















#### Welcome

After two years of lockdowns, we are happy to announce that the 7th edition of the New Renaissance Film Festival is being hosted at the Kino Cinema, Bermondsey. This is the ideal venue for us and we have been given a tremendous amount of support from the manager Paul and his team.

# A wonderful and warm celebration of indie film

Since 2016 when we started, we have curated 20 film festivals and screened more than 1,500 films. We have adopted a hybrid model this year, with a mix of live screenings and online streaming.

The festival will run from the 22-24th September and the awards party and ceremony will take place on Sunday the 2nd October, at the 5 star Courthouse Hotel, Soho. Tickets for cinema screenings and the awards party are on sale through Film Freeeway.

# £2,500 in cash prizes on offer for Emerging Talent

Apart from a high number of UK and international film awards, for the second year running, we are offering cash prizes for Emerging Talent, thanks to the generosity of our patron Katie Partridge, CEO of the Saphira Group.

£1,000 will be awarded for the overall winner, £500 for the first runner-up, and four more prizes of £250 each, to honour our commitment to champion the very best upand-coming film talent.

## More than 80 quality shorts and features

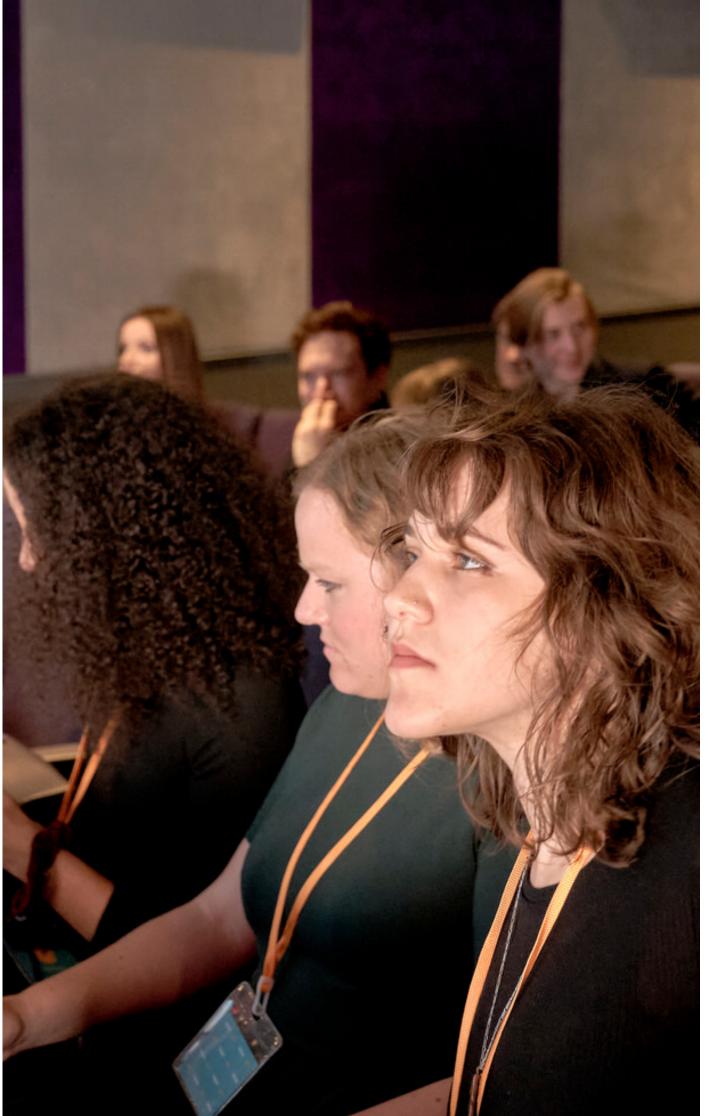
This year's programme includes more than 80 quality films - a combination of narrative shorts, features, documentaries, music and dance films and animation. In the programme are many beautifully-crafted films including emotional drama, experimental work and new work.

Alongside this is our screenwriting competition and we've launched for the first time, a micro film competition on Tik Tok.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone involved in making this year's festival a wonderful experience, especially Anya Patel, Katie Partridge and Kristian Partridge.

> Massimo Barbato and Jan Hendrik Verstraten - Directors

## **EMERGING TALENT AWARDS**









## Emerging Talent Awards

From our inception in 2016, NRFF has been committed to supporting the best up-and-coming filmmakers, as they embark on their careers in the film industry. The Emerging Talent Awards provide a unique platform to showcase their work.

For the second year running, we are offering cash prizes, thanks to the generosity of our patron, Katie Partridge.

## Katie Partridge, CEO, SAPHIRA Group

Katie is the CEO of the SAPHIRA Group, a private investment firm headquartered in London, with a presence in the United States and the Middle East. She is also the founder and chairwoman of Al Johara, a social enterprise organisation that fosters

female leadership and cross-cultural understanding between East and West.

Katie believes in making a difference at the grassroots level and is a founding trustee of the Childhood Trust, a charity that supports the alleviation of childhood poverty and early development struggles of children living in London.

# £2,500 in cash prizes on offer for Emerging Talent

This year, £1,000 will be awarded for the overall winner, £500 for the first runner-up, and four more prizes of £250 each.

The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on 2nd October, at the Courthouse Hotel, Soho.

#### THURSDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER / 4-6 PM / KINO

### **BLOCK A**

**NARRATIVE SHORTS** 



UNITED KINGDOM

CYN

BEN DESMOND

Liverpool 1960. Art students, Cyn and John, find their blossoming romance in a state of flux as music and fame starts to overtake their passion.



