Films from The Netherlands

Cannes 2018
**Cannes Classics**
- João and the Knife 2

**Minority co-productions in Un Certain Regard**
- Donbass 3
- Girl 4
- Rafiki 5

**Minority co-productions in Quinzaine**
- This Magnificent Cake! 6
- Tunisia Factory: Best Day Ever/The Cineaste 6

**Cinefondation L’Atelier**
- The Color of the Skull 7

**Producers on the Move**
- Frank Hoeve 8

**Producers Network**
- Dutch producers in the spotlight 9

**In the market**
- Cobain 10
- Missing 11
- We 12

**Minority co-productions in the market**
- All Alone 13
- An Impossibly Small Object 14
- Land 15
- Yellow Is Forbidden 16
Based on a Brazilian novel by Odylo Costa Filho and set in the Amazonian and Northeast hinterlands of Brazil, **João and the Knife** is a hauntingly strange and visually stunning picture.

Poor and elderly João marries the beautiful 19-year-old Maria. As he cannot give his young bride children, he travels to the Amazonian forest, the green hell, to make money collecting rubber. Four years later, on his return as a rich man, he finds Maria carrying a three-year old little girl who strangely resembles her. João doubts about the fidelity of his wife. He buys a knife and says he will use it to kill Maria. Frightened Maria seeks help from the police and a priest, but in vain. They then begin a long journey back to their village. Will João be able to refrain from hurting the one he loves so much?

**George Sluizer:**


**Sluizer Films**

[www.sluizerfilmproductions.com](http://www.sluizerfilmproductions.com)

**Sales:** Stoneraft Films B.V.

Ph: +31 6 2052 8098

stoneraffilms@gmail.com

[www.georgesluizer.com](http://www.georgesluizer.com)

*Please check website for updated schedule*  
Sun May 13, 11:00 Buñuel
DONBASS
Sergei Loznitsa

When war is called peace, when propaganda is uttered as truth, when hatred is declared to be love, life itself begins to resemble death. Surviving Donbass. A practical guide to Inferno.

In Donbass, a region of Eastern Ukraine, a hybrid war takes place, involving an open armed conflict alongside robberies on a mass scale perpetrated by gangs.

In Donbass, war is called love, propaganda is uttered as truth, hatred is declared to be love. It’s not about one region, one country or one political system, it’s about humanity and civilization in general. It’s about each and every one of us.

Please check website for updated schedule
Wed May 9, 11:15 Debussy (festival)
Wed May 9, 16:00 Debussy festival
Thu May 10, 12:00 Lerins 3 (market)
Thu May 10, 13:00 Bazin (festival)
Sat May 12, 13:30 Riviera 2 (market)
Thu May 17, 12:00 Riviera 1 (market)
The story of Lara, a 15-year-old girl born into a boy’s body, ready to risk everything to pursue her dream of becoming a ballerina. Everything...

Determined 15-year-old Lara is committed to becoming a professional ballerina. With the support of her father, she throws herself into this quest for the absolute at a new school. Lara’s adolescent frustrations and impatience are heightened as she realises her body does not bend so easily to the strict discipline because she was born a boy.

Please check website for updated schedule
Fri May 11, 14:00 Olympia 8 (market, invite only)
Sat May 12, 11:00 Debussy (festival)
Sat May 12, 16:30 Debussy (festival)
Sun May 13, 17:30 Arcades 1 (market)
Sun May 13, 21:45 Soixantième (festival)
When Kena and Ziki, two girls living in a Nairobi housing estate, fall for one another, they must choose between love and safety.

"Good Kenyan girls become good Kenyan wives," but Kena and Ziki long for something more. Despite the political rivalry between their families, the girls resist and remain close friends, supporting each other to pursue their dreams in a conservative society. When love blossoms between them, the two girls will be forced to choose between happiness and safety.
MINORITY CO-PRODUCTIONS IN QUINZAINÉ

**THIS MAGNIFICENT CAKE!**

Marc James Roels & Emma De Swaef

An anthology film set in colonial Africa in the late 19th-century telling the stories of five different characters: a troubled king; a middle-aged Pygmy working in a luxury hotel; a failed businessman on an expedition; a lost porter; and a young army deserter.

**BEST DAY EVER**

Anissa Daoud & Aboozar Amini

**BEST DAY EVER** is co-directed by Afghan-Dutch director Aboozar Amini. At Quinzaine’s Tunisia Factory Aboozar presents the first feature he is currently developing: **THE CINEASTE**. Dutch co-producers: Joost de Vries of An Original Picture and Jia Zhao of Silk Road Film Salon.

