

Turkish  
Canadian  
Society   
proudly presents

# 11<sup>TH</sup> VANCOUVER TURKISH FILM FESTIVAL

“see overseas on the big screen.”

21-24  
November 2024

[vtff.ca](http://vtff.ca)



Cappadocia, Türkiye



[vtff.ca](http://vtff.ca)



in association with



# 11<sup>TH</sup> VANCOUVER TURKISH FILM FESTIVAL



organized by



in association with



Vancouver Turkish Film Festival was founded in 2011 by Turkish-Canadian Society (TCS) volunteers including film enthusiasts, directors, and industry professionals.

The festival is a collaborative effort that aims to showcase the rich and diverse world of Turkish cinema, the success of which has been notable in the last few decades.

VTFE takes pride in showcasing the best of contemporary Turkish cinema, featuring both popular mainstream favourites and internationally acclaimed, award-winning films. It has also been a community partner to some of the Turkish films that premiered at the Vancouver International Film Festival in Vancouver.

With its rich cultural heritage, the land of modern Türkiye has a lot to offer in a cultural sense. The 11th Vancouver Turkish Film Festival provides a means to share this multicultural heritage with the residents of Metro Vancouver.

# OUR DEEPEST THANKS TO ALL OF THE FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS



The Turkish-Canadian Society of Vancouver (TCS) is a registered non-profit charitable organization established in British Columbia.

Since its foundation in 1963, TCS has aimed to contribute to the multicultural fabric of Canada by showcasing both contemporary and traditional Turkish art and culture. TCS organizes a variety of initiatives, including festivals, conferences, concerts, fine arts exhibitions, library projects, and community courses, publishes a magazine and participates in multicultural celebrations.

The flagship events of the TCS, the Vancouver Turkish Film Festival (VTFF) and Turkish Tunes, have offered a window into the rich and diverse world of Turkish cinema and music.

The Turkish-Canadian Society appreciates the exceptional efforts of volunteers and community partners for their vital role in promoting cross-cultural understanding and recognition.



# ABOUT TURKISH CANADIAN SOCIETY



## A Message from the Prime Minister of Canada

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 11th Vancouver Turkish Film Festival.

This festival showcases some of the best of contemporary Turkish cinema. I am certain that everyone in attendance will be impressed and inspired by the 26 films being screened over the next four days.

I would like to thank the Turkish Canadian Society of Vancouver for bringing this event to the community. You can take pride in your commitment to promoting cultural exchange through the medium of film.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable experience.

Sincerely,

**The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau,  
P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada**



## A Message from the Mayor of the City of Vancouver

On behalf of the residents of Vancouver and my colleagues on City Council, I want to extend my best wishes to the organizers, volunteers and filmmakers of the 11th Annual Vancouver Turkish Film Festival.

As Mayor, I am proud of our thriving arts community, and I am always thrilled to witness the expansion of film festivals in our city's arts calendar each year. The Vancouver Turkish Film Festival not only showcases highly acclaimed, award-winning Turkish films but also fosters dialogue and cross-cultural understanding among local communities. With its talented contributors and mission of uniting people and cultures, the festival is destined for success.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the filmmakers, artists, organizers, and volunteers for participating in this year's Vancouver Turkish Film Festival, and for contributing to our city's cultural and artistic landscape.

Enjoy the Festival!

Sincerely,

**Mayor Ken Sim**



## A Message from the Minister of Canadian Heritage

Welcome to the Vancouver Turkish Film Festival!

This celebration gives us the chance to take in some of the best Turkish documentaries, short films and celebrated feature length films. More importantly, it's a window into Turkish culture, which has continued to flourish in Canada since the 1950s.

Our government knows that the arts play a powerful role in building bridges between cultures and encouraging inclusion and diversity. Events like this show us how we can better understand our neighbours and appreciate their contributions to our country.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage, I'd like to thank everyone involved in bringing this year's festival to life.

Enjoy the shows!



The Honourable Pascale St-Onge  
Minister of Canadian Heritage



## A Message from the VTFF Festival Director

It is with great excitement and honor that I welcome you to the 11th Vancouver Turkish Film Festival (VTFF), an event proudly organized and hosted by The Turkish Canadian Society (TCS) for over a decade.

