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29th

Internationale
Kurzfilmtage
Winterthur

4 – 9 Nov 2025

Industry Guide

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Swiss Film School Day

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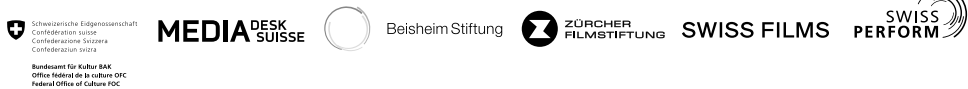


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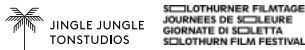


Table of Contents

Thursday

Swiss Film School Day

11:00/12:00	Sessions I–II	5
14:30/16:30	Sessions III–IV	6
18:30–20:00	Meet the Producers – Talent Gathering	6

Friday

Industry Lab

09:45–11:00	SWISS FILMS Preview	7
10:00–11:00	Swiss Industry Information: The New Fast Track of Zürcher Filmstiftung (de)	7
11:15–11:45	Keynote Speech: Nebojša Slijepčević (en)	9
11:45–13:00	Roundtable: From Short to Feature? (en)	10
13:00–14:00	Soup 'n' Group	11
14:00–15:00	Case Study: Short Film Recycled (en)	12
15:15–16:30	The Future of Shorts, Revisited (en)	13
17:00–18:15	Market Meetings: Meet & Mingle	15
18:30–20:00	Short Drink – Industry Reception	20

Saturday

Creators' Room

09:30–11:30	SWISS FILMS Industry Brunch	21
10:00–15:00	Workshop: Short Film Dramaturgy (en)	21
10:00–15:30	FOCAL Script Coaching	22
12:00–14:45	Truth or Data – Film Program and Panel (en)	23
11:45–12:45	Pitching Session: P.AiR.S Project Development Residency (en)	25
13:00–14:00	Pitching Session: European Short Pitch (en)	26
15:00–16:15	Master Class – Person in Focus: Isadora Neves Marques (en)	27
16:30–17:45	Industry Conversation: Reasons to Buy a Film (en)	28
18:00–20:00	Industry Awards Ceremony and Reception	29

Juries

PAiR.S Project Development Residency 2026	30
Invitation to participate in the European Short Pitch 2026	31
Postproduction-Award	32
Award for the Best Swiss School Film	33

Industry Screenings	34
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Contacts

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Inken Blum
Head of Industry Events



Samuel Waltz
Industry Coordinator

SWISS FILM SCHOOL DAY

Thursday, 6 November 2025

Switzerland's film schools are major producers of shorts. Kurzfilmtage offers them a platform to present their films to the public and for dialogue and networking. The Ecole cantonale d'art de Lausanne (ECAL), the Geneva University of Art and Design (HEAD), the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK), and the Lucerne School of Design, Film and Art – Video and Animation, present a selection of their recent short films. Mixed, inter-school sessions provide opportunities for in-depth discussion of individual works. The jury of the Swiss Competition conducts a Q&A with the student, gives them insights from the industry and awards the prize for the Best Swiss School Film.

Session I

6/11/2025

11:00

Maxx 1

free entry

EN ST + Q&A

Eggshells

Beth Barnes, Switzerland 2025,
16'50", English, Fic, ZHdK

Vom Fluss zum Strom

Mirjam Leutwiler, Anja Hubmann,
Switzerland 2025, 11'15", without
dialogue, Doc/Exp, HSLU Video

Ouais.

Della Miranda Switzerland 2025,
03'30", without dialogue,
Ani, HSLU Animation

Session II

6/11/2025

12:00

Maxx 1

free entry

EN ST + Q&A

Mon monstre

Eva Rust, Switzerland 2025,
11'56", French, Doc, ECAL

Wacky Horses!

Iara De Jong Goncalves, Anna
Müller, Touka Fatemi, Marija
Simovic, Ysabel Steiner,
Switzerland 2025, 04'20",
English, Ani, HSLU Animation

Reverie City

Naema Beya, Switzerland 2025,
24'24", French, Fic, HEAD

Session III

6/11/2025

14:30

Maxx 1

free entry

EN ST + Q&A

Entre cães e lobos

Khalissa Akadi, Mathilde
Sauvère, Switzerland 2025,
13'11", Portuguese, Doc, HEAD

Bilder vo Langebruck

Leonie Berger, Switzerland
2025, 09'17", Swiss German,
Doc/Exp, HSLU Video

De l'eau qui bout au fond de la terre

Louis Richalet, Switzerland
2025, 15'47", French, Fic, ECAL

Load

Simone Tschirren, Switzerland
2025, 11'00", English/German,
Fic/Exp, ZHdK

Session IV

6/11/2025

16:30

Maxx 1

free entry

EN UT + Q&A

Leontari

Maurice Dietziker, Switzerland
2025, 13'48", German/Greek,
Doc, HSLU Video

Amigs hani angscht

Jiani Fei, Switzerland 2025,
04'30", without dialogue, Ani,
HSLU Animation

Cuxhaven

Charlyne Genoud, Switzerland
2025, 17'59", French/English,
Fic/Exp, ECAL

Fireline

Francis Meier, Switzerland
2025, 14'41", English, Doc,
ZHdK

Return Ticket

Irina Georgiadou, Switzerland
2025, 04'17", Swiss German,
Ani, HLSU Animation

18:30–20:00

Meet the Producers – Talent Gathering

INDUSTRY LAB

Friday, 7 November 2025

The Industry Lab is a hub for short film professionals with a range of event formats for discussion, education, and networking.

09:45–11:00

SWISS FILMS Preview

BY INVITATION ONLY

An exclusive opportunity for industry professionals from the distribution, sales, and festival sectors to see excerpts of new Swiss shorts and discover new talents from Switzerland.

Alte Kaserne Kulturzentrum, Technikumstrasse 8

09:30–10:00

Welcome with coffee and pastries

10:00–11:00

**Swiss Industry Information: The New
Fast Track of Zürcher Filmstiftung (de)**

In September, Zürcher Filmstiftung published its new regulations for the Fast Track funding programme, and the first submission deadline under the new guidelines is approaching in November. Overall, the changes represent a move away from a focus on innovation and toward the support of young talent. In a moderated discussion, Hercli Bundi, managing director of Zürcher Filmstiftung, will explain the ideas behind the reconception and answer audience questions.

