



DANISH FILM
INSTITUTE
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**DANISH
FILM CATALOGUE**
WINTER 2024



ACTS OF LOVE

/ KÆRLIGHEDENS GERNINGER

A woman living quietly in a religious community in rural Denmark gets her orderly life disrupted by the arrival of her brother. Slowly his presence exposes a secret from their troubled past. It is a film about children in adult bodies, the power of therapy - and how unresolved trauma shapes the way we love and what we believe in. The siblings' secret ultimately forces the members of the community to ask themselves: Who gets to decide over love?

Director Jeppe Rønde (b. 1973) has explored faith within different religions in both his documentaries 'Jerusalem My Love' (2003) and 'The Swenkas' (2004). Both premiered at IDFA and the latter secured a nomination for European Film Awards and the Danish Film Award. Rønde's debut fiction feature film, 'Bridgend', about a mysterious outbreak of teen suicides in a small village in Wales, premiered at Rotterdam in The Tiger Competition in 2015 and later picked up awards at the Tribeca, Gøteborg, Fantasia and Fantasporto film festivals. Rønde has also won acclaim for his extensive work in commercials.

Director: Jeppe Rønde

Screenplay: Jeppe Rønde,
Christopher Grøndal, Rasmus Birch

Producer: Julie Friis Walenciak,
Siri Dynesen

Production: Paloma Productions

Appearances: Cecilie Lassen,
Jonas Holst Schmidt, Ann Eleonora
Jørgensen

Genre: Drama

Status: Post-production

Running Time: 120 min.

International Sales: TBC



BEFORE IT ENDS

/ NÅR BEFRIElsen KOMMER

When a boarding school for young adults is turned into an internment camp for German refugees during the final months of World War II, the headmaster couple Jakob and Lis and their children are thrust into an impossible situation. Should the family help the refugees - or stand firm in the Danish resistance against the Germans?

BEFORE IT ENDS is inspired by true events and depicts a sensitive chapter in the history of Denmark: The handling of 250,000 German civil refugees who came to Denmark in the spring of 1945. The feature is a drama about a family under pressure and the limits of charity.

Writer/director Anders Walter (b.1978) won an Academy Award for the short film 'Helium' in 2014. After this, he directed the American feature film 'I Kill Giants' (2017). Walter has both written and directed 'BEFORE IT ENDS', which is his first Danish feature.

The main character is played by Danish actor Pilou Asbæk, known internationally for his role in 'Game of Thrones', and the oscar nominated feature 'A War'.

Director Anders Walter
Screenplay Anders Walter
Producer Miriam Nørgaard, Mette Høst Hansen, Tomas Radoor
Production Nordisk Film
Appearance Pilou Asbæk, Katrine Greis-Rosenthal, Ulrich Thomsen, Morten Hee Andersen

Genre Drama
Status International premiere / Gothenburg 2024
Running Time 90 min.
International Sales
trustnordisk.com



BIRTHDAY GIRL / BIRTHDAY GIRL

BIRTHDAY GIRL is a suspense drama set on a cruise ship bound for the Caribbean. Nanna, 42, has invited her daughter Cille and her best friend on a cruise to celebrate Cille's 18th birthday. Expectations are high, and they have big plans set for the days on aboard the cruise ship. But on the first evening, the dream vacation turns into a nightmare, and Nanna realises that in order to get justice, she must take matters into her own hands. A story about a mother's persevering quest for justice.

Michael Noer (b.1978) made his feature film debut with the prison drama 'R' (2010), co-directed with Tobias Lindholm. The film won top awards at Göteborg and Mumbai as well as several national film awards. Additionally, Noer also directed 'Northwest' (2013), 'Key House Mirror' (2015) as well as the international remake of 'Papillon' (2017) and 'Before the Frost' (2019), both selected for Toronto Film Festival. He most recently co-directed the tv-serie 'The Prison', which premiered at Cannes Series and won in all categories at the Danish Film Awards.

Director Michael Noer

Screenplay Michael Noer,
Jesper Fink

Producer Matilda Appelin,
René Ezra

Production Nordisk Film

Appearances Trine Dyrholm, Flora
Ofelia Hoffmann Lindahl, Herman
Tømmerraas, Maja Ida Thiele

Genre Suspense Drama

Status World premiere /
Zürich 2023

Running Time 90 min.

International Sales
trustnordisk.com



ETERNAL / FOR EVIGT

Young climate change scientist, Elias falls in love with an aspiring singer, Anita. However, when an opportunity arises for him to join a mission researching a dangerous climate change phenomenon – a mysterious fracture on the ocean floor – he chooses career over love. Years later, during his mission, he experiences a vision of what could have been had he made a different choice. What follows is the unrelenting fight to restore his old life and love.

Writer-director Ulaa Salim (b.1987) graduated as a director from The National Film School of Denmark in 2017. His 2019 feature debut 'Sons of Denmark' premiered at Rotterdam International Film Festival. ETERNAL stars Simon Sears ('Shorta') and Danish singer-songwriter Nanna Øland Fabricius and is produced by Daniel Mühlendorph for Hyæne Film.

