

Guest List

Please note that due to privacy reasons, some of our guests are not shown in this overview.

If you want to get in touch with other guests, please visit the Guests meet Guests in Filmhuis Den Haag.

guests Grand Jury Documentary



Alisa Kovalenko

Director

My Dear Théo



Monica Strømdahl

Director

Flophouse America

an Film Awards 2023. After Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, Alisa joined a volunteer combat unit and fought on the frontline for months. From this existential experience she has drawn a new personal documentary, 'My Dear Théo'.

Director Monica Strømdahl is an international award-winning documentary stills photographer graduated from Falmouth College of Arts. In 2019, she won the 1st prize, Norwegian Picture of The Year, and was nominated for the Leica Oscar Barnack Award (LOBA). Monica is known for her intimate way of portraying peo-

ple and their lives. She has made short films, «Flophouse America» is her debut

Award-winning Ukranian documentary filmmaker, based in Kyiv. Her first two feature-length documentaries, «Alisa in Warland» (2015) and «Home Games» (2018) were screened at over 100 festivals, winning multiple awards. Her third film, «We

Will Not Fade Away», won 20 international awards, was named Best Ukrainian Documentary in 2023 by the Ukrainian Film Academy and was selected for the Europe-



Stéphane Siohan

(Impact) Producer

My Dear Théo

Stéphane Siohan is a French documentary producer based in Ukraine, where he produces documentaries such as 'Home Games' (2018) and 'We Will Not Fade Away', Berlinale 2023 and nominated at the European Film Awards 2023. As a writer and producer, Stéphane has been writing and documenting Russia's invasion of Ukraine since 2022. He is also a senior consultant to media development organisations to support the emergence of documentary within Suspilne, the Ukrainian public television channel.



Tommy Gulliksen

Director

Facing War

Norwegian documentary film maker.

feature film.



David Grabias

Director

You.Sleep.Stay

David Grabias is an award-winning nonfiction filmmaker and video artist based in Los Angeles, California. David's previous work has been exhibited internationally, including at the Museum of Modern Art, and he has won numerous awards at film festivals and events, including an Emmy. He has been supported by the Sundance Institute, California Humanities, the Humane Society, Public Television and the Center for Asian American Media, among others. With dozens of films to his credit for networks such as PBS and HBO, David's work celebrates the diversity of the human spirit.

guests **Activist Lens**



Ahmed Muzamil

Activist

Sudan, Remember Us

I am a Sudanese artist, activist, and remote volunteer committed to justice and human rights. Through murals and portraits, I document the struggle for freedom and honor revolution martyrs, using art as a tool of resistance and remembrance. Beyond my artistic activism, I volunteer remotely to support displaced communities and advocate for Sudan's ongoing fight for dignity and liberation.

Aleks Gezentsvey is an editor who seeks out projects with an emphasis on story and emotion. Her work has received multiple accolades, including an Emmy



Aleksandra Gezentsvey

Editor

Black Snow



Devi Khadka

Activist

Devi



Hind Meddeb

Director

Sudan, Remember Us



Jennifer Wickham

Director

Yintah



Jeremy Kewuan

Activist

Slave Island

Award for Outstanding Short Documentary for "Silent Witness", a film she produced and edited; Cinema Eye Spotlight Award and Fact Award at CPH:DOX for Best Investigative Documentary for the film "Black Snow"; an Emmy for Exceptional Merit in Documentary Filmmaking and the Sundance Audience Award for "Jim: The James Foley Story"; as well as an Academy Award for Best Documentary and a BAFTA for the film "Navalny", which she did as a co-editor.

Devi Khadka is a human rights activist, a rape survivor from Nepal's decade long civil war, whose advocacy, social organization and political lobbying has led to the historic inclusion of wartime rape survivors in the newly ratified Truth and Reconciliation Amendment Bill of 2024, opening a path of justice for the survivors. Khadka was 17 when she was arrested and was subjected to violent sexual violence and rape by the police in 1997. Unable to return home, she joined the Maoist rebels. In 2007, after the peace process, Khadka became the member of the interim legislature and became a member of Parliament.

Citizen of both sides of the Mediterranean, Hind Meddeb represents people and territories in their complexity. She creates an intimacy with the characters, revealing historic events through individual paths. She directed TUNISIA CLASH and ELECTRO CHAABI, two feature documentaries on musical creation as a revolutionary act. Her film, PARIS STALINGRAD was selected in numerous festivals including Cinéma du Réel, TIFF, CPH:DOX. Her new film Sudan, Remember Us, received an audience award in Doha and Belgium, the cinema critic award in Carcassonne, the best female director award in Fipadoc, and the special mention of the jury in DOC NYC.

Jennifer Wickham is a member of Cas Yikh (Grizzly House) of the Gidimt'en (Bear/Wolf) Clan of the Wet'suwet'en people. She fell in love with Wedzin Kwa in 2012 and moved home to defend her against the multiple pipelines proposed through her traditional territories. Jennifer is the Media Coordinator for Gidimt'en Checkpoint, a published poet, and is committed to defending the land for future generations. Her professional career includes being a high school educator, youth advocate, and work in language and culture revitalization.

Activist fighting against human trafficking and slavery.

guests Activist Lens



Jimmy Hendrickx

Director

Slave Island

Documentary film director with a focus on human right issues and cultures in transition.



Justyna Wydrzyńska

Activist

Abortion Dream Team

Co-founder of Women in the Network, an aid organization supporting access to abortion in Poland. Member of Abortion Dream team and President of the Period Foundation. Chemist by education. Since 2006, Justyna supports people experiencing unwanted pregnancies with information on how to get abortion pills in Poland and providing psychological support to people in crisis of unwanted pregnancies. She was recognized as a human rights defender and became the face of the campaign conducted by Amnesty International regarding the decriminalization of abortion. She was shortlisted for the Sakharov Award for a Freedom of Thought by EP.



Karolina Lucyna Domagalska

Director

Abortion Dream Team

Activist, writer, and director.



Kinga Jelinska

Activist

Abortion Dream Team

Marcos Vizcarra

Activist

State of Silence

Marcos Vizcarra is a Mexican journalist based in Culiacán, Sinaloa. He began his career in 2011, specializing in human rights issues. He has chronicled cases involving forced disappearances, forced displacement of people, and victims of torture. He currently writes for Revista ESPEJO and is a correspondent for the newspaper Reforma in Mexico City.



Miki Redelinghuys

Director

Mother City

Documentary filmmaker who believes story has the power to bring positive change. She is a co-founder of Plexus Films, consults as impact producer, serves as programme director for the UCT Sunshine Cinema Impact course and is co-director of the Climate Story Lab SA. In 2018 she initiated the DFA docLOVE screenings in Cape Town, a countrywide program aimed at building documentary audiences and social engagement through film. Mostly, she loves being with a camera which is why she spent 6 years filming Mother City. "The camera is a lens through which I try to make sense of the perplexing world in which we live."

guests Activist Lens



Natalia Broniarczyk

Activist

Abortion Dream Team

Member of Abortion Dream Team which formed in October 2016 to help women in Poland to source and safely take abortion pills.



Natalia Zubkova

Activist

Black Snow



Nkosikhona Swaartbooi

Activist

Mother City

Environmental journalist from Kiselyovsk, Russia whose work focuses on environmental abuses and government corruption. In 2017, she founded her online news and video outlet, News of Kiselyovsk, and it soon became the only independent media outlet in the city. Her investigations on environmental abuses in the mining industry, and the government's effort to cover up these catastrophes, received coverage from independent news outlets throughout Russia as well as major international outlets such as CBC News, Deutsche Welle and the Wall Street Journal, which dubbed Kiselyovsk the "Death Valley" of Russia.

Nkosikhona is a South African human rights activist with 15 years of experience in movement building and community organizing. He focuses on strategic governance for systemic change, particularly in ensuring equal access to basic services. He strongly believes in collaborative and inclusive approaches to addressing complex challenges, fostering relationships between communities and state institutions responsible for upholding constitutional rights.



Pearlie Joubert

Director

Mother City

Pearlie is an acclaimed investigative journalist starting her career in 1989 at the only Afrikaans anti-apartheid newspaper in South Africa. Having spent years as a news producer for ITV, Channel 4, Sky News and the BBC, she ended her journalism career blowing the whistle on the biggest Sunday newspaper in South Africa's complicity in enabling the then corrupt state president's attempts to loot the fiscus. For the past seven years she has been the director of the Bertha Challenge, a global fellowship for activists and investigative journalists.



Santiago Maza Stern

Director

State of Silence

Santiago has been supported by institutions such as FONCA, IMCINE, Berlinale Talent Campus, and Doculab. His debut The Thunder Feast screened at 15+ festivals, winning Best Documentary at San Diego Latino Film Festival. He co-directed Netflix's Reasonable Doubt, and directed The Issue with Gael García Bernal, as well as State of Silence, produced by Diego Luna and winner of best film at SANF-IC. He leads the documentary department at La Corriente del Golfo.