Moderator



Teresa Vena, Co-Editor-in-Chief at Cinébulletin (CH)

Teresa Vena is a film critic and curator with a background in history, art history, and Spanish. She writes about film for international media outlets such as Cinébulletin, with a particular focus on European, Asian, and Latin American cinema. In addition to her editorial work, she is involved in festival organization and programming. She lives and works in Berlin and Switzerland.

Speaker



Hercli Bundi, Managing Director of Zürcher Filmstiftung (CH)

After studying film directing and production, Hercli Bundi has served in many roles in film production, ranging from lighting technician to sound engineer, from extra to editor. He helped establish the production company Mira Film and the distributor Vinca Film, and has directed and produced numerous fiction and documentary films, including many international co-productions. In 2024, Hercli withdrew from these activities and is now managing director of Zürcher Filmstiftung.

11:15–11:45

Keynote Speech: Nebojša Slijepčević (en)

Nebojša Slijepčević won the European Film Award and was nominated for an Oscar for his short film «The Man Who Could Not Remain Silent». But his work goes far beyond shorts and also includes series and feature films. In his Keynote Speech, Nebojša will talk about why he keeps returning to shorts, why he finds them more exciting than the long form, and how self-imposed rules and restrictions shaped his Oscar-nominated film. He will also provide insights into short film production – from mentoring students at the Zagreb School of Documentary Film to reviving documentary production at Zagreb Film, Croatia's only remaining public production company, which looks back on a 75-year history of history.

Speaker



Nebojša Slijepčević, Director & Creative Producer (HR)

Nebojša Slijepčević is a film director based in Zagreb, Croatia. His short fiction film «The Man Who Could Not Remain Silent» (2024) won the Palme d'Or for Best Short Film at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival, along with the European Film Award and the César for Best Short Film. It was also nominated for an Oscar. His most acclaimed documentary, «Srbenka» (2018), has received over 20 festival awards, including the Doc Alliance Selection Award, and was shortlisted for the European Film Awards.

For many filmmakers, short films are a testing ground for narrative and aesthetic approaches. Condensing artistic ideas in a short amount of time leads to innovative and powerful works. Due to limited distribution opportunities, short films are also less subject to market pressures, so they generally offer a lot of freedom. At the same time, very few filmmakers build their entire careers on short films alone. Rather, many see shorts as a springboard to feature-length productions. Shorts allow young filmmakers to prove their skills and attract attention before being entrusted with a long project. The relationship between shorts and feature-length films remains controversial. One thing is certain: short films offer a level of artistic freedom that feature films often lack. But they also have to contend with the stigma of being «unfinished» or «just a start». Our Roundtable examines these tensions from various perspectives and explores the question of how short films can assert themselves as an independent art form.

Moderator



Giuseppe di Salvatore, Editor-in-Chief at FILMEXPLORER (CH)

Giuseppe Di Salvatore studied philosophy in Rome and Paris (PhD), worked as a researcher in Geneva, and was the head of a research centre in Verona. After establishing the film team and the project festivalonline.ch at arttv.ch, he cofounded filmexplorer.ch with Ruth Baettig in 2016, where he serves as co-director and editor-in-chief. Giuseppe is active as a film and art critic, film and art curator, in selection committees, in the festival industry, and as a panellist.

Speakers



Simone Bardoni, Artistic Director of the Concorso Film Festival (IT)

Simone is the artistic director of the Concorso Film Festival in Italy and holds a degree in film studies and film criticism. He has worked as a film curator since 2012, is a professor of cinema studies, and collaborates with MIA | Mercato Internazionale Audiovisivo in Rome as well as with Lights On, a world sales company for cinema. In addition, he is a book and film critic for Film TV magazine.



Sabine Boss, Filmmaker and Dean of Studies for the BA & MA in Film at ZHdK (CH)

Sabine Boss is a writer and director for film, television, and theatre, as well as a lecturer at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK). Since 2017, she has been dean of studies for the BA and MA degree programmes in film at ZHdK.



Jonas Odell, Director (SWE)

Jonas Odell specializes in making films mixing live action and various mixed media animation techniques. In some of his more recent short films, he has explored a mix of documentary, staged, and animated elements. His shorts have been awarded the Golden Bear at the Berlin Film Festival and best international short at the Sundance Film Festival, among others. Jonas has also directed commercials and music videos for artists such as the Rolling Stones, Goldfrapp, U2, and Franz Ferdinand.



Levin Vieth, Producer at Dschoint Ventschr Film Production in Zürich (CH)

Levin was born near Zurich in 1994. He was initially active in the independent theatre scene, before obtaining a Bachelor's degree in German and film studies and making his first collectively produced short films. He then transferred to the Zurich University of the Arts, graduating in 2023 with a Master's degree in film with a specialization in creative producing. He now works as a producer at Dschoint Ventschr Filmproduktion in Zurich.

13:00–14:00

Soup'n'Group

A warm invitation to soup bread, conversation and brownies.

Co-Hosted by Pro Short.



14:00–15:00

Case Study: Short Film Recycled (en)

Short films often open doors to bigger projects. They allow artists to test out ideas on a small scale, develop a visual language, or to refine a story. In our Case Study, filmmakers talk about how a short film helped them prepare for a subsequent feature-length project. Concrete examples illustrate how to successfully transition from short to feature film and what opportunities this path can open up.

Moderator



Jing Haase, Short Film Expert (DK)

Jing Haase is a curator and short film expert who has been working in the industry for more than two decades. She has previously worked with Nordic shorts and docs as market manager at Nordisk Panorama and as festival manager for short films at the Swedish Film Institute with a primary focus on international distribution. She has also worked as a programmer and in film production. Jing often serves as a moderator, panellist, facilitator, and jury member at international festivals and industry events.

