CineLink Work in Progress Selection 2018

6 AFRICA
Director & Writer: Oren Gerner

8 BELONGING
Director & Writer: Burak Çevik

10 CAT IN THE WALL
Directors & Writers: Mina Mileva, Vesela Kazakova

12 HILAL, FEZA AND OTHER PLANETS
Director & Writer: Kutluğ Ataman

14 IBRAHIM
Director: Lina Alabed / Writer: Lina Alabed, Rami El Nihawi

16 LEGACY
Director: Dorian Boguță / Writer: Loredana Novak, Dorian Boguță

18 THE MOTHERLANDS
Director & Writer: Gabriel Babsi

20 THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MY FATHER
Director: Dani Rosenberg / Writer: Dani Rosenberg, Itay Kohay

22 ZAVERA
Director: Andrei Gruzsniczki
Writer: Mircea Stăiculescu, Andrei Gruzsniczki, Lia Bugnar

Guest Project

26 THE PIG BUTCHER
Director & Writer: Wang Yi-tong
CineLink Work in Progress
Selection 2018
AFRICA

Director: Oren Gerner
Written by: Oren Gerner
Production Company: Film Harbour
Producers: Itay Akirav
Co-Producers:
Sales agent:
Countries of production: Israel

Budget approx.: 215,541€
Needed for completion: 80,000€
Project phase: Post Production
Delivery date: February 2019

Rights availability:
Worldwide (except Israel)

Goals at CineLink Work in Progress:
Post Production funding, Sales, Distribution

Contact information:
Itayakirav@gmail.com

Attending the CineLink:
Itay Akirav, Oren Gerner

SYNOPSIS
Meir (68), a former engineer and retiree, discovers that he has not been asked to plan the traditional village ceremony like he did for the past 30 years, since his job was transferred to the local youth. While his health is in decline, Meir goes out on a silent but powerful journey to reconstruct his shaken manhood. Through the film, images from his journey to AFRICA with his wife Maya, echoes an inner wild possibility of life.

COMPANY PROFILE
Film Harbour Productions founded by Itay Akirav is young and dynamic production Company based in Jerusalem. The company is looking to cross the boundaries of genres and find a new ways to express cinematic.

Itay Akirav, Graduate and teaches at the Sam Spiegel Film & Television School. Films that he produced and directed so far, participated in festivals in Israel and abroad and won prizes. “Africa” of the director Oren Gerner is the first feature film that he produced.
BELONGING

Director: Burak Çevik
Written by: Burak Çevik
Production Company: Fol Film
Producers: Selman Nacar
Co-Producers: Kerem Ayan
Sales agent: -
Countries of production: Turkey, France
Budget approx.: 550.000€
Needed for completion: 80.000 €
Project phase: Editing
Delivery date: November 2018

Rights availability:
Worldwide (except Turkey & France)

Goals at CineLink Work in Progress:
We’re trying to fill our post-production budget’s gap by possible co-production. Also, it is important to have a strong sales agent at this point.

Contact information:
Burak Çevik
+90 532 595 0706, cevikburak@gmail.com

Attending the CineLink:
Burak Çevik, Selman Nacar

SYNOPSIS
55-years-old woman was stabbed to death by a stranger who entered her house in Istanbul. Police that investigating the incident held the victim’s daughter and her boyfriend liable for the murder in the wake of the evidence they had obtained. When the court ended, the court punished both of them with life sentence. Belonging, makes a topographic observation 15 years later by following the locations of this criminal case, accompanied by statements given by the suspects at the police station. Then, it turns to a romantic film by showing the night that the murderer couple met.