BLACK TEA
RENEQUE SAMUELS
An exploration of
British heritage.

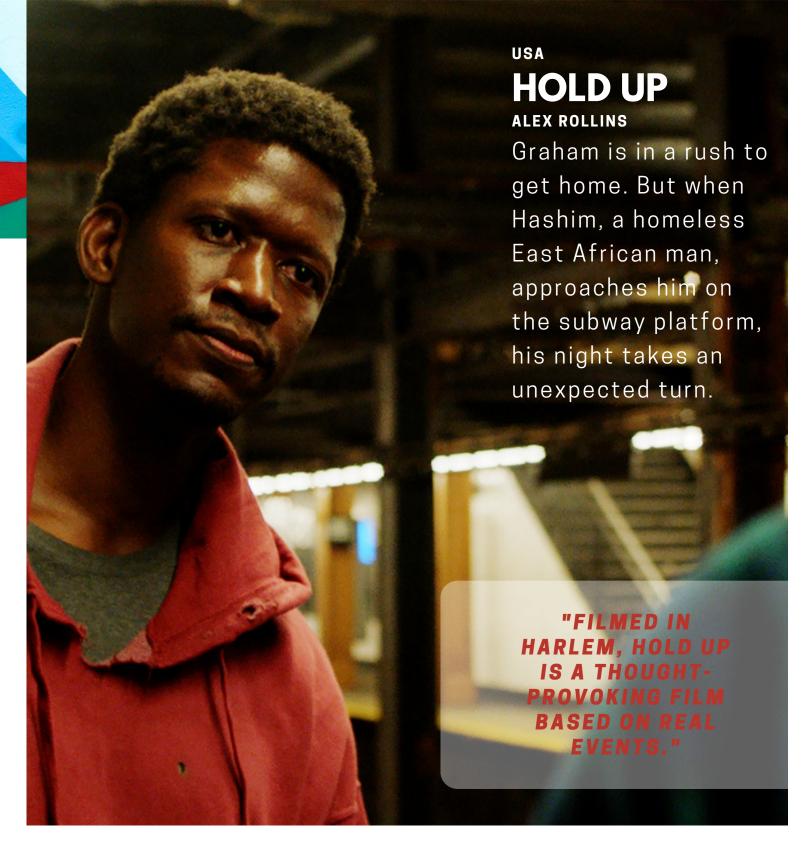


UNITED KINGDOM

## THANK YOU SO MUCH

TOMASZ FRYMORGEN

During the pandemic, an over-virtuous neighbour is challenged by the nurse next door. His only way to avoid public humiliation is to crush the heretic before him.





UNITED KINGDOM
FIELDTRIP

SOREN BENDT, PAUL ARION
A dark comedy about the 'collaboration' of man and machine.
Watch your step...



UNITED KINGDOM

**TAP** 

JESSICA JACK BOYD

On a remote mountaintop two women toil away at a seemingly meaningless task. Yet everyday they return to the same spot, to continue their back breaking work. Is it a ritual, or a punishment?

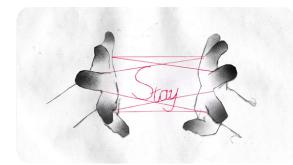


UNITED KINGDOM

#### **WE ARE BLEACH**

**ZOE GREENBAUM** 

The pansexual lead singer of an up-and-coming London rock band flirts recklessly with adventure, threatening to destroy the love that is right in front of him.



UNITED KINGDOM

**STAY** 

YU SUN

An animated film made using hand embroidery on tracing paper, depicting the relationship between a daughter and her absent father.



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

## SPEAK FOR HERSELF

**NICK WILLIS** 

What would you say if you had one minute to speak to the entire world?



THURSDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER / 6-8 PM / KINO

## OPENING NIGHT FEATURE



UNITED KINGDOM RUDY



Set in the heart of rural England, Rudy finds her relationship with her father being tested. Stuck as a proxy parent to her younger siblings and dealing with a recent loss, she feels increasingly pushed out when her home gets opened up to a paying guest. Through a newfound friendship with a boy from Coventry, Rudy discovers fun, freedom and autonomy, but is it at the sacrifice of unspoken family wounds?

