

CATALOGUE



kiMff

19<sup>TH</sup> KATHMANDU INTERNATIONAL  
MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL 2021

**CLIMATE KARMA**

9 - 13 DECEMBER 2021

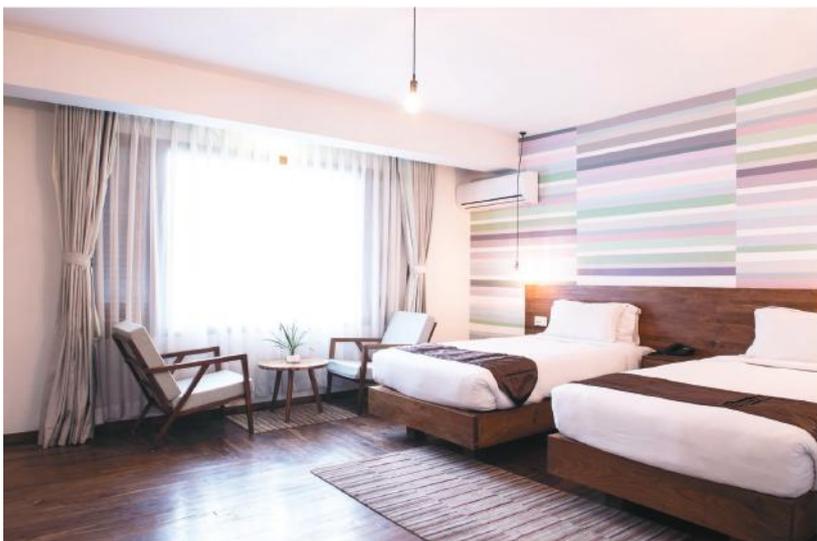
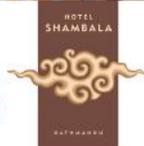


## HOTEL SHAMBALA

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ki  ff

19<sup>TH</sup> KATHMANDU INTERNATIONAL  
MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL 2021

**CLIMATE KARMA**

9 - 13 DECEMBER 2021

Free online viewing @ [festival.kimff.org](http://festival.kimff.org)

email: [info@kimff.org](mailto:info@kimff.org)

web: [www.kimff.org](http://www.kimff.org)

facebook: [www.facebook.com/kimff](http://www.facebook.com/kimff)

## Prizes

### International Competition

#### First Prize:

NPR 200,000.

Sponsored by Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)



#### Second Prize:

NPR 150,000.

Sponsored by HIMF (Himalaya International Mountain Film of China)



#### Third Prize:

NPR 100,000.

Sponsored by Fredi-Ursula Wohlwend  
Eschlikon, Switzerland

**Fredi-Ursula Wohlwend**  
Eschlikon, Switzerland

### Nepal Panorama

#### Best Documentary

NPR 75,000.

Sponsored by Film Development Board (FDB)  
Government of Nepal



#### Best Fiction

NPR 100,000.

TSEKYE SHERPA- BEST FICTION AWARD sponsored by  
Mila Production



#### Best ICIMOD Mountain Film Award

US \$ 1000,

ICIMOD will award the Best ICIMOD Mountain Film at kimff 2021. The award was set up in 2013 to support filmmakers from ICIMOD's member countries Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan working to document stories and raise awareness on issues related to sustainable mountain development in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region.



#### Subtitle support from AFK to prize winning Nepali films

Alliance Francaise de Katmandou (AFK) will help prize winning Nepali films to translate their films to French language.



## Note from the Chair

Namaste – It is good to see you all here today.

Last year, around this time, we were celebrating the opening of the 18th edition of kimff right here in this auditorium while Nepal had not fully recovered from the lockdown.



We did not want to do anything that would fuel the spread of Covid-19 so we opted to show-case all the films online. This was a completely new experience for us, technically as well as in many other terms. We were embarking on an uncharted course, but the experience turned out to be interesting and in one sense also rewarding. We were able to reach out to the entire world and anyone from anywhere on the planet could watch the films with just one single touch on their computers, laptops or smart phones. All in all, as the computed number revealed, 26,000 viewers visited our website to watch the films. That was indeed heartening.

While planning for the 19th edition of Kimff we were aware of the persisting threat of Corona. It so happens that the latest Corona variant, Omnicron, is staring us hard in the face. In this prevailing situation, it is only logical for us to follow the same hybrid format this year also. We will hold some events, like this opening event and all the films in the Nepal Panorama program physically and in the presence of an audience.

Like Omicron, Climate Change is a real threat. The planet earth is reeling under its impact bringing untold miseries to human kind across all continents. Each individual's Karma is therefore intertwined with the wellbeing of mother nature. Our umbilical cord is attached to mother earth and it is our bound duty to do everything possible to heal the badly tormented natural world. That is why we have kept our focus trained on climate change and made this our theme for this year's Festival.

We all are aware of the power of the audio visual medium and it is our firm belief and commitment to use this powerful tool for the societal good and upliftment. This is an effective medium for informing and educating people on a wide gamut of issues including climate change.

Our dedicating of this year's kimff to climate change is a small local step towards the global cause.

We have 40 films from 28 countries and 13 in Nepal Panorama on the platter. Enjoy the feast of what is kimff 2021.

With these words I welcome you all to the 19th edition of kimff.

Thank you.

**Basanta Thapa**  
9 December 2021

## Note from the Director

The kimff team is excited to present a lineup of films that encompass diverse narratives about people, places, culture and mountain sport. Our films cover a wide range of genres from fiction to non-fiction, and styles from cinema verite, adventure cinema, experimental shorts, and light-hearted POV films.



In this hybrid edition of kimff, we hope audiences are inspired by adventurers and individuals who have lived life on their own terms in *Overland*, *Climbing Iran*, and *Dream Mountain*. We are moved by the films *Ek tha gaon*, *Last Days at Sea* and *When Glaciers Go* where the protagonists struggle with the impacts of climate change on their homes and lives, and, we empathise with the dilemmas of the characters in *The Riyalists*, *Cows on the Roof*, and *The Wall of Shadows*.

The 13 films in Nepal Panorama spotlight local talent and stories about contemporary Nepal. The female protagonists in *Julungo*, *Lahureni*, and *Yet Another Winter* make us smile and want to cry at their predicaments; we are inspired by a filmmaking duo's creative tribute to Kurosawa in *The Big-Headed Boy*, *Shamans & Samurais*, and are moved by the sensitive coming out film of a journalist in *I wanted to be Like Madhuri Dixit*. We laugh out loud at the irreverent antics of Maoist cadres in *The Red Grave*.

Festival highlights include a Keynote Address by environmentalist and Rolex Laureate Sonam Wangchuk from Ladakh, India; a Master Class and exhibition of mountain photography by US based photographer Cira Crowell; a short film contest Green Growth- Green Recovery; a Tik Tok Challenge for Climate Justice; film screenings and a panel on *Breaking Code Red - Dignity Without Danger*, around menstrual practices in Nepal; and the book release of *Mero Khojyatra*, the Nepali edition of Swiss geologist Toni Hagen's *Building Bridges to the Third World*.

The festival team invites you to the in-person and virtual Q & As, the critical and creative conversations with participating filmmakers and speakers, and, to meet our jury online.

We hope our festival tagline this year 'Climate Karma' will prompt audiences to think about how we engage with the environment and what we can do to reduce the impacts of climate change being felt worldwide.

Enjoy the films!

**Ramyata Limbu**  
Festival Director

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## Jury

**Anup Baral** is a renowned theatre director, actor, and conceptual artist. He has a Master's degree in Acting from India's National School of Drama. Baral has directed and conceptualized more than three dozen plays as well as acted in numerous productions in his two decade-long career. He is known as a visual poet and experimental director who brings multi-disciplinary approaches to theatre and through live performance, visual art, and digital media. Baral's theatre pieces, performances, and installations explore such themes as urban conflict, body politics, migration, and marginalization. He was awarded the Rashtriya Pratibha Puraskar in 1999 and the Balkrishna Sama Award in 2013 for his contribution to Nepali Theatre. He won the national Best Actor award for *Dashdhunga*.



**Caroline Fink** is a filmmaker, photographer, and writer based in Switzerland. A passionate alpinist, her work focuses on the Alps, the mountains of the world, and people connected to the mountains. Discovering for herself, being fully immersed, and looking at the world with the eyes of a child are the most important tools of Fink's work. She firmly believes that what moves oneself has the power to inspire others. Fink specializes in direction and camerawork. As a photographer she works in the genres of classic reportage and alpine photography, and has a close cooperation with Leica Switzerland. A recent project led her to Nepal, where she worked as a cameraperson for an all-female expedition to Dhaulagiri. [www.caroline-fink.ch](http://www.caroline-fink.ch)



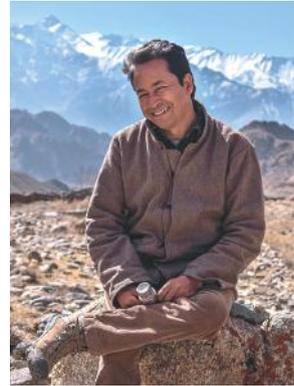
**Mario Casella's** life is divided between his two passions: writing and the mountains. He studied literature, and trained as a mountain guide. In 1985, he began working as a full time journalist, first for radio and then for television with Swiss Radio and Television, RSI. Casella's documentaries have covered the fall of the Berlin Wall, the former East Germany and other Eastern Bloc countries, Russia, Chernobyl, Croatia, Bosnia, Serbia, Kosovo, Chechnya, Afghanistan, and China. Casella headed the foreign newsroom of RSI before moving to Washington as a correspondent for CSR. He left full time journalism in 2007 to devote himself more to the mountains, independent documentaries, and writing, but continues to collaborate with RSI to produce documentaries and long reportage.



## kimff 2021 Keynote Speaker

Sonam Wangchuk is an environmentalist and a Rolex Award Laureate. He was born in the trans-Himalayan region of Ladakh in J&K, India.

Though a Mechanical Engineer by education, he has been mostly working in the field of education reform for more than 27 years. In 1988, just after he finished his engineering studies he founded SECMOL (Students' Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh) [www.secmol.org](http://www.secmol.org), which aims to bring reforms in the government school system in Ladakh. In 1994 he was instrumental in the launch of Operation New Hope, a triangular collaboration of the government, village communities and the civil society to bring reforms in the government schools system. The programme involved formation of Village Education Committees to take ownership of state schools, training of teachers in child friendly ways and re-writing and publishing localised text books for Ladakh. As a result, the pass percentage at 10<sup>th</sup> grade (matriculation) rose from the dismal 5% to 55% in seven years and 75% these days.



For students who still failed in their state exams he founded the SECMOL Alternative School Campus near Leh, a special school where the admission criteria is failure in exams and not grades. However, with the supportive and creative environment at the school, the so called failures have excelled in their chosen fields and risen to international acclaim as entrepreneurs, filmmakers, politicians, and teachers.

As an engineer Sonam Wangchuk has been teaching innovation at the SECMOL Alternative School, where together with the students he designed and built solar heated buildings that are low cost, made of earth/mud but maintain +15 C even when the outside temperature is – 15 C in Ladakhi winters.

In order to solve the water crisis facing mountain regions due to climate change and fast melting glaciers he invented the Ice Stupa artificial glacier which stores the wasting stream waters in winter in the form of giant ice cones or stupas and releases the water in late spring as they melt... just when farmers need water.

He has received numerous awards, including the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award 2018, The GQ Men Of The Year Award for Social Entrepreneur of the Year 2017 in India, The Rolex Award for Enterprise 2016 in Hollywood USA, The Terra Award 2016 for World's best Earth Buildings in Lyon France, The UNESCO Chair for Earth Architecture for India in 2014, 'Real Heroes' Award by CNN IBN Channel in 2008, 'Green Teacher' Award by Sanctuary Asia Magazine in 2005, Ashoka Fellowship by Ashoka: Innovators for the Public in 2002, 'Man of the Year' by The Week magazine in India in 2001 and the Governors Medal by the J&K State Government in 1996.

## Critical Conversations | Discussions and Dialogues

### 11 December Saturday | Film Development Board of Nepal Chahabil

#### 12:30 pm | Screening & Awards of ‘Green Growth – Green Recovery’

#### Short Film Contest & Tik Tok Challenge for Climate Justice

kimff and the European Union in Nepal present “Green Growth- Green Recovery” a 5 minute short film competition. A four member jury comprising environmentalist Bhushan Tuladhar, artist Sauganga Darshandhari, museum curator Roshan Mishra, and the representative from European Union (EU) Bhim Tamang selected the top films of the competition.

kimff and Save the Children in Nepal present a Tik Tok Challenge for Climate Justice. A two member jury of environment journalist Kedar Sharma and Nepalese Youth for Climate Actions’s Angel Magar selected the top three winners.

We invite you to view these films and Tik Tok videos that reflect the perspectives of how Nepali youth experience climate change. We hope they will inspire you to rethink and reimagine our engagement with the environment and what each of us can do to reduce the impact of climate change locally and globally.

#### 2:00 pm | Panel Discussion – Coping with Climate Karma

Panelists – Gender and Climate Change Specialist, Dibya Devi Gurung; Nepalese Youth for Climate Actions’s Shreya K.C. and Umesh Balal Magar; Nepal Editor for [www.thethirdpole.net](http://www.thethirdpole.net), Ramesh Bhushal.

Moderated by Bhushan Tuladhar – Chairperson of Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO) and Clean Energy Nepal (CEN).

#### 4:00 pm | Master Class “Making the Dream Real” - by Cira Crowell

Are you just dreaming, or are you making your dreams real? It’s a tough question that deserves a deeper dive by anyone looking to make an impact in the world while achieving their biggest dreams. Making the leap from photographer to Executive Producer, Cira Crowell will share stories and insights behind actualizing the award-winning documentary, “Dream Mountain.” After an inspirational presentation of black and white, behind-the-scenes images created during the trek to base camp and onto the summit of Cholatse during the filming of “Dream Mountain,” Cira looks forward to taking audience questions. This talk is geared towards photographers, though all are welcome.

Cira’s mountain photographs are part of the kimff 2021 Open Air Exhibition at Nepal Tourism Board, Exhibition Road, Kathmandu, 5 - 13 December.

### 12 December Sunday | Film Development Board, Chahabil

#### 11:30 am | Breaking Code Red – Dignity Without Danger | Film Screenings & Panel Discussion

Filmmakers from western Nepal will join a panel of filmmakers and activists under the theme of ‘Breaking Code Red’ to discuss their films and their impact to help break the

silence that surrounds the topic of menstruation. By reflecting on the key messages of the films we can work together to develop innovative strategies to address menstrual exclusion in Nepal. Nearly all women and girls throughout the country practice at least one menstrual restriction, which prevent women and girls from fully participating in economic and social life, negatively affecting school attendance and employment.

Dignity Without Danger (DWD) is a three-year research study funded by the British Academy that has explored the various and complex stigma and taboos associated with menstruation. The DWD research project was launched in 2018 at kimff with the first panel on 'Breaking Code Red' which showcased films made by the daughters and young girls from the same village that the two new films *Stay Away* and *8 Days* have been made supported by Sara Baumann and Nepal Fertility Care Centre.

Both of these films are being premiered at kimff and screened with other Nepali produced films on the theme of menstruation.

The event is supported by Dignity Without Danger, British Academy, Liverpool John Moores University, Global Action Nepal, GiZ and the MHHMPA.

Please see page 82 for synopsis and details of films.

