

# Latvian Film Industry



National  
Film Centre of Latvia



LATVIJAS  
KINOPRODUCENTU  
ASOCIĀCIJA

National Film Centre of Latvia  
Film Producers Association of Latvia

■ Annual State Support for film industry 2025  
(from all 4 key funding bodies) –

€ 12 904 296

■ Number of film productions supported by  
the National Film Centre of Latvia in 2025 –

27 films

COVER: *Ulya* by Viestur Kairish  
2026

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# Support for the Film Industry

## The National Film Centre of Latvia

**N**ational Film Centre of Latvia (NFC) is a public institution under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, and is responsible for the implementation of state cultural policy in the field of cinematography. The main functions of NFC include: facilitation of Latvian film and film culture development; increasing the accessibility of Latvian films culture in Latvia; promotion of Latvian film abroad; participation in international film events; and collaborating with international film funding bodies and policy organisations.

NFC is funded by the State budget and reports to the Minister of Culture. NFC grants public support to Latvian films and is keen on attracting film and television productions to Latvia, stimulating inward investment, and creating employment opportunities for creative staff, technicians and production companies.

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Director

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## Minority co-production scheme of NFC

- Total budget 2026: € 500,000.
- For producers from all over the world (except for projects whose delegate producer is a company registered in Russian Federation or Belorussian Republic or who has received or has planned to have funding from the public sources in either country). The participation of Latvian co-producer is necessary. The bilateral contract is not required.
- Supported films: fiction features (over 65 min), documentaries and animation films of any length. The film must comply with the terms and conditions for a Latvian film (according to the Film Law, a Latvian film is a film, which is produced by a Latvian film producer registered in the National Film Centre producers' register, and in the key creative team at least one member (director, scriptwriter, composer, set designer, animation artist or cinematographer) is a citizen of Latvia.
- The project can only be submitted by a production company registered in the producers' register in Latvia and the planned budget from Latvia is at least 20% for bilateral coproduction, and 10% in multilateral coproduction, or, if applicable, complies with the Council of Europe Convention on Cinematographic Co-production.
- The film's delegate producer must be able to prove at least 50% of financing in place from his/her own country.
- 80% of the subsidy must be spent in Latvia.
- Call twice a year, application time, deadline: 1<sup>st</sup> call – April, 2<sup>nd</sup> call September/October.

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# Support for the Film Industry

## Public Broadcaster

**L**atvian Television (LTV) is the stateowned public service television company in Latvia. LTV operates two linear channels, LTV1 and LTV7. LTV is part of Public Broadcasting of Latvia, consisting of LTV and radio (6 stations), joint news content and digital access is provided on the broadcaster's site [www.lsm.lv](http://www.lsm.lv). LTV acquires Free TV and Free VOD rights to drama series, fiction features, documentaries, children's content,

live events, etc. LTV mainly acquires completed films but is also open to considering projects in production if LOC is needed.

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**LATVIAN  
TELEVISION**

## State Culture Capital Foundation of Latvia

**A** public agency that supports different strands of culture, including audiovisual sector (various kind of projects: film productions, development, research projects, festivals, etc.).

- Supports documentaries of any length, fiction shorts and animation films.
- Applicant for film projects – Latvian producer.
- Funding for audiovisual sector in 2025: € 1 324 143 (no specific amounts indicated for film productions, depends on the competition and available funding).

- Three application deadlines: January, May, September.
- Decision: 1 month.

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## Film Producers Association of Latvia

**F**ounded in 1993, the Film Producers Association of Latvia (FPA) joins and represents all of the major film and TV production companies in Latvia. It contributes to the elaboration and implementation of the cultural policy of the industry. The members of FPA participate in the Latvian Film Council – a consultative body at the Latvian Ministry of Culture – and act on behalf of the film producers at the commissions of experts formed by the National Film Centre of Latvia and the State Culture Capital Foundation. FPA also designates a representative to the jury panel of the National Film Award *Lielais Kristaps*. Since

2012, FPA, together with the National Film Centre of Latvia and the Riga City Council, ensures the activities of Latvia's exhibition stand at the film markets of the Berlin International Film Festival and the Cannes Film Festival. FPA is a member of FIAPF (International Federation of Film Producers Associations).

**Gints Grūbe**  
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# Support for the Film Industry

## Riga Film Fund – Riga City Municipality Co-financing Programme for Shooting Foreign Films in Riga

**The** programme is a production incentive supporting the incoming productions of full-length fiction features, documentaries, and TV films. An application can be made for international production service or co-production to receive a cash rebate of 20–25% on eligible production costs. The support can be combined with Latvian co-Financing programme's funding.

- Support intensity: 20–25% of eligible costs (25% if the film's story is set in Riga or with significant featuring of Riga in the story, and at least partly shot in Riga, 20% – if the film is shot in the territory of Latvia).
- Deadlines: open call until 30 September on first come first serve basis until the budget is depleted.
- Shooting must be finished and reports submitted by 30 November.

- Applicant: a company registered in Latvia.
- Annual budget: € 800,000.
- Decision: 1 month.
- The film's delegate producer must confirm that at least 50% of financing is in place at the time of submission of the application.

The scheme is open for:

- for feature fiction films, documentary and fiction TV projects;
- budget of at least € 700,000.

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# Support for the Film Industry

## Investment and Development Agency of Latvia – Cash rebate scheme Latvia Co-financing programme for foreign productions

**The** programme is a production incentive supporting the incoming productions of full-length feature films, documentaries and animation films. An application can be made for international production service or co-production to receive a cash rebate of 30% on eligible production costs. The support can be combined with other public funding sources in Latvia in case if the Co-financing programme's support together with other funding sources does not exceed 50% of the film's total expenses in Latvia.

- Support intensity: 30% of eligible costs.
- Selection rounds: The selection is open for at least 1 month. If funding is available after a closed selection, the Agency announces the next selection round.
- Decision: 1 month.
- Applicant: a company registered in Latvia.

### Main Eligibility Criteria for Foreign Film Project:

- An agreement with a local production company is required.
- The film must be fully or partially filmed in Latvia.
- The project must be a new foreign film, which can include a new season, episode, or part of a film.
- The project must use the services of individuals or legal entities established in Latvia.

- The total production costs must be at least:
  - € 711,436 for feature and animation films
  - € 142,287 for documentaries
- VAT contributions to the State budget must be at least 50% of the co-financing.
- The foreign producer must have at least 50% of the total filming costs available.
- Foreign funding must be at least equal to the eligible costs of the film project in Latvia.
- Filming must not have started before the project application submission date.

## Estimated total available co-financing from 2025 to 2027 – € 15,2 million

2025 – € 4,85 million

2026 – € 5,07 million

2027 – € 5,29 million

In 2025 co-financed foreign film productions with the total of € 1,658,118.

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Investment and  
Development  
Agency of Latvia

**MISSION**  
**Latvia**

# Facts & Figures

## Situated in the north-eastern Europe with a coastline along the Baltic Sea

■ **Political System:** Republic, parliamentary democracy. Member of the EU, Schengen Area and NATO.

■ **Currency:** Euro

■ **Time Zone:** GMT + 2 (winter), GMT + 3 (summer)

■ **Official Language:** Latvian

■ **Population:** 1.8 million

■ **Land Area:** 64,589 km<sup>2</sup> with 54% forested area, over 12,000 rivers, over 3,000 lakes, and the widest waterfall in Europe – Ventas Rumba.

■ **Locations:** Latvia and its capital Riga offer a wide variety of locations. Riga city has Northern charm, Medieval, Art Nouveau and industrial architecture, as well as Soviet modernism heritage. The most beautiful Art Nouveau buildings in Riga were

built by Mihail Eisenstein, the father of the iconic filmmaker Sergei Eisenstein. Throughout Latvia there is wide range of castles, palaces, ancient fortresses and manor houses. The most popular shooting location is Rundale – a baroque palace built in 18<sup>th</sup> century, 100 km from Riga.

■ **Pristine nature:** There are four distinct seasons in Latvia. Over 500 km long white sand beaches – the coastline of the Baltic sea. Abundance of rivers and forests, lakes and swamps.

■ **Riga International Airport:** The largest air traffic hub in the Baltic region just 20 min drive from the city center. There are more than 100 direct flight destinations.

■ **Advantages of filming in Latvia:** Internationally experienced technical crews, strong art department and construction teams, competitive costs, stages and backlots, wide range of extras.



