International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films

XVII

Varna, Bulgaria

12-15 October 2017

redcrossfilmfest.org
Solvay Sodi, Devnya is one of the biggest industrial companies in Bulgaria and the largest European plant for production of synthetic soda ash with a production capacity of 1.5 Mt per annum. The soda ash is a main raw material for the glass industry; it is also used in the production of detergents, in the chemical industry and metallurgy. The plant produces also bicarbonate which serves the markets of animal feed, flue gas cleaning, etc.

Historically, the industrial production of soda ash is the primary business of Solvay Group, established more than 150 ago by Ernest Solvay in Belgium. Solvay is a multi-specialty chemical company, committed to developing chemistry that addresses key societal challenges. Its products and solutions are used in planes, cars, smart and medical devices, batteries, in mineral and oil extraction, among many other applications promoting sustainability. Solvay is headquartered in Brussels with around 27,000 employees in 58 countries.

Solvay Group is present in Bulgaria since 1997 when, together with the Turkish chemical group Sisecam, acquires the soda ash plant in Devnya with a shareholders ratio of 75% for Solvay and 25% for Sisecam.

Today over 90% of the soda ash produced by the Devnya plant is exported, while Solvay Sodi ensures 1% of the export of Bulgaria. With the high reputation of one of the biggest investors in Bulgaria, well rooted in the region of Varna, Solvay Sodi is ambitious to manage its activities in the spirit of good collaboration with the society, care for the environment and most importantly, for the health and safety of its employees.
The seventeenth edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films is organized in October 12th till 15th 2017 in Varna, Bulgaria, under the patronage of the vice president of the Republic of Bulgaria Ms. Iliana Iotova.

The public will enjoy the Festival films program at a lot of screening locations - the conference hall in the Municipality of Varna; the Medical University Varna; “Golden Varna” (“The Black Sheep” brewery), the Theatre and Opera House, the Sanatorium & Health Complex “Kamchia”.

The Festival days will be rich in discussions, round tables, get-togethers, all of them devoted to the motto of the Festival: “Aggression – Humanity – Cinema”. Eminent Bulgarian figures and names are the mentors to these events.

Part of the Festival program is the International Documentary Films Academy for Young Talent (October 10th-15th) to teach young Red Cross and Red Crescent activists how to depict in documentaries the most important moments of their work.

The seventeenth edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films coincides with the final stage of the campaign “Donate blood – get a ticket”. It is initiated by the Bulgarian Red Cross District Council, the Medical University in Varna and the Regional Centre of Transfusion Hematology.

Established by the Bulgarian Red Cross in 1965 in the city of Varna as an international review of Red Cross and health films, the Festival became a world event in the years till 1991.

International Festival of Red Cross and Health films became a meeting point to exchange experience between medical scientists worldwide, national and international health institutions, leaders of the National Societies of Red Cross and Red Crescent, movie stars, directors, filmmakers, film critics, journalists, cinematography and broadcasters.

In 2014 this unique event was restored by Bulgarian Red Cross in partnership with Varna Medical University.
Wine Cellar VARNA Ltd. is a joint project of Grigor Grigorov - vine and investor, and Tsanko Stanchev - technologist and enologist with many years of experience. The cellar has been operating since 2008 and is part of a complex for grape processing, wine and brandy production, wine tasting and a wine and accessories shop. It is only 2 km from the Black sea shore and in close proximity to the Albena, Balchik and Golden Sands resorts.

Varna has a brewhouse tradition since 1884. We added the best experience and technology from the Czech Republic and put the beginning of THE BLACK SHEEP BREWHOUSE - our small brewhouse with its production of lager and golden colored pilsner beers, just perfect in taste, named “Zlatna Varna”!
XVII International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films

International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films

XVII

Varna, Bulgaria

12-15 October 2017

Wishes to express gratitude to

Solvay Sodi

And thanks for the invaluable help to

You know about us because our media partners are
Under the patronage of Mrs. Iliana Iotova, Vice President of the Republic of Bulgaria
Dear Organizers,
Dear Participants,

It is a great honor for me to be a patron of this year’s International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films entitled "Humanism, Aggression, Cinema".

Between the 12th and the 15th of October 2017, we all will be both participants and spectators in one of the largest cultural initiatives boasting a rich history.

Dear hosts and guests,

Through documentaries from various fields and topical issues such as medicine, healthcare, ecology, migration, human rights, you are promoting your noble mission. You are cultivating the values of empathy, spirituality, unity, mutual assistance, which are crucial in the present day. The festival will offer the audience an opportunity to come closely in touch with the complete spectrum of emotions, feelings, difficulties, as well as the deep satisfaction that volunteers and organizations are experiencing.

Kamchia Children Convalescence Complex will not only host a film event. During the few days of the festival the complex will become a venue for encounters, talks and discussions among health organizations. Kamchia will be the capital of the largest humanitarian movement in the world.

I sincerely wish you the event to remain an integral part of the Bulgarian, European and international cultural calendar!

Good luck!

Iliana Iotova
Vice president of Republic of Bulgaria
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GET A TICKET

WHERE YOU DONATE BLOOD AND RECEIVE CINEMA TICKET

FOR MORE INFORMATION: redcrossfilmfest.org
XVII International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films will be held in October in Varna! The main theme of the forum this year is: “Aggression-Humanity-Cinema” - a cutting edge artistic impetus, the result of which will definitely attract many fans of the film art.

The International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films adds special character to the cultural calendar of Varna, affirming its image of a beautiful closure of the active artistic summer. I highly appreciate the efforts of the organizers, upgrading the program of the festival with new ideas and events every year.

I wish all the participants good luck and artistic inspiration!

Ivan Portnih  
Mayor of Varna
ART IN SUPPORT THE RED CROSS HUMAN MISSION

WE CONTINUE TOGETHER ON THE WAY TO THE GOOD

Three years ago, with the support of the Medical University of Varna and after an interruption of 25 years, the Bulgarian Red Cross succeeded in restoring one unique cultural global-scale event – the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films.

We are grateful that Mrs. Margarita Popova, Vice President of the Republic of Bulgaria from 2012 to 2017, has agreed to be the patron of the 15th and 16th Festival, contributing greatly to their success and to raising the Festival’s international prestige.

I offer my heartfelt gratitude to the current Vice President of the Republic of Bulgaria, Mrs. Iliana Yotova, who continued this tradition and accepted our invitation to be the patron of the 17th International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films. We consider her support as a high honor and yet another message to the society - that the Bulgarian Vice President values the everlasting humanitarian principles - charity, love of mankind, goodness, compassion, and makes serious efforts to promote them.

I welcome the participants in the Festival - distinguished world and Bulgarian filmmakers and journalists, for their friendly, professional and responsible attitude towards the realization of such international cultural event that actively joins the struggle for peace and friendship in the world, through art and humanism.

“Humanism, aggression, cinema” is the focus for the screenings, discussions and creative performances at the 17th edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films in October 2017 – yet another acknowledgment of our firm commitment in our civilisation choice - helping this world become a better one.

Acad. Hristo Grigorov, Dr. H. C.
President of the Bulgarian Red Cross
Back in 1965, the idea of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films was launched for the first time in the sunshine-soaked city of Varna. Today, 52 years later, both Medical University - Varna and Bulgarian Red Cross continue confidently forward.

Over the years the Festival has become an integral part of the cultural events in Bulgaria and Europe and has raised the interest of young people through culture to the basic human values as a part of the modern way of life. More than ever, the increase of natural and social cataclysms places the humanitarian activities of Medical University - Varna and Bulgarian Red Cross on a crucial position of global importance. The films, dealing with these topics, broadcast and discussed at the Festival, keep the society alert and committed to the contemporary problems.

This year again, one of the most prestigious Festivals in our Sea Capital, entitled "Aggression – Humanity - Cinema", will be held under the patronage of the Vice President of the Republic of Bulgaria, Mrs. Iliana Yotova. With the 17th edition we will pursue our main goal, and that is to shatter the everyday way of thinking, to use the power of film art to show that the path to the world of peace originates from humanism. The Festival is significant because it is focused on global and eternal values.

For a second consecutive year the Film Academy for Documentary Cinema will be held within the framework of the Festival, through which we aim to educate and train valuable experts that we will expect to be involved with their projects in our forthcoming editions.

Today, more than ever, we need to appreciate the eternal human values - kindness, charity, love of mankind, and to make efforts to strengthen them. As an educational and scientific institution, Medical University - Varna has a commitment to the whole society. Our ambition is to show the best films, interpreting current health and humane topics, the fruit of the activities of the medical and Red Cross organizations.

I am positive that this year again the event will be welcomed with serious public interest, and the halls will be full because the problems of the modern world can be solved through education, science and culture.

Prof. Dr. Krasimir Ivanov, PhD, DSc
Rector Medical University - Varna
Dear followers,

It is time for the new edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films. The motto of its 17-th edition is “Aggression – Humanity – Cinema”.

Preparing the Festival, we had to select among 1890 films from 107 countries applying. Topical issues like aggression, war, refugee crisis, disasters, children labor, human rights are largely treated in the film’s program. Out of the competition program the Festival venues are offering interesting screenings and panoramas. The Festival Documentary Filmmaking Academy will be teaching again young Red Cross volunteers and activists.

The interest to the Festival is growing. Guest and participants are coming from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent, the International Committee of Red Cross and Red Crescent, from the Red Cross of Mexico, of Romania; the Red Crescent of Turkey, Iran; the Red Cross Youth of Italy, film directors from Sweden, Poland, Romania, Greece, Russia, Switzerland, Cyprus.

Special gratitude to our supporters: the Municipality of Varna, the Bulgarian National Television, the State Cultural Institute to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the National Film Centre, the Army Media, the Focus Agency, Sofia Film Fest, the honorary consul of Italy to Varna, the Alliance of the Bulgarian Filmmakers, the Bulgarian Naval Force, the Sanatorium & Health Complex “Kamchia”; to our sponsors.

Ilko Raev
Director
International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films
Dear participants and guests,

Dear Festival spectators,

In the yearly calendar of international film festivals, burdened to the extent of satiation, it is extremely difficult for a new event of this kind to appear and to be affirmed; such an appearance is usually accompanied by countless number of difficulties. And, in case, when the biography of such a festival is saturated with a respectful, long-term tradition and memorable editions in the past, the responsibility for its successful restoration is getting significantly aggravated. All of us, who, during the recent years, are making efforts to continue and renew the chronology of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films, we have in mind its inherited impressive biography and more and more we consider its place and its importance in our extremely modified and complicated world.

For this reason, for a fourth year in consequence, regardless of the enormous difficulties, we are trying to present from the Festival screen some good and useful films, and to organize in the conference halls, with the help of some of the most competent in our thematic field experts, profound discussions on topical professional and human items.

The feature and the documentary films, included in the competitive and information programs, represent just a little particle from the enormous amount of world cinema production with similar thematic profile; but, in their contents, they are focusing on some important accents correlated to our topic area. And the general theme “Aggression and Humanity” serves as a frame for the concrete profound lectures to be exposed by the invited lecturers, and as a point of reference for the free discussions, with all the Festival guests and visitors taking part.

In the past, almost 40 years ago, being a young film critic, I had the lucky chance to come across the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films in Varna and this was my first attendance to such a great event. Therefore, now, with the professional experience I have accumulated, I feel happy to take part in the renaissance of this so important and necessary film festival and I am trying to pay back what the Festival has given to me during the years. I hope the Festival is as much useful for its participants too.

Prof. Dr. Bojidar Manov
Artistic Director
Born in Caltanissetta, Cino formed at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome, graduating in 1970. The same year he started as intense activity as documentarist and as assistant director, notably collaborating with Roberto Rossellini, Vittorio De Sica and Steno. He debuted as a director with the experimental drama “Il cavaliere, la morte e il diavolo”, which he also wrote and produced. He is a director and assistant director, known for “The House of the Blue Shadows” (1986), “Quell’estate felice” (2007) and “Breath of Life” (1990).

