

# Independent views, made to connect

## **near/by film**

near/by film produces short, mid-length and feature films with a focus on experimental documentary and fiction, essay film and artist films. We strive to connect filmmakers with each other and with cinema spaces, festivals and exhibition platforms to build sustainable practices. near/by film provides an environment in which collaboration, shared responsibilities, taking risks and curiosity are fundamental. We are interested in long-term collaborations with artists and filmmakers, but you can also contact us for advice and support on project development or help with applying for funding.

## **Manon Bovenkerk**

Manon Bovenkerk started out as a visual artist and has exhibited her work at Centraal Museum Utrecht, Kunstfort Vijfhuizen, Wetering Galerie and Kunsthalle Hamburg. She started programming visual art and film, first in artist initiatives and later for Filmhuis Den Haag and Go Short International short film festival. She founded near/by film in 2018 to support the practices of visual artists and filmmakers working in (experimental) film. As a creative producer she is actively involved with the conceptual and formal developments of the production.

## Projects near/by film



### **In His Bold Gaze** / Bernardo Zanotta

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A well-known cannibal drama in which the actors play unfinished characters, often unsure of who they are on and off screen: a closeted gay man, his mother and his lover - caught between the anxiety and pleasure of castration.

**Direction, script & editing:** Bernardo Zanotta cinematography: Raydrick Feliciano, Bernardo Zanotta & Anna Moreno sound: Sergio Gonzalez Cuervo support: AFK

#### **Realized**

2020, 19 mins, Experimental short

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### **Cloud Forest** / Eliane Esther Bots

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Five Dutch girls take us on an imaginative journey through the memories and images of their parents' experiences of the war in the former Yugoslavia. It is in the intimacy of darkness, in the shadow, where these events unfold.

**Direction, script & editing:** Eliane Esther Bots cinematography: Herman van den Bosch & Daniel de Oliveira Donato sound: Sergio Gonzalez Cuervo Support: Stroom Den Haag, Netherlands Film Fund distribution: EYE Film

**Screenings 2019:** Nederlands Film Festival (premiere), Uppsala International Short Film Festival, SE, Document Human Rights Festival, UK, Kasseler Dokfest, DE. **Screenings 2020:** Glasgow International Short Film Festival, UK, Movies that Matter Festival, NL, Go Short International Short Film Festival, NL, Filmfest Dresden, DE.

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#### **Realized**

2019, 18 mins, Documentary short

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### **Expeditie Eisinga** / Jeroen Eisinga

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**Production & program:** Electriciteitsfabriek Den Haag  
**Conceptual, technical and program advice:** near/by film

The film work of Jeroen Eisinga is like a search for unknown territory, the success of which depends on the proper preparation and the capacity of the filmmaker to endure physical and mental exhaustion. Focal point of the exhibition was Eisinga's new 60 minutes film work Nightfall.

#### **Realized**

2018, Exhibition

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### **The Channel** / Eliane Esther Bots

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Three interpreters working for the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia find themselves in the surreal position of having their own personal memories confronted with conflicting narratives from both sides of the conflict, of perpetrators and victims.

**Direction, scrip & editing:** Eliane Esther Bots cinematography: Daniel de Oliveira Donato sound: Sergio Gonzalez Cuervo support: Stroom Den Haag, Gemeente Den Haag

Release: summer 2020

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#### **In production**

22 mins, Documentary short

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Producer / **Manon Bovenkerk**  
+31 (0) 6 184 349 17

## Projects near/by film



### In production

Installation

### PUK\* System / Floris Schönfeld

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PUK\* is a chaotically creative, irrational and possibly schizophrenic artificial intelligence. The project creates a visceral and complex portrait of this illusive character by creating a narrative around it. The installation offers an embodied experience of a meeting with PUK\*

**Direction & artworks:** Floris Schönfeld cinematography: John Treffer sound: Ruben Samama algorithmic programming: Misa Skalsis  
**Exhibition & program:** Beautiful Distress House support: AFK, Mondriaan Fund.  
**Exhibition:** November 2020



### In production

Midlength experimental documentary, installation

### Gardens of Fez / Heidi Vogels

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**Production:** Heidi Vogels with support from near/by film

Through the stories and memories of residents, the gardens of Fez offer a different way to read the city. From organically winding alleys, to the geometrically arranged interior spaces of Riads and palaces, with a garden and a fountain inside. Nothing is what it seems, everything conceals something else.

**Direction & script:** Heidi Vogels cinematography: Benito Strangio sound: Boban Bajic editing: Stella van Voorst van Beest support: AFK, Mondriaan Fund, Netherlands Film Fund. Release and exhibitions: 2021



### In development

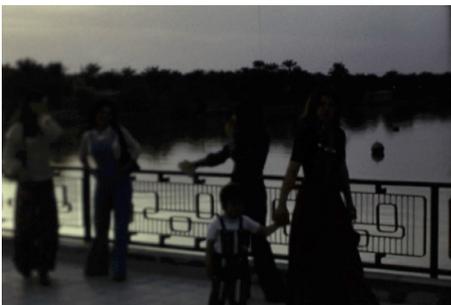
Experimental documentary feature

### Here Be Dragons (Terra Incognita) / Maria Molina Peiró

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In a strange landscape akin to a far away planet or an apocalyptic nuclear disaster site, miners and astrobiologists dig the soil for what seem very different purposes: to fuel the technological revolution and to search for life in the Universe.

**Direction & script:** Maria Molina Peiró support: 3PD AFK in collaboration with IDFA, Eye Film Institute and Netherlands Film Academy.



### In development

Midlength experimental film

### on earth's crust / Sara Rajei

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In on earth's crust, fear forms the main plot, as a catalyst resulting each story to develop into another, connecting the characters living in different periods of time in unsafe contexts filled with intolerance, submission, and suspicion. In order to deal with their traumas the protagonists escape their actual settings and take refuge into imaginary worlds.

**Direction & script:** Sara Rajei script coaching: Nanouk Leopold support: DKC Rotterdam, Mondriaan Fund



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## Projects near/by film



### In development

30 min, Experimental short

### Wild Fruits / Bernardo Zanotta

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A stage adaptation of Michel de Montaigne's essay 'Of Cannibals' - travelling through spaces of freedom and oppression, exploring the opposition between the theatrical and cinematic, as well as tensions between the barbaric and domesticated.

**Direction, script & editing:** Bernardo Zanotta cinematography: Marcy Saude  
sound: Sergio Gonzalez Cuervo  
Expected production: 2021



### In development

40 mins, Experimental film

### Radiant Screen / Ine Lamers

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The quest of a photographer in search of proofs and remnants of a socialist utopia in Siberia, Russia. The film narrates the unescapable confrontations with 'the real' and how advancements in terms of media visibility and streaming brutally wipe out the imaginary. Zheleznogorsk in the Siberian Taiga appears as an inaccessible, constantly changing phantasma, and a projection screen for the artist. Expected production: 2020.

**Direction & script:** Ine Lamers line producer and 1st AD: Rob de Vree support: DKC Rotterdam.  
Expected production: 2020



### In development

25 mins, Experimental short

### Missing Scenes / Sabine Groenewegen

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*Missing Scenes: from the lives of the unknown, she will be born* is a moving image project in development exploring omission of maternal ancestry. The title of this work in development is borrowed from a passage by Virginia Woolf, when she imagines a dead poet who was Shakespeare's sister, who 'died young and never wrote a word'.

**Direction & script:** Sabine Groenewegen composer: Karsten Fundal partners: EYE Film, Filmhuis Den Haag, Stroom Den Haag support: Fonds 1818  
Expected production: 2020



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