



**BRUSSELS
INDEPENDENT
FILM FESTIVAL**

10-16/02/2019

**FREE FILM SCREENINGS IN CINEMA
GALERIES, CINEMA RITCS & ATOMIUM**

WWW.BRUSSELSFILMFESTIVAL.COM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10
19.00 - 21.00

A DOLL'S HUG (TAIWAN) BY ROB CHIIHWEN LO

Domestic violence, school violence, and societal violence continually challenge and threaten the Taiwanese teenage boy, XiangYu. He seeks to escape from the undesirable reality to take shelter in his imaginary barbie doll world. He learns to fight back to seek solutions for ever-lasting redemption. However, the relief from the redemption is impermanent...

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:20:00

PAIN IS MINE (AUSTRALIA) BY FARSHID AKHLAGHI

One day, One room, One take. After her spinal surgery, she was always in pain, intense pain, unendurable pain. Painkillers have been her refuge for a long time, but one day, she decided to stop.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:12:30

*THE DEAD MAN SPEAKS (NETHERLANDS)
BY MARCOS MERELES*

A dead man's thoughts about his current state.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:02:27

*HAPPY NEW YEAR (NETHERLANDS)
BY BRANDON GRÖTZINGER, WANDER THEUNIS*

On the last day of the year, a dispirited work-at-home phone interpreter has her moribund life turned upside down when she answers an unexpected emergency call.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:08:51

*ÉTANGS NOIRS (BELGIUM)
BY PIETER DUMOULIN, TIMEAU DE KEYSER*

Jimi, a young man living in the Brussels' neighbourhood Cité Modèle, tries to return a parcel to a woman from his neighbourhood that was delivered at his apartment by mistake. When Jimi can't locate her, finding her becomes an obsession.

Narrative Feature Film // Duration: 01:11:10

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11
18.30 -20.30

ISLAND (GERMANY)

BY MAX MÖRTL, ROBERT LÖBEL

On a small island a bunch of exotic creatures run across each other.

Animated Film // Duration: 00:02:30

PASSAGE (CANADA)

BY HENRY COLIN

Friendship. Life. Loss. Tragedy. The story of brothers Tim and Tyler, growing up in the coastal community of Eastern Passage, as told through the eyes of their friend Luke.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:10:40

PAUSE (CYPRUS)

BY TONIA MISHALI

In a desperate attempt to escape from the misery of a loveless marriage, Elpida finds refuge in a fantasy world of vindictive violence. Soon, reality and fantasy start to blur.

Narrative Film // Duration: 01:36:10



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11
20:30 - 22.30



HUMAN DROID LOVERS (GERMANY)
BY ANNA JORDAN PROJECT

The Hybrid Dimension I. galactic stories start with the hopeful excitement of new Exotic Expeditions.

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:03:06

ANITA (MEXICO)
BY LUCERO ADRIANA HERNÁNDEZ CAMARGO

Anita, a woman who survived the martyrdom of the Poquianchis after 11 years of abduction, testifies to how she managed to free herself and confront her fears, finding a way to heal and shape her own identity.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:10:00

ME, DOCUMENTED (UNITED KINGDOM)
BY CAITY LOUGHEED

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:02:02

2ND CLASS (SWEDEN) BY JIMMY OLSSON

Charlotte is the new 2nd class teacher and when she is out with her friends she gets attacked by a nazi. After the hospital when she gets back to her school she discovers that one of her students is the son of that nazi

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:13:45

NAP WITH ROGER - PARIS (UNITED STATES)
BY VICTOR MIGNATTI

Roger the Cat naps and dreams of Dalida, Piaf and Aznavour.
Narrative Film // Duration: 00:03:00

SHADOW (CHINA) BY LEI LEI

This film tells about a girl who had been followed and abused sexually suffered secondary injuries which were all from different treatments of people around her.

Animated Film // Duration: 00:05:32

IN BLOOM (UNITED KINGDOM)
BY MAYA ARMON

A young generation preparing the old one to its tragic death.
Narrative Film // Duration: 00:07:40

ACTA NON VERBA (SWITZERLAND)
BY YVANN YAGCHI

On October 6, 2012, at approximately midnight, a Swiss banker, Michel Yagchi, committed suicide in the basement of his house in Geneva. That evening, Michel's entire family was abroad, travelling to Brussels to attend the graduation of Michel's eldest son Yvann. Three years later, Yvann began investigating his father's mysterious suicide, concurrently confronting his family and his father's friends and colleagues.

