



MIDPOINT  
INSTITUTE

# FEATURE LAUNCH SPOTLIGHT



TIME  
MACHINE

Tuesday / January 26  
10.00 CET

Meet the Feature Launch  
2020 generation!

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# MIDPOINT FEATURE LAUNCH SPOTLIGHT

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MIDPOINT Institute's leading feature-length film program Feature Launch is a unique training and networking platform for emerging talents from Central and Eastern Europe. It is aimed at scouting the most talented filmmakers and producers of the future who are developing their first and second feature films.

The 8 selected projects of 2020 edition of Feature Launch started their journey last year in Trieste; the first workshop of the program was organized within the When East Meets West Co-production Forum and in partnership with Trieste Film Festival.

Creative teams of writers, producers and directors then continued with the script and project development during intensive online workshops, which spanned over the first half of 2020.

In July 2020, the projects were presented within the Works in Development – Feature Launch at online Eastern Promises Industry Days of Karlovy Vary International Film Festival.

Feature Launch 2020 will finally conclude with the follow-up presentation and networking platform for producers called Feature Launch Spotlight, which is partially taking place within When East Meets West.

Participating producers will present their projects, resume their development journey and share the current status of the projects within the Time Machine program slot of When East Meets West.

Industry guests of When East Meets West will have the opportunity to meet the Feature Launch Spotlight producers. To arrange an online meeting, contact directly Feature Launch Program Coordinator Sona Morgenthalova ([sona.morgenthalova@midpoint-institute.eu](mailto:sona.morgenthalova@midpoint-institute.eu)).

Under the Auspices of      Funders



Partners



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# THE FRAGILE BEAUTY OF MASCULINITY

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Adam wants to have it all, a square dose of adrenalin that boosts his testosterone as well as an easy life in a tuneful marriage with a loving wife and two daughters. But life has simple rules – no one has it all.

*Adam and Iva have been together for over 15 years, married, with two teenage girls. Everything in their lives would be just ordinary if Adam wasn't craving to satisfy his thirst for adrenaline so often. Over the course of their marriage, Iva has learned to swim in this pool of aimless risks and macho gestures. She forgives her husband everything – a nasty accident that costs him a leg or a crazy winter motorbike rally at which he almost dies. After that last nearly fatal casualty, Adam ends up in a rehab center, where Iva works as a nurse. Unable to move, he starts to fall in love with Iva anew, whereas she sees that her own inner change and freedom is inevitable. She finally decides not to take any more chances. Adam realizes that too late, but instead of remorse, taking responsibility and putting things in order, he acts as an adrenaline junkie for the last time in his life.*

- **ORIGINAL TITLE**  
Křehká krása mužství
- **DIRECTOR**  
Andrea Culkova
- **WRITER**  
Andrea Culkova
- **PRODUCER**  
Miroslav Novak, Katarina Krnacova
- **PRODUCTION COMPANY**  
Duracfilm, Silverart
- **COUNTRIES OF PRODUCTION**  
Czech Republic, Slovakia, Norway
- **LANGUAGE**  
Czech, Slovak, English
- **GENRE**  
drama
- **ESTIMATED BUDGET**  
850,000 €
- **RELEASE DATE**  
2024
- **LOOKING FOR**  
co-producers, partners, sales, TV

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## CONTACT

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+420 774 138 838

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# KYUKA JOURNEYING TO THE MOON THROUGH THE ENDLESS SEA

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During their summer holidays on the family sailboat, an overprotective father and his adult twin children are confronted by their traumatic past in a coming-of-age trip.

An overprotective father and his mischievous adult twins go with the family sailboat for their yearly summer holidays; an opportunity to take care of their fragmented relationship which lacks mutual respect. Upon arriving on a Greek island, the twins reunite a missing little girl with her mother. Their father soon realises that the little girl's mother is his ex-wife and birth mother of the twins, who had abandoned them when the twins were babies. The father becomes obsessed with his ex-wife. He lures her new husband and his family over for dinner and takes revenge on his ex-wife by exposing her past to her new family and the twins. Overwhelmed, the twins violently escape their father's grasp; but in the end, for the first time, they part ways and emerge as individuals, as they realise they want different things in life.