Carla Ronga, Journalist, graduated in Political Science and specialized in International Relations, signed as co-author the programs of the Third RAI Network “C’era una volta” and “Dagli Appennini alle Ande”, geopolitical programs promoted under the auspices of the United Nations and numerous Italian non-governmental organizations. Since 2002 she started her collaboration with the monthly newspaper “Aprile” and its daily online edition, and then took over the journalistic and editorial directorships from June 2006. Since January 2013 she has returned, as freelance, to the production of video reports inspired by the theme of rights and sustainability, not only in the sense of energy saving and clean environment, but as a human and historical value. Because it is the approach of human development (the local actions we make in our community here and now are relevant), the one best suited to keep quality life together and extending rights, making the global responsibility to the local one. She has recently produced two documentaries for the “Planet E” television program of Germany’s ZDF television.

Armağan Pekkaya is born in Ankara in 1980. He received his degree from Ankara University Communication Faculty, Radio-Television and Cinema Department. He has produced many independent projects. Films were shown at national and international festivals and received various awards. Currently he is working as a producer at the Turkish Red Crescent Media Bureau, Armağan Pekkaya also continues his independent film and documentary work. His film “Mustesfa” won the “Best Red Cross and Red Crescent Film Award” for films depicting the activities of the National Societies, at the 16th International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films in Varna, Bulgaria.
Assoc. Prof. Emanuela Mutafova
Bulgaria

Assoc. Prof. Emanuela Mutafova is a Doctor of Economics and a long-time lecturer in Health Economics and Medical Statistics at the Medical University - Varna. Since 2012 she is Dean of the Faculty of Public Health at the Medical University "Prof. P. Stoyanov" - Varna. She has specialized in the study of operations and statistical methods in health care, health economics and hospital management in Bulgaria and in a number of prestigious universities in the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom and Switzerland.

Author of more than 100 publications. Leader and participant in more than 30 international, national and regional educational, research and cultural projects.

Prof. Dr. Temelko Temelkov.
Surgeon, Candidate of Medical Sciences. Born in Varna, Bulgaria. Graduate of the Medical University in Sofia. Rector of the Medical University - Varna from 1999 to 2004. Has 260 scientific publications, 2 monographs, 2 textbooks, 2 inventions, 5 rationalizations. Editor of a number of specialized magazines. Member of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria and Honorary Member of the Bulgarian Doctors’ Union. For his activity he is awarded the prize of Varna, “Doctor of the Year” and “Doctor of Bulgaria”.

AWARDS

All categories
- Best Film

Red Cross / Red Crescent films
- Best RC / RC Film
- Special Award for RC / RC Film
- Bulgarian Red Cross President Award
- International Red Cross / Red Crescent Federation Award

Documentary films
- Best Documentary
- Best Health Film
- Best Documentary Director
- Documentary Film Diploma /3 Awards/
- Award on behalf of the Rector of the Medical University - Varna

Feature films
- Best Film
- Best Short
- Best Director
- Best Screenplay
- The Mayor of Varna Award for Significant Creative Achievement
SCREENING, CONFERENCE & MEETING LOCATIONS

**SCREENING HALL**
BREWERY HOUSE “BLACK SHEEP”

**MEETINGS - COFFEE TERRACE**
SHC KAMCHIA

**CONFERENCE HALL**
SHC KAMCHIA

**LARGE SCREENING HALL**
SHC KAMCHIA

XVII International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films
Welcome to the Sanatorium & Health Complex “Kamchia” - the international capital of friendship, creativity, culture, education, sports and health; International congress and festival center!

Kamchia is a place where the harmony between Man, Earth and Space is sought and reached; there is space for talents. The Complex is built and is following the principles of sustainable development of society and individuality. The unique environment contributes for creative communication, which gives birth to new ideas, projects and to their realization.

We are glad that once again we have the pleasure of hosting and co-organizing the most humane film festival - the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films.

We congratulate the organizers, our partners from the Bulgarian Red Cross and the Festival of Red Cross and Health Films Foundation with director Mr. Iliya Raev for the fruitful cooperation! We hope it will be successful and lasting.

Dear creators! Here, in Kamchia, you will have the opportunity, in a beautiful natural and social environment, to communicate and create, exchange ideas in the name of peace and good for the people, for the development of the humane cinema.

I sincerely wish you success!

Let the days of the Festival be pleasant, useful and unforgettable for you!

Stanka Shopova
Executive director
Sanatorium and Health Complex “Kamchia”
The seventeen edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films is organized in October 12th till 15th 2017 in Varna, Bulgaria, under the patronage of the vice president of the Republic of Bulgaria Ms. Iliana Iotova. The motto of this year’s Festival is “Aggression – Humanity – Cinema”.

The seventeen edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films has a competitive character, as the participating films will be competing in the following categories:

1. Red Cross and Red Crescent films, revealing the activities of the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies all over the world;

2. Documentary and health films covering the topical issues in the spheres of medicine, health care, ecology, migration, human rights, disasters;

3. Feature films presenting humanity issues.

The competing films have been selected by a commission, chaired by prof. dr Temelko Temelkov among the record-breaking number of 1890 films from 107 countries submitted to take part in the Festival. The international jury to assess the films comprises of Beppe Cino (Italy) – Chairman, and members: Armagan Pekkaya (Turkey), Carla Ronga (Italy), assos. Prof. Emanuela Mutafova (Bulgaria), Pavel Vasev (Bulgaria).

The competition film program is paralleled by a rich program comprising of more than 130 documentaries, short-length and feature films from 47 countries. The special accent in the Festival is the Retro Films Panorama, screening Red Cross films, formerly awarded in Festivals. Other special Festival sections are the panoramas from the festivals “Cinema on Palm” and “Turin Underground Festival”.

The screening of the newest Bulgarian serial “Stolen Life”, treating some medical themes, will be promoted and the public in Varna will be able to meet with its favorite actors.

The public will enjoy the Festival films program at a lot of screening locations - the conference hall in the Municipality of Varna; the Medical University Varna; “Golden Varna” (“The Black Sheep” brewery), the Theater & Music Production Center – Varna, the Sanatorium & Health Complex “Kamchia”.

The Festival days will be rich in discussions, round tables, get-togethers, all of them devoted to the motto of the Festival: “Aggression – Humanity – Cinema”. Eminent Bulgarian figures and names are the mentors to these events: Haralan Aleksandrov, Toma Tomov, Emil Spahiyski, Valeri Naidenov, etc. The people from Varna and the guests of the Festival will be given the chance to meet with favorite Bulgarian actors, eminent figures from the cinematography and the culture, supporters of the Festival. Foreign filmmakers show a growing interest to the Festival; film directors from Sweden, Iraq, Cyprus, Greece, etc, are joining the 17th edition of the Festival.

Part of the Festival program is the International Documentary Films Academy for Young Talent (October 10th-15th) to teach young Red Cross and Red Crescent activists how to depict in documentaries the most important moments of their work. The mentor to a special section of the Academy – the “Retro Atelier” is Mr. Grant Mitchell, Manager, Library and Archive Unit, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The Festival as a forum allows the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies delegations to exchange best practices and experience. The 17th Festival is visited by representatives of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of Red Cross and Red Crescent, Red Cross delegations from Romania, Italy, Mexico; Red Crescent delegations from Turkey, Iraq, etc.
The seventeenth edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films coincides with the final stage of the campaign “Donate blood – get a ticket”. It is initiated by the Bulgarian Red Cross District Council, the medical University in Varna and the Regional Centre of Transfusion Hematology.

The International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films was founded in 1965. The Founders are the Central Council of the Bulgarian Red Cross, the International Federation /the League, by that time/ of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of Red Cross and Red Crescent, the World Health Organization and UNESCO. The motto of the Festival is: "Through humanity to peace and friendship". According to its Statute, the principle purpose of the Festival is to select and to show the best films, produced during the latest two years, which are treating topical humanitarian, Red Cross related and health related issues. Until 1991 the Festival had 14 editions. The International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films is not only a cinema event; it turns into a meeting point for exchange of experience between world famous medical scientists, between national and international health institutions, between members of Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies. Varna became also a meeting point of international and national movie stars, film directors, film critics, journalists, cinematographers and foreign televisions.

At the beginning of 2014 the National Council of the Bulgarian Red Cross took the decision to restore the Festival in partnership with the Varna Medical University "Prof. d-r Paraskev Stoyanov". The trademark of the Festival was restored. A foundation "International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films" was founded, co-chaired by the Bulgarian Red Cross and the Medical University, with an elected governing body and secretariat. Mr. Ilko Raev, the author of a number of international forums, including the International Film Festival “Love is Folly”, is elected Director of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films.

The vice president of the Republic of Bulgaria Mrs. Margarita Popova took over the patronage of the 15th and the 16th editions of the Festival.

Between November 3-rd and November 7-th, 2014 was held the XV-th edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films, following the same form as in 1965 – "International Red Cross and Red Crescent Films Review". The traditional motto of the Festival: “Through humanity to peace and friendship” was preserved.

- 125 film productions from 20 countries were screened during the Festival;
- three exhibitions were organized, treating humanitarian issues; there was
  - presentation of a book devoted to the founder of the Bulgarian military cardio surgery prof. d-r Stoyanov;
- four press conferences, five meetings with filmmakers’ teams. There were 130 accredited Bulgarian and foreign participants in the Festival. The foreign film productions came to the Festival thanks to the co-operation with embassies and cultural institutions from France, Portugal, Russia, Poland, Hungary, Japan, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, etc., as well from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies with films from Switzerland, Germany, Norway, Austria, Finland, Thailand, etc.

The XVI-th edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films was held from 28-th September to 3-rd October 2015 in Varna. 145 films from 25 countries were presented. This edition of the Festival was with a competitive character, as 118 films were competing in the following categories:

1. Red Cross and Red Crescent films, revealing the activities of the RedCross and Red Crescent National Societies all over the world;
2. Documentary films (covering the topical issues in the spheres of medicine, health care, ecology, migration, human rights, disasters);
3. Feature films (full-length) presenting humanity issues.

The international Jury of the XVI-th edition: Pavel Vasev - Chairman - Bulgarian National Film Centre Executive Manager; Vyara Ankova – Bulgarian National Television General Manager; Bettina Kummer– Swiss Red Cross representative; Carla Ronga, Documentary Film Director – Italy; Faith Isci– Film Director Red Crescent Turkey; Prof. Temelko Temelkov - Varna Medical Society representative.

Parallel to the competitive program, the spectators were offered a special selection of films from the Sofia Film Fest, and panoramas: of the Serbian film director Dusan Milic; of the Golden Kuker animation film festival; and of the Russian cinema.
Conducting roundtables, discussions, lectures on important issues of our time is another tradition of the International Red Cross and Health Film Festival, which we restored in 2014 with a round table entitled “Problems and Challenges Relating to Refugees”. The discussion was attended by the Vice-President of the Republic of Bulgaria, Mrs. Margarita Popova, ambassadors, Red Cross representatives, journalists and public figures. Similar forums were also held in the next edition of the Festival.

During the 17th edition of the International Red Cross and Health Film Festival guest speakers in the discussion part are:

Haralan Aleksandrov - Bulgarian anthropologist, lecturer in New Bulgarian University (NBU), with scientist interests in the area of social anthropology, social politics and organizational research. He was born in Sofia, in the family of Academician Aleksandar Aleksandrov. Graduated from Slavic Philology at Sofia University, his diploma thesis is on inter-ethnic relations in the regions with mixed population in Bulgaria. He studied social work and pedagogical psychology at the Department of Behavioral Sciences in NBU. His Ph.D. in Anthropology is from the Institute of Folklore at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He also specializes in various universities in Canada, Slovakia, Great Britain, Hungary and Russia. Haralan Aleksandrov is a member of the Institute for People Relations and the Board of Trustees of the Open Society Institute - Sofia.

Valeri Naydenov was born in Sofia, Bulgaria. He graduated from English Philology at the Sofia University. Valeri Naydenov is a Bulgarian journalist, founder of the “24 Hours” newspaper. Editor-in-Chief of the “Pogled” newspaper. He was editor-in-chief of the newspapers: 24 Hours, Continent, Duma, 168 Hours, Fatherland Front, Antennas, Klassa and magazines BTA and Business Week, presenter at Nova TV.

