



# EUROPEAN UNION FILM FESTIVAL 2017

In Collaboration with  
Directorate of Film Festivals,  
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting  
Government of India

Latest European Films  
*Celebrating the love for Cinema*

#EUFF2017



Ministry of Information & Broadcasting  
Government of India



Directorate of Film Festivals



Delegation of the European Union of India



## Foreword

For the 22nd edition of the European Union Film Festival I am delighted to present to viewers in India a large offering of twenty-two films from our Member States.

India, itself, is now a global giant in the movie business and Indians have been among the most appreciative and iconoclastic audiences of European cinema, anywhere. And so, we are delighted to present some of the best works of recent years. As the Swedish film maker Ingmar Bergman once remarked, "No art passes our conscience in the way film does and goes directly to our feelings, deep down into the dark rooms of our souls". Perhaps it is this access to our deepest emotions and the ability to produce catharsis that accounts for the great popularity of cinema today.

We must remember, however, that while film as art has been the purveyor of ideas and the medium of emotions; it needs film as industry to support what is an expensive and risky creative enterprise. Recognising the importance of the art and culture sector – 4.5% of GDP and 8 million jobs, under its Creative Europe programme with a budget of €1.46 billion, the European Union supports, inter alia, over 2,000 cinemas and the production and distribution of over 800 films. Many films thus nurtured have gone on to win accolades worldwide.

As the great Satyajit Ray, once said, "Cinema's characteristic forte is its ability to capture and communicate the intimacies of the human mind."

In this festival of award-winning European films, you will find perennial themes - the redemption of love, the resilience of youth, and the triumph of the human spirit in situations of adversity. To connect across geographies and cultures with ordinary people in extraordinary situations, and to realise that in some way we are all one family has been the exhilarating effect of all great art, and film is no exception.

I wish you happy viewing.

Tomasz Kozłowski  
Ambassador of the European Union to India



**FLYING HOME**  
 BELGIUM



**THE JUDGEMENT**  
 BULGARIA



**EMPTIES / VRATNELAHVE**  
 CZECHIA



**KOLLEKTIVET / THE COMMUNE**  
 DENMARK



**SANCTUARY / FREISTATT**  
 GERMANY



**CHERRY TOBACCO**  
 ESTONIA



**INVISIBLE**  
 GREECE



**HASSAN'S WAY / EL RAYO**  
 SPAIN



**THREE HEARTS**  
 FRANCE



**L'INTREPIDO**  
 ITALY



**FAMILY MEMBER**  
 CYPRUS



**MELLOW MUD / ES ESMU ŠEIT**  
 LATVIA



**HOT HOT HOT**  
 LUXEMBOURG



**LIZA, THE FOX-FAIRY**  
 HUNGARY



**PUBLIEKE WERKEN / PUBLIC WORKS**  
 NETHERLANDS



**DIE GETRÄUMTEN / THE DREAMED ONES**  
 AUSTRIA



**OSTATNIA RODZINA / THE LAST FAMILY**  
 POLAND



**CAPITÃO FALCÃO O FILME | THE PORTUGUESE FALCON**  
 PORTUGAL



**A COMEDY OF TEARS**  
 SLOVENIA



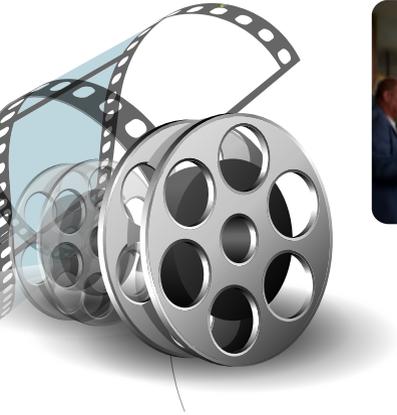
**VISIBLE WORLD | VIDITEĽNÝ SVET**  
 SLOVAKIA



