



Press Kit: Nordic Council Film Prize – 2025

About the prize

The Nordic Council Film Prize was first awarded in 2002 and then permanently established in 2005 and is to be juxtaposed with the Nordic Council Literature Prize, the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize, the Nordic Council Music Prize, and the Nordic Council Environment Prize.

The purpose of the Film Prize is to promote the selection and circulation of Nordic films in the region with the intention of strengthening the Nordic cultural community and develop the Nordic region as a cultural domestic market. The nominated films are meant to benefit from the Film Prize, both culturally and commercially, in a Nordic and global perspective. The Nordic Council prizes aim to increase interest in culture and in collaboration on environmental issues, to recognise outstanding artistic and environmental initiatives and to raise the profile and increase the visibility of Nordic co-operation.

The prize is awarded to a Nordic full-length feature film or documentary, with cinema distribution. The national premiere of the film must be between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025. The DKK 300,000 prize will be shared equally among the screenwriter, director, and producer, underscoring how film as an art form is brought about by the close collaboration of these three main contributors.

The winner of the prize will be announced on Tuesday, 21 October 2025.

National and Nordic jury

Each national jury consists of three members appointed by the Nordic Council of Ministers (Ministers for Culture). The members are selected from prominent figures whose work relates analytically and critically to film. Each national jury has a three-year tenure.

The members of the national juries for 2025 are:

Denmark:

Heidi Hilarius-Kalkau Philipsen (*), Jacob Ludvigsen, Emile Péronard

Finland:

Marjo Pipinen (*), Kalle Kinnunen, Tytti Rantanen

The Faroe Islands:

Jan Berg Jørgensen (*), Marita S. Dalsgarð, Eir í Ólavstovu

Greenland:

Klaus Georg Hansen (*), Ane Lena Fussing Rosbach, Inuk Jørgensen

Iceland:

Jóna Finnsdóttir (*), Guðrún Helga Jónasdóttir, Björn Þór Vilhjálmsson

Norway:

Anne Gjeldsvik (*), Emilio Sanhueza, Unnur Sande

Sweden:

Jonas Holmberg (*), Kerstin Gezelius, Hynek Pallas

The Nordic jury is made up of the chairs (*) of each of the national juries.

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Previous winners of the Nordic Council Film Prize 2002 - 2024

2024: *Sex*, directed by Dag Johan Haugerud, written by Dag Johan Haugerud, produced by Yngve Sæther and Hege Hauff Hvattum for Motlys, Norway.

2023: *Empire (Viften)*, directed by Frederikke Aspöck, written by Anna Neye, produced by Pernille Skydsgaard, Nina Leidersdorff and Meta Louise Foldager Sørensen for Meta Film, Denmark.

2022: *Lamb (Dýrið)*, directed by Valdimar Jóhannsson, written by Valdimar Jóhannsson and Sján, produced by Hrönn Kristinsdóttir and Sara Nassim for Sena, Iceland

2021: *Flee (Flugt)*, directed by Jonas Poher Rasmussen, written by Amin and Jonas Poher Rasmussen, produced by Monica Hellström, Charlotte de la Gournerie and Signe Byrge Sørensen for Final Cut for Real, Denmark

2020: *Beware of Children (Barn)*, written and directed by Dag Johan Haugerud, produced by Yngve Sæther for Motlys, Norway

2019: *Queen of Hearts (Dronningen)*, directed by May el-Toukhy, written by Maren Louise Käehne and May el-Toukhy, produced by Caroline Blanco and René Ezra for Nordisk Film Production, Denmark

2018: *Woman at War (Kona fer í stríð)*, directed by Benedikt Erlingsson, written by Ólafur Egill Egilsson and Benedikt Erlingsson, produced by Benedikt Erlingsson for Guldrengurinn, Marianne Slot and Carine Leblanc for Slot Machine, Iceland

2017: *Little Wing (Tyttö nimeltä Varpu)*, written and directed by Selma Vilhunen, produced by Kai Nordberg and Kaarle Aho for Making Movies, Finland

2016: *Louder Than Bombs*, written and directed by Joachim Trier, written by Eskil Vogt, produced by Thomas Robsahm for Motlys, Norway.

2015: *Virgin Mountain (Fúsi)*, written and directed by Dagur Kári, produced by Baltasar Kormákur and Agnes Johansen for RVK Studios, Iceland.