- **ORIGINAL TITLE**  
ΚΙΟΥΚΑ ΤΑΞΙΔΕΥΟΝΤΑΣ ΣΤΟ ΦΕΓΓΑΡΙ  
ΜΕΣΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΗΝ ΑΠΕΡΑΝΤΗ ΘΑΛΑΣΣΑ
- **DIRECTOR**  
Kostis Charamountanis
- **WRITER**  
Kostis Charamountanis
- **PRODUCER**  
Danae Spathara
- **PRODUCTION COMPANY**  
Heretic
- **COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION**  
Greece
- **LANGUAGE**  
Greek
- **GENRE**  
comedy drama
- **ESTIMATED BUDGET**  
254,000 €
- **RELEASE DATE**  
February 2022
- **LOOKING FOR**  
co-producer

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## CONTACT

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# NEITHER VOICE

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In a small village in 1970s Yugoslavia an imaginative, but tone-deaf 10-year-old girl is convinced she can prevent her Grandma's death by joining the school choir.

*Ida lives in a village in 1970s Yugoslavia. While her parents argue she listens to obituaries with her Grandma who means the world to Ida. One day Grandma collapses while watering the flowers in the local graveyard. Ida panics. Suddenly the beautiful sound of singing begins to resound out of nowhere and Grandma finally gets up. Astonished by the power of singing, Ida decides to join the school choir to save Grandma from dying. After turning out to be an awful singer she is rejected until a shy girl named Terezka helps her out. But their joy doesn't last long as Ida finds out her Dad is cheating on Mom and instead of singing, she finds herself on a bus to Mom's family in Serbia where she spends the summer. She longs to get back to Grandma and constantly fights with Mom. When she returns home, Ida finds Grandma ill and the family falling apart, but she tries to grow up and embrace the change.*

- **ORIGINAL TITLE**  
Noben glas
- **DIRECTOR**  
Ester Ivakic
- **WRITER**  
Nika Jurman, Ester Ivakic
- **PRODUCER**  
Andraz Jeric, Jerca Jeric
- **PRODUCTION COMPANY**  
Temporama
- **COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION**  
Slovenia
- **LANGUAGE**  
Slovenian, Serbian
- **GENRE**  
drama
- **ESTIMATED BUDGET**  
1,124,850 €
- **RELEASE DATE**  
2023
- **LOOKING FOR**  
co-production partners in Serbia and Italy, sales agents, broadcasters

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## CONTACT

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# THE SANCTUARY

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Single mother tries to save her best friend and other victims of domestic violence by transforming her old village house into an illegal sanctuary while fighting with society and her own dark past.

Irina (40), a single mother of Kalina (18), is running a successful fitness center with her best friend Elena (40). Elena is brutally beaten by her fiancé and Irina sets out to hide Elena in a house in the rural mountains of Bulgaria. There Irina used to live fifteen years ago, but left after a car accident in which her ex-husband died. After Kalina creates a Facebook group for women victims of domestic violence, they find out that the problem is much worse than they thought. Other women seek help through the group and Irina builds 'The Sanctuary' in the village where they hide, heal and take care for each other. But problems arise as the women are being chased and soon things start to fall apart. Irina and Kalina have yet to face their past as memories in the house bring the truth about the death of Irina's husband and the fact that she herself was once a victim of domestic abuse.

- **ORIGINAL TITLE**  
УБЕЖИЩЕ
- **DIRECTOR**  
Katerina Borisova
- **WRITER**  
Aleksandra Genova, Valentina Angelova
- **PRODUCER**  
Eleni Dekidis
- **PRODUCTION COMPANY**  
DEKIDIS FILMS
- **COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION**  
Bulgaria
- **LANGUAGE**  
Bulgarian
- **GENRE**  
drama
- **ESTIMATED BUDGET**  
290,000 €
- **RELEASE DATE**  
TBC
- **LOOKING FOR**  
decision makers, sales agents, co-producers

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## CONTACT

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# SARA'S BUNGALOW

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This dystopian love story unfolds against the backdrop of a world obsessed with eternal youth, where anti-aging vaccine was discovered. SARA (70) is one of a few who didn't take it. One day she decides she wants to live her life on her own terms. This revives her former love relationship and inspires her true awakening.

SARA and INKAR were happily married. When the anti-aging vaccine was invented, they promised each other to age together naturally. But Inkar betrayed Sara, and secretly took the vaccine. The film starts fifteen years later, 70-year-old Sara lives in The National Old People's Refuge, on the outskirts of the society. Tired with rules, bitter and rebellious by nature, she decides to run away to start a new life on her own terms. In order to do it she needs money and she can only get it from Inkar. Sara goes back to the City of Youth and pretending to be his mother, she moves in with him and his girlfriend Layla – until he gives her the money. A strange love-triangle unfolds as Sara and Inkar rekindle their love. Sara begins her journey to awakening and acceptance. She learns to forgive, and while acknowledging the love she has lost and coming to terms with her own life choices, she finds a desire to live.

