INTERNATIONAL®
IFFH
FILM FESTIVAL
THE HAGUE

Programme Book

2026

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IFFH 2026
At Pathé Buitenhof

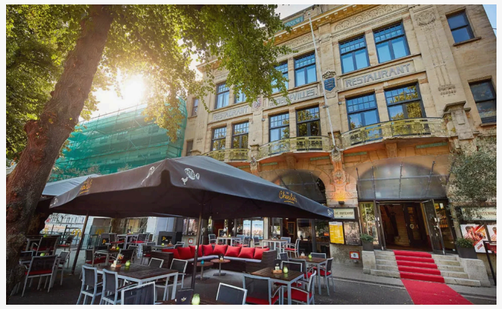
63 Films. 4 Masterclasses. 3 Days of Cinematic Excellence

The International Film Festival The Hague (IFFH) celebrates its 8th edition with a selection of 63 films from 23 countries, championing independent cinema, emerging talent and underrepresented voices. There will be 10 World, 16 European and 19 Dutch Premieres.

For the first time, IFFH moves to the recently renovated Pathé Buitenhof, with film screenings and four masterclasses taking place in Zaal 4 and Zaal 5.

Powered by 30+ international volunteers and jury members from 12+ nationalities, IFFH fosters cultural exchange, creative learning and a vibrant global film community.

As a non-profit Stichting, IFFH reaffirms its commitment to accessible independent cinema and the next generation of storytellers.





Day 1
November 13th

Opening Ceremony

18:00 - 20:00

Pathé Buitenhof Ballroom

Day 2
November 14th

Masterclasses

The Art of Making it Happen
10:00 -11:00
Pathé Buitenhof Zaal 4

Independent filmmaking rarely goes according to plan. In this interactive masterclass, Australian filmmaker Kelly Bergsma shares how she navigates setbacks, embraces unexpected opportunities, and keeps projects moving forward. Drawing on her own experiences, she explores the importance of creative problem-solving, flexibility, and knowing what to do when things don't go as planned.

Cinematic Storytelling
10:00 -11:00
Pathé Buitenhof Zaal 5

How do filmmakers shape the way we experience a story? In this masterclass, Alex Mendez Giner explores how framing, lighting, sound, and editing create meaning beyond what we see on screen. Drawing on his award-winning film *Domestic Animals*, he shows how even the simplest images can carry deeper meaning and shape the audience's understanding of a film.

Block 1 90 minutes | 11:30 - 13:00 | Film Zaal 4

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



Yr Wyddfa

Against the rugged backdrop of Yr Wyddfa, Sara (25) and her father Dave (60) embark on a hike shaped by years of emotional distance and his struggle to accept her sexuality. As tensions unfold, a final wish from Sara's late mother offers them a chance at reconciliation.

The Netherlands & United Kingdom, [15:45]

Director & Producer: Sander Blom



Sana LEE's Sajupalja

Born in the Year of the White Horse, Lee Sana believes she is destined for bad luck. After years of hardship, she sets out on a journey into the spirit world, hoping to change her fate with the help of her ancestors.

South Korea, [42:10]

Director: Jinhwa Lee

Producer: Hyung-Yun Chang

European Premiere



Veil of Silence

As her relationship slowly falls apart, Gemma retreats into her inner world, struggling to confront the problems both she and her partner have been avoiding. Faced with her own ego, she is forced to reflect on herself and the distance growing between them.

The Netherlands, [15:00]

Director: Sebastiano Cavadino

Producer: Job Lodder, Sebastiano Cavadino

World Premiere

All film showings, timings and sequencing are subject to change at the organisers' discretion

Block 2 90 minutes | 13:30 - 15:00 | Film Zaal 4

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



Birthday Suit

When 17-year-old Julia unexpectedly ends up at a nudist campsite with her father and his new girlfriend, she struggles to adjust to her changing family. A new friendship helps her find her footing, until a surprise from her father puts their fragile relationship to the test.

The Netherlands, [15:34]

Director: Lisanne Sweere

Producer: Sammy Wisniewski Vermeulen, Lisanne Sweere

Dutch Premiere



Free Fish

Set in war-torn Gaza, Free Fish follows two brothers separated by displacement but connected through fishing. Alongside a teenage nephew grieving his twin brother, the documentary offers an intimate look at survival, loss, and quiet resistance in the face of war.

