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2021-2022



# ICE AND FIRE DOCS

## Creative documentary workshop

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# ALL MY 100 GRANDMOTHERS

**Director:** Tiina Madisson

**Producer:** Erik Norkroos / Missing Pictures – Rühm Pluss Null

**Length:** 53'

**Production stage:** in development

**Estimated release:** 2023

**Contact:** producer Erik Norkroos erik.norkroos@gmail.com

director Tiina Madisson madissontiina@gmail.com

## LOGLINE

*The film's director opens the diaries and letters of her family's women to find out why relationships fail and life patterns recur.*

## SYNOPSIS

Until yesterday, Rebecca was one of the many troubled teenagers of adolescence. A young girl who has already shown her middle finger to the world at birth will have more growth difficulties when, after her parents' divorce, cohabitation and daily confrontation with her mother begin. Neither the mother's new partner nor the family's move to Finland will bring relief to their relations. In search of redemption and consolation, Rebecca takes a trip to visit her

grandparents, of whom she now has a total of three: one in Russia, another in Estonia, and a third one in Finland. However, while spending time with them during school holidays, she realizes that a pattern similar to that of her parents' is embroidered in the destiny of her grandparents. A new ray of hope begins to appear when Rebecca meets a Sámi boy Kai while working on a reindeer farm in Lapland. Soon they move in together and Rebecca



gets another grandmother, a 100-year-old Sámi wise Auvi. A new turn of life will take place when Rebecca gives birth to her little daughter, Emmi, on the same date when her favourite grandmother Baba Galina was born. Barely three years later, however, Rebecca experiences a repeat of

the female behaviour pattern of her family, and she too is facing a divorce. Rebecca's mother Tiina is a filmmaker who tries to understand and unravel what causes this similarly unhappy pattern of life for women of different generations in the family and whether it is possible to break this curse.

## DIRECTOR TIINA MADISSON



*I have acquired MA in Documentary Filmmaking from Aalto University (2021). In September 2020, I also started Director of Animation studies at School-Studio of Animation Cinema "SHAR". Previously, I have been making documentaries for YLE I. My first feature documentary "The beloved Daughter" (71 min., 2019) was awarded at KIMFF/Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival 2020 with the Second Prize and at Kiev Film Festival with the "Golden Shot" award. Based on my experience with "The beloved Daughter", I can say that taking part in workshops where the idea can be developed and then pitched in front of an international panel is really important. As my new film's theme is very intimate and at the same time important to me, I believe it will be very beneficial for me to develop it at the Ice and Fire Docs workshop. For instance, I will try to find out during the workshop whether using animation in my documentary would be a good addition. I really value the advice and support of my colleagues in the process of filmmaking.*

## PRODUCER ERIK NORKROOS



*Erik Norkroos studied in Tallinn University film department and graduated as a film and video operator. Since then he has made over 60 documentaries as a producer, director, editor and cameraman. Filmography: "One Man's Pain" (2022), "Leonardo From Randvere" (2022), "Horsepower" (2022), "Ahto. Chasing a Dream" (2018), "Elizabeth's Playground" (2015), "How I Saved Africa" (2014), etc.*

## CLOUT CHASERS

**Directors: Krista Moisio & Anna-Maija Heinonen**

**Producer: Oskar Forstén / Polygraf**

**Length: 52' / 80'**

**Production stage: in production**

**Estimated release: early 2024**

**Contact: producer Oskar Forstén oskar@polygraf.fi**

### LOGLINE

*Where will it lead when stealing, fighting, and using drugs is trending on social media? The film Clout Chasers follows the most popular Finnish new wave influencers on social media and IRL to find out.*

### SYNOPSIS

In early 2020 we noticed a strange and dark energy illuminating from the depths of the internet. On Instagram live we found young people stealing expensive clothes, drinking bottles of vodka in one go and cutting their skin with knives, while their teenaged fans showered them with heart emojis. In this stream of admiration these clout chasers felt worshiped and loved, and seemed willing to do anything to feel like that again. The bizarreness of this

phenomenon lured us closer and closer. We began to archive their daily online content and filming their lives. We fell in love with the rawness of their world and got our hearts broken by our main character, as we got to witness up close how his life would unfold.