With a renewed vision and a revitalized team, it is our great joy to breathe new life into the Vancouver Turkish Film Festival as it enters its 11th year. Stepping into the role of Festival Director after serving on the committee last year has been an extraordinary journey. From conception to realization, leading this festival has been a profoundly rewarding experience, made possible by the dedication of over 45 volunteers and the invaluable support of our partners -VIFF, SFU, Cineworks Society, and the City of Vancouver- alongside the generous contributions of our many sponsors and supporters. This collective effort brings VTFF to life, and I am deeply grateful to the VTFF Team members, our passionate volunteers, and our valued partners and sponsors. Your tireless commitment and boundless enthusiasm are the driving forces that make this festival a reality, allowing us to bring Turkish cinema and culture to Vancouver.

VTFF is more than just a film festival; it is a celebration of culture, art, and shared human experiences. We believe that films have the power to transcend borders, sparking meaningful conversations and forging connections that resonate far beyond the screen.

As we come together to celebrate the magic of storytelling, I invite you to journey through the lens of talented filmmakers from Turkey and beyond, to see beyond boundaries and explore the richness of human experiences portrayed on the big screen. Join us in discovering films that speak to the soul, challenge perspectives, and bring the spirit of Anatolia and beyond to Vancouver.

Welcome to the 11th Vancouver Turkish Film Festival!

Warm regards,  
Zuhul Karatas Kavak  
Festival Director, Vancouver Turkish Film Festival

# FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

## OPENING GALA NIGHT



November 21

**Cocktail Reception**  
6:30 pm

**Opening Film**  
8:30 pm  
60 min.

## FEATURE FILMS



November 23  
12:30 pm  
104 min.



November 23  
6:00 pm  
193 min.



November 24  
10:45 am  
125 min.



November 24  
1:30 pm  
106 min.

## SPECIAL EXHIBITION

November 23-24

**Exhibition –“Oya Scarves  
Turkish Needlework Art**

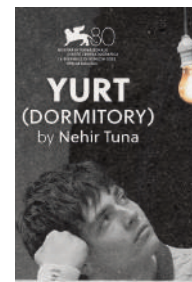
11 am to 7 pm  
at SFU Goldcorp Centre  
for the Arts



November 24  
4:00 pm  
107 min.



November 24  
6:30 pm  
60 min.



November 23  
6:30 pm  
118 min.



# FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

## SHORT FILMS



November 22  
6:00 pm | Session 1  
7:30 pm | Short Films Talk  
8:00 pm | Session 2



## DOCUMENTARIES



November 23  
11:00 am  
20 min.



November 23  
11:00 pm  
30 min.

**Q&A**  
“OYA”  
The artistry and resilience of Anatolian women...  
**SEVİNÇ BALOĞLU**  
Saturday, November 23  
Film Director  
Producer & Writer  
3:15 pm

VANCOUVER TURKISH FILM FESTIVAL

# SHORT FILMS FRIDAY

@ CINEWORKS

## THE LONGEST NIGHT / EN UZUN GECE

CAN MERDAN DOĞAN | 15 MIN.



Huseyin, a family man, is forced to share a bed with his brother-in-law Firat, who happens to be staying overnight in their apartment. The weather is unbearably hot and Huseyin's "longest night" begins.

ANTALYA GOLDEN ORANGE FILM FESTIVAL

### Featuring

Mustafa Kirantepe, Deniz Görkem Kaya, Hasibe Eren, Ceren Taşçı, Dilayda Güneş, Ezgi Coşkun

## THE LOOP OF OUROBOROS

DERYA POLAT | 14 MIN.



In an unknown place and time, a female hero embarks on a journey to transcend societal norms and gender roles, overcoming a series of symbolic trials in the process, to reach her true self. "The Loop of Ouroboros" invites the audience into a narrative woven with mythology and symbols, prompting contemplation around themes of personal transformation, infinite cycles, and individuation. In this sense, this is an extraordinary short film that offers an exploration of the complexity of inner journeys.

MONTREAL WOMEN FILM FESTIVAL 2023

- BEST EXPERIMENTAL

### Featuring

Gamze Karataş



# BETWEEN DELICATE AND VIOLENT

ŞİRİN BAHAR DEMİREL | 14 MIN.



Can we see the violence of the painter's hands in the brush strokes of his paintings? Could cross-stitch be an alphabet? 'Between Delicate and Violent' imagines unearthing traumatic memories that have not been included in family albums.

