



EU KINOTEKA
european
film club
travelling to
universities

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Dear Students



It is my pleasure to introduce to you the first Kinoteka project – a selection of European films travelling to universities across India.

As Ambassador of the European Union, I often talk about European diversity. This film selection, put together by the Embassies of the EU Member States and the EU Delegation, represents this diversity in many ways.

But diversity is not divergence, and in fact diversity is precisely one of the elements of similarity between Europe and India, each of whom live proudly under the principle of "unity in diversity".

By bringing these films to your university, we want to show some of Europe's facets. Hopefully you will have a great time watching them, and maybe you will also find something worth discussing, considering and remembering from this wonderful selection.

João Cravinho

Ambassador of the European Union

the world is big and salvation lurks around the corner

BULGARIA



Original Title: Svetat e golyam i spasenie debne otvsyakade

Director: Stephan Komandarev

Cast: Miki Manojlovic, Carlo Ljubek, Hristo Mutafchiev, Ana Papadopulu, Lyudmila Cheshmedzhieva, Blagovest Mutafchiev, Nikolai Urumov, Vasil Vasilev-Zueka, Dorka Gryllus, Stefan Valdobrev, Pavel Popandov, Georgi Kadurin

Producer: Stefan Kitanov, Karl Baumgartner, Thanassis Karathanos, Andras Muhi, Danijel Hocevar

Co-producer: Goran Radakovic

Running time: 105 minutes

Released: 2008

This is a story about a young Bulgarian man, Alex, who grew up in Germany, where his family had emigrated. Alex lost his memory due to a car accident that killed his parents. In an attempt to cure him from amnesia, his grandfather comes to Germany and, using a backgammon set, organises a spiritual journey to the past for his grandson. While travelling in time and space and crossing several European countries on a tandem bike, both play backgammon, as they did in Alex's childhood in Bulgaria. This game helps the young man to restore his memory, to become aware of his identity and to make his choices.





Original Title: Flugten

Director: Kathrine Windfeld

Cast: Iben Hjejle, Faigh Zamani, Lars Mikkelsen, Rafi Mohammed Bayan, Henrik Prip, Vibeke Hastrup, Sonja Richter, Mikael Birkkjær, Wagma Khattak, Søren Sparring

Producer: Morten Kaufmann

Running Time: 114 minutes

Released: 2009

the escape

DENMARK



Danish journalist Rikke Lyngvig is taken hostage in Afghanistan by a terror group. With help from the young Afghan Nazir, Rikke manages to escape. On her return, she is soon declared the Danish Jessica Lynch and her career is launched into the spotlight. In the meantime Nazir flees from Afghanistan and reaches Denmark. When Rikke meets Nazir, she is shocked and torn. Is she willing to help the man who saved her life, even though he held her captive and threatened to kill her? Is she willing to jeopardize her newfound career? Their tumultuous encounter turns into an ill-fated confrontation with their own demons and a nation driven by the hunger for sensations and political populism.



the father of my children

FRANCE

Original Title: Le père de mes enfants

Director: Mia Hansen-Love

Cast: Louis-Do de Lencquesaing, Chiara Caselli, Alice de Lencquesaing, Dominique Frot, Eric Elmosnino

Producer: Les Films Pelléas

Running time: 110 minutes

Released: 2009



Grégoire Canvel has everything going for him. A wife whom he loves, three delightful children, a job that excites him. He's a film producer. Discovering filmmakers, accompanying films that correspond to his idea of cinema, open and free and close to life - that's his reason for living. Grégoire finds total fulfilment in his work, to which he dedicates almost all his time and energy. Hyperactive, he never stops, except for weekends, which he spends with his family in the countryside. These interludes are as precious as they are fragile. Grégoire's confident bearing and charm have won him admirers everywhere. He seems invincible. And yet, his prestigious production company, Moon Films, is unstable. Too many films produced, too many risks taken, too many debts. But Grégoire continues to keep moving forward, no matter the cost. Just where will this headlong rush lead him? One day, he's obliged to face up to reality.

Original Title: Benvenuti Al Nord

Director: Luca Miniero

Cast: Claudio Bisio, Alessandro Siani and Angela Finocchiaro

Producer: Riccardo Tozzi, Marco Chimenz, Giovanni Stabilini

Running time: 110 minutes

Released: 2012

Following his eye-opening experience in the Southern Italy, Alberto (Claudio Bisio) returns home to the North of the country, with the promotion to Milan he had always dreamed of. Meanwhile, his old friend Mattia (Alessandro Siani), from the laidback post office in Campania, is trying to prove to his wife (Valentina Lodovini) that he is taking work seriously and is committed to working harder to fulfill her dream of moving out of her mother-in-law's home and into their own love-nest. But when his work colleagues misunderstand his aspirations and submit his transfer request, he finds himself unexpectedly transferred to Milan...