The main storyline follows one of the most famous clout chasers in Finland. He (19) is known for his Snapchat posts that feature everyday drinking, drug use and mischievous behavior. In his search for clout - meaning fame and admiration - from his followers, he has to constantly up the ante to maintain their attention. But the pressure and growing anxiety drives him to mix alcohol with sedatives and he starts to lose control. We follow his attempts to keep his followers, to the point he grows

tired playing the online-character he has created. Unfortunately some mistakes are leading towards a point of no return.

Over the 1,5 years of filming so far, we have seen him grow from a childish boy to a young adult, who can reflect on his own mistakes and remain hopeful despite all his troubles. We have found that behind his online character, he is just like us; fragile, humane and searching for himself in the validating gaze of others. Something we believe audiences all over the world can identify with. Along with our main characters' development, we explore the anatomy of the clout phenomena, and show how it can change you. What does the transformation from teens just having fun to reckless drug abuse and mindless violence actually look like? Our footage reveals the fragility of our characters, and the price they are paying for confusing admiration for affection. We aim to create a strong, original narrative alongside the authentic visuals. The film will be an immersive experience for the audience – a raw, dark but heartwarming story about teens who are lost in the game of fame.

**DIRECTOR  
ANNA-MAIJA HEINONEN**



*Nine years ago in school I fell in love with a craft that combines research, creativity and adventure – I fell in love with documentary filmmaking. Now, I have worked for six years in a production company called Polygraf (formerly known as franckforstén) as a production manager, casting director and producer. Over the years, I have had the privilege to observe how well structured and visually ambitious documentaries are made. That has led to a growing passion to write and direct ambitious films myself. And in 2020 I found the courage to start filming our first feature length documentary with Krista.*

**DIRECTOR KRISTA MOISIO**



*I was born as an atheist in a small religious village in Northern Finland. When other kids were playing (and praying) outside, I spent my days on a computer making videos and websites of my horses. When my best friend - Kemu the horse – died I decided to move to Helsinki to study filmmaking. After years of studying and traveling, I ended up working in a production company called Polygraf, where I got an opportunity to express myself and develop my skills as a filmmaker. Maybe my passion for making this world a better place for everyone comes from my childhood, where I was always fighting against old conservative rules - or I'm just a typical documentarian.*



**PRODUCER  
OSKAR FORSTÉN**



*Born in Helsinki in February of 1981. Studied several aspects of filmmaking in a wide range of schools between the years 1998 and 2009 in Finland, Sweden and the UK. Founded the production company "4KRS tuotannot" together with Arthur Franck back in 2005 for the love of creative documentary films. During the past 10+ years the name of the production company has changed regularly (now Polygraf), but the objective is still the same: to produce engaging documentary films.*

# FROM MARI WITH LOVE

**Director:** Eeva Mägi

**Producer:** Kristofer Piir / Allfilm

**Length:** 60'

**Production stage:** in post-production

**Estimated release:** spring 2022

**Contact:** producer Kristofer Piir [kristofer@allfilm.ee](mailto:kristofer@allfilm.ee)

## LOGLINE

*Nothing can separate us, not even death.*

## SYNOPSIS

Mari has stage IV cancer and she is preparing for her death. At the same time, she has to fight for her daughter's custody right to have a chance to see her before she dies. In the midst of it is Oliver, Mari's son from her previous partnership who is trying to make sense of it all as he is facing the loss of his only parent, his mother, and the possibility of losing his sister as well. "From Mari with Love" is portraying the delicate matters of fatal illness and children dealing with the loss of their parent. This is a film about the love of a mother and her children - nothing can separate them, not even death.



