

Content London

THE BEASTS OF HOSSA

FOCUS on FINLAND

SHOWCASE

November 29th 2023

NEW SERIES
OWAMBO

JANELLA PRODUCTIONS



Content

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Content London 2023

Embark on a Journey with FOCUS ON FINLAND 2023

Unveil the brilliance of Finnish storytelling with **FOCUS ON FINLAND**, an export initiative that showcases the nation's exceptional drama and documentary content on the global stage. Through a partnership between **APFI, Yle – The Finnish Broadcasting Company, Finnish Film Foundation, and Film in Finland**, FOCUS ON FINLAND paves the way for Finnish creators to secure international funding, sales, and distribution.

Enjoy the captivating selection of thoughtfully curated projects, presented by **Marika Muselaers**. Direct contact information is available in our comprehensive catalogue. For insights into Finland's vibrant audiovisual industry, our knowledgeable APFI staff is ready to assist. This year, our collaboration with the **North Finland Film Commission** provides exclusive insights into working with Finnish industry professionals, covering the content landscape, producers, production incentives, captivating locations and much more.

We invite you to embark on an exciting journey with FOCUS ON FINLAND, a gateway to the world of Finnish drama excellence.



Laura Kuulasmaa
Executive Director
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, facilitating a sustainable industry and organising industry events and competitions. It is also responsible for the collective management of copyrights.

Owambo

A story about a shared past in Namibia. To whom does the future belong to?

IN HELSINKI, a claim has been made to have a sacred religious artefact returned to Namibia from Finland, where they have been stored in a warehouse as an odd reminder of the Finnish Missionary work in Namibia over the course of 150 years. A young Finnish Art Historian travels to Namibia and tries to handle the complexities of the repatriation issue. European museums are not at all ready for. She needs the help of a local woman and an activist. The work of the two professionals, both lost in their ambition and life, echo the turbulent events of the 1980's fight for

independence. The present day story is rooted in the past. Shortly before Namibia breaks free of the occupying apartheid regime and gains its independence through SWAPO, two young freedom fighters seek refuge from the Finnish Mission. A Finnish couple is drawn into the combat in different ways through the two friends in Owambo, near the Angolan border. The choices they make have consequences in the present, where international mining operations are competing over the ownership of minerals lying deep in the grounds of the desert.



Kaarle Aho
Writer



Miia Haavisto
Producer

ORIGINAL TITLE OWAMBO
GENRE SUSPENSE DRAMA
DURATION 6 X 50'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR CO-PRODUCER, FINANCING, SALES
BUDGET PER EPISODE 1M€
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) ENGLISH, FINNISH, OSHIWAMBO, AFRIKAANS
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE Q2/2026
SEASON NUMBER 1
WRITER KAARLE AHO
PRODUCTION COMPANY TEKELE PRODUCTIONS
PRODUCER MIIA HAAVISTO
PRODUCER'S EMAIL MIIA@TEKELE.FI
CO-PRODUCTION COMPANY NDAPUNIKWA INVESTMENTS MANAGEMENT
FINNISH BROADCASTER YLE



Helsinki Syndrome Season 2

Elias Karo, a modern-day Robin Hood is the most wanted fugitive after stealing and sharing 2,2 billion euros from the Finnish State treasure. He is trusting the people he has helped to help him escape the police.

THE 2ND SEASON of *Helsinki Syndrome* is an emotional fugitive thriller. Elias Karo, a loving family man and mastermind behind the massive robbery of the State Treasury of Finland, is hiding in a forest cottage. However, the cottage is not a place to hide, but rather a starting point for his next plan. When Karo leaves the forest both the police and the media are after him. Journalist Hanna Raivio tries to find the truth behind president Kovisto's secretive conclave, which might have ordered Finnish courts to favor banks –

not ordinary citizens – during the 90's banking crisis thus breaking the constitutional law. At the same time, NBI's detective Jarmo Kiiski tries to solve what happened to the 2,2 billion Euros that Elias stole from the State Treasury. Soon we learn that Elias is planning an even bigger robbery with the intention of helping all of those who have suffered due to the 90's crises. To succeed, Elias's plan requires the seamless cooperation of old and new associates. But can Elias trust them when he is the most wanted fugitive in Finland?



