic clash of steel mirroring the inner turmoil of outwardly placid family dynamics.

Nais ng high school fencer na si Jie (Hsiu-fu Liu) na makipag-ugnayan muli sa kanyang nakatatandang kapatid na si Han (Tsao Yu-ning), na kalalabas lang mula sa juvenile prison. Gusto ng kanilang ina (Ding Ning) na kalimutan na lang si Han, ngunit pinuatahan ni Jie ang kanyang suwail na kapatid para tulungan, at matutuklasan niya ang karahasan ng kanyang pagkatao. Ginagamit ng Pierce ang sidhi ng fencing bilang paraan ng pagsasalamin sa kumplikadong trauma ng pamilya, ang sagupaan ng bakal na siyang metapora sa panloob na kaguluhan ng pamilyang nagpapanggap na tahimik.

Taiwan, Poland, Singapore | 2024 | 109 mins | Crime, Drama | Chinese

Prod: Patrick Mao Huang, Sam Chua, Jeremy Chua, Izabela Igel, John M. Lo | Dir/Scr/Ed: Nelicia Low

DOP: Michael Dymek | With: Tsao Yu-ning, Hsiu-fu Liu, Ding Ning, Rosen Tsai, Benjamin Tsang

AWARDS: Karlovy Vary International Film Festival
Crystal Globe Competition



TALE OF THE LAND

Loeloe Hendra

May (Shenina Cinnamon), a Dayak girl, has not stepped on land for a decade. She lost her parents over a land conflict, and has since been living in a floating house with Tuha (Arswendi Nasution), an old man that saved her life. The trauma has stayed with her, causing her to break into a fit whenever she tries to return to land. But as she meets new people, and gains a new animal companion, her desire to return to solid ground and break what she believes is a curse grows stronger.

Si May, (Shenina Cinnamon), isang babaeng Dayak, ay sampung taon nang hindi nakatapak sa lupa. Nawalan siya ng magulang sa isang land conflict, at nakikitira siya sa isang lumulutang na tahanan ni Tuha (Arswendi Nasution), isang matanfang sumagip sa kanyang Buhay. Dala pa rin niya ang trauma, at nawawala siya sa sarili pag lumalapit siya sa lupa. Pero dahil sa tulong ng mga bagong kaibigan, at pagkalapit niya sa inaalagaang hayop, lumalakas ang loob niyang bumalik at buwagin ang sumpa.

Indonesia, Philippines, Qatar, Taiwan | 2024 | 99 mins | Drama | Indonesian

Prod: Yulia Evina Bhara, Amerta Kusuma, Robin Moran, Pinkan Veronique, Armi Rae Cacaindin, Kuek Shee Heng

Dir/Scr: Loeloe Hendra | DOP: Fahrul Tri Hikmawan | Ed: Carlo Francisco Manatad | With: Shenina Cinnamon,

Arswendi Nasution, Angga Yunanda, Yusuf Mahardika Bagus, Ade Saputra, Mohammad Syabir

AWARDS: Busan International Film Festival
2024 | Winner: FIPRESCI Award



VIET AND NAM

Truong Minh Quy

Trong lòng đất

Nam and Viet (Phạm Thanh Hải and Đào Duy Bào Đĩnh) work together in a coal mine, finding respite from their dangerous work in each other's arms. In their fleeting moments together, they share dreams of a better life, knowing full well that there is a time limit to their relationship. Dreamlike and hypnotic, *Viet and Nam* mines the depths of a nation's trauma, filtered through the experience of queer love.

Sina Nam at Viet (Phạm Thanh Hải and Đào Duy Bào Đĩnh) ay nagtrabaho sa isang minahan, naghahanap ng kaunting ginhawa mula sa kanilang mapanganib na trabaho sa isa't-isa. Pareho silang nangangarap ng mas mabuting buhay, kahit na alam nilang may taning na ang kanila pagsasama. Mala-panaginip, hinuhukay ng Viet and Nam ang kalaliman ng trauma ng isang bansa, na siyang pinapakita sa karanasan ng pagmamahal ng dalawang lalaki.

Philippines, Vietnam, Singapore, France, Netherlands, Germany, Italy, USA | 2024 | 129 mins | Drama | Vietnamese
 Prod: Bradley Liew, Bianca Balbuena | Dir/Scr: Truong Minh Quy | DOP: Son Doan | Ed: Felix Rehm | With: Phạm Thanh Hải, Đào Duy Bào Đĩnh, Nguyễn Thị Nga, Lê Việt Tụng

AWARDS:

- Cannes Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Un Certain Regard Award
2024 Nominee Queer Palm
- Chicago International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Gold Q-Hugo
- Munich Film Festival**
2024 Winner CineRebels Award
- Sydney Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Sydney Film Prize - Best Film
- Valladolid International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Punto de Encuentro Award
Best Feature Film

- Reykjavik International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Golden Puffin - New Visions
- Asia Pacific Screen Awards**
2024 Nominee Asia Pacific Screen Award
Best Cinematography
- Festival du nouveau cinéma**
2024 Nominee Louve d'Or - Best Film
- Guanajuato International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Festival Prize -Best International
Feature Film



MONEYSLAPPER

Bor Ocampo

Daniel (John Lloyd Cruz) immediately leaves his life behind in Porac, Pampanga upon winning the biggest cash prize ever in the lotto. After five years of living a life of luxury and traveling around the world, he returns to his hometown to pay some debts, settle some old scores, and do right by some people, all the while not realizing what he has become, or what wealth has turned him into.

Iniwan ni Daniel (John Lloyd Cruz) ang kanyang buhay sa Porac, Pampanga pagkatapos ng kanyang pagkapanalo ng pinakamalaking cash prize sa kasaysayan ng lotto. Pagkalipas ng limang taong mayamang pamumuhay at paglalakbay sa buong mundo, bumalik siya sa kanyang pinaroroonan upang magbayad ng utang, makipaghiganti, at gawin ang nararapat para sa ilang tao. Ngunit hindi niya namamalayan kung anong klaseng tao na siya, at kung ano ang ginawa ng kayamanan sa kanyang pagkatao.

Philippines | 2024 | 129 mins | Drama | Tagalog
 Prod: Bor Ocampo, Dumpsite Gallery | Dir: Bor Ocampo | Scr: Jason Paul Laxamana, Norman Wilwayco | DOP: Larry Manda | Ed: Noah Loyola | With: John Lloyd Cruz, Jasmine Curtis-Smith, Charlie Dizon, Malou Crisologo, Susana Africa-Manikan, Lav Diaz



DON'T CRY BUTTERFLY

Dương Diệu Linh

Mưa trên cánh bướm

Tam (Lê Tú Oanh) discovers in a very public way that her husband has been having an affair. Not really knowing how to deal with it, she turns to the aid of "The Master," a mystic who promises that she might use magical means to win him back. She tumbles into the world of Vietnamese mysticism, all while her daughter prepares to leave home to seek a better life elsewhere.

Nalaman ni Tam (Lê Tú Oanh) sa napaka-publikong paraan na niloloko siya ng kanyang asawa. Sa kanyang pagka-desperado, humingi siya ng tulong sa "The Master," isang mistikong nangangako na pwedeng siyang gumamit ng mahiwagang paraan upang mabawi ang kanyang asawa. Nahulog siya sa mundo ng Vietnamese mysticism, habang ang kanyang anak na babae ay naghahandang lumayas para makahanap ng mas mabuting kabuhayan sa malayong dako.

Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore | 2024 | 97 mins | Drama | Vietnamese

Prod: Tan Si En, Wilfredo C. Manalang, Nguyễn Mai Ka, Yulia Evina Bhara, | Dir/Scr: Dương Diệu Linh | DOP: Minh Nghia Ngo | Ed: Daniel Hui | With: Lê Tú Oanh, Nguyễn Nam Linh, Le Vu Long, Bùi Thạc Phong

AWARDS: Toronto International Film Festival 2024
Official Selection

Verona Film Club Award for Most Innovative Film
2024 Winner

Venice International Critics' Week
2024 Winner Grand Prize

Critics' Week Award
2024 Winner Best Film



HAPPYEND

Neo Sora

In the near future, in a dystopian Japan that has harnessed the fear of an impending disaster to enact all manner of subtly fascistic policy, a group of teenagers try to find ways to enjoy their youth, getting into all sorts of trouble along the way. *Happyend* tells a story of the future, but is very much rooted in the experience of the past, dissecting Japan's penchant for nostalgia, and how it affects the younger generations facing an unknowable tomorrow.

Sa malapit na hinaharap, ang gobyerno ng Japan ay ginagamit ang takot ukol sa paparating na sakuna upang matupad ang mga pasistang polisiya. Naghahanap ng gulo ang isang grupo ng mga teenager, habang naghahanap ng mga paraan upang mabuhay nang malaya sa kanila kabataan. Ang Happyend kwento ng kinabukasan, ngunit nakabase ito sa karanasan ng kahapon. Sinusuri niya ang paglalapit sa nostalgia, at ang epekto nito sa mga henerasyon na humaharap sa bukas na hindi nila kayang malaman.

Singapore, UK, USA | 2024 | 112 mins | Comedy, Drama | Japanese

Prod: Alex C. Lo, Aiko Masubuchi, Albert Tholen, Anthony Chen | Dir/Scr: Neo Sora | DOP: Bill Kirstein | Ed: Albert Tholen | With: Hayato Kurihara, Yukito Hidaka, Yuta Hayashi, Shina Peng, Arazi, Kirara Inori, PUSHIM

AWARDS: London Film Festival
2024 Nominee Sutherland Award - First Feature Competition

Venice Film Festival 2024 Nominee
Venice Horizons Award - Best Film

Asia Pacific Screen Awards
2024 Nominee Asia Pacific Screen Award
Best Screenplay
Best Film

Pingyao International Film Festival
2024 Nominee Roberto Rossellini Awards - Best Film
2024 Nominee People's Choice Award - Crouching Tigers
- Best Film
2024 Winner Roberto Rossellini Awards - Jury Award



MISTRESS DISPELLER

Elizabeth Lo

This documentary follows Wang Zhenxi, who works as a 'Mistress Dispeller.' She is hired by people who have been betrayed by a cheating spouse, and it is Wang's job to break up the affair and restore the bond of the married couple. The movie follows the dispeller as she takes on the case of the Li family, which leads the Mistress Dispeller into an investigation that studies the socio-economic factors that can barge their way into affairs of the heart.

Sinusundan ng dokumentaryo si Wang Zhenxi, na nagtatrabaho bilang 'Mistress Dispeller.' Kinukuha siya ng mga asawang niloko, at trabaho niya ang sirain ang relasyon at ibalik ang pagmamahal ng mag-asawa. Sinusundan si Wang ng pelikula habang tinatalakay niya ang kaso ng pamilyang Li. Dinala nito ang Mistress Dispeller sa imbestigasyong inaaral ang mga socio-economic factors na bumabangga sa mga usapang pampuso.

China, USA | 2024 | 94 mins | Documentary | Chinese
 Prod: Maggie Li, Emma D. Miller, Elizabeth Lo | Dir/DOP: Elizabeth Lo | Scr: Elizabeth Lo, Charlotte Munch Bengtsen | Ed: Charlotte Munch Bengtsen | With: Wang Zhenxi

- AWARDS:**
- Camerimage**
2024 Nominee Golden Frog
Feature Documentary Films Competition
 - Chicago International Film Festival**
2024 Winner Gold Hugo - Best Documentary
 - Denver International Film Festival**
2024 Winner Documentary Award - Best Documentary Feature
 - Zurich Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Golden Eye Award
Best International Documentary Film
 - El Gouna Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Golden Star - Feature Documentary Competition
 - Venice Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Venice Horizons Award - Best Film
2024 Winner Authors under 40 Award - Best Director
2024 Winner Netpac Award
 - Camden International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Harrell Award - Best Documentary Feature
2024 Winner Harrell Award - Special Mention
 - New Hampshire Film Festival**
2024 Winner Grand Jury Award - Best Documentary
 - Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Best Documentary - Best Documentary Feature



NELICIA LOW

PIERCE

Nelicia Low is known for Pierce (2024), Freeze (2016) and Conception (2013).



LOELOE HENDRA

TALE OF THE LAND

Loeloe Hendra Komara is known for Onomastika (2014), Nail House (2022) and Lost Wonders (2016).



TRUONG MINH QUY

VIET AND NAM

Minh Quy Truong was born in 1990 in Buon Ma Thuot, Vietnam. He is a director and editor, known for Viet and Nam (2024), The Tree House (2019) and The Men Who Wait (2021).



BOR OCAMPO

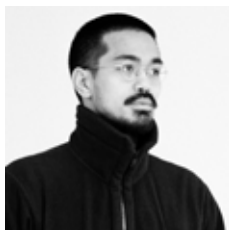
MONEYSLAPPER

Bor Ocampo is a filmmaker renowned for uncovering compelling stories from everyday life. His work began with Mabuhay Ang Pilipinas (Long Live Philippines), and his acclaimed short film "Digpa' Ning Altì" ("The Prologue to Our Dog-Eat-Dog") led to his debut feature, "Dayang Asu" ("Dognation"). This film won Best Cinematography and Best Director at the 2015 CinemaOne Originals Film Festival, earned accolades from the Young Critics Circle, and received multiple nominations at the 39th Gawad Urian.

In 2016, Ocampo's "EJK" (Extrajudicial Killings) won Best Short Film at the 42nd Metro Manila Film Festival. His latest film "MONEYSLAPPER" took him almost 7 years to finish.


DƯƠNG DIỆU LINH DON'T CRY BUTTERFLY

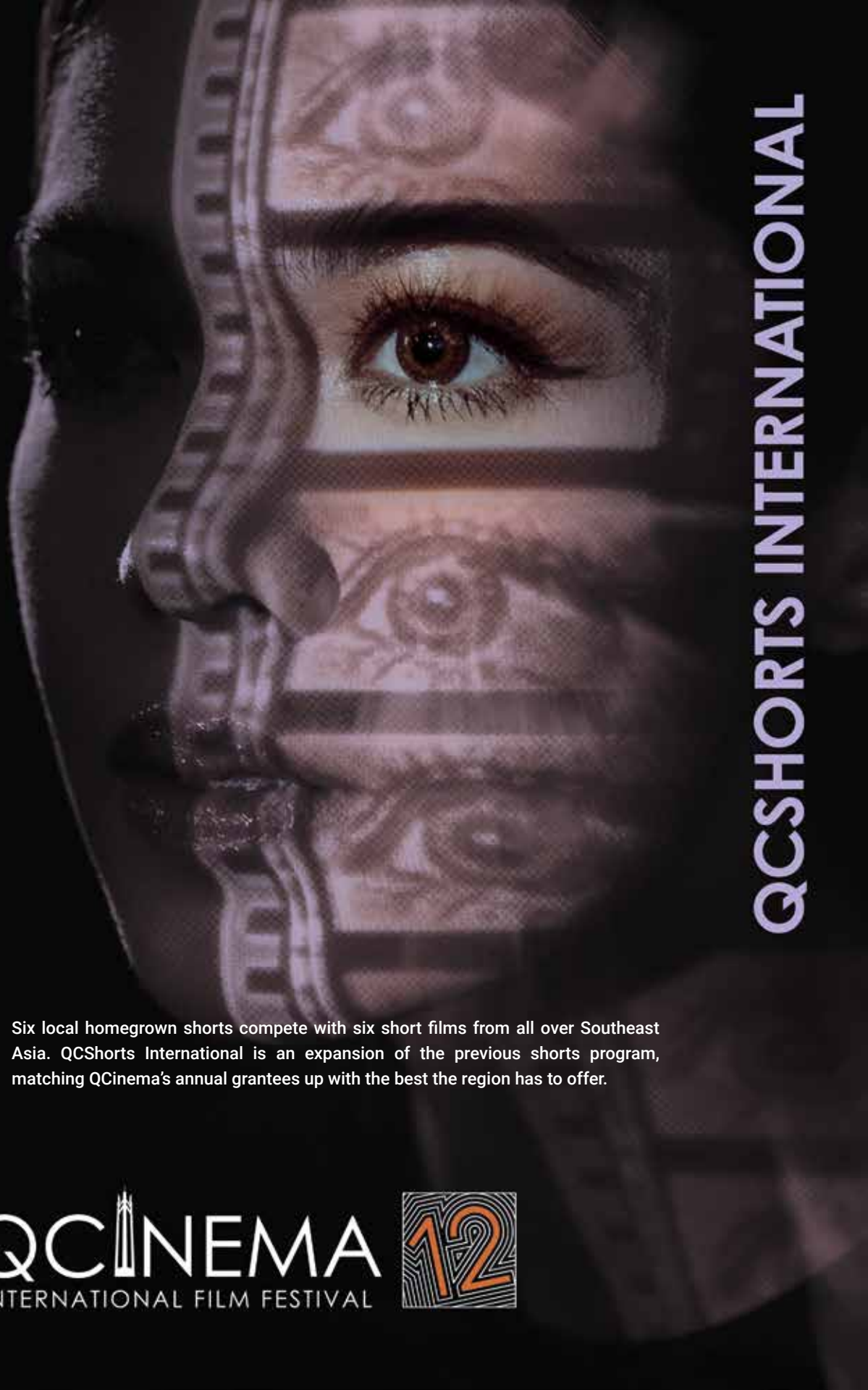
DƯƠNG DIỆU LINH is a Vietnamese filmmaker who takes special interest in the unconventional depiction of sad, angsty and naggy middle-aged women. Her series of shorts, which seamlessly blend hyper-realistic, slice-of-life subject matters with magical realism elements deeply rooted in Southeast Asian mythology and superstitions, have been competing and winning awards at prestigious film festivals around the world. Linh previously attended Berlinale Talents in 2020, Asian Film Academy in 2016, Locarno Summer Academy and Bucheon Fantastic Film School in 2015. Her debut feature, Don't Cry, Butterfly, participated in Full Circle Lab, Less Is More, Locarno Open Doors Hub, Attagirl, and most recently Hong Kong-Asia Financing Forum (HAF) where it won both the Udine Focus Asia and Wouter Barendrecht Award. The film is also supported by the Singapore Film Commission, Purin Pictures and Visions Sud Est.


NEO SORA HAPPYEND

Neo Sora was born in 1991 in New York City, New York, USA. Neo is a director and cinematographer, known for Happyend (2024), Sugar Glass Bottle (2022) and The Chicken (2020).


ELIZABETH LO MISTRESS DISPELLER

Elizabeth Lo is a film director whose work has been showcased internationally, including at Sundance, IDFA, Tribeca, AFI Fest, Museum of Modern Art, True/False, New York Times Op-Docs, Field of Vision, and PBS' POV. She's been featured in Filmmaker Magazine's "25 New Faces of Independent Film," DOC NYC's "40 Under 40" List, and Cannes Lions' "New Directors Showcase." I am a recipient of the Locarno, NYFF, Yaddo, and MacDowell artist fellowships. Her debut feature documentary, "Stray," won Best International Feature at Hot Docs and received nominations from the Independent Spirit Awards, Critics Choice Documentary Awards, and Cinema Eye Honors after premiering at Tribeca in 2020. A New York Times "Critic's Pick," STRAY was released theatrically by Magnolia Pictures and is now streaming on Hulu. Her short films - including "Hotel 22," "Bisonhead," and "Mother's Day" - have been acquired by colleges and libraries worldwide. She was born and raised in Hong Kong and hold a BFA from NYU Tisch and an MFA from Stanford University. She lives between China and the US. Her second feature documentary, Untitled Mistress Dispeller Project, is co-financed by Anonymous Content and Impact Partners, and supported by the Concordia Studio Fellowship.



Six local homegrown shorts compete with six short films from all over Southeast Asia. QCShorts International is an expansion of the previous shorts program, matching QCinema's annual grantees up with the best the region has to offer.



REFRAIN

Joseph Dominic Cruz

Part of Shorts Program A. Lisa Valenzuela, a single-minded pianist in her 30s, struggles with a debt dating twenty years back from the time when she was still young and learning how to play. Isolated and emotionally muted, Lisa lives her waking life searching for the answers to her dilemma one step at a time.

Kasama sa Shorts Program A. *Si Lisa Valenzuela, isang pianist sa kanyang 30s, ay nahihirapan sa utang na galing pa sa dalawampung taong nakalipas, nung bata pa siya at natututo pa lang tumugtog. Nag-iisa at matimpi, ang naging buhay ni Lisa ay puro paghahanap ng mga kasagutan sa kanyang problem.*

Philippines | 2024 | 19 mins | Drama, coming-of-age | Filipino, English

Prod: Maiqui Tolentino | Dir/Scr: Joseph Dominic Cruz | DOP: Ardan Arcega | Ed: Tara Illenberger | With: April Hernandez, Amber Jeshley Gomez, Ma. Christina Simon, Alfredo Montano

ALAGA

Nicole Rosacay

Part of Shorts Program A. Gloria, a middle-aged seamstress, and her son Bayani live in the House, a structure in constant decay. As Bayani's birthday approaches, mother, son, and the House are forced to confront their innermost desires.

Kasama sa Shorts Program A. *Nakatira sina Gloria, isang tumatandang sastre, at ang kanyang anak na si Bayani, sa Bahay, isang lugar na tuloy-tuloy nang nabubulok. Sa paglapit ng kaarawan ni Bayani, ang nanay, anak, at ang Bahay at sapilitang haharapin ang kanilang mga paghahanap.*

Philippines | 2024 | 20 mins | Drama | Filipino

Prod: Cynthia Saluba | Dir/Scr: Nicole Rosacay | DOP: Martika Ramirez Escobar | Ed: Drix Reyes | With: Jansen Magpusao, Madeleine Nicolas



SUPERMASSIVE HEAVENLY BODY

Sam Villa-Real

Part of Shorts Program A. Some time in 2010s, 10-year-old Mimibet has a problem: there is a black hole in the middle of her torso. Due to this, she has been avoiding class picture day for the past three years, but this year, her mother won't allow it. And so, she begins a workout regimen to try and deal with the hole inside her.

Kasama sa Shorts Program A. Sa mga 2010s, ang namomoblema ang 10-year-old na si Mimibet: may black hole sa gitna ng kanyang katawan. Dahil dito, tatlong taong na siyang hindi pumupunta sa class picture day. Pero sa taong ito, pinipilit siya ng nanay niya na pumunta. Nag-simula siya sa isang workout regimen para magawan ng paraan ang butas sa loob niya.

Philippines | 2024 | 19 mins | Coming-of-age, Magic Realism | Filipino, English
 Prod: Kesh Rubina, Kim Timan | Dir/Scr/Ed: Sam Villa-Real | DOP: Timothy Axibal | With: Shekinah Gellegani, Yeshua Gellegani, Meryll Soriano, Jasmine Curtis-Smith



KINAKAUSAP NI CELSO ANG DIYOS

Gilb Baldoza

Part of Shorts Program A. Celso, a factory worker, accidentally injures his hand on the job and receives compensation under his insurance. However, when he returns to work and gets hurt again, his employers become suspicious. As he faces pressure to secure his job, Celso uncovers a shocking clause in his insurance: a substantial payout to his family in case of his death.

Kasama sa Shorts Program A. Si Celso, isang trabahador sa pabrika, ay aksidenteng nasugatan ang kanyang kamay sa trabaho at nakatanggap ng kabayaran sa ilalim ng kanyang insurance. Nang bumalik siya sa trabaho at muling nasaktan, naghihinala ang kanyang mga amo. Natuklasan ni Celso ang isang nakakagulat na sugnay sa kanyang seguro: isang malaking pagbabayad sa kanyang pamilya kung sakaling siya ay mamatay.

Philippines | 2024 | 20 mins | Drama, Absurdist | Filipino
 Prod: Stelle Laguda | Dir/Scr: Gilb Baldoza | DOP: Choice Elise Israel | Ed: Vanette Mendoza | With: Bullet Dumas, Hazel Orencio, Joshua Cabiladas, Luis Mateo Abo-abo



WATER SPORTS

Whammy Alcazaren

Part of Shorts Program A. The Teacher believes that children are our future. He says to teach them well and let them lead the way. Show them all the beauty they possess inside. Jelson and Ipe, students deep in love, undergo trials of the mind and body as they prepare themselves to survive a world devastated by climate change. Though life may be harsh and unforgiving, They believe what their teacher says in that a strong heart and mind can triumph with an iron will. But Jelson and Ipe soon learn that maybe the best way to survive the end of the world is to simply just live, laugh, and love.

Kasama sa Shorts Program A. *Nag-iibigan ang mga studyante na si Jelson at Ipe. Dumadaan sila sa pagsubok para mahanda ang kanilang sarili na makaligtas sa mundong may climate change. Kahit na mahirap ang buhay, naniniwala sila sa guro nilang nagsabi na ang malakas na puso at isipan ay kayang magtagumpay. Pero matututo sina Jelson at Ipe na ang pinakamabuting paraan ng pagliligtas sa katapusan ng mundo ay mabuhay, tumawa, at umibig.*

Philippines, South Korea, Bangladesh | 2024 | 19 mins | Post-apocalyptic romcom | Filipino, Hiligaynon
 Prod: Alemberg Ang, Mara Ravelo Bernaldo | Dir/Scr: Whammy Alcazaren | DOP: Berhil Cruz | Ed: Carlo Francisco Manatad | With: Elijah Canlas, John Renz Javier, Bon Andrew Lentejas, and Ricky Davao



RAMPAGE! (CO ANG PARADA)

Kukay Bautista Zinampan

Part of Shorts Program A. On the first of May, three queer friends band together to plan a heist. Their sister was murdered, and subsequently taxidermied to look like a saint. The body is paraded around in a procession held by the authorities. The three go up against a surveillance state to retrieve the dignity of their fallen sister.

