Swedish Film
FALL 2014 / WINTER 2015
NEW DOCS

All We Have Is Now • American Jazz Musician • Bikes vs Cars • Blood Sisters • The Ceremony • Concerning Violence
Conquering China • Dead Donkeys Fear No Hyenas • Fonko • German Shepherd • In the Country • Ingrid Bergman In Her Own Words
Lost in Perfection • Moments of Silence • Pervert Park • Still Born • Storm in the Andes • Those Who Said No • Winter Buoy
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This special edition of Swedish Film presents new and upcoming documentaries ready to hit international festivals and markets.

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All We Have Is Now

It just happens to be about a rock band. You know the dynamics. But this film takes you to a new level in how to handle the complexity of collaboration and friendship in relation to personal development. The film follows three über captivating young musicians, Lisa, Cissi and Rebecka, who have played together since kindergarten. After a successful stint in a teenage pop band they embark on a deeper musical journey. Along the way their relations are put on the test.

“freedom; live wild, die free
maximum all
uncompromising
Humor
lust for life
punk
natural Kraft
Adventure NO RULES
straightness honesty
hunger
primal force
female friendship
1 year of high life against the wind and rain”

Original title All We Have Is Now
Director Alexandra Dahlström
Screenwriters Alexandra Dahlström, Göran Hugo Olsson
Participants Cissi Efraimsson, Lisa Pyk Wiström, Rebecka Rolfart
Producer Göran Hugo Olsson
Produced by Story in collaboration with SVT/Emelie Persson, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin
Duration 85 min
Released October 24, 2014
Sales Story

Alexandra Dahlström, born in 1984, rose to fame when she starred in Lukas Moodysson’s Show Me Love in 1998. She was also assistant director to Moodysson on Lilya 4-Ever in 2002. She has directed five short films and several music promos, the latest for Giorgio Moroder; shot this summer in L.A. All We Have Is Now is Dahlström’s debut as a documentary director. She lives in Stockholm.
American Jazz Musician (working title)

A snowy night in February 1972, jazz musician Lee Morgan was shot dead by his common-law wife during a gig at a club in New York City. “He said to me: Honey, I know you didn’t mean it. I know you didn’t mean to do this. … and then he was gone.” (The wife in a recorded interview about the moment right after the shot.) American Jazz Musician is a film about music, love and America.
Many people suffer from climate change anxiety, yet still we consume more than ever. But change is possible: imagine if more cities were to copy Copenhagen where 40 percent of people commute on bikes. We’d have less pollution. Oil prices and car sales would fall. The very core of the financial system would tremble. This is a conflict that interests me profoundly.”
Blood Sisters

Julia and Johanna, from the high-rise flats of Rosengård in Malmö, inseparable for as long as they remember. Curled up beside each other at night, carrying equal memories of abduction and abuse in their home country Azerbaijan. In Blood Sisters we follow their journey from twin sisters in symbiosis to young women trying to stand on their own feet.

“This is for me not only a coming-of-age film about twin-sisterly love. Foremost, and what draw me to Julia and Johanna in the first place, it is a story about hope, about life... About how to survive and never give up. For me filmmaking is honesty and a big pinch of passion and the Blood Sisters Julia and Johanna are somehow materializing this in front of our eyes. Apart from this, it's super important to never stop telling girl's stories.”

Original title Blodssystrar
Director/Screenwriter Malin Andersson
Participants Julia and Johanna Yunusova
Producer Malin Andersson
(co-producers Signe Byrge Sorensen, Cormac Ó Cuinn, Sonja Lindén, Hege Dehl, Alexandre Cornu)
Produced by Malin Andersson Film in co-production with SVT, Film i Skåne, Solas Productions, Final Cut for Real, Avanton Productions, Mechanix Film and Les Films du Tambour de Soie, in collaboration with Arte France, Nordisk Film & TV Fond, DR, NRK and YLE Fem, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin, Danish Film Institute, Irish Film Board, Norweigan Film Institute, Finnish Film Foundation, AVEK, the Swedish Arts Grant Committee and Boost Hbg.
Duration 80 min
To be released 2015
Sales TBA

Director and producer Malin Andersson, born in 1972, produces out of Sweden and Ireland and makes documentaries around the world. She is also keen on digging close to home to maybe make us open up our own eyes. Andersson's debut Belfast Girls (1996) won numerous awards and Blood Sisters is her first international co-production as both producer and director.
The Ceremony

France’s most famous dominatrix, two close friends and two lovers share their innermost thoughts about love, friendship, dominance and submission – as we meet the unusual and fascinating author Catherine Robbe-Grillet and her inner circle.