**7<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL WOMEN FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL İZMİR, TÜRKİYE**

- BEST INTERNATIONAL EXPERIMENTAL FILM AWARD

**20<sup>th</sup> AKBANK INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL. TÜRKİYE - JURY'S SPECIAL MENTION**

**16TH GO SHORT – INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL NIJMEGEN, NETHERLANDS**

- AUDIENCE AWARD

**43<sup>rd</sup> İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL. TÜRKİYE - SPECIAL JURY PRIZE**

**6<sup>th</sup> LEIDEN SHORTS FESTIVAL. NETHERLANDS - SPECIAL MENTION**

**17<sup>th</sup> İSTANBUL BELGESEL GUNLERI - BEST SOUND DESIGN AT DOCUMENTARIST**

**24<sup>th</sup> UN FESTIVAL C'EST TROP COURT – EUROPEAN SHORT FILM FESTIVAL OF NICE. FRANCE**

- PRIX EXPÉRIENCE

# THE BOMB / BOMBA

ONUR DOĞAN | 25 MIN.



In the Balkan region, where lawlessness prevailed during the war, a man receives a threatening death letter from the gang he used to be a member of. Thereupon, he plans to escape to America with his pregnant wife. On the last night, after being threatened by the gang, the man leaves the house to persuade the gang members, but does not come back. Instead, an hour later, gang members enter the house. The gang leader starts a game in which he tells the woman that if she fulfills his wishes, she can see her husband again as a reward.

**HOLLYWOOD HORROR FEST '24 - BEST HORROR DRAMA**

**SPOOKY EMPIRE HORROR FILM FESTIVAL '24 - BEST SCARE ACTOR**

**OCULTO FILM FESTIVAL '24 - BEST ACTRESS**

**KILLER VALLEY HORROR FILM FESTIVAL '24 - BEST HORROR SHORT & BEST ACTRESS**

**HOLLYWOOD BLOOD HORROR FILM FESTIVAL '24 - HONORABLE MENTION**

**MAKIZMITHRAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL '24 - BEST THRILLER SHORT**

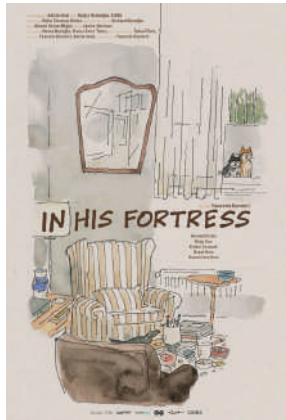
**THE SUPERCCELL ENTERTAINMENT FILM AWARDS '24 - BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY**

Featuring

Ece Bozkaya, Ozan Ayhan, Onur Doğan, Gözde Kocaoğlu

# IN HIS FORTRESS / ONUN KALESİNDE

YASEMİN DEMİRCİ | 20 MIN.



A young woman goes to clear out her father's house shortly after his death and, during her time there, begins to feel intensely the ups and downs of the grieving process.

**UŞAK SHORT FILM FESTIVAL - BEST SCRIPT AWARD**

**İFSAK SHORT FILM FESTIVAL - BEST SECOND FICTION FILM AWARD**

**ANTALYA GOLDEN ORANGE FILM FESTIVAL**

**İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL**

**AKBANK SHORT FILM FESTIVAL**

**AVYALIK FILM FESTIVAL**

**RIVER FILM FESTIVAL**

**ACCESSIBLE FILM FESTIVAL**

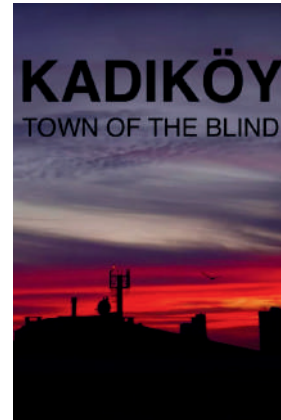
**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL**

Featuring

Nezaket Erden, Doğu Can, Erdem Şenocak, Başal Kara, Hakan Emre Ünal

# KADIKÖY: TOWN OF THE BLIND

ARCA ARSEVEN | 6 MIN.



A short documentary about the life in Istanbul, Kadikoy as the city and the people intertwine.

**CINESIEGE WINNER - THE "BEST SHORT DOCUMENTARY" – 2021**

**YORK FINISH LINE WINNER - BEST SHORT DOCUMENTARY**

**PREMIERED AT TIFF CINEMATIQUE**

# PASSENGERS / İSTASYON İNSANLARI

BUĞRA MERT ALKAYALAR | 14 MIN.



Every life is a journey with intersections at certain stops. One autumn night, a group of people awaited a trip at a station, one of these stops. However, they've all forgotten one truth. When a young man delves into the early night to find his fiancée, he will remember and remind the others.

# WHEN THE SHIFT ENDS / SATIŞÇININ BİR GÜNÜ

ERİNÇ DURLANIK | 19 MIN.



Hilal, who thinks that she started working at a call center where both Republican and Islamic works are sold via telemarketing, will try to sell to her first customer at the end of a busy working day full of orientation with experienced salesperson Pınar.