#### **CAST**



Esther McCormick
Darren Day
Kanune Morrissey
Rusty Lee
Sylvia Lorden



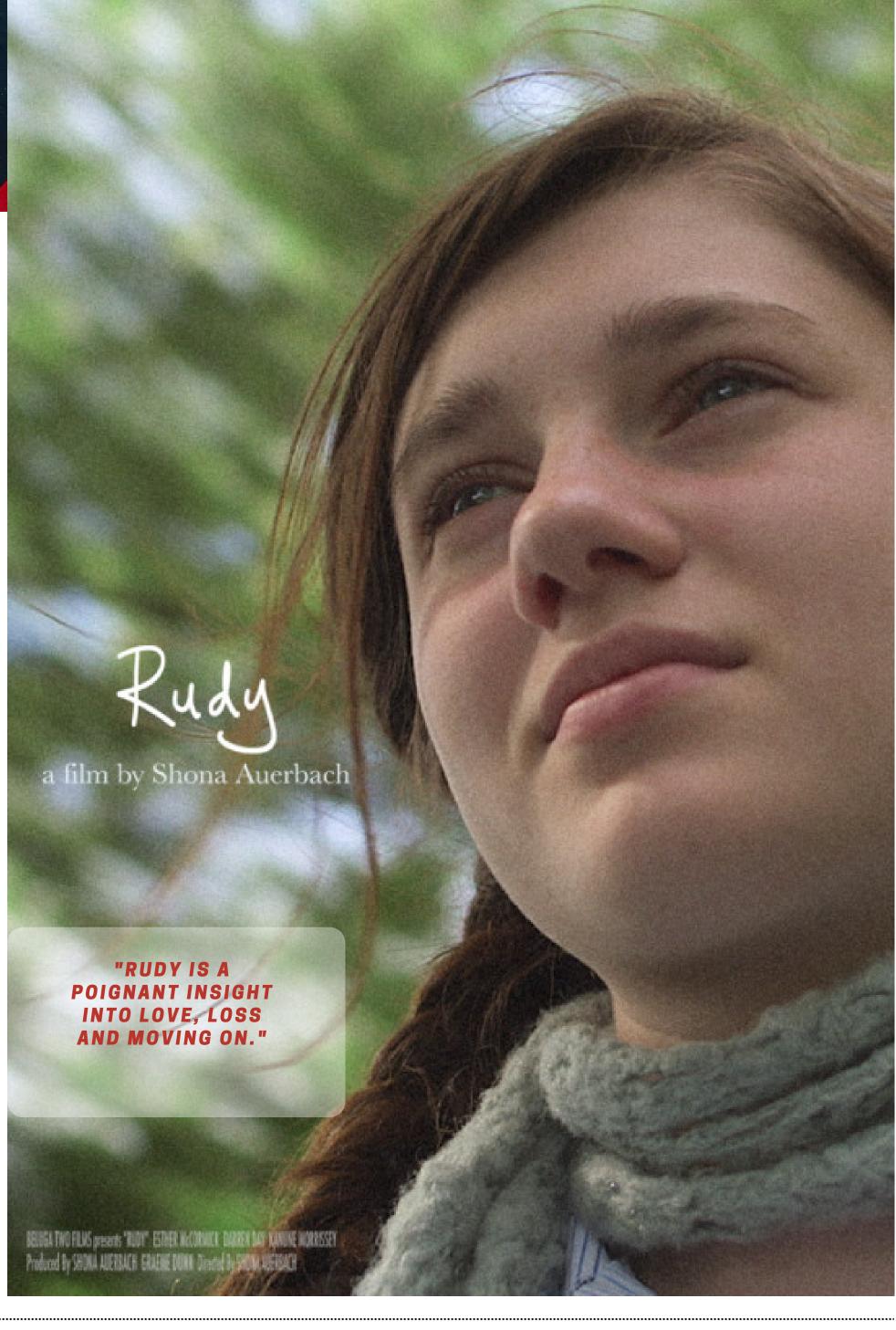
#### **DIRECTED BY SHONA AUERBACH**

Written by Diane Allton and Shona Auerbach
Original Score by Akira Kosemura
Produced by Shona Auerbach and Graeme Dunn
www.belugatwofilms.com/rudy









### FRIDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER /2-4 PM / KINO **BLOCK C NARRATIVE SHORTS**



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

### **SUMMER**

**SERENA CHLOE GARDNER** 

Summer's world turns upside down after the sudden death of her brother and subsequent PTSD. To overcome her grief, she throws a house party with the help of



#### **UNITED KINGDOM**

### TO THE MOON

**ADIL LADHA** 

As 7 year-old Nish watches the Apollo 11 moon landing, a conflict at home threatens to bring him and his family back down to earth.



#### **UNITED KINGDOM**

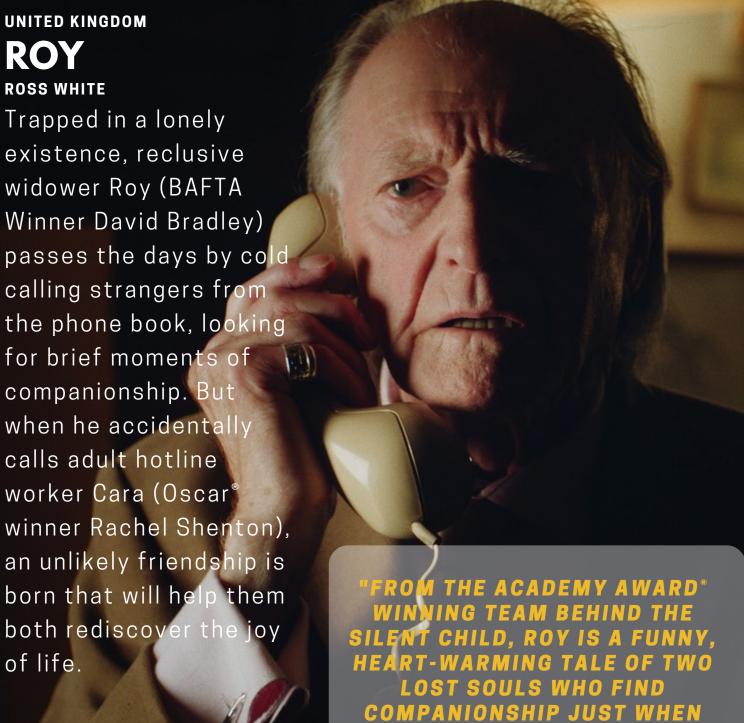
#### **UNCLE**

**MICHELLE JONES** 

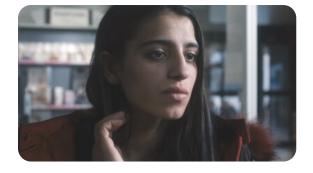
The film is a coming of age story set in 90's London, about a teenage girl whose uncle (with no criminal record) dies in prison awaiting trial. Based on a true story.



UNITED KINGDOM



THEY NEED IT MOST."



