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For any further requests please contact Sarah Gruber at presse@viennashorts.com.

May 18, 2021

310 films, more than 60 programs & 1 live concert: VIENNA SHORTS publishes program of 18th edition

Short film festival starts on May 27 as the first film event in Austria in cinemas and online – Personale for Paul Wenninger at the Film Museum – Live performance by EsRAP at the Austrian Music Video Award at Porgy & Bess – Opening and award ceremony at Vienna's Karmelitermarkt – Online film portal expanded

The 18th edition of VIENNA SHORTS promises to be an exciting one. Only eight days after the "opening" in Austria allows cultural events again, the international short film festival also opens its doors—as the first film event in Austria live again and with an extensive, albeit naturally limited, offering. Of the total of 310 films and more than 60 planned program items, around a third can be experienced on the big screen in Vienna. International guests, however, are not expected. The entire program is published on the website viennashorts.com as of today (the 18th) and can be streamed online on the festival's film portal as of May 27.

In Vienna, all competition programs will be shown locally at Stadtkino im Künstlerhaus—except for the Austrian Music Video Award, which will take place on May 30 at the jazz club Porgy & Bess, including a live concert by the Viennese band EsRAP. At the Austrian Film Museum, dancer, choreographer and filmmaker Paul Wenninger will be guest of honor with his extraordinary films and a Carte Blanche. At Filmhauskino am Spittelberg, there will be a Director's Talk with three up-and-coming Austrian directors in cooperation with the directors' association ADA. And three open-air events are planned in cooperation with VOLXkino at Karmelitermarkt, including the opening and the award ceremony.

According to the May 10 opening ordinance, the requirements for COVID-19-safe events in theaters and outdoors are an FFP2 mask, a personalized ticket and proof of being vaccinated, tested or recovered. Festival tickets will be available online starting May 20, all open-air events are with free admission. Access to the VIENNA SHORTS film portal requires an online pass at 15 euros, which can be purchased via the festival website. Accreditations for the festival (Vienna Shorts Industry Pass+) are available online for 20 euros; these also entitle the holder to free admission to cinema screenings.

The offer on the film portal has been expanded compared to last year. Not only are most of the films now available worldwide (without geo-blocking), but more than a third have also been provided with subtitles in

German. In addition to the 90 competition entries in four categories, this year's festival program includes films by Werner Herzog, Kevin Jerome Everson, Jennifer Reeder, Barbara Hammer & Lynne Sachs, Lisl Ponger, Karl Lemieux & David Bryant and local hero Siegfried A. Fruhauf. In addition, the winning films from Sundance, Rotterdam, the Berlinale as well as the Semaine de la Critique, among others, can be found in curated festival programs.

– Portraits of Paul Wenninger, Claudia Larcher & Rupert Höller

Since 2007 we have been honoring important representatives of the (short) film world with a portrait program. This year - which presented some challenges in planning and preparation—we decided, in view of limited travel possibilities, to present three Austrian artists whose work we would like to introduce in solo presentations: Paul Wenninger, Claudia Larcher and Rupert Höller.

Paul Wenninger has been represented at the festival with all his films since his debut **trespass** (2012). On the occasion of his most recent work **O** (2021), which is also running in the Austria Competition this year and will help open the festival, a solo show is dedicated to him and his extraordinary work, which oscillates between dance, performance, choreography and animation. In collaboration with the Austrian Film Museum, his film works as well as three films that inspired Wenninger will be shown as Carte Blanche.

Claudia Larcher has been similarly present at the festival in recent years as Wenninger—and like the latter, her work oscillates between animation and experimentation. However, her view of the human body and the envelopes that surround it (from skin to architecture to nature) is more strongly characterized by the interplay between image and sound, between irritating sequences of images and sometimes genre-influenced sound effects. Her **10 Films From 10 Years** can be seen chronologically online for now, but will also be shown as a curated program at the Austrian Film Museum at a later date.

For the first time, we pay tribute to a filmmaker who has made a name for himself in the field of music videos. There is (it feels like) hardly an Austrian band that **Rupert Höller** hasn't worked with—and the young director hits the nail on the head every time with impressive precision and creativity in these collaborations. In 2020, Höller won the **Austrian Music Video Award** with his video **Über Nacht** for the band Oehl—and this year he is once again represented in the competition with two videos. His portrait program will be made available online as well as screened at Stadtkino on the last day of the festival.

