

**LAUGH
SCREAM
LEARN**

**FINNISH
FILMS
IN
DEVELOPMENT**

**SEE
WHAT'S COM-
ING SOON
FROM
FINLAND**



**WORKS IN PROGRESS SHOWCASE
27.9.2012**

PRODUCTIONS PRESENTED AT THE SCREENING

- FEATURE / FICTION
- FEATURE / DOCUMENTARY
- TV/WEB-SERIES

CONCRETE NIGHT



Produced by: Bufo
Mark Lwoff; mark@bufo.fi
Misha Jaari; misha@bufo.fi
www.bufo.fi
Director: Pirjo Honkasalo

A story of a young shattered mind that is desperately trying to find his place in this world. It's about how a cut becomes a scar and a scar becomes fear, and how fear finally turns into violence.

Looking for: Sales company

THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE



Produced by: Aamu
Filmcompany
Auli Mantila
mantila@aamufilmcompany.fi
www.aamufilmcompany.fi
Director: Matti Ijäs
Premiere: February 2013

A story of love and its many forms – the love that hits us unexpectedly, the love that gives meaning to our everyday life. Not only is the story about the darker sides of love – jealousy, bitterness, and unrequited love – it is also about the gentle, sincere love of a child, which is never-ending even though we might not be worth it.

Looking for: Sales company

ALCAN HIGHWAY



Produced by: Made
Ulla Simonen; ulla@made.fi
www.made.fi
Director: Aleks Salmenperä
Premiere: Spring 2013

A roadmovie about one's attempt to fix a truck, build a home on top of it and drive it to the Vancouver Island. To a place, where there isn't yet a colony of the retired.

Looking for: Sales company

FINNISH FLASH - TEEMU SELANNE STORY



Produced by: Yellow Film&TV
Jarkko Hentula
jarkko.hentula@yellowfilm.fi
Marko Talli
marko.talli@filmiteollisuus.fi
www.yellowfilm.fi
Director: JP Siili
Premiere: Autumn 2013

Teemu Selanne is a celebrated superstar, husband and father, benefactor, but still relentless in NHL. At the age of 42 he still plays ice hockey in the toughest league in the world. A Documentary looks behind the legend through his family, twin brother, friends and himself.

Looking for: Sales company

LORDI - THE MONSTERBOY



Produced by: Illume
Venla Hellstedt
venla.hellstedt@illume.fi
www.illume.fi
Director: Antti Haase
Premiere: January 2014

A story about a monster rocker who wins the Eurovision song contest, loses his creative soul as a result and tries to regain it, and the respect of the Heavy Metal brotherhood.

Looking for: VOD distribution

IMAGINAERUM



Produced by: Solar Films
Jukka Helle
jukka.helle@solarfilms.com
Markus Selin
markus.selin@solarfilms.com
www.solarfilms.com
Director: Stobe Harju
Premiere: November 2012

A coma sends an old man into his childhood's sinister fantasy world, where he must fight dementia and gain back his memories before it's too late. Imaginaerum is an emotional fantasy-adventure powered by the music of Nightwish.

Looking for: Sales company

ZARRA'S LAW



Produced by: Snapper Films
Juha Wuolijoki; juha.wuolijoki@snapperfilms.com
www.snapperfilms.com
Director: Juha Wuolijoki

A compelling story of two brothers on opposite sides of the law. When one brother is murdered, the other, a retired police detective, finds himself pulled back into the criminal world he left behind to solve the mystery surrounding his younger brother's death.

Looking for: Sales company

ULTIMATE FIGHT



Produced by: Edith Film & First Floor Productions
Liisa Penttilä; liisa@edithfilm.fi
Pauli Pentti; pauli@firstfloor.fi
www.edithfilm.fi
www.firstfloor.fi
Director: Aku Louhimies
Premiere: Autumn 2013

A story of a struggle from darkness back towards the light. Mixed martial arts fighter Tero is a caring father, but battling with his jealousy as a husband. His life gets derailed as his wife leaves him. The final blow is the loss of the children. There is no returning back home.

Looking for: Sales company

8-BALL



Produced by: Blind Spot Pictures & Mjolk
Tero Kaukomaa;
tero@blindspot.fi
Marko Antila; marko@mjolk.fi
www.blindspot.fi www.mjolk.fi
Director: Aku Louhimies
Premiere: February 2013

Pirkko has served her sentence in prison and embraces freedom with her eight month old little girl. She's determined to start over again. Her ex-boyfriend shows up, re-igniting the passion but also casting shadows for the future. But Pirkko is not going to give up, not this time.

