KEEP AN EYE ON CROATIAN SHORTS

CANNES 2016
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Editors’ Notes

The films in this catalogue are mostly the editor’s choice. We tried to include all professional productions with a release date in 2016 and some films released in the last quarter of 2015. If not stated otherwise, films were publicly screened or broadcasted in 2016. Completion of films in post-production is planned for 2016. Please note that information about the films in this catalogue may still be subject to change.
KEEP AN EYE ON CROATIAN SHORTS

Ever since animated films planted the first flag on the international map of cinema, the short film scene has served as a vibrant heart of Croatian film production. This situation is even more evident today when international co-productions create a fusion of local and international talent, getting accolades from festival programmers and juries all over the world, including the members of the European Film Academy.

Croatian shorts are indeed a dynamic organism. Student and film club scenes surprise the audience by dealing with topics never before tackled in feature production. Short and middle-length documentaries offer a candid view of the society in constant change, while avant-garde approaches breach the borders between genres, renegotiating our attitudes towards the medium that is itself in a constant state of flux.

On the following pages you will find more reasons to keep an eye on Croatian shorts.
THE BEAST

BY MIROSLAV SIKAVICA

Selected in the short film section of the 48th Directors’ Fortnight: As an experienced documentary filmmaker, Miroslav Sikavica used his keen eye to extract energy and emotion from authentic locations and non-professional actors.

Father-son relationship as inspiration: The only people whose opinion you really care about are the ones you love. This is the case in Zvir, where a man who demolishes illegally built houses along the Mediterranean coast accidentally takes his son with him to work. What follows is his unsuccessful attempt to hide what he does for a living.

Emotional and urban architecture: Two kinds of architecture are contained within Zvir. The first one is the father-son relationship, built upon the fractured sense of the father’s moral authority. The second one is architecture in the literal sense, with the issue of illegally built houses and their dramatic demolition taken directly from the headlines and used as the frame of the story.
Belladonna
DIRECTED BY Dubravka Turić

Three women of different ages and backgrounds meet in the waiting room of an ophthalmologist’s office. Overhearing the conversation of the two older women, the young woman Sasha learns of the tragedy they experienced. The indifference she felt towards them until that moment is replaced by a sense of closeness and connection. However, the chance to share this is irreversibly lost.

hr | 2015 | 17’33” | PRODUCED BY Spiritus Mavors Production | SALES everything works | @everythingworks2y | Veniceiff 2015 – Best Short Film (Orizzonti), Sundanceiff, Rotterdamiff

The Beast | Zvjerka
DIRECTED BY Daina O. Pusić

Nada (100) and her daughter Vera (75) have a tense but close relationship. The childlike Vera takes care of her mute and feeble, though at times cruel mother. One day, a bat flies into Nada’s room and finds shelter underneath her bed. The animal’s presence gradually reinvigorates Nada.

hr, fi | 2015 | 20’ | PRODUCED BY Slavica film | CO-PRODUCED BY Napafilms, Metar 60 | slavica.film@gmail.com | Tellurideff 2016, Zagrebff 2015 – Golden Pram for Best Film, Slamdanceff

Celebration of Democracy
PRAZNIK DEMOKRACIJE
DIRECTED BY Petar Orešković

The story follows four people faced with a choice between doing what is right and saving their own skins, thereby confirming the underlying premise: If you’re old, poor and crazy, f*ck the system, don’t be lazy!

hr | 2015 | 13’35” | PRODUCED BY Propeler Film | info@propelerfilm.com | Croatian Film Days
The Cleaning Lady | Čistačica
DIRECTED BY Matija Vukšić

Dino is a 15-year-old delinquent who returns home very upset one night. Something bad has happened and he is the one responsible for it. However, his mother Sanja will try to fix things up.

hr | 6/2016 | 16’ | produced by Kino klub Split | co-produced by Kinoklub Zagreb | raulbrzac@gmail.com | in post-production

Epiphany | Na Tri kralja
DIRECTED BY Vlatka Vorkapić

A young woman visits her mother at Christmas time. The visit stirs in her the memories of three mysterious men.

hr | 2015 | 17’ | produced by Propeler Film | info@propelerfilm.com
Croatian Film Days

Fantastic | Fantastična
DIRECTED BY Ivan Šikavica

One woman, two men and Sonja.

hr | 2015 | 21’ | produced by Academy of Dramatic Art (adu)
tena.gojic@gmail.com, dekanat@adu.hr | Zagreb nr 2015

Osam načina da se prestanete osjećati usamljeno | Eight Ways to Stop Feeling Lonely
DIRECTED BY Višnja Vukašinović

Told through a series of comic tableaux, this is an existential comedy about an amateur ornithologist who tries to lead a more meaningful life.

hr | 2016 | 22’ | produced by Laterna Magica | co-produced by Kinoklub Zagreb | vukasinovicvristica@gmail.com | Croatian Film Days

Final Enforcement | Posljednja ovrha
DIRECTED BY Marko Šantić

Petar is a young police officer living with his parents in a small house, and they are about to face an eviction. During one distrain, Petar oversteps his authority and tries to protect the older married couple whose property is being seized. Petar knows that the system doesn’t work, and he wants it to change. However, things are not that simple.

hr, sl | 2016 | 14’33’’ | produced by Jaka produkcija
co-produced by Snail | jurebusic@gmail.com, jure@jakaprodukcija.hr
Short Film Corner

Flowers | Cvijeće
DIRECTED BY Judita Gamulin

Two families are visiting their fathers who are sharing a hospital room. One family is arguing about their trivial problems, while the other one has a completely different perspective.

hr, si | 2016 | 14’33’’ | produced by Jaka produkcija
co-produced by Snail | jurebusic@gmail.com, jure@jakaprodukcija.hr
Short Film Corner
A daring and powerful short film: Half a Man is Kristina Kumrić’s superbly crafted coming of age story, marked with powerful performances by first time, as well as experienced actors.