Kasama sa Shorts Program A. *Sa kaunahan ng Mayo, nagsama ang tatlong queer na magkakaibigan para magplano ng heist. Pinatay ang kanilang kapatid, at ginawang santo-santo. Ang kanyang bangkay ay pinaparada sa prosesyon na hawak ng mga awtoridad. Hinahamon ng tatlong ang isang surveillance state para maibalik ang dignidad ng kanila pumanaw na kapatid.*

Philippines | 2024 | 20 mins | Heist, Action, Drama | Filipino
 Prod: JT Trinidad, Kim Vivar | Dir/Scr: Kukay Bautista Zinampan | DOP: Rocky Morilla | Ed: Hans Rivera, Mikael Joaquin | With: Serena Magiliw, Jzar Tabilin, Vitex Paguirigan, Esteban Mara, Carly Avila



PEACELAND

Ekin Kee Charles

Part of Shorts Program B. Rena, Mina and Joni, fashionable besties in their 60s, hitchhike on an illegal truck to make a long journey from their distant village to town. They are going to purchase monthly household goods and to convince Rena's daughter to come home.

Kasama sa Shorts Program B. *Sina Rena, Mina at Joni ay mga fashionistang magkakaibigan sa kanilang sixties. Nag-hitchhike sila sa isang ilegal na truck para maglakbay mula sa kanilang barrio ang bayan. Mamimili sila ng mga kailangan sa bahay, at nais nilang makumbinsi ang anak ni Rena na bumalik na.*

Malaysia | 2024 | 12 mins | Comedy, Drama | Kadazan-Dusun, Malay
 Prod: Amanda Nell Eu | Dir/Scr: Ekin Kee Charles | DOP: Vanessa Edna Epin | Ed: Carlo Francisco Manatad | With: Elnie Kuminding @ Imin, Rainah Masadi, Rosnah @ Retty Kuminding



ARE WE STILL FRIENDS?

Al Ridwan

Part of Shorts Program B. Three boys are asked to call one of their long lost friends. Aan recalls the memory with his friend, Wildan, who stayed over at his house to work on a school project. Zaka recounts the conflict that made him lose contact with his friend, Muchib, and tries to make peace with it. Alwi tries to not talk about sad things, but comes to terms with them when Ryan tells a story about his friend who passed away.

Kasama sa Shorts Program B. *Tumawag ang tatlong binata sa isang matagal nang nawawalang kaibigan. Naaalala ni Aan, kasama ng kaibigan niyang si Wildan, na dating nakitulog sa bahay para sa isang school project. Kwinento ni Zaka ang away na nagpalayo sa kanyang kaibigan na Muchib, at sinusubukan makipagsundo sa kanyang looban. Ayaw ni Alwi mag-usap tungkol sa malungkot na bagay, pero magkakaayusan dito nang magkwento si Ryan tungkol sa kaibigang pumanaw.*

Indonesia | 2024 | 16 mins | Documentary | English, Indonesian
 Prod: Mozad Irvany | Dir/Scr: Al Ridwan | DOP: Abdi Khaeran Arrafi | Ed: Rangga Aqeelanayya | With: Abdi Khaeran Arrafi, Abimanyu Zakaria, Al Ridwan, Aisyah Aurelia, Wildan Fitrah, Muchib Science, Ryan Toha



IN THE NAME OF LOVE I WILL PUNISH YOU

Exsell Rabbani

Part of Shorts Program B. A mother sacrifices her savings to send her son into the military, but her world shatters when he transforms into Sailor Moon. Desperate for a solution, she turns to a shaman for help, but the shaman tells her that this is a difficult task and requires even more sacrifice.

Kasama sa Shorts Program B. *Sinakripisyo ng nanay ang lahat ng kanyang ipon para maipadala ang kanyang anak sa military, pero gumuho ang kanyang mundo nang maging Sailor Moon ang kanyang anak. Humingi siya ng tulong sa isang shaman, pero payo ng shaman na ito ay mahirap na gawain, and nangangailang ng lubos pang sakripisyo.*

Indonesia | 2024 | 15 mins | Fantasy, Comedy | Indonesian

Prod: Agnes Hernadi, Kevin Rahardjo | Dir/Scr/DOP: Exsell Rabbani | With: Amanda Gundowijoyo, Pernado Manula, Ari Sumitro, Juna Syahid, Albryanah Yusuf



SAIGON KISS

Hồng Anh Nguyễn

Part of Shorts Program B. Mờ roams through the rush hour traffic to avoid an unwanted phone call. When she meets Vicky by the side of the street with her broken motorbike, a visceral chance encounter unfolds between the two young queer women on the loud streets of Saigon.

Kasama sa Shorts Program B. *Umiikot si Mo sa rush hour traffic para maiwasan ang isang phone call. Nang makilala niya si Vicky sa bangketa na may sirang motorbike, may lumabas na pagkakataon sa pagitan ng dalawang queer na babae sa maingay na mga lansangan ng Saigon.*

Vietnam, Australia, Germany | 2024 | 22 mins | Drama, Queer Romance | Vietnamese

Prod: Andrew Undi Lee, Nguyen Thi Xuan Trang | Dir/Scr: Hồng Anh Nguyễn | DOP: Cong Minh Trang | Ed: Ngyuen Le Hoang Phuc | With: Nguyen Vu Truc Nhu, Thuong Le, Ni Le, Nguyen Duc Anh Tam



WASHHH

Mickey Lai

Part of Shorts Program B. Late at night in a Malaysian camp, a group of female trainees on duty are urgently summoned. One trainee, allegedly possessed by a ghost, accuses them of breaking the rules by leaving “dirty things” in the toilet. The instructor sternly orders them to clean it up by midnight. These girls, from different faiths, are placed in the same living space, and the boundaries of mutual respect start to blur, with their strained harmony on the verge of collapse. They are pressured to undertake a gruesome midnight cleanup.

Kasama sa Shorts Program B. *Malalim na gabi sa isang Malaysian camp. Biglang tinawag ang isang grupo ng mga babaeng trainee na naka-duty. Ang isa sa kanila, na binabantaang sinapian, ay nagbibintang sa kanila ukol sa mga naiwang marurumi bahay sa toilet. Inutusang silang nilisin ito bago mag hatinggabi. Ang mga babaeng ito, na may iba't-ibang paniniwala, ay nilagay sa parehong mga silid, at ang hangganan ng kanilang pagrerespeto sa isa't-isa ay lumalabo, pati na rin ang kanilang pagkakasundo, habang ginagawa nila ang kanila kakila-kilabot na gawain.*

Malaysia, Ireland | 2024 | 23 mins | Drama | Malay

Prod: Shu Jia Lim | Dir/Scr: Mickey Lai | DOP: Kah Giap Lee | Ed: Kai Yun Wong | With: Li Xuan Siow, Esha Anum, Kaana Selvam, Farah Ahmad

HERE WE ARE

Chanasorn Chaikitiporn

Part of Shorts Program B. A housekeeper receives a film made by her daughter. Combining found footage of Thailand during the Cold War with present-day images of Bangkok, the film reminds her of anecdotes she heard from the woman she works for and it triggers a re-telling of her own story of coming to the capital.

Kasama sa Shorts Program B. *Nakatanggap ng film ang isang kasambahay galing sa kanyang anak. Pinagsama-sama ang found footage ng Thailand mula sa Cold War, at bagong mga imahe ng Bangkok, ang pelikula na nagpapaalala sa kanya ng mga kwentong narinig niya mula sa kanyang amo, at nag-trigger din ng pagkwento na sarili niyang salaysay tungkol sa kanyang pagdating sa capital.*

Thailand | 2023 | 19 mins | Documentary | Thai

Prod/Dir/Scr/Ed: Chanasorn Chaikitiporn | DOP: Panisa Khueanphet | With: Jarunun Phantachat, Suchanya Kaewsinual



JOSEPH DOMINIC CRUZ REFRAIN

Joseph Dominic Cruz is a writer and director based out of Las Piñas City, Philippines. His short documentary Hope Spots was selected as a finalist for the 30th CCP Gawad Alternatibo, and the 2019 Sinag Maynila Film Festival. In addition, his short film In Search Of was a finalist for the 33rd CCP Gawad Alternatibo under the experimental category, while his other short In Passing was a part of the curated section of the 34th CCP Gawad Alternatibo under the animation category. Joseph has also worked on creating Run Deliks' music videos, Crawlspace and Get Along.



NICOLE ROSACAY ALAGA

Nicole Rosacay is a sound designer based in Quezon City. She has worked on films such as GG (2024), Firefly (2023), The Gospel of the Beast (2023), and A Catholic Schoolgirl (2023). She is especially passionate about the roles music and sound design play in cinema and is fascinated by movies that heavily feature character studies—the more emotionally grotesque, the better.



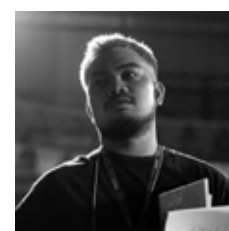
SAM VILLA-REAL SUPERMASSIVE HEAVENLY BODY

A video editor by trade but a storyteller by passion, Sam Villa-Real works on projects in both local and international spaces. Her most recent short Hm Hm Mhm with Kim Timan won the Special Jury Prize at the 2023 Cinemalaya Film Festival. Their short film Noontime Drama is a 2021 Gawad Urian Best Short Film nominee that has also gained recognition in film festivals outside the archipelago. Her 'weirdo na may puso' way of storytelling draws inspiration from visual art that transcends the boundaries of the medium while finding comfort in her favorite films as a shelter from everyday storms.



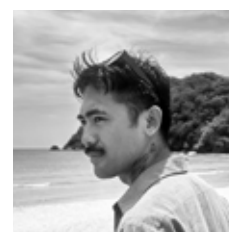
WHAMMY ALCAZAREN WATER SPORTS

Whammy Alcazaren is a multi-awarded porn director and production designer. He is a graduate of the University of the Philippines Film Institute, a participant of the 2013 13 Little Pictures Film Lab in Singapore, the 2016 Festival Belluard Bollwek Watch and Talk Residency in Switzerland, and Berlinale Talents 2024. His first short film, BOLD EAGLE, won Best International Short at the Fantasia Film Festival 2023 and screened in the 61st New York Film Festival and the 40th Edition of the Sundance Film Festival. He is currently developing his fourth feature film – Noodles, Our Love was Instant and Forever. He likes cats.



GILB BALDOZA KINAKAUSAP NI CELSO ANG DIYOS

Gilb Baldoza is a Filipino queer filmmaker whose last short film, Girly is in Control of His Life, screened in over 20 film festivals, winning Best Film in Shanghai Queer Film Festival and Best Screenplay in Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival in 2019. Gilb makes social realist short films and animations in his storytelling of queer films. Now, he works as a Director and Cinematographer under Swimming Pictures for films, tv commercials and music videos while developing his first feature film, Ms Gay and the Dying World.



KUKAY BAUTISTA ZINAMPAN RAMPAGE! (O ANG PARADA)

Kukay Bautista Zinampán is a queer writer, film and theater collaborator living in Rizal province. Much of their cadence in creating is derived from trans/queer histories, witchcraft and caring systems, anarcho queer projects of being and worldmaking, and playtimes with their friends. In 2020, they co-founded Pothos Collective, a group of young filmmakers who venture emancipative and novel approaches to filmmaking cultivated by the community's lived experiences and struggles.



EKIN KEE CHARLES PEACE LAND

Ekin Kee Charles is an Indigenous filmmaker from Sabah, Malaysia. She is a descendant of the Kimaragang tribe, a sub-tribe from the Kadazandusun Dayak umbrella. Her short film Pace was the 2019 Grand Prize Winner of BMW Shorties Malaysia. Ekin is also the 2022 recipient of the Han Nefkens Foundation Visual Art Grant. Ekin grew up in a closed community that consisted of family members who migrated from the inland mountain area to Kota Marudu, Sabah. Her works are often set around the community and lifestyle of the people in her hometown, oftentimes including them as cast and crew in her projects. Ekin has shared her passion for film through workshops conducted for indigenous communities not only in Sabah, but also in other parts of Malaysia.



AL RIDWAN ARE WE STILL FRIENDS?

Al Ridwan is an Indonesian filmmaker. Born and raised in Makassar, he was introduced to films through pirated DVDs that were commonly sold at markets or shops. He is currently studying Film and Television at the Indonesian Institute of the Arts, focusing on film producing, scriptwriting, and music composing. During his study, he has produced two short films, The Boy Who Dreamed of Lightning and Kontapati. Are We Still Friends? was his directorial debut for a documentary.



EXSELL RABBANI IN THE NAME OF LOVE I WILL PUNISH YOU

Exsell Rabbani is an Indonesian writer and director. His distinctive style can be described as capturing the reality in Indonesia, seasoned with a touch of dry humor. His graduation short Luckiest Man On Earth premiered at Tampere Film Festival 2022. His recent short film In The Name of Love I Will Punish You premiered at Fantasia International Film Festival 2024.



HỒNG ANH NGUYỄN SAIGON KISS

Hồng Anh Nguyễn is a queer German-Vietnamese writer, director, and editor currently based in Frankfurt am Main and Ho Chi Minh City. Her short film Saigon Kiss premiered at the prestigious International Short Film Festival Clermont-Ferrand and went on to receive a Special Mention Award by the Queer Jury. Recently, Hồng Anh directed documentaries for EST Eastern Standard Times, highlighting the voices of modern Vietnamese women. Her work has been funded by British Council Vietnam, Goethe Institute and the Asia-Europe Foundation. She is a recipient of the STEP writers' stipend from Hessen Film & Media and a fellow of the Kyoto Filmmakers Lab 2022. She holds a BA (hons) in Theatre and Film from Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh.



MICKEY LAI WASHHH

Mickey Lai is a Master of Film and TV Production graduate from Met Film School, London, UK. Her works explore themes of multicultural values, death and self-identity. Her latest short film, WASHhh, won Best International Short Film at the 77th Locarno Film Festival. Her debut short, The Cloud Is Still There, was selected at Clermont-Ferrand and Busan International Film Festival, while her documentary short, A Worm, Whatever Will Be, Will Be, earned the Jury Award at SeaShorts Film Festival.



CHANASORN CHAIKITIPORN HERE WE ARE

Chanasorn Chaikitiporn is a filmmaker and moving image artist whose interest lies in exploration and interrogation of socio-political histories of Thailand. His works examine questions on culture, political thought, identity and personal historical memory through the lens of semi-coloniality. In combining fiction film and documentary film genre, he investigates on archival, found footages and declassified documents. Chanasorn is a member of ELSE, a moving image screening series based in Bangkok, Thailand.



CU LI NEVER CRIES

Phạm Ngọc Lân

Cu Li Không Bao Giờ Khóc

Mrs. Nguyễn (Minh Châu) inherits a pygmy slow loris from her estranged German husband. This leads her to reflect on the past, and the failure of her marriage. She projects these anxieties on her niece Vân (Hà Phương), who is preparing for her own wedding following an unplanned pregnancy. Past and present intersect in the mind of Mrs. Nguyễn, echoes of her nation's history indistinguishable from the complicated now.

Namana ni Mrs. Nguyễn (Minh Châu) ang isang pygmy slow loris mula sa kanyang nawalay na asawang German. Napamuni-muni siya tungkol sa nakaraan, at ang pagkabigo niya sa pag-ibig. Dala niya ang mga pagkabalisa na ito sa kanyang pamangkin na si Vân (Hà Phương), na naghahanda na ring magpakasal dahil sa hindi inaasahang pagbubuntis. Naghahalo ang nakaraan at ang kasalukuyan sa isip ni Mrs. Nguyễn, at umaalingawngaw ang kasaysayan sa kanyang hinaharap.

Vietnam, France, Norway, Philippines, Singapore | 2024 | 93 mins | Drama, Romance, Comedy | Vietnamese
 Prod: Nghiêm Quỳnh Trang, Trần Thị Bích Ngọc, Su Ching Teh, Weijie Lai, Claire Lajoumard, Bradley Liew, Bianca Balbuena, Verona Meier | Dir: Phạm Ngọc Lân | Scr: Phạm Ngọc Lân, Nghiêm Quỳnh Trang | DOP: Vũ Hoàng Triều, Nguyễn Vinh Phúc, Nguyễn Phan Linh Đan | Ed: Julie Béziau | With: Minh-Châu, Ha-Phuong, Ngô Xuân An, Hoàng-Hà, Cao Sang, Tâm Anh

AWARDS:

- Berlin International Film Festival**
2024 Winner GWFF Best First Feature Award
- Las Palmas Film Festival**
2024 Winner Best Performance Award - Best Performance Award
2024 Winner Best Performance Award - Best Performance Award
- Jeonju International Film Festival**
2024 Winner Best Picture - International Competition
- Festival du nouveau cinéma**
2024 Winner FIPRESCI Award

New Horizons is a section for feature film directing debuts and second features, offering up a space for filmmakers that made a splash with their first couple of films by offering new visions of what cinema can be.



SANTOSH

Sandhya Suri

Through an unusual government scheme, Santosh (Shahana Goswami) inherits her recently deceased husband's role as a police constable in Northern India. The title is meant to be ceremonial, but when the rape and murder of a girl goes uninvestigated, Santosh is pulled into the case. With the help of the charismatic Inspector Sharma (Sunita Rajwar), Officer Santosh must challenge the norms of rural India in order to find justice.

Dahil sa kakaibang government scheme, minana ni Santosh (Shahana Goswami) ang posisyon na police constable sa Northern India mula sa kanyang pumanaw na asawa. Hindi dapat seryoso ang titulo, pero nang nagkaroon ng rape at murder na hindi pinansin ng mga pulis, napilitan si Santosh na kunin ang kaso. Kasama ang tulong ni Inspector Sharma (Sunita Rajwar), haharapin ni Officer Santosh ang mga nakasanayan sa rural India para makamit ang katarungan.

France, Germany, UK | 2024 | 128 mins | Thriller, Drama | Hindi

Prod: Balthazar De Ganay, Mike Goodridge, James Bowsher, Alan McAlex | Dir/Scr: Sandhya Suri | DOP: Lennert Hillege | Ed: Maxime Pozzi-Garcia | With: Shahana Goswami, Sunita Rajwar, Naval Shukla, Sanjay Bishnoi, Arbaaz Khan, Shashi Beniwal

AWARDS: **Cannes Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Un Certain Regard Award

Jerusalem Film Festival
2024 Winner Award for International Cinema - Best International Debut

London Film Festival
2024 Nominee Sutherland Award - First Feature Competition



TOXIC

Saulė Bliuvaitė

Akiplėša

Abandoned by her mother, 13-year-old Marija (Vesta Matulytė) moves to a dying industrial town to live with her grandmother. She has trouble finding her footing in her new surroundings, but eventually forms a bond with Kristina (Ieva Rupeikaitė), an aspiring model. In an effort to get closer to Kristina, Marija applies to the modeling school that Kristina attends, and quickly gets swept up in the school's cruel and predatory practices.

Pagkatapos iwanan ng kanyang ina, ang 13-year-old na si Marija (Vesta Matulytė) ay napunta sa isang industrial town para makitira sa kanyang lola. Nahirapan siya sa bagong lugar, pero malalapit din siya kay Kristina (Ieva Rupeikaitė), isang naghahangad na model. Sumali din si Marija sa modeling school kung saan pumapasok si Kristina, at mabilis na nadala sa mga malupit at mandaragit na gawain ng skwelahan.

Lithuania | 2024 | 99 mins | Horror, Drama | Lithuanian

Prod: Giedrė Burokaitė | Dir/Scr: Saulė Bliuvaitė | DOP: Vytautas Katkus | Ed: Ignė Narbutaitė | With: Vesta Matulytė, Ieva Rupeikaitė, Eglė Gabrėnaitė, Giedrius Savickas, Vilma Raubaitė, Jekaterina Makarova

AWARDS: **International Cinematographers' Film Festival Manaki Brothers**
2024 Winner European Lo-cap Film Competition Award

Locarno Film Festival
2024 Winner Golden Leopard - Best Film
2024 Winner First Feature Competition - Swatch First Feature Award
2024 Winner Junior Jury Award - Second Prize - International Competition
2024 Winner Ecumenical Prize

Festival du nouveau cinéma
2024 Winner Louve d'Or - Best Film

CinEast
2024 Winner Grand Prix - Best Feature Film
2024 Winner Critics' Prize - Competition Programme - Feature Film



THE MAJOR TONES

Ingrid Pokropek

Los tonos mayores

14-year-old Ana (Sofia Clausen) has a metal plate in her arm from an accident in childhood. Over winter holiday in Buenos Aires, she starts to feel mysterious pulses in her arm. A tumultuous night wandering the city leads her to discover that the pulses are actually Morse code. She becomes determined to decode the message, taking her on the path that leads away from her family and friends.

May metal plate si Ana (Sofia Clausen) sa kanyang braso dahil sa aksidente nung bata pa siya. Sa winter holiday sa Buenos Aires, nakaramdam siya ng kakaibang pulso sa kanyang braso. Sa isang magulong gabi na lumibot siya sa ciudad, nalaman niyang Morse code pala ang mga pulso. Determinadong siyang malaman ang mensahe, at nadala siya sa isang landas na palayo mula sa kanyang pamilya at mga kaibigan.

Argentina, Spain | 2023 | 101 mins | Drama, Fantasy | Spanish

Prod: Magdalena Schavelzon, Juan Segundo Álamos, Adán Aliaga, Iván Moscovich, Ingrid Pokropek, Pablo Piedras, Miguel Molina | Dir/Scr: Ingrid Pokropek | DOP: Ana Roy | Ed: Miguel de Zuviria | With: Sofía Clausen, Pablo Seijo, Lina Ziccarello, Mercedes Halfon, Santiago Ferreira, Walter Jakob

AWARDS: **Málaga Spanish Film Festival**
2024 Winner Silver Biznaga - Zonazine - Best Iberoamerican Film
2024 Winner Silver Biznaga - Zonazine - Best Actress

Seattle International Film Festival
2024 Winner Ibero-American Competition Special Jury Prize - Special Jury Mention

Jeonju International Film Festival
2024 Winner Grand Prize -International Competition



BLUE SUN PALACE

Constance Tsang

Winner of the French Touch Prize at Cannes Critic Week. Taiwanese Amy (Wu Ke-Xi) and Chinese mainlander Didi (Min Han Hsieh) are immigrants working in a massage parlor in New York's Chinatown. The two share a bond over loss and a common dream – to move away from their present circumstances and start a business of their own. Recalling Tsai Ming-liang's slow cinema, Blue Sun Palace is an unusual exploration of the American immigrant experience.

Nanalo ng French Touch Prize sa Cannes Critic Week. Ang Taiwanese na si Amy (Wu Ke-Xi) at ang Chinese mainlander na si Didi (Min Han Hsieh) at mga immigrant na nagtatrabaho sa massage parlor sa Chinatown ng New York. Magkalapit ang dalawa dahil sa kawalan, at sa parehong hangad - na lumayo mula sa kanila kinaroroonan, at magsimula ng sarili nilang negosyo. Malapit sa slow cinema ni Tsai Ming-liang, ang Blue Sun Palace ay kakaibang paglalugad sa karanasan ng mga American immigrant.

USA | 2024 | 117 mins | Drama | English

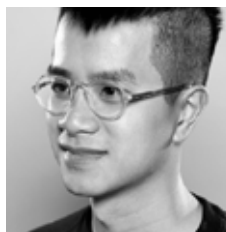
Prod: Tony Yang, Eli Raskin, Sally Sujin Oh | Dir/Scr: Constance Tsang | DOP: Norm Li | Ed: Caitlin Carr | With: Wu Ke-Xi, Lee Kang-sheng, Haipeng Xu, Min Han Hsieh, Lisha Zheng, Leo Chen

AWARDS: **Cannes Film Festival**
2024 Winner French Touch Prize of the Critics' Week Jury
2024 Nominee Critics' Week Grand Prize
2024 Nominee Golden Camera

Stockholm Film Festival
2024 Nominee Bronze Horse - Best Film

Valladolid International Film Festival
2024 Nominee Punto de Encuentro Award - Best Feature Film

New Horizons International Film Festival, Poland
2024 Nominee Grand Prix - International Competition


PHẠM NGỌC LÂN CU LI NEVER CRIES

Phạm Ngọc Lân was born and raised in Hanoi. He rarely left his city (both in reality and in his imagination) until college. Lân graduated with a degree in urban planning and self-taught filmmaking at 27. His short films included *The Story of Ones* (Visions du Réel 2012), *Another City* (Berlinale 66th); *Blessed Land* (Berlinale 69th) and *The Unseen River* (Locarno 74th, Sundance 2021). *Cu Li Never Cries* is his first feature-length film.

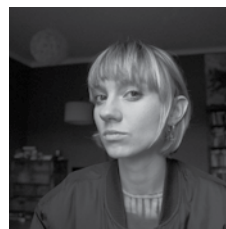

SANDHYA SURI SANTOSH

Sandhya Suri - Sandhya is a BAFTA-nominated British-Indian writer-director based in London. Her debut feature, *SANTOSH* premiered at Cannes in Un Certain Regard to critical acclaim in May this year. The film, which was selected for both the Sundance Screenwriters and Directors Labs, was financed by BBC Films, BFI and Arte.

Sandhya's first fiction short *THE FIELD*, won Best International Short Film at TIFF in 2018, and was BAFTA-nominated for Best Short Film in 2019. Her feature documentary *I FOR INDIA* premiered in the World Competition section of the Sundance Film Festival, screened at over 20 international festivals and garnered several awards before being released theatrically to critical acclaim in the UK and the US.

As her sophomore feature, Sandhya is currently developing an adaptation of a J.G. Ballard dystopian short story which she will also direct; BBC Films are financing. She is also developing a TV series with Balthazar de Ganay, one of the producers of *SANTOSH*.

Sandhya was named as a Screen International Star of Tomorrow 2023.


SAULĖ BLIUVAITĖ TOXIC

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


INGRID POKROPEK THE MAJOR TONES

Ingrid Pokropek (Buenos Aires, 1994) is a director, producer, writer, and teacher. She wrote and directed the short films *Electric Boy* (2021) and *Shendy Wu: A Diary* (2019), among others. She produced the films *Clementina* (2022, Agustín Mendilaharsu & Constanza Feldman), *La Edad Media* (2022, Luciana Acuña and Alejo Mogueillansky), and *Trenque Lauquen* (2022, Laura Citarella), the best film of 2023 according to Cahiers du Cinéma. *The Major Tones* (2022) is her first feature film.


