Latvian Film Industry

- National Film Centre of Latvia
- Riga Film Fund
- Film Producers Association of Latvia
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The Riga Film Fund (RFF) is a co-financing programme launched by the Riga City Council, and in 2010 it implemented the first cash rebate scheme in the Baltic states. RFF is open to Latvian and foreign co-productions planning to shoot in Latvia and its capital.

Since adopting this initiative supporting the filmmaking within its borders, Latvia has joined the ranks of other European countries who, through the implementation of favourable financial policies, ensure positive impact on the local economy as well as support the creative industries.

In addition to promoting Riga abroad, RFF aspires to facilitate cultural diversity and foreign film productions, as well as encourages the development of the national film industry by generating new cross-border projects and boosting the experience and skill development of local professionals. When thinking about the future, the Riga City Council relies on a motto that has already proven to be accurate: Riga — the city of opportunities.

RFF is a member of both EUFCN (European Film Commission Network) and the Cine-Regio network of regional film funds in Europe.

Riga Film Fund

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Film Producers Association of Latvia

Founded in 1993, the Film Producers Association of Latvia (FPA) joins and represents all of the major film and TV production companies in Latvia. It contributes to the elaboration and implementation of the cultural policy of the industry. The members of FPA participate in the Latvian Film Council — a consultative body at the Latvian Ministry of Culture — and act on behalf of the film producers at the commissions of experts formed by the National Film Centre of Latvia and the State Culture Capital Foundation. FPA also designates a representative to the jury panel of the National Film Award ‘Lielais Kristaps’.

Since 2012, FPA, together with the National Film Centre of Latvia and the Riga City Council, ensures the activities of Latvia’s exhibition stand at the film markets of the Berlin International Film Festival and the Cannes Film Festival. FPA is a member of EDN (European Documentary Network) and FIAPF (International Federation of Film Producers Associations).

Support for the Film Industry

The National Film Centre of Latvia (NFC) is a public institution under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, and is responsible for the implementation of state cultural policy in the field of cinematography. The main functions of NFC include: the facilitation of Latvian film and film culture development; increasing the accessibility of Latvian film culture in Latvia; the promotion of Latvian film abroad; participation at international film events; and collaborating with international film funding bodies and policy organisations. NFC is funded by the State budget and reports to the Minister of Culture. NFC grants public support to Latvian films and is keen on attracting film and television production to Latvia, stimulating inward investment, and creating employment opportunities for creative staff, technicians and support service companies.

NFC coordinates the Latvian Co-Financing Fund (a cash rebate scheme) for international film productions.

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Facts & Figures

Situated in north-eastern Europe with a coastline along the Baltic Sea, Latvia borders the two other Baltic states – Lithuania and Estonia – as well as Russia and Belarus.

- Political System: Republic, parliamentary democracy. Member of the EU, Schengen Area and NATO.
- Currency: Euro
- Time Zone: GMT + 2 (winter), GMT + 3 (summer)
- Official Language: Latvian
- Population: 1.92 million
- Land Area: 64,589 km² with 54% forested area, over 12,000 rivers, over 3,000 lakes, and the widest waterfall in Europe – Ventas Rumba.
- Coastline: 500 km long; the open sea and the Gulf of Riga with wild shores, port cities, fishing villages, yacht docks, vast stretches of white sandy and rocky beaches, dunes, steep cliffs, sandstone outcrops, impressive rocks and caverns.
- Capital: Riga. Founded in 1201. The largest city in the Baltics. Riga’s medieval old town, with its 13th-century churches and the surrounding city centre, is designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Historic Centre of Riga has the finest concentration of Art Nouveau/Jugendstil architecture in the world.
- Riga International Airport: The largest air traffic hub in the Baltic region offers close to 80 direct flight destinations in the winter season and 100 in the summer season.

Cash Rebate

Latvia and its capital Riga provide great filmmaking opportunities characterised by accessibility, convenience, and the professionalism of the local film crews.

- Countless unexploited and diverse locations; rich architecture; stunning nature; four distinct seasons; cost-effective and reliable production;
- A cash rebate of up to 50% of expenditures can be received on eligible production costs if the following two incentive schemes (20% or 25% each) are combined:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latvian Co-Financing Fund of the National Film Centre</th>
<th>Riga City Council co-financing programme Riga Film Fund</th>
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<tr>
<td>ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>• At least 50% of the production funding should be confirmed upon application.</td>
<td>• Feature-length fiction films or documentaries intended for theatrical or TV release.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Services provided by private individuals or legal entities registered in Latvia are involved in the production of the film.</td>
<td>• Film shooting takes place fully or partly in Riga or any other location in Latvia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Costs are incurred through a Latvian production company.</td>
<td>• Minimum total budget: EUR 711 436 for feature-length fiction or animation films; EUR 142 287 for documentaries.</td>
</tr>
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ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Production-related artistic, administrative and personnel costs; transport, location and equipment rentals; procurement; construction services; accommodation, catering, security, etc.

Open deadline for co-financing applications.

