

17th Kalpanirjhar International

Short Fiction Film Festival

3 to 7 December 2019

Presented by
Kalpanirjhar Foundation
and

Goethe-Institut
Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata

Supported by



at

Nandan III, West Bengal Film Centre

1/1 A J C Bose Road, Kolkata 700020

A decorative graphic of a film strip, rendered in a light gray color, curves across the lower half of the page. It starts on the left, loops around, and extends towards the right, creating a sense of motion and depth.

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17th Kalpanirjhar International Short Fiction Film Festival

Screening schedule*

Tuesday, 3 December 2019

6.30 pm Festival inauguration followed by screenings Page

Wednesday, 4 December 2019

1.30 pm International Selections - I

THE DEATH OF DON QUIXOTE / United Kingdom / 2018 / 13:00	14
ANCHORWOMAN / Greece / 2018 / 20:00	09
BEST DAY EVER / Tunisia / 2018 / 15:00	09
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GHAZAL / Palestine / 2019 / 24:00	10
THE TURN / India / 2019 / 09:00	18
GIRASOL / Venezuela / 2019 / 09:00	10
VADHA / India / 2019 / 21:59	18

4.00 pm Spanish Delights - I

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EVERYOU / Spain / 2018 / 07:00	22
FOR SALE / Spain / 2019 / 19:00	23
FREDDIE / Spain / 2019 / 15:00	23
FLORA / Spain / 2019 / 13:00	23
MY BROTHER JUAN / Spain / 2019 / 10:00	25
MY GRANDPA KNOWS KING KONG / Spain / 2019 / 07:00	25
TALENT SCOUT / Spain / 2018 / 08:00	27
KID TSUNAMI / Spain / 2019 / 02:00	24
MAY THE END OF THE WORLD CATCH YOU	
DANCING / Spain / 2018 / 10:00	25

6.30 pm Kurz.Film.Tour – German Short Film Award 2019

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Thursday, 5 December 2019

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1.30 pm

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DECADENT / Spain / 2019 / 18:00	22
IT WILL BE OUR SECRET / Spain / 2018 / 14:00	24

4.00 pm

French Connections

THE DISCRETE WAY / France / 2019 / 25:00	30
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THE CAMEL BOY / France / 2018 / 15:00	30
A GOOD SHOT / France / 2019 / 24:00	29
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6.30 pm

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Friday, 6 December 2019

1.30 pm

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6.30 pm	Award ceremony followed by closing films	

*Programme subject to change

Film Selection Committee

The Kalpanirjhar Foundation Team

Jury Members

Competition Section

KAMALESWAR MUKHERJEE (Chairperson)

Kamaleswar Mukherjee is one of the leading contemporary Bengali film directors and an ad maker. A physician by training, he migrated from the medical profession to the advertising world and then to filmmaking. After working as an advertisement filmmaker, he wrote dialogues, screenplays and songs. His directorial debut, the widely acclaimed film Uro Chithi was released in 2011. Since then he has directed nine feature films, including Meghe Dhaka Tara, inspired by the life and works of the legendary Bengali filmmaker Ritwik Ghatak, which was highly critically acclaimed and won the IFFI Centenary Award, followed by Chander Pahar, based on a novel by Bibhutibhusan Bandopadhyay, which is the second costliest film made in Bengali language and is still the biggest blockbuster in the history of Bengali cinema. In 2017 he wrote and directed Amazon Obhijaan, the sequel to Chander Pahar. He is also a playwright, director and the founder member of Kolkata-based theatre group Shailushik and is also trained in photography and computer graphics.



MALAVIKA BANERJEE

Malavika Banerjee is the director of the Kolkata Literary Meet and Gameplan, a Sports, events company. She has commissioned short films for the popular Large Short Films portal for the last five years. Through this she has worked with Adoor Gopalakrishnan, Sujoy Ghosh, Chaitanya Tamhane and Neeraj Pandey.

AMITABH SENGUPTA

is a painter engaged in several mediums, including video-art and digital projection. He studied in Calcutta, Paris and the USA. Later he spent eleven years working in two universities in Nigeria, becoming the Head of the Department of Visual Arts, University of Port-Harcourt in Rivers State. He has made several documentary films on folk arts of Bengal, besides publishing two books and many articles. His video-art was shown in Hungary, New York, and in India. In recent years, he has travelled and exhibited in Europe and the Far East. He is the founder Chairman of Art Trust in Kolkata, which organized many activities with young artists and art-lovers. In 2018, he curated a large show on the traditional Bengal Scroll Paintings, at KCC, Kolkata. He was also invited as the visiting-professor at IIT-Kanpur. Since 1989, he lives and works in Kolkata.





PATTON AWARD for the Best Indian Film
KALPANIRJHAR AWARD for the Second Best Indian Film

Picture Gallery

16th Kalpanirjhar International Short Fiction Film Festival 2018





International Selections – I to IV

ANCHORWOMAN

Greece / 2018 / 20:00

Direction & Editing:

Ioannis Monastropoulos

Camera: Vassilis Klotsotiras & GSC



An ambitious reporter follows a dark path towards success. Unknown to her, this path leads her to a life-changing confrontation with her grandmother. The film explores the mass media system and how it affects our lives.