Emil Spahiyski is journalist and scriptwriter. Awards: “Paniza” for depicting the Kosovo war; “Chernorizetz Hrabur” for publicists’ achievements and “MTel Masters”. He is co-writer (together with Marin Damyanov and Stephan Komandarev) of the screenplay for “The Judgment”, awarded with: “Best Film” at the “Golden Rose” film festival in 2014; “Grand Prix” at the Indianapolis film festival; Bulgarian nomination for “Oscar” and many others, including the Bulgarian Film Academy best screenplay award. He is working as “Trud” newspaper political observer. He graduated Print Journalism in Sofia University; staging in SWU “Neofit Rilski”; specialized dramaturgy in NATFA; EPU in Stadtschlaining (Austria); Political Studies in Moscow School of Political Studies (MSPS). He was reporter and commentator for the “24 Hours” and “Sega” newspapers, editor-in-chief of “Za Men”, “Egoist” and “FHM” magazines, screenwriter and executive editor for “Survivor”, “Africa – the Stars Must be Crazy” and “Sofia Residents in Excess” (BTV) tv shows and co-author of the book “The Success Model or how to be Successful in Bulgaria”. Toma Tomov is a Bulgarian journalist, author of a number of documentaries and TV programs. He has worked as: editor and as author for “Mladez” (1966-1969), the “Culture” newspaper (1979), “Trud” newspaper (1986-1989), “Standard” newspaper (2003-2006); editor of BNT news; presenter of the weekly program “Panorama”; travelling international correspondent; creator and presenter of the documentary and political TV program “The World in Action”; author of “Ekrano” studio documentaries; together with Dimitri Ivanov he was presenter of the weekly 60 minutes “Observer” program; director to the news section in Nova TV. He made films about the civil war in Lebanon, Scandinavia, England, Cuba, Thailand, the American Space Program and about the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT). Toma Tomov has interviewed the most important persons of XX-th century.

Mihail Veshim was born in 1960 in Sofia. Graduate in Journalism at Sofia University "Kliment Ohridski". He changed many professions, but at one place. Since 1982, he has been working in “Starshell” (Hornet) newspaper, where he was a boy for everything, a provider of quality alcohol, a binge organizer and editor's driver. He is currently editor-in-chief and driver of himself. In out-of-work time, he managed to write thousands of feuilletons, hundreds of stories, twenty books, and several C.V.’s of this genre. His famous humorous novels are "The English Neighbor" (filmed as 4-series tv), "Washington" and "The Russian Neighbor". Readers also enjoy "Old Hippies," "Tequila sunrise", "Turn back with laughter", "When I was Captain" and "When I was General". His books, stories and feuilletons are translated into foreign languages to make laugh other countries and people.
International documentary films academy for young talents at the 17-th International Red Cross and Health Film Festival

The Academy is supported by the Municipal Culture Fund of the Municipality of Varna and is part of the program of Varna - European Youth Capital 2017. International documentary films academy for young talents develops and strengthens humanitarian attitude needed both in the creative work and in the everyday communication, during extreme situations, and especially in the complicated international refugees crisis and migrants flow. Known professionals from Europe will mentorship the participants for their first film project in its various phases of development. Needed skills and knowledge to enter the professional international scene, First hand observations and practical knowledge for the constantly developing current European film market and the ways to enter it are on the agenda.

The main topic of the Academy is Aggression - Humanity - Cinema and it will be completed by a special film programme. It includes prime screenings of films for Bulgaria and films that are going to be shown only in the frame of the Academy. The Academy links the film school preparation and professional sphere needs giving possibility to young cinema artists from the Black sea region to find their own way for the realisation of their first author’s film debuts.

LECTURERS

Assoc. Prof. Kostadin Bonev
Graduated in Theatre Critical Studies from National Academy of Theatre and Film Art, Sofia, Bulgaria in 1980. Postgraduated in film directing in the classes of Georgi Djulgerov. Scriptwriter and director of more than 20 documentaries. He has been awarded a lot of national and international prizes, among them Grand Prix “Centaur” in 1995 for "Letters to the Nether World", Prix Europa Willy Brandt Prize for “The Patience of the Stone”, Special Jury Prize in Munich for the same film, The Special Prize of the Film Concern Mosfilm for "A War Correspondent", "Golden Rhyton Grand Prix", Official Best of Fest Award - Seattle’2010, Los Angeles Reel Film Festival Winner, London Documentary Film Festival Audience Award Winner for "Europolis, the Town of the delta" etc. Five of his films won the Award of the film Critics at the festivals of the Bulgarian-documentary and feature film "The Golden Rhyton" and "The Golden Rose". Three times awarded with the Prize for the Best film at the annual awarding of the Bulgarian Association of Filmmakers for the documentaries "Under a Cloud", "The Patience of the Stone" and for the TV Feature "War Correspondent".

Prof. Ph.D. Teodor Yanev
Film & TV Cinematography and Photography
He graduated from Engineering at the Technical University of Sofia. After that, the National Academy of Theater and Film Arts "Krastyo Sarafov" - Sofia, with specialty "Cinema and Television Operations". He has worked as a photo reporter and journalist in the "Trudovo dello" newspaper, an operator at Boyana Studios. At present he is a lecturer at the National Academy of Theater and Film Arts "Krastyo Sarafov". Operator of more than 30 documentary and feature films.

SPECIAL GUEST LECTURER

Grant Mitchell
Manager, Library and Archives Unit - International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.
The Bulgarian Red Cross carries out its activities in pursuit of its main objective to alleviate and prevent human suffering with impartiality and neutrality, without discrimination as to nationality or race, gender, social status, religious belief or political stand.

The Bulgarian Red Cross is a voluntary organization, part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and is guided by its Fundamental Principles: Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality.

Through its countrywide network of volunteers, the BRC renders assistance to the vulnerable people in situations of disaster and crisis. By means of training programmes and activities for the benefit of the public, the National Society contributes to alleviating and preventing the suffering in all its forms, it protects health and life and ensures respect for the human being.

In compliance with its humanitarian mission, the Bulgarian Red Cross implements various activities to alleviate vulnerability, prevent the social exclusion of the most marginalized people and improve the quality of their life. It provides services and carries out various initiatives and campaigns related to protecting the human life and health, including promotion of health culture, first aid, road safety and others.

Bulgarian Red Cross supports the State in situations of disasters, accidents, crises and armed conflicts. The organization is part of the Unified Rescue System in Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian Youth Red Cross, through its thousands of volunteers, carries out activities throughout the country, for promotion of humanitarian values, prevention of violence and socially significant diseases, disseminating healthy lifestyle practices among children and young people, training in first aid, first psychological aid and psychosocial support.

Through its Mountain Rescue Service, the Bulgarian Red Cross assists the victims of mountain incidents and its Water Rescue Service ensures the training of qualified lifeguards and works towards prevention of water traumatism.
Medical University – Varna was established in 1960 and it was named after Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov – the person who laid the foundations of the first Bulgarian School of Surgery.

MU-Varna offers high quality of training - it is the first and only university in the country to introduce a model for Business Excellence of the European Foundation for Quality Management in 2008. The diplomas awarded by the university are recognized in all European countries. For the academic year 2016-2017 Varna Medical University is the preferred university and has over 1,200 foreign students from 43 countries around the world, it maintains partnerships with more than 80 international institutions from 5 continents. In the university, which has more than 55 years of history, more than 5,000 students, postgraduates and PhD students are trained in the faculties of Medicine, Dental Medicine, Pharmacy and Public Health, the Medical College and the Affiliates in Sliven, Veliko Tarnovo and Shumen. Over 50 000 are the university alumni who are living and working in more than 40 countries around the world since the university’s establishment.

Only a few months ago, the Medical University of Varna won the "Best Innovations in Education" award at the Webit Festival 2017, which is the largest technology forum. The prize was awarded for the integration of modern IT solutions, systems and innovations into the training process.

The university is also proud with the sporting achievements of its students in swimming, football, volleyball, basketball and tennis. The University has also a sailing team, which competes with its own sailing boat. The University has a theater troupe, a rock group, a dance ensemble. People from the city of Varna knows the prospective physicians from the numerous charity and health campaigns which they initiate and conduct in our city annually.
Donate Blood, Get a Ticket

Regional council of Bulgarian Red Cross – Varna, Bulgarian Red Cross Youth – Varna, Medical University – Varna and Regional Transfusion Hematology Center initiated a pilot campaign "Donate Blood, Get a Ticket". The campaign aims to motivate young people to donate blood, to raise people's awareness and empathy and to reduce the blood and blood products shortages for the country. Donors receive a free ticket for one of the film screenings during the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films, as well as a pass for the „Blood donors night”.

The organizers strive to transform this campaign into a national initiative and become part of the practice of cultural institutions, theaters, concert organizers, filmmakers and others.

"Donate Blood, Get a Ticket" is implemented under the program "Varna - European Youth Capital" in key direction "Ino Jump".
In 2017 Varna was selected for European Youth Capital and was the first Bulgarian city to win this prize. All events pass under the Varna Innowave logo - for the social innovations that are in focus this year. In itself, this prize does not bring financial gain to the city, but it shows that somebody appreciates what is happening in the youth community and the immense efforts of non-governmental organizations to change both the environment of life and the mentality of young people.

In congratulating this so important for the youth work of Varna, the members of the EMF clearly show that, according to their observations, the process of cooperation between urban organizations has begun.

The prize is awarded to a European city for a period of one year. This is an initiative of the European Youth Forum launched in 2009. So far, the European Capitals of Youth were: Rotterdam, the Netherlands (2009), Turin, Italy (2010), Antwerp, Belgium (2011), Braga, Portugal (2012), Maribor, Slovenia (2013), Thessaloniki, Greece (2014), Cluj-Napoca, Romania (2015) and Gandja, Azerbaijan (2016).

The main objective of the Varna - European Youth Capital initiative is to make the city a center of attraction for business and young people. This process does not end much by the end of 2017, and it can be said that it begins at that time. The team of Varna, the European Youth Capital, hopes that the initiative will provoke many young people, even those who at one point have chosen for their own home another city or state to return.

The idea is to enable young people to improve the city environment by developing their own projects in different spheres: entrepreneurship, urban environment, culture, new technologies and their applications, etc.
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We usually talk about them when there is an accident and we need their help. These are mountain rescuers - dog guides. What people are they, how they cohabit with their dogs, what motivates them to be dedicated, how train guide and dog to become a team? You will find the answers in “Me, You and Friends” - a film story about dedication, love and the mission to help the needy.

Croatian Red Cross Campaign
Croatia, 2017, 33”
Production: Croatian Red Cross
It is focused on raising awareness on poverty among children, specifically the fact that there are many children who do not have access to school meals, an essential prerequisite for health and well-being.

Healthy food /
Здравословно хранене
Bulgaria, 2016, 13’13”, documentary
Production: Bulgarian Red Cross

Ode to (lifesaving) joy
Greece, 9’29”, documentary
Co-Production: Hellenic Red Cross, Hellenic Federation of Underwater Activity and Sport Fishing, National School of Public Health, Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention
A tribute to Lucas Bistarakis, father of Hellenic lifesaving.

Age of Hope
Hungary, 2016, 3’52”, documentary
Director: Marcus Grysczok
A Short Film about my trip with «Age of Hope» (NGO) to the Hungarian city of Zakany in October 2015.
This Isn’t Me / No Soy Yo
Mexico, 2016, 3’26”, documentary
Director: Manfred López
We love our cellphones. But we never think they will kill us. This short film explores the grim consequences of what we swear will never happen to us.

Saving a life
Mexico, 2016, 2’58”, documentary
Production: Mexican Red Cross

History of goodness / Istoria binelui
Romania, 78’, documentary
Production: Romanian Red Cross & TRINITAS TV
The history of Romanian Red Cross.

Dandelion / Dent de Lley
Spain, 2016, 7’, short
Director: Jorge Bellver
The wind has no boundaries, dreams have no limits. The flight of a dandelion from the heart of Africa to our coasts symbolizes future hope for millions of people in a globalized world.

Flood resilience program/ Programa de resiliencia ante inundaciones
Mexico, 2016, 3’25”, documentary
Production: Mexican Red Cross

150 years Swiss Red Cross
Switzerland, 2017, 6’30”, documentary
Production: Swiss Red Cross
Short film about the establishment and history of the Swiss Red Cross society.
Mother/child club: mother/child health
Switzerland, 2016, 3’17”, documentary
Production: Swiss Red Cross
The Swiss Red Cross Program in Togo.

Eye-care: ophthalmologic, eye operations, cataract, hospitals
Switzerland, 2016, 3’21”, documentary
Production: Swiss Red Cross
The Swiss Red Cross Program in Togo.

