

# Book of Projects

**MIA**  
2022

# Book of Projects



**“Where the locations drove the inspiration for story”**

*Cary Joji Fukunaga - 'No Time to Die' Director*



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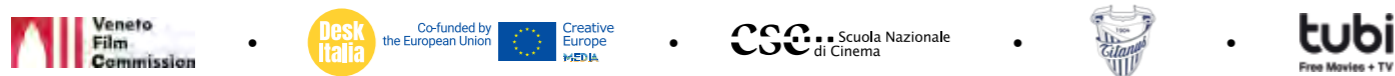
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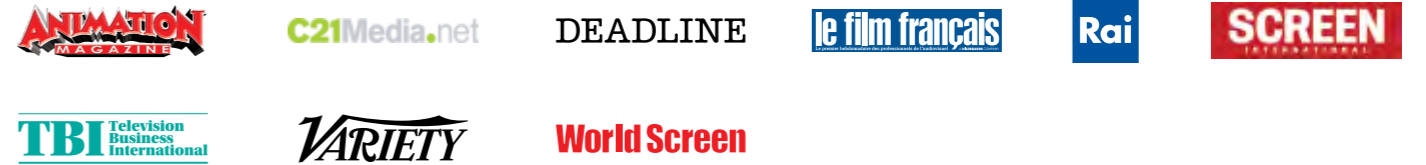
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# Awards



## ArteKino International Prize

This year, MIA is proud to once again present the ARTE Kino International Prize, a € 6.000 cash prize with which ARTE intends to support emerging directors and producers from all over the world.

The prize will be awarded by a special jury to one of the projects presented in the frame of the MIA|Film Co-Production Market & Pitching Forum.

The ARTE Kino International Prize provides a concrete support for the development of feature film projects, and over the years has been awarded to titles that have successfully traveled the International Festivals' circuit, including Rotterdam, Berlin, Cannes, Locarno, Sarajevo, San Sebastián, Busan, Rome, Marrakech and Les Arcs.

## ILBE Awards

For the first time on the 2022 edition, MIA has the honor to present the ILBE Awards, two prizes to support the development of two projects presented as part of the Film co-production Market & Pitching Forum.

A special jury, composed of a representative of ILBE and two other industry professionals, will assign the two awards:

> The ILBE AWARD worth € 10.000 to the best project chosen from those selected at the Film Co-Production Market & Pitching Forum;

> The ILBE Award worth € 5.000 to the best project chosen from those selected in the section Wanna Taste IT?, exclusively devoted to Italian film projects at an earlier stage of development, aiming to be a launchpad and a propeller for the Italian industry and talent.

One of ILBE's goals is to support producers and directors during the development of the film, one of the most delicate phases, in line with its corporate values.

ILBE has always been close to emerging Italian and international talents and professionals, often giving the opportunity, to those who dream of being part of the entertainment world, to have their chance.

Thanks to the projects that the company evaluates and develops every year, many young people have been able to approach writing, and be part of a team of professionals that allowed them to see an idea turning into content not only for the Italian market, but also and above all for the International circuit.

Such content is the result of ILBE's business model, which aims to create Made in Italy products and circulate them all over the world.

In fact, one of ILBE's values is *Working together to tell stories that, starting from Italy, go all over the world.*



## Paramount+ Award

We are very pleased to announce, for the third consecutive year, the prestigious Paramount+ Award which will be awarded by a jury of global experts nominated by Paramount to the best project presented at the Drama Pitching Forum 2022.

Paramount+, a global digital subscription video streaming service that launched in Italy on 15th September, offers a mountain of premium entertainment with over 8,000 hours of quality contents for everyone, spanning exclusive global and local Paramount+ originals, popular movies and hit shows across every genre from Paramount's world-renowned brands and production studios, including Comedy Central, MTV, Nickelodeon, Paramount Pictures, SHOWTIME® and the Smithsonian Channel™.

The Paramount+ prize will be awarded by Jaime Ondarza, EVP & South EMEA Hub Leader, Head of Streaming Southern Europe, Latin America, Middle East & Africa.

## WIFTMI AWARD

For the first time this year, in collaboration with Women in Film, Television & Media Italia (WIFTMI), MIA is hosting the first edition of the WIFTMI AWARD, which will be awarded to a scripted Italian project officially selected within the Co-Production Market & Pitching Forum of the Animation, Drama and Film divisions.

WIFTMI will provide editorial advice, implemented by WIFTMI member working in the field of development and production of audiovisual products, and will be awarded to the project having the greatest potential to be realized based on criteria related to elimination of gender inequality, positive representation, balanced representation, diversity and inclusion.

The aim of the WIFTMI AWARD is to help create connections between Italian productions and the international market, often more sensitive and advanced regarding to inclusion issues. The winning project will be selected by a jury of professionals associated with WIFTMI who work in the development and production of audiovisual products.

# MIA Animation

Co-production Market and Pitching Forum

## Animation Selection Committee 2022



**Mounia Aram**  
Founder & Distributor  
Mounia Aram Company,  
France



**Simon Crowe**  
Founder & CEO  
SC Films International  
London, UK



**Cecilia Padula**  
VP Head Kids & Family  
brands South Europe,  
Middle East & Africa  
Paramount, Italy



**Claudia Schmitt**  
Head of Kids & Family  
Entertainment  
Beta Films, Germany



**Kristel Tõldsepp**  
Head of Studio & Producer  
Afilm, Estonia

## Content Advisor



**Matthieu Darras**  
Founder & Director  
First Cut Lab, Pop Up Film  
Residency, France

## Selected Projects

### Anselmo Wannabe

Italy/Portugal

### Belzebubs

Finland

### The Black Diamond Race

Italy

### The Breath of the Mountain

Italy

### Comrades

France/Poland/Belgium

### Echo Boy

Netherlands

### Félix! He Can Explain Everything!

France

### Fio Lina and the Maestro

Switzerland

### Flydog

Italy

### I Am Helena

Denmark

### No Pets!

Italy/Spain/Poland

### Round and Round the Wishing Well

France

### Sidi Kaba and the Gateway Home

France/Luxembourg/Belgium/Germany

Italy/Portugal

# ANSELMO WANNABE

Animated TV Series

Every job, if done with passion and dedication, can be the greatest job ever! Anselmo, a 10-year-old boy, confronts himself with different professions: with Letizia, his brilliant classmate, an inexhaustible source of challenges and comic misadventures are ensured.



## Original Title

Anselmo Wannabe

## Created by

Massimo Ottoni

## Directed by

Massimo Ottoni

## Screenplay by

Massimo Ottoni, Fabio Natale

## Running Time

26x7'

## Language

Italian, English

## Animation Technique

2D Digital

## Main Producer

**IBRIDO Studio S.r.l.**

Italy  
Federico Turani  
fturani@ibridostudio.com  
www.ibridostudio.com

## Estimated production budget

€ 1.000.000,00

## Financing in place

€ 15.000,00

## Financiers/partners already involved

AIM Creative Studio (Portugal)

## Looking for

Financial partners  
Broadcasters/VOD

## Synopsis

So children, what do you want to be when you grow up? Letizia, who always has the right answer, readily raises her hand. The teacher's finger slides over the kids, until it points towards a terrified "Anselmo!" Anselmo is a 10-year-old boy, attending the last year of primary school. This is the age in which The fateful question "What do you want to be when you grow up?" suddenly acquires a frightening concreteness. The boy panics, while all the professions of the world flow through his head, as Anselmo imagines himself in the role of a waiter, an astronaut, an archaeologist. Each episode consists of an imaginary adventure of the boy confronting himself with a different profession: an inexhaustible source of challenges that generate comic misadventures.

## Director's Statement

The adventures of Anselmo, through comedy and action, have the purpose of concretely stimulating a reflection on what to do in the future, in terms of jobs. There are no worse or unpleasant professions, but every job, if done with passion and perseverance, is extraordinary in its own way and it can give great satisfaction. Anselmo will face a lot of failures and errors but through his efforts and perseverance, he won't lose hope and motivation in pursuing his dreams.

## Company Profile

**IBRIDO** is an independent award winning animation studio that has been making 2D, 3D and stop-motion animation since 2016, ranging from film to music-videos, commercials, video-games and VR. Over the last few years, our directors have made films that have traveled through festivals like Annecy, Nastri d'Argento, Giffoni. The focus of IBRIDO is to co-produce with international partners while building up an Italian network, sharing art and culture, growing both as a company and as human beings.

## Producer's History

After graduating in Biology in 2015, **Federico Turani** co-created the Instagram-series *Kilo's Mind*. Making his way into the producing industry, in 2016 he produced *Lo Steinway* and *Water Hunters*, and in 2019 *Corkscrewed*. In 2020, he founded and became producer for IBRIDO, working towards European co-production and creating a network on a national level; he founded AION Collective, a reality company working on Immersive Sound Experiences (Video Games, XR). In 2021, he got selected to the European development program Animation Sans Frontières.

## Director's Filmography

2014 - **Imperium Vacui** (Short)  
2016 - **Lo Steinway** (Short)  
2016 - **Water Hunters** (Short)  
2019 - **H.O.M.** (VR Experience)  
2019 - **Corkscrewed** (Short)

Finland

# BELZEBUBS

Animated TV Series

*Belzebubs* is a family sitcom documenting the lives of your average devil-worshiping family next door, their romantic affairs and the sluggish evolution of the fathers hapless black metal band.

## Original Title

Belzebubs

## Created by

JP Ahonen

## Directed by

Samppa Kukkonen

## Screenplay by

JP Ahonen, Leo Viirret, Lassi Vierikko, Jenny Dahlström

## Based on

Belzebubs Webcomic

## Running Time

13x22'

## Language

Finnish

## Animation Technique

2D Digital

## Main Producer

**Pyjama Films Ltd**

Finland  
Terhi Väänänen  
terhi@pyjama.fi  
https://pyjama.fi/en

## Broadcaster/ Digital Platform

Yle

## Estimated production budget

€ 4.100.000,00

## Financing in place

€ 1.742.656,00

## Financiers/partners already involved

Yle (Finland), Finnish Film Foundation (Finland), Creative Europe MEDIA

## Looking for

Financing partners  
Distribution partners



## Synopsis

Meet the Belzebubs, your typical demon-summoning family next door! Sith is juggling his stay-at-home dad obligations with his lifelong (soon to be stale-dated) dream of being a heavy metal rock star. His passionate breadwinner wife, Lucy, is fed up with her job and one meltdown away from sacrificing her colleagues to Satan. Their teenage daughter, Liith, has just hit puberty and is wielding the effects of her raging hormones, stalking a boy in her class. And her brother, Leviathan, appears to be the only one exhibiting some sort of societal normalcy in the family. Unfortunately, he's only eight. Can Sith handle his fierce wife, wicked kids, a very lively mother-in-law, a very deceased father-in-law, his dysfunctional band, their mounting debts, the record companies increasing demands and still achieve his dream? No. But that sure as Hell won't stop him from trying.

## Creator's Statement

*Belzebubs* originated as a self-therapy webcomic when I was going through some heavy stuff in my life. Evidently, there was some black magic brewing in there, as the comic quickly went viral and found its audience all over the globe. Since then, *Belzebubs* has evolved into a real cross-media beast with books in multiple languages, a record deal with Century Media, and soon, an animated series. The feedback from fans has been phenomenal, and I'm constantly humbled by their enthusiasm and love towards the characters and stories. Quite a few say that *Belzebubs* is helping them through their own rough patches in life, which makes my work all the more meaningful. I'm grateful I can be there for them through my art.

## Company Profile

**Pyjama Films** is an award-winning production company specialising in high-end 2D animation. Pyjama produces stereotype breaking and creator-driven IPs for all audiences, and is currently working on a slate of productions, including several TV series and a feature. Pyjama's productions: *Planet Z*, *Surprise Egg*, *Sore Eyes for Infinity* and *Still Lives* have toured over 200 film festivals and won dozens of awards.

## Creator & Producer's History

**JP Ahonen** (Villimpi Pohjola, Sing No Evil) is a Finnish comic book artist, scriptwriter and illustrator whose works have been published in over 15 languages. Nowadays he's best known for his black metal mockumentary *Belzebubs*, which has evolved from a self-therapy project into a larger cross-media concept comprising comics, music and animation. Both the collected comic books and the recently released debut album *Pantheon* of the *Nightside Gods* have received wide critical acclaim across the globe. The rights to the first *Belzebubs* comic book have been sold to over 20 countries, making it one of the most internationally successful Finnish comics since the *Moomins*. JP is currently working on the second *Belzebubs* book and getting the band ready for live concerts.  
**Terhi Väänänen** is the CEO and co-founder of Pyjama Films, a Finland-based production company and 2D animation studio. Her production track record includes festival hits such as *Sore Eyes for Infinity* (2016) and *Still Lives* (2019) with over 200 international screenings and dozens of awards, in addition to *Belzebubs* music videos with over 5M views on YouTube. Väänänen has MAs in Media Culture and Arts Management, and having worked previously as an animation festival director, she has an extensive network in the Finnish animation industry.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2002 - **Way to Go** (Short)  
2004 - **Nightshift** (Short)  
2006 - **For Whom the Bell Jingles** (Short)  
2022 - **The Unstoppable Yellow Yeti** (TV Series)

# THE BLACK DIAMOND RACE

Animated TV Series

1929, the shady Mister K challenges a wealthy Maharaja to a car race, the prize: four priceless diamonds. Once Rani, the Maharajas daughter, has sourced the race cars in Europe, a thrilling race through India begins, but the young pilots are just unwitting pawns in the hands of their shrewd rival.



## Original Title

The Black Diamond Race

## Created by

Sergio Manfio, Francesco Manfio

## Directed by

Sergio Manfio

## Screenplay by

Sergio Manfio, Francesco Manfio, Anna Manfio

## Running Time

9x45'

## Language

Italian

## Animation Technique

CGI

## Main Producer

### Gruppo Alcuni

Italy  
Francesco Manfio  
direzione@alcuni.it  
<https://studios.alcuni.it/en/>

## Estimated budget

€ 4.843.530,00

## Financing in place

€ 2.843.530,00

## Financiers/partners already involved

Gruppo Alcuni (Italy), Toonz Media (India), Green Ink (Italy)

## Looking for

International co-production partners  
Broadcasters

## Synopsis

India, 1929. A very wealthy and highly respected Maharaja, with a soft spot for gambling, owns the famous Black Diamond. The mysterious Mister K wants the diamond at any cost, so he comes up with a shady plan to get it. He convinces the Maharaja to gamble his gem in a car race across India, four race cars per team and four world-famous diamonds at stake: the Black Diamond and three more. The Maharaja accepts, confident his team will win. He enlists his two kids, Rani and Vikram, to find the four best cars to compete with. Thus begins an adventurous search across Europe, crossing paths with the manufacturers and visionaries who made early car racing history. As the story unfolds, we learn that Mister K doesn't own the diamonds he staked in the bet, he will be stealing them throughout the series. His shamaness friend has told him that the precious stones will bestow him with incredible powers but simply owning the diamonds isn't enough to activate them: they must be obtained by winning against their legitimate owners (or heirs). Then the race begins, capturing us in the thrills of a wild, daring and often dastardly adventure that's certain to have us sitting on the edge of our seat!

## Creator's Statement

It's the end of the Roaring Twenties and the Modern Age is making dramatic changes in society. More automobiles are on the roads and racing teams and car engineers that will go down in history are beginning to make a name for themselves. Our adventurous race takes place against this exhilarating background in both Europe and India and is full of mystery and face-offs. The young protagonists soon discover that there is more at stake than diamonds and that while racing one might well find oneself.

## Company Profile

**Gruppo Alcuni** is one of the most important Italian animation production companies, present in the film, television, and publishing industries, along with games, new media, and live entertainment for children and pre-teens. The group creates high quality edutainment products, in both content and graphics. The productions are original, completely non-violent and promote positive values with humor and through interactivity. All these elements help foster the development of a wide variety of skills in young audiences.

## Producer's History

**Francesco Manfio** is the founder of Gli Alcuni together with his brother Sergio Manfio, and holds the role of General Manager and Executive Producer of the group. He is one of the leading international experts in cinema and television aimed at children and Past President of Cartoon Italia. Together with Sergio Manfio, he is also the creator and author of the TV program Ciak Junior, aired on Mediaset as well as on many TV stations all over Europe and in the People's Republic of China, Chile, India, Israel, Senegal and South Africa. They created more than 200 shorts for the CIAK JUNIOR project.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2010 - **Pet Pals** – Marco Polo's Code (Feature)  
2014 - **Pet Pals in Windland** (Feature)  
2018 - **Leo da Vinci – Mission Mona Lisa** (Feature)  
2018 - **Mini Pet Pals – The Four Seasons** (Feature)

# THE BREATH OF THE MOUNTAIN

Animated Feature Film

Aida and Marco, father and daughter. A grief to overcome. A long journey in which Aida will fight to bring her father back home; physically but also emotionally. A journey to adult life that will unveil to Aida the ancient magical world she belongs to and the fragile balance between man and nature.



## Original Title

Il respiro della montagna

## Created by

Lorenzo Latrofa

## Directed by

Lorenzo Latrofa

## Screenplay by

Lorenzo Latrofa, Alessia Rotondo

## Language

Italian

## Animation Technique

2D Digital

## Main Producer

### La Sarraz Pictures

Italy  
Alessandro Borrelli  
lasarrazpictures@gmail.com  
[www.lasarraz.com](http://www.lasarraz.com)

## Estimated production budget

€ 2.743.000,00

## Financing in place

€ 103.000,00

## Financiers/partners already involved

Ukbar Filmes (Portugal), El Tuerto Pictures (Colombia)

## Looking for

Co-production partners (Western Europe)  
World Sales

## Synopsis

A mountain village. 13-year-old Aida discovers a power that makes her special: she can see things before they happen. Aida has the recurring dreams of a huge panther in a surreal, alien forest. The dream is frightening, but at the same time seems to be guiding her somehow. Father and daughter have just moved into the new house after the death of Aida's mother. Her father, Marco, after the loss is stuck and lives in a bubble listening obsessively to the same old songs on a tape. Marco is a grumpy giant; a bear, who Aida tries to shake out of his torpor, sometimes arguing bitterly with him. In the new school, Aida meets Giorgio, a school mate who helps her to fit in. One day, on the way back from school, Aida and her father have a very heated discussion and Aida runs away. When she eventually returns home, she sees her father being kidnapped. A woman named Ravi, accompanied by henchmen in strange uniforms takes him away before his eyes. Aida, recovered from the shock, climbs up the mountain on the trail of the kidnapers. With the help of Giorgio and of her dreams, Aida discovers the magical world from which her power comes from and the evil roots that lay deep in her family history.

## Director's Statement

Father-daughter relationship, coping with grief and respect for the environment are the core themes I have the urge to talk about: they belong to a personal sphere but are universally relatable. Despite these profound themes, the storytelling and the visual approach are designed to flow lightly and gently as if it were an animated graphic novel. The breath of the mountain is a coming-of-age movie, a journey through adolescence. A modern fairy tale rooted in European medieval symbolism.

## Company Profile

**La Sarraz Pictures** has produced more than 30 films, documentaries and animations since 2004. Supported 6 times by MEDIA Creative Europe (two slate funds), it builds projects by structuring them as international co-productions. The collaboration with Lorenzo Latrofa started in 2007, making 4 animated short films and 3 animated web-platforms, *The Breath of the Mountain* is Lorenzo Latrofa's animated feature film debut.

## Director's Profile

**Lorenzo Latrofa** graduated from the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Turin after graduating in Architecture in Rome. In 2009, he founded La Testuggine ([www.latestuggine.it](http://www.latestuggine.it)), an animation studio which creates commissioned animations for corporate and commercial brands, and at the same time he carries on the directing work on original projects. He made several short films that took part in major national and international animation festivals. Since 2019 he has been a board member of ASIFA Italia, the association that represents Italian authors of animation.

## Producer's History

**Alessandro Borrelli** has been working in cinema since 1996, initially as screenwriter and independent producer with the company La Sarraz Cinematografica and subsequently, from 2002, working as producer and head of development for other companies in Turin and Rome. In 2004, he founded La Sarraz Pictures srl, an Italian production company which has its main office in Turin and one operating office in Rome, developing and producing feature fiction, creative documentaries and animations. Since 2004 all the films have been produced (over 30 titles) as co-productions or collaborations with prestigious National and International producers, broadcasters and distributors. Animation produced includes *Nino & Felix*, *Concetta* and *Our Story* by Lorenzo Latrofa; the most recent productions include the features *Dal profondo* by Valentina Pedicini, *Sarita* by Sergio Basso, *Seven Act of Mercy*, *River Memories* and *Spaccapietre* by Gianluca and Massimiliano De Serio, *The Moment of Transition* by Chiara Marotta.

## Director's Filmography

2010 - **Giallo a Milano** (Short)  
2015 - **Nino & Felix** (Short)  
2016 - **Concetta** (Short)  
2018 - **Our Story (La nostra storia)** (Short)

# COMRADES

Animated Feature Film

Deported to Siberia after the Russian invasion on Eastern Europe in 1939, Jakub (11) has only one idea in mind: return home to Poland.



## Original Title

Camarades

## Directed by

Olivier Patté

## Screenplay by

Olivier Patté, Anita Doron, Antoine Germa

## Language

Polish, Russian, Yiddish

## Animation Technique

2D Digital / Rotoscoping

## Main Producer

### Blick Productions

France

Maria Blicharska, Damien Mc Donald

maria@blickproductions.fr

<http://blickproductions.fr/>

## Estimated production budget

€ 6.880.000,00

## Financing in place

€ 275.000,00

## Financiers/partners already involved

CNC | Pilot CVS & Development (France),  
Development Fund | Aquitaine Region (France),  
Creative Europe MEDIA | Development Fund

## Looking for

A fifth Co-production partner

World Sales

Broadcasters, platforms

Distributors

## Synopsis

Deported to Siberia after the Russian invasion on Eastern Europe in 1939, Jakub (11) has only one idea in mind: return home to Poland. Thus begins his odyssey, through the harsh reality of gulag, the unforgiving Taiga and the unknown of Soviet Uzbekistan. Driven by his passion for the stars, an overflowing imagination and unexpected encounters, will Jakub be able to break free from Stalin's stranglehold?

## Director's Statement

With Antoine Germa and Anita Doron (*The Breadwinner*, Oscar and Golden Globes nominated 2018), we have created Jakub, a character unique and imaginary who echoes with the fate of thousands of uprooted children and teenagers, deprived of their rights and nationalities. His story resonates even louder today with the Russian invasion of Ukraine. These events remind us that it is more than ever important to find new ways of questioning and understanding history.

## Company Profile

With 14 years of experience in production, in parallel and in the continuity of her Polish company Donten and Lacroix Films, Maria Blicharska founded Blick Productions in 2015 in Paris with the aim to produce original and committed films for international audiences. In 2017, Damien McDonald joined the company. The two producers, graduated from La Fémis, are working together on a slate of European projects supported by international funds and MEDIA Creative Europe, among which *Woman on the Roof* (PL/FR/SE, 2022) by Anna Jadowska (Best Performance Award Tribeca FF, Best Polish Actress 2022).

## Director's Profile

**Olivier Patté** graduated from ESAG Penninghen and started his career as an Artistic Director.

He co- founded the collective Moustache which develops films with strong graphic influence. In 2014, the short film *Invasion*, animated in rotoscoping, was selected in many festivals around the world (Annecy, Telluride IFF). Since, his passion for animation hasn't ceased to get stronger. He directed animated sequences of *The Tehlirian Trial* and of the ARTE event documentary series *Slavery Roads* which get a record audience.

## Producers' History

**Maria Blicharska Martin-Lacroix** is a Polish and French producer. Member of EFA, ACE Producers, EAVE, le SPI, PGP. She started working in the film industry in 2002 as production manager/line producer for French and international producers, and the S.Spielberg Shoah Foundation USA. Between 2006 and 2008, she worked alongside Margaret Menegoz (Films du Losange) on projects of A. Wajda, M. Haneke. Her recent filmography includes : *Frost* by S.Bartas (Director's Fortnight Cannes 2017), *Strange Birds* by E.Girard (Berlinale 2017) and *Raging Rose* by J.Kowalski (ACID Cannes 2015).

**Damien Mc Donald** graduated from Marseille School of Business, Fémis/Ludwigsburg Filmakademie, has joint Blick Productions in 2016 after his experiences in cinematographic production at Goyave Production and Talweg Production between 2006 and 2017, where he produced more than 30 awarded short films and documentaries.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2018 - **Slavery Roads** (Short)

2020 - **Cocteau - Al Brown** (TV Documentary)

2020 - **Beethoven intime** (TV Documentary)

2020 - **Les Fantômes de Turquie** (Short)

2021 - **Herbert. Barbarian in the Garden** (Animation Director)

# ECHO BOY

Animated TV Series

A romantic sci-fi thriller about a socially reclusive, cynical teenager whose parents are murdered by a malfunctioning ECHO, a humanoid robot designed to serve. Determined to solve their murder mystery, she teams with a new, advanced Echo prototype and learns the true value of emotional connection.



## Original Title

Echo Boy

## Based on

The novel Echo Boy by Matt Haig

## Directed by

Tommy Pallotta

## Screenplay by

Jamie Crichton

## Running Time

24x30'

## Language

English

## Animation Technique

Rotoscoping

## Main Producer

### Submarine

Netherlands

Femke Wolting

femke@submarine.nl

<https://submarine.nl>

## Estimated production budget

€ 9.799.630,00

## Financing in place

€ 100.000,00

## Financiers/partners already involved

Creative Europe MEDIA

## Looking for

Broadcasters

Buyers

## Synopsis

Audrey is a lonely teenager who's been obsessed with death since losing her younger sister. Instead of going to University she works at a morgue and practises taxidermy at home. When her parents are suddenly killed by their Echo - a domestic house robot - Audrey's life is shattered. She takes refuge at her uncle Alex's house - a powerful tech tycoon - where she meets an advanced Echo prototype named Daniel, who thinks and feels like a real human. She discovers her journalist father was working on an explosive expose and is told by his whistle blower that she is in grave danger. She teams up with Daniel to solve the mystery of her parent's murder and, in the process, finally allows herself to connect with someone on an emotional level. Forced to flee the security of her uncle's compound, together they chase down several leads, uncover shocking truths about her parent's relationship, expose a government conspiracy, and ultimately learn that it was Alex who killed her parents in an attempt to cover up her father's damaging expose of corruption in the tech industry. What Audrey really learns is the value of love and connection with another person, even if that person isn't human...

## Creator's Statement

Following the success of our animation series *Undone* seasons 1 & 2 on Amazon Prime, and our feature animation *Apollo 10 1/2* on Netflix, directed by Richard Linklater, we see *Echo Boy* as our next big animation project. Based on the acclaimed novel by best-selling author Matt Haig, at its heart *Echo Boy* is about young people struggling to form emotional connections in a digital age, but it's also a pacy and entertaining murder mystery packed full of action, thrills and suspense.

## Company Profile

With offices in Amsterdam, Los Angeles and London, **Submarine** is an Emmy award-winning production company that produces feature films, scripted series, documentaries, animation and transmedia projects. Over twenty years Submarine has established itself as a highly innovative company, working across multiple genres and platforms, with a distinctly international focus. Our back catalogue boasts a string of award-winning films and series. We own the largest animation studio in the Netherlands.

## Producers' History

**Femke Wolting**, is the co-founder of Submarine, an Emmy Award-winning production company based between Amsterdam, Los Angeles and London, which develops and produces feature films, scripted series, documentaries, animation and transmedia projects. Under Wolting, Submarine has established itself as an innovative company, working across multiple genres and platforms, all with an international focus. She has produced a number of highly acclaimed productions including Peter Greenaway's *Eisenstein in Guanajuato*, *Last Hijack*, Roger Ross Williams' *American Jail* and the Netflix Original *Nobody Speak: Trials of the Free Press*. She has also been behind Amazon Prime's genre-bending original scripted animation series *Undone* Season 1 and 2; and *Apollo 10 1/2: A Space Age Childhood* by Richard Linklater. Upcoming projects include *Proliferation*, based on the book *Fallout: The True Story of the CIA's Secret War on Nuclear Trafficking*; *The Collective* by Gomorrah and ZeroZeroZero showrunner Leonardo Fasoli; *Faction*, a drama series by Jane Eden (The Split), with Miguel Alexandre (*Black Island*) directing.

**Patrick Howson** works at Submarine as a Development Producer. Patrick started his career as a Creative Executive at Elisabeth's Murdoch's Shine Pictures. He went on to become Director of Sales at International film distribution and finance company Bankside Films, where he later became Head of Development & Production. He worked on a slate of projects including *Belle*, *Elle*, *Freeheld* and *War On Everyone*, and served as Executive Producer on *Possum* and *A Kid Like Jane*. In 2018 he left Bankside to set up production company Record Player Films with Oliver Roskill, developing TV projects with writers such as Paula Milne. In 2020 he joined Submarine as Development Producer and is working across a slate of film and TV projects with several talents including Stephen Daldry, Jamie Crichton and Julian Simpson.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2001 - **Waking Life** (Producer, Feature)

2014 - **Last Hijack** (Feature)

2018 - **More Human Than Human** (Feature)

2019/2022 - **Undone** (Executive Producer , TV Series)

2022 - **Apollo 10 1/2 : A Space Age Adventure** (Producer, Feature)



France

# FÉLIX! HE CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING!

Animated TV Series

Félix (8), Billie (8) and Slimane (7) are always swamped into extraordinary adventures in the mysterious secrets of their school! For which they are constantly getting busted by the Principal, Mrs. Pelissier...



## Original Title

Félix! Il peut tout expliquer!