1. Coming of age in hard times: It is not easy to be a child during the war. The playfulness of the protagonist of Half a Man, a young girl who rehearses a dance routine to a popular song, clashes with the burden of responsibility and yet undeveloped empathy when her father comes back home after a devastating experience of being a prisoner in a war camp.

2. Personal revision of the official story: Half a Man presents a candid, personal and brave portrait of war veterans and the suffering they had to endure, both during the war and after. Upon their return, they were faced with the lack of understanding from their families, friends and the entire community that was unable to comprehend the atrocities they went through.
**Good Luck, Orlo | Srečno, Orlo | Sretno, Orlo**
directed by Šara Kern

A baby has died. Orlo’s parents are consumed with grief. In an attempt to make them happy and his family whole again, Orlo does something unexpected.

**Goran’s Street | Goranova ulica**
directed by Matija Vukšić

Little Lana meets a boy who spends his days watching the street from his window. When he agrees to play with her, a secret is revealed which makes Lana question her relationship with God, life and herself.

**Half a Man | Po’ čovika**
directed by Kristina Kumrić

Autumn of 1991, a village in the Dalmatian hinterland. Two girls, 10-year-old Mia and 12-year-old Lorena, are having a big day: their father, Mirko, has been released from the camp where he spent the last three months as a prisoner of war.

**It’s Just an Expression**
To se sam tak kaže
directed by Hana Veček

Three friends go trick-or-treating in a building in their neighbourhood. While they are collecting money and sweets, they start gradually revealing the secrets they keep from each other.

**Indonesia | Indonezija**
directed by Daria Blažević

Matija is a young mother taking care of her son while her husband is away on business. When someone breaks into her car, Matija meets a friendly police officer. One day, he drops by for a cup of coffee.

**Lula & The Pubic Hairs | Lula & Bručke**
directed by Igor Jelinović

Lula and Cica have been best friends since elementary school. When their childhood world is replaced by clubs and partying, each of them handles the adult world differently.
Playing the Tiger | Igra malog tigra
DIRECTED BY Jasna Nanut
Boška visits Tomo for the first time. He cooks dinner; they eat and then watch a movie. As the evening progresses, Boška tests Tomo’s patience, trying to find out whether he is Mr Right, or another Mr Wrong. Tomo seems to have no such doubts. He is convinced they are already in a relationship.

Mary | Marija
DIRECTED BY Juraj Primorac
Marinko works for Street Parking Services. Together with his colleague Ante, he tows illegally parked cars to the city car pound. Ante’s frequent conflicts with people are an integral part of Marinko’s working day. After work, Marinko is tired and lonely. He has a quick meal, watches TV and goes to sleep. Day in, day out, until a woman named Marija quietly enters his life.

Red Light | Na červeno | Na crvenom
DIRECTED BY Toma Waszarow
In a small town, the only traffic light is stuck on red. Obeying the rules, an intercity bus stops at the light and the driver refuses to continue until it turns green. This provokes a series of misunderstandings with the nervous passengers and local law enforcement.

Resistance Day | Dan otpora
DIRECTED BY Ivan Salaj
On Labour Day, two slackers decide to pay a visit to their old friend who has recently become a father.

Milk Tooth | Mliječni zub
DIRECTED BY Saša Ban
Jana attends a family reunion at a pizza place, organized as a farewell party for her dad who is awaiting a difficult operation. The words ‘everything is going to be all right’ become a mantra repeated again and again, as if to ward off any thoughts of death from the table. She just has to give a few small tokens of appreciation to the nurses, an envelope to the doctor, and stay positive.
National guilty conscience exposed: Every nation has its demons, the issues that are swept under the carpet instead of being dealt with. But there are always directors brave enough to bring those problems to light. This is the case with Dijana Mlađenović and her provocative new film *Scarlet*.

Civic responsibility: Based on true events, *Scarlet* deals with a rape crime committed during the Croatian War of Independence. The characters find themselves in a situation in which they have to confront their worst enemy: their own conformity and compliance.

Wartime stereotypes questioned and laid bare: Dijana Mlađenović doesn’t shy away from the complexities of the topic it tackles, thus breaking the characters of *Scarlet* out of the usual mould: although visibly hurt, the victims in the film are active and strong, while the representatives of authority have their own integrities brought into question.
Tanja
DIRECTED BY Jasna Nanut
After losing her job, her boyfriend, and her apartment, Tanja moves back into her dad’s place, in the neighborhood where she grew up. In the local bar she meets Denis, her childhood sweetheart. After some time, they meet again. Just the coincidence she needed.

hr | 2016 | 25’ | PRODUCED by Kinematograf | info@kinematograf.hr | finished – not yet released

Scarlet | Grimizno
DIRECTED by Dijana Mlađenović
After a successful military operation, the atmosphere of triumphant relaxation and camaraderie will be suddenly and irreversibly disturbed by the revelation of a hidden crime.

hr | 2016 | 16’ | PRODUCED by Kinematograf | info@kinematograf.hr | finished – not yet released

Thunder | Munja
DIRECTED by Radislav Jovanov Gonzo
Although it’s a holiday, Bruno and Iva find it particularly hard to relax. Not only do they both have to work, but their bicycle gets stolen as well. To make things worse, it was their only means of transport.

hr | 2015 | 18’13” | PRODUCED by Propeler Film | info@propelerfilm.com | Croatian Film Days – Golden Oil Lamp Award