Malaria prevention: malaria, children/mothers, hygiene, volunteers
Switzerland, 2016, 7’17”, documentary
Production: Swiss Red Cross
The Swiss Red Cross Program in Togo.

Beyond visible scars
Switzerland, 2017, 10’15”, documentary

Community center
Turkey, 2015, 12’30”, documentary
Production of: Turkish Red Crescent

Daily life of a syrian family
Turkey, 7’, documentary
Production of: Turkish Red Crescent

Syria humanitarian operation
Turkey, 2015, 7’21”, documentary
Production of: Turkish Red Crescent
**First-Aid / Les Gestes qui Sauvent**  
France, 2017, 1’40”  
Director: **Antoine Minjoz**  
Short video made for the French Red Cross, delegation of Seine Saint Denis.

**Make A Difference / Faire La Difference**  
France, 2017, 1’37”  
Director: **Antoine Minjoz**  
Short video made for the French Red Cross, delegation of Saine Saint Denis.

**Kitchen / Mutfak**  
Turkey, 2017, 18’00”, documentary  
Director: **Armağan Pekkaya**  
One day, 20 Syrian, Iraqi and Turkmen refugee women come together with their Turkish neighbors in Turkey, in order to cook together and eat what they cooked on the same table...

**Drawing on the power of the crescent**  
Turkey, 2016, 1’19”, documentary  
Director: **Armağan Pekkaya**  
Production of: **Turkish Red Crescent**

**International Committee of Red Cross**  
India, 2014, 30”, animation  
Director: **Ankita Panda**  
An animation project done in the 2nd year of undergrad program.

**The mineral water of Turkish Red Crescent is in a special bottle / Kızılay Maden Suyu Premium Şişe’de**  
Turkey, 1’10”, documentary  
Production of: **Turkish Red Crescent**
This bottle is the beginning of being good-natured / Yardimseven Olmak Bu Şişeyle Başlar

Turkey, 1', documentary
Production of: Turkish Red Crescent
**XVII International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films**

**COMPETITION PROGRAM: DOCUMENTARIES**

**88 MHz**

Bulgaria, 2016, 39’, documentary
Director: **Yana Titova**

88 MHz is a short documentary about the theatre radio journalist Jordan Georgiev, who is hosting the cultural program "No Masks" every Monday. Jordan is taking interviews with Bulgaria’s most talented actors, directors, playwrights and film makers, truly going into the deepest aspects of their work, bringing unique depths of their art which no other journalist can see. Jordan is sightless.

**The eye of the minotaur / Окото на минотавъра**

Bulgaria, 2017, 45’, documentary
Director: **Borislav Kolev**

Dennis is 18 and like any young man he wants to grow, to have love, family, professional success... He is like everybody but not in every way. He was born completely blind. This doesn’t stop him setting and achieving goals – he practices different sports, he reads a lot and he even has his own way of watching movies. But his most daring dream is to become a sculptor. Is he ready to fight for it? And is the society ready for people like Dennis?

**The good postman / Пощальонът**

Finland-Bulgaria, 2016, 82’, documentary
Director: **Tonislav Hristov**

A small Bulgarian village just by the Turkish border has been resisting foreign invaders since the times of the Ottoman Empire. Now its electorate of 38 elderly Bulgarians is facing a tough decision. The Great Gate, as the village has been called for centuries because of its location, has found itself in the middle of a European crisis, as at nights asylum seekers sneak passing the border. The forgotten village has become the most important secret loophole of Europe. Ivan, the local postman, has a vision. He decides to run for mayor and turn the dying village alive by welcoming refugees. His opponents want to close their eyes, close down the border and reintroduce communism. As the campaign goes on, Ivan soon learns that while good intentions are not enough, even the smallest deeds matter.

**Pani; Women, drugs and Kathmandu**

Thailand, Nepal, 2017, 87’, documentary
Director: **Raul Gallego Abellan**

This is the story about Bikens, Dolma, Yangzee, Debika, Annie... But this could be the story of so many other female drug user, and maybe even your story too. Female drug addiction is an extreme taboo in Nepal, but a group of brave women will reveal their struggle to eradicate it, specially a cheap and dangerous drug called 'Pani', which users inject in their veins. This film provides unprecedented and rare access to these hidden lives, resulting in an moving and intimate portrait of the harsh reality of female addiction and prostitution in their homes, the streets where they try to survive, and one of the few female rehab centres in Nepal.
COMPETITION PROGRAM: DOCUMENTARIES

Make Music, Not War
Ukraine, 2016, 1’53”, documentary
Directors: Denys Kushnarov, Oles Seredytskyi, Volodymyr Bozhynskyi

Yesterday – peace, today – war. And if only all the military could solve their issues playing music, but not playing with our lives, - we’d get another tomorrow.

Exodus / Exodos
France, 2017, 69’50”
Director: Fabien Guillermont

This film follows the life and experience of the people on board the Aquarius, a rescue ship in Mediterranean sea, during the period between September 14 and October 6, 2016.

Holy Zoo
Israel, 2016, 60’
Director: Katharina Waisburd

Jerusalem at night: the streets are empty and appear peaceful. A wall of barbed wire shows that

▶ the opposite is true. Day breaks and in the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo giraffes, elephants and other animals are released into their enclosures. People of all ethnic and religious groups work or meet as visitors – something normal in other areas of the world but that is an exception here, where violence and war is routine. HOLY ZOO raises questions about freedom and self-determination – the peaceful mood of everyday life there is fragile.

The Islands and the Whales
UK and Denmark, 2016, 80’39”
Director: Mike Day

In their remote home in the North Atlantic the Faroe Islanders have always eaten what nature could provide, proud to put local food on the table. The land yields little, so they have always relied on harvesting their seas. Hunting whales and seabirds kept them alive for generations, and gave them the way of life they love; a life they would pass on to their children. But today they face a grave threat to this tradition.

Small people. Big trees / В тени больших деревьев
Russian Federation, 2016, 45’, documentary
Director: Vadim Vitovtsev

The Central African Republic. Here in the shade of sub-panel rainforests lives a tribe of the shortest people on Earth — the Baka pygmies. As it was hundreds years ago they hunt for meat and gather gifts of big trees. They pray to the spirits of the forest and teach their children to respect the forest, to take from it only what is of great need. But little by little their traditional mode is changing under the pressure of the ”Big World” culture.
I know you are there

Belgium, 86’34”, documentary

Director: Thom M Vander Beken

I Know You Are There tells the story of Quentin, who is only 27 and has been in a coma for the past ten years. His mother brought him to the Coma Science Centre in Liège to let the medical staff decide whether or not there is still a chance of improvement. The other family members moved on with their lives already a long time ago. But now they need to come together and decide whether or not they can let Quentin go. Will this decision unite the family or break it further apart?

My poetry / MINHA POESIA

Brazil, 2016, 24’4”, documentary

Director: Leide Jacob

MINHA POESIA (My Poetry) is an audiovisual capsule on the life and work of poet Leide Moreira, revolving around the documentation of the ten years in which her poems were transcribed; unique moments in which Leide and her caregivers work with a visual chart based on the movement of her eyes, the only movement she has due to ALS (Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis). The narrative is comprised of everyday scenes from her present and past life with an original musical score inspired on her poetry and composed by musicians Nuno Mindelis, Elder Costa and Rafael Toledo.

Optimal care for patients with haemophilia / Оптимални грижи за болниите от хемофилия

Bulgaria, 2017, 19’40”, documentary

Author and scenario: Iva Martinova

Production: MU-Vi.tv

Haemophilia is a genetic disease that is characterized with impaired coagulation, and patients frequently and spontaneously suffer from bleeding. At European and world level, care for patients with haemophilia is carried out at specialized centres that have proven their great advantage in terms of quality of care and cost-effectiveness, related to their diagnosis, traceability, prevention and treatment. A very important condition is patients with haemophilia to be monitored at one and the same centre throughout their whole life. This stems from the specificity and rarity of the disease. In Bulgaria, the first centre, certified as an Expert Centre for Coagulopathies and Rare Anemias, was established in 2013 at University Hospital “St. Marina” in Varna, and it is located on the territory of the Clinic of Children’s Hematology and Oncology.
Diagnosis cancer... You are not alone / Диагноза рак... не си сам
Bulgaria, 2017, 16’37”, documentary
Author and scenario: Silviya Nikolova
Production: MU-Vi.tv
Being diagnosed with a malignant tumor disease is an extremely traumatic event that changes both the entire life of a person and the one of his family and relatives. This new reality requires a huge adaptation to a totally different style of life, filled with surgeries, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, endless tests, combined with the killing anxiety of waiting for the test results, statistics, forecasts and expectations.
When the facts are undeniable, there comes the time to fight. A great battle where you need scores of allies because the enemy is strong...

The Elisaveta case / Случаят “Елисавета”
Bulgaria, 2017, 30’03”, documentary
Author and scenario: Daniela Ivanova
Production: MU-Vi.tv
The film tells a story about the strength of human spirit, about a job well-done, about the warm human relationship between a doctor and a patient. As a result of all this, in the spring of 2015, the 78-year-old Elisaveta Ivanova left University Hospital “St. Marina” – Varna, free of cancer cells.

The recipient
New Zealand, 2016, 14’34”, documentary
Director: Caitlin A. McKenna
How we die, and what happens after we die, will be the next major medical/ethical issue we confront as a global population. At present, death and dying are seen as failings of the human body, or a result of inadequate access to technology. This itself, mortality and the subsequent questions of ‘faith’ in what is to come, is, of course, very existential—because faith is derived from a the need for a ‘higher’ answer, the problem being that most of the time, we don’t know what the question is? As such, in New Zealand, where Organ and Tissue Donation is voluntary, the question of whether to donate is understandably as complex as our own national ideologies of death practice. What inspired me to make ‘The recipient’ was the desire to explore the profound questions that donation poses of those who might use it, and in that exploration find a way to talk about the larger subject of Donation and mortality today.

After the surprising and shattering diagnosis of fourth-stage cancer of the rectum, after three severe surgeries of a tumor and metastasis in the lymph nodes and the liver, after severe and traumatic postoperative treatment, chemotherapy and radiotherapy, Elisaveta succeeded in overcoming cancer. This film also tells us about the difficult path that patients with severe oncology diseases need to pass, the fear of the diagnosis, the heavy and long-term treatment, and the joy of winning small and great victories.
**Tumor**
Iran, 2016, 44’, documentary
Director: **Abbas Roozbahani**
A young man named Milad has had 4 surgeries because of brain tumor. Soon after his marriage he began to relapse. And the tumor developed again. And he has to do another surgery again first chance.

**Turn left now: Surviving the unbelievable**
USA, 2017, 42’, documentary
Director: **Andru Anderson**
When life throws a detour, one must continue down the road to reach a goal.

**Academic A.A.Pokrovski / Академик А.А.Покровски**
Russia, 15‘47’’, documentary
Director: **Aik Mkrtchian**
Academic Pokrovski became famous in the middle of XX century with series of scientific discoveries in nutritionology and new way on food examination.

**The shepherd / De Hoeder**
Netherlands, 2016, 22’, documentary
Director: **Joost van der Wiel**
Health insurers are putting pressure on the enthusiastic GP Nico van Hasselt (91) to adapt his old-fashioned method to modern society, but he refuses to abandon his vulnerable patients.

**Grey matter / Hersenleed**
Netherlands, 2017, 83’, documentary
Director: **Jan Louter**
Grey Matter follows two neurosurgeons and their patients during the treatment of brain disorders; besides life and death, personality is at stake.

**Dashiel: a journey through autism**
USA, 5‘50’’, documentary
Director: **Josh Sutherland**
Diagnosed with Autism at age 3, Dashiell was given little hope for success. Through technology, music and love, one boy was brave enough to write his own story.
The Tea House is a social entreprise, alternative space where you can take part in various events and experience different tastes. Space for meetings & tea.

In 2010 “Stoyan Bachvarov” Drama Theater and the Varna State Opera were united in the Theater and Music Production Center - Varna, whose spectacles have been performed on two stages – the Main Stage and the Filial Stage. Due to the thorough reconstruction and modernization in 2012, the Main Stage is able to offer modern conditions for creative work and comfort to audiences in accordance with the best European standards.

