SHORT Films
Turkish Cinema 2015
mother virgin no more gri bölge
turkey 2015, 7’, experimental, colour

A white ceiling, with a white fluorescent strip light that keeps flickering, leads a young woman on a trip down memory lane... She recalls her old habit of laughing when nervous. Sitting right across from the young woman is her loving and protective mother. But when an unexpected truth about the young woman is revealed to her mother, will this caring relationship remain so pure and untainted?

Derya Durmaz has a BA in Economics from Ankara Hacettepe University and an LL.M. in Human Rights Law from Istanbul Bilgi University. She trained as an actress at the Studio Players Acting Studio in Istanbul. Her first short film, Ziazan, screened at 25 international film festivals and won eight awards. As an actress, she has had roles in more than 10 feature films that have been shown at international festivals.

filmography
2014 Ziazan (short)
A story about the choices made by a young boy when he faces changing living conditions after the forced migration from Turkey’s Kurdish region in 1993...

Orhan İnce (Diyarbakır, 1983) graduated from the Cinema and Television Department of Marmara University. He is currently doing an MA at the same department of the same university.

Edifice is a dance film that tells the story of a woman’s revolt against the moral values imposed by society. In the film, all the characters question the social trauma inflicted upon their bodily memory.

Irmak Karasu (Istanbul, 1990) graduated from Istanbul Bilgi University, where she studied both Film and Television, and Psychology as a double major student. She has produced her own films and worked on interdisciplinary projects with several artists from Turkey and other countries. Some of her films have been screened at film festivals in Turkey and abroad.
These days, our needs are trapped inside digital boxes. Feelings, needs and identities will satisfy us all in this digital illusion.

Semih Delil (Ankara, 1982) studied graphic design and is currently working on a PhD, again in graphic design. He’s working as a university research assistant and is involved in various animation projects. His work has won him several prizes in animation and design competitions.

greed tamah
Turkey 2014, 5’, fiction, colour

When a thief steals the watch of a man at the next table in a restaurant, he inadvertently unleashes a chain of coincidences, which ends in a way he could never have foreseen.

Erhan Yürük found himself working in the advertising industry in 2000 when he was writing computer games. In 2003, he set up his own digital agency. He has been directing online and television commercials since 2006.
The Head is the story of an “Other”. Nuri is one of those people who can only hold their heads straight with the aid of a string attached to the crown. When events conspire to work Nuri’s string loose, he becomes different from other people. As he tries to live with the situation, he grows lonelier by the day.

Koray Sevindi (Istanbul) worked as an assistant director on various short films, documentaries and ads, after studying Mechanical Engineering and Industrial Engineering at Istanbul Technical University. He went on to study film directing at the New York Film Academy. His short film, Bread, won several awards.

ice cream berfeşir
turkey 2014, 16’, fiction, colour

In this delightful tale of desire and dogged determination, the rare arrival of an ice-cream man in his small village spurs 11-year-old Rojhat into action: dodging his angry mother at every turn, Rojhat is set on securing the coveted sweet treat no matter what.

Serhat Karaaslan (Varto, 1984) studied pharmacy at Istanbul University and film at Kadir Has University. He directed the short film, Musa, and wrote and directed the shorts, Bisqilet and Ice Cream. He is currently working on his first feature film project, Passed by Censor, which has been selected for both the Cannes Film Festival Cinefondation Residence program 2015 and the Berlinale Talent Market 2015.
When Robin was still in his mother’s womb his father was killed in an unsolved murder. Robin now searches for his father in the sky...

Özlem Güler (1983) studied educational sciences at Mersin University and cinema at the Diyarbakır Metropolitan Municipality Aram Tigran City Conservatory. *In the Sky* is her first short film.

