

BIR DUINO

KYRGYZSTAN 2019

PROGRAM OF

XIII International Human Rights
Documentary Film Festival

The Goals of Sustainable Development and the
30th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights
of the Child

"Children's voices and participation"



CONTENT

PREFACE	4
NATIONAL FILMS	5
Ad Astra	6
Ayana	7
Childhood stolen by HIV	8
Dreams behind bars	9
Teacher	10
INTERNATIONAL FILMS	11
Bachir In Wonderland	12
Before Father Gets Back	13
Dulce	14
A Dark Place	15
Facing the Dragon	16
Girl on a Mission	17
Harbourboyz	18
Heart of Stone	19
I Am Kilian	20
It Will Be Chaos	21
Power to the Children	22
SEWA - Made In India	23
The Monsoonshow	24
The Red Couch	25
The Right To Life	26
White Mama	27
Why I Am Here	28
ADDITIONAL PROGRAMME	29
Climate change: Empowering women and children through promotion of gender equality in the KR	30
INSPIRE - Seven Strategies to End Violence Against Children	30

What is violence against children, how it could be avoided and what could be done in case it affects me or my family? - Workshop for adolescents	31
“We can do it! Art-interventions for empowerment of girls” - Joint reading and talk show	31
Children Parliaments - Workshop with Filmmaker Anne Kersting	32
Right To Health: medical services for children	32
Panel discussion Topical Issues of Justice for Children	33
Child Friendly Justice	33
Fundraising Training «Have an idea. Together for a change. Have a success»	34
Masterclass on Documentary Filmmaking	34
Kyrgyzstan’s In-country Pre-session for the 3rd Universal Periodic Review (UPR)	35
Social services in child-sensitive manner	35
Children and Austerity	36
Italk - opened site for public speaking on subject “Equal opportunities for all children of Kyrgyzstan”	36
Democracy, social justice and peace: Perspectives of the Central Asian countries. Third coordination meeting of International monitoring mission on labor rights in Central Asia	37
JURY	38
TEAM	41
PRACTICAL INFORMATION	43
Festival Locations	43
Ticket Information	47
OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS	48

PREFACE

In 2019, the International Festival of Documentary Films on Human Rights “Bir Duino-Kyrgyzstan” organized together with a network of solidarity partners is devoted to children's rights, thus joining every organization celebrating the 30th anniversary of adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 20 November 1989. Thirty years ago, the Convention recognized that children have human rights and they should be able to claim them. Almost all the countries, with the exception of one, have promised to respect, protect and promote those rights. Therefore, the Convention is one of the most far-sighted and universally accepted human rights treaties in history.

This anniversary provides an incentive for the international community, as well as national governments and CSOs to expand their efforts to ensure the prosperity of children and to reaffirm their commitment to protecting and promoting all human rights. Although notable progress has been made over the past thirty years, serious difficulties still exist, in particular in the lives of girls, children with special needs and disadvantaged children living in vulnerable situations.

Let us achieve our timeless vision of all human rights for all children: by moving closer to eradicating child poverty and increasing the chances of children to survive; ending child marriages and increasing the number of children attending schools; putting an end to the social exclusion of children and promoting their equal access to basic services; not making children keep silence, but instead allowing them to meaningfully participate in making decisions that affect their interests.

The components of the Fest-2019 will provide opportunities for equal participation to children, adults and key decision-makers to raise the most urgent issues of children's rights, security of the environment and equal access to education and services, respect for human dignity and the promotion of youth initiatives outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals, to conduct a joint analysis in order to learn the lessons of the 30 years since the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, focus on new strategies and tactics for positive change and contribution to sustainable development!

Together we are strong! Let's move together to our joint success! We are looking forward to seeing you at the Festival-2019!

NATIONAL FILMS

Every year at the Bir Duino Festival, we want to draw special attention to films from Kyrgyzstan. We are very happy to have five outstanding short documentaries as part of this years programme and also as this years competition.

The films selected address different topics that are of great relevance for Kyrgs society: two films, **AD ADSTRA** and **TEACHER** are showing the every-day school live of kids in very rural areas from different perspectives.

AYANA follows a girl that fights for her dreams in a male dominated society and actually get a lot of support from her family. **CHILDHOOD STOLEN BY HIV** shows severe problems in the health system of Kyrgyzstan and how the weakest of all - children - have to suffer the most from that. **DREAMS BEHIND BAR** brings us close to juveniles who committed crimes at an early age and have to deal with the consequences in a hard way. All films have a different approach to the protagonists and differ in visual style, so they give a good overview of the kyrgys state of the art of documentary filmmaking.





Aisha Sultanbekova
Kyrgyzstan, 2018
15 min, Kyrgyz
Subtitles: Russian, English

Main Competition
Nov. 13th - 12.00 pm
Russian Cinema

Ad Astra

A dedicated teacher and his wife Atyrkul combine householding and teaching in harsh conditions. 45 minutes of walk to school in -30 C degrees, 2 feet high snow, and lack of a bridge to cross a river are not a reason to miss school for the inhabitants of the sequestered mountain village Chatkal in Kyrgyzstan. This short documentary depicts not only the daring hardships and the daily struggle the students and teacher go through just to get to school, but also the beauty of commitment, the serene, perhaps naive happiness of the children as they find that childish fun in an unforgiving environment, and the peace that they find themselves despite all that is around them.



Aisha Sultanbekova is a graduate from American University of Central Asia in Journalism and Mass Communications Department, who by serendipity ended up directing a short film. She was born in a remote area of Kyrgyzstan in 1996 and faced most of the challenges that her film displays. Ad Astra is Aisha's first endeavor in film making that she attempted in accordance with her thesis work requirements in order to graduate.



Aidana Topchubayeva
Kyrgyzstan, 2019
20 min, Kyrgyz
Subtitles: Russian, English

Main Competition
Nov. 12th - 1.00 pm
Russian Cinema

Ayana

Nine-year-old Ayana, despite the fact that she is a girl, is preparing to become a player in the national game of athletes - Kokboru. She has a dream of becoming the first Kokboru girl-athlete in the history of the game. The support of the girl's father, the famous kokboru athlete Tilek Mukaev, and her mother makes her believe in her dream.