Treetops | Krošnje
DIRECTED by Filip Heraković
After her son’s failed suicide attempt, the mother visits the man who saved him. At first it seems she merely wants to talk to him, but soon her true intentions are revealed.

hr | 2016 | 16’ | PRODUCED by Academy of Dramatic Art | mdrnikovic@gmail.com, dekanat@adu.hr | Croatian Film Days

Sunday | Nedjelja
DIRECTED by Goran Dević
The nine-year-old son of divorced parents visits his father, who is a doctor. The boy is angry with him for not allowing his dog into the flat. His father needs to go to the village to conduct an emergency medical procedure, but he cannot leave the boy alone, so he takes him along.

hr | 2015 | 22’ | PRODUCED by Petnaesta umjetnost | 15art@15art.hr | Thessaloniki iff 2015

Somewhere | Negdje
DIRECTED by Katarina Radečić
Haunted by his past, Solus is aimlessly wandering the woods. He hasn’t slept for months due to his insomnia, which causes him to suffer from occasional hallucinations. One morning, Solus comes out of the woods and into a clearing, where he meets a young blind woman, Isabela.

hr | 2016 | 17’29” | PRODUCED by Academy of Dramatic Art (adu) Ana Rajić, anaklonboc@gmail.com | finished – not yet released
Playing with genre tropes: Andrija Mardesić likes to use generic formulas in a creative way, often subverting them in the process. This is the case with Two All Alone, a story about a young man and his grandmother whose relationship bears the dynamic of an offbeat screwball comedy.

Subtle social commentary: Mardesić’s characters fight all the time, but in many ways they can’t live without each other. This is often the case with many young people in Croatia, who postpone the moment of leaving their home, even at the cost of their own personal growth.

Putting the city of Split on the map: Taking place in contemporary Split, Two All Alone is a cinematic ode to one of the most beautiful Mediterranean cities: its architecture, people and everyday life.
Two All Alone | Nas dva
DIRECTED BY Andrija Mardešić

August in the city. The streets are deserted because everyone has gone away for the holidays. Instead of enjoying the summer like his friends, Joško has to take care of his grandmother who has just come back from a spa. While trying to handle his moody grandma and the unbearable heat, Joško is not the best roommate himself.

hr | 2015 | 27' | produced by Kino klub Split | i@everythingworks.hr
Zagreb ff 2015 – Special Mention

Walnut | Orah
DIRECTED BY Danilo Šerbedžija

Burdened by the loss of his mother and by the tedium of everyday life, a young man withdraws into his shell. But then, an absurd situation causes in him an outburst of emotions.

hr | 2015 | 19' | produced by Propeler Film | info@propelerfilm.com
Vilnius ff, Croatian Film Days

White Room Stories | Priče iz bijele sobe
DIRECTED BY Silva Ćapin

Four patients are trying to get over their traumas caused by various musical features intermittently interrupting their daily lives.

hr | 2016 | 13' | produced by Academy of Dramatic Art
nina.krizan5@gmail.com, dekanat@adu.hr | Croatian Film Days – Best Actor (V. Kraljević)

You Dreamt that You Were Happy
Sanjala si da si sretna
DIRECTED BY Ivana Škrabal

Blanka flees her rented apartment because of unpaid bills, and goes about her routine. She participates in a humiliating casting, kisses a boy she does not love, and visits her alienated parents. She meets an older man who takes her to his luxurious home. In the bedroom, she notices a gun on the window sill.

hr | 2015 | 21'08" | produced by Kinoklub Zagreb | co-produced by Croatian Radiotelevision (hrt)
tenagojc@gmail.com
Zagreb ff 2015 – Special Mention

Two all alone | Nas dva
DIRECTED BY Andrija Mardešić

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hr | 2015 | 21'08" | produced by Kinoklub Zagreb | co-produced by Croatian Radiotelevision (hrt)
tenagojc@gmail.com
Zagreb ff 2015 – Special Mention
keep an eye on short documentaries

All Still Orbit | Sve, još uvijek, u orbiti
DIRECTED BY Dane Komljen, James Lattimer

The film links two apparently unrelated moments in the construction of Brasilia: the dream by an Italian saint used to justify its creation and a small city built by the workers constructing the new capital to house them and their families. How do you make sense of a city built on a dream? Sometimes a documentary can feel like a fairy tale.

hr, de, it, uk | 2016 | 23’ | PRODUCED BY Restart | CO-PRODUCED BY Dart Film, Flumina Creative Production | varja@restarted.hr
#Rotterdam – Tiger Shorts Competition

Cartoonists | Crtači
DIRECTED BY Krešimir Lendić

The 1920s and 1930s were the Golden Age of Croatian cartoon art. This is a story about several distinguished authors from Osijek, their work and the tragic destinies that befell them in the upcoming World War II.

hr | 2016 | 36’ | PRODUCED BY Trotoar | vedran@trotoar.com
Croatian Film Days

4.7 | 4.7
DIRECTED BY Đuro Gavran

Siniša was sentenced to supervised probation for domestic violence, neglect and child abuse, and causing bodily harm. When the police investigated the crime scene, his alcohol level was 4.7. During the probation period, Siniša underwent the process of rehabilitation, kept his job, requested and got divorce, as well as custody over his children.

hr, de, rs, uk | 2016 | 29’ | PRODUCED BY Croatian Radiotelevision
leon.rizmaul@havc | ZagrebDox – Best Film (Regional Competition)

hr, de, it, uk | 2016 | 29’ | PRODUCED BY Restart | CO-PRODUCED BY Dart Film, Flumina Creative Production | varja@restarted.hr
#Rotterdam – Tiger Shorts Competition

Croatian Film Days
THREE REASONS TO KEEP AN EYE ON

4,7

BY ĐURO GAVRAN

1. **Award-winning documentary:** Đuro Gavran’s 4,7 premiered on ZagrebDox, where it won the Best Film Award in the Regional Competition. It was made as part of a project initiated by the Croatian Radiotelevision (hrt) that questions the efficiency of the government probation programme (you should also take a look at another film from the series, *A Short Family Film* by Igor Bezinović, pg. 36).