“Catherine’s oeuvre flirts with the opposites: control and freedom, intimacy and distance. It challenges the relationships of power and submission, transcendence and ecstasy, sensuality and physical pain, in an utterly original way. She surrounds herself with brilliant characters that suggest complex lives that exist outside of the frame.”

Original title Ceremonin
Director/Screenwriter Lina Mannheimer
Participants Catherine Robbe-Grillet & Beverly Charpentier
Producer Mathilde Dedye (co-producers Sara Stockmann, Bertrand Scalabre)
Produced by French Quarter Film in co-production with Mannheimer Produktion, Nuit Blanche Productions, Sonntag Pictures, Camera Lucida, Film i Väst, SVT and Ljud & Bildmedia, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin and the Media Programme of the European Union.
Duration 75/58 min
To be released Spring 2015
Sales Autlook Filmsales

Lina Mannheimer has worked with director Gilles Bourdos and at the New York-based company Salty Features. In 2010 she directed a short film, The Contract, presenting a glimpse of the universe of Catherine Robbe-Grillet. The film premiered at IDFA in 2010 and has travelled the world since then. The Ceremony is Mannheimer’s documentary feature debut.
Concerning Violence

*Concerning Violence* is both an archive-driven documentary covering the most daring moments in the struggle for liberation in the Third World, as well as an exploration into the mechanisms of decolonization through text from Frantz Fanon’s *The Wretched of the Earth*. Fanon’s landmark book, written over 50 years ago, is still a major tool for understanding and illuminating the neocolonialism happening today, as well as the violence and reactions against it. *Concerning Violence* is narrated by Ms. Lauryn Hill.

**Göran Hugo Olsson** is a Sundance and Swedish Guldbagge award-winning documentary filmmaker. One of the people behind the celebrated Swedish television series *Elby* and *Ikon*, he was the Documentary Film Commissioner at the Swedish Film Institute from 1999 to 2002. His films include: *The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975* (2011), *Am I Black Enough For You* (2009) and *Fuck You Fuck You Very Much* (1998, with Leila K).

**Original title** *Om våld*
**Original footage** Lennart Malmer, Ingela Romare, Per Källberg, Ingrid Dahlberg, Lars Hjelm, Roland Hjelte, Bo Bjelfvenstam, Jörgen Persson, Stig Holmqvist, Roland Hjelte, Leyla Assaf Tengroth, Ulf Simonsson, Lis Asklund, Per Olof Karlsson, Gaetano Pagano, Alf Buhre, Axel Lohmann, Isidro Romero, Jean Louis Normand, Robert van Lierop, Lars Westman, Gudrun Schyman, Rudi Spee and others.

**Director/Screenwriter** Göran Hugo Olsson
**Producers** Annika Rogell, Tobias Janson

**Produced by** Story in co-production with SVT, Louverture Films, Helsinki-filmi, Final Cut for Real and Rainbow Circle Films in collaboration with YLE and DRK, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin, Danish Film Institute, EU MEDIA Slate Funding and the Swedish Arts Grants Committee.

**Duration** 90 min
**Released** August 15, 2014
**Sales** Films Boutique
“European and American film on Africa is mostly bad and totally unnecessary. The genre carries a stigma. However; I know that this one will bring something different and great to the table. The archive images will display this crucial period in a new way. In a way that will illuminate how dedicated so many people were in the struggle for freedom. And how that work must and will continue.”
Conquering China

Swedish pop singer Johan Jonason finds himself challenged as he gets nothing but the silent treatment from the Chinese star producers he sets out to collaborate with. An altogether humiliating experience. Jonason is forced to evaluate his methods and motifs.

“Music is not a language without borders.”
Dead Donkeys Fear No Hyenas

A new form of colonization is sweeping the world. Masquerading as well-needed economic investment in developing countries the super-rich have found a new way to squeeze profit out of the poorest people on earth. And YOU are an accomplice! *Dead Donkeys Fear No Hyenas* is a documentary thriller that starts out investigating the desperate situation in rural Ethiopia but soon finds a bloodstained trace leading all the way back to Europe and our own need for the ’green gold’.

“The scene I saw at the Bole Airport in Addis Abeba and my resulting look into land grabbing forced me to wonder about how much these fraudulent land investments actually have to do with all our lives. The flowers for my mother come from horticulture-farms in Ethiopia, the fuel at the petrol station round the corner is provided by the key investor in Gambella, development aid paid by our taxes is contributing to forced evictions and now even my pension fund is investing in African land... A global interplay of goods and capital that produces serious ethical pitfalls.”

