



Introducing the Festival

Asian Film Festival Barcelona | OFF-FESTIVAL

From the 5th to the 26th of October 2019 | **Cinemes Girona**

The four films listed below, which will be screened at Cinemes Girona, are part of the OFF-Festival program launched the 4th of October at Caixa Forum. These films are *Rockabul* (Afghanistan, 2018), competing in the Official Panorama Section as well as *Broken* (Australia, 2018); *Call for Dreams* (Japan, 2018), from the NETPAC Section, and *Insane Mother* (Mongolia, 2018), Discoveries Section. Throughout the month of October, Casa Asia's film program will meet under the OFF-Festival coverage, as an introduction to the Asian Film Festival Barcelona, to be held between the 30th of October and the 10th of November. The chosen films meet the criteria followed by the more than 130 films competing this year in the various festival sections. Each one of them stands out for their narrative value and the visual strategy which they employ from a differentiated aesthetic perspective. Overall, it is a small sample of what is to come with the Asian Film Festival Barcelona, where more than twenty nationalities will meet and contribute to create a mosaic through which the public will be able to travel across a continent without leaving the movie theatre.



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I. FILMS

Saturday the 5th of October, 20h

1 - RockKabul | Travis Beard | Afghanistan | 2018 | 77' | Documentary / Music / War | VOSE | [Official Panorama Section](#)

Today, Afghans are one of the largest migrant populations fleeing their country for Europe or the West. Since 2002 the international community has injected more than a trillion dollars into Afghanistan. What went wrong? This film examines the counter-insurgency, the culture campaign that the US government, within and others, waged. Told through the eyes of Afghan youth, who start the country's first ever heavy metal band and an adventurous Australian, who created a Western style music scene in the capital - Kabul. Will head banging, disenchanted Afghans win the hearts and minds of their peers or will the Taliban come back from the grave?

Travis Beard studied Photojournalism and worked globally as a photojournalist for twelve years. He later moved into video journalism. The Australian also founded Argus Productions, which provides numerous media services in Afghanistan and the region. His first feature-length documentary *RockKabul* (2017) won a Global Metal Award from Metal Hammer Magazine.

Saturday the 12th of October, 20h

2 - Broken | Tarry Mortlock | Australia | 2018 | 97' | Drama / Crime | VOSE | [Official Panorama Section](#)

Broken is a modern-day version of a true story based in Gisborne, New Zealand. Logan, an ex-gang leader, has left the gang life to raise his daughter Tori. But when Tori is murdered by an opposing gang in town, Logan must choose between forgiveness or revenge. Cruz, Tori's murderer, must also choose forgiveness in order to end the cycle of hatred and revenge which is escalating into an inevitable gang war. *Broken* was inspired by the true story of Tārore, a Māori girl who was murdered in the mid 1800's. Tārore always carried with her the Gospel of Luke, but when she was killed by a marauding tribe, the book was stolen by her murderer. Incredibly, her father decided not to seek revenge for her murder, but to instead forgive. And then, when the Gospel was eventually read to Tārore's murderer, he was so filled with remorse that he sought out Tārore's father and asked him for forgiveness. Because of this, peace was made between their two warring tribes.

Tarry Mortlock is a New Zealander film director, screenwriter and TV producer. He majored from Orewa College and he is known for his work in *Broken* (2018) and *The Long Road Home* (2018).

Saturday the 19th of October, 20h

3 - Call for Dreams | Ran Slavin | Japan | 2018 | 83' | Crime / Drama / Mystery | VOSE | **NETPAC Section**

In a rain drenched Tokyo, from a high rise apartment, Eko complicates her life by publishing a *Call for Dreams* ad in the newspaper. She visits strangers who leave descriptions of dreams on her analogue answering machine, and carries a task in relation to their recording as a form of fantasy deciphering ritual. Details accumulate to a network of dreams involving her neighbour, a Russian mobster, a female body builder, an elderly woman and an Israeli detective investigating a murder in Tel Aviv, in a story that unfolds in parallel lines.

Ran Slavin (1967, Jerusalem, Israel) is a filmmaker, video artist & experimental electronic music producer. Ran Slavin's work is cross media and project based, often site specific. It includes cinema, video installation, sound composition, photography and print editions. With works featuring dream influenced arrangements that bestow uncanny fusions of digital and real, narratives of disorientation, science fiction and Neo-Noir. He is known for *Call for Dreams* (2018), *The Insomniac City Cycles* (2009) and *Ursulimum* (2011).

Saturday the 26th of October, 20h

4 - Insane Mother | Ishdorj Odonchimeg | Mongolia | 2018 | 105' | Drama | VOSE | **Discoveries Section**

Mongolian people have tradition of respecting their roots and have an obligation of leaving their offspring. If they can't do that it is big punishment for their blood chain. In 1900s there was one insane woman and she gave a birth to child. Even she is insane she dedicated her last breath to her child. Mother's love is the purest thing anyone could experience.

Ishdorj Odonchimeg (1967, Uvurkhangai, Mongolia) is a producer, director, writer, actress and comedian. In 2001, she was decided to create X-Tuts production, which is now one of the most famous artistic productions in Mongolia, and which has collaborated with many projects, such as *Naughty wife*, *American visa*, *A letter to Mr. President* and *The Rainbow after Snow*.