BEST DAY EVER

Tunisia / 2018 / 15:00

Direction: Anissa Daoud

Camera: Hazem Berrabah

Editing: Malek Chatta

One family, one afternoon, one misunderstanding, four points of view.



FROM SCRATCH

USA / 2018 / 12:41

Direction: Anthony Almonte

Camera: Miguel Eric Branco

Editing: Chelsea Taylor

A death row prison chef reflects on his life and perfects an old recipe.



GHAZAL

Palestine / 2019 / 24:00

Direction: Amjad Arafeh

Camera: Mahmood Shaher

Editing: Osayd Amarnah

A Palestinian man in his late 30s, married with a child. He has been detained for years in the Israeli jails and is serving a life sentence. Sami refuses to cooperate with the Israeli prison director. So his family is prevented from visiting him. However, when an exception is made against all odds, the delighted prisoner needs to inform his family about the permitted visit.



What happens when we love something bigger than ourselves? The beautiful daughter of a clan head is in love with the Sun God and therefore rejects a marriage proposal from an eligible suitor of another clan, leading to offence and a vow of revenge.

GIRASOL

Venezuela / 2019 / 09:00, animation

Direction: Maria Victoria Sanchez Lara

Camera: Pablo Barboza

Editing: Maria Victoria Sanchez Lara & Ysidro Sore

Animation: Pedro Romero



GLORIA

Mexico / 2018 / 13:00

Direction: Alejandro Márquez García

Camera: Sebastian Chirinos

Editing: Adrian Perez Barron

This is a story of a man who is unfaithful and gradually realizes that he must correct his mistakes.

I DON'T KNOW

Iraq / UAE / 2019 / 11:00

Direction & Editing: Firas Sameer

Camera: Krishnan VS

A labourer revolts against the miserable reality that he lives in and is surprised by the consequences that change the course of his life.



IAN, A MOVING STORY

Argentina / 2018 / 09:46, animation

Direction & Editing: Abel Goldfarb

Camera: Juan Elias

Animation: Pablo Lorenzo

Ian was born with cerebral palsy. Like all kids, he wants to have friends, but discrimination and bullying keep him

from his beloved playground. He won't give up easily, accomplishing something that will surprise everyone.

Awards: International Independent Film Awards (USA), Platinum Award; La Shorts Fest (USA), Best Animation Short Film; Accolade Global Film Competition (USA), Best Short Film; Pixelatl (Mexico), Best Animation Short Film; Silver State Film Festival (USA), Best Animation Short Film; Hollywood Dreamz International Film Festival (USA), Best Animation Short Film.

LOBSTERS

United Kingdom / 2018 / 04:00

Direction: Matt Huntley

Camera: Matt Fox

Editing: James Wright



Mark, a lonely man in a caravan park has found his soul mate, his neighbour Tanya. He drifts off into a fantasy about their future together. Everything would have been perfect...if it weren't for Dave.

Awards: Short of The Year (Spain), Special Jury MentionLoco London Comedy Film Festival (United Kingdom), Best UK Comedy; Discover Film Awards (United Kingdom), Best Micro Comedy.



MY LITTLE BOYS – COUCH

Taiwan / 2018 / 03:38, animation

Direction, Camera & Editing: Jack Shih

Animation: Kai-ting Yang, Chia-chen & Fan Cian Luo

The little boy discovers the old couch in the living room with an already dented hole on the surface. He makes it his personal storage corner, stuffing all kinds of snacks and toys. He plans a secret space exploration along with his dog and transforms the couch into a super spaceship...

ON THE LOOKOUT

Belgium / 2019 / 19:00

Direction: Anaïs Debus

Camera: Benoît Delfosse

Editing: Nicolas Bier



August 1914. Germany invades Belgium and terrorizes the population. Despite being pregnant, Louise is taking care of the farm, her young boy and the crops. While the front rumbles a few kilometers away from her home, a man turns up at the farm in the middle of the night...



ONE MORE DAY

Ukraine / 2018 / 14:00

Direction: Aleksandr Shymko

Camera: Pavel Polyuchuk & Lexey Dudarev

Editing: Vladimir Nevelsky

The weird stranger appears at the doorstep. He says that he has come to help. But what does he honestly want and how does he know the house so well, although he has never been there before? Or maybe he has already been there...

PLAY

Poland / 2018 / 13:00
Direction: Piotr Sulkowski
Camera: Remigiusz Wojaczek
Editing: Ola Gowin



A man consumed by guilt because he did not dare to defend his mother, plays the role of a murderer and forces his ten-year-old self to face the trauma.



PORTRAIT

Kyrgyzstan / 2017 / 20:00
Direction & Editing: Azat Mamunov
Camera: Arjuna Asanov

A young man sees a beautiful stranger in his dream and falls in love with her. He asks an artist friend to recreate a portrait of the girl from his dream and begins his quest for her.

Award: Third Asia Youth Micro-Film Exhibition, best cinematography.