Shaylynn Sampson

Activist

Yintah

Shaylynn Sampson is a Gitxsan Land Defender from the Lax Gibuu (Wolf Clan) and Wilp Spookw, she grew up below the mountain Stekyoden on Gitxsan Lax'yip. Shaylynn has been living between Gitxsan, Wet'suwet'en and Lekwungen territory for the last five years committing her life to the fights for the rights of marginalized peoples, specifically dedicated to Indigenous Sovereignty and Youth organizing. She upholds an ancient alliance between the Gitxsan and Wet'suwet'en Nations through her solidarity work both on and off the Yintah, and continues her work in advocacy against the disputed PRGT Pipeline proposed to go through Gitxsan territory.

guests Activist Lens



Subina Shrestha

Director

Devi

Filmmaker and journalist who likes to push boundaries in storytelling. Her work ranges from print stories on the New York Times, to short fiction in virtual reality. Her documentaries on Al Jazeera have been used by various educational institutions, and by human rights organizations in the Hague to discuss modern day slavery and the Maoist conflict. Her news coverage on Nepal's earthquake and its aftermath earned her multiple awards including an Emmy nomination. She was nominated for the Rory Peck Award for her camerawork while undercover reporting in Myanmar during cyclone Nargis.

guests Justice Frame



James Jones

Director

Antidote

James Jones is an Emmy-winning British director who makes documentary films for international television and theatrical release. He has just finished a feature documentary, Antidote, at Passion Pictures and is now starting a new film for HBO.



Nani Jansen Reventlow

Author and Human Rights lawyer



Susanna Edwards

Director

The Dialogue Police

Nani is specialised in strategic litigation at the intersection of human rights, social justice, and technology. She is the founder of Systemic Justice, an organisation that seeks to radically transform how the law works for communities fighting for racial, social and economic justice. Nani has an extensive background in promoting human rights in the digital context and in defending journalists and activists in some of the most repressive environments in the world. She previously founded and built the Digital Freedom Fund, which supports digital rights litigation. Nani is the author of Radicale rechtvaardigheid (Radical Justice), published in Dutch in 2024.

Award winning documentary filmmaker, producer, writer. She has a strong visual language and an ability to get close to her characters, resulting in challenging and thought-provoking movies telling the human stories within global politics. She has made several award winning documentaries. Her most recent projects include Golden Girl, telling the story of Frida Wallberg, the Swedish WBC World Champion in professional boxing. Besides directing, Susanna has also acted as development producer. With The Dialogue Police she is taking the next step by both producing and directing, backed by co- and executive producers, all leading figures in the industry.

guests Dutch Focus



Corinne van Egeraat

(Impact) Producer

The Coriolis Effect



Lidija Zelovic

Director

Home Game

With over 30 years of experience in the film industry, I am the owner and documentary filmmaker at ZINDOC, a Dutch production company making creative documentary films for the cinema. I have produced and directed several award-winning documentaries that explore social, cultural, and environmental issues around the world. Some of my films include "The Coriolis Effect" (2025), "I Am The River, The River Is Me' (2024), 'Myanmar Diaries' (2022), "Angels on Diamond Street" (2019), and "Burma Storybook" (2017). My core competencies include creative storytelling and impact production. I am passionate about creating films that inspire change and unity.

Born and raised in Yugoslavia. Lives in The Netherlands since 1993.



Petr Lom

Director

The Coriolis Effect

Petr Lom is a Dutch based Czech–Canadian filmmaker whose award–winning work has premiered at Berlin, Venice, IDFA and Sundance and has screened at over 450 festivals around the world and broadcast in more than 30 countries. He works together with his partner and producer Corinne van Egeraat. They are both members of the Academy of Motion Picture Art & Sciences.

guests Shorts Competition



Malu Janssen

Director

Barlebas



Marnie Blok

Director

Beyond Silence



Rutger Veenstra

Director

Pig

Malu Janssen is a screenwriter and director based in Amsterdam. After studying Theater and Film Studies at the University of Utrecht she enrolled at the Netherlands Film Academy where she graduated in 2016 in directing fiction. Her short films EIGEN, STUFF and A CAPPELLA IN D MINOR have been part of the competitions and won awards at several festivals. Her short film BARLEBAS recently made her festival debut. Currently Malu is in late development of her feature debut WE ARE LIGHT, about a small commune that strives to let go of food to live on light.

Marnie Blok is a former actress and award-winning screenwriter who recently made her directorial debut. She wrote several acclaimed feature films, including Simon and the Oaks, which won her the Montblanc Scenario Prize. Open Water received nine nominations, including Best Feature Screenplay. Blok also created and wrote renowned TV series such as Line 32 and Ramses, which won multiple awards, including Best Screenplay, the Nipkow Award, the Prix Europa, and an International Emmy for Best Actor. Her series Childhood Dreams was selected for CANNESERIES 2022, ultimately winning Best Series at the New York Festival 2024.

Rutger Veenstra graduated from the Netherlands Film Academy in 2006. He collaborated on several productions for both film and television. He simultaneously focussed on writing his own scripts and by doing so, he developed his very own style of storytelling. Frequently returning themes in his stories are kindred spirit, loneliness and hope. His aim is to realise urgent and relevant films that distinguish themselves by an intriguing point of view and cutting edge subjects. Rutger's latest Frisian short film 'Pig' (Baarch) is just finished and he is currently working ons his Frisian feature debut film.

guests Jury Members



Adelheid Roosen

Activist Lens



Adrian Kawaley-Lathan

Activist Lens

explores a vast array of themes in her quest to understand others, never shying away from topics ranging from honour revenge to the farewell to a dying friend. Since 2010, she has employed her 'adoption method', where actors and theatre makers live with local residents to truly reflect on themselves through encounters with strangers. Collecting and shaping these stories and perspectives forms the foundation of her work. Adelheid has won numerous national and international awards and has been teaching at the Amsterdam Theatre School since 1986.

Theatre Maker and Artistic Director of Female Economy Theatre Company. She

Adrian combines his expertise in peacebuilding, storytelling and changemaking to transform apathy into action. He designs, directs and facilitates programmes, productions and interventions that enhance social engagement, build community and empower sustainable change.



Brian Hill

Grand Jury Documentary Brian Hill is a director of both drama and documentary, and sometimes the areas in between. He is a three times BAFTA winner and his films have been shown at festivals all round the world. He also works as an executive producer and as a screenwriter.



Chaeyuen Bae

Shorts Competition

Cyan Bae (they/she) is an award-winning filmmaker and researcher based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Currently Cyan is a PhD Candidate in International Political Sociology at the Institute of Political Science, Leiden University. Cyan's research focuses on the algorithmic governance and resistance around affective computing technologies in the field of security. Cyan's latest film Dear Chaemin has been screened and awarded at inter/national film festivals. Cyan is also a co-founder of First Cut.



Christopher Zalla

Grand Jury Fiction

American film writer, director, and producer. His most recent film RADICAL premiered at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival, winnig the Festival Favorite Award. Radical won seven more Audience Awards and several Grand Jury Prizes at other international film festivals, before becoming the highest grossing drama in Mexican box office history. Mr. Zalla has taught Directing at Columbia University's Graduate Film School, where he previously received an MFA with Honors in Directing. Before Columbia, Mr. Zalla served as the Assistant to legendary independent Film Producer Cary Woods (SCREAM, SWINGERS, KIDS, CITIZEN RUTH).



Dávid Mikulán

Justice Frame

Dávid Mikulán is an Intermedia artist and filmmaker who graduated from the Fine Art University, Budapest. Making films since age 12, his artistic practice is influenced by skateboarding, punk music, Fluxus, video art and experimental music. His work's main focus is how public spaces have an effect on social structures. He is the director of last year's Camera Justitia Award-winning film KIX.

guests Jury Members



Eva KrižkováDutch Focus

Eva works as the director of the One World International Documentary Film Festival in Slovakia. She has been involved in documentary film industry as a publicist, distributor and director. She has recently lounched her feature-length debute Birdhill as a film director. She is also a member of the board of the Slovak Documentary Film Association.



Hasan Oswald

Activist Lens



Jihan El TahriShorts Competition



Joost van der Valk

Dutch Focus



Grand Jury Documentary

Justine Nagan



Activist Lens

Egyptian and French national who is an award winning director, writer, visual artist and producer. In 2017, she was invited to join the Academy of Arts and Sciences (The Oscars) and continues as a Mentor at various film labs. Her work as a Visual Artist has been exhibited worldwide. Her writings include "Les Sept Vies de Yasser Arafat" and "Israel and the Arabs, The 50 Years war". El-Tahri is also engaged in various associations and institutions working with African Cinema. She served as treasurer of the Guild of African Filmmakers in the Diaspora, an Advisor on Focus Feature's Africa first Program and as Regional Secretary of the Federation of Pan African Cinema.

Joost van der Valk is a BAFTA and Emmy-winning documentary filmmaker. He has made documentaries about a wide range of subjects. Feature documentaries about gangs, such as Crips: Strapped 'n Strong and Satudarah – One Blood, but also films about human rights issues, such as Saving Africa's Witch Children, The Witchdoctor Hunters, Fighting for Peace and Eddy's War, which won the Dutch Movies That Matter Award in 2024. In recent years, he has worked as a director on series such as Narcowars for Disney+, Make or Break for Apple TV+ and Drug Lords, Dope, Drive to Survive and Captains for Netflix.

Justine Nagan is an Emmy and Peabody Award-winning documentary producer and creative media executive. She is currently Executive Vice President at Actual Films. Recently, she produced Marlee Matlin: Not Alone Anymore (Sundance 2025) and The White House Effect (Telluride 2024.) Prior, Justine was the Executive Director of American Documentary, and an EP on its signature series, POV and America Reframed. Films showcased during her time include Through the Night, The Mole Agent, Softie, Minding the Gap, Last Men in Aleppo, and Hooligan Sparrow.