2014: *Of Horses and Men (Hross í oss)*, written and directed by Benedikt Erlingsson, produced by Friðrik Þór Friðriksson for Hrossabrestur, Iceland.

2013: *The Hunt (Jagten)*, written and directed by Thomas Vinterberg, written by Tobias Lindholm, produced by Sisse Graum Jørgensen and Morten Kaufmann for Zentropa, Denmark.

2012: *Play*, written and directed by Ruben Östlund, produced by Erik Hemmendorff for Plattform Produktion, Sweden.

2011: *Beyond (Svinalängorna)*, written and directed by Pernilla August, written by Lolita Ray, produced by Helena Danielsson and Ralf Karlsson for Hepp Film, Sweden.

2010: *Submarino*, written and directed by Thomas Vinterberg, written by Tobias Lindholm, produced by Morten Kaufmann for Nimbus Film, Denmark.

2009: *Antichrist*, written and directed by Lars von Trier, produced by Meta Louise Foldager for Zentropa, Denmark.

2008: *You, the Living (Du levande)*, written and directed by Roy Andersson, produced by Pernilla Sandström for Studio 24, Sweden.

2007: *The Art of Crying (Kunsten at græde i kor)*, directed by Peter Schønau Fog, written by Bo Hr. Hansen (based on a novel by Erling Jepsen), produced by Thomas Stenderup for Final Cut, Denmark.

2006: *Zozo*, written and directed by Josef Fares, produced by Anna Anthony for Memfis Film, Sweden.

2005: *Manslaughter (Drabet)*, directed by Per Fly, written by Kim Leona, Dorte Høgh, Mogens Rukov, and Per Fly, produced by Ib Tardini for Zentropa, Denmark.

2002: *The Man Without a Past (Mies vailla menneisyyttä)* directed and written by Aki Kaurismäki, produced by Sputnik, Finland.

THE NOMINEES FOR THE NORDIC COUNCIL FILM PRIZE:

2025 Denmark – *My Eternal Summer*

The Danish feature film *My Eternal Summer* (*Min Evige Sommer*) is nominated for the Nordic Council Film Prize. The nominees for 2025 are director and screenwriter **Sylvia Le Fanu**, screenwriter **Mads Lind Knudsen**, and producer **Jeppe Wowk**.

Rationale:

My Eternal Summer is a beautiful and deeply moving film. The portrayal of young Fanny, who has to say goodbye when she would rather look forward, is so specific that it makes an otherwise frequently described topic – illness and grief – feel authentic and moving in new ways. Through the portrait of the interaction between mum, dad, and teenage daughter in the family cottage, the debutant director Sylvia Le Fanu takes a surprisingly lyrical approach to the material. She insists that the time *before* death can be experienced as a mixture of banal day-to-day actions and waiting, all the things you never get to say, and grief without death having yet occurred. Le Fanu draws on her own experiences of bereavement and losing a loved one to cancer at a far too young age. The director's personal experiences shine through clearly but not heavily from the first scene to the last.

My Eternal Summer displays impressive self-control and an understanding of human nature that is displayed in a story that could easily be claustrophobically depressing. Instead, it demonstrates lightness in the images and tenderness for the characters. The editing is not only realistic, but also elegantly suggestive. It exudes an unusual maturity and clear direction from a debut filmmaker. The film demonstrates that fiction can pose humanistic questions that are just as important as social or political ones, while also being complex and relatable.

Fanny gets to know her mum as she says goodbye. In parallel, she gets to know herself as a young person and has to carry something heavy. Amidst this sadness, there is also hope, which the film conveys by way of a beautiful and optimistic ending. As you sit in your cinema seat, you are warmed by the little light in the darkness that Sylvia Le Fanu has given us with her film.

Jeppe Wowk is a Danish producer who graduated from the independent film school 18 FRAMES (2011-2013) and later from the Norwegian Film School (2017-2020). He loves working with the development aspect of projects and people, and the creative aspect of marketing. He has worked at the Danish company Adomeit Film based in Copenhagen from 2020 to 2024. Jeppe is currently working as a freelancer and is developing a television series in collaboration with SF Studios.

