



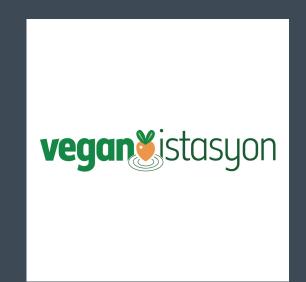
## SUPPORTERS













Vegan Community Kitchen





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I CSUVCII	

Translation Group

**General Director** 

Melissa Maya Arabacıoğlu

Yusuf Unay

Elmira Duygu Zaimoğlu Özge (Karlos) Karlık

Hande Çiçek

**Festival Coordinator** 

Nazlıcan Karakoç

Aydinç Yüksel

İlay Selin Koçak

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Dilara Boğa

Project consultant

Can Adalı

**Media Group** 

Saliç Doğan

Festival Jury

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Cüneyt Dalgıçoğlu

Festival Pre-Jury

Dilara Boğa

Hasan Taşkın

Luanda Francine

Design Poster

Esra Özalp

Tümay Cansız

Catalog

Artwork.

Caner Uygur

Saliç Doğan

Azel Seçkin

#### **PRESENTATION**

We're speaking of the Kurdish people. This is good... Because we have to start from somewhere to talk about our problems. It is not only Kurds who do not feel safe in the land where they were born. The Queer people should be talking; as well as women... many more things should be talked about. We need to talk about the rights of animals, who are the greatest victims of our civilization and to whom we have done every kind of evil you can think of, and who should be seen as individuals.

While doing all this, we need to develop a discourse that includes types of discrimination in which we do not prioritize our own interests and in which we are not the subject.

And this is the exact reason why we need to go vegan.

I want to thank the directors of the 27 films we selected from 12 countries for sharing the stories of animals with us.

I wish you a pleasant viewing.

Yusuf Unay

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### **Festival Shedule**

### 6 June

20:00

Opening Cocktail

20:30

**Ethicall** 

22:00

Meeting: Francesco Bori

"Ethicall § Planted - Donald Watson and the Roots of Veganism"

### 7 June

### 11:00

Meeting: Can Adalı & Fatih Köseoğlu "Struggle at two Fronts: Attitudes towards Vegans and Infighting between Vegans"

### 12:00

Workshop: Yusuf Unay "Using Invisible Theatre techniques in vegan activism"

#### 20:30

Planted - Donald Watson and the Roots of Veganism The Chicken Merci La Famille (Sweat Dear Family)

The Nature Girl

Gau Humari Mata Hain (Cow is Our Mother)

### 21:00

Meeting: Nayan Agarwal "Gau Humari Mata Hain"

### 7 June

21:50

The Empathy Gap

Life In A Sanctuary

12 Cors

What's On Your Palate?

Feux

22:20

Meeting: Mohammad Babakoohi

"Feux"

23:10

Blood On Your Hands

Mermaid Cow Saga

Kindness Town

Vigillia

23:55

Meeting: Almudena Pascual Chillón

"Vigillia"

### 8June

11:00

Workshop: Zeynî Unay, "Natural Building Techniques"

20:30

Cuffy the Calf

Winner

Bonnie and Orville

Sanctuary

A Food Story

21:15

Meeting: Pablo Aira

"A Food Story"

21:50

Rosso Natale (Red Christmas)

Transfarming Switzerland

### 8June

22:20

Meeting: Thomas Machowicz , "Transfarming Switzerland"

23:10

Animalist

Chicken Wardrobe

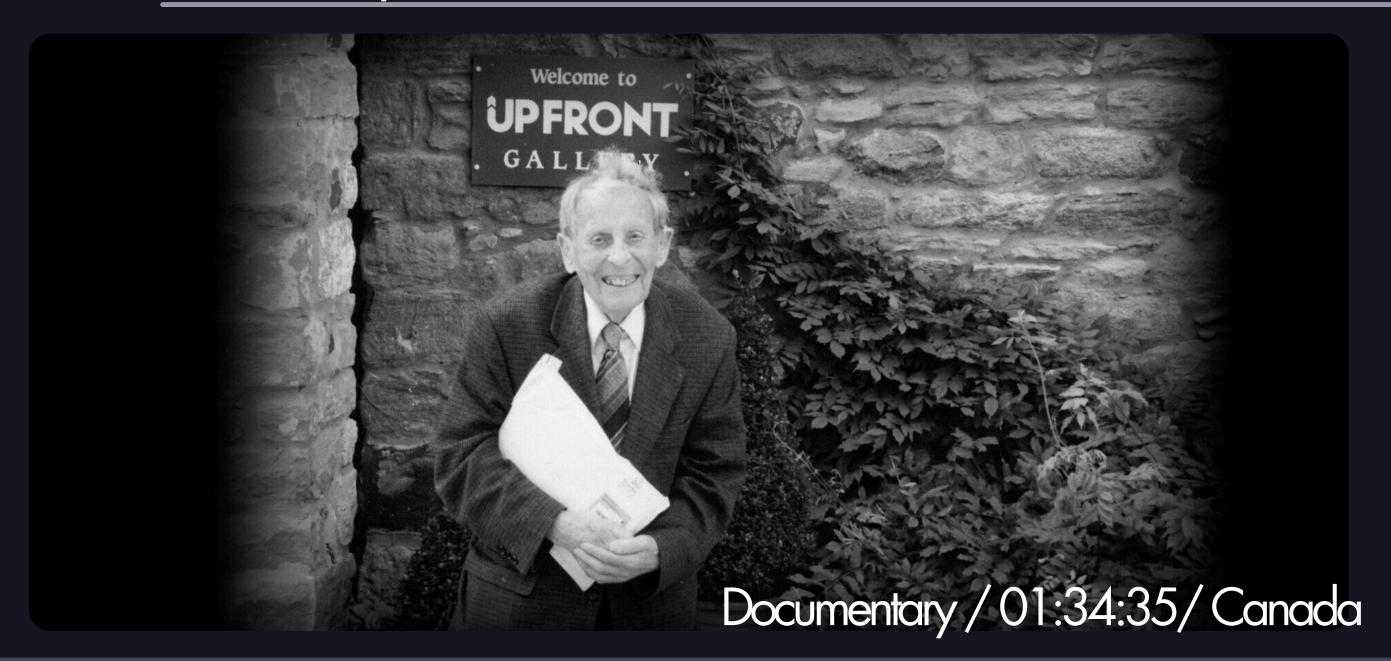
Esplendor and the Noble Resilience of Fleeing

Nochar

Spectral Symbiosis

23:45

Meeting: Toms Burans., "Spectral Symbiosis"

