

Focus on Finland presents

FINNISH

Animation

at MIFA 2023



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Finnish Animation at MIFA

WELCOME to the annual highlight event of the animation industry, the Anney International Animation Film Festival and Market. Currently, the Finnish animation industry is flourishing, as evident from the number of companies attending MIFA and the presence of several films in the festival's official selection.

This catalogue presents a selection of interesting Finnish animation series and films in development and production. The projects range from educational preschool stories to dark-humored adult comedy reflecting Finnish society, all while not forgetting the beauty of our nature and the environmental aspects of the stories.

FOCUS ON FINLAND is an export initiative that promotes Finnish content in international industry events and provides opportunities for Finnish creators to secure international funding, sales, and distribution. Since 2022, Focus on Finland has brought documentary and drama content into the spotlight, and now it's time for animation. The Focus on Finland initiative is carried

out in collaboration with Yle – The Finnish Broadcasting Company, the Finnish Film Foundation and Film in Finland.

If you have any questions about Finnish content, the industry or Finland's production incentives, please don't hesitate to contact APFI staff or Finnish producers at the **Nordic Animation stand B.07**.

We wish you a successful MIFA 2023!



Olli Nurminen
Project Manager
Audiovisual Producers Finland – APFI
www.apfi.fi/en

Audiovisual Producers Finland – APFI is the association for Finnish content producers in the film and television industry. It is tasked with representing the interests of producers in the field of audiovisual content production, promoting internationalisation, enabling sustainable industry and organising industry events and competitions. It is also responsible for the collective management of copyrights.

Ivy's Bookshop

Ivy is a 10 year old dragon whose dyslexia has helped make her a great storyteller and a creative problem solver. Ivy is brimming with fun ideas for adventure and her best friend Oisín the Ram is always ready to get involved with woolly enthusiasm.

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, DRAGONS were the sacred keepers of bountiful treasures. Guarding caves of GOLD. Hiding chests of shiny JEWELS from thieving KNIGHTS... VERY EXCITING STUFF. And then they discovered BOOKS. NOWADAYS, it is BOOKS that are the dragons' most prized possessions. Knowledge is power as the saying goes, and dragons have always been powerful. Everyone except Ivy that is. Ivy is definitely not into books. Ivy has dyslexia and it makes reading that bit harder for her. When she gets stressed about reading, she gets

overwhelmed by a feeling she calls the CHAOS. Luckily Ivy is a very resilient kid, who doesn't back down from a challenge. She'll grapple with the Chaos letter creatures, just like her ancestors faced down armies. Ivy has an amazing imagination and loves to tell spooky stories. After school Ivy will usually be found spinning dramatic stories for her BEST FRIEND in the world, OISÍN the RAM, as they explore the local caves and hills around their home.



ORIGINAL TITLE *IVY'S BOOKSHOP*
PRODUCTION COMPANY *INK AND LIGHT*
TYPE OF PRODUCTION *TV SERIES*
TARGET AUDIENCE *6-8*
DURATION *26 X 11 MIN*
STATUS OF PRODUCTION *IN DEVELOPMENT*
LOOKING FOR *CO-PRODUCERS, FINANCING, DISTRIBUTION*
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE *Q4 / 2025*
DIRECTOR *TBC*
PRODUCER *TAMSIN LYONS*
PRODUCER'S EMAIL *TAMSIN@INK-AND-LIGHT.COM*
WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR *AVAILABLE*

Fleak

When Thomas meets Fleak, a furry creature from another dimension, he ends on a fantasy adventure, where he finds a way to walk again. But in return he needs to stop an all-eating monster created by his own shadow.

12-YEAR-OLD Thomas, follows his older siblings Miki and Ceci to a secret hideout. Eager to prove himself to his siblings and their older friend Jonas, he has a bad accident. Thomas loses his ability to walk. However, soon something exciting enters his life. Fleak, a tiny, furry, playful visitor from another dimension appears. Thomas befriends Fleak, who takes him to his own fantastical world in another dimension. In this world, Thomas manages to detach from his shadow and learns to walk again. The lonely shadow manages to attach to a local creature and turns into a huge shadow monster, threatening to eat Fleak's

world! After fighting the shadow monster in the other dimension it follows Thomas and is now threatening Thomas' home! Thomas must find a way to reconnect with his siblings. Together they will be able to team up and fight the goofy shadow monster. After defeating the monster, Thomas chooses to take his shadow back, even if it means returning to his wheelchair and walking exercises, but he has his siblings beside him now. Told from a child's perspective, this powerful story shows how friendship, imagination and a kind heart and can help overcome resentment.