Lianne has a background in Film and Television Distribution and in 2020 joined Monaco-based IEFTA, where she initially managed the organization's administrative affairs. By the end of 2021, she transitioned into the role of Head of Development. In her current position, Lianne oversees all aspects of IEFTA, focusing on expanding its engagement with international film festivals, development programs, and creating opportunities for emerging filmmakers. Through her strategic approach, she continues to elevate the organization's global presence and support the growth of new talent in the film industry.

guests Jury Members



Mariette Rissenbeek
Grand Jury Fiction

Longtime experience in distribution and production in Germany, 16 years of international marketing and festival experience at German Films - General Manager of the Berlinale for the past 5 years.



Mijke de JongJustice Frame

A filmmaker who delves into the human experience with a rare blend of honesty and compassion. Walking the fine line between fiction and reality, her films cast an unflinching gaze on social issues that too often remain unspoken. With her debut Hartverscheurend (1992), she instantly got the attention of the international film world. Ever since, she made films that challenge, and linger in the mind. From the award-winning Bluebird to the boundary-pushing Layla M., her oeuvre is both intimate and universal. Whether working with seasoned actors or fresh new talent, her gift for telling authentic stories makes her work timeless and profoundly relevant.



Morena Faverin
Shorts Competition

Morena Faverin has been working in the cultural field for over 10 years as a freelance curator, project manager, and communications manager for festivals, foundations, universities, and cultural associations. Since 2014, she has been part of the Lago Film Fest organization, where she currently serves as Co-General Director. Previously, she shaped the festival as Artistic Director from 2020 to 2024 and led its communications as Communication Manager from 2014 to 2023.



Olga Kavran
Justice Frame

Founding Director of IUSTICOM and a Fellow and PhD candidate at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Her broad experience includes over 25 years in international criminal justice, including the roles of Outreach Deputy Coordinator and then Spokesperson for the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and Head of Outreach and Legacy at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. Ms Kavran also has extensive teaching experience at the American University of Beirut and other universities in Lebanon, the former Yugoslavia, the United States and the United Kingdom and has published extensively on international criminal courts.



Grand Jury Documentary

Robert Moore

Bob Moore is a creative producer at EyeSteelFilm in Montreal, where he has produced over 40 feature documentaries since 2008. He has been the recipient of over 100 international awards, including Emmys, Cinema Eyes, Golden Horses, Owls, Phoenixes, and a variety of other celebratory animal-themed prizes. Bob loves to share his arcane knowledge and experience with like-minded filmmakers from around the world, and is currently an advisor working with the Sundance Institute, IDFA, QUMRA, Tokyo Docs, Hot Docs, and others.



Rochus Pronk

Activist Lens

guests Jury Members



Susan Mbogo

Dutch Focus



Thomas van Son

Grand Jury Fiction

Susan is the Programs and Partnerships Manager at the East African Documentary Film Fund- Docubox, which has created a significant impact in the film industry in the East African region through the support of over 100 films with grants and capacity-building initiatives. Susan's expertise extends to various facets of film production. She has a Creative Producing certificate from the New York Film Academy. Currently, she oversees the production of two documentaries and keeps on fostering meaningful narratives that resonate with audiences. Her role as a juror in esteemed film festivals further highlights her commitment to the industry.

Thomas van Son graduated from the Amsterdam University of the Arts in 2017 and has been working for the Dutch Academy For Film as a policy and program officer since 2020. Until December 2022, Thomas was affiliated with the Dutch Film Festival as coordinator of the international Holland Film Meeting program. To this day, starting at International Theater Amsterdam and Family Affair Films, he has worked as a freelance program maker, project leader, editor and production manager at Het Zuidelijk Toneel, Arno Schuitemaker, De Authors Union and Netwerk Scenariowriters, among others.

guests Take on Love/Future/Power/Freedom



Areeb Zugiter

Director

Yalla Parkour



Chiara Sambuchi

Director

The Srebrenica Tape – From Dad, for Alisa



Rehad Desai

Director

Capturing Water



Nathan Grabias

Student

You.Sleep.Stay

Award-winning filmmaker based in Washington, D.C. Her debut short, "Stained" won the Jury Award at Beirut's European International Film Festival. Her short documentary "Colors of Resistance" won multiple awards. Zuaiter recently world premiered her feature documentary "Yalla Parkour" at DOCNYC, where it won the International Competition Grand International Jury Prize. Zuaiter previously worked at the Associated Press, led the Regional Training Department at the Royal Film Commission – Jordan, and taught at several universities in Washington, DC. She currently heads the programming department at the Amman International Film Festival.

Chiara Sambuchi studied Philosophy, classical guitar and later Film studies. She has directed documentaries and reportages for several European broadcasters. Her feature length documentary films "Wrong planet", "Good morning Africa!", "City of women, today", "Spirits I've called" and "The deal" were presented at major film festivals around the world and won several awards. Her latest investigative feature documentary "The Deal" premiered at CPH:DOX and won the "Spcial jury award" at Visioni dal mondo film festival in Milan.

Rehad has directed and produced numerous feature length documentaries which have seen international broadcast, theatrical release, festival prizes and critical acclaim. His 2014 film, Miners Shot Down has garnered 28 local/international awards including an International EMMY for documentary (2015). His films How To Steal A Country and Everything Must Fall entertainingly illuminate the myriad of challenges South Africa faces. Time of Pandemics, released in 2022, continues to be utilised by health advocacy groups. Capturing Water (2025) is at the Movies that Matter Festival for its international premiere, accompanied by an impact campaign.

I am currently a full-time university student. I am interested in how documentary film can empower story telling in the disability community.

guests **Cinema without Borders**



Aída Naxhielly Espíndola Programme Coordinator Mexico



Ali Hamza **Assistant** Iraq



Programme Coordinator Georgia

Anastasia Primakoff



BaoChau Nguyen CEO / (Co-)Founder Vietnam



Boshra Hanna CEO / (Co-)Founder Egypt



(Impact) Producer Uganda

Kabuye Nodryn Evanci



Kakyo Trinah CEO / (Co-)Founder Uganda



Karoline Pelikan (Impact) Producer Peru



Lisandro Jordão Programme Coordinator Mozambique



Sashul Shrestha Programme Coordinator Nepal



Timothy Olawoye CEO / (Co-)Founder Nigeria

guests Impact Lab



Chihiro Geuzebroek

Other (Film) Professional Chihiro is a decolonial climate justice artist and activist and co-founder of Stichting Aralez.



Deniece Hilberink

(Impact) Producer

Deniece Hilberink (1994) works as an assistant (impact)producer for the film and impact productions of Een van de jongens and the Impact Lab training.



Ebru Aydin

(Impact) Producer



Femke van Elk de Koning

Other (Film) Professional Femke van Elk de Koning is a freelance educator, trainer and presenter. She has a background in communication science and Holocaust & genocide studies. Her experience lies in the work of developing educational projects and programmes for young adults and teachers on topics such as Anne Frank, the Holocaust, discrimination, antisemitism and human rights.



Hasse van Nunen

(Impact) Producer

Hasse van Nunen is a documentary producer within her own company Een van de Jongens (together with Renko Douze). In collaboration with quirky filmmakers with strong visions, she produces meaningful and artistically high-quality documentaries. In that capacity, she felt a strong need to shake up society more with the documentaries she produced. And so she founded the Impact Academy (now Impact Makers), which resulted in a number of new financing options for impact projects and it introduced a previously unknown profession for the Netherlands, that of impact producer. Now, she produces bot impact campaigns and films.



Isaura Sanwirjatmo

Other (Film) Professional Isaura Sanwirjatmo is a documentary filmmaker and video artist who focuses on making social inequality visible. Her work combines elements of fiction and non-fiction, interweaving documentary, internet culture and performance. Her goal is to make complex social issues and experiences tangible for a wide audience.

guests Impact Lab



Lara Billie Rense

(Impact) Producer

Rense is one of the most valued voices on NPO Radio 1. They presented the Radio 1 Journaal and Nieuws en Co for the NOS for 12.5 years and is now the permanent presenter of the Human programme Wat Blijft. In 2024, Lara Billie made their debut with the book Een zee van ruimte at Atlas Contact. 'A brave and poetic debut that makes you think.' Rense also gives interview training to journalists and is on the board of the foundation TheDutchBrewhouse, a musical brewery where artists, scientists, writers and musicians work together.



Lelie Daneshvar

Student



Marit Kos

(Impact) Producer



Martine Baadenhuijsen

Other (Film) Professional



Niekie Khaled

(Impact) Producer



Nienke Huitenga

Director

Inclusion expert and founder of *All Inclusive at Work*, based in Utrecht, Netherlands. She empowers organizations to create accessible and diverse workplaces, drawing from her own lived experience as someone who is blind. Martine specializes in developing simulations and training programs that raise awareness about inclusion, accessibility, and unconscious bias. Through her workshops and expert guidance, she helps businesses foster equal opportunities and embrace diversity as a strength. With a focus on practical solutions, Martine is dedicated to creating work environments where everyone feels valued and included.

A dedicated film professional with a passion for personal, candid documentaries. She focusses on telling vulnerable stories that matter. Her commitment to impactful storytelling is evident in het work as executive producer of Mijn Vader de Hasjkoning (Videoland) and producer of Becky Bulldozer (BNNVARA). Currently, Niekie is producing the documentary Zwieber by Eline van der Kaa, set to premiere in 2025. She is also working as an advisor at Kunstloc Brabant and film platform KONKAV, she supports filmmakers in bringing their project to life and fostering their artistic growth. Through this work, Niekie empowers others to create impact with their stories.