Looking for: Sales company

PRINCESS OF EGYPT



Produced by: Making Movies
Kaarle Aho
kaarle.aho@mamo.fi
www.mamo.fi
Director: Jan Forsström

Marja, 24, works at nights so that she can spend the days with her daughter Julia, 7. When Julia's father re-enters their life, Marja is ready to do anything to protect her.

Looking for: Sales company

AUGUST FOOLS



Produced by: Kinosto
Markku Flink
markku.flink@kinosto.fi
www.kinosto.fi
Director: Taru Mäkelä
Premiere: October 2013

A romantic comedy set against the political backdrop of the Cold War.

Looking for: Sales company

OPEN UP TO ME



Produced by: Edith Film
Liisa Penttilä
liisa@edithfilm.fi
www.edithfilm.fi
Director: Simo Halinen
Premiere: January 2013

A film about modern relationships where nothing can be taken for granted anymore. There is no ready-made model for love. We have to create our morals. We have to draw the lines, and sometimes, when our hearts tell us to, cross them.

21 WAYS TO RUIN A MARRIAGE



Produced by: Dionysos Films
Riina Hyytiä
riina.hyytia@dionysosfilms.fi
www.dionysosfilms.fi
Director: Johanna Vuoksenmaa
Premiere: March 2013

A comedy about a young woman who attempts to rationalise her emotions and create science out of her commitment phobia.

Looking for: Sales company

BODY FAT INDEX OF LOVE



Produced by: MRP Matila
Röhr Productions
Ilkka Matila
ilkka.matila@matilarohr.com
www.matilarohr.com
Director: Mikko Kuparinen
Premiere: December 2012

A romantic comedy that puts relationships on scale.

Looking for: Sales company

NYMPHS [TV-SERIES]



Produced by: Fisher King
Productions
Matti Halonen
matti.halonen@fisherking.fi
www.fisherking.fi
Director: Miikko Oikonen

They are lethal to men. They don't survive without men.

SCHOOL OF STARDOM [SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES]



Produced by: Storytally
Erik Pöntiskoski
epkoski@gmail.com
www.storytally.com
http://schoolofstardom.com/
Director: Mikael Gummerus

School of Stardom is Facebook's first acting school. The first installation of the story is a social web series delivered on Facebook. The audience can follow online auditions of four aspiring actors competing for free tuition in this mysterious school.

Looking for: co-production partners, distributors, investors.

THE GNOME



Produced by: Rinki
Productions
Mika Aaltonen, mika@rinki.fi
Kari Piirainen, kari@rinki.fi
www.rinki.fi
Director: Pasi Jakkula

How do you survive in your day to day life if you have a bad habit of sticking your long beard in places where it doesn't belong and you're only 4 inches tall?

Looking for: Sales company

NIKO 2 LITTLE BROTHER, BIG TROUBLE



Produced by: Anima Vitae
Petteri Pasanen
petteri.pasanen@anima.fi
www.anima.fi
Director: Kari Juusonen / co-director Jorgen Lerdam
Premiere: October 2012

Young reindeer boy Niko secretly wishes his single mom and his hero dad would get back together so they could be a real family again. One day, mom has a surprise for Niko: she has met a new guy, an ordinary reindeer, who is moving in with his little son.

ALSO IN DEVELOPMENT

CONTACT PRODUCERS FOR MORE INFORMATION

HÄRREGUD

feature film

Bufo

Producer: Mark Lwoff,
+358 45 131 4652
mark@bufo.fi

Misha Jaari
misha@bufo.fi
+358 45 6740 272
Director: TBA

Härregud claims that when you are stupid enough, the fantasies might come true.

Looking for: Co-producer

THE FENCER

feature film

Making Movies Oy

Producers: Kaarle Aho
& Kai Nordberg
+358 40 725 3936
kaarle.aho@mamo.fi
Director: Klaus Härö

Fleeing from the secret police in Soviet Estonia, an ambitious young fencer finds himself teaching small town children in a godforsaken spa resort, only to realize that this is exactly what he wants to do in life.

Looking for: Co-Producers, sales agents, financing

RÖLLI AND THE GOLDEN KEY

feature film

MRP Matila Röhr Productions

Producer: Marko Röhr,
marko.rohr@matilarohr.com,
+358 400 416 634
Director: Taavi Vartia

Rolli and the Golden Key is an action-packed and touching fairy tale about the power of friendship and courage. This unique adventure film offers a timeless and exhilarating experience for the whole family.

Looking for: Pre-sales and partners for release/dub in different territories.

