

KIDS 
FILM

DANISH FILM INSTITUTE



EXPERIENCE UNDERSTAND CREATE ...

Children and young people love moving images. On television, on their cell phones and at the cinema. Moving images that make them laugh and cry – and reflect. They can experience them with family and friends, they can share and participate.

Moving images play a big role in the everyday lives of children and young people. Film and interactive media transmit culture and language and are integrated into the young audience's experience of identity and of their place in the world.

25% of the Danish Film Institute's grants are allocated to films and activities for children and young people: development and production of films and computer games in all genres, distribution across various platforms, film education in the form of free study guides, school cinema and teacher training, festivals, creative workshops – and much more.

In a highly developed, democratic society, it is important that children and young people experience moving images of high quality across a broad spectrum of subjects and nationalities, and that they understand and actively utilise the media.

In August 2009, the European Commission urged its members to put media literacy on their political agendas through programmes and activities aimed at producing critical and active media users.

The Danish Film Institute has for many years strived to afford children and young people the very best opportunities for experiencing moving images in their everyday lives. And in a global context, the Danish Film Institute engages with the international community in working proactively with films for children and young people – from production and distribution to film education.

On the following pages, we present some of the Danish Film Institute's activities in the area, both within Denmark and internationally. Activities that strive to give children and young people multiple opportunities to experience, understand and create moving images.

In FILM-X, children and young people get to make their own films. The interactive film studio has been an enormous success since its launch in Copenhagen in 2002. The mobile version, FILM-X ON THE ROAD, has visited London and Damascus, among other places.



*Even though I'm scared to watch,
I know it'll end well.*

Mathilde, 6

Children watch films from an early age. Reaching all the way back to a classic such as "Palle Alone in the World" from 1949, Denmark has had a long tradition of producing quality films for even very young children.



Palle Alone in the World (Denmark, 1949)



PRE-SCHOOL

CHILDREN'S CINEMA

Children's Cinema (Børnebiffen) is a free cinema programme showing quality films for pre-schoolers, their teachers, parents, and grandparents. *Children's Cinema* takes place in 40 of Denmark's 98 counties. In 2009, more than 60,000 children participated.

DFI FILMHOUSE

There are three cinemas at the DFI Filmhouse in Copenhagen with a varied repertoire of films for pre-schoolers and classic family fare. 20% of the visitors are 7 years or younger.

FILMSTRIBEN.DK

The online streaming service *filmstriben.dk* is available at Danish libraries and gives access to more than 700 short and documentary films, many of them aimed at children and young people.

FILMS ON DVD

The Danish Film Institute publishes quality short films for younger children on DVD.

FILMPILOT

Filmpilot is a film educational course for librarians, teachers and others working with pre-school children.

FILM FESTIVALS

The Danish Film Institute cooperates with film festivals like BUSTER – Copenhagen International Film Festival for Children and Youth, and Salaam Film Festival, festivals that specialise in films for children and young people as well as pre-schoolers.

MEDIA COUNCIL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Media Council guides parents and others regarding the appropriateness of film and media for children and young people. They provide an age-range assessment for nearly all films shown in Denmark. The council's classifications and evaluations are available on medieraadet.dk, along with research results and much more.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND DIVERSITY

The Danish Film Institute, recognising film as one of the best tools to convey complicated cultural and humanistic messages, works actively in an international context to promote films for children and young people.

Danish films are showcased at film festivals worldwide, and international films are introduced to Danish children and young people at national film festivals and through the Danish Film Institute's school and pre-school cinema programmes.

The Danish Film Institute develops cultural exchange projects with partners in countries as varied as Brazil, Greece, Tanzania, USA, and Syria. In addition, the Danish Film Institute supports the coproduction of a handful of films for children and young people with foreign companies every year.

There is a great deal of interest, internationally, in the Danish experiences with film production, distribution, and film education. At the same time the Danish Film Institute seeks inspiration outside Denmark to strengthen the national film industry and the cultural diversity within the Film Institute's many activities for children and young people.

The Danish Film Institute collaborates with international film festivals, organisations, embassies and representatives, European Children's Film Association (ECFA), Centre International du film pour l'Enfance et la Jeunesse (CIFEJ), Danish Centre for Culture & Development (DCCD), Danish Arts Council, etc.



Buddha Collapsed Out of Shame (Iran, 2007)

Films are a powerful and evocative tool for fostering understanding and tolerance in the world.

Nelson Mandela (FilmAid International/UNHCR/New York)



FILM & EDUCATION

SCHOOL CINEMA

Use the cinema as your classroom! The Danish Film Institute's school cinema programme (*Med Skolen i Biografen*) invites students and teachers on a trip to the cinema - during school hours - and presents films from all over the world along with free educational material. The programme covers the entire country. In 2008-09, 72 of Denmark's 98 counties participated.

FILMSTRIBEN.DK

Students and teachers throughout the country have easy access - in school or at home - to a large selection of short and documentary films on *filmstriben.dk*, an online streaming service with currently more than 700 titles.

FILM-X

The interactive film studio FILM-X, located at the DFI Filmhouse in Copenhagen, gives children and young people the unique opportunity to direct, act in, and shoot short films in both physical and virtual surroundings.