Nienke Huitenga is an immersive director and producer. Her art stems from a curiosity for how innovative technology sharpens our understanding of being human. At Studio ZZZAP she blends an xr practice with digital art and experiential storytelling.

guests Impact Lab



Noa Defesche

(Impact) Producer

Noa Defesche (1994) works as an line producer at Een van de jongens. Following her studies at the Royal Academy of Art (Graphic Design) and the University of Amsterdam (Political Science), she started working in the documentary sector. Initially at IDFA and since 2021 at Een van de jongens, where she focuses on impact productions and documentaries. Alongside her role as an executive producer, she creates autonomous work and prints as a designer.



Pelle Yntema

(Impact) Producer

Trained as a historian and Africanist, I first became interested in the power of storytelling during my internship at the Dutch public radio program OVT. At the same time, I became more involved in various social and political struggles, especially border politics. After completing my master's degree, I wanted to find a way to use storytelling as a transformative tool for positive societal change. I believe impact production as a practice can empower storytellers to drive that change.



Pepijn Smit

Other (Film) Professional Pepijn Smit is a theatre director and artistic director of city company PS|theater. He creates location performances about and designs projects to address major social issues. His work focuses on the clash between people and the system. Since 2021, he has been working to get a grip on the system that maintains inequality of opportunity.



Reijer Zwaan

Tutor

Reijer Zwaan is a documentary filmmaker and journalist, and together with Ester Gould founder of production company The Other Room. Together they directed and co-produced the internationally successful documentary Strike a Pose (2016). Most recently, as producer, researcher and showrunner, Reijer was responsible for the documentary series HIDDEN (2024) and its subsequent impact campaign and educational spinoff. Previously, he worked as at the current affairs program Nieuwsuur. Reijer studied political science in Amsterdam and New York.



Sarah Rotteveel

(Impact) Producer

Sarah Rotteveel graduated in filmstudies and a master in philosophy. After working at het Nederlands Film Festival and arthouse cinema 't Hoogt, she started working at Vlaams Cultuurhuis de Brakke Grond and co-founded the activist platform www.watkanikdoen.nl. In April 2025, she will start as a member of the programme team at theatre and arthouse Dakota. She's part of class '25 of Impact Lab to learn more about being an impact producer.



Siu Ki Ho

Other (Film) Professional Documentary filmmaker and mental health advocate based in Amsterdam. After her Master's in Documentary Filmmaking from UCL, she directed several films that have been featured at film festivals, conferences, and symposia around the world. Following a profound personal loss in 2021, Kiki made the decision to dedicate her life to fighting the stigma surrounding mental health and to celebrating the positive visibility of neurodiversity. She also works as Director of Programmes at The Big Hoof, a charity that organises long-distance treks aimed at enhancing mental well-being whilst promoting the outdoors—through the transformative power of the horse.

guests Impact Lab



Stephanie Luka
(Impact) Producer

Stephanie Luka is a Dutch-Congolese writer, programmer and educator. Specialized in documentary and currently working as Education Content Manager at International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), she develops educational programs to amplify the impact of creative nonfiction stories on young audiences.

guests Take on Film & Impact



Amir Masoud Soheili

(Impact) Producer

As the Bell Rings



Anita Jonsterhaug Vedå

Participant Take on Film and Impact

Hope is a Word



Atefeh Kheirabadi

Participant Take on Film and Impact

Blind, Into the Eye

Award-winning Iranian producer and filmmaker, known for "Blue-eyed Boy" (2014) and "Elephantbird" (2019), which have won over 40 awards at 300+ international festivals. He has produced notable documentaries, and his own feature-length documentary premiered at the Yamagata Film Festival in 2023. Masoud has extensive experience in festival programming, serving as a jury member at festivals worldwide and co-founding the Asia Peace Film Festival. He also programs for festivals in Turkey, Indonesia, and the UK. He has a background in law and advanced studies in film business and scriptwriting.

Anita Vedå has run Smau since 2014. Her films "Flowers in the veins" (2022) and "Ideas from God, the Devil and the four corners of the world" (2023), both intimate portrayals of artists, were very well received in Norway. The films she has produced have been screened at Bergen International Film Festival, Nordisk Panorama and Rome IFF, and her most recent co-production "Murmuring Hearts" won the award for Best Cinematography at Tallinn Black Nights. Anita was part of IDFA Academy in 2019, and in 2024 she was part of the Norwegian Film Institute's delegation to CPH:DOX.

Atefeh Kheirabadi is an experimental filmmaker. She explores the intersection between experimental film practice and participatory film formats that oscillate between reality and illusion, aesthetics and politics. She takes a sharp look at contemporary issues of being a woman and resistance in their political context, linking image and media politics.



Felix Golenko

Director

The Trilion Dollar Case

A documentarian and Dolby Atmos sound recordist who sees storytelling as a medium for documenting and sharing impactful narratives that can shape society. His passion for non-fiction cinema began in 2013. From 2016 to 2024, he studied directing at the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg with a focus on documentary film. He focuses on creating intimate spaces for compelling protagonists, allowing the audience to connect deeply with their stories. He advocates an empathetic approach that begins with active listening, thorough research and a philosophical exploration of humanity.



Hélène Lam Trong

Director

Inside Gaza



Irena Taskovski

Tutor

CEO & founder of Taskovski Films and #docsconnect training program. Irena is working as film consultant / expert on impact strategies, marketing, sales, financing and festivals for many film institutions e.g. HBO Europe, TRT world, Asian Cinema Fund, Dok.incubator CZ, Sources Germany, and Head Tutor at Emerging Producers – at Ji.hlava IDFF CZ. Founder of the training program initiative art of creative producing and distribution "Film Academy for Conscious Creative leaders and film residencies.

guests Take on Film & Impact



Jessica Valdez Vanegas (Impact) Producer

Blind, Into the Eye

Jessica Valdez is a film producer and impact strategist. She demonstrates a remarkable wit in weaving ideas, narratives, budgets and logistics with the artists and communities she collaborates with. She collaborated as script writer and host in educational podcast series and videos. She holds keynotes and workshops on anticolonial perspectives in cinema, climate justice and embodiment. Furthermore she blogs on film production and programming in an informed, sassy and sincere way.



Jooyoung Kim

Director

As the Bell Rings

A filmmaker and producer deeply dedicated to addressing social issues. She is a lecturer in animation at one of Korea's premier animation schools. Her animations have been featured on South Korea's mainstream TV channels and showcased at various international film festivals, including the Annecy International Animation Film Festival. Since 2019, she has successfully produced multiple award-winning documentaries, skillfully integrating her animation expertise into the realm of documentary filmmaking. Additionally, she has contributed as a jury member for esteemed film festivals such as the Sedicisorto Film Festival and the Asia Peace Film Festival.



Jule Schnakenberg

Protagonist

The Trilion Dollar Case

Julia Hammett-Jamart

(Impact) Producer

Inside Gaza

CEO of Catalyst, a non-profit organisation which creates global impact campaigns for film, TV and immersive media. Recent projects include the award-winning film Zinder and the forthcoming documentary Inside Gaza. Julia has extensive experience in production, policy and education. She has produced and directed drama and documentary films, was a senior executive at Screen Australia, is a published author and regularly leads workshops at industry events as well as teaching at the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle. Julia is a consultant for international organisations including the EU Audiovisual Observatory and STEPS South Africa and is a member of GIPA.



Katharina Hoppe

Participant Take on Film and Impact

The Trillion Dollar Case

After studying Film Production at the University for the Creative Arts in Farnham, UK, Katharina Hoppe completed a Master's degree in Media Culture and Media Economy at the University of Bayreuth and subsequently began working for the film production companies brave new work, Little Dream Entertainment, the animation studio Red Parrot and the film distribution company Little Dream Pictures, where she supervised feature films, animation films and documentaries as a project manager.



Komeil Soheili

Director

As the Bell Rings

Komeil Soheili is an independent Iranian filmmaker and producer known for his award-winning documentaries. With an MA in Cultural Studies and Media, he began as a documentary researcher before embarking on a five-year global journey, later chronicled in his first book. His films have been recognized at several festivals, including the Bucheon Fantastic Film Festival and United Nation. A jury member at multiple international festivals including Busan Short FF, Komeil continues to craft compelling documentaries that explore human narratives and social issues.

guests Take on Film & Impact



Kristie Robinson

(Impact) Producer

Justice in the Land of Foa



Mahmoud Omar

(Impact) Producer

The Consort

British impact producer working in the field for over a decade, since she transitioned from journalism. Between 2013 and 2019, she worked with DocSociety on Good Pitch events across the Western Hemisphere, supporting mostly Latin American film teams on impact strategy and campaign building on social and environmental justice and human rights issues. She was based in Argentina for 12 years before relocating to Spain in 2018, and since then her work has bridged Europe and Latin America. She is a member of GIPA and the European Women's Audiovisual network. She is working on the global strategy for Justice in the Land of Fog's impact campaign.

Mahmoud is an Egyptian filmmaker-producer resident in France.



Marc Sebastian Eils

Participant Take on Film and Impact Not a Statue Marc Sebastian Eils studied documentary filmmaking at the self-organized film school filmArche in Berlin.