Speakers



Whammy Alcazaren, Director & Production Designer (PH)

Whammy Alcazaren is a director and production designer for film and advertising. He was a participant of the 13 Little Pictures film lab in Singapore (2013), the Belluard Bollwek Watch and Talk Residency in Switzerland (2016), and Berlinale Talents (2024). His shorts have screened at the Sundance Film Festival, New York Film Festival, Fantasia, and Fantastic Fest, among many others. He is currently developing his next feature, «Noodles, Our Love Was Instant and Forever». He loves cats.



Steffen Goldkamp, Freelance Director & Creative Producer at Kelek Films (DE)

Steffen Goldkamp studied film at the Academy of Fine Arts Hamburg (HFBK), where he graduated in 2019 with his short film «After Two Hours, Ten Minutes Had Passed», which premiered in Venice, and at the École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts. Steffen co-founded the film collective Spengemann Eichberg Goldkamp Hans.

15:15–16:30

The Future of Shorts, Revisited (en)

In 2012, Kurzfilmtage hosted the panel discussion «The Future of Short Film». Lars Henrik Gass (Oberhausen), Maike Mia Höhne (Berlinale Shorts), Peter van Hoof (Rotterdam), Jukka-Pekka Laakso (Tampere), and Laurence Reymond (Quinzaine des Réalisateurs, Cannes) were invited to present a short film and discuss the future of the form from an artistic perspective. The guests shared utopian visions of the future of cinema: How will filmmaking develop, and what ripples will it cause? Many festivals feel an urge to identify trends early on, driven by their passion for discovery. In May 2014, John Canciani published insights from the panel in the journal [OnCurating #23](#). Today, several years later, the questions remain: Which trends have prevailed? What is still relevant, and what has changed?

An event in collaboration with CINEMA – Das Schweizer Filmjahrbuch and Kurzfilm Festival Hamburg.

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FESTIVAL
HAMBURG

Moderator



John Canciani, Artistic Director at Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur (CH)

John Canciani has been a film collector since he was a teenager. He acquired his first experiences in curating films when he founded and organized a film club in Winterthur. In 2009, he became a member of the selection team and board member at the Swiss Youth Film Festival in Zurich. He joined Kurzfilmtage the same year, serving as head of the Youth Programme, programmer of the International Competition and assistant to the artistic director, among other things. In 2012, he was appointed as artistic director.

Speakers



Florian Fernandez, Head of SFC | Rendez-vous Industry, Festival de Cannes (FR)

Florian is the head of the Short Film Corner | Rendez-vous Industry, a four-day forum dedicated to short films and their makers organized by the Festival de Cannes, where he coordinates the various industry initiatives highlighting short and first feature film projects. Florian is also a programming consultant for Montreal's Festival du Nouveau Cinéma and associate programmer for documentary shorts at SXSW. Since 2023, he has partnered with Solal Films.



Prof. Maïke Mia Höhne, Artistic Director at Kurzfilm Festival Hamburg, Pinkmovies GmbH (DE)

Maïke Mia Höhne is an author, director, curator, producer, and lecturer. A discursive approach informs her artistic and curatorial practice. From 2007 to 2019, she led and enhanced the profile of the Berlinale Shorts section at the Berlinale. Since 2019, she has been the artistic director of the Hamburg Short Film Festival. With Pinkmovies, she and her partner produce the television format «Kurzschluss/Court Circuit» among other programmes. She lives in Hamburg with her children.



Wouter Jansen, Sales Agent and founder of Square Eyes (NL)

Wouter Jansen is the founder of the sales company Square Eyes. The company represents bold, author-driven features and shorts, and in close collaboration with the filmmakers it devises bespoke festival distribution and sales strategies. In the past, Wouter has worked as the head of programme at Go Short ISFF for ten years. He is an expert for Locarno Open Doors and First Cut Lab, regularly gives lectures at film schools and festivals, and engages in selection committees for funding bodies and industry programmes.



Lyse Ishimwe Nsengiyumva, Founder of Recognition & Programmer for International Film Festival Rotterdam (NL)

Lyse Ishimwe Nsengiyumva is a film programmer and photographer currently based in Belgium, where she founded Recognition in 2016. Recognition is a Brussels-based community film screening programme that focuses on work for and by people of African descent. Lyse currently works at the International Film Festival Rotterdam and Blackstar Film Festival in Philadelphia as a programmer. Previously, she was a film consultant for the Berlinale Forum.

17:00–18:15

Market Meetings: Meet & Mingle

The Market Meetings offer filmmakers an opportunity to make valuable contacts in a short time. About 20 to 25 international experts who work in festivals and distribution/sales are available for conversations in a speed-dating format. Approximately every seven minutes, a sound signal indicates that it is time to switch tables. There is no matchmaking and no preregistration for meetings with specific professionals. Instead, the event offers a chance to exchange contacts and arrange additional meetings. Whether for presenting projects or for informal encounters, the Market Meetings open doors to new networks and opportunities.

Film Festival Representatives



Max Bergmann, Artistic Director

Vienna Shorts International Film Festival (AT)

Next edition: May 26–31, 2026

Next call for entries: regular deadline: January 05, 2026; late deadline: January 31, 2026

Eligibility criteria: max. 30 min, no premiere status, completed in 2025/26 (competitions), international competitions: FIDO (doc/fic) and AA (ani/exp)

Editorial line: Bold, powerful, unconventional

Submission fees: FIDO: € 18, AA: € 13, AT: € 5, late deadline: + 10

Other information: national competitions: ÖW (general) and MUVI (music video)



Lucie Detrain, Film Programmer

The Directors' Fortnight (La Quinzaine) - Cannes (FR)

Next edition: May 14–24, 2026

Next call for entries: November 3, 2025

Eligibility criteria: features and shorts (up to 60 min), no older than 12 months preceding the Cannes film festival, international premiere required

Editorial line: The Fortnight values freedom of thought and the invention of new forms of dialogue, of narrative, of representation, and of editing. We are also very attentive to propositions that reinvent cinematic genres which, traditionally, have been more popular.

Submission fees: short films (1–29'): € 30, medium-length films (30–59'): € 50, feature films (>60'): € 150

Other information: I am also part of the programming team of FIPADOC - "New Talent" Section, shorts from film schools.



