

# Discovery



# Discovery – Films in Development

Friday Jan 31, 10:30–11:45, Biopalatset 6  
Presenting partner: Film i Väst

Discovery, launched in 2013, is a platform for promoting new Nordic film projects in development and a collaboration between Nordic Film Lab and Nordic Film Market. Discovery provides an opportunity for the international and Scandinavian film industry to discover and get in touch with new Nordic talents and film projects in an early stage. With a special thanks to our partners, we wish you welcome to Discovery.

The projects will be presented in the following order:

Bränder  
A Light That Never Goes Out  
Magisterlekarna  
Sick of Myself  
Blomster  
Chrysanthemum  
Keep a Place For Me  
Explosions in the Heart  
Boost!  
14th Santa



**Moderator**  
**Johanna Karppinen,**  
CEO, Friday Capital

With support from



## 14th Santa



This is the true origin story of the Santa Claus. Young Nicholas lives with his scary troll parents and 13 older brothers. But unlike his family he's good. He falls in love with the village sweetheart Julia, escapes from his family, teams up with elves and reindeer on a journey to unite trolls and men. Experiences the joy of giving and eventually becomes the red suited Santa Claus that we all know.

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**Director:**

TBA

**Screenwriter:**

Heida Sigrun Palsdottir,  
Baldvin Z, Arnar Gunnarsson

**Producer:**

Hörður Rúnarsson, Baldvin Z,  
Arnar Gunnarsson

**Production company:**

Glassriver & Caoz

**World Sales:**

Sonar Entertainment

**Contact during NFM:**

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## A Light That Never Goes Out



*A Light That Never Goes Out* is a drama with lots of subtle comedy about getting over a difficult time. After a failed suicide attempt, Pauli, 27-year-old classical flute player, moves back in with his parents to recover. He used to be a prodigal musician but can't even touch his instrument anymore. Bored out of his mind in his old hometown, Pauli meets a childhood friend Iiris who is making extremely weird experimental music alone by herself. She persuades Pauli to join her to try and create new kind of music the world has never heard before. Slowly Pauli starts to find strange comfort and new hope in their experimental sounds.



**Lauri-Matti Parpei** (b. 1984) is a Finnish musician and filmmaker working within multiple mediums. Aside from films, Lauri-Matti has released music albums with two bands, made interactive art and worked as a graphic designer. Latest short, *Silent as Murderers* (2019) has been

screened in Brest, Tampere and Les Arcs Film Festivals, among others. Next short film, *The Last Day*, will premiere in 2020.

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**Director:**

Lauri-Matti Parpei

**Producer:**

Ilona Tolmunen

**Production company:**

Made

**World Sales:**

TBA

**Contact during NFM:**

Ilona Tolmunen,  
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# Blomster



Summer is here! Emma meets a bunch of high schoolers, a gang who has created a sanctuary for all experiences, sexualities and genders. During a day and a night she hangs out with Ruby and Cassandra, a duo constantly competing for the title Queen of the Night, Sanchez who finally dares to let someone in, and religious Yousef who wonders if all this is what he really wants from life. Rambling from one party to another, what happens when Monday approaches and it all comes to an end? *Blomster* is an associative, hallucinatory and humorous film where the hyper connected generation takes a break from their screens.



**Neil Wigardt** continues his exploration on the theme of youth, his award winning short *Knaster* was screened at Tempo, GIFF and Amandus. Neil has a background as an editor where current projects includes *All We Own* by Emily Norling, *Lucky One* by Mia Engberg and forthcoming *Ultras* by Ragnhild Ekner.

**Director and Screenwriter:**  
Neil Wigardt

**World Sales:**  
TBA

**Producer:**  
Malin Hüber, Tobias Janson

**Contact during NFM:**  
Malin Hüber, Producer  
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**Production company:**  
Story AB

# Boost! Flyg!



Gabriel (14) is short for his age, bad at skateboarding and when he and his friends play with explosives, he always ends up being ridiculed. But in front of the computer he's a king. Gabriel's young mum, Klara, has a hard time to make a living, juggling two jobs and a married lover. As the adults lie, consume and fight for happiness, Gabriel becomes more and more isolated, escaping to the virtual world.



**Cecilia Torquato de Oliveira**, director, artist, screenwriter and producer with a BA and MA in film directing from The School of Film Directing (Gothenburg University), now Valand Academy. With a strong visual appeal, her films have been screened and acclaimed at festivals, as well as at galleries and art exhibitions. As a producer her cooperation with Norwegian director Gunhild Enger resulted in an Amanda nomination for the film *A Simpler Life*. *Boost!* is her feature film debut.

**Director and screenwriter:**  
Cecilia Torquato de Oliveira

**World sales:**  
TBA

**Producer:**  
Cecilia Torquato de Oliveira,  
Johannes Nyholm (executive)

**Contact during NFM:**  
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**Production Company:**  
Kvarteret Filmproduktion in  
co-production with Johannes  
Nyholm Produktion AB

# Bränder



There is a fire burning underneath the town, and a large area has been closed off. 15-year-old Ako lives in a family where maintaining control is key, but when their house starts falling apart and an endless renovation begins, everyone in the family is affected in ways they didn't expect. Ako starts hanging out with a group of kids who break into the forbidden zone and explore the abandoned houses. Inside the zone they create a world where they can be whoever they want, but when Ako meets Dante he is forced to confront himself.



**Jerry Carlsson** graduated from Valand Academy in 2014 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Independent Filmmaking. His award-winning short films have been screened in numerous international film festivals including Locarno and Tribeca, and won awards at among others Clermont

Ferrand ISFF, Palm Springs ISFF and Nordisk Panorama. Jerry founded the production company Verket Produktion with Anette Sidor.