# Latvia's Cash Rebate Programme

## Investment and Development Agency of Latvia

[liaa.gov.lv](http://liaa.gov.lv)



Investment and  
Development  
Agency of Latvia

MISSION  
Latvia

## Riga Film Fund of Riga Municipality

[liveriga.com](http://liveriga.com)



- Feature-length fiction films, animation and documentaries
- **Minimal total budget: EUR 711 436** for feature-length fiction or animation films; **EUR 142 287** for documentaries

- Feature-length fiction films or documentaries intended for theatrical or TV release
- **Minimum total budget: EUR 700 000**

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- At least 50% of all financing confirmed
- Services provided by private individuals or legal entities registered in Latvia are involved in the production of the film
- Costs are incurred through a Latvian production company
- Film shooting takes place fully or partly in Latvia

### ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Production-related artistic, administrative and personnel costs; transport, location and equipment rentals; procurement; construction services; accommodation, catering, security, etc.

Combined  
Cash Rebate

UP  
TO **40%**

# Production Companies



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# Air Productions



Confessions of My Childhood Body / Sisters in Longing

A female-led studio with a focus on children's and youth content, female-centric stories both behind and in front of the camera, and stories with social impact.

Fiction / Documentaries / Animation

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Extraordinary Glavonja

2026

**Directors** Marina Andree Škop,  
Vanda Raýmanová

When ten-year-old Alice's parents mysteriously vanish one day, she turns to a spirited group of young detectives for help.

**Children's Adventure Film**

### Confessions of My Childhood Body Mana bērņības ķermeņa atzišanās

2023

**Director** Emīlija Karetņikova

A timid 17-year-old at summer camp finds solace in a group leader's friendship, but soon realizes his intentions are not innocent.

**Short / Drama**

## HALLMARK

### Sisters in Longing Iļģuciema māsas

2022

**Director** Elita Kļaviņa

They are united by their harrowing life stories, their longing for a decent life and their current home – a semi-open women's prison.

**Documentary**

**Līga Gaisa**  
Producer, screenwriter

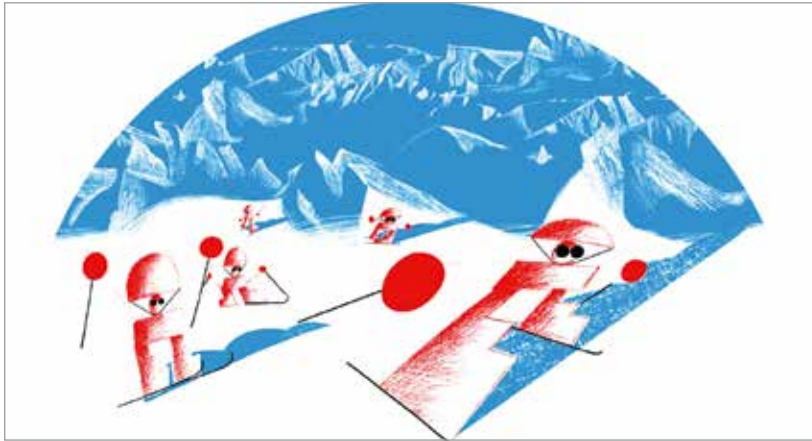
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# Atom Art



Freeride in C / Kafka. In Love / Born Happy / Hello, Oscar!

Animation Studio **Atom Art** is active in two main directions – developing and producing quality children's content in different formats and producing artistic short films in diverse animation techniques.

Animation

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Freeride in C Brīvais nobrauciens

2024

Director Edmunds Jansons

The short film is an audiovisual experience, an abstract dance of freedom that reflects the joy and fragility of being.

Short / Non-narrative Musical Comedy

### Kafka. In Love Kafka. Iemilējies

2024

Director Zane Oborenko

"I was obsessed with your letters – in agony, in love, in worry, and in an utterly indefinite fear of the indefinite." Franz Kafka

Short / Poetic Drama

## COMING UP

### Born In the Jungle Laimīgie

2026

Director Edmunds Jansons

During the late 1950s in Venezuela, nine-year-old Elizabeth's summer break takes a wild turn when her little brother Leo vanishes into the jungle.

Adventure

### Hello, Oscar! Oskars un lietas

2028

Director Edmunds Jansons

Bored Oskars (7) makes himself a toy phone out of a piece of wood, and it turns out he can use it to talk to various objects in Grandma's house. "Hello, iron?"

Short series / Adventure

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# Centaur Films



Ecstasis / The Boy Who Saw in The Dark

**Centaur Films**, established in 2020 and headquartered in Riga, Latvia, is a dynamic international entertainment company focused on financing and producing commercially appealing films and TV series.

Fiction

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Ecstasis Ekstāze

2023

**Director** Dž. Dž. Džilindžers

Married boudoir photographer Ivy's affair with bohemian painter Elias starts as a passionate escape but turns toxic. Soon, it becomes a painful addiction, shrouded in secrets and unraveling the thin line between desire and destruction.

**Drama / Romance**

## COMING UP

### The Boy Who Saw in The Dark Puika, kurš redzēja tumsā

2026

**Director** Pauls Kēsteris

When teenager, Jacob, falls in love with a girl, he lives a double life, juggling between independence and responsibility towards his blind parents.

**Drama**

**Kristians Alhimionoks**

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# Chaland Films



Blank Page Syndrome / 81 Meters

Founded in 2020 with the aim of creating out-of-the box, wine friendly films with high festival potential. The long term aim for **Chaland Films** is to strengthen ties between Latvian and French cinema productions.

Fiction / Documentaries / Shorts

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Blank Page Syndrome Baltās lapas bieds

2024

**Directors** Jānis Ābele, Toms Šķēle

In a world where printing machines spits out books relentlessly, a contrasting reality exists – amidst the noise of the city, a writer battles with despair, struggling to find words in front of a blank page.

Short / Documentary

## HALLMARK

### 81 Meters 81 metrs

2022

**Director** Jānis Ābele

Spring 2021. A cinephile invites you on an intimate trip through the last surviving cinema houses in Latvia. This documentary essay shot on super 8mm, opens the locked doors to the cinema houses during perhaps the most difficult time in the history of physical cinema space.

Short / Documentary

### Jānis Ābele

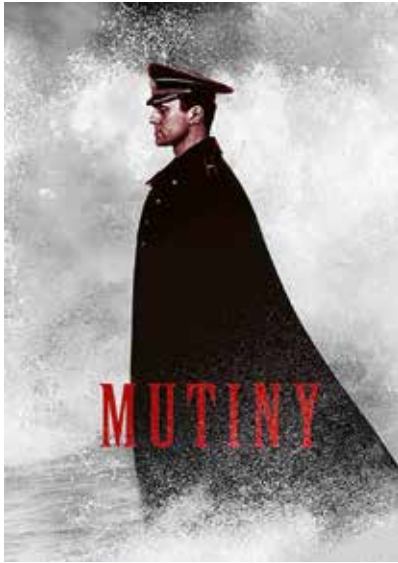
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# Cinevilla Films



Mutiny / Dark Border / Cinevilla Studio

**Cinevilla Films** creates TV projects and fiction features, and operates the largest cinema backlot in Northern Europe and the only one in the Baltic countries Cinevilla Studio.

Fiction / TV projects / Film Production Service

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Mutiny Dumpis

2024

Director Andrejs Ēķis

Based on true events, a historical drama about one man's struggle against the authorities that leads to a mutiny on the soviet warship.

Mini TV Series / Drama

## COMING UP

### Dark Border Tumšā robeža

2026

Year 1939, on the Latvian-Russian border, counterintelligence officer "Baltais" begins to investigate a crash of a Russian spy plane.

Drama

## HALLMARK

### Cinevilla Studio

Cinevilla Studio is the largest cinema backlot in Northern Europe and the only one in the Baltic countries. The large-scale scenery covers 150 ha (370 ac) and includes multiple street settings, pavilions and historical villages all ready to be adjusted to fit your creative vision.

**Andrejs Ēķis**  
Producer, director

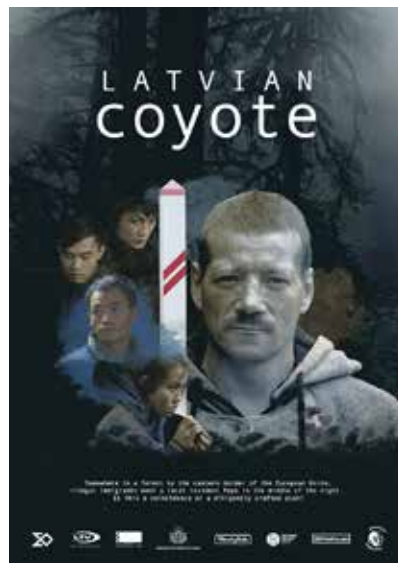
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# Documentarian



Faithful unto Death / Latvian Coyote / A Guide to Grieving

Production company **Documentarian** produces a diverse range of feature-length and short documentary films, known for their distinct observational style. Its productions have received acclaim from prestigious international film festivals, such as Doc Leipzig, Ji.hlava International Documentary Film Festival, and Dublin Film Festival.

