



Karlovy Vary International Film Festival

## KVIFF EASTERN PROMISES UNVEILS SELECTED PROJECTS

**KVIFF Eastern Promises industry platform unveils 35 selected film projects which will be showcased at the Works in Progress, Works in Development – Feature Launch, First Cut+ Works in Progress and Odesa International Film Festival Works in Progress presentations. The most promising projects will receive awards in a total value of 125,000 EUR.**

The showcasing of projects to industry professionals will take place in Karlovy Vary, during this year's KVIFF Industry Days:

- Monday, July 4: Works in Progress
- Monday, July 4: Works in Development – Feature Launch
- Tuesday, July 5: First Cut+ Works in Progress
- Tuesday, July 5: OIFF WiP Selection

For [Works in Progress](#), a total of ten fiction and documentary feature films in the late stage of production or post-production from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Balkans, the former Soviet Union, the Middle East, and North Africa have been selected. The prize will be decided by jury members **Dennis Ruh** (European Film Market), **Óscar Alonzo** (Latido Films), **Esra Demirkiran** (TRT), **Michaela Patriková** (SoundSquare) and **Ewa Puszczynska** (Opus Film). The following projects will compete for prizes in a total value of 100,000 EUR:

### **The Ice That Still Supports Us** (Estonia, Lithuania)

Director: Arko Okk

Producer: Arko Okk, Sandra Heidov, Teresa Rozanovska

### **Part of Society** (Georgia)

Director: Rati Tsiteladze

Producer: Olga Slusareva, Rati Tsiteladze

### **The Burdened** (Yemen, Sudan)

Director: Amr Gamal

Producer: Mohsen Alkhalifi, Amr Gamal, Amjad Abu Alala, Mohammed Alomda



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**Endless Summer Syndrome** (Turkey, France)

Director: Kaveh Daneshmand

Producer: Gem Deger, Eva Larvoire, Cédric Larvoire, Kaveh Daneshmand

**Brutal Heat** (Czech Republic, Slovak Republic)

Director: Albert Hospodářský

Producer: Ondřej Lukeš, Lukáš Kokeš

**Windless** (Bulgaria, Italy)

Director: Pavel G. Vesnakov

Producer: Veselka Kiryakova, Alessandro Amato, Luigi Chimienti

**The Visitors** (Czech Republic, Norway, Slovak Republic)

Director: Veronika Lišková

Producer: Kristýna Michálek Květová

**Machtat** (Lebanon, Tunisia, France)

Director: Sonia Ben Slama

Producer: Tania El Khoury

**Self Portrait Along the Borderline** (Georgia)

Director: Anna Dziapshipa

Producer: Anna Dziapshipa, Sakdoc Film

**Elephant** (Poland)

Director: Kamil Krawczycki

Producer: Jakub Mroz

Details about the projects can be found [here](#). *The presentations will take place on Monday, July 4 at 14.00 CET.*



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**Works in Development – Feature Launch** is a platform organised as a collaboration between KVIFF, the MIDPOINT Institute international script development program, [When East Meets West](#) co-production market and [Trieste Film Festival](#). The jury consists of **Paul Ridd** (Picturehouse Entertainment), **Julia Sinkevych** (JS Films, Odesa International Film Festival) and **Danijel Hočevár** (Vertigo). The following nine projects, which have been developed within the Feature Launch program and are now looking for co-production partners, will compete for the 10,000 EUR Development Award:

**You Better Be** (Bulgaria)

Director: Jonathan Heidelberger, Magdalena Ilieva

Scriptwriter: Jonathan Heidelberger, Drago Bago, Magdalena Ilieva

Producer: Magdalena Ilieva, Drago Bago

**The First Week of August** (Croatia)

Director, Scriptwriter: Filip Mojzeš

Producer: Matej Merlić

**Twentyseven** (Slovak Republic)

Director, Scriptwriter: Gregor Valentovič

Producer: Zora Jaurová

**Side by Side** (Czech Republic)

Director: Kilián Vrátník

Scriptwriter: Natalie Golovchenko, Kilián Vrátník

Producer: Noemi Krausová

**My Name Is Lily** (Cyprus)

Director: Yianna Americanou

Scriptwriter: Yianna Americanou, Christina Georgiou

Producer: Stelana Kliris

**My Best Friend's Baby** (Sweden)

Director, Scriptwriter: Sophie Vuković

Producer: Eliza Jones, Markus Waltå

**Dolphin** (Poland)



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Director, Scriptwriter: Sonja Orlewicz-Zakrzewska  
Producer: Magdalena Sztorc

