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# SPOTLIGHT ON GERMAN FILMS AND TALENTS

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## AT THE SUMMER FILM FESTIVALS 2021

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LOCARNO · KARLOVY VARY · VENICE · TORONTO

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**SHOWREEL PREMIERE**

**SUN 12 SEPTEMBER · 12 PM (EDT)**

TIFF Industry Conferences · Digital Talks

german  
●●● films



LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL  
Concorso internazionale  
Pardo for Best Direction

# ZEROS AND ONES

**Abel Ferrara • Fiction Feature • Germany/USA • 85 min**

In the aftermath of an apocalyptic siege, ZEROS AND ONES follows the American military operative JJ as he navigates a locked-down, murky world of fear, paranoia and eventual hope in the shadow of the Vatican. A war between history and the future plays out until dawn breaks.

**GERMAN PRODUCER** Maze Pictures

**SALES** Blue Box International · [info@blueboxintl.com](mailto:info@blueboxintl.com)

[www.capstonepictures.com/blue-box](http://www.capstonepictures.com/blue-box)

photo © Gilda Louise Aloisi







LOCARNO FILM FESTIVALV Concorso Cineasti del presente

Best Actress Cineasti del presente: Saskia Rosendahl

# NO ONE'S WITH THE CALVES

**Sabrina Sarabi • Fiction Feature • Germany • 116 min**

It's high summer in the middle of nowhere, Mecklenburg, Germany. Five houses, one bus stop, cows, and nothing but fields. 24-year-old Christin lives on the farm of her long-term boyfriend Jan, 25. The exciting post-reunification years that defined her childhood are long gone. Her relationship is loveless. Her father drinks. Christin, too, keeps the cherry liqueur under her car seat. In the shimmering heat of summer, time seems to stand still – until 46-year-old wind energy engineer Klaus arrives from Hamburg and sets the world spinning again.

**GERMAN PRODUCER/SALES** Weydemann Bros. • [info@weydemannbros.com](mailto:info@weydemannbros.com) • [www.weydemannbros.com](http://www.weydemannbros.com)

photo © Weydemann Bros./Max Preiss

LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL Pardi di domani: Concorso internazionale  
Special Mention Pardi di domani

# FIRST TIME [THE TIME FOR ALL BUT SUNSET – VIOLET]

**Nicolaas Schmidt • Fiction Midlength • Germany • 50 min**

We listen to music and we are on our way. We look at things and the world differently than before, so that things don't always repeat themselves, but get better instead: Two boys meet on a round trip with the Hamburg U3 line. Something evolves – not much but yet everything.

**GERMAN PRODUCER/SALES** ETTG Film • [mail@nicolaasschmidt.de](mailto:mail@nicolaasschmidt.de) • [www.nicolaasschmidt.de](http://www.nicolaasschmidt.de)





**LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL**  
**Pardi di domani:**  
**Concorso internazionale**

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# NIGHT

**Ahmad Saleh • Animated Short • Germany/Qatar/Palestine/Jordan • 16 min**

The dust of war keeps the eyes sleepless. Night brings peace and sleep to all the people in the broken town. Only the eyes of the mother of the missing child stay resilient. Night has to trick her into sleeping to save her soul.

**GERMAN PRODUCERS**

SES-STUDIO, Fabian&Fred

**SALES** Fabian&Fred • [hello@fabianfred.com](mailto:hello@fabianfred.com)  
[www.fabianfred.com](http://www.fabianfred.com)

photo © Fabian&Fred, SES-STUDIO







LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL  
Pardi di domani:  
Concorso internazionale

# THE SUNSET SPECIAL

**Nicolas Gebbe • Animated Short • Germany  
17 min**

A secluded beach location, the perfect partner, the most exclusive hotel: It is the life of your dreams. Join an eerie trip into a luxurious place of unfulfilled desire, nostalgia and endless longing. Catch a unique glimpse through the polished facades of a world shaped by abundance and the reality distorting imagery of social media.

## **GERMAN PRODUCER/SALES**

Nicolas Gebbe • [nicolas.gebbe@gmail.com](mailto:nicolas.gebbe@gmail.com)  
[www.nicolasgebbe.de](http://www.nicolasgebbe.de)

photo © Nicolas Gebbe





**LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL**  
**Open Doors: Shorts**  
**Special Mention Junior Jury -**  
**Open Doors: Shorts**

# DEAR TO ME

**Monica Vanesa Tedja • Fiction Short • Germany/  
Indonesia • 19 min**

Tim is having a vacation with his parents on an island, where they learn about the myth of a reincarnated deer that exists somewhere along the beach. Island locals believe that seeing the deer is a sign of meeting one's soulmate. Tim hopes to discover the deer, hiding his desire from his devout Christian parents.

