



ARCTIC
FILM
NORWAY

Arctic Film Showcase

@IDFA 2025

Monday 17th of November 15:00 at Pathé City 4 + meet-&-mingle with the filmmakers at DeBaile after the showcase.

The Arctic Film Showcase presents six diverse projects from filmmakers focusing on life on the outer edges of Europe. As part of the northern periphery and the world, these filmmakers offer both unique and universal stories exploring our place in the world, our connection to nature and society, a sense of self, and the opportunities and challenges arising in our time.

The showcase is moderated by Dorota Lech

Dorota Lech

Dorota Lech is Polish-born and New York based film curator, script consultant, and writer. Since 2013 she has worked for the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), where she is the lead of the Discovery section and selects films from Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe, Turkey, and Iran across the Festival.

Dorota is a guest lecturer at the Łódź Film School, NYU, Harvard's Department of Art, Film, and Visual Studies, and the University of Toronto's Department of Arts, Media, Culture. Moreover, she has curated screenings for the Museo Reina Sofía, the Filmoteca Española, the Academy Museum in Los Angeles, and the Museum of the Moving Image in New York. She was named a Future Leader in Film Programming Curation by Screen International in 2024. As a freelance writer, Dorota has contributed to Vanity Fair, MUBI Notebook, and Film Quarterly, among others.

Arctic Film Norway

The Film Commission of the Arctic

Arctic Film Norway is the leading agency in the Arctic region of Norway for film commission services, regional funding, investments, and networking opportunities for national and international film and TV productions in Northern Norway and Svalbard.

Our vision is to support the creative forces that bring Arctic stories to the world. We work actively to facilitate filmmakers, strengthen the regional industry, and attract international productions to Northern Norway and Svalbard—a region where the harsh and relentless exist side by side with the fragile and vulnerable.

Arctic Film Norway is dedicated to green and sustainable film and TV production. Through development, financing, and production support, we help ensure that productions leave only a small footprint on nature, while making a lasting impact on audiences—securing Arctic stories a place in both the national and international media landscape.



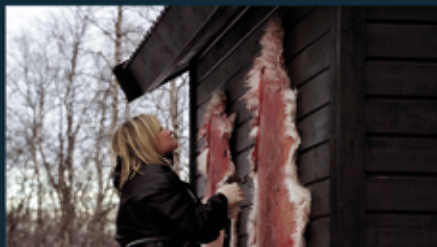
Ken Are Bongo

Director Ken Are Bongo grew up in a reindeer herding family from Kautokeino. His creative journey is enriched by a specialization in Indigenous storytelling and a deep connection to the Arctic.

Contact: kenare@gmail.com

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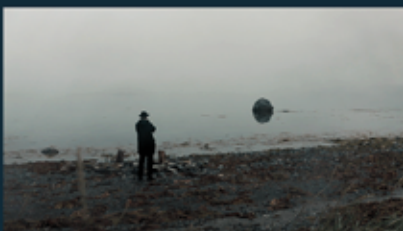
Rising



In a threatened Arctic, "RISING" interweaves the struggle of a Sami artist, young activists for the survival of their culture, and the fragile ancestral symbiosis between a herder, his reindeer, and the animated nature. In this polyphony of struggles and doubts, the hope for a new balance is played out between resistance, compromise, and the memory of the living.

Other projects

Ove



Length: 80 min
Status: In development
Budget: 500,000€
Financing in place: 63,975€
Director: Nils Gaup
Estimated delivery: January 2028
Looking for: Funding, co-producers, distribution and sales agent.

Ove Kaaven – a brilliant scientist and programmer from Finnmark, Norway must re-evaluate his entire rational worldview when a series of supernatural experiences forces him to explore the legacy of his Sami ancestors and prove the existence of the supernatural through a scientific experiment.

BÁTNEGÁSKKIID



Length: 80 min
Status: In early development
Budget: 450,000€
Financing in place: 29,855€
Director: Berit Lise Marie Eira
Estimated delivery: June 2028
Looking for: Funding, distribution and sales agent.

The story of the last boarding school children in Karasjok, Berit-Lise and Inger, who grew up there in the 1990's. The film explores the consequences of this institutionalization and how the boarding schools have affected the Sami community, beyond the Norwegianization of their language and culture.

Company



Paranord Film is a company established by the Academy Award winning director Nils Gaup and producer Linn Henriksen. The company is based in Alta in Northern Norway and works with both documentary and fiction films. Paranord has a strong passion for storytelling, and for discovering and developing strong and extraordinary stories from the north.



Inge Wegge

Inge Wegge is an award winning director, producer and cinematographer based in Kabelvåg, Lofoten. He studied film at Nordland college of film and art, and has a passion for extreme sports, nature and the environment.