COMPANY PROFILE
Fol Film, founded by Selman Nacar and Burak Cevik in 2017. It is an Istanbul based film production company that focuses on innovative fiction and documentary films. Fol Film’s first fiction feature project The Pillar of Salt selected at Berlinale Forum 2018. The second feature film titled Belonging is in post-production.
CAT IN THE WALL

Mina Mileva, Vesela Kazakova

Director: Mina Mileva, Vesela Kazakova
Written by: Mina Mileva, Vesela Kazakova
Production Company: Activist38
Producers: Mina Mileva, Vesela Kazakova
Co-Producers:
Lambros Atteshilis - Glasshead Limited (UK),
Christophe Bruncher - Ici et Là Productions (FR),
Bulgarian National Television
Sales agent: not yet
Countries of production: Bulgaria/UK

Budget approx.: 305,000 €
Needed for completion: 77,500 €
Project phase: rough cut stage
Delivery date: October 2018
Rights availability: Worldwide

Goals at CineLink Work in Progress:
We look for sales agent and festival selection opportunities.

Contact information:
Mina Mileva and Vesela Kazakova
mina@activist38.com; vesela@activist38.com;
+44794963933; +359 887 856383;
149 B Rakovski Street, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria

Attending the CineLink:
Mina Mileva, Vesela Kazakova

SYNOPSIS
A cat found on the stairs of a block of flats in London acts as a catalyst for unfolding conflict between migrants from Bulgaria and their British working class neighbours. The Bulgarian family owns their flat and looks down on their neighbours living on benefits. Both sides have their own prejudices and are about to fall victims of the Council’s gentrification plan, which creeps in this community like a corporate monster.

COMPANY PROFILE
Activist38 is attracted to socially and politically charged projects. A fraction of the Bulgarian Socialist Party condemned their latest doc “The Beast is still alive” and called Mina and Vesela The Demonic Duo. Premiered in Sarajevo, and official IDFA selection, this film is rumoured to have closed down the documentary strand of the Bulgarian National Television. Their first doc “Uncle Tony” nearly saw the authors in jail. The duo is strongly present internationally.
SYNOPSIS
Soon after the September 1997 military coup in Turkey, Hilal arrives from her small conservative town in Ankara to study at the state university in Istanbul, where she discovers she cannot set foot on campus wearing her head scarf. Meanwhile, Feza, who lives downstairs in the apartment house she moves in to, has escaped from his own neighborhood, where he had been mercilessly bullied for who he was. As Hilal tries to resist her fate and stand on her own, Feza struggles to create his own alternate lifestyle. The two become friends.

COMPANY PROFILE
WITCH is a production company based in Istanbul, Turkey. We are specialized in feature films and documentaries with artistic and commercial potential. The company produced Kutluğ Ataman’s features and major artwork installations as well as other directors and artists, receiving awards and attracting wide audiences in major film festivals and markets around the globe. The company is presently run by Sercan Tevs.
LINA ALABED

IBRAHIM

Director: Lina Alabed
Written by: Lina Alabed, Rami El Nihawi
Production Company: SakaDo LTD
Producers: Rami El Nihawi
Co-Producers: Kirstine Barfod
Sales agent: /
Countries of production:
Lebanon, Palestine, Qatar, Denmark.

Budget approx.: 250,000€
Needed for completion: 60,000€
Project phase: Late Post prod
Delivery date: Feb 2019

Rights availability:
Worldwide (except Lebanon, Palestine, Qatar & Denmark)

Goals at CineLink Work in Progress: Meeting Sales Agents, distributors, and festivals representatives and different other collaboration that can help finalizing the project and give it the best chance for distribution.

Contact information:
Rami.nihawi@gmail.com
Lina.alabed@gmail.com

Attending the CineLink:
Lina Alabed, Rami El Nihawi

SYNOPSIS
Ibrahim is a secret member of the Palestinian Militant Organization “Revolutionary Council” (Abu Nidal), which was known for its notorious intelligence affairs. My Father, Ibrahim, disappeared in 1987, I was 5 years old, he said his mission will taken few days, but never returned home.

Growing up in a house were silence was the general atmosphere, My mother Najat, an Egyptian lady, had to continue her life as normal and raise the five kids of Ibrahim in Damascus, only blaming her misfortune.

My film deals with the story behind the disappearance of my father Ibrahim Alabed, a door that was never opened in our family, hoping by understanding my father’s choices, I’ll be able to live with their affect on the way I make mains today.