welcome to the north

ITALY



devil's bride

LITHUANIA

Original Title: Velnio Nuotaka

Director: Arūnas Žebriūnas

Cast: Gediminas Girdvainis, Vaiva Mainelytė, Regimantas Adomaitis, Bronius Babkauskas, Regina Varnaitė, Vasilijus Simčičius

Running Time: 80 minutes

Released: 1974



Once upon a time in Eden, when God was taking a nap after some sweet chorals, a local mutiny broke out. The feasting and dancing of the angels got out of control. The Lord woke up in the middle of the party and dissipated the disobedient with mighty lightning strikes. One of them, Pinčiukas, demoted to an imp, falls straight into the pond of the elderly miller Baltaragis. The man and the devil strike a deal – the wings of the windmill spin without wind, Baltaragis marries his beloved woman Marcelė, and the devil gets what the miller still does not possess. Marcelė dies bearing a child, Jurga, who soon grows into a beautiful girl. Pinčiukas comes to claim his share of the bargain, but Jurga does not fancy the imp and is thus set for a much more complicated story.

Original Title: Léif Lëtzeburger

Director: Ray Tostevin

Producer: Lynn Rothwell,
Candice Allen

Running time: 98 minutes

Released: 2008

Grand Duchess Charlotte of Luxembourg was a "propagandist in pearls" who used personal charm and the power of radio to reach out to her people in their darkest hour. Combining vivid eye-witness testimony with dramatic reconstruction, Léif Lëtzeburger is the story of how one of the world's smallest democracies survived the brutal occupation of Hitler's Third Reich. And it reveals a powerful and lasting truth: to keep their hopes alive, ordinary people will endure hardship, imprisonment, even death, if they have someone to believe in.

charlotte: a royal at war

LUXEMBOURG



white palms

HUNGARY

Original Title: Fehér tenyér

Director: SZABOLCS HAJDU

Cast: Zoltán Miklós Hajdu,
Orion Radies, Silas Radies

Producer: Gábor Kovács, Ági Pataki,
Péter Reich, Iván Angelusz

Running time: 100 minutes

Released: 2006



After Miklós Dongó's highly promising gymnastic career gets cut sadly short by an injury, he decides to make the move to Canada to rebuild his life as a coach. His very different background and particular style mean he may never be able to fit in as he faces a great deal of challenges in this world, which is so very new to him. There is a lot to get through if he is to win his battle with his past and a joyless childhood confined within the four walls of a gymnasium.



Original Title: Chitraanjali – Stefan Norblin in India

Director: Małgorzata Skiba

Producer: Embassy of the Republic of Poland in India and National Audiovisual Institute of Poland

Running Time: 59 minutes

Released: 2011

The documentary film "Chitraanjali. Stefan Norblin in India" tells the forgotten story of the Polish artist Stefan Norblin (1892-1952), who found safe haven in India during WWII, as well as new chapter in his artistic biography. The film invites viewers for an exclusive time-travel to Art Déco palaces in India, commissioned by the Indian royals from Jodhpur, Morvi and Ramgarh, who employed the skills and the fantasy of European artists, like the very painter Stefan Norblin. The film covers Norblin's magnificent work in the short six years of his stay in India.

chitraanjali -
stefan norblin
in india
POLAND



the strange case of angelica

PORTUGAL

Original Title: O Estranho Caso de Angélica


Director: Manoel de Oliveira

Cast: Pilar López de Ayala, Filipe Vargas,
Ricardo Trêpa

Running Time: 97 minutes

Released: 2010

In this stylish exercise in magic realism, Isaac (Ricardo Trêpa) is a photographer who is contacted during a stormy night with an urgent assignment. Isaac is escorted to the estate of a wealthy family, where he's told of a recent tragedy -- the beautiful daughter of the household, Angélica (Pilar López de Ayala), died shortly after her wedding, before her bridal portrait could be taken. Her parents want a final photograph of Angélica, and they've brought Isaac to their home to take the pictures. Angélica has been laid out on a sofa in the living room, still wearing her wedding gown, and as Isaac looks at her through his viewfinder, he's struck by her beauty and thinks she looks as if she's just sleeping. Isaac is so effected by Angélica that he quickly falls in love with her, and when he looks at her through his camera, she comes to life, with her spirit as lively as ever in the photos he prints, though her body stubbornly stays lifeless.