CONSTANCE TSANG BLUE SUN PALACE

Constance Tsang is known for *Blue Sun Palace* (2024).

BABY

Marcelo Caetano

Teenager Wellington (João Pedro Mariano) is released from juvenile detention after a two-year stint, only to learn that his parents have abandoned him. He meets 42-year-old Ronaldo (Ricardo Teodoro) outside a porn theater, and begins a multifaceted relationship with him – Ronaldo becomes a lover, a father figure, and Wellington’s handler as he enters the world of sex work.

Ang teenager na si Wellington (João Pedro Mariano) ay kakalabas lang sa juvenile detention pagkatapos ng dalawang taong pagkulong. Nalaman niya na iniwan na siya ng kanyang mga magulang. Nakilala niya ang 42-year-old na si Ronaldo (Richardo Teodoro) sa isang porn theater, at nagsimula silang magkaroon ng komplikadong relasyon – si Ronaldo ay naging mangingibig, parang ama, at ang handler ni Wellington habang siya ay pumapasok sa mundo ng sex work.

Brazil, France, Netherlands | 2024 | 107 mins | Drama, Romance | Portuguese

Prod: Ivan Melo, Marcelo Caetano, Pierre Menahem, Maarten Swart, Stienette Bosklopper, Juliette Lepoutre, Beto Tibiriçá | Dir: Marcelo Caetano | Scr: Marcelo Caetano, Gabriel Domingues | DOP: Joana Luz, Pedro Sotero | Ed: Fabian Remy | With: João Pedro Mariano, Ricardo Teodoro, Ana Flavia Cavalcanti, Bruna Linzmeyer, Luiz Bertazzo, Marcelo Várzea

AWARDS: **Biarritz International Festival of Latin American Cinema**
2024 Winner Abrazo - Best Film

Cannes Film Festival
2024 Winner Louis Roederer Foundation Rising Star Award

NewFest: New York's LGBT Film Festival
2024 Winner Best International Narrative Feature -Grand Jury Award

San Sebastián International Film Festival
2024 Winner Sebastiane Award - Best Latin American Film

Festival de Cine de Lima PUCP
2024 Winner Premio Gio - Mejor Pelicula
2024 Winner Premio Gio - Mejor Actuación

Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival
2024 Winner Felix Award: Prêmio Félix - Special Jury Prize
2024 Winner Première Brazil - Best Actor
2024 Winner Première Brazil - Best Art Direction
2024 Winner Première Brazil - Best Film

RainbowQC is QCinema’s LGBTQIA+ section, offering stories with queer characters and perspectives that highlight the diversity of experiences in an increasingly complex world.



SEBASTIAN

Mikko Mäkelä

Eager to make a splash with his debut novel, 25-year-old writer Max (Ruaridh Mollica) adopts a new identity. As Sebastian, he becomes a sex worker, hoping to find inspiration in the modern world of sex-for-sale. He takes on a variety of clients, none of them remotely aware of his true intentions, all the while dealing with the pressures of being a writer in the current publishing scene.

Sa kanyang pagnanais na mapasabog ang kanyang debut novel, ang 25-year-old na manunulat na si Max (Ruaridh Mollica) ay kumuha ng bagong identity. Bilang si Sebastian, siya ay naging sex worker. Hangad niyang makahanap ng inspirasyon sa modernong mundo ng sex kapalit ng kabayaran. Kumuha siya ng ilang kliyente, ni isa sa kanila may alam sa kanyang tunay na hangad. Kasabay nito, hinaharap ni Max ang mga panggigipit na kasama ng pagiging manunulat sa kasalukuyang publishing scene.

Belgium, Finland, France, UK | 2024 | 110 mins | Drama | English, French

Prod: James Watson, Aleksy Bardy, Severi Koivusalo, Ciara Barry, David Claikens, Rosie Crerar, Erik Glijnis, Leontine Petit, Dries Phlypo, Alex Verbaere | Dir/Scr: Mikko Mäkelä | DOP: Iikka Salminen | Ed: Arttu Salmi | With: Ruaridh Mollica, Hiftu Quasem, Jonathan Hyde, Ingvar E. Sigurðsson, Dylan Brady, Pedro Minas

AWARDS: **Guadalajara International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee PREMIO MAGUEY - Best Feature Film

Sundance Film Festival
2024 Nominee Grand Jury Prize - World Cinema - Dramatic



MY SUNSHINE

Hiroshi Okuyama

ぼくのお日さま

Adolescent hockey player Takuya (Keitatsu Koshiyama) has grown to feel out of place playing the sport. His attention has turned to figure skater Sakura (Kiara Nakanishi), a rising star from Tokyo. Her coach, Arakawa (Sosuke Ikematsu), sees the potential in Takuya, and pushes him to join Sakura as a partner. The three form a strong bond, only to be challenged as societal pressures push on them. Gentle and humanist in a way that invites comparisons to Kore-eda, My Sunshine relies on sweetness to make bitter medicine go down.

Nawawala na sa lugar ang nagbibinatang hockey player na si Takuya (Keitatsu Koshiyama) sa kanyang laro. Nadala ang kanyang pansin sa figure skater na si Sakura (Kiara Nakanishi), isang umuusbong na star galing Tokyo. Nakikita ng coach niyang si Arakawa (Sosuke Ikematsu) ang potential ni Takuya, at ginawa siyang partner ni Sakura. Malakas ang buklod ng tatlo, pero hahamunin sila ng mga pressure ng lipunan. Malumanay at humanist sa paraan na nag-aanyaya ng paghahambing kay Kore-eda, ang My Sunshine ay gumagamit ng tamis para mabawasan ang pait ng gamot.

Japan, France | 2024 | 90 mins | Drama | Japanese

Prod: Toshikazu Nishigaya | Dir/Scr/Ed/DOP: Hiroshi Okuyama | With: Keitatsu Koshiyama, Kiara Nakanishi, Sosuke Ikematsu, Ryuya Wakaba, Yunho, Maho Yamada

AWARDS: **Taipei Film Festival**
2024 Winner International New Talent Competition - Special Jury Prize
2024 Winner International New Talent Competition - Audience Choice Award
2024 Winner International New Talent Competition - Taiwan Directors Guild Award



POOJA, SIR

Deepak Rauniyar

राजागंज

In the Nepalese border town of Rajagunj, Inspector Pooja (Asha Magrati) arrives from Kathmandu to investigate the abduction of two boys. Finding that the local Madhesi population is hesitant to cooperate with her, she enlists the help of Madhesi policewoman Mamata (Nikita Chandak). This crime thriller examines the current state of Nepal, dissecting ethnic tensions that have created a split population, and the misogyny and bigotry that pervades the landscape.

Sa Nepalese border town na Rajagunj, dumating si Inspector Pooja (Asha Magrati) galing sa Kathmandu upang imbestigahin ang pagkawala ng dalawang bata. Kumuha siya ng tulong mula kay Mamata (Nikita Chandak), isang babaeng pulis na Madhesi upang makausap ng mabuti ang mga tao ng lokalidad. Sinusuri ng crime thriller na ito ang kasalukuyang kalagayan ng Nepal, at binubuklad ang mga ethnic tension na rumesulta sa populasyon na hati, kasama na ang misogyny at bigotry na hindi maiwasan.

Nepal, Norway, USA | 2024 | 115 mins | Drama, Thriller | Nepali

Prod: Deepak Rauniyar, Asha Magrati, Ram Babu Gurung, Alan R. Milligan | Dir: Deepak Rauniyar | Scr: Deepak Rauniyar, David Barker, Asha Magrati | DOP: Sheldon Chau | Ed: J. Him Lee | With: Asha Magrati, Nikita Chandak, Dayahang Rai, Reecha Sharma, Bijay Baral, Gaumaya Gurung

AWARDS: Venice Film Festival
2024 Nominee Venice Horizons Award - Best Film
2024 Nominee Queer Lion Award



THE BALCONETTES

Noémie Merlant

Les femmes au balcon

Portrait of a Lady on Fire star Noémie Merlant plays struggling actress Elise, who, along with her two roommates Ruby and Nicole (Souhella Yacoub and Sanda Codreanu) get into a spot of trouble following a drunken night with a sexually aggressive neighbor. What follows is a chaotic farce that involves dismembered body parts, ghosts, and slapstick comedy. Merlant steps behind the camera and delivers a wild romp that defies conventional structure and insteads delivers outrageous surprise after outrageous surprise.

Si Noémie Merlant, ang star ng Portrait of a Lady on Fire, ay gumaganap bilang Elise, isang naghihirap na aktres. Nadala siya at ang kanyang dalawang roommate na si Ruby at Nicole (Souhella Yacoub and Sanda Codreanu) sa gulo pagkatapos ng gabing kinalasingan kasama ang isang sexually aggressive na kapitbahay. Ang sumunod at isang farce na may kasamang putol-putol na katawan, multo, at slapstick comedy. Dumako si Merlant sa likod ng camera para makagawa ng isang wild romp at hindi sumusunod sa conventional structure at punong-puno ng sorpresa.

France | 2024 | 105 mins | Comedy, Fantasy | French

Prod: Pierre Guyard | Dir: Noémie Merlant | Scr: Celine Sciamma, Noémie Merlant | DOP: Evgenia Alexandrova | Ed: Julien Lacheray | With: Souheila Yacoub, Sanda Codreanu, Noémie Merlant, Lucas Bravo, Nadège Beausson-Diagne, Christophe Montenez

AWARDS: Cannes Film Festival
2024 Nominee Queer Palm



MARCELO CAETANO BABY

Marcelo Caetano, born in the State of Minas Gerais but now based in São Paulo, directed the feature film BODY ELECTRIC which premiered in Rotterdam in 2017. He also directed the TV series HIT PARADE and Notícias Populares both broadcasted on Canal Brasil.

He has worked on various productions as an assistant director and casting producer, notably on TATUAGEM, BACURAU, AQUARIUS and NEON BULL. In 2009, Marcelo co-founded Desbun Filmes.



MIKKO MÄKELÄ SEBASTIAN

Mikko is a Finnish-British writer/director based in London, named in by IndieWire as one of 25 LGBTQ Filmmakers on the Rise in 2019. His feature directorial debut A Moment in the Reeds (2017) has screened at over 80 festivals worldwide, including BFI London Film Festival, Göteborg Film Festival, Seattle International Film Festival and Frameline. The film was nominated for The Discovery Award at the British Independent Film Awards as well as two Finnish Jussi awards (Best Actor & Best Supporting Actor).

Having moved from his native Finland to the UK for university, Mikko studied English and French literature at The University of Nottingham and University College London. Prior to his feature debut, he directed a number of music and fashion promos alongside working as a an editor in drama and commercials.



HIROSHI OKUYAMA MY SUNSHINE

Hiroshi Okuyama was born on February 27, 1996 in Tokyo, Japan. He is a director and writer, known for Jesus (2018), My Sunshine (2024) and The Makanai: Cooking for the Maiko House (2023).



DEEPAK RAUNIYAR POOJA, SIR

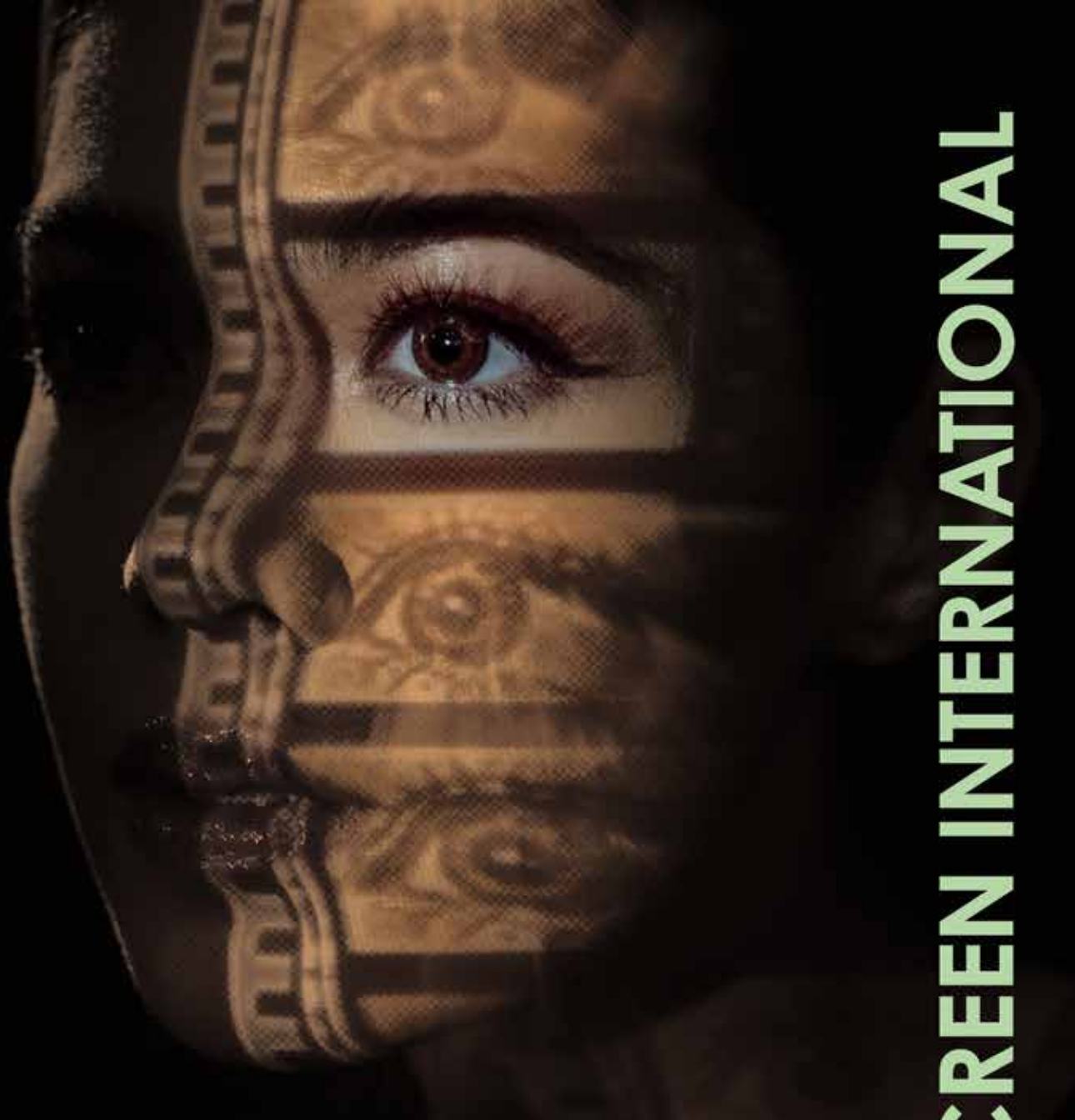
Deepak Rauniyar's first feature film, "Highway" (2012), was the first film from Nepal to screen at a major global film festival, premiering at Berlinale and later playing at Locarno. His second feature, "White Sun" (2016), debuted at the Venice Orizzonti competition and screened at over 100 film festivals, including Toronto, Locarno, Rotterdam, New Directors/New Films, Sydney, and Golden Horse. It won the Interfilm Award at Venice, Best Film at Singapore, and Palm Springs International Film Festivals. Nepal nominated "White Sun" for the Best Foreign Language Film at the 90th Academy Awards. White Sun received rave reviews, with the Hollywood Reporter calling it "impressively accomplished" and The New York Times, which included Rauniyar among the "9 New Directors to Watch" list, writing that "White Sun" "captures a place that isn't seen much in movies."



NOÉMIE MERLANT THE BALCONETTES

Noémie Merlant is a French actress and director. As an actress she has worked with many prestigious directors, such as Céline Sciamma (Portrait of a Lady on Fire, 2019), Jacques Audiard (Paris, 13th District, 2021), Todd Field (Tár, 2022) and, most recently, Audrey Diwan (Emmanuelle, 2024). In 2023, she won a César award for her performance in The Innocent by Louis Garrel.

After directing several shorts, Noémie Merlant wrote and directed her first feature Mi iubita mon amour, in 2020. Her second feature, The Balconettes (Les Femmes au Balcon), in which she co-stars with Souheila Yacoub and Sanda Codreanu, will premiere at the Cannes Festival 2024, in the Official Selection.



GRAND TOUR

Miguel Gomes

Winner of the best director prize at Cannes. 1917. Edward (Gonçalo Waddington) is a civil servant for the British Empire stationed in Burma. He receives a telegram from his fiancée Molly (Crista Alfiate), who he has not seen in years. She's set to visit Rangoon, and plans to marry him there. Rather than rejoice at the reunion, Edward goes into a panic, and jumps on a train. Thus begins a chase across Asia, crossing borders in the pursuit of love. Deliberately artificial, *Grand Tour* presents a skewed, Orientalist depiction of an Asia overrun by the West and its concerns.

Nanalo ng best director prize sa Cannes. 1917. Si Edward (Gonçalo Waddington) ay lingkod sibil ng British Empire sa Burma. Nakatanggap siya ng telegram mula sa fiancee niyang si Molly (Crista Alfiate), na matagal na niyang hindi nakita. Papunta si Molly ng Rangoon, at plano niyang magpakasal doon. Nataranta si Edward, at biglaang sumakay ng tren. Dito nagsisimula ang habulan sa buong Asya, tumatawid ng mga bansa para sa pag-ibig. Sadyang artipisyal, ang Grand Tour ay isang baluktot at Orientalist na depiction ng Asyang lunod sa Kanluran at ang kanyang mga problema.

Portugal, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan | 2024 | 126 mins | Adventure, Drama | Portuguese, French, Thai, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Chinese, Burmese Prod: Kei Chikaura, Filipa Reis, Tom Dercourt, Gregorio Paonessa, Michael Weber, Viola Fügen, Holger Stern, Thomas Ordonneau, Marta Donzelli, Xie Meng | Dir: Miguel Gomes | Scr: Mariana Ricardo, Maureen Fazendeiro, Telmo Churro, Miguel Gomes | DOP: Rui Poças, Sayombhu Mukdeeprom | Ed: Pedro Marques, Telmo Churro | With: Gonçalo Waddington, Crista Alfiate, Cláudio da Silva, Lang Khê Tran, Jorge Andrade, João Pedro Vaz

- AWARDS:**
- Cannes Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Palme d'Or
2024 Winner Best Director
 - Chicago International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Gold Hugo - Best Feature
2024 Winner Silver Hugo - Best Director
2024 Winner Silver Hugo - Best Editing
 - Ghent International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Grand Prix - Best Film
2024 Winner Georges Delerue Prize - Best Music
 - Sydney Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Sydney Film Prize - Best Film
 - Valladolid International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Golden Spike - Best Film
2024 Winner José Salcedo Award - Best Editing
 - Montclair Film Festival (MFF)**
2024 Nominee Fiction Feature Competition

Award winning, critically acclaimed films from all over the world. Screen International gives QCinema attendees a chance to catch the most talked about films of the year among cinephile circles.



ANORA

Sean Baker

Winner of the Palme d'Or. Brooklyn sex worker Anora (Mikey Madison) is paid \$15,000 by the son of a Russian billionaire Ivan (Mark Eydelshteyn) to spend an entire week with him, catering to his whims. They fly out to Las Vegas, and impulsively get married on a Ketamine-fueled bender. Word gets back to Russia, and Ivan's father dispatches some men to try and get the marriage annulled. But though the circumstances are not ideal, the New York-tough Anora is more than willing to fight for this marriage, which could grant her the resources to live the kind of life she really wants to lead. Baker yet again delves into the seedy world of sex work to study its hardened, thoroughly human denizens, and to tell a story of class struggle between worlds that are impossibly distant from each other.

Nanalo ng Palme d'Or. Ang sex worker na si Anora (Mikey Madison) ay binigyan ng \$15,000 ni Ivan (Mark Eydelshteyn), anak ng bilyonarang Russo para samahan siya ng isang buong linggo at gawin ang lahat ng kanyang gusto. Pumunta silang Las Vegas, at biglaang nagpakasal habang high sa Ketamine. Nagpadala ang tatay ni Ivan ng mga tao para ma-annul ang kasal. Pero kahit hindi niya ito panaginip, handa si Anora ipaglaban ang kasal, na pwedeng magbigay sa kanya ng kayamanan para mabuhay sa paraang gusto niya. Bumalik si Baker sa mudno ng sex work para aralin ang mga matapang at buong-taong nilalang naninirahan doon. Ito ay kwento ng class struggle sa gitna ng mga mundong sobrang layo sa isa't-isa.

USA | 2024 | 139 mins | Drama, Romance, Comedy | English, Russian

Prod: Samantha Quan Alex Coco Sean Baker | Dir/Scr/Ed: Sean Baker | DOP: Drew Daniels | With: Mikey Madison, Mark Eydelshteyn, Karren Karagulian, Yuriy Borisov, Vache Tovmasyan, Ivy Wolk

AWARDS: **Cannes Film Festival**
2024 Winner Palme d'Or

Toronto International Film Festival
2024 Nominee People's Choice Award - Best Film

Mill Valley Film Festival
2024 Winner Mill Valley Film Festival Award
Breakthrough Performance

CineFest - Miskolc International Film Festival
2024 Nominee Emeric Pressburger Prize
Best Feature Film



THE ROOM NEXT DOOR

Pedro Almodovar

Adapted from the novel *What are You Going Through* by Sigrid Nuñez. Ingrid and Martha (Julianne Moore and Tilda Swinton) used to be colleagues at a magazine. Their careers then went on to take very different trajectories: Ingrid became a successful autofiction novelist, while Martha became a war reporter. The two reconnect when Martha, who has contracted a terminal disease, asks Ingrid to be by her side as she commits medically-assisted suicide.

Hango sa nobelang What are You Going Through ni Sigrid Nuñez. Sina Ingrid at Martha (Julianne Moor at Tilda Swinton) ay dating magkatrabaho sa isang magasin. Nagkalayo ang landas ng isa't-isa. Si Ingrid ay naging manunulat ng autofiction, habang si Martha ay naging war reporter. Nagtagpo muli nang malaman na si Martha ay may nakamamatay na sakit, at nilapitan niya si Ingrid at tumabi sa kanya para tulungan siya sa kanyang medically-assisted suicide.

Spain | 2024 | 107 mins | Drama | Spanish, English

Prod/Dir/Scr: Pedro Almodovar | DOP: Eduard Grau | Ed: Teresa Font | With: Julianne Moore, Tilda Swinton, Alvis Rigo, Alessandro Nivola, John Turturro, Juan Diego Botto

AWARDS: **Venice Film Festival**
2024 Winner Golden Lion - Best Film
2024 Winner Brian Award



PHANTOSMIA

Lav Diaz

Ronnie Lazaro plays Hilarion Zabala, a retired soldier who suffers from phantasmia: a lingering, phantom smell, seemingly conjured up by his own mind, keeping him from living a normal life. As a treatment, his doctor recommends he re-enter the service, such that he will be better able to confront his past and deal with the psychological issues that bring about the malady. He is assigned to a remote island, where he is confronted with the violent reality of the present.

Ginaganap ni Ronnie Lazaro si Hilarion Zabala, isang retiradong sundalo na may phantasmia: isang phantom smell, na parang gawa-gawa lang ng kanyang isip, na nagiging hadlang sa kanyang buhay. Payo ng kanyang doktor na bumalik siya sa serbisyo, para maharap niya ang kanyang kasaysayan, at maayos ang kanyang mga psychological issues. Na-assign sa isang malayong isla, kung saan kailangan niya harapin ang marahas na katotohanan.

Philippines | 2024 | 250 mins | Drama | Tagalog

Prod: Bianca Trinidad | Dir/Scr/DOP/Ed: Lav Diaz | With: Ronnie Lazaro, Janine Gutierrez, Hazel Orencio, Arjhay Babon, Dong Abay, Allen Alzola



ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT

Payal Kapadia

ഞങ്ങൾ എല്ലാവരും

In the vibrant, chaotic city of Mumbai, Nurses Prabha, Anu and Parvaty (Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha and Chhaya Kadam) are dealing with issues that have to do with the men in their lives. Prabha tangles with the past when her estranged husband suddenly sends her a rice cooker from Germany. Anu is fretting over her relationship with her Muslim boyfriend, which is a source of gossip around the hospital. And the older, widowed Parvaty is on the verge of being evicted, her husband having not left her the right documentation to prove her right as a resident.

Sa buhay na buhay at magulng ciudad na Mumbai, ang mga Nurse na sina Prabha, Anu, at Parvaty (Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha and Chhaya Kadam) ay namomoblema tungkol sa mga lalaki sa kanilang buhay. Si Prabha ay binabalik sa kanyang nakaraan ng biglang regalo siya ng kanyang nawawalang asawa ng isang rice cook. Naiilang si Anu tungkol sa kanyang Muslim na kasintahan, na pinagtsitsimisan ng ospital. At ang biyudang si Parvaty ay malapit nang paalisin sa kanyang apartment, dahil walang iniwan na tamang dokumento ang kanyang asawa na nagpapatunay ng karaptan niya bilang resident.

France, India, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands | 2024 | 118 mins | Drama | Hindi, Malayalam, Marathi
 Prod: Thomas Hakim, Zico Maitra, Gilles Chanial, Denise Ping Lee, Julien Graff, Ranabir Das, Roberto Minervini, Olivier Père, Frank Hoeve, Govinda Van Maele | Dir/Scr: Payal Kapadia | DOP: Ranabir Das | Ed: Jeanne Sarfati, Clément Pinteaux | With: Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha, Chhaya Kadam, Hridhu Haroon, Azees Nedumangad, Tintumol Joseph

- AWARDS:**
- International Cinematographers' Film Festival Manaki Brothers
2024 Nominee Golden Camera 300 - Main Competition Camera 300
2024 Winner Silver Camera 300
 - San Sebastián International Film Festival**
2024 Winner RTVE-Otra Mirada Award
 - Mill Valley Film Festival**
2024 Winner Mind the Gap Award - Best Film
 - Cannes Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Palme d'Or
2024 Winner Grand Prize of the Festival
 - Chicago International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Gold Hugo - Best Feature
2024 Winner Silver Hugo - Jury Prize



THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

Alexandre de la Patellière, Matthieu Delaporte

Le Comte de Monte-Cristo

Based on the classic by Alexandre Dumas. Pierre Niney takes on the role of Edmond Dantes, a man who becomes a target of a sinister plot, and is arrested on his wedding day for a crime he did not commit. He escapes his island prison after fourteen years, and acquires a treasure that was found by a fellow prisoner. He reenters the world of high society under a new identity: The Count of Monte Cristo, and he intends to take revenge on those that did him wrong.