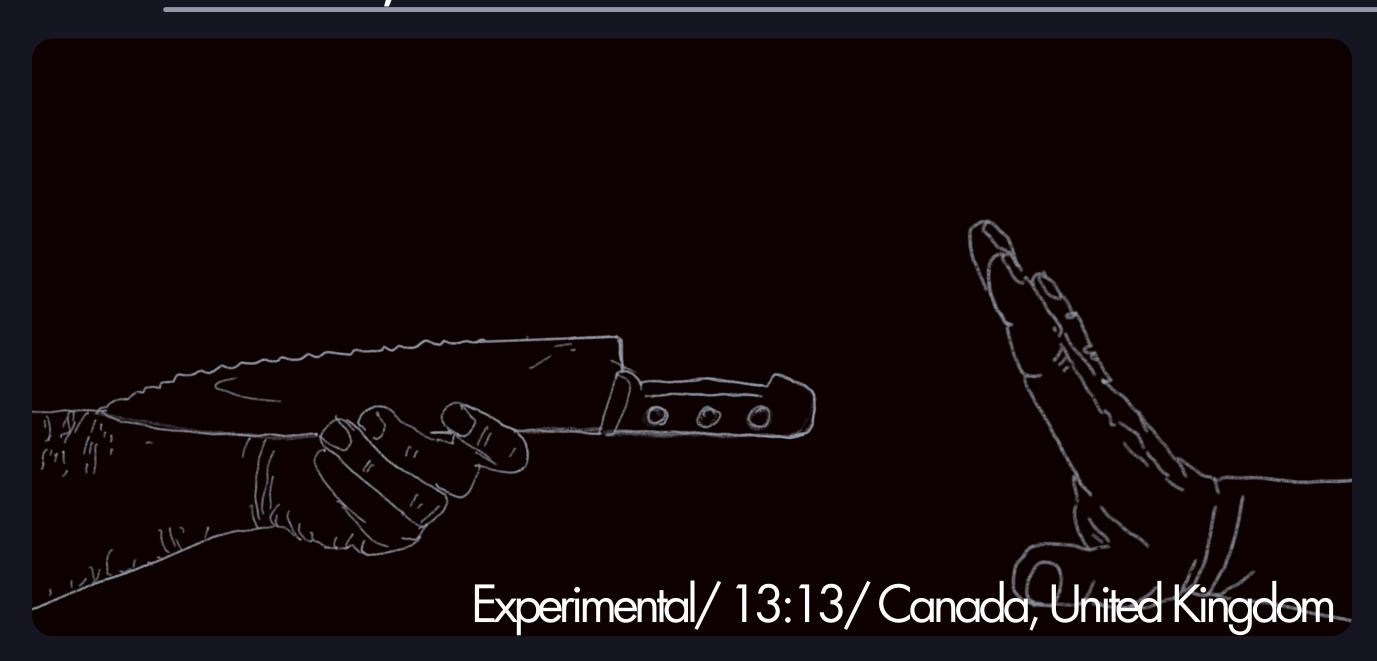


## ETHICALL

#### Francesco Bori

Personally endorsed by Jane Goodall, "Ethicall" is a film celebrating a milestone in vegan history. The vegan society was co-founded on November 1st 1944 in Yorkshire, England by woodworker Donald Watson. This initiated the vegan movement: 2024 marks 80 years of veganism. But is that original dream still enough to change the world today? This completely unique and original documentary, which is made from remotely captured videos by vegans around the world and previously unheard archive footage, explores that very theme in a celebratory way offering contemporary and historical insights from over the years.





# PLANTED - DONALD WATSON AND THE ROOTS OF VEGANISM

#### Francesco Bori

Donald Watson died 20 years ago. This touching short animation, exclusively for the first time in history, exposes for the screen the fascinating story of the Englishman who started the vegan movement.





Francesco is an English-Italian neurodiverse content creator whose primary objective is to raise awareness about animal and planetary ethics - veganism, specifically vegan history. His work includes making awareness raising films, researching and curating exhibits, hosting and instructing workshops, creative writing and speaking. He is also an acclaimed visual artist and mentor.



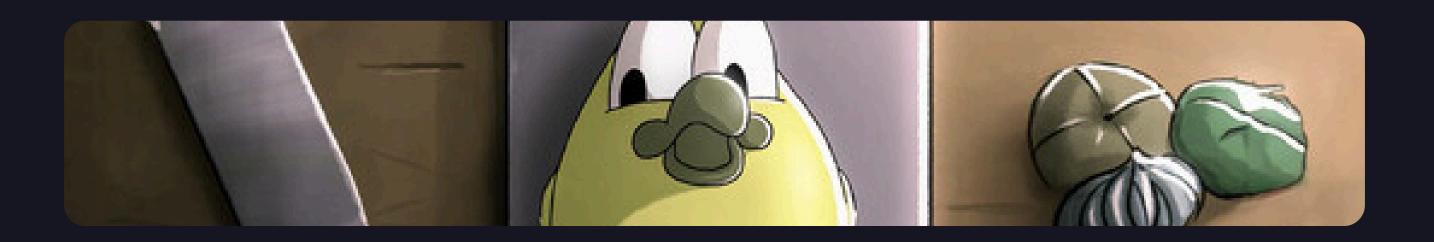
## THE CHICKEN

### Rahul Akole

Despite our attempts to disavow it, this story reflects the behaviors of many. It reveals our actions.

Driven by self-interest, humans might tear others from their families, collectively descend into cruelty, and society tacitly tolerates it. The trust animals invest in humanity is often met with betrayal.

This film serves as a reminder of humanity's willful blindness towards the ongoing slaughter of animals, highlighting our ignorance of the matter.

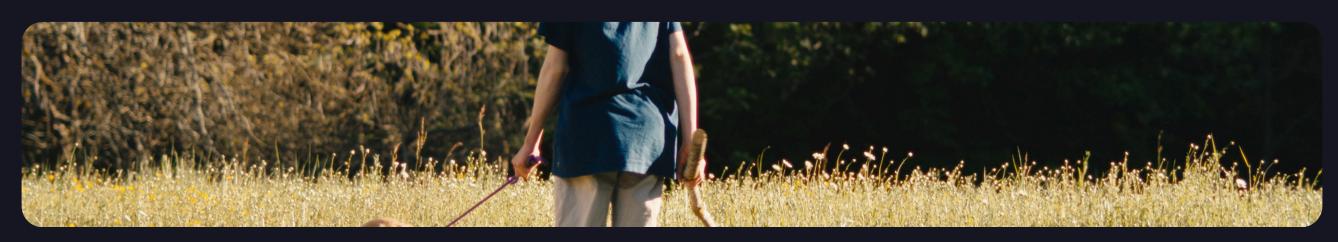




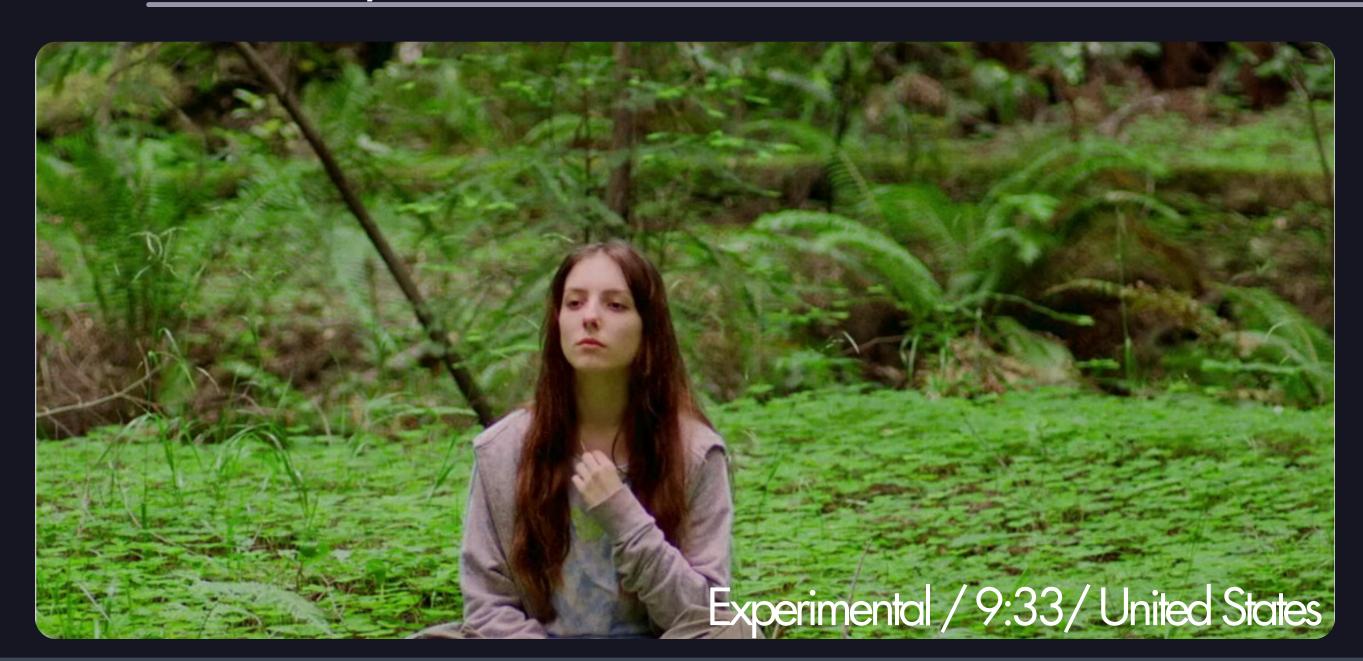
### MERCI LA FAMILLE – SWEAT DEAR FAMILY

### **Antoine Pinson**

Paul is 15. At home, if Bambi, the dog, pees inside the house, each member of the family must correct him in turn. Everything would be fine if Gabriel, his older brother, had not decided to leave the house. One day, Paul decides to search for him and persuade him to reconnect with their parents. Paul knows they will do anything to help him heal from his homosexuality.