**LITTLE WING**  
 FINLAND



**NICE PEOPLE**  
 SWEDEN



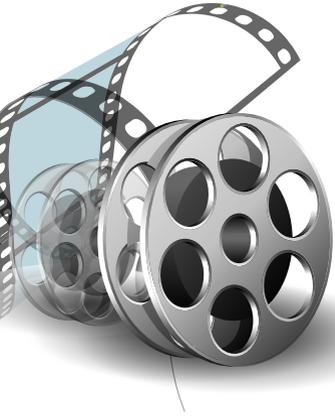
 **Belgium**  
Flying Home

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 Dominique Deruddere  Ludo Poppe, Dominique Deruddere / Co-Production - Twenty Four 9 Films, GL Films,  
Kanakna Productions  2014  95 min

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**Synopsis:** Colin Montgomery (Jamie Dornan), an up-and-coming Wall Street whiz kid, is given a week to sign up a potential client - an incredibly wealthy sheikh - or risk losing his job. To impress the sheikh, Colin goes to Flanders to track down a world-class racing pigeon. But things get complicated when he finds himself falling for the pigeon owner's granddaughter.



## Bulgaria

### The Judgement



Stephan Komandarev



Stephan Komandarev, Katya Trichkova, Polly Guentcheva

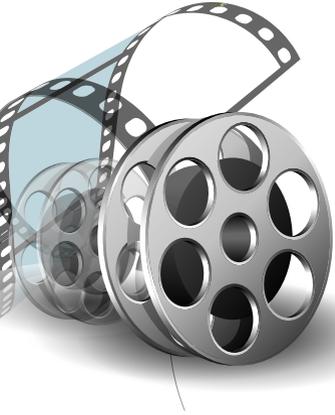


2014



107 min

**Synopsis:** Based on actual events, *The Judgement* is a story of the inner struggles of a father, his complicated relationship with his son and the lonely mountains hiding secrets from the past. Mityo has lost everything that matters to him: his wife, his work and his hopes. And now he is losing the trust of his only son, Vasko. Out of desperation, Mityo agrees to smuggle illegal immigrants from Syria through a steep mountain pass into Bulgaria. One last trip remains. Left at the mercy of the Judgement Mountain, and in desperate need of help from his ever more distant son, Mityo will soon discover if he can be forgiven for a terrible sin committed 25 years ago.



## Czechia

### Empties / Vratne lahve



Jan Sverak



Eric Abraham, Jan Sverak

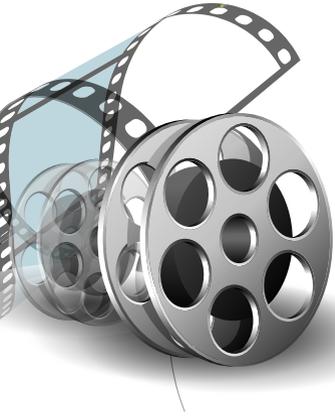


2007



100 min

**Synopsis:** This is a love-story of a very special kind, about very special people and very special moments in life. It reinvents and revolutionizes classical bitter-sweet Czech comedy. Josef Tkaloun is an elderly teacher at a high school in Prague who cannot control his anger when his pupils misbehave in his poetry class. He quits his job and despite his wife urging him to retire becomes a cycle courier. After an inevitable accident, he still refuses to stay at home and takes job in the local supermarket. He works behind a counter, recycling empty beer bottles [empties]. There he begins to flirt with the customers. His own flirtations almost get him into trouble with his wife, so he resolves to reignite the passion in his marriage by celebrating his wedding anniversary with a hot air balloon ride. The scary balloon ride ending in crash has a happy-end in revitalizing relationship with his wife Eliska.

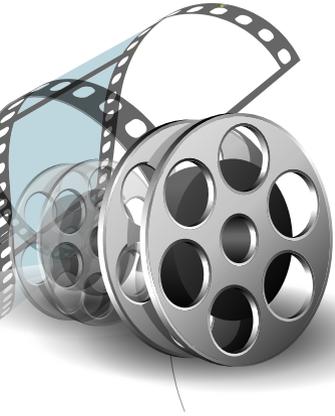


## Denmark

### Kollektivet / The Commune

 Thomas Vinterberg  2015  111 min

**Synopsis:** Erik and Anna are a professional couple with a dream. Along with their daughter Freja, they set up a commune in Erik's huge villa in the upmarket district of Copenhagen. With the family in the center of the story, we are invited into the dream of a real commune; we participate in the house meetings, dinners and parties. It is friendship, love and togetherness under one roof until an earth-shattering love affair puts the community and the commune to its greatest test.