Hango sa nobela ni Alexandre Dumas. Si Pierre Niney ay tumatampok bilang Edmund Dantes, isang biktima ng mga masamang hangarin, at inaresto sa kanyang araw ng kasal para sa krimen na wala siyang kinalaman. Makakatakas siya sa kanyang kulungan pagkatapos ng 14 na tao, at makukuha ang kayamanan ng kasama niyang preso. Bumalik siya sa mundo ng mga alta bilang bagong tao: ang Count of Monte Cristo, at plano niyang humiganti.

France | 2024 | 178 Minutes | Action, Romance, Adventure | French Prod: Dmitri Rassam | Dir/Scr: Alexandre de la Patellière, Matthieu Delaporte | DOP: Nicolas Bolduc | Ed: Célia Lafitedupont | With: Pierre Niney, Bastien Bouillon, Anaïs Demoustier, Anamaria Vartolomei, Laurent Lafitte, Pierfrancesco Favino

AWARDS: Fantasia Film Festival
2024 Winner Cheval Noir - Best Film
2024 Winner Audience Award Silver - Best International Feature



SIMON OF THE MOUNTAIN

Federico Luis

Simón de la montaña

Winner of the Grand Prize at Cannes' Critics Week. Lorenzo Ferro plays Simon, a young man whose behavior is so unusual that no one seems to object when he falls in with a group of intellectually disabled people from a local center. His mother (Laura Nevole) insists that he doesn't have a disability: that all the tics and odd tendencies are just things he's making up. Playing at that ambiguity, the movie sits in discomfort, sketching out a world where no one is quite sure what is real.

Nanalo ng Grand Prize sa Cannes' Critics Week. Si Lorenzo Ferro ay gumaganap bilang Simon, isang kakaibang binata na bigla na lang sumama sa isang grupo ng mga intellectually disabled na tao mula sa isang local center. Sigurado ang kanyang nanay (Laura Nevol) na walang disability si Simon: na ang lahat ng kanyang tic and kakaibang kaugalian ay gawa-gawa lang niya. Naglalaro ang pelikula sa ganitong kalabuan, at nagpapakita ng mundo na walang may alam kung ano ang totoo.

Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Uruguay | 2024 | 96 mins | Drama | Spanish
Prod: Ignacio García Cucucovich, Carlos Rincones, Patricio Alvarez Casado, Fernando Bascuñán | Dir: Federico Luis
| Scr: Tomás Murphy, Agustín Toscano, Federico Luis | DOP: Marcos Hastrup | Ed: Tomás Murphy, Andrés Medina | With: Lorenzo Ferro, Pehuén Pedre, Kiara Supini, Laura Nevole, Agustín Toscano, Camila Hirane

AWARDS:	Cannes Film Festival 2024 Winner Critics' Week Grand Prize 2024 Nominee Golden Camera	Festival du nouveau cinéma 2024 Nominee Louve d'Or - Best Film 2024 Winner Best Actor/Actress Award
	Munich Film Festival 2024 Winner CineVision Award - Best Film by an Emerging Director	Festival de Cine de Lima PUCP 2024 Winner Premio del Jurado de Ficción - Mejor Actor
	San Sebastián International Film Festival 2024 Nominee Horizons Award	



THE END

Joshua Oppenheimer

The Earth has been devastated by some sort of disaster. An affluent family continues to thrive in a mansion that has somehow been built inside a salt mine. In this home, they continue to live lavishly, protected in a bubble that keeps them from confronting the reality outside, or any part the family might have played in causing it. But then, there is a knock on their door, and an unexpected visitor (Moses Ingram) brings sudden chaos to the equilibrium in their home.

Gumuho na ang mundo. Namumuhay ng payapa ang isang pamilya sa mansyon na ginawa sa loob ng isang mina. Sa tahanan na ito, buhay mayaman pa rin ang asta, sa loob ng isang bubble na hindi pinapapasok ang gulo sa labas, at umiiwas sa kahit anong usapan tungkol sa sanhi ng sakuna, at ang papel ng pamilya dito. Pero may kumatok sa kanilang pinto, at dala ng di-inaasahan bisita (Moses Ingram) ang magpapagulo sa kanilang tahanan.

Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Sweden, UK, USA | 2024 | 148 mins | Drama, Science Fiction, Musical | English
 Prod: Tracy O'Riordan, Viola Fügen, Signe Byrge Sørensen, Ann Lundberg, Flaminio Zadra, Joshua Oppenheimer, Conor Barry, Tilda Swinton | Dir: Joshua Oppenheimer | Scr: Rasmus Heisterberg, Joshua Oppenheimer | DOP: Mikhail Krichman | Ed: Nils Pagh Andersen | With: Tilda Swinton, George MacKay, Michael Shannon, Moses Ingram, Bronagh Gallagher, Tim McInnerny

AWARDS: **Chicago International Film Festival**
 2024 Nominee Gold Hugo - Best Feature

San Sebastián International Film Festival
 2024 Nominee Golden Seashell - Best Film



WHEN FALL IS COMING

François Ozon

Quand vient l'automne

Michelle (Hélène Vincent) is spending her later years living a quiet, picturesque life in a cottage in Burgundy, tending to a garden and going to Church on Sundays. Her routine is only broken up with the occasional visit from her daughter, with whom she has a testy relationship. An accident involving a poison mushroom tests that relationship even further, and her daughter threatens to cut Michelle off from her grandson. This incident sets off a chain of events that will bring the past to light, and reignites old tensions that Michelle has yet to fully deal with.

Namumuhay nang tahimik si Michelle (Hélène Vincent) sa isang cottage sa Burgundy, naghahardin at pumupunta sa simbahan sa Linggo. Pag minsan, bumibisita ang kanyang anak na babae, na may galit sa kanya. Lumaki ang galit na iyon dahil sa aksidente ukol sa poison na mushroom, at pinagbantaan si Michelle na hindi na makita ang kanyang apo. Dahil sa incidenteng ito, nalantad ang nakaraan, at bumalik ang dating tensyon na hindi pa naaayos ni Michelle.

France | 2024 | 104 mins | Drama, Thriller | French
 Prod/Dir: François Ozon | Scr: François Ozon, Philippe Piazzo | DOP: Jérôme Alméras | Ed: Anita Roth | With: Hélène Vincent, Josiane Balasko, Ludivine Sagnier, Pierre Lottin, Vincent Colombe, Sophie Guillemin

AWARDS: **San Sebastián International Film Festival**
 2024 Nominee Golden Seashell - Best Film
 2024 Winner Silver Seashell - Best Supporting Performance
 2024 Winner Jury Prize - Best Screenplay

Pingyao International Film Festival
 2024 Nominee People's Choice Award - Gala-Best Film

Malaga French Film Festival
 2024 Nominee Young Jury Award



AFTERNOONS OF SOLITUDE

Albert Serra

Tardes de soledad

Andrés Roca Rey is a toreador - a bullfighter. In this documentary, director Albert Serra follows this charismatic star of the bloodsport over the course of a day, from the moment he dresses up in his elaborate costume, to the moment that he undresses, capturing the pomp and pageantry that is inextricable from the violent, nihilist spectacle that is the bullfight.

Si Andrés Roca Rey ay isang toreador - bullfighter. Sa dokumentaryong ito, sinundan ni Albert Serra ang charismatic na star ng bloodsport sa isang buong araw. Mula sa kanyang pananamit sa magarang costume, hanggang sa sandaling hubarin niya ito, para makunan ang karangyanan na hindi mahiwala mula sa marahas at nihilist na kaganapan sa isang bullfight.

Spain, France, Portugal | 2024 | 125 mins | Documentary | Spanish

Prod/Dir/Scr: Albert Serra | DOP: Artur Tort | Ed: Artur Tort, Albert Serra | With: Andrés Roca Rey, Pablo Aguado

AWARDS: San Sebastián International Film Festival
2024 Winner Golden Seashell - Best Film
2024 Winner Feroz Zinemaldia Award
2024 Winner Ateneo Guipuzcoano Award - Best Film



MIGUEL GOMES GRAND TOUR

MIGUEL GOMES (Lisbon, 1972) is a Portuguese film director. Grand Tour, his 6th feature, with world premiere in Cannes Film Festival's 2024 Competition, won the Best Director Award at the festival. Gomes directed several short films presented and awarded in international film festivals. The Face You Deserve (2004) was his first feature. His next features Our Beloved Month of August (Cannes' Director's Fortnight 2008), Tabu (Berlinale Official Competition 2012: Alfred Bauer and FIPRESCI awards), Arabian Nights (a film in three feature parts, Cannes' Directors' Fortnight, 2015) and The Tsugua Diaries, co-directed with Maureen Fazendeiro (Cannes' Directors' Fortnight, 2021), confirmed his international success and projection. Gomes is presently working on Savagery, based on a book by Brazilian author Euclides da Cunha and Cantiga, based on a graphic novel by French illustrator Blexbolex. Retrospectives of Gomes' work took place in Austria, Italy, Spain, Germany, Greece, USA. Miguel graduated in Film from the Lisbon Film and Theatre School and worked as a film critic. He lives in Lisbon.



SEAN BAKER ANORA

Sean Baker is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. He is an award-winning writer/director/producer known for Take Out (2004), Prince of Broadway (2008), Starlet (2012), Tangerine (2015), and The Florida Project (2017). Sean's latest feature, Red Rocket, premiered at Cannes on July 14, 2021. Red Rocket was acquired by A24 for theatrical and home entertainment release.



PEDRO ALMODÓVAR THE ROOM NEXT DOOR

The most internationally acclaimed Spanish filmmaker since Luis Buñuel was born in a small town (Calzada de Calatrava) in the impoverished Spanish region of La Mancha. He arrived in Madrid in 1968, and survived by selling used items in the flea-market called El Rastro. Almodóvar couldn't study filmmaking because he didn't have the money to afford it. Besides, the filmmaking schools were closed in early 70s by Franco's government. Instead, he found a job in the Spanish phone company and saved his salary to buy a Super 8 camera. From 1972 to 1978, he devoted himself to make short films with the help of his friends. The "premieres" of those early films were famous in the rapidly growing world of the Spanish counter-culture. In few years, Almodóvar became a star of "La Movida", the pop cultural movement of late 70s Madrid. His first feature film, Pepi, Luci, Bom and Other Girls Like Mom (1980), was made in 16 mm and blown-up to 35 mm for public release. In 1987, he and his brother Agustín Almodóvar established their own production company: El Deseo, S. A. The "Almodóvar phenomenon" has reached all over the world, making his films very popular in many countries.



LAV DIAZ PHANTOSMIA

Lavrente Indico Diaz aka Lav Diaz is a filmmaker from the Philippines who was born on December 30, 1958 and raised in Cotabato, Mindanao. He works as director, writer, producer, editor, cinematographer, poet, composer, production designer and actor all at once. He is especially notable for the length of his films, some of which run for up to eleven hours. That is because his films are not governed by time but by space and nature. His films are about the social and political struggles of his motherland and through these, he has garnered the admiration of the international festival circuit.

Since 1998 he has directed twelve films, and won several international awards. His 2002 film *Batang West Side* won Best Picture at the Singapore International Film Festival, plus awards at the Independent Film Festival of Brussels, Gawad Urian, and Cinemanila International Film Festival. He also received a Gawad Urian for his 2005 film *Evolution of a Filipino Family* and Special Jury Prize at the Fribourg International Film Festival in 2006 for *Heremias, Book One*. His film *Death in the Land of Encantos*, was the closing film of the Orizzonti section of the Venice Film Festival 2007, and was awarded a Golden Lion Special Mention. His 2008 eight-hour film *Melancholia*, a story about victims of summary executions, won the Orizzonti Grand Prize at the 65th Venice International Film Festival in 2008, and *Florentina Hubaldo, CTE* has received Best Film at Images Festival, Toronto and Jeonju International Film Festival in 2012. In 2010 he received a Guggenheim Fellowship and in 2011 joined the Board of Directors for Cine Foundation International. The Venice Film Festival calls him "the ideological father of the New Philippine Cinema".

In 2013, his film *Norte, The End of History* is presented at Un Certain regard Cannes Film Festival and considered as "one of the most beautiful film seen in Cannes" (Jacques Mandelbaum, *Le Monde*) or even "quite possibly the best film there" (Daniel Kasman, *Mubi*), a "superb piece of focused narrative" (Jonathan Romney, *Screen*) – a broadened international recognition that earns him to be invited at FID Marseille to be part of the Official Competition Jury and eventually at the 2013 Locarno Film Festival as the President of the Jury. His film "Mula sa Kung Ano ang Noon" (From What is Before) won the Golden Leopard in Locarno Film Festival. The following year, his eight-hour film "Hele sa Hiwagang Hapis" (A Lullaby to the Sorrowful Mystery) won the Silver Bear Alfred Bauer Prize in Berlin International Film Festival and "Ang Babaeng Humayo" (The Woman Who Left) bagged the Golden Lion Prize in the Venice International Film Festival, the oldest film festival in the world.



PAYAL KAPADIA ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT

Payal Kapadia is a Mumbai based filmmaker. She studied Film Direction at the Film & Television Institute of India. Her short films *Afternoon Clouds* and *And What Is The Summer Saying* premiered respectively at the Cinéfondation and the Berlinale. Her first feature film *A Night of Knowing Nothing* premiered at 2021 Director's Fortnight, where it won the Golden Eye for best documentary.



ALEXADRE DE LA PATELLIÈR

THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

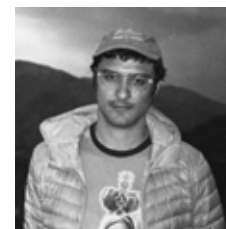
Alexandre de La Patellière was born on June 24, 1971 in Paris, France. He is a writer and producer, known for *The Count of Monte-Cristo* (2024), *What's in a Name?* (2012) and *The Best Is Yet to Come* (2019).



MATTHIEU DELAPORTE

THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

Matthieu Delaporte was born on September 2, 1971 in Paris, France. He is a writer and producer, known for *The Count of Monte-Cristo* (2024), *What's in a Name?* (2012) and *The Best Is Yet to Come* (2019).



FEDERICO LUIS SIMON OF THE MOUNTAIN

Federico Luis Tachella was born in Buenos Aires in 1990. He studied Social Communication at the University of Buenos Aires. In 2013, he co-directed "Vidrios", his school thesis that premiered at that same year's Buenos Aires International Independent Film Festival. In 2018, he shot "Mirko", his first short film, which won the Audiovisual Award from the Argentinian National Endowment for the Arts and also premiered at Buenos Aires International Independent Film Festival. His short film "La Siesta" (The Nap) won best short film at the 2019 Buenos Aires International Independent Film Festival, had its international premiere at the Official Short Film Competition of the 2019 Cannes Film Festival and won an honorable mention for the best short film at Toronto Film Festival.



JOSHUA OPPENHEIMER THE END

Joshua Oppenheimer was born on September 23, 1974 in Texas, USA. He is a director and producer, known for The Act of Killing (2012), The End (2024) and The Entire History of the Louisiana Purchase (1998).



FRANÇOIS OZON WHEN FALL IS COMING

François Ozon was born on November 15, 1967 in Paris, France. He is a director and writer, known for In the House (2012), 8 Women (2002) and Swimming Pool (2003).



ALBERT SERRA AFTERNOONS OF SOLITUDE

Albert Serra was born in 1975 in Banyoles, Girona, Catalonia, Spain. He is a director and writer, known for Pacifiction (2022), The Death of Louis XIV (2016) and Quixotic/Honor de Cavalleria (2006).

REDISCOVERY

A selection of landmark films from cinema's vast and colorful history, digitally restored and handpicked by the artistic director of QCinema.



RAN

Akira Kurosawa

乱

In *Ran*, Kurosawa transports Shakespeare's *King Lear* to 16th century Japan. Lord Hidetora Ichimonji (Tatsuya Nakadai) is set to retire, and split his holdings between his three heirs. The prideful warlord exiles one of his sons for daring to criticize him, and leaves the other two with control of his lands. But the ease of his retirement is short, as his two sons conspire to strip their father of all his power and take full control of the clan. Kurosawa injects an Eastern fatalism to Shakespeare's original work, telling a story of a man who cannot escape his sins to the very end.

Sa Ran, dinala ni Kurosawa ang King Lear ni Shakespeare sa Japan ng ika-16 na yugto. Magpapahinga na si Lord Hidetora Ichimonji (Tatsuya Nakadai), at hahatiin niya ang kanyang ari-arian sa kanyang tatlong anak. Ipinalis ni Hidetora ang isa sa kanyang mga anak dahil sa kanyang pamumuna, at iniwan ang kanyang mga lupain na natirang dalawa. Pero hindi nagtagal bago malaman na magkasabwat ang dalawa, at nais nilang tanggalin ang kanilang ama para ma-kontrol ang lahat ng kanyang hawak. Dinagdagan ni Kurosawa ng Eastern fatalism ang gawa ni Shakespeare, at ginawa siyang kwento ng tao hindi makatakas mula sa kanyang mga kasalanan, hanggang sa huli.

Japan | 1985 | 160 mins | Drama | Japanese

Prod: Masato Hara, Serge Silberman, Hisao Kurosawa | Dir/Ed: Akira Kurosawa | Scr: Hideo Oguni, Akira Kurosawa, Masato Ide | DOP: Takao Saitō Shōji Ueda Asakazu Nakai | With: Tatsuya Nakadai, Akira Terao, Jinpachi Nezu, Daisuke Ryū, Mieko Harada, Yoshiko Miyazaki

<p>AWARDS: Academy Awards, USA 1986 Winner Oscar - Best Costume Design</p> <p>Bodil Awards 1986 Winner Bodil - Best European Film (Bedste europæiske film)</p> <p>Boston Society of Film Critics Awards 1986 Winner BSFC Award - Best Film 1986 Winner BSFC Award - Best Cinematography</p> <p>BAFTA Awards 1987 Winner BAFTA Film Award - Best Foreign Language Film 1987 Winner BAFTA Film Award - Best Make Up Artist</p>	<p>David di Donatello Awards 1986 Winner David - Best Foreign Director (Migliore Regista Straniero)</p> <p>Awards of the Japanese Academy 1986 Winner Award of the Japanese Academy - Best Art Direction 1986 Winner Award of the Japanese Academy - Best Music Score</p> <p>London Critics Circle Film Awards 1987 Winner ALFS Award - Director of the Year 1987 Winner ALFS Award - Foreign Language Film of the Year</p> <p>Los Angeles Film Critics Association Awards 1985 Winner LAFCA Award - Best Music 1985 Winner LAFCA Award - Best Foreign Film</p>
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DELICATESSEN

Jean-Pierre Jeunet, Marc Caro

In a post-apocalyptic France, a butcher shop lures in people with the promise of work, only to kill them and serve them up as meat for the residents of a rundown apartment building. Unemployed circus clown Louison (Dominique Pinon) is set to be the next victim, but his skill with a knife makes the butcher hesitate. Louison then meets and falls in love with the butcher's daughter, Julie (Marie-Laure Dougnac), and the two of them end up having to stand against the rest of the cannibal residents.

Sa post-apocalyptic France, inaakit ng isang tindahan ng karne ang mga tao, nangagakong bibigyan sila ng trabaho. Pero kinatay ang mga pumupunta, at benebenta bilang karne sa mga naninirahan sa apartment building. Ang circus clown na si Louison (Dominique Pinon) ang naturing susunod na biktima, pero ang galing niya sa paggamit ng kutsilyo ay nagpatagal sa kanyang pamumuhay. Nakilala ni Louison ang anak ng butcher na si Julie (Marie-Laure Dougnac), at nahulog ang kanyang loob sa kanya. Nagtulungan ang dalawa para kalabanin ang mga kanibal na naninirahan sa apartment building.

France | 1991 | 99 mins | Fantasy, Science Fiction, Comedy | French

Prod: Claudie Ossard | Dir: Jean-Pierre Jeunet, Marc Caro | Scr: Jean-Pierre Jeunet, Gilles Adrien, Marc Caro | DOP: Darius Khondji | Ed: Hervé Schneid | With: Dominique Pinon, Marie-Laure Dougnac, Jean-Claude Dreyfus, Karin Viard, Ticky Holgado, Pascal Benezech

<p>AWARDS: Sitges - Catalan International Film Festival 1991 Winner Best Actor 1991 Winner Best Original Soundtrack 1991 Winner Prize of the Catalan Screenwriter's Critic and Writer's Association</p> <p>César Awards, France 1992 Winner César - Best First Work 1992 Winner César - Best Screenplay, Original or Adaptation</p> <p>Chicago International Film Festival 1991 Winner Gold Hugo - Best Feature</p>	<p>European Film Awards 1991 Winner European Film Award - European Production Designer of the Year</p> <p>Fantporto 1992 Winner Audience Jury Award</p> <p>Guild of German Art House Cinemas 1993 Winner Guild Film Award - Silver Foreign Film</p> <p>Tokyo International Film Festival 1991 Winner Gold Award</p>
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DOGTOOTH

Yorgos Lanthimos

The samurai swordsman Kosaka Shinzaemon (Makiya Yamaguchi) is in the middle of a life-and-death duel when he is suddenly struck by lightning. He is transported forward in time, and finds himself in present-day Kyoto, amid a film set shooting a Jidaigeki, a samurai film. Mistaken for an extra, Shinzaemon quickly becomes part of the film industry, redirecting his talents for an age without Samurai.

Nasa gitna ng isang duel ang mandirigmang samurai na si Kosaka Shinzaemon (Makiya) nang bigla siyang tamaan ng kidlat. At paggising, wala na siya sa kanyang pinaggalingan: nadala sa sa Kyoto ng kasalukuyang panahon, sa gitna ng isang shooting ng Jidaigeki, o pelikulang samurai. Pinagkamalan siyang ekstra, at mabilis na nabilang si Shinzaemon sa industriyang pampelikula. Gagamitin niya ang kanyang talento para sa kapanuhang wala nang mga samurai.

Japan | 2024 | 131 mins | Comedy | Japanese
 Prod/Dir/Scr/DOP/Ed: Junichi Yasuda | With: Norimasa Fuke, Yoshiharu Fukuda, Hajime Inoue Yuno Sakura, Makiya Yamaguchi, Ichiko Kurena,i Akinori Ando

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>AWARDS:</p> <p>Cannes Film Festival
 2009 Winner Un Certain Regard Award
 2009 Winner Award of the Youth</p> <p>Sitges - Catalanian International Film Festival
 2009 Winner Carnet Jove Jury Award - Fantàstic
 2009 Winner Citizen Kane Award for Best Directorial Revelation</p> <p>Montréal Festival of New Cinema
 2009 Winner Feature Film Award
 2009 Winner Feature Film Award - Best Director</p> <p>Ljubljana International Film Festival
 2010 Winner Kingfisher Award - Best film of the Perspectives Section</p> | <p>Montpellier Mediterranean Film Festival
 2009 Winner Youth Audience Award - Best Film</p> <p>Stockholm Film Festival
 2009 Winner Bronze Horse</p> <p>Sarajevo Film Festival
 2009 Winner Heart of Sarajevo - Best Actress
 2009 Winner Special Jury Prize - Feature Film</p> <p>Chlotrudis Awards
 2011 Winner Chlotrudis Award - Buried Treasure</p> <p>Dublin International Film Festival
 2010 Winner Dublin Film Critics Award - Best Director</p> <p>Lisbon Film Festival (LEFFEST)
 2009 Winner Best Film Award</p> |
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AKIRA KUROSAWA

RAN

After training as a painter (he storyboards his films as full-scale paintings), Kurosawa entered the film industry in 1936 as an assistant director, eventually making his directorial debut with Sanshiro Sugata (1943). Within a few years, Kurosawa had achieved sufficient stature to allow him greater creative freedom. Drunken Angel (1948) was the first film he made without extensive studio interference, and marked his first collaboration with Toshiro Mifune. In the coming decades, the two would make 16 movies together, and Mifune became as closely associated with Kurosawa's films as was John Wayne with the films of Kurosawa's idol, John Ford. After working in a wide range of genres, Kurosawa made his international breakthrough film Rashomon (1950) in 1950. It won the top prize at the Venice Film Festival, and first revealed the richness of Japanese cinema to the West. The next few years saw the low-key, touching Ikiru (1952) (Living), the epic Seven Samurai (1954), the barbaric, riveting Shakespeare adaptation Throne of Blood (1957), and a fun pair of samurai comedies Yojimbo (1961) and Sanjuro (1962). After a lean period in the late 1960s and early 1970s, though, Kurosawa attempted suicide. He survived, and made a small, personal, low-budget picture with Dodes'ka-den (1970), a larger-scale Russian co-production Dersu Uzala (1975) and, with the help of admirers Francis Ford Coppola and George Lucas, the samurai tale Kagemusha: The Shadow Warrior (1980), which Kurosawa described as a dry run for Ran (1985), an epic adaptation of Shakespeare's "King Lear." He continued to work into his eighties with the more personal Dreams (1990), Rhapsody in August (1991) and Madadayo (1993). Kurosawa's films have always been more popular in the West than in his native Japan, where critics have viewed his adaptations of Western genres and authors (William Shakespeare, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Maxim Gorky and Evan Hunter) with suspicion - but he's revered by American and European film-makers, who remade Rashomon (1950) as The Outrage (1964), Seven Samurai (1954), as The Magnificent Seven (1960), Yojimbo (1961), as A Fistful of Dollars (1964) and The Hidden Fortress (1958), as Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope (1977).



JEAN-PIERRE JEUNET

DELICATESSEN

Jean-Pierre Jeunet; born 3 September 1953) is a French filmmaker. His films combine fantasy, realism, and science fiction to create idealized realities or to give relevance to mundane situations.