**GERMAN PRODUCER/SALES**

Film University Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF  
[distribution@filmuniversitaet.de](mailto:distribution@filmuniversitaet.de)  
[www.filmuniversitaet.de](http://www.filmuniversitaet.de)

photo © Monica Vanesa Tedja/Film University  
Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF



**KARLOVY VARY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL Crystal Globe Competition**  
**FIPRESCI Award**

# THE EXAM

**Shawkat Amin Korki • Fiction Feature • Germany/Kurdistan Regional Gov.-Iraq/Qatar • 89 min**

Rojin is a young Kurdish-Iraqi woman about to take the university entrance exam. Rojin's unhappily married older sister Shilan decides to help her pass at any cost, hoping to give her a more emancipated life. Thus, the sisters inevitably become entangled in a huge network of corruption that connects all parts of society.

**GERMAN PRODUCER** mîtosfilm

**SALES** ArtHood Entertainment • [info@arthoodentertainment.com](mailto:info@arthoodentertainment.com) • [www.arthoodentertainment.com](http://www.arthoodentertainment.com)

photo © mîtosfilm





**KARLOVY VARY INTER-  
NATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**  
*Crystal Globe Competition*

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# **LE PRINCE**

**Lisa Bierwirth · Fiction Feature · Germany  
125 min**

A Frankfurt-based art curator, and Joseph, a Congolese businessman, meet by chance during a bar raid. A tender and passionate love affair develops out of their coincidental encounter. And while Monika and Joseph believe they might be able to fight the world together, a feeling of mutual mistrust gradually develops - with consequences they can no longer control.

**GERMAN PRODUCER/SALES**

Komplizen Film · [info@komplizenfilm.de](mailto:info@komplizenfilm.de)  
[www.komplizenfilm.net](http://www.komplizenfilm.net)

*photo © Komplizen Film*



KARLOVY VARY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL  
Crystal Globe Competition  
Best Director Crystal Globe Competition

# NÖ

**Dietrich Brüggemann • Fiction Feature  
Germany • 119 min**

Dina and Michael are in their early thirties. He is a doctor, she is an actress. They are happy together until Michael thinks about breaking up. She says: Nope (Nö). In thirteen episodes, we then accompany our two heroes while they maneuver through life over the years and try to not lose sight of their love.

**GERMAN PRODUCER** Flare Film

**SALES** The Match Factory

info@matchfactory.de

www.the-match-factory.com

photo © Flare Film, Alex Sass







KARLOVY VARY INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL  
Future Frames – Generation NEXT  
of European Cinema

Finalist Student Academy Awards 2021

## I AM

**Jerry Hoffmann • Fiction Short • Germany • 27 min**

Somewhere in the near future, the withdrawn-living Noé finds a motionless android in the forest one day, takes it with her and reactivates it. It's the beginning of a strange relationship. Far too late, Noé realizes that the android is about to copy her personality.

**GERMAN PRODUCER** Hamburg Media School

**SALES** Kurzfilm Agentur Hamburg · [sales@shortfilm.com](mailto:sales@shortfilm.com)  
[www.shortfilmsales.com](http://www.shortfilmsales.com)

photo © Lena Katharina Krause, Hamburg Media School





**VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL -  
VENEZIA 78: COMPETITION**

**TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM  
FESTIVAL - SPECIAL EVENTS**

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# **SPENCER**

**Pablo Larraín · Germany/United Kingdom · Fiction  
Feature · 111 min**

December, 1991: Lady Diana and Prince Charles' marriage has long since grown cold. Though rumors of affairs and a divorce abound, peace is ordained for the Christmas festivities at Sandringham Estate. There's eating and drinking, shooting and hunting. Diana knows the game. But this year, things will be a whole lot different.

**GERMAN PRODUCER** Komplizen Film  
**SALES** FilmNation · [info@filmnation.com](mailto:info@filmnation.com)  
[www.filmnation.com](http://www.filmnation.com)

photo © Komplizen Film





VENICE INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL  
VR Expanded - In Competition

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# EXPLORING HOME

**ROOT • VR • Germany • 16 min**

An intimate virtual reality performance about connection, identity, emotional heritage, shame, destruction, love and perspective.

