21–24 June 2023

WATCH OUT!

> TETOVO FILM FESTIVAL

20:00 hrs Amphitheater in front of the Museum of the Communist Party Tetovo

# INTRODUCTION

The IIth edition of WatchOut! Film Festival takes place from 21st to 24th of June 2023, and gathered more than 850 films from 85 countries.

The number of films received allowed the pre-selection committee and the jury to present to you a diverse program and shows how cinema connects the world.

This edition of WatchOut! Film Festival aims to bring the voice of the engaged art back to the public space. With films from all over the world, it will show the diversity of cinema and its beauty. This festival's edition will mark the spirit of activism and will encourage the fight for rights and preserve the spaces and societies.

Let's celebrate together the magic of cinema and the power of art in transforming societies.

WatchOut! is organised by Center for Balkan Cooperation LOJA and funded by the Goethe Institut - Skopje. Segments of the Festival are supported by Kurve Wustrow.

# WORKSHOPS PROGRAM

WHAT IS A STORYBOARD?

22.06.2023 at 11:00 - 12:30h

#### Guests: Gjorgje Jovanovik

The workshop by Gjorgje Jovanovik will focus on the different approaches of creating a storyboard. A storyboard is your roadmap when you make a video or movie. Like a script, your storyboard visually guides you throughout the production process. By planning your video or movie, you know which shots you need to create and how to create them when filming begins. DIRECTING, FILM-MAKING AND ACTIVISM

22.06.2023 at 14:00 - 15:30h

#### Guests: Zoe Rose (Winner)

The films that have won in the three categories for this IIth edition of WOFF treat social issues that concern as all. Therefore, this workshop will focus on cinematography and everything that is related to it. The workshop will offer the possibility to discuss and see the potentials that we, as citizens have to change our surroundings and our communities.

#### EMPOWERMENT THROUGH IMAGES THAT INSPIRE CHANGE

23.06.2023 at 10:30 - 12:30h

#### Guests: Fabian Langer

This workshop will focus on the power that images have to capture attention, evoke emotions, and convey powerful messages in a way that words alone sometimes cannot. Activists will get some intro on how to utilize photography, videography, and other visual mediums to document and expose injustices, raise public awareness, and galvanize support for their causes

#### PHOTOJOURNALISM AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

23.06.2023 at 14:00 - 15:30

#### Guests: Arbnora Memeti

Documenting occurrences and events means writing history; therefore, photography is of great relevance from its artistic aspect as well as for journalism and documentation. On the importance of photo-journalism we will have the chance to hear more from Arbnora Memeti. This workshop will focus on photojournalism, the challenges that are faced, photojournalism as a form of civic engagement, and the difficulties of women in this industry.

# SCRIPT-WRITING AND EMPOWERMENT

24.06.2023 at 17:00 - 18:30h

#### Guests: Shqipe Malushi

Have you wondered how to write a script for a film and how individual stories can serve as a source of inspiration and empowerment? In this workshop, you will get the chance to learn more on script-writing and the stories that give films meaning and become sources of activism and fights. COMPETITION **DOCUMENTARY FILM SECTION** 

SHORT FEATURE FILM SECTION

**FAMILIAR STRANGER** Nelson Urdaneta, Singapore, 15'

**SPAIN AGAINST THE ATOM** Sergio Cabezudo, Raúl de Isidro, Spain, 19'

**DANCING WITH REALITY** Sylvian Elfassy, France, 16'

**BIBA MAY** Arlina Morina, USA, Kosovo, 30' **KNIGHTS ARE NOT AFRAID** Liza Alexeevskaya, Russia, 7'

CANVAS Sanjai Chandrasekaran, India, 18'

CANIDES Antonio Galarzo, Spain, 14'

**UN LUGAR LIMPIO Y BIEN** ILUMINADO Nelson Urdaneta, Argenting/Venezuela, 12'

MARIPOSAS Adrian Carey, USA, 3'

COLLECTIING Marcos Gualda, Spain, 14' NUMBSKULL Luis Calil. Brazil, 19'

SHARP AND LOUD Jaime Garcia Parra, Spain, 8'

**CINEMA IS WONDERFULL THING** David Fernandez, Spain, 13'

QUIEN Carlos Martin, Spain, 18'