Director Ulaa Salim
Screenplay Ulaa Salim
Producer Daniel Mühlendorph
Production Hyæne Film
Appearances Simon Sears,
Nanna Øland Fabricius, Halddóra
Geirharosdottir, Magnus Krepper

Genre Sci-Fi Drama
Status World premiere /
Rotterdam 2024
Running Time 99 min.
International Sales
neweuropemfilmsales.com



THE GIRL WITH THE NEEDLE / PIGEN MED NÅLEN

Karoline a young factory worker, finds herself abandoned and pregnant while striving to climb out of poverty in post WW1 Copenhagen. Amidst her struggles, she meets Dagmar a charismatic woman running a secret adoption agency within a candy store, helping poor mothers find foster homes for their unwanted children. A strong connection is formed between the two women, but Karoline's world shatters as she stumbles upon the dreadful revelation of the nightmarish fate she unknowingly embraces.

Magnus von Horn (b.1983) is a Swedish born director/ writer who graduated from the Polish National Film School in Lodz, Poland, where he is currently living. His first shorts premiered in Sundance and Locarno, amongst other festivals. Von Horn's feature debut, the Swedish produced 'The Here After' premiered at Director's Fortnight in Cannes 2015 . His second feature film, the Polish produced 'Sweat', was part of the Cannes official selection in 2020. THE GIRL WITH THE NEEDLE is Magnus von Horn's first Danish language feature.

Director: Magnus von Horn

Screenplay: Magnus von Horn,
Line Langebek

Producer: Malene Blenkov,
Mariusz Włodarski

Production: Creative Alliance

Appearances: Vic Carmen Sonne,
Trine Dyrholm, Besir Zeciri

Genre: Drama

Status: Post-production

Running Time: TBC.

International Sales:
the-match-factory.com



KALAK / KALAK

Based on the autobiographic award-winning novel by Danish-Norwegian author Kim Leine, KALAK deals with the relationship between Denmark and Greenland, the oppressor and the oppressed, the molester and the survivor, individualist and collectivist society. Jan, a family father and nurse, is on a selfdestructive run from himself as a victim of sexual abuse. He takes a job in Greenland where he yearns to be a part of the open, collectivist culture, but really just tries to fuck his way in. When someone calls him a Kalak, a local word meaning both a “true” and “dirty” Greenlander, he wears it as a badge of honour, but ultimately has to confront his past.

Director Isabella Eklöf (b.1978) co-wrote the script with the author and Sissel Dalsgaard Thomsen. She unapologetically exposes the beauty and ugliness of human nature as in her acclaimed debut ‘Holiday’, which premiered in Sundance. She previously co-wrote ‘Border’ and recently directed episodes of Apple’s ‘The Servant’ and HBO’s ‘Industry’.

Director Isabella Eklöf

Screenplay Kim Leine, Isabella Eklöf, Sissel Dalsgaard Thomsen

Producer Maria Møller Kjeldgaard

Production Manna Film

Appearances Emil Johnsen, Asta August, Berda Larsen, Connie Kristoffersen, Vigga Tukula

Genre Drama

Status World premiere / San Sebastian 2023

Running Time 137 min.

International Sales

totem-films.com



THE LAST PARADISE ON EARTH / THE LAST PARADISE ON EARTH

The grounded and romantic Kári loves the simple life in a small village in the Faroe Islands, one of the smallest countries in the world. But times soon take a turn for the worse. The only source of income for the local community is the fish factory, and when it faces closure, the workers look for a way out. But unlike most young people on the island, Kári wants to stay. He is at peace with things as they are, and even when everyone is chasing a better future somewhere else, Kári decides to stay and face the challenges head-on. Because for him, his hometown is The Last Paradise on Earth.

Sakaris Frídi Stórá (b.1986) is born and raised on the Faroe Islands. In 2007 he moved to Norway to study film at Nordland College of Art and Film. After graduating he moved back to the Faroe Islands to work as a screenwriter and director, and to pursue his ambitions of giving the Faroese language and culture a place in film history. Stórá made his feature debut with the drama 'Dreams by the Sea' (2017), which also took place on the Faroe Islands and was screened at a number of Nordic film festivals.

Director: Sakaris Stórá

Screenplay: Sakaris Stórá, Tommy Oksen, Mads Stegger

Producer: Jón Hammer

Production: Adomeit Film

Appearances: Sámal Hildibjartson Hansen, Björg Brynhildardóttir Egholm

Genre: Drama

Status: Post-production

Running Time: 86 min.

International Sales: TBC



MADAME IDA / MADAME IDA

Set in the early 1950s, the 15-year old orphan Cecilia has become pregnant. To conceal the pregnancy, the orphanage decides that Cecilia is to give away her unborn child to the middle-aged Ida who desperately wants to adopt, and who lives alone with her maid Alma in an old, isolated mansion. Cecilia is sent out to live at the mansion for the duration of her pregnancy and for a while the three women constitute an odd family, where they each find respite for their loneliness, sorrow and longing. But with the arrival of the baby, the harmonious circumstances suddenly change.

Jacob Møller (b.1987) graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 2019. His graduation film 'Treatise of the Human Animal no. 38: Heartache' was selected for several international film festivals, including Telluride Film Festival. MADAME IDA is Jacob Møller's feature debut as both writer and director and the film features among others Flora Ofelia Lindahl Hoffmann, who won the Silver Shell for Best Leading Performance in 'As in Heaven' at the San Sebastian Film Festival in 2021.