---

**Genre: animation**

Original title: **CE MAGNIFIQUE GÂTEAU!**
Prod: Beast Production (BE)
Co-prod: PEDRI Animation (NL), Vivement Lundi (FR)
Completed: May 2018
Language: Dutch, French, Aka, Malinke

Marc James Roels & Emma De Swaef
a.o. **OH WILLY** (2012, animated short)
Awards: a.o Grand Jury Award SXSW.

PEDRI Animation
Ph: +31 35 656 1945
peter@pedri-animation.com
www.pedri-animation.com

_**Mon May 14, 19:30 Théâtre Croisette**_  
_**Tue May 15, 16:30 Alexandre III**_

---

**Genre: drama**

Original title: **BEST DAY EVER**
Prod: DW Paris (FR)
Completed: March 2018
Language: Tunesian
Cast: Mohamed Dahech, Salha Nasraoui, Amina Ben Smail, Karim Ben Salah.

Aboozar Amini:

Contact **THE CINEASTE**
An Original Picture  
Joost de Vries  
joost@anoriginalpicture.com

Silk Road Film Salon  
Jia Zhao  
Jiazhao98@hotmail.com

Please check Quinzaine website for updated schedule  
_**Wed May 9, 12:00 Théâtre Croisette**_
A post-apartheid South Africa is thrust into a deep-rooted fear of an apocalyptic civil war as freedom fighter Nelson Mandela’s last breath nears. Situated beneath the grand Drakensberg Mountain range next to a traditional Zulu settlement, a puritanical Afrikaner community prepare to fight for their land, culture and lives as their enemy does the same. As the great racial war nears, various fractions of supremacist militia sound their calls drawing Pieter, a young white boy (13), into the hysteria by enlisting him in one of their camps. Meanwhile, fleeing from a dubious past in a burning Johannesburg, Thato (23), a young black man, arrives to the Zulu settlement where he will be drawn into an endless cycle of violence. In a time of mass paranoia and bloodshed, the two youths, from each side, must bare the scars of a nation’s deepest wounds.
Frank Hoeve had worked as a producer for several years before founding BALDR Film with Katja Draaijer in 2012. The pair focus on developing and (co-)producing challenging, author-driven features and documentaries by a select number of filmmakers with a distinctive personal signature. At BALDR Frank has produced a number of critically acclaimed films such as **Those Who Feel the Fire Burning** by Morgan Knibbe (2014, Dutch Academy Award for Best Feature Length Documentary, Best International Doc Feature Guanajuato IFF, Nominee Best Feature Doc IDFA), Bram Schouw’s debut feature **Brothers** (2017, Premiers Plans d’Angers), and, most recently, **Ubiquity** by Bregtje van der Haak (2018, HotDocs).

At the moment, BALDR Film has several films in (post-)production: the feature **GOLD** by Rogier Hesp; the Uruguayan/Brazilian/Argentinian/Dutch co-production **Window Boy Would Also Like to Have a Submarine** by Alex Piperno; the Brazilian/Dutch/French co-production **Sick, Sick, Sick** (CineMart 2015) by Alice Furtaado and the Danish/Swedish/Dutch co-production **Heartbound** by Janus Metz (Cannes Critics Week winner with **Armadillo**). He is also financing the feature **Mitra** (Eurimages Award at CineMart 2018) by Kaweh Modiri, which he is aiming to shoot in Spring 2019.

**BALDR**
Ph: +31 20 303 2670
frank@baldrfilm.nl
www.baldrfilm.nl
Sabine Brian - NL Film en TV
www.nlfilm.tv/en

Maaike Neve - Bind Film
www.bindfilm.nl

Eefje Smulders - Bos Bros
www.bosbros.com

Koji Nelissen - Kepler Film
www.keplerfilm.com

Steven Rubinstein Malamud - IJswater Films
www.ijswater.nl
Cobain (15) is forced to take over after his pregnant mother Mia refuses to quit her self-destructive lifestyle.

Fifteen-year-old Cobain tries to get his pregnant mother Mia to quit her self-destructive lifestyle, but she keeps the boy at arm’s length, resisting any kind of interference. When Mia refuses to clean up her act, Cobain decides to take over.

Thu May 10, 17:30 Olympia 3
MISSING!

Paul Ruven

A thriller about a mother who will stop at nothing to save her missing daughter.

A dazzling performance by main actress Sanneke Bos as a divorced lawyer, whose teenage daughter has gone missing and may have become the victim of a sex trafficking ring. She will stop at nothing to save her daughter.