Documentaries

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Faithful unto Death Esi uzticīgs līdz nāvei

2024

Director Ivars Zviedris

For 27 years, Mara carried medical clamps forgotten by doctors in her body after surgery. Almost as long, for 24 years, she's been with Ivars. Life is harsh, but love is above all.

Documentary

## COMING UP

### A Guide to Grief Sērošanas ceļvedis

2027

Director Ivars Zviedris

A documentary filmmaker's journey of mourning after the death of his youngest daughter.

Documentary

## HALLMARK

### Latvian Coyote Valkātājs

2019

Director Ivars Zviedris

Somewhere in a forest by the eastern border of the European Union, illegal immigrants meet a local resident Pepe in the middle of the night. Is this a coincidence or a diligently crafted plan?

Documentary

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# Dream Well Studio



Flow / Away

**Dream Well Studio** is an independent animation production company based in Riga, Latvia. It was founded by Gints Zilbalodis whose film *Away* (2019) was selected in more than 90 festivals and won 13 awards including the *Contrechamp* award in Annecy. Most recently, Dream Well premiered the film *Flow* (2024) by Gints Zilbalodis in the *Un Certain Regard* section at Cannes.

Animation

## RECENTLY RELEASED

**Flow**  
**Straume**

2024

**Director** Gints Zilbalodis

After a terrible flood wreaks havoc on the world, a stubbornly independent Cat is forced to share a small boat with a group of other animals. Getting along with them turns out to be an even greater challenge for him than surviving the flood.

Animation

## COMING UP

**Limbo**  
**Limbo**

2028

**Director** Gints Zilbalodis

A fantastic adventure story about making difficult decisions, moving forward and starting over.

Animation

## HALLMARK

**Away**  
**Projām**

2019

**Director** Gints Zilbalodis

A boy and a little bird are traveling across an island on a motorcycle trying to escape a dark spirit and get back home.

Animation

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# Ego Media



Death of the Death / Testament / Ulya / The Wedding Day / Roachcoach

The Riga-based production company **Ego Media** was established in 2005 by the experienced Latvian producer Guntis Trekteris to produce documentaries and fiction films for local and international audiences

Fiction / Documentaries /  
Film Production Service

## RECENTLY RELEASED

**Ulya**  
**Uļa**

2026  
**Director** Viestur Kairish

Ulya is only 16 but already almost 2 metres tall, and she dreams of a world where she could live unnoticed. Instead, she ends up under the scrutiny of the whole world after joining a legendary Latvian basketball team.

**Drama**

**Death of the Death**  
**Frankenšteins 2.0**

2025  
**Director** Davis Simanis

Author who desperately holds to his life starts the existential yet hysterical journey to uncover the business of eternal life in the world of today.

**Documentary**

**Testament**  
**Testaments**

2025  
**Director** Jānis Ābele

Twenty years after the death of bohemian-enchanted poet and one of Latvia's pioneers of the detective genre, Anatols Imermanis, his spirit returns to lead the audience into his final detective story.

**Documentary**

## COMING UP

**The Wedding Day**  
**Līgava**

2026  
**Director** Marta Elīna Martinsonē

Cleo, a stalled actress, is offered a career-defining role by a legendary director. As she tries to rebuild her life, her troubled boyfriend backslides and the director demands more than talent, leaving her torn between their needs and personal freedom.

**Musical**

**Roachcoach**  
**Trakmakāns**

2027  
**Director** Ilze Burkovska-Jacobsen  
**Co-director** animation Trond Jacobsen

The adventurous storyteller Viga meets her secret insect friend, the roach Taro, making her perfectionist classmate Sana jealous. Taro and Sana's mum get in big trouble, and the two very different girls must team up to rescue their loved ones.

**Animation**

# FA Filma



24 Hr Sunshine / Banana Boat / Call Me Calendar

Latvian film production company **FA Filma** produces feature films and documentaries with high artistic merit. Their films have won numerous festival awards and are distributed internationally.

Fiction / Documentaries

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### 24 Hr Sunshine Saule spīd 24 stundas

2023

Director Juris Poškus

Going through midlife crisis, Martin quits his job and joins a motley crew of Guinness World Record contenders on their way to the North Pole.

Drama / Comedy

### Banana Boat Banāns upē

2024

Director Kristaps Brīze

Eager to settle down with his girlfriend, Ralf struggles to bond with her 12 years old son. They go on a boat trip together but unexpected adventure ensues when his flamboyant friend joins last minute!

Adventure / Comedy

## COMING UP

### Call Me Calendar Kalendārs mani sauc

2026

Director Juris Poškus

Oskar (33) has the mind of a 12-year-old, which sometimes works better than an adult's. Stuck in a small flat with his overprotective mother, he suddenly falls in love...

Drama

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# Fenixfilm



Blue Blood / The Girls of 1960 / Women Without Men

**Fenixfilm** is a full-service film production company with more than ten years of experience in producing documentaries and fiction films. Many of its productions have successfully been exhibited in film festivals worldwide. Most of the company's films are female-driven stories.

Fiction / Documentaries

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Blue Blood Zilās asinis

2023

Director Una Celma

A woman in her early forties struggles to end an abusive relationship with her husband while also trying to protect the only possession their family has left – an apartment in a luxurious part of the city.

Drama

### The Girls of 1960 1960. gada meitenes

2023

Director Una Celma

It is the story of directors' classmates, the children of complete and total socialism, the environment where we grew up, our youth and who we are today.

Documentary

### Women Without Men Sievietes bez vīriešiem

2023

Directors Marina Nazarenko, Una Celma

The protagonists are six Ukrainian women – mothers, daughters, wives, who have fled the war. They come from various corners of Ukraine and probably would never have met if fate had not brought them together in Latvia.

Documentary

# Film Angels Productions

Fiction / Documentaries / TV projects /  
Film Production Service



Melchior The Apothecary / Homo Novus

**Film Angels Productions** is currently the biggest and most active film production house in the Baltic region. It produces local commercial projects and music videos, and services international projects; its affiliate, Film Angels Studio, produces and services features and documentaries.

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Melchior The Apothecary Aptieķer Melchior

2022

Director Elmo Nūģanen

When a murderer is loose in town, the town is sick. It's time to call the apothecary.

Thriller

## HALLMARK

### Homo Novus Homo Novus

2018

Director Anna Viduleja

A romantic comedy of errors and intrigues, made after the novel of famous Latvian author A. Eglītis. The revival of Riga in the 1930ies – the art personalities, bohemia and the sharp humour of the author.

Comedy

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# Film Studio Animācijas brigāde Ltd.



Animation

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### The Odd Carrot

#### Burkāns neparastais

2024

Director Inese Pavēne

Two bunnies find a precious thin carrot, only to have it stolen by an angry badger. But things don't stay that way for long.

Short / Family

### Sphinx Alberta's Smile

#### Sfinksas Albertas smaids

2026

Director Dace Rīdūze

To find the lost smile of the stone Sphinx living on Albert Street, other street dwellers go on an exciting adventure to Egypt.

Short / Family

## HALLMARK

### Upside Down

#### Kājām gaisā

2023

Director Dace Rīdūze

Andulis, a curious bat, wakes up at the wrong time and discovers that he, unlike his fellow bats, loves being outside in the sunlight.

Short / Family



The Odd Carrot / Sphinx Alberta's Smile / Upside Down

Founded in 1966 by Arnolds Burovs, Latvian Puppet Animation Studio, later rebranded to **Animācijas Brigāde**, has crafted over 90 classically styled stop-motion puppet animations for TV and film.

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# Film Studio DEVIŅI



Soviet Milk / Bille / Ruch and Norie

Established in 1991, **Film Studio DEVIŅI** is an active player in the film industry. With a mission of telling compelling stories that both entertain and educate audiences, the company focuses on the co-production of feature films and documentaries.

Fiction / Documentaries

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Soviet Milk Mātes piens

2023

Director Ināra Kolmane

Young, promising doctor destroyed by the Soviet regime deprives her daughter of breast milk. Later, the daughter assumes the role of mother in respect to her mother. Based on the bestseller by Nora Ikstena.

Female-led Drama

### Bille

2018

Director Ināra Kolmane

An extraordinary and creative little girl attempts to comprehend the confusing adult world and prove her value despite the lack of appreciation and love from her mother.