Director Jacob Møller
Screenplay Jacob Møller
Producer Charlotte Hjordt
Production Zentropa
Appearances Flora Ofelia
Hofmann Lindahl, Christine Albeck
Børge, Karen-Lise Mynster

Genre Drama
Status Post-Production
Running Time 110 min.
International Sales
trustnordisk.com



MR. FREEMAN / MR. FREEMAN

When the lonely teenager Simone starts an online relationship with a sweet and handsome Ghanesian man called Freeman, she persuades her reluctant parents to let him visit for a few weeks. As Simone's involvement with Freeman grows, the reluctance of her family increases, and Simone's rebellion snowballs into an avalanche which threatens to tear the family apart forever.

Mads Matthiesen (b. 1976) graduated as a director from the alternative Danish film school "Super 16" in 2008. His debut feature 'Teddy Bear' (2012) took home the prestigious Directing Award from Sundance Film Festival. He has also won numerous awards for his shorts and 'Mr. Freeman' is his third feature film following 'The Model' (2016).

Director Mads Matthiesen
Screenplay Mads Matthiesen
Producer Jonas Bagger
Production Zentropa
Appearance Lina Lund
Jørgensen, Daouda Keita, Mia
Lyhne, Nicolas Bro

Genre Drama
Status International premiere /
Santa Barbara 2024
Running Time 90 min.
International Sales
trustnordisk.com



NIGHTWATCH – DEMONS ARE FOREVER / NATTEVAGTENS DATTER – DÆMONER GÅR I ARV

The psychopathic inspector Wörmer almost killed Emma's parents before she was born. Emma, now a 22-year-old medical student decides to investigate her parents' past and has taken a job as a night watch in the forensic department. She wakes Wörmer from his coma, unintentionally initiating a bloody revenge on all who sealed Wörmer's destiny and thus Emma and Martin are suddenly finding themselves surrounded by vindictive maniacs whose only motive is revenge.

Ole Bornedal (b.1959) has worked extensively with television and film both nationally and internationally. Some of his later films, including 'The Substitute' (2007) and 'Deliver Us From Evil' (2009) premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and 'Just Another Love Story' (2009) premiered at the Sundance Film Festival.

NIGHTWATCH – DEMONS ARE FOREVER is the anticipated independent sequel to Bornedal's breakthrough feature debut 'Nightwatch' (1994).

Director Ole Bornedal
Screenplay Ole Bornedal
Producer Thomas Heinesen
Production Nordisk Film
Appearances Fanny Leander
Bornedal, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau,
Kim Bodnia, Paprika Steen

Genre Horror
Status World premiere /
London 2023
Running Time 115 min.
International Sales
trustnordisk.com



THE PROMISED LAND / BASTARDEN

In the mid-1700s, Danish King Frederik V declared that the wild heath of Jutland should be tamed, cultivated, and colonized so that civilization could spread and new taxes be generated for the throne. However, no one dared to follow the King's decree. The heath meant certain death – a godforsaken place haunted by ravenous wolves, highwaymen, and a brutal, unforgiving nature. But in the late summer of 1755, a lone soldier by the name of Ludvig Kahlen rode into the heath in stubborn pursuit of a lifelong dream, determined to reach his goal: The heath would either bring him the wealth and honour he had long sought... or get the better of him.

Writer-director Nikolaj Arcel (b1972) collaborates with scriptwriter Anders Thomas Jensen ('Riders of Justice') on his first Danish-language film since his Berlin-winning and Oscar-nominated 'A Royal Affair'. Mads Mikkelsen stars alongside Amanda Collin, Kristine Kujath Thorp and Gustav Lindh. Arcel graduated from The National Film School of Denmark in 2001 and apart from directing his own films, he has written scripts for some of the biggest local box-office hits in recent years.

Director Nikolaj Arcel

Screenplay Anders Thomas Jensen, Nikolaj Arcel

Producer Louise Vesth

Production Zentropa

Appearances Mads Mikkelsen, Amanda Collin, Simon Bennebjerg, Gustav Lindh

Genre Historical Drama

Status World premiere / Venice 2023

Running Time 120 min.

International Sales
trustnordisk.com



SONS / VOGTER

The idealistic prison officer Eva is faced with the dilemma of her life when a young man from her past gets transferred to the prison where she works. Without revealing her secret, Eva asks to be moved to the young man's ward – the toughest and most violent in the prison. Here begins an unsettling psychological thriller, where Eva's sense of justice puts both her morality and future at stake.

Gustav Möller (b.1988) is a Swedish-born writer/director based in Denmark, where he graduated from the National Film School in 2015 with the award-winning short 'In Darkness'. In 2018 his feature debut 'The Guilty' premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and secured him the audience award. It went on to become both commercial and critical success, winning awards across the world as well as at home. It was shortlisted for the International Feature Oscar and later remade in the US with Jake Gyllenhaal in 2021. Möller also co-created the five-part series 'The Dark Heart', which screened at Sundance in 2022 and won Best series at Series Mania.