Original Title: Five Star Existence
Director: Sonja Lindén
Producer: Sonja Lindén, Stina Gardell
Running time: 90 minutes
Released: 2011

With the accelerating pace of everyday life and our increasing virtual presence as individuals, the line between the real and the virtual self has begun to blur. In this personal and cinematic journey, the director observes the links between freedom and dependence in our time.

five star existence

FINLAND



BAFTA 2012 Short Film Nominees

UNITED KINGDOM

Category: Short Film Short Animation

Abuelas In a small apartment in Buenos Aires, an old woman eagerly awaits the birth of her grandchild. However, horrific circumstances mean she will be forced to wait over 30 years. (Director/ animator/ co-writer: Afarin Eghbal. Producer: Kasia Malipan. Duration: 9 minutes)

Bobby Yeah A petty thug who lightens his miserable existence by brawling and stealing stuff. One day he steals the favourite pet of some extremely dangerous individuals, and finds himself in deep trouble. (Director/ writer/ producer: Robert Morgan. Duration: 23 minutes)

A Morning Stroll When a New Yorker walks past a chicken on his morning stroll, we're left to wonder which one is the real city slicker. (Director/ writer: Grant Orchard. Producer: Sue Goffe. Duration: 7 minutes)

British Council Film and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) have teamed up to promote the best of British short filmmaking. The UK has a long tradition of producing world class short film, and this collection is made up of the 2012 nominees in both Best Short (Live Action) and Best Short (Animation) BAFTA categories.

Category: Short Film Live Action

Chalk When a gymnast is selected for the National training camp she discovers something new about bodies, boys and friendship. (Director/co-writer: Martina Amati. Producers: Gavin Emerson, James Bolton. Writer: Ilaria Bernardini. Duration: 18 minutes)

Mwansa the Great An eight-year-old boy who aspires to be a hero embarks upon a journey to prove his greatness, with unexpected consequences. (Director/ writer/ producer: Rungano Nyoni. Co-writer/co-producer: Gabriel Gauchet. Duration: 23 minutes)

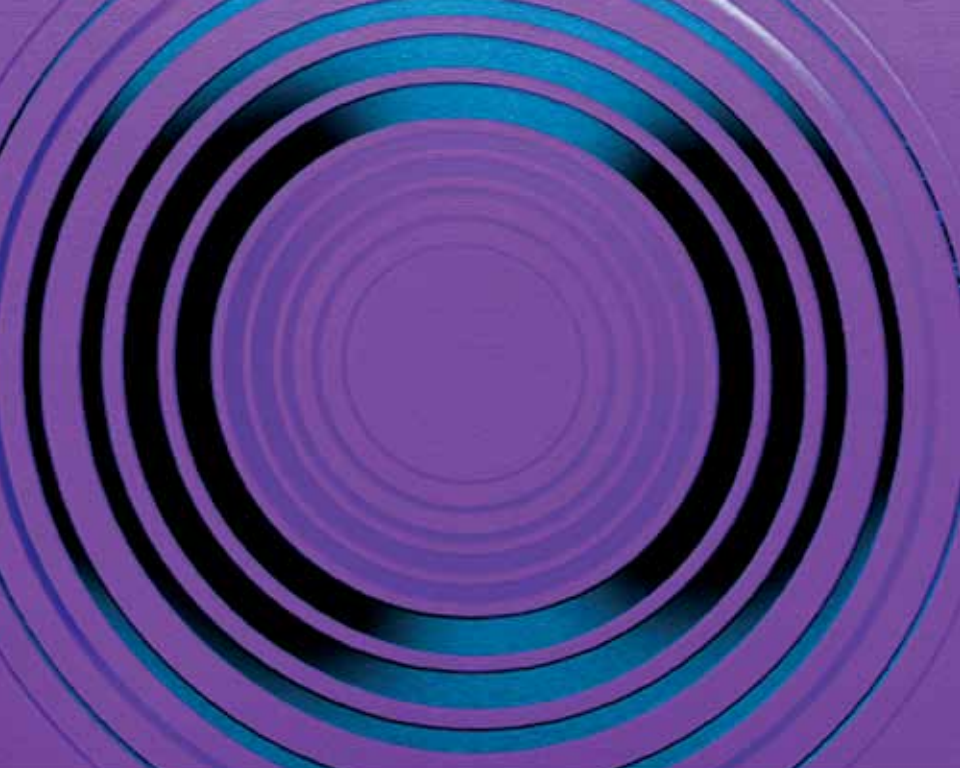
Only Sound Remains In the wake of the violent post-election protests in Iran, a man and his wife, Babak and Nahid, try to hide the devastating news from Babak's grandmother that his brother is missing. (Director/ writer: Arash Ashtiani. Producer: Anshu Poddar. Duration: 15 minutes)

Pitch Black Heist Liam and Michael are professional safe crackers who meet on a simple job to relieve an office safe from its contents. The catch is a light-activated alarm system. (Director: Joe Maclean. Producer: Gerardine O'Flynn. Duration: 12 minutes)

Two and Two In a school governed by a strict regime, the pupils are informed that what they had always been taught as fact is no longer true. But when the incredulous students speak out, they are forced to question how far they will go to stand up for their beliefs. (Director/ writer/ producer: Babak Anvari. Co-producer: Kit Fraser. Co-writer: Gavin Cullen. Duration: 9 minutes)







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