

MedFilm Festival in New York – Day 1 program



BURNING DAYS **KURAK GÜNLER**

Türkiye, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Greece, Croatia | 2022 | 130'

Emre, a young and zealous public prosecutor, is transferred to a small town plagued by a water crisis, as well as by corruption and political scandals. After an initially warm welcome, Emre finds himself entangled in a web of tensions and reluctantly drawn into local politics. When he ends up growing close to the owner of a local newspaper, tensions flare—and with them, heated rumors.

Emin Alper

Born in 1974 in Ermenek, Karaman, Emin Alper holds degrees in Economics and History from Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, as well as a PhD in Modern Turkish History. His first film, **Beyond the Hill** (2012), received numerous awards (including the Caligari Film Prize in the Berlinale Forum section) and was selected for the MedFilm Festival. His second feature film, **Frenzy** (2015), screened in Competition at the 72nd Venice International Film Festival, where it won the Special Jury Prize. **A Tale of Three Sisters** (2019), his third film, premiered at the Berlinale and was once again selected for MedFilm. **Burning Days** won the Special Jury Prize at the 2022 MedFilm Festival. In addition to his work as a director, Alper has served as the Artistic Director of the Istanbul Cinematheque since February 2021.

Director: Emin Alper

Screenplay: Emin Alper

Photography: Christos Karamanis

Editing: Özcan Vardar, Eytan İpeker

Sound: Krešimir Rodic

Music: Stefan Will

Production design: Nadide Argun

Costumes: Öykü Ersoy

Cast: Selahattin Paşali, Ekin Koç, Erol Babaoğlu, Erdem Şenocak, Selin Yeninci

Producers: Nadir Öperli, Kerem Çatay

Co-producers: Fatih Sakız, Laurent Lavolé, Viola Fügen, Michael Weber, Svienette Bosklopper, Maarten Swart, Yorgos Tsourgiannis, Anita Juka

Associate Producers: İrem Akbal, Maya Scherr-Willson

Production: Ay Yapım, Liman Film

Co-production: Zola Yapım, Gloria Films, Match Factory Productions, Circe Films, Horsefly Productions, 4 Films

International Sales: The Match Factory

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/ObWxPgQNp1o>

SHORT MOVIES

CASE CADUTE

FALLEN HOUSES

Italy | 2025 | 16'

What is the bond between the places we inhabit and the walls of our own bodies? And how does one survive amidst the rubble of the soul and the ruins of walls? *Case cadute* is born from a memory: 1980, the Irpinia earthquake. Inside a car, a father holds his son in a tight embrace while, outside, buildings crumble; it is time to leave. In recounting this departure, the narrative voice becomes polyphonic, bringing to light other stories of those compelled to abandon their own walls: a young Malian man who, defying his father's wishes, traverses lands and seas in search of a future; and a Ukrainian boy who, in his new life, seeks the familiar face of his father among the strangers he encounters. What remains in this wandering? The lost homes of the past do not abandon us; now, those walls walk with us.

Gianluca Abbate

Born in Salerno in 1980, Gianluca Abbate studied at DAMS in Bologna and at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome. His works have been exhibited at the Triennale di Milano, MOCA Hiroshima, the Torrance Art Museum in Los Angeles, and the MAXXI, MACRO, and MAM in Rome, and screened at numerous national and international festivals. In 2016, he won a Nastro d'argento for the short film *Panorama*, which was awarded Best Short Film at the 2014 Torino Film Festival and presented at MedFilm.

LA VOIX DES AUTRES
THE VOICE OF OTHERS

France | 2023 | 30'

Rim is a Tunisian interpreter working in France on asylum procedures. Every day, she translates the stories of men and women in exile—voices that raise profound questions about her own personal history.

Fatima Kaci

Born in France in 1992 to Algerian parents, Fatima Kaci earned a master's degree in Cinematic Heritage Development at Université Paris 8 before enrolling in the Directing Department at La Fémis. There, she directed the short films **Terre d'Ombre** (2021), **Pièces détachées** (2022), and **La Voix des autres**—her graduation film, which won the Methexis Award for Best Short Film at MedFilm 2023. Situated between documentary and fiction, her cinema is driven by an urgent need to portray the stories of people who have experienced exile and who remain relegated to the margins of our collective imagination.