### **3:00 pm | Book Launch *Mero Khojyatra***

(Nepali translation of *Building Bridges to the Third World* by Toni Hagen)

### **5 - 13 December | Nepal Tourism Board, Exhibition Road**

#### **Kimff Poster Exhibition**

Kimff 2021 organised a poster competition on the theme 'Climate Karma'. We received 21 original and thoughtprovoking entries. A three member jury comprising environmentalist Bhushan Tuladhar, artist Sauganga Darshandhari, and museum curator Roshan Mishra selected the award winning poster by Shreya Amatya.

### **Living with Snow Leopards Photographs – Presented by WWF-Nepal.**

#### **Mountain Photographs by Cira Crowell**

Cira Crowell is an Executive Producer, photographer, and artist whose work fearlessly explores subjects from conceptual, landscape, and cultural genres to documentary, humanitarian, and adventure. Her photographs are united by a deep passion for black and white photography that began 30 years ago with her Grandfather's Leicaflex SL2 film camera and darkroom processing. She still uses some of the same 40-year-old lenses in her current digital workflow.



# Screening Schedule

## 9 DECEMBER, THURSDAY

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12:00 noon

### kimff 2021 Opening

(by invitation only) – live event

**Keynote Speaker:** *Environmentalist & Rolex Award Laureate Sonam Wangchuk from Ladakh.*

### Opening film screening

#### Dream Mountain ✦

dir: Kyle Ruddick

18 min | Nepal/ United States 2021  
*Mountaineer Pasang Lhamu Sherpa reflects on what the mountains mean to her.*

2:00 pm

#### The Big-Headed Boy, Shamans & Samurais ✦

dir: Bibhusan Basnet/ Pooja Gurung 🧑

38 min | Nepal 2020  
*A film crew sets out on a quest to find the perfect hero for their film.*

#### Lahureni (Gurkha Girl) ✦

dir: Bishal Roka Magar 🧑

35 min | Nepal 2021  
*Dilmaya, a young girl from the hills of Nepal, dreams of enlisting in the British Army.*

3:45 pm

#### Julungo (A Scarecrow)

dir: Rajesh Prasad Khatri 🧑

13 min 34 sec | Nepal/France/Hong Kong/Myanmar 2020  
*School girl Nani's dream to dance is unfulfilled because of the scarecrows.*

#### Home

dir: Ngima Gelu Sherpa 🧑

20 min | Nepal 2020  
*An intimate portrait of a filmmaker's relation with home and family.*

#### Jiudo Modo (The Living Corpse)

dir: Durga Bahadur Karki 🧑

12 min | Nepal 2021  
*An elderly woman yearns to see her grandson one last time.*

**Online Screenings (These films will be featured from 9 – 15 December / activate links 3:00 pm)**

#### Dream Mountain ✦

**(Screening only in South Asia)**

dir: Kyle Ruddick

18 min | Nepal/ United States 2021  
*Mountaineer Pasang Lhamu Sherpa reflects on what the mountains mean to her.*

#### A Baby is Born ✦

dir: Suraj Bhattarai

15 min 1 sec | Portugal 2020  
*A Nepali immigrant family in Portugal welcomes the birth of a baby.*

#### After Antarctica

dir: Tasha Van Zandt

105 min | USA 2021  
*Legendary polar explorer Will Stegar revisits a death defying journey into the Arctic.*

#### Agua Desgasta Roca (Water Wears Rock)

dir: Alvaro Crespo

22 min 21 sec | Spain 2020  
*Spanish climber Alberto Garcia finds a way of life in sports, despite the odds.*

#### Anche Stanotte Le Mucche Danzeranno Sul Tetto (Cows on the Roof) PG

**(Screening only in Nepal)**

dir: Also Gugolz

82 min | Switzerland 2020  
*Fabiano, an impoverished Swiss farmer, struggles to keep his life and dreams afloat.*

#### Black Peaks ✦

dir: Dr. Jennifer Lewis

18 min 44 sec | USA 2021  
*A close look at climate change impacts in Nepal and why we should be worried.*

#### Climbing Iran (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Francesca Borghetti

53 min | Italy 2020  
*Iranian climber Nasim is determined to push the boundaries that oppose her passion.*

### Henet Ward (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Morad Mostafa

22 min | Egypt 2020

*A Sudanese henna painter's daughter discovers Giza in Egypt.*

## 10 DECEMBER, FRIDAY

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11:30 am

### Bally peak Outlook 2020 Expedition

dir: Samir Jung Thapa 🇳🇵

3 min 11 sec | Nepal 2020

*Spectacular views of an expedition's efforts to clean up Base Camps.*

### Homework

dir: Sabin Maharjan 🇳🇵

4 min 29 sec | Nepal 2020

*School girl Sumnima struggles to do well in class.*

### Kharani

dir: Moshmi Gurung 🇳🇵

54 min | Nepal 2021

*Tashi's reason and modern beliefs are tested by age-old practices in his village.*

1:30 pm

### Saparu: A Celebration of Death ♦

dir: Aditya Khadka 🇳🇵

15 min | Nepal 2021

*A Bhaktapur family's grief is challenged by the celebratory nature of the Gai Jatra festival.*

### God's Buffalo

dir: Bishnu Kalpit 🇳🇵

14 min 20 sec | Nepal 2021

*A buffalo miraculously survives Melamchi's raging floods.*

### Ratoo Chihaan (The Red Grave)

dir: Umesh Ghorsaini 🇳🇵

12 min | Nepal 2020

*A dark, comic tale on the antics of some unlikely grave robbers.*

3:30 pm

### Living with Snow Leopards

10 min 19 sec | WWF- Nepal

*Mustang villagers struggle to manage conflict with wildlife.*

### I Wanted to be like Madhuri Dixit

dir: Ankit Manandhar Khadgi 🇳🇵

20 min | Nepal 2021

*A journalist's journey of self-love and self-acceptance.*

### Yet Another Winter

dir: Kiran Shrestha 🇳🇵

22 min 22 sec | Nepal 2021

*Yashodha faces trials and tribulations to have her daughter Radha hear and speak.*

**Online screenings (These films will be featured from 10 – 16 December/ activate links 8:00 am)**

### The Journey of Ultimate Challenge Huozhou Rapid Descent

dir: Liu Jiang/ Yang Lei

20 min | China 2020

*Eight extreme athletes compete in the Extreme Sports Challenge Series in Asia.*

### Vadiyar

dir: Marjan Khosravi

14 min 10 sec Iran 2021

*A tale from the Iranian wild.*

### Village Des Femmes (Village of Women) (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Tamara Stepanyan

83 min | Armenia/ France 2019

*An Armenian village is bereft of men as they migrate to Russia for work.*

### Cilima

dir: Aissa DJOUAMAA

98 min | Algeria 2020

*Four Algerian filmmakers show us a young generation's hope for change.*

### Jurria Guardians del Garrote (Jurria Guardians of the Pole)

dir: Pedro Cubiles

35 min | Spain 2020

*How the Shepherd's Leap survived and became a cultural phenomenon in Gran Canaria.*

### La isla Galapagos Mexicana (The Mexican Galapagos)

dir: Tania Claudia Castillo  
13 min | Mexico 2019

An archipelago of lagoons, host to the planet's oldest organisms, is under threat.

### Overland (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Elisabeth Haviland James/  
Revere La Noue  
105 min | USA 2020

An intimate and epic portrait of three falconers unfolds through a stunning cinematic journey.

### The Riyalists ♦

dir: Kesang Tseten  
67 min | Nepal 2021

A decade-long chronicle of the ordinary yet extraordinary journey of four Nepali migrant workers.

## 11 DECEMBER, SATURDAY

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12:30 pm

Free Entry

(Special Screening)

### Don't Choose Extinction -The Dinosaur Film with Neer Shah

2 min 31 sec | UNDP Nepal

A visitor to the United Nations General Assembly has a message about climate change.

### Saabo

6 min 12 sec | WWF Nepal  
Tracking the elusive snow leopard in Dolpo.

### Screening | Awards of Green Growth – Green Recovery Short Film Contest & Tik Tok Challenge for Climate Justice

2:00 pm

Free Entry

Coping with Climate Karma – Panel Discussion

4:00 pm

Free Entry

Master Class "Making the Dream Real"

by Photographer **Cira Crowell**

**Online screenings (These films will be featured from 11–17 December/ activate links 8:00 am)**

### Sciana Cieni (The Wall of Shadows)

dir: Eliza Kubarska  
93 min | Poland/ Germany/ Switzerland 2020

A Sherpa family breaks a taboo, participating in an expedition on a holy mountain.

### Aterpean Ateri (Dry Refuge)

dir: Ander Gugolz  
5 min | Spain 2021

Confined during Covid-19, climber Mikel dreams of new adventures.

### August Sky (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Jasmin Tenucci  
15 min | Brazil/ Iceland 2021

A young woman, Lucia, rediscovers her faith as an environmental disaster unfolds.

### Between Fire and Water (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Viviana Gomez Echeverry  
93 min | Colombia 2020

A young man, Camillo, embarks on a journey to find his new identity.

### Cinquanta Passi (Fifty Steps)

dir: Niccolo Aiazzi  
54 min 8 sec | Switzerland 2019  
Climate change and endangered glaciers continue to raise new questions.

### Disparus (Thin Ice)

dir: Pauline Epiard/ Valentine Ventura/  
Tiphaine Burguburu/ Clementine Vasseur/  
Lisa Laine/ Elodie Laborde  
6 min 47 sec | France 2020

A shady reporter takes off on a journey to document a species presumed extinct.

### 20,000 Meters Under The Earth (The Giant Cave's Mystery) (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Freddie Rochehnhaus  
90 min | Germany 2021  
An elite team of explorers journeys into one of world's most difficult caves.

### When Glaciers Go

dir: Corey Robinson

16 min 51 sec | Nepal/ USA 2020

*A Mustang family strives to find balance in a changing environment.*

## 12 DECEMBER, SUNDAY

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11:30 am

Free Entry

### Breaking Code Red – Dignity Without Danger

Film screenings followed by **panel discussion** on menstrual health practices in Nepal. ♀

3:00 pm

Free Entry

### Book Launch of Nepalma Mero Khojyatra

(Nepali translation of *Building Bridges to the Third World* by Toni Hagen)

**Online screenings (These films will be featured from 12 -18 December/ activate links 8:00 am)**

### Da Yie (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Anthony Nti

20 min | Ghana/ Belgium 2019

*An intriguing tale about a man from Ghana.*

### Dani Karavan (High Maintenance – The Life and Work of Dani Karavan) (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Barak Heymann

66 min | Israel/ Poland 2020

*An insightful portrait of the life and times of renowned Israeli artist Dani Karavan.*

### Dokhtar-e-Abi (The Blue Girl)

dir: Keivan Majidi

84 min | Iran 2020

*Children in a remote mountain village love football but have nowhere flat to play.*

### Ek tha gaon – Once Upon A Village

dir: Shristi Lakhera

61 min | India 2021

*An intimate portrait of a ghost village in the Himalayan foothills of Garhwal in India.*

### The Icefall Doctor

dir: Sean Burch

53 min 21 sec | Nepal 2021

*A kaleidoscopic and meditative view on the life of icefall doctor Anagnima Sherpa.*

### Tic Tac Base

dir: Roamin Assie-Rio

41 min | France 2021

*Two former world champions concoct a cocktail of base jumping, highline, and paragliding.*

### Taming the Garden (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Salome Jashi

92 min | Switzerland/ Georgia/ Germany 2021

*A powerful man's unusual hobby uproots community lives in Georgia.*

### Last Days at Sea (Screening only in Nepal)

dir: Venice Atienza

72 min | Philippines/ Taiwan 2021

*Reyboy comes of age as climate change threatens his idyllic fishing village in the Philippines.*

## 13 DECEMBER, MONDAY

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12:30 pm

**(Special Screening)**

**Co-Presented by the British Council & Sustainable Summits**

**Sustainable Summits – Climate solutions from the top of the world**

dir: Smriti Basnet/ Shashank Shrestha 🧑

60 min 25 sec | Nepal 2021

3:00 pm

**Free Entry**

**Awards | kimff 2021 Closing (Special Screening)**

**Everest – By those Who Were There – 1921, 1922, 1924**

dir: Dominic Bush/ John Porter

35 min | UK 2021

*Reassessing our relationship with Everest after a century of climbing.*

**Online screenings (These films will be featured from 13 – 19 December/ activate links 8:00 am)**

**Everest – Najtazia Cesta (Everest-The Hard Way)**

dir: Pavol Barabas

54 min | Slovakia 2020

*Slovakian climbers test the limits of their endurance, the hard way.*

**Dagami Daytoy (This is Our Land)**

dir: Nonilon Abao

15 min 39 sec | Philippines 2019

*An indigenous community in the Philippines fights for its life, honour, and land.*

**Heltzear (Hold)**

**(Screening only in Nepal)**

dir: Mikel Gurrea

17 min 35 sec | Spain 2021

*Fifteen year-old climber Sara trains for the most difficult climb of her life.*

**Mama (Screening only in Nepal) PG**

dir: Pablo de la Chica

29 min | Spain 2020

*Mama Zawadi and her chimpanzee wards heal from the wounds of war in DR Congo.*

**Migrants**

dir: Hugo Caby/ Antoine Dupriez/ Aubin

Kubiak/ Lucas Lermytte/ Zoe Devise

8 min 17 sec | France 2020

*Global warming pushes two polar bears to cohabit with two brown bears.*

**Rahe bi uboor (Lonely Road)**

dir: Mohammad Reza Hafezi

35 min 36 sec | Iran 2020

*One teacher's crusade to educate children from Iran's nomadic mountain communities.*

**Rain In 2020**

dir: Yong-Chao LEE

79 min | Taiwan/ Myanmar 2021

*An intimate portrait of a family in Myanmar and how they cope with the Covid-19 pandemic.*

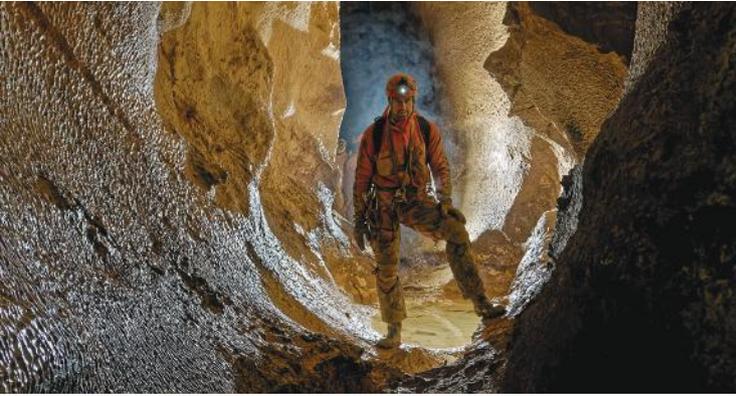
**Adam (Far Away From The Memories)**

dir: Zhaddam Aldhy Nurdin

15 min | Indonesia 2020

*In this tale with a twist, Adam, a suffering son, returns home to his mother.*

# **INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION**



## 20,000 Meters Unter der Erde (20,000 Meters Under The Earth)

90 min | Germany | 2021

The Riesending is Germany's deepest, longest shaft cave. The rocky corridors wind downwards for almost 25km into the Untersberg Mountain, descending 1,200m through a spectacular subterranean landscape. The film joins an elite team of explorers as they journey into one of the most difficult caves in the world, seeking its end point, the only people ever to have been granted permission to do so. Specialised light-sensitive, lightweight cameras and lighting help provide a glimpse into the incredible underground world many days away from the earth's surface. These cavers are explorers in the true sense of the word. This underground journey is perhaps the greatest adventure that can be found in today's well-mapped and organized industrial world.

