



PRESS RELEASE

SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC REVEALS ITS 2024 OFFICIAL SELECTION

42 projects from all around the world: Australia, Kenya, Japan, United States, Brazil, Chile, France, United Kingdom



©BukalBukal - Directed by Rhoda ROBERT AO - Produced by EarthStar Films (Australia) - #SSD24 Official Selection

La Rochelle, 23 April 2024 - [Sunny Side of the Doc](#), the international community and marketplace dedicated to linear and non-linear documentaries, today reveals the **42 projects from 21 different countries that make up the official selection for its 35th edition** (24-27 June 2024, La Rochelle, France).

The international co-production stakes are high at the eagerly anticipated pitch sessions. These sessions will take place during the marketplace in front of more than 300 high-level international decision-makers, including major broadcasters, streamers, foundations, distributors, buyers and other investors looking for stories with the biggest impact.

Launched last December, this year's call for projects has once again mobilised the international community, resulting in the submission of **320 documentary projects (same in 2023, compared to 275 in 2022)**, coming **from 60 countries**. Notably, over 55% of these projects are directed by women.

"The 2024 selection is rich and balanced, and should satisfy the expectations of broadcasters while making room for promising projects that are more unexpected and in need of international exposure." says Mathieu Béjot, Director of Strategy and Development at Sunny Side of the Doc. *"The work started last year with the first season of our Australian focus resulted in a record number of*

high-level submissions, and the final selection includes no fewer than seven Australian projects. This 2024 selection reflects our ambition to Map the Future, and stands out for the diversity of views and treatments around major social issues – conflict, migration, climate change, the place of women, disability, the impact of technology, etc. – all of which have in common a desire to question the role and place of human beings in our environment and an ambition to have a social impact.”

Over four days in June, the 42 selected projects will have the privilege of competing for the Best Pitch Prize. The selected projects will be pitched in seven thematic pitch sessions, all supported by key industry partners including: PBS International, Blue Ant Media & Love Nature, RTBF, Al Jazeera Documentary & AJB DOC:

- Specialist Factual [cash prize: €3,000] : **Global Issues, Nature & Conservation, Science, History, Arts & Culture**
- Focus of the Year [cash prize: €2,000] over two specific pitch sessions: **New Voices, Impact Campaigns.**

Sunny Side of the Doc is also announcing today the **5 selected projects for the Innovation WIP programme**. New this year, the aim of this support programme is to encourage the creation of all forms of non-linear documentary (podcasts, video games, immersive technologies, digital arts, virtual worlds). The five selected projects will have the chance to benefit from tailor-made support for the development of their project before and during the market.

All project holders will receive support throughout the process, ranging from mentoring with industry experts to exclusive access to a qualified and diverse professional audience. In this way, all efforts are made to increase and foster fruitful financial and creative co-production opportunities for these talents of tomorrow.

As last year, the winners in each category will be announced the following day after their pitch session, at the daily **Awards Café** in the Meeting Area. This will be a new opportunity for press and participants to meet the project leaders in a dedicated and convivial setting.

On the following pages, discover the 42 projects in the #SSD24 official selection as well as the 5 Innovation WIP projects

For more information on Sunny Side of the Doc 2024 and media accreditation requests, [visit our online Press Room](#) [#SSD24 Media Kit](#)

Notes to editors:

Sunny Side of the Doc is the international community and marketplace dedicated to linear and non-linear documentary. Every June, a specific event brings together decision makers, producers, filmmakers, sales agents and funders to support the international financing of documentary projects and the circulation of completed programs. The 4-day market offers unique creative, business and networking opportunities for the 2,200+ participants from 60 countries through a mix of high-level pitching sessions, panels on the latest industry trends and an exhibition hall.

The 35th Sunny Side of the Doc will be held in La Rochelle from June 24–27, 2024.

Doc Services, the organiser of Sunny side of the Doc and PiXii Festival, is a member of 1% for the Planet.