## DIRECTOR EEVA MÄGI

Eeva Mägi was born in 1987 in Estonia. In 2015, she obtained a master's degree in Directing Documentary from Baltic Film and Media School. Since then, she



has directed successful short docs such as "The Weight of All the Beauty (2019) which was longlisted to the Oscars after winning „Best Short Documentary” at Melbourne International Film Festival and "Lembri Uudu" (2017) that had its premiere at DOK Leipzig and has later participated in many festivals: PÖFF shorts, Go Short Nijmegen, Sarajevo Film Festival etc. "Simply a Man" is her graduation film, which has been screened at several festivals. In 2017, Eeva participated in Werner Herzog's workshop "Filming in Cuba with Werner Herzog". She received the Young Filmmaker's Award by Cultural Endowment of Estonia in 2018 and the DocPoint Tallinn Young Filmmaker Award in 2019. "From Mari with Love" is Eeva's first feature doc. She is also in late development with her first feature film "Werewolf" and has also 3 short fiction films already under her belt.

## PRODUCER KRISTOFER PIIR

Kristofer Piir, born in 1991 in Estonia, is a producer, line producer/production manager and location manager/scout. In 2010, Kristofer started his studies at Baltic Film and Media School, graduating in 2014 with bachelor's degree in Audiovisual Media. After years of freelancing, Kristofer joined the staff of the Estonian production company Allfilm in 2019. Since fall 2020, Kristofer has worked closely together with writer-director Eeva Mägi with whom they have multiple ongoing projects in different stages of production - a feature doc "From Mari with Love" in post; a feature fiction "Werewolf" in late stage development and a short fiction "3rd Octave F" just fresh out of the oven. At Allfilm, Kristofer also works as a Service Line-Producer for international features and scripted TV-dramas.



## LYNX MAN

**Director: Juha Suonpää**

**Producers: Pasi Hakkio, Niina Virtanen / Wacky Tie Films Oy**

**Co-producers: Liis Nimik / Alasti Kino OÜ & Juha Suonpää / Swamphead Oy**

**Length: c. 78' (& 58'/52')**

**Production stage: in production**

**Estimated release: late 2022 – early 2023**

**Contact: producer Pasi Hakkio [pasi@wackytie.fi](mailto:pasi@wackytie.fi)**

### LOGLINE

*Lynx Man is a documentary about pensioner Hannu's entrancing journey towards finding a connection with the Eurasian lynx hiding in the forests. With his trail cameras, Hannu opens a gateway into the Finnish nature and towards a genuine connection with environment.*

*Can Hannu save the Eurasian lynx or is it in fact nature who ultimately saves the man?*

### SYNOPSIS

After a workplace accident and a divorce, Hannu is living an idle life on a disability pension. To escape the sea of idleness, Hannu installs a trail camera into the forest. The trail camera reveals a whole different life surrounding Hannu, and the return of

the Eurasian lynx into his family lands. Six months later, there are already 23 cameras clicking away in the woods.

The cameras reveal the marvellous world of the forest, teeming with the picturesque nature and wonderful animals. This is a world that Hannu wants to be part of. Hannu dives in a spiritual journey towards an equal encounter between human and animal. Drumming helps Hannu raise his consciousness to an animalistic level, thus gaining contact into the animal world. With a love poem, Hannu falls for the animal world, identifies with the lynx and becomes a forest feline. As the alpha male of the territory sprays Hannu's camera with urine, there is no more question on who truly rules the forest.

The film's structure is formed by Hannu's journey into becoming a "lynx whisperer" – preparations, starting the journey, discovering new things en route and returning among people. Hannu becomes a dedicated defender of the Eurasian lynx, a connoisseur of the feline psyche and an eccentric expert keen on sharing his knowledge with others. Moving between the two worlds, this lynx-whispering shaman re-narrates our relationship to nature, acting as an interpreter between animals and humans. When the alpha male disappears, Hannu is alarmed. Hannu understands that even his own sense of significance is dependent on the existence of the lynx. By protecting them, he also protects himself.