Sylvia Le Fanu graduated from The Norwegian Film School in 2020 and has a bachelor's degree in Film and Media studies from the University of Copenhagen. She studied at the independent film school 18FRAMES, where she wrote and directed the short film *Abu Adnan* (2017), which achieved international recognition, including at Clermont Ferrand. The film was nominated for a Robert award (2017), as was her subsequent short film *Amourteur* (2020), which also won the main prize at the Odense Film Festival. The films won the Ekko Shortlist Award in 2017 and 2021 respectively. *My Eternal Summer* is Sylvia's debut feature film.

Mads Lind Knudsen is a Copenhagen-based screenwriter who left his philosophy and maths studies at university to pursue film making. He graduated from the Norwegian Film School in 2020 and his first feature film – *My Eternal Summer*, co-written with his longtime creative partner Sylvia Le Fanu – made its debut at the San Sebastián Film Festival in 2024. Lind Knudsen employs a mosaic writing style, crafting scenes from vivid, fleeting impressions and observations, with the passage of time serving as the true narrative thread.

My Eternal Summer

15-year-old Fanny and her parents have gone to spend their summer at a holiday home like they always do. But beneath the surface of their usual routines and traditions lurks an unspoken sadness – they know this will be her mother's last summer. As they try to make the most of the time they have left together, the family carefully navigates between savouring the present and confronting the inevitable future.

Main director, Sylvia Le Fanu - **Main writer:** Mads Lind Knudsen, Sylvia Le Fanu- **Main producer:** Jeppe Wørk - **Production company:** Adomeit Film ApS - **Distribution company:** Reel Pictures - **International sales:** Trust Nordisk - **Original title:** *Min Evige Sommer* - **International title:** My Eternal Summer - **National premiere:** 27.02.25 - **Total length in minutes:** 105

2025 Faroe Islands – The Last Paradise on Earth

The feature film *The Last Paradise on Earth* (*Seinasta paradís á jørð*) is nominated for the Nordic Council Film Prize for the Faroe Islands. The nominees for 2025 are director and screenwriter **Sakaris Stórá**, screenwriters **Mads Stegger** and **Tommy Oksen**, and producer **Jón Hammer**.

Rationale:

The Faroese director Sakaris Stórá explores the push-pull of life on remote islands in his most accomplished feature yet. More than the question of staying or leaving, the film delves into themes of personal loss, emotional paralysis, and ecological crisis. After Kári's mother dies, his family loses both direction and compassion. As fish stocks dwindle, the film gently hints that all is not well with Mother Earth. Kári must relearn how to express care, just as the male-dominated fishing world must realign with nature. The contrast between women swimming in the sea and the harsh world of the factory offers a poetic metaphor for reconnection.

Sakaris Stórá does not surrender to dramatic plot-twists. Rather, he delicately lays bare frozen grief and the quiet struggle for healing. In Faroese, *heim* means both "home" and "world", and the film suggests the way back home is through compassion. With remarkable performances from young actors Sámal H. Hansen, Bjørg B. Egholm, and Bjørn M. Mohr, and strong support from seasoned names, Stórá proves his talent for directing nuanced ensemble work.

With stunning cinematography and a haunting score, this Danish-Faroese co-production is arguably the strongest Faroese feature to date and a powerful contender for the Nordic Council Film Prize.

Sakaris Stórá was born in 1986 and grew up on the small island of Sandoy in the Faroe Islands. After studying film in Norway, he moved back to his home town to make films, believing in the importance of making films in the Faroese language and films that deal with the struggle of individuals in modern society. His films have been commended for his portrayal of characters and his work with actors.

Mads Stegger is a Danish screenwriter who graduated from the Norwegian Film School in 2018. In 2023, Stegger co-wrote Ernst De Geer's debut feature film *The Hypnosis* (*Hypnosen*), which had its world premiere in the main competition at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, where it won three awards. *The Hypnosis* was also nominated for eight Guldbagge Awards, where it won best original screenplay, among others. Mads Stegger has most recently co-written Sakaris Stórá's feature film *The Last Paradise on Earth* and Janicke Askevold's upcoming feature film *Solomamma*, which will premiere in 2025/2026.

Tommy Oksen was born and raised in south Jutland. He studied at the European Film College and later moved to Copenhagen where he attended Super16 as a screenwriter. He loves writing and the creative collaboration within it, but also has some stories that he wants to direct himself. He lives with his wife and two children in a small town outside Copenhagen.