- **ORIGINAL TITLE**  
Bungalow Sary
- **DIRECTOR**  
Julia Rogowska
- **WRITER**  
Małgorzata Pilacinska
- **PRODUCER**  
Krystyna Kantor
- **PRODUCTION COMPANY**  
Shipsboy
- **COUNTRIES OF PRODUCTION**  
Poland
- **LANGUAGE**  
Polish
- **GENRE**  
dystopian love story
- **ESTIMATED BUDGET**  
1,200,000 €
- **RELEASE DATE**  
2023
- **LOOKING FOR**  
financiers, co-producers, sales

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## CONTACT

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# TWO TIMES ONE

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A young and charismatic politician is trying to secure a parliament seat at the upcoming elections. When his underage son reenters his life after the sudden death of the boy's mother, his orderly world comes under threat by an innocent pair of eyes now constantly present.

*Victor, a charismatic politician, aims to become an MP when his 10-year-old son, Dani, reenters his life after the sudden death of his mother. Victor adapts with the bravado of a man who is used to be in control. Quick to turn vulnerability into advantage, he tries to fold Dani into a world of political backroom dealings. Out of his element, Dani, however, becomes more of silent witness, drifting away. As the stakes rise for Victor, so does the disturbing effect of Dani's presence.*

*Grasping for a quick fix, Victor leaves Dani in the care of the boy's grandmother in a distant village. Just when Victor has cleared the way to his goal, it begins to lose its allure. Deprived of his drive and alertness, Victor is blindsided by a set up that ends his political career. Consumed by guilt and regret, Victor heads back to get Dani. The way there, though, might be longer than he had hoped for.*

— **ORIGINAL TITLE**

Две по едно / Dve po edno

— **DIRECTOR**

Vladimir Petev

— **WRITER**

Vladimir Petev

— **PRODUCER**

Vanya Rainova

— **PRODUCTION COMPANY**

Portokal

— **COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION**

Bulgaria

— **LANGUAGE**

Bulgarian

— **GENRE**

drama

— **ESTIMATED BUDGET**

480,500 €

— **RELEASE DATE**

2023

— **LOOKING FOR**

co-producers

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**CONTACT**

Vanya Rainova

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# USUD

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In a pagan world from the past, a diligent peasant strives for material success at the cost of family unity. After he cuts ties with his brother, everything he owns crumbles despite his hard work. His bad luck takes him on a journey that could teach him the importance of belonging instead of owning.

*In a Slavic pagan village, two brothers – the hard-working Mladen and lazy Radovan – inherit a farm after their parents die. Mladen's frustration with his brother's relaxed attitude leads to the division of the estate, after which Mladen's luck takes a turn for the worse: grains don't grow, fruit rots, animals die and the troubles don't subside despite his diligence. When everything fails, he sets out to find the reason behind his misfortune, starting a long and adventurous journey to Usud, the god responsible for assigning destinies to people. It turns out that Usud has no real power or knowledge, but simply assigns destinies based on a predetermined set of rules. Mladen returns to his village broken, but wiser, trying to reconcile with his brother and unite the family property again.*

- **ORIGINAL TITLE**  
Usud
- **DIRECTOR**  
Stefan Malesevic
- **WRITER**  
Stefan Malesevic, Jelena Jevtic
- **PRODUCER**  
Andrijana Sofranic Sucur
- **PRODUCTION COMPANY**  
Set Sail Films
- **COUNTRIES OF PRODUCTION**  
Serbia, Netherlands, Luxembourg  
(tbc), Czech Republic (tbc)
- **LANGUAGE**  
Old Slavic
- **GENRE**  
drama
- **ESTIMATED BUDGET**  
950,000 €
- **RELEASE DATE**  
2023
- **LOOKING FOR**  
talents, co-producers, sales agents

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## CONTACT

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# VACUUM

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Archaeologist Marta (32) returns to her hometown to sell the flat of her long-missing father and finds out that she belongs to a world she wanted so much to forget.