Aidana Topchubayeva was born in the south of Kyrgyzstan, in Osh city. She went to three different schools, all of them are named after great women. In 2014, I entered the Kyrgyz-Turkish University of Manas, at the Faculty of Journalism. This year she successfully graduated from the university. She has been working in the media company Azattyk (the local bureau of the international company "Radio Liberty") since third year in university.



Sanjar Eraliev
Kyrgyzstan, 2017
28 min, Kyrgyz
Subtitles: Russian, English

Main Competition
Nov. 13th - 10.00 am
Russian Cinema

Childhood stolen by HIV

During 2006 and 2007, 382 children were infected with HIV in hospitals due to the negligence of doctors. They all live in the cities of Osh and Jalalabad, or in the Suzak, Karasu, Nookat and Uzgen districts. The film is about the fate of those children 10 years later. Often, women and children who become HIV-positive find themselves rejected by the society. Despite the fact that government agencies and NGOs carry out outreach activities and talk about modes of HIV transmission, people with this status are often discriminated against and persecuted in society. There are especially many cases of women being under the pressure of public opinion, which sometimes may cause them to end up destitute on the street.



Sanjar Eraliev is journalist of radio Azattyk and a radio host. He has been a member of the Media Complaints Commission since 2013. He has been a journalist since 2003 and has experience of work in the print media, on radio and television. Sanjar Eraliev is a trainer in the field of preparation of content according to international standards of journalism, writing articles and news in a form accessible for the reader. He took internships and advanced training courses in various media organizations in the USA and Europe. He is the author of about 10 documentaries on human rights.



Aidana Topchubayeva

Nurlanbek uulu Aikol

Kyrgyzstan, 2019

30 min, Kyrgyz

Subtitles: Russian, English

Main Competition

Nov. 12th - 1.00 pm

Russian Cinema

Dreams behind bars

Azattyk Plus Team has made a film about the sad fate of adolescents in prison. Parents of many children, who committed a crime and were imprisoned at an early age, are divorced, or migrate for labor purposes. Therefore, their children have to be brought up by relatives. The children say if they had grown with parental love in the family, they probably would not have committed crimes. There are different children in places of detention, some of them write poems or are engaged in breeding rabbits, there are also those interested in carpentry. They dream of having a profession when they are released, some want to enter a university, compose music, others want to make money and start a business.



Aidana Topchubayeva was born in the south of Kyrgyzstan, in Osh city. She went to three different schools, all of them are named after great women. In 2014, I entered the Kyrgyz-Turkish University of Manas, at the Faculty of Journalism. This year she successfully graduated from the university. She has been working in the media company Azattyk (the local bureau of the international company “Radio Liberty”) since third year in university.



Nurlanbek uulu Aikol was born in 1996 in the city of Naryn. In 2014, he finished the secondary school named after Maten Sydykov and entered the Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. He is currently a fourth-year student at the Department of Radio, Television and Film Arts of the said University. Prior to that, he shot documentaries about people collecting gold and about the heroic woman of the village, who carried the burden of supporting her family alone. He is interested in directing films. For his thesis work, he plans to shoot a film about the life of a person who has left prison and began a new life from scratch.



Ibadylla Adzhibaev
Kyrgyzstan, 2018
24 min, Kyrgyz
Subtitles: Russian, English

Main Competition
Nov. 13th - 12.00 pm
Russian Cinema

Teacher

The documentary film “Teacher” tells us about Toktojuma Stakhanov, who lives in the distant outback of Kyrgyzstan, a small village of Ken-Suu, Jumgal district of Naryn oblast. Toktojuma Stakhanov is the only teacher there, he is also a street cleaner, stoker and watchman. The film shows his love for children, whom he teaches to be patriotic and love their motherland. Every morning, lessons begin with a hymn, and the flag of the Kyrgyz Republic flutters over the dilapidated school building. Due to lack of proper conditions, the younger generation does not seek to work and live in this place far from the center. The protagonist of the film, despite the difficult living conditions, lack of electricity, and the school not meeting the modern requirements, keeps on teaching children of a small elementary school.



Ibadylla Ajibaev was born on 17 February 1960 in the city of Sulukta, Koltso station. In 1977 he graduated from the secondary school named after Gagarin in the village of Isfana, Lailak region. During the period of 1978-1980 he served in the Soviet army (Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, GSFG). In 1981 he entered the Kyrgyz Medical Institute and graduated in 1987 with a degree in General Medicine. From 1997 until now, he has been the director of the newspaper “Be Healthy!”. From 2015 to 2017 he was a student of Temir Birnazarov’s workshop. "Tazar" film company.

INTERNATIONAL FILMS

At the Bir Duino International Human Rights Documentary Filmfestival we show films from more than 10 different countries - so we can call this indeed an international Film Festival. As this year's festival is dedicated to the Rights of the Child, the films selected for the competition show the living realities of children around the globe - there is **DULCE**, a girl in Colombia for who the urge to learn how to swim gets more than just a game. Or Miruna from Rumania, the **GIRL ON A MISSION** who fights for her right to get proper education. We also get to know Iman and Eva, two girls in Georgia who experiment with filmmaking in their remote village, in **BEFORE FATHER GET BACK**. The long-term observational documentary **HEART OF STONE** tells the story of Ghorban from Afghanistan, who came to France as a refugee when he was just 12 years old. That children can also influence on a political level is shown by **POWER TO THE CHILDREN**, a feature-length movies that portraits different Children's Parliaments in India. The programme is an interesting mixture of feature-length and short films, and we are very happy to welcome the filmmakers of many movies to Bishkek during the Festival, so the audience can get an answer to all their questions regarding the films and protagonists first hand.