**Anna Feistel, Programmer and Program Coordinator
Kurzfilm Festival Hamburg (DE)**

Next edition: June 2–7, 2026

Next call for entries: Now until January 31, 2026

Eligibility criteria: All formats and genres, max. length 30 min, no premiere status required, produced in 2025 or later

Editorial line: Experimental, courageous, diverse

Submission fees: € 7 / 10

Other information: Special competition "Triple Axle": max. length 3 min, specific topic "Three". Our young short film festival Mo&Friese accepts films suitable for young audiences (ages 4–18); productions from 2024, 2025, or 2026 are eligible.



**Vincent Förster, Programme Manager Short Films Generation
Berlinale (DE)**

Next edition: February 12–22, 2026

Next call for entries: November 5, 2025

Eligibility criteria: any genre, max. 20 min, European premiere, but World/International premiere preferred

Editorial line: Generation is dedicated to the young audience of the Berlinale and focuses on films that, in their narratives and cinematic languages, tell stories through the eyes of their young protagonists, making their worlds tangible.

Submission fees: € 75



**Anne Gaschütz, Festival Director
Filmfest Dresden (DE)**

Next edition: April 14–19, 2026

Next call for entries: September 1 – December 1, 2025

Eligibility criteria: max. 30 min, no premiere requirements, not older than 2 years, genre: fiction, animation, hybrid

Editorial line: political, thought-provoking, formally inventive

Submission fees: € 6

Other information: Also a programmer for Locarno Film Festival. it's always good to be able to tell me about your film in one sentence, i will not remember the whole synopsis.



**Lotje Kerckhaert, Festival director
& Julia Yudelman, Head of Programme
Go Short - International Short Film Festival Nijmegen (NL)**

Next edition: April 7–12, 2026

Next call for entries: December 15, 2025

Eligibility criteria: max. 30 min, European (co-)productions, no premiere status required, genres: documentary, fiction, animation, experimental, VR/XR

Editorial line: For competition we are looking for everything from narrative to experimental. Out-of-competition we are looking for genre films (erotic short, horror shorts and weird animations) and films for young audiences.

Submission fees: € 12,50–25



Mário Micaelo, Director and Programmer
Curtas Vila do Conde (PT)

Next edition: July 17–26, 2026

Next call for entries: April 30, 2026

Eligibility criteria: Short films, Portuguese premieres only, all formats and genres, produced in 2025 or 2026, max. length 60 min (exceptions: youth, student, and music video competitions max. 30 min)

Editorial line: High-quality cinematic and audiovisual works, focused on discovering new films and directors

Submission fees: € 20–30

Other information: Oscar® Qualifying Film Festival, Goya Qualifying Festival, European Film Awards, European Short Film Audience Award



Vasco Muralha, Programmer for the
Silvestre/International Competition Short Films Section
IndieLisboa (PT)

Next edition: April 30 – May 10, 2026

Next call for entries: August 01 – December, 2025

Eligibility criteria: max. 60 min, Portuguese premiere

Editorial line: Inventive, thought-provoking, authentic

Submission fees: € 10 / 17 / 25



Olha Mykhaliuk, Producer
Wiz-Art Film Festival (UA)

Next edition: September, 2026

Next call for entries: June 23, 2026

Eligibility criteria: max. 34 min, produced 2025 or 2026

Editorial line: Honest, brave, bright

Submission fees: -

Other information: € 8–16



Sabine Niewalda, Head of Press Office
International Short Film Festival Oberhausen (DE)

Next edition: April 28– May 3, 2026

Next call for entries: January 19, 2026

Eligibility criteria: max. 35 minutes, produced after January 1, 2024, German festival premiere required, all genres

Editorial line: looking for new visual languages and perspectives, for experiments and surprises

Submission fees: -

Other information: there are five competitions: International, German, NRW, Children's and Youth Films and German Music Videos, awarding a total of almost € 44,000 in prize money



**Christoffer Ode, Programme Director
Uppsala Short Film Festival (SE)**

Next edition: October 19–25, 2026

Next call for entries: January 1 – May 31, 2026

Eligibility criteria: Short films of all genres, with a running time of up to 40 minutes, produced in 2025 or 2026

Editorial line: Unconventional, engaging, thought-provoking

Submission fees: € 5–20

Other information: Submitted films may also be considered for out-of-competition programs, including recurring sections dedicated to fantastic films, queer films, comedies, and very short shorts (max. 3 min).



**Julie Rousson, Programmer and Industry Coordinator
Clermont-Ferrand ISFF & Market (FR)**

Next edition: January 30 – February 7, 2026

Next call for entries: May 2026

Eligibility criteria: International films up to 40 minutes, French films up to 60 minutes, no premiere status, any genre, XR films accepted

Editorial line: Diverse, unique, innovative

Submission fees: € 13



**Nihan Sivridag, Programmer
Berlinale Shorts (DE)**

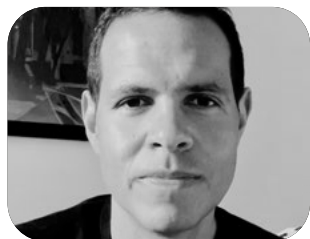
Next edition: February 12–22, 2026

Next call for entries: November 5, 2025

Eligibility criteria: max. 30 minutes for short films, International and World premieres

Editorial line: open for everything

Submission fees: € 75



**Ben Thompson, VP and Shorts Programming
Tribeca Film Festival (US)**

Next edition: June 3–14, 2026

Next call for entries: September 25, 2025 – February 4, 2026

Eligibility criteria: All formats and genres, feature films (runtime over 40 min), short films (runtime under 40 min)

Editorial line: Bold, imaginative, well-structured

Submission fees: Short films: \$ 50 / 70 / 80. Students may request a discount code by emailing entries@tribecafilm.com. Music videos have a fixed submission fee of \$50 with the code TF26@MusicVideoDisc.



**Bartosz Tesarz, Head of the Short Programme
Krakow Film Festival (PL)**

Next edition: May 3 – June 7, 2026

Next call for entries: October 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026

Eligibility criteria: max. 30 min, genres: fic, doc, ani, Polish
premiere required

Editorial line: Personal, relevant, universal

Submission fees: € 15

Other information: Krakow Film Festival is an Oscar and EFA-qualifying festival that also screens feature documentaries.