## Germany

### Sanctuary /Freistatt



Marc Brummond

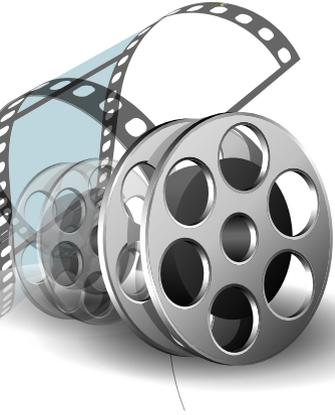


2015



104 min

**Synopsis:** Summer 1968: Wolfgang doesn't get along with his stepfather. As the arguments escalate, the 14-year-old boy is sent to a welfare institution. The Christian establishment turns out to be a place of brutal oppression, lack of freedom and exploitation. The boys are being used for forced labour, toil at the peat-ditch and are submitted to beatings by their "care worker". They are so hopelessly isolated that the victims themselves are prone to use violence. The director of the institution, who hypocritically calls himself "house father", prevents the occupants from communicating the truth to the outside world. He intercepts their letters and treats the boys, whom he is supposed to be educating, as prisoners. Those attempting to escape are punished almost sadistically, yet Wolfgang seeks salvation in freedom.



## Estonia

### Cherry Tobacco



Katrin Maimik & Andres Maimik



Kuukulgur Film

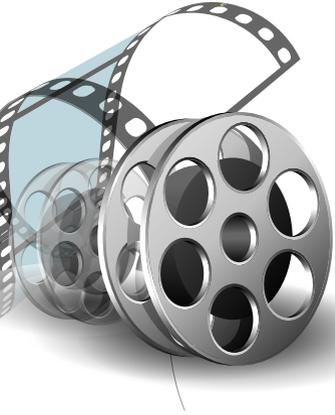


2015



93 min

**Synopsis:** Laura is a small town girl who is constantly bored. Mother gets on her nerves, boys are stupid and everything seems childish. One day Laura's energetic friend Merit asks her to join a hike to a bog. The trip is led by a middle-aged nature-lover Joosep. The beginning is anything but promising: the relationship between the reserved girl and the outgoing Joosep becomes tense. Gradually Laura is drawn to Joosep and his rugged charm. The quest is coming to an end and Laura has to decide what to do - give in to first love or put everything behind her. "Cherry Tobacco" (in Estonian „Kirsitubakas“) is a small, heartfelt film with a strong and sweet comedic bent. The film offers true-to-life and intelligent look at a burgeoning love in a tender age.

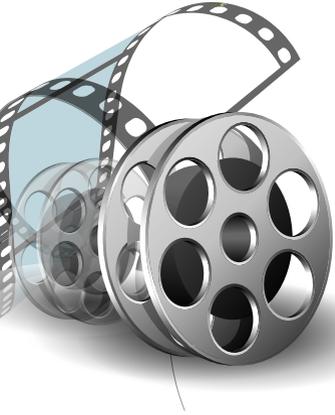


## Greece

### Invisible

 Dimitri Athanitis  Dimitri Athanitis, Panos Papadopoulos  2015  84 min

**Synopsis:** Aris (Stankoglou) is a 38 year old factory worker. He's separated from his wife, who has custody of their six year old son, and struggles to make ends meet. He's months behind on his rent, eats poorly and barely sees his son. When Aris is fired from his job without warning, his bitterness towards his former employers burns within him, pushing him to want revenge. This gets both shackled and amplified when his ex-wife dumps their son on him. With no source of income, a landlord demanding rent and no employment opportunities around him, Aris' descent into his self-rage and bad choices lead him and, by extension, his young son into a dark place.