Matti Halonen
Producer

ORIGINAL TITLE HELSINKI-SYNDROOMA
GENRE THRILLER
DURATION 6 X 50'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN POST PRODUCTION
LOOKING FOR SALES
BUDGET PER EPISODE 600.000€
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) FINNISH
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE Q2/2024
SEASON NUMBER 2
WRITERS MIIKKO OIKKONEN, NINNI SAAJOLA, OLLI SUITALA, JUHA SIITONEN
DIRECTORS JUUSO SYRJÄ, MARKO MÄKILAAKSO
PRODUCTION COMPANY FISHER KING
PRODUCERS MATTI HALONEN, JOHANNES LASSILA
PRODUCER'S EMAIL MATTI.HALONEN@FISHERKING.FI
CO-PRODUCTION COMPANY PANACHE PRODUCTIONS, BELGIUM
WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR BETA FILM
FINNISH BROADCASTER YLE

FISHER KING

Peacemaker Season 2

Conflict comes closer to a Finnish peacemaker Ann-Mari Sundell than ever before as the Russian hostilities in Ukraine threaten the stability of Europe.

ANN-MARI RETURNS to negotiation tables of international conflict resolution as a part of a secret United Nations/NATO project established to alleviate Russo-Ukrainian war's repercussions on Europe. As a seasoned peacemaker Ann-Mari's value is regarded by both sides of the conflict. Kremlin spokesperson Nova Volkov sees Ann-Mari and her critical point of view on NATO as an asset she can exploit in the proxy war against the United States, whereas the United Nations seem to value Ann-Mari's experience, yet she soon finds out they are using her as much as a political pawn as the Russians would like to

do, mainly because of Ann-Mari's established connection to Turkey's strongman leader whose influence is crucial in the new NATO memberships, including that of Finland. Caught in the middle of these opposing sides, Ann-Mari's mission takes her from holding hostage negotiations in the captured Chernobyl power plant to finding evidence of war crimes in the besieged city of Bucha, but the most difficult quest is to find personal peace as she in danger of losing a man she loves to the fog of war, and coming across a child from whom the war has taken everything.



Johanna Enäsuo
Producer

ORIGINAL TITLE RAUHANTEKIJÄ
GENRE POLITICAL THRILLER
DURATION 6 X 45'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR BROADCASTERS, FINANCING
BUDGET PER EPISODE 1.2M€
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) ENGLISH, FINNISH, UKRAINIAN, RUSSIAN
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE 2026
SEASON NUMBER 2
WRITER ANTTI PESONEN
PRODUCTION COMPANY REELMEDIA
PRODUCERS JOHANNA ENÄSUO, MARKKU FLINK
PRODUCER'S EMAIL
JOHANNA.ENASUO@REELMEDIA.FI
CO-PRODUCTION COMPANY DIRECTORY FILMS/
IGOR SAVYCHENKO (UKRAINE)

The Beasts of Hossa

When a young woman convicted of an assault gets a new chance in a remote town ravaged by the fear of wolves, she must uncover the real beast behind the deaths in the tourist paradise.

THE BEASTS OF HOSSA is a psychological thriller about a young woman who lands her dream job in a remote wilderness hotel in her mother's birth region. When a dangerous pack of wolves starts to stalk the town and the truth about the woman's long-lost father starts to dawn, her new life turns into a nightmare for

which she is unprepared. In order to save her future, she must identify the killer in paradise – and the real beast in her own family. *The Beasts of Hossa* explores the theme of fear – fear as a method of influencing both on individuals and society at large. The one who controls your fears controls your mind.



Eero Hietala
Producer

ORIGINAL TITLE HOSSAN PEDOT
GENRE PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER
DURATION 6 X 45'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR CO-PRODUCERS, PRE-SALES, DISTRIBUTORS
BUDGET PER EPISODE 548.000€
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) FINNISH, ENGLISH
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE 2025
SEASON NUMBER 1
WRITERS VENLA AAKKO, MIKA RONKAINEN
DIRECTOR MIKA RONKAINEN
PRODUCTION COMPANY TAKE TWO STUDIOS
PRODUCERS EERO HIETALA, SARA NORBERG
PRODUCER'S EMAIL EERO@TAKETWO.FI



Undertaker

After the murder of her husband, Maria is left penniless and emotionally lost. She encounters Kivi, a charismatic undertaker with dark secrets, and is sucked into his underworld. Maria battles for her freedom, but Kivi's grip is relentless.

MARIA FINDS HERSELF in freefall after her husband's murder. With no money and nowhere to turn, she crosses paths with Kivi, a seemingly charming undertaker, who offers her refuge. Unbeknownst to Maria, Kivi is not only a criminal mastermind but also the one responsible for her husband's death, having ulterior motives for drawing her close.