ORIGINAL TITLE *FLEAK*

PRODUCTION COMPANY *ANIMA VITAE*

TYPE OF PRODUCT *FEATURE FILM*

TARGET AUDIENCE *6-9, FAMILIES*

DURATION *85 MIN*

STATUS OF PRODUCTION *IN PRODUCTION*

LOOKING FOR *DISTRIBUTION*

BUDGET *4.6M EUR*

ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE *Q1/2025*

DIRECTOR *JENS MØLLER*

PRODUCERS *ANTTI HAIKALA, GRZEGORZ WACLAWEK, JOËLLE CAROLINE*

PRODUCER'S EMAIL *ANTTI.HAIKALA@ANIMA.FI*

CO-PRODUCTION COMPANIES *ANIMA VITAE POINT, ANIMOON, GODO FILMS*

WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR *ALL RIGHTS ENTERTAINMENT*

FINNISH BROADCASTER *YLE*

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTER *CANAL+ POLAND*

Niko - Beyond the Northern Lights

Niko and Stella, two young flying reindeers, have to compete for becoming a member Santa's Flying Forces but before the race is over they must join forces to meet their biggest challenge - save Santa's sleigh!

YOUNG REINDEER NIKO aspires to join Santa's Flying Forces, following in his father's footsteps. On the eve of him joining as a new flying cadet, a skilled flying reindeer girl named Stella challenges him for the position. They must compete in a three-part trial, to find out who is the best. In the evening before the final test, Niko shows Stella where

Santa's sleigh is kept. The next morning it has disappeared together with Stella! Niko's dad is extremely disappointed in Niko. Niko, with his friends Julius and Wilma now have to embark on a daring rescue mission to save Niko's reputation and Santa's sleigh.



ORIGINAL TITLE *NIKO JA MYRSKYPOROT*

PRODUCTION COMPANIES ANIMAKER, ANIMA VITAE, CINEMAKER

TYPE OF PRODUCTION FEATURE FILM

TARGET AUDIENCE 6-9, FAMILIES

DURATION 85 MIN

STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN PRODUCTION

LOOKING FOR DISTRIBUTION

BUDGET 7.2M EUR

ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE CHRISTMAS 2024

DIRECTORS KARI JUUSONEN, JØRGEN LERDAM

PRODUCERS HANNU TUOMAINEN, ANTTI HAIKALA, EMELY CHRISTIANS, ANDERS MASTRUP, MOE HONAN

PRODUCER'S EMAIL ANTTI.HAIKALA@ANIMA.FI

CO-PRODUCTION COMPANIES ULYSSES FILMPRODUKTION, A. FILM, MOETION

WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR GLOBAL SCREEN

FINNISH BROADCASTER MTV / C MORE

Trash Monsters

Sofia and Budi need to overcome their differences to defeat the trash monster invasion.

SOFIA, 11, MOVES with her older sister Leena, 24, to a trash-filled island. They discover that the island's trash problem is caused by a ruthless woman the locals call Dump Queen. She has no interest in recycling the trash as she earns her money by packing in as much trash as possible. While helping her sister solve the problem, Sofia befriends a local boy called Budi, 9, who has found magical water in the nearby jungle that

turns trash into little helpers. Sofia tries to create a bigger helper but accidentally spawns a monstrous trash army. Desperate, they seek Dump Queen's help, but she aims to profit from the chaos and wants access to the water. The kids are now in a race against time to try and get to the water before Dump Queen and the trash monsters find it.