Joakim Demmer

was born in 1965 and grew up in southern Sweden. After studying photography he began working as a cameraman and film editor in Scandinavia. From 1996-2001 he studied directing at the German Academy of Film & Television (dffb) in Berlin. Since his graduation he has been working as a filmmaker and cinematographer in Germany, Sweden and Switzerland.

Original title *Dead Donkeys Fear No Hyenas*

**Director/Screenwriter** Joakim Demmer

**Producer** Margarete Jangård

**Produced by** WG Film in co-production with RBB/ARTE, YLE, SVT and Film i Skåne, in collaboration with IKON and Nordisk Film & TV Fond, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin, Finnish Film Fund and Creative Europe-Desk MEDIA.

**Duration** 90 min

**To be released** TBA

**Sales** Deckert Distribution

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Fonko

Fonko is a feature length documentary about social and political changes in the new Africa as seen through an avalanche of striking, innovative and visual music.

“This film is a different take on the subject of the new Africa. It is built on a number of longer scenes with some of the key players from the contemporary music scene, and the narration of Fela Kuti, legendary musician, and Panafircan activist from Nigeria. His voice is taken from archive material recorded in the 70’s and early 80’s, and will provide commentary to the scenes. The apparent anachronism of his words adds a slightly prophetic or downright ironic touch to the sequences.”

Original title Fonko
Directors/Screenwriters Göran Hugo Olsson, Lamin Daniel Jadama, Lars Lovén
Participants Sista Fa, Wanlov the Kubolor, Nneka, MCK and various artists
Producers Tobias Janson, Göran Hugo Olsson
Produced by Story in co-production with WDR/Jutta Krug, First Hand Films/Esther van Messel, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin and Nordisk Film & TV Fond/Karolina Lidin.
Duration 85 min
To be released Spring, 2015
Sales First Hand Films
German Shepherd

As a Jew growing up in Baltimore, David’s vision of Germany was shaped by his Holocaust-survivor mother; later in life, he reflects on whether it’s possible to overcome this history. Simple in aesthetics yet potent in philosophical introspection, this film poses difficult questions about the human capacity to forgive unimaginable evil acts.

“Are we born to do good or are we here just to save ourselves? This animated film provides disconcerting answers.”

Nils Bergendal has been working as still photographer since 1990. Filmmaking is his breeding ground for new ideas and experiments. German Shepherd is his first animated work.

Original title German Shepherd
Director/Screenwriter/Producer Nils Bergendal
Participant David Paul (narrator)
Produced by Nils Bergendal in co-production with Film i Skåne/Joakim Strand, with support from SVT/Helene Ingelsten and the Swedish Film Institute/Andra Lasmanis.
Duration 10 min
To be released January 25, 2014
Sales Magnetfilm
In the countryside of Sweden, retired couple Lena and Gunvall Carlsson spend their days doing as little as possible. Living in a house in desperate need of repair and a garden that is left to take care of itself, this film follows the couple’s seasonal pastimes and the joy and sadness of everyday life.

“With *In the Country* I wanted to portray a couple I hold very dear. Their life is not very different from any other couples and it is because of this that I believe I can portray something unique. I wanted to give time to the little story and the little details. A simple story about a couple who have been living together for over 45 years. They are two people who live so close to each other yet so far apart.”

**Original title** Ute på landet

**Director/Screenwriter** Anders Jedenfors

**Participants** Lena Carlsson, Gunvall Carlsson, André Candini

**Producer** Kalle Wettre

**Produced by** Malade in co-production with Mouka Filmi, SVT and Film I Väst, in collaboration with YLE/Jenny Westergård, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin, The Finnish Film Foundation/Elina Kivihalme, Filmbasen and Film Stockholm/Joakim Blendulf.

**Duration** 60 min

**Released** January 25, 2014

**Sales** Malade

During his studies at Edinburgh College of Art *Anders Jedenfors* made films for the BBC and Channel 4. *Space Travel According to John* won the McLaren Award for Best British Animation at the Edinburgh Film festival and his graduation film *The Carlssons* won a BAFTA New Talent Award in 2009. In 2010 Jedenfors was selected for the Film Stockholm Talent Program.
Ingrid Bergman
In Her Own Words (working title)

Accessing Ingrid Bergman’s diaries and her own private footage, this film gives an inside perspective of one of our most distinguished actors and a woman who always chose her own path. Release in 2015, marking the centenary of her birth.