– Topic "You Better Listen!", Special on Animal Films, the popular Late Night & This Is Short

In addition to the already announced **Focus on the pandemic** and how to deal with the crisis (which is also addressed in the opening program), as well as the **Four Perspectives** on the revival of solidarity, there are many other highlights in this year's program, including the entire **Austrian Short Film Showcase** and animation **programs for children & youth**. In more detail, we would like to mention the following four program items:

Four programs have been united under the **Topic "You Better Listen!"** that focus on listening: Some people want peace and quiet and won't even get those things on the weekends. Others seek the right sound and a good way to deal with noise and silence. Still others are as loud as possible to make their protest heard and their right to exist visible. And some have already fallen silent, because the language of the present is often governed by algorithms and artificial intelligence. Reconciling work and free time, fighting for safe spaces, fearing social surveillance, working with the things we (cannot) hear: The paths these four programs strike are wildly different, but they share a common goal: to listen closely when experiences are shared and events recounted, when incidents are analyzed and desires voiced.

The special **The Animal & Us** is dedicated—for once—not to the cat video, but to the genre of the animal film, which despite its history of over 100 years is still alive and kicking and enjoys great popularity. Far removed from its scientific beginnings, the relationship between animals and humans plays a greater role today—which is why we want to approach this phenomenon along different paths. Horses, dogs and insects play the main and supporting roles in the three very different programs of this special, including two guest programs from Glasgow and Uppsala.

The later the evening, the more beautiful the films, says an old proverb. We have taken this motto to heart again for this year's **Late Night**—even though the curfew in Vienna does not permit late-night screenings and we can therefore only recommend watching the four programs at a later hour. Because that's exactly what these programs are meant for—from the trashy **Très Chic** to the creepy **Nightmares** to the progressive movements in **Dancing Screen** and the international music videos in **Streams Are My Reality**.

The festival platform **THIS IS SHORT**, which grew out of a collaboration between VIENNA SHORTS and three other European short film festivals and offers top-notch European short film programming in six categories, is just about halfway through. In the first 45 days, the platform has reached audiences in 53 countries on 5

continents—and it still has a lot to offer until the end of June: two more festivals, more than 190 new films and, last but not least, the award ceremony on June 21 for the **New Point Of View** competition. Details can be found in the attached press release of the European Short Film Network as part of the press kit.

Pictures and film stills of the festival can be found at viennashorts.com/downloads

For further inquiries please contact Sarah Gruber: presse@viennashorts.com or +43660 4012087

May 18, 2021

THIS IS SHORT IS GOING STRONG AT HALFTIME:

45 DAYS, 2 FESTIVALS, AND MORE THAN 190 NEW FILMS TO GO

Since April 1, 2021, the four short film festivals Go Short (NL), International Short Film Festival Oberhausen (DE), Vienna Shorts (AT) and Short Waves (PL) offer one access to their four online events and new collaborative content under the banner THIS IS SHORT. After 45 days, THIS IS SHORT is halfway through its mission to provide a qualitative overview of short films in Europe, and to make these films easily and affordably accessible worldwide. The platform has already managed to reach audiences in 53 countries across 5 continents—and it still has a lot to offer until the end of June: including the award ceremony on June 21.

>| THIS IS why you don't want to miss out on THIS IS SHORT

ACCESS TO MULTIPLE FESTIVALS – For the audience of THIS IS SHORT there is the possibility to access the individual programs of the network members over several days on the respective dates of their festivals. Go Short closed a successful online edition on April 25, followed by the International Short Film Festival Oberhausen on May 10. The baton is now passed on to Vienna Shorts, which starts on May 27. Only two weeks later, from June 14, Short Waves is already eager to spoil THIS IS SHORT pass holders with their own specific festival offer.

VIENNA SHORTS will present more than 300 films online in its 18th edition, including programs focusing on “The Air That We Breathe,” portraits on Austrian filmmakers Paul Wenninger, Claudia Larcher and Rupert Höller, and genre gems in the late-night section. Most of the program is accessible worldwide. In the official selection, 90 films from 34 countries will compete. All competition programs will be streamed live once on the festival's film portal for nearly 300 people worldwide. Afterwards, the films will be available on demand for 48 hours in Austria only. The festival runs until June 1.