Director: Gustav Möller,
Screenplay: Gustav Möller,
Emil Nygaard Albertsen
Producer: Lina Flint
Production: Nordisk Film
Appearances: Sidse Babett
Knudsen, Sebastian Bull, Dar Salim

Genre: Psychological thriller
Status: World premiere /
Berlin 2024
Running Time: 100 min.
International Sales:
filmsdulosange.com



STRANGER / FREMMED

Set 4000 years BC, this pre-historical survival drama follows the young woman Aathi and her family arriving as the first farmers ever to what is now known as Denmark. However, shortly after they clash with a local tribe of hunter-gatherers, and soon Aathi and her brother are forced to live with the tribe who killed most of their family and learn their traditions in order to survive. Gradually, the demands Aathi must submit to become more and more ruthless and the film becomes a nerve-racking drama about revenge and forgiveness. It is also a unique look into the transition from hunter to peasant stone-age with a Pre-Indo-European language developed for the film.

Director Mads Hedegaard (b.1982) graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 2017 and his debut documentary 'Cannon Arm and the Arcade Quest' premiered at CPH:DOX and Hot Docs in 2021. This is Mads Hedegaard's fiction feature debut, and he co-wrote the script with Jesper Fink ('Before the frost', 'Birthday Girl').

Director: Mads Hedegaard

Screenplay: Jesper Fink, Mads Hedegaard, Christian Bengtson

Producer: Andreas Hjortdal

Production: Motor Productions

Appearances: Angela Bundalovic, Danica Curcic, Benjamin Ahnstrøm Sharifzadeh, Mari Kiss and Sandor Funtek

Genre: Survival drama

Status: Post-production

Running Time: 102 min.

International Sales:
reinvent.dk



THE QUIET ONES

/ DE LYDLØSE

THE QUIET ONES depicts a group of extremely tenacious, ambitious, and uncompromising robbers who all share the same ambition: to succeed with the impossible - despite major obstacles, internal conflicts, secret agendas, and personal costs. It is the story of the largest and most spectacular coup in Danish history, and the long, detailed, and risky preparation it took to create a shortcut to greatness and wealth. At whatever cost. Inspired by true events."

Frederik Louis Hviid (b.1988) graduated from the alternative film school Super16 and his short 'Halfman' won him the Young Directors Award in Cannes 2017. He made his feature debut with 'Shorta', which he co-directed with Anders Ølholm. The film premiered at Venice Critics Week in 2020. He then directed episodes for series like 'Follow the Money' before heading the mini-series 'The Prison', which premiered at Cannes Series and won in all categories at the Danish Film Awards.

Director: Frederik Louis Hviid

Screenplay: Anders Frithiof
August

Producer: Kasper Dissing

Production: Zentropa

Appearances: Gustav Dyekjær
Giese, Reda Kateb, Amanda Collin,
Christopher Wagelin

Genre: Action Drama

Status: Post-production

Running Time: TBC

International Sales:
trustnordisk.com



WAY HOME / VEJEN HJEM

How far are you willing to go to save the people you love? This is the question Christian is forced to answer when he is smuggled into Syria in a desperate search for his son Adam. It is a deadly and soul-searching journey into a brutal, war-torn country. Gradually, Christian realizes he must be willing to sacrifice everything he believes in, if he wants to be reunited with his son. A gripping drama about powerlessness, forgiveness and the love for our children.

Director, writer and sometimes actress Charlotte Sieling (b.1960) has an extensive career helming Danish series like 'The Killing (2007-09), Borgen (2013) and The Bridge (2011) as well being episode director on US series including 'The Americans', 'Homeland' and 'White Collar' She also wrote and directed the features 'Above the Street Below the Water' (2009), The Man (2017) and Margrethe Queen of the North (2021).

Director: Charlotte Sieling
Screenplay: Jesper Fink, Nagieb Khaja, Charlotte Sieling
Producer: Morten Kaufmann, Signe Leick Jensen
Production: Toolbox Film
Appearances: Nikolaj Lie Kaas, Albert Rudbeck Lindhardt, Arian Kashef

Genre: Drama
Status: Post-production
Running Time: 98 min.
International Sales:
levelk.dk

UPCOMING FEATURE FILMS 2023/2024

TITLE	DIRECTOR	GENRE	SALES AGENT	PRODUCTION
THE END	Joshua Oppenheimer	Musical	The Match Factory	Final Cut for Real
B.O.Y. (working title)	Søren Green	Drama	Level K	Asta Film
AT VOKSE OP ER IKKE FOR BØRN (working title)	Sylvia de Fanu	Drama	TBC	Adomeit Film
HONEY	Natasha Arthy	Family	TBC	Toolbox Film



AFTERWAR / AFTERWAR

Burning buildings in a dense fog, a dead horse on a dusty road, people fleeing through harsh mountain landscapes. "Afterwar" opens with images from war-torn Kosovo, 1999, as a dark chapter in the history of modern Europe draws to a close. After the war, children sell peanuts and cigarettes on the streets of Pristina in order to survive. They speak to us: 'There's only one reason I'm talking to you. It is my hunger! I'm so hungry, I could eat your money!' In a cinematic testament co-created over 15 years, they transform into adults before our eyes. Yet the child still stares back at us from behind the adult gaze, as the struggle to survive becomes a struggle for a future at all. They confront us with their innermost secrets and desires, while stuck in limbo and haunted by their past.