- 2. INTERNATIONAL MIAMI SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – BEST NARRATIVE FILM
- 14. INTERNATIONAL BAKU SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – BEST DIRECTOR
- 11. INTERNATIONAL SILKROAD FILM FESTIVAL – BEST FILM, BEST DIRECTOR, BEST SCREENPLAY, BEST ACTRESS
- 18. BOSTON TURKISH FILM & DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL – BEST FILM AUDIENCE AWARD
- 44. IFSAK SHORT FILM & DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL – SPECIAL MENTION
- 19. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR FILM FESTIVAL – OFFICIAL SELECTION
- 35. MUNICH TURKISH FILM DAYS – OFFICIAL SELECTION
- 24. INTERNATIONAL İZMİR SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – OFFICIAL SELECTION
- 14. SINEPARK SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – FINALIST
- 2. TURKISH FILM FESTIVAL BERLIN – OFFICIAL SELECTION
- 10. INTERNATIONAL USAK SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – FINALIST
- ITF SHORT FILM DAYS – FINALIST
- DARAĞAÇ FILM FESTIVAL – OFFICIAL SELECTION
- FETHİYE FILM FESTIVAL – OFFICIAL SELECTION
- 3. GEMLİK FILM FESTIVAL – FINALIST
- AEGEAN FILM FESTIVAL – FINALIST

Featuring  
Melis Ulaş, Begüm Alınca, S.Emrah Özdemir

# CHEERS TO THE END / AÇ KARNINA ÇIKMAYALIM

YİĞİT HEPSEV | 15 MIN.



The world is coming to an end. Seher returns to hometown after a long time to save her father and brother. But she encounters a situation she didn't expect. Her father insists on one last family dinner. In the midst of all this confusion, family ties will also be tested.

- 2024 SIYAD AWARDS – BEST FANTASY FILM
- 2024 BAKU INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – SPECIAL JURY MENTION
- 2024 IFSAK SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – BEST FICTION FILM
- 2024 SINEPARK SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – BEST DIRECTOR
- 2024 KAS INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – BEST PRODUCTION DESIGN
- 2023 İZMİR INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – BEST ACTOR
- İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL – NATIONAL COMPETITION
- THESS INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – OFFICIAL SELECTION
- UŞAK INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – NATIONAL COMPETITION
- KISADAN HİSSE SHORT FILM FESTIVAL – OFFICIAL SELECTION
- ANTALYA GOLDEN ORANGE FILM FESTIVAL – NATIONAL COMPETITION

Featuring  
Ahmet Mümtaz Taylan, İncinur Daşdemir, Arda Yeşillikçi

# GUKLA / THE DOLL

MİNİR UYSAL BERGER, ÖZGÜR CEYLAN | 20 MIN.



The Doll is a psychological thriller and horror film that focuses on the feelings of belonging to a city, in which three characters of different generations from Izmir meet by chance in an abandoned mansion.

İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL  
SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL LOS ANGELES SEEFEST

# THE CONSULTANT

MEHMET KANADLI, HALİL İBRAHİM KAPLAN | 10 MIN.



**Featuring**  
İbrahim Cem Tek, Yasemin Öztürk,  
Özgür Özgülğün, Barış Can Çelik,  
Özge Sivrikaya, Serap Ağalar

In the near future, each family is assigned advisors responsible for them in order to balance the population and resource consumption and maintain order. According to the law, the Consultant is the only person in the family who will make all decisions.

- 10TH SOL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL - BEST SCREENPLAY, 2024-SPAIN
- 15TH 15 MINUTES OF FAME FILM FESTIVAL - BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM, USA-2024
- 25. SHORTS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, ITALY, 2024
- 25. SCRITTURA E IMMAGINE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, ITALY, 2024
- 17. RAZOR REEL FLANDERS FILM FESTIVAL, BELGIUM, 2024
- 19. ASTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, GREECE, 2024
- 14. FARCUME: FARO INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL, PORTUGAL, 2024
- 14. BARICHARA GREEN FILM FESTIVAL (FESTIVER), COLOMBIA, 2024
- 13. BEYOND FILM FESTIVAL, GERMANY, 2024
- 12. INTERNATIONAL ITINERANTE HACELA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL, ARGENTINA, 2024
- 9. PORI FILM FESTIVAL, FINLAND, 2024
- 7. PARIBAS GREEN FILM FESTIVAL, POLAND, 2024
- 10. SHORT/AGE-SHORTFILMS FOR A NEW AGE, PORTUGAL, 2024
- 10. PINEDA DE MAR INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL, SPAIN, 2024
- 6. MELROSE FILM FESTIVAL, U.S.A, 2024

# MINİK / MY MOTHER'S SHORT STORY

MERT İNAN | 8 MIN.