LECTURE HALL 3
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
The star of Algiers / L’étoile d’Alger
Algeria, 2016, 101’10”
Director: Rachid Benhadj
Cast: Cherif Azrou, Sofia Nouacer, Abdelbacet Benkhalfa, Hacene Kerkache, Arslane Lerari, Nadjia Debbahi, Hakim Traidia, Merouane Zmirli, Azzedine Bouchemail, Slimane Horo, Raouf Fakroune
Moussa, a musician, dreams to be the Michael Jackson of Algiers. With his talent and energy as background. He carries around his mad dream by playing with his small group of musicians first in wedding parties then in night club
The new star of Algiers in him, but he is going to collide with the absolute shaggy of an Islam.

Memories of fear / Спомен за страх
Bulgaria, 2016, 82’, black and white
Director: Ivan Pavlov
Script: Krasimir Krumov
Camera: Svetla Ganeva-Kuleva
Music: Bojidar Petkov
Cast: Ivaylo Hristov, Ovanes Torosyan, Milko Yovchev, Blagoy Blagoev, Yordanka Stefanova, Stefan Mavrodiev, Vasil Banov, Atanas Atanasov, Stefka Yanorova, Krastyo Lafazanov, Valentin Tanev, Aleksandar Doynov, Aleksandra Vasileva, Ivan Savov, Malin Krastev
Producer: Mariyana Pavlova
Production: ART47
1968. Burnt books. Ruined lives. Humiliations that cannot be forgiven. Traumas that cannot be forgotten. Small “rebellions” and small “betrayals”. A puzzle of many so human fates in which the small word “no” turns into a large “yes”...
**Enemies / Врагове**
Bulgaria, 2017, 101’

**Director:** Svetosav Ovcharov  
**Script:** Svetoslav Ovcharov  
**Camera:** Rali Ralchev  
**Cast:** Asen Blatechki, Ivan Barnev, Valentin Ganev, Hristo Ushev, Stefan Mavrodiev, Leart Dokle, Dimitar Ovcharov  
**Producers:** Svetla Tsostorkova, Svetoslav Ovcharov

**Production of:** Omega Films, with the support of National Film Centre

The spring of 1913. The Balkan War. A Turkish battleship terrorizes the Bulgarian army with its long-range guns. Despite the controversy between them, a group of desperate warriors decide to carry a boat to the coast. They want to turn the boat into a human torpedo and cause the battleship to sink. On their way they collide with some Turkish soldiers and instead of enemies they become their allies. Sometimes the contradictions between the Bulgarians may prove to be stronger than the hatred to the enemies.
Eclipse

Iran, 2017, 90’
Director: Masoud Atyabi
Cast: Kambiz Dirbaz, Sara Khoinih, Shahram Abdoli, Ghasem Zare, Arsalan Ghasemi, Nikoofar Vahbzadegan, Elnaz Habibi, Kaveh Ebrahim & Fariba Kosari
A feature film in gender of political/social subject relevant to events behind year 1388 election.

Existence / Dasein

Germany, 2017, 92’
Director, writer, cinematographer: Khashayar Mostafavi
Cast: Hassan Shahbazi, Romina Hosseini, Sara Luise Krutein, Stephan Kubisch
Existence narrates the story of a writer who seeks asylum in Germany to flee the war in his own country but he gradually becomes captive economically...
The Strayed / Припутни
Ukraine, 2017, 97’43’’
Director: Arkadiy Nepytaliuk
Cast: Dmitriy Khomyak, Alena Uzluk, Nina Naboka, Yulia Vrublevskaya
A grandmother, her daughter, and granddaughter. Three women, three generations, constituting a small family. Their lives have closely intertwined as love and hatred and are difficult and lonely, each because of its own personal circumstances. A usual trip to visit the grandmother living in a small, God-forsaken and almost abandoned by its residents village of Pryputni suddenly becomes for them crucial. Only one day filled to the brim with strange and almost tragic events: that very day when you live anew your entire live and see it with new eyes, which makes you finally get moving forward and break out of the vicious circle of habits, responsibilities, old views and daily routine towards another, unknown yet, but quite different and new life.

The pitch / Коробка
Russia, 2015, 99’
Director & Script: Edward Bordukov
Cast: Sergey Romanovich, Sergey Podolni, Kiril Degtiar, Georgi Soskin, Stepan Tavrizian, Soslan Zaseev, Ruslan Nigmatulin, Ulvi Vervievev, Stasia Miloslavskaia, Evgenia Dmitrieva
Four best friends are passionate about street football. For them it’s life, and the pitch is their second home, where only friends play. Once their team confronts in the pitch with an alien team led by a professional soccer player. They don’t want to share their pitch and organize a tough uncompromising tournament, in which all neighbors are gradually drawn in. Somehow from a game it turns to a war!
**Damonia**
Belgium, 2016, 13’30”, short
Director: **Ramy Moharam Fouad**
“Damonia” tells the story of a demented woman who adheres between two worlds. Pending between the bitter reality and her dreams, she always keeps searching for her bliss.

**Dobri / Добри**
Bulgaria, 2016, 16’34”, short
Director: **Orlin Milchev**
Bulgarian shepherd stumbles upon a lost illegal refugee in the boundless Balkan mountains near the border. Their meeting is a connection between two worlds – different ethnic backgrounds, language and culture. Soon they will have to clash with the fear and aggression of the people from the local village.

**Room number three / Трета стая**
Bulgaria, 2017, 8’18”, short
Director: **Petya Ivanova**
Lazarus is a train driver, a calm person, but once he gave a hiding to a policeman. Then everything went wrong...

**Hit me / Удари ме**
Bulgaria, 2015, 14’04”, short
Director: **Borislav Kostov**
Several different life stories are intertwined in this film story. Stas and Coco are clowns, who are practice laughter therapy in the city hospital. One of their patients will change their idea of fear, pain and sadness forever. This is a film about the hope, the endless possibilities of the human spirit and the magic of life.

**Dissociation / Дисоциация**
Bulgaria, 2016, 4’07”, short
Director & producer: **Daria Yordanova**
A short film about a man who has DID (Dissociative Identity Disorder) and tries to cope with all of his personalities in the middle of a conversation with a psychotherapist.

**I wished to perish / Исках да ме няма**
Bulgaria, 2016, 7’, short
Director and script: **Pavel Pavlov**
Cast: **Elitsa Mutafchieva**
A story of the internal struggle, shame and confession of a woman, gone through the path of the inner pain.
Simon, you ass! / T'es con Simon!
France, 2016, 13’40”, short
Director: Barrault Claire
Alain visits his grandson Simon who attempted suicide for the first time. Feeling lost faced with this action, Alain tries to unsettle Simon through mockery. But the lecture he had in mind doesn’t go as planned...

So close to me
Italy, 2017, 3’59”, short
Director: Daniele Bonarini
Federica is a girl like any other, has just 20 years. Each day takes care of her father who, because of an incident years earlier, lives in a vegetative state in a hospital bed. But one day something unexpected happens, something that attracts her attention and unhinge forever the certainties and deficiencies in the dwelling....really the distance from her father is so deep?

Zeppelin / Дирижабль
Russian Federation, 2016, 30’, short
Director: Maria Vikhrova
The Woman and the Child grope their way through the insular rooms. Half-dead husband and a couple of healthy men. This is the story of a crime where a child is both the eyewitness and the judge.

Lurna
Spain, 2016, 15’, short
Director: Nani Matos
Lurna is a young African woman who dreams about having a better life. One day she sets off with the hope and expectation of fulfilling her dream. What Lurna doesn’t know is that she will soon wish to go back.
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Candela / Candela
Spain, 2016, 19’44”, short
Director: David F. Torrico
Candela is 26 years old. She psychologically abused her mother, though not aware of it. Candela lives in an apparently eternal adolescence, oblivious to the difficulties her mother goes to bring some food, pay the electricity bill or home mortgage.

The way home / Vägen hem
Sweden, 2015, 13’, short
Director: Begonia Randhav
After escaping the war in their home country where the circumstances still are life-threatening, Sabah and a part of her family ends up at the hospital in Sweden. Her mother is sick and her little brother confused. And as if that wasn't enough, Sabah is informed that their application for asylum in Sweden has been rejected. Slowly her entire world comes crashing down and the time is running out. The police will soon escort Sabah and her family to the airport for deportation. She has to make a choice. Stay with her family and return to the war or escape on her own and live as an undocumented migrant in a foreign country.

A place / Un lugar
Spain, 2016, 12’, short
Director: Iván Fernández de Córdoba
An Arab refugee will have to overcome the prejudices of a European family to achieve repair his car and get to his destination.
The loudest silence / O mais barulhento silêncio
Brazil, 2016, 15’, documentary
Director: Marccela Moreno
1 in 4 women will be raped in their lifetime. Often by a man we trust. Guilt and naturalization of violence silences and blinds us. The Loudest Silence is a film-essay about the discovery of four women as rape survivors themselves. In an allegorical scenery, they share their painful date-rape stories and reflect upon what it is to be a woman in this world. Is this world made for us?

The pushkids
Bangladesh, 2016, 3’45”
Director: Rahman Mani
Where poverty is deep and wide, the right of Children is largely neglected and child labour exists. Jakir is one of those child labourers- Push kids who are engaged in day long hard working- pushing and pulling of the rickshaws and goods laden pushcarts in Keane Bridge, an old bridge over the River Surma of Sylhet City in Bangladesh. These push kids are deprived of education and dreams of child life. Every moment they risk their lives to earn their living - to earn money for their poor family. It reveals the heart moving heart- wrenching story of these worst victims of child labour in Bangladesh.

The tree around which life was going on / Дървото, около което се въртеше животът
Bulgaria, 2016, 49’39”, documentary
Author and scenario: Silviya Nikolova
Production: MU-VI.tv
The calling is not afraid to Be. The calling is quiet and unobtrusive. You can see its sparks on every life path. The American writer and theologian Frederick Buechner says, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

From the edge of sanity
Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2017, 26’35”
Director: MILANA MAJAR
The documentary "From the Edge of Sanity" is interwoven with the destiny of a Christian family from Syria. At the peak of the war two sons and a daughter of Younes Ayoub and Helen Alashehab leave the war-torn fatherland. Fear of terrorists and a desire to preserve the family together forced the 65-year-old Helen to go after their children. The family sold most of the property to pay smugglers to take them to Europe.The hero of the film, seventy years old Younes Ayoub, remains in Damascus...
We recall ... / Спомняме си...
Bulgaria, 2017, 20’, documentary

Author and scenario: Iva Martinova
Production: MU-VI.tv

Prof. Jürgen Köbke is a longtime Head of the Department of Anatomy at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Cologne. He is a pioneer in the development of Clinical Anatomy. In the 1990s the Department of Anatomy at the University of Cologne began a long-lasting and fruitful collaboration with the Departments of Anatomy and Orthopedics at MU - Varna. The film explores Prof. Köbke’s key function and the facets of this partnership through the eyes of distinguished personalities, who have contributed to the development, expansion and modernization of the image of the Departments of Anatomy and Orthopedics at MU - Varna.

A soul of sea / Душа от море
Bulgaria, 2016, 11’18”, documentary

Author and scenario: Silviya Nikolova
Production: MU-VI.tv

The jokes of life are unpredictable ... To love something so dearly and not to be able to relish to its fullest ... But to do everything in your power so that the others can enjoy and use it...

A Soul of Sea – a biographical film about Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stamat Stamatov - the founder of the Healing Tourism along the Bulgarian coast. He is a scientist with a recognized international reputation and a prominent public figure. He devotes 65 years of his life to the Bulgarian Healthcare and Tourism and he establishes himself as the creator of modern Thalassotherapy and a Doyen of Health Tourism in Bulgaria and in Europe.

A sacred person / Един светъл образ
Bulgaria, 2015, 50’, documentary

Author and scenario: Silviya Nikolova
Production: MU-VI.tv

A biographical film about Prof. Dr. Garabed Kaprelyan - Rector of Higher Medical Institute - Varna and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in the period 1977 – 1983.

Every one of us has his/her own concept of the meaning of life. And of the trail we leave behind us. As different as our visions might be, we all are striving to leave something behind us. We measure our lives with what we are to bequeath to the future, with what the generations will remember after us, hearing our name.