SOPHISMA

Morocco / 2019 / 15:00
Direction: Abdou El Mesnaoui
Camera: Abdellah El Moukadem
Editing: Ilyasse Lkhmasse



Omar, a young man, seems to be a victim of anxiety and instability. After many years he meets his former philosophy teacher in a café. He suggests a meeting in their old school. Once there, the meeting turns into a harsh judgmental situation as he demands of her to give him back his innocence and simplicity that he had before attending her classes..

Awards: Certamen Internacional De Cortometrajes - Linea- Espagnejuillet2019, Best International Movie.



THE DEATH OF DON QUIXOTE

United Kingdom / 2018 / 13:00

Direction: Miguel Faus

Camera: Sarath Menon

Editing: Gonçalo Ribeiro & Miguel Faus

London, 1968. Alphonse, a young and ambitious filmmaker, attempts to complete his greatest cinematic work yet, "The Death of Don Quixote". But with his ageing star Patrick Quincey falling ill, it's unclear what will die first: his vision, Patrick or Don Quixote.

THUNDER FROM A CLEAR SKY

Canada / 2018 / 21:00

Direction: Yohan Faure

Camera: Julien David

Editing: Yohan Faure & Alexandra Knusmann



Ten years after the discovery of a remote planetary system likely to sustain the early stages of a civilization. Tonight the whole world poses the question: "Should we meet this civilization?" A live TV debate is in progress.

Awards: Portobello Film Festival (United Kingdom), Best World Film; Scifi Film Festival (Australia), Best Short Film; Short of the Year (Spain) Best Narrative Short Film; Science plus fiction - Trieste International Science-Fiction Festival (Italy), MélièsD'argent Award

Indian Selections

Competition Section



A TRIP TO MY FRIEND'S HOME

India / 2019 / 22:00

Direction: Hindol Deb

Camera: Ashutosh Kumar

Editing: Viraj Selot

To impress his classmates in his new school and make new friends, Sayak keeps weaving larger than life stories around the paintings that he makes. Only Tanmay believes that Sayak has pet dolphins and an airport full of planes at his home, till he discovers that these are mere stories, but himself gets sucked into the habit of making up stories.

A TURN (Valan)

India / 2019 / 12:40

Direction: Kaushik Kumar Kiranbhai
Garasiya

Camera: Nithin Katta

Editing: Ruchira Petkar



A simple tempo driver's life turns upside down after an incident while negotiating a driving turn and the fear and guilt that he has to go through.



FURNITURE

India / 2018 / 24:00

Direction: Nazmus Sakib Himel

Camera: Saurabh Suman

Editing: Vibhav Nigam

A family migrates from a village to a town for their children's better education. In their new neighbourhood they feel the social pressure of buying furniture to entertain their guests, with not so pleasant results.

IN THE SHADOWS WE HIDE

India / 2019 / 25:00

Direction: Malyaj Awasthi

Camera: Dheeraj Chetia

Editing: NeenaVerma



Arjun is an unemployed youth from the Indian middle class, living in an urban cityscape. The film captures the harsh reality of the modern day city life through the protagonist's eyes.



LOOK AT THE SKY

India / 2018 / 30:00

Direction: Ashok Veilou

Camera: Jithu George

Editing: Pousheru Ngade

Hai, a 40-year-old man is outcast by his villagers for not supporting the village candidate in the election. Despite all odds, Hai shows courage and stands for his individual right.

METAMORPHOSIS (Kayantar)

India / 2019 / 29:00

Direction & Editing: Rajdeep Paul
& Sarmistha Maiti

Camera: Rana Partap Karforma



A Muslim girl wants to become a *bahurupi* like her father and dress up as the Hindu goddess Kali. Being a woman, she is barred from the family profession which is instead forced on to her unwilling brother. However, their simple lives get transformed by growing religious fundamentalism in the society.



NOINI

India / 2018 / 13:00

Direction: Dutta Debashis

Camera: Jagannath Karmakar

Editing: Niladri Roy

Little Noini lives with her mother and grandfather. In her world, they are the two most lonely persons. Despite the gloom, she tries to bring a smile on the faces around her.

SEPARATION OF LOVERS (Neithal)

India / 2019 / 23:00

Direction: Ashokan Moorthy

Camera: Gladwin John

Editing: Sounak Roy



In a fishing village of southern India, a cyclone devastates the men at sea claiming hundreds of lives. While the rest of the village mourns their demise, a young woman goes against all odds in the belief that her husband is not dead and would return to her one day.



THE BOY WITH A GUN (Kachichinithu)

India / 2019 / 15:00

Direction: Khanjan Kishore Nath

Camera: Jayanth Mathavan

Editing: Bikash Dutta

A schoolboy lives in a hilly village with his parents. One day he finds a small bag on the hilly road while going to school with a real pistol inside. He keeps it as a secret toy and then a terrible incident happens that makes him give up his pistol.

THE CHASE FOR FANTASY (Swapno Holeo Sotti)

India / 2019 / 18:00

Direction & Editing: Rijul Bar

Camera: Anirban Datta



This film is about a child who wants to fulfil his dream through education. But does his dream come true?