In 2007, director Birgitte Stærmose met a group of children on the streets of Pristina. Together they made the short film 'Out of Love' (2009). The director and the cast stayed in contact, and in 2018, they decided to make a new co-creation: the feature AFTERWAR.

Director Birgitte Stærmose
Producer Lise Lense-Møller
Production Magic Hour Films

Genre Feature
Status World premiere /
Berlin 2024
Running Time 85 min.
International Sales
magichourfilms.dk



AS THE TIDE COMES IN / FØR STORMEN

Something looms on the horizon of the tiny Danish Wadden Sea island, Mandø, with its 28 inhabitants. Climate change experts predict the warming of the ocean and the rising water level. The few remaining islanders pay no heed to these warnings. Caught up in their everyday lives they seem to be oblivious to this impending catastrophe. We meet Gregers, the island's last farmer, Ellen, who manages the smallest supermarket in Denmark, Ornithologist Niels, and Mie, getting ready for her 100th birthday. The islanders' oblivious attitude towards climate change doesn't come from a place of arrogance or recklessness. They know how to live off the land they inhabit and from the sea around them. The island is a reservoir of a particular knowledge about sustainable existence.

Juan Palacios was born in Spain and has lived in Denmark since 2011 working as a cinematographer and director. He holds a master's degree from The Netherlands Film Academy.

Director Juan Palacios,
Co-director Sofie Husum
Johannesen
Producer Kasper Lykke Schultz
Production Elk Film

Genre Documentary
Status World premiere /
IDFA 2023
Running Time 86 min.
International Sales
lightdox.com



BALOMANIA / BALOMANIA

In 1998, Brazil was the first country in the world to imprison people who released hot-air balloons.

BALOMANIA travels into the heart of Brazil's favelas where a hidden society of hot air balloon makers sacrifice everything to make their illegal creations fly. Under the wings of the legendary balloon maker Jabá, balloon hunter Ton and godfather Sergio, 19-year-old Sissel, the director, is initiated into the balloon brotherhood, where silk paper and delirious flying objects sweep her into an addictive kinship.

A coming-of-age film from inside a secretive gang scene in Brazil, where a passion for making, flying and chasing hot air balloons reigns alongside sacrifice, paranoia and obsessions.

Sissel Morell Dargis studied at the film school Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión in Cuba and the National Film School of Denmark.

Director Sissel Morell Dargis

Producer Jesper Jack,
Marie Schmidt Olesen

Production House of Real

Genre Documentary

Status World premiere /
CPH:DOX 2024

Running Time 92 min.

International Sales

houseofreal.net



CAN'T FEEL NOTHING / REMOTE CONTROL

How is the Internet changing our emotions? It actually might be preventing us from feeling anything at all.

A science documentarian by trade, director David Borenstein goes off script to meet a cast of compelling and sometimes absurd characters who weaponize human emotion online. Emotion AI companies that try to stimulate any emotion in human subjects. Trolls in the US that harness the power of anger to swing elections. Chinese live-streaming factories that develop industrial techniques to make their viewers fall in love. Russian TikTok propagandists who use science to make Russians take pride in the war in Ukraine. Love, fear, anger, joy, pride...and many more.

How has emotional stimulation become the hottest new commodity? And, amidst an Internet-fueled mental health crisis, what does it mean for all of us?

Director David Borenstein
Producer Mikkel Jersin, Katrin Pors, Eva Jakobsen, Jesper Jack
Production Snowglobe

Genre Documentary
Status World premiere / CPH:DOX 2024
Running Time 90 min.
International Sales
snowglobefilm.com



DAUGHTER OF GENGHIS / DAUGHTER OF GENGHIS

The story of Gerel, a violent neo-nationalist, who wants to protect her country against foreign dominance and exploitation. For thousands of years the Mongols and Chinese have been enemies, and today the proudly nomadic Mongolia is a poverty stricken country, with 3 million people surrounded by China and Russia. We follow Gerel and her son Temuleen for 7 years, charting the dramatic changes in their life. In the beginning she raids brothels and gambling dens with her gang of women. She is fueled by a desire to change society, but Gerel's activism leads to neglect of her own son. She realizes that her hatred is connected to her own personal traumas. Gerel must revisit everything she holds dear to learn how to be a caring mother to her son.

All across the globe the far right is on the rise, and we want to understand its attraction. Mining by foreign companies dominate the Mongolian economy, and urban life has largely replaced the nomadic horse culture. This story exposes the challenges a globalized modern economy poses to vulnerable indigenous populations, and how hatred and violence has roots in personal trauma.

Director Christian Als,
Kristoffer Juel Poulsen
Producer Andreas Dalsgaard
Production Elk Film

Genre Documentary
Status World premiere /
CPH:DOX 2024
Running Time 90 min.
International Sales
taskovskifilms.com



DEATH OF A SAINT / DEATH OF A SAINT

Christmas Eve 1989, when Patricia was two years old, her mother was killed by two gunmen in their home in Uganda. Christmas Eve 2013, Patricia gave birth to a daughter and named Imelda after her mother. 30 years after the killing, Patricia is finally ready to return home and examine her traumatic past. Through a dissection of archival footage, conversations with family members and interviews with men who have killed women, Patricia will try to unravel her mother's brutal killing while at the same time attempting to get to know her and herself better in the process. Patricia must confront her traumas in order to set herself free from them.