Els Duran, Evelien Vehof
The Netherlands, 2017
16 min, Arabic, Spanish
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Main Competition
Nov. 14 - 9.00 am
Russian Cinema

Bachir In Wonderland

Few of the stateless people in the refugee camp where Bashir's West Saharan family has been living for generations are able to travel across the border. The days in the camp are interminable, especially in the summer when there is no school. For Bashir, a holiday in the care of a Spanish family is a dream come true. Escalators, traffic lights, high-rises – all this is new for him in the heart of bustling Barcelona. Even his first visit to the dentist is an exciting experience. Will his wish to swim in the sea also come true?



Els Duran (1981) owns a degree in Social Anthropology and works as a freelance journalist & researcher. Stories about migration, identities, human rights and food cultures have her special attention. Since 2011 Els has been working on the issue of stateless, together with co-director Evelien. They travelled the world to collect stories of stateless people and published in various (inter)national newspapers and magazines.



Evelien Vehof (1982) first studied Social Cultural Work in Nijmegen before finishing her masters in Journalism at Leiden University. She has worked with street children in Ghana and refugee children in the Netherlands and is an experienced researcher and reporter for Dutch public television. In 2017 Evelien and Els got the chance to develop a youth documentary as part of a series 'JustKids' on children's rights. 'Bachir in Wonderland' is Els & Evelien's first documentary film.



Gulbiani Mari
Georgia/France/Germany, 2018
75 min, Georgian
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Main Competition
Nov. 14 - 9.00 am
Russian Cinema

Before Father Gets Back

In a darkened classroom, the white cracked walls serve as a movie screen. We are in a remote mountain village of Georgia. The light from the projector breaks the darkness: the kids' first cinematic experience is about to begin. Among them are Iman and Eva, two Muslim girls for whom the experience becomes a turning point and inspires them to take the camera and start filming their daily lives. The girls are growing up in a valley infested by radicalism, where most people are living in constant fear of their relatives sacrificing their lives in the name of God.



Mari Gulbiani is a Georgian film director and screenplay writer. She graduated from arisian film school 'Ateliers Varan' in 2010 and has since then worked as a documentary film director. In 2007, she founded the producing company Midifilm. From 2013, she worked for the 'Documentary Monday' project of Noosfera Foundation and in the program department of the documentary film festival CineDoc Tbilisi. She also worked for CineDoc Young as a section coordinator. In 2012, she coordinated the EFA Young Audience Award in Tbilisi.



Angello Faccini,

Guille Isa

Colombia/USA, 2018

10 min, Spanish, English

Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Main Competition

Nov. 15th - 10.00 am

Russian Cinema

Dulce

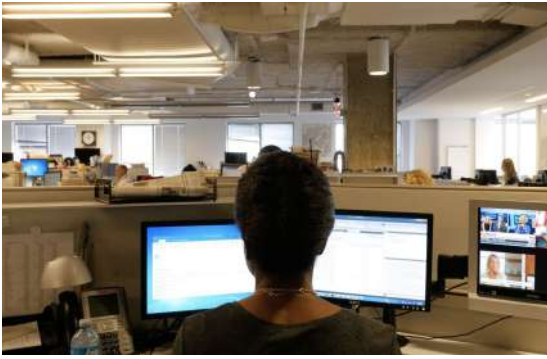
On Colombia's Pacific Coast, a mother teaches her daughter how to swim. It is an essential skill in this remote region, where livelihoods are made on the sea and where rising tides, made worse by climate change, have swept entire villages away in recent years. The girl, named Dulce, learns to overcome her fears and join the community of women who harvest the mangrove cockle, or piangua, for a living. It is a coming-of-age process that helps her understand both her cultural and natural surroundings, from the mud of the mangrove swamps to the powerful tides.



Guille Isa, director and production designer based in Lima. His short documentaries have played at Hot Docs, Big Sky, Atlanta, Riverrun, Sidewalk, Barcelona, Amsterdam, and other film festivals. As a production designer, his credits include *The Debt* (2015) and the Peruvian films *Las Malas Intenciones* (2011) and *Los Condenados* (2009).



Angello Faccini, director/ cinematographer based in Barcelona. Born in Bogotá, Colombia, he studied filmmaking at ESCAC, Barcelona. His credits include *Lina* (2016), winner of a Young Directors Award at Cannes and Best Direction Award at the Malaga Film Festival, and *After the Winter* (2013), which premiered at the 66th Cannes Film Festival and was selected for more than 20 international film festivals.



Javier Luque
Austria, Finland, Russia, Serbia,
Spain, Turkey, UK, USA, 2018
57 min, English
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Special Screening
Nov. 14th - 4.30 pm
Russian Cinema

A Dark Place

The online safety of women journalists goes beyond gender equality and press freedom, directly impacting the quality of our democracies and right of society to access a plurality of information. This simple truth unfolds in **A Dark Place** through first-hand experiences shared by those journalists targeted with online abuse and experts in the fields of human rights, gender and media freedom worldwide. This film is produced by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). After the film, a panel discussion will be held.



This is **Javier Luque's** third documentary. He holds a master's degree in International Journalism (Cardiff University) and a bachelor's degree in journalism and psychology. Prior to joining IPI, he worked as a foreign correspondent in Los Angeles, covering the National Basketball Association (NBA) for several online publications and over 40 TV channels across the United States and Latin America. He also previously worked as a crime reporter for Cadena SER, the main nationwide radio station in Spain.



Sedika Mojadidi
Afghanistan, 2018
80 min, Dari, English
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Special Screening
Nov. 15th - 12.00 pm
Russian Cinema

Facing the Dragon

Filmed over four years, filmmaker Sedika Mojadidi, intimately follows two extraordinary Afghan women, Nilofar, a member of parliament and Shakila, a television journalist. As American forces and aid leave Afghanistan, the country's fragile democracy and the recent gains for women hang in the balance, forcing Nilofar and Shakila to choose between motherhood and ambition amidst rising threats to their lives and families.