2. **Probation under probation:** The probation programme was aimed at the re-integration of ex-convicts into everyday life. The protagonist of Đuro Gavran’s film is a man who was sentenced to probation after a violent incident in his family house. The number in the title represents the amount of alcohol in his blood on the night of the accident.

3. **Clever plotting and character development:** The film starts as a portrait of a former alcoholic who changed his ways after the incident. Đuro Gavran plays with the expectations of the audience by slowly revealing the details of his protagonist’s story. The finale might come as a shock, shedding a new light on the events that preceded it. Nevertheless, it provides a shattering and complex view on social frictions that can lead to tragedy.
Cile
Directed by Katarina Radetić

In music school, Cile was told that he had no musical talent, but he has managed to turn his passion into a profitable profession. Today, four members of his family depend on the fees he manages to collect while doing the thing only a handful of people in the world can do – play several different instruments at the same time.

Delta – An Affluence of Art
Directed by Marin Lukanović

Nine artists share a common workspace in the very centre of Rijeka. They continually ask themselves whether they are a collective or just a group of people, what are their common values and what is it that links them: just the need for workspace, or a set of common goals and views on art and life.

Dragon Woman | Žena zmaj
Directed by Ivana Sansević

The film follows three young women, Sara, Magdalena and Ana-Katarina, in their struggle with anorexia and bulimia. It is a story about sadness and disappointment, about all of us who tend to forget our true values and capabilities.

Eyes of Glass | Staklene oči
Directed by Mario Papić

The director is making a film portrait of Zagreb over the course of one year. By filming reflections in the objects that are part of its landscape, he is filming the city’s reflection of itself, hoping to capture its soul.

Festival Tourism | Festivalski turizam
Directed by Sunčica Ana Veldić

A metafilm that depicts the author’s introduction into the filmmaking world, having made the leap from an entirely different profession – veterinary medicine. Combining festival content with tourist clichés about London, where her film Hux Flux was screened, she is trying to make a new film that would open the door for further festival related travel.

Free Weekend | Slobodni vikend
Directed by group of authors

Created at the documentary film workshop in the Lipovica Penitentiary, this omnibus takes place in the penitentiary and over two weekends that the authors of the film spent at home. According to the law, the prisoners may not be filmed and are forbidden from speaking out in the public media, so their identities have to remain hidden.
Independent List of Opportunists

Neovisna lista oputunista
DIRECITED BY Vedran Senjanović, Dejan Oblak

The Independent List of Opportunists (nlo) is the new political party that participates in the parliamentary elections in Croatia. Comprised of political sciences students, its main goal is to make fun of the democratic system.

Oxygen, Nitrogen | Kisik, dušik
DIRECITED BY Damir Čučić

A small intimate film about the side roads of life, melancholy and unfinished love films. This is a short self-portrait made during a not-so-short period of eight years during which we waited for the right moments.

Islands of Forgotten Cinemas | Kino otok
DIRECITED BY Ivan Ramljak

A poetic documentary about the loss of film culture in the small villages on Croatian islands during the second half of the 20th century, told through intimate reminiscences of six protagonists.

Right to Work: As We Left It

Pravo na rad: Kako smo ga ostavili
DIRECITED BY Marica Lalić, Ivan Lasić

A film about the fate of the former female employees of the textile company Uzor and the plant they started working at after they had lost the final battle to save the company.

Major | Bojnik
DIRECITED BY Kristijan Milić

A look at the beginning of the Croatian War of Independence, as seen by the major of the first volunteer troop operating outside of the official Croatian Army.

Seeker | Gonić
DIRECITED BY Toma Zidić

An intimate portrait of a visual artist, performer and photographer, Andrea Knezović. The film explores the theme of artistic process. It is an insight into an artist’s creative space filled with personal determination, fear and passion.
THREE REASONS TO KEEP AN EYE ON

ISLANDS OF FORGOTTEN CINEMAS

BY IVAN RAMLJAK

1. Abandoned cinemas and their ghosts: Not so long ago, local cinema was the vibrant heart of social life in small communities across the Adriatic coast. Today, if they are not completely dilapidated, these buildings are being used as recreational spaces for musicians and yoga classes – with defunct projectors and film stock scattered around.

2. Tracing the lost film culture on the islands: By visiting 18 towns on six Croatian islands, Ivan Ramljak combines firsthand accounts of projectionists and viewers with carefully composed images of abandoned cinemas to save the memories of local film-going culture from oblivion.

3. A requiem for a shared experience: Steady pacing, rhythmical structure, and atmospheric sound editing of Ivan Ramljak’s film create a beautiful and melancholic ode to communal experience of cinema.
A Short Family Film | Kratki obiteljski film
directed by Igor Bezinović

After spending 2 years and 7 months in prison, Marica returns to her son Đuro in Novi Perkovci.

Something About Life | Nesto o životu
directed by Nebojša Slijepčević

Set on the edge of a small Croatian village, the film follows the struggles of eight underage girls who are trying to change their lives with the help of caregivers. This is particularly hard for 14-year old Ivana, who is struggling to adapt to the new environment.

Tonight | Noćas
directed by Zdravko Mustać

A portrait of a city at night without the direct presence of people. Structured in three parts distinguished by their formal differences, the film takes us through a multitude of motifs of a memorable night.