Palestine & Portugal, [22:13]

Director: Bisan Owda

Producer: Carolina Pereira

Dutch Premiere



Cyclus

Through two interconnected stories, Cyclus follows two young women navigating toxic relationships while communicating through a tape. Blending thriller and drama, the film explores the subtle signs of emotional abuse and how modern media romanticises unhealthy relationships.

The Netherlands, [32:40]

Director: Mila Banis

Producer: Daan van Ooijen, Valentina Boschin

All film showings, timings and sequencing are subject to change at the organisers' discretion

Block 3 90 minutes | 15:30 - 17:00 | Film Zaal 4

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



The Last Rehearsal

A beloved acting teacher rallies his favorite students one last time to stage his final play

United Kingdom, [18:57]

Director: Carling Ernstzen

Producer: Carling Ernstzen, Hessam Binesh



While We Were Sleeping

When Klára and Dáša plan to lose their virginity with two boys they've just met, a teenage dare takes a troubling turn. As the night spirals out of control, their friendship and safety are put to the test.

Czechia, France & Slovenia, [18:56]

Director: Olmo Omerzu

Producer: Jiří Konečný, Hélène Mitjavile, Théo Laboulandine, Rok Biček

Dutch Premiere



Collage

At a museum, a young woman tries to convince her co-worker that two visitors are flirting, using six scientifically proven signs of attraction to make her case.

Spain, [9:56]

Director & Producer: Marius Conrotto

Dutch Premiere



Walk In The Park

Despite having a healthy son and a seemingly perfect life, young parents Mark and Evelien struggle with the realities of love and parenthood. Through eight uncomfortable walks, they reflect on where things went wrong and whether they can find their way back to each other.

The Netherlands, [13:34]

Director: Gijs Schoneveld

Producer: Siebe Schoneveld



Puma Matriarchs of Torres Del Paine

Set in the rugged landscape of Chilean Patagonia, the film follows three mother pumas as they raise their young, hunt for food, and defend their territories. An intimate look at motherhood and survival in one of nature's most challenging environments.

United States, [12:16]

Director & Producer: David P. Glatz, Shiela P. Glatz

Dutch Premiere

Block 4 90 minutes | 17:30 - 19:00 | Film Zaal 4

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



G.O.A.T.

On their way to a bizarre goat-themed festival in rural Netherlands, a couple struggles with unspoken grief after a stillbirth. Blending absurd humour with tenderness, this tragicomic road trip explores loss, miscommunication, and finding unexpected ways to heal.

The Netherlands, [8:26]

Director & Producer: Daan Bunnik



LUCIE in RÉ

Just as Lucie sets off on holiday, a series of unexpected mishaps threatens her plans. When her phone falls onto the train tracks, she makes a spontaneous decision to board without it, embracing an adventure beyond her screen.

France, [19:50]

Director: Nicolas Novak

Producer: Victor Holl

Dutch Premiere



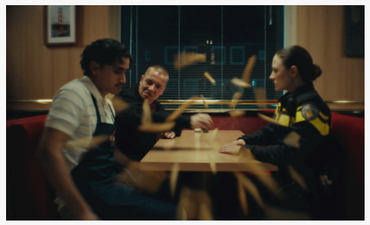
Buskers of Porto

Through the streets of Porto, this documentary explores the city's close connection with its street musicians. Sharing personal stories of freedom, passion, and struggle, they reveal the joys and challenges of making music on the streets.

The Netherlands, [29:32]

Director & Producer: Matties Dielemans, Guus Engelbregt

Dutch Premiere



Known Strangers

When three former classmates unexpectedly reunite during a diner robbery, their very different paths collide. Now a criminal, a police officer, and a diner employee, they find themselves caught in an awkward encounter that forces them to reflect on where life has taken them.

The Netherlands, [14:59]

Director: Nico Strik Peña

Producer: Sabine Veenendaal, Jeroen Beker, Christian Holtland, Sanne Deckers

Dutch Premiere

Block 5

90 minutes | 11:30 - 13:00 | Film Zaal 5

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



The Dance of Triumph

After losing both legs in battle, war veteran Jalal struggles with the lasting effects of trauma. A promise to dance at his fallen comrade's sister's wedding gives him renewed hope in a moving story about grief, resilience, and finding the strength to move forward.

