

FILMFEST

DÜSSELDORF



hhu

Heinrich Heine
Universität
Düsseldorf

FOREWORD

Dear Filmfest-friends,

our Filmfest turns 18! This year we once again went out and searched for the greatest, funniest, most moving, most creative, one of a kind short films 2020 had to offer – And did we found something!

But a few things are different this year. To meet the current circumstances the 18th edition of our Filmfest will first-time take place as a Homeedition! This offers a blend of new chances and good known traditions. As usual you can look forward to three days of brilliant festival experience, interesting interviews, musical entertainment, popcorn, sweets and most importantly our grand movie-programme, easily delivered to your own couch – comfy and save!

This year you can enjoy our short-films over a livestream we will provide over our website. The voting will take place over an online form which you can fill out separately during and shortly after each of the filmblocks to vote for your favourites. Once again we decided to include triggerwarnings for a few films to be able to warn about graphic pictures and sensitive topics in advance. Our team will happily answer all upcoming questions regarding the Homedition over Instagram and Facebook, even during the festival.

We look back on a turbulent year, in which we were often confronted with challenges. So this year we are even prouder to be able to bring our festival to all the little hometheaters in Düsseldorf (and the world!) and what great dedication, time and effort our team brought to the table for the realisation of our event. Through our online format we are happy to not only function as a connection between our campus and the cultural landscape of Düsseldorf this year, but to bring together filmfriends from all over the world. The support of young, talented artists, cultural diversity and working together internationally are original groundvalues of the Filmfest, and are even more worth supporting this year. We are thankful for last years' growth that made this years' format even possible, and happy about every person that fought for our maintaining this year.

With that being said, get comfortable in your livingrooms all over Düsseldorf, Germany or even beyond and enjoy our programme. Popcorn ready, curtains up and stage clear for the Filmfest Homeedition!

Hanna Otto, Paula Marie Schobert, Vicky Flentge



JURY 2020



Fabian Nolte

Fabian Nolte has been active on YouTube since 2010 and even had the honor to receive the German Webvideo Award for his work. After hosting the daily radio channel "WasmitFabian" from 2016 to 2017 he mainly focused on fictional productions. With his company @famose.filme he produced numerous short films as well as web series pilots.

Currently he is playing the role of a butler in the web series "Haus Kummerveldt" which celebrated its premiere at the Max-Ophüls-Festival in 2020. He's also got a podcast, a band and his work as a comedy writer...

Paulina Kraus

At 23 years old Paulina Kraus is already a Filmfest veteran. Altogether she's worked four years with Filmfest Düsseldorf and even formed the head committee with two fellow students last year. As a soon-to-be graduate of our media and cultural studies program she represents the student body's perspective. Through her experience with Filmfest Düsseldorf she is aware of how important and diverse the shortfilm is as an art form.

(Photocredit Svenja Schlei)





Yugen Yah

Yugen Yah is a filmmaker from Berlin who is always looking for stories that need to be told. Apart from his work he participates in the podcast Indiefilmtalk which aims to unite the movie community by keeping people up to date on what's new - away from the stress of set and production.

Ulrike Hanstein

Ulrike Hanstein is a professor for film studies at International Film School Cologne. She received her PhD at the Free University of Berlin and was research assistant and guest lecturer at the universities of Erfurt, Jena, Weimar and Vienna as well as the University of Music and Theatre "Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy" Leipzig. From 2013 to 2014 she was a fellow at Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles. Her primary focus is on film theory, feminist film practices, video arts, experimental filmmaking as well as materials and methods of media historiography.



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Wednesday, 18.11.2020

BLOCK A
from 6pm

L'Homme Jetée
19:40 min
Loïc Hobi

How My Grandmother Became A Chair
9:55 min
Nicolas Fattouh

Calvary
10:29 min
Lluís Margarite

Maria
16:07 min
Paco Ruiz

BREAK

Instagram Live Stream

BLOCK B
from 8pm

Amputated Asscheeks
28:45 min
Claudia Scheffel

Play To Prey
14:10 min
Seren C Moran

Current Narrative
3:45 min
Jia-Yun Li

Noée In The Storm
22:04 min
Mathilde Chavanne

BLOCK C
from 6pm

Shiny Happy People
20:31 min
Mathilde Petit

The Dream Report
6:43 min
Jack O'Shea

Penetration
10:10 min
Sima Bonyadi

The Verdict In The Case Of K.
29:25 min
Özgür Anil

BREAK

with: Parakeets

BLOCK D
from 8pm

Archibald's Syndrom
17:46 min
Daniel Perez

Bleed
22:00 min
Hannah Elbke

Just A Guy
14:58 min
Shoko Hara



DEIN IRGENDWAS-MIT- MEDIEN-JOB

Als internationaler Medienbeobachter beschäftigen wir uns mit der medialen Performance verschiedenster Themen, Personen und Unternehmen.