**in the sky**

*li ezmani*

turkey 2014, 7’, fiction, colour

director Özlem Güler

script Özlem Güler

cinematography Mehmet Yalçın, İbrahim Yıldırım

editing Özlem Güler, Zeynel Doğan

music Ardavan Kamkar

cast Midas Muhammed, Maruf Kaşıkçıoğlu, Eylem Özden Güler

production-distribution Özlem Güler

†+90 507 235 4449 ozlem_guler_@hotmail.com

The history of a city could be written based on the history of its underground. *Intermezzo* takes us on a journey to Istanbul in the 1930s. Our guide is the reed flute player, Sufi and satirist, Neyzen Tevfik.

**intermezzo**

turkey 2014, 15’, fiction, colour

director Aylin Ünsal Yılmaz

script Nurten Meriçer

cinematography Burak Turan

editing Çağrı Güven

cast Bülent Emin Yarar, Alper Saldıran, Berk Sezenler, Barış Aytaç, Vahdet Çakar

production-distribution Solo Projeler, Nurten Meriçer

†+90 533 257 8915 nurtene@soloprojeler.com

Aylin Ünsal Yılmaz (Istanbul, 1975) majored in Film and Video Production at Florida Atlantic University, Florida. She currently works as a TV commercial director, but has also been focusing on her first feature film, *Screen*, which is due to shoot in March 2015.
A sponge diving crew, the Mediterranean sea-sponge shortage, and a young diver caught between his father/captain and his mentor...

**Mert Gökalp** (Ankara, 1978) is a marine scientist, photographer/videographer and documentary filmmaker. He graduated from METU (the Middle East Technical University), the University of Miami and Ankara University. He has worked as a marine biologist on Sixth and Seventh Framework Program European Union projects. He is currently working on two nature documentaries and an underwater photography project.

**licence** ruhsat
turkey 2014, 13’, fiction, colour

director İpek Kent
script İpek Kent
cinematography Meryem Yavuz
editing Elif Yalçiner
music Nurtun Şarman, Murat Kirkit
cast Onur Özaydın, Cüneyt Uzunlar, Sezin Bozacı
production-distribution Yedi Film, İpek Kent
T +90 533 624 5227 ipekent@gmail.com

A new law is passed which makes the act of reading subject to a license. After waiting in line to get his license, Ali finds himself stuck with a permit that allows him to access only certain types of books. Ali does not give up easily. Under the gaze of men in uniform, he will try every possible way to get the books he wants.

**İpek Kent** (1985) studied Visual Communication Design and holds a Master’s degree in Film and Television. She has been working as a director and producer at Yedi Film since 2011. Her first short film, *Farewell Tune*, was shown at various festivals. She is currently working on her debut feature, *Passiflora and a Few Memories*. 
Dilara and Kübra work as secretaries in one of Istanbul’s most affluent neighborhoods; both aspire to be like the chic women they see every day. When they receive a “sign” from a bird, they buy a lottery ticket and dream about what to do with the winnings.

**Gözde Onaran** earned a BA in Psychology from Boğaziçi University and an MA in Filmmaking and Media Ecology from NYU. She is currently a PhD candidate at ASCA, focusing on feminist film theory. She is an editorial board member of the monthly cinema magazine, Altyazı.

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**memento mori**

**t**urkey 2014, 4’, animation, colour

- **director** Pelin Kırca
- **script** Pelin Kırca
- **editing** Pelin Kırca, M. Taylan Baysefer
- **music** The Books
- **production-distribution** Pelin Kırca
  T +90 541 632 4025 hello@pelinkirca.com

A vignette about life in general...

**Pelin Kırca** holds an MFA in Design from the School of Visual Arts, New York, and a BFA degree in Graphic Design from Bilkent University, Ankara. Her work has been exhibited at a number of venues in the USA, Turkey, Italy, France, Spain, Tokyo, Switzerland and Portugal.
prayers at dawn şafak vakti
turkey 2014, 16’, fiction, colour

Zülkuf, the village idiot, lives in an isolated rural town in eastern Turkey and works for his imam uncle at the local mosque. His lonely routine comes to an end when he becomes fascinated with a mysterious woman. The only problem is she is dead.

