



2026

THE 11TH
ANNUAL
S.O.F.A

FILM FEST

FILM LISTINGS

<https://sofafilmfestival.com>



Bits & Pieces

World Premieres

1

**European
Premieres**

3

Remember Our

S.O.F.A Tails

Inspiring and
touching stories of
rescue

S.O.F.A Kids

Inspiring films for
children

S.O.F.A IN THE WILD PODCAST

Check out our Podcast
on the website
covering all things
animal, conservation
and environment!
Meet the people
behind the films we
screen!



IMPORTANT LINKS

WEBSITE

<https://sofafilmfestival.com>

TICKETS AND SCREENINGS

[https://www.sofafilmfestival.com/
sofascreeningroom](https://www.sofafilmfestival.com/sofascreeningroom)

VOTING PAGE

[https://www.sofafilmfestival.com/
sofavoting](https://www.sofafilmfestival.com/sofavoting)

MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Dear Friends,

A question I often get asked is 'what is the best thing about running a film festival?' Well apart from getting to experience some incredible talent and the never ending education, I say it's about meeting and connecting with passionate and inspiring people throughout the world, many of whom have become friends. Supporting their work and goals is a privilege and we are always thrilled to welcome back old friends, who submit new works annually, as well as welcome fresh talent into the fold; their faith and trust in us is humbling. It is also fun to watch their continuous development within their field.

In 2027 we'll be vamping up our podcast, S.O.F.A In The Wild, and building a valuable networking forum for our film-makers. Part of the networking will be introducing a new platform to help them share any funding needs for their work and encourage investors to help make films happen but also allow them to interact, share their invaluable experience and hopefully collaborate on future projects.

Don't forget to check our social media for our monthly Fringe programme updates. Our Fringe programming is proving very popular and allows us to bring you more content and interviews with, not only film-makers, but also those who have dedicated their careers to working with animals and helping our vulnerable planet.

Thank you to you all, both participants and audience, for sharing our vision and helping us continue our journey. Enjoy our wonderful 2026 program and we look forward to sharing many new additions via our website this coming year.

My love and gratitude to you all.

Anna G Roy
Founder & C.E.O



LinkedIn  substack 

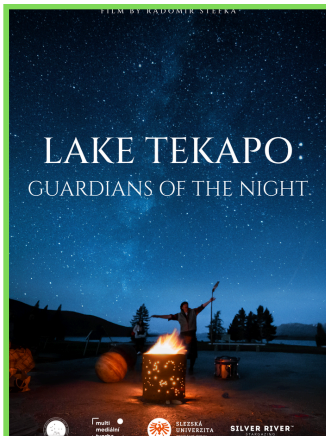
S.O.F.A ENVIRONMENT



Hamilton Marsh: A Living Legacy 14:11

DIRECTORS: Taryn Nicole Pickard, Ross Bodenmann - Canada

Hamilton Marsh has been an important part of the Qualicum Beach and Coombs communities for many years. But it is not only important for people- it is also important for animals, plants, climate change mitigation and the French Creek watershed. Finally, after many years of trying, we are at the point where we might be able to preserve it for generations to come, but we need your help.



Lake Tekapo: Guardians of the Night 28:14

DIRECTOR: Radomír Štefka - Czechia

In the heart of New Zealand's South Island lies Lake Tekapo, a small town surrounded by one of the world's darkest and clearest night skies. Through the stories of astronomers, guides, and local residents, Lake Tekapo: Guardians of the Night explores the value of darkness, the growing impact of light pollution, and the delicate balance between tourism and the protection of the night sky.



Land Less 17:00

DIRECTOR: Alexi Liotti - Canada

When Congress advances the "Landless" bill, Joshua Wright, a 23-year-old advocate, becomes determined to stop the transfer of public lands in Alaska's Tongass National Forest. Seeking guidance, he travels to Juneau to meet Wanda Culp, a Tlingit matriarch whose connection to the Tongass spans generations. Set in Southeast Alaska, Land Less is a story of intergenerational leadership, responsibility, and the consequences of losing public oversight of wild places.



LEGACY 19:58

DIRECTOR: Dennis Rollins - USA

Exploring the conflict between the new and ancient olive trees on the island of Crete.

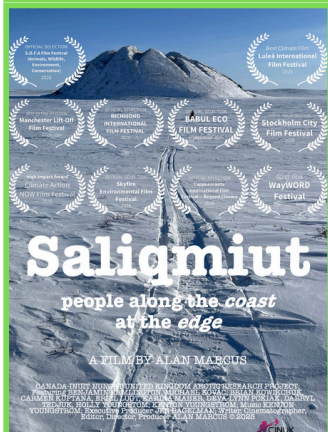
S.O.F.A ENVIRONMENT



No Kidding 11:09

DIRECTOR: Sarah Ford - Canada

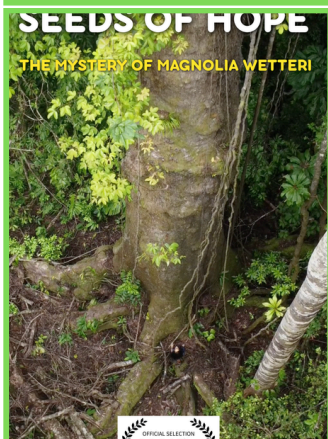
A quaint and picturesque Welsh town is divided by an uncommon issue: they have a goat problem. Wild Kashmiri goats stray increasingly far from their home to encounter a quirky cast of characters from the obstinate mayoress to an artist with a goat muse. We follow on their journey, unravelling their place within this slightly absurd village ecology.



