

# LevelK

WINTER 2020 LINE-UP  
EDITION TWENTY TWO



## GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

BY JENNI TOIVONIEMI

### CALL MOM!

BY LISA ASCHAN

### RAGGIE

BY MEELIS ARULEPP &  
KARSTEN KILERICH

### ASWANG

BY ALYX AYM ARUMPAC

### PSYCHOSIS IN STOCKHOLM

BY MARIA BÄCK

### H IS FOR HAPPINESS

BY JOHN SHEEDY



OPENING FILM AT GOTHENBURG FILM FESTIVAL



# PSYCHOSIS IN STOCKHOLM

BY MARIA BÄCK



## LINE-UP



**8**  
**H IS FOR HAPPINESS**  
FAMILY / 97 MIN / 2019



**4**  
**GAMES PEOPLE PLAY**  
COMEDY / 105 MIN / 2020



**6**  
**CALL MOM!**  
COMEDY / 100 MIN / 2019



**12**  
**PSYCHOSIS IN STOCKHOLM**  
DRAMA / 100 MIN / 2020



**10**  
**RAGGIE**  
ANIMATION / 74 MIN / 2020



**14**  
**ASWANG**  
DOCUMENTARY / 85 MIN / 2020



## WHERE TO FIND US

LEVELK IN GOTHENBURG: JANUARY 30 TO FEBRUARY 2

*Attending: Tine Klint, Stine Bombolt & Lauren Valmadre*

LEVELK IN BERLIN: FEBRUARY 19-25

*The Scandinavian Stand in MGB #23.*

*Attending: Tine Klint, Debra Liang, Lauren Valmadre, Niklas Tøng & Stine Bombolt*

LEVELK AT HONG KONG FILMART: MARCH 25-28

*EFP Umbrella Booth:*

*Attending: Debra Liang*

CHECK OUT ALL LEVELK TITLES IN OUR VIP LOUNGE AT [WWW.LEVELK.DK](http://WWW.LEVELK.DK)



# H IS FOR HAPPINESS



*"I have always admired films such as Little Miss Sunshine, Pretty in Pink, Muriel's Wedding and most Wes Anderson films. It is the influence of these filmmakers and styles that helped create a truly unique film full of quirks, pathos and humour."*

DIRECTOR JOHN SHEEDY

**C**andice Phee is a twelve year old girl with boundless optimism and a unique view of the world. With the help of the strange new kid at school and a shetland pony, Candice turns a school assignment into a personal project to bring her broken family back together in this heart- warming and hilarious tale. The film recently held 7 preview screenings at the Perth Festival which all sold out and received standing ovations every night. So far the Australian box office reached approximately AUD\$100k, with a screen average of \$14k per screening. Universal will release on 150 screens in Australia on February 6, 2020.



H IS FOR HAPPINESS / FAMILY / 97 MIN / AUSTRALIA / 2019

*Directed by John Sheedy. Produced by Julie Ryan, Tenille Kennedy & Lisa Hoppe for Cyan Films & The Koop.  
Cast: Richard Roxburgh, Emma Booth, Deborah Mailman & Joel Jackson. Budget: \$4M. Domestic release: February 6th 2020.*



# GAMES PEOPLE PLAY



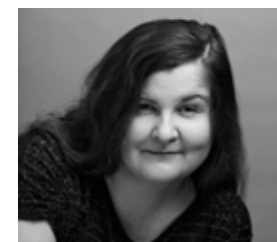
A

n old group of friends gathers to celebrate Mitzi's surprise birthday party over a nostalgic weekend at an idyllic seaside villa - just like they used to do as teenagers. Familiar surroundings and the old rituals get to the core of the group and make them forget their adulthood. Revelations, not meant to harm the balance, make them reassess their past as well as their present.



*"I cannot escape my dark sense of humor and aversion towards sentimentality, but I find it's important to make a film that has a gentle, humanistic core. I wanted my film to feel like a good conversation with an old friend"*

DIRECTOR JENNI TOIVONIEMI



GAMES PEOPLE PLAY / COMEDY / FINLAND / 110 MIN / 2019

Directed by Jenni Toivoniemi. Produced by Venla Hellstedt & Elli Toivoniemi for Tuffi Films.