#### **PRODUCER PASI HAKKIO**

*Pasi Hakkio (b. 1986) is a Finnish Film Producer, who has a background in theater and business. In Film branch he entered through German company Bavaria Film in same time as he did his studies years 2008-2015. His first co-production was German-Finnish film Snow Queen, which was two times nominated at German Grimme-Awards. Pasi started as a producer at Wacky Tie Films 2018. He*



*is developing and producing documentary and fiction – singles and series. Master of Arts (MA), Audiovisual Media Culture (Mediatiede), University of Lapland, 2009 – 2016 Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences, 2005 – 2011 Matriculation Examination, Upper Secondary School of Orivesi 2005 In addition, Studies at University of Television and Film Munich, production & media economy.*



#### **DIRECTOR-SCREENWRITER JUHA SUONPÄÄ**

*Juha Suonpää (b. 1963) is an Adjunct Professor in Art, Environmental and Nature Photography, a photographer and filmmaker. Suonpää works as the principal lecturer of visual culture in the International Degree Programme in Media and Arts at Tampere University of Applied Sciences, and as a Senior Academy researcher in a research project of Finnish Academy.*



*Suonpää has exhibited internationally and published documentary films, numerous academic monographs and articles, and researched, for example, topics related to photography, visualizing science and the construction of the identity of a place. Suonpää's earlier film Wolfman premiered at Visions Du Reel Film Festival in 2013.*



# MY FAMILY AND OTHER CLOWNS

**Directors:** Heilika Pikkov & Liina Särkinen

**Producer:** Ülo Pikkov / Silmviburlane

**Length:** 90'

**Production stage:** in production

**Contact:** producer Ülo Pikkov [ylo@silmviburlane.ee](mailto:ylo@silmviburlane.ee)

director Heilika Pikkov [heilika@silmviburlane.ee](mailto:heilika@silmviburlane.ee)

## LOGLINE

*My parents are clowns, no kidding.*

## SYNOPSIS

The married couple Haide and Toomas are actors. They have three children and thousands of fans. They have a one-bedroom flat in a suburb of Tallinn, which is too small for their family, and a theatre house, which is too large for them to manage. For 20 years, their characters Piip and Tuut have made their way into the hearts of many people in Estonia and abroad. However, professional success and recognition have come at the expense of their children and family. Every time they have to go to work, which Haide and Toomas love more than anything else – put on a costume, paint their faces and take to the stage to cheer up

the audience – their guilt over lost time and fear of burnout increases simultaneously. They give 250 performances a year, yet they are barely making ends meet. The children are left to grow up on their own. The oldest daughter Emma often has to play the role of the mother in the family taking care of her younger sister Anni and also their autistic brother Siim. Haide and Toomas have come to a breaking point, where they must decide whether they would further expand their theatre or give up their dream and simply continue as two freelance clowns. It is a story about eyes full of stars and cheeks streaked with tears that resonates with every family.



## DIRECTOR HEILIKA PIKKOV

Heilika Pikkov (1982) is a documentary filmmaker and internationally well-known curator and cultural manager. For 8 years she was the organiser

and programmer of the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival's animation festival *Animated Dreams*. She has made several documentaries, including *Flowers from the Mount of Olives* (2013), which had a great success in Estonian cinemas and had its international premiere at the Locarno Film Festival and *My Flesh and Blood* (2018), which won the Best Short Film of the Year at the Estonian Film and Television Awards.



## DIRECTOR LIINA SÄRKINEN

Liina Särkinen (1980) has studied directing and producing in Tallinn and obtained MA Degree in TV history and production in London. While in

London, she produced a short film *Spicy Dealings* and directed a documentary *Homelessness*. She also worked as a guest lecturer in Westminster University and as a manager in an immersive cinema company *Secret Cinema*. Since moving back to Estonia she has directed two documentaries - *Why Don't I Leave?* (2017) and *Fuel for Life* (2020), both commissioned by the Estonian Public Broadcasting and produced by *Silmviburlane*.