Saliqmiut 39:15

DIRECTOR: Alan Rudolph Marcus - United Kingdom

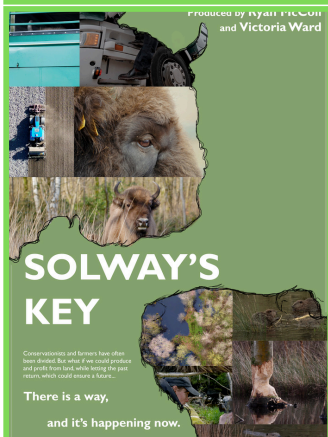
The film explores the impact of climate change on two communities in sharply different urban and natural settings. In January 2025, Los Angeles experienced the worst fires in its history, destroying more than 18,000 homes and structures. While in the small Canadian Inuit hamlet Tuktoyaktuk on the Arctic Ocean the community is contending with coastal erosion, flooding and the town's relocation. Saliqmiut adopts a novel fire and ice bifocal perspective to consider the local implications and adaption to the escalating effects of climate change.



Seeds of Hope 8:06

DIRECTOR: Rose Bull Wood - Costa Rica

On Costa Rica's Osa Peninsula, scientists investigate why the Magnolia wetteri, a rare tree found nowhere else on Earth, is struggling to reproduce. Through canopy climbs, field research, and conversations with conservationists, the film follows their search for answers, and the emergence of a hopeful breakthrough offers renewed hope for the species' future.

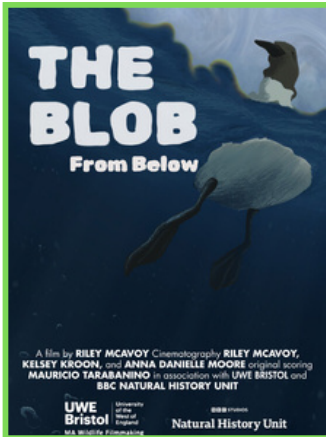


Solway's Key 14:32

DIRECTORS: Victoria Ward, Ryan McColl - United Kingdom

Britain is one of the most nature depleted countries on the planet. With conservationists and farmers fighting for the correct way to use the land, one estate in the north of Cumbria have initiated a project to manage habitats for profit and biodiversity. With the return of ecosystem engineers that once pioneered ecosystems, Castletown hope for an extraordinary transformation.

S.O.F.A ENVIRONMENT



The Blob From Below 13:17

DIRECTOR: Riley McAvoy - United Kingdom

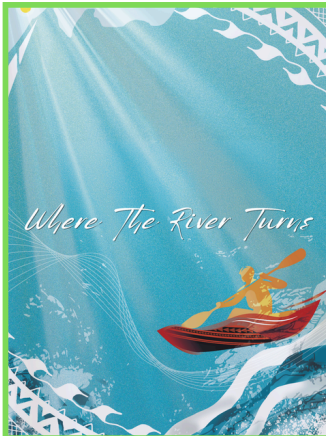
The Blob unravels the mystery of a warm-water mass that emerged in the North Pacific between the years of 2014-2017 devastating Alaska's coastal ecosystems. Told with a retro horror twist, the film blends suspense, humour, and natural history to explore how "The Blob" triggered mass seabird die-offs and disrupted the fragile balance of life at sea. Through the eyes of a seasoned boat captain and leading scientist, the story reveals both eerie encounters and the broader climate crisis that lurks beneath the waves. Equal parts educational and unsettling, The Blob warns of what may come if warming oceans give rise to another Blob.



The Collection Is Alive 11:04

DIRECTOR: Fleur Cartwright - United Kingdom

The role of volunteers in conservation often goes unnoticed, but this short documentary brings their vital work into focus. Inside the vivarium at Manchester Museum, volunteers work alongside scientists and curators to protect and care for rare and endangered amphibians, forming a deep connection with these often-overlooked, wonderfully quirky animals.



Where The River Turns 24:48

DIRECTORS: Chang Hui Hsueh, Barbosa Lygia - Brazil/Taiwan

In southern Taiwan's rugged highlands, the Zhuokou River—a principal tributary of the Gaoping River system—tells a story written in stone and water. Carved through millennia of relentless lateral erosion, the river has sculpted towering cliffs that face one another across the narrow gorge. In this journey, we follow Dai Ji-xiong, a respected tribal elder, as he guides us through the aquatic legends and lived histories of the Zhuokou and Laonong Rivers.

NOTES

S.O.F.A WILDLIFE



A Window For Hope 11:34

DIRECTOR: Guillermo Acevedo - Mexico

Once hunters of the deep, now guardians of the ocean. The story of former shark fishermen who transformed their lives—and their legacy. Set against the awe-inspiring backdrop of the sea, the film dives into the untamed beauty of marine life and the profound journey of the men who once took from the ocean and now fight to protect it.