FILM OF THE DAY – This program consists of more than 90 short films that have won awards at the network's four festivals in the past. So delve into the early work of famous directors and discover new talent. Each movie is available for one day only. So the longer you wait to join, the more you miss ...

BUT: Even if some things are already over, some things are also coming back for all pass holders! The four programs of **Four Perspectives**, for example, will be repeated in the last week of June, as well as several films and programs of **European Visions** and the winning films of the **New Point Of View** competition. You can find the entire THIS IS SHORT program on thisisshort.com. And by the way, speaking of the competition ...

>I THIS IS the jury and the awards

At the heart of the joint festival experience is the online competition New Point Of View, the first ever competition organized by four festivals together. 23 films from 20 countries are being shown, all jointly selected by the four festivals. The films are available one after the other for 84 hours each. The four-member jury and the audience will decide on three prizes: once 4,000 euros and twice 2,000 euros. The **award ceremony will take place online on June 21**, an appropriate moment as it is the day with the shortest night of the year. The jury members for this brand new competition reflect a strong mix of knowledge and experience in the field of short film, embodied by the following professionals:

Mariangela Martínez Restrepo, a Colombian visual artist and film curator based in Argentina. She has a Master's Degree in Visual Arts, and is the Coordinator of Film Selection, Distribution and Programming at the Universidad del Cine (AR). She also works as a programmer and coordinator for Talents Buenos Aires.

Nora Barry is a writer and digital media innovator based in the United States. She created the first site for web cinema, The Bit Screen, in 1998 and has created and produced a number of online media projects including a globally collaborative online game-film. Her most recent is The COVID19 Story Project.

Matt Carter is an artist living and working in London and Technical Director at LUX, a not-for-profit UK-based arts agency. Matt completed an MA in fine art and a research MSc in history of art at the University of Edinburgh. His practice spans a range of creative production from video, sound and text to design, curating and performance and he has worked on national and international artistic and curatorial projects.

Yuyan Wang is a filmmaker and multidisciplinary artist living in Paris. She graduated from Le Fresnoy –National Studio of Contemporary Arts in 2020 and Beaux-Arts of Paris in 2016. She takes inspiration from the endless media production underpinned by industrial productivity. Her works oscillate between film and installation, often in an immersive perspective with a disintegrating abstraction process.

>I THIS IS how you become part of it

Full access to the offerings of THIS IS SHORT and the 2 festivals to come can be obtained by purchasing one of two passes. The passes can be purchased on thisisshort.com.

THIS IS SHORT PASS – Grants full access to hundreds of short films, including the 2 festivals to come, for cinephiles and film enthusiasts around the world: with new films uploaded every day, carefully curated programs & top-class film selections divided into 6 separate categories, interviews with filmmakers & insights from insiders as well as the opportunity to vote for your favorite films and comment on the programs.

Price: 25 euros

THIS IS SHORT INDUSTRY PASS – Grants full access to all short films on offer and the 2 festivals to come for film professionals, but also includes contact details of each selected film, access to the joint video library of Go Short, International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, Vienna Shorts and Short Waves as well as professional content and industry activities on the respective film festivals' own platforms during their online festival dates.

Price: 30 euros

>| THIS IS SHORT

The online portal of the European Short Film Network

From April 1 to June 30, 2021

Website: thisisshort.com

Facebook: [@thisisshortcom](https://www.facebook.com/@thisisshortcom)

Instagram: [@this_is_short](https://www.instagram.com/@this_is_short)

THIS IS SHORT is developed in collaboration with ThisWayUp, designed by Uniforma and supported by the Creative Europe Program – MEDIA of the European Union.

MAY 10, 2021

Accreditation possible until May 19

18TH VIENNA SHORTS ONLINE & ON SITE – OPEN AIR OPENING ON MAY 27

International short film festival takes place as hybrid edition – 20 film programs at Stadtkino, Austrian Film Museum and Porgy & Bess – Focus on solidarity and unusual facets of the pandemic – Full program release on May 18

The 18th edition of the international short film festival VIENNA SHORTS will take place from May 27 to June 1 and will be realized as a hybrid edition this year. Over six days, the festival will present a carefully curated selection of around 300 films each up to 30 minutes in length. **A large part of the program will be available exclusively online**—however, 20 film programs will also be shown on the big screen at several venues in Vienna.