Heilika and Liina studied film and television directing at Tallinn University together. *My Family and Other Clowns* is their first codirected film.

## PRODUCER ÜLO PIKKOV

Ülo Pikkov (1976) is an internationally renowned filmmaker, producer, and film scholar. He studied

animation at the Turku Arts Academy in Finland and since 1996 has directed several award-winning animation films. Currently he is the Head of Animation Department and Professor at the Estonian Academy of Arts and the Head of Board at the Estonian Filmmakers Union. He also works as a manager and producer for documentary and animation films in *Silmviburlane*.



## THE POWER OF VOICES

**Director:** Vallo Toomla

**Producer:** Kaie-Ene Rääk / F-Seitse

**Length:** 89'

**Production stage:** in production

**Contact:** producer Kaie-Ene Rääk [kaie@fseitse.ee](mailto:kaie@fseitse.ee)

director Vallo Toomla [vallotoomla@gmail.com](mailto:vallotoomla@gmail.com)

### LOGLINE

*Manly Estonian men from three small male choirs try to spice up their lives with singing. Besides singing, there is the everyday life with its small joys and challenges, with lifelong dreams, fears and compromises. This film is a study of the male inner world and of how men look after it.*

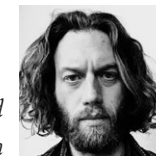
### SHORT PLOT SUMMARY

Three male choirs from the Estonian countryside. Men singing, being silent, laughing and crying, telling stories, all the while solving problems at hand. The film follows the men on their way to and from choir practice, revealing the inner thoughts and feelings of the Estonian man. What is he yearning for? Where is he headed? No obstacles – problems related

to health, work or family; long distances or slippery roads – would keep him away from choir practice, where singing is a way to cleanse his soul and harmonize with other men. What is it that gives him the strength to live? What is important to him? This film is a choir of stories about the ways of life, desires and the power of voices of Estonian men.

## DIRECTOR VALLO TOOMLA

Vallo Toomla (b. 1983) has studied theology at Tartu University and film directing at Baltic Film and Media School. He has been in versatile roles in front and behind the camera but is best known as a director. Vallo has directed five short films and one puppet animation. His first student work „*Morbius*“ (2009) was selected for the International Student Festival



*Sleepwalkers* at PÖFF and won the award of the Best Estonian Short Film. His debut feature film „Pretenders“ (2016) had its international premiere at the San Sebastian International Film Festival. The film was selected to several international film festivals and won awards for best director and film. His debut documentary “Verba Dierum: a year with Marju Lepajõe” (2019) had an unexpected success in Estonian cinemas and got the annual award of the Estonian Cultural Endowment for the best documentary of the year 2019 and the state cultural award of Estonia 2020.

**PRODUCER  
KAIE-ENE RÄÄK**



*Kaie-Ene Rääk started her career in 1980 as a film editor. She has edited 22 feature films and more than 60 documentaries. In 1998 she established together with six other film professionals the film production company F-Seitse OÜ. As a film producer she started in 2002 with a feature project called “Somnambuul” by Sulev Keedus. During these 19 years, she has produced five long feature films (all in international co-production as main producer) and nine documentaries. Most of the films have received the annual award of the Estonian Cultural Endowment, and have been shown at several international film festivals e.g. Rotterdam, Seattle, Haifa, Göteborg, Karlovy Vary, Melbourne and won various prizes.*



## TIP RAIL

**Director:** Milja-Liina Moilanen

**Producer:** Jirka Silander / New Dawn Oy

**Length:** 60'

**Production stage:** in development

**Estimated release:** early 2024

**Contact:** producer Jirka Silander [jirka.silander@newdawn.fi](mailto:jirka.silander@newdawn.fi)

### LOGLINE

*If you think this is wrong, then why are you here? Two strippers are fed up with unethical working conditions and go on a tour to get money to start their own club.*