**Featuring**  
Mümin İnan

My mother was taken out of the elementary school she had eagerly started, just as she was about to enter the first grade, and was sent to attend courses at the mosque. Due to family pressure, she had to go to the mosque until the age of 13. However, she had the opportunity to take exams afterwards thanks to a teacher who had just moved to their neighbourhood. She completed her unfinished story by herself and obtained her elementary school diploma. "Minik, My Mother's Short Story" is the tale of my mother's childhood experiences, thoughts, and feelings that she has shared with me during our conversations.

- 11. SEATTLE TURKISH FILM FESTIVAL
- 24. İZMİR SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

# SPIRAL

UTKU BANCI | 10 MIN.



**Featuring**  
Gamze Karataş

Zoe is found next to a dead body at her home and is arrested as the only person at the crime scene. She meets Dr. Jack, a crime psychologist, who suggests she undergo a hypnosis test called Spiral to recover her memories. During the hypnosis, Zoe uncovers repressed memories of her traumatic childhood, including her mother's suicide. Ultimately, she recalls killing a man named David, who claims not to be her father, and her husband, Michael. Zoe realizes that her untreated childhood trauma led to this tragic outcome.

- THE BAY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL -SEMI-FINALIST IN STUDENT SHORTS
- SPOOKY HORROR FILM FESTIVAL - OFFICIAL SELECTION
- FICCMADERO VII EDITION - OFFICIAL SELECTION

**SHORT FILM TALKS**

1/4 VER FESTIVAL - FILM

**ARCA ARSEVEN**  
Filmmaker

**KEREM KURTULUS**  
Producer-Director

**UTKU BANCI**  
Director

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 6 PM

Cineworks Independent Filmmakers

**SCREENINGS: 6 PM**  
**TALKS: 7:30 PM**

# DOCUMENTARIES SATURDAY



November 23 | 3:15 pm

## OYA

SEVINÇ BALOĞLU | 75 MIN.



Gülbiye, the only woman in the village farming silkworms for the purpose of producing silk thread, teaches her granddaughter Ada about silkworm farming and the oya rituals through tales, while an oya collector embarks on a journey to discover the story behind one of his favorite oya. The story introduces to us Oya's, which were once the voice of oppressed women but later became a source of empowerment by allowing women to achieve economic independence.

Join us for an exclusive screening of the documentary OYA, directed by acclaimed filmmaker Sevinc Baloglu, was recently selected for the 35th Ankara Film Festival, celebrated for its compelling storytelling and unique perspective.

**XX MUESTRA INTERNACIONAL DE MUJERES EN EL CINE Y LA TELEVISIÓN (MEXICO) - WORLD PREMIERE**  
**DOKUBAKU IDDF (AZERBAIJAN) - INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE**  
**CHANIA FILM FESTIVAL (GREECE) - EUROPEAN PREMIERE**  
**ANTALYA GOLDEN ORANGE FILM FESTIVAL (TURKEY) - SPECIAL SCREENING**  
**THE GOIÂNIA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (BRAZIL)**  
**EASTERN NIGERIA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (NIGERIA)**  
**PREMIO FELIX FILM FESTIVAL (ITALIA)**  
**ANKARA FILM FESTIVAL (TURKEY)**

### Featuring

Ada Bayram, Gülbiye Bayram, Adnan Memiş

@ SFU GOLDCORP  
CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



November 23 | 11:00 am

# THE GOOD DEATH

HASAN EFE | 20 MIN.



November 23 | 11:00 am

# UNCLE ALI - ALİ AMCA

ÖMÜR GÜRGEN | 30 MIN.



In the medical literature, a “good death” honors an individual’s emotional, spiritual, and personal needs. This documentary focuses on the work of the Wish Ambulance Foundation, which helps terminal patients fulfill their final wishes. It follows the touching story of Wim Beuving and volunteer Frank Halter, who dedicates himself to bringing comfort and closure to those nearing the end of life.