## Created by

Thomas Leclercq

## Directed by

Thomas Leclercq, Lucas de Thier

## Screenplay by

Thomas Leclercq, Lucas de Thier, Ludovic Lefebvre

## Based on

Playmobil Generation

## Running Time

52x11'

## Language

French

## Animation Technique

2D Digital

## Main Producer

**Sacribleu Productions**

Paris, France

Ron Dyens

ron@sacribleuprod.com

https://sacribleuprod.com

## Estimated production budget

€ 6.000.000,00

## Financing in place

€ 28.767,00

## Looking for

Co-production & Financing Partners

Broadcaster

Sales Agent

## Synopsis

Félix (8) is a joyfull, mischievous and carefree child. His unbounded curiosity means he's always poking his nose into the mysterious secrets of his school, sweeping his two best friends, Billie (8) and Slimane (7) into a whirlwind of extraordinary adventure! For which he's constantly getting busted by the Principal, Mrs. Pelissier. But Felix always has an excuse: some incredible story he recounts with flair! Because yes, the adventures Felix experiences with his pals Billie and Slimane are incredible yet true! But obviously, Mrs. Pelissier would never believe a single word

## Creator's Statement

Visually, we want Félix! *He Can Explain Everything!* to be inspired from the animated series of our childhood. We want to explore diverse directing styles. As such, we'll explore the register of film noir, adventure or even musical comedy. The episodes will be fast-paced, but will also take the time to offer more touching scenes. The human characters will have realistic voices corresponding to their personalities, and will allow a bit more fantasy for the creatures.

## Company Profile

Founded in 1999 by Ron Dyens, **Sacribleu Productions** began producing short films in 2001. Since then, more than 90 films have been produced and selected in over 2000 French and foreign prestigious festivals such as Cannes, Venice, Sundance, Clermont-Ferrand.

## Producer's History

**Ron Dyens** is a French producer and director. He began producing short films in 2001 with Sacribleu Productions, the production company he founded. Since then, more than 90 films have been produced and selected in over 2000 French and foreign festivals as prestigious as Cannes, Venice, Sundance, Clermont-Ferrand, as well as Stuttgart, Brest, Hiroshima and many others. Selected Filmography includes the feature animated *My Sunny Maad* by Michaela Pavlátová, *Marona's Fantastic Tale* by Anca Damian and *Long Way North* by Rémi Chayé and the award-winning shorts *And Then the Bear* by Agnès Patron and *Sunday Lunch* by Céline Deveaux.

## Director's Filmography

2016 - **Sésame** (Short)

2017 - **The Amazing Space Doggo** (Short)

2018 - **Playmobil Generation** (Short)

Switzerland

# FIO LINA AND THE MAESTRO

Animation TV Special / Mini Series

The three episodes of *Fio Lina and the Maestro* tell in a humorous, warm-hearted way about the adventures of the music witch Fio Lina with the maestro of an instrumental orchestra in the world of music.



## Original Title

Fio Lina and the Maestro

## Based on

The Witch and the Maestro, The Orchestra Mice, The Flying Orchestra by Howard Griffiths

## Screenplay by

Matthias Keilich

## Running Time

3x25'

## Language

German, English

## Animation Technique

2D Digital (Cut-Out & Drawing)

## Main Producer

**Catpics AG**

Switzerland

Sarah Born

info@catpics.ch

www.catpics.ch

## Budget

€ 2.000.000,00

## Financing in place

€ 180.000,00

## Looking for

Co-producers

Broadcasters

Distributors

Pre-Sales (worldwide) and World Sales

## Synopsis

Fio Lina a feisty and curious little witch discovers the world of music in a humorous, warm-hearted way through her adventures with a particularly lively instrumental orchestra and its ingenious Maestro and ultimately finds her love for playing the Violin.

## Creator's Statement

The three episodes of *Fio Lina And The Maestro* - based on the successful children's books written by the internationally renowned conductor Howard Griffiths - are an invitation for young audiences into the world of music. Our goal is to pass on the fun and joy of making music to a new generation, without placing didactics into the foreground. The focus of the project is clearly on entertaining pre-school children with the medium of animated film.

## Company Profile

**Catpics Ltd** was founded in 1984 as an independent production company in Zurich. In 2021, Catpics and CognitoFilms merged and now Sarah Born runs the company together with Rajko Jazbec and Dario Schoch. Catpics has specialised in quality feature films, documentaries and high-end drama with commercial appeal and has started to work on animation projects two years ago. Based in Switzerland, Catpics Ltd not only focuses on telling great stories in unique ways but also on producing commercially viable feature films for the global marketplace. The company is dedicated to collaborating with like-minded international and domestic creatives and partners to bring great stories to the screen. Catpics is a member of the European Producers Club.

## Producers' History

**Sarah Born** was born in Hamburg in 1982 and grew up in Spain and Germany. She studied cultural sciences at the 'Europa Universität Viadrina' in Frankfurt (Oder) and Granada. In 2005 she worked at Niko Film Berlin. From 2007-2011 she was in the sales and acquisition department of First Hand Films. She is a member of the EWA Network the European Producers Club and is a Eurodoc as well as EAVE Alumni. She is in the National Film Commission.

**Fabiana Seitz** studied film science, media and communication at the University of Zurich. After graduating in 2016, she was working as a journalist and copywriter before heading to Cape Town to join Africa's leading safari company as a content writer and marketing specialist. Back in Switzerland, she was in charge of content management, communication and marketing of the Zurich Opera House. Fabiana Seitz is the Junior Producer on the project *Fio Lina and the Maestro*.

# FLYDOG

Animated TV Series

Flydog lives a solitary and quiet life until one day a weird individual, Leebird, breaks into his house chased by the police. Forced to flee, the two are helped by Star, with whom they begin a crazy adventure among infernal demons, bloodthirsty feds, mad scientists and clones. Yeah, peaceful stuff.



## Original Title

Insettocane

## Created by

Vittorio Ascolani, Emanuele Motti

## Directed by

Giorgio Scorza, Davide Rosio

## Screenplay by

Vittorio Ascolani, Emanuele Motti

## Running Time

10x15'

## Language

Italian, English

## Animation Technique

2D Digital

## Main Producer

### Movimenti Production

Italy  
Giorgio Scorza  
giorgio@movimenti.com  
<http://www.movimenti.com/>

## Estimated production budget

€ 3.203.424,00

## Financing in place

€ 200.000,00

## Financiers/partners already involved

DogHead Animation (Italy)

## Looking for

Co-production Partners  
Broadcaster/OTT platform  
International Distributor

## Synopsis

Flydog is a bunny man who lives a solitary life, free of problems but also of ties: a dream. One day, while he watches his favorite show (yes, *Dawson's Creek*) and rolls his joint, an individual breaks into his house chased down by the police. This criminal is Leebird, a funny and clueless chicken man who loves to dance. The police are chasing Leebird down because they mistook him for his evil clone Deathchicken, and they are now in front of Flydogs house: the two are forced to flee. The faces of the two fugitives are now everywhere. Luckily, thanks to the help of a friend they hide in a luxury hotel. Here, they meet Star, who admires the courage and coolness of the two and, after saving them from the feds, joins the group despite Flydogs strong opposition. Star is smart, rebellious, and irresistible but most of all she is the daughter of a very wealthy man that the three decide to rob to finance their escape. Their crazy adventure between Earth and Hell begins: will hordes of bloodthirsty feds, mad scientists, diabolical clones, and infernal demons be able to stop them? But, above all, will the super lazy and cynical Flydog finally care about someone else other than himself?

## Producer's Statement

*Flydog* was born from the minds of two geeky (and stoned) 20-somethings. Even if sober, we couldn't help but fall in love with this cynical rabbit man and his weird friends. It was especially clear from the start that *Flydog* is a project able to stand out in the animation market. With its minimal aesthetic and eye-catching colors, *Flydog* both speaks to its target audience and has an appeal for a broader international audience thanks to its mixture of genres: adventure, relational and dramedy.

## Company Profile

**Movimenti Production**, Italy's leading independent production and animation studio, has made over 40 international productions amongst TV series, music videos, live-shows and multi-platform projects. Since 2018, with its studios in Milan, Florence, Rome and Paris, Movimenti has promoted creativity and talent Made in Italy at a European and international level, developing the production of some of the most relevant titles for young adult and kids & family entertainment such as *Tear Along the Dotted Line* (Netflix), *Topo Gigio*, *the New Animated Series* (RAI) and *Le Loup* (RAI-TF1). The company is run by Giorgio Scorza and Davide Rosio, CEO and Creative Directors.

## Producer's History

2018 - **Occidente Vs Oriente** (TV Mini Series)  
2019/2022 - **Spooky Wolf** (TV Series)  
2019/2020 - **Topo Gigio 1** (TV Series)  
2021 - **Tear Along the Dotted Line** (TV Series)  
2022/2023 - **Topo Gigio 2** (TV Series)

# I AM HELENA

Animation Feature Film

Director Karla von Bengtsons second animated feature portrays a head strong 12-year-old girl named Helena, who is heading towards puberty and teenage lifestyle. While all she wants is for things to be just how they used to be.



## Original Title

Jeg er Helena

## Created by

Karla von Bengtson

## Directed by

Karla von Bengtson

## Screenplay by

Karla von Bengtson

## Language

Danish

## Animation Technique

2D Digital

## Main Producer

### Copenhagen Bombay

Copenhagen, Denmark  
Sarita Christensen  
sarita.christensen@copenhagenbombay.com  
Mette Valbjørn Skøtt  
mette.skott@copenhagenbombay.com  
<https://copenhagenbombay.com/>

## Estimated production budget

€ 2.619.294,00

## Financing in place

€ 1.230.943,00

## Looking for

Co-producers / financing partners  
Broadcasters  
Distributors

## Director's Selected Filmography

2004 - **Skyggen i Sara** (Short)  
2007 - **Princess Rita** (Short)  
2010 - **Tigers & Tattoos** (Short)  
2017 - **Next Door Spy** (Feature)  
2018 - **Me and Sonny - Pancakes** (Pilot)

## Synopsis

Unlike her schoolmates, 12-year-old Helena has difficulty coping with the changes happening both within and around her, as she emerges from childhood to her teens. She feels betrayed by her changing body, by her emotions and her moods which she cannot control nor understand, and by her best friend Andy and the distance that seems to be building between them. In her frustration, Helena finds solace in her music and her doodle drawings while she desperately longs for the happier and simpler life that she used to live. On the day she is supposed to go on a school trip with her classmates, she sees an opportunity to run away without anyone noticing. She ends up on the local volcano. The trip down the volcano, however, does not go as easily as expected and while she struggles to get back, she experiences in flashbacks, crucial moments from the past year of her life. She reflects on her past and finally comes to terms with her anger and frustrations, she finds the strength in herself to let go of her childhood and thereby move on into the unknown territory of teen life.

## Director's Statement

I've written this story from my own life, as a child who experienced the transformation to adolescence as a difficult and frustrating period. My main character, Helena, is at a vulnerable time in her life and I want to start her story in the midst of the chaos she's created for herself, and via flashbacks experience Helena's development alongside her. This way her story opens up for us and we get to know her development while giving her the opportunity to reflect on it and learn from it.

## Company Profile

**Copenhagen Bombay Group** is an international media house working with a broad range of projects across platforms. The business foundation is strong storytelling for children, youth and families. The Copenhagen Bombay Group represents three business areas: Production, Sales & Distribution, and Learning. All productions are based on the Copenhagen Bombay values: Quality content, original design, high ethical standard and humor as the foundational ingredients. The group owns more than 30 original IP productions including its own animation studio and bureau specialized in brand strategy and digital content.

## Director's Profile

**Karla von Bengtson** is a Danish director and scriptwriter who has worked in the animation industry since 1993. In 2004 she graduated as a director from the Danish Film School, where she made several short films. Her graduation film *Skyggen i Sara* (2004) competed at Berlin International Film Festival and Anney International Animated Film Festival winning two awards. Since then, she has directed the animation short *Tigers and Tattoos* (2010) and the animation feature *Next Door Spy* (2017) which both received excellent reviews. Right now, her first animation series is *Do you Know Her?* is in production at Copenhagen Bombay, presenting a number of Danish women with historical impact. The aim of the series is to inspire children and to show them that you can make a difference no matter where you're from or what your background is. *I am Helena* is Karla's second feature film. In 2018 Karla received the Danish Præsprisen, an award that celebrates artists who have created praiseworthy visual media productions for children.

## Producer's History

**Sarita Christensen** started her career in the film business at Zentropa in 1997. In January 2004 Sarita established the children and youth division Zentropa GRRRR under the Zentropa Corporation, with the primary objective to create entertainment for children and youth. Copenhagen Bombay was founded in 2006 with the main focus to develop original stories for children and youth, producing feature films, TV series, animation films, books, concepts etc. for all available platforms. Sarita's core competences are management, strategically and on a daily basis. As CEO of Copenhagen Bombay and Wulfmorgenthaler she has built a strong network of business relations, nationally as well as internationally, always with a strong focus on the company's core values. **Mette Valbjørn Skøtt** is a Producer and Development Producer at Copenhagen Bombay. Mette has a strong sense for visual storytelling, and she's been part of the Copenhagen Bombay team since 2015. Mette holds a Master Degree in Creative Writing from London Metropolitan University, and another from Copenhagen University where she studied Modern Culture and Cultural Communication. Shortly after her studies she started working as a Producer assistant at the Danish production company Meta Film (2013.)

# NO PETS!

Animated Tv Series

For adults' reasons (mom's at work and dad's away), a little boy can't have a pet but is promised one if he's good when his parents return. So, he gets involved with small creatures that come and go unnoticed and compensates for what he's missing by learning to care for little things.



## Original Title

No Pets!

## Created by

Carlotta Mastrangelo

## Directed by

Davide Veca

## Screenplay by

Carlotta Mastrangelo, Boris Bertolini

## Running Time

26x11'

## Language

English

## Animation Technique

2D Digital

## Main Producer

### Nuvole e strisce

Italy  
Boris Bertolini  
b\_bertolini@nuvolestrisce.com  
<https://nuvolestrisce.com/>

## Estimated budget

€ 480.024,00

## Financing in place

€ 30.000,00

## Looking for

Production/Post-Production partners  
Financial partners

## Synopsis

Luc is a highly inquisitive 8-year-old desiring to keep a pet but facing the problem that in his house, the family rule is NO PETS! Ellen, Luc's mother, is very determined regarding this rule. The only hope for Luc is Dad's promise to have a pet when he's back from his mission ! But this ban doesn't dampen Luc's spirits. On the contrary, it just means he has to look beyond the normal range of animals considered pet-worthy. Luc has to make sure his pets are small enough to go unnoticed. From caterpillars to baby bats, spiders and hedgehogs, Luc secretly adopts all kinds of animals, discovering the world of the littlest creatures. Despite their small size, these pets still cause big trouble at home and at school, generating non-stop hilarious situations in which Luc finds himself living a double life: an incurable animal lover and a normal boy who just wants to fit in. Only two people share Luc's secret adventures: his baby brother Sol, 4-year-old with the instinctive ability to communicate with anything and everything; and his super-scientific schoolmate Vicky, offering knowledge and the best Luc's cover-up in class.

## Creator's Statement

No Pets! sets out to be an unusual but fun-filled series. Small and very small animals have a particular place in the collective imagination, being subjected to people's instinctive fears. By revealing the little-known aspects of these little animals, No Pets! can help to convey attention on the essential role that they play in our ecosystems, while improving their reputation among audiences of children who spend most of their time far from nature. Through the stories of Luc's "adopted creatures" the series will also reflect on the natural order of things, nature that returns to nature in the end. Parents Warning: If you have children, and if for good adult reasons you've always said "no!" when they've asked to adopt a baby animal, are you sure you don't have some... Less ordinary creatures hiding under your roof ?

## Company Profile

Founded in 2013, **Nuvole e strisce** in 2018 and 2019 was part of the international co-production team realizing the first season of the 3D CGI episode series *Woof-Meow*. In 2019, he was responsible for the translation and adaptation into the Italian language of the nursery rhyme series *Hello, baby!*. Currently it is developing the 3D CGI episode series: *ASTRID and the School of Astronauts*.

## Director's Filmography

2016 - **The New Adventure of Geronimo Stilton** (3rd Season Co-Direction) (TV Series)

## Producer's History

2018/2019 - **Woof-Meow** (TV Series)  
2019 - **Hello Baby!** (Web Series)  
2021/2022 - **Astrid and the School of Astronauts** (TV Series)

# ROUND AND ROUND THE WISHING WELL

Animated Feature Film

In the French countryside, a hamlet is the stage of singular slices of life. In each of these stories, our characters are shaken by the weather of life, with all its hardship, beauty, and poetry.



## Original Title

Trois contes aux petits oignons

## Based on

Mum Is Pouring Rain

## Directed by

Hugo De Faucompret

## Screenplay by

Hugo De Faucompret, Lison d'Andréa

## Language

France

## Animation Technique

2D Digital / Hand-Painted Backgrounds

## Main Producer

### Laidak Films

France  
Ivan Zuber, Antoine Liétout  
contact@laidakfilms.com  
[www.laidakfilms.com](http://www.laidakfilms.com)

## Estimated production budget

€ 2.300.000,00

## Financing in place

€ 733.000,00

## Financiers/partners already involved

Dandelooo (France), Canal+ (France),  
Département de la Drôme (France),  
PROCIREP-ANGOA (France)

## Looking for

Feedback  
International co-producers and partners  
Broadcasters

## Synopsis

In the French countryside, the lovely Dooms Hamlet is the stage of singular slices of life. It is there that Jane is sent to her grandmother Granny Onions, while her mother Ccile needs time to take care of her depression. It is also there, in the forest, that lives Cloclo, the giant magical bum who has taken Jane under his wing. He will bring her and her friends into an uprooting fantastic adventure.It's also the place that Granny Onion finally leaves, but for good this time. To fulfill her last will, the family will have to go on an unexpected road-trip with a surprise passenger: the ghost of the mischievous Granny Onion, who didn't have time to prepare herself to leave. In each of these stories, our characters are shaken by the weather of life, with its hardship, but also beauty, festivity and poetry. With its heavy rains and sunny spells. Three exquisite stories to spark joy.

## Creator's Statement

After the completion of *Mum Is Pouring Rain*, I quickly started picking my brain about what future I could give to these characters and the universe. That's when the idea of developing the project into a feature in 3 chapters came to life. Since the initial idea was strongly inspired by childrens' books, talking about chapters for my feature makes total sense for this form of writing. The two additional chapters will follow *Mum Is Pouring Rain*, with stories continuous in time and characters arcs crossing over.

## Company Profile

**Laidak Films** is a production company based in France and Germany, and international co-productions are our DNA. All of our series and films, whether they are short or feature, live action or animated, are based on international cooperation, and involve artists from around the world. Our latest films include the TV special *Mum Is Pouring Rain* (100+ festival selections, winner of the Jury Prize in Annecy Festival 2021 & shortlisted as a Best Animated Short at the Academy Awards) and the live action feature film *Clara Sola* (2021 Cannes Directors Fortnight.)

## Director's Profile

**Hugo De Faucompret** is a graduate of Estienne school in Etching, and of Gobelins school in Animation directing. In 2015, Hugo directed his short film *Autumn*, part of the En sortant de l'école shorts collection (Tant Mieux Prod), and participated in creating the collective STZ (Souvens-Ten-Zan), alongside 11 friends and colleagues. In 2021, he directed his first TV special, *Mum Is Pouring Rain*, (Laidak Films in co-production with Dandelooo), a half-hour film with hand-painted backgrounds and frame by frame animation. He currently works as an Art Director on Jan Kounen's next animated feature, *Le peuple de L'Arbre* (Naïa Productions).

## Producer's History

**Ivan Zuber** studied film production with a major in animation film at Gobelins. Upon completing his degree, he spent some time in Paris and Vancouver, Canada, while working in the industry for different films and production companies. In 2012 he relocated to Berlin working for the film music publisher 22D Music Group. Between 2012 and 2015 he attended several European workshops such as Animation Sans Frontières, AniDox and the Atelier Ludwigsburg-Paris. In October 2015 he co-founded the France-based production company Laidak Films. Still based in Berlin but traveling the world, Ivan gives prominence to international and intercultural projects. He was elected to the French-German Cinema Academy Board in 2019. **Antoine Liétout** worked as Production Manager on numerous short films before he entered the Gobelins school's production course in 2011. Since then, he has successively worked within the production team of Fidélité Films, as a Line Producer (ARTE), as a Talent Agent and as a Score Producer for various 6x52' hit TV shows such as *La mante* (Netflix), *Le Secret d'Elise* (TF1). For the Parisian animation company Folivari he has been CFO (*Ernest and Célestine*, *The Big Bad Fox*), and Line Producer (*My Family and the Wolf*). He is a Producer and Partner at Laidak Paris & Berlin.

## Director's Filmography

2013 - **Racines** (co-direction) (Short)  
2013 - **Sweatness** (co-direction) (Short)  
2015 - **Que dalle** (co-direction)  
2016 - **Autumn** (Short)  
2021 - **Mum Is Pouring Rain** (TV Special)

# SIDI KABA AND THE GATEWAY HOME

Animated Feature Film

With the help of the goddess Mami-Wata, Sidi Kaba, a young boy of 8 years old, tries to find his brother who was taken prisoner by slave traders. A fantastic epic that takes us on the roads of slavery.



## Original Title

Sidi Kaba et la porte du retour

## Directed by

Roni Hotin

## Screenplay by

Jerome Plot, Rony Hotin

## Language

French

## Animation Technique

2D Digital / 3D

## Main Producer

### Special Touch Studios

France

Sébastien Onomo

sonomo@specialtouchstudios.com

www.specialtouchstudios.com

## Estimated production budget

€ 6.569.000,00

## Financing in place

€ 3.698.000,00

## Financiers/partners already involved

Special Touch Studios (France), KMBO | Distributor (France), International Sales Pulsar Content (France), UNESCO's support, Dupuis | Comic books adaptation (Belgium), Paul Thiltges Distribution (Co-producer (Luxembourg), Lemming | Co-producer (Belgium), Luftkind Filmverleih | Co-producer (Germany)

## Looking for

Co-Production partners to insure the funding to enter production in 2023

## Synopsis

In a West African village, Land of 1000 Kingdoms, young Sidi Kaba lives peacefully with his family, protected from the men of the sea who have been capturing his people for centuries. One day, however, a sailing crew kidnaps his older brother Azou and embarks him on a ship with other captives. To save him, Sidi crosses the ocean with the help of Mami Wata, a forgotten goddess. He lands on the Sugar Island and finds Azou, enslaved with others on a sugar plantation. Sidi frees them with the complicity of Sosso, a resistance fighter who leads them to the top of the volcano to meet her friends the maroons. They all prepare for an ultimate fight against the planters troops...

## Director's Statement

Fourteen million people were transported by ship over three centuries, a bleeding of Africa to feed the great Western powers. Fourteen million people torn from their land, subjugated, tortured, dehumanized, whose sacrifice has defined the world we live in today. For me, honoring these sacrifices by making Sidi Kaba and the Gateway Home is to honor our common ancestors regardless of our differences. However, I don't want to make this film only for myself. I also feel the urgency to offer future generations of children a chance to look our common history in the face, through an adventure tale accessible to all, carrying this unifying and universal message: «All life is life».

## Company Profile

**Special Touch Studios** is a production company whose ambition is to renew the imagination by proposing other views on the world. An editorial line focused on Africa, the Caribbean, Asia and the Urban Cultures and the emergence of talents carrying strong stories with a universal dimension.

## Director's Profile

Graduating from Gobelins in 2009, **Rony Hotin** co-directed *The Lighthouse Keeper* (Cristal for Best Graduation Film - Annecy 2010). He made his first steps in the professional world as a graphic author for bibles for Disney. In 2012, he received an Audi Talent Award for *Le Vagabond de Saint-Marcel*, the first of many awards for this short film. In 2014, he joined the Ateliers de Sèvres school as a teacher to pass on his passion for directing, then worked as a storyboarder on *The Little Prince* by Mark Osborne (César for Best Animated Film 2016.) From 2015 to 2017, he co-directed *MOMO*, a comic book in two volumes published by Casterman which received the Nugget for the Best Comic Book of the Year at the Salon du livre et de la presse jeunesse. Back on animation, he works as a visual developer on foreign productions of Cartoon Network (US), Cartoon Saloon (UK) and works on the feature film project *High in the Clouds* by Paul McCartney. In 2019, Rony Hotin illustrated the latest children's novels by French-American writer Jennifer Richard for Albin Michel while working as a storyboarder on the Netflix series *Arcane* for Fortiche Production. He is now developing his first animated feature film *Sidi Kaba And The Gateway Home* as well as on its comic book adaptation (4 volumes) published by Dupuis.

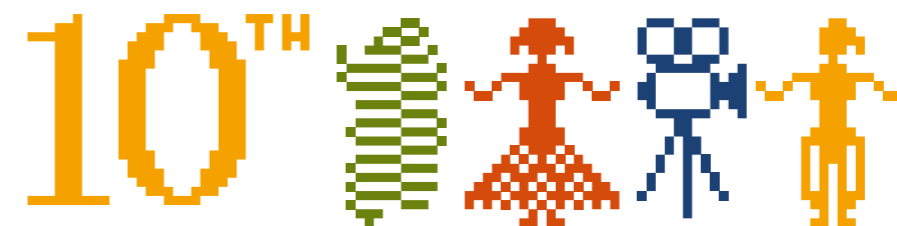
## Producers' History

**Sébastien Onomo** is a French producer who has been working in the film and audiovisual industry for ten years. A graduate of the Institut National de l'Audiovisuel (INA), he joined in 2010 the production company Les Films d'Ici as an Associate Producer. In 2015 he founded Special Touch Studios with Olivier Laouchez and deployed the brand with the creation of Creative Touch Studios, located in Hauts de France in Valenciennes. He has produced many films for television (*Bois d'ébène* by Moussa Tour, *Léon Blum: Hai et adoré* by Julia Bracher and Hugo Hayat) and cinema such as *Le Gang des Antillais* by Jean-Claude Barny and *Funan* the animated feature by Denis Do who won the Cristal Award at the Annecy Festival in 2018.

## Director's Filmography

2009 - *The Lighthouse Keeper* (Short)

2012 - *The Vagabond Of Saint-Marcel* (Short)



# MIA Doc

Co-production Market and Pitching Forum

Doc selection committee 2022



**Fabio Mancini**  
Commissioning Editor  
RAI, Italy



**Anas Abdel Wahab Khelawy**  
Sr. Producer, Commissioning  
Production Department  
Al Jazeera, Qatar



**Rudy Buttignol**  
President  
NXT Broadcast Strategy  
& Brand, Canada



**Nora Philippe**  
Head of Program  
Eurodoc, France

Pitching Coach



**Heidi Fleisher**  
Freelance, Producer  
and Consultant

Selected Projects

## 1+1+1

Czech Republic/Slovak Republic

## Baima Boy

China

## Banksy and the Sad Girl

Italy/France

## Blue Sphere

France

## The Bologna Trial

Italy

## Breaking Bread

France

## The Delivery Line

Canada

## Diary of an Infiltrator

Chile/Spain

## Fragments of a Life Loved

Italy

## Ghost Detainee

## The Extraordinary Rendition of Abu Omar

Italy

## Imola 1994

Italy

## Lost for Words

France/UK

## Moscow Nights

Ireland/Germany

## Napalm Girl

Italy

## Olhão or Nothing

Italy

## The Rossellini Method

Italy

## Space Risks

Italy

## Tina: Photographer & Revolutionary

Canada

## 1+1+1

Feature Doc

We want to progress forward.  
But where to go?

**Original Title**

1+1+1

**Running Time**

81'

**Shooting Language**

French, Czech, English

**Main Location**

Belgium, Czech Republic, Canada

**Directed by**

Ondřej Vavrečka

**Genre**

Arts and Culture

**Main Producer  
D1film Ltd.**

Czech Republic  
Vit Janeček  
vit@d1film.com  
www.D1film.com

**Estimated budget**

€ 179.300

**Financing in place**

€ 112.000

**Financiers/partners already involved**

Czech Film Fund CZ (Development) (€ 13.000)  
Czech Film Fund CZ (Production) (€ 58.000)  
D1Film CZ (Production) (€ 15.000)  
VIRUSFilm SK (Production) (€ 6.000)

**Looking for**

Co-producers, Sales, Festivals

**Synopsis**

The playful film 1+1+1 shot on classical (old fashioned?) 16mm medium deals with the idea of progress. Progress is an issue that is becoming more and more pressing in these times of crisis developing to crisis developing to crisis – maybe progress of crisis? With a leap in the technologisation of life, but also growing inequalities and various tensions. We love progress, improvements, advances, growth. Is there a space for another loves?

The film integrates situational acting with joyful elements of musical with meetings mostly writers and intellectuals in their natural environment. The story progresses through a road movie (sometimes a walk movie) – the journey of three main fictional characters. One character is in favour of progress, another fears it, and the third alternately leans to one side or the other. The characters walk through the world, observe it, and each react to it in their own way. They ask questions about whether, how, and which way to move forward. The philosophical theme is interwoven with songs that lighten it up and in which they sing about what can't just be said.

**Director's Statement**

The film is going to consist of fictional characters entering the real world, entering a documentary representation of reality, meeting real people with their bodies and thoughts. The film is shot on 16mm film, 3:4 format, progress and the new is confronted with old fashioned chemical process of the time when humanity was primary in cinema. And we look for new joy.

**Company Profile**

**D1film** was found by Vit Janecek and Zuzana Piusi in Prague in 2014 as a boutique production platform focusing mainly for authorial documentaries or fiction with relevant social, political or personal topics and approach. We are members of Audiovisual Producers Association. Find our full line-up and history here: <https://d1film.com/en/films/>

**Director's Profile**

**Ondrej Vavrečka**, PhD. is a award winning filmmaker, an artist, a filmmaker, a musician, a scholar and a teacher. Based in programming then changed into philosophy and linguistics. Except of making films he performs with his musical band, and writes on cinema. He teaches at Film Academy, Prague, Czech Republic.