**Enrico Vannucci, Pardi di Domani Programmer
Locarno Film Festival (CH)**

Next edition: August 5–15, 2026

Next call for entries: Mid-November 2025 – early April 2026

Eligibility criteria: Short and medium-length films up to
59 minutes, world and international premieres, all genres

Editorial line: Varied, surprising, new

Submission fees: CHF 30 / 50 / 70

Other information: Be nice and smile — we are all human beings.



**Giulio Vita, Festival Director
La Guarimba Film Festival (IT)**

Next edition: August 7–12, 2026

Next call for entries: March 15, 2026

Eligibility criteria: short film fiction, animation, documentary,
experimental, dance music video

Editorial line: Conventional narratives and we have a
section for children's animation

Submission fees: € 15

Other information: We also organise a film residency and
applications are now open.

Buyers & Distributors



**Simone Bardoni, Distributor
Lights On (IT)**

Types of films represented: International short films and feature
films, live action and documentary

Editorial line: Contemporary, powerful, surprising

Territories covered: World

Representation type: Festival distribution, world sales

Acquisition policy: Only finished films, festival world premieres only



Silja Ebeling, Theatrical Distribution

Kurzfilm Verleih Hamburg (DE)

Types of films represented: Shorts of all genres from all over the world

Editorial line: Wild, smart, fresh, funny, working as pre-feature films

Territories covered: DE/AT/CH

Representation type: Theatrical Distribution: non-exclusiv rights for at least german speaking territories; Sales: worldwide exclusiv rights

Acquisition policy: Finished films, LOI in early stages

Other information: Kurzfilm Agentur Hamburg is home of Kurzfilm Festival Hamburg, Junges Kurzfilm Festival Mo&Frieze, Kurzfilm Sales Hamburg and Kurzfilm Verleih Hamburg.



Grégoire Féron, Festival Distribution Manager (Shorts)

& Zoé Rossion, Biography Film Distributor and Acquisitions

Salaud Morisset (FR/DE)

Types of films represented: International short films and feature films, fiction only

Editorial line: Interested in strong narratives, bold artistic voices, and filmmakers growing from shorts to features. Looking for high production value, accessible films.

Territories covered: World

Representation type: World sales (incl. all rights), festival distribution

Acquisition policy: Finished films and advanced WIP, ideally submitted before their premiere.



**Tam Dan Vu, Artistic Director & Head of Communications
Travelling Distribution (CA)**

Types of films represented: short films only (max. 30 min), international, any genre, except experimental

Editorial line: Narrative, auteur, with an edge (whatever that means) + films with festival and/or sales potential

Territories covered: World

Representation type: festival strategy, festival distribution, world sales

Acquisition policy: works in progress or finished films, festival premieres only

18:30-20:00

Short Drink – Industry Reception

CREATORS' ROOM

Saturday, 8 November 2025

The Creators' Room complements the Industry Lab by focusing more on the practice of filmmaking with workshops, master classes, and presentations that address production processes.

09:45–11:00

SWISS FILMS Industry Breakfast

BY INVITATION ONLY

SWISS FILMS invites industry guests from Switzerland and abroad to network during an Industry Brunch.

Alte Kaserne Kulturzentrum, Technikumstrasse 8

09:30–10:00

Coffee and Pastries

10:00–15:00

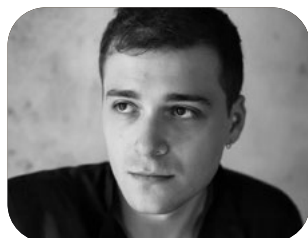
Workshop: Short Film Dramaturgy (en)

What short films can we create from the building blocks of a feature film? Are there specific narrative or dramaturgical aspects to consider when writing a short film? The screenplay lab La Salle de sport and filmmaker Elie Grappe invite participants to rethink the essential elements of a feature film and use them to develop their own short films. The focus is on trying out things together: through collective experimentation, participants discover the specific freedoms and challenges of the short film format.

An event in collaboration with La Salle de sport.



Workshop facilitator



Elie Grappe, Writer & Director (CH/FR)

Elie Grappe is a French-Swiss writer-director born in Lyon in 1994. He studied classical music at the conservatory and then film at ECAL (2011–2015). In 2021, his first feature-length fiction film, «Olga», was selected for the Cannes Critics' Week, where it won the SACD Prize. In 2022, «Olga» was the Swiss entry for the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film and received three Quartz awards at the Swiss Film Awards.

10:00–15:30

FOCAL Script Coaching

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS

This collaboration between Kurzfilmtage and FOCAL offers nine Swiss authors/directors an opportunity to receive professional feedback on their short film scripts during free coaching sessions.

Participating Projects

De Wallen

Miriam Ernst
Ani/Doc

Daria O., faits et gestes

Camille Anker
Fic

Une nuit à Bâle

Coline Confort, Perrine Prost
Fic

Flora X Aymara

Samuel Flückiger
Fic

Audrey

Aymeric Nicolet
Fic

Angsthase

Emilie Girardin
Fic

Stormy Lives

Elena Madrid
Ani

Le soldat et l'abeille

Loïc Pidoux
Fic

Bailarina

Simona Koch
Ani/Doc

Script Coaches

**Rhea Plangg, Producer and Script Consultant, Lido Pictures (CH)**

Rhea Plangg was born and raised in Zurich. After her studies in communication, political science, and modern history (Lugano/Zurich/Rome), she worked in PR, among other things, before being introduced to the world of cinema. After collaborating as an AP/AD and research/script consultant on several documentary and fiction projects in Lausanne, Zurich, and Paris, she started producing in 2016. Since 2018, she has been responsible for Claude Barras's new project «Savages!» as a creative producer with Helium Films, Lausanne.

**Quentin Mistral, Creative Director at La Salle de sport (CH)**

Quentin Mistral is a screenwriter and consultant. Since 2022, he has coordinated the programmes and workshops for the writing residency La Salle de sport, where he also serves as a consultant.