Award winning, independent filmmaker, producer, and writer, **Sedika Mojadidi** directed her first feature documentary, *Motherland Afghanistan* for PBS' *Independent Lens* in 2006. She has produced and filmed television projects for over a decade. Her writing was featured in the anthology of Afghan American writing. She has traveled and filmed throughout Afghanistan since 2003 and speaks Farsi fluently. Sedika was born in Kabul, Afghanistan and grew up in Florida. She is currently professor of film and television at the Savannah College of Art and Design.



**Heleen D'Haens,
Eva van Barneveld**
The Netherlands, 2017
16 min, Rumanian
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

**Main Competition
Nov. 15th - 10.00 am
Russian Cinema**

Girl on a Mission

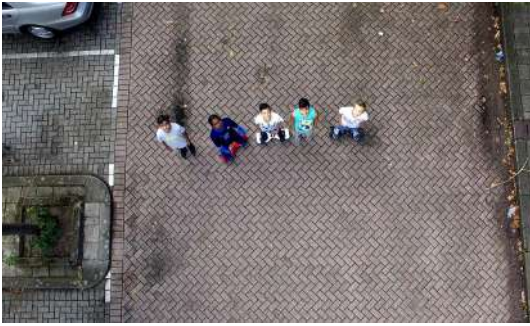
While the admission tests at the police academy will be far from easy, Miruna is determined to succeed and escape the socially excluded environment where she lives. Opportunities for quiet time to study in a home with 12 siblings may be scarce, but she is diligently trying to improve her grades. The only downside to her dream of the police academy is the knowledge that she will have less time to spend with her siblings, to whom she devotes herself every day.



Eva van Barneveld is a documentary filmmaker and researcher. She studied Sociology and Journalism at the University of Amsterdam. She works as a freelance researcher for children's television and human interest programs and makes (youth) documentaries. *Renildo & Vanildo*, in co-direction with Heleen D'Haens, is her third documentary. Currently, she is working on a filmplan for a longer documentary for an adult audience.



Heleen D'Haens (1992) is a journalist and documentary filmmaker. She studied linguistics at KU Leuven (Belgium) and Journalism at the University of Amsterdam (Netherlands). Currently, she combines her job as a foreign editor at Dutch public broadcaster NOS with making children's documentaries. *Renildo & Vanildo*, in co-direction with Eva van Barneveld, is her third documentary.



Mirjam Marks
The Netherlands, 2018
16 min, Dutch
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Main Competition
Nov 14th - 11.30 am
Russian Cinema

Harbourboyz

Max, Emre, Jash, David and Hilson. Five friends from school, all born in the Netherlands, but each with different origins; Turkish, Surinamese, Syrian, Chinese and Dutch. For the close-knit group of friends, these differences do not matter, their daily environment is the same. They live at Heijlplaat, a working-class district hidden in the immense port area of Rotterdam, literally between the sea containers and the huge ships. Here they spend all their free time. There is not much to do and this makes their friendship extra important.



After graduating from Theatre Studies, **Mirjam Marks** started working at VPRO Youth Television. Because of her experience in research and production, she specialised in content creation for youth series and documentaries. She visited Suriname for a project and immediately fell in love with the country, so she stayed for six years. There she made several documentaries for Dutch television, initiated several workshops for kids and founded the children's museum Villa Zapakara, which recently celebrated its 8th birthday. When she moved back to the Netherlands she continued her work as a documentary maker and since 2014 she joined Cinekid media festival as Head of Television.



Claire Billet, Olivier Jobard
France, 2019
89 min, French, Afghan, Dari
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Main Competition
Nov. 14th - 2.00 pm
Russian Cinema

Heart of Stone

Ghorban reached France alone in 2010 when he was 12 years old. He had travelled over 12,000 km from Afghanistan, experiencing the terror and dangers of clandestine migration. He was taken into the care of the child welfare services, and his social workers addressed him to a psychologist. He had to tame nightmares caused by abandon and poverty as well as deal with his teenager's questionings. The filmmakers have followed his quest for a new life over 8 years, until he enters adulthood.



After graduating with a Master's degree in journalism, **Claire Billet** moved to Pakistan and Afghanistan, where she lived for 6 years. Covering the conflict, she realized the News narrative was too manichean, too fast for her to reveal the complexities of a conflict. She engaged in documentary filmmaking to shed light on the dismal consequences of war.



After graduating from Louis Lumière School of Photography, **Olivier Jobard** joined Sipa Press agency for 15 years, covering conflicts around the world. In 2000, he travelled to Sangatte, a French camp for illegal migrants, where he met people who fled the same wars. Overwhelmed by their long-term consequences, he chose to dedicate his work on migration issues. Today, his work revolves around the second part of the migrants' journey: integration in their host country.



Bernadette Hauke
Germany, 2018
25 min, German
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Main Competition
Nov. 13th - 2.00 pm
Russian Cinema

I Am Kilian

Being completely in the moment, here and now, acting in a spontaneous and impulsive way, these are some of Kilian's characteristics. He was born with Trisomie 21 (Down's Syndrome). That means Kilian doesn't just look different, he also has a different way of thinking and feeling than other children. There are many things Kilian can do - he just does them in a different, more intensive way. For a long time Kilian has been dreaming of assisting his favourite clowns Gensi and Chistirrin at Circus Roncalli. When he finally gets the opportunity to do so, he goes on an emotional roller coaster ride between over-boarding enthusiasm and the big worry of "Will I be able to make it?"



Bernadette Hauke studied Economics and Dietetics at the University of Bonn/Germany. She then worked as an assistant director and researcher for the department of science at the Western German Broadcasting Cologne. Since more than 10 years, she is now working as an independent author and director.



Lorena Luciano, Filippo Piscopo

USA, 2018

90 min, English, Arabic,

Italian, Tigrigna

Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Special Screening

Nov. 12th - 4.00 pm

Russian Cinema

It Will Be Chaos

Set against the backdrop of the worst European migrant crisis since WWII, **It Will Be Chaos** unfolds between Italy and the Balkan corridor. Five-years in the making, the film features two refugee stories of human strength while capturing in real time the escalating tension between newcomers and locals. The cinema verite documentary intertwines the harrowing journey of Aregai, an Eritrean shipwreck survivor fleeing his country's dictatorship, with the story of Wael, embarking on a life-threatening trip to bring his Syrian wife and four kids to safety in Germany.