### SYNOPSIS

The name Tip rail refers to the area immediately surrounding the dancing area at a strip club. The documentary follows Irina's and Rosa's journey towards their own strip club and dreams of more ethical sex work through road movie inspired storytelling. Strippers Irina (28) and Rosa (29) are tired of trampling on sex workers and want to make field practices fairer. The current strip clubs are largely male-owned and the dancers operate in a high-risk sector without employment contracts

and healthcare. Winnings generally go into the pockets of the club owners. Irina and Rosa feel a great calling to work in the field despite unethical practices by clubs and social rejection. They see work in the sex industry as a socially important and content-rich task where they get to fulfil themselves. Irina and Rosa decide to set up an ethical strip club that works on feminist principles for the benefit of their employees. To achieve the dream of their own business they need to raise money—and a lot. The more conservative areas they go to, the more customers there will be. Relief from loneliness, men and women build their own dream images of dancers, and sometimes it is difficult to keep private life separate from the work self. During



the tour, women will be confronted with conservative attitudes both at work and in their private lives. Society systematically sees them as victims and bad women. When the work is heavy, other dancers appear as a bright spot. In addition to work, women study business and production. The journey through Finland is also a cross-section of the attitude towards sex workers. The destination is its own club.

#### **DIRECTOR**

##### **MILJA-LIINA MOILANEN**

*Milja-Liina Moilanen (b.1989) is a director and media artist who deals with social differentiation and themes of othering. She graduated with master's degree 2019 in fine arts from the Academy of Fine Arts of the University of the Arts Helsinki. Moilanen's works have been exhibited e.g. Helsinki Art Hall and exhibitions and screenings in Finland and abroad. Moilanen's most important works have been Cleaner (2017) and Eat Dirt (2019), which have sparked a public debate on low-wage sectors as well as the image of women in the media. She was chosen as the Artist of the Year in Turku in 2019. Currently she's directing a feature documentary about women in reality TV produced by Tuffi Films.*



#### **PRODUCER**

##### **JIRKA SILANDER**

*Jirka has worked on several documentaries and fiction films. In 2009, he graduated as a producer from Turku University of Applied Sciences, Arts Academy. Along with numerous commercial productions, he has produced fiction shorts, including Tipping the Scales and Tattoo. He worked as a line-producer on short films The Witching Hour (65 Wilding Films) and On Dark Paths (New Dawn Oy). He produced The Name of The Game - Documentary for international audiences in 2018. He line-produced the fiction film Power of Love in 2021 (Bufo).*



## **TUTORS**

#### **MIKAEL OPSTRUP**

A specialist in international project development, trailer consultancy, co-productions, workshop planning & tutoring. Head of Studies at European Documentary Network, EDN (2011-19), creator and editor of EDNs Co-production Guide. Worked as expert, tutor or moderator for IDFA (Netherlands), Hot Docs (Canada), Nordisk Panorama (Denmark/Sweden), Institute of Documentary Film (Czech Republic), Baltic Sea Docs (Latvia), Docs Barcelona (Spain), In Docs (Indonesia), Dox Box (Syria/Germany) a.o.

Developed and headed a number of international workshops. Produced international documentaries for a couple of decades, latest as co-owner of Final Cut Productions in Copenhagen, Denmark (2002-09). Documentary Producer at The Danish Film Institute (1998-2002). Attended script writing at the Danish Film School (1988). Has worked for more than 50 documentary organisations & events all over the world.



## JESPER OSMUND

Danish film editor and narrative consultant. He has edited over 100 documentaries, many of which have been screened at festivals worldwide and internationally awarded. A fragment of his documentary editing work contains *Prison Sisters*, *A Bastard Child*, *Becoming Zlatan*, *Those Who Said No*, *No Burqas Behind Bars*, *When The Boys Return*, *Big Boys Gone Bananas*, *The Well*, *Stronger Than A Bullet*. He also works as a narrative consultant and is a regular tutor at rough-cut and pitching workshops.