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#SSD24 OFFICIAL SELECTION

GLOBAL ISSUES



BUKAL BUKAL

Produced by: EarthStar Films (Australia)
Directed by: Rhoda ROBERT AO



INSIDE GAZA

Produced by: Factstory, AFP – Agence France Presse (France)
Directed by: H el ene LAM TRONG



SILENCE OF THE LAMS

Produced by: EZ Films (Ireland)
Directed by: Ciaran DEENEY



TALES AND SENTENCES

Produced by: Little Big Story (France)
Directed by: Alexandre DONOT



WATER ON FIRE

Produced by: Uhuru Productions (South Africa), Lu Films (France)
Directed by: Rehad DESAI



YESTERDAY'S WEIRDNESS

Produced by: Shipton House Pty Ltd (Australia)
Directed by: Ben LAWRENCE

NATURE & CONSERVATION



EAGLE MAN

Produced by: Wild Pacific Media (Australia)
Directed by: Nick ROBINSON



EMPALIKINO

Produced by: Ripple Productions Ltd, WildlifeDirect (Kenya)
Directed by: Eric MWANGI



FIELDS OF GOLD

Produced by: Riverbank Studios (India), National Geographic Society (United States)



FRONTLINE RANGERS

Produced by: Regen Studios, New Dream Productions, Margee Brown (Australia)
Directed by: David COOK



MIRADOR, SOUNDSCAPE THROUGH JAPAN

Produced by: NHK Enterprises (Japan)
Directed by: Azusa MARUYAMA



SNOW GLOBE

Produced by: Hazel Pictures (United States)
Directed by: David SAMPLINER

SCIENCES



ANCIENT BABY BEASTS
Produced by: Rotating Planet Productions (Canada)
Directed by: Ari COHEN



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: THE GREAT POMPEII PUZZLE
Produced by: Elephant Adventures (France)
Directed by: Paolo Santoni & Martin Blanchard



DESTINATION PROXIMA CENTAURI
Produced by: Somadrome Films (Spain), Little Big Story (France), Nordic Eye Productions (Sweden)
Directed by: Ruth CHAO



MARINE HEAT WAVES: WHEN THE DEEP BLUE SEA TURNS RED
Produced by: Good to Know, Saint Thomas Productions (France)
Directed by: Jacques Mitsch



THE BRAIN GARDEN
Produced by: Storyland Pty Ltd (Australia), Windfall Films (United Kingdom), Yuzu Productions (France), Genepool Productions (Australia)
Directed by: Randall WOOD



UNCONVENTIONAL GARDENERS
Produced by: Zenit Arti Audiovisive, Dirk Manthey Film (Italia)
Directed by: Alessandro BERNARD & Paolo CERETTO

HISTORY



HOW TO STOP A WAR
Produced by: Kathryn Kennedy (Ireland), Spring Films Ltd (United Kingdom)
Directed by: Frankie FENTON



LETTERS FROM IRAQ
Produced by: Ocean Films (Brazil)
Directed by: Mauricio ZATTONI



ONE INCH EASTWARD
Produced by: Sandu Films (Romania), Akajava Films (Ireland), Smarty Pants Shooter (Bulgaria)
Directed by: Irina MALDEA



OUR SISTER ANGELA – BLACK POWER IN THE GDR
Produced by: Florianfilm GmbH (Germany), Dare Pictures (United Kingdom), La Lutta (United States)
Directed by: Jascha HANNOVER & Katharina WARDA



THE CURSE OF SUGAR
Produced by: Hauteville Productions (France), Wonder Maria Films (Portugal), Inicia Films (Spain)
Directed by: Mathilde DAMOISEL



THE LOST CITY OF SANXINGDUI
Produced by: Imagissime (France)
Directed by: Jacques MALATERRE

ARTS & CULTURE



CALL ME SINSORGA
Produced by: Al Borde Films (Spain)
Directed by: Marta GÓMEZ CALDERÓN & Paula IGLESIAS