A passionate filmmaker with a Law degree, **Lorena Luciano** tells unforgettable stories from a ground-level angle.. Her films focus on social justice, human rights, the environment, as well as on the arts, and she is the recipient of several prestigious artist grants from the MacArthur Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts et al. Her documentaries, winners of numerous awards, have been screened and distributed internationally.



As a director, producer, and cinematographer, **Filippo Piscopo** intersects his true passion for storytelling with impactful camerawork. Inspired by content that resonates with diverse audiences, Filippo has crafted engaging stories with universal implications that were featured at international film events such as the Venice Film Festival, the IDFA's Central Pitch, and the IFP Market's Spotlight on Documentaries.



Anna Kersting
Germany, 2017, 86 min
Tamil, English, Hindu
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Main Competition
Nov. 12th - 10.00 am
Russian Cinema

Power to the Children

Children in India have taken their lives into their own hands. They don't want to tolerate social grievances as well as environmental pollution any longer. They have been founding children parliaments and electing their own ministers in order to stand up for their rights. They are not only changing their own lives for the better, but also those of their communities. The film takes the perspective of the children to tell us about the challenges they have to face in a society that expects them to follow the example of adults. We will see how these children have opted to take a new path – with determination, courage and creativity.



Anna Kersting studied journalism and dramatics at Freie Universität Berlin and film direction at the DFFb, German Film- and TV Akademie Berlin. Today, she is a freelance author, director and producer, based in Berlin, Germany.



Patricia Plattner

Germany, 1999

91 min

French, German, English
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Special Screening

Nov. 14th - 6.00pm

**House of Cinema named
after Ch. Aitmatov**

SEWA - Made In India

This powerful documentary is a portrait of SEWA, the now-famous women's organization in India that holds to the simple yet radical belief that poor women need organizing, not welfare. SEWA, or the Self-Employed Women's Association, corresponds to the Indian word *sewa*, meaning service. Based in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad, a dusty old textile town on the edge of the Gujarati desert, SEWA is at its core a trade union for the self-employed. It offers union membership to the illiterate women who sell vegetables for 50 cents a day in the city markets, or who pick up paper scraps for recycling from the streets--jobs that most Indian men don't consider real work.



Patricia Plattner, a progressive filmmaker, creator and director of a small film company Light Night in Geneva's Carugé. She has authored several documentaries about the fate of people who want to change their lives for the better. She was a warm, generous and very humane person. Full of creative energy, inspiring others, but at the same time remained a simple and purposeful person. Patricia died on September 5, 2016 after a long battle against cancer.



**Annelies Kruk, Anneke de Lind
van Wijngaarden**

The Netherlands, 2017, 16 min

Hindi

Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

**Main Competition
Nov. 13th - 2.00 pm
Russian Cinema**

The Monsoonshow

Kunál is also blind, but it does not prevent him from joining the singing competition organized by the School for the Blind. He and his classmate make sure they will win. His beloved grandmother has always given him courage and taught him not to believe the Indian superstition that a blind man is born because of transgressions in a previous life. Thanks to her, Kunál believes that despite his disability he can do anything he sets his mind to.



Annelies Kruk has been studying Cultural education at the University of Utrecht and directing and photography at the Media academy in Hilversum, The Netherlands. She also took part in the IDFA Documentary workshop 2009. From 2001 she has worked at NCRV television, children's department, where she has made small portraits of children. In 2004 she filmed her first children's documentary NIMA which ended at the 3th (public-award) place at IDFA. Since then she has made various documentaries and won several prizes at festivals around the world.



Ela Kinowska
Canada/Poland, 2019, 52 min
English, French, Polish
Subtitles: Russian, Kyrgyz

Special Screening
Nov. 15th - 2.30 pm
Russian Cinema

The Red Couch

To celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary, two Polish- Canadians, Ela Kinowska and Peter Sobierajski travel across Canada with a red couch and collect testimonies about Canada. Their 30 000 km journey builds a collective portrait of Canada, its people and their land. Stories from the red couch are not always glorious, there is pain they hear from indigenous people. The documentary captures the spirit of Ela's and Peter's journey as they re-discover their new homeland.



Ela Kinowska is a photographer, a film producer and a culture animator with polish roots, currently living in Ottawa (Canada), Sopot (Poland) and Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan). She dedicated her life to film, social photography and culture. She produced various documentary films addressing the topic of national identity, *The Red Couch* is her debut as a director. Since 2018, Ela also manages the Education.Culture.Arts (Edukacja.Kultura.Sztuka) in Poland, she continues to work on projects addressing social issues focussing on arts and culture.



Khalid Omarov
Russia, 2019
16min, Russian
Subtitles: English, Kyrgyz

Main competition
Nov. 13th - 10.00 am
Russian Cinema

The Right To Life

Children with various diseases cannot receive the medicines that are vital for them. Their parents have to persistently visit medical institutions and officials trying hard to receive the medical treatment provided by the law. However, it takes a lot of effort to make the state fulfill its obligations. People get sick. They die, unable to find a way out of the situation. The Patient Monitor advocacy organization protects the rights of patients to free quality medicine, which gives them a chance to get justice.



Khalid (Arthur) Shirvanievich Omarov was born on 21 June 1985, in the provincial village of Duchi, Novolaksky District in Dagestan. He finished school there, then continued his education in the capital of the republic. At the same time, he began to engage in journalistic activities, write articles and make photo stories, and later shoot videos for the world media resources. Since 2014, he has been engaged in human rights activities. He prepared materials for human rights portals and resources. In 2017 he started the organization Patient Monitor with like-minded people, in the framework of which he works to protect the rights of patients.