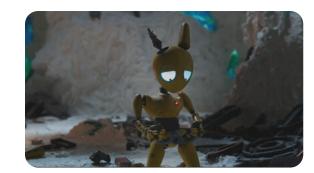
#### FRANCE

#### **SHAKIRA**

**NOEMIE MERLANT** 

her friends.

While trying to save her family from a return to the street, Shakira, a young gypsie woman, meets Marius, a member of a robber gang.



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

#### **BUILD ME UP**

STEVE LAWSON

Future earth is tipped into a hostile new iceage. Robot siblings Vera and Sprocket are left to survive alone. Can they learn to work together and weather the oncoming storm?



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

### **GREEN LANES**

GÜNI KOÇAK, MARIE DRISCH

Haringey, North London. Present day. When Yusuf brings his girlfriend Fiona home to finally meet his Turkish parents, the family has to deal and remember a tragedy.



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

of life.

#### THE EVERLASTING **CLUB**

JOY WILKINSON

In an elite college, Sarah invites a diverse group of female students to restart a powerful men's club from centuries ago, only they discover the original members are joining them for dinner.



FRIDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER / 12-2 PM / KINO

### **BOCK B**

**NARRATIVE SHORTS** 



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

#### **AINSWORTH**

SAM BLAKE TALBOT

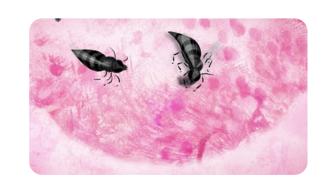
It is the beating heart of the Estate and football the international language that binds the entire community together.



ECSTASY

**GRANT TAYLOR** 

A comedy-drama about a disabled father with Parkinson's disease, and his son's crazy attempt to buy him drugs so that he can dance with his wife, one last time. What could go wrong?



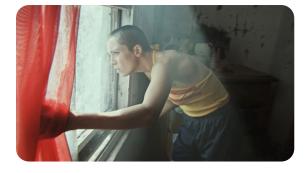
FRANCE

#### **SEASON**

GIOVANNA LOPALCO

A group of men dressed in white, accompany a young woman to a strange, perpetually moving location, where her physical metamortphosis begins.





**UNITED KINGDOM** 

#### **CANNED**

**CLEMENTE LOHR** 

Ellen's life is spinning out of control, as she tries desperately to find something hidden in her flat. Meanwhile, Vince, attempts to teach her the meaning of love.



UNITED KINGDOM

#### **7 BANANAS**

DAISY MOORE

Dara and Sophie's once close friendship is now only sustained by likes, memes and ever-delayed meet-ups. When Sophie commits suicide, Dara is forced to look behind the surface of Sophie's last messages?



UNITED KINGDOM

#### IT FEELS PERSONAL

**HUGH CLEGG** 

A short desktop documentary about a stolen video, and the online search for the thief.



an almost desolated

**UNITED KINGDOM** 

city.

### PIN MONEY

CHRISTEL RINGELMANN

Working to afford her hobby, a young woman struggles with her thankless job.



PLAYED BY A REAL

MOTHER AND

DAUGHTER."

UNITED KINGDOM

### SHEAR

RIYADH HAQUE

Yasmin, finds herself trapped between her strict, traditional family and the man she is in love with. One night, she sneaks out to a party and starts a chain of events that changes her life forever.



FRIDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER / 4-6 PM / KINO

### **BLOCK D**

**MUSIC & DANCE SHORTS** 



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

#### **A DRIFITNG UP**

**JACOB LEE** 

It takes 6 weeks to come off anti-depressants. I tried to dance my way through it.



#### UNITED KINGDOM

## WE BREAK EMMANUEL ADELEKUN

A short, spoken word, breaking film, reflecting the raw, visceral side of the hip hop-born dance and art form.



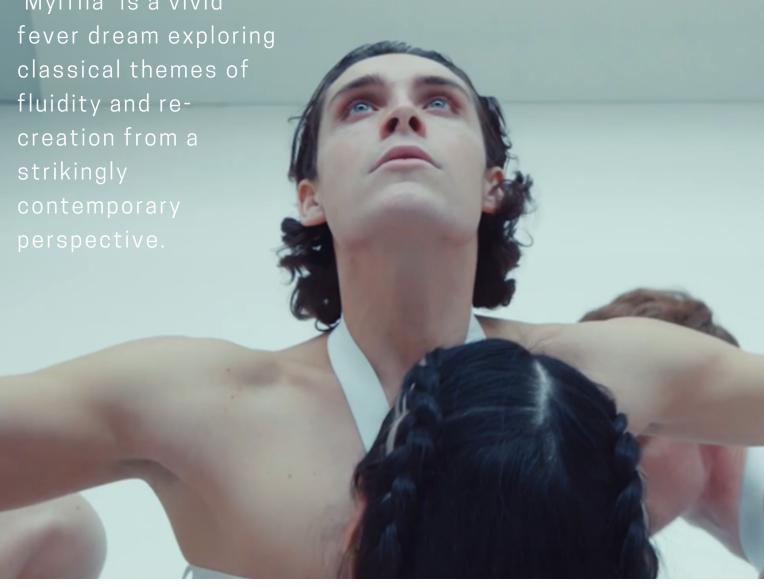
#### AUSTRALIA

#### **DRUMTALK**

**MAGIC STEVEN** 

Dance to the beat of my drum in 2D animation.







UNITED KINGDOM

#### A SPACE LEFT BANK

TRAVIS CLAUSEN-KNIGHT

What happens when the screens that are meant to bring us together get in the way of real connection?



UNITED KINGDOM

#### **DIVE**

**OSCAR SANSOM** 

Scottish Ballet's short film inspired by French artist Yves Klein and what has become the world's most famous shade of blue.
Choreography by Sophie Laplane.