Documentary Film // Duration: 01:11:00



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12
19.30 - 22.00

A DOG LEASHED (UNITED STATES)

BY DANE CREE

Self-reflection through meditation. A look at the shadow self.

Animated / Experimental Film // Duration: 00:03:00

CLEANING SCHAERBEEK (LEBANON)

BY FARAH KASSEM

Following the Paris Attacks in November 2015, the Belgian minister of interior increases the alert level on the national scale. In one of his interviews, he announces that he wants to clean Molenbeek, a region in Brussels recently tied to islamist extremism. Meanwhile, a resident from Schaerbeek notices unusual happening in front of her window. She decides to alert the authorities.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:19:39

OPHELIA (FRANCE)

BY ERIC DU BELLAY

At night, a woman at different ages loves, suffers and frees herself. She's called Ophelia.

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:12:57

COMPARED TO ME (BELGIUM)

BY SIMON VAN DER ZANDE

An intimate portrait of a young woman searching for her identity as a professional dancer.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:10:40

WAITHOOD (BELGIUM)

BY LOUISIANA MEES

A group of young non-actors, from Athens, yearn to forget their idle futures while playing in luxurious Airbnb's. Nevertheless their fate catches up with them.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:21:37

LOBI KUNA (BELGIUM)

BY MATTHIAS DE GROOF

Photographer Mekhar Kiyoso is in the Africa Museum for a shoot. His gaze is soon unsettled as he views through his lens the macabre museum as a mausoleum of his cultural heritage.

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:45:35

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

19.30 - 22.00

VACUUM (MALAYSIA)

BY GABRIEL GABRIEL GARBLE

Using his innate skills in perfumery as a form of escapism, Antoine navigates through scrutiny in an oppressive world controlled by a government that aims to narrow down the 5 human senses in order to control the population.

VACUUM particularly focuses on the sense of smell. An animated short about developing internal freedom to overcome external oppression.

Animated Film // Duration: 00:03:16

ELEPHANTFISH (BELGIUM)

BY MELTSE VAN COILLIE

We find ourselves aboard of a cargo ship, drifting in an endless sea. This vast emptiness in time and space is something the sailors cope with in their own ways.

Imagination rises from beneath the surface and gradually takes the helm...

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:28:00

MAJNUNI (BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA)

BY KOUROS ALAGHBAND

In Persian and Arabic, the title 'Majnuni', translates as unfulfilled longing or a particular strain of love-mania that in some cases is aimed at the divine. In this film, we follow a modern-day Majnun, a musical stalker named Adnan, who stalks a broken family and his ex-lover through the war-torn spring of Sarajevo, Bosnia i Herzegovina. The madness of his longing spirals him into a musical fugue where he begins to lose his identity and chase after his old love. The film was made under the mentorship of Béla Tarr.





THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14
19.00 - 21.00

THE BITTER WITH THE SWEET (GERMANY)
BY ANN SOPHIE LINDSTRÖM

A love story on the verge of madness between Ricky, 62, an aging cowboy and Gretchen, 55, an eloquent former drug addict. Ricky and Gretchen live a thin line between love and hate as they try to grow old together.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:23:48

FRAGMENTS 83 (UNITED STATES)
BY RICHARD MILLEN

Fragments 83 rediscovers—and repurposes—Richard Millen's 1983 experimental film *If You Can't Be with the One You Love*, shot in Brooklyn and the West Village in the early days of the AIDS epidemic. The resulting documentary explores the hunt for sex/love, the joy of making cinema, and the inexorable passage of time.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:19:09

THE BALLAD (CANADA) BY HAYA WASEEM

The Ballad is a visual exploration of relationships, captured on 65mm film with unrehearsed couples.

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:03:50

RITA (GREECE)
BY GEORGE DANOPOULOS

Rita, an old-school prostitute, in Athens, talks about facts and aspects of her life and character.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:20:50

FLORA (UNITED STATES) BY CHAERIN IM

Experimental animation about gender and sexuality.

