

TALES OF EUROPE

Discover films and stories of Europe



2019 FILM SELECTION


EUROPA CINEMAS
CREATIVE EUROPE - MEDIA SUB-PROGRAMME

EUROPA
INTERNATIONAL

Tales of Europe is a program co-organized by Europa Cinemas and Europa International
and funded by Creative Europe MEDIA



INTRODUCTION

When I first learned of **Europa Cinemas**, I knew immediately it was a kindred spirit to the **Art House Convergence**, albeit the more mature and international spirit, established in 1992 by a group of thirty European film exhibitors. Over the years, **Europa Cinemas** brought (and continues to bring) European film exhibitors and sales agents, like **Europa International**, to the **Art House Convergence** to participate on panels, share their experiences, and strengthen our international relationships. In support of a cultural exchange, **Europa Cinemas** invites US exhibitors to attend their conferences and seminars throughout the year, with a number of theaters across Europe playing host (like the Regional Seminars, but in entirely different countries!).

To deepen this cultural exchange, **Europa Cinemas** and **Europa International** have teamed up to support **TALES OF EUROPE**, a curated touring program dedicated to supporting the circulation of prestigious European films. We know from our domestic market that too often great European films go unseen by a wider audience because they either do not have the means of distribution or get lost on streaming platforms. **TALES OF EUROPE** asked me to curate a diverse collection of stories of and from Europe for US audiences that may not otherwise travel into their towns and cities.

For our second edition, we selected 12 European films that debuted over the last year in top international festivals such as Berlin, Cannes, Sundance and Toronto.

We include films from, and made in, very different countries: Austria, Croatia, France, Italy, Poland, Romania, Spain, Serbia and Sweden. The overwhelming themes in this year's collection are about immigration and identity, issues that currently dominate the social and political climate of the United States. In addition, we have curated a selection that we believe would make great programming for High School and College-aged filmgoers.

This brochure includes the guidelines of the program and the descriptions of the films selected for the 2019 program which is launched at **Art House Convergence** on January 21, 2019 and available until December 31, 2019.

We would like to thank our partners **Art House Convergence** (network of US art house cinemas) and **EclairPlay** (download platform connecting cinema exhibitors and content owners).

We trust you will be as excited by **TALES OF EUROPE** as we are by the opportunity to bring them to your communities. We look forward to working with you to bring to your cinema the films and stories of Europe!

Barbara Twist, US Representative for Tales of Europe program

GUIDELINES

TALES OF EUROPE is available to North American art house cinemas, film societies, festivals and universities.

FILM SELECTION

The program includes 12 European feature films. All films can be booked “à la carte”: there is no minimum or maximum number of films that a venue must choose.

In the event that a venue is showing four films or more from the program as a festival or series, that festival / series should be named TALES OF EUROPE.

BOOKING FEES

Each feature film is available for a **\$325 booking fee for up to two screenings**.

If a venue is showing **four films or more** from the program, each feature film is available for **\$275 booking fee for up to two screenings**.

Please note that domestic shipping costs are not included: outgoing shipping costs are to be paid by each venue / organization.

TIMELINE

All inquiries must be sent at least six weeks before the screening date and addressed to Barbara Twist. Europa International will be the third party between the venue / organization and the world sales in Europe.

FORMAT

All films are available on DCP and on EclairPlay in DCP-quality and the latter is the preferred method of delivery. Physical DCP delivery is made from the US. Some films are available in DVD or Blu-ray if necessary. DVD or Blu-ray delivery is made from Europe.

PUBLICITY

All publicity materials must include the following credit line: **TALES OF EUROPE is a program co-organized by Europa Cinemas and Europa International and funded by Creative Europe MEDIA.**

TRAVEL GRANT

Venues that would like to organize a master class with the director/actor of one of the films shown can apply for a travel grant to fly the talent to the US. A request as detailed as possible (proposed master class, number of students expected, moderators...) has to be sent to Barbara Twist. Europa Cinemas and Europa International will consider the application and if positive, facilitate the contact with the talent.

CONTACT

For all requests and for access to screeners, please contact Barbara Twist.


