

# WITHOUT WATER, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE



[www.ekofilm.cz/en](http://www.ekofilm.cz/en)

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# FESTIVAL CATALOGUE

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# INFORMATION

FOR EKOFILM PARTICIPANTS

## HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

IT IS FREE BUT YOU MUST BE REGISTERED.

All of the EKOFILM programme is free, but visitors **must be registered** on our website [www.ekofilm.cz/en](http://www.ekofilm.cz/en). We don't want to complicate your lives, we only need to know how many viewers come and where they go. It takes just 30 seconds of your time: in the top right-hand corner of the website, click on "Login", then choose "Registration" and fill in the fields. Voilà, the path to tens of free events is open!

## FESTIVAL PLACES IN BRNO

### **The social centre hall of the Brno-Střed Borough Council**

Dominikánská 2

*film screenings and discussions*

### **Cinema City Velký Špalíček**

Mečová 695

*film screenings and discussions*

### **Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University**

Joštova 10

*discussions and exhibition*

### **Cinema Art**

Cihlářská 19

*film screenings and discussions*

### **Zoo Brno**

U Zoologické zahrady 46

*EKOFILM Family Day*

### **Old Town Hall Courtyard**

Radnická 8-10

*Concert*

### **VIDA! science centrum**

Křížkovského 554/12

*Programme for schools*

THIS YEAR'S CLAIM:

# WITHOUT WATER, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE

Water - the fountain of life, the basic building block of our planet and a resource we often take for granted. But water is much more than just the liquid we drink every day. It is a mirror of our environment, a reflection of our actions and inactions. At a time when climate change is affecting our planet with unprecedented intensity, we need to realise the importance of water to our lives and to the life of the entire ecosystem. This year's edition of the EKOFILM film festival is subtitled "Without water, it's impossible." We want to introduce you to films that show the importance of water in different parts of the world, its quality, as well as the problems associated with its scarcity. In our country, we may think that we will never run out of water. But even here, we are beginning to feel the effects of drought, bark beetles are attacking weakened forests and cities are turning into hot islands.

The festival films will offer different perspectives on the issue of water, from its importance to nature to the social impact of water scarcity. We hope that you will find those that appeal to you and inspire you to treat water with respect and responsibility.

The festival includes a number of supporting events, meetings with filmmakers, talks and workshops. Minister Petr Hladík's discussion with representatives of the younger generation will start on Tuesday 3 October, followed by the traditional concert opener. This time with Jan Bendig in the Old Town Hall courtyard. The programme and screenings will take place from Thursday to Sunday in Cinema Art, Cinema City, the Brno Zoo and other Brno venues. Whether you are a film enthusiast or just interested in environmental issues, we believe that this year's EKOFILM will offer you a lot of inspiration and new insights.

We hope you enjoy your film days full of inspiration and new discoveries. Water is our common wealth and it is up to us to protect it for future generations.

### MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



**PETR HLADÍK**

*We often say that we are proud of our nature. We like to spend our free time in it, whether actively exploring or relaxing. That's why it's good that Europe's oldest nature festival is located here. EKOFILM has been with us for almost half a century, and this is the first time that I am going to attend in my role as Minister for the Environment. Over the three days, we will come across many important topics, but the main one will be water. We can clearly see the effects of climate change, but also irresponsible management, behind the thinning of global water supplies. This is not just a problem in Africa, where 5000 children die every day because of contaminated sources. Here in the Czech Republic, too, there are an increasing number of municipalities that are limiting the use of water so that they can supply all their citizens. At the Ministry, we treat water as a strategic resource that we must take proper care of. That is why we were also the first to propose its constitutional protection.*

### PRESIDENT OF THE FESTIVAL



**LADISLAV MIKO**

*Here we go again! Brno becomes the home of Europe's oldest environmental film festival. This year the focus is on something that is crucial to all of us - water. Whether it's drinking water, oceans or rivers, water is all around us and affects our lives every day. I am proud to be part of EKOFILM for the ninth year running. EKOFILM introduces top international films to the Czech public. This may be the only chance for many of you to see these films on the big screen. I believe that this year you can expect a showcase of world-class quality. But what is really special about EKOFILM? Meeting people! When different people come together, great ideas and inspiration are created. So whether you're here for the films or just want to meet interesting people, you're in the right spot. Come, enjoy the films, discuss and become part of something great. Who knows? Maybe you can guess who will win the Festival President's Award or the Minister of the Environment Award.*

COME TO THE CONCERT  
**3. 10. 2023 | 18.30**  
Old Town Hall Courtyard

**FREE  
ENTRY**

# Jan Bendig

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[www.ekofilm.cz](http://www.ekofilm.cz)

MAIN ORGANISERS

Ministry of the Environment  
of the Czech Republic

ORGANISERS

**KEY**  
PROMOTION

MUNI

MUNI  
FSS

EKO  
inkubátor

**#ekofilm**

# **EKOFILM FAMILY DAY AT ZOO BRNO**

*7 OCTOBER 2023, 10.00–16.00*

Take your family to Zoo Brno and experience an unforgettable EK-OFILM family day! We have prepared an interactive trail with tasks for both young and old visitors, where a total of 6 stops are waiting for you. At each stop, you will complete a task – you will find out also something more about water and still have fun.