Azerbaijan, [39:41]

Director: Geray Hasan

Producer: Emin Musavi

European Premiere



Somewhere Between Here & There

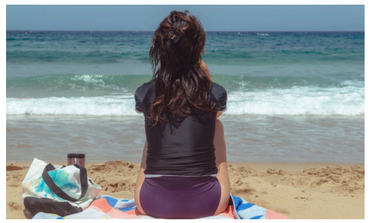
At her chaotic wake, Mia unexpectedly returns, visible to some but not others. As she helps her loved ones confront unresolved feelings, strained relationships, and lingering guilt, she discovers what it truly means to let go.

The Netherlands, [19:59]

Director: Frank van der Wulp

Producer: Kalin Morrow, Isabella Katharina, Mumbi Kuguru

World Premiere



Lotus

After surviving breast cancer, a woman faces pressure from doctors to undergo breast reconstruction. While sitting in the surgeon's waiting room, an unexpected sign makes her question her decision. Lotus explores bodily autonomy and the courage to reclaim control over one's own body.

Australia, [11:24]

Director: Nurgul Odabas Nash

Producer: Glenn Hanns, Nurgul Odabas Nash

European Premiere

Block 6

90 minutes | 13:30 - 15:00 | Film Zaal 5

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



The Reach

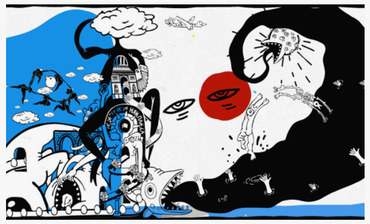
Based on Stephen King's short story, The Reach follows Stella Flanders, an elderly woman who has never left her island home. As winter sets in, memories of lost loves draw her across the frozen waters in a moving story about love, loss, and the passage of time.

Italy, [28:00]

Director: Luca Caserta

Producer: Ivan Caso, Filippo Barracco, Nuove Officine Cinematografiche

Dutch Premiere



Disturbia

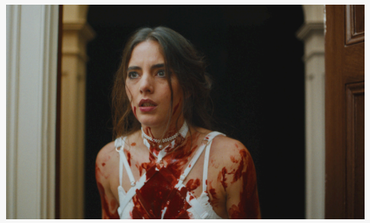
A strange human-bird hybrid constantly transforms to adapt to a world shaped by economic, political, military, and environmental threats.

Bulgaria, [6:23]

Director: Mira Yankova

Producer: Adrian Georgiev

Dutch Premiere



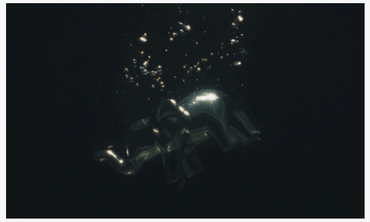
Moral Hazard

After she and her husband accidentally injure a sex worker during a reckless pursuit of pleasure, a wealthy woman struggles to escape her growing guilt.

The Netherlands, [12:20]

Director: Luuk Audenaerde

Producer: Brend Küppers, Luuk Audenaerde



The Fountain

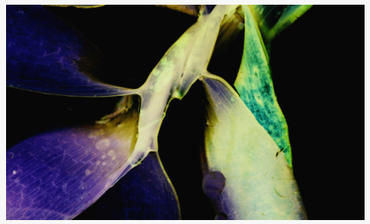
After losing her parents, eleven-year-old Mila moves in with her grandparents in the countryside. Guided by her grandfather and the quiet beauty of nature, she discovers a mysterious forest fountain that offers an unexpected path toward healing and hope.

Slovenia, [21:00]

Director: Andrej Srebrnjak

Producer: Stojan Radic

Dutch Premiere



Ode

(An Acknowledgement of Sea Country)

Made entirely from biodegradable seaweed film, this experimental short is a cameraless animation shaped by the sounds of living ocean flora. Created with CSIRO marine scientists, it offers a meditative reflection on the sea, time, and the climate crisis.

Australia, [6:15]

Director: Kirsten Hudson

Dutch Premiere

Block 7

90 minutes | 15:30 - 17:00 | Film Zaal 5

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



Summer

Every summer, Francesca (12) reunites with her Dutch friend Alice (14) in a small Italian village. But this year, Alice seems more interested in fitting in with the older kids, leaving Francesca struggling with their changing friendship and the growing distance between childhood and adolescence.