Maria Galliani Dyrvik

Director

Hope is a Word

Maria grew up between the Norwegian fjords and the Italian Alps of Piemonte. Her animations and docs, "We will arrive tomorrow" (2016) and "The sky underwater" (2018), have been screened at several festivals. Maria has co-directed the web-doc series "Vi e Brann" (2022), a raw and close portrayal of the struggles and wins of a tight-knit female football team, nominated for the Norwegian media prizes 2023. With her projects, Maria has taken part in EsoDoc, IDFAcademy and Torino Film Lab. "Hope is a Word", which was shortlisted for the Whickers Film & TV Funding Award, is her first feature documentary.



Mehrad Sepahnia

Participant Take on Film and Impact Blind, Into the Eye Mehrad Sepahnia is an experimental filmmaker who explores the intersection of experimental film practices and fiction that oscillate between reality and illusion, aesthetics and politics, and consist of a transformation of gestures, narrative forms and staged elements to question oppression and patriarchy.



Nicole van Schaik

Tutor

Nicole is a creative changemaker, impact strategist and moderator. She enjoys co-creating with organisations, individuals and initiatives in the cultural and media sector, journalism, business and philanthropy to make a positive and meaningful social impact. Nicole also loves performing the art of moderating at events.

guests Take on Film & Impact

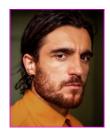
at numerous international festivals.



Olga Slusareva

Participant Take on Film and Impact A Song Without Home

Producer with a background in Economics and Management of Organizations. She is the co-founder of ArtWay Film, specializing in cinematic documentaries and art-house films focused on human rights, social justice, and freedom of expression. Olga has produced several short films that have been selected for around 100 festivals worldwide. Her feature documentary projects have been selected for prestigious industry platforms such as Karlovy Vary IFF, CPH:DOX, Ji.hlava, and EAVE Change, and have won awards including the TDF Award at Visions du Réel and the HBO Award at Sarajevo FF.



Rati Tsiteladze

Director

A Song Without Home

European Film Academy Award-nominated filmmaker from Georgia. He is an alumnus of the Locarno Academy, TIFF Filmmaker Lab, Berlinale Talents, and Cannes Cinéfondation Residence, and has participated in artist residencies at renowned institutions. Rati's short films won over 50 awards and were screened at around 300 festivals worldwide. His short "Prisoner of Society" won multiple Oscar-qualifying awards and was nominated for the European Film Academy. Rati was awarded the Moulin d'Andé Prize at Cannes, and at TIFF, he received the HFPA Film Independent Award from the Golden Globes.

Producer, digital colorist, the founder & CEO of the Cell studios & The shift studio.

films, documentaries, commercials and passionate about creating content with a social and environmental impact. "Over these previous years he has always been a researcher in addition to his continuous personal studies which helped in shap-

ing and building his own style in the whole industry." His work has been screened

He graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts with 18 years of experience working on advertising, films and TV Series in Egypt and worldwide. Specialized in fiction



Sherif Fathy

(Impact) Producer

The Consort



Sylvie Vernyuy Njobati

Participant Take on Film and Impact

Not a Statue



Valentina Romero López

Participant Take on Film and Impact

lustice in the Land of



Victor Luengo

A multiple-award-winning activist whose work for the past four years has been focused on confronting the colonial past between Cameroon and her multiple colonial encounters with Germany, Britain, France, and Portugal. She is one of the top global voices on the question of restitution and currently leads the #Bring-BackNgonnso campaign that has gained global recognition and motivated several communities and countries to request the repatriation of Africa's Cultural Heritage hoarded in European museums and storage facilities. Sylvie holds a double Master's Degree in Television, Theatre, and Film and Art and Culture Management.

Colombian gueer film producer and cultural manager, co-founder of Uno Uno Films. Her work is supported by the Film Development Fund, Just Films - Ford Foundation, Le Marché Du Film Court, and more. Her practice blends creation, creative production, and social impact. She currently co-produces the documentary "Justice in the Land of Fog", co-writes the experimental feature "Cuando la Lux / Atraviesa mi Cuerpo", and directs the short film "Los Gallos". Through her work, she explores themes of identity, migration, gender, and collective memory rituals with an intersectional feminist lens, aiming to foster meaningful dialogue and social change.



He studied Fine Arts. For 10 years he painted oils on canvas and exhibited in Germany, New York and especially in Madrid. In 2008, he switched to working in audiovisual production. He started working as a photojournalist for several NGOs in Cambodia, Madagascar, Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador. Since 2015, he has worked as filmmaker, camera operator and/or director of photography for several clients. In 2019, he made his first documentary, "The Price of Progress", as director and co-writer with Virginia Diaz. His second film is Homeland Security.

guests Take on Film & Impact



Virginia Díaz González Participant Take on Film and Impact Homeland Security

Degree in Sociology, Master's Degree in Journalism and other in Audiovisual Production. From 2002 to 2017, she works as director assistant and postproduction coordination for TV series and films such as "Isabel", "Carlos Rey Emperador", "La Catedral del Mar", and "La Corona Partida". In 2018, she founded the production company Enero Films with Víctor Luengo. Together with him she made her first documentary "The Price of Progress", as co-writer, producer, sound recordist and post production coordinator. Homeland Security is her first film as director.



Participant Take on Film and Impact Inside Gaza

Yann Ollivier

French-German film author journalist and producer. After 20 years as a journalist and international correspondent in Paris, Berlin, Brussels and Strasbourg for The Associated Press and Agence France-Presse, Yann has launched in 2021 the documentary production branch of AFP Group, FACTSTORY DOCS, producing factual documentaries that go beyond the headlines, with a strong emphasis on current affairs, geopolitics, environment, history and society. Recent coproductions: Vasa the Ghost Ship (2023), Everyone's Business (2024), Eddy Merckx, Race of a Champion (2025).

guests Industry



Abishekh Lama
Pakhrin
Other (Film)
Professional
Nepalese Delegation

Mr. Abishekh Lama Pakhrin is office secretary of Hon'ble Yasoda Kumari Lama.



Alia Damaihati

Programmer

Alia Damaihati is one of the member of Forum Film Dokumenter, which started in 2006. She learned and studied film programming and exhibition management in the several workshops. She currently working as Program Director at Festival Film Dokumenter which based in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.



Alfianis Mahmudatul Ula Other (Film) Professional

Joined Forum Film Dokumenter in 2022 as the Promotion and Communication Manager, Vanis has particularly interest in how storytelling through films connect with global and Southeast Asian social and cultural dynamics.



Amrit Thapa

Other (Film) Professional Deputy Head of Representation of the Global Peace and Head of the Representation Kathm-Foundation office in DUBAI



Anna Ramskogler-Witt

Director

Anna Ramskogler-Witt began her film career in 2006 at Vienna Pool Filmverleih, managing education, marketing, and booking. In 2010, she led the Vienna Human Rights Film Festival before moving to Berlin in 2011 to work in film PR. From 2017 to 2019, she headed Fundraising and Partnerships at ECCHR. As Director of the Human Rights Film Festival Berlin (2019–2023), she championed impact-driven documentaries. Passionate about extending their reach, she introduced the Climate Story Lab to Berlin. In 2024, she co-founded The Good Media Network with Vivian Schröder and serves as the artistic director of Dokumentale.



Anne Bothmer

Other (Film) Professional Anne Bothmer holds a BA in Photography (Willem de Kooning Academy) and a MA in Media and Journalism (Erasmus University Rotterdam). As a project officer at Sound & Vision, she contributes to initiatives focused on enhancing media- and news literacy. She also facilitates the creative reuse of archival materials in collaboration with education institutions specializing in film, (immersive)media, art, design, and heritage.

guests Industry



Anthony Fisher

(Impact) Producer

South Africa Delegtion

Anthony Fisher is an award-winning producer and screenwriter from South Africa who started his film career at the age of 60. In 2020, he released his first film 'Address Unknown' which won the Best Short Film award at the South African Film and Television Awards (SAFTA). A year later, Anthony released his second short film in the Sesotho language with the title Leshano (The Lie). His third film, and first attempt at documentary film-making is 'Christopher Truter, A Child of 1976'.



Asya Vildt

Other (Film) Professional Operations Excellence and Sustainability Director at inDrive | Social Impact Leader | Speaker



Benjamin DeVries

(Impact) Producer

Ben DeVries is an Executive Producer of 'Underseen', a short impact documentary about a museum run by the blind in Ukraine. He is the Impact Storyteller at Impact Europe.



Boulahia Abderrahmane

Other (Film) Professional Secretary-General of the Conseil de Justice Sociale Tanger.



Carol Zokufa

(Impact) Producer

South Africa Delegtion

As South Africa's first ever African female television news cameraperson, she has honed her skill in producing excelling broadcasting content in an illustrious career that has run for more than 24-years. She has won numerous awards. She is now a TV Broadcast Director, Film Producer, Editor, and the Founder and CEO of Zokufa Media Productions, her own multimedia production institution. In 2013, she also started facilitating Media Production lessons at Media Village and worked alongside MeCAHT, the Media Coalition & Awareness to Halt Trafficking, where she conducted community awareness programs about the scourge of human trafficking.



