

EU FILM
FESTIVAL 2019

#EUFF2019

EUROPE IN YOUR CITY



FOREWORD

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to the 24th edition of the European Union Film Festival in India. Travelling to nine cities, and representing films from 23 European countries, the Festival showcases Europe's rich cultural diversity and its dynamic and engaging cinematic landscape.

India, the largest producer of films in the world, provides the perfect location to exhibit European cinematic talent, and both regions share a rich cinema-going culture. Indeed, Europe now accounts for a quarter of the global theatrical market for films. Nowhere is this better matched than in India.

I believe that cinema offers audiences avenues to explore the distinctiveness and breadth of cultures in different countries. Indeed, it offers people the possibility to gain insights into the everyday lives, experiences, hopes and motivations of others in faraway places, while allowing us

to better understand and appreciate the social fabric of countries as yet unvisited.

In this sense, the wonders of cinema can act not only as a bridge between different peoples and cultures across continents, but also allow us to explore the values that are a part of our shared experience.

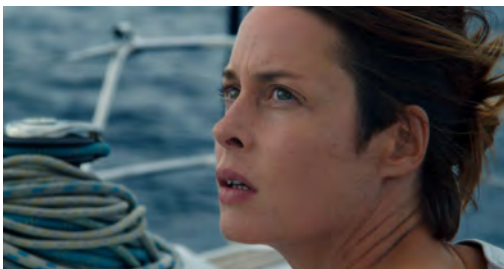
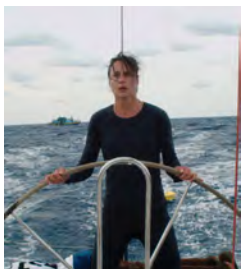
This year's festival brings to you an array of films exploring themes of self-discovery, dreams of a better future, nostalgia for the past, and human endurance in the face of psychological and situational barriers – universal themes cinemagoers everywhere can identify with.

I invite you on an unparalleled journey across Europe and wish you happy and reflective viewing.

Tomasz Kozłowski

Ambassador of the European Union to India

AUSTRIA



00 MIN

94 MIN

DIRECTOR
WOLFGANG FISCHER

PRODUCERS
**MARCOS KANTIS, MARTIN
LEHWALD, MICHAL
POKORNY**

YEAR
2018

SYNOPSIS

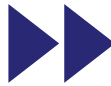
The transformation of a strong woman torn from her contented world during a sailing trip.

Rike - 40, a doctor from Europe - embodies a typical Western model of happiness and success. She is educated, confident, determined and committed. We see Rike's everyday life, as an emergency doctor, before she fulfils a long-held dream and sails out to sea alone in her sailing boat. Her goal: Ascension Island in the Atlantic Ocean.

But her dream holiday is quickly broken off on the high seas, when, after a storm, she finds herself near a stricken fishing boat. Around a hundred people are about to drown. Rike follows maritime law and radios for help. As her request is going nowhere, she is forced to make a fatal decision.

STYX

BELGIUM



00 MIN

93 MIN

KING OF THE BELGIANS

DIRECTORS

PETER BROSENS &
JESSICA WOODWORTH

PRODUCERS

PETER BROSENS &
JESSICA WOODWORTH
(BO FILMS)

YEAR

2016

SYNOPSIS

King of the Belgians is a mockumentary road movie in which a dormant King gets lost in the Balkans and awakens to the real world. King Nicolas III is a lonely soul who has the distinct feeling he's living the wrong life. He embarks on a state visit to Istanbul with a British filmmaker, Duncan Lloyd, who has been commissioned by the Palace to shoot a documentary intended to polish the monarch's rather dull image.

The news breaks that Wallonia, Belgium's southern half, has declared its independence. The King, bursting with purpose, must return home at once to save his kingdom. And for once, he declares, he will write his own damn speech.

BULGARIA



00 MIN

104 MIN

DIRECTOR
STANISLAV TODOROV

PRODUCERS
**DYNAMIC ARTS /
STANISLAV DONCHEV**

YEAR
2017

SYNOPSIS

Bubblegum is a tribute to the generation of kids who grew up in Bulgaria during the 80s - collecting stickers from chewing gums and playing games outdoors.

The story glimpses into the lives of two kids, now adults - Kalin (35), a talented advertising specialist, and Biliyana (35), an adventurer with no particular direction in life, who meet again after 25 years. They spend five days filled with refreshing and fun childhood memories, finally remembering a promise they had made to each other in 1988.