Each player receives a card as soon as they enter the area, where they write their answers and collect stamps.

There will be famous characters from the Déčko (Czech TV station for children) waiting for you, and you can also attend a talk by researcher Diana Siswarton on how to improve your water quality every day. Of course, there will also be a screening of films about nature.

What's more, on this day there is a special entrance fee to Zoo Brno - CZK 70!



# GALA EVENING AWARD CEREMONY



**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 7 p.m.**  
**Atrium, Faculty of Social Studies**  
**of Masaryk University**

Joštova 218/10, Brno

Hosted by **Vladimír Kořen.**

Award-winning movies will be screened at Cinema Art  
on Sunday, 8 October 2023 from 14.30 to 19.15.

**The award ceremony is only for invited guests.**

# JURY



**TUIJA HALTTUNEN**

Tuija Halttunen is a Finnish filmmaker who has worked in the film industry for over twenty years. Her latest feature documentary *How to Kill a Cloud* was a festival success and was awarded for example in Locarno FF and Jihlava IDFF. Her film *Neighbours* was nominated for Prix Europa and her first feature length documentary *State of Mind* got a state's quality award. She has been described as an original filmmaker with a strong own voice.



**NATÁLIA PAŽICKÁ**

Environmental activist, influencer, founder of the initiative and civic association #everyindividualmatters and the podcast Fashion Session. Through modeling, she was able to see for herself the unfortunate practices of the fashion industry in Chinese factories. She then decided to study fashion and branding at the Amsterdam Fashion Institute, where she spent 4 years working on sustainability in the fashion industry. She is also one of the initiators of the country's most successful online petition #climateneeds, which has received more than 130,000 signatures. In 2021, she won the Forbes 30 under 30 award.



**VERONIKA  
ČERMÁK MACKOVÁ**

Actress, animal lover, traveller and environmental enthusiast, supporter of biodiversity conservation projects with which she has long cooperated. She tries to connect ecology with her profession and bring important topics to people through education. On her conservation journey, she was most influenced by her visits to the Republic of Congo, where she saw the beautiful wilderness with Save-Elephants organization.



# JURY



**JAN E. SVATOŠ**

A winner of two special awards of Special Jury Award and an author of more than 15 documentaries, most of which were entered into competitions and were awarded in International film festivals. His the most successful films are *The Ark of Lights and Shadows*, *divoČINY*, *Africa Obscura*, *Nobody Asked* and *When the Lion Roars*. Jan has long collaborated with Czech Television and Czech Radio, and his projects have involved major figures from the world of film - Werner Herzog, Jane Goodall and David Bordwell. He currently teaches documentary film at the Miroslav Ondříček Film Academy in Písek.



**MARTIN ČECH**

A Czech cameraman and documentarian, a member of the Film and Television Academy and the Association of Czech Cinematographers, a teacher, and a graduate of FAMU in Prague. In 1999, he was awarded a Český lev prize as a cameraman on the *Kuře melancholik* film. He participated in a couple of features and many TV programmes. He made his mark as a documentarian with *Kristova léta, dámy...* documentary, which was awarded first prize at the FINÁLE PLZEŇ film festival in 2004. He makes feature films and documentaries. He has visited over sixty countries with his camera. Recently, he has participated in a film *Milan Kundera: From Joke to Meaninglessness* and he is shooting a film about the memories and work of director Miloš Forman in the USA. Last year he completed a feature film for theatres, *Cherchez la femme*, which is a relationship comedy starring the Czech actress Hanka Wagnerova.

# PROGRAM DEPARTMENT

**In total 25 films from 15 countries will compete for five EKOFILM awards. The majority of our competition films come from Europe and there are also films from Canada and Brazil. The Czech Republic is represented by four documentaries. The films were selected out of 142 submissions by the EKOFILM programmers led by Jitka Kotrlová.**



**JITKA KOTRLOVÁ**

Festival programmer and producer Jitka Kotrlová studied Film Studies at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University, and Film Production at FAMU. As a programmer, she has worked with a number of Czech film festivals (KVIFF, Finále Plzeň, Ostrava Kamera Oko, Prague IFF – Febiofest, among others). She is the producer of *Central Bus Station*, *Killing of the Journalist* and the feature *Snowing!*. Currently, among other film projects, she is making documentaries with environmental themes - *Ent* (directed by Tomáš Elšík) and *Who's Missing Here Today?* (directed by Květa Chaloupková).