Jón Hammer is an award-winning film producer with experience in international co-productions, documentary filmmaking, and storytelling. Starting his career at Zentropa in 2012, he honed his production skills before founding the Faroese production company Kykmyndir in 2017.

The Last Paradise on Earth

Kári cherishes the simple life in his small village. Together with his sister Silja, he quietly mourns the loss of their mother. While Kári finds solace in his job at the fish factory, Silja struggles to finish school, and their father returns to the sea on a fishing boat. But when the factory faces the threat of closure, the fragile balance of their world begins to unravel. As the friends dream of escape and seek new lives beyond the island, Kári makes a different choice – to stay and confront life head-on.

Main director: Sakaris Stórá - **Main writers:** Tommy Oksen, Mads Stegger, Sakaris Stórá - **Main producer:** Jón Hammer - **Production company:** Adomeit Film, Kykmyndir - **Distribution company:** Øst for Paradis - **International sales:** Reinvent Studios - **Original title:** Seinasta paradís á jørð - **International title:** The Last Paradise on Earth - **National premiere:** 10.04.25 - **Total length in minutes:** 87

2025 Finland – The Helsinki Effect

The Finnish documentary *The Helsinki Effect* is nominated for the Nordic Council Film Prize. The nominees for 2025 are director, screenwriter and producer **Arthur Franck**, as well as producers **Sandra Enkvist** and **Oskar Forstén**.

Rationale:

The Helsinki Effect shows how a film can be more than just the sum of its parts. The documentary feature, written and directed by Arthur Franck, is based entirely on archival material and demonstrates the subtle art of selection and narration. It breathes life into history with insightful connections, new and enlightening interpretations, and humour. The strength of the film lies in its surprising topicality, which is not expected in a documentary film focusing on political history from half a century ago. During these uncertain times, *The Helsinki Effect* is a gripping reminder that all things happen in time. The film is produced by Franck, Sandra Enkvist and Oskar Forstén.

Arthur Franck is a documentary filmmaker from Helsinki. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 2009, and has been making documentaries for more than 15 years. Franck's latest film *The Helsinki Effect* premiered in the main competition of CPH:DOX in 2025, and is currently in cinemas in Finland and Germany, as well as touring festivals internationally. He also runs the production company Polygraf together with producer Sandra Enkvist. He is a father of three and plays basketball on Mondays.

Sandra Enkvist has been involved in film production at various companies since 2015, before settling as a producer and partner at Polygraf in 2022. She is currently completing a master's degree in film production at Aalto University's Department of Film. Her graduation film, the short fiction piece *The Lightning Rod*, was selected for the 2025 Cannes La Cinef selection. Enkvist has a keen focus on creative documentaries, and her latest film *The Helsinki Effect* by Arthur Franck, premiered in the CPH:DOX main competition in 2025. She is also an alumna of Eurodoc, Circle Women Doc Accelerator, and IDFAcademy.

Oskar Forstén studied filmmaking in a wide range of schools in Finland, Sweden, and the UK between 1998 and 2009. He founded the production company Polygraf with Arthur Franck in 2007 out of his love of creative documentary films. Since then, Oskar has produced around thirty titles ranging from short films to documentary series and feature documentary films that have been screened at festivals including CPH:DOX, Visions du Réel, HotDocs, True/False, DokLeipzig, Chicago Int. Film Festival, and IDFA. After some 15 years as a film producer, Oskar now works as a film commissioner at the AVEK Audiovisual Center that promotes audiovisual culture with copyright remunerations by supporting the works and projects of audiovisual industry professionals in Finland.

The Helsinki Effect

The Helsinki Effect is an all-archival documentary about a meaningless conference that changed the world. With a fresh subjective perspective and a comical touch, the film explores the art of slow diplomacy during the Cold War era.

Main director: Arthur Franck - **Main writer:** Arthur Franck - **Main producers:** Sandra Enkvist, Arthur Franck, Oskar Forstén - **Production company:** Polygraf - **Distribution company:** Polygraf, Rise and Shine - **Original title:** The Helsinki Effect - **International title:** The Helsinki Effect - **National premiere:** 5 april 2025 - **Total length in minutes:** 88

2025 Greenland – WALLS – *Akinni Inuk*

The Greenlandic documentary *WALLS – Akinni Inuk* is nominated for the Nordic Council Film Prize. The nominees for 2025 are directors **Sofie Rørdam** and **Nina Paninnguaq Skydsbjerg**, and producer **Emile Hertling Péronard**.