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TALES OF EUROPE

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AMATEURS

(Amatörer)



DIRECTOR

Gabriela Pichler

SCREENPLAY

Gabriela Pichler
Jonas Hassen Khemiri

CAST

Zahraa Aldoujaili
Yara Aliadotter
Fredrik Dahl

DETAILS

2018, Sweden
110min, Color

WORLD SALES

LevelK

FESTIVALS

Tribeca, AFI, Seattle
Rotterdam

When a German discount superstore announces it's looking for its next location in Sweden, the small town of Lafors decides to make a promotional video, seeing 'Superbilly' as a chance to reverse their declining local economy. The pitch quickly devolves in a competition amongst the citizens of Lafors over how the town should be presented, and more importantly, who should represent the town. While the town council struggles to put together a compelling professional film, two teenage rebels, Aida and Dana, decide to go their own route, making a video that represents the true Lafors.

Gabriela Pichler and co-screenwriter Jonas Hassen Khemiri provocatively question the nature of images and the people who create them as well as assumptions made by Nordic Swedes about fellow citizens of color.

- Variety



KILLING GOD

(Matar A Dios)

DIRECTOR

Albert Pintó
Caye Casas

SCREENPLAY

Albert Pintó
Caye Casas

CAST

Eduardo Antuña
Itziar Castro
Emilio Gavira

DETAILS

2017, Spain
92 min, Color
Black Comedy

WORLD SALES

EastWest Filmdistribution

FESTIVALS

Sitges Audience Award
Fanta Festival Rome
Best Feature Award

A pitch-black comedy, *Killing God* follows four people over the course of an evening after God shows up at the doorstep, revealing to them that humanity will die at sunrise. They must choose the two people who will be the new Adam and Eve, or Adam and Adam, or maybe just Eve. The choices are limited and none seem particularly appealing. The debut feature from writing-directing duo Albert Pintó and Caye Casas, this film falls on the edge of comedy and horror, making it a smart midnight movie.

Barbara's Statement:

Delightfully wicked, this film is not for the pious. You can't imagine a worse group of people to be responsible for the rebirth of humanity, and yet you have to keep watching to find out who it will be.



MUG

(Twarz)

DIRECTOR

Małgorzata Szumowska

SCREENPLAY

Małgorzata Szumowska,
Michał Englert

CAST

Mateusz Kościukiewicz
Agnieszka Podsiadik
Małgorzata Goral

DETAILS

2018, Poland
91 min, Color

WORLD SALES

Memento Films International

FESTIVALS

**Berlin Jury Grand Prix
Winner**, Chicago, AFI
Mill Valley

With a particularly memorable opening scene, the Berlin Jury Grand Prix winner, *Mug*, tosses the audience into a world where people must strip to their underwear for a bargain TV and the world's largest statue of Jesus is being built (see: *Christ the King* in western Poland). Darkly comedic, the film follows Jacek, a metalhead and outsider to his own family, who suffers an accident early on and undergoes the country's first face transplant. Even as his outlook remains bright, his family, his community, and his priest begin to reveal how they really feel about his new identity.

Mug is a strange, engaging film – well and potently acted and directed, a drama that puts you inside its extended community with a mix of robust realism and a streak of fantasy comedy.

- *The Guardian*



TARANTA ON THE ROAD

(Taranta on the Road)

DIRECTOR

Salvatore Allocca

SCREENPLAY

Salvatore Allocca

CAST

Emmanuele Aita
Nabiha Akkari
Helmi Dridi

DETAILS

2017, Italy
80 min, Color
Music, Road Trip

WORLD SALES

Coccinelle Film Placement

FESTIVALS

BiFest

Set just after the 2011 Arab Spring, Taranta on the Road follows two migrants, a Tunisian woman and man, on their journey to France after they land on the Italian coast. Mistaken for a married couple by a middling Italian band, they go along with the farce in hopes that the band will help them reach the Italy/France border.

Barbara's Statement:

Taranta on the Road features an incredibly rich performance by lead actor Nabiha Akkari, whose struggles take on a deeper complexity as her past is revealed. A comedy not about happy endings, but about finding humor in unexpected places.