BUBBLEGUM

CYPRUS



00 MIN

113 MIN

DIRECTOR
ADONIS FLORIDES

PRODUCERS
**AMP FILMWORKS LTD. /
MARIOS PIPERIDES**

YEAR
2016

ROSEMARIE

SYNOPSIS

A burned out soap opera writer turns his gaze upon his dysfunctional neighbors, but gets more than the inspiration he bargained for...

Costas, an uninspired soap opera writer struggling with writer's block, is under pressure by his producer to deliver new episodes. Having just moved in to a flat in an old apartment building, his attention is caught by his mysterious neighbors. Soon enough he finds himself spying on them, transforming their everyday tragic encounters into a light hearted soap opera, romanticizing what he witnesses for the consumption of a mass audience. As the success of the soap opera grows, so does Costas' obsession with the family, particularly with Chryso, a young woman who frequently runs away from the family home.

CZECH REPUBLIC



00 MIN

94 MIN

DIRECTOR
JIŘÍ VEJDĚLEK

PRODUCERS
**TOMÁŠ HOFFMAN AND
JIŘÍ VEJDĚLEK**

YEAR
2013

TENDER WAVES

SYNOPSIS

The movie *Tender Waves* by popular Czech filmmaker Jiří Vejdělek appears to combine a hit-making formula of romantic comedy and nostalgia. The shy protagonist Vojta is torn between a choleric father who wants him to become a professional swimmer and a mother who sees him as a talented pianist.

Vojta seems to care about only one thing, his classmate Ela, a charming synchronized swimmer. The protagonist must do something or Ela will soon disappear behind an iron curtain. *Tender Waves* falls into the stream of Czech films contemplating and reflecting on events in 1989 in Czechoslovakia, a not so distant past – “times where life appeared to be hopeless yet still full of dreams and human joys.”

FINLAND



00 MIN

103 MIN

DIRECTOR
HEIKKI KUJANPÄÄ

PRODUCER
KLAUS HEYDEMANN

YEAR
2018

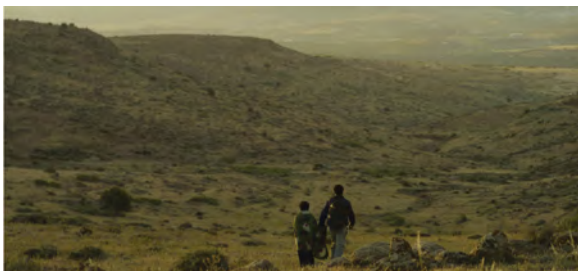
SYNOPSIS

1918, Finland after the Civil War. The famous actor of the Workers' Theatre, Parikka, is caught and sent to a prison camp where his remaining comrades languish on the verge of death. All the red rebels at the camp are going to be executed. Parikka's situation among his comrades is not comforting, either: the others consider him a traitor.

Nyborg, a young warrant officer who admires Parikka as an actor, leads the execution squad, but he is unable to give the order to fire. Parikka defies death by cracking jokes in front of the squad, getting a laugh out of the guards. Captain Kalm, the camp commandant, unexpectedly decides to stop the execution. He makes a suggestion to Parikka: if the actor and his comrades will put on an entertaining play for his German guests, they will not be shot.

LAUGH OR DIE

FRANCE



00 MIN

91 MIN

DIRECTOR
BORIS LOJKINE

PRODUCERS
**BRUNO NAHON / ZADIG
FILMS**

YEAR
2013

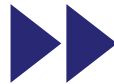
SYNOPSIS

Deep in the Sahara desert, as they try to get to Europe, Léonard, a young man from Cameroon, rescues Hope, a Nigerian woman.

In a fiercely hostile world where safety requires staying with one's own people, these two try to find their way together, and to love each other.

HOPE

GERMANY



00 MIN

120 MIN

ME AND KAMINSKI

DIRECTOR
WOLFGANG BECKER

PRODUCERS
**UWE SCHOTT,
WOLFGANG BECKER**

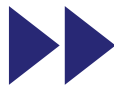
YEAR
2015

SYNOPSIS

Germany in the 90s: art critic Sebastian Zöllner is on the hunt for glory. He wants to write a tell-all book about Manuel Kaminski, a once prominent, now almost forgotten painter, pupil of Matisse and friend of Picasso, who's retreated to a chalet in Graubünden and has long been blind.

Zöllner tracks him down, unscrupulously invades his life, steals some of his late paintings, and entices him to travel to Belgium, where Kaminski's childhood sweetheart Theresa, who's long been assumed dead, is thought to live. On the way, Zöllner begins to suspect that the old man might have the advantage over him.

