

FUFF 4 – Finno-Ugric Film Festival

Catalogue

June 28th, Wednesday

20:00 Opening film

ARMASTUSE MAA

dir. Liivo Niglas – 78 min – 2016 Estonia

‘The Land of Love’ is a documentary film about reindeer, oil, politics and poetry. It tells a story about Yuri Vella, a Forest Nenets reindeer herder and poet who lives in the taiga of Western Siberia, and who tries to prove that one person can stand against the great power that is destroying the environment of the native people.

June 29th, Thursday

14:00–15:30 Experimental films

COLD STORAGE

dir. Thomas Freundlich – dance video – 8’45 – 2016 Finland

Cold Storage is a short dance film that pays homage to the virtuosic physical performances and melancholy comedy of the classic silent screen. As a lonely ice fisherman discovers his frozen prehistoric soul brother in the ice, multiple levels of time and reality blend together into a cinematic and kinetic exploration of alienation, dependency and friendship.

CASSETTE

dir. Péter Lichter – documentary – 10 min – 2011 Hungary

This short documentary, shot on super 8, contains an original sound recording made by the film’s authors during a class trip at primary school. “Our last class trip was at the end of sixth grade in April 1997. After this we did not see each other for years. One of us took a Dictaphone on this trip. Recently we came across the recording by chance.”

SORE EYES FOR INFINITY

dir. Elli Vuorinen – 11’32 – 2016 Finland

An optician's working day is filled with a line of extraordinary customers. One by one, she to witnesses them use the optical equipment in suspicious ways.

SUPERBIA

dir. Luca Tóth – 15’41 – 2016 Hungary

The native people of the surrealistic land of Superbia, where men and women form separate societies, face changes sparked by the first equal couple in their history.

AXIS 49 CORYPHEE

dir. Ann Holmgirl – 5'51 – Norway

Axis Coryphee is one of 256 cinematic studies from the neo-alchemical art project The Molecular Ballet. The project aims to produce a new system of signs and symbols to reflect less tangible sides of the contemporary human condition. The film follows Axis #49, the Mechanical Ballerina, caught in a state where everything she touches is destroyed.

MR JUSTICE

dir. Eeva Mägi – 5'14 – Estonia

This is the story of Mr Justice, who has convicted everybody in the world. He has no one left to judge now other than nature.

THE FRONT VIEW OF MY FATHER

dir. Nicoline Skotte Jacobsen – 29 min – Denmark

The film takes place in a subtle and playful studio, a luminous and colourful universe where a daughter has invited her father to participate in different games and subtle reflections on the divorce that has deprived them both of the daughter's childhood. The film tackles a pressing issue in Danish divorce culture in a new, both experimental and educational, way.

PASSENGER

dir. Sami Ala – 2'36 – Finland

A story about a train passenger.

15.30–17:00 Small nations II

LÄBI VEPSLASTE MAA

dir. Indrek Jäätis – 54'52 – Estonia

This film is about the Veps living in Leningrad Oblast in Russia, about their identity and language. Whether to remain Veps despite the circumstances or blend into the Russians? Whether to keep the native tongue or switch completely to Russian? Estonian ethnologists travel in the footsteps of their former colleagues through emptied villages. Scenes of the

everyday life and interviews provide a view of the contemporary life in the land of the Veps and the choices the Veps face. Memory fragments and old photographs help to take a nostalgic look at a time when life still persisted there.

MASLENITSA IN KITNYA VILLAGE

dir. Ivan Gerasimov – 18'30 – Russia

The film depicts the traditional Mari Maslenitsa festival.

LITTLE SHORE

dir. Sergei Britvin – 9'32 – Russia

Ingu-Yagin is translated from the Khanty language as 'small shore'.

EGG

dir. Raiisa Singurova – short fiction – 6'28 – Russia/Estonia

One morning a newly married wife becomes suspicious that her husband wants to leave her. But she realises that she has a wise mother and three breakfasts to change the situation in the Mari family. Is it wisdom or something else?

CIRCLE

dir. Akpars Ivanov – short fiction – 3'2 – Russia/Estonia

A man, memories and the forest.

MUSHROOM

dir. Ekaterina Elekbaeva – 4'37 – Russia/Estonia

A young mari woman learns how to deal with the forests spirits.

17:00–18:30 Estonian Animation

AN OLD MAN AND AN OLD WOMAN: AN ERZYA STORY

Ülo Pikkov – 2'08 – 2016 Estonia

An old man and an old woman got into a tiff. The old man went fishing and did not want to go home. In response to the old woman's prayers, the god Nishkepaz rotted the old man's nets. He returned home, but the wife lamented, "we have nothing to eat." The old man replied, "we've got fish in the barn, let's sell it and buy bread, salt and mead."