Production Companies

Animation Studio Atom Art
Baltic Pine Films
Deep Sea Studios
Ego Media
FA Filma
Fenixfilm
Film Angels Productions
Film Studio Animācijas brigāde Ltd.
Film Studio DEVIN
Film Studio KINOLATS / Kants Komunikācijas
Hargla Company
Jura Podnieka Studija
Krukfilms
KULTFILMA
Locomotive Productions
Lunosed Animation Studio
Mistrus Media
Nida Filma
Platforma Filma
Rija Films
Riverbed
SKUBA Films
Studija Dokumentālists
Studio CENTRUMS
Studio F.O.R.M.A.
Studio SB / Foundation Sibīrijas bērni
Tanka Film Studio
Tasse Film
Tritone Studio
VFS Films / Vides Filmu Studija Ltd.
Woodpecker Pictures
**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Jakabs, Mimmi un runājošie suņi**
*Jacob, Mimmi and the Talking Dogs*
2019
*Director:* Edmunds Jansons
Will the unexpected friends – Jacob, Mimmi and the talking dogs – be brave enough to rescue the old, romantic neighborhood from its change into an impersonal glass skyscraper area?
*Summer adventure story*

**COMING UP**

**Vēstule Milēnai**
*Letter to Milena*
2020
*Director:* Zane Oborenko
The longing to meet Milena again leads Kafka into an imaginary journey to meet her. He finds himself on a borderline between memories, imaginations, visions and reality.
*Drama*

**HALLMARK**

**Bize un Negula**
*Pigtail and Mr Sleeplessness*
2017
*Director:* Edmunds Jansons
To win back her parents’ attention, a girl Pigtail and her imaginary friend Mr. Sleeplessness come up with a clever plan to send her Baby Brother and Grandma to the Moon.
*Drama / Comedy*

**Animation Studio Atom Art**

*Animation*

Animation Studio Atom Art works in two main directions – developing and producing quality children’s content in different formats (TV specials, series and features) and producing artistic short films in various animation techniques.

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**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Fartbīnīda**
*Blinded*
2019
*Director:* Johan Lundin
Modern day TV drama touching on the subject of bank crises in Sweden. Starring Matias Varela.
*Drama*

**COMING UP**

**Tiger Martindale Survival Experts**
2021
*Director:* Pavel Gumennikov
Strong feel-good family adventure with a hint of dark comedy featuring an extremely positive disabled character.
*Dark comedy*

**HALLMARK**

**Mūs neznāmā vojnī**
*My Unknown Soldier*
2018
*Director:* Anna Kryvenko
Archive documentary on the events of Prague Spring from the point of view of the occupying soldier.
*Documentary*

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**Baltic Pine Films**

The production and service company *Baltic Pine Films* has worked with WB (Justice League), the BBC (Wallander), and FLX (Blinded, TV series) as well as Discovery, NBC, ZDF, and the UK’s C4. The producer is a member of the EAVE network.

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Sergei Serpuhov
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**Deep Sea Studios**

Deep Sea Studios is an arts collective and film production company based in Riga, Latvia. Founded by young artists and producers, it operates as a platform from which new talents work alongside experienced professionals to create new and enriching artistic experiences.

**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Vīrietis un dālijas**
*The Man and the Dahlias*
2018
Director: Guntis Bojārs
After his mother's death, Dzintars Bumbiers (34) struggles with the large collection of dahlias he has inherited from her. Dzintars made a promise that he would keep caring for them, but in reality the dahlias hide his contempt.

**Kur vedīs ceļš**
*Where the Road Leads*
2020
Director: Matīss Kaža
An aristocratic orphans and a peasant become unlikely allies after witnessing a murder on the grounds of the baron’s manor.

**HALLMARK**

**One Ticket Please**
2017
Director: Matīss Kaža
A 78-year-old Indian woman in New York is the world’s most passionate theatergoer. Nicki Cochrane prides herself with a staunch dedication to the art. But at what point does passion turn into addiction?

**Deep Sea Studios**

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Fiction films / Documentaries

**RECENTLY RELEASED**

7 miljardi gada pirmas pastas gāja
*7 Billion Years Before the End of the World*
2018
Director: Jānis Ābele
Leo meets Anna who looks very much like the image of a girl that Leo uncovers restoring an altar painting.

**Pilsēta pie upes**
*City on the River*
2020
Director: Viesturs Kairišs
A tragicomedy about the ultimate triumph of human virtues in the face of systematic, institutional inhumanity. It tells the story through eyes of a somewhat naive, yet inherently wise soul – a lowly sign-painter/artist.

**HALLMARK**

Mūris
*D is for Division*
2018
Director: Dāvis Sīmanis
Two worlds defined by a dividing line, two contradictory views of the past as well as the present. A film dealing with the tension existing on the borders between Europe and Russia.

**COMING UP**

**Plēša pie upeņ**
2020
Director: vieturs Kairišs
A tragicomedy about the ultimate triumph of human virtues in the face of systematic, institutional inhumanity. It tells the story through eyes of a somewhat naive, yet inherently wise soul – a lowly sign-painter/artist.

**Fiction films / Documentaries / Film Production Service**

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7 Billion Years Before the End of the World / City on the River / D is for Division

The Riga-based production company Ego Media was established in 2005 by the experienced Latvian producer Guntis Trekteris to produce documentaries and fiction films for local and international audiences.
The Latvian film production company FA Filma produces feature films and documentaries with high artistic merit. Their films have won numerous festival awards and are distributed internationally.