Für die Standorte Düsseldorf und Berlin suchen wir:

- **PraktikantInnen und WerkstudentInnen im Bereich Medienanalyse**
- **WerkstudentInnen im Bereich Medienbeobachtung**
- **WerkstudentInnen im Bereich Webdevelopment**

Du bist medienaffin, findest dich auf den größten sozialen Plattformen zurecht und Recherche ist für dich kein Fremdwort? Dann suchen wir genau dich!

Wir freuen uns auf deine Bewerbung!

<https://www.pressrelations.com/de/ueber-uns/karriere>

WEDNESDAY 18.11.2020

BLOCK A



L'HOMME JETÉE



Category: > 15
Runtime: 19:40 min
Direction: Loïc Hobi
Country: France

Theo is bored of his life as a simple dock worker. He yearns to escape the repetitive labor by taking on a harsh, unstable life as a sailor. This is how he meets Giuseppe whose crew he wishes to join. Together they experience an electrifying and dangerous time within a surreal microcosm that forces him to realise the disillusion life on sea brings with it.

! TRIGGER WARNING: blood, violence

CALVARY

Category: < 15
Duration: 10:29 min
Runtime: Lluís Margarite
Country: Spain



Pablo is facing his two biggest challenges yet: Looming baldness and getting his ex-girlfriend back.





HOW MY GRANDMOTHER BECAME A CHAIR

Category: < 15
Runtime: 09:55 min
Direction: Nicolas Fattouh
Country: Lebanon

original title: يسركى لى ايتدج تلوحه فىك

After being left by her greedy children a grandmother is haunted by fleeting time and old age. Housekeeper Rose helps her realise what it truly means to be family.



! MARIA

Category: > 15
Runtime: 16:07 min
Direction: Paco Ruz
Country: Spain



original title: María

What do you do when you no longer recognise your own child? Maria is doing everything for her son Bruno but it's taking a toll on her. When he is released from the clinic and moves back in with her he is impacting her daily life more and more by being aggressive, paranoid and reckless. Maria is struggling not to fall apart.



TRIGGER WARNING: self-harm, blood, mental illness



BLOCK B



AMPUTATED ASSCHEEKS

Category: > 15
Runtime: 28:45 min
Direction: Claudia Scheffel
Country: Germany

original title: Amputierte Arschbacken

In the words of the director: 'Grandfather Liam loses at poker. Mortima is a vampire. Long meets a dragon.' In case you're confused, so are we. Because 'Amputated Asscheeks' is quite difficult to put into words. This film tells multiple smaller stories that relate loosely but ultimately raise more questions instead of answering them.

CURRENT NARRATIVE

Category: < 15
Runtime: 03:45 min
Direction: Jia-Yun Li
Country: Taiwan



original title: 現在的故事

In this melancholic film a young girl struggles to find her voice but loses herself in the process. She experiences the disappointment of her parents and has to go her own way. A family drama with strong symbolism and emotional depth.





PLAY TO PREY

Category: < 15
Runtime: 14:10 min
Direction: Seren C Moran
Country: USA

A casual evening with the girls, a visit to the tutor, celebrating with friends – it all turns into a nightmare. Through use of various materials, stop-motion animation and associative pictures this film tells three true stories of sexual violence and how the victim's world is shattered in the process.

! TRIGGER WARNING: sexual violence

! NOÉE IN THE STORM

Category: > 15
Runtime: 22:04 min
Direction: Mathilde Chavanne
Country: France



original title: Noée dans la tempête

Noée is fifteen years old and struggles to cope with her father's suicide attempt. Although she tries to remain strong in front of her siblings she isn't able to hide her sadness. When Noée meets Oscar she sees an opportunity to escape the pain for a while.