Chandra Bahadur Bishwokarma

Other (Film) Professional

Nepalese Delegation

Hon'ble Chandra Bahadur Bishwokarma currently serving as Member of Parliament–Federal Parliament of Nepal, House of Representatives and active political member of CPN UML. He is also Member of Parliamentary Committee–Law, Justice and Human Rights under the House of Representatives.

guests Industry



Chhete Chippa Bhote

Journalist / Editor

Nepalese Delegation

Mrs. Chhete Chippa Bhote is Deputy Editor at Pathshala News, She is actively involved in journalism along with Women Rights issue in Nepal.



Danika Bobst

(Impact) Producer

Danika Bobst is a Swiss film professional with a Bachelor of Arts in Film Production. Since 2022, she has been part of the production and sales team at First Hand Films. In the past year, she has increasingly focused on impact producing, working to amplify the reach and social influence of documentary films.



Dil Bahadur Nepali

Other (Film) Professional

Nepalese Delegation

Hon'ble Dil Bahadur Nepali is Member of Constituent Assembly 2013 and chairman of Save our Himalaya First Nepal. He is working in the sector of Environmental Peace Building in Nepal.



Edith van der Heijde

Other (Film) Professional SFF NI

Eye Filmmuseum

Edith van der Heijde works at Eye Filmmuseum in the Netherlands. As part of the SEE NL department, she is international promotion manager for Dutch shorts and experimental film. She also manages the Eye's national distribution platform for Dutch short films, the Short Film Pool (Korte Film Poule). The platform aims to make Dutch short film visible in Dutch cinemas by making them available through subscription. The catalogue contains both short films from the extensive Eye archive as well as recent shorts.



Ehab Al Khatib

Director

Ehab is a Film Director and producer with a career of 25 years in the Mena region. Cofounder and artistic Director at Karama Human Rights Film Festival, Jordan, and Maamal for Art Production.



Emilien Schenker

Other (Film) Professional Impact Fund Manager for a Swiss-based philanthropic organization supporting independent filmmakers in the Global South as they launch impact campaigns.

guests Industry



Ethan Bregman

Other (Film) Professional Ukrainian Delegation Ethan Bregman is an associate producer at 2Brave Productions. He has worked on TIMESTAMP which premiered at the 2025 Berlin International Film Festival. He also worked on The Rule of Two Walls, which premiered at TriBeCa Film Festival in 2023, and Ghost Team One which premiered at Slamdance in 2013.



Fiona tho Pesch

(Impact) Producer

Fiona tho Pesch is a researcher in the field of morality and inequality at the École Normale Supérieur in Paris. She has been involved in the Kurdish struggle for a couple of years, and has repeatedly traveled to Lavrio in the last years. Her understanding of the psychology of intergroup conflict and authority, as well as community psychology enriches the project on an conceptual level. She has participated in the production of several other documentaries, such as Serif Cicek's last work "Tearing Walls Down", and is currently producing several documentaries in Syria and Greece.



Georgia Murray

Other (Film) Professional Together Films Georgia is Together Films' Impact Strategy Manager, and has been delivering in-depth impact strategies and campaign resources for Together Films projects since 2020. Georgia holds a BA in English Literature and Language with a minor concentration in Sociology from Vanderbilt University.



Georgina Laboda

(Impact) Producer



Gloria Bondi

Other (Film) Professional Gloria Bondi is communication manager at The Home of The Human Safety Net in Venice. The Human Safety Net is a movement of people helping people active in 26 countries and partnering with 80 NGOs to support vulnerable families with children 0-6 and integration of refugees through entrepreneurship and work. Every year in conjunction with the Venice International Film Festival, The Home hosts Lights! Camera! Impact!, an event dedicated to cinema that puts creativity at the service of social issues, a real gathering of pioneers of impactful storytelling



Henk Tummers

Journalist / Editor

I am a music journalist for over 35 years, specialized in world music. I am the one who first wrote about Busi Mhlongo in the Dutch press. I've followed her during the years that she was based in The Netherlands. This is the reason Sausages Films asked me to research her 'Dutch years' and give my advise for the documentary that they plan to make.

guests Industry



Imke Ruigrok

Other (Film)
Professional
RE_NATURE Festival

Imke Ruigrok is the artistic and founding director of the RE_NATURE Festival for art and nature, that creatively responds to current social and ecological issues. Also as an independent curator and programmemaker she focuses on the renewal of systems thinking, the green transition and the stimulation of paradigm shifts. Creating projects with designers, artists, ecologists, universities, activists and theatre-, film- and other changemakers.



Ineke Smits

Other (Film) Professional GoGoFilm Ineke Smits is a filmmaker, whose fiction– and documentary films are screened at several international film festivals. At the Tbilisi-based film production company Nushi Film she is development producer. She conducts workshops, is a lecturer and a project coach both in Georgia, Ukraine and The Netherlands. Ineke advises national and international funds, such as HBF, Creative Europe, and ESFUF. She lives and works in The Netherlands and Georgia.



Ion Gnatiuc

(Impact) Producer

HaiDOC Productions

With a master degree in Documentary Filmmaking at Babeş-Bolyai University (Romania), I returned to my homeland – the Republic of Moldova. The unexplored potential of my country inspired me – with all the knowledge gained abroad – to build a production platform at HaiDOC Productions, where we focus on films that deal with social issues and have the potential to melt the dark walls and build hope a change where other tools have failed. I love white wine, wheat bear and making fun of almost everything.



Jan Rofekamp

Sales Agent

Films Transit International Jan Rofekamp owns and operates Films Transit International (1982) and was one of the longest running and most renowned international sales agencies of quality documentaries. Today he is a full-time documentary sales and marketing consultant for filmmakers and producers on documentary sales and marketing strategy. Jan lives and works out of Athens, Greece.



Jeanne Maksymenko-Dovhych

Other (Film) Professional

Ukrainian Delegation

Jeanne Maksymenko-Dovhych is a film director and screenwriter from Kyiv, Ukraine. Having her master's degree in journalism, she worked with different Ukrainian TV channels. For the past few years, Jeanne has been working on the feature film Peace for Nina as a director and producer. Since the beginning of Russia's large-scale war against Ukraine, she has also worked as a local producer for international media. She is a member of the Documentary Association of Europe and Ukrainian Film Academy.



Jet Roosink

Other (Film) Professional

Sound & Vision

I am a creative producer and storyteller for Sound & Vision. I specialize in the topics: Media, Journalism and Media-Literacy.

guests Industry



Jisoo Oh

Director

Documentary Director (Drive 97, 2024, Short documentary) Director of queer feminist activist group PINKS. Documentary director & media activist based in Seoul, South Korea.



Jordi Wijnalda

Programme

Coordinator
International Coalition
for Filmmakers at Risk

Jordi Wijnalda (he/they) is a Brussels-based queer filmmaker, writer and human rights worker; he is the coordinator for the International Coalition for Filmmakers at Risk (ICFR).



Juliette Jansen

Other (Film) Professional

Sound & Vision

Teamlead at Sound & Vision, one of the biggest media archives in Europe, working with creative to (re) use the archival footage in new productions. Many years of experience in (inter) national filmmaking (a.o. IFFR programmer)



Kamala Biswokarma

Other (Film) Professional

Nepalese Delegation

Hon'ble Kamala Biswokarma is Member of Constituent Assembly 2013 and actively involved to launch Constitution of Nepal. She is also Chairwoman of Jagaran Media Center, She has been working as politician and active Women Rights Activist in Nepal.



Katalin Barsony

Other (Film)
Professional
Romedia Foundation

Katalin Barsony is a documentary filmmaker and Executive Director of the Budapest-based Romedia Foundation, which creates films, social media campaigns and other tools to promote Roma self-representation. She is the author of the film section of the RomArchive website and recently wrote the European Film Academy website's section on Romani Cinema. In 2019, her first feature-length documentary How Far the Stars was released at the Sarajevo International Film Festival. Currently, she is working on 3Brothers. She won the Aljazeera International Documentary Festival Impact Award in production with her film.



Katerina Tarbo-Ignatenko

(Impact) Producer

Thanks to the extensive and successful experience in the field of co-production of general producer Katerina Tarbo-Ignatenko, Spirito Libero LLC, having begun its activity in 2021, was able to take part and create several artistic and documentary projects at once, acquire international partners among both production companies and leading OTT platforms. In 2022, the company opened an international branch in Serbia, Belgrade. In 2023, a second international branch was opened in France, Paris.

guests Industry



Kateryna Stebnovska

1ad, filmmaker

Other (Film) Professional



Larysa Gutarevych

(Impact) Producer

Ukrainian Delegation



Lisa Linde Nieveld

Programme Coordinator SEE NL

Eye Filmmuseum



Lisa Smit

Other (Film) **Professional** An esteemed producer and partner at Sarke Studio, with a diverse and accomplished filmography. Notable roles include producer on documentaries such as "Kobzar" and "Shakespeare. War and a Piece." Demonstrated versatility through involvement in projects like "FemaleVoicesUA" as Co-producer, and "Carol of the Bells" as Producer. Recently engaged in producing international co-productions such as "Alchevsky's Mystery." Currently, the co-production film "Grounded" is in production, and we are actively seeking sales opportunities. Consistently dedicated to advancing cinematic storytelling across genres and borders.

A division of Eye Filmmuseum, SEE NL is dedicated to promoting Dutch films and filmmakers around the globe.



Liza Surganova

Other (Film) **Professional**

Liza Surganova is leading the Alternativa Film Project, which supports and promotes filmmakers from the upcoming film industries, focusing on impact cinema. Before that she worked as a journalist for various independent media in Russia and then served for 5 years as editor-in-chief of Kinopoisk, the largest streaming service and film outlet in Russia.