Cast: Eero Milonoff, Christian Hillborg, Laura Birn & Paula Vesala. Budget: €1.3M. Domestic release: October 2020 by Nordisk Film.





# CALL MOM!



**P**arents wait their entire lives for their children to say “Thank you!” and children, in turn, wait for an “I’m sorry!” This emotional deadlock is the premise of the comedy Call Mom! Niki is 35 but lives her life like a 25-year-old. All of a sudden she is forced to come to grips with all of her relationships and past choices in life at the same time.



*“I’m drawn to humor because I think it’s very much connected to pain. They feed off each other. I’m drawn to people who use humor as a survival mechanism.”*

DIRECTOR LISA ASCHAN



CALL MOM! / COMEDY / 100 MIN / SWEDEN / 2019

*Directed by Lisa Aschan. Produced by Anna-Maria Kantarius for Garagefilm International.*

*Cast: Sanna Sundqvist, Nina Gunke, Alexander Karim & Jonatan Rodriguez. Budget: €2.1M. Domestic release: 22. November 2019 by SF.*





# PSYCHOSIS IN STOCKHOLM

A

mother and daughter are on their way to Stockholm to celebrate the daughter's 14th birthday. On the train, the mother starts acting weird and the daughter fears that another psychotic episode is about to take possession of her mother. Despite the symptoms, they try to continue the vacation as planned. When the mother's condition worsens, the daughter is left by herself and gets to explore Stockholm on her own for a few magical, solo days and nights.



*"There's a lot I've forgotten about that particular trip. I remember only fragments. I remember everything being heightened, both colors and events. I remember the overwhelming fears that I might have lost my mother forever. I remember wishing that my love would be strong enough to resist whatever was tearing her apart. I remember wanting to get her to shake off all that was frightfully strange, and go, hi, I'm back to normal again."*

DIRECTOR MARIA BÄCK

PSYCHOSIS IN STOCKHOLM / DRAMA / 100 MIN / SWEDEN / 2020

*Directed by Maria Bäck. Produced by Anna-Maria Kantariou for Garagefilm International.  
Cast: Josefin Neldén & Josefine Ståfköper. Budget: €1.4M. Domestic release: April 24th 2020 at Triart.*

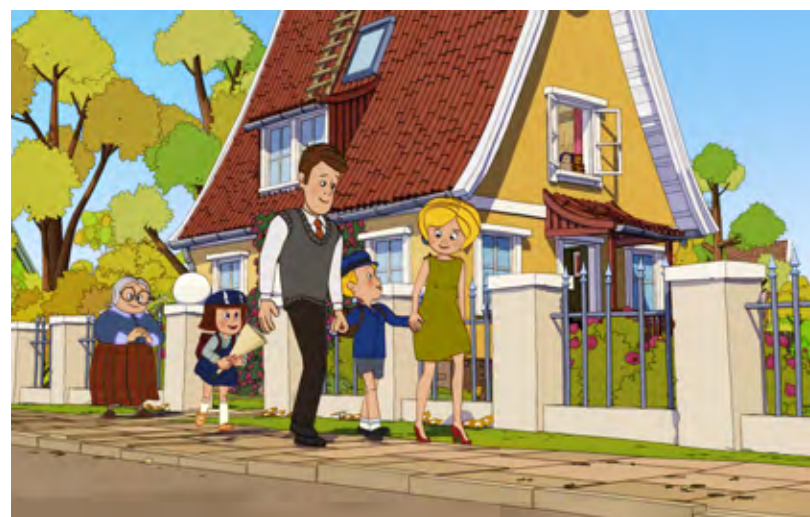




# RAGGIE

*“We decided to create a unique style for the movie. In order to reach out to a broad audience we decided to transform the character design from the book into a CGI design. This, we believe, will give the film a look that combines the classical qualities with a modern style.”*

DIRECTOR KARSTEN KIILERICH



Ruby is turning six and her life is in balance – but then her older brother Mark has to go back to school. Mark decides to make Ruby a new companion: a doll – Raggie, who comes to life. This changes the relationship between brother and sister. Raggie feels guilty for dividing the brother and sister and decides to leave not knowing that this will break Ruby’s heart. Ruby and Mark manage to save Raggie! Ruby and Mark are reunited and now Ruby has two best friends in her life.