Rationale:

WALLS – Akinni Inuk is a documentary that has been eight years in the making. The directors Sofie Rørdam and Nina Paninnguaq Skydsbjerg have carefully navigated the shifts in focus throughout the long production period. The film effectively illustrates the unpredictability inherent in long-term documentary projects. Its three layers – the autobiographical footage filmed by inmates, a portrait of Ruth serving a prison sentence, and the evolving friendship between Ruth and Nina – come together to form a nuanced and multi-faceted narrative. The documentary addresses weighty themes such as murder, imprisonment, violence, and neglect. Yet, the directing and editing have avoided dramatisation and sensationalism. Instead, the film is marked by a subtle warmth, moments of optimism, and even touches of humour. This unsentimental and direct approach, occasionally accompanied by a quiet glint in the eye, lends the documentary a distinctive narrative tone with a clearly Greenlandic character. Gustav Lyng Petrussen underscores magnificently this tone through his original music. Evocative sceneries woven into the quiet scenes featuring intimate conversations between Ruth and Nina provide authenticity in their gradual recognition of their mutual destiny. Through the lives of the two women, whose paths could easily have been reversed, the film explores the fragile and unpredictable nature of freedom and independence across generations, both for individuals and societies. This theme is especially poignant when framed in the context of external influences such as colonialism.

Sofie Rørdam is a Danish filmmaker and adventurer whose work has always been centred on creating impact and making change. She has lived and worked around the world, mostly in Asia, with filmmaking and peace work in the fields of human rights and the human spirit. Sofie is an explorer-in-residence at Kensington Tours. In her work she draws upon her background as a certified Betzavta (democracy training) and restorative circle facilitator as well as yoga teacher. Exploring the strong connection between the personal and the political – our social structures and our mental structures. Sofie has studied journalism at Hong Kong University and holds a BA in Film and Media studies and a MA in Visual Culture studies from the University of Copenhagen.

Nina Paninnguaq Skydsbjerg is a Greenlandic film producer and director who has worked in the creative industry since 2010. She has primarily focused on creating projects that highlight Greenlandic stories and local talents. Her directorial debut, *WALLS – Akinni Inuk*, marks an important step in her film career, where she delves into complex topics such as justice, punishment, and identity. Previously, she produced *The Edge of The Shadows (Alanngut Killinganni)*, which was nominated as the first Greenlandic film for the Nordic Council Film Prize in 2023.

Emile Hertling Péronard is an award-winning and Oscar-nominated Greenlandic film producer based in Denmark with production company Anorâk Film operating out of both Nuuk and Copenhagen. In 2020, he launched Greenland's first production service company, Polarama Greenland, to advance the Greenlandic film industry and pave the way for more Greenlandic screen content. A 2023 Cannes Producer on the Move, Emile is also the Chair of the Arctic Indigenous Film Fund, a Co-director at ARTEF – the Anti-Racism Taskforce for European Film, the Executive Director of Nuuk International Film Festival, and in 2023, he was awarded the Greenlandic film prize, Innersuaq, for his work.

WALLS – Akinni Inuk

Two strong Greenlandic women are united by a shared traumatic past and a chaotic present – one behind bars, the other behind a cool facade. A moving journey for justice, freedom, and a second chance at life.

Main directors: Sofie Rørdam, Nina Paninnguaq Skydsbjerg - **Main producer:** Emile Hertling Péronard - **Production company:** Ánorâk Film - **Original title:** WALLS – Akinni Inuk - **International title:** WALLS – Akinni Inuk - **National premiere:** 08.04.25 - **Total length in minutes:** 75

2025 Iceland – *When the Light Breaks*

The Icelandic feature film *When the Light Breaks* (*Ljósbrót*) is nominated for the Nordic Council Film Prize. The nominees are director, screenwriter and producer **Rúnar Rúnarsson** and producer **Heather Millard**.

