

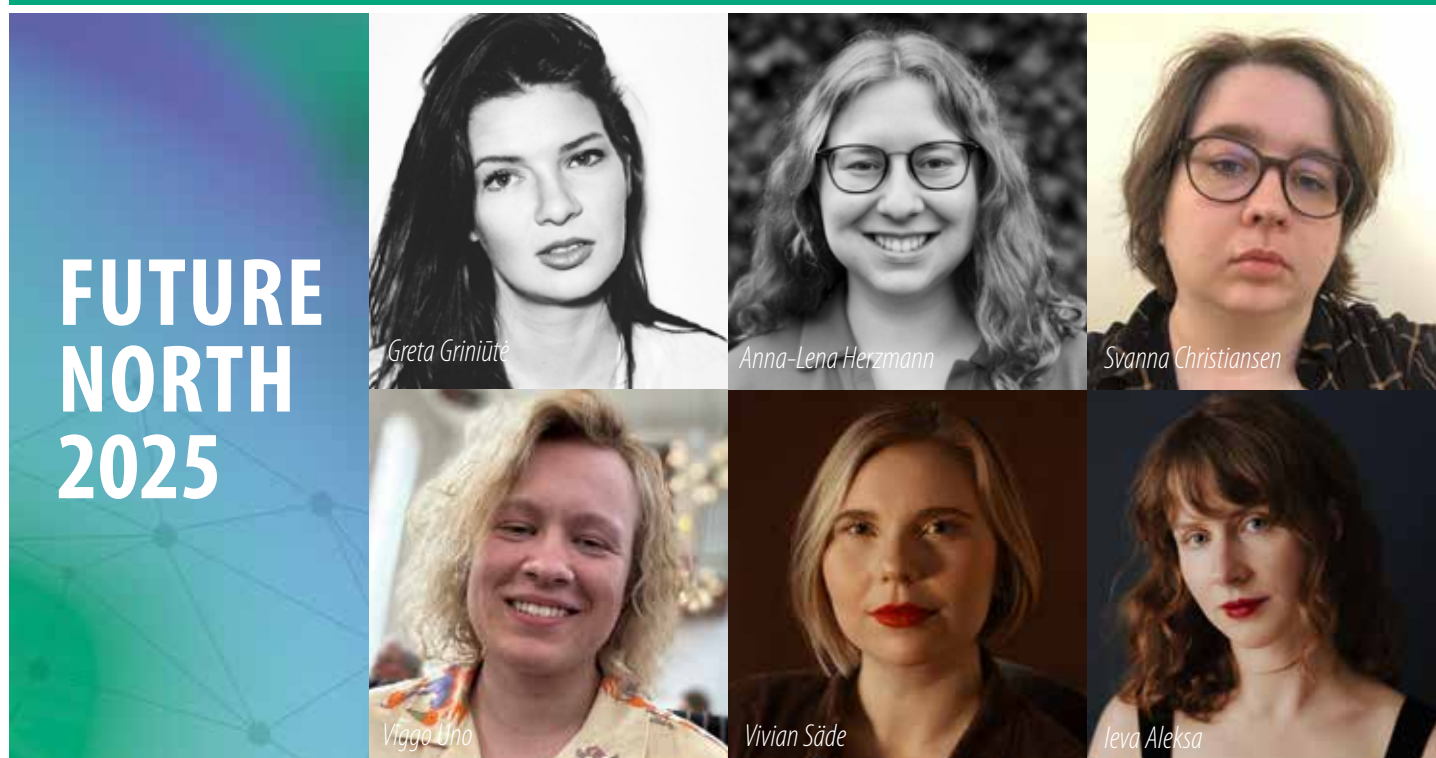
Eine Veranstaltung der Hansestadt LÜBECK 

67 NORDISCHE FILMTAGE LÜBECK 5.-9.11.2025

LÜBECK MEETINGS FUTURE NORTH

DAS FESTIVAL
FÜR DEN
NORDISCHEN FILM





Discover the Talents from the North in the Hanseatic City of Lübeck

For the third year, thanks to a subsidy from the Possehl Foundation, this programme to foster young talent brings directors from the Baltic countries, the Faroe Islands and Schleswig-Holstein to Lübeck. Each of the directors from these often-underrepresented regions of northern Europe will show a clip from the project they are currently working on, and receive feedback and constructive criticism from industry experts and the audience.