RECENTLY RELEASED

Dotais lielums: mana māte
Solving My Mother
2017
Director: Ieva Ozoliņa
Dissatisfied with his personality, a young mathematician from a family of divorced academics decides to punish his mother for wrong upbringing. A touching yet humorous story about a mother and son and the creative and destructive power of motherly love.

COMING UP

Saule spīd 24 stundas
24 hr Sunshine
2019
Director: Juris Poškus
Intellectual comedy about the mid life crisis and masculine ego.

Fiction / Comedy / Drama

One Ticket Please
2017
Director: Matīss Kaža
A 78-year-old Indian woman in New York is the world’s most passionate theatergoer. Nicki Cochrane prides herself with a staunch dedication to the art. But at what point does passion turn into addiction?

Documentary

Klejotāji
The Wanderers
2019
Director: Matīss Kaža
Four different Latvian twenty-somethings are linked by the concept of the nomad. Both an examination of the first post-Soviet generation of Eastern European youth and a very personal psychological portrait of their inner conflicts, aspirations and dreams.

Documentary

A Game of Chance
2020
Director: Una Celma
Holly Mehrtens, a Swedish UNHRC agent, discovers that the Latvian government is running an experimental casino in the local refugee center and decides to expose the story at all costs.

Comedy

FA Filma

FA Filma is a full-service film production company with more than ten years of experience in producing documentary and fiction films. Many of its productions have successfully been exhibited in film festivals worldwide. Most of the company’s films are female-driven stories.

Fenixfilm is a full-service film production company with more than ten years of experience in producing documentary and fiction films. Many of its productions have successfully been exhibited in film festivals worldwide. Most of the company’s films are female-driven stories.
**Film Angels Productions**

Films / Documentaries / TV projects / Film Production Service

**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Homo Novus**

**Director:** Anna Viduleja

A romantic comedy of errors and intrigues, made after the novel of famous Latvian author A. Eglītis. The revival of Riga in the 1930ies – the art personalites, bohemia and the sharp humour at the author.

**Comedy**

**Krotkaya**

**A Gentle Creature**

**Director:** Sergei Lamentov

Produced by SlotMachine (FR), the film was entirely shot in Latvia and was a contender for the Palme d’Or of the Cannes Film Festival.

**Drama**

**Puteklis**

**The Dust**

**Director:** Dace Rīdūze

A boy's life seems boring – school, homework, music lessons... However, little Dusties live on his bookshelf. An accidental encounter between the two worlds is turning their everyday life into an interesting adventure.

**Children's film**

**Parīzes noslēpumi**

**Secrets of Paris**

**Director:** Jānis Cimmermanis

When electricity goes off at the office of the Eiffel tower's security guard, he calls the 'The Rescue Team'. Suddenly the light goes off in Paris and the portrait of Mona Liza disappears from the Louvre Museum...

**Comedy**

**Eži un lielpilsēta**

**Hedgehogs and the City**

**Director:** Ēvalds Lācis

When animals wake up from the winter sleep, they discover that their forest has turned into a city. Hedgehog has a brilliant idea how they all could survive. The decision is made by hedgehogs to get back their real home...

**Comedy**

Film Studio Animācijas Brigāde Ltd.

**Animation**

**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Putoklis**

**The Dust**

**2018**

**Director:** Dace Rīdūze

A boy's life seems boring – school, homework, music lessons... However, little Dusties live on his bookshelf. An accidental encounter between the two worlds is turning their everyday life into an interesting adventure.

**Children's film**

**Eži un lielpilsēta**

**Hedgehogs and the City**

**2013**

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When animals wake up from the winter sleep, they discover that their forest has turned into a city. Hedgehog has a brilliant idea how they all could survive. The decision is made by hedgehogs to get back their real home...

**Comedy**

**Founded in 1996 by Arnolds Burovs, a director of theatre and puppet films, Film Studio Animācijas Brigāde has produced over 100 puppet films. It produces puppet films, puppet film series and commercials.**
RECENTLY RELEASED

Bille
2018
Director: Ināra Kolmane
An extraordinary and creative little girl attempts to comprehend the confusing adult world and prove her value despite the lack of appreciation and love from her mother.
Feature / Family drama

COMING UP

Mātes piens
Soviet Milk
2021
Director: Ināra Kolmane
Young, promising doctor destroyed by the Soviet regime deprives her daughter of breast milk. Later, the daughter assumes the role of mother in respect to her mother. Based on the bestseller by Nora Ikstena.
Feature / Female-led drama

HALLMARK

Ručs un Norie
Ruch and Norie
2015
Director: Ināra Kolmane
An emotionally fascinating and truly cognitive story of the unusual friendship between the Japanese student Norie and one of the oldest Suiti woman Ruch.
Documentary

Film Studio DEVIŅI
Established in 1991, Film Studio DEVIŅI is an active player in the film industry. With a mission that includes the telling of compelling stories that both entertain and educate audiences, the company focuses on the co-production of feature films and documentaries.