**GERMAN PRODUCER/SALES** Root Productions ·  
saralisavogl@gmail.com · [www.saralisavogl.com](http://www.saralisavogl.com)

photo © Root Productions



**VENICE INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL**  
**VR Expanded - In Competition**

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# GENESIS

**Jörg Courtial · VR · Germany · 13 min**

GENESIS embarks on an emotionally intense round-the-clock journey to experience the dramatic milestones in the evolution of earth and mankind from an unknown perspective. Chaos, rebirth and catastrophes mark the history of Earth, yet mankind exists. 4.7 billion years of evolution condensed into a round-the-clock reveal: We are children of galactic luck, born in the final second of eternity.

**GERMAN PRODUCER/SALES** Faber Courtial  
mc@faber-courtial.de · [www.faber-courtial.de](http://www.faber-courtial.de)

photo © Faber Courtial





VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL  
VR Expanded - In Competition

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# MYRIAD. WHERE WE CONNECT - VR EXPERIENCE

**Lena Thiele, Sebastian Baumann · VR · Germany · 31 min**

An artistic experience of a poetic journey following the paths of three migratory animals.

**GERMAN PRODUCER/SALES** Interactive Media Foundation · [info@myriad.earth](mailto:info@myriad.earth)  
[www.myriad.earth](http://www.myriad.earth) · [www.interactivemedia-foundation.com](http://www.interactivemedia-foundation.com)

photo © Interactive Media Foundation





GIORNATE DEGLI AUTORI:  
VENETIAN NIGHTS

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# ISOLATION

**Michele Placido, Julia von Heinz, Olivier Guerpillon,  
Jaco van Dormael, Michael Winterbottom • Anthology  
of Short Documentaries • Italy/Germany/Belgium/  
Sweden/United Kingdom • 91 min**

Five European directors portray dramas and turmoil caused by the pandemic in their country, each of them from an intimate perspective, yet revealing of the social context in which the single stories take place.

**GERMAN PRODUCER** Maze Pictures

**SALES** Notorious Pictures

[inforoma@notoriouspictures.it](mailto:inforoma@notoriouspictures.it)

[www.notoriouspictures.it](http://www.notoriouspictures.it)

photo © Notorious Pictures





TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL  
Special Presentations

# I'M YOUR MAN

**Maria Schrader • Fiction Feature • Germany • 102 min**

Alma is a scientist at the famous Pergamon Museum in Berlin. In order to obtain research funds for her work, she is persuaded to participate in an extraordinary study. For three weeks, she has to live with a humanoid robot tailored to her character and needs, whose artificial intelligence is designed to be the perfect life partner for her. Alma meets Tom, a machine in human form in a class of its own, created solely to make her happy. A comic-tragic tale about the questions of love, longing and what makes a human being human.

**GERMAN PRODUCER** Letterbox Filmproduktion

**SALES** Beta Cinema · [beta@betacinema.com](mailto:beta@betacinema.com) · [www.betacinema.com](http://www.betacinema.com)

photo © Christine Fenzl 2021







TORONTO INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL  
TIFF Docs

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# THE DEVIL'S DRIVERS

**Daniel Carsenty, Mohammed Abugeth ·  
Documentary Feature · Germany · 90 min**

In the southern West Bank, Hamouda and his cousin Ismail are among the Bedouin drivers who risk their lives smuggling illegal workers over the border. Between them and the destination, there is the desert - of which they know every inch - and the heavy presence of the Israeli military patrols. If they are caught, they go to jail. Yet only those fares can help them provide for their families, so they keep on driving and enjoying each day of freedom as it might just be the last.

**GERMAN PRODUCER** Mark It Zero  
**SALES** Films Boutique  
[contact@filmsboutique.com](mailto:contact@filmsboutique.com)  
[www.filmsboutique.com](http://www.filmsboutique.com)

photo © Daniel Carsenty



TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL  
Wavelengths

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# THE CAPACITY FOR ADEQUATE ANGER

**Vika Kirchenbauer • Experimental Short • Germany • 15 min**

THE CAPACITY FOR ADEQUATE ANGER constitutes an attempt at a personal and self-reflexive form of artistic critique that considers contemporary art, in its production as well as its presentation, from a perspective of class. Alongside questions around the intersections of negative affect and political agency, the work problematises notions around upward mobility that the field of contemporary art both produces and presupposes. Deploying an essayistic approach, the video work reflects upon the manifold meanings of distance in both its subjective and social senses.

**GERMAN PRODUCER/SALES** Vika Kirchenbauer • [like.rats.leaving@gmail.com](mailto:like.rats.leaving@gmail.com)  
[www.vk0ms.com](http://www.vk0ms.com)

photo © Vika Kirchenbauer, VK Bild Kunst 20





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[www.german-films.de](http://www.german-films.de)

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**WE THANK OUR SUPPORTERS**