ARITHAARAM B. Suresh Kumar, India, 12'

**MY TOY** Mazen Haj Kassen, Denmark, 8' PORAPPÉ Jesús Martinez Nota, Spain, 9'

LA PRIMA VOLTA Lorenzo Trane, Italy, 5'

**"THING"** Burak Budak, Turkey, 2'

**CHRISTIAN** Adan Pichardo, Spain, II'

**BLINDFOLDED** Sebastian Cucerca, Germany, 3'

6

# COMPETITION EXPERIMENTAL AND ANIMATED FILM SELECTION

THE FIGURE OF UNCONSCIOUS MIND Jaehyeon Kim, Jaehyeon Kim, 3'

IF WE ATE OUR INFLUENCE Pika Potočnik, Slovenia, ľ

**RED WISDOM** Hossein Moradizadeh, Iran, 7'

8

Mikko Beste, Daniel O'Brien, Germany, 2'

YOU'RE OK Shachar Agranat, Rachel Zilberberg, Israel, 9'

MOTHERS OF THE WORLD Vaishnavi Sundar, India, 16' NEMI Nicolás Zarco, Mexico, 7'

WE ARE THE EARTH Zoé Rose, France, 5'

OCEANIA Stefan Adrianov Voyvodov, Bulgaria, 6'

**ST. VITUS DANCE Bhopal,** France, 12'

KULESHOV EFFECT Marcelo Quinones Altamarano, Mexico, 7'

**DAWN** Haiqing Qi, China, I' THE BUTCHER'S EARS Marius Stanbach, Germany, 8'

THE LOVERS OF AVIGNON Manuel Fernandez, Spain, 2'33

THE SOUL OF UKRAINE Roman Ostrovskyi, Ukraine, 2'

SELF-PORTRAIT Ramiro Mendez Stefano, Argentina, I'

**PILLAR PILLAR Muon No E,** Japan, I'

A WOMEN'S ODYSSEY Leila Samari, Maryam Sehha, Austria, 6' **COLORLESS MIRROR** Besar Iljazi, North Macedonia, 9'

9

### DAY I\_WEDNESDAY 21ST / 10 FILMS / 68'



#### BESTEIOOBILDER Mikko Beste, Daniel O´Brien

#### Germany, 2' Experimental and Animated Film

"BestelOOBilder" is a pop art parody of IOO historical paintings, told in 7 seconds each. We show the paintings of the greats, enjoy the funny and absurd  $\delta$  tell stories in the process.



FAMILIAR STRANGER Adhishni D/o Mathialagan Singapore, I5' Documentary Film (WINNER)

As Vietnamese growing up in Slavic communities, Lien and Trung struggled to navigate their identity and culture. Through their childhood and teenage years, they grappled with the complex interplay of their multiple identities and the pressures to conform to the various societal norms.



MARIPOSAS Adrian Carey USA, 3' Short Feature Film

Set in a universe of magical realism, a boastful father prattles on superficially about his daughter to another parent in the school pick up line, but is unable to perceive her when it matters most.



RED WISDOM Hossein Moradizadeh Iran, 7' Experimental and Animated Film

Based on Suhrawardi's treatise "Red Wisdom" (II51-II91). The bird flies in the sky, lands near a spring and is trapped. Ten men pull the nets and spin. In this rotation, the bird becomes a human. Man finds himself trapped in chains.



# **THE SOUL OF UKRAINE Roman Ostrovskyi** Ukraine, 2'31 Experimental and Animated Film

After the full-scale invasion, the life of every Ukrainian has changed. Even if you are safe, you feel immense pain for your people. For every destroyed home, for every innocent life. For every Russian missile that fell on our soil. And that pain does not subside.



#### IF WE ATE OUR INFLUENCE Pika Potočnik Slovenia, 00'54

Experimental and Animated Film

An animated critique of human impact on the environment, exclusively showing consumption of unwanted substances and intermediates that end up in food as a result of our industrial development.



**ST. VITUS DANCE Bhopal** France, 12' Documentary Film

12

Two brothers in search of an area of freedom, before the walls of the disease become too high.