### Filmmakers

*20,000 Meters Under the Earth* was written by **Petra Höfer** and **Freddie Röckenhaus**, directed by Freddie Röckenhaus and produced by colourFIELD. The award-winning duo, described as "the Lennon-McCartney of German documentary", have produced more than 80 full-length documentaries, documentary series, and docudramas related to science and education, including the 13-part series and movie, *Germany from Above*, the most successful documentary ever in Germany. Before making films, Röckenhaus was staff editor of *Die Zeit* and *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, and won the German Pulitzer equivalent, the Henri Nannen Preis in 2005. Höfer was an editor for *die tageszeitung* and *Monitor*. colourFIELD productions include the series *Beautiful Minds-Voyage Into The Brain*, licensed in more than 60 countries, *Automatic Brain*, *The Virus Empire*, *Migrating Birds-Scouts of Distant Worlds*, and *Tropic Fever*. The couple produced the documentary *Love in Power*, about Michelle and Barack Obama.

**Original Language**  
German

**Direction**  
Petra Höfer/ Freddie  
Röckenhaus

**Camera**  
Thomas Matthalm/  
Katharina Bitzer/ Robbie  
Shone

**Editing**  
Johannes Fritsche

**Sound**  
N/A

**Script**  
Petra Höfer/ Freddie  
Röckenhaus

**Producer**  
Petra Höfer/ Freddie  
Röckenhaus

**Contact**  
Nioni O'Hara  
ColourFIELD tell-a-vision  
Gutenbergstr 34  
44139 Dortmund  
Germany  
niomi@colourfield.de



**Original Language**  
Nepali

**Direction**  
Suraj Bhattarai

**Camera**  
Suraj Bhattarai

**Editing**  
Suraj Bhattarai

**Sound**  
Faizan Ali

**Script**  
Suraj Bhattarai

**Producer**  
Doc Nomads Master's  
Programme

**Contact**  
Suraj Bhattarai  
Royal Thimphu College,  
Ngabiphu 13, Thimphu,  
Bhutan, 11001  
bhattaraisrj@gmail.com



## A Baby is Born

15 min 1 sec | Portugal | 2020

A Nepali immigrant family in Lisbon, Portugal welcome the birth of their child. They invite Mahesh, a salesman and incidentally the only Hindu priest available to perform the naming ceremony for the baby. We go with Mahesh into the humble living spaces of Nepali immigrants, become familiar with their culture and witness the comfort they receive in being able to perform this delicate ritual in a new land, while living under difficult circumstances. With the birth of their child they find renewed happiness and hope. The film has moments of nostalgia for a life left behind and the hope of a better future, with the beginning of a new life.

### Filmmaker

**Suraj Bhattarai**, 33, is from Thimphu, Bhutan. He recently earned a Master's in Documentary Film Directing from the Doc Nomads Joint-Masters programme in Lisbon, Budapest, and Belgium. Bhattarai has directed four short documentaries as part of the degree. He also holds a graduate degree in Business from Leiden University. Bhattarai has worked as a documentary producer and attended and pitched a feature project at various documentary platforms and workshops, including Docs Port Incheon (2018) and the Japan Prize in Tokyo (2018) as a finalist. He is currently working as an Assistant Director for a feature length documentary.





## Adam (Far Away From The Memories)

15 min | Indonesia | 2020

Adam returns to his hometown of Toraja in South Sulawesi, and to his mother, several years after he left. Adam tries to be honest with his mother about the suffering that led him to leave. But instead, she surprises Adam.

### Original Language

Toraja Tribe

### Direction

Zhaddam Aldhy Nurdin

### Camera

Helmi Wantalita

### Editing

AL Mustakim

### Sound

Rafiat Arya Fitrah

### Script

Zhaddam Aldhy Nurdin

### Producer

Dyah Dwi Atmadani/  
Zhaddam Aldhy Nurdin

### Contact

Zhaddam Aldhy Nurdin  
[d4mskyo@gmail.com](mailto:d4mskyo@gmail.com)

### Filmmaker

**Zhaddam Aldhy Nurdin** is a film producer and director, and founder and CEO of Waesinema, an independent film production and creative lab based in Makassar. He graduated from the Makassar Seascreen Academy and the Makassar Arts Institute, majoring in Film and Television. Zhaddam Aldhy Nurdin has worked on several short films as producer, director, and screenwriter. His films have been screened at the Bali International Short Film Festival, the Spain Moving images Festival, 2020, and Sundance Film Festival. He won the Orizzonti Award for Best Short Film at the Venice La Biennale in 2018.



**Original Language**

English

**Direction**

Tasha Van Zandt

**Camera**

Tasha Van Zandt/ Sebastian Zeck

**Editing**

Don Bernier

**Sound**

Giosue Greco

**Script**

Tasha Van Zandt/ Sebastian Zeck/ Don Bernier

**Producer**

Sebastian Zeck/ Lisa Remington/ Amanda Spain/ Tasha Van Zandt

**Contact**Sebastian Zeck  
1844 Balboa Street, San Francisco, CA 94121  
contact@afterantarctica.com

## After Antarctica

105 min | USA | 2021

A journey across both poles, *After Antarctica* follows legendary polar explorer Will Steger's lifelong journey as an eyewitness to the greatest changes to the polar regions. In 1989, an international crew of six explorers and scientists led by Steger set out to be the first humans to cross Antarctica by dog-sled. Their mission: to draw attention to the rapidly changing frozen continent and convince world leaders to renew the Antarctic Treaty, in order to shield Antarctica from industrial profiteers for the next 50 years. Now, as Steger ventures out onto the ice once again, at the age of 75 and into the Arctic tundra, he recounts the historic, death-defying journey that forever changed his life and led him to where he is today. Interspersing contemporary travels with riveting vérité archival footage, *After Antarctica* is a wilderness thriller that immerses us in the danger, tension, and sacrifice Steger and his team faced at every turn in order to complete their historic mission.

**Filmmaker**

**Tasha Van Zandt** is a documentary director, cinematographer, writer, and Emmy-nominated producer who has documented stories on all seven continents. Her projects have been supported by SFFILM, Film Independent, and the Sundance Institute. Her documentary short film *Tehachapi*, co-directed with the artist JR, followed the creation of a participatory work of art in a supermax prison. Another short, *One Thousand Stories*, offered an intimate look into the creation of JR's first-of-its-kind interactive mural, exhibited at the SFMOMA. Van Zandt has been commissioned by *Time*, *The Guardian*, HBO, Netflix, VICE, and National Geographic Expeditions.





## Agua Desgasta Roca (Water Wears Rock)

22 min 21 sec | Spain | 2020

*Water Wears Rock* tells the story of Alberto Garcia, a climber who has suffered from multiple sclerosis since he was 17 years. He has found a way of life in sports, which helps him to improve as a person and keeps his disease at bay. Despite his physical limitations, his goal is to climb the Naranjo de Bulnes in Asturias, Spain. This 2,510m high peak is one of Europe's toughest climbs.

### Original Language

Spanish

### Direction

Alvaro Crespo

### Camera

Sebastian Nieves

### Editing

Alvaro Crespo/ Alberto Mayoral

### Sound

Jaime Nieves

### Script

Viviana Galves

### Producer

Paola Suarez/ Irene Mendez

### Contact

Alvaro Crespo Garcia  
Calle Ambros 34, 2B Madrid,  
Spain  
al.crespogarcia@gmail.com

### Filmmaker

**Alvaro Crespo** is a video producer from Madrid, Spain currently living in New York City. He has over seven years of experience providing a wide range of production services for film, documentary, short films, corporate material, and TV. He has studied mass media, motion graphics, lighting, social media, and digital marketing at San Pablo—CEU University in Madrid and the School of Visual Arts in New York. He works on social issue documentaries such as *Ahora te toca a ti*, about a group of children in Myanmar who use technology to improve their living conditions, *Nuevos Tiempos*, about Kine and Aliou, two young Senegalese who dream of starting a family.



**Original Language**

Swiss/ German/ Italian

**Direction**

Also Gugolz

**Camera**

Susanne Schule

**Editing**

Samir Samperisi

**Sound**Rico Andriolo/ Vittorio  
Castellano/ Marco Viale**Script**

Aldo Gugolz

**Producer**

Aldo Gugolz

**Contact**131/ 1-56 Prospect Mira,  
Moscow, 129226, Russia  
festivals@antidote-sales.  
biz

## Anche Stanotte Le Mucche Danzeranno Sul Tetto (Cows on the Roof)

82 min | Switzerland | 2020

Fabiano is haunted by nightmares, a reflection of his life as the heir of his father's small-scale agricultural business in an isolated valley of southern Switzerland. He owns fifty goats and eight cows and is trying his best to produce the Alpine cheese his hippie parents first made back in the 1980s. But nothing is going the way it should. Fabiano is in debt, the hut that he rents for the summer is dilapidated, and the goat cheese business is no longer profitable. His thoughts keep returning to a fatal accident a Macedonian illegal worker met with the previous year, which he feels that he is at least in part responsible for. Fabiano is not exactly in a good place to start a family, but his girlfriend Eva is expecting, and hoping to fulfill her dreams of a simple life surrounded by nature and animals. How can they build a life together in such difficult circumstances?

**Filmmaker**

**Aldo Gugolz** was born in Lucerne in 1963 and studied political science and communication in Zürich, while working as a photojournalist for several Swiss newspapers. He then attended the Hochschule für Fernsehen und Film in München and has since worked as a filmmaker in Germany and Switzerland. Gugolz's directing credits include several documentaries for television and cinema, among which *Zeit im Fluss* (1997), *Leben Ausser Atem* (2001), *Wir Zwei* (2009) and *Rue de Blamage* (2017) were big hits in German-speaking Swiss theaters.





## Aterpean Ateri (Dry Refuge)

5 min | USA | 2021

When forced into confinement due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Mikel lives day by day immersed in a forced monotony, with the memories of good times and dreams of new adventures.

### Original Language

Basque

### Direction

Ruben Crespo

### Camera

Ruben Crespo

### Editing

Ruben Crespo

### Sound

NA

### Script

Ruben Crespo

### Producer

Ander Iriarte

### Contact

Ander Iriarte (MIROKUTANA)  
[info@mirokutana.com](mailto:info@mirokutana.com)

### Filmmaker

After studying photography at the Andoain Film and Video School, ESCIVI, 2006), **Ruber Crespo** worked at a major advertising agency. Soon, thanks to his training as a sportsman and diver, he redirected his professional career to filming extreme sports and nature. He has worked as a filmmaker in South Africa, Iceland, Nicaragua, and Indonesia, among others. In 2014, he trained in digital cinema at EFTI, the Madrid International Center for Photography and Cinema. Crespo's works have received numerous awards including Best Mountain Short at the Memorial Maria Luisa.



**Original Language**  
Portuguese

**Direction**  
Jasmin Tenucci

**Camera**  
Bruno Tiezzi

**Editing**  
Brusi Olason  
Fernanda Frotte

**Sound**  
Guile Martins

**Script**  
Jasmin Tenucci/ Saim Sadiq

**Producer**  
Kari Ulfsson/ Ricardo  
Mordoch/ Henrique  
Carvalhaes

**Contact**  
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Schonhauser Allee 8, 10119  
Berlin, Germany  
festival@salaudmorisset.  
com



## August Sky

16 min | Brazil | 2021

As fires rage in the Amazon hundreds of miles away, a young nurse, Lucia, senses something off in the air and begins to have doubts about her pregnancy. A reluctant favor to her ailing grandmother brings Lucia to a neo-Pentecostal church, where she is drawn to a charismatic young parishioner and her faith.

### Filmmaker

**Jasmin Tenucci** is a Brazilian filmmaker who has written, directed, or produced films in Brazil, Iceland, Pakistan, and the United States. Her most recent short film, *August Sky* (2021), was a Cannes Short Film 2021 Official Selection. Tenucci co-produced and associate directed the short film *Darling* (2019), which won Best Short Film at the 2019 Venice Film Festival. Tenucci also directed four episodes of the Brazilian television series *Shop Tudo* (Glaze Entretenimento/ Fall 2021), co-developed and wrote on the acclaimed series *As Five* (2020), and created and served as showrunner on the dramedy *Tempo Secreto* (2016). Currently, she is writing a soon-to-be-announced Netflix series that will premiere in January 2022. Jasmin has a BA in film from São Paulo University and an MFA in writing and directing from Columbia University's film school. While at Columbia, she taught directing to undergraduates and was a founder of a collective of filmmakers from around the world with whom she works till date. Jasmin is developing two feature films, one based on *August Sky*, and *The Smallest Whale in the World*, which won the 2017 Alfred P. Sloan Development Grant.



## Between Fire and Water

92 min | Colombia | 2020

Camilo is the adopted son of an indigenous couple of the Quillasinga tribe from the Cocha lagoon, in the southwest of Colombia. He is the only black person in his community and has always felt different. For years, he has been wondering about his biological parents. The Quillasinga governor gives him ayahuasca, a sacred remedy for spiritual guidance. During this transcendent experience, Camilo has visions of his biological mother. Supported by his adoptive father, Camilo embarks on a journey to find his true identity.

### Filmmaker

**Viviana Gómez Echeverry** is a Colombian director, producer, and cinematographer. She studied Social Communication at the Javeriana University in Bogota. In Spain she specialized in cinematography and received a Master's degree in Scriptwriting. She is an alumna of Chicken & Egg Pictures, Talents Buenos Aires, the Tribeca Film Institute, the Colombian Film Fund, and Bolivia Lab. Her credits include two short films, *Exotic Tropical* and *16th Birthday* (writer and director) and *Life is Sacred*, (co-director with Andreas Dalsgaard and director of photography), produced by two-time Oscar-nominated production company Final Cut for Real. Her first feature film *Keyla* was selected for the Warsaw Film Festival, the Curaçao International Film Festival Rotterdam, the Sao Paulo Latin-American Film Festival, and the Cartagena International Film Festival, among others.

**Original Language**  
Spanish

**Direction**  
Viviana Gomez Echeverry

**Camera**  
Viviana Gomez Echeverry

**Editing**  
Anton Wenzel

**Sound**  
Jose Jairo Florez

**Script**

**Producer**  
Sonia Barrera Gutierrez/  
Viviana Gomez Echeverry

**Contact**  
Filmotor Distribution  
Viso Producciones  
michael@filmotor.com



**Original Language**

English

**Direction**

Dr. Jennifer Lewis

**Camera/ Editing/ Producer**

Kier Askew/ Brianne Bell/  
Christopher Bender/  
Preshanee Bhattarai/  
Kirsten Cornwell/ Suvecha  
Dhungana  
Louis Garcia/ Whitney  
Gilliland/ Megan Gisonda/  
Jasmine Gould/ Luke Harris/  
Andrew Heaney/  
Kale Holtom/ Gina Huber/  
Ganga Kandel/ Karuna  
Karki/ Sean Lyons/ Shawn  
Malangyaon/ Olivia  
Messner/ Shewta Parajuli  
Jakob Peters/ Sophie Potts/  
Tulsi Rauniyar/ Chris Round/  
Malek Salab/ Cruz Sanchez/  
Gino Sanchez/ Caitlin  
Schiavoni/ Laura Scudder/  
Sujata Shrestha/ Aakriti  
Shrestha/ Aabhash Shrestha/  
Rachel Silarszka/ Arun So/  
Durgananda Yadav

**Sound**

Kutumba

**Contact**

Dr. Jennifer Lewis, George  
Mason University  
6804 Capstan Drive,  
Annandale, Virginia 22003,  
USA  
jlewis33@gmu.edu

**Black Peaks**

18 min 44 sec | USA | 2021

This film about the impacts of climate change in Nepal, Asia, and the world focuses on the loss of available water and its consequences for large populations in Asia, due to the melting of ice and snow and changes in precipitation. Using research, photographic evidence, and interviews with experts, *Black Peaks* tells a story about what is happening and why it should worry all of us.