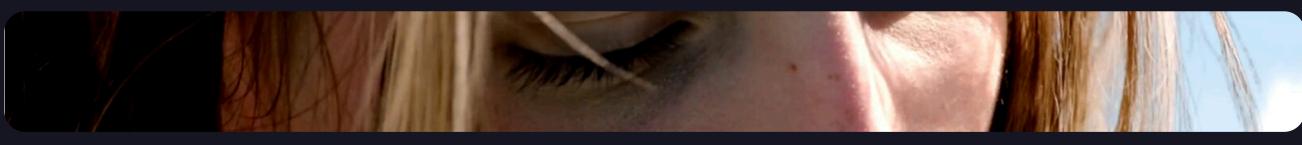




## THE NATURE GIRL

Paul Charisse, Quinton Luccas, Matteo Maximilian

The Nature Girl is a story of a brave and courageous young Girl, abandoned by her parents at an early age, who ends up living on the streets in urban chaos. Her spirit is tested as she saves lost and injured animals with acts of heartfelt kindness to brazen rescues. She risks it all to save those that may be harmed. The Nature Girl is a story of purpose, compassion and a deep connection to the sacredness of Nature and its fragile animal life during a time of climate crisis.





This film was created in collaboration with passionate industry filmmakers in Northern California and in the UK.



### GAU HUMARI MATA HAIN - COW IS OUR MOTHER

### Xiana Castro

We often think that animals are respected in certain cultures.

In collaboration with animal rights activists in India, and through images that show the reality of life for cows in this country, we will discover that speciesism is so deeply rooted throughout the world that only a profound change of attitude can free them from discrimination and exploitation.





Xiana Castro is a videographer born in Galicia (Spain) and animal rights activist for over 20 years. Most of her work, especially in recent years, has focused on investigative reports on different forms of animal exploitation and discrimination, as well as campaigns advocating for recognizing them as individuals with their own interests.

She currently produces various audiovisual projects for nonprofit organizations, including Animals' View and Ética Animal-Animal Ethics.



## THE EMPATHY GAP

### Justyna Elżbieta Ośka

A young girl is sitting in a bus, in the background, we hear her reflections on the values that we collectively consider most important. Her thoughts transform into images, revealing a desire for the fullness of life. Suddenly, the vehicle she is traveling in becomes very crowded, and her visions begin to reflect fear, loneliness, and entrapment. These are interrupted as she reaches her destination - a slaughterhouse. It turns out that the girl is an animal - a cow, whose final journey is now coming to an end.



Her journey as a filmmaker began with working on documentary films at the Wajda School, where she participated in "Film Kindergarten" as a high school student. She worked as a production manager on student film projects at the Polish National Film, Television, and Theatre School. She also spent a few years working in a post-production studio. As an artist, she has worked on several animated music videos and as a graphic designer.

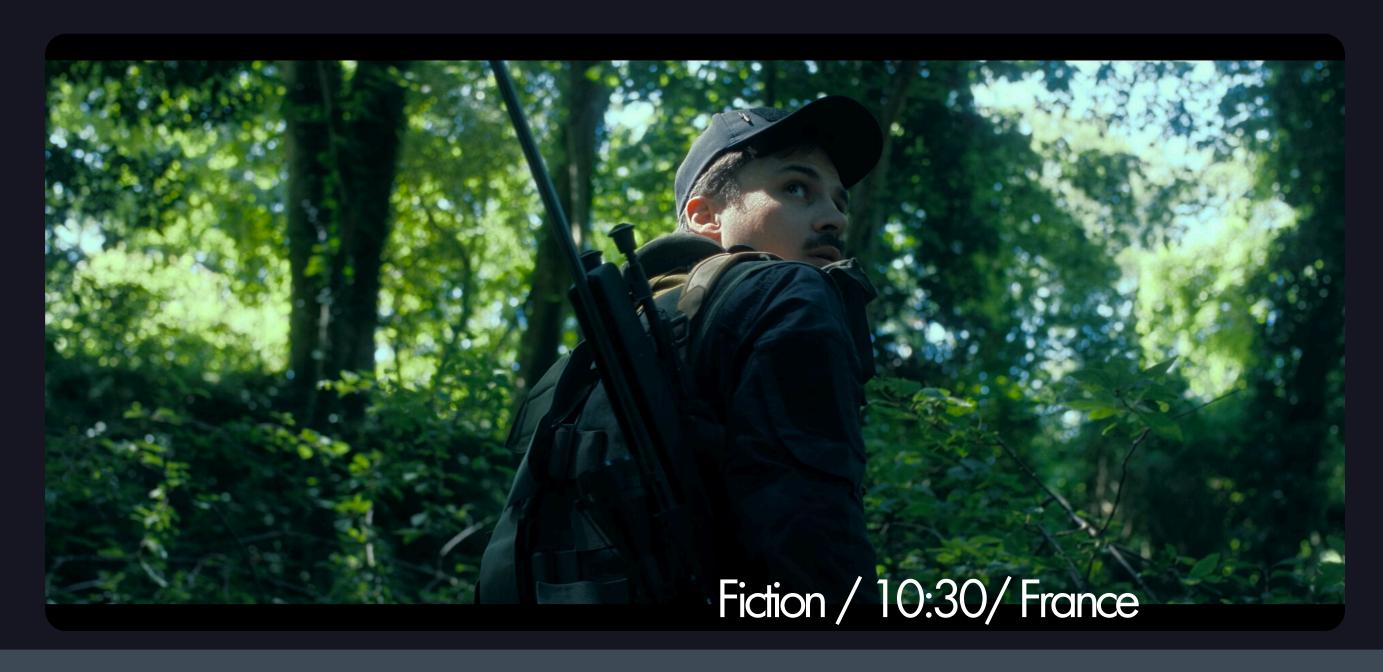


## LIFE IN A SANCTUARY

### Amruta Nair

Life In A Sanctuary is a film about a young goat named Kishore who takes us on an unforgettable journey through his home at Ahimsa Farm Animal Sanctuary. Narrating the story in his own charming voice, Kishore introduces us to his quirky animal family and the humans who care for them. Together, they share tales of friendship and the freedom they've found after being rescued from tough beginnings. With heartwarming moments, the film showcases how every animal has a unique personality and inspires us to reconsider the incredible bonds we can share when kindness leads the way.





## 12 CORS

### Cédric Chambin

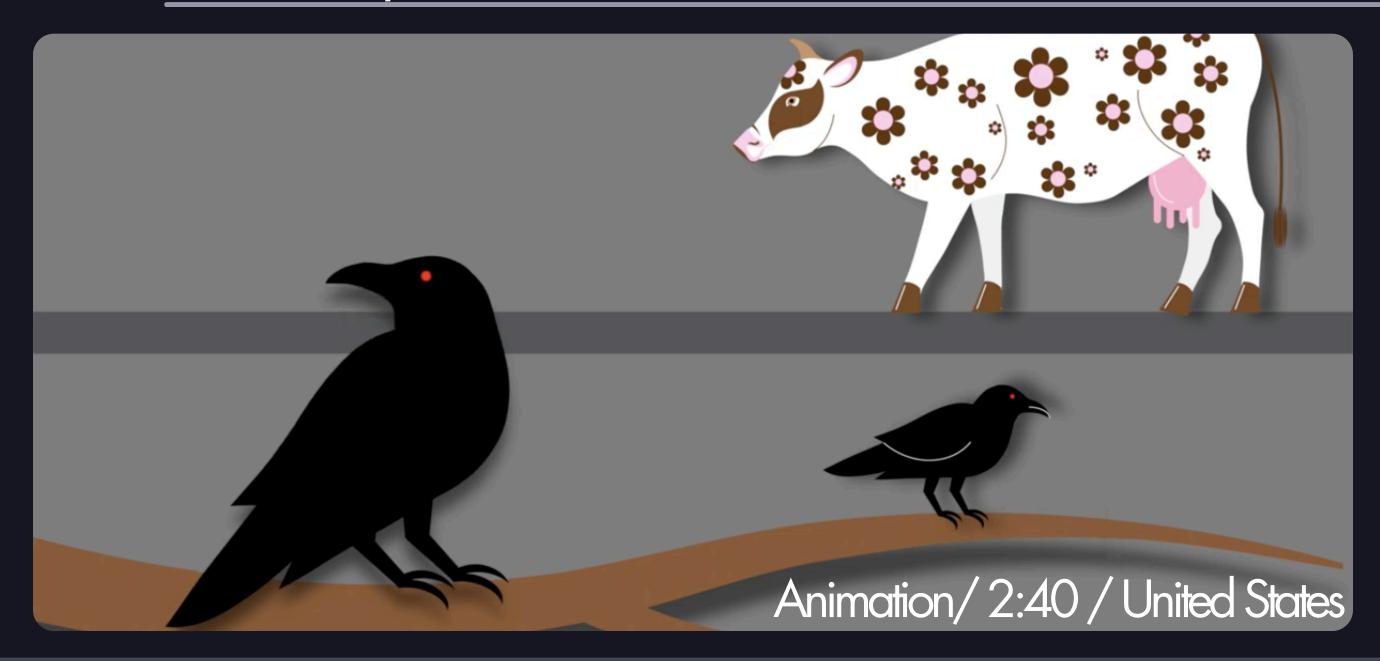
A trophy hunter wants to add a 12-horn stag to his trophy cabinet. He contacts a poacher to help him find the animal. The two men meet in the forest for a game of illegal hunting.