Jeunet debuted as a director with the acclaimed 1991 black comedy Delicatessen, collaborating with Marc Caro. Jeunet then co-wrote and -directed with Caro again on The City of Lost Children (1995). His work with science fiction and horror led him to direct Alien Resurrection (1997), the fourth film in the Alien film series and his first and thus far only experience with an American film. In 2001, Jeunet achieved his biggest success with the release of Amélie, which won him international acclaim; the film reached BBC's 100 Greatest Films of the 21st Century.

Jeunet is widely regarded as one of the most influential and important directors in modern French cinema, and his critical and commercial success has earned him two Academy Award nominations.



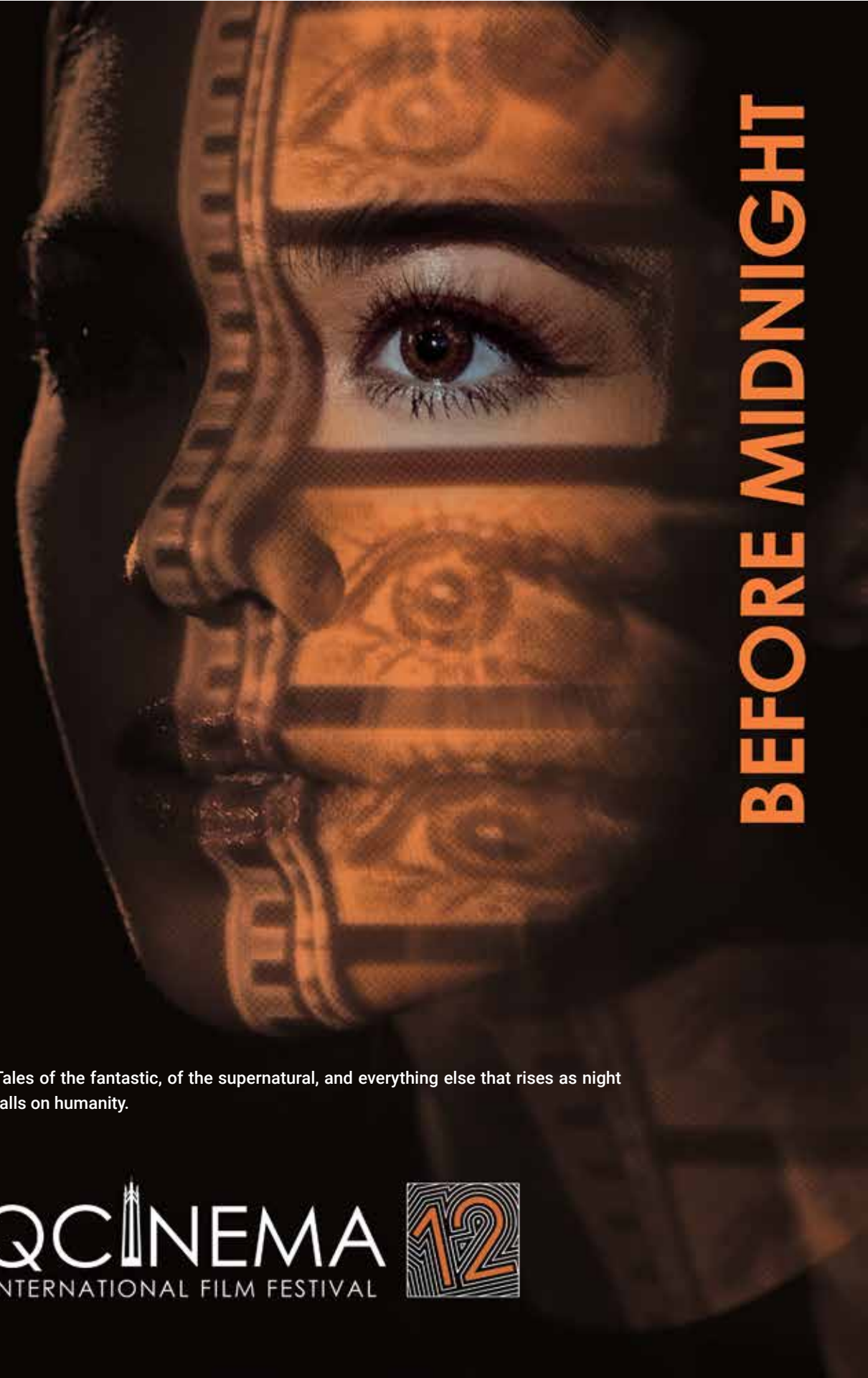
MARC CARO DELICATESSEN

Marc Caro was born on April 2, 1956 in Paris, France. He is a director and writer, known for Delicatessen (1991), The City of Lost Children (1995) and Alien Resurrection (1997).



YORGOS LANTHIMOS DOGTOOTH

Yorgos Lanthimos was born in Athens, Greece. He studied directing for Film and Television at the Stavrakos Film School in Athens. He has directed a number of dance videos in collaboration with Greek choreographers, in addition to TV commercials, music videos, short films and theater plays. Kinetta, his first feature film, played at Toronto and Berlin film festivals to critical acclaim. His second feature Dogtooth, won the "Un Certain Regard prize" at the 2009 Cannes film festival, followed by numerous awards at festivals worldwide. It was nominated for a Best Foreign Language Film Academy Award (Oscar) in 2011. Alps won the "Osella for best screenplay" at the 2011 Venice film festival and Best Film at the Sydney film festival in 2012. His first English language film The Lobster was presented in Competition at the 68th Cannes Film Festival. Moreover, "The Lobster" was nominated for the (Oscar about the) Best Original Screenplay by the Academy and won Best Screenplay and Best Costume Design at the European Film Awards of 2015. His fifth project "The Killing of a Sacred Deer" was also presented in Competition at the 70th Cannes Film Festival where it won the award for the best Screenplay. Lanthimos's last film "The Favorite" is a historical Drama about the British Queen Anne.



BEFORE MIDNIGHT

Tales of the fantastic, of the supernatural, and everything else that rises as night falls on humanity.



MOTEL DESTINO

Karim Aïnouz

The rundown, seedy Motel Destino is run by Elias (Fábio Assunção), a former cop who regularly abuses his wife Dayana (Nataly Rocha). 21 year-old Heraldo (Iago Xavier) finds himself having to hide out after something goes horribly wrong with a job he was supposed to be at, and he ends up at the Motel Destino. There, as he participates in the work of maintaining this lurid location, he forms a bond with Dayana, who shares his desire of escaping their present circumstances, leading them into a dangerous affair.

Pinapatakbo ng dating pulis na si Elias (Fábio Assunção) ang Motel Destino. Madalas niyang abusuhin si Dayana (Nataly Rocha), ang kanyang asawa. Nangailangan ni Heraldo (Iago Xavier) na magtago pagkatapos magkagulo sa isa sa kanyang trabaho, at napadpad siya sa Motel Destino. Habang nagtatrabaho siya sa motel, napalapit siya kay Dayana, na parehong may nais na makatakas sa kanyang kasalukuyang paghihirap, at sila ay napasok sa isang mapanganib na relasyon.

Brazil, France, Germany | 2024 | 112 mins | Drama, Thriller, Romance | Portugese

Prod: Fabiano Gullane, Viola Fügen, Mário Canivello, Didar Domehri, Cécile Tollu-Polonowski, Janaina Bernardes, André Novis, Gabrielle Tana, Hélène Théodoly, Guilherme Coelho, Caio Gullane, Michael Weber | Dir: Karim Aïnouz | Scr: Mauricio Zacharias, Wislan Esmeraldo | DOP: Hélène Louvart | Ed: Nelly Quettier | With: Iago Xavier, Nataly Rocha, Fábio Assunção, Yuri Yamamoto, Fabíola Líper, Renan Capivara

AWARDS: **Cannes Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Palme d'Or
2024 Nominee Queer Palm

Munich Film Festival
2024 Nominee CineCoPro Award



GAZER

Ryan J. Sloan

Single mother Frankie (Ariella Mastroianni) struggles with the rare condition Dyschronometria, her brain unable to properly track the passage of time. Using a series of cassette tapes, she tries to manage her disorder the best she can. Having just lost her job, she takes on a gig that turns out to be much more complicated than she could have ever expected. Shot on 16mm on a shoestring budget, Gazer is primed to be a modern noir cult classic.

Ang single mother na si Frankie (Ariella Mastroianni) ay may kondisyon na Dyschronometria: nahihirapan ang kanyang utak na mamasdan ang paglipas ng oras. Gumagamit siya ng mga cassette tape para makatulong sa kanyang araw-araw ng buhay. Dahil nawalan siya ng trabaho, kumuha siya ng raket na naging mas komplikado kay sa kanyang inaasahan. Gamit ng 16mm at napakaliit na budget, ang Gazer ay tiyak na maituturing na modern noir cult classic.

USA | 2024 | 113 min | Mystery, Thriller, Horror | English

Prod: Bruce Wemple, Ariella Mastroianni, Ryan J. Sloan | Dir: Ryan J. Sloan | Scr: Ryan J. Sloan, Ariella Mastroianni | DOP: Matheus Bastos | Ed: Jordan Toussaint, Ryan J. Sloan | With: Ariella Mastroianni, Marcia DeBonis, Renee Gagner, Jack Alberts, Tommy Kang, Emma Pearson

AWARDS: **Cannes Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Golden Camera
2024 Nominee SACD Prize - Directors' Fortnight

Sitges - Catalanian International Film Festival
2024 Nominee New Visions Award - Best Motion Picture

Deauville Film Festival
2024 Nominee Grand Special Prize

Hamptons International Film Festival
2024 Nominee Golden Starfish Award - Narrative Feature

Woodstock Film Festival
2024 Nominee Gray Schwartz Ultra Indie Award

Montclair Film Festival (MFF)
2024 Nominee Future/Now



INFINITE SUMMER

Miguel Llansó

Diligent, studious Mia (Teele Kaljuvee-O'Brock) is spending summer break with a couple of friends, and wants to break away from her normal life. A dating app leads them to meeting a strange man who introduces them to a meditation app that breaks open their consciousness and begins transforming their bodies. An utterly strange summer hangout film that portrays a coming-of-age that involves drugs, animals, faceless corporations and Interpol agents.

Ang masipag na si Mia (Teele Kaljuvee-O'Brock) ay sumama sa kanyang mga kaibigan para sa summer breka. Nais niyang humiwalay sa kanyang karaniwang karanasan. Dahil sa dating app, nakilala nila ang isang lalaking may meditation app na bumubukas sa kanilang kamalayan at nagsimulang baguhin ang kanilang mga katawan. Ang Infinite Summer ay kakaibang summer hangout film na nagpapakita ng isang coming-of-age na may kasamang droga, hayop, ng korporasyon, at Interpol agent.

Estonia, Spain, USA | 2024 | 94 mins | Science Fiction | English, Estonian

Prod: Rain Rannu, Allison Rose Carter, Miguel Llansó, Jon Read, Tõnu Hiie laid | Dir/Scr: Miguel Llansó | DOP: Israel Seoane | Ed: Velasco Broca | With: Teele Kaljuvee-O'Brock, Johanna-Aurelia Rosin, Hannah Gross, Ciaron Davies, Denise Moreno, Steve Vanoni, Katariina Unt

AWARDS: Sitges - Catalanian International Film Festival
2024 Nominee New Visions Award - Best Motion Picture

Fantasia Film Festival
2024 Nominee Cheval Noir - Best Film



A SAMURAI IN TIME

Junichi Yasuda

侍タイムスリッパ

The samurai swordsman Kosaka Shinzaemon (Makiya Yamaguchi) is in the middle of a life-and-death duel when he is suddenly struck by lightning. He is transported forward in time, and finds himself in present-day Kyoto, amid a film set shooting a Jidaigeki, a samurai film. Mistaken for an extra, Shinzaemon quickly becomes part of the film industry, redirecting his talents for an age without Samurai.

Nasa gitna ng isang duel ang mandirigmang samurai na si Kosaka Shinzaemon (Makiya) nang bigla siyang tamaan ng kidlat. At paggising, wala na siya sa kanyang pinaggalingan: nadala sa sa Kyoto ng kasalukuyang panahon, sa gitna ng isang shooting ng Jidaigeki, o pelikulang samurai. Pinagkamalan siyang ekstra, at mabilis na nabilang si Shinzaemon sa industriyang pampelikula. Gagamitin niya ang kanyang talento para sa kapanuhang wala nang mga samurai.

Japan | 2024 | 131 mins | Comedy | Japanese

Prod/Dir/Scr/DOP/Ed: Junichi Yasuda | With: Norimasa Fuke, Yoshiharu Fukuda, Hajime Inoue Yuno Sakura, Makiya Yamaguchi, Ichiko Kurena, i Akinori Ando

AWARDS: Fantasia Film Festival
2024 Nominee Cheval Noir - Best Film
2024 Winner Audience Award Gold - Best Asian Feature

THE WAILING

Pedro Martin-Calero

El llanto

Something strange is happening to Andrea (Ester Expósito), but she is unable to explain any of it. Twenty years ago, Marie (Mathilde Ollivier) seemed to experience the same haunting phenomenon. Camila (Malena Villa) also suffers from the same curse, and like the others, nobody is inclined to believe her. The three women struggle to live their daily lives as the malevolent spirits manifests itself as an awful wailing.

May kababalaghang nagyayari kay Andrea (Ester Expósito), ngunit hindi niya ito maipaliwanag. Dalawampu't taong nakalipas, parang naranasan din ni Marie (Mathilde Ollivier) ang parehong pagmumulto. Si Camila rin ay nasa ilalim ng parehong sumpa, pero katulad nila Andrea at Marie, walang naniniwala sa kanya. Nahihirapan ang tatlong babae na mamuhay habang naririnig nila ang masamang espiritu na siyang lumalabas bilang kakilabot ng panaghoy.

Spain, Argentina, France | 2024 | 107 mins | Horror | Spanish

Prod: Eduardo Villanueva, Nacho Lavilla, Cristina Zumárraga, Fernanda Del Nido, Pablo E. Bossi, Jérôme Vidal | Dir: Pedro Martin-Calero | Scr: Pedro Martin-Calero, Isabel Peña | DOP: Constanza Sandoval | Ed: Victoria Lammers | With: Ester Expósito, Mathilde Ollivier, Malena Villa, Àlex Monner, Sonia Almarcha, Tomás del Estal

AWARDS: San Sebastián International Film Festival
2024 Nominee Golden Seashell - Best Film
2024 Winner Silver Seashell - Best Director



KARIM AÏNOUZ MOTEL DESTINO

Karim Aïnouz is an award-winning film director and screenwriter. He was born to a Brazilian mother and an Algerian father.

Aïnouz debuted as feature director with "Madame Satã" (Cannes Un Certain Regard 2002). Other works include "Nardjes A." (Berlin Panorama 2020), "Central Airport THF" (Berlin Amnesty Prize 2018), "Futuro Beach" (Berlin Competition 2014), "The Silver Cliff" (Cannes Director's Fortnight 2011), and "Love for Sale" (Venice Horizons 2006). In 2008, Aïnouz has co-directed the TV series Alice for HBO Latin America.

His latest feature, "The Invisible Life", premiered in Cannes Un Certain Regard in May 2019 where it received the Main Award and more than 50 prizes worldwide.

Aïnouz is also a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences.
- IMDb Mini Biography By: Karim Aïnouz



RYAN J. SLOAN GAZER

Gazer is the first feature of Ryan J. Sloan, an electrician turned filmmaker from New Jersey.



MIGUEL LLANSÓ INFINITE SUMMER

Based in Tallinn Miguel Llansó studied philosophy and cinema before leaving on his many adventures. A big fan of experimental-punk-weird music and films, his international recognition came when he started filming in Ethiopia. Among others his works has been shown at Sundance, Rotterdam, Locarno and received positive reviews from Variety, Screen Anarchy, New York Times, Hollywood Reporter etc.



JUNICHI YASUDA A SAMURAI IN TIME

Born in Kyoto in 1967

After graduating from Osaka University of Economics, he worked at various jobs before starting his own videography business. His work ranges from kindergarten recitals to bridal photography, corporate videos, event video production, direction and design, multi-cam event recording and broadcasting, and production and distribution of low-budget films.

He owns his own equipment, including six professional video cameras, five cine cameras, dozens of lenses, lighting equipment, dollies, cranes, switchers, and intercoms.

In 2014, he founded Mirai Eigasha.

In 2023, upon his father's passing, he took over his family's rice farming business. Farming rice fields that are too large takes up a lot of time, making it difficult to work on the video productions, and with rice prices so low that they are in the red, the situation continues to be uncertain due to tight household finances.



PEDRO MARTÍN-CALERO THE WAILING

Pedro Martín-Calero studied photography in Madrid's ECAM film school but soon segued into direction. The knowledge and skills he acquired as a director of photography have had a decisive influence in his style as a director, with every frame measured to the millimetre.

One of his first video-clips, "Blanc" for the group Territoire, very quickly became a reference on the internet, opening doors for him with the most important commercials production companies in the world: BLINK in England, CANADA in Spain and the USA, and DIPLOMATS in France.

Working with them, Pedro directed video-clips with artists of the standing of The Weeknd, for whom he directed the video-clip "Secrets".

Since then, he has combined making musical clips and commercials with work in film, receiving numerous international awards: In England, he directed two short films which are considered cult works on the internet: a futurist adaptation of the Shakespeare play, "Julius Caesar", for the British Council, and "You are awake", a psychological horror short film for Channel 4. For the latter, he was nominated for the Young Director Award at Cannes in 2017.

In terms of commercials, he has worked with the big advertising brands, for whom he has directed ads which have won awards in the most important European festivals, with highlights such as those obtained at Cannes Lions, in the British Arrow and in Kinsale Shark Advertising Festival and a ADCE -Art Directors Club of Europe- among others.

"The Wailing" is his first feature film.



Co-presented by the Italian Embassy and the Asian Film Festival, Rome, this section presents a survey of current Italian films, featuring commercial hits, festival darlings, and arthouse gems.

With special thanks to Elisabetta Valentini, Liaison Officer for Cultural Affairs of the Italian Embassy and Antonio Termenini, Artistic Director, Asian Film Festival, Rome.



LA CHIMERA

Alice Rohrwacher

Josh O'Connor plays Arthur, an English archaeologist who has just been released from Italian prison. It doesn't take him long to fall back with his old crew, who take advantage of Arthur's supernatural gift for finding ancient tombs, which they loot for Etruscan artifacts to sell. Director Rohrwacher crafts a very unusual depiction of capitalist conflict: a rowdy tale of chaos borne of people fighting over commodities ripped from their historical contexts, and made little more than trinkets to be bought and sold.

Si Josh O'Connor ay si Arthur, isang English archaeologist na kalalabas lang sa preso. Hindi nagtagal ay bumalik siya sa kanyang barkada, na gumagamit ng talento ni Arthur para sa paghanap ng mga ancient tomb, na siyang kinukunan nila ng mga Etruscan artifacts para mabent. Ang direktor na si Rohrwacher ay gumawa ng kakaibang depiction ng capitalist conflict: isang kwentong tungkol sa gulong dala ng mga taong nag-aaway dahil sa mga commodities na inalis mula sa kanilang historical context, na naging trinket na lamang na binebenta at binibili.

Italy, France, Switzerland Turkey | 2023 | 131 mins | Comedy, Adventure, Fantasy, Drama | English, Italian, French, Portuguese Prod: Carlo Cresto-Dina, Michela Pini, Pierre-François Piet, Gregory Gajos, Amel Soudani, Valeria Jamonte, Paolo Del Brocco, Manuela Melissano, Olga Lamontanara, Alexandra Henochsberg | Dir/Scr: Alice Rohrwacher | DOP: Hélène Louvart | Ed: Nelly Quettier | With: Josh O'Connor, Carol Duartem Alba Rohrwacherm Isabella Rossellini, Vincenzo Nemolato, Lou Roy-Lecollinet

- AWARDS:**
- Chicago International Film Festival**
2023 Winner Silver Hugo - Best Cinematography
2023 Winner Silver Hugo -Best Ensemble Cast Performance
 - European Film Awards**
2023 Winner European Film Award - European Production Designer
 - Italian National Syndicate of Film Journalists**
2024 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Supporting Actress
 - National Board of Review, USA**
2023 Winner NBR Award - Top Five International Films
 - Festival Cinéma Méditerranéen de Bruxelles**
2023 Winner Prix Special du Jury Officiel - Compétition Officielle

- Swiss Film Prize**
2023 Winner Audience Award - Best International Fiction
- Valladolid International Film Festival**
2023 Winner Silver Spike - Best Film
- Kineo Awards, Italy**
2024 Winner Kineo Award - Best Italian Film Drama
- IndieLisboa International Independent Film Festival**
2024 Winner Silvestre Award -Best Feature Film
- Filming Italy Venice Award**
2024 Winner Filming Italy Award - Best Supporting Actress Drama

IO CAPITANO

Matteo Garrone

Winner of the Silver Lion. Cousins Seydou and Moussa (Seydou Sarr and Moustapha Fall) leave their hometown of Dakar, Senegal in hopes of finding a better future in Italy. This journey takes them through several countries, where they encounter all manner of corruption. It has them crossing the dangerous Sahara Desert. And they will face the broad apathy of Europeans over the plight of refugees.

Nanalo ng Silver Lion. Umalis ang magpinsan na Seydou at Moussa (Seydou Sarr and Moustapha Fall) mula sa Dakar, Senegal sa pag-asang makahanap ng mas magandang bukas sa Italy. Dumaan sila sa ilang bansa, kung saan nakaranas sila ng iba't-ibang klase ng korupsiyon. Itatawid nila mapanganib sa Sahara Desert, at haharapin nila ang kawalang-pagpapahalaga ng mga Europeo sa kalagayan ng mga refugee.

Italy, Belgium, France | 2023 | 121 mins | Adventure, Drama | Wolof, English French, Italian
Prod: Matteo Garrone, Paolo Del Brocco | Dir: Matteo Garrone | Scr: Massimo Ceccherini, Matteo Garrone, Massimo Gaudioso, Andrea Tagliaferri | DOP: Paolo Carnera | Ed: Marco Spoletini | With: Seydou Sarr, Moustapha Fall, Issaka Sawadogo, Hichem Yacoubi, Doudou Sagna Khady Sy

- AWARDS:**
- David di Donatello Awards**
2024 Winner David - Best Film
2024 Winner David - Best Director
2024 Winner David - Best Producer
2024 Winner David - Best Cinematography
 - Italian National Syndicate of Film Journalists**
2024 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Film
2024 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Cinematography
2024 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Editing
 - San Sebastián International Film Festival**
2023 Winner City of Donostia Audience Award - Best European Film
 - Capri, Hollywood**
2023 Winner Capri European Director Award
2023 Winner Capri Foreign Language Film Award
 - Venice Film Festival**
2023 Winner Marcello Mastroianni Award - Best Young Actor
2023 Winner Silver Lion - Best Director
2023 Winner La Pellicola d'Oro Award - Best Production Director
2023 Winner UNESCO Award
2023 Winner FEDIC Award - Best Film
2023 Winner Pasinetti Award - Best Film
2023 Winner Green Drop Award
2023 Winner ImpACT Award
2023 Winner Lanterna Magica Award
2023 Winner Leoncino d'Oro Agiscuola Award
2023 Winner SIGNIS Award
2023 Winner Soundtrack Stars Award -Best Soundtrack
 - Golden Globes, Italy**
2024 Winner Golden Globe - Best Director
 - African-American Film Critics Association (AAFCA)**
2024 Winner AAFCA Award





DIABOLIK: WHO ARE YOU?

Antonio Manetti, Marco Manetti

Diabolik Chi Sei?

Based on the popular comic series created by Angela and Luciana Giussani. The titular master thief (Giacomo Gianniotti) has been captured by a ruthless criminal syndicate, along with his constant pursuer, Inspector Ginko (Valerio Mastandrea). Their partners, Eva Kant and Altea di Vallenberg (Miriam Leone and Monica Belluci), form an uneasy alliance in order to save the men they love.

Hango sa comic series nina Angela at Luciana Giussani. Ang master thief na si Diabolik (Giacomo Gianniotti) ay nahuli ng isang sindikato, kasama ang laging naghahabol sa kanya na si Inspector Ginko (Valerio Mastandrea). Ang kanilang mga kasintahan, sina Eva Kant at Altea di Vallenberg (Miriam Leone at Monica Belluci), ay nagsama at nagtutulungan upang maligtas ang kanilang mga minamahal.

Italy | 2023 | 124 mins | Crime, Mystery, Thriller | Italian

Prod: Antonio Manetti, Paolo Del Brocco, Pier Giorgio Bellocchio, Carlo Macchitella, Marco Manetti | Dir: Antonio Manetti, Marco Manetti | Scr: Michelangelo La Neve, Marco Manetti, Antonio Manetti | DOP: Angelo Sorrentino | Ed: Federico Maria Maneschi | With: Giacomo Gianniotti, Miriam Leone, Valerio Mastandrea, Monica Bellucci, Pier Giorgio Bellocchio, Chiara Martegiani

AWARDS: 2024 Nominee **Òrbita Award**
Best Feature Length Film

2024 Nominee **Silver Ribbon**
Best Song

2024 Nominee **Silver Ribbon**
Best Score

2023 Nominee **Golden Ciak**
Best Actor

PALAZZINA LAF

Michele Riondino

Based on a true story. Set in 1997, the film follows cleaner Caterina Lamanna (played by director Michele Riondino), who works in the massive Ilva Steelworks in Taranto. He is forced by his superior to spy on his co-workers, reporting on any talk that might prove detrimental to the company and its bottom line. What he finds along the way is a systematic attempt by the company to psychologically crush its employees, the revelation of which would set an important precedent in Italian labor laws.

Hango sa totoong pangyayari. Sinunsundan ng pelikula ang tagalinis na si Caterina Lamanna (ginaganap ng direktor na si Michele Riondino) na nagtatrabaho sa Ilva Steelworks sa Taranto. Pinilit siya ng kanyang boss na pagmasdan ang mga katrabaho niya, at magsumbong tungkol sa kahit anong pag-uusap na pwede maging pahirap sa kompanya at sa kanyang kita. Ang nahanap niya ay sistematikong proseso para maipit ang mga empleyado, na siyang naging basehan para sa mga batas maggagawa sa Italy.