- INTERNATIONAL GOLDEN SAFFRON DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL** - INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION SPECIAL JURY AWARD
- 3. NIGDE NATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL** - BEST DOCUMENTARY AWARD
- 35TH INTERNATIONAL ANKARA FILM FESTIVAL** - NATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM COMPETITION, FINALIST.
- 31ST ADANA GOLDEN BOLL FILM FESTIVAL** - INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION, FINALIST
- 25TH INTERNATIONAL İZMİR SHORT FILM FESTIVAL** - FINALIST.
- 12TH INTERNATIONAL BOSPHORUS FILM FESTIVAL** - FINALIST.
- 12TH INTERNATIONAL KORCA FILM FESTIVAL** - DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION FINALIST, ALBANIA
- 3RD INTERNATIONAL KAŞ SHORT FILM FESTIVAL** NATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION - FINALIST
- 9TH TURKISH WORLD DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL, SHORT DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION** - FINALIST

Featuring  
Wim Beuving , Frank Halter



Uncle Ali chronicles the everyday life of Ali Olgun, a man known and loved in Kadıköy for his resilient lifestyle and deep work ethic. From tin collecting on the streets to reading the newspaper every morning, Ali, or “Kabasakal,” has lived his life with dignity and simplicity. Through this intimate portrait, we get a glimpse into the value of hard work and self-respect.

**VASTERAS FILM FESTIVAL**  
- BEST INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY

**FEATURED AT TEHRAN INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL AND YALOVA FILM FESTIVAL.**

Featuring  
Ali Olgun

# FEATURE FILMS

SATURDAY & SUNDAY



November 23 | 12:30 pm.

## ROSINANTE

BARAN GÜNDÜZALP | 104 MIN.



**Featuring**  
Nilay Erdönmez, Fatih Sönmez, Can Demir

In bustling Istanbul, Salih and Ayşe's world teeters on the edge with their mute son. Salih's job loss throws them into turmoil. In a bold twist, Ayşe secretly takes the helm of their motorcycle taxi, Rosinante, under Salih's guise. As they weave through the city's vibrant chaos, seeking a new, affordable haven, their journey takes a dramatic turn when Rosinante vanishes, catapulting them into a thrilling, unknown chapter of survival and discovery.

- 22. ISCHIA FILM FESTIVAL - BEST FILM**
- 15. BAKU INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL - BEST DIRECTOR**
- 4. ANNABA MED FILM FESTIVAL - BEST SCREENPLAY**
- VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL NORTH AMERICA PREMIERE**
- 36. TOKYO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, ASIAN FUTURE - BEST FILM (NOMINEE)**
- 48. MOSTRA SAO PAULO FILM FESTIVAL, NEW FILMMAKERS - BEST DIRECTOR (NOMINEE)**
- 43. İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL - BEST DEBUT FILM (NOMINEE)**

@ SFU GOLDCORP  
CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



November 23 | 6:00 pm



November 24 | 10:45 am

## LIFE / HAYAT

ZEKİ DEMİRKUBUZ | 193 MIN.

## THE REEDS / SON HASAT

CEMİL AĞACIKOĞLU | 125 MIN.

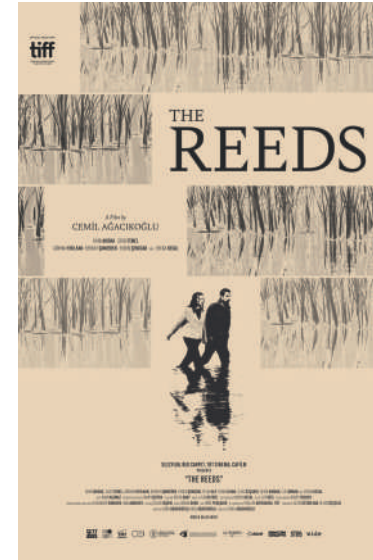


Hicran runs away from home when she is forced into an engagement with Rıza by her father. Rıza, who thinks that Hicran doesn't want to be with him, doesn't care at first. But when it begins to bother him, he decides to confront the situation and embarks on a long search for Hicran in Istanbul.

97. OSCARS TÜRKİYE'S NOMINEE FOR BEST INTERNATIONAL FILM NOMINATIONS

28TH TÜRKİYE-GERMANY FILM FESTIVAL  
- BEST FILM

Featuring  
Miray Daner, Burak Dakak, Cem Davran



Living in an Anatolian village, Ali is still deeply in love with his wife Aysel and dreams of winning her affection. He makes a living by harvesting canes like all men in their village. They need money, but Ali is not even able to provide for their basic needs as he refuses to submit to Yahya, the leader of the local gang. Fed up with Ali's stubbornness, Aysel starts working for Yahya, which devastates Ali. To turn things around, Ali makes a bold attempt, leading to a disaster as the gang burns all his harvests. He takes a shelter in his shed on the lake, but a tragic accident leads Ali to kill one of Yahya's men. Ali struggles to accept the blood on his hands. But to his relief, the gap seems to be closing between him and Aysel. Soon, Ali realizes that as everyone searches for lost men, the circle is closing in on him.