THE TURN

India / 2019 / 9:00

Direction & Camera: Somnath Pramanik

Editing: Rajdip Debray

A young aspirant to higher education in a premier institution joins the rat race and attends coaching classes. Soon the stress gets the better of him, prompting him to end his life. But a phone call brings about a turn in the story.

UNDERGROUND TALES (Bhumigat)

India / 2017 / 27:00

Direction: Pradyatan Bera

Camera: Shaz Mohammed

Editing: Rishiraj Bhattacharyya



Through faces and bodies of real life labourers emerges an epistolary account of a daily wage owner who suddenly finds himself out of work one day. Rampant industrialisation creates a new class of nomadic migrant workers whose lives are a series of transitions in search of work.



VADHA

India / 2019 / 22:00

Direction: Sai Mahesh Darsi

Camera: Aaditya Dalmia

Editing: Naveen Sunkara

Verayya lives in a beautiful village with his granddaughter. He suffers from a sleep-walking disorder. One morning his world turns upside down when the granddaughter goes missing.

WET BLUE TARPAULIN
(Bhija Neel Terpal)

India / 2019 / 25:00

Direction: Anunay Barbhuiya

Camera: Vishnu Hari

Editing: Sourabh



A migrant from Assam working in a Marathi restaurant in Pune has to make a forged ID to continue working in the city while struggling to contact his wife back in Assam.



WHIRLWIND
(Vaavtal)

India / 2019 / 15:30

Direction: Suraj Uddav Madhale

Camera: Mikma Lepcha

Editing: Aniket Karandikar

A simple middle-class person has recently started working as the driver of a big industrialist, who likes to flaunt his luxurious BMW car. He sends the driver in that car to deliver something to a client. On the way back the driver makes a detour to visit his grandma in the village, where a playful child makes a scratch on the body of the car. How can he face his boss now...?



Spanish Delights - I to III



(F)OUR SEASONS

Spain / 2019 / 14:00

Direction, Camera & Editing:
Miguel Gabaldón

Four seasons. Four stories. A glimpse with no words through the life of four couples in the cities of Madrid, Chicago and New York.

BLACK BASS

Spain / 2019 / 15:00

Direction: Rakesh Narwani
Camera: Pau EsteveBirba
Editing: Pedro Collantes



Things are not being easy for Dani and his father knows. That is why he set up a fishing day hoping to cheer him up. The problem is that, sometimes, what is good for one is not good for everyone.



BOARDING ROOM

Spain / 2019 / 23:30

Direction: María Nieto Navarro
Camera: J.Iván Romero
Editing: María Nieto

Carla goes through her memories to find out if she has made the best decision: follow her path or that of her love.



BOSA

Spain / 2019 / 19:00

Direction: Aitana Serrallet

Camera: Hayden Schubert

Editing: Rafael Serrallet

When Lucas finds out that Driss, his best friend, has been sent back to Morocco with his uncle, he decides to embark on a crazy adventure and go to look for him in a forbidden trip to the other side of the strait. The trip indeed gets adventurous.

Awards: Mejor Película Estudiante Benidorm Skyline 2019; Semi finalista Festpro Rusia 2019; Semi finalista Sands Film Festival 2019 (Florida USA); Semifinalista a Cachinos de Cine 2019 (Spain)



CABRONAS

Spain / Switzerland / 2019 / 14:00

Direction & Editing:

Laura, M. Campos & Anouk Degen

Camera: Blaise Villars

Luna wants to let out her sadness when Valentina, an extravagant woman, asks her for help. Luna breaks down. Between tears and sobs, the words come out, disconnected. Valentina understands: What a bastard!

CHIMES OF LOVE AND DEATH

Spain / 2019 / 17:00

Direction: Iria Ares

Camera: Fernando Jover

Editing: Marino García



A tribute to the cinema of Orson Welles; shot in Galicia and in 16mm. A romanti story with a single protagonist: death. The legend says that on the last day of the year, when the 12 chimes of midnight sound, the souls of those who are going to die next year go to the cemetery. Will you be one of them?



Spain / 2019 / 18:00

Direction: Víctor Devesa & García-Lliverós

Camera: Alberto López Chiralt

Editing: Víctor Devesa

DECADENT

Ángel is an idealistic politician, full of dreams. But sometimes dreams can turn into nightmares...



EVERYOU

Spain / 2018 / 07:00

Direction: Maite Astiz &

Pedro B. Abreu

Camera: Maite Astiz

Editing: Carlos Font

Iriana wakes up from a dream into another. A nightmare where her boyfriend physically changes. She knows that deep down he is still the same, but his eyes are not. The film talks about being afraid of change, about how we try to preserve the love that grew up among people who no longer seem the same.



FIRST COMMUNION (Le Comulgant)

Spain / 2018 / 20:00

Direction: Ignacio Lasiera Pinto

Camera: Alberto Pareja

Editing: Ignacio Estaregui & Antonio Álvarez

Maria wants to make her deceased mother's last wish come true. However, in her family, nobody seems to care.