Italy, France | 2023 | 99 mins | Drama | Italian

Prod: Carlo Degli, Esposti Nicola, Serra Luigi, Pinto Raffaele, Petrone Margherita, Chiti Marco Camilli | Dir: Michele Riondino | Scr: Michele Riondino, Maurizio Braucci | DOP: Claudio Cofrancesco | Ed: Julien Panzarasa | With: Michele Riondino, Elio Germano, Vanessa Scalera, Anna Ferruzzo, Domenico Fortunato, Giovanni D'Addario

AWARDS:

David di Donatello Awards

2024 Winner David - Best Actor
2024 Winner David - Best Supporting Actor
2024 Winner David - Best Song

Golden Ciak Awards

2023 Winner Golden Ciak - Best Actor
2023 Winner Golden Ciak - Best First Feature
2023 Winner Golden Ciak - Best Song

Italian National Syndicate of Film Journalists

2024 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best New Director
2024 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Screenplay
2024 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Supporting Actor
2024 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Actor
2024 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Song



MY SUMMER WITH IRÈNE

Carlo Sironi

Quell'estate con Irène

Shy Clara (Maria Camilla Brandenburg) meets the outgoing Irène (Noée Abita) at a summer camp organized by the hospital where they are both being treated. The two seventeen-year-olds form a quick bond, in spite of the differences in their personality. The two impulsively decide to go on a trip together to Sicily, putting off their return to their families, and instead going on a journey to discover who they really are, and what they want out of this tragically short life.

Nakilala ng mahinhin na si Clara (Maria Camilla Brandenburg) si Irène (Noée Abita) sa isang summer camp na gawa ng ospital kung saan sila ginagamot. Kahit magkaiba ang kanila personalidad, naging magkaibigan ang dalawa. Biglaan nilang napagdesisyunan na pumunta sa Sicily, at hindi muna bumalik sa kanilang mga pamilya. Sa halip, naglakbay sila para matutunan kung sino sila talaga, at kung ang kanilang nais sa kanilang mga maikling buhay.

Italy, France | 2024 | 90 mins | Romance, Drama | French, Italian

Prod: Giovanni Pompili, Julie Billy | Dir: Carlo Sironi | Scr: Silvana Tamma, Carlo Sironi | DOP: Gergely Poharnok | Ed: Chiara Dainese | With: Noée Abita, Maria Camilla Brandenburg, Claudio Segaluscio, Gabriele Rollo, Beatrice Puccilli, Anna di Luzio

AWARDS: Italian National Syndicate of Film Journalists
2024 Nominee Silver Ribbon - Best Original Story

Pingyao International Film Festival
2024 Nominee Roberto Rossellini Awards - Best Film
2024 Nominee People's Choice Award - Crouching Tigers - Best Film



KIDNAPPED: THE ABDUCTION OF EDGARDO MORTARA

Marco Bellocchio

Recounts the true story of Edgardo Montara, a Jewish child from Bologna who in 1858 was abducted by the Catholic Church due to having been secretly baptized by his family's Christian maid back when he was an infant. Montara was taken to Rome, where he would end up being raised and tutored personally by Pope Pius IX, who sought to preserve the primacy of the Church and its laws. This choice would prove to be controversial, causing an uproar that reverberated throughout Italy and Europe.

Ikinikwento ang buhay ni Edgardo Montara, isang Hudyong bata galing sa Bologna na dinakip ng Simbahan noong 1858, nang malaman na lihim siyang bininyagan ng Kristyanong kasambahay ng kanyang pamilya. Dinala si Montara sa Roma, kung saan ipinalaki siya at tinuruan ni Papa Pius IX, na umasang mapanatili ang kapangyarihan ng simbahan at ang kanyang mga batas. Magiging kontrobersyal ito, at magiging dahilan ng gulo na umusbong sa Italy at buong Europe.

Italy, France Germany | 2023 | 134 mins | Drama, Historical | Hebrew, Italian, Latin

Prod: Alexandra Henochsberg, Pierre-François Piet, Michael Weber, Viola Fügen, Paolo Del Brocco, Beppe Caschetto, Simone Gattoni | Dir: Mario Bellocchio | Scr: Edoardo Albinati, Daniela Ceselli, Susanna Nicchiarelli, Marco Bellocchio | DOP: Francesco Di Giacomo | Ed:

Francesca Calvelli, Stefano Mariotti | With: Enea Sala, Leonardo Maltese, Paolo Pierobon, Fausto Russo Alesi, Barbara Ronchi, Andrea Gherpelli

AWARDS: David di Donatello Awards
2024 Winner David - Best Adapted Screenplay
2024 Winner David - Best Production Design
2024 Winner David - Best Costume Design
2024 Winner David - Best Make-Up
2024 Winner David - Best Hair Design/Styling

Golden Rooster Awards
2023 Winner Golden Rooster International Competition Award
Best Actor
2023 Winner Golden Rooster International Competition Award
Best Director

Italian National Syndicate of Film Journalists
2023 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Film
2023 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Director
2023 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Screenplay
2023 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Actress
2023 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Supporting Actor
2023 Winner Silver Ribbon - Best Editing
2023 Winner Guglielmo Biraghi Award



ALICE ROHRWACHER LA CHIMERA

Alice Rohrwacher was born in Fiesole and studied in Turin and Lisbon. She wrote and played music for the theatre before being drawn to cinema, where she began working as a documentary film editor. In 2011 she directed her first full-length film, *Corpo Celeste* (Heavenly Body) which was premiered at Cannes in the Quinzaine des Réalisateurs, or Directors' Fortnight, and screened at the Sundance, New York, London, Rio and Tokyo festivals. Her second film, *Le Meraviglie* (The Wonders) won the Grand Prix at Cannes in 2014, while her third *Lazzaro Felice* (Happy As Lazarus, 2018), received the Best Screenplay award in Cannes, as well as great international acclaim. In 2015 she directed *De Djess*, a short in the Miu Miu Women's Tale series. In 2016 she directed *La Traviata* by Giuseppe Verdi at the Teatro Valli in Reggio Emilia. In 2020 she directed the third and fourth episodes in the acclaimed Rai-HBO TV series *My Brilliant Friend – The Story of a New Name*, adapted from the novels by Elena Ferrante. In 2021 she presented the documentary *Futura*, co-directed with Pietro Marcello and Francesco Munzi, at Cannes (Quinzaine). In 2023 she was nominated for an Oscar in the Best Live Action Shorts category for *Le Pupille* (The Pupils) co-produced by Alfonso Cuarón for Disney.



MATTEO GARRONE IO CAPITANO

Matteo Garrone was born in Rome in 1968. He is the son of a theatre critic, Nico Garrone, and a photographer. In 1996 he won the Sacher d'Oro, an award sponsored by Nanni Moretti, with the short film *Silhouette* (1996), that became one of the three episodes of his first feature film *Land in Between* (1996). He won Best Director at the European Film Awards and at the David di Donatello Awards for *Gomorrah* (2008). His film *Reality* (2012) competed in competition at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival and won the Grand Prix. His latest film *Tale of Tales* (2015) was selected to compete for the Palme d'Or at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival.



ANTONIO MANETTI DIABOLIK: WHO ARE YOU?

Antonio Manetti was born on September 16, 1970 in Rome, Lazio, Italy. He is a director and producer, known for *Love and Bullets* (2017), *Song of Napoli* (2013) and *Diabolik* (2021).



MARCO MANETTI DIABOLIK: WHO ARE YOU?

Marco Manetti was born on January 15, 1968 in Rome, Lazio, Italy. He is a director and producer, known for *Love and Bullets* (2017), *Song of Napoli* (2013) and *Diabolik* (2021).



MICHELE RIONDINO PALAZZINA LAF

Michele Riondino was born on March 14, 1979 in Taranto, Puglia, Italy. He is an actor and director, known for *Palazzina Laf* (2023), *Dormant Beauty* (2012) and *The Past Is a Foreign Land* (2008).



CARLO SIRONI MY SUMMER WITH IRÈNE

Carlo Sironi is known for *Sole* (2019), *My Summer with Irene* (2024) and *Valparaiso* (2016).



MARCO BELLOCCHIO KIDNAPPED

Marco Bellocchio is one of the most consistent and most adventurous of today's Italian directors—an achievement all the more remarkable given that he made his feature debut almost fifty years ago. Over those years, he has amassed a body of films that encompasses a large number of original screenplays, adaptations of the likes of Pirandello and Kleist and personal, quasi-autobiographical work. What unifies these films is the beauty and originality of Bellocchio's images and his unceasing quest to understand the place of the individual in contemporary Italy and contemporary cinema. After making a few shorts, Bellocchio announced himself with his ferocious first feature, the acclaimed *Fists in the Pocket* (1965). This caustic and anarchic look at an extremely troubled family launched him instantly to the first ranks of the Italian film scene, alongside Antonioni, Pasolini and Bertolucci. For the next several years, films such as *China Is Near* (1967) and *In the Name of the Father* (1971) found Bellocchio examining the turbulent world of leftist politics and revolutionary dreams with an eye both sympathetic and jaundiced. During the 1980s and 1990s, under the spell of unorthodox—and, to some, controversial—psychoanalyst Massimo Fagioli, Bellocchio's emphasis turned to examining the interweaving of family dynamics and sexual desire as they produce and undermine personal identities. Films such as *A Leap in the Dark* (1980) and *Devil in the Flesh* (1986) create complex allegories of an audacious originality. More recently, Bellocchio has turned to more straightforward narratives in a number of films that examine Italy's recent past and its present, from *The Nanny* (1999) to one of his most recent works, *Dormant Beauty* (2012). Shifting brilliantly from realist fiction to archival footage to the imagery of dream or fantasy, all within a single film, this recent period has returned Bellocchio to the forefront of contemporary cinema, while combining the lessons learned from both the previous political and allegorical work. What has remained constant is Bellocchio's searching critique of the institutions that control individuals and organize the flow of power: the army, political parties, schools, the state and its laws, the Church, and the family.

- IMDb Mini Biography By: Harvard Film Archive



SUJO

Fernanda Valadez, Astrid Rondero

When Sujo (Juan Jesús Varela) was just four years old, his father, a cartel gunman, was killed. Growing up in the Mexican countryside, there is no avoiding the presence of the cartel. And as Sujo comes of age, he is faced with what feels like an inevitability: to take up arms and work for the cartel, becoming part of the violent cycle that took his father away from him.

Nung apat na taon pa lang si Sujo (Juan Jesús Varela), ang tatay niyang cartel gunman ay pinatay. Hindi niya maiwasan ang impluwensya ng cartel habang siya ay lumalaki sa kabukiran ng Mexico. Nang tumanda si Sujo, hinaharap niya ang parang hindi maiwasan: na mag-armas at magtrabaho para sa cartel, at sumama sa marahas na siglo na siyang pumatay sa kanyang ama.

Mexico, France, USA | 2024 | 127 mins | Crime, Drama | Spanish
 Prod: Jewel Ross, Jean-Baptiste Bailly-Maitre, Fernanda Valadez, Astrid Rondero, Virginie Devesa, Diana Arcega
 | Dir/Scr: Fernanda Valadez, Astrid Rondero | DOP: Ximena Amann | Ed: Astrid Rondero, Susan Korda, Fernanda Valadez
 | With: Juan Jesús Varela, Yadira Pérez, Sandra Lorenzanom Karla Garrido, Alexis Varela, Kevin Aguilar

- AWARDS:**
- San Sebastián International Film Festival**
2024 Winner Cooperación Española Award
 - Festival de Cine de Ourense**
2024 Winner Premio del Jurado - Best Director
 - Sundance Film Festival**
2024 Winner Grand Jury Prize - World Cinema - Dramatic
 - African Asian Latin American Film Festival**
2024 Winner Audience Award - Windows on the World Feature Film Competition
 - Toulouse Latin America Film Festival**
2024 Winner Rail d'Oc
2024 Winner Prix Cine+
 - Sofia International Film Festival**
2024 Winner Grand Prix - International Competition
 - MOOOV Film Festival**
2024 Winner Canvas Award - Best Film - International Competition
 - Latinità Festival du Cinéma Espagnol et Latino-Américain**
2024 Winner Grand Prix - Best Film
2024 Winner Prix "Hasta Siempre"

A selection of exciting new films for cinema lovers of all stripes.



SHAHID

Narges Kalhor

Presented by Goethe Institut Philippines. Director Narges Kalhor casts actress Baharak Abdolifard to be her avatar in this unusual piece of docufiction. The director's full name is Narges Shahid Kalhor, and 'Shahid' means 'martyr.' The name was attached to her family following the death of her great-grandfather while praying. Looking to free herself from the connotations and history of the name, Kalhor goes through the process of having her name changed through the German bureaucracy.

Presented by Goethe Institut Philippines. Kinast ni Narges Kalhor ang actress na si Baharak Abdolifard bilang kanyang avatar sa kakaibang docufiction na ito. Ang buong pangalan ng director ay Narges Shahid Kalhor, at ang 'Shahid' at nangangahulugang 'martir'. Dininkit ang pangalan sa kanyang pamilya pagkatapos ng pagkamatay ng kanyang lolo sa tuhod habang nagdadasal. Dumaan si Kalhor sa German bureaucracy para mapalitan ang kanyang pangalan, at lumaya mula sa kasaysayan ng pangalan.

Germany | 2024 | 84 mins | Hybrid Documentary | German, Farsi, English
 Prod: Michael Kalb | Dir: Narges Kalhor | Scr: Aydin Alinejadsomeeh, Narges Kalhor
 | DOP: Felix Pflieger | Ed: Frank J. Müller Narges Kalhor | With: Baharak Abdolifard, Nima Nazarinia, Thomas Sprekelsen, Lilli Pongratz, Saleh Rozati, Nina Wesemann

AWARDS: **Berlin International Film Festival**
 2024 Nominee GWFF Best First Feature Award
 2024 Winner Caligari Film Award
 2024 Winner C.I.C.A.E. Award - Forum



NO OTHER LAND

Rachel Szor, Yuval Abraham, Hamdan Ballal, Basel Adra

لا أرض أخرى

Basel Adra is a Palestinian activist who grew up in the Apartheid conditions imposed by Israel on Palestine. Yuval Abraham is an Israeli journalist who has made it his mission to let people know about the plight of the people from Adra's village. The two become unlikely friends, and along with the other members of a filmmaking collective, they have put together a documentary that studies the current Israeli occupation of Palestine.

Lumaki si Basel Adra, isang Palestinian activist, sa mga Apartheid conditions na ipinataw ng Israel sa Palestine. Si Yuval Abraham ay Israeli journalist na ginawang misyon ang ipakita sa mga tao ang kalagayan ng mga tao mula sa barrio ni Adra. Naging magkaibigan ang dalawa, at kasama ang ilan pang miyembro ng filmmaking collective, gumawa sila ng dokyumentaryo na inaaral ang kasalukayang pag-occupy ng Israel sa Palestine.

Norway, State of Palestine | 2024 | 92 mins | Documentary | Arabic, English, Hebrew
 Prod: Fabien Greenberg, Bård Kjøge Rønning | Dir/Ed: Rachel Szor, Yuval Abraham, Hamdan Ballal, Basel Adra
 DOP: Rachel Szor

AWARDS: **Bastia Mediterranean Film Festival**
 2024 Winner Grand Prix Arte Mare - Mention Spéciale
 2024 Winner Prix Jury Jeune
 2024 Winner Prix Cinéma Petru Mari RCFM - Musique Originale de Bande Son

Berlin International Film Festival
 2024 Winner Panorama Audience Award - Documentary Film
 2024 Winner Berlinale Documentary Award

Vancouver International Film Festival
 2024 Winner Audience Award - Showcase

Athens International Film Festival
 2024 Winner Golden Athena - Best Documentary

Encounters South African International Documentary Festival
 2024 Winner Al Jazeera Award - Best International Documentary

CPH:DOX
 2024 Winner Audience Award

Visions du Réel International Film Festival Nyon
 2024 Winner Audience Award - Grand Angle Competition

Sheffield International Documentary Festival
 2024 Winner Tim Hetherington Award

Belfast Film Festival
 2024 Winner Maysles Brothers Award - Feature Documentary

IndieLisboa International Independent Film Festival
 2024 Winner Audience Award - Audience Award
 2024 Winner Audience Award - Best Feature Film

Busan International Film Festival
 2024 Winner Wide Angle - Cinephile Award
 2024 Winner Busan Cinephile Award - Busan Cinephile Award



TWILIGHT OF THE WARRIORS: WALLED IN

Soi Cheang

九龍城寨之圍城

Presented by Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Jakarta. 1980s Hong Kong. Lok (Raymond Lam) is a refugee trying to get papers so that he can stay in Hong Kong. Scammed and then pursued by the Triads, he runs to the Walled City of Kowloon, which at this time had been practically abandoned by the government, and had become a lawless place informally run by a gang. But at the same time, it has become the last refuge for outsiders and the poor, and Lok soon discovers something worth fighting for.

Presented by Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Jakarta. 1980s Hong Kong. Si Lok (Raymond Lam) ay refugene na gusto makakuha ng papeles para nakatira siya sa Hong Kong. Niloko siya ng mga Triad, at tumakbo siya sa Walled City ng Kowloon, na sa panahong iyon ay iniwan na ng gobyerno, at naging isang lugar na pinapatakbo ng isang gang. Pero yun rin ang naging huling kanlungan ng mga api at mahirap, at makakahanap si Lok ng mga bagay na dapat ipaglaban.

China, Hong Kong | 2024 | 125 mins | Action, Drama | Cantonese

Prod: John Chong, Wilson Yip | Dir: Soi Cheang | Scr: Au Kin-ye, Tai-lee Chan, Shum Kwan-sin, Lai Chun | DOP: Cheng Siu-keung | Ed: Cheung Ka-fai | With: Raymond Lam, Louis Koo, Terrance Lau, Tony Wu, Man Kit Cheung, Philip Ng

- AWARDS:**
- Sitges - Catalanian International Film Festival**
2024 Winner Best Director - Secció Oficial Fantàstic
 - Fantasia Film Festival**
2024 Winner Audience Award Silver - Best Asian Feature
 - Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival**
2024 Winner Audience Award - Asian Competition

- Weibo Awards Ceremony**
2024 Winner Weibo Movie Award Strong Actor of the Year
- 2024 Winner Weibo Movie Award
- Word-of-mouth Movie of the Year**

GHOST CAT ANZU

Yoko Kuno, Nobuhiro Yamashita

化け猫あんずちゃん

Karin (voiced by Noa Gotō) has been left by her debt-ridden father at her grandfather's temple. There, she meets Anzu, a bakeneko, or ghost cat. Anzu is 37 years old, takes odd jobs around town, and likes to play pachinko. He also promises to take care of Karin while her father is away trying to pay back his debts. Anzu proves to be an unreliable character, but he does seem dedicated to the care of Karin, guiding her through all manner of supernatural dilemmas.

Iniwan si Karin (boses ni Noa Gotō) ng kanyang amang baon sa utang sa temple ng kanyang lolo. Doon, nakilala niya si Anzu, isang bakeneko, o multong puso. 37 na si Anzu, gumagawa ng kung ano-ano sa bayan, at mahilig sa pachinko. Nangako rin siya na alagaan si Karin habang wala ang kanyang ama. Mahirap pagkatiwalaan si Anzu, pero naging mabuting alagad siya para kay Karin, at ginagabayan siya sa kahint ano pa mang supernatural na problema.

France, Japan | 2024 | 94 minutes | Animation, Fantasy | Japanese

Prod: Emmanuel-Alain Raynal, Hiroyuki Negishi, Pierre Baussaron, Keiichi Kondo | Dir: Yoko Kuno, Nobuhiro Yamashita | Scr: Shinji Imaoka | DOP: Masato Makino | Ed: Toshihiko Kojima | With: Mirai Moriyama, Noa Gotō, Munetaka Aoki, Mikako Ichikawa, Keiichi Suzuki, Shingo Mizusawa

AWARDS: **Anney International Animated Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Cristal - Best Feature

Asia Pacific Screen Awards
2024 Nominee Asia Pacific Screen Award Best Animated Feature Film

Cannes Film Festival
2024 Nominee SACD Prize - Directors' Fortnight

Valladolid International Film Festival
2024 Nominee Seminci Joven Award - Best Feature Film

Sitges - Catalanian International Film Festival
2024 Nominee Official Fantàstic Competition - Best Motion Picture
2024 Nominee Anima't Award - Best Animated Feature Film

Fantasia Film Festival
2024 Winner Audience Award Gold - Best Animated Feature



THE SPARROW IN THE CHIMNEY

Ramon Zürcher

Der Spatz im Kamin

Karen (Maren Eggert) lives with her husband Markus (Andreas Döhler) and their children in her childhood home, an idyllic house located in rural Switzerland. Karen's younger sister Jule (Britta Hammelstein) arrives at their home to stay for the weekend, visiting to celebrate Markus' birthday. The sisters have opposing personalities: Karen is strict and domineering, while Jule is cheerful and happy-go-lucky. The tension between the sisters leads to the reopening of old wounds, and the revelation of current secrets, all of it boiling over into intense, at times violent confrontations.

Nakatira si Karen (Maren Eggert) kasama ng kanyang asawang si Markus (Andreas Döhler) at mga anak sa kanyang kinakalikahang tahanan, sa lalawiganing bahay sa Switzerland. Ang kanyang nakakabatang kapatid na si Jule (Britta Hammelstein) ay namimisita para ipagdiwang ang kaarawn ni Markus. Magkaiba ang mga personalidad ng magkapatid: si Karen ay mahigpit at dominante, habang si Jule at masayahin at happy-go-luck. Ang tensyon sa gitna ng magkapatid ay nagbukas ng mga lumang sugat, at nagbunyag ng mga bagong sikreto, hanggang umabot na sa mga matindi, at pag minsan marahas na konfrontasyon.

Switzerland | 2024 | 117 mins | Drama | German

Prod: Silvan Zürcher | Dir/Scr/Ed: Ramon Zürcher | DOP: Alex Hasskerl | With: Maren Eggert, Britta Hammelstein, Luise Heyer, Andreas Döhler, Milian Zerzawy, Lea Zoë Voss

- AWARDS:**
- Chicago International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Gold Hugo-Best Feature
 - Bergen International Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Cinema Extraordinaire
 - Hamburg Film Festival**
2024 Winner Critics Award
 - Pingyao International Film Festival**
2024 Winner Roberto Rossellini Awards Best Film
 - Locarno Film Festival**
2024 Nominee Golden Leopard -Best Film
 - 2024 Nominee People's Choice Award**
Crouching Tigers - Best Film



FERNANDA VALADEZ ASTRID RONDERO

SUJO

Astrid Rondero and Fernanda Valadez are Mexican writer-directors and producers. Through their collaboration for over 15 years, they have produced two feature lengths, THE DARKEST DAYS OF US (2017) and IDENTIFYING FEATURES (2020) as well as three short films, OF THIS WORLD (2010), IN STILL WATERS (2011) and 400 BAGS(2014). IDENTIFYING FEATURES received awards in Sundance, San Sebastian, Zurich, Thessaloniki and a Gotham Award for Best International Film. SUJO is their third feature film together.



NARGES KALHOR

SHAHID

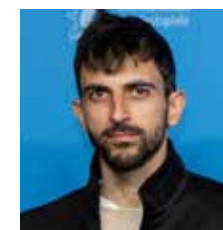
Narges Kalhor was born on 10 September 1984 in Tehran, Iran. Narges is an editor and director, known for Shahid (2024), Shoot Me (2013) and Sensitive Content (2023).



RACHEL SZOR

NO OTHER LAND

Rachel Szor is an Israeli cinematographer, editor, and director from Jerusalem.



YUVAL ABRAHAM

NO OTHER LAND

Yuval Abraham is an Israeli filmmaker and investigative journalist from Jerusalem.



HAMDAN BALLAL

NO OTHER LAND

Hamdan Ballal is a Palestinian photographer, filmmaker and farmer from Susya, and has worked as a researcher for several anti-occupation human rights groups.



BASEL ADRA

NO OTHER LAND

Basel Adra is a Palestinian lawyer, journalist and filmmaker from Masafer Yatta. He has been an activist and documentarian since 15, fighting against Israel's mass expulsion of his community.



SOI CHEANG TWILIGHT OF THE WARRIORS: WALLED IN

Soi Cheang was born on January 5, 1972 in Portuguese Macau [now China]. He is an actor and director, known for Twilight of the Warriors: Walled In (2024), Limbo (2021) and New Blood (2002).



YOKO KUNO GHOST CAT ANZU

Yôko Kuno is known for Ghost Cat Anzu (2024), Crayon Shin-chan: Mononoke Ninja Chinpuden (2022) and Land of the Lustrous (2017).



NOBUHIRO YAMASHITA GHOST CAT ANZU

Nobuhiro Yamashita was born on August 29, 1976 in Aichi, Japan. He is a director and writer, known for Matsugane ransha jiken (2006), Donten seikatsu (1999) and Linda Linda Linda (2005).



RAMON ZÜRCHER THE SPARROW IN THE CHIMNEY

Ramon Zürcher was born on June 20, 1982 in Aarberg, Switzerland. He is a director and writer, known for The Strange Little Cat (2013), The Girl and the Spider (2021) and The Sparrow in the Chimney (2024).

New work in exhibition from Filipino filmmakers. This includes Shorts Expo, which is a program of exciting new short films that push the boundaries of cinematic storytelling



ROOM IN A CROWD

John Torres

Accompanied by a special live performance. Filmmaker John Torres stitches together disparate footage taken during lockdown – among them video submissions from his students, Zoom recordings with his daughter, dashcam video from an ambushed journalist, and commercial stock footage – assembling them into a diaristic collage that serves as a personal documentary of an artist's journey into a new phase of life.