RECENTELY RELEASED

Ievainotais jātnieks
Wounded Rider
2017
Director: Ilona Bruver
Based on facts from the life of the sculptor Kārlis Zāle and the construction of the Freedom Monument in Latvia in the 1930ies, providing insight into the political and social scene of the age and presenting outstanding figures in the culture and art with the ideals of the time.
Creative documentary

COMING UP

Konstrukcijas
Constructions
2019
Director: Ilona Bruver
Documentary portrait of the famous Latvian poet and literary translator Uldis Bērziņš.
Creative documentary

HALLMARK

Versija Vera
Version Vera
2010
Director: Ilona Bruver
The film tells about Vera Mukhina, one of the most outstanding sculptors of the 20th century. Her monumental 53 m high sculptural ensemble Worker and Peasant Woman becomes a sensation of the 1937 World Achievement exhibition in Paris.
Creative documentary

Film Studio KINOLATS
Kants Komunikācijas

Film Studio KINOLATS was founded in 1997 by the journalist, author, director, editor and producer Iiona Bruver (Hamburger Filmbuero/ FRG 1980-1995). The company has produced more than 70 TV projects, 7 features, and some short films.

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**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Zirdziņ, hallo!**  
Hello, horse!  
2017  
**Director:** Laila Pakalnina  
A film about everything changing while remaining the same. Or rather – everything remaining the same while changing.  
** Documentary**

**COMING UP**

**Karote**  
Spoon  
2019  
**Director:** Laila Pakalnina  
This film is going to be about a plastic spoon and society; and society’s progress. About the steps that must be taken so that people could end the spoon’s journey and throw it into the bin.  
**Drama**

**HALLMARK**

**Kurpe**  
The Shoe  
1998  
**Director:** Laila Pakalnina  
The late 1950’s. Every night, Soviet tractors comb the coast of Latvia looking for signs of anyone who could have infiltrated the Soviet border from the sea…  
**Drama / Comedy**

**Jelgava ’94**  
2019  
**Director:** Jānis Ābele  
A portrait of the generation, which experienced cultural chaos of the former communist states during the 1990ies. This is a touching story about us as young people, when everybody is against the whole world and tries not to become ‘one of them’.  
**Drama**

**Dziesma par dzelzs aizkaru**  
Iron Song  
2022  
**Director:** Oskars Rupenthal  
In the 1970ties, art was associated with the freedom of creative thought, but not everywhere. This story is about what happened to the young American writer Nancy who fell in love with the Latvian composer Arthur while visiting the USSR.  
**Drama**

**Iemesti pasaulē**  
Thrown Into The World  
2018  
**Director:** Antra Cilinska  
A colorful journey reveals the life and works of the unique Latvian-born Australian artist Imants Tillers, who speaks about the deepest issues of human nature and shocks the world…  
**Documentary**

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**Fiction films / Documentaries**

**Hello, horse! / Spoon / The Shoe**

**Jura Podnieka Studija**

Jura Podnieka Studija started its work as an independent entity in 1989. The company has its own sound studio, which provides excellent post-production services using the latest technologies.

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**Jelgava ’94 / Iron Song / Thrown Into The World**

**Antra Cilinska**  
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**Hargla Company**

Hargla Company was founded in 1997 as its founders were eager to make their own productions. Almost all of its films have won festival awards. 2 were selected for the official programme of Cannes IFF, 2 – for Venice IFF, 1 – for Berlinate, 4 – for Locarno IFF, etc.

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**Hargla Company Jura Podnieka Studija**

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**© Hargla Company**

20
RECENTLY RELEASED

Jaungada taksometrs
New Year’s Eve Taxi
2018
Director: Māris Martinsons
New Year’s Eve. Taxi driver Andrejs has almost finished his shift, when suddenly a forgotten present makes him recall the curious collection of that night’s passengers. Will he get to experience his own New Year’s miracle? Romantic comedy

COMING UP

Zeme, kas dzied
In The Land that Sings
2021
Director: Māris Martinsons
Leaders of the Riga Latvian Society decide to hold the 1st Latvian Song Celebration back in 1873. This national tradition is included in UNESCO’s list of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity and led to Latvia’s independence. Period drama

HALLMARK

Nereikalingi žmones
Loss
2008
Director: Māris Martinsons
A mentally ill young woman Valda convinces herself that a boy growing up in an orphanage is her child. This film portrays the beauty and tragedy of the human heart. Drama

COMING UP

Drēsāju pavasaris
Blizzard of Souls
2019
Director: Dzintars Dreibergs
Based on a true story novel, which was forbidden in the USSR, the film follows a coming-of-age story of a sixteen-year-old Arturs. After the loss of his mother, he enlists to fight in WWI with dreams of becoming a hero. War / Drama / History / Action
Recently Released

Saule bruca debēs
Before the Day Breaks
2018
Director: Roze Stiebra
During a joyous hubbub of dancing maskers, the Sun’s and the Moon’s baby girl is kidnapped. The distraught parents beg humans to retrieve her, so a journey begins...