Spain / 2019 / 13:00

Direction: Javier Kühn

Camera: Michal Babinec

Editing: Ignacio Jesús Mancebón

Flora

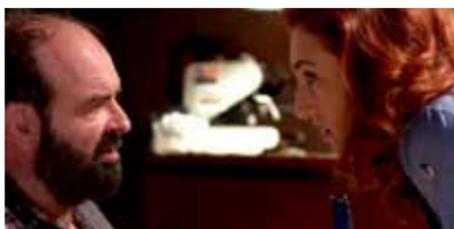
A Victorian story about life, death and everything in between.

FOR SALE (En Venda)

Spain / 2019 / 19:00

Direction: Mateu Ciurana

Camera & Editing: Laia Font



When he tastes the stew served by the cook woman, the only customer who dines at a lonely restaurant asks her for marriage. This impertinent proposition triggers a situation of harassment that will take an unexpected turn when the woman takes the initiative. The night will end with the two characters wondering if everything has a price.



FREDDIE

Spain / 2019 / 15:00

Direction: Adrià Pagès Molina

Camera: Adrià Guardiola

Editing: Fèlix Colomer

Alfredo - also known as Freddie - has had a complicated life: he is involved in shady deals, drugs and violence. Because of that, his upper-class family declares him persona non grata. When he finds out that his father, with whom he hasn't spoken in years, has only a few hours left, he decides to go and bid him farewell. Although their relationship is completely broken, there's still a link that binds them: their love for the band Queen and its legendary leader Freddie Mercury.



IT WILL BE OUR SECRET (Será Nuestro Secreto)

Spain / 2018 / 14:00
Direction: Sergi González
Camera: Roberto Fernández
Editing: Juanjo Clausell

It's Christmas. The Martina school choir visits the nursing home to sing Christmas carols. Martina recognizes her grandmother among the residents. All normal, except that her grandmother died three years ago ...

Awards: Mejor Guión Festival de Cine de La Almunia; Mención Especial del Jurado Joven 31 Semana de Cine de Medina del Campo 2018; Mejor Cortometraje 34 Alejandría Film Festival 2018; Mejor Película Festival Zinetxiki Zinemaldia 2018; Mejor Cortometraje Festival Alcut 2018.

KID TSUNAMI

Spain / 2019 / 02:00
Direction, Camera & Editing:
Fran Estévez

Two kids and one ice cream.



MATILDE OF MINE (Matilde Mía)

A man receives a shot that costs him his life. His wife, the alleged author of the crime, is shocked. The curiosity of an inspector will reveal the true story behind the murder.

Spain / 2018 / 19:00
Direction: Luis Arribas
Camera: David Esteban
Editing: Jose Manuel Jiménez

MAY THE END OF THE WORLD CATCH YOU DANCING **(Que el fin del mundo te pille bailando)**



Spain / 2018 / 10:00

Direction: Josemari Martínez

Camera: Marcos del Huelmo

Editing: Ado Martínez

A street violinist gets ready to play in his usual spot. His clothes are shabby; his violin case is worn out. And then we hear beautiful music, exquisitely played. Hearing the music, a girl stops to listen. She becomes absorbed by the melody and starts to dance. First she moves timidly but gradually she relaxes and abandons herself to the rhythm of the violin. For just one moment they are living their lives again.

MY BROTHER JUAN **(Mi Hermano Juan)**

Spain / 2019 / 10:00

Direction & Editing: Cristina Martín

Barcelona & María José Martín

Barcelona

Camera: Angel Amorós



Ana is a 6 years old girl who is undergoing child therapy with a psychologist. Through games and drawings she tells the psychologist about her family, in particular about her older brother, Juan. She describes what he's like, how he feels about her, how they play together. But soon, it will be revealed that things are not always exactly what they seem.



MY GRANDPA KNOWS KING KONG **(Mi Abuelo Conoce A King Kong)**

Spain / 2019 / 07:00, animation

Direction, Camera, Animation

& Editing: Miguel Sáez Plaza

An incredulous grandfather and his excited granddaughter go to the cinema to see a film of King Kong. The film is from when King Kong was in the grandfather's town.

OUR STREET (Nuestra Calle)

Spain / 2018 / 17:00

Direction: Clara Santaolaya

Camera: Raúl Peña

Editing: Adoración G. Elipe



The story of 4 very different women who live on the same street and join in a chain of sisterhood, empowerment and strength. Together they stand up against and overcome the realities that others had chosen for them. All claim their own space; together they take the street. Sometimes, a small day by day revolution can change everything.



One day, life detaches you from the world. Without a warning. Isolation. It is just like being alone in space. This is what happened to Ana. No more albums, no more tours or stages. Music remained inside, and so did Juan, her love, her Earth. After 3 years, Ana begins to feel strong. But today hasn't been a good day for her.

PLANET EARTH CALLING ANA (La Tierra Llamando A Ana)

Spain / 2019 / 20:00

Direction: Fernando Bonelli

Camera: Iñigo Hualde & Rafael Reparaz

Editing: Ascen Marchena

RAMEN

Spain / 2018 / 08:00

Direction & Editing: Eian de Setoain

Camera: Albert Poquet



Lucrecia, an ultra conservative Christian, accepts the invitation of her granddaughter Marta and attends her Pastafarian communion, which in turn will be officiated by her son Jacobo. Lucrecia sees Pastafarianism as misbeliever conduct and blasphemy to her Christian god. Will she be able to respect her family's beliefs and not ruin the ceremony?