Lucile Revelon

Other (Film) **Professional** Lucile Revelon works as a project manager for the European solidarity fund for Ukrainian films (ESFUF). She previously worked in Kyiv, Ukraine, as an audiovisual policy officer at the French Institute in Ukraine, as well as in the French Ministry of Culture's international relations department. She holds a Master's degree in International Cultural Management from the Lyon Institute of political studies.

guests Industry



Lydia Spiesberger

Programmer

Human Rights Film Festival Berlin Lydia Spiesberger is the director of the Human Rights Film Festival Berlin. As a media scholar with focus on political communication, she has explored the impact of film and media through research and practice in the civil society sector. Passionate about storytelling and social change, she curates a festival that uses film as a powerful tool for human rights advocacy.



Maimouna Sylla

Other (Film) Professional Vice Chairwoman Of The Better Future Africa & Women's Rights Activist



Maksom Olena

Director

Ukrainian Delegation

Graduate with honors from The National Aviation University in Kyiv, master's degree "Ecology and Environmental protection". She worked as a journalist, translator, writer, project manager, cinematographer and film director. Her feature documentary debut as a director, Everything will not be fine (2020) premiered in competition at IDFA and won several awards including Best Ukrainian film and best Director at the Odessa film festival and the FIPRESCI award at TIFF in 2020 . EsoDoc 2021 alum.



Maria Cristhin Kuiper

Director

She is a Dutch–Peruvian documentary filmmaker. Before she fully dedicated herself to documentary filmmaking, she worked as a journalist in Hong Kong for six years. Her work, which focuses on social and political issues, has appeared in media around the world. The journalism experience taught her a lot about storytelling, but her desire to go deeper and explore artistic forms of storytelling always remained present. That's why she decided to move back to the Netherlands, where there are more opportunities in the documentary industry. She is now directing her first feature–length documentary, "Mule".



Mariia Shcherbakova

(Impact) Producer

Maria Shcherbakova is a film producer from Pskov, Russia, based in Kazakhstan. She spent two years as the executive producer of the Beat Film Festival, the biggest documentary film festival in Russia. As a part of her job she also oversaw the national competition program and community development. Following this, she specialized in the distribution and festival promotion of documentary films, including IDFA Winner 2022 – Where Are We Headed. Currently at Alternativa, Maria leads special initiatives such as screenings and impact distribution campaigns as an impact distribution manager.



Marko Kovač

Other (Film) Professional Marko Kovač is a Serbian architect, film director, producer, scriptwriter, illustrator and composer. Marko made his first awarded short film "Chess" at the age of 16. While working as an architect, Marko has independently produced and directed several award–winning short films, as well as music videos such as videos for songs by famous Serbian hip–hop artist Voodoo Popeye. With his first feature film project in a professional environment, Marko was selected at Galichnik Film Festival Script Workshop 2023, Zagreb Film Festival Script Workshop 2023 and Creative Europe MEDIA Pitch Training Program 2024.

guests Industry



Marysia Nikitiuk

Director

Ukrainian Delegation



Mathilde Kirstein

(Impact) Producer



Md Ruhul Amin

Director



Michael Chandra

Other (Film) Professional



Nadica Denić

Researcher



Nathalie Mierop

Other (Film) Professional Marysia Nikitiuk graduated from Kyiv Karpenko-Karyi National University. Writes scripts for films since 2012. Her shorts as a writer have been in programs of several film festivals and awarded with numerous awards. From 2014, Marysia started to direct her own films, and made three short films: IN TREES, MANDRAGORA and RABIES. Her first feature film WHEN THE TREES FALL premiered at the Berlinale in 2018. In 2019, EVGE by Nariman Aliev, and co-written by Marysia, premiered in Cannes Film Festival. In 2022, Marysia's second feature film LUCKY GIRL premiered in Tallinn Black nights IFF.

Mathilde is a Copenhagen/Berlin-based film and impact producer. At The Why Foundation, she has produced the Why Stories documentary series for five years, in collaboration with BBC World News. Concurrently she has produced short films and documentaries and last year she entered the production of the eagerly anticipated feature documentary 'Replica'. Her areas of focus are within human rights, social justice and character-driven stories. Finally, she is also the producer for the upcoming WHY FREEDOM? global documentary campaign launching 2026.

Ruhul is dedicated to human rights advocacy, particularly for SOGIESC communities in Bangladesh. He founded REINCARNATE, the only art and film festival fostering regional dialogue on gender diversity. From 2016 to 2021, he led media and communication at the Dhaka International Film Festival. Ruhul has created impactful documentaries and films, including 'Against the Wind', South Asia's first intersex-focused documentary. His short film 'Nameless' won the Best Democratic Film Award at Jaipur International Short Film Festival. He also produced the TV show Trans Talk, the only TV program amplifying SOGIESC voices.

Joining Forum Film Dokumenter (FFD) in 2009, Chandra is involved in many of its activities ranging from film screenings and workshops to film festival. Currently serves as Database Program Director at FFD which responsible for the development of filmdokumenter.id, a database platform which focuses on managing a collection of curated Indonesian documentary films as educational and reference media.

Nadica Denić is a media scholar and curator based in Amsterdam, whose main interests include documentary theory and practice, film ethics, and the relationship between cinema and risk. She currently works as a Lecturer in Media and Culture in the department of Media Studies at the University of Amsterdam. As a PhD researcher (2020–2024) at the University of Amsterdam, she explored the cinematic ethics of first-person documentaries about migration in Europe. She has collaborated as a curator with IDFA (NL), Framer Framed (NL), and Interaction (RS), among others.

guests Industry



Nelly dos Reis

Director



Ohyeon Kwon

(Impact) Producer

Member of a queer feminist activist group PINKS. Documentary director, producer based on Seoul, South Korea. Associate Producer of Edhi Alice (Feature Documentary of Trans–women in Korea).

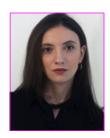


Olha Bregman

(Impact) Producer

Ukrainian Delegation

Olha Bregman is a Ukrainian producer with more than 15 years of experience in film production. She is a co-founder of a women-led "2Brave Productions". Her credits include award-winning movies such as "RULES OF TWO WALLS" by David Gutnik, "STOP-ZEMLIA" by Kateryna Gornostai, and "INTERCEPTED" by Oksana Karpovych. Olha has also produced Kateryna Gornostai's "TIMESTAMP" premiered in the Competition at Berlinale 2025, and "Collapse. How the Ukrainians ruined the Empire of Evil". Alumni of Ex Oriente and Eurodoc training programs.



Olha Symonenko

(Impact) Producer

Ukrainian Delegation

A documentary producer with experience as an editor and director. Since 2020, she is working as an independent director and producer. She has a degree in history and has been doing genealogical research on Eastern European families for more than 10 years, turning the results of her research into short films. Olha also ran the documentary department at the International Online Archive, where she produced about 70 historical documentary interviews. She participated in several international film training programs and graduated from the one-year program for producers EURODOC 2024.



Pamella Edouard

Director

Mauritian filmmaker Pamella Edouard studied Documentary at La Fémis, Berlin's Documentary Campus, and the IDFA Academy. She has collaborated with esteemed directors like Henri Favory in Mauritius, Bruce Myers in Paris, and Peter Brook in England. Pamella pursued studies at the University of Mauritius, La Sorbonne Paris Assas, and Université de Descartes. Laureate of Brouillon d'un Rêve, her short documentary La Place was featured at the International Festival of Nikki, Benin in April 2024.



Paul Rieth

Other (Film) Professional Paul Rieth works internationally as audience strategist, marketing consultant, crowdfunding expert and film producer. He lectures at universities, film festivals and industry events and trainings (TorinoFilmLab & Documentary Campus). From 2021–2024 he lectured and worked int he field of entreneurship, innovation and Audience Design at Film university Babelsberg.

guests Industry



Pavel Feldman
(Impact) Producer



Other (Film) Professional

Ratno Hermanto

Ratno Hermanto is an artist based in Yogyakarta. Currently, he is involved as a festival manager for Festival Film Dokumenter, organised to develop the documentary ecosystem in Indonesia.



Riham Ezzaldeen

Director

Riham Ezzaldeen is a dynamic filmmaker and producer passionate about social justice and diversifying the entertainment industry. Her dedication to activism and solution-based artistic expression has won awards from festivals like the Toronto International Women's Festival. Riham played an instrumental role in building the original content department at What Took You So Long and has facilitated Brown Girls Doc Mafia's artist development program for three years. She is now based in New York with occasional work in Europe.



Rijan Nepali

Other (Film)
Professional
Nepalese Delegation

Mr. Rijan Nepali is office secretary of Hon'ble Dil Bahadur Nepali and assist Hon'ble Nepali for office works and all meeting preparation.



Sara Ishaq

Programme Coordinator International Coalition for Filmmakers at Risk Film director, producer and Program Manager at the International Coalition for Filmmakers at Risk.



Sarah Mosses

(Impact) Producer

Together Films

Sarah is the Founder & CEO of Together Films, a marketing and sales company serving the international film community. She has acted as the Head of Marketing for leading film festivals including Sheffield DocFest, DOC NYC, and Human Rights Watch Film Festival. She is passionate about serving filmmakers to increase their social impact, reach, and revenue for multi-award-winning titles like For Sama, Unrest, The Tale & Roll Red Roll. Sarah is a graduate of the prestigious Inside Pictures film leadership course and was selected for the Mayor of London's International Growth Programme.

guests Industry



Sawsan Darwaza

Director

Director of Karama Human Rights Film Festival. Sawsan is a film and theatre director producer writer. Co founder of Maamal 612 think factory since 2010.