Animation

Coming Up

Ziemassvētki džungļos
Christmas in the Jungle
2019
Director: Jaak Kilmi
Moving from Latvia to exotic Indonesia has proven to be quite a challenge for Paula’s [10] family. She realizes that they can be saved by a Christmas miracle, but there’s no winter in Indonesia...
Family adventure

Hallmark

Pelnu sanatorija
Exiled
2016
Director: Dāvis Sīmanis
The final year of WWI. A German army surgeon Ulrich is sent to inspect a remote convalescent home for shell-shocked patients. This turned-out sanctuary will have to make its last stand against the approaching madness of the war.
Drama / History / War

Fiction Films / Documentaries / Animation / Film Restoration

Locomotive Productions

Founded in 1995, Locomotive Productions has become one of the most creative and productive film studios in the Baltic countries. Nearly all of its productions have premiered at recognised international film festivals. Latvia and Lithuania have submitted films co-produced by this company for the Academy Award.

RECENTLY RELEASED

Electricā diena
Electrician’s Day
2018
Director: Vladimir Leschiov
While working near a psychiatric clinic, an electrician is struck by an accident. Because of the electric shock, he ends up in this hospital, where he gets accustomed to the everyday life of its patients.
Animation / Drama / Comedy

COMING UP

Ziemas ainava ar slidotājiem
Winter Landscape With Skaters
2020
Director: Vladimir Leschiov
When you desperately miss it, the long-forgotten childhood vehemence may come back...
Animation / Drama

Hallmark

Spārni un airi
Wings and Oars
2009
Director: Vladimir Leschiov
A former pilot looks back over his life – the Earth, the Sky, the Woman – everything that took place on the journey from an air strip to an abandoned boat house.
Animation / Drama

Lunohod Animation Studio

Established in 2007, Lunohod Animation Studio specializes in the production of animated short films, many of which have received awards at various film festivals around the world.

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RECENTLY RELEASED

Tēvs Nakts
The Mover
2018
Director: Dāvis Sīmanis
To save one life is to save the world. A true story about the Rigan Žanis Lipke, who hid dozens of Jewish people during the war.
Feature drama

COMING UP

My Father the Spy
2019
Directors: Jaak Kilmi, Gints Grūbe
As a young Soviet student in 1978, Ieva could not have predicted that a holiday visit to her father, Imants Lešinskis, then working in the Soviet mission at the United Nations in New York City, would irreversibly split her life in two.
Documentary

HALLMARK

Melānijas hronika
The Chronicles of Melanie
2018
Director: Viesturs Kairišs
Youthful dreams, the best years of her life, health, home, husband, son, homeland – the Soviet regime took it all away. She survived to write it all down, so that generations to come would never forget the story that was forced on all of us.
Feature drama

COMING UP

What Silent Gerda Knows
Gulf Stream Under the Iceberg
2012
Director: Yevgeny Pashkevich
The myth of Lilith represents the eternal drama in the relations of Man and Mother Nature, insatiable in her desire to give birth and destroy. This fairy tale is based on ancient Oriental legends, the Talmud and the medieval books of Cabala. Inspired by the works of Anatole France.
Latvian entry for the Academy Awards in the category of Best Foreign Language Film.
Melodrama / Fantasy

Fiction films / Documentaries / TV projects / Film Production Service

The Mover / My Father the Spy / The Chronicles of Melanie

Operating since 2000, the company Mistrus Media has established itself as a leading Latvian film studio. The company works on international co-productions and provides quality production services, including professional crews to help achieve perfection in the execution of your project.

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Mistrus Media

Nida Filma

What Silent Gerda Knows / Gulf Stream Under the Iceberg

Nida Filma was founded by the film director Yevgeny Pashkevich in 2000. The company focuses on multicultural co-productions – both fiction films and documentaries.
RECENTLY RELEASED

Klases salidojums
Class Reunion
2019
Director: Andrejs Ēķis
Nils and his two best friends are invited to a 25-year reunion for their student years. Nils is given the task of holding the main speech. This comes at a bad time...
Comedy

COMING UP

Swingers 2
2019
Director: Andrejs Ēķis
A light comedy about building relationships – with passion and funny misunderstandings. All characters of this movie are in desire for flirt.
Comedy

HALLMARK

Nameja gredzens
The Pagan King
2018
Director: Aigars Grauba
On his deathbed, the reigning king bestows power to an unexpected heir who must find strength within himself to unite his people against the violent crusades.
Action / Legend

Lotte ja kadunud lohed
Lotte and the Lost Dragons
2019
Directors: Janno Poldma, Heiki Ernits
The scientists Karl the Raccoon and Victor the Fish arrive in Gadgetville. Lotte and her little sister Roosi decide to go find the mythical fire-breathing dragons that these scientists are looking for:
Animated adventure

COMING UP

Ābolrauša šūpuļdziesma
Apple Pie Lullaby
2020
Directors: Reinis Kalnaelis
Penguin girl Thelma goes in search of Birthday to make sure that she will turn five years old.
Animated comedy

HALLMARK

V Tumane (В тумане)
In the Fog
2012
Directors: Sergei Loznitsa
"Eyes and ears are poor witnesses to those men, whose souls are of barbarian nature" (Heraclitus)
Drama

Platforma filma

Platforma filma is the most successful commercial movie studio in Latvia. The mission of the company is to create entertaining and contemporary intellectual property, and to engage local audiences with global values.