Greta Griniūtė (Lithuania):

"Independent Child", page 4

Anna-Lena Herzmann (Schleswig-Holstein):

"The Tipping Shore", page 5

Svanna Christiansen and Viggo Uno (Faroe Islands):

"Sheep Dog", page 6

Vivian Säde (Estonia):

"Mari, Sweetie", page 7

Ieva Aleksa (Latvia):

"Balance of Two", page 8

Following public screenings of these projects, the talents will receive feedback from industry experts and the audience. These feedback sessions will be complemented by a full programme for the young directors, who will experience everything the festival has to offer.

FUTURE NORTH offers the Lübeck audience as well as the German, Nordic and Baltic industry the opportunity to be the first to discover the work of young and upcoming directors. A first look at what the future holds for film fans at Nordic Film Days Lübeck and beyond!



FUTURE NORTH Day 1

Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025

Projects

Greta Griniūtė (Lithuania)

Feature Dramedy "Independent Child", (page 4)

Anna-Lena Herzmann (Schleswig-Holstein)

Short Documentary "The Tipping Shore", (page 5)

Svanna Christiansen and Viggo Uno (Faroe Islands):

2D Animated Shortfilm "Sheep Dog", (page 6)

With Industry experts:

Rimantė Daugėlaitė - Managing Director of Lithuanian Shorts and Baltic Pitching Forum

Gagga Jónsdóttir - Board Member of the Icelandic Screen Directors Guild

Astrid Aure - Festival Manager TIFF Junior & Program Director Films from the North at Tromsø International Film Festival

Josef Kullengård - Head of Industry at Gothenburg Film Festival

Stefan Kloos - Managing Director of Rise and Shine World Sales

Anne Jagemann - Distributor at Kurzfilm Agentur Hamburg

FUTURE NORTH Day 2

Friday, Nov. 7, 2025

Projects

Vivian Säde (Estonia)

Short Fiction – "Mari, Sweetie", (page 7)

Ieva Aleksa (Latvia)

Contemporary Dance Short – "Balance of Two", (page 8)

With Industry experts:

Astrid Aure - Festival Manager TIFF Junior & Program Director Films from the North at Tromsø International Film Festival

Sylvia Ingemarsdotter - Renowned Film Editor from Sweden

Anja Dziersk - Co-Founder Rise and Shine World Sales

Gagga Jónsdóttir - Board Member of the Icelandic Screen Directors Guild

Anne Jagemann - Distributor at Kurzfilm Agentur Hamburg

Schedule for both days:

at KOLK 17, Kolk 14, 23552 Lübeck

10:00 am – 12:00 pm Public screening of the projects and feedback round with industry experts and the audience for the directors

Moderated by Anne Schultka, Head of Industry Lübeck Meetings

Admission is free with a ticket, which can be booked at nordische-filmtage.de, and must be shown at the door either digitally or printed.

Last minute guests are welcome.



Greta Griniūtė (Lithuania)

“Independent Child” – Feature Dramedy

In newly independent Lithuania, Gertrūda (10) readies for her first communion at a strict catholic school. But when her mother defies tradition, she is pushed into a fragile world where faith and freedom clash, shaping her becoming.

“Independent Child” explores the clash between Catholic norms and real life through the eyes of 10-year-old Gertrūda, who struggles to reconcile her family’s troubles with the expectations of “normality” at school. The child’s perspective becomes a cinematic tool to layer the complexities of adult life while tracing the formation of a new identity in independent Lithuania. Growing up in the 1990s, Greta Griniūtė saw her own family face economic and social hardship, yet the promise of independence carried hope. As a child of that era, she believed in better times and the dream of joining Western Europe. With this film, she aims to spark dialogue on what freedom and independence truly mean, and how they shape both personal and collective emotional worlds.



Biography

Greta Griniūtė is a Lithuanian writer-director drawn to comedy with bite. A Goldsmiths alumna, her shorts have screened and won awards at Vienna Shorts, Pimedate Ööde FilmiFestival (POFF), Edinburgh, Reykjavík International Film Festival (RIFF) and other. She’s currently developing her debut feature “Independent Child” while working with top labs and festivals, including Venice’s Giornate degli Autori.



Anna-Lena Herzmann (Schleswig-Holstein)

“The Tipping Shore” – Short Documentary

Eckernförde as a case study of climate change: The last storm surge makes global challenges visible at a local level. At the same time, the town is exploring ideas and solutions that point toward a shared future.

Eckernförde is both a retreat and a home for many people. The 2023 storm surge, which destroyed parts of the town, revealed how vulnerable the coastal city truly is. So far, there are no hard coastal protection measures in place. How do we deal with the forces of nature? What does climate change mean for our understanding of home? And which paths open up for a shared future? At the core lies the question of how to balance the protection of the town, its citizens, and nature with economic interests. Voices include the mayor, the head of tourism, an environmental activist, and residents affected by the last storm surge. Young people also share their desire for change. Eckernförde must adapt and thus becomes an example for many regions around the world. Can we preserve home without destroying it?