**Filmmakers**

This film was created as a student project by the Conservation Storytelling Classes of 2020, which collected the visuals and conducted in-person interviews, and 2021, which carried out research and edited the film. The effort involved students from George Mason University in the US, Kathmandu University, and Tribhuvan University's Institute of Forestry in Pokhara, Nepal. The students came from the fields of Environmental Science, Communications, and Film Studies.





## Cilima

98 min | Algeria | 2020

Algeria today is divided between a young generation's hope for change and despair at the current situation of the country. Four young Algerian filmmakers from all four corners of the country, each with their own cinematographic language, show us Algeria today, its youth, dreams, love, art, and future.

### Original Language

Arabic/ Tamazigh/ French

### Direction

Aissa Djoumaa

### Camera

Alexandra Bas

### Editing

Meher Zitounil

### Sound

The late Helmi Belfekih

### Script

Aissa Djoumaa

### Producer

Aissa Djoumaa

### Contact

Aissa Djoumaa/ Nouvelle Vague Algérienne Production.

City of Diar Zegra 01 N 69  
nvaproductio@gmail.com

### Filmmaker

**Aissa Djoumaa**, born in 1983 in Bilda, Algeria, studied at Tunisia's School of Arts and Cinema. After he graduated in 2010, he taught audiovisual skills in youth homes and directed short documentaries and fiction films in Algeria. Djoumaa has attended the Kinomada program in Quebec, Canada and the summer university at Fémis in Paris. His film production company Nouvelle Vague Algérienne produces short films with young Algerian directors and his own projects. Djoumaa's first feature film was released in 2020. He has co-produced a Belgian documentary, participated in the Bierut Locarno Academy International, and served on the jury of the Ali Mâachi Prize.



**Original Language**

Italian/ English/ French

**Direction**

Niccolò Aiazzi

**Camera**

Niccolò Aiazzi

**Editing**

Samir Samperisi

**Sound**

Fabio Lazzareschi

**Script**

Niccolò Aiazzi

**Producer**

N/A

**Contact**

Niccolo Aiazzi

Via Sofocle 5, Milan, Italy

inof@niccoloaiazzigmail.com



## Cinquanta Passi (Fifty Steps)

54 min 08 sec | Switzerland | 2019

Climate change and endangered glaciers raise new questions, above all for those like mountain guide and rescuer Michele Cucchi, known as “Lungo”, who have always lived and worked in the mountains they are passionate about. In today’s rapidly changing world, the challenge is no longer conquering new summits, but developing environmental and humanitarian projects to conserve an increasingly fragile ecosystem and help those who live in the mountains. The retreat of glaciers brings to light the traces of our passage and also the bodies of those who never returned home. Cucchi is always moved by the desire to enhance the memory and protection of these fragile environments, whether in the Karakorum, following an environmental education program with Agostino Da Polenza, or in Zermatt, with glaciologist Michele Freppaz, anthropologist Elisabetta Dall’O, Air Zermatt CEO and pilot Gerold Biner, and the “historical memory of Zermatt”, former rescuer and mountain guide Bruno Jelk.

### Filmmaker

**Niccolò Aiazzi** was born in 1982 in Ferrara, Italy and grew up in Milan. His lifelong passion for alpinism, skiing, and the great outdoors drives his storytelling. Aiazzi focuses on the relationship between people and wilderness, travelling around the world, shooting photo and video reportage for expeditions, explorers, and professional athletes. Since 2018, he has worked as documentary director for RSI in Lugano, Switzerland.





## Climbing Iran

53 min | Italy | 2020

“People often ask me why I wear nail polish. When I climb, it’s all scratched off. I look at my hands and think: Oooh - I did a lot of climbing today!” Nasim, with her hot pink nail polish is a pioneer of outdoor climbing in Iran, where women are meant to train in their veils on indoor walls only, during fixed hours, and only with other women. After being a young champion in different sports from karate to kickboxing, Nasim followed the call of the mountains. She decided to go beyond the barriers imposed on women in Iran. “Gravity doesn’t ask me what my passport is. It takes you down in the same way, whether you are rich or poor, black or white, Iranian or Italian.” The film profiles an extraordinary woman determined to push the barriers opposing her passion, whether they are physical, social, psychological, geographical, or ideological. Committed to changing things little by little, Nasim brings other young women to the walls of Polekhab outside Tehran, teaching them how to climb and get independent.

### Filmmaker

**Francesca Borghetti** has a background in Cultural Anthropology, and worked in documentary since 2000. She received her Eurodoc diploma in 2010. Borghetti has developed, written, and produced a number of documentaries with DocLab, Fabulafilm, Rai Storia, Rai 5, and Babel Tv and been spokesperson for Doc/it, the Italian Documentary Association. She also worked for the TV program PETROLIO-RAI, responsible for acquiring national and international documentaries. *Climbing Iran* is Borghetti’s first feature documentary as director.

### Original Language

English/ Farsi

### Direction

Francesca Borghetti

### Camera

Davood Ashrafi/ Corrado Measso/ Federico Santini

### Editing

Aline Herve

### Sound

N/A

### Script

Francesca Borghetti

### Producer

Filippo Macelloni

### Contact

Syndicado Film Sales  
121 Beaconsfield Ave.  
Toronto M6J 3J5  
admin@syndicado.com



**Original Language**

English/ French/ Asante Twi

**Direction**

Anthony Ati

**Camera**

PJ Claessens

**Editing**

Frederik Vandewalle

**Sound**

Vincent Struelens

**Script**

Anthony Nti/ Chingiz  
Karibekov

**Producer**

Anthony Nti/ Chingiz  
Karibekov

**Contact**

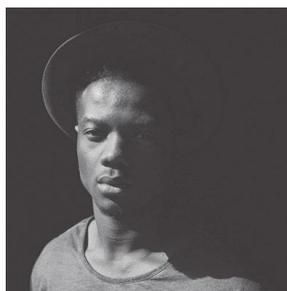
Francois Morisset – Salaud  
Morisset  
Schonhauser Allee 8, 10119  
Berlin, Germany  
festival@salaudmorisset.  
com



## Da Yie

20 min 34 sec | Ghana/ Belgium | 2019

In Ghana, a man is tasked with recruiting children to do a risky job later that night. As he spends the whole day with the energetic, lively children, he begins to have qualms.

**Filmmaker**

**Anthony Ati** is a Ghanaian-born filmmaker from Belgium. He studied film at the RITCS in Brussels. Ati's short films *Kwaku* and *Boi* were festival favorites. *Da Yie* won the Grand Prix at the 2020 International Short Film Festival at Clermont Ferrand. He is currently working on his first feature film, *Postcard* and a TV show *Clemenceau*. *Postcard* won second prize at the Sam Spiegel FilmLab and *Clemenceau* was selected for the Torino Series Lab. Ati co-wrote and directed the miniseries *Shaq*. In 2020, he was listed as one of the most promising filmmakers in Belgium and Netherlands by *NRC*, the Dutch national newspaper.



## Dagami Daytoy (This Is Our Land)

15 min 39 sec | Philippines | 2019

For years, a foreign mining company has destroyed the rich ancestral land and culture in Nueva Vizcaya, and divided its people. But it has also summoned the collective strength of the mountains and the community to rise up. The Didipio community of Twali-Ifugao indigenous people set up a barricade and take risks, fighting for their life, honour, and land.

**Original Language**  
English/ Filipino

**Direction**  
Nonilon Abao

**Camera**  
Glenn Barit/ Joanne Cesario/  
Misty Pegram/ En Ramel/  
Nonilon Abao

**Editing**  
Che Tagyamon/ Nonilon  
Abao

**Sound**  
Glenn Barit

**Script**  
Nonilon Abao

**Producer**  
Alyssa Suico

**Contact**  
Nonilon Sidney Abao  
22D Jaime Street, Carmel 1  
Subdivision, Barangay Bahay  
Toro 1106, Quezon City,  
Metro Manila, Philippines  
nonilonsidney@gmail.com

### Filmmaker

**Noni Abao** is a freelance producer and production manager for films, documentaries, and other audiovisual productions. *Dagami Daytoy* won best documentary at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Gawad CCP Para sa Alternatibong Pelikula at Video, and Yale Environment 360! It has been screened at international festivals including the 8<sup>th</sup> Liberation Docfest Bangladesh, the 4<sup>th</sup> Seashorts Film Festival, and the 12<sup>th</sup> DMZ International Documentary Film Festival. In 2019, Abao produced Glenn Barit's debut feature *Cleaners* and Che Tagyamon's short *Judy Free*, both won Best Film at the QCinema International Film Festival 2019. He also worked as a human rights worker for KARAPATAN in the Cagayan Valley Region in the Philippines and is currently affiliated with Taripnong-Cagayan Valley network.



**Original Language**

English/ Hebrew/ French/  
Italian

**Direction**

Barak Heymann

**Camera**

Lukasz Konopa

**Editing**

Shira Hochman

**Sound**

Aviv Aldema

**Script**

N/A

**Producer**

Barak Heymann/ Krzysztof  
Dzieciolowski

**Contact**

Barak Heymann  
2 Barzilai St. 6511304 Tel  
Aviv Israel  
assistant@heymannfilms.  
com



## Dani Karavan (High Maintenance – The Life and Work of Dani Karavan)

66 min | Israel/ Poland | 2020

Israeli artist Dani Karavan has created nearly 100 environmental installations all across the world. He has won some of the most prestigious international art awards and regularly lectures about his groundbreaking work. Yet Karavan is far from satisfied. His monumental structures are rapidly deteriorating. Age is starting to catch up with him. The political climate in his country is driving him mad, as is the director of the documentary being made about him, whose questions betray his infuriating artistic ignorance. In addition, Karavan becomes embroiled in a serious political and artistic conflict over his latest commission, a monument to Polish nationals who had risked their lives saving Jews during World War Two. *High Maintenance* is a straightforward, yet intricate film, emotional and personal without being melodramatic, and as painful as it is humorous and passionate.

**Filmmaker**

**Barak Heymann** has been directing and producing documentaries for TV and cinema for more than 15 years. He and his brother Tomer's independent film company, Heymann Brothers Films, has produced over 30 documentaries, some as international co-productions. Their films have premiered and won awards at numerous festivals worldwide, including the Berlinale, IDFA, and Hot Docs. Barak teaches in films schools in Israel and is currently working on numerous projects.



**Original Language**  
French

**Direction**  
Pauline Epiard/ Valentine  
Venture/ Tiphaine  
Burguburu/ Clementine  
Vasseur/ Lisa Laine/  
Elodie Laborde

**Camera**  
N/A

**Editing**  
Tiphaine Burguburu

**Sound**  
N/A

**Script**  
Pauline Epiard/ Valentine  
Venture/ Tiphaine  
Burguburu/ Clementine  
Vasseur/ Lisa Laine/  
Elodie Laborde

**Producer**  
Philippe Meis

**Contact**  
Patrick De Carvalho/ Je  
Regarde  
38 rue Georges  
Clemenceau. 59350 Saint-  
Andre, France  
patrick2carvalho@gmail.  
com

## Disparus (Thin Ice)

6 min 47 sec | France | 2020

Followed by his faithful cameraman, a shady reporter takes off on a journey to document a species presumed extinct.

### Filmmakers

**Pauline Epiard, Valentine Venture, Tiphaine Burguburu, Clementine Vasseur, Lisa Laine, and Elodie Laborde** graduated from the Rubika Animation School in Valenciennes, France with Master's degrees in digital direction.



**Original Language**

Kurdish

**Direction**

Keivan Majidi

**Camera**

Foad Farabi

**Editing**

Hirou Rasoulpour/ Shahram Kamangar

**Sound**

Pezhman Razh/ Arastou Mafakher

**Script**

Keivan Majidi/ Faryad Majid Abadi

**Producer**

Keivan Majidi/ Yousef Asadi

**Contact**

IRIMAGE

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## Dokhtar e-Abi (The Blue Girl)

84 min | Iran | 2020

In a remote village between the rocky mountains in Kurdistan, everyone is in love with football, but there is no flat field to play the game. The children decide to climb up a mountain in order to find somewhere to play the game.

**Filmmaker**

Born in 1978 in Marivan, **Keivan Majidi** started his film career after finishing his military service. With his shorts and documentaries, Majidi has participated in more than 40 international film festivals and won a number of awards. *The Blue Girl* is his debut feature length film.



## Dream Mountain

18 min | USA/ Nepal | 2021

When is it right to follow your dreams? Let's take a cue from international mountain guide Pasang Lhamu Sherpa Akita as she questions, then follows her intuition on the most important expedition of all: her own life. Sherpa Akita, an accomplished mountaineer, humanitarian, and now mother, has won numerous prestigious awards, including the National Geographic People's Choice Adventurer of the Year in 2016. In *Dream Mountain*, she reflects on her personal highs and lows and rediscovers for herself just how much the mountains have meant to her. The film offers insights into her struggle to balance mountaineering with motherhood, and the pressures of respecting her traditional culture while pushing boundaries as an elite female athlete. Returning to her mountain home and lifelong passion to face Cholatse, a sheer 6,440m peak in the heart of the Everest region, Sherpa Akita leads by inspiration, proclaiming, "Everyone has a right to follow their dreams." Pasang shines as she invites us deeper into her life and Himalayan homeland to share the importance of transcending limitations to live your dreams, no matter the challenges

### Filmmakers

InLightWorks Productions was founded by executive producer and expedition photographer **Cira Crowell** as a multimedia platform to bring images, words, and stories of inspiration to light. Director **Kyle Ruddick** is internationally renowned and founded the documentary film project One Day on Earth.

### Original Language

English

### Direction

Kyle Ruddick

### Camera

Scott Simper/ Kyle Ruddick/  
Michael Clark

### Editing

Sarah Smalik/ Kyle Ruddick

### Sound

Kyle Ruddick/ Scott Simper

### Script

Cira Crowell

### Producer

Keith Carlsen

### Contact

Keith Carlsen/ InLightWorks  
1212 North Summit Drive  
(USA) Santa Fe, New Mexico  
87501  
keith@inlightworks.com



**Original Language**  
Garhwali

**Direction**  
Srishti Lakhera

**Camera**  
Amith Surendran/ Kai  
Tillman

**Editing**  
Bhamati Sivapalan

**Sound**  
Nithin Lukose

**Script**  
Srishti Lakhera

**Producer**  
Srishti Lakhera/ Bhamati  
Sivapalan

**Contact**  
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Rishikesh, Uttarakhand, India  
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## Ek Tha Gaon (Once Upon A Village)

61 min | India | 2021

“In our village, we have a saying: the dead come back to visit the living. Now those of us who remain have only these ghosts for company.” Semla is a ghost village in the Himalayan foothills. Climate change and dwindling prospects have driven the 50 families that once lived here to migrate to cities. With this migration, farming livelihoods connected to the terrain and seasons have faded away. Like her village, Leela is old, resilient, and forgotten. Despite loneliness and struggles with an aging body, Leela does not want to leave. Golu is the only young person in the village. Desperate to escape but without the means to do so, Golu roams around the abandoned village. The emotional journey of the two women changes their relationship with the place they call home. A way of life struggles to stay relevant.