COMPANY PROFILE
SakADo produces films that concentrate on rendered narratives, with alternative production methods, representing new generations of filmmakers from the Middle East. Lina Al-Abed and Rami Nihawi established the company in 2011. The company already had two titles Damascus My First Kiss and Yamo premiering in festivals. Sak A Do has also produced and co-produced multiple Arab documentaries, such as “Off Frame”, a film by Mohanad Yaqubi.

Sak A Do is working on producing different projects:
Ibrahim: A documentary by Lina Al-Abed, where she searches for the meanings of homeland as a refugee through the story of her father’s disappearance, “To All Naked Men” A fiction film by Bassem Chekhes.
LEGACY

SYNOPSIS
Famous pianist, Anton Ropot, has gone missing. Police investigation will uncover strange family relationships. Flashbacks help us discover a rebellious egocentric genius, obsessed with his fate and devoured by his failures. Learning that he suffers from a serious disease Anton is obsessed with the idea that he might leave nothing behind. He has only one aim left, in his life: making sure that his sister Ana, is a happy and accomplished woman. She is married, no children. Anton’s obsession that Ana needs to give birth, makes him conceive a crazy plan, with an absolutely surprising twist.

COMPANY PROFILE
GABRIEL BABSI

THE MOTHERLANDS

Director: Gabriel Babsi
Written by: Gabriel Babsi
Production Company: ELF Pictures
Producers: Ágnes Horváth-Szabó, András Pires Muhi
Co-Producers: Anamaria Antoci (Domestic Film)
Executive producer: Paul Miller
Sales agent: -
Countries of production: Hungary, Romania
Shooting location: Greece, Macedonia, Ivory Coast

Budget approx.: EUR 150,000 total
Needed for completion: EUR 60,000

Project phase: in post-production
Delivery date: January 2019

Rights availability:
Worldwide (except Hungary & Romania)

Goals at CineLink Work in Progress:
Finding co-producers, Post-production funding,
Pre-sales, Sales agent, Premiere festival

Contact information:
Ágnes Horváth-Szabó
agnes@elfpictures.hu
+36 70 773 8873
https://elfpictures.hu

Attending the CineLink:
Gabriel Babsi, Ágnes Horváth-Szabó

SYNOPSIS
Hervé, a former soldier and father of three, is forced to flee the Ivory Coast following the country’s II. Civil War. In 2012 he reaches the coasts of Greece and is stuck there as an irregular immigrant. He meets a Greek girl, and a baby is born. In order to feed his new family, he becomes a smuggler. What was expected to be the land of freedom, transforms into a purgatory of endless treks, guiding lost souls between two points of nowhere, and grinding between two possible lives and families in Europe and in Africa.

COMPANY PROFILE
ELF Pictures is a Budapest-based production and distribution company. Former freelance producers Ágnes Horváth-Szabó and András Pires Muhi fused in 2016 to provide a hub for filmmakers of their generation to produce feature documentaries with a human, political, art and sports focus. In 2018, distribution professional Péter Donáth joined the team to form a theatrical distribution division, bringing international and domestic fiction and documentaries to screens across Hungary.
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MY FATHER

SYNOPSIS
When Yoel Adelstein is diagnosed with cancer, Asaf, his filmmaker son, decides to make a film, featuring his father as the hero, trying to save his family from an imminent Iranian missile attack and taking them on a journey away from the danger zone. The father and son managed to shoot only the first part of the film. On the second journey, the real one, Yoel tries in his unsentimental way to comprehend the meaning of his approaching death while Asaf continues his attempts to memorialize his father. Though Tel Aviv goes up in flames at the end, Yoel’s real world does not end with an explosion; it gradually fades and falls apart.

COMPANY PROFILE
Pardes Films is a new innovative production company seeking to create an alternative and dynamic working platform which will allow us to shoot quickly and capture the Israeli reality as it unfolds. Among the company productions, “Zohar – The Return” documentary feature film, “Pepe’s last battle” documentary feature film. “Love letter for cinema” screened at the Berlinale, Locarno film festival, Moma(NY) and many more.
The voice of Ahmad - Documentary feature film (post production)
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MY FATHER will be our first feature film.
ANDREI GRUZSNICZKI

ZAVERA

SYNOPSIS
Ștefan is a middle age businessman who developed a construction business together with his lifelong friend, Nic. After the suspicious death of Nic, being under the pressure of taking over the management of their business, Ștefan is facing an existential crisis. During the next six days that follows Nic’s death, step by step Stefan uncovers lies and small compromises related to Nic and now he has to deal with them to come to terms with his new life.