ORIGINAL TITLE *JÄTEVUOREN HIRVIÖT*

PRODUCTION COMPANY *ANIMA VITAE*

TYPE OF PRODUCT *FEATURE FILM*

TARGET AUDIENCE *6-9, FAMILIES*

DURATION *85 MIN*

STATUS OF PRODUCTION *IN DEVELOPMENT*

LOOKING FOR *CO-PRODUCER, FINANCING, SALES*

BUDGET *6-8M EUR*

ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE *2026*

DIRECTOR *TBC*

PRODUCERS *ANTTI HAIKALA, TIMO SUOMI, EMELY CHRISTIANS*

PRODUCER'S EMAIL *ANTTI.HAIKALA@ANIMA.FI*

CO-PRODUCTION COMPANIES *ULYSSES FILMPRODUKTION*

WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR *AVAILABLE*

Moka Mera & Atlas

Moka Mera & Atlas are two friends, a little monster and a shark, making mistakes and trying to solve them - often enjoying the problem-solving more than the solution!

MOKA MERA & ATLAS, a little monster and a blue shark, are best friends who live in an ecological treehouse. Their speciality is making mistakes! Each episode features their mistakes and challenges and more importantly how they learn to seek help and find creative solutions - together! The series

explores emotions, ethics, and curiosity from pre-school perspective and teaches resilience, empathy, and respect to small children. Environmental themes are woven throughout, inspiring children to think about recycling and eco-friendly inventions.



ORIGINAL TITLE *MOKA MERA & ATLAS*

PRODUCTION COMPANIES *ANIMA VITAE, MOILO*

TYPE OF PRODUCTION *SERIES*

TARGET AUDIENCE *PRE-SCHOOL 2-5*

DURATION *26 X 7 MIN*

STATUS OF PRODUCTION *IN DEVELOPMENT*

LOOKING FOR *CO-PRODUCER, FINANCING, SALES*

BUDGET *TBC*

ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE *TBC*

DIRECTOR *TBC*

PRODUCERS *ANTTI HAIKALA, TIMO SUOMI, PETRA HOLM, SUZAN ALEDIN*

PRODUCER'S EMAIL *ANTTI.HAIKALA@ANIMA.FI*

WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR *AVAILABLE*

Royals Next Door

Royals Next Door is an animation series of 52 episodes of 11 minutes for children between 8 and 12 years old. A princess and her royal family move to a normal house in a common neighbourhood.

CROWN PRINCESS Stella has just received the best news ever! Due to water damage in the castle the royal family has to move out. Queen Kat sees it as the perfect opportunity to modernise. In line with King Bob's royal motto "Closer to the people" they decide to live in a normal house in an ordinary suburb. It's time to show the people that the Royals are just like everyone else. For Crown Princess Stella, moving is the best thing that could happen to her. She has always wanted to live a regular life, go to a real school and just blend in. But blending

in when you have always stood out is not easy, especially when you do not have the remotest idea of how ordinary things are done. Will the Royals manage to combine state dinners and opening speeches with cooking, football practice and cleaning the house? All without the help of the numerous staff they are used to? If not, it won't be for lack of trying. Stella, her sister Molly, their parents and pets will discover everyday life with enthusiasm and a touch of eccentricity while they try to stay true to their own royal traditions and duties.



ORIGINAL TITLE *ROYALS NEXT DOOR*
PRODUCTION COMPANY *PIKKUKALA*
TYPE OF PRODUCTION *SERIES*
TARGET AUDIENCE *CHILDREN 8 - 12*
DURATION *52 X 11 MIN*
STATUS OF PRODUCTION *COMPLETED*
LOOKING FOR *SALES*
PREMIERE *3/2022*
DIRECTOR *VERONICA LASSENIUS*

PRODUCER *PABLO JORDI*
PRODUCER'S EMAIL *PABLO@PIKKUKALA.COM*
CO-PRODUCTION COMPANIES *INK&LIGHT, PIKKUKALA BARCELONA, WALKING THE DOG*
WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR *DANDELOOO*
FINNISH BROADCASTER *YLE, SVENSKA YLE*
INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTERS *RTVE, RTÉJR, KETNET*

Joy Eternal

When Joy(16) suddenly dies, she gets an invitation to spend her afterlife in an eternity of happiness. She turns down the offer, determined to fight the evil corporation that controls the afterlife and free her parents, whose death she blames herself