95’ / colour

Genre: thriller, drama
Original title: VERMIST!
Prod: Talent United Film & TV – Paul Ruven, Marian Batavier
Sc: Marian Batavier, Paul Ruven
D.O.P.: Gregg Telussa
Completed: January 2018
Language: Dutch
Cast: Mark van Eeuwen (KIDNAPPING MR HEINEKEN), Yes-R (GANGSTERBOYS), Roos Wiltink (RED WIDOW).

Paul Ruven:

Talent United Film & TV
Ph: +31 6 5124 5041
paul@talentunited.nl
www.talentunitedfilm.tv

Sales: Princ Films
Ph: +1 763 458 1967
igor@princfilms.com
www.princfilms.com
Princ Films at Cannes: Riviera E1

Wed May 9, 13:30 Palais F
Fri May 11, 09:30 Palais H
A group of rebellious 17-year-olds meet on the outskirts of a Belgian village. Simon, the shy intellectual, is wildly in love with Femke. Ruth, who follows them closely, is secretly in love with Simon. Wildly charismatic Thomas, an unscrupulous businessman in the making, decides to start a kitsch sex-site where they record porno scenes. Ruth is the first to have paid sex as the group ventures into prostitution. But when Femke is involved in an accident the atmosphere within the group suddenly changes...

**WE**

René Eller

In the affluent but dull town of Dendermonde eight very close bored to death teenagers get caught up in a nihilistic web of pornography and prostitution.

A group of rebellious 17-year-olds meet on the outskirts of a Belgian village. Simon, the shy intellectual, is wildly in love with Femke. Ruth, who follows them closely, is secretly in love with Simon. Wildly charismatic Thomas, an unscrupulous businessman in the making, decides to start a kitsch sex-site where they record porno scenes. Ruth is the first to have paid sex as the group ventures into prostitution. But when Femke is involved in an accident the atmosphere within the group suddenly changes...

**Genre:** drama

**Original title:** BIJ WIJ EINDIG IK

**Prod:** New Amsterdam Film Company (NL) - Julius Ponten

**Co-prod:** Miauw (NL), A Team Productions (BE)

**Sc:** Rene Eller, Sanne Nuyens, Bert van Dael

**D.O.P.:** Maxime Desmet

**Completed:** October 2017

**Language:** Dutch

**Cast:** Aime Claeys, Pauline Casteleyn, Tijmen Govaerts, Maxime Jacobs.

René Eller:

First feature film.

**New Amsterdam Film Company**

Ph: +31 20 820 2308
films@newams.com
www.newams.com

**Sales:** Wide

Ph: +33 1 5395 0464
info@widemanagement.com
www.widemanagement.com
Wide at Cannes: Riviera G2

**Fri May 11, 13:30 Palais B**

**Tue May 15, 12:00 Palais C**
Despite the recent divorce, Marko is hardly ever alone. Family, co-workers and neighbourhood are all on his side except his beloved daughter.

Divorced father Marko is hardly ever alone: he is surrounded on all sides by family, friends, co-workers and neighbourhood fixers. Yet he is driven to the brink by limited contact with the one person he loves more than anyone - his daughter, who lives with her mother. When he starts the legal proceedings to get more time with his child, he enters the Kafkaesque world of a social-services system in meltdown. His fierce, paternal love for his child is both the source of his misery and his greatest joy.
An 8-year old girl from Taipei and a 33-year old photographer from Amsterdam seem to have no connection, other than her appearance in a photo he took. Yet somehow their lives seem entangled...

A photographer takes a photo of a little girl on the nightly streets of Taipei. After this the memory of his own childhood starts to come back to him more and more and becomes intertwined with the identity of the girl, as looking at the picture he took, he starts to project his childhood onto hers. A meditative narrative in 3 parts; Taipei, on board of an intercontinental flight and in Amsterdam.

AN IMPOSSIBLY SMALL OBJECT

David Verbeek

An 8-year old girl from Taipei and a 33-year old photographer from Amsterdam seem to have no connection, other than her appearance in a photo he took. Yet somehow their lives seem entangled...

A photographer takes a photo of a little girl on the nightly streets of Taipei. After this the memory of his own childhood starts to come back to him more and more and becomes intertwined with the identity of the girl, as looking at the picture he took, he starts to project his childhood onto hers. A meditative narrative in 3 parts; Taipei, on board of an intercontinental flight and in Amsterdam.

AN IMPOSSIBLY SMALL OBJECT

David Verbeek

An 8-year old girl from Taipei and a 33-year old photographer from Amsterdam seem to have no connection, other than her appearance in a photo he took. Yet somehow their lives seem entangled...