### Filmmaker

**Srishti Lakhera's** first feature documentary, *Ek Tha Gaon*, won the Audience Choice Award at the Seoul Eco Film Festival, 2021, was an official selection as India Gold in The Mumbai Academy of Moving Image (MAMI), and chosen for the Vision du Reel-Media Library. She co-directed *Ishq Dosti & All That*, a film produced for the Public Service Broadcasting Trust. In her decade-long career as a filmmaker and a media trainer, she has produced films for international organizations like UNISDR, government bodies such as the Forest Department of Uttarakhand, as well as national and international television including Doordarshan and Channel News Asia. Lakhera is associated with grassroots organizations across India and conducts filmmaking workshops for marginalized communities.





## Everest – Najtazsia Cesta (The Hard Way)

54 min | Slovakia | 2020

When Chris Bonington and his team set out in 1975 to climb the south-west face of Mount Everest, the steepest and highest face in the world, they were attempting the ultimate mountaineering challenge that many previous expeditions had tried unsuccessfully. In August, 1975 the 18-member British expedition assisted by Sherpas and supplementary oxygen, reached the top. Bonington called the route leading through the face the “Hard Way.” In his bestselling book of the same name, he wrote that although Alpine style climbing — without supplementary oxygen, fixed ropes, and the assistance of Sherpas — is increasingly popular in the Himalayas, it was impossible to scale the south-west face in this manner. This has become a challenge for a younger generation of mountaineers, including a group of climbers from Slovakia. The film explores ways to find out what humans can do.

### Filmmaker

**Pavol Barabáš** (1959) makes large-scale mountain-oriented and adventure films about how people survive in extreme conditions, in inaccessible wilderness, on wild rivers and glacial peaks, and in deep caves. His films show how we should treat the earth, with love and respect for nature, mental strength, and a moral conscience. Barabáš has been part of ground-breaking expeditions, including the co-discovery of a mega-cave on the Chimantá plateau and the first transit of the Ellsworth Mountains in Antarctica, and made much loved films about the Slovak mountains. Barabáš has won over 300 national and international prizes.

**Original Language**  
English/ German/ Slovak/  
Czech

**Direction**  
Pavol Barabas

**Camera**  
Pavol Barabas

**Editing**  
Robo Karovic

**Sound**  
Martin Mere

**Script**  
Marek Tapak

**Producer**  
Alena Koscova

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Oráčska 18  
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**Original Language**

Basque

**Direction**

Mikel Gurrea

**Camera**

Julian Elizalde

**Editing**

Maialen Sarasua

**Sound**

Andrea Saenz Pereiro/ Xanti  
Salvador

**Script**

Mikel Gurrea

**Producer**

Xabier Berzosa

**Contact**

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## Heltzear (Hold)

17 min 35 sec | Spain | 2021

San Sebastian, 2000, the Basque conflict continues. While writing a letter to her absent brother, Sara, a 15-year-old climber, is training for the most difficult climb of her life.



### Filmmaker

**Mikel Gurrea**, born in San Sebastián in 1985, is a graduate in audiovisual communication from the Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona and earned an MA from the London Film School. His short films have won awards at festivals such as the Montreal World Film Festival and his theatre art has premiered at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London and the Fernando Fernán-Gómez in Madrid. His filmography includes his first full-length feature, *Suro* (2021, in production), *Heltzear* (2021, fiction), *Foxes* (2015, fiction), *Txoria* (2013, documentary), *Rojo en el agua* (2012, fiction), *Los gatos del tejado* (2009, fiction), and *Primo* (2008, fiction).



## Henet Ward (Ward's Henna Party)

22 min | Egypt | 2020

Halima, a Sudanese henna painter living in Egypt, goes to an area of Giza to prepare a bride for her wedding. She is accompanied by her seven year-old daughter Ward, who accompanies her and starts to wander around and discover the place.

### Original Language

English

### Direction

Morad Mostafa

### Camera

Eslam Mohsen

### Editing

Mohamed Mamdouh

### Sound

Ahmad El Sawy

### Script

Morad Mostafa/ Mohamed Ali Mansour

### Producer

Bonanza Films

### Contact

Francois Morisset – Salaud Morisset  
Schonhauser Allee 8, 10119  
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### Filmmaker

**Morad Mostafa** was born in Cairo in 1988 and studied film direction at Cinema Palace. He worked prolifically as an assistant director with a variety of filmmakers, including Ayten Amin on *Souad*, which was an official selection at the 2020 Cannes Film Festival. Mostafa started directing in 2019, with *Henet Ward*. The award-winning film premiered at the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival and has been seen at over 100 festivals globally. His second second short film, *What We Don't Know About Mariam*, also premiered at the Clermont-Ferrand festival.



**Original Language**

English

**Direction**

Pedro Cubiles

**Camera**

N/A

**Editing**

Nomadas Producciones

**Sound**

Nomadas Producciones

**Script**

Pedro Cubiles/ Isidoro Falcon

**Producer**

Isidoro Falcon

**Contact**Pedro Cubiles  
pedrocubiles@hotmail.com

## Jurria – Guardians Del Garote (Jurria – The Guardians of the Pole)

35 min | Spain | 2021

The Shepherd's Leap is an old tradition from the Canary Islands, Spain, which let the first Canarian settlers travel quickly through the difficult topography in search of their flocks. Grazing is one of the main reasons this tradition survives, and so when grazing dwindled, the Shepherd's Leap was in danger. *Jurria, The Guardians of the Pole* tells of the comeback of this tradition among the inhabitants of Gran Canaria island, thanks to the effort and teachings of an old shepherd called Master Paco. Today the Shepherd's Leap is a cultural phenomenon that survives thanks to groups of people called Jurrias, spread out in Gran Canaria and the rest of the archipelago.

**Filmmaker**

**Pedro Cubiles** is a documentary filmmaker and a photographer born in the Canary Islands, Spain. He grew up in a family steeped in classical music, poetry, and literature and loves to travel. He studied Business and Tourist Activities in Spain, and Art, Design and Media, in England. His passion for telling stories and for photography and exploration enabled him to start a career in the field of documentary. He turns experience into solid narrative in his work. His filmography includes: *7.000 Km* (2011), a solo adventure driving through New Zealand; *The Delhi Express* (2013), solo train adventure through northern India; *Un Viaje al Corazón (Trip to the Heart)* (2014), showcasing the work of the Spanish NGO Educanepe and *Marangu Pasos Encantados (Marangu Enchanted Steps)* (2014), about the Kilimanjaro ascent of the blind Spanish swimmer Enhamed Enhamed.





## La Isla Galapagos Mexicana (The Mexican Galapagos)

13 min | Mexico | 2019

In the middle of the Chihuahuan Desert, there is an archipelago of lagoons that host the oldest organisms on our planet. Due to the biological diversity that exists in these waters, scientists compare them with the Galapagos Islands. This place is currently under threat.

**Original Language**  
Spanish

**Direction**  
Tania Claudia Castillo

**Camera**  
Flavia Martinez

**Editing**  
Tania Claudia Castillo

**Sound**  
Quetzalcoatl Gutierrez

**Script**  
Tania Claudia Castillo

**Producer**  
Centro de Capacitacion  
Cinematografica. A.C.

**Contact**  
Cesar Ortiz/ Centro  
de Capacitacion  
Cinematografica. A.C.  
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cesar@elccc.com.mx

### Filmmaker

**Tania Claudia Castillo**, born in 1989, holds a Bachelor's in Filmmaking from Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica, Mexico City. Her first short film, *Primavera* (2014), was an Official Selection at Sundance and participated in more than 20 other film festivals around the world, including the 12th Morelia International Film Festival and the 25th São Paulo International Short Film Festival.



**Original Language**

Bisaya/ Tagalog

**Direction**

Venice Atienza

**Camera**Moshe Ladanga/ Venice  
Atienza**Editing**Anna Madalena Silva  
Schlenker/ Katrin Maria  
Atienza**Sound**

Fan Wu

**Script**

N/A

**Producer**Fan Wu/ Venice  
Atienza**Contact**Syndicado Film Sales  
121 Beaconsfield Ave.  
M6J 3J5  
admin@syndicado.com

## Last Days at Sea

72 min | Philippines/ Taiwan | 2021

12-year-old Reyboy lives in Karihatag, an isolated fishing village in the south of the Philippines. Every morning, the men set out to sea. Their daily catch is shared upon their return and the area close to the shore has been turned into an ecological safe haven for fish. In Karihatag, every boy grows up to become a fisherman. However, when the first rain falls, Reyboy will leave for the city to study. In *Last Days at Sea*, first-time director Venice Atienza joins Reyboy for his last summer at home. They spend the days watching the clouds change shape, and the nights looking up at the stars imagining life on Saturn. Reyboy shares the beauty he sees in the little things around him; the rocks, the crabs, the water. They talk about what it means to be home. Nothing seems to happen at the surface. But slowly, the cracks in Reyboy's paradise start to appear. While the fishermen of Karihatag risk their lives as the yearly storms become increasingly dangerous due to climate change, Reyboy's goodbye to the only life he has ever known becomes imminent.

### Filmmaker

**Venice Atienza** (1989) is a Filipino documentarian who observes how life transformations are carried out through everyday mundane actions. To create a space for author-driven documentaries, she co-founded Svemirko Film with Taiwanese filmmaker, Fan Wu. She is an alumna of IDFAcademy, IDFA Project Space, and the European MFA program DocNomads. Her first feature film, *Last Days at Sea*, is supported by the IDFA Bertha Fund and won awards at Visions du Réel – Rough Cut Lab 2020 and DMZ Industry 2020.





## Mama

29 min | Spain | 2020

Inside the Kahuzi-Biega National Park, in one of the most conflict affected and violent places in the world, is the Lwiro Primate Rehabilitation Sanctuary. There, Mama Zawadi and her baby chimpanzees find the only place in the world where unconditional love can heal the wounds of war and save them from extinction.

### Filmmaker

**Pablo de la Chica** studied acting and directing in Madrid and Toronto. He has worked on social projects around the world, especially in areas with war, conflict, or violence. He directed the documentary *The Other Kids*, which won awards at several film festivals around the world, and the series on refugees, *Dreams Without Borders*, for the Aljazeera Documentary Channel.

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**Original Language**  
English/ French/ Spanish

**Direction**  
Pablo de la Chica

**Camera**  
Cesc Nogueras

**Editing**  
Juan Manuel Gamazo

**Sound**  
Fernando Aliaga/ Albert Roca

**Script**  
Pablo de la Chica

**Producer**  
David Torres Vazquez/  
Pablo de la Chica/ Kathleen  
McInnis/ Miguel Gonzalez/  
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**Original Language**

N/A

**Direction**

Hugo Caby/ Antoine Dupriez/ Aubin Kubiak/  
Lucas Lermytte/ Zoe Devise

**Camera**

N/A

**Editing**

Hugo Caby/ Aubin Kubiak

**Sound**

N/A

**Script**

Lucas Lermytte

**Producer**

Carlos De Carvalho

**Contact**

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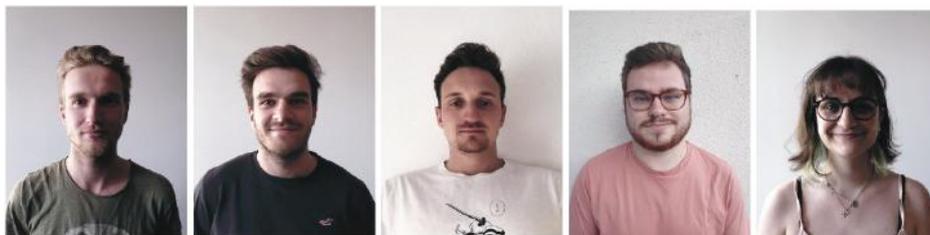
## Migrants

8 min 17 sec | France | 2020

Two polar bears are driven into exile due to global warming. Along their way, they will encounter brown bears, with whom they will try to cohabitate.

### Filmmakers

**Hugo Caby, Antoine Dupriez, Aubin Kubiak, Lucas Lermytte** and **Zoé Devise** graduated from the Pôle 3D school (Roubaix, France). In 2020, they co-directed the short film *Migrants*.





## Overland

105 min | USA | 2020

Following the extraordinary quests of three falconers, this is a cinematic journey across four continents that twists and turns like nature itself, bridging ancient and modern, east and west, and earth and sky. Lauren, a daredevil anthropologist, travels the world collecting ancient falconry secrets, building her skills to train injured eagles to fly and hunt again. When she encounters a confused eagle whose tragic past with humans seems beyond repair, she begins to question everything. Giovanni has given up the bustle of Rome for a solitary life with his wolves, horse, and hawks on a tiny countryside farm. A transcendent experience with an 800-year-old falconry book forces him to rethink his purpose — and the menace of the “digital cage.” In Dubai, Khalifa is training to be the world’s best falcon racer. For thousands of years his nomadic ancestors hunted with the falcon to feed their tribe in the harsh Arabian desert. Now, Khalifa must find a way to keep the fragile culture of his Bedouin forefathers alive.

### Filmmakers

**Elisabeth Haviland James** is a Peabody and Emmy award-winner whose work, screened on television and in museums, includes historical, cinéma vérité, environmental, and experimental films.

Artist and filmmaker **Revere La Noue** has worked on feature and short projects all over the world for two decades on topics ranging from woodpeckers to opera to college football. La Noue has collaborated and innovated on multimedia projects including a large canvas print of wild horses that wrapped a city block, and an experimental photography exhibit at the Ford Presidential Museum.

**Original Language**  
English/ Italian/ Arabic

**Direction**  
Elisabeth Haviland James/  
Revere La Noue

**Camera**  
Benjamin Pritchard

**Editing**  
Elisabeth Haviland James/  
Revere La Noue

**Sound**  
N/A

**Script**  
N/A

**Producer**  
Elisabeth Haviland James/  
Revere La Noue

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**Original Language**

Persian

**Direction**

Mohammad Reza Hafezi

**Camera**

Mohammad Reza Hafezi

**Editing**

Mohsen Kordestani

**Sound**

Ehsan Hafezi

**Script**

N/A

**Producer**

Mohammad Reza Hafezi

**Contact**

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## Rahe bi Uboor (Lonely Road)

35 min 36 sec | Iran | 2020

This documentary portrays the sincere efforts of a teacher to provide educational opportunities for the children of nomadic tribes in Iran.

**Filmmaker**

**Mohammad Reza Hafezi**, director and producer of the *The Lonely Road* and two other documentaries, graduated with a degree in cinema directing. *The Lonely Road* won audience awards in South Korea and at the Mountain Autrans Film Festival in France as well as the Golden Maple for Best Documentary at the Jahorina film festival and several awards at festivals in Iran.



## Rain in 2020

79 min | Taiwan/ Myanmar | 2021

This documentary, shot over seven years, shows the changes in a family alongside the realities of society in Myanmar. In 2020, the pandemic was spreading, and a major collapse at a jade mine killed and injured many miners. Ah Tian was forced to go back home during the rainy season. There, heavy rain floods the entire village, including his family with sewage. Their lives, in their masks, getting soaked over and over again, mirrors that of others in Myanmar, lucking out life's dilemmas. Nobody knows when the muddy water will be gone or what the calm after the storm is.