The official opening of the festival will **take place as an open air event in cooperation with VOLXkino**. The international competitions Fiction & Documentary and Animation Avantgarde as well as the Austrian competition will be shown in their entirety at Stadtkino im Künstlerhaus. Two exceptional Austrian filmmakers will be honored at the Film Museum. And the Austrian Music Video Award will be celebrated with a **screening and live concert by the band EsRAP at Porgy & Bess**.

All these programs will also be made **available online (with half an hour delay) on the festival's own film portal**—the 90 films in the competition and the opening will also be **subtitled in German for the first time**. This way, the festival guarantees not only expanded accessibility to the program, but also an inclusive approach to the comprehensibility of the films presented. The full festival program will be released on May 18.

Regarding the safe implementation of analog festival events, we work closely with our partners of the respective festival venues as well as the festivals Diagonale and Crossing Europe. All screenings will take place within the legally prescribed framework. Detailed Covid-19 security measures will be announced on our [website](#) and continuously updated.

THE AIR THAT WE BREATHE: OPENING & FOCUS 2021

After more than a year under the spell of the pandemic, the festival's focus **The Air That We Breathe** is dedicated to the all-dominant topic—but from unusual perspectives. The opening program (which suitably takes place open air) deals with the departure into and the escape from one's own four walls. In regard of the

existing curfew, the film program (beginning at 9 p.m.) will be shown in a shortened version. The complete version will be available online half an hour later.

Other Focus programs revolve around longing and curiosity, family and the bizarre, drama and memories, places and off spaces, exploratory journeys at home and around the world. The six programs in total include classics and new films by Jennifer Reeder, Lisl Ponger, Barbara Hammer & Lynne Sachs, Paul Wenninger and Bady Minck, among others.

SOLIDARITY & EUROPEAN SHORT FILM NETWORK

Together with three other European festivals, Vienna Shorts has founded the European Short Film Network—and has now decided, in view of the joint online project THIS IS SHORT, to dedicate itself to the theme of solidarity in this association. Between the refugee crisis and the #MeToo movement, between the troublesome distribution of vaccines and growing unemployment, solidarity is either increasingly demanded or criticized as quixotic.

In the film programs of the four festivals of the European Short Film Network, the different perspectives on the topic are reflected in the example of four controversially discussed fields of our society: **the generation gap, labor rights, migration and equality**. The four programs were originally intended to be shown in their entirety in cinemas, but will now—depending on the Covid-19 requirements—only be shown sporadically in the four cities.

On the joint online platform THIS IS SHORT, however, all four programs will be available one after the other over a longer period of time and will also be shown together in the last week of June. The Vienna Shorts program, which shows **solidarity with those who have no rights on the occasion of the deportation of Viennese schoolgirls in January**, will already start on May 13 on THIS IS SHORT and will also be shown open air in Vienna on May 28 (in a shortened version).

VIENNA SHORTS 2021 will take place from May 27 to June 1 online at viennashorts.com as well as thisisshort.com and, in accordance with the Covid-19 requirements of the authorities, will offer programs at Stadtkino im Künstlerhaus, Filmmuseum, Porgy & Bess and Open Air. The full festival program will be released on May 18.

If you have any questions, please contact presse@viennashorts.com. Detailed information on accreditation can be found [here](#).



APRIL 1, 2021

THIS IS SHORT OPENS ITS GATES ON APRIL 1: MORE THAN 30 FILMS ONLINE ON THE FIRST DAY

On April 1, THIS IS SHORT—the joint platform of the four short film festivals Go Short (NL), International Short Film Festival Oberhausen (DE), Vienna Shorts (AT) and Short Waves (PL)—opens its gates with more than 30 short films available in the six program sections, including the first entry in the NEW POINT OF VIEW competition. Through June 30, the platform will offer new films daily, providing a unique opportunity for festival lovers and cinema enthusiasts to get a condensed look at the best of recent European short film production.

The first entry in the NEW POINT OF VIEW competition, the first FILM OF THE DAY, several programs of recent short film highlights from Poland and Austria in the EUROPEAN VISIONS section, the first FESTIVAL WINDOW, opened by the International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, and the first part of the FOUR PERSPECTIVES section, curated by Go Short, will all be waiting for THIS IS SHORT pass holders on April 1 when the platform goes active. Among the first offerings are prize winners and discoveries coming from, among others, Austria, Croatia, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and Ruanda. And just seven days after the launch, Go Short will be the first member of the network (ESFN) to offer access to films of this year's festival selection.