**All My Friends Soon Will Be Dead (Latvia)**

Director, Scriptwriter: Armands Zacs  
Producer: Alise Gelze

**Flower Is Not a Flower (Romania)**

Director, Scriptwriter: Cristian Pascariu  
Producer: Adriana Răcășan

Details about the projects can be found [here](#). *Presentations will take place on Monday, July 4 at 11.00 CET.*

**First Cut+** is a programme created for boosting the competitiveness and marketability of feature films that previously participated in First Cut Lab. The programme was launched in 2020 through close cooperation with two dynamic & well-established film industry platforms: Trieste's When East Meets West and Karlovy Vary IFF's Eastern Promises Industry Days. Each year, it promotes a portfolio of 16 fiction feature films at the stage of post-production – and the following eight of them will be presented in Karlovy Vary. The most promising projects are selected by the international jury members **Esra Demirkiran** (TRT), **Boris Pugnet** (First Cut+, Tiramisu) and **Ji Lacerna** (The Full Circle Lab Philippines) and awarded with service packages and cash prizes that allow them to finish the films.

**Night Detour (Canada)**

**Director:** Ariane Falardeau St Amour, Paul Chotel  
**Producer:** Omar Elhamy, Simon Allard and Jeanne Dupuis

**Goldfish (United Kingdom, USA, India)**

**Director:** Pushan Kripalani  
**Producer:** Amit Saxena

**Under the Naked Sky (Netherlands, Belgium)**

**Director:** Lilian Sijbesma  
**Producer:** Germen Boelens



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**The Maiden (Canada, USA)**

**Director:** Graham Foy

**Producer:** Daiva Zalnierunas, Dan Montgomery

**I Love You More (Kosovo, Albania)**

**Director:** Erblin Nushi

**Producer:** Fjolla Nushi, Erblin Nushi

**Norwegian Dream (Norway, Poland, Germany)**

**Director:** Leiv Igor Devold

**Producer:** Håvard Wettland Gossé

**Charcoal (When My Life) (Brazil, Argentina)**

**Director:** Carolina Markowicz

**Producer:** Zita Carvalhosa

**The Territory (Turkey)**

**Director:** Mesut Keklik

**Producer:** Burak Yavuz

More details about the projects can be found [here](#). *Presentations will take place on Tuesday, July 5 at 14.00 CET.*

**[Odesa International Film Festival WIP Selection](#)** In full support of Ukrainian filmmakers and festival organizers, this year's KVIFF will host the Works in Progress programme of the 13th Odesa International Film Festival, which cannot be held there because of Russian aggression. Eight full-length film projects in the final stage of shooting or in post-production produced in Ukraine or in co-production with Ukraine, selected by the OIFF selection committee, will be presented by their creators. The most promising project chosen by the international jury will receive a prize in the amount of 10,000 EUR.

**U Are the Universe (Ukraine)**

**Director:** Pavlo Ostrikov

**Producer:** Volodymyr Yatsenko, Anna Yatsenko



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**Chrysanthemum Day** (Ukraine, North Macedonia)

Director: Simon Mozgovyi

Producer: Alex Chepiga, Artem Koliubaiev, Taras Bosak

**The Glass House** (Ukraine, Romania)

Director: Taras Dron

Producer: Igor Savychenko, Valeria Sochyvets, Rodrigo Ruiz Tarazona, Taras Dron

**Company Of Steel** (Ukraine, Latvia)

Director: Yuliia Hontaruk

Producer: Yuliia Hontaruk, Ivanna Khitsinska, Alexandra Bratyshchenko, Uldis Cekulis, Igor Savychenko

**When We Were 15** (Ukraine)

Director: Anna Buryachkova

Producer: Natalia Libet, Vitalii Sheremetiev

**Demons** (Ukraine)

Director: Natalka Vorozhbyt

Producer: Dmytro Minzianov, Denis Ivanov

**Do You Love Me?** (Ukraine)

Director: Tonia Noyabrova

Producer: Anastasiia Bukovska, Danylo Kaptyukh

**Diagnosis: Dissent** (Ukraine)

Director: Denys Tarasov

Producer: Taras Bosak, Valeria Ivanenko

More details about the projects can be found [here](#). *Presentations will take place on Tuesday, July 5 at 11.00 CET.*