May kasamang special live performance. Ang direktor na si John Torres ay naghabi ng mga iba't-ibang footage na kinuha noong lockdown – mga video submission mula sa mga studyante, mga Zoom recording kasama ang kanyang anak, dashcam video mula sa mamahayag na inambush, at commercial stock footage – upang makabuo ng diaristic collage na nagiging dokyumentaryong personal ng pagdating ng mga yugto ng buhay.

Philippines | 2024 | 42 mins | Experimental, Documentary | Tagalog, English
Prod/Dir/Scr/DOP/Ed: John Torres



RIZAL'S MAKAMISA: PHANTASM OF REVENGE

Khavn

Rizal's Makamisa: Pantasma ng Higanti

Inspired by Jose Rizal's third, unfinished novel, discovered in 1987. A Spanish priest (Khavn) and a Filipino poet (John Lloyd Cruz) vie for the affections of an American woman (Lilith Strangenberg) who is going mad. Shot on expired film stock, which was then hand painted and scratched by the director, *Makamisa: Phantasm of Revenge* is made to feel like an unearthed relic; some newly discovered silent film from an experimental filmmaker from a century past.

Hango sa pangatlong, di-natapos na nobela ni Jose Rizal, na na-diskubre nung 1987. Isang paring Español (Khavn) at makatang Filipino (John Lloyd Cruz) ay parehong nanliligaw sa isang babaeng Amerikano (Lilith Strangenberg) na nababaliw. Gumamit ang pelikula ng panis na film stock, na siyang piniturahan at ginasgas nang mano-mano. Ang Makamisa: Pastasma ng Higanti ay nagmumukhang bagong tuklas na silent film mula sa isang experimental filmmaker mula sa nakalipas na siglo.

Philippines, Germany | 2024 | 73 mins | Experimental, Historical, Drama | English Intertitles
Prod: Achinette Villamor, Antoinette Köster, Khavn, Stephan Holl | Dir: Khavn | DOP: Albert Banzon, Jippy Pascua | Ed: Furan Guillermo | With: Lilith Strangenberg, John Lloyd Cruz, Lav Diaz, Khavn



SHORTS EXPO: OBJECTS DO NOT FALL RANDOMLY FROM THE SKY

Maria Estela Paiso

Kay Basta Angkarabo Yay Bagay Ibat Ha Langit

A young girl turns into a fish and recounts the struggles of the fisherfolk in her hometown, Zambales.

Isang batang babae ay naging isda, at kwinekwento niya ang hirap ng mga mangingisda sa kanyang bayan, ang Zambales.

Philippines | 2024 | 11 mins | Docufiction, Animation | Sambal, Tagalog

Prod: Gale Osorio, Keith Deligero | Dir/Scr/Ed: Maria Estela Paiso | DOP: Eric Bico | With: the fisherfolk of Masinloc



SHORTS EXPO: YUNG HULING SWIMMING REUNION BEFORE LIFE HAPPENS

Glenn Barit

In 2010, a group of high-school classmates reunite for a swimming trip, not knowing it's the last one they'll ever be fully together. A meditation on death and all things dying. A short film commissioned for the US video release of *Cleaners*.

Noong 2010, nagsama-sama ang isang grupo ng mga high-school classmate para sa isang swimming trip. Hindi nila alam na ito na ang huli nilang pagkikita. Isang meditasyon tungkol sa pagkamatay, at sa mga bagay na namamatay. Isang maikling pelikula na kinomisyon para sa US video release ng Cleaners.

Philippines | 2024 | 19 mins | Drama, Comedy, Teen Film | Tagalog

Prod: Noni Abao | Dir/Scr/Ed: Glenn Barit | DOP: Rocky Morilla | With: Gigi Rivera, Carlo Mejia, Julian Narag, Christian Artillaga, Charise Mabbonag, Allan Gannaban



SHORTS EXPO: INVISIBLE LABOR

Joanne Cesario

Marcos then, Marcos now. Filipino workers unite and lead the struggle for economic and political rights, determined to shape the course of history. In between, a janitor painstakingly rewinds videotapes featuring these struggles, unknowingly aiding in the preservation of history.

Marcos dati, Marcos ngayon. Nagkakaisa ang mga magagawang Filipino para mamuno sa pakikibaka para sa karapatang economic at political, determinadong hubugin ang takbo ng kasaysayan. Sa pagitan, maingat na nirerewind ng isang janitor ang mga videotape na nagpapakita ng pakikibakang ito, hindi namalayang tumutulong sa pangagalaga sa kasaysayan.

Philippines | 2023 | 21 mins | Creative Documentary | Tagalog

Prod: Alyssa Suico, Christelle Delvo | Dir/Scr: Joanne Cesario | DOP: Brian Sulicipan | Ed: Mervine Aquino | With: Cay Piedad, Maribel Piedad, Rosb Guzman, Mary Ann Castillo, Julie Ann Gutierrez



SHORTS EXPO: BROWNOUT CAPITAL

Pabelle Manikan

In the outskirts of Palawan, a man hunts for ice after dark while a woman struggles to keep her ice business afloat amidst erratic electricity. *Brownout Capital* delves into the lives of different townsfolk while navigating the constant power outages in their hometown.

*Sa Palawan, naghahanap ang isang lalaki ng yelo sa gabi, habang naghihirap ang isang babae na mapanatili ang kanyang negosyong nagbebenta ng yelo sa gitna ng papatay-patay na kuryente. Isinusuri ng *Brownout Capital* ang iba't-ibang pamumuhay ng mga tao sa barrio na kailangan mag-adjust dahil sa sunud-sunuran sa power outage sa bayan.*

Philippines | 2024 | 14 mins | Documentary | Tagalog

Prod: Wena Sanchez, Pabelle Manikan | Dir/Scr/DOP/Ed: Pabelle Manikan



SHORTS EXPO: MAY PUSO BA ANG ISANG MANIKA?

Shiri De Leon

In the impoverished barangay Kinaiya, an 8-year-old boy grows attached to a deflated sex doll that he found in a trash heap. He names it 'Manika,' and even though several men try to take Manika away from him, the boy clings to the doll as if it were his only friend.

Na mahirap na barangay Kinaiya, ang isang 8-year-old na bata na napalapit sa isang deflated na sex doll na nahanap niya sa basura. Pinangalanan niya itong 'Manika,' at kahit na sinubukan ng ilang tao na kunin ito sa kanya, kumapit ang bata dito na parang ito lang ang kanyang nag-iisang kaibigan.

Philippines | 2024 | 22 mins | Drama | Tagalog

Prod: Francesca Renee, Jane Danting, Mia Salisbury, Shiri De Leon | Dir/Scr: Shiri De Leon | DOP: Theo Lozada

Ed: Hans Rivera | With: James Mavie Estrella, John Michael Pena, Bembol Roco

MAY PUSO BA ANG ISANG
MANIKA?

SHORTS EXPO: FORGETTING CLARA

Nicole Matti

In a surreal visual journey, Forgetting Clara navigates the shadowy intersections of memory and identity, where fragmented images and silent echoes reveal the complexities of desire and the weight of unspoken truths.

Sa isang surreal na visual journey, ang Forgetting Clara ay naglalakbay sa makulimlim na pinagdadaan ng alaala at pagkakakilanlan, kung saan ang pira-pirasng imahe at mga dayangdayang ay nagbubunyag ng pagnanasa at ang bigat ng mga lihim na katotohanan.

Philippines | 2024 | 16 mins | Experimental | Tagalog

Prod: Stacey Bascon, Riza Montelibano, Charmaine Alday | Dir/Scr: Nicole Matti | DOP: Richmond Cadsawan,

Cy Tubid | Ed: Jamie Dumancas, Ivan Cortez | With: Mina Cruz



JOHN TORRES ROOM IN THE CROWD

John Torres is an independent filmmaker, musician and writer. He has made more than a dozen short films and five features. His work fictionalizes and reworks personal and found documentations of love, family relations, and memory in relation to current events, hearsays, myth, and folklore. He teaches part-time at the University of the Philippines Film Institute and conducts filmmaking workshops and co-organizes artist talks and screenings in Los Otros, a Manila-based space, film lab, and platform committed to the intersections of film and art, with a focus on process over product. A special focus of his works has been shown in Oberhausen and Viennale.



MARIA ESTELA PAISO SHORTS EXPO: OBJECTS DO NOT FALL RANDOMLY FROM THE SKY

Maria Estela Paiso sometimes thinks that her dreams are memories from an alternate life she lives when she's asleep. A filmmaker from the Philippines, she has been in post-production since 2016 and has also been creating hiphop music videos under the alias metromaria. She forayed into directing in 2021 with her first short Ampangabagat Nin Talakba Ha Likol (It's Raining Frogs Outside), and she spends her free time trying to get a 100 at karaoke.



GLENN BARIT SHORTS EXPO: YUNG HULING SWIMMING REUNION BEFORE LIFE HAPPENS

Glenn Barit is a Filipino filmmaker, sound designer, and scorer from Tuguegarao City, Cagayan. He likes to play around with his works because filmmaking is very hard and expensive. Cleaners, his debut feature film, won Best Film, Best Screenplay and Audience Choice Award at the QCinema IFF 2019. It has since screened in Busan IFF, Taipei Golden Horse FF and Torino FF among others. His latest short film, Luzonensis Osteoporosis won NETPAC Jury Prize and Audience Choice Award at the QCinema IFF 2022. It then premiered in Tallinn Black Nights FF (PÖFF Shorts) 2023 and Fantasia IFF 2023 among others. He is now currently developing and itching to make his second feature film, Luzonensis and Floresiensis, about two prehistoric hominids who are migrant workers on the land of their colonizers.



JOANNE CESARIO SHORTS EXPO: INVISIBLE LABOR

Joanne Cesario works across film, photography, and small press. She was awarded the 2022 Prince Claus Seed Awards and the 2021 NoExit Grant for Unpaid Artistic Labor. Her short films have screened at various international festivals such as Locarno, San Francisco International Film Festival, and the Hong Kong International Film Festival. Joanne is also a labor rights activist and currently heads the women's department of Kilusang Mayo Uno, one of the biggest trade union centers in the Philippines. In collaboration with Mayday Multimedia, they are developing Invisible Labor into a full-length documentary film with the support of Purin Pictures and the Tan Ean Kiam Foundation-SGIFF Southeast Asian Documentary (SEA-DOC) Grant.



KHAVN RIZAL'S MAKAMISA: PHANTASM OF REVENGE

Born 1973 in Mondomanila, Khavn (pronounced ka-vin) means "prophet of peace" in 13th century pre-hispanic Filipino. He is a prolific, eclectic filmmaker, writer, and composer.

He made his first film in 1994 and has made more than 365 films (50+ features, 300+ shorts) since, ranging from the grotesque to the romantic to the surreal and meditative, playing with different registers, modes, styles, attitudes, exploring the human psyche like a visitor from another planet. From 2002 to 2011, he was the festival director and programmer for .MOV, the first digital film festival in the Philippines.

His films include SQUATTERPUNK (Rotterdam 2006); MANILA IN THE FANGS OF DARKNESS (Viennale 2008); his two collaborations with Alexander Kluge —ORPHEA (Berlinale 2020), HAPPY LAMENTO (Venice 2018); SOLAR SYOKOY, produced by Olafur Eliasson; & RUINED HEART (Tokyo 2014) starring Tadanobu Asano with cinematography by Christopher Doyle. BALANGIGA: HOWLING WILDERNESS (2018) won the Best Film and Best Music prizes in the Philippine Urian & Famas awards, the equivalent of the Oscars and Critics Circle.

Khavn has served in the jury of various film festivals such as the Berlinale, Clermont-Ferrand, CPH:DOX, Jeonju, Bucheon, Jihlava, New Horizons, SeaShorts, Dok Leipzig, Aswan, & Zinebi. He has exhibited at the MoMA, MAXXI, Guggenheim Museum, Tate Modern, Museo Reina Sofia, National Museum of Singapore, & Venice Architecture Biennale; lectured at the Berlinale Talent Campus, Bela Tarr's Film Factory, Goethe Institut, the Danish Film Institute, and his alma mater, the Ateneo; and curated programs for the Viennale, the Edinburgh International Film Festival, & the Sharjah Biennial. Selected retrospectives of Khavn's films have been presented in Rotterdam, Pesaro, Kosovo, Sao Paulo, Taiwan, Croatia, & Oberhausen, among others.

Khavn has written eight books of poetry, two short story collections, a novel, an anthology of contemporary Philippine poetry, and a film book about the Philippine No Wave. He has won various prizes for his poetry and short stories, including the highest literary prize in the Philippines, the Palanca, for his novel.

Khavn has written and composed more than a thousand songs and recorded more than forty albums: rock operas, concept albums, piano solos, instrumentals, and soundtracks. He's the leader of several bands, among them are The Brockas, Babel Gun, Fando & Lis, Vigo. The longest he has played on solo piano non-stop live is for 13 hours for his silent 13-hour film SIMULACRUM TREMENDUM in Rotterdam.

Like his films and books, his music is characterized by ferocious artistic restlessness expressed through the blurring of conventions, resisting labels while also invoking them, making his whole body of work wildly divergent but also singular in vision.

He resides in Mondomanila with his wife, his five kids, and seven cats.


PABELLE MANIKAN SHORTS EXPO: BROWNOUT CAPITAL

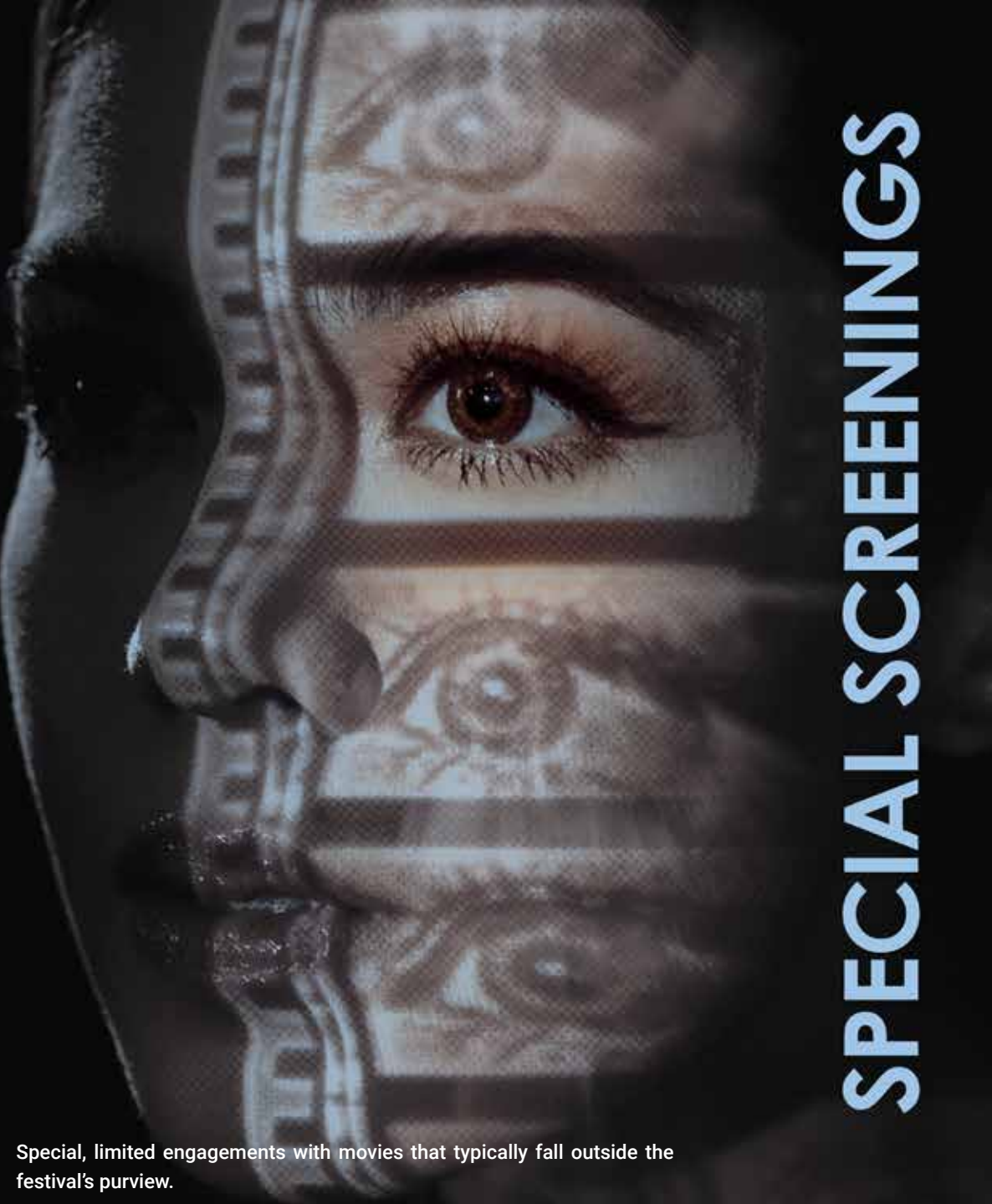
Pabelle Manikan is a Manila-based documentary film director, cinematographer, and editor specializing in short and full-length documentaries. Her first documentary short documentary *Bukang Liwayway* (2012) was screened in film festivals such as Cinemalaya Film Festival and CIDFF. Her first full-length film, *Dreaming in the Red Light* (2020), a co-production with French production company Dynamo Productions, premiered at the DMZ International Film Festival and screened at different festivals in Europe, Southeast Asia, and the US. As a film editor, she has also worked on award-winning cinematic documentaries and fiction films like *The Crescent Rising* (2016), *All Grown Up* (2019), *An Elegy to Forgetting* (2020), and *Tumandok* (2024).


SHIRI DE LEON SHORTS EXPO: MAY PUSO BA ANG ISANG MANIKA?

Shiri De Leon is a young director based in Metro Manila known for her unique and quirky approach to social issues, particularly those concerning women and children. In addition to filmmaking, she also directs music videos and advertisements. Her most notable work, *Ang Pagdadalaga ni Lola Mayumi*, was a finalist at the 2021 Cinemalaya Film Festival. It marked her first non-academic short film and quickly became a fan favorite, earning praise from critics and audiences alike. CNN Philippines recognized it in their honorable mentions for the best short films of 2021, and it has been screened at various local and international festivals. Shiri is committed to challenging stereotypes, using her platform to tell stories often left untold. She strives to demonstrate that young female directors are bold and unafraid to explore subjects that spark conversation. She continuously aims to be a voice for these powerful narratives.


NICOLE MATTI SHORTS EXPO: FORGETTING CLARA

Nicole Matti is an emerging experimental filmmaker and a graduating film student from the University of the Philippines - Diliman. With an instinct for delving into the depths of human emotion, she captures the surreal and the profound, inviting viewers to experience life's hidden layers. After a brief dive into the film industry, she returned to her studies, inspired by the dreamlike realms of surrealism and the nuanced beauty of impressionism. Coming from a family of artists, Nicole's unique vision is infused with diverse influences that shape her compelling narrative style. Her films are a vibrant fusion of visual storytelling and music, reflecting her talents as a singer and guitarist. Each piece transports audiences to a world where reality intertwines with the extraordinary, urging them to embrace the beauty of the unknown. With a bold and insightful approach, Nicole creates thought-provoking works that resonate deeply with the complexities of the human experience.


SPECIAL SCREENINGS

Special, limited engagements with movies that typically fall outside the festival's purview.



AN ERRAND

Dominic Baekart

Sid Lucero plays Moroy, the driver for a lawyer in hiding in Baguio. He is called one night to perform an errand: he is to drive back to the lawyer's house in Manila to retrieve a designer shirt. As he takes the long trip South, Moroy reflects on his journey of serving his master, and all the things he's witnessed along the way.

Si Sid Lucero ay si Moroy, drayber na abogado nagtatago sa Baguio. Tinawag siya isang gabi para utusan: babalik siya sa bahay sa Maynila para makuha ang isang designer shirt. Habang pabalik siyang Timog, nagmumuni-muni si Moroy tungkol sa mga ginawa na niya para sa kanyang amo, at ang mga bagay na nakita niya sa daan.

Philippines | 2024 | 83 mins | Drama, Thriller | Tagalog

Prod: Dee Nermal, Clementine Comoy | Dir/Ed: Dominic Baekart | Scr: Sarge Lacuesta | DOP: Steven Evangelio | With: Sid Lucero, Art Acuña, Nanding Josef, Elora España, Thea Marabut, Max Eigenmann

AWARDS:
Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival
2024 Nominee Balanghai Trophy - Best Film
2024 Winner Balanghai Trophy - Best Sound
2024 Winner Balanghai Trophy - Best Editing

IF MY LOVER WERE A FLOWER

Kaung Zan

ချစ်သူသာပန်းတစ်ပွင့်ဖွဲ့ခဲ့လျှင်

Based on a novel by Ponnya Khin. In the village of Nang Pan, Mya Lay (Wutt Hmone Shwe Yi) meets the visiting Nay Mon. The two promptly fall in love, despite the objections of Mya Lay's brothers. Nay Mon brings Mya Lay to the city of Yangon, and the two look forward to a happy future. But Mya Lay continues to be torn between her love for Nay Mon and her obligations to her family.

Hango sa nobela ni Ponnya Khin. Sa barrio ng Nang Pan, nakilala ni Mya Lay (Wutt Hmone Shwe Yi) ang nagbibisitang si Nay Mon. Nahulog ang loob nila sa isa't-isa, kahit na umaangal ang kanyang mga kapatid. Dinala ni Nay Mon si Mya Lay sa Yangon, at umaasa silang magkaroom na masayang kinabukasan. Pero nahahirapan pa rin si Mya Lay na piliin ang pag-ibig habang may obligasyon pa siya sa kanyang pamilya.

Myanmar | 2024 | 110 min | Romance, Drama | Burmese

Prod: Wyne Shwe Yan Lin | Dir/DOP: Kaung Zan | Scr: Nay Naw | Ed: Tin Tun Aung | With: Sai Sai Kham Leng, Wutt Hmone Shwe Yi, Min Oo, Min Thu, Khin Zar Chi Kyaw, Khin Moh Moh Aye



LOST SABUNGEROS

Bryan Kristoffer J. Brazil

During the pandemic lockdown, cockfighting in the Philippines moved online. This new, lucrative avenue for the local gambling industry came with some violent consequences, as over thirty *sabungeros* were mysteriously abducted, never to be seen again. *Lost Sabungeros* examines these disappearances, interviewing the families of the victims, and looking into the dark underbelly of cockfighting, and its ties with people in power.

Sa pandemic lockdown, ang sabong sa Pilipinas na pumunta sa online. Itong bagong, malakas kumita na panig ng local gambling industry ay may kasama marahas na kahihinatnan: higit sa tatlungtong sabungero ay dinukot at hindi na nakita mumuli. Sinisiyasat ng Lost Sabungeros ang pagkawala na mga ito: kinakausap ang mga pamilya ng biktima, at tinitignan ang madilim na mga sulok ng sabong, at ang mga koneksyon nito sa mga makapangyarihang tao.

Philippines | 2024 | 90 mins | Documentary | Tagalog
 Prod: Joselito Chang Tan | Dir: Bryan Kristoffer J. Brazil | Scr: Lee Joseph M. Castel, Mary Zelijet Paris, Mark Roland Romas | DOP: Marco Felipe Lopez | Ed: Eman Payumo



A THOUSAND FORESTS

Hanz Florentino

Five teenagers join an annual Forest Camp, which gives them the chance to become the Philippines' camp ambassadors and travel the world. Each of them come with their own baggage and issues, but will soon gain a sincere appreciation for nature and the wonders that it brings.

Sumali ang limang teenager sa Forest Camp, na magbibigay sa kanila ng pagkakataong mga camp ambassador ng Pilipinas sa mapadala sa iba't-ibang sulok ng mundo. Lahat sila ay may sariling mga problema at issue, pero magkakaroon sila ng panibagong pagpapahalaga sa kalikasan at ang mga kabutihang dala nito.

Philippines | 2024 | 120 mins | Drama, Musical | Tagalog
 Prod: Jane Foronda, Marivic Trinidad | Dir/Ed: Hanz Florentino | Scr: Jeffrey Ocampo, Jenie Tan | DOP: Pantit Pablo
 | With: Dannah Bautista, James Mavie Estrella, Ramjean Entera, Santino Juan Santiago, Venice Bismonte, Dominic Ochoa, Chai Fonacier



THE MARCHING BAND

Emmanuel Courcol

En Fanfare

Acclaimed orchestra conductor Thibaut (Benjamin Lavernhe) is diagnosed with leukemia, and is in need of a bone marrow donor. A DNA test reveals that he is adopted, and might have a potential donor in an older brother. He travels to Lille, where he meets his brother and learns that he is a musician as well, playing trombone in a local marching band. When the band loses its conductor, Thibaut volunteers to step in, and becomes entangled in the lives of the people of the town.

Ang sikat na orchestra conductor na si Thibaut (Benjamin Lavernhe) ay may leukemia, ang nangangailangan ng bone marrow donor. Nalaman niya sa DNA test na siya ay ampon, at meron siyang kapatid na pwede maging donor. Pumunta siya sa Lille para makilala ang kanyang kapatid, at nalaman niyang musikero rin siya na tumutugtog ng trombone sa marching band ng barrio. Nang mawala ang conductor ng banda, pumasok si Thibaut, at naging bahagi ng buhay ng mga tao sa barrio

France | 2024 | 103 mins | Comedy | France Prod: Marc Bordure | Dir: Emmanuel Courcol | Scr: Emmanuel Courcol, Irène Muscari | DOP: Maxence Lemonnier | Ed: Gueric Catala | With: Benjamin Lavernhe, Pierre Lottin, Sarah Suco, Clémence Massart-Weit, Ludmila Mikaël, Anne Loiret



DOMINIC BAEKART AN ERRAND

DOMINIC BEKAERT is a Filipino-Belgian audiovisual director and film preservationist who lives and works in Manila. He was previously based in Paris, France, where he studied film production at ESEC (Ecole Supérieure d'études Cinématographiques) and graduated with a Master Degree in Film Preservation at the French National Institute for Audiovisual (INA). While living in France, he directed several short films, ads and music videos. He moved back to Manila in 2016 to head the National Film Archives of the Philippines, where he spearheaded the preservation and restoration of titles such as Insiang by Lino Brocka, Noli Me Tangere by Gerry De Leon and Batang Westside by Lav Diaz, among many others. In 2019, he founded his own production company Zoopraxi Studio, with his wife & partner Clementine Bekaert. Through Zoopraxi Studio they conceptualized, produced, directed, shot and edited multiple award winning music videos, ads and a visual album.