COMPANY PROFILE
Saga Film is a production company based in Bucharest, founded in 2000 by Alexandru Teodorescu. In 2007, it co-produced the Palme d’Or winner “4 months, 3 weeks and 2 days”, directed by Cristian Mungiu. Then, Saga turned to producing debut features, making Saga Film one of the few Romanian production companies that encourages and supports young directors. Bogdan Apetri’s debut feature, OUTBOUND (2011), premiered at Locarno IFF and was awarded two FIPRESCI Prize at Warsaw IFF and Vienna IFF. The debut feature of Igor Cobleanski, THE UNSAVED (2013), was nominated for 11 awards by the Romanian Film Industry, it was screened at Karlovy Vary and Warsaw IFF, and won the FIPRESCI prize at Cottbus IFF and “The Best Debut” award at Southeast European FF in LA.

At the moment, Saga Film is preparing distribution for Mihaela Popescu’s debut feature “YET TO RULE”, World Premiere at Berlin Critics’ Week 2018 and entering the postproduction phase with the feature film “Zavera”.

Website: http://sagafilm.ro/
Facebook: www.facebook.com/sagafilmromania/
Instagram: www.instagram.com/sagafilmro/

Director: Andrei Gruzsniczki
Written by: Mircea Stăiculescu, Andrei Gruzsniczki, Lia Bugnar
Production Company: Saga Film
Producers: Alexandru Teodorescu
Co-Producers: N/A
Sales agent: N/A
Countries of production: Romania

Budget approx.: 715 000 €
Needed for completion: 53 000€
Project phase: post production
Delivery date: Spring 2019

Rights availability: Worldwide

Goals at CineLink Work in Progress: looking for a co-producer / partner for post-production, finding a sales agent / international distributor

Contact information:
Alexandru Teodorescu
alexteodorescu@sagafilm.ro
+40 744 331 111

Attending the CineLink:
Alexandru Teodorescu, Andrei Gruzsniczki, Andreea Dumitreescu
WANG YI-TONG

THE PIG BUTCHER

Director: Wang Yi-tong
Written by: Wang Yi-tong
Production Company: Fabula Entertainment
Producers: Jia Zhang-ke
Co-Producers: Li Di
Sales agent: Fabula Entertainment

Countries of production:
People’s Republic of China

Budget approx.: 800,000€
Needed for completion: 250,000€
Project phase: Post-Production
Delivery date: May 2019

SYNOPSIS
Xiong, a businessman in Sichuan, poaches pandas with guns in the mountains and enrages local villagers. Zhu, a Healthcare student, gets expelled for punching a foreign teacher. Zhu’s father, Gang, a pig butcher, failed his attempt to revenge on Xiong for an assault on his brother, so he held Xiong’s lover in captive, in order to gain an explanation. Zhu returns home to talk Gang out of the matter, however, more wounding memories resurfaced that turns the effort in vain. Meanwhile, Xiong hires a gang of help to save his lover, but is unexpectedly defeated by the villagers and is captured. As all the incidents are getting out of hands, a couple of fake police arrive at the village that adds further fuel to the fire...

COMPANY PROFILE
Founded by film director Jia Zhang-ke, Fabula Entertainment is a commercial film company focusing on film development, production and distribution. Besides, Fabula also explores in film education and film related life-style building. It’s main office is in Shanghai, China.

Contact information:
Wang Yi-tong
543481280@qq.com
Josie Chou
josiechou@fabulaentertainment.com

Attending the CineLink:
Wang Yi-tong, Hu Mo-ran
Sarajevo Film Festival
Zelenih beretki 12, 71000 Sarajevo / Bosnia and Herzegovina
tel. +387 33 221 516 / +387 33 209 411 / +387 33 263 380 /
fax +387 33 263 381
www.sff.ba | info-sff@sff.ba