

STUDENT TALKS 2019



INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ROTTERDAM

STUDENT TALKS

All Student Talks take place from 16:00 to 17:00 at Schouwburg, Kleine Zaal.

Tuesday January 29 2019

Victor van der Valk (**Nocturne**) &
Gastón Solnicki (**Introduzione all'oscuro**)

Wednesday January 30 2019

Ognjen Glavonić (**The Load**) &
Carol Morley (**Out of Blue**)

Thursday January 31 2019

Carlos Sorín (**Joel**) &
Ho Wi Ding (**Cities of Last Things**)

FILMS STUDENT TALKS

Nocturne

Netherlands, Belgium - 2019 - Viktor van der Valk - 80 min.

A young filmmaker's highly unusual odyssey as he struggles to get to grips with his work. While his inspiration, his lover and his financial backer all threaten to leave him, he wanders a nocturnal labyrinth. Can art transcend reality? A tempestuous, poetic and experimental debut.

About the maker

Viktor van der VALK (1987, Iceland) directed **Wegloos/Vegleysa** (2011) during while studying at the School of the Arts Utrecht (HKU). The short was selected for the Debut Competition at the Netherlands Film Festival. After three years at the HKU, Van der Valk continued his film education at the Netherlands Film Academy in Amsterdam, where he made the short films **Steen/Brick** (2013) and **Onno de onwetende/Onno the Oblivious** (2014). **Nocturne** is his first feature and will have its world premiere at IFFR 2019. His brother, actor Vincent van der Valk, has the leading role.

Introduzione all'oscuro

Argentina, Austria - 2018 - Gastón Solnicki - 71 min.

Mourning the sudden death of Viennale festival director Hans Hurch, Argentinian filmmaker Solnicki (Papiroosen, Kékszakállú) decided to make a film of his good and

at times eccentric friend. The result is a loving, idiosyncratic tour of Hurch's cosmopolitan Vienna and, naturally, an ode to culture.

About the maker

Gastón SOLNICKI (1978, Argentina) is a producer and director. He was educated in New York at the International Center of Photography and the Tisch School of the Arts, where he received his BFA in Film. At the Buenos Aires International Festival of Independent Cinema, his music documentary **Süden** (2008) received a Special Mention by the official jury and was awarded Best Film by the Argentine Film Press Commission. Solnicki's feature debut, **Kékszakállú** (2016), won the FIPRESCI for Best Film in Venice. In 2018, his second feature, **Introduzione all'oscuro**, premiered in Venice.

The Load

Serbia, France, Croatia, Iran, Qatar - 2018 - Ognjen Glavonić - 98 min.

During the NATO bombardments of 1999, truck driver Vlada has to take a mysterious load to Belgrade. Subtle storytelling with an ever-present sense of threat about the moral collapse of an ordinary man just trying to get by. Culminating in a powerful revelation. His load becomes his burden.

About the maker

Ognjen GLAVONIĆ (1985, Yugoslavia) was educated in filmmaking at the University of Belgrade. During his studies, he made three short films that were screened at more than 50 international film festivals and won several awards. His first full-length documentary **Zivan Makes a Punk Festival** (2014) premiered at Cinema du Réel in Paris. His feature debut **The Load** (2018) was supported by IFFR's Hubert Bals Fund.

Out of Blue

United Kingdom - 2018 - Carol Morley - 110 min.

A whodunnit with nods to the golden age of film noir. Investigating the violent death of prominent astrophysicist Jennifer Rockwell turns the world of experienced police woman detective Hoolihan upside down. The hunt she sinks her teeth into increasingly seems to lead to a search for herself.

About the maker

Carol MORLEY (1966, UK) was educated in fine art and film at Central St. Martins College of Arts. Her film **The Alcohol Years** (2000) was nominated for a BAFTA. In 2011 she devoted a documentary to Joyce Vincent, the woman who lay dead in her London flat undiscovered for three years: **Dreams of a Life. Out of Blue** (2018) premiered in Toronto.

Joel

Argentina - 2018 - Carlos Sorín - 100 min.

Joel Noguera wins our hearts playing a nine-year-old adopted boy, but the inhabitants of a small town in Patagonia are less taken with him. Subtle drama about adoption and living together. Veteran filmmaker Carlos Sorin (*Historias mínimas*) makes unease, good intentions and the complex balance between these palpable in every scene.

About the maker

Carlos SORÍN (1944, Argentina) is a director, screenwriter, cinematographer and producer. Originally, Sorín worked as a commercial filmmaker. His feature film debut **La película del rey/A King and His Movie** (1986) won five Silver Condor awards in Argentina. He subsequently made more feature films, short films and TV series. Winner of more than 26 awards, **Historias mínimas/Minimal Stories** (2002) is his most acclaimed feature. **Joel** (2018) has its European premiere at IFFR.

Cities of Last Things

Taiwan, China, USA, France - 2018 - Ho Wi Ding - 107 min.

In *Cities of Last Things*, Malaysian film director Ho Wi Ding, whose feature debut, *Pinoy Sunday* (2009), was also screened at IFFR, tells in three non-chronological parts spanning three decades how a man came to his desperate act. The dystopian colours splash from the screen, the editing is brutal, the tone deceptively light.

About the maker

HO Wi Ding (1971, Malaysia) graduated from the New York University film school and worked as a director of TV commercials in Taiwan. His short films **Respire** (2005) and **Summer Afternoon** (2008) were both selected for the Cannes film festival, and also screened in Rotterdam. **Pinoy Sunday** is his feature debut. **Cities of Last Things** (2018) premiered in Toronto and was awarded the Platform Prize.