**Original Language**  
Chinese/ Burmese

**Direction**  
Lee Yong-Chao

**Camera**  
Lee Yong-Chao

**Editing**  
Lee Yong-Chao

**Sound**  
Lee Chia-Jung

**Script**  
N/A

**Producer**  
Lee Yong-Chao/ Yan Zih-Mei

**Contact**  
Yu Ming-Chu / LEE YONG  
CHAO FILM STUDIO  
REBECCA.YU@yahoo.com.tw

### Filmmaker

**Lee Yong-Chao**, born in Myanmar, was accepted into the 7th Golden Horse Film Academy founded by Hou Hsiao-hsien in 2015, and now works in Taiwan and Myanmar. His short films have been nominated at the Busan International Film Festival, the Warsaw Film Festival, the Black Nights Film Festival, the Krakow Film Festival, and the Singapore International Film Festival Short Film Competition, among others. His first documentary feature, *Blood Amber*, was selected at the Locarno Film Festival for the Semaine de la critique competition section.



**Original Language**

Nepali/ Tibetan/ English/  
Russian/ Polish

**Direction**

Eliza Kubarska

**Camera**

Piotr Rosolowski

**Editing**

Barbara Toenieshen

**Sound**

Zofia Morus/ Franciszek  
Kozlowski

**Script**

Eliza Kubarska/ Piotr  
Rosolowski

**Producer**

Monika Braid  
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## Sciama Cieni (The Wall of Shadows)

93 min | Poland/ Germany/ Switzerland | 2020

Will your gods forgive you the sins committed out of love for your child? A Sherpa family breaks a taboo by taking part in an expedition to the Himalayan peak of Kumbhakarna, one of the holiest of mountains, to earn money for their son's schooling so he does not have to take on dangerous and poorly respected work as a porter. The east face of the 7,710m mountain is one of the most difficult challenges in alpinism today. The holy mountain confronts the leading alpinists seeking to summit it and the Sherpas with equal ruthlessness. The story of an extreme Himalayan expedition is told entirely from the Sherpas' point of view, like never before.

**Filmmaker**

**Eliza Kubarska** is a graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts and Wajda Film School in Warsaw and director of internationally awarded documentaries. Her debut, *What happened on Pam Island* (63 min, 2010), filmed in Greenland, won the Mario Bello Award at the Trento Film Festival. *Walking Under Water* (76 min, 2014, ARTE/ ZDF), shot on the seas and underwater around Borneo, explored the dying sea-nomad culture and won the Jury Prize at Hot Docs in Canada. *K2 Touch the Sky* (73 min, 2015, HBO), at the foot of the K2 mountain, asked what the price of passion is. *The Wall of Shadows* (May 2020) premiered at Hot Docs in Canada, as one of the nine titles chosen for the main competition out of over 3,000 entries. It won the Grand Prix at the Bergen International Film Festival and Best Film in Climbing at the Banff Mountain Film Festival. Eliza also won the Zürcher Filmpreis for best expeditions, including to Greenland, the High Atlas in Morocco, Mali in West Africa, or the tropical jungles of Malaysia. Eliza specializes in extreme location work and since 2008 has headed Vertical Vision Film Studio.





## Taming the Garden

92 min | Switzerland/ Georgia/ Germany | 2021

A powerful and anonymous man has developed an unusual hobby. He buys centuries-old trees, some as tall as 15-storey buildings, from communities along the Georgian coast and has them excavated for installation in his private garden. In order to transplant trees of such dimensions, the landscape surrounding them is ripped apart and the people living around them are forced to adapt to the disruption. As the film follows this process, it portrays the needs and values of today's Georgian society and reflects on the theme of forced migration, where "uprooting" is more than a metaphor.

### Filmmaker

**Salomé Jashi** was born in Tbilisi, Georgia in 1981. She studied journalism and worked as a reporter for several years before being awarded a British Council scholarship to study documentary filmmaking at Royal Holloway, University of London in 2005. Salomé's *The Dazzling Light of Sunset* (2016) was awarded the Main Prize at Visions du Réel's Regard Neuf Competition as well as at ZagrebDox, Jihlava IDFF, Valdivia IDFF, and several other festivals. An earlier work, *Bakhmaro* (2011), co-produced with ma.ja.de. filmproduktion and MDR/Arte, received an Honorary Mention for Young Documentary Talent at DOK Leipzig, won Best Central and Eastern European Documentary at Jihlava IDFF, and was nominated for the Asia Pacific Screen Awards and Silver Eye Awards. Salomé is the founder of two production companies: Sakdoc Film and Microcosmos, both producing documentaries and fiction of high artistic quality. She was a fellow of Nipkow Scholarship in 2017 and DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program in 2020.

**Original Language**  
Georgian/ Mingrelian

**Direction**  
Salomé Jashi

**Camera**  
Goga Devdariani/ Salomé Jashi

**Editing**  
Chris Wright

**Sound**  
N/A

**Script**  
Salomé Jashi

**Producer**  
Vadim Jendreyko/ Erik Winker/ Martin Roelly/  
Salomé Jashi

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121 Beaconsfield Ave.  
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**Original Language**  
Nepali/ Sherpa

**Direction**  
Sean Burch

**Camera**  
Hari Thapa/ Sean Burch

**Editing**  
Sean Burch

**Sound**  
Krishna Om Thapa/ Hari  
Thapa/ Sean Burch

**Script**  
Sean Burch

**Producer**  
Sean Burch

**Contact**  
Khumbu Productions  
Warrenton, VA 20186 USA  
info@seanburch.com



## The Icefall Doctor

53 min 21 sec | Nepal | 2021

*The Icefall Doctor* is based on the life of Everest legend Angnima Sherpa, a significant presence on the mountain, but obscure in the vast world of Everest history and film, even for Everest enthusiasts. Angnima worked on Everest since 1975, on what is statistically the most dangerous profession on earth: managing the Khumbu Icefall on Everest by fixing and maintaining the ropes and ladders that Western mountaineers use to have an opportunity to summit. He himself was the first official Icefall Doctor, a term bestowed on him by the legendary guide Rob Hall. The film is a kaleidoscopic and meditative view on Angnima's last season as leader of the Doctors before his death. His story reveals culture, commitment to family, chasms of class and financial inequity, and the burden of environmental stewardship.

### Filmmaker

**Sean Burch** is a professional filmmaker, explorer, and conservationist who holds eight world records spanning six countries and five continents. He has over 130 first ascents of previously unclimbed mountain peaks, of which 117 were accomplished solo. Burch won National Geographic Channel's Ultimate Survival Alaska TV show and is the author of the acclaimed self-help book and program, *Hyperfitness®: 12 Weeks to Conquering Your Inner Everest* (Penguin Random House). He has spent over 20 years as a filmmaker. Burch's documentary and photography work have appeared on the BBC, AP, National Geographic, Reuters, CNN, CNNi, USA Today, ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX world news, and Outside.





## The Journey of Ultimate Challenge: Huozhou Rapid Descent

20 min | China | 2020

We invited eight top extreme athletes from all over the world to come to China, to compete in eight incredible challenges in different locations. This film is the first documentary in the Extreme Sports Challenge Series in Asia. The world's top motocross drivers went to Turpan, the hottest place in the world, to open up a new free riding route. The world's top driver, Max, spent five days on this challenge, encountering many difficulties and challenges, unsure whether he could complete his task. We bring a documentary eye to extreme sports challenges, seeking the whole story and narrative. A production team of 28 people completed the film with just five days of recording time.

### Filmmakers

**Liu Jiang**, the founder of Ox Studio Extreme Sports is an acclaimed extreme sports film director and photographer, who has produced or shot over 200 extreme sports films and more than 10 documentaries. He has produced a large-scale Arctic adventure documentary and a documentary film, *Magellan on Land* in cooperation with National Geographic and worked extensively with Red Bull. Extreme sports are developing slowly in China. The filmmaker seeks to bring out the human element, exploring different stories to find new ways to move his audience.

**Original Language**  
English

**Direction**  
Liu Jiang/ Yang Lei

**Camera**  
Chen Yue

**Editing**  
Fan Ben Qing Chun

**Sound**  
Ox Studio

**Script**  
Xiang Qi

**Producer**  
Qin Ming Yi

**Contact**  
Ox Extreme Sports  
production mechanism –  
Liu Jiang  
lj@oxstudio.cn



**Original Language**

Nepali

**Direction**

Kesang Tseten

**Camera**

Shyam Karki/ Bishnu Kalpit/  
Siddhartha Shakya/  
Kesang Tseten

**Editing**

Kesang Tseten

**Sound**

Sukanta Majumdar

**Script**

Kesang Tseten

**Producer**

Shunyata Film Production

**Contact**

Shunyata FilmProduction  
shunyatafilm@gmail.com



## The Riyalists

67 min | Nepal | 2021

In 2008, four young Nepali men went to the Middle East as migrant workers. Their experience was captured in the film, *In Search of Riyal*. At this time, over two million Nepalis worked in the Gulf States and Malaysia, including a large percentage of the country's young men between the ages of 18 and 40. Their earnings sustained every third household. Twelve years later, in retracing the trajectory of these four men, we are afforded a chronicle of their ordinary and yet remarkable journeys, a glimpse into their motivations, gains, and losses over more than a decade.

**Filmmaker**

**Kesang Tseten's** films have screened regularly at KIMFF and other international film festivals for over two decades. His work includes *Who Will Be a Gurkha*, *On the Road With the Red God: Machhendranath*, *Castaway Man*, *Trembling Mountain*, *Hospital*, and a trilogy of films about migrant labour.



## Tic Tac Base

41 min | France | 2021

Two friends, Antony Newton and Pablo Signoret, are former world champions of highline, a sport they pushed the boundaries of multiple times. Two years ago, they started basejumping. Following the path of the Flying Frenchies team, who made the world of outdoor sports dream with their movie *I Believe I Can Fly*, the two decided to revive a rare discipline: The Baseline. *Tic Tac Base* is a film about mixing several of the most extreme outdoor disciplines: base jumping, highline, and paragliding.

### Filmmaker

**Romain Assie-Rio** is a filmmaker specialized in extreme sports and adventure filmography. In 2018, he spent three months in the Alaskan wilderness and made a film about the expedition. From 2021 to 2022, he will be on a sailing expedition from Europe to Antarctica.

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**Original Language**  
French

**Direction**  
Romain Assie-Rio

**Camera**  
Romain Assie-Rio

**Editing**  
Romain Assie-Rio

**Sound**  
Romain Assie-Rio

**Script**  
Romain Assie-Rio

**Producer**  
Romain Assie-Rio

**Contact**  
Romain Assie – Rio  
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**Original Language**  
N/A

**Direction**  
Marjan Khosravi

**Camera**  
Arman Fayaz

**Editing**  
Emad Khodabakhsh

**Sound**  
Soroush Azizi

**Script**  
Marjan Khosravi

**Producer**  
Milad Khosravi

**Contact**  
Milad Khosravi  
miladpwut@yahoo.com



## Vadiyar

15 min | India | 2021

A wild animal attacks Sasan's pregnant mother. The villagers believe that if a wild animal attacks a pregnant woman, all the inhabitants of the village will be infected with rabies. The only way to save everyone, they say, is to kill the animal. Sasan wants to avenge his mother and protect the whole village. But he realizes that forgiveness is better than taking revenge. The animals attack their prey out of hunger and instinct. Yet they are wise and emotional creatures, and humans should forgive them.

### Filmmaker

**Marjan Khosravi** is a young Iranian filmmaker who studied Cinema and Media Arts. After nine years spent writing, studying, and working in cinema and film production including as assistant director, she directed her first short documentary, *The Price of Blood*, in 2018, garnering admiration at many national festivals. *The Snow Calls*, her first mid-length documentary, was selected for the student competition at IDFA 2020 and won the best feature documentary award at Big Sky Documentary Film Festival. It was selected for the competition section of many festivals like DMZ, IFEF, and Ethnofest. *Vadiyar*, her second short fiction film, has been nominated for the Grand Prix of 40<sup>th</sup> edition of the Uppsala short film festival. Women and their social problems are the leitmotiv of Khosravi's films.





## Village Des Femmes (Village of Women)

83 min | Armenia/ France | 2019

A village where women, children, and elderly people reside. The men are away for nine months, working in Russia. Summer has a slow, friendly atmosphere: women do the hay, cut the grass, and can fruit and put away stores for the winter. The sun arouses a laziness, a sensual relaxation. Autumn, with its shades of red, is the season of birth and of the potato harvest. Women and men find intimacy in the coldness of winter, and so women give birth in October and November. Fathers meet their children in December. Preparations start to welcome the men, but a form of suspense and a long, tiring wait set in: whose husband will come first? The men arrive with the snow. The women are shy, they need time to be in the presence of men. But the children are happy to be close to their fathers. Spring arrives, tense. Men depart for the land of the tsars. The women, weak and sad, need to find strength to take care of the children.

### Filmmaker

**Tamara Stepanyan** was born in Yerevan, Armenia. During the breakdown of the Soviet Union in the early 90s, she moved to Lebanon. After studying and working in Lebanon, she studied at The National Film School of Denmark. For the last seven years, the award winning filmmaker has been working and living in France, finishing two feature documentary films, and preparing for her next fiction feature. Stepanyan's films have been shown at festivals like Locarno, Busan IFF, Amiens IFF, Talinn Black Nights Film Festival, and La Rochelle. She regularly teaches "education a l'image" at various schools.

**Original Language**  
Armenian

**Direction**  
Tamara Stepanyan

**Camera**  
Tamara Stepanyan  
Robin Fresson

**Editing**  
Olivier Ferrari  
William Wojda

**Sound**  
Samvel Saryan

**Script**  
Tamara Stepanyan

**Producer**  
Stephane Jourdain

**Contact**  
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**Original Language**

Lowa (Mustang)/ Nepali

**Direction**

Corey Robinson

**Camera**

Corey Robinson

Tashi Bista

Cameron Kruse

**Editing**

Tyler Osborne

**Sound**

Cleod9 Music/ Scotty Beam

**Script**

Tashi Bista

**Producer**

Tashi Bista/ Cameron Kruse

**Contact**

Tashi Bista

Lomanthang – 3, Mustang,

Gandaki State, Nepal

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## When Glaciers Go

16 min 51 sec | USA/ Nepal | 2020

Dhey is a remote village in the Mustang region of Nepal that is on the frontline of our planet's changing climate, with shortages of glacial water forcing a local family and neighbors from their homes. Charting a course for future generations, the Gurung family splits ways. The younger generation moves to a new village, leaving behind traditional agriculture practices to grow apples as a cash crop to sell on the global market. The community has risked everything, hoping the apples will thrive. During one of the early apple harvests the Gurungs keep a foot in both worlds, committed to maintaining tradition and family despite the demands of their strange new world. The film is an intimate portrait documenting the family's efforts to find balance in a changing environment.

**Filmmaker**

**Corey Robinson** is a director and cinematographer based in Cortez, Colorado in the USA. With a focus on non-fiction stories of obsession, he has worked on all seven continents for clients such as National Geographic, PBS, and the Travel Channel. He seeks to tell stories of social justice, conservation, natural history, and science. When not working, he bikes, skis, and paddles with his partner, throws the ball for his black lab, and drinks hazy IPAs from his brother's brewery.

## World Class Titles from



### **Whiteness in Engineering: Tracing Technology, Masculinity, and Race in Nepal's Development**

by Janwillem Liebrand

2021, pp. xxiv+232 [Forthcoming]



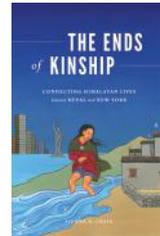
Based on the strong impressions formed during his training as an engineer in the Netherlands and subsequent entry into the world of technology research in South Asia, *Whiteness in Engineering* retraces Janwillem Liebrand's intellectual journey that revealed to him the connections between technology, masculinity and race in Nepal's history of planned development. He constructs five dioramas to present different viewpoints on everyday engineering practices in the field of irrigation and water resources development. Together these dioramas permit readers to discern for themselves why it is that engineering has failed to fight for social and intellectual transformation and also why expert-led technology promotion in achieving global sustainability goals has come to reinforce—rather than challenge—the dynamics of gender discrimination, social exclusion, and male hegemony in society.