Delusions / Заблудите
I'm Not Made of Sugar!, 30'50”
A Pinch of Salt, 31'12”
The Water We Drink, 20'56”
Like Hot Bread, 25'52”

Bulgaria, 2016/2017, popular science series

Author and scenario: Iva Martinova
Production: MU-VI.tv

In the 21st century we have an easy access to information, thanks to which we live with rapidly gained knowledge on our surrounding reality. We accept the facts shared by anonymous sources as the new truth, and we start living according to it without even being aware whether we really benefit from it or we harm ourselves. In the series “Let Us Shatter Delusions” we will meet you with real experts, who will explain the scientific truth about the world around us.
A life with Down syndrome / Живот със синдром на Даун
Bulgaria, 2017, 6’40”, documentary
Author and scenario: Iva Martinova
Production: MU-VI.tv
People with Down syndrome are smiling and get attached easily. This genetic abnormality does not always imply mental retardation, sometimes cardiac disorders and low muscle tone are observed, but these disorders can be treated through physiotherapy. Anyway, how is the life of people with Down syndrome and their relatives going on?

Donating blood is priceless / Да дариш кръв няма цена
Bulgaria, 2016, 21’46”, documentary
Author and scenario: Daniela Ivanova
Production: MU-VI.tv
We live in a world where we constantly receive promises, irresistible proposals and awesome offers. We are always ready to take, use, consume. Donating something from ourselves is a priceless emotion.

On the same wavelength with nature / На честотите на природата
Bulgaria, 2016, healthy lifestyle series
Author and presenter: Viktoria Zhivkova
Production: MU-VI.tv
A healthy lifestyle, alternative but scientifically proven methods of treatment, prophylaxis, prevention, sports, physical and mental relaxation of the organism. All this is in sync with nature and its resources.

Green devils of Varna / Зелените дяволи на Варна
Bulgaria, 2017, 30’, documentary
Author and scenario: Silviya Nikolova
Production: MU-VI.tv
The sand and the waves are the workplace for some people - the rescuers. Those, who have no time to enjoy the summer in the way we are used to, because they are working. Because they take care of our life and health on the seashore.

Growing big / Да пораснеш голям
Bulgaria, 2017, 10’24”, documentary
Author and scenario: Iva Martinova
Production: MU-VI.tv
What is it like to fight with the growth hormone from a very early age? How do you get used to daily injections? What determines whether Thumbelina will grow big?
Necessity has no law

Egypt, 6’01”, documentary

Directors: Ahmed Hamed

Day in the life of one of the brick factories and numerous positions between child workers begin his life in this profession and between an old man end his life in the same profession.

Children of soil

India, 2016, 9’59”, documentary

Director: Uttarayan Sengupta

In the Indian subcontinent, brick making is typically a manual process. Majority of the migrant labourers go as family units to work in the brick kilns. Substantial number of children (below 14 years) becomes the victim of such migration. They become subject to ghetto living, miss their education, work as extended family labourers and are deprived of any kind of health facilities.

My Hero Brother / Ach Sheli Gibor

Israel - India, 2016, 78’, documentary

Director: Yonatan Nir

A group of young people with Down syndrome embark on a demanding trek through the Himalayas with their siblings. As they deal with physical and emotional challenges, unresolved conflicts come to surface and heartwarming friendships develop.

A world within four walls

India, 2015, 22’26”, documentary

Director: Patdeep Chaudhuri

World history has been packed with incidences of people with huge statures like Siddiqa Parveen from West Bengal, India. Noticing her gigantism due to Acromegaly, oblivious parents hid her. Eventually, she was admitted to the district hospital after she fainted and then was taken to state-capital but came back untreated. Siddiqa’s resentment never forbade her from showering affection towards her nephew. Still she is living a miserable life confined within four walls of her house with shattered dreams.
Elegies of Samawa / مراتي السماوة
Iraq, 2017, 18’38”, documentary
Director: Hadi Mahood
The documentary investigates an explosion of couple of cars in peaceful city Samawa, located southern Iraq. The results were unfortunate.

Talibés. Slave children in West Africa / Talibés. Infants eslaus a l’Àfrica Occidental
Spain, 2016, 43’, documentary
Director: Marc Vila Serra
“Talibés” are West African children aged between 4 and 14 years old who have been given by their parents - usually farmers without resources - to Koranic school teachers, who enslave and force them to beg on the streets.

Mwavita, born at time of war
Italy, 2017, 15’26”, documentary
Directors: Marco Gualazzini, Daniele Ballocchio
Goma, the principal city of North Kivu province, has been sadly called the “rape capital of the world”: 15 thousand women are raped every year, an average of 48 per hour, almost one every minute. After the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict that took place in London in 2014, the world has turned its back on rapes victims in Congo. This short documentary wants to bring this endless tragedy back into the spotlight through the stories of the victims and through the testimony of the people who give medical and psychological support to these women.

Like slaves in freedom / Come schiavi in libertà
Italy, 2016, 20’, documentary
Director: Raúl Zecca

For the love of God
Cyprus, 2017, 19’45”, documentary
Director: Bejay Browne
A harrowing story of an Egyptian father and daughter, Coptic Christian converts, that fled to Cyprus in fear of their lives. Conversions from Islam to Christianity are not officially recognised in Egypt. They long for a permanent, safe home and a life of peace.
Coptic Christians have been persecuted throughout history and are often the target of intolerance and sectarian violence. Copts in Egypt are around 10% of the population - the largest religious minority.
**Allégro**
Colombia, 2016, 18’38”, documentary
Director: *Alejandra Medina*
Valeria Charry is a 19 year old Colombian girl who dreams being a professional ballet dancer but her condition has made this dream hard to reach. Despite having Down syndrome, her parents raised her as an ordinary person. It is her dedication and perseverance that has led her to great triumphs and even more close to this dream. But Valeria has a bigger dreams, be treated as a person without conditions.

**Here by the roadside / Tu pored puta**
Croatia, 2015, 19’47”, documentary
Director: *Rasim Karalić*
They are here, by the road. They can’t read, don’t know about the age. Survival tricks are all they know. They are humans.

**Tripoli: Road to reconciliation - جزاء -الطريق إلى المصالحة:طرابلس/Part 1**
Lebanon, 2017, 8’32”, documentary
Director: *Elias Khlat*
Around three years have passed since the city of Tripoli - Lebanon witnessed the last round of clashes in 2014. Three years and the conflict zones are left alone in the struggle to heal its wounds... As if the absence of war is enough alone to bring back life... As if nothing had happened before. This short documentary is part of the «Roadmap to Reconciliation in Tripoli - Lebanon» initiative which is lead by local and international peace building experts. The initiative aims to solidify peace and security in the city through launching a process of transitional justice and communal reconciliation that are built on deep understanding of the root causes of the socioeconomic and political issues in the city of Tripoli, Lebanon.

**Unstoppable**
Croatia, 2017, 12’, documentary
Director: *Radoslav Pažameta*
Socio-economic marginalization of the Roma in Croatia is often tied to their low level of education. In the documentary, a group of pupils, both Roma and non-Roma nationality, talk about their experiences at school, about interaction, inclusion and discrimination they encounter. They give a personal opinion about the importance of respect to other people, about their everyday challenges and about their hopes and dreams.

**Uma Kori (Agua Valiosa)**
Chile, 2017, 5’, documentary
Director: *Patricia Albornoz*
Lourdes is a family mother who must fight to his short age for his “children, is a widow and lives in a community where they do not possess a resource so basic as the drinkable water.
The doll’s funeral
Nepal, 2016, 10’55”, documentary
Director: Arnaud Galent
Between 1996 and 2006, an internal armed conflict broke out between the Nepal Communist Party and government forces resulting in over 15,000 casualties. By 2016, more than 1,300 persons were still reported as missing by their families. “The Doll’s Funeral” illustrates the emotional journey of a mother visiting the place where her daughter was last seen. Back in the village, the family performs the final rites, which helps them to complete the mourning process.

Breathe
USA, 2017, 3’46”, documentary
Director: Jonathan Remple
Freediving tests the limits of human potential. For Rebecca Illing, this breathless “meditation with consequences” released her from addiction. Her journey to self acceptance takes her to unspeakable depths, where she finds absolute peace of mind at the bottom of the sea. Her story challenges us to question our own addictions, big and small, and inspires us to find our own path to self love.

Movement Transfer / Transfer de Movimento
Portugal, 2017, 4’59”, documentary
Director: Paulo Duarte
Bruno is a boy with cerebral palsy who shows his abilities in Adapted Gymnastics, in the project Gymnastics for All, in the Sport and Cultural Club of Enxerim, in Silves, with the guidance of Coach Hugo Mendes.

Sinmalin
Thailand, 29’52”, documentary
Director: Chaweng Caiyawan
The story of Burmese migrant workers in Thailand, who came to work in the agricultural sector. Migrant workers in Thailand work very hard but gain low wages.

Hand sight
USA, 2016, 09’03”, documentary
Director: Anais MICHEL
Lana is 4 years old and she is blind. Let’s spend one day with her at the Hellen Keller Center.
A call from water tank 6
Sweden, 2017, 21’25’’, documentary
Directors: Emmi van den Boom, Simon Forsberg, Tove Tikkanen Jönn
Lia Grace Simon and her children are forced to flee from the war in South Sudan and are trying to start over their lives in a refugee camp in Uganda.

Do not come to Europe
Sweden, 2016, 12’43’’, documentary
Directors: Pontus Joneström, Minna Lundberg, Hanna Pousette
We meet refugees who have fled from the crisis in DR Congo to the neighboring country of Uganda. Combined with their stories, thoughts and reflections, we are faced with our own preconceptions about life as a refugee, as well confronted with our position in the global refugee situation.

I am a ranger
South Africa, 4’, documentary
Director: James Suter
Rangers. They are the unsung heroes of conservation. We meet a plethora of different kinds of Rangers; The guards of Sudan, the rangers in the field and the antipoacher squads. This film explores their stories; why they became rangers, the challenges and the experience. It hopes to shed light on the good work they do and gives them the exposer they deserve.

Walking again / Прохождането
Bulgaria, 2016, 29’, documentary
Production: BNT Varna
Dr. Miroslav Zhivkov is the first orthopedist in Bulgaria to heal children with a congenital "crooked step" by the method of the world-famous physician Professor Ponsetti.

The Two Gabrovski / Двамата Габровски
Bulgaria, 2016, 29’, documentary
Production: BNT Sofia
Film portrait of two of the most famous Bulgarian doctors - Prof. Stefan Gabrovski and Professor Nikolay Gabrovski. Recognized for authority in one of the most difficult areas of medicine - neurosurgery, they are among the specialists who have won a world reputation for our country in this field of medicine.
**Watchdog**

Australia, 2017, 10’03”, short

Director: **Cody Cameron-Brown**

A lonely man’s compassion for life is tested whilst presiding over his favourite fishing cliffs.

**Whole**

UK, 2017, 12’, short

Director: **Matt Portman**

Frustrated, and humiliated at his office job, Steve shuffles through his daily routines. His world has turned grey. At home, his family barely speak to him. His son’s personality has dissipated into his phone, while his wife has become a dejected stranger. How could life have become so disappointing?

**Little Cart / Kiçik araba**

Azerbaijan, 2017, 14’38”, short,

Directors: **Arif Ismayilov, Mehriddad Mikayilzadeh**

The film depicts the stark reality of life for a homeless son and his father living on the streets of a modern city. The boy faces bitterness and sadness over the fact that his father leaves him as soon as his mother dies in hospital. However, the boy have to survive and make decision of his life.

**Arrived**

Belgium, 2017, 16’, short

Director: **Dilgesh Rojbeyani**

Refugees arriving in Belgium and locked up by their smugglers until all payments are finalised.

**Krump**

Germany, 2016, 7’, short

Director: **Johannes Ziegler**

Krump is a short documentary about the dance style “Krump” and introduces young dancers, by award winning filmmaker Johannes Ziegler. The dancers show and tell to the viewer, how they use dance, to express their deep emotions and with this, they can feel free and peaceful. In an aesthetic way, this film immerses itself into an unknown world.

**The sky is blue everywhere / Der Himmel ist überall blau**

Germany, 2016, 27’21”, short

Director: **Gina Wenzel**

When Marc is diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, he doesn’t know how and when to tell his girlfriend Sophie about it.
**Women's day / Her Zindagi**

India, 2017, 9’35”, short

Director: **Raghav Bhotika**

Akash gets his friend’s house keys to take Sonam there. They met at a house party. Both are tense, unsure if the plan will work. And here begins her zindagi, a coming of age film that takes you through the journey of a relationship between a guy and a girl.