Family Drama

## HALLMARK

### Ruch and Norie Ručs un Norie

2015

Director Ināra Kolmane

An emotionally fascinating and truly cognitive story of the unusual friendship between the Japanese student Norie and one of the oldest Suiti woman Ruch

Documentary

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# Filmu studija Grauba



Jumprava: The Big Happening / The Pagan King

**Filmu studija Grauba** creates large scale original and compelling stories in various genres, which are beloved by the Latvian audience and are successfully distributed around the world in collaboration with Canoe Films, Beta Film, Eagle Entertainment, Ascot Elite Entertainment, Vertical Entertainment, Condor Films, Mano Entertainment ect. In 2023 the remake rights for the original screenplay by director Aigars Grauba to the hit comedy *Accidental Santa* were acquired by Sony Pictures International Productions.

## Fiction



## COMING UP

### Jumprava: The Big Happening Jumprava: Lielais notikums

2026

**Director** Aigars Grauba

Biographical musical drama about a Latvian synth rock group of the 80s and their way to absolute stardom in despite of the USSR regime.

**Biographical Musical Drama**

## HALLMARK

### The Pagan King Namēja gredzens

2018

**Director** Aigars Grauba

On his deathbed, the reigning King bestows power to an unexpected heir who must find strength within himself to unite his people against the violent crusades.

**Historical / Action / Legend**

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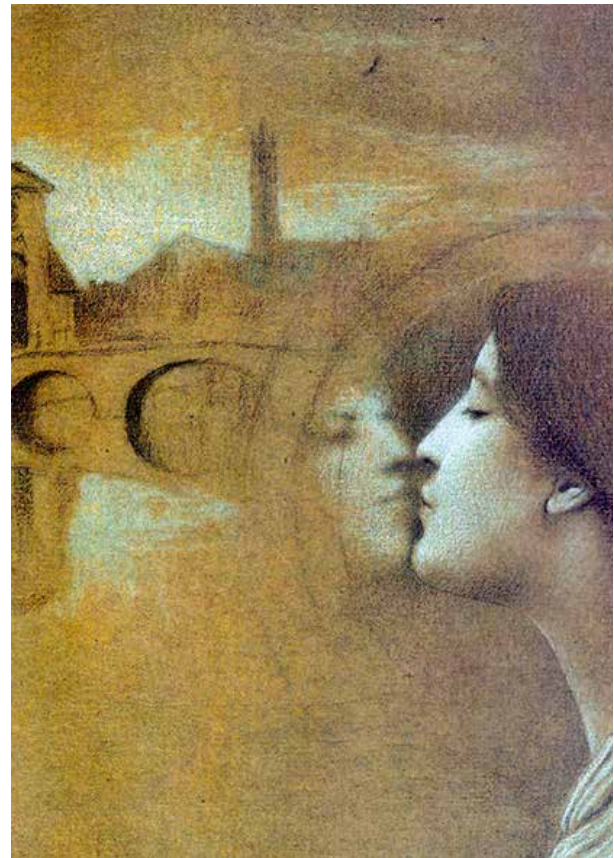
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# GESTA FILMS

Fiction / Documentaries



Juris Jurjāns: Seven Days of Painting, Talking, Silence / Things Washed Ashore

Based in Latvia, Marta Romanova-Jēkabsons, independent and rising producer, stands as the driving force behind **GESTA FILMS**. In collaboration with a diverse array of established and emerging directors, Marta has forged partnerships across borders, co-producing films with countries such as Czechia, Lithuania, Belgium, Ukraine, and beyond.

## RECENTLY RELEASED

**Juris Jurjāns: Seven Days of Painting, Talking, Silence**

**Juris Jurjāns. Septiņas dienas ar gleznošanu, runāšanu, klusēšanu**

2024

**Director** Dzintra Geka

Latvian painter Juris Jurjāns' defiance of age norms and celebration of life's beauty in director Dzintra Geka's visually rich documentary. As usual, Jurjāns chooses beauty as the leading theme of his art and continues to indulge in fine drinks, cigars, and paints.

**Documentary / Portrait**

## COMING UP

**Things Washed Ashore  
Pludmalē atrastas lietas**

2026

**Director** Jānis Ābele

In a Cold War time in a little village next to Baltic sea soldier Alexander falls in love with a young and beautiful girl Oceana from the Georgian circus troupe and gradually is drawn into dangerous adventure – first love – and a strange world in which the girl may or may not be a mermaid.

**Melodrama / Magic Realism**

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# Hargla Company



Termini / Cat On My Mind / Whisper in the Cellar / The Shoe

**Hargla Company** was founded in 1997 as its founders were eager to make their own productions. Almost all of its films have won festival awards. 2 were selected for the official programme of Cannes IFF, 2 – for Venice IFF, 2 – for Berlinale, 4 – for Locarno IFF etc.

Fiction / Documentaries

## RECENTLY RELEASED

**Termini**  
**Gala punkti**

2024

**Director** Laila Pakalniņa

The terminus resembles a circle, because it is where things turn around. Accordingly, this film was shot while "moving in a circle", constantly moving

**Documentary**

**Cat On My Mind**  
**Es domāju par kaķi**

2025

**Director** Laila Pakalniņa

No doubt, he was thinking of a cat. Because he was trying to take a photo of the cat. (Recalling of strange memories through exposed photo negatives from 1968-78 by an anonymous photographer, found in a dustbin).

**Documentary / Fiction**

## COMING UP

**Whisper in the Cellar**  
**Čuksti pagrabā**

2026

**Director** Laila Pakalniņa

He really is a superhero – He hides people in the cellar. And then He finally wants to be happy – He goes to another woman, leaving his wife, his little daughters and eleven people in the cellar. She is not a hero. She wants to forget not only Him, but also the cellar.

**Drama**

## HALLMARK

**The Shoe**  
**Kurpe**

1998

**Director** Laila Pakalniņa

The late 1950's. Every night, Soviet tractors comb the coast of Latvia looking for signs of anyone who could have infiltrated the Soviet border from the sea...

**Drama / Comedy**

**Laila Pakalniņa**  
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# Juris Podnieks Studio



Podnieks on Podnieks. A Witness to History / Iron Song

**Juris Podnieks Studio** started its work as an independent entity in 1989. The company has its own sound studio, which provides excellent post-production services using the latest technologies.

Fiction / Documentaries / Animation /  
TV projects

## RECENTLY RELEASED

**Podnieks on Podnieks. A Witness to History**

**Podnieks par Podnieku. Laika liecinieks**

2024

**Directors** Anna Viduleja, Antra Cilinska

A film based on Juris Podniek's diaries and interviews like a conversation before infinity – one of the most brilliant representatives of the Latvian documentary film family, a film director, who was able to speak directly and poignantly about time and society.

**Documentary**

## COMING UP

**Iron Song**

**Dziesma par dzelzs aizkaru**

2026

**Director** Tomas Vengris

In the 1970ies, art was associated with the freedom of creative thought, but not everywhere. This story is about what happened to the young American writer Nancy who fell in love with the Latvian composer Arthur while visiting the USSR.