THE EYELESS HUNTER: A KHANTY STORY

Olga and Priit Pärn – 3'48 – 2016 Estonia

A Khanty man went hunting but did not bring home any catch. The wife stealthily followed her husband into the forest. The hunter lay down, took his eyes out and said, “semlek re-rem- rem”. The wife seized the husband’s eyes. The next day an elk was trotting by the camp. The hunter killed the elk. Later the hunter entered the conical tent where his wife secretly ate the meat. The wife thought that her brother-in-law had come and covered her face, as it was the Khanty custom that the husband’s male relatives should not see the wife’s face. The wife complained that her husband was lazy and said that she had hidden his eyes in a box. They began to quarrel.

THREE CLAY POTS: A KOMI STORY

Kristjan Holm – 3'27 – 2016 Estonia

A widow made three clay pots. The pots wanted to help the woman: one brought clothes, the second brought robbers’ loot, and the third brought a hunter who sat down to rest. The woman and the hunter made a home together. They had plenty of money and goods. In the clay pots, they boiled porridge.

A BEAR JUDGES THE BRIDES: A MANSI STORY

Martinus Klemet – 3'03 – 2016 Estonia

A young Mansi man wanted to get married. A bear chosen by the old men was to assess the worth of the bride. A woman shaman, Mother of Mothers, took the first girl to the bear. It silently moved its lips: the girl was poorly behaved. The young man picked another girl, who was also taken to the bear. The girl took fright and paled: she would die young. But the third girl blushed: she was of good behaviour and would live long. The bear left quietly.

HOW A GIRL WAS WED THREE TIMES: A MARI STORY

Mattias Mälk – 2'24 – 2016 Estonia

Everyone knows that a woman can find a way out of any situation. If a mother cannot afford to refuse a suitor for her daughter, she can marry off a cat or a dog instead. But how can one get along with a cat or dog?

FISHERWOMAN AND A BEAR: A SAMI STORY

Priit Tender – 2'31 – 2016 Estonia

A Sami woman caught fish at the lake in autumn. When she was boiling the fish, a bear who was cold entered the conical tent. The woman understood that it was a Sami man who had

turned into a bear. The next morning the woman traced the bear's tracks and found another, a frozen bear. The men skinned the bear and found a purse with gold coins in it. In the summer, at a fair, the woman had met the man who had turned into the bear. He said that the dead bear had been his brother. The man told her to keep the money.

THE BIRTH OF BEARS: AN UDMURT STORY

Heiki Ernits – 2'33 – 2016 Estonia

In olden times, there were no bears. An Udmurt man turned into a bear. The man would transform into a bear at night. One night his wife hid his clothes, and the man could not turn back into a human.

A HUSBAND AND A WIFE: A VOTIAN STORY

Mait Laas – 4'42 – 2016 Estonia

A wife went out to cut the rye, while the husband was at home sick. The man asked if the work would soon be finished and the wife replied that it would. The husband went out to check and saw that his wife was asleep and the work had just begun. The husband cut his sleeping wife's hair off and smeared her head with tar. The wife came home and asked the husband through the window, "is your wife at home?" The husband replied that she was. The wife cried, "the devil has exchanged me and I will always roam about as the devil's wife!"

HOW THE GOD ASKED FOR DIRECTIONS: A VEPSIAN STORY

Valter Uusberg – 3'31 – 2016 Estonia

God toured the land and saw a woman working. He asked her for directions. The woman pointed the way with her foot, not stopping her work. God saw a man working. He asked for directions. The man said, "let's sit down and have a smoke." Then he pointed the way. Since that time men have had time to smoke, but women must always work.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WOODS

Anu-Laura Tuttelberg – 10'09 – 2014 Estonia

A fairytale full of light, magic and nostalgia. A clay doll awakens her surroundings, which become a surreal world in a constant changing flow. Shot with natural light the visible changes of daylight emphasise the passing of time in the film.

URBANIMATIO

Hardi Volmer, Urmas Jõemees – 8'09 – 2016 Estonia

A poetic portrayal of the evolution, devolution, ageing and constant regeneration of an anonymous city sphere. Music draws rhythmic structures from architectonic cadences. A hyperlapse brings static matter to life, awakening it from its sleep.