A Two Way Mirror | Iza lica zrcala
directed by Katarina Zrinka Matijević

A poetic documentary that illustrates different states of mind, inner struggles and revelations through the beautiful but bitterly cold mountainous landscapes of Lika. While Zrinka, the protagonist, films the mesmerizing but harsh scenery of the Lika region, the scenery forms an outline of Zrinka, a woman enlightened, but no longer defined, by her many losses.

What if We Are? | Šta ako jesmo?
directed by Domagoj Matizović Ristić

A Serbo-Croatian couple contemplates their long-distance relationship, the world they live in, and themselves.
A TWO WAY MIRROR

BY KATARINA ZRINKA MATIJEVIĆ

1. **Autobiographical documentary**: Riding the wave of intriguing autobiographical documentaries that have swept away both local and international audiences, *A Two-Way Mirror* is one of the boldest and most innovative deconstructions of the self in Croatian cinema: in terms of the topic as well as style.

2. **Poetic filmmaking**: Set in the meadows, forests and mountains of Lika, Katarina Zrinka Matijević uses the scenery of the region and its chilling folk tales to describe the flora and fauna of her own identity. The result is a seamless blend of the author’s self and the landscape that helped shape it.

3. **Meticulous construction**: With carefully thought-out framing, editing and sound, the author transcends the literal meaning of images and soundscape. The result is a candid and intimate view on facing the limitations of one’s own body and finding the strength to overcome them.
KEEP AN EYE ON EXPERIMENTAL SHORTS
THREE REASONS TO KEEP AN EYE ON

ALMOST NOTHING

BY ANA HUŠMAN

1. **Dissecting the structures of everyday life:** Ana Hušman is the author of several award-winning shorts (*The Market, Lunch, Football*). In her work she often applies animation techniques to documentary footage thus creating intriguing avant-garde hybrids. She uses stop-motion and time-lapse as tools for re-assembling the rules that structure our everyday life.

2. **The creative power of wind:** In *Almost Nothing* Ana Hušman explores the ways in which different types of wind and its force have been shaping the landscapes, architecture, and patterns of human life in the Mediterranean. The film has a two-part structure. The first part is set in the interiors of tourist apartments, while the second part takes place outdoors, among the trees, limestone and wind.

3. **A medium for artistic expression and criticism:** In *Almost Nothing*, the film medium itself is an important tool for artistic expression and critique. The clarity of the HD image emphasizes the sterile design of the apartment interiors, while the warm and grainy texture of the 16mm film conveys the playful interaction of wind and landscape. The stillness and austerity of the tourist architecture is contrasted with the vibrant, playful and always adapting logic of nature.
Homage to the rich tradition of Croatian avant-garde filmmaking: 

*The End* was made as part of the project to mark the 50th anniversary of the Genre Film Festival in Zagreb (Geff), an initiative that heavily influenced the experimental and avant-garde notions of filmmaking in Croatian cinema. Selected in the International Competition of the 62nd International Short Film Festival Oberhausen.

Questioning the borders: Part of the Geff’s heritage was renegotiating the borders between film and other arts, which Tomislav Šoban recreated within today’s technological and aesthetic context.

Rethinking film and filmmaking: Instead of relying on standard filmmaking techniques, Tomislav Šoban used an architectural software for landscape design, successfully achieving film-like effects such as framing, rhythm, and even traces of a narrative. His work can thus be understood as an open question: have we reached the end of the film medium or have we opened the space for a fresh beginning?

### Three reasons to keep an eye on The End by Tomislav Šoban

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Almost Nothing | Skoro ništa
directed by Ana Hušman

By mapping the flora of an island and the wind resistance of the plants, the film reflects on the changes in fashion, architecture and economy of the filmed localities.

hr | 2016 | 16' | produced by Studio Pangolin | ana.hušman@gmail.com
Croatian Film Days

Dota

directed by Petra Zlonoga

An audiovisual weave in which an animated line represents the warp, while the female voice represents the filling. She who weaves and that what is woven intertwine through time.

hr | 2016 | 4’32” | produced by Kinosklub Zagreb, Croatian Film Association (hfs) | vedran.suvar@gmail.com, petra.zlonoga@gmail.com | Croatian Film Days, Croatian Society of Film Critics – Best Experimental Film, Annecy

The End | Kraj

directed by Tomislav Šoban

Made as part of the project that marked the 50th anniversary of the Genre Film Festival (GEFF) and inspired by its edition “Anti-film and New Tendencies in Cinema”, this work uses a computer software for landscape design to explore the concept of anti-film in contemporary context.

hr | 2015 | 10’ | produced by Kinoklub Zagreb, Croatian Film Days – Best Sound Design, Jury Special Mention, Animafest Zagreb, Oberhausen

Epiphany | Prosvjetljenje
directed by Dražen Žarković

A film about a turning point in life when a man discovers that he has become exactly like his father.

hr | 2016 | 4’05” | produced by Mitropa | sanjasamanovic@gmail.com
Croatian Film Days

First Gasp | Prvi udah
directed by Miranda Herceg

First Gasp is like an ant colony with distorted voices and automated movements, where organisms mimic the colors of their environment. The suspenseful atmosphere created by the sound and the static eye of the camera suggests the presence of a hidden observer. Could it be the space around us?

hr | 2016 | 20’36” | produced by Kinorama | ankica@kinorama.hr
Croatian Film Days

Here There | Tu tamo
directed by Alexander Stewart

A travelogue that is both strange and familiar, abstract and real. It begins as a traveler’s sketchbook, drawn in Croatia in the summer of 2014, but details soon fade away into abstract impressions on the edges of memory. This film is reduced to its essence – a condensed feeling of one place and time.

hr | 2015 | 4’40” | produced by Bonobostudio | vanja@bonobostudio.hr
Ottawa FF 2015, 25fps 2015, iff Rotterdam
Man, architecture and space: Taking place in huge interior spaces, such as football stadiums and underground shopping malls, *First Gasp* presents the identity not as a fixed construct, but as a fluid concept: a process of being simultaneously created and dissolved in the interaction between the body and the space it inhabits.