## Spain

### Hassan's Way / El Rayo



Fran Araújo, Ernesto de Nova



Pablo Iraola, Julio Díez Cornejo, Guillermo Rojas

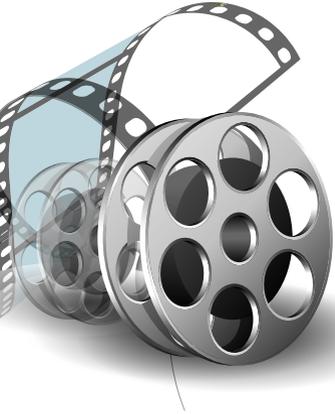


2014



86 min

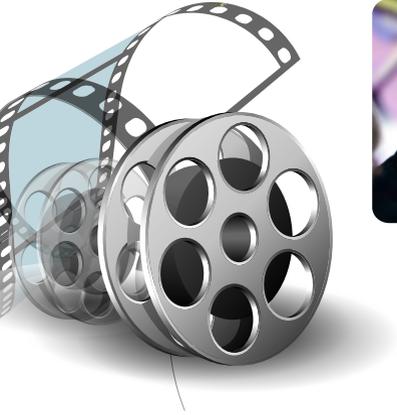
**Synopsis:** After thirteen years in Spain, a Moroccan man called Hassan is jobless and decides to go back home. He invests all his savings into a second-hand tractor to earn a living in his country and takes on to the road. A new life awaits him in his village and with his family. This journey is based on a true story, played by a real man who travels, from town to town while meeting unforgettable characters. He must face and overcome multiple obstacles, turning his story into a real odyssey.



## France Three Hearts

 Benoît Jacquot  Rectangle Productions, Pandora Film, Scope Pictures, Arte France Cinéma  2014  106min

**Synopsis:** After missing a train, Marc meets and falls in love with Sylvie. They agree to meet in Paris at the Jardin des Tuileries without exchanging contact information. On the time of the rendezvous, Marc is held up in a meeting and they miss each other. Disappointed, Sylvie moves to the USA with her husband. Later, Marc meets Sylvie's sister Sophie and they fall in love. As Marc and Sophie's relationship becomes serious, he discovers she is Sylvie's sister.



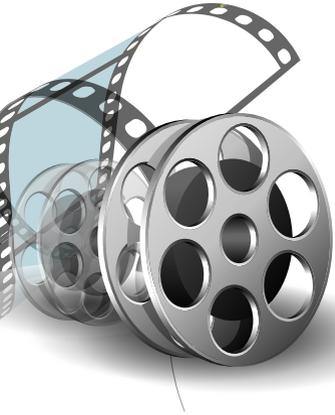
 **Italy**  
L'Intrepido

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 Gianni Amelio  Carlo Degli Esposti  2013  104 min

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**Synopsis:** Set in modern day Milan, *Intrepido: A Lonely Hero* is a Chaplinesque odyssey through the world of work - every type of work, but primarily unskilled manual labour - as seen through the eyes of a kind, middle-aged man who takes on every conceivable temporary job. By the master Italian director Gianni Amelio, the film is a portrait of the highs and lows of modern life.



## Cyprus

### Family Member



MarinosKartikkis



MarinosKartikkis, Tonia Mishiali

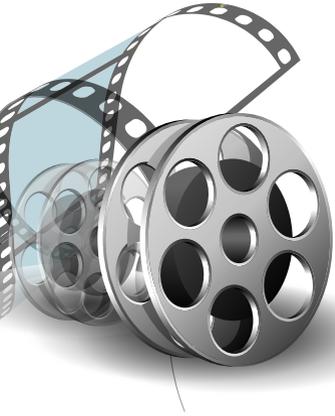


2015



104 min

**Synopsis:** George [Christopher Greco] and Sophia [YiolaKlitou] are trying hard to cope with their financial problems and the needs of their two children. The grandfather helps them out with his pension since the family business, a small grocery store, does not provide them with enough income. When suddenly the grandfather dies in his sleep, they decide to keep it a secret for as long as they can so as to continue collecting the money from his pension. But things become more complicated when officers from the social security department start looking for the grandfather.