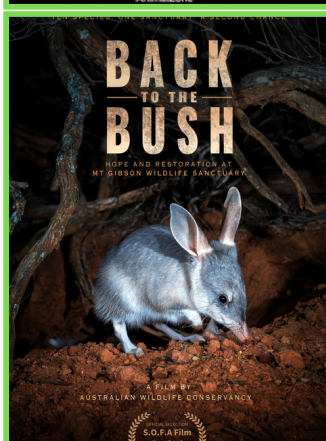
This is their story. This is the ocean's second chance.



AnimalZone: Wings Of Wonder 30:00

DIRECTOR: William G. Conlin - USA

Step into the enchanting world of the Key West Butterfly & Nature Conservatory, where founder George Fernandez introduces AnimalZone to more than 40 butterfly species, colorful birds, turtles, and beloved flamingos Rhett and Scarlett. From Monarch migrations and remarkable camouflage to the vital role butterflies play as pollinators, this uplifting episode celebrates nature's beauty while exploring the growing threats of habitat loss and insecticides—and why protecting these delicate creatures matters.



Back to the Bush 21:19

DIRECTOR: Brad Aaron Leue - Australia

For over 60 million years, Australia's unique wildlife evolved in complete isolation. Then came European settlement, and with it, invasive feral cats and foxes that have driven the nation into an ecological crisis. Today, Australia holds the highest rate of mammal extinctions on Earth. In the midst of this dire situation, a wildlife sanctuary in the mid-west of Western Australia is rewriting the future for Australian wildlife and bringing hope.



Bears In Hot Tubs 17:00

DIRECTORS: Claire Musser, Maddie Bear - USA

From soaking in backyard tubs to wandering garden paths, these black bears are not intruders; they are neighbors, navigating a world remade by human presence. Rather than depicting wildlife as problems to be solved, this film centers the lived experiences of the bears themselves. Maddie Bear shares her world on her own terms, inviting us to witness rather than surveil, to recognize rather than manage. Through poetic imagery and observational storytelling, the film challenges us to rethink coexistence, not as a burden, but as a shared opportunity. This is a story about boundaries: who draws them, who crosses them, and what it means to co-thrive across species lines.

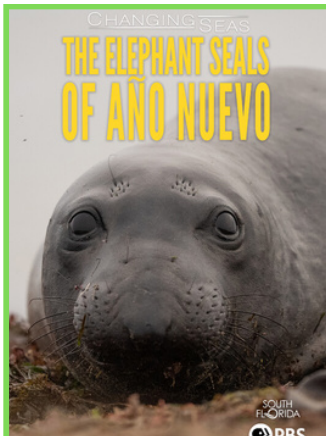
S.O.F.A WILDLIFE



Big Wings 12:43

DIRECTOR: Natalie Clements - United Kingdom

Can pelicans save people? When a rural Greek town works together to both protect and monetise the endangered Dalmatian Pelican, is this eco-tourism model one that can be replicated to save both the people and the pelicans in some of Greece's largest wetlands?



Changing Seas: The Elephant Seals Of Año Nuevo 26:42

DIRECTOR: LIZ Smith - USA

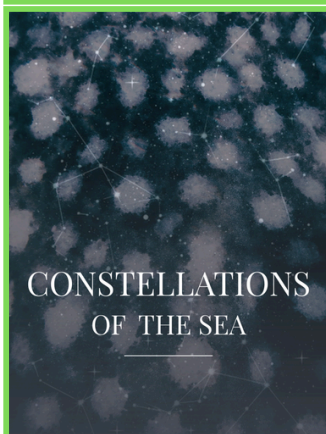
Along the rugged Northern California coast, Año Nuevo State Park harbors a thriving colony of elephant seals, where science and nature intertwine. For over 50 years, University of California Santa Cruz researchers, spanning three generations, have worked alongside seven generations of seals to better understand their life cycles and ocean health.



Cloud Brother 15:27

DIRECTOR: Marc Ferrum - Germany

Ruthmery Pillco Huarcaya is a National Geographic Explorer and biologist who grew up in the Andes hearing stories of the legendary Andean Bear. In this short documentary, we follow her research at Wayqecha Biological Station, Peru's only permanent cloud forest research station, where interconnected projects on climate change, native reforestation, and wildlife study work together to protect one of South America's most fragile ecosystems.



Constellations Of The Sea 12:59

DIRECTOR: Addie Akina Knoll - USA

A 17-year-old filmmaker joins a Maldives research team to document the growing challenge of protecting endangered whale sharks at the center of a global tourism industry.

S.O.F.A WILDLIFE



Crayfish: End Of Days? 9:50

DIRECTOR: Finn Varney - United Kingdom

Britain's native white-clawed crayfish are in trouble. Their rivers have been invaded by larger, meaner American signal crayfish carrying a deadly plague - and things underwater are getting seriously out of hand. Crayfish: End of Days? tells this surprisingly bleak ecological story through the lens of a ridiculous faux-documentary, complete with crustacean gangsters, pensioner crayfish, plague doctors and melodramatic talking-head interviews. Combining genuine conservation issues with costumes, puppetry and dry humour, the film asks an important question: can Britain's most overlooked freshwater residents survive the end times?