UNITED KINGDOM

#### KIN

DAN LOWENSTEIN, KENNETH TINDALL
Inspired by David Nixon

Inspired by David Nixon
OBE's stage production
of Swan Lake, Northern
Ballet original dance
film KIN explores the
struggle with grief and
the demons that lie
within.



FRANCE

## BARBARIANS: ORIGINS

**ROMAIN RACHLINE BORGEAUD** 

A student defies his bullying teacher's authority and leads his classmates to rebel against his tyranny.



USA

# ROCHELLE BLOOM "STORIES I CREATE IN MY HEAD"

**DEREK EVANS** 

Rochelle Bloom's debut music video for her song, "Stories I Create In My Head", off her album, "Partly Cloudy".





FLAWS

**JAKE KUHN** 

A dancer, with his new pair of tap shoes, torments his downstairs neighbor. What ensues is a fight that escalates to the roof, where their romantic history together is revealed.



## UNSPOKEN

**WILLIAM ARMSTRONG** 

A film centred around world-class contemporary choreographer Paul Lightfoot (the Netherlands Dance Theatre) losing his father during the pandemic.



#### USA

#### **MELANIN VIBES**

CYRIAN REED

"Melanin Vibes" is the discovery and conscious awareness of your skin and being proud of the layers of your existence.



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

## AN EVENING WITH TAGLIONI

JESSICA WRIGHT, MORGAN RUNACRETEMPLE

Legendary ballerina
Marie Taglioni retires
and her pointe shoes
are bought by a fan...
Then cooked at a
lavish dinner party and
served to 35 guests.



UNITED KINGDOM

### **ONE NIGHT**

ISLA BADENOCH

Based on real-life events, One Night is a short dance film about the emotional journey one woman takes to find the strength to change her life forever.



#### USA

## ONCE THERE WAS

**NINA MCNEELY** 

A visceral display of true sisterhood- they suffer together, thrive together and bleed together.



#### SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER / 12-2 PM / KINO

### **BLOCK E**

**NARRATIVE SHORTS** 



LOVE
JANE ASHMORE

This bittersweet film tells the story of Oscar, a complex character with unique needs but the same hopes and desires as anyone.



ITAL

### LA NATURALE BELLEZZA DEL CREATO

MICHELE BARNARDI, ROBERTO ZAPPALA

A desperate invocation of love that is embodied by the rustle of wind and the physicality of the dancers.



UNITED KINGDOM

#### **SURGEONS**

**CRAIG TALBOT** 

Two women discover being a surgeon can mean very different things.





TREASURE

SEAN PATRICK HEALY

Sunny talkaholic Pip doesn't know which is worse; to be entirely invisible, or to be seen but not noticed. It takes 7 year-old Alice to see what's so clearly wrong.



UNITED KINGDOM

### UNCENSORED (THE BEAUTIFUL BUTTER PLAYGROUND)

**NOAH OTTERSEN PARKER** 

A mysterious TV signal sends everyone into an outpour of uncontrollable swearing.