The Netherlands, [10:00]

Director: Laura Torenbeek

Producer: Ernesta d'Agostino



The Boy With The Balloon Heart

A boy with a balloon for a heart drifts through a practical world, struggling with how fragile and different he feels. In this tender animated short, what first seems like a weakness slowly becomes a source of freedom.

India, [16:00]

Director: Jay Krishnan Menon

Producer: Appliedwonder



Light Falling Down

Set near Treblinka in 1942, this psychological Holocaust drama follows a Polish woman who discovers a young Jewish girl hiding on her farm. Faced with a dangerous choice, she must decide between protecting herself and doing what is right.

United States, [36:53]

Director: Aimee Greenberg

Producer: Aimee Greenberg, Tom Call, Avalon Greenberg Call, Andrew Ratermann,

World Premiere



The Border Czar

After delivering a passionate speech on immigration, politician Jim Coolidge wakes up on the other side of the border, suddenly experiencing the issue from a very different perspective.

Costa Rica, [11:55]

Director: Raymond T. Williams

Producer: Jodi Beck, Mark Pellegrino

European Premiere

Block 8

90 minutes | 17:30 - 19:00 | Film Zaal 5

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



Fanny

In the strict world of the Viennese court, ambitious hairdresser Fanny refuses to play by the rules, catching the attention of Empress Sisi. This tragicomic period drama explores the courage to stand out and challenge society's expectations.

The Netherlands, [30:00]

Director: Karlijn Milder, Lotte Milder

Producer: Charlotte Driessen



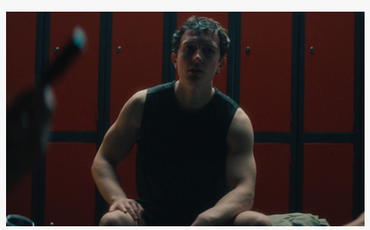
WETBOY

On a hot summer day in southern Limburg, Sef (20) and his friends spend the afternoon by a secluded river. When a playful moment with his best friend Lucas turns unexpectedly intimate, a sudden act of violence exposes unspoken feelings and tests the boundaries of their friendship.

The Netherlands, [10:00]

Director: Yentl Vlachos

Producer: Shanya Valies, Dilba Yasin



BYSTANDER

Commissioned by UN Women, Bystander captures everyday moments of harassment in public, private, and online spaces. Focusing on the brief hesitation between witnessing and acting, the film explores the fear, responsibility, and consequences of staying silent.

United Kingdom, [2:50]

Director: Ian Roderick Gray

Producer: Adham Hunt



BRIDGE-My Little Friends-

When Mugi struggles with the loss of her beloved dog Shiro, Jin the cat sets out on a mission to reunite them at the Rainbow Bridge. With help from the neighbourhood animals, Jin embarks on a heartwarming adventure about friendship, grief, and love.

Japan, [9:30]

Director: Kazuyuki Ishihara

Producer: Makoto Mizusawa



Faceless People

The Journey of Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees in India

Through the stories of six Sri Lankan Tamil refugees across three generations, this documentary explores life in refugee camps in India. Caught between displacement and belonging, they reflect on what it means to call a country home while living in permanent uncertainty.

India, [22:31]

Director: Radhakrishnan R.K

Producer: Meena Mohan, Swathi Mohan, Michael Leo Valan

Dutch Premiere

Block 15

19:30 | Film Zaal 4

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



BAAB

UAE trailblazer Nayla Al Khaja joins forces with two-time Oscar winner A.R. Rahman to deliver an atmospheric, emotionally charged film with worldwide appeal. Haunted by the sudden death of her twin sister, a woman slips into a dark, surreal world where grief takes on a life of its own. Set in the remote Emirati landscape, BAAB follows her journey through loss, anger, and the search for closure, as the line between reality and the supernatural begins to fade.

United Arab Emirates, [97:00]

Director: Nayla Al Khaja

Producer: Jude Stephen Walko, Sultan Saeed Al Darmaki, Nayla Al Khaja

19:30 | Film Zaal 5

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



OBRAZ / The TOWER OF STRENGTH

A Muslim man in Yugoslavia takes in a Christian child fleeing fascist forces during World War II. When armed men come looking for the child, he faces an impossible choice between protecting his family and standing by his beliefs, knowing that either decision could have devastating consequences.

Montenegro, [97:30]

Director: Nikola I. Vukcevic

Producer: Nikola I Vukcevic, Milorad Radenovic, Nevena Savic, Ivica Vidanovic, Dario Domitrovic, Boris Raonic, Christopher Thoke.