**Director's Selected Filmography**

2009 - **Beginning And Lion / Origin Aleph**  
2011 - **Ultimum Refugium**  
2014 - **The Interposed**  
2016 - **De Potentia Dei**  
2020 - **Persona Life of a Hole**

**Producer's Selected Filmography**

2022 - **The Unbalanced** (dir. Zuzana Piusi)  
2022 - **At Full Throttle** (dir. Miro Remo)  
**Housing Against Everyone** (dir. Tomáš Hlaváček)  
**The Ordeal** (dir. Zuzana Piusi)  
**The Monk** (dir. The Maw Naing)

## BAIMA BOY

Feature Doc

In a remote Chinese village, a rebellious sixteen-year-old street biker boy leaves his village seeking survival in big cities, but an unexpected call from his long-lost mother interrupts his life and reveals the darkest secret of the family

**Original Title**

白马少年

**Shooting Language**

Chinese (mandarin), Chinese

**Main Location**

Guangxi, China

**Directed by**

Bingjun Ye

**Genre**

Human and Society

**Main Producer****Summery Productions**

Xinlei Yang  
summery.production@gmail.com

**Estimated budget**

€ 300.500

**Financing in place**

€ 200.590

**Looking for**

Post Production Funding, Investor, International Co-producers, Buyers, Sales Agents, Distribution, Post-production company as partners, Post production grants and funding especially in Europe

**Synopsis**

When Adi was four, his mother ran away. His father has been working on temp jobs in cities while taking care of Adi's brother who cannot speak. Like most left-behind children, Adi quit school and has been living alone at a young age. Adi works on temp jobs, joins the street-bike gang, wears womens' clothing and tries to become an influencer. The street bike means acceptance, brotherhood and companionship. As for dressing in womens clothing, Adi is too young to explain why. But, the happiness feels real when he does a makeover. Although people despise him, he still enjoys attention. He's rather being despised than ignored. When Adi turns 18, the street bike gang falls apart, the teashop he worked at is closed, so he's forced to seek survival in big cities. Meanwhile, Adi's long-lost mother invited him to join her new family. As they reconnect, Adi realizes his mother was sold to his father involuntarily as a bride. Struggling with the truth and challenges of surviving, Ai must choose.

**Director's Statement**

In 2019, an article about the street scooter biker boys in Baima town swept the internet in China. The emo clothing style, weirdly decorated scooters, the dangerous riding, dropping out schools and deadly accidents are the tags given to them by the media but who they really are. So I took the spontaneous trip to Baima. After befriending the RSZ boys, I realized that a simple article in the news cannot present who they really are and their stories, especially for Adi. For the boys, street bikes symbolize youth and dreams. However, these boys are criticized harshly. The boys enjoy their youth speeding on their bikes, but poverty pulls them back to reality and forces them to face the pressure of surviving and hopelessness at such a young age. They have to seek survival in the cities just as their parents. BAIMA BOY takes place over a four-year period starting when Adi was 15. It is a contemporary fable about Left-behind children in China, human trafficking, family, and self-identity.

**Company Profile**

**Summer** produced numerous short films, fictional and non-fictional feature films. She co-produced **Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power** which is sponsored by the Disney family and selected by Sundance and Berlin Film Festival in 2022. Her production company is producing three other documentary features including **BAIMA BOY** which has won multiple production grants and awards in different film festivals including the Hot Docs Award CNEX CCDF-12, China(Guangzhou) International Documentary Film Festival, and Westlake International Film Festival. In early 2021, Summer produced another multi-nation fictional feature film that has been presented by the award-winning production company, Indian Paintbrush, and produced by the Pulitzer Award Nominee, Noah benShae, Steven Rales and Mark Jonson.

**Director's Profile**

**Bingjun Ye** is a documentary film director. His short film was awarded by the China Dream Youth Shorts Festival and Asian Shorts Film Festival. Ye worked for the theatrically released documentary, **LIGHT CHASER**. Also, he served as a director and reporter and created TV programs for the most influential Chinese national TV network, CCTV. His documentary feature, **Baima Boy**, has won multiple awards in multiple film festivals pitch forums.

**Selected Filmography**

2019 - **Hello A.I.** (U.S. Producer: Summer Xinlei Yang/ China Central Television)  
2022 - **Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power** (co-producer: Summer Xinlei Yang, dir. Nina Menkes)  
In Production - **"Unqualified" Mothers** (Producer: Summer Xinlei Yang, & co-dir. with Jingyu Liu)  
In Production - **Solar Wars** (Producer: Summer Xinlei Yang, dir. Gev Miron)  
In Production - **Plague Planet** (U.S. Producer: Summer Xinlei Yang/ China Central Television)



# BANKSY AND THE SAD GIRL

TV One-off

*Banksy and The Sad Girl* follows the rescue of a contemporary icon and explores the role and impact of art today, taking us into the universe of Banksy and on a journey through provocation, creativity, social implications, and collective imagination.



## Original Title

La Ragazza Triste di Banksy

## Running Time

52'

## Shooting Language

Italian, French

## Main Location

Europe: Italy, France

## Directed by

Edoardo Anselmi

## Genre

Arts and Culture  
Main Producer

## Main Producer

GA&amp;A Productions s.r.l.

Italy  
Gioia Avvantaggiato  
gioia.avvantaggiato@gaea.it  
www.gaea.it

## Estimated budget

€ 220.000

## Financing in place

€ 167.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

RAI (coproduction + inkind) (€ 40.000) in progress  
ARTE (€ 60.000) in progress  
CNC (€ 20.000) in progress  
FRANCE TV (second window) (€ 7.000) in progress  
Tax Credit (€ 40.000)

## Synopsis

Paris, January 26, 2019. Hooded men stole the emergency exit door of the Bataclan theatre, where the superstar street artist known as Banksy created 'The Sad Girl' as a tribute to the victims of the most vicious attack by ISIS in Europe. One year after being stolen, the door is found in Abruzzo, Italy. It is about to leave the country, sold for 4 million euros. French and Italian police act together to rescue the iconic work of art, made by an artist whose status is both illegal and acclaimed. Despite its illegality, Banksy's work is part of the global contemporary art heritage. But who determines the commercial value of such a work of art? The documentary follows the theft and rescue of a contemporary icon, to explore the role and impact of art today, taking us into the universe of Banksy.

## Director's Statement

Among both public and private collections, numerous works of art are stolen every year in the West, with an estimated turnover of 6 billion euros. Nevertheless, the theft of 'The Sad Girl' immediately drew our attention. Of course, it is a work by superstar Banksy, a tribute to the victims of the horrific attack at the Bataclan, and therefore a powerful symbol. The exceptional work done by the French and the Italian investigators jointly, is quite striking; in just a few months, they solved a very difficult case lasting almost two years. However, the theft of 'The Sad Girl' is particularly impressive because it unearths a number of questions. What would a Bataclan survivor feel when faced with the theft of the very door used to escape that night? How can it possibly be sold, when the artwork is so famous its theft becomes the center of attention all over the world? Our documentary will follow this whole story, in conjunction with the trial that took place in June 2022.

## Company Profile

GA&A Productions is a unique proposition in the Italian landscape because it combines production and distribution. Specialized in factual, more than a genre our trademark, we tell stories in a transversal way, ranging between the many topics of current affairs, history, and science. To join them our attention to detail and constant dedication aimed at offering the highest visual and editorial quality. From current affairs to entertainment, from serial productions to the creation of documentaries for the room, over the years we have successfully experimented in many directions, combining the quality of the products with the added value of our work.

## Director's Profile

Edoardo Anselmi

Filmmaker, DOP and author on field for the main Italian TV channels including Rai, Sky, Discovery, Amazon, Prime Video. AWARDS: Articolo 21 Prize for freedom of information, *Back to Ostia*, *Nemo - Nessuno* Escluso, Rai2, 2017, Ilaria Alpi Journalism Prize, *The Fence - The Sheeps of Acerra*, CurrentTV Best youth filmmaking Category 2009.

## Ga&A Productions Selected Filmography

2017 - **Leonardo, The Man Who Saved Science**  
2019 - **Venezuela, The Curse Of Oil**  
2021 - **Dante's Divine Politics**  
2021 - **Libya: Gaddafi's Bloody Legacy**  
2021 - **Baia, The Roman Atlantis**

## Director's Selected Filmography

2016 - 2018 - **Nemo - No-One Is Excluded**  
2018 - **What's Left Of Me - Survived**  
**Boko Haram**  
2021 - **Europa Maudit - "Ossessione"**  
di L. Visconti  
2021 - **Saving Venice**  
2021 - **All Or Nothing - Juventus**

# BLUE SPHERE

Docuseries

In 2050, Earth's orbit will look like a new continent. Through an epic that follows space pioneers over several generations, *Blue Sphere* invites experts to discuss the human and technological challenges that arise with the conquest of this environment so near and so far.



## Original Title

Blue Sphere

## Running Time

3x52'

## Shooting Language

French, English, German, Italian

## Main Location

Studio XR / Paris, Rome, Munich, Brussels, Amsterdam, Madrid

## Directed by

Jérôme Bernard

## Genre

Human and Society

## Main Producer

Les Valseurs

France  
Damien Megherbi / Nabil Bellahsene  
damien@lesvalseurs.com / nabil@lesvalseurs.com  
www.lesvalseurs.com

## Estimated budget

€ 2.975.800

## Financing in place

€ 12.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

Sofica Cinéimage  
ESA

## Looking for

Financiers  
TV broadcaster  
Sales Agent  
Coproducers from Italy, Germany, Spain, The Netherlands, and Belgium  
XR Studios in Europe

## Synopsis

*Blue Sphere* is a science-fiction documentary series. In 2050, space industry and research will be shared between the private sector and major state organizations. Many players are vying for the hegemony of orbital space, which has become a strategic issue on an economic, military, and political level. On Earth, nations are all facing climate change and the destruction of our natural environments. Space orbit is mainly occupied by scientific and military stations but also hotel habitats intended for space tourism for the ultra-rich. Private companies manage maintenance, logistics or the supply, recovery and recycling of debris and waste. Beyond the fiction and the personal quest of space pioneer characters, the series aims to be instructive, seeking to study or reveal very real issues. Each episode is built around a specific theme and followed by the speech of an expert on the subject discussed.

## Director's Statement

Passionate about astrophysics and science, I have been observing the sky with my telescope since my youngest age. I have fulfilled one of my biggest dreams since I collaborated with the European Space Agency, by making their recruitment campaign clip. Thanks to this Blue Sphere series, today I want to combine fiction and documentary to question our world and what it will be tomorrow with the subject of exploring a new continent, the Earth's orbit. With the help of my science fiction co-author, Emilie Querbalec, we want to imagine the place of man in the universe by 2100. I have been working for a few years with Studio XR technology and Unreal Engine, I discovered an infinity of creative possibilities for projects that take place in space or in imaginary universes. This inspired me to imagine this project which, thanks to this technology, can immerse the viewer in a universe that is both futuristic and very realistic.

## Company Profile

Based in Paris and Bordeaux, **Les Valseurs** is an independent production and distribution company, whose most recent titles include Diego Cespedes' *The Melting Creatures*, Cannes Critics Week 2022, Carlos Segundos *Sideral*, Cannes Official Competition 2021, Yves Piat's *Nefta Football Club*, Academy Award nominee in 2020, Ayce Kartal's *Vilaine Fille*, winner of a French Academy Award for Best Animation Short in 2019 and Qiu Yang's *She Runs*, Best Short Film at Critics' Week 2019.

## Director's Profile

**Jérôme Bernard** is a director and producer. He likes to tell stories, to put them in images and in music. Fascinated by the stars that he observed with his telescope from a very young age, he completed a master's degree in science before starting filming studies. For fifteen years now, he has been making numerous films around the world (Kurdistan, Californian deserts, Gabonese seas...). Passionate about astrophysics, philosophy of science and mathematics, he launched his company Duck Factory to produce the documentary series "Une espece a part". Jerome has been fulfilling one of his greatest dreams since he started working with the European Space Agency, notably by directing their recruitment campaign video.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2018 - **Nefta Football Club** (by Yves Piat)  
2019 - **After Your Revolt, Your Vote** (by Kiswendsida Parfait Kaboré)  
2021 - **Sideral** (by Carlos Segundo)  
2022 - **Big Bang** (by Carlos Segundo)

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Italy

## THE BOLOGNA TRIAL

Docuseries

1980 Bologna train station's bombing resulted in 85 deaths: this most notorious attack in Europe was financed across the Atlantic to preserve Cold War balance. This criminal story, revealed in a great trial, unveils 50 years of terror and cover-ups, bringing a closure to the victim's families.

### Original Title

Il Processo di Bologna

### Running Time

6x52'

### Shooting Language

Italian

### Main Location

Bologna Court of Justice, Italy + diverse international countries in the footage archives

### Directed by

Paolo Fiore Angelini

### Genre

Global Issues

### Main Producer

Bo Film

Italy

Serena Gramizzi

serenagramizzi@bofilm.it

www.bofilm.it

### Estimated budget

€ 3.000.000

### Financing in place

€ 326.000

### Financiers/partners already involved

Bo Film (€20.000)

Trial Archive (Bo Film, Abc, Ponte d'Archimede)

(€ 280.000)

Bologna Municipality (€ 20.000)

Emilia-Romagna Regional Fund (€ 6.000)

### Looking for

Co-producer - Platform or Broadcaster

Funding



### Synopsis

A never-declared war was born from the ashes of fascism, led by the States' darkest souls, sacrificing their citizens on the altar of anti-communism. Since 1969 it resorted to bombs to strengthen political powers loyal to the North Atlantic Treaty. It was called the 'strategy of tension' and reached its bloodiest peak on August 2nd 1980 at Bologna station, when 85 people were killed and 216 injured. More than forty years after the events, a trial concluded on 6th April 2022 sheds light on half a century of a country's history. From the 76 hearings, filmed in full, descends the face of an Italy in which a criminal power occupied every aspect of civil life. Dramatic testimonies of many witnesses - journalists, victims, officers, policemen, secret agents, terrorists, and civilians - follow each other in the courtroom. Alongside these protagonists physically present on the courtroom stage, other characters emerge from history through archive material, composing a great choral tale.

### Director's Statement

I imagined this documentary series while watching a fiction film, a blockbuster. It happened while I was studying that dramatic subversive plan of normalization better known as the 'strategy of tension'. The Trial of Bologna was still to come, when I saw *The Trial of the Chicago 7*: a courtroom stage for a historical event. This is how I started thinking of filming the entire trial with six cameras to visually have variety of angles and fields, mobility of action in space and around the characters: a documentary as close as possible to a fiction film. With the same logic, to the filmed material, trial courtroom and actions, I envision juxtaposing archive material, to be as an external action in time and space, as in the film that inspired me.

### Company Profile

**Bo Film** is a production company based in Bologna.

Its main activities are the development, production and distribution of creative, authorial and artistic documentaries addressing social and sociological topics.

Since its foundation our films:

- have been supported by national and international public bodies;

- have participated in prestigious international festivals;

- have been released in cinemas in several European countries - including in Italy, France, Switzerland;

- have been shown by several international broadcasters.

Some of Bo Film productions are:

\* *Almost Nothing | Cern: Experimental City* by Anna de Manincor | ZimmerFrei 74' | 2018

(Production: Bo Film, Tita Productions e Associate Directors)

\* *The Black Sheep* by Antonio Martino 72' | 2016 (Production Bo Film, Claudio Mazzanti and Tita Productions)

\* *Un paese di Calabria* by Shu Aiello e Catherine Catella 72'

### Director's Profile

**Paolo Fiore Angelini** is a director and screenwriter of narrative and documentary cinema. He teaches Elements of Direction at the University of Bologna. He has worked for RAI, Mediaset, Sky and MTV.

### Selected Filmography

2018 - **Almost Nothing | Cern Experimental City** (by Anna de Manincor | Zimmerfrei [BO FILM production])

2019 - **Opera Mundi. Rigoletto Experientia** (by Paolo Fiore Angelini)

2020 - **Codice Bologna** (by Paolo Fiore Angelini [with BO FILM executive production])

2021 - **Italicus - La verità negata** (by Enza Negroni [Written by Antonella Beccaria, co-author of the series])

2022 - **Pasolini. Cronologia di un omicidio politico** (by Paolo Fiore Angelini)



# BREAKING BREAD

TV One-off

Does eating have an impact on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? *Breaking Bread* is an emancipatory documentary, a “road movie” through the kitchens of Israel-Palestine, to tell its history, connections and fractures.



## Original Title

Breaking Bread

## Running Time

52'

## Shooting Language

Arabic, Hebrew, French

## Main Location

Israel, Palestine

## Directed by

Tamara Erde and Mathias Enard

## Genre

Arts and Culture

## Main Producer

### Haut et Court Doc

France

Emma Lepers

emma.lepers@hautetcourt.com

<https://www.hautetcourt.com/>

## Estimated budget

€ 217.792

## Financing in place

€ 92.792

## Financiers/partners already involved

France 3 Via Stella

CNC

Haut et Court Doc

Haut et Court TV

## Synopsis

Does gastronomy separate us or bring us together? Is a dual belonging possible or one must choose sides even on the plate? Crossing borders, visiting the lands and the diverse characters, from chefs to food artists, to passionate market cooks, *Breaking Bread* is a film constructed as an epic of food, between Israel and Palestine, along the Jordan river and the west Bank, Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem, Jenin and the North of Israel's Druze villages, Bedouin village in the desert, the confined Gaza strip, to Jericho and the dead sea, the film brings us the smells, tastes, sounds and sceneries. A history of food to tell the story of the conflict and its roots through physical and tangible anecdotes that reveal the human sides of the conflict, beyond the known political aspects. Struggling to preserve authenticity and identity through food, to define each people's unique tradition, all while questioning the possibility to share a meal.

## Director's Statement

When we met at Mathias' Middle Eastern restaurant, “Karakala”, we had a long discussion about the Arab-Israeli conflict. Going to meet the Israel-Palestinian gastronomy and its kitchens appeared to us as a way to have a different view of the conflict, through the intimate and daily aspects that are the ingredients and the dishes, and the people behind it. We have each experienced the Arab-Israeli conflict from different perspectives. I, Tamara, grew up in Israel, saw the war from inside and questioned my countries' narrative. When I read Mathias' books, I found in his writing a deep echo of what has been the center of my films: the inseparable entanglement between the collective and the intimate, between love and death, war and life.

## Company Profile

**Haut et Court Doc** is an independent documentary film production, dedicated to reveal and support new talents, both French and foreign, while respecting diversity, parity and sustainability. The company has claimed an enlightened eclecticism and an assumed taste for artistic risk.

## Director's Profile

**Tamara Erde** is an Israeli-French filmmaker based in Paris and Berlin. Her films deal with social and political questions around education, conflict resolution history. Her work has been presented and nominated in main film festivals (TIFF, Rotterdam,...) and distributed in cinemas and TV channels worldwide (BBC, FR TV, Arte,...). In parallel, she creates also photography and installations presented in Galleries internationally and participates in artists residencies (Taiwan, Spain, S.Korea, Bulgaria, New-York,...). She has also worked as a director for ARTE's history magazine “Faire l'histoire” and for the channel's cultural slot, and is currently developing a feature fiction film with the French company “Easy Tiger”, a documentary film for cinemas with “Gloria Films” as well as several TV documentaries. Born on January 11, 1972 in Niort, **Mathias Enard** is a French writer and translator. He is the winner of the 2015 Prix Goncourt for his novel *Boussole*.

## Selected Filmography

2014 - **This is My Land** (Prod Illiade & Films France, Saya)

2018 - **Looking for Zion** (Produced by 13 Productions France and Katuh Studio Germany, Co-produced by ZDF, Germany and France 3 ViaStella)

2022 - **Moonlight Jerusalem** (Produced by Les Films de la Butte, France 2)

2022 - **Another Silent Spring** (Produced by Elda, ARTE)

# THE DELIVERY LINE

Docuseries

At the edge of life, on the border between cultures and countries, on the front lines of conflict and crisis...women are still giving birth. And midwives are doing everything to help them.



## Original Title

The Delivery Line

## Running Time

6x54'

## Shooting Language

English, Farsi, Dari, Spanish, Inuktitut, Other

## Main Location

Canada, Colombia, Afghanistan, Mexico,

Malawi, Arctic, Other

## Directed by

Nance Ackerman

## Genre

Global Issues

## Main Producer

### Loaded Pictures

Canada

Sergeo Kirby

sergeo@loadedpictures.ca

[www.loadedpictures.ca](http://www.loadedpictures.ca)

## Estimated budget

€ 1.144.464

## Financing in place

€ 401.436

## Financiers/partners already involved

Federal Tax Credit (\$115.496)

Québec Tax Credit (\$200.646)

AGA KHAN Foundation (\$50.000)

LYFTA (\$35,294)

## Looking for

Broadcasters, Streamers, Co-Producers,

International Distribution and Investment

## Synopsis

Every day, over 800 women around the world die from preventable causes related to pregnancy & childbirth and in 2020, 2.4 billion infants didn't make it past the first month of life. Historically, conflict and crisis has often been framed through a patriarchal lens – migration, drug wars, colonialism; these are all massive socio-cultural events where the heroes and perpetrators reflect only that narrative. In creating *The Delivery Line*, we want to shift perspectives by exploring those compelling stories through the touching and gripping lives of midwives around the world. With recurring characters, life and death drama, cliff hangers that are all intrinsic to the high stakes world of pregnancy and birth, these women fight for the survival of their communities against immense forces. They fight not with violence, but with hope and love, they are the heroes. They are the midwives.

## Director's Statement

As a doula, woman of Indigenous ancestry, and a photojournalist, this project is at the core of who I am as a filmmaker. *The Delivery Line* weaves together the love of birth and Indigenous practices, with the adrenaline rush of life on the front lines. Through my intimate, compassionate, yet cinematic lens, it sews emotional threads through the characters as they face unfathomable challenges in their work. Structured as if it were a fiction series, characters are interlaced, pulling audiences through each episode, while exposing the common struggles our society chooses to ignore. The episodes will be structured in three parts, three trimesters: the Waiting; the Transition and the Joy, acting as touchstones for the audience, who will be as invested in the pregnant women's journeys, as the midwives are. Each in different stages of pregnancy, the series will rely on the midwives' strength to fuse their experience into a powerful, inspirational experience that celebrates our diverse, poignant and riveting world – at the beginning of life.

## Company Profile

Sergeo Kirby has been producing, directing and filming award-winning feature documentaries for close to two decades. Notable credits include *ABU*, *Shiners*, *Patsy*, *H2Oil*, *Roadsworth*, *Wal-Town*, *Fennario*: *The Good Fight* and *The Mosque*. Sergio is the President of **Loaded Pictures**, a Montreal based film company focusing on complex social documentaries. His films have been seen on CBC, the Documentary Channel, Canal D, Discovery, the Sundance Channel, and screened at A-list film festivals around the world. *ABU* won the best documentary prize at over 16 film festivals around the world and *Shiners*, released in the same year, won best documentary at 6 film festivals. His last film *The Forbidden Reel*, a documentary in Afghanistan about the filmmakers of Kabul won the HOT DOCS audience Award in 2020.

## Director's Profile

**Nance Ackerman's** photographer's eye drives her powerful filmic storytelling. Intimate and raw, her work spans the past thirty years beginning as a photojournalist for the *Globe and Mail*, *Toronto Star*, *Montreal Gazette*, *NY Times* and *Canadian Geographic*. Drawing on her Mohawk heritage, she builds bridges of understanding between seemingly disparate communities. *Cottonland* (2006), a collaboration with opioid addicts, garnered three Gemini nominations and numerous awards. In *Four Feet Up* (2010) Ackerman explored child poverty in Canada, and her animated short, *Little Thunder* (2009), screened at the 2010 Olympics. *Fid* (2007), a tender look at aging, screened at Cannes, while *Behind the Bhangra Boys* (2019) a poignant look at diversity and joyous activism, screened at SE Asian film festivals all over North America. In *Conviction* (2019), Ackerman was co-writer, co-director, DOP and editor in this film that collaborated with women inside Canada's prisons and won WGC for best writing in a documentary.

## Selected Filmography Sergeo Kirby

2008 - **H2Oil**  
2017 - **ABU**  
2019 - **The Forbidden Reel**  
2019 - **La Mosquée**

## Selected Filmography Nance Ackerman

2006 - **Cottonland**  
2010 - **Four Feet Up**  
2019 - **Behind the Bhangra Boys**  
2019 - **Conviction**

# DIARY OF AN INFILTRATOR

Docuseries

This is the incredible untold story of Miguel Herberg, a Spanish anarchist filmmaker who, with the help of Renzo and Roberto Rossellini, infiltrated the Chilean military regime for 2 years; pretending to be a fierce anti-Communist filmmaker.



## Original Title

Diario de un Infiltrado

## Running Time

4x45'

## Shooting Language

Spanish, Italian, German

## Main Location

Chile, Roma, Berlin, Buenos Aires

## Directed by

Samuel León, Saúl Valverde

## Genre

Global Issues

## Main Producer

### Bioesférica Filmes

Chile  
Samuel León  
samuel@bioesferica.cl / sleon.g@valparaisologia.cl  
<https://bioesferica.cl/>

### Vertice360

Spain  
Alberto Rull  
alberto.rull@vertice360.com  
<https://www.vertice360.com/es/>

## Estimated budget

€ 1.016.700

## Financing in place

€ 120.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

Bioesférica Filmes (€ 120.000)

## Looking for

Coproductio partners and international presales

## Synopsis

The Spanish filmmaker Miguel Herberg, encouraged by his friends Renzo and Roberto Rossellini, infiltrated the extreme right-wing Chilean coup, between 72 and 74, pretending to be like them. He obtained hundreds of documents, films and photographs on how the coup d'état was cooked up in Chile and the subsequent period of repression and violence. He obtained unique footage of the Chacabuco and Pisagua concentration camps, which he later brought to light, causing hundreds of prisoners to save their lives. At that moment, Miguel became part of the black list of targets to be liquidated by the military regime. Today, 50 years later, Miguel resumes his journey to find what remains of the traces of his Chileans, and takes us by the hand to discover his incredible story of cinema, espionage and memory.

## Director's Statement

We will get to know this incredible story of infiltration in Pinochet's ranks, and of espionage at the limit of the plausible. The tone of the series will be very marked by the unique personality of Miguel Herberg. In the manner of a cicerone, he will guide us through the story through interviews and a human and historical account. The production will also rely on never-before-seen documents from the period. Like the best spy films, our documentary series will be a mixture of pure thriller and political and historical cinema. A journey along the razor's edge of the most turbulent years in Chile's history, narrated by a character like Miguel Herberg, one of those unrepeatable characters. A 'Bigger than life' whose production in Chile, together with the Rossellinis, deserves to be told, listened to and debated, to contribute to the memory by generating genuine entertainment in the 50th commemoration of the coup d'état in 2023.

## Company Profile

**Bioesférica Filmes** was established in 2013 in the city with the greatest character in Chile: Valparaíso, the cultural capital of Chile and a territory in historical and constant looting. The center of our work is the creation and generation of content for multiplatforms and Transmedia production. We were born with the obligation to assume to be a decisive factor in the economic and social recovery of Valparaíso in the 21st century, based on green industrialization and cinematography. **Vertice360** is a Spanish independent film and television production company operating in Spain since 2005, producing film blockbusters such as *Pagafantas* or *The Other Side of the Bed*, hit series such as *Doctor Mateo*, *A Matter of Sex* or *The Princess of Eboli* among others, as well as entertainment programs and documentaries as the awarded doc feature *Colza*, *The Invisible Enemy*.

## Director's Profile

### Samuel León

Born in Valparaíso and trained in cinematography at the Escuela de Cine de Chile in Santiago, previously with a stay in the mythical cinematographic photography workshop of Hector Rios, at the Universidad Federico Santa María in Valparaíso. His career has taken him to be a developer, production assistant, location scout, casting director, assistant director, producer and director in various advertising productions and also in feature films, medium-length films and series, both fiction and documentary, in Chile and abroad. He has also been a teacher, film consultant and film commissioner. Today he is focused on producing works for his own company, but he never rules out working as an assistant on any film project that moves him or involves significant challenges in its realization.

### Saúl Valverde

Formed in Film Direction at Septima Ars Film School in Madrid. His career began in several production companies as documentary director, video installations for museums and transmedia content for different clients and institutions. In parallel he develops more personal work in short films, documentaries and as assistant director of feature films. As a TV director he has worked in entertainment programs in national channels (Spain) such as Antena 3. In the last 8 years his career has focused on the field of advertising. As a creative director and producer in advertising he is specialized in storytelling and content for brands. He has produced numerous spots and pieces for clients such as Kellogg's, Vodafone or Trident.

# FRAGMENTS OF A LIVE LOVED

Feature Doc

I have loved often in my life: evidence is stowed away in boxes and in my memories. But what about my ex-lovers? What would be their version of our past? Through their words, I'll attempt to retrace my personal history. Memory lapses and settling of scores are to be expected. I'll take my chances.



## Original Title

Frammenti di un percorso amoroso

## Running Time

90'

## Shooting Language

Italian, English, French

## Main Location

Rome (Italy), Barcelona (Spain), Paris (France)

## Directed by

Chloé Barreau

## Genre

Biography

## Main Producer

**Groenlandia Srl**  
Italy  
Matteo Rovere  
info@groenlandiafilm.com  
<https://groenlandiagroup.com/>

## Estimated budget

€ 348.819

## Financing in place

€ 82.490

## Looking for

Co-producers, Distributor and International sales agent

## Synopsis

For over 30 years, between Paris and Rome, Chloé Barreau has filmed her lovers. She was compulsively constructing the memory of it. Dozens of hours of analogic footage, print photographs, answering machine mes-sages: a unique, intimate material. The proposal of this documentary is bold: giving the floor to her exes for them to do the talking. All 12 characters have agreed to participate: all her exes. She might be the only thing they have in common: French and Italians, men and women, gays and straight. An elementary teacher, Goncourt writer, an army-of-ficer, a member of parliament, an actress. Through their testimonies, mixed with the home-movie footage, we are going to discover all the stages of love: from puppy love, to long-term relationships, light-ning bolts, betrayal. It is also the story of a calling, the journey of a storyteller, from chronic romantic to film director.

## Director's Statement

We've all told the stories of our past love affairs. But how did our exes perceive those same relationships? What's the other side of the story? This documentary offers an unusual opportunity: to reconstruct the life of one woman, based exclusively on the stories of the people who loved her, or were loved by her. The proposal is bold: this fantasy of bringing together one's exes is a desire to play with codes and conventions. Not many documentaries speak of love. Yet, it is an important part of our lives, as well as a central theme in cinema. Few people have filmed their entire lives, from the age of 16 onwards. It is an original, priceless, rich, surprising thing. Private repertoires are the vo-yeuristic reason why the viewer will be glued to the screen. But we also trigger a common reflection on love. The aim is to narrate an intimate and universal story about the power and heter-ogeneity of the love encounters which happen in everyone's lives.