PARACHUTE DREAMS

feature film

Koskela Art & Media House

Producers: Merja Ritola, Klaus Heydemann & Kimmo Koskela
merja@koskela.tv
+358 50 593 7714
Directors: Arno Rafael Minkkinen & Kimmo Koskela

Based on a true story of Finnish-born art photographer Arno Rafael Minkkinen who grew up and studied in the United States)

Looking for: financing and distributor(s)

ROB THE BUILDER

feature film

Director: Juha Fiilin
juha@fiilin.com
www.facebook.com/
RobTheBuilderFilm
+358 440 878 900
+34 600 537 208

A dark comedy-drama about a family man Rob starting all over again in Barcelona and resorts to crime to fix his life, but makes a morbid mess of it.

Looking for: producer

THE SAMPO

Animation / feature film

NDFC Helsinki

Producer: Kare Hellén,
kare.hellen@ndfc.fi
tel. +358 400 808 548,
Director: Kari Juusonen

In order to save his love and people of Kaleva the young immortal blacksmith Ilmari forges the Sampo, an amulet that grants the holder immortality, but it starts a bitter war between Kaleva and Northland.

More information and concept trailer, visit www.ndfc.fi

Looking for: financing and co-producers.

FINKA

feature film

Napafilms

Producer: Liisa Juntunen
+358 415367636
liisa@napafilms.fi
Director: Reetta Aalto

Finka is a story of youth and what it is like to be a Finn in Russia. Young woman searching for her limits will have to face her vulnerability, when her reckless Western drive for adventures is tested in a foreign culture.

The dialogue is 95% in Russian.

GAME PLAN

documentary

Mediatehdas Dakar

Producers: Pasi Riiali
pasi.riiali@dakar.fi
+358 40 552 8224

Mikko Peltonen
mikko.peltonen@filmstone.fi,
+358 40 720 7671
www.gameplanfilm.com
Directors: Mikko Peltonen & Pasi Riiali

Game Plan is a creative documentary film about the digital game business. How does this fast growing industry really work? Filmmakers decide to establish a game company of their own and develop a game in hope of success.

Looking for: Co-production partners.

LAUGH OR DIE

feature film / epoch,
comedial drama

Vertigo Production

Producer:

Minna Virtanen
minna@vertigo.fi
+358 50 4904119

Director: Heikki Kujanpää

1918. A young, unmanly and totally humorless soldier, Nyborg, is ordered to make a theatre play with the war's most dangerous prisoners and guarantee that the performance will amuse the German soldiers who will soon visit the island. The prisoners are let to live - but only on one condition: The play must be funny!

Looking for: Co-producers (Scandinavia, Germany), financing, distribution

ANOTHER LIFE OF SOKUROV

feature length
documentary

**Koskela Art & Media
House**

Producers:

Merja Ritola, Klaus
Heydemann & Gernot
Steinweg
merja@koskela.tv
+358 50 593 7714

Directors: Leena
Kilpeläinen

An essay about life of
Alexander Sokurov.

Looking for: financing
and distributor(s)

RASBERRYBOAT REFUGEE

feature film / comedy

**MRP Matila Röhr
Productions**

Producer: Ilkka Matila,
ilkka.matila@matilarohr.
com +358 40 501 1025
Director: Leif Lindblom

A black and bittersweet
comedy which tells a
story of a Finnish man
who had felt all his life
that he was born into
a wrong nationality. In-
stead of being a Finn,
he felt he was a Swede.
He is a nationality trans-
vestite, and he wanted to
change.

Looking for: financing

IRON SKY PREQUEL

feature film / sci-fi

Blind Spot Pictures

Producer:

Tero Kaukoma
tero@blindspot.fi
+358 400 843 122 / +41
79 253 76 38

Director:

Timo Vuorensola

How did the Nazis end up
on the Dark Side of the
Moon, and what were
they doing there for the
whole 73 years. Iron Sky
prequel is a story ex-
ploring the origins of the
Moon Nazis.

Looking for: Co-pro-
duction, funding, distri-
bution

TRUE

feature film / drama

Vertigo Production

Producer:

Minna Virtanen
minna@vertigo.fi
+358 50 4904119

Director: Aku Louhimies

Eeva's forgotten story is fi-
nally revealed layer by lay-
er. The tale that unfolds is
about a mother and daugh-
ter, about how memory can
deceive us—and some-
times that is the most mer-
ciful thing that can happen.
The True is drama based on
Riikka Pulkkinen's literary
sensation, the TRUE (Tot-
ta 2010).

Looking for: Co-produc-
ers (Scandinavia, Germa-
ny), financing, distribution.