## GITTE HANSEN

Gitte is a consultant in the international documentary field with focus on development, production, finance and distribution of films with international potential. She is a committed mentor for *Close-Up* and is the Head of Studies at Campus Istanbul. Furthermore, she serves at film institutes, organizations and international workshops as a mentor and tutor, and she works with filmmakers and production companies as individual consultant with a background as executive producer of more than 20 international documentaries and

non-fiction series for *First Hand Films* in Zürich, where she was deputy director and headed sales and acquisitions for many years.

Gitte's activities include moderating at numerous film festivals and market events such as IDFA, *Visions du Réel*, CPH:DOX, FIPADOC, *Nordisk Panorama*, and *Documentary Campus* in addition to lecturing, pitch-training and serving in juries and selection committees. Gitte holds a Master of Film & Rhetoric from the University of Copenhagen.

## ICE AND FIRE DOCS projects 2019/2020

The 1<sup>st</sup> edition of “Ice and Fire Docs” welcomed eight projects from Estonia and Finland, many of which are now near completion and ready to premiere in 2022 or 2023.



### SMOKE SAUNA SISTERHOOD

**Director:** Anna Hints

**Producer:** Marianne Ostrat / Alexandra Film (Estonia)

**Co-producers:** Kepler22 Production (France), URSUS Parvus (Iceland)

**Length:** 95'

**Production stage:** in post-production

**To be released:** 2022

**Contact:** producer Marianne Ostrat [marianne@alexandrafilm.ee](mailto:marianne@alexandrafilm.ee)

**Sales:** Outlook Filmsales [martina@outlookfilms.com](mailto:martina@outlookfilms.com)

#### SYNOPSIS

In the darkness of smoke sauna, women share their innermost secrets and intimate experiences. Through a sense of communion, women wash off the shame trapped in their bodies and regain their strength.



### GOOD LUCK, MR. PRESIDENT!

**Director:** Jaan Tootsen

**Producers:** Jaan Tootsen, Kiur Aarma / Aadam ja pojad (Estonia)

**Length:** 88'

**Production stage:** in post-production

**To be released:** 2022-2023

**Contact:** producer Jaan Tootsen [jaan.tootsen@err.ee](mailto:jaan.tootsen@err.ee)

#### SYNOPSIS

A man who reads piles of books, meets with the most influential people, and is an opinion leader in the world politics still feels at his best as a DJ, spinning records in a nightclub. This is a president of a tiny country who has never been a career politician but an intellectual and a music lover. He was born as an Estonian refugee in Sweden, spent his youth in

the United States, studied psychology at Columbia University and found his way back to Estonia thanks to his interest in the language and literature of this small nation. How does the sometimes untameable and unconventional head of state match with the expectations of the society? How to cope with tumultuous private life in front of the public eye?



## EXPERTS OF LOVE

**Director:** Eva Kübar

**Producer:** Andres Maimik / Moonwalker Film (Estonia)

**Length:** 105'

**Production stage:** in post-production

**To be released:** early 2023

**Contact:** producer Andres Maimik [andres@moonwalkerfilm.com](mailto:andres@moonwalkerfilm.com)

### SYNOPSIS

Marianne lives alone in the countryside – chops wood in the winter, drives kids to school, cooks, etc. The routine breaks when she meets Kay and Beate, a Christian couple from Berlin who after 30 years of marriage have opened up their relationship. Marianne dives into the new form of love without thinking of any consequences.

Riita and Taavi, a couple in their late 30s, have contemplated polyamory a bit

more and see it as a device for flaring up their decade-long on-and-off relationship. Supervised by tantric therapist Kristina Paskevicius, they start off with a proper written contract.

We observe the personal stories of three polyamorous clusters. Why do they start polyamory and how do they succeed on the emotional rollercoaster?