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Rija Films

Founded in 1995, Rija Films has taken part in more than 50 international co-production and co-operation projects. The company provides services and does dubbing for the local market in collaboration with Deluxe, Paramount, Sony, DreamWorks, 20th Century Fox International, Universal, etc. Rija Films has its own sound studio and stage.

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Nothing Can Stop Us Now
2019
Director: Andris Gauja
After falling for his intern, Ralfs, an eccentric music producer, announces his wife, lover and teenage daughter to live together under the same roof.
Drama

The Lesson
2014
Director: Andris Gauja
A new teacher tries to befriend the class she is mentoring, but she goes too far – at parties and on her field trips, the border between the teacher and the students begins to blur and dissolve. The film had its world premiere at the Montreal World Film Festival (competition section).
Drama

Touched by Ocean
2017
Director: Sandijs Semjonovs, Laura Rožkalne
Kārlis Bardelis and Gints Barkovskis (Latvia), have a plan to row from Luderitz, Namibia, to Rio das Ostras, Brazil. They have no ocean rowing experience, a second-hand rowboat and a big dream.
Documentary

My friend Mr. Dice
2019
Director: Kaspars Riga
Director travels to Sierra Leone to find out what really happened ten years ago, when his friend Mr. Dice ran away after his bank went bankrupt, losing all the investors’ money, including director’s.
Documentary

Prāta Vētra: Starp krastiem
2015
Directors: Sandijs Semjonovs, Gundars Rēders
A story about four friends, four schoolmates, who founded the famous Latvian rock/pop-rock band Brainstorm. 25 years of perseverance and capability to fall and rise again.
Documentary / Music

Riverbed is a full-service film production company founded by director and producer Andris Gauja. Fueled by idealism and enthusiasm, the company focuses on auteur-driven narrative storytelling with a strong emphasis on powerful imagery.

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Riverbed SKUBA films
Established in 2011, SKUBA films works with highly regarded directors, screenwriters, cinematographers and composers. The team of the company, including journalists Sandijs Semjonovs and Gundars Rēders, are notably experienced in the making of documentary film.
Over the last five years, the production company Studija Dokumentālists has presented its films at 56 film festivals around the globe, including New York, New Caledonia, and Moscow. All of its documentaries have been nominated for the ‘Lielais Kristaps’ national film award.

**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Zāģeri**
Lumberjacks  
2017  
Directors: Ivars Zvedris, Andris Kalnsons

Trees are at the core of Latvian exports, but profits from them come at a price. There are two sides to everything or, as a Latvian proverb has it: every tree has two ends. The forest meanwhile slowly turns into a clear-cut.  
Documentary

**COMING UP**

**Valkātāju ciems**
The Smuggler Village  
2019  
Director: Ivars Zvedris

An ongoing “game” is on the border of Russia and European Union. It is called ‘The Smugglers’. An absurd process with no winners and each participant is driven by their desperation.  
Documentary

**HALLMARK**

**Dokumentālists**
Documentarian  
2012  
Directors: Ivars Zvedris, Inese Kļava

Ina is a brusque and crusty woman who lives alone on the edge of a picturesque marsh. One day her solitude is intruded upon by the arrival of a documentary filmmaker.  
Documentary

**COMING UP**

**Izlaušanās. Konstantins Raudive.**
Breakdown. Konstantins Raudive.  
2020  
Director: Anda Mīķeša

Konstantīns Raudive (1909–1974) was a Latvian writer and intellectual, husband of the great writer Zenta Maurīne. He was interested in parapsychology, especially the possibility of afterlife.  
Documentary

**HALLMARK**

**Čiža acīm**
Little Bird’s Diary  
2007  
Director: Edmunds Jansons

A heartwarming story, based on the picture diary by Irīna Piļke. Over the years, eighty-year-old woman, nicknamed ‘the Little Bird’, had depicted the events of her life as sketches in diaries.  
Documentary animation

Founded in 2004, Studio CENTRUMS is a film production company that focuses on documentaries. The company has also been active in film distribution and other projects (computer games, a virtual museum, educational films and commercials).
**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Vecā dārza noslēpums**
Mystery of the Old Garden
2019
Directors: Olafs Okonovs, Gunita Groša
The adventure of a foursome in discovering and safeguarding the mystery of an old garden.
Children / Adventure / Fantasy

**HALLMARK**

**Vectēvs, kas bīstamāks par datoru**
Grandpa More Dangerous Than Computer
2017
Director: Vaiņa Brāslo
8 year-old Oskars’ summer vacation in the countryside begins as a seemingly never-ending struggle with his Grandpa.
Top 2 admissions in Latvia.
Family film

**COMING UP**

**Ilmārs Blumbergs**
Kurts Fridrihsons
2019
Director: Dzintra Geka
A personal story by a Latvian writer Gundega Repše about Kurts Fridrihsons – artist, spiritual leader, outsider, prisoner and nonconformist in the twists and turns of the Latvian history.
Documentary