JOY FLOATS in a vast empty Void along with other recently deceased people. She is told that she is worthy of the utopian afterlife. But she turns it down. She says she is responsible for the death of her parents – so she is not worthy. Right now, her parents are trapped in the awful City of Lost Souls, itself inside the belly of a giant monster that floats through the Void swallowing souls. Joy is determined to go in and get her parents to a better place. This is bad news for security intern Oogle who is handcuffed to her and cannot find his key. In reality, blame for Joy's parents deaths lie with mega-

corporation H&H, and the stakes for finding her parents unharmed, ramp up with the revelation that H&H don't just operate in the world of the living, but also run this monster-ship as a kind of exploitative afterlife. If Joy can find her parents, they will each be able to combine a part of a code they stole from H&H which would spell disaster for the City of Lost Souls, but the most powerful beings imaginable are determined to keep that from happening. Even so, Joy's compulsion to sacrifice herself are her greatest enemies, and they will cost her more than she can imagine.



ORIGINAL TITLE *JOY ETERNAL*

PRODUCTION COMPANY *FILIN GOOD FILMS*

TYPE OF PRODUCT *SERIES*

TARGET AUDIENCE *YOUNG ADULTS, TEENAGERS*

DURATION *13 X 11 MIN*

STATUS OF PRODUCTION *IN PRODUCTION & POST PRODUCTION*

LOOKING FOR *SALES*

BUDGET *2.5M EUR*

ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE *10/2023*

DIRECTOR *JUHA FILIN*

PRODUCERS *JUHA FILIN, MARIE-CLAUDE BEAUCHAMP, PETER KEYDEL*

PRODUCER'S EMAIL *JUHA@FILIN.COM*

CO-PRODUCTION COMPANIES *CARPEDIEM TV&FILM (CANADA), MAGO PRODUCTIONS (SPAIN)*

WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR *PINK PARROT MEDIA*

FINNISH BROADCASTER *YLE*

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTERS *TV3 (SPAIN), TFN (CANADA)*

Earth 2.0

When Joe's (16) chronically ill younger brother announces that he wishes to be euthanised, Joe accepts a 'deal with the devil' to make his sibling immortal, even though his brother's constant, invisible pain would not be cured in the process.

WHEN 16-YEAR-OLD Joe's chronically ill younger brother announces that he wishes to be euthanised, communication between the siblings breaks down. Joe accepts a 'deal with the devil' to make his sibling immortal, even though his brother's constant, invisible pain would not be cured in the process. When Joe finally comes to understand his

brother's experience and perspective, he realises he has done his brother wrong. He must walk back his deal with the devil. This means fighting the monsters and guardians of the immortal world to undo the magical processes he had put in motion and it means fulfilling his brother's heartbreaking request.



ORIGINAL TITLE *EARTH 2.0*
PRODUCTION COMPANY *FILIN GOOD FILMS*
TYPE OF PRODUCTION *FEATURE*
TARGET AUDIENCE *YOUNG ADULTS, ADULTS, FAMILY*
DURATION *90 MIN*
STATUS OF PRODUCTION *IN DEVELOPMENT*
LOOKING FOR *FINANCING, CO-PRODUCER*

BUDGET *5M EUR*
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE *12/2026*
DIRECTOR *JUHA FIILIN*
PRODUCERS *VILLE ROUSU, JUHA FIILIN*
PRODUCER'S EMAIL *JUHA@FIILIN.COM*
WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR
PINK PARROT MEDIA - TBC

Thinkies

In a world divided between the advanced Zenith and the volatile Nadir, Harmony, a young Nadir woman, seeks the truth behind a Zenith corporation's conspiracy, uncovering hidden agendas and battling for her own loyalties as she fights to save her dad.