! TRIGGER WARNING: self-harm, suicide





LOUD!

Düsseldorf
Nähe trifft Freiheit

The Sound of Düsseldorf

Unser Praxisseminar: Die lauteste Tour durch die Altstadt. Ein Trip durch die Düsseldorfer Musikgeschichte. Von Kraftwerk bis Kreidler.

Jeden Samstag

11:00 Uhr

www.the-sound-of-duesseldorf.com

THURSDAY 19.11.2020

BLOCK C



SHINY HAPPY PEOPLE

Category: > 15
Runtime: 20:31 min
Direction: Mathilde Petit
Country: France

Everyone has heard of dystopian realities like 'The Matrix' or '1984' with their own dark vision of a future full of sorrow and devoid of any real reason for laughter. But what if the opposite was the case? What happens when you find yourself in a world where every negative feeling is banned and punishable? 'Shiny Happy People' deals with this question through the eyes of Manu who is trying to cope with heartbreak without losing his happy facade.

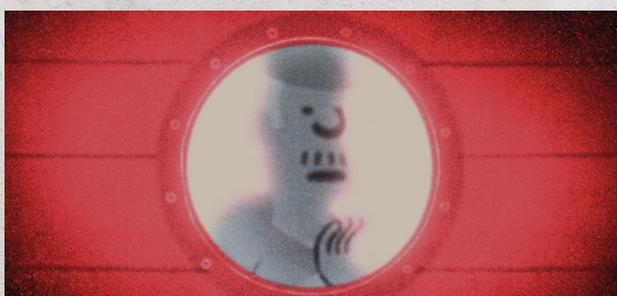
PENETRATION

Category: < 15
Runtime: 10:10 min
Direction: Sima Bonyadi
Country: Iran



After her workout a young woman takes an Uber home. An innocent question about a phone charger grows into an eerie conversation that keeps you on the edge of your seat never knowing whether she is in imminent danger or not.





THE DREAM REPORT

Category: < 15
Runtime: 6:43 min
Direction: Jack O'Shea
Country: Great Britain

A daily routine brings peace and safety but does it kindle creativity? One might escape the rut in dreams but what are we running from and what does the soul yearn for? When dream and reality become blurred the unknown develops a peculiar attraction. One only needs to give in.



! THE VERDICT IN THE • CASE OF K.

Category: > 15
Runtime: 29:25 min
Direction: Özgür Anil
Country: Austria



original title: Das Urteil im Fall K.

How do you readjust to regular life after a court's controversial verdict? This is the question a family needs to face. A film that presents the depressing reality of working through a traumatic experience and desperately trying to find a way back to normal.

! TRIGGER WARNING: blood, sexual violence, suicide



BLOCK D



original title: Le Syndrome d'Archibald

ARCHIBALD'S SYNDROME

Category: > 15
Runtime: 17:46 min
Direction: Daniel Perez
Country: France

You would probably describe Archibald as anything but normal. And Archibald would likely agree with you. He is blessed with a most curious gift, which so far has been more of a curse to him. When he meets Indiana he learns to see his abilities in a new light. In escape of his powers he grows upon them.

! JUST A GUY

Category: < 15
Runtime: 14:58 min
Direction: Shoko Hara
Country: Germany



In this animated documentary three women speak of their personal experiences and affections towards an incarcerated serial killer. With a touch of nostalgia they reveal letters and memories.

! TRIGGER WARNING: sexual violence



BLEED

Category: > 15
Runtime: 22:00 min
Direction: Hannah Elbke
Country: Denmark

Ea and her best friend Sune are linked through their mutual love of Live Action Role Playing. The thing that Sune doesn't know: Ea has feelings for him. During one of their role playing sessions their characters grow closer and with every interaction the lines between game and real life get blurred further.