Rationale:

Through mirrors and reflections, the film conveys Una's inner turmoil, shaped by the secrecy that defined her relationship. Elín Hall displays raw vulnerability as Una guides the audience through the emotional journey, as grief swells beneath the surface. *When the Light Breaks* explores the fragility of life and how everything can change in an instant. Rúnar Rúnarsson's poetic realism prioritises the unsaid over the spoken, while unexpected moments of humour weave through the narrative. By allowing the tragic and the humorous to coexist, Rúnarsson resists a one-dimensional portrayal of grief, ensuring the film reflects the full – and often contradictory – spectrum of human emotions.

Rúnar Rúnarsson's feature career starts in 2011 when he presented his debut film *Volcano* (*Eldfjall*) at the Directors' Fortnight in Cannes. The film received 17 international awards at a vast number of festivals. His second feature *Sparrows* (*Prestir*, 2015) also has an impressive festival run, with 20 international awards and la Concha Ora, the main prize at the San Sebastian Film Festival. Four years later, after being selected for the Cannes Atelier, his third feature film *Echo* (*Bergmál*) premiered at the Locarno Film Festival and won six international awards.

Heather Millard is the co-founder of production company Compass Films and co-founder of Iceland's first 2D studio, Animation Studio Iceland. Millard has produced a variety of internationally award-winning documentary films, feature films, shorts, and animated films. Her feature films include Oscar nominated director Rúnar Rúnarsson's feature film *When the Light Breaks* (*Ljósbrót*), opening film for Un Certain Regard Cannes Film Festival 2024, and *Cold* (*KULDI*) directed by Erlingur Thoroddsen (reached number 5 in Iceland's box office in 2023). Other recent productions include the short film *O* directed by Rúnar Rúnarsson that premiered at the Venice Film Festival in September 2024. Millard is currently producing the long-form children's animated television series *Ormhildur the Brave* by Þórey Mjallhvít (co-production with NDR Germany, Svenska YLE Finland, RÚV Iceland, NRK Norway, SVT Sweden, and DRTV Denmark), as well as the animated short film *Hold it Together* directed by Fan Sissoko.

When the Light Breaks

When the Light Breaks on a long summer's day in Iceland. From one sunset to another, Una, a young art student encounters love, friendship, sorrow, and beauty.

Main director: Rúnar Rúnarsson - **Main writer:** Rúnar Rúnarsson - **Main producers:** Heather Millard, Rúnar Rúnarsson - **Production company:** Compass Films - **Distribution company:** Sam Film - **International sales:** The Party Film Sales - **Original title:** Ljósbrót - **International title:** When The Light Breaks - **National premiere:** 26.08.24 - **Total length in minutes:** 82

2025 Norway – *Dreams*

The Norwegian feature film *Dreams* (*Drømmer*) is nominated for the Nordic Council Film Prize. The nominees are director and screenwriter **Dag Johan Haugerud** and producers **Yngve Sæther** and **Hege Hauff Hvattum**.

Rationale:

How can you own the truth about your own dreams and your own life? Dag Johan Haugerud's film *Dreams* is a subtle exploration of both grand themes and cinematic narrative forms. The film has a seemingly simple story about a young girl, Johanne, and her intense infatuation with her teacher, Johanna. Through a well-written script with intricate use of narrative perspective, filmmaker Dag Johan Haugerud plays with both the film medium, thoughts, and emotions in ways that enable the film continue to grow long after it's finished. The collaboration with cinematographer Cecilie Semec offers rich visual motifs, accompanied by unique music by composer Anna Nguyen Berg. These choices highlight the strong acting performances, especially by Ella Øverbye in her first leading role. Behind humorous scenes and witty dialogue, a nuanced story unfolds about the value of finding one's own identity and becoming oneself. *Dreams*' humanism and understanding of queer longing and sexuality make the film both welcome and essential in today's political discourse. Together with his collaborators, Dag Johan Haugerud has created a finely tuned work that is sensual, tactile, and thought-provoking.

Dag Johan Haugerud is a Norwegian librarian, novelist, screenwriter, and film director. His films include: *I Belong* (*Som du ser meg*), which won an Amanda award in 2013; *Beware of Children* (*Barn*), which won nine Amanda awards in 2020 as well as the Nordic Council Film Prize; *Sex*, which won the 2024 Nordic Council Film Prize; and *Dreams*, which won the Golden Bear in 2025 at the 75th Berlin International Film Festival.