GREECE



00 MIN

153 MIN

LITTLE ENGLAND

DIRECTOR
PANTELIS VOULGARIS

PRODUCERS
**GIANNIS IAKOVIDIS
/BLACK ORANGE S.A.**

YEAR
2013

SYNOPSIS

Little England is an epic tale of lost love and a beautiful story of the love between sisters, set in the Greek island of Andros at the beginning of the 20th century. It is the story of the Saltaferos family.

Mina is a matriarch, a woman who runs the lives of her daughters Orsa and Mosca. Orsa, the elder of the two, is beautiful and in love with Spyros Maltambes, but Mina makes her marry another man. Orsa's husband is a good man who cares for his lovely wife, but Orsa cannot help but pine for Spyros, who marries the person Orsa loves most in the world.

HUNGARY



00 MIN

102 MIN

DIRECTOR
PÁL SÁNDOR

PRODUCER
PÁL SÁNDOR

YEAR
2018

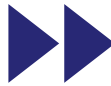
THE TROUPE

SYNOPSIS

When a handful of traveling actors perform a play, an angry fist fight erupts. A young soldier sides with them in the scuffle. After he is forced to flee, the troupe takes him in and together, they rattle in a cart from village to village, on their way to Budapest.

It seems like a lucky escape, but little does he know what awaits him. A hanging, seduction, a duel, and love, on and maybe off stage. If he knew, perhaps, just possibly, he would join them anyway.

IRELAND



00 MIN

96 MIN

DIRECTOR
LANCE DALY

PRODUCERS
MACDARA KELLEHER,
TIM O'HAIR,
JONATHAN LOUGHRAN,
ARCADIY GOLUBOVICH

YEAR
2018

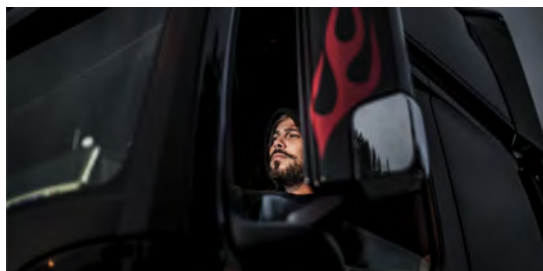
SYNOPSIS

It's 1847 and Ireland is in the grip of the Great Famine that has ravaged the country for two long years. Feeney, a hardened Irish Ranger who has been fighting for the British Army abroad, abandons his post to return home and reunite with his estranged family. He's seen more than his share of horrors but nothing prepares him for the famine's hopeless destruction of his homeland. He discovers his mother starved to death and his brother hanged by the brutal hand of the English.

With little else to live for, he sets on a destructive path to avenge his family, systematically working his way up the political and social hierarchy of 19th century Ireland. Hannah, an aging British soldier and famed tracker of deserters, is sent to stop Feeney before he can further stoke the fires of revolution.

BLACK '47

ITALY



00 MIN

100 MIN

DRIVE ME HOME

DIRECTOR
SIMONE CATANIA

PRODUCERS
**MARCO SIMON PUCCIONI,
GIAMPIETRO PREZIOSA,
MICHELE FORNASERO**

YEAR
2018

SYNOPSIS

Antonio is 25-year-old boy who grew up in a small Sicilian village. Today he's living in Brussels and life's expenses begin to bear heavily on him. Having no one to go home to, he decides to sell the property he inherited from his grandfather and cover his financial needs. When he receives an offer, he needs to return to the village to conclude the deal.

Before going back to Sicily, however, he decides to meet and spend some time with Agostino, the childhood friend he hasn't seen or heard from for nearly 10 years who he discovers to be a truck driver and homosexual living just close to him in Antwerp. On a truck ride back home across Europe, our two friends find themselves confronting their new lives, on the reasons that divided them and on what their true origins are.