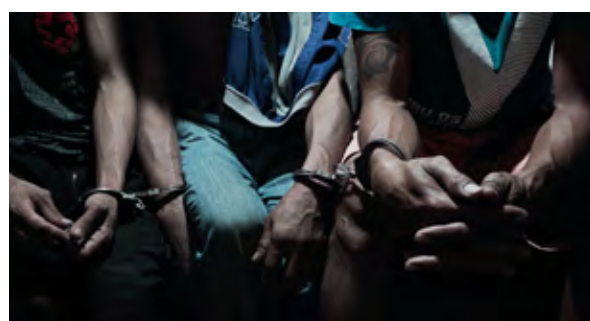


RAGGIE / ANIMATION / 74 MIN / ESTONIA / 2020

*Directed by Meelis Arulepp & Karsten Kiilerich. Produced by Kristel Toldsepp and Anders Mastr for A Film.*

*Cast: Ott Sepp & Elo Mirt Oja. Budget: €1.5M. Domestic release: February 21st 2020 by Forum Cinemas AS*





# ASWANG



When Rodrigo Duterte is voted president of the Philippines, he sets in motion a machinery of death to execute suspected drug peddlers, users, and small-time criminals. Aswang follows people whose fates entwine with the growing violence during two years of killings in Manila.

MoMA  
Doc Fortnight 2020  
Official Selection

FIPRESCI  
WINNER  
idfa



*"I was always very clear with my purpose and intention of making a creative documentary. But being there night after night, getting involved in people and their lives, emotions intensify. I felt the need to document everything – for evidence, in the hopes of culpability and accountability in the future. Even the grotesqueness of the tortured human body and utter inconsolable grief."*

DIRECTOR ALYX AYM ARUMPAC

ASWANG / DOCUMENTARY / 85 MIN / PHILIPPINES 2019  
Directed by Alyx Aym Arumpac. Produced by Armi Rae Cacanindin Alyx Aym Arumpac for Cinematografica.  
Budget: €0.3M. Domestic release: March 16th 2020 by Dakila.





## THE EXCEPTION

Iben and Malene work in a small non-profit NGO in Copenhagen, that specializes in genocide and crimes against humanity. When the women begin to receive death threats at the office, they initially assume it's from a Serbian war criminal they recently profiled. But as tensions mount amongst the women, their suspicions start to turn on each other.



*"I am very excited about working with such strong and talented actresses in a story about human beings and the darkest corners of their minds. Together, we entered a fascinating universe of women consisting of extremely interesting and complex characters that not only lie to each other, but also to themselves. An unfortunate mixture that allows evil to reign."*

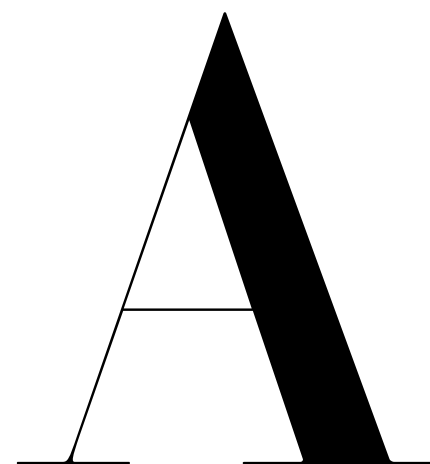
DIRECTOR JESPER W. NIELSEN

THE EXCEPTION / PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER / 110 MIN / DENMARK / 2019

Directed by Jesper W. Nielsen. Produced by Marcella L. Diekmann, Mille Bjørke & Miriam Nergaard for Fridthjof Film.