Forever Wild 50:00

DIRECTOR: Alvaro Mendoza - Spain

Analysing long lifespan in animals



Freezing The Future For Wolves 14:48

DIRECTOR: Victoria Ziglar - USA

Meet the unsung heroes of conservation - five women who have dedicated their lives to saving the world's most endangered wolves. As they freeze genetic material and work to reverse the stigma around a polarizing animal, see their struggles and triumphs in the fight against extinction.

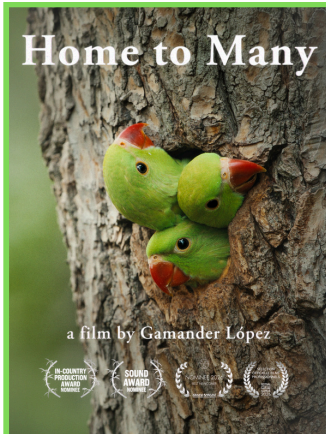


Ganibarra 19:13

DIRECTORS: Sonya Takau, Alix Livingstone - Australia

Filmed in far North Queensland, shot as an intimate portrait, Ganibarra explores the experience of displacement from Country and the parallel journeys of First Nations people and dingoes in the wake of colonisation. Following Sonya and her family, the film offers hope and calls us to action - to prioritise coexistence over killing, understanding over fear, and respect over indifference.

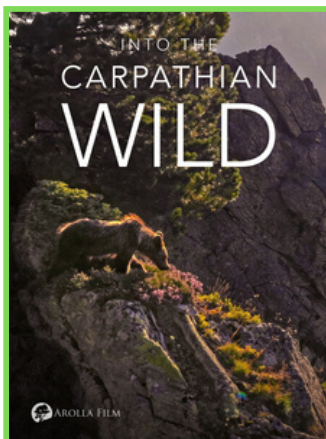
S.O.F.A WILDLIFE



Home To Many 56:04

DIRECTOR: Gamander López - Germany

After moving to a new city a family of mice leads me to spend more and more time in a park nearby. This way I also encounter other inhabitants like red squirrels, mallards, geese, mute swans and the rose-ringed parakeets. Even though the city park is a rather ordinary place, with animals everyone seems to already know, you can observe the most incredible things here.



Into The Carpathian Wild 52:00

DIRECTOR: Erik Baláž - Slovakia

European wildlife is threatened like never before... its last refuge... the Carpathians. Of all the mountain ranges in Europe, the Carpathians host the most primeval forests, the largest populations of bears, wolves and lynx, along with an amazing diversity of other creatures. This series shows how they survive over a year in this last stronghold of nature. Through their individual stories, we can better understand the connection between animal life and the whole ecosystem of the Carpathian Mountains.



It's About Time 1:03:43

DIRECTOR: Ran Levy Yamamori - Cyprus

In 1979 close encounters with whales in the wild, followed by an encounter with captive whales and dolphins, profoundly shaped a young man's life. The contrast between freedom and confinement leads him to document their world, transforming fascination into activism and a lifelong commitment to marine mammals. More than four decades later, after filming hunts, captivity, campaigns, and global protests, he returns to the marine parks that first changed him and confronts an unsettling realization; despite decades of exposure and public debate, the shows continue.

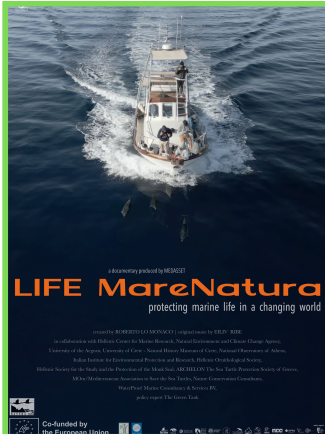


Let Them Migrate! 15:00

DIRECTOR: Marco Tessaro - Italy

The European Eel is one of the very few native fish species that can still be found in the Po River, in Italy. It is protected by European regulations and has been listed as Critically Endangered since 2013. Since the 1980s, the global population of this species has plummeted by 95%. This is the story of a technical, scientific and cultural challenge involving Italy and Greece to prevent the unacceptable extinction of the European Eel.

S.O.F.A WILDLIFE



LIFE MareNatura 47:00

DIRECTOR: Roberto Lo Monaco - Greece

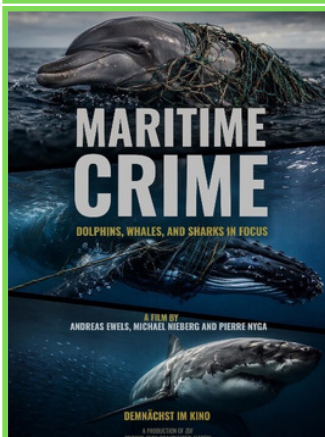
In the heart of the Mediterranean, the LIFE MareNatura project unites experts from Greece and Italy to protect marine biodiversity. Through a large-scale conservation effort, it focuses on nine target species, identifying new areas to preserve the richness of marine life for the future.