**Drama**

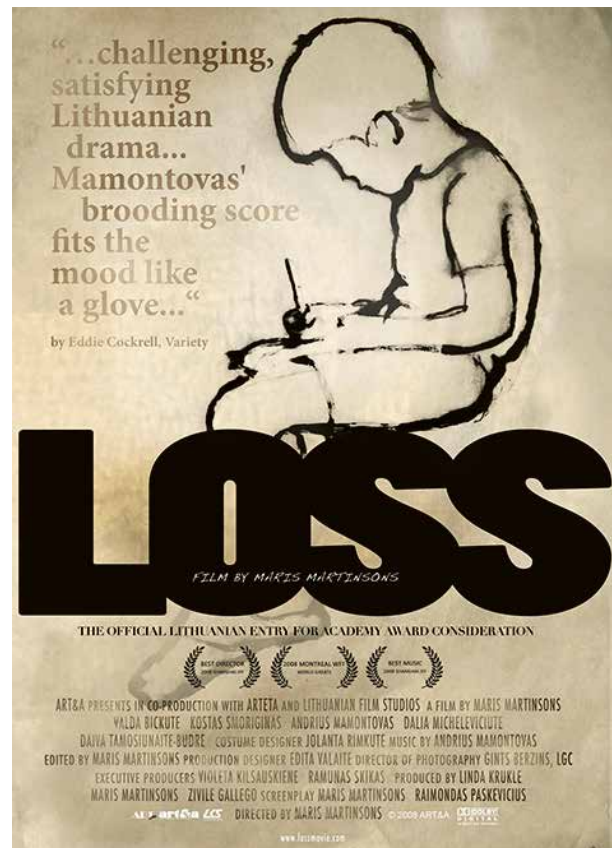
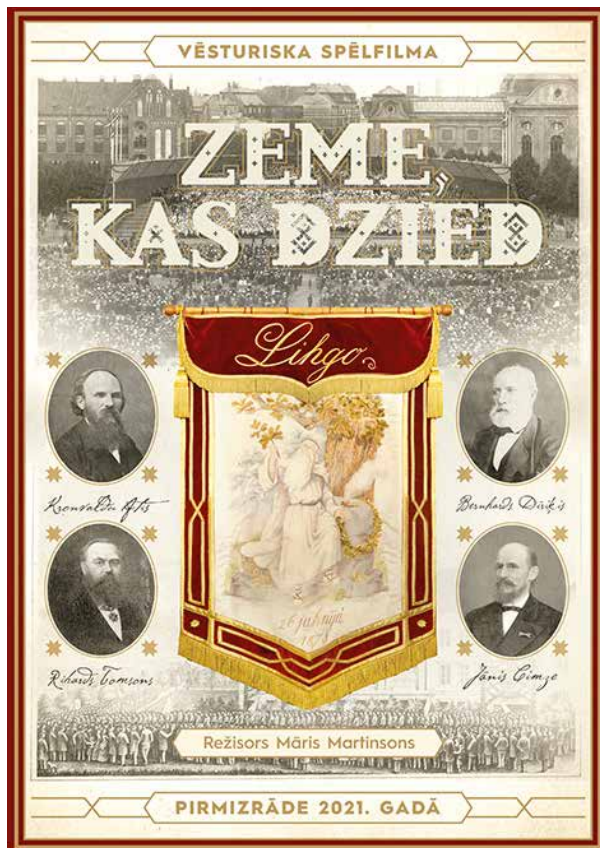
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# K Films

Fiction / TV projects



In The Land that Sings / Loss

**K Films** is a filmmakers' partnership established in 2009. Its vision is to create films with no boundaries in terms of country, genre, language or budget. The company connects the cinema traditions of the West and the East.

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Zeme, kas dzied In The Land that Sings

2024

**Director** Māris Martinsons

Leaders of the Riga Latvian Society decide to hold the 1st Latvian Song Celebration back in 1873. This national tradition is included in UNESCO's list of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity and led to Latvia's independence.

**Period drama**

## HALLMARK

### Nereikalingi žmonės Loss

2008

**Director** Māris Martinsons

A mentally ill young woman Valda convinces herself that a boy growing up in an orphanage is her child. This film portrays the beauty and tragedy of the human heart.

**Drama**

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# KULTFILMA



Escape Net / Brothers' War / Blizzard of Souls

**KULTFILMA** is an emerging company from Latvia with recent success with its feature historical war drama *Blizzard of Souls* (Oscars Short-listed as Best Score, domestic Box Office record holder in Latvia and distributed to 50+ countries).

Fiction / Documentaries / TV projects

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Escape Net

Tīklā. TTT leģendas dzimšana

2025

Director Dzintars Dreiberģs

How to screw over the USSR by playing basketball. A girl from Riga in Stalin's time hopes to escape the USSR and reunite with her refugee brother by playing basketball. Her dedication and love move the whole nation and leads to the creation of the most dominant women's basketball team in European history. Based on a true story.

Cold War Drama / Sport / Biopic

## COMING UP

### Brothers' War

Brāļu karš

2027

Director Dzintars Dreiberģs

A do or die story of a Latvian family caught in the WW2.

War / Drama / History / Action

## HALLMARK

### Blizzard of Souls

Dvēseļu putenis

2020

Director Dzintars Dreiberģs

Based on the true story of young Artur (16), enlisted in WW1's Eastern Front; too young to fight, but old enough to die. The battlefield is his home now and he must find the strength to mature fast as half the population of Latvia is lost to war.

War / Drama / History / Action

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# LUNOHOD Animation Studio

Animation



Electrician's Day / Comeback / Wings and Oars

**LUNOHOD Animation Studio** was established in 2007. It specializes in the production of animated short films, many of which have received awards at various film festivals around the world.

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Electrician's Day Elektriķa diena

2018

Director Vladimir Leschiov

While working near a psychiatric clinic, an electrician is struck by an accident. Because of the electric shock, he ends up in this hospital, where he gets accustomed to the everyday life of its patients.

Animation / Drama / Comedy

### Comeback Atgriešanās

2021

Director Vladimir Leschiov

When you desperately miss it, the long-forgotten childhood vehemence may come back...

Animation / Drama

## HALLMARK

### Spārni un airi Wings and Oars

2009

Director Vladimir Leschiov

A former pilot looks back over his life – the Earth, the Sky, the Woman – everything that took place on the journey from an air strip to an abandoned boat house.

Animation / Drama

**Vladimir Leschiov**  
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# Mima Films

Fiction / TV projects /  
Film Production Service



Impressions / Can't Help Myself / Nearby

Established in 2018, we are a fast growing boutique production company with a profoundly thorough never-say-die attitude and a high sense of responsibility driven to work with new talents and meaningful, socially aware projects.

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Can't Help Myself Can't Help Myself

2023

Director Anna Ansoņe

Estere spends her days by the sea selling ice cream. Trying to find peace, she listens to meditation podcasts and self-help books.

Short / Drama / Comedy

### Flesh, Blood, Even a Heart Nospiedumi

2025

Director Alise Zarina

Impressions tells a story of a slow death, fear of abandonment, emotional estrangement and the contempt some feel for their parents, yet it aspires to be a feel good film.

Drama / Comedy

## HALLMARK

### Nearby Blakus

2019

Director Alise Zarina

Luize and Kaspars meet to celebrate Midsummer's Eve. Their shared trip turns into a strange, funny and complicated journey through a relationship over the course of three years.

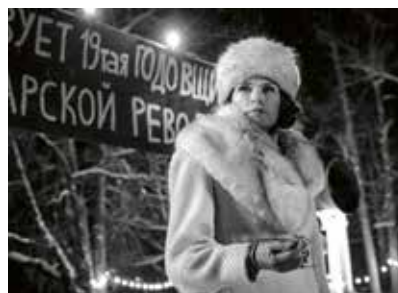
Drama / Comedy

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# Mistrus Media



The Bog / Emptiness / Symphony of Life / She-Devil / Maria's Silence

**Mistrus Media**, established in 2000, is one of the most experienced Latvian film production companies with strong reflections on historical and current social political themes. In recent years, has cooperated with a number of countries from Europe, working both on complex joint productions of international films and providing professional services to foreign companies shooting their films in Latvia.

Fiction / Documentaries / TV projects /  
Film Production Service

## COMING UP

### The Bog Klajumā aiz meža

2026

Director Reinis Kalviņš

A boy's body is discovered in a peat field, and a local drunk confesses to a decades-old murder. Policeman Broze reopens the case and is forced to confront his own role in the tragic game played by boys 30 years ago—a day he can't remember or forget.

Crime (Baltic Noir)

### Emptiness Tukšums

2026

Director Viesturs Kairiņš

A documentary essay about emptiness in Europe, exploring its causes, life in the emptying places, and attempts to overcome it in five landscapes: Latvia, Romania, Italy, Germany, and the UK.

Documentary

### Symphony of Life Dzīves simfonija

2027

Director Signe Birkova

As the world of opera begins to shift its rules, Elīna Garanča stands at the peak of her career, already starting to plan how to bring it to a close—while also continuing in new ways.

Documentary

### She-Devil Spīgana

2027

Director Dāvis Šimanis

A young woman who lost her family during the NKVD terror, transforms from a victim into an avenging angel with the goal of not letting evil go unpunished.

Thriller / Drama

## HALLMARK

### Maria's Silence Marijas Klusums

2024

Director Dāvis Šimanis

The story of Maria Leiko – a famous actress who late in her career has to decide between fame and love for her grandchild, between her ideals or the lies of Stalin's totalitarian regime.

Historical Drama

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# Picture House Productions



A Postcard from Rome / BOOM! / Meet me at the Graveyard

**Picture House Productions** was founded as a platform for like-minded individuals to generate ideas, develop projects, and implement international initiatives. The experience gained from various foreign and domestic film productions, as well as large-budget commercials, has enabled producer Uģis Riekstiņš to establish a modern hub for creative collaboration and innovation.

Fiction

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### A Postcard from Rome Pastkarte no Romas

2024

Director Elza Gauja

An elderly married couple, Alvine and Ernests, use a fraud scheme to win their long-awaited trip to Rome. The great joys are overshadowed by Alvine's unexpected Alzheimer's disease.