# PROGRAM DEPARTMENT



**ZUZANA ČERNÁ**

Festival programmer and film historian Zuzana Černá studied at the Film Studies Department, Charles University. She worked at the programming department of Prague IFF – Febiofest and has worked for other film festivals, such as Ostrava Kamera Oko. She also works as a sales agent for the production company Negativ.



**HANA BLAHA ŠILAROVÁ**

Film producer and festival programmer Hana Blaha Šilarová has worked on a wide range of films. Her films include the VR movie *Darkening* and the documentary *The Investigator*. She is currently working for instance on the fiction movie *Homeland*, the documentary *Garden of Dreams* and the historical series *Three Against the Gestapo*. She selects documentaries for the East Silver market and for KVIFF. She studied Film Production at FAMU and Film Studies at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University.

# PROGRAM DEPARTMENT



**MARTIN ČECH**

Martin Čech studied Environmental Studies and Media Studies and Journalism at the Masaryk University in Brno. He has been involved in the preparation of the EKOFILM festival for five years, where he is responsible for the industry programme; already seven years ago he started working in the festival's programming department. He also works in processing of research projects focused on environmental and social topics. In the organization NaZemi he focuses on degrowth theory, about which he lectures and writes texts.



**TOMÁŠ POŠTULKA**

Tomáš Poštulka studied Film Studies and Media Studies. He worked at the PR department of the Academia Film Olomouc festival and at MFDJ Ji.hlava. He is currently a programmer at the One World film festival. At EKOFILM, he is responsible for international film scouting.

# SECTIONS OF COMPETING FILMS

## BEAUTY OF NATURE

The Beauty of Nature section shows films from different corners of the world and explores current social topics. Films in this section bring to the big screen the diversity of the planet's nature. They also point to the fact that we have to take care of it to be able to preserve its beauty for the next generations. This year, the section brought together films that touch on the beauty of nature but also raise the question of how to protect it not only from climate change but also from human activity.

## VISIONS OF NATURE

Visions of Nature section focuses on medium-length films that cover environmental themes from around the world. The main connection between all the selected films is the unique perspective of the filmmakers bringing new perspectives to familiar issues related to the climate crisis. Climate change can no longer be ignored, and many processes leading to saving the planet and natural recovery are already underway - but are the solutions chosen always sustainable? This year's selection of films highlights their shortcomings and offers a vision of where to go next.

## IN SHORT

The short film section offers a wide range of approaches to environmental topics from all corners of the world - from Canada and France to Finland and Brazil. A selection of playful and serious, but mainly topical, short films describing the world around us.

# BEAUTY OF NATURE



## THE VISITORS

Czech Republic

2022

director: Veronika Lišková

83 min

A young anthropologist, Zdenka, moves with her husband and three sons to Svalbard, Norway. She has received a prestigious two-year grant to carry out extensive research on the impact of globalization on the inhabitants of the world's northernmost town, Longyearbyen. After falling in love with her new home, Zdenka discovers that more than icebergs and permafrost are vanishing in the Arctic. She begins to perceive how heterogeneous the small local community actually is, while also revealing tensions that lie beneath the surface.





ENGLISH, VIETNAMESE



CZECH, ENGLISH

## A CRACK IN THE MOUNTAIN

United Kingdom

2022

director: Alastair Evans

100 min

Deep in the jungle of Central Vietnam, lies a magnificent underground kingdom. Hang Son Doong which translates as “mountain river cave”, is the largest cave passage in the world and a place of spectacular beauty. In 2014, Son Doong’s future was thrown into doubt when plans were announced to build a cable car into the cave. With many arguing that this would destroy its delicate eco-system and the local community divided over the benefits this development would bring, the film follows those caught up in the unfolding events.





## WILD PRAGUE

Czech Republic

2022

director: Jan Hošek

85 min

How many "inhabitants" are there in Prague? This time, the creators of the award-winning film Planet Czechia set out on an expedition into the concrete jungle of the capital. Alongside us, humans, live a whole host of unexpected animal neighbours, whose daily adventures the filmmakers have captured with state-of-the-art technology at extraordinary proximity. Where do the majestic mouflons come from in Prague? What winter hideout does the cute dormouse hide in on Petřín Hill? Embark on an exciting expedition for the whole family to discover dozens of other animal heroes who secretly live in our metropolis







SLOVAK



ENGLISH

## GRAND CANYON

Slovakia

2023

director: Pavol Barabáš

64 min

The Grand Canyon documentary tells the story of Slovak boaters following their dream. They have been down many rivers and canyon crossings in different parts of the world. Their biggest challenge is to conquer the Grand Canyon, for which they have been preparing for several years. They are determined to spend a month on the wild water embracing untamed nature.