PIANO

Kaspar Jancis – 10'11 – 2015 Estonia

Marta hauls a piano home from a shop that sells used musical instruments. She almost succeeds. Albert tries for the thirtieth year to tell Paula that he loves her. He almost succeeds. Paula wants to respond to Albert in the same vein. She almost succeeds. Police commissioner Kits has dreamed of parachuting all his life. He almost succeeds. Mirjam wants to become a circus artist. She almost succeeds. A bee tries to get out through a closed window. It almost succeeds. A film without main characters where the lives of characters who have lost their heads intertwine in a dramatic and less dramatic way in an ordinary concrete panel apartment building.

AS A LITTLE BIRD I

Yyhely Hälvin – 7'25 – 2016 Estonia

Birdcage-girl has come to the forest to pick up some berries. Wandering through woods, she meets a sly and tricky beast, a jet-black cat who seems to be up to something. The story of how to catch the wind.

FOX WOMAN

Priit Tender – 10'50 – 2002 Estonia

Fox Woman is based on a Mapuche Indian legend. It is the story of a fox who goes to heaven to visit her uncle, and gets cruelly cast down. In the film the personification of animals provides this slightly absurd legend with social context.

???? TIME OUT

Priit Pärn – 09'14 – 1984 Estonia

Fantasy story of a cat who loses time and therefore gets into various strange adventures.

June 30th, Friday

14:00–15:10 Sami short films

GOS LEAT DON?/WHERE ARE YOU?

dir. Egil Pedersen – 8'14 – Norway

Gos leat don? (Where are you?) is a music/film collaboration between music artist MÅSØ and film director Egil Pedersen. MÅSØ has developed a unique mix of yoik, electronic music and organic sounds. Inspired by the music, Pedersen created the visual story of a young girl who finds her own way to deal with the secrets she discovers in her family. MÅSØ will release an album in 2017.

JUST GIVE ME THE WORD

dir. Sara Margrethe Oskal – music video – 3'5 – 2016 Norway

In this music video a young Sami artist Emma Elliane raps in her mother tongue and gives a clear message about the greediness that threatens nature and people all around the world. The music video is shot in Guovdageaidnu, a Sami community that has been fighting against multinational mining companies for years. Everywhere we are hearing indigenous voices ringing out against exploitations of the earth.

HEIDI

dir. Aleksis Ahlakorpi – documentary – 10 min – Finland

A short documentary about Heidi Gauriloff, a Skolt Sámi craft maker who was already an adult when she finally got the chance to learn the language and culture of her family.

IVNNIT

dir. Ann Holmgirl – 7'27 – Norway

A short film about colours, made for babies and small children. With smoothness, kindness, fantasy and surprises children get to know the colours with the help of a robot. And the grown ups get a happy moment, too.

ÁHKKU

dir. Xia Torikka – documentary – 27 min – Finland

Áhkku tells us about Elina Torikka, the grandmother of the young Sámi filmmaker Xia Torikka. It is a warm portrait-like documentary that deals with love, family, reindeer herding and growing old. The documentary also talks about how people lived in the old days and how times have changed.

HILDÁ

dir. Niki Rasmus – music video – 7 min – Finland

Hildá Länsman makes a trip in her home area, singing a yoik she has composed. Music video.

STALLU BOY

dir. Niki Rasmus – animated – 7 min – Finland

Short story about sámí mythology creatures and their challenges to fulfill their duty.

15:30–16:30 Small nations I

VEPSIAN SORROW

dir. Petr Vasilev – 14'30 – Russia

The film about dekulakisation and the repression of the Vepsian people in the villages of Priozhatye region in the 1930s. The film's main characters are a vepsian poet, Nikolay Abramov, and his mother Maria Alekseevna, who was called a 'kulak daughter' by other villagers.

RAIN DROP

dir. Pavel Perevozchikov – 9'51 – Russia

A film about the life of a small man in the Udmurt outback. A story of loneliness and the withering of the village and the man.

NIKITA AND THE WISEMAN

dir. Evgenia Perebaskina – 14 min – Russia (in the Komi-Permyak language)

The film takes place in the 21st century in a small village in Perm Oblast (Central Urals). A youngster meets a man known as Wiseman, and the two learn a lot about each other.

THE WINDOW IN THE TREE

dir. Yulia Zotina – 2'30 – Russia (in the Komi-Permyak language)

The film is based on a Komi-Permyak legend. Gazing into the looking glass carries a high symbolic value. Therefore the last sentence in the film is: "To this day people are afraid of looking glasses, which are not at fault."

KUSHAK

dir. Liudmila Babikova – 9 min – Russia

Kushal is a traditional talisman belt. It protects its owner from evil spirits and saves wanderers. This film shows how the art of kushak making is passed from generation to generation, from grandmothers to grandchildren.