EDGAR HILSENRATH THE MASTURBATOR
Produced by: Solent Production (France)
Directed by: François-Xavier DESTORS



NIEMEYER 4 EVER
Produced by: Special Touch Studios (France), The Attic Productions (Lebanon), Mayana Films (Germany)
Directed by: Aurélia MAKDESSI



PARADISE CAMP: HOMECOMING
Produced by: Pilum (Australia)
Directed by: Keiran MCGEE & Yuki KIHARA



PROSERPINE AND THE OTHERS
Produced by: GA&A Productions (Italia)
Directed by: Francesco MASI & Mariangela BARBANENTE



THE SHAPE OF BLUE
Produced by: Intuitive Pictures inc. (Canada)
Directed by: Sybilla PATRIZIA

IMPACT CAMPAIGNS



EVERY OTHER GIRL
Produced by: Cinatrix Media (Gambia), Iamnativ (Uganda)
Directed by: Abdoulie B. JARJU



LONDON YOU DON'T KNOW ME
Produced by: Korvin Production LDA (Portugal)
Directed by: Ivan KORVIN



OUR LAND, OUR FREEDOM
Produced by: Twende Films (United States), Afrofilms International (Kenya), Muiraquitã Filmes (Portugal)
Directed by: Meena NANJI & Zippy KIMUNDU



THE MYTH OF MONSTERS
Produced by: Gather Together (Malaysia)



UNWELCOMED
Produced by: Amilcar Films (Chile)
Directed by: Sebastian GONZÁLEZ MÉNDEZ & Amilcar INFANTE



YURLU COUNTRY
Produced by: Illuminate Films (Australia)
Directed by: Yaara BOU MELHEM

NEW VOICES



A SATELLITE FOR BURU LAÏ

Produced by: Gedeon Programmes (France), Dreampixies (Switzerland)
Directed by: Antonin LECHAT & Suium SULAIMANOVA



CONFESSIONS OF A FEMALE GAMER

Produced by: Agitprop Ltd / Balkan Documentary center (Bulgaria), Thea Films (Bulgaria), Dare Pictures (United Kingdom)
Directed by: Dolya GAVANSKI



DREAMS OF THE WILD OAKS

Produced by: Seven Springs Pictures (Iran), Lukimedia (Spain)
Directed by: Marjan KHOSRAVI



FENCED

Produced by: Jonna Mckone (United States)
Directed by: Gabriella GARCIA PARDO



SHOW UP

Produced by: Spier Films (South Africa), Labyrinth Films (Netherlands)
Directed by: Andrew BRUKMAN



SOLO

Produced by: Donia Films (Tunisia), Dynamo Production (France)
Directed by: Amine BOUKHRIS

INNOVATION WIP



FOLLOW THE CARNATION

Produced by: Isadora PEDRO NEVES MARQUES & Rodrigo MOREIRA (Portugal, Brazil)
Directed by: Catarina DE SOUSA & Lui AVALLOS
[Virtual Reality, 6DoF, Installation]



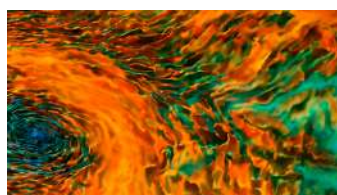
ANIMALS TALK

Produced by: Little Big Story Lab (France), A_Bahn (Luxembourg)
Directed by: Gordon
[Virtual Reality, Mixed Reality, 6DoF, Installation]



CORAL ISLAND

Produced by: Risetete, Miyu Productions (France)
Directed by: Simon ROUBY
[Virtual Reality, 6DoF, Installation]



UNCANNY REVERIE

Produced by: Studio M.A.R.S (Austria)
Directed by: Wen LIU & Alexander HACKL
[Interactive Installation]



ATLAS CINEMA

Produced by: Etrange Miroir (France)
Directed by: Marie ARLAIS & Raphaël RIALLAND
[Immersive show, Mapping]