One of them is not who he says he is...





Passionate about cinema, genre films, nature and omithology, Cédric Chambin directs documentaries for TV and cinema focused on women and men committed to the protection of nature throughout the world. He also writes and directs short genre films. He works on writing together with wife Pauline Bugeon. Cédric has been working for the european television channel ARTE as a director for almost 20 years. He also spent several years developing genre films for various film production companies.



## WHAT'S ON YOUR PALATE?

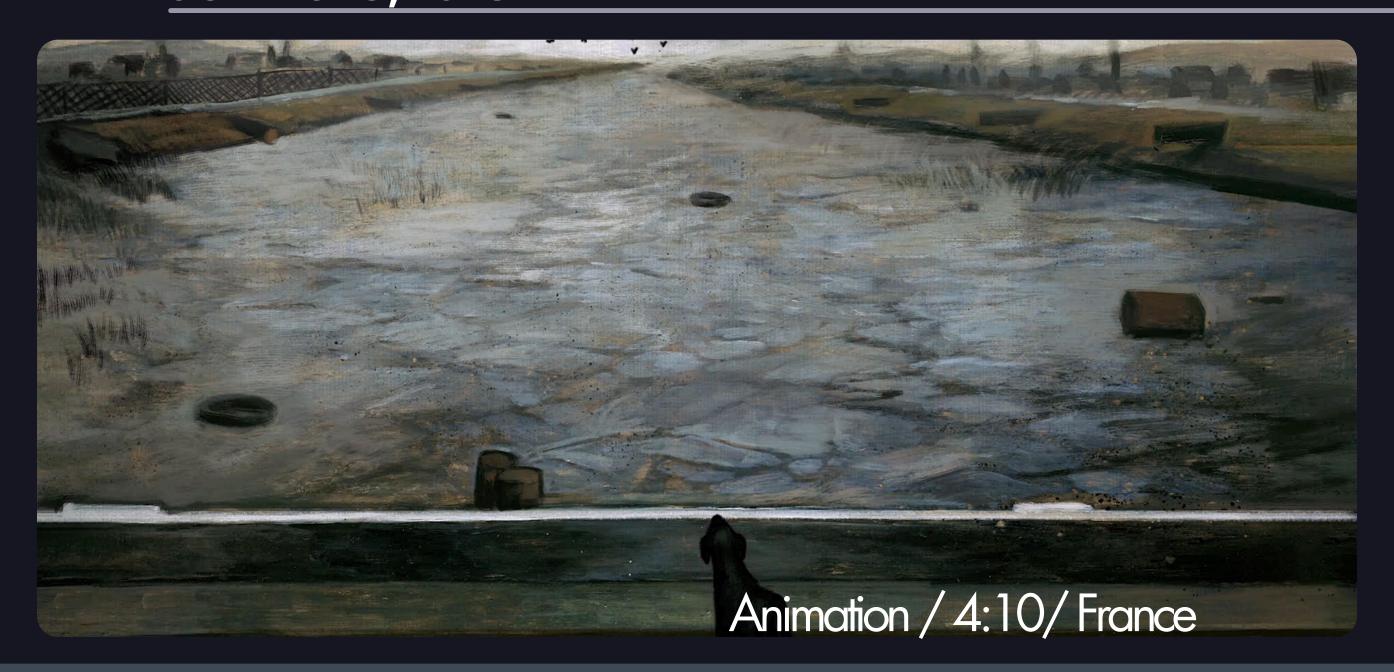
### Yayoi Lena Winfrey

Do we have the right to separate a mother from her child so we can devour her offspring?





Bom in postwar Tokyo to a Japanese war bride and an African American soldier, Yayoi L Naito Winfrey has been creating media all her life. First, as an illustrator and graphic designer, then as a screenwriter, fiction writer and journalist; and, now, as a filmmaker. Growing up on three continents by the time she was five years-old gifted her with a strong appreciation for other people's languages and cultures. As a mixed-race person, she has an innate sense of what it's like being 'the other'; and, her long career in arts reflects that special position.

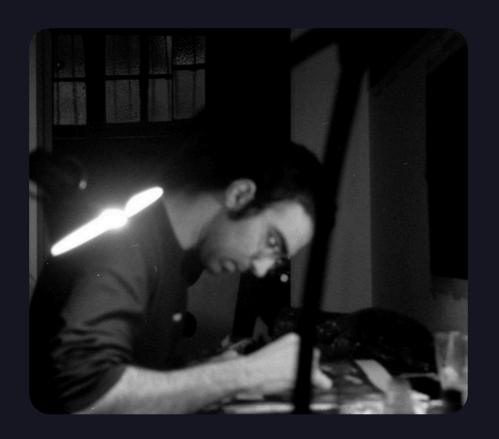


### FEUX

### Mohammad Babakoohi

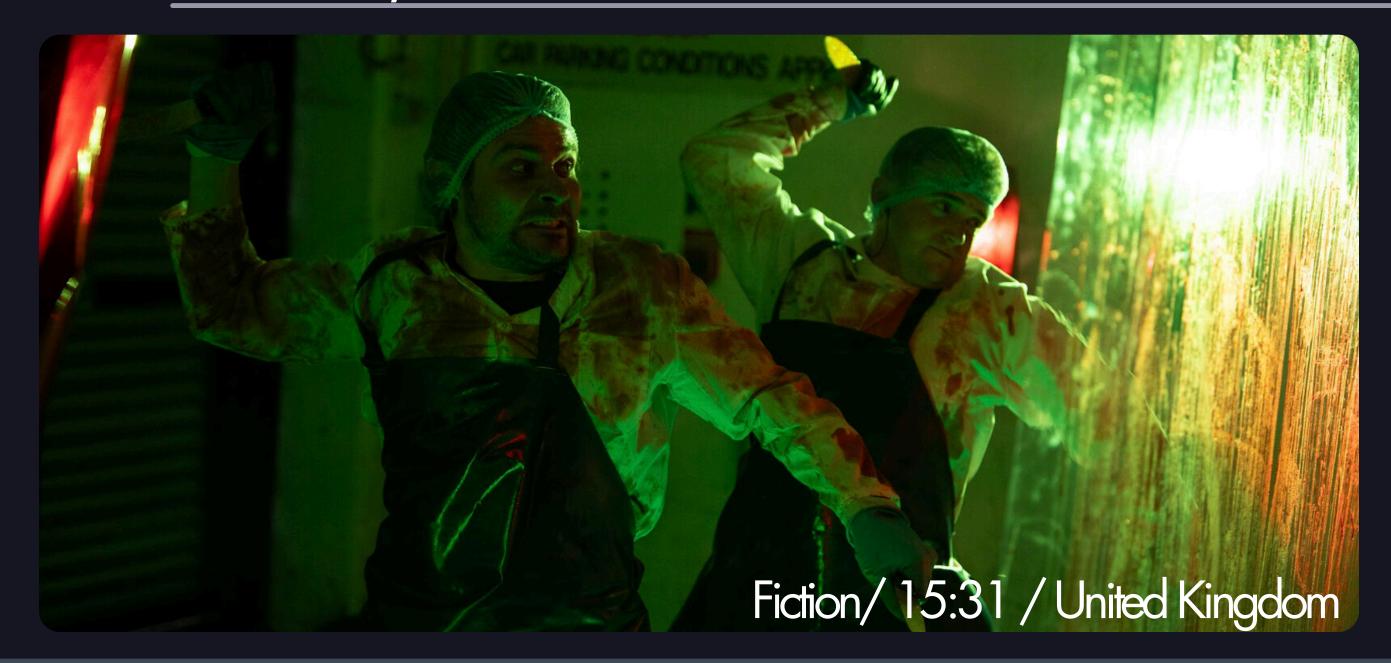
Karun, a stray dog, fights to survive in a chaotic environment ravaged by drought.