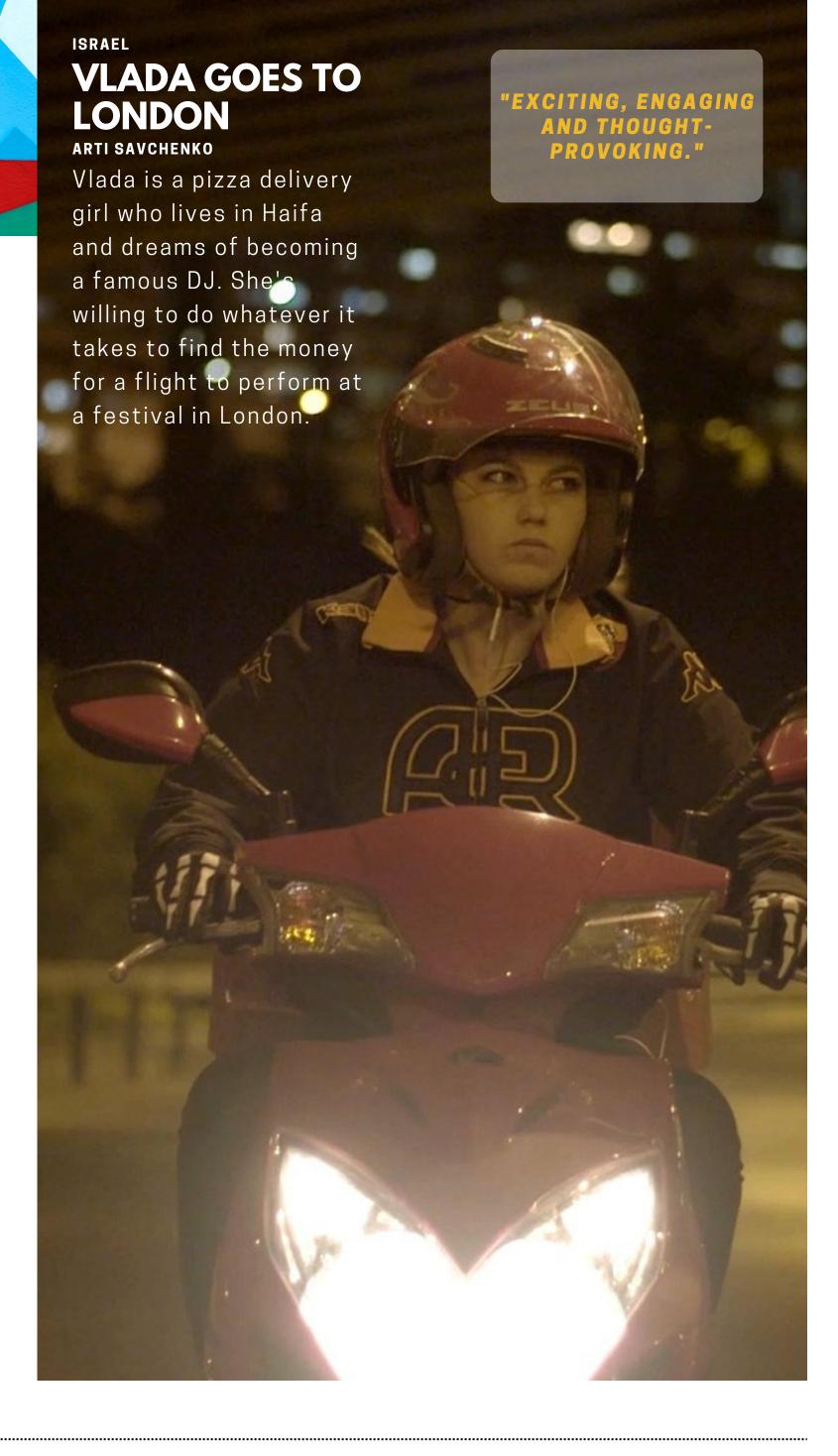


**UNITED KINGDOM** 

### A WOMAN WALKS INTO A BANK

**TOM BRENNAN** 

Inspired by the wild true story of the Patty Hearst kidnapping, this film is about a young woman's journey from normality to extremism and back again.



SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER / 2-4 PM / KINO

**BLOCK F** 

**NARRATIVE SHORTS** 



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

### SLAY THE BEAST FROM A STATE OF PEACE

MIRO ALLEYNE-MCCARTHY

An experiment, visually and poetically but above all; this is an expression of the filmmaker's feelings, worries and spirit.



UNITED KINGDOM

### **TORTOISE**

**ALEXANDRA MAHER** 

A desperate young woman (Emily Beecham) must overcome amnesia in order to understand her strange surroundings and finally be reunited with her daughter.



UNITED KINGDOM

### **BABY BOY**

**GREG HALL** 

A sexually repressed
London black cab
driver, abandons his
wife and children when
he relapses in drug
addiction and
descends into a wild
weekend with his
young queer lover.



UNITED KINGDOM

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**WILL MASHETER** 

In a dreary London council estate, Hugh, widowed and alone, is a shell of who he used to be. He awaits the inevitable in anticipation...



UNITED KINGDOM

#### **GOOD=EVIL**

JOSÉ LUIS UGARTE

A stream of consciousness poetry film that is both a meditation and an inner dialogue with the self. Thoughts lead us into an imaginary place where manifestations of our fears reside.



UNITED KINGDOM

### **TAYLOR**

ISAAC TOMICZEK

A bullied gay teenager's life is turned around when a new friend teaches him how to box.





SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER / 4-6 PM / KINO

### FEATURE

**UNITED KINGDOM** 

#### **A BIRD FLEW IN**





When lockdown is imposed, the cast and crew of a film are taken from the set and sent home – alone. Actors without an audience. Directors without a script. Couples who fall apart. While others come together. A film composed of six interlinked narratives, 'A Bird Flew In' explores what happens when we are freed from external distractions and forced to find the meaning in our lives and loves.

#### **CAST**



Sir Derek Jacobi
Jeff Fahey
Sadie Frost
Frances Barber
Julie Dray
Morgana Robinson
Sophie Kennedy
Clark
Camilla Rutherford

#### **DIRECTED BY KIRSTY BELL**

Written by Dominic Wells Produced by Ben Charles-Edwards









### FEATURE



### ALBATROSS



Worlds collide at an awkward dinner party in 1959 New England. After moving to a new town, Elizabeth and Thomas Miller are at a crossroad; they are childless, he's an unpublished writer and she's tired of cutting checks to keep them afloat. Thomas' work suffers to the point that his publisher wants him to ditch his novel about the Black experience to write a more commercially viable harlequin romance. Carol and Dr. Lloyd Burke have built an imposing façade glorifying the societal ideals of the era; an impressive home, prominent role at the Country Club, and son studying medicine. But, behind closed doors, the couple's haunted by the cracks in their relationship and his use of controversial psychiatric techniques.