**Uwe Lützen, Script Writer & Script Consultant (DE/CH)**

Uwe worked as a dramaturge and director in theatre before studying German and film studies in Zurich and Amsterdam. He began writing screenplays with «Dead Fucking Last» (2009), a «mad and fast-paced» comedy (Neue Zürcher Zeitung) about bicycle couriers, capitalism, and friendship, and has since written various scripts for film, television, and theatre. In addition, he works as a script consultant for both fiction and documentary film projects.

Blue Cinema Maxx 5, Kesselhaus Winterthur

11:45–12:45

Truth or Data – Film Program and Panel (en)

A programme about machines that learn, dream, and feel, and about us watching them do so. Between artificial creativity and real exploitation, digital intimacy and algorithmic control, these films show how deeply technology is ingrained in our lives. Poetic, political, and critical, the programme invites us to confront a future that has already begun.

In recent years, we have seen an increasing interest in and availability of AI in the visual field. The rapidly growing number of productions testifies to the influence of AI on film production – whether in artistic, commercial, or everyday practice. While the public debate tends to focus on the broader social implications of AI (without conclusive results so far), the panel after the screening will centre on the generative aspect. The conversation will explore artistic, commercial, and scientific approaches to the aesthetic aspects of AI. What is AI's potential for creating moving images? What does the technology add, what does it change, what does it replace? What does it make us believe, and what does it make us forget?

Moderator



Dr. Wendelin Brühwiler, Digitalization Officer at EDK (CH)

Wendelin studied history, economics, and German in Zurich. He went on to work in the media and publishing industry for cultural and business publications, and did media history research on brands and trademarks as part of the DFG research group «Media and Mimesis». Since 2022, he has been working for the Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK), where he coordinates cultural and educational policy. He is also a member of the steering committee of the Swiss National Science Foundation's NRP 77 (Digital Transformation).

Speakers



Marine de Dardel, MSc D–ARCH ETH Zürich, Research Associate & Doctoral Student SNF (CH)

Marine de Dardel studied Architecture at ETH Zurich and Creative Coding at ZHdK and is currently a doctoral researcher in the Swiss National Science Foundation-funded project "The Video Essay: Memories, Ecologies, Bodies" (2024-2027). She has lectured at ETHZ about video game spaces and taught international workshops experimenting with filmic or architectural language and computational narratives. She co-authored and edited "Portraits. Architectural Parables" (Park, 2022), "de la Verticalité/Zur Verticalität" (Park, 2024). Her work was published in Cartha, NECSUS, Scroope, trans and screened at the Jeu de Paume and Locarno Film Festival.



Martin Sautter, Media Informatics Specialist (CH)

Martin Sautter (*1980) holds a degree in media informatics and has been working in digital content production since 2005. As senior postproduction generalist at Boom and Boutiq and head of video and technology at Jung von Matt Blish, he combines motion design, animation, and postproduction with AI and develops new creative workflows.



Jeppe Lange, Director and Co-Founder of Flair Film (DK)

Jeppe Lange is a filmmaker and artist who studied at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts. For the past six years, he has explored AI as a creative tool in filmmaking. His film «Abyss» (2021) screened at 90+ festivals, and «I Am Everything» (2025) opened the Nordisk Panorama Film Festival. He gives talks and workshops for institutions like Adobe and the National Film School of Denmark.

Blue Cinema Maxx 2, Kesselhaus Winterthur

11:45–12:45

Pitching Session: P.AiR.S Project Development Residency (en)

Three selected ideas for Swiss short film projects will be presented in a pitching session. An expert jury will select the most convincing project for a seven-week Project Development Residency in Sigriswil, sponsored by the P.AiR.S. Artist Residence. In addition to providing time and space to focus on the project, the residency also includes participation in the Perspectives Lab at the 61st Solothurn Film Festival, which offers networking opportunities with industry experts and a chance to win additional funding awards.

The winner will be announced the same evening during the Industry Awards Ceremony.

Participating Projects

Tenz

Aiyana De Vree
Fic

Silent King

Tristan Hell
Doc

Bulldogs

Lena Marie Rheinländer
Fic

Moderator



Norma Giannetta, Script Coach & Pitching Expert, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur (CH)

Norma Giannetta – Script Coach & Pitching Expert, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur – Switzerland Norma Giannetta grew up in Basel and now lives in Zurich, where she obtained an MA in film and media studies from the University of Zurich. She is a freelancer in many fields within the film industry, including production, distribution, and promotion, and serves as an editing and script coach. She has worked for several distributors, promoting especially Swiss documentary features.

13:00–14:00

Pitching Session: European Short Pitch (en)

At a pitching event in cooperation with European Short Pitch, three Swiss projects in development face an international jury of industry experts, who will select one project to take part in the 2026 edition of European Short Pitch. The winner will benefit from a scriptwriting workshop, production and pitching training, mentoring sessions, and participation in the Coproduction Forum. The winner will be announced the same evening during the Industry Awards Ceremony.

Participating Projects

Affamé

Philippe Audi-Dor
Fic
Produzentin:
Julia Schubiger, Langfilm

The Whispers of the Birds

Balkis Guetta
Fic

The Idiot

Aulona Selmani
Fic
Produzent:
Lauro Jenny, Ivy Filmstudio

Moderators



Norma Giannetta, Script Coach & Pitching Expert, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur (CH)

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Olga Lamontanara, Producer, Head of the Coproduction Forum for Creative Europe (IT/CH)

After a long tenure at TorinoFilmLab (2008–2018), Italian-born and Swiss-based Olga Lamontanara started a new chapter as a film producer at Swiss companies Amka Films, Cinédokké, and 8horses: her credits include «Until Branches Bend», «La Chimera», and «Electric Child». Since 2020, she has been head of the Coproduction Forum for the Creative Europe – MEDIA-supported short film initiative European Short Pitch. She is a member of the European Film Academy and a Berlinale Talents and Rotterdam Lab alumna.

15:00–16:15

Master Class – Person in Focus: Isadora Neves Marques (en)

Portuguese artist, filmmaker, and author Isadora Neves Marques, who is this year's Person in Focus, will talk about their work in a moderated Master Class. In their works, Marques creates visions of the present and future that blend science fiction, biopolitics, and intimacy. Their shorts have screened at international festivals including Cannes, Toronto, the New York Film Festival, Locarno, and IndieLisboa.