Biography

Anna-Lena Herzmann, born in Schleswig-Holstein, has been studying at the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg since 2022. Her connection to northern Germany is reflected in her current project about Eckernförde, which she realized together with Almuth Ludwig. She has worked on various film projects before and during her studies, but her passion lies in documentary filmmaking.



Viggo Uno (Faroe Islands)

“Sheep Dog” – 2D Animated Shortfilm

A young sheep dog finds herself lost in the thick fog of the Faroese mountains, unable to play out her purpose.

“Sheep Dog” is an animated short film project produced by a team of two animators graduated from The Animation Workshop. The story depicts a young sheepdog, who grows up with a slightly naive vision of the world. Motivated by a need to fulfil her dreams, and purpose as a useful sheep dog, she leaves her comfortable home behind. But the world outside is different than she imagined, and soon she finds herself entering a thick mist of uncertainty. Set in the Faroe Islands, the short film focuses on its unique nature. The background paintings depicting the harsh and beautiful landscape in all its facets. The mist itself plays a great role both visually and thematically, framing the dog and her story. The production of the movie started, as there was a gap in the Faroese Film industry when it comes to animation. The movie seeks to not only depict Faroese nature and language, but also has nods to myths and themes that Faroese viewers may recognise. The hope of the project is to spark an interest in animation on the Faroe islands.



Biography

Viggo Uno is a Danish animator and character designer, who specialises in depicting animal characters. He is a graduate of The Animation Workshop in Viborg, and has worked on several international animation projects. Currently he is producing the short film “Seyðahundur”/“Sheep Dog” together with director and animator Svanna Christiansen.



Svanna Christiansen (Faroe Islands)

“Sheep Dog” – 2D Animated Shortfilm

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The short film takes place in the Faroe Islands, and as so has a focus on its unique nature. The background paintings depicting the harsh and beautiful landscape in all its facets. The mist itself plays a great role both visually and thematically, framing the dog and her story.

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Biography

Svanna Christiansen is a Faroese animator graduated from The Animation Workshop in Viborg with a Bachelor's degree in Character Animation. Her first experience directing was the graduate film “Monkey Movie”, and she has since worked on numerous international projects. Currently, she is making the Faroese animated short film “Sheep Dog” with animator and character designer Viggo Uno.



Vivian Säde (Estonia)

“Mari, Sweetie” – Short Fiction

Mari has flooded her apartment again. To break the cycle, she must confront her younger self inside a memory they both would like to forget.

When water begins to flood Mari’s apartment, the past resurfaces — pulling her into a cycle that forces her to confront what she has long tried to keep submerged. Though she appears in control, twenty-nine-year-old Mari is still marked by childhood bullying in swimming class. She resists, insisting her life is fine, but with the guidance of an imagined therapist, she dares to return to the moment of wounding and meet her younger self at age eleven.

Their journey ends in the Keava marshlands, where ancient acidic waters preserve whatever is thrown into them. Among the moss and natural pools, older and younger Mari begin to listen to each other and discover a fragile calm.

“Mari, Sweetie” is a 14-minute magical realist short film written and directed by Vivian Säde, produced by Volia Chajkouskaya (Allfilm) and Säde (Moondustfilms). The project has already been recognized at the Finnish Film Affair and the Baltic Pitching Forum, and is now in post-production, aiming for festivals in 2026.



Biography

Vivian Säde is a screenwriter, director, and producer from Tallinn, telling stories through her company Moondustfilms. Her work often explores (Baltic) girlhood through magical realism and offbeat comedy-drama. She created the short-form series Kalamaja Blues (Yle/ ERR), notable for the first queer relationship on Estonian national TV, and is co-developing the limited drama Ann Was Here with Allfilm.



Ieva Aleksa (Latvia)

“Balance Of Two”

Contemporary Dance Short on 16mm

Two dancers, carried by the unstoppable rhythm of an imagined train, exchange identities through movement, exploring the fragile balance between self and other as their journey emerges through light.

The sound of an approaching train echoes in the distance. A dancer steps into an imagined journey, the world rushing by in flashes of light and shadow. Another balances precariously on a chair, swayed by unseen forces. Together they explore connection through fractured rhythms — exchanging clothes, inhabiting each other's gestures, struggling to hold balance while embodying another's emotions. Their dance builds in tension until the train bursts from darkness into light. Bathed in warmth, they descend from their unstable ground, finding calm as the glow drifts into the distance.