Lord Howe Island 53:00

DIRECTOR: Florian Guthknecht - Germany

Lord Howe Island is a World Heritage Site with hundreds of species found nowhere else. But introduced rats threaten this unique ecosystem. Once the rodents are defeated, a unique miracle begins.



MARITIME CRIME: Dolphins, Whales, Sharks in Focus 43:45

DIRECTORS: Andreas Ewels, Michael Nieberg, Pierre Nyga - Germany

Dolphins, Whales and Sharks in Focus is not just a documentary, it is an urgent, cinematic wake-up call from a planet in crisis. The oceans, once vast and resilient, are being pushed to the brink. Their most iconic inhabitants, dolphins, whales, and sharks, are disappearing at an alarming rate, caught in a relentless web of exploitation, profit, and silence. This film confronts a harsh and undeniable truth: we are running out of time. If we do not act now, when will we?

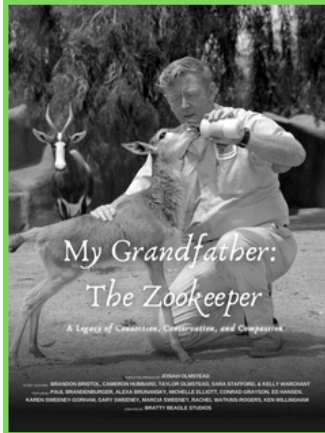


Mr Appolinaire - Nature's Champion 5:16

DIRECTOR: Garth Kingwill - Cameroon

Ndohoudou Appolinaire has dedicated his life to caring for chimpanzees and gorillas who have been rescued from poachers and the illegal wildlife trade in Cameroon.

S.O.F.A WILDLIFE



My Grandfather: The Zookeeper 1:55:55

DIRECTOR: Josiah Olmstead - USA

At a time without computers, seven men set out to change the world of zookeeping. Their goal: Connect zoos across the USA together for the first time to transform the field of animal care. It was a feat met with roadblocks and intense hurdles that would eventually grow to become one of the largest zoological organizations in the world. This film looks back at the bold beginnings of the American Association of Zookeepers and traces its evolution into a powerful force for animal care and conservation.



Puma Matriarchs of Torres del Paine 12:16

DIRECTORS: David P. Glatz, Shiela P. Glatz - USA

The film chronicles the lives of three mother Pumas (aka Mountain Lions, Cougars) as they survive and thrive in the rugged terrain of Chilean Patagonia. These three matriarchs, Sarmiento, Rupestra and Petaca, drive the dynamics of living and dominating their respective territories. Raising their kits, teaching them how to catch prey and hunting that prey increase these cats' chances of surviving in this beautiful but challenging habitat.



Sanctuary of the Leatherback 9:35

DIRECTOR: Dr. Alongkot Chukaew - Thailand

This documentary will raise an important issue, relating to the recent death of mother Tai Meung, a mother leatherback turtle along with her 136 unhatched babies in her belly. Losing her has been a major blow for the conservation efforts for this turtle species, one of the critically endangered animals in Thailand. The documentary also refers to a study report that proposes an expansion of the jurisdiction of the Khao Lampi-Hat tai meung National Park to include the Coral Line, by doing so it will be an essential step towards protecting the species and various habitats.



Scales - The Tipping Point 40:00

DIRECTOR: Bruce Young - South Africa

Bruce Young is a deeply curious filmmaker from South Africa who is fascinated by pangolins, an animal on the edge of extinction. Scales is his third film about the animal. This time he is on a personal quest to find out why these quiet, shy, harmless, and yet charismatic little creatures are the most trafficked mammals on the planet. And if there is any hope that they will survive.

S.O.F.A WILDLIFE



Seabird 9:46

DIRECTOR: Josh Clark - Australia

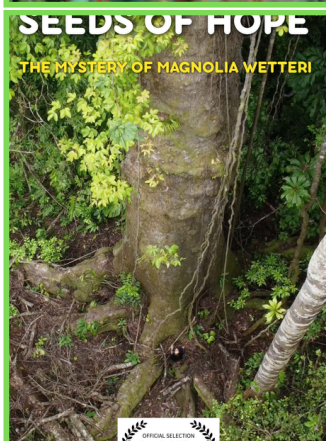
The rugged coastlines of Western Australia are home to some truly incredible birds; each uniquely adapted to ocean life. 'Seabird' is a short visually poetic documentary that celebrates the beauty and resilience of some of Western Australia's wonderful seabirds.



Seantience 27:00

DIRECTOR: Xiana Castro - Spain

Seantience is an academic short documentary adapted for a general audience, focused on aquatic animals. It addresses topics such as their capacity to feel, their exploitation and discrimination, as well as possible ways to help them.



Seeds of Hope 8:06

DIRECTOR: Rose Bull Wood - Costa Rica

On Costa Rica's Osa Peninsula, scientists investigate why the *Magnolia wetteri*, a rare tree found nowhere else on Earth, is struggling to reproduce. Through canopy climbs, field research, and conversations with conservationists, the film follows their search for answers, and the emergence of a hopeful breakthrough offers renewed hope for the species' future.