Contact: inge@filmlofoten.com

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SpyWhale



When a filmmaker falls in love with the world's most famous whale, she uncovers his secret past in a Russian naval spy program — and must fight to protect him from industrial greed, political power, and her own heart from breaking.

Other projects

The Art of Walking Slowly



Length: 75 min
Status: Post-production
Budget: 200 000€
Language of dialogue: Norwegian
Director: Kaia Kjos-Kendall
Estimated delivery: Spring 2026
Looking for: Sales Agent, distribution partner

On a quest for peace, a woman decides to walk the entire length of Norway. With only her camera as companion, she seeks to reconnect with nature's spiritual power — and to rediscover her own.

SpyWhale animation series



Length: 10 X 24 min X Y seasons
Status: In development
Budget: 2.000.000€
Language of dialogue: English
Director: Misc, Regina Crosby, Matthew Medney
Estimated delivery: N/A
Looking for: Co-producers, funding partners, distribution

When the world's most mysterious whale escapes the Russian military, he becomes the ocean's greatest secret agent — using his spy skills, big heart, and a team of unlikely sea friends to fight crimes of nature and protect the planet he calls home.

Company



LOFOTEN FILM COLLECTIVE

Lofoten Film Collective is a film production company and creative hub where filmmakers collaborate on projects of all scales. Since 2012, filmmakers in the collective have produced fiction and documentary films, shorts and feature length. With a strong environmental focus and deep roots in the Arctic community, it drives innovative and sustainable film production in Northern Norway.



Elisa Fernanda Pirir

Elisa Fernanda Pirir is a Norwegian-guatemalan film producer. She is the main producer and owner of Stær based in Tromsø, Norway.

Elisa has been working with several acclaimed international directors such as Thomas Arslan, Carlos Reygadas, Ciro Guerra, Cristina Gallego, Nabil Ayouch, Jonas Poher Rasmussen, Laura Mora, in addition to some of Norway's most acclaimed directors.

Contact: elisa@staerfilm.no

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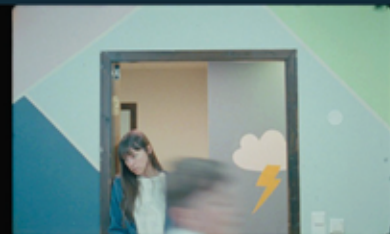
The Whalers



«The Whalers» is a hybrid poetic documentary that explores the personal family history of director Marte Vold's Norwegian whaling heritage, through a collection of travel letters from her grandfather. The film is a poetic and intimate portrait of family and heritage, examining how this legacy has influenced contemporary Norway.

Other project

Also a Life



Length: 90 min
Status: Late development
Budget: 800 000€
Language of dialogue: Norwegian
Director: Anders Emblem
Estimated delivery: Early 2027
Looking for: Co-producers and distributors

ALSO A LIFE follows the daily life of residents and staff at a respite home for children and young people with developmental disabilities and autism. Through team leader Eivor, we see both the joys and challenges of life here, as they interact with residents, relatives, the staff, and the system around them. When Lilja, an 18-year-old with Downs Syndrome, becomes pregnant, Eivor must try to guide both Lilja, her parents, and the residence safely through the uncertainty and questions that arise, all while maintaining the routines and tasks of everyday life.

Company

STÆR is an independent production and distribution company working with auteur-based and high quality cinema based in Tromsø, above the arctic circle

Our films has been presented in main film festivals as Cannes, CPH:DOX, Berlinale and Toronto. We are working with filmmakers such as Annemarie Jacir, Carlos Reygadas, Sofía Quiros, Inadelso Cossa and some of the most exiting nordic voices of contemporary cinema.



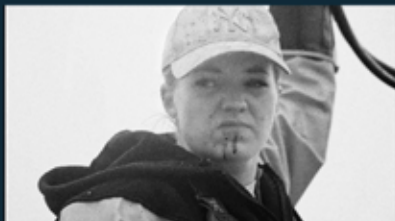
Eilif Bremer Landsend

Eilif is a self-taught director and producer crafting intimate, visually driven films with strong characters and propulsive storytelling. His work spans from shortfilms and docs to music videos from Uganda and Kampala boxing club, to other feature length projects—he is seeking the universal through the personal.

Contact: eilif@fasasona.tv

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The Mermaid



An intimate, visually bold black-and-white documentary about Sisillie: a young captain in Lofoten, arctic norway, she braves winter seas, expectations, and poor catches to keep her dream—and her family's boat—alive. Between the ocean, motherhood, and her brother's restlessness, she charts her own course while grieving her father and mentor, Bjørn. Raw yet laced with humour and warmth—about inheritance, hard work, and freedom at sea.