The director wanted to use her own story as a magnifying glass to delve into death, trauma, and survival. Her ambition was to destigmatize death in a broad sense and face it. Personally, she wanted to reclaim what had been stolen from her. Patricia Bbaale Bandak is a graduate of the National Film School of Denmark in 2019. She directed the TV series 'Bad Bitch' for DR TV 2022.

Director Patricia Bbaale Bandak
Producer Victor Rocha da Cunha
Production Monolit Film

Genre Documentary
Status World premiere /
CPH:DOX 2024
Running Time 91 min.
International Sales
monolitfilm.dk



ECHO OF YOU

/ EKKO AF KÆRLIGHED

ECHO OF YOU portrays a soon to be extinct generation, who has lived longer time of their life in a partnership than by themselves. Ten men and women (80+) from Denmark openly and honestly put their heartbreak and grief into words and losing their partner through a journey down memory lane. A hopeful, life-affirming, sensuous and poetic ensemble portrait of a unique generation, who will soon not be with us any longer.

Zara Zerny holds a bachelor's degree from Rietveld School of Art & Design in Amsterdam and graduated as a film director from the indie school Super16 in Copenhagen. Zara Zerny has worked with and portrayed elderly people and she continues to give a dying generation a voice, whose perception of love and partnership is unique and radically differentiates from later generations individualism.

Director Zara Zerny
Producer Maria Møller Kjeldgaard
Production Manna Film

Genre Documentary
Status World premiere / IDFA 2023
Running Time 76 min.
International Sales
syndicado.com



THE END OF QUIET / THE END OF QUIET

In a remote rural community in West Virginia, a powerful radio telescope is listening into space to unlock the mysteries of the universe. Meanwhile, living in the quietest place on earth with no cell phones or WI-FI, the locals are faced with the mysteries of life itself. **THE END OF QUIET** digs deep into what seemingly is a simpler and less hectic and demanding life than the world most of us live in. The absence of wireless communication, social media and entertainment on demand seemingly paints a utopian picture that will resonate with the audience. However, things are never that simple and the grass is not always greener on the other side.

Both directors graduated from the National Film School in Lodz and have a long list of both documentaries and short fictions to their names. The film is a unique three-year-long collaboration between the directors and the internationally acclaimed editor Charlotte Munch Bengtsen. She recently edited the Oscar-nominated 'All that Breathes' and the multiple award-winning box-office-hit, 'The Truffle Hunters'.

Director Kasper Bisgaard,
Mikael Lypinski
Producer Sara Stockmann
Production Sonntag Pictures

Genre Documentary
Status Post-production
Running Time Approx. 85 min.
International Sales
sonntagpictures.com



FIGHTING DEMONS WITH DRAGONS

/ MED DRAGER OG DÆMONER

FIGHTING DEMONS WITH DRAGONS is a coming-of-age documentary about feeling excluded - and for the first time finding a community. The film follows three pupils at Østerskov Boarding School, where learning takes place through play, and where role-playing is an integral part of the teaching. The school attracts students who have been outsiders their whole life, been bullied or have diagnoses. Here, many of the children feel accepted and included for the first time. We meet Ask, Luca and Josephine who all long to be part of a community and yet still trying to hold on to their uniqueness. In the two years that we follow these students, they combat anxiety and insecurity while in costume and armed with swords. Filled with all the vulnerability, savagery, and courage of youth, they've embarked on a journey through the dim corridor connecting childhood and adulthood.

Camilla Magid deals with significant societal issues in her films, often with children as main characters. Camilla Magid is a Super16 graduate and her most prominent films are 'Land of the Free' and 'White Black Boy'.

Director Camilla Magid
Producer Heidi Elise Christensen
Production Final Cut for Real

Genre Documentary
Status World premiere /
CPH:DOX 2024
Running Time 93 min.
International Sales
cinephil.com



GIRL AWAY FROM HOME / PIGE VÆK HJEMMEFRA

Nastia (13) is an elite gymnast in Kiev. Her teammates are her best friends. After months of hard work, they win the Ukrainian championship. A month after the win, a war breaks out in Ukraine. Nastia and her grandmother have to flee to Germany leaving friends and family in Ukraine. Nastia has a tough time in Germany. But when she joins a German gymnastics team, things start to brighten.

The film is co-directed by Simon Lereng Wilmont and Alisa Kovalenko. Both directors are prize-winning filmmakers. Simon Lereng Wilmont with their films 'Distant Barking of Dogs', 'A House Made of Splinters' and Alisa Kovalenko with 'We Will Not Fade Away'.