OCEANIA Stefan Adrianov Voyvodov Bulgaria, 6' Experimental and Animated Film

A film about the personality like a natural phenomenon and the individual's instinct. The determination and the fate of a fish out of its school...



**CANIDS Antonio Galarzo** Spain, 14'59 Short Feature Film

Juan lives alone in the fields, his life is monotonous, he only works his land, there are hardly any incentives in a life practically in solitude, until he decides to adopt "Duna" an abandoned dog.



WE ARE THE EARTH Zoé Rose France, 5'

Experimental and Animated Film (WINNER)

In a world crushed by pollution, conflicts, eco anxiety, alienation of the individual and fear of the future, a human being is lying down, hopeless and surrounded by shadow. Yet, anger and refusal of the disaster to come will ignite in him/her - and in us all - a flame of life, carrying the hope of a better tomorrow.

## DAY 2\_THURSDAY 22ND / 8 FILMS / 81'



MY TOY Mazen Haj Kassem Denmark, 8'33 Short Feature Film

Sarah and Salem are arguing about the toy, but at the end, there is another purpose behind while meeting Their parents.



# UN LUGAR LIMPIO Y BIEN ILUMINADO Nelson Urdaneta

Argentina/ Venezuela, 12' Short Feature Film (WINNER)

Argentina 1976. Two waiters near the end of their workday deal with the last customer of the night, an old man who frequents the bar. Their conversations revolve around him and become existential until they question their own values, during the last military dictatorship.





DAWN Haiqing Qi China, I'30 Experimental and Animated Film

14

A boy was searching for his friend when there was a big fire in the city. LA PRIMA VOLTA Lorenzo Trane Italy, 5' Short Feature Film

Jacopo is about to lose his vire ginity and, in order not to make a fool of himself, he has studied techniques to delay orgasm.

SPAIN AGAINST THE ATOM Sergio Cabezudo, Raúl de Isidro Spain, 19' Documentary Film

In 1970, a radioactive leak in the Spanish Nuclear Energy Board contaminated the Manzanares river and the surroundings of the city of Madrid. 50 years later, workers and neighbors in the vicinity of the center are fighting against the total indifference of the Spanish society.



# NEMI Nicolás Zarco

Mexico, 7'55 Experimental and Animated Film

Juana, an old lady, is reunited with her past in the Chinampas of an ancient Xochimilco.



COLORLESS MIRROR Besar Ilajzi North Macedonia, 9' Experimental and Animated Film

A girl, living in a society she disagrees with, decides to follow what she thinks is needed, disregarding its usual rules and prohibitions against feeling emotions.



QUIEN (WHO) Carlos Martín Spain, 18'20 Short Feature Film

Luis, a totally dependent disabled man, has just arrived at a social center where he will be cared for the rest of his life. There he meets Ana, a nurse who will give him back the will to live.

# DAY 3\_FRIDAY 23RD / 6 FILMS / 84'





# CINEMA IS A WONDERFUL THING David Fernández

Spain, <mark>13'13</mark> Short Feature Film

16

Cinema is full of absurd rules. One of them states that the protagonist always finds a parking space the first time. A father and his children will go through an odyssey in order to get to their nephew's communion on time.

#### YOU'RE OK Shachar Agranat, Rachel Zilberberg Israel, 9' Experimental and Animated Film

On her way back from a fun evening out with her best friend Jonny, Tamar passes through Nachlaots' dark and narrow alleys where she is brutally attacked. She then finds herself in a vicious cycle which she tries to break.



#### PORRAPE Jesús Martínez "Nota" Spain, 9'

Short Feature Film

Hello everyone! For those who still don t know me I m Porappé, I m nine and I m the most famous Youtuber girl in my country.



#### THE BUTCHERS'S EARS Marius Staubach Germany, 9'

Experimental and Animated Film

A deaf butcher decides to get a functional hearing implant, that provides him with the ability to hear. Soon he gets a complete new awareness of what his job is really about...



**COLLECTING Marcos Gualda** Spain, 14'20 Short Feature Film

Marita Carbone is an old aristocrat lady in decay. In order to mitigate her loneliness, she collects absurd things. One day, two Mormons disturb the peace of her home. "Collecting" is a black comedy that delves into consumerist compulsion, religious sentiment and the inability to love.