Dominique had been the most prestigious talent scout in Paris. Now, he is only the shadow of his past until he discovers Sofia, a Spanish flamenco dancer, who emigrates to France because of the Spanish civil war and who hides the secret of the greatest talent in history.

TALENT SCOUT (Cazatalentos)

Spain / 2018 / 08:00, animation

Direction: José Herrera

Camera: Rodrigo Rodríguez

Editing: Andrés Germán Fernández

Animation: Manuel Sirgo, Juan Antonio Carrillo & Estefanía Bergzoll



Spain / 2019 / 08:00

Direction: Juanma Martín

Camera: Edu Sánchez

Editing: Javier Jimenez

THE SHADOW (La sombra)

Have you ever felt fear while walking back home? Celia is a 20 year old student who fell asleep in the library. When she woke up hours later, she found herself alone in the building.



Chicho and Macarena impatiently await the arrival of their guests. Trivial Pursuit is already set up on the table, and Paloma and Miguel seem like the perfect opponents for an easy win. Everything is going well until Paloma and Miguel take out a lucky coin and begin to answer questions correctly. The tension becomes unbearable: the game is not the only thing in play, and Macarena hates to lose.

TRIVIAL

Spain / 2018 / 14:00

Direction: Fran Menchón & Sandra Reina

Camera: Iván V. Jiménez & Nil Santané

Editing: Elodie Leuthold

ZERO

Spain / 2018 / 09:00

Direction: David Macián

Camera: Fernando Fernández

Editing: Daniel Cortázar



Once upon a time there was a town where nobody drank Coca-cola.

Awards: Cortopilar (Spain) - Best Actor; Festival Internacional De Cortometrajes Radio City (Spain); Premio Del Público Y Premio De Distribución - Audience Award & Distribution Award; Certamen Nacional De Cortometrajes De Mula (Spain) - Best Actor; Festival Internacional De Cortometrajes De Temática Social De Berriozar (Spain) - Second Prize; Short of The Year (Spain) - Special Jury Mention.



French Connections



A GOOD SHOT (Un bon tireur)

France / 2019 / 24:00

Direction: Aurélien Recoing

Camera: Nicolas Duchêne

Editing: Aurique Delannoy

Eric is a very talented basketball player. He is being recruited by all the best teams. His father, Daniel, has big dreams for Eric, and pushes him to the limit at each training session. It's an all-consuming dream, that threatens to make him forget what really matters. But will father or son dare to wake the other from this toxic dream?

BURQA CITY

France / 2019 / 20:00

Direction: Fabrice Braçq

Camera: Philippe Brelot

Editing: Sam Bouchard

Souleymane and Leila just got married, for better or for worse. The better is that they love each other very much. The worse is that they live in an absurd and kafkaesque society.



ESSENCES

France / 2018 / 19:00

Direction: Lerena Lopez

Camera: Thomas Migevant

Editing: Vincent Busnel

Nina, Raph and Malo, three young musicians on their way to a tour hope to sign with a musical label. Persuaded to win the jackpot, Ralph unwittingly spends their entire savings playing casino. Now ruined and without gasoline, their caravan is found immobilized on a parking lot in a small provincial town. What next...?

LINA

France / 2018 / 09:00

Direction: Dominique Barniaud

Camera: François Décréau

Editing: Nari Andrihamahatana

Lina is a 9-year old girl who is facing her first little girl troubles. She asks her mother for help, but there are some things that a mother cannot do.



Awards: Festival Internacional De Cine De Ponferrada (Spain), Special Jury Mention; Short of the year (Spain), Special Jury Mention.

THE CAMEL BOY (L'enfant Chameau)

France / 2018 / 15:00

Direction & Camera: Chabname Zariâb

Editing: Guillaume Sagnol &
Vanessa Basté



Somewhere in the desert, a little boy is plunged by force into an intimidating and completely foreign new world: the world of camel racing. Will the distant hope of seeing his mother again give him the strength to overcome his fears and find his place in this hostile environment?

Awards: Monthly Winner at Calcutta International Cult Film Festival (Inde); Prix du public festival de Sain-Jean-de-Luz; Promofest distribution prize (2018); Slemani International Film festival best short 2018; Mention d'honneur – Post Alley 2018 (USA)



THE DISCRETE WAY (La Voie Discrete)

France / 2019 / 25:00

Direction: Ho Lam

Camera: Sylvain Rodriguez

Editing: Nicolas Sarkissian

Wai, a young Asian man in his twenties, lives at his aunt and uncle's. He works for them as a delivery man. Trapped in a tedious life conditioned by work and a withdrawn community, he meets a solitary man. This encounter will move him deeply.

THE ROOM (La Chambre)

France / Algeria / 2018 / 17:00

Direction: Latifa Said

Camera: Yannig Dumoulin

Editing: Aurélie Noury



Anne must come to pick up her father's belongings from his home. Her father, an Algerian immigrant worker whom she hardly knew, has just died. Anne will discover her father through his objects and realize, after all these years, that he loved her.