Other projects

The priest - and my father



Length: 90 - 120 min
Status: In development
Budget: 150 000€
Language of dialogue: Norwegian
Director: Eilif Bremer Landsend
Estimated delivery: 2027
Looking for: Co-producers, distribution Sales agent

Through priest Leif Olav Bremer—my father—this heartfelt feature documentary follows Anne, Sigmund, Terese, and Bjorn as they approach death. His conversations with them reveal courage, doubt, and grace, while prompting candid talks with his adult son about aging, care, and how their bond will evolve.

The Sea is the Walls of My Home



Length: 20 min
Status: In post-development
Budget: 12 000€
Language of dialogue: Norwegian
Director: Floortje Zonnevald
Estimated delivery: 2026
Looking for: Co-producers, distribution sales agent

Jann Sandøy (b. 1947) is one of the last remaining eider duck keepers on the remote Arctic island of Sandøy in Træna. Anchored in coastal heritage, Jann has unique and undervalued "island skills" that embody the rich tangible and intangible culture of Northern Norway. When Adam, a teenage Trænværing, returns to the island, the two develop an intergenerational bond — a visual, unspoken dialogue — as they visit the hatching eider ducks preparing to leave their nesting grounds.

Company

fasasona

We love focussing on creating emotional and visual storytelling with exceptional craftsmanship. We strive to develop a unique and curious approach to the stories we work with and tell intimate and universal stories. We create short and feature docs, docuseries for TV and several fiction projects. We strongly believe that visual storytelling can create special connections between people. After all, that's why we do what we do.

www.fasasona.tv



Alessandro Belleli

Born in Trentino, Italian and Norwegian, Alessandro is an arctic filmmaker and anthropologist with a profound attraction towards the South. He has been working in Denmark, Western Greenland, Brazil, Northern Norway and California. His works have been shown and published on RAI, NRK & by the Italian Polar Institute. When he is not occupied with his films, Alessandro teaches ethnographic filmmaking at UiT.

Contact: alelle1@hotmail.com

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The Journey of Man: A Father's Love



Set against the breathtaking landscapes of Arctic Norway and the Italian Alps, "The Journey of Man: a father's Love" is a deeply personal journey exploring the intricate connections between masculinity, fatherhood, and environmental responsibility.

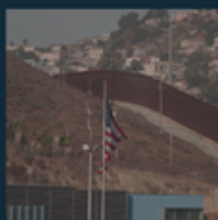
Other project

Couch stories



Length: 75 min
Status: In early development
Budget: 450.000€
Language of dialogue: English, Spanish
Director: Alessandro belleli
Estimated delivery: End of 2028
Looking for: Co-producers

Sometimes, a brief encounter can leave a lasting impact. At 18, I met Luis in California. He taught me courage, humility, and independence. Not a Hollywood hero, but an unsung one—facing pain with humor and grace, Luis os challenging borders between countries and within ourselves.



Company



KOKO Film AS, founded in 2013 in Tromsø, Northern Norway, is a documentary production company creating original films and series. Led by Trude Ottersen—owner, director, and photographer with a background in visual anthropology. The team includes Jenny Andersen (joined 2017), a director and photographer with experience in art projects, and Åsne Ø. Høgetveit (joined 2024), a producer with expertise in Russian cinema and academic experience from UiT – The Arctic University of Norway.



Chris Slettvoll

Music, theatre, and now film. Creativity has always been my way to flourish. From filling math books with drawings at seven to finding focus through art as an adult, creativity has shaped my path. Producing *Heroin City* brings together everything I've learned from years of social work in my hometown, merging artistic expression with a deep understanding of real human stories.

Contact: chris.slettvoll@gmail.com

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Heroin City



Heroin City is a 90-minute character-driven docudrama that dives deep into the heart of Bodø's hidden opioid crisis. Through the lives of Rocky, Per and Victor, the film unravels how trainloads of dried poppy straws, once innocent living room decorations, ignited an unexpected wave of addiction in the 1990s. Blending raw testimonies with cinematic dramatizations, *Heroinbyen* reveals how beauty turned into poison.

Company



AKT
PRODUKSJON

Heroin City is Akt Produksjon's first production.

Through an innovative blend of raw witness interviews, cinematic reconstructions, VFX-recreated urban environments, and an original score by ELSK and the Arctic Philharmonic, we challenge the boundaries between documentary and drama.

In collaboration with Rein Film and North Film Distribution, we create a completely new way of experiencing local history with international appeal, gripping, visually and emotionally engaging. The audience is invited to participate, reflect, and discover, without being told what to think.