AFTER YOU

feature film / drama

Vertigo Production

Producer:

Minna Virtanen
minna@vertigo.fi
+358 50 4904119

Director: Petri Kotwica

Hanna becomes unknow-
ingly friends with a young
woman who had caused
her husband's death in a
hit and run accident.

Looking for: Co
producers (Scandinavia,
Germany), financing,
distribution.

NEVER ALONE

feature film / drama

**MRP Matila Röhr
Productions**

Producer: Ilkka Matila,
ilkka.matila@matilarohr.
com +358 40 501 1025
Director: Klaus Härö

1942 in Helsinki. The state of Finland has made an alliance with Nazi Germany. Against will of his community an old Jewish man is trying to stop the Finnish security services to turn over Jewish refugees into the hands of Gestapo.

Looking for: Co-production, funding, distribution

A CAFÉ OF MY MEMORIES

feature musical

**Koskela Art & Media
House**

Producers:
Merja Ritola, Klaus
Heydemann & Kimmo
Koskela
merja@koskela.tv
+358 50 593 7714
Director: Valto Baltzar

Life is like ups and downs of fast cars as those of dragonflies in a wheat field

looking for: financing and distributor(s)

DEUS X

TV-series

Blind Spot Pictures

Producers:
Essi Suomela
essi@blindspot.fi; +358 50
571 4174
Tero Kaukomaa
tero@blindspot.fi
+358 400 843 122 / +41 79
253 76 38
Director: Timo Vuorensola

A TV series set in the year 2245, when a huge religious conflict suddenly throws the whole world into the brink of destruction, over the control of a planet that is believed to be Heaven.

Looking for: Co-production, funding, distribution

GET RICH AND FAMOUS IN THE WEST

feature film

**MRP Matila Röhr
Productions**

Producer: Ilkka Matila,
ilkka.matila@matilarohr.
com +358 40 501 1025
Director: TBA

Three young Estonian boys in eighties dream of a life in west, a dream that is based on movies they watch eagerly. They do escape to Finland just to find out that movies about the west and reality in the west have nearly nothing to do with each other and life could still be better in a true Soviet country where things do work.

Looking for: financing

SONYA THE PRINCESS OF SIBERIA

feature film / animation

**Mannerkoski Enterprises
(Los Angeles)**

Producers: Liisa Evastina
/ Drew Masters /
Zach Evans
Mannerkoskienterprises@
yahoo.com

Director of animation:
Scott Butler

Animated action-adventure about a young Finnish girl learning what being a hero means, through her dreams that take her to the journey from the ancient Ural Mountains to where Finland is now.

Looking for: financing / distribution

I KILLED ADOLF HITLER

feature film

Blind Spot Pictures

Producer:
Tero Kaukomaa
tero@blindspot.fi
+358 400 843 122 / +41 79
253 76 38
Gerd Hecker
gerd.hecker@berlin.de
+49 (0) 30 23 63 9679
+49 (0) 172 24 24 24 6

Director:
Timo Vuorensola

A story of two hitmen sent back in time to assassinate Adolf Hitler.

Looking for: Co-production, funding, distribution

GOOD NIGHT WORLD

feature / drama suspense

Vertigo Production

Producer:
Minna Virtanen
minna@vertigo.fi
+358 50 4904119

Markku's wife dies in a vague boat accident with her "lover". Markku refuses to believe the official explanations and starts to dig for the truth.

Looking for: Co-producers (Scandinavia, Germany, Russia), financing, director.

ZAIDA BERGROTH

WHAT'S NEXT? WHAT ELSE IS WORTH WAITING FOR?

Zaida Bergroth's new film Angela is a story about two sisters working as strippers. But Angela and Anna want to become stars, accepted and embraced by the public.

"A couple of years ago there was a wave of kiss and tell stories from around the world, affairs between young girls and famous men, usually politicians or athletes. There were some incidents in Finland too that caught my eye. I started to think about the girls and their motives, and most of all the reactions of the public", says Bergroth.

Bergroth was intrigued by the girls' idea that becoming celebrities would legitimise them. The main focus in Angela is the interdependence of the sisters; of the insecure, acceptance-craving Anna with the scarred, domineering first-born Angela, who wants to put her sister into the spotlight. But who really needs who, and who is in control?'

The feature is to be released in spring 2014 and is produced by Yellow Film & TV



Silvi Kaarakainen

TIMO VUORENSOLA

This time Timo Vuorensola finds Moon-Nazis on Mars!

The man behind Iron Sky, Timo Vuorensola, is no doubt among the busiest men in Finland. In his latest affair, I Killed Adolf Hitler, Timo tells a story of a hitman couple in the late 70's - Emma and Frank - who get sent back in time to assassinate Adolf Hitler. Unlucky for the couple, things don't go quite up to plan; Emma is killed and Hitler escapes with the time machine leaving Frank stranded

in history. He has no other way to stop things from going horribly wrong than waiting the upcoming decades for Hitler's re-appearance.