Serena Gramizzi

(Impact) Producer

Independent producer of authorial documentaries with a creative slant, and a social theme. She founded the independent production company BO FILM in Italy, in 2013. She has collaborated with several authors, producing documentaries that have won awards, been selected at international festivals, released in cinemas, and broadcast on European television. In 2023, she was awarded the DWA as the best Italian Women Documentary producer. This for the development of the historical, true crime series, IL PROCESSO DI BOLOGNA by Paolo Fiore Angelini and Antonella Beccaria.



Şerif Çiçek

Director

Şerif Çiçek, born in 1992 in Amed (Northern Kurdistan), is a director and producer. After working in Istanbul and northern Syria, he moved to Germany, where he released the films Prison or Exile and Tearing Walls Down. He is currently working on his new documentary, Hevîya Lavrio.



Sonam Bhote

Other (Film)
Professional
Nepalese Delegation

Mr. Sonam Bhote is Vice President of Diplomatic Society for Peace and Justice. He is engaged in Human Rights issue in Nepal.



Struan Douglas

(Impact) Producer

Struan Douglas is a Durban born musician, author and educator. He has a Bachelor of Social Sciences Masters in Philosophy and Religion. He has worked as a music journalist for 30 publications on 3 continents over the last 20 years. He has produced four music albums and is the author of five books, including Shadows of Justice, Story of South African jazz (Volumes 1 – 3) and To the Peace on Earth which are currently being adapted for the screen. He is the founding director of Sausage Film Company in PTY LTD in 2020.



Susana Fernandez

Other (Film) Professional Born in Spain, Susana is Head of DOK.forum Marketplace at DOK.fest München since September 2023. She started her career in the film industry in Montreal, Canada, where she worked in multiple organisations and film festivals, including the direction of FNC Forum and of Forum RIDM, among others. Over the years, Susana has contributed to launch initiatives such as the FNC Nouveau Marché co-production market, or the Pitch Premières Œuvres. She works with international festivals and markets, is regularly part of jurys and selection committees, and gives feedback to film projects in all stages of development.

guests Industry



Svitlana Oslavska

Journalist / Editor

Ukrainian Delegation

Ukrainian journalist and writer, war crimes researcher at The Reckoning Project (Public Interest Journalism Lab)



Tenjin Ngomba Bhote

Other (Film) Professional

Nepalese Delegation

Mrs. Tenjin Ngomba Bhote is Senior Vice Chairwoman of Dalit NGO Federation– Nepal and Women Rights Activist. She is actively engaged in Women Rights, Gender and Domestic Violence issues in Nepal.



Thea Berry

(Impact) Producer

Together Films





Thierry Detaille

Sales Agent

With a Journalism and communication PGD and a European MD in Film writing and analysis, Thierry has a background as reporter for belgian radio magazines before going international with documentaries in 1997, initiating Ventes-CBAWIP-Sales (now Belgian Docs), prior to founding Visible Film in 2014. Continuously and actively participating since 1998 to main international documentary forums and markets, Thierry actively takes part in tutoring, decision making and experting in coproduction events around Europe.



Thom Lunshof

Director

After simultaneously studying Philosophy at the University of Amsterdam and Directing Fiction at the Dutch Film Academy, Thom ultimately chose film. Nevertheless, philosophy has always had an important influence on the making of his films. He graduated with Harmonia (2020), a performance thriller about mass burnout at a prestigious university. The film has had an international festival circuit, was awarded at festivals such as Filmfest Munich, the NFF and International Busan Film Festival. His debut feature film First Zone (2025), is currently in post-production and won the work-in-progress competition at the Les Arcs film festival last December.



Ton van der Lee

Director

Ton van der Lee studied literature at the University of Amsterdam. He became a journalist, writing about music and other subjects. He started writing film scripts and in 1988 directed his first feature documentary. In the years that followed, he founded his own production company and directed and/or produced more than 20 feature documentaries. He's also a writer and has published 16 books. Currently developing a South African – Dutch coproduction as director/co-producer.

guests Industry



Vivian Schröder

(Impact) Producer

Co-founder of The Good Media Network, Impact Producer and field builder. She has worked on the impact campaigns for the film TOTAL TRUST, directed by Jialing Zhang as well as NOT JUST CELSIUS, amplifying the voices and mision of the World Youth 4 Climate Justice and Pacific Island Students Fighting Climate Change. She has organised and co-hosted a Climate Story Lab in Berlin in 2022 as well as a Climate Justice Story Lab in 2024 in The Hague. She heads the Good Media Lab & Pitch program together with Anna Ramskogler-Witt, Germany's first film and impact program.



Xavier van Delft

Director

Xavier van Delft is a documentary maker and an animator. Did a BA in Media&Design and an MA Film&Television. His work got selected and nominated at a variety of film/art festivals. Followed workshops at IDFAcademy, Docslisboa, FEST, Ji.hlava, NFF. His animation project Hidden Stories' is exhibited and touring at different museums. His focus is on social issues, daring to be different.



Yanina Kucher

(Impact) Producer

Ukrainian Delegation

Director, line producer, and experienced 1st AD with a strong background in both feature and documentary production. Graduated from Kyiv National I. K. Karpenko-Kary University in 2007 with a degree in TV Directing. Since 2004, she has worked on numerous domestic and international projects, focusing on production management and coordination. She has contributed to Ukrainian cinema as a screenwriter and line producer in the 13th and 14th film project competitions by the FSA of Ukraine in 2020 and 2021. Since March 2022, Yanina has been based in Warsaw, developing her own projects as a producer in cooperation with More Films and Zoom Media.



Yasoda Kumari Lama

Other (Film) Professional

Nepalese Delegation

Hon'ble Mrs. Yasoda Kumari Lama is Member of Constituent Assembly 2013 and former state minister- Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation.



Zama Msibi

(Impact) Producer

South Africa Delegation Zama kaMafikeni Msibi is a filmmaker, poet, and playwright based in Newcastle, KwaZulu-Natal. Driven by a passion for storytelling, Zama crafts compelling narratives that bring unique perspectives to life. With a strong foundation in theatre and a transition into film production, Zama continues to push boundaries in the pursuit of innovative and engaging storytelling.

guests Other Professionals



Chris Belloni

Other (Film) Professional Chris Belloni (1980) is a documentary filmmaker, producer and director of the annual International Queer & Migrant Film Festival Amsterdam, which he initiated in 2015. His debut film I am gay and Muslim screened at film festivals worldwide. Chris served as juror at multiple international film festivals varying from Seoul International Pride Film Festival to Berlinale's Teddy Jury. Also, he launched various projects on film, storytelling and artivism in different parts of the world.



Daniel van den Ham

MtM Viewing Committee Member Daniel is an enthusiastic film expert with a background in arts policy and management and experience as an image archivist, post-production assistant and FCP editor.



Frank Hoeve

MtM Supervisory board member

Producer Frank Hoeve graduated from the Haarlem Business School with a Bachelor of Economics and studied at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona. In addition to his producing work, he was the chairman for the Association of New Film and Television Makers (NFTVM) and, until recently, a board member of the Go Short International Film Festival. He participated in ACE and EAVE and is the national representative for the EAVE-network and was part of the Realness Institute's first Creative Producer Indaba workshop, focusing on the African continent. Frank was selected as Producer on the Move during the Cannes Film Festival 2018.



Jochem Kleinjan

MtM Viewing Committee Member



Joris van den Einden

MtM Viewing Committee Member Joris van den Einden is a photographer, filmmaker, and researcher from The Hague, the Netherlands. His work often centres on the intersections of visual culture and ecology.



Kiran Sukul

MtM Supervisory board member

Kiran is a senior policy advisor at the Dutch 'Raad voor Cultuur' working on regional museums, heritage and sector-wide issues, such as promoting diversity and inclusion and redesigning the subsidy system.

guests Other Professionals



Lilian Gonçalves-Ho Kang You MtM Supervisory

board member

Lilian Gonçalves-Ho Kang You is a Surinamese human rights activist who lives and works in the Netherlands.



Maarten Sanders

MtM Supervisory board member

Maarten is partner of the law firm Bergh, Stoop & Sanders in Amsterdam.



Mariëlle van Dijk

MtM Supervisory board member

Mariëlle is a Partner in Audit and Assurance at Mazars Netherlands in Amsterdam. From her personal interest and commitment to social issues, she has specialised in the audit and consulting of not-for-profit organisations.



Sevara Pan

MtM Viewing Committee Member A film critic, journalist and curator working in the documentary field, with a special focus on films and media projects that concern human rights, social justice and activism.



Tarha McKenzie

Other (Film) Professional An independent contractor in the film industry since 2011, specialising in Programme and Distribution Management. She has managed Africa's premier documentary festival, Encounters, and helped create a pipeline for African content at Big World Cinema. Tarha coordinated the Black Women Disrupt web series competition, managed TechRow's catalogue, and developed distribution strategies for Electric South's digital non-fiction stories. She is currently the Programme Manager for the Doc Society-supported Climate Story Lab Southern Africa, Encounters Festival Manager, Electric South Programme Manager, and "Mother City" Distribution Manager.