THAI



CZECH, ENGLISH

## URAK LAWOI, BROTHERS OF THE SEA

Spain

2023

director: Telmo Iragorri, Manuel Coronado

70 min

The Sea Brotherhood (Urak Lawoi in their native language) is a nomad tribe that for hundreds of years, has been looking for a place to settle. A 100 years ago, the Thai government conceded the island of Koh Lipe and the Adang archipelago, to its aboriginal inhabitants. Since then, the Sea Brotherhood has overcome natural and human disasters, thanks to their profound knowledge about fishing and the sea. In this film, we will see how this peculiar culture and identity, with its age-old relationship with the ocean, is threatened by climate change, marine pollution & the tourist.





## NORTHERN FORESTS

Germany

2022

director: Julia Lazarus

84 min

North of Istanbul new superhighways cuts through formerly protected forests, pastures and farmland. The residents are presented with a fait accompli, their villages turned into city suburbs and all agricultural activities will become illegal. After the completion of the 3rd bridge and the gigantic airport hub, the construction of the Istanbul Canal is about to begin. Facing the anger and disappointment of the residents in countless local grassroots assemblies, the activist group struggles to establish common goals among the people.





PORTUGUESE



CZECH, ENGLISH

## ASHES OF THE FOREST

Brazil

2023

director: André D'Elia

76 min

Ashes of the Forest is a documentary feature, an art exhibition, and a vehicle in support of the volunteer firefighting brigades in Brazil all at once. The film follows street artist Mundano as he travels through a burning Brazil, collecting ashes from wildfires to create the paint used in his latest artwork, in the context of climate change in the Amazon. The project aims to promote art as activism and to raise awareness about the importance of protecting forests and fighting fires today.



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# VISIONS OF NATURE



DANISH



CZECH, ENGLISH

## ORGANIZED WILDERNESS

Denmark

2022

director: Phie Ambo

55 min

Denmark ranks second as the most cultivated country in the world, right after Bangladesh, and over the last 20 years, 80 percent of local species are extinct. Now is the time to do something about it and help biodiversity back on track. Organized Wilderness follows Denmark's largest rewilding project in Hammer Bakker in the Northern Jutland and examines the confusion that arises as we humans try to restore our connection with nature. Where is the line between nature and culture? Can humans work together to bring back nature? And ultimately, how wild do we want nature to be?





ENGLISH, FRENCH, WOLOF



CZECH, ENGLISH

## RAID ON THE ATLANTIC

France

2023

director: Nicolas Van Ingen

51 min

West African waters have long been among the richest in the world. But since the 1970s, European, Russian and even Asian fishing fleets have been raiding this part of the Atlantic Ocean, often illegally. This competition from foreign trawlers has terrible consequences for local artisanal fishermen. But some Senegalese are fighting back and do not accept this situation. Karim Sall, a fisherman unionist, and Diaba Diop, the leader of the women's fish processing union, are fighting tirelessly to make their voices heard by the Senegalese government and international institutions.





ENGLISH



CZECH, ENGLISH

## INVISIBLE LANDSCAPES

Czech Republic

2022

director: Ivo Bystřičan

47 min

"A large part of the phenomena surrounding us in our daily lives is completely hidden from our sight. Mysterious worlds of sounds, echoes, and vibrations form networks of extraordinary invisible landscapes around us. Have you ever wondered what the roar of water and heat in the bowels of a thermal power station or the steady breathing of an oil rig sound like? A film full of bustle and sounds, yet one that is nearly wordless, offering a unique perspective on ecology and energy. There are many other ways to see the world than merely with our eyes.





## WATER LOST AND RETURNED

Czech Republic

2023

director: Radek Plíhal

35 min

An emotional artistic documentary about the return of wetlands to the landscape of the Šumava National Park. The unique shots of Radek Plíhal, captured during a three-year filming in the fascinating environment of Šumava, completed with the music of Lenka Dusilová and Petr Ostrouchov, tell the story of water. The story of her journey starting in the forest springs, wet meadows and bogs, passing through the streams to the river floodplain. The story of her deliberate damnation not long ago and the efforts of hundreds of people to bring it back. The film depicts the fundamental importance of water for the landscape, nature and for the unceasingly diverse life it brings.







ENGLISH



CZECH

## DEATH AT THE ZOO – WHY ZOOS KILL HEALTHY ANIMALS

Germany

2023

director: Christine Seidemann, Andreas Ewels

28 min

"One day they are still the attraction of the zoo, the next day they end up as food for other zoo animals. What is everyday life in many zoos around the world is incomprehensible for many zoo visitors. That's why zoos don't like to talk about it. German filmmakers have now, for the first time, succeeded in persuading two zoos to deal openly with this difficult subject. The film poses the provocative question of whether it might not make sense for zoo animals to become food animals. The answers are surprising and perhaps even frightening for many Zoo fans.