Animated Film // Duration: 00:04:17

INVENTORY OF TIME (BRAZIL)
BY KHALIL CHARIF

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:01:00

KOKA, THE BUTCHER (GERMANY)
BY BENCE MÁTÉ

A respected figure in Cairo's pigeon fighting world is leading his area into a decisive battle. Under immense pressure from his conservative community to quit his passion and marry, he is faced with the possibility that the upcoming race will be his last one.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:38:00

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14
21.00 - 23.00

CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF YOU (UNITED STATES)
BY GABRIELE FABBRO

Music Video // Duration: 00:03:26

FIRST KISS (UNITED KINGDOM)
BY ALI ASCHMAN

A reflection on the complex trauma of being a teenage girl. Animated Film // Duration: 00:01:52

THINK OF SOMETHING BLUE (NETHERLANDS) BY DE MARS

Based on a Dutch Poem by Martijn den Ouden.
Experimental Film // Duration: 00:06:23

TOKIO.PAPA (RUSSIAN FEDERATION)
BY LADA SAVENKOVA

I haven't seen my father for fifteen years. I fly to Tokyo, turn camcorder on. Documentary Film // Duration: 00:10:54

SCANDAL (RÉUNION)
BY PABLO MENGIN-LECREULX

The story of a man who tries to run away from his fate.
Animated Film // Duration: 00:04:10

THIS PARTICULAR FEELING (CANADA)
BY JOCELYNE LALIBERTÉ

Impressed and soothed by the splendour of nature that surround her, a woman finds serenity during a peaceful walk in the forest.

Animated Film // Duration: 00:04:21

THE DREAM HATCHER (RUSSIAN FEDERATION)
BY MEL HSIEH

A respected figure in Cairo's pigeon fighting world is leading his area into a decisive battle.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:38:00

DIVISIONAL ARTICULATIONS (HONG KONG)
BY MAX HÄTTLER

Animated Experimental Film // Duration: 00:04:33

HURRY SLOWLY (NORWAY) BY ANDERS EMBLEM

Hurry Slowly is a warm slice-of-life film about Fiona and her younger brother Tom, whom she takes care of. We follow Fiona over a few life-changing summer months on the north-western coast of Norway, where she juggles the care of her brother, her job at the local ferry and her interest in music. Narrative Film // Duration: 01:10:00

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15
19.00 - 21.00

SCULPT THE MOTION (ITALY)
BY DEVIS VENTURELLI

Sculpt the motion shows continuous transformations of metallic bodies through different urban plans. Contemporary architecture is a scenario for a performance, an experience as a sculptural promenade in a continuous flux.

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:06:08

THE KINGDOM OF MEN (HONG KONG)
BY SHAM KWAN YIN

An experimental short integrated the creative process of contemporary theatre art in filmmaking. Exercising the concept of the theatre of absurd, the screenplay depicts a group of jailers who are ridiculously assigned by the authority to endlessly guard an long abandoned ancient prison - how would the jailers live their lives? How would the protagonist 'boss' who only knows obedience in his life face the absurd situation of guarding the empty cells?

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:22:31

MR. DARCY (CHINA) BY XUYU ZHANG

This film is a portrait of Mr. Darcy Lee Pearson, a former telephone insurance seller who now has been living in deprivation and poverty. Darcy, aged 37, lives in Boscombe, the suburb of Bournemouth, one of the most deprived regions in the South West England. Darcy suffered depression long ago and went through a mental meltdown since then which trapped him in a life without any hope. In this film, Darcy spoke his minds to camera candidly and talked about his internal status, his past life and his vision for the future.

Documentary Film // Duration: 00:37:32

KEV (BELGIUM) BY CLÉMENCE HÉBERT

Kevin is a child who runs away, breaks things, cannot speak, has a partly cut-off ear. The type of autism he suffers from is said to be so severe that most institutions refuse to care for him. The filmmaker has been visiting him regularly with her video camera since he was 14 years old; now he is 18. The film follows him from one living situation to another, without any certainty about the future, and invites us to approach an entirely different relationship to the world. Documentary Film // Duration: 00:50:00



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

21.30 - 23.30

HOW CAN I TELL YOU (FRANCE)

BY BARBARA CREUTZ

The words and woes of exile by Estonian poet-singer Lembe Loka. How Can I Tell You is a sentimental journey through language and imagery.

