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30 Finnish Films to Compete at the HIFF Short Film Competition

A total of 30 films have been shortlisted for the national competition of HIFF's Cut to the Chase – R&A Shorts event. In addition to the competing films, the programme includes short films from well-known directors, fresh voices from marginalised groups and a plethora of other fascinating topics. The first ever R&A Shorts Gala presents the eagerly awaited ONE-OFF INCIDENT. The 3rd R&A Shorts is organised as a part of HIFF on September 25–29.

The third **Cut to the Chase – R&A Shorts** event will host a competition with 30 Finnish short films. The entries of the second national short film competition were shortlisted by a pre-selection jury from 160 shorts completed in 2018–2019. The chosen films will be shown in five screenings. The competition entries are listed on page 2. Last year's winner of the competition and the R&A LIFT Award was **Virva** and **Vuokko Kunttu**'s short documentary film STAR SHAPED SCAR. This year's professional jury comprises of screenwriter **Anna Brotkin**, actor **Boodi Kabbani** and film educator **Hanna Wahlman**. The winners will be announced on Saturday, September 28.

R&A Shorts presents a total of 191 short films in more than 30 screenings over five days with main emphasis on Finnish and Nordic cinema. This year's programme includes short films from master directors like **Andrea Arnold**'s WASP (2003), **Taika Waititi**'s TWO CARS, ONE NIGHT (2004) and **Yorgos Lanthimos**' NIMIC (2019). Various marginalised groups are included in selections like *Feminist Visions*, *Sámi Shorts* and *Trans Stories*.

One of the guests is Swedish director **Victor Lindgren** whose shorts get their own retrospective. HIFF will also present Lindgren's first feature film THE UNPROMISED LAND (*Till drömmarnas land*, 2019). Finnish photographer and video artist **Elina Brotherus** will also get her own retrospective.

The first ever R&A Shorts Gala provides a unique opportunity to see the year's most eagerly anticipated short film event on the silver screen. ONE-OFF INCIDENT features eleven short films that raise awareness of the invisible power exercised towards women, in private lives as well as in society.

The national competition's main prize, the R&A LIFT Award is sponsored by LIFT, a festival combining media, arts and culture. The Uusi Aalto Award is sponsored by the Finnish Film Foundation and the R&A Shorts Audience Award by Rajala Pro Shop.

The 32nd Helsinki International Film Festival – Love & Anarchy will take place on September 19–29. The festival programme will be announced on September 5. Ticket sales begin on September 12.

Further information and interview requests:

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R&A SHORTS: THE NATIONAL COMPETITION

THE NATIONAL COMPETITION, PART 1

Joonas Rutanen: **Close to Me**
Otso Alanko: **Crossing Tracks**
Severi Koivusalo: **Wedding Waltz**
Emma Louhivuori: **Her Head**
Vilja Autiokyrö: **1,5 Meters Space**
Juho Luukkainen: **My Childhood feat. Drake**

THE NATIONAL COMPETITION, PART 2

Hanna Hovitie: **Terraria**
Lauri-Matti Parpei: **Silent as Murderers**
Pia Andell: **The Match**
Ami Lindholm: **Mother and Milk**
Antti Heikki Pesonen: **A Target**
Milja Härkönen: **To Feel Alive**

THE NATIONAL COMPETITION, PART 3

Anna Äärelä: **When the Comets Came**
Jussi Sandhu: **27 First Years**
Teemu Nikki: **All Inclusive**
Sawandi Groskind: **How to Approach a Giant Hole**
Anna Paavilainen: **Two Bodies on a Beach**
Jenny Jokela: **Live a Little**

THE NATIONAL COMPETITION, PART 4

Katja Korhonen: **I'm Listening**
Sanna Liljander: **Life on Hold**
Kirsikka Saari: **Super Comfort**
Milja Viita: **Animal Bridge U-3033**
Patrik Söderlund: **Realms**
Malakias: **Skeleton in the Closet**
Jukka Kärkkäinen: **Kebab King**

THE NATIONAL COMPETITION, PART 5

Jarno Lindemark: **From Matti with Love**
Haidi Motola: **Last Day in Cairo**
Elli Vuorinen: **Still Lives**
Viktor Granö: **A Chamber Play**
Tinja Ruusuvuori: **Untitled (burned rubber on asphalt, 2018)**