Under his belt Timo also has an awaited sequel, Iron Sky 2 that continues the story of Iron Sky, digging deeper into the conspiracy theory of Hitler's secret weapons and Nazi UFOs -this time hidden on Mars!

Both films are produced by Blind Spot Pictures.



Essi Suornela

DOMÉ KARUKOSKI

“Can we ever laugh at racism?”, asks Dome Karuskoski

A leading Finnish director, Dome Karuskoski is currently shooting his new film *The Racist*. After the road-movie hit *Lapland Odyssey*, Karuskoski now promises an unlikely comedy, the story of a neo-Nazi skinhead falling in love with a woman, and her mixed-race son.

“I think we have a lot of hidden racism in Finland that needs to be explored. The nation is sick if it does not face its problems publicly. Whenever we make films about racism, they’re always so damp, dark and uptight. I want to explore how we can laugh at our prejudices and hatred.”

Karuskoski’s trademark is in crafting humane and even optimistic stories whose focus is characters that, on the surface, seem beyond our sympathy. In *Home of the Dark Butterflies* the audience grew to love a tough brat at a home for troubled boys. With *Lapland Odyssey* audiences around Europe laughed along with unemployed alcoholics. With *The Racist* he asks whether



Pekka Mustonen / Helsinki-Filmi

we can laugh and even sympathise with a hardboiled, seemingly unrepentant racist skinhead.

The screenplay is written by Aleksis Bardy, whose company Helsinki-Filmi is also in charge of production.

The Racist is due to premiere in the fall of 2013.



Jolle Onnismaa

KLAUS HÄRÖ

In *Nie Allein – Never Alone* by one of Finland’s most well-known directors, Klaus Härö turns his attention on a hidden episode in the country’s history: Nazi collaboration.

“Finns have always prided themselves on the fact that despite collaborating closely with the Germans, no Jews were ever sent to Germany. When I heard that this was untrue, I felt lied to. I set out to discover if there was at least someone that tried to help, and it turned out there was.”

Nie Allein is the story of a Finnish Jew, Abraham Stiller, who acted as a mediator for the asylum seekers and found him-

self pitted against pro-German politicians and the State Police. Härö’s film questions who we become as people once we shun the primary responsibility of society; the duty of the strong to protect the vulnerable and the weak in the face of persecution.

Nie Allein will be released in autumn 2014 and is produced by MRP Matila Röhr Productions

PETER FRANZEN

In Search of the Meaning of Home.

Peter Franzen says of his directing debut that his goal “is to show how children see us adults, and how they are able to cope with difficulties. What should the word Home mean? It should be a safe place, right?”

Above Dark Water is based on Franzen’s own novel recounting his childhood and family, growing up in Finnish Lapland in the 1970s.

The film’s focus is a boy who lives in what he considers a loving, normal home. But what he has yet to discover is that not every home contains violence and alcoholism. The story of Above Dark Water is dark but there is hope, even warmth amongst the cold weather and dysfunctional people; family members who are able to hold



Joseph Viles

the child’s head above the dark waters surrounding him.

The story is part of the great Finnish tradition of stories of childhood and growth, and Franzen builds drama from unpredictable details and fleeting

moments, and shows that there can be light and love in even the darkest, coldest places.

Above Dark Water is produced by Solar Films and will be released in September 2013

KATJA GAURILOFF

Since her childhood, Katja has been told stories of her great-grandmother Kaisa, and her magical tales. With The Enchanted Forest Katja delves into her family’s extraordinary history.

“The legendary Kaisa was a Skolt Sami storyteller par excellence. Her great friend from years back was the Swiss-Russian writer Robert Crottet, who visited my great-grandmother many times in Lapland after the wars. During these visits, he documented the tales Kaisa shared with him. A book written by Robert, The Enchanted Forest, is a product of this deep friendship.”

Her next project is a documentary about the unusual friendship of a Sami storyteller and a worldly writer. But also, a peak into the world of the wonderful tales of the Sami people, and the important moments in their history. Katja tells that some time ago, a lot of film material and pictures from the period were found in Barcelona, and she hopes to use them in the film.



Milla von Konow

The film is produced by her own production company Oktober. Her latest documentary Canned Dreams, will be showing at the HIFF.

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The Finnish Film Foundation

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Central Organisation
of Finnish Film Producers



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AUDIOVISUAL CULTURE



MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN
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