THE PAIRED ROAD

dir. Ivan Gerasimov – 18'50 – Russia

This is a story of a large Mari family in Kitnya.

16:30–18:00 Hungarian short films

KIÚT

dir. Anikó Steinmetz – 18 min – 2016 Hungary

A young Hungarian worker tries his luck in the UK in order to save his family from their debts; however, he faces the same hopelessness as at home.

SZÉP ALAK

dir. Hajni Kis – 15 min – 2016 Hungary

A high school cleaning lady falls in love with one of the female students in the school.

SING

dir. Kristóf Deák – 24'58 – 2016 Hungary

Sing is a childhood drama with a lot of music, set in 1990s Budapest, Hungary. Inspired by a true story, it follows an award winning school choir and the new girl in class who just might uncover the ugly secret behind their fame.

VIZSGÁLAT

dir. Tamás Fekete – 15 min – Hungary

The school doctor witnesses his son being bullied by his classmates.

KÖTÖTT PÁLYA

dir. Bernadette Mayer – 20 min – Hungary

Anna is an average sixteen-year-old girl who doesn't seem to get along with her mother. She is impatient, distant and in love. But one day something changes.

19:30 Small nations III

VODS: THE RETURN

dir. Anna Bazhenova – 20'13 – 2013 Russia

The film takes place in 2013. It tells a story of two Vod buildings. One is the Vod museum in Lushizy (Luutsa). The other is a family house belonging to a woman from Krakolye who keeps a collection of antique homeware. The women talk about traditional Vod cuisine, national costume, traditional homeware and the ways to preserve Vods heritage in Leningrad Oblast.

SÉTAHAJÓ INDUL

dir. Máté Bartha – 10'25 – 2016 Hungary

Pista and Laci, two jovial, veteran skippers, do everything to lure passengers for a weekend river cruise on their small boat. But as autumn, and so the end of the season, approaches they find themselves mainly watching TV, sleeping, and talking about life instead.

SETO: PASKHA

dir. Anna Bazhenova – 17'34 – 2011 Russia

The film acquaints the audience with the Seto people's ethnocultural heritage. The film's main character is Helju Majak, the chairman of the Seto (ethnocultural) community. The film follows preparation for the main Orthodox celebration – Easter. They visit an ancient Seto cemetery, make a traditional Easter feast, and receive guests.

ESTONIANS: THE CRIMEAN STORY

dir. Anna Bazhenova – 26'17 – 2017 Russia

The film is devoted to the culture of the Estonians who immigrated to the Crimea in the 19th century and settled down far away from their homeland. It depicts the picturesque landscapes of the Crimea and sights that remind us of the famous Estonians who once lived there.

SVYATKI FORTUNE TELLING

dir. Maria Filatova, Yulia Potakhina – 12'45 – Russia

Svyatki (Russian Christmastide) is a merry time for carolling, folk festivities and fortune telling. It is a time when one can open the door to the otherworld and see the future. What questions did the young girls try to find answers to?

ANIMATION by Mediastudia BiarFilm students. (Russia):

The Coat - 3'50

The Bridge Over The Sky - 2'50

The Small Ballerina - 4'20

July 1st, Saturday

15:30–17:30 Udmurt video art and experimental films

ZHON ZHON SPECIAL

KIONGOP

And Estonian yellow wolf meets Udmurt guard wolves in Kiongop, an abandoned Udmurt village. Gratitude. Conversations with ancestors. A shamanistic ritual in the hope of reviving the village.

WELL HELLO. THE SPIRIT OF THE RIVER SYODMURCHA

Our ancestors knew an internal language with which to speak to the spirits of nature. Modern people lost these sacred relations, discarded them. However, this invisible yet powerful spiritual world strives to speak to us in the hope of getting a response. And the response comes. The adherents of personal sacred mythology propitiate the spirit of the river Syodmurcha. A simple ritual implies exceptional respect and tactfulness, and helps untie karmic knots.

KITKÖVETSZ

Whom do you follow? Why do you follow? Every human has the right to choose his or her own way.

PUS

Родовая карма влечёт в свои сладкие и вожаделенные пути. Носитель патронима (имени) рода принимает их неукоснительно. Зазывает призывно флагом и пусом рода родственную душу из другого патронима для Вселенского танца.

LIFE LABELED

This is a film about the exacting life of Zinaida Andreevna Maksimova, an Udmurt woman from Muksha who talks about herself. From her long unhurried monologue we learn that she has been between life and death many times. But she has survived and retained a sense of being loved by God. She is grateful even for the rigours of life. Young generations cannot meet such people, but the film can introduce them to us.