Italian Offerings



DELAY (Takhir)

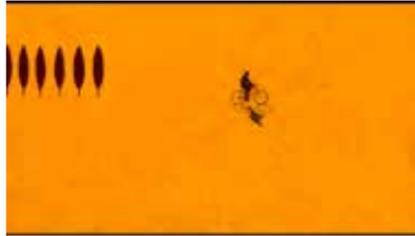
Italy / 2018 / 14:58

Direction: Ali Asgari

Camera: Alberto Marchiori & Majid Gorjiyan

Editing: Ehsan Vaseghi

A man and his two children are late for their flight. While they wait for the next flight something happens that changes his point of view about being a father.



MERCURY (Mercurio)

Italy / 2018 / 09:50, animation

Direction, Animation & Editing:

Michele Bernardi

Through his passions that link him to his childhood, a young man manages to accept the prevailing unavoidable human conditions. This way, he escapes the physical and mental alienation of the fascist dictatorship and gains absolute freedom.



SOUNDS (Rumori)

Italy / 2018 / 10:51

Direction & Editing: Sämen

Camera: Luca Esposito

A story, set in a country house, that narrates the crisis in the relationship of a young couple. We initially see just the woman while the man's presence is only suggested in the shots. The house is a metaphor for their relationship, a prison impossible to break out of, where they're invisible to each other's eyes.

THE DAY (La giornata)

Italy / 2017 / 11:36

Direction: Pippo Mezzapesa

Camera: Michele D'Attanasio

Editing: Andrea Facchini



Paola Clemente, a 49-year old labourer from died of fatigue on the 13th of July 2015. Her story is told through facts and words of the enquiry to the masters who exploited her and through the voices of women travelling on the bus that ferries them to work.



WINDMILLS (La giornata)

Italy / 2018 / 17:07

Direction & Editing:

Simone Spampinato

Camera: Lorenzo Squarcia

Fabio is a 50 year old man who just got out from prison. He soon discovers that he needs to obtain his middle school diploma in order to get a job as a supermarket cashier. Fabio starts attending night classes, and gradually bonds with his new schoolmates and his Italian teacher. But soon his criminal past catches up with him...



GENERICAMENTE

Italy / 2019 / 15:00,

Direction: Giulio Neglia

Camera: Alberto Francesco Giorgi

Editing: Marzia Meddi

The attribute "crowd" may not always sound complimentary, but for some it may be a sense of redemption, a breath of relief, a dream of life.

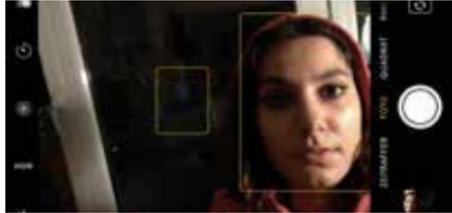


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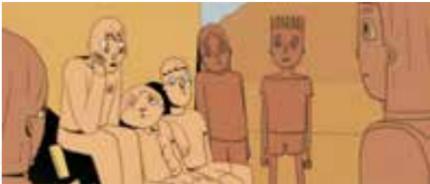
German Short Film Award 2019

FOLLOWER

Germany / 2018 / 10:00
Direction: Jonathan Behr



Actually, Clara only wants to spend one evening as a babysitter for a wealthy family in their house when her mobile phone notifies her of a new Instagram follower - who cannot be shaken off easily. When Clara calls her boyfriend Patrick for help, the situation just gets worse.



RÄUBER & GENDARM

Germany / 2017 / 08:00, animation
Direction: Florian Maubach

"Playing cops and robbers in the old playground. Why am I still playing?" While playing cops and robbers with friends, Daniel begins to realize that there is something else between catching and getting caught. He finds himself confronted with situations he doesn't really know how to deal with.

NACH DEM FEST

Germany / 2018 / 14:00
Direction: Florian Maubach



To escape the loneliness of the rough street life, the homeless Andi harasses his acquaintance Sandra. Between restrained tenderness and subliminal violence begins a constant struggle for closeness and distance.



THE BITTER WITH THE SWEET

Germany / 2018 / 24:00

Direction: Ann Sophie Lindström

Cowboy Ricky, 62, and eloquent Gretchen, 55, have been a couple since 2008. Influenced by injuries from the past, the relationship for both is an emotional rollercoaster ride between dependence and love. Despite the challenges in their relationship, Ricky and Gretchen try to grow old together, because they can't cope with their bitter everyday life in North Philadelphia without each other. The intimate film takes us on an emotional journey from tenderly beautiful moments to total rage and invites us to think about our own relationships, triggers and emotions.



MINDEN RENDBEN

Germany / 2018 / 13:00

Direction: Borbála Nagy

Alpár has his first working day on the 175 km long border between Hungary and Serbia, where he is supposed to protect his country from fugitives. As he tries to understand the rules of the border guards, he is confronted with the relentless structures that rob the strangers from the other side of their human qualities. Alpár also seems to have to leave behind his humanity in the icy cold microcosm of the border.



CAT DAYS (Neko no Hi)

Germany / Japan / 2018 / 11:00

Direction: Jon Frickey

Little Jiro feels sick. His father takes him to the doctor. Her diagnosis is harmless, but shakes the boy's identity.