Cast: Sidse Babett Knudsen, Danica Curcic, Amanda Collin, Lene Maria Christensen. Budget: €3.6m. Domestic release: April 30th 2020 by SF Studios

## BREEDER



An experiment involving biohacking traps a young couple in a dangerous and disorienting situation. In nightmarish ways, the experiment questions basic human behavior by asking: How far will we go to stay young forever?

*"Breeder is a modern take on survival horror. It is an alternative love story set in a facility where humans are treated like animals for the sake of someone else's longevity. We are going to explore the darker sides of biohacking to address the disenfranchisement so many – especially young people – feel today."*

DIRECTOR JENS DAHL

BREEDER / HORROR / TBC / DENMARK / 2019

Directed by Jens Dahl. Produced by Amalie Lyngbo Quist & Maria Møller Christoffersen for Beo Starling.

Cast: Sara Hjort Ditlevsen, Signe Egholm Olsen, Morten Holst & Anders Heinrichsen. Budget: €1.0M. Domestic release: October 31st 2020 by LevelK





Opposite worlds collide when Baran, a Turkish gigolo meets Marion, a German pilot, on the beaches of Marmaris. In his pursuit of a better life in Europe, Baran convinces Marion to take him back to Germany, but what starts as an arrangement begins to develop into something deeper.

*Directed by Ilker Çatak.*  
*Produced by Ingo Fliess for if... Productions.*  
*Cast: Anne Ratte-Polle, Oulcan Arman Ushu, Godehard Giese & Jörg Schüttauf.*



## STANDING UP FOR SUNNY

COMEDY / 99 MIN / AU / 2019

When Travis, a self-isolated recluse with low-grade cerebral palsy, meets the shy aspiring comedienne Sunny, his mundane existence is turned upside down.

*Directed by Steven Vidler. Cast: RJ Mitte, Sam Reid & Barry Humphries.*



## ONE LAST DEAL

DRAMA / 95 MIN / FI / 2018

An elderly art dealer on the verge of retirement is triggered by an unmarked painting, which he believes could be worth millions.

*Directed by Klaus Härö. Cast: Heikki Nousiainen, Amos Brotherus & Pirjo Lonka.*



## HEAVY TRIP

COMEDY / 90 MIN / FI / 2018

Turo is trying to overcome his fears by leading his completely unknown band to the hottest metal festival in Norway.

*Directed by Juuso Laatio & Jukka Vidgren.*  
*Cast: Johannes Holopainen, Minka Kuustonen & Ville Tiihonen.*



## CUTTERHEAD

SURVIVAL / 84 MIN / DK / 2018

A journalist is trapped in a Danish Metro construction with two Croatians. How will they survive?

*Directed by Rasmus Kloster Bro. Cast: Christine Sonderris, Samson Semere Russom & Kresimir Mikic.*