**HALLMARK**

**Dieva putniņi**
God's Lost Sparrows
2015
Director: Dzintra Geka
Towards the end of the World War II, nearly one million people from Eastern Europe fled the Soviet regime. Latvians, who were known as ‘deepers’ or as Little Birds of God, tried to establish ‘Little Latvia’ at the displaced persons camps.
Documentary

**Documentaries**

**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Kurts Fridrihsons**
2018
Director: Dzintra Geka
A personal story by a Latvian writer Gundega Repše about Kurts Fridrihsons – artist, spiritual leader, outsider, prisoner and nonconformist in the twists and turns of the Latvian history.
Documentary

**COMING UP**

**God's Lost Sparrows**
Kurts Fridrihsons / Ilmārs Blumbergs
2019
Director: Dzintra Geka
A story about the mystery of the creation of oneself, the various aspects of loneliness, the meridians of consciousness, and the scale of the artist’s personality.
Documentary

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**Studio F.O.R.M.A.**

**Fiction films / TV projects**

**RECENTLY RELEASED**

Mystery of the Old Garden / Grandpa More Dangerous Than Computer

**HALLMARK**

**Vektēvs, kas bīstamāks par datoru**
Grandpa More Dangerous Than Computer

**COMING UP**

Ilmārs Blumbergs
Kurts Fridrihsons

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**Foundations**

**Foundation Sibīrijas bērni**

The Foundation Sibīrijas bērni was established in 2001 with the initial aim of documenting the memories of the politically repressed and deported through interviews, films and books. Gradually, the thematic range of documentaries has broadened to include cultural and historical figures from various eras.

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**Studio F.O.R.M.A. Studio SB**

**Studio F.O.R.M.A.** is a Riga-based independent production company founded in 1993 by producer Gatis Upmalis. The company primarily focuses on the development, production and co-production of quality fiction feature films, especially for children and families.

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**Foundation Sibīrijas bērni**

The Foundation Sibīrijas bērni was established in 2001 with the initial aim of documenting the memories of the politically repressed and deported through interviews, films and books. Gradually, the thematic range of documentaries has broadened to include cultural and historical figures from various eras.

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-- End --
RECENTLY RELEASED

1906
2019
Director: Gatis Šmits
An odd couple of idealistic outcasts embark on a romantic journey into the deadly world of the 1905 revolution in Riga.
Crime / Drama

COMING UP

JRT. Pēdējā sezoņa
New Riga Theater. The Last Season
2019
Director: Gatis Šmits
A documentary about an acclaimed theater troupe in Latvia during the times of change.
Documentary

HALLMARK

Mammu, Es Tevi Mīlu
Mother, I Love you
2014
Director: Jānis Nords
12-year-old Raimonds starts a spiral of lies, which spins out of control. An exciting story about the healing power of truth.
Drama / Adventure

RECENTLY RELEASED

Still River
2018
Director: Angelos Frantzis
Anna and Petros, a Greek couple who recently moved to an industrial town in the north, are shocked to discover Anna is pregnant with no prior intercourse. Did she cheat? Are they victims of a conspiracy? Or blessed with a miracle?
Drama

COMING UP

Oļegs
Oleg
2019
Director: Juris Kursietis
Latvian non-citizen Oleg (28) tries to make a living and finds a job in his profession, in a meat factory in Brussels. His non-citizen status makes it hard for him to pursue the work.
Drama

HALLMARK

Es esmu šeit
Mellow Mud
2016
Director: Renārs Vimba
Loneliness, disillusionment and the experience of first love reveal the character of Raya, a 17-year-old living in rural Latvia with her grandmother and her little brother Robis. A staggering turn of events shakes up their lives.
Drama

Founded in 2003, Tanka Film Studio has created a number of award-winning feature films, including ‘Mother, I Love You’ (a winner at the Berlinale and the LA Film Festival), which went on to become Latvia’s submission for the 2014 Foreign Language Oscar.

Founded in 2011, Tasse Film is an administrative and creative production team led by two experienced producers. ‘Mellow Mud’, the company’s first feature, received the Crystal Bear for Best Film in the ‘Generation 14 Plus’ category of the 2016 Berlinale. Currently there are several co-productions in post-production, as well as international feature projects in production and development stages.
**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Baltic Tribes – Last Pagans of Europe**

2018

Director: Raitis Ābele, Lauris Ābele

13th century. Danish spy Lars enters the unknown lands of the Baltic people, where he explores traditions and rituals; even fights the crusaders.

**COMING UP**

**Troubled Minds**

2020

Director: Raitis Ābele, Lauris Ābele

Brothers, contemporary artists, want to save the planet by performing an art 'terror act' – put a psychedelic medicine LSD into the governments' drinking water.

**HALLMARK**

**Castratus the Boar**

2014

Director: Raitis Ābele, Lauris Ābele

Valter spends his days breeding pigs and singing in the church choir, but that doesn’t make him less lonely. A secret prevents him from integrating in local community.

**RECENTLY RELEASED**

**Bridges of Time**

2018

Directors: Audrius Stonys, Kristīne Briede

When the French pioneers of cinéma vérité set out to achieve a new realism, the Baltics witnessed the birth of a generation of documentarists who favored a more romantic view of the world around them. A cinematic poem about cinema poets.