Born in 1995, Mohammad Babakoohi is an iranian animation director. he graduated from the École des Gobelins school of visual arts in Paris in 2019, where he codirected "DOGS".

In 2022 he completed his course at La Poudrière, where he directed "L'élégie des mille grues" (one-minute film), "Les trois petits bergers" for the Espoirs de l'Animation (broadcast on the French TVchannel gulli), and his graduation film "FEUX".



## BLOOD ON YOUR HANDS

### Anastasia Bunce

It's Ukrainian ex-veterinarian Kostyantyn's first day at the slaughterhouse, where he meets Dan, a happy-go-lucky Welsh lad who cracks too many jokes for his own good. Despite their grim working conditions, an unexpected friendship begins to form. What is the human cost of working on the kill floor?





Anastasia Bunce is a British film and theatre director based in London. Her film work includes Meat Cute by Bibi Lucille and Blood On Your Hands by Grace Joy Howarth—both adapted from full-length plays she also directed and produced—as well as Swipe Left by Bella Glanville, Push by Julia Melinek, and Yoghurt is Not Sexy by Jessica Friend. She directed the Off-West End Award-nominated play Meat Cute at Edinburgh and Vault Festivals (2023). In 2024, she directed Blood On Your Hands at Southwark Playhouse, which was featured in Lyn Gardner's Stage Picks. She trained at Mountview Academy and is Artistic Director of Patch Productions, focusing on new screen and theatre work exploring animal ethics and sustainability.

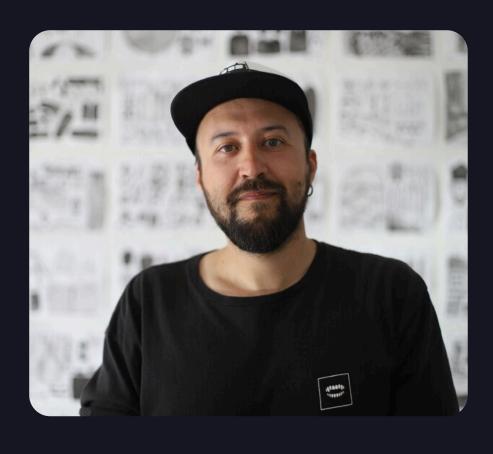


## MERMAID COW SAGA

### Sashko Danylenko

Animadoc story about a cow that escapes from the slaughterhouse in small town in Iceland, runs towards the sea and swims across an entire fjord to find an afterlife.





Sashko Danylenko is a Ukrainian filmmaker, visual storyteller, illustrator, and multimedia artist. He directed many animated music videos. Sashko combines folk and contemporary styles, nature and digital in his works.

Based in the US, Sashko works with animadoc projects for TED, The School of Life, TOPIC, Ukrainian Institute of America, and many more. Many films by Sashko Danylenko were part of international film festivals.



## KINDNESS TOWN

### Jess McKay

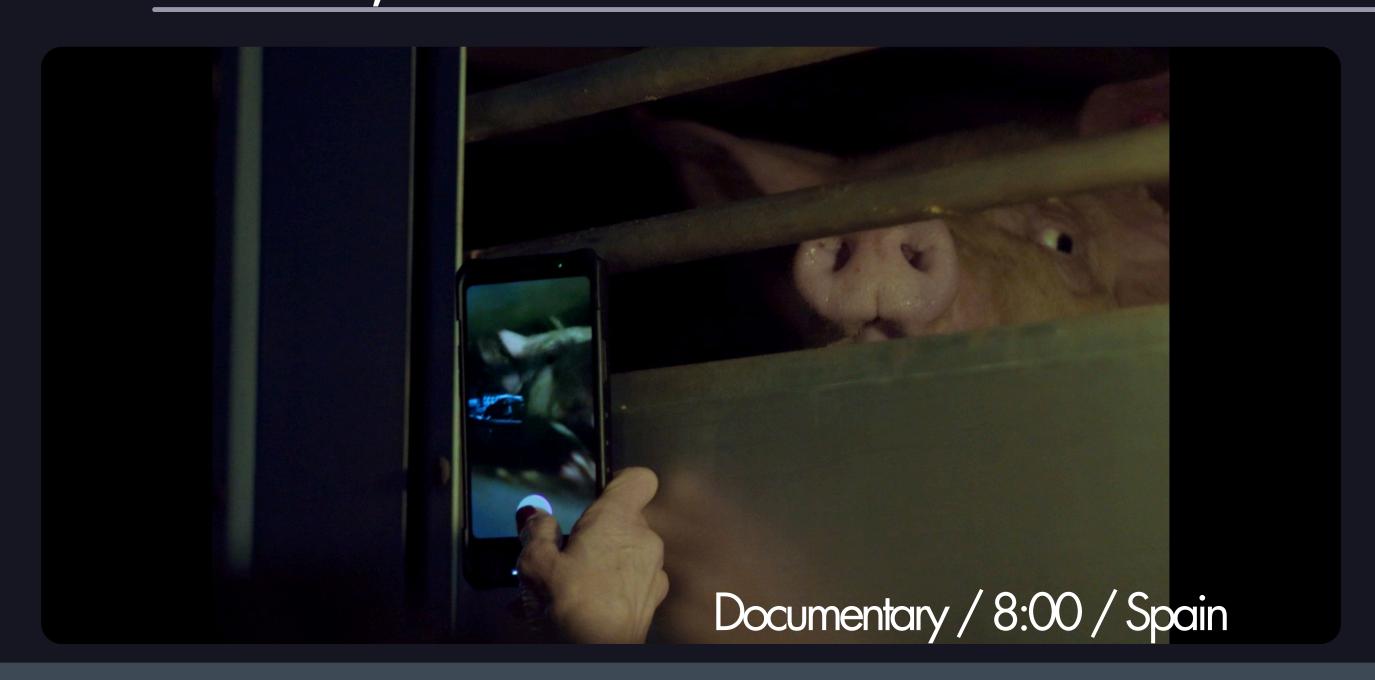
Kindness Town follows a group of puppets who discover they are decorated with real feathers and decide to replace them with cruelty-free materials. This musical short film explores themes of compassion, ethical decision-making, and the impact of our choices on the world around us.





Jess McKay is a puppet artist, musician, filmmaker and activist based in Los Angeles, CA. His puppet work includes projects with Disney, The Jim Henson Company, Universal, and Sesame Studios. He works to make the world a better place though storytelling and art.

"This film is very close to my heart. It's not just for kids. I hope for it to resonate with three-year-olds, and also to inspire people of all ages to see the world differently."