HARMONY, a young Nadir woman, wants to work for H&H after her father falls victim to the grouting-related illness. She aims to prove that trusting H&H can lead to a better life for the Nadir, but her father is sceptical. Harmony's investigation leads her to secretly run Project 702, which aimed to modify the compound that caused the Nadir disease, turning it into something less dangerous and more effective at modifying Nadir behaviour. However, the tests prove disastrous, causing severe brain damage in the subjects. H&H shuts down the project and takes in the affected Nadir, caring for

them at his own home with Zenith nurses. Harmony discovers that the surgeries offered to the Nadir do not actually cure them, but are part of a larger plan to study the effects of the compound on their population. This revelation shatters her trust in H&H and forces Harmony to confront the fact that she has contributed to H&H's evil deeds. Ultimately, Harmony chooses to side with her fellow Nadir and exposes H&H's plans to the world. She unites with Buster, a Nadir leader, and a group of Nadir rebels to take down the corporation before it can release the dangerous Thinkies formula.



ORIGINAL TITLE *THINKIES*

PRODUCTION COMPANY *FIILIN GOOD FILMS*

TYPE OF PRODUCT *SERIES*

TARGET AUDIENCE *YOUNG ADULTS, ADULTS*

DURATION *5 X 60 MIN*

STATUS OF PRODUCTION *IN DEVELOPMENT*

LOOKING FOR *FINANCING, SALES*

BUDGET *4M EUR*

ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE *10/2025*

DIRECTORS *ADAM CULLEN, JUHA FIILIN*

PRODUCER *JUHA FIILIN*

PRODUCER'S EMAIL *JUHA@FIILIN.COM*

FINNISH BROADCASTER *YLE, FOR PILOT DEVELOPMENT IN 2021*

Poridise

Dark and witty adult animation series, adapted from the world created by Finnish cartoon artist Pieruperse. It tells the story of three dysfunctional men, whose lives revolve around the local public swimming pool in the small town of Poridise.

IT ALL STARTS when the sensitive urbanite Ossian arrives to the xenophobic city of Poridise to perform his non-military alternative service at the local public swimming pool. This forces the men of Poridise to think about their own emotional expression and masculinity. At first, everything seems to be fine, but it soon

becomes clear that beneath the surface lies a chlorine-smelling secret and a trauma that the city of Poridise would like to forget. *Poridise* studies masculinity and its fragile nature. The series dives deep into the core of humanity: it's about finding a connection with other people.



ORIGINAL TITLE *PORIDISE*

PRODUCTION COMPANY AURORA PICTURES

TYPE OF PRODUCT SERIES

TARGET AUDIENCE 18-39 (ADULT ANIMATION)

DURATION 8 X 20 MIN

STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT

LOOKING FOR DISTRIBUTION & FINANCING

BUDGET 1.2M EUR

ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE AUTUMN 2024

DIRECTOR PIERUPERSE

PRODUCERS SEVERI KOIVUSALO, TUUKKA TIKKANEN, MIKAEL LAGERSTEDT, ALEKSI BARDY

PRODUCER'S EMAIL SEVERI@AURORASTUDIOS.FI

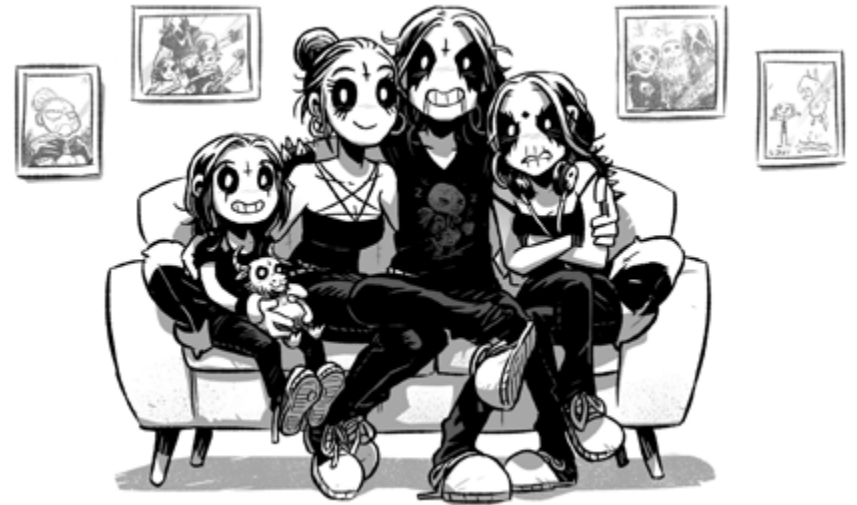
CO-PRODUCTION COMPANY BOUTIQUE ANIMATION

Belzebubs

Sløth wants it all — to be a loving husband, a responsible father, and the frontman of his ax-wielding, goat-sacrificing, Satan-hailing black metal band Belzebubs. How hard can it be?