## Latvia

### Mellow Mud / Es Esmu Šeit



RENĀRS VIMBA



AIJA BĒRZIŅA, ALISE ĢELZE

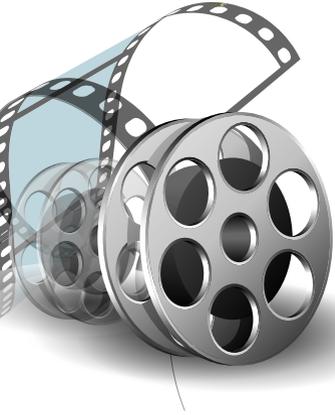


2016



105 min

**Synopsis:** Loneliness, disillusionment and the experience of first love reveal the character of Raya, a 17-year-old living in rural Latvia with her grandmother and her little brother Robis. A staggering turn of events shakes up their lives, and the young girl must come to decisions that even a grown woman would find difficult to make. In his strong debut feature, director Renārs Vimba carefully handles the delicate theme of coming-of-age and accepts the challenge of telling the story through the eyes of a young girl.

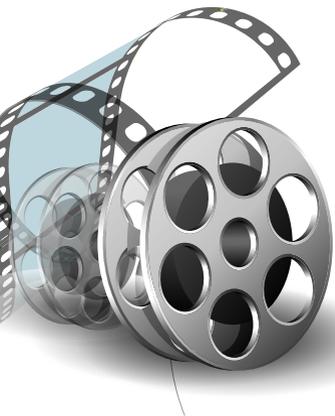


## Luxembourg

### Hot Hot Hot

 Beryl Koltz  Claude Waringo  2011  93 min

**Synopsis:** Ferdinand is a long-standing employee at Fish Land, the aquatic centre within the globalised leisure complex “Worlds Apart”. He’s a small, bald forty year-old, and a solitary, anxious introvert, entirely devoted to his passion for fish. But his obsessive little existence is turned upside down the day Fish Land closes down for renovation. He is transferred to another section of “Worlds Apart”, the Finnish-Turkish Delight spa, geared towards the pleasure of saunas and steam rooms. Ferdinand is suddenly thrown into a world of nudity, sensuality, relaxation and letting go... In short, everything he could possibly be afraid of!

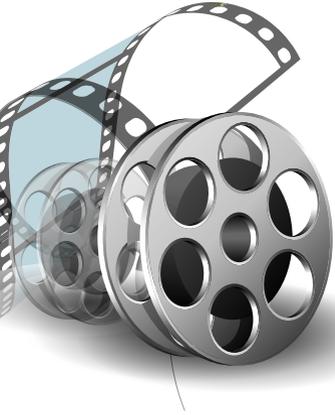


## Hungary

### Liza, The Fox-Fairy

 Károly Ujj-Mészáros  István Major  2015  98 min

**Synopsis:** Fox-fairies are evil demons from Japanese folklore, who rob men of their lives. Liza, a 30-year-old nurse, goes in search of love, but her ill-fated admirers all die on their first date. She has taken care of Marta, widow of the former Japanese ambassador, for the last 12 years. Liza's only companion is her imaginary friend, Tomy Tani, the ghost of a Japanese pop singer from the 1950s. It's her birthday, and so Liza goes to a Mekk Burger's to find romance. While she's away, Marta dies. Jealous relatives report Liza to the police for murdering Marta to inherit her apartment. Sergeant Zoltan is put on the case. The policeman rents a room from Liza so he can keep a closer eye on his suspect. Zoltan secretly repairs a stack of faulty fittings, very nearly gets killed in the process, and falls slowly in love with Liza.