Moderator



Geraldine Tedder, Director of Kunsthalle Winterthur (CH)

Geraldine Tedder (GB/CH) was born in 1986 and lives in Zurich. She has been the director of Kunsthalle Winterthur since January 2024 and has realized projects with Vera Palme, LA Timpa, Camilla Wills, and Nancy Dwyer, among others. Previously, Geraldine was a curator at gta exhibitions, ETH Zurich, where she curated the exhibition «Unschöne Müssen». In 2020–21, she had a residency at the Istituto Svizzero di Roma, where she founded the art space Lateral Roma with artist Mathias Ringgenberg (PRICE).

Speaker



Isadora Neves Marques, Film Director & Producer at Foi Bonita a Feste (PT)

Isadora Neves Marques is a film director, visual artist, poet, and writer. Her shorts have screened at international festivals including Festival de Cannes, Toronto International Film Festival, New York Film Festival, Locarno Film Festival, and IndieLisboa. She was the official Portuguese representative at the Portugal Pavilion at La Biennale di Venezia in 2022 and has exhibited in art institutions globally.

16:30–17:45

Industry Conversation: Reasons to Buy a Film (en)

At this panel, selected short film directors are invited to present their current projects to professionals who work in sales, acquisitions, and distribution. Prominent industry representatives watch the first three minutes of the films, assess their market potential, and offer feedback. The event simulates a realistic situation in the film industry, demonstrating how professionals evaluate films submitted to them.

Participating Projects

Everything is... Politics

Aman

Iran/France 2025, 20'00", colour
& black and white, Persian,
Doc/Fic

I Can't Think of Anything Right Now

Hussen Ibraheem
Argentina/Germany/Lebanon
2025, 11', colour, Arabic/English,
Fic/Doc

Do You Love Me Still?

Jelena Vujović
Switzerland 2025, 8'34",
colour, Swiss German, Fic

Relay

Thilo Gundelach
Switzerland 2025, 15'7",
colour, English, Fic

Cold Call

Stefanie Schroeder
Germany 2025, 15'50",
colour, English, Doc/Exp

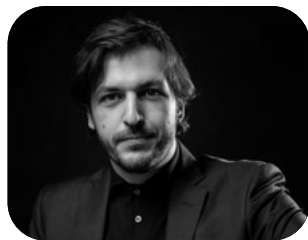
Moderator



Jing Haase, Short Film Expert (DK)

Jing Haase is a curator and short film expert who has been working in the industry for more than two decades. She has previously worked with Nordic shorts and docs as market manager at Nordisk Panorama and as festival manager for short films at the Swedish Film Institute with a primary focus on international distribution. She has also worked as a programmer and in film production. Jing often serves as a moderator, panellist, facilitator, and jury member at international festivals and industry events.

Experts



Simone Bardoni, Artistic Director of the Concorso Film Festival (IT)

Simone is the artistic director of the Concorso Film Festival in Italy and holds a degree in film studies and film criticism. He has worked as a film curator since 2012, is a professor of cinema studies, and collaborates with MIA | Mercato Internazionale Audiovisivo in Rome as well as with Lights On, a world sales company for cinema. In addition, he is a book and film critic for Film TV magazine.



Zoé Rossion, Acquisition and Distribution for the Film Company Salaud Morisset (FR/DE)

Zoé Rossion is a graduate of HEAD–Geneva. She has directed several documentaries that were broadcast on channels such as RTS, RSI, VRT, and MDR. Her work explores storytelling as a form of resistance. She also works as a distributor for the Oscar-winning company Salaud Morisset, as a programmer for Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur, and collaborates with production companies such as Alva Film.



Eva Schweizer, Programme Planner at SRF (CH)

Eva Schweizer studied film studies at the University of Zurich. From 2010 until 2015, she was part of the programme team at the International Shortfilmfestival shnit in Bern. Since 2011, she has been working as a programme planner at SRF Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen, focusing on national and international films and TV series. Her work also includes the selection and planning of short films.

Museum Schafften, Lagerplatz 9

18:00–20:00

Industry Awards Ceremony and Reception

The Industry Awards Ceremony marks the festive conclusion of the Industry Events. The Award for the Best Swiss School Film, the Postproduction Award, the invitation to participate in the European Short Pitch 2026, and the P.AiR.S Project Development Residency 2026 will be presented.

JURIES

P.AiR.S Project Development Residency 2026

Kurzfilmtage is again awarding a Project Development Residency sponsored by P.AiR.S. The residency offers accommodation and a workspace at the Paradiesli guest house and arts centre in Sigriswil in January and February 2026. In collaboration with Solothurner Filmtage the selected project will also automatically take part in the Perspektiven Lab of the 61st Solothurner Filmtage during the residency period.

Jury



Corinna Dästner, Producer at DokLab (CH)

Corinna Dästner has been a producer at DokLab Bern since 2019 and took over the company in 2024. Among others, she produced «Ostrov» (main award at Hot Docs, Swiss Film Award). Previously, she worked as head of production at Circe Films, as a lecturer at the ScriptAcademy in Amsterdam, and as a producer at Josefine Film in Hamburg. She studied German, media culture, and political science in Hamburg, as well as film theory at Indiana University Bloomington.



Morgane Frund, SO PRO and Solothurner Filmtage (CH)

Morgane was born in Lausanne, Switzerland, and studied film studies, English and German at UNIL. From 2019 to 2022, they studied video at the Lucerne School of Design, Film and Art. Their graduation film, «Bear» (2022) was screened at numerous festivals and won several prizes. Their video essay «Out of the Blue» (2023) premiered at Kurzfilmtage and was shortlisted for the European Film Award. Morgane is active in the fields of documentary film, video essay, and performance.