## Company Profile

**Groenlandia** is the production company born out of the meeting between directors Matteo Rovere and Sydney Sibilia, united by the common goal of creating quality audiovisual products that can enter the international market. Groenlandia is characterized by a story-based editorial line: the author, strictly speaking, takes a step back, working alongside the creative producer, screenwriter and investors, each with their own objective that is recognized and validated by the production. Lynn is the new unit created in 2021 and dedicated to producing female directors. Groenlandia put its expertise in the service of promoting gender equality in the Italian movie industry. Lynn will produce movies and audio-visual works by both emerging and female directors.

## Director's Profile

**Chloé Barreau** was born from an unusual relationship, the one between a worker-priest and a nurse, whose wedding caused a scandal in 1970s France. She told this story in her first film, *La colpa di mio padre*, winning a Biografilm Festival award. A graduate of Modern Literature from Sorbonne University in Paris, she has written and directed short films (*Acqua passata* with Riccardo Scamarcio), TV Specials (*Anna M.* with Anna Mouglalis), Docuseries (*Blue Is the Colour*, Raindance Festival), before joining Fox Channels Italy as a Creative Producer. She has been working for prestigious brands for 15 years (National Geographic, History Channel), as well as on more personal projects: *Stardust Memories* (Carboluca, 2008/Radio Rai 3, 2020), *Malafemmina* (Storytel, 2021), *Une sorte de tendresse* (Chora Media, 2022).

## Selected Filmography

2017 - **Masterclass and Ad Honorem**  
2021 - **Marilyn has Black Eyes** (by Simone Godano)  
2022 - **September** (by Giulia Steigerwalt)  
2022 - **Delta** (by Michele Vannucci)  
2022 - **The Hanging Sun** (by Francesco Carrozzini)



Italy

# GHOST DETAINEE - THE EXTRAORDINARY RENDITION OF ABU OMAR

Feature Doc

*Ghost Detainee* is the story about the extraordinary rendition of Abu Omar, an illegal operation operated by the CIA on the Italian territory. But what is the moral cost of the War on Terror? Is it legitimate to violate the law in the name of national security?

## Original Title

Ghost Detainee - The Extraordinary Rendition of Abu Omar

## Running Time

90'

## Shooting Language

English, Italian, Arabic

## Main Location

Italy, Egypt, USA

## Directed by

Flavia Triggiani, Marina Loi

## Genre

History

## Main Producer

ILBE S.p.a.

Italy

Ferdinando Dell'Omo

f.dellomo@iervolinoent.com

<https://ilbegroup.com/>

## Estimated budget

€ 979.225

## Financing in place

€ 350.000



## Synopsis

The response to the attack on the Twin Towers has been a war being fought in Afghanistan first. Then Iraq. But there is another war that is fought in secret: the illegal war of extraordinary rendition. Across the West, the CIA identifies and kidnaps fundamentalists suspected of fomenting Islamic terrorism. They disappear with the help of Western governments, they reappear in secret detention centers. But in Italy, a country friend of America, the CIA stumbles. Italy, 2003. Abu Omar, the imam of a Milanese mosque, in his sermons inflames the minds of hundreds of Muslims. But he doesn't just preach, he collects money for the fighters, he enlists militants to send to fight. The police notice this and the CIA too. Abu Omar's rendition takes place in Milan. But, for the first time in history, this rendition is later revealed to the public and the Abu Omar case becomes a worldwide case. American and Italian secret agents end up on trial together in a dramatic process.

## Director's Statement

The documentary, which offers the viewer four different points of view of the facts, will make use of directorial and graphic solutions to underline the change of narration. From a stylistic point of view, the direction will have the cut of the spy story, with evocative reenactments inspired by a dark look of a spy thriller but also with dirtier, real images, like real life documentary style shots. The story will alternate a fast pace, "action style", linked to the kidnapping of Abu Omar with a more relaxed and reflective one, which concerns historical-political insights. The interviews will be carried out with three cameras and the shots will vary to better create suspense, with shots also from behind or from three quarters and different details. Both in the reenactments and in the interviews great use will be made of slow motion, to emphasize the drama of the events.

## Company Profile

**Iervolino & Lady Bacardi Entertainment S.p.A. (ILBE)** is a global production company established by Andrea Iervolino and Monika Bacardi specialized in cinema, web and television content production. The company, listed on Euronext Growth Milan and Paris has a "Hollywood" footprint and strong focus on OTTs contents. It produces diversified contents for an international audience, focusing on core production phases and IP ownership.

The company also provides services such as advertising and celebrity management. It's also specialized as Italian service production for all the international production to shoot in Italy.

Welcome to Italy, associate company specialized in service production for the International production which decide to shoot in Italy.

## Director's Profile

**Flavia Triggiani**, television reporter, writer and director, she was author and project manager of various TV programs broadcasted on Rai, Mediaset, La7, Discovery. She has written programs of various genres, including true crime such as *Donne Vittime e Carnefici*, *Linea Gialla* for La7 and *Detective* for Rai 2. She is the creator and author of *Lady Gucci*, *the Story of Patrizia Reggiani* for Discovery (worldwide). Also for Discovery she signed, as author, *Il cacciatore di anoressiche* and, as author and director, *Maurizio Minghella*, *Il predatore*, *Il Branco*. *L'omicidio di Desirée*. For Rai Documentari she wrote and directed *La vera storia della Uno bianca*.

**Marina Loi**, writer and director, she was author and project manager of various TV programs broadcast on the main Italian networks including Rai, Mediaset, La7, Discovery. From 2005 to 2015 she worked in Rai as an author, television reporter for cultural and institutional spaces and conducted the program on the sixty years of public television RAI 54 14.

She is the creator and author of *Lady Gucci*, *the story of Patrizia Reggiani* for Discovery (worldwide) and - as author - of *Il cacciatore di anoressiche* and *Il Branco*. *L'omicidio di Desirée*; as author and director, *Maurizio Minghella*, *Il predatore*. For Rai Documentari she wrote and directed *La vera storia della Uno bianca*.

## Selected Filmography

2020 - **Lady Gucci. The Story of Patrizia Reggiani** (Flavia Triggiani and Marina Loi, creators and authors)

2021 - **The True Story of Uno Bianca** (Flavia Triggiani and Marina Loi, directors and authors)

2021 - **Maurizio Minghella. The Predator** (Flavia Triggiani and Marina Loi, directors and authors)

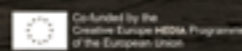
2022 - **The Anorexic Hunter** (Flavia Triggiani and Marina Loi, creators and authors)

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# IMOLA 1994

TV One-off

During the Formula 1 weekend at Imola in 1994, the destinies of some people intersect: doctors, drivers, journalists, photographers, spectators. These days are marred by numerous accidents that lead to a tragic epilogue: the death of Ayrton Senna.



## Original Title

Imola 1994

## Running Time

90'

## Shooting Language

Italian, English

## Main Location

Imola, Bologna, Bolzano, London

## Directed by

Francesco Merini

## Genre

Human and Society

## Main Producer

### Mammut film

Italia  
Ilaria Malagutti  
malagutti@mammutfilm.it  
www.mammutfilm.it

## Estimated budget

€ 290.000

## Financing in place

€ 9.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

Emilia Romagna Region, development fund  
Municipality of Imola

## Looking for

Broadcasters, sales agents

## Synopsis

At 2:17PM on May, 1st 1994, in front of millions of tv viewers Ayrton Senna ended his life at the age of 34 by crashing into the Tamborello curve of the Imola circuit. That weekend also went down in history because another driver, Roland Ratzenberger, died. Senna's death has marked and continues to mark the imagination of several generations everywhere. In this story we relive that tragic weekend by crossing the paths of several people who experienced it from the inside: a young boy who waits anxiously every year for the return of Formula 1, the historic RAI correspondent Ezio Zermiani, the safety manager Fabio Nobis, Senna's photographer friend Angelo Orsi, the driver Pierluigi Martini, the team manager of a small team Gian Carlo Minardi. Ayrton Senna is the centre around which the events of our characters revolve. Thanks to them, we have the chance to intimately relive those days, to feel the vertigo of touching a myth of our time and to reflect on the meaning of his parable.

## Director's Statement

The authors' intention is to tell the story of Senna for what he was in their imagination and in the imagination of many people: the perfect embodiment of the classic hero as codified by Greek tragedy; the ultimate myth. They will do it through an original narrative structure: a choral tale that reconstructs those last days through the testimonies of different characters, each one a protagonist in his own way of that terrible weekend. The tale of the hero and his parable thus takes shape from the words of Ezio Zermiani, the RAI sports journalist sent to follow the Imola race, or from those of Angelo Orsi, the closest friend and sports photographer who decided not to publish the photos of Senna's body, or Pierluigi Martini, who was at the wheel of the Minardi at Imola, with which he experienced fear for the first. In 2024, 30 years will have passed since that terrible weekend at the end of April that became a watershed in the history of Formula 1.

## Company Profile

**Mammut film** is an independent audiovisual company established in 2005. by four partners active for over 20 years in the field of cinema. We produce audiovisual works with a specific focus on documentaries.. With personal perspectives and strong stories told with a distinctive style, our films are commenting on our time and society. Our productions have gained attention of both film critics and general audience, have been distributed theatrically in Italy and Europe and have been broadcasted around the world. Among the documentaries produced: *50 Santarcangelo festival* (Venice's days 2020); *Vivere che rischio* (among 200 documentaries eligible for Oscar), *The Orchestra* (worldwide distributed by EuroArts) *God Save the Green* (selelected in more than 30 festivals), *Health for Sale* (sold to more than 30 countries). So far, Mammut's core business has been international creative documentaries but we are now expanding into fiction developing the short web series *Universitas Tenebrarum* and producing as minority co-producer the Bulgarian film *Eternity Package*, the Romanian film *Catane* and the French feature doc *From Cold War to Green War*.

## Director's Profile

**Francesco Merini** has directed several documentaries, including *The Madness of Others* (2018), presented at the Venice Film Festival and *The Orchestra*. Claudio Abbado and the *Musicians of the Mozart Orchestra* (2014) distributed world-wide by the Berlin-based Euro Arts. He has worked in the music field, directing live performances and videos for Lucio Dalla, Vasco Rossi and for Deutsche Grammophon. His works have been selected for show on numerous film festivals including the ones in Torino, Al Jazeera, FIFA Montreal. At present, he is teaching documentary in the writing school Bottega Finzioni. He is one of the founders of Mammut Film and creative producer of the documentary *Kemp* (2019) by Edoardo Gabbriellini.

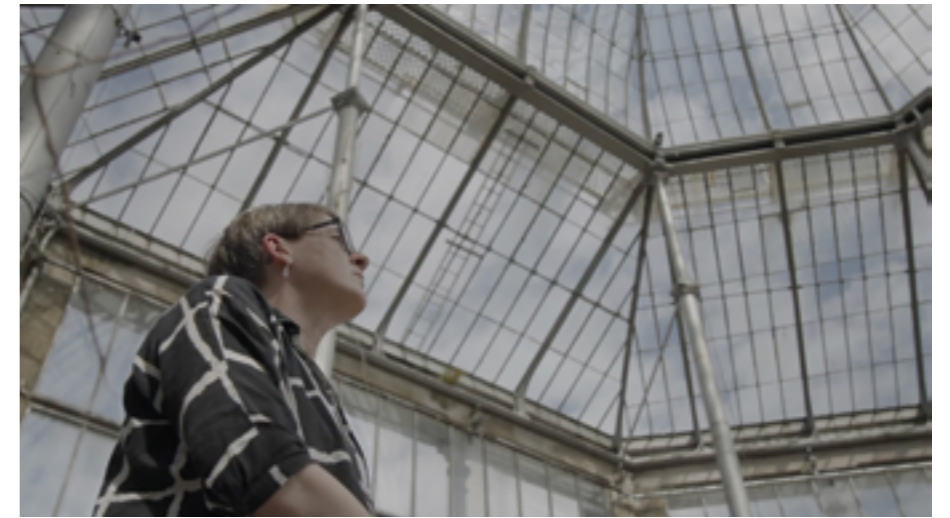
## Selected Filmography

**50 Santarcangelo Festival**  
**Life is Deadly (Vivere che rischio)**  
**Kemp, My Best Dance Is Yet to Come**  
**The Orchestra**  
**I'm in Love with My Car**

# LOST FOR WORDS

Feature Doc

LOST FOR WORDS is an Odyssey across the UK marked by the passing of the seasons. It will question how the knowledge of nature and its language will change our perception of conservation, how walking can map our mind, how a dialogue can crystallize in a landscape, how memory and projection can come together in a vivid and collective present.



## Original Title

Lost for Words

## Shooting Language

English

## Main Location

United Kingdom

## Directed by

Hannah Papacek

## Genre

Arts and Culture

## Main Producer

### Rétrovisseur Productions

France  
Dorian Blanc  
dorian@retrovisseurproductions.fr  
<https://www.retrovisseurprod.fr/>  
<https://ilbegroup.com/>

## Estimated budget

€ 258.073

## Financing in place

€ 18.073

## Financiers/partners already involved

Rétrovisseur Productions (€ 12.073)  
Development Grant | Normandy Region (€ 6.000)

## Looking for

Broadcast Channel, Financial Partners, World Sales, International Co-producer

## Synopsis

This feature documentary is a search for the immense influence that *The Lost Words* (A book created by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris in 2017) has had on education, conservation and the artistic world in the UK. The book celebrates more than forty nature words that had disappeared from the Oxford youth dictionary: Acorn, Fox, Otter, swallow... through illustration and incantation. This transgenerational choral film will continue the movement started by the book bringing nature and its common names back to life, in poetry and in music; with subtlety. Pulled along by the migration of animals, the natural movements across the land and the passing of the seasons, it will be a journey through the map. Putting transmission at the heart of the narrative it will question how we can build new emotional connections to the world around us and how we can connect to the scientific data which explains our current crisis. With a taste of childhood this film looks at changing our perspective on conservation and rethinking our ideas on change in a democratic way. It will bring many characters together acting as a support system for the main one: the landscape itself.

## Director's Statement

My vision for this documentary is a sensitive and sensory film that immerses us into nature, to give it back its strength. It takes its roots in a literary phenomenon and becomes a vast exploration of the natural world. It is a deep search into language, transmission and awareness of our immediate environment. The question that gave rise to the project is: How can we learn to love something we cannot name? After discovering the books and the musicians associated to the project (the *spell singers*), something stirred in me and I could not let it go – it was the simple sensibility of it. Almost a year later when I saw them come out of the lockdown and get back on stage in the Natural History Museum of London, I knew I had to create this project. This is where I saw the link between Art and Science come forth in the democratic way I was looking for. Since then, we have been on three research trips to the UK talking to researchers in great institutions, to individuals working in organisations for conservation, artists, musicians and children... In my thirst to understand our intrinsic need for memory and the conservation of this planet which will exist beyond us, I have met many people. Their voices are rich and varied, permitting us to make the discourse larger and more global as we go forward. I am placing these questions inside a creative documentary form, which immerses us deeply within the landscape we are exploring.

## Company Profile

**Rétrovisseur Productions** was created in 2018, and based in France. It produces documentaries for cinema, television or podcast. It develops creative projects with talented authors, and with international co-producers. The editorial line is focused on Art, Nature, Culture, Social, Music issues. Rétrovisseur Productions has produced a critically acclaimed international feature film (*Trance* - 2022). The company is active in the International documentary markets, Pitch and labs forum.

## Director's Profile

Graduated in Aesthetics and Cinema Practice, from the universities of Paris-1 Sorbonne Pantheon, and Lima, Peru in 2015, **Hannah Papacek Harper** has been directing since 2019. Initially a Steadicamer, she started by telling stories through the moving image. Now both a writer and a director, she is developing two feature documentaries dealing with the subject of ecology. Having grown up in the Perche countryside in France, she feels deeply invested in this issue. Profoundly interested in communication, transmission and sensorial approaches to film, her experimental video production and photography allow her to create creative collaborations around these subjects.

## Filmography

2020 - **Ehpad à huis clos** (Director: Christophe Ramage)  
2022 - **Trance** (Director: Emilio Belmonte)  
2022 - **Tiens la route** (Director: Laureline Amanieux)  
In development - **Chainon Manquant** (Director: Hannah Papacek Harper)

## Audio Documentary Production

2021 - **The Divine Comedy of Amélie Nothomb** (Director: Laureline Amanieux)

# MOSCOW NIGHTS

TV One-off

In the 1980s, uniquely in history, the leaders of the superpowers supported by their wives, have the vision and courage to end a dangerous 40-year conflict by doing the unthinkable: talking to the enemy and building trust by personal, human contact. But at the same time, the seeds of present conflict are being sown.



## Original Title

Moscow Nights

## Running Time

50', 90'

## Shooting Language

English, Russian, German

## Main Location

Ireland

## Directed by

Irina Maldea

## Genre

Global Issues

## Main Producer

akaJava films

Ireland  
Brendan Culleton  
akajava@gmail.com  
<https://www.facebook.com/akajavafilms>

## Estimated budget

€ 897.000

## Financing in place

€ 622.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

Screen Ireland  
ZDF/Arte  
YLE  
Czech TV  
LTV

## Looking for

Production Finance  
Funders  
Coproduction partners  
Presales  
Distribution MGs

## Synopsis

The ending of the Cold War was the biggest event of the post-war era, grabbing the attention of the whole world and making Mikhail Gorbachev one of the most famous people ever to exist.

*Moscow Nights*, composed entirely of archives, brings us on an immersive journey back to that time, as the fate of humanity is decided by a small group of male politicians and their wives. The women feature prominently in the film, using previously unseen footage to emphasise their important role. We sit in on the intimate fireside chats in Swiss villas, attend glittering events in the ballroom of the White House and witness the sad resignation of Gorbachev and end of the USSR.

In an emotional retelling of his journey from all-powerful leader to outcast in his own land, Gorbachev is shown as a tragic character, brought down in part by his own actions, but in the end, by the machinations of jealous rivals. For a brief time, he opened a window to the prospect of a new world order based on non-violence. But this vision was mocked by Western leaders, and new divisions were created, not Gorbachev's dream of a common European home.

This deep-dive into the archives shines a light on the glamour and kitsch of 1980s society, and reminds us of how the fear of nuclear annihilation was replaced by hopes and dreams of a better world. And now we come full circle.

## Director's Statement

How can knowledge of history help to create a better future? The Cold War ended through collaboration, not victory of one side, but neither the USA or Russia made the best possible use of the 'peace dividend'. After unexpectedly being saved from the threat of a nuclear confrontation with each other, they let deliverance slip. Despite the passing of the Cold War, these two nations still possess more than 90 percent of the world's nuclear warheads and the ability to kill nearly every living creature on earth. That threat makes understanding the seeds of decay in their relationship in the 1990s an essential story of our time.

## Company Profile

*Moscow Nights* is the latest of **akaJava films** films based on archive footage following *The Long Road*, *Tintown*, *Patriot Game*, *Shamrock & Swastika*, *Congo an Irish Affair*, *Ceausescu & I* and *Biafra - Forgotten Mission*. Director Irina Maldea and producer Brendan Culleton have been working together for 20 years to create insightful and entertaining documentaries dealing with historical, political and social issues. Their films often involve taking a new look at events of decades ago, through intensive film archive research combined with interviews with the participants of those events. They have dealt with global issues such as terrorism, peacekeeping, famine, war, mental illness, racism, emigration, propaganda. Their films have been praised for their sensitivity and insight.

## Director's Profile

**Irina Maldea** is an award-winning director and film editor. She has been nominated many times for Irish Film and Television Academy Awards, winning best documentary for the series *Congo 1961*. She began her career in Romania, working as assistant editor and editor in the National Film Studios. Since moving to Ireland she has directed many critically acclaimed documentaries and also produced short popular drama shorts.

## Selected Filmography

2014 - **Ar Intinn Eile**  
2018 - **Biafra - Forgotten Mission**  
2021 - **Be Coming**  
2023 - **Ceausescu and I**

# NAPALM GIRL

TV One-off

1972. Kim Phúc, fleeing napalm bombs in Vietnam is immortalized by photographer Nick Ut during her desperate run. 2022. The two meet to travel together to Rome where they will give the photo to Pope Francesco. They stop at Milan where an exhibition is organized around the iconic photo that after 50 years still makes the world reflect on war and the role of art in the narration of its horrors.

## Original Title

Napalm Girl - il viaggio di una fotografia

## Running Time

52'

## Shooting Language

English, Italian

## Main Location

Milan, Rome

## Directed by

Valeria Parisi

## Genre

Global Issues

## Main Producer

3D Produzioni

Italy  
Didi Gnocchi  
direzione.3d@gmail.com  
[www.3dvideo.it](http://www.3dvideo.it)

## Estimated budget

€ 125.775

## Financing in place

€ 50.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

Italian Tax Credit  
RAI - in negotiation

## Looking for

International broadcasters and platforms



## Synopsis

Through the words of Kim Phúc - the girl who fled from the napalm bombs - and the stories of photographer Nick Ut, whom immortalized her desperate run, the documentary reconstructs the moment of the shot that changed their lives and that was a turning point in the history of photojournalism.

The documentary revolves around these topics:

- What did it mean to document the pain of unarmed civilians for a photojournalist who was 21 years old?
- How has war photography been changing?
- Which trauma is carried by civilians involved in wars?

The Vietnam War revolutionized the storytelling of war. The impact that the photo by Ut had on the public opinion makes us wonder about what it's happening today, now that photo-journalism is carried on by thousands of freelancers and common people, whose images are daily conveyed on the web, in an increasingly viral way, overlapping opposing - and sometimes distorted- points of views. A huge responsibility which can increase the polarization and the sense of loss of the public opinion, abandoned in front of an enormous mass of information that sometimes is much less free than what it seems.

## Director's Statement

Europeans of my generation have long lived in a time of (almost) peace. We believed that war was over for us. The conflict in Ukraine calls our present into question and makes us wonder about our future. The iconic image of Kim Phúc fleeing napalm bombs as an innocent victim still shakes us in all its relevance. The occasion is the exhibition dedicated to Nick Ut and but the trip of Nick and Kim to bring the photo to the Vatican, to be autographed by the Pope. The documentary alternates photos and archive footage of the Vietnam War with reportage-style footage of Kim and Nick's Italian trip, and Kim takes us between past and present: her enthusiasm in front of art is the sign that she is back to life. And it tells us more about the value of testimony: you are a victim if you don't have a voice. Ut's iconic photo gave her a voice.

## Company Profile

Founded by Italian journalist, author and director Didi Gnocchi, **3D Produzioni** has been operating in the field of audiovisual productions and communication since 1999, with an added focus on the cultural field. Animated by a strong cross-mediatic streak and a fiercely contemporary mark, 3D Produzioni creates projects with high editorial standards, capable of reaching a wide audience through its effective audiovisual language, the engagement of talents with great international appeal, and a powerful communication strategy. 3D Produzioni has therefore become the strategic partner of many broadcasters, with whom it has made documentaries, series, specials and reportages. In recent years, 3D Produzioni has also specialized in art documentaries for international theatrical releases: all successes exported around the world and awarded by some of the main film festivals, which boast the participation of first-rate actors, such as Oscar winners Jeremy Irons (with 3D Produzioni in the documentaries *The Prado Museum*, *the Court of Wonders*, *Napoleon in the Name of Art* and *Egyptian Museum*) and Helen Mirren (for 3D in the film *#ANNE FRANK Parallel Lives*). 3D Produzioni is a culture factory in the heart of Milan which boasts several key figures in audiovisual production so that every phase of the production - from development to post-production - is managed by highly qualified employees, including producers, authors, DOPs, graphic designers, editors, archivists, to which are added from time to time some external figures identified according to the needs of each project.

## Director's Profile

**Valeria Parisi** is a screenwriter, journalist and director based in Milan, specialized in art, history and social documentaries. She directed many documentaries that have been distributed internationally, amongst them *Maverick Modigliani* and *The Prado Museum - A Collection of Wonders* with Jeremy Irons.

## Selected Filmography

2019 - **Citizen Rosi** (by Didi Gnocchi and Carolina Rosi)  
2021 - **Napoleon, in the Name of Art** (with Jeremy Irons)  
2021 - **We Afghan Women** (by Anna Migotto and Sabina Fedeli)  
2021 - **Venice Infinitely Avanguard** (by Michele Mally)  
2022 - **Enrico Caruso: The Voice** (by Simona Risi)



# THE ROSSELLINI METHOD

Feature Doc

Rossellini on Rossellini. An archive film portrait of the legendary director: revolutionary, irreverent, contradictory, candid in life and art.



## Original Title

Il Metodo Rossellini

## Running Time

90'

## Shooting Language

Italian

## Main Location

Italy

## Directed by

Ilaria de Laurentiis

## Genre

Arts and Culture

## Main Producer

### B&B Film

Italy

Raffaele Brunetti

raffaele@bbfilm.tv

www.bbfilm.tv

## Estimated budget

€ 479.000

## Financing in place

€ 100.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

Rossellini Family in kind (€ 40.000)

B&amp;B Film (€ 40.000)

VFS Films (€ 20.000)

## Looking for

Co-production, presales and international distribution

## Synopsis

*The Rossellini Method* is Roberto Rossellini's first-person account of his life and work, in his own voice, starting with the mystery that surrounds his creativity. Rome, Open City, the film that catapulted him to fame, is the start of this biopic of a man impossible to pin down. Rossellini's method is not just a way of making films but a sacrilegious religion for how to live life, a set of values invented personally by Roberto, where cinema and reality merge into one. In every phase of his life, Rossellini destroyed what he had created up to that point. The one thing that he remained unfailingly faithful to was his mysterious method. But what was this method? Can one call being as far removed as possible from any pre-established rules a method? Can a fleeting ensemble of thoughts and principles be described as a method? Perhaps the Rossellini Method can be defined as an absence of method, an absolute allergy to rules and preconceptions.

## Director's Statement

In the process of editing the feature documentary *The Rossellinis*, I became closely acquainted with the enormous amount of archive portraying Roberto Rossellini, and the many interviews recording his ideas as a film director and man. Much of that footage did not make it into *The Rossellinis*, which focuses on the emotional toll left by the director on his family. I became convinced that a new project on Rossellini himself and his free spirit was crying out to be made. Rossellini will narrate his own story. I will give it shape and color using his method or rather his non-method. The beautiful private footage made available by his family will be woven together with the best material from all over the world and with excerpts from his films. Even the interviews with his colleagues, with critics, experts, students and ordinary people, will be drawn exclusively from footage recorded while Rossellini was alive. An 'autobiography' guided only by the fascination of his genius and his contradictions.

## Company Profile

**B&B Film** is a dynamic independent production company based in Rome, founded in 2002 by producer/director Raffaele Brunetti and editor/head of post-production Ilaria de Laurentiis. The company produces documentaries and docu-series thanks to co-production agreements with major European broadcasters, including ZDF, Arte, NDR, YLE, SVT, RAI, as well as international broadcasters such as National Geographic, Al Jazeera and Discovery. Our documentaries have been broadcast in more than 160 countries and have been selected in prestigious international festivals such as Venice, IDFA, HOT DOCS, Full Frame and Locarno, receiving important awards including the Creative Excellence at the US IFF, the Golden Globe, the Jury Prize at the Guangzhou Festival, the Nastro d'Argento and the Ondas Award.

## Director's Profile

**Ilaria de Laurentiis** is a very experienced editor and filmmaker. This is her second creative documentary as director after her observational film *What Nourishes Me Destroys Me* (2013). Born in Naples, she earned a Degree in Editing in 1987 at CSC Italian National School of Cinema in Rome, where she currently teaches. Since 1989 she has edited fiction and documentaries screened and awarded internationally. For many years she was a creative director and editor for film trailers, working with renowned Italian directors such as Mario Martone, Marco Risi, Marco Bellocchio, Carlo Verdone, G. Montaldo, Roberto Benigni, Pupi Avati. Among her most recent credits as editor are:

- *Le Favolose* (2022, 75'), directed by Roberta Torre, Stema Entertainment, Rai Cinema, Premiere Venice IFF 2022.
- *The Boss's Last Words* (2022, 90'), by Raffaele Brunetti, B&B Film, Rai Documentari.
- *Tango of Life* (2022, 78'), by Erica Liffredo, B&B Film, Rai Cinema.
- *The Rossellinis* (2020, 90'), by Alessandro Rossellini, B&B Film, VFS Films, Rai Cinema, winner Best editing Award at Valdarno Cinema Film Festival, I-Fest Award 21 at i-Fest IFF.

## Selected Filmography

2008 - **Hair India**2011 - **Mother India**2022 - **The Rossellinis** (by Alessandro Rossellini)2022 - **Tango of life** (by Erica Liffredo)2022 - **The Boss's Last Words** (by Raffaele Brunetti, Antonio Mattone and Enrico Nocera)

# SPACE RISKS

Docuseries

The unknown is the astronaut's mission. How do you go into space and control fear? Emotions and science collide in a zero-gravity series. Space risks told by their protagonists: the women and men of the European Space Agency, who train every day to be ready to face them.



## Original Title

Space Risks

## Running Time

4x52'

## Shooting Language

Italian, Dutch, English, French

## Main Location

Italy, Germany, Holland

## Directed by

Daniele De Luca

## Genre

Human and Society

## Main Producer

### Beagle Media

Italy

Vincenzo De Marco

produzione@beaglemedia.it

www.beaglemedia.it

### Skylight Italia

Italy

Fabio Fagone

ffagone@skylightitalia.com

www.skylightitalia.com

### Lumen Films

Italy

Andrea Gori

andrea@lumenfilms.it

www.lumenfilms.it

## Estimated budget

€ 505.500

## Financing in place

€ 54.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

Skylight Italia (€ 18.000)

Beagle Media srl (€ 18.000)

Lumen Film (€ 18.000)

## Looking for

Coproducers, Broadcasters, Distributors

## Synopsis

Compelling stories, heart-pounding tales, extremely dangerous moments where ingenuity and courage intertwine in the figure of the astronaut: women and men trained to manage risk in the most inhospitable place ever for the human species: space. The Space Walks are "walks" in the absence of gravity, lack of oxygen, at temperatures close to - 270, and with stray debris traveling at thousands of kilometers per hour. The astronauts' missions are a journey into the unknown, where the challenge of knowledge collides every day with human limits. It takes years of training to calculate any type of risk, but the hypothesis is never perfect: unforeseen events and threats are just around the corner. *Space Risks* narrates the most incredible space accidents, told by direct witnesses, and their daily training to overcome the next challenges, in a short circuit between suspense, knowledge and the scenarios of a changing society.