*A man disappeared right from his workplace. The police start an investigation and find the only relative of the man – his adult daughter Marta who works as an archaeologist. She has to return to her home city to settle the legal issues, hoping to sell her Missing Father's flat and return to her usual life as soon as possible. Martha's Missing Father was doing archeological looting illegally stealing artefacts from the historical sights, which is an unbearable disgrace for Marta. Unexpectedly, Marta is confronted with feelings for her Missing Father who she never really knew. She starts looking for any leads to find out something about him. Alongside all the bureaucratic litigation, Marta meets the neighbors' son, Liubchyk, and realizes that he is most likely her half-brother. They quickly become true friends and Marta gradually becomes a part of a world she wanted to forget so much.*

- **ORIGINAL TITLE**  
BAKYM
- **DIRECTOR**  
Yelizaveta Smith
- **WRITER**  
Yelizaveta Smith
- **PRODUCER**  
Aleksandra Kostina
- **PRODUCTION COMPANY**  
Bosonfilm
- **COUNTRIES OF PRODUCTION**  
Ukraine
- **LANGUAGE**  
Ukrainian
- **GENRE**  
drama
- **ESTIMATED BUDGET**  
810,000 €
- **RELEASE DATE**  
October 2023
- **LOOKING FOR**  
co-producers, international sales, funds

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## CONTACT

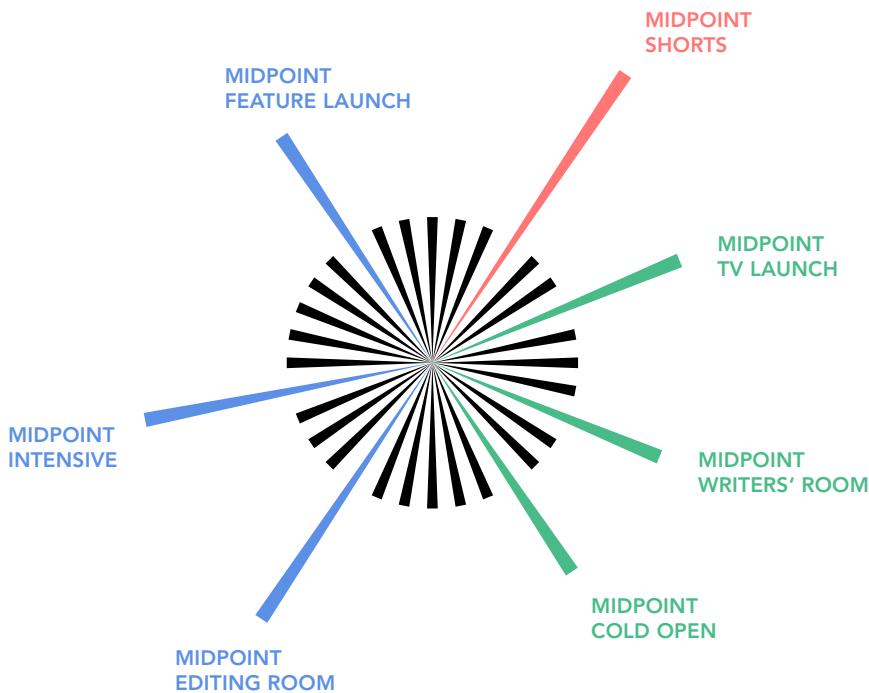
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# ABOUT MIDPOINT INSTITUTE

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MIDPOINT Institute is an international audiovisual training and networking institution organizing a wide range of programs focused on script and project development, post-production and the education of aspiring script consultants and development executives.



Conceived in 2010, MIDPOINT Institute is realized with the support of Creative Europe – MEDIA sub-programme of the European Union, Czech Film Fund, Ministry of Culture Czech Republic, Slovak Audiovisual Fund and operates under the auspices of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague.

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# CONTACT

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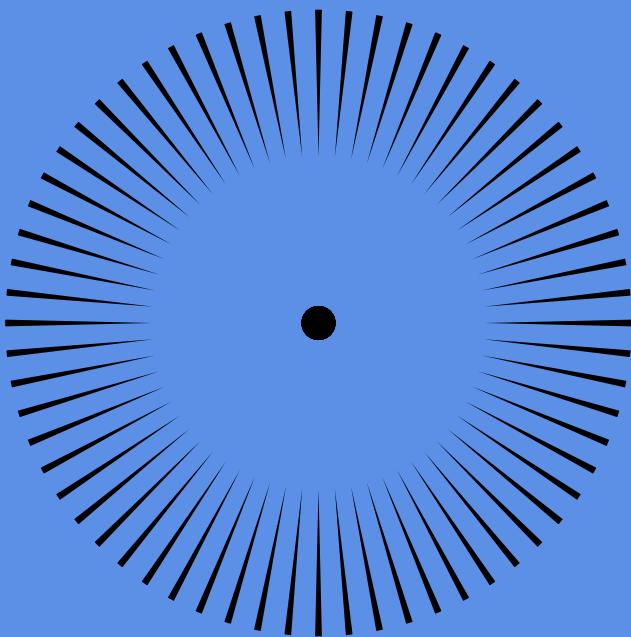
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