2024 İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL - BEST ORIGINAL MUSIC  
2024 GÖTEBURG FILM FESTIVAL - BEST FILM (NOMINEE)  
2024 BEIJING INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL -  
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION (NOMINEE)

Featuring  
Arzu Ağacıkoğlu, Cemil Ağacıkoğlu



November 24 | 3:30 pm.



November 24 | 4:00 pm

# CROSSING / GEÇİŞ

LEVAN AKIN | 106 MIN.

# NOT WHAT YOU THINK/ BİLDİĞİN GİBİ DEĞİL

VUSLAT SARAÇOĞLU | 107 MIN.



**Featuring**  
Mzia Arabuli, Lucaz Kankava, Deniz Dumanlı

From acclaimed director Levan Akin (*And Then We Danced*), *CROSSING* is a moving and tender tale of identity, acceptance and unlikely connection that transcends borders and generations. Lia, a retired school teacher living in Georgia, hears from a young neighbor Achi that her long lost niece Tekla, a transgender woman, has crossed the border into Turkey. Hoping to bring Tekla home after a period of estrangement, Lia travels to Istanbul with the unpredictable Achi to find her. Exploring the hidden depths of the city, they cross paths with a transgender lawyer called Evrim, who helps them in their search. Humanistic and compassionate, Akin's fourth feature is a heartfelt portrayal of overcoming the degrees of separation that divide us.

**SOFIA PRIDE FILM FESTIVAL - AUDIENCE AWARD**  
**SUNNY BUNNY LGBTQIA+ FILM FESTIVAL - INTERNATIONAL FEATURE COMPETITION**  
**BERLIN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL - JURY AWARD & BEST FEATURE FILM (NOMINEE)**  
**GHENT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL - EXPLORE AWARD - SPECIAL MENTION**  
**GUADALAJARA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL - JURY AWARD**  
**BASTIA MEDITERRANEAN FILM FESTIVAL - GRAND PRIZE**



**Featuring**  
Serdar Orçin, Alican Yücesoy, Hazal Türesan

Tahsin, Yasin and Remziye are three siblings who have completely different lives. The siblings, who have not seen each other for years, are forced to reunite in Tokat due to their father's mysterious death. During this process, the three siblings sometimes come closer to each other and sometimes experience serious tensions. As the siblings struggle with the complexities of brotherhood and talk about their pasts, it becomes clear that what they remember is different from each other. During this process, Tahsin and Yasin learn a truth about Remziye that deeply affects them.

**2024 İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL - JURY SPECIAL PRIZE**  
**2024 İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL - BEST ACTOR**  
**2024 İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL - BEST SCREENPLAY**  
**2024 İSTANBUL FILM FESTIVAL - BEST EDITING**





November 24 | 6:30 pm.



November 24 | 8:10 pm

# İSTANBUL TRILOGY / İSTANBUL ÜÇLEMESİ

FERZAN ÖZPETEK | 60 MIN.

# YURT / DORMITORY

NEHİR TUNA | 118 MIN.

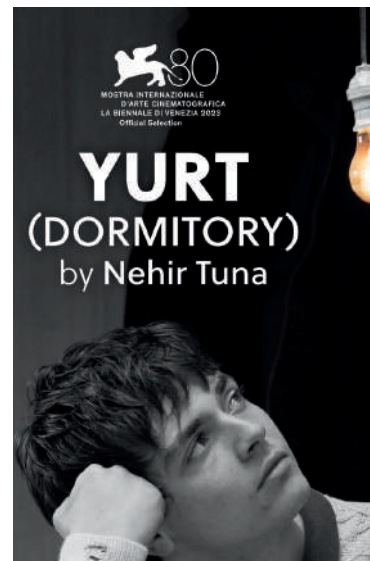


**Meze / Appetizer:** 22 Min  
Plot: A woman trying to overcome the disappointment of her wedding gathers with her loved ones around a table of delicious appetizers.

**Muzik / Music:** 16 Min  
Plot: A man who is having trouble at work gets the opportunity to see how a simple incident from his childhood can completely affect someone else's life.

**Muhabbet / Conversation:** 22 Min  
Plot: A man who moves away from his hometown finds himself in deep conversation with his family and friends as they eat, drink and celebrate life.