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**All the winters I haven't seen**

Iran, 2014, 17’, short

**Omid Khoshnazar**

In New York City, a woman in the first trimester of pregnancy discovers through a long series of tests that there is a high likelihood her child will be born with severe physical defects. It turns out that she had been exposed to chemical weapons, even though she had no prior knowledge of her exposure. The doctor tells her that if she decides to abort, she will become infertile. She therefore has to choose between giving birth to a child who is likely to be severely handicapped or aborting the baby and giving up hope of ever having a child.

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**Al Sheikh Noel**

Iraq, 2017, 20’59”, short

Director: **Saad Al-Essamy**

In the land which burn by war, human looking for safety caches, Sheik Omer Abdul Rahmaan Ali lives there in an old house with his grandson nearby a camp for Christians displace. Trying to enter to the heart of the kids, it was necessary to run a lost war against the forces of darkness.

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**Dad’s fragile doll**

Iran, 2015, 15’, short

**Ali Zare GhanatNowi**

A young girl reconstructs events leading to her father’s imprisonment and execution using dolls her mother has made. The young girl takes vengeance on the prison guard puppet doll...

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**Fly**

Iraq, 2017, 3’29”, short

Director: **ABDULWAHAB SHWANI**

Peshmerga (Kurdish fighters) fought against terrorists and occupiers for ages. Sacrifices during this struggle were: buried alive, genocide and chemical attack in Halabja, but this did not lead to waiver the Kurds for civil and peaceful human struggle.

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**Smokey**

Iran, 2017, 1’50”, animation, short

**Amir Vahedi**

A couple of hen and rooster are waiting for their chick to comes out of the egg. The rooster is a smoky man and...
Tower crane
Iran, 2017, 25’11”, short
Director: Mohammadreza Rafiei
Driver of a powerful tower crane due transcendental and dominated operation involves occasional observation on his neighbour roof which there are a young woman and her disabled husband playing their pigeons. This is a beginning of an attention and mutation for him. But at the moments of occurancies and their bottleneck events, the driver, despite of his strength, is unable to do anything for them. Finally his divinity authority turned to "fixed hand" and disappointed entity. After all these changes, we consider that wheel of fortune and causes and effects chain will continue without any dependency on him, just like authority and fatherhood era.

Inversion
Iran, 2016, 0’52”, short
Director: Ario Saffarzadegan
Finding liberty, people try to fall down the dictator statue...

Zoom in
Iran, 2016, 3’55”, animation
Directors: Hamid Khalvati and Hamid Borzooey
This movie has a short look at the earth and its beauty and the way human being gains importance in between.

Fire
Iran, 2016, 1’40”, short
Director: Ario Saffarzadegan
The story is about a commander. During his speech something weird happens...

The line
Iran, 2017, 1’25”, animation
Directors: Hamid Borzooey

Full color
Iran, 2016, 0’48”, short
Director: Ario Saffarzadegan
Simple story about technology.
Red
Iran, 2015, 1’40”, short
Director: Ario Saffarzadegan
A different short story about Little Red Riding Hood.

Mother’s Embrace
Iran, 2016, 2’22”, short
Director: Sina Aubi
A child with his brother is alone at home. His brother is a newborn baby. Newborn baby starts to cry. He find a strange decision to calm his newborn brother down.

Decease at the beginning
Iran, 2017, 5’55”, short
Director: Hossein aslabdollahi
The Film story is about a captain, who, for unknown reasons, has been imprisoned for a long time. He was released from prison and came back to his ship in Urmia lake but...

War or peace
Iran, 2016, 03’50”, short
Director: Kayvan Sarvari
What is influence of war in family.

The Belief
Iran, 2015, 2’30”, short
Director: Amir Vahedi
War. A pair of soldier boots are used by an invisible man. When the boots see other fragment boots in the battlefield, they refuse to go forward. The man puts off the boots and steps forward to the front fighting with the enemy. “The Belief” is full of symbols of my county’s situation. After the war some people(boots) who were not important and useless, became important and now are in the best position and rank in government Pyramid of Power, while they didn’t cost that much.
Bellanca
Spain, 2016, 17’39”, short
Director: Víctor Nores
Close your eyes and imagine that you never get to open them back. Now imagine that time passes and your ears stop hearing sounds. How would your life change? Bellanca is the story of a very special girl who helps her father cope with the Usher Syndrome, a disease that affects both hearing and vision.

All About Emily / À Propos d’Émilie
Italy, 2016, 7’, short
Director: Valentina Casadei
A modest housekeeper keeps being bullied by an hysterical bourgeois for no apparent reason. Forced to endure these abuses in order to avoid being sent back to Cuba, she makes a discovery that will change everything.

Beyond the sea / Al di là del mare
Italy, 2016, 20’, short
Director: Fabio Schifilliti
Jamal, a young Gambian migrant, arrives in Italy on a boat, emotionally scarred by the tough travel of desperation and death (across the Mediterranean sea). He will recover his life, abruptly abandoned, on the keys of a piano which will offer him a way to reconstruct his future.

Prisonnier 9157
Canada, 2017, 29’45”, short
Directors: Emmanuelle Vandycke, André Elias
Prisonnier 9157 brings to life Dr. Boogaerts’ story as a political prisoner in a concentration camp, and his testimonies in court as a key witness of the Nazis’ crimes and experiments.

Dark blue with hints of red / Azul oscuro tirando a rojo
Spain, 2016, 1’19”, short
Director: Rubén Pascual Tardío
A girl loves the superhero films and she starts to play as a superhero in her home.

The crack / La grieta
Spain, 2016, 3’48”, animation, short
Directors: Jordi Piulachs, Lula Gómez
A child lives in a terrible routine. One day finds a way to escape, and the world will no longer be what it was.
**Below 0°**
Costa Rica, 2016, 4’54”, animation, short
Director: Itai Hagage and Jonathan Gomez

A meteorologist who narrates his experience in the Arctic through a voice recording. And how his life is linked physically and spiritually to nature.

**Doll / Lutka**
Croatia, 2017, 8’06”, short
Director: Tomislav Đurinec

The life of a beautiful woman before and after an attack which left her face scarred.

**Just, go! / Sarauj, Just!**
Latvia, 2017, 10’45”, short
Director: Pavel Gumennikov

Inspired by the incredible true story about a young man JUST (24), who lost both of his legs in a childhood accident and who is in love with the girl next door - IEVA (23).

The story begins when JUST meets IEVA on the doorstep of the house they both live in. They start a flirty conversation that is interrupted by two thieves, who rob IEVA in front of JUST.

In the blink of an eye JUST decides to follow the thieves to retrieve IEVA’S bag and conquer her heart.

**I'm Sonia / Je suis Sonia**
France, 2017, 12’20”, short
Director: Francis Wolff

The story of "Sonia", the woman who helped to stop Abdelhamid Abaaoud, the 13rd November terrorist attack author.

**Imagine / Представь**
Russian Federation, 2017, 15’, short
Director: Ilshat Rakhimov

A mullah and a priest who serve in the temples in the neighboring villages are blood brothers. Parental disagreements and personal offences have caused a divide between them. But with age they begin to question this and understand their habits need to change. Will they manage to forgive each other?

**The Shrapnel / Осколок**
Russian Federation, 2016, 04’10”, animation
Director: Dmitry Ivanov

The film is about a soldier, who was wounded at war and returned home, where his mother was waiting him.
Formers / Бывшие
Russian Federation, 2016, 15’, short
Director: Irina Bas
They are not young anymore. He suffered the heart attack. She has just recovered from diabetic coma. They haven’t seen each other for 30 years, from that very day, when their marriage came to an end. And now they have only 24 hours to answer the questions, that they still have to each other, in order to remind old grievances and understand that they still can love...

The edge / В Стороно
Russian Federation, 2016, 12’, animation
Director: Alexandra Averyanova
An elderly woman lives at a small station. There’s not a single living creature for miles away. Every day, during many years, she is making the round of the metals. The only event in the woman’s life is a train that passes her station without a stop.

Margaret
USA, 2015, 13’, short
Director: Manan Singh Katohora
After dealing with a series of extreme characters during a speed-dating event for senior citizens, an elderly woman meets a charming, exotic gentleman.

Fireplace / مدافاة
Syrian Arab Republic, 2017, 11’42”, short
Directors: Muhammad Bayazid, Samah Safi Bayazid
Inspired by true events. It is Christmas Eve in Syria, a small kid plays hide and seek with his dad and he picks the most unexpected place to hide in; the fireplace. Within few seconds a jet fighter bombards their house to the ground. The fireplace stands still, however the small kid finds himself trapped alone.

The Humble / Смиренний
Ukraine, 2017, 2’25”, short
Director: Alexander Logutov
A man in deadly danger looking for help in a deserted field.

South forest
Japan, 2017, 6’48”, animation, short
Director: Wenrui HUANG
A zoo in the Gaza Strip during the war, a girl feeding a trapped helpless living being. Suddenly there is a bombing attack.
**A Message from Aaland**
Co-production: Leage, ICRC, Finish Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross
XI-th International Festival (1985)
Won the Golden Ship Grand Prix for the best Red Cross film

**Eleonore – the forgotten queen / Елеонора - забравената царица**
Bulgaria, 2012, 30', documentary
Autor: Eliana Dimitrova
Director: Oleg Kovachev
Camera: Anna Andreeva
Production: Bulgarian National Television

**Willing Hands**
Production: Australian Red Cross
II-nd International Festival - Varna (1967)
Won the Special Prize of the League

**Surviving Cyclones / Survivre aux cyclones**
Co-production: Leage, UNESCO, WMO
VI-th International Festival - Varna (1975)
Won Gold Medal for Red Cross films
For a Child’s Smile all over the World

Co-production: Leage, Hungary, Bulgaria

VIII-th International Festival (1979)

Won the Cidalc “Leonide Moguy” Prize’s Diploma of Merit

FIRST AID / PREMIERS SECOURS

A series of four first aid training films:

External Bleeding 1&2, Immobilization of Fractures of the Lower Limbs, Action in an Emergency / Hémoragies Externes 1 Compression, Hémoragies Externes 2 Garrot, Immobilisation De Fractures Du Member Inferieur, Gestes D’urgence

Co-production: WHO, ILO, League

VII-th International Festival (1977)

Won Silver Medal for Red Cross films
**Epoch / Enoxa**
Bulgaria, 2016, 40’, documentary
Director: **Maya Vaptsarova**
A new reading of the less famous and unknown works of Nikola Yonkov Vaptsarov, which surprise with their current sound for contemporary problems. Director Maya Vaptsarova reviews the history of Bulgaria through the poet’s poems, which with wisdom respond to the past and seem to prophetically accompany us in the present.

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**Lucky / Fortunata**
Italy, 2017, 103’, Drama
Director: **Sergio Castellitto**
Script: **Margaret Mazzantini**
Cast: **Stefano Accorsi, Emanuela Aurizi, Alessandro Borgh**
The story of a young mother (Jasmine Trinca) with a failed marriage behind her, who fights daily for her dream to open a hairdressers salon, challenging her fate in an effort to free herself and gain independence and right to happiness.
Afterimage / Powidoki
Poland, 2016, 98’, Drama, Biography
Director: Andrzej Wajda
Writers: Andrzej Wajda, Andrzej Mularczyk
Cast: Boguslaw Linda, Aleksandra Justa, Bronisława Zamachowska
The story of charismatic painter Władysław Strzemiński, who opposed social realism and maintained his own artistic freedom in spite of political obstacles.