Director Simon Lereng Wilmont,
Alisa Kovalenko
Producer Maria Stevnbak
Westergren
Production Toolbox Film

Genre Documentary
Status World premiere/
IDFA 2023
Running Time 22 min.
International Sales
autlookfilms.com



LIFE AND OTHER PROBLEMS

/LIVET OG ANDRE PROBLEMER

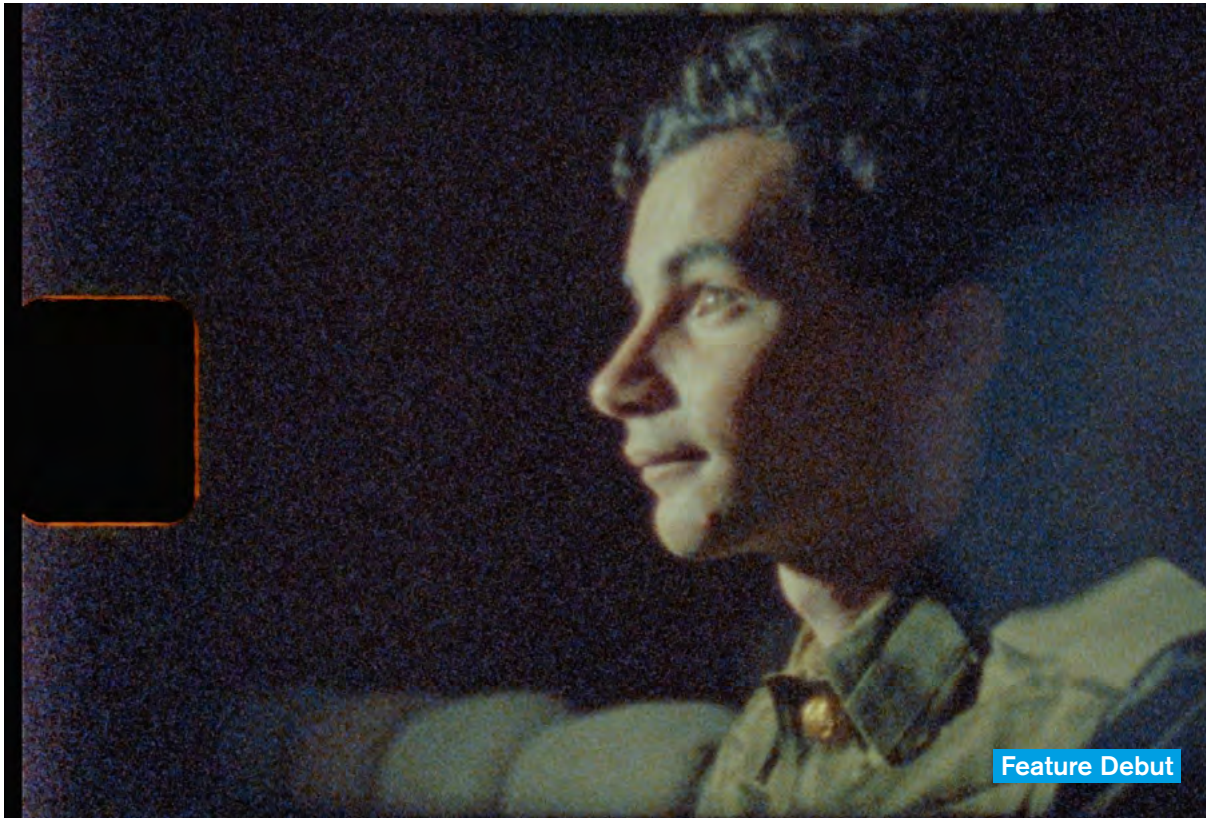
What is the meaning of life, death and all the rest? Max Kestner gives an energetic and imaginative answer in his adventurous film, which begins 10 year ago with a young giraffe from Copenhagen, whose story goes viral from Hollywood to Chechnya.

It was also the first domino to fall in the wild thicket of existential questions asked by Kestner in his joyously adventurous film. What is life? Does consciousness exist? Where does love come from? And not least: How is everything connected? With curiosity and an open mind, Kestner embarks on a philosophical voyage around the world to look for answers to his questions. With contributions from scientists like Charles Foster and Eske Willerslev, every answer sparks three new questions.

Kestner graduated as documentarist from The National Film School of Denmark in 1997. He has worked in television, teaching at the National Film School, and directed documentaries and a feature film amongst others 'Max by Chance', 'Blue Collar White Christmas'.

Director: Max Kestner
Producer: Vibeke Vogel
Production: Bullitt Film in
co-production with Plattform
Produktion and Hopscotch Films

Genre: Documentary
Status: World premiere /
CPH:DOX 2024
Running Time: 97 min.
International Sales: DR Sales



THE LOST NOTEBOOK / DEN TABTE NOTEBOG

The discovery of a diary with meticulous records of a Hungarian man's 2158 visits to the cinema becomes a tale of a divided family held together by a shared love of film.

A young filmmaker stumbles upon an old notebook. The book belonged to a Hungarian man who wrote down all his cinema visits behind the Iron Curtain from World War II to the fall of the Wall. No less than 2,158 films are accurately dated in the cinematic diary – and he loved action films more than anything else! But who was the book's mysterious owner and why did he document his trips to the movies in such detail? Ida Marie Gedbjerg Sørensen visits his family and draws a portrait of three generations in modern-day Hungary. Secret dreams and repressed traumas surface with every step she takes, as she delves into the mystery of his passion for film in a complex family narrative with many shadows and twists and turns.