Drama

### BOOM! BUM!

2024

Directors Marta Selecka, Andra Doršs

After a skateboarding accident, Hugo (13) develops magical "superpowers". He quickly becomes the coolest kid in school, but now has to choose between status and friendship.

Family / Adventure

## COMING UP

### Meet me at the Graveyard Kapusvētki

2028

Director Elza Gauja

Once a year, people gather at the Alūksne cemetery to celebrate life and, just as solemnly, try to shake hands with death.

Documentary

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# Red Dot Media



Here Comes the Rain / Defiance / Crime Solving for Beginners

The Riga-based production company **Red Dot Media** has been working with cinema and TV projects since 2007. The core of the company is made up of film and journalism professionals. Interested in topics that educate and entertain the audience. Documentaries, feature films and series.

[Fiction / Documentaries / TV projects](#)

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Here Comes the Rain Vietām gaidāms stiprs lietus

2023

**Director** Elizabete Gricmane

A film for youngsters about the difficulties of taking responsibility for one's life. A young director's view of life in the 21st century.

[Drama / Psychological](#)

## COMING UP

### Call Me Astra Mans vārds ir Astra

2026

**Director** Armands Zvirbulis

A political thriller about the struggle of the KGB and dissidents during the deepest depression in Latvia occupied by the Soviet Union in the 1980s. Who has the last word?

[Political Thriller / Period Peace](#)

## HALLMARK

### Crime Solving for Beginners Krimināllieta iesācējam

2022

**Director** Armands Zvirbulis

A series about the long shadow of the KGB. How the Soviet secret services left the sleeper agents to use them for the control of the independent state after the liberation of Latvia from the USSR.

[TV Mini Series / Spy Drama / Period Peace](#)

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# Rija Films



Thelma's Perfect Birthday / Lotte and the Lost Dragons

**Rija Films** was established in 1995. Its main activities are film production, dubbing of animated films and film distribution. Rija Films has had many highlights what were premiered at the prestigious Cannes and Berlin film festivals and also won awards at several other international festivals. For many years now, Rija Films has been actively participating in co-productions.

Fiction / Documentaries / Animation /  
Distribution / Sales

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Thelma's Perfect Birthday Telmas ideālā dzimēnīte

2025

**Director** Reinis Kalnaellis

Little penguin girl Thelma from the Land of Ice is eager to celebrate of her fifth birthday together with her friends. A colourful, exciting and unexpected journey is about to happen.

**Animation / Fantasy**

## HALLMARK

### Lotte and the Lost Dragons Lote un pazudušie pūķi

2019

**Directors** Janno Poldma, Heiki Ernits

The scientists Karl the Raccoon and Victor the Fish arrive in Gadgetville. Lotte and her little sister Roosie decide to go find the mythical fire-breathing dragons that these scientists are looking for.

**Animation / Adventure**

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# Riverbed



A Postcard from Rome / The Art of Looking / Beautiful Void

**Riverbed** is a full-service production company focused on auteur-driven storytelling with powerful imagery. Riverbed is currently co-producing two documentaries with Bulgarian and Estonian partners.

Fiction / Documentaries

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### A Postcard From Rome Pastkarte no Romas

2024

Director Elza Gauja

An elderly married Latvian couple, Alvine and Ernests, both working at a post office, use a fraud scheme to win their long awaited trip to Rome. The great joys are overshadowed by Alvine's suddenly progressing Alzheimer's disease. As their scheme is brought to light, Ernests decides to use up his burial money to spend their last days in Rome.

Drama

### The Art of Looking Vaatamise kunst

2024

Director Andris Gauja

Astrophysicists who try to understand the world by looking at it through telescopes and slime mold researchers who study the smallest organisms through their microscopes, come to surprisingly similar conclusions about the nature of things.

Documentary / Philosophy / Science / Short

## COMING UP

### Beautiful Void Brīnišķīgais tukšums

2026

Director Andris Gauja

What is the universe made out of? Physicist Carlo Rovelli, Buddhist Robert Thurman, and artist Marina Abramović each reach a similar answer: the universe is empty space, constantly exploding into existence.

Documentary / Philosophy / Science

# SKUBA films



Astra / Men Who Sold the Soul / Can You Get a Beer Here? Post Scriptum

Established in 2011, **SKUBA films** is a small production company with high efficiency. Skuba in Latvian means quickly. But quickly doesn't mean carelessly. Company is focusing on documentaries and platform TV series. Recently has worked in Bolivia, Peru, Columbia, Kenya, Brazil and Thailand.

Documentaries / TV projects

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Astra

2023

**Director** Liene Laviņa

A film about a unique personality with an unbreakable spirit – Gunārs Astra. He can be considered as Latvian Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn or Václav Havel. Like Alexei Navalny in Russia, Astra was poisoned with tea on a train to Saint Petersburg. Astra's death became a symbol of light on the long road to the restoration of Latvia's independence.

**Documentary**

## COMING UP

### Men Who Sold the Soul

2026

**Director** Sandijs Semjonovs

Soviet Narcos from Latvia. Spend nearly 20 years in prison (Ecuador, Finland, Latvia). He is a known cocaine dealer in the Baltic states. In old age, issued book about his life. He became a celebrity and hero for part of the young generation. Is society crazy nowadays?

**Documentary**

### Can You Get a Beer Here? Post Scriptum Vai te var dabūt alu? Post Scriptum

2026

**Director** Normunds Pucis

Solving of the spy story of the post-war years.

**Documentary / History**

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# Studio CENTRUMS



Tomcat / BREAKTHROUGH. Konstantins Raudive / Eight Stars

Founded in 2004 in Riga, mainly as a film production company. However, the studio has also been active in film distribution and other projects (computer game, virtual museum, educational films and commercials). Focuses more on documentary filmmaking. In 2007 the first documentary animation in Latvia was created. *Little Bird's Diary* directed by Edmunds Jansons is based on the picture diary by Irīna Piļķe and awarded with the National Film Award. Head of the **Studio Centrums** is Bruno Aščuks.

## Documentaries

### RECENTLY RELEASED

#### Tomcat Runcis

2023

Director Andrejs Verhoustinskis

A story about Reinis Runcis – the poet and author, who lives a life of creative intensity. Bedridden for 21 years and, on rare occasions, confined to a wheelchair with a computer as his link to friends and the wider world, he still dreams big.

Short / Documentary / Portrait

### COMING UP

#### BREAKTHROUGH. Konstantins Raudive IZLAUŠANĀS. Neredzamais kļūst dzirdams

2026

Director Andis Mizišs

Konstantīns Raudive (1909–1974) was a Latvian writer and intellectual, husband of the great writer Zenta Mauriņa. He was interested in parapsychology, especially the possibility of afterlife.

Documentary / Biography

### HALLMARK

#### Eight Stars Astoņas zvaigznes

2017

Director Askolds Saulītis

This film tells about the most striking and tragic phenomenon during the development of the self-awareness of the Latvian nation – the Latvian Riflemen.

Documentary / History

**Bruno Aščuks**  
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# Studija Kokles



The End / The Nature of Tide / The Northern Star

**Studija Kokles** was established in 2019 to create films that inspire to rise above the everyday and discover the world's diversity and cultural-historical heritage.

Animation

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### The End Beigas

2019

Director Kārlis Vītols

An imaginative story about a man's mid-life crisis. Imprisoned in memories, the man of a certain age struggles to come to terms with the feeling of physical and spiritual endings.

Short / Arthouse

## COMING UP

### The Nature of Tide Paisuma daba

2026

Director Ella Mežule

When a young woman crosses paths with a charismatic stranger at a bar, her longing for connection collides with her distorted perception of relationships.

Short / Drama

### The Northern Star Ziemeļu zvaigzne

2026

Director Kārlis Vītols

An aspiring nobleman's journey through Italy becomes transformative when he rebels against tradition to pursue his true passions, encountering diverse cultures and remarkable individuals along the way.

18<sup>th</sup> Century Road Movie

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# Studio Locomotive

Fiction / Documentaries /  
Animation / Film Restoration



LOTUS / El Lobo: The Latvian Wolf / Sunshine for Everyone / Karmic Knot

**Studio Locomotive** produces fiction, creative documentaries and animation, mostly focusing on feature length projects. We cherish creative ideas that combine dedication, persistence and aim for quality.

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### LOTUS

2024

**Director** Signe Birkova

This film tells the story of Alice Von Trotta, an outsider who, by overcoming physical and mental obstacles and prejudices, becomes an avant-garde filmmaker in male dominated early years of cinema.