ENGLISH, SWEDISH



CZECH, ENGLISH

## OUTGROW THE SYSTEM

Sweden

2023

director: Cecilia Paulsson, Anders Nilsson

58 min

"Change the system, not the climate" is a common demand in the climate movement. But what kind of system do we actually want? In the midst of humanity's worst crisis, the pioneers stand ready. Meet the new economic perspectives that have the potential to change the world at its core.





ENGLISH, FRENCH, SWAHILI



CZECH, ENGLISH

## GREENWASHING: THE CLIMATE KILLER

France

2023

director: Claire Tesson

52 min

Faced with consumer pressure amid the climate crisis, multinationals increasingly vaunt their commitment to “carbon neutrality”. But can we believe their claims of ‘net zero’ or is this simply greenwashing? Many of these large companies rely on carbon offsetting to burnish their green credentials, financing ‘ecological’ projects like tree plantations via carbon credits rather than reducing emissions. However, very often these projects are not effective or may even have a negative impact on the environment and local populations. We investigate the validity of claims of big companies like Total Energies or Nespresso, who has pledged that “every cup of coffee will be carbon neutral by 2022”.





ENGLISH, GERMAN



ENGLISH, CZECH

## DOWN TO THE LAST DROP

Austria

2023

director: Harry Putz

30 min

This documentary film deals with the planned construction of a new hydropower plant chain that is to extend over the entire Ötztal Alps. These interventions would also irrevocably change the Ötztaler Ache - the last major glacier river in Austria that has not been massively affected by energy use. And all this in the midst of the biodiversity crisis and the looming climate catastrophe. The more we learn about these great crises of our time the more we understand the situation - do we really want to still be using old recipes?





## THE SECRET OF THE FORGOTTEN RUINS - HOW NATURE CONQUERS HABITATS

Germany

2022

director: Mark Hugo

28 min

Man against nature - nature against man. Powerful opponents. Photographer Sven Fennema follows their struggle - in lost and abandoned places, like one in northern Italy. Where cars were once built, plants are reclaiming their space - even in the most inhospitable of places. Until man stops them. Who will win the duel in the end? Can there even be a "winner"?



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# IN SHORT



ARABIC, FRENCH

ENGLISH, CZECH

## THE LAST TRANSHUMANCE - IBRAHIM

France

2023

director: Louise Thaller, Stanislas Giroux

9 min

For 10 days, from dawn to the first stars, the Ben Daoud family guides its 200 goats on foot to the cool pastures of the Moroccan High Atlas. For generations, the great transhumance has marked the passage from winter to summer, and embodies the freedom of a whole tribe. But in recent years, water has become scarce, the land has dried up, and the shepherds have no choice but to turn away from their nomadic heritage. Ibrahim is one of the last witnesses to a tradition that is running out of breath.





FINNISH



CZECH, ENGLISH

## STRANGERS IN THE DARK

Finland

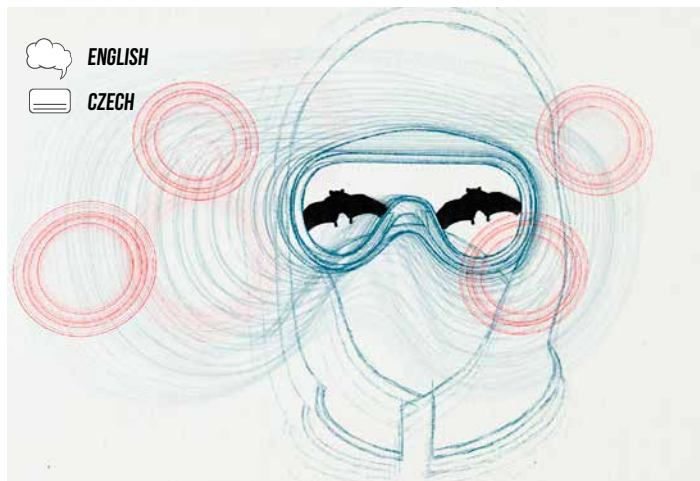
2023

director: Jenni Pystynen, Perttu Inkilä

12 min

A love-hungry glow-insect has the last week of his life to find a partner in the dark, but the task becomes impossible when humans illuminate the night.





## THE WAITING

Germany

2023

director: Volker Schlecht

15 min

Karen Lips is a researcher and lives for several years in a tiny little shack in Costa Rica to observe frogs. When she leaves the cloud forest for a short time and returns, the frogs are gone. All of them. Karen sets out to find them – and encounters a horrible truth.







