

FACT SHEET

33rd Stuttgart International Festival of Animated Film 5-10 May 2026

Cinema that gives you goose bumps, open-air screenings in a festival atmosphere, hands-on animation, and gaming with depth – every year, the ITFS transforms the city into a vibrant stage for stories, creativity, and encounters. Since 1982, the film festival has brought together international animation art with the regional creative scene, film education, and industry support. In doing so, the ITFS creates spaces for exchange, inspiration, and encounters – for filmmakers as well as for a broad audience.

<https://itfs.de/en/home/>

NUMBERS & DATES

- Around 2,000 film submissions
- Around 150 events
- 11 awards with total prize money of € 60,000
- 150 guests from 30 countries
- Around 500 films in total
- 104 short films in competition from 39 countries
- 28 short films in the ITFS International Competition
- 42 short films in the ITFS Student Competition
- 27 short films in the ITFS Tricks for Kids Competition
- 7 short films in the ITFS Trickstar Nature Award competition
- 6 feature-length films in the ITFS AniMovie Competition
- 9 additional AniMovie feature films out of competition
- Around 70,000 visitors annually

PROGRAMME

<https://itfs.de/en/programme/calendar/>

Competitions

ITFS is an Oscar-qualifying festival. The winner of the Grand Prix automatically makes the longlist for the Academy Awards in Los Angeles.

- **ITFS International Competition:** The very best current short films from around the world – socially relevant, personal and innovative.
- **ITFS Student Competition:** Young and experimental – short films by students from international film and art schools. Powerful, creative and intense.
- **ITFS Tricks for Kids Competition:** Magical short films for all animation fans, from daycare centres and primary school to teenagers.
- **ITFS Trickstar Nature Award:** These short films are more relevant and urgent than ever, highlighting injustices and reversing realities.
- **ITFS AniMovie Competition:** Over 60 minutes of cinematic experience with our feature films. Gain new experiences and enjoy a feast for the eyes, ears and heart.

Special Programme

Even besides the competitions, we showcase premieres, extraordinary feature films, series specials, or the animated worlds of individual artists.

Insights

Exclusive panels, talks, workshops and presentations for industry professionals. Behind-the-scenes insights as well as tips and tricks from international experts.

Young ITFS

From film programmes and competitions to hands-on activities and workshops for children, families, schools and daycare centres: Young ITFS combines film education, cultural diversity and the joy of discovery.



Open Air at Schlossplatz

Stuttgart's largest public screening at Schlossplatz. Short and feature films for kids and families, blockbuster fans and independent cinephiles. Free and outdoors.

GameZone

Here, animation, games and interactive experiences merge. We invite visitors to explore current games, creative projects and new forms of digital storytelling – and to try them out themselves.

THE MOST IMPORTANT LOCATIONS

- Innenstadtkinos (Gloria & Cinema) – Competitions & Special Programme
- Schlossplatz – Open Air
- Activity Area at Schlossplatz – Young ITFS Explore
- Staatsgalerie Stuttgart – GameZone
- Haus der Katholischen Kirche – Festival Centre

JURYS

ITFS International Competition & ITFS Trickstar Nature Award

Melanie Beisswenger (Germany) | Hisko Hulsing (Netherlands) | Vera Neubauer (Great Britain)

ITFS Student Competition

Anastasia Dimitra (Greece) | Mihai Mitrică (Romania) | Ülo Pikkov (Estonia)

ITFS AniMovie Competition

Tigran Arakelyan (Armenia) | Tomer Eshed (Germany) | Voline Ogutu (Kenya)

PRESS ACCREDITATION

<https://itfs.de/en/press/press-accreditation/>

With your press accreditation, you have free access to all ITFS events.

- Free access to all film programmes
- Invitation to the Opening Ceremony and Award Ceremonies
- Participation in exclusive industry events (accreditation only)
- Access to the Animation Production Days conference
- Access to the Festival Centre, the meeting place for professionals

In addition:

- Login for the Animated Video Market with all submitted films available for streaming
- Digital press materials
- Interview opportunities

PHOTO MATERIAL

<https://itfs.de/en/press/photos-downloads/>

High-resolution film stills, logos and festival photos are available for download on the website and our Flickr channel.

CONTACT

The press team is happy to help you:

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