I STILL HIDE TO SMOKE

(A mon âge je me cache encore pour fumer)



DIRECTOR

Rayhana

SCREENPLAY

Rayhana

CAST

Hiam Abbass
Biyouna
Nadia Kaci

DETAILS

2017, France, Greece
Algeria, 90 min, Color

WORLD SALES

Les Films du Losange

FESTIVALS

Raindance, Thessaloniki
New Horizons

The debut feature from Franco-Algerian director and playwright Rayhana is an absolutely stunning film. Fatima (Hiam Abbass of HBO's *Succession*) is the owner and head masseuse of an Algerian hammam (bathhouse). She works to keep everything running while the outside world threatens to invade the peaceful space. From the mundane (the power goes out) to the painful circumstances of a young woman's pregnancy, these women, an outstanding ensemble cast, bury and reveal themselves to one another, bound together by their histories, as they navigate one afternoon in the hammam.

Rayhana, the director, has managed to create a veritable depiction of les corps à l'oeuvre — of female bodies at work and ready to rebel.

- The Hollywood Reporter



COPS

(Cops)

DIRECTOR

Stefan A. Lukacs

SCREENPLAY

Stefan A. Lukacs

CAST

Laurence Rupp
Anton Noori
Anna Suk

DETAILS

2018, Austria
93 min, Color

WORLD SALES

EastWest Filmdistribution

FESTIVALS

Max Ophüls Audience
Award, Biarritz Best
Film Award

A new recruit to WEGA, the elite Austrian police force, Chris believes in his work and the public necessity. When a routine operation turns deadly, Chris shoots a mentally ill citizen, allegedly in self-defense. After the shooting, he finds himself in increasingly split worlds where his colleagues hail him as a hero, and he struggles to reconcile what he did with what was right.

Barbara's Statement:

This look into a non-US police system reveals disturbingly familiar police tactics, both during the crime and the fallout. What makes this film stand out is that Cops delivers a message about police brutality through a different lens: the trauma of police officers.



MURER: AN ANATOMY OF A TRIAL

(Murer: Anatomie eines Prozesses)

DIRECTOR

Christian Frosch

SCREENPLAY

Christian Frosch

CAST

Karl Fischer
Alexander E. Fennon
Melita Jurisic

DETAILS

2018, Austria, Luxembourg
137 min, Color and B&W

WORLD SALES

Paul Thiltges Distributions

FESTIVALS

San Francisco Jewish FF
Viennale

A well-respected politician and local farmer, Franz Murer is put on trial in Graz, Austria for his alleged war crimes in the Lithuanian ghetto, Vilnius, earning him the nickname "The Butcher of Vilnius." The director Christian Frosch recreates riveting testimonies and courtroom drama based on original records from the 1963 ten-day trial of Austrian former SS officer Franz Murer.

It is the unmistakably Austrian version of To Kill A Mockingbird; a courtroom thriller, in which one man's acquittal becomes a nation's condemnation.

- Robert Menasse, author of The Capital



POROROCA

(Pororoca)

DIRECTOR

Constantin Popescu

SCREENPLAY

Constantin Popescu

CAST

Bogdan Dumitrache
Iulia Lumanare
Costin Dogioiu

DETAILS

2018, Romania, France
152min, Color

WORLD SALES

Wide

FESTIVALS

San Sebastian
Rotterdam

Tudor and Cristina live in Bucharest with their two children Ilie and Maria in a lovely apartment, with an ordinary life. In a split second, and an impressive 18-minute long take, everything is turned upside down. The slow, steady pace of the film builds an unrelenting tension as Pororoca follows Tudor and his search for his missing 5-year-old daughter, dealing with inept police, a mysterious figure at the park, and the unraveling of his relationship with his wife.

Pororoca is a simmering, gradually harrowing film heavy on incidental information at the frayed edges of its drama.

- Variety



DIRECTOR

Katharina Mückstein

SCREENPLAY

Katharina Mückstein

CAST

Sophie Stockinger
Kathrin Resetarits
Dominik Warta

DETAILS

2018, Austria
96 min, Color

WORLD SALES

Films Boutique

FESTIVALS

Berlin, AFI
Palm Springs

The sophomore film of Austrian director Katharina Mückstein (Talea) follows the story of teenage Mati, a dirt-bike-riding, veterinarian-in-training young woman in the familiar-yet-evergreen journey of questioning her identity. With her male best friend in love with her; her parents suffering their own marital strains; and an intriguing young woman who catches her eye (and heart), Sophie Stockinger brings a fresh and determined performance as Mati.