#### **CAST**

David Keeley Sarah Orenstein Katherine Gauthier Jill Frappier Mikaela Bisson



David Huband, Thom Nyhuss, Daniel Krmpotic, Jonathon Lerose

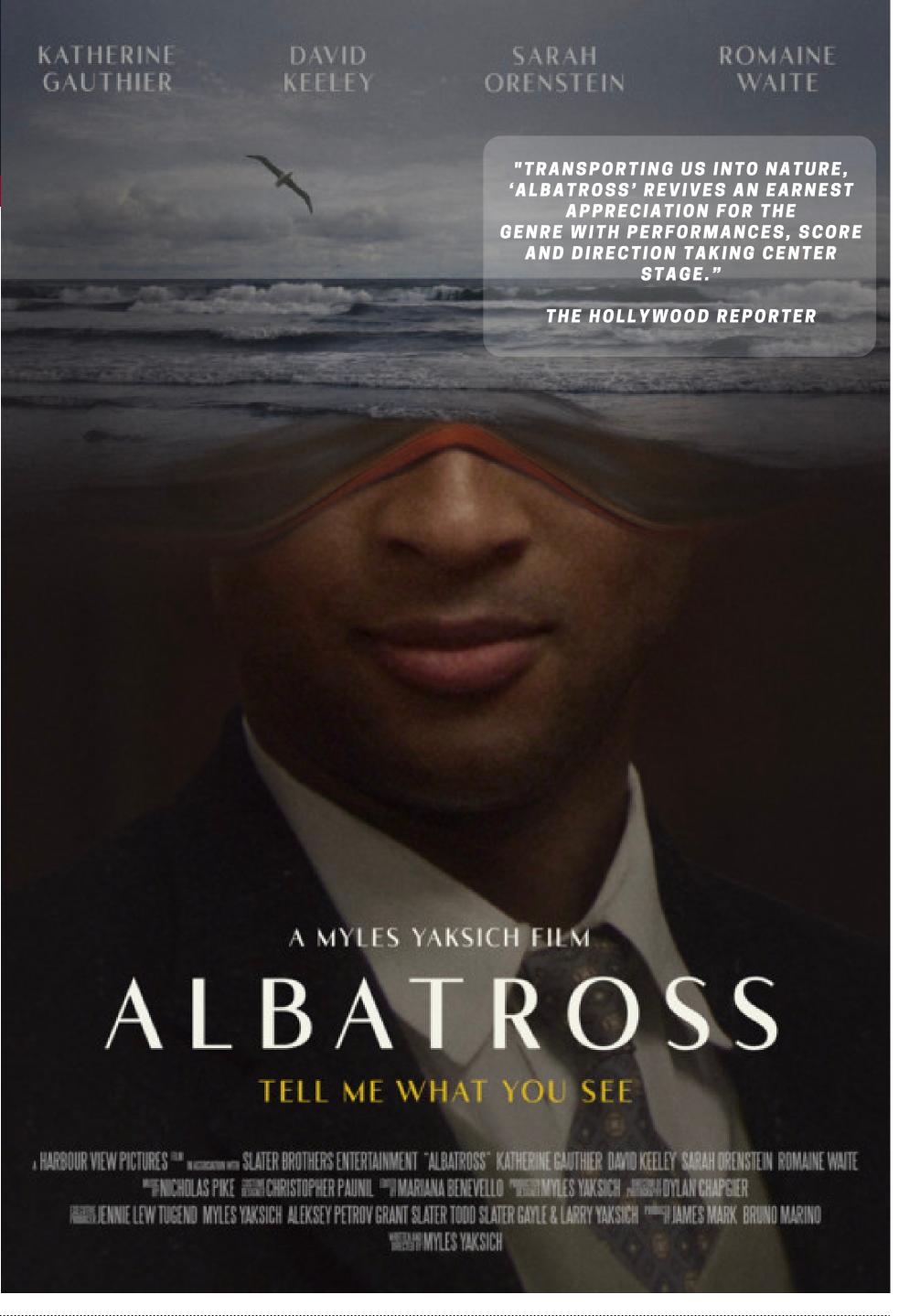
#### WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY MYLES YAKSICH

Produced by Jennie Lew Tugend, Myles Yaksich, James Mark,
Bruno Marino
www.albatross-film.com









### FEATURE



THE FRAGILE KING



The Fragile King tells the story of an older white man, Gerald King, who is closer to death than life who gets dumped with his 15 - year-old grandson, when the child's mother dies in a drunken car crash. The boy, who barely knows this old man, is shocked into a new reality when he is dumped in Gerald's flat in Durban by social services. The film pays homage to the filmmaker's grandfather.

#### **CAST**



Andrew Buckland
Antoinette Louw
Alex De La Rey
Nthati Moshesh
Morne Visser
Jennifer Steyn
Jonathan Piennaar
Esmeralda Bihl



#### **DIRECTED BY TRISTAN HOLMES**

Written by Tristan Holmes
Produced by Dumi Gumbi, Cati Weinek and Adam Thal







"WITH A PASSIONATE IMMERSION IN THE EXECUTION OF HIS CONCEPTS HOLMES PRESENTS A VIEW OF THE WORLD THAT IS AT ONCE INTIMATE AND EPIC, STRANGE AND FAMILIAR, FAR ANDREW BUCKLAND REACHING AND YET QUIETLY FELT." NTHATI MOSHESH JENNIFER STEYN JONATHAN PIENAAR ESMERELDA BIHL ALEX DE LA REY family by accident

### FEATURE

**DENMARK** 

## WONDERLAND RECOIL





In the future it's possible to print custom made drugs and psychedelics in your home. Alice is stuck in her life, and is desperately looking for an escape. She finds a brand new psychedelic drug called Nirvana - designed to warp your reality. Alice takes it, arrives in Wonderland as her alter ego Ecila and gets lost in Wonderland, where she has to face her demons and nightmares.



#### **CAST**

Sisse Marie
Melanie
BeckendorffLeavens
David Sakurai
Lene Nystrøm
Afshin Firouzi



#### WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY SHAUN RANA

Produced by Shaun Rana, Jimi Coker, Afhsin Firouzi, Sisse Marie Jelena Shally









# 22-24TH SEPTEMBER / VIMEO ON DEMAND BLOCKG NARRATIVE SHORTS



**REPUBLIC OF KOREA** 

#### THE STENCH

**WON JANG** 

An old man is devastated when money is stolen from his damp little room. Others living in the building begin to suspect each other. Who was the thief?



UNITED STATES

#### **WEST BOTTOMS**

**GREGORY SHEFFER** 

Larry Poole is a drifter. Most nights, he can barely sleep while battling regret from decades of bad decisions. The kind of decisions that would drive anyone away...including his only daughter Jessica.