Animated Film // Duration: 00:04:25

VONNIS (BELGIUM) BY WALT BLADT

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:08:35

AS TREES WE WILL RETURN (BELGIUM)

BY MIRA BORGHS

For the video images of 'As trees we will return' Mira Borghs has chosen a location in which bewildered nature and a deteriorated factory building stand next to each other. The characters, all three dressed in fur, don't speak but observe nature around them, through their glasses.

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:03:03

DEER BOY (POLAND) BY KATARZYNA GONDEK

This film will be a story about a hunter's son, who was born with antlers, and about how each man kills the thing he loves. Narrative Film // Duration: 00:15:00

KRESALA (BELGIUM) BY JUNE LAKA

Txiki, an 11 years old boy, lives in a fisherman's town. To escape from the daily routine, Txiki spends the day at his grandfather house, grandpa Sabin's, an old fisherman that claims to have seawater running down his veins.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:14:49

RESET (NETHERLANDS) BY ALDINE REININK

After having lived and worked in New York, Berlin and Brussels, the Belgian artist Gert Robijns returns to his native village, a small hamlet with fewer than 200 inhabitants. When his grandmother moves into an old people's home, he buys her house and creates his masterpiece, Reset Home, a sculpture and art space. The documentary follows Gert during the creation of this work of art, a battle that lasts more than two years. For Robijns this construction labour, with its many ups and downs becomes an intensely personal journey. He witnesses directly the gradual changes and deterioration of his grandmother, and his love-hate relationship with his native village surfaces in ways he never experienced before. Documentary Film // Duration: 00:58:22



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

11.00 - 13.00

SLEEP ON THE TRACKS (CANADA)

BY JASMIN MOZAFFARI

Kat, an unemployed single mom struggles to prepare for an impending interview.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:12:45

NICABOB (UNITED STATES) BY DANEETA LORETTA

JACKSON, PATRICK JACKSON

A lonely teenager inadvertently makes a real human connection when he shuts down his Youtube channel.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:14:00

FLOATING (SPAIN) BY FRANKIE DE LEONARDIS

A Russian astronaut awakes on an ISS space module after an accident. Narrative Film // Duration: 00:08:30

BLACK DOG (UNITED STATES) BY JOSHUA TUTHILL

Black Dog is set during the US and USSR space race of the 1960's amidst a time of heated social and political tension.

Animated Film // Duration: 00:15:00

MANED & MACHO (IRAN) BY SHIVA SADEGH ASADI

A young girl's repressed emotions and instincts are embodied in some animals that come out of her dreams.

However, no one in her family is receptive to these animals. Animated Film // Duration: 00:10:49

PASSAGE (AUSTRALIA) BY ASHLEY YOUNG

A surreal and expressionistic animation.

Animated Film // Duration: 00:01:41

PALE BLUE ME (AUSTRIA)

BY THERESA HAAS, MAURICE MILLER

Experimental Film // Duration: 00:10:22

NEBULA (POLAND) BY MARCIN NOWROTEK

Animated Film // Duration: 00:03:34

NOCTURNES (FRANCE) BY EMMANUEL LEVY

Music Video // Duration: 00:03:39

CHESS (GERMANY) BY ANIQ

Music Video // Duration: 00:04:44

APPOCUNDRIA (ITALY) BY MINO CAPUANO

A huge house surrounded by nature was the childhood home of three brothers, Diego, Desio and Mimmo. The three brothers will be forced to face each other, in order to sell their old house and this will severely test their difficult relationship.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:35:00

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

14.00 - 18.00

MY THESIS FILM:

*A THESIS FILM BY ERIK ANDERSON
(CANADA) BY ERIK ANDERSON*

Although he had proposed adapting the first book of Plato's Republic for entry into a graduate program in film, Erik yearns to make something greater as a thesis.

His desired project is a film that thematically deals with race, starring his friend, actor Tristan D. Lalla.

However, the curious failings of his previous film on the festival circuit (thematically based on gender), his questionable omission from graduate funding, and the burgeoning omnipotence of identity politics make him reconsider the idea.

Increasingly poor, dismissed in academia, and dejected about his future chances as a filmmaker, he struggles to think of a new thesis concept which will not only satisfy himself as an artist, but his university and the industry at large...

The result is potentially his last shot at being a filmmaker.