The importance of rhythm: From carefully composed images to sound editing, Miranda Herceg uses rhythmical qualities of the medium to create a pulsating and spellbinding work.

Rich and layered sound design: By creating a sense of anticipation and extracting organic qualities from the images, the soundtrack serves as more than a mere illustration of the image.
**In the Center of Time | Središte vremena**  
**directed by Željko Sarić**

A film experiment that examines the complexity of the phenomenon of condensed time in opposition to man and his real-life environment.

| HR | 2015 | 9’30” | Produced by Projekt 6 Studio | studio@project6.hr  
| HR | 2015, Croatian Film Days |

**Kariogram**  
**directed by Fran Sokolić**

The chromosome pairs are multiplying and transforming into various geometrical shapes. Their chromatids are moving and reacting to the sounds. The film uses visual means to achieve the aims of science and medicine: to correct the errors and mutations of the chromosomes.

| HR | 7/2016 | 6'30” | fsokolic@gmail.com | in post-production |

**Machinae Novae 002**  
**directed by Darko Vidačković**

A view of the Šibenik harbour in the author’s home town. A film about the process of observing the outside world, the memory of it and the imaginative processes it incites. The recollections mix with reality, yielding unexpected results.

| HR, DE, US | 2015 | 18’30” | abilankov@web.de | Croatian Film Days |

**The Message | Poruka**  
**directed by Nika Radić**

Can one create a work of art that everyone will understand in the same way? How much is the way we perceive art dependent on our previous knowledge? The **Message** is a part of a project that started questioning the possibilities and limits of communicating through art.

| HR | 2016 | produced by Kreativni sindikat | kreativnisindikat@gmail.com, nikaradic@yahoo.com  
| HR | finished – not yet released |

**New Town Future Film**  
**directed by Ana Bilankov**

Set in the post-industrial landscape of New York City, this experimental video evokes traveling through time and space, somewhere between utopian and dystopian visions of the future.

| HR | 2015 | 18’30” | abilankov@web.de | Croatian Film Days |

**On the Beach | Na plaži**  
**directed by Goran Škofić**

One shot, one sea, one sky, one beach. And a lot of people going somewhere. Some are silent, while others are talking. Some are sitting in the cinema quietly, watching the others leave.

| HR | 2016 | 24’ | Produced by Kreativni sindikat | kreativnisindikat@gmail.com | Croatian Film Days |

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Three reasons to keep an eye on Zagreb Confidential – Imaginary Futures

By Darko Fritz

1. **Utopian visions in the context of today:** The 1950s were fueled by utopian ideas of building a new society for the new socialist man. But what remains of these visions today? This question forms the basis of Darko Fritz’s engaging experimental work selected in the International Competition of the 62nd International Short Film Festival Oberhausen.

2. **Innovative editing structure:** An innovative technique of algorithmic editing was developed to juxtapose the archival footage with digital 3D modeling. The editing structure follows mathematical measures such as the Fibonacci sequence and the golden ratio to compare the structures of film and time, as well as to question the heritage of the socialist vision of the future.

3. **An immersive sound experience:** Much of the film’s effect has been achieved by the intense sound design done by the esteemed sound artist and music composer Francisco López. His immersive and rhythmic sonic textures perfectly convey the frictions between utopian ideals and reality.
The Parade | Parada
DIRECTED BY Arijana Lekić-Fridrih

The year 2015 marked the 20th anniversary of the military operation Oluja. Around 20,000 people gathered in the streets to watch the parade and greet the soldiers who took part in the procession. Their demeanour has showed that the war still figures greatly in their lives.

RiZgRi The Heap | Hrpa RiZgRi
DIRECTED BY Đorđe Jandrić

Filmed from the passenger seat during a year’s travel between the cities of Zagreb and Rijeka, the film is a dynamic and humorous stream of sequences that reflect the changes happening on and off the road.

Zagreb Confidential – Imaginary Futures | Novi Južni Zagreb
DIRECTED BY Darko Fritz

By using innovative editing techniques partially based on computer algorithm, the film traces 50 years of urban development of Zagreb neighbourhood that was built in the 1960s. The heritage of modernism and utopian urbanism are placed in today’s context marked by transition and lack of urban planning.
THE ARCTIC PIRATE

BY DAVID PEROŠ BONNOT

1. **A social satire in stop motion:** Ten years after his animated short *Soldat* roamed the international festival scene, David Peroš Bonnot is back with a new blend of top-notch stop-motion animation and clever social satire.

2. **Creativity vs. copyright:** Using the story of Santa Clause who becomes a victim of a greedy toy company, *The Arctic Pirate* explores the notions of authenticity, creativity, and selfless giving in the copyright-ruled and profit-oriented world of today.

3. **For children and adults alike:** Although the themes that *The Arctic Pirate* tackles are targeted towards adult viewers, its fairytale-like atmosphere, created by meticulous background design and first-rate puppet animation, could be a perfect vehicle to present the complexities of this topic to youngsters.
THREE REASONS TO KEEP AN EYE ON

FRUIT

BY IVAN MIRKO SENJANOVIC

1. **Follow-up to successful student works:** Fruit is a long awaited follow-up on Ivan Mirko Senjanovic’s previous film Meat (2012), selected for the Students’ Competition of the Annecy International Animation Film Festival.