Snake Island 8:22

DIRECTOR: John Roney - Canada

On the reefs of Pulau Manuk in Indonesia's Banda Arc, sea kraits thrive among coral surrounding a volcanic island rising from the deep ocean. As their daily rhythms unfold, a rare behaviour emerges: sea kraits hunt in groups alongside schools of bluefin trevally, forming one of the ocean's most elusive predator alliances.

S.O.F.A WILDLIFE



The Puma Hunter 10:05

DIRECTOR: Burnham Arlidge - United Kingdom

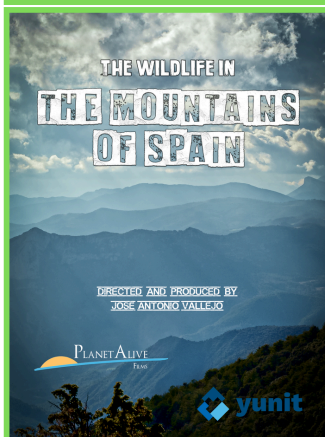
The Puma Hunter is a short documentary set in the wild landscapes of Patagonia, following the remarkable transformation of Mirko Utrovic — once one of the region's most skilled puma hunters, now one of its most dedicated protectors. Through his story, the film explores the complex relationship between people and predators, revealing a powerful narrative of conflict, change, and coexistence.



The Savannah: Wild Happiness 51:53

DIRECTOR: Eduardo Barrachina - Spain

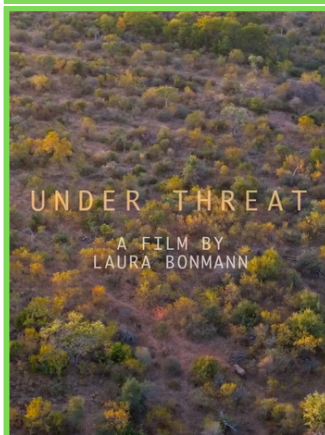
“The Savannah: Wild Happiness” is a blue-chip wildlife documentary series that explores the unique philosophy of life practiced by wild animals, based on four main pillars: living with passion, living without fear, living with love, and living in the present. Can they be happy while facing constant challenges and grave threats? How do they manage fear? Or frustration? Do they feel envy, jealousy, or resentment? Stories of survival starring the animals of the African savannah in which they embody a stoic and admirable attitude towards life.



The Wildlife In The Mountains Of Spain 47:00

DIRECTOR: José Antonio Vallejo Oreja - Spain

Ancient Hispania, criss-crossed by numerous mountain ranges and rugged mountain chains, is located between two large ecological and climatic regions that are very different from each other. To the north lies Atlantic Europe with its temperate climate. To the south, Mediterranean Africa with a semi-arid climate. This strategic location makes Spain a transitional territory where we can enjoy a mosaic of ecosystems unique in Europe. And as in any ecotone there is also great biodiversity due to the interaction and combination of species from the two regions, as well as the presence of endemic species that have adapted to this particular climate.

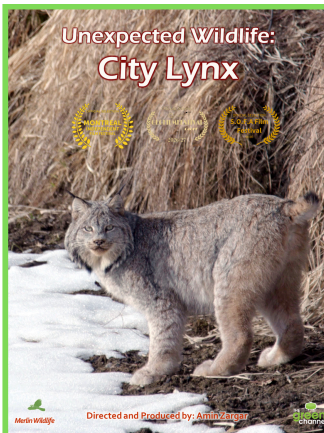


Under Threat 11:35

DIRECTOR: Laura Bonmann - South Africa

Under Threat follows the fight to protect rhinos at South Africa's Selati Game Reserve, where dehorning and groundbreaking AI technology are used against the ongoing threat of poaching. The film offers an intimate look at both the challenges and the hope behind safeguarding one of the world's most endangered species.

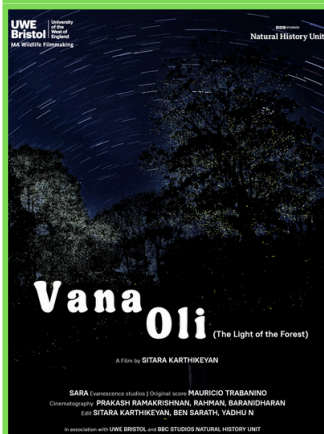
S.O.F.A WILDLIFE



Unexpected Wildlife: City Lynx 28:16

DIRECTOR: Amin Zargar - Canada

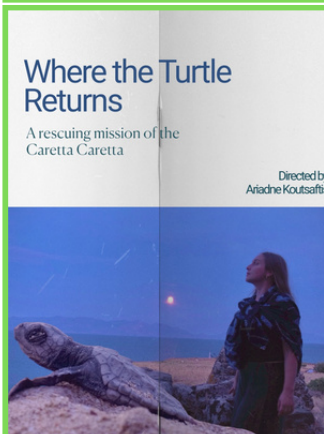
We follow the life and challenges of a Canada Lynx that moved to the city during the unexceptionally cold winter.