Barbara's Statement:

L'Animale is required viewing for teenagers, especially teenage girls. The director treats them with incredible seriousness, drawing a complex portrait of a young woman grappling with her own gender and sexual identity.



THE FINAL ADVENTURE OF KAKTUS KID



(Poslednja avantura Kaktus Bate)

DIRECTOR

Djordje Markovic

SCREENPLAY

Vladimir Simic

CAST

Aleksandar Zograf
as himself,
Jovan Ćirilov as himself

DETAILS

2018, Serbia, Croatia
60min, Color
Animation, Comics

WORLD SALES

Coccinelle Film Placement

FESTIVALS

BeDocs

When Aleksandar Zograf, renowned Serbian cartoonist, stumbled on The Adventures of Kaktus Kid at a flea market, he unwittingly began a dark investigation into the crimes of Serbia's past during the post-Nazi, Soviet occupation. With a tale that reminds us of the massacre at Charlie Hebdo in Paris, the documentary takes us on a journey to discover what really happened to the 24-year old cartoonist, Veljko Kockar, the creator of Kaktus Kid.

Barbara's Statement:

The Final Adventure of Kaktus Kid is a riveting documentary about an investigation into a forgotten comic artist and the power of the image. The director Djordje Markovic mixes color, vérité, recreations and animation into this moving film, including a delightful debut of the Kaktus Kid. At just over an hour with a stunning range of cartoonist interviews, this film is not to be missed.



THE VENERABLE W.

(Le Vénérable W.)

DIRECTOR

Barbet Schroeder

SCREENPLAY

Barbet Schroeder

CAST

Ashin Wirathu
Maria de Medeiros

DETAILS

2017, France, Switzerland
100min, Color

WORLD SALES

Les Films du Losange

FESTIVALS

Cannes, Telluride, NYFF
Mill Valley, Locarno

A **NYTimes Critics Pick**, the third in his Trilogy of Evil, Barbet Schroeder has made yet another compelling documentary that demands to be seen. *The Venerable W.* is a powerful portrait about the Burmese Buddhist monk, Ashin Wirathu, and his anti-Muslim fanaticism, leading his followers to harass, beat and even kill Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar. As the documentary moves through Myanmar's history, we see Rohingya persecution isn't new, and goes back for years, often with government participation. Schroeder reminds the audience that evil isn't new, the face just keeps changing.

*In **The Venerable W.**, Barbet Schroeder completes a "trilogy of evil" with a seemingly unlikely subject: a Buddhist monk.*

- *New York Times*



A POLAR YEAR

(Une année polaire)



DIRECTOR

Samuel Collardey

SCREENPLAY

Catherine Paillé
Samuel Collardey

CAST

Anders Hvidegaard
Asser Boassen
Thomasine Jonathansen

DETAILS

2018, France, Denmark
94 min, Color

WORLD SALES

Kinology

FESTIVALS

Sundance, Fort Lauderdale,
Next Generation Film Festival
Lincoln Center

As both the director and the DP, Samuel Collardey takes us into a Danish teacher's first year in Tiniteqilaq, a tiny fishing village in Greenland. Danish Anders Hvidegaard struggles to fit in until he begins to bond with a young Tunumiit boy, Asser, and slowly immerses himself into the indigenous culture and its daily rhythms. With breathtaking cinematography and mostly vérité scenes, A Polar Year is a standout documentary that playfully, and smartly, blurs the lines between fiction and non-fiction filmmaking.

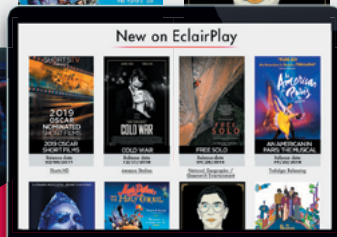
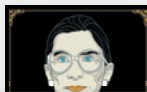
Collardey has crafted a memorable portrait of a remote setting and the relationships that slowly develop there.

- The Hollywood Reporter



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quantity and quality of Art House
cinemas in North America*



www.arthouseconvergence.org

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