**GERMANY** 

## THE LIGHT THAT NOONE SEES

GREGORY MARKUS HEGEL

After the family father Josef learns that their health insurance won't cover his cancer-ill daughter's treatment, he attempts to steal the life-saving medication secretly from his workplace at a day clinic.





## 22-24TH SEPTEMBER / VIMEO ON DEMAND BLOCK H NARRATIVE SHORTS



**NEW ZEALAND JUNE DWAYNE CAMERON** 

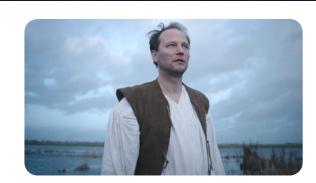
Willow and David receive a serious diagnosis from their doctor and attempt to deal with the mundane as their world disintegrates in the following 24 hours.





**GERMANY ONCE I PASSED MARTIN GERIGK** 

Walt Whitman's "Once I passed' is dedicated, on the one hand, to the poet's life with all its personal drama, and on the other hand to the content of the poem itself, the profoundly quiet, yet powerful story of two lovers.



**NETHERLANDS ZONDVLOED** (FLOOD)

**NILS VERKOOIJEN** 

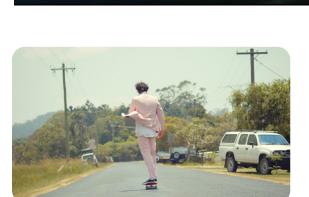
The year is 1672 and the Dutch Republic is being attacked by 120.000 French soldiers. To save the Republic and it's citizens, a big chunk of land is being flooded with water. In Flood we follow Sijmen, the eldest son of farmer Karel, who discovers the danger his family is in is closer than expected.



### FRANCE **AVI**

**ISHTVAN NEKRASOV** 

Obsessed with music, Thomas, one day receives the AVI vinyl, a legendary record and the jewel in his collection. In his quest to listen to it, not all will go as planned.



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

DANIEL SHEHATA

to haunt him.

When Lester Landon, a

for a dodgy watch

dyslexic criminal working

dealership, decides on "the

straight and narrow" he is

before he is set free. Time

is running out as the ghosts

of his past are coming back

tasked with one last job

"A FILM NOIR THAT DEALS WITH THE CRAZY

NORLD OF LUXURY

WATCH COLLECTING, ILLITERACY, AND

CRIME."

THE NAUTILIS MUTINY

#### **UNITED STATES**

### THE CHIEFTAIN OF THE PUDDING **RACE**

**SHANE CROSLAND** 

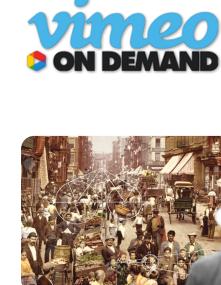
Amid diverse travelers and affluent locals, Sunny struggles to find solace within his hometown and amongst his friends.



**UNITED KINGDOM LEADER** 

**CHRIS OVERTON** 

Shot entirely on a mobile phone, this is the story of Donnie, who lives on his own in a very remote area by the sea. He creates sculptures from ocean waste, until one day the tide changes and he inspires a new normal.



# 22-24TH SEPTEMBER / VIMEO ON DEMAND BLOCK I DOCUMENTARY SHORTS



#### UKRAINE

## WHEN WILL THE WARMTH COME?

**OLEKSANDRA PLETENETSKA** 

This is a video diary of the director's feelings, in which she documented her emotional state during the full-scale invasion of her country - Ukraine.



#### TALY

### WALLACE CHAN -THE ART OF MATERIALS

MARTINA MARGAUX COZZI

Thee film chronicles world renowned jewellery artist Wallace Chan's debut into the world of sculpture, fuelled by his desire to innovate.



## ICHOR

**GIOVANNI CHIAPPINI** 

Perfect creatures perform their natural function in a structured society: a world built for them, a garden of Eden. They may never fully decipher the omnipotent being who manages this paradise.



**UNITED KINGDOM** 

#### **MAKE IT WILD**

**GEORGE PEARTON** 

Make it Wild, based in North Yorkshire, UK, is a family business on a mission to help nature.





## **BLOCK J**

MUSIC & DANCE SHORTS



**AUSTRIA** 

#### REMEMBER ME

**ADRIANA HERNANDEZ FLORES** 

"Remember me" is a short film based on the baroque opera "Dido and Aeneas" by Henry Purcell. The story is told as a mockumentary filmed with abstract scenes recorded in various parts of Vienna and inspired by the Pina Bauschs Tanztheater.



#### UNITED KINGDOM

#### **EIGHTFOLD**

CASSA PANCHO, MARK DONNE

Blackness it is not a singular experience and this film showcases its multifaceted aspects, and the artistic power of Ballet Black, an organisation that has been championing positive change for Black and Asian dancers for twenty years.



**DENMARK** 

## DANCING AT THE ROYAL PALACES

TOBIAS PRAETORIUS, FRED SALMON

Dancing at the Royal Palaces is choreographed by Tobias Praetorius and Visually directed by Fred Salmon. The ballet comprises of four parts each part uniquely suited to the characteristic and interior of the four Great Halls of Amalienborg Palace.





### FEATURE

**EGYPT** 

#### **ABU SADDAM**





After years spent in retirement, experienced truck driver Abu Saddam gets a job transporting goods on the North Coast Road. He is determined to complete the job to perfection to maintain his his reputation, but when he is faced with an unexpected situation on the road, things quickly spiral out of control.



#### **CAST**

Mohamed Mamdouh Ahmed Dash



#### **DIRECTED BY NADINE KHAN**

Written by Mahmoud Ezzat Produced by Ahmed Fahmy, Hani Naguib