As Maria begins working in Kivi's funeral parlor, she realizes that nearly every task she undertakes alongside him, conceals perilous secrets. As she delves deeper into understanding Kivi's true intentions, she

becomes increasingly entangled in his web of deceit. Feeling as if she's buried alive, Maria struggles for her freedom, but each attempt to escape Kivi's clutches only pulls her back in.

Undertaker unfolds in a world where the boundaries between good and evil are indistinct, forcing many to lead double lives. Adapted from a best-selling novel series by Marko Kilpi, this riveting crime drama features a cast of distinctive characters that engage and keep viewers on tenterhooks from beginning to end.



Tero Kaukomaa
Producer

ORIGINAL TITLE UNDERTAKER
GENRE NORDIC NOIR
DURATION 8 X 45'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR CO-PRODUCERS, FINANCING, SALES
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) FINNISH, GERMAN, ENGLISH
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE 2025
SEASON NUMBER 1
WRITER ADAM MARKO-NORD
DIRECTORS TIMO VUORENSOLA, MARKO MÄKILAAKSO
PRODUCTION COMPANY SON OF A PITCH
PRODUCER TERO KAUKOMAA
PRODUCER'S EMAIL TJ.KAUKOMAA@GMAIL.COM



(Not) A Time to Die

Crime series like you've never seen it before – through the eyes of a paramedic.

IN AN EMERGENCY, a paramedic is the first one to arrive on the scene. KALLE, 40, works as an ambulance paramedic and has seen it all: from car crashes to family violence and teenage drug overdose. Luckily, Kalle is fast, experienced, and equipped with a very dark sense of humor. Kalle and his colleagues face new challenges when the criminal teen gangs from Sweden start spreading to Helsinki. One day on the job Kalle responds to an emergency call about a 20-year-old man having chest pains. On the scene he discovers that the patient has actually been shot – and sees his nephew RONI, 15, fleeing the scene. Kalle's brother Juho died a long time ago, and

Roni grew up without a father. Kalle feels it's his duty to help Roni. But can you ever mend a deep wound with a quick fix? As Kalle tries to save Roni, he gets entangled with the gangs, taking bigger and bigger risks.

We've seen countless crime series from the point of view of the police and criminals. **(Not) A Time To Die** twists the crime genre with a main character that holds a unique and fresh perspective. The series is based on the book *Et sinä (vielä) kuole* written by paramedic Kari Hautamäki. All the ambulance gigs in the series are based on true events.



Jemina Jokisalo
Head of Drama

ORIGINAL TITLE ET SINÄ (VIELÄ) KUOLE
GENRE CRIME DRAMA
DURATION 8 X 42'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR CO-PRODUCER, FINANCING, SALES
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) FINNISH
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE Q2/2025
SEASON NUMBER 1
WRITERS MARKUS LAITINEN, FANNI MIKKONEN
DIRECTOR JANI ILOMÄKI
PRODUCTION COMPANY SOLAR REPUBLIC
PRODUCERS JOHANNA TARVAINEN, SAMULI NORHOMAA
PRODUCER'S EMAIL
JEMINA.JOKISALO@SOLARRREPUBLIC.FI
FINNISH BROADCASTER NELONEN



KEEP IT COOL



North Finland Film Commission (NFFC) is your first link to the local authorities and the film infrastructure in Northern Finland. NFFC has offices in Oulu, the business hub of Northern Finland, easily reachable by plane, train, cargo ship, or road vehicles. Oulu is an insightful and down-to-earth city that lives and breathes on the terms of the northern nature.

The City of Oulu offers a regional incentive up to 10%. Adding this to the Finnish 25% cash rebate makes the incentive as much as 35%.

The region's scenery ranges from fells with snow-covered trees to the open, arctic sea.

Our workforce is specialized in working in the challenging and cold winter conditions.

Film your next ice-cool production with us! Check out www.nffc.fi to find out more.



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Ted & Paula's Tadpole Journey to the Surface of Croak Creek

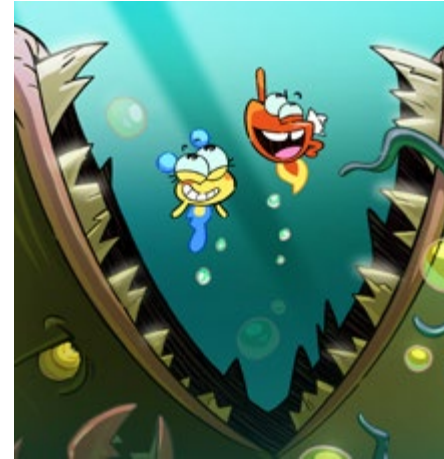
Set in a vast and perilous pond, we follow the underwater odyssey of Ted and Paula, two seemingly insignificant tadpoles who brave the dangers of the creek as they quest to reach the top.