HEAVENLY LAKE

Everyone searches for their sacred lake framed by the treasure shore. Sometimes one can find it in the places of power, where they come with an open heart and gratitude to Vorshud.

IYRO YURTAI

The film is about finding a new name and a new meaning for life, and about penetration into the subconscious.

MOKO

Udmurt children are threatened by the monsters Moko and Boko, who live in the sauna or in other household buildings. When children grow up, they realise that the monsters are still with them, living in their subconscious and sapping their innermost beliefs. There is only one way to dispel the fear of the monsters (and absolute fear) – fire.

KUA

Kua (or kualala) is the main Udmurt sanctuary where rituals take place. The artist, like a **priest**, plays, not knowing that he is led by God.

NYALTAS

Everyone has their own burdens and their own path to spiritual growth, faith, humility and spiritual purification.

AK KARA KYZYL

Ak Kara Kyzyl (White, Black, Red) are Tatar names for the colours of the Udmurt flag. The flying flags symbolise freedom and devotion.

EMPTINESS

No comments.

GRAVITY

A film about being in the moment, in every place you go, not forgetting that it is impossible to leave this planet.

I HAVE NOTHING

Everyone is in some sense ‘a man who lives in a shell’. Everyone wants to be free of the superficial things that hinder their spiritual growth. But someday everyone will take a transpersonal journey to get to know themselves and the meaning of life.

LEV VAHITOV DOCUMENTARIES

THE HOLY DAY

dir. Lev Vahitov – art documentary - 20 min – 1998 Izhevsk

A small village of Udmurt Vos maintains its ancient pagan beliefs, and every spring celebrates The Holy Day.

THE SUNBEAM: THE ARTIST MENSADYK GARIPOV

dir. Lev Vahitov – art documentary - 22 min – 2004 Izhevsk

The portrait of the outstanding Udmurt artist, draftsman, printmaker and Illustrator of fairy tales.

UDMURT MUSIC VIDEOS: NEW GENERATION

20 min.

Collection of the contemporary music videos made by young Udmurt singers and video artists. Tradition in the modern age.

19:30–21:00 Finnish short films

GLASPÄRLAN/THE GLASS PEARL

dir. Tommi Seitajoki – 15 min – 2017 Finland

A 12-year-old boy plunders garbage cans in a suburb. He is searching for something that gives him a reward.

EI YHTEYTTÄ/NO CONNECTION

dir. Risto-Pekka Blom – 16 min – 2017 Finland

Falling down due to a personal tragedy may save a person from themselves. Matti has drifted into a double life, unable to take responsibility for his actions and their effects on those close to him.

SAATANAN KANIT/FUCKING BUNNIES

dir. Teemu Niukkanen – 16'3 – 2017 Finland

Raimo is a middle-aged Finnish man living his cosy middle class life with his wife in the suburbs of Helsinki. His comfy bubble is burst when a Satan worshipping sex cult moves in next door. Cult leader, Maki, is a very nice and considerate person. Maki is always on the lookout for new friends, and being oblivious to Raimo's subtle hints to keep his distance, he volunteers to be his squash partner. Trying to avoid sharing his squash slot with Maki, Raimo ends up living a lie that gets him into trouble.

DIJON-JUTTU/THE DIJON STORY

dir. Mikko Myllylahti – 9'41 – 2016 Finland

Four Finnish hipsters end up in a funky bar in Berlin. Kaarlo is trying to impress the girls by telling them what once happened to his not-so-talkative friend Toni, in another bar in Dijon, France.

NELIAPILA/ONLY PUSSIES SCREW

dir. Juha Lankinen – 19'59 – 2016 Finland

Make (Romeo Lahti) is 11 but wants to be a teen, or better yet, an adult – anything but a child. Instead he's forced to look after his little brother Konsta (Matias Lindfors), who's only interested in finding a four-leaf clover. When a bunch of teenagers Make's looking to get friendly with tell him there's a chance to see a real live pussy up close, he hooks up with his friends: the sensitive Teemu (Noa Louhivuori) and loudmouth Ville (Henry Havukainen). All they really know about girls comes from rumour and Internet porn. The journey gets off to a bad start when Konsta tags along, refusing to go home. During the trip they come face to face with not only death but also something more complicated – life. Only Pussies Screw is a road movie and a coming-of-age story in which Make finds out whether he can step up to the responsibility of leadership. It also answers the question of just what lies behind that mystical pussy boys are going on about.

WURMLOCH

dir. Turun anikistit – 12'28 – 2016 Finland

Vienna 1914. Otto finds a wormhole into another dimension. It drives his mental health and relationship with Emma to ruins. They both end up seeking help from Freud's couch.