Berlinale Spotlight: “Me, You And All Of Us” (Fiction)

THE GOLDEN LEGEND

Spain / 2019 / 11:00

Direction: Chema Garcia Ibarra &
Ion de Sosa



The swimming pool has played an important role throughout film history – most often as a romping ground for the sophisticated and hedonistic Dolce Vita. But it can be so much more, even sinister, as in *Sunset Boulevard*. While conflicts, aggression, rivalries and animosities have a siesta, the villagers take a well-deserved break...



BLESSED LAND

Vietnam / 2019 / 19:00

Direction: Pham Ngoc Lan

An old cemetery in the middle of a dune landscape: mother and son wander between graves in search of the resting place of the deceased father. Looking down from the opposing dune, a man watches them through binoculars. The dunes are now part of a golf course overlooking the city. This narrative approach is enlightened by a different cultural understanding of life and death in the act of ‘being’. We do not remember, we are in our imagination.

WATERMELON JUICE

Spain / 2019 / 22:00
Direction: Irene Moray



On holiday in Catalonia, Pol and Bàrbara share a house with friends. The pair does what pairs do amidst the heat of summer and alongside the body of another. But something is wrong, and is instantly noticeable. She tries to regain her ability to orgasm, and he helps her... How much time, effort and dedication does it take to find your way back to your own sexuality?



CATCHING FIRE

France / 2019 / 26:00
Direction: Michaël Soyez

Male violence superimposes the innocence and growth. It is difficult to differentiate reality from dream, when everything is reality for those who protect the other. 'May beetle fly/Your father is at war/Your mother is in Pomerania/Pomerania has burned down/May beetle fly.' This German nursery rhyme sets the tone for the film and according to historian Hans Medick, can be traced back to the global Seven Years' War (1756–1763). A hand pushes a mossy branch to the sky. A fire burns. A long shot reveals deep black smoke rising behind the boy...



Berlinale Spotlight

“Character Paintings” (Animation)

MR MARE

Hungary / France / 2019 / 19:00, animation
Direction: Luca Tóth



The nipple is the power button that gets the ‘cinema of the mind’ rolling – or is it in fact a reality? An X-ray reveals it quite clearly: a little man nestled between the rib bones. There he lies and sleeps. The male’s host goes crazy, but it doesn’t help, he falls asleep exhausted. When he wakes up the next morning, he finds a wound where his nipple used to be, and footprints on the floor. The search begins. But the little man refuses to be intimidated or annoyed or fooled. He confidently sets off to find his place in this gay universe. Who actually loves whom here? Surrealistic and absurd settings come up against a real, everyday world. Unfathomable, inexplicable, sensual, feisty, peculiar.



KINGDOM

Singapore / 2018 / 05:00, animation
Direction: Tan Wei Keong

A forest, a man, a suitcase. To walk, to hatch, to transform oneself. A discovery, discovering oneself? By combining various cinematic techniques, animation artist Tan Wei Keong creates a universe with a minimum of gestures in order to describe the complexity of a search. The repetition of gestures holds a magic of its own, and the exploration of space and ego is surprisingly reflected in the sound track and in the nakedness of the man. Freedom lies in the gaze itself.



BLAU

Germany / 2017 / 15:00, animation

Direction: Tan Wei Keong

The infinite vastness of the ocean. A mother whale and her calf. An old folk belief says that a whale dreams for the entire duration of its life. In *Blau*, life and myth of the great mammal are woven together into a story of fantastic realism. The whale cow sets out on a journey with her calf. The mother dies en route: the child witnesses her murder first hand and is left to fend for itself from that point on...



BROKEN

Germany / 2017 / 07:00, animation

Direction: Volker Schlecht &
Alexander Lahl

Kaputt is an animation about Burg Hoheneck, the central women's prison in former GDR. Apart from detention conditions, themes addressed primarily include enforced labour and the utilisation of products manufactured for export to the West. Gabriele Stötzer from Erfurt and Birgit Willschütz from Berlin recall their prison terms at Hoheneck in original interview recordings. The extract of these audio testimonials are interpreted in simple, minimally animated monochrome images



SPLASH

China / 2019 / 09:00, animation

Direction: Shen Jie

The camera falls into the water. A man without arms stands at the edge of the pool and fishes the diving goggles out of his trousers with his foot. Like an animal, he bites the hand of a woman standing next to him. A package is opened. A jump in the water, followed by a splash! It is the exploding of a bomb, marking the transition of life to death. With a precise montage of a few sound elements, animated images and framing, Shen Jie tells of borderlines and possibilities. Who holds whom and when?



WISHING WELL

Germany / 2018 / 13:00, animation

Direction: Sylvia Schedelbauer

A forest glade. A flickering. A cutting sound accompanies and dissects the simplicity of the image immediately, while the camera simultaneously moves backwards – we are distancing ourselves, entering into something new. The journey begins. A child on a path. It remains in the blackness, its hand, its face. The forest. Two universes encountering one another...

Kalpanirjhar Foundation is grateful to the following organisations for their active support for this year's festival



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