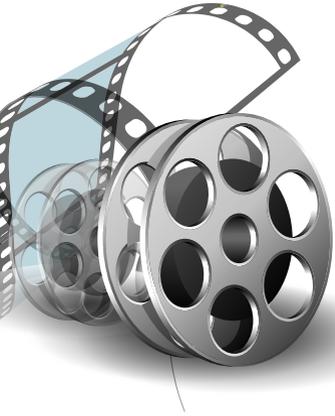


## Netherlands

### Publieke Werken / Public Works

 Joram Lürsen  Topkapi Films  2015  115 min

**Synopsis:** In 1888 Amsterdam, a stubborn violin maker and his pharmacist cousin face hardship and tragedy as they oppose the powerful businessmen who plan to force him from his house and erect a luxurious new hotel in its place. 1888: a luthier, Vedder [Gijs Scholten van Aschat], has to step aside when his home, opposite the recently completed Central Station in Amsterdam, must yield for the planned Victoria Hotel. His cousin Anijs [Jacob Derwig], pharmacist in the Northern provinces of the Netherlands, has gotten into a fix after illegal medical practices, and is looking for a way out. For himself and his wife Martha [Rifka Lodeizen], but also for a colony of poor peat cutters whom he promises a future in the United States. Committed - or is it pride? - the two of them think up a scheme from which they all will fully benefit. With tragic consequences.

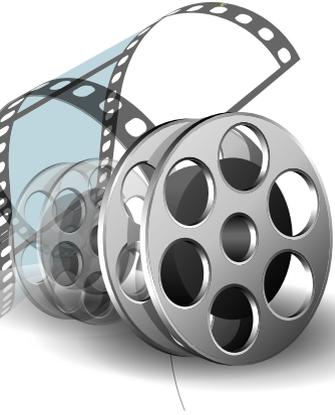


## Austria

### Die Geträumten / The Dreamed Ones

 Ruth Beckermann  Ruth Beckermann Filmproduction  2016  89 min

**Synopsis:** The themes of love and hate are depicted in the movie DIE GETRÄUMTEN [The Dreamed Ones]. At center stage are the two poets Ingeborg Bachmann and Paul Celan, who came to know each other in post-war Vienna. Their dramatic postal exchange creates the textual basis of the film. Two young actors meet in a recording studio to read the letters. The tumultuous emotions of proximity and distance, fascination and fear captivate them. However they also enjoy each other's company, arguing, smoking, discussing their tattoos and favourite music. Yesterdays, todays and tomorrows love: where the lines are blurred lies the heart of the film.



## Poland

### Ostatnia Rodzina / The Last Family



Jan P. Matuszyński



Leszek Bodzak, Aneta Hickenbotham

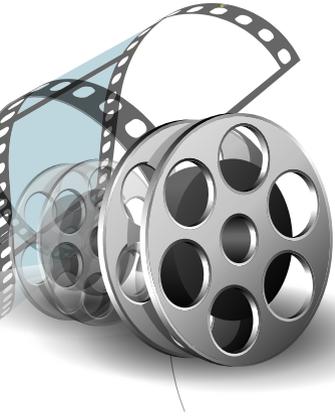


2016



123 min

**Synopsis:** Based on the bizarre true story of the cult Polish painter Zdzisław Beksiński. Beksiński is a gentle man with arachnophobia, despite his sexual fantasies and his fondness for painting disturbing dystopian works. Beksiński is a family man who wants only the best for his loving wife Zofia, neurotic son Tomasz and the couple's aging mothers. His daily painting to classical music eventually pays off and he makes a name for himself in contemporary art. Good Catholic woman Zofia tries to hold the family together, but troubled son Tomasz proves to be a handful with his violent outbursts and suicidal threats. Watch to know what happens next...



## Portugal

### Capitão Falcão O Filme | The Portuguese Falcon



João Leitão



Manuel Barbosa / João Leitão

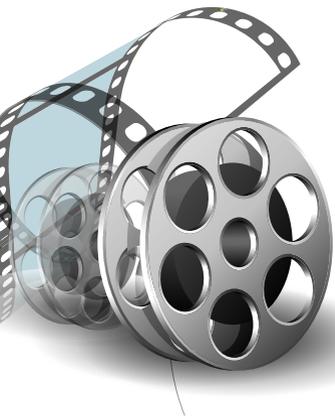


2015



102 min

**Synopsis:** A satire on anti-communist paranoia in the days of fascist dictatorship in Portugal. The series follows the adventures of the "Lusitanian superhero," the ultrapatriotic Captain Falcão, a man who follows the direct orders of António de Oliveira Salazar in the fight against the "red menace".