FILM-X ON THE ROAD

The mobile version of FILM-X invites children and young people all over Denmark and abroad to explore the medium of film. FILM-X ON THE ROAD has visited London and Damascus, as well as many Danish cities.

FILM FESTIVALS

The Danish Film Institute supports festivals such as BUSTER - Copenhagen International Film Festival for Children and Youth, Salaam Film Festival, and the Odense Film Festival, all specialising in films for children and young people and attracting large student audiences.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Through the Danish Film Institute's website *dfi.dk*, free study guides are made available to teachers at both primary and high school levels. Students and parents are free to access these materials as well.

COURSES

The Danish Film Institute offers teacher training and film courses for teachers and school librarians throughout Denmark and also participates in developing a degree in film and media teaching.



Like literature, film must be included in the school curricula, and students who live in a world dominated by images have to learn the grammar of the moving image just as they are taught the grammar of the written word.

José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission



This is England (UK, 2007)



” I kept thinking about the film for weeks after and it can still put things in perspective for me.

Sebastian, 8th grade



” It’s more fun to watch films than to read books, because of the sound and because there’s not so much colour in books and they don’t move ... it’s just more fun to watch films.

Freja, 2nd grade





» *FILM-X ON THE ROAD* gave me the opportunity to tell my own story – for the first time.

13-year-old boy, Damascus, Syria

» *Films show that you can be friends when it really counts – that even though you're totally different you can still be friends.*

Louise, 6th grade



Flickan (Sweden, 2009)



The Wooden Camera (South Africa, 2003)



Slumdog Millionaire (UK, 2008)



Storm (Denmark, 2009)



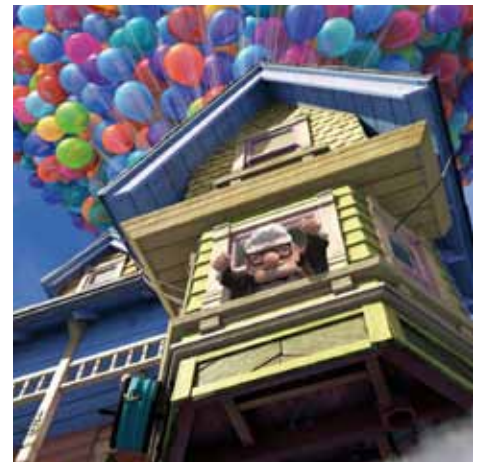
Juno (USA, 2007)



Spirited Away (Japan, 2001)



Let the Right One In (Sweden, 2008)



Up (USA, 2009)



We live 20 km from the nearest cinema so a trip to the movies is not an everyday occurrence for my students. In fact, most of them had never been to the movies! It was a wonderful experience to share with them ... Wonderful to see that the kids could get caught up in a film without violence and wild car chases.

A good educational film is first and foremost a good film. This is the principle behind the Danish Film Institute's school cinema programme, launched in 2000 and introducing Danish and international quality films to school children throughout the country.

Teacher, 7th grade



FREE TIME

FILM AND GAMES – ACROSS MANY PLATFORMS

Almost all Danish feature films are produced with support from the Danish Film Institute. The Film Institute also supports the production of short and documentary films as well as computer games for children and young people, the import and release of foreign art house films, dubbing or subtitling of animated films and much more. In all, 25% of the Danish Film Institute's resources are allocated to the children and young people's sector.

FILMSTRIBEN.DK

In Danish libraries you can watch films on the internet at *filmstriben.dk* – among others all the newest short and documentary films. There are currently over 700 titles.

FILM-X

During the weekends FILM-X, the Danish Film Institute's interactive film studio in Copenhagen, is open to the public. Here, children and families can direct, act in, and shoot short films in both physical and virtual surroundings.

DFI FILMHOUSE

There are three cinemas at the DFI Filmhouse in Copenhagen with a varied repertoire of films for children and their families.

FILM CLUBS AND FESTIVALS

The Danish Film Institute cooperates with around 70 Danish film clubs for children and young people (collected in the organisation DABUF). The Danish Film Institute supports festivals such as BUSTER – Copenhagen International Film Festival for Children and Youth, Salaam Film Festival, and the Odense Film Festival, all specialising in films for children and young people. The Danish Film Institute also supports the CPH PIX and CPH:DOX film festivals as well as others that include films for young people.

MEDIA COUNCIL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Media Council guides parents and others regarding the appropriateness of film and media for children and young people. They provide an age-range assessment for nearly all films shown in Denmark. The council's classifications and evaluations are available on *medieraadet.dk*, along with research results and much more.



The child's perspective is essential. Children have the right to artistic reflection on life's big and small questions. And stories depicting the darker corners of childhood can also be told through film ...

Charlotte Giese, Head of Children & Youth, Danish Film Institute



Terkel in Trouble (Denmark, 2004)



DFI.DK FILMSTRIBEN.DK FILMX.DK MEDIERAADET.DK

Published by

The Danish Filminstitute
October 2010

Illustrations

Dorte Bengtson

Design

Morten Bak

Photos

Per Morten Abrahamsen
Nordisk Film
Wild Bunch
Camera Film
Acne Film
Øst for Paradis
Rolf Konow
Filmcompagniet
Celador Films Ltd.
Miracle Film
Walt Disney Productions