ENGLISH



CZECH

## WHO SPEAKS FOR THE BUTTERFLIES?

Belgium

2022

director: Anny Tubbs

18 min

Peter Owen-Jones, a British environmental activist, author and parish priest, explores a Surrey-based woodland management initiative that promotes biodiversity and uses waste wood for a community biomass heating solution. The film highlights the inspiring work of people whose values and skills are making a real difference for 'the small stuff' and our relationship with nature.





ENGLISH



CZECH

## THE KEEPERS

The Keepers

2023

director: David Begley

12 min

The Keepers is a short film which highlights the importance of teaching children where food comes from and how to grow it. Through doing this they learn patience, how to care for plants, the joy of harvesting food they have grown themselves – and even use this as inspiration for art. In a time of climate change, growing food is such an important part of children's education and growth to be inclusive in a more eco friendly and carbon neutral environment.



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ENGLISH



CZECH, ENGLISH

## WONDERS OF THE INVISIBLE. A WORLD YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN BEFORE

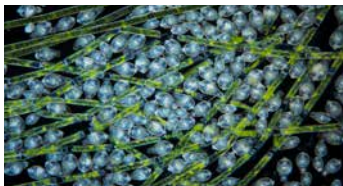
Spain

2023

director: Iker Duro Linares

5 min

Right in front of us, invisible to the naked eye, there is a hidden world teeming with life. A world inhabited by beings whose shapes, colors and way of life surely will surprise those who see it for the first time. They are present in each and every corner of the planet. They are tiny, almost invisible. Immerse yourself into a world you have never seen before.





PORTUGUESE



CZECH, ENGLISH

## CAIÇARA

Brazil

2022

director: Oskar Metsavaht,  
Victoria Visco Mendonça

10 min

Caiçara is a film that addresses the problem of predatory fishing versus artisanal fishing through the ancestral knowledge of a young fisherman.





ENGLISH



CZECH



## BEYOND THE SOIL

United States

2023

director: Jaime Jacobsen, Eric Forbes

5 min

Beyond the Soil explores the emotional impact of climate change on farmers and ranchers who are on the frontlines of Colorado's megadrought in the western United States, and their innovation and resilience in the face of ecological crisis.





## MORNING: YUKON RIVER

Canada

2023

director: Dan Sokolowski

3 min

The mist rises on the Yukon River in Canada's north. The director invites us to observe and meditate in the morning light with the beautiful river and the nature that surrounds it.



# NON-COMPETING FILMS



FINNISH, ENGLISH, ARABIC



ENGLISH, CZECH

## HOW TO KILL A CLOUD

Finland, Denmark

2021

director: Tuija Halttunen

80 min

Hannele Korhonen, an ambitious Finnish meteorologist, has been studying clouds all her life. Their essence is chemical, physical and metaphysical. Due to funding constraints on her research, she decides to take up the Faustian challenge of a wealthy sheikh from the United Arab Emirates and apply for a scientific tender. Research into the creation of artificial rain in arid desert land is fraught with a number of moral dilemmas. An ambient, fragile film about clouds, cultural practices and the temptations of environmental engineering. Fragments of destruction wrapped in a meditative flow of aerosol images.





## HEARING THE FORESTS

Czech Republic

2023

director: Karel Svoboda

52 min

Due to bark beetle outbreaks and climate change, foresters and scientists are addressing how to manage forests towards their greater resilience. One of those who has been trying to make a change for over 20 years is the Czech forester, Milan Hron. What do close-to-nature forests look like and what obstacles face those who do not want to continue in the classical spruce management? What does the forest say to people who try to hear?







## GEODERMA – THE LIVING SHELL OF PLANET EARTH

Czech Republic

2017

director: Ivan Stříteský, Ladislav Miko

26 min

Soil sustains life on Earth and man could not exist on this planet without it. Rare or common, living or non-living, lost and irreplaceable. What do we actually know about soil today? And what do we do with this knowledge? How do humans care for the skin of our mother earth, the geoderm? These questions are answered by the documentary guide, soil biologist Ladislav Miko.





CZECH

## LET THE SOIL LIVE

Czech Republic

2019

director: Ivan Stříteský, Ladislav Miko

26 min

The documentary *Let the Soil Live* teaches about the irreplaceable role of soil organisms in the formation of soil. It reminds the importance of earthworms and the ways in which organic matter is returned to the soil. Surprises with a message about the 'trade' between plant roots and microbes. It explains the conditions of distribution of armyworms, millipedes, millipedes, centipedes and other representatives of the edaphon.