**COMING UP**

**The Jump**

2019

Director: Giedrė Žickytė

Forty five years after dramatically defecting from the Soviet Union to the USA, a renowned Lithuanian asylum seeker relives his extraordinary journey in a film that explores the nature of the American Dream, and what happens when it becomes reality.

**HALLMARK**

**Liberation Day**

2016

Directors: Uģis Olte, Morten Traavik

Under the loving but firm guidance of an old fan turned director and cultural diplomat, and to the surprise of a whole world, Slovenian cult band Laibach becomes the first rock group ever to perform in the heretofore state of North Korea.

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**Tritone Studio**

Tritone Studio is a full-service film production and in-house post-production company. The company offers commercial film services as well as co-producing opportunities for various artistic multimedia projects.

**VFS Films**

VFS Films is an independent film production company that houses a large group of talented filmmakers around a tight nucleus. It is best known for telling human stories through award-winning creative documentaries and author-driven TV productions.
Woodpecker Pictures

RECENTLY RELEASED

Project: Pārcelšanās
Project: Resettlement
2018
Director: Kārlis Lesiņš
John has reached this point in his life, when changing a flat every month is not an acceptable way of living. He finds out that many of his peers have decided to abandon the big city noise and find a peaceful life in a small town.

Documentary

COMING UP

Izmisums
Despair
2019
Director: Kārlis Lesiņš
Incapable of dealing with crisis in his personal life, Gatis moves back to his childhood home, where he begins seeing his dead parents, who try to help their son.

Drama / Comedy / Mystery

HALLMARK

Vectēva Tēvs
Grandfather’s Father
2016
Director: Kārlis Lesiņš
A young man and his curmudgeonly grandfather are going 1,800 km to northern Russia in an old Zhiguli car, hoping to find the grave of the director’s great-grandfather, who was deported.

Road movie / Documentary

Woodpecker Pictures is a company that unites keen and competitive professionals in the audiovisual field – directors, producers and journalists. Having previously focused their work on documentaries and commercials, the studio has now started working on feature films as well.

Woodpecker Pictures

Fiction films / Documentaries / TV projects

Other Production Companies

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- **A – One Films Latvia**
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  - +371 67338920
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- **Best Baltic**
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- **Forum Cinemas**
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- **Latvian Theatrical Distribution**
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- **Rīga Films**
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International Film Festivals

Riga International Film Festival
Launched in 2014, the Riga International Film festival (RIGA IFF) has since developed a diverse and multifaceted film programme as well as a growing industry section, networking platforms, and activities for students and families. RIGA IFF takes place annually in October, while various satellite events and engagement in distribution activity take place throughout the year.
RIGA IFF features several international competition programmes, the foremost being an annual multi-genre feature film competition in which an international jury selects the winner of the RIGA IFF Award. The first international film market in Riga was held during the 2016 RIGA IFF.

Baltic Sea Forum for Documentaries
Baltic Sea Docs (BSD) is an annual international event for professional documentary filmmakers and general audiences alike. Every year, BSD gathers over 100 professional filmmakers from the Baltic Sea region, as well as from Eastern and Central Europe. In addition to the public pitching session, BSD holds preparatory workshops and seminars. Apart from the professional activities, a programme featuring the highest quality documentaries is presented to the general public in Riga and Latvia’s largest cities.

Future Shorts Film Festival
Presented in Latvia since 2012, the Future Shorts Film Festival (FSFF) is a global festival of short-length art and the leading distributor of short-length productions on TV and mobile networks. Every season, the Festival puts together a 90-minute programme consisting of award-winning international short films that have been handpicked from around the world. The voting process takes place immediately after the screening and is done via the social network sites.
FSFF’s main contributor in Latvia is the agency CREA Promotion, which fulfills the demand for unique ways (including art and experiential exhibitions, openings and open-air festivals) to experience film and unite with the audiences.

International Festival Baltic Pearl
Founded in 1993, Baltic Pearl is one of the oldest film festivals in the Baltic states and takes place annually in September. It introduces its audience in Riga to films that have been acknowledged by the most significant international film forums.
Great names, everlasting themes, fine style — the selection criteria remain unchanged, offering thought-provoking innovation, restored masterpieces, and harmonious interaction between cinema, music and fashion. The festival has featured guests such as Alain Delon, Andrei Konchalovsky, Peter Greenaway, Gina Lollobrigida, Catherine Deneuve, Ornella Muti, Klaus Maria Brandauer, Andrey Zvyagintsev, Thierry Frémaux, and many more.

Riga International Short Film Festival 2ANNAS
Since its first edition in 1994, the Riga International Short Film Festival 2ANNAS has gradually turned into one of the leading short and mid-length film festivals in the Baltic states.
This independent film and audio-visual art event seeks out and introduces its audience to innovative modes of audio-visual communication, with the aim of promoting European and World Cinema in Latvia and examining the evolution and trends of Baltic film art from a global perspective. Next to its ground-breaking content of competitions, programmes, and focus on a specific theme each year, the festival is famous for its wild parties in unusual locations, free-spirited atmosphere, and creativeness.

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Riga City Council co-financing programme
Rīga Film Fund
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