### **The Ends of Kinship: Connecting Himalayan Lives between Nepal and New York**

by Sienna R. Craig

2021 (Nepal edition), pp. xvi+280

ISBN: 978 9937 597 59 3, NPR 790.00



"Life at the ends of kinship is exposed here through masterful storytelling, giving us glimpse into the sadness, hopes, and joys of Nepalis on the move."

—VINCANNE ADAMS, University of California, San Francisco

"An exquisite portrait of a community stretched apart by migration and at the same time darned back into new shapes of connection through the world-making ties of kinship."—STACY PIGG, Simon Fraser University

### **Nepali Musicians: Between the Dales of Darjeeling and the Vales of Kathmandu**

by Peter J. Karthak

2018, p. 222, ISBN: 978 9937 597 45 6, Price: NPR 850.

This book is an accidental product, an incidental result ... Two of my other long-form pieces appear for the first time in this book ... They are, 'Other Encounters: Darjeeling' and 'Other Encounters: Kathmandu.' These twin folios mention and highlight those Nepali musicians – many past by now and quite a few still practicing their crafts, of two musical crucibles, one in the town of Darjeeling and the other in the capital city of Kathmandu.



# NEPAL PANORAMA



## Bally Peak Outlook 2020 Expedition

3 min 11 sec | Nepal | 2020

Last fall, in conjunction with the Bally Peak Outlook Foundation, an expedition team embarked on the first phase of the “8x8000m” program to clean up the base camps of Nepal’s eight 8,000m mountains. The 47-day cleanup during the months of lockdown was led by environmental activist and mountaineer Dawa Steven Sherpa. It removed 2.2 tons of waste from the base camps of Cho Oyu (8,188m), Everest (8,848.86m), Lhotse (8,516m), and Makalu (8,485m). The Covid-19 crisis has had significant effects on Nepal, where the tourism industry supports over a million jobs. The program helped support communities of the Everest region, which were deeply impacted by the lack of tourists. Four short films document the effort, each dedicated to one 8,000m peak and focusing on a specific theme related to sustainability and local culture.

### Filmmaker

**Samir Jung Thapa** is an award-winning filmmaker and photographer with over 10 years of experience in documentary filmmaking and the founder of Klikman Productions. His career started with walking the length of the country along the Great Himalaya Trail and later producing a documentary about snow leopard collaring in the Kanchenjunga region. Thapa’s documentary *Ghosts of the Mountain* was screened at numerous film festivals including KIMFF and WCFF in Washington DC. In 2019, Thapa summited Everest while working on the issue of pollution in the mountains. His film *Bally’s Everest Cleanup Campaign*, made with Bally Switzerland, won multiple awards at the Miami and Croatia film festivals.

**Original Language**  
English

**Direction**  
Samir Jung Thapa

**Camera**  
Samir Jung Thapa

**Editing**  
Valentina Landenna

**Sound**  
Pemba Tshering Sherpa

**Script**  
Luca Caon

**Producer**  
Guido Cella/ Olivia Iacobucci

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**Original Language**  
Nepali

**Direction**  
Bishnu Kalpit

**Camera**  
Bishnu Kalpit

**Editing**  
Bishnu Kalpit

**Sound**  
N/A

**Script**  
N/A

**Producer**  
Film Crew Nepal

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(Film Crew Nepal)  
dopbishnukalpit@gmail.com



## God's Buffalo

14 min 20 sec | Nepal | 2021

Homan Singh Shivabhakti ekes out a living farming in the hills of Sindhupalchowk district, east of Kathmandu. He loves and worships his buffalo which has brought him all the good things in his life. All is well until devastating floods ravage the area. Homan Singh's buffalo disappears.



### Filmmaker

Widely recognized as one of the finest cinematographers working in Nepal, both for fiction and non-fiction films, **Bishnu Kalpit** has won the National Award for Cinematography and National Advertising Award for camera work. He has been nominated for an Emmy and has won a Silver Award for Cinematography at the New York Film Festival. Kalpit won the First prize in kimff 2016 short film contest on Strengthening Public Services in Nepal.



## Home

20 min | Nepal | 2020

A young Nepali man preparing to launch a filmmaking career in Europe is suddenly summoned home to the Everest region. His father, a livestock farmer like most Sherpas before they became known for their mountaineering prowess, is ailing. In this intimate portrait, the filmmaker explores his relationship to home and his parents, and the world of tradition and ritual he thought he had left behind.

### Filmmaker

**Ngima Gelu Sherpa**, born in 1993 in Solu Khumbu, is a photographer, writer, director, and producer. His debut short film *Phulsiri* (2016) won the Best Children's Film award in Nepal and was screened at more than a dozen film festivals across the world including the Bengaluru International Short Film Festival. In 2018, he received an Erasmus scholarship to pursue a Master's in Film Direction at Kino Eyes: The European Movie Masters program in Lisbon, Edinburgh, and Tallinn. His graduation short film, *Adaptação* (2020), premiered at the Reykjavik International Film Festival and was also screened at FEST New Directors New Films and the Ajyal Film Festival. *Home* premiered at the Internationale Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen 2021, where it won an honorable mention by the Ecumenical Jury. Sherpa was selected for the Locarno Open Doors consultancy in 2021.

**Original Language**  
Nepali/ Sherpa

**Direction**  
Ngima Gelu Sherpa

**Camera**  
Ngima Gelu Sherpa

**Editing**  
Ngima Gelu Sherpa

**Sound**  
Johnny Farah

**Script**  
Ngima Gelu Sherpa

**Producer**  
Ngima Gelu Sherpa

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**Original Language**  
Nepali

**Direction**  
Sabin Maharjan

**Camera**  
Rupak Ramtel

**Editing**  
Anil Maharjan

**Sound**  
Rajan

**Script**  
Sabin Maharjan

**Producer**  
Sabin Maharjan

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## Homework

4 min 29 sec | Nepal | 2020

Sumnima has trouble at school. She cannot complete her homework and become a better student. Back home, she has other work to do than her school work. Her house is in a remote place and she has to go far to fetch water for the family. But she wants to focus on her studies and improving her grades.



### Filmmaker

**Sabin Maharjan** is an independent filmmaker from Nepal. His first short film, *Living Rich*, was among the top films of the kimff 2013 short film competition. His short fiction film *Color of Water* won awards at the Aqua film festival (2017) and the We Are Water Film festival (2018). Maharjan works as an actor, writer, and director.



## Jiudo Modo (The Living Corpse)

12 min | Nepal | 2021

In Darchula in Nepal's far-west, an old grandmother survives by breaking stones. All she has is one infertile goat. She is anxious and worried about her grandson, who has not yet returned from his journey into the upper Himalayas to find yarsagumba. Fellow villagers tell her the bad news about him, and she breaks down. All she wishes is to see the face of her grandson one last time. However, the villagers stop her from visiting the cremation site. She cannot witness the passing of her grandson.

### Filmmaker

**Durga Bahadur Karki** graduated from Oscar International Film College in Acting. His film credits include directing and writing the short *Mother Died* (2016), associate directing and co-writing the feature *Rangeli* (2017) and being associate director on the feature *Cha Cha Chui* (2018). He is currently writing the feature *Mailo Ma*.

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### Original Language

Nepali

### Direction

Durga Bahadur Karki

### Camera

Rabin Acharya

### Editing

Adhinayak M. Sherchan

### Sound

Nabin Shrestha

### Script

Durga Bahadur Karki

Producer

Rabin Acharya/ Deepa

Dharel

### Contact

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Baneshwor-10, Kathmandu

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**Original Language**  
Khas Nepali

**Direction**  
Rajesh Prasad Khatri

**Camera**  
Shishir Bisankhe

**Editing**  
Kiran Shrestha

**Sound**  
Kishore Acharya

**Script**  
Rajesh Prasad Khatri

**Producer**  
Min Bahadur Bham/ Shuk  
Fong Chong

**Contact**  
Rajesh Prasad Khatri  
Chhayanath Rara  
Municipality – 04, Mugu  
kcrajesh999@gmail.com



## Julungo (A Scarecrow)

13 min 34 sec | Nepal/ Hong Kong/ Myanmar | 2020

Nani is preparing for a dance performance in the upcoming National Children's Day event at her school. Meanwhile, her mother gets a job making scarecrows for the fields of all the villagers. The job must be completed soon, but Nani's mother cannot manage to do so while still taking care of her younger child. Hence, it falls upon Nani, the only girl among her three siblings, to take care of her younger brother. Eventually, she is forced to let go of not only her dream of performing at the event, but also her education, to help her family survive.

### Filmmaker

**Rajesh Prasad Khatri**, a self-taught filmmaker, works as a teacher in the school of his village. *A Curious Girl* (2017), his debut short film, won Special Prize at the Berlinale Generation Kplus Competition, Germany and Best Short Film at KIMFF. *A Scarecrow* won second prize at the Asian Film Academy-Motion Picture Association film pitch competition, the 75<sup>th</sup> UNICEF Iris award at the UNICEF Innocenti Film Festival in Italy, and Best Educational Short Film at the Children's Film Festival of Wales. Khatri is currently, developing his debut feature *Black and White Photo*, which was selected at the Asian Project Market, BIFF-2019 and Berlinale Talents (Script Station) and received the Script Development Fund of the Asian Cinema Fund at BIFF. He is an alumnus of the Asian Film Academy-2018 and Berlinale Talents Campus-2020.





## Kharani

54 min | Nepal | 2021

Tashi's rationality and modern beliefs are tested when he returns to his village, where there is a long history of villagers falling victim to a poison laced with black magic.

**Original Language**  
Nepali/ Tamang

**Direction**  
Moshmi Gurung

**Camera**  
Aashis Ghimire

**Editing**  
Aashish Tamang/ Praful  
Shrestha

**Sound**  
N/A

**Script**  
Moshmi Gurung

**Producer**  
Aashish Ghimire/ Moshmi  
Gurung

**Contact**  
Moshmi Gurung  
moshmigurung5@gmail.com

### Filmmaker

**Moshmi Grung** is based in Kathmandu, Nepal and recently completed a diploma course in Film Direction and Scriptwriting from the Kantipur Film Academy.



**Original Language**

Nepali

**Direction**

Umesh Ghorsaini

**Camera**

Manoj Kumar Pant/ Ali Rasheed

**Editing**

Ali Rasheed

**Sound**

Ngima Gelu Lama

**Script**

Umesh Ghorsaini

**Producer**

Ramesh Ghorsaini/ Min Kumar Moktan/ Yubraj Adhikari/ Dayaram Kafle  
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Boudha-6, Kathmandu, Nepal  
ramesh.ghorsaini@gmail.com



## Ratoo Chihaan (The Red Grave)

12 min | Nepal | 2020

In the backdrop of the civil war of Nepal, two teen rebels work to bury and dispose of bodies of those who have died in the war. They collect things markers of communist ideology found on the bodies, inspired by senior comrades. This desire leads to complications, betrayal, and dictatorship.

**Filmmaker**

**Umesh Ghorsaini** is a lawyer by profession who turned to acting in independent Nepali short films. After some years of acting, in 2014 he began to work as a scriptwriter for a Nepali feature entitled *Duffers*. In 2016, he was art director for the feature film *Lama La*. He is writing a feature film about injustice, drawing on his earlier professional expertise and experiences. A recent short experimental movie, *Mirage* was shortlisted at KIMFF 2019.



## The Big Headed Boy, Shamans & Samurais

38 min | Nepal | 2020

A film crew travels across remote villages in Western Nepal looking for the perfect kid who can play the hero in their upcoming film.

**Original Language**  
Nepali

**Direction**  
Bibhusan Basnet/ Pooja Gurung

**Camera**  
Chandra Khaptadi/ Chintan Rajbhandari

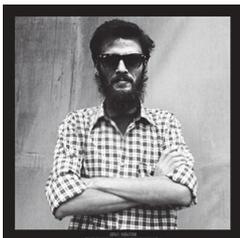
**Editing**  
Chandra Khaptadi/ Bindu Ghoday

**Sound**  
N/A

**Script**  
Chandra Khaptadi/ Bindu Ghoday

**Producer**  
Rani Massalha/ Marie Legrand/ Prawin Karki/ Pooja Gurung/ Bibhusan Basnet

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### Filmmakers

**Bibhusan Basnet** and **Pooja Gurung** have been making films for the past 10 years. Their short films, *The Contagious Apparitions of Dambarey Dendrite* (2013) and *Dadyaa - The Woodpeckers of Rotha* (2016) have been shown at prestigious film festivals across the world, including Venice, Sundance, TIFF, AFI, Busan, and Tampere. The *Big Headed Boy, Shamans & Samurais* (2020) is the duo's third short film. Their first feature film, *The Wholetimers*, is currently in production.

**Original Language**

Nepali

**Direction**

Kiran Shrestha

**Camera**

Ranjit Shrestha

**Editing**

Sarun Manandhar/ Kiran Shrestha

**Sound**

Bipin Sthapit

**Script**

Rajesh Prasad Khatri/ Kiran Shrestha

**Producer**

Bibhu Poudel/ Sushant Shrestha/ Prabin Kumar Rawat

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## Yet Another Winter

22 min 22 sec | Nepal | 2021

Hoping her deaf five year-old daughter Radha might be able to hear and speak, Yasodha, 25, a devoted mother, visits the shaman in the nearby village. As per ritual, the shaman tells Yasodha to go to a temple in the heart of Kathmandu. Yasodha tries to convince her husband and sister to accompany her, but they refuse. So she leaves alone for the city with her daughter. Upon reaching the temple, Yasodha learns about another goddess temple, where she is told to lock away her daughter until she utters a word. Yasodha follows the ritual and locks Radha inside the temple, eagerly waiting for her to speak.

### Filmmaker

**Kiran Shrestha** is a self-taught, independent filmmaker from Nepal with over five years experience as a film editor. He is a writer and director as well. Various indie films Shrestha has worked on as an editor and assistant director have travelled to prestigious festivals like the Berlinale, Venice, Toronto, Busan, and others. Shrestha is an Alumnus of Busan AFA (2018) and Berlinale Talents (2019). *Yet Another Winter* is his short directorial debut. His filmography includes the feature *Aina Jhyal ko Putali* (2020, editor) that screened at Busan IFF 2020; *Bare Trees in the Mist* (2019, editor) that screened at Toronto IFF 2019; *Tirkha* (2018, cinematographer) that screened at the We art Water Film Festival in Spain and KIMFF; *Jaalgedi* (2018, editor) that was awarded at the Berlinale Generation Kplus Competition 2018; and *Kalo Pothi* (2015, assistant director, assistant editor), that won the Federa Best Film Award at the Venice Film Festival.





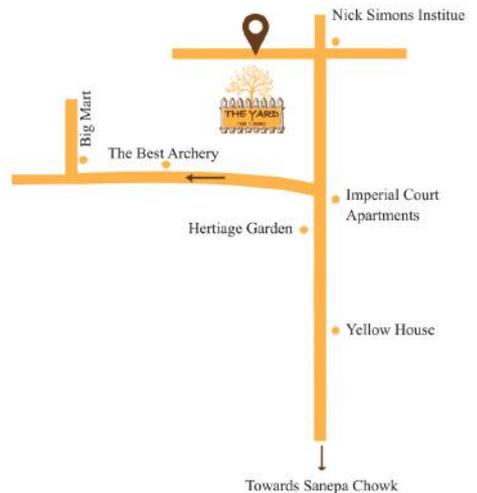
## Come Picnic With Us

### Lunch & Dinner

With a very casual setting, the Yard is the perfect place to catch up with friends and family over a glass of wine or beers and enjoy a relaxed environment. Choose to sit in the cozy patio or on picnic benches that overlooks a beautiful garden. Serving a variety of delicious continental and local dishes, this family restaurant tends to its own organic garden to serve the best ingredients.