MEET THE BELZEBUBS, your typical demon-summoning family next door! Sløth is shuffling his stay-at-home dad obligations with his lifelong (soon to be stale-dated) dream of being a heavy metal rock star. His passionate breadwinner wife, Lucy, is fed up with her job and one meltdown away from sacrificing her colleagues to Satan. Their teenage daughter, Lilith, has just hit puberty and is wielding the effects of her raging hormones, stalking a boy in her class. And her brother, Leviathan, appears to be the

only one exhibiting some sort of societal normalcy in the family. Unfortunately, he's only eight. Can Sløth juggle his fierce wife, wicked kids, a very lively mother-in-law, a very deceased father-in-law, his dysfunctional band, their mounting debts, the record company's increasing demands and still achieve his dream? No. But that sure as Hell won't stop him from trying. *Belzebubs* is based on the webcomic phenomenon of the same name by JP Ahonen.



ORIGINAL TITLE *BELZEBUBS*
PRODUCTION COMPANY *PYJAMA FILMS*
TYPE OF PRODUCTION *SERIES*
TARGET AUDIENCE *YOUNG ADULTS*
DURATION *13 X 22 MIN*
STATUS OF PRODUCTION *IN LATE DEVELOPMENT*
LOOKING FOR *GAP FINANCING*
BUDGET *4.75M EUR*
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE *06/2025*
DIRECTOR *SAMPPA KUKKONEN*

PRODUCER *TERHI VÄÄNÄNEN*
PRODUCER'S EMAIL *TERHI@PYJAMA.FI*
CO-PRODUCTION COMPANIES *MOVIMENTI PRODUCTION, MAGO PRODUCTIONS*
WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR *TBA*
FINNISH BROADCASTER *YLE*
INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTERS *RAI, TV3, RUV*

The Whorytale

Two young women go into sex work, and find themselves on the frontlines in an ancient battle against evil, helped by the goddess of love, Aphrodite herself.

A NEW MYTHOLOGY for a new age. Aphrodite, a mature Olympian goddess, accidentally boards the wrong plane and ends up in the world of mortal people, completely unaware of the rules and controls we humans place on women's behavior and their bodies. Kalla, a waitress in her twenties, gets raped and after exacting revenge on her rapist, finds herself in even worse a situation. Milla, Kalla's friend and roommate, discovers sex work as an easy way to make money and feel in control. Until a customer takes his condom off. *The Whorytale* is a genre-bending adult

animation series about a middle aged mythological goddess and two brave young women joining forces to fight oppression. The show effortlessly hops between drama, fantasy, horror and action, and is covered with a thick layer of dark humor. The story is based on the Finnish feminist cult novel *Huorasatu* (2011) written by the awarded author Laura Gustafsson, also a member of the series writing team. *The Whorytale* speaks the language of brutal action and outrageous laughter, because nothing less is loud enough for women to be heard.



ORIGINAL TITLE *HUORASATU*
PRODUCTION COMPANIES *WELHOFILMI, VELI STUDIO*
TYPE OF PRODUCTION *SERIES*
TARGET AUDIENCE *20-40 YEARS OLD, ESPECIALLY WOMEN*
DURATION *8 X 30 MIN (FIRST SEASON)*
STATUS OF PRODUCTION *IN DEVELOPMENT*
LOOKING FOR *FINANCING, SALES*
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE *06/2026*
DIRECTORS *MALIN NYQVIST, OSKARI SIPOLA*
PRODUCERS *OSKARI SIPOLA, JUHO VESANEN*
PRODUCER'S EMAIL *OSKARI@WELHOFILMI.FI*
WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR *AVAILABLE*

FOCUS on FINLAND

www.apfi.fi/en/focus-on-finland