## Director's Statement

*Space Risks* narrates the life of astronauts through the key of risk. Each episode deals with an incident that occurred in the recent past, through an exciting and engaging story, constructed from interviews with the professionals directly involved, and thanks to the engaging and extensive ESA material from the endless repertoire. In parallel, the series follows the protagonists in the new training and the arrival of the young recruits. The unforeseen events of the past become the goal of preparation, where errors are studied and new ways are created to go beyond the limits, in view of the next missions. The interviews allow you to enter the most emotional sphere of the characters, who have to confront their abilities every day, on the border between the objectives of science and human limits, fear and utopia.

## Company Profile

**Skylight Italia, Beagle Media and Lumen Films** are specialized in the production of feature film, documentaries and TV series. The goals of the three companies is to produce documentaries and TV series open to the global market, through collaboration with international partners and coproducers.

Main works:

2022 - *The Best Day*. Documentary by Ivica Vidanovic (80') an Italian and Serbian coproduction. With the support of Apulia Film Commission and MIC

2021 - *Space Beyond*. Documentary by Francesco Cannavà (90'). With the patronage of ASI (Italian Space Agency) and ESA (European Space Agency). Finalist at MIPDoc Project Pitch Cannes 2019 and MIA Market 2019. An Italian and German coproduction with the support of Sicilia Film Commission and MIC. Broadcasted by Sky Italia and RSI.

2021- *La Tana*. Feature Film by Beatrice Baldacci Production Selection & Awards: Santa Barbara International Film Festival 2022, Sofia International Film Festival 2022, Valencia Cinema Jove International Film Festival 2022, La Biennale di Venezia 2021 Biennale College - Cinema, Sehsüchte International Film Festival 2022: Best Feature Film Award

2019 - *Art for Change*. Docuseries by Claudio Esposito Selection & Awards: Festival del Cinema Europeo di Lecce.

2016 - *Baikonur - Terra*. Documentary by Andrea Sorini Selection & Awards: Krakow Film Festival 2020, Festival del Cinema Italiano di Madrid 2019, Festival do Rio 2019, Vancouver International Film Festival 2018

## Director's Profile

I'm a filmmaker and director, based in Italy. For about 15 years I have been working with major Italian and international production companies, including Fremantle Media, Endemol, Magnolia and Zodiak and I have a production company on my own called Kamaleonte Network. I currently work for the most important Italian tv channels (Rai, La7, Mtv Italy) and for Sky international Channels (Fox Groups, Fox International Channel Italy, Dove Tv, Sky 1, History Channel, Discovery Channel, Babel Tv). I have experience in documentary, infotainment, entertainment, tv magazine and commercials.

## Selected Filmography

2016 - **Baikonur**2019 - **Art for Change**2020 - **Space Beyond**2021 - **La Tana**2022 - **The Best Day**

# TINA: PHOTOGRAPHER & REVOLUTIONARY

Feature Doc

*Tina: Photographer & Revolutionary* is a hybrid documentary with animated tableaux tracing the tumultuous life of the photographer Tina Modotti. Tina's life path is a source of inspiration for the author, who takes us on a journey of discovery of the photographers life and unusual destiny.

## Original Title

Tina: photographe et révolutionnaire

## Running Time

75'

## Shooting Language

French, English, Spanish, Italian

## Main Location

Italy (Udine, Bologna, Venecia), United States (New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles), Mexico (Mexico City, Oaxaca)

## Directed by

Daniela Mujica

## Genre

Arts and Culture

## Main Producer

### Productions Ocho

Canada  
Eric Idriss-Kanago  
eric.kanago@gmail.com  
www.productionssocho.com

## Estimated budget

€ 575.769

## Financing in place

€ 364.428

## Financiers/partners already involved

Tax Credit: Provincial (€ 65.597)  
Tax Credit: Federal (€ 19.679)  
Producer (€ 357)  
Canada Media Fund (€ 215.362)  
Canada Media Fund Enveloppe (€ 23.134)  
Photogram - Distribution Canada (€ 3.731)  
Natyf TV (€ 36.567)

## Looking for

Coproducers in Italy with expertise in animation  
International Sales Agents  
Italian or European Broadcasters  
VOD Platforms



## Synopsis

*Tina: Photographer & Revolutionary* is a feature-length documentary with animated tableaux tracing the tumultuous life of the photographer Tina Modotti. This resolutely modern woman struggled to combine a career as an avant-gardist artist with an uncompromising activism. Passionate and liberated woman, Tina had several lovers, both politicians and artists. At a time when the freedoms acquired by women are partially questioned, Tina's life path is a source of inspiration for the author, who takes us on a journey of discovery of the photographers life.

## Director's Statement

Intertwining both a personal quest and a biographical documentary, *Tina: Photographer & Revolutionary* is a film that honours a woman photographer, artist, exile, great romantic, whom I discovered when I was a young adolescent. Her story was told to me by my mother, a photographer and artist. Through her story, I will revisit places that highlight the history of her exile, her work as an artist and revolutionary, the story of a strong woman who, like many, often lived in the shadows. The documentary tells the story of the unusual destiny of this revolutionary artist, a free woman with deep convictions, whose work and actions have marked a particularly turbulent period in the 20th century, especially in Latin America. Mixing both a traditional approach and through the animation of the Italian illustrator Lucio Schiavon and Mexican artist Amanda Woolrich, this cinematographic proposal, out of the conventional framework, will honour the independence of spirit of Tina Modotti.

## Company Profile

**Productions Ocho** produces original works in documentary, animation and fiction. Ocho's goal is to bring to our screens stories told mostly by creators from underrepresented groups that can reach and interest an international audience.

## Director's Profile

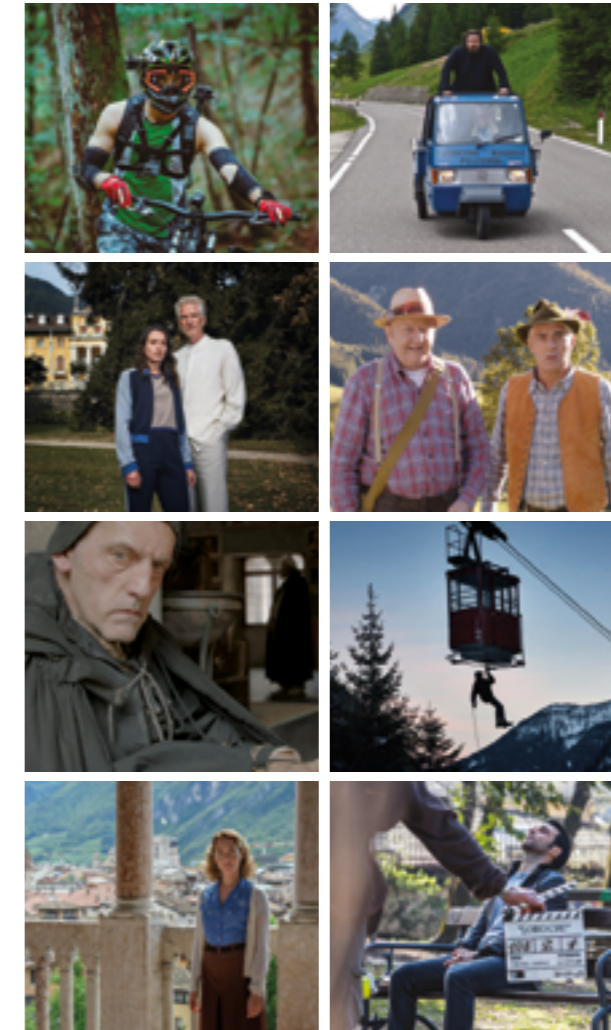
**Daniela Mujica** is an Academy-award producer mainly dedicated in producing documentary features & series and feature films. Working first as a content producer for broadcasted documentaries for SRC, RDI, TV5 and APTN, she was later in 2018, awarded a Gemini for Best Documentary/Biography for *Claude nest pas mort*, as an author and content producer. Between 2016 and 2020 she worked at Telefilm Canada for the Canada Media Fund where she was quickly promoted as a Deputy Director. Since 2020, she decided to continue working as a producer, collaborating with established companies. She also founded her own production company, Productions Ocho, dedicated to develop its own IPs and working mainly with BIPOC creators. She sits on the board of Wif- Quebec, Doc Quebec, Doc Canada and is co-founder of Coalition M.É.D.I.A. This is an Opera Prima. My filmography is composed of Producer, Content Producer & Author credits.

## Selected Filmography

2015 - **Amériologie** (Content Producer)  
2018 - **Claude n'est pas mort** (Content Producer & original idea)  
2021 - **How Are We Now** (Producer)  
2022 - **Seeing Music** (Producer & original idea)  
2022 - **Afro Canada** (Producer)



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# MIA Drama

Co-production Market and Pitching Forum

Drama selection committee 2022



**Erik Barmack**  
CEO and Founder  
Wild Sheep Content, US



**David Davoli**  
President of International  
Anonymous Content, US



**Robert Franke**  
Vice President Drama  
ZDF Studios, Germany



**Emmanuelle Guilbart**  
CEO  
About Premium Content,  
France



**Françoise Guyonnet**  
Executive Managing  
Director TV Series  
Studiocanal, France



**Marc Lorber**  
Senior Vice President  
International Coproductions  
Lionsgate, UK



**Meghan Lyvers**  
Director Original Drama  
SKY Studios, UK



**Kateryna Vyshnevskaya**  
Head of Development  
and Co-production  
FILM.UA Group, Ukraine

Pitching Coach



**Pilar Alessandra**  
Founder  
On the Page, US

Selected Projects

## #IBelieveHer

Ireland/Northern Ireland/Canada

## The Abbess

UK

## A.D.D

Netherlands

## Alpha

France

## The Ballad of Mila

Italy

## Carlisle House

UK/Italy

## Cosplay Girl

Italy

## Crimson Crown

Italy/France

## The Hive

Italy

## Infinite Crime

Italy

## The Last Wish of Sasha Cade

Canada/UK

## Lumia

France/Finland

## The Seam Line

Israel

## The Sudden Appearance of Hope

UK

## Wearing My Panther Skin

Israel

# #IBelieveHer

Mini Series

A courtroom drama based on authenticated sources including transcripts, it explores the entire spectrum of rape myth culture as we follow the complainant's journey through the criminal justice system under the full glare of media attention attracted by the defendant's sporting notoriety.



## Original Title

#IBelieveHer

## Created by

Mary McGuckian

## Running Time

8x45'

## Shooting Language

English

## Main Location

Northern Ireland

## Main Producer/s

Pembridge Pictures

UK

Mary McGuckian

mary@pembridgepictures.com

<https://www.pembridge.pictures/>

## BROADCASTER/DIGITAL PLATFORM

RTE, VIRGIN MEDIA

## Estimated budget

€ 9.600.000

## Financing in place

€ 3.200.000

## Looking for

International pitching opportunity

## Synopsis

At a criminal trial that dominates the news cycle for nine weeks, a jury acquits two international rugby stars and two of their friends accused of rape, sexual assault, indecent exposure and obstructing the course of justice. During 44 days of testimony, they hear from over 30 witnesses, survive 2 snowstorms, live through the entirety of the 2018 six nations rugby tournament but take less than 3 hours and 40 minutes to return their verdict. The media takes the trial to the court of public opinion and what emerges in its wake is a deeply uncomfortable conversation about the culture of rape myths endemic in society at large. When the women of the island of Ireland pour onto the streets in support to #StandWithHer, the hashtag #IBelieveHer trends around the world.

## Creator's Statement

Developed as a UK/IRE/CAN co-production with the support of Northern Ireland Screen, Broadcast Authority of Ireland, Canada Media Fund and RTE, the series' development funders have indicated they will convert to fund production. Both Abacus Media and Endeavor Content have offered to package. The level of interest and positive response to the materials package is a measure of the creative credentials of the series materials along with its potential to reach a global audience.

## Company Profile

**Pembridge Pictures** is a production entity created by filmmaker Mary McGuckian. It has produced over a dozen feature films and creates dramatic content in collaboration with co-producers around the globe. Current projects in development include #IBelieveHer/Drama Series

## Creative Team

**Mary McGuckian:** Writer/Director/Showrunner; **Kirsten Sheridan:** Writer/Director; **Emma Donoghue:** Writer; **Amy Beth McNulty:** Lead Actress; **Katy Jackson:** CoProducer; **Martin Katz:** CoProducer; **Shane Murphy:** Executive Producer; **Jennifer Chen:** Executive Producer; **Kellie Turtle:** Researcher; **Elaine McCrory:** Researcher; **Michael Lavelle:** DOP; **John Leslie:** Production Designer; **Janet Twomey:** Supervising Editor; **Greta Ohle:** Additional Editor.

## Producer's History

1995 - **Words Upon the Windowpane**  
Venice, Sundance, London And Tokyo Film Festivals  
1997 - **This is the Sea**  
Released by First Look Features via Overseas Filmgroup and Paramount Pictures  
2000 - **Best**  
Sky Pictures  
2004 - **The Bridge of San Luis Rey**  
New Line Films - Metropolitan Films - Columbia Pictures  
2005-2009 - **Amorality Trilogy Plus One**  
New Films  
2011 - **Man On the Train**  
Tribeca Entertainment  
2014 - **The Price of Desire**  
Giant Pictures  
2018 - **A Girl from Mogadishu**  
Showtime  
2021/2022 - **The Bridge of San Luis Rey Remastered** (USA, June 2022)

## Selected Filmography

**A Global History of Feminism**  
Documentary Series  
**The Midnight Court**  
Feature Film  
**Renault**  
Mini Series

# THE ABBESS

Drama Series

"It is better to be feared than loved" (Machiavelli 'The Art of War'). THE ABBESS is a wickedly funny drama about a ruthless power-struggle in a closed order of nuns. And a murder-mystery. And about one woman's mission to take over the world.

## Original Title

The Abbess

## Created by

Ella Hickson

## Running Time

6x45'

## Shooting Language

English

## Main Location

Some location shooting in UK. Main location and studio shoot for Abbey / Convent could be in France, Italy, Spain, Hungary, Central Europe

## Main Producer

Warp Films

UK

Peter Carlton

peter@warpfilms.com

[www.warpfilms.com](http://www.warpfilms.com)

## Broadcaster/Digital Platform

Sky UK attached in development;

Arte France in negotiation

## Estimated budget

€ 34.890.000

## Financing in place

€ 11.145.000

## International Sales

ITV Studios Global Entertainment

## Looking for

Co-production finance

Co-producers for locations and studio shootings



## Synopsis

If God were a woman would the world be a better place? Would the gentler sex live together in love and harmony? *The Abbess* is a wickedly funny drama about a power-struggle in a closed-order of nuns. The old Abbess is dying. Steely, cultivated Alexandra is the heir-apparent. Nonetheless, there has to be an election and when bright-eyed new-girl Felicity is transferred to the convent, ripples appear on the calm surface of Alexandra's domain. Felicity brings with her the allure of the outside world, talk of spreading God's love physically as well as spiritually. Alexandra can take no risks and makes the fatal error of bugging the convent to try to catch her rival in flagrante. And so their battle begins. But what really lies beneath this no-holds-barred fight for supremacy? Faith? Lust for power? There are personal scores to settle, accusations of murder. And something even more dangerous and deeply subversive. This show is about whose truth gets to be the truth. And the lengths they will go to ensure that it does. It's also very funny and a bit sexy and about nuns. Think Veep meets Succession on the set of *The Sound of Music*.

## Creator's Statement

*The Abbess* is a female-driven, female-cast, female-written drama about the biggest ideas - not just dating and self-destruction. This is a funny, sexy, dark thriller about manipulation, lies and power. Long before Facebook and Trump, Spark's story showed that truth wasn't the point: it was what you could make people believe that counted. With the first woman recently elected to the White House, and democracy teetering in a post-truth age, this searing adaptation could not be more timely.

## Company Profile

Known for their multi award-winning film and television, **Warp Films** are committed to collaborating with and supporting top creative talent in the UK and abroad. From award-winning feature films like *Four Lions* and *71*, to multi BAFTA-winning returning TV series *This Is England*, Warp's mission is to provide a distinctive window on the world and tell stories that may be funny or serious, mainstream or controversial, but always from the heart.

## Producer's History

**Everybody's Talking About Jamie** (feature film - Film4/Amazon Prime)  
**Little Birds** (tv limited series - Sky/Starz/Starzplay)  
**The Virtues** (tv limited series - Channel4 UK/ITV Studios)  
**The Last Panthers** (tv limited series w/ Haut et Court. Sky/Canal+ France)  
**Southcliffe** (tv limited series - Channel4 UK/BBC Studios)  
**This Is England '86/'88/'90** (tv series - Channel4 UK/ITV Studios)

# A.D.D.

Drama Series

A grounded sci-fi thriller about a group of socially-awkward young, genius gamers who join the world's premier e-sports team, ADD, in a bid to discover what happened to her older brother – a former ADD megastar who mysteriously disappeared from the spotlight. Eventually she realises the team is part of a dark neurological experiment threatening to enslave the human race, and only she can stop it.



## Original Title

A.D.D.

## Created by

Douglas Rushkoff &amp; Nick Luddington

## Running time

8x50'

## Shooting Language

English

## Main Location

Amsterdam, Berlin, London

## Main Producer

### Submarine

Netherlands

Femke Wolting

femke@submarine.nl

https://submarine.nl/

## Estimated budget

€ 16.000.000

## Financing in place

€ 125.000

## Looking for

European broadcast partners

## Synopsis

ADD is a sci-fi thriller set in the visceral and adrenaline fuelled world of esports, in which teams of highly skilled teenagers battle it out for huge prizes, personal glory, and social infamy. Leo's beloved older brother was a megastar player in the world's premier team: ADD. But then one day he mysteriously disappeared from the spotlight, and she never heard from him again. Now that Leo is old enough to compete, she's on a mission to discover what happened to her brother. This means fighting her way up the leaderboard and entering the lion's den of the ADD compound; a luxurious wonderland of virtual entertainment and digital stimulation, equipped with every imaginable new gaming technology. But this is the team destroyed her life. Leo doesn't care about winning, she's here to find out who is responsible for her brother's disappearance. Even if that means getting sucked down a dangerous rabbit hole of corporate corruption, data manipulation and mass social engineering. Slowly Leo will discover that the ADD team is not what it seems. The corporation behind ADD is using the players as part of a secret neurological experiment, designed to perfect ways of manipulating and controlling the human race. Soon Leo realises that the future of humanity rests on her ability to expose the truth and help her teammates break free of their digital cage.

## Creator's Statement

We want to tell a visually rich, emotionally powerful and entertaining story that lifts the lid on a fascinating new frontier of youth culture. At the same time we want to explore important questions about our digital experience in the world: what effect are digital technologies having on us? Are we losing our ability to connect as human beings? Are we being manipulated and controlled by technology? Is there a spectrum of neuro-diversity that we are only just starting to understand?

## Company Profile

With offices in Amsterdam, Los Angeles and London, **Submarine** is an Emmy award-winning production company that produces feature films, scripted series, documentaries, animation and transmedia projects. Over twenty years Submarine has established itself as a highly innovative company, working across multiple genres and platforms, with a distinctly international focus. Our back catalogue boasts a string award-winning films and series. We own the largest animation studio in the Netherlands.

## Creative Team

**Femke Wolting** (executive producer) - co-founder of Submarine and producer of several acclaimed projects including Amazon series *Undone*, Emmy winning feature doc *Bellingcat* and critically-acclaimed Netflix feature *Apollo 10 1/2* directed by Richard Linklater.

**Nick Luddington** (writer) - Selected for The Next List 2021 by Coverfly and TrackingBoard, Nick was a writer and co-producer on *ARCANE* for Netflix and Riot Games, transforming the global franchise into an award-winning TV series. *ARCANE* won all nine categories it was nominated for at the 2021 Annie Awards - including Best TV, Direction, Writing and Production. His other projects span live-action and animation, recently collaborating with Good Hero, Symbolic Exchange, Black Label Media, Riverstone Pictures and Submarine.

## Producer's History

Previous work includes Peter Greenaway's **Eisenstein in Guanajuato** (Berlin premiere 2015); Emmy Award-winning feature **Last Hijack**; Oscar-winning director Roger Ross Williams' documentary **American Jail** for CNN and the BBC; Netflix Original **Nobody Speak: Trials of the Free Press** (Sundance premiere 2017); Emmy award winning feature doc **Bellingcat: Truth in a Post-Truth World**; Amazon series **Undone**; animated feature **Where is Anne Frank?** directed by Ari Folman.

# ALPHA

Mini Series

Young European activists, the Alpha, kidnap the sons and daughters of the bosses of the most polluting companies in Europe to force them to change their policies. Hidden in the French mountains, their hopes will gradually turn into a nightmare.

## Original Title

Alpha

## Created by

Matthieu Bernard &amp; Louis Aubert

## Running Time

7x52'

## Shooting Language

French, English, Spanish and German

## Main Location

Megève, France + flashback in Spain (Barcelona), Germany (Frankfurt), United Kingdom (Liverpool), and France (Paris and Bordeaux)

## Main Producer

### Les Films du Cygne

France

Alexandre Charlet

alexandre@lesfilmsducygne.com

www.lesfilmsducygne.com

## Estimated budget

€ 8.083.086

## Financing in place

€ 1.107.902

## Looking for

Meetings with International Broadcasters, Coproducers and Sales agents.



## Synopsis

It is June 2023. In the fight against global warming, facing the inaction of mighty corporate titans, a group who call themselves, "Alpha Group", made up of teenagers from all over Europe aged 15 to 22, decide to do "something". That something being, kidnapping the sons and daughters of the bosses of Europe's most polluting companies, leaders in the oil, textile, agro-chemical and banking sectors, from all over the continent. Alpha believes that adults aren't acting fast enough, and that it is time for youth to take matters into their own hands. If "the Mighty" industry titans continue to attack their future, then they will attack their descendants. But what's their plan? The Bee Forum will take place in few days, where each boss will announce fundamental changes for their company and will have to pay the dividends intended for shareholders into a green investment fund... otherwise they can say goodbye to their children. Sticking to their values, Alpha executes their plan in complete self-sufficiency, operating from an abandoned holiday camp as they elude the police. The Alpha group and their hostages are going to face many challenges: life in their new community, tension amongst their own members as they slide into crime, stakes and power struggles, the fear of being spotted but most importantly, the fear of making irreversible and earth shattering choices.

## Creator's Statement

This summer, France was facing a record heat high, at an alarming 42°C in Paris. It's exhausting to continually see the barometer reach new highs while society seemingly continues to make very little progress. It is incredibly necessary to note that the media is not seizing the opportunity to create dramatic content to enhance the emergency at hand. Both broadcasters and writers agree that it is very difficult to find an angle and a tone to deal with this most grave and troubling issue. With Alpha, we hope to create a global conversation through the series, challenging people to take action on climate change and confront the issue.

## Company Profile

Based in both Annecy & Paris, **Les Films du Cygne** is a production company of ambitious films, for a wide and international audience. With more than 45 films (shorts, features, documentaries & TV Series) produced, including *The Winkles* and *Even Mice Belong in Heaven*, Les Films du Cygne merits more than 1350 festival selections and 350 awards. Open to original content with high standards, both in live actions and animation, and we gladly explore new opportunities for international co-productions.

## Creative Team

**Louis Aubert** holds a masters degree in Film Studies and has worked as a director before joining the CEEA's long training program, where he now teaches. Creator of several shorts and feature films, he works on numerous series as a writer and creator.

**Matthieu Bernard** started his career as a documentarian and documentary project manager in the environmental field. The writer of plays, novels and screenplays, he is now a writing director on films and series, as well as creator of several TV shows.

## Producer's History

### Even Mice Belong in Heaven

Feature (by D. Grimmová, J. Bubeniček)

### The Winkles

Short (by A. Vial)

### Hello Munchkins!

Animation Series (by A. Charlet, M. Chamekh)

### The Saverini Widow

Short (by L. Gaillard)

# THE BALLAD OF MILA

Drama Series

Mila, aka Red Dread, is a fierce heroine. An efficient, effective and elusive killer. The concept is pure pulp noir: a young woman witnesses her cop father's murder and is then raped by his killers. She devotes her life learning martial arts and turning herself into a living weapon of vengeance.



## Original Title

La Ballata di Mila

## Created by

Massimo Vavassori

## Running Time

6x50'

## Shooting Language

Italian or English

## Main Location

Padua, Veneto, Italy

## Main Producer/s Minerva Pictures

Italy  
Cosetta Lagani  
cosettalagani@minervapictures.com  
<https://www.minervapictures.com/>

## Estimated budget

€ 12.000.000

## Looking for

Broadcasters  
OTT  
Foreign co-production partners  
and distributors

## Synopsis

Italy, Veneto region. Two criminal gangs are fighting over the spoils: the Whispering Daggers, affiliated with the Chinese Triads, and a local group, led by Musso, a bloodthirsty hood backed by the infinitely wealthy entrepreneur, Rossano Pagnan. In the middle there is a ruthless woman ready to reshuffle the whole deck: Mila Zago, aka Red Dread. A cold-blooded murderess. She was just a little girl when Musso's bravos had murdered her father right in front of her and had then raped her. Mila spent the last years with her grandfather refining her murderous instincts in a secret association of professional hitmen. But now, at 25, she is finally ready to carry out her vendetta. To this end, she will put the Chinese against the Venetians in a double-cross reminiscent of the cinema classic A Fistful of Dollars. And for this reason, Mila has decided that she will lodge her clip's last round in her own head. Luckily, she serendipitously encounters Chiara, an analyst who proposes her a deal: if she can manage to offer Mila at least one true and convincing reason to go on living before she carries out her vendetta... then no kaboom. No gunshot to the head. No end to the story.

## Creator's Statement

Our intention is to make the first Italian pulp noir series with a female leading character, built with the style and language of a modern cable series. Based on the novel of the bestseller author Matteo Strukul, The Ballad of Mila is a character driven story with a strong female protagonist. A fast-paced thrill ride that has all the elements to become a cult classic. Moreover, no series has ever developed the Sugarpulp genre, whose origins have roots in the proud and often untamed nature of the North-East, a land of epic traditions and archaic customs.

## Company Profile

**Minerva Pictures**, led by Gianluca Curti, is a production, digital publishing and distribution company with more than 110 films and more than 25 documentaries produced and a library of more than 2,500 titles. As of July 2019, the President is Santo Versace. In May 2020, it created the Scripted and Documentary Productions department, led by Cosetta Lagani, dedicated to the production of TV series, documentaries and TV films for broadcasters and OTT.

## Creative Team

**Massimo Vavassori**: Creator, Screenwriter (Zero, QÈRA, The Perfect Husband); **Matteo Strukul**: Author of the novel (Medici Family tetralogy, international bestseller saga with millions of copies sold around the world; The Ballad of Mila tetralogy); **Cosetta Lagani**: Creative Producer (Miss Fallaci, Gangs of Rome, Marta - Murder at La Sapienza Campus), Chief of Drama and Documentaries at Minerva Pictures; **Carlotta Ravetta**: Development Executive, Story Editor (Gangs of Rome, Marta - Murder at La Sapienza Campus, Margherita - Voice of the Stars).

## Producer's History

2015 - **Anna**  
by Giuseppe Gaudino  
2020 - **Hammamet**  
by Gianni Amelio  
2020 - **Glassboy**  
by Samuele Rossi  
2020 - **Il buco in testa**  
by Antonio Capauano  
2021 - **A Bunch of Bastards**  
by Gabriele Albanesi  
2021 - **Caliber 9**  
by Toni D'Angelo  
2021 - **Dogworld**  
by Alessandro Celli  
2021 - **Marta - Murder at La Sapienza Campus**  
by Simone Manetti with Rai Documentari  
2022 - **The Hunt**  
by Marco Bocci

2022 - **What the Waters Left Behind**  
by Nicholas Onetti  
2022 - **It's Our Turn - The Story of Pio La Torre**  
by Walter Veltroni with Rai Documentari  
2020 - **Miss Fallaci**  
TV series in production for Paramount+  
(VIACOMCBS International Studios Award at MIA  
Market Pitching Forum, 2020)

# CARLISLE HOUSE

Drama Series

Based on a true story, *Carlisle House* is the gripping, age-old tale of a successful woman, torn down by those who lifted her up. Teresa Cornelys: the Mother of All Nights Out and Casanova's most infamous lover. If she'd been born a man, we'd all know her name. It's time to tell her story.



## Original Title

Carlisle House

## Created by

Jessica Norman & Rebecca Crookshank

## Running Time

8x60'

## Shooting Language

English

## Main Location

United Kingdom, Italy

## Main Producer RubyRock Pictures LTD

UK  
Zoe Rocha  
zoe@rubyrockpictures.com  
<http://rubyrockpictures.com>

## Estimated budget

€ 18.461.520

## Financing in place

€ 3.361.088

## Looking for

Broadcast partners  
Development financing

## Synopsis

Step inside the sumptuous, decadent world of the mostly forgotten TERESA CORNELYS. Mother of all nights out, she was responsible for forming Soho as we know it, and bringing the heaving, extravagant party to the centre of London. The show uncovers her humble beginnings on the backstreets of Venice and her career as an opera singer, her relationship, as both lover and enemy, with the infamous CASANOVA and finally as the owner of London's first private members club - CARLISE HOUSE. When we meet her, Teresa is at the height of her powers. Carlisle House, bought for her by an ex-lover, is a glittering jewel in Soho's crown. But Teresa, for all her sparkling wit, airs, and graces, is not truly part of the elite upper classes. And she will learn repeatedly that she can be dropped from their circles the moment she loses her reputation - or is no longer useful. This returning series spans two decades, from the height of the 1760s masquerades to debtor's jails and follows Teresa's many miraculous comebacks and reinventions as she ruthlessly claws her way back to the top. Season One kicks off when Casanova - old and syphilis riddled - arrives in London. He has seen Teresa's success and wants it for himself, or at the very least to ruin it for her. Unfortunately, he has a smoking gun in the form of their illegitimate child, SOPHIA, who Teresa has claimed for years was the child of her fictitious dead husband. As Casanova taunts Teresa with revealing the truth, which would see the illustrious high society she entertains turn on her, she must contend with gossiping ladies, morally superior patrons, and envious rival club owners. All attend her club, and all are just waiting for a chance to destroy her.