Zosya Rodkevich

Eugeniya Ostanina

Russia, 2018

97 min, Russian

Subtitles: English, Kyrgyz

Main Competition

Nov. 13th - 4.00 pm

Russian Cinema

White Mama

Alina Makarova is a mother of six biological children and one adopted. Her ex-husband is from Ethiopia, this is why all her own children are of mixed origin. Only her adopted son is white, but he is psychologically unstable. Alina's older children realize what complications the adoption might bring and are afraid that there won't be enough room, time and love for everyone. But she convinces them that it's the right thing. The new boy really turns their life into trouble. Alina shows miraculous patience and pedagogical talents. Her children become her allies in raising the new son. This film is an epic panorama of a fight for love, an ode to motherhood.



Zosya Rodkevich was born in Moscow where she graduated from Marina Razbezhkina's School of Documentary Filmmaking. She was acclaimed for her documentary "Winter Go Away" (2012). Zosya's first full-length film "My Friend Boris Nemtsov" (2016) was named Best Documentary at the Krakow Film Festival.



Eugeniya Ostanina graduated from Rostov University, where she received PhD and lectured Philosophy afterwards. Later participated as an editor in several famous Russian documentary projects, including The Term (2014), Kiev/Moscow (2015), How Big Is the Galaxy? (2018) as well as the web documentary project Reality (2013). White Mama is her full-length directorial debut.



Mieko Azuma,
Susanne Mi-Son Quester
Germany, 2018,
65 min, German
Subtitles:, Kyrgyz, Russian

Main Competition
Nov. 14th - 11.30 am
Russian Cinema

Why I Am Here

This is the story of five people, who as children were forced to leave their home and moved to a new life in a foreign country. Ahmad, a boy from Syria left from Arab War, Lena, the girl from Japan left from nuclear radiation in Fukushima, Leila, the young woman from Bosnia left from Balkan war, Cacau, the young football player from Brazil left from poverty, and Ms Schiller from East Prussia left from 2nd World-War to start a new life in peace and safety. They share their stories, visualized by animated sequences.



Mieko Azuma graduated from Kanazawa Art Academy. In 2000. She then enrolled at the University of Television and Film Munich for documentary filmmaking. Her films have been awarded with the Munich Starter film prize and the DAAD award. The latest film August, was awarded at the FID Marseille and nominated for the “First Steps Award 2011”. Since 2011 she works as a freelance filmmaker.



Susanne Mi-Son Quester was born in Germany, in 1979, to a Korean mother and a German father. After professional training as a cellist, she studied documentary filmmaking at the University for Television and Film (HFF) in Munich. With a grant from German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), she spent 2004/05 at the Korean National University of Arts (KNUA) in Seoul, South Korea. Since 2006, she has worked as an author, filmmaker and curator of film programs.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMME

Additional events, such as seminars, discussions, Italk, talk show trainings on pressing issues of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, will be held as part of the XIII International Festival of Documentary Films on Human Rights “Bir Duino-Kyrgyzstan”.

In 2019, it is planned to conduct 14 seminars covering the discussion of climate change issues, its impact on empowering women and children through promotion of gender equality, child-friendly justice and access to medical and social services, the possibility of developing children's parliaments and youth initiatives. This year, innovative events will be held, such as Italk - an open platform for public speaking about equal opportunities for all children, Art intervention (talk show) - reading the comic book “Kalys” about ala-kachuu, followed by discussions between girls and famous people and politicians.

These seminars will be organized and conducted in cooperation with partner organizations, with the participation of well-known foreign and regional experts under the patronage of national and international partners. As a result, participants will develop a package of recommendations and action plans to be presented at the closing ceremony of the festival and sent to the authorities of the Kyrgyz Republic, the international community, CSOs and the local community. A detailed program of ongoing activities will be provided.



November 11th
02.00 pm - 05.00 pm
Evropa Hotel

Free entry, please register via
birduinokyrgyzstan@gmail.com

Climate change: Empowering women and children though promotion of gender equality in the KR

Following the study of the VFL 2019 Program, to date, in Kyrgyzstan there is a problem of gender imbalance. This is appearing during the process of decision making by key persons, as well as by the disparity between the government and local population. Parts of the population remain in dangerous environment. These threats cause the certain risks that effects the most vulnerable such as women and children. Threats and risks are related to natural disasters which include floods, mudslides, uranium tailings and others.



November 12th
9.30 am - 12.30 pm
Hotel Bridges - Conference Room

By invitation only

INSPIRE - Seven Strategies to End Violence Against Children

Participants will learn the practice for application of INSPIRE, as well as a set of strategies on child abuse prevention and elimination of the negative effects in cases when the violence cannot be prevented, developed by the partnership of the international organizations initiated by WHO. The set includes seven strategies: Adoption of regulations and their enforcement; Norms and values; Creation of the safety environment; Provision of support for parents and caregivers; Increase of income and improvement of the economic situation; Response and assistance; Training and development of life skills.



November 12th
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Hotel Bridges - Conference Room

By invitation only

What is violence against children, how it could be avoided and what could be done in case if affects me or my family? - *Workshop for adolescents*

Within the frame of this workshop, participants, children from 12 to 16 year old, will cover the following issues: What the violence against children means and what types of violence exist? What is ill-treatment (including severe forms of punishment), bullying, sexual violence, violence among young people, violence from romantic partner and emotional violence. What the consequences of violence? Why it is important to speak about this? How not to become a victim of violence; How not to become an author of violence; Where and how the help can be requested.



November 12th
2.00 pm - 4.30 pm
Kyrgyz National Museum of Fine
Arts named after G. Aitiev

Free entry, please register via
birduinokyrghyzstan@gmail.com

“We can do it! Art-interventions for empowerment of girls” - Joint reading and talk show

WE CAN DO IT! Art-interventions for empowerment of girls. Joint reading and talk show. Reading of comic book about ala-kachuu “Kalys” with discussion, when the adult – politicians and activists – answer to the questions of children. After discussion the art-master-classes for children will be held with participation of psychologist and artist. Age: 14+. The Workshop will be conducted by Altyn Kapalova



November 12th
2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
13th School

In english language
by invitation only

Children Parliaments - Workshop with Filmmaker Anne Kersting

Political self-determination of children and adolescent still remains unresolved. Some children from India solve this issue through creation of children's parliament for joint impact on local politics. In collaboration with the filmmaker Anna Kersting, who told about those children's parliaments in her documentary film "Power for children", and one of the representatives of children's parliament Gnanasekar, the teachers will elaborate methods and tools needed for discussion of these subjects in their classes.