Stina Werenfels, Filmmaker (CH)

Stina Werenfels is a Swiss filmmaker, author, and producer. After obtaining a pharmacy degree from ETH Zurich, she studied film at NYU. Her debut film, «Nachbeben» (2006), and «Dora oder die sexuellen Neurosen unserer Eltern» (2015) screened at the Berlinale Panorama. She founded the Kosmos cultural centre in Zurich in 2017 and received a scholarship in Rome in 2018. With AleppoFilms, she co-produced «Baghdad in My Shadow» in 2019.

Invitation to participate in the European Short Pitch 2026

In collaboration with Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur a short film project in development from Switzerland is automatically selected to participate in the European Short Pitch (ESP) 2026. ESP is an annual program aimed at discovering and supporting young European talents in the development and post-production of their short films and fostering coproduction and collaboration between industry professionals from all over Europe. European Short Pitch combines mentoring for short film projects at development or rough-cut stage with a pitching and networking event, the Coproduction Forum.

Jury



Lucie Detrain, Quinzaine des Cinéastes (FR)

Lucie Detrain works for film festivals, mainly as a programmer. She is part of the selection committees of the Directors' Fortnight (Quinzaine des cinéastes), Luxembourg City Film Festival, FIPADOC (Jeune création), and also collaborates with the Berlinale & DOKUFEST. She lives and works between Berlin and Paris.



Tenzin Roder, Head of the Migros Culture Percent Story Lab (CH)

Tenzin Roder works in audiovisual project funding and is the head of the Migros Culture Percentage Story Lab. Succeeding Nadine Adler Spiegel in February 2024, she has played a key role in the design and implementation of the Story Lab funding programme since its launch in 2021. Previously, she was responsible for grants at the Migros Culture Percentage, among other things. Tenzin studied film and media studies at the University of Zurich and served as volunteer director of the Tibet Film Festival for several years.



Ben Thompson, VP of Shorts Programming at the Tribeca Film Festival (US)

A graduate of Aberystwyth University in Wales, Ben left the UK to work in New York. In 2005, he joined the Tribeca Film Festival, where he is currently the VP of Shorts Programming. While at Tribeca, he discovered a passion for programming and presenting short films. He is fascinated by the influence film has on our world and culture and travels extensively to search out new stories from around the globe. He has watched over 13,000 short films for Tribeca alone.

Postproduction-Award

The Postproduction Award, a non-cash prize worth CHF 10 000 donated by Jingle Jungle, goes to an independent, professional Swiss short film production. The award-winning project will receive the following postproduction services: dialogue/soundtrack editing, dubbing, sound design, foley, and sound mixing, and music composition.

Jury



Nina Cutkovic, Jingle Jungle Sound Studios (CH)

Nina Cutkovic started working as a junior sound designer at Jingle Jungle, a long-time partner of Kurzfilmtage, in 2023. Since completing her BA in film studies the same year, she has been designing sound for commercials, short and feature films, and series. This is her third time serving on the jury for the Postproduction Award, contributing her experience and keen sense of sound.



Christof Hächler, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur (CH)

Christof Hächler has been part of the Kurzfilmtage team for many years. He serves on the selection committee for the Swiss Competition and on the jury for the Postproduction Award.



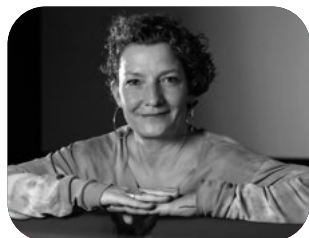
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Award for the Best Swiss School Film

The jury of the Swiss Competition awards the Award for the Best Swiss School Film (CHF 5'000) donated SRG SSR.

Jury



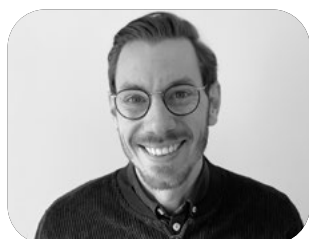
Zsuzsi Bánkuti, Head of Open Doors, Locarno Film Festival (HU)

Zsuzsi Bánkuti started as head of acquisition, distribution, and programming for an independent cinema in Budapest. She contributed to opening Szevez Film-Kino, served as president of Cirko Film, and advised Hungarian independent productions. Later, she became head of acquisition at The Match Factory (DE). Since 2022, she has been head of Open Doors and deputy head of Locarno Pro, and in 2025, she became a member of the European Film Academy.



Florian Fernandez, Head of SFC | Rendez-vous Industry, Festival de Cannes (FR)

Florian is the head of the Short Film Corner | Rendez-vous Industry, a four-day forum dedicated to short films and their makers organized by the Festival de Cannes, where he coordinates the various industry initiatives highlighting short and first feature film projects. Florian is also a programming consultant for Montreal's Festival du Nouveau Cinéma and associate programmer for documentary shorts at SXSW. Since 2023, he has partnered with Solal Films.



Wouter Jansen, Sales Agent and founder of Square Eyes (NL)

Wouter Jansen is the founder of the sales company Square Eyes. The company represents bold, author-driven features and shorts, and in close collaboration with the filmmakers it devises bespoke festival distribution and sales strategies. In the past, Wouter has worked as the head of programme at Go Short ISFF for ten years. He is an expert for Locarno Open Doors and First Cut Lab, regularly gives lectures at film schools and festivals, and engages in selection committees for funding bodies and industry programmes.

INDUSTRY SCREENINGS

An industry festival pass provides exclusive access to the Industry Screenings.

Wednesday, 5th of November 2025

11:00	International Competition VII: We Will Never Be the Same	Maxx 4
12:45	International Competition III: Secrets I Can't Keep	Maxx 4
14:30	Swiss Competition I: Im Zweifel für den Zweifel	Maxx 4

Thursday, 6th of November 2025

11:00	International Competition IV: Until the Bitter, Bitter End of the World	Maxx 4
12:45	International Competition II: We're Born as Innocents	Maxx 4
14:30	Swiss Competition III: Die Welt auf Kopf	Maxx 4

Friday, 7th of November 2025

11:00	Swiss Competition IV: Was zwischen uns bleibt	Maxx 4
12:45	International Competition IX: I'll Tear My Heart Out	Maxx 4

Saturday, 8th November 2025

10:30	Swiss Competition II: Ich sehe alles glitzern	Maxx 4
12:15	The Present of Speculative Bodies	Maxx 4

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