## Creator's Statement

We'd like to think that we found Teresa, but really, she found us. The Empress of Pleasure was given to Rebecca who immediately devoured Teresa's trials and tribulations - marvelling at her highs as well as her lows. But above all her indomitable, unbreakable spirit. Soon after, Rebecca met Jessica, who revealed that this gift of a book had been written by her aunt: that Teresa's story was already in her DNA, and they had been waiting to bring her vibrant world to life. This beautiful coincidence was fuelled by friendship, sparked a new collaboration and a shared passion to bring Teresa's extraordinary story to screen. A determination that her unique legacy be remembered.

## Company Profile

Led by Zoe Rocha, **RubyRock Pictures** is a high-end scripted production company with an ambition to create unorthodox, bold content for global audiences. Zoe recently served as Executive Producer on *Flowers in The Attic: The Origin* starring Max Irons, Jemima Rooper, Paul Wesley & Kelsey Grammer. The show is currently the #1 most watched scripted cable television series in the US and is due for release in Europe this Autumn. *Borderline*, her critically acclaimed comedy series for Ch5/Netflix, is being remade in the US with Nick Kroll's company Good At Business with Entertainment 360. RubyRock's female-led horror anthology series *Her Horror* will shoot later this year for Shudder/AMC. Talent includes Lena Headey (*Game of Thrones*), Emily Ballou (*Taboo*) and Nancy Harris (*The Dry*). RubyRock is also due to shoot a YA series based on a series of books for Netflix in Summer 2023.

## Producer's History

2012-2015 - **Moone Boy** (Series 1,2&3)  
SKY / Hulu - Executive Producer  
2017 - **Borderline** (Series 2)  
Channel 5 / Netflix - Producer (2017)  
2018 - **One Normal Night**  
Sky Arts / Showtime - Producer  
2018 - **Backstage at Live Aid**  
Sky Arts / Showtime - Executive Producer  
2018 - **It's Me, Sugar**  
Sky Arts / Showtime - Producer  
2019 - **Heartless** (Pilot)  
BFI / Beta Studios - Executive Producer  
2021 - **Flowers in The Attic: The Origins**  
A+E Studios / CBS Studios / Lifetime - Creative  
Executive Producer

# COSPLAY GIRL

Drama Series

*Cosplay Girl* is a coming of age story: the all-consuming and amusing tale of Alice, who with the traumas of a torturous adolescence, finds her comfort zone in the world of Cosplay. To truly become herself, Alice must face her own skeletons and ultimately realize that no mask can shield her against life.



## Original Title

Cosplay Girl

## Created by

Massimo Bacchini, Eleonora Cimpanelli, Giulio Rizzo

## Running Time

8x30'

## Shooting Language

Italian

## Main Location

Rome, Lucca, L'Aquila

## Main Producer

### Rodeo Drive srl

Italy

Marco Poccioni, Marco Valsania

## Estimated budget

€ 4.600.000

## Looking for

Co-producers, distributors

## Synopsis

*Cosplay Girl* tells the story of the development of Alice, a girl who after a difficult adolescence, has found her comfort zone in Cosplay, a refuge in which to safely release her creativity while finally being appreciated. But when she discovers that her boyfriend is betraying her with her best friend, Alice opens her eyes: reality isn't an anime or a videogame. Reality can also be friends who turn their back on you or a kindhearted co-tenant who makes a move on you when you're at your most vulnerable. And yet, after hitting rock bottom, Alice meets Fede, a model and Cosplayer. A friendship arises between the twosome that turns into love: to accept this new sentiment and live it out to the fullest, Alice must face her traumas, come to terms with her family and learn to recognize the difference between sincere and spurious friendships. Even at the cost of delving deeper into her truer self and asking why she's so comfortable behind a mask. Amidst loves, jealousies, thrills and disappointments, and caught between cyberbullying, betrayals and reconciliations, Alice's story is a snapshot of the dazzling universe of Cosplay but also a mirror in which every teenager can see himself.

## Producer's Statement

The world of Cosplay, and more in general the culture connected to comics, anime, and videogame- a dimension which for years had been derided as nerdy, is now going mainstream. Its safe to suggest that in a TV series, the Cosplay would have an undeniable allure, and would not only attract the aficionados of the genre, but anyone wishing to watch the stories undergone by a girl whos on a quest for her identity, while passing through a colorful, transgressive and fantasy-rich social environment.

## Company Profile

**Rodeo Drive** was founded in 1991 by Marco Poccioni and Marco Valsania. Among the comedies produced, we recall "Tre uomini e una gamba" and "Nati stanchi". In the sphere of art films, Rodeo Drive collaborated with directors such as Alex Infascelli, Ivano De Matteo, Carlo Mazzacurati, Sergio Castellitto. For TV, Rodeo Drive produced "Crimini" in 2004, "Catturandi," in 2016, both aired by Rai 1. The latest series produced is "Survivors", with Lino Guanciale, 12 episodes to be aired by Rai 1 in 2022.

# CRIMSON CROWN

Mini Series

The first series from cult Italian Master of Horror and Thriller Dario Argento, *Crimson Crown* tells the story of four estranged friends who as young teens made a secret pregnancy pact and reunite years later to protect their daughters from a murderous hunter who knows their dark past.



## Original Title

Crimson Crown

## Created by

Mandi Riggi

## Running Time

6x52'

## Shooting Language

English

## Main Producer

Media Musketeers Studios, ILBE

Sébastien Janin, Iervolino Andrea

Eric Dupont (Creative/Executive Producer)

## Estimated budget

€ 9.900.000

## Financing in place

€ 1.000.000

## Looking for

Pre-sales / Commissioning

## Synopsis

At a boarding school on a Mediterranean island, Luna (15) forms an alliance with 3 girls, Solange, Francesca and Willow. They call themselves The Cremisi Sisterhood, named after a dark secret they share. The girls discovered and ceremoniously buried a girls dead body crowned with a crimson wreath. When Francesca admits to her friends shes pregnant due to an incestuous relationship with her brother, a drunken vengeful night ends in his death. Having little recollection of their actions, weeks later the girls are all mysteriously pregnant. News of a pregnancy pact causes scandal on the island and rumours go flying. After giving birth to 4 daughters, their strained union breaks apart. Luna moves to LA venturing on a music career. Flash forward 15 years, she must return to the island as her daughter has run away in search of her father. On the day of Lunas return, a new body of a young girl is found wearing the same crimson crown and Francescas daughter is mysteriously abducted. Willow, now a crime investigator, ties connections to the body they once found and secretly buried. The foursome must bring back their old alliance in order to protect their daughters and solve the crime.

## Creator's Statement

*Crimson Crown* is a new series helmed by Horror/Thriller Maestro Dario Argento who will bring his masterful pulp thrills to television for the first time. In addition, the series looks to the future, harnessing the talents of a new generation of writers and directors, mainly female, who clearly show Argento's influence in their work. Together, they will modernize the thriller genre and deliver a new take on Giallo for a younger, more inclusive and diverse generation.

## Company Profile

**ILBE** is a leading international media production company founded by Andrea Iervolino and Monika Bacardi in 2011. Their work includes film for a worldwide market as well as TV production, service production and animation content studios. Media Musketeers Studios is an international TV production company launched by former Apple and Warner Bros. executives. First productions include *Pulse* and the TV series reimagining of Jacques Audiard's award-winning film *A Prophet*.

## Creative Team

Executive Producer: **Dario Argento** (director of many cult chiller classics including *The Bird With the Crystal Plumage*, *Suspiria* and *Deep Red* recognized by many critics as the best 'Giallo' of all time)  
Creator/Writer: **Mandi Riggi**. Mandi is a British/American London-based writer. She was one of 12 selected in the 2020/21 showrunning program Serial Eyes in Berlin. Mandi's pilot script *PIECE X PEACE* was optioned by the US network Showtime.

Executive Producers: **Eric Dupont; Ferdinando Dell'Omo**.

# THE HIVE

Drama Series

The Hive is a matriarchal sect, inspired by industrious bee colonies, where simple rural life meets Celtic mythology, feminism, and animism. When Ava, a teen orphan girl, arrives, she finds the community to be beautiful and idyllic, but will soon be forced to come to terms with sects hidden dark side.



## Original Title

L'Alveare

## Created by

Roberto Cinardi, Francesco Calabrese

## Running Time

6x50'

## Shooting Language

Italian, English

## Main Location

Some will be shot in North Italy (Trentino Aldo Adige could be a good option). Other locations TBD.

## Main Producer

### Fabula Pictures

Italy  
Nicola De Angelis  
nicola.deangelis@fabulapictures.com  
<https://www.fabulapictures.com/>

## Estimated budget

€ 12.058.505

## Financing in place

€ 3.660.617

## Looking for

Broadcasters & Streamers for Co-productions  
International Co-productions

## Synopsis

This story takes place in a small valley in the Italian Alps, where, for the past fifty years, a matriarchal sect, inspired by industrious bee colonies, resides. The sect aptly named The Hive follows a doctrine that is a mix of Celtic mythology, feminism, and animism, paired with a simple rural life. According to The Hive, behind the fall of every great civilization, ideology and religion is that men have been entrusted with power and decisions: femininity instead is seen as the key for change. But what really makes the community special is that women who couldn't have children all manage to get pregnant after joining. Our protagonist is Ava, a young girl who has just lost her mother and suddenly finds herself living with the sect when she is put in custody of her uncle that, until recently, she never even knew existed. Ava discovered that her mother had been part of the sect and escaped just after giving birth to her. Ava begins a journey that will force her to come to terms with what lies behind the seemingly idyllic community. To do so, she must question everything she thought she knew and fight against the destiny that someone else has chosen for her.

## Creator's Statement

When we first read *The Hive*, we immediately understood it's made for the international market. Ava's quest to find out the truth about herself is a universal story that can appeal to anyone. It's also a grounded sci-fi and mystery story whose themes seem to intercept many issues which are currently debated. The events take place mainly in one single location, which is the perfect hub for a set of international characters whose backstories and secrets could be exploited to create a very powerful show.

## Company Profile

Founded by the brothers Nicola and Marco De Angelis, both with an extensive expertise in filmmaking, **Fabula Pictures** is a young TV and film production company, focused on creating TV dramas and films. Engaged in developing and producing content in collaboration with major broadcasters and streaming platforms, Fabula Pictures is considered one of the freshest and most innovative Italian production companies, naturally inclined to partner with international broadcasters and global co-producers.

## Creative team

Lead by **Nicola De Angelis**, CEO & Head of Development and International Co-Productions, the Fabula Creative team enthusiastically supports the authors: **Roberto Saku Cinardi** has written and directed the short film *Christian*, starring Gabriele Mainetti, from which the homonymous SKY series was created and of which he wrote the series bible and directed 3 episodes; **Francesco Calabrese** has been splitting his career between Milan and LA since 2012, he wrote many scripts and concepts for films and TV dramas. The Fabula Creative team is led by Fabula Creative Producers **Michele Alberico** and **Diego Malara**.

## Producer's History

2018-2020 - **Baby**  
3 Season Series, Netflix  
2019 - **Sanctuary**  
Series, TV4  
2019 - **An Adventure**  
Film, Lucky Red  
2021 - **Wake Up My Love**  
Series, RTI Canale 5  
2021 - **Zero**  
Series, Netflix  
2022 - **The Divine Ponytail**  
Film, Netflix  
2022 - **Mediterranean**  
Documentary, Co-Production  
2022 - **Burning Destinies**  
Series, RTI Canale 5  
Post-Production - **Brigands**  
Series, Netflix

# INFINITE CRIME

Drama Series

From professional footballer to boss di 'ndrangheta, the most incredible (true) story of 'Ndrangheta ever told, amid high-level funerals, rigged contracts, misappropriation, money laundering, murder, loads of narcotics, trips abroad, and entire sectors of institutions diverted.



## Original Title

Crimine Infinito

## Created by

Cristiano Barbarossa, Fulvio Benelli

## Running Time

8x50'

## Shooting Language

Italian

## Main Producer

### Fandango

Italy  
Domenico Procacci, Laura Paolucci  
dprocacci@fandango.it  
<https://www.fandango.it/>

## Estimated budget

€ 15.326.479

## Financing in place

Italian Tax Credit - Estimated at a 34% rate

## Looking for

Coproductions  
Broadcasters  
Financing Partners

## Synopsis

After an accident, Antonio Delnome, the captain of the Teramo Calcio football team, is forced to give up on his dream. He returns to Northern Italy where he grew up, and where his rage and frustration land him in prison. There, he meets the godfather Nunzio who, in exchange for protection, puts him on the path to become a messenger for the Ndrangheta once he gets out. Thus begins his ascent in the Onorata Societ. Colonel Alberto Ricci, hot on the trail of the Lombardy underworld, happens to pick up Andreas first movements, allowing him to reconstruct the Ndrangheta map of northern Italy.

## Creator's Statement

*Infinite Crime* is a factual drama based on the trial record of the Crimine-Infinito investigation, an investigation that came into being nearly by accident; starting from a small bar in the province of Brianza, it led investigators to the billions in contracts for EXPO 2015, revealing for the first time the web of power woven by the Onorata Società. *Infinite Crime* is the most incredible story about organized crime ever told.

## Company Profile

Founded in 1989 by Domenico Procacci, **Fandango** has produced over 100 films, working with directors M. Garrone, N. Moretti, P. Sorrentino, E. Kusturica to list a few. On the TV side, Fandango produced, amongst all, *The Gomorrah* series, now at its 5th season, and *My Brilliant Friend* the HBO - RAI show. *Bangla* - the series, and *The Team (Una squadra)*, the first docu-series directed by Domenico Procacci, were both awarded with the Silver Ribbon prizes.

## Creative Team

**Cristiano Barbarossa, Fulvio Benelli.**

# THE LAST WISH OF SASHA CADE

Mini Series

After her best friend succumbs to cancer, grief-stricken high school senior Raquel (Rocki) receives a letter from Sasha that sends her on a series of scavenger hunts and adventures with a handsome young stranger, leading to Raquel to wonder if she knew the real Sasha at all. All The Bright Places meets The Fault in Our Stars

**Original Title**

The Last Wish of Sasha Cade

**Created by**

Jacqueline Pepall

**Running Time**

8x45'

**Shooting Language**

English

**Main Location**

Winnipeg, Canada

**Main Producer****Waterside Studios**

Canada

Jeff Norton

jeff.norton@corusent.com

**BROADCASTER/DIGITAL PLATFORM**

Corus Entertainment

**Estimated budget**

€ 12.000.000

**Financing in place**

€ 7.800.000

**Looking for**

European co-production partners

Pre-sale

**Synopsis**

Rocki and Sasha have been best friends for as long as they can remember. When Sasha is diagnosed with terminal cancer, Rocki refuses to imagine life without Sasha - she becomes Sasha's cheerleader, helping her through her cancer battle, promising she will defy the odds. When Sasha dies, Rocki is consumed by grief. She behaves erratically - not knowing who she is without Sasha. A competitive diver, Rocki throws herself back into training, attempting more and more dangerous dives. She alienates herself from the rest of the diving team, and her friends. A window of hope opens when Rocki begins to receive letters from Sasha, written before she died. The letters reveal that Sasha (who was adopted) had learned before her death that she has a full brother. Sasha's letters instruct Rocki to meet up with her brother (Elijah). Not having had the chance to get to know Elijah before she died, Sasha's letters also instruct Rocki to take Elijah on a series of adventures, designed to help him understand who Sasha was.

**Creator's Statement**

My best friend died of cancer at the end of 2019. I still struggle to make sense of it - it's hard to be in the world without her. The question I keep asking is, when the thing you are so terrified of happens, how do you find joy again? How do you return to your life? How do you trust in the order of things? I knew that someday I wanted to write about the process of supporting my friend through cancer, and ultimately, what losing her felt like. When this project came to me, I knew it was fate.

**Company Profile**

**Waterside Studios** is the new creative content venture from Corus Entertainment, Canada's leading pure play media company. The company was recently launched following an overall deal with Jeff Norton's IP company, Dominion of Drama. Jeff has twenty years' experience with a focus on book to screen. A prolific author, Jeff has written numerous novels and packaged/executive produced TV shows ranging from pre-school to primetime, including the hit feature drama adaptation of Susan Hill's novel The Small Hand for Paramount Global's Channel 5 (UK). Waterside currently has projects in development on both sides of the Atlantic.

**Creative Team****Jacqueline Pepall**, Creator.**Producer's History**

Waterside Studios is part of the Nelvana Studios group, which delivered the hit YA series **Hardy Boys** for Hulu/Disney+.

# LUMIA

Drama Series

16-year-old Parisian Lumia is forced to spend the Christmas at her Mom's family log house in Finland. There, in the middle of deep forest, Lumia starts seeing strangely behaving, unexplainable lights. What are the lights trying to tell her? Why do the villagers call her family "the crazy ones"? Is this why she was given the name "Lumia" that means light?

**Original Title**

Lumia

**Created by**

Anastasia Heinzl, Mikko Pöllä

**Screenplay by**

Anastasia Heinzl, Mikko Pöllä

**Running Time**

6X45'

**Shooting Language**

French, Finnish

**Main Location**

Finland

**Main Producer****Fire Monkey**

Finland

Mikko Pöllä

mikko@firemonkey.fi

**Estimated budget**

€ 3.600.000

**Financing in place**

€ 30.000

**Looking for**

Co-producer, distributor and broadcasters

**Synopsis**

16-year-old Parisian Lumia is forced to spend the Christmas at her Mom's family log house in Finland. She's lonely and angry for being so far away from her life in Paris. She feels like an alien in this cold place that looks like the 90's never ended here. Luckily, Lumia meets one person her age who speaks French. Hamza (16), is a Nigerian boy, who lives at a nearby center for refugees hoping that he'd be granted a permission to stay. One night, as Lumia is walking in the woods, STRANGE, EERIE WHITE LIGHTS appear in front of her, as if observing her. Lumia is both scared and mesmerized! Lumia and Hamza go on a quest to find out what the lights are. Is she the only one seeing them? Is this why Lumia was given the name that means light? Is this why the villagers call Lumia's family "the crazy ones". What else is there that Lumia's mother is not telling her about her roots and current family situation? Should Lumia turn towards the lights or run away?

**Creator's Statement**

When Anastasia and Mikko discovered Finnish artist Maria Lax's photography book Some kind of Heavenly Fire, it inspired them to write about their experiences of the unknown. We like to believe that we understand how the universe behaves, and that our world view is complete. Therefore, we create causalities between events that support our current world view, even if these causalities don't exist. And it takes a lot of courage to break loose and to accept that we don't understand everything in this world.

**Company Profile**

**Fire Monkey** is a production company creating original content for audiences both in the Nordics and internationally. The Helsinki, Finland based company was founded in 2016 by two industry veterans Roope Lehtinen and Mikko Pöllä, and Fire Monkey has quickly established itself as one of the most creative and productive independent drama producers in the Nordics.

**Producer's History**2020 - **Californian Commando**2020 - **White Wall**2021 - **Bad Apples**2022 - **Enemy of the People**2023 - **Deception**

Israel

# THE SEAM LINE

Drama Series

A Jerusalem police detective tangled up in a complicated affair with an ultra-Orthodox woman, is drawn irreversibly into the Orthodox world after she disappears without a trace.



### Original Title

Kav Hatefer

### Created by

Eran Riklis, Marlyn Vinig

### Running Time

6x50'

### Shooting Language

Hebrew, Yiddish, Arabic

### Main Location

Israel

### Main Producer

**Eran Riklis Productions Ltd**

Israel

Eran Riklis

eranriklis@gmail.com

### Estimated budget

€ 4.500.000

### Financing in place

€ 600.000

### Looking for

Co-Producers

Broadcasters

Streamers

World Sales

### Synopsis

Jerusalem of Above and Jerusalem of Below clash along the fragile seam connecting the disparate parts of the city and the fractures of a lost soul. The Seam Line is a psychological and theological thriller. It revolves around Yoram Sarussi, a hardened police detective. As a result of dramatic circumstances in his life, he is drawn to and finds comfort in religion and becomes an ultra-Orthodox private eye. His investigations lead him to the loftiest and lowest realms of Jerusalem. The first seasons story is a mysterious case which unfolds over twelve tumultuous years. It forces him to contend with himself, his family, and his immediate and more distant surroundings, all in an effort to solve a mystery, which had a profound effect on his life. Yoram's heart and soul are as delicate as Jerusalem's fabric which is stitched together by fragile seams, always threatening to unravel the conflicts, contradictions, fears and hopes of the holy, golden city.

### Creator's Statement

Chinatown in Jerusalem, combining the complexity of a Borgesian garden of forking paths with the eternity and mystery of Jerusalem, full of fragile, dangerous seams. Themes that are heaven for any director, certainly for me as they are part of my life long work and all my movies, trying to understand ordinary people who find themselves trapped in extraordinary circumstances, forcing them to explore and reveal the deepest part of their soul. The thin, fragile seam lines within are my goal.

### Company Profile

Owned by acclaimed director Eran Riklis, the company specializes in co-productions with Europe and beyond. Based in Tel Aviv - working with the world is our moto and practice. With extensive knowledge of the Israeli film & TV industry and wide connections in Europe and the US, a strong development slate and working with top professionals, **Eran Riklis Productions** is always on the lookout for new creative collaborations.

### Creative Team

Veteran filmmaker **Eran Riklis** joined forces with **Marlyn Vinig**, a screenwriter, poet, ultra-Orthodox feminist activist, lecturer and Israeli film researcher. Her first book, *Haredi Cinema*, was published in 2011 and became a bestseller; some consider it the first ultra-Orthodox work of film criticism in Israel or abroad, and it was a cornerstone in the study of cinematic work in the Haredi religious sector. She lives with her husband and seven children in Jerusalem.

### Producer's History

**The Syrian Bride, Lemon Tree, Zaytoun, Shelter, Spider in the Web, Cup Final, Three Mothers, Vulcan Junction, Until Tomorrow Comes** and more.  
TV series: **Room Service, The Truck** and more.

UK

# THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF HOPE

Drama Series

Meet Hope Arden an extraordinary international jewel thief. After minutes of meeting her, Hope is erased from people's memory. This gift comes in handy when pulling off unimaginable heists, but it is also incredibly lonely. That is, until she meets the very people whose mission it is to find her.



### Original Title

The Sudden Appearance of Hope

### Created by

Veronica Gleeson

### Running Time

8x60'

### Shooting Language

English

### Main Location

UK, Greece, France, Dubai

### Main Producer

**Three Tables Productions Ltd**

Himesh Kar

### Estimated budget

€ 15.994.655

### Financing in place

€ 40.000

### International Sales

eOne

### Looking for

International commissioners

Broadcast funders

Financing for the project

### Synopsis

Hope is a normal Derby teenager when suddenly people start to forget who she is. Even her own family. Terrified and desperate, Hope flees home. Ten years later, Hope, 26, is now a world-class thief; she steals and sells expensive commodities, lives the high-life and sends money back to her neurodiverse sister, Grace. It's lonely. It's unique. Sometimes, it's very fun. But when Hope steals a clutch of priceless diamonds from a shady company something changes. Someone remembers Hope - and ends up dead. On the run again, she evades capture. But Hope is desperate; she needs cash and new identities, but most importantly, she needs to understand why her disappearing act failed in Dubai. Unexpectedly, Hope receives an offer of help from an anonymous source. But there's a catch: she is to return to England, infiltrate Prometheus and steal their prized secret - a project that alters human DNA. A project related to the very core of who Hope is, and how she came to be forgotten. Could Hope be memorable again? On a mission to uncover her truth and save her sister, she will discover that allies and enemies can be one and the same but that hope appears in ways we cannot predict.

### Creator's Statement

This high concept thriller series is anchored by universalities of loss and resilience. By questions about who to trust and how to love. Just like Hope, this is a show that revels in paradoxes. In the dark comedy of being forgotten. In the bittersweet state of being ineradicable - and at the same time, non-existent. There's a kind of magic here where assumptions are upended and surprising human connections take place. A place pulsing with crazy possibilities for human life and for Hope.

### Company Profile

Founded by award-winning film and TV executives David Chikwe, Himesh Kar and JT Wong, **Three Tables Productions** was established to produce scripted television drama drawing on our distinct perspectives and diverse backgrounds. We champion both established and emerging talent and are currently developing projects with partners including: eOne, BBC Drama, Channel 4 Drama, Appian Way Productions and ZDF Studios. Three Tables is a PACT Future 30 indie company.

### Producer's History

Himesh is an experienced producer and executive who has worked in both film and TV. He was an Executive Producer on **Walk With Me** with Benedict Cumberbatch, which has been released in over 15 countries. Himesh was previously a Senior Executive at the UK Film Council, overseeing award winning films including **Man on Wire** (Academy Award, 2009), Amma Asante's **A Way of Life** and Ken Loach's **The Wind That Shakes the Barley** (Palme D'Or, 2006). He was named as a Breakthrough Leader by the TV Collective.



Israel

# WEARING MY PANTHER SKIN

Drama Series

Two high school sweethearts in their 40's are being blackmailed after making a surrogacy deal in Georgia. Their unborn baby is held hostage in the surrogate's womb. In a thrilling chase after the surrogate mother, to save her and their baby, their relationship is being put to the ultimate test.



**Original Title**  
Mirit and Gingy

**Created by**  
Karen Hochma

**Running Time**  
8x45'

**Shooting Language**  
Hebrew, English, Georgian

**Main Location**  
Israel, Georgia

**Main Producer**  
**Nawipro**  
Israel  
Asaf Nawi  
nawipro2@gmail.com  
https://www.nawipro.com/

**Estimated budget**  
€ 13.600.000

**Financing in place**  
€ 6.800.000

**Looking for**  
Co-Financing  
Co-Production  
Distribution

### Synopsis

After years of unsuccessful pregnancies, time and money ran out for Mirit, a musician in the Police Force orchestra, and Gingy, a post office employee. Their dream of having a baby is fading away, putting their love and unique relationship to the test. In an act of despair, they make a surrogacy deal in Georgia and find themselves in over their heads in a blackmail scam. They break into a chase tracking the young Georgian surrogate host, Nino, who disappears into the Georgian underworld. Nino is also being chased by the husband she was forced to marry, the money for the surrogacy deal is her only way out of the country and into an emancipated life. Your average next-door-neighbour, goofy couple muster up all their courage to go head-to-head with the Georgian mafia, in a race against time to save their unborn baby.

### Creator's Statement

The series sparks questions in the viewer, including questions regarding the ease with which we become enslaved and hostage to our dreams, our partner and our family. Do we need to change for the sake of our relationship, do we need to suppress specific urges, or lose elements of our personality, all in order to adapt ourselves to our partner and their dreams?

### Company Profile

Asaf Nawi's **Nawipro** based in Tel Aviv, is focused on the creation and production of original content for the local and international market. The company develops and produces film and serial projects, documentary, fictional and entertainment formats across various genres. Nawipro co-operations include all Israeli broadcasting stations, as well as international partners.

### Creative team

**Asaf Nawi, Karen Hochma, Noa Koler, Ofer Seker.**

### Producer's History

**Tonight With Guri Alfi**  
Late Night Show, Keshet

**One More Story**  
Feature Film

**Rotem Isn't Kidding**  
Stand Up Comedy Special for Keshet

**I've Got Issues**  
Factual Entertainment, Comedy - ITV

**My Nephew From Hell**  
Young Adult Series for Kan Kids

**Makers**  
Docu-Reality-Show for Kan 11

**Don't Panic**  
Docu-Drama - Kan 11

**The New Jew**  
Documentary Mini-Series for Kan 11

**Between Walls**  
Feature Documentary for HOT, Channel 8, Haifa Int. Film

**Dig (Israeli Part)**  
Pilot Drama Series for NBC

**Doubtful**  
Feature Film

# ON THE PAGE

with Pilar Alessandra

Classes and coaching from pitch to page.

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## Film selection committee 2022



**Ed Guiney**  
Founder & Co-CEO  
Element Pictures, Ireland



**Harriet Harper-Jones**  
Independent Producer  
and Consultant  
Sappho Screen, UK



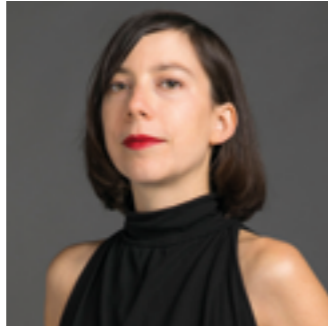
**Rocio Jadue**  
Head of LatAm Films  
Fabula, Chile



**Stéphane Marchi**  
CEO & Co-Founder  
N9ne Studio, France



**Len Rowles**  
Head of Development  
Protagonist Pictures, UK



**Bérénice Vincent**  
Co-Founder  
Totem Films, France

## Pitching Coach



**Pilar Alessandra**  
Founder  
On the Page, US

## Selected Projects

### At the Edge of the World

Belgium

### Bottom of the Ocean Electric Fish

Italy

### Deep Quiet Room

Taiwan

### Europa

Norway

### Forastera

Spain

### Jellyfish

Germany

### Kelly Fauster Is a Killer

France

### Mami Wata

France

### Orla

Ireland

### Stranger in a Village

Switzerland

### Summer Spell

Greece

### Through the Winter

Italy

wanna taste it?

### Brianza

Italy

### It's No Big Deal

Italy

### The Night Burns

Italy

# AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD

Amelia Nanni

Axelle spends her first summer away from her mother. In her grandparents' tiny Tuscan village, with only twenty or so elderly inhabitants, she meets a strange group of children, led by Ambra. Encountering old age, Axelle and the children are confronted with death for the first time.



## Original Title

Au bord du monde

## Screenplay by

Amelia Nanni

## Shooting Language

French, Italian

## Main Location

Stiappa, Italy

## Main Producer

Iota Production

Belgium

Isabelle Truc

contact@iotaproduction.com

## Estimated budget

€ 2.493.150

## Financing in place

€ 677.500

## Financiers/partners already involved

Graffiti Film (Italy)

Tag Film (France)

Belgian Film Commission

Orange Grant

Media Development

Belgium Tax Shelter

## Looking for

Co-production partners, distributors, world sales agents

## Synopsis

This summer Axelle will spend her holidays with her grandparents in a little Tuscan village. She discovers the small village of Stiappa, more haunted than inhabited by the twenty or so old people who remain. There, she timidly tames Natale, her grandfather, and Paolina, her grandmother, and she makes friends with Ambra, the leader of a band of children. Everything changes when Paolina has a stroke. Axelle wants to save her grandmother at all costs, even if it means finding someone else to die in her place, because as Ambra says, Stiappa is cursed: every season someone must die.