BORN AT THE BOTTOM of the pond, all tadpoles long to make the swim from the sandy creek bed up to the surface and grow up into full-fledged frogs. Our heroes, Ted and Paula are no different – however they missed the mass migration, leaving them to make the dangerous journey by themselves. Daunted by this seemingly impossible quest, they're spurred on by legends of what awaits above. Wanting to reach for their dreams, Ted and Paula must learn to work together, face their fears and hone their skills in order to journey to the top!

Facing savage beasts and murderous foes along the way, Ted and Paula grow stronger

as a team and power-up physically and emotionally over the course of their perilous adventures. As they explore, they also learn more about the mysteries of the pond, the magical plankton geysers and truth behind the Boss Frog's power – turning what started as a simple journey into a quest to return balance to the entire pond!

This thrilling adventure is made even more exciting to our young viewers thanks to its themes of bravery, learning new skills and venturing into an unknown world. At its core, *Tadpoles* is a show about believing in yourself and growing up to pursue your dreams.



Anttu Harlin
CEO

ORIGINAL TITLE TED & PAULA'S TADPOLE JOURNEY TO THE SURFACE OF CROAK CREEK
GENRE COMEDY (ANIMATION)
DURATION 52 X 11'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR FINANCING
BUDGET PER EPISODE 400.000€
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) ENGLISH
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE ROLLING DELIVERY FROM SUMMER 2025 TO SUMMER 2026
SEASON NUMBER 1
WRITERS TOM GRAN & MARTIN WOOLEY
DIRECTOR JOONAS UTTI
PRODUCTION COMPANY GIGGLEBUG ENTERTAINMENT
PRODUCER ANTTU HARLIN
PRODUCER'S EMAIL ANTTU.HARLIN@GIGGLEBUG.FI
FINNISH BROADCASTER MTV3

gigglebug

Arctic Mission

The documentary series follows the unique life and work of 6 modern explorers working in remote research stations around the Arctic Circle in extreme conditions.

IMAGINE SPENDING your working days at the bottom of the Arctic Ocean or on a small island 500 kilometers from the nearest human settlement. What's it like to head to vast fell landscapes or glacier-covered mountains and face the challenges of northern nature? By following the work of 6 dedicated scientists you will experience the beauty and harshness of arctic nature. The documentary series **Arctic Mission** follows the unique life of 6 experts working in remote research stations around the Arctic Circle. These people are passionate and dedicated to their mission; to find out the current state of northern nature and monitor many interesting

changes around them. During extraordinary field trips the research samples are gathered on glaciers, in soils, seas and lakes, from atmosphere, plants and organisms in Norway, Greenland, Canada, Sweden, Iceland and Finland. Without the knowledge about the harsh arctic environment and the support of their colleagues they will be in big trouble. The series opens up the possibility to join the missions of modern arctic explorers and face the northern breeze, wind and beauty from home couches. It gives the viewer a new kind of insight into what happens in diverse northern nature.



Anna-Reetta Eksymä
Writer, director,
producer

ORIGINAL TITLE ARCTIC MISSION
GENRE DOCUMENTARY SERIES
DURATION 10 X 42'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR CO-PRODUCER, FINANCING,
SALES
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) MULTILANGUAGE /
ENGLISH
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE 2026
SEASON NUMBER 1
WRITERS ANNA-REETA EKSYMÄ, SUVI LINDHOLM,
TEEMU HOSTIKKA
DIRECTORS TEEMU HOSTIKKA,
ANNA-REETA EKSYMÄ
PRODUCTION COMPANY NTRNZ MEDIA
PRODUCERS TEEMU HOSTIKKA,
ANNA-REETA EKSYMÄ
PRODUCER'S EMAIL ANNA-REETA@NTRNZ.COM



Crème de la Crème

Upon discovering the potential goldmine of peer-to-peer sperm donation, a small-town guy pulls together an underground sperm bank empire to save their way of life in the diminishing countryside.

JOONAS IS A YOUNG FARMER, living in his childhood home at a dairy farm. He loves the rural lifestyle, but the farm struggles financially. Many of Joonas' peers have left for the big city, as sources of livelihood have dwindled away. Even Nuutti, Joonas' best friend, has started to talk about leaving. Joonas receives a bizarre proposal from a lesbian couple next door; the women ask

him to donate them his sperm. Too kind and discreet to say no, Joonas agrees. Afterward, the grateful couple want to thank Joonas, and they give him an envelope full of cash. Although the money certainly hits the spot, Joonas doubts his decision and turns to Nuutti for moral support. Nuutti is exhilarated. He figures this could finally be the solution to their problems: to start jerking off for money.