SIGRID RAUSING TRUST



November 13th
I.K. Akhunbaev Kyrgyz State
Medical Academy
10.00 am - 12.00 pm

Free entry, please register via
birduinokyrghyzstan@gmail.com

Right To Health: medical services for children

One of the main mechanisms for realization of right of children to health is access to medical services and creation of conditions for healthy and full development of child in education system, where health protection of child means preventive health care. Unfortunately, due to uncoordinated actions of education and health authorities, "school medicine" is not developed in the KR. Therefore, the workshop is aimed at elaboration of recommendations on protection of rights of children to health and medical services.



November 13th
10.00 am - 1.00 pm
Hotel Bridges - Conference Room

Free entry, please register via
birduinokyrrgyzstan@gmail.com

Panel discussion Topical Issues of Justice for Children

International standards clearly state what rights and obligations children have, especially children in conflict with the law. HOWEVER, in practice, not all states fully comply with and ensure the implementation of international standards; national legislation does not always comply with international law. This panel discussion will be devoted to current problems and issues of juvenile justice in Kyrgyzstan.



November 13th
2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Hotel Bridges - Conference Room

Free entry, please register via
birduinokyrrgyzstan@gmail.com

Child Friendly Justice

A seminar for students of Kyrgyz State Law Academy on conducting child-friendly trials. The trainers will be the judges of specialized juvenile courts of Kazakhstan and a representative of the Academy of Justice of the Supreme Court of Kazakhstan. This workshop will raise important and relevant juvenile justice issues. It is important that children in the penal system receive age-appropriate and proper treatment.

November 13th
9.00 am-6.00 pm
Conference Hall, Foundation Soros-Kyrgyzstan

Free entry, please register via
birduinokyrrgyzstan@gmail.com

Fundraising Training «Have an idea. Together for a change. Have a success»

If your NGO is like most in Kyrgyzstan and around the world, you probably face chronic funding shortages, long periods without funding, lack of financial predictability – and because of that, a lot of stress, worry and frustration. This is especially true if your financial strategy depends exclusively on grants. In this seminar, we will explore how NGOs in Kyrgyzstan can rethink their financial strategy and become more secure, stable, flexible and autonomous. We will discuss how to mobilize resources right at home, either by providing services for a fee, or by asking the public to become our partners and donate, or through a variety of mechanisms beyond grants.



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

**Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC**

November 14th
9.30 am - 12.00 pm
American University of Central Asia
Room 220

In russian language
Free entry, please register via
birduinokyrrgyzstan@gmail.com

Masterclass on Documentary Filmmaking

Filmmakers-documentarians Zosya Rodkevich and Evgeniya Ostanina will share their experience on producing recent documentary film “White Mother”, as well as their joint work on this film, which was a challenge for both of them. The film creates unique and very tight connection with the main characters not only because protagonists got camera but also because of stressful time presented in the film, when they share a little space with the family.



November 14th
10.00am - 12.00pm
EVROPA Hotel, conference hall «Congress»

Free entry, please register via
birduinokrgyzstan@gmail.com

Kyrgyzstan’s In-country Pre-session for the 3rd Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

Human rights movement “Bir Duino Kyrgyzstan”, the Regional Office of the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights for Central Asia, the Office of the Ombudsman of the Kyrgyz Republic, the National Preventive Mechanism of the Kyrgyz Republic and UPR Info will conduct a Kyrgyzstan’s In-country Pre-session for the 3rd Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The objective of the In-country Pre-session is to provide a national platform for civil society to inform the resident diplomatic community on pressing human rights issues ahead of Kyrgyzstan’s Universal Periodic Review which will take place in January 2020 in Geneva.



Rule of Law



November 14th
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Ministry of Labor and Social
Development of the Kyrgyz Republic

Free entry, please register via
birduinokrgyzstan@gmail.com

Social services in child-sensitive manner

The laboratory will enhance the development of the dialogue between residents of new settlements of Bishkek city and Ministry of Labor and Social Development, aimed at elimination of barriers to access of the families with children in difficult life situation to the allowances for the low-income families “Ui-builogo komok”, as well as provision of access to the state social services. Most of people residing in new settlements are the internal migrants who face variety of social-economic difficulties and problems. The government should be aware of needs of such category people and work on them.



November 15th
9.30 am - 12.00 pm
Ministry of Economy of the KR

by invitation only

Children and Austerity

Practical laboratory for development of recommendations to solve the issues of children's rights in real conditions of the country. The laboratory will be aimed at collecting and summarizing proposals and recommendations from all interested parties for submission to LPR. Participants of the event will have an opportunity to bring their own contribution to solve the issues of children's rights in real conditions of the country.



November 15th
3.00 pm - 5.30 pm
Plaza Hotel

Free entry, please register via
birduinokyrghyzstan@gmail.com

Italk - opened site for public speaking on subject **“Equal opportunities for all children of Kyrgyzstan”**

An open public site will be organized by Coalition for Equality and IDEA Central Asia to discuss the equal opportunities for children of Kyrgyzstan by the female and male representatives of Coalition. Female and male speakers of the event will cover the importance of principles on non-discrimination, justice, equality and access to opportunities in the context of rights and perspectives for children. The clue topics for discussion will be focused on necessity to protect children from discrimination with different and intersecting identities.