**Comedy**

## COMING UP

### El Lobo: The Latvian Wolf Latviešu vilks

2026

**Director** Kārlis Lesiņš

A story of the legendary Wolf Ruvinskis, a Latvian-born wrestler of Jewish descent who was forced to flee his homeland to become a Latin American wrestling and film star.

**Documentary**

### Sunshine for Everyone Saule Spīd Visiem

2027

**Director** Anete Melece

In the land of the Flatlanders, everyday life spirals into chaos when a man traps the sun to charge his electric car. Soon neighbors, a sunglasses vendor, farmers, botanists, and others begin tugging at the blazing sphere – each wanting it for themselves.

**Animation**

### Karmic Knot Karmiskais Mezgls

2028

**Director** Signe Baumane

After Latvia regained its independence, thousands of Latvians left their homeland, families, and children to live elsewhere. This is the story of one of them.

**Animation**

**Roberts Vinovskis**  
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# SUNDAY REBEL FILMS

Fiction / Documentaries / Animation

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### URGA, JO & PO

2025

**Director** Ilze Lasmane-Brože

A Superdog, gifted with universal weaknesses, and his mischievous sidekicks take on daring missions to rescue baby animals. But suddenly, they find themselves in some serious trouble...

Short animated series / Pre-school / Short

## COMING UP

### The Burlaks

#### Burlaki

2026

**Director** Gatis Ungurs

Miervaldis, a mundane lumber mill accountant, is thrust into a mythical land by deities' dare, where he must prove his worth, sparking an extraordinary journey.

Magical Realism

### The Dancing Void

#### Dejojošais tukšums

2026

**Director** Madara Dišlere

The aspiring Doctor Clown learns to let go of himself to become like his teacher – a void in which the nature of a clown can freely express itself.

Documentary / Poetical Observation



The Burlaks / The Dancing Void / URGGA, JO & PO

Every man who has shown the world the way to beauty and true culture, has been a Rebel & this is our core mindset even on open-minded Sundays! We believe in creative diversity and focus on arthouse films with a global potential.

**Dace Siatkovska**  
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# Tasse Film



My Freedom / The Last Divorce of Communism! / Soviet Jeans

Founded in 2011, **Tasse Film** is led by producer Aija Berzina. Company's main focus is to produce high quality author-driven fiction films both from established directors as well as discovering new talents, and bring them to international market.

Fiction / TV projects /  
Film Production Service

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### My Freedom Mana brīvība

2023

Director Ilze Kunga-Melgaile

Time of change in Latvia. The free-thinking and charismatic Alicia is actively involved in the People's Front and becomes a star of the Latvian National Awakening. However, achievements also bring complications and tough choices in private life.

Drama

## COMING UP

### The Last Divorce of Communism! Pēdējā komunisma šķiršanās

2026

Director Staņislavs Tokalovs

Personal, family, and societal freedom manifesting itself against the turbulent backdrop of the late 1980s.

Mini TV Series / Drama

## HALLMARK

### Soviet Jeans Padomju džinsi

2024

Directors Staņislavs Tokalovs, Juris Kursietis

In the late 1970s – at a time when the fiercest propaganda against Western culture was being waged through the USSR – an ardent rock and roll fan sets up a successful and illegal underground jeans factory in a Latvian psychiatric hospital.

Mini TV Series / Comedy / Drama

**Aija Bērziņa**  
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# TRICKSTER PICTURES



I Love You, Lex Fridman / The Child / Legato / A Boy

**TRICKSTER PICTURES** is an international creative studio based in Riga, Latvia. Our carefully curated projects focus on the development of young, brave and diverse voices in author-driven fiction and documentary film, creating cinematic experiences which resonate beyond national borders.

**Matīss Kaža**  
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**Dārta Krāšone**  
Assistant Producer

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Fiction / Documentaries

## COMING UP

### I Love You, Lex Fridman Es Tevi mīlu, Leks Frīdman

2026

**Directors** Matīss Kaža, Iveta Pole

Actress Iveta Pole is still single, but a sudden falling in love with the famous American podcast host Lex Fridman makes her make a drastic decision to change her life and follow her feelings.

**Documentary**

### The Child Bērns

2026

**Director** Linda Olte

After Zane (39) quit her professional swimmer's career at the age of 34 to focus on her family and become a mother, the baby never came. As her chances to have a child narrow and a positive result becomes increasingly unlikely, Zane is desperate to try any means necessary.

**Drama**

### Legato

2027

**Director** Ilze Burkovska-Jakobsena

Sofija, a Latvian teenager raised in Norway, learning of her father's existence, recklessly travels to Latvia to meet him and find answers to questions about her roots and identity.

**Coming of Age / Drama**

### A Boy Puika

2027

**Director** Rūta Znotiņa

A sensitive coming-of-age story about a teenager with autism and his mother, told over the course of several years.

**Documentary**

# Tritone Studio



Dog of God / Baltic Tribes | Last Pagans of Europe

Established in 2009, **Tritone Studio** began as an artist collective with three Abele brothers (two directors, producers and a D.o.P) at its core. But in just a couple of years the company transitioned to production and co-production house.

**Raitis Ābele**  
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Fiction / Documentaries / Animation

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Dog of God Dieva suns

2025

**Directors** Raitis Ābele, Lauris Ābele

In a 17<sup>th</sup> century Swedish Livonian village, constant rain and drunkenness prevail. When a stolen relic sparks witchcraft accusations, an 80-year-old self-proclaimed werewolf named the Dog of God arrives with a mysterious gift: The Devil's Balls.

**Adult Folk Tale**

## COMING UP

### Satan and Wagner Sātans un Vāgners

2027

**Directors** Lauris Ābele, Raitis Ābele

Richard gets his hands on a Masonic sheet music that could drive the whole world crazy, but Peter has a knife that can stop Wagner. Will it be used?

**Occult Thriller**

## HALLMARK

### Baltic Tribes | Last Pagans of Europe Baltu Ciltis | Eiropas pēdējie pagāni

2018

**Directors** Raitis Ābele, Lauris Ābele

Danish spy Lars enters the tribal lands of the Baltic people, where he takes part in religious rites, cruel forays, gets high during the summer solstice, becomes the slave of Curonians and even fights the crusaders.

**Docudrama**

# Vertov



Iron / Time to the Target / Under the Sun

**Vertov** founded in 1996 was one of the largest independent documentary film studios in Russia. Its catalogue contains more than 200 films and hundreds of TV programs. Since 2014 Vertov studio is registered in Latvia. More than 40 TV programs produced annually. Documentaries produced after 2014 participated in hundreds of film festivals and received more than 50 prizes. *Putin's Witnesses* was nominated for European Film Awards 2019.

**Natalia Manskaya**  
 Producer  
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Documentaries

## RECENTLY RELEASED

**Iron  
 Dzelzs**

2024  
 Director Vitaly Mansky

Delving into the context of the ongoing war in Ukraine by reflecting on the military vehicles that either enter or have long been embedded in the lives and minds of people across various countries.

Documentary / Short

**Time to the Target  
 Karš tālumā**

2025  
 Director Vitaly Mansky

The passage of time in Ukraine, in the rear, where even the illusion of peaceful life has been taken away due to the criminal war imposed by the eastern neighbor.

Documentary

## HALLMARK

**Under the Sun  
 Saules staros**

2015  
 Director Vitaly Mansky

A film about the ideal life in an ideal country. We can see how much effort the North Korean people have to undertake to make this ideal world work.

Documentary

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# VFS FILMS



North South Man Woman / Scarecrows / Redlight to Limelight

**VFS FILMS** is a production company that has been active in the world of cinema for 27 years and is known for its award-winning co-productions. VFS also has cozy post-production facilities in Riga, including a 5.1 sound studio.

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Documentaries / Fiction / Animation /  
New TV Formats

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### North South Man Woman

2025

**Directors** Morten Traavik, Mary Sun Kim

In a no man's land between warm love and Cold War, a refugee match-maker fights to heal her divided homeland — one couple at a time.

Documentary / Society / Culture / Charming / Revelations / Honest / Intimate

### Scarecrows

2025

**Director** Laila Pakalniņa

The main characters in our film are doing their best to keep birds and planes from crossing each other's paths. It's a daily job because planes fly every day. Birds do too.

Documentary / Discovery / Wildlife / Exciting / Surprising / Captivating

### Redlight to Limelight

2025

**Director** Bipuljit Basu

A high-spirited group of sex workers and their families in Kalighat, Kolkata begin making short films to transform their own lives and inspire others.