Pınar Yorgancıoğlu studied Communication Design at Bilkent University prior to beginning a career in film. In Istanbul she co-founded the boutique production company, MakarnaFilm, worked as an AD for production outfit Böcek Yapım, and made shorts and music videos before moving to New York to do an MFA at Columbia University. She continues to write, direct, and edit on a freelance basis.

regret ukde
turkey 2014, 19’, fiction, colour

Müşfik, a man in his 70s, lives alone. His loneliness ends with a telephone call he receives from an old friend, and his joy for life suddenly returns. After several more telephone conversations, he goes to see his friend after a gap many years.

ronald gottlieb
turkey, usa 2014, 9’, animation, colour

An animated documentary following Ronald Gottlieb’s search for companionship in a society where everybody has very hairy legs...

Engin Karabağlı (Istanbul, 1990) is a graduate of the Film and Television program at the Tisch School of the Arts. Engin is an animator/documentarian and is currently based in Istanbul, where he works in the Turkish film industry on both international and local productions.

director Engin Karabağlı
script Engin Karabağlı
animation Engin Karabağlı
editing Engin Karabağlı, Jonah Greenstein
music Engin Karabağlı
production-distribution NYU TISCH, Engin Karabağlı
T +90 531 831 3190 enginkarabagli@gmail.com

roya
turkey 2014, 11’, fiction, colour

Roya is the story of a group of refugees who endure a hazardous journey. Aref and Roya’s love story takes an unexpected turn.

Alper Akdeniz (Mersin, 1979) graduated from the Dramatic Writing Department of Izmir’s Dokuz Eylül University and started a Master’s degree at the same university. He has won a total of 15 national awards for his writing and film work.

director Alper Akdeniz
script Alper Akdeniz, Fatih Yurdakul
cinematography Yıldız Yıldırım
editing Ömer Günüvar music Engin Bayrak
cast Cansel Elçin, Sema Öztürk, Gündüz Öğüt
production-distribution Mavi Sanat, Alper Akdeniz
T +90 532 516 0797 alpermavisanat@gmail.com

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Alper Akdeniz (Mersin, 1979) graduated from the Dramatic Writing Department of Izmir’s Dokuz Eylül University and started a Master’s degree at the same university. He has won a total of 15 national awards for his writing and film work.
In a broken corner of the world, people waiting at a bus stop find themselves having to deal with a creature that causes strange things to happen.

Serdar Çotuk and Buğra Uğur Sofu began studying Animation at Dumlupınar University in 2010. During their second year and subsequently they made the short films, Line, Flower and Worker, which screened and won awards at both national and international festivals.

Baki is a young man lost in the crowds... His only wish is to be a teacher like his mother, but after graduating he waits in vain for a teaching post to come up. Weeks turn into months and then years. Shifting from one temporary job to the next, he creates a dream world to make his mother happy.

Baran Gündüzalp graduated from Anadolu University in 2004 with a degree in Communication Sciences, majoring in Communication Arts. To date, he has made a number of short films that have awards in national and international competitions. He has worked for many years as a copywriter in the advertising business and continues to work as a commercials director.
There was a man who fought during his entire life. He rode from one battle to another, journeying on horseback. He was a brave soldier who fought with pride. But maybe it was time to watch the soldiers march into the setting sun under the shade of the Weeping Willow. This animated short film is a free adaptation of Nazım Hikmet Ran’s poem, “Weeping Willow”.

Ethem Onur Bilgiç (İnebolu, 1986) began studying graphic design at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University in 2007. He has designed cover pages and illustrations for magazines and book covers for publishing houses. He has also designed posters for many festivals. His work has been shown in various national and international exhibitions. Weeping Willow is his first short film.
Short Documentaries
Dhurba left his home as a boy and went to Kathmandu full of expectations. By his late 20s, he finds himself living a life full of disappointments. After a while he decides to leave the city and moves to a small village. He starts adopting orphaned children, but is soon plagued by problems here, too.