“My ambition is to make a rich and multi-coloured portrait of this extraordinary human being, based to a large extent on her own offerings, her voice and her opinions as expressed in her private diaries and self-made amateur movies, her art as documented in films and TV productions over more than four decades. I have called in people close to her – her children and former colleagues – to witness about her life and her great offerings to all of us who have only got to know her from the silver screen.”

Stig Björkman, director and writer. His recent work includes the documentaries Fanny, Alexander and Me (2013), Images from the Playground (2009) and ...But Film is my Mistress (2010). As a writer, he has authored books based on interviews with Lars von Trier, Woody Allen and Joyce Carol Oates.
Lost in Perfection

Internationally Scandinavia is seen as ‘the perfect society’, a role model, an example of the highest achievements in what humans can achieve... Is this true? Lost in Perfection will try to penetrate the cracks of Scandinavian perfection, dig into dysfunctional sides of this on the surface perfect society.

“Since some time back I have a dream of making a film about Sweden, about Scandinavia. About things in the lifestyle that surrounds me that I am uneasy with. I have always been fascinated by how difficult it is for us to clearly see power structures ruling our life, especially in the present time, and if they hide behind an aura of freedom.”

Original title Lost in Perfection
Director/Screenwriter Erik Gandini
Producers Erik Gandini, Juan Pablo Libossart
Produced by Fasad in co-production with SVT, Film i Väst, Indie Film, Zentropa and Nordisk Film & TV Fond, in collaboration with DR, NRK, YLE, with support from MEDIA, the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin, the Danish Film Institute and the Norwegian Film Institute.
Duration Approx. 90 min
To be released 2015
Sales TBA
Moments of Silence

At certain times, dates and places, pedestrians halt, traffic stops and silence ensues. For just a moment, generally counted in minutes, the world is a frozen arrow pointing at the thought of something important, so important that it should never be forgotten. As a meditative memento on the importance of a collective memory, we have compiled a series of these moments into a film. Together these sampled minutes of silence reflect one of few activities that bring people together regardless of religion, race or cultural background. The archival material outlines a mute history of tragedy and grief, often staged against a backdrop of natural disasters and violent conflict. But the footage is also a reminder of the stoic nature of humans, never accepting the horrors of terror attacks, war or rogue killers.
“In 1986 when the Swedish prime minister Olof Palme was gunned down in the street in Stockholm, our nation was in complete shock. Ten days after the murder, on March 10, the whole country came to a halt for a minute of silence. Cars, workers and schoolchildren all stood still. A whole nation joined in a monumental demonstration of grief. It was a powerful manifestation. The film Moments of Silence is an ode to all these events when shock and horror turn humans into a collective sculpture of silence.”
Pervert Park

With the harsh laws in the state of Florida, even the smallest sex offence can make you become an outcast of society. In the trailer park Florida Justice Transitions – the only one of its kind in the US – they welcome the offenders that no one wants as a neighbour. We follow the everyday life of the sex offenders in the park, as they struggle to reintegrate into society, trying to understand who they are and how we can break the circle of sex crimes being committed.

“While we don’t have as restricted laws in Scandinavia as in Florida, the tendency to look on sex offenders as ‘them’ and others in our society as ‘us’ is just as present here. We want to make a film that challenges this view. It is very important for us to stress the fact that we are not in any way defending sex crimes. We only want to show the corruptness of the legal system in Florida, trying to learn from it what not to do – and in the meantime learn about the psychological aspects of the different types of sex offenders in the park. We think that listening to the people of Florida Justice Transitions will help to understand sex crimes, and how to stop the terrible circle of victims becoming offenders themselves.”

Original title Pervert Park
Directors/Screenwriters Frida & Lasse Barkfors
Participants William J Fuery, Jr, Tracy Hutchinson, James Broderick, James Turner, Patrick Naughton, William Heffernan, Don Sweeney, Nancy Morais
Producers Frida Barkfors, Anne Köhncke
Produced by De Andra in co-production with Final Cut for Real and Film i Skåne, in collaboration with SVT, DR and NRK, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin, Filmworkshop and the Danish Film Institute.
Duration 77 min
Released November, 2014
Sales DR International Sales

Frida Barkfors was born in Sweden in 1983 and graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 2009. Lasse Barkfors was born in Denmark in 1980 and graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Arts in 2012. Pervert Park is their feature film debut.
Still Born

A mother tries to understand what happened when her child died before birth. She talks about the short time she got with her dead child to relive that memory once again and to try to come to terms with her pain and anger.