Dutch Premiere

Meet and Mingle

20:30 onwards

TRIBE Hotel Den Haag Centraal

All film showings, timings and sequencing are subject to change at the organisers' discretion

Block 16

Day 3

November 15th

Masterclasses

From page to stage to screen: The Journey of Light Falling Down, from Theatre to Film; Script to Post.
10:00 -11:00
Pathé Buitenhof Zaal 4

How do you turn a stage play into a film? In this masterclass, theatre artist and filmmaker Aimee Greenberg shares the journey of Light Falling Down, from its theatrical beginnings to a 36-minute short film. Through a Q&A, she explores the creative challenges of adapting a story for the screen, from rewriting dialogue and developing visual storytelling to the role of sound, editing, and production design.

Storytelling Principles & Structure: The Hero's Journey And Beyond
10:00 -11:00
Pathé Buitenhof Zaal 5

What makes a story compelling? In this interactive masterclass, Prof. Nikola Vukčević explores the foundations of storytelling across film, theatre, and literature. Drawing on classic storytelling theories and contemporary examples, he breaks down the role of character, conflict, and structure, offering practical insights for writers, filmmakers, and anyone interested in the art of storytelling.

Block 9

90 minutes | 11:30 - 13:00 | Film Zaal 4

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



D!SoRd3rEd

Set in a landscape of destruction, D!SoRd3rEd follows J. Doe as he confronts a nation's history of violence, oppression, and resistance. Blending archival footage with dreamlike imagery, the film explores the tension between remembering the past and trying to escape it.

United States, [9:29]

Director & Producer: Corey Allen

European Premiere



Murderers

Inspired by the true story of the Oversteegen sisters, Murderers follows two teenage girls who lure a Nazi to his death during World War II. Exploring the lasting trauma of war and resistance, the film questions the moral cost of killing for a just cause.

The Netherlands, [37:48]

Director: Péter Polgár

Producer: Attila Csáky, Dávid Kárpáti

World Premiere



Codes

After an attack leaves the British government in ruins, a newly appointed politician faces an impossible decision. With nuclear launch codes hidden inside a soldier's body, saving millions could come at the cost of one life. A gripping political thriller about power, sacrifice, and moral responsibility.

United Kingdom, [10:34]

Director: Eleanor Rhode

Producer: Sara Gibbings

European Premiere



Friends with Benefits

After losing their insurance, two former coworkers turn to couples therapy as an unlikely way to get affordable help.

United States, [8:38]

Director: Nancy Pop

Producer: Deniz Cam, Sinan Eczacibasi, Alyssa Briddes

European Premiere



SAFE ZONE

In a city under siege, a starving eight-year-old girl risks her life to collect spilled rice from an aid package. Unaware of a sniper watching from afar, she becomes the bait in a cruel trap. Using a hybrid hand-drawn and AI-assisted technique SAFE ZONE explores the brutality of war and the desperate struggle for survival.

Egypt, Italy & United States, [8:15]

Director: Ahmad Alameldeen

Producer: Ahmad Alameldeen

Dutch Premiere

All film showings, timings and sequencing are subject to change at the organisers' discretion

Block 10 90 minutes | 13:30 - 15:00 | Film Zaal 4

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers

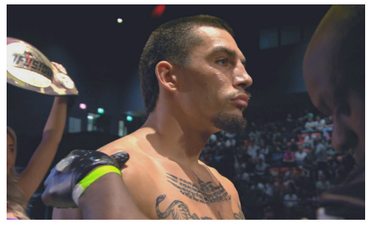


JANET'S ISLAND

While on holiday, two young girls befriend Janet, a heartbroken English traveller. What begins as a kind gesture soon takes an unexpected turn, putting their own family at risk.

France, [20:38]

Director & Producer: Dodine Grimaldi



Zwaar plat (Knocked Cold)

Rising kickboxing talent Thian “Tarzan” de Vries is making his mark on the international stage, but behind his success lies a troubled past of addiction and crime. Knocked Cold (Zwaar plat) offers an intimate look at a young fighter struggling to balance his growing fame with the challenges of his past.