**FRIEDRICH
EBERT
STIFTUNG**

Kyrgyzstan



November 15th
9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Plaza Hotel - Conference Room

by invitation only

Democracy, social justice and peace: Perspectives of the Central Asian countries. *Third coordination meeting of International monitoring mission on labor rights in Central Asia*

Establishment of International Monitoring Mission on Labor Rights was a response to increase of repressions against trade unions and civil society. The meeting will be focused on fundamental labor rights and standards of MoLSD, their interaction and interdependency. The issues of promotion of gender equality, non-discrimination, child labor and forced labor will be raised. Participants will share their experience on realization of the right to Freedom of association, establishment of democratic organizations of working people and realization of the right to collective negotiations.

Tereza Králová



She is a Prague-based Festival Coordinator, who has been working for One World in Schools since 2009, for the past two years she has been in charge of school screenings at the One World festival. Over the years she has also worked for other film festivals, such as IDFF Jihlava. This year she became part of the team of another non-profit that strives against sexual violence in the Czech Republic.

Ela Kinowska



She is a photographer, a film producer and a culture animator with polish roots, currently living in Ottawa (Canada), Sopot (Poland) and Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan). She dedicated her life to film, social photography and culture. She produced various documentary films addressing the topic of national identity. Since 2018, Ela also manages the Education.Culture.Arts (Edukacja.Kultura.Sztuka) in Poland, she continues to work on projects addressing social issues focussing on arts and culture.

Almut Rochowanski



She has worked with activists in the former Soviet Union for 15 years, in Russia's North Caucasus region, Ukraine, Central Asia and most recently Moldova. She helps activists build movements, strengthen their organizations, mobilize resources, stay safe and link to regional and global networks. The greater part of Almut's work focuses on women's and girls' rights, building feminist networks, empowering the next generation of activists and supporting women activists in conflict and post-conflict regions.

Valentina Galich



Valentina Galich has 9 years of work experience in the area of development of freedom of speech and human rights with such organizations as Spravedlivost (“Justice”), Front Line Defenders and the UNDP Peace and Development Program in Kyrgyzstan. During the past 4 years, Valentina Galich has been working with Internews in the Kyrgyz Republic in areas related to the development of the online media component, access to information, and improvement of the legislative media environment. She previously worked as a media expert at the UNESCO Almaty Cluster Office in the area of improving access to information in remote regions of Kyrgyzstan through the development of community media.

Ruben Kazaryan



Born in 1968 in the Kazakh SSR, Alma-Ata. In 1995 he graduated from the Kazakh State University named after Al-Farabi, the faculty of "Journalism". He passed various trainings for journalists through the UN. Over 20 years working in the creation of copyright, social, educational films and videos. Member and laureate of International and Republican Film and Television Festivals. He came up with and implements the social long-term television project "RIGHT TO PLACE IN THE SUN." The television project consists of a series of films relating to the life of society. To date, more than 30 films have been created. The project involves changing the relationship between people for the better.

Stambulbek Mambetaliev



He is a cameraman, documentary filmmaker and winner of (inter)national festivals. He graduated from Manas Kyrgyz-Turkish University with a B.A. in Radio, TV and Film Arts as well as M.A. in Journalism. Since 2004, he has been working at Manas University in the Department of Radio, TV and Film Arts and has been a member of the Union of Cinematographers of Kyrgyzstan for nine years. In 2016, in honor of the 75th anniversary of Kyrgyz cinema, he was awarded the badge "Excellent Worker of Cinematography of the Kyrgyz Republic".

Chingiz Narynov



He is a director of documentary and feature films. He shot his first documentary in 2002, at the age of 16. In 2010, with a team of like-minded people, he founded the Citylab Production Studio, which produces feature films and documentaries, commercials and social videos. Prizewinner and participant in international film festivals such as DokumentART (Germany), ArtDocFest (Russia) and IDFA (Netherlands). From 2015 to 2019 he was involved in production of the film "After the Rain" - a full-length feature debut.

TEAM



Tolekan Ismailova
Festival Director



Raihan Abdramova
Festival Executive Director



Lira Asylbek



Aydena Samsakova



Aida Baijumanova



Jyldyz Abdyllaeva



Irina Kirillina



Erzhan Kayipov






Polina Shliakhina



Florina Vilgertshofer

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Festival Locations

<p>DAMAS International Hotel Jumabek, 107 https://go.2gis.com/ji9e5</p>	
<p>Dostuk Hotel Frunze, 429B https://go.2gis.com/dg2xb</p>	
<p>Russia Cinema Chui Avenue, 213 https://go.2gis.com/ga3rb</p>	

<p>House of Cinema named after Ch. Aitmatov Logvinenko, 13 https://go.2gis.com/13urza</p>	
<p>Evropa Hotel Ibraimova, 70 https://go.2gis.com/m30v5</p>	
<p>Hotel Bridges Akieva Kalyka Street, 10 https://go.2gis.com/0loy5</p>	
<p>Foundation Soros-Kyrgyzstan Logvinenko, 55a https://go.2gis.com/hnk72</p>	

<p>13th School 174 Moskovskaya Str. https://go.2gis.com/m6wwv3</p>	
<p>I.K. Akhunbaev Kyrgyz State Medical Academy 92 Akhunbayev St https://go.2gis.com/jpdlq</p>	
<p>Plaza Hotel Togoloka Moldo, 52 https://go.2gis.com/re9xu</p>	
<p>Ministry of Labor and Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic 215 Tynystanov Str. https://go.2gis.com/onsxp</p>	

<p>Ministry of Economy of the KR 106 Chui Avenue https://go.2gis.com/ifkx7</p>	
<p>American University of Central Asia Токомбаева, 7/6 https://go.2gis.com/ma7qs</p>	
<p>Museum of Fine Arts 196 Abdrahmanov Str. https://go.2gis.com/wc4n2</p>	

Ticket Information

All festival events are **free of charge** and **open to the public** if not indicated otherwise. For the workshops, registration is required.



We would like to thank all our partners and sponsors



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



Rule of Law



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



SIGRID RAUSING TRUST



Школа микропредпринимательства
и медиатеchnologies
в Центральной Азии



Internews
Local voices. Global change.



Kyrgyzstan



The Representative on
Freedom of the Media



«Привозащитного движения: «Бир Дуйно» Кыргызстан»