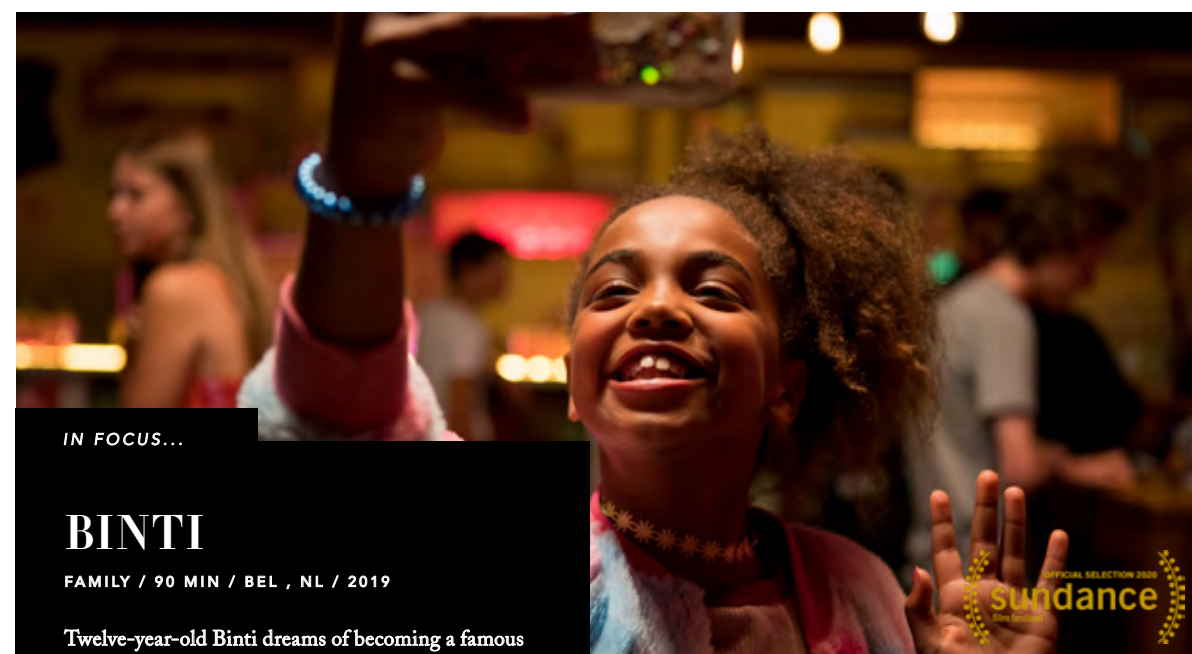
## AURORA

DRAMA, COMEDY / 105 MIN / FI / 2019

In this romantic and sometimes melancholy comedy Aurora, a commitment-phobic party animal, meets Iranian Darian one night at a hot-dog stand in Lapland. Darian is running from death and Aurora is running from love.

*Directed by Miia Tervo. Cast: Mimosa Willamo, Amir Escandari & Oona Aiolola.*





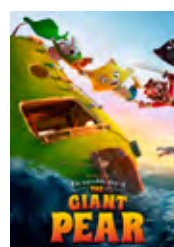
IN FOCUS...

## BINTI

FAMILY / 90 MIN / BEL , NL / 2019

Twelve-year-old Binti dreams of becoming a famous vlogger like her idol Tatyana. But when the police raid her home, and try to deport her and her dad, they are forced to flee.

*Director: Frederikke Migom.*  
*Cast: Bebel Tsbiani Baloji, Baloji & Joke Devynck.*

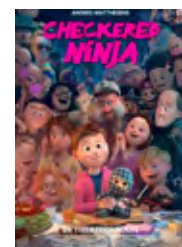


## THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF THE GIANT PEAR

ANIMATION / 80 MIN / DK / 2017

Two friends must embark on a great journey to help save the missing Mayor of Sunnyside and bring him home.

*Directed by Philip Einstein Lipski, Jørgen Lerdam, Amalie Næsby Fick & Thorbjørn Christoffersen*



## CHECKERED NINJA

ANIMATION / 80 MIN / DK / 2018

When Aske gets a Ninja doll from his Uncle Stewart after a trip to Thailand, he finds out that the doll is alive and can help him with problems at school.

*Directed by Thorbjørn Christoffersen & Anders Matthesen.*



## LAND OF GLASS

FAMILY / 88 MIN / DK / 2018

13-year-old Jas finds a girl & an old lady hiding in his barn. Together, they will have to overcome sinister forces in the woods.

*Directed by Jeppe Vig Find & Marie D. Rønn*  
*Cast: Albert Rudbeck Lindhardt, Esben Dalgaard Andersen & Signe Egholm Olsen*

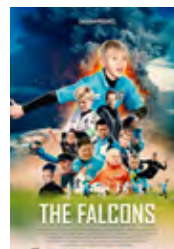


## HACKER

FAMILY / 97 MIN / DK / 2019

The film centers around 13-year-old gifted hacker Benjamin who discovers that his mother didn't die in an accident years earlier, as he was led to believe.

