

ShortCircuit Presents

UNIQUE AND EXPERIMENTAL SHORT DOCS



VILLAGE PEOPLE

Village Hours Matthew Reid (UK)

10:00 mins



Village Hours tells the story of Britain's village halls. Dotted across the countryside, these timeworn structures are the stages upon which local identities, tensions and rituals are all played out. Taking in a thwarted pantomime rehearsal, dreamlike dance displays and a macabre local history presentation; Village Hours explores the people, practices and passing moments which make up contemporary rural life.

Matthew Reid is an award-winning filmmaker from Essex. His documentary short *Village Hours* received its world premiere at *Raindance Film Festival*, before going on to screen at festivals across the UK and in Europe, and picking up several awards. He is currently developing the short into a feature length documentary.

Total Life Forever Sebastian Molina Ruiz (MX)

19:00 mins



An anthology of dreams from people who had to leave their homes only to find themselves in Europe, in a Tower of Babel where no one speaks the same language, and no one understands each other. Here, people walk around lost, meeting each other in their dreams and searching for ways to return home.

Sebastian Molina Ruiz studied Art History at Universidad Iberoamericana and Cinematography at the Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica (CCC). He was selected to *Talents Guadalajara* in 2022 edition and *Berlinale Talents* in 2025. He is currently a *DocNomads Alumni* in its 12 edition.

Intermittent & Continuous Olivia Hird (UK)

5:00 mins



In the Peak District, Rita is pursuing her unlikely childhood dream of working in a quarry.

In a male-dominated workplace, she carves out her role through quiet determination, listening closely to machinery to generate forms of knowledge. She reflects on how certain sounds jar, resonate and unexpectedly transport her back to the embodied intensity of childhood.

Olivia Hird is a self-shooting filmmaker, facilitator and researcher, bridging creative and care-based approaches, working across nonfiction film and mental health. *Intermittent & Continuous* (2025), premiered at the BAFTA-qualifying *Bolton Film Festival*, and *Intertidal* (2024) screened at the *Freiburger Film Forum* and the *NAFA International Ethnographic Film Festival*

Wave 3 (Cancelled?) Edward Smyth (UK)

5:23 mins



Commissioned by the ICA (Institute of Contemporary Arts) and the BBC, 'Wave 3 (Cancelled?)' explores a neurodivergent perspective, following someone who imagines everyone in their life as characters in an action figure line. Friends - family - lovers - acquaintances; all are transformed, as if extraordinary fictional characters, represented in waves of figurines. Neurodiversity is reflected in a number of characters, who represent how people can

simply exist a little differently; being as wonderful and peculiar as they wish.

Edward Smyth is a British filmmaker, curious to explore the most beautiful and peculiar things in life. Romantic and poetic, playful and humorous, his work subverts traditional ideas of what a film can be, by exploring and empowering neurodivergent perspectives on screen.

The Legend of the Dun Cow Colm Higgins (IRL)

17: 10 mins



A camp and luscious exploration of Irish butter and the weird side of agriculture. Combining documentary footage with tableaux, hypnotic imagery from the studio, and an original score by the director, the film is a playful take on the place of the cow in the Irish consciousness.

Colm Higgins is an Irish artist who works between creative documentary, experimental film, music, and audio-visual performance. His film practice uses experimental cinematography and sound composition to work with folklore and the hidden memories contained in the natural world He is drawn to conscious artificiality, religious imagery, insular art, and the camp.

The Landscape of Human Essence Jana Hunterova (MK)

13:08 mins



In the remote Macedonian mountains, 80-year-old Ljubica lives deeply connected to the land of her ancestors, surrounded by wild, untouched nature. Her daily life unfolds in harmony with the rhythm of the landscape—she gathers medicinal herbs, mushrooms, and forest fruits, tends a herd of goats, makes homemade cheese, and draws strength from mountain springs. Despite solitude, daily challenges, and the threat of wolves, she finds balance and a sense of freedom in simple rituals.

Jana Hunterova is a photographer and filmmaker specializing in long-term documentary projects that shed light on social and environmental issues both in the Czech Republic and abroad. However, my work extends beyond just photography - I am actively involved in creating short experimental films, teaching, and organizing workshops in the fields of photography and new media.

Village with a View Joseph Inman (UK)

19:45 mins



In wartime Britain, a Lord permitted unused land on Cornwall's Rame Peninsula to be built on. Tiny chalets appeared, each as individual as its owner, and the community of Freathy came to life. In 2016, with Cornwall's tourism industry booming, the Lord's estate announced that they own everything the residents have built over generations. The community were offered the chance to buy their own homes at an extortionate price – most were unable to pay.

A Village With A View gives voice to a community in crisis and explores what home really means.

Joseph Inman is a disabled writer/director living and working in Cornwall. Part of the film collective Bear Behind You, Joseph has written and directed three award-winning short films. He works across documentary and fiction, blending the two together through politically charged pieces that star non-actors and use community participation.

Respiration Sasha Waters Freyer (US)

4:30 mins



River naiads and backyard deities; nothing noticed is lonely. From inspiration to expiration, breathing is the only work to be enacted now. A 16mm film collage of original and found/archival footage.

Sasha Waters Freyer is a moving image artist and Professor of Film at Virginia Commonwealth University. Outsiders, misfits and dark horses fascinate her: poets and children, artists and activists, dead and dying analogue media.

Trained in photography and the documentary tradition, her artistic interests emerge from the following obsessions: research into visual archives; memory and the erosion of time; parenting - specifically motherhood - and its representations, and feminist subversions of personal and social histories.

Tireless Rose Duel (FR)

9:36 mins



A young advertising director tells us about his trip to the Ardennes, where the 24h d'Endurance Tondeuses takes place. In search of the event's young hopeful, he hopes to turn his film into his very own local Formula 1. His urban naiveté soon comes up against the reality of a world he doesn't really understand...

Rose Duel is a French director & writer duo formed by Emma Sandona and Elliot Totzauer. Meeting each other in film school, they had an obvious dislike for each other. Rumour has it that she thought he had a terrible style, and he was aggravated by her scent. We'll never know the truth. However, they couldn't leave each other's side. Two people with opposite opinions, a love story begins.

The screening will be followed by a discussion and Q&A with filmmakers Olivia Hird, Colm Higgins and Edward Smyth



IMAGE COURTESY OF OLIVIA HIRD



Short Circuit was established to provide a platform on which to showcase and celebrate the work of UK and International artists and filmmakers working with experimental documentary.

We continue to celebrate the work of emerging, established and award winning artist filmmakers. Our eclectic programmes embrace experimental, hybrid and animated films alongside more formal documentary approaches. Screenings take place in unconventional cinema spaces. Previous venues include a mini cinema, in a former bank vault, and a lively cabaret lounge, our recent partnership with Fabrica sees us screening in this former Regency church in the heart of Brighton.

Director and Programmer
Jayne Wilson



www.shortcircuitfilms.co.uk

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Screen Shot Film Programmers Get Together

On November 4 2025 we joined a range of independent film programmers, film clubs, festivals and community groups from Screen Shot and beyond for a sociable networking event open to anyone interested in film programming. We were pleased to be able to screen selected films from our Hear Here programme.

Sign up at <https://screen-shot.co.uk/> for upcoming get togethers, events and local screenings

FABRICA