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# PROGRAM

	Discussions	Experience
<b>TUESDAY 3. 10.</b>	<b>FSS</b>	<b>OLD TOWN HALL COURTYARD</b>
16.00–16.30	Introductory ministerial discussion: The rising generation and current environmental issues	
16.30–17.00		
17.00–17.30		
17.30–18.00		
18.30–19.00		Open-air concert: Jan Bendig
19.00–19.30		
19.30–20.00		



FRIDAY 6. 10.	FSS	ART	TOWN HALL
09.30-10.00	Please, relax		
10.00-10.30			
10.30-11.00			
11.00-11.30			
11.30-12.00			
12.00-12.30			
12.30-13.00			
13.00-13.30	Debate with Czech and Slovak Ministers of the Environment		
13.30-14.00			
14.00-14.30			
14.30-15.00			
15.00-15.30			Raid on the Atlantic
15.30-16.00		Ashes of The Forest	
16.00-16.30	Women in the Climate Crisis		
16.30-17.00		How to Kill a Cloud	
17.00-17.30			
17.30-18.00			The Universe Under Your Feet: Let the Soil Live, Geoderma - The Living Shell of Planet Earth
18.00-18.30		How not to Kill Science in a Movie?	
18.30-19.00			
19.00-19.15			
19.00-19.30		The Visitors	Block of movies In Short
19.30-20.00			
20.00-20.30			
20.30-21.00			
21.00-21.30			
21.30-22.00			

Beauty of Nature

Visions of Nature

Experience

**SATURDAY  
7. 10.**

	CINEMA CITY	TOWN HALL	ZOO BRNO
10.00-11.00			EKOFILM Family Day
11.00-11.30	Urak Lawoi, Brothers of the Sea	Greenwashing: The Climate Killer	
11.30-12.00			
12.00-12.30			
12.30-13.00			
13.00-13.30			
13.30-14.00	Wild Prague		
14.00-14.30			
14.30-15.00		Down To The Last Drop	
15.00-15.30			
15.30-16.00	Invisible Landscapes	Outgrow the System	
16.00-16.30			
16.30-17.00			
17.00-17.30	Water Lost and Returned	Northern Forests	
17.30-18.00			
18.00-18.30			
18.30-19.00	Grand Canyon	Organized Wilderness	
19.00-19.30			
19.30-20.00			
20.00-20.30	A Crack In The Mountain		
20.30-21.00			
21.00-21.30			
21.30-22.00			

Winning Films

Non-competing Films

**SUNDAY  
8. 10.**

	ART
14.30-18.30	Screening of the Winning Films
18.30-20.00	Hearing the Forests

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# DISCUSSIONS AND LECTURES



## **INTRODUCTORY MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION: THE RISING GENERATION AND CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

**3. 10. 2023 16.00–18.00**

**FSS MU**

Current environmental policy in the Czech Republic and our common future - what would the rising generation like to see from Czech environmental policy? **Petr Hladík**, the Minister of the Environment, will discuss more than just these topics with **Ladislav Miko**, the President of the EKOFILM festival, **Natália Pažická**, a greenfluencer, **Terezie Chamráthová**, a representative of the student movement of the University for Climate, **Veronika Klementina Zemanová**, a student of environmental studies and economics, and **Katarína Kováčová**, a lecturer of the organization NaZemi a Re-set.



## **PLEASE, RELAX**

**6. 10. 2023 9.30–12.30**

**FSS MU**

A morning for parents (and especially women) concerned about the climate crisis. Come and relax for a while. Babysitting will be provided and the programme includes, for example, a concert by Pavel Čadek, a workshop for managing environmental anxiety and stress, and sharing experiences.



## **WOMEN IN THE CLIMATE CRISIS**

**6. 10. 2023 16.00–18.00**

**FSS MU**

Are women experiencing the climate crisis differently? What worries them most and what helps them? Five women from different fields - science, politics, maternity leave and environmental organisations will discuss this topic.

## **DEBATE WITH CZECH AND SLOVAK MINISTERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT OR THE BEST NEIGHBOUR WILL ADVISE AND HELP**

**6. 10. 2023 13.00–14.00**

**FSS MU**

The Ministers of the Environment of the Czech and Slovak Republics **Petr Hladík** and **Milan Chrenko**, together with the Regional Council President of the South Moravian Region **Jan Grolich** and university students, will debate the issues of the current environmental policy of the Czech and Slovak Republics.





### THE UNIVERSE UNDER YOUR FEET

6. 10. 2023 18.00–19.30

**Brno-Střed Borough Council**

The screening of two loosely connected documentaries about life in the soil *Geoderma - the Living Mantle of Planet Earth* and *Let the Soil Live*, which bring the intriguing and invisible world of soil organisms closer, explain their role and importance, and also suggest how to tackle the problems caused by excessive anthropogenic pressure and over-intensive land use. The films have received awards at several industry film festivals. The screening will be followed by a discussion with the filmmakers **Ladislav Miko** and **Ivan Střítešský** on how the invisible world of soil organisms is being filmed, moderated by a film director, screenwriter and moderator **Jan E. Svatoš**.