KAUNG ZAN IF MY LOVER WERE A FLOWER

Kaung Zan is known for If My Lover Were A Flower (2024), Crying Forest (2022) and Magical Village (2017).



BRYAN KRISTOFFER J. BRAZIL LOST SABUNGEROS

Bryan Kristoffer J. Brazil has been a film director and TV producer in the Philippines for a decade now. His short documentary film, In the Middle of the Night, received recognition from Gawad CCP or The CCP Independent Film and Video Competition—the longest-running film and video competition in the Philippines, and the Freedom Film Festival in Malaysia.

His documentary film, My Little Dancing Shoes, won best pitch at Tokyo Docs 2017 and it was acquired through co-production by NHK. It is the opening film for the documentary section of Cinemalaya Philippine Independent Film Festival and winner of World Vision Special Award at the EBS International Documentary Festival 2019 in South Korea.

Brazil was also selected to participate in various labs and forums such as Tokyo Docs, Australia International Documentary Conference, If/Then by In Docs and Tribeca Film Institute, Docs By The Sea and Doc Edge Kalkota.


HANZ FLORENTINO A THOUSAND FORESTS

Hanz Florentino is known for A Thousand Forests (2024), G Diaries (2017) and Andrea Badinas: Ikaw ang sentro (2021).


EMMANUEL COURCOL THE MARCHING BAND

Emmanuel Courcol is a French actor, director and screenwriter.

Alongside his career as an actor, he gradually turned to screenwriting in the 2000s, before moving into directing in 2012 with his first short film *Géraldine je t'aime*, starring Grégory Gadebois and Julie-Marie Parmentier.

He then directed his first feature film, *Ceasefire (Cessez-le-feu)*, in 2015, with Romain Duris, Grégory Gadebois, Céline Sallette, then in 2020 *The Big Hit (Un Triomphe)*, with Kad Merad, Marina Hands, Laurent Stocker.

He received a César Award nomination for Best Original Screenplay in 2010 for *Welcome*, Prix Jacques-Prévert for screenplay the same year.

Selected for the 2020 Cannes Film Festival, *The Big Hit* won Public Award at the Angoulême Francophone Film Festival and the Best Comedy of the Year Award at the 33rd European Film Awards.



CLOUD

Kiyoshi Kurosawa

クラウド

Ryosuke Yoshii (Masaki Suda) resists living a conventional life, quitting his factory job the moment a promotion is offered to him. He instead chooses to make a living by reselling items on the Internet. His careless way of doing business earns him the animosity of several of his customers, and soon enough, Ryosuke is made to face violent consequences. Having foreseen many of the dehumanizing psychic horrors of the Internet in Pulse, Kurosawa revisits the subject to tell a story of how online dealings can have very real consequences.

Ayaw ni Ryosuke Yoshii (Masaki Suda) sa kumbensyonal na buhay. Nang bigyan siya ng promotion sa kanyang trabaho sa pabrika, umalis na lang siya. Pinili niyang maghanapbuhay sa pagbebenta ng gamit sa Internet. Ang kanyang walang ingat na paraan ng pagnenegosyo ay nagdudulot sa kanya ng galit ng ilan sa kanyang mga customer, at sa lalong madaling panahon, si Ryosuke ay napaharap sa marahas na kahihinatnan. Si Kurosawa ay nagbalik sa pagsisiyasat ng ating modernong pakikipagsapalaran sa Internet, sa isang kwentong tungkol sa mga kahihinathan ng mga online na pagtutungo.

Japan | 2024 | 123 mins | Action, Thriller, Drama | Japanese

Prod: Yumi Arakawa, Nobuhiro Iizuka, Yuki Nishimiya | Dir/Scr: Kiyoshi Kurosawa | DOP: Yasuyuki Sasaki | Ed: Kôichi Takahashi | With: Masaki Suda, Kotone Furukawa, Daiken Okudaira, Amane Okayama, Yoshiyoshi Arakawa, Masataka Kubota

AWARDS: Sitges - Catalanian International Film Festival
2024 Nominee Òrbita Award =Best Feature Length Film



KIYOSHI KUROSAWA CLOUD

Kiyoshi Kurosawa (黒澤 清, Kurosawa Kiyoshi, born July 19, 1955; Kobe) is a Japanese film director, screenwriter, film critic, actor, and professor at Tokyo University of the Arts.

Noted for his psychological films that often focus on ambiguous narratives and on their characters' inner turmoils and quests for meaning and connections, he is best known for his contributions to psychological horror and Japanese horror, notably his acclaimed 1997 film Cure, although he has also worked in a variety of other genres.

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BABY RUTH VILLARAMA

Baby Ruth is a producer and director focused on international documentary co-productions that highlight Asian narratives. She holds a Master's Degree in Film Impact and Distribution from Birmingham City University, where she received the British Council's Global Social Impact Award for her films addressing modern issues like migration, gender, youth and human rights. She co-founded Voyage Film Studios to support filmmakers in the Philippines and the Filipino Documentary Society, which initiated Daang Dokyu, celebrating Philippine documentaries. Additionally, she serves on the executive board of the Directors Guild of the Philippines, and is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in the documentary branch.



ROBYN MATUTO

Robyn Matuto is a TV Writer and film curator. Based out of Toronto, Canada, Robyn is a second-generation Filipino-Canadian drawn to narratives around diaspora and displacement, as well as the weird and wondrous. As a writer and actress, she has credits with Wildbrain, Mattel, Hulu, Disney+ and more. As a curator, she has worked with TIFF, SIFF, Harvard Kennedy School and other prestigious film festivals.



GABOR GREINER

After his studies of Cultural Management in Vienna, Birmingham and Chicago, Gabor Greiner worked as a journalist and film critic. In 2003, he moved to Brussels to take charge of the distribution support department of the MEDIA Program at the European Commission's Film Fund. In 2009, Gabor became acquisitions executive at the international sales agent, The Match Factory. In August 2010, Gabor moved to Berlin to take over acquisitions of the French-German sales company, Films Boutique, winner of the Golden Bear in 2017 and 2020 and the Golden Lion in 2011 and 2016.

Gabor is a member of the European Film Academy and an active collaborator of Torino Film Lab and EAVE.



NGUYỄN LÊ

Nguyễn Lê is a bilingual Vietnamese-English film critic, journalist and translator. He is a member of renowned critics associations such as FIPRESCI and International Cinephile Society. He is always working to raise the exposure of of-Vietnamese-descent cinema whether through his articles or subtitles. Nguyễn's written works are featured on well-known publications such as FANGORIA, Slashfilm, Texas Observer, Vietcetera, Saigoneer, Awards Watch and others. His subtitling efforts thus far have allowed Vietnamese titles (such as The Last Wife, Betting With Ghost, and The Sisters) to find audiences abroad, and international titles (such as Perfect Days, Bolero, City of Wind, and The Substance) to connect with local viewers. Nguyễn is also the Vietnamese cinema consultant for the Far East Film Festival in Udine, Italy and – to those who know him – a fervent believer of the day Vietnamese films enter the Criterion Collection.



MING-JUNG KUO

Ming-Jung Kuo has spent much of her career in film festival management, programming and talent support initiatives. Her work as Program Director for Taipei Film Festival (2014-2018), carried a balance of showcasing new talent and introducing narrative VR programs as well as celebrating cinema heritage. She also partnered with Produire au Sud and launched PAS Taipei in 2015 to help reinforce script development, co-production and sales strategies. Having worked as the program consultant from 2017, she joined the Singapore International Film Festival in 2019, first as the Program Director before becoming Artistic Director. Between 2019 and 2021, she was on the selection committee for the Locarno Festival Open Doors. She has also been extensively involved in the selection of projects for Taiwanese and Southeast Asian script development and regional funding schemes. She set up Island X Pictures in 2022 and is developing feature films. In 2022 she joined Directors' Fortnight as a consultant covering Southeast Asia and Taiwan.



RICHARD BOLISAY

Richard Bolisay is the author of *Break It to Me Gently: Essays on Filipino Film* (2019) and *Nothing Deep* (2022), both finalists for the Philippine National Book Awards, and the editor of *Daang Dokyu: A Festival of Philippine Documentaries* (2020). As a writer and film critic, he has participated in film festivals in Berlin, Locarno, Hong Kong, Jeonju, Berwick, Edinburgh, Brighton, Cebu, and Manila. He is currently a PhD student at the University of St Andrews and a guest programmer for the Singapore International Film Festival.



AARON HUNT

A.E. Hunt is a Brooklyn-based filmmaker from Illinois; cameraperson in doc/narrative production; film critic in publications like *Criterion*, *Film Comment*, *Sight & Sound*, and *CNN PH Life*; freelance programmer; head of theatrical for Kani Releasing; and was the vice president of Dedza Films. He recently was an additional editor of a two-volume memoir about writer/director Mike De Leon's life during the first and second golden ages of Philippine cinema, *Last Look Back*, and guest edited the upcoming issue of the New York underground film journal, *Crater*.



TITO VALIENTE

Tito Genova Valiente is a public anthropologist, a film critic and film educator, and a writer.

He has taught in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the Japanese Studies Program of the Loyola Schools, Ateneo de Manila University. In Ateneo de Naga, he was the Director of the Institute of Bikol History and Culture.

He co-edited two books with Dr. Hiroko Nagai: *War Memories, Monuments, and Media. Representations of Conflicts and Creation of Histories of World War II. Japanese Studies Program, Ateneo de Manila University; Transnationalizing Culture of Japan in Asia. Dramas, Musics, Arts, Agencies*, both released by the Japanese Studies Program through the Ateneo de Manila University Press. He is the author of a book, which is an ethnographic notebook: *The Last Sacristan Mayor and the Most Expensive Mass for the Dead: Tales from Ticao*.

Valiente is a member of the Manunuri ng Pelikulang Pilipino (Critics of the Filipino Film), the oldest and the most prestigious film critics circle in the country, in which he once served as its Chair. He has lectured on films and conducted workshops on film education and film criticism; he has served as jury in many film festivals. He is a columnist for *Business Mirror*, where he maintains two columns: "Reeling," which is on film and mass media; and "Annotations," which is on societies and cultures.

In 2015, he was awarded by the Union of Writers of the Philippines (UMPIL) the Gawad Sining ni Balagtas for Achievement in English essay.



RONALD ARGUELLES

Currently working as Head of Content Aggregation at VMX, Viva streaming platforms (2021 to present) and is busy mounting the first VMX Film Festival for Summer 2025. Has Past Works at ABS-CBN as Executive Producer, Channel Head of Cinema One and Festival Director of Cinema One Originals Film Festival from 2005 to 2019.



RICHARD BOLISAY

Richard Bolisay is the author of *Break It to Me Gently: Essays on Filipino Film* (2019) and *Nothing Deep* (2022), both finalists for the Philippine National Book Awards, and the editor of *Daang Dokyu: A Festival of Philippine Documentaries* (2020). As a writer and film critic, he has participated in film festivals in Berlin, Locarno, Hong Kong, Jeonju, Berwick, Edinburgh, Brighton, Cebu, and Manila. He is currently a PhD student at the University of St Andrews and a guest programmer for the Singapore International Film Festival.



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AARON E. HUNT

A.E. Hunt is a Brooklyn-based filmmaker from Illinois; cameraperson in doc/narrative production; film critic in publications like Criterion, Film Comment, Sight & Sound, and CNN PH Life; freelance programmer; head of theatrical for Kani Releasing; and was the vice president of Dedza Films. He recently was an additional editor of a two-volume memoir about writer/director Mike De Leon's life during the first and second golden ages of Philippine cinema, Last Look Back, and guest edited the upcoming issue of the New York underground film journal, Crater.



DOMINIQUE WELINSKI

In 2012, after doing distribution for 20 years, Dominique Welinski founded DW, a production and consulting company. Since then, she curates and produces the Factory program at Director's Fortnight in Cannes. She's a consultant and pitch trainer for various workshops and labs. She did co-produce among others: Sanjeewa Pushpakumara (Sri Lanka), Alireza Khatami (Iran), Midi Z (Myanmar), Yona Rozenkier (Israel). DW is developing films in Israel, India, Brazil and Philippines.



SHAINA MAGDAYAO

Shaina Garcia Magdayao is an acclaimed Filipino actress, known primarily for her dramatic roles in film and television. She began her career as a child actress and starred in her first titular role, Lyra (1996). She has received accolades from various local award-giving bodies such as FAMAS, Metro Manila Film Festival Award, Young Critics Circle, and Gawad Pasado, in addition to nominations from Gawad Urian (Philippines' equivalent to the Oscars). Her works have also competed and screened in numerous prestigious film festivals around the world, including the Cannes Film Festival, Berlinale, Locarno Film Festival, Tokyo International Film Festival and Busan International Film Festival. Most recently, she served as jury for the New York Asian Film Festival.



**QCINEMA CRITICS
LAB 2024**

Great film culture cannot exist without a great culture of criticism. For its 12th year, the QCinema International Film Festival (QCIFF) is opening its doors for the second time to six emerging and established critics from all over the Philippines to participate in the QCinema Critics Lab. Motivated by a desire to expand and deepen the discourse on Filipino, Southeast Asian, and international cinema, QCinema has created the lab in the hopes of equipping critics with the tools and the network to engage with evolving forms of film and media criticism.

The QCinema Critics Lab hopes to train critics who see beyond binaries of good and bad and who are interested in the gray areas, niche interests, and peripheral perspectives in cinema, and the material conditions and cultural nuances that shape our favorite and most hated works. Why? In the hopes of challenging the dominant conversations of our time and breaking the tradition of poisonous overpraise and baseless harshness in the landscape. The goal of the QCinema Critics Lab is to actively support film criticism, promote coverage of non-English language and arthouse films in the Philippines, and assist talented film critics from any background and at any age in developing their careers as independent cultural workers with uncompromising voices.

For its second edition, the Critics Lab has turned inward. We look within the borders of our country for solutions and articulations of the unexamined and focus on the in-person encounter with Filipino critics with local and international experiences. This year, we are experimenting with the forms of our forums, closing doors to have more in-depth and sensitive conversations, and diversifying the output of the participants – away from straightforward prose and towards creating short and long-form criticism adapted for the times. We will discuss the realities and possibilities that can't be searched or articulated on the web and the different gestures that criticism can take shape – from writing and new media to curation and community gatherings.

With our six new critics joined by experts and the fellows from the inaugural edition of the lab, we hope to create a community that can engage with one another despite different perspectives, proclivities, and platforms, all guided by a manifesto and a desire to improve the critical landscape. All these efforts are merely starting points for the conversation, the first stone thrown at the glass towers we've been trying to break for years.

Jason Tan Liwag

Head of short film programming
Founder and head coordinator of the QCinema Critics Lab

PARTICIPANTS

Out of a pool of 56 applicants from all around the country, the QCinema Critics Lab has accepted six (6) emerging and established critics for its second edition. Like last year's cohort of critics, this year's fellows have distinct perspectives of and preoccupations about cinema.

The selected candidates for the 2024 edition are:



ACER BATISLAONG

Acer Batislaong (he/him) is a Caloocan-based writer who covers the government contracting industry by day and reports on independent and auteur Filipino cinema by night. He is a contributing writer for IONCINEMA.com and has written features for Nylon Manila, covering youth, entertainment, and pop culture. Most of his musings on film, much of which is compiled on his blog ewanbastapelikula, explore the art form's intersection with identity, culture and digital spaces. A self-proclaimed film festival junkie, Acer's always on the lookout for hidden gems and new cinematic voices at festivals big and small. In his downtime, you might find Acer listening to a voice memo from Lav Diaz urging him to keep chasing his filmmaking dreams.



BRONTË LACSAMANA

Brontë Lacsamana (she/her) is a multimedia reporter based in Metro Manila that covers arts, culture, and entertainment for the Philippine business newspaper BusinessWorld. She is an alumna of the University of the Philippines Film Institute and has worked as a part-time researcher for the Daang Dokyu Film Festival and the Polytechnic University of the Philippines and National Commission for Culture and the Arts' archive of audiovisual works about the coronavirus pandemic. Her writings on film, theater, music, television, books, and cultural heritage can be found in BusinessWorld while her film reviews can be found on Letterboxd. Specific interests in film include Asian cinema, documentaries, student shorts, and Filipino classic films.



JOAQUIN SINGSON

Joaquin "Wax" Singson (he/him) is a writer and cultural worker from Quezon City in the Philippines. He graduated with a degree in Art Management and a Minor in Creative Writing from Ateneo de Manila University in 2018. In that same year, he was shortlisted for the Purita Kalaw-Ledesma Prize for Art Criticism, and has been published in Heights Ateneo and NANG Magazine. He has also written for exhibitions in Artinformal Gallery, The Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Gajah Gallery, and MO_Space. In 2023, he was selected as one of four curators by the Philippine Contemporary Art Network to mount an exhibition in Orange Project, Bacolod City. His research and writing is focused on music and art criticism, Cold War and Third World histories, and anti-imperial movements in the Global South.



LIGAYA VILLABLANCA

With multiple roots in Visayan islands, Ligaya Villablanca (they/them) is a media practitioner, a descendant of a pre-colonial buang, and a believer of universality found in regional cinema. As an alumna of BFA Cinema from University of San Carlos, they were an officer of CINEMATA for three consecutive years; Founded the regional film initiative, Moving Eyelands PH; and was a participant of Cinema Without Borders Southeast Asia Workshop & DAKILA Heroes Hub 2023. They served as Jury in Lawadan Film Festival in 2021, Piling Obrang Pilipino in 2022 and VanGarde Experimental Film Festival in 2024. Their directorial works are all manifestations of their inter-island wandering mind that explores the themes of ethnolinguistic identity and collective grief in their own humorous flavor. Currently based in Quezon City pursuing UPD's MS Media Arts (Film) and daydreaming about Shrek.



MAC JOHN BAUTISTA

Mac John Bautista (he/him) has had an intense relationship with cinema ever since being awed by experiencing Tom Cruise scale the Burj Khalifa in "Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol" as a kid. Such excitement has made it so that he now actively seeks out and frequently attends film screenings and events in and out of Metro Manila. He is currently a contributing writer for the Society of Filipino Film Reviewers and the managing director for Kinoise, a Metro-Manila based film publication that hosts their own film events and aims to champion underground and alternative films. Being a Mechanical Engineering student, he has always had a particular affinity with films that depict man's relationships with machines and structures. As a critic, he has always been keen towards the phenomenological and formalist aspect of films.



MAVERICK "MAVS" ALVIAR

Handa laging usisain ni Maverick "Mavs" Alviar (he/him) ang dahilan kung bakit natatawag nating "estetik" ang isang sining. Kasalukuyan siyang kumukuha ng BA in Art Studies, Minor in Theater and Performance Praxes mula sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas Diliman. Naging curatorial intern siya sa UP Vargas Museum and Filipiniana Research Center. Kasalukuyan naman siyang intern ng Yuchengco Museum at student assistant sa Bulwagan ng Dangal University Heritage Museum. Nakilahok si Mavs sa Art Criticism Writing Workshop na inilunsad ng Purita Kalaw Ledesma Foundation Inc. at sa Unang Palihang Kinaiya. Sa labas ng pag-aaral at pagkatuto sa mga museo at campus, siya ay isang performance-maker. Ginagalugad niya and ugnayan ng mga alaalang nakaukit sa katawan at espasyo, at ang paggalaw na bunga ng mga ugnayang 'to.

EXPERTS

To help critics become equipped and independent after the festival, QCIFF will organize at least five meetings with film, press, and publishing professionals that can enlighten them about the landscape of filmmaking and film criticism in and out of the country. These expert sessions will be part of the daily meetup of the program and sessions will be exclusive to those involved in the QCinema Critics Lab. The Critics Lab participants must prepare questions for our experts before the session.



CARL JAVIER

Carl Javier (he/him) is an author, comics creator, and sometime-translator of comic books. He has written fiction and non-fiction books, dabbled in film and television, and for five years was a leader at award-winning media startup PumaPodcast. He started reviewing movies 20 years ago. His first screenplay, *Maynila sa mga Pangil ng Dilim*, was nominated for the Gawad Urian. More recently he has been collaborating with Dodo Dayao on projects like *Midnight in a Perfect World*. He adapted the first *Janus Silang* book to comics, and translated both comics for the Tuttle international editions into English. He also translated 66 into *Mang Tino* for its Epigram publishing run. He was the Managing Editor of *Anino Comics* when it relaunched in the mid-00s.



ALYSSANDRA MAXINE

Alyssandra Maxine (she/her) is a freelance writer and editor based in Metro Manila. Her childhood affinity towards storytelling within poetry and bildungsroman weaved into a passion for film viewing and criticism. She co-edits *MARG1N Magazine*—an upcoming independent Southeast Asian film publication supported by Cambodia's Anti-Archive. With a keen interest in improvisation and interiority, Alyssandra continues to refine narratives of her own and others that celebrate authenticity and collaborative worldmaking. She is an alumnus of the inaugural edition of QCinema Critics Lab and the 2024 FEFF Film Campus.



DON JAUCIAN

Don Jaucian (he/him) is the author of the bestselling essay collection *Brief Histories' (Everything's Fine, 2022)*, which was a finalist for the 41st National Book Awards. He was the founding editor of *CNN Philippines Life* and also served as editor for the new press *Exploding Galaxies*. He is the Philippine consultant for the Far East Film Festival in Udine, Italy. His next book, *'Are You Still Watching: Dispatches on Filipino Cinema and TV'*, will be published in 2025 by the Ateneo Press.



AARON E. HUNT

Aaron E. Hunt (he/him) is a Brooklyn-based filmmaker from Illinois; cameraperson in doc/narrative production; film critic in publications like *Criterion*, *Film Comment*, *Sight & Sound*, and *CNN PH Life*; freelance programmer; head of theatrical for Kani Releasing; and was the vice president of Dedza Films. He recently was an additional editor of a two-volume memoir about writer/director Mike De Leon's life during the first and second golden ages of Philippine cinema, *Last Look Back*, and guest edited the upcoming issue of the New York underground film journal, *Crater*.



MARIAH REODICA

Mariah Reodica is a musician, filmmaker, and cultural journalist based in the Philippines. Mariah graduated from the University of the Philippines Film Institute with a Bachelor of Arts in Film. She founded *Anecdotal Records*, an aural research initiative mapping music and technology rooted in local and lived experiences through writing, curating live performances, and workshops. As a cultural journalist, Mariah has published about independent art initiatives, women and queer artists, audiovisual archives, and other ongoing currents in the Philippines and Southeast Asia. Reodica received the Prince Claus SEED Award 2024, the Carlos Palanca Memorial Award for Literature in 2011, and the Purita Kalaw-Ledesma Prize for Art Criticism at the Ateneo Art Awards 2018. She has taught film at the University of the Philippines and De La Salle-College of St. Benilde.



RICHARD BOLISAY

Richard Bolisay (he/him) is the author of *'Break It to Me Gently: Essays on Filipino Film'* (2019) and *'Nothing Deep'* (2022), both finalists for the National Book Awards. He is also the editor of *'Daang Dokyu: A Festival of Philippine Documentaries'* (2020). As a writer, film critic, and programmer, he has participated in film festivals in Berlin, Locarno, Hong Kong, Jeonju, Berwick, Edinburgh, Brighton, Cebu, and Manila. He is currently based in Scotland doing his PhD in Film Studies at the University of St Andrews and is a programmer for the Singapore International Film Festival.

HEAD COORDINATOR



JASON TAN LIWAG

Jason Tan Liwag is a scientist, actor, writer, educator, and curator from the Philippines. An alumnus of film criticism programs in Manila, Rotterdam, Udine, and Yamagata, his writings on film, theater, television, queerness, and science can be found in local publications such as *CNN Philippines Life*, *Rappler*, *Vogue Philippines*, *Inquirer Lifestyle*, and *YoungSTAR* and international publications such as *Screen Slate*, *Filmmaker Magazine*, *MUBI Notebook*, *Little White Lies*, *MARG1N Magazine*, *Ultradogme*, and *Sentient Art Film*, among others. He has also written companion essays for the Blu-Ray releases of Marilou Diaz-Baya's *Karnal* (1983) and *Moral* (1982) for Kani Releasing.

He is the Philippines' first member of FIPRESCI and is a three-time international voter for the Golden Globe Awards and the Dorian Awards. He has served on the selection committees and juries of festivals in Manila, Taipei, Bristol, San Diego, Dhaka, and Singapore. He was a guest curator for *Queer East 2024*, is the head of short film programming at QCinema, and is one of the programmers for the Oscar, BAFTA, and BIFA-qualifying *Louis Le Prince International Short Film Competition* at the Leeds International Film Festival. He is the founder and head coordinator of the QCinema Critics Lab — a space for emerging Filipino critics to experiment with film criticism. Outside of cinema, he is a part-time multimedia arts lecturer at the CIIT College of Arts and Technology.

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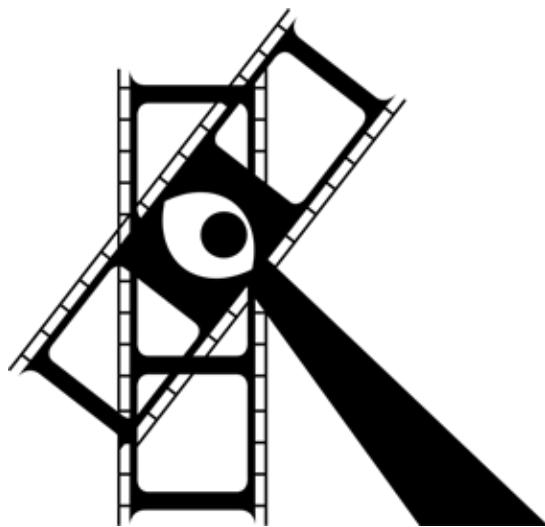


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