The Netherlands, [52:22]

Director: Tom Druppers

Producer: Omroep Zeeland

Block 11 90 minutes | 15:30 - 17:00 | Film Zaal 4

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



When I Was Little, I Wasn't Afraid

After a near-drowning in the Meuse, 10-year-old Gush struggles to hold on to his childhood as his best friend Kevin begins to change. When a chance encounter with a neighbour reveals a surprising connection to his future, Gush is offered one last weekend of childhood innocence.

The Netherlands, [20:00]

Director: Guido F.G. Jeurissen

Producer: Arjen van Doezelaar



Fido

While looking after an elderly dog, a young girl takes it for a walk. But an encounter with a bully takes a troubling turn, leading to unexpected consequences.

United States, [7:05]

Director: John Norris Ray, Maria Victoria Sanchez

Producer: John Norris Ray

European Premiere



BUBBLES

Separated by distance and time zones, Sol (40) and her boyfriend Fred rely on daily video calls to stay connected. As they look forward to reuniting for Christmas, growing frustration and a mysterious barrier leave them trapped in their long-distance relationship.

Albania & Italy, [15:00]

Director: Meri Dishnica

Producer: Gianni Russo

Dutch Premiere



The One Who Draws Dance

A familiar face at Amsterdam’s dance performances, Edgar is always found near the stage, capturing dancers’ movements through quick sketches and watercolours. Though his work is known and loved by performers, the man behind the drawings remains a mystery. An intimate portrait of an artist who lives to draw dance.

The Netherlands, [17:42]

Director & Producer: Kristina Daurova



What We Carry

After a devastating loss, May and Sultan struggle to reconnect as grief and silence take over their marriage. While Sultan hopes to move forward, May battles physical pain and a secret that threatens to drive them further apart.

United Arab Emirates, [14:28]

Director: Afra AlMarar

Producer: Najat Abdulrahman, Toaster Productions

Block 12 90 minutes | 11:30 - 13:00 | Film Zaal 5

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



Todd & The Toad

When socially anxious Todd faces the prospect of meeting his online crush, he turns to a mysterious psychedelic toad for help. What follows is a surreal and chaotic therapy session that forces him to confront his fears. Todd & The Toad is an offbeat comedy about anxiety, vulnerability, and finding the courage to connect.

Germany, [12:06]

Director: Julia Mücke

Producer: Katharina Kümmel

Dutch Premiere



Halima - Eine Anleitung zum Starksein

Following reconstructive surgery after female genital mutilation, Halima reflects on her journey of healing and resilience. Drawing on the experiences of five Somali women, the film explores the lasting effects of FGM, everyday racism, and life as a female refugee in Germany.

Germany, [24:18]

Director & Producer: Linda Verweyen

Dutch Premiere



The Testimony

Blending theatre and film, The Testimony follows a woman driven by revenge and love for her daughter as she faces a decision that will change everything.

The Netherlands, [16:45]

Director: Ellen van Kempen

Producer: Iris Heusschen



Gnocchi

After an embarrassing mispronunciation of gnocchi, Emma retreats into the woods to live off the grid. But even far from society, she can't escape her growing obsession with the mistake.

The Netherlands, [10:56]

Director: Dylan Geurts

Producer: Dimphy van Vilsteren



The Toast Trip

A quirky exploration of dull work, big dreams, life, death, and the unexpected pleasures of food, with a little toast thrown in.

United States, [10:42]

Director: George Maestri

Producer: David Niles White,George Maestri

European Premiere

Block 13 90 minutes | 13:30 - 15:00 | Film Zaal 5

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



Beautiful Birds

On the Isle of Bute, a widowed birdwatcher reluctantly joins her granddaughter for a local competition. As they search for rare birds, their time together becomes a journey through grief, family bonds, and learning to let go.

United Kingdom, [19:59]

Director: Tommy Clarke

Producer: Richard Lindsay, Mark Stothert

Dutch Premiere



Don't call me Chef

Don't Call Me Chef follows former Top Chef finalist Clotaire Poirier as he brings his creative approach to kitchens in London and Paris. Through high-pressure pop-up events and collaborations, the documentary explores his vision for a more collaborative, less traditional way of working in fine dining.

France, [27:43]

Director: Maxime Siegle & Matthieu Vollaire

Producer: Clément Jouve, Delphine Lassalle

European Premiere



Machines Learning

Set in a dark factory, Machines Learning follows a ruthless worker who pushes his robots to their limits. As the machines begin to learn from his behaviour, this animated short raises questions about power, control, and what we teach technology.

