

Doc Alliance Award 2026 nominations revealed

Press Release
15.4.2026

The European documentary festival network has selected 16 short and feature-length films



Members of the Doc Alliance Festivals at the Doc Alliance Award Presentation 2025 | ©Doc Alliance

The films competing for this year's Doc Alliance Award have now been announced. Each of the seven European documentary festivals that make up the Doc Alliance network, together with this year's guest festival GAIFF, the Golden Apricot Yerevan International Film Festival, has put forward one short and one feature-length documentary from its previous programme. For the Best Feature Film category, only debut or second feature-length works by directors are eligible.

The Doc Alliance Award will be presented on 19 May in Cannes during the Doc Day Lunch at the Marché du Film (invitation only).

The winners will be selected by a three-member jury consisting of Wouter Jansen (CEO and founder of Square Eyes), Maria Palacios Cruz (festival director of the Open City Documentary Festival), and film critic, filmmaker and producer Mark Peranson. The award includes prize money of 5,000 EUR for Best Feature and 3,000 EUR for Best Short, offering financial support for the filmmakers' future work.

Following the award presentation, representatives of the Doc Alliance network will present the Doc Alliance Research Handbook. As part of a long-term research project, the network has collected information on all member festivals, focusing on key areas such as new technologies, inclusive programming, sustainability, emerging talent, and educational practices.

The Doc Alliance network is dedicated to supporting emerging talent in European documentary filmmaking. Each of the seven member festivals—CPH:DOX, Doclisboa, DOK Leipzig, FIDMarseille, Ji.hlava IDFF, Millennium Docs Against Gravity and Visions du Réel—along with this year's guest festival GAIFF, commits to screening at least three of the nominated films at its next edition.

69th International Leipzig
Festival for Documentary and
Animated Film
26 October to 1 November 2026

Head of Press Department
Nina Kühne
Tel. +49 (0)341 30864 1070
presse@dok-leipzig.de

Leipziger Dok- Filmwochen GmbH
Katharinenstraße 17
04109 Leipzig

Chairwoman of
the Supervisory Board
Dr. Skadi Jennicke

Managing and Artistic Director
Aleksandra Staszal

Place of Performance
Leipzig

Commercial Register
Leipzig, HRB 35 89

VAT Tax ID
DE141498242

Nominated Feature-length Films:

- **A Song Without Home**, Georgia/USA, director: Rati Tsiteladze, nominated by CPH:DOX
- **Afterlives**, Germany/Belgium/France, director: Kevin B. Lee, nominated by Doclisboa
- **Fantasy** (Fantaisie), France, director: Isabel Pagliai, nominated by FID-Marseille
- **Holler For Service**, Germany/USA, directors: Ole Elfenkaemper, Kathrin Seward, nominated by DOK Leipzig
- **Imago**, France/Belgium, director: Déni Oumar Pitsaev, nominated by Golden Apricot IFF
- **Minimum Love** (Minimum lásky), Czech Republic, director: Maja Penčíč, nominated by Ji.hlava IDFF
- **The Case Against Space**, UK/France, director: Graeme Arnfield, nominated by Visions du Réel
- **Two Mountains Weighing Down My Chest**, Germany/Netherlands, director: Viv Li, nominated by Millennium Docs Against Gravity

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Nominated Short Films:

- **Amma, Do Giraffes Cry?**, Czech Republic, director: Kartikeya Saxena, nominated by Millennium Docs Against Gravity
- **Apocalypse Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow, and the Day After Tomorrow** (Apokalypsa včera, dnes, zítra a pozítří), Ukraine/Czech Republic, director: Anastasiia Bonadyha, nominated by Ji.hlava IDFF
- **Cold Call**, Germany, director: Stefanie Schroeder, nominated by DOK Leipzig
- **Conversations and Dreams**, Czech Republic/Armenia, director: Melanya Hamasyan, nominated by Golden Apricot IFF
- **Errabonda**, Denmark/Italy, director: Emma Harris, nominated by CPH:DOX
- **Some of You Fucked Eva**, France, director: Lilith Grasmug, nominated by FIDMarseille
- **The Divided City of Mitrovica** (Podeljeni grad Kosovska Mitrovica), Serbia/Kosovo, director: Marko Grba Singh, nominated by Doclisboa
- **The Interpreter**, UK, director: Mohamad Hafeda, nominated by Visions du Réel

Film stills of all nominees for download:
[Filmstills Doc Alliance Awards Nominees](#)

Synopses of nominees & biographies of the jury members:
[Synopses & Jury](#)

More information about the Doc Alliance Award: docalliance.org

More information about the guest festival 2026: [Golden Apricot IFF](#)

Press contact: Doc Alliance Press Office | press@docalliance.org

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