### HOW NOT TO KILL SCIENCE IN A MOVIE?

6. 10. 2023 18.30–19.15

**Cinema Art**

What are the specifics of making documentaries working with science and facts? How is scientific knowledge translated into the film language and what are the compromises that have to be made? These are the topics that directors **Tuija Halttunen** (*How to Kill a Cloud*), **Veronika Lišková** (*The Visitors*) and **Cecilia Paulsson** (*Outgrow the System*) will discuss.

All three films are included in the programme of the 49th EKOFILM festival.



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# EXHIBITION



## THINK THE FORESTS

**2.-6. 10. 2023**

**FSS MU, ATRIUM**

The FSC ČR is a sustainable forest management organisation. This year, it will present the tenth edition of the Think the Forests photo contest. It has gradually become one of the most popular photo contests with environmental themes and has produced many truly exceptional photographs. And since the main theme of this year's EKOFILM is water, this year's exhibition in the atrium of Masaryk University will be made up of the best photos from previous years, in which water plays a major role.

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# PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOLS



A unique opportunity to spend an unusual day with your classmates at the VIDA! science centre. Thursday 5 October 2023 will offer a fascinating science show, interactive experiments and a 3D film screening. In addition to discovering the secrets of water and the underwater world, there is also the opportunity to visit the centre's exhibition.

The programme is only for schools that have applied by 5 September 2023.

# EXKURSIONS



## **GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

**5. 10. 2023, 17.00–18.30**

**Bělidla 986/4a, Brno**

Global Change Research Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences - CzechGlobe is a European centre of excellence investigating ongoing global change and its impacts on the biosphere and human society. The research focuses in particular on climate change and its future scenarios, the carbon cycle and the impacts of changing conditions on the production and biodiversity of ecosystems and the implications for development and societal behaviour.

Given the theme of this year's EKOFILM, which is water, colleagues from the Landscape Ecosystem Services Analysis Department will demonstrate the interlinkages between ecosystem services through several practical demonstrations. They will show the link between the character of agricultural land use, the ecological condition of water formations and the impact of selected nature-based measures to mitigate the effects of environmental change.



## ***CZECH HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE IN BRNO***

**6. 10. 2023, 17.00–19.00**

**Kroftova 43, Brno**

All departments of the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute in Brno will be presented during the excursion. It is a regional forecasting unit that operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and whose primary objective is to produce weather forecasts. The Department of Meteorology and Climatology, which deals with analysis and research of longer-term weather conditions, management of the station network, as well as, for example, the creation of reports for customers, will also present its activities.



## ***BOTANICAL GARDEN AND ARBORETUM OF MENDEL UNIVERSITY IN BRNO***

**Zemědělská 1, Brno**

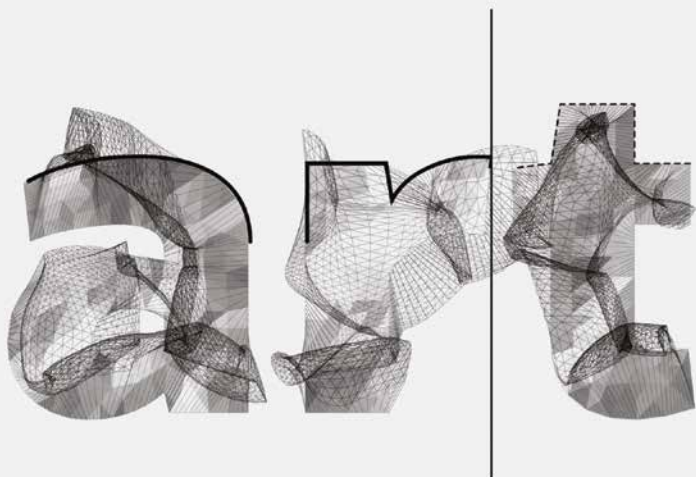
The Botanical Garden and Arboretum of Mendel University in Brno is among the most-admired garden paradises. The premises, covering an area of almost 11 hectares, include over 7,000 plant species, with diverse orchids and perennials being the most abundant, and 4,000 woody plants. As part of EKOFILM, you can visit the premises free of charge on 4 and 5 October from 10.00 to 19.00. Moreover, a tour with commentary is scheduled for Thursday to guide the visitors around all of the five thematic sections of the garden.

Ministerstvo životního prostředí  
**vám přeje inspirativní  
filmový zážitek**

**Skvělé filmy, příští  
rok půjdu zas!**

**Já taky!**

ČT **art** každý den od 20 hodin



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Ministry of the Environment  
of the Czech Republic

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EKOFILM is held under the auspices of Jan Grolich, regional council president of the South Moravian Region, Markéta Vaňková, the Mayor of Brno, Vojtěch Mencl, the Mayor of Brno-střed district, Martin Bareš, rector of Masaryk University, and Jan Mareš, rector of Mendel University.

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