Documentary / Lifestyle / Fraternity / Engaging / Inspiring / Heartfelt / Offbeat

### All Birds Sing Beautifully

#### Visi putni skaisti dzied

2025

**Director** Krista Burāne

Over the past twenty years, countless bird species have been disappearing rapidly from the landscapes of Latvia and Europe — even those long celebrated in ancient Latvian folk songs. Five actors and a choir set out on a travelling performance across Latvia, encountering birds whose voices can now scarcely be heard in our forests and fields, silenced by human activity.

Documentary / Musical

# Vino Films



The Brazen / Red Code Blue / Garden of Anna

**Vino Films** is a film production company established in 2020 by film producer Roberts Vinovskis.

Fiction

## RECENTLY RELEASED

**The Brazen**  
**Bezkaunīgie**

2023

**Director** Aik Karapetian

When Helena returns to her father's summer cottage with her family to restart her dance career, a terrifying infestation of insects forces them to confront a dark tragedy from their past.

**Drama / Horror**

**Red Code Blue**  
**Tumšzilais Evaņģēlijs**

2025

**Director** Oskars Rupenheits

In the gritty streets of 90s Riga, a rookie cop confronts a harsh truth: to fight crime, he must break the rules. Will he sacrifice integrity for justice?

**Crime / Action / Drama**

## COMING UP

**Garden of Anna**  
**Annas dārzs**

2027

**Director** Kristīne Briede

Film following into footsteps of the legendary Latvian missionary Anna Irbe, in a contemporary post-colonial context.

**Documentary**

# WHITE PICTURE



The Exalted / Youth Eternal / Summer Blues / Tabita

**WHITE PICTURE**, founded in 2020 by producer Alise Gelze, has produced acclaimed films including *Oleg* (2019) by Juris Kursietis, *Mother I Love You* (2013) by Janis Nords, and *Mellow Mud* (2016) by Renars Vimba, has collaborated with Homeless Bob Productions (Estonia) on *The Invisible Fight* by Rainer Sarnet which was premiered at Locarno IFF 2023, also co-produced *The Book of Everything* (2022) by Ineke Houtman. Alise Gelze, recognized by the Ministry of Culture of Latvia, is a graduate of EAVE and ACE Producers, and a member of the European Film Academy.

Fiction

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### The Exalted Cildenie

2024

**Director** Juris Kursietis

Successful couple's – world famous organist Anna (44) and the influential head of a state enterprise Andris (50), – seemingly comfortable life changes radically when Andris is accused of being involved in a large-scale corruption scandal.

Drama

### Youth Eternal Mūžīgi jauni

2025

**Director** Armands Začs

A group of millennials is at a summer music festival, relishing their seemingly carefree lives, while their close friends, Ieva and Alex, are embarking on parenthood. This transition brings a shift in their dynamics, leading the friends to drift apart and embark on a wild journey toward self-responsibility and maturity.

Drama

## COMING UP

### Summer Blues Vasaras nogurdinātie

2027

**Director** Anna Ansone

When Latvian artist Ulla wins a grant to showcase her first solo exhibit in Rostock, tensions with her pregnant sister Darta escalate as they confront family history. A storm strands them on a ferry to Latvia, forcing a transformative journey of reconciliation amidst unresolved emotions and fractured relationships.

Drama

### Tabita Tabita

2028

**Director** Juris Kursietis

Faced with obstacles to the further education of his daughter Tabita, who has Down's syndrome, Andris is forced to accept the new reality of life. Between conventional norms and unconventional solutions, Andris is faced with a difficult choice - to save his marriage or to ensure a fulfilling future for Tabita.

Drama

**Alise Gelze**  
Producer

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# Woodpecker Pictures



Last Date / The Man From the Forest / Grandfather's Father

**Woodpecker Pictures** is a company that unites keen and competitive professionals of audiovisual field – directors, producers and journalists. Mainly focusing their work on documentaries and commercials, studio has started their work on feature films.

Fiction / Documentaries / TV projects

## RECENTLY RELEASED

### Last Date

#### Pēdējā tikšanās

2024

**Director** Karlis Lesins

Andris feels his life has no more meaning and can now only wait for the day he dies, so he decides to take a risk and look for his first love, Ritma, to try and rekindle a relationship that was painfully broken more than sixty years ago.

**Short / Documentary**

## COMING UP

### The Man From the Forest

#### Cilvēks no meža

2027

**Director** Karlis Lesins

Based on true events, the film tells the story of the "Forest Brother" Kārlis Zariņš, whose experiences secretly and ruthlessly fighting against the Soviets fuel aggressive patriotism and a desperate desire not to be forgotten by history.

**Western**

## HALLMARK

### Grandfather's Father

#### Vectēva tēvs

2016

**Director** Karlis Lesins

In this film a young man and his curmudgeonly grandfather are going 1,800 km to northern Russia in an old Zhiguli car, hoping to find the grave of the director's great-grandfather, who was deported. Will they find what they are looking for?

**Short / Road-movie / Documentary**

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**Karlis Lesins**  
Producer, director

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# Film Service Producers

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**Cinevilla Films**

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**Ego Media**

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**White Picture**

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# Distribution Companies

## ACME Film

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## Adastra Cinema

(theatrical distribution)

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## A – One Films Latvia

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## Baltic Content Media

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## BestFilm.eu

(theatrical distribution)

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bestfilm.eu  
info@bestfilm.eu  
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## Estinfilma OÜ

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## Go3

(VOD distribution)

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## GPI

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gpicinema.com/latvia/  
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## Kino Bize

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## Kino Kults / Spektrs

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## KP Distribution Latvia

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## Latvian Theatrical Distribution (LTD)

(theatrical distribution)

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## Latvijas Filma

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## Rija Films

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## Unlimited Media OÜ

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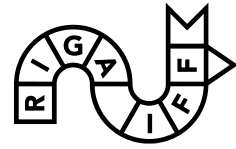
# International Film Festivals

## Riga International Film Festival

Launched in 2014, the Riga International Film festival (RIGA IFF) has since developed a diverse and multifaceted film programme as well as a growing industry section, networking platforms, and activities for students and families. RIGA IFF takes place annually in October, while various satellite events and engagement in distribution activity take place throughout the year.

RIGA IFF features several international competition programmes, the foremost being an annual multi-genre feature film competition in which an international jury selects the winner of the RIGA IFF Award.

RIGA IFF is supported by Creative Europe Media Programme.



### Riga International Film Festival

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## Baltic Sea Forum for Documentaries

Baltic Sea Docs (BSD) is an annual international event for professional documentary filmmakers and general audiences alike. Every year, BSD gathers over 100 professional filmmakers from the Baltic Sea region, as well as from Eastern and Central Europe. In addition to the public pitching session, BSD holds preparatory workshops and seminars. Apart from the professional activities, a programme featuring the highest quality documentaries is presented to the general public in Riga and Latvia's largest cities.

BSD is organised by the National Film Centre of Latvia and is supported by Creative Europe Media Programme.



### Baltic Sea Docs, c/o National Film Centre

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## International Festival Baltic Pearl

Founded in 1993, Baltic Pearl is one of the oldest film festivals in the Baltic states and takes place annually in September. It introduces its audience in Riga to films that have been acknowledged by the most significant international film forums.

Great names, everlasting themes, fine style — the selection criteria remain unchanged, offering thought-provoking innovation, restored masterpieces, and harmonious interaction between cinema, music and fashion. The festival has featured guests such as Alain Delon, Andrei Konchalovsky, Peter Greenaway, Gina Lollobrigida, Catherine Deneuve, Ornella Muti, Klaus Maria Brandauer, Andrey Zvyagintsev, Thierry Frémaux, and many more.



### Festival Baltic Pearl

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## Riga International Short Film Festival 2ANNAS

Since its first edition in 1996, the Riga International Short Film Festival 2ANNAS has gradually turned into one of the leading short and mid-length film festivals in the Baltic states.

This independent film and audio-visual art event seeks out and introduces its audience to innovative modes of audio-visual communication, with the aim of promoting European and World Cinema in Latvia and examining the evolution and trends of Baltic film art from a global perspective. Next to its ground-breaking content of competitions, programmes, and focus on a specific theme each year, the festival is famous for its wild parties in unusual locations, free-spirited atmosphere, and creativeness.



### Riga International Short Film Festival 2ANNAS

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# Useful Contacts

## Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

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## Creative Europe Media

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## EURIMAGES National Representative

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## Latvia State Archive of Audiovisual Documents

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## Riga Film Museum

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## Latvian Filmmakers Union

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## Film Producers Association of Latvia

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## Latvian Animation Association

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## Screenwriters' Guild of Latvia

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