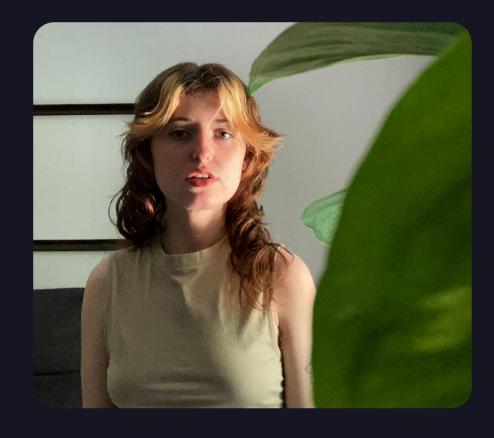


### VIGILLIA

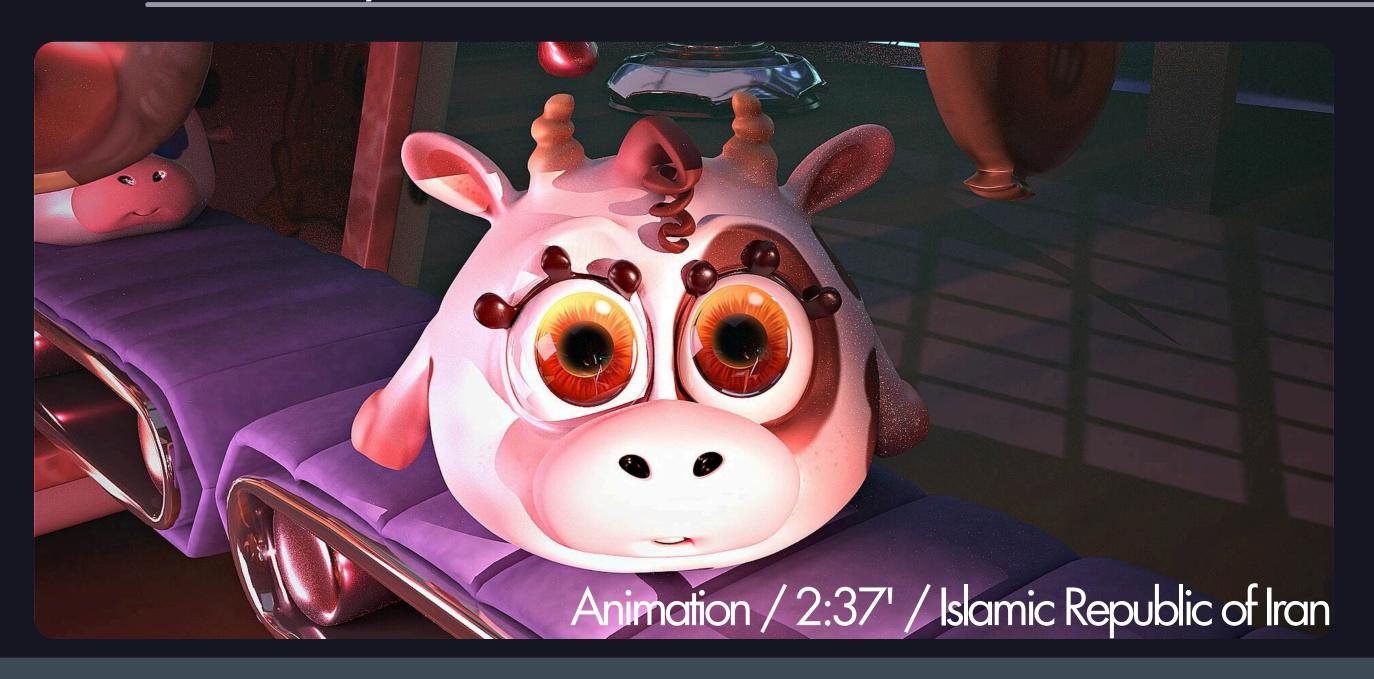
#### Claudia Estrada Tarascó

We witness the first pig vigil of a teenage girl, whose aim is to say goodbye to the animals before they enter the slaughterhouse. In a country where it is a tradition to eat ham and where 53 million pigs are slaughtered every year, this situation will completely change the perspective of our protagonist.





Claudia Estrada Tarascó (Valencia, 1997) is a director, scriptwriter and producer with a degree in Audiovisual Communication from the UPV, a Masters in Artistic Production, a scholarship in the Masters in Documentary Film at the ESCAC and acting training in the Meisner Technique. 'Salen las lobas' will be her first fiction feature film, with which she has been selected at the Atlántida Film fest where she was awarded Best Fiction Project and at the Summer Campus of the Spanish Film Academy.

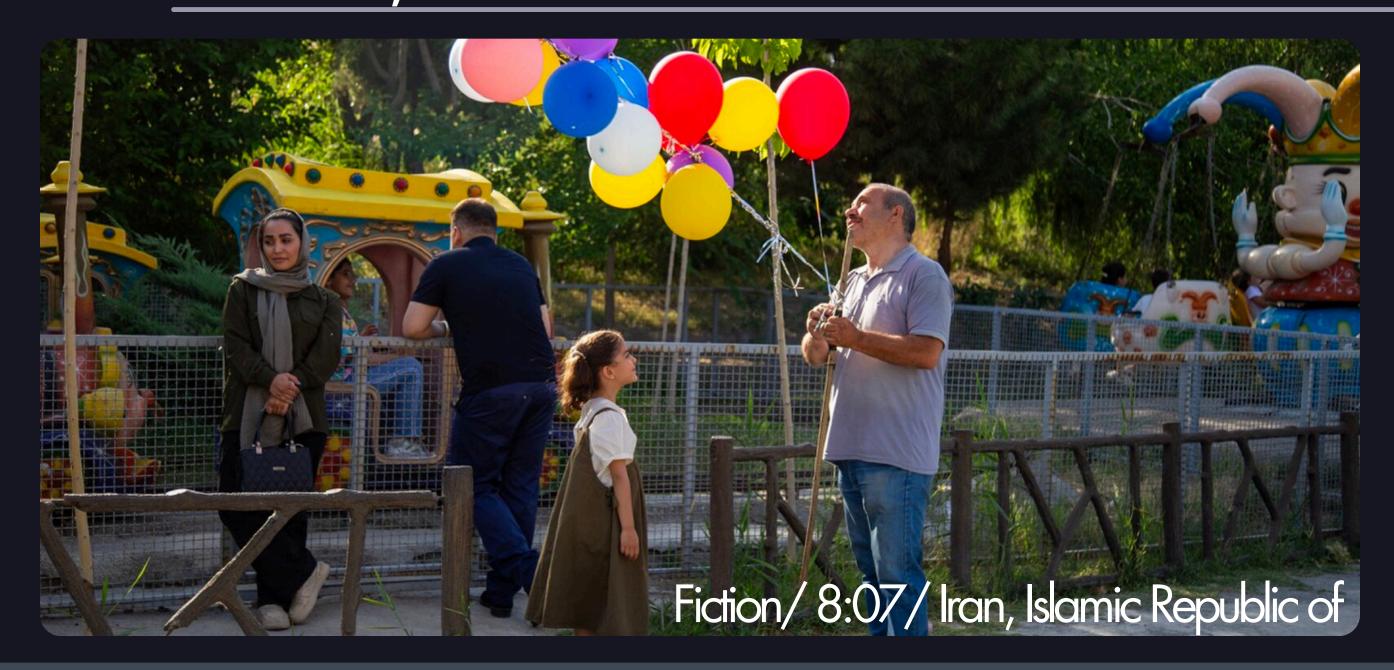


## CUFFY THE CALF

### Mona Akbari

it is about a calf and it's journey to resist against becoming a product in a meat factory. a little calf which want to set the other calves and itself free.





### WINNER

### Mahsa Akbarabadi

A schoolgirl's visit to the zoo for a photography contest takes an unexpected turn when her camera is stolen.





Mahsa Akbarabadi, born in 1999 in Tehran, holds a Bachelor's degree in Acting from the University of Tehran and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Cinema at Tarbiat Modares University. She starred in the feature film «Roxana», directed by Parviz Shahbazi, which premiered at the Tokyo International Film Festival. Akbarabadi also directed the play «Accumulation», performed at the Molavi Hall in Tehran. Additionally, she was the lead actress in the short film «A Pair of Horns on a Female Homosapiens», which was screened at the Nashville Film Festival and earned her the Best Actress award at the Red Rock Film Festival in the United States. She is also a translator of cinema and theater literature in Iran.

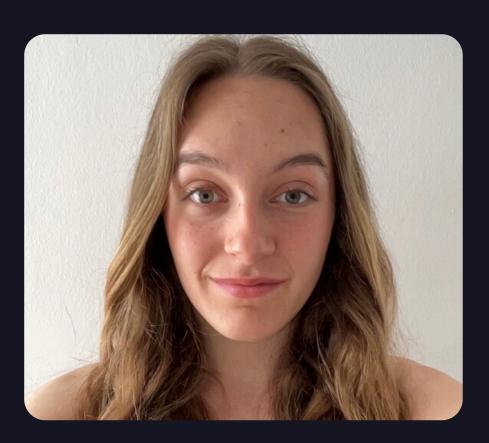


## BONNIE AND ORVILLE

### Alanna Willis

A loving family are torn apart by hunger and greed. This story is based on true events...





"I'm passionate about films that promote social change.

My first film 'Violin' is currently doing the festival run, and I have just finished my second short film 'Bonnie and Orville!"