## KARAOKE PARADISE

**Director:** Einari Paakkanen

**Producer:** Marianne Mäkelä / napafilms (Finland)

**Length:** 75' & 52'

**Production stage:** in post-production

**Premiere:** spring 2022

**Contact:** producer Marianne Mäkelä [marianne@napafilms.fi](mailto:marianne@napafilms.fi)

**Sales:** Rise and Shine World Sales [anja.dziersk@riseandshine-berlin.de](mailto:anja.dziersk@riseandshine-berlin.de)

### SYNOPSIS

Evi, Finland's most experienced karaoke hostess, wants to hug her customers' pain away. With thousands of kilometres and bars behind her, she yet again packs her equipment and starts a car engine to travel through the northern landscapes of Finland.

Her journey interconnects with the stories of Karaoke Paradise. Toni, the shyest

guy in the world catches everyone's eyes on the stage. Kari is searching for love and sings in his empty karaoke car repair shop. Elina can hardly walk because of Parkinson's, but punk songs make her dance. Laura sings because talking is too painful.

Karaoke Paradise is a story of how the Finns have found a unique way out of loneliness.





## ONE MAN'S PAIN

**Director:** Kullar Viimne  
**Producer:** Erik Norkroos / Missing Pictures – Rühm Pluss Null (Estonia)  
**Length:** 90'  
**Production stage:** in production  
**To be released:** end of 2022  
**Contact:** producer Erik Norkroos  
[erik.norkroos@gmail.com](mailto:erik.norkroos@gmail.com)

### SYNOPSIS

Kalju is wounded. He fell in love. He got married. He had a daughter. Then his heart was broken. Time has passed but the pain remains. Hard work cannot drive away the pain of a love lost. Now he talks honestly, from the heart.



## CELEBRATING LIFE

**Director:** Madis Ligema, Taavi Arus  
**Producer:** Margus Õunapuu / Filmtower (Estonia)  
**Length:** 90'  
**Production stage:** in pre-production  
**Scheduled release:** 2024  
**Contact:** producer Margus Õunapuu  
[margus@filmtower.ee](mailto:margus@filmtower.ee)

### SYNOPSIS

From birth to death – we celebrate. The film portrays the traditions of a small nation, serving as a chronicle and a guide to “the Estonian modern life of our times”.

## THE ENGINEER AND THE BUTTERFLY

**Director:** Antti Haase  
**Producer:** Jouko Aaltonen / Illume (Finland)  
**Length:** 80'  
**Production stage:** in development  
**Scheduled release:** 2024  
**Contact:** producer Jouko Aaltonen [jouko.aaltonen@illume.fi](mailto:jouko.aaltonen@illume.fi)  
**Sales:** Illume

### SYNOPSIS

Filmmaker Antti Haase's grandfather was a national hero who built hydropower stations to Lapland's wild Kemijoki River. This great national project meant prosperity and well-being for the whole Finland. Antti wants to make a film about the proud family history and follow how the very last hydropower station of Finland is built to Kemijoki River in Sierilä. But the world and



values have changed. Environmentalists and local people are now against the engineers' plans. When Antti's teenage son Eino joins the movement to stop the building of the last hydropower station, the battleground is set. What happens to family legacy, father-son relationship, the river, and a rare butterfly?



## TWO HOURS TO HAPPINESS

**Director:** Moonika Siimets

**Producer:** Riina Sildos / Amrion (Estonia)

**Length:** 74'

**Production stage:** completed

**Premiere:** at DocPoint Documentary Film Festival 2022

**Contact:** producer Riina Sildos [info@amrion.ee](mailto:info@amrion.ee)

### SYNOPSIS

More than 70,000 Estonians live and work in Finland, while their families, parents, children and homes are in Estonia. Moonika Siimets's new documentary film „Two Hours to Happiness“ speaks about adjusting to new conditions, sticking to and losing one's roots, the yearning for and the search for happiness. The film is

a humorously wistful documentation of families spending their days in the snowy fields of Lapland, apartments in Vantaa, on the staircases of shopping malls, at construction sites, hotel lobbies, and of grandchildren in the living rooms of Estonian grandmothers who are waiting for their children to come home.

## ORGANISERS

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