**BIBA MAY Arlinda Morina** Kosovo/USA, 3O' Documentary Film

A young woman who has suffered from progressive muscular dystrophy since age seven, and is haunted by the memories of war in Kosovo. While her body is deteriorating, her spirit is soaring high. She becomes a voice for all people with different abilities, fights for their rights, and becomes an advocate for their freedom. Biba May is a champion turning impossible into possible, and inability into ability. 17

# DAY 4\_SATURDAY 24TH / 10 FILMS / 87'





KULESHOV EFFECT Marcelo Quiñones Altamirano

#### Mexico, 2'35

Experimental and Animated Film

One day all of your fears knock on your door, you will have to offer them a good coffee in the morning and a good drink at night. CANVAS Sanjai Chandrasekaran India, 18'37 Short Feature Film

People are not allowed to use footwear because they belong to lower castel discrimination in any form is a challenge to humanity. the film canvas portrays the story of a lower-caste street theater artist and his grandchild. the movie is created in the background of an indian classic cultural folk theatre called therukoothu (street theatre).



#### THE LOVERS OF AVIGNON Manuel Fernández Ferro Spain, 2'33

Experimental and Animated Film

"The Lovers of Avignon" is the first ever translation of pictorial cubism into motion real image. Is an allegory of cubism as a conceptual symbol that acts as a filter and wall of emotions.



DANCING WITH REALITY Sylvian Elfassy France, 16'33 Documentary Film

At 14 years old, Karim breaks the rules and crosses borders to make his dream come true : become a professional dancer. After a long journey, he settles in Paris and progressively makes his marks, despite facing difficulties as an isolated minor and migrant.



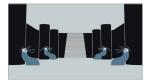
**THING Burak Budak** Turkey , 2'56 Short Feature Film

Samuel Beckett says; "Her/ His birth was her/his death." In the film, the nothingness and meaninglessness of existence that the individual lives in different age stages are the subjects.



**CHRISTIAN Adán Pichardo** Spain, II' Spain

Cristiano is a young devotee who wants to be trained to become a Catholic priest, but unexpectedly, right before Avelino (an unconventional priest who defines himself as "cool dude") approves his registration to the seminary, Cristiano confesses his most intimate secret, which will determine if he can be a priest.





20

Waiting at an endless train station. Cold pillars standing close to people who, like me, are waiting for someone else



Blindfolded is about a repressed emotional world, a silent cry in the midst of our emotionally numb society and the inevitable inner confrontation.



KNIGHTS ARE NOT AFRAID Liza Alexeevskaya Russia, 7'35 Short Feature Film

It's a story about first betrayal and current friendship. We have a strong opinion of the people, the outcome of their kind, about it in our country.



## MOTHERS OF THE WORLD Vaishnavi Sundar

India, 16'51 Experimental And Animated film

Film inspired by the stories of five migrant and refugee mothers from Afghanistan, Somalia, Ukraine, Philippines and Turkey. It is a series of portraits of the women who took difficult journeys into Europe, their quest for safety, security and stability for themselves and their children, their daily struggles, and the courage and wisdom with which they deal with the new challenges in Europe.

# **DOCUMENTARY FILM CATEGORY**

FAMILIAR STRANGER Adhishni D/o Mathialagan Singapore

# EXPERIMENTAL AND ANIMATED FILM CATEGORY

WE ARE THE EARTH Zoé Rose France

99

# SHORT FEATURE FILM CATEGORY UN LUGAR LIMPIO Y BIEN ILUMINADO

Nelson Urdaneta

Argentina/ Venezuela

# JURY

Arben Zharku (Producer) Netherlands/Kosovo

**Gjorgje Jovanovik** (Contemporary Artist) North Macedonia

**Fabian Langer** (Cameraman) Germany

# WATCHOUT! TEAM

Bujar Luma, Blerim Jashari, Aleksandra Sardjoska, Eloise Grimaud, Eric Gilly, Alban Mariezcurrena, Ajhan Idrizi, Sunaj Hasani, Merita Asani, Christoph Grafinger, Aleksandar Stojanovski, Lek Luma, Dimce Josifovski Egzona Musliu and all WatchOut! Volunteers!

DESIGN

EGGRA