## Slovenia

### A Comedy of Tears



Marko Sosič



Boštjan Iškovič

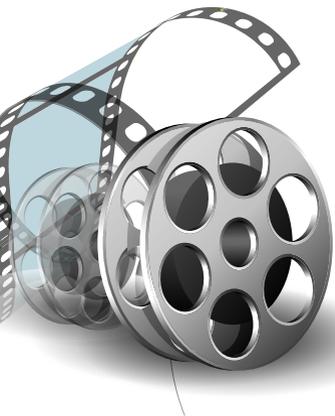


2016



76 min

**Synopsis:** Albert is an old man in a wheelchair, a cynical, choleric and racist person. He lives in a big apartment in Trieste and in the solitude of the fragments of his obsessive memory, which holds his troubled relationships with his now estranged family. His only touch with reality is through Ida, an educated middle-aged woman who arrives from Istria two times per week to clean, cook, and bathe him... Albert and Ida's day begins with Albert's niggling, growing cynicism and violent fits. Ida bears his behaviour with dignity and composure, but Albert's malice only intensifies.



## Slovakia

Visible World | Viditeľný Svet



Peter Krišťúfek



JMB Film and TV Production

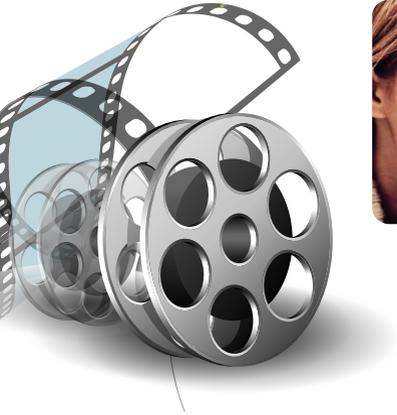


2011



104 min

**Synopsis:** Oliver is a lonely forty-something working as an air traffic controller. He appears to be isolated and his personal life is empty. He fills his time by watching TV and observing the family living in the house across the street – he regards them as an ideal of happiness. At first he just watches the family, but gradually he wants to learn more about them. He finds that things often look different from a distance, that the borders of one's private life are more fragile than one would expect. Evil is endemic and discrete; we carry violence around inside ourselves. You never know who's watching you...



**Finland**

**Little Wing**



Selma Vilhunen



Kai Nordberg, Kaarle Aho

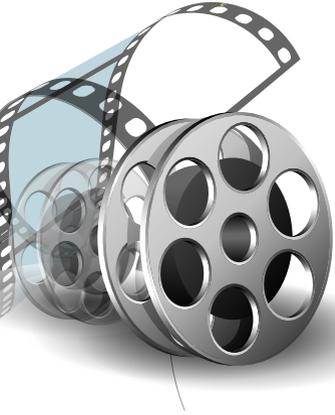


2016



100 min

**Synopsis:** Varpu, a 12-year-old girl, has no father and her mother acts rather like a younger sister. Her childhood turned into adulthood by force. One night, she has enough of her riding buddies, of her mother, of making up stories at each question about her father. Varpu has a stolen car and her father's name. She decides to drive up north to reach a place where unexpected truth unravels. An ultimate burden will change forever the lives of Varpu, her mother and her father.



 **Sweden**  
Nice People

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 Anders Helgeson, Karin af Klintberg  Lars Beckung  2015  96 min

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**Synopsis:** A group of young men who fled the war in Somalia have ended up in a rural town in Sweden where integration is tough. Something needs to be done. Local entrepreneur Patrik Andersson gets an idea, who not use sport as a bridge to get people closer to each other? The goal: to create the first ever Somali national team in bandy and make it to the World Championship in Siberia. This is a story about racism and fear, but it's also about bravery and doing something that hasn't been done before.



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