Biography

Ieva Aleksa works in the short film and music video industry in Latvia. In 2022/2023, she was a participant in the Lithuanian Shorts and Baltic Pitching Forum Baltic Women in Film Mentorship Programme. A member of the Baltic Analog Lab, an analog film collective, with her films she has participated in various festivals and retrospectives in Latvia and abroad. Her most notable work is a 30-minute hybrid music short “A Dog’s Gaze” with electronic music duo Bel Tempo starring the Latvian shooting star actor Karlis Arnolds Avots.



Anja Dziersek began her career as a journalist and film critic for German television before moving to the acquisitions department at SAT.1. In 2002, she and her partner Stefan Kloos founded the production company Kloos & Co., which produces documentaries for the international market. Together with Kloos, she directed and edited the documentary "Dance With Me" for ARTE. In 2008, they founded Rise and Shine World Sales, a sales agency for high-quality documentaries, recent titles are "The Helsinki Effect" and "The Day Iceland Stood Still".



Josef Kullengård is head of the Industry section at the Gothenburg Film Festival, where he leads and oversees the Nordic Film Market, TV Drama Vision, Nostradamus, and the Nordic Film Lab. He also serves on the selection committee. He has worked with the festival since 2017, and assumed his current role in 2022. Previously, he worked with strategic development of audiovisual production in southern Sweden. In addition, he consults, produces and lectures for film festivals. He has an academic background in cultural studies, film, and literature.



Anne Jagemann studied film studies and journalism at the Free University of Berlin and began working in the festival programme department at the Stuttgart International Festival of Animated Film in 2011. Since 2015 in the distribution department of the Short Film Agency Hamburg. Anne Jagemann is intermittently involved in the competition selection for the German Competition of the Hamburg Short Film Festival and on the jury for the annual short film catalogs of the AG Kurzfilm.



Sylvia Ingemarsdotter, born in 1949, began her film career in 1968 at Europa Film as an assistant editor on works by Susan Sontag, Sidney Lumet, and Roy Andersson. After completing her studies, she worked six years for Swedish Television. She took leave to edit Bo Widerberg's "Man on the Roof", followed by Ingmar Bergman's "Autumn Sonata". In total, she edited 14 of Bergman's films, among them the acclaimed "Fanny and Alexander".



Astrid Aure has been the festival director of the Tromsø TIFF Junior festival since 2015, as well as head of all projects for children and young people at the Tromsø International Film Festival. She is also program director of the Tromsø festival's widely popular sidebar "Films from the North". Aure has a master's degree in film science and a BA in journalism, and nearly ten years experience as COO and marketing manager at the festival, following a 20-year long career in the media industry.



Stefan Kloos is the Managing Director of Rise and Shine, a leading sales agent for high quality documentary films and of Kloos&Co., one of Germany's finest docu companies with branches in Berlin, Leipzig and Hamburg. A Grimme Award and Cinema Eye Honors-winner and member of German and European Film Academy, his productions/co-productions include many award-winning films such as "Last Men In Aleppo", "Into The Ice", "Hi AI", "A Symphony Of Noise", "The Helsinki Effect" and others.



Gagga Jónsdóttir, born in Reykjavík in 1978, began her film career early, exploring various roles before focusing on directing and screenwriting. Since 2016, she has also worked as a film and television director, showrunner, and writer. Her debut feature documentary "Tight Lines" screens in this year's Young Audience Competition. A member of the Icelandic Screen Directors Guild, she previously joined Future North as an expert in 2024.



Rimantė Daugėlaitė is the co-founder and managing director of Lithuanian Shorts and head of the Vilnius Short Film Festival. With over a decade of experience in the audiovisual industry, she produces short films and coordinates international projects. She is an expert on European funding programmes, teaches at the National Film School KIMO, and is an alumna of Berlinale Talents. Rimantė is also a member of the European Film Academy.

MODERATION



Anne Schultka is project manager at KIDS Regio since 2018, joined the board of the German Children's Film Association in 2022. She is the author of the Cine Regio Gender, Equality and Diversity Report (2021, 2024) and co-author of the research report "Children in Film Culture" (2021). Since 2023, she has been in charge of the industry programme of the German Children's Media Festival Golden Sparrow, and in 2024, she became Head of Industry for the "Lübeck Meetings" at the Nordic Film Days Lübeck. She holds an MA in Media Management.

**VIELEN DANK · TUSIND TAK · AITÄH · TÚSUND TAKK
PALJON KIITOKSIA · QUJANARSUAQ · THÚSUND THAKKIR
LIELS PALDIES ACIU LABAI · TUSEN TAKK · OLU GIITU · TUSEN TACK**

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