**Featuring**  
Ahsen Erođlu, Serra Yılmaz,  
Ayta Sözeri, Yiğit Kirazcı, Burak  
Yamantürk, Sitare Akbaş, Kubilay Aka



**Featuring**  
Doga Karakas, Can Bartu Arslan,  
Ozan Celik

1997, the tensions between religious and secular Turks are increasing. Fourteen-year-old Ahmet is sent by his recently converted father to an Islamic dormitory, a "Yurt", to learn Muslim values. Ahmet works hard to be the perfect son but he has trouble fitting in with rough kids at the Yurt, and feels isolated in his day secular school, where he hides his new home from his classmates. His only solace is a new friend Hakan, a street-smart kid who knows how to work the Yurt system. Together they dream of making their own decisions.

**2023 VENICE BISATO D'ORO- BEST SCREENPLAY**  
**2023 SAINT JEAN DE LUZ - BEST DIRECTOR, CRITICS AWARD**  
**2023 MARRAKECH - BEST PERFORMANCE (DOĞA KARAKAS)**  
**2023 SOTTODICIOTTO (TORINO) - SPECIAL JURY AWARD**

# FESTIVAL TEAM



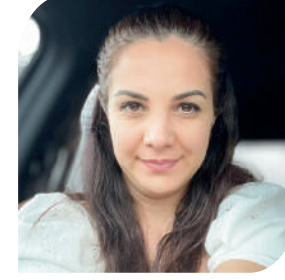
**Zuhall Kavak**  
Festival Director



**Sina Kutluay**  
Director of Strategy and Film  
Selection Committee



**Naim Alper**  
Director of Programming &  
Film Selection Committee



**Işıl Obuz Başıyigit**  
Treasurer &  
Film Selection Committee



**Deniz Özden**  
Director of Short Films &  
Film Selection Committee



**M. Kerem Kurtuluş**  
Director of Strategy



**Tunca Koterin**  
Director of Events &  
Film Selection Committee



**Atakan Çelik**  
Asst. Director of Programming  
& Film Selection Committee



**Tuğçe İrtenk**  
Director of Hospitality &  
Events



**Gözde Çamsay Karadağ**  
Director of Operations



**Ezgi Kılıç**  
Director of Marketing&PR



**Sibel Burcu Cesur**  
Director of Sponsorships



**Nilay Yüce**  
Film Selection Committee

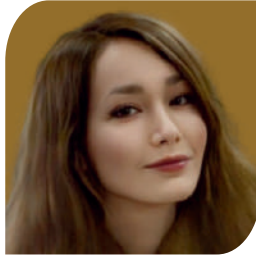


**Duygu Ünal**  
Film Selection Committee

# CONTRIBUTORS



**Ece Akmanlar Koç**  
Marketing Committee



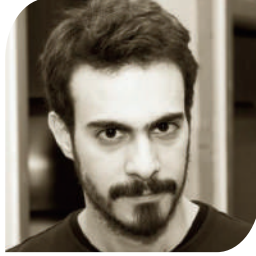
**Ayşegül Dahi**  
Marketing Committee



**Begüm Çetin Kabataş**  
Marketing Committee



**Yeşim Güven**  
Marketing Committee



**Yağmur Şimşek**  
Marketing Committee



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# 11<sup>TH</sup> VTFF FILM SCHEDULE

**21**  
NOVEMBER

**VTFF OPENING GALA** 6:30 PM  
**İSTANBUL TRILOGY** 8:00 PM

VIFF CENTRE, 1181 SEYMOUR ST., VANCOUVER

**22**  
NOVEMBER

**VTFF SHORTS** 6:00 PM  
**SHORT FILMS TALK** 7:30 PM

CINEWORKS, 1131 HOWE ST., VANCOUVER

**23**  
NOVEMBER

**UNCLE ALİ & THE GOOD DEATH** 11:00 AM  
**ROSINANTE** 12:30 AM  
**OYA & Q&A WITH THE DIRECTOR** 3:15 PM  
**LIFE** 6:00 PM

SFU GOLDCORP CENTRE FOR THE ARTS,  
149 WEST HASTINGS ST., VANCOUVER

**24**  
NOVEMBER

**THE REEDS** 10:45 AM  
**CROSSING** 1:30 PM  
**NOT WHAT YOU THINK** 4:00 PM  
**İSTANBUL TRILOGY** 6:30 PM  
**DORMITORY** 8:10 PM

SFU GOLDCORP CENTRE FOR THE ARTS,  
149 WEST HASTINGS ST., VANCOUVER

**23-24**  
NOVEMBER

**EXHIBITION - "OYA SCARVES"** 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

SFU GOLDCORP CENTRE FOR THE ARTS,  
149 WEST HASTINGS ST., VANCOUVER

## CONTACT

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