>| **NEW POINT OF VIEW** – The new European online competition, the first ever organized by four festivals together, starts with **New Gods** (Les Nouveaux Dieux), a French/Swiss co-production by Loïc Hobi, the story of an “incel” internet user, told from the unusual perspective of an algorithm. The film will be online for 84 hours, every viewer on THIS IS SHORT can award points for the audience prize in this competition. It will be followed by 22 more films, all under 20 minutes, all nominated by the ESFN festivals. Next in line, to go online on April 4: The Polish production **Home in a shell** (Dom w skorupce) by Renata Gąsiorowska, an animated take on the bubbles we have locked ourselves into and the media we gorge on—and their effect on us.

>| **FOUR PERSPECTIVES** – In a series of four combined film programs and talks, the festivals will address a topic that is more relevant than ever today: solidarity. Each festival will offer a different perspective, the series will start with a **program on intergenerational solidarity**, curated by Go Short with regard to the pandemic. “The past year has definitely put intergenerational solidarity to the test, asking the young to limit their personal freedoms to protect the old,” reads the program text by the festival. “At the same time burning matters like the

climate crisis require action from all of us if we want to show solidarity with generations that are yet to be born." The film program contains **five shorts** dealing with problems as well as heartwarming examples of solidarity between age groups. An accompanying online talk will address the issue in the context of art and filmmaking.

>| **FILM OF THE DAY** – This section presents festival winners from the past 15 years and opens with the Dutch production **Listen** (Luister) by Astrid Bussink, a multiple award-winning film about a child helpline in the Netherlands. The film is followed by **Non-euclidean Geometry** (Neeuklidinè geometrija), a Lithuanian animation by Skirmanta Jakaite and Solveiga Masteikaitė on the incomprehensible laws of love. **FILM OF THE DAY** is an invitation to revisit early works by well-known directors and discover new talent, all awarded by the four festivals, with each film available for 24 hours.

>| **FESTIVAL WINDOWS** – Film festivals are windows on the world. Therefore, **thirteen renowned film festivals** are offering insights into the variety and diversity of the European short film and festival landscape. The International Short Film Festival Oberhausen begins on April 1 with a selection of six highlights and prize winners of the past three years—from animation through documentary and experiment to short feature. Each program will be online for one week. Next in line are the Uppsala Short Film Festival (SE), the Short Waves Festival, Dokufest from Kosovo and Vienna Shorts.

>| **EUROPEAN VISIONS** – A section dedicated to successful productions from the Netherlands, Germany, Austria and Poland, which also includes a look at the qualified films for the 2020 European short film awards. **EUROPEAN VISIONS** opens with showcases of Austrian and Polish productions, provided by the **Vienna Film Academy and Munk Studio**. They will be followed, from April 4, by a Dutch showcase and, from April 5, by the first of eleven weekly pairs of **EFA candidates**. The highlights will be available for different periods, depending on the legal situation in their respective countries.

>| **Coming Attractions**

THIS IS SHORT not only offers a wealth of unique content, but was originally created primarily as a joint access to the online offerings of the four festivals of the European Short Film Network. The first festival in the series is the Netherlands' **Go Short, which launches April 8** and will make several dozen films from the current festival lineup available through April 25. This includes their country of focus this year: **Croatia!** In three themed programs around animation, strong women and life along the Mediterranean coast you can see a selection of the best Croatian cinema from the past and present. What else to look forward to? Films by Jennifer Reeder (**A**

Million Miles Away, April 3), Nicolas Provost (**Stardust**, April 7) or Ruben Östlund (**Incident by a Bank**, April 9) in the FILM OF THE DAY section, for example. Or, of course, a film by avant-garde hero Peter Tscherkassky, aptly titled: **Coming Attractions** (April 15).

>I Don't have a pass yet?

Full access to THIS IS SHORT and the four festivals' online editions can be purchased with one of two passes, the THIS IS SHORT PASS for film enthusiasts for 25 Euros, or the THIS IS SHORT INDUSTRY PASS for 30 Euros, which also grants access to contact details of all selected films and to the joint video library of Go Short, International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, Vienna Shorts and Short Waves as well as professional content and industry activities on the respective film festivals' own platforms during their online festival dates. Pass sales will be open as long as the platform remains active.