2. **Playful use of stop motion:** A story about a quarrel between bananas and oranges that escalates into a full-blown war in a restaurant kitchen, told through humorous and intelligent use of stop motion animation.

3. **A satire of historic events in the Balkans:** If Meat was a satire on the way we live now, Fruit is a comic reflection on the way that history is (mis)treated in the Balkan region, where age old conflicts are used to ignite new wars.

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**The Arctic Pirate | Arktički pirat**
**Directed by** David Perot-Bonnot

A story of altruism and exploitation, wrapped up in the guise of a classic Christmas tale. However, the Santa Claus in this story is a symbol of the unselfish, genuine giver, in conflict with the law and with his superior rival, a slave-owning capitalist toy manufacturer.

*HR | 2016 | 7' | Produced by 3D2D Animator | 3d2d@3d2d.hr
Animafest Zagreb*

**Badger on the Road | Jazbec na poti | Jazavac na putu**
**Directed by** Špela Čadež

Inspired by a short news article about a badger found lying on the road by the police, intoxicated by fermenting fruit, this seemingly funny story explores our society’s attitude towards addiction, especially alcoholism.

*SL | HR | 8/2016 | 8' | Produced by No-History | Co-produced by Bonobostudio | vanja@bonobostudio.hr | In post-production*

**The Blue Sky | Plavo nebo**
**Directed by** Kašmir Huseinović, Andrea Petrik Huseinović

Based on the eponymous, award-winning picture book that was translated in 12 languages, this is a story about a girl who lost her parents at a very early age and her finding the strength to face it.

*HR | 2016 | Produced by Dječja knjiga | kasmir@kasmir-promet.com
Finished – not yet released*

**Fruit | Voće**
**Directed by** Ivan Mirko Senjanović

The film deals with a complex topic in a seemingly simple way – how does a community cope with periods of war and peace and with what consequences?

*HR | 2016 | 6’20" | Produced by Sekvenca | jure@sekvenca.hr
Finished – not yet released*

**Ghost Town | Grad duhova**
**Directed by** Marko Dješka

While a battle rages outside a deserted city, the last citizen fights loneliness with the help of his daily rituals.

*HR | 2016 | 12' | Produced by Zagreb film | sanja.borcic@zagrebfilm.hr
Croatian Film Days, Croatian Society of Film Critics – Best Animated Film*

**It Passed with Rain | Prošlo je s kišom**
**Directed by** Siniša Ercegovac

The film is designed as an ode to love and friendship, a counterweight to today’s social values and patterns of life.

*HR | 7/2016 | 10' | Produced by Umjetnička organizacija ANIMA
Kontakt@uoanima.hr | In post-production*
THREE REASONS TO KEEP AN EYE ON

MOVING ELEMENTS

By MARKO TADIĆ

1. The art of appropriation: Marko Tadić is an artist who is engaged both in fine art and in animation. He has developed a recognizable style. Instead of using a blank page, he often draws and paints over the existing sketches, old postcards and book pages, sometimes playfully finishing what is already inscribed on them, and sometimes rewriting it in the process.

2. Driving through art and film history: Moving Elements is an animated travelogue laden with references to the history of Croatian art and animation, from exat 51 to the golden age of the Zagreb School of Animated Films. It is an abstract revisiting of the artistic and social context that forms the frame for some of the most innovative works of the Croatian avant-garde in fine art, architecture, and cinema.

3. Animating the drama of creation: No matter how abstract they seem, Tadić’s films often hint at a plot. In Moving Elements, we watch the unraveling of the creative process: paintings are made and dissolved; sketches are completed and then drawn over and devoured by thick brush strokes. The drama of the artistic process, its ideas, potentials, and hesitations, thus become the plot.
**Jure Grando – Štrigun from Kringa**  
**Jure Grando – štrigun iz Kringe**  
**DIRECTED BY Darko Vidačković**

A story about a vampire that terrorized the community of Kringa village in Croatia for 16 years, until the villagers decided that they had enough.

**Just Swimming** | **Samo plivanje**  
**DIRECTED BY Darko Vidačković**

A dive away from the everyday world and into the deep waters of consciousness – an immersion into the world of eternal pure forms. It is a return to one's true self, a return home.

**Moving Elements** | **Pokretni elementi**  
**DIRECTED BY Marko Tadić**

An homage to the authors and works of the golden age of the Zagreb School of Animation, relying on its recognizable visual language in order to tell a story about the creative processes behind artworks.

**Off Belay** | **Penjači**  
**DIRECTED BY Siniša Mataić**

Two climbers embark on the adventure of a long and demanding route. Reckless behaviour causes an accident. Life danger transforms the two friend’s contrasting personalities.

**Only Lovers Leave to Die**  
**DIRECTED BY Vladimir Kanić**

Emily begins perceiving the world like it was made of painted film stock shortly after being injured in an accident. On her way to a hospital, a story of love, death and tears unravels through dialogues of characters surrounding her, each represented with a different pattern of painted film stock.

**Peter’s Forest** | **Petrova šuma**  
**DIRECTED BY Martina Meštrović**

Who am I? What is my true nature? And if it isn’t a threat to anyone, then who and what prevents me from living my life, possibly the only one I have, to the fullest?
THREE REASONS TO KEEP AN EYE ON

PETER’S FOREST

BY MARTINA MEŠTROVIĆ

1. **What shapes us as individuals:** Society is the force that shapes and disintegrates us at the same time. This was the case in Martina Meštrović’s animation debut *Bla* (2013), as well as in her second animated short *Peter’s Forest*, a darkly poetic fairytale about a boy with a tree branch instead of a hand.