## SANCTUARY

Isa Siano, Christopher Shoebridge

Sanctuary is an animated short film produced by non-profit organization Generation Vegan, which tells the story of Indigo, a 12-year-old girl who lives at a farmed animal sanctuary. After hearing of an accident involving a truck transporting dairy cows to slaughter, Indigo sneaks out of her home to help rescue an animal for the first time in her life. A story of courage and hope, the film examines our relationships with animals and seeks to explore the change that's possible when we act on our compassion.



The film is inspired by the true stories of the Marias, the pigs saved after an accident with a transport truck in Brazil, and Indigo, a new-born calf who was rescued by actor Joaquin Phoenix with her mother from a US slaughterhouse. Suitable for audiences of all ages.



## A FOOD STORY

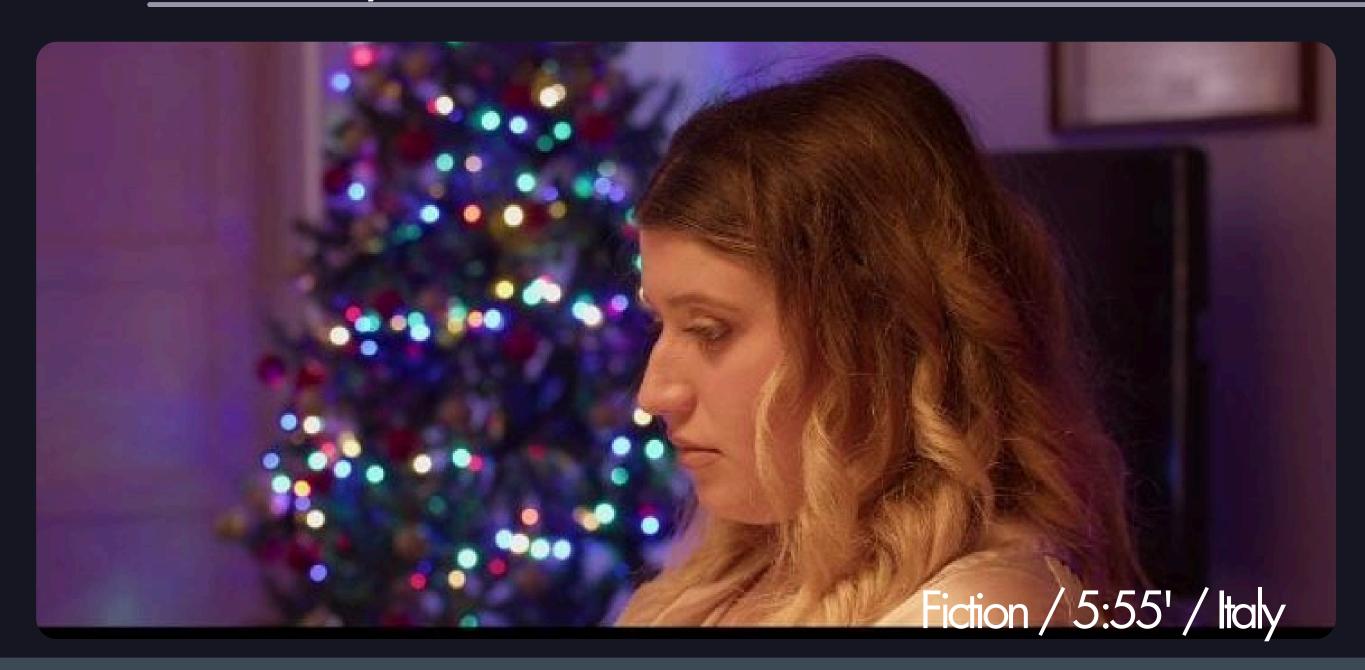
### Pablo Aira

There is a place located in Tenerife, where humans and animals live together with a simple and extraordinary resource, food waste. They pick it up, segregate it, cook it, store it, and create compost out of it, maintaining 40 people and 400 animals, with just the waste of one single supermarket





Born in 1992, he studied filmmaking in Vigo, then earned a degree in audiovisual communication and completed a Master's degree in filmmaking and TV in Manchester. There, he wrote, directed, and produced his own short films.



### ROSSO NATALE – RED CHRISTMAS

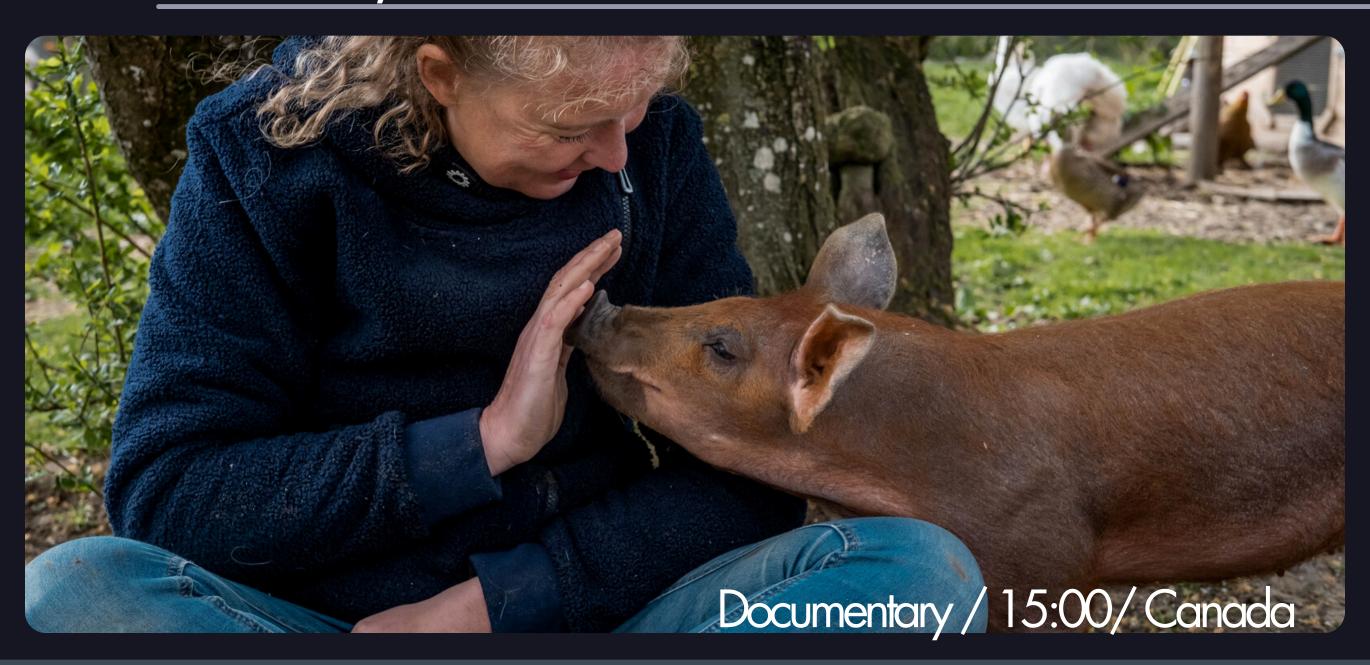
#### Roberto Zita

During the Christmas dinner, the young Giulia announces her new lifestyle to her gathered family.





Roberto Zita was born in Salemo on 18/3/1992. After several experiences as a runner on different sets he graduated in Direction at the Florestano Vancini School of Cinematographic Art. Always a great cinephile and sensitive to environmental and animal issues, he made his first work, the short film "Rosso Natale", bringing the viewer in front of the difficulties of a food choice that excludes total violence on any animal, telling a family story that will be taken to the extreme by the total cynicism of modern times.



### TRANSFARMING SWITZERLAND

### Thomas Machowicz, Sabina Diethelm

What happens when farmers have a change of heart?

"Transfarming Switzerland" documents one animal activist's unconventional approach: to work with – not against – animal farmers. Sarah Heiligtag transforms animal farms into vegan farms and animal sanctuaries across Switzerland and neighboring countries. Sarah proves that a different relationship with animals is possible.



Thomas Machowicz is a documentary photographer and filmmaker focusing on animal rescue efforts and social issues. He is working on a long-term nonprofit project, Sanctuary Doc, which documents animals and the people who rescue them. This project has taken him all over the world, including the Russian war in Ukraine.



Sabina Diethelm is a freelance photographer and journalist based in Winterthur, Switzerland. Thanks to her experience as a journalist, editor, and more recently as a documentary photographer, she is an expert storyteller but this is the first time she has co-produced a film - the subject matter of which is very close to her heart.