Yngve Sæther has been a producer for Motlys since 2001. He has produced some twenty features and TV-series, among them: *The Man Who Loved Yngve* (*Mannen som elsket Yngve*, 2008); *Oslo, August 31st* (2012); *Force Majeure* (*Turist*, 2014); *Home Ground* (*Heimebane*, 2018); and *Power Play* (*Makta*, 2023). His films have been selected for Cannes and Berlin, and received more than 30 Amanda nominations between them.

Hege Hauff Hvattum is a producer working with television drama, feature films, and short films. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Production Management from Lillehammer University College, and Media and Art Communication from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).

Dreams

Johanne (17) falls head over heels in love with her teacher. It is her first crush and in an attempt to preserve the feeling, she writes down everything she experiences. When her mother and grandmother read what she has written, they first react with shock at the intimate descriptions, then are captivated by the book's literary qualities. But what has actually happened between Johanne and the teacher? And should this be published as a book?

Main director: Dag Johan Haugerud - **Main writer:** Dag Johan Haugerud - **Main producers:** Yngve Sæther, Hege Hauff Hvattum - **Production company:** Motlys - **Distribution company:** Arthaus - **Original title:** Drømmer - **International title:** Dreams - **National premiere:** 04.10.2025 - **Total length in minutes:** 110

2025 Sweden – *Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989*

The Swedish documentary *Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989* (*Israel Palestina på svensk tv 1958-1989*) is nominated for the Nordic Council Film Prize. The nominees are director and screenwriter **Göran Hugo Olsson** and producer **Tobias Janson**.

Rationale:

Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989 is an impressive and ambitious archive project that highlights how Sweden's public service broadcaster has portrayed one of the most complex and long-lasting conflicts of our time. Göran Hugo Olsson's restrained mastery of form opens a cinematic window onto a very different media era – a time when the public service broadcaster had a monopoly on the broadcast of moving images of the world and thus also a special responsibility for how this world was presented to the audience.

The film is therefore not only a story about the Middle East, but also a media-historical reflection on Swedish television journalism's approach to objectivity and materiality. The film's gently exploratory approach reveals how television aesthetics, media ethics, and political realities change over time – and how journalism attempts to navigate this shifting landscape.

With immense historical scope, consistent editing, and a deep contemporary seriousness, the film tells a story about how people in Sweden have viewed a conflict that has long been present in their living rooms, but whose interpretive frameworks have constantly been in flux. *Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989* is a film that gives perspective on a perspective.

Göran Hugo Olsson is a film director and producer, and one of the founders of the production company Story. Olsson was educated at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Stockholm and is one of Sweden's leading filmmakers internationally. His first cinema release *Fuck You, Fuck You Very Much* (1998) is a Swedish classic. The feature documentary *The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975* (2011) became a huge hit at festivals, in theatres, and on television screens worldwide. It was followed by *Concerning Violence* (*Om våld*, 2014), narrated by Ms Lauryn Hill, which premiered at Sundance and the Berlinale to critical acclaim. He directed *Fonko* (2016) and then *That Summer* (*Den sommaren*, 2017) which were screened both at festivals and on television worldwide. His latest feature *Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989* premiered in Venice and is screening at major festivals around the world.

Tobias Janson is a producer and CEO of Story, a leading Swedish documentary production company with offices in Stockholm and Gothenburg. His filmography includes award-winning and broadly critically acclaimed documentaries such as *Hypermoon* (Grand Prix, Festival des Films Européens), *A House Made of Splinters* (Academy Award Nominee, Best Documentary), *That Summer* (Telluride / Berlinale), *Concerning Violence* (Sundance World competition and Berlinale Cinema Fairbindet Award winner, Best Swedish Documentary Award), *Belleville Baby* (Berlinale premiere and Best Swedish Documentary Award winner), and *The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975* (Sundance World Editing Award winner and Berlinale premiere 2011). Janson was the Swedish nominee for the 2024 Nordic Documentary Producer Award.

Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989

The film is the definitive cinematic account of the background to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through unique and immersive footage, long buried in the vaults of Sveriges Television's archives. From the director of *The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975* and *Concerning Violence*.

Main director: Göran Hugo Olsson - **Main writer:** Göran Hugo Olsson - **Main producer:** Tobias Janson - **Production company:** Story AB - **Distribution company:** Folkets Bio - **Original title:** Israel Palestina på svensk tv 1958–1989 - **International title:** Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989 - **National premiere:** 04.10.24 - **Total length in minutes:** 210