Extraordinary people / Sıradışı İnsanlar
Turkey, 2015, 45’, documentary
Director: Orhan Tekeoğlu
In the deep valleys that cross the regions to the east of the Black Sea, a group of extraordinary people maintain traditions through strong, unceasing relationships – as they carry out a series of projects from the construction of zero-impact cableways to establishing retreats that cling to the edge of a precipice. In this part of Turkey, and in their unusual ways, people and communities encounter “wild nature” between two amazing blue passages: sea and sky.
Nominations:
Mountain Film Festival Award, Antalya International Film Festival, Turkey, 2015
SUSY Sustainability Award, Terra Di Tutti Film Festival, 2016
**Voyage of Time**

USA, 2016, 90’, documentary

Director & screenwriter: *Terrence Malick*

Producers: *Dede Gardner, Nicolas Gonda, Sarah Green, Grant Hill, Brad Pitt, Bill Pohlad and Sophokles Tasioulis*

Camera: *Paul Atkins*

Editors: *Rehman Nizar Ali, Keith Fraase*

Production designer: *Jack Fisk*

*A SOPHISTICATED FILMS/WILD BUNCH/PLAN B ENT./IMAX CORP./SYCAMORE PICTURES* production

Narrator: *Cate Blanchett*

Nominations: *Venice – Competition*

In discussion of cinematic “world-building,” contemporary conversation tends to drift towards comic-book movies, the fantastical creations that populate the multiplexes, or the self-contained refractions of reality crafted by the likes of Wes Anderson and the Coen brothers. However, few American auteurs have managed to construct as singular a filmic universe as Terrence Malick. His is a world of hushed whispers and natural wonder, a cinema of poetry.

And now Malick has delivered his magnum opus, a years-in-the-making ode to the wonder of creation. The wildly ambitious Voyage of Time is every bit as epic as its name implies: Malick leads us on a temporal trip through the history of the universe. After witnessing the birth of stars and the evolution of life on Earth, we pause to wonder at the sun and planets before plunging into the inky depths of the oceans, where incandescent creatures float in the darkness.

Featuring soulful narration by Cate Blanchett, the film brings a contemplative and speculative tone to the grandeur of its subject; it sprawls across the screen with glorious images. A visual wonder and an intellectual treat, Voyage of Time continues Malick’s recent resurgence and stands among the most remarkable cinematic experiences of the year.

*Jesse Wente*
The other side of hope / *Toivon tuolla puolen*  
Finland, 2017, 98’  
Director & Script: Aki Kaurismäki  
Camera: Timo Salminen  
Cast: Sherwan Hadji, Kati Outinen, Tommi Korpela, Sakari Kuosmanen, Janne Hyytiäinen, Ilkka Koivula, Kaija Pakarinen, Nuppu Koivu, Tuomari Nurmi, Simon Hussein Al-Bazoon  
Producer: Aki Kaurismäki  
Production: Sputnik  

This film tells two stories that converge after forty minutes. The first of these features Khaled, a Syrian refugee. A stowaway on a coal freighter, he ends up in Helsinki where he applies for asylum without much hope of success. Wikström, the second main character, is a travelling salesman peddling ties and men’s shirts. Turning his back on his trade, he instead decides to put his poker face to good use at a gambling table and subsequently buys himself a restaurant in the remotest corner of Helsinki. When the authorities turn down Khaled’s application, he decides to remain in the country illegally, like so many other people who share his fate. Going underground in the Finnish capital, he lives on the streets and encounters all kinds of racism, but also some cool rock ‘n’ rollers and genuine friendship. One day Wikström discovers Khaled sleeping in the dark backyard behind his restaurant. He provides him with a bed and a job. For a while, these two band together with the restaurant’s waitress, the chef and his dog to form a utopian union – one of Aki Kaurismäki’s typical communities bound together by fate which demonstrates that the world could and should be a better place.
The happiest day in the life of Olli Mäki / HYMYILEVÄ MIES

Finland, 2016, 92’, black and white

Director: Juho Kuosmanen
Script: Mikko Myllylahti, Juho Kuosmanen
Camera: J-P Passi
Cast: Jarkko Lahti, Oona Airola, Eero Milonoff, Joanna Haartti, Esko Barquero, Elma Milonoff, Leimu Leisti, Hilma Milonoff, Olli Rahkonen, Joonas Saartamo, Henrik Palosaari, Sam-Peter Hirvikangas, Antti Naaka, Niklas Hyvärinen
Producer: Jussi Rantamäki

Summer 1962, Olli Mäki has a shot at the world championship title in featherweight boxing. From the Finnish countryside to the bright lights of Helsinki, everything has been prepared for his fame and fortune. All Olli has to do is lose weight and concentrate. But there is a problem – he has fallen in love with Raija.

“IT was 2011, and I met Olli and Raija in Kokkola. Olli has severe Alzheimer’s disease now, but he still remembers his old stories. He told me about this championship fight back in 1962, and when he ended his story by saying: “It was the happiest day of my life,” he had this smile on his face that forced me to ask incredulously “How come?” I didn’t know much about boxing myself, but it was still obvious to me that if you’re preparing for a world championship fight, you should be 100% dedicated to the fight. Then, as I started to dig deeper into Olli’s story, I realised that it was full of beautiful details and complexity which lifted it from the average into something unique. Art is in the details, I’ve heard.”

Juho Kuosmanen

AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS -
Cannes ‘16 – Un Certain Regard Award
Saint-Jean-de-Luz ‘16 – Best Film Zurich
‘16 – Golden Eye for Best International Feature Film Chicago ‘16 – Golden Hugo for Best New Director Saint Petersburg, Nachalo Festival ‘16 – Grand Prix
Summertime / *La belle saison*

France, 2015, 105’, Drama, Romance

Director: **Catherine Corsini**

Script: **Catherine Corsini, Laurette Polmanss**

Cast: Cécile De France, Izia Higelin, Noémie Lvovsky

There was little chance, in the year 1971, that Carole, a Paris Spanish teacher and feminist militant, would ever meet Delphine, the daughter of a couple of Limousin farmers. But they did meet and not only did they come across each other but they fell passionately in love as well. Unfortunately, Delphine’s father fell victim to a stroke, and the young woman had no other choice but to go back home to help her mother run the family farm. Carole, who was so smitten by Delphine, couldn’t stand the estrangement and decided to join her lover at the farm. But could feminism and lesbianism easily be transferred to the countryside and its standards of the time...?

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21 Nights with Pattie/ *Vingt et une nuits avec Pattie*

France, 2015, 115’, Comedy

Directors: **Arnaud Larrieu, Jean-Marie Larrieu**

Script: **Arnaud Larrieu (screenplay), Jean-Marie Larrieu**

Cast: Isabelle Carre, Karin Viard, Andre Dussollier

Caroline’s mother Isabelle is dead. While she stays at her mother’s house, her body disappears.
The White Knights / Les chevaliers blancs
France, 2015, 112’, Drama
Director: Joachim Lafosse
Script: Joachim Lafosse (scenario), Thomas van Zuylen
Cast: Vincent Lindon, Louise Bourgoin, Valérie Donzelli

At the head of his NGO Move For Kids, Jacques Arnault pulls some humanitarian workers in a country of Africa “to take in” orphan children. The operation is transformed in a panic.

The New Kid / Le nouveau
France, 2015, 81’, Comedy
Director: Rudi Rosenberg
Script: Igor Gotesman, Bruno Muschio
Cast: Réphaël Ghrenassia, Joshua Raccah, Géraldine Martineau

Benoit, the new kid at school, is bullied by a gang of arrogant boys. Determined not to be pushed around, Benoit organizes a big party, but only three students turn up. What if this bunch of losers was to be the best gang ever?
Stalin’s Couch /
Le divan de Staline
France, Portugal, Russia, 2016, 92’, Drama, Historical
Director: Fanny Ardant
Writers: Fanny Ardant, Jean-Daniel Baltassat (novel)
Cinematography: Renato Berta, Renaud Personnaz
Produced by: Paulo Branco
Music: Hubert Gérard
Cast: Gérard Depardieu, Emmanuelle Seigner, Paul Hamy

Set in the 1950s in Soviet Union. Centers on a young artist who is commissioned to create Stalin’s monument and must go through KGB scrutiny.
Dryland
USA, 2015, 21’46”, short
Director: Liv Prior Colliander
Reeling in the aftermath of her mother’s suicide attempt, a young swimmer works through her trauma in the water while desperately trying to break the wall of silence at home. The operation is transformed in a panic.

In the Rough / A Peine
France, 2015, 18’10”, Short
Director: Cappello Vincent
Swann and Malik were friends forever. They have only their joyous rage to conquer Paris. But Malik wants to take a shortcut. A bad skeem. Swan, aspires to a more harmonious life. Will he be dragged by friendship?

Congratulations / Mabrouk
Lebanon, 2015, 21’28”, Short
Director: Cynthia Sawma
Jacqueline and her husband Maurice win $100,000 in the Holiday edition of a televised game show. Together, they try to hide the jackpot from the Harris family, to whom they owe a large sum of money. The Harris family is spending Christmas Eve with them when the game show host shows up uninvited.

Apollo / Appolon
France, 2016, 8’, Short
Director: Henrik Ourge
Apollon is the teenager of the modern days. Hung up by the masculinity’s social pressure, he dreams to be a grown male, fantasizing a perfect body with strong muscles and a big dick.
Cinema on palm 2017
Program of awarded movies - 2017
Distributor: “Dobri Voinikov-1856 Community Centre”, Shumen City

“Cinema on palm” is the first festival in Bulgaria for films shot with cell phones. It is aimed at all independent film makers, ready to experiment with modern technologies. In 2017 was held for second time in Shumen with even greater interest from authors and public.

Main topics covered by the awarded movies in 2017 are the contemporary problems of communication. They directly relate and reflect on various aspects of our life: friendship, creative work, pursuit of self-recognition, impossible love, relation between tradition and modern life. The style of most movies is quite direct and reveals how modern people communicate, run into problems and look for solutions. The film makers do not deal with abstract existential issues but with the main questions for human existence: what it means to call someone a friend or beloved; how a persons can be good to others and what a person can do for other people.

Enjoy our award winning selection!

Bulgarian woman 2.0 by Diana Stoyanova
Police art therapy by Boris Ivanov
Snail’s sunset by Branimir Arsov
My Japan by Boris Mechkuev
Fairy tales about reality by Diko Buchukov
Grows, but does not age by Aleksandar Dimitrov
Elelika Pepelika by Magda Bozhanova
Em by Maria Mincheva
Sleepless by Kremena Pechlivanova
Glasses by Mario Georgiev
Selfie by Dalia Hristova
Hands Up by Maria Makedonska
Communication by Viktor Todorov
I’m not my wheelchair by Magdalena Petrova
Love on the butterfly wings by Binses Demir
Unnailed emotions by Ivan Petkov
Skopje: Backstage by Dimitar Stoyanov
Bicycles by Pavel Tzvetkov
Autopsy of a tango by Pavla Kotova and Theodora-Kossara Popova
**Bulgarian Red Cross - Sofia City** in partnership with **National academy for theatre and film arts** present a selection of student films on humanity.

The mission of NATFA “Kr. Sarafov” is to:

- develop as a leading modern scientific, educational, social and cultural institution offering a wide spectrum of specialities and programs with theoretical and applied as well as applied science focus in the field of stage and screen arts, theatre and film critical studies;

- train highly qualified specialists adaptable to the dynamically changing cultural and social needs; build in students the knowledge and skills that will ensure their successful professional fulfilment;

- develop students’ creative gifts, analytical and communication skills, to encourage their critical thinking and broaden their cultural horizons;

- confirm in its educational activity the principles of tolerance, dialogue, cooperation, activity and initiative.

Part of the NATFA 2017 selection is the film “Dobri” (on page 40) - part of the competition short program of 17-th International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films.

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**Butterfly children / Дети пеперуди**  
Bulgaria, 8’, documentary

**GMO / ГМО**  
Bulgaria, 30’, documentary

**Every Sunday / Всяка неделя**  
Bulgaria, 2015, 9’, documentary

**Protected house / Защитено жилище**  
Bulgaria, 2015, 15’, documentary
"Stolen Life" is the name of a Bulgarian drama series, with which NOVA takes on a new challenge, along with the production company Dream Team. The show tracks the dramatic twists and turns of the main character’s heroes taking place against the backdrop of the vibrant daily life of a big city hospital. Heroes’ stories intertwine with stress-filled cases of medical practice that create the actual frame of the plot and provoke the interest and the emotions of viewers. Young, talented and beautiful actors are partnering with well-known names, surprising twists and interesting storylines filled with love, betrayal, friendship and difficult risky decisions are the main engines of the intrigue that keeps viewers of different age groups from the first to the last episode.

As an exclusive event of the 17th International Red Cross and Health Film Festival in Varna a meeting with favorite actors from "Stolen Life" will be held and episodes from the third season of the series ("Retribution") will be shown in cinema theater.
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