2. **The pain of growing up:** Told through the language of metaphors, this sensitive and occasionally painful coming-of-age story uses its imagery to speak volumes about the pain of growing up different from others.

3. **Simple and elegant drawings:** Martina Meštrović’s simple and elegant drawings, associative storytelling, ripe metaphors, and richly textured soundtrack pull the viewer into a whirlpool of anxieties, but also perfectly capture the flare of defiance when the protagonist decides to build a world of his own.
Planemo

By Veljko Popović

1. Selected in the International Competition of the 40th Annecy International Animation Film Festival: Veljko Popović has presented his previous works at many esteemed film festivals, including Clermont-Ferrand, Annecy, Animafest Zagreb, oak Leipzig and Hiroshima.
2. Innovative and rich animation: A story of a man who gets ejected from his everyday orbit after an almost fatal car-crash, told through superbly crafted 3D animation.
3. A powerful metaphor of contemporary life: By combining pseudo-documentary elements with a multilayered story, Planemo is a surreal reflection on the slow and sometimes painful fragmentation of the self in the cold, de-sensitized modern society.
Planemo  
**DIRECTED BY Veljko Popović**

In a society where everyone mindlessly orbits around their daily routines, what happens when a person gets ejected from this system? They might just find themselves rapidly pushed out of the habitable zone.

**hr | 2016 | 13'20" | produced by Krupni kadar | co-producers 3D2D Animatori | sales Bonobostudio | veljko@lemonade3d.com, vanja@bonobostudio.hr | Annecy, Holland Animation Festival, Animafest Zagreb**

Train  
**Vlak**  
**DIRECTED BY Olivier Chabalier**

*Train* takes us on a voyage through dark and surreal landscapes of imagination. Governed by its tracks, it passes through various stages of life: from affection, knowledge, dreams, to loneliness and death.

**fr, hr | 2015 | 14'20" | produced by GAS2 | co-produced by Bonobostudio, Mirabelle TV | sales Bonobostudio | vanja@bonobostudio.hr, clemence@gaspfilms.com | Tous Courts ISFF 2015**

Transparency  
**Stakleni čovjek**  
**DIRECTED BY Daniel Šuljić**

Moving through a world filled with scanners and surveillance algorithms, while frivolously using different social networks, online forms and credit cards, the man of today loses his privacy voluntarily. A decent citizen has nothing to hide, only criminals do.

**hr | 2015 | 6'10" | produced by Kreativni sindikat | co-produced by Zagreb film | sales Zagreb film | sanja.borcic@zagrebfilm.hr | Animafest Zagreb, Balkanima 2015 – Best Film of South Eastern Europe**

Travelling Country  
**Putujuća zemlja**  
**DIRECTED BY Ivan Bogdanov, Vessela Dantcheva**

Once upon a time there was a country... It no longer exists because of stupidity and greed. But the people have survived and continued to live in the shadow of what used to be a happy world. Now a new society is being born. However, it seems history is going to repeat itself.

**bg, hr | 2016 | 13' | produced by Compote Collective | co-produced by Bonobostudio | sales Bonobostudio | vanja@bonobostudio.hr | Animafest Zagreb, Croatian Film Days – Best Minority Co-production**
CROATIAN FILM FESTIVALS

A selection of the most established international film festivals in Croatia whose program is partly or exclusively devoted to short films. A comprehensive list is available on the website: www.havc.hr

JUNE

June 3rd – 11th
9th Mediterranean Film Festival Split
EMAIL: info@fmfs.hr
WEBSITE: www.fmfs.hr
GENRE: feature, shorts

June 6th – 11th
26th World Festival of Animated Film – Animafest Zagreb
EMAIL: info@animafest.hr
WEBSITE: www.animafest.hr
GENRE: animation

JULY

July 8th – 10th
14th Tabor Film Festival – International Short Film Festival
EMAIL: tabor.film.festival@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.taborfilmfestival.com
GENRE: all genres

July 26th – 30th
19th Motovun Film Festival
EMAIL: office@motovunfilmfestival.com
WEBSITE: www.motovunfilmfestival.com
GENRE: features, short fiction, documentary, animation

AUGUST

August 20th – 26th
7th Avantura Film Festival Zadar
EMAIL: pr@filmforumzadar.com
WEBSITE: www.filmforumzadar.org
GENRE: features, short fiction, documentary

August 22nd – 27th
10th Vukovar Film Festival – Danube Region Film Fest
EMAIL: maya.palecek@discoveryfilm.hr
WEBSITE: www.vukovarfilmfestival.com
GENRE: feature, short fiction, documentary, animation

SEPTEMBER

September 10th – 18th
21st Split Film Festival – International Festival of New Film
EMAIL: info@splitfilmfestival.hr
WEBSITE: www.splitfilmfestival.hr
GENRE: feature, short fiction, animation, documentary, experimental films, new media

September 29th – October 2nd
12th 25 FPS Festival
EMAIL: info@25fps.hr
WEBSITE: www.25fps.hr
GENRE: experimental films, artists’ films and videos, expanded cinema performances

NOVEMBER

November 12th – 20th
14th Zagreb Film Festival
EMAIL: info@zagrebfilmfestival.com
WEBSITE: www.zagrebfilmfestival.com
GENRE: feature, short fiction

FEBRUARY 2017
13th ZagrebDox – International Documentary Film festival
EMAIL: info@zagrebdox.net
WEBSITE: www.zagrebdox.net
GENRE: documentary

APRIL 2017
26th Croatian Film Days
EMAIL: info@danihrvatskogfilma.net
WEBSITE: www.danihrvatskogfilma.net
GENRE: fiction, documentary, animation, experimental films