“When we lost our child during pregnancy I felt very alone, as I guess is the case for most people in deep sorrow. I tried to find comfort in other people's stories. There weren't many books or films, but a lot of web sites and threads on internet communities. Parents that felt the same way as I did; that few dare to ask about the child you've lost, and that the loss of a child before birth is somewhat taboo in our society. I made this film as a way of sharing, as well as a memory of my child. I believe that the feeling of loss is at the same time universal and unique.”
ÅSA SANDZEN (STILL), ALBIN BIBLOM (DIRECTOR)

Still Born
Storm in the Andes

Against the will of her parents Swedish Josefin travels to Peru to find out the truth about her aunt Augusta la Torre. Together with her husband Abimael Guzman Augusta created the terrorist movement Shining Path and started a 20 years internal war. In Peru Josefin meets with peasant daughter Flor who blames the war that killed her brother on the family of Josefin. Despite their conflict they embark on a common journey into the Andes searching the truth. It changes Josefin’s life forever.

“I will never forget August 3, 2014. It was the world premiere of Storm in the Andes in Tancayllo, the remote Andean village where it all started. 40 years ago I came here and documented a historic peasant rebellion. History then took a cruel turn into a long civil war. But now villagers that had been at war with each other sat peacefully together watching with great emotions their own nearly unbelievable story.
Those Who Said No

For the first time an International People’s Tribunal convenes in The Hague court of justice to investigate the mass executions of political prisoners in Iran during the 1980’s. Iraj and Mehdi are two survivors who lead this fight for justice. Together with other survivors they testify against a crime that has been kept secret from the world for over 25 years.

“When my brother Rostam was 19-years-old, he was hung. His crime was being a member of a leftist student movement that was fighting for democracy in Iran during 1982. My parents have always sought justice from the regime. My father was aware that we couldn’t charge the regime while still living in Iran. He always asked himself: ‘is there anywhere else in the world that we can go and charge this regime for what they have done? And if not, how can we tell the world about what happened to our son and thousands of other young people in Iran during the 80’s?’ This has been my question too, for the past 30 years. My intention with this film is to fulfill my parent’s wish for justice – but also, to allow this project to be a platform for all victims to tell their stories.”

Original title De som sa nej
Director/Screenwriter Nima Sarvestani
Producer Mariana Abrahamian
Produced by Nimafilm in co-production with SVT, ZDF/ARTE, DR and Majade, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin and the Art Grants Committee.
Duration 90 min
Released November, 2014
Sales Deckert Distribution (Europe), Films Transit (North America)

Award-winning director Nima Sarvestani started his career as a journalist in Iran, and turned to documentary filmmaking after moving to Sweden in 1984. Among films he has made are Iranian Kidney Bargain Sale (2006), I Was Worth 50 Sheep (2010), No Burqas Behind Bars (2012) and Those Who Said No (2014).
Those Who Said No

Mehdi Mirshahzadeh
Executed at Evin prison, in April 1984

Gholam Keshavarz
Executed in the open streets of Tehran in August 1989
Winter Buoy

In icy mid-winter Toronto, a group of pregnant women desperately strive to regain control of their lives. They have insurmountable forces against them: homelessness, drug addiction and violent relationships. But following closely are the attentive eyes of their guardian angels, the social workers of a unique public health initiative. If the expectant mothers can only manage to break free of the vicious cycles dogging their steps, they have a chance to keep their newborns. *Winter Buoy* is a film about trust and the courage to never stop hoping.

“I want to be consistent in my storytelling. I strive for simplicity and purity, both visually and in sound. For every scene I shoot, I ask myself why. Every element has to be questioned. I pare back more and more until I until I reach a core, until I feel confident that it's this alone that must be told.”

**Original title** Winter Buoy  
**Director/Screenwriter** Frida Kempff  
**Producer** David Herdies  
**Produced by** Mumento Film in co-production with Film i Väst, Adomeit Films and Les films du Balibari, in collaboration with Filmpool Stockholm Mälardalen, CNC, Procirc and Region Pays de la Loire, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Cecilia Lidin, The Sundance Institute Documentary Film Program and MEDIA Programme of the European Union.  
**Duration** 86 min  
**To be released** 2015  
**Sales** TBA

With a strong passion and respect for her subjects and a deep cinematic voice, *Frida Kempff* has made several award-winning shorts focusing on the vulnerability and existential questions of her protagonists. Born in 1977 and educated at the Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts. In 2010 Frida directed *Bathing Micky*, which won the Jury Prize in the Official Selection at Cannes the same year. *Winter Buoy* is Kempff’s first feature film.