The director and anthropologist graduated from the international film school Doc Nomads in 2017 and teaches filmmaking at the youth film school Station Next.

Director: Ida Marie Gedbjerg Sørensen
Producer: Rikke Tambo Andersen
Production: Tambo Film

Genre: Documentary
Status: World premiere / CPH:DOX 2024
Running Time: 75 min.
International Sales: beofilm.dk/tambo-film/



THE LIGHT / LYSET

The artwork 'Peace Sculpture' created by artist Elle-Mie Ejdrup for the commemoration of Denmark's liberation of the Nazi occupation on May 4, 1995. It was Denmark's largest work of art and sparked a historic controversy. The artwork, which involved a 532 km long laser beam along the bunkers on the west coast, triggered a heated national debate among former resistance fighters, politicians, and the Danish press regarding the dark past of the country. The controversy became so intense that the artist and her team received death threats, rape threats, and human feces by post. The scandal, fueled by sexist media coverage portraying Elle-Mie as incompetent, led her to be ostracized from the Danish art world for two decades.

THE LIGHT is a unique perspective on history and provides a platform for voices that have been marginalized and ignored for far too long.

Alexander Lind graduated from The National Danish Film School in 2013.

Director Alexander Lind
Producer Emil Johnsen
Production GotFat Productions

Genre Documentary
Status International premiere / Rotterdam 2024
Running Time 70 min.
International Sales
gotfat.dk



THE NATURE OF GRIEF / SORG

It's been 30 years since award-winning filmmaker Sami Saif lost his older brother. The grief that followed the loss of his brother, he believes, has had a positive effect on his life. Now he has decided to delve into the suffering of grief to understand if it has a deeper meaning or if it is just another pain that humans have to deal with. He joins a group of grief researchers investigating the phenomenon of grief and trying to understand its nature. Through interviews, conversations and careful observation, we meet people who have lost loved ones. But we also learn about topics such as the history of grief, the diagnosis of prolonged grief disorder and the role of capitalism in the grieving process. THE NATURE OF GRIEF is never just a film about grieving and loss. It is just as much a celebration of our common bond and the life that goes on.

Sami Saif graduated from the National Danish Film School in 1997. His feature debut was 'Family' together with Phie Ambo in 2001.

Director Sami Saif
Producer Signe Leick Jensen
Production Toolbox

Genre Documentary
Status World premiere /
CPH:DOX 2024
Running Time 58 min.
International Sales
toolboxfilm.dk



THE SKY ABOVE ZENICA / HIMLEN OVER ZENICA

Zenica in Bosnia-Herzegovina is the third most polluted city in the world. Eko Forum, a citizens organisation, fight an uphill battle against a giant steel corporation that emits toxic gasses, local politicians who depend on jobs and re-election, and the EU who co-funds the factory, while at the same time declaring Zenica a Green City Project and funding bicycle lanes. A look into the intricate mechanisms that stand in the way of environmental accountability and common sense, told through the people suffering the consequences.

In 2017, directors Zlatko Pranjic and Nanna Frank Møller goes to Zenica, to uncover what is at the root of the city's health epidemic. Zlatko's childhood friend, professor Lemes, heads Eko Forum, where citizens fight for a viable future. But money, power, and politics prove as toxic as the factory smoke. Through 7 years, the directors follow the citizen's fight and the complex mechanisms that stand in the way of environmental accountability.

Director: Zlatko Pranjic, Nanna Frank Møller

Producer: Lise Lense-Møller

Production: Magic Hour Films

Genre: Documentary

Status: World premiere /
CPH:DOX 2024

Running Time: 90 min.

International Sales:
magichourfilms.dk



Feature Debut

THE SON AND THE MOON / THE SON AND THE MOON

In the face of a life-threatening cancer diagnosis, Iranian/Danish film director Roja embarks on a six-year odyssey, capturing her poignant journey of self-discovery, motherhood, and a profound exploration of her Iranian heritage. As she grapples with mortality, the documentary unfolds as a vibrant love story, weaving together the threads of the director's multifaceted existence as an artist, mother, wife, and daughter. This compelling narrative resonates with the universal struggle to live authentically in the limited time we have on this earth.

Iranian/Danish director Roja faces a life-threatening cancer diagnosis while navigating motherhood. Over six years, the documentary film unfolds as a pulsating love story, exploring mortality, identity, and the universal struggle to live authentically.

Director: Roja Pakari
Producer: Sara Stockmann
Production: Sonntag Pictures

Genre: Documentary
Status: World premiere /
CPH:DOX 2024
Running Time: 87 min.
International Sales:
sonntagpictures.com

**DANISH
FILM
CATALOGUE
WINTER 2024**

Issued by

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The Danish Film Institute is the national agency supporting and encouraging Danish film and cinema culture.

We support the development, production and distribution of Danish films and offer funding for international co-productions.

Support programmes extend to digital games, film education and promotion at international film festivals. A minimum of 25 percent of all subsidies are earmarked for children and youth films.






Situated in central Copenhagen, the Danish Film Institute houses the national Cinematheque and also includes a library, a stills and posters archive and a film studio for children to explore the craft of filmmaking.

We manage the film archives and run the streaming sites filmcentralen.dk, stumfilm.dk and danmarkpaafilm.dk.

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