LATVIA



00 MIN

80 MIN

RETURN OF SERGEANT LAPINS

DIRECTOR
GATIS SMITS

PRODUCER
ALISE GELZE

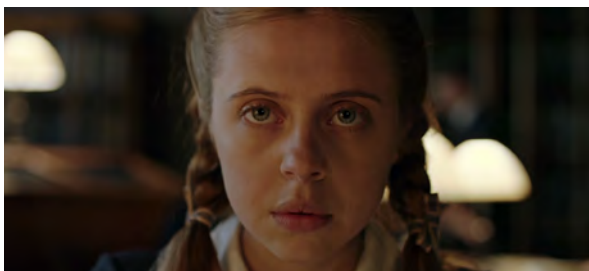
YEAR
2010

SYNOPSIS

After recovering from an overseas mission, Krists Lapins moves into a quiet neighborhood in Riga. His hopes for a new, peaceful life are disrupted when an unexpected visitor arrives one night. Krists soon finds himself in a swirl of events involving a mysterious blonde, a wannabe private detective, a bankrupt millionaire, and a rigorous cop.

In this witty portrayal of modern Latvian society the absurd meets the comic and nothing is what it seems.

LITHUANIA



00 MIN

98 MIN

ASHES IN THE SNOW

DIRECTOR
MARIUS A. MARKEVICIUS

PRODUCERS
**ŽILVINAS NAUJOKAS,
MARIUS A. MARKEVIČIUS,
CHRIS COEN, JONATHAN
SCHWARTZ,
PRITHVI CHAVAN**

YEAR
2018

SYNOPSIS

In 1941, an aspiring Lithuanian artist and her family are deported to Siberia amidst Stalin's brutal dismantling of the Baltic region. In a seemingly hopeless place, love is the only means of survival. It is a long and harrowing journey, and it is only their incredible strength, love and hope that pull Lina and her family through each day – but will love be enough to keep them alive? *Ashes in the Snow* is a riveting story that takes your breath away, captures your heart, and reveals the miraculous nature of the human spirit.

Based on the New York Times best-selling novel *Between Shades of Grey* by Ruta Sepetys.

MALTA



00 MIN

94 MIN

OF TIME AND THE SEA

DIRECTOR
PETER SANT

PRODUCER
PETER SANT

YEAR
2018

SYNOPSIS

Of Time And The Sea, Peter Sant's debut feature, is a film about a stasis and slow change. On a three-island archipelago, a crippled aging king, whose kingdom has crumbled, lives in a mold-infested bunker with his two daughters.

They reside in a remote corner of an island called First in the wake of a bizarre malady of mysterious origin that has left all the animals and half the inhabitants quarantined to the neighboring islands of Second and Third. The king forces his younger daughter to work tirelessly, building rubble walls in strange megalithic type configurations, in a feverish attempt to stave off a return of the virus.

NETHERLANDS



00 MIN

90 MIN

TULIPANI: LOVE, HONOUR AND A BICYCLE

DIRECTOR
MIKE VAN DIEM

PRODUCERS
FATT PRODUCTIONS,
DRAKA PRODUCTION,
ITALY, STEMIO
PRODUCTION, ITALY,
DON CARMODY
TELEVISION, CANADA

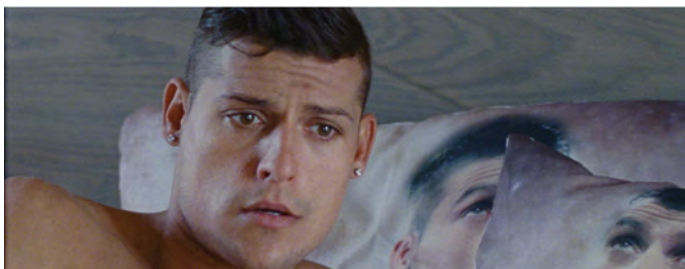
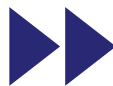
YEAR
2017

SYNOPSIS

Tulipani tells the story of a romantic Dutch farmer named Gauke (Gijs Naber) who after losing his farm during the floods of 1953 is determined to never ever have wet socks again. He cycles to the sizzling hot south of Italy to start a new life and ends up at the outskirts of a small village in Puglia. Due to his fairylife and miraculous tulip trade, his passionate love-life and his turbulent scuffles with the dubious local business practices, he becomes a living legend - to then suddenly disappear.

Thirty years later, an Italian police inspector (Giancarlo Giannini) attempts to unravel the story, but struggles to distinguish fact from fiction. With the help of the young Canadian woman Anna (Ksenia Solo) he discovers what truly happened.

PORTUGAL



00 MIN

92 MIN

DIRECTORS

GABRIEL ABRANTES,
DANIEL SCHMIDT

PRODUCERS

JUSTIN TAURAND, MARIA
JOÃO MAYER, DANIEL
VAN HOOIGSTRATEN

YEAR

2018

SYNOPSIS

Diamantino, the world's premiere soccer star loses his special touch and ends his career in disgrace.