ADDITIONAL FILMS*



PROVENCE

Direction: Kato de Boek
Country: Belgium

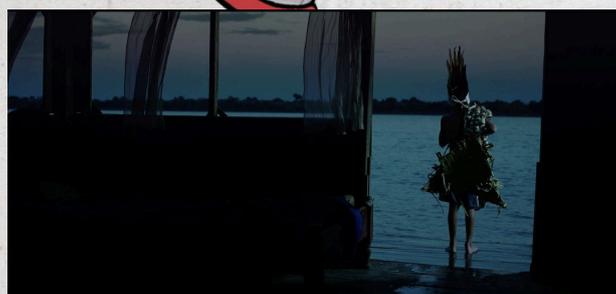
Eleven year old Camille and her brother Tuur are on summer vacation in Provence where they meet two teenage girls. When Tuur is spending more and more time with them

Camille gets jealous and is scared to lose her older brother. In beautifully warm pictures this film tells an insightful story about the love between siblings and growing up.

THE SILENCE OF THE RIVER

Direction: Francesca Canepa
Country: Peru

Nine year old Juan lives with his father in a house by the Amazon river. On a hike at night through the mystical foggy jungle he learns about his father's true identity.



original title: El silencio del rio

* Unfortunately we are not allowed to show the films listed online. But the filmmakers still have the chance to win the Team- and/or Jury-Award.





original title: Kolektyviniai sodai

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Direction: Vytautas Katkus
Country: Lithuania

Summer in a quiet community garden. An older couple is visited by their son, they eat watermelon, barbeque and relax by the lake. But when a nearby house catches on fire the less idyllic sides of a detached society start to come to light.



LUCIA EN EL LIMBO

Direction: Valentina Maurel
Country: Belgium, Costa Rica

At the age of sixteen and with lice in her hair Lucia wishes for nothing more than to be an adult. Through parties and muggy bus rides - will she find (or lose) what's in her desire? A cinematic embodiment of the coming-of-age genre.



original title: Hãy tỉnh thức và sẵn sàng

STAY AWAKE, BE READY

Direction: Pham Thien An
Country: Vietnam

A busy street becomes the stage to a motorcycle accident. A short moment of attention, quickly passing and disappearing back into the late-night buzz, merely leaves behind outrage in the spectators. With this master shot the film presents a study of the human mind (and its shortcomings)

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SUPPORTING PROGRAM



Parakeets

Since 2018, Julius Eckardt, Valentin Brummer, Niklas Grothe and Merle Eckardt have played in the band Parakeets. In December 2018, the Parakeets won the Düsseldorf CityBeats Newcomer Competition, and in spring 2019 the band tuning on WDR2. Rightly so, because their Britpop sound with a pinch of rockabilly sounds independent, fresh and stays in the ear. The band was musically inspired by music groups such as The Beatles, Oasis, The Kooks and the early work of Coldplay. In the course of time, the band participated in various festivals and already played as a support act for Vom Ritchies' (Die Toten Hosen) band Cryssis, as well as at the popular fast-growing Reading Fringe Festival in Reading (UK) as a musical representative of the state capital Düsseldorf.

DJ

Tim is a 23 year old digital media designer from Cologne. Besides his work he has been a DJ for many years. Starting his DJ career with the age of 14 you can say that music is his passion.

This year is Tim's 3rd time being part of the supporting program of film-fest duesseldorf.



THANK YOU

As a non-profit association, the Filmfest Düsseldorf e. V. relies on the friendly and generous support of friends and sponsors. Therefore, we would like to thank all our friends and sponsors, without whom our student organised movie festival would not have been possible this year.

In particular, we would like to thank...

...the Heinrich-Heine-University, the AStA and the student parliament. They support us since many years.

...the Institute of Media and Cultural Studies and the Media Laboratory for their valuable support in implementing our online festival.

...the Office of Culture Düsseldorf for their long-standing trust.

...the *Gesellschaft von Freunden und Förderern* of the Heinrich-Heine-University, which supports us for the third time.

...the *Stiftung van Meeteren*. We were able to fill them with enthusiasm for our project at the interface of culture and science and which is once again a sponsor.

...the *BürgerStiftung Düsseldorf*, which donates our team award.

...the many filmmakers from all over the world for their great submissions.

Last but not least, a heartfelt thanks to our audience. Every year you give us the motivation to keep on growing our project. This year you have motivated us to find an opportunity to celebrate our festival, despite the current circumstances.



Landeshauptstadt Düsseldorf
Kulturamt



:DÜSSELDORF
Tourismus



TEAM 2020

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Anna-Christina Weström
Katinka Breidenbach
Vivianna Triffterer
Jessica Driediger



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