## Director's Statement

In the summer, in Stiappa, children are left in semi-liberty, entrusted by absent adults to their aging grandparents. These two ages, childhood, and old age, represent a time outside the productive time and, from the margin, question the body norms in a universal way, the one going towards life and the other going towards death. We find here two essential themes, intimately linked, which we observe through the eyes of children looking death in the face to learn to exist. Death is a taboo in our Western societies, something hidden. One consequence is that it deprives us of any capacity to live serenely with the dead. Yet it is only by collectively assuming death that we can really live with our dead and, above all, take care of the living. Secondly, to confront death is to become aware of one's own body, both in its mortal and living aspects, in its uncontrollable and perfectible nature. This is another taboo in our societies, which prefer to see the body as a machine to be performed, to be normalized. The children's view of these issues allows them to rediscover their own body outside of these pressures and injunctions. In this film, the bodies of the former and the latter are placed in parallel, both being caught up in a mutation denied by society. I wish to put death back at the heart of life, and to rehabilitate our bodies as sensitive and singular interfaces of confrontation with the world.

## Company Profile

Founded in 2000 in Belgium by Isabelle Truc, **Iota Production** is a production company equally at ease with fiction, documentary, TV series and animation. The company has produced some fifty documentary films, including *Icarus Balance*, by Patric Jean, released in Belgium and to be released in France in September 2022 and *Overseas*, by Sung-A Yoon, was screened at Locarno Film Festival 2019 (Cineasti del presente competition) for its world premiere and then selected in many festivals (BFI London, Message to Man (UK), Busan, IDFA, ...). Twelve features as majority Belgian productions were finalized, like *Our Struggles*, by Guillaume Senez. The movie was selected at the Critics Week in Cannes 2018 (sold in more than twenty territories, selected in more than 30 festivals, awarded 9 times).

## Director's Profile

**Amelia Nanni** has been living in Belgium for 8 years, she is French Italian, 3rd generation immigrant. Her family comes from the small Tuscan village of Stiappa, where she finds her roots, her inspiration, and her moments of renewal. She joined INSAS, a school that allowed her to combine her desire for fiction and documentary. This school taught her to be resourceful and to show solidarity, and once again she forged strong ties that accompanied her in this new stage of her life. After graduating from INSAS, she began writing her first feature film with Iota Productions, based on the themes she has been developing for several years: childhood, the body, death, and sexuality.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2017 - **La Chatouilleuse d'Oreilles** (documentary)2018 - **Les enfants du rivage** (short)2021-2022 - **Medusa** (short)

# BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN ELECTRIC FISH

Malina Mackiewicz

On a remote island, there is a refugee camp where families are kept imprisoned indefinitely. Two thirteen-year-old girls, Jana and Laleh, decide to fall pregnant in order to be able to leave the island. To escape, before they get engulfed by the Big Sleep.



## Bottom Of The Ocean Electric Fish



## Original Title

In fondo al mare un pesce elettrico

## Screenplay by

Malina Mackiewicz, Giulia Steigerwalt

## Shooting Language

Italian, English, Other

## Main Location

Italy, Canary Islands, Oceania Islands, Caribbean Islands

## Main Producer

Ascent Film Srl, Groenlandia Srl

Italy

Andrea Paris, Matteo Rovere

andrea@ascentfilm.com

info@groenlandiafilm.com

## Estimated budget

€ 2.396.834

## Financing in place

€ 830.824

## Financiers/partners already involved

Ministry of Culture (Italy)

## Looking for

Co-production partners, distributors and world sales

## Synopsis

On a remote island deep in the Pacific Ocean, there is a refugee camp where families are kept imprisoned indefinitely. Life on the island is suspended. With too much time to live through and nothing to make of it, many of the detainees begin to self-medicate and disappear into sleep to numb the passage of time. Only people in need of urgent medical treatment, as well as pregnant women, are transferred to the mainland. Jana and Laleh, two thirteen-year-old girls, navigate through their first sexual experiences, waiting for some small sign of hope to manifest on their bodies, for that first symptom of a pregnancy that will finally allow them to leave the island. Their only link to the outside world are youtube videos of reality stars, living the life they dream about.

## Director's Statement

Despite the real-world circumstances that served as initial inspiration, this political context is to remain in the background of an intimate film about girlhood. The heart of the story is in fact hidden in the private moments of adolescence that make up the film, in innocence and in desire, behind the timidness of these children that are playing at being adults, while slowly growing up. Visually, the film begins in the intimacy of Jana and Laleh's world, which in some ways is still the world of two little girls, secret and magical. The tent they live in, its half-light, the rays of sun that pass through it and illuminate parts of their bodies. We stay inside the tents for a long time, then gradually we move out into the austerity of the camp, then into the rainforest, then out onto the road, and finally onto the beach. The world and the landscape are slowly opening. The film thus develops between their tenderness and sense of wonder, and the tension that is inherent to the reality in which they live, following the friendship of these two girls while they imagine themselves far away, in a future that we, the audience, know not to exist.

## Company Profile

**Ascent Film** was established in 2003 by Andrea Paris, with the aim of becoming an independent film production company giving voice to new talents in Italian and European cinema. In nearly twenty years, Ascent Film has produced successful short films and documentaries, which were repeatedly featured in major international festivals such as Cannes, Venice and Rome and has established new partnerships with producers, authors and directors from all over Italy, Europe, and worldwide. In 2008, Ascent Film became part of the Groenlandia Group created by Matteo Rovere. The company has since started working with many talented people with great commercial and artistic potential and succeeded in keeping high-quality standards and audience expectations together.

## Director's Profile

**Malina Mackiewicz** studied film directing at the Australian Film Television and Radio School in Sydney as well as at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome. Her short films have screened in official competition at the Toronto International Film festival as well as the Berlinale. Malina is currently developing her first feature-length screenplay, *Bottom of the Ocean Electric Fish*.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2013 - **Just Hit Snooze** (short)2014 - **Deszcz** (short)2014 - **Driftwood Dustmites** (short)2018 - **Dorme** (short)

# DEEP QUIET ROOM

Ko-Shang Shen

After his pregnant wife Yi-Ting unexpectedly committed suicide, Ming decides to take care of his father-in-law, but only to find out the unbearable truth of Yi-Ting's family that leads to her death.



## Original Title

Shen Du An Jing

## Screenplay by

Hsin-Chih Lu, Shen Ko-Shang

## Shooting Language

Chinese (mandarin)

## Main Location

Taipei, Taiwan

## Main Producer

Flash Forward Entertainment,  
Wind Rises Entertainment

Taiwan R.O.C.

Patrick Mao Huang, Sylvia Yea-Chun Shih  
mail: patrick@ffe.com.tw  
windrises.ent@gmail.com

## Estimated budget

€ 1.268.800

## Financiers/partners already involved

Wind Rises Entertainment: € 31.720

Oxygen Films: € 412.360

Flash Forward Entertainment: € 63.440

Ministry of Culture, Taiwan (R.O.C): € 412.360

## Looking for

Co-production partners, creative talents, world sales, distributors

## Synopsis

Ming and Yi-Ting were just an ordinary couple living an ordinary life. They met in the deep quiet room in the university library, soon fell in love, got married, and are now expecting their first child. But one day, Ming finds his beloved wife committed suicide in their study. Her death comes so suddenly that it throws him into a fluster. Ming wants to know why Yi-ting committed suicide: he remembers how Yi-ting started acting strange when she found out she was pregnant, and how she desperately wanted to divorce him. Ming soon blamed himself for this tragedy. He takes all the responsibilities for Yi-Ting's family. While Ming gets along with Yi-Ting's family, Ming starts to understand what caused Yi-Ting's puzzling behavior, why she could not face her father, and why on the last day, she begged him not to leave her alone at home. The unbearable truth is gradually unveiled.

## Director's Statement

Through his wife's suicide, *Deep Quiet Room* tells the story of a surviving husband's uneasiness and helplessness. While dealing with the pain the protagonist suffers from losing his wife, the film attempts to dissect his guilt and doings. It also reveals the secrets the deceased kept and those involved. The husband's encounter with his beloved wife in that quiet time and space is like a divine revelation that shows the essence of love. Their love will always exist and be transformed into a meaningful purpose to carry on despite all the changes. Therefore, this film shares an idea with the audience - if you have ever experienced five minutes of real, quiet happiness, you may have a reason to live your best life. This fictional story is entwined with my feelings for my family, which had troubled me for decades. Apart from redefining the meaning my life through this artistic creation, I hope that this film helps those who have secrets hidden in their hearts to understand love, life, and the purpose of living with others.

## Company Profile

**Flash Forward Entertainment** is a Taiwan-based production/distribution/sales company. FFE produces Taiwanese and international co-production films, and is also active in producing Mainland Chinese films. Its productions include *Moneyboys* (C.B. Yi, 2021 Un Certain Regard - Cannes Film Festival), *Suburban Birds* (QIU Sheng, 2018 Cinema of the Present - Locarno Film Festival) and *The Road To Mandalay* (Midi Z, 2016 Venice Days - Venice Film Festival), which have been presented in prestigious film festivals worldwide.

**Wind Rises Entertainment** was founded by Li-Yu Huang, Yea-Chun Shih and Ya-Ching Wu in 2018. The members of the production team possess over 10 years of film industry experience and have been cooperating with many well-known works in the Chinese speaking regions. Its representative works include drama series *In Time With You* and *Back To The Good Time* and so on. In-development projects *Birdwoman* and *Deep Quiet Room* were both selected by Golden Horse Film Project Promotion. Currently Wind Rises is looking forward to partnering with more talents in the future to bring new blood into the industry.

## Director's Profile

**Shen Ko-Shang** is a Taiwan director and former Director of Taipei Film Festival. His first short film *Layover* was selected by Cinéfondation of Cannes Film Festival in 1999. In 2006, his documentary *The Pigeon Game*, commissioned by National Geographic Channel, was aired in more than 160 countries. His feature documentary *Baseball Boys* was competing at Visions du Réel at Nyon and sold to ARTE in 2009. In 2013, Shen's documentary *A Rolling Stone* won the Grand Prize of Taipei Film Award.

## Director's Selected Filmography

1999 - **Layover** (short)2008 - **Baseball Boys** (documentary)2010 - **Two Juliets** (short)

# EUROPA

Brwa Vahabpour

Akam lives a comfortable life in Oslo. When his uncle from Kurdistan comes on an unannounced visit, Akam has to adapt to the situation and practice Kurdish hospitality. As time goes by, it is revealed that his uncle has smuggled himself into Norway and has intentions of staying.



## Original Title

Europa

## Screenplay by

Brwa Vahabpour

## Shooting Language

Norwegian, Kurdish

## Main Location

Oslo

## Main Producer

True Content Production Norway

Norway

Renée Mlodyszewski

renee@truecontententertainment.com

## Estimated budget

€ 1.587.550

## Financing in place

€ 74.983

## Looking:

International sales agent, co-producers and other financing partners

## Synopsis

Akam lives a comfortable and carefree life in a shared flat with friends in Oslo. When his uncle from Kurdistan comes on an unannounced visit, Akam has to practice Kurdish hospitality and invites his uncle to stay for a couple of days. As days turn into weeks, it is soon revealed that his uncle has smuggled himself into Norway and has intentions of staying. Akam is put in a dilemma and must then balance his relationship with his uncle and the Norwegian authorities. It is slowly revealed why his uncle left his home country in the first place.

## Director's Statement

*Europa* is a comedy-drama about the relationship between Akam, who grew up in Norway, and his uncle who would like to live in the country. The chemistry between Akam and his uncle is pleasant at first, but as the uncle's stay drags on, Akam's independent and private lifestyle is invaded by the open and collectivist lifestyle of his uncle. The atmosphere becomes strained, and their relationship is put to the test. As Akam learns more about his uncle, it becomes clear to him that he is more than just a fortune seeker. The film hints at a larger political context but our focus is on the characters' relationship and how Akam is affected, for better and worse, by his uncle's arrival. The way the characters communicate will be used as a tool to talk about belonging. The power you have when you master a language and the vulnerability when you lack it. During the uncle's stay, Akam must act as an interpreter, because Kurdish is a language Akam almost never uses; so his ability to express himself is put to the test. He becomes a bridge between two worlds, which in this film is not so much about differences, but about universal human themes such as language, identity, and responsibility. The uncle's visit is a catalyst for the more intimate and relevant story of trying to find a place where to feel important. My ambition is to place these complex characters in recognizable settings and tell an entertaining story that leaves room for reflection.

## Company Profile

**True Content** is a company that consists of a distribution department and a production department in both Norway and Denmark. It was established by executive producer and CEO Sofie Wanting Hassing (Academy Award Winner *Ida*, Int. Emmy award winning *Atlantic Crossing*) and executive producer Ole Sandberg (Stieg Larsson's *Millennium* Trilogy, *Wallander*, *Beck*). In 2022 we opened True Content Production Norway with Renée Mlodyszewski. Our company philosophy is to create content in close collaboration with creative talents who stand out and have a strong message that can withstand the test of time while entertaining and engaging.

## Director's Profile

**Brwa Vahabpour** is a Kurdish-Norwegian filmmaker and a graduate of The Norwegian Film School. He directed the short films *Pomegranate*, *The Shepherd and Silence*, which screened at A-list festivals and were awarded several prizes. Vahabpour also directed the TV drama *Countrymen*, which premiered at Cannes Series 2021 and won the High-School best series prize and best performance for its ensemble.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2017 - **Pomegranate** (short)2018 - **The Shepherd** (short)2020 - **Silence** (short)2021 - **Countrymen** (TV drama)

# FORASTERA

Lucia Alenar Iglesias

Cata's Summer holidays are disrupted by the absurd and violent death of her grandmother, which only she witnesses. A casual gesture like wearing the clothes of the deceased becomes the gateway to a ghostly world that allows her to fill the void left by her grandmother.



#### Original Title

Forastera

#### Screenplay by

Lucia Alenar Iglesias

#### Shooting Language

Catalan, Spanish, English

#### Main Location

Mallorca, Spain

#### Main Producer

Lastor Media

Spain

Marta Cruanas Compes

cruanas.marta@gmail.com

#### Estimated budget

€ 1.705.000

#### Financing in place

€ 355.000

#### Financiers/partners already involved

Filmin: € 65.000

TV3 (Catalan Public Broadcaster): € 140.000

ICEC Development: € 25.000

Europe Media Slate Funding: € 25.000

#### Looking for

Coproducers, World Sales, International Cast

#### Synopsis

Cata spends her Summer in Mallorca with her sister Eva and their grandparents, Tomeu and Old Catalina. After a night out with Max, the boy she likes, she arrives home to find her Grandma is dead. The death sends the family into a spiral of grief and Tomeu becomes unrecognizable. The girls' mom, Pepa, reunites with her daughters. The three find a trunk of grandma's old dresses that fit Cata to perfection. Seduced by the vacancy in the house, Cata wears the dresses, provoking a ghostly encounter with Tomeu. It seems to be making him feel better so Cata keeps orchestrating more apparitions. The more she lives in her grandmother's clothes, the more power she feels. But a restlessness haunts her. This transformation also affects Eva and Pepa, as they too grapple with their grief in unexpected ways. Cata's performance culminates when Tomeu puts on a public show at a village party. Tomeu then tries stopping this game, yet Cata refuses. Cata ultimately returns to her teenage reality, more confident, but maintaining the illusion that she has always been with her.

#### Director's Statement

Sometimes reality just doesn't cut it, and we have to use our imagination. This film follows Cata who has to grow up fast and grow very old. In witnessing the grotesque death of her grandmother, Cata seeks refuge in an imagined world and learns that the only guarantee in life is impermanence. Cata is a fish out of water, alien to her generation, and always looking for references to latch onto. *Forastera* explores the dangers and virtues of imitation, the limits of family and intergenerational relationships, and grief. The heart of this project lies in this game of identities. It's no coincidence that Cata is called to action by men in her life. I'd like to explore the performative aspects of womanhood. Too often our femininity is defined by the male gaze. Cata falls victim to this, but as the story progresses, she gains power. Ultimately, this story asks its characters and audience, who are we when nobody is watching?

#### Company Profile

Born in Barcelona in 2008, **Lastor Media** develops, produces and co-produces TV series, documentaries, commercial and arthouse films with a clear commitment to both new talent and established directors and screenwriters. The company's filmography includes more than twenty titles and has participated at major international festivals such as Cannes, Berlin, Venice, San Sebastian, Tallinn, Tokyo, Warsaw or IDFA. Its productions have been released in several European, American and Asian countries on platforms such as Netflix, Amazon, HBO or Filmin and have a regular presence in the award seasons of the Catalan, Spanish and European film academies. Recent titles: *Suro* (Mikel Gurrea, 2022); *Alcarrás* (Carla Simón, 2022); *Costa Brava, Lebanon* (Mounia Akl, 2021); *Libertat* (Clara Roquet, 2021).

#### Director's Profile

**Lucia Alenar Iglesias** (Madrid, 1993) is a Spanish writer and director currently based in Los Angeles. Born and raised in Madrid, she moved to New York 10 years ago to pursue filmmaking. She holds a BFA in Film from New York University and MFA in Screenwriting from Columbia University. Lucia's short film *Forastera* has screened at festivals including Cannes' Semaine de la Critique, Curtas Vila do Conde, Les Arcs, Gijn, Portland International Film Festival, Oberhausen, and was most recently nominated for a Gaudí Award. Lucia is developing her first feature, by the same name, which participated in the Semaine de la Critique's *Next Step* Programme. She is currently in Paris developing the same feature, taking part in the Residency at Cinéfondation de Cannes.

#### Director's Selected Filmography

2020 - **Forastera** (short)

# ACE PRODUCERS.

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# JELLYFISH

Hella Wenders

Chiara (11), a shy girl who is bullied at school, meets lively Jo (10) during a Summer vacation in Sicily. They quickly bond and have an adventurous time together, while their mothers struggle to get along due to their different worldviews. When the girls discover a hidden cove, they make a mysterious encounter and their friendship takes a more serious turn.



## Original Title

Jellyfish

## Screenplay by

Hella Wenders

## Shooting Language

German, Italian, English

## Main Location

Sicily (Italy)

## Main Producer

Road Movies GmbH

Germany

Léa Germain

lea@roadmovies.com

## Estimated budget

€ 1.490.847

## Financing in place

€ 160.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

MEDIA Creative Europe: € 45.000

Road Movies: € 20.000

## Looking for

Co-producers

Financing partners,

Broadcasters

Distributors

World sales

## Synopsis

Chiara (11) and Jo (10) meet during their Summer vacation in Sicily. They discover a secret cove where they enjoy their freedom playing fantasy games. Chiara is happy to have finally found a friend. One day at the cove, they encounter a mysterious girl named Gerina (16). They are both intrigued by Gerina, who promises to show them how giant turtles lay their eggs at night if they give her money. Jo grows suspicious while Chiara really wants to see the turtles. They fight for the first time. Chiara suddenly gets her period and becomes moodier. Jo tries to prevent other children on the beach from torturing a jellyfish. She throws the jellyfish into the sea with her hands and gets an allergic reaction. Chiara is told to fetch Anna but cannot find her – instead she impulsively pockets Jo's cell phone. Jo quickly recovers but Chiara keeps the phone and starts taking pictures in secret. After a fight with her father, Chiara sets off alone to the secret cove in order to find the turtles. When time has come to return, the sea has risen. Chiara is stranded and has to spend the night on the beach. While everyone is looking for her, she must overcome her fears and prove that she can stand for herself.

## Director's Statement

*Jellyfish* is told from the point of view of Chiara and Jo. Aged 11 and 10, they have a genuine look at the world, without too many "filters and presets". Until when do children remain blank slates? When do they discover their own identity? What constitutes a friendship at their age? Excessive care, social media, and a more complicated world make it harder for children today to truly act freely. The holiday setting allows Chiara and Jo to experience a sense of freedom and agency. The girls are on the cusp of puberty but this summer, they are still children. I am particularly interested in portraying this time of transition. By showing the girls in relation to their mothers, I mean to question how their own backgrounds affect them until they finally begin to distance themselves from them.

## Company Profile

**Road Movies** was established in 1976 by Wim Wenders. The Berlin based company has been producing and co-producing over 100 arthouse films by Wim Wenders and other directors, such as *Paris, Texas*, *Wings of Desire*, and *Million Dollar Hotel*. Documentary films have always played an important role for Road Movies with award-winning productions like *Buena Vista Social Club*, *Pina*, *Pope Francis*, *A Man of His Word*, and most recently *A Black Jesus* by Luca Lucchesi. With three feature-length films in 3D, the company has also become a leading force in this technology. Currently, we have several projects in development and pre-production: fictional films as well as feature documentaries by Wim Wenders and other upcoming directors. Additionally, we are developing high end documentary and drama series.

## Director's Profile

**Hella Wenders** studied at the German Film and Television Academy dffb. Her graduation film *Berg Fidel* (2012) was selected and awarded at several international film festivals and was released in theaters all around Germany. After the sequel *School, School - The Time After Berg Fidel* (2017) she worked on *A Black Jesus* by Luca Lucchesi. She is currently developing her feature debut *Jellyfish* that takes place in Sicily. She is the co-managing director of the Wim Wenders Foundation, lives in Berlin and has two children.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2009 - **Marisol** (Fiction)

2012 - **Berg Fidel - a School for All** (Documentary)

2017 - **School, School The Time after**

**Berg Fidel** (Documentary)

2019 - **A Black Jesus** (Script, Documentary

by Luca Lucchesi)

2022 - **Jellyfish** (Fiction, in development)

# KELLY FAUSTER IS A KILLER

Marie-Hélène Roux

When she realizes she can't be her friend, journalist Belinda (30), petite and peculiar, obsessed with movie legend Kelly Fauster (60), takes her revenge by writing an article called Kelly Fauster Is a Killer, which sounds on point after the mysterious disappearance of the star's husband.

## Original Title

Kelly Fauster is a Killer

## Screenplay by

Marie-Hélène Roux, Xavier Marquis

## Shooting Language

French

## Main Location

France

## Main Producer

Petites Poupées Production

France

Cynthia Pinet

cynthia@petitespoupeesproduction.com

## Estimated budget

€ 4.995.000

## Financing in place

€ 1.295.900

## Financiers/partners already involved

French Tax Credit

Private investors

## Looking for

Co-producers, sales agents, streamers



## Synopsis

Belinda, 30, petite and peculiar, works for the gossip magazine Starfeed and is obsessed with Kelly Fauster. Kelly, 55, a movie legend whose visibility has been on the wane, returns to the big screen in *Female Revenge 3*, a film produced by her alcoholic husband. Overlooked at work, Belinda has the chance to cover the premiere on one condition: she must bring back an exclusive interview with Kelly, or else she'll be fired. The premiere is a fiasco but determined, Belinda sneaks into the property of her idol and surprises Kelly Fauster, hands covered in blood, dragging her husband's lifeless body. The two women are in shock. Belinda insists on helping her. Kelly accepts but soon discovers Belinda's twisted personality and pushes her away. Hurt, Belinda turns into a monster. From now on, she has only one goal, to destroy the star.

## Director's Statement

I've always been passionate about the extraordinary in the human condition, its beauty, and its cruelty. About these people who aren't what we imagine, whom we initially judge too hastily and who surprise us. *Kelly Fauster Is a Killer* is an unconventional film in its form and its content. A hybrid film: part thriller, part comedy, part tragedy. There's a bit of *Parasite*, of *The Devil Wears Prada*, of *The Favorite*. The story of two anti-heroines starved for recognition. Kelly the idolized "celebrity", Belinda the ridiculed "oddball". Two women who, driven to the extreme, transform to offer us an exhilarating spectacle. A story that is bizarre, insane, and even amoral, but always anchored in truth and the power of emotions. Kelly and Belinda will face the limits of their moral values and will shake up our own. We'll experience how a lack of recognition or, to the contrary, excessive visibility can bring out the worst in us, and how this monster inside everyone reacts when it's idolized or humiliated. How we're ready to give up our identity to secure our existence and resemble the norm in a world increasingly inclined to unhealthy adulation.

## Company Profile

**Petites Poupées Production (PPP)** is an independent film company based in France committed to developing films that enhance the beauty of the human fight whether it'd be social, moral, or physical. Founded by Cynthia Pinet, an experienced producer who has worked at Pan Européenne and Memento Films (*A Separation* and *The Client* by Oscar winner Asghar Farhadi), Petites Poupées Production has a European and international vocation not only in terms of financial structure but also in artistic values. PPP has just completed post-production on *Kalkidane*, a feature documentary by Hugo Lemant, and is currently developing several projects including *Faux-Semblant* by Pierre Folliot starring Isabelle Carré, an original TV Series entitled *The Chevalliers*, *Le Goût du Bagoong* and *Muganga* adapted from the extraordinary story of the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize.

## Director's Profile

**Marie-Hélène Roux** was born in Gabon and raised between France and Africa. She trained at the French National Conservatory and then at the Stella Adler Academy of Acting in Los Angeles where she worked on independent films for several years. Returning to France in 2012, she made her directorial debut with *A Departed Life*. In 2014, she wrote and directed *Shortage of Children* which obtained numerous awards, was included in the UNESCO program, and received an exceptional theatrical release. Marie-Hélène's first feature film *Links Of Life* was shot in Utah and is released by Picture Tree International. She's currently developing multiple projects, including two feature films and two series. *Muganga*, written with Jean-René Lemoine, will be her upcoming feature. Inspired by the life of the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize, Denis Mukwege, the film will star Academy Award Nominee Djimon Hounsou and Mathieu Kassovitz. Marie-Hélène is one of the thirty up-and-coming talents selected by the prestigious Starlight Media program. She's represented by Danièle d'Antoni, Hapax.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2013 - **A Departed Life** (short)

2014 - **Shortage of Children** (feature)

2020 - **Links of Life** (feature)

# MAMI WATA

Askia Traoré

Somewhere in West Africa, the bodies of mutilated children are discovered. Psychosis spreads among the population, people accuse Mami Wata of attacking the inhabitants of Iwaho! Issa, a disillusioned inspector, embarks on a tortuous investigation at the risk of awakening the spirits of the river...



## Original Title

Mami Wata

## Screenplay by

Askia Traoré, Caryl Férey

## Shooting Language

French

## Main Location

Camerun, Benin

## Main Producer

### Special Touch Studios

France  
Sébastien Onomo  
sonomo@specialtouchstudios.com

## Estimated budget

€ 1.033.468

## Financing in place

€ 265.468

## Financiers/partners already involved

TV5Monde: € 65.000  
Paul Thiltges Distributions: € 60.000  
French South Region (development fund): € 20.000  
International organization of Francophonie (development, production and TV5Monde funds): € 115.000  
African Touch Studios: € 100.000  
Pathé BC Afrique: € 10.000

## Looking for

Co-production partners, sales agents, broadcasters and financiers

## Synopsis

Somewhere in West Africa, the bodies of mutilated children are discovered. Psychosis spreads among the population, people talk about witchcraft and accuse Mami Wata, an aquatic deity, of attacking the inhabitants of Iwaho! Issa, a disillusioned inspector at the end of his career, is sent to solve the case. With the local police chief, Malika Dram, he embarks on a tortuous investigation at the risk of embarrassing some powerful notables and awakening the spirits of the river...

## Director's Statement

The starting point for this project was a tragic personal event. In Gabon, in the 90s, with elections just around the corner, my cousin disappeared. Her body was found some time later, mutilated. Her genitals had been removed to be used in fetish rituals believed to bring wealth and victory. The case caused a stir, as her father was a person of note. Pressured by the authorities, the media fuelled hatred of foreigners, taking advantage of the public's gullibility. There was talk of witchcraft, of Mami Wata. The authorities eventually arrested the so-called culprits, a couple from Equatorial Guinea. I remain haunted by this tragedy, beyond the personal pain I experienced (she was my favorite cousin). Unfortunately, her murder was not an isolated case. Other grieving families in Cameroon, Togo, Benin, Congo, and so on, never had the opportunity to express their pain. Seeing only my personal story, I tried to transcribe it literally. But I got stuck, something was bothering me. It took me a while, and then it became clear: where did I stand in this story? What was the point of turning it into a film? This film offers an opportunity to question the concept of evil, as noir films often do. To do so, I will draw on certain beliefs that, far from being merely folkloric, deeply shape the mindset of populations.

## Company Profile

**Special Touch Studios** is a production company whose ambition is to renew the imagination by proposing other views on the world. An editorial line focused on Africa, the Caribbean, Asia and the Urban Cultures and the emergence of talents carrying strong stories with a universal dimension.

## Director's Profile

Chadian, born in Beirut (Lebanon) and raised in France, **Askia Abdoulaye Traoré** took his first steps in cinema by working in the programming of a cinema in Lyon (Cine Duchere) before joining the producer-director Issa Serge Coelo (Parenthese Films) in Paris in the early 2000s. He collaborated for 10 years in the production of many African films alongside directors such as Souleymane Ciss, Idrissa Ouedraogo, Mahamat Saleh Haroun, Alain Gomis, Abderrahmane Sissako, Jihane El Tahri. He has directed two short films, *Nola* and *Nulle Part*.

*Mami Wata* is his first feature film.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2010 - **Nola** (fiction)  
2014 - **Nulle Part** (fiction)  
In Post-production - **African Empires** (Mali episode)

# ORLA

Ivan Kavanagh

David and Michelle's dreams crumble when beleaguered child Orla crashes into their lives. Pursued by her ghastly parents, the couple try to protect Orla and the box of treasures she carries. The treasures in the box are nightmares however. But to whom do they belong?



## Original Title

Orla

## Screenplay by

James Topham

## Shooting Language

English

## Main Location

Ireland

## Main Producer

**Fantastic Films**  
Ireland  
Brendan McCarthy  
brendan@fantasticfilms.ie

## Estimated budget

€ 3.250.000

## Financiers/partners already involved

Screen Ireland: € 850.000 (pending)  
Irish tax rebate: € 800.000 (confirmed)

## Looking for

Co-producers, distributors, broadcasters and streamers

## Synopsis

Night. Woods. An eye in a shaft of light. A young girl, Orla desperately clawing the dirt above her. Buried alive, Orla pulls herself from the grave and runs. Elsewhere in the woods, David and Michelle, an attractive young couple drive to a newly built luxury house. It's Michelle's birthday. David brought her here as a surprise. He has built her perfect house as a gift. Michelle is overwhelmed. She had planned to break up with him that evening. As they eat an awkward dinner, the lights go out. A horrible apparition appears in the window. Orla dirty and scared is pursued by two menacing figures. Michelle and David have no choice but to help.