Narrative Film // Duration: 03:51:00





SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

19.00 - 21.00

I COME FROM THE FIRE CITY (UNITED STATES)

BY DANIEL DALY

A visual accompaniment to the titular poem by acclaimed poet Eve L. Ewing. Narrative Film // Duration: 00:02:24

DALAIMALAYA (BELGIUM) BY MANU GOMEZ

An Himalayan salt rock sculpture of Dalai-lama.

Animated Film // Duration: 00:00:51

SEASCAPE (BELGIUM) BY LENI HUYGHE

As Helene struggles to learn her role for a play, she helps her grandmother clear out her apartment at the beach.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:20:00

DISPERSION (SWITZERLAND) BY BASILE VUILLEMIN

A man uses an automated funeral homes company to bury his mother. Narrative Film // Duration: 00:08:26

FAKE NEWS (GREECE) BY DIMITRIS KATSIMIRIS

A YouTuber and her partner are planning to direct the raping of a girl by two black guys. Their goal is to get more subscribers on their YouTube channel.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:15:00

SON LUX // THE FOOL YOU NEED (UNITED STATES)

BY JEAN-PAUL FRENAY

Music Video // Duration: 00:04:26

DIVA & ASTRO (UNITED STATES)

BY ANGEL BARROETA

A streetwise posse idly roams the evening in the hood they call home. Narrative Film // Duration: 00:08:43

ELISA (GERMANY) BY KRISTINA KEAN SHTUBERT

'Elisa' portrays the claustrophobic and extremely painful relationship between nine year old Elisa and her mother.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:15:53

SLEEPERS (NETHERLANDS) BY DANNY MAAS

When the depressed Herman wants to end his life by jumping in front of a train, he gets competition from a suicidal man. Narrative Film // Duration: 00:08:45

PARTING SHOT (TURKEY) BY ÖZGÜR CEM AKSOY

There is an incident at an otherwise very ordinary Turkish funeral. A man drops his phone inside the grave while throwing soil during the burial.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:10:30

THE VELVET UNDERGROUND PLAYED AT MY HIGH SCHOOL (USA) BY ROBERT PIETRI, TONY JANNELLI

This animated documentary is the story of the Velvet Underground's disastrous first public performance.

Animated Documentary Film // Duration: 00:08:00



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

21.30 - 23.30

INTO THE STREAM (UNITED KINGDOM)

BY ALEXEY MARFIN

A fable for the media-saturated age. In a world of viral videos, memes, and fake news, cats ride skateboards and people get struck by lightning, as one man erodes the boundary between his online world and his real life.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:11:50

THE DANCER (FRANCE) BY ANAÏS DESMOND

A tear inside of which a dancer, half human half flower, is born and streams down Rovski's face. She walks and dances through incredible worlds, working her charm and meeting with obstacles like a rite of passage.

Music Video // Duration: 00:03:00

OPEN WIDE (UNITED KINGDOM)

BY BEHNAM TAHERI, GIDEON BERESFORD

A trip to the dentist - with a happy ending.

Narrative Film // Duration: 00:04:40

ONIKUMA (ITALY) BY ALESSIA CECCHET

Onikuma is Japanese yokai, a demon bear known for chasing horses. Surrounded by a foreign landscape, two women will understand that demons can come in different forms. Experimental Film // Duration: 00:12:02

ARANAY (CUBA)

BY RUDOLF FITZGERALD-LEONARD

Fifteen year-old Aranay prepares to leave Cuba to join her parents in Belgium. Her grandmother, Olga, wants to give her a gift to remember her by, as she begins life in her new country. That is, if she can find her before she leaves. Why is Aranay hiding? A simple story of the divide between generations and nations, and the distance which lies between. Narrative Film // Duration: 00:07:23

SONGS IN THE SUN (DENMARK)

BY KRISTIAN SEJRBO LIDEGAARD

On a hot summer day, Anna visits her childhood friend Julie, on the Danish island Møn, where they both grew up. Julie is obsessed with an old Danish myth and spends all her time in the forest. According to Julie's mother Sonja, Julie is depressed. Anna is there to cheer Julie up and convince her to give up her childish fantasies. But as the three women relax on the beach under a clear blue sky, Julie disappears. In the course of one single hot summer day an ancient Danish myth changes the life of three different women.

Narrative Film // Duration: 01:10:15