



Karlovy Vary International Film Festival

PRESS RELEASE: KVIFF EASTERN PROMISES UNVEILS SELECTED PROJECTS

Prague, June 14th, 2023

KVIFF Eastern Promises industry platform unveils 27 selected film projects which will be showcased at the Works in Progress, Works in Development – Feature Launch and First Cut+ Works in Progress presentations. The most promising projects, selected by international juries, will receive awards with a total value of 115,000 EUR.

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

- Monday, July 3: Works in Progress
- Monday, July 3: Works in Development – Feature Launch
- Tuesday, July 4: First Cut+ Works in Progress

For [Works in Progress](#), a total of eleven 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 following projects will compete for prizes in a total value of 100,000 EUR:

Distances (Poland)

Director: Matej Bobrik

Producer: Agnieszka Skalska

The Fifth Resurrection of Farid (Egypt)

Director: Khalid A. Youssef

Producer: Yasmin Desouki

The Other One (Czech Republic, Slovak Republic)

Director: Marie-Magdalena Kochová

Producer: Barbora Drtílková, Vít Poláček

Yalla, Baba! (Lebanon, Belgium, Netherlands)

Director: Angie Obeid



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Producer: Bart Van Langendonck

Beachcomber *working title* (Greece)

Director: Aristotelis Maragos

Producer: Konstantinos Koukoulis, Myrto Stathi (co-producer)

Gulizar (Turkey, Kosovo)

Director: Belkis Bayrak

Producer: Mehmet Bahadır Er, Valmira Hyseni, Belkis Bayrak

Tasty (Lithuania)

Director: Egle Vertelyte

Producer: Lukas Trimonis

Mother Mara (Serbia, Switzerland, Luxembourg)

Director: Mirjana Karanovic

Producer: Snezana van Hauvelingen

I'm Not Everything I Want To Be (Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Austria)

Director: Klára Tasovská

Producer: Klára Tasovská, Lukáš Kokeš

The Editorial Office *working title* (Ukraine, Germany, Czech Republic)

Director: Roman Bondarchuk

Producer: Darya Bassel

Bikechess (Kazakhstan, France, Norway)

Director: Assel Aushakimova

Producer: Antoine Simkine, Almagul Tleukhanova, Christian Fredrik Martin

Details about the projects can be found [here](#).

The presentations will take place on Monday, July 3 at 14:30 CET.

[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 following eight



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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:

The Boy Who Saw In The Dark (Latvia)

Director: Pauls Kesteris

Scriptwriter: Rasa Bugavičute-Pēce

Producer: Kristians Alhimionoks

Excavators (Cyprus)

Director: Argyro Nicolaou

Scriptwriter: Argyro Nicolaou

Producer: Constantinos Nikiforou

Flight from Kabul (Slovakia)

Director: Sahraa Karimi

Scriptwriter: Sahraa Karimi

Producer: Wanda Adamík Hrycová

God Break Down the Door (Czech Republic)

Director: Vojtěch Novotný

Scriptwriter: Vojtěch Novotný

Producer: Tomáš Pertold

Paperplanes (Greece)

Director: Selini Papageorgiou

Scriptwriter: Selini Papageorgiou

Producer: Iro Aidoni, Mina Dreki

The Portuguese House (Spain, Portugal)

Director: Avelina Prat

Scriptwriter: Avelina Prat

Producer: Gerard Marginedas

Shadow Play (Belgium, Iceland)

Director: Yr Thrastardottir

Scriptwriter: Kristian Van der Heyden, Pauline Baert



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Producer: Kristian Van der Heyden

Soft Hours (Hungary)

Director: Anna Gyimesi

Scriptwriter: Anna Gyimesi

Producer: Genovéva Petrovits

Details about the projects can be found [here](#).

The presentations will take place on Monday, July 3 at 10:30 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 FF'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 project will be awarded a cash prize of 5,000 EUR.

Raw Material! (Hungary)

Director: Martin Boross

Producer: Gábor Osváth

The Woman Who Cries (Brazil)

Director: George Walker Torres

Producer: Antonio Gonçalves Junior

The Garden of Earthly Delights (Netherlands)

Director: Morgan Knibbe

Producer: Frank Hoeve

Family Therapy (Slovenia)

Director: Sonja Prosenc

Producer: Rok Sečen

Pasárgada (Brazil)



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Director: Dira Paes
Producer: Eliane Ferreira

I Don't Love You Anymore (Czech Republic)

Director: Zdeněk Jiráský
Producer: Jordi Niubó Prazák

Era (Kosovo)

Director: Parta Kelmendi
Producer: Marija Dimitrova

Allen Sunshine (Canada)

Director: Harley Chamandy
Producer: Chantal Chamandy

More details about the projects can be found [here](#).

The presentations will take place on Tuesday, July 4 at 13:00 CET.

KVIFF Eastern Promises, the Karlovy Vary IFF's industry platform, strives to help discover promising talent from the regions of Central and Eastern Europe and the Middle East, revealing it to over 1,300 distributors, sales agents, producers and festival programmers who attend the festival each year. Both European and non-European local distributors and major international sales reps rely on Karlovy Vary when searching for new movies. International sales companies introduce their films to both distributors and journalists from around the world. The [Industry Days programme](#) comprises a number of workshops, panels, and presentations or networking opportunities. Our primary focus on the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Middle East makes it possible for key European and American industry players to discover fresh new projects in various stages of development and production.

More about the KVIFF Eastern Promises mission and activities [here](#).