Cenkay Kılıç (Bursa, 1982) graduated from the Anadolu University Department of Ceramics in 2012. He worked as an assistant director between 2008-2012.

Some human stories we often don’t hear from their protagonists; we listen instead through the crack in the door or even behind closed doors. Always there is some sort of obstacle in the way... This is a documentary that opens the doors and takes a peak into the world of child marriages from the perspective of child-grooms...

Muhammet Beyazdağ (Istanbul, 1989) graduated from the Department of Radio, Television, and Cinema at Akdeniz University. He is currently working on an MA within the same department. His documentary titled Zarok (2013) has screened at many festivals in Turkey and abroad and won him multiple awards.
my wish is peace  
dileğim barış olsun

turkey 2014, 43', colour

director  Kıvılcım Akay
script  Kıvılcım Akay
cinematography  Halit Soy, Aslı Çelikel
editing  Kıvılcım Akay
music  Hakan Akay
production-distribution  Akaylar Production, Kıvılcım Akay
T  +90 532 524 4242 kivilcim@akaylarproduksiyon.com.tr

Ten children and three mothers from the southeastern districts of Diyarbakır, Lice, Ergani, Cizre, Mardin, Nusaybin, Kızıltepe and Varto... The ongoing 30-year war in Turkey's southeast has left children to suffer most and mothers to shed the most tears. In this film, children and mothers talk about how they long for and remain hopeful of peace. The common theme that emerges from their various reflections is an overwhelming desire for peace, regardless of the suffering they have endured.

Kıvılcım Akay studied film at Akdeniz University, Faculty of Fine Arts. Between 2009-2011 she worked for an advertising agency as a copywriter and agency coordinator. In 2013, she produced and directed Turkey's first fashion documentary, One Hundred Years of Fashion, for the state broadcaster, TRT.

mysterious stones of hakkari  
hakkâri'nin gizemli taşları

turkey 2014, 40', colour

director  Bahriye Kabadayı Dal
cinematography  Koray Kesik
editing  Burak Dal
music  Lawje (Ali Tekbaş, A.İmran Erin, Serhat Bostancı)
production-distribution  Tarçın Film, Burak Dal
T  +90 541 375 5009 burak@tarcinfilm.com

A voyage into the impressive cultural past of Hakkari through the story of 13 obelisks, which were discovered in the region, an archeological terra incognita, by accident... While local storytellers talk about the life of Dengbejs, or Kurdish bards, in Hakkari, the filmmakers also come across relics of Nestorian culture and pre-Christian era rock carvings in the Cilo mountains during research.

Bahriye Kabadayı Dal (Istanbul, 1977) earned a bachelor's degree in Radio, Television and Cinema from Marmara University. She worked for VTR Film between 1997-2013. She has been actively involved in events organized by the Association of Documentary Filmmakers in Turkey (ADF) since it was founded in 1997.
a dream school in the steppes  
tepecik hayal okulu  
turkey 2014, 55’, colour

Ahmet Uluçay, well known for his idiosyncratic shorts and one feature film, Boats out of Watermelon Rinds, had to face the fact that he had a brain tumor; he had his first operation 12 years ago. Consonant with Uluçay’s life between reality and dream, this film draws us from the half-lit corridors of a hospital into the world of a passionate cineaste.

Güliz Sağlam studied at the University of Marmara, Department of Social Sciences and Administration. She is an independent documentary filmmaker and video activist. Her work consists of independent documentaries on a variety issues including immigration, women workers’ strikes and resistance.

delusion  
hezeyan  
turkey 2014, 60’, colour

CANAN’s one-hour, “home-made” film, Delusion, presents the feminine side of Turkey’s soul. Reminiscent of the Fassbinders of the early years, this tearful and “particularly rheumy” melodrama is both socially aware and heartrending (...) The adventures of a housewife content with her “internet prince charming” make an excellent “confession hotline”. Fatih Özgüven