## Director's Statement

The first time I read *Orla* I knew I had to direct it. It begins as a breathless, home invasion movie, then flips to a supernatural horror film. I had a giddy excitement as I read it. I cared for the characters. I wanted them to escape. The story's final twist makes it both heartbreaking and terrifying. Like an episode of *The Twilight Zone* that never was, and as scary as hell. *Orla* will allow me to experiment with everything I love about cinema. Building suspense to make the audience squirm, using stunning cinematography, unique production design, precise tension building editing, powerhouse performances and complex atmospheric sound design and music. I will continue to experiment with camera placement, movement, and also with color, which I did in my previous horror films, *The Canal* (2014) and *Son* (2021). I would like the film to seem realistic at the beginning, but gradually, subliminally, take on quite a stylised look. Shadows should fall, rooms become oppressive and mysterious, colors becoming more intense, sharing the common aesthetic world of films like *Suspiria* (1977) and *Carrie* (1976), with the visceral violence as impactful and real as that in *IT Follows* (2014) and *Hereditary* (2018). This film will feel like we are trapped in a nightmare, albeit a ravishingly beautiful visually arresting one.

## Company Profile

**Fantastic Films** is an Oscar-winner company dedicated to high quality unique stories. Run by Brendan McCarthy, John McDonnell and Deirdre Levins, recent credits include Kate Dolans *You Are Not My Mother*, TIFF Midnight Madness 2021; Lorcan Finnegan's *Vivarium*, Critics Week, Cannes; Neasa Hardiman's *Sea Fever*, Toronto Film Festival; Tom Sullivan's *Arracht* nominated as the Irish entry for the Best International Film for the Oscars, Martin McDonagh's Oscar-winning *Six Shooter*; Ruairi Robinson's *The Last Days On Mars*, Directors Fortnight, Cannes; Corin Hardy's Sundance hit *The Hallow*; Billy O'Brien's SXSW hit *I Am Not A Serial Killer* and the critically acclaimed Hammer Horror *Wake Wood* starring Timothy Spall and Aidan Gillen.

## Director's Profile

**Ivan Kavanagh's** other work includes *Tin Can Man* (2007) and *The Fading Light* (2010) which picked up 'Best Irish Film' and 'Best Actor' for Patrick O'Donnell at the Dublin Film Critics Circle Awards during the Jameson Dublin International Film Festival 2010, and screened in the World Cinema section of the Pusan International Film Festival 2010, Korea. Ivan's critically acclaimed psychological horror, *The Canal* (2014) produced by Park Films and financed by the Irish Film Board and Film Agency Wales, had its world premiere at the Tribeca International Film Festival 2014 in New York, and was subsequently released in cinemas worldwide to critical acclaim.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2010 - **The Fading Light** (feature)  
2014 - **The Canal** (feature)  
2019 - **Never Grow Old** (feature)  
2021 - **Son** (feature)

Switzerland

# STRANGER IN A VILLAGE

Samir

When the Afro-American author James Baldwin visits his lover in the tiny town of Leukerbad in 1951, he is the first Black person the villagers have ever seen. From this encounter stems his essay *Stranger in the Village*. Inspired by true events, the film tells a fictional story about racism and homophobia in the mountain village and beyond.



**Original Title**  
Stranger in a Village

**Screenplay by**  
Samir, Joël Jent

**Shooting Language**  
French, English, Swiss German

**Main Location**  
Valais, Switzerland; Paris, France; Brooklyn, USA

**Main Producer**  
**Dschoint Ventschr Filmproduktion**  
Switzerland  
Karin Koch  
office@dvfilm.ch

**Estimated budget**  
€ 3.700.000

**Financiers/partners already involved**  
OFC Swiss Federal Office of Culture (development) - € 47.000  
OFC Swiss Federal Office of Culture (reinvestments director, prod. company) - € 56.500  
MEDIA Europe - € 57.000  
Film Funds Canton Zurich (Continuity) - € 1.800  
Film Funds Canton Zurich (Selective funding development) - € 41.000  
Canton St. Gallen (development) - € 10.000  
Own deferrals (on entire production budget) - € 120.000

**Looking for**  
Co-production partners

## Synopsis

In the early 1950s, the Stranger comes to the Swiss mountain village in the depths of winter. He wants to finish his first novel and takes up residence with his lover in the latter's family chalet. He is the first African-American the villagers have ever seen and with his charm, he quickly wins the villagers over. First, his lover's aunt, "Madame", who runs the village inn, and her employee Angelika. He befriends Carlo, an Italian railroad worker, and the village priest also grows fond of him. As he writes, he begins to ponder the relationship between the villagers and People of Color. It starts with children calling out "Neger" as he passes by in the street. He understands it doesn't mean the same as "N\*\*\*\*" in America, but he also realizes that the relationship between him as a Black and the inhabitants of the little village reflects the imbalance of power and the history between empires and colonies. As he continues writing over the course of two summers, the villagers start to mutter darkly about the two men's homosexual relationship. When the priest begins to ostracize him, he also loses his lover. Upon leaving the village, he has completed both his novel and his essay: *Stranger In a Village*.

## Director's Statement

When I came to Switzerland as a little Iraqi refugee boy, tanned and speaking a foreign language, I was immediately insulted with the N-word by the neighboring children. Although I fully integrated over the course of the following years, I was repeatedly marginalized due to my origins and confronted with the structural racism in this country. It was only natural for me to get involved in politics and to become active in the movement for the civil rights of migrant workers. Over the years I have found that even close friends and colleagues always assume that Switzerland has nothing to do with colonialism and that racism is not a big issue either. So it seemed very important to me to make a film that takes place in our country and deals with these issues.

## Company Profile

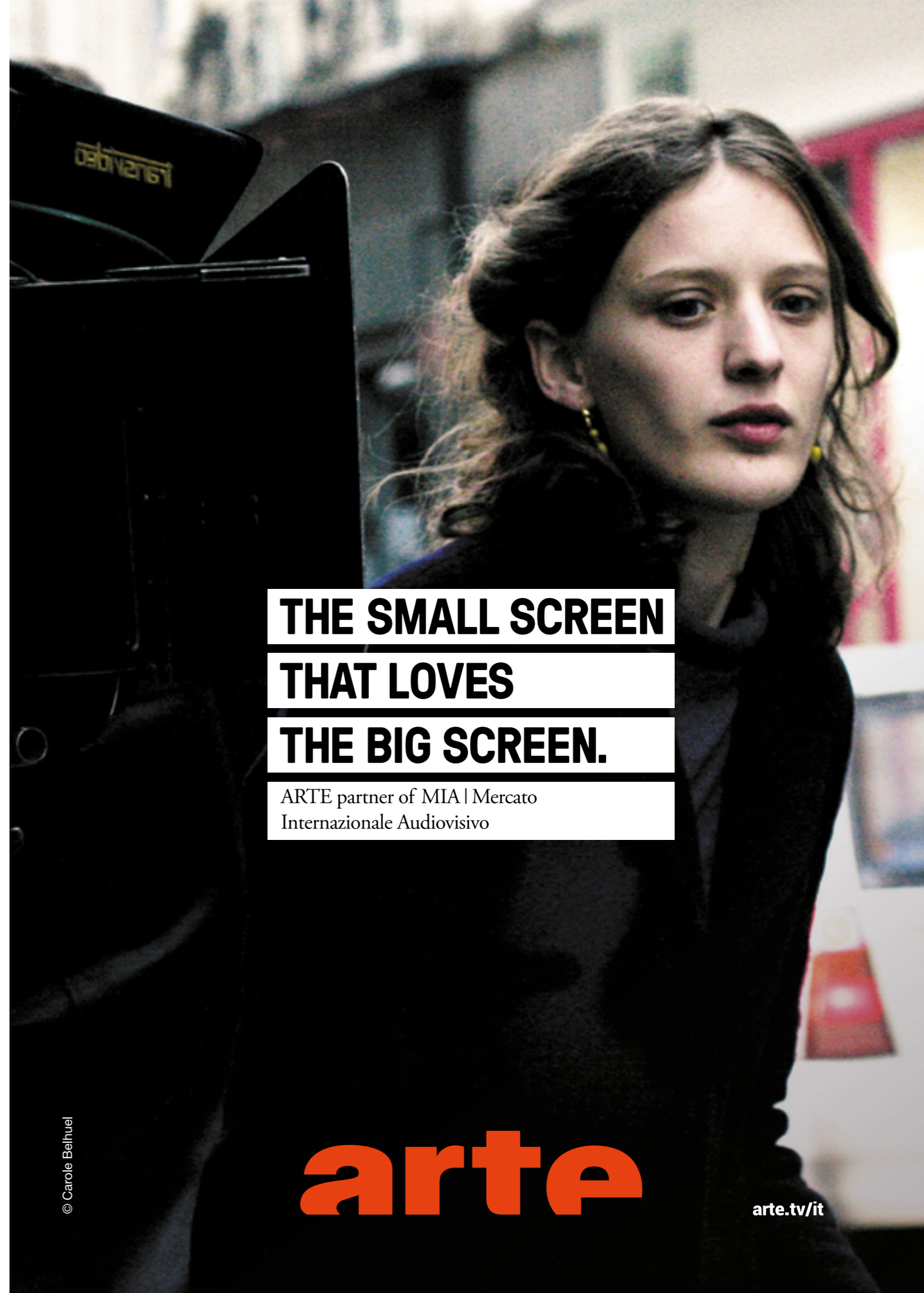
**Dschoint Ventschr Filmproduktion** develops, produces and sells films that are primarily concerned with the aspects of cross culture, politics and society: feature and documentary films that have the meeting of various cultures as their theme. Dschoint Ventschr works consistently on the continuing development of a modern cinematic pictorial language and utilizes the creative possibilities of new technologies. Dschoint Ventschr produces one to two feature films for the cinema each year and regularly creates several documentary films which are shown in cinemas and on television. More than 90 dedicated, full-length documentary and feature films for the cinema have been produced since 1994, mostly international co-productions with, among others, Germany, France, Austria, the United Kingdom.

## Director's Profile

Born in 1955 in Baghdad, Iraq. Migrated with his family to Switzerland in the 60s. After studying at the School of Arts in Zurich, apprenticeship as a typographer. In the late 70s, trained as a cameraman. Activist in the radical youth movement in the early 80s in Zurich. First worked as a freelance author and director in 1982. In 1994, he took over Dschoint Ventschr Filmproduktion with two associates. Today **Samir** is well known for his unique fiction, documentary and experimental films, whose innovative character drew attention at various festivals and won numerous awards. His work to this day encompasses more than 40 short and full-length feature films for cinema and television. In the 90s, he also worked as a director for national and international broadcasters.

## Director's Selected Filmography

1993 - **Babylon 2** (documentary)  
2002 - **Forget Baghdad** (documentary)  
2005 - **Snow White** (feature)  
2014 - **Iraqi Odyssey** (documentary)  
2019 - **Baghdad in My Shadow** (feature)



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# SUMMER SPELL

Rinio Dragasaki

The Summer holidays of two young sisters, in Crete island, in the 90s, culminate in an illicit treasure hunt that draws out both their time away from home and their journey towards adulthood.



## Original Title

Theros

## Screenplay by

Rinio Dragasaki

## Shooting Language

Greek

## Main Location

Crete (Greece)

## Main Producer

**Blonde s.a.**

Greece

Fenia Cossovitsa

fenia@blonde.gr

## Estimated budget

€ 827.000

## Financing in place

€ 461.000

## Looking for

Co-production partners, distributors and world sales

## Synopsis

Following the death of their grandmother, two teenage sisters Christina and Alkistis, leave their family home in Athens to holiday for the first time in the southernmost village on the island of Crete. The year is 1992 and one of the most intense heat waves in Greece's history is about to begin. The girls quickly adapt themselves to an utterly different way of life, close to nature, and meet a gang of boys who ride motorbikes, live in the working-class housing blocks, and work in the greenhouses. Christina falls for a boy called Spithas, and Alkistis, as the youngest among them, becomes the gang's mascot. When a large fire breaks out at the greenhouses, one of the gang gets injured and the entire community loses their main source of income. In a moment of madness, the five friends find themselves on a boat headed for Mirage, an islet south of Crete. Rumor has it that the body of a rich American tourist is buried there. The five youngsters hunt for the tourist like he's lost treasure.

## Director's Statement

*Summer Spell* deals with sibling relationships of the same sex. A bond that's powerful but complicated and gives rise to conflicting emotions. Christina, fourteen years old, is slowly becoming a woman, while Alkistis is eleven and still a child. The film is set in another time, the 1990s, and explores two different worlds: city and village. It glorifies the liberating and lazy days of summer, the saltiness of the sea, and rides on motorbikes. All of the above give rise to an unusual treasure hunt or rather a hunt after something unattainable. *Summer Spell* seeks out innocence and material rawness at every stage of its construction. Ideally, the film would be shot on 16 mm film with non-professional actors' children who live there and speak the highly particular Cretan dialect. The landscape is itself a character that plays an important role in the film, in which our two leads will gradually immerse themselves and be transformed, from city girls into wild and tawny island creatures.

## Company Profile

**Blonde's** notable track record includes high quality TV series (*Eden*, *Tehran* Season 1 and 2 for Apple TV, *Eteros Ego Lost Souls*, *Catharsis* and *Nemesis* for Cosmote TV, *Greek Salad* by Cedric Klapisch for Amazon Originals) and international co-production partnerships for more than 30 Greek and foreign feature films (Italy, France, Germany, Canada, Algeria, Cyprus). Blonde has serviced numerous high budget international projects (*Monday*, *Treadstone*, *Eden*, *Tehran*, *Jack Ryan*3). Awards and recent filmography: 4 awards for *Polyxeni* by Dora Masklavanou; "Leica Discovery Award" at Critics' week Cannes 2018 for *Hector Malot - The last Day* of the Year; Fipresci Award for the film *Blind Sun*; Audience award for *I still hide to smoke* by Rayhan; *Cosmic Candy* by Rinio Dragasaki (Best first-time director and WIFT award at TIFF 2019); *Digger* by Georgis Grigorakis (Berlinale ArtHouse Cinema Award, Best Film Award at Hellenic Film Academy Awards 2021); *The Man with the Answers* by Stelios Kammitis (Audience Awards at Thessaloniki IFF 2021, Best Screenplay Award at Kashishi Mumbai IFQF) and *Moon*, *66 Questions* by Jacqueline Lentzou (CINEUROPA Award, Best Film Sevilla IFF 2021).

## Director's Profile

**Rinio Dragasaki** studied film direction in Athens and documentary filmmaking in Barcelona. She has written and directed narrative and documentary shorts and feature films. Her films have been selected to screen at numerous international festivals (Berlinale, Fantastic Fest, Sitges, Clermont-Ferrand, São Paulo, and more). In 2014, her short film *Schoolyard* was nominated for the Crystal Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival, while in 2012 *Dad, Lenin and Freddy* won the Hellenic Film Academy Award for Best Short Film. She attended the Sundance Screenwriters Lab with her first feature, *Cosmic Candy*. The film had its world premiere at Fantastic Fest in Texas and went on to win Best First Film Director at the Hellenic Film Academy Awards.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2011 - **Dad, Lenin and Freddy** (short)

2014 - **Schoolyard** (short)

2019 - **Stefanos Rokos: Nick Cave & The Bad**

**Seeds, No More Shall We Part, 14 paintings 17**

**years later** (short documentary)

2019 - **Cosmic Candy** (feature)

# THROUGH THE WINTER

Anita Rivaroli

Northern Italy, early 1800's. In the attempt of reaching the border with her family, Sara finds herself alone in the middle of the mountains. During the coldest winter she has ever known, Sara will discover that the biggest strength a woman can have resides within herself.



## Original Title

Voci d'inverno

## Screenplay by

Marco Sanì, Anita Rivaroli

## Shooting Language

Italian

## Main Location

Italy, Switzerland

## Main Producer

**Indiana Production**

Italy

Fabrizio Donvito, Marco Cohen, Benedetto

Habib, Daniel Campos Pavoncelli

d.pavoncelli@indianaproduction.com

## Estimated budget

€ 3.992.142

## Financing in place

€ 127.334

## Looking for

Co-production partners

Distributors

World sales

## Synopsis

1800. Northern Italy. Sara, her father and her two brothers, persecuted by Napoleon's French, flee into the mountains to get to the border. One day, the three men go hunting together leaving Sara alone with the family ox. They will never come back. Sara soon understands she must survive alone: she learns to build a shelter, get food and defend herself from animals. As soon as the winter arrives, Sara starts losing every trait of the shy girl that she once was. But something unexpected happens: her path crosses with another human being. The hunter is different from any man Sara used to know. He seems born in those woods, in that cold winter, and Sara feels both attracted and terrified by him. Their meeting is only the beginning of a wild and extreme relationship between two people willing to do anything to survive. But will Sara be able to deal with this further challenge? And above all, even if her body can survive the winter, will her soul be able to do it too?

## Director's Statement

Rooted in the stylistic features of the classic western genre, this story contains a thematic imprint that can cross over to horizons that are geographically and emotionally closer to us, with a female strong protagonist. Sara is very young when she has to invent her own road and get through the winter. We are therefore not only in a survival movie but also in a coming of age, where the stakes are maximum. During the journey and thanks to it, Sara learns to face nature with a new awareness and she turns into a woman. She does so by dominating a merciless and violent nature, bringing out strength, endurance and ferocity. In every woman there is a wild being, formed by instincts, creativity and ancestral knowledge. Discovering your nature is the most dangerous journey you can take. And this is precisely the landing of Sara's solo journey: discovering herself as a wild woman. A womanliness that has to do with poetry, darkness, the power of connection, the power of the body, of Eros and of conscious loneliness.

## Company Profile

**Indiana Production** creates and produces Feature Films, Series for linear or cable television and platforms, Advertising and Branded content, in Italy and all over the world. For the big screen, Indiana just released *Tutti a bordo*, directed by Luca Miniero. Currently in post-production and to be released in 2023, *Il ritorno di Casanova*, by Gabriele Salvatores, with Toni Servillo. Recent titles Indiana produced are *Comedians* by Oscar winner Gabriele Salvatores, *Security* by Peter Chelsom, *Face toi* by Stephen Freiss, *Promises* by Amanda Sthers. *Il Capitale Umano* and *La Prima Cosa Bella* by Paolo Virzi were selected as Italian candidates in the Best Foreign Film category at the Academy Awards.

## Director's Profile

**Anita Rivaroli** is a screenwriter and director. She worked as story editor for *Gomorra*, *Tutto può succedere*, *Grand Hotel*, *La strada dritta* and others. She wrote the first season of *SKAM Italy* (Netflix), and the first season of *Summertime* (Netflix). In 2012 she wrote and directed the short film *A Summer Tale*, winner of the World Youth Alliance at the New York Film Festival. From 2015 to 2018 she was the artistic director of the Rockin'1000 project and directed all their video clips, some of which have gone viral with over 50M views. In 2020 she directed the musical documentary *We Are the Thousand*, which was presented in world premiere at the Rome Film Fest and won the Audience Award at SXSW2021, the most important music documentary festival in North America.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2012 - **A Summer Tale** (short)

2020 - **We Are the Thousand** (documentary)

# BRIANZA

Simone Catania

*Brianza* is a black comedy, a bourgeois story, born from the great crisis of 2008 that was inspired by a modern-day news story.



## Original Title

Brianza

## Screenplay by

Ugo Chiti, Fabio Natale, Simone Catania

## Shooting Language

Italian

## Main Location

Como (Italy), Verano Brianza (Italy), Domodossola (Italy), Lugano (Switzerland)

## Main Producer

Indyca  
Italy  
Francesca Portalupi  
francesca@indyca.it

## Estimated budget

€ 1.821.430

## Financing in place

€ 199.178

## Looking for

Co-Producers, Distributors, Pre-Sales

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## Synopsis

Como, Brianza, 2010. Giorgio Farina owns a gun store founded by his grandfather and handed down from father to son: the pride of the Farina family. But his risky investments combined with the darkest period of the economic crisis, drag Giorgio into an abyss of debt, forcing him to deceive his own family in order to hide his personal failure. Determined to conceal his secret, Giorgio, a consultant for the police and esteemed by the whole town for his irreproachable honesty, finds himself committing a brutal murder that he never would have thought himself capable of.

## Director's Statement

I was inspired by a newspaper article about the crime of this man from the high society of Como: I knew there had to be a world behind that murder. When I met the protagonists of the news story, it was immediately obvious that their story portrayed a unique and emblematic situation of our time. Farina is an honest family man who does everything not to lose his economic wealth, but the threat of bankruptcy turns him into a desperate man and he even goes so far as to kill in order to save his social status. Violence doesn't only reside in his most extreme gesture, but subtly emerges from the fabric of a society devoted to the attainment of ideals of perfection that cannot be disregarded. The epilogue makes us realize what can be the drifts caused by a system in which only social position and accumulated wealth count, in a general loss of reference values, of a spiritual feeling, and in this, *Brianza* is similar to my first work *Drive Me Home*, which also recounted the loss of reference points. To set this film, no place would have been better and more emblematic than the rich and foggy Brianza, where I lived my entire childhood and youth. *Brianza* represents the opportunity to create an experimental play, as the story allows several registers, and in the staging, since the classic level of the story is flanked by a more abstract level. A dramatic story emerges from the script, in which irony is hidden, designed to be staged, veiled and subtle, with an unsettling and therefore potentially original impact.

## Company Profile

**Indyca** is an independent production company established in 2007 in Turin, Italy. Guided by the ambition of using cinema in its widest sense of freedom with a passion for true stories, it has specialized in international coproduction working with European and American Countries such as France, Germany, Sweden, Canada, Chile among others. Indyca has been working with mainly European and North American broadcasters, dealing with public funds such as Creative EU funds, Eurimages, Ibermedia, national and regional funds. Its last productions won several awards such as Italian Golden Globe, French Prix SCAM, Nastro d'Argento, South by SouthWest Audience Award, Top Prize at Miami International Film Festival. Indyca's films have been selected to Venice, Rome, South by SouthWest, IDFA, Hot Docs.

## Director's Profile

**Simone Catania** is a director and producer. In 2007 he co-founded Indyca in Turin (Italy), an independent production company oriented to international co-production cinema movies. He graduated from Eurodoc in 2011 and Eave in 2013. The films he produced, premiered at important international festivals like the Venice Film Festival, SXSW, IDFA, Hot Docs, nominated at EFA, Nastri d'Argento, among others. In 2018 he directed his first feature film *Drive Me Home*.

## Director's Selected Filmography

2018 - **Drive Me Home** (feature)

# IT'S NO BIG DEAL

Valentina Zanella

Emma, 28 years old, eternal intern in a film production company in Rome. She feels like a romantic heroine: alone, struggling against doom and the end of the world. But, just when she decides to change her life, the past comes knocking on her door again. Should she go back to chasing her dreams?



## Original Title

Non è la fine del mondo

## Screenplay by

Federico Fava, Valentina Zanella

## Shooting Language

Italian, French

## Main Location

Italy (Rome, Milan), France (Paris)

## Main Producer

K+ s.r.l.  
Italy  
Nicola Fedrigoni, Francesca Moino  
nicola@kplusfilm.com  
francesca@kplusfilm.com

## Estimated budget

€ 1.916.345

## Financing in place

€ 1.021.066

## Financiers/partners already involved

MIC (Italian Ministry of Culture) Tax Credit:  
€ 696.853,06  
K+ s.r.l. - Deferrals (Producer fee + Overheads)  
and InKind Contribution: € 324.213,26

## Looking for

Co-production partners, financiers, distributors, festival programmers, world sales

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## Synopsis

Emma is a 28-year-old girl with curly black hair and bright eyes. She is half English and loves plying the streets of Rome on her old yellow racing bike. Eternal intern in a Roman film production company - "It's no big deal" is the mantra she repeats to herself every time something goes wrong. Emma starts new careers over and over again: from intern, to unemployed, to assistant in a children's clothing store until she becomes editor in a "dreamlike" production company. But will this suffice to make Emma a happy woman and a satisfied professional? The view from the villa she purchases thanks to a dear friend who passes away is spectacular, and this will surely get her life back on track. Right?

## Director's Statement

I fell in love with *It's no big deal* by A. Gazzola, smitten by the touch with which the author handled the protagonist's personal growth. It instantly screamed for a film adaptation. The depth of the story's characters and the positivity offered by the protagonist, Emma de Tessent, an eternal intern who represents the struggle of today's millennials, were too good to pass up. Emma is a revolutionary who uses the strongest weapon known to man - kindness. But hers is a kindness that comes at the cost of postponing her own dreams. Despite herself, Emma struggles to win her trophy: possession of a wisteria-covered villa where she can launch her "new" life. The film maintains the optimism offered by Emma, not through easy consolation, but by projecting a steady stream of confidence. Independent and ambitious, Emma never elbows her way ahead, but progresses through diligence and willingness. When hit, she never returns the blow, but waits to make a fresh start. Emma is the person everyone relies on when there's a problem, but who is always alone in her own times of need. In line with the comedies by Nora Ephron (*When Harry met Sally*, *You've Got Mail*), *It's no Big Deal*, is suffused with the good energy that Emma delivers as she pedals her old racer through the streets of Rome.

## Company Profile

**K+** (member of the European Producers Club) is a film production company based in Verona, Italy, operating in Cinema, TV and advertising since 2007. Founded by Nicola Fedrigoni, the Company has produced award-winning independent films and documentaries. We acquire literary rights and develop original scripts, selecting each project, taking care of every production aspect, thanks to over 15 years of experience and consolidated relationships with institutions, film commissions, partners, financiers and distributors. Our aim is to grow internationally, by expanding our networking, looking for main and minor co-productions. We produce independent films, looking at a classic cinema, made up of various different genres. A quality entertainment cinema that knows how to tell a story in surprising and innovative ways. K+'s last production *Acqua e Anice* by Corrado Ceron, with RAI Cinema and distributed by Fandango, has recently premiered at the Venice Days 22.

## Director's Profile

Born in Verona, **Valentina Zanella** attains a Master's Degree in Communication and Discography and in Master's in Advanced Photography at IED. She begins her pathway at the historical recording studio Jungle Sound Station and shows her creations at various photography exhibitions. As of 2009, she collaborates at K+ as Creative Director on musical and soundtrack video clips and commercials, and since 2016 as Creative Producer on several films and docs such as *The Last Prosecco* and *Disco Ruin*. In April, 2021 she directed the film short *The Scent of Tangerine* starring Sara Ciocca premiered at Giffoni 22. Valentina is now developing her debut feature *It's no big deal*.

## Director's Selected Filmography

**The Scent of Tangerine** (short)

Italy

# THE NIGHT BURNS

Angelica Gallo

Based on real events, *The Night Burns* is the story of Max and his friends, who, for pure pleasure, steal jewelry and valuable items at concerts by setting off a substance similar to pepper spray. However, during the last robbery, something different happens...



### Original Title

La notte brucia

### Screenplay by

Nicolò Galbiati, Angelica Gallo

### Shooting Language

Italian

### Main Location

Civitavecchia (Roma), Roma

### Main Producer

Askesis

Italy

Guendalina Folador

askesisfilm@gmail.com

### Estimated budget

€ 661.250

### Financing in place

€ 10.000

### Looking for

Development, Co-Production, Financial Support

### Synopsis

Born and raised in a small town, Max doesn't study or work. With the help of his friends, Antonio and Hamza, Max takes pleasure in stealing jewelry and valuable objects that they could then resell to unscrupulous jewelry stores. The days pass in a repetition of petty thefts and meetings with a cocaine pusher, until one night during a robbery the unexpected happens.

### Director's Statement

Max, Antonio and Hamza are just three ordinary boys, children of fake news on Facebook and of an Italy fueled by cheap cocaine, where small provinces are becoming violent for no apparent reason. These young people are not united with each other, and without prospects, culture or education, they don't really know how to react or rebel. We don't even really know why, or against whom, they are rebelling. Therefore, the only God to dedicate oneself to is Money as a goal in itself, completely liberated from what was done to obtain it. There is no work culture, because there is not really any culture other than the fashion house labels, the Instagram profiles of music stars and influencers. Underpinning this story is the cliché of the graduate who ends up as a garbage collector being omnipresent in society. The parents who work honestly all day for a thousand euros turn into losers; there can be no pride in them, nor pity.

### Company Profile

Askesis was founded as a training and consulting company. From a collaboration born with MTV and with various companies that required the presence of audiovisual support within their educational and commercial paths, Askesis has chosen to integrate the training activity with cinema. It uses to do book trailers, commercial videos and has supported as executive producer the production of *The Night Burns* of Angelica Gallo (2022). Askesis has recently amended its statutes to intensify its activities in the field of film production.

### Director's Profile

Born in Rome in 1990, **Angelica Gallo** graduated in 2016 with a Master in Visual Arts from the University of Bologna. Her first short film, *The Fourth Parcae* (doc - 2019), developed during the Eurodoc and Mia | Market programs, was shown in World Premiere at the Reykjavik International Film Festival and others: the story follows the real-life story of a suicide assistant in the city of Geneva. The second short film, *The Night Burns* (fiction - 2021), was shown in World Premiere at the Turin Film Festival, where it won the Rai Cinema Prize. The short was produced by Guendalina Folador with the support by Heino Deckert's company, ma.ja. de Filmproduktion.

### Director's Selected Filmography

2019 - **The Fourth Parcae** (short)

2021 - **The Night Burns** (short)

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PROJECTS



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# LAZIO REGION FOR ITALIAN CINEMA

## *LAZIO CINEMA INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS*

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**Lazio Cinema International** has been supporting our cinema and national and international productions since 2015. In these six years we have co-financed **154 works of high quality**, strengthening the competitiveness of our producers, attracting foreign investments, making Lazio and its beauty be known all over the world and helping to create new job opportunities.

Our films won **733 awards and nominations** in Italy and abroad.

Now, let's go on: we are looking for new ideas, new projects and new talents to go on together in the wake of the great Italian cinema.

Info at: [lazioeuropa.it](http://lazioeuropa.it) - [lazioterradycinema.it](http://lazioterradycinema.it)



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