Open everyday from 11:30 am to 10 pm

We entertain Business and Private Events.



**TONI HAGEN FOUNDATION  
DOCUMENTARY FILM GRANT**



## I Wanted To Be Like Madhuri Dixit

20 min | Nepal | 2021

A journey of a journalist who embraces his femininity and relives his childhood dream of becoming like Madhuri Dixit, a famous actress from Bollywood.

**Original Language**  
Nepali

**Direction**  
Ankit Khadgi

**Camera**  
Aashruti Tripathy

**Editing**  
Ankit Khadgi

**Sound**  
Ukesh

**Script**  
N/A

**Producer**  
N/A

### Contact

Ankit Khadgi  
Inbahal Marg, Asan,  
Kathmandu  
Ankit.khadgi1@gmail.  
com

### Filmmaker

**Ankit Khadgi** is a writer and journalist based in Kathmandu.



**Original Language**  
Nepali

**Direction**  
Bishal Roka Magar

**Camera**  
Bishal Roka Magar/ Mohan  
Pun Magar/ Ujjwal Adhikari

**Editing**  
Pranav Narayan Manandhar

**Sound**  
Bishalman Shrestha

**Script**  
Bishal Roka Magar

**Producer**  
Black Sulpa Production

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Ghorahi-18, Dang, Rapti  
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## Lahureni (Gurkha Girl)

35 min | Nepal | 2021

Dilmaya, a young girl from the mountains of Nepal, wants to lift her family out of poverty. She hears news that Britain, which has traditionally recruited young Nepali men in its army for more than 200 years, will recruit Nepali young women in its Gurkha regiments. Dilmaya sees it as a once in a lifetime career opportunity, a chance to earn a lucrative salary in comparison to the average Nepali income. She travels to a nearby city, a day's bus ride away from her village and joins a training center to prepare for the rigorous selection process. The training is tough and the girls work as hard as the boys. Dilmaya and a dozen other hopeful young girls devote themselves to training. At the same time, governments of Nepal and Britain negotiate for several years but do not reach an agreement about the recruitment of Nepali girls into the British Army. Dilmaya, who will soon cross the age limit for recruitment, fears that she might be ineligible to join Nepal's national forces as well.



### Filmmaker

**Bishal Magar** is a trainer in a pre-Gurkha training center. In 2016 he had the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of cinema through a short filmmaking course in Kathmandu. The following year, he earned a diploma from Dov Simons's Cinema Director and Film Production program. Magar has written and directed a few short films, and *Lahureni* is his first documentary short.



## Saparu (A Celebration of Death)

15 min | Nepal | 2021

The Newari community of Bhaktapur holds the annual *Gai Jatra* procession, that those who have lost a family member participate in. *Saparu* reflects on how the grief faced by a family is challenged by the celebratory nature of this practice.

### Original Language

Nepali/ Newari

### Direction

Aditya Khadka

### Camera

Safal Karki

### Editing

Aditya Khadka

### Sound

Abhik Risal

### Script

Aditya Khadka

### Producer

Manju Bhatta

### Contact

Aditya Khadka  
Shanta Basti Marg,  
Kaushaltar, Madhyapur  
Thimi – 3, Bhaktapur, Nepal  
adityakhadka1@gmail.com

### Filmmaker

**Aditya Khadka**, 20, is a screenwriter and director based in Nepal. He has produced development communication audio-visual content and worked as a documentary screenwriter-director in Nepal, Myanmar, and Kenya. He made his first short film at the age of 13, making him the youngest Nepali documentary filmmaker. Khadka has won several awards, including third prize at KIMFF's Seismic Shift Short Film Competition and second prize for the Best Youth-Produced Film at the Chicago International Children's Film Festival when he was 16. He is currently enrolled at the Toronto Film School.



**GREEN GROWTH - GREEN RECOVERY**  
**Short Film Competition**

## **A Day in the Life of Dr. Sameer Mani Dixit**

*dir: Sailendra Dongol/ Sanish Shrestha*

The film follows scientist Sameer Mani Dixit as he commutes to work on his bicycle. People regard the bicycle as a poor man's ride but Dixit and other cyclists don't think so. He has fun riding a bicycle and using the app - Greenway to monitor his contribution in saving the planet. Cycling keeps him mentally and physically fit, reduces his carbon footprint; it offers him a better view. The film encourages people to start small and from where you stand. Walking the talk rather than talking the talk.

## **Blue Moon Turning Into Grey (Winner)**

*dir: Samrat Dhungana*

On June 15, 2021, the Marshyangdi floods displaced Taal village, one of the finest tourist spots in Manang district, washing away homes. Nikita, a grade 10 student now has to walk three hours from her home to the makeshift classrooms in tents. The broken computers, ruined classrooms, buried books and lost boots are symbols of their hopes being washed away by climate change induced floods. They don't know why this is happening. An older villager shares his experience about the Taal in his childhood and the Taal his children know. Fifty-nine households yet hundreds of painful stories. However, the villagers haven't lost hope. They are rebuilding their lives.

## **Climate Change Changing Children**

*dir: Annapurna Deokota*

A little acknowledged fact is that children too are in the frontlines of climate change. The film tells the story from the perspective of children and how the gradual scarcity of water is having an effect on their lives. We captured on film the lives of two young girls, Kushala and Kamala, as they try to balance their lives between the need to constantly gather water, and the need for their own space and time for educational, social, mental, and childhood pursuits.

## Climate Change in Himalayas

*dir: Nabina Desai/ Rupesh Sah/ Nyima*

The documentary explores the impact of climate change in a remote Himalayan community. It documents the testimonies and experiences of community members and the environmental changes they have witnessed. Local villagers speak about how irregular rain and snowfall have resulted in an alarming scarcity of drinking water and impacted natural resources like yarsa gumba. The youth are concerned that the authorities are not addressing the serious issue of climate change.

## Green Growth - Green Recovery

*dir: Sambriddhi Rana*

This short film focuses on the need to protect the environment and biodiversity. We are living in an age of urbanization and industrialization. Cleaning up the damage to our environment and preventing further destruction may seem like a monumental task. But it is possible to do so by changing our daily habits and working with others to spread awareness about the importance of Green Growth - Green Recovery, by managing waste, both biodegradable and non-biodegradable, by making compost from waste materials, and by following the 3Rs, i.e. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

## Green Vertical Dreams

*dir: Roja Rajkarnikar/ Subhawana Subba*

Climate change is real and we are facing its wrath! Climate change has a direct impact on agriculture. Conventional farming alone cannot sustain food for us. And we believe that Hydroponics is one of the methods that could meet the rapid demand of food supply. Hydroponics has the potential to improve food security, reduce dependency on imported vegetables and fruits laden with high chemicals and pesticides, reduce the urban ecological footprint, build resilience to climate change and improve environmental sustainability. Using our locally designed hydroponics system, we can grow up to ten times more vegetables compared to traditional farming, using 90% less water. Taking action today will secure food for tomorrow! The climate is changing, so when are we?

## **I am Hanumante**

*dir: Ananya Khadka*

“I am Hanumante” personifies Hanumante River and portrays the river’s struggles, how it has witnessed many changes. The film tries to make people aware about why climate change is not one problem but is an amalgamation of many combined problems.

## **Regenerative Agriculture: An approach to combat climate**

*dir: Dikshyant Poudel*

The film focuses on the aspect of zero carbon economy and ways to minimize carbon emission by dumping it inside land through regenerative farming. Research has proved that the earth’s soil contains about 2,500 gigatons of carbon which is more than three times the amount of carbon in the atmosphere and four times the amount stored in all living plants and animals. The most natural solution for this problem is the practice of regenerative farming at household level. The film features a 42-year-old women from Kathmandu who has been practicing regenerative farming as a way of improving land productivity and the environment.

## **Santhal**

*dir: Titikshya Dhakal*

We have tried to show the impact of climate change on the indigenous Santhal tribe living in the southern plains of Nepal. The Santhal are mainly dependent on agriculture but untimely rains and changing weather patterns have affected their livelihood. The film looks at how climate change means uncertain futures for the younger generation.

## **Wildfire (Dadelo)**

*dir: Shyam Karki*

A little red panda, a rare species, has become homeless as a result of unprecedented wildfires in the Nepali mid-hills, yet one more of a growing number of symptoms of the climate crisis that spares no human nor animal.

## **SPECIAL SCREENINGS**



**Original Language**  
English

**Direction**  
Dominic Bush/ John Porter

**Executive Producer and  
Concept**  
John Porter

**Produced by**  
Land and Sky

## Everest - By Those Who Were There – 1921,1922, 1924

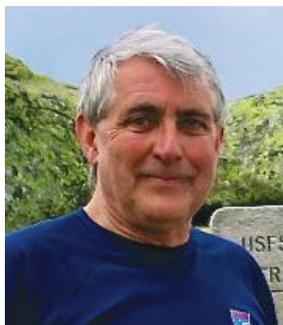
35 min | UK | 2021

Produced in the centenary year of the first Everest expedition, 'Everest by Those Who Were There – 1921, 1922, 1924 follows Julie Summers, the great niece of Sandy Irvine, as she explores the history of the three earliest Everest expeditions. Using the original footage shot by John Noel in 1922 and 1924, photos, artefacts and written records, as well as the expertise of prominent Everest mountaineers, Julie guides us from the first thoughts of climbing Everest in the 1890s, all the way up to the tragic disappearance of Mallory and Irvine in 1924. The film is an opportunity, not just to celebrate the scientific, geographical, technological and mountaineering accomplishments of these early expeditions, but also to look again at the world's highest peak. To reassess our relationship with it after more than a century of climbing, and to follow the threads of how it came to be a social, cultural and political nexus that still fascinates climbers and the wider public today.



## Filmmakers

**John Porter** has lived a truly international life. Born in Springfield Massachusetts to an English father and American/Canadian mother, his education and working life have been spent on both between America and Britain while traveling and climbing extensively around the world. He has worked in many jobs - engineering consultant, shop floor worker, park ranger, magazine editor, outward bound instructor, mountain guide and is an award winning writer and now a film producer. His book *One Day as a Tiger* won several international awards including the Grand Prize at the Banff Mountain Book Festival in 2014.



**Dominic Bush** has been part of the documentary and adventure industries for a decade. He has won many awards for his work and is passionate about creating engaging character-led films for brands and organisations. His portfolio includes work with the BBC, BFI Doc Society, Channel 4, National Trust, British Council and the Guardian. He is also a qualified higher education teacher and part of the 2021 BAFTA Crew program.





## **Sustainable Summits – Climate Solutions from the Top of the World**

dir: Smriti Basnet/ Shashank Shrestha  
60 min 25 sec | Nepal 2021

Sustainable Summits: Climate Solutions from the Top of the World features powerful voices and stirring images from the Hindu Kush Himalaya for the decision makers at COP26.

## **FILM SCREENINGS**

**Breaking Code Red – Dignity Without Danger**

## Stay Away

15 min 50 sec | Nepal 2021 – World Premiere

## 8 Days

37 min 24 sec | Nepal 2021 – World Premiere

Filmed by women in Kanchanpur, supported by Sara Parker, Sara Baumann, Sushma Bhatta and Laxmi Dhital from 'Dignity Without Danger'. The team used the collaborative film making approach based on participatory methods to train a group of 13 women



in Kanchanpur to create, analyze, and film their everyday experiences of menstruating between January 2020 and March 2021. The footage was edited into a short documentary '8 days' giving the audience an intimate insight into the lived realities of women during their period. It provides a detailed look into the lives of women's practices and traditions during each day of their menstrual cycle.

The women also wrote, performed and filmed a short drama to help explore the impacts of menstrual beliefs and taboos at the local level called 'Stay Away' and wrote, performed and sang 5 songs related to menstruation. 'Stay Away' tells the story of a loved village grandmother who believes she has been cursed and fallen ill from being touched by a menstruating woman. In the story, the grandmother must navigate social pressure from family and neighbors, decide between using traditional and western medicine, and wrestle with the evolving belief system that is shifting over generations. The drama ends with a powerful message for those still following harmful menstrual practices from Nepali women themselves.

### Contact

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Sara Parker  
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## Nepal's Menstrual Movement

15 min | Nepal 2021

'Nepal's Menstrual Movement', Part I+II were shot with support of GIZ S2HSS and presented by actress Keki Adhikari as a Goodwill Ambassador for Dignified Menstruation of Nepal's Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management Partner's Alliance (MHMPA). In this two-part series, Keki, who has more than 1.5 million followers on social media, wants to find out how far Nepal has come in the fight against menstrual taboos and restrictions. She takes the viewer on a journey to the far west of the country where she visits a school and a village in a rural area to learn what has changed in girls' and women's daily lives – and what still needs to be done to ensure that every girl in Nepal can thrive during her period.

The films seek to highlight the misconceptions and stigma which surround menstruation – and to advocate for dignified menstruation for all.

## Durga

dir: Lunibha Bajracharya | 6 min | Nepal 2018

A newly-married woman faces a dilemma – she has her period during a major festival. Should she prohibit herself from joining in the festivities, or, follow her inner instincts and celebrate the festival. 'Durga' is about the revolution against taboos related to menstruation in Hindu society.



### Contact

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## A State of Purity

dir: Rewati Gurung | 7 min | Nepal 2020

"Period: A State of Purity" is a story about a period poverty among Buddhist nuns or women in the Himalayan region. It explores the menstruation practice among Buddhist nuns in terms of their conception, awareness, accessibility, and challenges.

### Contact

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## About Himal Association

Himal Association is a non-profit organization based in Kathmandu working consistently in the fields of journalism, communications, publishing, education, film festivals, and other related activities since its establishment in 1990. Its primary focus is to make Nepal a more intellectual and knowledgeable society, conscious of various local, national and international issues. Since 1994 it has been publishing books in both English and Nepali language about socially relevant topics. Over the years the association has played a key role in the incubation of several institutions like Centre for Investigative Journalism (CIJ), Social Science Baha and Library, Translators Society of Nepal, Shikshak (Teacher) Magazine, and Himal Kitab (a publishing house) – that are today recognized both at home and abroad for their contributions in the field of journalism, research in educational, social, and cultural initiatives. Every year Himal Association hosts Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival (kimff). Kimff believes in bringing quality documentaries from around the world to Nepali audiences.

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### Special thanks to:

Dr. Katrin Hagen (Switzerland)  
Peter Zhao (China)  
Irene Wurmlli (Eschlikon, Switzerland)

### We are thankful to:

Pooja Pant, Sushrut Acharya, Abhimanyu  
Dixit, Sunir Pandey, Ankit Khadgi, Rajan  
Poudel, Prasanga Media, Mindshare Digital &  
Printing, Bhushan Tuladhar, Roshan Mishra,  
Sauganga Darshandhari, Dinesh Deokota,  
Maxim Shrestha, Sara Parker, Angel Magar,  
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Ramesh Bhusal, Tabea Seiz, Nawa Nidhi Dahal,  
Nepal Film Campus , Oscar International  
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Avinash M Napit, Mira Rai, Amar Dahal,  
Rewati Gurung, Lunibha Bajracharya, Sara E.  
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