VANA OLI (The Light of the forest) 8:39

DIRECTOR: Sitara Karthikeyan - India

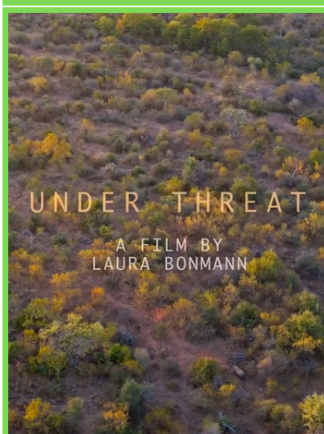
Sitara, a young and passionate wildlife photographer comes across a stunning image of a firefly display. She sets out to capture a similar photograph herself. Her journey leads her to the hills of the western ghats but instead of magic she finds a fading world with fewer fireflies and a landscape dimmed by light pollution. As she speaks with locals and learns more about the delicate balance between nature and human impact her mission shifts. What began as a search for one perfect photo becomes a deeper journey of discovery, awareness, and conservation. In the end Sitara doesn't just capture an image, she finds a story that needs to be shared.



Where The Turtle Returns 40:16

DIRECTOR: Ariadne Koutsaftis - Greece

Ariadne travelled to the south of Greece and joined the effort in helping the preservation of the Karetta Karetta nests.



Wild Alps 51:37

DIRECTOR: Daniele Gangemi - Italy

Home to many animal species whose fates intertwine among these peaks: from the grass frogs that embark on long journeys of love to the extraordinary choreographies of the white-throated dipper to gain the partner. And then the inhabitants of the forest are certainly present: the squirrel is taking away the supplies of the spotted nutcracker, the woodpecker is struggling with its nest construction, and the ant is building alliances with aphids. Through a privileged and fresh look at the life, love, difficulties and strategies adopted by these animals, we are able to discover that it's not always the stronger who prevails but those who help each other. In this, trees and mushrooms are real masters.

NOTES

S.O.F.A TAILS



AnimalZone: Law & Animal Order 30:00

DIRECTOR: William G. Conlin - USA

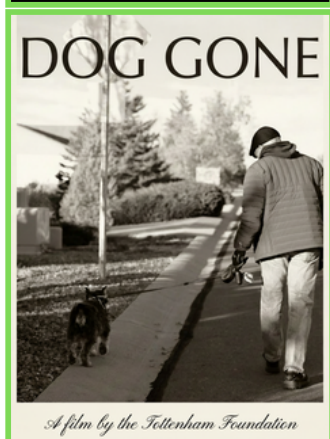
Journey to Key West and discover the Monroe County Sheriff's Animal Farm, an extraordinary sanctuary where rescued animals and inmates find second chances together. Sheriff Rick Ramsay and "Farmer Jeanne" Selander introduce AnimalZone to its remarkable residents, from lemurs and ostriches to alligators and donkeys. Through compassion, responsibility, and unexpected friendships, this uplifting episode reveals how caring for animals can foster rehabilitation, healing, trust, and hope for everyone involved.



Cat People 18:00

DIRECTOR: Molly Dennis - United Kingdom/Canada

As Athens faces a stray cat crisis, two veterinarians and a network of volunteers give their time and resources to help the city's overwhelming cat population.



Dog Gone 16:35

DIRECTOR: Sandra Englund - USA

A short documentary about the devastating impact of Librelva, a dog arthritis drug.



Freedom Farm Sanctuary 27:21

DIRECTOR: Taliya Finkel - Israel

United by their will to live despite past trauma, we are drawn to the fascinating bond between animals - residents of the Freedom Farm - and the people who care for them.

S.O.F.A TAILS



Gauri 9:32

DIRECTOR: Saswati Swaro - United Kingdom

Does maternal love lose its value when it belongs to another species? Through the story of Gauri, a mother, and Munmun, her child, the film exposes the systematic, industrialized separation of mother and offspring. It is a mirror held up to human self-obsession, asking us to feel the pain of a mother whose grief is ignored because she is 'only an animal.' I chose to create this as a universal narrative to show that the bond between parent and child is the most sacred, and most violated, connection on Earth.



Giants Of The Valley 24:35

DIRECTOR: Nick Simon Trumble - United Kingdom

In the rolling hills of Yorkshire, Claire and Mav live with sixteen dogs, including the world's largest pack of Irish Wolfhounds. But this isn't just a film about a rare breed. It's the story of how one woman rebuilt her life after hitting rock bottom, finding healing, purpose, and joy in the most unexpected of places. From bum-shaving rituals to pack walks and homemade dog treats, Giants of the Valley is an intimate, funny, and deeply emotional portrait of love, recovery, and devotion. It's a celebration of the bond between humans and animals and the beautiful chaos of a life truly lived for the dogs.



Not So Different 2:27

DIRECTOR: William Teichner - USA

A recent retiree volunteering at an animal shelter notices that each dog responds differently to the same simple game of fetch. One by one, the dogs reveal personalities that remind him of the people he used to work with.