CANAN (Istanbul, 1970) graduated from the Fine Arts Faculty of Marmara University, and has participated in residency programs in Istanbul, the USA and Germany, as well as winning many awards for her work. CANAN has had two solo shows at the Istanbul based gallery, x-ist.
Diyar

Turkey 2014, 72', Colour

Director: Devrim Akkaya
Script: Devrim Akkaya
Cinematography: Meryem Yavuz
Editing: Ebru Karaca, Erdal Bilici
Music: Barkın Engin, Metin Bozkurt
Production: Aheste Film, Cem Doruk
Distribution: ARTVoltage, Başak Çalıoğlu

Devrim is a yoga instructor from Istanbul. During a therapy session, she discovers that one of the reasons for her feelings of loneliness, her sense of not belonging and her resistance to having a family of her own is inherited from her great grandfather, who was adopted by her Kurdish ancestors during the 1915 Armenian emigration.

Devrim Akkaya is a yoga instructor in Istanbul. She has worked as a production and art direction assistant on several short film projects. More recently, she has been working on storytelling and screenplay writing. Diyar is her first film project as a director.

Hey Neighbour! Komşu Komşu! Hu!

Turkey 2014, 54', Colour

Director-Script: Bingöl Elmas
Cinematography: M. Eren Bozbaş, Koray Kesik
Editing: Uğur Hamidoğulları
Music: Nejla Melike Atalay
Participants: Hale Akınlı, Aleaddin Koç, Mehmet Susam, Blanca Nieves Garcia Cruz, Mustafa Tezeren, Sevinç Bektas
Production-Distribution: Asmin Film, Bingöl Elmas

A monster, a.k.a. “urban transformation”, has emerged in Turkey in the last few years. Haunting neighborhoods, this monster destroys all relics of history, erects glass towers everywhere and swallows the few trees that remain. As the monster goes about its work, old becomes neighbors with new, and rich with poor.

Bingöl Elmas graduated from the Radio, Television and Cinema Department of Marmara University. She worked as a reporter for various national television channels between 1998 and 2001, as well as a director’s assistant on television productions.
Turkey in the 1960s and 1970s was one of the biggest producers of film in the world even though its film industry, Yeşilçam, didn’t have enough written material to start with. In order to keep up with demand, screenwriters and directors copied scripts and remade movies from all over the world. Kaya met with the fastest working directors, the most practical cameramen and the most hardheaded actors to gain a closer insight into the country’s tumultuous history of movie making.

Cem Kaya is a documentary filmmaker from Berlin with a quirky interest in found footage work. He was educated in cultural studies and trained as an editor. His films combine tense and often humorous storytelling with extensive background knowledge of the issues he deals with.

once upon a time he bû tune bu
turkey 2014, 81’, colour

director Kazım Öz
script Kazım Öz
 cinematography Kazım Öz
editing Kazım Öz, Semih Yıldız
cast Saim Çalar, Gamze Çalar, İsmehan Çalar, Şemsihane Çalar, Ferhat Çalar, Dilber Çalar, Derya Çalar, Recep Mertoğlu
production-distribution Yapımcı Film Production
T +90 212 232 6063 mkmsinema@hotmail.com

A large and impoverished crowded Kurdish family leaves Batman for Ankara to work in the fields every year. Their work, which brings in a minimal living, is to grow lettuces. But this year the story takes a different turn when an unexpected romance emerges and the story the mother tells her kids in the fields becomes real.

Kazım Öz (Dersim, 1973) shot his first short film in 1999. He has five feature films which won many awards in international festivals. Recently he works on his feature film Zer.
If you were given one sentence to say to the world, what would it be? Through My Lens tells the story of 72 students from six different cities around Turkey producing their first short films on democracy and human rights. The story of the students says a lot about what it means to be young and to want to be heard.

Nefin Dinç has an MFA degree in documentary filmmaking from the University of North Texas. She taught documentary filmmaking at the State University of New York at Fredonia between 2005-2013. She has produced six documentary films and is currently working on her new film, Memoirs of Antoine Köpe, a documentary film on WWI in the Middle East.
### Shorts

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