Jukka Vidgren
Writer, producer,
director

ORIGINAL TITLE YLÄ-SAVON KERMA
GENRE DRAMEDY
DURATION 8 X 40'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR FINANCING
BUDGET PER EPISODE 550.000 €
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) FINNISH
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE Q3/2025
SEASON NUMBER 1
WRITERS JUKKA VIDGREN, HENNA RINNEKANGAS, TOPI KOLJONEN, JUUSO LAATIO
DIRECTOR JUKKA VIDGREN, TBC
PRODUCTION COMPANY MUTANT KOALA PICTURES
PRODUCER JUKKA VIDGREN
PRODUCER'S EMAIL JUKKA@MUTANTKOALA.COM
WORLD SALES / INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR DR SALES
FINNISH BROADCASTER YLE



Dangerous Woman

Can the pieces of truth reveal if the woman is a victim or a villain?

A WOMAN IN A LEAD POSITION violently attacks a male customer with a fork as her weapon. When the woman is arrested, greater secrets begin to unravel – she has committed multiple crimes. The question is: how crazy must one be to be capable of such a cruel and impulsive act? What kind of person can commit one crime after another? Dangerous woman unfolds in three different timelines simultaneously and reveals the psychological map of the main character – why did she become the woman she is today, and why is she dangerous? Piece by piece, we delve into the tumultuous life of the main

character through the work of a therapist and an investigative police officer, and connect the storylines from different times. Is the dangerous woman merely an innocent victim whose final unraveling is beyond reason, or has our protagonist orchestrated a larger crime than we initially believed? Stylistically, Sinner meets Criminal and Physical in this series. It is a psychological drama that initially unfolds as a personal tragedy of one character but evolves into an observation of societal norms and conflicts as the series progresses.



Marika Makaroff
CCO, producer

ORIGINAL TITLE VAARALLINEN NAINEN
GENRE PSYCHOLOGICAL DRAMA
DURATION 6 X 42'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR FINANCING, CO-PRODUCER
BUDGET PER EPISODE 600.000€
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) FINNISH
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE Q4/2025
SEASON NUMBER 1
PRODUCTION COMPANY GUTSY ANIMATIONS
PRODUCER MARIKA MAKAROFF
PRODUCER'S EMAIL MARIKA.MAKAROFF@GUTSY.FI



Larp

In search of answers to climate change and personal problems in a role-playing game, the heroes meet their ancestors and must choose their side on the battlefield of the forces that destroy or create life.

TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS study EEG curves on a screen. Design students create ancient costumes for environmentalists. In a medieval market, a couple distributes invitations to a larping event. The techno geeks are marching with their backpacks on a forest path to the foot of a high cliff. One of them has a strange thing on his head, a "consciousness transformer". Ten people in ancient costumes row a Viking ship towards the cliff. A paddler glides on a river in a primitive dugout canoe. A group of children find a cave mouth, from which the bravest crawl inside. As the sun sets, an echoing sound of a birchbark horn is heard

from the top of the cliff. Setting up of the camp stops and 30 role players climb the rock to a campfire circle. "Larppi" takes the viewers to the deep forests, deserted islands, and caves to face challenges of nature and interpersonal problems in the midst of mutual competitions and power struggles. But which of the heroes in altered states of consciousness encounter our ancestors - those who, with the help of modern technology, are looking for rare metals or those who accidentally get lost in an ancient cave system? Finally, everyone must choose a side on the battlefield of the forces that destroy or create life.



Veli-Heikki Uusitupa
Writer, producer

ORIGINAL TITLE LARPPI
GENRE ADVENTURE, MYTHICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL
DURATION 5 X 30'
STATUS OF PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPMENT
LOOKING FOR CO-PRODUCER, FINANCING, SALES
BUDGET PER EPISODE 500.000 €
LANGUAGE (DIALOGUE) ENGLISH
ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE Q4/ 2024
SEASON NUMBER 1
WRITER VELI-HEIKKI UUSITUPA
PRODUCTION COMPANY KALEVALA WORLD - KALEVALAN MAAILMA
PRODUCER VELI-HEIKKI UUSITUPA
PRODUCER'S EMAIL INFO@KALEVALA.WORLD

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FOCUS on FINLAND

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export venture

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



Film in Finland

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