*Directed by Poul Berg. Cast: Rumle Kærås, Josephine Chavarria Højbjerg & Mille Dinesen.*



## THE FALCONS

FAMILY / 90 MIN / IS / 2018

10-year-old Jon goes with his soccer team to compete in a prestigious tournament and will have to grow up faster than he expected.

*Director: Bragi Thor Hinriksson.*  
*Cast: Lúkas Emil Johansen, Róbert Luu, Ísey Heidarsdóttir & Viktor Benóný Benediktsson.*



IN FOCUS...

## MARIA'S PARADISE

ARTHOUSE DRAMA / 110 MIN / FIN / 2019

Finland, 1920's. The charismatic preacher Maria Åkerblom leads her devout followers to Helsinki, among them is the adoring teenager Salome. When Salome befriends local street girl Malin, her world views are challenged and she is torn between the promise of newfound freedom and Maria's dangerous all-consuming love.

*Directed by Zaida Bergroth. Produced by Daniel Kuitunen & Kaisla Viitala for Komeetta Films.*  
*Cast: Pibla Viitala, Satu Tuuli Karhu, Saga Sarkola & Tommi Korpela.*



IN FOCUS...

## BELLBIRD

DRAMA / 95 MIN / NZ / 2019

Set over four seasons on a humble Northland dairy farm, "Bellbird" is the story of a dairy farmer struggling to cope with the sudden death of his beloved wife, and the gradual bond he builds with his only son and the local community.

*Directed by Hamish Bennett. Produced by Orlando Stewart & Catherine Fitzgerald for Herringbone Productions.*  
*Cast: Marshall Napier, Annie Whittle, Cohen Holloway & Rachel House.*



OTT  
SEPP

ELO MIRT  
OJA

HUGO  
MALMSTEN

HILJE  
MUREL

AGO  
ANDERSON



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# RAGGIE



Brochure Artwork: Yellow! (www.yellow!.dk)

MAKKEVID: A FILM EESTI JA A. FILM PRODUCTION MEELIS ARULEPP JA KARSTEN KILLERICH STYLMANIP: KARSTEN KILLERICH JA AINA JÄRVINE  
HILJAL: EWERT SUNDIA JA LIINA SUMERA PRODUKTSIO: KRISTEL TÕLDSEPP JA ANDERS MASTRUP KÄIK PÄRALT: ENO RAUA JA EDGAR VALTERI TÕUKS: "SIPSIN"



RICHARD  
ROXBURGH

EMMA  
BOOTH

JOEL  
JACKSON

DEBORAH  
MAILMAN

introducing  
DAISY AXON and  
WESLEY PATTEN

with MIRIAM  
MARGOLYES



70<sup>th</sup> Internationale  
Filmfestspiele  
Berlin  
Generation

Happiness is inside all of us.  
You just have to find it.

# H is for Happiness

A film by JOHN SHEEDY

Based on the award winning book by BARRY JONSBURG "My Life As An Alphabet"

SCREEN AUSTRALIA and CYAN FILMS & THE KOOP in association with SCREENWEST and THE WEST AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL FILM FUND MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL PREMIERE FUND FILM VICTORIA and UNIVERSAL PICTURES present  
A JOHN SHEEDY FILM "H IS FOR HAPPINESS" RICHARD ROXBURGH EMMA BOOTH JOEL JACKSON DEBORAH MAILMAN introducing DAISY AXON and WESLEY PATTEN with MIRIAM MARGOLYES  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JANE NORRIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CHRIS COODES AND MIKE PRODUCED BY JOHANNA SCOTT EDITOR NEIDA TYSON-LEWIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS KAREN SIMS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TERRI LAMERA EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS NICKY SARDINES EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BONNIE ELLIOTT EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS RICHARD EAST EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JONATHAN PAGE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BRUCE MENDES EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS AVRIEL STARK EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GRADY HARRIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ROGER SAVAGE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JULIE RYAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TENILLE KENNEDY EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LISA HOPPE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS "MY LIFE AS AN ALPHABET" BY BARRY JONSBURG EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LISA HOPPE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JOHN SHEEDY