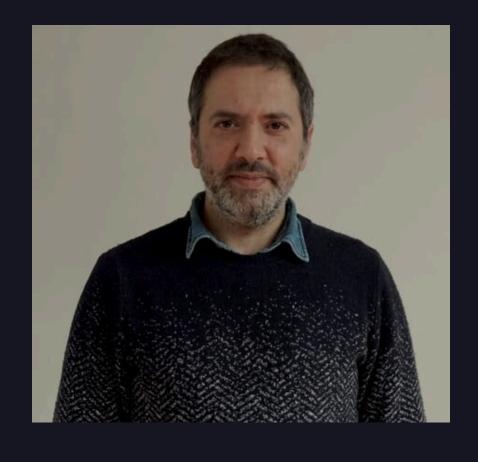


## ANIMALIST

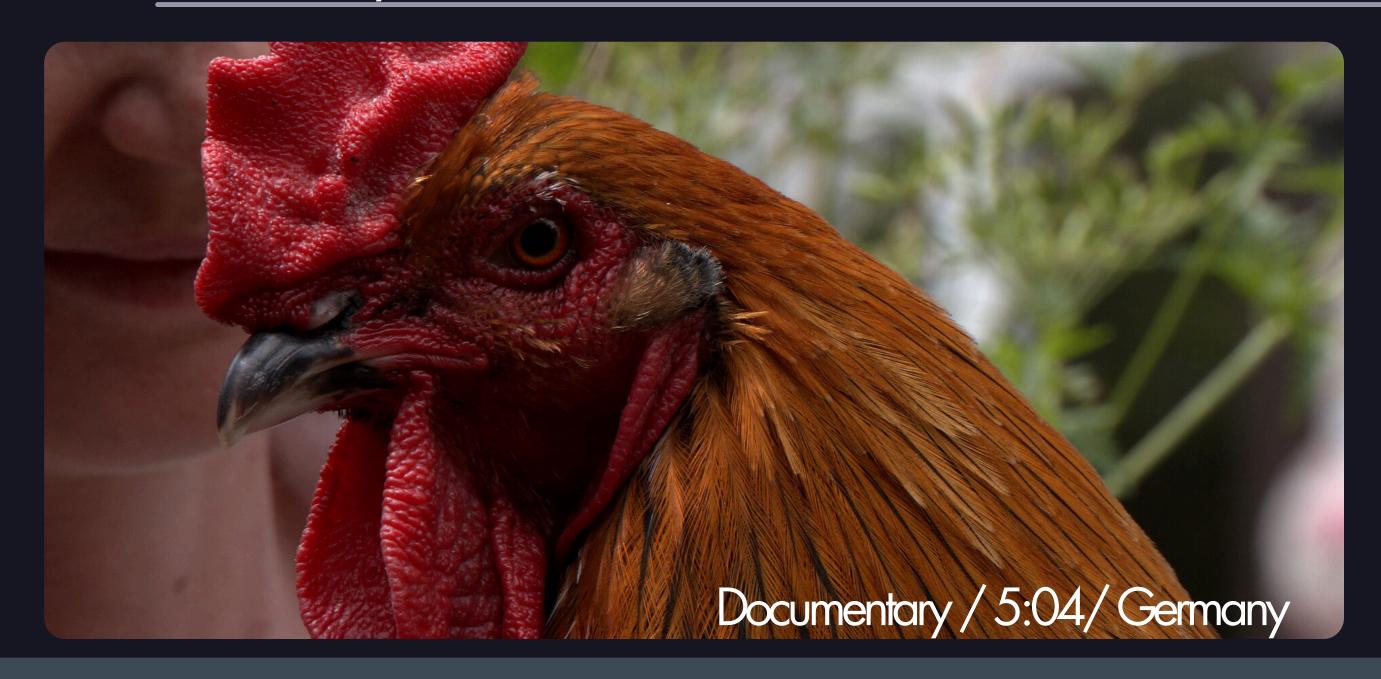
### Fabrizio Pastore

Alex and Hanna drive a van into a dense forest with the intention of performing a risky deed to raise awareness for animal rights. But they are not alone in the woods.





Fabrizio Pastore (Bari, 8.07.81) graduated in law in 2008. After working as a lawyer for two years, he wrote, organised and directed his first feature film (Priso, dove chi entra urla). Since 2015 he has founded a small independent production company, Mulus Film. From 2018 he will be responsible for writing, directing, editing and music. In addition to a series of commercials for various brands and communication companies, in 2023 he participated as a cinematographer in "Cara Alice" and directed his latest work "Animalist".



# CHICKEN WARDROBE

Simon Dickel

Anne designs clothes for chickens in need.



Simon Dickel teaches Cultural Studies at the University of Potsdam. He works in the fields of queer studies, disability studies, and critical race theory. His short films have been screened at international festivals.



# ESPLENDOR AND THE NOBLE RESILIENCE OF FLEEING

Muriel Matiz, Sunbee Matiz

A headstrong bull escaped from the truck that was leading him to the slaughterhouse in Bogotá, Colombia. He ran for six hours until he was captured again. The Namigni Animal Sanctuary got hold of his story just in time.



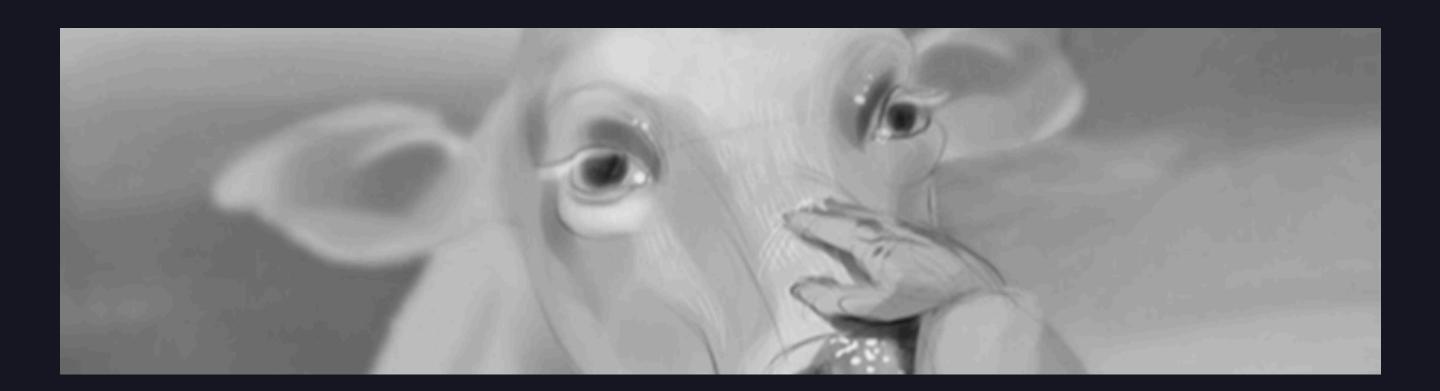
Angela (Sunbee) and Maria (Muriel) are two siblings from Bogota, Colombia. Their first collaboration was the short fiction film Aurora y la casa de las luces, a beneficiary of the FDC and the Idartes grant for the making of a short fiction film in 2020. Since then they have worked on video-essays and documentaries, emphasizing filmmaking as a vehicle for collective and personal growth and healing. They currently reside in Colorado, United States.



## NOCHAR

Felix Ferdinand Lipp

Cows love grass. We love cows





Born in 1992, he studied filmmaking in Vigo, then earned a degree in audiovisual communication and completed a Master's degree in filmmaking and TV in Manchester.

There, he wrote, directed, and produced his own short films.



## SPECTRAL SYMBIOSIS

### Toms Burans

"Spectral Symbiosis" is an experimental animation that combines the techniques of time-lapse photography and long-exposure light painting to explore the coexistence of two very different worlds.

Crafted through spontaneous compositions captured in various locations across Reykjavik, Iceland, "Spectral Symbiosis" focuses on portrayal of contrasting tempos at which these two worlds operate. The fast pace of modern life, depicted through urban time-lapse sequences, contrasts with the serene grace of whales peacefully navigating through the city streets. This stark juxtaposition prompts introspection, inviting viewers to ponder whether it is possible to bridge the gap between these disparate realms. Can humanity slow down its relentless march towards progress and find a more harmonious rhythm with nature?