Ode To Ingrid 5:16

DIRECTOR: Jody Lauren Miller - USA

After the loss of her first rescue dog, Ingrid, a filmmaker reflects on grief, unlikely connection, and the strange intimacy of online community. Told with humor and tenderness, An "Ode to Ingrid" becomes less a portrait of a dog and more a tribute to human connection.

S.O.F.A TAILS



Second Chance 5:27

DIRECTOR: Ryan Edens - USA

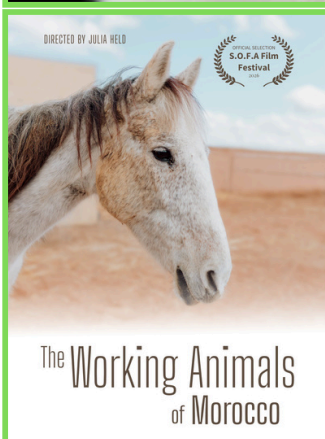
Second Chance is a short documentary that follows a woman who, after surviving a life-altering car accident, finds renewed purpose in creating a sanctuary for elderly and special-needs pigs. As she devotes herself to caring for animals others have forgotten, the film reveals the emotional and financial challenges of sustaining the rescue. Balancing limited resources, physical limitations, and an unwavering commitment to her animals, Second Chance explores resilience, sacrifice, and how healing can emerge through giving compassion to those most in need.



'Talking' Cat 4:56

DIRECTOR: Lusha Li - China

Videos of cats and dogs using recorded-word buttons have spread across the internet, sparking a deeper question: is technology truly necessary for communication between humans and their pets?



The Working Animals of Morocco 20:01

DIRECTOR: Julia Held - Slovakia

The Working Animals of Morocco documents Jarjeer Refuge, a sanctuary near Marrakech housing over 300 retired, injured, and abandoned equines. Founded by former British lawyers, the refuge operates a mobile rescue unit, delivers veterinary treatment, and addresses regional welfare issues. The documentary outlines daily sanctuary operations, water shortages, and the legal framework established to ensure the project's long-term sustainability.



Wild Spirit 22:32

DIRECTOR: Josh Carter, Taylor Bateman - USA

Witness the incredible story of the WRCNU (Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah) and their fight to continue saving Utah's wildlife after suddenly losing their building for the ironic expansion of Ogden's dinosaur park.

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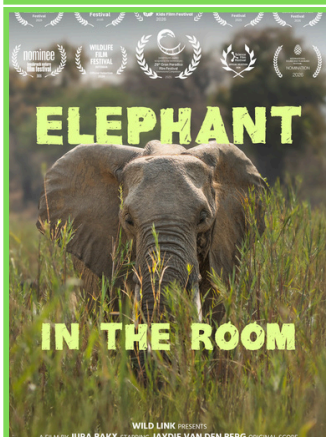
S.O.F.A KIDS



Conservation Kids 15:38

DIRECTOR: Janine Joubert - South Africa

Conservation Kids is an educational adventure series created for children. Through colourful visuals, simple language and exciting storytelling the show introduces young viewers to the wonders of the natural world. From ecosystems and animal behaviour to big ideas like symbiosis and conservation. Instead of just showing the animals, Josh and Mara take them on safari in the breathtaking Shamwari game reserve where the teachers have fur, feathers and scales.



Elephant in the Room 17:36

DIRECTOR: Jura Bakx - Netherlands

Dana transforms her bedroom into an African savanna with her favorite stuffed elephant, Ellie. When Dana suddenly loses Ellie, both the real and the fictional ecosystems have to deal with the consequences. An impala has more trouble finding food, a business of dwarf mongoose cannot find a place for their home, and a warthog is too warm to play because of a lack of deep puddles of water. This cross-genre film reveals the story of the important role elephants play within their ecosystem told through the eyes of a 7-year-old girl.



I can help you Bumblebee! 2:25

DIRECTORS: Conor & Stina McMullin - Sweden

Two sisters play in the garden and discover a bumblebee, busy at work.

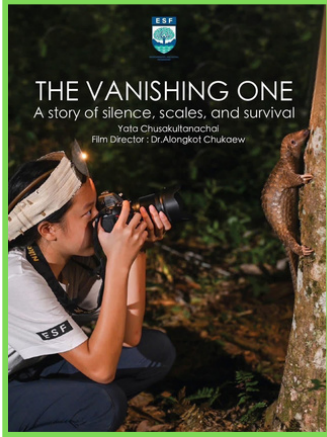


Rainbow Socks 23:00

DIRECTORS: Dia Savage, Dana Romanoff - USA

Filmed in Boulder, Colorado, Rainbow Socks is a live-action musical short that invites kids to sing, dance, play, and explore the natural world around them. The Rainbow Socks Rangers (Jeff, Paige and Shaun) blend science, music, and storytelling with a core message to get outside and connect.

S.O.F.A KIDS



The Vanishing One 9:19

DIRECTOR: Dr.Alongkot Chookaew - Thailand

We follow the journey of a young girl into the heart of southern Thailand where she searches for the pangolin. This isn't just about a creature, but it's about quiet resistance, a living hope, and the belief that understanding leads to protection and to understand why they had to be hunted or why their scales are so valuable. It's a call to listen before silence is all that's left.

NOTES



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