United States, [8:16]

Director: Anthony Koithra

Producer: Anthony Koithra

European Premiere



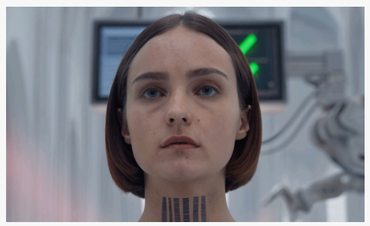
Ethos of Mizoram

Set among the misty hills of Mizoram, India, this documentary explores the region's rich traditions and strong sense of community. Through music, dance, food, and craftsmanship, it offers an intimate look at Mizo culture and the values that connect generations.

India, [10:29]

Director: Himanshu joshi & Kapil Batra

Producer: Architectural Heritage Division INTACH



MADS & The Freak Factory

Set in a surreal factory, MADS & the Freak Factory follows a young girl through a strange world where people are observed, judged, and labelled. Blending fashion, music, and AI-assisted visuals, the film explores identity, individuality, and society's tendency to put people into boxes.

The Netherlands, [7:21]

Director: Yda Neves

Producer: Sherin Jonker

World Premiere

Block 14 90 minutes | 15:30 - 17:00 | Film Zaal 5

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



Em & Selma Go Griffin Hunting

Em & Selma Go Griffin Hunting is a coming-of-age fantasy set in the 1930s that explores the bond between mothers and daughters through a mysterious hunt for mythical beasts.

United States, [15:00]

Director: Alexander Thompson

Producer: Roger Mayer



The Phenomenon of Presence

In a near future where virtual reality can ease the symptoms of dementia, millions retreat into a digital world called Presence. When a daughter tries to reconnect with her mother, who has Alzheimer's, she faces a difficult choice between bringing her home and letting her remain in a world where she can find relief.

United Kingdom, [9:25]

Director & Procuder: Simon Brooks

European Premiere



Boot Room

A junior footballer navigates the brutal hierarchy of a 1988 professional football club steeped in a culture of systemic bullying . His growing unease culminates in a hesitant act of defiance sparking a brutal backlash, turning the violence directly onto him. A short film adapted from a story by ex-footballer, turned author, John Budden

United Kingdom, [15:24]

Director: Atul Malhotra

Producer: Richard Hague

European Premiere



Waterlanders

In a flood-ravaged Netherlands. A father and his teenage daughter survive in isolation aboard an off-grid ship, cut off from a world shaped by floods & war. When a shellshocked soldier appears, claiming peace has returned, the father faces an impossible choice: trust a stranger and risk everything or protect his daughter at the cost of his humanity

The Netherlands, [9:14]

Director: Jan Rekelhof

Producer: Jarno Pors, Guido Visser, Jan Rekelhof

World Premiere



Grace

Grace is a poignant coming of age drama centred on a woman in her late 20s with Down Syndrome, navigating the complexities of adulthood, independence and first love from within a residential support house. When Grace pushes the boundaries set for her, the consequences ripple through her carefully managed world.

Ireland, [25:00]

Director: Anna Rodgers

Producer: Nuala Carr

Dutch Premiere

All film showings, timings and sequencing are subject to change at the organisers' discretion

Block 17 17:30 - 19:00 | Film Zaal 4

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



Dear Lara

When violinist Lara St. John goes public about her own assault as a child at an elite music school, she uncovers a global pattern of abuse in the classical music world and joins fellow survivors to confront an entrenched culture of silence.

Canada & United States, [94:00]

Director: Lara St. John

Producer: Patrick Hamm

Dutch Premiere

Block 18 17:30 - 19:00 | Film Zaal 5

Screening will be followed by Q&A with filmmakers



Invisible Injuries

After returning from war, Australian veteran Andy Fermo struggles with PTSD and its impact on his everyday life and relationships. Invisible Injuries offers an intimate look at the hidden effects of trauma and the difficult journey towards healing, reconnecting with loved ones, and finding a sense of self again.

Australia, [91:00]

Director: Kelly Bergsma

Producer: Scott Quayle, Veronika Bohmova, Kelly Bergsma

European Premiere

Awards Ceremony

20:00 - 21:00

Pathé Buitenhof Zaal 5

All film showings, timings and sequencing are subject to change at the organisers' discretion

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DISCLAIMER

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The audience who enters the venue agrees to follow Pathé Buitenhof HSE instructions to ensure a safe and enjoyable festival experience.

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