A photographer takes a photo of a little girl on the nightly streets of Taipei. After this the memory of his own childhood starts to come back to him more and more and becomes intertwined with the identity of the girl, as looking at the picture he took, he starts to project his childhood onto hers. A meditative narrative in 3 parts; Taipei, on board of an intercontinental flight and in Amsterdam.

100' / colour

Genre: drama
Original title: AN IMPOSSIBLY SMALL OBJECT
Prod: Flash Forward Entertainment (TW)
Co-prod: Nukleus film (HR), JDP Croatia (HR), Lemming Film (NL) - Erik Glijnis, Leontine Petit
Sc: David Verbeek
D.O.P.: Morgan Knibbe
Completed: January 2018
Language: Chinese, Dutch, English
Cast: Chen-Hung Chung, David Verbeek, Klara Mucci.

David Verbeek:

Lemming Film
Ph: +31 20 661 0424
sara@lemmingfilm.com
www.lemmingfilm.com

Sales: Flash Forward Entertainment
Ph: +886 2 2926 2839
patrickmaohuang@qq.com
www.ffe.com.tw

Thu May 10, 10:00 Gray 5
A modern Western about the Yellow Eagle family, dealing with the scourge of alcoholism and the loss of a son killed during military service in Afghanistan.

News reaches the Yellow Eagle family: a son has died during military service in Afghanistan. Wesley, the youngest son, is an alcoholic; he doesn’t seem hit by his brother’s death. His daily, but uneasy contact with the white owners of the liquor stores collapses when violence breaks out. Eldest brother Raymond, recovering from alcoholism, feels somewhat responsible for his family, but feels too emasculated to stand up. Until the troubles that have affected his brothers force him to.

**LAND**

Babak Jalali

90’ / colour

**Genre:** drama, western

**Original title:** LAND

**Prod:** Asmara Films (IT)

**Co-prod:** The Cup of Tea (FR), KNM (CH), Piano Productions (MX), Topkapi Films (NL) - Frans van Gestel, Arnold Heslenfeld, Laurette Schillings

**Sc:** Babak Jalali

D.O.P.: Agnès Godard

Completed: November 2017

Language: English

**Cast:** Rod Rondeaux, Wilma Pelly, James Coleman, Michele Melega.

**Babak Jalali:**

a.o. RADIO DREAMS (2016), feature) Award: Tiger Award IFFR Rotterdam, Special Jury Mention Seattle IFF, Best Director Tarkovsky FF.

**Topkapi Films**

Ph: +31 20 303 2494
info@topkapifilms.nl
www.topkapifilms.nl

**Sales:** BAC Films

Ph: +33 1 8049 1000
sales@bacfilms.fr
www.bacfilms.com

Fri May 11, 11:30 Palais B
Thu May 17, 12:00 Riviera 2
Chanel, Givenchy, Dior, Gaultier... The world of haute couture designers is one of the most exclusive clubs in the world: Mostly men. Exclusively European. Largely funded by conglomerates. Yet, an independent designer from China has been invited to present a collection next year. Her designs have been likened to Alexander McQueen and she has been profiled by The New York Times and Vogue. If you don’t know her name yet, you will soon. Meet Guo Pei, and discover the unseen world of China’s ultra-rich as they seek to integrate into the west.

YELLOW IS FORBIDDEN

Pietra Brettkelly

A brave designer chases the dream - to be crowned haute couture. But she comes from China, the land of knock offs and production lines. Will her Cinderella story end at the Met Ball?

Chanel, Givenchy, Dior, Gaultier... The world of haute couture designers is one of the most exclusive clubs in the world: Mostly men. Exclusively European. Largely funded by conglomerates. Yet, an independent designer from China has been invited to present a collection next year. Her designs have been likened to Alexander McQueen and she has been profiled by The New York Times and Vogue. If you don’t know her name yet, you will soon. Meet Guo Pei, and discover the unseen world of China’s ultra-rich as they seek to integrate into the west.

Genre: documentary
Original title: YELLOW IS FORBIDDEN
Prod: Pietra Brettkelly (NZ), Libertine Pictures (NZ), The Film Sales Company (US)
Co-prod: Avrotros (NL)
Sc: Pietra Brettkelly
D.O.P.: Jacob Bryan
Completed: April 2018
Language: English, Chinese, French
Cast: Guo Pei

Pietra Brettkelly:

The Film Sales Company
PH: +1 212 481 5020
contact@filmsalescorp.com
filmsalescorp.com

Wed May 9, 15:30 Palais J
Fri May 11, 17:30 Palais J