>I **THIS IS SHORT** will be active from April 1 to June 30, 2021, and is powered by the European Short Film Network (ESFN), founded in 2018 by the four festivals. Its goal is to provide one access to four film festivals and create a unique online festival experience, providing hundreds of films hand-picked by the programmers of the four festivals.

>I **THIS IS SHORT**

The festival portal of the European Short Film Network

From April 1 to June 30, 2021

Website: thisisshort.com

Facebook: [@thisisshortcom](https://www.facebook.com/thisisshortcom)

Instagram: [@this_is_short](https://www.instagram.com/this_is_short)

Info contact and media enquiries: info@thisisshort.com

Technical support: support@thisisshort.com

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MARCH 10, 2021

Pass sales for THIS IS SHORT start on March 10:

1 platform, 3 months, 4 festivals & 100s of films

From April 1 on, the four short film festivals Go Short (NL), International Short Film Festival Oberhausen (DE), Vienna Shorts (AT) and Short Waves (PL) will provide one access to their four online events and also host original content: The platform THIS IS SHORT will present a series of jointly curated programs including an exceptional novelty: the film competition NEW POINT OF VIEW, organized by the four festivals together. Passes for the three-month offering and hundreds of shorts are now available under thisisshort.com.

>I **THIS IS SHORT** will be active from April 1 to June 30, 2021, and is powered by the European Short Film Network (ESFN), founded in 2018 by the four festivals. Its goal is to provide one access to four film festivals and create a unique online festival experience, providing hundreds of films hand-picked by the programmers of the four events including the new short film competition, videos with interviews and talks as well as the possibility to vote for your favorite films. Starting from March 10, not only cinephiles but all film enthusiasts across the globe can get their pass for only 25 Euros as sales open on Wednesday.

>I THIS IS how it works: Two passes for the full offer

The THIS IS SHORT program is jointly curated by the members of the ESFN and consists of original content, with each film and program available online for specific intervals. Access to the four festivals will be possible on the scheduled dates of their online events: Go Short (April 8 – 25), International Short Film Festival Oberhausen (May 1 – 4), Vienna Shorts (May 27 – June 1) and Short Waves (June 14 – 20).

All films on THIS IS SHORT are shown without regional restrictions and in their original version with subtitles. Individual films may be exempt from this rule. To get full access to the offerings of the film platform and the four festivals, one of two available passes is needed. Both passes allow access to the full range of services over three months.

>I THIS IS the program: Solidarity in six categories

THIS IS SHORT is a direct access to online offerings of the four network festivals, but it's also so much more: It's the first time that four festivals joined forces and curated a competition together. Under the title NEW POINT OF VIEW the festivals selected 23 films which appeared particularly suitable for presentation in the online context.

Solidarity is also at the core of the FOUR PERSPECTIVES series, where the four festivals bring together different perspectives on the theme of Solidarity. Together with the competition, these four film programs represent the heart of THIS IS SHORT. Both sections will be subtitled not only in English, but also in German, Dutch and Polish

The original content of the platform is divided into the following six categories:

NEW POINT OF VIEW – The European online competition presents 23 short films under 20 minutes. The films, which were nominated by the ESFN festivals, will be streamed one after the other for 84 hours each, starting April 1. The jury and audience will decide on the three prizes worth a total of 8,000 euros, which will be awarded on June 21.

FOUR PERSPECTIVES – Four perspectives on a topic that is historically charged and, due to the pandemic, more relevant than ever: Solidarity. In four film programs (online for four weeks each), the four festivals address the question of cohesion and a sense of community in times of (socio-)political upheaval.

FESTIVAL WINDOWS – The network's four festivals have invited nine other renowned film festivals to join forces to open up an insight into the variety and diversity of the European short film and festival landscape. Each of the 13 curated programs will be available for one week.

FILM OF THE DAY – An invitation to revisit early works by well-known directors and discover new talent. More than 90 award-winning films can be found in this program section, which makes former award-winning films from the four festivals accessible for one day each.

EUROPEAN VISIONS – An in-depth look at successful productions from the Netherlands, Germany, Austria and Poland, as well as nominees for the European Film Awards. The films are accessible online for several weeks, depending on their legal availability in the respective country.

INSIDERS' INSIGHTS – Corona restrictions, booming streaming platforms, incentives for green filmmaking, the introduction of gender and diversity criteria: The film industry has been undergoing rapid change recently. Here, industry insiders discuss and provide new insights.