Searching for a new purpose, the international icon sets on a delirious odyssey where he confronts neo-fascism, the refugee crisis, genetic modification, and the hunt for the source of genius.

DIAMANTINO

ROMANIA



00 MIN

84 MIN

DIRECTOR
TEDY NECULA

PRODUCERS
ANCA VLASCEANU, TEDY
NECULA

YEAR
2018

SYNOPSIS

A subway stops between the stations on the morning after the fire in the Collective Club.

Each one in its path, travellers are together and are starting to interact. We're strangers until something brings us together. If we open up, we notice that we have what to share with those around us. At the end of the journey, at the next station, each one comes out altered in its own way. We are close to others in the world, as we are in a subway car. Preconceptions fall when we are allowed to see beyond appearances. Subway characters have various life stories.

BESIDE ME

SLOVAKIA



00 MIN

90 MIN

DIRECTOR
ANDREA SEDLÁČKOVÁ

PRODUCERS
**SILVIA PANÁKOVÁ AND
ERIK PANÁK, ARINA**

YEAR
2018

SYNOPSIS

Backstage tells the story of a talented dance group from a small Slovak town, which strives for a breakthrough in the show business. But once they enter this crazy world and take part in a TV dance competition, their friendship, loves and outlooks on life are changed. Backstage is about passion for dance, the power of friendship, dreaming big and the sacrifices you have to make to achieve your goals.

A thrilling dance film full of energy, dance, passion and music. A film about young people for young people, a film about their dreams, ambitions and the everlasting importance of family and friendship.

BACKSTAGE

SPAIN



00 MIN

96 MIN

MARÍA (AND EVERYBODY ELSE)

DIRECTOR
NELY REGUERA

PRODUCERS
FRIDA FILMS /
AVALON PC

YEAR
2016

SYNOPSIS

Ever since her mother died when she was 15, María has taken care of her father and her siblings. Responsible and controlling, she has always been the strong pillar of her family, a role which she is proud of. When her father suddenly declares his love for his nurse Cahcita and announces their imminent matrimony, María feels that her life is falling apart.

She soon stops being the perfect, responsible daughter and transforms herself into the 35 year-old unmarried daughter who has not been able to fulfill her dream of becoming a writer. She now believes the time has come to change her way of living and to start giving priority to her own life.

SWEDEN



00 MIN

92 MIN

DIRECTOR
PETER GRÖNLUND

PRODUCERS
**FRIDA BARGO, MATTIAS
NOHRBORG**

YEAR
2015

SYNOPSIS

When street pusher Minna can't pay her rent she cheats a few young criminals on a drug deal and takes the money. She happens to meet Katja, mother of a child who has been taken by the social authorities.

Minna goes with Katja to an illegal residence outside of town, where a group of individuals have joined together to determine their own living conditions.

Drifters is a social political drama thriller about the dealer Minna's struggle to survive in a society lacking solidarity and responsibility.

DRIFTERS

SWITZERLAND



00 MIN

97 MIN

#FEMALE PLEASURE

DIRECTOR
BARBARA MILLER

PRODUCER
PHILIP DELAQUIS

YEAR
2018

SYNOPSIS

Barbara Miller's feature documentary #Female Pleasure portrays five courageous, smart and self-determined women, breaking the silence imposed by their archaic-patriarch societies and religious communities.

With incredible strength and positive energy, Deborah Feldman, Leyla Hussein, Rokudenashiko, Doris Wagner and Vithika Yadav are fighting for sexual liberation and autonomy for women, beyond religious rules and cultural barriers. But their victory comes at a high price: they all have experienced public defamation, threats and prosecutions, have been excommunicated by the society they grew up in and even received death threats by religious leaders and fanatics.

SCHEDULE

CHENNAI

24 June-4 July

NEW DELHI

28 June-7 July

GOA

4-18 July

PUNE

5-11 July

PUDUCHERRY

15-22 July

BENGALURU

20-25 July

KOLKATA

29 July – 2 August

HYDERABAD

21-31 August

KOZIKHODE

27-29 August



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in New Delhi



Honorary Consulate of the
Czech Republic in Chennai



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Balassi Institute
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Embassy of the Republic of Latvia
to the Republic of India



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
IN THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA



High Commissioner of Romania
New Delhi



Kingdom of the Netherlands



EMBASSY OF ROMANIA
in the Republic of India



EMBASSY
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
IN NEW DELHI



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All films with English subtitles.
Entry allowed for 18+