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**Director and screenwriter:**  
Jerry Carlsson

**World sales:**  
TBA

**Producer:**  
Frida Mårtensson, Anette Sidor

**Contact during NFM:**  
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+46 73 583 01 42,  
frida@verketproduktion.com

**Production Company:**  
Verket Produktion

# Chrysanthemum



After many years of separation, Anders (30) is contacted by his father Thomas (65), who needs help to ship illegal fireworks through his freight company to save the family farm. Through the traffic of fireworks the family finds a way towards reconciliation and forgiveness for the first time since the family tragedy which Anders was the cause of fifteen years ago, when two of his siblings lost their lives



**Christian Bengtson** graduated as script-writer from the National Film School of Denmark in the summer of 2019. In parallel, Christian has directed two short films both nominated for the a Danish Academy Award Robert. In addition, Christian is the main writer on the DR series *Noget om*

*Emma (Something about Emma)*, which will be shown in the autumn of 2020. *Chrysanthemum* is Christian's feature film debut as director and scriptwriter with Hyena Film.

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**Director and screenwriter:**  
Christian Bengtson

**Contact during NFM:**  
Daniel Mühlendorph  
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daniel@hyaenefilm.dk

**Producer:**  
Daniel Mühlendorph

**Production Company:**  
Hyena Film

**World sales:**  
TBA

## Explosions in the Heart



Billy falls wildly in love with Nilo, but discovers that her exploding love is polyamorous. She goes through dependency of others and in search for autonomy. A satirical and sociocritical view on the addiction for love, challenging monogamy, and drawing parallels to the world's climate crisis caused by heartbreak, and the turbulent pain we inflict on each other.



**Yenni Lee** has an MFA from Valand Academy in Gothenburg, Sweden. Her norm-critical and breaking short films have been nominated and won several prizes at festivals such as: The Norwegian Short Film Festival, Nordisk Panorama, Black Nights Film Festival, Göteborg Filmfestival,

Locarno Festival, SXSW and Outfest. Her spirit animal is the dolphin, favourite ice cream flavour is olive oil with sunflower seeds, and heaven on earth is Berghain in Berlin.

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**Director and screenwriter:**  
Yenni Lee

**Producer:**  
Thomas Robsahm, Renée Mlodyszevski

**Production Company:**  
Oslo Pictures

**World sales:**  
TBA

**Contact during NFM:**  
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renee@oslo-pictures.com

## Magisterlekarna



At the Academy, an educational institution where everyone are gay men, everything pulsates of eroticism and power games, the strict School Master works. In his secret relationship with his pupil Charles, he's developed the School Master Games, an extended S/M play where Charles makes mischief and the School Master punishes. There is also the boy quartet; Tim, Fred, Paul and Noak, who are engulfed by the selection process for the "Singing March". But the process blows deep cracks between them and threatens their unity.



**Ylva Forner** is a director, screenwriter and actress. Forner has written and directed five short films during 2001 and 2012. She went to Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts and has a bachelor's degree in directing at Centre D'estudis Cinematogràfics de Catalunya in Barcelona. In 2009 she got the

SWEA Los Angeles Film Scholarship and the same year she was a part of Berlinale Talent Campus.

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**Director and screenwriter:**  
Ylva Forner

**Producer:**  
Sofia Ferguson

**Production Company:**  
Silvio Entertainment

**World sales:**  
TBA

**Contact during NFM:**  
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silvioentertainment.com

## Keep a Place for Me Reglerna



A 25-year-old man creates an imaginary lover so that his poly-curious boyfriend won't discover that he actually spends his nights pursuing his intense passion for making pottery. *Keep A Place For Me* is a drama-comedy about a young man's struggle to take charge of his life; it explores the delicate balancing act between achieving harmony in a relationship and remaining true to one's own needs and desires.



**Mikael Bundsen** is a screenwriter and director with a BA in film directing from Akademin Valand and a one year MA in screenwriting from Alma Script Academy. He's been mentored by Ruben Östlund and his short *Mother Knows Best* competed at Berlinale, Palm Springs and Sydney Film Fest among others. His latest short, *Involuntary Activist*, was sold to BBC and got nominated for a Welsh BAFTA. Bundsen lives in Gothenburg where he freelances as a screenwriter for film and tv.

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**Director & screenwriter:**  
Mikael Bundsen

**Producer:**  
Isabella Rodríguez

**Production company:**  
French Quarter Film

**World sales:**  
TBA

**Contact during NFM:**  
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isabella@frenchquarter.se

## Sick of Myself



Signe is pushing 30, but lives her life without ambition. She hasn't accomplished anything. When her boyfriend's success suddenly reaches a new high, she decides she needs to take control of her own identity and starts to stage a much more interesting version of herself. She succeeds in bringing the attention to her new persona, but with unpleasant consequences.



**Kristoffer Borgli** is an award winning Norwegian writer/director of numerous short films, music videos and commercials. His short film *Whateverest* (2013) landed him a documentary award at the AFI Festival, which subsequently had to be returned after an article in The Guardian exposed it as fiction. His debut feature film *DRIB* (2017), played over 20 festivals. Alumni of the Venezia Biennale College, 2016.

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**Director & screenwriter:**  
Kristoffer Borgli

**Producer:**  
Dyveke Bjørkly Graver,  
Andrea Berentsen Ottmar

**Production company:**  
Oslo Pictures

**World sales:**  
TBA

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