>| THIS IS how to get a pass

Full access to the offerings of THIS IS SHORT and the four festivals can be obtained by purchasing one of two passes, both providing the full range of services over three months, each having its own specific advantages.

The passes can be purchased on thisisshort.com, individual tickets for films or programs cannot be purchased.

The **THIS IS SHORT PASS** for cinephiles and film enthusiasts around the world grants full access to more than 300 short films and 4 film festivals: with new films uploaded every day, carefully curated programs & top-class film selections divided into 6 separate categories, interviews with filmmakers & insights from insiders as well as the opportunity to vote for your favorite films and comment on the programs.

Price: 25 Euros

The **THIS IS SHORT INDUSTRY PASS** for film professionals grants full access to all the provided short films and the 4 film festivals, but also includes contact details of each selected film, access to the joint video library of Go Short, International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, Vienna Shorts and Short Waves as well as professional content and industry activities on the respective film festivals' own platforms during their online festival dates.

Price: 30 Euros

>| THIS IS SHORT

The festival portal of the European Short Film Network

From April 1 to June 30, 2021

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JANUARY 25, 2021

4 EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVALS JOIN FORCES ONLINE: NEW STREAMING PORTAL THIS IS SHORT LAUNCHES IN APRIL

The International Short Film Festival Oberhausen (DE), the Go Short Festival in Nijmegen (NL), the Short Waves Festival in Poznan (PL) and the international short film festival Vienna Shorts (AT) jointly founded the European Short Film Network (ESFN) in 2020. On April 1, 2021, the network will now launch the newly developed online portal THIS IS SHORT (www.thisisshort.com), which will make the respective festivals' content as well as new joint content—including an online competition for European short films—accessible on just one platform. With this project, the ESFN, one of seven EU-funded film festival networks, is formulating a counter-model to the fragmented film culture on the net.

>| THIS IS UNITED

In 2020, the pandemic forced many film festivals to either cancel, postpone or move their activities to the Internet—not least with the result that the number of online offerings is now difficult to handle. For this reason, the festivals of the ESFN have decided to bundle their online activities: Under the title THIS IS SHORT, new joint content will be presented from April 1 to June 30, in addition to individual offerings from the respective members as well as other film festivals. The online content will be available worldwide, access is subject to a fee.

>| THIS IS NEW

At the heart of the joint festival experience, which will make several hundred high-profile films available over three months, is the online competition New Point Of View, which focuses on films that are particularly suitable for the presentation on digital platforms. The competition is jointly curated by the four festivals, with two films presented each week. The online awards ceremony will take place on the evening before the shortest night of the year, June 21. The prizes are endowed with € 8,000 in total.

>| THIS IS DIVERSE

Other joint activities of the International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, Go Short, Short Waves and Vienna Shorts include specially curated thematic film programs, a coordinated look back at highlights of the past years and decades, and selected films from other European festivals. The festivals, whose common goal is to promote artistic and technological developments in the field of short film, all use the Dutch festival software Filmchief. This software is what makes the linking of the various databases and thus the collaborative development of the project in its existing form possible in the first place.

>I THIS IS DIGITAL

For the audience of THIS IS SHORT there is also the possibility to access the individual programs of the network members over several days on the respective dates of their festivals. This makes it possible to visit several festivals online with just one access, instead of via several different platforms and accesses as before, and offers filmmakers, viewers and industry representatives a selected overview of outstanding short film productions.

>I THIS IS EUROPEAN

The goal of the ESFN members is to work closely together on the online level in the future, but also to support each other in the analog activities. "The ESFN does not want to replace the analog festival with a digital version, but to enrich and complement it," the festivals say in a joint statement. "In doing so, THIS IS SHORT is a truly collaborative European vision, at a time when the need to think Europe and the European film and festival landscape together is more relevant and necessary than ever. As a network, we are convinced that we can only master the coming challenges jointly and that we should look forward to the future in solidarity and cooperation."

>I THIS IS SHORT

The online portal of the European Short Film Network

From April 1 to June 30, 2021

Website: thisisshort.com

Facebook: [@thisisshortcom](https://www.facebook.com/thisisshortcom)

Instagram: [@this_is_short](https://www.instagram.com/this_is_short)

THIS IS SHORT is developed in collaboration with ThisWayUp, designed by Uniforma and supported by the Creative Europe Program – MEDIA of the European Union.

Details about the platform, accreditation, access and program will be announced in a few weeks.

